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EDITOR'S NOTE

Dam Days

Dennis McBride has long felt a special connection to Hoover Dam. "It's almost a metaphysical thing," says the Boulder City writer. "I can remember going on a tour of the dam with my parents when I was three or four years old. I was aware of being down inside this great structure of concrete and steel, and that I felt completely safe and secure."

In this issue's "Dam Days," Dennis recalls the building of the dam, which turns 60 this fall, through the voices of men and women, here and departed, who remembered those heady times. Dennis knew his sources well. Many were friends and neighbors he had interviewed for the Boulder City Library Oral History Project, a program he began 10 years ago and recently revived. "It's a natural curiosity—I want to know everybody's business," he laughs.

Dennis was born and raised in Boulder City, the workers' town built eight miles west of the dam site. While attending UNLV, he wrote his first story for publication. Naturally, he chose a subject close to home: the Boulder Dam Hotel.

Now he's working on a guide to the public art, monuments, and memorials of Hoover Dam and Boulder City. "When I was growing up, I was intrigued how in the middle of this desolation stood Hoover Dam, this massive, polished work of art." Fortunately for us, Dennis' curiosity about the dam remains as strong as ever.

Another Boulder City resident who knows the dam well is **Julian Rhinehart**, former head of public affairs at the Bureau of Reclamation. Julian describes the dam's artistic attractions in "The Grand Dam."

Natural wonders are powerfully described by two astute observers of Nevada, Reno writer **Ann Ronald** and Salt Lake City photographer **Stephen Trimble**, in an excerpt from their new book, *Earthtones: A Nevada Album*, due out this fall from the University of Nevada Press.

C.J. Hadley left an indelible brand on *Nevada Magazine* during her tenure as editor in the 1970s and '80s. This issue C.J. leaves another: her fond portrait of John Ascuaga, the casino boss who likes nothing better than a dusty cattle drive.—*David Moore*

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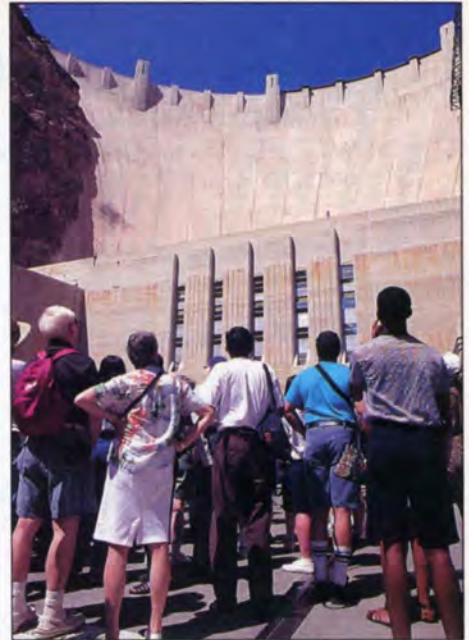
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On the Cover:
The monolithic Hoover Dam harnesses the power of the Colorado River. Photo by Gene Hertzog

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LETTERS

Bridges, country stores, and lonely roads.

Superior Bridges

The July/August issue is superior. I especially liked "The Bridges of Lander County" by Richard Menzies. I thought it was very funny

R.S. James
Des Moines, IA

Calling Korncaid

Due to an unprecedented demand, I've run out of copies of the July/August issue. Can you send me more?

"The Bridges of Lander County" was particularly well received here by a group of older ladies at the Graystone Retirement Home, who passed it around as they rested beside the pool after their morning aqua-aerobics workout.

The one named Birdie read it from beginning to end and asked with a straight face if that was the whole story, or will there be more to come? I advised her to stay tuned for the sequel, "Border Muzak," which will include not only a steamy kitchen scene but

also a romp in the laundry room.

Regarding your recent request for a photographic essay on "The Quonset Hangars of Area 51," my gadget bag is packed and I expect to depart momentarily. Would really appreciate it, however, if just once you'd spring for gas and film.

Robert Korncaid
a.k.a. Richard Menzies
Salt Lake City, UT

Crackerjack Country Stores

I read with interest the article on "Characters, Cracker Barrels, and Country Stores" by Kate Butler in the July/August issue.

It was nice to see photos of the owners, and I also enjoy the phone numbers and addresses where free info can be obtained.

Lawrence Saia
Levittown, NY

Talking Magazine

I wish to tell you how much I have enjoyed hearing the May/June issue of *Nevada Magazine* on the Talking Books Tapes. These tapes were sent to me by the Nevada Regional Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped in Carson City.

I particularly enjoyed "Journey Into the Silver Triangle" by David W Toll. Also, since my son-in-law is a golf addict, I am sending the magazine to him so he can read about the new golf links and the courses that are already available.

Your participation in this project for the Talking Books program is greatly appreciated by all blind persons.

Mary Lou Hendy
Carson City

Thanks, Mary Lou. And thanks also to the Talking Books Library volunteers Brandi Lee, Norm Nielson, Rick Wagner, Andy Lefler, and others involved in the program. For more information about the Talking Books
(Continued on page 84)



Nevada's country stores are run by characters like Patrick Hanley and Ms. Muttley, keepers of Uncle Patrick's Way Station in Virginia City.

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An underwater park and hungry penguins.

BIRD WATCHING

Birds in Paradise

LAS VEGAS—Twelve pudgy African penguins and another dozen spindly legged Chilean flamingos are the new stars at the **Flamingo Hilton's** lush wildlife habitat.

The 18-inch-tall penguins, unlike their Antarctic relatives, enjoy the desert climate and cool waters of their island sanctuary, which is near the swimming pool area. Each day at 8:30 a.m. and 3 p.m. wildlife assistant Stephanie Slyter serves the penguins a bucket of smelt. The feeding lasts 15 to 20 minutes.

On a nearby island, the pink-plumed flamingos stand stoically on their slender legs, appearing to ignore the humans dining inside at the Paradise Garden Buffet, which overlooks the area.

The Flamingo Hilton's wildlife habitat is part of a new 15-acre tropical playland with



Stephanie Slyter feeds the penguins at the Flamingo.

cascading waterfalls, rockscapes, palm trees, water slides, and linked swimming pools. Wood ducks, swans, brightly colored Japanese koi, and native hummingbirds and finches live at the garden. The swimming pools are reserved for hotel guests, but the wildlife habitat is open free to everyone. The habitat is behind the Flamingo Hilton on the Strip. Phone 702-733-3111.—*Kate Butler*

FREE INFO

Tour Guide

CARSON CITY—History buffs will enjoy a snazzy new brochure about Nevada's capital city. The pamphlet has old photographs and snippets of historical trivia as well as a small-scale version of Carson City's Blue Line Trail, the walking tour of historic homes and landmarks. For a copy contact the Carson City Convention and Visitors Bureau, 1900 S. Carson, Suite 200, Carson City, NV 89701, or call 800-NEVADA-1.

DIVING



Divers can sink to new depths at Emerald Bay's scuba park.

MUSEUMS

House of Magic

LAS VEGAS—Anyone who has seen a bankroll swell with the roll of the dice and vanish just as quickly can tell you something about the magic of Las Vegas. But few people have seen the trunk in which a handcuffed Harry Houdini was lowered into New York's East River, only to surface and establish himself as the most popular escape artist in show-business history.

Houdini's trunk and other magic artifacts are displayed in the **Magic and Movie Hall of Fame** on the second floor of O'Sheas Casino on the Strip between the Imperial Palace and Flamingo Hilton. The museum offers a self-guided tour through the history of magic as well as a peek at the costumes and props of classic movies.

You'll find stage magic devices and videos that tell how they were used. In most cases, as with the spiked cabinet,



The dummies are on display at O'Sheas.

visitors leave as perplexed as ever about how the magicians escaped unharmed.

One exhibit is devoted to ventriloquism. There is even a hands-on display with a mirror, dummy, and diagrams.

Admission is \$4.95 for adults and \$3 for kids 12 and under, which includes a mini-magic show at 2, 3, and 4 p.m. The museum is open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesday through Sunday. Phone 702-737-1343.—*Darrell Santschi and David Rush*

Sub-Tahoe Treasures

LAKE TAHOE—Scuba divers can explore sunken boats and other artifacts at the new **Emerald Bay Underwater State Park**.

Emerald Bay was a dump site possibly used by the Emerald Bay Resort and others between 1884 and 1953. Among the obstacles are such artifacts as old telephone batteries and kitchen sinks (divers should leave any artifacts they find). Two barges, which transported passengers across the lake before the highway was built, rest about 35 feet below the surface.

For a free brochure with a map of the diving park, tips, and precautions write the California Department of Parks and Recreation, Sierra District Headquarters, Box 266, Tahoma, CA 96142, or call 916-525-7277.—*Carolyn Graham*

THE BARGAIN ADVISOR

By Deke Castleman

High-tech entertainment is generally not a bargain. According to a survey conducted by *Wired* magazine, the average cost of a "digital ride" such as a virtual-reality arcade game or motion simulator is \$60 per hour. The survey compared that to \$2.37 per hour for an all-day pass at an amusement park or \$1.23 per hour for a video rental.

Bucking the high-priced trend of virtual entertainment is the Suzuka8 video motorcycle racing at the **MGM Grand Midway** (702-891-1111) in Las Vegas. For a mere dollar, you race against seven other virtual bikers astride plastic motorcycles that lean into the high-speed-video turns at more than 45 degrees left and right. The ride lasts so long (2 1/2 minutes) that you actually get tired. If you want to practice on your own, the same game (minus four terminals and an employee announcer doing the play by play) is 75 cents at Treasure Island's Mutiny Bay Arcade.

The **Nugget Casino** (702-297-1201) in Searchlight, 60 miles south of Las Vegas on U.S. 95, is the place to break up a trip between Vegas and Laughlin. For years this Nugget has been known for its cup of coffee, which will set you back one thin dime. Sit and sip at the counter staring at the big wall mural or at a table under one of 16 ceiling fans—the coffee shop is so expansive and airy that it actually overwhelms the slot machines. You pay the 11-cent



The Eldorado cooks up a bargain at its Grill and Rotisserie.

tab (when was the last time you paid a penny sales tax?) at the casino cage.

The Grill and Rotisserie at Reno's **Eldorado Hotel** (702-786-5700) boasts not only one of the best salad bars in town but also one of the best fine-dining bargains. Every night from 5 to 6:30 (including Friday and Saturday), \$8.99 gets you a dinner of prime rib, grilled duck, chicken, pork, or lamb, complete with soup-and-salad bar and scoop of gelato for dessert. The salad bar alone is \$8.50 (and worth it), so for an extra 49 cents, live it up. □

Deke Castleman is the managing editor of the Las Vegas Advisor, a monthly newsletter on the Las Vegas bargain scene.

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THE GRAND DAM

Hoover Dam, which turns 60 this year, isn't just an engineering wonder. It's also a work of art that harks back to an inspiring era.

By Julian Rhinehart

When Hoover Dam was built in the 1930s, the great dam was known for its engineering su-

perlatives. It was the highest dam ever built, the costliest water project, home of the largest power plant of its time.

Today, as Hoover celebrates its 60th anniversary, we can see that the dam is not only an engineering wonder. It also



Hoover Dam is a landmark of both engineering and design. The new visitor center is on the Nevada side (lower left).

is a work of art.

Few structures in America display the diversity of design and craftsmanship that you see at Hoover Dam. It is a showcase of seldom-seen skills of artists and artisans—beautifully presented terrazzo tiles, sculpture, metalwork, and even military emplacements.

The dam's architectural design varies a great deal from its initial plans. Bureau of Reclamation engineers, more concerned with flood control than appearance, simply wanted to embellish the dam with eagles, cornices, and other ornamentation.

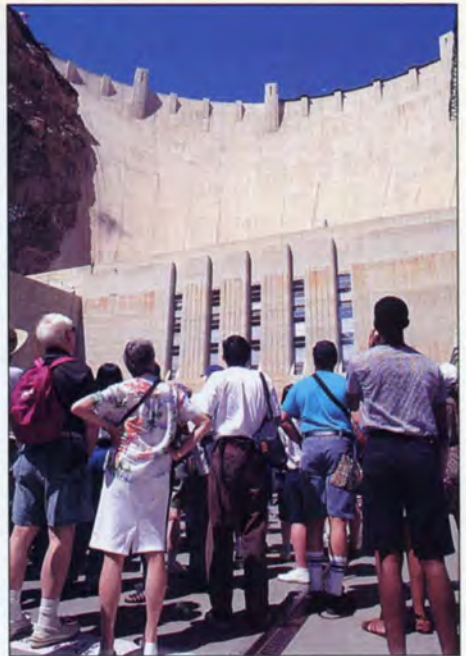
True was responsible for the dam's distinctive motifs—the Southwestern Indian designs in the terrazzo floors.

The more streamlined look of the completed project was influenced by two men who were not engineers: architect Gordon B. Kaufmann, known for his design of the Los Angeles Times Building, and artist Allen True, whose murals are prominent in the Colorado State Capitol in Denver.

Kaufmann was a native of London, England, who lived in Southern California. He had been enlisted to help design the Administration Building in Boulder City, the federal town being built to house dam workers. After he was asked to comment on the aesthetics of the dam's proposed design, Kaufmann became totally involved in the project. Richard Guy Wilson, architecture professor at the University of Virginia and a student of the dam, notes that the architect apparently was retained to counterbalance the engineers' focus on "functionality rather than aesthetics."

Kaufmann simplified the dam's design and replaced ornamentation with the flowing lines of Modernism and Art Deco. The four areas where his influence is most visible are the power plant, dam crest, intake towers, and spillways. He transformed the power plant with color and facades. He blended four protruding towers on the crest into the face of the structure. He smoothed the upper portions of the four intake towers and reworked the two spillways to accent Art Deco elements.

"There was never any desire or attempt to create an architectural effect or style," he later explained, "but rather to take each problem and integrate it to the whole in order to



Tour guides lead visitors to awesome views inside and outside the dam.

secure a system of plain surfaces relieved by shadows here and there." The architect later produced progressively simplified designs for downstream Parker Dam and for Shasta Dam in Northern California.

Allen True, the Denver artist, assisted Kaufmann with interior designs and



The dam's striking terrazzo floors, with Native American motifs, were made by Italian craftsmen.



Gordon B. Kaufmann's tasteful influence can be seen in the intake towers. At right: the "Winged Figures of the Republic."

color. True was responsible for one of the dam's most distinctive motifs—the Southwestern Indian designs in the terrazzo floors. Using such sources as an Acoma bowl and a Pima basket, True linked Native American geometric concepts with Art Deco design. Many of the Indian designs were based on centrifugal themes, which related to the turbines in the power plant.

True's colors were truly striking. He used black, white, green, and dull-red ochre chips in the terrazzo floors to contrast with the black-marble walls. True also specified the red color for the generator shells in the power plant, a sight that still commands visitors' attention.

You can see the power plant and terrazzo work during a tour of the dam. Following an elevator descent of 530 feet, you emerge into seemingly endless galleries. There you find gleaming terrazzo floors imbedded with the Southwestern Indian patterns adapted by True from baskets, pottery, and sand paintings.

Two Italian immigrant brothers, Joseph and John Martina, installed the terrazzo floors in 1936-37 with the help of 30 countrymen. John served as contractor for the job and worked with Reclamation officials. Joe, barely able to speak English when they bid on the job, was in charge of laying the floors. The Martina brothers contracted to install the terrazzo for 48 cents per square foot, for a total of only \$51,718. Costs today would exceed \$20 per square foot.

To create the terrazzo, the workers

imbedded marble chips in cement, separating them with brass or aluminum divider strips to make a tiled pattern. After the mosaic hardened, they used large finishing machines to polish the surfaces. The result was a lustrous terrazzo.

On top of the dam, two "Winged Figures of the Republic" dominate the Nevada approach. They are the work of sculptor Oskar J.W. Hansen, a Norwegian immigrant who was appointed a consulting sculptor by Secretary of the Interior Harold L. Ickes following a national competition.



Close inspection shows many artistic vignettes at the dam.

The five Nevada panels portray the dam's main purposes—flood control, navigation, irrigation, water storage, and power.

Hansen said the 30-foot-bronzed statues represented "that eternal vigilance which is the price of liberty." Perched on six-foot-tall cubes of gleaming black diorite, Hansen's figures flank a 142-foot flagpole. In front of this array he placed a terrazzo star map depicting the celestial alignment from that site on the evening of September 30, 1935, the day President Franklin D. Roosevelt dedicated what was then called Boulder Dam.

Hansen also created the nearby bronze plaque memorializing the 96 workers who died during construction of the dam. An inscription proclaims, "They died to make the desert bloom."

You can see more of Hansen's work on the two elevator towers. Each displays five bas-reliefs that tell a story. The Arizona tower has a tribute to Native American tribes and their Great Spirit of the ranges and the plains. The five Nevada panels portray the dam's main purposes—flood control, navigation, irrigation, water storage, and power.

Away from the tour route, and off-limits to the public, are two unique forms of craftsmanship that appeared after the dam's completion in 1935. The first is found in the power plant's "gold room," where solid-copper cabinetry surrounds heavy copper bars carrying electricity from generators to transformers. Fred Johnson, electrical engineer at Hoover Dam, says the name "gold room" probably derived from the bright finishes of the copper cabinets, but rumors persist

(Continued on page 78)



The intake towers rose from Black Canyon as the dam and spillways took shape. Lake Mead later formed on the left.

DAM DAYS

For the people who built it, Hoover Dam was a monumental part of their lives.

By Dennis McBride

On September 30, 1995, Hoover Dam turns 60. The power it generates runs the air conditioners, elaborate lights, and winking slot machines of Las Vegas resorts. The fruit and vegetables piled high on hotel buffet tables are grown in Arizona and California with Colorado River water. If there were no Hoover Dam, there would be no castles on the Las Vegas Strip, no volcanoes, no pirate wars, no monorail. But because Hoover Dam and Lake Mead *are* there, Las Vegas today has a

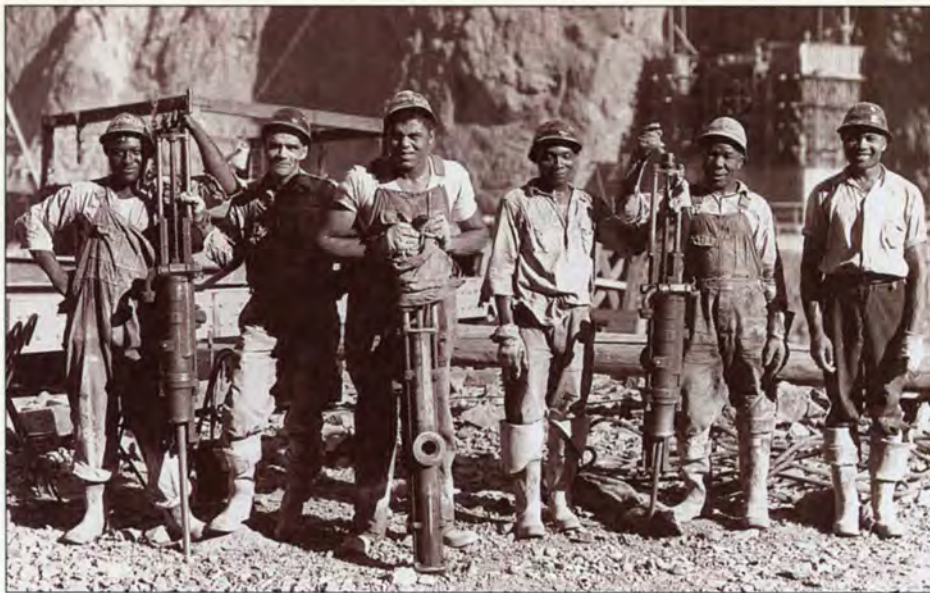
million people, attracted here like moths by the brightest light in the world beaming into the sky from the crown of the Luxor pyramid.

In the six decades since Hoover Dam was finished, other dams have been built that are bigger and technologically superior. Yet none has attained Hoover's mythic character or brought such social, economic, and historic transformation.

Hoover Dam's construction was a pivotal event in American history, and

like most events that bring great change, few people at the time understood it. In oral histories preserved at the Boulder City Library, the men and women who came to Southern Nevada in the early 1930s remember that all they wanted was a job and a place to live. The Boulder Canyon Project was their only hope.

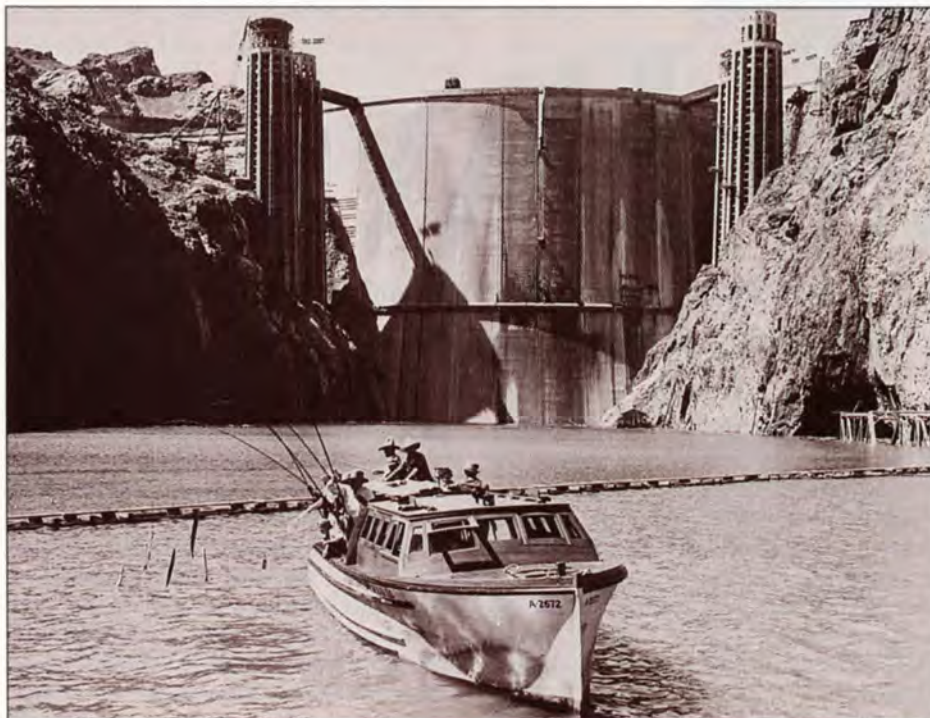
"I came here from Kaw City, Oklahoma," says Harry Hall, who, like most of those who have recorded oral histories of their dam experiences, is a Boulder City resident. "It was quite well



African-American laborers at work on the dam, October 1932.



Life in Ragtown, c. 1931. Man at right wore a zinc-oxide facial to prevent burns.



The catch in this fishy 1935 publicity photo were actually frozen barracuda.

Hoover Dam engineers had to figure out a new way to cool all the concrete. Left alone, it would have taken 125 years to set.

known that Nevada was the only place you could get a job. Jobs were very hard to come by, so we decided to come out here and try our luck."

Tommy Nelson was a trumpet player in 1931. "Things were pretty rough—people couldn't afford to dance," he says. "My father was down in this area, so he told me, 'If you come on down, I can get you a job.' So I did."

"The 13th day of July 1931 is when I arrived here," Joe Kine recalls. "Before that I worked in the mines in Oklahoma. The mines closed down and I was out of a job. But I heard about Hoover Dam going on out here, so I bought a Model T Ford for \$10 and drove it out."

Hundreds came at first, then thousands.

Those who were lucky enough to get jobs also had to build new lives from the desert dust. There was no town, no community, no institutions, none of the infrastructure of modern life taken for granted even in that day

"Thousands of people moved in here," remembered Leo Dunbar. "They had moved down on the river. They had moved into where Boulder City was supposed to be. I imagine a thousand people had camped just on the other side of what is now Railroad Pass."

"People came with their kids," said Murl Emery, who owned a small store on the banks of the Colorado River near Black Canyon. "They came with everything on their backs. And their cars had broke down before they got here, [so] they walked. Some of them had no money. No one helped them."

"I just don't know how I stood it," Helen Holmes remembered of the weeks she and her husband Neil spent in Ragtown, a squatter's settlement on the banks of the Colorado River. "There was very little fresh food or meat. There were about 500 tents there over quite a large area. Some didn't really even have a tent, and a lot of them with little children. There was a lot of dysentery. When you went down from the top of the hill to the river, you could feel the heat.



This Big Bertha transport bused 150 workers from Boulder City to the dam site.

Sometimes you'd feel like you couldn't get your breath."

Las Vegas was the nearest town, 30 miles northwest of the canyon. Small and sleepy, Vegas had little hope of developing much beyond what it already was. Hoover Dam changed that.

"If you haven't lived through it," John Cahlan, editor of the *Las Vegas Evening Review-Journal*, recalled in an oral history interview, "you can't imagine what would happen to a little railroad community of 5,000 people having 10,000 to 20,000 people dumped on it all at one time. There wasn't any money available. You had to provide schools for the kids. You had to provide facilities for the community. We just didn't know what to do."

The government and the Six Companies, the contractor who built Hoover Dam, eventually built Boulder City and got people out of the squatter's camps and hobo jungles. Las Vegas began enjoying an economic boom the rest of the country missed out on.

Down in Black Canyon, the river was turned out of its bed, and Hoover Dam rose against a background of enthusiasm and innovation. While the dam was well-planned, execution of those plans was often made up on the spot as construction moved along. And what was made up at Hoover Dam afterward became the new standard.

To dig the diversion tunnels that carried the Colorado River around the dam site, the Six Companies invented the drilling jumbo. Neil Holmes, who

worked on the dam as a pipe fitter, helped build the prototype.

"It fell to me to pipe up that first one," he remembered. "They built it out where you could put 32 or 36 machines on that one truck—drilling machines, jackhammers. The carpenters built the frame on this International truck. Then I had to go in and pipe it up and put manifolds on so that the miners would have air and water. So whenever they moved, the air and water moved right with them."

The jumbo was ungainly but successful—the contractors drilled four tunnels through solid rock in record time.

Because there had never been so much concrete poured in one place, Hoover Dam engineers had to figure out a new way to cool it. Left alone, it would have taken 125 years to set. Instead, the contractor invented a lattice of small pipes to carry cold water from a refrigeration plant throughout the dam to hasten its cooling. Bruce Eaton worked on this cooling system.

'For a month during the summer of 1931, the thermometer never went below 100, day or night,' remembered Neil Holmes.



High scalars, in a dangerous job, prepared the canyon walls for blasting.

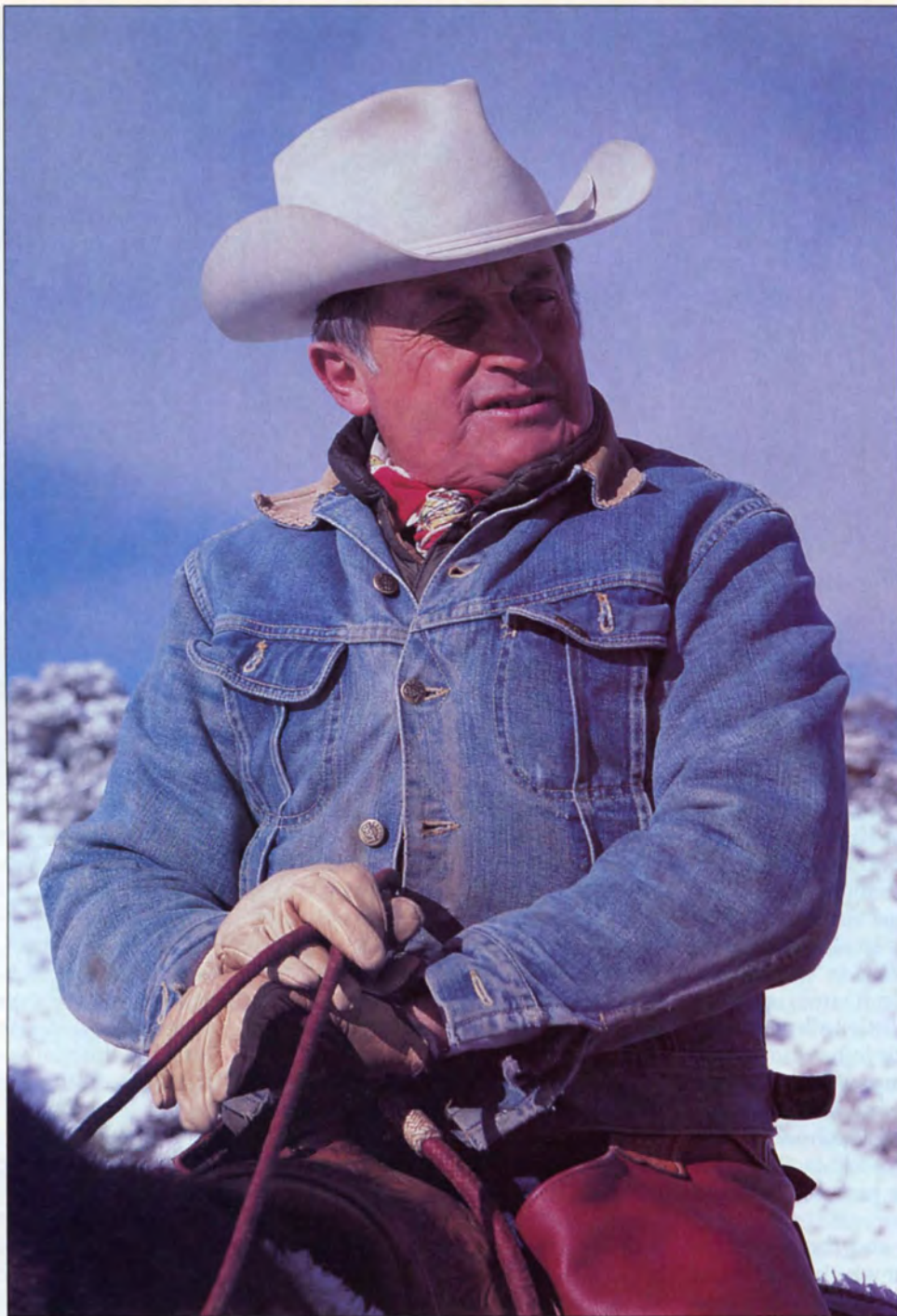
"My job was to connect and operate the cooling system," Eaton recalled. "Every five feet, vertically and horizontally, there was a one-inch diameter cooling pipe embedded in the concrete. You can imagine the many, many miles of tubing that ran from the center each way to the canyon wall and back. What it amounted to was a huge radiator."

