Laughlin's Big Buffets ▪ Railroading Sisters

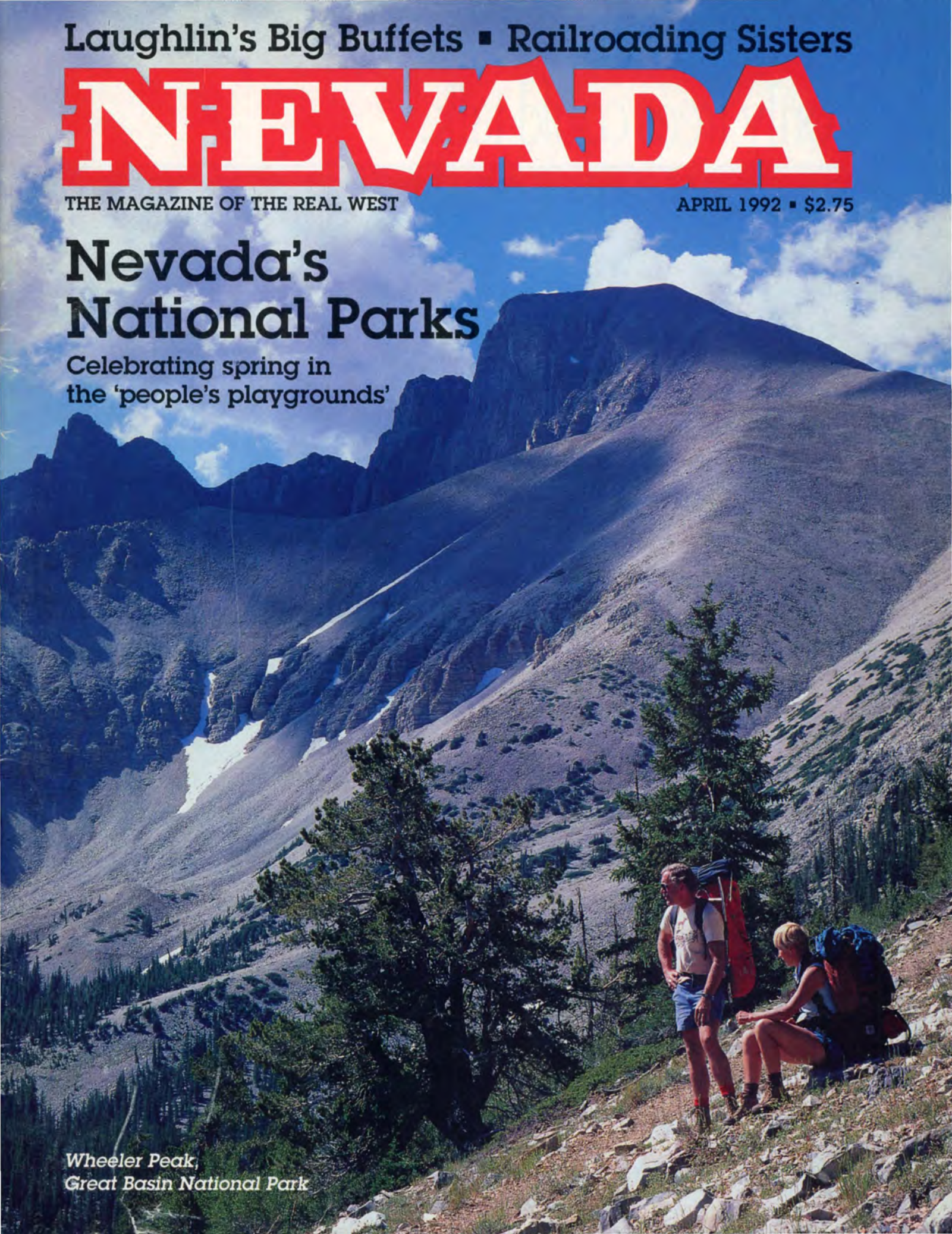
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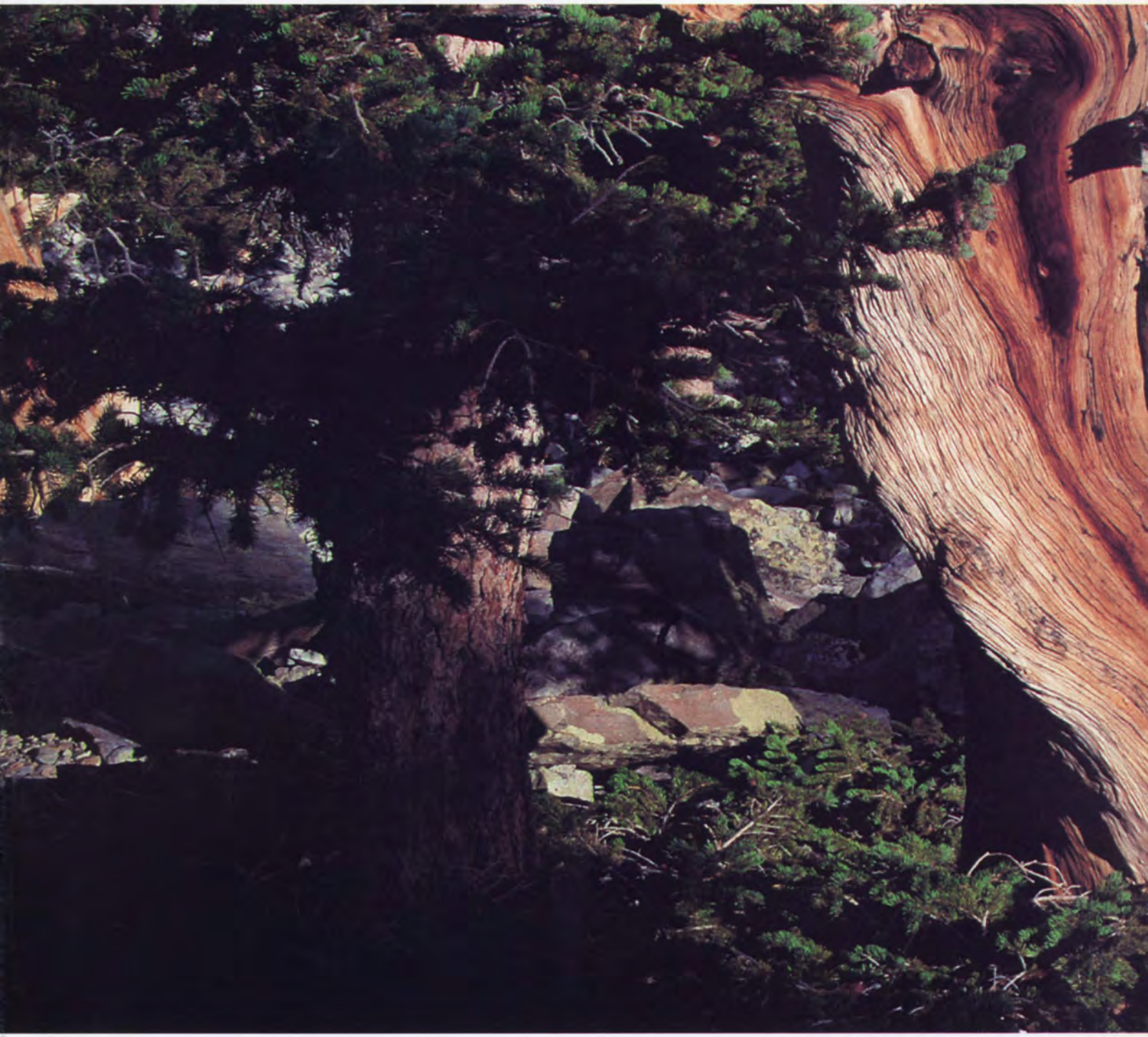
Nevada's National Parks

Celebrating spring in the 'people's playgrounds'

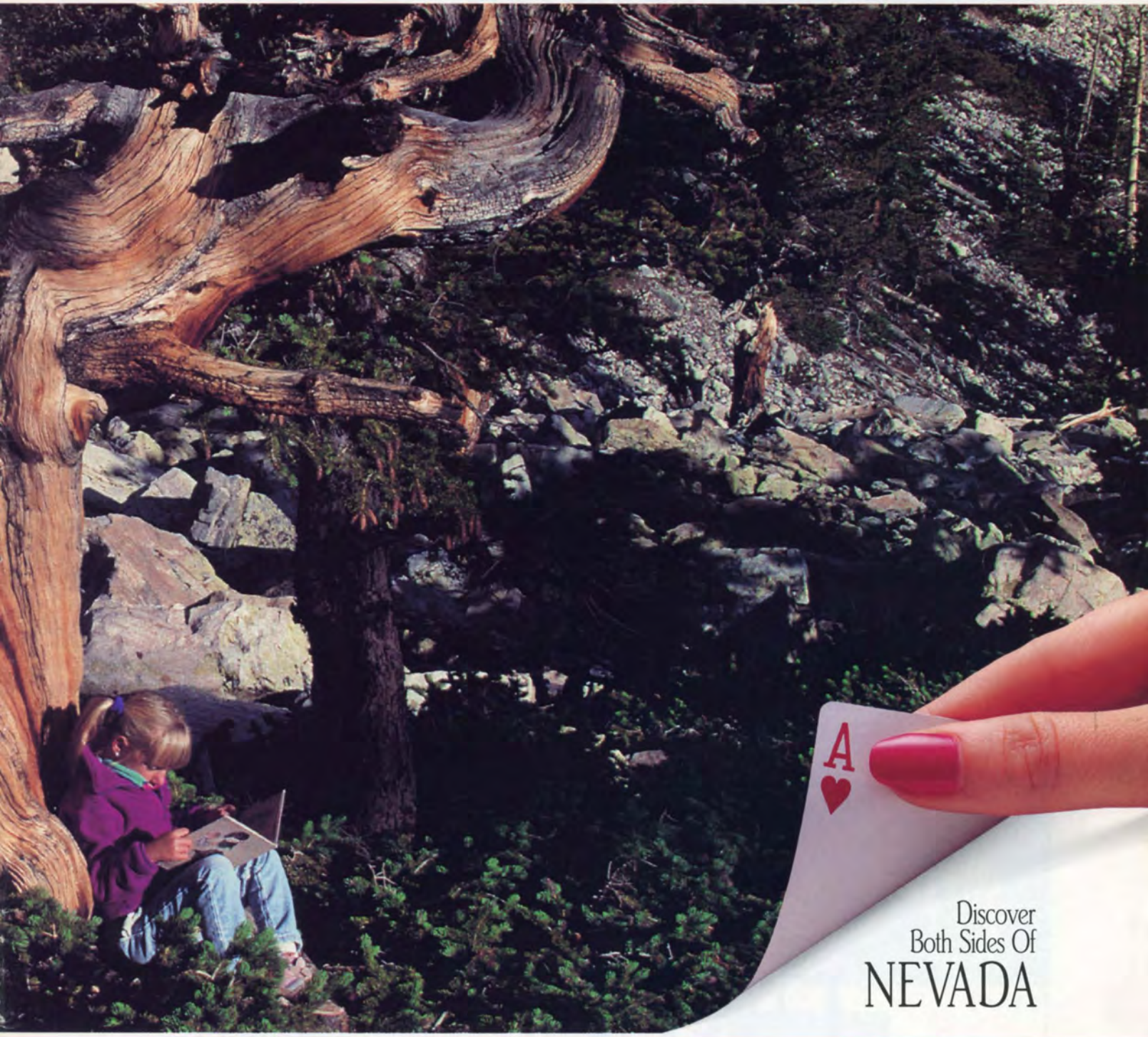


Wheeler Peak, Great Basin National Park

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COVER PHOTO: *Landscape photographer David Muench and wife Bonnie near Wheeler Peak in Great Basin National Park. Photo by Marc Muench*

Photos (from top): Bob McKeever, Shirley Burman, Marjorie D. Martin Collection

THE TWO FACES OF WILL

Ambidextrous buckaroo on the border?

Where There's a Will There's a Wave

Stop the presses! You used a left-handed cowpoke on the cover of your Jan/Feb issue.

Or did you?

Wendover Will seems to be left-handed. But wait! I have seen an Associated Press photo that shows Will is a right-handed gunslinger.

I'm sure you don't want your readers to think Will is two-faced. I suspect the simple explanation is that you flopped the picture so Will's finger is pointing at the cover title, "Bright Lights on the Border." Is this called "photo-editorial license"?

John Reible
Las Vegas News Bureau

Reible, obviously we can't slip anything by you. But no, William Carr's cover photo is not flopped—and yes, there are two sides to



Will, the towering neon marquee of the State Line Casino. In Carr's cover photo Will is facing toward Utah. In the AP photo his other face is gazing toward Nevada. So Will is more than just a sign; he's a complex, multifaced symbol of Wendover's bi-state personality (as noted in David Copelan's story). And of course, we'd never think of flopping a photo. —Ed.

Rhyolite's Ghosts

Thank you for the article "Can Rhyolite Be Saved?" by Charles Hillinger in the Nov/Dec issue. When I was there a year ago, I saw the ghost sculptures by Albert Szuklaski and liked them very much.

Glynmary Bateman
Fresno, CA

Proper Phone for Paddlewheeler

Thanks for the mention of our new Lake Mead paddlewheeler, the *Desert Princess*, in "Roadside Attractions" in Jan/Feb '92. Our company, Travel Systems, Ltd., also operates Zephyr Cove Resort and the *M.S. Dixie* at Lake Tahoe.

Alas, those who have called the phone number in the article have reached our northern Nevada office. The correct number for *Desert Princess* information is 702-293-6180.

Bill Chernock
Marketing Manager
Zephyr Cove

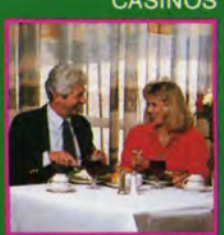
Chernock, thanks for the correction. —Ed.

Play The Green – Play Wendover




CASINOS


ENTERTAINMENT

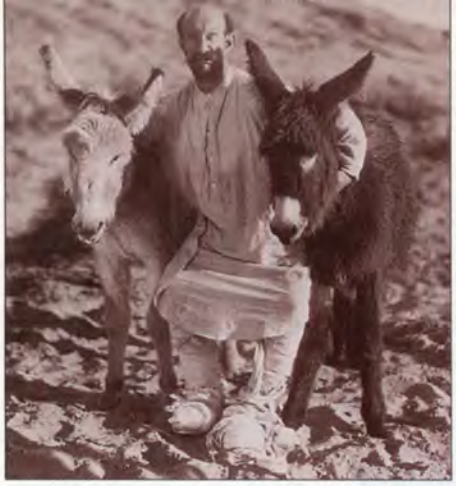

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Photo: William Carr



James Finlayson, here with Overton burros, was a favorite foil of Laurel and Hardy.

A Real Character

The character actor pictured in "Cowboy Classics" in Jan/Feb '92 was incorrectly identified as Jim Fennelson. His real name was James Finlayson (the "Fin") and is best remembered today by Laurel and Hardy fans as a stock player in many of their Hal Roach shorts in the early 1930s. With his thick Scottish brogue and squinty-eyed stare, he most often played the landlord-authority figure types that Stan and Ollie were so fond of getting mixed up with.

John Schrantz
Minden

Schrantz, you're right. Thanks. —Ed.

Fax Finder

When my wife and son helped my daughter move to Los Angeles last November, I suggested they take a side trip to Las Vegas. Using *Nevada Magazine*, I faxed a request for reservations, and the hotel confirmed. Their trip to Las Vegas went off without a hitch.

I want to offer one suggestion: Have advertisers list their fax numbers. I made reservations by fax for everything back here in Pennsylvania, my wife and son had a very pleasant visit and dropped some money into the Las Vegas economy, and I felt relaxed knowing that everything was taken care of.

We are coming back to Vegas in June.

Angus L. Confer
Altoona, PA

Vacation Info Revealing

We visit Nevada about three times a year, and I really enjoy your articles on things to see and places to go. We usually stay in Laughlin or Vegas for a few days during our visits, and we appreciate the advertisements with the toll-free numbers, room rates, and special events.

Paula King

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'Fear and Loathing in Elko'

Word From the Public Defender — A Run on the Newsstands — A Strange Call From Woody Creek — Doubling Elko?

By Lin Anderson

The call arrived with some suddenness. I was preparing the Sports Report for KELK Radio in Elko when word came that the Public Defender was on the line. for me.

Ye, gads, I thought—for what? I was morally certain I had consolidated my debts and would be in no need of an attorney of any stripe until at least next month.

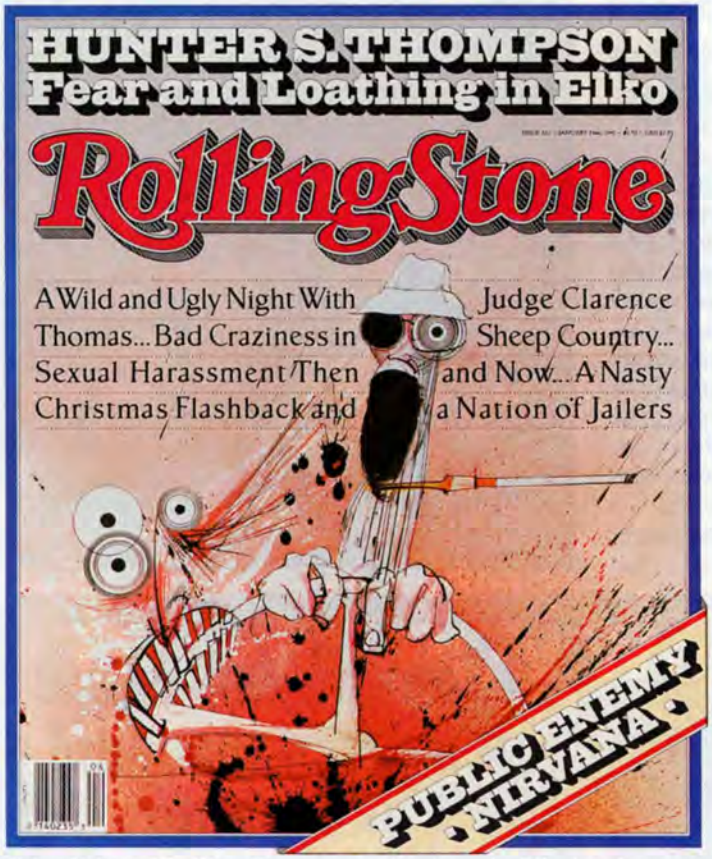
The message, as it turned out, dealt not with me but with perhaps the very future of My City

"You gotta get the *Rolling Stone*," Fred Lee, the Public Defender, cried into the phone. "It's 'Fear and Loathing in Elko.'"

I decided to humor him. He had, after all, an odd and heinous job, one that might drive a lesser man around that last weird bend on a rain-slicked interstate.

"In the *Rolling Stone*?" I asked calmly

"On the cover," he replied. "By Hunter S. Thompson. There isn't a whole lot of Elko in it, but it's pretty funny In fact, it's wild."



This edition of Rolling Stone *was a hot issue in Elko last January.*

The cover of the *Rolling Stone*? Fear and Loathing in Elko? This was News. After all, the hottest story in town for quite some time had been the opening of the new K-Mart. Civic officials had wept with unrestrained and embarrassing glee over the first Blue Light Special. We needed Something.

I immediately excused myself and drove like an addled fiend to the book store which, by some irony was actually called The Book Store. for good or ill, as Dr. Thompson would put it.

And there it was. next to *People* and *The Sporting News*: "Hunter S. Thompson/Fear and Loathing in Elko." Our City's name above the *Rolling Stone* logo, and all of that atop a deeply disturbing Ralph Steadman sketch of Dr. Thompson in the midst of automotive bloodletting.

I bought every copy they had.

And, God help me, I let it be known—on KELK's noon news, the afternoon news, and the evening news. "Dr Thompson," I blared, "has put us on the cover of the *Rolling Stone*. God help us all."

The reaction was sadly predictable. Crazed Elkoans flocked to supermarkets and drug stores in droves to get a copy The cries of the deeply offended mixed with the triumphant shouts of those who had been waiting since the late 1960s for something as twisted as this to happen. "We knew it!" they crowed. "Dr. Thompson has vindicated us!"

Indeed. Some citizens were purportedly trampled underfoot in the stampede to obtain a scarce copy of the Doctor's adventures in this wild and unpredictable hamlet. Management of the Commercial Hotel—a locale featured prominently in Thompson's sick tale—was in a deep quandary whether to sue or reap the whirlwind of Gonzo publicity.

In short order, the *Reno Gazette-Journal* was calling for news of the phenomenon. There was more than a little "Why Elko? Why not Us?" in their tone, but they asked me for a "reaction piece" and played it on the front page even after deleting my pointed reference to the Doctor's encounter with inflatable women in the home of an angst-ridden Elko gambler. and his meeting with White King, the Commercial Hotel's world-famous giant white polar bear.

It was while riding this assignment that I spoke with Bob Love, Thompson's deceptively rational *Rolling Stone* editor in New York. Love revealed with some dark relish that "Fear and Loathing in Elko" would be at least a two-part adventure, depending on the whims of the Doctor's fax machine.

We were being Warned, I knew, to prepare for More.

And so it was that on a bleak morning, scant days after the incendiary thing had hit the stands, I found myself answering a long-distance wake-up call from Woody Creek, Thompson's mysterious Colorado sanctuary It seemed the Doctor and his private secretary, Deborah Fuller, had spent the previous night attempting to fathom a fax I had sent of my piece in the Reno paper, which electronic transmission had ren-

dered almost unreadable. "We had a good time, though," Ms. Fuller said, noting several strange headlines in that day's news.

There was a loud mumble in the background.

"What?" I asked, knowing full well what I had heard: the Doctor's voice, its tone filled with portent.

The rumbling came again before Ms. Fuller could speak. "It sounds like a hostile piece to me!" it said, not without a touch of bleak humor.

"Tell him they cut it," I said. "Tell him it wasn't hostile at all!"

Ms. Fuller relayed the message. There was some sinister laughter, some subdued dialogue.

"We'll need to see the original," Ms. Fuller said.

I told her I would fax it immediately From the background, I heard a louder mumble: "Tell him I'm going to double the population of Elko!"

"He says he's going to double the population of Elko," Ms. Fuller said.

Well. she needn't have bothered with the translation. The writing was already on the wall. Fans of the Doctor's work would be filling town this summer, gorging on Wild Turkey, driving flashy red convertibles, worshipping at the altar of White King.

The writing was on the wall. Fans of the Doctor's work would be filling town this summer, driving red convertibles, worshipping at the altar of White King.

Instantly, my mind replayed Bob Love's haunting words, when I asked him what Elko might expect from being the subject of a Hunter S. Thompson story "Just look at what he did for Las Vegas, that's all I can say," Love had offered, cackling madly, resurrecting the specter of Thompson's manic search for the American Dream in Las Vegas, the original "Fear and Loathing" of 20 odd years ago.

In that moment of reflection I looked out my upper-story window at the pink sunrise sky over Elko. The picture was quiet, serene. But it was shift-changing time at the Mines, and I knew this pastoral tableau wouldn't linger long.

Sure enough, my view of Silver Street soon was one long string of headlights, the unknown and unknowable probing over the boom town, some of those vehicles hauling people of Security and Tolerance, others propelling Fear and Loathing into another morning on the High Desert.

I broke the tenuous connection with Woody Creek and pondered. Double the size of Elko? Gold had already trebled it in 10 years' time! But it seemed likely that. like installments in Dr. Thompson's ongoing tale. there would be More to Come: Feared, Loathed, perhaps oddly Welcomed.

I downed a shot of Wild Turkey and quietly made ready for the New Day *Res Ipsa Loquitur*

Lin Anderson, Elko writer and radio man, is a fan of Hunter Thompson and obscure Latin phrases. He wrote about Elko in "Northeastern Exposure" in Sept/Oct '91.

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The People's

Nature's beauty mingles with the hand of man at Nevada's three national parks.
By Katherine Rohde





A waterskier cuts a wake on the ink-blue waters of Lake Mead, one of the nation's largest recreation areas. Bighorn sheep wander the desert peaks surrounding the lake (above left). Mead was created in the '30s when Hoover Dam (left) was built to control downstream flooding on the Colorado River.

Photos: Larry Prosor (main photo and bottom left), Bob McKeever (top left)

Playgrounds

In 1872, the first national park in the United States was established at Yellowstone. In the 120 years since, more than 350 national parks, monuments, recreation areas, and historic sites have been placed in the public trust. Three areas in Nevada have such



remarkable qualities, both natural and man-made, that they have been designated national park areas.

John Muir once called the national parks "the people's playgrounds," and that is an apt description of Lake Mead National Recreation Area, one of the busiest in the country Death Valley National Monument is a symbol of desert extremes, while seeing a mountain inside and out is part of the experience at Great Basin National Park.

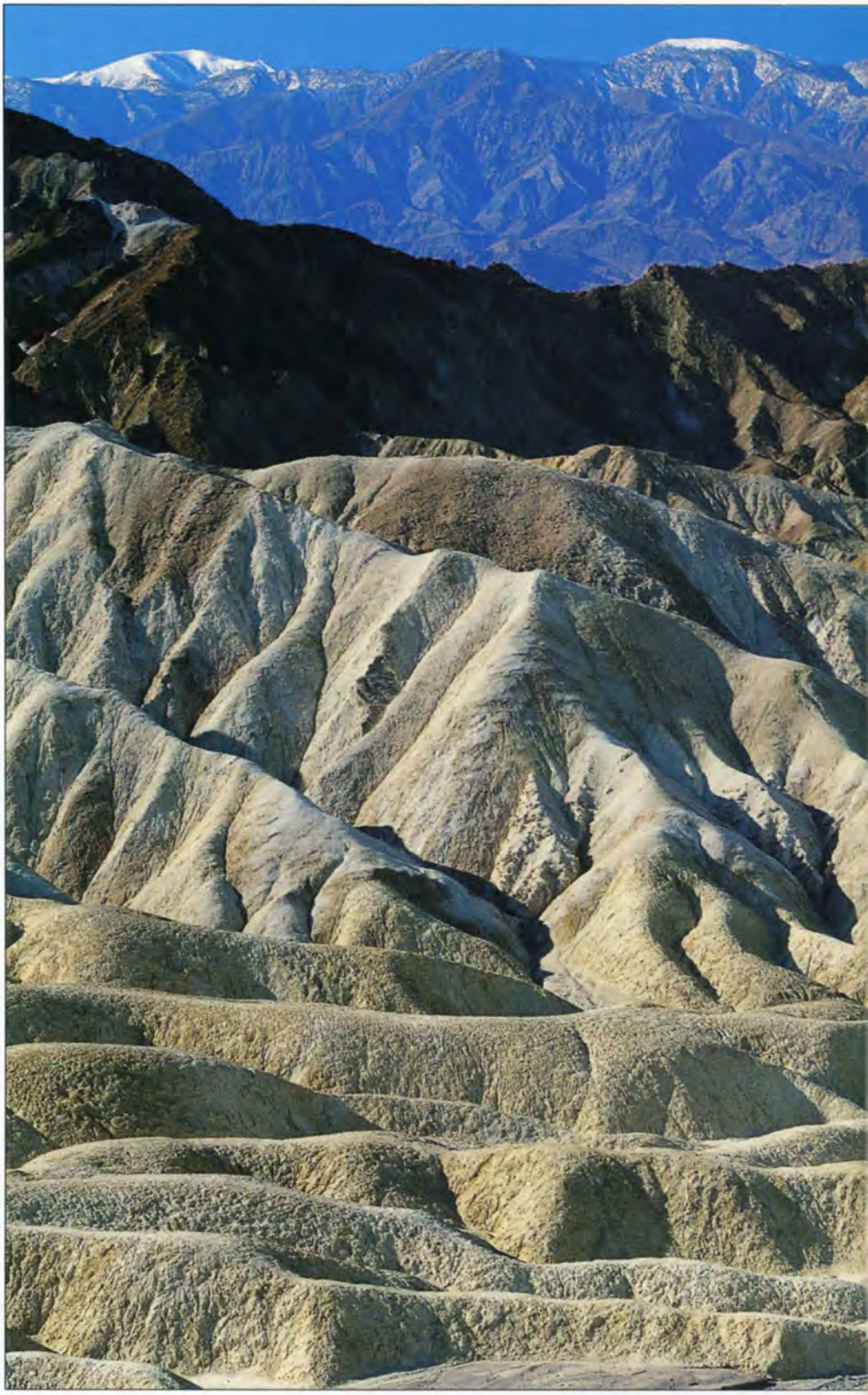
Each of the parks beckons in a different way

Water is the focus at Lake Mead, the country's first national recreation area when it was established in 1964. The contrast between the parched Mojave Desert and the blue waters of Lakes Mead and Mohave helps to attract nine million visitors a year.

Lake Mead is located 25 miles east of Las Vegas and the valley's 700,000 residents. Some people call Mead a wilderness park in an urban setting; others say that it's an urban park in a wilderness setting. Still, if one picks the right spot, the experience can be *all* wilderness.

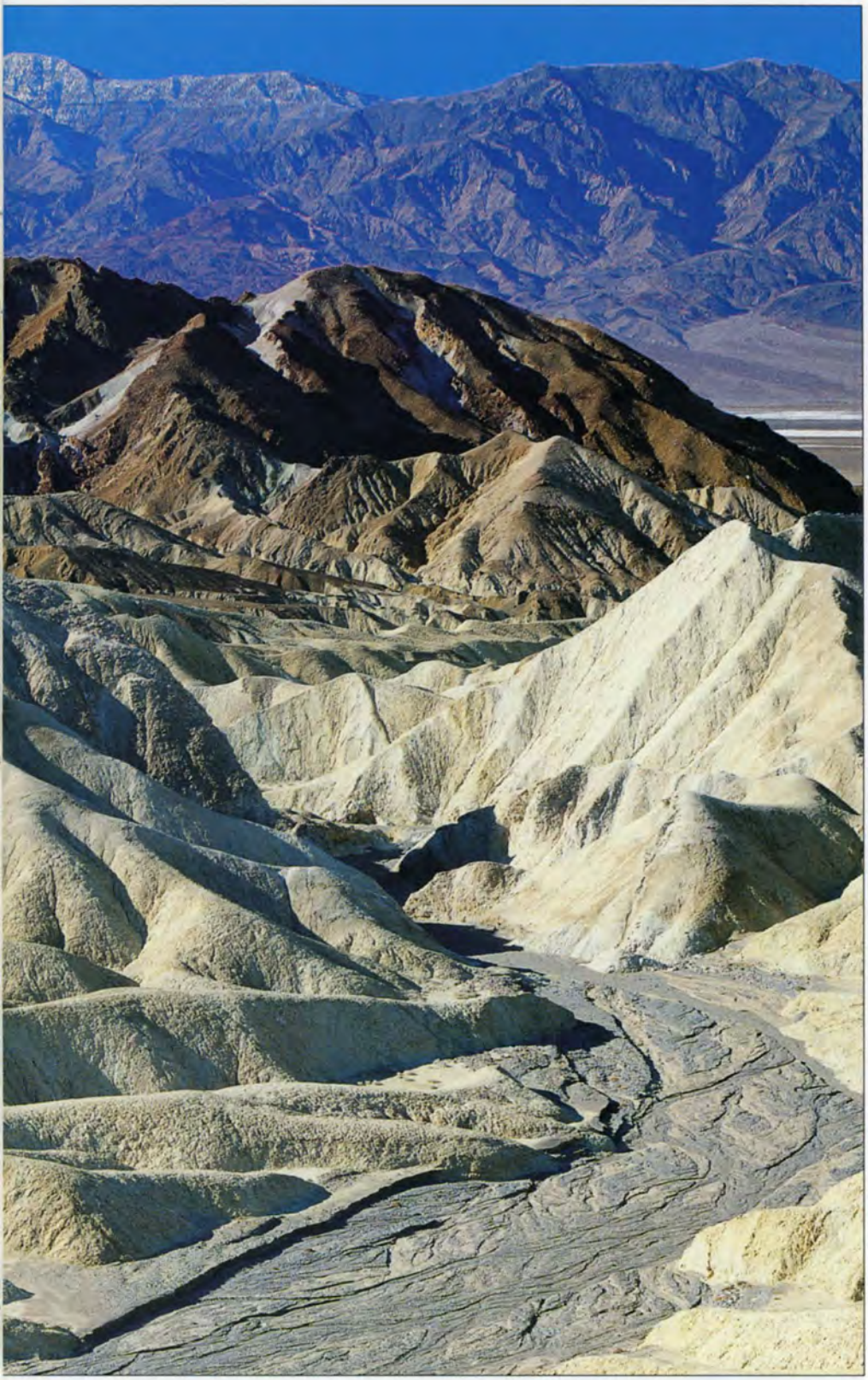
The artificial lake named for former U.S. Reclamation chief Elwood Mead was created when Hoover Dam was built in the 1930s, and the big reservoir, which backs up into the Grand Canyon area, is best known for its marinas and water sports. There is a certain mystique to waterskiing on a lake that literally sprang up from desert canyons.

Below Hoover Dam, Black Canyon rises above the upper reaches of Lake Mohave. Because there is sometimes a current, this stretch is often called "the river." Indeed, the canyon walls and riffles at Ring Bolt Rapids make it easy to imagine the days when the natural, free-flowing Colorado River raced or meandered—depending on the season—down the canyon on its way to the Gulf of California.

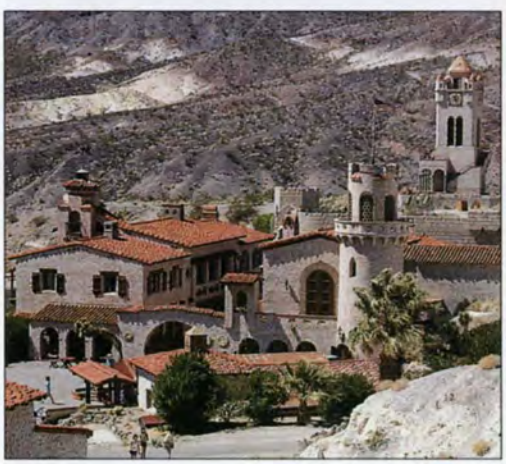


The two lakes, however, account for only part of the area's attractions. The water is surrounded by wild country

Near Laughlin, hidden springs in the Newberry Mountains provide refuges for birds and other wildlife. The presence of early Native Americans can be felt in Grapevine Canyon, where petroglyphs guard the entrance. A







From snowy peaks to badlands, Death Valley's contrasting moods are expressed in the view from Zabriskie Point (left). Big dunes symbolize the valley's Sahara-like conditions in the summer (top). Scotty's Castle (above) was built in the '20s by Death Valley Scotty and a wealthy benefactor.

short walk up the canyon reveals a lush growth of wild grapes and other water-loving plants.

