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NEVADA

THE MAGAZINE OF THE REAL WEST

APRIL 1997 ■ \$3.50

Nevada on Tap

Offering a toast
to homegrown
microbreweries
in the Silver State

Amazing Vacations

How to drive your own train, stay
in elegant suites, and climb the
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Brew-pub pioneers
Tom Young and
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Tom Young (left) and Eric McClary of
the Great Basin Brewery in Sparks.
Photo by Ira Mark Gostin

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You can see your expiration date near the upper right of your magazine label. For example, "JUN97" means your subscription runs through the May/June '97 issue of Nevada Magazine. And you should receive a renewal notice in plenty of time.

We'll be back next issue with the answer to another frequently asked question.

Apple of His Eye

As soon as Las Vegas hotel officials announced plans for New York-New York two years ago, **Deke Castleman** was intrigued. "We would watch it rise, day by day," the Las Vegas writer recalls. "There was the Empire State Building, the Chrysler Building—a whole skyline appeared."

Deke visited the newly opened New York-New York last January and, as a native New Yorker, gave it the twice-over. As he explains in "Talk of the Town," he was impressed by the virtual reality of the Little Apple. "The first time I walked through the hotel's Greenwich Village area, with the back streets and storefronts, I forgot where I was. It's such an amazing simulation, I transcended Las Vegas—I was in New York."

Deke has known the real New York all his life. He grew up in Lynbrook (Brooklyn backwards), a town just outside Queens on the Long Island Railroad. After spending his first



Deke Castleman: return to Coney Island.

18 years in New York, he left for college in Boston and later found adventure, love, and the writer's muse here in the West, but he still flies back to the Big Apple to visit family and friends.

Deke has traveled the Silver State widely as the author of *Las Vegas* and *Nevada Handbook*, which he's updating for its fifth edition, and is managing editor of the *Las Vegas Advisor* newsletter. Recently Deke completed

his first novel, *Las Vegas 2040*. "It's future fiction, what Las Vegas becomes two generations down the line," he says. *Las Vegas 2040* will be published by Huntington Press this spring.

Also, in this issue's "Amazing Vacations," Deke presents a high roller's vacation in "Casino Dreamin'." In "Do the Locomotive," **Kate Butler** of Lamoille tells how you can drive your own train at the Nevada Northern Railway Museum in Ely. **Rose Strickland** of Reno recalls her ascents of 42 Nevada peaks, all over 11,000 feet, in "At the Top."—*David Moore*



Golf . . . at the Las Vegas Paiute Resort

36 Reasons to keep playing the game.

The Las Vegas Paiute Resort has two challenging 18-hole courses, Snow Mountain and Sun Mountain. Both highlight Pete Dye's clear vision of the game: pot bunkers, ryegrass fairways, bent-grass greens and railroad ties, of course. They're surrounded by the natural beauty of the Nevada desert and designed to bring out the best in your game. For tee-time information call 800-711-2833 or 702-658-1400.

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Photos: top, Snow Mountain, hole 6, Ken E. May; bottom, Sun Mountain, hole 1, Johnny Pott.



LETTERS

Ghost town tales and restaurant reports.

Time Traveler

As a regular reader of *Nevada Magazine*, I have enjoyed the last two articles, "Tybo Time Travel" in March/April '96 and "Ghost Town Etiquette" in Jan/Feb, written by Stanley W. Paher.

I have been on many desert trips with Stanley and fellow ghost-town explorer Doug Shearer. We have visited ghost towns all over Nevada, East Mojave, and Death Valley. From the beginning the rule has always been to enjoy, take nothing and leave it for others to enjoy. We would like our sons, daughters, and grandchildren to see all of the beautiful sights that we have had the pleasure to enjoy ourselves.

I took the picture that appeared last issue of Stanley with the two bricks in



Author Stanley W. Paher

his hands at Ophir on one of our many outings. Stanley said it right: "Take only pictures."

Michael P. Donoho
Las Vegas

Ghost Town Travelers

I really enjoyed "Ghost Town Etiquette" by Stanley W. Paher in the Jan/Feb issue. Last fall we traveled around the inner portion of the state and stopped at all the little places most people never hear about. We talked to many people, made a lot of new friends, and explored several old towns, some with residents and some without. We are looking forward to a return trip someday.

Tom Lyman
Tacoma, WA

Highway to Heaven

I received my first issue of *Nevada Magazine* (Jan/Feb) and really enjoyed the articles on "Ghost Town Etiquette" by Stanley W. Paher and "100 Years of Roughing It" by Guy Shieler.

During August and September we spent some time in Nevada. On our vacations we try to stay away from the interstate system since we see considerably more of the countryside and at a much slower pace. We wanted to travel Highway 50, "the loneliest road in America."

I am thoroughly convinced that is the way to go. It was the third week in September, and the scenery was absolutely breathtaking as we traveled near the snow-covered mountains.

We even were treated to a surprise in Ely, where it started to snow that night, and I expected to be snowbound by morning. Unfortunately, this did not happen. Our pace over this route was very leisurely with stops in Austin (for food), Eureka (auto fuel), and Ely (overnight lodging). I would recommend this trip very highly.

Robert W. Brown
Ozark, AL

Greetings From China

Thank you for your letter and *Nevada Magazine*. I hope your magazine will help me learn about Nevada.

Chen Zu Xiang
Beijing, China

Restaurant Report

When we attended a seminar at the Silver Legacy recently, we tried several Reno restaurants. I want to report on our experiences. We enjoyed Louis' Basque Corner very much. Part of the enjoyment was visiting with strangers who were seated at our table. We didn't get to Adele's because of bad weather—will try next time. We did enjoy Fairchild's Oyster Bar in the Silver Legacy, and other attendees at our seminar were most pleased with Sterling's Seafood and Steakhouse in the same hotel.

Other Nevada favorites of ours are the Star Hotel in Elko, which we have visited several times over the years, and the Griddle in Winnemucca.

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HIKING

Hidden History

FALLON—Visitors can see where prehistoric people lived, hunted, stored food, and left petroglyphs on the walls of caves and rocks 12 miles east of Fallon.

Hidden Cave Interpretive Trail is 1.2 miles east of Grimes Point off U.S. 50 and is an easy one-mile walk. On this well-marked trail, you will see petroglyphs believed to be between 500 and 2,000 years old. There are 12 other points of interest on the trail, including Picnic Cave, which has tufa encrustations left by underwater algae, and Burnt Cave, with its pictographs that have been



Kids dig the guided tours at the Hidden Cave Interpretive Trail.

partially obscured by vandalism.

At one point you can see where the valley floor was covered by Lake

Lahontan 10,000 years ago. The view also includes a more modern sight: jets taking off from the nearby Fallon Naval Air Station.

The eighth stop on the trail is Hidden Cave, a significant archaeological site that was excavated in 1940, 1951, and 1979-80. Centuries ago, hunter-gatherers stored food and supplies in Hidden Cave, which can be seen only during scheduled public tours that originate at the Churchill County Museum in Fallon. The free tours are held on the second and fourth Saturdays of each month and begin at 9:30 a.m. Call the museum, 702-423-3677, for more information.—*Jenifer Walker*

SHOPPING

Memory Lane

CARSON CITY—Tom Springmeyer, who likes to rummage in other people's barns, says he has found his calling. Springmeyer and Bob Phillips operate **Gasoline Alley**, a shop two miles south of downtown Carson City that specializes in automobile memorabilia and other collectibles.

"It gives me a chance to travel around a lot. I've been to little towns in Nevada I didn't even know were there," says Springmeyer, who ran a lumberyard in Gardnerville until he and Phillips started Gasoline Alley two years ago.

Gasoline Alley is cluttered with antique license plates, photos of restored cars, and tin automotive signs that used to hang on small-town service stations throughout the Silver State. The metal sign for Stan's Station hung on the old Minden service station that was



Visitors fill up on service-station history at Gasoline Alley.

operated by Springmeyer's uncle. Springmeyer found the sign last summer in a barn owned by a distant cousin. Restored antique gasoline pumps dating from the 1920s and 1930s appear in the front windows, and neon beer signs beckon from the store's dark interior after nightfall.

Antique gas pumps are popular items with customers. A rusty, unrestored pump can cost up to \$400, but after new paint, decals, and a lighted globe are added, the same pump sells for as much as \$3,500. People decorate garages, homes, and yards with them, Springmeyer says, and one person even had a television installed in one.

Gasoline Alley also has several stainless-steel antique soda fountains gleaned from old drugstores throughout Nevada. There's one from Stratton's Drugstore, which used to be in downtown Minden, another from Yerington, and another from Tahoe.

Phillips and Springmeyer will sell virtually anything they have in stock at Gasoline Alley, and they take consignments. "Sometimes we think we're a museum," Springmeyer says.

Gasoline Alley Automobilia, 5853 South Carson Street, is open 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday. Call 702-884-4322.—*Bob Kretschman*

OUTDOORS

Red Rock Rambling

LAS VEGAS—New trails and interpretive signs lead hikers, rollers, and strollers to fresh discoveries on **Red Rock Canyon's Scenic Loop**.

You can grab free maps and guides (including the Children's Discovery Trail workbook) at the BLM visitor center near the loop entrance. Then meander up the one-way road past Calico Basin Overlook, Sandstone Quarry, and White Rock Springs to the Willow Springs picnic area, a perfect spot to



Young naturalists at Red Rock.

munch a sandwich. Rock climbers scaling the nearby sandstone cliffs often provide mealtime entertainment. A short, paved trail leads from the picnic site to a roasting pit and six Anasazi In-

dian hand prints, probably pressed on the rock by hands coated with an iron-oxide paste at least 800 years ago.

Across the road is the entrance to the half-mile Children's Discovery Trail, which weaves across and above Lost Creek. Its nine numbered posts, which are keyed to the workbook, help visitors locate piñon pine, agave, prickly pear cactus, birds, animals, and petroglyphs.

Hikers looking for longer adventures can check out the four-mile Pine Creek Canyon and five-mile Oak Creek Canyon trails, 3-1/2 miles and 4-1/2 miles respectively from Willow Springs on the loop road. Both are moderately strenuous.



New visitor fees are \$5 per car and \$2 per biker or hiker. The fees are not required at nearby Spring Mountain Ranch State Park or Bonnie Springs. Write Red Rock Canyon Visitor Center, HCR 33, Box 5500, Las Vegas, NV 89124 or call 702-363-1921.—Kate Butler

SKYDIVING

Tandem Thriller

BOULDER CITY—For thrill seekers, skydiving is the ultimate adrenaline rush. At **Skydive Las Vegas**, you can take the plunge with an experienced skydiver. Jumpers are bolted securely to a licensed jump master—and together you leap out of the plane at 12,000 feet, descending in a 45-second free fall at up to 180 miles per hour.

If you wish, you can surf the wind with loops and barrel rolls until you or your jump master pull the ripcord at 4,000 feet. From there, you float under a colorful canopy before touching down on Skydive's landing pad.

The adventure, including video instruction, outfitting, and a 15-minute airplane ride, takes two hours. The chutes are equipped with computerized backup systems, and jumps are customized to meet special needs. Many physically handicapped guests can be accommodated, but jumpers must be at



Skydivers can chute the breeze in Boulder City.

least 18 years old, less than 245 pounds, and in good health. Jumpers should dress casually. Reservations and a \$25 deposit are required.

The first jump costs \$199, including transportation from Las Vegas, or \$159 if you book directly and drive the 24 miles to Boulder City. Video and photos of your jump, plane rides for observers, and medical insurance are extra. The company also offers a 10-jump student program. Skydive Las Vegas, open daily, is based at the Boulder City Airport. For information and reservations call 702-293-1860.—Kate Butler ◻

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Amazing Vacations

Getting steamed up about summer with four Nevada getaways.

Student engineer Andy Rapacz drives the Ghost Train of Old Ely on his 40th birthday.

Do the Locomotive

Train buffs can be engineers for a day on Ely's Nevada Northern Railway. **By Kate Butler**

For one amazing afternoon, with experts as your guides, you can become a grease-smudged Casey Jones. With the wind in your face and eyes up the track, you can throttle down on old No. 40, a beautiful Baldwin 10-wheeler and one of the original Queens of Steam on the Nevada Northern Railway in Ely. You can play the blues on her whistle as she rumbles through Tunnel No. 1—one of only a few curved railroad tunnels in the United States—and up Robinson Canyon to the historic Keystone mining district.

"It took awhile to start it up," recalls Andy Rapacz, a nuclear engineer from West Richland, Washington, who drove the Ely train during his dream vacation

a few years ago. "But when you open the throttle just a little bit, it really accelerates. It's a very powerful feeling." Rapacz, who has been a train enthusiast since boyhood, drove Engine No. 40 on his 40th birthday—a gift from his family.

The Nevada Northern Railway Museum offers railroad buffs like Rapacz a chance to be engineers for a day. Most of the participants get steamed up about the experience.

Allen Jones, an aerospace engineer from Ridgecrest, California, who re-

ceived his train trip as a gift from his wife last July, remembers feeling apprehensive when he first climbed into the cab. Soon he found himself backing the train away from the depot before he



The Nevada Northern Railway once served Ely's copper industry. Today it's a working railroad museum.

even knew how to brake. "We just got in and got under way," Jones says. "But the engineer knew what he was doing. Before I needed to use the brakes, he went over that with me. So I managed

"There is an exciting sensation of rolling, rumbling, chugging, and bouncing," Rapacz says.

to keep it on the tracks." Jones, 53, grew up in Ohio, close to the railroad. His father was an engineer and other family members had railroading careers. He recalls the railroad stories and the sounds of trains that were part of his childhood.

"Anytime I hear a locomotive whistle, it brings me back to my boyhood days," he says.

The steam-powered No. 40, which went on line in 1910, also carried Ely-area workers and schoolchildren until Kennecott ended its passenger service in 1938. The Nevada Northern Railway was built in 1906 by Mark Requa of the Nevada Consolidated Copper Company (later Kennecott Corporation) to transport ore from the mines near Ruth to the McGill smelter and the transcontinental interchange at Cobre.

The company asked the operations manager, Pete Peterson, to scrap four engines and all passenger cars, but the frugal Peterson hid No. 40 and two cars in the maintenance building. Except for a few ghostlike reappearances, the train remained veiled until 1986, when Kennecott donated the railroad, including the East Ely station, railroad yards, and rolling stock, to the city of Ely to operate as a working railroad museum.

The Nevada Northern Railway Museum has a year-round museum and gift shop and a summer program that includes engineers-in-training, passenger excursions, guided walking tours, and special events. In the student engineer program one learns to engage gears, open the throttle to let in steam and lock it in place, blow the whistle, make sure the track is clear, and engage the brake.

Students are accompanied by a rotating crew of three—a certified engineer to provide instruction, a fireman to stoke the firebox, and a brakeman to throw the switches. Some are women. All are volunteers. Two are retired

engineers of the Nevada Northern Railway.

"There is an exciting sensation of rolling, rumbling, chugging, and bouncing as the rails sag under the weight of the train," Rapacz says. "You also experience a piece of history that was vital to the development of the country. It's very different. It's a real adventure."

Jones agrees that running the train is awesome. "It costs a little more than a trip to Disneyland, but it's much better," he says. "It's a one of a kind—something you splurge on and do once in your lifetime."

Student engineers must be at least 18 years old. Advanced reservations are required, and available dates are May

10, 11, 17, and 24, June 7 and 21, July 5 and 19, August 2 and 16, and September 13 and 14.

Fees are \$500 for a steam engine on the 14-mile Keystone Route and \$300 for the 1952 diesel for either the Keystone or the 22-mile Hiline route (both round trips take about two hours). Within the Nevada Northern Railway yard, fees per hour are \$250 for steam and \$150 for diesel. For more information contact the Nevada Northern Railway Museum, Box 40, 11th Street at Avenue A, East Ely, NV 89315-0040 or call 702-289-2085.

Kate Butler is a Lamoille writer-photographer who prefers to ride in the passenger car.

Casino Dreamin'

In Las Vegas, a high-roller vacation means beluga, butlers, and big bets.

By Deke Castleman



The vacationing high roller can indulge in a fountain of extravagances, including limo rides, elegant suites, and general pampering at hotels like Caesars Palace (above).

It's every gambler's dream: the mythically lavish pampering afforded the aristocracy of casino society, known as high rollers. We're talking serious hedonism here, the kind of profligate spoiling that would quicken the heartbeat of a supermodel, flatter an aging British rock star, raise the eyebrow of a sultan. No other hospitality hangout on the planet can slather more extravagant and intemperate perquisites on its best customers than the megaresorts of Las Vegas. And the most amazing thing is that qualifying for them is not a function of



fame, rank, or influence. It's a completely democratic, equal-opportunity, class-blind system. Only two things are required.

One, the coin of the realm. And two, a willingness to gamble it against the house.

So let's pretend that the oil company you invested in finally struck black gold, or you just hit a record-breaking lottery, or a long-lost great-uncle left you a bundle, and you're about to embark on a fantasy vacation. You decide to take your significant grubstake to Las Vegas—and find out firsthand

what it's like to be treated like royalty.

Pardon the prying, but exactly how much scratch did your long-lost great uncle leave you? A million dollars? Hoo wee! Put a cool mil in the cage at one of Las Vegas' premium casinos and

get ready to party. For starters, the joint will charter a sumptuously appointed 727 to fly you and your entourage of 20 friends and family members to Las Vegas. When you arrive at McCarran Airport, a convoy of stretch Cadillac limousines whisks your group to the hotel, where you're greeted by a platoon of bellmen, four hostesses from VIP Services, and the vice president of casino marketing, who escorts you to your private villa. The 10,000-square-foot bungalow for bigwigs features four bedrooms, five bathrooms, a Jacuzzi and sauna, kitchen, dining room, exercise room, billiards table, custom furniture, one-of-a-kind artifacts and artwork, two 50-inch TVs with VCRs, 20 telephones, and a pretty good view of the Strip. At the door, you're greeted by your butler, who introduces you to your chef, bartender, waitress (an ex-showgirl, of course), housekeeper, and host. A four-course snack awaits on the 18th-century Danish dinette.

While you nosh on beluga caviar and Italian truffles, the host details your itinerary for the afternoon and evening: 18 holes of golf on an ultra-exclusive course, where your playing partners might include Michael Jordan, Bruce Willis, and Kenny Rogers. Afterward you'll take a helicopter to the company yacht for a sunset cruise on Lake Mead. Then it's back to the hotel for a formal dinner with your en-

tourage and a few hours of blackjack in your private gaming salon—where you'll be expected to wager an average of \$50,000 per hand, signing markers to draw on your \$1-million line of casino credit.

Say what? You have to pay inheritance taxes on the million? Not to worry. You can still play out a somewhat scaled-down, mere-mortal version of your dream vacation. You're not the Holy Roman Emperor anymore, but you're still a high roller.

At an average bet size of \$250 a hand at a blackjack, baccarat, or crap table, you're certainly entitled to the full free ride at premium resorts on the Las Vegas Strip. You won't fly on a chartered jet, but your round-trip airfare will be reimbursed. You won't be put up in an opulent villa, but you will be adequately accommodated in a penthouse suite. All your meals (and room service), expensive drinks, show tickets, and a round of golf will be comped. Hostesses from VIP Services will make all the arrangements, a hotel limo will wheel you around, the waiters and pit bosses will call you by name, and your traveling companion will be powdered and poodled.

To bet \$250 a hand for four hours a day over a two-day weekend, you'd need a bankroll of roughly \$20,000, which gets you the good life at the premium joints like the Desert Inn, Caesars Palace, and the Mirage. But you don't have to spend even that much for high-roller status at some of the older Strip or downtown casinos. At those joints, an average bet of \$75 a hand will get you a limo from the airport, a high-roller suite, gourmet food, top-shelf beverages, possibly room service and a round of golf, and show tickets.

Does a \$20,000 weekend sound pricey? It's not so far-fetched for a dream vacation. Sure, you could hit a cold spell and lose it all, but you could just as easily go on a monster run and double it. Most likely, you'd come close to breaking even, given that your expected loss (a factor of the house advantage taking its share of your bets) is a mere \$625 for 500 hands of blackjack at \$250 a hand. Thus, after a weekend of so much gluttony that it becomes a blur, you're the favorite to return home with \$19,375 or so. And then you could turn around, return to the Mirage, and do it all again next weekend.

Deke Castleman, author of the Nevada Handbook, lives in Las Vegas and would someday like to take a vacation without using a coupon.

At the Top

A Reno explorer spends her vacations on Nevada's tallest peaks.

By Rose Strickland

My quest to climb Nevada's highest peaks began with small steps. I had discovered the state's breathtaking backcountry on hiking and camping trips, but soon I decided to tackle the state's tallest peaks.

In the 1970s, I made my first summit, Boundary Peak, Nevada's highest at 13,140 feet. After recovering from a four-hour, heart-pounding slog up the mostly cross-country route to the summit, I experienced an incredible physical and mental high. The air was clean and fresh, and the vistas were mind-boggling. I could see a 100-mile stretch of the Sierra Nevada's highest peaks to the west and another hundred miles east across range after range to the Central Nevada peaks. A few rugged bristlecone pines struggled up to the tree line. Tiny alpine wildflowers colored the summit ridges yellow, pink, and blue. I realized that the Nevada-

I explored Nevada's highest places, most of which I found to be trail-less walkups.

California state line ran just below me, between Boundary Peak and the higher summit of Montgomery Peak just one-quarter mile to the west.

Hey, I told myself after I finally regained my breath, I could get hooked on this. At the time, I had no idea that Boundary would be the first of 42 peaks—the highest mountaintops in Nevada—that I would climb during my future vacations.

After Boundary I tackled 11,773-foot Arc Dome in the Toiyabe Range with a friend who had never climbed a mountain before. The struggle against gravity was becoming familiar to me. The mountain trail proceeded along undulating, brush-covered ridges that looked like the body of a slumbering green giant. We followed the trail's switchbacks through wildflower-covered slopes to the rocky, windy summit. There, we found ourselves exhilarated, overwhelmed by the mountain's beauty, the vistas, and our accomplishment. On this peak, I realized that summiting wasn't





Rose Strickland (left) has climbed 42 peaks in Nevada. Here she pauses atop Wheeler Peak with friends Joe and Chris Cendagorta.

just the conquering of a mountain. It was a contest with myself, testing my physical and mental strength, endurance, and resourcefulness.

In the decade that followed, I literally dragged my family and friends up one Nevada peak after another, each with spectacular scenery, surprising wildlife, and unique physical and mental challenges. My summiting vacations took a new turn when I climbed Troy Peak in the Grant Range. On a second attempt we found a thrilling traverse of a 10-foot-narrow rocky ridge with 2,000-foot dropoffs on both sides. With that climb, I made a resolution: I was going to climb all of the state's peaks above 11,000 feet. I wondered how many more I needed to climb!

At that time, identifying the peaks that topped 11,000 feet was not an easy task. I knew that Nevada had a lot of mountains, but I would have never guessed that it has 314 mountain ranges. Fortunately, Nevada's moun-

tain guru, Alvin McLane of Reno, published *Silent Cordilleras* in 1978, with descriptions of each of Nevada's mountain ranges. Even with the help of cartographers, identifying peak elevations was difficult, as I found that some of Nevada had not yet been mapped in detail. Gradually, I came up with a list of 42 named summits that are

over 11,000 feet and eliminated the hundreds of unnamed rocky bumps on high ridges.

During vacation after vacation, I explored Nevada's highest places, most of which I found to be trail-less walkups. I

scaled the 16 high peaks in the lush Ruby and East Humboldt Mountains, filled with verdant mountain meadows, lakes, and waterfalls. I traveled from my Reno home to the Snake Range, where a trail leads to 13,063-foot Wheeler Peak and cross-country routes lead to three 12,000-footers and five

other peaks over 11,000 feet. Especially challenging in Eastern Nevada were Troy Peak, Carrant Mountain, and Duckwater of the limestone White Pine and Grant ranges and the three soaring summits of the Schell Creek Range near Ely.

My favorites were the green, rounded summits in Central Nevada—the three summits of Mount Jefferson in

Gradually, I came up with a list of 42 named summits that are over 11,000 feet.

the Toiyama Range and Arc Dome, Bunker Hill, and Toiyabe Dome in the Toiyabes. I confess that I drove a road up most of the sole high Western Nevada peak, Mount Grant, towering 7,000 feet over Walker Lake near Hawthorne. Hiking a wonderful loop trail in the Spring Mountains in South-



ern Nevada, I submitted the nearly 12,000-foot Mount Charleston as well as Mummy Mountain and Griffith Peak along the way.

Mountain-climbing expeditions into remote parts of Nevada required some planning. I would pull together maps, food, and gear for base camps and back-pack trips. I discovered it was fun to learn about the geology, plants, and wildlife as well as the human history of the area. Yet, the mountains often require changes in the best-made plans.

To scale many of the state's highest peaks, a challenge can be just finding the trailhead.

On one climb in Central Nevada, we had to bail off the summit ridge of Mount Jefferson and set up a hasty camp in the midst of a wild and wet thunderstorm that circled the peak.

For the most part, Nevada's mountain trails are not technical and don't require special climbing skills or equipment. To scale many of the state's highest peaks, the greatest challenge can be just finding the trailhead. Although roads crisscross Nevada's backcountry, not many have signs. In fact, whenever I have asked the locals where the road signs are, I have been told in no uncertain terms that if a person needed a sign to get someplace, he or she had no business going there.

Best of all was the companionship of my photographer husband, Dennis Ghiglieri, and willing friends who experienced the thrills, beauty, and fun of those high mountain treks with me. Most of these trips were inexpensive, costing only a couple tanks of gasoline and camping food.

Since all of the peaks were on national forest lands, no one's permission was needed for the climbs. What was needed was a strong sense of adventure, some advance planning—and sometimes a little more. During one of my favorite climbs up Wheeler Peak in Great Basin National Park, a neighbor who accompanied me celebrated both her victory over a fear of heights and her successful climb. That was quite a high.

Rose Strickland, a writer and conservationist, lives in Reno and is currently working on a guidebook to Nevada's highest peaks for adventure lovers.

Duff Links

Golf, golf, and more golf—obviously, the ultimate Reno-Tahoe vacation.

By David Moore

It's a duffer's dream vacation—play golf on your choice of Reno-Tahoe links, talk about golf at cocktails and dinner, enjoy a little casino nightlife, and play golf again the next day. Just imagine, a weekend or a week in which your biggest concern is what club to use on the first tee at Incline: Do you play it safe with a three-wood, or do you pull out the driver, swing from your heels, and hope the thin mountain air carries the ball a mile?

John Petkovich is an ardent golfer from Arden, North Carolina. Every summer he flies out and meets a group of friends. They stay at Tahoe, visit Reno's casinos a couple of times, and golf their brains out. For Petkovich, each course is more beauty than beast. "There always seems to be a new course to try," he says. "And we enjoy the beautiful scenery in the area."

The scenery comes with the territory: the finishing holes at Edgewood that skirt the Lake Tahoe shoreline, the rolling green fairways amid the desert at Dayton Valley, and Lakeridge's island 15th green, rising serenely from

a manmade Reno lake. There are the Scottish-style links of Northgate and Eagle Valley West, where holes are surrounded by sagebrush and the absence of trees actually heightens the beauty at dawn and dusk as the sun casts long shadows across the fairways.

