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NEVADA

THE MAGAZINE OF THE REAL WEST

JUNE 1996 ■ \$3.50

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Blazing Paddles

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On the Cover:
The Desert Princess on Lake Mead.
Photo by Chris Leedham

Byways

The hopeful odyssey of Melvin Dummar, former Gabbs resident and world-famous claimant to the Howard Hughes fortune, is more than a good tale, according to **Richard Menzies**. "It is the quintessential Nevada story," says the longtime *Nevada* contributor from Salt Lake City.

Fifteen years ago Richard rode across the state with Melvin and shared the story with *Nevada* readers in "Melvin Dummar Revisited" (July/August '81). In this issue, as part of the magazine's 60th anniversary, Richard recalls that intriguing road trip and the eternal question: Did Melvin really pick up a bedraggled Howard Hughes in the desert near Beatty?

Richard muses, "Didn't Hughes ever get the urge to sneak out of that stuffy Las Vegas penthouse and go adventuring in the desert?" According to Melvin, he did.

A search for adventure led Lake Tahoe writer **Robin Daugherty** to join six "Motor City Slickers" on a horseback vacation, as she describes in this issue. Las Vegas espresso expert **Kate Butler** expresses her affection for coffeehouses in "See You Latte," while **K.J. Evans** rides "Blazing Paddles."

Another Nevada explorer, **Martin Griffith**, Emigrant Trail hiker (see May/June '94) and Associated Press reporter, notes the Donner Party's 150th anniversary in "The Breaking Point." He says, "It's a classic story of people under extreme stress. We'd like to think today that we'd do it differently, but I don't know Who's to say we'd do any better under the same circumstances?"

Martin himself faced an unnerving situation last October while researching the story. He was retracing the Hastings Cutoff when his trusty 1979 Ford Fiesta got stuck in gravel at a railroad crossing—so stuck that Martin couldn't free it before a train came along. After trying to signal the engineer, he jumped away and watched his faithful friend get smashed.

Undeterred, Martin recently explored the Donners' route near Winnemucca in his newly acquired 1990 Ford Festiva. "I think I've pinned down the hill where Reed stabbed Snyder," he says. Reports to follow, we hope.—*David Moore*

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LETTERS

Country stores and calendar girls.

Musical Highways

For any drive across Nevada, I've long favored Bill Evans' piano on the tape deck as first-rate accompaniment. How fine it was to read in "Great Guides" last issue of author David W. Toll's own fondness for Evans in the desert—and the Zen of the journey.

A.C. Turman
Virginia City

a bench and table to eat or drink from as the health inspectors say she doesn't have a public restroom.

Your magazine was misleading and out of date, so we did not pursue more towns like Wellington as we might have been disappointed.

Lynne Moore
Hounslow, England

Lynne, appreciate your concern about the porch. Norma Peterson says she had to remove the picnic table on her country store's inviting old porch since Nevada health codes stipulate that there must be restrooms for both men and women if food is consumed on the premises. She adds that the porch is the perfect place to enjoy a piece of pie on a summer afternoon, "but the building is over 130 years old—you can't just add on."—Ed.

Border Town Bungle

In the March/April Nevada Events and Shows section of the magazine, the review "Sizzling in Mesquite" puts Mesquite on the Nevada-Utah border. Shame—Mesquite is on the Nevada-Arizona border. Littlefield, Arizona, is the closest town to the east.

J.C. Wilkinson
San Marcos, CA
J.C., thanks for reminding us about that small but important corner of Arizona. Thanks also to Shig Yamamoto of Pacific Grove, CA.—Ed.

Calendar Girls

"Politically correct" my left foot! Regarding the Nov/Dec '95 letter that denounces women's photos in the 1996 calendar as promoting "a political agenda," I have enjoyed reading stories about Nevada's great men since before you were called *Nevada Magazine*. Now I have enjoyed the Nevada Historical Calendar about Nevada's women, and it's politically correct?

Sorry, Edward D. Slagle, I disagree. Women did have a place in the making of Nevada, and I don't believe that takes one thing away from the greatness of our men.

Patricia P. Garate
Elko □

All in the Family

My sister and I were delighted to see the picture (below) of Winnemucca's Martin Hotel with the "Dining Out" story by K.J. Evans in the Jan/Feb issue. The man on the left was our great-uncle, Alphonso Pasquale, who built the hotel.

We have the original photo in an old family album. Our mother, Linda Pasquale, loaned it and several others to the hotel owners in the 1970s so they could make copies. The copies are among the historic photos displayed at the Martin Hotel today.

Rena Pasquale Winchell
Inez Pasquale Winkel
Reno



Hotelier Alphonso Pasquale (left) with the Martin family, 1916.

Porch Life

Last year my husband and I decided that it would be nice to see the Wellington Mercantile as described in "All's Well in Wellington" by Marge Knorr in the July/August '95 issue. We arrived at the store and were quite disappointed that there was no table on the porch to sit with coffee and no red-check tablecloths.

Owner Norma Peterson said that the photograph was more than three years old, and that she is not allowed to have



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ROADSIDE ATTRACTIONS

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HIKING

Wildflower Walks

STATEWIDE—In the spring, Nevada's wildflowers can be as abundant as sagebrush, splashing the desert and mountains with spectacular bursts of color. You can take guided tours during the blooming season, which usually begins in early March and lasts well into June and July.

A colorful place to explore is Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area, 15 miles west of Las Vegas, where you'll find wildflower hikes, walks, and talks. The "Knee-Deep in Wildflowers" program on May 11 and 12 is a two-hour walk past blooming globemallow, evening primrose, penstemon, prickly pear, and Joshua trees. A "Canyon Cactus" walk takes place June 23. Call 702-363-1921 for details.

At Lake Tahoe Nevada State Park, park interpreter Toni Nielsen will lead a hike at Spooner Lake on June 15. During the outing she will discuss the Lake Tahoe Basin and such bloomers as lupine, columbine, monkey flower, mule's ear, and penstemon. The hike starts at Spooner Lake at 9 a.m., and participants need to call ahead—the hike day may vary, depending on the weather. The hike is classified as easy and lasts from two to three hours. Bring a sack lunch and wear comfortable hiking shoes. For information call Toni at Mormon Station State Historic Park, 702-782-2590.—Chaz Kasper



The fiery snow plant usually blooms at Lake Tahoe in May and June.

SIGHTSEEING



Inside Reno's bowling stadium, the silver ball reveals a movie screen.

Cinema in the Round

RENO—Inside the 80-foot-diameter silver "bowling ball" of the National Bowling Stadium in downtown Reno is the 177-seat Stadium Theater. Visitors can see two movies, *To Fly!* and *Reno: More Ways to Play*. Both are shown in 70mm format and synchronized to music.

To Fly! is a 30-minute chronicle of the history of flight from hot-air balloons to rockets. The images on the screen, which is four stories tall, are so huge that you can almost feel the spray on your face as a hot-air balloon hovers over Niagara Falls. Barnstormers also perform dizzying stunts in their flying machines.

Reno: More Ways to Play explores Reno-Tahoe attractions. Narrated by Mark Twain impersonator McAvoy Layne of Incline Village, the 10-minute film uses the four seasons as a backdrop for activities and events such as mountain biking, the Reno Rodeo, and the National Championship Air Races.

Stadium Theater tickets are \$5 for adults, \$3.50 for students and seniors, and can be purchased on the fourth level of the National Bowling Stadium. The theater is on the fifth floor. Show times are 10:30 a.m., noon, 2:30 p.m., 4 p.m., and 5:30 p.m. For information call 702-334-2634.—Katherine McDonnell

Net Gains

THE INTERNET For the big picture on travel in the Silver State, the Nevada Commission on Tourism (<http://travelnevada.com>) has opened its official online travel guide. The guide has statewide listings for events, shows, and attractions. An online order form enables you to have information, such as a visitor package and the *Discover Nevada Bonus Book*, sent via snail mail. *Nevada Magazine's* home page also will be accessible through NCOT's site. The magazine's page has stories, photos, and special subscription offers.

You can hear the roar of the volcano and see the frolicking dolphins at the **Mirage Las Vegas Home Page** (<http://www.themirage.com>). Although the site is not interactive, it has attractive color photos and downloadable sounds and video. An online merchandise catalog makes it possible to order T-shirts, jackets, and stuffed animals via an 800 number. Package deals are outlined in a special area for travel agents.

The addresses and phone numbers for several Reno-area restaurants are just a click away on the online dining guide at **Reno Net** (<http://www.reno.net>), a site sponsored by a private company. Listings of accommodations, wedding chapels, and family activities are updated regularly on this site dedicated to the Reno-Tahoe area. The site's clean, easy-to-read Reno casino map is worth the download time.

—Steve Graham

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SPAS



The Spa at
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has cool
pools and
mud baths.

Desert Treatment

MESQUITE—If you want a good old-fashioned mud bath, you can ease into one at the **Spa at Players Island Resort** in Mesquite, 80 miles northeast of Las Vegas on Interstate 15.

The spa offers 18 treatments, including facials, massages, and mud baths, which are said to have been inspired by a Paiute Indian legend about the sacred powers of the nearby Virgin River. The mud baths use mineral- and salt-enriched clay to draw out toxins and rejuvenate the skin. Treatments range from 30 to 90 minutes and cost between \$35 and \$85.

Anyone over 18 can use the spa—you don't have to be a hotel guest. There is a \$5 fee (\$10 on weekends) for the use of the spa and its weight room, towels, and lockers; the fee is waived if you buy a treatment. Hotel guests have free use of the gym, warm mineral-water grotto pool, and eucalyptus steam room. For reservations call the Spa at Players Island, 702-346-PLAY, or the hotel, 800-896-4567.—*Katherine McDonnell*

HIGHWAYS

Speed Limits Go Up

STATEWIDE—Highway travelers are accelerating in the Silver State thanks to **higher speed limits** instituted last winter. Most roads have been posted with higher speed standards, but drivers should note that increases are not effective until the speed limit signs have been changed.

The increase follows an ongoing pattern, says Scott Magruder, public information officer for the Nevada Department of Transportation. The higher speed reflects the "85th percentile"—that is, 85 percent of drivers are already going that speed or exceeding it.—*Chaz Kasper*

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THE BARGAIN ADVISOR

By Deke Castleman

Now that the whole multisensory, kaleidoscopic Fremont Street Experience is fanfaronading nightly, a visit to downtown Las Vegas can include a high-fidelity light show. While you're there, stop off at the Deli in the **Golden Gate** (702-382-6300) for a 99-cent shrimp cocktail. It's served in a cocktail glass and filled to the bottom (no celery or lettuce need apply) with dozens of crunchy little crustaceans. The Gate has dished up nearly 30 million of them since 1959—at six ounces apiece, that's more than 11 million pounds of shrimp. Order a lemon wedge (for a nickel) and a Coke or draft, and you've got a perfect snack for two bucks and change.

Speaking of promotional poundage, the **Sands** (702-733-5000) in Las Vegas has given away more than six million logo coffee mugs since 1988. At 10 ounces apiece, that adds up to an incredible well, never mind. What's important is that these ceramic mugs are attractive, free, and available to anyone over 21 who walks in the door (one per person per Las Vegas visit).

It's spring, which means that RVers and campers are loose on the land. Of the 10 or so RV parks in the Reno area, the bargain is found at **Boomtown** (702-345-8650). At \$15 per night, it's the cheapest and also one of the nicest. The park is below the casino and has wide spaces, some greenery, and its own pool and spa. The casino

houses something for everyone: a steakhouse, buffet, 18-hole indoor miniature-golf course, antique carousel, and the only motion-simulation theater in Northern Nevada.

Tenters who are looking for mountain camping at its peak will find it at Wheeler Peak Campground in **Great Basin National Park** (702-234-7331). The campground, at 10,000 feet, is the highest camping area accessible by paved road in Nevada. It's big, woodsy, and full of downy pine needles for a soft night's sleep. The campground has access to two short lake trails, a longer hike to a forest of bristlecone pines, and a major huff and puff to Wheeler Peak (13,063 feet). All that for only \$5 a night. □

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



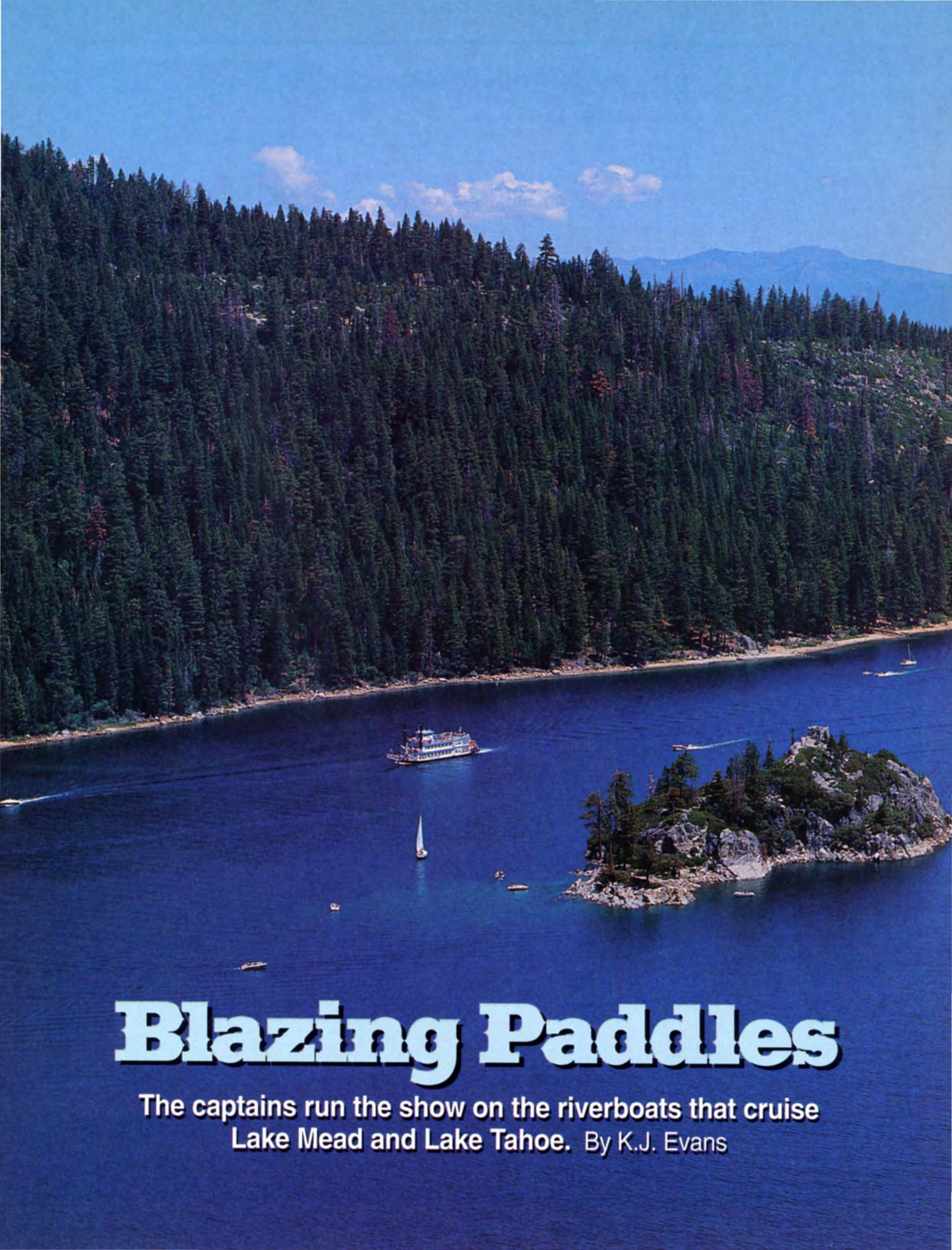
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Blazing Paddles

The captains run the show on the riverboats that cruise
Lake Mead and Lake Tahoe. By K.J. Evans

"I think [steamboat] pilots were about the only people I ever knew who failed to show... embarrassment in the presence of traveling foreign princes. But then, people in one's own grade of life are not usually embarrassing objects."—Mark Twain

A couple stand on the gangway leading to Lake Mead Marina. They are tossing popcorn kernels to the corpulent carp who live under the floating structure.

The man hears a rumble, senses a shadow. He looks up and is startled. Sliding into a berth only a few yards away is a twin-stacked, three-decked paddlewheeler, well over a hundred feet long. The pilot wears crisp whites. He peers down from the wheelhouse as deckhands secure lines. The gold braid on his epaulets glints brightly in the sun.

"It's the *Robert E. Lee*," the man laughs, dumping the remaining popcorn into the school of scaly scavengers.

"What's a riverboat doing on this lake?" his wife wonders aloud. They both walk toward the ship.

Actually, the *Desert Princess* isn't a riverboat at all. It wears riverboat clothing, a flashy costume that serves the same function as the captain's gold epaulets—it upholds tradition. Both the *Desert Princess*, and her larger sister ship on Lake Tahoe, the *M.S. Dixie II*, are the granddaughters of working riverboats. Even so, the modern vessels have as much in common with their cotton-toting ancestors as does a Fokker Triplane to the space shuttle *Columbia*.

Captain Jim Lusch steps to the dock, gives an instruction to a deckhand and then heads for the marina's cafe, where he settles behind a cup of hot coffee. He has been piloting tour boats on Lake Mead for 12 years. He was initially hired to run one of the *Echo* excursion boats, of which there have been several. The name was derived from the first *Echo*, which provided mail service between Lake Mead's Boulder Basin to Echo Bay, up north on the lake's Overton Arm.

Lusch was a journeyman glazier who came to Las Vegas in the 1970s to install glass in the original MGM Grand Hotel, now Bally's. The work was lucrative but not enjoyable. So he retired.

"No, I didn't retire," he corrects himself. "I quit."

He opened a boat repair shop in

Boulder City that prospered. He spent most of his spare time as an unpaid apprentice deckhand, learning the boats and the business, logging in the time needed before he could take the test for a captain's license.

People who are at home on the water will understand why he made such a dicey career move in middle age.

"I think it's the same for anyone who's been out on the lakes or the water for any length of time," says Lusch. "There's a peacefulness that gets



Piloting the *Desert Princess* (above) on Lake Mead is Captain Jim Lusch (right). At left, the *Tahoe Queen* cruises by Fannette Island in Lake Tahoe's scenic Emerald Bay.

into you and requires that you stay around it.

"About 90 percent of the people who we interview come to work for us for the same reason. They have been on the water. They love being on the water. They love the feeling that it gives you, the overall serenity."

Meanwhile, 430 miles north and 5,000 feet higher in the sky, Captain Jim Biller has come aboard the *M.S. Dixie II* and is preparing for the first cruise

of the day, across Lake Tahoe from Zephyr Cove to Emerald Bay, on the California side.

Biller is a career seafarer who graduated from the California Maritime Academy in 1973. For the next four years he shipped out on various jobs aboard seagoing vessels.

One winter day, in between voyages, he decided he needed a change of scenery. He loaded his skis and headed for the Sierra Nevada and Lake Tahoe. "That was in 1976, and I'm still here," he says.

If it hadn't been for a small misunderstanding, Biller probably would have come aboard the *Dixie* much sooner than he did. During his ski trip he had spotted the old *M.S. Dixie* tied up at Zephyr Cove and wondered if his third mate's unlimited license, which allowed him to operate oceangoing vessels of up to 100 gross tons, would qualify him to pilot it.

"So I called up, and someone told me that the *Dixie* was 300 tons," he says. (It was actually 98 tons.)

Still, Biller liked Tahoe, and in 1978 he took a job operating the 65-foot *Highwater Princess*, where he was noticed and approached by the *Dixie's* management. The vessel's tonnage question was answered correctly, and he made the switch.

Biller is at the helm when he





The *Desert Princess* has a new docking area at Hoover Dam.

is asked a stock question. What kept him here?

"What kept me here?" he echoes, feigning astonishment. "Just look at it." Given the current position, at the mouth of Emerald Bay, it does seem a silly question.

He has made Zephyr Cove his home port and the azure lake his permanent

**Lusch recalls
one lad who wanted to
see if the 114-foot
Desert Princess
would do "donuts."**

workplace. It's the best of both worlds. He is the master of a respectable-sized vessel on the world's largest alpine lake, but he doesn't have to live on the high seas for months at a time.

"Now I get to play with boats and still go home at night," he says.

David Christenson, on the other hand, had never owned a boat in his life before he retired from his job with the telephone company in Orange County, California. He's a certified deckhand on the *Desert Princess*, studying for his operator's license under Captain Lusch's tutelage. Christenson, like Captain Biller, regards boat

operating as playing with a very large toy.

"And they pay me for it," he adds. Today Christenson will handle the tricky maneuver of getting the *Desert Princess* out of its narrow slip at Lake Mead Marina, through the maze of private boats, and onto the open water. Lusch will supervise, assisted by Captain Jim, a green balsa wood parrot who swings on his perch in the cabin but seldom squawks. Christenson handles the maneuver well, and the skipper offers a gentle critique of his performance once the *Princess* has cleared the breakwater.

But it isn't windy today, as it so often is on this vast desert sea.

"It takes a virtual magician to take this boat in a 45-mph wind," says Lusch. "We have the equivalent of 400 square feet of sail area on the side of that boat, and it does make a difference. Just a five-mph wind will move the boat sideways—and a 45-mph wind will move it sideways as fast as you can move it forward."

Of course, the days of those tricky landings are numbered. Work is nearing completion on a new marina, the Hoover Dam Ferry Terminal, less than a

mile north of Lake Mead Marina. The ship will have roomier quarters with a special extension for its gangplank. There will be a waiting area and ticket office as well as a reservations and business office. Also, a floating platform has been built on the lake side of Hoover Dam just below the new visitor center, allowing the *Princess* to ferry passengers to and from the dam.

The throttle is set, and the paddlewheel is activated. The *Princess* has four turbocharged Caterpillar diesel engines. Two of them drive propellers. Two others power generators and the hydraulic system, which runs the paddlewheel, and the "bow thrusters," a pair of steering propellers at the front of the boat. The arrangement aboard the *M.S. Dixie II* is similar, but more powerful, and with a separate engine for the bow thrusters.

"The dinner-dance cruises last three hours, so we can just piddle around and take it nice and easy, so we go with full paddle and no props," says Lusch.

His counterpart on the *Dixie* also has great appreciation for paddle power. As a seafarer, Biller says, he hadn't given much thought to the workings of sternwheelers, and didn't until the early 1980s when the antiquated stern-wheel system on the original *M.S. Dixie* had to be rebuilt. He did some research, and a friend handed him some vintage plans for building a Mississippi-style paddlewheel.

"It was 1885 technology on how to build a paddlewheel with staggered boards, which makes a more efficient wheel." Instead of a single board spanning 18 feet, there are two sets of nine-foot boards, offset from each other. "It takes out a lot of the thump and vibration, but you've got the same amount of push," Biller explains. The thrust of



David Christenson studies paddle dynamics.



The *M.S. Dixie II* (above) and Captain Jim Biller (right).

the paddle still is noticeable. The short, slight lurch is kind of soothing.

"The people who drove sternwheelers had to have been wonderful operators and ship handlers," says Biller. "The old paddlewheels just didn't have the power and the maneuverability of a propeller. They did their best work traveling in a straight line, where they were very fast. They do about 30 percent of the work on this boat."

On its course from Lake Mead Marina to Hoover Dam the *Desert Princess* cruises past Big Boulder Island and just a few yards from the chief hazard to navigation—Dead Man's Reef. The name is accurate. Boaters have been killed when they struck it. It is unmarked and sits either just above or just below the water depending on the level of the lake. The

captain keeps his eye on the reef as he passes. He explains that the National Park Service hasn't had the money or manpower to keep all reefs marked, given the size of the 290-square-mile lake and the frequency with which the reefs appear and disappear. The *Desert Princess* crew helps when it can. Christenson went to the trouble of painting a buoy, taking it out to the reef, and weighting it down with a big block of concrete. He is mystified why anyone would want to steal it, but someone did. "I made it as ugly as I could," he says.

Just another example of the bizarre human behavior both captains have witnessed on both lakes.

"We had a seaplane land, make a left turn directly in front of the boat, and come to a stop," Lusch recalls with a shudder. Full engine reverse and some deft helmsmanship avoided a collision. The errant pilot was reported, ticketed, and grounded.

"And it's really hectic when you have about 12 or 14 jet skis running around you in little circles," he says.

Daredevil skiers have cut in front of the massive boat so closely that the skier

disappears for a moment from the captain's view. Wake jumpers who come too close are often a problem. There have been no collisions with the *Desert Princess*, but the old *Echo IV* was rammed one time by a day cruiser, a type of long, low-slung speedboat that functions as kind of a floating cocktail lounge. They are popular among affluent single males.

It is policy that the wheelhouse is open to visitors. They are welcome to take the wheel—although not actual control of the helm; that's against Coast Guard regulations. During the summer



kids flock to the wheelhouse. Lusch recalls one lad who wanted to see if the 114-foot *Desert Princess* would do "donuts."

"It will do a donut, but I think it was kind of an odd sensation for some of the passengers," he laughs.

Meanwhile, the *Princess* is slowly passing the giant intake towers on the backside of Hoover Dam, while the narration reminds passengers that despite persistent legends, there are no workers buried in the concrete of Hoover Dam. Lusch is scanning the walls of Black Canyon looking for elusive desert bighorn sheep. He finally spots a family of Nevada's state animals standing on a ledge on the Arizona side, watching as the floating behemoth moves in their direction.

Captain Biller is receiving wheelhouse guests, a curious couple, as the *Dixie* enters Emerald Bay. Nearly all the passengers are topside now, hanging over the railing on the open, third-level "promenade" deck, admiring the view of Tahoe's southwestern shore. Off the port side is the



Dixie passengers take in Tahoe sights and sun.

peak of tiny Fannette Island, with the ruins of a stone teahouse perched on its summit. Eagle Falls is disgorging white water several hundred feet above.

Billier is watching the water. Emerald Bay is the only shallow water on his route. Off the starboard side, a dark shape appears. It's a log. He picks up the microphone of the marine-band radio and calls to warn the *Tahoe Queen*, another sternwheeler, which is a few miles behind. Large logs and paddlewheels are not compatible.

The *Dixie* eases out of Emerald Bay,

and most of the passengers go inside to get a beverage and watch a video called "The Sunken Treasures of Lake Tahoe." Captain Billier, leaning back in his chair and steering with his feet, admits that the job does lack serious daily excitement. But there are times...

"It was July 4. The *Dixie* had pulled out for a 2 p.m. cruise." He recalls that Captain Bob McMasters was in charge that day. A few minutes into the cruise McMasters saw an object floating in the water about a half-mile off Zephyr Point. It was a man who had fallen off a

The capsized sailors
were whisked to the
Dixie's warmest
place—the men's room.

jet ski. The wind had blown his little craft farther than he could swim. Captain McMasters radioed the beach, and a rescue boat saved the man from certain death by hypothermia.

"He would have eventually blown to shore, another statistic," says Billier.

Scarcely a week later, a woman went into full cardiac arrest on a dinner-dance cruise. The staff, trained in CPR, went to work on her. "And when the Coast Guard arrived to take her off, she was talking," he says.

The next week, on another blustery day, Billier was at the helm for the 5 p.m. cruise when he spotted something shiny in the water. He steered toward the object and realized it was a capsized sailboat. Two people were hanging on. They had been in the 60-degree water for more than an hour and were in the early stages of hypothermia. Pulled from the water, they were whisked into the men's room.

"The warmest place on the whole boat was in the men's head, because it was right over the engine room," Billier explains. He estimates the couple would have survived only another 15 minutes.

"It was three different instances, with three different captains and three different crews," says Billier. "And they all responded, and saved those people. We were walking on air for about a week and a half before we came back down."

Real-life dramas with happy endings do not come with every cruise. Passengers will have to be satisfied with breathtaking scenery, a cordial crew, and good food and drink.

On the *Desert Princess*, Captain Lusch has his own passenger-gratification gauge.

"When I look out the back of the pilothouse on the top deck during the summer," he says, "about 30 percent of the people are asleep." ▢

K.J. Evans, media relations manager of the Nevada Commission on Tourism, is an old salt who has had his timbers shivered on numerous occasions.

Sightseeing Cruises

Cruise ships offer daily aqua-escapes on Nevada waters. Children's prices generally are about half the adult fares, which are noted.

LAKE MEAD

Desert Princess: The 300-passenger paddlewheeler cruises to and from Hoover Dam, where it has a new dock. In mid-May the vessel's base will move from Lake Mead Marina to the new Hoover Dam Ferry Terminal. Sightseeing cruises start at \$14.50, with breakfast buffet \$21, early dinner \$29, and dinner-dance \$43. A one-way voyage to or from Hoover Dam is \$8. An extra \$1 fee is added to tickets of passengers boarding or leaving the boat at the dam. Lake Mead Cruises, Box 62465, Boulder City NV 89006, 702-293-6180.

LAUGHLIN/COLORADO RIVER

Little Belle and Fiesta Queen: The 150-passenger sidewheeler replicas take 75-minute cruises (\$10) from the Edgewater. Box 29279, Laughlin, NV 89029, 702-298-1047 or 800-228-9825.

U.S.S. Riverside: This 119-passenger vessel conducts 80-minute trips (\$10) from the Riverside Resort. Box 500, Laughlin, NV 89029, 702-298-2535 ext. 5670 or 800-227-3849.

Colorado River King: The 50-passenger craft makes eight-hour round trips to Lake Havasu (\$60). Blue River Safaris, Box 31998, Laughlin, NV 89029, 702-298-0910 or 800-345-8990.

Del Rio: Based near Harrah's, the 49-passenger boat cruises daily (\$12.95). Del Rio Beach Club, Laughlin, NV 89029, 702-298-6828.