How to get all those men from Boulder City to Black Canyon and back again in the least amount of time? Invent a new kind of bus—the double-decked Big Bertha transports.

"They built 'em right up in Boulder City," remembered Marion Allen, author of several books, including *Hoover Dam and Boulder City*. "There were three Big Berthas here by the time they finished. They took 150 men. They had one regular engine in front. They put an engine behind, underneath, to push it, like a pusher. Of course, the top was nicer riding. You got the air."

Innovation and enthusiasm aside, however, Hoover Dam construction was dangerous and often deadly. A major strike in August 1931, staged by the Industrial Workers of the World to improve the inhuman working conditions that first year, had little effect beyond

(Continued on page 79)



Ascuaga drives cattle during the most brutal weather of the year. "It's easier on the cattle if you don't truck them, and they move better when it's cooler."

The Man in the Saddle

On Nugget or at the Nugget,
casino owner John Ascuaga rides tall.

By C.J. Hadley

ISN'T THIS GREAT?" John Ascuaga calls out. He is riding Nugget, an enormous sorrel gelding that he has had since it was born.

"Is he 19 now, John?"

"No!" he exclaims. "You can't be 19 every year, you know "

Nugget is so far past 19 that John doesn't want to admit it, but on this day this cowboy is in his element. We're in the drag, bringing up the rear, on John's annual four-day cattle drive from Bridgeport to winter feed in Smith Valley. Ahead of us are 1,232 cows and heifers. It's hot, and we're eating dust, but John is happy. He turns and smiles. "Isn't it great there are no phones out here?"

In the cowboy world, both Nugget and John might be considered senior citizens. But they don't act it. Nugget can cut out a calf from the herd with no heavy breathing.

And John, son of a Basque shepherd from Notis, Idaho, has developed a string of ranches, established a meat-packing firm, and also managed to turn a 60-seat canteen and slot joint in Sparks into John Ascuaga's Nugget, a major hotel-casino with 2,800 employees, eight restaurants, and more than 1,000 rooms. The Nugget is celebrating its 40th birthday this year and John his 35th as owner.

John grew up tough on his father's ranch. Every morning he and his brother Frank milked the cows and fed the livestock. John worked while going to college. He understands value, and he values the personal touch. His casino is known for its grub. "If I don't like it, why should anyone else?" he says. He gives college scholarships to Nevada high school graduates and displays their photos in the Nugget. Walk around the casino with him, and you'll see him stop to pick paper off the carpet or clear away empty coffee cups. At the Nugget he's also in his element.

Last summer he broke ground on a \$72-million expansion that will add a second hotel tower and a huge convention center. "I was scared when I spent \$34 million on the first tower," he says. "But this doesn't bother me."

When asked about his success, John resorts to a typical ploy: He changes the subject. "What is my most satisfying accomplishment?" he asks. "I don't know. But did I ever tell you about this great guy from Idaho, Dick Graves?"

Graves was the man who brought Ascuaga to Nevada in the mid-1950s and made him general manager of his casinos in Carson City, Yerington, and Sparks. In 1960 Ascuaga bought the Sparks Nugget from Graves.

John is 70 now, and he runs the outfit with the help of three of his children, Michonne, John Jr., and Steven. He has lasted so long because he doesn't dwell on stress. He goes home at five and seldom misses one of his wife Rose's home-cooked meals at their ranch in Jacks Valley



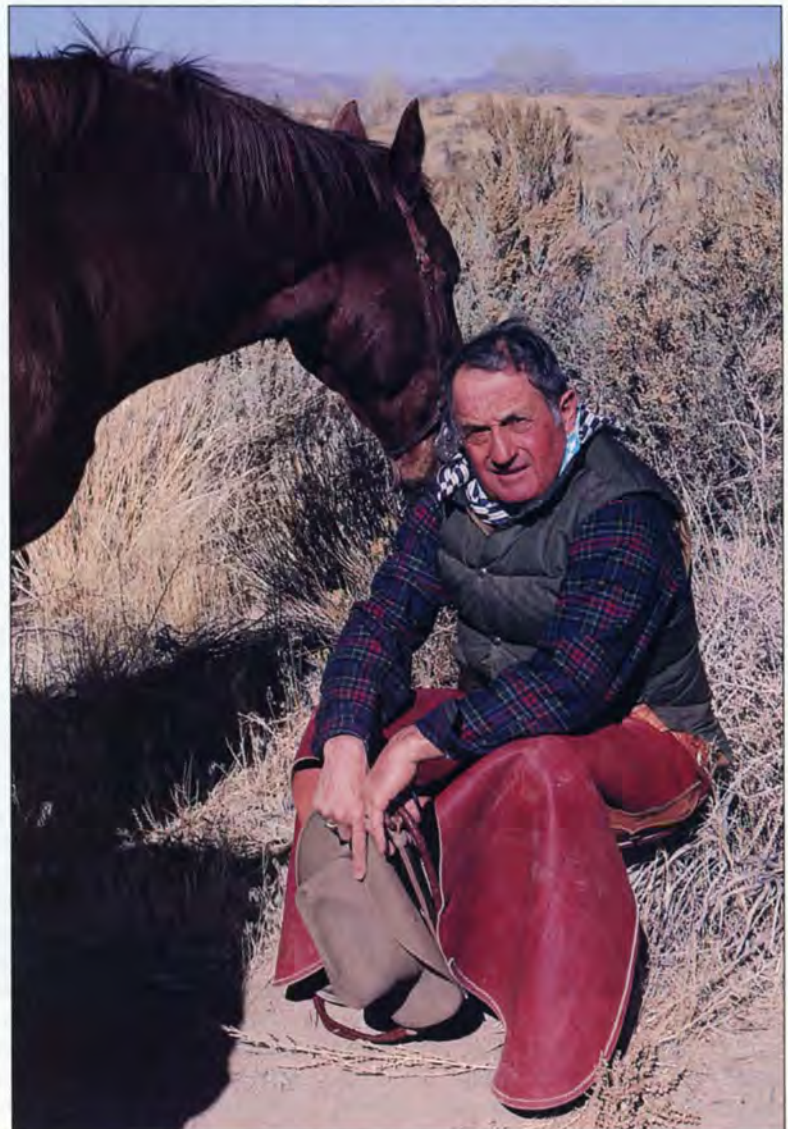
Ascuaga has held the reins at the Nugget in Sparks since 1960.

"Damn," John told the dude, "if I'd known it was going to be this cold, I would have worn some socks!" □

C.J. Hadley, former Nevada Magazine chief, is publisher-editor of Range Magazine and editor of Silver and Blue, the University of Nevada alumni magazine. On a recent John Ascuaga cattle drive she was bucked off a mule named Sister Chicago.



Lorne Greene sized up John Ascuaga at the Ponderosa, c. 1960.



Ascuaga and his sturdy sorrel Nugget are at home on the range.

NEVADATONES

In their new book, *Earthtones: A Nevada Album*, writer Ann Ronald and photographer Stephen Trimble present a Silver State untrammelled by clichés. Herewith, an excerpt.

Too many people picture Nevada landscape the way eastern newspaper reporters and urban advertising agencies imagine it. High-Rise Casinos and High-Tech Theme Parks. Frank Sinatra and Barbra Streisand. Liberal Slots, Computerized Poker, Craps. A Get-Rich-Quick Mentality Glamour, High Rollers, Spectacle. Holiday neon punctuating empty terrain. The previous generation's Nuclear Test Site. The next century's Hazardous Waste Dump. Mile after mile after mile of America's Loneliest Roads.

Few tourists, few essayists, few photographers bother with the sparse hori-

"this thirsty land," he imagined it "like heaps of ashes dumped from the blazing sky" and summarized his feelings by envisioning "one vast desert, all sage and sand, hopelessly irredeemable now and forever."

Someone blankly staring through a car window might well agree with Muir's dry assessment. Rivers are few and far between. Interstate 80 stretches across a lot of sand and sage, with only an occasional glimpse of the evaporating Humboldt that weary pioneers trailed 150 years ago. Highways 50 and 93 and 95 alternate sinewy mountain passes with flats of alkali and dust, relieved only by winter snow or summer cloudbursts. None of these major routes is scenic in any conventional way

Nor are the views from an airplane window any more obviously picturesque. While a casual traveler might glance once or twice at the striations of brown, chocolate, and beige, might briefly puzzle over the shadowed ridgelines, might even shake his or her head at the vacant horizons below, most find more pleasure in the refreshments being served. My seatmate last October, making idle conversations, echoed the Illinois couple

I overheard at an interstate rest stop two months before: "What is there to see out there?" "It's so empty" "It's so drab." "It's so depressing."

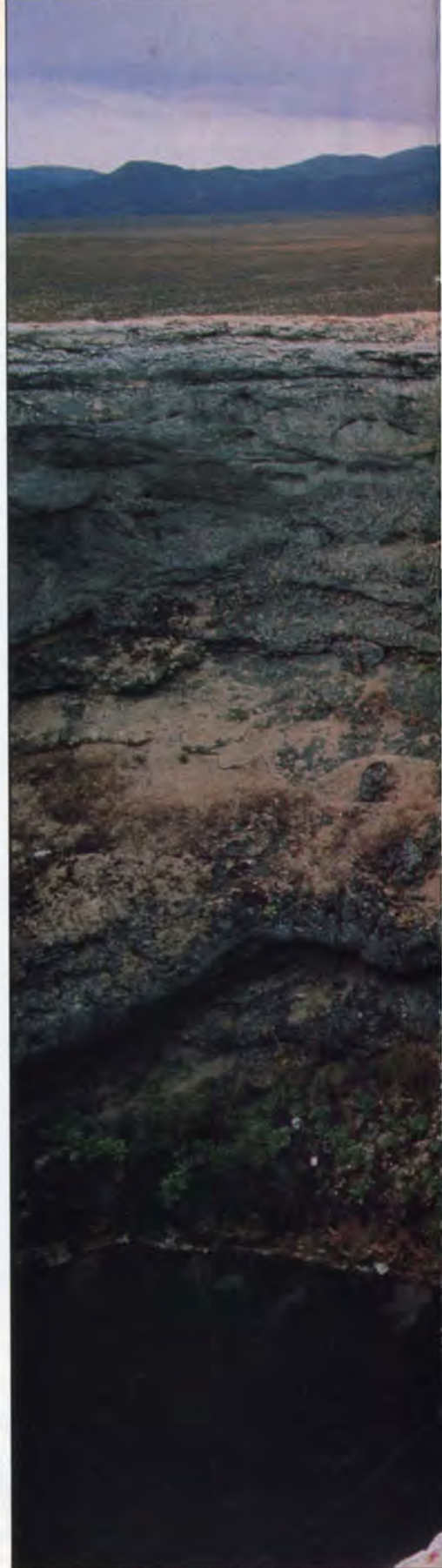
One of Wallace Stegner's essays, "Thoughts in a Dry Land," touches on why we are unable to change our aesthetic minds about what is scenic and what is not. He insists that we have to get over the color green. Stegner is right, of course. Almost all of us have been taught a worldview that prefers green



FALLEN LEAF

Sometimes the mountains yield surprises like this aspen leaf in Timber Creek in the Schell Creek Range.

zons beyond the neon, the lonely wilderness spaces of California's less comely neighbor to the east. Writing five short essays now collected in *Steep Trails*, John Muir set what I consider an unfortunate aesthetic tone. He described Nevada scenery as "a singularly barren aspect, appearing gray and forbidding and shadeless." Even though Muir admired some isolated peaks and valleys, he generally treated the Nevada landscape harshly. Calling the Silver State





DIANA'S PIPING POTION

Huge and lonesome, Central Nevada's basins hold silence, space, and surreal sights like the mineralized crater of the hot spring known as Diana's Punch Bowl. To the north and south, Monitor Valley is sandwiched between the Monitor and Toiyama ranges.



SPRAWLING SOUTHERN SIGHTS

Some see Southern Nevada as desolate; desert distances and desert colors are an acquired taste. Here a sunset colors an alluvial fan leading out from the Sheep Range in the Desert National Wildlife Range north of Las Vegas.

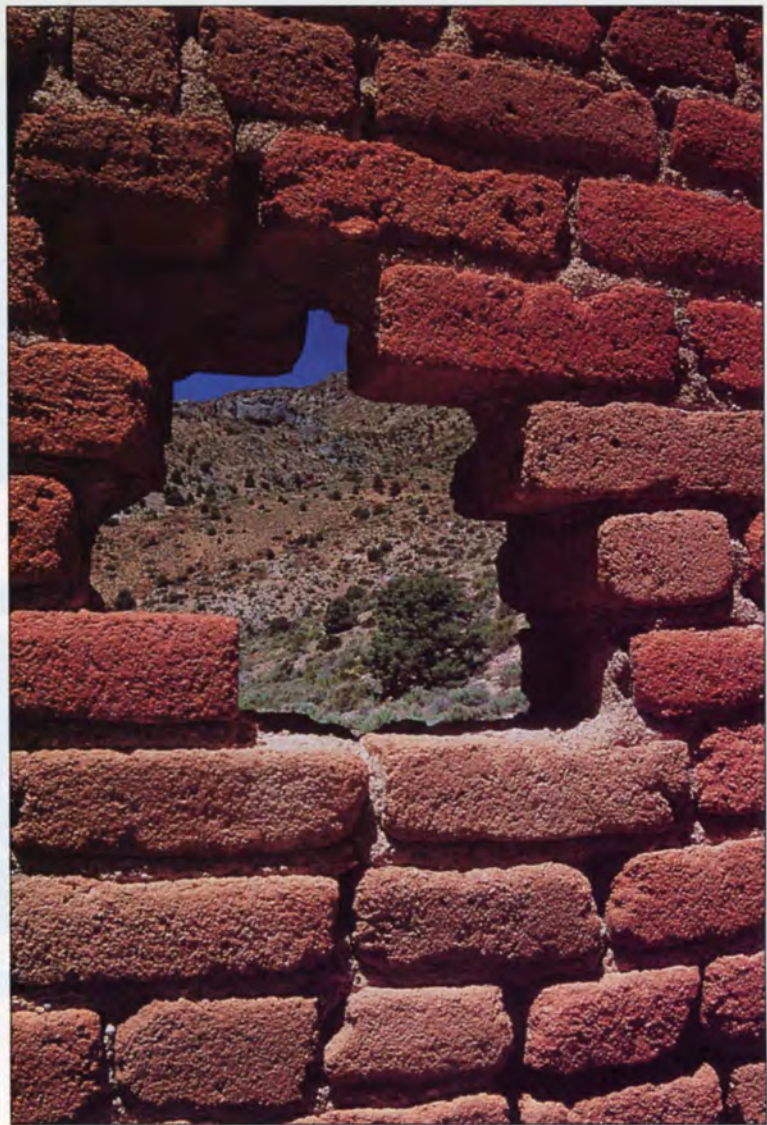
and blue to ocher and beige, that values redwoods and oceans more than rabbitbrush and sinks. Stegner concludes by saying that we inherently lack appreciation for such things as sagebrush and raw earth and alkali flats. These, he suggests, are acquired tastes, ones not easily adopted by conventional sensibilities.

Empty space, and the concomitant exposure of geologic time, are acquired tastes too. As someone who grew up in the forested Pacific Northwest, I not

only was indoctrinated by the beauty of green but I also was comforted by vine maple, maidenhair ferns, and shin tangle. The near view—perhaps a high meadow filled with purple gentian, perhaps the riffle of a stream—was pleasingly, narrowly defined. Any long view was supposed to be grandiose in a European kind of way, punctuated by 200-foot Douglas fir and glaciated peaks with romantic-sounding names. I possessed no imaginative comprehension for the shapes and shades of basin and

rockbound range in a “land of little rain.”

Now that I’ve spent nearly 25 years tracking such desert distances, however, I’ve developed a very different aesthetic eye. From the air, I ignore my seatmate’s imprecations and look down on a Jackson Pollock oil. Framed by the plane’s window, the colors stipple from black-topped ridges to creamy basins with pale cuts muted red, like dried blood. Curved washes narrow, then widen, then narrow again. The trace of a river twists into tight coils, a series of



TUMBLING WALLS

Peering through the brick wall of a ruined miner's cabin in Tybo, 70 miles northeast of Tonopah in the Hot Creek Range, you might be able to glance back to 1874 when this ghost town was a boom town.

oxbows unwilling to dry themselves out. The shadows that follow the oxbows are metallic tints from a desiccated palette. Sere green—not emerald hues, but tones befitting the jaded contours of the land below

Closer to the ground, heading east to west across a lonely highway, I picture not a gallery hung with postmodern paintings but a film unrolling before my eyes. Rounded hills fold into wrinkled cavities, amber curves sharpen against a darker sky. An evening raincloud spills

from its top a Niagara that will never reach the earth. Three mustangs browse silently through the yellowed grasses. At the sound of my truck approaching, two golden eagles erupt from the pavement. One, clutching a roadkill rabbit, flies off; the other, settling on a nearby fencepost, glares at the highway. I stop the truck, grab my binoculars, and stare back at the huge bird.

That's what the man and woman from Illinois might have seen, had they known that scenery need not be green, that shapes and shadows may segue into figures and forms, and that seductive details can be spotted when one slows down. If they had strolled out into the sage, they might have discovered how much a single lens can reveal. In

springtime the brown hills turn lime velvet for a week or maybe a month. Even after a dry winter, showy phlox the size of my little fingernail cluster underfoot and alongside abandoned dirt roads, while a wet winter brings forth a patchwork of purple lupine. Blizzard white transforms lumpish lime-

I picture not a gallery hung with postmodern paintings but a film unrolling before my eyes.

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Too many visitors never see my Great Basin. Or, if they do see it, they don't know how to describe it.

stone blocks into peaks reminiscent of the Alps, while cloud shadows in any season writhe the distance into a close-up kaleidoscope of colored motion.

Too many visitors to the Silver State never see my Great Basin. Or, if they do see it, they don't know how to describe it. Their Nevada is a preconceived one, a product of instinct, intuition, and intellects unwilling to look favorably at dry desert scenery. Their Nevada, I'm afraid, is an unfortunate cliché. Neither "a singularly barren aspect" nor a landscape "hopelessly irredeemable, now and forever," our Nevada is one seen through sympathetic eyes.

Teal sky and a sea of purple sage. Mountain mahogany, white fir, a crimson mass of claret cup cactus. Rawhide Springs and Green Monster Canyon. A bobcat tiptoeing along Corn Creek. Desert tortoise, a marmot whistling for his mate, a nesting long-eared owl. The Black Rock playa, Lake Lahontan. Current Mountain and Duckwater Peak, Rainbow Canyon and Calico Hills. Limestone, sandstone, and tuff. One stone wall, a few broken bricks; dry alfalfa, an empty irrigation ditch. A dust-blown sunset, vermilion and orange and gold. "One vast desert?" Not exactly. One vast deserted landscape of color and shadow and aesthetic dimension. □

Ann Ronald is dean of the College of Arts and Science and professor of English at the University of Nevada, Reno. The Reno resident is the author of The New West of Edward Abbey and editor of Words for the Wild: The Sierra Club Trailside Reader.

Stephen Trimble's 13 books include The Sagebrush Ocean: A Natural History of the Great Basin and The People: Indians of the American Southwest. He lives in Salt Lake City.

The preceding excerpt is from Earthtones: A Nevada Album, with essays by Ann Ronald and photographs by Stephen Trimble (136 pages, 66 color photographs, hardcover, \$39.95). Earthtones will be available in October from the University of Nevada Press, Reno, NV 89557-0076; phone 702-784-6573, and at bookstores.



Football by the Book

Screaming fans, a dozen giant-screen TVs, cocktail service—
is football a great game or what?

By Deke Castleman

It's that time of year when pigskin fans yell incoherently at the television, Monday-morning quarterbacks reign supreme, and the cash registers really start to sing in Nevada's sports books.

Nevada is the only state in the coun-

try where you can make a legal wager on a nonracing sporting event, and casino football betting is as big as a Nebraska lineman in weight training. Roughly 100 sports books statewide are expected to handle more than one billion dollars' worth of football bets dur-

ing the five-month season.

You can wager on college football, Canadian football, even arena football, but the big show is the National Football League on game day. The anticipation starts to build at nine o'clock Sunday morning, when last-minute

bettors crowd the ticket windows to get their money down before kickoff. The action is nonstop till the last game ends in the evening. At least two games are on TV any time of the day, so there's a spirited edge of anarchy to all the cheering, groaning, and cussing.

"Often the crowd spills over into the race book, and we put the games on the big race screens," says John Falenski, sports book director at John Ascuaga's Nugget in Sparks. "Sometimes we even have to open up the Cabaret. And when the fans around the casino get to roaring, you really feel like you're in the middle of something special."

On Monday night all eyes are focused on the same game, so the commotion is more consolidated. Also, the Monday Night Football clientele is more local. "On Sunday, it's a combination of tourists and locals, but on Monday nights the visitors have gone home, and it's a local crowd," says Teri Gray, director of the Reno Hilton's race and sports book.

Football attracts the heaviest action of any sport in Nevada books. In 1994, of all bets made on all nonracing sports—including baseball, basketball, and hockey—football accounted for close to 50 percent.

Most people who wager on sporting events "bet to sweat," says Russ Hamilton of Las Vegas, a professional sports bettor.

The largest legal sports bets ever made were placed on football games. Former Vegas World owner Bob Stupak made a highly publicized \$1-million wager on the 1989 Super Bowl at Little Caesars Casino in Las Vegas (he won). Last January a mystery bettor laid \$2.4 million on the Super Bowl at the Mirage. The bettor had the San Francisco 49ers to win at 1-8 and walked away with an easy \$300,000.

Sports betting is one of the great entertainment values in Nevada. Even the smallest bet, usually \$11, can turn a sporting contest into a riveting, adrenaline-pumping experience. The average football game lasts two-and-a-half hours, and playing the odds provides action for the whole game. By far it's the best bang for the gambling buck.

To lure bettors, casino sports books sponsor football contests and tournaments. They give away premiums like T-shirts with minimum bets. They provide free drinks and cheap hot dogs and bottled beer. Some hold Monday-night parties featuring NFL cheerleaders or ex-football stars.

Thanks to satellite dishes, the books can televise the games that attract the heaviest action—and satisfy regional preferences. In Las Vegas, most bettors back the San Diego Chargers, the Los Angeles (now St. Louis) Rams, and Dallas Cowboys. "They don't root for Phoenix or Houston because the vast majority favor winning teams," explains Bob Rihel, avid sports bettor and manager of the Stardust poker room. "Only two out of 10 sports bettors put their money on the underdog." In Reno and Lake Tahoe, the books are full of faithful San Francisco 49er and Oakland Raider fans.

Most people who wager on sporting events "bet to sweat," says Russ Hamilton of Las Vegas, a professional sports bettor and 1994 World Series of Poker champion. "Obviously, they don't want to be blown out, but believe it or not, they also don't want their team to jump to a huge lead. They want the game to

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be close, so they can work up some righteous adrenaline."

Tom Bartlett, who comes to Las Vegas from Indianapolis for a month at a time and bets one game a day seconds that notion. "If I bet \$100 on a game, that's all the action I need. I can't take much more excitement than that."

Wagers called "proposition bets" are a good way to squeeze additional stimulation out of a game. Prop bets are special one-shot wagers, such as which team will win the coin toss, which team will score first or last, which quarterback will throw the first interception, and which defensive back will get the first sack.

"Prop bets are real action generators," says Las Vegas sports bettor Blair Rodman. "For the Super Bowl, the books offer so many prop bets that you can literally have a stake in every single play in the game."

Big-time Las Vegas gambler Max Rubin thinks games are even more exciting in the books than at the stadium. "Everybody in the room's got something riding, which keeps it interesting up to the final pass or kick. Also, everybody's rooting for the same guy. Ben Franklin."

Deke Castleman, managing editor of the Las Vegas Advisor, roots for the Seattle Seahawks but rarely feels confident enough to bet on them.

Plus, Minus, Over, Under

Betting football is simple. The basic wager is on the "favorite" or the "underdog," depending on the point spread. A minus sign on the board denotes the favorite, a plus sign the underdog.

To make a "straight bet" you put up \$11 to win \$10 (if you bet \$11 and win, you get \$21). The \$1 difference, representing the house advantage or "vig," is how the casino makes money.

"Parlay" bets involve two or more teams or propositions. "Over-under" wagers are related to the predicted total number of points scored in the game. "Proposition" bets are made on specific plays or totals, like the number of field goals and who makes the first quarterback sack. —Byron Liggett



Football bettors can tackle sports books like John Ascuaga's Nugget (above).

Book Tour

The modern age of sports books began at **Jackie Gaughan's Plaza** in downtown Las Vegas. In 1975 the Union Plaza opened the first sports book in a casino. That year a total of \$50 million was wagered in sports books statewide. Twenty years later, \$60 million was wagered on the Super Bowl alone.

Like most sports books, the Plaza's is somewhat overwhelmed by the size of its race book. Typically, race books handle twice as much action and are substantially larger than sports books. If you find horse races instead of football games on the TVs in your section, don't panic—the sports book will be a lateral away.

Following is a sampling of other sporting places to bet on (and watch) football games in Nevada.

Las Vegas

The **Las Vegas Hilton's SuperBook** was the first giant race and sports book when it opened in 1986. The SuperBook covers 30,000 square feet and has hundreds of seats, dozens of video screens and monitors, and 14 satellite dishes.

The **Caesars Palace** sports book is also palatial. A three-color message marquee displays bets, graphics, and trivia.

The **Mirage's** sports book is long, narrow, and fronted by six large screens. The Mirage is well-known for

attentive and speedy cocktail service.

The total TV display at **MGM Grand's** giant race and sports book is reminiscent of NASA's Mission Control. The book has a lounge (with its own radio show, the Sports Fan Radio Network) and a Stage Deli outlet. The sports book alone seats 80 and has an actual clock behind the betting counter, a rare sight in a Las Vegas casino.

Besides its regular sports book, the **Imperial Palace** has a drive-up sports-betting window. It's behind the hotel, and you can bike, skate, or even walk up to place a bet. The **Fiesta** plans to add a drive-up window in September.

The book at the **Stardust** is large and plush. Its Sports Handicappers Library is an alcove full of printouts with stats on games, teams, and players.

The **Las Vegas Club**, which has a baseball theme, employs old-fashioned wall boards. Two tall consoles of electronic equipment are used to broadcast the races and games, right in plain view.

The **Horseshoe** has one of the few sports books that is entirely separate from the race book. It's tucked near an excellent deli, and the pungent smell of pastrami and pickles permeates the parlor, giving it the feel of an old-time bookie joint. —Deke Castleman

Laughlin

The **Colorado Belle** has the Biggest

Little Sports Book in Laughlin. With 30 seats and three TVs, it's the smallest in town. The **Edgewater** has the largest, with 150 seats and 27 monitors. The two hotels' books are linked to four other Circus Circus properties.

The **Flamingo Hilton Laughlin** adds 350 seats during football season by opening the Club Flamingo Showroom on Saturdays and Sundays. The sports and race book is connected to other Hilton properties in Nevada. Likewise, the book at **Golden Nugget Laughlin** is connected to the Mirage in Las Vegas. The **Ramada Express**, which has six monitors

and no seating, is a satellite book of the Tropicana in Las Vegas.

The **Gold River's** sports book has about 100 seats, six large screens, and a snack bar, Señor Pepper's. The 15,000-square-foot, newly expanded **Harrah's Laughlin** race and sports book features computers to allow players to place bets and cash winning tickets at the same terminal. The **Riverside Resort** opens its Loser's Lounge on Sundays during football, adding 120 seats.

The sports book at the **Avi Casino**, on the Fort Mohave Indian Reservation, is operated by Leroy's of Las Vegas and

has about 50 seats and four screens.