The linkster will find 30 public courses of great variety within 50 miles of Reno. When the happy golfer returns home, he can brag about the course architects, too. The area's well-known designers include Robert Trent Jones (Incline Championship), George Fazio (Edgewood), Robert Trent Jones Jr. (Incline Executive, Lakeridge, Squaw Creek), Bradford Benz (Wildcreek, Northgate, Rosewood Lakes), Robert Muir Graves (Northstar, Lightning W), John Harbottle and Peter Jacobsen

When the happy golfer returns home, he can brag about the course architects, too.



Golfers find forests, lakes, and desert on Reno-Tahoe's 30 public courses. Above: Edgewood Tahoe.

(Genoa Lakes), and Arnold Palmer (Dayton Valley).

"We're becoming a kind of golf destination because of the quality courses we have in the area," says Fred Elliott, head pro at Wildcreek in Sparks, once a stop on the Senior PGA Tour. "With Genoa Lakes and Dayton, we have more availability, so visitors can play three or four courses while in town."

Tee times are the biggest concern for most visiting golfers, Elliott says. His advice: Call ahead to find out how far in advance you can make a tee time. Weekdays are normally more open than weekends. "It's always smart to call well in advance. We might have a huge tournament on the day they want. Then we can steer them to courses that might have openings."

Golfers also can take advantage of tournaments and individual room deals offered by hotel-casinos. For instance, it's possible to get great golf-and-room rates for one or two people during midweek. If you'd like to golf with a few dozen friends, some hotels can arrange a tournament.

George and Diane Thorsen, who play at the Auburn Valley Country Club in the Sacramento area, are members of the club's elite Royal Order of the Bullfrogs. Their group of 20 or 30 golfers regularly arranges a package deal with the Carson Valley Inn: three nights' lodging at the Minden hotel-casino, an opening cocktail party, an awards banquet, and best of all, two days of golf.

The outings are as much for pure fun as for competitive golf, says George Thorsen. He adds, "There's the added altitude, so you get a little extra distance on your shots than you would in the Sacramento Valley." He advises making early-morning tee times to avoid the winds that frequently come up in the afternoon.

Thorsen also has some sage advice for golfing vacationers. "Anytime you play a course for the first time, don't get discouraged. You can't always hit a perfect shot—even the pros can't do it," he says. "I found that if you play the course, don't worry about the score, and play within yourself, you'll really enjoy it."

David Moore is Nevada's editor and roving golfer.



Above: Hikers break for lunch with Tahoe Trips and Trails. Right: Houseboaters relax on Lake Mohave.

Adventurous vacationers will find numerous ways to explore Nevada. Following is a sampling of amazing getaways.

Trail Mix: For those who like to hike, bike, or kayak, Tahoe Trips and Trails offers getaways into spectacular country around Lake Tahoe. A high-energy option is the "Tahoe Sampler," in which you choose a different sport each day: kayaking, hiking, rafting, horseback riding, or mountain biking. Prices range from \$395 for two-day trips to \$1,130 for a five-day sampler. Write Tahoe Trips and Trails, Box 6952, Tahoe City, CA 96145 or call 800-581-HIKE or 916-583-4506.

Home on the Waves: You can spend several days loafing on deck, exploring coves, fishing for bass, and barbecuing your catch aboard a houseboat on Lake Mead. Houseboaters usually invite a few chums and spend a weekend or longer on the lake. Forever Resorts rents houseboats at the marinas in Callville Bay on Lake Mead and Cottonwood Cove on Lake Mohave. Seven Crown Resorts has houseboats docked at Echo Bay (and other craft at Lake Mead Marina and Temple Bar) on Lake Mead and at Lake Mohave Resort on Lake Mohave. Prices vary seasonally but generally range from \$1,900 for two nights to \$2,950 for seven nights during the summer. Call Forever Resorts at 800-255-5561 or 702-565-7340 and Seven Crown Resorts at 800-752-9669.

Giddy-Up: The Silver State has several dude ranches where you can be a weekend buckaroo. At the Longhorn Cattle Company in Caliente, a working cattle ranch 130 miles north of Las Vegas, dudes spend their days moving longhorns, mending fences, and dining on cowboy-style meals. The ranch offers a special weekend for women called the "Ladies Only Longhorn Cattle Drive." Prices



range from \$110 for a one-day excursion with trail rides, lunch, and dinner to \$1,795 for the three-night women's only cattle drive. Call the Longhorn Cattle Company, 702-388-9955, or write Box 96955, Las Vegas, NV 89193. The Nevada Commission on Tourism (800-NEVADA-8) has a brochure on Nevada's dude ranches.

Rocky Top: Red Rock National Conservation Area west of Las Vegas is a prime vacation destination for rock climbers, and Sky's the Limit can give you a leg up on the sport. The company is lead by rock-climbing guru Randal Grandstaff, who with other guides teaches classes ranging from half-day instruction for beginners (\$150) to multiday excursions on the rocks for serious climbers (\$200-\$250). Grandstaff conducts day hikes in Red Rock and winter ice-climbing and cross-country treks at Mount Charleston. Call Sky's the Limit, 800-733-7597 or 702-363-4533, or write HCR 33, Box 1, Calico Basin, NV 89124-9204.

Big Thrills: If you're looking for a high-adrenaline vacation, Thrillseekers Unlimited in Las Vegas offers extreme excursions. The company features a package with five days of heart-stopping thrills. The following days can include inline skating instruction, rock climbing, bungee jumps, snowboarding, Formula Three car racing, tandem skydiving, and paragliding. The packages range from \$1,345 to \$1,495. Call 702-699-5550 or write Thrillseekers Unlimited, 3172 North Rainbow Boulevard, Suite 321, Las Vegas, NV 89108.—Carolyn Graham



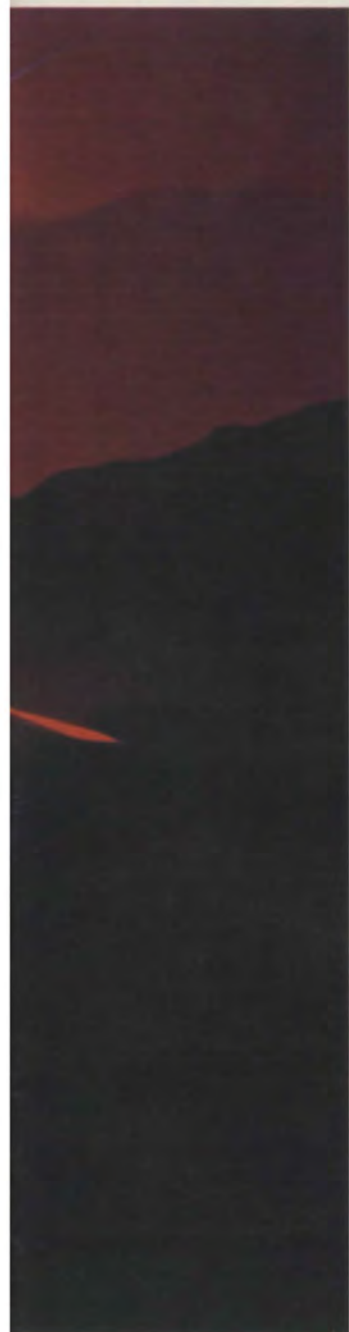
The Twilight Zone

Reno photographer Steve Sarutto likes to spend time in the twilight zone. "I experience the light differently wherever I go. In Nevada, we're gifted with a wonderful quality of light," Sarutto says. "I like working in the twilight, when there's the hint of the illumination—or blackness—to come."

Sarutto, who considers himself an "art photographer," has lived in Reno for 17 years, and his work reflects his many interests. His subjects range from

Nevada landscapes and portraits of showroom performers to "surreal-expressionist abstracts." His goal, he says, is to capture abstract ideas on film. "Infinity seems to be a hallmark in my work. I'm compelled to deal with infinity."

Sarutto works as a waiter at the Reno Hilton and also is a jazz guitarist and composer. The Richardson Gallery of Fine Art in Reno has a number of Sarutto's works and will show them upon request. □



RED DAWN: Sarutto focuses on the sun's first light as it peeks over the peaks near Great Basin National Park (left). He uses filters to catch the sun's deep red and rainbow rays.

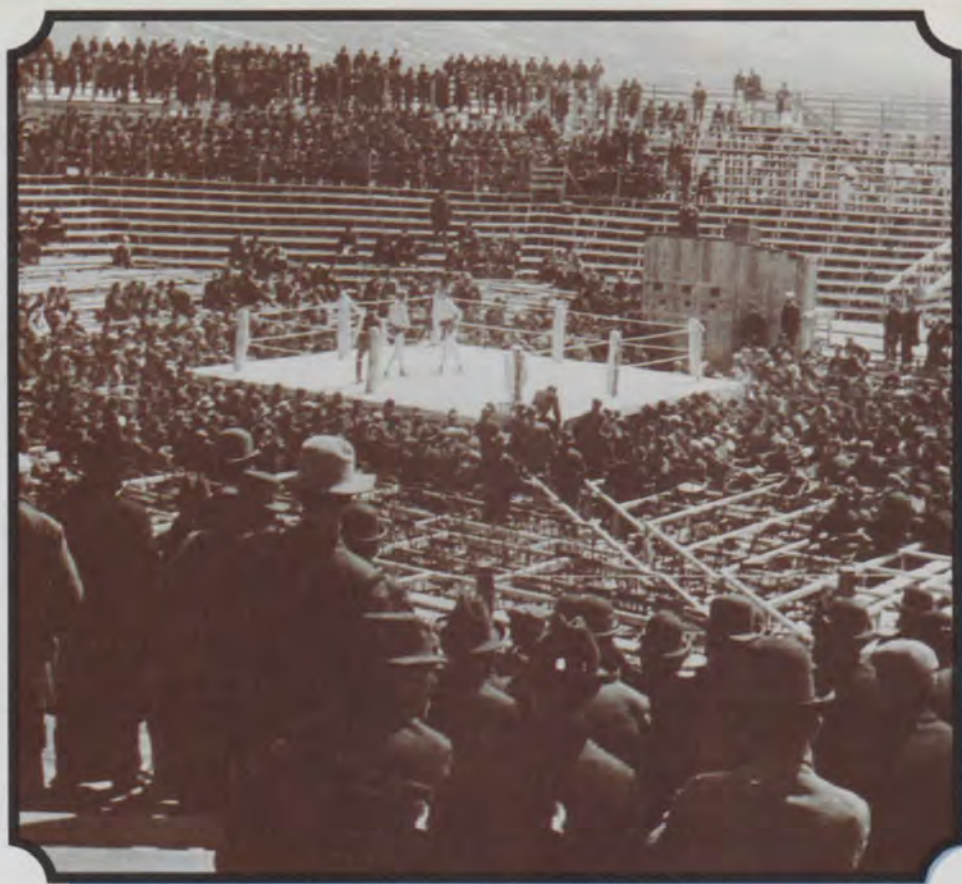
EERIE CANAL: A Fallon farm canal reflects late-evening light in this view (right). Sarutto says, "The realm at sunset is wonderful. There's a tremendous tension at closure."



The Fight of the Century

The Corbett-Fitzsimmons bout put Carson City on the prizefighting map in 1897

By Phillip I. Earl



John L. Sullivan and Wyatt Earp were in the crowd on St. Patrick's Day, 1897.

One hundred years ago on St. Patrick's Day, Carson City hosted what promoters called "The Fight of the Century." The bout for the heavyweight championship of the world matched James J. "Gentleman Jim" Corbett, the reigning champion, and Robert Fitzsimmons, who held the middleweight title.

The Corbett-Fitzsimmons fight represented a number of historical firsts. It was the state's first legal prizefight. It was the first boxing match recorded as a motion picture. It was the first in a series of famous booster fights that established Nevada as a bastion of boxing—a tradition that continues to this day.

The fight also was notable for the remarkable hoopla surrounding it. In 1897, boxing was a great moral issue. Denounced as barbaric by many Americans, boxing was banned virtually everywhere. When the Nevada Legislature approved a last-minute law allowing the bout, Nevada was in the midst of a 20-year mining depression, and boosting the state's economy was clearly on lawmakers' minds. The publicity for the state, good and bad, was

enormous, as the controversial fight drew attention to Nevada's liberal social attitude and foreshadowed the state's pioneering laws on gambling and divorce in the 1930s.

The fight was promoted by Dan Stuart, a Texas gambler. A year earlier, several Reno businessmen had con-

Denounced as barbaric by many Americans, boxing was banned virtually everywhere.

tacted Stuart about staging a match between Corbett and Tom Sharkey in the riverside city. Stuart decided that Nevada's prizefighting laws were too strict, but he began talking to officials in Carson City. He enlisted U.S. Attorney Charles A. Jones—as a private attorney—to draft and lobby for a more lenient law. When Governor Reinhold Sadler and other officials went to San

Francisco for the funeral of Attorney General Robert M. Beatty, who himself had been sympathetic to the Texan's plans, Stuart conferred with the Sagebrush State officials. They gave Stuart their blessing—as long as their names were left out of the press.

The *San Francisco Chronicle* broke the story on January 13, 1897. Boosters in Reno and Carson City announced their support for the bill, as did editor Sam Davis of the *Carson Morning Appeal*. Davis observed that fights were being held in other states despite anti-boxing laws. He also noted that Nevada permitted gambling and the sale of liquor. "There is not a strict line of personal conduct in the west," Davis wrote, "as in the east where a man's reputation can be ruined should he be seen entering or leaving a saloon."

Critics included George Nixon of the *Silver State* in Winnemucca. Nixon doubted that the legislature would approve "what is condemned and made a criminal offense in every state and territory in the union."

Boxing foes called out the troops. In Carson City, legislators were inundated

with letters and telegrams in opposition to the bill.

Nevertheless, on January 25, Assemblyman A. Gerrard of Esmeralda County introduced a bill that had been crafted by Stuart and Jones. After some refinements, the bill called for a fee of \$1,000—split \$900 to the state, \$100 to the county—for each event, a physical examination of the principals, gloves of not less than four ounces, no alcohol sales, and no fights on Sundays. The Assembly passed the bill 20 to 1 the next day. The Senate approved the bill 9 to 6 on January 28, and Governor Sadler signed it, saying that the letters, telegrams, and petitions he had seen “stood about 16 to 1” in favor of the new law.

The governor told reporters he believed prizefights would bring “monied men” to Nevada who could then personally investigate the state’s resources and consider investing in farms, ranches, and mines. He also defended Nevada’s right to legalize prizefights, declaring, “The east can hold up its hands and call us wild and woolly, but New York and even the Quaker City of Philadelphia have them.” Sadler added that prizefighting was not nearly as brutal as football.

Immediately, boosters from Reno, Carson City and Virginia City were bidding feverishly for the match. Virginia

City businessmen reportedly raised \$10,000 to induce Stuart to stage the extravaganza in their community. However, there was a question as to whether the fighters could train and perform at an altitude of nearly 7,000 feet, and Virginia and Truckee Railroad officials said Pullman sleepers could not negotiate the Comstock tunnels. Other proposed sites included Steamboat Springs south of Reno, Walley’s Hot Springs near Genoa, and Golconda Hot Springs near Winnemucca, but Stuart had already decided upon Carson City.

The ease with which the fight bill had coursed the legislative channels raised many eyebrows. George Nixon of the *Silver State* wrote that there had been payoffs and called Stuart “His Thugship.” He noted that Texans had called a special session of their legislature to stop Stuart from bringing the fight there.

In a letter to the *Carson City News*, “A Stigmatized Citizen” charged that the fight bill was the work of the Silver Party. He asked if the “monied men” had ever done anything for Nevada “but to take her money for the purpose of endowing California colleges and libraries and building themselves palaces on Nob Hill.”

Critics around the country decried Nevada’s judgment—and even its status as a state. A Philadelphia editor called Nevada’s statehood “a grave mistake” and declared, “It is unfortunate that there is not a provision in the federal constitution by which Nevada could be remanded to a territorial condition or be absorbed by some more self-respecting state.”

Rising to the debate, Nevada editors responded in kind. “The men who would make it immoral have an imagination with a stretch to it like the mileage between Wadsworth and Winnemucca,” mused Nat Hummell of the *Wadsworth Dispatch*. Sam Davis of Carson’s *Appeal* wrote, “We are not saints, but we are better than average, and a clergyman looking for a Moral Utopia might go further and fare worse.”



Jim Corbett
Carson City,
Nevada
March 17, 1897

“Gentleman Jim” Corbett, no fan favorite, had beaten the sainted John L. Sullivan in 1892.



Bob Fitzsimmons, a blacksmith by profession, was a middleweight looking to move up in the fight game.

By the time Governor Sadler signed the controversial bill, Corbett and Fitzsimmons had already signed their contracts for the fight. The winner was to receive \$15,000 and the proceeds of a side bet of \$5,000 to \$10,000. The loser would get \$9,000. The site would be an outdoor amphitheater built on the infield of the Carson Race Track, at what today is the corner of Pratt and Musser streets on the capital’s east side.

The two contestants set up their training camps in February. Corbett selected Shaw’s Hot Springs, now known as Carson Hot Springs, while Fitzsimmons chose Cook’s Grove, three miles east of town. Each fighter was surrounded by family members and other followers, all of whom believed their man was the superior pugilist.

Corbett had won the heavyweight title from John L. Sullivan in 1892, and the handsome Irish-American had a record of 11 victories and six draws. As a “fancy dan,” Gentleman Jim was not a favorite with fight fans who wanted a man of brawn—another John L.—rather than a “boxing artist,” but knockout victories by Corbett in 1894 and 1895 resolved any questions about his right to hold the title.

Fitzsimmons, the challenger from
(Continued on page 78)

TALK OF THE TOWN

Sparing no detail, New York-New York introduces a virtual-reality Big Apple to Las Vegas.

By Deke Castleman



Manhattan skyscrapers, Coney Island, and the Brooklyn Bridge form a New York skyline on a Vegas street corner.

There's a Yellow Cab idling at the main entrance to the hotel while impatient drivers jockey their cars into position, sweaty valets scurry to and fro, bellmen in pillbox caps hoist luggage onto carts, and snappy doormen stand by in starched monkey suits. Traffic is backed up for a city block waiting to pull into the portico. Horns blare, tires squeal, and an occasional colorful epithet can be heard. Above it all stands the Empire State Building, casting its long, pointy shadow across the pedestrians on two street corners and beyond, toward the center of one of the world's greatest cities.

It's a typical scene on an average day in New York—but wait a minute. What's wrong with this picture? The Yellow Cab isn't a beat-up gypsy taxi but a yellow limousine. The line of cars doesn't wait on Park Avenue but on Tropicana Avenue. The Empire State Building is only 529 feet tall, half its original height, and it shades a medieval castle, not Madison Square Garden.

Where are we? We're here at the Little Apple, a knock-off New York that's the latest in a long line of themed attractions built—where else but?—on the Las Vegas Strip.

Actually, having grown up in Gotham and having lived in Las Vegas for a few years, I can tell you that it's a natural match. After all, New York's nickname, the Big Apple, is derived from the forbidden fruit of the Garden of Eden, while Las Vegas's nickname, Sin City, refers to the many pleasures of the flesh in the Garden of Neon.

Andy Warhol would have been proud of this new hotel-casino. Putting a Las Vegas spin on The City has created the world's single most monumental piece of pop art. It's a caricature, to be sure, a kind of superstar impersonation of New York on a Las Vegas stage, but it's done with style, affection, and incredible attention to detail.

Take the mini-skyline, for example. There are remarkable reproductions of landmarks such as the Empire State

Building, CBS Tower, and Chrysler Building, along with the Brooklyn Bridge, Statue of Liberty, New York Public Library, and a Coney Island-like roller coaster.

The interior is no less realized thematically than the exterior. Everywhere you look there's a clever replica of another New York icon. Times Square is represented by a rocking pub with dueling pianos and the kind of exuberant crowd that, in New York, would consist of after-theater drinkers and tourists wandering in to ask directions to the Letterman show.

Greenwich Village? Narrow, crooked, and of course crowded reproductions of Bleecker Street, Hudson Street, and Broadway frame the Village Eateries area. The floors are brick, with faux manhole covers. Townhouses line the streets, complete with brown stone, fire escapes, and ivy trellises. The roller coaster rumbles overhead like an elevated commuter train. The storefront eateries—from pizza to deli, from cappuccino to sushi—and sidewalk seating will be familiar to anyone who's ventured even once around the Village, SoHo, Tribeca, or Little Italy.

Art Deco abounds. The front-desk decor,

with its cubist lines and geometrical shapes, reminds me of the lobby of the Empire State Building. The Empire Bar has sleek, neon-rimmed architecture straight out of the 1939 World's Fair.

Details as minor as the lobby phone booths are authentic. The booths' swinging glass doors and graffiti on the phone-book holders will make even the most jaded New Yorker misty-eyed.

Perhaps the most realistic replication of the Big Apple is the throng of people—the melting pot of ethnicities, the long lines to get into restaurants, the electric energy of the place. No question about it—New York-New York is cramped and crowded and claustrophobic. The hotel-casino's 2,035 rooms, 3,800-car parking garage, and nearly 400,000 square feet of indoor space are crammed onto a mere 18 acres. By con-

The graffiti on the phone-book holders will make even the most jaded New Yorker misty-eyed.



The Manhattan Express roller coaster screams through loops, dives, and a 180-degree roll.



New York symbols appear at every turn. Here, Lady Liberty plays Marilyn Monroe in the slot area.



At night the oddly familiar glow of the Big Apple megaresort adds to the Strip's megawattage.

trast, the 3,000-room Monte Carlo next door occupies 54 acres. The owners of New York-New York, a joint venture between MGM Grand and Primadonna

Resorts, took a Las Vegas megaresort and crammed it into a postage-stamp parcel on the Strip—the same way that Manhattan is jammed onto an island 200 blocks long and a dozen blocks wide.

It's a bit roomier upstairs in the mezzanine arcade, which is reminiscent of Coney Island in its heyday. The arcade has all the latest video games, Nathan's hot dogs, and historical photographs of Coney Island. You buy actual tokens for the roller coaster, the Manhattan Express. You slip the token into the slot of a turnstile and line up for the next car—exactly like catching the subway.

But that's where the subway similarity ends. The first climb inclines at around 60 degrees: You're on your back, staring at the sky (or skyscrapers). The first and subsequent drops are exhilarating, and the twists and turns are tight and fast. They pack in a full 360-degree loop, a screaming corkscrew (with its "heartline twist and dive" that imparts a moment of weightlessness), and some serious rocking and rolling during the nearly four-minute ride. Did I mention that the roller coaster towers over the most magnetic tourist intersec-

tion in the world, with views of lions, castles, tropical islands, and pyramids?

Luckily, some elements of the operation are more Las Vegas than New York. Parking, for example, is free, compared to an average \$30 fee in The City. Also, there's a casino here. Its setting is Central Parkian, full of shade trees, but the only people lurking with an eye toward taking your money are behind the gaming tables.

Overall, New York-New York is as close as it gets to large-scale, wholesale virtual reality. Instead of simulations with 3D video and powerful computers, this hotel's renderings are decidedly low-tech: concrete and glass and neon and paint. By Las Vegas standards, New York-New York is a new yardstick for thematic achievement, and improving on it will be both difficult and fun. By any standard, New York-New York is a masterpiece. □

Deke Castleman is a native New Yorker who moved west for the wide-open spaces but gets nostalgic for claustrophobia at New York-New York. He is managing editor of the Las Vegas Advisor and the author of Las Vegas and Nevada Handbook.

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PEOPLE PAGE

The Waver, a flying law student, and the library cats.

Making Waves



Reno greeter Ed Carlson wrote about his walks and waves in his recent memoirs.

Folks around Reno started noticing something unusual on U.S. 395 in the late 1970s: A long-haired, often shirtless man walking on the edge of the highway, smiling and waving persistently at motorists like a long-lost friend.

Some waved back, but at first most just shook their heads in wonder at the man they saw almost daily in any kind of weather. Soon even skeptics began watching for him, and more motorists began waving back.

Ed "The Waver" Carlson was becoming a Reno legend.

Dozens turned out last winter to greet the man who brightened their commutes. Carlson, now 60, was at Park Lane Mall in Reno to sign copies of his newly published memoirs, *I Walked to the Moon and Almost Everybody Waved: Remarkable Stories From the Waver's 22-Year Journey for Love and Peace*.

Carlson says he began waving at people after being so instructed by God.

Once his reputation was established, Carlson at times would invite apprentices to join him. He was always willing to lend an ear—and eager to accept an offer of food or lodging. Waving didn't pay much in those days.

He took a two-year sabbatical from waving to visit family in Iowa. He now divides his time between Reno and Sedona, Arizona. Many people who lined up at the Reno book signing remarked about Carlson's absence.

"We missed him while he was gone," said Margaret Jones of Reno. "Every time we see him we wave like crazy."

Carlson will soon begin a tour to promote his book. "You know the saying, 'walk your talk?' Well, I'm going to talk my walk," he says.—Patti Steele

Online Felines

Nevada's most famous felines are now prowling the Internet.

Baker and Taylor, the whiskered mascots of the Douglas County Library in Minden, appear on a Web site called "Puss in Books" (<http://www.std.com/catalyst/ironfrog/catsmap.html>) about literary cats who live in libraries. The site includes the words to the Baker and Taylor



Feline fanciers will find Taylor among the tomes in Minden.

theme song, which was dedicated to the cats by members of their fan club—a group of second- and third-graders from Jefferson Elementary School in Gahanna, Ohio.

The pair became famous in the 1980s after their photographs were featured in advertisements for the Baker and Taylor Company, a wholesale-book distributor. Baker died two years ago, but the image of the Scottish Folds has numerous lives—the library still sells Baker and Taylor T-shirts and sweatshirts.

Taylor, who turns 16 in July, continues his rigorous routine of napping, eating, and people watching. Jan Louch, assistant library director, says

people often come just to visit Taylor. "He got very annoyed when nobody was here during the floods [on New Year's]," Louch says. "He doesn't necessarily want to be sociable, but he likes having people around." Taylor has the run of the place—visitors will notice his napping towels on chairs in the Nevada Room. He also enjoys sunbathing among the periodicals, where sunlight streams through big bay windows.

Louch says there are no plans to introduce Taylor to a new furry bookmate. "He doesn't like other cats," she says. "Just Baker."—Carolyn Graham

Winging Her Way to the Bar

Las Vegas show performer **Lauri Thompson** is really racking up the frequent-flyer miles. At night she's a dancer in "Folies Bergere" at the Tropicana. During the day she is a second-year law student at the University of San Diego.

Four mornings a week she flies to San Diego, goes to class, and flies back to Las Vegas in time for the evening show. Thompson says what she does



Lauri Thompson is dancing her way through law school.

is a privilege—not a sacrifice.

"I'm more than happy to work as hard as it takes," says the 12-year veteran of "Folies Bergere," where she dances in the lead adagio number. "A

lot of people think it's incredible that a showgirl is going to law school, but it's more common in this community for performers to be involved in daytime projects," she adds. Of her 340-mile commute, she says, "I'm a little more enthusiastic than most."