LAKE TAHOE

M.S. Dixie II: The paddlewheeler is based at Zephyr Cove, four miles

north of Stateline on Tahoe's East Shore. Cruises include Emerald Bay (\$14; ask about senior discounts), breakfast (\$18), dinner (\$14, or \$26 with dinner), and dinner-dance (\$36). The *Dixie* recently increased its capacity from 360 passengers to more than



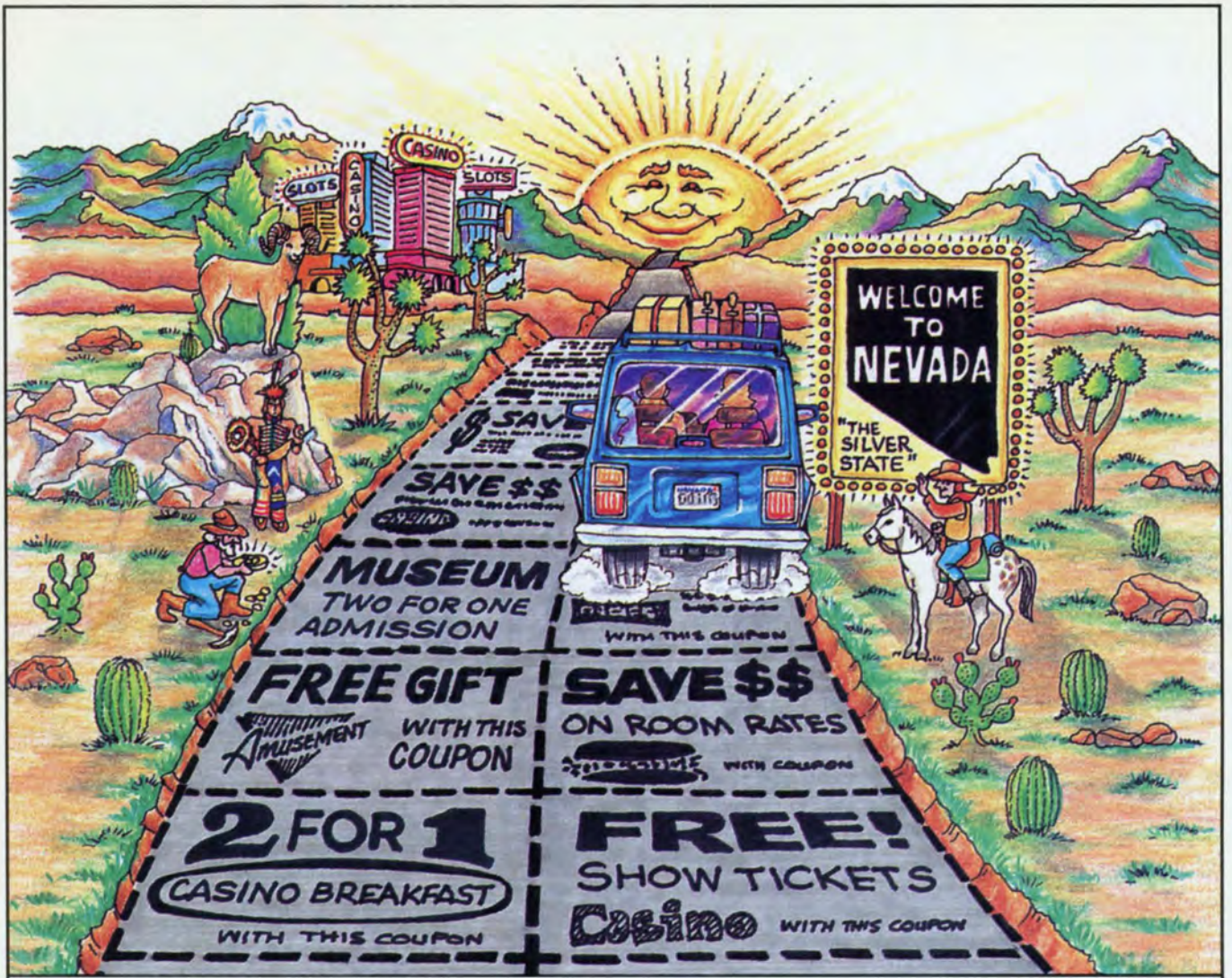
Tahoe Gal at Sugar Pine Point.

500. There's a free shuttle from Stateline casinos. Box 1667, Zephyr Cove, NV 89448, 702-588-3508 or 702-882-0786.

Woodwind: The 40-foot trimaran at Zephyr Cove carries up to 30 passengers and sails four times daily in summer. Basic cruise rate is \$16. Reservations are recommended. Box 1375, Zephyr Cove, NV 89448, 702-588-3000.

Tahoe Queen: The 500-passenger sternwheeler is based at Ski Run Marina. Cruises include Emerald Bay (\$14; ask about seniors' discounts) and sunset dinner-dance (\$18 plus \$18-\$20 for dinner). Box 14292, South Lake Tahoe, CA 96151, 916-541-3364 or 800-23-TAHOE.

Tahoe Gal: The 150-passenger paddlewheeler departs from Lighthouse Marina from spring until fall. Cruises are \$15 to \$35. Box 7913, Tahoe City CA 96145, 916-583-0141 or 800-218-2464 for information.



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Roman Candles Bandini took along her watchdog, coincidentally named Caesar to shoot Caesars Palace in Roman twilight. Despite the many people who moved in front of her 4x5 camera, the scene appears calm. "It's interesting that the longer the exposure, the more the people in the shot disappear," Bandini says. "People just seem to walk right through it."

Enchanted Evenings

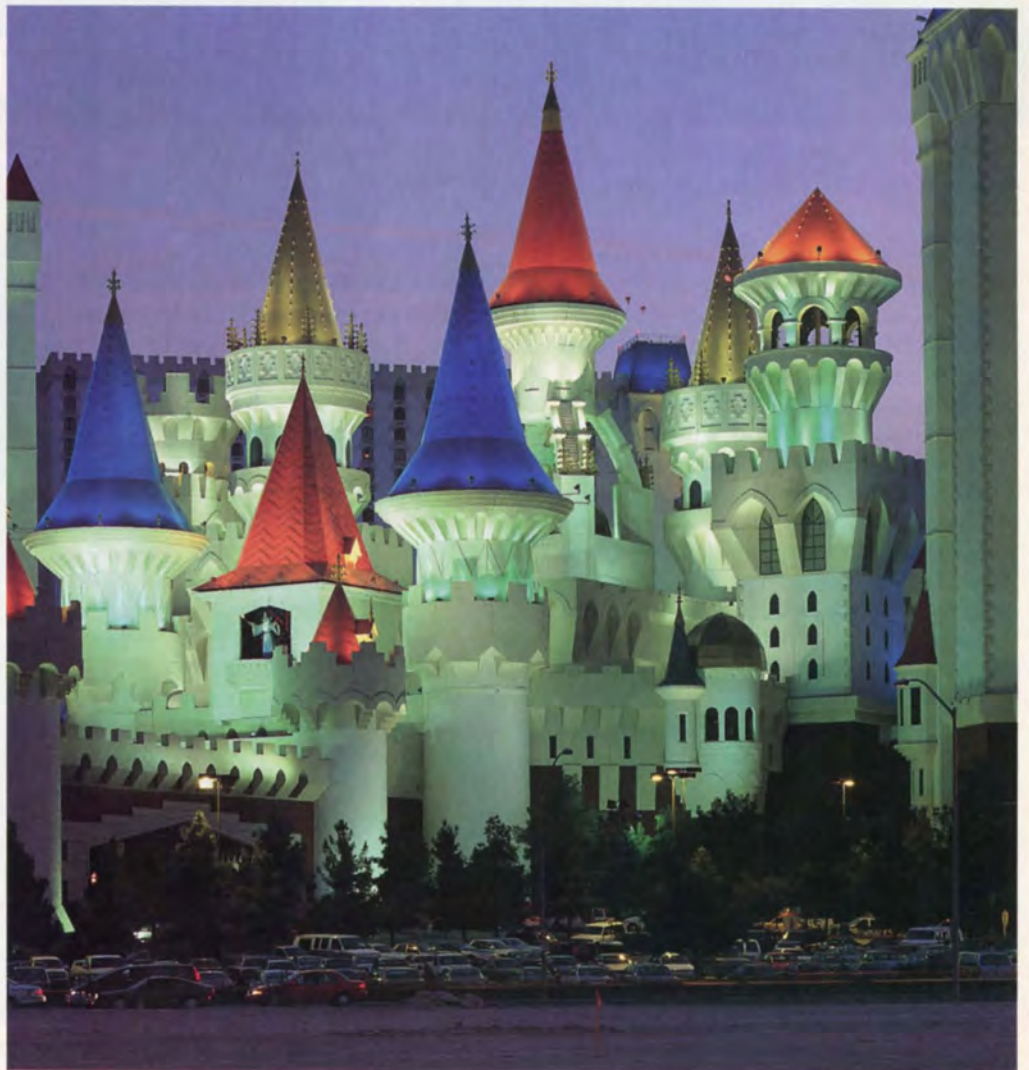
Casinoscapes at twilight. Photos by Gail Bandini

Las Vegas photographer Gail Bandini decided to take a detour from wilderness photography to shoot the castles and palaces of the Strip. "The city is much different—it's noisier and crowded," says Bandini, whose photos have appeared in such publications as *Destination Las Vegas: The Story Behind the Scenery*. "But in the wilderness, you don't have that kind of movement. And I got to learn Las Vegas all over again." ▽



Palace Architecture The cool blue of the Imperial Palace in this image is trumpeted by two Caesars Palace statues. "The Imperial Palace has such different architecture," Bandini says. "Of course, in Las Vegas you never know what you're going to see next."

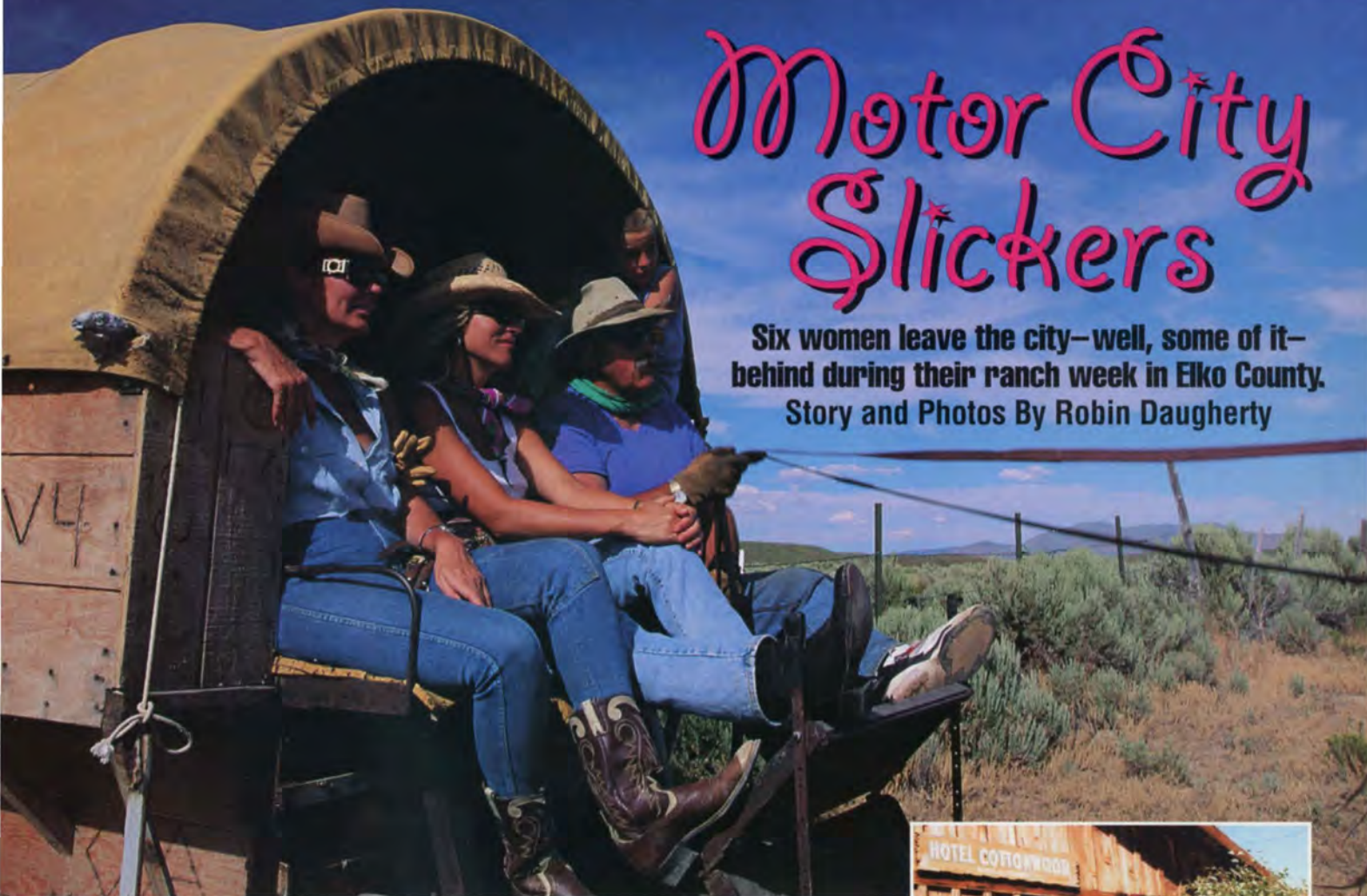
High Calibur This shot was a double exposure. Bandini took the first exposure at dusk, to catch the glow of the purple sky, and then the second exposure, of the night-lighted Excalibur, an hour and a half later. She says, "I got lucky. I had time for only one try. I also had to hope the wind didn't move the camera."



Motor City Slickers

Six women leave the city—well, some of it—behind during their ranch week in Elko County.

Story and Photos By Robin Daugherty



Sam holds the reins while Detroit dudettes Lois (left) and Carin as well as young Jonathon enjoy the ride into the wilds of Northeastern Nevada.

I'm in the Jarbidge Wilderness on a pack trip with two groups of people—ranch folks and city dudes—who might as well be from different planets. Leading us are Kim, ranch boss of the Cottonwood Ranch, and hands Patty, Tina, Claus, and Marie. Then there's big Sam. He works as a guard at a nearby mine, but during his one week of vacation he lives the life of the cowboy he truly is. He also gets the chance to exchange stories and experiences with the six female visitors from Detroit.

Four years ago a group of Detroit men, inspired by the movie *City Slickers*, planned a vacation at the Cottonwood Ranch, a working guest ranch 70 miles north of Wells. When the men refused to include females, a friend and neighbor, Lois Epstein, organized a women's contingent. The men would go first, for one week,

and the women would follow. But halfway through their week the men called it quits and headed for Las Vegas. One of them called Lois from a phone booth on the Strip. He predicted, "You'll never make it."

This summer's trip is the fourth for the female Detroit city slickers. (The guys haven't been back.) Besides Lois there are Alicia, Marcia, Carin, Jeri, and DeeDee, each a dyed-in-the-wool city dweller.

The original plan this year, to tour the 10,000-foot-high Jarbidge Mountains by horseback, has been scrapped due to the deep snowpack. Instead, the dudettes have decided to work cattle and horses at the ranch for the first two days and then take a three-day horsepack trip into the Jarbidge Wilderness.

In the lodge, the gang gets ready to leave. Patty is helping Kim pack the

One of the men called
Lois. He predicted,
"You'll never make it."



The clan (clockwise from left): Kim, Agee, Vickie, Horace, and Renee Smith.

liquor supplies. Alicia and Jeri, the group's Girl Scouts, appear in their color-coordinated Miller riding jeans, layered matching shirts, silk bandannas, and Dan Post riding boots. "Can we help?" Alicia asks.

"No, thanks. Why don't you girls go down and check on the horses," Kim suggests.

Patty, stacking bottles, says, "Jeez, Kim, are we taking all this booze?"

"You bet," Kim replies. "The ladies said that if it came down to booze or clothes, to leave the clothes behind."

While Kim and her brother Agee act as ranch bosses, their parents, Horace

and Renee Smith, are the heart and soul of the Cottonwood Ranch. Horace, 65, still kicks up dust in his orange Ford pickup, keeping the cattle from straying. Renee keeps a garden that would make Martha Stewart swoon. They both help with the chores necessary to keep a working ranch working, with its 500 head of cattle, 100 horses, and numerous other animals. In fact, the ranch's day-to-day management is such a family affair that even the great-grandchildren pitch in.

So do the ranch guests. "We don't create jobs for our guests," Kim explains. "We just involve them in what needs doing. We find that this leaves the guests feeling good about themselves."

The Smith family began guiding fishermen and hunters into the Jarbidge country in the early 1950s. Several years ago Agee and Kim expanded the wilderness-packing business to include cow camps, fall roundups, a spring horse drive, ranch retreats, and even personal growth seminars.

Our party of a dozen horse riders and teamsters is ready to roll. Lois announces she has said goodbye to indoor plumbing for three days, and with that we're off, riding up and out of the O'Neil Basin with Kim in the lead. At the rear is Sam guiding four pack horses. Soon the ranch is a tiny speck below us, and it's just us and the cottonwoods, the lupines, Cottonwood Creek, and the big blue sky.

"Oy vey!" Lois cries out, sprawled sideways on Nugget, one arm pushing



Carin (left), Lois, and Marcia learn the basics of barbed wire on the range.



Alicia (right) takes a lipstick break.

a branch aside. "This horse wants to get rid of me, the schmendrick!"

We stop in a meadow to give the horses a rest. I know it's time to roll when Alicia sits atop Dunnie, reapplying her Lancôme Shade No. 3 lipstick.

Hours later, hypnotized by the thud, thud, thud of the horses' hoofs and reel after reel of exquisite scenery, we are surprised when we turn a corner and see Claus and Marie waiting for us at Hummingbird Camp. "Welcome to Mosquito Manor," Claus greets us, arms outstretched.

It's true—the mosquitoes are thick. I'm blinking rapidly to keep them out of my eyes and waving my arms so they don't settle anywhere else. Then I give up. The mosquitoes were here first.

The tents are up. Dinner is cooking. Claus and Marie have taken our horses, and we are free to relax. For camping, this is plush. Our tents are perched on a hill, and a large mess tent and the campfire are down below. Even the latrine scene is first-rate—good ventilation, an unmatched view, and a *Playgirl* magazine.

After the horses are put to bed, Sam sits down and pulls out a piece of rawhide. He moves his knife through it in straight, unwavering lines. Then he tightly braids the strips, tying them off with five colored beads.

The girls gush, "Oh, Sam. You can do anything!"

"What? This? This ain't nothin' I do this for relaxation," Sam replies.

Lois jokes, "I'm telling you, Sam, if you ever decide to leave that wife of



On the trail, Sam showed his knowledge of leatherwork and cowboy coffee.



The horses eagerly trot home, where the cowgirls find cold beer and hot showers.

yours, we'd love to have you out in Detroit. Of course, we'd have to rotate you. Maybe a week with each of us. There could be fighting."

Sam grins and says, "That's what I'm afraid of. I tell ya, I'd be so scared out there in the big city."

We retire to the tents for our first night in the wilderness. Jeri offers to make the coffee the next morning. "Where do I plug in the pot?" she jokes.

At daybreak we awake to cold mountain air and coffee of the Western gourmet variety—strong with free-floating coffee grounds that settle at the bottoms of our cups. Sam declares, "If it ain't got grounds, it ain't cowboy coffee."

We saddle up and ride to Big Buck Ridge. Kim pulls a cellular phone out of her pack and places the antenna on a rock. "This is our one concession to technology," she explains. "Just in case there's an emergency."

Kim adds, "Knock on wood, in all these years we've never had a serious injury." Except for one, she remembers, when a horse fell on her 64-year-old grandmother, Nell Jensen. "She was hurt pretty bad—broke her hip and several ribs. My grandfather built fires all around her and rode back down to get help. The neighbors came up the mountain and carried her down. She spent six months in the hospital learning how to walk again. Now she's 86 years old and one of Elko's most active citizens."

Two nights into our wilderness adventure I ask Lois, "So, what do you think? Ready to sign up for Camp Fire Girls?"

Sitting back in a low picnic chair, cigarette dangling at the end of her fin-

gers, Lois answers, "I kind of like it. I can just go to bed and not have to do the Mr. Potato Head thing. You know the routine. It's the cleanser, the gel, the creams. My boyfriend said the bathroom echoed when I left."

Claus has rigged an outdoor shower for us. Using solar-heated water, we can hide behind a makeshift vinyl curtain and scrub away Lois, however, begs off. "I've worked hard to get this layer of dirt, sweat, and mosquito repellent built up," she declares. "Now even the bugs are leaving me alone."

On the third day we begin the trip back to the ranch—fast. The horses know the routine, and they are far more enthusiastic going down than they were going up.

From atop her horse Carin observes,

Ranch Roundup Retreats

Cottonwood Ranch has a horse drive May 19-25 and six-day trips July through September (\$995). Cattle drives of three to five days are \$125 per day. Ranch days are \$95 per day. HC 62, Box 1300, O'Neil Route, Wells, NV 89835; 702-752-3604 (ranch) or 702-882-4548.

Here's a sampling of other overnight ranches and trail drives:

Longhorn Cattle Company in Caliente, 150 miles northeast of Las Vegas, has weekend cattle drives May through September. Women can join the Ladies Only Longhorn Cattle Drive (\$2,900), during which each dudette is assigned her own personal cowboy. Mixed rides are \$2,400 for singles and \$1,900 per person for couples. Box 96955, Las Vegas, NV 89193; 702-388-9955.

Hunewill Circle H Guest Ranch has cottages and horseback riding. A five-day cattle drive to Smith Valley for good riders in November is about \$700. Box 368, Bridgeport, CA 93517; 619-932-7710 (off-season 702-465-2201).

Spanish Springs Ranch, 125 miles north of Reno, offers several three-day trail rides (\$350). A Cowboy Clinic (\$450) is July 18-21. Box 70, Ravendale, CA 96123; 800-272-8282.

2R Riding Stables, behind Whiskey Pete's at State Line, 43 miles south of Las Vegas on I-15, has full-day (\$150) and shorter cattle drives. 1400 Desert Hills Dr., Las Vegas, NV 89117; 702-256-7433.

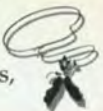
Hellorado Trail Ride is part of Las Vegas' Hellorado Days. The May 3-5 ride is \$75 (bring your own horse). Call 702-870-1221.

Tony Lama-Reno Rodeo Cattle Drive (\$795) in June is sold out, but reservations are being taken for '97. Call 702-329-4200 or 800-TIC-RODEO.



Long days end with songs around the campfire.

For more information on dude destinations write the Nevada Commission on Tourism, Capitol Complex, Carson City NV 89701, or call 800-NEVADA-8. Ask for the "City Slicker's Guide to Nevada Ranch Vacations, Riding Stables, and Wilderness Outfitters."



"I always thought Nevada was one big desert. And you know what? I'm not telling anyone it's not. I don't want all of Grosse Pointe coming here."

Soon we're back at the lodge. Those

*A few cowboys
have shown up, and they
wait patiently for the
party to begin.*

who stayed gather to hear about the trip. Everyone's talking at once. I had expected a rush for the showers, but it doesn't happen. We linger in our familiar dirty clothes and skin, cold beers in hand, telling and retelling our stories.

Later we sit on the porch eating pot roast, mashed potatoes and gravy, corn on the cob, green salad, and strawberry rhubarb pie. The strains of Herb Jeffries singing "I'm a Happy Cowboy" waft over our heads and over the pasture where the horses graze contentedly.

After the dishes are cleared, the tables and chairs are moved aside and the lights dimmed. It's time for the traditional Friday-night dance. A few cowboys have shown up, and they wait patiently for the party to begin. Someone puts on a Virginia reel, and Patty shows us the moves. We dance and laugh, and dance and laugh, until we're too tired to move. Afterward we sit on the deck, admiring the stars.

"Did you see that? A shooting star!" Carin exclaims.

"Wow, there's another one!"

Now we're all poised, heads upturned, ready for the next cosmic explosion.

"I can't believe this! I've never seen so many, one after another."

"There must be a planet blowing up out there."

Then Agee's wife Vickie joins us on the deck. She says, "Girls, girls. Those aren't shooting stars—those are sparks coming out of the chimney."

The next morning six sad-faced women trudge to cars with suitcases in hand. Tears and hugs are exchanged. Soon the city slickers disappear in a cloud of dust on the 25-mile dirt road leading back to their reality, taking with them a little more wisdom than

they came with, and perhaps leaving a little, too.

As the screen door slams shut one last time, I spot Vickie and Agee standing inside. A shaft of afternoon light seems to follow them as they waltz across the living-room floor to Muzzie Braun and His Boys singing "I'm Not Your Little Boy Anymore." ▽

Robin Daugherty of South Lake Tahoe is a freelance writer and photographer. Her stories have been published in various magazines, including Adventure West, Yankee, and Guideposts.



The author and her trusty steed Slim.



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Shelley Warne is queen of the Java Jungle in downtown Reno, where her coffee concoctions reign supreme on the bean scene.

See You Latté

Spilling the
beans on Nevada's
java joints.

By Kate Butler,
Carolyn Graham, and
Chaz Kasper

Nevada is brimming with coffeehouses, those cosmically caffeinated retreats where java lovers can gather and indulge. Each coffeehouse has its own recipe for successful sipping. Some stir in poetry or jazz. Others add a quiet corner for reading or a cybernetic chat room. Here is a sampling of Nevada bean joints.

Full of Beans: Las Vegas

For Ileana George, coffee is a way of life. Growing up on her family's coffee plantation in Puerto Rico, she loved to suck out the sweet pulp that lies between the outer skin and the inner bean of the coffee cherry. She fondly remembers the aroma of beans at grinding time.

So it seems natural that she and her husband Lance would become coffee

At the Cyber City
Cafe, customers
can surf the
World Wide Web or
send e-mail.

roasters when they moved to Las Vegas. Now in its ninth year, their **Whole Bean** (3441 West Sahara, 702-368-2633) is the oldest coffeehouse with a roasting operation in Southern Nevada.

"We like to help our customers learn how coffee is grown and the stages it

goes through before it gets to their table," Ileana says.

Gunnysacks filled with arabica beans stand ready for roasting. The Georges buy several of their coffee beans directly from the plantations they visit in Central and South America. One of their newest drinks is Guatemala Antigua, which has a smoky, spicy flavor.

The **Albion Coffee Bar** (2466 East Desert Inn Road, 702-792-9554) has a library of 80,000 books as well as a wide assortment of java blends. Owners Michael Burdo and Lisa Horine serve drinks like the Mexican Mudslinger, made from a large latte, cream de cacao, coffee flavoring, and half-and-half. It's fun to browse the Albion's shelves of used books. On Saturday afternoons, coffee-wired Rubinsteins play classical music on a grand piano.

Lava lamps and computers decorate the **Cyber City Cafe** (2945 South Maryland Parkway near UNLV, 702-732-2001). Owner Joe Kendall provides nine computer terminals where customers can surf the World Wide Web and converse with coffee drinkers around the globe. (The cafe has a Web site at <http://cybercitycafe.com>.) For \$12 per hour (\$6 if you join a club), surfers can send e-mail, do research, and get travel information. This is the world's 47th Cyber City and the first in Las Vegas.

Brewed Awakening (2005 East Sahara, 702-457-7050) is one of several small coffeehouses that present music and poetry. A quartet plays "Zen Jazz" on Saturday afternoons and invites other musicians to sit in.

In fact, art-and-coffee houses abound. Poets in black garb gather on Tuesday evenings to share poetry and ballads at the **Cafe Espresso Roma** across from UNLV (4440 South Maryland Parkway, 702-369-1540). The **Enigma Garden Cafe** in downtown Las Vegas (918-1/2 South Fourth, 702-386-0999) holds poetry readings on Thursday evenings and acoustic music, including bluegrass, on Saturday nights. The **Java Hut** (3860 West Sa-

City, **Coffee Classics** (1647 Nevada Highway, 702-293-2333) entertains customers with poetry, harp, bluegrass, barbershop, or guitar performances on Thursday and Friday evenings.

Roasts of the Town: Reno-Tahoe

A high-octane aroma permeates the air just outside the doors of **Java Jungle** (246 West First, 702-324-5282) in downtown Reno. Joggers and dog-

Piece of Cake. As for the drinks, the Java Jungle was voted "Best Espresso and Cappuccino of Reno" in the 1994 and 1995 *Reno Gazette-Journal* reader surveys. The cappuccino is brewed strong and topped by a cap of foamed milk that supports a layer of cinnamon and nutmeg.

Despite its neoindustrial decor, **Java Centrale** (Smithridge Center at South Virginia and South McCarran, 702-828-



Bookworms revel in the roast at the Albion Coffee Bar in Las Vegas.



Ileana (center) and Lance (left) George enjoy the grind at their Whole Bean in Vegas.

hara, 702-248-4844) hosts poetry readings on Tuesday evenings, Wednesday jam sessions, an acoustic band on Friday nights, and comedy on Saturdays. The monthly "Murder Mystery Dinner" is an evening of sleuthing over a gourmet meal and cappuccino.

At **Cafe Sensations** in Green Valley (4350 East Sunset, 702-456-7803) customers sip coffee on a misted patio while they listen to jazz musicians on Friday and Saturday nights. In Boulder

walkers stop in, as do lawyers and judges on their way to the Washoe County Courthouse.

"There are probably about 30 people who are regulars," says Harry Weiner, whose sister, Shelley Warne, owns the coffeehouse. "Shelley can recognize their cars and have their drinks ready for them when they come in."

Java heads fueling up for the daily grind will find bagels and other pastries baked fresh across the street at A

9194), two miles south of downtown Reno, is a cozy conversation spot. Couples cluster among the purple and yellow furnishings as they sip their raspberry truffle mochas and amaretto-flavored lattes.

Dennis Golden, who owns Java Centrale with his wife Kay, says variety is the spice of their establishment: They serve more than 800 different coffee drinks. The Almond Coco-Mo is a coffee concoction spiked with Ghirardelli chocolate and almond and coconut flavorings, reminiscent of an Almond Joy.

Java Centrale, which is part of a chain, has other sweets such as cheesecake. Live jazz flavors the joint at 8 p.m. on Saturdays.

Coffee snobs will find perfectly perked beans at the **Laughing C.A.T** (5009 South McCarran, 702-826-3576). Owner and bean roaster Mark Fleming rises at 3 a.m. to fire up the roaster long before he opens the doors to customers.

"Roasting is a very closely held art," he says. "I stand in front of the roaster, and I know the bean. It's in knowing the individual types of beans and how they respond to heat."

Locals seem to appreciate his efforts



Frank Torres (left), Tony LaMorte, and Erin O'Connor drink up at Cowboy Joe in Elko.

as they savor the perfect cup of joe at the Laughing C.A.T., which also serves up a strong dose of camaraderie. "Caffeine is uplifting. It makes people very social," Fleming says.

In Carson City, poetry and music percolate at **Java Joe's** (319 North Carson, 702-883-4004) on the last Saturday of each month. The tie-and-suit set generally gathers there for early-morning muffins or a lunch of BLTs and blue-corn tortilla chips, while the evenings belong to mocha moshers dressed in combat boots and baggy pants.

Coffee lovers of all varieties are drawn to the place, if not for the excellent cappuccinos and melt-in-your-mouth scones (a low-fat recipe of owner John Davis) then for the casual living-room atmosphere. In the historic building, which was built in 1873 and once housed a furniture factory and undertaker's parlor, you can play cards or checkers while listening to music that can range from Cole Porter to Nirvana, depending on the tastes of the servers.

In Gardnerville, **Auntie M's Espresso** is a cozy coffeehouse crammed with antique coffeepots and other knickknacks. Sippers can snack on cranberry-walnut cheesecake with a Snickers latte while they scour the local newspapers and bulletin board.