—Lorna McDaniel

Reno-Tahoe Area

In Reno, **Circus Circus'** race and sports book is complete, compact, and convenient. A sports bar runs adjacent to the book.

The **Club Cal-Neva**, known for having Reno's "local line," posts the next week's point spreads at 5 p.m. Sunday. The Top Deck Race and Sports Book has two good deals: this season's \$150,000 Pick the Pros football contest, and a hot dog and Heineken for \$1.50. The Cal-Neva also has "satellite" books at the **Reno Turf Club**, **Clarion**, **Peppermill**, the **Silver Club** and **Western Village** in Sparks, **Lake Tahoe Horizon**, and the **Peppermill** and **Rainbow Club** in Wendover. The Cal-Neva also has two satellites in Carson City, **Carson Station** and **Piñon Plaza**.

The **Eldorado's** sports book is complimented by the Stadium Bar. The **Flamingo Hilton Reno** sports book faces the pit and cabaret, so you can get a peek at the action from the floor.

Harrah's Reno sports and race book has state-of-the-art video technology. You'll also find nonsmoking sections and memorabilia such as a helmet signed by the 1953 San Francisco 49ers, led by quarterback Y.A. Tittle.

The massive Superbook at the **Reno Hilton** has more than two dozen giant screens on one wall. Racing planes and replicas of hot-air balloons honor two of Reno's major September events. A unique attraction are the individual booths with TVs where you can put on earphones and dial into your own game.

Last year **John Ascuaga's Nugget** tripled the size of its race and sports book, located in a quiet area downstairs from the main casino. The book's dark wood, leather chairs, brass trim, and art remind one of a Victorian gentlemen's club. TV screens abound, and you'll find drinks and food at Gabe's Pub and Deli.

At Lake Tahoe, **Caesars Tahoe's** books are presented in a grand rotunda. Caesars is one of the few casinos that will accept no-limit wagers.

The second floor of **Harrah's Lake Tahoe** is devoted to a complete sports and race book, cocktail bar, and poker room.

Bettors can have pizza with their parlay at **Harveys**, which has a pizzeria (that serves beer and cappuccino) near the sports and race books. Next door, the **Horizon** has a satellite book of the Club Cal-Neva's. The **Hyatt Regency** in Incline Village has the north shore's only sports book. —Byron Liggett □

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Alpine Village Inn: Wurst Case Scenario

By Ann Henderson

The lederhosen-clad waiters at the Alpine Village Inn don't bring food to your table—they lug it. This Las Vegas restaurant is known for its gut-stuffing servings of terrific German and Swiss food and for its gingerbread-house decor. Here, far from the Alps, you can dine on Schweinehaxen (pork shank) and St. Moritz Schnitzel (a veal cutlet) while admiring mountain snow scenes and watching miniature trams scuttle back and forth above the main dining room. It's Oktoberfest the year round.

One of the city's oldest eateries, the Alpine Village Inn opened in 1950 on Las Vegas Boulevard North and moved in 1970 to its fourth and present location across the street from the Las Vegas Hilton. Except for its address, little has changed in 45 years, according to co-owner Mark Euffa.

"Our secret is keeping everything the same," says Euffa, who started at the restaurant as a waiter 28 years ago while attending the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. (Other owners include chefs George and Howard Primm, who have been with the restaurant for 27 years.) "Three or four years ago I tried to put in a salad bar, but took it out after three months when I had complaints that people moving around changed the whole atmosphere."

Customers who don't know a wurst from a potato pancake learn to focus on the continually arriving courses that come with each entree. All dinners begin with spiced cottage cheese, crackers, and vegetables on ice. Then come chicken soup, salad, and a bread basket brimming with pumpernickel, gingerbread, and cinnamon rolls. The tasty



Alpine Village Inn diner Tom Soehn (center) is pampered by waiter Steve Rodriquez and dining room manager Heidimarie Tunley.

Swiss rosti potatoes are seasoned with cheese, onions, and spices.

As for entrees, you can choose from among 21 selections, including Sauerbraten (roast beef) and Kohlrouladen (cabbage rolls), not to mention the combination plates and fondue. Have room for dessert? The peach strudel is excellent.

Downstairs, a second restaurant, the Rathskeller, has sandwiches, a carpet of peanut shells, and nightly sing-alongs.



Toucan Charlie's at the Clarion is a choice pick in Reno's buffet lineup.

The buffalo and elk burgers were the idea of one of the original owners, sportsman Herschel Leverton.

A gift shop is crammed with beer steins and knickknacks. Yodeling is on the house.

Alpine Village Inn: 3003 Paradise Rd., Las Vegas, 702-734-6888. Entrees \$9.95 to \$19.50, most about \$15; the Rathskeller \$3.75 to \$14.75; 10 percent discount on some items for ages 55 and older. Open 5 to 11 p.m. Reservations suggested for dining room. Valet parking. Major credit cards.

Ann Henderson, Nevada Magazine's Las Vegas representative, is practicing her German drinking songs for Oktoberfest.

Personal Touch at Toucan Charlie's

By Carolyn Graham

Reno has several fine casino buffets, and one of the best, judging by the swarms of buffet sharks circling its well presented stations, is Toucan Charlie's at the Clarion Hotel. This buffet is loaded to the gills with a variety of cuisines, the atmosphere is cozy and tropical, and the food is extremely fresh. In fact, while you watch, the chefs will prepare salads and Mongolian barbecue with all the ingredients and seasonings you desire.

The buffet is open for breakfast, lunch, dinner, and Sunday brunch. While every meal has its standouts—like the made-to-order omelettes at breakfast—the evening buffet seems to offer the most extensive and irresistible lineup.

At the specialty salad grill you can select your own greens for a made-to-order hot spinach or Caesar salad. There are at least a dozen other variations on the concept of "salad," including a dilly concoction of crab and shrimp and

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Toucan Charlie's is drenched in a rainforest theme with tropical foliage and the barely audible chirping of jungle birds.

an assortment of rottini and angel-hair salads. You can tank up on antipasto, New England clam chowder, and peel-and-eat shrimp.

The prime rib at Toucan Charlie's is standard buffet fare, but other entrees range from chicken Florentine to baby back ribs. The Clarion chefs love their herbs, as you'll notice when tasting the zesty herb-roasted potatoes.

The menu is even spicier at the Mongolian barbecue. There you fill a bowl with chicken, pork, or beef and add broccoli, bean sprouts, and almonds. Top it off with garlic ginger or sweet-and-sour sauce, and the cooks will toss your creation on the grill while you watch it sizzle in a savory steam.

Among the irresistible desserts are caramel sundaes, bonbons, and a fruit torte with a kiwi slice, a blackberry, and a strawberry atop a creamy center in a three-inch pie shell. The carrot cake is delicious, as are the chocolate-dipped strawberries. The buffet also has sugar-free pies.

Toucan Charlie's pleasant atmosphere is drenched in a rainforest theme with flowery carpet, tropical foliage, and the barely audible chirping of jungle birds. Roomy booths provide plenty of space in which to expand.






Aside from the temptation to overindulge, the only drawback to the Clarion's buffet is its popularity—you'll often find a long line snaking through the casino. The weekend breakfast and dinner crowds can be especially ravenous, so it's wise to avoid peak hours, unless, of course, you're used to swimming with the sharks.

Toucan Charlie's Buffet and Grille: Clarion Hotel, 3800 S. Virginia St., Reno, 702-825-4700. Weekdays: breakfast \$4.99, lunch \$6.99, dinner \$8.99 (Fri. seafood \$15.99). Sat.. breakfast \$6.99, lunch \$7.99, dinner \$14.99. Sun.. brunch \$10.99, dinner \$8.99. Reservations are not accepted, but major credit cards are. □

Carolyn Graham is Nevada Magazine's associate editor and a seasoned buffet shark.

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This portrait of Governor John Sparks (center) with Nevada National Guard officers in 1906 offers a rare look at the first state flag. On Sparks' right is his partner in design, Colonel Sylvester "Henry" Day. On Sparks' left is Adjutant General Lemuel Allen, who was lieutenant governor and head of the guard.

Nevada's First State Flag

The last remaining 1905 flag, codesigned by Governor John Sparks, is a classic emblem of old Nevada.

By Robert A. Nylan

A piece of Nevada's history is no longer unraveling. Recently, the lone surviving example of Nevada's first state flag was restored, preserving a banner whose design was conceived at the highest levels of state.

Nevada, like many other states, did not have a state flag during the 19th century. But as the Silver State embarked on new mining booms in Tonopah and Goldfield, two men believed a symbol was needed to hon-



The 1905 state flag had a simple message.

or Nevada's mining industry.

The two men were Governor John Sparks and Colonel Sylvester "Henry" Day, assistant adjutant general of the Nevada National Guard. They proposed a design for a state flag, and a copy was made. Then, at Sparks' request, Senator Nate W. Roff of Reno introduced a bill in the 1905 legislature to adopt the banner as the state's official flag.

The flag was dark blue with the words "Nevada" in the center, "sil-

The Sparks-Day flag, which was never mass-produced, remained the official state flag until 1915. That year a second flag was adopted.

ver" at the top, and "gold" at the bottom. Thirty-six silver and gold stars recalled that Nevada was the 36th state admitted to the Union. The flag clearly reflected mining's importance to turn-of-the-century Nevada.

Senate Bill No. 30 quickly passed the Senate, but when it came to the Assembly, Democrats decided to have some fun at Sparks' expense. George A. Cole of Tonopah moved that the flag bill be tabled, but his motion was defeated. Cole later proposed adding an imprint of sagebrush in the upper-right-hand corner. Another proposed adding "All for our country" under "Nevada." Both motions lost.

Assembly leaders moved that a legislative page be sent to obtain the governor's flag so the members might see it for themselves. Frank Williams of Goodsprings, representing Lincoln County, objected, saying that sending a page would be an insult to the governor. So a committee composed of Cole, Williams, and R.H. Kinney of Reno was directed "to secure the flag and present same at the bar of the House." The committee came back with the flag, although some Democrats continued to ridicule it. Still, the measure easily passed, 25 to 8, and was signed into law by the flag's codesigner, Sparks, on February 25, 1905.

The Sparks-Day flag, which was never mass-produced, remained the official state flag until 1915. That year a second flag emphasizing the state seal was adopted, but the design was too complicated to be manufactured inexpensively. So in 1929 a third flag was adopted, and its design remained unchanged until 1991, when legislators moved the word "Nevada" into a semi-circle below the star.

The one surviving 1905 Nevada flag was donated to the Nevada Historical Society in 1923 by Colonel Henry Day. The flag recently was restored by a conservator, Margaret E. Geiss-Mooney of Petaluma, California, to preserve the piece. The flag is now being stored at

the Nevada State Museum's Marjorie Russell Clothing and Textile Center in Carson City. Because the flag is extremely fragile and cannot be easily displayed, a replica will be made in the future.

It is possible that Sparks' and Day's banner was the only 1905 flag ever made. James J. Ferrigan III of Sonoma, California, is a vexillologist—an expert on flags. He has written that the flag's future was uncertain even as the banner was being approved by the legislators. "The flag had already been fabricated, but for what purpose, and to what use

in fact, only one was made," he noted, "so it must have had limited use."

However, the Nevada National Guard apparently found a use for the flag. Shortly after the legislative session of 1905, on orders of Adjutant General Lemuel Allen, the military unit bought the flag for \$30.65—from Governor Sparks. Presumably the flag was occasionally displayed by the guard, which Sparks also served as commander in chief. □

Robert A. Nylan is curator of history at the Nevada State Museum.

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Hey, Park Ranger

Nevada's park rangers are confounded and delighted by visitors' questions.

By Marge Knorr

A ranger at Lake Mead National Recreation Area recently received a letter from a tourist who was considering a vacation there. The potential visitor's key question: "Will I have fun?"

"How do you answer that?" the ranger asks, laughing. Her response reflects a frequent reaction to the often quirky questions posed to park rangers. About three million tourists visit Nevada's state and national parks every year, and they ask a lot of questions.

Park rangers and naturalists say most of the queries are downright intelligent, and some are unintentionally funny

"Are there sharks in the water?"

Lake Mead naturalist Cathy Cook has heard that question from wary swimmers.

Several roads in Great Basin National Park have metal-grate cattle guards to keep out grazing cows. "We put up 'Cattle Guard' signs beside the road to warn drivers," ranger George Guest says. "Now people occasionally ask, 'When can we see the Cattle Guard? We want to take his picture.'" They must have just been thinking of Buckingham Palace.

Guest has led more than 1,000 tours through Lehman Caves. He has heard disoriented visitors ask beforehand,

"Are the caves underground?"

He also remembers an odd question at a campfire talk. "A distinguished-looking gentleman said very seriously, 'Ranger, truthfully now, what time of the year do the deer turn into elk?'"

Debbie Savage, a ranger who meets the public at Lake Mead's visitor center, says that after learning Mead is man-made, people sometimes ask, "Who dug the lake?" A legitimate question, she says, since Lake Mead was created when Hoover Dam was built in the 1930s, but no earthmovers were involved.

"Are there sharks in the water?" Lake Mead naturalist Cathy Cook has heard that question from wary swimmers. And visitors unfamiliar with the Mojave Desert's warm winter climate have asked if the lake freezes over.

A man recently asked park ranger Keven Emmerich at Death Valley National Park if it was OK to eat the lizards in Death Valley. Emmerich jumped to the reptiles' defense: "I told him that if he was hungry, there were three restaurants in Death Valley."

Death Valley rangers often explain that the park extends below sea level. Occasionally people will ask, "What is the elevation of sea level?"

At Valley of Fire State Park, near Las Vegas, the red rock formations prompt a lot of unusual questions. Roy Orr, district supervisor, says some visitors want to know if the rangers paint the rocks. Other often-asked questions:

"Where's the fire?"

"When will the fire start?"

And some visitors have even bigger questions on their minds. Several years ago a woman told Valley of Fire rangers she had seen a 40-foot-long dinosaur in the park. "Do you have any very large lizards?" she asked breathlessly.

"We assured her we occasionally see iguanas two feet long, but nothing 40 feet. She was very certain she had seen a '40-foot-long dinosaur,'" says park ranger Randy Moore. "So we followed her to the high rock where she saw this monster." It turned out the woman had a perception problem. A two-foot iguana had appeared much larger from her trail-side perspective.

The rangers at Valley of Fire hear frequent inquiries about dinosaurs and painted rocks, but they are more likely to be stumped by one question: "Where are the slot machines?" □

Marge Knorr is a Reno writer who has never eaten a lizard from Nevada's state and national parks.



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GRAND DAM

(Continued from page 12)

that the metal has a high gold content.

The other curiosity stands above the dam. If you look on the Arizona (eastern) side of Lake Mead, you will see a cubical silhouette. This is a gun emplacement built during World War II. As a major source of electrical power for the defense industry, Hoover Dam was considered a primary military target. Of several bunkers that guarded the dam in wartime, this one is the last survivor.

The pillbox, constructed of steel and concrete and veneered with local rock, is 24 feet long and has six gun ports. It was built by a military police battalion soon after the attack on Pearl Harbor, according to Lincoln Clark of Las Vegas. A retired U.S. Army lieutenant colonel, Clark was a first lieutenant when stationed at the dam in 1942. He and his fellow soldiers guarded the dam and escorted civilian vehicles across it.

One soldier was always inside in the bunker, Clark recalls, and a squad of riflemen was scattered in the rocks 24 hours a day

Thus the soldiers demonstrated the "eternal vigilance" that Oskar Hansen sought to portray in his handsome winged figures, seen by all who cross the dam.

Hansen, an intensely creative sculptor, showed his sense of humor one day at the dam. While he was working on the sculptures, a woman asked him how he began such an endeavor. "Madam," Hansen replied, "when you peel an orange, do you begin by sticking your thumb into its center?" He meant that a sculptor must take all parts of a work into consideration before "peeling" away the unused material.

Today we can admire the way Hansen and other artists and craftsmen peeled away Hoover Dam to create a structure of beauty as well as utility

Julian Rhinehart of Boulder City is a writer-photographer and former public-information chief for the region's Bureau of Reclamation office.



Oskar Hansen created the bronze plaque that memorializes the workers who died at the dam.

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DAM DAYS

(Continued from page 15)

providing the IWW's swan song. The work pace, set by construction superintendent Frank Crowe and his Six Companies bosses, was furious. Heat prostration, carbon monoxide poisoning, construction accidents—conditions were brutal and remained so throughout most of the next four years.

"For a month during the summer of 1931, the thermometer never went below 100, day or night," remembered Neil Holmes. "It was from that on up to 138. That was doing a lot to us."

"The men were passing out with the heat," said Holmes' wife, Helen. "The ambulance would go up so many times with the people. That siren—oh, it scared you 'cause you wondered if it might be your husband."

Exhaust from the trucks was so thick in the diversion tunnels that you could barely see the lights, says Tommy Nelson. "That gas was terrible."

"They were hauling men out of those tunnels like cordwood," recalled Murl Emery. "They had been gassed. They were sick, real sick. And that diehard Frank Crowe in the courthouse swore that, to the best of his knowledge, there never had been men gassed underground working."

In a series of letters to his sister, Marjorie, in 1931 and 1932, worker Lin Holman described the conditions he endured.

"I got a shock off of a 2,300-volt electric cable," he wrote. "I didn't get it direct or it would have killed me. I tasted it all night in my mouth." He added, "These men are all so hard-boiled, they holler, 'Hamburger for supper!' when they hear the ambulance siren."

But nothing stopped the job. Every day for four years, in the sun's glare and under spotlights at night, the workers drilled rock, poured concrete, tied steel, and shoveled muck. The construction was perfectly coordinated: powerhouses, intake towers, spillways, and the sweeping structure of Hoover Dam itself rose and merged in Black Canyon.

In the end nearly a hundred workers gave their lives. Franklin Roosevelt recognized their sacrifice on September 30, 1935, when he dedicated Hoover Dam, or Boulder Dam as it was known then.

Roosevelt arrived in Las Vegas at 9:30 that morning, and his motorcade passed through Boulder City an hour later. Thousands crowded the road to Black



President Franklin Roosevelt dedicated the dam on September 30, 1935.



Four of the dam builders, from left: Tommy Nelson, a truck driver; Leroy Burt, a cement man; and Stephen Chubbs and Joe Kine, both high scalers.

Canyon. Thousands more packed the crest of the dam itself as Roosevelt's motorcade passed slowly over to the Arizona side, then turned around and drove back to the Nevada side, where a speaker's platform had been built and draped with bunting.

"It was jammed," recalled Marion Allen. "Here came Roosevelt down the road in this open car, Mrs. Roosevelt and him a-wavin' to everybody My

daughter is a pretty husky gal. I tell her my arm still hurts from holding her up so she could see Roosevelt. His voice is something I'll never forget, for it had some quality in it which could move mountains."

Standing at the speaker's podium with his leg braces locked, Roosevelt's patrician voice rose against the canyon walls.

"This is an engineering victory of the

DAM GOOD TOURS

As Hoover Dam celebrates the 60th anniversary of President Franklin Roosevelt's dedication this fall, you'll find several ways to explore the dam and its past. Since 1936 more than 30 million people have taken the guided tour of Hoover Dam, which is the most popular nearby attraction (followed by Laughlin and the Grand Canyon) for Las Vegas visitors, according to surveys. Last year 712,000 people toured the dam.



You can see the dam by air, bus, ship, or raft.

Hoover Dam Visitor Center:

Guided walking tours begin at the new Hoover Dam Visitor Center, which opened June 21. There has been much publicity about the visitor center's cost (\$123 million, more than double original estimates), while the dam itself came in ahead of schedule and under budget. But the three-level complex has numerous benefits. It keeps visitors away from traffic, out of bad weather, and close to a new 450-space parking garage. The rooftop overlook has good views, too. While waiting for a tour you can watch *The Building of Hoover Dam*, a 25-minute film with amazing construction footage.

Narrated Tours: The 35-minute tours start about every 10 minutes between 8:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. daily. Each tour begins with a 70-second elevator ride that descends 528 feet into the dam. The price is \$5 adults, \$2.50 seniors and ages 10 to 16, and free for kids under 10. Call 702-293-8321 for a recorded message.

Souvenirs: You'll find shops on the Nevada and Arizona spillways and above the Arizona side.

Boat Tours: The paddlewheeler *Desert Princess* offers narrated cruises that swing by the dam. Prices are \$14.50 adults, \$6 children; meal cruises run \$21 to \$43. The ship docks at Lake Mead Marina; next year it will move to its own dock a quarter-mile north. Negotiations are under way to allow the *Desert Princess* to dock at the dam. Call 702-293-6180.

Raft Tours: A narrated, leisurely raft trip starts at the dam's base and proceeds 12 miles down the Colorado River to Willow Beach. Excursions run February through November. Price is \$64.95 per person including lunch. Call Black Canyon River Raft Tours, 702-293-3776 or 800-696-RAFT

Air Tours: Several Las Vegas-based tour companies offer airplane and helicopter trips over the dam. Sundance Helicopters has a narrated 45-minute tour for \$99 per person. Call 702-736-0606 or 800-653-1881.

Bus Tours: A number of tour companies visit Hoover Dam. Interstate Tours has an eight-hour excursion with stops at the dam and other attractions for \$22.50 to \$32.50. Call 702-293-2268 or 800-245-1166. Other operators include Gray Line (703-384-1234) and Ray and Ross (702-646-4661).

Boulder City/Hoover Dam Museum: This museum in downtown Boulder City shows the movie *The Story of Hoover Dam*, displays memorabilia, hands out brochures for the historic-district tours, and has several books about the dam and town. Admission is \$1 adults, 50 cents children. Hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily. Call 702-294-1988.—Ann Henderson



first order, another great achievement of American resourcefulness, American skill and determination," he declared. "That is why I have the right once more to congratulate you who have built Boulder Dam and on behalf of the nation to say to you, 'Well done.'"

In the following months the Six Companies broke up, workers left for other jobs, dust blew through Boulder City's empty streets.

"A lot of people were moving, going to other projects where they were building a dam or whatever," says Mary Eaton. "It was kind of a sad time because many of your friends were leaving."

"It was like breaking up your own family," Tex Nunley remembered. But many stayed on to run Hoover Dam.

The dam began producing power in 1936. By 1941 the projects associated with Hoover Dam—the All-American Canal, Imperial Dam, Parker Dam, and others—were finished.

World War II proved Hoover Dam's true value. It provided water and power for Basic Magnesium, the wartime magnesium plant in nearby Henderson, as well as for the West Coast defense industries.

After the war was over, cheap power and lots of water from Hoover Dam brought an economic boom to Southern Nevada that has never stopped.

Hoover Dam stands today as the great monument, the great measure, the 20th century in concrete and steel. Those whose blood, sweat, and muscle built it can look back after 60 years to claim Hoover Dam as their own.

"When I have friends come and they want to see it, I take them down," says Leroy Burt. "I don't take them down for their benefit. It's mainly for mine. I have a lot of memories of all the places I worked on and everything I did down there."

"There's lots of nostalgia down there," says Tommy Nelson. "That dam was a part of us. We were just young fellows, and look at us now" □

Dennis McBride of Boulder City is author of In the Beginning: A History of Boulder City, Nevada and coauthor of Building Hoover Dam: An Oral History of the Great Depression (with Andrew J. Dunar: Twayne Publishers, New York). He is completing a book on the Civilian Conservation Corps' work at Lake Mead in the '30s and is working on a guide to the public monuments of Hoover Dam and Boulder City. He recently revived the Boulder City Library Oral History Project.

This holiday season you can order an array of Nevada gifts from NEVADA MAGAZINE by mail or by visiting our new outlet—The Loneliest Gift Shop of the Real West, which we recently opened at our headquarters in Carson City. We also are expanding the colors on our traditional Nevada T-shirts and offering a special new item, the Great Nevada Ghost Towns Kit.

Nevada Gift Shop



Wild About Nevada

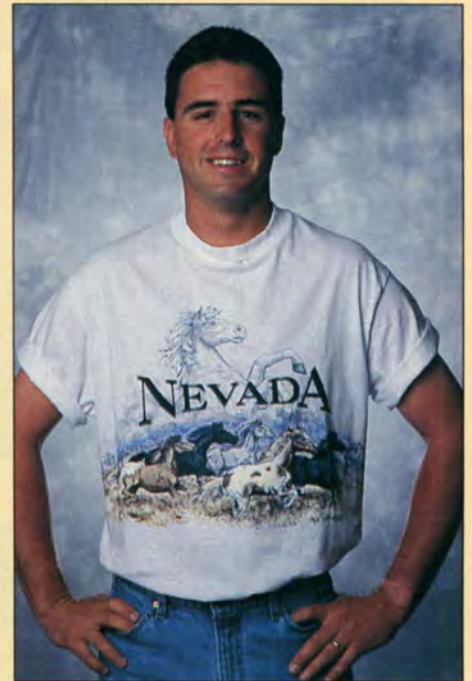
A meadow's worth of Nevada wildflowers has been puff-printed on the front and back of women's scooped-neck T-shirts. The shirt is 100% cotton and comes in white in sizes S, M, L, and XL. #FLRST \$19.95; add \$2.00 for XXL. The beautiful wildflowers are also printed on white 50/50 cotton/poly sweatshirts in sizes S, M, L, and XL. #FLRSS, \$25.95



Mr. Chips T-Shirt

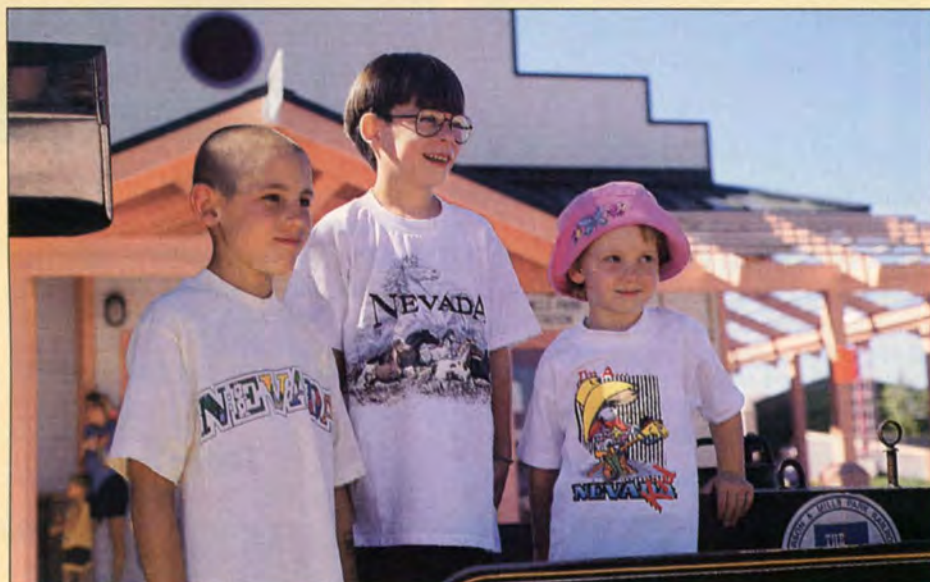
Exclusive! Mr. Chips has a real NEVADATUDE about Nevada. Both children and adults love him. The shirt is 50/50 cotton/poly and available in purple in adult sizes M, L, XL. #CHIPS, \$15.50; add \$2.00 for XXL. (It's also available in youth sizes M and L. #CCHIPS, \$11.50.)