Thompson has danced as long as she can remember and has wanted to attend law school since age nine. "Dance is perfecting a form of communication," she says. "Law is communication. I see no major difference."—Katherine McDonnell □

WEATHER WATCHERS

Floods, blizzards, and heat waves can't keep Nevada's volunteer observers from their weather records.

By John W. James



Aury Smith charts the weather on his ranch near Vya, north of Reno.

*There are now
about 350 weather stations
in Nevada, all but a
handful manned by volunteers.*

Aury Smith remembers walking alongside his father's wagon when his family moved to Nevada from Utah early in this century. Today Aury resides, ranches, and records the weather in remote northern Washoe County, five miles north of Vya, a town that exists only on maps.

Like the country, the weather can be rugged in Nevada's northwestern corner. Aury says, "I waded through seven feet of snow on the level to get to the weather station just four winters ago. We had a hell of a time digging out and getting around." The former buckaroo recalls a cold spell in December 1990 when the mercury dropped off the thermometer scale at minus 40. He says, "I just guessed that it was minus 43 degrees, but it could have been as low as minus 50!"

Volunteers like Aury Smith have been the backbone of the state's weather network since the days when railroad station agents were the chief providers of data on temperature and precipitation. There are now about 350 weather stations in Nevada, all but a handful manned by volunteers.

As state climalogist, I have long admired the volunteers' dedication, curiosity about the weather, and ability to persevere through sleet and sun in remote locations. Nevada's weather observers include miners, schoolteachers,



Pop Squires, shown with his rain gauge and thermometer shelter at his Las Vegas home in the 1950s, was an observer for nearly half a century.

ranchers, store owners, firefighters, housewives, politicians, police officers, and park rangers. Because of them, and because of the data they transmit to the National Weather Service and the Nevada State Climate Office, we know a great deal about the Silver State's extremely diverse climates.

Weather observers not only provide a public service. They also, more than most people, appreciate the flux and beauty of the state's weather.

"The climate of Nevada is the most delightful and salubrious in the world. Neither the prostrating heat and destructive cyclones, nor the Arctic frosts and deadly blizzards of the Mid Western States are known here. The deadly consumption-breeding fogs and countless insect pests that swarm in other lands are also strangers in Nevada."

So wrote Charles W. Friend, director of the Nevada State Weather Service in his annual report to the governor in 1889. Friend was director of the Carson Weather Observatory, opened by the Army Signal Service in 1880, and then the Nevada State Weather Service, which operated from 1888 to 1906. Friend gathered and published many valuable records. His collection, stored in the Nevada State Climate Office at the University of Nevada in Reno, forms the basis of the state's early weather history.

In the 1860s, a few settlers and the

soldiers stationed at Fort Churchill, Camp Halleck, and Fort McDermitt kept daily precipitation records. However, the most important record keepers were the station agents of the Southern Pacific Railroad. In 1870, Congress established the National Weather Service, to be operated by the Army Signal Service, and because of the railroad's tele-



Steve La-Sky recorded Laughlin's state-record high, 125 degrees, five days after his son River was born.

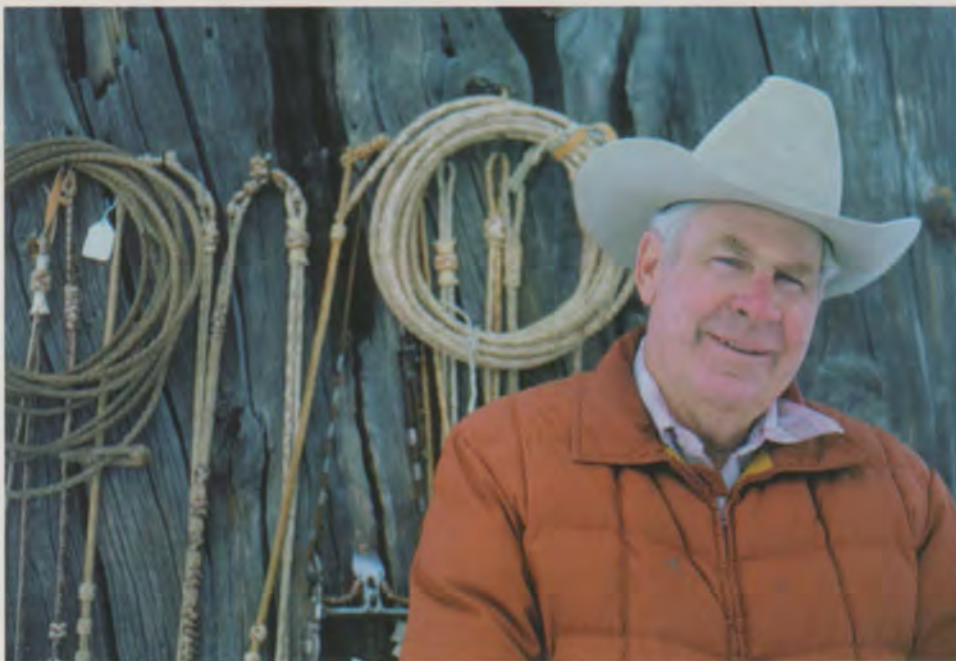
Pop Squires' reading of 118 degrees in 1931 is still Las Vegas' highest recorded temperature.

graph service, station agents in Nevada were enlisted to supply reports twice daily, seven days a week. Precipitation gauges were installed at depots in Reno, Winnemucca, Golconda, Battle Mountain, Beowawe, Carlin, Elko, and Wells, with official thermometers added in the 1870s and 1880s. Nevada's longest-running climate records are from some of those locations.

Old-time observers reported some eye-catching weather conditions. In January 1916, five and a half feet of snow fell in Reno—still a record by far—with most of that falling in less than a week. Roads and railways were blocked for days and even weeks. Or how about the deluge that hit Genoa in July 1891? The weather observer, Mr. Dungan, reported a remarkable storm "with a 20-foot wall of water from Genoa canyon carrying logs and boulders in wild confusion. An undertaking shop was carried 200 yards and deposited in a field."

The state's longest-serving observer was Las Vegas newspaperman Charles "Pop" Squires, who kept daily records at his office-home from 1908 to 1957, when poor eyesight forced him to resign at age 92. The longtime editor of the *Las Vegas Age* recorded 118 degrees on July 26, 1931, still the highest recorded temperature for the now-metropolis. He also reported a 12-inch snowfall on December 21, 1909, which remains Las Vegas' whitest Christmas-time. On July 23, 1923, Squires noted that 1.98 inches of rain fell in less than half an hour. "Every cellar was flooded. Lightning struck 12 buildings. Walks were undermined and some buildings fell down."

Today, Nevada's weather observers remain a hardy lot, and some live many miles from a town or grocery store. Frank "Shorty" Prunty is an example. Frank and his wife Marge live near the site of the old mining town of Charleston, about 85 miles north of



Frank "Shorty" Prunty is an Elko County rancher, rawhide braider, and weather reporter whose official thermometer often dips below zero.

Elko. At 6,100 feet in the Bruneau River Valley, it can get darn cold on their ranch. During a recent cold spell I called Frank to see how low his official thermometer had fallen. Marge answered the phone. She said it was "only" minus 30, and Frank was outside tending to

the livestock. The snow gets deep in their part of the country. When snow closes their road for weeks at a time in winter, Frank and Marge have to travel 30 miles, in and out, by snowmobile. In the summer, the Pruntys note, afternoon readings are usually 50 to 60 de-

A record 50 below was recorded at San Jacinto in 1937.

grees higher than those in the morning. Talk about overcoat-to-shorts weather in the same day!

At the other end of the thermometer and the state, Clark County Fire Station 76 in Laughlin serves as the area's official weather station. Starting June 24, 1994, Laughlin experienced nine days of blistering heat during which daily highs never fell below 120. Firefighters dealt with reports of heat prostration, third-degree burns received falling down on asphalt, and taxed-to-the-max air-conditioning units.

On June 29, firefighter Steve La-Sky recorded a reading of 125, which broke the state high by a whopping three degrees. Steve recalls, "I didn't realize 125 was the record until we heard it later on the news."

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during that time. "On June 24, at the beginning of the heat wave, I got a call that my wife Darla was in labor, so I had to drive into Las Vegas right away," he says. "Our son River was born that evening."

Euphemia "Phamy" Parker has been the local weather sage for the past decade in Manhattan, at 7,100 feet in the Toquima Range. In 1993 she had an auto accident, totalling her pickup and breaking and bruising some bones. Did she stop reporting the weather? Heck, no. "I only missed one day," she says, "when I was in the hospital in Tonopah." Talk about dedication.

In Belmont, year-round resident and weather observer Tom Kneifel lives near the old, brick Nye County Courthouse. Of his fellow residents, Tom says, "There are a lot of summer folks, but winter can be tough, discouraging most of them from sharing the best time of the year." He rarely misses a daily report.

Eugene Gates of Mina has been a justice of the peace for 31 years, the longest of any active judge in Nevada. An assayer and ham-radio operator, he also has been Mina's official weather observer for the past 24 years. Parked next to his home is a two-passenger Cessna



Euphemia "Phamy" Parker records the highs and lows in Manhattan.

152 that he built from the wreckage of another plane. "The runway is just a quarter mile east of the house, so I can taxi right down to the airstrip," he says. "I can fly to Reno in an hour and 15

minutes and get to Vegas in a little over two hours." In his court, Judge Gates has heard all the excuses traffic violators can give, such as "I didn't know I was going so fast—there must have had a strong tailwind." As a weather buff, he would know the facts of the case.

Dave Secrist, ranch manager for the Salmon Falls Cattleman's Association, files weather reports from his ranch in San Jacinto, seven miles south of Jackpot. With occasional help from his wife Jane, a home economics teacher at Jackpot High School, he has kept temperature and precipitation readings for the State Climate Office since 1990. Dave has never missed a day despite such temperatures as minus 37 in December 1990 and a record low of 10 in August 1992.

In fact, San Jacinto is the site of some of the lowest temperatures in Nevada history. The state-record low of 50 degrees below zero was recorded there in January 1937. Dave has an alcohol thermometer that goes as low as minus 60, but he admits, "That's one record I'd rather not break." □

John W. James is the Nevada state climatologist and an associate professor of geography at the University of Nevada in Reno.

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"Ely After Dark" Train Ride

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DINING OUT

Two hotel buffets serve Victorian charm and action stations.



Chef's Pavilion in the Eldorado.

Chef's Pavilion

By Kay Fahey

How shall I eat thee? Let me count the ways: stir-fried with crisp vegetables, lightly sautéed in a buttery sauce, gleaming with barbecue glaze, grilled to a lovely crisp brown, or resting atop tender pasta.

You can savor your chicken (or beef or pork or seafood) all these ways and more at the Chef's Pavilion, but what really makes the Eldorado Hotel's year-old buffet a standout in downtown Reno is the Victorian decor. Your first sight is the gleam of two six-foot, wood-fired rotisserie ovens busily roasting dozens of whole chickens to mouthwatering perfection.

A glance left and right reveals a buffet that seems to stretch halfway to Sacramento. Your attention soon is drawn to the murals of lush European gardens on the walls, the limestone columns accented with bronze, the ornate trellises with ivy and tiny roses climbing them. Far above, the ceiling looks like a cloud-swept English sky on a sunny afternoon.

But down to business. The 200-foot buffet spread has a bewildering variety of American, Italian, Mexican, and Chinese entrees and accompaniments. Tender roasts are carved to order, and omelets and pasta dishes are assembled and cooked as directed.

At the far end, flames leap and dance at the Mongolian grill. Here you can pile your plate with pale-green bok choy, pristine white water chestnuts, bright-orange carrots, crimson sweet peppers, and other fresh vegetables. You hand them to the chef, tell him

which meat and sauce you prefer, and watch as he briskly stir-fries your creation and serves it with a flourish.

On the way to your table you pass steaming pots of soup and iced displays of gourmet salads, as well as an island positively groaning with the Eldorado's homemade deserts. Cakes and pies of all sorts, delicate tarts and decadent pastries, icing and frosting and fillings galore—how shall I eat thee? It will take me just a moment to decide.

Chef's Pavilion Buffet: Eldorado Hotel, Reno, 702-786-5700. Open daily. Prices range from \$4.99 for weekday breakfast to \$10.99 for Saturday dinner. Major credit cards are accepted.

Kay Fahey of Reno is a freelance writer.

Garden Court Buffet

By Wendy Miller

For years, Las Vegas buffets were considered places where you lined up with oversized plates for a quick, cheap meal. In the '90s, however, resorts are offering international cuisine at their buffets, with real chefs serving up food prepared to order.

An elegant example of the new breed is the Garden Court Buffet at Main Street Station in downtown Las Vegas. The Garden Court resembles a Victorian train station, and the food is a step above many competitors.

A visit to the Sunday champagne brunch began with a fluffy three-egg omelet prepared to order while bacon and sausage sizzled on the grill. Elsewhere, chefs chopped, roasted, and broiled ribs slathered in barbecue sauce, pork chops, pastas, and fajitas.

Chinese and Hawaiian dishes also were served at action stations. Food and beverage manager John Carlson says, "We recognize that a meal is, in part, a form of entertainment, not simply a function of filling your stomach."

Garden Court Buffet: Main Street Station, Las Vegas, 702-387-1896. Open daily. Prices range from \$3.95 for breakfast to \$12.95 for the Friday Seafood Extravaganza. Major credit cards are accepted. □

Wendy Miller is a Las Vegas writer.

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The Fight of the Century

(Continued from page 19)

Australia, belied the image of an athlete. He was knock-kneed, skinny, and balding. Sullivan once described him as "a fighting machine on stilts." However, Fitzsimmons was a master of ring strategy, using quick maneuvers, shifty footwork, and feigns of grogginess to set up rivals for a knockout. Many fans believed Fitzsimmons had been jobbed out of a victory over Tom Sharkey by referee Wyatt Earp in a recent San Francisco bout.

While the two men trained, Carson City was inundated by the strangest lot of humanity the citizens had ever seen—"pugs, gamblers, newspaper reporters, scrubs, whores and sons of bitches in plenty," Gold Hill newsman Alf Doten observed. Dozens of detectives hung around the railroad depot, watching for confidence men. Souvenir salesmen thronged the streets to hawk miniature boxing gloves, copies of the Marquis of Queensbury rules, fight badges, plaster casts of Corbett's fists,



The next day, Nellie Mighels Davis' story in the Carson paper announced the victor.

and other odd items of memorabilia.

News flowed from the training camps almost hourly, and Carson City

was soon in the national spotlight. Among those covering the fight were artist Jimmy Swinerton of the *San Francisco Examiner* and actress Ida Fuller, reporting for the *New York World*. Nellie Mighels Davis, wife of Sam Davis, covered the fight for Carson's *Appeal* as well as the national wire services. Veteran lawman Bat Masterson, covering the fight for the *New York Post*, was present, as were John L. Sullivan, Tom Sharkey, Wyatt Earp, Wyoming gunman Luke Short, and Governor Sadler.

On March 17, as noon approached, 6,000 spectators—twice the population of Carson City—were milling about the arena. (The promoters had built the arena to hold 17,000.) A special section had been constructed for female spectators, but many attending with escorts sat where they pleased. For security, Stuart had arranged for a dozen Pinkerton detectives to be on hand.

The sky was clear as a summer's day when the bell sounded for round one at 12:07 p.m. The weather pleased the operators of three kinoscope cameras filming the fight, and the resulting movie made several hundred thousand dollars for Stuart and others.

At first, Corbett seemed to have the best of his opponent, splitting Fitzsim-

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mons' lip and bloodying his nose in round five. In round six, Corbett put Fitzsimmons down for a nine count but soon began to show signs of weariness. With his wife yelling instructions from ringside, Fitzsimmons picked up the pace and ended the fight in round 14 with a knockout blow to the pit of Corbett's stomach. Corbett went down for the count. His handlers complained to referee George Siler that the punch was low, but Siler would not go back on his decision: Fitzsimmons was the winner.

After their Carson match, the two boxers had other championship bouts. In 1899, Fitzsimmons lost his title to Jim Jeffries, a former Corbett sparring partner. Fitzsimmons retired in 1905 and died 12 years later.

Corbett fought Jeffries in 1900 and 1903 but could not regain the heavy-weight title. Retiring after his second loss to Jeffries, Corbett died in 1933. Jeffries secured his own place in Nevada history when, hyped as the Great White Hope, he fought Jack Johnson in Reno in 1910.

The Corbett-Fitzsimmons battle was a major event for the state as well as the fighters. When Governor Sadler was asked about the fight the next day, he said that he felt that the state benefited from the publicity. Pressed about the "moral effects," he begged off. "I am not a preacher and cannot tell," he said. While boxing's critics contended that only gamblers and pickpockets made anything out of the fight, Carson City merchants said they were looking forward to another one.

Although Carson City did not become the boxing capital that some residents envisioned, the 1897 fight had repercussions for many years. Nevadans had legalized an activity considered immoral elsewhere—and earned loud criticism for it—just as they would in 1931, when the legislature approved the wide-open gambling and six-week divorce laws.

Nationally, the Corbett-Fitzsimmons fight seemed to break an emotional logjam regarding boxing, and other states began to liberalize their laws to allow prizefights. In Nevada, the booster fights continued. Major matches were staged in Goldfield, Tonopah, and Reno in the early 1900s, establishing a tradition that survives today in the multi-million-dollar title fights staged in the casino arenas of Las Vegas. □

Phillip I. Earl is curator of history at the Nevada Historical Society in Reno and a student of Nevada boxing history.

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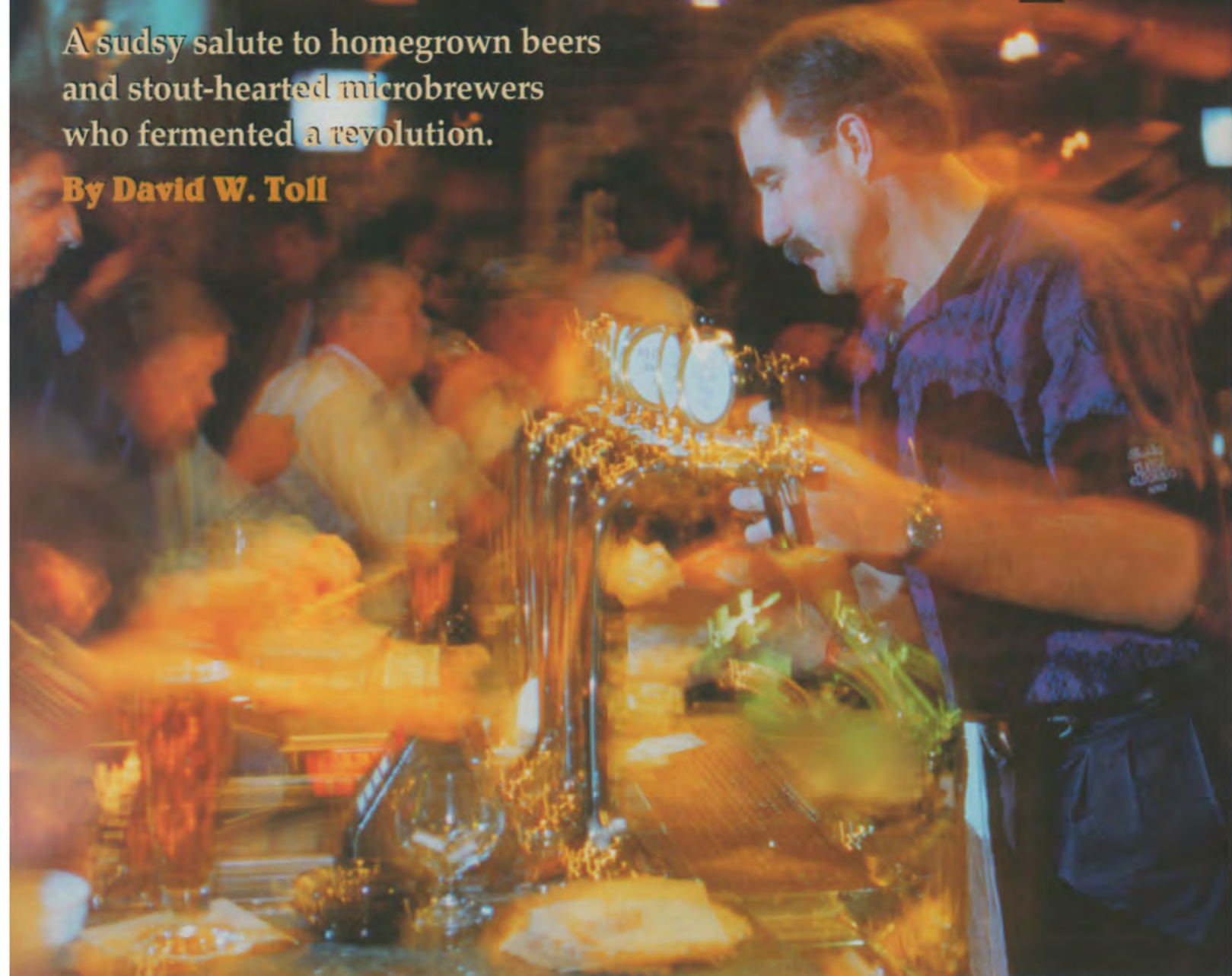
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Nevada on Tap

A sudsy salute to homegrown beers and stout-hearted microbrewers who fermented a revolution.

By David W. Toll



The joint is hoppin' on Coed Cigar Smoker night at the Brew Brothers in the Eldorado. Above: bartender Tim Melcher.

Three cheers for Jacob Klein! In 1860, at his Carson City Brewery, Klein turned a tap and poured the first heady glass of Nevada-made beer.

The rush to the Comstock Lode brought a river of beer right behind it, and within five years of that first foamy tankard there was "a small army of brewers ... practicing their craft," as trailblazing suds historians Eric N. Moody and Robert A. Nysten tell us in their monograph, *Brewed in Nevada*. "The Nevada, Virginia, Union, California, and the other breweries were active

in Virginia City, and had counterparts in Gold Hill, Silver City, Dayton and American City. Other western Nevada breweries flourished in such places as Genoa, Crystal Peak and Washoe City."

Nevada retained the social customs of the frontier long after they were unfashionable elsewhere, and alcoholic refreshment remains a prominent part of our social swim today. On the darkest day of 1919, however, Prohibition closed down every brewery in Nevada. Nevertheless, consumption continued as out-of-state gangsters replaced the

local businessmen as suppliers of beer.

When Prohibition ended in 1933, Nevada's legislature, like those in other states, erected strict divisions between manufacturing, distributing, and retailing alcohol. This prevented a brewer from selling a glass of beer across the bar, and as Nevada's breweries closed down one by one in the 1940s and '50s, it gave control of the Nevada beer business to the distributors. Over time the regional brewers also closed down or sold out, leaving a small number of megabrewers supplying the national

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Now, with outdoor service in summer and music on weekends ("Hot Sax on a Summer Night," for example), the Great Basin presents the comfortable atmosphere of an old Nevada saloon. "Our clientele is 95 percent local," Young says. "A few tourists find us, but most tourists in Sparks and Reno come to gamble, and the casino-hotels take care of them very well." The menu offers a cornucopia of heady brews like Wild Horse Ale and Jackpot Porter along with special offerings such as Harvest Ale, a tasty homage to Nevada made with pine nuts, aromatic juniper berry, and sagebrush.

The next microbrewery was the Carson Depot, now **McWain's Brew Pub and Eatery** (884-4546), one block south of the Carson Nugget in Carson City. McWain's is the smallest of the state's brew pubs, the only one that has tucked its brewing equipment out of sight, and the only one in which food gets equal billing with the beer.

That is because Ron and Donna McWain are restaurateurs, for many years in and around Seattle and more recently in Reno. Their son Rickey, the brewmaster and chef, is as interested in the consistency of the raspberry almond cream sauce for the salmon as he is in the specific gravity of the wort. McWain's does a brisk lunch business and in the evenings becomes a dinner house of unexpected distinction with no menu at all—each night's offerings are posted on the wall.

The brewery is small, a micro-micro, but it produces four flavorful brews, including Zephyr Wheat and Cottonwood Porter, poured only at the bar and used in preparing food. Before arriving in Carson City, Rickey was general manager at Kodiak Ron's in Seattle, where there were 32 craft beers

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The Monte Carlo's microbrewery is one of a growing number of casino brew pubs.



Tom Young (left) and Eric McClary savor their hand-made brews at the Great Basin Brewery in Sparks.

on tap. "We're not interested in selling beer outside our own place," he said. "We're happy staying small, brewing in small batches, making just enough to

serve fresh for our own customers."

When the **Brew Brothers** (786-5700) opened in 1995 on the skyway linking the Eldorado with the Silver Legacy, the lively Reno brew pub was the first in a major hotel-casino. The Brew Brothers is named for the four sons of Eldorado owner Don Carano, and the 6,000-

"I'm living a dream," says brewmaster Eddie Kuehne at Main Street Station.

square-foot restaurant and microbrewery is designed to resemble a turn-of-the-century warehouse. Exposed steel trusses and old-fashioned windows—even a beer truck—contribute to the effect, as do the gleaming copper tanks in which brewmaster Darren Whitcher prepares Wild Card Wheat Ale and six other house brews.

Food is a big part of the Brew Brothers' appeal, with lunch, dinner, and late-night menus offering unusual temptations such as barbecued-duck quesadillas. The dueling pianos of the Crazy Copper Keys present zany and energetic performances Sunday



You can find Barley's under the giant silo in Henderson.

through Thursday evenings. Fair warning: The last Thursday of each month is a Coed Cigar Smoker. This is when trendy persons of both genders drink

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microbrews and single malts while masticating hand-rolled imports from Honduras.

Barley's Casino and Brewing Company (458-2739) was Henderson's first microbrewery, opening a year ago in the Green Valley Town Center at 4500 Sunset Road. Barley's actually is a mega-microbrewery, a \$7-million 19,000-square-foot extravaganza containing a full casino as well as the brewing and serving operations implied by the enormous 67-ton grain silo standing over its entrance. There's a second, relatively dinky 29-ton silo out back, but it is lost among the tumult of details

catching the eye, from the gleaming banks of slot machines to the slowly revolving ceiling fans overhead.

The restaurant boasts an elaborate salad bar and a wood-fired pizza oven as its cornerstones. And the bar, elevated two steps, is a symphony in wood and brass trim. Along with a wide selection of beers, single-malt scotches, boutique bourbons, and vintage wines, there is a small humidor stocked with expensive cigars.

The brewery's work is carried out in stainless-steel vessels. "I believe that form follows function, and the result is beauty," brewmaster Michael Ferguson



Donna McWain and her son Rickey, behind the bar at McWain's in Carson City.

says. "I love the look of stainless steel, so professional, so very bright and clean.

"We're different from the other breweries in Nevada," he says. "We don't make ales, and we're the only ones brewing Bavarian lagers. In fact I'd say that we rank with the Baltimore Brewing Company in Maryland and Gordon Biersch in California as being the closest to the authentic Bavarian style in the U.S. We use only the four specified ingredients, no additives—we don't make fruit beer, for example—and everything is kept clean, clean, clean."

Three Barley's house brews are poured: Blue Diamond Lager, Red Rock Amber, and Black Mountain Dark, and four wheat beers in the summer.