At Incline Village, the **Village Coffee House** (Raley's Incline Center on Tahoe Blvd., 702-831-7354) has served Lake Tahoe coffee drinkers for seven years. Amid freshly baked muffins, pies, and cakes is a relaxed setting where you can kick back and plan your next hike or mountain-biking adventure.

The **Gourmet Barn** (702-831-2772), also at Raley's Incline Center, offers gourmet blends of coffee as well as espresso, cappuccino, wines, cheeses, pastries, and dried fruits. Phil Strohmaier, who owns the coffeehouse

**Auntie M's is
crammed with
old coffeepots and
other knickknacks.**

with his wife Rose, is a former farmer from California, and the decor has a farmhouse theme.

The **Village Cafe and Roastery** (901-B Tahoe Blvd., 702-831-7111), or "The Roastery," as locals call it, is dominated by an ornate coffee roaster. Coffee is roasted on-site daily. Owner Kim Steenberg says the beans are tossed out if they've aged longer than two weeks. The Roastery hosts "Coffee House Concerts" with live acoustic music on Friday evenings.

Country Coffee: Rural Nevada

Cowboy Joe (376 Fifth Street, 702-753-5612), next to the Western Folklife Center in Elko, serves beverages to buckaroos, although the cafe's tasty blends are a far cry from the water-and-grounds cowboy coffee you find on the range.

Owner Steve Stone says he never drank coffee before opening Cowboy Joe in July 1994. His favorite drink—he allows himself one per day—is a double latte. One of Stone's specialties is a Caramel Cow, made with espresso, steamed milk, caramel, chocolate, and whipped cream.

The front windows are decorated by Northeastern Nevada Museum staff in return for free coffee. Cowboy Joe serves breakfast and luncheon sandwiches made on home-baked foccacia bread as well as desserts baked in local church kitchens.

Cappuccinos and lattes are a relatively new trend in rural Nevada, but Fallon's **Café Nations** (960 Auction Road, 702-423-6828) is a bona-fide bean bar with espressos, teas, and pastries. A refreshing Italian soda can be made from any of the Café's 107 flavored syrups. "We carry just about every syrup that's drinkable," says Lisa Watson, who owns the shop with her java-addicted husband, Donald.

The most popular libation is the Café's mocha, which patrons order 10 to one over other drinks. "We make it very chocolatey," Lisa says. Café Nations stays open till about 9 p.m., so sippers can read or relax.

At **Friendly Fernley Espresso** (800 East Main Street, 702-575-6262), a tiny drive-through joint on the east end of Fernley, owner Melissa Smith says the coffee craze is just starting to brew.

"Even some of the old ranchers stop by. They don't know what the heck it is, but they like it," Smith says. She teaches "Espresso 101" to fancy-coffee newcomers, using a styrofoam cup diagrammed with how different drinks are made. □

Kate Butler is a Las Vegas writer and photographer who switched to decaf following this assignment. Carolyn Graham is Nevada's jittery associate editor. Chaz Kasper of Lake Tahoe is a University of Nevada, Reno graduate student who drinks only premium roasts for all-night study sessions.

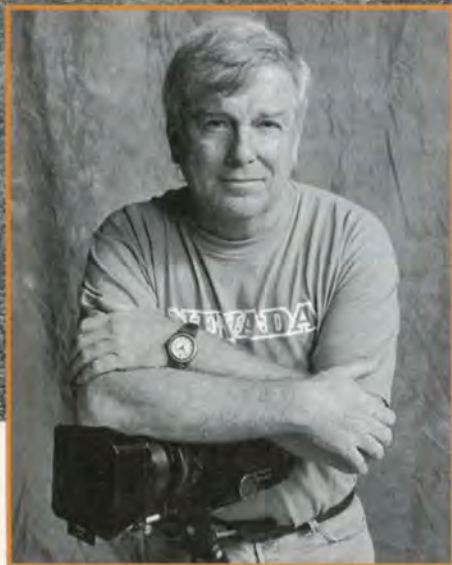
Wired on the Web

Coffee commandos can find additional grind joints in the Silver State at *Nevada Magazine's* World Wide Web site. The magazine's home page is accessed through the Nevada Commission on Tourism's site at <http://www.travelnevada.com>.

Travels With Melvin

Recalling a Nevada road trip with the real-life star of *Melvin and Howard*.

By Richard Menzies



Both the author (above) and Melvin (right) have a knack for roadside discoveries.

I first broke into *Nevada Magazine* in 1974 with a story about Charles Carpenter, a weekend prospector from Sparks who panned for divorcées' wedding rings in the Truckee River beneath Reno's Virginia Street bridge. Assignments followed, and before long Editor C.J. Hadley promoted me to the rank of "contributing editor." It was an impressive title and paid about the same as panning the Truckee for wedding rings.

As a rule I travel solo and work out of my mobile office, a 1973 Volkswagen campmobile. But on one memorable assignment I hitched a ride into the heartland of Central Nevada with Melvin and Bonnie Dummer. It was in the summer of 1981, and the award-

winning film *Melvin and Howard* was playing in moviehouses across America, including the Fallon Theatre in Mel's hometown.

During our trip Melvin didn't force me to sing "Santa's Souped-up Sleigh," but he did play a demo tape of songs he'd composed in preparation for his impending debut as a cabaret entertainer. Wisely, he hadn't quit his day job, which as I recall involved the "multilevel marketing" of a powdered-milk substitute.

Melvin impressed me as an impulsive sort, an easily distracted motorist who can't resist taking scenic detours and who brakes for almost everything—including a large bull snake who spied sunning itself on the two-lane blacktop near Cold Springs Station. Melvin wanted to shoot it, but Bonnie and I pleaded for clemency, and after a lengthy debate the serpent was allowed to go free.

I presume Melvin was feeling more charitable that cold, wintry night in

1967 when he came across a ragged man lying face-down on the frozen ground just off U.S. 95 near Beatty. Mel helped him to his feet and gave him a lift to Las Vegas. There, the dazed and confused stranger, who kept calling himself Howard Hughes, bummed a quarter and asked to be let off behind the Sands Hotel.

Years passed, and the encounter was all but forgotten—that is, until April 1976, when Howard Hughes died. Not long afterward a



60th Anniversary Feature

This article is one of a series recalling *Nevada Magazine's* 60 years of publication, which began in 1936.

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mysterious, sealed envelope appeared at the gas station the Dummars were operating in Willard, Utah. Inside was Hughes' last will and testament, handwritten on three pages of yellow legal paper. Among the several beneficiaries listed was the good Samaritan, "Melvin DuMar of Gabbs, Nevada."

What followed was perhaps the most celebrated probate case in history. Millions of dollars were spent on legal fees, dozens of handwriting experts were called, hundreds of pages of sworn testimony were taken. Even-

**In the movie,
Melvin had to settle
for a cameo as a
soda jerk.**

tually the so-called "Mormon Will" was declared a fake—and an inept one at that.

Melvin Dummar to this day maintains he had no part in writing the will. And he's not without his supporters, hard-core believers scattered throughout the roadside eateries of the blue-collar world who will tell you that he was clearly cheated out of his rightful inheritance by nefarious powers that be.

True or not, Melvin's was a captivating story, one that would advance the career of director Jonathan Demme and win Oscars for actress Mary Steenburgen and screenwriter Bo Goldman. Melvin, who lost the starring role to Paul LeMat, had to settle for a cameo as a soda jerk—for which he receives a residual of \$7 whenever the movie airs on television. A far cry from the \$160 million that almost was his.

Did Melvin make the whole thing up? I can't say I'm just sorry things didn't work out differently because, speaking as an old chum who used to car pool with him and who once shared a motel room in Wells with him, and as one who at least managed to *mouth* the words to "Santa's Souped-up Sleigh," I figure it's highly likely that Melvin would have cut me in on a percentage. □

Richard Menzies of Salt Lake City has logged more than 185,000 miles in his VW bus in pursuit of hermits, eccentrics, and visionaries, of which he says the Silver State has more than its fair share.

New Links Tee Off

Notable designers put their names
on new Nevada courses.

By Don Weiner

When *Golf Digest* published a recent roster of the 10 best public courses in each state, the Nevada list included such venerable links as Edgewood Tahoe and Las Vegas' Sheraton Desert Inn. It also noted two brand-new courses—the Snow Mountain (Nu-Wav Kaiv) course at the Las Vegas Paiute Resort and Mesquite's Oasis Golf Club.

"To be ranked in the top 10 is an honor," says Carl Von Hake, the Las Vegas Paiute Resort's general manager. The 7,128-yard Sun Mountain (Tav-ai Kaiv), the second of four Pete Dye courses, opens this fall in the golf complex near Mount Charleston. Awareness that Dye is the architect enhances the resort's prestige, Von Hake adds. "He's a respected architect, and the fact that we're the only Pete Dye courses in Nevada generates a lot of interest."

The Oasis, with its elevated tees and sandstone scenery, was designed by Arnold Palmer and Ed Seay. The Mesquite course was named one of *Golf Digest's* five best new resort courses of 1995 and one of *Golf* magazine's top 10 public-access courses in 1996.

Other new Las Vegas-area layouts—most of them public courses—have attracted attention. The desert-style Badlands course, designed by PGA player and commentator Johnny Miller, already is getting consideration as one of the sites for the PGA's annual Las Vegas Invitational.

Jack Nicklaus' SouthShore, a private course at Lake Las Vegas in Henderson, earned such good reviews that Nicklaus was engaged to design a resort course on the lake's north shore.

The private Sunrise Country Club made a splash with its water-laden West Course, designed by Jim Colbert, the Senior PGA Tour's Player of the Year, and Dallas architect Jeff Brauer.

Due this fall is the Tournament Players Club at the Canyons, a resort course by Florida-based Bobby Weed and pro Raymond Floyd. Also imminent is the executive-length Desert Willow course at Sun City MacDonald Ranch in Henderson, designed by Billy Casper and Greg Nash, fresh from their new Eagle Crest executive at Sun City Summerlin.

Two sons of well-known designers are putting their signatures on Vegas-area courses. Perry Dye, Pete's son,



Desert scenery is in play at Mesquite's Oasis, designed by Arnold Palmer and Ed Seay.

designed the Desert Pines Golf Club. Scheduled to open in November, the 6,700-yard public course is being built on the city's old Nature Park. Rees Jones, son of Robert Trent Jones and brother of Robert Trent Jones Jr., designed the public Seven Hills Golf Club that opens in Henderson later this year.

At State Line, Tom Fazio will deliver the first of two Primm Creek resort courses by year's end. In Mesquite, California-based architect Cal Olson is designing the Player's Island course.

The Reno area also is seeing more course construction. Genoa Lakes, which opened three years ago, was one of *Golf Digest's* best new public courses in 1994. In Washoe Valley, the private Golf Club at Lightning W Ranch opened last year. Set among the pines, the course was designed by Northstar's architect, Robert Muir Graves.

Jack Nicklaus' second Nevada course is the Montréux Golf and Country Club. The private layout below Mount Rose is set to open this fall. North of Reno, Robert Trent Jones Jr. has designed the public Red Hawk Golf Club in the Wingfield Springs development. The first nine holes should open this fall.

The Carson City area has several new public links in the works. Empire Ranch Golf Course, with 27 holes near the Carson River, opens next spring, and construction of the Silver Oak Golf Club is under way. In Carson Valley, the Sunridge course is being built, and a course is planned north of Genoa Lakes. Meanwhile, in Fernley, Desert Lakes may open this year. □

Don Weiner of Las Vegas is a golfer as well as a copy editor and writer for *View*, a publication of the Las Vegas Review-Journal and Las Vegas Sun.



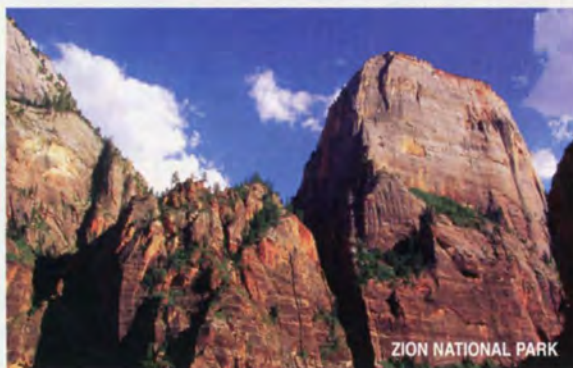
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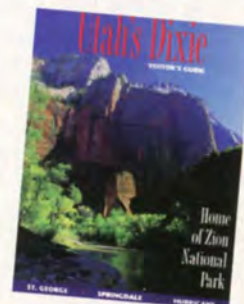
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Nevada Golf '96

A golfer's guide to courses in and around the Silver State.

Nevada's golf courses involve a wide range of links experiences, including the desert layout of Reno's Northgate, the forested Incline Championship Course, and the stream-side fairways of Emerald River in Laughlin. Following are more than 60 courses in Nevada, around Lake Tahoe, and along the state's border. They are open year-round unless otherwise noted.

Green fees and other rates are for 18 holes and subject to change. Most courses offer twilight and off-season rates. The yardages refer to the courses' longest layouts. Most clubs have a pro shop, driving range, putting green, restaurant, and bar. Early reservations are highly recommended at Nevada courses.

Southern Nevada

BOULDER CITY

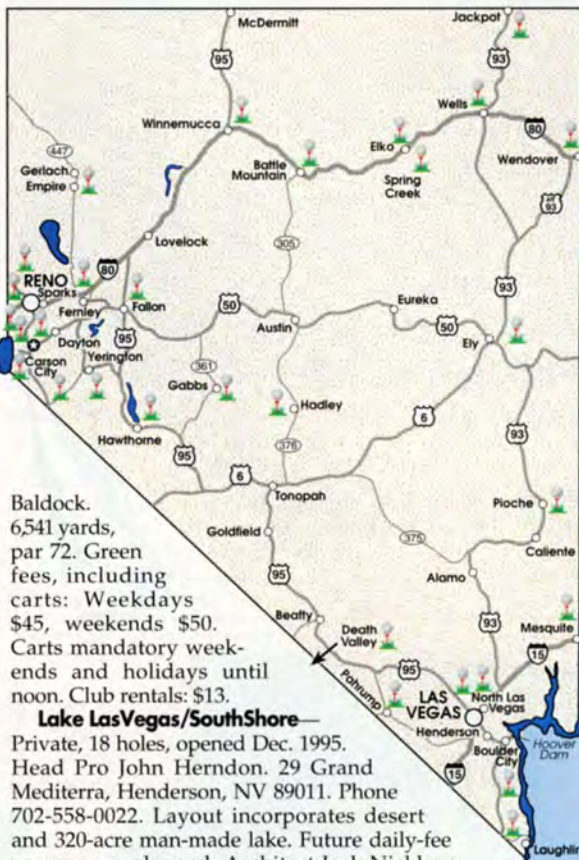
Boulder City Municipal Golf Course—City course, 18 holes, est. 1972. Director of Golf Bob Conrad, Head Pro Tony Fiorentini. 1 Clubhouse Dr., Boulder City, NV 89005. Phone 702-293-9236. Desert course, fairly flat. 6,561 yards, par 72. Green fees: \$23 to walk, \$31 to ride. Club rentals: \$15.

DEATH VALLEY

Furnace Creek Golf Course—Public (privately owned), 18 holes, est. 1933. Head Pro Rick Heitzig, Death Valley, CA 92328. Phone 619-786-2301. World's lowest golf course—214 feet below sea level. Temps reach 120s in mid-summer (pro shop may be closed then). Recently added two par 5s (now four total). Architect William P. Bell. 6,093 yards, par 72. Green fees: Furnace Creek Inn or Ranch guests \$30, nonguests \$40. Carts: \$20. Club rentals: \$10-\$20. National Park Service visitor center nearby.

HENDERSON/GREEN VALLEY

Black Mountain Golf and Country Club—Semi-private, 18 holes, est. 1959. Head Pro Bret Mulligan. 500 Greenway Rd., or Box 91566, Henderson, NV 89009-1566. Phone 702-565-7933. Desert landscaped course with cacti, Joshua trees. New Nos. 6 and 9 greens. Architect Bob



Baldock. 6,541 yards, par 72. Green fees, including carts: Weekdays \$45, weekends \$50. Carts mandatory week-ends and holidays until noon. Club rentals: \$13.

Lake Las Vegas/South Shore—Private, 18 holes, opened Dec. 1995. Head Pro John Herndon. 29 Grand Mediterra, Henderson, NV 89011. Phone 702-558-0022. Layout incorporates desert and 320-acre man-made lake. Future daily-fee courses are planned. Architect Jack Nicklaus. 6,878 yards, par 71. Members and guests only.

Legacy Golf Club—Resort course, 18 holes, est. 1989. Director of Operations Ed Francesc, Project Manager Craig Smith, Head Pro David Barnhart. 130 Par Excellence Dr., Henderson, NV 89016. Phone 702-897-2187. Links-type course. Architect Arthur Hills. 7,233 yards, par 72. Green fees include mandatory carts: \$110 Mon.-Thurs., \$120 Fri.-Sun. Summer rates (June 21-Sept. 1) are \$50 and \$60. Twilight rates. Club rentals: \$25.

Wildhorse Golf Club—Public, 18 holes, est. 1958. Head Pro Mike Elwell. 1 Showboat Club Dr., Henderson, NV 89014. Phone 702-434-9009.

The 7,000 Club

Sixteen courses in the state are longer than 7,000 yards. Here are their yardages from the back tees:

- Edgewood Tahoe: 7,491
- Genoa Lakes: 7,263
- TPC at Summerlin: 7,243
- Legacy: 7,233
- Dayton Valley: 7,218
- Sunrise West: 7,212
- Lightning W: 7,203
- Las Vegas Country Club: 7,164
- Snow Mt. (Nu-Wav Kaiv): 7,158
- Spanish Trail: 7,107
- Desert Inn: 7,066
- Hidden Valley: 7,061
- Wildhorse: 7,053
- Calvada Valley: 7,025
- Palms Golf Club: 7,008
- Sunrise North: 7,005

Formerly named Paradise Valley, Showboat, and Royal Kenfield. New \$2.7-million clubhouse. Architects Robert Cupp and Hubert Green. 7,053 yards, par 72. Green fees include mandatory carts: \$110 Mon.-Thurs., \$125 Fri.-Sun. Twilight rates. Club rentals: \$20-\$40. Shoe rentals: \$10.

LAS VEGAS

Angel Park Golf Club—Resort course, est. 1989. Director of Golf Phil Green, Head Pro Tom Vold. 100 S. Rampart Blvd., Las Vegas, NV 89128. Phone 702-254-4653. Design by Arnold



Golf Getaways

You can learn more about Nevada courses and hotels' golf-vacation packages from these sources:

Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority, Information Center, 3150 Paradise Rd., Las Vegas, NV 89109; call 702-892-7575. The LVCVA has a map and listing of area courses.

Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority, Golf Information, 4590 S. Virginia, Reno, NV 89502; call toll-free 800-FOR-RENO. The RSCVA, which operates Wildcreek and Northgate, has information on courses and hotel golf packages.

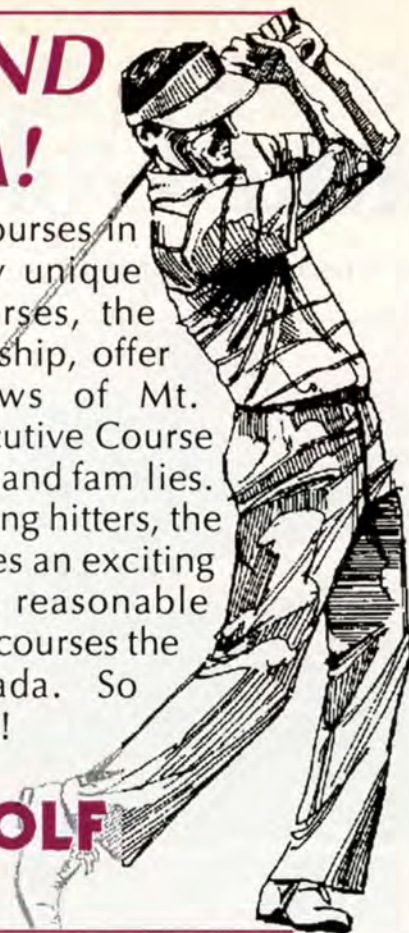
Carson City Convention and Visitors Bureau, 1900 S. Carson St., Suite 200, Carson City, NV 89701; call toll-free 800-NEVADA-1. Carson has a color brochure on a number of area courses.

Carson Valley Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Authority, 1524 U.S. 395, No. 1, Gardnerville, NV 89410; call toll-free 800-727-7677. Ask for the new color brochure that describes golf courses in the Carson Valley area.

For more copies of this Nevada golf guide, as well as general tourist information, write the **Nevada Commission on Tourism**, Capitol Complex, Carson City NV 89710, or call toll-free 800-NEVADA-8.

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Palmer and Ed Seay. Palm Course redesign by Bob Cupp and John Fought, who also designed Cloud Nine. **Palm Course:** 18 holes. Gently rolling terrain. 6,530 yards, par 70. Green fees include mandatory carts: \$95. Twilight (four hours before sunset) \$60. **Mountain Course:** 18 holes. Views of Red Rock Canyon. 6,722 yards, par 71. Green fees include mandatory carts: \$95. Twilight \$60. **Cloud Nine:** 12 holes. Par-3 course using concepts of world-famous par-3s. Lighted for night play. 1,341 yards, par 27. Green fees include mandatory carts: \$20 for 12 holes. Cart: \$5. Club rentals: \$25. Night-lighted driving range and 18-hole putting course.

Badlands Golf Club at Peccole Ranch—Resort course, 18 holes, est. 1995. General Manager Eric Dutt, Director of Golf Leo Simonetta, Head Pro Bruce McNee. 9115 Alta Dr., Las Vegas, NV 89128. 702-242-4653 (GOLF). Scottsdale-style course, built around arroyos. Carts have SkyCaddie system that tells yardage to pin. Architect Johnny Miller. 6,926 yards, par 72. Green fees include cart and sleeve of balls: \$90 Mon.-Thurs., \$100 Fri.-Sun. Twilight rate (after 1 p.m.) \$35 includes cart.

Canyon Gate Country Club—Private, 18 holes, est. 1989. Director of Golf Andy Anderson. 2001 Canyon Gate Dr., Las Vegas, NV 89117. Phone 702-363-0303; pro shop 702-363-0481. Course has lots of water, sand bunkers, and



Golf Groups

Nevada's golf associations are active in organizing amateur events and junior programs as well as course ratings. For more information contact the Nevada State Golf Association, Box 5630, Sparks, NV 89432 (call 702-673-4653) or the Southern Nevada Golf Association, 3928 Rhine Ct., Las Vegas, NV 89108 (call 702-645-3594).

narrow fairways. Architect Ted Robinson. 6,742 yards, par 72. Canyon Gate Country Club homeowners and nonhomeowners may join the club for \$27,500. Members and guests only.

Desert Rose Golf Course—County course, 18 holes, est. 1960. Head Pro Rusty Postlewait. 5483 Club House Dr., Las Vegas, NV 89122. Phone 702-431-4653. Moderate length, flat terrain. 6,511 yards, par 71. Green fees include carts: Nonresidents \$60. Clark County residents \$35 weekdays, \$37 weekends. Twilight rates. Club rentals: \$15. Recently opened million-dollar driving range.

Las Vegas Country Club—Private, 18 holes, est. 1967. Head Pro Bill Farkas Jr. 3000 Joe W. Brown Dr., Las Vegas, NV 89109. Phone 702-734-1122. Has hosted the PGA's Las Vegas Invitational. Architect Edmund Ault with Ron Garl redesign. 7,164 yards, par 72. Members and guests only.

Las Vegas Golf Club—City course, 18 holes, est. 1949. Head Pro Tom Carlson. 4300 W. Washington, Las Vegas, NV 89107. Phone 702-646-3003. Very mature, lots of trees. 6,631 yards, par 72. Green fees: Nonresidents \$21.25 to walk, \$30 to ride. Las Vegas residents \$12.25 to walk, \$21 to ride. Club rentals: \$18.

Las Vegas Hilton Country Club—Resort course, 18 holes, est. 1961. Head Pro Clif Vanetti. 1911 E. Desert Inn Rd., Las Vegas, NV 89109. Phone 702-382-GOLF. Former PGA and LPGA tour stop. Architect Bert Stamps. 6,815 yards, par

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71. Green fees include mandatory carts: \$125 Mon.-Thurs., \$145 Fri.-Sun. Twilight rates. Club rentals: \$15-\$30.

Las Vegas Paiute Resort/Snow Mountain (Nu-Wav Kaiv)—Resort course, 18 holes, est. 1995. Director of Golf Johnny Pott, Head Pro Scott McDade. Located 20 miles north of downtown Las Vegas, near Mount Charleston. Box 34570, Las Vegas, NV 89133. Phone 702-658-1400. Desert and mountain views, elevated tees. Architect Pete Dye. 7,158 yards, par 72. Green fees include mandatory cart: \$85. Club rentals: \$35-\$45. **Sun Mountain (Tav-ai Kaiv)**, second of four Pete Dye courses on the Las Vegas Paiute Tribe Reservation, is scheduled to open in fall 1996.

Los Prados Country Club—Semi-private, 18 holes, est. 1985. Head Pro Keith Flatt. 5150 Los Prados Circle, Las Vegas, NV 89130. Phone 702-645-5696. A short course with five par 3s, narrow fairways. 5,348 yards, par 70. Green fees include carts: Nonhomeowners \$35 weekdays, \$40 weekends. Homeowner rates. Club rentals: \$20.

Painted Desert Golf Course—Public, 18 holes, est. 1987. Director of Golf Scott Greer, Head Pro Bruce Applin. 5555 Painted Mirage Dr., Las Vegas, NV 89129. Phone 702-645-2568. Desert target design features lush fairway landing areas. Touring pro Robert Gamez holds course record of 62. Architect Jay Morrish. 6,840 yards, par 72. Green fees include mandatory carts: \$90 Mon.-Thurs., \$100 Fri.-Sun. Twilight rates (after 1 p.m.) \$48 Mon.-Thurs., \$53 Fri.-Sun. Club rentals: \$25-\$40.

Sheraton Desert Inn Country Club—Resort course, 18 holes, est. 1952. Director of Golf Dave Johnson, Head Pro Kevin Paulsen. 3145 Las Vegas Blvd. South, Las Vegas, NV 89109. Phone 702-733-4290. Hosted Tournament of Champions in the '50s and '60s, the Las Vegas Invitational in



Golfers at Angel Park try to avoid duck hooks toward Red Rock.

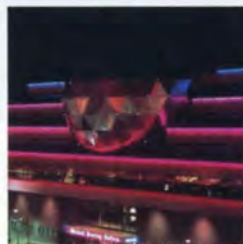
'80s and '90s. 7,066 yards, par 72. Green fees include mandatory carts: Sheraton Desert Inn lodgers \$115 weekdays, \$135 weekends. Non-lodgers \$195. Club rentals: \$25-\$40.

Spanish Trail Country Club—Private, 27 holes, est. 1984. Head Pro Jerry Roberts. 5050

Spanish Trail Ln., Las Vegas, NV 89113. Phone 702-364-0357. Play on three 9-hole sections rotates daily. Architect Robert Trent Jones Jr. 7,107 yards, par 72. Members and guests only.

Sun City Las Vegas Golf Club—Semi-private. Director of Golf Doug Anderson, Head Pro

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Clockwise from top: dazzling entertainment, Reno Rodeo, Great Reno Balloon Race, National Bowling Stadium, National Championship Air Races, Downtown Reno.

Shane Sanchez. Architects Billy Casper and Greg Nash. **Palm Valley Course:** 18 holes, est. 1989. 9201-B Del Webb Blvd., Las Vegas, NV 89128. Phone 702-363-4373. Rolling terrain. 6,849 yards, par 72. **Highland Falls Course:** 18 holes, est. 1993. 10201 Sun City Blvd., Las Vegas, NV 89134. Phone 702-254-7010. Hilly, scenic waterfalls. 6,512 yards, par 72. Courses are open to the public, but residents are given preference. Green fees on both courses: Nonhomeowners \$95. Club rentals: \$20. **Eagle Crest:** Private 18-hole executive course, est. 1995. Head Pro Jon Spatz. Sun City, Las Vegas, NV 89134. Phone 702-233-3096. 4,067 yards, par 60. Private homeowners' course.

Sunrise Country Club—Private course, 54 holes. Director of Golf Joe Kelly. 5500 E. Flamingo Road, Las Vegas, NV 89122. Phone 702-456-2440. **South Course:** 18 holes, est. 1990. Rolling terrain, 1,300 mature trees. Architects Jim

Colbert and Gary Bickler. 6,986 yards, par 72. **North Course:** 18 holes, est. 1991. Players must carry bunkers and water to reach the small greens. Architects Jim Colbert and Gary Bickler. 7,005 yards, par 72. **West Course:** 18 holes, est. 1995. Newest 18 at Sunrise is challenging with water on 10 holes. Architects Jim Colbert and Jeff Brauer. 7,212 yards, par 72.

Tournament Players Club at Summerlin—Private, 18 holes, est. 1991. Head Pro Tim Shaver. 1700 Village Center Circle, Las Vegas, NV 89134. Phone 702-256-0111.



Built to accommodate spectators, the desert-style TPC stadium course hosts the PGA's Las Vegas Invitational in October. Architects Bobby Weed and Fuzzy Zoeller. 7,243 yards, par 72. Members and guests only. **Tournament Players Club at the Canyons**, a resort (public) course, is slated to open in fall 1996.

LAUGHLIN Emerald River Country Club—Resort course, 18 holes, est. 1990. Head Pro Joe McDermott.

1155 West Casino Dr., Box 32220, Laughlin, NV 89029. Phone 702-298-0061. A target course along the Colorado River. Architects Ault and Clark. 6,809 yards, par 72. Green fees include mandatory cart: \$38 Mon.-Thurs., \$45 Fri.-Sun., seniors \$32 Mon.-Thurs. Club rentals: \$10.

MESQUITE

Oasis Golf Club—Resort course, 18 holes, est. 1995. Director of Golf Tom Carricato, Head Pro Brian Wursten. 2200 Hillside Dr., Mesquite, NV 89024. Phone 702-346-7820 or 800-621-0187. Desert course has moderate water, elevated tees, and views. Architects Arnold Palmer and Ed Seay. 6,982 yards, par 72. Green fees include carts: Hotel guests of Si Redd's Oasis \$99, nonguests \$150. Golf packages. Club rental: \$20. **Vista:** 9 holes, est. Nov. 1995. 3,524 yards, par 37. Hotel guests \$30, nonguests \$40 for 9 holes.

