

LAS VEGAS SHOWCASE



JERRY LEWIS wrapped "King of Comedy" with ROBERT DeNIRO, heads into "Slapstick" by KURT VONNEGUT, and after that wild assignment picks up again on "Smorgasbord," laid aside for some time. For the "Slapstick" role costarring with MADELINE KAHN with each playing brother and sister and parents (That's VONNEGUT for you!), JERRY will be 7'2" tall -- the incredible expanding man. And by the way, JERRY will take his MDA Telethon to Caesars Palace next September, but still will play dates at the Sahara. . . . GEORGE I LIBERACE fast - flighted to Ellay with \$10,000 check to Young Musicians' Foundation exex second installment of LEE's five - year \$50,000 grant. . . Sorry to miss chatting with DONALD O'CONNOR and PEGGY RYAN and PEGGY S husband EDDIE SHERMAN at opening of her "Stage Door" dancers' workshop in Camelot Shopping Center. The MORO-LANDIS DANCERS are going to have an alumni show with the former chory-pees from the Sahara El Rancho Vegas and other early showrooms reviving some routines. . . Frantic funnyman FREDDIE BELL tees a triple framer through Dec. 2 at the Frontier's Circle F lounge with sidekick PATTI YORK & BOBBY DOVE BAND. Also current same lounge is Strip fav dynamo DENISE CLEMENTE. . .



Grand European International Circus is coming to town when JELLY BEAN PRODUCTIONS put up the big top along side of Las Vegas Inn and old time prices are being charged Nov. 24 - 29. "Shape Up America," a one-hour musicomedy vidspec starts taping next month at Las Vegas Sporting House theming fitness and exercise craze. . . WILLIE TYLER & LESTER, comedy ventriloquist act, replaces "Let Me Off Uptown" in Tropicana Cabaret. The new broom sweeping away the revue is handled by new entertainment chief DREW CUMMINGS. Also in the works, a comedy workshop showcasing every Monday and Tuesday through Sunday, the CUM-

MINGS touch will find "top name" comedians headlining the Cabaret with \$4.95 minimum and no minus or cover for the showcase. LENNY MARTIN, incidentally, survived the Ramada shakeup and stays on as "Folies Bergere" producer.



SAMMY DAVIS JR. was honored at Caesars Palace as NAACP's 1981 Freedom Fund banquet paged BILL COSBY and JERRY LEWIS to emcee and WAYNE NEWTON, honorary chairman. Keynote speaker was L.A. County Supervisor YVONNE BRATHWAITE BURKE and artist PAUL COLLINS, who painted the official White House portrait of President Gerald Ford, exhibited five major works. . . MORTON GALANE, Wayne Newton's attorney, is high on the list of possible candidates to replace the retiring fed JUDGE ROGER FOLEY. GALANE was able to get JOHNNY CARSON'S deposition in NEWTON'S defamation suit against NBC. . . Former Culinary Local 226 organizer STEVE BLUESTEIN was subpoenaed by a U.S. Senate subcommittee probing mob ties to the 320,000 - member Hotel & Restaurant Workers union. The former Chicago bailbondsman reportedly linked Local 226 to the Chi mob through his ties with Anthony Spilotro. Nevada "Black Book" listee, indicted last July for racketeering conspiracy, wire fraud and receiving stolen jewelry. . . And now a new mob threat, members of a large Japanese organized crime family, "Yakuza" or Japanese Mafia, is showing up here involved in dope, gun-smuggling, prostitution and extortion.



"WHOREHOUSE" OPEN TILL DEC. 19

Broadway's Tony-Award - winning musical, "The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas," sets up its outrageously spirited story, song and dance on stage in the Desert Inn's Crystal Room through December 19. This celebrated slice of rowdy Texas folklore is loosely based on the events surrounding the clo-

sing of the oldest continually operating bordello in the Lone Star State, seen through the eyes of co - authors Larry L. King and Peter Masterson. Scored to the toe - tapping tunes and clever lyrics of Carol Hall, the show highlights the work of still another renowned Texas choreographer Tommy Tune.

The critically lauded National Touring Company cast features recording artist June Terry as Miss Mona, the head of the "house." Television and stage veteran William Larsen stars as the bombastic cussin' sheriff Ed Earl Dodd, and show-stopping blues singer Jackie Teamer is featured as Jewel, the housekeeper. The zealous, wig - wearing TV crusader Melvin P. Thorpe is portrayed by Kevin Cooney.

Musical hack - up is provided by the six Easy Pieces Band with Tony Booth as narrator and Art Yelton as leader, and featuring one of Texas' outstanding fiddle players, Bob White.

The musical is offered twice nightly (except Monday) at 8 p.m. and midnight. Call 733 - 4566 for reservations.

JOSE GRECO and NANA LORCA perform the exciting "El Cortijo" as the GRECO troupe continues through Friday at Aladdin Theatre for the Performing Arts. Also Mexico's premier dancer JORGE TYLLER and his Ballet Folklorico Mexicano, Spanish guitarist PABLO MACHENO, Flamenco dancer CARLOS LOMAS display pageantry and elaborate rhythmic movements. . . Revamped musical of Dickens "A Christmas Carol" previews Friday at Meadows Playhouse with official playdates Dec. 1 - 30. Second annual presentation is sponsored by Barbary Coast hotel - casino, Diamonds, Levi Strauss, Mervyns Nevada National Bank, Valley Bank and Nevada State Council on the Arts. New musical interludes and songs were composed by director Judith Brenner and Suzanne Buhner.



KELLY MONTEITH, the only statesider to have his own net vidshow in Blighty, now in its third year, tees a one frame MGM Grand playback Thanksgiving night, fronting laughs for ARETHA FRANKLIN. . . Hilton Headliner LIBERACE was the first to rehearse in his posh new pro studio in Liberace Place, site of Lee's museum and antique salon design center. The fully - equipped rehearsal studio is a first for Vegas. . . The merchant of warmed - over venom, DON RICKIES, brings on HERB FAME & LINDA GREEN aka Peaches & Herb, for their Sahara debut and fortnight exposure. In the Casbar, Tahitian Gabilou warbles alternating with "Saddle Tramps" revue. Sahara is rolling back prices celebrating its 30th anni, although the actual date or the resort's entry to the Strip was in October 1952. . . Another Thanksgiving feast, certainly no turkey is the MELISSA MANCHES-TER/LARRY GATLIN lashup at the Riviera for a week, then it's LIZA MINNELLI time for 10 nights. The Riv is still rocking, remembering the recent show when MAUREEN REAGAN popped up ringside in the middle of JOAN



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