Death Valley once held a lake but is now one of the driest spots on earth. It is a place that fires the imagination. It is a land of extremes, where green oases with tiny fish contrast with white alkali flats, and where Badwater, near the lowest point in the U.S.—282 feet below sea level—is within sight of lofty, 11,049-foot Telescope Peak. It is a land of dreams, where miners searched for glory holes, and where one man built a castle.

Desert rats revere this place, but to the men and women hurrying to the gold fields of California in 1849 the valley was not so

Photos: Jeff Gnass (main photo), Larry Prosor (top right), Larry Angier (bottom right)

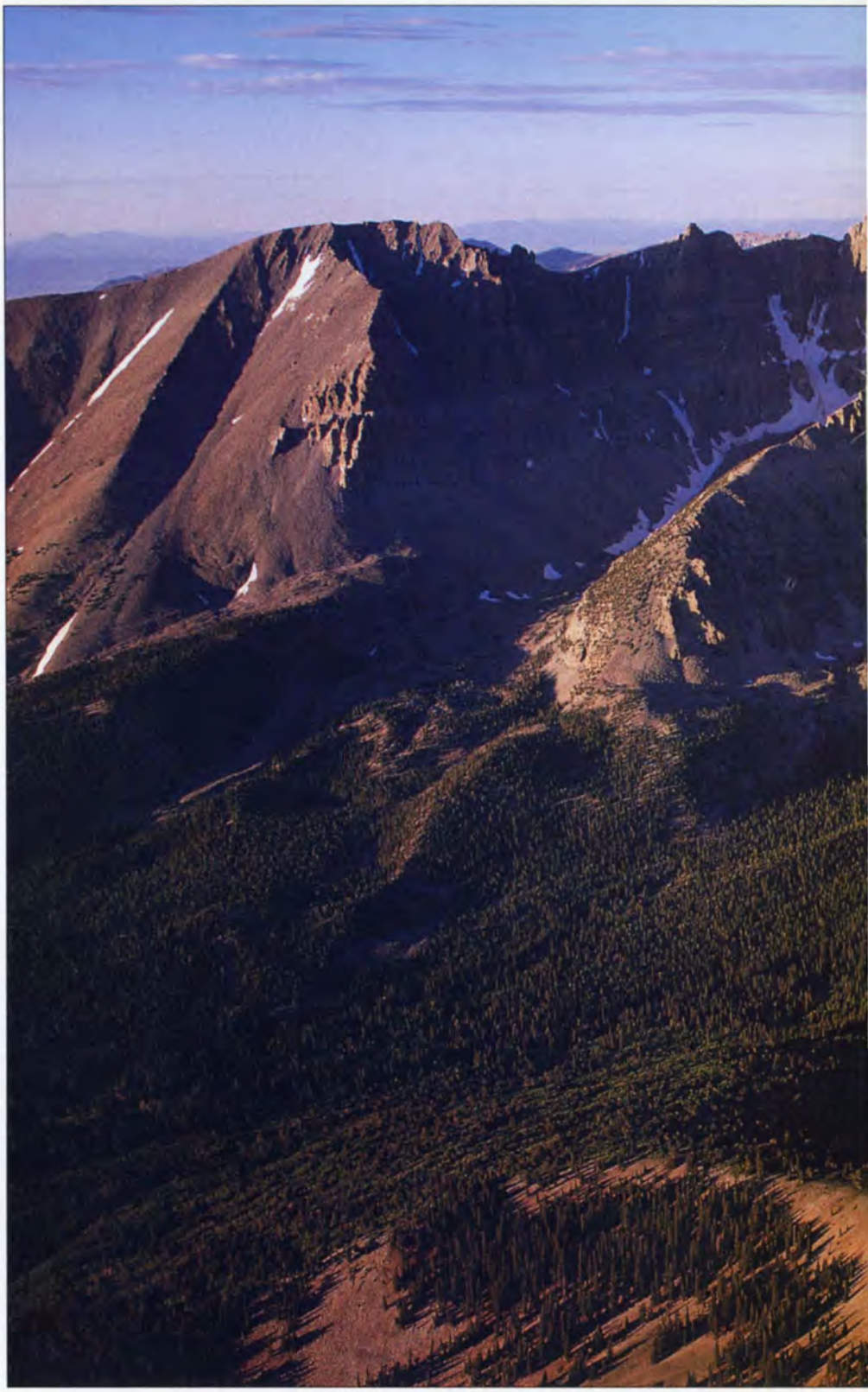
friendly Looking for a shortcut, several parties found Death Valley and nearly lost their lives while trying to get out. According to legend, the valley got its name when one bedraggled pioneer bade it farewell: "Good-bye, Death Valley "

Today there are campgrounds, air-conditioned motels, restaurants, and even barrels of car-radiator water cached on park roads, but much of Death Valley remains as wild as it was in 1849. In fact, the harsh conditions help to protect the spirit of the place.

A visit to Badwater lets us imagine the disappointment of a band of thirsty 49ers who find the salt-laden water is not life-giving at all. A drive through Twenty Mule Team Canyon evokes memories of mule teams hauling borax on old television westerns.

Scotty's Castle is a surprise. Rangers conduct tours of the lavish home built in the 1920s by Death Valley Scotty with a little help from his benefactor, Albert M. Johnson. Scotty also left behind a "lost" mine and a colorful legacy as a desert dreamer.

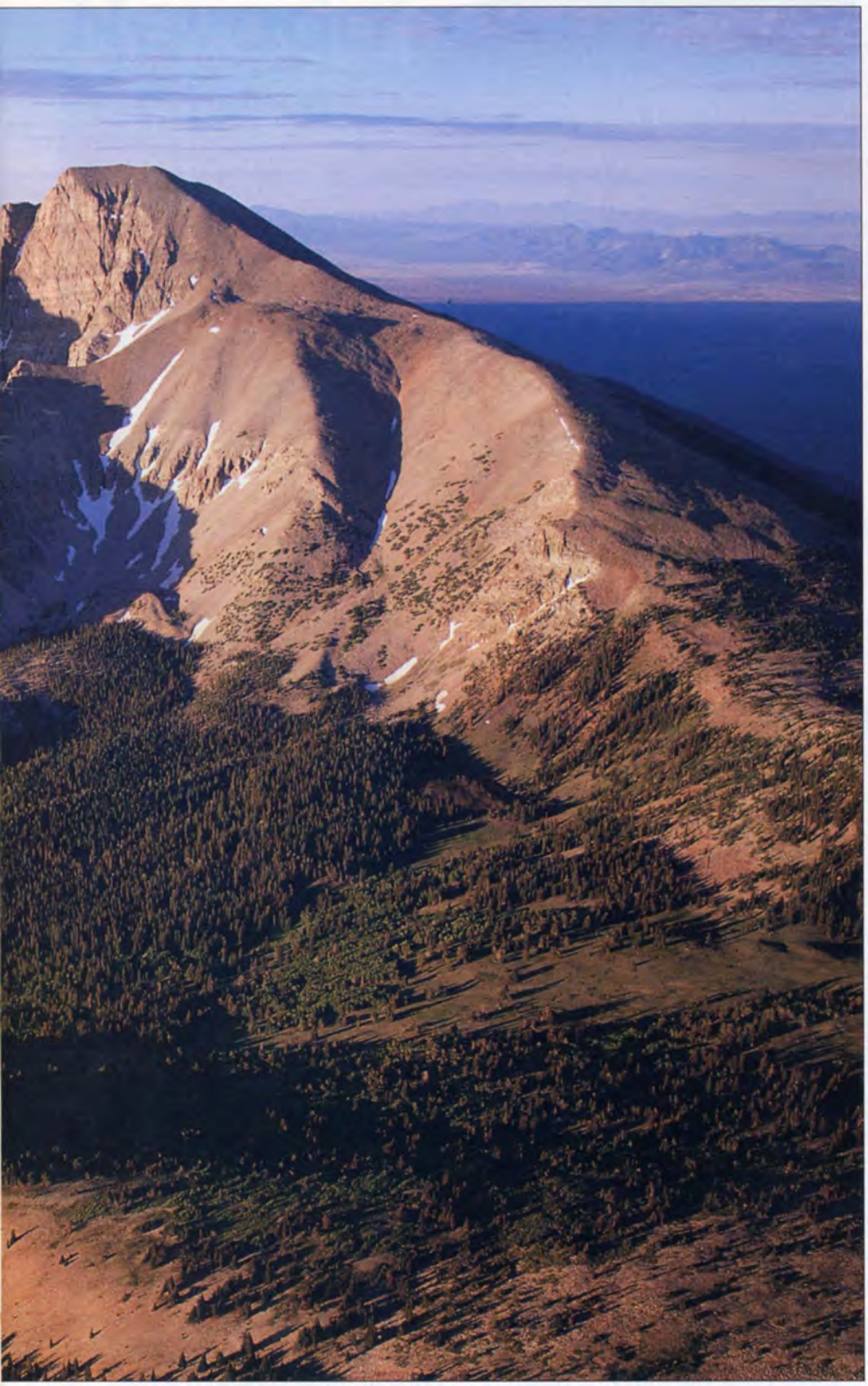
In the 1880s on the other side of the state, another dreamer laid the foundation for today's Great Basin National Park. Near his ranch east of Ely, Absalom Lehman found a serpentine cavern. For years he gave tours to curious tourists by candlelight. In 1922 Lehman Caves became a national monument, and 64 years later it was included with Wheeler Peak in the new Great Basin National Park.



At 13,063 feet, Wheeler is Nevada's second-highest peak. After an arduous hike to its summit you can see range after range fading into the distance.

The park road winds through several life zones as it climbs from 6,600 feet at the visitor center to the Wheeler Peak campground and trail head at 10,000 feet. At road's end the traveler can choose to hike to a glacier (rare in this part of the country), to three sub-alpine lakes, or through a bristlecone-pine forest. The bristlecones are favorite subjects of photographers, and there is a sense of agelessness as one sits among them.

Lehman Caves offers a vastly different experience. A tour through the caves, which were formed in limestones laid down in







Great Basin hikers can reach the summit of 13,063-foot Wheeler Peak (right of center) by a trail near the ridgeline. Mountain bikers cruise the park's roads (top). Tours of Lehman Caves' cathedral-like passageways are conducted daily (above).

ancient seas, is an underground adventure through rooms with fluted columns and a profusion of stalactites, stalagmites, and popcorn—testimony to a wetter time long past.

It is so wet and cool, here inside the mountain. Walking through the caves, you have time to wonder at forces that, on one hand, can tilt and force an entire block of rock thousands of feet into the sky, and, on the other, create so beautiful and delicate a feature as the shield, deep inside that same mountain.

Katherine Rohde of Boulder City is chief interpreter at Lake Mead National Recreation Area.

(Continued)

Photos: Jeff Gnass (main photo), Larry Prosor (top right), Tom Campbell (bottom right)

It's a Grand Canyon

Making connections by air, land, and water

One of the most popular attractions for visitors to Las Vegas—particularly those from overseas—is actually 300 miles from Las Vegas.

The Grand Canyon.

The reasoning apparently is: If you've already traveled 3,000 miles or more to get to America and Las Vegas, another 300 miles is nothing, especially to see one of the greatest natural wonders in the world.

Both the North Rim and South Rim of the Grand Canyon are almost exactly 300 miles from Las Vegas, but the South Rim is the more visited of the two and has more tourist facilities. The North Rim is closed in winter.

The Grand Canyon is a mile deep from the South Rim, and its width varies from four to 18 miles. The canyon stretches 277 miles along the Colorado River

The easiest way to see the canyon from Las Vegas is by air. Companies offering air tours are: Scenic Airlines, the largest (241 E. Reno Ave., Las Vegas, NV 89119, phone 702-739-1900), Air Nevada (Box 11105, Las Vegas, NV 89111, phone 702-736-8900), Adventure Airlines (Box 93445, Las Vegas, NV 89193-3445, phone 702-736-7511), Helicopter Services of Nevada (135 E. Reno Ave., Suite F-4, Las Vegas, NV 89119, phone 702-736-0606), and Las Vegas Airlines (phone 702-647-3056).

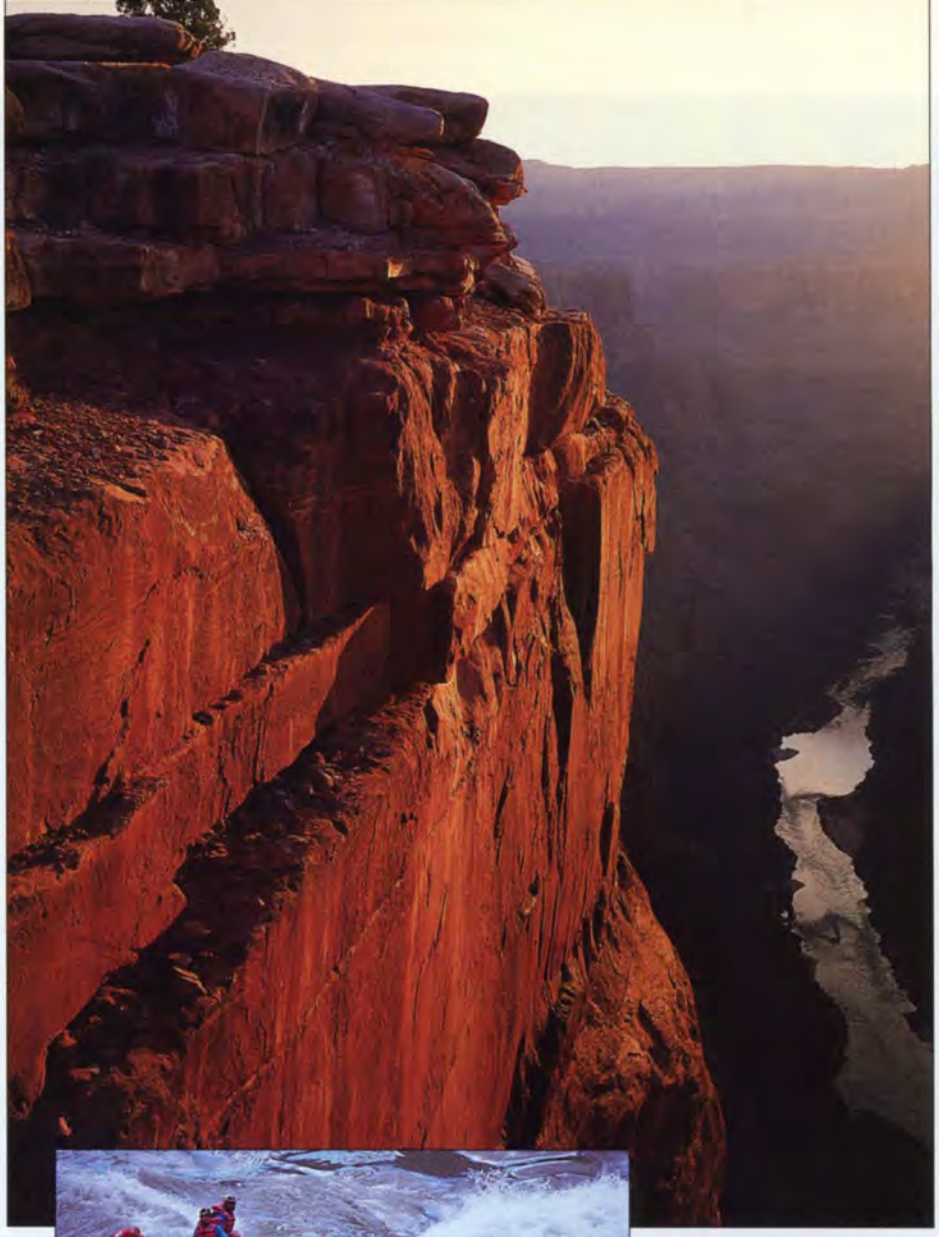
Most offer a variety of tours, and prices range from $69 to $225. Many of the planes are equipped with headphones that will translate the tour into a number of languages.

Gray Line, the tour bus company (702-384-1234), offers tours to Hoover Dam, Lake Mead, and the Grand Canyon for about $100.

You can also drive to the canyon from Las Vegas by way of Kingman, Arizona.

If you want to see the Grand Canyon by raft, the park has 20 licensed concessioners. Motorized raft trips take seven to 12 days, oar-powered rafts 10 to 12 days. Trips of three to eight days are available. Inquires should be addressed to the park's superintendent.

For more information write: Superintendent, Grand Canyon National Park, Box 129, Grand Canyon, AZ 86023, phone 602-638-7771. —*Stephen Allen*





Morning light catches the Supai Cliffs in Grand Canyon National Park, 100 miles upriver from Lake Mead (above). Visitors can explore the canyon by raft, plane, foot, or burro.

Photos: Jeff Gnass (top), Carolyn Fox (bottom)

Nevada's National Parks

When to go, what to see, and where to write.

Lake Mead National Rec. Area
Established in 1964. Visitor center is 28 miles from downtown Las Vegas and four miles from Boulder City

Best Time to Visit: All year. Summers (June through September) are hot with daily highs usually over 100°F, so an air-conditioned car is advised. Water sports are popular in summer, but it's safest to hike in spring, fall, or winter. Winters are mild.

Visitor Center: Open daily the Alan Bible Visitor Center is located between Hoover Dam and Boulder City.

Hoover Dam: Tours are conducted daily Fee is $1.

Marinas: Nine marinas have boat rentals for fishing, waterskiing, and houseboating as well as restaurants, bars, and groceries. Some have motels.

Camping: Eight campgrounds have water and RV dump stations. Overnight fees are about $6. RV sites are $12.

More Information: Write Lake Mead NRA, 601 Nevada Hwy., Boulder City, NV 89005. Phone 702-293-8907

Death Valley National Monument
Established in 1933. Services are limited during the hot months of May to October. Las Vegas is 110 miles east, Pahrump 60.

Best Time to Visit: November through March. Death Valley's famed heat reigns from May through September, when highs average 99° to 116°F. Winter highs are 64° to 75°F. It's best to avoid the crowds on major holidays and three-day weekends in winter.

Visitor Center: The Furnace Creek center is open daily A park entrance fee of $5 per vehicle is charged.

Scotty's Castle: Rangers conduct tours daily Adult fee is $6.

Camping: Nine campgrounds, and three are open all year. A $4 to $8 fee is charged.

Lodging and Dining: Furnace Creek Ranch and Furnace Creek Inn have rooms, restaurants, stores, golf, tennis, and swimming. Stovepipe Wells has lodging and dining.

More Information: Write Death Valley National Monument, Death Valley CA 92938. Phone 619-786-2331.

Great Basin National Park
Established in 1986. Park includes former Lehman Caves National Monument, established in 1922. Ely is 68 miles west. The small town of Baker is near the park entrance.

Best Time To Visit: Summer, when highs at the visitor center (7,000 feet) are usually 80° to 95°F. Snow lingers at the higher elevations until late June.

Visitor Center: The park's visitor center is open daily Off the back porch is entrance to Lehman Caves.

Lehman Caves: The 90-minute tours are conducted all year. Adult fee is $3.

Camping: A $5 fee is collected at Lower and Upper Lehman Creek campgrounds. Baker Creek and Wheeler Peak may have fees in summer.

Nearby Services: Baker has dining, groceries, lodging, and gasoline. Ely 68 miles west, is the county seat.

More Information: Write Great Basin National Park, Baker, NV 89311. Phone 702-234-7331.



A Ring of Parks

Nevada is home to all or part of three national parks—Lake Mead, Death Valley, and Great Basin. Travelers eager to take a tour of national parks also will find Nevada is ringed with big names in the park galaxy The ring is the result of two geological features that help form the state's borders—the Sierra Nevada and Colorado River.

Upriver from Lake Mead are such national park areas as Grand Canyon, Glen Canyon, Capitol Reef, Canyonlands, and Arches. Southern Utah also has Zion, Bryce Canyon, and Cedar Breaks. They are connected to Las Vegas by I-15 in Utah and U.S. 93 and 66 in Arizona.

The California side of the Sierra includes Lassen, Yosemite, Kings Canyon, and Sequoia as well as Death Valley From Reno, all are linked by U.S. 395.

The Sierra contingent includes some of the oldest parks in the U.S. system. After Yellowstone became the first national park in 1872, the next ones named, in 1890, included Yosemite, Kings Canyon, Sequoia, and Mount Ranier in Washington. John Muir was a strong advocate for the forested Sierra preserves.

Driving Into History

In 1909 pioneer motorist Alice Ramsey took an automobile, and women drivers, a long way.

By Phillip I. Earl

Three-quarters of a century ago, women drivers were viewed not only as a danger to themselves and others but also as a threat to society and family life. A few women endeavored to overcome this stereotype, however, among them Alice Huyler Ramsey of Hackensack, New Jersey.

With a green Maxwell automobile as her transport and a brave, pioneering spirit, Ramsey became the first woman to drive across the United States. Her historic travel westward in the summer of 1909 eventually led her to Nevada across present-day U.S. 50—which not long before had been a route for horses and wagons.

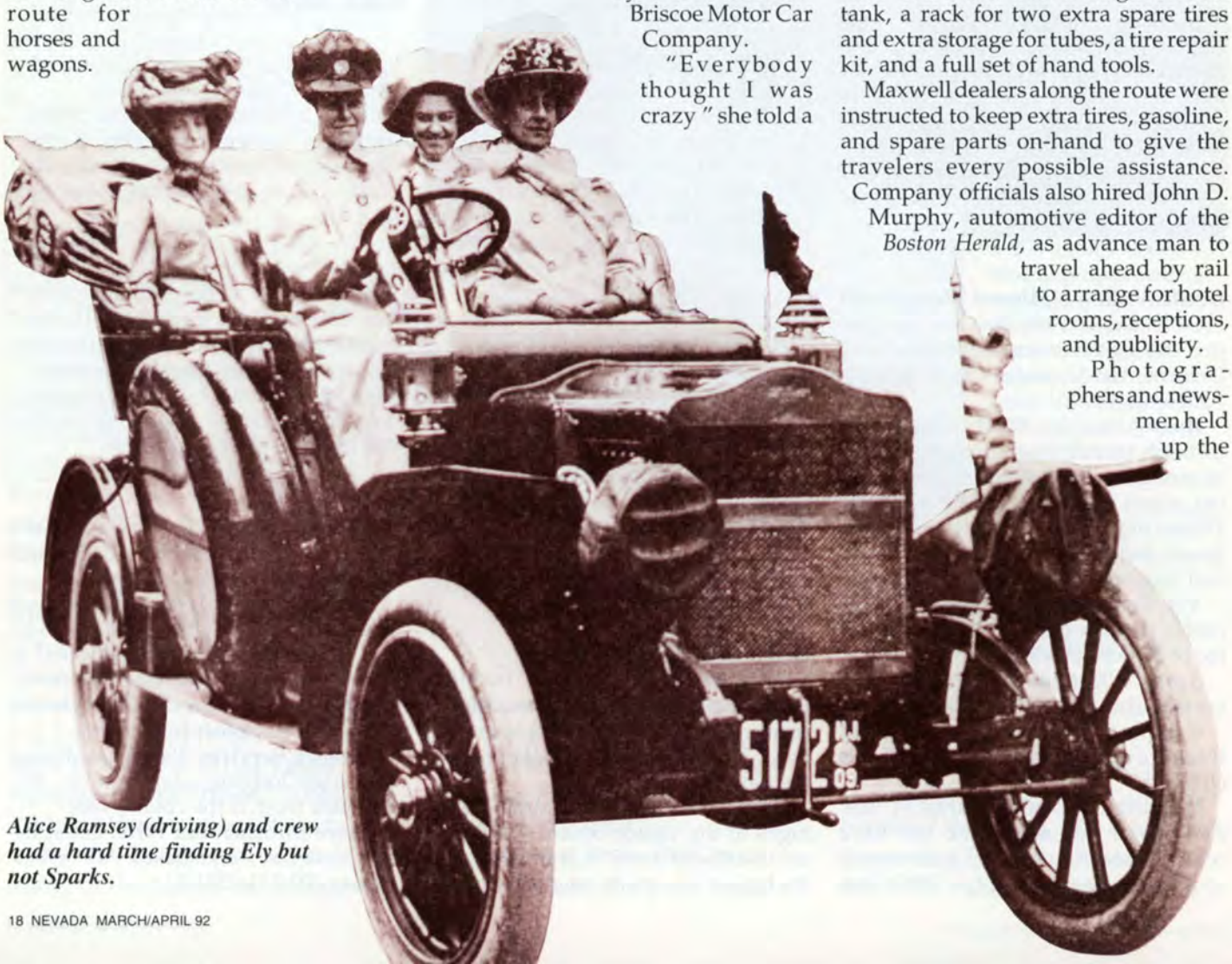
Ramsey's interest in automobiles first surfaced in high school, where she had taken a shop course and showed a particular talent for fathoming the intricacies of the internal combustion engine. But her love for the automobile began after her husband, attorney John Rathbone Ramsey, bought her a red Maxwell roadster in 1908. She soon became intimately acquainted with dust, grease, mud, flat tires, broken springs, and bad roads that wandered off into nowhere.

The unique idea to send a woman on the New York to San Francisco automobile venture came from a promotion by the Maxwell-Briscoe Motor Car Company.

"Everybody thought I was crazy," she told a reporter for the *Nevada State Journal* when she returned to Reno in 1974 to retrace the journey. "Making the trip just appealed to me. I was 22 and had a two-year-old son at the time, but my husband was very understanding—he let me go."

Three other women accompanied Ramsey on the trip—her husband's sisters, Nettie Powell and Margaret Atwood, and a friend, Hermine Jahns. On June 9, 1909, they drove from Hackensack to the Maxwell showroom in New York City—the official starting point—where company officials presented them with a Maxwell 30. The auto was fitted with a 20-gallon fuel tank, a rack for two extra spare tires and extra storage for tubes, a tire repair kit, and a full set of hand tools.

Maxwell dealers along the route were instructed to keep extra tires, gasoline, and spare parts on-hand to give the travelers every possible assistance. Company officials also hired John D. Murphy, automotive editor of the *Boston Herald*, as advance man to travel ahead by rail to arrange for hotel rooms, receptions, and publicity. Photographers and newsmen held up the



Alice Ramsey (driving) and crew had a hard time finding Ely but not Sparks.

start until Ramsey announced that they must be off. "Willing hands reached for the crank handle at the front end," she later wrote in her book, *Veil, Duster and Tire Iron*, a recollection of her cross-country adventure. "But suddenly, recalling that this was to be a woman's expedition, I said, 'Wa-a-it a minute! We'd better get ourselves started.'" Giving the crank a twirl, she raced around to retard the throttle. Kissing her husband good-bye, she climbed aboard, shifted into low gear, and roared off down Broadway trailing a banner reading, "From Hell's Gate to Golden Gate."

A series of pilot cars and local guides led the expeditioners West, and they added a towing rope, block and tackle, and a shovel to their equipment in Chicago. They encountered torrential rains in Iowa and in western Utah a front axle spring broke, disabling the Maxwell. The three other women decided to take the stage to Ely, but a local blacksmith was able to forge a new spring, and Ramsey and Sam Sharman, who had signed on as a guide in Salt Lake City, continued.

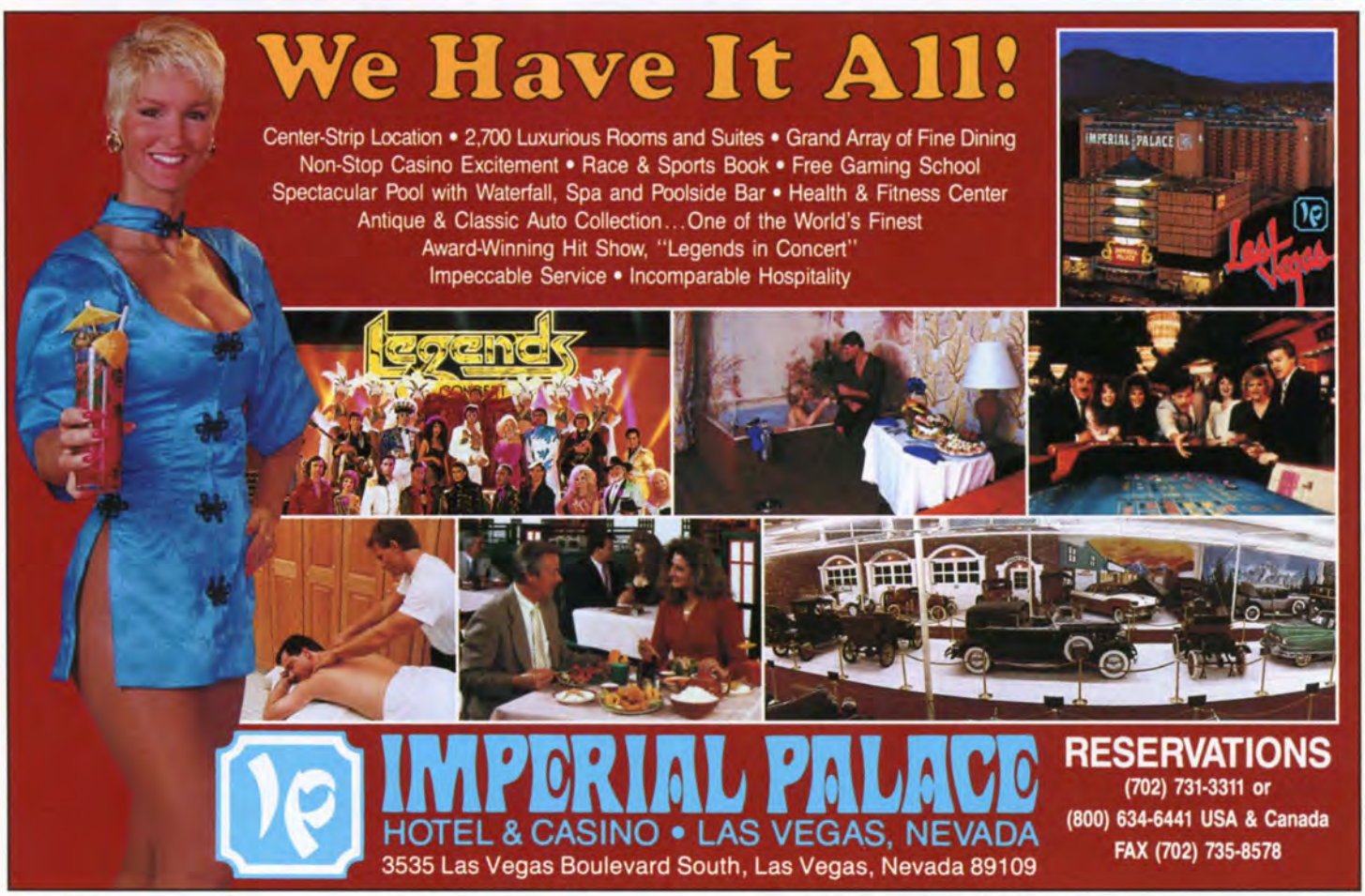
Entering Nevada, the travelers met yet another setback. "Since Ely lay off to our left, we naturally thought the left fork would lead us to our goal," Ramsey later wrote. "No house to stop and ask, and no signpost—also at this point no wires to follow "But with the aid of maps they finally found Ely late in the afternoon of July 30 and stayed overnight at the Hotel Nevada.



From left: Hermine Jahns, Alice Ramsey, Nettie Powell, and Margaret Atwood.

On the way to Eureka they saw a group of Indians on horseback and later learned they were on a rabbit hunt. The following day they got as far as the Walsh ranch east of Austin, where they stopped for the night. Rising early, they breakfasted on a most unusual fare—lamb chops and chocolate cake.

Passing through Austin, they encountered some rough going. "We had been told it was an advantage to let some air out of our tires when traveling in heavy sand," she recalled. "But doing so tore out one of the tire valve stems and gave us more trouble." After repairing the tire they headed for Reno, but Sharman picked up a man walking in the desert,



Photos: Nevada Historical Society

so they detoured to the camp of Rawhide, 45 miles south of Fallon. "The place had been a very active mining town, but was rather running down even when we were there," Ramsey wrote.

The run north out of Rawhide the next morning went smoothly, "an 8-mile climb followed by a 7-mile coast. Nice traveling while it lasted!" Nearing Fallon, their spirits were buoyed by the green farms and ranches of Lahontan Valley Ramsey said that Fallon was "the prettiest spot encountered in Nevada."



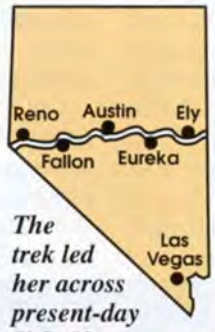
Alice was chosen Woman Motorist of the Century by the AAA.

A crowd gathered when Ramsey pulled up in front of the Hotel Churchill shortly after noon. The women stayed with the car while Sharman looked for a garage to fix some flat tires. A newsman later reported: "The ladies seemed to think that they had quite enough of cross-the-continent autoing and were browned to a point that should satisfy the most exacting. About the only paraphernalia visible was a hat pin, a box of talcum powder, a water bottle, and a 'little brown jug. The latter contained machine oil."

Leaving for Reno later that afternoon, they drove through Hazen, Fernley, and Wadsworth. "But the image which is most vivid in my mind was the unexpected view as we drove over the mountain in the late evening and looked upon the little city of Sparks," Ramsey later wrote. "I think I shall never forget the surprise of that vista bursting upon us in the darkness. Here was a hollow in which lay a community brilliantly lighted with electricity! Right off the dark and barren desert, this almost bowled us over. It was situated only a couple of miles from Reno and was connected to it. by trolley! Surprise! Surprise! Suddenly we had returned to civilization."

A welcoming party awaited them in Reno. "It was close to midnight when we drew up at the Riverside Hotel," Ramsey recalled. "But the greetings of the San Francisco and Sacramento Maxwellites, on-hand to lead us on our final lap to the Golden Gate, could be heard above the rushing waters of the Truckee River flowing by the side of the building."

Deciding to cross the Sierra Nevada by way of Lake Tahoe's south shore, they passed through Carson City and headed over the mountains. "The Sierra range confronted us with sudden steepness as we started the climb to its crest soon after leaving the capital," she recalled. "The road was heavy with sand. This was in truth no automobile highway It was an old wagon trail over the mountains and the grades were stiff. Traffic was largely trucking wagons and powerful horses, mules, or even oxen, and sometimes just men in the saddle."



The trek led her across present-day U.S. 50.

Tahoe's altitude gave the Maxwell's carburetor fits, and Alice raised the sides on the hood to give the engine more ventilation. The travelers spent the night at Lakeside Park on the lake's south shore.

They continued on to Stockton and Oakland, arriving in San Francisco on August 7 Loading the Maxwell on the bay ferry they were welcomed by a large crowd.