☞ Please use the handy merchandise order form on page 83



Wild in Nevada

You'll be a standout in any crowd when you wear this shirt, a peppercorn-colored 100% cotton T-shirt with the image of wild horses roaming the mountains and deserts of Nevada. The design wraps around and comes in M, L, and XL. #HORS, \$17.95; add \$2.00 for XXL



For the Next Generation

Nevada Kid T-Shirt

Looks like Nevada, feels like Nevada. This shirt is enjoyed by a new generation of Nevada fans. It's 50/50 cotton/poly and available in white in sizes XS, S, M, and L. #NKID, \$9.50

Symbolic Junior Nevada T-Shirt

Your favorite little ones will enjoy looking just as cool as Mom or Dad with their very own Symbolic Nevada design T-shirt. Available in natural (beige), the shirt is 50/50 cotton/poly in sizes S, M, and L. #SYMK, \$11.50

Children Love Horses

Made especially for children, this youth shirt has wild horses printed on the front and is available in sizes S, M, and L. #CHORS, \$11.50



This Name's for You

T-Shirts

In addition to traditional white and blue NEVADA T-shirts we are also offering maroon T-shirts with white lettering and teal T-shirts with white lettering. They are 100% cotton in sizes S, M, L, and XL, \$14.50. White with blue lettering T-shirt: #NVTW; blue with white lettering T-shirt: #NVTB; maroon with white lettering T-shirt: #NVTM; teal with white lettering T-shirt: #NVTT

Sweatshirts

The traditional blue and white sweatshirts are still available in 50/50 cotton/poly in sizes S, M, L, and XL. White with blue lettering sweatshirt: #NVSW, \$23.95; blue with white lettering sweatshirt: #NVSB, \$23.95



Symbolic Nevada

Its wearers prize it, and so will you. The Symbolic Nevada T-shirt showing the state's diverse attractions has been so popular in its original beige version that we decided to offer it in black, too. The image is printed on the front of a 100% cotton T-shirt, in sizes M, L, and XL, \$17.95; add \$2.00 for XXL. Neutral (beige) T-shirt, #SYMN; Black T-shirt, #SYMB



Historic Characters Nevada Magazine Classics

The third collector's limited edition contains some of NEVADA MAGAZINE's best stories on historic figures from Nevada's past—such as Mark Twain, Will James, Rex Bell, and Clara Bow. Order now because only 200 copies of these numbered, hardcover collector volumes will ever be made. #NMC3, \$39.95



Hold Ups

These suspenders, in red or blue, have a white NEVADA logo and sturdy leather crosspatch embossed with "Nevada Magazine, Bet on It!" Both sizes are adjustable. Regular suspenders: Blue, #SUSBR; Red, #SUSRR, \$14.00. Extra-long suspenders: Blue, #SUSBX; Red, #SUSRX, \$14.00

Bound Volumes - The Year in Review

All six exciting issues of NEVADA MAGAZINE for 1994 have been compiled in a collector's hardcover volume, and all six issues for 1995 will be available by December 1. These beautifully bound NEVADA MAGAZINES make a unique gift for collectors or a valuable addition to your library. They are bound in a red book cover with gold lettering and cost \$24.95 each. 1994 bound volume, #BV94; 1995 bound volume, #BV95



Nevada Writing Paper

It's finally here! A quick and easy way to find many of Nevada's official emblems—from the bristlecone pine to the tule duck decoy. The pen-and-ink illustrations were drawn by award-winning artist Brenda Locke-Knight of Carson City. Each 6-1/2" x 10" tablet contains 64 assorted pages, with 8 Nevada symbols alternating throughout. One notepad, \$3.50, #1NOTEP; or two for \$6.50, #2NOTEP



Nevada Magazine Index

Just let your fingers do the walking when you need to find that elusive Nevada story. All issues of NEVADA MAGAZINE from 1980 through 1993 have been indexed and printed in a handy spiral-bound index. #INDX, \$14.95

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1996 Nevada Historical Calendar

"I'm a fan of calendars, and I get dozens of them at year's end. But the one I prize the most and use daily is the **NEVADA MAGAZINE** Historical Calendar. I especially enjoy the rare photos of old Nevada."

—Ty Cobb, columnist for the Reno Gazette-Journal

The 1996 calendar has the usual large format and more priceless photos from Nevada's past, historical information, holidays, and current events. Order for yourself and for friends, neighbors, and relatives. #C96, \$7.75 (retail \$8.25)

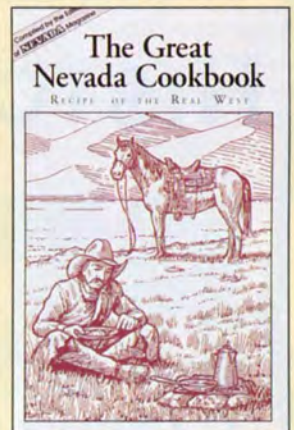
"The Great Nevada Ghost Town Kit"

The Nevada Ghost Town Map and "Nevada's Living Ghost Towns" have been such popular items that we have combined them for a special **NEVADA MAGAZINE** 60th anniversary offering. The map will help you locate mining camps that were once thriving cities and lists parks, museums, and vacation hot lines. The well-illustrated guidebook highlights the history and legends surrounding nine of Nevada's living ghost towns—ranging from Goldfield to Virginia City—with brief descriptions of another dozen. 32 pages, 5-1/2" x 8-1/2" format #GTK, \$8.95



"The Great Nevada Cookbook"

This sampler is filled to the brim with unique and wonderful Nevada recipes—from Dutch oven to Basque, from African-American to Greek, and a whole lot more. 32 pages, 5-1/2" x 8-1/2" format. #CB, \$4.95



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Letters

(Continued from page 7)

Library call 702-687-5154 or 800-922-9334.—Ed.

Going Downhill

I have taken this magazine since 1968 and am now retired from the State of Nevada. *Nevada Magazine* has gone so far downhill that two of my friends in California wanted me to stop sending it to them. The magazine is nothing but

an advertisement for what's showing in Las Vegas.

E. Butler
Nevada

Radio-Free Nevada

Congrats to Richard Moreno on his story "10 Great Loneliest Roads" in the May/June issue. I agree with him: Seeing cars on some roads is a long shot in some parts of Nevada.

Having traveled and stayed all over the Silver State as part of my job, I travel mostly where nobody but diehards even attempt to go.

Now that the road from Gerlach to Surprise Valley is paved the entire way, there are a lot more cars; there used to be just hunters and the daily hauls from Empire as well as an odd miner or two. My office mates say that the Coaldale to Oasis road is traveled more than they can remember in the past. Also the Lida Junction to Bishop—twice I did that and saw one car the whole trip.

There must be other criteria for evaluating lonely roads besides NDOT's car counters. (Ever see one of those on these roads?) How about the road from U.S. 95 to Paradise Valley, or the one from Golconda to Midas, or from Soldier Meadows to Vya, or the Gabbs cutoff to U.S. 50?

By and large, though, more and more people are going into what we still call "radio free Nevada."

Pete Perazzo
Las Vegas

Photographic Praise

I have been reading *Nevada Magazine* for many years. I am always excited by the brilliant work of the photographers. Also, I find the articles thought provoking.

Richard Soto Hernandez
San Francisco, CA

Bad Hare Day

I'm a loyal subscriber to *Nevada Magazine*, but I must point out an error on page E-4 in the Nevada Events and Shows section of the May/June issue.

It states, "Roger Ward's wonderful hair-brained idea." The story should have said, "hare-brained idea," meaning giddy, volatile, heedless. Of course, "hare" refers to the rabbit-like animal.

These words that sound alike can be tricky—word processors won't pick up the mistakes, so humans must be especially vigilant.

William H. Painter
Society for the Preservation of
English Language and Literature
(SPELL)
Las Vegas □


Nevada on the Net

Nevada Magazine now has an e-mail address for receiving your comments, letters, and editorial submissions.

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Riding on the River

Mountain bikers find pedal power on the Truckee River.

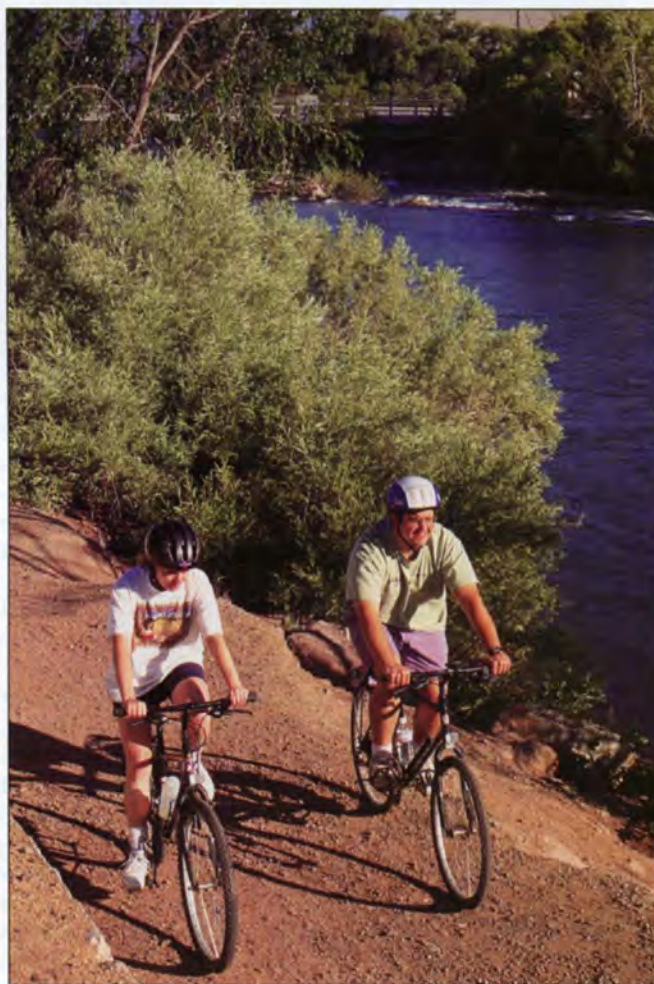
By Carolyn Graham

Mountain bikers who find themselves in need of a fat-tire fix in Reno can take a ride on the Truckee River Bike Path.

The paved trail follows the Truckee River for about nine miles and provides a great way to traverse the city while seeing a wide range of scenery. In downtown Reno, where the trail is also popular with walkers and rollerbladers, you are only a couple of blocks from Harrah's, Fitzgeralds, and other hotel-casinos. A few miles east or west, and you're pedaling quietly along the river past cow pastures and more than a dozen parks and playgrounds.

A good place to start is at the Truckee River Lodge on First Street across from Wingfield Park. The lodge rents mountain bikes for \$5 per hour or \$20 per day, including helmets (702-786-8888).

If you decide to pedal west from the lodge, the trail parallels the river through Idlewild Park, a grassy haven with ponds, a rose garden, and lots of greenery and wildlife (watch out for geese and ducks napping on the trail). Just beyond Idlewild a portion of the trail is posted for pedestrians only, so bicyclists are routed through several blocks of sleepy neighborhood streets. Once it picks up again, the path abounds with wild roses, bright-yellow aspens, songbirds, woodpeckers, and quail. Presently the trail dead-ends at West McCarran Boulevard, but there are plans to someday extend the



Bikers can explore the Truckee River path's scenic contrasts.

trail another 10 miles to Verdi.

Heading east from the lodge, the setting is decidedly more urban. Pedalers

is perhaps the best urban trail in the state for bicyclists. As you ride along the river, you might catch a jazz concert in a

park or marvel at the aspens draped in fall color. It's not a bad spot for a mountain biker caught in the city. □



Carolyn Graham, Nevada Magazine's associate editor, likes to explore Nevada trails on a mountain bike.

Dam Historic Places

Engineering wonders that hold back the tides of time.

By Richard Moreno

Hoover Dam is Nevada's most famous river barrier, but other dams in the state have historic foundations, too. In honor of Hoover's 60th birthday, following are some of the Silver State's most noteworthy dams.

1 Wild Horse Dam: There are two Wild Horse dams. The first was built in 1937 to store Owyhee River water to irrigate hay meadows on the Duck Valley Indian Reservation, 60 miles north of Elko. In 1969, a larger dam was built upstream from the original dam—which still stands beneath the waters of Wild Horse Reservoir.

2 Bishop Creek Dam: Originally called the Metropolis Dam, this structure was built in 1912 for the farming community of Metropolis, 20 miles north of Wells. But downstream farmers won a lawsuit contesting the dam, and it has never been used to its full potential. The dam's fill includes brick rubble from the 1906 San Francisco earthquake.

3 Angel Lake: Built in the 1880s, this dirt-and-rock barrier is one of the state's oldest dams and creates a picturesque alpine lake 12 miles south of Wells.

4 Cave Lake: The earthen dam creating this scenic lake is so low-profile that most visitors don't realize Cave Lake is a manmade reservoir. The lake was created by a rancher in the 1920s and enlarged in 1961 by the Nevada Division of State Parks. The state-record brown trout (27 pounds, five ounces) was caught here in 1984.

5 Beaver Dam: Beaver Dam State Park is 34 miles east of Caliente, 28 miles by dirt road. The park's namesake dam, built in 1961 to control flooding, is a plain, dirt wedge in a



The Bishop Creek Diversion Dam was built in 1912 as part of the ill-fated Metropolis Dam project.

beautiful piñon and juniper setting. Visitors can fish and boat on Schroeder Reservoir.

6 Davis Dam: With its blocky, angular design, this dirt-fill and concrete slab looks the way a dam ought to look. Located on the Colorado River, 67 miles downstream from Hoover Dam and a mile north of Laughlin, Davis Dam



Dam Sites

Nevada's historic dams are shown above.

was built from 1946 to 1953 and created Lake Mohave.

7 Lahontan Dam: This impressive concrete, earth, and rock dam has distinctive design touches, such as an elegant archway and suspension bridge leading to an outlet tower. Constructed in 1911-15 as part of the nation's first reclamation project, the dam captures water from the Truckee and Carson rivers and feeds it to Fallon farms.

8 Marlette Dam: Part of the oldest water system in Nevada, this dam was built on Marlette Lake, near Lake Tahoe, by a lumber

company in the 1860s. A series of flumes and pipelines was built in 1877 to carry Marlette's water to Virginia City. The system was one of the engineering marvels of the 19th-century West, transporting water down 2,700 feet to Washoe Valley, across the valley, and up 1,400 feet to Virginia City.

9 Tahoe City Dam: Sitting at the north end of Lake Tahoe, this dam is the spigot that pours water into the Truckee River, which provides nearly all the household water for Northwestern Nevada. Built from 1909 to 1913 despite vehement opposition from shoreline-property owners, the 14-foot concrete dam raised Tahoe's level more than six feet.

10 Rye Patch Dam: This squat, concrete dam was built on the Humboldt River in 1935-36 to store irrigation water for downstream Lovelock farmers. The dam takes its name from the large patches of wild rye that once grew in the area, providing an important food source for livestock on the Emigrant Trail. □

Richard Moreno is Nevada's publisher. His latest book is *The Nevada Trivia Book*, newly published by Gem Guides.

Your Home On The Range



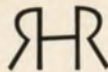
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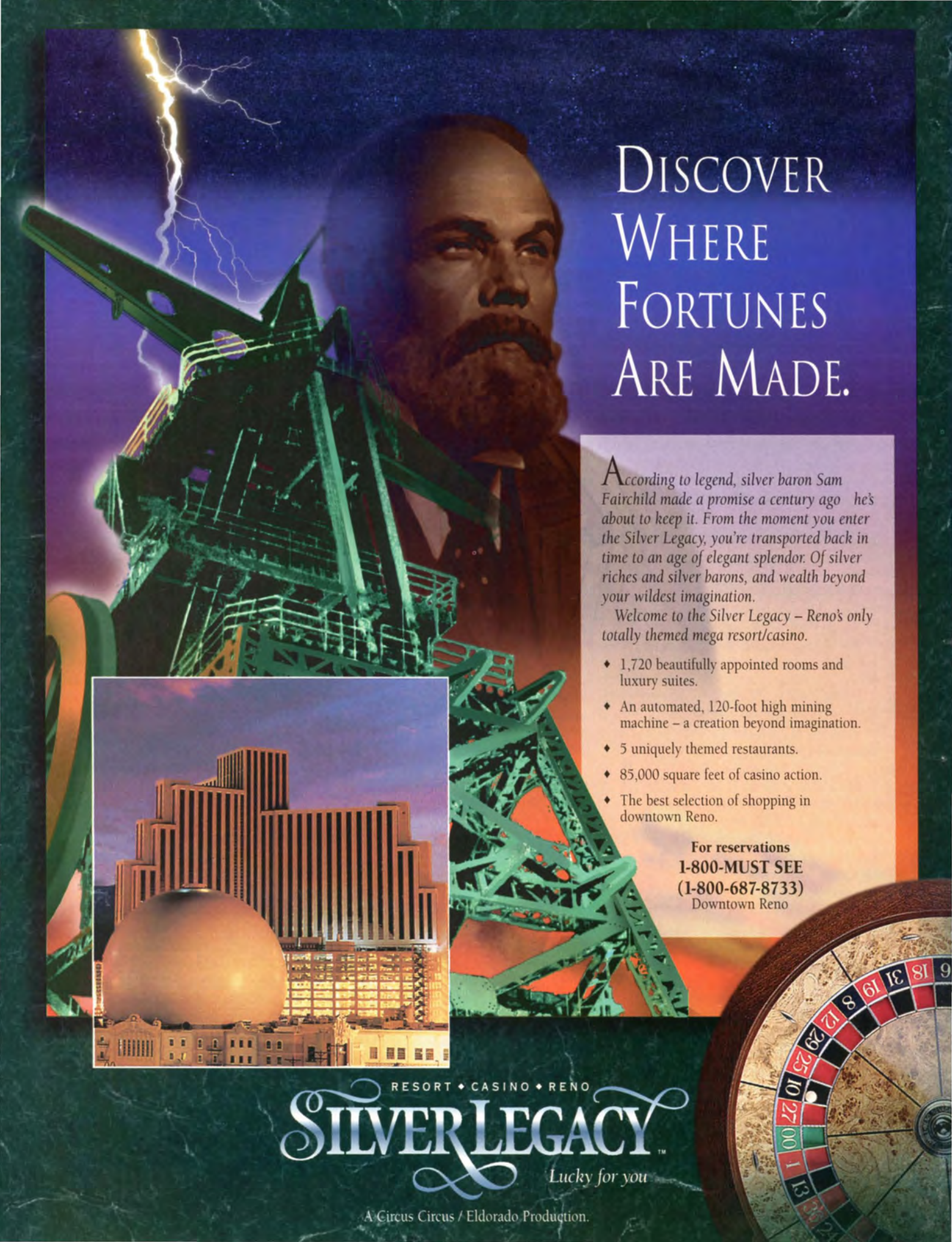
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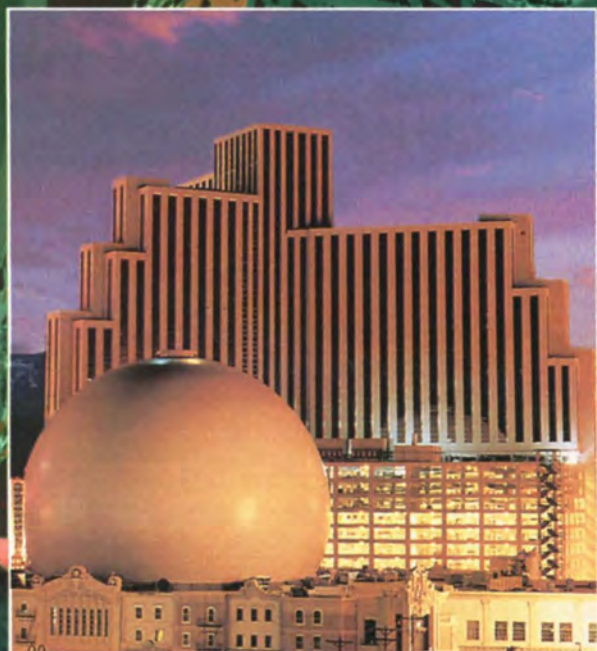
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NEVADA *Events & Shows*

Section of Nevada Magazine

September/October 1995

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Festivals Lift Off



Davis Cup:
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in Las Vegas

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Noah's Ark rises to the occasion
at the Great Reno Balloon Race

Gus Bower

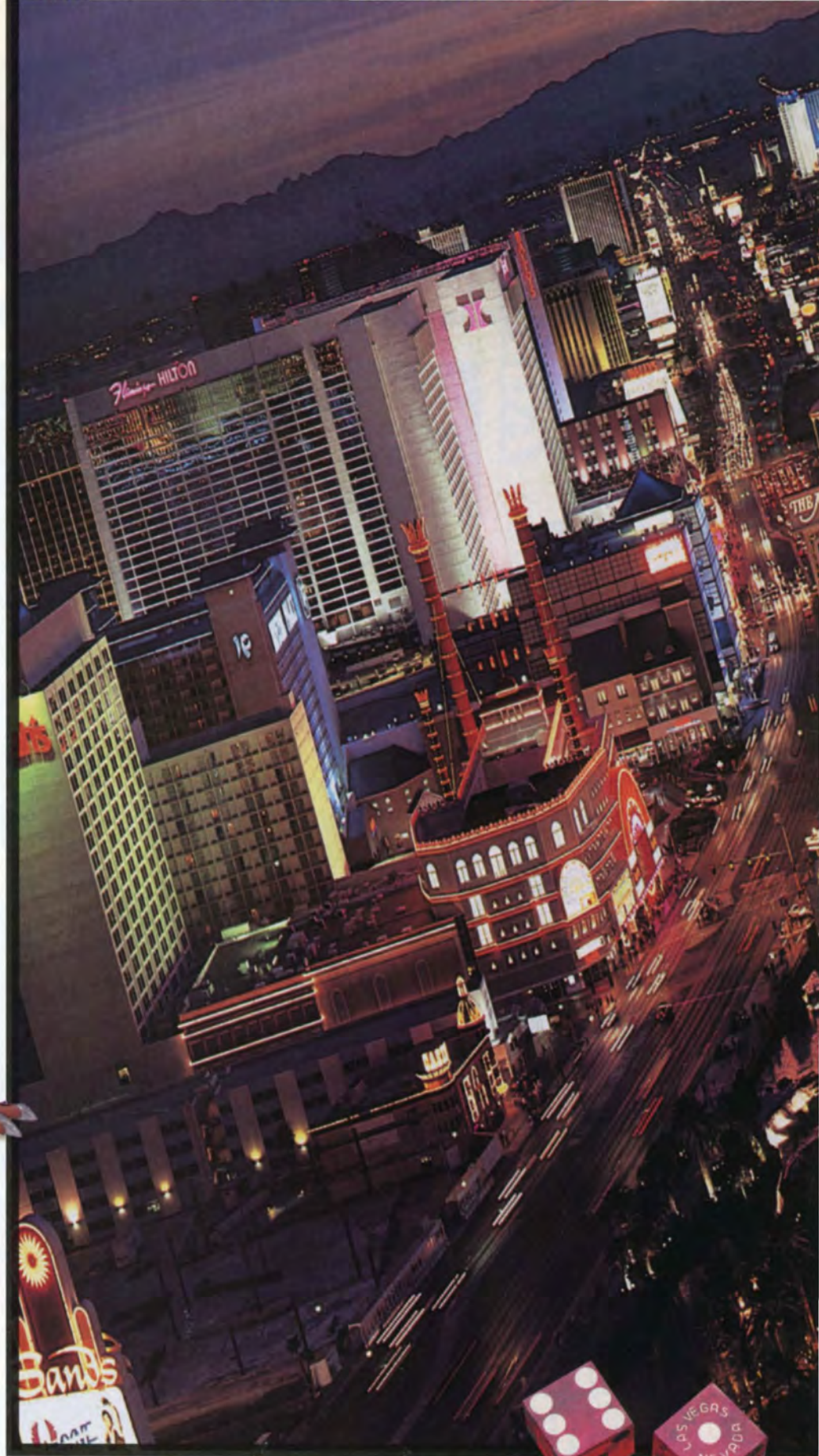
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The Navy's Blue Angels demonstrate their teamwork at the Fallon Air Show on October 14.

Eyes on the Skies

Aerial events give spectators a lift this fall

Las Vegas Balloons

Three days of food, entertainment, and colorful hot-air balloons will mark the third annual Las Vegas Balloon Classic, October 27-29 at Silver Bowl Park.

The first day of the event, Youth Day, will be devoted to activities for the younger set. There will be hot-air balloon demonstrations, hands-on aviation exhibits, a presentation by Stealth bomber pilot Dave Brown of Nellis Air Force Base, stories from the Las Vegas Story Tellers, and demonstrations by the Las Vegas Kite Club, Radio Control Club, and the Metro K-9 Unit. The



The Las Vegas Balloon Classic brings a rainbow of colors to Silver Bowl Park.

balloon competition begins Saturday morning and continues through Sun-

day with an event called "hare and hounds." The pilots try to maneuver their balloons directly over a spot on the ground that has been marked with an X and then try to hit the spot with a bean bag. The one who comes closest gets the most points. Organizer Betty McCreless expects 100 pilots and their crews to take part in this year's classic.

The event will have 150 craft booths and 14 food booths. Admission is free, and there is plenty of parking, according to McCreless. The balloons lift off each day at about 7 a.m., and the action lasts until 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 4 p.m. Sunday.

Silver Bowl Park is next to Sam Boyd Stadium at Boulder Highway and Rus-



A mass ascension of balloons floats overhead during the Great Reno Balloon Race, September 8-10.



RiverFlight '95 brings balloons to Laughlin, and warbirds zoom into Reno's National Championship Air Races.



sell Road. For more information call 702-434-0848.—Joan Patterson

Laughlin Gets Airborne

The excitement will be rising in Laughlin when more than 30 hot-air balloons soar over town during RiverFlight '95 on October 20-22. Balloon

pilots from California, Arizona, and New Mexico have been chosen to participate in the two-day rally, which will take them over the Mojave Desert and Colorado River. The launches will take place Saturday and Sunday at dawn from the large open area between the Gold River and Golden Nugget on Casino Drive. For more information on the event call 800-4-LAUGHLIN.

Reno Balloons and Aerial Aces

Billowy balloons, colorful and serene, slowly rise above a manicured park. One week later, the roar of piston-driven aircraft echoes over the high desert. The fun will literally be over your head in Reno on two successive week-

The colorful Dawn Patrol and mass ascension will easily make up for the early wake-up call.

ends in September during the Great Reno Balloon Race and the National Championship Air Races.

A good boost of adrenaline will help you get to Reno's Rancho San Rafael Park in the pre-dawn hours September 8-10. The colorful Dawn Patrol and mass ascension will easily make up for the early wake-up call. Nearly 150 balloons of all shapes and sizes will take off and land from the park north of downtown. Admission is free. Call 702-826-1181 for details.

If speed is your thing, the 32nd running of the National Championship Air Races takes place September 14-17. Four classes of closed-pylon racing, aerobatics, fly-bys, and static displays will keep the Reno-Stead Airport buzzing.

The 1995 races mark the return of the dazzling Canadian Snowbirds precision flying team. The Snowbirds will perform Friday through Sunday, making their first appearance in Reno since 1990. For information call 702-972-6663.—*Matt Bonaudi*

Fallon Air Show

The Navy's Blue Angels return this year to the Fallon Air Show on October 14 at Naval Air Station Fallon. The Blue Angels will be joined by other high-flying acts like the Army's Golden Knights Parachute Team. Spectators will be able to see Strike Warfare's Wall of Fire, a combat simulation between an F-5 and an F-18 Hornet, a helicopter demonstration, three civilian air shows, and the Marine Corps Silent Drill Team.

Air-show fans will have the chance to examine about 50 static displays, including an F-117 Stealth fighter jet, Aardvark fighter bomber, B-1 Bomber, F-14 Tomcat, and AH-64D Longbow Apache helicopter. There will be an RV show as well.

Admission and parking are free. However, special seating is available, and tickets for box seats and grandstand seats go on sale September 4. Chalets are available for groups of 25 or more for \$125. Call 702-423-4556 or 800-874-0903.—*Monie Byers*



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The Eagle Valley Muzzleloaders march in the Nevada Day parade in Carson City.

Nevada's Birthday Bash

The Silver State celebrates its 131st birthday on Nevada Day, October 31, with such festivities as mining contests and Victorian galas.

The highlight of the birthday bash in the capital city is the Nevada Day parade, a tradition in Carson City since 1938. The long procession of floats, marching bands, and clowns begins at 10 a.m.

Other events in Carson City will include a beard contest, World Championship Single Jack Rock Drilling Contest, Nevada Day Fun Run-Walk, Warren Engine Company No. 1 waterfights, and the RSVP annual Nevada Day carnival at Mills Park.

In Sparks the Nevada Statehood Victorian Grand Ball, October 21, will have a dance and a midnight supper.



Nevada celebrates 131 years of battle-born history with a parade on October 31.

Breakfast Cruise on Lake Mead. The cruise, which includes lectures on history and geology, departs at 8:30 a.m. October 28 and costs \$35 per person. In Elko Nevada Day is celebrated with a parade that begins at 11 a.m. and winds through downtown.

For additional information about Nevada Day festivities see the events listings.—Lorna McDaniel

The event, sponsored by the Nevada Civil War Volunteers, is \$20 per person, in advance.

In Carson City the Nevada Day 1864 Grand Ball will be October 28 at the Ormsby House. Attendees are encouraged to dress in period costumes.

In Southern Nevada you can catch the Silver State spirit aboard the *Desert Princess*, which offers the annual Nevada Day



Rail Day '95 is September 2 at the Nevada Northern Railway Museum in Ely.



Visitors can hop a train pulled by an historic steam locomotive during Nevada State Railroad Museum steam-ups.

Tracking Down History

Train buffs can ride the rails of history when Nevada steams up this fall with historic train rides and rail-related events.

In Ely the **Nevada Northern Railway Museum** will host Rail Day '95 on September 2. The annual event will feature a Battle of the Rails contest and a barbecue and street dance.

The Nevada Northern Railway also offers trips aboard the Ghost Train of Old Ely. Train tickets range from \$14 to \$18 for adults, \$12 to \$16 for juniors ages 12 to 18 and seniors, and \$6 to \$8 for ages five to 11. Admission to the museum, which offers daily tours, is \$2.50 for adults and is free for kids under 10. Train trips run through mid-October on Saturdays as well as on Sundays that fall on holiday weekends. For more information call 702-289-2085.

Visitors can make tracks to the narrated, three-and-a-half-mile tour of the Comstock aboard Virginia City's **Virginia and Truckee Railroad**. The train runs daily through September and on weekends in October. The train departs about every hour from 10:30 a.m. until 5:45 p.m. Tickets are \$4.50 for adults and \$2.25 for children ages five to 12. Call 702-847-0380.

