

# LAS VEGAS SHOWCASE

Mark Tan  
IN  
LAS VEGAS

STEVE LAWRENCE & EYDIE GORME, WHO CLOSED AT Caesars Palace last weekend, have formed their own recording company under the GALA label. First disc release will be a Spanish language album titled "LA GORME". Eydie's records in Spanish and Portuguese are always at the top of the Latin world music charts. Also penned to the new label is Trini Lopez.....JOHN PEGRUM, PAMELA GOODMAN-CAUSER, & RODNEY STRINGER, three of our favorite Australian visitors come up from Down Under for spring holidays (when it's wintertime in Sydney). Breck Wall's "BOTTOMS UP" now in Dallas, was a smash hit in its Sydney engagement according to our Aussie correspondents, and the show has already been extended a firm commitment for a return date as soon as its schedule permits.....CONNIE STEVENS opens a two week stand at the Fairmont in San Francisco, and will do it without her usual contingent of singers and dancers.....Choreographer AL GOSSAN no sooner finished the final polishing of a new act for New Zealand singing star JOHN ROWLES, to open at the Royal Hawaiian Hotel in Honolulu, then he had to hop a jet to be in Las Vegas for the auditions for JOE PETERSON & DAVE BARRY'S "RED, WILD & BLUE" opening at the Thunderbird on April 1. Between now and the start of "Red, Wild & Blue" rehearsals scheduled for March 1, Gossan has to fly back to Hawaii to choreograph a new ballet and wind up some previous commitments on nitery acts in Waikiki. Gossan also has two shows he staged and choreographed currently enjoying indefinite engagements at the Sabre Room in Chicago and at the El Casino in the Bahamas.....

LIBERACE, PLAYING AS USUAL TO HIS CAPACITY PLUS (INCLUDING THE BALCONY) at the Las Vegas Hilton, introduces his two new talent discoveries in his new show - DEBBY ROBERT, the talent division winner of the Miss America contest (she represented Louisiana a few years ago) and pianist VINCE CARDELL.....SHECKY GREENE will cancel out of his scheduled March 11 opener at the MGM Grand.....Hawaiian star DICK JENSEN makes

## BANJO MAN SKIP DE VOL FEATURED WITH JOHNNY PAYCHECK AT LANDMARK

Epic recording artist Johnny Paycheck, whose last 14 single releases have hit the top of the country music charts nationally, and whose latest "The Feminine Touch" has already taken off like a bullet in the East, is currently headlining with his band, The Lovemakers, in the Landmark's Jubilee Showroom.

This 12th edition of "Country Music U.S.A." which is the hotel's birthday present to America, (and what more fitting than America's own music form) coincidentally features the only musical instrument native to America -- the banjo. And, it's presented at its finest by banjoist extraordinaire Skip DeVol. The handsome and personable per-



SKIP

former plays both the five-string bluegrass banjo and the four-string ragtime. Adding still another dimension to the re-discovered instrument, Skip sets forth a tribute to

the Bicentennial in the form of a ballad consisting of a medley of patriotic songs. The remarkable picker has been so enthusiastically received by all ages that he

will again be held over, making the next his eighth edition.

Also featured in the C & W revue is lovely, feminine-type singer Jan Freeman whose country road has taken her on tour with such popular country folks as Freddie Hart, Buck Owens and Charlie Pride.

Comic / Trumpeter Peter Anthony proves his ability to adapt to any surroundings by making the country scene with the best of the wit, musical prowess and animation that has made him a favorite of Las Vegas entertainment seekers.

Opening Monday, February 23 for three weeks are The Oakridge Boys with Mike Caldwell, Skip DeVol and Linda Hart.

his next Strip visit guesting with TOTIE FIELDS at the Sahara.....The word round town is that THE DIVINE MISS M. BETTE MIDLER nixed an astronomical offer from the Aladdin Hotel's new Theatre for the Performing Arts (set to open this summer), and will instead make her headliner bow at Caesars Palace.....

SONGSTRESS-ACTRESS ANNE SIMMONS, GATHERING RAVE REVIEWS FOR HER new nitery act (Part I is a re-creation of a speakeasy lady doing the blues, jazz, oldies in a dramatic narrative-musical form; Part II is a contemporary musical interlude that shows off her versatile dramatic skills performing in any era), back from an east-

coast round of club dates. Anne's booked for a mid-March Chicago debut followed by a spring time outing in New York City. Anne's special showcase here a few months ago at the Landmark Hotel didn't win her a firm booking but generated a lot of new interest and excitement. Now with some out of town raves bulging out of her career credits, a Las Vegas entertainment buyer will sit up and take notice. Anne's currently rehearsing some new material in L.A. for a possible recording session and a tentative bid to open at a new nitery in San Francisco before her Chicago bow.....

CORBETT MONICA, WHO'S SIGNED TO HEADLINE AT THE THUNDERBIRD IN March and April, is reportedly



# Buddy Hackett Sammy Cahn



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