Thursday, February 3, 1966

LAS VEGAS VOICE Safety tage Voor Poster adol

A MAN AND HIS MUSIC

"Without a Song" would the name of Frank Sinatra be the household word that it is today? You better believe it! Digging him at the Sands Sunday night while The Man with Basie's popping reeds and screaming brass were caving in my head, I got the message that even if this cat didn't have the voice and that crazy phrasing that is so unmistakably Sinatra, there's so much of whatever else it is he's got, Man, he'd make it. . . My Mom, who has been a screaming Sinatra fan since my earliest memory, tells me that Sinatra was once known as "The Voice" (So that's how the newspaper got its name)--but back to Mom--She used to say that everybody else sings as good as they can, but Sinatra sings as good as he wants to, and that anything Sinatra doesn't have, he doesn't need. I'm a believer.

Sunday night turned out to be a little longer on Monday than it seemed the eve before ... But how could you go home quietly to the land of nod after a romping session of Sinatra-Basie and that bundle of talent called Quincey Jones--So ole John stumbled into the Lounge at the Sands and got turned on with the Righteous Brothers "Loving Feeling". . . Full of that old feeling, we moved on down the line to the next swing spot--Pussy Cat A Go-Go, natch. That was the frosting on the cake. Now everybody knows what the Checkmates are saying--that's the bag it's in, and every time old John has to make these stage doors in the line of duty, he'll have to check out the Checkmates. . . But we had an unexpected treat because our little old buddy, Li'l Herman and the Other Brothers are currently appearing at the Pussy Cat A Go-Go, so everything was steaming and when McAffee got into the act, it was "Papa kiss the baby" for our party... What a night!

Tis far better to make no mention of Monday (daytime, that is) but as swing time rolled around, Stage Door John thought it only fitting to catch closing night for the Clara Ward Singers at the Fremont. . . Let's put it like this -- Maybe it's best they closed, because we surely would be giving them nightly coverage from now on in --Man, that groove; we haven't stopped patting the foot and snapping the fingers yet, and probably won't until they return to the Scene and beat it out for us in their own sensational fashion.

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Ran into old school chum Willie Perry, leadof the Allegroes at the Cove before he split er the scene there. . .great to hear good things that are happening to the group. Willie tells us that prior to the Cove gig, the group had been working the Los Angeles area for the past few months ... He's singing "satisfied" about working with organist Joel Santiago who also handles the vocal sounds for the group and drummer man, Sonny Gillette who has worked with some of the top groups in the country including John Coltrane. Willie, a sax man, himself, hips us to watch for this upcoming trio's recordings which are soon to be waxed. You know, Man, I will.

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Playboy magazine's February issue takes a look at the current Jazz scene and presents the winners of the Tenth Annual Playboy Poll, as well as the initial occupants of the Playboy Jazz Hall of Fame. Last October, the magazine's Jazz Poll ballot, for the first time, gave Playboy readers an opportunity to vote for the three outstanding jacz artists--instrumental or vocalist, living or dead--whom they thought worthy of being the initial occupants of the Playboy Jazz Hall of Fame--Louis Armstrong, Frank Sinatra, and Dave Brubeck won the honors hands down. The February issue also gives a deserving and swinging tribute to The Man and His Orchestra, Duke Ellington--Said Playboy, "The Man and the Orchestra who are beyond category



won in recent Firemen's Safety Poster Contest. She is a third grader at Kit Carson School. Rm. No. 11. Mrs. Lucille Thompson is her teacher.



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The VOICE benefit at the Cove, Sunday afternoon, February 13, is going to SWING. . . And Uncle Mex's Roaring Twenty Days at Sugar Hill is going to be saying something. . . Where the action is, you'll find ole John.



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Presents ...