



The pet pooch of a Las Vegas showgirl (right), Rover (Rodney Dangerfield) loves to gamble (top).



ten by Dangerfield, who also provides the voice and character of Rover, a wisecracking mutt-about-town who lives in Las Vegas. He is the kept dog of a sexy showgirl named Connie.

Life is glorious for Rover, with nothing much to do but shoot craps for bones or admire the female dogs in some of the floor-show acts. To a cute poodle he coos, "Honey, you're my type. I love your pom poms." To his friend Eddie the terrier he whines, "I got no class at all. I looked up my family tree. Two dogs were using it."

When Connie leaves on a road trip, her corrupt and crude boyfriend Rocky agrees to take care of Rover. He intends to take care of him all right; he hates the furry creature that Connie dotes on and tries to eliminate him while she's away.

Fortunately, Rover is rescued from a near-drowning and finds himself in the country — on a farm, no less, with pigs, horses, cows and other chicks from the sticks.

The farmer who finds Rover thinks he's worthless, a dog who doesn't hunt, round up sheep or even fetch. But his young son Danny is fond of the stray animal and his dad allows the dog to stay.

Rover yearns for the glitz and glamor of his Las Vegas home. After all, a farm dog's nightlife consists of howling at the moon. "What do you do after that," he groans, "play Watch the Wheat?"

But everything changes for Rover when he meets Daisy — the petite sheltie next door knocks Rover off his four feet. He sings "I'd Give Up a Bone For You" and she responds with "I Found a Four-Leaf Clover When I Met Rover."

In case you hadn't guessed, Dangerfield wrote these songs, and the others in the film (with Billy Tragerser). Other potential canine classics include "I'm in Love with the Dog Next Door" and "I'll Never Do It on a Christmas Tree."

As songwriter, writer and executive producer of **Rover Dangerfield**, Rodney has come a long way since his stand-up days in Greenwich Village when he worked for free just for a chance to perform. His "everyman" style and apoplectic delivery have taken him from small clubs to TV, then to his film debut in 1980's *Caddyshack*. He's become such a comedy legend that his trademark white shirt and red tie are on display in the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C.

And, by the way, did you hear the one about the stupid dog? "He's really dumb. They taught him how to sit; he forgot how to stand." Too bad he wasn't an intelligent pooch like Rover Dangerfield: "I'm smart! When I was paper trained, I learned to read."

— Nicole-marie Squires



ROVER DANGERFIELD

**THIS
MUTT-ABOUT-TOWN
JUST WANTS TO GET
SOME RESPECT**

He's always been an underdog — the guy who could get no respect. Now, tie-jerking funnyman Rodney Dangerfield has carried this idea to its ultimate conclusion. He actually is a dog in his latest comedy film **Rover Dangerfield**.

The animated musical was writ-