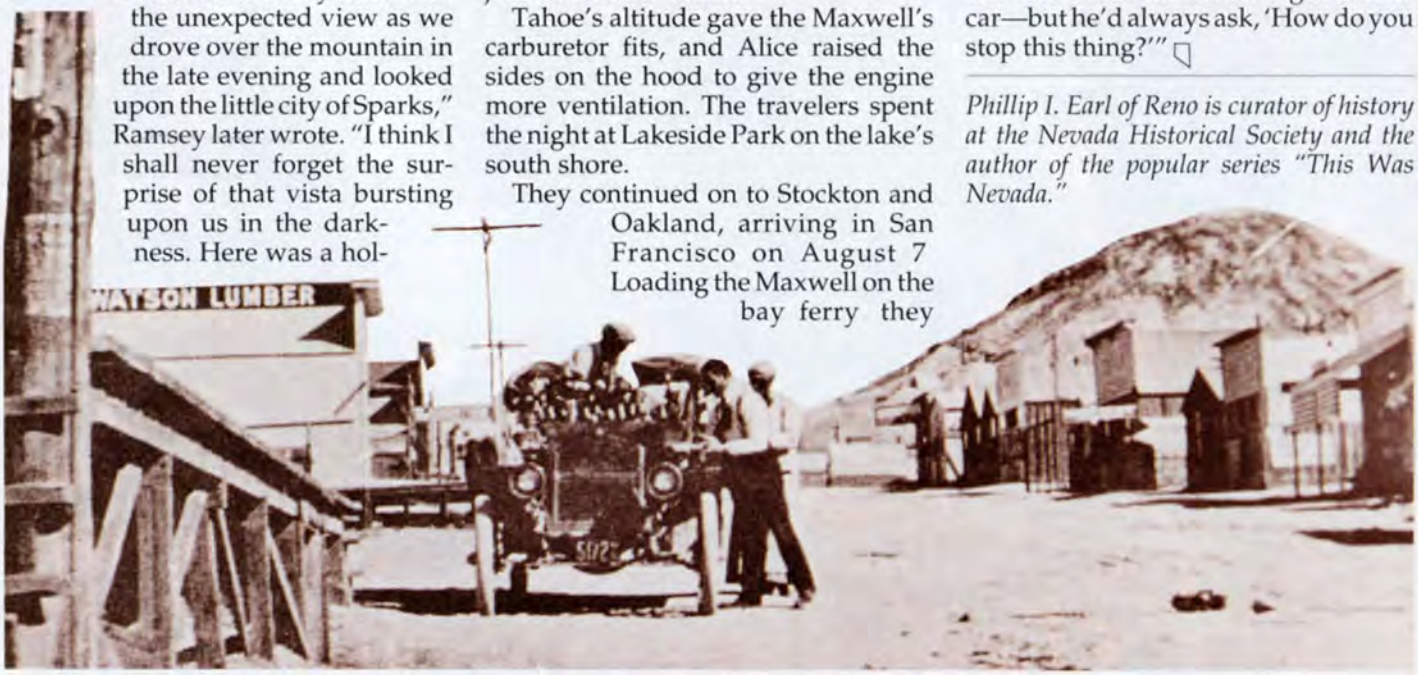
Ramsey remained in California only three days and returned home by rail. She gave frequent lectures on her pioneering trip across the country and in 1960 she wrote *Veil, Duster and Tire Iron*, recounting her adventures. In 1977 she appeared on Charles Kuralt's *On the Road* series. She died at the age of 96 in Covina, California, on September 10, 1983, while plans were under way to mark the 75th anniversary of her historic journey

Nine years earlier, at the age of 87 Alice Ramsey had returned to Reno for her first visit since the 1909 trip. During an interview at Harrah's Automobile Collection, she was quick to downplay any notion of women's lib. Automobile travel was just something she loved, she said, and her husband was more than willing to leave the driving to her.

"He never drove, and he didn't like to ride in autos," she said. "He'd go for one ride with me when I got a new car—but he'd always ask, 'How do you stop this thing?'" ◻

Later, Ramsey was quick to downplay any notion of women's lib. Auto travel, she said, was just something she loved.

Phillip I. Earl of Reno is curator of history at the Nevada Historical Society and the author of the popular series "This Was Nevada."



The expeditioners detoured through the fading camp of Rawhide, which Ramsey described as "rather running down."

Photos: Nevada Historical Society



Within a sea of shimmering lights, Las Vegas' Glitter Gulch is a low roller's mecca.

Low Roller's Guide to the High Life

Cheap thrills abound for casino bargain hunters.

In Nevada casinos, springtime bargains have been turning up like desert wildflowers after a rain. One reason is that Americans are spending vacation dollars more carefully these days. Another is the competition, such as in Las Vegas, to fill new hotel rooms.

Deals can change as fast as the weather, but here are a few time-tested tips for the budget-minded.

Room rates fluctuate, so one should ask for a hotel's current rates—and whether they include extras like free show tickets (a recent trend).

Sniff out low-priced meals. A low roller with a nose for deals can smell a 99-cent breakfast a mile away

Don't forget the fun books. Available at the hospitality desk, fun books offer a fistful of coupons that are good for free nickels, low-priced meals, lucky bucks, and other casino esoterica.

Following is a statewide sampling of casino deals for the low roller on a roll.

Las Vegas

By Kate Butler

Casinos in Las Vegas are forever on the alert to player money, be it millions or pennies. In fact, many clubs fight for low-end players. The result is a wealth of bargains.

The low roller can find good deals in downtown's Glitter Gulch and casinos

Photo: Larry Angier

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Penny pinchers can try Jackie Gaughan's Plaza, where penny slots feed a progressive payout.

like Sam's Town and the Gold Coast, but there is nickel and dime play just about everywhere, and even the fanciest casinos offer low-cost specials.

Sam's Town and the Gold Coast, both local favorites, offer low-end slots and tables, 24-hour bowling, and dancing to live bands. They're the kinds of places where fellow church members meet.

Penny pinchers can try Jackie Gaughan's Plaza, where a bank of 14 penny slots feeds a progressive payout.

Nickel machines are alive and well in the downtown area and, in smaller numbers, on the Strip. Miss Lucy's, a small casino across from the Lady Luck, is the self-dubbed "home of the five-cent machine." Unexpectedly, it also has a small, comfortable lounge.

Low-stakes table games are a great way to play for hours or learn a new game. You can play 25-cent craps at Jackie Gaughan's Plaza and the Four Queens, while Fitzgeralds has 50-cent craps between 11 p.m. and 11 a.m.

There's down-home poker in a smoky, rustic corner of the Poker Palace in North Las Vegas. Its eight-player, seven-card stud game with a $10 buy-in and a $1-to-$3 limit recalls Las Vegas' early days and attracts a crowd of regulars.

The trolleys offer low-cost transportation from club to club, ranging from 50 cents for the downtown trolley, to $1 for the Strip.

At the Four Queens Welcome Center novice players get information, free brochures, and lessons on playing slots and table games. The Fitz, among others, has scheduled gambling lessons.

Shrimp cocktails, symbol of the low-rolling gourmet, can be found at the Golden Gate, Pioneer Club, and the Fitz (50 cents) and the Fremont (75 cents). Other food bargains include prime rib for $3.95 at the Lady Luck.

Families will find puppet shows, clowns, circus acts, and carnival games at the Excalibur and Circus Circus, places that are easy on the pocketbook for players with children in tow

Kate Butler is a Las Vegas writer-photographer and shrimp cocktail connoisseur



Some folks look for signs of a good deal, like this one at the Rio in Las Vegas.

LAUGHLIN

By Connie Emerson

Laughlin is known as a low roller's paradise. You need only to glance at the marquees along Casino Drive advertising 99-cent breakfasts and $19 hotel rooms to realize that low rollers can live the high life in Laughlin.

Coupons for free drinks, food, nickels, and gaming discounts are offered at almost every casino.

Transportation around Laughlin is cheap, too. You can ride the free shuttle boats that ply the Colorado from most of the casinos to parking lots on the Arizona side of the river. The shuttle buses that run between all the casinos cost 75 cents a ride (exact change required). The price is the same whether you go from one casino to the next (definitely not a deal unless your feet are tired) or if you stay on board while the shuttle covers the entire route. Shuttles run every 15 minutes day and night.

You can walk along the Colorado on a wide promenade that extends from the Edgewater to the Riverside, a distance of half a mile. There are benches, and the walkway is lighted at night.

At the Ramada Express, train buffs and anyone else with tired feet can ride the miniature train pulled by Old Number 7 that takes passengers between the front of the hotel and the parking lot. It isn't the most scenic ride, but it's free.

Free entertainment ranges from the unmemorable to well-known entertainers like Big Tiny Little, who appears frequently in the Colorado Belle's Riverboat Lounge. Also, you can trip the light fantastic at the free tea dances held each Sunday afternoon at the Riv-





Photo: Djordje Milosavlyevic

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Even from Virginia Street's sidewalks, Reno

erside. The music is live, and the hors d'oeuvres are free.

The Gold River has free bingo with cash prizes daily at 7:30 a.m.

Try the machines at Harrah s Laughlin that overlook the river. If you have lousy luck, the view will help make up for it.

Weekend fishing tournaments are held from Memorial Day weekend to Labor Day on the Colorado between the I-40 bridge and the restriction line at Davis Dam. No entry fee is required, and there are cash prizes.

You can take a free, self-guided tour of the Davis Dam power plant just upriver from Laughlin. The tour includes short recorded lectures, maps, and close-up views of turbines.

Rangers from the nearby Lake Mead National Recreation Area offer desert walks and trips to the petroglyphs in Grapevine Canyon. The programs are informative, and best of all, they're free.

Connie Emerson is a Reno writer and frequent Laughlin visitor

Reno-Tahoe

By Byron Liggett

Casinos in the Reno-Tahoe area court the full range of bettors, from high rollers to penny players.

In contrast to the formal elegance of more famous Stateline hotel-casinos—like Harrah's Lake Tahoe, Caesars Tahoe, Harvey's, and Lake Tahoe Ho-





low rollers imagine the clink of jackpots.

rizon—is Bill's. At Bill's, a Harrah's property, employees wear tennis shoes and golf shirts. There's a McDonald's upstairs. The Nickel Nook is devoted to five-cent video poker machines, and visitors can take a free pull on Billie Jean, proclaimed as "the world's largest slot machine."

At the lake's north end, families will find a good deal at the Hyatt Regency in Incline Village. The Hyatt provides free child care in the evenings and day programs for a nominal fee.

In Reno, RV travelers will find an enormous overnight RV park at Bally's.

The Peppermill has an open cabaret at one end of the casino, where low rollers will feel comfortable playing in the rows of bar slots and video machines while watching the show

Guests at John Ascuaga's Nugget in Sparks will find numerous low-priced games and drawings (a house was a recent prize). The sports book downstairs has inexpensive food, lots of games on TV, and a loyal local crowd.

Circus Circus has no convention facilities or banquet rooms, doesn't seek bus tours or group business, and doesn't extend credit or suites to preferred players. It serves middle-income folks. Circus Circus' 2,000 rooms are as inexpensive as any in town, and its low-cost buffet is a marvel of organization.

The Riverboat has slot tournaments and the Slots Ahoy Club, which gives food discounts to its mates.

At Harolds Club's Welcome Center, visitors get a free play on a video slot "fun machine." Show your room key (from any hotel) and you receive a coupon fun book.

Fitzgeralds has frequent game bargains and a buffet that runs from $2.99 for breakfast to $4.99 for dinner on weekdays; it's a buck higher on weekends.

You'll notice the Club Cal-Neva has no hotel rooms but is still one of Reno's busiest casinos. It does it all with small-stakes gambling and high value. Inexpensive meals are popular, like the club's famous ham and eggs breakfast for 99 cents. As for jackpots, low rollers can take heart: An Oakland woman won a million dimes ($100,000) on a 10-cent slot.

Although the places are more upscale, food specials also are attractive at hotels that specially advertise their food, like Harrah's, the Eldorado, the Peppermill, and John Ascuaga's Nugget.

If you want to experience Reno as it was in the 1940s, the Nevada Club is authentic—from the jukebox loaded with Big Band hits to its original mechanical slot machines.

Carson City casinos offer lots of promotions. The clubs include the Nugget,



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Photo: Larry Prosor

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Ormsby House, Carson Station, Horseshoe, and Cactus Jack's. Food specials are prime attractions.

Carson Valley's two casinos have contrasting styles. Sharkey's in Gardnerville has a small-club atmosphere and collections like K.F. Young's paintings of American Indian chiefs. The bustling Carson Valley Inn in Minden offers numerous promotions, an RV park, and a seniors' savers club.

Byron Liggett is a Reno gaming writer and consultant.

Rural Nevada

By Sharon Carter

Redd Foxx was well known to millions of TV viewers, but customers of the Searchlight Nugget, 90 miles south of Las Vegas, knew the late comedian even better—as a fellow blackjack player. Foxx, who lived in Vegas, would stop in for cards and conversation. "Here, he was a regular guy," says Jane Overy of the Nugget, the old mining town's main tourist stop.

As Foxx knew, Nevada's rural casinos are more than just relaxing clubs with low limits. They are also places to meet and make friends. "That's what a small-town casino is," says Overy "It fills an important social need."

In Jackpot, all four casinos offer small-town deals and ambiance. Room rates are as low as $25 at Barton's Club 93, and promotions include the Horseshu's "Money for Nothing" drawings (with apologies to Dire Straits). Cactus Pete's presents entertainers like Charlie Pride, Rich Little, and Reba McEntire.

At Wendover the State Line, Silver Smith, Red Garter, Peppermill, and Nevada Crossing are all deal-conscious. "We have friendly competition here," says Brian Berry, Nevada Crossing's general manager. "Once a month the GMs from all five casinos meet for lunch to set agendas. People approach us for backing for rodeos, air races, golf course improvements. We just finished refurbishing the airport. For us, things happen for community as well as business interests."

The Red Lion, Stockmen's, and Commercial in Elko offer fun books and specials. You can fly direct to the Red Lion from cities like Madison, Wisconsin, and Waco, Texas, on the casino's own 737

At Ely casinos, the Hotel Nevada, Copper Queen, and Jailhouse, room



Sharkey's Nugget in Gardnerville offers gamblers a small-club atmosphere.

rates and meals are moderately priced.

Once a sleepy farming town on I-15, Mesquite now has two growing casinos, the Peppermill Mesquite and the Virgin River. You can play golf at Peppermill Palms or catch a movie at the Virgin River's new cinema.

At the Nugget in Searchlight you'll find dollar blackjack and lots of visitors from the Golden State. "You could say Southern California traffic built Searchlight," says Jane Overy. Or was it the club's 10-cent cup of coffee?

Bargains are numerous at Stateline and Jean on I-15 south of Las Vegas. At Stateline, the Primadonna and Whiskey Pete's have food and gaming specials and their own monorail system on the California-Nevada border. At Jean, the Gold Strike and Nevada Landing have low-cost rooms and specials.

Pahrump has two casinos, Saddle West and the Mountain View Recreation Center. In Beatty, the Stagecoach and Burro Inn offer promotions and gaming lessons.

Tonopah's two casinos, the Station House and Mizpah, also have numerous specials. The El Capitan in Hawthorne has daily promotions and coupon books for overnight guests.

Cooperation and friendly competition mark Yerington's two casinos, Dini's Lucky Club and Casino West, which offer promotions and team up for events like Mid-August Nights.

At Sturgeon's in Lovelock the highest bet you can place is $50, and a fun book comes with your room.

Winnemucca visitors will find most of the action at the Winners Inn, which has food specials, fun books, and music on weekends.

Sharon Carter is a Jacks Valley writer who deals baccarat at Harrah's Lake Tahoe.

Photo: Carolyn Fox





RAILROADING SISTERS

Two women run the U.S. Gypsum short line north of Reno.
Story by Linda Niemann, Photos by Shirley Burman

Shutterbugs and rail buffs stalking the picturesque in Gerlach and Empire, Nevada, get a welcome surprise when a blue-and-white switch engine appears out of the Smoke Creek Desert. The engine is run by two sisters, Barbara Clark and Linda Minto, who serve as the engineer and brakeman on the U.S. Gypsum mine's short line.

Just how rare is it for two petite grandmothers to be running a train? It's about as common as hen's teeth, talking pigs, or shy politicians.

One reason is tradition. Railroad men would take their sons down to the yard and get them hired on while their daughters stayed at home.

Another reason is the work itself. Railroad equipment is huge, dirty, and dangerous. Just one piece of a coupler







Linda Minto (top) mans the controls while sister Barbara Clark (bottom) cuts the cars. A U.P signal lights up at Gerlach.

weighs about 85 pounds, and brakemen routinely have to realign them by hand when hooking cars together. The switches are stiff and rusty, and a woman may lack the weight to wrestle them over.

So, why would a woman want to do this work? For 46-year-old Barbara, the answer was simple: A brakeman's job was open when she hired on at the Empire mine. Her sister, Linda, 44, already worked at the mill. Linda loved living in the small company town five miles south of Gerlach and 90 miles north of Reno. Barbara, just divorced and with two small children to support, decided she wanted to live and work there, too.

"The brakeman's job came open because the guy that had it before me shot himself in the thumb," Barbara says. It also helped that U.S. Gypsum didn't have rigid hiring practices, and people moved from job to job within the operation.

"I found out that if I have to, I can do anything," she says.

"I always had somebody else to fall back on, until I came out here," she says. "So when they told me I was going to be working on the train, it scared me to death, but I really needed a job, and I thought, 'I've got to do it.'"

Her sister, Linda, who moved to the engineer's job when Barbara temporarily left it for a more secure position in the mill, had an easier transition to railroading.

"I worked on a drill rig once, so I was around heavy equipment before," Linda says. "Still, it was different, at first scary."

A typical day at work starts with Linda and Barbara donning hard hats and starting up the switch engine on a track at the mill. The railroad cars have been loaded overnight, and the sisters' job is to hook them together and pull them down the five-mile track to the siding at Gerlach.

One of the women works on the ground hooking the cars together, untying the huge wheel brakes and throwing the switches that let them onto different tracks. The other runs the engine and follows the hand signals of the one on the ground. They trade jobs every other day.

The sisters bring snacks to eat on the engine, which resembles a room in a college dorm. On the long pull down to Gerlach at 10 miles per hour, anything can happen—snowball fights, water fights, even getting buzzed by supervisors in low-flying planes.

"When they told me I was going to be working on the train, it scared me to death," Barbara says. "But I thought, 'I've got to do it.'"

"At first it scared me," Barbara says of the buzzing bosses. "But now I just wave. Sometimes you're almost eye-to-eye with them. They're devils sometimes, those bosses."

At Gerlach, the women leave the loaded cars for the through freights on the Union Pacific line and pick up the empties to take back to the plant. One of the switches is difficult, and Barbara applies a length of pipe to the switch handle to give herself more leverage. As a five-foot-two, 118-pound brakeman, she has to outsmart rather than overpower the equipment. But that





Barbara and Linda know every inch of the five miles of track between Gerlach and Empire (background).

characteristic, the company has found, makes women easier on machinery

Their good safety records testify to their carefulness, and both women are aware of the heavy responsibility of running an engine in and out of a working plant. A loud buzzer sounds whenever the engine is switching inside the mill, and Barbara remembers how it came to be installed.

"I almost hit the plant manager once when he came around the corner there. He saw me, and he about had heart failure. Then he wanted me to start carrying a foghorn. That's when they

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Linda and Barbara swap positions as engineer and brakeman every other day.

put the big buzzers in."

Linda nods. "Now they got them honkers all over the place."

The sisters grew up north of Reno in Susanville, California. Linda was the first to move to Empire, primarily because she loved small-town life, and Susanville was getting too big.

Empire, population 350, is a patch of greenery beside the vast playa of the Black Rock Desert. It boasts a free nine-hole golf course, tennis courts, a swimming pool, elementary school, post office, three churches, and a general store. The houses and apartments are subsidized by the company. They have lawns and sidewalks shaded by cottonwood trees. Children can play safely on their own block.

Empire is a patch of greenery beside the vast playa of the Black Rock. It boasts a golf course, three churches, and a general store.

Entertainment in Empire is homemade. The nearest town is Gerlach, which itself is a tiny dot on the road to nowhere. "We might go out to dinner or play the nickel slot machines," Barbara says.

Linda is a rock hound and likes to go four-wheeling with her husband. "You get up on top of one of these mountains, it's beautiful," she says. "You look out over the country and you can see everything."

Giving it the appearance of a space station, tiny Empire is surrounded by endless desert. The desert acts as a kind of art gallery as the light paints the scenery differently every hour of the day.

Artists, photographers, landsailors, and others hold events on the Black Rock, finding it the perfect stage set. The locals use it more as a natural library or a church.

When Barbara and Linda get time off, they rarely leave the area. Instead they go a little deeper into what surrounds them daily Humor, cooperation, and a sense of belonging to a family are a big part of what they like about their workplace and the reasons they have chosen small-town life.

When they retire, both Barbara and Linda plan to buy property and move to Gerlach. Until then they'll continue to build the legacy of Empire's railroading sisters.

Linda Niemann of Santa Cruz, California, is a brakeman-conductor on the Southern Pacific who has a doctorate in English. Her book Boomer: Railroad Memoirs *was recently published by the University of California Press.*

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The Opera House Buffet at the Gold River presents an aria of desserts, pastoral scenery, and a chorus of chefs.

LAUGHLIN'S BIG BUFFETS

Eating your way around Casino Drive's buffets can be a broadening experience.
By Connie Emerson

Someone once said—I think it was Gertrude Stein—that a buffet is a buffet is a buffet. Clearly, Gertrude didn't have a chance to visit Laughlin, because not since the great Las Vegas buffet wars of the 1960s has such a varied smorgasbord of comestibles been heaped on so many casino dining tables.

Some of us have even heard Laughlin called "The Buffet Capital of Nevada."

Since the proof of the pudding (as well as of the Salisbury steak, stir fry, and Danish pastries) is in the eating, my assignment is to find out if it's true.

First, I consult an expert. I arrange an appointment with Bob Balzano, executive chef at the Riverside, where the first Laughlin buffet was inaugurated more than 20 years ago.

Among Balzano's duties is to decide what goes on the hotel-casino's buffet tables and to supervise the food's preparation. He says that whenever possible he likes to have his staff cook from scratch. One reason is taste; another is economy

"I try to keep the unit price [the price of an average helping of a buffet item] at 14 cents and under," he explains. He points out that the 1,000 pounds of snow crab used in a typical Friday night seafood buffet, at $4.29 a pound, goes well over the limit. To compensate, the buffet includes other favorites, such as lime jello, that cost a lot less.

The chef, whose staff makes forty 22-pound pans of lasagne for the Italian-themed buffet on Tuesdays, says that since most people "eat with their eyes," he's emphatic about everything having to look good. Since most of us have eyes

Photo: Tom Campbell

Made-to-order omelets are so popular at Harrah's Del Rio Buffet that it goes through 8,000 eggs a day.

bigger than our stomachs, I ask Balzano if he has any suggestions about how one should approach a buffet so as not to waste food. He says, "Instead of piling your plate, take a little of each food you think you would like, and go back for seconds."

I follow Balzano's advice the next morning at The Buffet at the Golden Nugget. When the "All You Can Imagine, All You Can Eat" advertisement was created for the four-color message board outside the casino, the Nugget didn't have my imagination in mind—cherry cobbler notwithstanding. However, the fresh orange segments, a banana muffin, a big helping of surprisingly good corned beef hash, and a nice cup of hot tea (served with both honey and lemon) provide one of the most satisfying breakfasts I've had in a long time.

Then, after a brisk walk along the Colorado River, it's time for lunch. Everyone, from the people who work at the Laughlin Chamber of Commerce to a systems analyst named Debbie Martinelli from neighboring Bullhead City, tells me to go to the Edgewater for the biggest buffet in town.

I'm far too busy putting bacon bits, croutons, and sunflower seeds on my salad to count the various dishes, but it's obvious that the Edgewater's 12-inch plates are bigger than those at the other buffets, and so are the six-foot-long hoagies.

Shirley Scotten, one of those responsible for the giant sandwiches—from 50 to 100 for every lunch buffet—tells me what makes them special. Straightening one of the dozen butterfly pins that decorate her chef's cap, Scotten says, "I do everything fresh daily—shred the lettuce, slice the tomatoes, pick out the meats and slice them. Then I make the hoagies with the greens, tomatoes, a creamy Italian dressing, Swiss and American cheese, salami, bologna, ham, turkey, and lots of love."

Dinner is dessert time, so I head for the Flamingo Hilton's Flagship Buffet where coconut cake, brownies, lemon mousse, strawberry trifle, and a do-it-yourself sundae bar can easily make you forget about eating a balanced meal. As Bette Johnston, a retired bookkeeper from Southern California says as she reaches for her second eclair, "Laughlin isn't the place to even think about calories."

And so it goes. Each buffet meal in Laughlin is a new experience. In the Ramada Express' Round House Buffet, at one luncheon bar you add tomatoes, onions, and other condiments to your hamburgers. At another you can doctor your hotdog with sauerkraut, and there's a third where you can go wild with taco fixings.

According to Gigi McFarland, breakfast and lunch buffet supervisor at Harrah's Del Rio Buffet, its big draw is the made-to-order omelets. In fact, they're so popular Executive Chef Gerry Thompson says the buffet goes through about 8,000 eggs a day.

You can order the omelets with ham and cheese, with chorizo, black olives, onions, celery and green pepper. My advice, though, is to go for the "Kitchen

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STEAMIN' ON THE RIVER

Following is a brief guide to the world of buffet platters and steam tables in Laughlin's casinos. The area code is 702 in Nevada. Hours may vary

Colorado Belle: Captain's Food Fare, 298-4000. Breakfast 7-11 a.m., $2.49.

Edgewater: Edgewater Buffet, 298-2453. Breakfast 6-11 a.m., $2.29; lunch 11:30 a.m.- 3:30 p.m., $2.99; Friday specialty dinner buffet 4-10 p.m., $3.99.

Flamingo Hilton Laughlin: Flagship Buffet, 298-5111. Breakfast 7-11 a.m., $3.95; lunch 11 a.m.-3 p.m., $2.49; dinner 4-10 p.m., $4.95.

Gold River: Opera House Buffet, 298-2242. Breakfast 7-11 a.m., $3; lunch 11 a.m.-3 p.m., $4; dinner 4-10 p.m., $6; discount of 25 percent for seniors over 62.

Golden Nugget: The Buffet, 298-7111. Breakfast 7-10:30 a.m., $2.29; lunch 11 a.m.-4 p.m., $3.99; dinner 4-10:30 p.m., $4.29.

Harrah's Laughlin: Del Rio Buffet, 298-4600. Breakfast 7-11 a.m., $3.99; lunch 11 a.m.-2 p.m., $5.49; dinner 5-10 p.m. (5-11 p.m. Friday and Saturday), $6.99-$7.99; Friday seafood buffet, $12.95; Sunday champagne brunch 10 a.m.-2 p.m., $7.99.

Pioneer: Granny's Champagne Brunch Buffet, 298-2442. Sundays 8:30 a.m.-2:15 p.m., $14.95. Reservations taken three weeks in advance, dress code (see story), must be 21.

Ramada Express: Round House Buffet, 298-4200. Breakfast 7-11 a.m., $2.49; lunch 11:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., $3.49; dinner 5-10 p.m., $4.49 daily except $5.95 Friday and Saturday· Sunday champagne brunch 8 a.m.-2 p.m., $4.49.

Riverside: East Buffet, 298-2535. Breakfast 7-11:20 a.m., $2.29; lunch 11:45 a.m.-2:20 p.m., $2.99; dinner 3-10 p.m., $3.99; Friday seafood buffet, $6.99. West Buffet: Dinner only, 3-9 p.m., same prices. Prime Rib Room has salad, potato, and dessert bars, and the prime rib is carved at your table.

—Connie Emerson

Chefs stand ready to carve the lamb Wellington as diners pile their plates with lobster, caviar, and filet mignon.

Sink." That's when the omeletmaker throws in everything but.

Specialties at the Opera House Buffet in the Gold River run the gastronomic gamut from shrimp in the shell to pecan pie. At the Captain's Food Fare breakfast buffet in the Colorado Belle, I meet Mel and Bertha Running, who recommend the sausage patties, biscuits, and gravy This transplanted Missouri couple takes a tour bus from Phoenix to Laughlin every month or so. "We aren't big gamblers," Mel says with a laugh. "Just big eaters."

Laughlin's claim to gourmet buffet fame is Granny's Champagne Brunch Buffet at the Pioneer. The most expensive buffet on the river, this Sunday-only affair allows no one under 21 and even has a dress code—no shorts, thongs, tank tops, or T-shirts. The Sunday buffet is so popular that you have to make reservations weeks in advance. And no wonder.

White-toqued chefs stand attentively by, ready to carve the lamb Wellington as diners pile their plates high with blueberry blintzes, lobster, caviar, and filet mignon. Wild rice, bananas Foster, crab legs, and a mosaic of fresh fruit make you feel as though you're on a cruise ship rather than in a Victorian-themed dining room.

And speaking of decor, it—as well as the food—sets Laughlin's buffets apart from each other. From the rope rigging and glass floats at Captain's Fare in the Colorado Belle to the Southwestern shades of pink and turquoise at the Edgewater, each buffet has a personality completely its own.

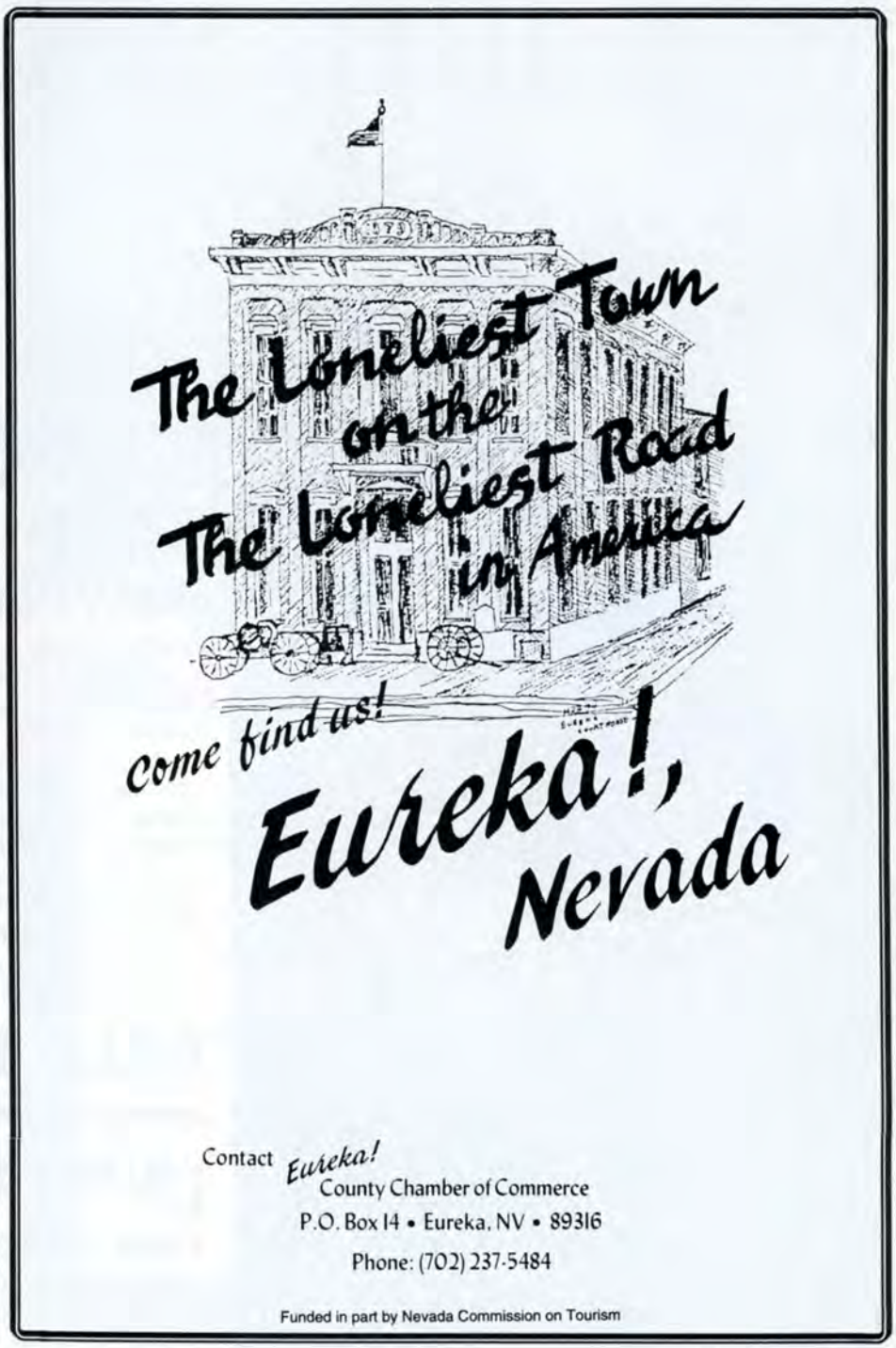
At Harrah's the Del Rio Buffet's decor of painted tiles, clay pots, and terra cotta tile roofs over the booths is an extension of the hotel's Mexican theme. In the Ramada Express' Round House Buffet, the canopies over the serving areas are designed to look like old-fashioned railroad depots.

At almost all of the buffets, at least a few of the tables (and in some cases, several) are at windows looking out on the river. In winter, you'll see throngs of retirees walking along the riverside promenade, since an estimated 70 percent of winter visitors to the area are in the over-60 age group. During warm weather months, activity on the water is non-stop, with jet skiers, paddlewheelers, and other pleasure craft joining the shuttle boats that crisscross the river.

Despite the reasonable prices, Laughlin's buffets do have a downside—crowds. Mother's Day, Thanksgiving, and the day after Christmas are busiest, but with diner counts like those reported by Chef Balzano of the Riverside—88,000 last September, 79,000 in October—any day can mean waiting in line.

So try to arrive at off-hours, sample several of the buffets, and see whether you agree with the results of my survey· Whether you measure it per casino, per visitor, or per jello helping, Laughlin looks like Nevada's buffet capital to me.

Connie Emerson is a Reno writer whose culinary exploits include winning fourth prize in the 1991 National Chicken Cooking Contest.



ROADSIDE ATTRACTIONS

FLOWER POWER

Unveiling spring's desert color



The Mohave aster is a spring bloomer

LAS VEGAS

By Kate Butler

Spring Bloomers

Bloom by bloom, you can follow the arrival of spring wildflowers in southern Nevada all the way into summer. Wildflowers begin to appear around Lake Mead and Lake Mohave in March and April. Then the color moves up into Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area and finally climbs the mountains surrounding Las Vegas.

To see these spring floral displays or for information about free guided flower walks, call the Lake Mead National Recreation Area at 702-293-8907 or 702-293-8906, the Red Rock Canyon Visitors Center at 702-486-5126, the U.S. Forest Service at 702-873-8800, or state parks like Valley of Fire at 702-397-2088.

