

LAS VEGAS

SHOWCASE



Every few years city planners trot out elaborate schematics for malling downtown Fremont Street's main drag Glitter Gulch. And every few years casino bosses tell the planners, "That's nice" and continue business as before among the traffic clutter. Big wheel STEVE WYNN with his flamboyant Golden Nugget operation and in throes of trying to upscale the area, sniffs. "There's been a number of concerns that a mall would attract seamier people to the area," he said. "Malls in most cities, unless surrounded by high-priced places, have attracted a lower class of people. That's what we're trying to get away from." Winding up, Wynn tossed another curve about enclosed shopping centers being a haven for "breakdancers and ghetto blasters. That's not the kind of image we want to see downtown." For three nights ending Satur-

day, WYNN had KENNY ROGERS for his high-rollers in the Theatre Ballroom, ALAN KING & LAINIE KAZAN in the Cabaret, latter duo through Sunday. The Cabaret darkens until the 26th when KING and JEFF McBRIDE reopen for New Year's Eve.

★★★★★

There are more dark nights ahead over Christmas. Caesars puts out the lights in the Circus Maximum showroom after PAUL ANKA & KIP ADOTTA had their fling Sunday night. GEORGE BURNS & DIAHANN CARROLL light up the 27th through Jan. 1 with JOAN RIVERS to follow for a week....Desert Inn is dark until NEIL SEDAKA's three-framer opening on the 27th with MARILYN MCCOO...RICH LITTLE & POINTER SISTERS were the last to leave at MGM Grand, so they turned out the Celebrity Room lights Wednesday. SHIRLEY MacLAINE & MICHAEL DAVIS snap the switches on the 27th, sticking around over New Year's Eve until DEAN MARTIN shows up from the bar on Jan. 2. He'll take a week then it's WAYNE NEWTON's Grandebut for a fortnight....Sands Copa Room takes a hiatus over Christmas with "Fabulous Fifties" for New Year's Eve hoopla....SMOTHERS BROS. continue

in "Solid Gold" at the Riviera until the 19th and after lights out, ABBE LANE takes the lead slot over through Jan. 2.

★★★★★

Sahara's New Year's Eve sked has JERRY LEE LEWIS & RICK NELSON in the showroom and SI ZENTNER's ORCH in the Space Center. LEWIS & NELSON open Dec. 27, stay until Jan. 13...Picking up on the comedy scene, Sahara's EDDIE FOY brought in NORM CROSBY, MAUREEN MURPHY and GARY MULE DEER last weekend. Over at the Dunes, where MITZIE SHORE's Comedy Store has been rife for weeks, the funny folks are held over another week through the 16th. The showroom goes dark until the 27, with "Latino Royale" slated for a 3-month cha-cha-cha...Tropicana's "Folies Bergere" company takes a holiday vacation until the 26th. In the Tiffany Theatre the anni "Christmas Pops" of Las Vegas Symph Orch tools up Sunday for aft and evening concerts featuring violinist KALMAN BANYAK in Vivaldi's "Winter" from "The Four Seasons," a dance team illustrating Albinoni's "Adagio" and PETER BUGEL SINGERS with X-mas melodies...."The Nutcracker" season is upon us, with Nevada Dance Theatre's production in UNLV's Judy Bayley Theatre. NDT's artistic director VASSILI SULICH hoped to mount a brand new production, but with low budget settled for new costumes by resident designer DAVID HEUVAL.

★★★★★

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