

LAS VEGAS SHOWCASE

Bill Willard's VEGASTARS

The often dour-visaged SID GATHRID, who held the post of entertainment director for Caesars Palace, then buzzed off to Atlantic City and South Africa, is back in the city and, of all things, smiling because he will rejoin CLIFF PERLMAN at the Dunes for the takeover around April 1...Good sounds sounds good at R.P. MILLER AUDIO on Flamingo Road. Ask for listen to loudspeakers by Acoustat, Fried, Mirage and Kindel, plus associate equipment. R.P. is opening up adjacent store space for more aural exhibits and computers...MR. & MRS. JACKIE GAUGHAN will be honored on the 23rd at Bishop Gorman HS in a soiree titled "Knight of the Gael"...With DICK ODESSKY now back in the East Coast farming or twiddling thumbs after years with AL SACHS & HERB TOBMAN enterprises (Stardust, Fremont, Sundance) his charming assistant SHARON BURTON takes h's

desk. She was major domo in the recent successful "Stairway to the Stars" poker tourney at the Stardust and is now prepping other events for her three hotels as PR-Ad director...ShoWest this past week at MGM Grand found local movie theatre biggies DICK & ELSIE GOLDSWORTHY and LLOYD & EDIE (is that the way her name is spelled?) KATZ mingling with the likes of award winners SALLY FIELD, TERI ("TOOTSIE") GARR, with "Tootsie" director SYDNEY POLLACK, production exec JENNINGS LANG with GEORGE KENNEDY, Warner's "Night Shift" most promising femstar SHELLEY LONG, plus ShoWest's "Male Star of the Year" RICHARD GERE for his perf in "An Officer & A Gentleman." Also honored was RODNEY DANGERFIELD as "Comedian of the Year," now spending more time on beer blurbs and movie lots instead of nitery stages and his own New York City club. Other prominent celebs rubbing elbows with the GOLDSWORTHYS & the KATZ were ShoWest Medalist award winner DAVID CARRADINE and a batch of filmfolk from Paramount including DEBRA WINGER, LOUIS GOSSETT JR., DAVID KEITH and director TAYLOR HACKFORD...The Tropicana is launching a search for the ultimate Las Vegas showgirl starting Valentine's Day in five Southwestern cities for the beauty to star in the new 16th

edition of "Folies Bergere" slated to bow later on this year. Also, Saks Fifth Avenue will fly in a fashion designer from Gotham to looksee final audition production, also act as beauty and fashion consultant for entire showgirl search.



Longtime pal in the oft-harrowing showbiz, RED DOFF, producer, personal manager and publicist, joined ROGERS & COWAN as senior account exec. He dissolved his eight-year partnership with MICKEY FREEMAN of FREEMAN & DOFF, public relations in Hollywood. RED was PM and producer for MICKEY ROONEY for over 25 years...DOUGLAS PETERSON leads Musician Arts Singers Sunday the 20th in free concert at Charleston Heights Art Centre, 3 p.m., with the 20 voices dishes up Bach Cantatas 34 7 50, Mendelssohn's anthem, "Hear My Prayer," Vaughan Williams' "Flos Campi" and Faure's "Pavanne." Excellent program...Renegades ASH RESNICK (Aladdin) and MILT FRANK SR., (Sands) were lured by STEVE WYNN for posts of special casino projects and director of credit respectively for the Golden Nugget. STEVE still insists he's gonna make

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DESERT INN
and Country Club

"CHICAGO" AT UNION PLAZA

Authentic Bob Fosse dancing is what the delighted audiences are finding in the hit musical "Chicago" now enjoying a successful run in the main showroom of the newly remodeled Union Plaza Hotel.

The Maynard Sloate production of the musical can be seen twice nightly, at an 8:00 P.M. dinner and an 11:45 P.M. cocktail show.

Bob Fosse, famed choreographer for the Broadway stage and Hollywood films, conceived of the idea for "Chicago" from a true case of a murderess who was not only acquitted of her crime but who became a famous performer.

The setting is Chicago in the Roaring Twenties, and the leading ladies, Roxy and Velma, make their way to the vaudeville stage by hook, and more often, by crook.

Roxy and Velma, played by vivacious dancers Barbara Carlton and Kristin Childs, do achieve their tremendous publicity at their trials, and they do land big jobs on the vaudeville circuit. The show's story is told with lots of fun, music and dance.

It was during the staging of one of the show's memorable songs, "All That Jazz" when Bob Fosse suffered his heart attack, that was later relived in the award-

winning autobiographical film of the same name.

For this production, Bob Fosse's assistant, Jeremy Blanton, has used all the Bob Fosse staging for the dance sequences. Veteran director Jack Bunch uses innovative techniques to bring this full-scale musical

comedy to the Union Plaza stage.

"All That Jazz" is just one of the memorable tunes from the show that is leaving audiences dancing in response to the spirited performers who have brought "Chicago" to Las Vegas.



RENAISSANCE

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