RENO-TAHOE

By Deborah Mawhar

Golden Words in Gold Hill

Talk isn't cheap at the Gold Hill Hotel, but it's still a good deal. Nearly every week historians and local experts present one-hour lectures on Comstock and Nevada historical topics at the restored hotel, which first opened in 1859.

You can arrive early and have a buffet dinner and a lecture for $9.95. The lecture alone is $3. Lectures begin at 7:30 p.m. During March they're scheduled every Thursday, in April every Tuesday For information contact the Gold Hill Hotel, Box 304, Virginia City, NV 89440; phone 702-847-0111. The hotel is one mile south of Virginia City

Living History in Carson City

Old West buffs who like to experience history first-hand can wrangle a Kit Carson Trail Map in Carson City The trail map leads explorers to Native American artifacts at the Stewart Indian Museum, restored Virginia & Truckee steam engines at the Nevada State Railroad Museum, an underground mine and U.S. Mint memorabilia at the Nevada State Museum, and other historic sites.

The Kit Carson Trail Map is available from the Carson City Visitors Center, 1900 S. Carson Street, Suite 200, Carson City, NV 89701, phone 800-NEVADA-1 or 702-687-7410.

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Photo: Bob McKeever

SOVIET COUP IN LAUGHLIN?

By Carolyn Graham

Moscow on the Colorado

Imagine Mikhail Gorbachev standing in a Laughlin buffet line swapping Cold War stories with vacationers in flip-flops. Could it be?

Riverside Resort owner Don Laughlin has offered the former Soviet president $1 million a year to work with him "to facilitate public relations" at the Laughlin hotel-casino. At first Gorbachev's duties would involve being visible to the public, but he could be promoted to an executive position.

Copies of the offer to Gorbachev were mailed on Christmas Eve to both his residence and the Kremlin in Moscow, says Wendy Miller, publicist for the Riverside. He has not yet responded.

"It would be quite a coup for us," Miller says. "I have trouble picturing him standing in front of the nickel machines here, but if you don't ask, you'll never know "

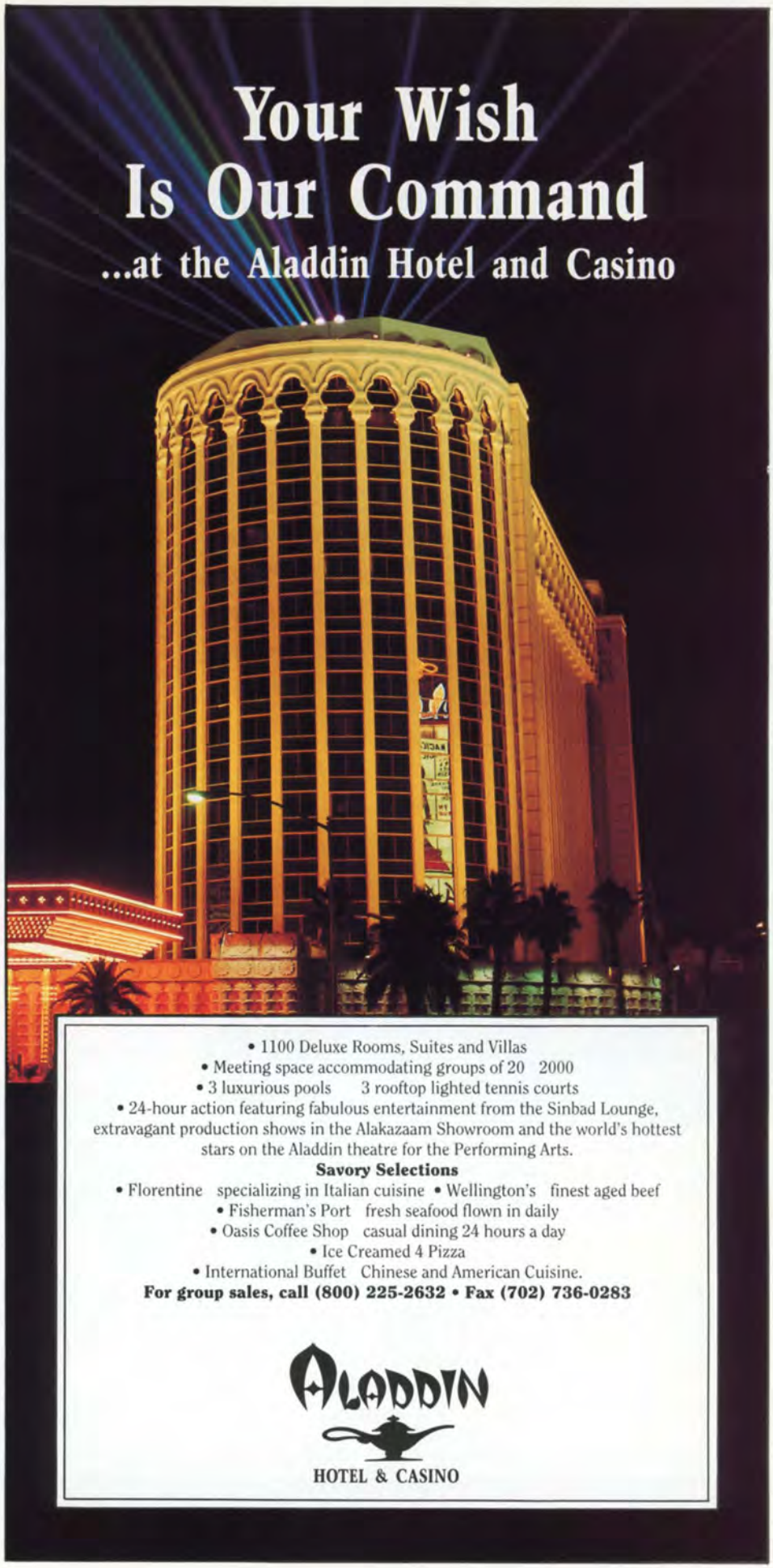
Historic Paper Trail

Bonds and warrants issued by the State of Nevada more than a century ago have made a comeback in recent years. Collectors value them for their intricate calligraphy, detailed borders, and etchings of such scenes as the Capitol, prospectors, and railroads.

In March thousands of the remaining bonds and warrants—valued by one collector at $30,000—will go in one batch to the highest bidder. (Interested parties can call 702-678-4070.)

Dating back to the late 1800s, the documents were salvaged from the Capitol Building and transferred to the state archives about 20 years ago. In 1982 Purchasing officials and state archivists decided to market them to the public. Most of the antique documents have sold for $3 to $22 each, generating about $46,000 for state coffers.

Carolyn Graham is Nevada Magazine's *associate editor*



10 GREAT

1940s Travel Tips

Exploring "the great unknown" with the WPA's classic auto guide.

In 1940 travelers were already flocking to Nevada's alpine retreats and tiny neon desert oases. Between overheated radiators and hard luck at the blackjack tables, these explorers also discovered campgrounds, historical sites, and other outdoor attractions.

Travelers of the day could find help in *Nevada: A Guide to the Silver State*, reprinted in 1991 by the University of Nevada Press as *The WPA Guide to 1930s Nevada*. Originally published in 1940 by the Nevada Writers' Project of the Work Projects Administration, the guide offers eloquent mile-by-mile descriptions of highways, scenery and recreation in Nevada—"the great unknown," as the WPA writers called the state. Following are some of their observations on what to see and do in Nevada, 1940 style.



The WPA guide helped travelers deal with the state's surprises.

1 **Warning to Travelers:** If going more than a short distance off main highways carry drinking water and water for radiator. Do not drink from any but marked springs. Advisable to carry towrope on all long side-trips. If caught in sand put sagebrush under rear wheels to provide traction. On all mountain grades up-car has right of way

2 **Flash Floods:** Keep out of dry washes when heavy rains begin; the run off comes with incredible speed and may stall the car or overturn it.

3 **Las Vegas:** The town is particularly lively at night. Neon lights call attention to the bars, gambling, and night clubs, in which Hollywood celebrities, miners, prospectors, divorcees, corporation presidents, cowboys, and little old maids bent on seeing life at last, add to the stacks of silver dollars and watch the whirl of roulette wheels, or splash ink over the horse keno slips. Some restaurants are crowded till dawn.

4 **Hawthorne:** The sight of sailors and marines among the barren mountains here is startling. Hawthorne is truly the West in its scorn for small change; a 35¢ breakfast will be given for 30¢ if the unfortunate traveler must complete his payment with five pennies.

5 **Sparks and Pheasant Farms:** The *piece de resistance* in some local hotels is the stuffed bird; when the waiter removes a large silver service cover he brings into view two birds erect in a field of wild rice. The meat had been cooked and cleverly inserted into the original skin without disarranging a single feather.

6 **U.S. 50:** Hawks and buzzards swim overhead, and long-tailed, black-and-white magpies are along the roadway Now and then an eagle soars above a lofty peak. In the early morning or late afternoon a solitary coyote may cross the road and then trot off to a hummock from which he can watch the traveler pass.

7 **Reno:** U.S. 395 goes south through the fertile Truckee Valley with signs on both sides of the road advertising "Guest Ranches" for divorce-seekers who prefer the moonlight and tree toads and the smell of the countryside to the gay night spots of The Biggest Little City in the World.

8 **Tonopah:** This town, in a high bare saddle, has the intense sunlight that quickly gives some kinds of glass the rich purple tinge frequently seen in the Southwest; even the headlights of old motor cars have a lavender cast.

9 **Boulder City:** It is as spick and span as though it were in [the] charge of Dutch housewives. Above the wide streets, which follow the curves of the hills, are houses of varying designs on delightfully landscaped terraces.

10 **Elko:** Seen from the railroad it is not impressive; the wide street bisected by the tracks is lined with buildings erected for the most part in the 1880s and 1890s, and falsefronts are still among them. But a cue to the town's true character is seen even from the train; only two lots away from a small house dripping Victorian trimmings is a cocktail bar whose bakelite and chromium elegance would fit well into upper Fifth Avenue in New York.

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Photo: Marjorie D. Martin Collection

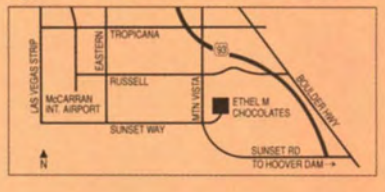


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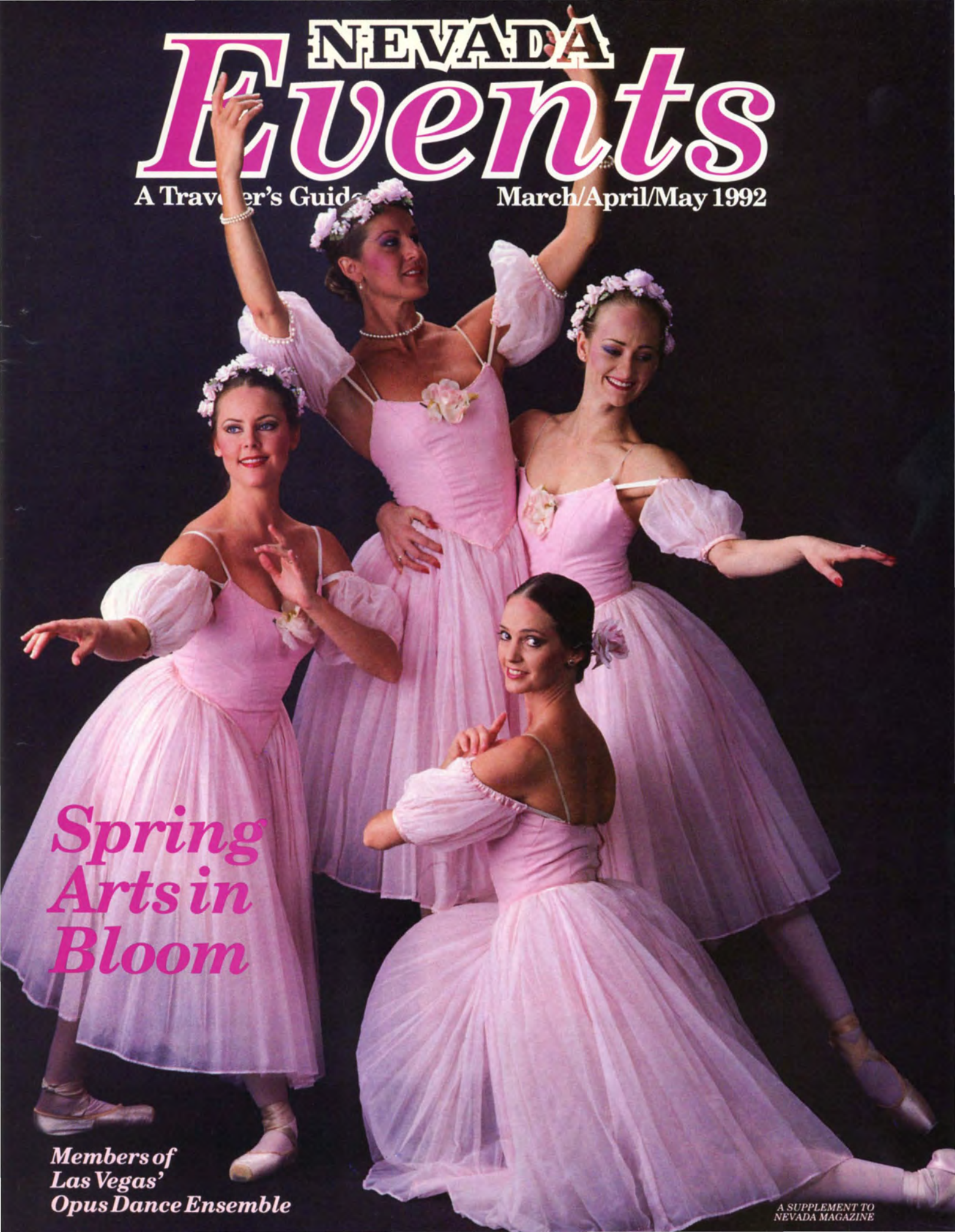






LAS VEGAS

ALWAYS ON THE MONEY


NEVADA
Events
A Traveler's Guide
March/April/May 1992
Spring Arts in Bloom
Members of Las Vegas' Opus Dance Ensemble
A SUPPLEMENT TO NEVADA MAGAZINE



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On the Cover: *The Opus Dance Ensemble brings classical and contemporary dance to Las Vegas. Photo by Larry Hanna*

NEVADA Events

A Supplement to Nevada Magazine
March/April/May 1992

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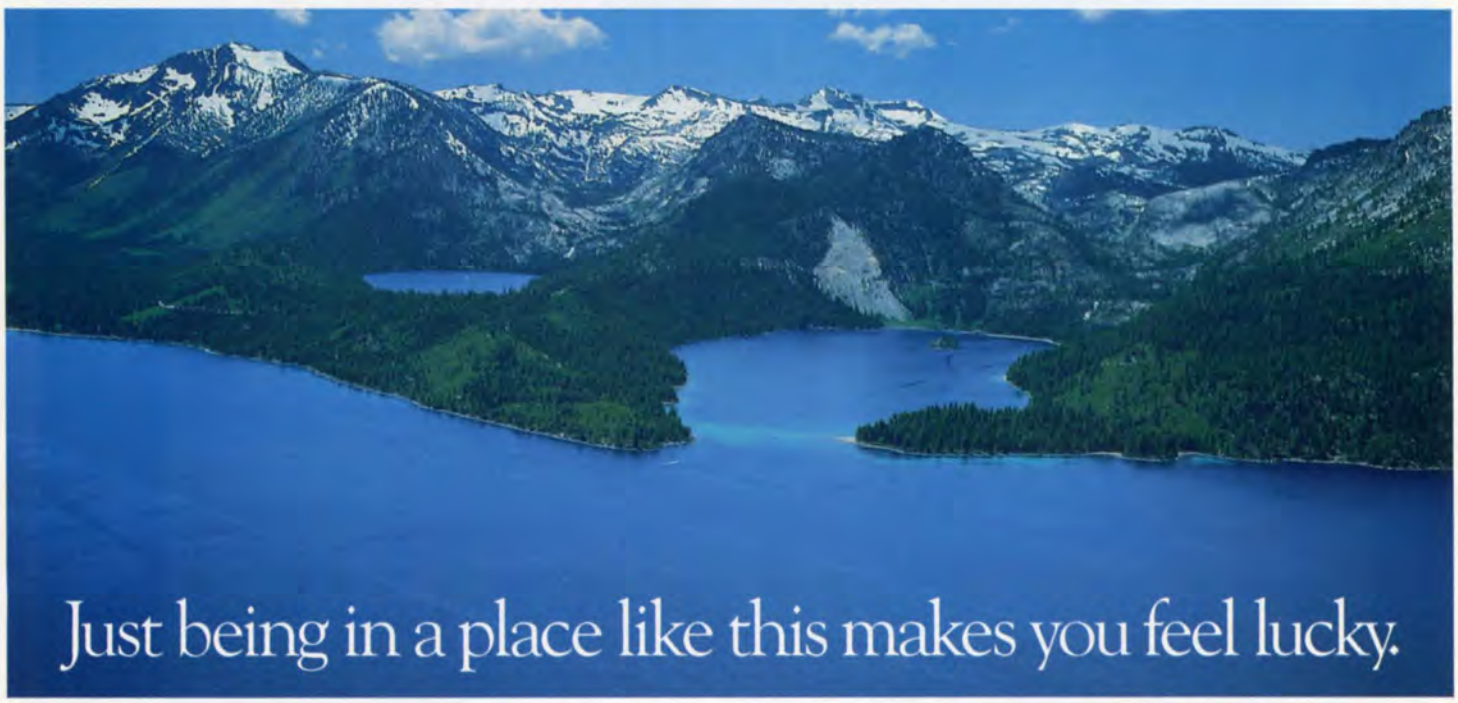
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Mail to Lake Tahoe Visitors Authority, P.O. Box 16299
South Lake Tahoe, CA 95706
NV11

Vacation Hot Lines

Here's where to call or write for travel tips.

When planning your Nevada trip, be sure to write or phone these one-stop sources for information on scenic attractions, hotels, motels, sports, recreation, and historic sites.

The chambers of commerce (C of C) will send you their brochures and guides to local services. If you plan to stop by a chamber office, most are open days Monday through Friday.

The area code is 702 throughout Nevada. All 800 numbers are toll-free.



Statewide Information

Nevada Commission on Tourism: Capitol Complex, Carson City, NV 89710; 687-3636 or 800-NEVADA-8 anywhere in U.S. and Canada

Toll-Free Hot Lines

Carson City Convention and Visitor's Bureau: 800-NEVADA-1 anywhere in U.S.

Carson Valley C of C and Visitors Authority: 800-727-7677 anywhere in U.S.

Elko Convention and Visitors Authority: 800-248-ELKO outside Nevada

Fallon Convention and Tourism Authority: 800-874-0903 anywhere in U.S.

Incline Village/Crystal Bay Visitor and Convention Bureau: 800-GO-TAHOE anywhere in U.S.

Jackpot Visitor Information: 800-821-1103 anywhere in U.S.

Lake Tahoe Visitors Authority: 800-AT-TAHOE anywhere in U.S.

Laughlin C of C: 800-227-5245 outside Nevada

Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority: 800-FOR-RENO anywhere in U.S.

Tahoe North Visitors and Convention Bureau: 800-824-6348 anywhere in U.S.

Las Vegas Territory

Boulder City C of C: 1497 Nevada Hwy., Boulder City, NV 89005; 293-2034

Downtown Progress Association: 302 E. Carson Ave., Suite 808, Las Vegas, NV 89101; 382-6397

Henderson C of C: 100 E. Lake Mead Dr., Henderson, NV 89015; 565-8951

Henderson Convention Center: 200 Water St., Henderson, NV 89015; 565-2171

Las Vegas C of C: 2301 E. Sahara Ave., Las Vegas, NV 89104; 457-4664

Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority: 3150 Paradise Rd., Las Vegas, NV 89109; 733-2323

Latin C of C: 829 S. Sixth St., Las Vegas, NV 89101; 385-7367

Laughlin C of C: Box 2280, Laughlin, NV 89029; 298-2214, or 800-227-5245 outside Nevada

Moapa Valley C of C: Box 361, Overton, NV 89040; 397-2193 (Lost City Museum)

Nevada Black C of C: Box 4850, Las Vegas, NV 89106; 648-6222

North Las Vegas C of C: 1023 E. Lake Mead Blvd., North Las Vegas, NV 89030; 642-9595

Southern Nevada Arts Hot Line: Local arts and cultural events; on touch-tone phone call 385-4444 and enter code 2172

Virgin Valley Area C of C: 250 W. Mesquite Blvd., Box 785, Mesquite, NV 89024; 346-2902

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 anywhere in U.S.

Carson Valley C of C and Visitors Authority: 1524 Hwy. 395, No. 1, Gardnerville, NV 89410; 782-8144, or 800-727-7677 in U.S.

Greater Reno C of C: 133 N. Sierra St., Reno, NV 89503; 329-3558

Incline Village/Crystal Bay C of C: 969 Tahoe Blvd., Incline Village, NV 89451; 831-4440

Incline Village/Crystal Bay Visitor and Convention Bureau: 969 Tahoe Blvd., Incline, NV 89451; 832-1606, or 800-GO-TAHOE (800-468-2463) anywhere in U.S.

Lake Tahoe Visitors Authority: Box 16299, South Lake Tahoe, CA 96151; 916-544-5050, 800-AT-TAHOE in U.S., or for updated visitor info. 900-776-5050 ($1/min. charge)

North Lake Tahoe C of C: Box 884, Tahoe City, CA 95730; 916-583-2371

Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority: 4590 S. Virginia St., Reno, NV 89502; 827-7600, 827-RENO, or 800-FOR-RENO anywhere in U.S.

Reno-Sparks Indian Colony Tribal Council: 98 Colony Rd., Reno, NV 89502; 329-2936

Reno Tahoe Visitors Center: 135 N. Sierra St., Reno, NV 89501; 348-7788

Sierra Ski Marketing Council: Box 9137 Incline Village, NV 89450. Write for their free skier's guide

Sparks C of C: B St. and Pyramid Way, 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 95730; 916-583-3494, or 800-824-6348 anywhere in U.S.

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 Visitors Info: Box 508, Jackpot, NV 89825; 755-2321, 800-821-3935 in Nevada, 800-821-1103 anywhere in U.S.

Lovelock C of C: Box 821, Lovelock, NV 89419; 273-7213

McDermitt Info: Box 278, McDermitt, NV 89421

Wells C of C: Box 615, Wells, NV 89835; 752-3540

Wendover USA Visitors/Convention Bureau: Box 2468, Wendover, NV 89883; 664-3414

Winnemucca C of C: 48 W. Winnemucca Blvd., Winnemucca, NV 89445; 623-2225

Winnemucca Convention and Visitors Bureau: 50 W. Winnemucca Blvd., Winnemucca, NV 89445; 623-5071

Pony Express Territory

Austin C of C: Box 212, Austin. NV 89310; 964-2200

Churchill County C of C: 100 Campus Way, Fallon, NV 89406; 423-2544
Dayton C of C: Box 408, Dayton, NV 89403; 246-0525
EDASS (Econ. Development of Silver Springs): Box 269, Silver Springs, NV 89429; 577-2008
Ely's Bristlecone Convention Center: 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: Box 1606, Fernley, NV 89408; 575-4459
Great Basin C of C: Baker, NV 89311; 234-7302
White Pine C of C: 636 Aultman, Ely, NV 89301; 289-8877

Pioneer Territory

Beatty C of C: Box 946, Beatty, NV 89003; 553-2424
Caliente C of C: Box 553, Caliente, NV 89008; 726-3129
Gabbs Info: Box 86, Gabbs, NV 89409; 285-2671
Goldfield C of C: Box 225, Goldfield, NV 89013; 485-9957
Greater Smoky Valley C of C: Box 18, State Route 276 at Carver's Station, Round Mountain, NV 89045; 377-2490
Lincoln County C of C: Box 553, Caliente, NV 89008; 726-3129
Mason Valley C of C: Box 327 Yerington, NV 89447; 463-3721
Mesquite C of C: Box 8, Mesquite, NV 89024; 346-5123 weekday afternoons
Mineral County C of C: Box 1635, Hawthorne, NV 89415; 945-5896
Pahrump Valley C of C: Box 42, Pahrump, NV 89041; 727-5800
Pioche C of C: Box 51, Pioche, NV 89043; 962-5544 (office hours: 11am-3pm Mon.-Sat.)
Tonopah C of C: Box 869, Tonopah, NV 89049; 482-3859

State and National Parks

Death Valley National Monument: 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; 687-4387
Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area: Box 26569, Las Vegas, NV 89126; 363-1921

More Camping and Hiking

Bureau of Land Management: Box 12000, Reno, NV 89520, 785-6402; Box 26569, Las Vegas, NV 89126, 647-5000; 1523 Hot Springs Rd., Suite 300, Carson City, NV 89701, 885-6000; Box 831, Elko, NV 89801, 738-4071
Humboldt National Forest: 976 Mountain City Hwy., Elko, NV 89801, 738-5171
Toiyabe National Forest: 1200 Franklin Way, Sparks, NV 89431, 331-6444; 550 E. Charleston, Las Vegas, NV 89104, 477-7782 (for Mount Charleston area)

Fishing and Hunting

Nevada Dept. of Wildlife: Main: 1100 Valley Rd., Reno, NV 89503, 688-1500; Southern Nevada: State Mail Complex, Las Vegas, NV 89158, 486-5127
Pyramid Lake: Pyramid Lake Fisheries: Star Route, Sutcliffe, NV 89510, 673-6335

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TERRITORY MAP



EVENTS

March

It's War! Poster Art of World War II Exhibit, thru 3/1, see World War II through the posters produced to aid the war effort, includes posters on civil defense, rationing, industry, patriotism, and recruitment, at Clark County Heritage Museum in Henderson; companion exhibit produced by the museum at the Gunnery School at the U.S. Army Air Field (now Nellis Air Force Base), 455-7955

In Graceful Form: The Nevada Northern Railway, thru 3/9, photographs by Charles W. Case, Nevada State Museum and Historical Society, 486-5205

Love Letters, thru 3/12, art project by Spanish artist Miralda celebrating two symbols facing each other across the Atlantic: Barcelona's Columbus Monument and New York's Statue of Liberty, Las Vegas Library, 733-3613

Larry Rivers: Public and Private, thru 3/15, paintings, drawings, and mixed-media constructions, Nevada Institute for Contemporary Art, Donna Beam Fine Art Gallery, UNLV 739-3751

Art Exhibit, thru 3/15, watercolors by Mary Shaw, Green Valley Library, Henderson, 733-3613

Art Exhibit, thru 3/29, sculptures and large format abstract paintings by Rick Weinstein, Clark County Library, 733-3613

Best of Nevada Camera Club '91 Photo Exhibit, thru 3/29, Photo Gallery, Clark County Library, 733-3613

Art Exhibit, thru 4/16, work by Eldorado High School art students, West Las Vegas Library, 733-3613

Art Exhibit, thru 4/16, mixed media color prints by Anthony Bondi, Spring Valley Library, 733-3613

Southern Nevada Home Expo, 2/28-3/1, seventh annual home decorating and remodeling show, Cashman Field Center, 736-5958 or 800-877-3107

"Daddy's Dyin' (Who's Got the Will?)," 2/28-3/1 and 3/5-7, comedy, 8pm, 2pm Sun., $7 general, $5 students, seniors, and handicapped, Community College of Southern Nevada Theatre, North Las Vegas, 644-PLAY

"Other People's Money," 2/28-3/1 and 3/6-8, Actors Repertory Theatre, 647-7469

Nevada Watercolor Society and the Fiber Arts Guild Shows, 3/1-29, Las Vegas Art Museum, Lorenzi Park, 647-4300

Art Exhibit, 3/1-31, watercolors and embossing by Ann Aune of Las Vegas, Lost City Museum, Overton, 397-2193

Table Tennis Tournament, 3/2, Baker Park Community School, 733-6599



Professional dancers of the Las Vegas Strip make up the Opus Dance Ensemble. The group performs a program of varied dance styles April 26 and May 3 at the Tropicana Hotel.

Photo: Larry Hanna

HOT LINES

Charleston Heights Arts Center: films, art exhibits, chamber music, 386-6383

Fern Adair Conservatory of the Arts: ballet, musicals, theater, 458-7575

Las Vegas Stars: Triple-A baseball, San Diego Padres farm club playing in Pacific Coast League, 4/14-17 v. Tucson Toros, 4/18-22 v. Phoenix Giants, 4/23-26 v. Calgary Cannons, 5/7-11 v. Tucson Toros, 5/12-15 v. Colorado Springs Sky Sox, 5/25-29 v. Colorado Springs Sky Sox, 5/30-6/2 v. Edmonton Trappers, Silver Bowl, 739-3900

Nevada Aces (Professional Spring Football League): 3/1 v. New Mexico Rattlesnakes, 3/28 v. Utah Pioneers, 4/11 v. Tampa Bay Outlaws, 4/18 v. New England Blitz, 5/17 v. Arkansas Miners, Sam Boyd Silver Bowl, 739-3900 or 201-804-8080

Nevada Division of State Parks: hikes, tours, stargazing, campfire programs at 21 parks around the state, District VI, Las Vegas, 486-5126

Reed Whipple Cultural Center: concerts, film festivals, melodramas, 386-6211

UNLV Baseball: 3/6 v. San Diego State, 3/7-8 v. Michigan, 3/12-14 v. San Jose State, 3/27-29 v. Cal State Northridge, 4/3-5 v. Long Beach State, 4/16-18 v. Cal Irvine, 4/21 v. Southern Utah, 5/1-3 v. Fresno State, Roger Barnson Field, 739-FANS

UNLV Basketball: 3/3 v. Utah State, Thomas and Mack Center, UNLV 739-FANS

UNLV Concerts: music and dance, 739-3101

For chamber of commerce and convention center phone numbers, see page E-4

Art Exhibit, 3/3-4/19, watercolors by Sue Rochleau, Sunrise Library, 733-3613

Ribs, Rods, and Splits: Appalachian Oak Basketry Exhibit, 3/5-26, traditional and contemporary Appalachian basketry, tools, and materials on display, Clark County Heritage Museum, Henderson, 455-7955

Amadeus Trio, 3/6, youthful musicians bring ingenuity, imagination, and insight into a program of chamber music, 8pm, Charleston Heights Arts Center, 229-6383

Arcady in Concert, 3/6, touring group of musicians and vocalists from the West of Ireland perform a concert of traditional Celtic and Irish music, 8pm, $5 general, $3 students and seniors, Winchester Center, 455-7340

St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, 3/6, 8pm, Ham Hall, UNLV 739-3801

Hoover Dam Weekend Dances, 3/6-7 on Fri. square dancing from 7-10:30pm at Elton Garrett

NIGHTLIFE

Valentino: Magic in the Sands



Magician Valentino draws attention to his eyes and hands with the use of pantomime.

By Jackie Brett

Valentino captures the imagination through the art of magic—a talent that has been an integral part of his life for nearly 30 years. He began to pursue his passion at the age of six, long before he ever saw a professional magician.

"Magic is a beautiful art," he explained. "It's in everything I think and do. It's just a way of life."

The magician uncovers his love for his art in "Viva Las Vegas" every Monday through Friday at the Sands Hotel in Las Vegas.

His upbringing in Compton, California, was by a non-show business family. The most theatrical element the family afforded him was his given last name—Valentino.

But performing magic must have been his fate because he is as smooth with his hand movements and close-up magic as any sleight-of-hand artist can be.

Although he was painfully shy in his youth, he took drama classes in high school to overcome his inhibitions. And because of his natural ability Valentino has been performing steadily since he finished high school.

His belief that the technology and psychology of magic make it an excellent learning tool led him to perform at school assemblies across the country for the International Culture Awareness Program for nine years. He later joined the famed Magic Castle in Hollywood when he was 21.

Valentino's professional career began at The Body Shop in Los Angeles, a burlesque club, where he performed for seven months until Dennis Levinson, producer of "Playboy's Girls of Rock and Roll," discovered him.

Valentino performed in Levinson's show at the Maxim Hotel in Las Vegas and later spent a little over a year with the show in Lake Tahoe. He later became one of the stars in "Viva Las Vegas," the weekday afternoon show at the Sands.

Although Valentino enjoyed traveling and working alone throughout his career, he most recently has developed an appreciation for family life. He likes to be at home with his two-year-old son Dominic and seven-year-old stepdaughter Joyce. His wife Jacqueline is now a part of his act, and with her help Valentino has been able to incorporate illusions into his performances.

While Valentino, 35, has meticulously created an individual look and style for himself, his sense of dramatic development and illusion is similar to David Copperfield's.

Like Copperfield, Valentino uses drama and storytelling through pantomime, and his act is executed to different blends of music—he does not speak during his performance.

Valentino draws more attention to his eyes and hands with the use of pantomime, and he gracefully pulls scarves, lighted candles, flower petals, cards, doves, and even ducks from midair.

Valentino does all the training of his five birds and two ducks he uses in his performance. "The first thing they need to learn is to trust—by nature they are afraid. You teach them through caring," he said. "Ducks don't warm up to you like a dove does."

Aside from having a hand at training the animals in his act, Valentino also builds many of his own props and boxes for his show. "I didn't know there were magic shops to buy tricks when I was a kid," he said.

One thing is certain for Valentino—he's the consummate student of magic who won't disappear.

Valentino performs his magic in "Viva Las Vegas" Monday through Friday at the Sands Hotel in Las Vegas.