Palms Golf Club—Resort course, 18 holes, est. 1989. Director of Golf Tom Carricato, Head Pro Ed Stanfill. 2200 Hillside Dr., Mesquite, NV 89024. Phone 702-346-5232 or 800-621-0187. Front 9 has 27 acres of water. Back 9 is hilly. Architect William Hull. 7,008 yards, par 72. Green fees include mandatory cart: Hotel guests of Si Redd's Oasis \$55 weekdays, \$75 weekends; nonguests \$90 weekdays, \$105 weekends. Summer rates lower. Golf packages. Club rentals: \$15.

NORTH LAS VEGAS

Craig Ranch Golf Course—Public (privately owned), 18 holes, est. 1963. Head Pro Henry Sandler, 628 W Craig Rd., North Las Vegas, NV 89030. Phone 702-642-9700. Tight course with 7,000 trees. Architect was owner J.C. Stimson. 6,001 yards, par 70. Green fees: \$14 to walk, \$21 to ride. Club rentals: \$8.

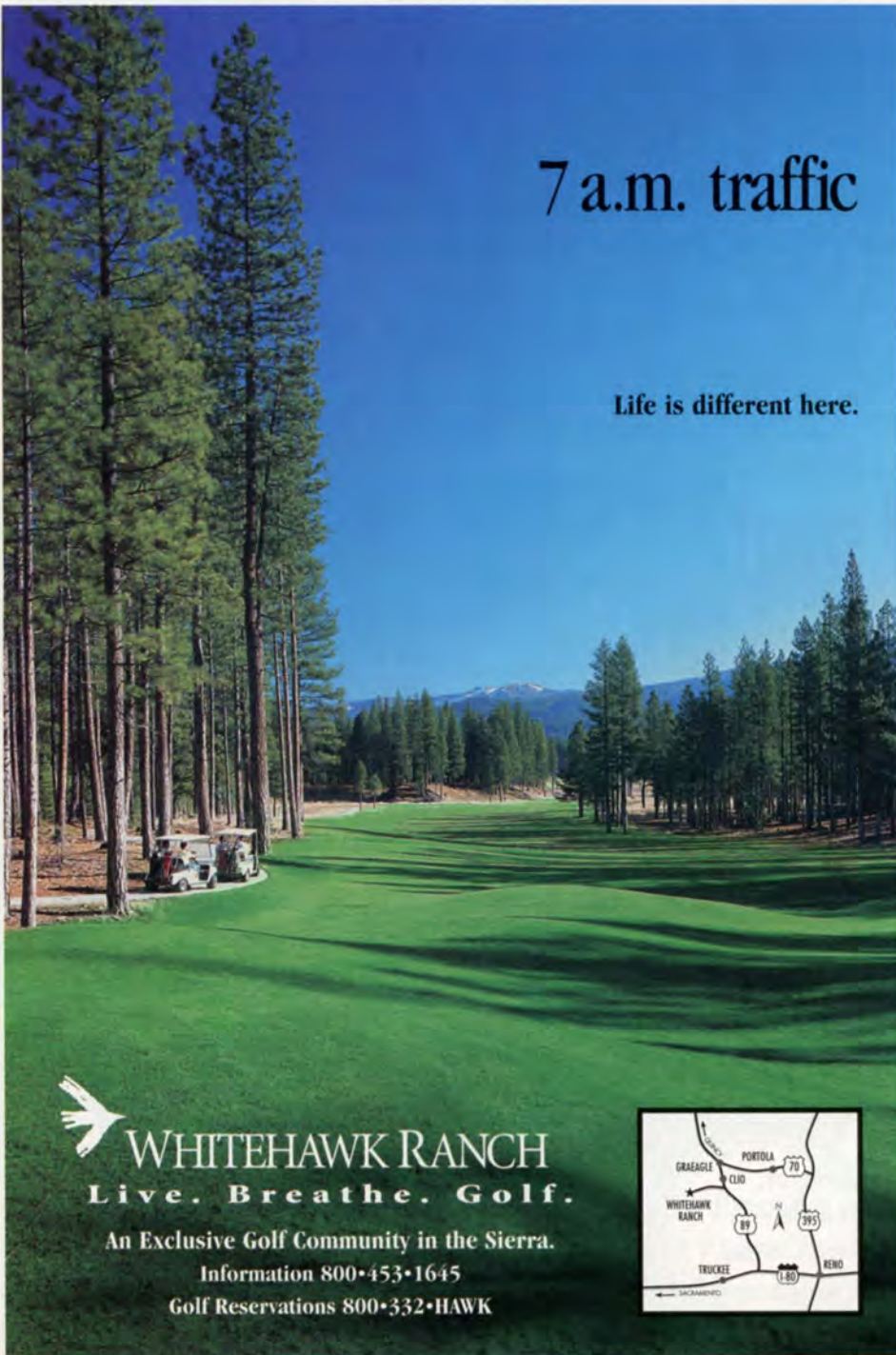
North Las Vegas Golf Course—City course, 9 holes (night-lighted), est. 1971. Manager Frank Cortez. 324 E. Brooks, North Las Vegas, NV 89036-4086. Phone 702-649-7171. A 14-acre par-3 course, lighted for night play. New tee boxes; greens and fairways reseeded. 1,158 yards, par 27. Green fees: Weekdays \$5, seniors \$4, students \$4.50. Weekends \$6.50. Night golf April 1 through Oct. \$6.50 weekdays, \$7.50 weekends, seniors and students \$5 (\$7 weekends). Carts not allowed. Club rentals: \$10.

Shadow Creek—Private, 18 holes, est. 1989. Owned by Mirage Resorts, this private course was conceived by the Mirage's Steve Wynn and designed by Tom Fazio. Play is by invitation only.

Sunrise Vista Golf Course—Military course, 18 holes, est. 1967. Director of Golf John Elkins Jr. 2841 Kinley Dr., Nellis AFB, NV 89191. Phone 702-652-2602. Located on Nellis Air Force Base. Flat course with four artificial lakes. For use by active-duty and retired military personnel and Dept. of Defense civilian employees. Other civilians can play on "stand by" basis. Adding 9

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holes in late 1996. 6,818 yards, par 72. Green fees: Guests \$25, military \$6-\$10, juniors \$6. Carts \$14. Club rentals: \$5-\$15.

PAHRUMP

Calvada Valley Golf Courses—Semi-private. Director of Golf Bill Cummings, Head Pro Billy Downs, Touring Pro Tom Storey. Architect William Bell. **Championship Course:** 18 holes, est. 1980. Box 220, Pahrum, NV 89041. Phone 702-727-4653. Long layout has grass bunkers instead of sand; water on 13 holes. 7,025 yards, par 71. Green fees include mandatory cart: \$42. Club rentals: \$15. **Executive Course:** 18 holes, open Sept.-May, est. 1984. Phone 702-727-6388. Elevated greens and four lakes. 3,587 yards, par 59. Green fees: \$18. Power carts not allowed; \$2 for pull carts. Club rentals: \$10.

Reno/Tahoe Area

CARSON CITY

Eagle Valley Golf Course—City courses, 36 holes. Head Pro Gary Bushman. 3999 Centennial Park Dr., Carson City, NV 89706. Phone 702-887-2380. **East Course:** 18 holes, est. 1976. Wide open course. 6,658 yards, par 72. Green fees: \$21, twilight \$10. Cart: \$18. Club rentals: \$15. **West Course:** 18 holes, est. 1987. A links-style course, hilly and narrow. Architect Homer Flynt. 6,851 yards, par 72. Green fees include mandatory cart: \$37.50; \$26.50 from 1-4 p.m., \$18 after 4 p.m. Club rentals: \$15. Public tennis courts and softball fields are nearby.

CARSON VALLEY

Carson Valley Golf Course—Public (privately owned), 18 holes, est. 1960. Owners Don and Lynn Brooks, Head Pro Chris Goeschel. 1027 Riverview Dr., Gardnerville, NV 89410. Phone 702-265-3181. Tall cottonwoods, Carson River. Architect Red Swift. 5,760 yards, par 71. Green fees: \$20. Cart (optional): \$20. Club rentals: \$10. Basque restaurant.

Golf Club at Genoa Lakes—Semi-private, 18 holes, est. 1993. Director of Golf Randy Fox. Jacks Valley Rd., Box 346, Genoa, NV 89411. Phone 702-782-4653 or 702-588-4653 (GOLF). *Golf Digest* named it the fourth best new public course in the U.S. in 1994. Architects John Harbottle and Peter Jacobsen. 7,263 yards, par 72. Green fees include cart: May 1-July 1: \$60 Mon.-Thurs., \$75 Fri.-Sun. July 1-Oct. 13: \$70 Mon.-Thurs., \$90 Fri.-Sun. Winter rates: \$40 Mon.-Thurs., \$55 Fri.-Sun. Club rentals: \$30.

DAYTON

Dayton Valley Country Club—Semi-private, 18 holes, est. 1991. Director of Golf Tom Duncan, Head Pro Jim Kepler. 51 Palmer Dr., Dayton, NV 89403. Phone 702-246-7888 (PUTT). Up to six tee boxes on each hole. Three par-3s require carries over water. Architects Arnold Palmer and Ed Seay. 7,218 yards, par 72. Green fees include cart: \$53 weekdays, \$70 weekends, \$25 after 1 p.m. Winter rates.

WASHOE VALLEY

Golf Club at Lightning W Ranch—Private, 18 holes, est. 1994. Manager Mitch Brust, Head Pro Chris Thompson. 19 Lightning W Ranch Rd., Carson City, NV 89704. Phone 702-882-0882. Front 9 is in the meadows, and the back 9 is in the pines and Sierra. Architect Robert Muir Graves. 7,203 yards, par 72. Reciprocal play for members and guests of other private clubs outside a 50-mile radius. Memberships available. Restaurant is open to the public.

RENO/SPARKS

Brookside Golf Course—City course, 9 holes, est. 1956. Manager Jerry Brown. 700 S. Rock Blvd., Reno, NV 89502. Phone 702-856-6009. A level, open course next to Reno/Tahoe International Airport. 2,882 yards, par 35. Green fees: \$10. Seniors \$6, students \$3. Cart (optional): \$16. Club rentals: \$15.

Hidden Valley Country Club—Private, 18 holes, est. 1958. Head Pro Tom Dawson. 3575 E. Hidden Valley Dr., Reno, NV 89502. Phone 702-857-4742. Long, open layout. Architect Billy Bell Jr. 7,061 yards, par 72. Members and guests only.

Lakeridge Golf Course—Daily fee, 18 holes, open March-Dec., est. 1969. Head Pro Paul Lane. 1200 Razorback Rd., Reno, NV 89509. Phone 702-825-2200. Famous 15th hole with an island green is reached with a tee shot from a hillside 130 feet above the lake. 19th Hole Restaurant. Architect

Robert Trent Jones Jr. 6,703 yards, par 71. Green fees include mandatory cart: \$58 Mon.-Thurs., \$65 Fri.-Sun. Twilight rates after 3 p.m. are \$39 Mon.-Thurs., \$44 Fri.-Sun. Walkers permitted after 5:30 p.m. Club rentals: \$25.

Northgate Golf Club—Resort course, 18 holes, est. 1988. Owned by RSCVA. Director of Golf Ron Wrest, Head Pro Don Boyle. 1111 Clubhouse Dr., Reno, NV 89523. Phone 702-747-7577. Desert links. Host course for the PGA Ben Hogan Reno Open in '90 and '91. Architects Benz and Poellot. 6,966 yards, par 72. Green fees include mandatory cart: Nonresidents \$46, Washoe County residents \$35. Twilight \$25 after 2 p.m. Club rentals: \$20.

Rosewood Lakes Golf Course—City course, 18 holes, est. 1991. Head Pro Mike Mazzaferri. 6800 Pembroke Dr., Reno, NV 89502. Phone 702-857-2892. Scenic course cut through the area's

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natural wetlands. Many birds. Architect Brad Benz. 6,693 yards, par 72. Green fees: Nonresidents \$25, Washoe County residents \$19. Twilight \$15.50 and \$12. Cart: \$18. Club rentals: \$15.

Sierra Sage Golf Course—County course, 18 holes, est. 1958. Director of Golf Mike Mitchell, Head Pro Dennis Oliver. 6355 Silver Lake Blvd., Stead, NV 89506. Phone 702-972-1564. Front 9 built by U.S. Air Force. Links style. 6,623 yards, par 71. Green fees: April 1 to Oct. 1: Nonresidents \$23, and Washoe County residents \$17. Twilight \$12 after 2 p.m. Starting-time fee of \$1 per person April-Oct. Cart: \$20. Club rentals: \$12.

Washoe County Golf Course County, 18 holes, est. 1934. Head Pro Barney Bell. 2601 S. Arlington, Reno, NV 89509. Phone 702-828-6640. Front 9 is flat, back 9 is hilly. Built by W.P.A. 6,695 yards, par 72. Green fees: April 1 to Oct. 31: Nonresidents \$23, Washoe County residents \$17. Seniors and juniors \$14.50. Starting-time fee of \$1 per person April-Oct. Twilight rate \$12. Cart: \$20. Club rentals: \$15.

Wildcreek Golf Course—Resort course, est. 1979. Owned by RSCVA. Director of Golf Ron Wrest, Head Pro Fred Elliott. 3500 Sullivan Ln., Sparks, NV 89431. Phone 702-673-3100. **Championship Course:** 18 holes, open Feb.-Dec. Very hilly, lots of water, bunkers, and sagebrush. Architects Benz-Phelps. 6,932 yards, par 72. Green fees include mandatory cart: Nonresidents \$48, Washoe County residents \$35. Twilight \$25. Tournament fee: \$55. Club rentals: \$20. **Executive Course:** 9 holes, open all year. Rolling hills, lots of water. 2,840 yards, par 27. Green fees: \$12. Cart: \$20. Club rentals: \$6.

SOUTH LAKE TAHOE

Bijou Golf Course—City course, 9 holes, open April-Oct., est. 1920. Course Manager Don Radford. 3464 Fairway and Johnson Blvd., South Lake Tahoe, CA. Phone 916-542-6097. Alpine meadow setting framed by Heavenly Ski Area and Freel Peak. 2,200 yards, par 32. Green fees: \$20. Twilight rate \$8 after 3 p.m. Hand carts only: \$1. Club rentals: \$5.

Edgewood Tahoe—Resort course, 18 holes, open May-Oct., est. 1968. Head Pro Paul Martin. Box 5400, Stateline, NV 89449. Phone 702-588-3566. Host of national tournaments like the Amateur Public Links in 1980, the U.S. Seniors Open in 1985, and the Isuzu Celebrity Golf Champi-

onships (July 12-14, 1996). Architect George Fazio. 7,491 yards, par 72. Green fees include mandatory cart: \$150. Club rentals: \$25.

Glenbrook Golf Course—Resort course, 9 holes, open mid-April to mid-Oct., est. c. 1926. Head Pro Lane Christiansen. Pray Meadow Rd., Glenbrook, NV 89413. Phone 702-749-5201. Charming older course nestled in the pines. 5,318 yards (based on 18 holes), par 71. Green fees: \$45. Twilight \$20 after 4 p.m. (9 holes). Cart (optional): \$20. Club rentals: \$15.

Lake Tahoe Golf Course—Resort course, 18 holes, open mid-April to mid-Oct., est. c. 1962. Manager Dave Rowe, Head Pro Bob Billings. U.S. 50 West, 1 mile west of airport, South Lake Tahoe, CA 96158. Phone 916-577-0788. Located in an alpine meadow. 6,707 yards, par 71. Green fees: \$42 to walk, \$57 to ride. Early-bird and twilight rates. Cart (mandatory week-ends): \$12 per person. Club rentals: \$20-\$30.

Tahoe Paradise Golf Course—Resort course, 18 holes, open April-Nov., est. 1960. Head Pro Dave Gilpin. 3021 U.S. 50 West, Box 11376, Meyers, CA 96155. Phone 916-577-2121. Has six par 3s. Rest are par 4s for men; women have two par 5s. 4,021 yards, par 66. Green fees: \$29. Seniors \$21. Twilight \$19 after 3 p.m. Cart (optional): \$24. Club rentals: \$12.

NORTH LAKE TAHOE

Incline Golf Courses—Resort courses, open May-Oct. Manager Mike Hair, Director of Golf John Hughes. **Championship Course:** 18 holes, est. 1964. 955 Fairway Blvd., Incline Village, NV 89450. Phone 702-832-1144. Set among the tall pines. Architect Robert Trent Jones. 6,910 yards, par 72. Green fees include mandatory cart: June 14-Sept. 15: Nonresidents \$100, Incline Village General Improvement District residents \$35. Early and late season rates: Nonresidents \$80, residents \$25. Club rentals: \$25. **Executive Course:** 18 holes, est. 1974. 690 Wilson Way, Incline Village, NV 89450. Phone 702-832-1150. Architect Robert Trent Jones Jr. 3,513 yards, par 58. Green fees include mandatory cart: Nonresidents \$50, Incline residents \$25. Early and late season rates: \$40 and \$20. Club rentals: \$25.

Northstar-at-Tahoe Golf Course—Resort course, 18 holes, open May-Oct., est. 1973. Head Pro Jim Anderson. Hwy. 267, Basque Dr. at Northstar, Box 129, Truckee, CA 96160. Phone 916-562-2490. Front 9 is open with heavily contoured greens. Back 9 has narrow, tree-lined fairways. Architect Robert Muir Graves. 6,897 yards, par 72. Green fees include mandatory cart: \$67. Club rental available. Horse and mountain-bike riding.

Old Brockway Golf Course—Public (privately owned), 9 holes, open April-Nov., est. 1924. Owner Lane Lewis, Head Pro Garrett Good. 7900 N. Lake Blvd., Kings Beach, CA 95719. Phone 916-546-9909. Across the street from Lake Tahoe. 6,900 yards (based on 18 holes), par 72. Green fees, 1995: \$45. Club rentals: \$15.

Resort at Squaw Creek—Resort course, 18 holes, open spring to fall, est. 1991. Head Pro Bob



Lightning W is Washoe Valley's first course.

Hickam. 400 Squaw Creek Rd., Box 3333, Olympic Valley, CA 96146. Phone 916-583-6300 or 800-4GOLFTE. Traditional course set in Squaw Valley. Dress code (collared shirts). Architect Robert Trent Jones Jr. 6,931 yards, par 71. Green fees include cart: \$100 weekdays, \$110 weekends. Late-season rates available. Club rentals: \$25. Caddies available: \$30 for 18 holes.

Tahoe City Golf Course—Public (privately owned), 9 holes, open April-Nov., est. 1917. Head Pro Don Hay. 251 N. Lake Blvd., Box 226, Tahoe City, CA 96145. Phone 916-583-1516. The course was initially designed by May Webb Dunn. Challenging greens. 5,261 yards (based on 18 holes), par 66. Green fees: \$35. Seasonal rates. Senior rates. Cart: \$22. Club rentals: \$12.

TRUCKEE & VICINITY

Graeagle Meadows Golf Course—Public (privately owned), 18 holes, open April to mid-Nov., est. 1970. Head Pro Bob Klein Jr., Hwy. 89 north of Truckee, Graeagle, CA 96103. Phone 916-836-2323. Architect Ellis Van Gorder. 6,680 yards, par 72. Green fees: \$33.

Plumas Pines Golf Resort—Resort course, 18 holes, open April-Oct., est. 1980. Head Pro Tim Fernau. 402 Poplar Valley Rd., Blairsden, CA 96103. Phone 916-836-1420. Mountain course. Architect Homer Flynt. 6,504 yards, par 72. Green fees include cart: May 24-Sept. 22: \$60. Spring and fall: \$50. Golf-and-dinner packages.

Ponderosa Golf Course—Public (privately owned), 9 holes, open May-Oct., est. 1961. Hwy. 267 and Reynolds Way, Truckee, CA 96160. Phone 916-587-3501. Mostly flat, heavily wooded. 6,036 yards (based on 18 holes), par 72. Green fees, 1995: \$35. Cart (optional): \$22.

Tahoe Donner Golf Course—Semi-private, 18 holes, open May-Oct., est. 1973. Head Pro



Wildcreek in Sparks is a past Senior PGA tournament site.

Bruce Towle. 12850 Northwoods Blvd., Truckee, CA 95737. Phone 916-587-9440. Course is hilly, with many steep drops. Architects Roy Williams (1-9) and Bill Bell Jr. (10-18). 6,917 yards, par 72. Green fees include cart: \$90.

Golf Club at Whitehawk Ranch—Resort course, 18 holes, est. May 25, 1996. Head Pro Michael Kahler. 1137 Hwy. 39, Box 170, Clio, CA 96106. Phone 916-836-0394 or 800-332-HAWK. New course in the pines. Streams and meadows.

Architect Dick Bailey. 6,950 yards, par 71. Green fees include cart: \$75; same to walk. Club rentals available.

Rural Nevada

BATTLE MOUNTAIN

Mountain View Golf Course—County course, 9 holes, open March to mid-Nov., est.

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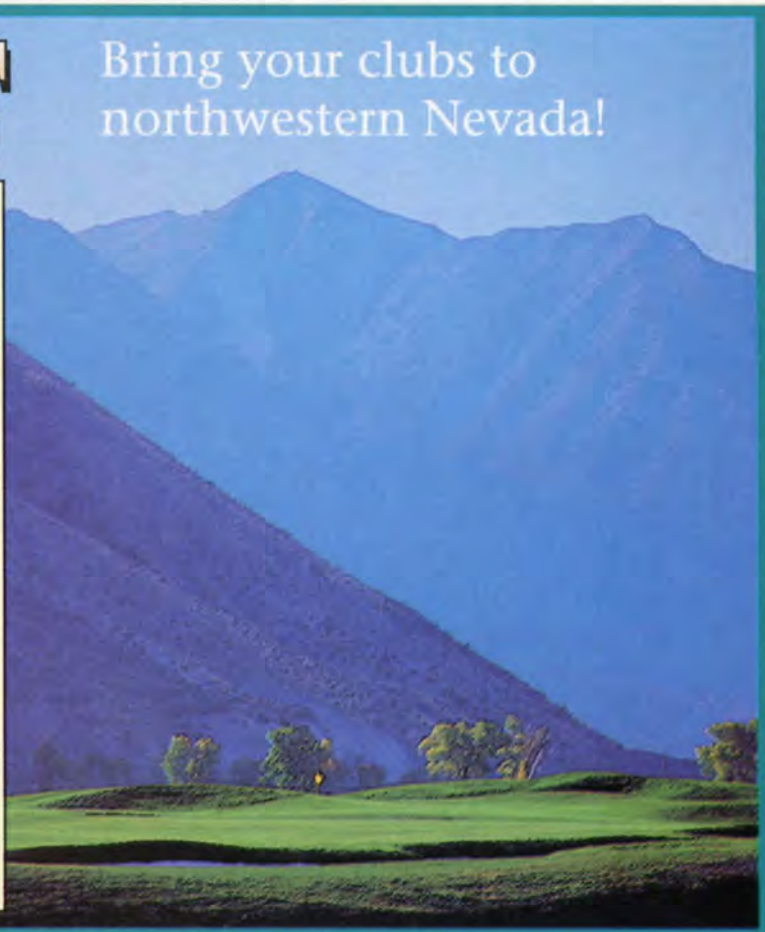
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No. 18 at Edgewood Tahoe is a scenic finishing hole.

1991. Head Pro Roger Kreuter. 205 Fairway Dr., Box 201-14, Battle Mountain, NV 89820. Phone 702-635-2380. Rolling layouts, doglegs, narrow fairways. Architects John and Maria Heller. 3,009 yards, par 35. Green fees, 1995: \$12. Senior and junior rates. Power carts, club rentals.

ELKO

Ruby View Golf Course—City course, 18 holes, open March to mid-Nov., est. 1968. Head Pro Rick Longhurst. 2100 Ruby View Dr., Elko, NV 89801. Phone 702-738-6212. Long rolling fairways lined with big trees. 6,928 yards, par 72. Green fees: Nonresidents \$18, Elko residents \$14. Cart (optional): \$16. Club rentals: \$14.

ELY

White Pine County Golf Course—County course, 9 holes, open Feb.-Nov., est. 1957. Head Pro Joe Cullinane Jr. 1 Burch Dr., Ely, NV 89301; Box 150454, E. Ely, NV 89315. Phone 702-289-4095. Flat golf course with narrow fairways. Second 9 under construction. Architect Bob Baldock. 6,489 yards (based on 18 holes), par 72. Green fees: \$11. Cart (optional): \$18. Club rentals: \$5.

EMPIRE

Burning Sands Golf Course—Mining town course open to public, 9 holes, est. early 1960s. Ken McCurdy, Town Manager, Bill Couk, Supervisor. Downtown Empire, NV 89405. Phone 702-557-2341. Course has been built over the years by gypsum-mine employees in the company town of Empire (pop. 350). 2,007 yards, par 32. Green fees: Donations accepted. Carts not allowed. Tennis courts, barbecues, and picnic tables are located near the course.

FALLON

Fallon Golf Course—Public (privately owned), 9 holes, est. 1958. Owners Greg Lewis and Leslie Paul, Head Pro Randy Kroshuf. 2655 Country Club Dr., Fallon, NV 89406. Phone 702-423-4616. Set on the Carson River with tall cottonwoods and willows. 6,426 yards (based on 18 holes), par 70. Green fees, 1995: \$14 weekdays, \$13 weekends. Twilight \$7. Cart (optional): \$16. Club rentals: \$7.

GABBS

Sandy Bottom Golf Course—Public clay course, 9 holes, est. c. 1958. Laid out on a dry lake bed, Nevada's oldest clay course is at the rodeo grounds west of Gabbs (pop. 400). 3,010 yards, par 35. Fees: \$10 per year membership. Adventurous nonmembers are welcome to play free.

GERLACH

Lucifer's Anvil Golf Course—Informal layout of more than 7,000 yards on the Black Rock playa north of Gerlach. Site of Black Rock Self-Invitational in June.

HAWTHORNE

Walker Lake Country Club—Public (government owned), 9 holes, est. 1952. Manager Gale Parcell. Hawthorne Army Ammunitions Plant, Box 321, Hawthorne, NV 89415. Phone 702-945-1111. Towering elms flank oldest holes and shade the stately homes that were built for the big brass. 5,514 yards (based on 18 holes), par 68. Green fees: \$14 weekdays, \$16 weekends. Cart (optional): \$16. Club rentals: \$5. Casino packages and dry camping available.

JACKPOT

Jackpot Golf Club—County course, 18 holes, open March-Oct., est. 1970. Director of Golf Dave Albrecht, Head Pro Gene Frank Jr. 415 Ace Dr., Jackpot, NV 89825. Phone 702-755-2260. Lengthy, undulating layout, lots of doglegs. Remodeled clubhouse. Architect Robert Muir Graves. 6,436 yards, par 72. Green fees: Nonresidents \$15, Elko County residents \$9. Cart (optional): \$20. Club rentals: \$7.

PIOCHE

Pioche Golf Course—The old mining community of Pioche has a nine-hole course carved out of sagebrush and dirt in the flat below town.

A good time to play is during the Sagebrush Golf Classic, which is held during Pioche's annual Labor Day Celebration. Golfers are advised to bring pieces of indoor-outdoor carpeting, as local players do.

ROUND MOUNTAIN

Round Mountain Golf Course—Public (privately owned), 9 holes, open Feb.-Dec., est. 1991. Head Pro Pete Summerbell. Round Mountain, NV 89045. Phone 702-377-2880. Mining company course in Hadley in Big Smoky Valley. Four tees on each hole. Self-styled Loneliest Golf Course in America. Architect William Howard Neff. 3,569 yards, par 36. Green fees: \$14. Gas cart: \$18. Club rentals: \$5-\$8. RV camping.

SPRING CREEK

Spring Creek Golf Course—Public (privately owned), 18 holes, open March-Nov., est. 1972. Pro David Way. 451 E. Spring Creek Pkwy., Elko, NV 89801, 15 miles southeast of Elko. Phone 702-753-6331. Narrow fairways, sagebrush rough. 6,258 yards, par 71. Green fees: \$14 weekdays, \$16 weekends. Cart (optional): \$18. Club rentals: \$10.

WELLS

Chimney Rock Golf Course—City course, 9 holes, open April-Nov., est. 1976. Head Pro Ron Springsteel. 750 Ventosa Ave., Box 430, Wells, NV 89835. Phone 702-752-3928. Three lakes, sand bunkers, and small greens. 6,130 yards (based on 18 holes), par 70. Green fees: \$14. Cart (optional): \$15. Club rentals: \$5.

WENDOVER

Toana Vista Golf Course—Resort course, 18 holes, open March-Nov., est. 1985. Director of Golf Reid Goodliffe. 2319 Pueblo Blvd., Box 2290, West Wendover, NV 89883. Phone 702-664-4300. A long, narrow target-oriented design. Architect Homer Flynt. 6,911 yards, par 72. Green fees include cart: \$30 weekdays, \$35 weekends. Carts mandatory until 1 p.m. weekdays and 4 p.m. weekends. Club rentals: \$10.

WINNEMUCCA

Winnemucca Municipal Golf Course—City course, 9 holes, open March-Oct., est. c. 1952. Head Pro Bill Phillips. 1395 Mizpah St., Winnemucca, NV 89445. Phone 702-623-9920. Flat, well-bunkered course with small greens. Architect Bob Baldock. 3,250 yards, par 36. Green fees: \$12 weekdays, \$14 weekends. One dollar off if you start before 7:30 a.m. or after 6 p.m. Cart (optional): \$16. Tennis courts and a playground are nearby.

YERINGTON

Mason Valley Country Club—Public (privately owned), 9 holes, est. 1964. Manager Lynda Hunewill. 111 Hwy. 208, Yerington, NV 89447. Phone 702-463-3300. Course is long, flat, open, and easy to walk. Ponds and irrigation ditches serve as water hazards. Another 9 holes going in. 6,638 yards (based on 18 holes), par 72. Green fees: \$15 weekdays, \$16 weekends. Cart (optional): \$14. Club rentals: \$5. □

Compiled by David Moore, editor of Nevada Magazine and veteran of the Pioneer Territory Golf Tour and the Black Rock Self-Invitational.

