

HELLO



ALL THE GOSSIP!

Hiya! Hiya! Boy have things been flipping in Hollywood! This town can really be crazy at times!

Romance has been the keyword lately with a surplus of weddings and babies. In the wedding department—lovely **Denise Nichols** of "Room 222" married singer **Bill Withers** here on January 17 . . . And many people were more than a bit surprised since **Denise** and **Bill** had had a rather public fight just a short time earlier—but apparently they kissed and made up!

And from various hospitals comes the baby news—**Mr. and Mrs. Dino Martin Jr.** (she's **Olivia Hussey** and doesn't she have the most beautiful face you've ever seen?) are now the proud parents of a baby boy, named **Alexander**, born February 12 here . . . And old "Star Trek" fans still out there (besides me?)—remember **Chekov**? He's **Walter Koenig** and he and his wife **Judy** have a new daughter, **Danielle Beth**, born February 15.

My only sad news this month is to announce the death of **Clara Ward**, 48, one of the greatest gospel singers of all time. She died in Los Angeles January 16 following a stroke. She will be missed.

If you'll forgive me I'd like to answer a couple of letters that I've received. To a girl named **Pam** who wrote me about what went on behind the church—the answer to your question is **Yes** so please be careful! And to D.V. in Chicago, Illinois—Yes, **David** has gotten things like that in the mail!

I was over at **Andy and David Williams'** house the other day and do you believe they have fan mail hidden all over the house? They showed me some under tables and behind sofas—and **David** said there's even some under their parents' bed! Don't ask me why they're hiding it—ask them! And while you're at it ask them about **Tammy The Tarantula** and what she's been up to lately! You'll be surprised!

Andy and David got a nice phone call the other day from **Michael Jackson** and the three boys hit it off so well that **Andy and David** are thinking about inviting **Michael** over for dinner one night

—wouldn't you like to be at that dinner!? **Andy** told me that **Michael** seemed kind of shy to him.

One nice thing about this town is the people you run into . . . Just yesterday I stumbled across **Merrill Osmond** who began thanking me profusely for including in the "88 Ways to Capture An Osmond" (April FLIP) the fact that he **hates** ice skating. He hopes now that people will stop asking him to go ice skating!

And **Donny**! I almost didn't recognize him! It's hard to believe but **Donny** is now 5'9" tall! And his new voice! Have you really listened to "Twelfth Of Never"? His new voice is marvelous!

I called **David** to say goodbye before he took off for his European tour and to tell him how great it is that he's helping out the Special Olympics for Retarded Children—he taped a special radio message for them at his home—and found out he's also doing some work in England for the "Keep Britain Clean" campaign. Don't let anyone tell you **David** doesn't care—he does, he does!

David sounded much happier than the last time I talked to him as he anticipated going back to England and Europe. And he may run into his parents while he's there. **Jack and Shirley** have patched up their marital problems so well, they're off for a second honeymoon in Europe. So all's well with the **Cassidy** family!

All's not so well however with sexy **Mark Spitz** who's pretty mad about a nasty rumor that spread all over the country about him. The rumor said that **Mark** had had plastic surgery on his nose and chin. I really don't know how anyone could believe that he would want to change a single thing on that face, but some people did. **Mark** finally traced down the guy who started the whole mess. He's an actor of sorts who used to be married to **Judy Carne** and he was involved in an auto accident and had plastic surgery to repair his face. Apparently a couple of nurses thought he was **Mark** and the word went out—and the guy didn't even bother to deny that he was **Spitz**! It's all straight now though—**Mark** has not changed one thing on that gorgeous face!

In my troopings around this month I was lucky enough to catch two great solo performers and one marvelous play. The play was "Don't Bother Me, I Can't Cope," which is marvelously good fun. It's rock, folk, jazz, blues, gospel and everything else, and I loved it! If it comes anywhere near you, see it. And if we're lucky maybe they'll make a movie from it!

Oh yes, one last thing. I've got a new address so you can write **directly to me** instead of writing to New York (where your letters have been sent on to me in the past.) Any letters to me can now be sent to P.O. Box 38470, Los Angeles, California 90038. Subscriptions, back issues and all that still goes to New York! Bye!

C.D.