

OF THE STARS

Take stock in America.



can be yours for the yocking by picking up a vid-cassette titled "Up Your Alley," produced by the "Unknown Comic," MURRAY LANGSTON, who performs in the film along with JOHNNY DARK, BOB ZANY, RUTH BUZZI, AND LINDA BLAIR as undercover reporter who fakes being a homeless waif along with the guys. Also in the flicker, YAKOV SMIRNOFF, VIC DUNLOP, TOM DREESEN, MYLES THOROUGHGOOD, KENT PERKINS, JACK HANRAHAN, GLEN VINCENT & MELISSA SHEAR...Note from old pal ELEANOR ROTH GRASSO, known since her glowing days as secretary to the Sands major domo, the late JACK ENTRATTER. She's now prez of VIP THEATRICAL AGENCY & CONVENTION SERVICES with DAWN GRASSO. "Do you want to be thoroughly entertained?" ELEANOR asks, rhetorically. "Come see DARCUS SPEED at the Tropicana"... "Ain't Misbehavin'" is playing in Henri's Celebrity Theater at the Sands, with extra elegant splash intro Thursday in the Regency Room by HENRY LEWIN, Sands prez.

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MEL FOND & ASSOCIATES, who will preem "Jazz At The Riviera" Dec. 8-10, are firing up another stomper, the 6th anni CLASSIC JAZZ FESTIVAL '89 on Labor Day weekend at the L.A. Airport Marriott, Hilton & Viscount Hotels. Appearing with some fine, lusty, tenor sax tracings is SAM BUTERA, with his gang THE WILDEST...For another musical slant, STEPHANIE NIELSON & STAFF are trumpeting the BEEGEES in the Aladdin's Theatre for the Performing Arts Aug. 26.

Special guests are THE NYLONS. Absolutely no silken sounds from them, but plenty of chemistry... Tune in Sunday noons for KUNV-91FM's "Bastille," a radio miniseries comemmorating the French Revolution. You'll recognize voices of ROSCOE LEE BROWNE, EARL HOLLIMAN & WILLIAM SHATNER...In his book, "Vegas Live and In Person," JEFFERSON GRAHAM devotes much space to magician MELINDA, her sister, SUZANNE and their mother BONNIE SAXE. MELINDA, is an extremely hard-working young lady, lovely to look at while she performs mysterious trix in her show, "The Follies Revue '89" at the Landmark, with sister SUZANNE, a specialty dancer in the show produced by BONNIE...Comedian MAUREEN MURPHY is much in demand for her ladylike shaf-tings of male personas, with recent showings of her talent opening for LOLA FALANA at the Sands and headlining at Bally's Catch A Rising Star. She will consume VIP slot club members of the Stardust during a private party Monday titled "Jackpot of Laughs"...This is no laughing matter, however, COMMON CAUSE, the Peoples' lobby, has another of its famous phone network actions, "ALERT!" This one is to clean up Congress as COMMON CAUSE asks everyone to ask their senators and reps to support ethics reforms that will dramatically reduced the role of special PACs in congressional elections; ban honoraria fees, limit campaign spending and prohibit special interest-paid vacations and halt personal use of campaign funds.


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Back to the laughs: this week's quartet of yox makers at the Riviera Improv is headed by a chap who used to regale loungers at the Hacienda years ago. KENNY DAVIS is his name and he used to have a group called THE ROAD SHOW. Now he's a single standup comic with some funny insights, sharing the lopsided room with FRED STOLLER; BILLY ELMER & BRIAN CATALINA...And, at the Riv, there's still time to catch MICKEY ROONEY & DONALD O'CONNOR in their new act "Two for the Road" through Sunday in the main showroom where "SPLASH" has been turned off for its monthly hiatus in favor of headline acts...Back to the Hacienda. REDD FOXX has returned again with his gentle scatological humor, aided by SLAPPY WHITE, BERNIE ALLEN & PRINCE SPENCER. When JERRY JACKSON's icy/dancer, "Fire & Ice" returns on Aug. 29, REDD & CO. will have their shifts between the revue...JOSEPH BERNARD pops up again in the column. He and WALTER MASON will be featured as special guests of Actors Equity Association in the roles of NAT and MIDGE in HERB GARDNER's comedy "I'm Not Rappaport." NEW WEST STAGE CO. is producing the play at Charleston Heights Arts Center set for opening Jan. 26 and running through Feb. 3. Meanwhile to bolster JOE & WALTER, director BARBARA M. BRENNAN is having open auditions Tuesday at Charleston Heights Arts Center starting at 6 pm. Parts are available for three males ages 16-45 and two females ages 20-55, non-Equity members. You'll have to read cold, come up with a monolog about two minutes long and provide a resume and photo resembling yourselves as near as possible.

Editor's Note: The Opinions expressed by Bill Willard in Vegastars are not necessarily those of the ISRAELITE.

Denise Shapiro has been newly hired as the gallery manager of the Las Vegas-Clark County Library District, to oversee exhibits in the six galleries located in branch libraries. She replaces Patricia Mortati McCollum in the position.

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