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Out here, the sky is bluer,
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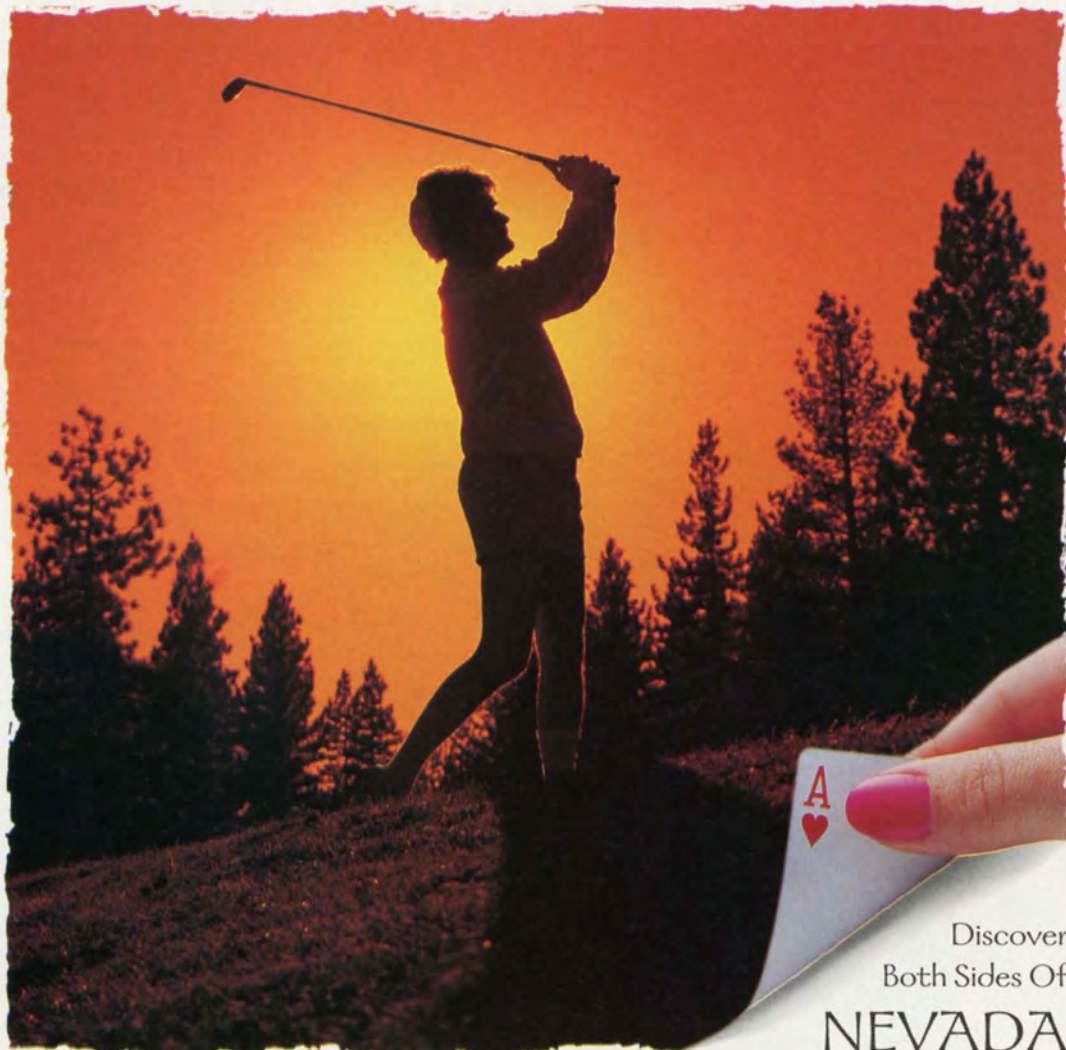
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The Breaking Point

When the Donner Party passed through Nevada 150 years ago, delays and discord presaged the pioneers' tragic winter in the Sierra.

By Martin Griffith



By the time the Donner Party stumbled into Nevada in September 1846, it was well on the road to disaster. The caravan was racked by dissension, and its 86 members were in no condition to tackle the toughest third of the overland journey still ahead. They were running low on food, strength, and confidence at the worst possible time.

"Anguish and dismay now filled all hearts," Eliza P. Donner Houghton, a daughter of party captain George Donner, later wrote of the group's mood upon entering Nevada. "Husbands bowed their heads, appalled at the situation of their families... Mothers in tearless agony clasped their children to their bosoms with the old, old cry, 'Father, Thy will, not mine, be done.'"

Unfortunately, the worst fears of Houghton and other members were soon realized. The six-week Nevada crossing—whose 150th anniversary is this year—was a total disaster that helped set the stage for one of the westward migration's greatest tragedies. Along the way, one member was killed by a traveling companion. Another died under suspicious circumstances. Yet another was left behind to die on the trail. Many members starved to death, and others resorted to cannibalism to survive when stranded in the

Sierra Nevada about 30 miles west of Reno in the winter of 1846-47.

The Donner Party consisted of about a dozen families who banded together in Wyoming after pulling up roots in the Midwest. The group had no major problems until it gambled on a shortcut, the Hastings Cutoff, between Fort Bridger in Wyoming and the Humboldt River in Nevada. Their longer-

than-expected crossings of the Wasatch Range and Great Salt Lake Desert in Utah left them demoralized and exhausted by the time they reached Nevada.

The Donner Party's farmers were unprepared for what loomed ahead on the Nevada desert. At the time Nevada was a wilderness under Mexican control without a single trading post.



The Donner Party took nearly two months to cross present-day Nevada.



Survivors included Eliza Donner Houghton (left) and James Reed (below). At right are Breen family descendants Joseph Cullumber (left), Gladys Hargous, and Edward Ordway Jr. on the Forty-Mile Desert.



Nearly half, 42, of the party's members were 16 years of age or younger, and the number of children contributed to the party's slowness. The party also was plagued by personality conflicts and a lack of leadership.

As the emigrants entered Nevada near present-day Wendover, about September 11, a snowstorm and shortage of food caused them considerable anxiety and fear. Charles Stanton and William McCutcheon agreed to go ahead to Sutter's Fort in the Sacramento Valley and bring food back to the party.

"The apprehension of delay from [snow] and of scarcity [of food] made the mothers tremble," survivor John Breen wrote of the mood then. "But they knew that to give way was to

make unavoidable that which they dreaded, and they put the best possible face on to meet their discouragements. The men were irritable and impatient." The group encountered no major problems on the Hastings Cutoff in Nevada. Party members raved about the grass and water in Ruby Valley southeast of present-day Elko. But the Ruby Mountains formed a major barrier that took about an extra week to get around.

Members were following the tracks of an emigrant train led by Lansford Hastings, a smooth-talking guide who had blazed the "cutoff" that summer. They cursed Hastings for his misrepresentations of the route. Had the com-

pany stayed on the main trail, it would have reached the Humboldt River about two weeks earlier and made it safely over the Sierra.

One of the few happy moments for the Donner Party in Nevada came about September 26 when the group rejoined the regular trail on the Humboldt just west of Elko. The pioneers were relieved to be on the main route again, but they knew they were in trouble. Man and beast alike were worn out, and food was dwindling fast.

"Day after day, from dawn to twilight, we moved onward, never stopping, except to give the oxen the necessary nooning, or to give them drink when water was available," Houghton wrote.

The cattle of brothers George and Jacob Donner were in fairly good shape, so their families pushed ahead on the Humboldt. The Donner Party seldom traveled together after this, leaving the travelers more vulnerable to Indian attacks. The theft and slaughter of more than 50 head of cattle on the Humboldt and Truckee rivers would

150th Anniversary Events

Donner Party enthusiasts can participate in two events taking place in mid-August in conjunction with the 150th anniversary of the party's ill-fated journey

About 800 "rut nuts" from across the country are expected to gather August 14-18 in Elko to discuss the Donner Party tragedy at the **Annual Convention of the Oregon-California Trails Association**. The gathering will feature tours of the Hastings

Cutoff and main California Trail in Elko County. There will be conferences on the Donner Party, a Basque barbecue, and a program by cowboy poets, including Waddie Mitchell of Elko. Paul Sawyer and Bob Pearce, both of Elko, are convention cochairmen. Phone Sawyer (702-738-5366) or the OCTA (816-252-2276) for further information.

Meanwhile, about 8,000 other Donner Party buffs are anticipated

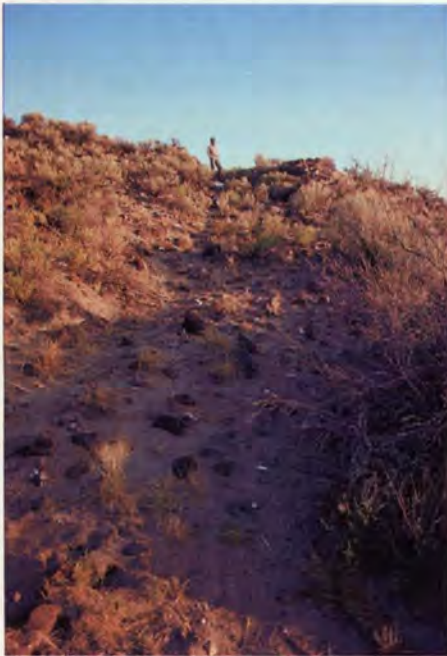
August 15-18 at Reno's Peppermill Hotel and Donner Memorial State Park near Truckee for **California Trail Days '96 and Donner Party Sesquicentennial**. The program includes a wagon train, Emigrant Trail tours, a Chautauqua, descendants' family reunions, and a Donner Party conference. Contact coordinator Frankye Craig, Box 16093, South Lake Tahoe, CA 96151, phone 916-544-3053, for cost and schedule.

prove costly to emigrants who would need every pound of meat later on.

After a week on the Humboldt, about October 5, the Donner Party suffered a tragic turn for the worse. James Reed, one of the party's leaders, stabbed John Snyder to death in a dispute that stemmed from troubles driving wagons up a steep, sandy hill east of Golconda. Reed claimed self-defense, but witnesses gave conflicting accounts. A council was held, and some said Reed deserved to hang. Instead, he was banished from the party and forced to leave his family behind.

The stabbing was a defining moment for the Donner Party and revealed a great deal about its collective state of mind. The threat of starvation and snow in the Sierra caused the emigrants to rush and panic across Nevada. The pressure proved too much—they finally were at the breaking point.

Some members disliked Reed and blamed him for the party's desperate situation. But others maintained his banishment deprived the party of its only true leader at a time when leader-



This hill east of Golconda may be the fateful spot where James Reed stabbed John Snyder. Reed was then banished.

ship was sorely needed. Reed was a businessman who served in the same company as Abraham Lincoln during the Blackhawk War. Reed, not George Donner, had called most of the shots after the party's decision to take the Hastings Cutoff.

"I have always thought that this [banishment] was a misfortune for the



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whole party as Reed was an intelligent and energetic Man, and if he had remained the party might of got through," Breen wrote.

Relations among members worsened after the stabbing. Several days later an elderly Belgian man named Hardcoop was abandoned near Winnemucca. He was kicked out of a wagon on a sandy stretch to lighten the load for weak oxen. He was last seen sitting by the trail.

Some members wanted to go back and search for Hardcoop, but those with horses would not share them. Clearly, the Donner Party was no longer a company. It was only a number of family groups, each for itself. Their growing obsession with



The old camp in Reno is now covered by the Donner Springs subdivision (right).

**Many were
starving as they
crawled up the
Truckee Canyon.**

the entire trail to California because of its lack of grass and good water. To the Donner Party, it was just another bad experience.

Because they were forced to abandon all their property at the sink, William Eddy and his wife, Eleanor, had to carry their two young children in their arms across the barren waste. They had nothing to eat, and their children sur-

vived on sugar. According to the Eddys, other families refused to share food and water with them. The Eddys and others might have died had the crossing occurred in the summer.

Many of the emigrants were near starvation as they crawled up the Truckee Canyon toward the Truckee Meadows at present-day Reno. It took them four days to cover the 30-mile


self-survival portended disaster. As Houghton wrote, "Who could peer into the near future and read between its lines the greater suffering which Mr. Hardcoop had escaped, or the trials in store for us?"

The suspicious death of a member named Wolfinger provided further proof of the group's quick degeneration. Some members maintained Wolfinger was killed for his money by two fellow Germans. The suspects blamed Indians.

About 17 days of travel on the Humboldt brought the Donner Party to the dreaded Forty-Mile Desert. The cattle were so weak that almost everyone was forced to walk by now, even children. The entire Donner Party reunited near Lovelock but soon broke up again under the strain.

"After leaving the sink of the Humboldt the company as if by mutual consent dissolved, or gradually separated," Breen wrote, adding that "the teams and people were worn out and had little energy left."

The pioneers staggered across the Forty-Mile Desert, reaching the Truckee River near Wadsworth about October 15. To most other emigrants, the Forty-Mile was the worst stretch on



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stretch that Interstate 80 motorists now can make in a half hour.

The highlight of their Nevada journey came east of Reno when a welcome sight appeared. Stanton and food! Had Stanton failed to return from Sutter's Fort with provisions, the Donner Party's losses would have been far greater. The bachelor's decision to return would ultimately cost him his own life in the Sierra.

"I am convinced that no more brave or generous man ever died in the endeavor to help his fellow man. He was a hero," Breen wrote.

The emigrants reached Reno around October 20 even more worried about the weather. The length of their Reno stay, which survivors said was from two to five days, proved critical.

Some members later maintained they could have safely crossed the Sierra had they not rested in Reno. But Stanton urged the group to pause at the lush meadows to rest the cattle. Besides, he said correctly, the big snows usually didn't hit the Sierra until late November. But the party was jinxed. Who could have foreseen the once-in-a-century winter that dumped heavy snow a month earlier than expected?

William Pike became the fourth member to die in Nevada when a gun accident claimed his life. It snowed at his burial in Reno, causing even more anxiety about the Sierra crossing. Meanwhile, the food situation still was critical. What the travelers would have given for one of Reno's modern all-you-can-eat buffets!

The stabbing was a defining moment for the Donner Party.

The panicky emigrants left the Truckee Meadows and ended their 500-mile Nevada journey a short time after leaving the Truckee River at Verdi. They moved out in different groups, many never to see each other again.

"[W]e journeyed on through the rain, looking up with fear towards the mountains, where snow was already falling though it was only the last week in October," wrote survivor Virginia

Reed Murphy, a daughter of James Reed.

Several families missed getting over the Sierra by just one day. The snow kept falling, and the pioneers holed up for the winter near Truckee, California. Their 2,000-mile journey began with hope and ended in cannibalism—thanks to a combination of bad luck and their own doing. Many survivors had to eat the flesh of their dead comrades after running out of food a couple of months later. Of the group's 89 total members, including three who didn't journey across Nevada, 42 eventually died, most due to starvation.

One hundred and fifty years later, the Donner Party disaster still offers valuable lessons: Know your limita-

**Several families
missed getting
over the Sierra by
just one day.**

tions, and explore alternatives. The group paid a steep price for its get-to-California-at-all-costs attitude. The goal was unrealistic given the lateness of the season and the party's inexperience with the terrain. The Donner Party

took on far more than it could handle.

Breen and other members later acknowledged the party should have hunkered down for the winter in Reno or Salt Lake City and then made a break for the Sierra the following year. Fortunately, later emigrants learned from the tragedy, and there was no repeat of it. ▽

Martin Griffith is a Reno journalist who has hiked the Emigrant Trail across Nevada (see his story "Seeing the Elephant," May/June '94). He, too, met with misfortune on the Hastings Cutoff. Last fall he was retracing the notorious shortcut near Wendover when his car became stuck at a railroad crossing and, after he abandoned the vehicle, a train plowed into it.

Retracing the Donner Trail

Donner Party landmarks abound in Nevada, and many can be found with the help of markers placed by two Reno-based groups, Trails West and the now-defunct Nevada Emigrant Trail Marking Committee. Both have published guidebooks that are available at the Nevada Historical Society in Reno and the Nevada State Museum in Carson City. Here are some of those areas where you can follow in the party's footsteps.

Hastings Cutoff: The stretch between Goshute and Clover valleys south of Wells has changed little since the Donner Party came through. But a word of caution: The cutoff hasn't been marked, and only experienced desert rats with four-wheel-drives should try this splendid but remote 45-mile section featuring two Donner Party camps, Flowery Lake and Mound Springs. The main dirt road in scenic Ruby Valley closely parallels the Hastings Cutoff, as does the bumpy dirt road over Overland Pass at the southern tip of the Ruby Mountains. Cars can be driven over both stretches, which are southeast of Elko via Interstate 80 exits in Halleck, Deeth, or Wells and U.S. 93 and State Route 229.

Humboldt River Near Golconda: Nevada's most famous Donner Party site is a sandy hill about 10 miles east of Golconda where James Reed killed John Snyder in a fit of rage. Many historians think a hill at Iron Point best

fits the description given by party survivors. Trails West marker C-58 is located at its base. But other historians think the stabbing scene was the northern tip of Edna Mountain, several miles west. The Trails West guidebook has directions on how to find it.

Humboldt River at Rye Patch: Twenty-two miles north of Lovelock, Rye Patch State Recreation Area has a good 12-mile stretch of trail taken by the Donner Party. It can be found on the west side of Rye Patch Reservoir with the help of the Nevada Emigrant Trail Marking Committee guidebook.

Forty-Mile Desert: The Donner Party rested several hours at Boiling Springs. Located near I-80 about 20 miles east of Fernley, the dozens of hot springs offered the only water on the Forty-Mile. Wells drilled in the 1950s caused the springs to dry up, leaving only holes in the ground. The interstate closely parallels the old trail all the way across the Forty-Mile Desert. Good sections can be found at several Nevada Emigrant Trail Marking Committee markers.

Reno: Most historians think the Donner Party camped by springs just north of Rattlesnake Peak in present-day southeast Reno. The area, once part of the Short Ranch, now is covered by the Donner Springs subdivision. Few trail remnants exist in Reno, but an excellent half-mile sec-



The statue at Donner Memorial State Park, 40 miles west of Reno.

tion of trail leading to the old camp can be found just south of Hidden Valley. The Nevada Emigrant Trail Marking Committee guidebook gives directions.

Donner Lake: The shrine for Donner Party devotees is Donner Memorial State Park, where the snowbound party spent the winter of 1846-47. The California state park is 40 miles west of Reno, between Truckee and Donner Pass, off I-80. The park's address is 12593 Donner Pass Road, P.O. Box 9210, Truckee, CA 96161, phone 916-587-3841. The park next to Donner Lake has the Emigrant Trail Museum, the Breen and Murphy cabin sites, trails, and campgrounds. The towering Pioneer Monument stands on the Breen site. The monument's base is 22 feet high—which was the snow depth that winter.—*Martin Griffith*

Routes of Renown

Nevada's highways had historic handles.

By Richard Moreno

Recently, State Route 375 near Rachel, a haven for UFO watchers, was named the "Extraterrestrial Highway." The designation recalls an old-time custom. Early in this century, Nevada's highways didn't have numbers—they had names, which were promoted by the auto makers and clubs that helped build the roads. Eventually, the names became too confusing, so federal officials introduced numbered routes in the 1930s. Following are some of Nevada's descriptively named highways.



Victory Highway travelers in 1922 could stop at Emil (above) and Fritz Buckingham's station, an oasis for autoists in Winnemucca.

1 Lincoln Highway: America's first coast-to-coast road was the Lincoln Highway, which in Nevada paralleled the old Pony Express Trail and today's U.S. 50. The road commemorated President Abraham Lincoln and stretched 3,300 miles from New York City to San Francisco. When the Lincoln Highway was established in 1913, it was declared to be open "without toll charges, and to be of concrete wherever practicable."

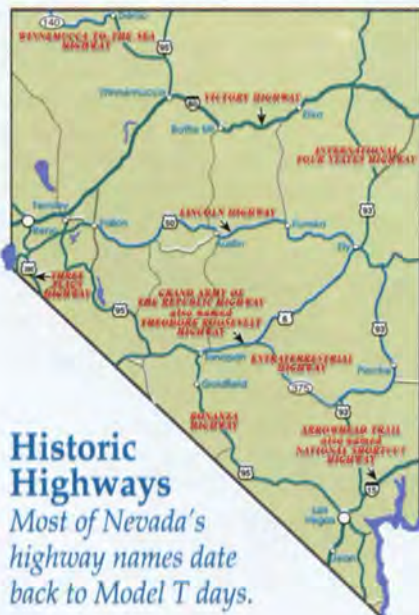
2 Victory Highway: A rival of the Lincoln Highway, the Victory Highway, as it was named after World War I, largely followed the Emigrant Trail through Elko, Reno, and other towns. Later called U.S. 40, the Victory evolved into Interstate 80.

3 Grand Army of the Republic Highway: In the mid-1920s, this elegant title, honoring the Civil War-era Union Army, was bestowed on the cross-state byway that passed through Tonopah, Warm Springs, and Ely. The route is today's U.S. 6.

4 Theodore Roosevelt Highway: This additional name for U.S. 6 honored the 26th president. The March/April

1939 issue of *Nevada Highways and Parks* noted that the "Roosevelt Highway enters Nevada from Delta, Utah, as an earth road."

5 Bonanza Highway: Meandering along Nevada's western edge, this roadway followed most of today's U.S. 95. The Bonanza was so named because it passed through mining towns such as Tonopah and Goldfield.



Historic Highways
Most of Nevada's highway names date back to Model T days.

6 International Four States Highway: Quite a mouthful, this name was given to the Eastern Nevada route that is now U.S. 93. The road weaved 1,500 miles through Montana, Idaho, Nevada, and Arizona.

7 Three Flags Highway: This north-south arterial followed today's U.S. 395. The name referred to the fact that the route passed through three countries: Canada, the U.S., and Mexico.

8 Arrowhead Trail: Crossing Southern Nevada, this highway generally followed what was later known as U.S. 91 and now Interstate 15. Conceived by Las Vegas promoters, it was built by volunteers and supported by merchants in towns along the trail.

9 National Shortcut Highway: The name said it all. This highway directly linked Omaha and Las Vegas. Like the Arrowhead Trail, it followed the path of today's I-15.

10 Winnemucca-to-the-Sea Highway: In the 1960s Winnemucca citizens gave this sobriquet to the completed highway, via State Route 140, from Winnemucca to the coastal town of Crescent City, California. In commemoration, a sizable redwood-tree slab stands in front of the convention center where the Winnemucca-to-the-Sea route meets the old Victory Highway. □

Richard Moreno, Nevada's publisher, was instrumental in the naming of U.S. 50 as the Loneliest Road in America. He notes that the gala National Conference and Tour of the Lincoln Highway Association will take place June 11-15 at the Holiday Inn Downtown in Reno (call 916-587-7654 for details). The public is invited.

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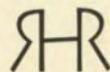
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May/June 1996

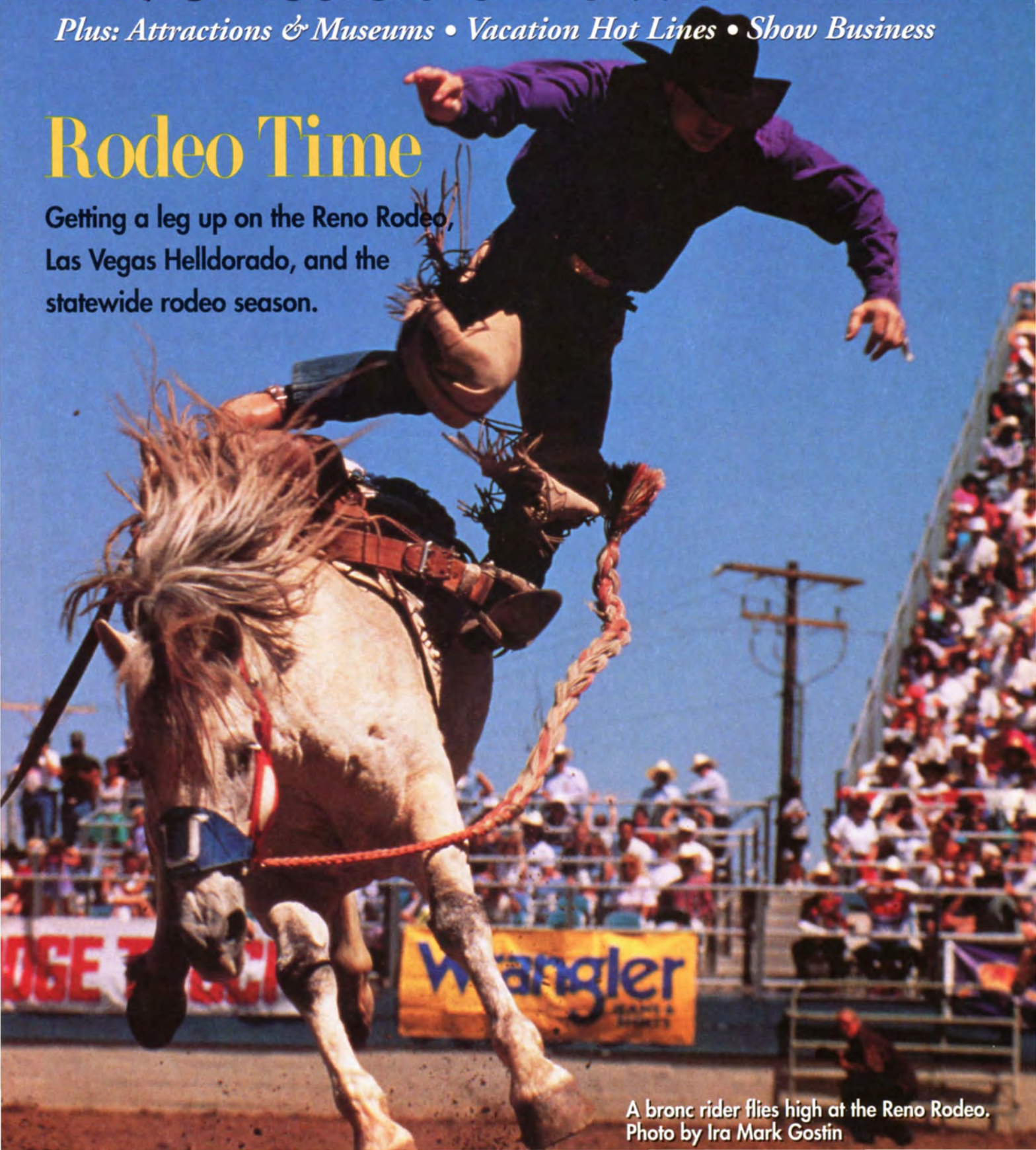
NEVADA Events & Shows

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Rodeo Time

Getting a leg up on the Reno Rodeo, Las Vegas Helldorado, and the statewide rodeo season.



A bronc rider flies high at the Reno Rodeo.
Photo by Ira Mark Gostin



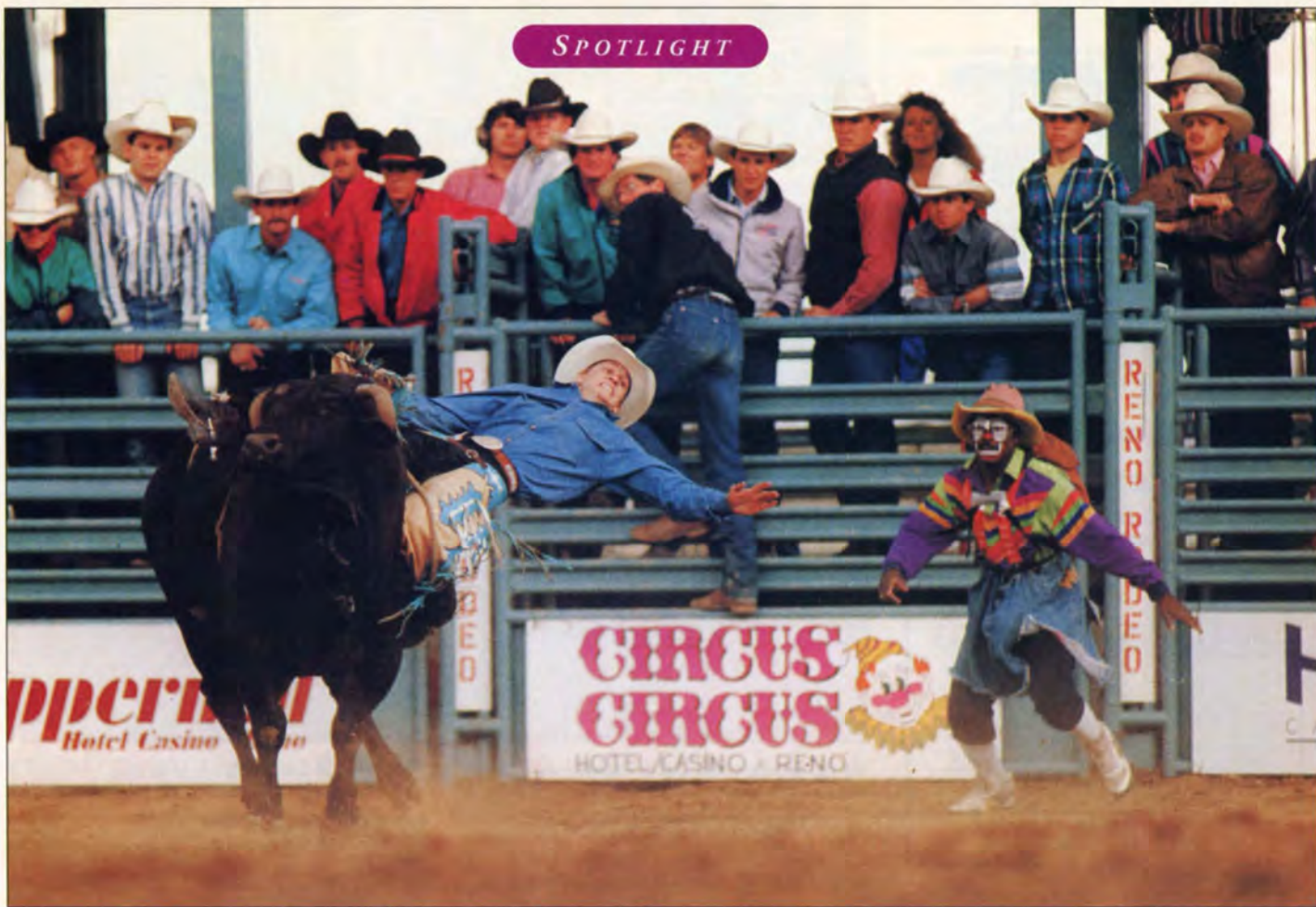
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A rodeo bull can get hopping mad with a cowboy on its back and a clown on its heels. Fans can catch all the action during the Reno Rodeo, June 22-30.

Bucking With Bells On

A veteran of the chutes offers Reno Rodeo spectator tips. By Don Cox

The cowboy sitting on its back isn't the only thing that makes a rodeo bull so mad. The rider is a major nuisance, of course, but it's the sound of the bell that really sets the bull snorting, kicking, and bucking. "The bull's rope has a bell, right under his chest," says Ken Dennis, a Reno resident and rodeo photographer who has been watching bulls buck cowboys at the Reno Rodeo since 1958. "That's what makes them buck. They want to get away from that bell."

The bulls and cowboys will be back for this year's rodeo, June 22-30, at the Reno Livestock Events Center. So will the bronc riders, steer wrestlers, and calf ropers. So will the big crowds. So will Dennis, who sees the rodeo with trained eyes and hears it with trained ears.