When the Monte Carlo opened on the Las Vegas Strip last summer, much of the attention was given to its 90,000-square-foot casino. But it is the **Monte Carlo Pub and Brewery** (730-7777) that brings beer lovers in the door. Nine 20-barrel serving tanks and six 20-barrel and two 40-barrel fermenters, all of them copper clad, add to the visual flavor of the pub, designed in a striking Mecchano Moderne look, as well as producing the beer.

The brew pub is located on a pleasant promenade that skirts the casino, and an outdoor patio overlooks the hotel's pool area, which has a wave pool and water ride. Brew connoisseurs can relax to piano music in the evenings.

Monte Carlo brewmaster Erik Steiner produces six standard brews: Las Vegas Lites, a light beer, as well as High

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ter Eddie Kuehne, a graduate of the master brewers program at the University of California at Davis. "We have a chance to do something really different here."

Kuehne's culinary counterpart, Richard Silva, oversees a menu that is fashionably eclectic, rewarding diners with Pale Ale Battered Orange Roughy. The brew pub also offers premium cigars and small-batch bourbons, infused vodkas, and other upscale liquors. Entertainment is provided

The Tahoe Mountain Brewery plans to install computers to link customers to "cyberspace."

by the Amazing Brews-Keys, another dueling-piano act.

The **Tahoe Mountain Brewery** (586-1000) opened inside the Lake Tahoe Horizon at Stateline in December. The menu, long on wood-fired pizzas, reflects a contemporary attitude, as does the high-concept design of the 10,000-square-foot brew pub. Plans call for computer monitors and keyboards to permit customers access to "cyberspace" while sipping brews.

A 40-foot-by-40-foot oak bar surrounds brewmaster Keith Wayne's copper-clad and stainless-steel brewing system. Michelle Noonberg, co-owner with husband Bill, says, "We concentrated on creating a comfortable and relaxed atmosphere, with pool tables, games, and fun for families."

The cave-like entrance to the restaurant-pub is through the Horizon casino. If you'd like to tour the Tahoe Mountain Brewery without leaving home, you can visit via the Internet at <http://www.tahoemtn-brewpub.com>.

Another entry in the beer renaissance at Lake Tahoe is the **Borderhouse Brewery Company** in Crystal Bay. Scheduled to open early in 1997, this brew pub is in the old White House, a 1930s structure near the Cal-Neva Resort at the state line. CEO L.B. Baylies of Incline Village and colleagues have been busy restoring the house, landscaping the grounds, and installing a downstairs bar and outdoor patio, where bands can play while customers sample the house brews. □

David W. Toll of Gold Hill is the author of the Complete Nevada Traveler and publisher of the Nevada Industrial Directory.

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Jan Gunlock

This Las Vegas artist preserves nature in her work.



Desert Bighorn (Pen and Ink): "I have always admired the bighorn—he is a magnificent animal. I just love doing those horns."

Merriam's Bear Paw Poppy (Colored Pencil): "This plant was growing at Ash Meadows, a Nature Conservancy preserve. Here was a beautiful flower coming from the desert, the only area where it is found. The flower is like tissue, very fragile."

Nature artist Jan Gunlock has used pen and pencil to capture many of Nevada's endangered species. For the last 20 years, Gunlock and her husband Edwin have set out from their Las Vegas home to sketch, photograph, and learn about the state's plants and wild animals.

"So much of the natural habitat has been lost because of the explosion in the human population. There has been a need to educate the public," Gunlock says.

Working in colored pencils, pen and ink, and scratchboard, Gunlock recreates plants and animals indigenous to the state. A year ago she completed a series of permanent illustrations of bighorn sheep, desert tortoise, and other species for Valley



Gila Monster (Ink and Colored Pencil): "He was a pretty decorative Gila monster that I saw in captivity. I wanted to illustrate this animal because he was on the endangered species list and was very unusual looking and colorful."

of Fire State Park's visitor center. Most recently, she designed a poster of the Joshua tree for the Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area. Last spring she offered outdoor workshops at Great Basin National Park and Death Valley National Park.

An artist since her youth, Gunlock became interested in Nevada's wildlife when she and her husband moved to Las Vegas from Belmont, California, in 1974. It was a chance to live in a city where she easily could escape into the desert and see nature. "I grew up in Chicago—the jungle," Gunlock says jokingly. "It was the move to Nevada and to live in the desert country that inspired me to sketch this natural beauty."—Katherine Limon □

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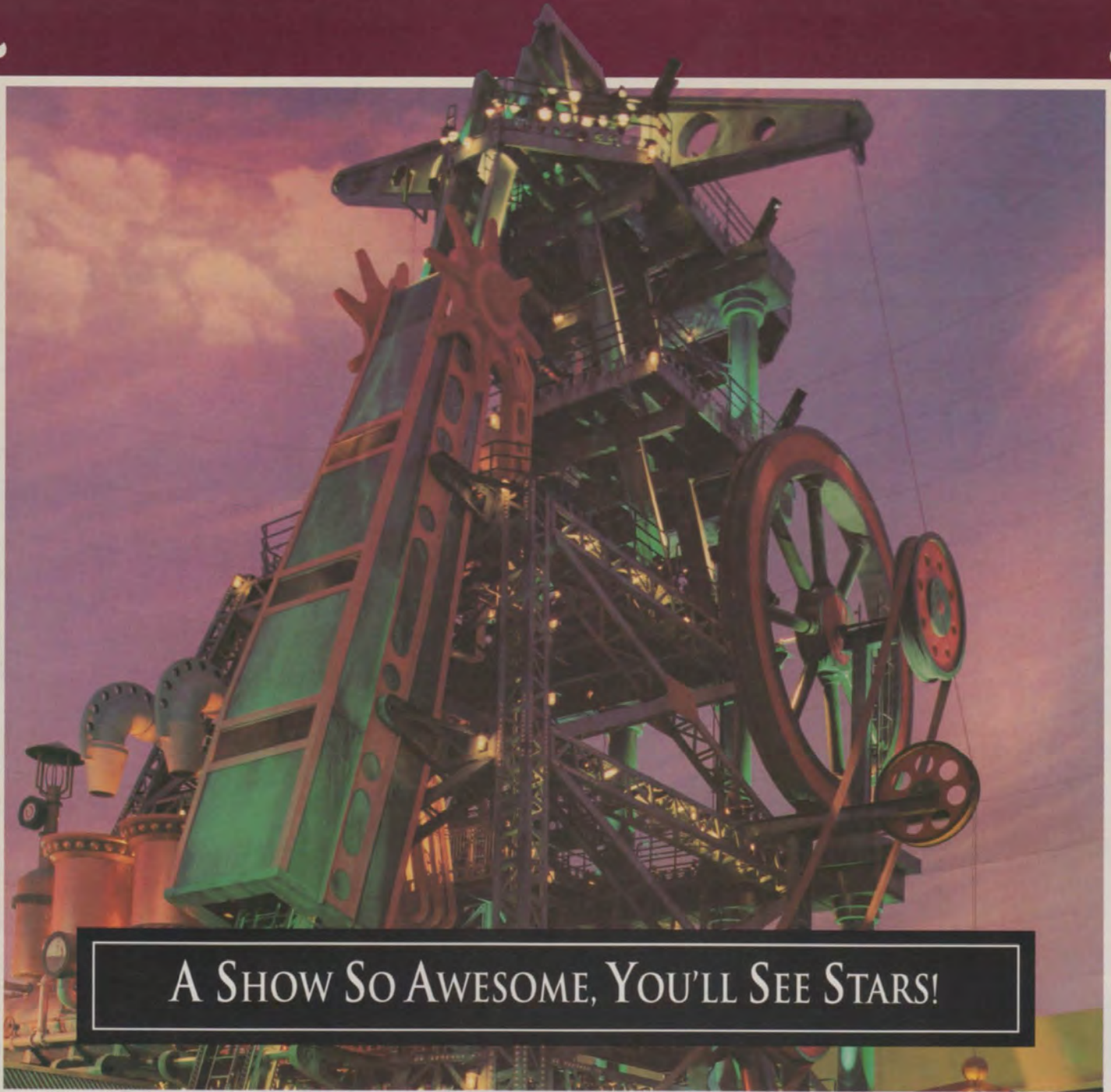
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Shooting the West

Winnemucca's annual
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photography lovers to the
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Photo by Carolyn Fox



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Hot Times, Fast Film in Winnemucca

The Shooting the West photo symposium attracts photography lovers of all levels of renown.

By Richard Menzies

"How do people manage to live up there? I have often marvelled over that point. And if you do scratch a living, how then do you manage to exist?"

—Jack London, reflecting on his 1894 visit to Winnemucca

People laugh when I say the name, and they laugh again when I compare Winnemucca, Nevada, to Florence, Italy. But I'm not kidding. Winnemucca is, in my opinion, the cultural capital of Northern Nevada.

I'm not talking casinos, although Winnemucca does have half a dozen or so brightly lit night spots that never close. What interests me more are the many exotic and picturesque architectural gems hidden away in the older sections of town north and south of Winnemucca Boulevard—buildings that range from the stately St. Paul's Catholic Church to a funky Art Deco apartment complex with turquoise trim and porthole windows. Through my camera's viewfinder, I have watched as the slanting morning sunlight plays upon a lime-green hamburger stand with a matching lime-green '56 Oldsmobile parked beneath the modernistic porte-cochere. And then there's the rustic and ancient railway warehouse, on the south wall of which are engraved the names of hundreds of hobos, tramps, and vagabonds—including, I have it on good word, Jack London.

Just north of the depot a single lightbulb burns in the doorway of the Winnemucca Cab Company. Something I'd like to



Shooting the West experts lead participants in a cowboy-photography workshop at the Winnemucca fairgrounds, using real-life models (above). A featured speaker last year was James Fain (right), a nationally known rodeo photographer.



do one day is arrive in Winnemucca by boxcar, roust the cabbie from his bed, and demand to be driven the four blocks to the Winnemucca Convention Center—site of the annual Shooting the West photographic symposium.

The ninth such gathering begins Friday, March 7, and ends about noon Sunday, March 9. Featured speaker will be internationally known nature photographer Frans Lanting, whose work has appeared in the pages of *National Geographic* and on the walls of major museums in Paris, Milan, Tokyo, New York, and Amsterdam. Upon arriving in Winnemucca, Mr. Lanting will no doubt be asking himself the same questions Jack London asked in 1894. Come Sunday, I suspect he'll be proud to add Winnemucca to his impressive resume.



Fine photography is a focus of the Winnemucca gathering. Above: "Humboldt Window" by Linda Dufurrena, one of the founders of Shooting the West.

Shooting the West was started in 1988 by Humboldt County residents Linda Dufurrena and Sheri Allen, who were aiming to establish in Winnemucca the pictorial equivalent of Elko's Cowboy Poetry Gathering. Since the beginning the committee has gone after top names in the photography field such as Galen Rowell and Tom Till, even though Winnemucca is quite a distance from the nearest commercial airport—164 miles east of Reno and 125 miles west of Elko on Interstate 80.

"Almost every one of them has had to drive from Reno, and yet almost everybody we've invited has been able to come," says Dufurrena. "In fact, it always strikes us when these high-powered guests say how much they love the drive from Reno over that stretch of Nevada desert. They all really enjoy it."

More than 100 people attended the first symposium, and the event has continued to attract a good crowd of photographers and folks who simply enjoy the visual excitement and camaraderie of the weekend.

The majority come



Shooting the breeze is a big part of the Shooting the West, in and out of seminars. Top: Proprietor Mike Olano and Linda Dufurrena peruse a display at the Winnemucca Hotel. Left: Jess Smith of Winnemucca talks photos with C.J. Hadley of *Range Magazine*. Right: Photographers assess the saloon's lighting and depth of field. Below: Workshop students learn the real dirt about rodeo photography.

Photographer Doug Keister of Oakland showed his unusual Black Rock Desert images, such as his dog posing as the Sphinx.



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from Northern and Western Nevada, parts of California, Eastern Oregon, and Southern Idaho. Attending photographers run the gamut from weekend shutterbugs to seasoned professionals, but all are amateurs in the true sense of the word, meaning they shoot film not for money but for love.

The guest list includes not only photographers but also writers, poets, editors, and literary agents. There is the occasional far-out speaker; for example, Doug Keister of Oakland, known for unusual images such as his dog posing as the Sphinx and hippie farmers harvesting plastic forks on the Black Rock Desert. And there was former Peace Corps volunteer Ken Miller of Silver City, who regaled the audience with a slide show featuring pictures of motel rooms he's stayed in.

This year, veteran Reno lensman Don Dondero will be honored as Nevada's Photographer of the Year, and outspoken *Range Magazine* editor-in-chief C.J. Hadley will take the podium to critique the winners and losers of that publication's "Outback Roundup '97" photo contest. On display will be prints by Mary Freeman, whose photo landscapes and portraits depict pioneer life in the Lahontan Valley.

Attendees are invited to submit their favorite prints to the "Give It Your Best Shot" photo competition—arguably the state's number-one photographic exhibit. And all should bring their cameras on

Friday morning, March 7, when Reno-based photographer Ira Mark Gostin leads a guided photo walk through picturesque downtown Winnemucca.

Each day begins with a continental breakfast and ends, typically, at one of the town's surprisingly good restaurants. My personal favorite is the historic Winnemucca Hotel on Bridge Street, featuring traditional Basque cuisine and what I consider to be the finest unreconstructed frontier saloon in the Silver State.

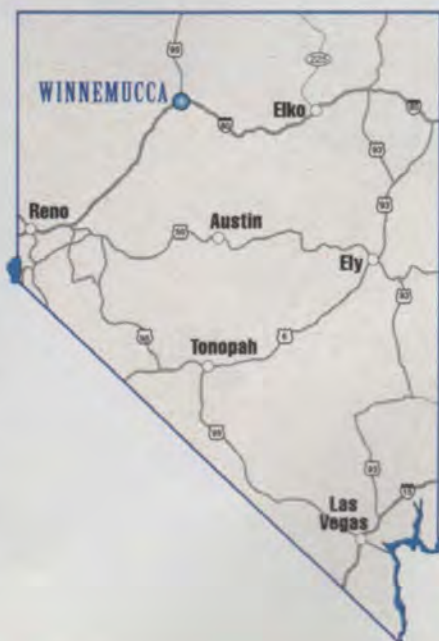
One memorable evening, our creative juices augmented by potent liquid refreshments, I remember playing a game called "Pass-the-Nikon." Participants included some of Western America's foremost photographers: Steven Collector, Adam Jahiel, Linda Dufurrena, Bryan Peterson, C.J. Hadley, Marilyn Newton, Larry Angier, and Carolyn Fox. The idea was to see who could compose the most unusual group shot, a challenge that really got interesting after the bar's regular patrons decided to join in and bartender Mike Olano brought out his double-barreled shotgun.

All of us were clean and sober again by the time the film came back from the lab, bearing indisputable testimony to the timeworn dictum that picon punch and Dektol do not mix.

Richard Menzies of Salt Lake City is a writer and photographer and frequent guest at Shooting the West. This year he is looking forward to serving as the event's emcee.

Photographers in Winnemucca

Shooting the West IX will be held March 7-9 at the Winnemucca Convention Center. For registration and event information write Sheri Allen, Humboldt County Library, 85 East Fifth Street, Winnemucca, NV 89445, or call 702-623-6388. The cost is \$70 before March 3 or \$80 at the door.





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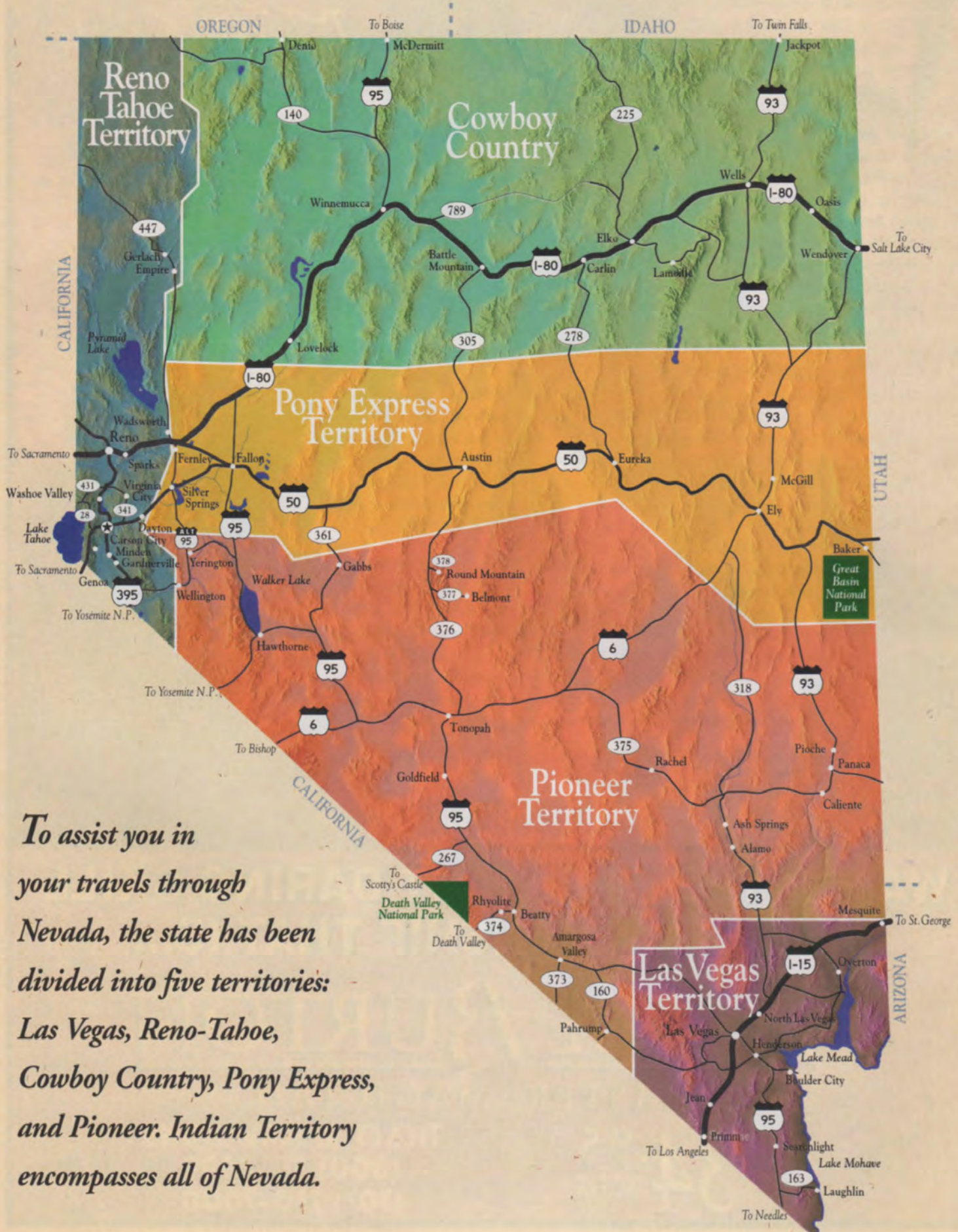
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Las Vegas Territory



Mark McGwire takes aim during exhibition games March 28-31 in Las Vegas. The A's, Padres, Mariners, Red Sox, and Mets will play.

EVENTS

The Las Vegas area offers many spring activities. You can enjoy the pro-rodeo action in Laughlin, Primm, and Mesquite as well as the small-town fun of the Clark County Fair in Logandale. The events listing is divided into areas of interest. Be sure to call ahead to confirm dates and times. The area code is 702 throughout Nevada.

March & April

RODEOS & FESTIVALS

Circle 8 Square Dance Hoover Dam Weekend • March 7-8 • 24th annual round and square dance festival. March 7 at Elton Garrett Junior High School, Boulder City, and March 8 from 9-10am at the Hoover Dam Visitors Center, 293-4918.

Nevada Rangers Stampede • March 7-9 • Cowboy action shooters. Jean Dry Lake Bed, 20 miles south of Las Vegas on Interstate 15, 647-2752.

Dixieland Anniversary Party • March 14-16 • Riverside Hotel, Laughlin, 800-348-5800.

Professional Bull Riders Touring Pro Series • March 15-16 • Buffalo Bill's Hotel, Primm, 800-FUN-STOP.

St. Patrick's Day Celebration • March 17 • Showboat Hotel, Las Vegas, 383-9232.

Mardi Gras Celebration • March 21-22 • Fremont Street Experience, Las Vegas, 678-5777.

Laughlin River Stampede • April 3-6 • Pro rodeo, dances, music. Special Events Arena, Laughlin, 298-2214.

Invitational Native American Arts Festival • April 4-6 • Demonstrations, dance, music, lectures, food, film, and arts and crafts market. Clark County Heritage Museum, Henderson, 455-7955.

Firefighters Rodeo • April 9-11 • Special Events Arena, Laughlin, 298-2214.

Clark County Fair • April 10-13 • Pro rodeo, carnival, livestock events, contests, and music. Fairgrounds, Logandale, 398-3247.

RV Show • April 16-20 • Special Events Arena, Laughlin, 298-2214.

Henderson Heritage Days • April 18-27 • Beauty pageant, chili cookoff, parade, dance, barbecue, antique car show, concert, and carnival. Various sites citywide, 565-8951.

Kids Art Fair • April 23-24 • Arts and crafts and performances. Mesquite Elementary School, 346-2787.

Harley-Davidson River Run • April 24-27 • Motorcycle show. Citywide locations, Laughlin, 298-2214.

City of Lights Jazz Festival • April 27 • Fourth annual concert featuring jazz artists. Hills Park at Summerlin, Las Vegas, 228-3780.

PERFORMANCES

"1940's Radio Hour" • March 1-2 • Play. Nicholas Horn Theatre, Community College of Southern Nevada

Cheyenne Campus, North Las Vegas, 651-5483.

Chestnut Brass Company Concert • March 3 • Winchester Theater, Las Vegas, 455-7340.

Utah Shakespearean Festival Presents "Hamlet" • March 3-8 and 10-13 • 90-minute adaptation of the Bard's best. Nicholas Horn Theatre, Community College of Southern Nevada Cheyenne Campus, North Las Vegas, 651-5483.

Monumental Brass Quintet • March 6 • Theatre for the Performing Arts, Moapa Valley High School, Logandale, 398-3090.

"The Magic Flute" • March 7-8 • Opera. Artemus Ham Concert Hall, UNLV, 895-3801.

"My Fair Lady" • March 7-9 and 13-16 • Actors Repertory Theatre, Summerlin Library Theatre, Las Vegas, 647-7469.

Sousa and Friends • March 9 • Nevada Symphonic Wind Ensemble concert. Nicholas Horn Theatre, Com-

Nevada Events & Shows

Nevada Events & Shows is a section of Nevada Magazine. To list an event, contact Events Editor Ann Henderson: 702-486-2433 • fax 702-486-2789 • 555 E. Washington, Suite 5600, Las Vegas, NV 89101. Subscription rates for Nevada Magazine are \$16.95 for one year, U.S.; \$22.95 Foreign. To subscribe call toll-free, 1-800-495-3281.

Keeping Step With Tradition

Native Americans honor their history and arts at Henderson museum festival.

Native Americans celebrate their legacy April 4-6 during the eighth annual Invitational Native American Arts Festival held at the Clark County Heritage Museum in Henderson.

Highlighting the event are Indian dancers from around the country. Their intricate and physically demanding performances change each year, but the programs often include a Hoop Dance, in which hoops are skillfully maneuvered to represent objects such as baskets. The tension of battle is reenacted in the Spirit Shield Dance, and the flight of an eagle is interpreted in the Eagle Dance. Plains Indians often perform the Grass Dance.

This year, actor Abel Silvas will appear as Running Grunion, a mythical character who has never met a European. On stage, he tells stories to the audience.

While the dancing, storytelling, and music feed the soul, the festival offers traditional foods for the body. Indian tacos, fry bread, and savory stews are on the menu as well as piki bread, a paper-thin concoction of corn meal cooked on a stone heated by a bed of coals.

More than 40 artisans will be selling their work at an outdoor arts and crafts fair on the Henderson museum grounds. Also, artists will give demon-

strations ranging from pottery-making to cooking. Native American films and lectures are planned in the museum's historic railroad depot. In the gallery, visitors will find drawings and paintings on medicinal plants, with text describing the uses of each plant and indicating the impact of Indian medicine on modern-day medical practices. Call the Clark County Heritage Museum, 702-455-7955, for information on festival hours and performances.

Chris Anderson performs the Hoop Dance during the Invitational Native American Arts Festival.



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munity College of Southern Nevada Cheyenne Campus, North Las Vegas, 651-5483.

Nevada Jazz Artists Concert • March 9 • Winchester Theater, Las Vegas, 455-7340.

Utah Symphony • March 12 • Virgin Valley High School Auditorium, Mesquite, 346-2787.

Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra • March 18 • Artemus Ham Concert Hall, UNLV, 895-3801.

Mazowsze Folk Ensemble • March 24 • Artemus Ham Concert Hall, UNLV, 895-3801.

"Swan Lake" • March 27-30 • Ballet. Nevada Dance Theatre, Judy Bayley Theatre, UNLV, 732-3838.

"The Glass Menagerie" • April 3 • Tennessee Williams



Kids meet kites at the Kite Carnival in Las Vegas.

play performed by the Julliard Acting Company. Nicholas Horn Theatre, Community College of Southern Nevada Cheyenne Campus, North Las Vegas, 651-5483.

"All in the Timing" • April 4-6 and 11-13 • One-act plays by David Ives. Nicholas Horn Theatre, Community College of Southern Nevada Cheyenne Campus, North Las Vegas, 651-5483.

"Feather on the Sea" • April 7 • Adaptation of Greek myth. Theatre for the Performing Arts, Moapa Valley High School, Logandale, 398-3090.

"The Mask Messengers" • April 7 • Faustwork Mask Theater. Winchester Theater, Las Vegas, 455-7340.

"Feather on the Sea" • April 10 • Virgin Valley High School Auditorium, Mesquite, 346-2787.

"Charlotte's Web" • April 21-22 • Play is adaptation of E.B. White's story. Artemus Ham Concert Hall, UNLV, 895-3801.

"Choreographer on the Line Series '97" • April 26 • Opus Dance Ensemble of Las Vegas. West Side Library, Las Vegas 732-9646.

EXHIBITS

Ice Age Las Vegas • Permanent exhibit featuring early Las Vegas residents, a 13-foot tall Columbian mammoth skeleton, Pleistocene horse, and Shasta ground sloth. Nevada State Museum and Historical Society, Las Vegas, 486-5205.

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In Celebration: Black History Month • Thru March 4 • Thomas Blackshear's paintings. Moonstruck Gallery, Las Vegas, 800-421-9133.

Saynday Was Coming Along • Thru March 16 • Kiowa artist Silverhorn's exhibit about Saynday, the Kiowa trickster. Clark County Heritage Museum, Henderson, 455-7955.

Inside the Glitter: Portraits of Workers in Nevada's Casino Industry • Thru March 23 • Photographs by Kit Miller of Washoe Valley. Clark County Library, Las Vegas, 733-7810.

Silent Pride: Portraits of the Million Man March • Thru March 23 • Lisa Margerum's photos of the Oct. 16, 1995, event. Clark County Library, Las Vegas, 733-7810.

