

LAS VEGAS

SHOWCASE



'ROUND TOWN....THE SAHARA'S SHOWCASE AFTER MIDNIGHT, the newest innovation at the hotel's Don the Beachcomber Restaurant is underway with new professional talents being presented every Friday and Saturday night (from about 1:00 a.m. til 5:00 a.m.). Comedy star **PETER ANTHONY** is the genial and relaxing host helping the "first time in Vegas" acts settle the butterflies in their stomachs. **BUDDY HACKETT, JOAN RIVERS, LIBERACE, SAMMY CAHN, PAUL ANKA, BOBBIE GENTRY, SIEGFRIED & ROY**, Aladdin entertainment director **MITCH DEWOOD**, producers **MATT GREGORY, JOE PETERSON, BARRY ASHTON & BILL MOORE**, agents **DONNA TAYLOR, KAY SMITH, JIMMY DEAN, BOBBY MORRIS, HOWARD WORMSER**, and many performers including **HOWARD & DYANNE (THORNE) MAURER, MARIE LILLO, DIANE FINDLAY, SAHDJI, BUDDY VEST, THE STUPIDS, THE BROTHERS, CORNELL GUNTHER & THE COASTERS**, and many more, on hand for the kick-off weekend last week to encourage new talents. **JOAN RIVERS** for one was so impressed with the talents of comedy trio **THE GRADUATES**, she has already put the wheels in motion to have the Second City graduate group booked on the Tonight Show and for a date at the Beverly Hills Ye Little Club. In CAN happen for newcomers....Drop by the Beachcomber to "discover" new talent, and while you're there look for popular radio, television and newspaper critic-columnist **JOE DELANEY** broadcasting his special 3 a.m. to 5 a.m. talk show from the showcase....A MOB posing as a crowd turned out for the auditions of **DAVE BARRY** and **JOE PETERSON'S** upcoming "RED, WILD & BLUE" comedy revue (opening April 1 at the Thunderbird). Choreographer **AL GOSSAN** (assisted by dancer **SAL ANGELICA**) put the auditionees thro their dance paces and sat with the producers to hear singers, listen to comedians, and hear readings. By week's end the show had been 95% cast with **RON (Sahdji) FREEMAN, MAGGIE MONTGOMERY, VICKI ANTHONY, TOM SCOTTALERO, SUZETTE SUMMERS, and GARRETT STATES** coming thru with flying colors to land a spot in the much talked about and anticipated new bicentennial spoof. Rehearsals are scheduled to start March

OAKRIDGE BOYS RETURN TO LANDMARK'S JUBILEE SHOWROOM

Back at the Landmark, after a successful Russian tour, as headliners of the Jubilee Room's "Country Music U.S.A." revue are the contemporary country/pop gospel group The Oak Ridge Boys. Featured with the Oaks are comic Mike Caldwell, banjo man Skip De Vol and vocalist Linda Hart.



OAK RIDGE BOYS

Frequently finding themselves a favorite topic for criticism in gospel circles over the past six years due to their mod clothes and long hair, they have been labeled gospel music's "rebels." But, they have successfully trod the troubled waters of the past, and have kept their eye on their goals as professional entertainers, not giving in to the ridicule of their beliefs. The pop / rock / country sound they have applied to the gospel has now earned them two Grammys, nine Doves (Gospel Music Association awards) television appearances on the Mike Douglas Show, Hee

Haw and the CBS TV special "Orange Blossom Special" as well as tours throughout Norway, Sweden, England, and most recently, Russia, with Roy Clark. "Singing to make people happy" is what they're all about, but there's also a message well taken in almost everything they lay down. Making his first appearance in the c & w presentation is comedian / magician Mike Caldwell. The

only thing bigger than this 300 pound performer are the laughs he receives with his folksy humor, fast quips, comedy juggling, fat falls (watch for his graceful entrance) and magical moments. The madcap merry-maker has worked 42 of the 50 states and 10 foreign countries. His television guesting includes "The Tonight Show," "ABC Wide World of Entertainment," "Bill Cosby Special"

and the new "Vaudeville."

Skip De Vol, now tagged the hotel's "resident banjoist" has been held over again, to make this his eighth edition of CMUSA. Presenting the only instrument native to America at its best, Skip's flying fingers and musical sensitivity leave the audience awed with his remarkable ability and also newly aware of the versatility of the happy-time instrument.

Linda Hart, whose powerful, well-cultured voice and mean piano playing have brought her guest TV shots with Johnny Cash, Bob Hope, David Frost and Mike Douglas; a concert tour with Roy Clark and a recent tour of Japan, returns for her fourth engagement as a strong part of the intensely popular country show.

Opening March 15 through March 28 is Tommy Overstreet followed by Hank Thompson through April 18.

.....**CONNIE STEVENS** with special guest stars **IKE & TINA TURNER** booked for an end of March opener at the Las Vegas Hilton...."Hollywood Squares" host **PETER MARSHALL** (and Chapter Five) join **JACK ALBERTSON** at the Frontier opening March 4. Peter and **JOAN RIVERS** have also been set to costar again at Harrah's Reno opening

April 1. The duo made their first appearance together there last September, and proved to be one of the extra special drawing attractions....Riviera headliner **DON RICKLES**, in a special (and possibly first of its kind) contractual arrangement will make an appearance at the Sahara Hotel later this summer....And hear tell that the **MGM GRAND**

JOEY BISHOP

CONGO SHOWROOM
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SAHARA