

'ROUND TOWN ABBE LANE, looking as gorgeous as ever and sporting a new golden tan from her Maui Holiday last month, in town to gueststar on the "VEGA\$" series. Abbe gets to play one of those "bad girls" in a meaty, gutsy role that were so popular with stars like Barbara Stanwyck, Bette Davis, Claire Trevor, Ava Gardner, etc in the movies of the 40's and 50's. Abbe, who has done more than fifty films in Italy and the U.S., will also be guesting this season on "Taxi", "Love Boat", "Fantasy Island" and several others. She's also getting back to the recording studios this year and will be doing a new disco album for Butterfly Records - that's either before or after she returns from Spain where she's so wildly popular and is being avidly pursued to be the premiere star at the first Spanish gambling casino/resort hotel opening this spring. The Las Vegas Strip will also be seeing alot of Abbe Lane this year; she's rehearsing her all new nitery act and will be freelancing in '79 with dates being set for the Sahara, Riviera, MGM Grand, and Summa Hotels BERNADETTE PETERS who now has both a diamond necklace and a diamond ring for her non-engagement to Steve Martin, will be going on "special loan" from her riviera base to the MGM Grand. Bernadette will gueststar with RICH LITTLE opening Feb 15. Ms Peters has also been signed - surprise!!! - to costar with Steve in his first comedy film for Universal, "Easy Money" going before the cameras in March with Carl Reiner directing from a Steve Martin script ANN-MARGRET takes a long four month holiday from all show biz this month. A-M will be back at Caesars Palace with her 1979 spectacular in June. Just named the AGVA MUSICAL STAR OF THE YEAR, A-M is also being talked about for ANOTHER Academy Award nomination for her work in "Magic"BOBBIE GENTRY & JIM STAFFORD, sooo much in love and having such a great time working together at the Aladdin Bagdad, will be selling their individual homes both here and in Los Angeles to take up perm residence in Memphis where they recently purchases a 270-acre plantation. Jim will be doing his first movie later this year and there are also plans to record both separately & together. Bobbie & Jim will also return to the Aladdin for a May-date

LIFE UPON THE WICKED STAGE Choreographer-producer JEFF KUTASH is having one of those "when it rains ... it pours" kind of years! Jeff's "Dancing' Machine" - his original company is going as strong as ever with long-stretch dates in Reno, Tahoe, Los Angeles, and an upcoming Broadway debut. THE JEFF KUTASH DANCERS, a new "umbrella" title for all of Jeff's various dance companies is currently at the MGM Grand with Dean Martin - their first Vegas mainroom gig - following numerous television guestings on just about every major show including "Hot City", "Midnight Special", "Mike Douglas", "Soul Train", "The Grammy Awards", "American Bandstand", etc. Kutash, when he's not dreaming up a new dance theme for one of his groups, is also doing some acting and will be seen shortly starring on "Family" with Kristy McNichol Speaking of dancers, the Strip's number one lady of dance, and Female Star of the Year award winner JULIET PROWSE returns to the Desert Inn, with ANTHONY NEWLEY, this month. Sorry to hear that Juliet and her husband, actor/singer JOHN MCCOOK ("The Young & The Restless" star) have decided to try it apart with a just announced trial separation The Sahara Hotel and entertainment director JACK EGLASH hosted a Capricorn Birthday bash for its two current stars CHARO (January 15) and zany RIP TAYLOR (January 13) with a late late all star turnout including JACQUELINE DOUGUET (star of the Casbar's "Les Disco Parisienne" revue), JACKIE GAYLE (currently at the Casbar), MILTON BERLE, DAVID BRENNER, JACK JONES, LIBERACE, etc etc etc Speaking of Rip Taylor, his NBC series "The \$1.98 Beauty Show" has been picked up for at least another year and will be seen, in some areas, on a twice a week basis this season.

DEAN MARTIN AT MGM THRU JAN. 24TH

MGM Grand's showroom superstar, Dean Martin is currently enjoying a special one - show per evening, two - week engagement with his guests, the Jeff Kutash Dancers, and also holds the rare distinction of being categorized as a superstar in virtually every entertainment medium.

The Dean of the Grand's Celebrity Room, who also tapes his NBC TV Celebrity Roasts at the Grand, is one of the highest paid and most popular stars of television, records, motion pictures and the nightclub stage.

As a TV star he has been on the air for almost 30 years, with his own show for close to 20. And he has starred and guest - starred in television movies and series segments.

His MATT HELM and other movies are among the highest grossing flicks in history.

He has earned 12 gold records to date,

And, he is the alltime showcount king of the Grand and draws the largest crowds in Las Vegas, not having ever performed before an empty seat in the majestic 1,200 - seat

The Jeff Kutash Dancers add a delightfully unique touch to the Dean Martin Show with 20 minutes of upbeat music and disco dancing that sets the fingers to clicking and toes to tapping.

The Dean Martin Show continues through Jan. 24. On the 25th, Tony Orlando makes his Grand debut with David Brenner.

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RIP TAYLOR SUPPORTS CHARO IN SAHARA'S CONGO ROOM

Anyone will tell you it's a crazy combination -- a hot - blooded, gorgeous, luscious Spanish delight, blending her considerable musical talents with the absolutely wacko, slapstick, dizzy antics of a complete misfit (what we're discussing here are Charo and Rip Taylor) -- but the reaction of Congo Room audiences is proof enough that it works wonderfully well. Those two unique personalities are in the final few days of successful twoweeker in Hotel Sahara's big showroom.

Rip Taylor has been named Las Vegas "Entertainer of the Year" for the



past three seasons, he can make 'em proof enough that laugh.





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