Resisted Images Dyed on Silk • Thru April 6 • Artist M.J.M. Hernandez's landscapes and abstracts. West Las Vegas Library, 647-2117.

Best of Nevada Camera Club • Thru April 22 • Spring Valley Library, Las Vegas, 368-4411.

Animals Eat • Thru April 30 • Whimsical look at animals' eating habits. Lied Discovery Children's Museum, Las Vegas, 382-5437.

Beyond Gum San: The Story of the Chinese in Nevada • Thru May 26 • Exhibit honors the importance of the Chinese people in the history of Nevada. Nevada State Museum and Historical Society, Las Vegas, 486-5205.

Sagebrush Stradivarius • Thru June 30 • Display of violins made by miner Wilfrid Gagnon. Nevada State Museum and Historical Society, Las Vegas, 486-5205.

Figuratively Speaking: A New Vision in Ceramic Sculpture • March 6-April 20 • Contemporary clay works. The Cannery, Las Vegas, 434-2666.

Healing From the Land: American Indian Herbal Medicine • March 22-June 1 • Paintings of medicinal plants by



Harleys appear by the thousands for the Laughlin River Run and events like Hog Heaven at the Edgewater.

Native American artists. Clark County Heritage Museum, Henderson, 455-7955.

Jazz: Photographs by William Claxton • March 25-May 10 • Famous jazz masters. Winchester Center Gallery, Las Vegas, 455-7340.

SPORTS & COMPETITIONS

Las Vegas Thunder Hockey • The Thunder plays March

1 v. Houston Aeros, March 11 v. Cleveland Lumberjacks, March 14 v. Long Beach Ice Dogs, March 15 v. Cleveland Lumberjacks, March 25 v. Manitoba Moose, March 28 v. Utah Grizzlies, March 29 v. Milwaukee Admirals, April 12-13 v. Phoenix Roadrunners. The Thunder plays in the International Hockey League. Thomas and Mack Center, Las Vegas, 798-PUCK.

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The Orleans, with a Basin Street theme, opened in December one mile west of the Strip on Tropicana Avenue.

HOTELS

Casino Notes

Chute Out: Buffalo Bill's at Primm, formerly State Line, has renovated its Adventure Canyon Log Flume Ride. Riders can interact directly with crusty old characters along the route of Old West scenes. Customers are deputized and issued guns that shoot light at targets popping up behind bushes and boxes. At journey's end, riders can download their scores and win prizes.

Best Bet: Caesars Palace was the only gaming resort on the list of 100 best hotels in the world that was compiled from a poll of *Travel and Leisure* magazine readers. The Las Vegas Strip resort was ranked 75th in the world and 14th on the list of the top 25 hotels in North America.

Towering Cinema: The Luxor's \$240-million expansion project has added 1,948 rooms (for a property total of 4,474), two restaurants, and Las Vegas' first IMAX 3D theater in two 22-story towers. The futuristic Luxor IMAX Theatre seats 312 with a seven-story screen measuring 68 feet by 84 feet.

Welcome Back: The Main Street Station reopened in December with 407 rooms, a 28,500-square-foot casino, and the largest buffet in downtown Las Vegas. The 19th-century-styled property houses a unique collection of antiques, including the railroad car that Buffalo Bill Cody used to tour the West with friends such as Teddy Roosevelt.

Big Shoes To Fill: David Cassidy, the '70s pop idol, was called in to replace Michael Crawford last November as the

star of "EFX" at the MGM Grand. For nearly two months understudies filled in for Crawford, who suffered a hip injury during the show's two-year run, while the "world's biggest production" was revamped to suit Cassidy.

A Helluva Town: New York-New York Hotel and Casino on the Las Vegas Strip opened January 3. The hotel's 47-story facade consists of 12 Manhattan-style towers, a 150-foot replica of the Statue of Liberty, a 300-foot-long, 50-foot-high reproduction of the Brooklyn Bridge, and a Coney Island-style roller coaster.

Ultimate Makeover: Female impersonator Frank Marino recently signed a \$3-million contract to continue as star of "An Evening at La Cage" at the Riviera. The signing coincided with the release of his autobiography, *His Majesty, the Queen*. The book is also a how-to manual of beauty secrets, fashion advice, and exercise tips on such topics as how to keep a "girlish figure."

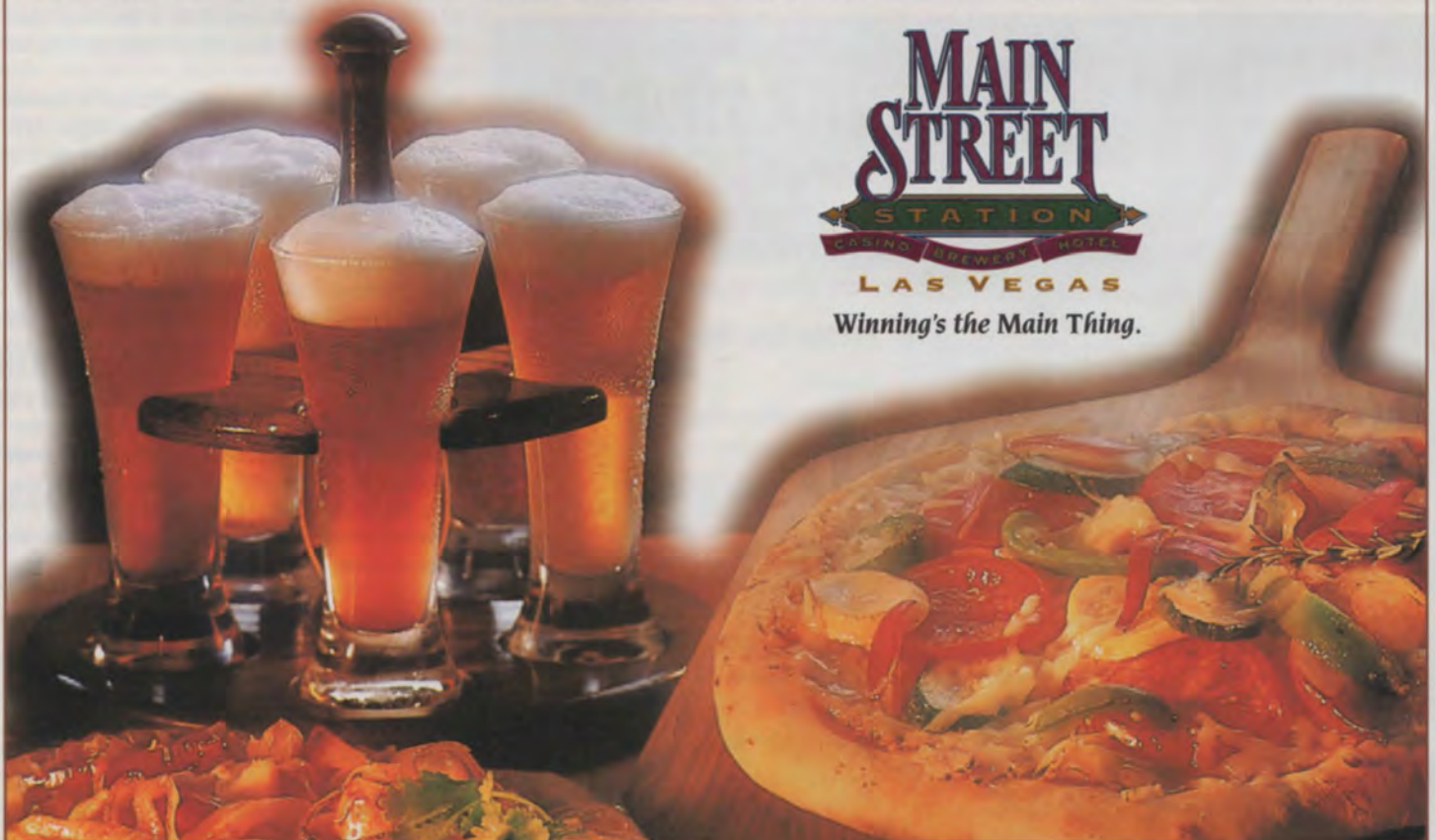
Silent Dinner Bell: The Tropicana will no longer serve dinner during performances of "Folies Bergere," and tickets will be sold on an assigned seating basis. The policy change offers an alternative show package that includes dinner in the Island Buffet for \$39.85.

Calling All Jackpots: Slot players can call a toll-free telephone number (888-448-2946) from anywhere in the United States to learn current jackpot totals on Megabucks and seven other progressive slot-network jackpots run by International Game Technology.

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wood-fired pizzas even an oyster bar. Come on in after the Fremont Street Experience Light & Sound Spectacular heck, come in before, we've got tons of free and easy parking. And, if it makes you feel any better bring your own bottle



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March 3-8 • Thomas and Mack Center, Las Vegas, 892-0711.

Professional Bowlers Assn. Invitational • March 9-15 • Showboat Lanes, Showboat Hotel, Las Vegas, 385-9123.

Spring Break Buggy Blast • March 13-18 • American Kite Flyers Assn. international competition of kite buggies (mini-land yachts powered by kites instead of sails). Ivanpah Dry Lake, 43 miles south of Las Vegas at Primm on the Nevada-California border, 220-4340.

Miller Lite King of the Beach Invitational Volleyball Tournament • March 14-16 • Pro players. Hard Rock Hotel, Las Vegas, 310-577-0775.

NASCAR Busch Grand National Series • March 16 • Las Vegas Motor Speedway, 644-4443.

Pro Boxing • March 22 • Card TBA. Outdoor Amphitheater, Harrah's Laughlin, 298-4600.

Men's Senior Baseball League Championship Games • March 24 • Cashman Field, Las Vegas, 564-7479.

America's Cup Landsailing Regatta • March 27-28 • 60 land yacht pilots and more than 100 boats compete. Ivanpah Dry Lake, 43 miles south of Las Vegas at Primm on the Nevada-California border, 220-4340.

Big League Weekend • March 28-31 • Major-league exhibition games. March 28, Oakland Athletics v. San Diego Padres and Seattle Mariners v. Boston Red Sox; March 29, Boston Red Sox v. San Diego Padres and New York Mets v. Seattle Mariners; March 30, San Diego Padres v. Oakland Athletics and New York Mets v. Boston Red Sox; March 31, New York Mets v. Boston Red Sox. Cashman Field, Las Vegas, 386-7200.

Las Vegas Stars • The Triple-A affiliate of the San Diego Padres plays April 3-6 v. Edmonton Trappers, April 8-11 v. Phoenix Firebirds, April 21-24 v. Vancouver Canadians, April 25-28 v. Tucson Toros. Cashman Field, Las Vegas, 386-7200.

Las Vegas Senior PGA Classic • April 24-27 • Tournament Players Club at The Canyons, Las Vegas, 242-3000.

GENERAL INTEREST

Kite Carnival • March 1 • Professionals and novices perform stunts, competitions, and workshops. Freedom Park, Las Vegas, 229-6729.

Ranger Guided Hikes: Lake Mead National Recreation Area • March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, and April 5 • Alan Bible Visitor Center, Boulder City, 293-8990.

Las Vegas Numismatic Society Coin Show • March 1-2 • Jackie Gaughan's Plaza Hotel, Las Vegas, 645-6180.

Friday Evening Lecture Series: Lake Mead National Recreation Area • March 7, 14, 21, and April 4 • Alan Bible Visitor Center, Boulder City, 293-8990.

Paradise Spring Fling • March 29 • Easter egg hunt, carnival games, rides. Paradise Park, Las Vegas, 455-7513.

COMING EVENTS

Cinco de Mayo • May 3-4 • Mesquite, 346-2553.

Black Canyon Canoe Trip • May 10-11 • Boulder City, 455-8289.

HellDorado Days and Rodeo • May 13-18 • Las Vegas, 870-1221.

Snow Mountain Powwow • May 23-25 • Las Vegas, 386-3926.

Mesquite Days • May 29-31 • 346-2902.

Laughlin River Days • May 30-31 and June 1 • Laughlin, 227-5245.

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The rock group Chicago brings its horn section to Caesars Palace March 7-9.

SHOWGUIDE

The Las Vegas area offers big-name entertainment and production shows at many clubs and hotels. The Broadway touring company of "42nd Street" plays the Aladdin, Harrah's Las Vegas has a new version of its magic production "Spellbound," Tony Bennett plays Caesars Palace, and Paula Poundstone appears at the Las Vegas Hilton. Showrooms often fill fast, so it is best to call ahead for show times and reservations.

BOULDER CITY

Gold Strike Inn • Between Boulder City and Hoover Dam, 293-5000 or 800-245-6380: Country-western entertainment.

HENDERSON

Eldorado • 564-1811: Margaritaville Lounge: Dance bands play Wed.-Sun.

Joker's Wild • 564-8100: Live entertainment Wed.-Sun.

JEAN

Gold Strike Hotel • 477-5000 or 800-634-1359: Bands play at the hotel off Interstate 15 (dark Tues.).

Nevada Landing • 387-5000 or 800-628-6682: Live entertainment (dark Wed.).

LAS VEGAS

Aladdin • 736-0240 or 736-0419: "Country Tonight," revue (dark Tues.); Sinbad Lounge: Entertainment nightly; Theatre for the Performing Arts: "42nd Street," April 1-6.

Arizona Charlie's • 258-5100: Naughty Lady Saloon: Live music Tues.-Sun.; Palace Grand Theatre: Concerts TBA.

Bally's • 739-4567 or 800-237-SHOW: Jubilee Theater: "Jubilee!" (dark Fri.); Celebrity Room: George Carlin, thru March 2; Paul Anka, March 6-11; Louie Anderson, March 13-26; George Carlin, March 27-April 9; Engle-

bert Humperdinck, April 10-16; Barbara Mandrell, April 17-30.

The Beach • 731-9298: Concerts.

Boomtown • 263-7777 or 800-588-7711: Rattlesnake Ricky's Saloon: Live entertainment 4pm-3am; Opera House Theatre: Monthly concerts TBA.

Boulder Station • 432-7777 or 800-683-7777: Railhead Saloon: Jerry Vale, March 1; Cornell Gunter's Coasters, March 4-9; Lil Elmo and the Cosmos, March 11-16; Sonny Turner, March 18-30; Chick Corea, March 22; Laughter Shocks improvisational group, Wednesdays; The Fab perform 6-8:30pm Fridays, thru March 28.

Caesars Palace • 731-7333 or 800-445-4544: Circus Maximus: Crosby, Stills, and Nash, thru March 2; Chicago, March 7-9, 14-16; Tim McGraw, March 20-23; Drew Carey, April 18-20; Tony Bennett, April 24-27; live bands play in the La Piazza Lounge, Olympic Lounge, and Cleopatra's Barge.

Circus Circus • 734-0410 or 800-444-CIRCUS: Free circus acts 11am to midnight.

Continental • 737-5555: Upstairs Silver Slipper Theater: Entertainment TBA.

Country Star American Music Grill • 740-8400 • Gospel music Sundays.

Debbie Reynolds Hollywood Hotel • 7-DEBBIE or 800-633-1777: Star Theatre: "The Debbie Reynolds Show" (dark Sat. and Sun.); "Kenny Kerr Show and His Women of Hollywood" (dark Sun.); Debbie's Deli Theatre: "The Michael La Rocca Show" (dark Sun.-Mon.)

Desert Inn • 733-4566 or 800-634-6909: Crystal Room: Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons/Brad Cummings, thru March 2; The Temptations, March 12-16; Rita Rudner/Mac King; The Golden Boys: Frankie Avalon, Fabian, and Bobby Rydell, April 18-20; Starlight Theatre: Closed thru May.

Excalibur • 597-7600: King Arthur's Arena: "King Arthur's Tournament," nightly; "An Evening in Vienna," starring the Royal Lipizzaner Stallions, 2pm daily (dark

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Fitzgeralds Holiday Inn • 388-2400 or 800-274-LUCK (U.S. outside Nevada): Don Cloe (dark Tues.), Ray Perez (dark Wed.-Thurs.).

Flamingo Hilton • 733-3333 or 800-221-7299: Flamingo Showroom: "The Great Radio City Spectacular" with the Rockettes (dark Fri.); Bugsy's Celebrity Theatre: "Forever Plaid," '50s musical revue (dark Mon.).

Four Queens • 385-4011 or 800-634-6045: Live entertainment Tues.-Sat. in the French Quarter Lounge.

Gold Coast • 367-7111 or 888-402-6278 (U.S. outside Nevada): East Lounge: Sorta Dixie Jazz Band, noon to 6pm Mon.-Fri.; bands play in the East and West lounges; Dance Hall and Saloon: Tropical Splash, Latin big band, Fri.-Sun.; disc jockey Larry Taylor, big band dancing, Sundays.

Golden Nugget • 386-8100: Theatre Ballroom: "Country Fever," look-alike variety revue (dark Fri.); entertainment nightly in the lounge.

Hard Rock Hotel • 226-4650 or 800-HARD-ROCK: The Joint: Rock concerts.

Harrah's Las Vegas • 369-5222 or 800-392-9002: Commanders Theatre: "Spellbound '97"; "The Improv at Harrah's" (dark Mon.); entertainment nightly in the Court of Two Gators Lounge.

Holiday Inn Boardwalk • 735-2400: Lighthouse Showroom: The Unknown Comic (dark Mon.); G. David Howard indf. (dark Mon.); "Visions of Elvis With Michael Conti" (dark Mon.); Mr. Dixie Dooley's Magic Show, 4pm Tues.-Sun.; "Musical Madness," 2 and 1:30pm Tues.-Sun; Golden Motion, acrobats perform daily about every hour.

Imperial Palace • 794-3261: Imperial Theatre: "Legends in Concert" (dark Sun.).

Jackie Gaughan's Plaza • 386-2110 or 800-634-6575 (U.S. outside Nevada): Plaza Showroom: "Xposed," adult revue (dark Fri.).

King 8 Hotel • 736-8988: Bands play nightly except Mon.

Lady Luck • 477-3000 or 800-523-9582: Entertainment TBA.

Las Vegas Hilton • 732-5755 or 800-222-5361: Starlight Theatre: Andrew Lloyd Webber's "Starlight Express" (dark Fri.); also appearing: Paula Poundstone, April 11.

Luxor • 262-4000 or 800-288-1000: Nefertiti's Lounge: Tommy Deering, indf. (dark Mon.).

Maxim • 731-4300 or 800-634-6987: "Comedy Max," comedy nightclub; "Nick Lewin's Comedy Magic," 1 and 3pm (dark Sun.); entertainment in Muldoon's Room.

MGM Grand • 891-7777 or 800-929-1111: Grand Theatre: "EFX" (dark Thurs.); Hollywood Theatre: TBA; Center Stage Cabaret: "Catch a Rising Star," comedy-variety club; bands play during Late Night after the comedy; Flying Monkey Bar: Bobby Dickerson (dark Mon.), Christy Bryant (dark Sun.), Chuy's Company, Sundays; entertainment in the Santa Fe Lounge.

The Mirage • 792-7777: Siegfried and Roy Theatre: "Siegfried and Roy," magic spectacular (dark Wed.-Thurs.); bands play in the Lagoon Saloon and Baccarat Bar (piano bar).

Monte Carlo • 730-7777: Lance Burton Theatre: "Lance Burton, Master Magician" (dark Sun.-Mon.).

Motown Cafe • 740-6440: Live entertainment every 20 minutes daily noon-11pm, New York-New York.

PREVIEW

Smooth Sailing



Desert sailors launch their craft at Primm during the annual America's Cup Landsailing Regatta.

Southern Nevada is one of the few places in the world where you can sail without the benefit of water. On March 27-28, land yachts—those odd-looking sailboats on wheels—and their pilots will converge on Ivanpah Dry Lake, 43 miles south of Las Vegas at Primm, for the America's Cup Landsailing Regatta.

Scott Dyer of BFK Sports of Las Vegas says the event often causes travelers on nearby Interstate 15 to do double-takes when they catch sight of the bright sails zipping across the dry lake bed. "It looks like a bunch of sailboats out there, like a marina," he says. "There's even a mirage."

Landsailors race in different vehicle

classes at speeds of up to 80 mph, which makes it an exciting event for spectators, too. Visitors will find a public area but no chairs, so Dyer recommends bringing your own chair as well as refreshments. Spectators also can watch landsailors compete during the week prior to the main regatta, and on "No Wind Day," March 29, Dyer brings demo land yachts that visitors can try out for free. In another, more extreme wind sport, kite buggies, which are mini-land yachts powered by kites instead of sails, will compete during the Spring Break Buggy Blast on March 13-18. Call BFK Sports of Las Vegas, 702-220-4340, for information.

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New York-New York • 740-6969 or 800-675-3267: "Madhattan," opens May 1.

The Orleans • 800-ORLEANS: "Gone Country," musical revue.

Palace Station • 367-2411 or 800-634-3101: Phlash, thru March 2; Wildlife, March 4-9; Cornell Gunter's Coasters, March 11-16; Jonathon and Music Magic, March 18-30.

Rio Suite • 252-7776 or 800-PLAYRIO (U.S. and Canada): Copacabana Entertainment Complex: Impressionist Danny Gans (dark Mon.-Tues.); "Masquerade Show in the Sky," carnival-themed parade above the casino, every two hours beginning at noon Sun.-Tues. and 1pm Thurs.-Sat. (dark Wed.); Ipanema Piano Bar: Steven Boyd, indf. (dark Mon.); Shutters Piano Bar: Ghalib Ghallab, indf. (dark Mon.-Tues.); Club Rio: Dance-video nightclub, Wed.-Sat.; Mambo's Lounge: Entertainment nightly except Sun.

Riviera • 794-9301 (477-5274 Splash): Splash Theatre: Jeff Kutash's "Splash II, Voyage of a Lifetime," nightly; Grand Ballroom: Bobby Vinton, March 7-8; Mardi Gras Showroom (third floor): "An Evening at La Cage," celebrity female impersonators revue (dark Tues.); Mardi Gras Showroom (second floor): "Crazy Girls: Sensuality and Passion," adult revue (dark Mon.); "Bottoms Up," burlesque-style revue, 2 and 4pm (dark Sat. and Sun.); "Riviera Comedy Club."

Sahara • 737-2515: Congo Theatre: TBA; Casbar Lounge: TBA.

Sam's Town • 454-8048: Western Dance Hall: Bands play 9pm-3am; Roxy's Saloon: Entertainment noon-5am.

San Remo • 597-6028 or 800-522-7366: Parisian Cabaret: "Showgirls of Magic," 8 and 10:30pm (late show for adults only); bands play in the Bon Chance Lounge.

Santa Fe • 658-4900: Live entertainment Tues.-Sat. in the Ice Lounge.

Showboat • 383-9232 or 800-826-2800: Mardi Gras Room: Bobby Morris' New Orleans Jazz Band, indf. (dark Mon.).

Stardust • 732-6111 or 800-824-6033: Stardust Theatre: "Enter the Night," production show (dark Fri.); bands play in the Starlight Lounge.

Stratosphere • 382-4446 or 800-99-TOWER: Broadway Showroom: "American Superstars," impersonator revue (dark Thurs.); "Viva Las Vegas," musical revue 2 and 4pm daily except Sun.; Images Cabaret: show bands play nightly; L'Isles Bar: Caribbean and Reggae music.

Treasure Island • 894-7111: Cirque du Soleil in "Mystère" (dark Mon.-Tues. and April 16-17); entertainment nightly in Captain Morgan's piano bar and the Doubloon Saloon.

Tropicana • 739-2411: Tiffany Theatre: "Folies Bergere" (dark Thurs.); Weekend headliners TBA; Comedy Stop Theatre: "The Comedy Stop"; "Wings of the World with Joe Krathwohl," free bird show, 11am, 1pm, and 3pm daily except Tues.; bands play in the Tropics Lounge.

Vacation Village • 897-1700 or 800-658-5000: Koo Koo's Lounge: Entertainment and dancing Tues.-Sun.

Westward Ho • 731-2900: "Hurray America," starring Robbie Howard and Red Hot Mama and the Goodtime Jazz Band (dark Sat.).

LAUGHLIN

Avi Casino • 535-5555.

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blers, strolling musicians in the Colorado River casino.

Edgewater • 298-2453: Kokopelli's Lounge: Wild at Heart, thru March 2; Melissa Spangler, March 4-16; Gigolo, March 18-April 2; Ricky and the Redstreaks, April 3-5; Billy Erickson, April 8-14 and 18-23; Ricky and the Redstreaks, April 24-26; The Casualties, April 29-May 11.

Flamingo Hilton Laughlin • 298-5028 or 800-435-8469: Outdoor Amphitheater: Trisha Yearwood, April 19; Doobie Brothers, April 25-26.

Gold River • 298-2242 or 800-835-7904: Cody's Saloon: Entertainment Tues.-Sun.

Golden Nugget Laughlin • 298-7111 or 800-237-1739: Tarzan's Lounge: Entertainment Tues.-Sun.

Harrah's Laughlin • 298-4600 or 800-447-8700: Fiesta Showroom: "The Great American Wild Wild West Show," musical revue (dark Thurs.); "Hot Salsa," production show (dark Thurs.); Outdoor Amphitheater: Concert, performer TBA, April 19; Club La Bamba: Entertainment nightly except Mon.

Ramada Express • 298-4200 or 800-243-6846: Pavilion Theater: Swing Sisters, March 1-5 and 17-26, 31; Four Freshmen, March 8-11; Caboose Lounge: Entertainment featuring groups such as Shake, Rattle 'n Roll and Inside Out.

Regency • 298-2439.

Riverside Resort • 298-2535 or 800-227-3849 ext. 616: Don's Celebrity Theatre: Eddy Arnold, thru March 3; Waylon Jennings, March 10-15; Carl Hurley, March 16-18.

MESQUITE

Players Island • 346-7529 or 800-459-7529: Bali Hai Theater: Entertainment TBA; bands play nightly in the Cascades Lounge.



This 40-foot neon cowboy was recently mounted at the Strip entrance to the Fremont Street Experience. The vintage sign once greeted visitors at the Hacienda Hotel, which was demolished New Year's Eve. The sign represents the first flicker of the Las Vegas Neon Museum.

Si Redd's Oasis • 346-5232 or 800-621-0187: Entertainment nightly in the Cabaret Lounge.

Virgin River • 346-7777 or 800-346-7721: Entertainment TBA.

NORTH LAS VEGAS

Fiesta Casino • 631-7000: Entertainment in the Cantina Bar; Mariachis, 10:30am-2:30pm Sun.

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Jerry's Nugget • 399-3000: Royal Street Lounge: Dance bands play Fri.-Sun.

Texas Station • 631-1000: Music is nightly in the Armadillo Honky Tonk Lounge.

PRIMM (STATE LINE)

Buffalo Bill's Resort • 382-1111 or 800-FUN-STOP: Star of the Desert Arena: TBA; Carolee's Theatre: "Carolee's Comedy Club," Fri.-Sun.

Primadonna • 382-1212 or 800-826-4471.

Whiskey Pete's • 382-1212 or 800-367-7383.

GAMING TOURNAMENTS

Bingo • March 3-4 • Showboat, 385-9123.

Slots • March 3-7 • Harrah's Laughlin, 298-4600.

Blackjack • March 7-10 • Rio Suites Hotel, 252-7777.

Keno • March 16-19 • Caesars Palace, 731-7485.

Slots • March 20-23 • MGM Grand, 800-929-9410.