In Carson City visitors can hop on an 1888 Cooke steam engine for a mile-and-a-half trek around the **Nevada State Railroad Museum**. Steam-ups are scheduled for September 2-4 and October 14-15. The price for the 30-minute ride is \$2.50 for adults, \$1 for ages six to 11, and children under five are free. The museum is open Wednesday through Sunday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Admission is \$2 for adults and free for children 18 and under. Call 702-687-6953.—Lorna McDaniel

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- Then enjoy a 90 min. breathtaking flight over the Grand Canyon. See Indian Villages, extinct volcanoes, plus much more.
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- See Indian Villages and extinct volcanoes.
- See the world's most colorful and unique rock formations at Scenic Grand Canyon.
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- Travel across majestic Hoover Dam.
- Ride through magnificent Black Canyon & Western Arizona
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OUR NO. 4 TOUR
GRAND CANYON ONE DAY BUS TOURS WEST RIM

- Narrated drive through stars homes, historic Boulder City & beautiful Lake Mead. • See Fortification Hill, extinct volcanoes, habitat of elusive wild bighorn sheep. • Travel across majestic Hoover Dam. • Ride through magnificent Black Canyon & Western Arizona desert to base of Grapevine, entrance to Indian Country. • See the world's most colorful & unique rock formations at scenic Grand Canyon. • Then enjoy a fabulous luncheon with a spectacular view. • Approximately 1 hour • After lunch it's time to relax and enjoy the scenery as you tour along the rim with many photo and view stops. • Hear tales & history of the Grand Canyon from our highly experienced tour guides.

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Las Vegas Territo-

EVENTS

September

- Las Vegas Strip Sign Artists**, thru Sept. 7, Green Valley Library Gallery, Las Vegas, 435-1840
- Great Duck Derby Adoptions**, thru Sept. 17, fundraiser in the Wave Pool at Wet 'N Wild on the Strip Sept. 17 Las Vegas, 431-2592
- Nevada Camera Club Citywide Slide Exhibition**, thru Sept. 17 12th annual, Spring Valley Library Gallery, Las Vegas, 368-4411
- Thunderstorm Detectives**, thru Sept. 17, hands-on exhibit, Lied Discovery Children's Museum, Las Vegas, 382-3445
- Fall Art Roundup**, thru Sept. 25, reception Sept. 3, Las Vegas Art Museum, 647-4300
- Alphabet Banners**, thru Oct. 15, large-scale fabric wall hangings by Ray Lawson, Whitney Library Gallery, Las Vegas, 454-4575
- People, Places, and Postscripts: Inside a Reporter's Notebook**, thru Nov. 14, b&w photos by Las Vegas reporter Art Nadler, Summerlin Library and Performing Arts Center, Las Vegas, 733-3601
- "Bats,"** thru Oct. 1996, exhibit featuring species common to Las Vegas Valley and the Spring Mountains, Nevada State Museum and Historical Society, Las Vegas, 486-5205
- Boulder City Chautauqua**, Sept. 8-9, Bicentennial Park, 294-6224
- Title Fight**, Sept. 9, Oscar De La Hoya defends his WBO lightweight title against WBA junior lightweight Genaro Hernandez, Caesars Palace, 731-7865 or 800-634-6698
- Celebration of the Arts**, Sept. 9-10, juried art show

TERRITORY MAP



Life is a merry-go-round at the carnival during the Las Vegas Jaycees State Fair

- featuring Nevada artists, music, children's activities, \$1 admission, Summerlin Library and Performing Arts Center, Las Vegas, 255-6645
- Age of Chivalry Renaissance Festival**, Sept. 9-10, live jousting, games, plays, fine feasting, artisans, Sunset Park, Las Vegas, 455-8200
- Living History Programs**, Sept. 9-10, 16, 24, and 30, talks and demonstrations about settling the West, Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 15 miles west of Las Vegas, 875-4141
- Sun, Sin, and Tin**, Sept. 14-16, 24th annual, hot-rod show, Southern Nevada Street Rod Assn., Hacienda, 873-0232 or 564-6585
- "Henry IV Part I,"** Sept. 15-17, ninth annual Nevada Shakespeare in the Park Festival, bring blankets and picnic dinner, Foxridge Park, Green Valley, 739-9933
- Las Vegas Mariachi Festival**, Sept. 16, fifth annual, appearances by Ballet Folklorico de San Juan and Mariachi Tlaquepaque, Theatre for the Performing Arts, Aladdin, 800-637-1006
- Natural History Hike**, Sept. 16, seven-mile hike circling White Rock Hill, Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area, 20 miles west of Las Vegas, 363-1921
- Walk for the Cure**, Sept. 16, 8am, 10K walk to benefit the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation, MGM Grand Adventures, 732-4795
- Walk into History II**, Sept. 16, 6:30pm, sunset stroll through historic Boulder City, 7:30pm street dance, Boulder City, 295-7777
- Pacific Island Festival**, Sept. 16-17 11am to 6pm,

- crafts, food, and entertainment from the Pacific Rim, Lorenzi Park, Las Vegas, 229-6383 or 229-6704
- Mexican Independence Celebration**, Sept. 17 15th annual, Mexican Drum and Bugle Corps and 14 other musical groups, Freedom Park, Las Vegas, 649-1198
- St. Petersburg Ballet**, Sept. 21, Galina Mezentseva of the Kirov Ballet stars with Nevada Dance Theatre, Artemus Ham Concert Hall, UNLV 895-3801 or 732-3838
- Davis Cup Tennis Semifinals**, Sept. 22-24, United States team lead by Andre Agassi and Pete Sampras against Sweden, Caesars Palace, 731-7865 or 800-634-6698
- Rattlin' Rails Handcar Races**, Sept. 22-24, five-person teams compete in 450-foot races on railroad handcars, Yucca Street Rail Yard, Boulder City, 293-2034
- Pioneer Days on the Old Spanish Trail**, Sept. 22-

Nevada Events & Shows

Nevada Events & Shows is a section of Nevada Magazine. To list an event, contact Events Editor Katherine McDonnell, 702-687-5416, FAX 702-687-6159, 1800 Hwy. 50 East, Ste. 200, Carson City, NV 89710. Subscription rates for Nevada Magazine are \$15.95 for one year, U.S.; \$21.95 Foreign. To subscribe call toll-free, 1-800-495-3281.

NIGHTLIFE

A Pair on Ice

Burt Lancon and Cindy Landry are sharp on and off the ice.

By Ann Henderson

Between them Burt Lancon and Cindy Landry, the ice skaters in the Stardust Hotel's "Enter the Night," have won 36 medals, including 21 gold, in national and world skating events. Last December they earned their latest medal, a silver in the pairs' competition at the U.S. Open Professional Figure Skating Championship.

Burt and Cindy's popularity and chemistry have helped make "Enter the Night" one of the best shows on the Las Vegas Strip. Their skating program is woven into the show's elaborately costumed "Zodiac" number. For six-and-a-half minutes the athletic pair performs lifts, spins, and throws—all on a 15-by-30-foot patch of ice. Their finale is a move Burt calls a "headbanger," in which he spins Cindy upside down—her head skimming one inch off the ice. Cindy says she has never hit her head, to which Burt adds, "It's my job to protect her."

Although the skaters have been partners for two years in the show, when they applied to enter last December's championship, it was the first time they had competed as a couple. "It had been seven years for me and two for Cindy since the last competition," Burt says. "We wanted to let the skating world know we were still around."

Cindy and Burt had less than a month to prepare their choreography, music, and costumes—a deadline they met with the help of "Enter the Night's" cast and crew

A three-time member of the U.S. World Figure Skating team and member of the 1984 Olympic team, Burt had toured with the Ice Capades until 1987 before joining "Lido de Paris," predecessor to "Enter the Night," which opened in 1991. The Vegas setting wasn't unusual for him. "I had always spent my summer vacations



Cindy and Burt skate in "Enter the Night."

in Las Vegas," says Burt, who also has won the U.S. Open Championship.

Two years after joining "Lido," when Burt needed a new partner to replace the retiring Tricia Burton, his coach put him in touch with Cindy. A two-time Canadian national pairs champion, Cindy had semi-retired from skating to spend time with family and friends. She was working in a restaurant when Burt called her sight unseen to ask, "Would you like to skate with me?"

Burt says they knew it was a perfect match five minutes after stepping on the ice at the Santa Fe Hotel's arena in Las Vegas.

"Our techniques were identical even though I'd been trained in California and Cindy in Canada," Burt says. Their personalities also clicked immediately

"We've been together for two years

and have not had one single fight," Cindy says, "although he was kinda irked at me the day I left my skates in my boyfriend's car, and we couldn't do the first show."

Offstage, the two trade good-natured insults. Cindy, 23, razzes the 34-year-old Burt about his approaching senility. In turn, Burt jumps in to answer when Cindy is asked what she likes to do in her spare time.

"She's taken up cooking," he kids. "Now she can combine two spices at a time."

Burt is an artist in his off hours. He creates items such as furniture and water fountains using mostly recycled metal. A self-described homebody, he also studies Eastern philosophy

Cindy spends time riding motorcycles or boating at Lake Mead with her boyfriend, Andy Marrone, who is a stuntman in Treasure Island's pirate show

Burt, who has had six skating partners, says he and Cindy have had serious discussions about their future. "I'll skate about another five years before I retire," he says. "I want Cindy to be my last partner."

As for Cindy, she says she doesn't want to skate with anyone else. After a thoughtful minute, she adds, "But I may have to. I'll be 28."

Cool Show

Burt Lancon and Cindy Landry skate in "Enter the Night" at the Stardust Hotel in Las Vegas. Show times are 7:30 and 10:30 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday and 8 p.m. Sunday and Monday (dark Tuesday). The price is \$27.65, which includes tax, tip, and two drinks. Call 702-732-6111 or 800-824-6033.

Ann Henderson is the Las Vegas representative for Nevada Magazine.

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- 27 Mesquite, 346-2902
- Las Vegas Jaycees State Fair**, Sept. 22-Oct. 1, carnival midway, livestock, exhibits, live performances, Cashman Field, Las Vegas, 457-8832
- Concert on the Lawn**, Sept. 23, Grammy award-winning reggae group Black Uhuru, Sunset Park, Las Vegas, 455-8242 or 455-8278
- Greek Food Festival**, Sept. 23-24, 23rd annual, folk dances, games, Greek bazaar, St. John's Greek Orthodox Church, Las Vegas, 221-8245
- Horse Show**, Sept. 23-24, Clark County Horseman's Park, Las Vegas, 658-1543
- Hoover Dam Days and Festival of Pride**, Sept. 23-24, Boulder City, 294-1988
- "The Misanthrope,"** Sept. 28-30, 8pm, Molière's 17th-century comedy, University Theatre group, Judy Bayley Theatre, UNLV, 895-3801
- Fantasy '95: Jewel of the Nile**, Sept. 29, annual dinner for Lied Discovery Children's Museum, dance, silent auction, performance by Los Angeles dance troupe Le Masquerade, Caesars Palace, 382-3445
- SilverCon 4**, Sept. 29-Oct. 1, general-interest science fiction convention, Best Western Mardi Gras Inn, Las Vegas, 896-6338
- Oktoberfest**, Sept. 29-Oct. 2, foods, arts and crafts, polka band, gifts, Ramada Express, Laughlin, 298-6231
- Grand Slam for Children**, Sept. 30, black-tie dinner, concert by Elton John and Michael Bolton, Andre Agassi Foundation benefit, MGM Grand Garden, 228-0222

October

- "The Misanthrope,"** Oct. 1 and 4-8, Molière, Judy Bayley Theatre, UNLV, 895-3801
- Central Ballet of China**, Oct. 2, Artemus Ham Concert Hall, UNLV 895-3801
- "The Odyssey,"** Oct. 6-8 and 13-15, play based on Greek mythology, Sammy Davis, Jr. Festival Plaza, Lorenzi Park, Las Vegas, 229-6553
- Art in the Park**, Oct. 7-8, fine art and crafts exhibit and sale, Boulder City Hospital fundraiser, Bicentennial Park, 294-1611
- Black Canyon Canoe Trip**, Oct. 7-8, Clark County Parks and Recreation, 455-8289
- Living History Programs**, Oct. 7-8, 14-15, 21-22, and 28-29, talks and demonstrations about settling the West, Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 875-4141
- Columbus Day Parade and Block Party**, Oct. 9, downtown Las Vegas, 736-4293
- Mesquite Arts Festival and Concert Series**, Oct. 11-14, art fair, Ballet Folklorico de San Juan Oct. 11, Irish folk music, puppet and magic shows, "Jack and the Beanstalk" Oct. 14, Virgin Valley High School, Mesquite, 346-ARTS
- Las Vegas Invitational Golf Tournament**, Oct. 11-15, 13th annual, PGA tour event, Tournament Player's Club at Summerlin, Las Vegas Country Club, and Las Vegas Hilton Country Club, Las Vegas, 382-6616
- Bluegrass and Old Time Music Festival**, Oct. 13-15, crafts and food, camping available, fairgrounds, Logandale, 564-5455
- Henderson Expo**, Oct. 13-15, home show, food booths, carnival, convention center, 565-8951
- Pro Bull Riders World Championship**, Oct. 13-15, tickets \$18, \$24, and \$30, MGM Grand Garden, 474-4000 or 800-929-1111
- MGM Scream Park 1995: The Nightmare Continues**, Oct. 13-31, 8pm-1am, MGM Grand Adventures theme park celebrates Halloween, 891-7979
- A Soldier's Life/Civilian Life, 1863**, Oct. 14-15, 11am to 2pm, working encampment, South-

- ern Nevada Civil War Historical Society, Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 15 miles west of Las Vegas, 737-0500
- Las Vegas Basque Festival**, Oct. 14-15, family picnic and noon Mass on Sun., dancing, chorizos for sale, weightlifters, bota bag contest, irrintzi, St. Viator Community Center, Las Vegas, 361-6458 or 247-1292
- Los Angeles Lakers v. Charlotte Hornets**, Oct. 17, NBA preseason game, Thomas and Mack Center, Las Vegas, 895-3900
- Bolshoi Symphony Orchestra**, Oct. 18, Artemus Ham Concert Hall, UNLV 895-3801
- Carmina Burana**, Oct. 19-22, contemporary ballet by David Chavez, former dancer and choreographer for Juliet Prowse, Nevada Dance Theatre, Judy Bayley Theatre, UNLV 895-3801
- Laughlin RiverFlight '95**, Oct. 20-22, balloon races and rally, 800-4-LAUGHLIN
- Creature Feature**, Oct. 21, daytime Halloween event, Freedom Park, Las Vegas, 229-6729
- Gem and Mineral Fair**, Oct. 21-22, Clark County Heritage Museum, Henderson, 455-7955
- Pueblo at Summerlin Fine Arts Select Craft Show**, Oct. 21-22, Las Vegas, 382-7422
- Loose Ties Bluegrass Concert**, Oct. 26, Virgin



Central Ballet of China dances "Giselle" October 2 at Artemus Ham Concert Hall.

- Valley High School, Mesquite, 346-2787
- R.E.M. Concert**, Oct. 27, Thomas and Mack Center, Las Vegas, 895-3900
- Las Vegas Balloon Classic**, Oct. 27-29, 100 hot-air balloons compete for Nevada "Silver State" Championship starting at sunrise, Classic Balloon Glow 6pm Sat., beer garden, vintage car show, Silver Bowl Park, Las Vegas, 434-0848
- Colorado Belle Dam River Run**, Oct. 28, 7am, eight-mile run, Children's Miracle Network benefit, Laughlin, 383-2326
- Nevada Day Breakfast Cruise IV**, Oct. 28, cruise Lake Mead on the sternwheeler *Desert Princess*, discuss area geology and history, Clark County Heritage Museum, Henderson, 455-7955
- Denver Nuggets v. Atlanta Hawks**, Oct. 28, NBA preseason game, Thomas and Mack Center, Las Vegas, 895-3900
- The Auction '95**, Oct. 28-29, classic and collector car auction, Imperial Palace, 794-3261 or 510-736-0695
- Horse Show**, Oct. 28-29, Clark County Horseman's Park, Las Vegas, 658-1543
- Oktoberfest**, Oct. 29-30, beer and bratwurst, Bicentennial Park, Boulder City, 293-2034
- World Championship Boxing**, Sept. 16, four fights on Pay Per View, Mirage, 800-75-FIGHT

PREVIEW

Sci-Fi Festival

Like other science-fiction conventions, SilverCon 4 in Las Vegas aspires to be out of this world.

Fun, enlightening, and weird (a self-description by those in the sci-fi field), such cons (conventions) allow fans, authors, editors, and publishers to meet, talk, and create interest in science fiction.

SilverCon 4, the premier SF convention in the state, will be held by the Southern Nevada Area Fantasy and Fiction Union (SNAFFU) from September 29 to October 1 at the Best Western Mardi Gras Inn in Las Vegas. SilverCon, named for Nevada, the Silver State, is part of a nationwide network of sci-fi conventions.

This year's guests will be Joe

Haldeman, author of more than 10 novels and 40 short stories, including the award-winning *The Forever War*, and Bob "Wilson" Tucker, editor of the fanzine *La Zombia*.

A regular high point at cons is filking (song parodies, SF-style). Fans test their best Arlo Guthrie ("Alice's Nutrition Unit") or Bob Dylan ("Glowing in the Wind") with SF and fantasy lyrics. There will be live-action role-playing games, a costume contest, masquerade ball, medieval swordplay, stargazing, and a banquet. At the heart of activities is the Huckster's Room, where you can find anything from the latest *Star Trek* paraphernalia to rare comic books.

The cost for all three days of Sil-



Rare comics will be traded and sold at SilverCon 4, September 29-October 1.

verCon 4 is \$20 with registration by September 28, \$25 at the door, or \$15 per day. Call Aileen Forman at SNAFFU, 702-896-6338, for more information.—John Ellis



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PREVIEW

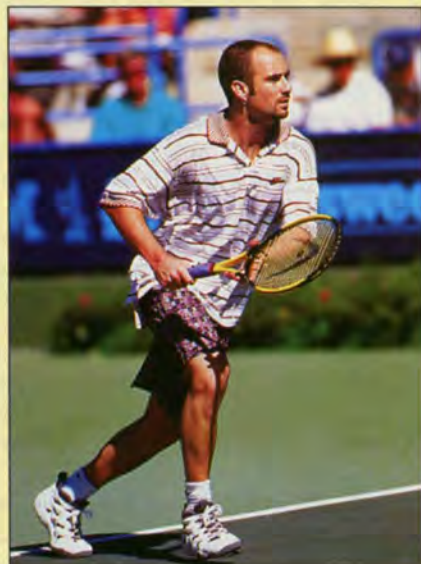
**A Lot of Racket:
Davis Cup in Vegas**

Las Vegas hosts the Davis Cup semifinals tennis tournament September 22-24, when the top men's tennis players in the United States meet the defending-champion Swedish team at Caesars Palace's 13,500-seat outdoor stadium.

Las Vegas native Andre Agassi, ranked No. 1 in the world, and No. 2-ranked Pete Sampras are expected to compete in singles for the U.S. against Sweden's Stefan Edberg, a former top-ranked player, and Magnus Larsson, who is climbing in the rankings. Agassi and Sampras led the U.S. to victory against Italy in the Davis Cup quarterfinals last April.

Contested since 1900, the Davis Cup is the most prestigious team competition in men's tennis. In cup play, each series consists of four singles matches and one doubles.

During the Davis Cup's first visit to Las Vegas, tickets will be \$30, \$60, \$100, and \$125 for each day. They



Andre Agassi competes in Davis Cup.

are available by calling 702-731-7855 or 800-634-6698 or by visiting the Caesars Palace box office.—Paul Bauman

SHOWGUIDE

The Las Vegas area offers big-name entertainment and production shows at many clubs and hotels. Bill Cosby is coming to The Mirage, and Tanya Tucker plays Caesars Palace. Showrooms often fill fast, so call ahead for show times and reservations.

Boulder City

Gold Strike Inn, between Boulder City and Hoover Dam, 293-5000 or 800-245-6380: Entertainment Thurs.-Sun.

Jean

Gold Strike Hotel, 477-5000 or 800-634-1359: Bands play (dark Tues.)
Nevada Landing, 387-5000 or 800-628-6682: Live entertainment (dark Wed.)

Las Vegas

Aladdin, 736-0240: "Country Tonite," revue (dark Tues.); *Theatre for the Performing Arts*: R.E.O. Speedwagon, Fleetwood Mac, and Pat Benatar, Sept. 1; Mariachi Festival, Sept. 16; "West Side Story," Oct. 9-15
Arizona Charlie's, 258-5100: "Naughty Lady Revue" (dark Mon.); *Palace Grand Theatre*: Eddie Palmeri and Tropical Splash, Sept. 10; Tower

of Power, Sept. 26

Bally's, 739-4567 or 800-237-SHOW: *Jubilee Theatre*: "Jubilee!" (dark Fri.); George Carlin thru Sept. 6; Harry Blackstone, Sept. 7-13; Louie Anderson, Sept. 14-27; Jose Luis Rodriguez (El Puma), Sept. 14-16; Bernadette Peters, Sept. 28-Oct. 4; Engelbert Humperdinck, Oct. 5-11; Paul Anka, Oct. 12-18; David Lee Roth, Oct. 19-25; Penn and Teller, Oct. 26-Nov. 18; bands play nightly in the *Panda Lounge*

Boomtown, 263-0777 or 800-588-7711: *Rattlesnake Ricky's Lounge*: "Belles of the West" (dark Mon.); *Opera House Theatre*: Bellamy Brothers, Sept. 20; Marty Stuart, Oct. 25

Boulder Station, 432-7777 or 800-683-7777: *Railhead Saloon*: Dance bands; piano music in the *Lobby Bar*

Bourbon Street, 737-7200: *Basin Street Lounge*: Entertainment nightly (dark Mon.)

Caesars Palace, 731-7333 or 800-445-4544: Natalie Cole, thru Sept. 3; Ray Charles, Sept. 28-Oct. 1; Tanya Tucker, Oct. 5-8; Johnny Mathis, Oct. 19-22; Julio Iglesias, Oct. 24-29

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

Continental, 737-5555: Huck Daniels Revue (dark Tues. and Sun.); Jazz Jam Session, Mon.

Debbie Reynolds Hollywood Hotel, 733-2243 or 800-633-1777: *Star Theatre*: Debbie Reynolds and the Uptown Country Singers

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Eldorado, Henderson, 564-1811: *Margaritaville Lounge*: Bands include Fast Company
Excalibur, 597-7600: "King Arthur's Tournament," nightly; "A Symphony in White" starring the Royal Lipizzaner Stallions, noon Sat.-Sun., 2pm Mon.-Tues. and Thurs.-Fri.; *Wild Bills Saloon and Steakhouse*: Country Knights; Electric Cowboy Band, thru July 9; *Jumpin' Boots*, July 11-Aug. 6; entertainment in *Minsrel's Theatre Lounge*; free entertainment 10am-10pm on *Court Jester's Stage*
Fitzgeralds, 388-2400 or 800-274-LUCK (U.S. outside Nevada): *Main Casino Lounge*: Don Cloe and Anthony Micco (dark Thurs.)
Flamingo Hilton, 733-3333: *Flamingo Showroom*: "The Great Radio City Spectacular" with the Rockettes (dark Fri.); *Bugsy's Celebrity Theatre*: "Forever in Plaid," musical revue (dark Thurs.)
Four Queens, 385-4011 or 800-634-6045: Monday Night Jazz; "Four at Four," tap variety show, 4pm on the fourth Thurs. of every month; karaoke, Tues.-Sun.
Gold Coast, 367-7111: *East Lounge*: Sorta Dixie Jazz Band, noon-6pm, bands play 9pm-3am; *West Lounge*: Entertainment 10pm-4am; *Dance Hall*: Shake, Rattle and Roll thru Sept. 19; Gold Coast Orchestra, Sept. 20-Oct. 2; western bands, Oct. 4-Nov. 6; ballroom dancing with deejay Larry Taylor, 7:30pm-1:30am Tues. and 1-5pm Sun.
Golden Nugget, 386-8100: "Country Fever," look-alike variety revue (dark Fri.)
Hacienda, 739-8911: Music in the *Bolero Lounge*, 8pm-2am Tues. thru Sun.
Hard Rock Hotel, 800-HARD-ROCK: *The Joint*: General Public, Sept. 7; Ziggy Marley, Sept. 8; Little Feat, Sept. 9
Harrah's Las Vegas, 369-5222 or 800-392-9002: "Spellbound: A Concert of Illusion" (dark Sun.); "The Improv at Harrah's" (dark Mon.); bands play 8pm-2am Sun.-Thurs., karaoke, Fri.-Mon. at the *Court of Two Gators*
Imperial Palace, 794-3261 or 800-351-7400: "Legends in Concert," look-alike musical revue (dark Sun.)
Jackie Gaughan's Plaza, 386-2464 or 800-634-6575 (U.S. outside Nevada): "Hot Rockin' Country," adult revue (dark Tues.)
Joker's Wild, Henderson, 564-8100: Karaoke on Tues.; entertainment Wed.-Sun.
King 8 Hotel, 736-8988: Bands play nightly except Mon.
Lady Luck, 477-3000 or 800-523-9582: "Melinda, the First Lady of Magic" (dark Mon.); "Lady Luck Luau," Polynesian revue, Mon.
Las Vegas Hilton, 732-5755 or 800-STARLIGHT: Andrew Lloyd Webber's "Starlight Express" (dark Mon.); *The Nightclub*: Kristine W and the Sting and The Emeralds (dark Thurs.)
Luxor, 262-4000 or 800-288-1000: *Nefertiti's Lounge*: "American Superstars," musical revue (dark Sun.)
Maxim, 731-4300 or 800-634-6987: "Comedy Max," comedy nightclub; "Comedy Magic," 1 and 3pm
MGM Grand, 891-7777 or 800-929-1111: *Grand Theatre*: "EFX" starring Michael Crawford; *Hollywood Theatre*: Randy Travis, Sept. 1-3; Don Rickles, Sept. 14-20; Righteous Brothers, Sept. 21-Oct. 11; Sheena Easton, Oct. 12-25; Tom Jones, Oct. 26-31; *MGM Garden*: Agassi Foundation Fundraiser, Sept. 30; Pro Bull Riders World Championship, Oct. 13-15; *Center Stage Lounge*: "Catch a Rising Star," comedy-variety club
The Mirage, 792-7777: *Siegfried and Roy Theater*: Siegfried and Roy, magic spectacular (dark

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LAS VEGAS

Wed.); Bill Cosby, Sept. 29-Oct. 3

O'Sheas Hilton, 737-1343: "That's Magic," 2, 3, and 4pm (dark Sun.)

Palace Station, 367-2411 or 800-634-3101: Dance to bands nightly

Rio, 252-7776 or 800-888-0400: *Copacabana Supper Club Theater*: "Copacabana Dinner Show," revue; *Club Rio*: Dance-video nightclub, Wed.-Sat.

Riviera, 794-9301 or 477-5274: *Versailles Theatre*: Jeff Kutash's "Splash II," nightly; *Mardi Gras Plaza*: "An Evening at La Cage," revue (dark Tues.); *Mardi Gras Plaza*: "Crazy Girls: Sensuality, Passion, and Pudgy!" revue (dark Mon.); *Riviera Comedy Club*, comedians; *Le Bistro Lounge*: Jazz on the Strip, Mon.; *Grand Ballroom*: Disco Dance Party with Sister Sledge and Evelyn Champagne King, Sept. 15-16

Sahara, 737-2515: *Congo Theatre*: "Boylesque," starring Kenny Kerr (dark Thurs.); "Beehive," music of the '60s (dark Thurs.); entertainment in the *Casbar Lounge*

Sam's Town, 454-8048: *Western Dance Hall*: Bands play 9pm-3am; *Roxie's Lounge*: Entertainment till 6am

Sands, 733-5453 or 800-446-4678: *Copa Room*: Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons, thru Sept. 9 (dark Mon.); "Viva Las Vegas!" 1 and 3:30pm weekdays

San Remo, 597-6028 or 800-897-SHOW: "Comedy Cabaret"; bands play in the *Winner's Circle Lounge*

Santa Fe, 658-4900: Live entertainment in the *Ice Lounge*

Sheraton Desert Inn, 733-4566 or 800-634-6909: *Crystal Room*: "Sugar Babies," thru Sept. 3; *Starlight Theatre*: Bob Anderson, thru July 9; Keely Smith, Sam Butera and the Wildest, July 11-Sept. 3; Bob Anderson, Sept. 4-Oct. 15

Showboat, 385-9123 or 800-634-3484: Entertainment in the *Carnival Room* (dark thru December)

Stardust, 732-6111 or 800-824-6033: "Enter the Night" (dark Tues.); bands play in the *Starlight Lounge*

Treasure Island, 894-7111: "Mystère," circus theater (dark Mon.-Tues. and Oct. 11-12)

Tropicana, 739-2411: *Tiffany Theatre*: "Folies Bergere" (dark Thurs.); Zaji, Acrobats of China, 2pm (dark Tues.); *Comedy Stop Theatre*: "Comedy Stop"; bands play in the *Atrium Lounge*

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

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

Laughlin

Avi Casino, 535-5555

SPORTS DATES

Las Vegas Dustdevils: Indoor soccer, Sept. 8 v. San Jose Grizzlies, Sept. 17 v. Portland Pride, Sept. 23 v. Sacramento Knights, Thomas and Mack Center, UNLV 895-3900

UNLV Football: Sept. 9 v. Arkansas State, Sept. 30 v. Hawaii, Nov. 1 v. Utah State, Nov. 4 v. North Texas, Nov. 18 v. New Mexico State, Sam Boyd Stadium, 739-3900

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HOTELS

Casino Notes

Country Time: The Aladdin's show-room revue, "Country Tonite," has been named "Best Live Country Show" for the second consecutive year by the Country Music Associations of America.

