



DREAM COME TRUE FOR VEREEN--Not too long ago, Ben Vereen dreamed of headlining in Las Vegas. It came true at the Riviera this week when he opened a 2-week engagement with comedy star Joan Rivers. They will appear through June 7 and will be followed by Tony Orlando and comedic newcomer Johnny Yune.

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There was a time, about five years ago, when Ben Vereen would sneak off from the set of "Funny Lady" which was filming in Hollywood and fly to Las Vegas just to watch Liza Minnelli act at the Riviera. Seated obscurely. in the back of the Versailles Theatre, he dreamt of the day he could do an act in Las Vegas. The dream came true this week when Vereen

The dream came true this week when Vereen and co-headliner Joan Rivers opened at the Riv before a capacity crowd and captivated the first nighters with a smash performance which heralded the news of another major star in the Riviera's growing family of top entertainers.

entertainers. A gifted singer and dancer, Vereen also possesses that rare intangible known as "Box office magic." Through a combination of top Broadway roles, choice film assignments, a smash appearance in "Roots" and other TV triumphs, he is approaching the pinnacle of his career. His show reflects his amazing versatility and talents.

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A "Player" and his "Lady", one of the hundreds who caused headlines like "Ringside Show a Real Knockout" at the Ali-Frazier fight in 1971. Players and their ladies figure to strut their stuff at Don King's International. Sportman's Ball, June 8, Caesars Palace, the evening before the Norton/Holmes Heavyweight Championship Fight. Drawings by LeRoy Neiman.



KICKIN' UP A STORM: Eartha Kitt, star of Broadway's hit musical, "Timbuktu" and super promoter Don King get into action at a packed press reception announcing King's International 'Sportsman's Ball to be held at Caesars Palace on June 8, the evening before the Norton/Holmes heavyweight title fight, in Las Vegas. All of the "Hustling" took place at New York City's swank Tavern on the Green Restaurant.