Slots • March 23-25 • Showboat, 385-9123.

Slots • March 23-26 • Aladdin, 800-367-2850.

Slots • March 24-28 • Harrah's Laughlin, 298-4600.

Slots • April 6-8 • Rio Suites Hotel, 252-7777.

Slots • April 13-16 • MGM Grand, 800-929-9410.

Slots • April 15-17 • Harrah's Laughlin, 800-289-8777.

Slots • April 20-23 • Caesars Palace, 731-7485.

Bingo • April 27-29 • Showboat, 385-9123.

Slots • April 27-30 • Aladdin, 800-367-2850.

ATTRACTIONS, TOURS & MUSEUMS

BOULDER CITY

Black Canyon River Raft Tours • 293-3776.

Boulder City Historic District • Walking tour. 1305 Arizona, 293-2034.

Boulder City/Hoover Dam Museum • 444 Hotel Plaza, 294-1988.

Hoover Dam and Visitor Center • Tours, theaters, exhibit hall. U.S. 93, 293-8367 or 293-8000.

Lake Mead Cruises/Desert Princess • 293-6180.

Lake Mead National Recreation Area • 601 Nevada Hwy., 293-8906.

HENDERSON

Clark County Heritage Museum • 1830 S. Boulder Hwy., 455-7955.

Cranberry World West • Tours of Ocean Spray facility. 1301 American Pacific Dr., 566-7160.

Ethel M Chocolate Factory and Cactus Garden • Tours. 2 Cactus Garden Dr., 458-8864.

Kidd Marshmallow Factory • Tours. 8203 Gibson Rd., 564-3878 or 800-234-2383.

Ron Lee's World of Clowns • Free factory tours. 330 Carousel Pkwy., 434-1700.

LAS VEGAS

A.J. Hackett Bungy • 810 Circus Circus, 385-4321.

Debbie Reynolds Hollywood Movie Museum • Tours, 733-2334.

Excalibur • Dragon battle in front moat, 597-7777.

Floyd Lamb State Park • Picnicking and fishing. 9200 Tule Springs Rd., 486-5413.

Fremont Street Experience • Light show on the hour from dusk to 11pm. Downtown Las Vegas, 678-5600.

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Nevada Magazine



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Grand Slam Canyon • Adventure park with rides and attractions. Next to Circus Circus, 800-444-CIRCUS.
Guinness World of Records Museum • 2780 Las Vegas Blvd. S., 792-3766.
Holy Cow! Casino • Brewery tours, 732-2697.
Imperial Palace Auto Collection • 794-3174.
Jean Weinberger Museum of Jewish Culture • 3909 S. Maryland Parkway, Suite 400, 732-0556.
Las Vegas Art Museum • 6130 W. Charleston Blvd., 647-4300.
Las Vegas Motor Speedway • 7000 Las Vegas Blvd. North, 644-4444.
Las Vegas Museum of Natural History • 900 Las Vegas Blvd. N., 384-DINO.
Liberace Museum • Pianos and memorabilia. 1775 E. Tropicana, 798-5595.
Lied Discovery Children's Museum • 833 Las Vegas Blvd. N., 382-KIDS.
Luxor • Motion rides and IMAX Theatre, 262-4000.
Marjorie Barrick Museum of Natural History • 4505 Maryland Pkwy., UNLV, 895-3381.
MGM Grand Adventures • Theme park, 891-7979.
Mirage • Dolphins, white tigers, volcano, 791-7111.
Mount Charleston • Recreation info., 222-1597.
Nevada State Museum and Historical Society • Lorenzi Park, 700 Twin Lakes Dr., 486-5205.
New York-New York • Roller coaster, 740-6969.
Old Las Vegas Mormon Fort Historic State Park • 908 Las Vegas Blvd. N. at Washington, 486-3511.
Omnimax Theatre • Caesars Palace, 731-7900.
Red Rock Canyon Natl. Conservation Area • 363-1921.
Southern Nevada Zoological Park • 1775 N. Rancho Dr., 648-5955.
Spring Mountain Ranch State Park • Red Rock Canyon, 875-4141.
Sam's Town • Water and laser show, 456-7777.
Treasure Island • Pirate battle, 894-7111.
Wet 'n Wild • 2601 Las Vegas Blvd. S., 734-0088.

LAUGHLIN

Big Bend of the Colorado State Recreation Area • Four miles south of Laughlin, 298-1859.
Lake Mohave Resort • 602-754-3245.
Nevada Gold Museum • Flamingo Hilton Laughlin, 800-FLAMINGO.
Riverside Resort • Classic cars, 298-2535.

MESQUITE

Desert Valley Museum • 346-5705.
Si Redd's Oasis • Gun club, hayrides, 346-5232.

NORTH LAS VEGAS

The Planetarium • Community College of Southern Nevada, 651-5059.

OVERTON

Lost City Museum of Archaeology • Pueblo culture, 397-2193.
Valley of Fire State Park • 397-2088.

SEARCHLIGHT

Searchlight Gallery • 297-1540.
Searchlight Historic Museum • 455-7955.

PRIMM (STATE LINE)

Buffalo Bill's • Roller coaster and water-flume ride, 382-1111.

A Reminder:

To confirm dates and times, please use the phone number listed with each event. Nevada's area code is 702. For hotels' toll-free numbers, call 800-555-1212.

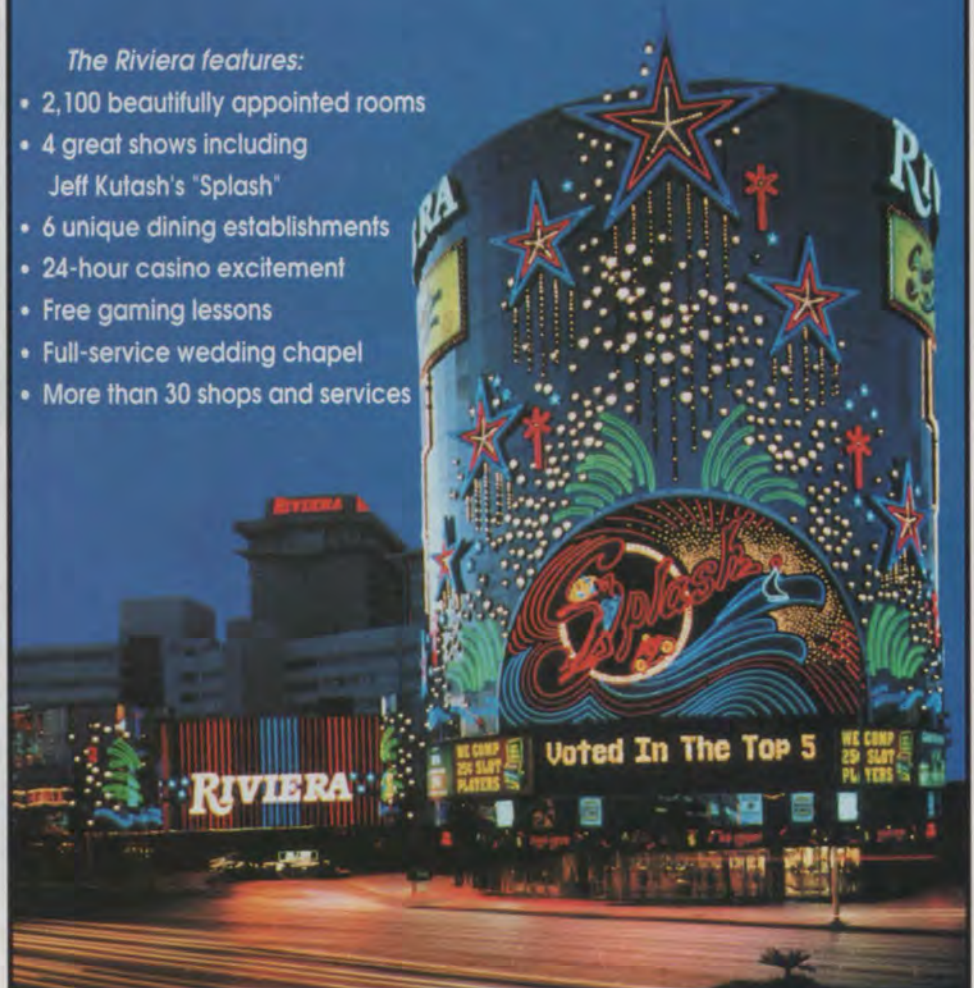
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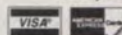
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Reno-Tahoe Territory



Gourmet cooks in Virginia City turn lamb testicles into a grand festival at the Delta Saloon's International Mountain Oyster Fry, which this year falls on the Ides of March.

EVENTS

The Reno-Lake Tahoe area offers an abundance of skiing and cultural events during March and April. You can join Snowfest's winter carnival activities at Lake Tahoe or see Luciano Pavarotti perform in Reno. The following listing is divided into areas of interest. Be sure to call ahead to confirm dates and times. Nevada's area code is 702.

March & April

SKI EVENTS & FESTIVALS

Snowfest • Feb. 28-March 9 • Parties, races, parade, dances, concerts, and a Polar Bear swim in Lake Tahoe during annual winter carnival of North Lake Tahoe. 916-583-7625.

Ride With the Pros • March 1 • Snowboard with your favorite professional. Ski Homewood, 916-525-2992.

Snowfest Race • March 2 • Fun race. Sugar Bowl Ski Resort, 916-426-9000.

The Great Ski Race • March 2 • 30K cross-country race. Lakeview Cross-Country Ski Area, 916-583-9353.

Northern California Special Olympics Winter Games • March 3-6 • Kirkwood Ski Area, 209-258-6000.

United States Collegiate Skiing Championships • March 3-8 • Diamond Peak Ski Resort, 832-1177.

Celebrity Ski Challenge • March 7-8 • Benefits Special Olympics. Kirkwood Ski Area, 209-268-6000.

Dannon Winterfest • March 8 • Fun race, music. Sugar Bowl Ski Resort, 916-426-9000.

Full Moon BBQ and Tour • March 8 • 5K guided tour and barbecue-chicken dinner. Northstar Cross-Country Center, 916-562-2475.

Tahoe Snowboard Series Finals • March 9 • Mount Rose Ski Resort, 849-0704.

All Mountain Extremes • March 10-14 • World's best extreme skiers compete. Squaw Valley USA, 916-583-6985.

Seniors Silver Streak Week • March 10-15 • Discount for seniors 50 and older, fun race on Saturday. Royal Gorge Cross-Country Ski Resort, 916-426-3871.

Masters Ski Races • March 15-16 • Kirkwood Ski Area, 209-258-6000.

Snowshoe Race • March 16 • Royal Gorge Cross-Country Ski Resort, 916-426-3871.

St. Patrick's Day Fun Race • March 17 • Northstar Ski Resort, 916-562-3577.

St. Patrick's Party • March 17 • Diamond Peak Cross-Country Ski Area, 832-1177.

Sprint Bumps and Jumps Challenge Finals • March 21-22 • Heavenly Ski Resort, 586-7000.

Gold Rush 50K and Silver Rush 30K Ski Races • March 23 • USSA Men's and Women's National Championship. Royal Gorge Cross-Country Ski Resort, 916-426-3871.

Gourmet Cross-Country Tour • March 23 • Guided 18K ski tour concluding with gourmet lunch served outdoors. Northstar Cross-Country Center, 916-562-2475.

Granny Goose Days of Spring • March 28-30 • Pond skimming contest, snowboard competition, snowshoe race, live music. Northstar Ski Resort, 916-562-3577.

Easter Egg Hunt • March 29 • Ski Homewood, 916-525-2992.

Children's Easter Race • March 30 • Children ages four-12 compete in a fun race. Alpine Meadows Ski Resort, 916-583-4232.

Easter Bunny Jubilee • March 30 • Easter egg hunt. Royal Gorge Cross-Country Ski Resort, 916-426-3871.

Blade Running '97 • March 31-April 6 • Parachutists compete over the peaks of Squaw Valley. Squaw Valley USA, 916-583-6985.

Ice Tee Challenge • April 13 • Competitors take two runs on a slalom course and then play a round of golf. Heavenly Ski Resort, 586-7000.

Top Gun Revival • April 19 • Amateur mogul competi-

Raye Rides the High Country

Collin Raye moves from Reno lounges to the big rooms. **By Gaye Delaplane**

The record charts might indicate that country-western star Collin Raye's rise to the top has been meteoric, but those familiar with the Nevada lounge scene know better. He has paid his dues, spending years developing his song list, honing his stage presence, and attracting a following.

Raye, who performs March 27-28 at John Ascuaga's Nugget in Sparks, is one of only eight country acts to have his first four albums go platinum (one million sold). He has recorded seven number-one country singles, including "Love Me" and "That Was a River," and six more top-10 songs.

The singer had his first band in Texarkana, Arkansas, when he was 15. "I've played every kind of beer joint imaginable," says Raye, who will soon release an album of his greatest hits. "Sometimes I even doubled as the bouncer."

Raye, 36, was already a seasoned musician when he signed his first record contract seven years ago. Nevada showgoers will remember him as the lead singer of the Wray Brothers (Raye is a play on his given name, Wray), who from 1983 to 1990 played the Peppermill properties in Mesquite, Wendover, Sparks, and Reno. His brother Scott, a guitarist and songwriter, and three other musicians backed Collin's vocals.

During those years Willis Allen, entertainment director at Reno's Peppermill, worked with Raye—then known as Bubba Wray. Allen recalled that despite Collin's tender age, he was always a professional. "He stood out above most entertainers on the circuit," Allen says, noting that performing at the Peppermill meant working six nights a week and four sets a night. "He always looked good, sang well, and knew how to handle himself on stage. Besides that, he was on time, well-rehearsed, and had a great song selection list. Raye was a real sweetheart."

At the time, Raye was dealing with personal problems. His wife, Connie, went into a coma due to complications during her second pregnancy. She recovered but had to learn to walk and talk again. The baby, Jacob, was born with cerebral palsy and wasn't expected to live.

"If it hadn't been for the program and staff at St. Mary's Hospital in Reno, Jacob wouldn't have made it," Raye says. "We're Catholic, and at one point the priest advised us to have Jacob blessed, and we did." Miraculously, Jacob lived. Now he's 11 and doing fine. "When he runs you can tell he's got a little problem, but he can do most everything."

In 1990, Scott Wray decided to leave the band and return

to Texas, where the brothers were raised. The Reno-based Scott Dean management company, which had arranged the Wrays' Reno bookings, continued to represent Collin and helped him make connections in Nashville.

In Nashville, Raye struck gold—and platinum. The performer has produced a number-one single each year since 1991, including "In This Life," which became a popular wedding song in 1992, and "Not That Different."

To relieve the pressures of recording and concert work, Raye spends time with his children. Now divorced, he lives in Greenville, Texas, near his ex-wife and their two children; daughter Brittany is 13. "We are partners in raising the kids,"



Country singer Collin Raye says, "I want to carve out a career that will mean something musically in 20 years."

he says. "She has them, and when I'm not on the road, I have them. I spend as much time as possible there. Childhood goes away, and I don't want to miss it."

Raye's appearance at John Ascuaga's Nugget follows Reno performances at the Reno Hilton in 1993 and the Silver Legacy two years ago.

"It's really fun to come back to Nevada," he says. "I see old friends, and I have a little time to enjoy it."

Show Notes

Collin Raye performs in the Rose Ballroom at John Ascuaga's Nugget in Sparks on March 27-28. Show times are 8 p.m. Call 702-356-3304 or 800-648-1177 for information.

Gaye Delaplane is an entertainment writer for the Reno Gazette-Journal.

Reno-Taboo

tion. Heavenly Ski Resort, 586-7000.

Wayne Wong World Hot Dog Skiing Festival • April 20 • Mogul competition in '70s attire. Alpine Meadows Ski Resort, 916-583-4232.

Golf Tourney and Ultimate Spring Ski Bash • April 27 • Golf tournament on snow, live music, and deck party. Alpine Meadows Ski Resort, 916-583-4232.

FESTIVALS

Mother Earth's Awakening Powwow • March 14-16 • Traditional dances, music, food, crafts. Stewart Indian Cultural Center, Carson City, 882-1808.

St. Patrick's Day Celebration • March 14-17 • Bagpipe music, party, Reno Arch turns green. Fitzgeralds, 785-3350.

Delta Saloon International Mountain Oyster Fry • March 15 • Unusual culinary competition. Delta Saloon, Virginia City, 847-0311.

Sertoma Chili ICS Cookoff • April 19 • Winner goes to the semi-finals of the International Chili Society World Championship. Topaz Lodge, Topaz, 266-3468.

RSVP Spring Fun Fair • April 30-May 4 • Carnival, food, entertainment. Mills Park, Carson City, 687-4680.



Luciano Pavarotti presents operatic classics during his April 26th engagement in Reno.

PERFORMANCES

"Measure for Measure" • Feb. 28-March 1, 5-9 • Shakespeare's comedy. Redfield Proscenium Theatre,

Reno Philharmonic • March 18 • Raymond Harvey, guest conductor. Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, Reno, 323-6393.

"Thirteen Clocks" • March 19-22 • Children's Theatre

U of N, Reno, 784-6847.

"The Compleat Works of Shakespeare (Abridged)" • March 1, 7-8, and 14-15 • Comedy. Brewery Arts Center, Carson City, 883-1976.

"Grease" • March 3-5 • Touring Broadway company. Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, Reno, 686-6610.

"Squaw Dance" • March 5 • Play by Mary Bennett. Brewery Arts Center, Carson City, 883-1976.

Reno Chamber Orchestra • March 8 • Catherine Manoukian, violin soloist. Nightingale Concert Hall, U of N, Reno, 348-9413.

"Beauty Loo and the Country Beast" • March 8 • Play performed by Missoula Children's Theatre. Incline High School, Incline Village, 916-546-4602.

Cowboy Jubilee and Poetry • March 8 • Carson City Community Center, 883-1532.

Casual Classics Concert • March 9 • Nightingale Concert Hall, U of N, Reno, 348-9413.

Ying Quartet • March 13 • Performing Arts Series. Nightingale Concert Hall, U of N, Reno, 784-6847.



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presentation. Redfield Proscenium Theatre, U of N, Reno, 784-6847.

Mary Ellen Pleasant Interviewed by Mark Twain • March 22 • Two characters with checkered pasts presented in mocking interview style. Brewery Arts Center, Carson City, 883-1976.

Reno Chamber Orchestra Concert • April 5 • Nightingale Concert Hall, U of N, Reno, 3348-9413.

Jim Jackson • April 9 • Mime, theater, comedy. Brewery Arts Center, Carson City, 883-1976.

"The Mask Messengers" • April 10 • Faustwork Mask Theater. High School, Virginia City, 847-9ART.

Clan na Gael in Concert • April 11 • Celtic music. CVIC Hall, Gardnerville, 265-6564.

Reno Philharmonic • April 15 • Tribute to Brahms. Pi-

Casual Classics Concert • April 27 • Nightingale Concert Hall, U of N, Reno, 784-6145.

EXHIBITS

Issues and Landscape of Israel • Thru March 2 • Two exhibits, New Art From an Ancient Land and The War Trilogy: Images of Israel by Avi Holtzman. Nevada Museum of Art, Reno, 329-3333.

Royal Elegance • Thru March 31 • Rolls-Royce exhibit. National Automobile Museum, Reno, 333-9300.

Great Basin Basketmakers • Thru April 11 • Traditional and contemporary basketry. Brewery Arts Center, Carson City, 883-1976.

Blackhawk Automotive Art Exhibit • Thru Aug. 11 • Women and the automobile. National Automobile Museum, Reno, 333-9300.

Comics, Characters, and Cartoons—Circa 1930s • Thru Oct. • Display of more than 100 dolls, includes such characters as Charlie McCarthy, Little Orphan Annie, and Popeye. Children's Museum of Northern Nevada, Carson City, 884-2226.

Three Chartered Views • March 2-30 • Paintings by Corliss Bonds, Mary Chadwell, and Mahree Roberts. Artists Co-Op Gallery, Reno, 825-9293.

Art Exhibit • March 3-April 30 • Paintings by Karen Alcorn and fine-art photography by Sallie Pryce, 5pm reception on March 4. Nevada State Library and Archives, Carson City, 687-5160.

Ceramic Sculpture by Stephen de Staebler and Danae Mattes • March 7-27 • Shepard Gallery, U of N, Reno, 784-6658.

Horse Stampede • March 17-April 11 • Horse-themed pastels by Minden artist Jan Rollenhagen. Western Nevada Community College, Carson City, 267-4347.

Oil and Water Mix • April 2-30 • Paintings by Harriet Whalde and Sally Groth. Artists Co-Op Gallery, Reno, 825-7038.

Special Collection • April 21-Sept. 22 • Exhibit of special interest cars. National Automobile Museum, Reno, 333-9300.

GENERAL INTEREST

Craftfaire • March 1-2 and April 5-6 • Roberts House Museum and Park, Carson City, 887-2174.

Nevada Women's History Conference • March 2-3 • Lectures, exhibits. Sands Regency, Reno, 322-7754.

Physician's Spouses Annual Rummage Sale • March 8 • Livestock Events Center, Reno, 829-1303.

Casino Night • March 15 • St. Patrick's Day theme. Dayton Community Center, 241-7077.

East Fork Gallery Spring Reception • March 16 • Arts and crafts show. Carson Valley Museum and Cultural Center, Gardnerville, 782-7629.

Academy Awards Party • April 7 • Black-tie party to watch Academy Awards. Planet Hollywood, Reno, 323-7837.

Eagle Valley Muzzleloaders Spring Rendezvous • April 18-20 • Call for directions to site, Carson City, 887-1221 or 884-4542.

Antique Show and Sale • April 19-20 • Walley's Hot Springs, Genoa, 782-4951.

SPORTS & COMPETITIONS

University of Nevada Women's Basketball • The women's team plays March 1 v. Cal State Fullerton. Lawlor Events Center, U of N, Reno, 348-PACK.



Sandy and Danny rock out March 3-5 in the touring Broadway show "Grease" at Reno's Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts.

ioneer Center for the Performing Arts, Reno, 323-6393.

Caribbean Jazz Project • April 18 • Concert. Lawlor Events Center, U of N, Reno, 784-4046.

"Dandelion Wine" • April 18-19, 25-26, and 30 • Play by Ray Bradbury. Redfield Proscenium Theatre, U of N, Reno, 784-6847.

"Come Back to the Five and Dime Jimmy Dean, Jimmy Dean" • April 18-May 2 • Play performed Fridays and Saturdays. Brewery Arts Center, Carson City, 883-1976.

"Don Quixote" • April 19-20 • Nevada Festival Ballet. Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, Reno, 785-7915.

"Feather on the Sea" • April 23 • Play. Brewery Arts Center, Carson City, 883-1976.

Lewitzky Dance Company • April 23 • Arts in the Schools performance. Cal-Neva Celebrity Showroom, Crystal Bay, 916-546-4602.

Luciano Pavarotti • April 26 • Famed tenor in concert. Lawlor Events Center, U of N, Reno, 784-4444.

Carson City Chamber Orchestra • April 27 • Carson City Community Center, 883-4154.

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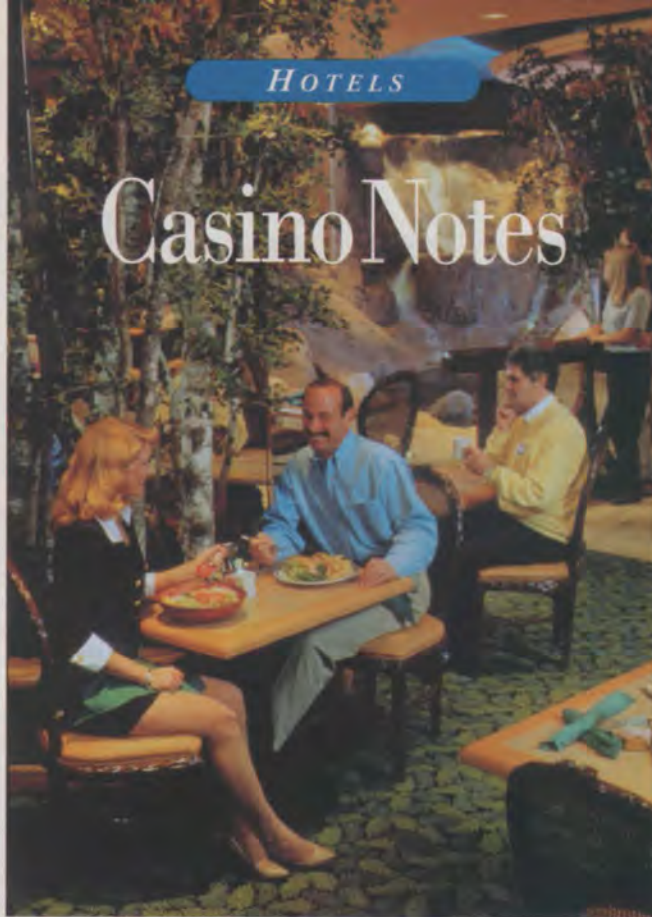
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HOTELS

Casino Notes



The American River Cafe has a Sierra atmosphere inside Harrah's Lake Tahoe.

Steak and Brew: Beer prices at the Eldorado's Brew Brothers microbrewery have been dropped from \$3.25 to \$2.25. At the same time, the pub's menu has been expanded to include entrees such as shrimp scampi, grilled salmon, and New York steak.

Euro-Reno: The Eldorado recently opened the Bistro Roxy near its Fountain of Fortune. The bistro has seven European-style exterior and interior architectures such as a wine cellar, bakery, and Parisian atrium bar. Menu items include freshly baked goods, salads, sandwiches, and wood-fired-oven prepared entrees.

Fast Foods: The Flamingo Hilton Reno has remodeled its food court to include Pizza Hut Express and Izzy's Deli. Pizza Hut specializes in pan pizza and Buffalo wings, while Izzy's is a New York-style deli with authentic overstuffed sandwiches.

A River Runs Through It: The American River Cafe offers riverside dining inside Harrah's Lake Tahoe. The new eatery features a river and two waterfalls that flow through the restaurant and is phase one of a \$9.2-million hotel renovation.

One-Stop Betting: Harveys at Stateline has streamlined its race and sports book with the installation of a one-stop system

that allows bettors to wager or collect winnings at any of a dozen stations. The new Auto-Tote pari-mutuel system links Harveys, by computer, to more than 40 race tracks nationwide, giving horse-racing fans improved service.

Changing Skyline: John Ascuaga's Nugget in Sparks cut the ribbon on its new \$80-million West Tower on New Year's Eve. Jay Leno, Wayne Newton, and Red Skelton joined hotel owner John Ascuaga for the festivities. The expansion includes 802 rooms and suites, bringing the Nugget's total to 1,600.

On the Town: Dance fans can fox trot or Boot Scootin' Boogie the night away at Trader Dick's Lounge in John Ascuaga's Nugget in Sparks. From 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. on Fridays and Saturdays, disc jockey Larry Williams plays music ranging from country and pop to ballroom.

Keno Anyone? The Silver Legacy in downtown Reno recently opened a new keno lounge on its main casino floor. The lounge can accommodate up to 50 players and includes Reno's largest keno board (eight by 11 feet), Queen Anne-style chairs, and cherrywood accents. Previously, keno was offered only on the mezzanine level and in the Sweetwater Cafe and Victorian Buffet.