Taking a Ride: Las Vegas visitors are saving shoe leather by taking the free monorail that covers the mile between Bally's and MGM Grand. The ride takes three and a half minutes.

Grand Gate: The MGM Grand Garden, which hosted 68 events grossing \$49.5 million, the second-highest grossing arena after Madison Square Garden, was recognized in *Performance Magazine* as 1994's "New Venue of the Year."

Monsters and Mazes: For the Halloween season, MGM Grand Adventures is opening its Scream Park 1995:

The Nightmare Continues. The theme park will be transformed October 13-31 into a ghoulish thrill venue with a maze called Nightmare Alley, spooky shows, and a cast of creepy characters who will walk the park's streets.

Lucky Seven: Palace Station and its sister property, Boulder Station, were named "Best of Las Vegas" in seven categories—three restaurants and four gaming-related categories—in the *Las Vegas Review-Journal's* annual readers' poll.

Chip Off the Old Block: A gaming chip honoring Vegas Vic, Fremont Street's neon ambassador, is being added to the collection of more than 3,000 chips on display in the Pioneer Club's Nevada Gold Museum.

Fun Show: Audiences at the Sahara are digging the talented singers who



"Beehive" buzzes at the Sahara.

bring the '60s alive in "Beehive," a high-energy send-up of music, awful bouffant hairdos, and pastel polyester clothes.

Everybody's Surfin' Now: Internet browsers can find the Tropicana Hotel via the Internet on the World Wide Web. The home page is accessible at <http://tropicana.lv.com/>

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LAS VEGAS

Colorado Belle, 298-4000: Free entertainment nightly except Mon.

Edgewater, 298-2453: Bands play nightly
Flamingo Hilton Laughlin, 298-5111 or 800-352-6464: "Jukebox Giants"

Gold River, 298-2242 or 800-835-7904: Free entertainment nightly; free line-dance lessons, Tues.; *Palace Theatre*: Gold River Honky Tonk nightly

Golden Nugget Laughlin, 298-7111 or 800-237-1739: Entertainment nightly

Harrah's Laughlin, 298-4600 or 800-447-8700: *Club La Bamba*: Entertainment includes Mark O'Toole and Western Rain (dark Mon.)

Ramada Express, 298-4200: Music nightly
Regency, 298-2439

Riverside Resort, 298-2535 or 800-227-3849 ext. 616: "Legends in Concert," thru Oct. 5; Bill Medley, Oct. 12-14; Freddy Fender, Oct. 19-22; Ray Price, Oct. 29-Nov. 1; *Western Ballroom*: Dancing to live bands (dark Mon.)

Mesquite

Players Island, 346-7529: "Island Fever," musical revue

Si Redd's Oasis Resort, 346-5232: Show bands including the Coasters, Sept. 18-Oct. 1 and Del Vikings, Oct. 16-Nov. 5

Virgin River, 346-7777 or 800-346-7721: Entertainment Tues.-Sat.

North Las Vegas

Fiesta Casino, 631-7000: Live entertainment in the *Cantina Bar*; Mariachis, 10:30am-2:30pm Sun.; Mexican Independence Day Celebration under the big top, Sept. 15-17

Texas Gambling Hall, 631-1000: Country bands play in the *Armadillo Honky Tonk Lounge*

State Line

Buffalo Bill's, 382-1111: Big-name entertainment plays in the *Star of the Desert Arena* monthly; *Carolee's Theatre*: "Primadonna Comedy Club"
Primadonna, 382-1212 or 800-826-4471: "Heroes of Rock 'n' Roll," thru Sept. 30

Whiskey Pete's, 382-1212 or 800-367-7383: Vaudeville Follies, thru Jan. 17

GAMING TOURNAMENTS

September

Cash Caravan Slots, Sept. 4-6, Tropicana, 739-2614 or 800-521-8767

Slots, Blackjack, and Video Poker, Sept. 4-7, Ramada Express, Laughlin, 298-6231

\$200,000 Fall Fiesta Twin Stakes Slots, Sept. 5-8, Sands, 733-5542

Slots, Sept. 10 and 17, Flamingo Hilton, 733-3117 or 800-225-4882

Slots, Sept. 11-12, Excalibur, 597-7777

Hawaiian Holiday Slots, Sept. 14-17, Fitzgeralds, 388-2136 or 800-678-LUCK

September Fiesta Slots, Sept. 14-17, Riviera, 794-9424

Puttin' on the Ritz and Glitz Slots, Sept. 15-17, Imperial Palace, 794-3114

September Slots, Sept. 17-20, Sheraton Desert Inn, 733-4488

Slots, Sept. 17-20, Hacienda, 739-8911 or 800-843-2637

October

Gold Rush Games Slots, Oct. 1-3, Imperial Palace,



Bernadette Peters performs September 28-October 4 at Bally's in Las Vegas.

794-3114

Monte Carlo Slots, Oct. 1-4, MGM Grand, 891-7488 or 800-929-9410

Autumn Gold Video Poker, Oct. 1-4, Tropicana, 739-2614 or 800-521-8767

Triple Spin Slots, Oct. 1-5, Riviera, 794-9424

Emperors Extravaganza Slots, Oct. 6-9, Caesars Palace, 731-7485 or 800-262-2502

ATTRACTIONS, TOURS & MUSEUMS

Boulder City

Black Canyon River Raft Tours: 293-3776

Boulder City Historic District: Walking tour, 1497 Nevada Hwy., 293-2034

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

Hoover Dam: Tours, U.S. 93, 293-8367

Hoover Dam Center: Theaters, exhibit hall, 293-8000 or 293-8419

Lake Mead Cruises/Desert Princess: 293-6180

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

Henderson

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

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

Escape the City Streets: Mountain bike tours, 800-596-2953

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

Green Valley Outdoor Sculpture Museum Information Center: Driving tour, 458-8855

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

Mountasia Family Fun Center: 2050 Olympic Ave., 454-4386

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

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Boomtown: Pan for gold, I-15, 263-7777
Forum Shops at Caesars: 893-4800
Desert Demonstration Gardens: Tours, 3701 W. Alta, 258-3205
Excalibur: Motion machines, 597-7700
Floyd Lamb State Park: Ponds, 9200 Tule Springs Rd., 486-5413
FunTazmic: 4975 Polaris, 795-4FUN
Grand Slam Canyon: Adventure park, next to Circus Circus, 800-444-CIRCUS
Guinness World of Records Museum: 2780 Las Vegas Blvd. S., 792-3766
Hard Rock Hotel and Casino: Music memorabilia, 693-5000
Holy Cow! Casino: Brewery tours, 732-2697
Imperial Palace Auto Collection: 794-3174
Las Vegas Art Museum: Lorenzi Park, 3333 W. Washington Ave., 647-4300
Las Vegas Mini Gran Prix: 1401 N. Rainbow Blvd., 259-7000
Las Vegas Natural History Museum: 900 Las Vegas Blvd. N., 384-DINO
Liberace Museum: 1775 E. Tropicana, 798-5595
Lied Discovery Children's Museum: 833 Las Vegas Blvd. N., 382-KIDS
Luxor: King Tut's Tomb, boat ride, 262-4000
MGM Grand Adventures: Theme park, 891-7979
Magic and Movie Hall of Fame: O'Sheas, 737-1343
Marjorie Barrick Museum of Natural History: UNLV 895-3381
Mirage: Dolphins, erupting volcano, 791-7111
Mount Charleston: Recreation info., 222-1597
Nevada State Museum and Historical Society: Lorenzi Park, 700 Twin Lakes Dr., 486-5205
Old Las Vegas Mormon Fort: 908 Las Vegas Blvd. N. at Washington (enter from Cashman parking lot B only), state historic park, 486-3511
Omnimax Theatre: Caesars Palace, 731-7900
Planet Hollywood: Movie memorabilia, Caesars Palace, 791-7827
Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area: 363-1921
Southern Nevada Zoological Park: 1775 N. Rancho Dr., 648-5955
Spring Mountain Ranch State Park: Red Rock Canyon, 875-4141
Sunset Stamped: Water and laser show, Sam's Town, 456-7777
Thrill Climbers: Rock climbing on artificial surface, 810 Circus Circus Dr., 699-5710
Treasure Island: Pirate battle, 894-7111
Wet 'n Wild: 2601 Las Vegas Blvd. S., 737-SURF

Laughlin

- Lake Mohave Resort:** 602-754-3245
Riverside Resort: Classic car showroom and antique slots, 298-2535

Mesquite

- Desert Valley Museum:** 346-5705
Arvada Gun Club: 346-5232 ext. 3729

Overton

- Lost City Museum of Archaeology:** 397-2193
Valley of Fire State Park: 397-2088

State Line

- Buffalo Bill's:** Roller coaster, 382-1111

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

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Reno-Tahoe Territory

TERRITORY MAP



Camels and jockeys meet the Old West at Virginia City's Camel Races September 8-10.

EVENTS

September

Kit Carson Trail Days, thru Sept. 2, weekly Sat. tour of historic district, meet at 10am, Nevada State Museum, Carson City, 687-7410 or 800-NEVADA-1

"You're A Good Man Charlie Brown," thru Sept. 2, Tahoe Mountain Musicals, North Tahoe Regional Park, Tahoe Vista, 916-581-4323

Shakespeare at Sand Harbor Festival, thru Sept. 3, 17th annual, nightly except Mon., "A Mid-summer's Night Dream," "Two Gentlemen Of Verona," and a children's performance of "Beauty and the Beast," Sand Harbor, Lake

Tahoe Nevada State Park, Incline Village, 832-1606

Art Show, thru Sept. 4, prints by Jiri Anderle, Nevada Museum of Art, Reno, 329-3333

Ehrman Mansion Tours, thru Sept. 4, Sugar Pine Point State Park, west shore, Lake Tahoe, 916-525-7982

About Faces, thru Sept. 10, interactive exhibit about the human face, Wilbur D. May Museum, Rancho San Rafael Park, Reno, 785-5961

A Universe of Life and Yellowstone, thru Sept. 10, SkyDome 870 films, Fleischmann Planetarium, U of N, Reno, 784-4812

Horse Tales, thru Sept. 10, exhibit of equine evolution, Western Heritage Interpretive Center, Bartley Ranch Regional Park, Reno, 828-6612

Hot Pursuit: Law Enforcement Vehicles, thru Sept. 22, vehicles of the past are displayed, National Automobile Museum, Reno, 333-9300

Farmer's Market, weekly thru Sept. 27, fresh produce, breads, flowers, 4-8pm Wed., Third and Carson streets., Carson City, 687-7410

Auto Parts Exhibition, thru Oct. 8, photography by Wesley Jimmerson III, National Automobile Museum, Reno, 333-9300

The Celtic-Nevada Passageway, thru Oct. 10, exhibit on the Irish settlers of Austin, Nevada Historical Society, Reno, 688-1190

Best in the West Nugget Rib Cook-Off, Sept. 1-4, rib cookers compete for "Best Ribs" and "Best Sauce," concerts, crafts, John Ascuaga's Nugget, Victorian Square, Sparks, 353-2284 or 800-843-2427

Tandem Bicycle Rally, Sept. 1-4, registration at

Mills Park, Carson City, 885-2116

Art Exhibit, Sept. 1-30, watercolors and graphics by Ralph Bennett and Larry Jacox, mines, ghost towns, airplanes, Artists Co-Op Gallery, Reno, 322-8896

The Portuguese in Nevada, 1859-1995, A Visual History, Sept. 1-Oct. 6, photography exhibit, Nevada State Library and Archives, Carson City, 687-8317

Lake Tahoe Summer Music Festival, Sept. 2, Reno Philharmonic, Topol Pavilion, Home-wood, west shore, Lake Tahoe, 916-583-3101

Kirkwood 10K, Sept. 2-3, footrace, Kirkwood, 258-6000

Splendor of the Sierra Art Show, Sept. 2-3, 17th annual, Northstar at Tahoe, North Lake Tahoe, 916-562-1010

SPORTS DATES

Carson City Mavericks: Professional roller hockey: Sept. 2-3 v. San Francisco Seals, Sept. 16-17 v. High Desert Rattlers, play-off games Sept. 21-23 and Sept. 29-Oct. 1, Pony Express Pavilion, Carson City, 887-2203

University of Nevada Football: The Wolf Pack plays Sept. 2 v. Southwest Louisiana, Sept. 23 v. Toledo, Oct. 7 v. North Texas, Oct. 14 v. North East Louisiana (homecoming), Oct. 28 v. UNLV, Nov. 18 v. San Jose State, Mack-ay Stadium, U of N, 348-PACK

PREVIEW

Lighting Up Genoa

Candy Dance celebrates its 75th year.

By Katherine McDonnell

Almost every autumn since 1919, the customarily placid town of Genoa, Nevada's first permanent settlement, roars into high gear for its Candy Dance, a sweet and swinging fund-raiser held on the last full weekend in September.

This year, as in years past, revelers will gather in Genoa, 43 miles south of Reno, on Saturday night for a turkey-and-ham buffet dinner from 5:30 to 9 p.m., followed by a dance from 8 p.m. to midnight in the Town Hall. Tickets for the ball will be available at the Candy Dance ticket booth for \$10; the buffet is complimentary. The event is September 23-24. A fair is held both Saturday and Sunday.

Candy Dance, which Genoa residents began as a means to buy street lamps for the community, was patterned after a ocean-cruise dance attended by Lillian

Virgin Finnegan, a native Genoan and daughter of Territorial Judge D.W. Virgin. After her return, Finnegan encouraged the women of Genoa to make candies to sell during the dance.



Lillian Virgin founded Candy Dance in 1919.

The confections proved to be the highlight of the evening, and Candy Dance became an annual event, with each year's proceeds being used to keep Genoa's streets lighted.

Back in the early days, six helpers in starched aprons and caps passed out 100 pounds of free candy at the social. Today, more than 3,000 pounds of candies and cookies will be pre-



Genoans used to dress in turn-of-the-century garb for Candy Dance in September

pared by a few dozen volunteers and sold at booths scattered about the block-long business district, in Genoa Town Park, and at Mormon Station State Historic Park.

In the 1970s the Arts and Crafts Fair was added. Publicity coordinator Barbara Florman says that the number of booths has grown from about 12 to 300 in the past 15 years. The fair will go international this year when an artist from Moscow joins the roster of crafters.

There'll be 75th anniversary sou-

Revenue from Candy Dance still helps maintain Genoa's streets, town buildings, and street lights.

venirs for sale, in addition to a candy cookbook revealing Genoan recipes for popular treats such as nut fudge, plain fudge, turtles, almond roca, brittle, dipped chocolates, divinity, and mints, as well as some tricks of the trade to help create those fabulous formulas. The *Genoa Candy Book* will be sold at the Candy Gazebo for \$12. For more event information call the Candy Dance Committee at 702-782-7809.

Revenue from Candy Dance still helps maintain the streets, the town buildings, Genoa Town Park, and the street lights. You won't find a gas station or fast-food restaurant at this former trading post. But you will see the place where Nevada began in 1851, the state's oldest bar, and street lamps bought with money from Candy Dances past, some of which still burn by a gas flame.

Katherine McDonnell, Nevada's events editor, is a devout chocoholic.

NIGHTLIFE

Country Time

Merle Haggard has seen both sides of life.

By Guy Richardson

Upon meeting Merle Haggard for the first time, several things surprise you:

- The lines in his face are really, really deep.
- He's short.
- Even so, he looks like Abe Lincoln.
- He's got a goofy smile.
- And when he doesn't smile, his eyes sometimes have that steel coldness common to cops and ex-convicts.

In some parts of country musicville, doing a little time in the county jail gives one a cachet to write jail-house songs. It's almost a matter of pride. Haggard didn't do time in a county jail. He did 33 months in San Quentin for a botched robbery in Bakersfield when he was 20, and Haggard is much prouder of his 1972 pardon from then-Governor Ronald Reagan than he is of the jail time.

Former California state prisoner No. 845200 says prison did him good—before he was 19, he'd spent almost three years in various juvenile lock-ups. "I'm not sure if it works out that way often, but I'm one guy the prison system straightened out. I know damned well I'm a better man for it."

Haggard doesn't speak glibly about the prison time. He'll talk about Johnny Cash doing a San Quentin concert (Cash, by the way, for all his reputa-



Haggard puts in time at the Horizon.

tion as a jailbird, never did hard time) and how embarrassed Cash was some years later when he insisted that he'd met Haggard before and then realized Haggard had been a prisoner at the time.

Haggard is much happier talking about growing up in Bakersfield, living in a converted boxcar, pitching hay, and working as a short-order cook. After prison, he returned to Bakersfield and worked for his older brother as a ditch digger for \$80 a week. He also played guitar and sang

in some of Bakersfield's rowdy bars. Haggard's tough looks and sweet voice, even then, were memorable.

Three years later—1963, for those marking calendars—Haggard had his first hit record, "Sing a Sad Song," on the small Tally Records label. *Billboard* listed it as number 19 nationally.

Three years after that, his "I'm a Lonesome Fugitive" hit the top spot in the nation. The Academy of Country Music named him the year's top male vocalist.

He's one of the giants now. As he appears at the Lake Tahoe Horizon September 8-9, Haggard is an icon. At 58, he's still a rebel, still rowdy. He once said, "I hate to be known as dependable. If I had the nerve, I'd probably be happier as a criminal. Jesse James is at the top of my list of heroes."

No petty pranks for Merle. He doesn't go for wimpy stunts like spraying graffiti. "The only graffiti I ever wrote in my life was in Bakersfield, at the Barrel House, on the stage wall. I wrote it on the stage wall 'cause I didn't want anyone to think I wrote on bathroom walls. I wrote 'Edith Head gives good wardrobe.'"

And then he gave that goofy smile, and the prison walls were far, far away.

Haggard at the Horizon

Merle Haggard will appear in the Grande Lake Theater at the Lake Tahoe Horizon September 8-9. Call 702-588-6211 or 800-322-7723.

Guy Richardson is an editor and entertainment writer for the Reno Gazette-Journal.

Yard Sale and Craftfaire, Sept. 2-3, Historic Roberts' House Museum, Carson City, 887-2174

Ceramicarama, Sept. 2-4, pottery show and sale, Planet X Pottery, Gerlach, 557-2500

Peddler's Faire, Sept. 2-4, arts and crafts, horseback rides, mountain biking, chairlift rides, barbecue, Donner Ski Ranch, Donner Summit, 916-426-3635

Lake Tahoe Outrigger Rowing Regatta, Sept. 2-4, North Tahoe Beach Center, Kings Beach, 916-988-2419

Numaga Indian Days Celebration Powwow, Sept. 2-4, 11th annual, Reno-Sparks Indian Colony, 329-2936

Steam-Up, Sept. 2-4, steam-up and operation of historic steam locomotive on one-mile loop of track, Nevada State Railroad Museum,

Carson City, 687-6953

Model A Ford Club Field Meet, Sept. 3-4, Mills Park, Carson City, 882-5235

Historic Emigrant Trail Walking Tours, Sept. 5 and 26, 30-mile stop-car walk of the early emigrant route, meet at 8:15am, Sorensen's Resort, Hope Valley, 800-423-9949

Inside the Glitter, Sept. 5-Nov. 3, prints by Washoe Valley photographer Kit Miller, C.I.T.Y. 2000 Gallery, Reno City Hall, 329-1324

Moonlight Kayak Tour, Sept. 8, Kayak Tahoe, Camp Richardson Resort, South Lake Tahoe, 916-544-2011

"Harvey," Sept. 8-9, 15-17, and 22-23, story of an eight-foot rabbit, Reno Little Theater, 329-0661

Carson City Run, Sept. 8-10, motorcycle run, Pony Express Pavilion, Mills Park, Carson City, 687-7410

Carson City Mint and Nevada State Museum

Coin Show, Sept. 8-10, 125th anniversary celebration of the opening of the mint, coin dealers, historic Coin Press No.1 will produce commemorative coins, Nevada State Museum, Carson City, 687-4812

Great Reno Balloon Race, Sept. 8-10, 14th annual, free, the nation's top 140 balloonists participate in a hare-and-hound race, Dawn Patrol, and mass ascension, Rancho San Rafael Park, 829-2810

Greek Festival, Sept. 8-10, food, dancing, music, games, St. Anthony Greek Orthodox Church, Reno, 825-5365

Tahoe Classic Car Show, Sept. 8-10, Lake Tahoe Horizon, Stateline, 588-6211 or 800-322-7723

Virginia City International Camel Races, Sept. 8-10, camel and ostrich races, parade, head-

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Fourth and Virginia Streets
Downtown Reno

line entertainment, Camel Race Arena, Virginia City, 847-0311

Air Guard Open House, Sept. 9, aircraft displays and tours, Reno/Tahoe International Airport, Reno, 788-4661

Biggest Little Quilt Show in the West, Sept. 9-10, vendors, demonstrations, door prizes, Reno Livestock Events Center, 355-1637

Downhill Mountain Bike Championships, Sept. 9-10, Squaw Valley USA, North Lake Tahoe, 916-583-6985

Rage'n at the Ranch Mountain Bike Races, Sept. 9-10, cross country, downhill, and slalom races, Donner Ski Ranch, 916-426-3635

Great Nevada Picture Hunt Exhibit, Sept. 12-Oct. 12, show of *Nevada Magazine's* photo contest winners, Brewery Arts Center, Carson City, 883-1976

Gallo Wine Maker Dinner, Sept. 14, three-course meal designed to complement featured wines, \$60 per person, Caesars Tahoe, Stateline, 800-235-8259

Reno National Championship Air Races and Air Show, Sept. 14-17 four classes of racers, air show featuring the Canadian Snowbirds, static displays, Reno-Stead Airport, 10 miles north of Reno, 972-6663

Air Race Display, Sept. 14-17 airplanes, crafts, Reno Special Events Plaza, downtown Reno, 329-7469

Wild Women at the Museum, Sept. 14-Nov. 12, works by Nevada artists, Nevada Museum of Art, Reno, 329-3333

Cool September Days, Sept. 15-17 10th annual, car show, crafts, dance contest, Lake Tahoe Horizon, Stateline, 588-6211

"Nonsense II: The Second Coming," Sept. 15-17, 21-23, and 29-30, the sisters of Mount Saint Helens return for nonsense naughtiness, Brewery Arts Center, Carson City, 883-1976

Ride for the Rainforest, Sept. 16, mountain bike ride on the Flume Trail east of Incline Village, guided tour, pre-tour breakfast, post-event barbecue, a Rainforest Action Network fundraiser, Incline Village, 916-583-8900

Virginia City 100, Sept. 16, 100-mile horse endurance race, Virginia City, 882-6591

Kayak Tahoe Blue Water Classic, Sept. 17 race to Emerald Bay, six-mile or nine-mile course for paddlers of all abilities, Camp Richardson Resort, South Lake Tahoe, 916-544-2011

Comstock Art Show, Sept. 17-Oct. 1, 12th annual, Fourth Ward School Museum, Virginia City, 847-9ART

Tales of Wonder, Sept. 19, Bay area pianist and teacher Paul Hersh is featured guest, Reno Philharmonic, Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, 825-5905

Horseless Carriage Club Silver State Tour, Sept. 21-24, antique car event, Minden, 465-2147

High Sierra Championship Chili Cook-Off, Sept. 22-24, chili sampling, craft booths, bands, Lake Tahoe Horizon, Stateline, 588-6211 or 800-322-7723

Street Vibrations, Sept. 22-24, Harley-Davidson and custom tour bike motorcycle festival, concerts, poker run, parade, Reno Special Events Plaza, downtown Reno, 329-7469

Tahoe Rim Trail Hike-A-Thon, Sept. 23, trail fund-raiser, South Lake Tahoe, 588-0686

Genoa Candy Dance Fair, Sept. 23-24, 75th annual, buffet dinner and street dance, homemade candy sale, juried crafts, Mormon Station State Historic Park, Genoa, 782-TOWN

Mountainman Encampment and Reenactment, Sept. 23-24, traders row, living history exhibits, blackpowder shoots, tomahawk throws,

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Virginia City, 847-0311
"Les Misérables," Sept. 27-Oct. 1, Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, Reno, 786-5105
Great Truckee River Beer Festival, Sept. 29-30, home-brew competition, Reno Hilton, 322-7064
World's Championship Chili Cook-Off and Americana Food Festival, Sept. 29-Oct. 1, chili sampling, music, food, entertainment, arts and crafts, downtown Reno, 686-3047
Ferrari Club of America Hill Climb, Sept. 30-Oct. 1, truck route from Silver City to Virginia City, 847-0311
Donner Party Hike, Sept. 30-Oct. 1, Truckee Donner Visitor Center, 916-587-2757 or 800-548-8388

October

Harrah's Tahoe Shoot-Out at Genoa Lakes, Oct. 2, stars from the PGA play \$75,000 skins game, Golf Club at Genoa Lakes, 782-4653
Historic Emigrant Walking Trail Walking Tours, Oct. 3 and 24, 8:15am, Sorensen's Resort, Hope Valley, 800-423-9949
Great Italian Festival, Oct. 4-8, 14th annual, grape stomp, spaghetti-eating contest, food booths, entertainment by Anna Maria Alberghetti and Nelson Sardelli and Those Darn Accordians, Eldorado, downtown Reno, 786-5700
Leon Nightingale Memorial Concert: Benny Rides Again, Oct. 6, Benny Goodman's big-band music, Nightingale Concert Hall, U of N, Reno, 784-6847
Native American Snow Dance Festival, Oct. 6-7 fifth annual, the Tahoe Biltmore in Crystal Bay will host a Pray for Snow Party on Fri., dancing, arts and crafts, food, Snow Dance performed by the Miwok Tribe from Northern California on Sat., Preston Field, Incline Village, 832-1606
"Nonsense," Oct. 6-7 13-14, 20-21, and 27-28, musical comedy presented by Truckee Meadows Community College, Dandini Campus Auditorium, Reno, 829-9024 or 824-8607
Oktoberfest, Oct. 6-8, food and beer party, Lake Tahoe Horizon, Stateline, 588-6211 or 800-322-7723
Concerts in the Atrium, Oct. 6-May 24, Fri. only, free, classical music concerts, noon-1pm, Airport Gardens Office Bldg., Reno, 329-1324
Reno Chamber Orchestra Concert, Oct. 7, guest pianist Vatche Mankerian, Nightingale Concert Hall, U of N, Reno, 348-9413
Oktoberfest, Oct. 7 18th annual, Bavarian harvest celebration, oom-pah-pah band, food, dancing, beers, Alpine Meadows ski lodge, North Lake Tahoe, 916-581-6900
Kokanee Salmon Festival, Oct. 7-8, spawning celebration, cook-off, games, Taylor Creek, USFS Visitor Center, South Lake Tahoe, 916-573-2600
Professional Team Penning Assn. National Finals, Oct. 7-8, fairgrounds, Carson City, 882-4458
Rage'n at the Ranch Mountain Bike Races, Oct. 7-8, Donner Ski Ranch, 916-426-3635
Yard Sale and Crafffaire, Oct. 7-8, Historic Roberts' House Museum, Carson City, 887-2174
Columbus Day Parade, Oct. 9, marching bands, floats, dancers, downtown Reno, 329-7469
Wine Maker Dinner, Oct. 12, three-course meal designed to complement the featured wines, \$60 per person, Caesars Tahoe, Stateline, 800-235-8259
Oktoberfest and Beer Tasting, Oct. 13, special-ty and microbrews, German foods, Shannon

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PREVIEW

Show What You Sew



The Biggest Little Quilt Show is September 9-10 in Reno.

Quilters will create a wall-to-wall mosaic of color during the Biggest Little Quilt Show in the West September 9-10 at the Reno Livestock Events Center. Antique quilts, priceless and pale with the patina of time, and brilliantly hued abstracts will be among the more than 200 pieces by Nevada and California artists on display.

For 17 years the Truckee Meadows Quilters have sponsored this expanded show and tell, or "bring and brag," as it's known. One quilt with bragging rights will be "Nevada Fantasy," a queen-sized, hand-appliquéd floral opportunity quilt that members spent more than 500 hours hand quilting.

The show and sale will include ornate bed-size quilts, pumpkin harvest wall hangings, miniature mosaics, children's cartoon quilts, and Christmas tree skirts.

