

LAS VEGAS

SHOWBIZ

BLOOD, SWEAT AND TEARS, JOHNNY RIVERS AT DEL WEBB'S SAHARA



STRIP HOPPIN'.....JOHNNY MATHIS & HENRY MANCINI, in for two perfs at the Aladdin Theater for the Performing Arts, in a glowing and glorious concert. Many, many changes expected at the \$10 million Theater including the new entertainment director of the theater Mitch DeWood replacing Stuart Allen, and former Sahara entertainment director Lenny Martin named special consultant for talent..... **JOEY BISHOP & CHARO** just completed another quick week at the Sahara. Joey will be guest hosting the "Tonight" show the week of August 9 (while Johnny Carson is appearing in Vegas at Caesars Palace), and Charo has just signed a \$5555 deal to star in a one-hour special for NBC-TV to be followed by a new series of 24-half hour shows for world wide consumption via the international WorldVision TV Syndication corp.....**JAMES DARREN**, who hasn't played Vegas for several months now (and is muchly missed by latest batch of television his fans) over flies Vegas commercials as the this week enroute to Utah spokesman for Plymouth where he'll be filming his Fury autos.....

PERRY COMO making his first Las Vegas appearance since 1972 (when he introduced current D.I. headliner **FOSTER BROOKS**) will be returning in August to the Hilton to fill in part of the engagement vacated by luscious **ANN-MARGRET** (who opens 17-29). A-M has to leave a bit earlier than scheduled to start filming her next movie "The Last Remake of Beau Geste" with Marty Feldman, Peter Ustinov, Terry Thomas, etc. Perry and A-M will be taping a tv special "Las Vegas, Como Style" from the Hilton on August 24.....

NOTES FROM ALL OVER..... JOHN MIKL

When Hotel Sahara first signed Blood, Sweat and Tears and Johnny Rivers to a special one-week contract, one executive of the Del Webb resort called the Congo Room lineup "The most exciting contemporary musical package ever to play Las Vegas."

The famed entertainers more than lived up to expectations on opening night (Thursday), giving Sahara audiences something to cheer about for many months ahead.

Blood, Sweat and Tears left no doubt in the minds of first nighters that the group is back in the aesthetic and commercial forefront of the jazz-rock field it helped to create.

With the return of

THOR, who starred here in "Red, Hot and Blue" at the Aladdin, is now back in Toronto, Canada and prepping a new Rock show also planning another visit to Las Vegas to be photographed as part of Vegas Visitor photog **ROBERT SCOTT HOOPER'S** upcoming special book for Playboy Magazine. Hooper has a ten page

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JOHNNY

lead singer David Clayton-Thomas, the group seems stronger than ever. Winners of many Gold Records, Blood, Sweat

and Tears not only excels in the vocal department but offers outstanding instrumental arrangements. The 10-member

group features such great selections as "New City," in their 1975 album finishing third nationally in a poll by readers of "Downbeat," "New Blood," "No Sweat," "Child Is Father to the Man" and "Mirror Image."

Rivers, the widely-acknowledged giant in the recording industry has picked up where he left off at the Sahara Tahoe a few months ago, winning the cheers of every person seated in the Congo Room.

The noted performer is a natural for the Del Webb resort with his repertoire consisting largely of songs that are familiar enough by now to a slightly older crowd and still rock 'n' roll enough to draw the late-twenties and early-thirties

spread in the current Playboy issued called "Sex in the Great Outdoors"..... **JOAN RIVERS** in from a sizzling hot summer theater tour where she smashed records with every new city she played, returns to the MGM Grand with **MAC DAVIS** on August 11..... **SAMMY DAVIS, JR.** who doesn't have any more Vegas dates on the '76 calendar, will be taping his syndicated "Sammy and Company" show from

JOHNNY TILLOTSON
BEN SANDERS
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