Junior High School in Boulder City, on Sat. dancing from 9-10am at Hoover Dam and noon-10:30pm at Elton Garrett Junior High, 293-4918

Dance Concert, 3/6-8, two world-renowned male dance artists, Rudy Perez and Walter Nicks, join UNLV faculty in concert featuring jazz and post-modern dance choreography, 8pm Fri.-Sat., 2pm Sun., UNLV, 739-3801

The Craft Festival, 3/6-8, Cashman Field Center, 386-7184

Children's Dance Program, 3/7-8, Nevada Youth Ballet Company introduces children to traditional story ballet, program includes excerpts from "The Nutcracker," "Coppelia," "Don Quixote," "Swan Lake," and "Giselle," Nevada Society for the Performing Arts, Sunrise Library, 453-1104

Nevada Symphony Classical Concert, 3/8, 2pm, Ham Hall, UNLV 736-6656

"Frostiana," 3/9, Musical Arts Singers and Musical Arts Orchestra perform Randall Thompson's work, 8pm, $10 adults, $7 seniors, students, military, and handicapped, Charleston Heights Arts Center, 739-3801

Side Street Strutters, 3/10, group of young musicians play jazz and Dixieland music, $5 general admission, $3 students and seniors, Las Vegas High School Auditorium, 455-7340

Indian Artifacts Talk, 3/10, Richard Arnold exhibits reproductions of Indian artifacts and shares his knowledge of the various uses for native Nevada plants, 7pm, Green Valley Library, Henderson, 435-2078

Nissan 400, 3/12-15, 400-mile off-road race through the Nevada desert north of Las Vegas; pre-race tech and contingency will be held on Fremont St. in downtown Las Vegas, High Desert Racing Assn., 361-5404

"The Resistible Rise of Arturo UI," 3/12-15 and 3/18-22, a critical satire on Hitler's rise to power, 8pm, 2pm Sun., UNLV Dept. of Theatre Arts, Judy Bayley Theatre, UNLV 739-3801

Senior Fishing Derby, 3/14, professional tips and contest, seniors should bring their rods and bait, free, 10am-1pm, Clark County Parks and Recreation, Sunset Park Lake, 455-7506

Art Exhibit, 3/14-5/21, winners of the high school congressional competition, Las Vegas Library, 733-3613

Wine Celebration and Auction, 3/15, Planned Parenthood of Southern Nevada fundraiser, Jackie Gaughan's Plaza, 878-3622

Shanghai Rod Puppet Theatre, 3/16, award-winning puppet group makes its first tour in North America, 7pm, Charleston Heights Arts Center, 229-6383

Cincinnati Orchestra, 3/16, 8pm, Ham Hall, UNLV 739-3801

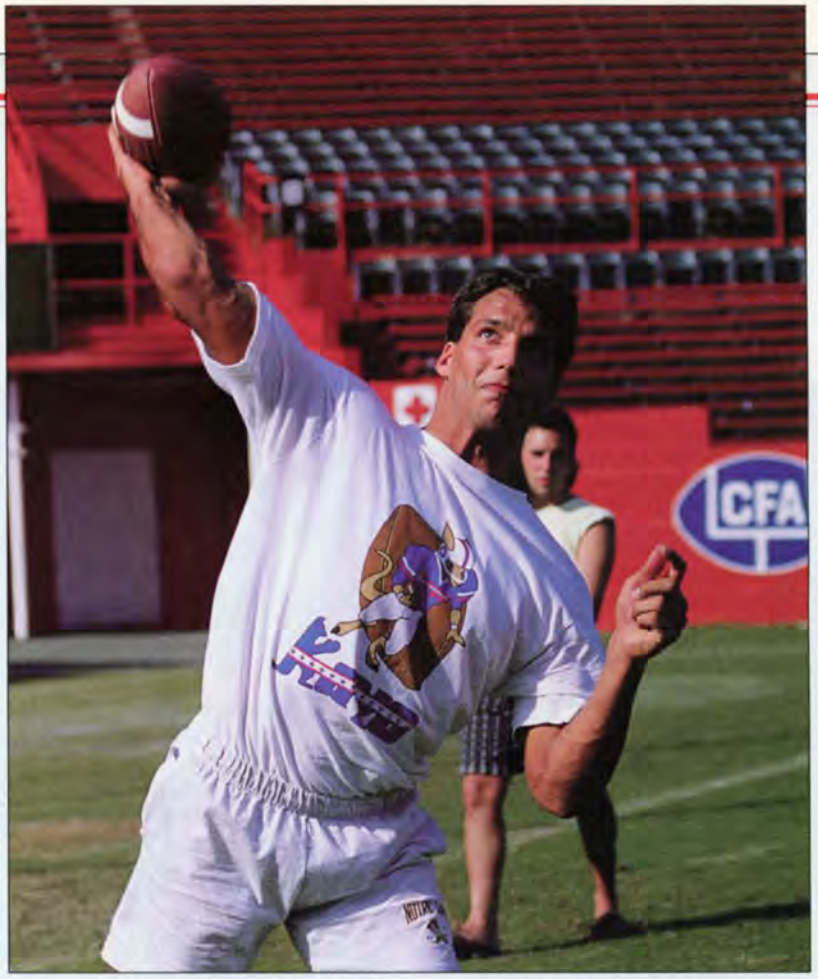
26th Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade and Block Party, 3/17 sponsored by the Las Vegas Sons of Erin, downtown Las Vegas, 363-7178

"Side by Side by Sondheim," 3/17, performance by Broadway Las Vegas, Cashman Field Center, 732-2500

Art Exhibit, 3/17-4/15, contemporary masks, mixed media, and ceramics by Wendy Podell, Green Valley Library, Henderson, 733-3613

"Spoon River Anthology," 3/19-21, free, Actors Repertory Theatre, Clark County Library, 733-7810

Repertorio Español in "El Alcalde de Zalamea," 3/20, Calderon de la Barca's masterpiece is brought to the stage by New York's Repertorio Español, 8pm, Charleston Heights Arts Center, 229-6383



The new Professional Spring Football League's Nevada Aces are hoping to score well with Las Vegans and visitors. Kick-off is scheduled for March 1.

PREVIEW

Nevada Aces Grid for Spring

By Andrew Spigner

Spring football will try to hit the jackpot in Las Vegas with the Nevada Aces.

Round up your spare change and add some variety to your whirlwind Vegas itinerary because plans are in the works for a new spring event at the Silver Bowl—a Professional Spring Football League featuring the Nevada Aces.

After nearly two years of research and development, PSFL founder Vincent Sette, a New York businessman, was convinced that spring football—often attempted but rarely successful—could work. "Pro football is the most popular sport in this country " Sette says. "With college football number-two and high school football number-three, I like our chances in the spring."

The PSFL is good entertainment for the entire family Sette says. It will be wide-open, offensive-minded football. Players from local universities and former pros will comprise the teams with regional rivalries. Tickets will be $15.

The Aces will have to defeat such West Division rivals as the Utah Pioneers, New Mexico Rattlesnakes, and Arkansas Miners in addition to East Division teams—the Miami Tribe, Tampa Bay Outlaws, Washington Marauders, New England Blitz, and Carolina Cougars—to reach the title game.

The PSFL plans to kick off a 16-game schedule on February 29 and close the season with a championship game, "America's Red, White, and Blue Bowl," on July 5 in Washington, D.C.

Andrew Spigner is a football fan who works with the Aces in public relations.

Annual Juried Student Art Show, 3/20-4/10, UNLV student work in all media, Nevada Institute for Contemporary Art, UNLV 739-3751

Windpieces Exhibit, 3/20-4/23, Panaca artist Larry Williamson exhibits his whimsical works reminiscent of New England whirlygigs and other folk pieces, opening reception from 5-7pm on 3/20, Winchester Center Gallery, 455-7340

1992 WalkAmerica, 3/21, more than 1,500 people are expected to participate in an eight-mile walk to raise money for the March of Dimes, Sahara Pavilion, 459-3220

Folks Faire, 3/21, information booths and awareness activities on leisure opportunities for special populations, City of Las Vegas Adaptive Recreation Division, spectators welcome, UNLV 229-6297

The Sotto Voce Trio, 3/21, avant-garde works written by American women composers since 1980, 7:30pm, Ham Hall, UNLV 739-3801

"Harold and the Purple Crayon" Rural Tour, 3/21-23, children's play by Theatreworks of New York, 3/21 in Mesquite, 3/22 in Indian Springs, 3/23 in Laughlin, free, 455-7340

Kite Karnival, 3/22, workshops, stunts, demonstrations, competitions, and the Kite Flite, Freedom Park, 229-6297

An American Salute, 3/22, Sierra Wind Quintet concert, Charleston Heights Arts Center, 229-6383

One-Act Play Festival, 3/25-29, UNLV Dept. of Theatre Arts, Grant Hall Little Theatre, UNLV 739-3801

Women of the Americas, 3/26-28, performances by musical artists, poets, and storytellers during free event open to the public, highlights include: on 3/26 at 7:30pm jazz concert with Marlena Shaw and the UNLV Jazz Ensemble; on 3/27 at 7:30pm poetry reading by celebrated Native American Creek poet Joy Harjo; on 3/28 at 8pm Vira and Hortensia Colorado perform "Huipil" combining storytelling, hand choreography, and symbols into a tale of Indian sisters living in New York City, Nevada Humanities Committee, many events at UNLV for schedule call 739-3431 or 798-0337

A Sulich Celebration, 3/26-29, featuring the greatest works of Vassili Sulich, artistic director of the Nevada Dance Theatre, Judy Bayley Theatre, UNLV 739-3801

Mazowsze Folk Ensemble, 3/27 100-member troupe dedicated to preservation of Polish folklore, 8pm, Ham Hall, UNLV 739-3801

Angel Plane Airshow, 3/28-29, Las Vegas, 386-5604

Corporate Challenge, 3/28-5/2, athletes from local corporations compete in 26 sporting events to prove superiority in areas other than the workplace, throughout Las Vegas, for schedule call 229-6297

Glory! Glory! Gospel Concert, 3/28, featuring Las Vegas' most popular gospel groups, Reed Whipple Cultural Center, 229-6211

April

Las Vegas LPGA International, 4/1-5, Desert Inn, 673-4653 or 645-3594

Art Exhibit, 4/1-30, paintings by blind artist Jerry Mitchler of Overton, Lost City Museum, Overton, 397-2193

Crafts Jamboree, 4/2, Las Vegas, 882-7608

Laughlin River Run, 4/2-5, approximately 10,000 motorcyclists participate in several events including a pancake breakfast and ride to Oatman, Arizona, sponsored by the Southern



California Harley Davidson Club of San Bernardino, Laughlin, 298-2535

"Too Close to the Sun," 4/2-5 and 4/8-12, 8pm, 2pm Sun., UNLV Dept. of Theatre Arts, Black Box Theatre, UNLV 739-3801

UNLV Dance Arts Spring '92 Concert, 4/3-5, 8pm Fri.-Sat., 2pm Sun., Judy Bayley Theatre, UNLV 739-3801

Third Invitational Native American Festival, 4/3-5, Native American guest artists, performance art, lectures, Native American food, exhibits, and craft sales, exhibited through 5/3 is the Owen Paff Collection of Southern Paiute basketry, Clark County Heritage Museum, Henderson, 455-7955

"Rumors," 4/3-5 and 4/7-12, comedy, 8pm, 2pm Sun., New West Theatre, 876-6972

Johnathan Frid's "Shakespearean Odyssey," 4/4, Frid, best remembered as vampire Barnabas Collins in "Dark Shadows," performs excerpts from some of Shakespeare's most celebrated masterpieces, Reed Whipple Cultural Center, 229-6211

Art Show, 4/5-26, paintings and sculpture, Las Vegas Art Museum, Lorenzi Park, 647-4300

Festival of the Arts 1992, 4/6-11, artists exhibits and demonstrations, arts and crafts sales, hands-on activities, murals, storytelling, food court, performances for children and adults, Art-A-Fair art contest, free, Clark County Library, 733-7810

Robert Bluestone in Classical Guitar Concert, 4/7 7:30pm, Ham Hall, UNLV, 739-3801

Flying Colors Kite Expo, 4/7, kite building workshops, stunt flying and instruction, 10am-3pm, Silver Bowl Sports Complex, 455-7506

Southern Nevada Women's Amateur Golf, 4/7-8, Canyon Gate, 673-4653 or 645-3594

Nevada Symphony Classical Concert, 4/8, 8pm, Ham Hall, UNLV 736-6656

Clark County Fair, 4/10-12, Logandale, 398-3441

Home Remodeling and Decorating Show, 4/10-12, Cashman Field Center, 386-7100

Henderson Industrial Days, 4/10-19, carnival, chili cook-off, car show, talent show, Miss Industrial Days pageant, softball tournaments, Henderson, 565-8951

Southern Nevada Amateur Golf, 4/11-12, Las Vegas Golf Club, 673-4653 or 645-3594

"Judas Maccabaeus," 4/12, oratorio by George Frideric Handel performed by Musical Arts Chorus, Musical Arts Orchestra, and guests soloists, 3pm, $10 adults, $7 for seniors, students, military, and handicapped, Ham Hall, UNLV 739-3801

NSA Faculty Recital, 4/15, Nevada School of the Arts presents it faculty in recital, Flamingo Library, 739-3502

Art-A-Fair Winner's Circle 1992, 4/15-5/17 winners from art contest held during the Festival of Arts, Clark County Library, 733-7810

Laughlin River Days, 4/16-19, parade, duck race, carnival, soap box derby, Special Olympics, Miss Laughlin Pageant, Laughlin, 298-2214 or 800-227-5425

Antique Auction, 4/17-19, Roaring 20s Expositions, Cashman Field Center, 386-7100

Kaleidoscope: A Children's Festival, 4/18, stage performances including "Mime Sole," hands-on arts and crafts, storytellers, arts and dance, magic, and food, 10am-6pm, Sunset Park, 455-7506

An Issue of Water, 4/20-5/17 group exhibit of paintings, drawings, and sculpture addresses the issue of water as an environmental concern, as a healing agent and as a motivation for political power, Nevada Institute for Contemporary Art, UNLV, 739-3751

Art Exhibits, 4/21-5/19, works by art students from Clark County School District, displayed at various Las Vegas Clark County libraries, 733-3601

Pianist Emanuel Ax, 4/22, 8pm, Ham Hall, UNLV, 739-3801

Earth Fair, 4/25, booths, entertainment, food, 10am-4pm, Sunset Park, 455-7506

Tour de Spring, 4/25, 25-, 50-, and 110-mile bike rides, Floyd Lamb State Park, 739-7771

Collector Car Auction, 4/25-26, Cashman Field Center, 386-7100

International Food Festival, 4/26, 13 ethnic groups serve typical foods from the country of origin, games, raffles, Las Vegas Convention Center, 435-1342 or 898-6565

UNLV Dance Arts Spring '92 Student Showcase, 4/26, 2pm and 4pm, McDermott Physical Education Bldg., UNLV 739-3827

Opus Dance Ensemble Concert XII, 4/26 and 5/3, features professional dancers of the Las Vegas Strip performing a varied menu of dance styles from classical ballet to jazz, 2pm, Tiffany Theatre, Tropicana Hotel, 732-9646

Las Vegas Senior Golf Classic, 4/30-5/3, Senior PGA event, Desert Inn, 673-4653 or 645-3594

"Nine," 4/30-5/3 and 5/6-10, musical, 8pm, 2pm Sun., UNLV Dept. of Theatre Arts, Judy Bayley Theatre, UNLV 739-3801

May

"Social Security," 5/1-17, comedy, 8pm Thurs.-Sat., 2pm Sun., Las Vegas Little Theatre, Spring Valley Library Theatre, 383-0021

Movers and Shakers: Visions and Revisions of Nevada Women, 5/1-31, traveling photo exhibit funded by the Nevada Humanities Com-



Just a step away from the major leagues, the Las Vegas Stars have been providing major entertainment to baseball fans in Las Vegas for almost 10 years.

PREVIEW

Stars on the Diamond

The Las Vegas Stars Baseball Club celebrates its 10th anniversary this spring with great expectations for a sparkling 1992 season. The Triple-A affiliate of the San Diego Padres, the Stars play in the Pacific Coast League.

Just a step away from the major leagues, the Stars have averaged more than 320,000 fans during each of the previous nine years in Las Vegas, and 110 former Stars players have gone on to major league careers. Currently 64 former Stars players are on a major league roster. In the last nine years the Stars have won the league championship twice—in 1986 and again in 1988—and made the playoffs seven times.

This season the three-millionth fan will enter the Cashman Field gates to watch the Stars. That event, coupled with the 10th anniversary celebration and standard Stars promotions, should mean another banner year for the Las Vegas entry in the PCL. Locals and tourists alike support Stars baseball—and a family of four can attend Stars games for as little as $20.

Other major league affiliate teams in the Pacific Coast League include the Oakland Athletics, San Francisco Giants, Los Angeles Dodgers, Seattle Mariners, Cleveland Indians, Chicago White Sox, Houston Astros, and the world-champion Minnesota Twins.

For the Stars' home game schedule, see Las Vegas Hot Lines on page E-7

mittee; "The Ties That Bind: Family and Community Lives of Nevada Women" section explores the varied roles of women in family life and volunteer activities, Lost City Museum, Overton, 397-2193

Folk Arts Exhibit, 5/1-6/6, folk arts, crafts, and photographs, part of the on-going Las Vegas Folk Arts Survey sponsored by the Nevada State Council on the Arts, reception from 5-7pm on 5/1, Winchester Center Gallery, 455-7340

Women of Achievement Awards, 5/2, recognizes the professional and civic contribution of women in southern Nevada, Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce, Tropicana Hotel, 457-8845

Spring Jamboree and Artisans Fair, 5/2-3, arts and crafts and food booths, Little Mr. and Miss Contest, entertainers and musical groups perform, Boulder City, 293-2034

Las Vegas Helldorado Western Art Exhibit, 5/3-31, display of Western art by well-known artists, opening reception noon-3pm on 5/3, Las Vegas Art Museum, 647-4300

Golf Tournament, 5/7-10, Imperial Palace, 794-3160

Las Vegas Helldorado Trail Ride, 5/8-10, annual three-day horseback ride in southern Nevada, 870-1221

Very Special Arts Southern Nevada Public Festival, 5/9, music, visual arts, dance performances, workshops, and art by people with disabilities, fun for all populations including children, elderly, and handicapped, 10:30am-3pm, Community College of Southern Nevada, 643-6060 ext. 588

Depictions of Las Vegas on Film Lecture, 5/9, lecture, slides, and video clips on how Las Vegas has been depicted on film, Clark County Heritage Museum, Henderson, 455-7955

Clark County Artists Show, 5/9-10, outdoor fine arts exhibit and sale, Bicentennial Park, Boulder City, 293-2138

Las Vegas History of Entertainment: Part II, 5/9-7/26, second exhibit in an annual series of how Las Vegas became the Entertainment Capital, focuses on the history and impact of the gaming industry on the growth of the Las Vegas area in the 1940s and 1950s, Clark County Heritage Museum, Henderson, 455-7955

Nevada Symphony Classical Concert, 5/11, 8pm, Ham Hall, UNLV 736-6656

SI/GLV Charity Golf Classic, 5/11, golf tournament to benefit Las Vegas Ronald McDonald House, Soroptimist International of Greater Las Vegas, Sunrise Golf Course, 735-3582

Liberace Birthday Week Celebration, 5/11-16, week-long celebration culminating on the famed pianist/showman's birthday 5/16, includes concerts, special discount coupons for the Liberace Museum tour, and a gigantic piano-shaped birthday cake, Liberace Museum, 800-626-2625

NSA Student Recitals, 5/11-16, students perform on string, piano, voice, woodwind, brass, percussion, and various Suzuki recitals, Ham Hall, UNLV 739-3502

Ribs and Blues Concert, 5/15, Grammy winner Clarence "Gatemouth" Brown in a kick-off concert for the third annual Craft Fair and Rib Burn-Off (5/16-17), 6pm, Sunset Park, 455-7340

"The Las Vegas Suite," 5/15-24, contemporary ballet conceived by Nevada hotel owner Steven A. Wynn especially for Las Vegas about Las Vegas, capturing the early pioneering spirit, desert beauty, and modern-day excitement,





LAS VEGAS

Judy Bayley Theatre, UNLV 739-3801

Big Band Concert and Outdoor Dance, 5/16, Clark County Heritage Museum's outdoor performance area, Henderson, 455-7955

Craft Fair and Rib Burn-Off, 5/16-17 eighth annual, handmade arts and crafts, live music, kid's activities, and food, Sunset Park, 455-7506

Art Exhibit, 5/19-7/12, watercolors and photography, Clark County Library, 733-7810

Elly Ameling With the Alexander String Quartet, 5/21, 8pm, Ham Hall, UNLV 739-3801

Mesquite Days, 5/21-23, 346-5295

Photo Exhibit, 5/21-7/7, recent work by Eduardo Pampinella, Green Valley Library, Henderson, 435-1840

Panoramic Steel Band, 5/22, steel drum ensemble from Brigham Young University performs Caribbean tunes and American pop, 8pm, free, Winchester Center, 455-7340

Ranch Romance Band, 5/22, country-western music, yodeling, and campy humor, Jaycee Park, 229-6383

Snow Mountain Powwow, 5/22-23, Las Vegas Paiute Tribe, 386-3926

Las Vegas Helldorado Days, 5/22-31, PRCA rodeo, parade, carnival, midway, street dance, chili cook-off, and Bull Ride '92, Thomas and Mack Center, UNLV 870-1221

"Cat on a Hot Tin Roof," 5/22-24, 5/29-31 and 6/5-7 Actors Repertory Theatre, 647-7469

Panoramic Steel Band, 5/23, steel drum ensemble from Brigham Young University performs Caribbean tunes and American pop, 7:30pm, free, Moapa Valley High School, 455-7340

Art-A-Fair Winner's Exhibit, 5/23-6/28, exhibit of winners from art contest held during the Festival of Arts, Spring Valley Library, 368-4411

McDermott Masters 9-Ball and U.S. Open 8-Ball Tournaments, 5/25-6/4, Imperial Palace, 794-3160

Private Collections/Public Viewing: The Graphic Medium, 5/25-6/21, collection of graphic images from today's leading contemporary artists such as Robert Rauschenberg, David Hockney, and Wayne Thiebaud, Nevada Institute for Contemporary Art, UNLV 739-3751

Art Exhibit, 5/27-6/29, ceramics by David Powers, reception from 5-7pm on 5/27 Sunrise Library, 453-1104

Floyd Dixon Blues Concert, 5/29, featuring the blues piano man and vocalist who penned "Hey Bartender!" Reed Whipple Cultural Center, 229-6211

The Best of Broadway, 5/30-31, Musical Arts Society, 8pm Sat., 3pm Sun., Ham Hall, UNLV 739-3801

Nellis Spring Golf Classic, 5/30-31, Sunrise Vista, 673-4653 or 645-3594

COMING EVENTS

Bud Light Triathlon Series Las Vegas Championship and World Cup, 9/26, Boulder City, 619-438-8080

Clark County Basque Festival, 9/26-27 361-6834

Las Vegas Jaycees State Fair, 10/2-11, 457-8832

Art in the Park, 10/3-4, Boulder City, 293-2034

Las Vegas Invitational, PGA golf, 10/7-11, 673-4653 or 645-3594

North Las Vegas Fairshow, 10/23-25, 642-1944

National Finals Rodeo, 12/4-13, Las Vegas, 739-3900



Sierra Wind Quintet members: Left to right: Stephen Caplan, Lynn Huntzinger Felix Viscuglia, Kristin Wolfe. Seated: Rick Soule.

PREVIEW

Las Vegas Winds

By Scott Dickensheets

Being a "crack ensemble" is not always a good thing. Sierra Wind Quintet leader Stephen Caplan jokes that when the group is identified as a "crack ensemble from Las Vegas," people sometimes presume that they're a drug team. As it is, reviews of the group's out-of-state performances invariably exclaim, with some surprise, "This is not what you'd expect from a city of bright lights, high rollers, and monster college basketball."

But they really are a crack unit. These five cream-of-the-crop musicians are fully capable of honking even the most rigorously dissonant modern classical music, although they can also play George M. Cohan. By local consensus, the ensemble members—Stephen Caplan on oboe, Lynn Arnold Huntzinger on French horn, Kristin Wolfe on bassoon, Felix Viscuglia on clarinet, and Rick Soule on flute—are among the best in Las Vegas' not-so-inconsiderable pool of musicians.

"Last year was a watershed year for us," Caplan says of his group, which is playing March 22 at Las Vegas' Charleston Heights Art Center. "We played Carnegie Hall, we released our first CD—so we've managed to pass that test. Now we're in a different ball game."

They've mastered the complex academic stuff on their first compact disc, "A Box of Views." But now the group is ready for something different.

"It is very important for us to concentrate on academic, avant-garde music—you have to do that if anyone [in the chamber music world] is going to take you seriously. But now we can take more risks."

With the departure of founding member Yoshiyuki Ishikawa—who, with the group's blessing, made all of the decisions—Sierra Wind has established a new creative democracy. Everyone has input.

Sierra Wind performs on several different levels. They've made concert swings along the East Coast, they're the only Nevada act on the prestigious Western States Arts Federation performing tour, and they're in a program that books professional acts into Las Vegas elementary schools.

"Even on concert tours we'll do workshops at local colleges or high schools," Wolfe says.

Sierra Wind's musical mastery—and political commitment—will be on display in "An American Salute" on March 22, at Las Vegas' Charleston Heights Arts Center.

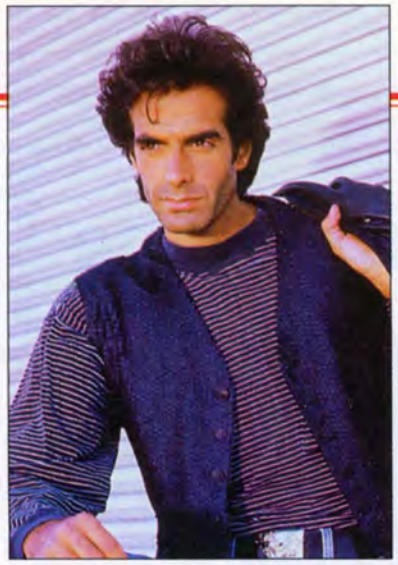
"This is a salute to government funding of the arts," says Caplan, noting that federal arts funding has been under serious attack in recent years. He's hoping the concert can spotlight the positive role government money has played in the development of the arts—as well as in the quintet.

The NEA funded the recording of "A Box of Views" and will also fund an upcoming project. Over the years Sierra Wind has received several grants from the Nevada State Council on the Arts, including one allowing them to commission new pieces from two Las Vegas composers.

One, by Don Hannah, translates Latin dance rhythms into a wind quintet format, while Beth Mehocic's new pieces emphasize Native American music. Both will be featured in the March 22 show and on their new release.

Scott Dickensheets is an assistant city editor at the Las Vegas Sun.

Photo: Sylvia Hill



David Copperfield appears at Caesars.

SHOWGUIDE

Las Vegas

Aladdin, 736-0240: "Alakazaam," indf. (dark Tues.); "Sex Over 40," revue, indf. (dark Sat.-Sun.); "Comedy Underground," comedy club, indf. (dark Mon.)

Bally's, 739-4567 or 800-237-SHOW: *Celebrity Room:* Tom Jones, thru 3/4; Four Tops, 3/5-11; Barbara Mandrell, 3/12-18; The Righteous Brothers, 3/19-4/1; George Carlin, 4/2-8; *Ziegfeld Theatre:* "Jubilee!" indf. (dark Wed.); *Catch a Rising Star:* comedy/variety club, indf.

Barbary Coast, 737-7200: The Entertainment Committee, 3/17-4/5

Bourbon Street, 737-7200: Entertainment TBA

Caesars Palace, 731-7333 or 800-445-4544: David Copperfield, thru 3/2; Natalie Cole, 3/6-8; Julio Iglesias, 3/11-16; Moody Blues, 3/20-22; Jay Leno, 4/2-5; David Copperfield, 5/15-27; Julio Iglesias, 5/27-6/1

California Hotel, 385-1222: Entertainment TBA

Circus Circus, 734-0410: Free circus acts, 11am-midnight

Desert Inn, 733-4566: Headliner entertainment, TBA

Dunes, 737-4741: Entertainment TBA

El Rancho, 796-2222: Entertainment TBA

Excalibur, 597-7600: "King Arthur's Tournament," indf.; "Wonderful World of Horses," starring the Royal Lipizzaner Stallions, indf., (dark Fri.)

Fitzgeralds, 382-6111: Nightly entertainment

Flamingo Hilton, 733-3333: "City Lites," stage spectacular, indf. (dark Sun.)

Four Queens, 385-4011: The Kingston Trio, 3/3-15; The Original Drifters, 3/17-29; Monday Night Jazz, indf.

Gold Coast, 367-7111: Sorta Dixie Jazz Band, indf.

Gold Strike Inn, Boulder City, 293-5000: Entertainment TBA

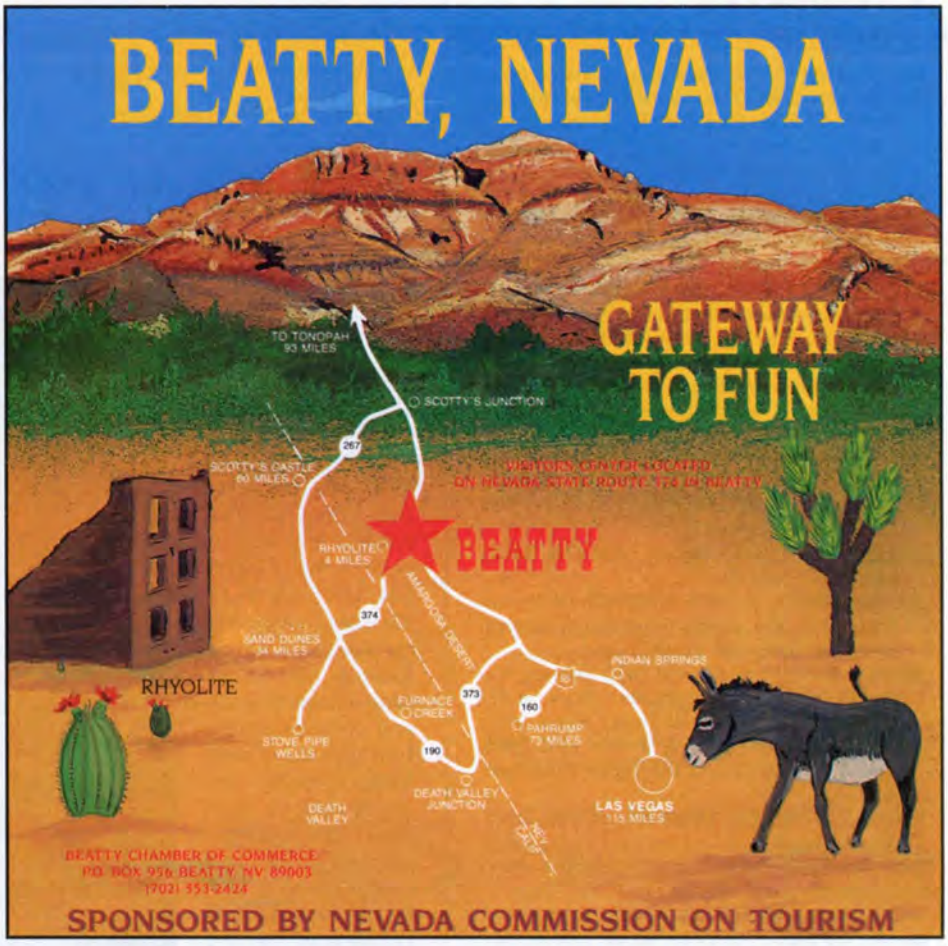
Golden Nugget, 386-8100: Don Rickles, 2/27-3/2; Mel Tillis, 3/5-17

Hacienda, 739-8911: Lance Burton: "A Magical Journey," indf.

Holiday Casino/Holiday Inn (changes in April to Harrah's Las Vegas), 369-5222 or 800-634-6787 (outside Nevada): "Spellbound '92" concert of illusion, thru 5/24 (dark Sun.)

Imperial Palace, 794-3261: "Legends in Concert," indf. (dark Sun.)

Jackie Gaughan's Plaza, 386-2444: "Bedfull of Foreigners," starring James MacArthur, comedy, indf.



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2nd Annual
Spring Fishing Derby
May 7 & 8

5th Annual
Carson Valley 5K & 10K
June 6

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Lady Luck, 477-3000: Entertainment TBA
Las Vegas Hilton, 732-5755 or 800-222-5361: Joan Rivers/Sinbad, thru 3/1; Temptations, 3/3-15; Wayne Newton, 3/17-4/12; Larry Gatlin and the Gatlin Brothers/Tanya Tucker, 4/14-26
Main Street Station, 387-1896 or 800-782-9966 (outside Nevada): Rosie O'Grady's Goodtime Jazz Band/Mickey Finn, indf.
Maxim, 731-4300 or 800-634-6987: "Comedy Cabaret," revue, indf. (dark Sun.)
The Mirage, 792-7777: Siegfried and Roy, magic spectacular, performances three out of four weeks every month, call for dates and times
Paddlewheel, 734-0711: Entertainment TBA
O'Sheas, 733-3111: Entertainment TBA
Palace Station, 367-2411: Entertainment TBA
Ramada Hotel San Remo, 739-9000: Karaoke laser/video sing-along daily and Karaoke King Kontest every Mon.
Red Garter, 664-2111: Comedy night every Mon.; live music Tues.-Sun.
Rio Suite Hotel, 252-7776 or 800-888-0400 (continental U.S. outside Nevada): "Tropical Heat," review, indf. (dark Thurs.)
Riviera, 794-9301 or 800-634-3420 (outside Nevada): "Splash," production show, indf.; "Crazy Girls: Fantasie de Paris," revue, indf.; "An Evening at La Cage," revue, indf. (dark Tues.); "An Evening at the Improv," comedians, indf.
Sahara, 737-2515: Rich Little's "Copy Cats," indf. (dark Thurs.)
Sam Boyd's Fremont, 385-6239: Nightly entertainment except Mon.
Sam's Town, 456-7777: Entertainment nightly
Sands, 733-5453: "Viva Las Vegas!" revue, indf. (dark Sat.-Sun.)
Santa Fe, 658-4900: Dummkopfs, Tues. nights
Stardust, 732-6111 or 800-824-6033 (Western U.S. outside Nevada and in Mexico): "Enter the Night," revue, indf. (dark Tues.)
Tropicana, 739-2411: "Folies Bergere," indf. (dark Thurs.); "Comedy Stop," stand-up comedians, indf.
Vegas World, 383-5264: Marty Allen and Steve Rossi, indf.; Memories of Elvis starring E.P King, indf.; Reflections of Sinatra starring Duke Hazlett, indf.
Westward Ho, 731-2900: Paul Delicato/Liz Damon, indf. (dark Sun.)

Laughlin

Colorado Belle, 298-4000: "Bourbon Street Review," indf.; Big Band Bash every Sun.
Edgewater, 298-2453: Entertainment TBA
Flamingo Hilton Laughlin, 298-5028: "American Superstars," impersonations of legendary rock 'n' roll stars, indf.
Gold River, 298-2242 or 800-835-7904: Sandy Hackett's Comedy Club, indf.; continuous entertainment
Harrah's Laughlin, 298-4600 or 800-447-8700
Ramada Express, 298-4200: Karaoke Night every Mon. from 7pm-midnight
Regency, 298-2439: Piano bar
Riverside Resort, 298-2535 or 800-227-3849 ext. 616: Johnny Cash, 3/6-7; Debbie Reynolds, 3/18-21; Eddy Arnold, 3/24-28

Mesquite

Peppermill Resort, 346-5232: Entertainment TBA
Virgin River, 346-7777: Entertainment Tues.-Sun.

Stateline/Jean

Gold Strike Hotel, Jean, 477-5000: Entertain-

CASINO NOTES

They're the Tops



Circus Circus and the Sky Shuttle.