Reno-Tahoe

University of Nevada Men's Basketball • The Wolf Pack plays March 1 v. New Mexico State. Lawlor Events Center, U of N, Reno, 348-PACK.

Sugar Ray Leonard v. Hector Camacho • March 1 • Closed-circuit boxing. Grand Ballroom, Ormsby House, Carson City, 882-1890.

Reno Renegades Pro Hockey • The Renegades play March 1 and March 15 v. San Diego Gulls, March 16 v. Fresno Falcons, March 23 v. San Diego Gulls. Reno-Sparks Convention Center, 828-3400.

Big West Conference Women's Basketball Tournament • March 5-9 • Lawlor Events Center, U of N, Reno, 784-6900.

Big West Conference Men's Basketball Tournament • March 7-9 • Lawlor Events Center, U of N, Reno, 348-PACK.

Capitol City Roughstuff • March 21 • Live amateur boxing. Grand Ballroom, Ormsby House, Carson City, 882-1890.

NCAA Championship Basketball Game • March 31 • Casino party. Ormsby House, Carson City, 881-1890.

Fly Fishing Festival • April 13 • Demonstrations, classes, and exhibits. Carson Valley Inn, Minden, 782-4734.

COMING EVENTS

Fiesta Nevada • May 2-4 • Sparks, 353-2284.

Pyramid Lake Veterans Powwow • May 16-18 • Pyramid Lake Indian Reservation, Nixon, 574-0110.

Snowshoe Thompson Festival • May 31-June 1. Genoa, 265-2889.

Reno West Coast Wine Tasting • June 6 • 827-7711.

Celebrate the River • June 6-8 • Reno, 265-5281.

Carson City Rendezvous • June 6-8 • 884-7711.

Night Curves • June 6-8 • Reno, 329-7469.

Father's Day Arts and Crafts Powwow • June 13-15 • Carson City, 882-1808.

Reno Rodeo • June 21-29 • 329-3877.

Karson Kreuzers' Run What-Cha-Brung • June 27-29 • Carson City, 687-5531.

Concours d' Elegance • Aug. 8-10 • Carnelian Bay, Lake Tahoe, 916-581-4700.

SHOWGUIDE

The Reno-Lake Tahoe area offers production shows and big-name entertainment. The Reno Hilton opens a new production show, "Aireus," and Tim McGraw performs at Caesars Tahoe. It's always wise to call ahead for show times and reservations. Nevada's area code is 702.

RENO/SPARKS

Atlantis • 825-4700 or 800-723-6500: Center Stage Cabaret: Heart and Soul, March 4-16; Steppen Stonz, March 4-23; Impact, March 18-30; Edy Gainer and DeZire, March 25-April 6.

Circus Circus • 329-0711: Free circus acts, 11am-midnight.

Comstock • 329-1880.

Eldorado • 786-5700, 800-648-5966 (U.S. outside Nevada) or 800-648-3024 (Canada): A 580-seat show-room opens in April with a production show; Cabaret: TBA; Brew Brothers: Colin Ross Band, Thursdays.

Eddie's Fabulous '50s • 329-1950.

Fitzgeralds • 785-3300 or 800-648-5022 (U.S. outside

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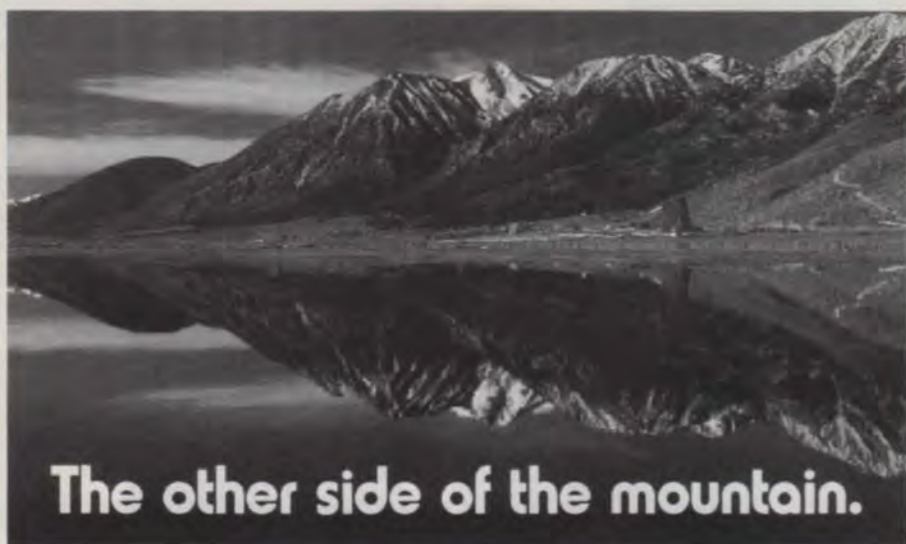
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Reno-Tahoe

Nevada): St. Patrick's Day party at the Reno Arch.
Flamingo Hilton Reno • 785-7080: Flamingo Showroom: "American Superstars" (dark Tues.); music at Top of the Hilton restaurant (dark Tues.).

Harrah's Reno • 788-3773 or 800-HARRAHS: Sammy's Showroom: "The Great Reno Wild Wild West Show" and "Heart Beat," revues.

John Ascuaga's Nugget • Sparks, 356-3304 or 800-648-1177 (U.S. and Nevada): Rose Ballroom: Kenny Rogers, thru March 1; Hal Roach, March 20; Collin Raye, March 27-28; Johnny Mathis, April 24-25; Celebrity Showroom: America, thru March 5; Glen Campbell/Jim Barber, March 6-19; Asleep at the Wheel/Fielding West, March 20-April 2; Sha Na Na, April 3-16; bands play nightly in the Casino Cabaret and Trader Dick's restaurant.

Peppermill • 826-2121 or 800-648-6992: Zella Lehr thru March 2; Louie Fontaine/Kokomo Beach Band, March 3-9; The Lelands, March 10-16; Glenn Williams/T.K. Kellman and the Band, March 17-23; Mick Marten, March 24-30.

Reno Hilton • 789-2285 or 800-648-3568 (U.S. outside Nevada): Hilton Theatre: "Aireus," production show, opens in March; Aspen Lounge: Bands play Tues.-Sun.; Just for Laughs Comedy Club: Stand-up comedy nightly except Mon.

Riverboat • 323-8877.

Silver Club • Sparks, 358-4771 or 800-648-1137 (U.S. outside Nevada).

Silver Legacy • 329-4777 or 800-225-BASS (U.S., Canada, and Mexico): Grand Exposition Hall: Englebert Humperdinck, March 14-15; Pointer Sisters, March 21-22; Gladys Knight, April 5; George Carlin, April 19; Silver Legacy Gazebo: Wally Jones and Perry Joe Schirmer, afternoons; Gary Xavier, evenings till midnight; bands play in Legacy Saloon 9pm-3am.

Virginian • 329-4664.

Western Village • Sparks, 331-1069 or 800-648-1170.

CARSON CITY/CARSON VALLEY

Carson Nugget • 882-1626 or 800-426-5239 (continental U.S. including Nevada): Nugget Show Bar: Lounge entertainment will include such groups as Band on the Run, T-Bone Stone, and The Act.

Carson Station • Carson City, 883-0900: Bands.

Carson Valley Inn • Minden, 782-9711 or 800-321-6983: Shannon Ballroom: McAvoy Lane: Wild Humorist of the High Sierra, March 7; Comedy Night Live, March 14; Cabaret Lounge: Performers such as Zella Lehr, Tommy Bell, and Joey Carmon will appear; country-western dancing and lessons, Sundays.

Ormsby House • Carson City, 882-1890: Mark Twain Lounge: Bands such as Shake, Rattle and Roll and Garfin Gathering will play; Grand Ballroom: Country All-Star Showband, March 7; JoAnn Jordan's Big Band, March 9; The Coasters/The Drifters, March 31; "The Great Pretender Show," starring Michael Bartle, April 4-5; Country All-Star Showband, April 18; JoAnn Jordan's Big Band, April 20; "Comedy at the Capitol," starring Kenny Bob Davis and Sandy Hackett, April 25-26.

Piñon Plaza • Carson City, 885-9000: Sports Book Lounge: Bands play Thurs.-Sat.

Sharkey's Nugget • Gardnerville, 782-3133.

Topaz Lodge • Topaz Lake, 266-3339.

STATELINE, LAKE TAHOE

Bill's Lake Tahoe • 588-2455.

Caesars Tahoe • 588-3515 or 800-648-3353: Circus Maximus: Doobie Brothers, Feb. 28-March 1; Hall and

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Extreme skiers test their skills March 10-14 at the top of the mountain at Squaw Valley.

Skiing to Extremes

Free riders meet
at Lake Tahoe
to test the steepest
of the steep.

Among the most daring of today's daredevil athletes are extreme skiers. Shunning groomed terrain, they prefer to ski down cornices, off cliffs, and through narrow chutes. The paths they ski have no gentle slopes and are found only in the outer limits set aside by the "free riders," as extreme skiers call themselves.

Free riders will tackle the 7,000- to 9,000-foot mountains of Squaw Valley USA, high above Lake Tahoe's north shore, during the All Mountain Extremes competition on March 10-14. Squaw Valley, 38 miles southwest of Reno, has about 4,000 acres of lift-served terrain, of which 10 percent falls in the extreme category.

"This is for the big timers," says LeRoy Hill, executive manager for Squaw Valley Ski Corporation. "It's not for the faint of heart."

Among the big timers expected to compete is Kent Kreitler, a 25-year-old Crystal Bay resident. In 1993 he won the U.S. Extreme Skiing Championship in Crested Butte, Colorado.

"A lot of what we do looks danger-

**Kreitler says,
"You're airborne
without a chute, and
it feels great."**

ous—even stupid," Kreitler says. Those who do well in competitions thoroughly scope out the terrain, memorizing the mountain and its drops, which can be difficult because there is little or no time to ski the run before the race starts. (The Squaw event's location will depend on weather and snow conditions and will be

decided a week or two beforehand, says Hill. Best bets include KT-22, Light Towers, and the Tram Bowl.)

Kreitler, a former Junior Olympian, started skiing at age 10 when his family moved from New Jersey to Idaho. He recalls, "I had fun with it, but I was not that passionate as I am about big mountain skiing."

As for the danger, Kreitler says there are plenty of anxious moments, but the greatest task is overcoming those fears. "It feels really good to be in the air," he says. "You're airborne without a chute, and it feels great."

Intermediate and advanced skiers can ski to an area to watch the competition among the free riders. Lift tickets are \$46 for one day, and two- and three-day packages are available. Call Squaw Valley USA, 916-583-6985, for more information.—*Ann Henderson*

Oates, March 7-8; Tim McGraw, March 14-15; Brooks and Dunn, May 23-25; Cleo's Bar and Entertainment Lounge: Pianist Arthur Hervev, indf.

Harrah's Lake Tahoe • 588-6606 or 800-HARRAHS: South Shore Room: TBA; "Carnaval Fantastique," revue, indf.; Casino Center Stage: Nightly bands.

Harveys • 588-2411 or 800-553-1022 ext. 2883 (U.S. and Nevada): Emerald Theatre: "Dick Clark's American Bandstand, Live at Harveys," musical revue with Dick Clark as video host (dark Wed.); Llewellyn's: Ron Rose.

Lake Tahoe Horizon • 588-6211 or 800-322-7723: Grande Lake Theater: Carrot Top, March 27-31; Golden Cabaret: "Phantasy," magic and comedy revue (dark Mon.); bands play nightly in the Aspen Lounge.

Lakeside Inn • 588-7777.

NORTH LAKE TAHOE

Cal-Neva Resort • Crystal Bay, 832-4000 or 800-225-6382.

Crystal Bay Club • Crystal Bay, 831-0512: Groups such as Impact, Raised on Radio, and Moving Target will appear in the Crystal Bar.

Hyatt Regency Lake Tahoe • Incline Village, 832-1234.

Jim Kelley's Tahoe Nugget • Crystal Bay, 831-7157.

Tahoe Biltmore • Crystal Bay, 831-0660: Music and dancing nightly in the Aspen Lounge.

Blackjack • March 7-9 • John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 800-843-2427.

Slots • March 9-10 • Silver Legacy, 800-215-7721.

Slots • March 9-11 • Eldorado, 800-648-4957.

Keno • March 14-15 • John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 800-843-2427.

Keno • March 21 • Carson Valley Inn, Minden, 800-321-6983, ext. 711.

Slots • March 21-22 • Lake Tahoe Horizon, 588-6211.

Blackjack • March 25 • Carson Valley Inn, Minden, 800-321-6983, ext. 711.

Slots • March 28-29 • Atlantis, 800-833-9300, ext. 4467.

Slots • April 6-8 • John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 800-843-2427.

Bingo • April 12 • John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 800-843-2427.

Slots • April 12-13 • John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 800-843-2427.

Keno • April 18 • Carson Valley Inn, Minden, 800-321-6983, ext. 711.

Slots • April 20-22 • Eldorado, 800-648-4957.

Slots • April 27-30 • John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 800-843-2427.

Blackjack • April 29 • Carson Valley Inn, Minden, 800-321-6983.

Children's Museum of Northern Nevada • 813 N. Carson St., 884-2226.

Kit Carson Trail • Walking tour. 687-7410 or 800-638-2321.

Nevada State Capitol • 687-5030.

Nevada State Library and Archives • State Constitution exhibit. 100 Stewart St., 687-5210.

Nevada State Museum • 600 N. Carson St., 687-4810.

Nevada State Railroad Museum • S. Carson St. at Fairview Dr., 687-6953.

Nevada Supreme Court • Tours. Stewart St., 687-8616.

Roberts' House Museum • 1207 N. Carson St., 882-1805.

Stewart Indian Museum and Cultural Center • 5366 Snyder, 882-1808.

Warren Engine Co. No. 1 Museum • 777 S. Stewart St., 887-2210.

DAYTON

Dayton State Park • 687-5678.

GARDNERVILLE

Carson Valley Museum and Cultural Center • Old Douglas County High School on U.S. Hwy. 395 S., 265-2889.

GENOA

Genoa Courthouse Museum • Seasonal, 782-4325.

Mormon Station State Historic Park • Seasonal, 782-4325, 687-4379.

Walley's Hot Springs • 2001 Foothill Rd., 782-8155.

LAKE TAHOE

Lake Tahoe Nevada State Park • 2005 Hwy. 28, Incline Village, 831-0494.

GAMING TOURNAMENTS

Poker • Weekends • Peppermill, 826-2121.

Blackjack • Tuesdays • Peppermill, 826-2121.

Slots • March 2-5 • John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 800-843-2427.

ATTRACTIONS, TOURS & MUSEUMS

CARSON CITY

Brewery Arts Center • 449 W. King St., 883-1976.

Carson and Mills Park Railroad • Seasonal, Mills Park, 887-2523.

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CARSON CITY

Carson City Convention & Visitors' Bureau
1900 So. Carson Street, Suite 200 Carson City, NV 89701

Historic Women's Conclave

Throughout Nevada's history, women have served as pioneers, prospectors, politicians, artists, wives, and mothers. The Nevada Women's History Project will highlight those contributions during its first-ever conference, "Nevada Women on the Move Through History," on March 2-3 in Reno.

The theme of the event is women and the advent of the Motor Age. Activities will begin on Sunday,

March 2, at the National Automobile Museum with tours of women's exhibits and living-history presentations. On Monday Virginia Scharff, author and professor at the University of New Mexico, will present a lecture about "Women, Wheels, and the West" at the Sands Regency in downtown Reno. Attendees will find several workshops, including presentations on fashion history in the Silver State and a lecture on women prospectors by Reno author Sally Zanjani. Nevada events editor Ann Henderson and publisher Richard Moreno will share tips on getting women's research projects published.

Registration is \$75 to attend both days, \$40 to attend only on March 2, and \$65 for events on March 3. Call the Nevada Women's History Project, 702-322-7754, for more information.



In the early 1900s this Tonopah women's group met on Mondays, leading to its informal name, "Lunas Clava."

- M.S. Dixie II Sternwheeler** • Zephyr Cove, 588-3508.
- Ponderosa Ranch** • Seasonal, Incline Village, 831-0691.
- Tahoe Gal Paddlewheeler** • Tahoe City, 916-583-0141.
- Tahoe Queen Sternwheeler** • South Lake Tahoe, 800-23-TAHOE.
- Tahoe Rim Trail** • 150-mile system, 588-0686.
- U.S. Forest Service Visitors Center** • Stream chamber in creek, 916-573-2600.
- Vikingsholm** • Tours, 916-525-7232.
- Zephyr Cove Resort** • 588-5021.

RENO

- Animal Ark** • 10 mi. north of Reno, then 12 mi. on Red Rock Road, 969-3111.
- Earth Window Museum** • 500 N. Sierra St., Town Center Mall, 333-2828.
- Fleischmann Planetarium** • U of N, 784-4811.
- Galena Creek Regional Park** • Mount Rose Hwy., 785-4319.
- Liberty Belle Slot Collection** • Liberty Belle Saloon, 4250 S. Virginia St., 825-1776.
- National Automobile Museum** • 10 Lake St. S., 333-9300.
- National Bowling Stadium** • 300 N. Center St., 334-2695.

- Nevada Historical Society Museum** • Exhibits on Nevada history, on the University of Nevada campus. 1650 N. Virginia St., 688-1190.
- Nevada Museum of Art, E.L. Wiegand Gallery** • 160 W. Liberty St., 329-3333.
- Raymond I. Smith Truckee River Walk and Wingfield Park Amphitheater** • 334-2077.
- Reno Tahoe Gaming Academy** • Tours. 300 E. First St., Suite 103, 329-5665.
- Sierra Safari Zoo** • 10 mi. north of Reno at Red Rock Rd., 677-1101.
- Wilbur D. May Arboretum and Botanical Garden** • Rancho San Rafael Park, 785-4153.
- Wilbur D. May Great Basin Adventure** • Seasonal, Rancho San Rafael Park, 785-4064.
- Wilbur D. May Museum** • Rancho San Rafael Park, 785-5961.

PYRAMID LAKE

- Numana Hatchery Visitors Center** • 574-0290.

SPARKS

- Sparks Heritage Foundation and Museum** • 820 Victorian Ave., 355-1144.
- Wild Island** • Seasonal, off I-80, 359-2927.

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Reno-Tahoe



Equines are the theme of "Horse Stampedo," a show by pastel artist Jan Hollenhagen of Minden at Western Nevada Community College in Carson City.

VIRGINIA CITY

- Assay Office Museum • 847-0777.
- The Castle • Seasonal, 847-0275.
- Chollar Mine • Tours, seasonal, 847-0155.
- Fourth Ward School Museum • Historical displays in 1876 school, 847-0975.
- Julia C. Bulette Red Light Museum • 847-9394.
- Liberty Engine Co. No. 1 Comstock Firemen's Museum • Seasonal, 847-0717.
- Mackay Mansion Museum • 847-0173.
- Mark Twain Museum of Memories • 847-0454.
- Nevada Gambling Museum • Old gaming tables, devices, and other memorabilia, 847-9022.
- Piper's Opera House • Seasonal, 847-0433.
- Ponderosa Mine • Tours, 847-0757.
- Territorial Enterprise Mark Twain Museum • 847-0525.
- Virginia and Truckee Railroad • Tourist train to Gold Hill, seasonal, 847-0380.
- Virginia City Radio • 847-9047.
- Virginia City Tours • Narrated trolley tour of Virginia City, 786-0866.
- Way It Was Museum • 847-0766.
- Wild West Museum • Seasonal, 847-0400.

VERDI

- Boomtown Family Fun Center • 345-8668.
- Bull Creek Ranch • Trail, wagon, and sleigh rides, 345-7600.

WASHOE VALLEY

- Bowers Mansion Park • Historic mansion of Comstock millionaires. Seasonal, 849-1825.
- Davis Creek Park • 849-0684.
- Washoe Lake State Park • Picnicking, camping. E. Lake Blvd., 687-4319.

A Reminder:

To confirm dates and times, please use the phone number listed with each event. For out-of-state callers, the area code is 702 throughout Nevada. For hotels' toll-free phone numbers, call 800-555-1212.

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The 1997 outdoor season will soon be here — and you'll be ready for hiking, biking, and all other outdoor activities with **The Great Nevada Explorer's Kit**. The kit includes a fanny pack, sports bottle, bandanna, compass, free Nevada map, and "NEVADA MAGAZINE'S GREAT NEVADA DAY HIKES GUIDEBOOK" — all for only \$24.95, plus \$4.50 for shipping & handling.



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Rural Territories



The Blue Angels close ranks during the air show April 19-20 at the Naval Air Station in Fallon, home of the Top Gun school for fighter pilots.

EVENTS

Rural Nevada's events include opera and car races during March and April. Visitors can attend the Rhyolite Festival, the Fallon Air Show, and an evening of Shakespeare in Lovelock. The listing is presented by territory and area of interest. Please call ahead to confirm dates and times. Nevada's area code is 702.

March & April

COWBOY COUNTRY

PERFORMANCES

"The Cherry Orchard" • March 5-8 • Play by Chekov. Great Basin College Theatre, Elko, 738-4785.

"Feather on the Sea" • March 12 • Play by Idaho Theatre for Youth. Civic Center, Battle Mountain, 635-2651.

"The Music Man" • March 15 and 22 • Musical performed by Silver Stage Players. Great Basin College Theatre, Elko, 738-4785.

Clan na Gael • March 17 • Celtic music. Martin Hotel, Winnemucca, 265-6564.

Shakespeare's Villains, Fools, and Clowns • April 21 •

Scenes from the Bard by Marc Weishaus. Community Center, Lovelock, 273-2197.

GENERAL INTEREST

A History of the Working Saddle and The Craftsmanship of G.S. Garcia • Thru March 15 • Exhibits of saddles and silver work. Northeastern Nevada Museum, Elko, 738-3418.

Gathering of Gear • Thru March 28 • Saddle Up, exhibit on saddlemaking. Western Folklife Center, Elko, 738-7508.

Shooting the West IX • March 7-9 • Photography conference featuring nature photographer Frans Lanting, with workshops, demonstrations, photo exhibits. Convention Center, Winnemucca, 623-5071.

Spring Home Show • April 19-20 • Convention Center, Elko, 738-7135.

SPORTS & COMPETITIONS

Wendover Hot Rod Races • March 9 and April 6 • Straight track and drag racing. Wendover Airport, 801-665-2563.

Spring Mixed Ball Golf Tournament • April 7-8 • Toana Vista Golf Course, West Wendover, 800-848-7300.

Ranch Hand Rodeo • April 19-20 • Annual riding and roping event. Horse Palace at Spring Creek, 11 miles southeast of Elko, 753-6295.

Two-Man Best Ball Golf Tournament • April 24-25 •

Toana Vista Golf Course, West Wendover, 800-848-7300.

PONY EXPRESS TERRITORY

PERFORMANCES

"The Magic Flute" • March 14 • Mini presentation by Nevada Opera Studio. Eureka Opera House, 237-6006.

"The Mask Messengers" • April 4 • Faustwork Mask Theater. Eureka Opera House, 237-6006.

The Edlos • April 25 • Vocal slapstick performance. Eureka Opera House, 237-6006.

GENERAL INTEREST

Hidden Cave Tours • March 8, 22 and April 12, 26 • Hike to view archaeological site. Churchill County Museum, Fallon, 423-3677.

Perdiz Spring Fling Jackpot Shoot • March 8-9 • Sport shooting competition. Perdiz Range, Eureka, 237-7027.

Easter Egg Hunt • March 30 • Elementary school, Eureka, 237-5525.

Perdiz Gold Country Money Shoot • April 5-6 • Sport shooting competition. Perdiz Range, Eureka, 237-7027.

Fallon Air Show • April 19-20 • Blue Angels perform, aerobatics, military demonstrations. Naval Air Station, Fallon, 423-4556.

PREVIEW

Saddle Up

Experts and curious visitors in Elko can admire the art of Western saddlemakers and other gearmakers in three exhibits held in conjunction with the recent Cowboy Poetry Gathering.

Saddle Up, part of the annual Gathering of Gear show, presents the work of 35 leading saddlemakers from Canada to Texas. The exhibit seeks to illuminate the process of building a saddle and the intricate carving of leather. Saddle Up will be on display through March 28 at the Western Folklife Center.

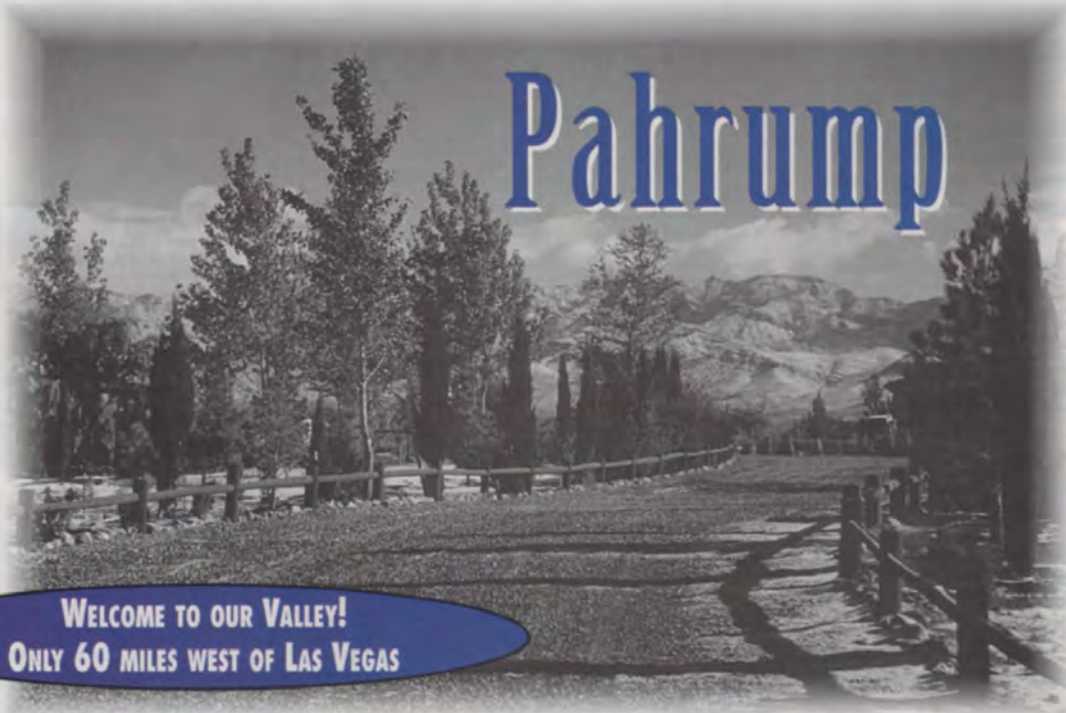
Two other saddle exhibits are being shown at the Northeastern Nevada Museum. A History of the Working Saddle—which describes the evolution of the working cowboy saddle from 1850 to 1950—includes 20 historical saddles from the collection of Dr. Jack Sutton of Reno. Visitors will also see The Craftsmanship of G.S. Garcia, an exhibit of saddles and work in leather and silver by Garcia, a legendary gearmaker based in Elko in the early 1900s. Both shows will remain open until March 15 at the Elko museum.