Quilt turners wearing white gloves will be on hand to reveal each quilt's detailed understitching. If you've ever

wondered whether Grandma's old quilt in the attic is worth anything, you can ask American Quilter's Society certified appraiser Anne Copeland, who will appraise and date quilts.

The Biggest Little Quilt Show in the West takes place Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Reno Livestock Events Center Exhibit Hall. Donation is \$3. Call 702-827-4943.—Annie Blachley



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Ballroom, Carson Valley Inn, Minden, 782-9711 or 800-321-6983

Great Chili Cook-Off, Oct. 14, food, entertainment, downtown Carson City, 882-8770

All-Breed Championship and Household Cat Show, Oct. 14-15, Silver Cats Cat Club, Reno Livestock Events Center, 747-3317 or 851-3402

Steam-Up, Oct. 14-15, steam-up and operation of historic steam locomotive on one-mile loop of track, Nevada State Railroad Museum, Carson City, 687-6953

Virginia City's World Championship Outhouse Races, Oct. 14-15, privy parade on C St., outhouse races on E St., Virginia City, 847-0311

U of N Homecoming Parade, Oct. 15, downtown Reno, 329-7469

"Go Back for Murder," Oct. 20-21 and 27-29, Agatha Christie story, Reno Little Theater, 329-0661

An Evening with Leo Buscaglia, Oct. 21, benefit for the Valhalla Boathouse Theater project, Tallac Historic Site, South Lake Tahoe, 916-541-4166 or 800-AT-TAHOE

Carson City Chamber Orchestra Concert, Oct. 21, donation of two cans of food, St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Virginia City, 847-9ART

Fall Festival of Crafts, Oct. 21, Pony Express Pavilion, Mills Park, Carson City, 883-7654

Kit Carson Trail Ghost Walk, Oct. 21, tours of haunted homes, Carson City Historic District, 687-7410

Living History Day, Oct. 21, actors portray Mark Twain, Abe Curry, and Hannah Clapp, music, home tours, Carson City, 687-7410 or 800-NEVADA-1

Nevada Statehood 1864 Victorian Grand Ball, Oct. 21, period dance lessons, music by Dennis Butterfield Trio, buffet supper, \$20 per person, sponsored by the Nevada Civil War Volunteers, Sparks Recreation Center, 358-2284

French Cars in Masterpiece Circle, Oct. 21-March 1996, National Automobile Museum, Reno, 333-9300

Carson City Chamber Orchestra Concert, Oct. 22, Carson City Community Center, 883-4154

Masters of Their Craft, Oct. 24, soloist and concertmaster Phillip Ruder makes solo debut with the Reno Philharmonic, Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, 825-5905

Sierra Nevada Chautauqua, Oct. 26-27, living history program, Hyatt-Lake Tahoe, Incline Village, 784-6587 or 800-382-5023

Western States Bodybuilding, Oct. 26-29, bodybuilding competition, sports expo, and Ms. Fitness pageant, Goldwyn Ballroom, Reno Hilton, 858-2778

Quilted Wheels, Oct. 26-Dec. 31, auto-themed quilts display, National Automobile Museum, Reno, 333-9300

RSVP Annual Nevada Day Festivities, Oct. 27-31, carnival, exhibitors, food, entertainment, Mills Park, Carson City, 687-4680

Nevada Day 1864 Grand Ball, Oct. 28, period costume or black tie, Ormsby House, Carson City, 882-2600

Oktoberfest, Oct. 28, German-style dinner and dance, silent auction, John Ascuaga's Nugget,

Sparks, 853-1001

Wa She Shu Powwow, Oct. 28-29, Carson Indian Colony, Carson City, 885-6939

Nevada Day Parade and Celebration, Oct. 31, state's largest parade 10am, rock drilling contest 11am, music, art show, open house at Governor's Mansion and Brewery Arts Center, Carson City, 882-2600

Trick or Treat in the Streets, Oct. 31, 4:30-7:30pm, costumes, National Automobile Museum, Reno, 333-9300

COMING EVENTS

Celtic New Year Celebration, Nov. 3-5, Reno, 535-3045

National Senior Pro Rodeo Finals, Nov. 6-12, Reno, 688-5751

Classic Country Dance Festival, Nov. 10-12, Reno, 829-5864

SHOWGUIDE

The Reno and Lake Tahoe areas offer production shows and big-name entertainment. Randy Travis will be coming to the Reno Hilton, and Harrah's presents stage shows in Reno and Lake Tahoe. It's always wise to call ahead for show times and reservations.

Reno/Sparks

Bob Cashell's Horseshoe Club, 323-7900: *Boots Bar, Grill, and Dance Hall*: DJs nightly, free dance lessons Tues.-Sat.

Circus Circus, 329-0711 or 800-648-5010: Free circus acts, 11am-midnight

Clarion, 825-4700 or 800-723-6500: Bands play in the casino lounge and on weekends at the *Atlantis* nightclub

Eldorado, 786-5700, 800-648-5966 (U.S. outside Nevada) or 800-648-3024

(Canada): *Steel Breeze*, thru Sept. 2; *Honolulu*, Sept. 4-17; *Lil' Elmo and the Cosmos*, Sept. 19-24; *Danny Marona*, Oct. 18-Nov. 4

Fitzgeralds, 785-3300 or 800-648-5022 (U.S. outside Nevada)

Flamingo Hilton Reno, 785-7080: *Flamingo Showroom*: "American Superstars," (dark Tues.); *Monday Night Blues Jam* in the *Showspot Lounge*, where bands also play Tues.-Sun.; music at *Top of the Hilton* restaurant

Harolds Club, 329-0881 or 800-648-5022: *Dick Clark's American Bandstand Club*: DJ and bands alternate, Tues.-Sat.

Harrah's Reno, 788-3773 or 800-HARRAHS: *Sammy's Showroom*: "The Great Reno Wild West Show" and "Playboy's Ecstasy" (dark Tues.); *Lacy J. Dalton*, thru Sept. 3; *Kingston Trio*, Sept. 5-17; *Patti Page*, Sept. 19-Oct. 1; *Patsy Cline* starring the *Jordanaires* with *Sharon Haynes* (tribute show), Oct. 3-15; *Phyllis Diller*, Oct. 17-29; bands play nightly in the *Rendezvous Bar*

John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 356-3304 or 800-648-1177 (U.S. and Western Canada): *Celebrity Showroom*: *Brenda Lee*, *Chris Bliss*, thru Sept. 6; *Brenda Lee*, *Mark Merchant*, Sept. 7-20; *Ron-*



Randy Travis performs at the Reno Hilton on September 3.



A People's Pit Boss

Harrah's Reno pit boss Ellie Hays, a 37-year gaming veteran, doesn't gamble but enjoys her job because of the people. "This to me is like an adult Disneyland," says Hays, who wants to retire in two years and go to nursing school.

PREVIEW

Behind the Scenes

Washoe Valley writer-photographer Kit Miller presents "Inside the Glitter: Portraits of Workers in Nevada's Gaming Industry" at the C.I.T.Y. 2000 Gallery in Reno City Hall from September 5 to November 3. Reno City Hall is located at 490 South Center Street in downtown Reno.

Casino workers are the backbone of Nevada's economy, says Miller, who photographed and interviewed waitresses, dealers, keno runners, restaurant managers, pit bosses, hotel clerks, slot mechanics, and show people for the project. Through their own words, workers share their histories, daily routines, and dreams for the future.



House Advantage

Ida Bell, dealer for Harrah's Reno, moved from Louisiana in 1975. She first worked in housekeeping before transferring to the casino.

HOTELS

Casino Notes

It's a Boy: Danny Main, a security officer and EMT at Boomtown in Verdi, helped deliver a bundle of joy at the hotel-casino's RV park on May 15. The healthy baby boy arrived five days early, much to the surprise of his parents and employees and visitors at Boomtown.

Expanded Shopping: The Eldorado recently opened the Courtyard Shops as part of its 200,000-square-foot expansion. The three exclusive retail shops are Attitudes, which has fashions for men and women, C.C. Lynn, with jewelry and art, and Says Who?, a logo apparel and souvenir shop.

You're the Top: *Casino Magazine* re-

cently awarded top honors to Caesars Tahoe in Best Service Overall, Best Food, and Favorite Casino Overall based in its 1995 Readers' Choice Awards survey.

Grade A Choice: The Clarion was awarded the Choice Hotels International Gold Award for near-perfect marks in food and beverage, maintenance and repair, housekeeping, and front office operations.

Spark-ling Progress: John Ascuaga's Nugget in Sparks has announced a \$72-million expansion project. A new 28-story tower will include 800 rooms, a 350-seat restaurant, microbrewery, and 24,000 square feet of convention space. Construction is set to begin November 1 and is scheduled for completion in March 1997

Twin Towers: A pair of towers is on the drawing board for phase one of the Peppermill's \$70-million expansion, which will add 465 rooms, including 143 luxury suites. Other additions are a new front desk with VIP check-in and concierge desk, restaurant, gift shop, health club, and



Johnny Rockets, a '50s-style eatery, recently opened at the Reno Hilton.

swimming pool. The project is planned to be completed by March.

Branching Out: The Piñon Plaza, Carson City's new hotel-casino and bowling center, opened in July. The Southwestern-style property, located east of town on U.S. 50, has a 30,000-square-foot casino, 32-lane bowling center, and Peñoli's, a 266-seat buffet-restaurant that features Mongolian barbecue. The second phase, set to open next year, will include a hotel, RV park, and a steak house.



Visit TV's legendary Ponderosa Ranch, cruise on the M.S. Dixie II across Lake Tahoe. And tour Carson City's "Talking Houses."



Cruise on beautiful Lake Tahoe



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CARSON CITY

nie McDowell, Fielding West, Sept. 21-Oct. 4; Janie Fricke, Oct. 5-18; the McGuire Sisters, Michael Marlin, Oct. 19-Nov. 1; Herb Reed and the Platters, Nick Lewin, Nov. 2-15; *Rose Ballroom*: George Benson, Sept. 14-15; bands play nightly in the *Casino Cabaret* and at *Trader Dick's Restaurant*

Peppermill, 826-2121 or 800-648-6992: Acts playing nightly on the casino stage include Cameron, Zella Lehr, and X Factor

Plantation Station, Sparks, 359-9440

Reno Hilton, 789-2285 or 800-648-3568 (U.S. outside Nevada): *Hilton Theatre*: Jeff Kutash's "Splash" (dark Thurs.); *Outdoor Amphitheater*: Randy Travis, Sept. 3; *Aspen Lounge*: Bands play Tues.-Sun.; *Just for Laughs Comedy Club*: Comedians perform

Reno Hotel, 788-2000

Silver Club, Sparks, 358-4771 or 800-648-1137 (U.S. outside Nevada): Entertainment such as Edy Gainer and Dezire, Cheryl Cotten, Paradise, and California Cowboys

Silver Legacy, 329-4777 or 800-MUST-SEE: Around-the-clock casino entertainment

Western Village, Sparks, 331-1069 or 800-648-1170: Garfin Gathering plays in the lounge Oct. 23-29

Carson City/Carson Valley

Carson City Nugget, 882-1626 or 800-426-5239 (continental U.S. outside Nevada): Preston Hodge appears in the *Cork and Bottle 3* to 09pm except Mon.; bands play at the *Nugget Showbar*

Carson Station, Carson City, 883-0900

Carson Valley Inn, Minden, 782-9711 or 800-321-6983 (continental U.S. outside Nevada)

Ormsby House, Carson City, 882-1890

Sharkey's Nugget, Gardnerville, 782-3133

Topaz Lodge, Topaz Lake, 266-3339

Stateline

Bill's Lake Tahoe, 588-2455

Caesars Tahoe, 586-2044 or 800-648-3353: *Circus Maximus*: Chicago, Sept. 1-3; *Diamond Rio*, Sept. 22-23; *Neville Brothers*, Oct. 6-7; *David Lee Roth*, Oct. 13-14; *Moody Blues*, Oct. 27-28

Harrah's Lake Tahoe, 588-6606 or 800-HARRAHS: *South Shore Room*: "Escapade" and "Playboy's High Voltage," thru Nov. 27; *Rain: The World's Foremost Beatles Tribute*, Sept. 1-3; *Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons*, Sept. 15-17; *Casino Center Stage*: Nightly bands

Harveys, 588-2411 or 800-HARVEYS: *Emerald Theatre*: "Bye Bye Bijou," (dark Wed.); *Llewellyn's*: Ron Rose Sound; *Emerald Lounge*: Performers include Tommy Bell, and Kat Wilson and Vamp

Lake Tahoe Horizon, 588-6211 or 800-322-7723: *Grande Lake Theater*: Steven Wright, Sept. 1-2; *Merle Haggard*, Sept. 8-9; *Golden Cabaret*: "Jukebox Babies" (dark Mon.); bands play nightly in the *Aspen Lounge*

Lakeside Inn, 588-7777

North Lake Tahoe

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

Crystal Bay Club, Crystal Bay, 831-0512: Bands such as Madison Avenue and Impact play in the lounge (dark Mon.)

Hyatt Regency Lake Tahoe, Incline Village, 832-1234

Tahoe Biltmore, Crystal Bay, 831-0660 or 800-BILTMOR: Lounge entertainment Tues.-Sun. will include David Proud and Valentino and Sol

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GAMING TOURNAMENTS

September

- Dollar Slot Marathon**, Sept. 3-5, John Ascuaga's Nugget, 356-3300 or 800-843-2427
- All Play and No Work Slots**, Sept. 4-5, Peppermill, 689-7282 ext. 7282
- Junior Classic Slots**, Sept. 10-13, John Ascuaga's Nugget, 356-3300 or 800-843-2427
- Super Keno**, Sept. 22-24, Comstock, 329-1880
- Aloha IX Slots**, Sept. 22-24, Peppermill, 689-7282
- Mini Slots**, Sept. 24-26, John Ascuaga's Nugget, 356-3300 or 800-843-2427
- Slots**, Sept. 24-27 Flamingo Hilton Reno, 322-1111
- Slots and Video Poker**, Sept. 29, Lakeside Inn, Stateline, Lake Tahoe, 588-7777 or 800-624-7980
- Winner's Weekend Slots**, Sept. 30-Oct. 1, John Ascuaga's Nugget, 356-3300 or 800-843-2427

October

- Ladies Only Slots**, Oct. 1-3, Comstock, 329-1880
- B.L.T. Keno**, Oct. 6-7 Peppermill, 689-7290
- Best of the Worst Oktoberfest Blackjack**, Oct. 6-7 Carson Valley Inn, Minden, 782-9711
- Super Slots**, Oct. 13-15, Comstock, 329-1880
- Slot Shootout**, Oct. 20-21, Carson Valley Inn, Minden, 782-9711 or 800-321-6983

ATTRACTIONS, TOURS & MUSEUMS Carson City

- Brewery Arts Center**: 449 W. King St., 883-1976
- Children's Museum of Northern Nevada**: 813 N. Carson St., 884-2226
- Kit Carson Trail**: Walking tour, talking houses on AM 530, 882-1565 or 800-638-2321
- Nevada State Capitol**: 687-5030
- Nevada State Library and Archives**: State Constitution exhibit, 100 Stewart St., 687-5210
- Nevada State Museum**: 600 N. Carson St., 687-4810
- Nevada State Railroad Museum**: S. Carson St. at Fairview Dr., 687-6953
- Roberts House Museum**: 1207 N. Carson St., 882-1805
- Stewart Indian Cultural Center**: 5366 Snyder, 882-1808
- Warren Engine Co. No. 1 Museum**: 777 S. Stewart St., 887-2210

Genoa

- Genoa Courthouse Museum**: Seasonal, 782-4325
- Mormon Station State Historic Park**: Seasonal, 782-4325, 687-4379
- Walley's Hot Springs**: 2001 Foothill Rd., 782-8155

Lake Tahoe

- Lake Tahoe Nevada State Park**: 2005 Hwy. 28, Incline Village, 831-0494
- M.S. Dixie II Sternwheeler**: Zephyr Cove, 588-3508
- Planet Hollywood**: Movie memorabilia, Caesars Tahoe, 588-7828
- Ponderosa Ranch**: Seasonal, Incline Village, 831-0691
- Tahoe Gal Paddlewheeler**: Tahoe City, 916-583-0141
- Tahoe Queen Sternwheeler**: South Lake Tahoe, 800-23-TAHOE



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 U.S. Forest Service Visitors Center: Tours, 916-573-2600
 Vikingsholm: Tours, 916-525-7232
 Zephyr Cove Resort: 588-5021

Reno

Fleischmann Planetarium: U of N, 784-4811
 Liberty Belle Slot Collection: 4250 S. Virginia St., in Liberty Belle Saloon, 825-1776
 Mackay School of Mines Minerals Museum: U of N, 784-6052
 Nevada Historical Society Museum: 1650 N. Virginia St., 688-1190
 Nevada Museum of Art, E. L. Wiegand Gallery: 160 W. Liberty St., 329-3333
 Planet Hollywood: Movie memorabilia, Harrah's Reno, 322-7837
 Reno Tahoe Gaming Academy: Tours, 300 E. First St., Suite 103, 329-5665
 Wilbur D. May Great Basin Adventure: Seasonal, Rancho San Rafael Park, 785-4064
 Wilbur D. May Museum: Rancho San Rafael Park, 785-5961
 William F. Harrah Foundation National Automobile Museum: 10 Lake St. S., 333-9300

Pyramid Lake

Numana Hatchery Visitors Center: Pyramid Lake, 574-0290

Sparks

National Air Race Museum and Hall of Fame: 1570 Hymer Ave., 356-7544
 Sparks Heritage Foundation and Museum: 820 Victorian Ave., 355-1144
 Wild Island: 250 Wild Island Ct., 359-2927

Virginia City

Assay Office Museum: 847-0777
 Chollar Mine: Tours, seasonal, 847-0155
 1869 Territorial Prison Museum: Tours, 847-0500
 Fourth Ward School Museum: Seasonal, 847-0975
 Julia C. Bulette Red Light Museum: 847-9394
 Liberty Engine Co. No. 1 Comstock Firemen's Museum: Seasonal, 847-0717
 Mackay Mansion Museum: 847-0173
 Mark Twain Museum of Memories: 847-0454
 Nevada Gambling Museum: 847-9022
 Piper's Opera House: Seasonal, 847-0433
 Ponderosa Mine: Tours, 847-0757
 Territorial Enterprise Mark Twain Museum: 847-0525
 The Castle: Seasonal, 847-0275
 Way It Was Museum: 847-0766
 Virginia and Truckee Railroad: Seasonal, 847-0380
 Virginia City Radio Museum: 847-9047
 Virginia City Tours: 786-0866
 Wild West Museum: 847-0400

Verdi

Boomtown Family Fun Center: Verdi, 345-8668
 Bull Creek Ranch: Verdi, 345-7600

Washoe Valley

Bowers Mansion Park: 4005 U.S. 395 North, pool, seasonal, 849-1825
 Davis Creek Park: 849-0684
 Old Washoe Stables: 1201 Hwy. 395, 849-1020
 Washoe Lake State Park: E. Lake Blvd., 687-4319

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

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The Rural Territories

COWBOY COUNTRY



September

Left Handers Art Show, thru Sept. 30, mixed media, Northeastern Nevada Museum, Elko, 738-3418

Labor Day Celebration, Sept. 1-3, bingo at Town Hall, live music, corn feed Sept. 3, pit-roasted corn, Outdoor Inn, Jarbidge, 488-2311

Elko County Fair and Livestock Show, Sept. 1-4, livestock events, parimutuel horse racing, exhibits, fairgrounds, Elko, 738-3616

Winnemucca Labor Day Rodeo and Tri-County Fair, Sept. 1-4, rodeo, carnival, art roundup, parade, barbecue, street dance, 623-2225 or 800-WMCA-NEV

Race to the Angel, Sept. 9, 12-mile hill climb from Wells through Humboldt National Forest to Angel Lake, divisions for runners, walkers, and road and mountain bikes, Wells, 752-3328

Wells Classic Fun Run, Sept. 9, car show, City Park, 752-3540

Casey at the Bat Blackjack Tournament, Sept. 11-12, Peppermill, Wendover, 664-2255

Battle Mountain Bed Races and Trail Ride, Sept. 16-17, 635-8245

Morroders Car Show and Gamblers Run, Sept. 16-17, show 'n' shine, concerts, Elko City Park and convention center, 738-4091

Ranch Hand Rodeo, Sept. 16-17 fairgrounds,



VORRA Off-Road racing gets down and dirty September 2-4 in Yerington.



"Prospectors" compete in the Beatty 49ers Burro and Flapjack Races October 28-29.

- Winnemucca, 623-5071
- Autumn Slot Tournament**, Sept. 18-19, Peppermill, Wendover, 664-2255
- World of Speed**, Sept. 19-23, ninth annual, land-speed record attempts on a 12-mile course, hot rods and streamliners race at 400 mph, Bonneville Salt Flats, Wendover, 664-3414 or 801-785-5364
- Clarita and the Flamenco Theatre**, Sept. 28, 7:30pm, flamenco dancing, Pershing County High School Auditorium, Lovelock, 273-2082

October

- Common Thread**, Oct. 1-Nov. 30, mixed media art exhibit, Northeastern Nevada Museum, Elko, 738-3418
- Oktoberfest**, Oct. 2, 7pm, German beer, buffet, and music, Outdoor Inn, Jarbidge, 488-2311
- Craftasia: Celebrating American and Native American Crafts**, Oct. 6-8, show and workshops, Elko Convention Center, 738-4091 or 800-248-3556
- Bonneville World Finals**, Oct. 10-15, land-speed trials, Bonneville Salt Flats, Wendover, 805-526-1805 or 800-426-6862
- Te-Moak Powwow**, Oct. 21-22, fairgrounds and Indian Colony Gymnasium, Elko, 738-7681
- Pig Roast and Halloween Party**, Oct. 28, roasted pig on a spit, bake sale, costume party, Outdoor Inn, Jarbidge, 488-2311
- Deer Widows' Weekend Halloween Slot, Craps, Keno Tournament**, Oct. 29-31, State Line, Wendover, 800-848-7300 or 801-531-4071
- Nevada Day Parade**, Oct. 31, Elko, 738-7135

PONY EXPRESS TERRITORY



September

- Hearts O' Gold Cantaloupe Festival**, Sept. 1-4, farmer's market, arts and crafts, contests, rodeo, fairgrounds, Fallon, 423-4544
- Art Show**, Sept. 1-30, botanical prints by Henry Evans, Churchill Public Library, Fallon, 423-1440
- Louie Gibellini Single Jack Drilling Contest**, Sept. 2, noon, fairgrounds, Eureka, 237-5484
- Nevada Northern Rail Day '95**, Sept. 2, train rides, barbecue, Battle of the Rails, dance, Nevada Northern Railway Museum, Ely, 289-2085
- Baker Labor Day Weekend**, Sept. 2-3, 234-7302
- Fort Churchill Ruins Tour**, Sept. 9 and 23, park ranger leads hike, Fort Churchill State Historic Park, eight miles south of Silver Springs, 577-2345
- Hidden Cave Tours**, Sept. 9 and 23, 9:30am, BLM guide leads hike to archaeological site,

Churchill County Museum, Fallon, 423-3677
Dayton Valley Days, Sept. 16-17 Civil War encampment, horseshoe tournament, cowboy poetry, pancake breakfast, barbecue, Dayton, 246-3393

Silver State Classic Challenge, Sept. 16-17, high-speed car race on State Route 318 between Lund and Hiko, cars on display in Ely on Sept. 16, race on Sept. 17, host city is Ely, 289-8877

Stefan Karlsson Quintet, Sept. 22, 7pm, jazz concert, Eureka Opera House, 237-6006

One Awesome Tour Bike Ride Across Nevada (OATBRAN), Sept. 24-30, 425-mile cycling tour on U.S. 50, 588-9658

Fernley Frontier Days and Rodeo, Sept. 30-Oct. 1, IPRA rodeo, fair, Out-of-Town Park, 575-4459

Fort Churchill Fall Encampment, Sept. 30-Oct. 1, Nevada Civil War Volunteers present living-history demonstrations, battle reenactments, kids' activities, Fort Churchill State Historic Park, eight miles south of Silver Springs, 577-2345 or 356-6901

October

Rumillajta, Oct. 6, 7pm, Bolivian folk group, Eureka Opera House, 237-6006

Oktoberfest, Oct. 7, 8pm, German music and food, Miä Swiss Restaurant, Dayton, 246-3993

Quilt Show, Oct. 13-14, Sagebrush Quilters, show and guest speakers, Bristlecone Convention Center, Ely, 289-3102

Fallon Air Show, Oct. 14, Blue Angels, Stealth F-117 fighter jet, aerobatics, static displays, Naval Air Station Fallon, 423-4556

Hidden Cave Tours, Oct. 14 and 28, 9:30am, BLM guide leads hike to archaeological site, Churchill County Museum, Fallon, 423-3677

Historic Stagecoach Trip, Oct. 27-30, C Bar D Film Ranch celebrates Nevada Day, trip leaves Lahontan Dam area and travels U.S. 50 through Dayton to Carson City for Nevada Day, 742-1839

PIONEER TERRITORY



September

Fossil House and Ghost Town Tours, state park rangers lead tours of 225-million-year-old ichthyosaur fossils and the Berlin ghost town site, call for days and times, Berlin-Ichthyosaur State Park, 964-2440

Beatty Days, Sept. 2-4, crowning of Miss Beatty, barbecue, community park, 553-2424

Pioche Labor Day Celebration, Sept. 2-4, heritage play at 7pm Sept. 2 in the Town Hall, mining events, games, nighttime electric parade, fireworks, street dance, 962-5215

VORRA Off-Road Race, Sept. 2-4, Yerington, 463-2245



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Cantaloupe bowling is ripe for Fallon's festival.

PREVIEW

Festival of Gold

There's a gold rush this Labor Day weekend in Fallon—but prospectors won't be digging for minerals. Instead, the fruitful deposit will come in the form of delicious Hearts of Gold cantaloupes.

The 10th annual Hearts O' Gold Cantaloupe Festival is September 1-4 at the Churchill County Fairgrounds. Due to an overly wet winter the cantaloupe supply at the festival will be limited, but there will be a bountiful crop of activities.

The fair will feature cantaloupe-eating contests, cantaloupe bowling, a junior rodeo, and the Nevada State Mud Volleyball Championship. Farmers will be offering Fallon-grown fruits and vegetables. Other festivities will include illusionists, jugglers, cowboy poets, comedians, concerts, gold panning, and continuous entertainment.

The tasty melons, once an experimental crop, were first planted in 1921. Today, Fallon, 60 miles east of Reno, is well known for the succulent fruits, which have been prized by fine restaurants in San Francisco and as far away as New York City.

For more information about the Fallon cantaloupe festival call 702-423-2544.—Monie Byers

DISCOVER

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Danny Marona brings his music and comedy to Cactus Petes in Jackpot.

Mineral County Fair and IPRA Rodeo, Sept. 8-10, wild horse racing, cow milking, steer wrestling, team roping, rodeo grounds, Hawthorne, 945-3897 or 945-1254

Jazz in the Vineyard, Sept. 10, jazz concert, Pahrump Valley Vineyards, 727-6900

Pinenut Festival, All-Indian Rodeo, and Honoring Our Elders Powwow, Sept. 14-17 Schurz, 773-2300

Pahrump Valley Harvest Festival and PRCA Rodeo, Sept. 15-17 parade, booths, entertainment, contests, deep-pit barbecue, community center, Pahrump, 727-8195 (parade and rodeo) or 727-5800

October

Smith Valley Fun Day, Oct. 1, 7am breakfast, 11am barbecue, vintage car show, Bertha the Elephant, crafts, horseshoe pitch, Dressler Park, Wellington, 465-2354

Grape Stomp Festival, Oct. 7 Pahrump Valley Vineyards, 727-5800

Rally the Valley, Oct. 7-8, motorcycle rally, poker run, Beatty, 553-2424

High Desert Chili Cook-Off, Oct. 14, chili sampling, bike rally, Miss Chili Pepper Contest, poker run, Saddle West, Pahrump, 727-5953

Harvest Sale and Auction, Oct. 15, craft booths, baked goods and preserves, flea market, auction of antiques, quilts, and collectibles, free movies for the kids, Smith Valley Community Hall, Wellington, 465-2304 or 463-2245

Lost River Rock and Gem Jamboree, Oct. 26-Nov. 5, trade fair, stone carving, jack leg and mucking contests, fiddlers, Beatty, 553-2424

Beatty 49ers Burro and Flapjack Races, Oct. 28-29, Beatty Arena, 553-2424

Beatty Grand Prix, Oct. 29, off-road motorcycle event, Beatty, 553-2424

COMING EVENTS

Elko All-Breeds Bull Sale, Nov. 3-4, fairgrounds, 738-4091

Festival of Trees, Nov. 23-30, Elko, 738-4091

Cowboy Poetry Gathering, Jan. 27-Feb. 2, Elko, 738-7508

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- Fair
- Stock Car Races
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- Parade

September 15, 16 & 17, 1995

Information.
(702) 727-8195

PREVIEW

Civil War in Dayton

The Nevada Civil War Volunteers will re-create explosive moments of the War Between the States during the seventh annual Dayton Valley Days on September 16-17 in Dayton.

