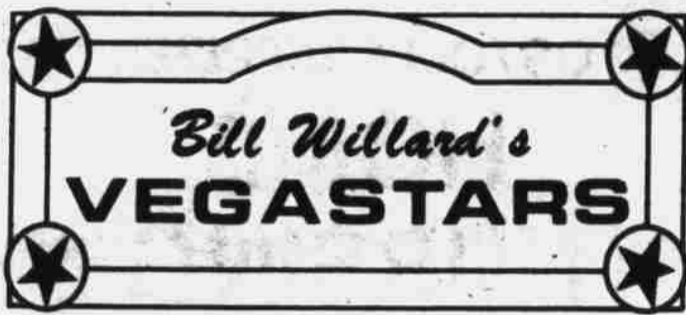


LAS VEGAS SHOWCASE



Las Vegas Convention & Visitors Authority nixed a skedded junket to World Travel Congress in Manila after the April 6 Liberation Movement sent letters to travel agents and Joe Stone, prez of American Society of Travel Agents warning people to stay away. Marketing director, ROSSI RALENKOTTER, MAYOR BILL BRIARE and board members will bypass Manila and do their promo in Hong Kong and Japan instead...Think the hottest biz is gambling and tourism here? Four new hospitals applied for okay to set up their lucrative systems with the ultimate profits financed by both winners and losers....And hottest new fun thing in town for bored gents, femme mud wrestling at Bogies on the Strip... Caesars Palace unveiled its two new million dollar payoff slot machines....New game in town is a wheel craps game on the order of roulette, but inventor, retired barber JAMES FRANKLIN SPENCER had to find a

North Las Vegas casino sporting enough to give it a whirl. Calvin Lombardi placed the game in his Cal's Jackpot Club a couple of months ago and it's doing okay.

★★★★★

MAC DAVIS, backpacking for a fortnight at MGM Grand Thursday with LONNIE SHORR along for laughs, has a couple of b.o. aids, "Cheaper to Keep Her" reeler and new Casablanca album "Texas in My Rear View Mirror"...MIKE DOUGLAS tapes his vidshow in Desert Inn's Crystal Room through Wednesday. DI prez BURTON COHEN, bitten when press descended first night upon "Alcazar de Paris" a few months ago and pronounced it DOA, is taking no chances on "A Chorus Line." If press wanted to catch opening night last Wednesday they had to pay the \$20 minimum same as ordinary mortals. Newest jazz joint in town is The Speakeasy east of Strip where percenter BOB LEONARD has placed SHARON RIDLEY TRIO and SENTIMENTAL JOURNEY....JOAN RIVERS with her yockables showing at the Riviera with NEIL SADAKA, guests on "Hollywood Squares" taping at her home base this week and next....BOB HOPE stopped by the Riv returning from London where he had presented

a show for PRINCESS MARGARET and a golf tourney. HOPE said DON RICKLES and BOB NEWHART "were just sensational" with RICKLES captivating the Princess with his raucous humor and free - wheeling remarks about European royalty plus aiming salvos at her. "If she really understood what he's saying," yucked RAPID ROBERT, "she would have him beheaded."

★★★★★

MATT GREGORY and LARRY DORN were the guiding lights behind the Tropicana to present WINK MARTINDALE and "Las Vegas Gambit" from the Tropicana with first taping Wednesday in main showroom for NBC....MERV GRIFFIN'S Trans - American Video shoots "Gambit" and "Hollywood Squares" down-Strip, also "Hallelujah Hollywood" at the Grand for G.G. Productions. TAV lensed Toyota of Canada newline show at the Dunes for another October gig... LIBERACE, wrapping a super Hilton double fortnight tees a week at Westbury Music Fair on the 28th and five nights at Resorts International Nov. 5. On coming weeks at the Hilton are STEVE LAWRENCE & EYDIE GORME, NORM CROSBY until the 28th when BILL COSBY returns with SISTER SLEDGERIP TAYLOR tosses up his confetti in the

FRED TRAVALENA STARS WITH REDDY

It's another blockbuster entertainment event at the Sahara featuring a feast of music and comedy with incomparable singing star Helen Reddy and incredibly talented impressionist Fred Travalena appearing for two shows nightly - 8 p.m. dinner shows and 12 midnight cocktail shows--through October 29 in the beautiful Congo showroom.

Critics and audiences alike agree that listening to internationally acclaimed vocalist Helen Reddy sing is a musical treat beyond compare. And it's no wonder when you look at the long list of hits that this Australian-born entertainer has had in her illustrious showbusiness career.

Comedy impressionist Fred Travalena is continuing his rapid rise to superstardom. This young and handsome entertainer, who is well-traveled in both television and nightclub appearances nationwide, delights audiences with his seemingly never-ending array of comedy voices and amazingly accurate impersonations of famous personalities.

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