Last December, the Circus Sky Shuttle at **Circus Circus Hotel** completed its one millionth run. Joining some of the hotel's top executives in the celebration were Dr. Fred Kirschner, chairman of the Clark County Zoning and Planning Commission, and commissioners Leo Johnson and Kirby Trumbo. Inaugurated in May 1981, the energy-saving, quiet, and pollution-free Sky Shuttle was the first fully-automated people-mover in Las Vegas. Linking Circus Towers, the Circus Skyrise, and Circus Manor, the shuttles can carry up to 2,000 passengers per hour. The three-track system spans Circus Circus Drive 18 feet above street level.

•With pillow cases and bed sheets in hand, the **Riviera's** housekeeping crew recently won the fourth annual Housekeeping Olympic competition of the National Executive Housekeeping Association. The event featured representatives from 10 Las Vegas hotels and was held in conjunction with National Housekeeping Week. There were four stages of competition—bed-making, buffer toss, toilet tissue toss, and the pillow relay. The Riviera captured first in three of the four events to dethrone three-time champion Bally's for the overall title. "It was a great week," said Riviera Director of Housekeeping Jimmy McDonald.

•Since its opening in September 1990, another 110 rooms have been added to the **Virgin River Hotel** in Mesquite, 77 miles north of Las Vegas on I-15. The hotel opened with 152 rooms, a pool, jacuzzi, restaurant, and casino along with the city's only twin cinema.

•The Steak House at **Circus Circus** was declared the best in the steak house category by the *Las Vegas Review-Journal's* readers this year for the fourth time since the room opened in 1982.

•The hearing impaired can now enjoy the sounds of "Legends in Concert" at the **Imperial Palace,** thanks to a revolutionary audio system. The communication system, called the Sennheiser Infrared Assistive Listening Device, enables the hearing impaired to clearly distinguish the sounds around them through headphones that contain a receiver and an adjustable volume knob. The sounds of the show are picked up and transmitted to the headsets by infrared signals mounted on each side of the showroom and above the stage. The device can be obtained from the showroom maitre d' before each performance.

•The **Las Vegas Hilton** received six major awards in 1991 for exemplary service. One of them was the Gold Key Award presented by *Meetings and Conventions Magazine.* The award is generally regarded as the meeting industry's ultimate symbol of excellence for hotels and resorts and is voted on by *Meetings and Convention's* 85,000 subscribers worldwide.

•A brand new card game is being introduced at the **Rio Suite Hotel**: Caribbean Stud Poker. A game that is popular on cruise ships, Caribbean Stud Poker combines the best of stud poker and blackjack psychology and then adds a progressive meter for a bonus jackpot that starts at $10,000. The Rio also celebrated the grand opening recently of its Jackpot Jungle, a unique slot area.

•The **Holiday Casino/Holiday Inn** offers a festive end to winter with a Mardi Gras celebration February 28-March 30 and a St. Patrick's Day party March 13-17 Then, in April, the hotel-casino's name will change to Harrah's Las Vegas.

ment to be announced
Nevada Landing, Jean, 387-5000: Entertainment TBA
Primadonna, Stateline, 382-1212: occasional concerts by original '40s, '50s, and '60s groups such as Cornell Gunther's Coasters, Ink Spots, and Sonny Turner
Whiskey Pete's, Stateline, 382-4388: Live entertainment

GAMING TOURNAMENTS

March

Slots, 3/3-6, 4/21-24, and 5/27-30, Holiday Casino/Holiday Inn (in April name changes to Harrah's Las Vegas, 369-5123
Blackjack, 3/6-7, Hacienda, 739-8911
Slots, 3/8-10 and 3/22-24, Flamingo Hilton, 800-HILTONS
Slots, 3/8-11, Bally's, 739-4413
Slots, 3/15-17 Tropicana, 739-2614
Keno, 3/15-18, Caesars Palace, 731-7485
Slots, 3/15-18, 4/16-19, and 5/11-14, Riviera, 794-5110 or 800-637-5687
Slots, 3/16-19 and 3/23-26, Stardust, 732-6111
Slots, 3/16-19, Sands, 733-5000 or 800-446-4678
Video Poker, 3/23, Showboat, 385-9123
Craps, 3/25, Showboat, 385-9123
Slots, 3/27-29, Imperial Palace, 794-3160

April

Slots, 4/1-5, 4/8-12, and 5/14-17 Westward Ho, 731-2900
Slots, 4/7-10, Sam Boyd's Fremont, 385-6239 or 800-874-0711
Video Poker, 4/19-21, Imperial Palace, 794-3160

MUSEUMS

Boulder City

Boulder City/Hoover Dam Museum: 9-5 daily, 444 Hotel Plaza, 294-1988

Henderson

Clark County Heritage Museum: 8-5 Mon.-Fri., 9-5 Sat.-Sun., 1830 South Boulder Hwy., 455-7955

Las Vegas

American Museum of Historical Documents: 10-6 Mon.-Wed., 10-9 Thurs.-Fri., 10-6 Sat., 12-5 Sun., 3200 Las Vegas Blvd. S., privately owned, 731-0785
Guinness World of Records Museum: open daily, 2780 Las Vegas Blvd. S., 792-0640 or 792-3766 (business office)
Imperial Palace Auto Collection: 9:30am-11:30pm daily, 794-3174
Las Vegas Art Museum: 10-3 Tues.-Sat., noon-3 Sun., Lorenzi Park, 3333 W. Washington Ave., 647-4300
Las Vegas Natural History Museum: includes the Wildlife World Art Museum, 9-4 daily, 900 Las Vegas Blvd. N., 384-DINO
Liberace Museum: 10-5 Mon.-Sat., 1-5 Sun., 1775 E. Tropicana, 798-5595
Lied Discovery Children's Museum: 10-5 Tues.-Wed. and Fri.-Sat., 10-9 Thurs., noon-5 Sun., 833 Las Vegas Blvd. N., 382-KIDS
Marjorie Barrick Museum of Natural History: 9-5 Mon.-Fri., 10-5 Sat., UNLV 739-3381
Nevada State Museum and Historical Society: 11:30-4:30 Mon.-Tues., 8:30-4:30 Wed.-Sun., Lorenzi Park, 486-5205
Old Las Vegas Mormon Fort: 8-2 Sat. and Mon., noon-3 Sun., Las Vegas Blvd. N. at Washington (entrance from Cashman Field parking lot B only), 382-7198
Ripley's Believe It or Not!: 9am-midnight Sun.-Thurs., 9am-1am Fri.-Sat., Four Queens Hotel, 385-4011

Mesquite

Mesquite Museum: 9-5 Mon.-Fri., occasionally open on Sat., call ahead, 31 W. Mesquite Blvd., 346-5705

North Las Vegas

The Planetarium: 2-8 Thurs.-Sat., Clark County Community College, 644-5059

Overton

Lost City Museum: 8:30-4:30 daily, ancient Pueblo culture, 397-2193

Searchlight

Searchlight Historic Museum: (Satellite of Clark County Heritage Museum) 9-5 Mon.-Fri., 9-12 Sat., Searchlight Community Center, 200 Michael Wendell Way, 455-7955

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Reno-Tahoe Territory

EVENTS

March

Russian and Greek Icons, thru 3/15, icons from the 13th-19th century from the Charles Pankow Collection, Nevada Museum of Art, 329-3333

Art Exhibit, thru 3/16, sculptures by Clarice Dreyer, Sheppard Gallery, UNR, 784-6658

Concerts in the Atrium, thru 5/29 (every Fri.), live classical music by professional musicians from Reno, noon-1pm, free, Airport Gardens Office Complex, 1325 Airmotive Way, 329-1324

World War II in Nevada: The Home Front, thru 6/27 Nevada Historical Society exhibit, 688-1190

Lovelock Cave Duck Decoys Exhibit, thru 11/30, two 2,000-year-old tule reed duck decoys discovered during a 1924 excavation of Lovelock Cave near Reno are on loan from the Smithsonian Institution, Nevada State Museum, Carson City, 687-4810

Playboy Winter Skifest, 2/28-3/1, Squaw Valley, 916-583-7664 ext. 188

Snowfest, 2/28-3/8, fireworks, torchlight ski parade, ski races, snow and ice sculpture contests, parades, aprés ski entertainment, Polar Bear Swim in Lake Tahoe, Dress-Up-Your-Dog Contest, Tahoe Localman Triathlon, Napkin Hat Contest, Hawaiian Luau, Wild Game and Fish Cook-Off, and Diaper Derby, theater productions, dances, and concerts, North Lake Tahoe and Truckee, 916-583-7625

Native American Arts and Crafts and Exhibition Dancing, 2/29-3/1, beadwork, silverwork, artists' demonstrations, Native American dancers in traditional costumes, Cal-Neva Lodge, Crystal Bay, 832-4000 or 800-CAL-NEVA

Carson City Founders Festival, 2/29-3/1, banjo and fiddlers jamboree, fine art, arts and crafts, antique show, snowshoe races, baseball, and more, Carson City Community Center and Mills Park, 800-NEVADA-1

The Great Ski Race, 3/1, 16th annual, 30-K cross-country ski race from Tahoe City to Truckee, part of Snowfest, Tahoe Nordic, 916-583-0484

"Torch Song Trilogy," 3/1 and 3/6-7 romantic comedy, Reno Little Theater, 329-0661

Pottery Show, 3/1-31, works by Mimi Patrick and Helma Reichenbach, Artist's Co-Op, 329-3590

Art Exhibit, 3/2-27 photography by Ted Cook and paintings by Ingrid Van Dyne, Sierra Arts Gallery, 329-1324

Black Women: Achievement Against the Odds, 3/2-28, features 18 black women whose accomplishments have affected religion, civil rights, sports, education, the arts, and science, Nevada Historical Society, 688-1190

Amadeus Trio, 3/4, concert, 8pm, Nightingale Hall, UNR, 784-6505

Nevada State High School Basketball Tournament, 3/4-7, Lawlor Events Center, UNR, 784-4659

TERRITORY MAP



World's Largest Concert, 3/5, more than 8 million students across America, including Nevada's elementary students, will sing in the world's largest concert, broadcast on PBS stations at 10am PST, 689-2590

Sharkey's Treasures From the Gardnerville Collection, 3/5-4/4, an exhibit of boxing, rodeo, and circus memorabilia from the collection of Sharkey's Casino in Gardnerville, XS Gallery, Western Nevada Community College, Carson City, 887-3014 or 887-3018

Sentimental Journey: Auction/Gala, 3/6, main fundraiser for the Nevada Opera Assn., Harrah's Reno, 786-4046

"Greater Tuna," 3/6-7 3/13-14, and 3/20-21, comedy, 8pm, Proscenium Players, Brewery Arts Center, Carson City, 883-1976

Kerak Temple 1992 Shrine Circus, 3/6-8, three-ring circus, Reno Livestock Events Center, 329-1732

Donner Camp History Tour, 3/7 need snowshoes or cross-country skis, meet at 10am at Donner Memorial State Park Museum, 916-587-3841

Tour D'Ever Quarter Metric Century, 3/8, modeled after bicycle centuries, this cross-country ski event is open to skiers of ages and abilities, 25-K course with food stations for rest and nourishment, Tahoe Donner Cross-Country, 916-587-9484

Gourmet Cross-Country Ski Tour, 3/8, Northstar, 916-562-2475

Biggest Little Cutting in the World, 3/10-15, Reno Livestock Events Center, 323-3073

Exceptional Children's Ski Day, 3/11, Sierra Ski Ranch, 916-659-7519 or 916-659-7453

Middle School and High School Honor Band Concert, 3/12, 7:30pm, selected honor band students from the Washoe County School District, Nightingale Hall, UNR, 689-2590

St. Patrick's Day Dinner and Dance, 3/13, traditional Irish dinner and Irish party music, National Automobile Museum, 333-9300

St. Patrick's Celebration, 3/13-17 Irish music, crafts fair on Virginia Street, Sat.-Sun., Fitzgeralds, 785-3602

HOT LINES

Festivals at Tahoe: information on North Shore festivals throughout the year, 916-583-7625

Nevada Division of State Parks: hikes, tours, stargazing, campfire programs at 21 parks around the state, District II, Carson City, 687-4379

Reno Silver Sox: class-A baseball, Oakland Athletics farm club playing in the California League, 4/14-16 v. San Jose, 4/17-19 v. Visalia, 4/24-26 v. Palm Springs, 5/4-7 v. Modesto, 5/8-10 v. Bakersfield, Moana Stadium, 825-0678

UNR Baseball: 3/10 v. Cal State Stanislaus, 3/13-14 v. Wyoming, 3/25 v. Sonoma State, 3/31 v. Chico State, 4/7 v. California, 4/10-12 v. Southern Utah, 4/15 v. Sacramento State, 4/17-18 v. USF, 4/21 v. UC Davis, 4/24-26 v. Grand Canyon, 5/1-2 v. Chapman, 5/5 v. UOP, 5/16-17 v. UNLV Peccole Field, UNR, 348-PACK

UNR Music Department: concerts, recitals, 784-6145

For chamber of commerce and convention center phone numbers, see page E-4

At right, an exotically costumed participant at Sparks' Cinco de Mayo celebration.

Photo (opposite page): Lonnie Peck/Reno News Bureau



St. Patrick's Day Dinner and Dance, 3/14, Middle School Gym, Virginia City, 847-0954

Doctor's Wives 41st Annual Rummage Sale, 3/14, sponsored by the Auxiliary to the Washoe County Medical Society, proceeds go into a Community Action Fund used for nursing scholarships and education programs for youths, Reno Livestock Events Center, 825-0278

Ski Tour to Olympic Meadows, 3/14, tour to Olympic Meadows at Sugar Pine Point State Park, site of the 1960 Olympic Biathlon, beginners are welcome on the six-mile tour, bring cross-country skis and lunch, 916-525-7982

Fiesta Del Sol, 3/14, cross-country ski to the Ever Valley Cookhouse at Tahoe Donner Cross-Country Ski Area and enjoy a Southwestern fest with gourmet food, 916-587-9484

Winter Railroading in Sierra Park Program, 3/15, includes talk and slide show and tour of train depot in downtown Truckee, meet at 10am at Donner Memorial State Park Museum, 916-587-3841

Subaru Gold Nuggets Kids Race, 3/15, Royal Gorge Ski Resort, 916-426-3871

Subaru California Gold Rush Race, 3/16, Royal Gorge Ski Resort, 916-426-3871

St. Patrick's Day Events, 3/17, spud derby race, music, green ice cream, beer, and soda water, jelly bean contest, Sierra Ski Ranch, 916-659-7519

St. Patrick's Day Pot-O-Gold Treasure Hunt, 3/17 treasure hunt, jelly bean counting contest, green beer and ice cream, Irish music, Sierra Ski Ranch, 916-659-7519

California Moguls/Bump Competition Series Finals, 3/18, Sierra Ski Ranch, 916-659-7519

Robert Bonfiglio Concert, 3/19, harmonic virtuoso, Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, 322-6468

1992 Women's Ski Adventures With Kim Reichhelm, 3/19-23, Kirkwood, 209-258-6000

Robert Minden Ensemble, 3/20, music and storytelling, Cal-Neva Lodge, Crystal Bay, 916-546-4602

Art Exhibit, 3/20-4/20, large charcoal drawings by Julia Couzens and sculpture by Pintor Sirait, reception 3/20 from 7-9pm, Sheppard Gallery, UNR, 784-6658

Echo to Kirkwood Cross-Country Ski Race, 3/21, Kirkwood, 209-258-6000

Kids' Stuff Weekend, 3/21-22, National Automobile Museum, 333-9300

Contemporary Art Exhibition, 3/22-5/10, Nevada Museum of Art, 329-3333

"Harold and the Purple Crayon," 3/25, musical presented by Theatreworks/USA, 7pm, $8 general admission, $7 students and seniors, children 10 and under free with an adult, Carson City Community Center, 883-1976

Arts of March, 3/25-5/4, art show featuring works by Ralph and Cheryln Bennett, artwork will be voted on by viewers, Nevada Artists Association Town Center Gallery, 329-6475

Jimmy Heuga Express Ski Races, 3/27 Squaw Valley, 916-583-7664 ext. 188

California State Snowboard Championships, 3/27-29, Squaw Valley, 916-583-7664 ext. 188

"Raggedy Ann and Andy," 3/27-29, drama production, Brewery Arts Center, Carson City, 883-1976

Middle School Solo and Ensemble Contest, 3/28, bands compete at Sparks Middle School and choirs compete at Swope Middle School in Reno, 689-2590

"Coppelia," 3/28-29, ballet, 8pm Sat., 2pm Sun., featuring guest artists Leonid Kozlov and Valentina Kozlova, stars of the New York City Ballet, Nevada Festival Ballet, Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, 329-2552

April

Art Exhibit, 4/1-30, sculpture by Mary Lee Fulkerson from Palomino Valley, Sierra Arts Gallery, 329-1324

Art Exhibit, 4/1-30, featuring sketches of Nevada's 17 counties by Ruth Wood Cantrell, reception 4/5 from 1-4pm, Artists' Co-Op Gallery, 322-8896

Robert Bluestone Classical Guitar Concert, 4/3, Brewery Arts Center, Carson City, 883-1976

Robert Bluestone Classical Guitar Concert, 4/4, Gold Hill Hotel, Gold Hill, 847-0111

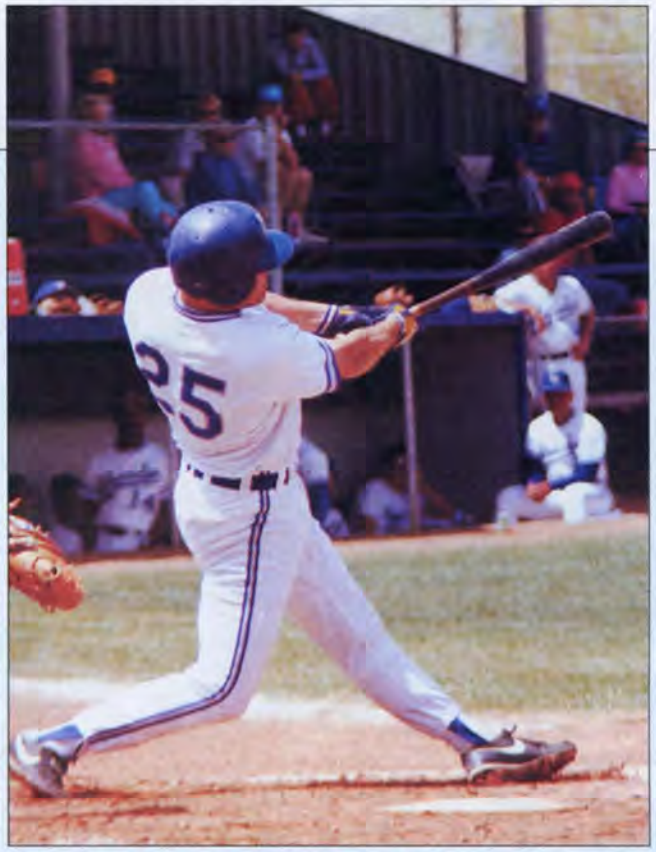
PREVIEW

Silver Sox Get All A's

In 1992 the Reno Silver Sox are going to get all A's. A new era of professional baseball is beginning in Reno, as the Silver Sox, an independent team for the past four years, announced that they are affiliating with the Oakland A's this season.

"One of our goals the past few years has been to bring a major league affiliation back to Reno," General Manager Jack Patton said. "I can't think of a better team to be affiliated with than Oakland."

The Silver Sox have been a member of the Class A California League since 1955. Past affiliations with the Brooklyn and Los Angeles Dodgers, Pittsburgh Pirates, Cleveland Indians, Minnesota Twins, and San Diego Padres have produced 115 major league players. Some of the more recognizable players to wear a Silver Sox uniform are Bobby Cox, Atlanta Braves manager; Jim Lefebvre, Chicago Cubs manager; Mitch Williams and John Kruk, Philadelphia Phillies; Ozzie Guillen, Chicago White Sox; Roberto Alomar, Toronto Blue Jays; Benito Santiago, San Diego Padres; Kevin McReynolds, Kansas City Royals; and Eric Show and Dennis Eckersley Oakland A's.

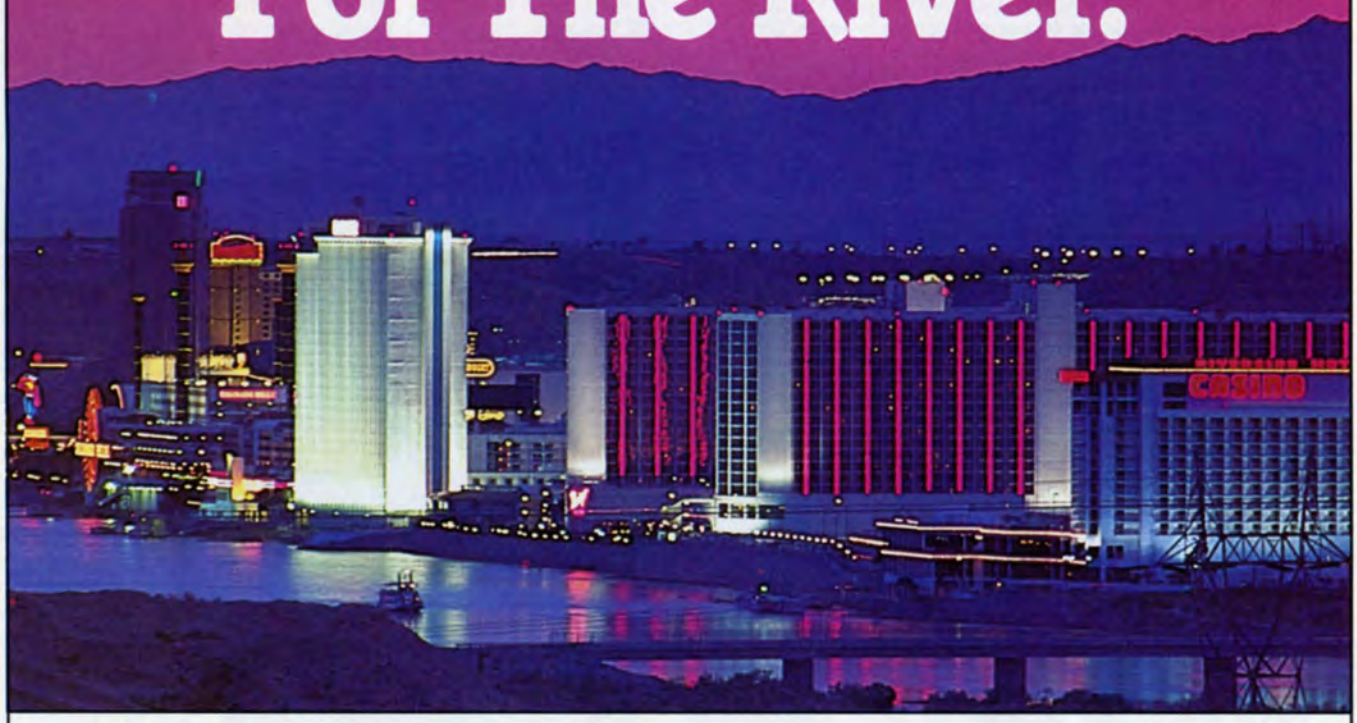


The Oakland A's are going to bat for the Reno Silver Sox this year

Moana Municipal Stadium, home to the Silver Sox, is known as a hitters' ballpark because of the thin mountain air and constant breeze blowing to right field—high scoring games in the double-digits are common. Built in 1961—the old Moana Stadium burned down on Halloween night, 1960—it has recently undergone more than $300,000 in improvements. New field lighting, reserved seating, concession stands, and offices make attending a Sox game a fun family experience.

The Silver Sox play 136 games, April through August, opening their 1992 schedule in Salinas, California, on April 9. Ticket prices for all home games are $4 for reserved seating, $3 for adult general admission, and $2 for children, seniors, and military personnel, general seating. For additional ticket and schedule information, contact the Silver Sox offices at 702-825-0678.

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Laughlin

NEVADA

NIGHTLIFE

The Overnight Life

By Guy Richardson

Willie Nelson is looking at 60 years old. Sixty. The big six-oh. He's got a little more than a year. Then, on April 30, 1993, Willie becomes eligible for 10 percent off his Geritol in Nevada's Long's Drug Stores.

He'll still be a pistol.

He'll also be a pro for a full half-century. Willie Nelson made his first serious money as a rhythm guitarist with a Bohemian polka band when he was 10. (He made his first stage appearance at five, reading a poem at a church picnic. "I was so nervous—my nose started bleeding, and I put my finger up my nose and held it there.") The guitar gig was in a little town called West, a few miles down the pike from Abbott, Texas, where Willie was born. He made $10, a staggering amount for a kid in the 1940s.

Tax laws in the '40s being easier than they are now, he got to keep the $10. Willie Nelson was off and running. He began writing songs. "I said, 'This is it. Getting paid for what I loved made sense."

He had to get through school first. For a short, weenie-looking kid, he was a big-time jock, playing four sports at Abbott High. He still scribbled songs. Then it was the Air Force and a stint selling Bibles door-to-door. I've always thought that sounded too pat, too PR-guyish. I asked Willie about selling Bibles. "Yep," he said. "I was good at it, too." He also sold encyclopedias. He also got married for the first time, a liaison he said was tempestuous at best. Willie and I once were doing first-wife stories, and he said in the middle of a hot argument she stabbed him in the side with a kitchen knife. The thing stuck in a rib "and vibrated like a tuning fork." Ooh. "Every night with us was like Custer's last stand."

In Waco in 1950, he talked his way into a DJ job, spinning records by day and playing saloons by night. He still wrote songs on the backs of napkins.

Then he moved to Nashville and became what his Columbia Records bio says was "an instant success." The people who write bios don't have to live 'em.

Willie struggled even to get to Nashville. While still in Texas, he sold his first song, "Family Bible," for $50. Well, you've never heard of the song, so that's not so bad. However, he sold all rights to "Night Life" for $150. "Night Life" is arguably the best saloon song ever written. Patsy Cline rode it to mega-hitdom in 1961.

With the $150, Willie bought a Buick convertible and hit the road for Nashville.

There he lied to Ray Price about being able to play bass—he couldn't, but he taught himself to play it overnight, between when Price hired him and his first gig—and went about building a reputation as a dope-smoking bass player who wrote songs on the side.

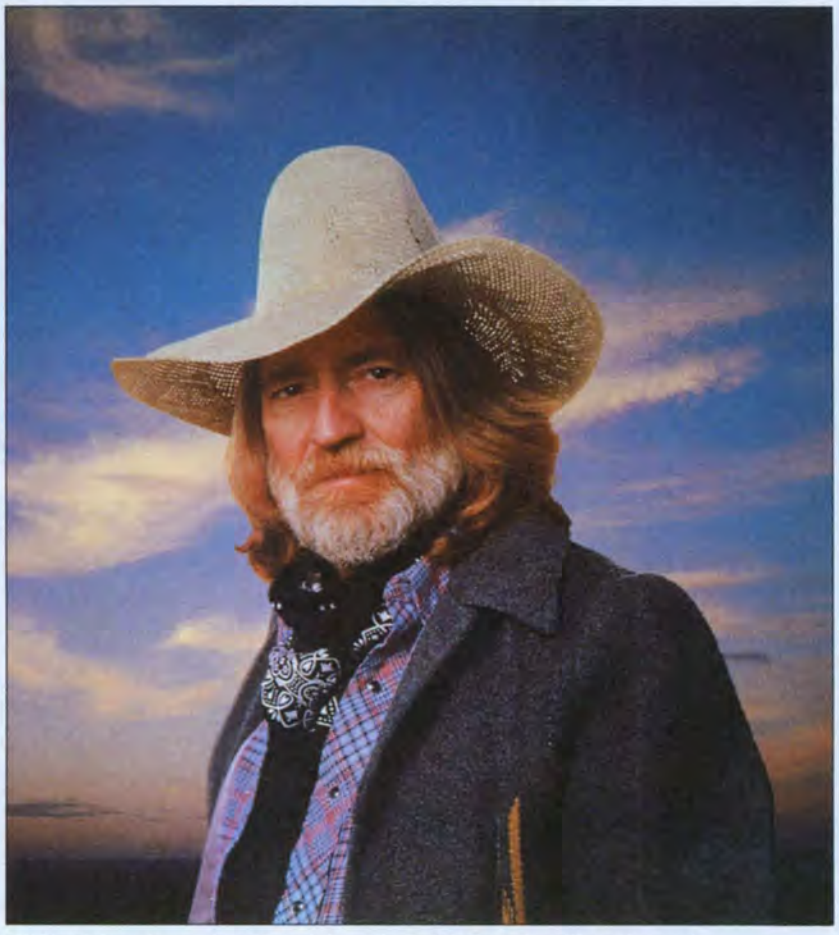
(In any story about Willie Nelson, we must deal with the demon weed. I have seen a clear-eyed Willie smoke stuff that would bring me giggling to my knees. I've never seen Willie stoned. People who knew Willie in the '50s say they've seen him manic, however. What Willie says is: "Other people smoke to get high—I smoke to get normal." I believe it. End of dope-smoking segment.)

He went on a string—"Crazy" "Hello, Walls," "Funny How Time Slips Away"—and by 1969 had recorded 20 albums. It seemed like everything he wrote was a hit, and every record he made was awful. Nashville producers surrounded him with lush strings, and he sounded like a guy with a cold who sang flat.

His house burned down in '69. Willie rushed back into the flames and saved his guitar case, which held Hawaiian marijuana. Everything else burned.

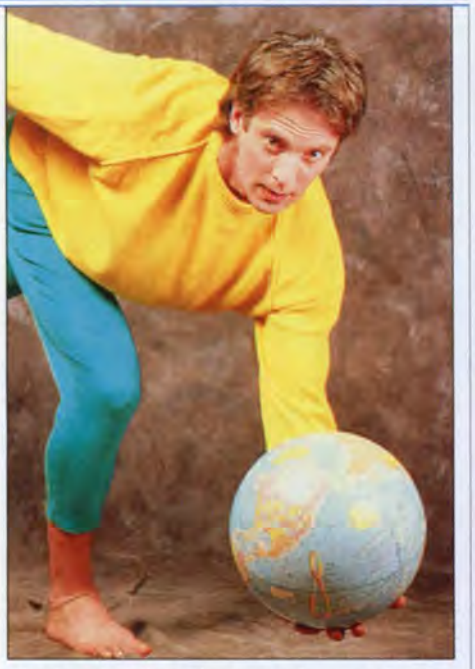
To hell with Nashville, he said. He hit the road singing. Finally in 1971 he met rock record producer Jerry Wexler at a party. Wexler knew his songs—everyone knew Willie's songs—but had never heard him. Wexler signed Willie. The next thing anyone knew "Red-Headed Stranger" was out and every music critic in the world hailed Willie as genius. Willie was 42, and an overnight sensation.

Willie Nelson performs at Caesars Tahoe May 22-24.



Willie Nelson is nearing 60 and, happily for his fans, is still on the road.

Guy Richardson is a reporter and entertainment columnist for the Reno Gazette-Journal.



The Seattle Mime Theatre performs at South Tahoe High School April 11-12.

Fourth Annual College Concerto Competition Winner, 4/4, 8pm, Nightingale Hall, UNR, 826-0880

Music, Wine, and Cheese Party, 4/5, live music by Carson City Chamber Orchestra, wine, food, and prizes, Little Mondeaux Lodge, Genoa, 883-4154

Virginia City Theater Muckers' Spring Musical, 4/9-11, Virginia City High School, 847-9171

Far West Ski Association's Bump-Off and Finals, 4/10-11, Sierra Ski Ranch, 916-659-7519

Reno Home and Garden Show, 4/10-12, 17th annual, Reno-Sparks Convention Center, 323-6055

Seattle Mime Theatre, 4/11, comedy/improv, suitable for children in upper elementary grades, but geared toward adults, 7:30pm, South Tahoe High School, 916-542-3632

"Pinocchio," 4/12, production for children, Seattle Mime Theatre, 2pm, South Tahoe High School Theater, 916-542-3632

Ellis Marsalis and Marcus Roberts, 4/12, piano duels and solos, 8pm, Nightingale Hall, UNR, 784-6505

Easter Fun Week, 4/12-18, ski races, tug of war, snowman contest, egg and spoon races, Easter bunny chase, for children 12 and under, Sierra Ski Ranch, 916-659-7519

Patty Sheehan LPGA Pro-Am Golf Tournament, 4/13, Northgate Golf Club, 827-2111

Naa Kahidi Theater, 4/16 (tentative), Native Alaskan mythological theater, Middle School Gym, Virginia City, 847-0111

"The Cherry Orchard," 4/17-18, 4/24-26, and 5/1-2, comedy, Reno Little Theater, 329-0661

Children's Easter Egg Hunt, 4/19, Kirkwood Ski Resort, 209-258-6000

Easter Day Guided Cross-Country Ski Tour, 4/19, Northstar, 916-562-2475

Children's Easter Ski Race, 4/19, Alpine Meadows, 916-583-4232

RSVP Spring Fun Fair, 4/22-26, carnival, food and craft booths, Mills Park, Carson City, 687-4680

"The Marriage of Figaro," 4/23 and 4/25, Ne-

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$33 Drive up FunPack

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RENO-TAHOE



Theatrework's "Harold and the Purple Crayon" comes to Carson City March 25.

vada Opera, Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, 786-4046

Art Exhibit, 4/24-5/23, student exhibition, reception 4/24 from 7-9pm, Sheppard Gallery, UNR, 784-6658

Big Band Saturday, 4/25 and 5/23, National Automobile Museum, 333-9300

Second Annual Powwow and Native American Arts and Crafts Fair, 4/25-26, costumes, dancing, arts and crafts, and food booths, Carson Colony Gym, Carson City, 885-9759

Carson City Chamber Orchestra Concert, 4/26, music from Russia and Armenia, $6 adults, children free, Carson City Community Center, 883-4154

WalkAmerica, 4/26, 20-K walk, starts and finishes at Wild Island, March of Dimes fundraiser, Sparks, 323-4107

Northern Nevada Band Festival, 4/29-30, UNR, 689-2590

May

"Some Enchanted Evening," 5/1-3, musical featuring scenes from "Oklahoma," "South Pacific," "Sound of Music," and "Cinderella," Western Nevada Community College, Carson City, 887-3104 or 887-3114

45th Silver State Square and Round Dance Festival, 5/1-3, all levels of dancing, mainstream, round dancing, and clogging, Reno-Sparks Convention Center, 322-0027 or 359-2287

Art Exhibit, 5/1-31, paintings by Sybil Erden of

Phoenix, AZ, Sierra Arts Gallery, 329-1324

200 Years of Hats, 5/1-6/9 (tentatively), from the Henry Millman Collection, Genoa Courthouse Museum, Genoa, 782-4325

Cinco de Mayo and Chili Cook-Off, 5/2, Virginia City, 847-0311

Cinco de Mayo, 5/2-3, Southwestern artisans, authentic Mexican food, and entertainment, Victorian Square, Sparks, 353-2284

UNR Spring Powwow, 5/2-3, 11am-11pm, Lombardi Center, UNR, 359-7580

Little Mondeaux Sierra Trap Shooting Competition, 5/5-12, Little Mondeaux Lodge Gun Club, Genoa, 782-5512

Monet's Gardens: Dinner Art Auction, 5/7-8, on Thurs. preview works to be auctioned at Nevada Museum of Art, on Fri. dinner and auction at Eldorado Hotel, 329-3333

Reno Chamber Orchestra Concert, 5/9, featuring celloist Bion Tsang, 8pm, Nightingale Hall, UNR, 826-0880

Nevada Biennial Art Competition, 5/14-7/5, juried competition and showcase of art from across the state, Nevada Museum of Art, 329-3333

Panoramic Steel Band, 5/15, band from Brigham Young University plays music from Caribbean tunes to John Phillip Sousa, Carson City Community Center, 883-1976

Comstock Preservation Week, 5/15-17 historic lectures and tours, Fourth Ward School, Virginia City, 847-0975

USO Big Band Dinner and Dance, 5/16, second annual, hearty American buffet and 1940s dance music, National Automobile Museum, 333-9300



Clarice Dreyer's sculptures, including "Dusk Til Dawn" (above), will be exhibited at UNR's Sheppard Gallery through March 16.