The bell is just one of the little lessons Dennis has learned in 38 years at the Reno Rodeo, which is sanctioned by the

Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association. As a photographer and member of the Reno Rodeo Association, Dennis knows what to watch, how to watch, and when to watch. For instance, there's Cotton Rosser's bottle of whiskey, which is just as important to the Reno Rodeo as the bull's bell.

Rosser is a rodeo stock contractor. The bulls, broncs, and other animals are his. So is the whiskey. If a cowboy has a good ride, Rosser tosses him a bottle of Crown Royal. The cowboy is supposed to catch it as he walks from the arena. Rosser's whiskey bottle is a Reno Rodeo tradition.

"I've seen those cowboys scramble to catch the damn thing," Dennis says with a laugh.

If you want a close look at Rosser's bulls and broncs, get to the rodeo an hour or so before the performance. The animals are fenced behind the east grandstand. Even the bulls, according to Dennis, are fairly well behaved. "Get up and pet the bull on the

"The bull's rope has a bell," says Ken Dennis.

"That's what makes him buck."

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The roping events hark back to cowboys' work on the range. Above, a calf reaches the end of its rope.

nose, if you want. They're not terrifying. They've been around people a lot," he says. Maybe you won't want to pet, but you can look.

It's not until later, when the bells are tied to their chests and the cowboys are on their backs, that the bulls get really steamed. By then, you'll be in your seat. At least, that's where you should be.

"The cowboy wants the animal to buck. He's paid to be on that animal," Dennis says. A good ride on a good bucking animal can mean a good score and prize money—this year's purse is about \$450,000. Good bucking also means good action to watch and photograph.

"Bring a camera," says Dennis, who uses film with 200 to 400 ASA ratings when shooting the rodeo. A small point-and-shoot camera will do the job, he says. "I don't want something complicated—you can't get any action that way."

The action doesn't necessarily end when the performance does. Dennis notes that often a night's show isn't long enough for all the cowboys to compete. Those who don't perform in front of the big crowd do their riding and roping in what's called "slack," when most of the spectators have left for the night. The bulls still buck, and the scores still count. If your seat was high in the bleachers for the regular performance, you can walk down to



Photographer Ken Dennis is at home at the Reno Rodeo.

the front rail and get a close view during "slack." Nobody will mind.

The 77th Reno Rodeo also includes a carnival, Western shopping, exhibits, horse competitions, and a pre-rodeo cattle drive June 17-21. Tickets for rodeo performances range from \$6 on family night, June 25, to \$13 for the finals on June 30. For more information and tickets call 702-329-3877 or 800-TIC-RODEO.

Don Cox is a reporter for the Reno Gazette-Journal.

Helldorado Days and Nights

Spring rodeo time in Las Vegas.

The Helldorado Days celebration dates back to 1934, when Las Vegas was a small railroad town of fewer than 5,000 residents. Hoover Dam was nearing completion, and civic leaders decided they needed an attraction to draw tourists and to encourage dam workers to stay and make Southern Nevada their home.



Helldorado presents five days of rodeo performances in Las Vegas.

The 62nd Helldorado Days takes place

May 14-19 at Sam Boyd Stadium. The biggest draw at Helldorado is the rodeo. A night of bull riding is scheduled on May 14, and four PRCA-sanctioned rodeo performances will be held May 15-18. There also will be a carnival midway, RV and boat display, and Native American exhibit.

Early events include the Helldorado Trail Ride, May 3-5, in Lee Canyon. The public is invited to a Western-themed Dance Under the Lights at the Fremont Street Experience from 6 to 10 p.m. on Thursday, May 9.

The annual Helldorado Days parade at 10 a.m. on Saturday, May 11, will begin

at Seventh and Fremont streets and continue south on Las Vegas Boulevard. After the parade a chili cook-off will be held at the Fremont Street Experience.

Admission to the rodeo and carnival is \$11 to \$16. Children 12 and under, seniors, and military personnel receive a \$2 discount. Tickets can be purchased from TicketMaster, by calling 702-895-3900, or at the door. For more information call 702-870-1221.

The carnival-and-exhibition admission is \$4 for adults; children 12 and under are free. Parking is free at Sam Boyd Stadium during the Helldorado Days celebration.—Katherine Speck

Rodeo Roundup

Besides Las Vegas' Helldorado and the Reno Rodeo, many rodeos take place in the Silver State. Following is a sampling of this year's events. Nevada's area code is 702.

Rich Roping, May 31-June 3, Wendover, 664-3289.

Nevada State High School Rodeo Finals, June 12-16, Elko, 753-6051 or 744-4200.

Silver State International High School Rodeo, July 3-7, Fallon, 423-7668.

Twin States Ranch Hand Rodeo, July 4-5, McDermitt, 532-8742 or 532-8001.

Championship Team Roping, July 7-11, Winnemucca, 623-2220.

All-Indian Rodeo, Stampede, and Pioneer Days, July 19-21, Fallon, 423-2544.

Silver State Stampede, July 20-21, rodeo per-

formances, Elko, 738-1499 or 738-3118.

Way It Was Rodeo, July 27-28, Virginia City, 847-0311.

Lyon County Fair and Rodeo, Aug. 15-18, Yerington, 463-2090.

Lincoln County Fair and Panaca Rodeo, Aug. 17-18, 726-3129.

Rich Roping: West Desert Finals, Sept. 7-9, Wendover, 664-3289.

Harvest Festival, Parade, and Rodeo, Sept. 13-15, Pahrump Valley, 727-5800 or 800-633-WEST

Fernley Frontier Days and Rodeo, Sept. 28-29, 575-4459.

National Senior Pro Rodeo Finals, Nov. 4-10, Reno, 829-7469 or 688-5751.

National Finals Rodeo, Dec. 6-15, the year-end championships, Las Vegas, 731-2115.

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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.



Las Vegas Territory

EVENTS

The Las Vegas area is teeming with art exhibits, sporting events, festivals, and more. You can celebrate Cinco de Mayo at the Fiesta Hotel or find Frisbee-fetching pooches at Freedom Park. The following listing is chronologically divided into areas of interest. Dates and times may change, so be sure to call ahead.

May & June

FESTIVALS & RODEOS

Helldorado Trail Ride • May 3-5 • Scenic trail riding, camping. Lee Canyon, north of Las Vegas, call 870-1221 for reservations.

Sunrise Hoedown • May 4 • 2-8pm, music, arts and crafts, barbecue, chili cook-off, carnival midway. Sunrise Park, Las Vegas, 455-7600.

Fiesta de Mayo • May 5 • 4pm-2am, fajita cook-off, piñata bust, taco- and jalapeño-eating contests, eat-the-worm challenge, entertainment by Latin Sensation. Fiesta Hotel, Las Vegas, 631-7000.

Bayou at the Belle • May 5-12 • Cajun festival, catfish cook-off on May 11, catfish-eating contest, music, foods. Colorado Belle, Laughlin, 298-4000 ext. 2518.

Las Vegas Helldorado Days and Rodeo • May 14-19 • 62nd annual celebration of Las Vegas' Western heritage, 10am parade on May 11, PRCA rodeo, carnival, mini grand prix, Native American exhibits, food vendors, and dances. Sam Boyd Stadium, 870-1221.

Great Aussie Holiday • May 17-20 • Seventh annual, Aussie dinner served nightly, Crocodile Dundee look-alike, bush band, crafts. Town Square, Laughlin, 800-243-6846.

Snow Mountain Powwow • May 24-26 • Eighth annual, Native American culture and tradition, music, food, arts and crafts. Las Vegas Paiute Reservation, north of Las Vegas, 386-0758.

Mesquite Days • May 30-June 1 • Rodeo, softball and golf tournaments, carnival booths. City Park and Mesquite Oasis Golf Course, 346-2902.

River Days Celebrity Water Challenge • May 31-June 2 • Classic rock festival, water-related contests. Laughlin, 298-2214.

International Food Festival • June 2 • 22nd annual, music, dancing, and food from 20 countries, features Basque favorites such as paella and roasted red peppers. Cashman Field, Las Vegas, 898-6565 or 258-8961.

Las Vegas Hot Chili Cook-Off • June 15 • 6pm, ICS- and Green Chili-sanctioned, \$1,000 top prize. Sunrise Resort, Las Vegas, 434-0848 or 800-362-4040.

Kidzmania • June 15-16 • Family expo, children's activities, entertainment, multicultural village. Cashman Field, Las Vegas, 252-0404.

PERFORMANCES

Tlen-Huicani • May 3 • 7:30pm, Mexican and Latin American folk music, \$6. Winchester Center, Las Vegas, 455-7340.

Mighty Clouds of Joy Performance • May 18 • 8pm,



Boats and rock bands will make waves during River Days Celebrity Water Challenge in Laughlin May 31-June 2.

Grammy-Award winning gospel group. Cashman Field Theatre, Las Vegas, 229-6211.

American Tap Dance Orchestra • May 25 • 8pm, tap dance ensembles perform. Sammy Davis Jr. Festival Plaza, Lorenzi Park, Las Vegas, 229-6383.

KKLZ Junefest • June 1 • Classic rock bands play. Silver Bowl Park, Las Vegas, 739-9600.

Jazz in the Park Concerts • June 1, 15, and 29 • Sat. 8pm, free. Clark County Government Center Amphitheater, Las Vegas, 455-8242.

"Company" • June 4-16 • Las Vegas Music Theatre production. Cashman Field Theatre, Las Vegas, 895-3801.

"Bye Bye Birdie" • June 10-13, 17-20, and 24-27 • Outdoor productions by the Super Summer Theatre, admission \$4-\$7, children under six are free, bring picnic dinner and chairs or blankets. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 15 miles west of Las Vegas, 594-PLAY.

Las Vegas Music Festival • June 12-22 • 100 musicians from around the world, grand finale concert 8pm on June 22 at Cashman Field Theatre. Other performances take place at Summerlin and Clark County libraries, Las Vegas, 229-6211.

"Lost in Yonkers" • June 28-29 • 8pm, Neil Simon's Pulitzer Prize-winning family drama presented by the New West Theatre. Summerlin Library Performing Arts Center, Las Vegas, 656-6600.

EXHIBITS

Places • Thru May 5 • Two- and three-dimensional works of history, culture, and the Las Vegas environ-

ment. Green Valley Library Gallery, Henderson, 435-1840.

Edward S. Curtis: Indians of the Southwest • Thru May 25 • Original sepia-toned photographs by Edward S. Curtis. Clark County Heritage Museum, Henderson, 455-7955.

60 Years of Nevada Magazine, 1936-1996 • Thru June 16 • Nevada State Museum and Historical Society, Las Vegas, 486-5205.

Red Rock Canyon Series • Thru June 16 • Artist Mary Welsh-Boys' paintings of the sandstone formations. Enterprise Library Gallery, Las Vegas, 269-3000.

Heritage Photo Competition Show • Thru June 29 • Photographs taken by Nevada Camera Club members. Clark County Heritage Museum, Historic Railroad Depot, Henderson, 455-7955.

American Mothers of Nevada Exhibit • Thru July 9 • Sunrise Library Gallery, Las Vegas, 453-1104.

Bats • Thru Oct. 31 • Exhibit of species common to Las Vegas Valley and the Spring Mountains. Nevada State

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, Suite 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.

Las Vegas

Museum and Historical Society, Las Vegas, 486-5205.

Art Exhibit • May 1-31 • Artwork by Barbara Fehr of Logandale. Lost City Museum, Overton, 397-2193.

Clark County Art Show • May 11-12 • 11th annual, fine art on display at Bicentennial Park, Boulder City, 293-2138.

Miracles of Mexican Folk Art Exhibit • May 28-July 30 • Religious paintings from the post-colonial period between 1780 and 1910, opening reception and lecture 2-5pm on May 28. Clark County Heritage Museum, Las Vegas, 455-7955.

Nevada Camera Club Slide Competition • June 4-Aug. 4 • 13th annual, first-place winners are exhibited, includes Photographer of the Year. Whitney Library Gallery, Las Vegas, 454-4575.

'96 Nevada Biennial • June 6-July 14 • Statewide juried competition and show of 30 Nevada artists. Nevada Institute of Contemporary Art, Las Vegas, 434-2666.

GENERAL INTEREST

Olympic Torch in Las Vegas • May 1 • Arrives at Hoover Dam and is carried through downtown Las Vegas, 67-TORCH.

Fun in the Sun • May 4-5 • Exhibit of cars 25 years old and older, swap and sell, tours, barbecue. Sunrise Resort, Las Vegas, 434-0848 or 800-362-4040.

Liberace's 77th Birthday Celebration • May 16 and 18 • Piano-shaped cake, play-alike competition in honor of the famed pianist's birthday. Liberace Museum, Las Vegas, 798-5595.

Carson and Barnes Circus • June 3 • Old airport, Boulder City, 293-2034.



Classic-car fans can have Fun in the Sun while enjoying exhibits and a barbecue May 4-5 at Sunrise Resort.

SPORTS & COMPETITIONS

Las Vegas Stars • Triple-A baseball, San Diego Padres farm club playing in the Pacific Coast League. April 30-May 3 v. Tucson Toros, May 12-15 v. Salt Lake Buzz, May 16-19 v. Edmonton Trappers, May 24-27 v. Calgary Cannons, May 28-31 v. Colorado Springs Sky Sox, June 9-12 v. Albuquerque Dukes, June 26-29 v. Phoenix Giants, June 30-July 3 v. Colorado Springs Sky Sox. Cashman Field, 386-7200.

Spring Thing and Bike Rodeo • May 4 • 10am-2pm, competitions for bikes, skateboards, and in-line skates, workshops. Whitney Park, Las Vegas, 455-7573.

Great American Indian Shootout • May 14 • Five-person team pro-am golf tournament, scramble format, four amateurs, one guest pro, hosted by Johnny Miller

and Steve Young. Las Vegas Paiute Resort, 20 miles northwest of downtown Las Vegas, 801-375-1777.

Super Lightweight Boxing Championship • June 7 • Julio Cesar Chavez v. Oscar De La Hoya. Caesars Palace Outdoor Arena, Las Vegas, 731-7110.

Come 'n' Get It Canine Frisbee Competition • June 14 • Games, tricks, contests. Freedom Park, Las Vegas, 229-6729.

Planet Hollywood and Reach-Out Golf Tournament • June 27 • \$170 entry fee includes continental breakfast, putting contest, box lunch. Shotgun start. Legacy Golf Club, Henderson, 791-7827.

CRAFT FAIRS & SHOWS

Las Vegas Cat Show • May 3-6 • Cashman Field, Las Vegas, 565-5988.

Spring Jamboree and Crafts Show • May 4-5 • Crafts, food booths, music, carnival midway, jewelry, clothing, toys. Bicentennial Park, Boulder City, 293-2034.

Western National Antique and Collectible Show and Sale • May 4-5 • Cashman Field, 382-7043.

Craft Fair and Rib Burn-Off • May 11-12 • 12th annual, barbecue, music, children's activities. Sunset Park, Las Vegas, 455-8206.

Americana Indian Shows • June 7-10 • Jewelry, arts, pottery, rugs, free admission. Henderson Convention Center, 602-526-9232.

NATURE WALKS & TOURS

Plants of the Spring Mountain Foothills • May 4 • Slide program, walk, and lecture, 10am-noon, bring

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A Classic Comeback

“Reinvented,” Neil Sedaka goes from ghost to headliner.

By Ann Henderson

When the Beatles invaded America in 1963, teen idol Neil Sedaka was one of the first musical casualties. “People used to ask me, ‘Didn’t you used to be Neil Sedaka?’” the singer-songwriter recalls of his subsequent career lull, which lasted a decade. “It was difficult on the old ego. I wrote some hits during that period, but I was not performing, which is frustrating when you’re used to being in front of the public.”

Today there’s little frustration as Sedaka relaxes in a cushy suite at the Sands Hotel on the Las Vegas Strip, where he can enjoy a private swimming pool, and explains how he “reinvented Neil Sedaka.”

Sedaka recalls that he made his first Nevada appearance in 1965 at the Fremont Hotel in Las Vegas. “I was happy to get the engagement,” he reflects. “But it did not go well, and I was not booked back [in Nevada] until 1974.” Sedaka ticks off the reasons for the disaster: “I was very young and stayed up too late. I didn’t know how to use my voice properly and got ‘Vegas throat’ [a hoarseness common among singers in the desert]. And I didn’t know how to treat an audience, which is an art you acquire.”

Judging by his recent reception at the Sands, Sedaka has acquired the art of pleasing showgoers. During the 90-minute show he reeled off his hits. The audience of baby boomers applauded “Oh, Carol,” sang along with “Calendar Girl,” and reflected on “Breaking Up Is Hard to Do.” His show contained no filler, chit-chat, or theatrical gimmicks—just music.

Indeed, music has defined Sedaka’s life. He started piano lessons at age eight. At nine he began a 10-year stint at the Juilliard School of Music in New York. He composed his first song when he was 13. (He has since composed more than 1,000 songs.)



Comeback kid Neil Sedaka sings at the Sands Hotel in Las Vegas May 6-18.

Sedaka was a fan of Cole Porter and Rodgers and Hammerstein, but he saw rock and roll as a means of acceptance at a tough New York City high school. “I was not popular,” he says. “I had a high

“People made a fuss over me, so at age 18 I chose to put classical music aside.”

voice, and I was a classical pianist. But when I started playing rock and roll and writing and singing my own songs, I was invited to all the parties.”

Invitations kept coming after “Stupid Cupid,” recorded by Connie Francis, became his first hit. “I saw there was notoriety and money,” he says. “I heard my

song on the radio, people made a fuss over me, so at age 18 I chose to put classical music aside.”

Sedaka had a string of pop hits, but then came the Beatles and the British Invasion. He moved to London in the early ’70s because the British, ironically, were still faithful to the old rock and roll stars. In the U.S., Sedaka was a ghost from the ’50s, but in England he was able to reinvent Sedaka by playing gigs in small working-class pubs. “I had to swallow a lot of pride. Sometimes there were 20 people in the audience. My wife ran the lights,” he says. It took two years to build a reputation and come to the attention of Elton John, who helped launch his second career when John’s record company featured both artists on Sedaka’s 1974 album, “Sedaka’s Back.”

Today Sedaka plays casino showrooms, appears with symphony orchestras at the Kennedy Center and Carnegie Hall, and performs with his own chamber group in New York.

When headlining in Las Vegas, he spends time cruising Lake Mead in his speedboat and visiting family. “Otherwise, I gear my whole day to the performance,” he says.

Classical music remains his passion, but Sedaka says there is nothing he would change about his life. “I do this best,” he says. “Beethoven is good for the soul, but you touch more people with your own compositions.”

Sedaka at the Sands

Neil Sedaka will appear in the Copa Room at the Sands Hotel in Las Vegas on May 6-18, July 15-28, and October 21-November 2. Call 702-733-5000 for prices and show times.

Ann Henderson is the Southern Nevada editorial representative for Nevada Magazine.



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lunch for picnic. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 15 miles west of Las Vegas, 875-4141.

Desert Kitchen/Desert Pharmacy • May 4-5 • Learn how native plants were used as food and medicine. Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area, Las Vegas, 363-1921.

Sandstone Canyon Hike • May 18 • Rangers lead moderate-to-strenuous three-mile hike, 11am-2pm, long pants and sturdy shoes advised, bring water and lunch. Meet at gate of Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 875-4141.

Plant Ecology of Pine Creek • May 25 • Moderate three-mile walking tour. Bring hat, water, camera, and comfortable shoes for the outing. Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area, Las Vegas, 363-1921.

Dandy Deserts • June 2 • Learn about the plants and wildlife of the Mojave and Great Basin deserts. Red Rock National Conservation Area, Las Vegas, 363-1921.

101 Ways to Die in Red Rock • June 29 • Discussion



Visitors can browse the booths at the Craft Fair and Rib Burn-Off in Sunset Park May 11-12.

of flash floods, earthquakes, and desert survival. Lecture, short hike, and demonstrations. Wear comfortable hiking shoes, bring hat and water. Red Rock National Conservation Area, Las Vegas, 363-1921.

COMING EVENTS

Boulder City Damboree • July 4 • Central Park, 293-2034.

Fireworks Display • July 4 • Sam Boyd Stadium, Las Vegas, 895-8900.

Fourth of July Celebration • July 4-7 • Laughlin, 800-243-6846.

Good Old Summertime • Aug. 3 • Boulder City, 293-2034.

Laughlin Desert Challenge • Sept. 6-8 • Off-road race, 298-2214.

Hoover Dam Days • Sept. 20-22 • Boulder City, 293-2034.

Las Vegas Jaycees State Fair • Sept. 20-Oct. 8 • 457-8832.

Las Vegas Invitational Golf Tournament • Oct. 2-6 • 382-6616.

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Snow Mountain Powwow



A drummer performs at the Snow Mountain Powwow.

The Las Vegas Paiute Tribe hosts its eighth annual Snow Mountain Powwow May 24-26 near Mount Charleston.

Native Americans from across the country will be dressed in intricate beadwork, bells, and fringe as they perform traditional dances. Visitors also will see circles of drummers pounding out haunting songs and singing in the hypnotic tradition of their ancestors. The participants, from toddlers to elders, will perform for fun and profit—some competing for prize money in events like the Bird Dance Contest and the Drum Contest. Hand games also will be held.

Craft booths will dot the landscape with such goods as silver bracelets, turquoise necklaces, and earrings made from pink coral and mother-of-pearl.

There will be beadwork stitched on bracelets, moccasins, and watchbands. All of the crafts will be for sale, and some artisans will give demonstrations. Indian tacos—fry bread filled with beans, cheese, onions, lettuce, and tomatoes—will be available.

The event takes place in a serene valley of desert brush near Mount Charleston. From Las Vegas follow U.S. 95 north 20 miles, exit at the petroglyph-decorated overpass, and head west.

Admission is \$3 per car. The event runs from 7 p.m. to midnight Friday, noon to midnight Saturday, and noon to 6 p.m. Sunday. For more information call the powwow hot line, 702-386-0758. For hotel accommodations call the Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority, 800-332-5333.—Joan Patterson

Octoberfest • Oct. 4-7 • Laughlin, 800-243-6846.
Laughlin Riverflight '96 • Oct. 18-20 • Hot-air balloons, 298-2214.
Las Vegas Balloon Classic • Oct. 25-27 • 434-0848.
National Finals Rodeo • Dec. 6-15 • Las Vegas, 731-2115.
Lake Mead Parade of Lights • Dec. 7 • 457-2797 or 438-2485.

SHOWGUIDE

The Las Vegas area offers big-name entertainment and production shows at many clubs and hotels. Liza Minnelli is coming to Bally's, the Neville Brothers play the Sheraton Desert Inn and the Flamingo Hilton Laughlin, and Julio Iglesias performs at 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: Country-western entertainment.

HENDERSON

Eldorado • 564-1811: Margaritaville Lounge: Dance bands play Wed.-Sun.
Joker's Wild • 564-8100: Live entertainment Wed.-Sun.

JEAN

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

LAS VEGAS

Aladdin • 736-0240 or 736-0419: "Country Tonite," revue (dark Tues.); Theatre for the Performing Arts: TBA.
Arizona Charlie's • 258-5100: Naughty Lady Saloon: Live music Tues.-Sun.; Palace Grand Theatre: Little River Band, June 23.
Bally's • 739-4567 or 800-237-SHOW: Jubilee Theater: "Jubilee!" (dark Fri.); Celebrity Room: George Carlin, thru May 1; Paul Anka, May 2-8; Penn and Teller, May 9-21 and 27-June 5; Liza Minnelli, May 22-26; Andrew Dice Clay, May 25-26 (11pm show); Louie Anderson, June 6-19; bands play nightly in the Panda Lounge.
The Beach • 731-9298: Concerts by contemporary artists.
Boomtown • 263-7777 or 800-588-7711: Opera House Theatre: John Anderson, June 19; Rattlesnake Ricky's Lounge: "Boomtown Belles of the West" (dark Mon.).
Boulder Station • 432-7777 or 800-683-7777: Railroad Saloon: Sonny Turner, May 14-26; Lil' Elmo and the Cosmos, May 28-June 2; Buddy Greco, June 2-16; Sergio Alberti, June 18-30; dance bands nightly; piano music in the Lobby Bar.
Bourbon Street • 737-7200: Basin Street Lounge: The Dummkopfs, comedy band, 4-7pm Tues.-Sat.; "Vegas Tonight Show," comedy-variety show, Tues.-Sun.; talent shows every Mon.
Caesars Palace • 731-7333 or 800-445-4544: Circus Maximus Showroom: Julio Iglesias, thru May 5; Howie Mandel, May 9-12; Earth, Wind, and Fire, May 16-19; Diana Ross, May 22-26; Travis Tritt, May 30-June 2; Ray Charles, Tony D'Andrea, June 7-9; Howie Mandel, June 27-30; bands play in the La Piazza Lounge, Olympic Lounge, and Cleopatra's Barge.
Circus Circus • 734-0410: Daily free circus acts,

acrobats and jugglers perform, 11am-midnight.
Continental • 737-5555: Continental Theater: Cook E. Jarr, Wed.-Sat.
Debbie Reynolds Hollywood Hotel • 7-DEBBIE or 800-633-1777: Star Theatre: "The Debbie Reynolds Show with the Uptown Country Singers" (dark Sun.); "Boy-lesque Starring Kenny Kerr," 10:30pm Mon.-Sat.; "That's Entertainment! Live!" starring Rip Taylor, Mon.-Sat. afternoons.
Excalibur • 597-7600: King Arthur's Arena: "King Arthur's Tournament," nightly; "An Evening in Vienna," starring the Royal Lipizzaner Stallions, 2pm Sat.-Thurs.; Wild Bills Saloon and Steakhouse: Dance music nightly.
Fitzgeralds Holiday Inn • 388-2400 or 800-274-LUCK (U.S. outside Nevada): Don Cloe (dark Tues.), Ray Perez (dark Wed.-Thurs.).
Flamingo Hilton • 733-3333: Flamingo Showroom: "The Great Radio City Spectacular" with the Rockettes (dark Fri.); Buggy's Celebrity Theatre: "Forever Plaid," '50s musical revue (dark Mon.).
Four Queens • 385-4011 or 800-634-6045: Monday Night Jazz with Alan Grant in the French Quarter; bands play Tues.-Sun.
Gold Coast • 367-7111: East Lounge: Sorta Dixie Jazz Band, noon-6pm Mon.-Fri.; bands play 9pm-3am (dark Mon.); West Lounge: Entertainment 9pm-3am (dark Tues.); Dance Hall: Randy Anderson, May 1-20 and June 12-24; Shake, Rattle and Roll, May 22-June 10; ballroom dancing with deejay Larry Taylor, 7:30-11:30pm Tues. and 1-5pm Sun.
Golden Nugget • 386-8100: Theatre Ballroom: "Country Fever '96," country stars look-alike variety revue (dark Fri.).
Hacienda • 739-8911: Fiesta Theatre: Four Kinsmen, musical comedy in the Strip hotel-casino (dark Mon.).

Casino Notes

Late Night: Night owls can roost in the Railhead Saloon at the Boulder Station in Las Vegas. The saloon has after-hours entertainment, jam sessions, and dancing from 12:30 to 4:30 a.m.

Become a Vegas Headliner: Home of the 50-cent frozen drink special, the Bourbon Street on the Strip has a talent show Mondays at 8 p.m. Registration forms are available at the hotel's front desk. The top prize is \$100.

Guinness Record: The Desperado Roller Coaster at Buffalo Bill's Resort is named in the *Guinness Book of World Records* as the world's tallest roller coaster (209 feet) with the world's greatest drop (225 feet). Riders with the world's greatest fortitude can hop aboard the attraction at State Line, 43 miles south of Las Vegas on Interstate 15.

Trés Chic, Caesar: The Forum Shops at Caesars, the trendy shopping experience

at Caesars Palace, will double in size. Spring 1997 is the expected completion date for an expansion that will add 37 stores and two restaurants.

Free Ride: In honor of the International Year of the Roller Coaster, Grand Slam Canyon at Circus Circus is offering free general admission to the park throughout 1996. In addition, the property recently announced plans for a \$60-million, 1,000-room tower expansion, scheduled for completion by December.

Home Run: The sports-themed Las Vegas Club on Fremont Street will complete a \$30-million expansion this fall, adding 185 rooms, casino space, and two restaurants. The 35-year-old property is known for its sports memorabilia, including a collection of baseball bats from every World Series from 1946 to 1958.

Star Date: Trekkies will be cruising at



Star Trek: The Experience beams into the Las Vegas Hilton.

warp speed into Star Trek: The Experience at the Las Vegas Hilton by spring 1997. In the \$50-million attraction, fans will ride through the universe aboard a 32-seat shuttlecraft, mingle in a Starfleet lounge, and discover Cardassian-style dining, which includes Glop-on-a-Stick.

Book a Safari: The Reserve, a \$50-million South African-themed hotel, opens in July at Interstate 515 and Lake Mead Drive in Henderson. The hotel will have 225 rooms, a 35,000-square-foot casino, and seven restaurants.



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Hard Rock Hotel • 226-4650 or 800-HARD-ROCK: The Joint: Tears for Fears, May 11; Allison Krauss, June 21.
Harrah's Las Vegas • 369-5222 or 800-392-9002: Commanders Theatre: "Spellbound: Starring Mark Kalin and Jinger" (dark Sun.); "The Improv at Harrah's" (dark Mon.).
Imperial Palace • 794-3261: Imperial Theatre: "Legends in Concert" (dark Sun.).
Jackie Gaughan's Plaza • 386-2110 or 800-634-6575 (U.S. outside Nevada): "X-posed," adult revue (dark Fri.).
King 8 Hotel • 736-8988: Bands play nightly except Mon.
Lady Luck • 477-3000 or 800-523-9582: Entertainment TBA.
Las Vegas Hilton • 732-5755 or 800-STARLIGHT: Starlight Theatre: Andrew Lloyd Webber's "Starlight Express" (dark Fri.); The Nightclub: Kristine W and the



Edward S. Curtis' portraits of Native Americans are on display at the Clark County Heritage Museum. Above is a young Hopi woman, photographed in 1921.

Sting, the Emeralds (dark Thurs.); guest entertainers every Thurs.

Luxor • 262-4000 or 800-288-1000: Nefertiti's Lounge: "Beehive," musical tribute to female groups of the '60s (dark Mon.).

Maxim • 731-4300 or 800-634-6987: "Comedy Max," comedy nightclub; "Comedy Magic," 1 and 3pm (dark Sun.).

MGM Grand • 891-7777 or 800-929-1111: Grand Theatre: "EFX" starring Michael Crawford (dark Thurs., May 2-9, and June 6-13); Hollywood Theatre: Don Rickles, thru May 8; Righteous Brothers, May 9-29; Center Stage Cabaret: "Catch a Rising Star," comedy-variety club; bands play during Late Night after the comedy; entertainment in the Santa Fe Lounge.

