



December 14 - 20, 2005

**The Frank Sinatra Show DVD**  
***High Hopes — With Dean Martin and Bing Crosby***  
MVD

There's no question about Frank Sinatra. But one question here is whether or not you're the type of die-hard fan who'll devour anything he's produced or would rather enjoy the wealth of more polished material released over the years. It's fun to see the Chairman of the Board performing with Dean Martin, Bing Crosby and Mitzi Gaynor in this forum — shameless Timex ads and all. Frank and Dino's friendship is palpable, as is the post-vaudevillian origin of the artists, while dialog between Crosby, Martin and Sinatra flows easily; apparently these guys had done just a few gigs prior to this October 1958 TV broadcast. Of course, there's truckloads of charisma and self-effacing swagger, and the humor is often dated, sometimes distasteful, yet out of these smooth lips it's forgivable. Standout songs, "It Was Just One Of Those Things," "Angel Eyes," and "The Lady Is A Tramp" represent Sinatra's nightclub style, featuring pianist Bill Miller leading a five-piece band. Nelson Riddle's orchestral contributions to the show are fine, though it's Miller's smaller combo that really shines. This segment of the program shows Frank at his finest, well worth the coin for any fan of The Voice.

— **Robin Johnson**