Northern Nevada Choral Festival, 5/21-22, includes middle and high school students, UNR, 689-2590

Steam-Up, 5/23-25, steam-up and operation of historic steam locomotive on one-mile loop of track, Nevada State Railroad Museum, Carson City, 687-6953

"The Seven Year Itch," 5/29-30, 6/5-7 and 6/12-13, Reno Little Theater, 329-0661

Art Exhibit, 5/29-7/3, paintings by Michael Moore, reception 5/29 from 7-9pm, Sheppard Gallery, UNR, 784-6658

Snowshoe Thompson Day, 5/30, food, entertainment, and ceremony honoring the historic mail carrier Snowshoe Thompson, Genoa Courthouse Museum, Genoa, 782-4325

Culpepper Circus, 5/31, sponsored by Kiwanis Club, Lampe Park, Gardnerville, 267-2402

COMING EVENTS

Kit Carson Rendezvous, 6/12-14, Carson City, 885-7491

Carson Valley Days, 6/12-14, Gardnerville/Minden, 782-9711

Reno Rodeo, 6/19-28, 329-3877

Stewart Indian Museum Powwow and Arts and Crafts Fair, 6/20-21, Carson City, 882-1808

Nugget Jazz Festival, 6/30-7/3, Sparks, 356-3300

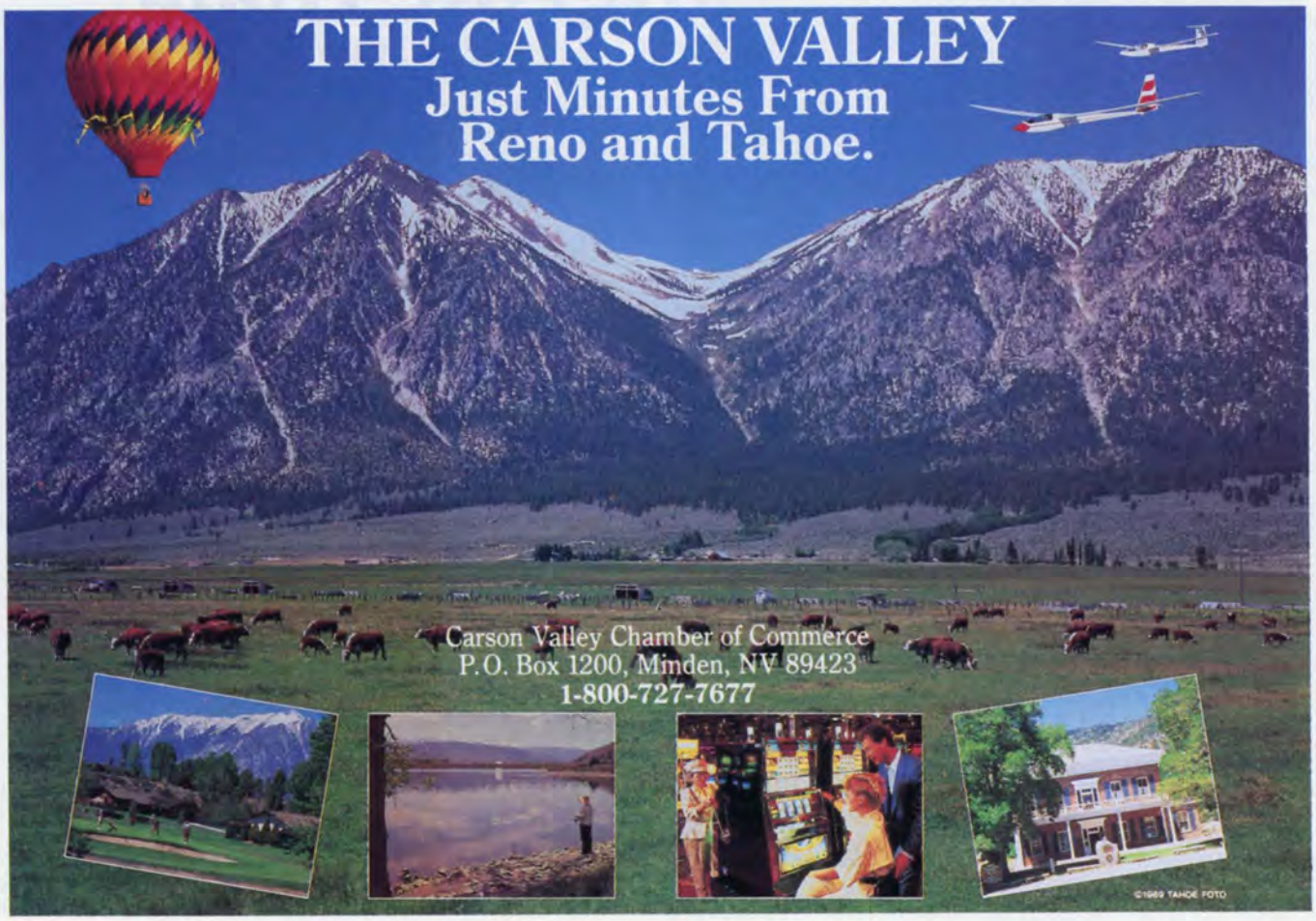
Carson Valley Heritage Day Chili Cook-Off and Crafts Fair, Minden, 7/11, 782-9711

Capital City Fair, 7/23-26, Carson City, 882-4460

Nevada State Fair, 8/12-16, Reno, 322-4424

Hot August Nights, 8/6-9, Reno, 829-1955

A Reminder: To confirm dates and times, 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.



SHOWGUIDE

Reno/Sparks

Bally's Reno, 789-2285 or 800-648-3568 (continental U.S. outside Nevada): *Ziegfeld Theater:* "The Phantom of the Opera" by Ken Hill, thru 3/8; *Confetti Cabaret:* Foreign Affair, thru 3/9; Laura St. Romain, 3/2-16; Garfin Gathering, 3/17-30; Steel Breeze, 3/30-4/13; Freeway, 4/14-27; Boys of Summer, 4/28-5/11; Foreign Affair, 5/12-6/1

Circus Circus, 329-0711 or 800-648-5010 (continental U.S. outside Nevada): Free circus acts, 11am-midnight

Clarion, 825-5999 or 800-762-5190 (anywhere in U.S. and Canada): *Center Stage Cabaret:* Continuous entertainment; *Clarion Lounge:* Continuous nightly entertainment and dancing

Eldorado, 786-5700 or 800-648-4597 (continental U.S. outside Nevada): Diamonds, 3/3-15; Doug Kershaw, 3/17-29; Freddy Powers, 3/30-4/12; Danny Marona, 4/14-5/2; Pat Collins, 5/4-24; Rob Hanna, 5/5-24; Sonny Turner, 5/26-6/7

Fitzgeralds, 785-3300 or 800-648-5022: Network, 3/2-15; Shanachie, 3/13-17; Shake, Rattle, and Roll, 3/16-22; Foreign Affair, 3/18-29; High Voltage, 3/23-29; David Proud, 3/30-4/5; Perfect Circle, 3/30-4/12; St. Romain, 4/6-19; The Act, 4/13-26; Vamp, 4/20-5/3; Whiskey Ridge, 4/27-5/3; Garfin Gathering, 5/4-17; Tommy Bell, 5/4-17; Craig Harrison, 5/18-24; Reta and the Wizz Kidz, 5/18-31; David Proud, 5/25-31

Flamingo Hilton Reno, 322-1111: *Flamingo Showroom:* "Heavenly Bodies," revue, indf.; *Showspot Lounge:* Zella Lehr, thru 3/15 and 3/31-5/24; Louie Fontaine and the Rockets, 3/17-29

Harolds Club, 329-0881: Entertainment TBA

Harrah's Reno, 788-3773 or 800-648-3773 (anywhere in U.S. outside Nevada): *Sammy's Showroom:* Greg Thompson's "Stagestruck" and "High Voltage," thru 7/27; Lacy J. Dalton, thru 3/1; Phyllis Diller, 3/3-15; Patti Page, 3/17-29; Jack Jones, 3/31-4/12; Jerry Vale, 4/14-19; Bill Medley, 4/21-5/3; Paul Revere and the Raiders, 5/5-10; Vic Damone, 5/12-21; Rich Little, 5/22-24

John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 356-3304: *Celebrity Showroom:* Exile, thru 3/4; Tom T. Hall, 3/5-18; Bellamy Brothers, 3/19-4/1; Michael Martin Murphey/Waddie Mitchell, 4/2-15; Sha Na Na/Bobby Kosser, 4/16-29

Peppermill, 689-7175 or 800-648-6992 ext. 7175: St. Romain/Cheryl Cotten, thru 3/1; Band on the Run, thru 3/8; Gene and Brenda/David Proud, 3/2-15; Tanzania, 3/9-22; EZ Money, 3/16-22; Lelands, 3/16-29 and 5/4-17; Williams and Ree, 3/19-21; Cameron, 3/23-29; Glass House, 3/23-4/5; Double Edge, 3/30-4/12; Brian and the Dominos, 4/6-12; Tommy Bell, 4/6-19; Madison Avenue, 4/20-26; Jon Washington/St. Romain, 4/27-5/3; Cameron, 4/27-5/10; Max Danger/Double Edge/EZ Money, 5/11-24; St. Romain, 5/18-24; Surprize Package, 5/25-31; Band on the Run, 5/25-6/7; Brian and the Dominos, 6/1-7

Ponderosa, 786-6820: Nightly entertainment

Reno Ramada, 788-2000: Entertainment TBA

Western Village, Sparks, 331-1069: Vamp, 3/2-8; Stew Stewart, 3/2-15; Gary Wade and the Bump, 3/9-22; Martha's Children, 3/16-29; Lelands, 4/6-19; Brent Zane, 5/11-17; David Proud, 5/11-24; Tommy Bell, 5/18-31; Vamp, 5/25-31

PREVIEW



Two ancient duck decoys found near Lovelock in 1924 are on loan from the Smithsonian.

Ancient Ducks Migrate Home

Two ancient duck decoys—superlative soft sculptures created by early-day Nevadans nearly 2,000 years ago—are on display in the archaeology gallery of the Nevada State Museum in Carson City.

Eleven decoys were discovered by archaeologist Mark R. Harrington in 1924 during the first systematic excavation of Lovelock Cave, 100 miles northeast of Reno. Harrington found the decoys carefully wrapped and concealed under the false bottom of a seed storage pit.

Eight of the lifelike decoys, resembling canvasback drakes, were painted and covered with feathers while the three others lacked feathers. Each body was formed from a bundle of large bulrush (tule) stems bound together, and the ends were cut off to simulate a duck's tail.

The head was cleverly constructed of rushes and bound with the same material. Then it was sewed fast to the body to simulate a realistic pose. After painting, the body was covered with white feathers held by breast wrappings and fine native cord of Indian hemp.

Until September, Nevadans had never seen the unique and fragile prehistoric duck decoys, as they were housed in the Museum of the American Indian in New York City the sponsor of the 1924 excavations. But 125 students from Billinghurst Middle School in Reno campaigned to have the decoys returned to Nevada. With the help of the Nevada State Museum, the Bureau of Land Management, and the Museum of the American Indian, these RADD (Return a Duck Decoy) students negotiated with the Smithsonian for the loan of two decoys for the Carson City museum.

The decoys are among the oldest ever found in North America. Housed in environmentally controlled, custom-built cases, they will remain on display with other artifacts of the Lovelock Culture until December at the Nevada State Museum.

—Donald R. Tuohy

Carson City/Carson Valley

Carson City Nugget, 883-3854: Entertainment TBA

Carson Station, Carson City, 883-0900: Live entertainment Tues.-Sat.

Carson Valley Inn: Minden, 782-9711 or 800-321-6983 (continental U.S. outside Nevada): *Cabaret Lounge:* (Live bands and dancing Mon.-Sat., DJ and oldies records Sun.); Graphix, 3/2-7; Motifs, 3/9-14; Shake, Rattle, and Roll, 3/23-28; Foreign Affair, 3/30-4/11; Perfect Circle, 4/13-25; Lelands, 4/27-5/2; The Act, 5/4-9;

Photo: Scott Klette/Nevada State Museum

Whiskey Ridge, 5/11-16; Vamp, 5/18-23
Ormsby House, Carson City, 882-1890:
Sharkey's Nugget, Gardnerville, 782-3133
Topaz Lodge, Topaz Lake, 266-3339

Lake Tahoe

Bill's Lake Tahoe, Stateline, 588-2455: Entertainment TBA
Caesars Tahoe, Stateline, 588-3515: *Circus Maximus:* The Moody Blues, 3/27-28; Julio Iglesias, 4/17-18; Willie Nelson, 5/22-24; *Caesars Cabaret:* "Just Add Water," revue, indf. (dark Mon.)
Crystal Bay Club, North Tahoe, 831-0512: Debbie McIntyre, 3/3-8; Martina Marie and Street Talk, 3/10-15 and 3/17-22; Jubilation, 3/24-4/5; Madison Ave., 4/7-19; Nite Lite, 4/21-5/3; The Act, 5/5-17; Blind Date, 5/19-31
Harrah's Lake Tahoe, Stateline, 588-6606 or 800-648-3773: *South Shore Room:* "42nd Street," thru 4/13; Johnny Mathis, 5/1-4; *Stateline Cabaret:* Bare Essence, indf.; Bill Medley, 4/17-19
Harvey's, Stateline, 588-2411 or 800-648-3361: *Emerald Theater:* "Ain't Misbehavin' " indf.; Danny Marona, 3/17-29 and 5/19-31; *Llewellyn's:* Ron Rose Sound, indf.; *Emerald Party Lounge:* Gina Eckstine Show, thru 3/1; Steel Breeze, 3/2-15; Stew Stewart, 3/16-29; Brian and the Dominos, 3/16-4/5; Martha's Children, 3/30-4/5; The Freeway Band, 4/6-12; Ricky and the Redstreaks, 4/20-26; Brian and the Dominos, 5/4-17; Checkmates, 5/4-5/24; Steel Breeze, 6/1-14; The Freeway Band, 6/1-14; Dae Han Sisters, 6/15-7/5
Hyatt Regency Lake Tahoe, Incline, 831-1111: Entertainment TBA



Nevada Opera performs "The Marriage of Figaro" for Reno audiences April 23 and April 25.

Lake Tahoe Horizon, Stateline, 588-6211: *Grande Lake Theatre:* Entertainment TBA
Lakeside Inn, Stateline, 588-7777: Entertainment TBA
Tahoe Biltmore, North Tahoe, 831-0660: Smash Hit, 3/5-7 and 3/12-14; Melissa Spangler, 3/16-21; Jon Washington, 3/26-28 and 4/2-9; High Voltage, 4/9-11 and 4/13-18; Devotee, 4/23-25 and 4/30-5/2; Tammy Allen, 5/7-9; Band on the Run, 5/11-16 and 5/18-20

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CASINO NOTES

Spring in the Air



Both guests and non-guests of the hotel can enjoy Caesars' health spa at Lake Tahoe.

Audiences in the Emerald Theater at **Harvey's** will enjoy a breath of fresh air—the showroom has been designated a non-smoking room. The Tahoe resort changed to a no-smoking policy because of the public concern about second-hand smoke. "We have received a lot of positive comments on the change," Director of Marketing Dan Faccinetti said.

•State-of-art technology has recently been introduced to **John Ascuaga's Nugget** in Sparks with its new bank of 25-cent video poker machines. The 14 machines are linked so that the player who hits the royal flush wins the progressive jackpot named for that suit. The machines have conveniently eliminated buttons for discarding and dealing, requiring the player to only touch the desired cards on the screen. The Nugget has also come on line with a bank of $1 Black Gold progressive slots, which recently produced a $20,000 winner.

•John Giovenco, president of **Hilton Nevada**, was named Hotelier of the Year for 1991 by the Nevada Hotel and Motel Association. The award was presented during Nevada Hospitality Expo '91, the association's 12th annual convention.

•The **Eldorado Hotel** hits the spot with its newly expanded and redecorated keno lounge. The lounge sports an extended marble counter with three new stations, bringing the total to seven, and brass fixtures, glass, and mirrors have been added.

•The spa at **Caesars Tahoe** is ready for spring, hotel officials say. The $4.5-million health spa, open to both guests and non-guests at a fee, offers a lagoon-style swimming pool with cascading waterfalls and rock islands as well as modern universal training equipment, free weights, Stairmasters, life cycles, treadmills, and rowing machines. For court enthusiasts, Caesars Spa has an indoor racquetball court and four outdoor tennis courts. Tanning and massages are available by appointment.

•**Harrah's Reno** celebrates the grand opening of its newly remodeled and expanded race and sports book April 4-6.

•The second annual Tin Can Sailor Bull Session will be held at the **Carson Valley Inn** in Minden during the Inn's Tin Can Sailor Week, March 9-13. Veterans, wives, widows, and descendants of all who served aboard destroyers, converted destroyers, or destroyer escorts will receive a 20-percent hotel room discount on Sunday through Thursday nights. Budget rental car discounts are also available for participants who fly in to the Reno airport. For more information on the Tin Can Sailor Bull Session, and to get a form for the special hotel discount, contact Bob Williams, 1387 Mary Jo Drive, Gardnerville, NV 89410 or call 702-265-6516.

GAMING TOURNAMENTS

March

Slots, 2/28-3/1, Sands Regency, 348-2250 or 800-648-3353
Blackjack, 3/6-8, Harolds Club, 329-0881
Slots, 3/8-10, Harvey's, Lake Tahoe, 588-2411
Slots, 3/13, Bill's Lake Tahoe, 586-2461 or 588-2455
Blackjack, 3/13-15, Comstock, 329-1880
Slots, 3/13-15, Fitzgeralds, 785-3381
Dice, 3/13-15, Flamingo Hilton, 785-7300
Blackjack, 3/13-16, John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 356-3300 or 800-843-2427 ext. 3610
Keno, 3/14, Harrah's Reno, 788-3003 or 800-551-4321
Dice, 3/15-16, Peppermill, 689-7100
Slots, 3/15-17 Flamingo Hilton, 785-7300
Slots, 3/15-17 Peppermill, 689-7100
Slots, 3/15-17 Clarion, 825-4700 or 800-762-5190
Slots, 3/17-19, Eldorado, 786-5700
Slots, 3/20-22, Comstock, 329-1880
Slots, 3/22-24, John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 356-3300 or 800-843-2427 ext. 3610
Video Poker, 3/23, Harrah's Reno, 788-3028 or 800-551-4321
Slots, 3/27 Club Cal-Neva, 323-1046
Keno, 3/27-29, John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 356-3300 or 800-843-2427 ext. 3610
Keno, 3/29-3/31, Comstock, 329-1880
Mah Jong, 3/29-31, Comstock, 329-1880

April

Slots, 4/5-7 Eldorado, 786-5700
Slots, 4/5-7, Comstock, 329-1880
Dice, 4/10-11, Harolds Club, 785-3350
Slots, 4/12-14, Harvey's, Lake Tahoe, 588-2411
Slots, 4/12-14, John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 356-3300 or 800-843-2427 ext. 3610
Slots, 4/13, Harrah's Reno, 788-3028 or 800-551-4321
Keno, 4/17-19, Comstock, 329-1880
Blackjack, 4/18, John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 356-3300 or 800-843-2427 ext. 3610
Slots, 4/19-22, John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 356-3300 or 800-843-2427 ext. 3610
Slots, 4/24-26, Fitzgeralds, 785-3381
Slots, 4/25-26, Clarion, 825-4700 or 800-762-5190
Slots, 4/26-28, Eldorado, 786-5700

May

Blackjack, 5/1-3, Comstock, 329-1880
Kentucky Derby Handicapping, 5/2, Club Cal-Neva, 785-3266
Slots, 5/5-7 Eldorado, 786-5700
Slots, 5/8-10, Comstock, 329-1880
Video Poker, 5/10-11, Clarion, 825-4700 or 800-762-5190
Slots, 5/10-13, John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 356-3300 or 800-843-2427 ext. 3610
Keno, 5/15-17 Comstock, 329-1880
Blackjack, 5/15-17 Fitzgeralds, 785-3381 or 800-431-3134
Pai Gow, 5/22-24, Comstock, 329-1880
Slots, 5/25-27 John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 356-3300 or 800-843-2427 ext. 3610
Slots, 5/30, Clarion, 825-4700 or 800-762-5190
Slots, 5/31-6/2, Harvey's, Lake Tahoe, 588-2411

MUSEUMS

Carson City

Nevada State Archives: 8-5 Mon.-Fri., 3579 Hwy. 50 E., 687-5210
Nevada State Museum: 8:30-4:30 daily, 600 N. Carson St., 687-4810
Nevada State Railroad Museum: 8:30-4:30 Wed.-Sun., S. Carson St. at Fairview Dr., 687-6953
Roberts House Museum: 1207 Carson St., hours vary, call 882-1805
Stewart Indian Museum: 9-4 every day, 5366 Snyder Ave., 882-1808
Warren Engine Co. No. 1 Museum: 1-5 Mon.-Fri., 111 N. Curry St., 887-2200

Genoa

Genoa Courthouse Museum: 10-4:30 daily May 1-Oct. 15 (tentative), closed during winter, 782-4325



Sketches by Ruth Cantrell will be shown at the Artists' Co-Op Gallery in Reno during April. Above is "Church at Manhattan" (detail).

Reno

Fleischmann Planetarium: 8-5 and 7-10 Mon.-Fri., 10:30-5 and 7-10 Sat.-Sun., UNR, call 784-4811 for schedule of shows

Harolds Club Gun Collection and Museum: 10-10 daily, 329-0881

Liberty Belle Slot Collection: 11-11 daily, 4250 S. Virginia St., in Liberty Belle Saloon and Restaurant, 825-1776

Mackay School of Mines Minerals Museum: 8-5 Mon.-Fri., UNR, 784-6988

Nevada Historical Society Museum: 10-5 Mon.-Sat., 1650 N. Virginia St., 688-1190

Nevada Museum of Art, W. L. Wiegand Gallery: 160 W. Liberty St., 10-4 Tues.-Sat., noon-4 Sun., call 329-3333

UNR Anthropology Dept. Research Museum: 9-1 Mon.-Fri. Sept.-May, open all year by appointment, UNR, 784-4686

Wilbur D. May Museum: 10-5 Wed.-Sun., 1502 Washington (Rancho San Rafael Park), 785-5961

William F. Harrah Foundation National Automobile Museum: 9:30-5:30 daily, 10 Lake St. So., 333-9300

Sparks

Sparks Heritage Foundation and Museum: 1-4 Wed.-Sun., 820 B St., 355-1144

Virginia City

Comstock Firemen's Museum: 10-4 daily May-Oct., closed during winter, 847-0717

Fourth Ward School Museum: 10-5 daily May-early Nov., closed during winter, 847-0975

Julia C. Bulette Red Light Museum: 7:30-9 daily, 847-9991

Mackay Mansion: 10-6 daily June-Oct., 11-5 daily Nov.-May, 847-0173

Mark Twain Museum: 10-6 daily, 847-0525

Museum of Memories: 9:30-5 daily, 847-0454

Nevada Gambling Museum: 10-6 daily, 847-0789

The Castle: 11-5 daily Memorial Day-Oct., closed during winter, 847-0275

The Way It Was Museum: 9:30-5 daily, 847-0766

Wild West Museum: 9-5 daily, 847-0400

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the style

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the food

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the action

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the flair

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The Rural Territories

COWBOY COUNTRY



March

Hispanic Cowboy Art Exhibit, thru 3/15, Northeastern Nevada Museum, Elko, 738-3418

Marie Osmond, 3/4-5, State Line Hotel, Wendover, 664-2231 or 800-648-9668

Shooting the West IV Photography Workshop, 3/14-15, special presentations, exhibits, and workshops including "Give It Your Best Shot" photo exhibit, Winnemucca, 623-6388

St. Patrick's Day Slot Tournament, 3/15-17 $10,000 first place, $36,000 total prize money, State Line Hotel, Wendover, 664-2231 or 800-648-9668

A Show of Talent, 3/20, singing, dancing, cowboy poetry, and a Mariachi band, all local performers, Winnemucca Convention Center, 623-4824

Home and Garden Spring Show, 3/21-22, crafts, home improvement items, Elko Convention Center, 738-4091 or 738-7135

Big John Strong's Variety Show, 3/24, sponsored by Lions, Lovelock Community Center, 273-7144

Silver Dollar Barbershop Concert, 3/28, the group is presently the seventh-ranked barbershop chorus in the world, 1:30pm, Pershing County High School, Lovelock, 273-2082

April

Mule Deer Chapter Expo, 4/10-13, hunting-related items, Elko Convention Center, 738-4091

State Line Blackjack Tournament, 4/11-12, State Line Hotel, Wendover, 664-2231 or 800-648-9668

Intercollegiate Mining Competition, 4/17-18, Elko, 738-4091

Red Garter Casino Olympics, 4/17-19 (tentative dates), blackjack, video poker, and slot machine tournament, $25,000 prize money, Red Garter Casino, Wendover, 664-2111 ext. 33

Easter Social, 4/19, potluck dinner, sponsored by the McDermitt Homemaker's Club to benefit the Community Hall, McDermitt Community Hall, 532-8268

Easter Egg Hunt, 4/19, sponsored by the Eagles, McDougal's Softball Sports Complex, east of Lovelock on Airport Rd., 273-2611

May

Spring Fling Mountain Bike Festival, 5/2-3, Wendover, 664-3414



Fast-paced betting action takes place on March 7-8 when 80 teams from five western states

Panoramic Steel Band, 5/12, steel drum ensemble from Brigham Young University performs Caribbean tunes and American pop, location TBA, Winnemucca, 623-4824

Panoramic Steel Band, 5/13, see listing above, 7:30pm, Pershing County High School, Lovelock, 273-2082

Winnemucca Barrel Futurity and Derby, 5/15-16, 623-5071

Red Mountain Indian Powwow and Rodeo, 5/

Photo: J. Anderson

HOT LINES

Nevada Division of State Parks: District III office in Fallon: 867-3001; District IV office in Elko County: Northfork 6493; District V office in Panaca: 728-4467

For chamber of commerce and convention center phone numbers, see page E-4



compete in the Bristlecone Chariot Races at the White Pine County Fairgrounds in Ely.

16-17 Fort McDermitt, 532-8259

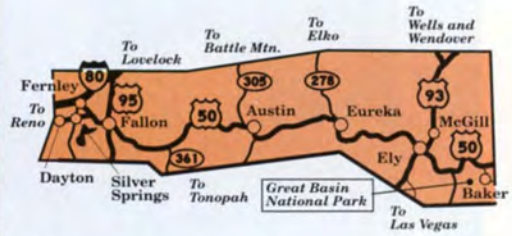
State Line Seniors Golf Classic, 5/18-19, fourth annual golf tournament, Toana Vista Golf Course, Wendover, 664-2231 or 800-648-9668

Portuguese Festa (I.D.E.S.), 5/23-24, Lovelock, 273-2566

Elko Handgame Tournament, 5/23-24, Elko, 738-5654

Winnemucca Mule Show and Race, 5/30-31, 623-5071

PONY EXPRESS TERRITORY



March

An Evening With the Arts, 3/7 sixth annual fundraising dinner and silent auction featuring art and other items donated by local artists and businesses, Community Center, Fallon, 423-1440

Bristlecone Chariot Races, 3/7-8, 80 teams from five western states compete in 20 races per day, fairgrounds, Ely, 289-8877

Hidden Cave Tour, 3/14, meet at 9:30am, Churchill County Museum, downtown Fallon, 423-3677

April

Billy Tipton Memorial Saxophone Quartet, 4/11, innovative as well as classical music, their repertoire ranges from Bulgarian folk dances to Bartok to Jimi Hendrix, Fallon Elks Lodge, Fallon, 423-1440

Hidden Cave Tour, 4/11, meet at 9:30am, Churchill County Museum, Fallon, 423-3677

White Pine County Merchants Bureau Easter Egg Hunt, 4/18, White Pine County Park, Ely, 289-8877

Annual Volunteer Fire Department Easter Egg Hunt, 4/19, cash prizes, free candy, for children 12 and under, Eureka Elementary School lawn, 237-5484

12th Annual Cribbage Tournament, 4/25, sign up by 12:30pm, starts at 1pm, $7 entry fee, benefit for pre-school program sponsored by library, Toiyabe Cafe, Main St., Austin, 964-2392

May

Desert Oasis Bluegrass Festival, 5/8-10, featuring some of the finest bluegrass musicians in the country, a craft fair, chicken wing cook-off, cowboy poets, storytellers, hayrides, clowns, a Sunday morning gospel session and pancake feed, workshops, clogging, and more, Churchill County Regional Park, Fallon, 423-4556 or 800-874-0903

Hidden Cave Tour, 5/9, meet at 9:30am, Churchill County Museum, Fallon, 423-3677

Nevada Open Road Challenge, 5/9-10, high-speed road race on the 92 miles between Lund and Hiko, White Pine County, host city is Ely, 289-8877

A Texas Songwriter's Evening, 5/16, with Rob-

PREVIEW



"Basque Dancers," which won photographer Jess Smith a Merit Award in Nevada's *Great Nevada Picture Hunt last year will be featured with other GNPH winners in a slide show at the Shooting the West photographer's confab in Winnemucca in March.*

Shooting the West

"Shooting the West" continues as a showcase of Nevada photography and related arts. Winnemucca will host the fourth year of the photo extravaganza on March 13-15. As in past years there will be various exhibits of photographs, displays, instructional workshops, and audio-visual presentations.

Honored as Nevada Photographer of the Year will be Marilyn Newton, staff photographer for the *Reno Gazette-Journal*. She will be presenting a show of her work as well as speaking on the craft of photojournalism.

Tom Till, who has published several books of Western photographs, will also be featured. A show of his framed photographs will be on display and he will be presenting an eight-projector slide show, "On the Canyon's Edge."

Tom Stack, who owns a nature photo stock agency in Colorado, will present a seminar to help photographers who wish to market their photographs. Keynote speaker will be Molly Knudtsen, a rancher and author of several books on Nevada. She will also present a workshop on writing and getting published.

Fallon photographer Francis "Bill" DuBois, who specializes in aerial photography of mines, will have a slide show and discuss his photography. Former Nevada resident and photo workshop instructor John Tylszack will feature fine-art and large-format camera photography and will display some of his work.

Also scheduled for the weekend is a display of the Nevada photographs of Jones Doveydenas, a series of mini-programs throughout the weekend sponsored by The Camera Bag of Reno, and book displays and sales by several publishing houses. Washoe Valley freelance photojournalist C.J. Hadley will again be moderator.

There also will be a presentation of Nevada Magazine's Great Nevada Picture Hunt photo contest winners.

The event is sponsored by the Humboldt County Fair and Recreation Board and the Humboldt County Library. For more information, write Shooting the West, 85 East 5th Street, Winnemucca, NV 89445, or call 702-623-6388.

Photo: Jess W. Smith





A sampling of rural Nevada events: Easter egg hunters in Eureka (left) and the Nevada Open Road Challenge at Ely (right).

ert Earl Keen, Jr., Guy Clark, Townes Van Zandt, Fallon Community Center, Fallon, 423-1440

Ely Amateur Golf Tournament, 5/16-17 White Pine Golf Course, Ely, 289-4095

Eureka High School Rodeo, 5/23-24, rodeo grounds, Eureka, 237-5484

***The Ghost Train of Old Ely* Train Rides,** 5/23-24, steam-powered excursions aboard Nevada Northern's historic passenger train pulled by Baldwin steamer 4-6-0, No. 40, dating from 1910, each trip is 14 miles and takes approx. one and a half hours, Nevada Northern Railway, East Ely, 289-2085

***The Twilight Special* Train Rides,** 5/30, diesel excursions powered by a vintage Alco RS-3 Diesel locomotive, Nevada Northern Railway, East Ely, 289-2085

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Photos: Glady Goicoechea (left), George Carnes (right)

PIONEER TERRITORY



March

Fossil Shelter Tours, ranger leads tours of 225 million-year-old ichthyosaur fossils, call for times, Berlin-Ichthyosaur State Park, 867-3001

Mickie and Elizabeth, 3/11, Celtic and Elizabethan music as well as modern interpretations on a variety of historic and modern instruments, 7pm, Lincoln County High School, Panaca, 962-5440

April

"Puss 'n' Boots," 4/2, presented by the Children's Theatre Group for elementary and intermediate students, 1:15-1:45pm and 2:00-2:45pm, Intermediate Auditorium, Yerington, 463-2077

"Animal Farm," 4/2, Nevada Repertory Company, 7:30pm, Intermediate Auditorium, Yerington, 463-2077

Nevada 200 Trail Ride, 4/18-19, Caliente, 457-5775



Racers meet challenging terrain during the Nevada 200 Trail Ride April 18-19 in Caliente.