At the Civil War encampment, Union and Confederate soldiers, along with civilians, will demonstrate what life was like in the military and civilian camps from 1861 to 1865. Highlighting the weekend will be a twilight battle followed by a candlelight search for wounded and a candlelight surgery.

Other weekend activities will include an art show and sale, children's games, barbecue dinner, and cowboy poetry. Admission is free. Call 702-246-3393.—Dawn Van Sickle



Children battle over a game of checkers.

Walker Lake Fishing Derby, Feb. 20, Hawthorne, 945-5896

SHOWGUIDE

Rural Nevada offers unique entertainment values. For example, "Legends in Concert" will appear in a limited engagement at Cactus Petes in Jackpot. Most casinos add a lively mix of local bands to their weekend lineups.

COWBOY COUNTRY

Battle Mountain

Owl Club, 635-5155

Elko

Commercial Hotel, 738-3181: Comedy on Wed. Red Lion, 738-2111 or 800-545-0044 (Western U.S. outside Nevada)

Stockmen's Hotel, 738-5141

Jackpot

Barton's Club 93, 755-2341

Cactus Petes, 755-2321 or 800-821-1103: Cabaret Lounge: "Legends in Concert," thru Sept. 24; Danny Marona, Oct. 3-15

Horseshu Casino, 755-2321

Mill City (on I-80)

Burns Bros. Casino, 538-7306: Bands play in Mr. B's Lounge

Wendover

Mac's Casino and Nevada Crossing Hotel, 664-4000

Peppermill, 664-2255 or 800-648-9660 (U.S. outside Nevada)

Red Garter, 664-2111 or 800-982-2111 (continental U.S. outside Nevada): Bands include Different Drummer and Double Take

Silver Smith, 664-2231 or 800-354-3671: Nightly entertainment

State Line, 664-2221 or 800-648-9668: Nightly entertainment

Winnemucca

Winners Hotel, 623-2511: Karaoke on Mon.; comedy on Wed.; groups like Valentino and Sol and Madison Avenue play Tues.-Sun. in the lounge

PONY EXPRESS TERRITORY

Ely

Hotel Nevada, 289-6665: Comedy on Tues.

Fallon

Bonanza Inn, 423-3111 ext. 47
Fallon Nugget, 423-3111

PIONEER TERRITORY

Beatty

Stagecoach, 553-2419 or 800-4BIGWIN (U.S. outside Nevada)

Hawthorne

El Capitan, 945-3321

Pahrump

Saddle West Casino, 800-GEDDY-UP

Tonopah

Mizpah Hotel, 482-6202

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LABOR DAY WEEKEND EVENTS

ELKO: County Fair & Livestock Show & Pari-Mutuel Racing, Western Art Show & Auction

WINNEMUCCA: Western Art Roundup, Tri-County Fair, Winnemucca Rodeo & Parade

SEPTEMBER

WELLS: Race to Angel

WENDOVER: World of Speed

WINNEMUCCA: Ranch Hand Rodeo

OCTOBER

WENDOVER: Bonneville World Finals Speed Racing

WINNEMUCCA: Te-Moak Youth Pow Wow

NOVEMBER

ELKO: Festival of Trees

Write or Call: Nevada's Cowboy Country, 50 Winnemucca Blvd. West
Winnemucca, Nevada 89445 • 1-800-WMCA-NEV



The Pinenut Festival in Schurz includes a rodeo and powwow, September 14-17

Station House, 482-9777

Yerington

Casino West, 463-2481 or 800-227-4661
Dini's Lucky Club, 463-2868

ATTRACTIONS, TOURS & MUSEUMS

Cowboy Country

Bonneville Salt Flats: Wendover, 801-977-4300
Buckaroo Hall of Fame: Winnemucca, 623-2225
Giant Tufa Park: West of Lovelock, 273-7213
Humboldt Museum: Winnemucca, 623-2912
Jarbridge Wilderness Area: 376 Burley Ave., 208-543-4129
Northeastern Nevada Museum: 1515 Idaho St., Elko, 738-3418
Pershing County Marzen House Museum: Marzen Ln., Lovelock, 273-7213
Western Folklife Center: 501 Railroad St., Elko, 738-7508 or 800-748-4466
Wild Horse State Recreation Area: 65 miles north of Elko, 758-6493

Pioneer Territory

Belmont Courthouse State Historic Site: 50 miles north of Tonopah, 867-3001
Berlin-Ichthyosaur State Park: 23 miles east of Gabbs, Austin, 964-2440
Cathedral Gorge State Park: Panaca, 728-4467
Central Nevada Museum: Tonopah, 482-9676
Death Valley National Park: Via Beatty or Pahrump, 619-786-2331
Lincoln County Historical Museum: Pioche, 962-5207
Lyon County Museum: Yerington, 463-2245
Million Dollar Courthouse: Pioche, 962-5182
Mineral County Historical Museum: Hawthorne, 945-5142
Pahrump Valley Winery: Tours, 3810 Winery Rd., 727-6900 or 800-368-WINE

Rhyolite Bottle House, Historic Site: Near Death Valley, 553-2424
Spring Valley State Park: 20 miles east of Pioche, 962-5102
Walker Lake State Recreation Area: Hawthorne, 945-5896

Pony Express Territory

Cave Lake State Recreation Area: 15 miles south of Ely, 728-4467
Churchill County Museum and Hidden Cave: Tours, 1050 S. Maine St., Fallon, 423-3677
Dayton State Park: 687-5678
East Ely Railroad Depot Museum: 289-1663
Eureka Opera House: Open Mon.-Fri. or by appointment, tours, Eureka, 237-6006
Eureka Sentinel Museum: Eureka, 237-5484

Fort Churchill State Historic Park: Silver Springs, 577-2345
Great Basin National Park: Baker, 234-7331
Hickison Petroglyph Recreation Site: 24 miles east of Austin on U.S. 50
Nevada Northern Railway Museum: Seasonal, East Ely, 289-2085
Sand Mountain: 20 miles east of Fallon, U.S. 50, 885-6000
Ward Charcoal Ovens State Historic Site: 16 miles (11 dirt) south of Ely, 728-4467
White Pine Public Museum: Ely, 289-4710

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

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Vacation Hot Lines

Where to call or write for travel tips.

When planning your Nevada trip or vacation, be sure to write or phone these one-stop sources for information.

If you plan to stop by a chamber (C of C) office, chances are it will be open in the daytime Monday through Friday.

When calling long distance within Nevada, first dial the state's area code (702).

Statewide Information

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

Las Vegas Territory

- Boulder City C of C:** 1497 Nevada Hwy., Boulder City, NV 89005; 293-2034
- Boulder City Visitor Center:** 100 Nevada Hwy., Boulder City, NV 89005; 294-1220
- 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
- Hoover Dam Visitors Services:** Box 60400, Boulder City, NV 89006; 293-8367
- Jean Visitor Center:** Interstate 15 Rest Area (8 mi. south of Jean), Jean, NV 89019; 874-1360
- Las Vegas C of C:** 711 E. Desert Inn Rd., Las Vegas, NV 89109; 735-1616
- Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority:** 3150 Paradise, Las Vegas, NV 89109; 892-0711
- Latin C of C:** 829 S. Sixth St., Las Vegas, NV 89125; 385-7367
- Laughlin C of C:** Box 7777, Laughlin, NV 89028; 298-2214 or 800-227-5245 outside Nevada
- Laughlin Visitor Bureau:** Box 29849, Laughlin, NV 89029; 298-3022
- Mesquite Area C of C:** 250 W. Mesquite Blvd., Box 785, Mesquite, NV 89024; 346-2902
- Mesquite Visitor Center:** Interstate 15 Exit 122, Box 1560, Mesquite, NV 89024; 346-2703
- Moapa Valley C of C:** Hwy. 169, Box 361, Overton, NV 89040; 397-2193 (Lost City Museum)
- Nevada Black C of C:** 1048 W. Owens Ave., 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

- Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority:** 3150 Paradise, Las Vegas, NV 89109; 892-0711
- Latin C of C:** 829 S. Sixth St., Las Vegas, NV 89125; 385-7367
- Laughlin C of C:** Box 7777, Laughlin, NV 89028; 298-2214 or 800-227-5245 outside Nevada
- Laughlin Visitor Bureau:** Box 29849, Laughlin, NV 89029; 298-3022
- Mesquite Area C of C:** 250 W. Mesquite Blvd., Box 785, Mesquite, NV 89024; 346-2902
- Mesquite Visitor Center:** Interstate 15 Exit 122, Box 1560, Mesquite, NV 89024; 346-2703
- Moapa Valley C of C:** Hwy. 169, Box 361, Overton, NV 89040; 397-2193 (Lost City Museum)
- Nevada Black C of C:** 1048 W. Owens Ave., 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

Reno-Tahoe Territory

- Carson City C of C:** 1900 S. Carson St., Suite 100, Carson City, NV 89701; 882-1565
- Carson City Convention and Visitors Bureau:** 1900 S. Carson St., Suite 200, Carson City, NV 89701; 687-7410 or 800-NEVADA-1 in U.S.
- Carson Valley C of C and Visitors Authority:**



Nevada Territories

To assist you in your travels through Nevada, the state has been divided into five territories: Las Vegas, Reno-Tahoe, Cowboy Country, Pony Express, and Pioneer. Indian Territory encompasses all of Nevada.

- 1524 Hwy. 395, No. 1, Gardnerville, NV 89410-7814; 782-8144 or 800-727-7677 in U.S.
- Greater Reno-Sparks C of C:** 405 Marsh Ave., Reno, NV 89505; 686-3030
- Incline Village/Crystal Bay C of C:** 969 Tahoe Blvd., Incline Village, NV 89451; 831-4440
- Incline Village/Crystal Bay Visitors and Convention Bureau:** 969 Tahoe Blvd., Incline Village, NV 89451; 832-1606 or 800-GO-TAHOE anywhere in U.S.
- Lake Tahoe Visitors Authority:** 1156 Ski Run Blvd., South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150; 916-544-5050, 800-AT-TAHOE in U.S., or 900-776-5050 for updated visitor info. (\$1/min. charge)
- North Lake Tahoe C of C:** 245 N. Lake Blvd., Tahoe City, CA 96145; 916-581-6900
- Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority:** 4590 S. Virginia St., Reno, NV 89502; 827-RENO or 800-FOR-RENO in the U.S.

- Reno-Sparks Indian Colony Tribal Council:** 98 Colony Rd., Reno, NV 89502; 329-2936
- South Lake Tahoe C of C:** 3066 Lake Tahoe Blvd., S. Lake Tahoe, CA 96150; 916-541-5255
- Sparks C of C:** 831 Victorian Ave., Sparks, NV 89431; 358-1976
- Tahoe-Douglas C of C:** Box 7139, Stateline, NV 89449; 588-4591
- Tahoe North Visitors and Convention Bureau:** Box 5578, Tahoe City, CA 96145; 916-583-3494 or 800-TAHOE 4 U
- Virginia City C of C:** V&T Railroad Car, C St., Virginia City, NV 89440; 847-0311

Cowboy Country

- Battle Mountain C of C:** Box 333, Battle Mountain, NV 89820; 635-8245
- Elko C of C:** 1601 Idaho St., Elko, NV 89801; 738-7135
- Elko Convention and Visitors Authority:** 700 Moren Way, Elko, NV 89801; 738-4091 or 800-248-ELKO outside Nevada
- Jackpot Visitor Information:** Box 508, Jackpot, NV 89825; 755-2321 or 800-821-1103 anywhere in U.S.

- Jarbridge Community Assn.:** c/o Trading Post, Box 260072, Jarbridge, NV 89826; 488-2315
- Lovelock C of C:** Box 821, Lovelock, NV 89419; 273-7213
- McDermitt Information:** Box 278, McDermitt, NV 89421; 532-8742

- Wells C of C:** Box 615, Wells, NV 89835; 752-3540
- Wendover USA Visitors/Convention Bureau:** Box 2468, Wendover, NV 89883; 664-3414 or 800-426-6862 outside Nevada
- Winnemucca C of C:** 30 W. Winnemucca Blvd., Winnemucca, NV 89445; 623-2225

- Winnemucca Convention and Visitors Bureau:** 50 W. Winnemucca Blvd., Winnemucca, NV 89445; 623-5071 or 800-WMCA-NEV

- Pony Express Territory**
- Austin C of C:** Box 212, Austin, NV 89310; 964-2200
- Dayton Area C of C:** 15 Main St., Box 408, Dayton, NV 89403; 246-7909 (open Thurs.-Sun.)
- Ely's Bristlecone Convention Center:** 150 Sixth St., Box 958, Ely, NV 89301; 289-3720
- Eureka County C of C:** Box 14, Eureka, NV 89316; 237-5484
- Fallon Convention and Tourism Authority:** 100 Campus Way, Fallon, NV 89406; 423-4556 or 800-874-0903 anywhere in U.S.
- Fernley C of C:** 485 Truck Inn Way, Box 1606,

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Fernley, NV 89408; 575-4459
Great Basin C of C: Box 90, Baker, NV 89311; 234-7302
Greater Fallon Area C of C: 379 W. Williams Ave., Fallon, NV 89406; 423-2544
Silver Springs EDASS (Econ. Dev. Authority of Silver Springs): Box 269, Silver Springs, NV 89429; 577-2069
White Pine C of C: 636 Aultman, Ely, NV 89301; 289-8877

Pioneer Territory

Amargosa C of C: HCR 69-2 Box 401W, Amargosa, NV 89020; 372-5459
Beatty C of C: 119 E. Main, Box 956, Beatty, NV 89003; 553-2424
Caliente C of C: Depot Building, Box 553, Caliente, NV 89008; 726-3129
Gabbs, City of: Box 176, Gabbs, NV 89409; 285-4019
Goldfield C of C: Box 219, Goldfield, NV 89013; 485-3210
Goldfield Historical Society: Box 178, Goldfield, NV 89013; 485-6365
Greater Smoky Valley C of C: Box 2020, State Route 376 at Carver's Station, Round Mountain, NV 89045; 377-2490
Mason Valley C of C: 227 S. Main St., Yerington, NV 89447-2536; 463-2245
Mineral County C of C: 601 Fifth St., Box 1635, Hawthorne, NV 89415; 945-5896

Pahrump Valley C of C: Box 42, Pahrump, NV 89041; 727-5800 or 800-633-WEST
Pioche C of C: Box 127 Pioche, NV 89043; 962-5544
Tonopah C of C: 301 Brower Ave., Box 869, Tonopah, NV 89049; 482-3859
Tonopah Convention Center: Box 408, Tonopah, NV 89049; 482-3558

Indian Territory

Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada: 806 Holman Way, Sparks, NV 89431; 355-0600
Indian Territory Chair: Stewart Indian Museum, 5366 Snyder, Carson City, NV 89701; 882-1808

State and National Parks

Death Valley National Park: Death Valley, CA 92328; 619-786-2331
Great Basin National Park: Baker, NV 89311; 234-7331
Lake Mead National Recreation Area: 601 Nevada Hwy., Boulder City, NV 89005; 293-8907
Nevada Division of State Parks: Capitol Complex, Carson City, NV 89710; 687-4370
Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area: Box 26569, Las Vegas, NV 89126; 363-1921

More Outdoor Activities

Bicycling in Nevada: Nevada Dept. of Transportation: 1263 S. Stewart St., Carson City, NV 89712; 687-4997
Bureau of Land Management: Main: Box 12000, Reno, NV 89520; 785-6402; Box 26569, Las Vegas, NV 89126; 647-5000; Box 831, Elko, NV 89801; 738-4071
Humboldt National Forest: 2035 Last Chance Rd., Elko, NV 89801; 738-5171
Nevada Div. of Wildlife: Main: Box 10678, Reno, NV 89520; 688-1500; Southern Nevada: State Mail Complex, Las Vegas, NV 89158; 486-5127
Pyramid Lake: Pyramid Lake Fisheries: Star Route, Sutcliffe, NV 89510; 476-0500
Toiyabe National Forest: 1200 Franklin Way, Sparks, NV 89431; 331-6444; 2881 S. Valley View, Suite 16, Las Vegas, NV 89102; 873-8800

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DINING DIRECTORY

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 (\$\$\$\$). To phone from out of state or long distance in-state, the area code is 702 throughout Nevada.

Las Vegas Area

AMERICAN

- Excalibur Hotel/RoundTable Buffet**—597-7777. Hot and cold entrees in abundance. B, L, D, \$, major.
- Excalibur Hotel/Sherwood Forest Cafe**—597-7777. Burgers, spaghetti, sandwiches. B, L, D, \$, major.
- Imperial Palace Hotel/Emperor's Buffet**—731-3311. Carving station featuring roast baron of beef. B, L, D, \$, major.
- Imperial Palace Hotel/Imperial Buffet/Teahouse**—731-3311. Carving station featuring prime rib of beef. Weekend brunch. B, L, D, \$, major.
- Riviera Hotel/Kady's Coffee Shop**—794-9318. Deli-style restaurant open 24 hours with daily specials, deli, and kosher items. B, L, D, \$-\$\$, major.
- Sam's Town/Mary's Diner**—5111 Boulder Hwy., 454-8073. A '50s flair. Blue plate 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.

INTERNATIONAL

- Riviera Hotel/Mardi Gras Food Court**—Nine quick-service restaurants serving food from around the world. B, L, D, \$, no CC.
- Riviera Hotel/World's Fare Buffet**—794-9400. Features a variety of international cuisine plus prime rib served nightly. B, L, D, \$, major.

ITALIAN

- Excalibur Hotel/Lance-A-Lotta-Pasta**—597-7777. Lasagna, fettuccine Alfredo, plus 14 different pasta creations. L, D, \$\$, major.
- Imperial Palace/Pizza Palace**—794-3261. Pizza, pasta, and salads. L, D, \$, major.
- Riviera Hotel/Ristorante Italiano**—794-9363. Vermicelli salsa bella vista, lobster Francaise, and fresh seafood. D, \$-\$\$\$\$, major.

MEXICAN

- Sam's Town/Willy and Jose's Mexican Cantina**—5111 Boulder Hwy., 454-8044. Authentic Mexican dishes in Old Mexico setting. D, \$, major.

ORIENTAL

- Imperial Palace/Ming Terrace**—794-3261. Mandarin and Cantonese cuisine, abalone, kung pao shrimp, roast duck. D, \$\$, major.
- Riviera Hotel/Rik' Shaw**—794-9537. Pineapple duck, orange roughly with black pepper sauce. Beef, shrimp, chicken, and pork sautéed with Chinese vegetables in oyster sauce. D, \$-\$\$, major.

STEAK AND SEAFOOD

- Excalibur Hotel/Camelot**—597-7777. Escargot, sea bass St. Michel, rack of lamb, filet Canterbury. D, \$\$, major.
- Excalibur Hotel/Sir Galahad's Prime Rib Room**—597-7777. Prime rib, English-fashioned desserts, entrees with soup, salad, potatoes, creamed spinach, and Yorkshire pudding. D, \$\$, major.
- Excalibur Hotel/Wild Bill's Saloon & Steakhouse**—597-7777. T-bone steaks, sirloins, ribs, fish, and chicken. D, Sun. champagne brunch, \$\$, major.

Imperial Palace/Seahouse—794-3261. Alaskan King crab legs, hot and cold appetizers, seafood salads. D, \$\$, major.

Riviera Hotel/Kristofer's—794-9233. Steak, seafood, and chicken. Complete dinners include glass of house wine, vegetable tray, breads, salad, entree, and dessert bonbons. D, \$\$, major.

Sam's Town/Diamond Lil's—5111 Boulder Hwy., 454-8009. Fresh fish and seafood daily. D, Sun. brunch. \$-\$\$, major.

Laughlin

- Colorado Belle/Orleans Room**—298-4000. Sunset supper menu. D, \$, major.
- Edgewater/Bountiful Buffet**—298-2453. B, L, D, \$, no CC.
- Edgewater/The Hickory Pit Steak House**—298-2453. Steak, seafood, prime rib, barbecue ribs, and chicken. D, \$\$, major.
- Gold River Resort/Cafe Victoria Coffee Shop**—298-2242. Open 24 hours. B, L, D, \$, AE, MC, V.
- Gold River Resort/Opera House**—298-2242. Buffet. B, L, D, \$, AE, MC, V.
- Gold River Resort/Pasta Cucina**—298-2242. Italian cuisine. D, \$\$, AE, MC, V.
- Gold River Resort/The Lodge**—298-2242. Steakhouse. D, \$-\$\$, AE, MC, V.
- Ramada Express/Dining Car Coffee Shop**—298-4200. Open 24 hours. B, L, D, \$, major.
- Ramada Express/Passaggio Italian Gardens**—298-4200. Homemade sauces, pastas, pizzas. D, \$, major.
- Ramada Express/Roundhouse Buffet**—298-4200. B, L, D, \$, major.
- Ramada Express/The Steakhouse**—298-4200. Specializing in flame-broiled meats. D, \$, major.

Reno-Carson Area

AMERICAN

- Carson Nugget/Bufet**—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 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.
- Carson Valley Inn/Michael's**—Minden, 782-9711. Rack of lamb and fresh seafood creations. D. Closed Tuesdays. \$-\$\$, major.
- Eldorado/The Brew Brothers**—Reno, 786-5700. Gourmet pizzas, ribs, barbecued shrimp, sausage sampler. L, D, \$, major.
- Fitzgeralds Reno/Molly's Garden**—785-3300. Omelets, prime rib, sandwiches, salads. Open 24 hours. B, L, D, \$, major.
- Fitzgeralds Reno/O' Lucky's Buffet**—785-3300. Open daily. B, L, D, \$, major.
- Holiday Hotel Casino/Shore Room**—Reno, 329-0411. Fresh salmon in chive sauce, chicken, prime rib. Steamed vegetable basket. 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. L, D, Sun. brunch. \$-\$\$, major.
- Ormsby House Hotel/V & T Coffee Shop**—Carson City, 882-1890. B, L, D, \$, major.
- Peppermill Hotel/Coffee Shop**—Reno, 826-2121. Filet of chicken croissant, Mediterranean omelet, California tostada salad, stuffed shells Florentine. B, L, D, \$-\$\$, major.
- Peppermill Hotel/Island Buffet**—Reno, 826-2121. Seafood buffet Fridays. B, L, D, \$-\$\$, major.
- Sharkey's Nugget**—Gardnerville, 782-3133. Prime rib is house specialty. B, L, D, \$, no CC.
- Virginian Hotel/Ranch Restaurant**—Reno, 329-2673. Gambler's Breakfast, prime rib, New York steak. B, L, D, \$, AE, MC, V.

BASQUE

- Louis' Basque Corner**—301 E. 4th St., Reno, 323-7203. Sweetbreads, tripe, paella, other seafood dishes. L, D, \$\$, major.

FRENCH/CONTINENTAL

Eldorado/The Vintage—Reno, 786-5700. Continental cuisine, daily specials, choice dry-aged beef, mesquite-grilled. Complimentary wine tasting from award-winning wine list. D. \$\$, major.

Peppermill Hotel/Le Moulin—Reno, 826-2121. Broiled swordfish Santa Cruz, filet mignon, bearnaise, veal piccata, lobster linguine a la Roma. D. \$\$-\$\$\$ major.

INTERNATIONAL

Eldorado/Choices—Reno, 786-5700. An express cafe with hofbrau, deli, bakery, ice cream. B, L, D. \$, major.

Eldorado/Market Place Buffet—Reno, 786-5700. Mushroom ravioli, fish, homemade pastas, and prime rib. B, L, D. \$, major.

Eldorado/Tivoli Gardens—Reno, 786-5700. Multi-ethnic, 24-hour restaurant and entertainment attraction. Italian, South American, Caribbean, Thai, Szechwan, Vietnamese, Cantonese, and American cuisine. B, L, D. \$, major.

Peppermill Hotel/Food Court—Reno, 826-2121. Manicotti marinara, prime rib, kung pao shrimp, chicken fajitas. B, L, D. \$, major.

ITALIAN

Eldorado/La Strada—Reno, 786-5700. Northern Italian cuisine with veal, chicken, and seafood entrees plus homemade pasta, sauces, and desserts. Award-winning wine list. D. \$\$, major.

ORIENTAL

John Ascuaga's Nugget/Trader Dick's—Sparks, 356-3300. Cashew chicken, Szechwan specialties, flaming dagger brochette. L, D. \$\$, major.

STEAK AND SEAFOOD

Carson Nugget/Oyster Bar—882-1626. L, D. \$, major.

Carson Nugget/Steak House—882-1626. Veal scallopini, scampi in dill sauce, chicken piccata, escargot. D. \$\$, major.



Excalibur's Sherwood Forest Cafe serves American fare.

Eldorado/Grill and Rotisserie—Reno, 786-5700. Mahogany-fueled rotisserie and grill, fresh fish, fowl, lamb, and USDA choice dry-aged beef, soup and salad bar. 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.

Ormsby House Hotel/Baron's Steak House—Carson City, 882-1890. L, D. \$\$, major.

Lake Tahoe

AMERICAN

Caesars Tahoe/Cafe Roma—Stateline, 588-3515. Lamb

chops, prime rib. B, L, D. \$-\$\$, major.

ITALIAN

Caesars Tahoe/Primavera—Stateline, 588-3515. Specialties include linguini carbonara, tenderloin pizzaola, pollo allo spumante. 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. Reservations for large parties. D. \$\$, major.

Caesars Tahoe/Piscis—Stateline, 588-3515. Dinner menu includes salmon, lobster, shrimp, sea bass. Flown in fresh daily. D. \$\$, major.

Around the State

Elko: Stockmen's Motor Hotel—738-5141. Casino coffee shop, evening dinner house. B, L, D. \$-\$\$, major.

Ely: Copper Queen—289-4271. Coffee shop, family dining room. Steaks, prime rib, seafood. Family-style Basque dinners Fri.-Sat., 5-10 p.m. B, L, D. \$-\$\$, major.

Lovelock: Sturgeon's—273-2971. Coffee shop open 24 hours, family dining room. Fiesta Room Supper Club Tues.-Sat. Steaks, seafood, Mexican dishes. B, L, D. \$-\$\$\$ major.

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'How'd They Do That?'

"EFX" brings Broadway and Hollywood to Las Vegas.

By Ann Henderson

There is nothing subtle about "EFX," the big-budget spectacular appearing at the MGM Grand in Las Vegas. "EFX" is a 90-minute musical starring Michael Crawford and a series of ambitious special effects. Both are outstanding. Crawford delivers a romantic ballad like no one else, and the "EFX" effects are effective and fun.

Crawford originated the title role in "The Phantom of the Opera," and in "EFX" the Tony-award winning tenor plays five different roles, including Merlin, H.G. Wells, and other visionary characters.

The lavish special effects were engineered by David Mendoza, who created the action for most of Siegfried and Roy's show at The Mirage. During a terrific time-travel sequence, "EFX" showgoers are "bombarded" by flying objects. The show has fire-breathing dragons and a spaceship that seems to vibrate the entire Grand Theatre. The effects, obviously benefiting from the show's \$40-million budget, are on a scale we expect at the movies. The impossible seems realistic enough to leave us asking, "How'd they do that?"

The wondering begins when you discover that the printed program at your table contains a pair of 3-D glasses. While fiddling with the glasses—you'll need them late in the show—you can look around the 1,700-seat theater, which is decorated in the purple hues associated with wizards.

Grand Wizardry

"EFX" starring Michael Crawford plays nightly except Tuesday at the MGM Grand in Las Vegas at 7:30 p.m. with additional shows at 10:30 p.m. on Monday, Thursday, and Saturday. The \$70 price includes tax, tip, one cocktail, and a souvenir program. Call MGM One-Stop at 702-891-7777 or 800-929-1111 for reservations.



Dueling dragons are among the special effects of "EFX" in the MGM Grand Theatre.

Crawford opens the show with the haunting ballad "Somewhere in Time." His singing is clear and expressive. Subsequent numbers have Crawford singing while floating across the stage on a disc and later on an enormous globe. The score, most of which was composed by Don Grady, who played the oldest of TV's *My Three Sons*, suits Crawford's style and "EFX's" fantasy world.

As the EFX Master, Crawford guides us on a mystical journey through time to meet the other characters he portrays: Merlin, P.T. Barnum, Houdini, and H.G. Wells.

The first stop is in Merlin's enchanted forest, where dragons duel, and, amazingly, leaves sprout from trees. Later, a thundering spaceship arrives to unload P.T. Barnum's inter-

galactic circus. The alien creatures wear silver and white costumes designed by Theoni Aldredge, who, like "EFX" set designer David Mitchell, is a Tony winner. "EFX's" hard-working dancers are exceptional in a high-energy Irish jig.

The show's pacing slows when Crawford plays Houdini. Those intrigued by seances and re-creations of the magician's stunts will be entertained while the rest of us eagerly wait to put on our 3-D glasses and join H.G. Wells in a cinematic climax that one 12-year-old showgoer called "totally, completely cool."

No doubt he left "EFX" asking his parents,

"How'd they do that?"

Ann Henderson is the Las Vegas representative for Nevada Magazine.



Singer Michael Crawford.

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