The Mirage • 792-7777: Siegfried and Roy Theater: Siegfried and Roy, magic spectacular (dark Wed., May 9-15, and June 6-19).

Monte Carlo • 730-7777: Hotel opens in June. Lance Burton Theatre: "Lance Burton Master Magician" (dark Sun.-Mon.).

Palace Station • 367-2411 or 800-634-3101: Dancing to bands nightly in the Loading Dock Lounge.

Rio Suite • 252-7776 or 800-PLAYRIO (U.S. and Canada): Copacabana Supper Club Theater: "Copacabana Show," revue (dark Sun.-Mon.); Club Rio: Dance-video nightclub, Wed.-Sat.; Concerts on the Beach, May 31 and June 28, headliner TBA; Mambo's Lounge: Entertainment 9pm-3am (dark Sun.).

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Eight-year-old Victor Ngo was one of the winners of the Liberace "Play Alike" competition at last May's birthday bash.

Riviera • 794-9301 (477-5274 Splash): Splash Theatre: Jeff Kutash's "Splash II, the Voyage of a Lifetime," nightly; Mardi Gras Showroom (third floor): "An Evening at La Cage," celebrity female impersonators revue (dark Tues.); Mardi Gras Showroom (second floor): "Crazy Girls: Sensuality, Passion, and Pudgy!" adult revue (dark Mon.); "Bottoms Up," burlesque-style musical comedy revue, 2 and 4pm (dark Thurs.); "Riviera Comedy Club," nightly; Le Bistro Lounge: "Jazz on the Strip," Mon.; musical entertainment Tues.-Sat.
Sahara • 737-2515: Congo Theatre: "Hypnomania,"

production show (dark Sun.); entertainment in the Casbar Lounge.

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

Sands • 733-5453 or 800-446-4678: Paul Rodriguez, May 3-5; Neil Sedaka, May 6-18; Elayne Boosler, May 20-31; Gallagher, June 4-16; John Pinette, June 18-30; Copa Room: "Viva Las Vegas!" revue, 1, 2:30, and 4pm, Mon.-Sat.

San Remo • 597-6028 or 800-897-SHOW: "Showgirls of Magic"; bands play in the Bon Chance Lounge.

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

Sheraton Desert Inn • 733-4566 or 800-634-6909: Crystal Room: Buddy Hackett, May 6, 13, and 20; Neville Brothers, May 28-30 and June 1-2; Starlight Theatre: Keely Smith, Sam Butera, and the Wildest, thru May 26.

Showboat • 383-9232 or 800-634-3484: Mardi Gras Room: Vandell's Rock 'n' Roll Revue, May 7-12; Cornell Gunter's Coasters, May 7-19; Juke Box Saturday Night, May 14-26; The Next Movement, June 4-16.

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

Stratosphere • 382-4446 or 800-99-TOWER: Images Cabaret: "American Superstars," impersonator revue, dark Thurs.; show bands play nightly; Broadway Showroom: Danny Gans, comic impressionist, opens May 16 (dark Tues.-Wed.); Crossroads Saloon: Country music.

Treasure Island • 894-7111: Cirque du Soleil in "Mystère" (dark Mon.-Tues. and June 10-16).

Tropicana • 739-2411: Tiffany Theatre: "Folies Bergere" (dark Fri.); Comedy Stop Theatre: "The Comedy Stop"; bands play in the Atrium Lounge and the Tropics Lounge.

Vacation Village • 897-1700 or 800-658-5000: Entertainment and dancing nightly except Mon. in Koo Koo's Lounge.

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.

Colorado Belle • 298-4000: Riverboat Lounge: Entertainment nightly except Mon.; the Riverboat Ramblers, strolling musicians; entertainment on the "D" Deck, nightly except Fri.

Edgewater • 298-2453: Kokopelli's Lounge: Bands play nightly except Mon.

Flamingo Hilton Laughlin • 298-5028 or 800-435-8469: Club Flamingo Room: TBA; Flamingo Outdoor Amphitheater: Aaron Tippin, May 4; Tom Jones, May 18; Neville Brothers, May 25; Lou Rawls, June 1.

Gold River Gambling Hall and Resort • 298-2242 or 800-835-7904: Cody's Saloon.

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

Harrah's Laughlin • 298-4600 or 800-447-8700: Club La Bamba: Entertainment nightly except Mon.

Ramada Express • 298-4200: Entertainment nightly in the Caboose Lounge.

Regency • 298-2439.

Riverside Resort • 298-2535 or 800-227-3849 ext.

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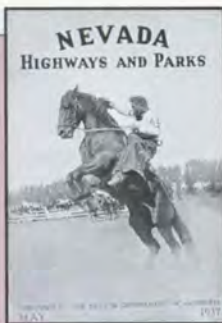
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The exhibit "60 Years of Nevada Magazine, 1936-1996" will be on display at the Nevada State Museum and Historical Society at 700 Twin Lakes Drive in Las Vegas through June 16. The exhibit features classic magazine covers, historic photographs, and a narrative history describing the fascinating people and topics that have appeared in Nevada Magazine during the past six decades.

616: Don's Celebrity Theatre: Merle Haggard, May 9-11; Waylon Jennings, May 14-19; Willie Nelson, May 24-26; Freddy Fender, June 26-30.

MESQUITE

Players Island • 346-7529 or 800-459-7529: Bali Hai Theater: "Island Fever," musical revue (dark Sun.) with matinees 3pm Tues. and Sat.; bands play nightly in the Cascades Lounge.

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

Virgin River • 346-7777 or 800-346-7721: Wheels, thru May 5; Donny Rhea, May 7-19; Randy Anderson, May 21-26; Stacey Collings, May 28-June 9; Carribou, June 11-16; Billy Troy, June 18-30.

NORTH LAS VEGAS

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

Texas Gambling Hall • 631-1000: Nightly entertainment in the Armadillo Honky Tonk Lounge.

STATE LINE

Buffalo Bill's Resort • 382-1111: Carolee's Theatre: "Carolee's Comedy Club," Fri.-Sun.; entertainment in the Stage Bar Lounge.

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

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

GAMING TOURNAMENTS

May & June

World Series of Poker • Thru May 16 • World champion wins \$1 million, Binion's Horseshoe, 382-1600 or 800-937-6537.

Keno • May 3-5 • Excalibur, 800-879-1379 ext. 7620.

Slots • May 19 • Flamingo Hilton, 733-3117 or 800-225-4882.

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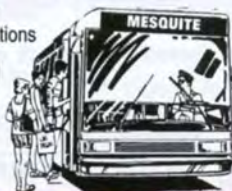


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Queens Summer Classic II • June 2-21 • Four Queens, 385-4011 or 800-643-6045.

Blackjack • June 7-9 • Four Queens, 385-4011 or 800-643-6045.

Slots • June 7-9 • Excalibur, 800-879-1379 ext. 7408.

Slots and Video Poker • June 9 • Flamingo Hilton, 733-3117 or 800-225-4882.

Safari Slots • June 9-11 • Sheraton Desert Inn, 800-DI-SLOTS.

Slots • June 9-12 • Caesars Palace, 731-7485 or 800-262-2502.

Surf's Up Slots • June 10-12 • Colorado Belle, Laughlin, 800-572-3553.

Slots • June 23 • Flamingo Hilton, 733-3317.

**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 and Visitor Center • Tours, theaters, exhibit hall. U.S. 93, 293-8367, 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 • Tours of Ocean Spray facility. 1301 American Pacific Dr., 566-7160.

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

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

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

LAS VEGAS

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

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

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

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

Grand Slam Canyon • Adventure park with rides and attractions. Next to Circus Circus, 800-444-CIRCUS.

Guinness World of Records Museum • 2780 Las Vegas Blvd. S., 792-3766.

Holy Cow! Casino • Brewery tours, 732-2697.

Imperial Palace Auto Collection • 3535 Las Vegas Blvd. S., 794-3174.

Las Vegas Art Museum • 6130 W. Charleston Blvd., 647-4300.

Las Vegas Museum of Natural History • 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.

Marjorie Barrick Museum of Natural History • 4505 Maryland Pkwy., UNLV, 895-3381.

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- Mirage** • Dolphin habitat, white tigers, 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 Historic State Park** • 908 Las Vegas Blvd. N. at Washington (enter from Cashman Field parking lot B only), 486-3511.
- Omnimax Theatre** • Caesars Palace, 731-7900.
- 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.
- Sam's Town** • Water and laser show, 456-7777.
- Treasure Island** • Pirate battle, 894-7111.
- Wet 'n Wild** • 2601 Las Vegas Blvd. S., 737-SURF.

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- Big Bend of the Colorado State Recreation Area** • Four miles south of Laughlin, 298-1859.
- Lake Mohave Resort** • 602-754-3245.
- Riverside Resort** • Classic cars, 298-2535.

MESQUITE

- Arvada Gun Club** • Si Redd's Oasis, 346-5232.

NORTH LAS VEGAS

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

OVERTON

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

SEARCHLIGHT

- Searchlight Historic Museum** • 455-7955.

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. The area code is 702 throughout Nevada. For hotels' toll-free phone numbers, call 800-555-1212.

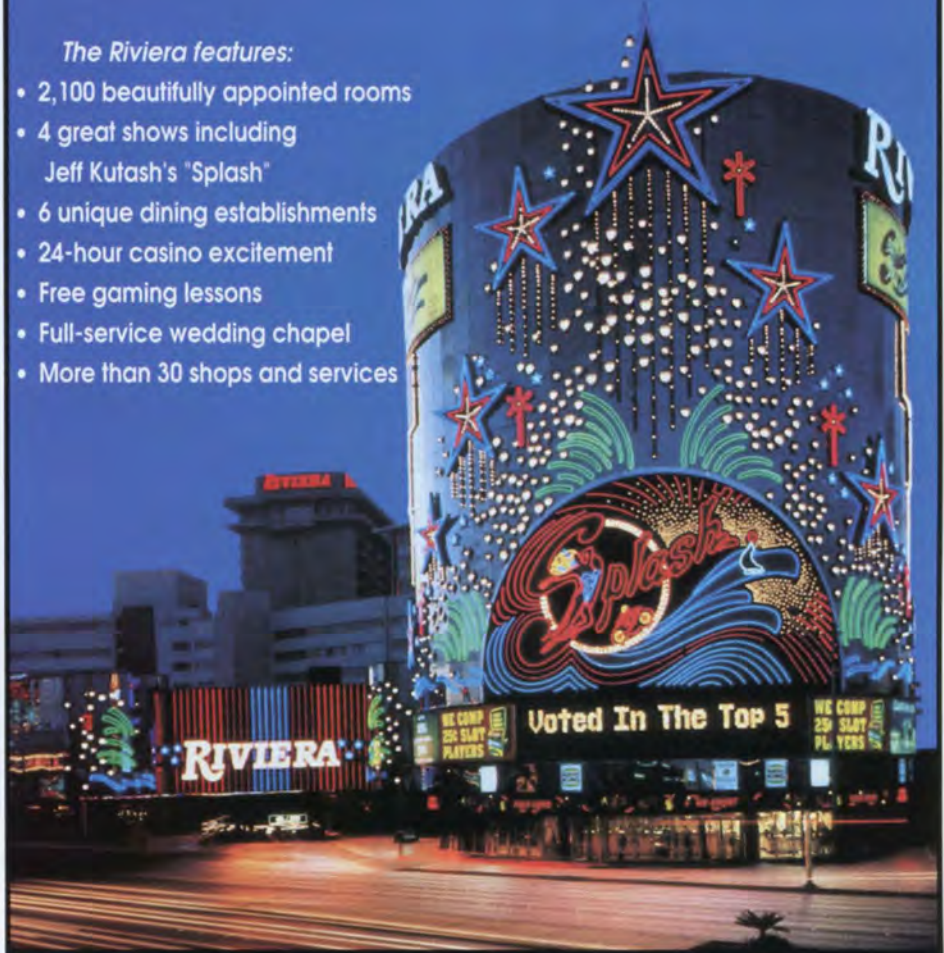
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EVENTS

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May & June

POWWOWS, RODEOS & HISTORY

Nevada Civil War Volunteers at Bowers Mansion • May 11 • Guided tours. Bowers Mansion, Washoe Valley, 356-6901.

Comstock Historic Preservation Weekend • May 16-19 • Victorian house and garden tours, cemetery and mine tours, single- and double-jack drilling demonstrations, exhibits, lectures, Grand Peacock Promenade and Silver Tea on May 19. Virginia City, 882-6657 or 847-0311.

Pyramid Lake Veteran's Powwow • May 17-19 • Honors military veterans, competition dancing, drum contest, handgame tournament, 5K spiritual run, parade, traditional crafts. Gymnasium, Nixon, 574-0110.

Snowshoe Thompson Festival • June 1-2 • Craft fair and poster contest commemorates early pioneer who carried mail from Genoa to Placerville, home and museum tours, food, trading post. Genoa Courthouse Museum and Mormon Station State Historic Park, Genoa, 782-2518 or 782-3921.

Kit Carson Rendezvous and Wagon Train • June 7-9 • Two-day wagon train from Reno, rendezvous at Mills Park in Carson City, Civil War encampment, battle reenactments, Indian storytelling and teepee decorating, country music, staged train robbery, free admission. Carson City, 687-7410.

Highway 50 Assn. Wagon Train • June 9-18 • 46th annual, wagon train reenactment from Fuji Park in Carson City over Spooner Summit, through South Lake Tahoe to Placerville, 30 wagons, riders can join in Carson City or South Lake Tahoe, \$10 per day, \$60 for eight days, 883-4551.

Father's Day Arts and Crafts Powwow • June 14-16 • 15th annual, celebrating legends and family traditions, Native American dancing, music and art, Indian tacos. Stewart Indian Cultural Center, Carson City, 882-1808.

Wild Horse and Burro Show • June 14-16 • Competi-



U of N catcher Slayton Shane plays ball at Peccole Field.



Glidertake wing above the Carson Valley during the Western States Soaring Competition, June 11-12.

tion, training, crafts, free admission. Reno Livestock Events Center, 329-3877.

Facets of Nevada Ghost Towns • June 15 • 7-10pm, lecture and slide presentation on ghost towns by park rangers. Dayton State Park, 687-5678 or 687-4379.

Kit Carson Trail Wild West Tour • June 15 • 1.5-mile narrated, guided walking tour of historic district homes, actors portray Sarah Winnemucca and Margaret Ormsby, tours start at the Brewery Arts Center, 10am, \$3 adults, \$2 children ages five-12 and seniors over 50. Carson City, 687-7410 or 800-NEVADA-1.

Pony Express Re-Ride • June 17-20 • Reenactment of historic ride from St. Joseph, MO, to Sacramento, arrives 2am on June 20 at Carson Station Casino. Exchanges in Carson City, Genoa, and Stateline, 782-8620 or 883-1314.

Reno Rodeo • June 22-30 • 77th annual, major PRCA rodeo, activities include parade, carnival, merchandise mart. Reno Livestock Events Center, 329-3877.

Bob Feist Invitational Team Roping Classic • June 24 • Reno Livestock Events Center, 209-333-2924 or 800-TIC-RODEO.

SEASONAL

Fiesta Nevada • May 3-5 • Sixth annual outdoor Hispanic and Latin celebration, music, mariachis, dancers, food, crafts. Victorian Square, downtown Sparks, 353-2284.

Cinco de Mayo Chili Cook-Off • May 5 • Nationally sanctioned chili and salsa event. Wagon Wheel parking lot, Virginia City, 847-0311.

Memorial Day Weekend BBQ and Pig Roast • May 25-

26 • 10am-10pm, street fair, barbecue, pig roasted on a spit, music, crafts. Spear Street next to Cactus Jacks, Carson City, 882-8770 ext. 11.

Steam-Up • May 25-27 • Season's first steam-up and operation of historic steam locomotive on one-mile track. Nevada State Railroad Museum, Carson City, 687-6953.

PERFORMANCES

Concerts in the Atrium • Thru May 24 • Fri. only, free classical concerts, noon-1pm. Airport Gardens Office Bldg., Reno, 329-1324.

Ranganiketan Manipuri Cultural Arts Ensemble • May 10 • 7:30pm, dancers, musicians, singers, martial artists, choreographers, and artisans from Manipur, India, \$12 adults, \$6 students. Cal-Neva Resort Celebrity Showroom, Crystal Bay, 916-546-4602.

"Nude With Violin" • May 10-11, 17-19, and 24-25 • Reno Little Theater production of Noel Coward play. Masonic Lodge Theater, Reno, 329-0661.

"The Secret Garden" • May 10-12 and 17-19 • Western Nevada Musical Theatre company production. Carson City Community Center, 887-3115.

Reno Chamber Orchestra Concert • May 11 • 8pm, guest pianist Vatche Mankerian. Nightingale Concert Hall, U of N, 348-9413 or 784-6145.

Katja Biensanz Dance Theatre • May 17 • With community members, based on memories and impressions of Virginia City. Virginia City High School Commons, 847-9ART.

"Rigoletto" • May 30-June 1 • Nevada Opera performs Verdi's tragedy, guests include Theodore Lambrinos of

Spring Motormanía

By Neil Baron

Jalopies, Ferraris, and other classic cars will rule the road in the Reno area during May and June, when several special events celebrate the automobile. While all of the shows promise piston-packed entertainment, each offers a different allure for the car enthusiast.

The **Escarabajo Buggy Club's 20th Annual Rally**, May 25-26 in Virginia City, is a timed, 35-mile off-road event. Organizers expect 100 to 125 drivers to compete in everything from dune buggies to motorcycles. "We make the course as tough as we can," says rally master Lorry Noble. "It's not for the faint-hearted. You better be an off-road driver."

Although the rally on Saturday is not geared toward spectators, you can watch the start and finish and also see the parade of cars at 10 a.m. Sunday. For details call 702-847-0311.

Dragsters come to Reno during **Night Curves** June 7-9.

"It's the kickoff of custom-car events in the Western United States," says Randy Burke, president of Roadshows, which produces the event. "It's the first chance to get the cars out of the garage after the long winter." Night Curves features 1975 and older cars and trucks, as well as show 'n' shines, a parade, music, and a dance. Drag races will be held Saturday and Sunday on a one-eighth-mile course at the Reno Hilton. Call 800-200-4557 for details.

Other summer events offer contests, entertainment, dancing, food, and lots of cars. The **Reno Hilton Vintage Grand Prix**, featuring pre-1968 Porsches, Ferraris, and Jaguars, takes place June 15-16 on a 1.2-mile track at the Reno Hilton's parking lot. In addition, the Vintage Auto Fest '96 Car Show will be staged. Tickets are \$10 for one day and \$15 for a two-day pass.



Classic and custom cars cruise into Reno during Night Curves, June 7-9.

Entry to the car show is free. Call 702-789-2285 or 800-648-3568.

The **Ferrari Owner's Club Hillclimb, Parade, and Car Show** June 22-23 in Virginia City. The main event is a five-mile race against the clock from Silver City to Virginia City on State Route 341 at speeds of more than 140 mph. For more information on the

event call 702-847-0311.

The Karson Kruzers hold their **Run What-Cha-Brung** June 28-30 at Fuji Park in Carson City. "The best part of these shows is the camaraderie of the people," says Jack Andersen, president of the Karson Kruzers. Andersen describes the event as a "small version of Hot August Nights." Enthusiasts will bring a wide variety of motorized vehicles—boats and motorcycles as well as hot rods and custom cars. If it runs, it's welcome.

"A lot of spectators end up becoming participants," says Andersen. "It's becoming a very popular hobby, and it doesn't take a lot of money." The weekend's activities also include dancing to rock 'n' roll music, a barbecue, show 'n' shine, and lots of car talk. For more information call the Karson Kruzers, 702-687-7410.

The **National Automobile Museum**, at the corner of Lake and Mill streets in downtown

Reno, takes an educational look at four-wheeled machines through the years. "Tools, Togs, and Touring," which celebrates 100 years of automobiles, is in the Changing Exhibits Gallery through June 28. Call 702-333-9300 for details.

Neil Baron is a Reno-based freelance writer and car buff.

Cars of the Future: More Motor Shows

There's more motoring on the way. Upcoming car events in the Reno-Carson area include:

Sports Cars and All That Jazz, July 5-7
Reno, 800-367-7366.

National Truck Week, July 10-14, Reno
Hilton, 702-826-5337

Comstock 200 Off-Road Rally, July 11-14,
Virginia City, 702-847-0311.

American Heat, July 25-28, festival of clas-

sic cars, Carson City, 702-329-7469.

Hot August Nights, July 31-Aug. 4, Reno
and Sparks, 702-829-1955.

Street Vibrations, Sept. 19-22, Reno, 702-329-7469 or 800-FOR-RENO.

Reno Grand Prix Trans Am Race, Sept. 20-22, Reno Hilton, 702-827-7603.

Ferrari Owner's Club Hillclimb, Parade, and Car Show, fall version on Sept. 28-29, Virginia City, 702-847-0311.

the Metropolitan Opera and international tenor Tonio Di Paolo. Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, Reno, 786-4046 or 800-992-2072.

Reno Chamber Orchestra Concert • June 8 • Guest violinist Misha Keylin. Hall of Fame Room, Lawlor Events Center, Reno, 348-9413.

Pops Party Concert • June 9 • 12th annual, Carson City Chamber Orchestra. Garden of the Governor's Mansion, Carson City, 883-4154.

The Who's "Tommy" • June 28-30 • Broadway-show series. Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, Reno, 348-4600 or 800-714-5331.

EXHIBITS

Art Exhibit • Thru May 3 • Paintings and montages by Sparks artist Marguerite Crokus. C.I.T.Y. 2000 Gallery, Reno City Hall, 329-1324.

Nevada Biennial Exhibit • Thru May 19 • Works chosen from statewide artists' competition. Nevada Museum of Art, Reno, 329-3333.

Dinamation's World of Whales • Thru June 2 • Giant robotic whales. Wilbur D. May Museum, Rancho San Rafael Park, Reno, 785-5961.

Tools, Togs, and Touring • Thru June 28 • Celebration of the 100th anniversary of the automobile. National Automobile Museum, Reno, 333-9300.

Carson Valley Time Line Exhibit • Thru Aug. 31 • Wall chart of the history of the Carson Valley from 1820 to 2000, photos, drawings, maps, and artifacts. Carson Valley Museum and Cultural Center, Gardnerville, 782-2681.

Nevada Gold Museum • Thru Sept. 2 • Gaming chips and gambling-related memorabilia are on display. Sky-



Vibrant costumes and dancing highlight Sparks' Fiesta Nevada on Victorian Square, May 3-5.

way of the Flamingo Hilton Reno, 322-1111.

Then and Now: Artists Co-Op of Reno 30th Anniversary Exhibit • May 3-31 • "Then" reception 1-4pm on May 5, "Now" reception 1-4pm on May 19. Artists Co-Op Gallery, Reno, 322-8896.

GENERAL INTEREST

Bird Watch • May 18 • 8-11am, locate and identify birds along the Carson River, hosted by Lahontan Audubon Society, free. Dayton State Park, 687-5678 or 687-4379.

All-Breed Championship and Household Pet Cat Show • May 18-19 • Reno Livestock Events Center, 851-3402.

Family Day • May 20 • 9am-1pm, aircraft displays,

glider rides, helicopters, and free hot dogs and drinks. Douglas County Airport, Minden, 782-5260.

Best of the Mountain Rib Cook-Off • June 7-9 • Sixth annual, ribs and sauce tasting, craft fair, entertainment. Lake Tahoe Horizon, Stateline, 588-6211 or 323-0884.

National Conference and Tour of the Lincoln Highway Assn. • June 11-15 • Lectures and outings.

Holiday Inn/Diamond's Casino, Reno, 916-587-7654.

Culpepper and Merriweather Circus • June 17 • 5:30 and 7:30pm. Dayton Intermediate School, 246-5111 or 246-7526.

Wonders of the Summer Sky • June 18-Sept. 15 • Fleischmann Planetarium, U of N, 784-4811.

Carson City Farmer's Market • June 26-Oct. 9 • Weekly open-air market, 4-8pm every Wed., home-grown fresh fruits and vegetables, crafts and food. Third and Carson streets, Carson City, 746-5024 or 687-7410.

SPORTS & COMPETITIONS

Reno Chukars • Minor league baseball, Western Baseball League. May 23-25 v. Sonoma Crushers, May 27-30 v. Bend Bandits, June 3-5 v. Salinas Peppers, June 21-23 v. Grays Harbor Gulls, June 24-27 v. Tri-Cities Posse, June 28-30 v. Palm Springs Suns. Moana Stadium, 829-7890.

University of Nevada Baseball • May 3-5 v. Pacific, May 17-19 v. UCLA. Peccole Field, U of N, 348-PACK.

Incline Ice Foundation Benefit Golf Tournament • May 20 • Fund-raiser for an ice rink. Incline Village Championship Golf Course, 831-6098.

Pool Tournament • May 28-June 9 • Amateur and professional divisions, \$100,000 purse. Sands Regency, Reno, 348-2200 or 800-233-4939.

Carson Valley 5K and 10K Run • June 1 • Ninth annual, walk or run. Start behind the Carson Valley Inn, 782-9711 ext. 625 or 800-321-6983.

Hyatt Invitational Pro-Am Golf Tournament • June 2-4 • Incline Village Championship Golf Course, 832-1162.

Spring Fishing Derby • June 7 • Sixth annual, fish for giant mackinaw on Lake Tahoe, cocktail party and banquet to follow at the Carson Valley Inn, Minden, 782-9711 ext. 625 or 800-321-6983.

Western States Soaring Competition • June 11-12 • 62nd open-class and eighth auxiliary-powered championships. Douglas County Airport, Minden, 267-4497.

Farwest Regional Wheelchair Tennis Championship • June 13-16 • 10th annual, 8:30am-6pm, more than 150 world-class wheelchair tennis players compete, Super Series-sanctioned. Championship is held at the Washoe County Courts, the Plumas Tennis Center, and the

\$1 Slots
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NUMBER OF MACHINES	MAXIMUM COIN PAYBACK*
7	98.7%
7	97.5%
49	97.4%
1	97.2%
4	97.0%
1	96.9%
2	96.4%
8	96.3%
3	96.2%
6	95.7%
1	95.2%
4	95.1%
1	95.0%
94	Avg. 97.1%

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Reno Hilton, 852-7077 or 916-587-2108.

Black Rock Self-Invitational Golf Tournament • June 21-22 • Ninth annual, putting and long-ball contests, 18-hole play. Lucifer's Anvil Golf Course, Black Rock Playa north of Gerlach, 510-658-5766.

Reno Rose Summer Biathlon • June 22 • Athletes run a one-mile course, then shoot five targets, all ages and abilities welcome. Sky Tavern, Mount Rose, 323-8739.

Tom Flores Celebrity Golf Classic • June 28 • 32 celebrities from sports, entertainment, and media will play. Rosewood Lakes Golf Course, Reno, 329-4777.

CARS, MOTORCYCLES & MORE

Pinenut Cracker Mountain Bike Race • May 4-5 • Start and finish at the Douglas County Fairgrounds, Gardnerville, 782-7077.

Western States Racing Assn. Grand Prix • May 11-12 • Cross-country dirt bike race in the hills surrounding Virginia City. Meet at the train depot, Virginia City, 358-5905 or 847-0311.



The Father's Day Arts and Crafts Powwow is held at the Stewart Indian Cultural Center on June 14-16.

Nor-Cal Late Model Stock Car Tour • May 25 • Three classes of stock cars run for 1996 championship points. Silver State Raceway, Carson City, 885-2079.

Escarabajo Dune Buggy Club Rally • May 25-26 • 20th annual, 35-mile off-road rally. Virginia City, 847-0311.

America's Most Beautiful Bike Ride • June 2 • Bike ride around Lake Tahoe, starts and finishes at Zephyr Cove, includes rest stops with food and beverages. South Shore, Lake Tahoe, 588-9658.

Night Curves • June 7-9 • Classic cars from 1969 to the late '70s, shows, drag races. Various locations in Reno, 329-7469 or 800-200-4557.

Harleys at the Horizon • June 14-16 • Lake Tahoe Horizon, Stateline, 588-6211.

Reno Hilton Vintage Grand Prix • June 15-16 • Car show and racing on 1.2-mile course, tickets are \$15 for two days. Parking lots 3, 5, and 6 of the Reno Hilton, 789-2285 or 800-648-3568.

Virginia City Motorcycle Marathon • June 20-21 • Off-road dirt bike enduro ride, 847-0523.

Ferrari Owner's Club Hillclimb, Parade, and Show • June 22-23 • Race on State Route 341, parade and show on C Street. Virginia City, 847-0311.

Run What-Cha-Brung • June 28-30 • Car celebration with hot rods, custom cars, music, barbecue, show 'n'

shine. Fuji Park, Carson City, 882-0829 or 883-0927.

Risky Biscuit Hayseed Hoot and Round Fender Roundup • June 29 • Musical celebration, barbecue, 1949-55 Chevrolet and GMC pickup truck meet. Rancho Nevada, Verdi, 345-6788.

SNOW SPORTS

Rocky Mountain Snowmobile Hillclimb • May 4-5 • North American points championship, torchlight parade and fireworks display at dusk on May 4. Kirkwood Ski Resort, 209-258-7386 or 209-258-6000.

FESTIVALS & CRAFT FAIRS

RSVP Spring Fun Fair • May 1-5 • Carnival rides, games, food booths, crafts. Mills Park, Carson City, 687-4680.

Silver State Dance Festival • May 3-5 • Square and

round dancing, clogging. Reno-Sparks Convention Center, 322-0027 or 673-2547.

Minden Spring Arts and Crafts Street Fair • May 18-19 • Crafts, food, music. Esmeralda Avenue, Minden, 782-4227.

Celebrate the River • June 2-4 • Sixth annual, music, food, street performers, crafts, concerts, children's activities. Raymond I. Smith Truckee River Walk and Wingfield Park, downtown Reno, 334-2077.

Carson Valley Days • June 7-9 • Parade, softball tournament, crafts, rodeo events. Lampe Park, Gardnerville, 265-7000 or 265-5281.

River City Storytelling Festival • June 8 • 2-9pm, nationally known storytellers, free. Wingfield Park, downtown Reno, 785-4527.

Valhalla Renaissance Festival • June 8-9 • 10am-5pm, Elizabethan fair, dances, costumed performers, jousting

RODEO TO REMEMBER

JUNE 22-30, 1996

With all the fun and excitement planned, you know something will happen at the Reno Rodeo this year that you'll remember for a long time. Nine thrilling rodeo performances. Cowboy Country shops and exhibits. The hottest country music concerts anywhere including John Anderson, June 21. A colorful parade and a big time carnival. Bring the family for a real western experience.

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Photos by Ira Mark Gostin & Fred Cornelius

Happy times are yours with a Carson Nugget Fun Pack!