May

Best of the West Horseshoe Tournament, 5/1-3, sanctioned by the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association, open to all, $25 entry fee, Burro Inn, Beatty, 553-2445 or 553-2225

Humanities on the Road, 5/1-30, third part of traveling exhibit on the contributions of women in Nevada, Central Nevada Museum, Tonopah, 482-9676

E.F. Box Photography Exhibit, 5/1-6/1, photos of Nevada taken from 1907-1915 by E.F. Box, exhibit produced by Thomas Robinson, Central Nevada Museum, Tonopah, 482-9676

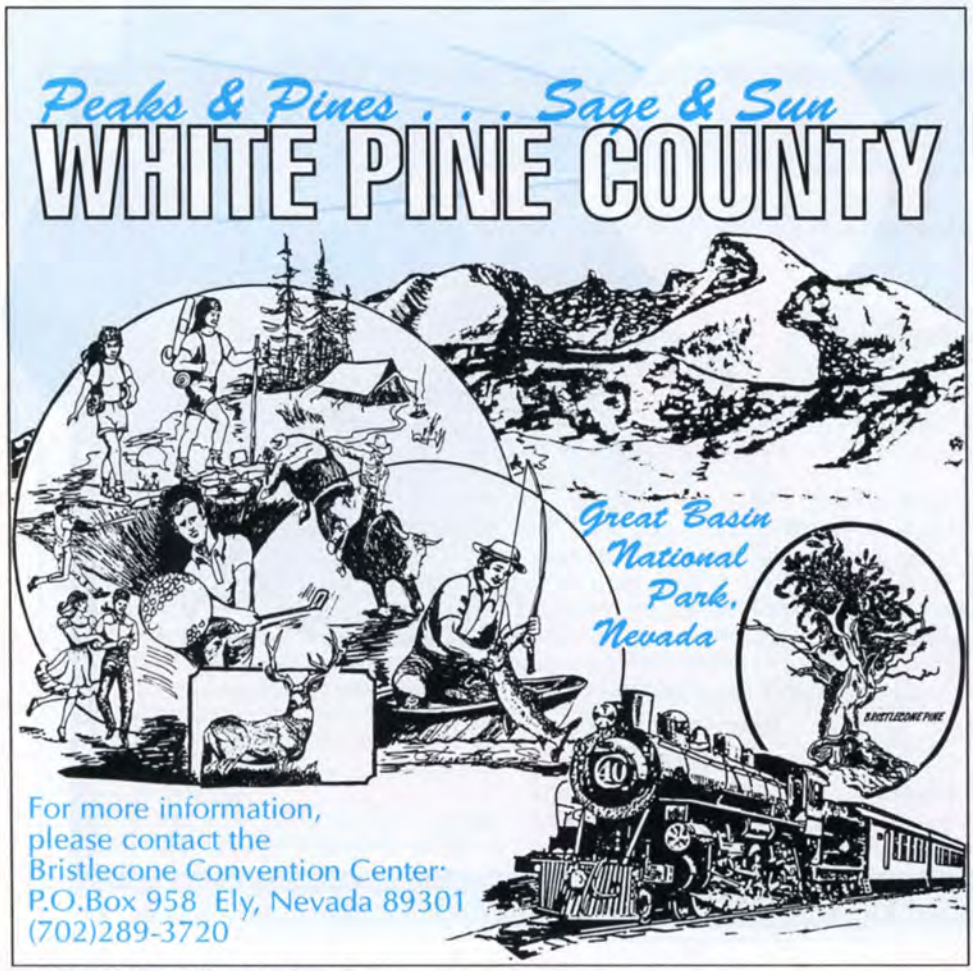
AMA National Hare and Hound, 5/3, motorcycle race, Pioche, 457-5775

Armed Forces Day, 5/16, Hawthorne, 945-5896

Jim Butler Days, 5/22-24, open house, slide shows at 1, 3, and 5pm, display on previous Jim Butler Days, Central Nevada Museum, Tonopah, 482-9676

Lincoln County Homecoming, 5/22-25, art show, dances, barbecue, ball games, nightlife, Miss Lincoln County pageant, Caliente, 726-3129

VORRA Off-Road Races, 5/23-24, on Sat. parade of vehicles, on Sun. races over a 400-mile course; three classes include: small Volkswagon class, off-road skeleton racing machines, and regular four-wheel drive vehicles, Yerington, on Hwy. 339, 463-2418



COMING EVENTS

Winnemucca Basque Festival, 6/13-14, 623-2225

Gridley Days, 6/19-21, Austin, 964-2200

Red Mountain Powwow, 6/20-21, McDermitt, 532-8742

Silver State International Rodeo, 7/2-5, Fallon, 423-4674

Twin States Stampede, 7/3-4, McDermitt, 532-8742

National Basque Festival, 7/3-5, Elko, 738-7547

All-Indian Stampede and Powwow, 7/17-19, Fallon, 423-2544

Pioneer Day Celebration, 7/25, Panaca, 726-3333

Pioche Heritage Days, 7/29-8/1, 726-3333

A Reminder: To confirm dates and times, 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.

Photo: Debbie Fox





Townes Van Zandt, Guy Clark, and Robert Earl Keen Jr (left to right) gather for "A Texas Songwriter's Evening" in Fallon on May 16.

SHOWGUIDE

Covered Wagon Territory

Battle Mountain: Owl Club, 635-5155

Elko: Commercial Hotel, 738-3181. Red Lion, 738-2111. Stockmen's Hotel, 738-5141

Jackpot: Cactus Pete's, 755-2321. Horseshu Casino, 755-2331

Wendover: Nevada Crossing, 664-4000: Sutton Bros., 3/3-8; Loco Pony, 3/10-15 and 3/17-22; Blind Date, 3/24-29 and 3/31-4/5; Quartermoon, 4/14-19 and 4/21-26; Stetson, 4/28-5/3 and 5/5-10; Andi and the Browns, 5/12-17 and 5/19-24. Peppermill, 664-2255 or 800-648-9660: Phlash/Lelands, 3/2-15; Edy Gainer and Dezire/Starfront, 3/16-29; Sweet Seduction/Sneak Preview, 3/30-4/12; Band on the Run/Claiborne and Co., 4/13-4/26; Freeway, 4/27-5/10; Deloach, 5/11-24. Red Garter, 664-2111 or 800-982-2111 (continental U.S. outside Nevada): Mon. Night Comedy at 9pm, live music Tues.-Sun. Silver Smith, 664-2231 ext. 709: Nightly entertainment. State Line, 664-2221 ext. 698: Marie Osmond, 3/4-5

Winnemucca: Winners Hotel, 623-2511: Jamtrack, 3/3-16; Max Danger, 3/17-22; Hot Mango, 3/24-29; Keepin' the Faith, 3/31-4/5; Renata, 4/7-19; Frenz, 4/21-26; Jubilation, 4/28-5/3; Splash, 5/5-10; Tammy Allen, 5/12-17; Contagious, 5/19-24; Smash Hit, 5/26-31

Pony Express Territory

Fallon: Fallon Nugget, 423-3111

Pioneer Territory

Pahrump: Saddle West Casino, 727-5953

Tonopah: Station House, 482-9777

Yerington: Casino West, 463-2481. Dini's Lucky Club, 463-2868: Entertainment on weekends

Romancing



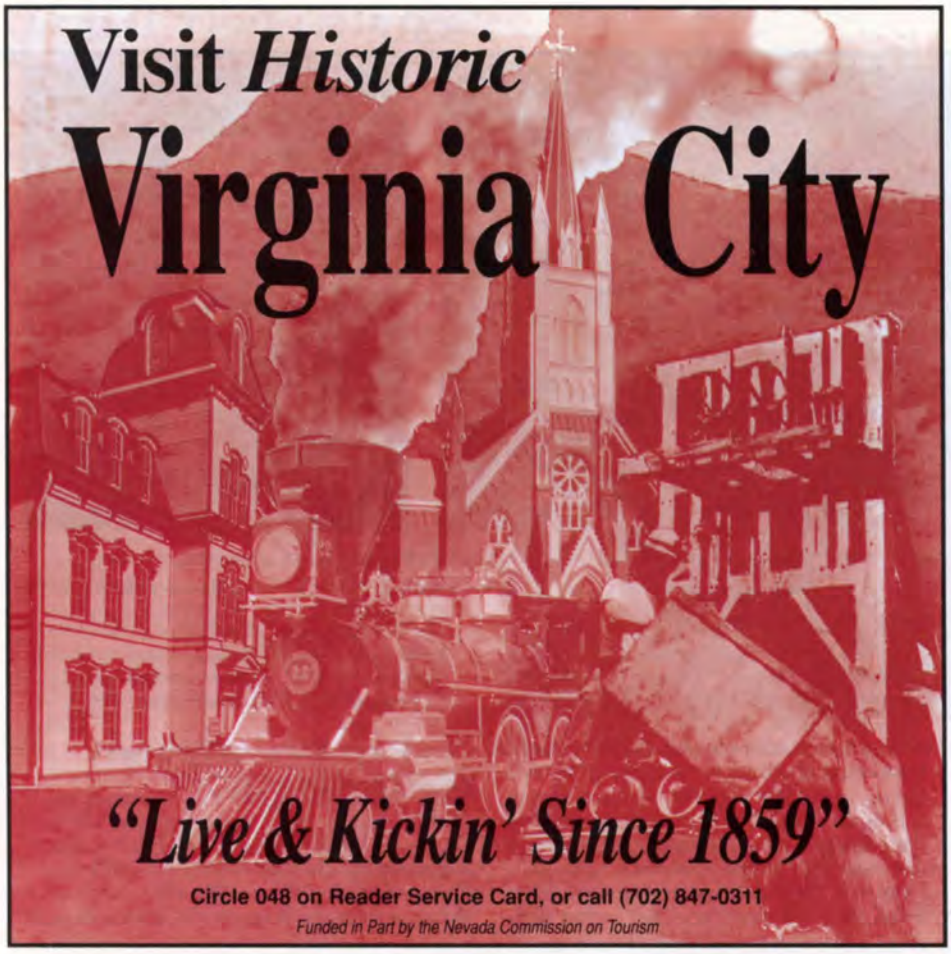
Cowboy Poetry Gathering
Intercollegiate Mining
Home, Garden & Recreation
Western Heritage Festival
Expo Open Golf Tournament
Elko Mining Expo
National Basque Festival

Lamoille Country Fair
Art In The Park
Silver State Stampede
Mine Safety Olympiad
Elko County Fair
Senior Citizens Benefit Round Up
Pre-Holiday Merchants Show

Elko

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RURAL TERRITORIES



Jamtrak plays high-energy music at the Winners Hotel in Winnemucca March 3-16.

MUSEUMS

Cowboy Country

Buckaroo Hall of Fame and Heritage Museum: 9-4 Mon.-Sat., 50 Winnemucca Blvd. West, Winnemucca, 529-0452

Humboldt Museum, 10-4 Mon.-Fri., 1-4 Sat., Winnemucca, 623-2912

Marzen House Museum, 9-2 Mon.-Fri., 1:30-4 Sat.-Sun., Lovelock, 273-7213

Northeastern Nevada Museum, 9-5 Mon.-Sat., 1-5 Sun., 1515 Idaho St., Elko, 738-3418

Pony Express Territory

Cherry Creek Museum, 10-5 Sat.-Sun., Star Route 1, Cherry Creek, 591-0411 or 591-9906

Churchill County Museum and Hidden Cave, 10-4 Mon.-Wed. and Fri.-Sat., noon-4 Sun., 1050 S. Maine St., Fallon, 423-3677. For Hidden Cave tours call Carson City BLM, 885-6000

Eureka Sentinel Museum, open April 15-Oct. 13, hours vary, call 237-5484, Eureka

Nevada Northern Railway Museum, 8:30-4:30 daily, May 27-Oct. 1, closed during winter, East Ely, 289-2085

White Pine Public Museum, 9-5 Mon.-Fri., 10-4 Sat.-Sun., 2000 Aultman St., Ely, 289-4710

Pioneer Territory

Central Nevada Museum, 12-5 Tues.-Sat., Tonopah, 482-9676

Lincoln County Museum, 9-5 Mon.-Sat., 10-5 Sun. (closes from 12:30-1:30 for lunch), closed during winter, Pioche, 962-5207

Lyon County Museum, 10-4 Sat., 1-4 Sun., Yerington

Mineral County Museum, 11-5 Mon.-Fri. from May-Sept., noon-4 Mon.-Fri. from Oct.-April, Hawthorne, 945-5142

A Reminder: *It's best 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.*

DINING

The following Nevada dining directory includes current magazine advertisers. Each listing gives sample dishes, whether breakfast, lunch, or dinner (B, L, D) are served, and accepted credit cards. Price ranges refer to typical entree price per person: up to $10 ($), $11 to $20 ($$), $21 to $30 ($$$), and more than $30 ($$$$). For out of state callers, the area code is 702 throughout Nevada.

BOULDER CITY

Gold Strike Inn/The Steak House—Between Boulder City and Hoover Dam, 293-5000. Prime rib, porterhouse steak. D. $-$$, major.

Gold Strike Inn/Gold Strike—293-5000. Sandwiches, steaks. B, L, D. $, major.

Gold Strike Inn/Gold Strike Buffet—Ham, roast baron of beef, salads. L, D. $, major.

Railroad Pass/The Dining Room—Between Boulder City and Henderson, 294-5000. Prime rib, porterhouse steak, steak and lobster. D. $-$$, major.

Railroad Pass/Railroad Pass Coffee Shop—294-5000. Prime rib, sandwiches, salads, full coffee shop menu. B, L, D. $, major.

Railroad Pass/Railroad Pass Buffet—294-5000. Nightly specials. L, D. $, major.

JEAN

Nevada Landing/The Jade Room—I-15, Exit 12, Jean, 387-5000. Lobster Cantonese, lobster, and chicken kew. D. $-$$, major.

Nevada Landing/The Landing Restaurant—I-15, Exit 12, Jean, 387-5000. Prime rib, T-bone. B, L, D. $, major.

Nevada Landing/The Landing Buffet—I-15, Exit 12, Jean, 387-5000. Roast baron of beef, ham. L, D. $, major.

LAS VEGAS

AMERICAN

Aladdin/Oasis Coffee Shop—736-0111. B, L, D. $, major.

Circus Circus/Skyrise—734-0410. Prime rib, steak, and shrimp. B, L, D. $, major.

Flamingo Hilton/Flamingo Room—733-3111. Seafood salad bar, fresh fish of the day, veal cutlet Viennoise. B, L, D. $-$$, major.

Flamingo Hilton/Lindy's Deli—733-3111. Grilled Reuben, New York steak, marble cheesecake. B, L, D. $, major.

Rio Suite/All American Bar and Grille—252-7777. Mesquite grilled steak and seafood, extensive list of American beers and wines. D. $-$$$, major.

Rio Suite/Beach Cafe—252-7777. Pasta and seafood specials daily, night owl specials. B, L, D. $-$$, major.

Rio Suite/Carnival Buffet—252-7777. Bountiful selection. B, L, D. $, major.

Rio Suite/Sonny's Deli—252-7777. Authentic New York deli-style sandwiches and salads. L, D. $, major.

Sam's Town/Mary's Diner—5111 Boulder Hwy., 454-8073. '50s flair, blueplate specials served 24 hours. B, L, D. $, major.

Sam's Town/Smokey Joe's 24 Hour Cafe & Market—5111 Boulder Hwy., 456-7777. Barbecue specialties served 24 hours. B, L, D. $, major.

Sam's Town/Uptown Buffet—5111 Boulder Hwy., 454-8048. B, L, D. $, major.

Stardust/Tony Roma's—732-6111. Ribs and chicken. D. $, major.

Tropicana/Tropics—739-2800. Chicken, steak, fresh seafood. D. $$, major.

CAJUN

Aladdin/Fisherman's Port—736-0111. D. $$, major.

Holiday Casino/Joe's Bayou—369-5000. Shrimp Creole, blackened catfish, Memphis-style barbecue. D. $-$$, major.

FRENCH/CONTINENTAL

Aladdin/The Florentine—736-0111. D. $$, major.

Bally's/Gigi—739-4651. Cote de veau nouveau chasseur mormard grille, beurre fondu. D (closed Mon.-Tues.). $$$$, major.

Caesars Palace/Bacchanal—731-7110. Seven-course Roman banquet. D (closed Tues.-Wed.). $$$$, major.

Caesars Palace/Palace Court—731-7110. Langoustines, steak Diane. D. $$$$, major.

Desert Inn/La Vie en Rose—733-4444. Poached pear in port wine, mousse of goose liver and prosciutto rosettes; veal with carmelized apples; boneless roast duck. D. $$$$, major.

Lady Luck/Burgundy Room—477-3000. Rack of lamb, beef Wellington, lobster thermidore, veal of the day. D. $$, major.

Las Vegas Hilton/Le Montrachet—732-5111. Dover sole, medallions of veal, extensive wine list. D. $$$$, major.

Tropicana/Rhapsody—739-2440. Chateaubriand bouquetiere, veal sorrentino, duckling chambord. D. $$$, major.

INTERNATIONAL

Caesars Palace/La Piazza Food Court and Lounge—731-7324. Multi-cuisine international food; Japanese ramen soups, Chinese stir-fry, Italian pastas and pizzas, New York-style deli sandwiches and salads. B, L, D. $, major.

ITALIAN

Bally's/Caruso's—739-4656. Gamberoni alla griglia, pollo alla fiorentina. D. (closed Wed.-Thurs.). $$$$, major.

Caesars Palace/Primavera—731-7110. Fettuccine Primavera, pasta specialities, Caesars salad. B, L, D. $$-$$$, major.

Desert Inn/Portofino—733-4444. Scampi alla Provinciale, Fettuccine Verde with Pesto, Veal Chop alla Parmigiana, Osso Buco Milanese con Risotto. D. $$$$, major.

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Imperial Palace/Pizza Palace—794-3261. Pizza, pasta, and salads. L, D. $, major.
Lady Luck/Marco Polo's—477-3000. Northern Italian specialities, pasta, veal. D, $$, major.
Las Vegas Hilton/Andiamo—732-5111. Northern Italian specialties, 25 pastas, veal, lamb, and fish entrees. L, D. $-$$, major.
Rio Suite/Antonio's—252-7777. Risottos, pastas, special desserts. D. $$$, major.

MEXICAN

Sam's Town/Willy & Jose's Mexican Cantina—5111 Boulder Hwy., 454-8044. Authentic Mexican dishes in Old Mexico setting. D. $, major.

ORIENTAL

Aladdin/International Buffet—736-0111. B, L, D. $, major.
Caesars Palace/Ah So—731-7110. Sushi and sashimi, teppan yaki-style. D. $$$$, major.
Desert Inn/Ho Wan—3145 Las Vegas Blvd. S., 733-4547. Sizzling oyster beef, prawns a la Szechwan, almond pressed duck. D. $$, major.
Flamingo Hilton/Peking Market—733-3111. Nine-course family dinner, lemon chicken and lobster Cantonese. D. $, major.
Imperial Palace/Ming Terrace—794-3261. Mandarin and Cantonese cuisine, abalone, Kung Pao shrimp, roast duck. D. $$, major.
Lady Luck/Emperor's Room—477-3000. Cantonese, Szechuan, and Mandarin specialties. L, D. $-$$, major.
Las Vegas Hilton/Benihana Village—732-5111. Four restaurants: tempura, robata, sukiyaki, hibachi; animated show. D. $$$, major.
Las Vegas Hilton/Garden of the Dragon—732-5111. Shark's fin soup, Szechuan chicken salad, honey-roasted duck with oranges, Mongolian beef, Thai-fried noodles. D. $$$$, major.
Mizuno's At Tropicana—739-2770. Teppan steaks, chicken, fresh seafood, sashimi. D. $$$, major.

STEAK AND SEAFOOD

Aladdin/The Wellington—736-0111. D. $$, major.
Bally's/Barrymore's—739-4661. Blackened redfish, surf and turf. L (Mon.-Fri.), D. $$-$$$, major.
Caesars Palace/Nero's Steak and Seafood—731-7110. Fresh seafood, prime dry-aged steaks, Mediterranean dishes. D. $$-$$$, major.
Circus Circus/Steak House—734-0410. Steak, prime rib, lobster, seafood appetizers flown in fresh daily. D. $$, major.
Flamingo Hilton/Beef Barron—733-3111. Prime rib special, chateaubriand, crisp roast duck. D. $$-$$$, major.
Four Queens/Hugo's Cellar—385-4011. Rack of lamb Indonesian, crab legs and sirloin, roast duckling anise, filet mignon Atlantis, prime ribs of beef. D. $$$, AE, MC, V.
Holiday Casino/Claudine's—369-5000. Steaks and seafood, open kitchen, piano bar nearby, excellent wine list. D. $$-$$$, major.
Imperial Palace/Seahouse—794-3261. Alaskan King crab legs, hot and cold appetizers, and seafood salads. D. $$, major.
Sam's Town/Diamond Lil's—5111 Boulder Hwy., 454-8009. Fresh fish and seafood daily. D, Sun. brunch. $-$$, major.
Stardust/William B's—732-6111. Broiled halibut, lamb, veal, rib eye steak. D. $$, major.
Tropicana/El Gaucho—739-2376. Steaks, lamb chops, fresh seafood. D. $$$, major.



The Rotisserie at John Ascuaga's Nugget.

LAUGHLIN

Colorado Belle/Orleans Room—298-4000. Steak, seafood, prime rib, lamb chops, linguini. D. $$, major.
Edgewater/The Embers—298-2453. Steak, seafood, prime rib, Midwestern beef. D. $$, major.
Riverside/Gourmet Room—298-2535. Chateaubriand, Cajun dishes, steak and quail, rack of lamb; wine steward. D. $$, major.
Riverside/Prime Rib Room—298-2535. Salad, potato, vegetable, and dessert bar, prime rib. D. $, major.
Sam's Town Gold River/Sutter's Mill—298-2242. Mesquite-broiled steaks. Brunch Sat.-Sun., D. $$, AE, MC, V.

RENO-CARSON AREA

AMERICAN

Carson Nugget/Buffet—882-1626. Sun. champagne brunch, Sat. breakfast buffet, Fri. seafood buffet. B, L, D. $, major.
Carson Nugget/Coffee Shop—882-1626. Open 24 hours. B, L, D. $, major.
Carson Station—883-0900. Steaks, prime rib, seafood, soups, sandwiches, and salad bar. B, L, D. $.
Carson Valley Inn/Fiona's—Minden, 782-4347. Steaks, seafood, veal, soup and salad bar. L, D, Sun. brunch. $-$$, major.
Carson Valley Inn/Katie's—Minden, 782-9711. Four-course prime rib dinner, steak and lobster, half-pound burgers. B, L, D. $, major.
Comstock Hotel/Miner's Cafe—200 W. 2nd St., 329-1880. One-pound New York steak dinner. 24 hours. $, major.
Gold Hill Hotel/Crown Point—1 mile south of Virginia City, 847-0111. D. $$, major.
Harrah's/Garden Room—786-3232. Eggs Benedict, avocado clubhouse, triple dragon. B, L, D. $, major.
Harrah's/Skyway—786-3232. Buffets, Sun. brunch. B, L, D. $, major.
Holiday Inn/Greenhouse—5851 S. Virginia St., 825-2940. Sandwiches, burgers, dinners. B, L, D. $, major.
John Ascuaga's Nugget/General Store—Sparks, 356-3300. Prime rib, giant apple pancake, seafood Louis. B, L, D. $, major.
John Ascuaga's Nugget/Rotisserie—Sparks, 356-3300. Buffet; Sunday brunch. L, D. $-$$, major.
Peppermill/Coffee Shop—2707 S. Virginia St., 826-2121. Fruit salads, lasagna, gourmet omelets. B, L, D. $$, major.
Peppermill/Island Buffet—2707 S. Virginia St., 826-2121. Salad bar with fresh shrimp and crab legs and homemade pasta. Sun. brunch. B, L, D. $-$$, major.
Riverboat Restaurant and Coffeshop—323-8877. Chicken and ribs, Cajun baked chicken with beef or pork ribs, open 24 hours. B, L, D. $, major.
Sharkey's Nugget—Gardnerville, 782-3133. Prime rib is house specialty. B, L, D. $, no CC.

BASQUE

Louis' Basque Corner—301 E. 4th St., Reno, 323-7203. Sweetbreads, tripe, paella, other seafood dishes. L, D. $$, major.

FRENCH/CONTINENTAL

Bally's/Cafe Gigi—789-2266. French, cracked crab, snails, lobster bisque, chateaubriand, veal Oscar. D. $$$$, major.
Eldorado/The Vintage—786-5700. Continental cuisine, daily specials, choice dry-aged beef, mesquite-grilled. Complimentary wine tastings from award-winning wine list. D. $$, major.
Flamingo Hilton/Top of the Hilton—322-1111. Salmon with three sauces, roast duck with raspberry sauce, roast prime rib of beef au jus. D. $$$, major.
Harrah's/Steak House—786-3232. Steak Diane, fresh

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fish daily, roast rack of lamb. L (Mon.-Fri.), D. $$$, major.

Peppermill/Le Moulin—826-2121. Tournedos of beef a la Diane, veal a la Oscar, Dover sole meuniere. D. $$, major.

INTERNATIONAL

Eldorado/Choices—786-5700. An express cafe with hofbrau, deli, bakery, ice cream. B, L, D. $, major.

ITALIAN

Bally's/Caruso's—789-2267. Fresh oysters, canneloni, calamari. D. $$$, major.

Eldorado/La Strada—786-5700. Northern Italian cuisine with veal, chicken, and seafood entrees plus homemade pasta, sauces, and desserts. Award-winning wine list. D. $$, major.

Harrah's/Café Andreotti—786-3232. Italian favorites and specialty items served in a casual, friendly atmosphere. D. $$, major.

ORIENTAL

Bally's/China Seas—789-2268. Mandarin shrimp, Mongolian beef, cashew chicken. D (closed Sun.). $$, major.

Comstock Hotel/Fah Choy—329-1880. All you can eat Chinese buffet along with a complete a la carte menu. L, D. $, major.

John Ascuaga's Nugget/Trader Dick's—Sparks, 356-3300. Cashew chicken, Szechwan specialities, flaming dagger brochette. L, D. $$, major.

STEAK AND SEAFOOD

Bally's/Bounty—789-2000. Steamed clams, cracked half crab, oysters. L, D. $, major.

Bally's/Steak House—789-2270. Broiled T-bone steak, Columbia River salmon. L (except Sat.-Sun.), D (except Sun.-Mon.). $, major.

Carson Nugget/Oyster Bar—882-1626. L, D. $, major.

Carson Nugget/Steak House—882-1626. Veal scallopini, scampi in dill sauce, chicken picata, escargot. D. $$, major.

Circus Circus/Hickory Pit—329-0711. One-pound prime rib, New York steak. D. $$, major.

Eldorado/Grill and Rotisserie—786-5700. Mahogany-fueled rotisserie and grill, fresh fish, fowl, lamb and USDA choice dry-aged beef, soup and salad bar. D. $$, major.

Harrah's/Seafare—786-3232. Fresh fish specials, calamari, lobster tail, veal parmigiana, eggplant Romano. L, D. $$$, major.

John Ascuaga's Nugget/John's Oyster Bar—Sparks, 356-3300. Lazyman's cioppino, seafood stews. L, D. $$, major.

John Ascuaga's Nugget/Steak House—Sparks, 356-3300. Prime rib, steak and lobster, snapper, shrimp Louis. L, D. $$, major.

Riverboat Oyster Bar—323-8877. Riverboat cioppino, bay shrimp cocktail. L, D. $, major.

LAKE TAHOE

AMERICAN

Caesars Tahoe/Cafe Roma—Stateline, 588-3515. Lamb chops, prime rib. B, L, D. $-$$$, major.

Harrah's Lake Tahoe/Forest Buffet—Stateline, 588-6611. Friday night seafood bounty, Sunday brunch, daily buffet. B, L, D. $$, major.

Harrah's Lake Tahoe/Sierra—Stateline, 588-6611. Chicken pot pie, cashew chicken salad, Chinese cuisine. B, L, D. $$, major.

Harvey's/Cafe Metro—Stateline, 588-2411. European sweet shop, coffees, retail bakery. $, major.

FRENCH/CONTINENTAL

Caesars Tahoe/Le Posh—Stateline, 588-3515. Award-winning California cuisine. D. $$$, major.

Harvey's/Llewellyn's—Stateline, 588-2411. International and contemporary cuisine. Sun. brunch, L, D. $-$$, major.

Harvey's/Sage Room—Stateline, 588-2411. Rack of lamb persille, prime dry-aged cuts of beef, beef Wellington. D. $$-$$$, major.

ITALIAN

Caesars Tahoe/Primavera—Stateline, 588-3515. Linguini carbonara, tenderloin pizzaiola, pollo allo spumante. D, weekend brunch. $$, major.

Harrah's Lake Tahoe/Café Andreotti—Stateline, 588-6611. Pizza quattro stagioni, filetti barbaresco, lasagne Andreotti. D. $, major.

MEXICAN

Harvey's/El Vaquero—Stateline, 588-2411. Camerones Veracruz, carnitas. L, D. $$, major.

ORIENTAL

Caesars Tahoe/Empress Court—Stateline, 588-3515. Szechwan, Mandarin. D. $$, major.

STEAK AND SEAFOOD

Caesars Tahoe/Broiler Room—Stateline, 588-3515. Prime rib, seafood, Cajun specialties. D. $$, major, res. for large parties.

Harrah's Lake Tahoe/Friday's Station Steak and Seafood Grill—Stateline, 588-6611. Blackened shrimp, mixed grill of lamb filet and smoked quail, hickory-smoked range chicken with Southern Comfort apple butter, Black Angus beef. L, D. $$$, major.

Harvey's/Seafood Grotto—Stateline, 588-2411. Wide seafood selection plus Chinese dishes. L, D. $$-$$$, major.

Horizon/Josh's—Stateline, 588-6211. D. $$, major.

ELKO

Red Lion Inn—738-2111. Coffee shop and gourmet restaurant. B, L, D. $-$$, major.

Stockmen's Motor Hotel—738-5141. Casino coffee shop, evening dinner house. B, L, D. $-$$, major.

AROUND THE STATE

Furnace Creek Inn and Ranch—Route 190, Death Valley, 619-786-2345. American, Italian, Mexican, steak and seafood, pizza. B, L, D. $-$$$$, major.

Station House/Whistle Stop—Tonopah, 482-9777. Hamburgers, steak, and seafood. B, L, D. $, AE, MC, V.

Whiskey Pete's/Bushwacker Steakhouse—I-15 near Nev.-Calif. border, 382-4388. Porterhouse, prime rib, trout almondine. D. $-$$, major.

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Doin' Fats Proud at Tahoe

By Pennye Nelson

"Fats Waller was saying something to his audience. A whole philosophy of life: Not taking things too seriously, laughing in adversity as well as good times, and in effect saying, 'Do it! Eat that extra meal, drink that extra bottle, love that extra woman!'"

—Richard Maltby Jr., creator and original director of the Tony Award-winning Broadway production of "Ain't Misbehavin' "

•

All 285 pounds of Fats Waller would have loved this excess of delights for the eyes and ears.

The set is simple—a bar, piano, a couple of cabaret tables and chairs. Strings of beads cover the doors on either side of the stage. Two fans slowly revolve 'round and 'round.

The premise for the show is even simpler—a night in a Harlem cabaret in the 1930s. The cast is small—five performers and a piano player. But what a cast! And what a piano player!

The show is stunning. Occasionally hilarious, at times dangerous, and sometimes just downright low and miserable, "Ain't Misbehavin'" is a treat.



"Ain't Misbehavin'" cast members are (clockwise from top left) B.J. Crosby, Stephen Semien, Tanya Montgomery, Riki Brooks, and Dwayne Stephenson. The show is playing at Harvey's.

Outside the Emerald Theater at Harvey's you hear the clang and clatter of the Lake Tahoe casino. But inside, it's easy to imagine that you're in the Big Apple, seeing a real Broadway production with Broadway talent. If you were in New York, you'd have paid big bucks for the tickets and probably be sitting in the back of the second mezzanine, peering through opera glasses to catch the action. But the Emerald is a jewel of a theater that is intimate without being crowded, classy without being intimidating. And, like a New York theater, there's absolutely no smoking allowed.

This show immediately bounces into your lap with "Lookin' Good But Feelin' Bad," and continuing the never-ending pace, Stephen Semien, looking like a lean and lanky Fred Astaire, reminds the audience, "It Ain't Nobody's Business But My Own."

Semien, who like the rest of the cast is a singer, actor, and dancer, performed in the theater productions of "Eubie," "The Wiz," "Sophisticated Ladies," and "When Hell Freezes Over I'll Skate" at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C.

Dwayne Stephenson, the only other male in the cast, follows Semien with a campy rendition of the provocative "Honeysuckle Rose," complete with "lip tricks," crossed eyes, and a few Michael Jackson moves. Stephenson's credits include stints on *Star Search* and *Opryland* and cinema credits in *The Morning After Generation*, and *Fatal Beauty*.

Voluptuous Tanya Montgomery's "Squeeze Me" is both delightfully sensual and cute. Not surprisingly, she has recorded on the Electra Records label and has also performed with Sidney Poitier and at the Hollywood Palladium.

The piano-playing talents of Ron Savage—backed by a small behind-the-scenes combo—keep the joint rocking. Savage, a Reno native, is the son of Jan Savage, a well-known Reno pianist and singer.

The stage heats up when B.J. Crosby vamps the male audience members with "I've Got a Feeling I'm Falling." Crosby's range is phenomenal. She was chosen Entertainer of the Year by the New Orleans Music Association and has recorded "Ladies in Jazz" and "Sweet Soul Baby." She has also appeared on *The Arsenio Hall Show* and *The Cosby Show*.

But this cast not only sings, it also cuts a mean rug. In a swing adagio, the joint really jumps with "How You Baby?" When the whole cast dances, it's more precise to say that the joint literally rocks.

Riki Brooks is delightful as the show's ingenue. Giggly and bubbleheaded, she's no lightweight on talent. She's appeared in "Eubie" in New York and recently released her first album, "I Need Love."

After the hot jazz tunes "Off Time" and "The Joint Is Jumping," the stage cools off as the cast returns wearing some pretty ritzy duds—minks, hats, and gloves—for the set of "Lounging at the Waldorf."

But before things get too comfortable, it's back to the Harlem dive for some lowdown company "Viper's Drag," sometimes known as "The Reefer Song," breaks the theater's no-smoking rule, as dry ice vapors mingle with Semien's cigarette smoke. Montgomery then replaces Semien on stage with a throaty "You're Mean to Me."

Brooks reappears as a tawny kitten who vows to be true with "I'm Keeping Out of Mischief Now." Later she is joined by Montgomery for "Find Out What They Like and How They Like It, and Let 'Em Have It Just That Way."

Moving from the ridiculous to the sublime, the cast, primly sitting on stools, sings a heartbreakingly beautiful "Black and Blue." Then it's slam, back into the show with a medley of Fats Waller's hits like "I'm Going to Sit Right Down and Write Myself a Letter" and "It's a Sin to Tell a Lie."

When the show ends, the audience stands, whistling and cheering while the cast, pleased and grinning, applauds back. Waller would have been proud.

The Lowdown on 'Misbehavin"

"Ain't Misbehavin'" is playing indefinitely at Harvey's Emerald Theater at Stateline, Lake Tahoe. Tickets are $13.50 on weeknights and $15.50 on Saturday night; dark Tuesdays. Price includes two drinks and tax. Gratuity not included. Call 702-588-2411 for show times, which will vary due to the scheduling of comedy acts in the theater during the spring.

Pennye Nelson covers Nevada entertainment for the San Francisco Chronicle *and is a frequent contributor to* Nevada.

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