

# Las Vegas Jazz

BOB LEONARD



The most exciting news to hit the Jazz world is this week's issue of Newsweek magazine with the cover reading Jazz Is Back!!! The mag relates how jazz rooms have popped up in every major city, and doing very well... N.Y. has over 80 rooms featuring Jazz artists... The newest scene there are the old factory lofts, that have been converted to rehearsal rooms, and Jazz Nightclubs...All kinds of new artists playing the early hits of CHARLIE PARKER, and MILES DAVIS...Miles by the way is still cooped up in his N.Y. Brownstone house where he says he is still recuperating from a bad hip operation...He admits not seeing the streets more than seven times in two years...That means he has become some sort of recluse in the same manner as our dear departed Howard Hughes...HERBIE HANCOCK, an alumni of MILES DAVIS has recorded a smash album called V.S.O.P., which stands for Very Special Other People, that turns out to be all alumni of Miles pioneering early bands.

A concert called "Jazz In The Rockies," or Telluride Jazz Festival 77, takes place August 26th - 28th in Telluride, Colorado...The tickets are \$25.00 for three days, and \$10.00 per day... The lineup is as follows: THE CRUSADERS, DIZZY GILLESPIE, MUDDY WATERS, GARY BURTON QUARTET, THE GLENN MILLER ORCHESTRA, AND MATRIX 9...You can get your tickets by writing to the Festival at Box 336, Telluride, Colorado 81435...

MCA Records first endeavor into the Jazz/Rock scene is an album by recording vet DAVID AXELROD called "Strange Ladies"...It's David's first album in which he doesn't have all the pieces playing together all the time...The fewer notes on this album are generating lots of sales...Axe's previous jazz compositions have appeared on Capital, Fantasy and Polydor...MCA has a long tradition of recording jazz, but up until recently, it wasn't involved with the contemporary jazz/rock scene... DON RANDI owner of the "Hot" Baked Potato Club in L.A., remains one of the most recorded pianists in the studios...He constantly pops up on every record date going.

PHINEAS NEWBORN, JR., who undoubtedly is "the world's fastest piano player" is back on the road with his trio, appearing at the famed Baker's Keyboard Lounge in Detroit...CARMEN MACRAE drew the biggest hands and the most standing ovations at the recent Concord Jazz Festival, which was filmed for Television for a later play date... The biggest star of that concert turned out to be ERNIE ANDREWS, who sounds like a combination of AL HIBBLER, ARTHUR PRY SOCK, BILLY EKSTINE, and JON HENDRICKS...I remember when Ernie was fronting the HARRY JAMES ORCHESTRA, right here in Las Vegas...HERB ELLIS and BARNEY KESSEL, two of the greatest guitarists in our Jazz World, are thrilling audiences playing together... Another twosome worthwhile hearing is BLUE MITCHELL/HAROLD LAND GROUP.....DON SHERMAN, a very hip comedian/actor/writer, who has gigged with WOODY HERMAN, CARMEN MACRAE, and other jazz stars, was seen as the Bartender in the film "Rocky," and just completed a part in a new film "J.D. & The Salt Flat Kid"...Don was also the top comedy writer for the old JOEY BISHOP TV Talk Show.....GEORGE HOPKINS, last seen at the Sahara, is doing warmups for the new Sugar-time TV Show, and is set for appearances on the DINAH SHORE SHOW.

Catch a rising star!!!!

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RENDEZVOUS GENERAL MANAGER MARTY KOPELOW AND CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD PHIL STEARNS CONFER AS THE BIG SLOT-O-RAMA EVENT WAS LAUNCHED FOR THOUSANDS OF ENTHUSIASTIC SLOT PLAYERS LAST WEEK. "BIGGEST, MOST EXCITING WEEKEND IN OUR HISTORY," STEARNS SAID.

## A Raise

By Rabbi Samuel Silver

A most ingenious person is Rabbi Arthur Baseman, of Temple Bnai Israel, Clearwater, Florida, a city with a growing and enthusiastic Jewish community.

Rabbi Baseman put a big headline on his message in the synagogue bulletin.

The banner read, "Your Rabbi Wants a Raise!"

But the rabbi wasn't talking money. His opening line reads, "Now that I have your undivided, albeit nervous attention, don't worry."

Yes, the rabbi continues, he wants a raise, but not in salary, but in devotion.

As his people get ready for the holidays, Rabbi Baseman would like to see an increase in devoutness and in adherence to the values which Judaism represents.

These are days of financial anxiety. Having to depend on OPEC, our country is spending much of its resources buying oil for our energy needs.

This has its impact on all of us. A stockbroker was asked recently how he slept at night and replied, "Like a baby. I wake up every two hours and cry."

Jewish organizations are also feeling the pinch, and meeting the budget becomes a source of concern.

But even if we solve the fiscal problems, the spiritual challenges are still there. Let there be no blackout on ethics.

The holidays cry out to us, "We want a raise, an increase in the measure of loyalty to principles and precepts, to family fidelity and dedication to noble objectives."

As Rabbi Baseman put it in the article whose headline must have startled his members: "Our Torah stands tall in the Ark. Let us raise it ever higher."

I once startled one of my sons with a similar verbal ploy. As I officiated at his marriage I said that the etiquette books say that the bridegroom must give the minister a check.

So I demanded a check, not a financial one, but a check on any behavior that would mar the sacred relationship between groom and bride.

Your faith wants a raise. I hope all of us, in 5738, will experience a "faith-lift."

WASHINGTON -- Eli Wiesel, Lucy Dawidowicz, Itzhak Itzhaki and Leon Jick will be featured speakers at the Princeton II Conference of B'nai B'rith International's Adult Jewish Education program from October 22 through 24 at the Henry Chauncey Conference Center in Princeton, N.J.

WASHINGTON -- Rabbi Mordecai Schreiber has been appointed chaplain and director of education for the B'nai B'rith Youth Organization.

## THIRD WORLD RESENTS ARAB PRESSURE

UNITED NATIONS' (WUP) -- A growing number of Third World states, who during the past several years have succumbed to Arab propaganda, are beginning to resent the pressures put upon them on voting procedures versus the Jewish State. Their delegates here have openly expressed deep admiration for Israel as a small nation boldly standing up to big powers.

The 32nd session of the General Assembly, opening here on September 20 under the presidency of a Yugoslav, will undoubtedly witness a weakening of the so-

called "tyranny of the majority" which had rammed through the infamous resolution equating Zionism with racism.

The Arabs here at the UN are deeply disappointed by the fact that quite a number of Black African countries, which had broken relations with Israel during the Yom Kippur War, have resumed their trade and embarked upon exchange programs with the Jewish State.

Reason for the new trend among many of the Third World states lies in the fact of broken Arab promises of aid and in the waning influence of the Soviet Union.

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