The art of saddlemaking is the subject of exhibits at the Western Folklife Center (above) and the Northeastern Nevada Museum in Elko.

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PIONEER TERRITORY

GENERAL INTEREST

Rhyolite Festival • March 15-16 • Parade, fashion show, Miss Rhyolite 1909 contest, exhibits, and talent show in Beatty. Costumed guides lead tours in the ghost town of Rhyolite, four miles west of Beatty. 553-2424.

Good Sam Jamboree • March 20-23 • Community Center, Amargosa, 751-1341.

Easter Egg Hunt • March 29 • Community Park, Pahrump, 727-5800.

Easter Sunrise Church Service • March 30 • Community Park, Pahrump, 727-5800.

"The Mask Messengers" • April 12 • Faustwork Mask Theater. Intermediate School Aud., Yerington, 463-3066.

SPORTS & COMPETITIONS

High School Rodeo • March 1-2 • Rodeo Arena, Pahrump, 727-5076.

Pahrump Valley Speedway Race • March 15 • Dirt track racing. Pahrump, 727-7172.

Tonopah 300 • March 28-30 • 300-mile off-road race. Tonopah, 457-5775.

Challenge Cup Relay Race • April 12 • Peace officers compete in a foot race from Baker, California, to Las Vegas via Pahrump. 727-5800.

COMING EVENTS

"The Music of Yosemite" • May 2 • Yerington, 463-3066.

Bordertown Bike Challenge • May 6 • Wendover, 664-3414.

Pioche Heritage Days • May 8-10 • 962-5544.

Run to the Fun • May 10-11 • Motorcycle rodeo, Lovelock, 623-4056.

Desert Oasis Bluegrass Festival • May 16-18 • Fallon, 423-2544.

Jim Butler Days • May 23-26 • Tonopah, 482-3859.

Lincoln County Memorial Day Homecoming Celebration • May 23-26 • Caliente, 726-3121.

Portuguese Celebration • May 31-June 1 • Yerington, 463-3842.

Smith Valley Strawberry Festival • May 31-June 1 • 465-2481.

SHOWGUIDE

Many lounges in rural Nevada casinos have bands on weekends. Call ahead for show times. Nevada's area code is 702.

COWBOY COUNTRY

BATTLE MOUNTAIN

Owl Club • 635-5155.

ELKO

Commercial Hotel • 738-3181: The Commercial hosts comedy on Wed.

Holiday Inn • 738-8425: Piano bar, Tues.-Sat.; dance club, Thurs.-Sat.

Red Lion • 738-2111 or 800-545-0044 (Western U.S. outside Nevada): Club Max Showroom: Comedians and a country band, Tues.-Sun.

Stockmen's Hotel • 738-5141 or 800-648-2345 (U.S. and Nevada).

JACKPOT

Barton's Club 93 • 755-2341.

Cactus Petes • 755-2321 or 800-821-1103: Cabaret Lounge: Entertainment TBA.

Horseshu Casino • 755-2321.

MILL CITY

Burns Bros. Casino • 538-7306: Bands often appear in Mr. B's Lounge at the Mill City casino on Interstate 80.

WENDOVER

Nevada Crossing • 664-2900 or 800-537-0207.

Peppermill • 664-2255 or 800-648-9660 (U.S. outside Nevada).

Rainbow Casino • 664-4000 or 800-217-0049.

Red Garter • 664-2111 or 800-982-2111 (continental U.S. outside Nevada).

Silver Smith • 664-2231 or 800-354-3671.

State Line • 664-2221 or 800-648-9668: Charlie Daniels in concert, May 18-19.

WINNEMUCCA

Winners Hotel • 623-2511: Bands play Wed.-Sun.; karaoke and comedy, Mon.-Tues.

PONY EXPRESS TERRITORY

ELY

Hotel Nevada • 289-6665.

FALLON

Bonanza Inn • 423-3111 ext. 47.



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PREVIEW

Who Is That Masked Pair?



The weirdly funny characters of the Faustwork Mask Theater open their Nevada spring tour in Eureka.

THE GHOST TRAIN of OLD ELY



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There will be no masking the enthusiasm when Faustwork Mask Theater unveils itself April 2 in Eureka. The engagement at the historic Eureka Opera House will be the first of four Nevada shows by the touring twosome.

In their "Mask Messengers" program performers Robert Faust and Paola Styron-Faust create a fresh kind of theater. Virginia City's *Comstock Chronicle* compared the couple's show to a runaway roller coaster with a "series of skits peopled by a panoply of wise guys, geeks, Cyrannos, dogs, babies, and others that had children and adults alike holding their sides."

The show's structure is outwardly simple. The set is a plain black backdrop that frames about 25 masks. After a brief introduction that touches on the history of masks, the Faustus put on masks and assume the characters expressed in each face. Their vi-

gnettes range from comic to poignant to bizarre.

The characters speak only when they wear Italian Commedia Dell'Arte-style half-masks. Otherwise, they rely on body language, at times appearing as four-legged creatures. Also, audience members are lured on stage to be part of the fun.

After beginning its Nevada tour at the always progressive Eureka Opera House on April 4, Faustwork heads to Las Vegas (April 7), Virginia City (April 10), and Yerington (April 12).

Since Robert Faust created the troupe in 1983, Faustwork has performed more than 5,000 times in theaters, festivals, and schools in the United States and Canada. Prior to the company's arrival at a school, it sends teachers a study guide about the show, helping to educate another generation of theatergoers.

—Wendy Miller

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Longstreet Inn • 372-1777: Weekend entertainment.

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Stagecoach • 553-2419 or 800-4-BIGWIN (U.S. outside Nevada): Nightly entertainment.

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El Capitan • 945-3322: Entertainment TBA.

Joe's Tavern • 945-2302.

PAHRUMP

Mountain View Casino and Bowl • 727-7777: Bowling alley, entertainment.

Saddle West Casino • 727-1111 or 800-GEDDY-UP: Casino-lounge entertainment.

TONOPAH

Mizpah Hotel • 482-6202.

Station House • 482-9777: Lonesome Heart, thru March 2.

YERINGTON

Casino West • 463-2481 or 800-227-4661 (U.S. and Nevada).

Dini's Lucky Club • 463-2868.

GAMING TOURNAMENTS

Slots • March 12-14 • State Line Casino, West Wendover, 800-848-7300.

Blackjack and Craps • April 18-19 • State Line and Silver Smith casinos, West Wendover, 800-848-7300.

ATTRACTIONS, TOURS & MUSEUMS

COWBOY COUNTRY

Bonneville Salt Flats • Wendover, 801-977-4300.

Buckaroo Hall of Fame • Winnemucca, 623-2225.

Giant Tufa Park • West of Lovelock, 273-7213.

Humboldt Museum • Winnemucca, 623-2912.

Jarvis Wilderness Area • North of Elko, 208-543-4129.

Northeastern Nevada Museum • 1515 Idaho St., Elko, 738-3418.

Pershing County Marzen House Museum • Marzen Ln., Lovelock, 273-7213.

Western Folklife Center • 501 Railroad St., Elko, 738-7508 or 800-748-4466.

Wild Horse State Recreation Area • 65 miles north of Elko, 758-6493.

PONY EXPRESS TERRITORY

Cave Lake State Recreation Area • 15 miles south of Ely, 728-4467.

Churchill County Museum and Hidden Cave • Tours. 1050 S. Maine St., Fallon, 423-3677.

East Ely Railroad Depot Museum • Historic copper-line depot, seasonal. 289-1663.

Eureka Opera House • Open Mon.-Fri. or by appointment, tours. Eureka, 237-6006.

Eureka Sentinel Museum • Eureka, 237-5010.

Fort Churchill State Historic Park • Silver Springs, 577-2345.

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Rural

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Hickison Petroglyph Recreation Site • 24 miles east of Austin on U.S. 50.

Nevada Northern Railway Museum • Train rides, seasonal. 1100 Ave. A, East Ely, 289-2085.

Sand Mountain • 20 miles east of Fallon, 885-6000.

Ward Charcoal Ovens State Historic Site • 16 miles (11 dirt) south of Ely, 728-4467.

White Pine Public Museum • 2000 Aultman St., Ely, 289-4710.



During the Rhyolite Festival, March 15-16, costumed guides explain the ghost town's history and its ruins. Additional events are held in Beatty.

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PIONEER TERRITORY

Beatty Museum • Exhibits from Bullfrog Mining District, 553-2424.

Belmont Courthouse State Historic Site • 867-3001.

Berlin-Ichthyosaur State Park • 23 miles east of Gabbs, 964-2440.

Cathedral Gorge State Park • Panaca, 728-4460.

Central Nevada Museum • Tonopah, 482-9676.

Death Valley National Park • 619-786-2331.

Lincoln County Historical Museum • Pioche, 962-5207.

Lyon County Museum • Yerington, 463-2245.

Million Dollar Courthouse • Pioche • 962-5207.

Mineral County Historical Museum • Hawthorne, 945-5142.

Pahrump Valley Winery • Tours. Pahrump, 727-6900.

Rhyolite Bottle House, Historic Site • Four miles west of Beatty, 553-2424.

Stone Cabin Living History Museum • One mile north of Eagle Valley Reservoir, seasonal, Pioche, 728-4460.

Walker Lake State Recreation Area • Hawthorne, 945-5896.

A Reminder:

To confirm dates and times, please use the phone number listed with each event. The area code is 702 throughout Nevada. For hotels' toll-free phone numbers, call 800-555-1212.

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Las Vegas Area

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- Imperial Palace Hotel/Imperial Buffet/Teahouse**—731-3311. Carving station featuring prime rib of beef. Weekend brunch. B, L, D, \$, major.
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- Riviera Hotel/Kady's Coffee Shop**—794-9318. Deli-style restaurant. B, L, D. \$-\$\$, major.
- Safari Club**—648-1925. Louisiana catfish, hunter stew, barbecued pork back ribs. L, D, \$, major.

INTERNATIONAL

- Main Street Station/Garden Court Buffet**—387-1896. Pizza and pasta, Chinese and Hawaiian Pacific Rim dishes, Southwest barbecue, and Mexican dishes. B, L, D, \$, major.

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Reno-Carson Area

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Ormsby House/Bufet—Carson City, 882-1890. Sunday champagne brunch, Friday seafood, daily prime rib. L, D, \$, major.
Ormsby House/Coffee Shop—Carson City, 882-1890. Open 24 hours, breakfast special, one-pound T-bone steak. B, L, D, \$, major.
Ormsby House/Sports Grill—Carson City, 882-1890. Sandwich and appetizer specials. L, D, \$, major.
Silver Legacy/Legacy Saloon and Deli Exchange—Reno, 329-4777. Roast garlic Rosemary chicken with spinach pizza, chicken. B, L, D, \$, major.
Silver Legacy/Victorian Buffet—Reno, 329-4777. Prime rib, shrimp and crab cioppino, homemade ravioli, chicken cacciatore. B, L, D, \$, major.
Virginian Hotel/Ranch Restaurant—Reno, 329-2673. Gambler's Breakfast, prime rib, New York steak. B, L, D, \$, AE, MC, V.

BASQUE

Louis' Basque Corner—301 E. Fourth St., Reno, 323-7203. Sweetbreads, tripe, paella, other seafood dishes. L, D, \$\$, major.

ASIAN

Silver Legacy/Sweetwater Cafe—Reno, 329-4777. Baked homemade tortellini, fried shrimp, prime rib, Cantonese pepper steak. B, L, D, \$, major.

STEAK & SEAFOOD

Carson Nugget/Oyster Bar—882-1626. Seafood and pan roasts. L, D, \$, major.
Carson Nugget/Steak House—882-1626. Veal scallopini, scampi in dill sauce, escargot. D, \$\$, major.
Fitzgeralds/Limerick's Pub and Grille—Reno, 785-3300. Scampi St. Patrick, Emerald Isle Herb Chicken, Erin Creme Filet. L, D, \$\$, major.
Ormsby House/Baron's—Carson City, 882-1890. Supper club with tableside preparation and live piano music. Steak, pasta, and seafood. D, \$\$, major.
Silver Legacy/Fairchild's Oyster Bar—Reno, 329-4777. Louisiana crab cakes, oyster pan roast, jambalaya, chef's seafood salad. L, D, \$\$, major.
Silver Legacy/Sterling's Seafood and Steakhouse—Reno, 329-4777. Medallions of filet mignon, spicy roast chicken, seafood fettucine. D, \$\$, major.

Lake Tahoe

AMERICAN

Caesars Tahoe/Cafe Roma—Stateline, 588-3515. Lamb chops, prime rib. B, L, D, \$-\$\$, major.

ITALIAN

Caesars Tahoe/Primavera—Stateline, 588-3515. Linguini carbonara, tenderloin pizzaiola. D, \$\$, major.

ASIAN

Caesars Tahoe/Empress Court—Stateline, 588-3515. Szechwan, Mandarin. D, \$\$, major.

STEAK & SEAFOOD

Caesars Tahoe/Broiler Room—Stateline, 588-3515. Prime rib, seafood, Cajun specialties. D, \$\$, major.
Caesars Tahoe/Pisces—Stateline, 588-3515. Salmon, lobster, sea bass. Flown in fresh daily. D, \$\$, major.

Around the State

Lovelock: Sturgeon's—273-2971. Coffee shop open 24 hours, family dining room. Fiesta Room supper club Tuesday-Saturday. Steaks, seafood, Mexican dishes. B, L, D, \$-\$\$\$, major.
Tonopah: Station House/Mary's Kitchen—482-9777. Hamburgers, steaks, seafood. B, L, D, \$, AE, MC, V.
Winnemucca: Winners Hotel/Grandma's Dinner House—623-2511. Prime rib, Maine lobster, T-bone steak, chicken cordon bleu. D, \$, major.
Winnemucca: Winners Hotel/Pete's 24-Hour Coffee Shop—623-2511. Cafe and buffet. B, L, D, \$, major.

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Vacation Hot Lines

Where to call or write for travel tips.

When planning your Nevada trip or vacation, be sure to write or phone these one-stop sources for information.

If you plan to stop by a chamber (C of C) office, chances are it will be open in the daytime Monday through Friday.

When calling long distance within Nevada, don't forget to first dial the state's area code (702).

Statewide Information

Nevada Commission on Tourism: Capitol Complex, Carson City, NV 89710; 687-3636 or 800-NEVADA-8 anywhere in U.S. and Canada

Las Vegas Territory

African American Activities: 3838 Raymert Dr., Las Vegas, NV 89121; 456-3838

Boulder City C of C: 1305 Arizona, Boulder City, NV 89005; 293-2034

Boulder City Visitor Center: 100 Nevada Hwy., Boulder City, NV 89005; 294-1252

Henderson C of C: 590 S. Boulder Hwy., Henderson, NV 89015; 565-8951

Hoover Dam Visitors Services: Box 60400, Boulder City, NV 89006; 294-3523

Jean Visitor Center: Interstate 15 Rest Area (8 mi. south of Jean), Jean, NV 89019; 874-1360

Las Vegas C of C: 711 E. Desert Inn Road, Las Vegas, NV 89109; 735-1616

Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority: 3150 Paradise, Las Vegas, NV 89109; 892-0711

Latin C of C: 829 S. Sixth St., Las Vegas, NV 89125; 385-7367

Laughlin C of C: Box 77777, Laughlin, NV 89028; 298-2214 or 800-227-5245 outside Nevada

Laughlin Visitor Center: 1555 Casino Dr., Laughlin, NV 89029; 298-3321 or 800-452-8445

Mesquite Area C of C: 250 W. Mesquite Blvd., Box 785, Mesquite, NV 89024; 346-2902

Mesquite Visitor Center: Interstate 15 Exit 122, Box 1560, Mesquite, NV 89024; 346-2703

Moapa Valley C of C: Hwy. 169, Box 361, Overton, NV 89040; 397-2160

North Las Vegas C of C: 1023 E. Lake Mead Blvd., North Las Vegas, NV 89030; 642-9595

Reno-Tahoe Territory

Carson City C of C: 1900 S. Carson St., Suite 100, Carson City, NV 89701; 882-1565

Carson City Convention and Visitors Bureau: 1900 S. Carson St., Suite 200, Carson City, NV 89701; 687-7410 or 800-NEVADA-1 in U.S.

Carson Valley C of C and Visitors Authority: 1524 Hwy. 395, No. 1, Gardnerville, NV 89410-7814; 782-8144 or 800-727-7677 in U.S.

Dayton Area C of C: 15 Main St., Box 408, Dayton, NV 89403; 246-7909 (open Thurs.-Sun.)

Greater Reno-Sparks C of C: 405 Marsh Ave., Reno, NV 89505; 686-3030



Floyd Lamb State Park, just north of Las Vegas, is a scenic family fishing and picnic spot.

Incline Village/Crystal Bay C of C: 969 Tahoe Blvd., Incline Village, NV 89451; 831-4440

Incline Village/Crystal Bay Visitors and Convention Bureau: 969 Tahoe Blvd., Incline Village, NV 89451; 832-1606 or 800-GO-TAHOE anywhere in U.S.

Lake Tahoe Visitors Authority: 1156 Ski Run Blvd., South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150; 916-544-5050, 800-AT-TAHOE in U.S.

North Lake Tahoe C of C: 245 N. Lake Blvd., Tahoe City, CA 96145; 916-581-6900

Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority: 4590 S. Virginia St., Reno, NV 89502; for information call 827-RENO or 800-FOR-RENO in U.S.

Reno-Sparks Indian Colony Tribal Council: 98 Colony Rd., Reno, NV 89502; 329-2936

South Lake Tahoe C of C: 3066 Lake Tahoe Blvd., S. Lake Tahoe, CA 96150; 916-541-5255

Sparks C of C: 831 Victorian Ave., Sparks, NV 89431; 358-1976

Tahoe-Douglas C of C: Box 7139, Stateline, NV 89449; 588-4591

Tahoe North Visitors and Convention Bureau: Box 5578, Tahoe City, CA 96145; 916-583-3494 or 800-TAHOE-4-U

Virginia City C of C: V&T Railroad Car, C St., Virginia City, NV 89440; 847-0311

Cowboy Country

Battle Mountain C of C: Box 333, Battle Mountain, NV 89820; 635-8245

Elko C of C: 1601 Idaho St., Elko, NV 89801; 738-7135
Elko Convention and Visitors Authority: 700 Moren

Way, Elko, NV 89801; 738-4091 or 800-248-ELKO outside Nevada

Jackpot Visitor Information: Box 508, Jackpot, NV 89825; 755-2321 or 800-821-1103 (Cactus Petes)

Jarbidge Community Assn.: c/o Trading Post, Box 260072, Jarbidge, NV 89826; 488-2315

Lovelock C of C: Box 821, Lovelock, NV 89419; 273-7213

McDermitt Information: Box 278, McDermitt, NV 89421; 532-8742

Wells C of C: Box 615, Wells, NV 89835; 752-3540

Wendover USA Visitors/Convention Bureau: Box 2468, Wendover, NV 89883; 664-3414 or 800-426-6862 outside Nevada

Winnemucca C of C: 30 W. Winnemucca Blvd., Winnemucca, NV 89445; 623-2225

Winnemucca Convention and Visitors Bureau: 50 W. Winnemucca Blvd., Winnemucca, NV 89445; 623-5071 or 800-WMCA-NEV

Pony Express Territory

Austin C of C: Box 212, Austin, NV 89310; 964-2200

Ely's Bristlecone Convention Center: 150 Sixth St., Box 958, Ely, NV 89301; 289-3720

Eureka County C of C: Box 14, Eureka, NV 89316; 237-5484

Fallon Convention and Tourism Authority: 100 Campus Way, Fallon, NV 89406; 423-4556 or 800-874-0903 anywhere in U.S.

Fernley C of C: 485 Truck Inn Way, Box 1606, Fernley, NV 89408; 575-4459

Great Basin C of C: Information on Baker and Great

Basin National Park, Box 90, Baker, NV 89311; 234-7302
Greater Fallon Area C of C: 379 W. Williams Ave.,
 Fallon, NV 89406; 423-2544
Silver Springs EDASS (Econ. Dev. Authority of Silver
 Springs): Box 269, Silver Springs, NV 89429; 577-2069
White Pine C of C: 636 Aultman, Ely, NV 89301;
 289-8877

Pioneer Territory

Amargosa C of C: HCR 69-2, Box 401W, Amargosa, NV
 89020; 372-5459
Beatty C of C: Box 956, Beatty, NV 89003; 553-2424
Caliente C of C: Depot Building, Box 553, Caliente, NV
 89008; 726-3129
Gabbs, City of: Box 176, Gabbs, NV 89409; 285-4019
Goldfield C of C: Box 219, Goldfield, NV 89013;
 485-3453
Goldfield Historical Society: Box 178, Goldfield, NV
 89013; 485-6365
Greater Smoky Valley C of C: Box 2020, State Route
 376 at Carver's Station, Round Mountain, NV 89045;
 377-2490
Mason Valley C of C: 227 S. Main St., Yerington, NV
 89447-2536; 463-2245
Mineral County C of C: 601 Fifth St., Box 1635,
 Hawthorne, NV 89415; 945-5896
Pahrump Valley C of C: Box 42, Pahrump, NV 89041;
 727-5800 or 800-633-WEST
Pioche C of C: Box 127, Pioche, NV 89043; 962-5544
Tonopah C of C: 301 Brougner Ave., Box 869,
 Tonopah, NV 89049; 482-3859
Tonopah Convention Center: Box 408, Tonopah, NV
 89049; 482-3558

Indian Territory

Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada: 806 Holman Way,
 Sparks, NV 89431; 355-0600
Indian Territory: Stewart Indian Cultural Center and
 Museum, 5366 Snyder Ave., Carson City, NV 89701;
 882-1808

State and National Parks

Death Valley National Park: Beatty Visitor Center: 307
 Main St., Beatty, NV 89003; 553-2200. Park: Death
 Valley, CA 92328; 619-786-2331
Great Basin National Park: Baker, NV 89311; 234-
 7331
Lake Mead National Recreation Area: 601 Nevada
 Hwy., Boulder City, NV 89005; 293-8907
Nevada Division of State Parks: Capitol Complex,
 Carson City, NV 89710; 687-4370
Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area: HCR
 33, Box 5500, Las Vegas, NV 89124; 363-1921

More Outdoor Activities

Bicycling in Nevada: Nevada Dept. of Transportation:
 1263 S. Stewart St., Carson City, NV 89712; 687-4997
Bureau of Land Management: Main: Box 12000, Reno,
 NV 89520; 785-6402; Box 26569, Las Vegas, NV 89126;
 647-5000; Box 831, Elko, NV 89801; 738-4071
Humboldt National Forest: 2035 Last Chance Rd.,
 Elko, NV 89801; 738-5171
Nevada Division of Wildlife: Main: Box 10678, Reno,
 NV 89520; 688-1500; Southern Nevada: State Mail
 Complex, Las Vegas, NV 89158; 486-5127
Pyramid Lake: Pyramid Lake Fisheries: Star Route, Sut-
 cliffe, NV 89510; 476-0500
Toiyabe National Forest: 1200 Franklin Way, Sparks,
 NV 89431; 331-6444; 2881 S. Valley View, Suite 16,
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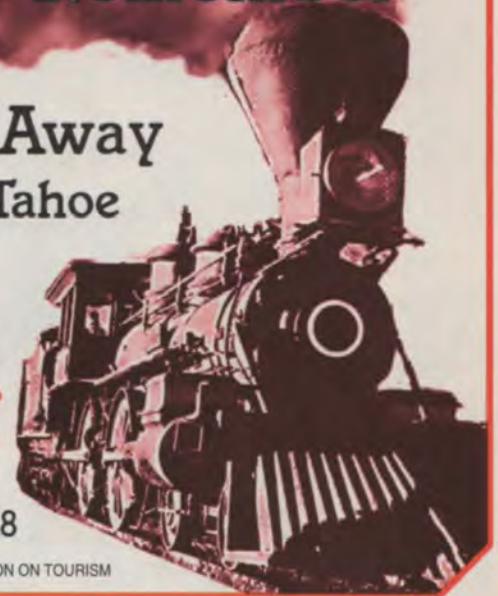
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'Hot Salsa' on the Colorado

A fiery review heats up Harrah's Laughlin. By Paisley Yankolovich

When a dozen dancers and singers take the stage at Harrah's Laughlin for the revue "Hot Salsa," they will have just completed an attitude adjustment. About an hour before curtain time, the entire cast will have been whooping it up as cowboys and dance-hall girls in the country-music production "Great American Wild Wild West Show." The revues form the latest two-shows-per-night package by prolific producer Greg Thompson and his partner, choreographer Mistinguett. Thompson's Seattle-based company has more than 40 current production shows worldwide and is responsible for popular Harrah's Nevada shows such as "Broadway," "Stagestruck," "Playboy's Ecstasy," and "High Voltage."

Thompson is known for creating a sense of place in his revues, and "Hot Salsa's" sexy costumes and throbbing Latin rhythms quickly carry you south of the border. The effect is enhanced by a series of gold, red, and black scrim, mingled with splashy shapes and colored sets, that are unveiled as "Hot Salsa" progresses.

During the fast-moving, 80-minute show, the eight dancers bring life to a gaucho dance and a spicy interpretation of Ravel's "Bolero," an erotic piece of music that is generally performed here with taste and style. Showgoers looking for more contemporary music will find it later in "Tequila Sunrise" by the Eagles and "Bombalero" from the Gypsy Kings.

Choreographer Mistinguett (whose name is borrowed from a "Folies Bergere" character of the '20s) never allows movement to stop on stage and combines the traditional with the



It takes two to tango in the spicy Harrah's Laughlin production, "Hot Salsa."

unexpected. She has no problem having her dancers perform a hat dance in one measure of a song and tap dance in the next.

The singing star of "Hot Salsa" is Jennifer Joseph, the 1995 Miss Nevada from Las Vegas. When you hear her sing a duet of "Spanish Eyes" with costar Mark Francis or a solo of Madonna's "Say Good-bye," it is hard to imagine that a few years ago this beautiful and talented woman was quiet and reserved and weighed 235 pounds. (Last year she placed in the top 15 in the Miss America pageant.)

The standout dancer is Darryl Ross, who cuts loose during a "Cuban Pete" number. His sudden, total abandon recalls Sammy Davis Jr. and Gregory Hines.

The festivities in the recently opened, 374-seat Fiesta Showroom pause briefly for the appearance of comedian Tony D'Andrea, who specializes in impersonations ranging from Jack Nicholson to Michael Jackson. In another specialty act, Phelston Jones provides the revue's magic element, showcasing his talent as a pickpocket. Jones extracts a wallet, watch, and belt from an audience member—and then replaces them with ladies' lingerie.

The evening concludes when the cast forms a conga line and passes out noisemakers to the audience, completing what has already proved to be quite a party.

Show Notes

"Hot Salsa" plays in the Fiesta Showroom at Harrah's Laughlin. Showtime is 9 p.m. until April 6, when it changes to 10 p.m. (dark Thursday). Tickets are \$12.95, which does not include drinks. Call 702-298-4600 or 800-447-8700.

Paisley Yankolovich is a Laughlin-based freelance writer who follows the entertainment scene on the Colorado River.

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