



Lola Falana

Vegas Books Lola

Lola Falana recently reached what she always considered a very important goal in her career -- headlining in Las Vegas. The sexy singer-dancer starred last August at the Alladin Hotel in a two-week showcase which broke all previous records for attendance at the Vegas casino.

So impressive was her appearance that she has been signed by the Alladin for sixteen weeks next year, giving her the distinction of playing more weeks than any other performer at one hotel on the Strip. Lovely Lola, who plays the Aladdin this Oct. 3-23, will also star for six-to-eight weeks in northern Nevada at the Sahara hotels.

Falana, who has been dancing since she was three, credits a lifetime of dedication and hardwork for her success. But she also insists that she would never have made it this far without the support and guidance of three famous friends -- Dinah Washington, Sammy Davis, Jr. and Wayne Newton.

In her Aladdin show, Lola sings songs associated with each entertainer in a special tribute. "Wayne Newton has been a great friend and advisor to me," she said. "he's 'been there,' and now he's the best of his kind of performer around today. He advised me to wait, not jump at an opportunity. But finally, I realized he was correct."

Dinah Washington gave Falana her first big dancing job when she was fourteen years old. "I was still in school," Falana recalled, "so I had to audition during my lunch hour. I only knew her a couple of years before she died, but she was a tremendous influence."

Sammy Davis, Jr. discovered Falana a few years later in an Atlantic City chorus line and featured her in "Golden Boy" on Broadway. "Sammy went out of his way a great deal to help me," she said. "I know we'll always be good friends."

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Ebony Etchings From Page 10

over. Now as a recording artist for Arista Records it seems that Norman Connors is just getting into second gear, and his most recent release "This Is Your Life" summarizes his life efforts to create a new and unique sound, for in this production one clearly understands the cliché "each member of a band has something to say" . . . and with Norman Connors what's being said is simple soft and effectively good.

ROSE GRIER will be guest starring in a "Kojak" segment entitled "Bad Dude" on Wednesday October (11). He'll be playing the role of Salathiel Harms, a man who seems to be seeing himself up as a target for a hitman, while insisting that the police stay out of it.

MARLA GIBBS and Ja'NET DuBOIS are two of TV's female regulars that stay rather busy when off camera and not taping, jetting around the country making personal celebrity appearances for notable and worthwhile charitable causes.

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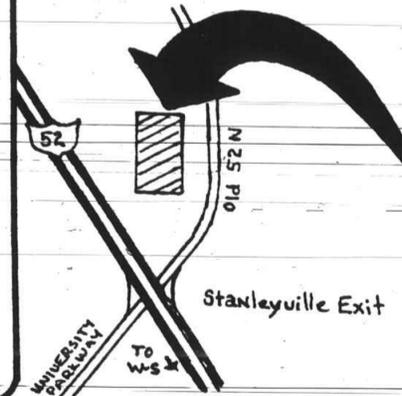
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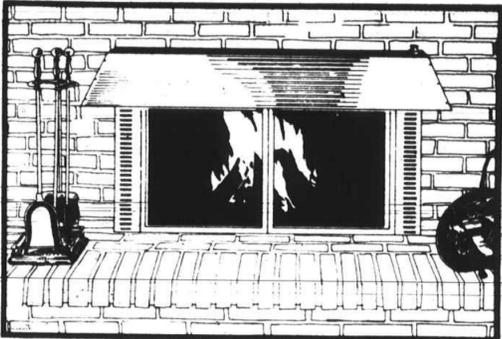
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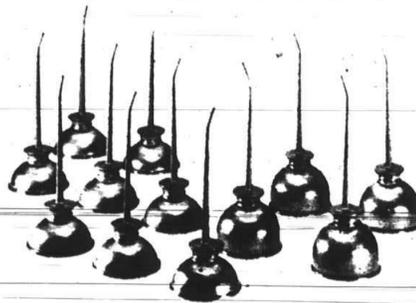
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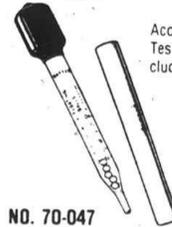
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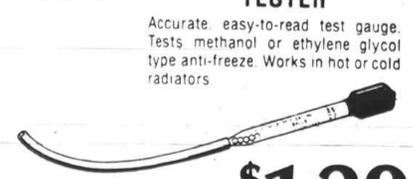
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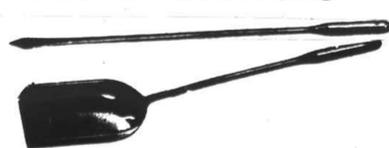
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