

# Tempo People



## Tower Ticker

By Aaron Gold

**T**HE TUBE GETS TRASHY (or is it trashier?): Although ABC-TV now has the rights to the Oscarcasts, NBC is preparing a movie to air April 2, the night before Oscar's lavish 50th anniversary presentation, that will tell the story of a fictional Oscarcast a la the late Jackie Susann. The two-hour film, tentatively titled "Hollywood Gold," is expected to poke fun at many past Academy Awards shows, with characters based on easily recognizable performers.

"THE VEILED VIRGINS of Delphi," a mural depicting a mystical view of women by Chicagoan Jack Denst, is proving to be a big hit with the Arabs. International interior designers have ordered dozens of copies for the sheiks' new palaces, throne rooms, and conference rooms. . . . Sammy Davis Jr. doesn't want to do musicals or TV variety shows for a while. He's developing a dramatic TV series in which he would star as a '60s revolutionary who goes to prison, comes out straight, and becomes a law partner with a right-wing attorney. And tickets for Davis' Feb. 17-26 Mill Run stand go on sale Jan. 16.

SUCCESS FINALLY HAS come to Joe Masiell, a Chicago favorite since he appeared in "Jacques Brel" at the Happy Medium. His New York revue, "Joe Masiell, Not at the Palace" (coproduced by Jimmy Coca) was such a hit at a small nightclub that producer Norman Kean bought it and will present it in rotation with "Oh! Calcutta!" at the Edison Theater. And the show has been retitled "Joe Masiell, Not at the Palace, but Getting Closer!"

THE STRETCH OF roadway through Lincoln Park connecting Lake Shore Drive and LaSalle Street is a menace to motor vehicles. It is so badly riddled with potholes that the surrounding grassy areas are loaded with hubcaps (I counted 39) that pop off as the tires go kathunk! . . . "The Hallmark Hall of Fame," usually noted for its lavish TV presentations, has an interesting drama scheduled for Feb. 2 on NBC-TV. Titled "Taxi," it was written by Lanford ("Hot-L Baltimore") Wilson and stars Martin Sheen and Eva Marie Saint in the only two speaking roles.

SEVERAL MOVIE companies are scrambling for the galleys of Irving and Amy Wallace's upcoming book, "The Two," about the world's most famous Siamese twins, Chang and Eng Bunker. It would be interesting to know what stars they have in mind for the leading roles, but they won't comment. . . . Fifteen-year-old Foster Sylvers will make his solo debut for Capitol Records later this month with the release of the Elvis Presley standard "Don't Be Cruel." Elvis, who was Foster's biggest musical influence, recorded the song in 1954, 18 years before Foster was born.

LAWRY'S THE PRIME RIB will be the only Chicago restaurant represented in the Jan. 2 Tournament of Roses Parade in Pasadena, Cal. The float, featuring "The Tortoise and the Hare," will be made of fresh greens and 75,000 mums and carnations. . . . Earth, Wind & Fire, with an all new stage show, will be in concert Jan. 29 at the Stadium. Tickets go on sale Thursday for the show that also includes Deniece Williams and Pockets. . . . Now that the football season is over for the Bears (they sure were out of their league Monday against Dallas), the Honeybears will go right on making appearances for other sports activities. First on their agenda is the Jan. 22 grand opening festivities at the Lincoln Park Court Club in Piper's Alley.

TICKER BITS: Chicago actress Marji Bank is grinning from ear to ear these days with the news that her daughter, Roanne, won first prize in the University of Illinois' Student Union photography contest and now qualifies for the regionals. . . . The new "Where to Eat in America" book singles out Jim Errant's motherlode hamburger (Jasands and Chicago Claim Company) as the best in Chicago. . . . Mel Markon's Homewood restaurant opens Wednesday; it's his third in the Chicago area. . . . Happy birthday to Lew Ayres, Lou Jacobi, Maggie Smith, and Sam Levenson. . . . Esquire magazine has dubbed Christmas as a "Claus Encounter of the Third Kind."