

Las Vegas Jazz

BOB LEONARD



"Jazz Alive," a series of 32 live on tape concerts, bows over the National Public Radio network's 201 stations October 2nd...The first show captures ELLA FITZGERALD, at a New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival...A special feature of the 90 minute program is a surprise walkon by STEVIE WONDER and a duet of his "Sunshine Of My Life," the first and only teaming of ELLA and WONDER...BILLY TAYLOR will host the show...National Public Radio calls the series the first regularly scheduled skien of live jazz concerts for an American radio network in more than 20 years...Two years ago, National Public Radio taped the Monterey and Montreux festivals plus campus concerts, thus beginning its association with jazz events... According to the network, the 32 program series grew out of a demand from its local stations for more jazz programming...Included in the series are concerts by the CHARLIE MINGUS quintet, EUBIE BLAKE, OSCAR PETERSON with DIZZY GILLESPIE, CLARK TERRY AND BENNY CARTER pianist DON PULLEN, CAB CALLOWAY AND JOE WILLIAMS, HERBIE HANCOCK, and VSOP, DON ELLIS and the OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY JAZZ ENSEMBLE, JOHN LEWIS, RALPH TOWNER and LARRY CORYELL, and ERIC KLOSS and BARRY MILES.

This past weekend the Midnight Special, featured a "jam session" with GEORGE BENSON, ROY AYERS, & JON-LOC PONTY, that was as good a film clip on jazz artist that you will ever see on the tube...It is evident that producer Burt Sugarman knows the value of the new wave of musicians that play "fusion jazz" as contemporary music for the masses.

The #1 Jazz album in America is called "Free As the Wind," by the CRUSADERS, seen recently at the Aladdin after hours concert with TOWER OF POWER...Nostalgia jazz is definitely "IN"...HELEN O'CONNELL and BOB EBERLY just completed gigging at Disney's Top Of The World Supper Club in Florida...BILLY DANIELS, "broke it up," at N.Y. Hopper's Club, before taking off for London to headline as the star of "Bubbling Brown Sugar," a winning, romping successful Broadway show, that will undoubtedly be a smash success in England...Daniels is looking and sounding better than ever, and will probably be in demand for strip bookings in '78.

GLORIA LYNNE is back on the scene with a gig at L.A.'s Playboy Club which is called LAINIE KAZAN'S Room...ED SHAUNESSEY, the powerhouse drummer of the Tonight Show fronted his own 17 piece band called Energy Force, for seven days at Disneyland, in Anaheim...DEXTER GORDON will be back in the States for three weeks of concerts, starting November 6th at Avery Hall, Manhatta...COUNT BASIE'S BAND is set for the 29th at U.C.L.A.'s Royce Hall...One of the true pioneers of jazz music in America makes for a very find book reading, called "Joh Hammond on Record"...Some of his "discoveries" were BASIE, TEDDY WILSON and BILLIE HOLIDAY.

Jazzfully yours,



MR. & MRS. LESTER FARR, OF DENVER, IOWA, SHOWN HERE WITH FREDDIE DEFLORENTIS, CASINO MANAGER, OF THE RENDEZVOUS, ARE DELIGHTED WITH THEIR VIEW OF THE MERCURY WAGON THEY WON AT THE RENDEZVOUS, EVERY THURSDAY AT 10 P.M., THE RENDEZVOUS, 4TH & OGDEN, GIVES AWAY A HAND-PICKED TRANSPORTATION CAR. ENTRY BLANKS CAN BE FILLED OUT ANYTIME. THE WINNERS MUST BE PRESENT TO CLAIM THE PRIZE.

HIAS AID BRINGS SOVIET JEWS TO U.S., NOT ISRAEL

JERUSALEM (WNS) -- Leon Dulzin, treasurer of the Jewish Agency and World Zionist Organization Executives, said that there would be less Soviet Jews dropping out in Vienna to go to the United States instead of Israel if they did not receive so much aid from HIAS. Reporting to the WZO Executive, Dulzin said the drop-

out rate of more than 50 percent is serious because it includes many middle class and artisan emigrants who could easily find jobs in Israel. Dulzin, who recently visited the Jewish Agency's facilities in Vienna, said he had spoken with 16 families and all of them had said they would have gone to Israel if it

SKIP BINGO JOINS PETE BINGO AT FREMONT AND JACKPOT PRIZES UPPED

The Fremont Hotel's Pete Bingo money tree has sprouted more branches with more of the greenbacks now being given away.

"The public acceptance of Pete Bingo has been so great that we have decided to reward participants by adding two more special games in our 2:30 a.m. session, increasing all regular game jackpots to \$100 and offering a minimum \$300 for our coverall game during the 12:30 a.m. sessions on Mondays and Fridays."

Making the announcement was Jimmy Powers, executive vice president of the Fremont Hotel and Casino in downtown Las Vegas where the exclusive Pete Bingo is played three times nightly.

"We are now in the process of having special material printed for Skip Bingo, another Great Games, Inc. ex-

had not been for the help received from HIAS.

In New York, Gaynor Jacobson, executive vice-president of HIAS, said that between 70 and 80 percent of Soviet Jews who go to the U.S. "do so because of family reunification professional and job opportunities." He noted that "there are non-Jewish and non-sectarian agencies in Vienna that are ready to provide the same service as HIAS.

The Executive Board of HIAS has taken the position that it will continue to offer help until Soviet Jews have freedom to choose where they immigrate to while they are still in the USSR."

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clusive form of bingo. Two Skip Bingo games were added to the 2:30 a.m. session, giving players 12 games instead of the regular 10," continued Powers.


"Skip Bingo, like Pete Bingo, will only be featured at the Fremont and I am certain it also will be an overnight success," said John Russ, president of Great Games. Basically, Skip Bingo is a new, fast action three-number bingo. You need only one of the four ways across the card for a three-number Skip Bingo or one of four downward ways to bingo.

In the past some regular bingo jackpots have paid \$75 but as of last Monday all regular jackpots gain \$100 for winners. The minimum payoff in the coverall game is \$150 but this amount is doubled Mondays and Fridays for winners playing the 12:30 a.m. session.

With Pete Bingo now just about six weeks old at the Fremont, Powers said 103 Pete numbers were hit in one month with the Argent Corp. resort giving away an extra \$14,420 on the special numbers. Pete hits pay from a maximum \$500 to a minimum of \$20. Several \$500 hits have been paid out. The Fremont's special coverall game offers up to a whopping \$25,000.00. Six coverall wins were claimed in 54 numbers or less. Eight lucky players hit bingo with only four numbers, also giving them extra jackpots worth up to \$100 each.

The extra jackpots all are in addition to regular game payouts.

Nightly Pete Bingo sessions -- in the Fiesta Bing Room -- are at 10:30 p.m., 12:30 a.m. and 2:30 a.m.



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