Only \$39 per couple with this ad... Here's what you get:

	Value
2 Buffet Dinners.....	\$14.00
4 50¢ Keno Credits.....	\$ 2.00
4 Cocktails.....	\$ 8.00
4 Lucky Bucks.....	\$ 4.00
4 \$1.00 Gaming Tokens.....	\$ 4.00
Deluxe Motel Room	
1 Night per couple.....	\$44.00
Total Value	\$76.00
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Here's all you do:

1. Call City Center Motel 1-800-338-7760 for your room reservation & mention Drive-Up.
2. On arrival at the City Center Motel present this certificate, pay the \$39.00 to the desk clerk and receive your Carson Nugget Casino FUNPACK coupon book.
3. Go to the Carson Nugget to redeem those coupons for:
Gaming 21, Craps, Roulette, Slots and Progressive Poker Machines. Fine Food Buffets, Oyster Bar, Snack Bar, Coffee Shop, and Steak House. Entertainment Live Music every night (except Monday) in our Theater Lounge. Cocktails At the Bonanza Bar or the Intimate Cork and Bottle Lounge.

Limit one Fun Pack per couple per week. Both must be 21 years of age. This offer, in all or part, is subject to cancellation or revision at any time. Rooms subject to availability



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The Truckee River is the center of attention during the Celebrate the River festivities in downtown Reno, June 2-4.

tournaments, crafters, \$7 adults, \$4 children. Camp Richardson Resort, South Lake Tahoe, 916-542-4166.
Tallac Site Celebration • June 23 • 2-5pm, kicks off the Valhalla Summer Arts Music Festival July 6 thru August, music, hors d'oeuvres, art, \$5 admission. Tallac Historic Site, South Lake Tahoe, 916-542-4166.

BEER & WINE TASTING

Soroptimist Wine Tasting • June 1 • 22nd annual. Northstar Village, Northstar-at-Tahoe, 916-562-1010.
Reno West Coast Wine Tasting and A Taste of Nevada • June 7 • Taste medal winners, sample gourmet foods from local restaurants. Reno-Sparks Convention Center, 827-7711 or 800-FOR-RENO.
Beer Festival • June 17 • Eighth annual, microbrews, music, and appetizers, \$20. Northstar Village, Northstar-at-Tahoe, 916-562-1010.
Suds Festival • June 29 • Microbrews and wines, appetizers. Pony Express Pavilion, Carson City, 883-4413.

COMING EVENTS

Skyfire • July 4 • Reno, 800-FOR-RENO.
Isuzu Celebrity Golf Championship • July 12-14 • Stateline, Lake Tahoe, 916-544-5050.
Hot August Nights • July 31-Aug. 4 • Reno-Sparks, 829-1955.
Nevada State Fair • Aug. 21-25 • Reno, 688-6767.
Nugget Best in the West Rib Cook-Off • Aug. 30-Sept. 2 • Sparks, 353-2284.
Great Reno Balloon Race • Sept. 6-8 • 826-1181.
Virginia City International Camel Races • Sept. 6-8 • 847-0311.
National Championship Air Races • Sept. 12-15 • Reno-Stead Airport, 972-6663.
Reno Grand Prix Trans Am Race • Sept. 20-22 • Reno Hilton, 827-7676.
Dayton Valley Days • Sept. 21-22 • 246-7909.
Genoa Candy Dance • Sept. 28-29 • 782-TOWN.
Firefest '96 • Oct. 4-6 • Reno, 789-2000.
Great Italian Festival • Oct. 12-13 • Reno, 786-5700.
Nevada Day Parade and Celebration • Oct. 31 • Carson City, 882-2600.
Celtic New Year • Nov. 1-3 • Reno, 800-535-3045.

National Senior Pro Rodeo Finals • Nov. 4-10 • Reno, 829-7469.

Celebrate Christmas on the River • Nov. 30 • Reno, 334-2414.

Sparks Hometowne Christmas • Dec. 7 • 353-2284.

Buck-n-Ball '96 • Dec. 31 • Reno Livestock Events Center, 800-FOR-RENO.

Cowboy Jubilee and Poetry • March 8, 1997 • Carson City, 883-1532.

SHOWGUIDE

The Reno-Lake Tahoe area offers production shows and big-name entertainment. The Oak Ridge Boys will be at Silver Legacy, and Bill Cosby returns to Harrah's Lake Tahoe. It's always wise to call ahead for show times and reservations.

RENO/SPARKS

Atlantis Casino Resort • 825-4700 or 800-723-6500: Bands such as Impulse and Memphis Exchange play 6pm-5:30am nightly in the Center Stage Cabaret and on weekends at the Atlantis nightclub.
Circus Circus • 734-0410: Free circus acts, 11am-midnight.
Eldorado • 786-5700, 800-648-5966 (U.S. outside Nevada) or 800-648-3024 (Canada): Danny Marona and Rob Hanna perform in the cabaret; Brew Brothers: Crazy Copper Keys (Wed.-Sun.).
Fitzgeralds • 785-3300 or 800-648-5022 (U.S. outside Nevada).
Flamingo Hilton Reno • 785-7080: Flamingo Showroom: "American Superstars" (dark Tues.); "Fierce," revue, alternates with the Powder House Band in the Showspot Cabaret (dark Mon.); music at Top of the Flamingo Hilton restaurant (dark Tues.); Outdoor Plaza: Creedence Clearwater Revisited, May 17-18.
Harrah's Reno • 788-3773 or 800-HARRAHS: Sammy's Showroom: "Playboy's Ecstasy" and "The Great Reno Wild Wild West Show" (dark Tues.); Big Tiny Little, May 7-12; Society of Seven, May 14-26; Juice Newton, June 18-23; bands play during holidays in the Rendezvous Bar.
John Ascuaga's Nugget • Sparks, 356-3304 or 800-

Casino Notes

Eldorado Redo: The Eldorado's recent renovations to its mezzanine include stone-arched walkways and columns. In addition, the Eldorado Expressions gift shop and the new arcade have been moved next to the Chefs' Pavilion buffet. Bistro Roxy, a Parisian-style bistro, bar, and restaurant, is scheduled to open on the Grand Plaza in the future.

Star Struck: Harrah's Lake Tahoe received a 1996 Four-Star Award from the *Mobil Travel Guide*. Four-Star lodgings are known for luxury, outstanding cuisine, and exceptional service.

Academic Rewards: Alex Searcey, a 22-year-old college student, won \$2,658,725 at Harrah's Reno last January. The win was Reno's largest-ever Quartermania jackpot.

Smoke-Free in Sparks: John Ascuaga's Nugget in Sparks has converted two more of its 26 hotel-tower floors to nonsmoking. The hotel now has a total of 11 non-

smoking floors, with 276 rooms available. Officials say the conversion is in response to the number of guests who request nonsmoking rooms.

Award Alley: *Bowlers Journal*, a leading trade publication, recently named the National Bowling Stadium in Reno "Person of the Year"—the first time in the award's 10-year history that the Person of the Year was not a person. The stadium is credited with increasing interest in bowling nationally and internationally. The facility is featured in the movie *Kingpins*, scheduled for release this summer.

Sports and Suds: The remodeled Corner Sports Bar at the Ormsby House in Carson City has added microbrews, a fireplace, and two eight-foot TV screens. The decor is Victorian with dark wood and brocade upholstery on the chairs and booths. Also, the casino recently added bingo and keno to its gaming list.



Arches and columns on the Eldorado's mezzanine create an entrance to the Grand Plaza.

Good Deal: The editors of *Blackjack Confidential* magazine recently named the Peppermill as the "player's choice" for blackjack among Northern Nevada casinos. The casino offers only single-deck blackjack and player-oriented rules.

Tower's up. Price Is Down.



*Small price, small restrictions. Rate valid Sunday through Thursday only. Excludes holidays. Subject to availability, advance reservations required. Suites and groups not included.

\$39.99

per night*

Who can say what you'll enjoy more at the newly expanded Peppermill?

The new rooms, new restaurants, new slot machines, all single-deck blackjack, new coffee bar, new state-of-the-art health club, VIP/concierge services, the new pool with its own volcano (coming summer of '96)—or the low per-night room rate that makes all of this magic and fun so affordable?

1-800-282-2444

Peppermill
HOTEL CASINO RENO

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648-1177 (U.S. and Nevada): Celebrity Showroom: Ray Price, May 2-15; Riders in the Sky, May 16-29; Michael Martin Murphey, May 30-June 12; Bellamy Brothers, June 13-26; Rose Ballroom: TBA; bands play nightly in the Casino Cabaret and Trader Dick's restaurant.

Peppermill • 826-2121 or 800-648-6992: Music nightly on the casino stage.

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.); Aspen Lounge: Bands play Tues.-Sun.; Just for Laughs Comedy Club: Comics perform; outdoor concerts by major entertainers are scheduled May-Oct.

Reno Hotel • 788-2000.

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

Silver Legacy • 325-SHOW or 800-687-7733 (U.S., Canada, and Mexico): Grand Exposition Hall: Paul Anka, May 10-11; Oak Ridge Boys, June 28-29; Silver Legacy Gazebo: Wally Jones and Perry Joe Schirmer, afternoons noon-6pm; Gary Xavier, evenings till midnight; bands play in the Legacy Saloon 9pm-3am Fri. and Sat.

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

CARSON CITY/CARSON VALLEY

Carson Nugget • 882-1626 or 800-426-5239 (continental U.S. including Nevada): Preston Hodge appears in the Cork and Bottle 3-9pm except Mon.; bands such as Get Ready and the Motifs play at the Nugget Showbar.

Carson Station • Carson City, 883-0900.

Carson Valley Inn • Minden, 782-9711 or 800-321-6983: Entertainment Tues.-Sat. includes The Act and Valentino and Sol.

Ormsby House • Carson City, 882-1890.

Piñon Plaza • Carson City, 885-9000: Karaoke, Mon.;



Comedian Bill Cosby makes a return engagement to Harrah's Lake Tahoe June 7-8.

Savage plays in the sports-book lounge Wed.-Sat.

Sharkey's Nugget • Gardnerville, 782-3133.

Topaz Lodge • Topaz Lake, 266-3339.

STATELINE, LAKE TAHOE

Bill's Lake Tahoe • 588-2455.

Caesars Tahoe • 588-3515 or 800-648-3353: Circus Maximus: Melinda, First Lady of Magic, thru May 26 (dark Wed.); Penn and Teller, June 8.

Harrah's Lake Tahoe • 588-6606 or 800-HARRAHS: South Shore Room: "Lacumba!" Latin revue, May 4-Aug. 5; Sheena Easton, May 17-19; Asleep at the Wheel, May

24-26; Three Dog Night, May 31-June 2; Bill Cosby, June 7-8; The Four Tops, June 14-16; Williams and Ree, June 21-23; Lou Rawls, June 28-30; Casino Center Stage: Nightly bands.

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

Lake Tahoe Horizon • 588-6211 or 800-322-7723: Grande Lake Theater: Rita Rudner, May 17-18; Gallagher, May 25-26; Little River Band, June 21-22; BTO, June 28-29; Golden Cabaret: "Phantasy," magic and comedy revue (dark Mon.); bands play nightly in the Aspen Lounge.

Lakeside Inn • 588-7777.

NORTH LAKE TAHOE

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

Crystal Bay Club • Crystal Bay, 831-0512: Madison Ave. and Impact play in the casino lounge.

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

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

GAMING TOURNAMENTS

May & June

Club Legacy Slot Marathon • May 2-3 • Silver Legacy, 329-4777.

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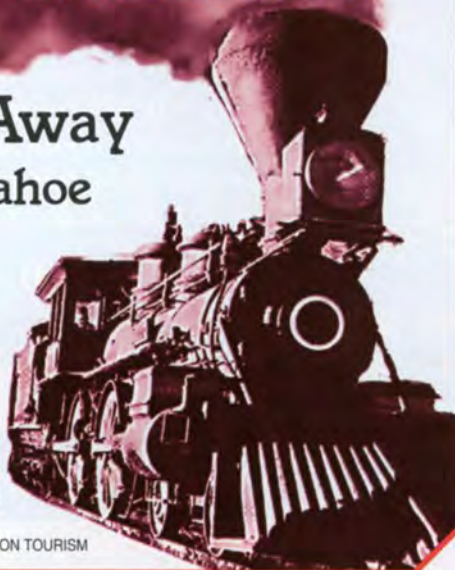
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Slots and Poker • May 3 • Lakeside Inn, Stateline, 586-7710.

Keno • May 5-6 • Silver Legacy, 329-4777.

Junior Classics Slots • May 5-8 • John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 356-3300.

Slots • May 10-11 • Sands Regency, 348-2200.

Spring Slots • May 10-11 • Carson Valley Inn, Minden, 782-9711 ext. 711 or 800-321-6983.

Blackjack • May 10-12 • John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 356-3300.

Slam Dunk Blackjack • May 10-12 • Fitzgeralds, 786-3663.

Slots • May 12-13 • Peppermill, 689-7282.



A mountain-man encampment is part of the Kit Carson Rendezvous at Mills Park in Carson City, June 7-9.

Mother's Day Slots • May 12-15 • Flamingo Hilton Reno, 322-1111.

Keno • May 17-19 • John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 356-3300.

Dollar Slots • June 2-4 • John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 356-3300.

Slot Marathon • June 2-4 • Eldorado, 786-5700.

Mini-Slots • June 8-9 • John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 356-3300.

Slots • June 9-10 • Peppermill, 689-7282.

Blues Festival Dollar Slots • June 14-16 • Fitzgeralds, 786-3663.

Spring Blackjack • June 21-23 • Flamingo Hilton Reno, 322-1111.

Summer Poker • June 21-28 • Peppermill, 689-7275.

Junior Slots • June 23-26 • John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 356-3300.

Slots and Keno Spectacular • June 28-29 • Sands Regency, 348-2200.

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 radio, 687-7410 or 800-638-2321.

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PREVIEW

Promenade Through the Past

By Cynthia Kennedy

It's been more than 100 years since the bonanza went bust in Virginia City, but the days of opulence and Victorian splendor will be celebrated during Comstock Historic Preservation Weekend, May 16-19. This is an annual opportunity to peek inside the beautiful old homes of Virginia City, besides taking the hoop skirt out of mothballs for a grand promenade.

To put you in a Comstock frame of mind, University of Nevada author and archaeologist Donald Hardesty will lecture on "The Bonanza!" at 8 p.m. Thursday at the Gold Hill Hotel. History further comes to life during the next evening's "Comstock Revisited" Chautauqua, when characters from Virginia City's past entertain visitors with yarns about their lives.

On Saturday you can visit several private homes and gardens that will be open to the public from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Among them is the Pink House in Gold Hill, which has a panoramic view of Gold Canyon and the Sierra. In Virginia City you'll be able to indulge your curiosity when the doors of the Purkey home are opened. The attic bedroom, it is rumored, once was home to Sam Clemens. Another stop on the tour is the J.J. Page residence, which is charmingly furnished with unusual Victorian antiques.

Upon entering each home you'll be guided by characters of the 1800s. You'll learn how the current owners of these 100-year-old houses have preserved Comstock history while uniting it with their own families' heritages. You can purchase a tour ticket for \$12 at the

door of any home on the circuit.

Free guided tours of the Virginia City Cemetery are conducted at 11 a.m. on Saturday and Sunday. Also on Saturday, you can watch miners' drilling demonstrations or take a mine tour before the Grand Costume Ball at 7:30 p.m. and the Midnight Supper. Period costumes or formal attire are required for the dance, and after all those waltzes, polkas,



Virginia City relives its heritage during Preservation Weekend. Above, residents Squeek and Roger LaVake at the Fourth Ward School.

and reels a supper will be set out at midnight. Tickets are \$17.50.

The following day's festivities will begin with the Grand Peacock Promenade at noon on C Street, culminating at the Fourth Ward School for the Silver Tea and Musicale. For more information about Comstock Historic Preservation Weekend call 702-847-6657 or 702-847-3011.

Cynthia Kennedy is a Virginia City-based freelance writer and photographer.

Nevada State Capitol • 687-5030.
Nevada State Library and Archives • State Constitution exhibit. 100 Stewart St., 687-5210.
Nevada State Museum • 600 N. Carson St., 687-4810.
Nevada State Railroad Museum • S. Carson St. at Fairview Dr., 687-6953.
Nevada Supreme Court • Tours, Stewart St., 687-8616.
Roberts' House Museum • 1207 N. Carson St., 882-1805.
Stewart Indian Cultural Center • 5366 Snyder, 882-1808.
Warren Engine Co. No. 1 Museum • 777 S. Stewart St., 887-2210.

DAYTON

Dayton State Park • 687-5678.

GARDNERVILLE

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

GENOA

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

LAKE TAHOE

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



Golfing in the Black Rock Self-Invitational, June 21-22 near Gerlach, may have you going in circles.

Tahoe Rim Trail • 150-mile system, 588-0686.
U.S. Forest Service Visitors Center • Stream chamber in creek, 916-573-2600.
Vikingsholm • Tours, 916-525-7232.
Zephyr Cove Resort • 588-5021.

RENO

Animal Ark • North of Reno on Red Rock Rd., 969-3111.

Earth Window Museum • 500 N. Sierra St., Town Center Mall, 333-2828.
Fleischmann Planetarium • U of N, 784-4811.
Galena Creek Regional Park • Mount Rose Hwy., 785-4319.
Liberty Belle Slot Collection • Liberty Belle Saloon, 4250 S. Virginia St., 825-1776.
National Automobile Museum • 10 Lake St. S., 333-9300.

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- Nevada Historical Society Museum** • 1650 N. Virginia St., 688-1190.
- Nevada Museum of Art, E.L. Wiegand Gallery** • 160 W. Liberty St., 329-3333.
- Raymond I. Smith Truckee River Walk and Wingfield Park Amphitheater** • 334-2077.
- Reno Tahoe Gaming Academy** • Tours. 300 E. First St., Suite 103, 329-5665.
- Wilbur D. May Arboretum and Botanical Garden** • Rancho San Rafael Park, 785-4153.
- Wilbur D. May Great Basin Adventure** • Seasonal, Rancho San Rafael Park, 785-4064.
- Wilbur D. May Museum** • Rancho San Rafael Park, 785-5961.

PYRAMID LAKE

Numana Hatchery Visitors Center • 574-0290.

SPARKS

- Sparks Heritage Foundation and Museum** • 820 Victorian Ave., 355-1144.
- Wild Island** • Water-theme park, other attractions, off I-80, 359-2927.

VIRGINIA CITY

- Assay Office Museum** • 847-0777.
- The Castle** • Seasonal, 847-0275.
- Chollar Mine** • Tours, seasonal, 847-0155.
- Fourth Ward School Museum** • Historical displays in 1876 school, 847-0975.
- Julia C. Bulette Red Light Museum** • 847-9394.
- Liberty Engine Co. No. 1 Comstock Firemen's Museum** • Seasonal, 847-0717.
- Mackay Mansion Museum** • Artifacts, furnishings, silver collection, 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.
- Virginia and Truckee Railroad** • Tourist train to Gold Hill, 847-0380.
- Virginia City Radio Museum** • 847-9047.
- Virginia City Tours** • Narrated trolley tour, 786-0866.
- Way It Was Museum** • 847-0766.
- Wild West Museum** • Seasonal, 847-0400.

VERDI

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

WASHOE VALLEY

- Bowers Mansion Park** • Historic mansion of Comstock millionaires, 849-1825.
- Davis Creek Park** • 849-0684.
- Old Washoe Stables** • 1201 Hwy. 395, 849-1020.
- Washoe Lake State Park** • Picnicking, camping, E. Lake Blvd., 687-4319.

A Reminder:

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

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Rural Territories

EVENTS

May & June

COWBOY COUNTRY

RODEOS, FAIRS & FESTIVALS

Memorial Day Weekend Barbecue • May 24-26 • Music by the Bermuda Cowboys, bingo. Outdoor Inn, Jarbidge, 488-2311.

Portuguese Festa • May 26 • Mass, parade, sopa, baked goods, crafts. Community center, Lovelock, 273-2566 or 273-2510.

Winnemucca Mule Show and Races • June 1-2 • 10th annual, parimutuel racing and mule show. Humboldt County Fairgrounds, Winnemucca, 623-2220.

Winnemucca Basque Festival • June 8-9 • Parade, games of strength and endurance, traditional dancing, Mass, family-style steak dinner. Humboldt County Fairgrounds, Winnemucca, 800-WMCA-NEV.

Nevada State High School Rodeo Finals • June 12-16 • Bareback, saddle bronc, steer wrestling, calf and team roping, goat tying, bull riding, barrel racing. Elko County Fairgrounds, Elko, 753-6051 or 744-4200.

Winnemucca Junior Rodeo • June 29-30 • Youngsters 15 and under compete. Humboldt County Fairgrounds, Winnemucca, 623-2220.

Lamoille Country Fair • June 30 • 21st annual, crafts and food. Lamoille Women's Club House, 738-4488.

PERFORMANCES

Standing Room Only • May 11 • Northern Nevada Concert Orchestra performance, light classical and contemporary favorites. Elko Convention Center, 738-4187.

Cream of Wit Improvisational Group • June 1 • Comedy troupe performs. Great Basin College Campus Theatre, Elko, 753-2237.

Jazz Festival • June 16 • Jazz and big-band groups. Great Basin College Campus quad, Elko, 753-2237.

EXHIBITS

Local Mine Employees Exhibit • May 6-June 24 • Northeastern Nevada Museum, Elko, 738-3418.

Art in the Park • May 18 • Crafts, food, entertainment. Carlin, 754-6354.

Basque Exhibit • June 24-July 31 • Coinciding with National Basque Festival July 5-7. Northeastern Nevada Museum, Elko, 738-3418.

GENERAL INTEREST

Spring Home Show • May 4-5 • Elko Convention Center, 738-4091 or 800-248-3556.

Elko Mining Expo and Golf Tournament • June 3-7 •



Dancers are a highlight of Winnemucca's Basque Festival, June 8-9.

Exhibits of mining equipment and supplies, demonstrations of latest technology in processing techniques, golf tournament. Elko Convention Center and Ruby View Golf Course, 738-4091.

Pony Express 100 • June 7-9 • Open-road race from Battle Mountain to Austin, bed races, car show and parades, street dance, barbecue. Battle Mountain and Austin, 635-8245.

Bordertown Bike Challenge • June 8-9 • Sixth annual, 24-mile cross-country mountain-bike race in Oasis followed by one-mile circuit race in Wendover, 664-3414 or 208-342-3910.

Keno Tournament • June 13-14 • State Line Casino, Wendover, 664-2231.

PONY EXPRESS TERRITORY

RODEOS, HORSES & FESTIVALS

Eureka and Palisade Railroad Slide Show • May 17 • Eureka Opera House, 237-5269.

Fallon Horsemen's Assn. Horse Show • May 18 • Churchill County Fairgrounds, Fallon, 423-7733.

Nevada Quarter Horse Assn. Horse Show • May 24-27 • Churchill County Fairgrounds, Fallon, 423-7733.

Roping Contests • June 16 • Austin Roping Arena, 964-2304 or 964-2626.

Pony Express Re-Ride • June 17-20 • Reenactment of historic ride from St. Joseph, MO, to Sacramento, mail enters Nevada near Ibupah, UT, at 9:30pm on June 17. The 1860 Pony Express Trail is visible at points along U.S. 50 East, exchanges take place at Cold Springs and Fort Churchill, 782-8620 or 883-1314.

American Bashkir Curly Registry Convention and Horse Show • June 20-22 • 26th annual, all-curly breed show, clinics, gathering honors uniqueness of "curlies," free admission. White Pine Convention Center and Fairgrounds, Ely, 289-4999.

PERFORMANCES

William Eaton Ensemble • May 4 • Impressionistic musical arrangements using hand-crafted instruments such as the lyre, harp, guitar, and mandolin, \$7 adults, \$5 seniors and children under 15. Eureka Opera House, 237-6006.

Holly Dunn • May 10 • Country-western music, tickets \$15. Eureka Opera House, 237-6006.

Country Music Concert • May 11 • Billy Joe Shaver and his son Eddy perform. Fallon Convention Center, 423-1440.

Desert Oasis Music Festival and Ragtown Rendezvous • June 1-2 • Bluegrass, folk, and country music, workshops, crafters, living history reenactments, demonstrations, and exhibits. Churchill County Fairgrounds and Churchill Regional Park, Fallon, 423-7733 or 423-1440.

GENERAL INTEREST

Fernley Fly-In • May 4-5 • Egg drop, WWII fighter planes on display. Tiger Field Airport, Fernley, 575-4459.

Fort Churchill Celebration • May 4-5 • 1860s historical reenactments by Nevada Civil War Volunteers and Nevada Pony Express Assn. Fort Churchill State Historic Park, Silver Springs, 577-2345 or 356-6901.

Hidden Cave Tours • May 11 and 25 and June 8 and 13 • 9:30 am, BLM guide leads hike to archaeological site. Churchill County Museum, Fallon, 423-3677.

Wine Tasting • May 18-19 • Eureka Opera House, 237-6006.

Ely After Dark • May 18 and June 15 • One-and-a-half hour trip along the Keystone Route on a diesel train, departs at dusk, with cheese, crackers, wine, and fruit provided, \$19.95. Nevada Northern Railway Museum, East Ely, 289-2085.

A Trip Into the Past • May 25 • Children eight to 12 learn to churn butter, spin, and make ropes, paper, and ice cream. Churchill County Museum, Fallon, 423-3677.

Common Birds of the Great Basin • May 25 and June 9 • 10th anniversary program with area birder Melissa Renfro. Great Basin National Park, Baker, 234-7331.

Gridley Days • June 14-16 • 12th annual, National Old Time Fiddler's Contest, Nevada State Fiddler's Championship, doo-dah parade, flour-sack auction, Nevada Civil War Volunteers encampment. Austin, 964-2200.

The Border Inn 10th Anniversary Celebration • June 15 • Buffet and crafts fair. The Border Inn, 13 miles east of Great Basin National Park, 234-7300.

Useful Plants of the Great Basin • June 22 • 10th anniversary program with naturalist Jody Davila. Great Basin National Park, Baker, 234-7270.

CARS & MOTORCYCLES

Top Gun Drag Races • May 4-5, 25-26, and June 8-9 • Top Gun Raceway, Fallon, 423-3104.

Silver State Classic Challenge • May 18-19 • High-speed auto race on State Route 318 between Lund and Hiko. Host city is Ely, 289-8877.

Desert Cruisers Ry-deo • June 9 • Motorcycle rodeo. Churchill County Fairgrounds, Fallon, 423-7733.

Cascade Sled and Truck Pulls • June 15 • Churchill County Fairgrounds, Fallon, 423-7733.

PIONEER TERRITORY

FESTIVALS

Pioche Heritage Days • May 12-14 • 14th annual, short plays depicting stories from Pioche history, art display. Town Hall, 962-5544.

Smith Valley Strawberry Festival • May 19 • Straw-



William Eaton plays his stringed instruments in Yerington on May 3 and Eureka on May 4.

berry shortcake, strawberry-themed boutique, poetry, music. United Methodist Church, Smith Valley, 465-2481.

Jim Butler Days • May 24-27 • State championship mining events, street dance, contests, barbecue, parade, talent show, chili cook-off, arm wrestling, horseshoe

and volleyball tournaments. Tonopah, 482-3859.

Lincoln County Homecoming • May 25-27 • Caliente, 726-3129.

Portuguese Festa • June 1-2 • Saturday night family party and dance at 9pm, Sunday parade at 9:30am, Mass at 10am where the queens will be crowned, sopa at noon, auction. Catholic Center, Yerington, 463-3842.

Pizen Switch Round-Up • June 30 • 15th annual, town picnic, bring your own lunch or join the 1pm potluck, music. Mountain View Park, Yerington, 463-4232 or 588-5372.

SEASONAL

Armed Forces Day Celebration • May 18 • 46th annual, parade, picnic, open house on base, evening dance for teens, street dance for adults. Hawthorne, 945-5896.

Beta Sigma Phi Coyote Chase • June 15 • 10th annual, 10K and 5K runs, two-mile walk, pancake breakfast at 7am, crafts, book sale, buggy and wagon rally, barbecue, music, dance. Heyday Inn Green and C-G Bar, Smith Valley School, 465-2422 or 265-2147.

PERFORMANCES

William Eaton Ensemble • May 3 • Music derived from string instruments. Yerington Theatre for the Arts, 463-3066.

"Mrs. Loy Ford: Between Two Worlds" • May 25 • Dr. Sue Fawn Chung in a Chautauqua performance, 7pm. Central Nevada Museum, Tonopah, 482-9676.

"James P. Beckwourth: Mountain Man, Explorer, Rancher" • May 25-26 • J. Holmes Armstead in a Chautauqua performance, Saturday 4pm, Sunday 1pm. Central Nevada Museum, Tonopah, 482-9676.

CAR SHOWS & RACES

Spring Fling • May 18 • Classic-car show, street dance, barbecue. Casino West and Dini's Lucky Club, Yerington, 463-2245.

Hawthorne Classic Auto Cross • May 25-26 • Sports Cars of America timed competition, 945-5896.

VORRA Off-Road Races • May 25-27 • Saturday night parade and Sunday races. Yerington, 463-2245.

TOURS

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.

COMING EVENTS

Fourth of July Celebrations • Statewide.

Twin States Ranch Hand Rodeo • July 4-5 • Rodeo



Visitors to Jim Butler Days in Tonopah, May 24-27, can watch miners' drilling contests and other tests of skill.

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Sunday Drivers

When you think of auto racing, you might think of closed-track ovals and the smell of diesel fuel. But in Nevada, fast cars often compete on the open road.

In a salute to some fast riders of yesteryear, a car race from Battle Mountain to Austin will be the main event of the Pony Express 100 on June 7-9. The weekend activities will include a car show at Battle Mountain High School, where fans can see the race cars, meet the drivers, and vote for the People's Choice Awards. Friday's Welcome to Battle Mountain Party starts at 5:30 p.m. at the civic center. Saturday features a parade of cars at 10 a.m. and a barbecue.

The infamous Battle Mountain bed races are held at 5:30 p.m. Saturday. Each bed-racing team has a speedy custom rig with a



Drivers race from Battle Mountain to Austin during the Pony Express 100 in June.

mattress, four wheels, a push rod, and a rider in costume. Trophies go to the best decorated bed and best costume, as well as the fastest entries. After the bed races is a street dance.

The 89-mile car race will take place on State Route 305 starting at 9 a.m. Sunday. Racers can reach speeds of up to 200 mph on the trek south. After all the cars have crossed the finish line, there will be a parade in

Austin, lunch, and a caravan back to Battle Mountain.

Spectators are not permitted on the course during the race. However, visitors can watch the start in Battle Mountain and the finish in Austin. To enter the race, contact the Roger Ward Classic Auto Racing Society, 805-274-4068. For more information about the weekend events call the Battle Mountain Chamber of Commerce, 702-635-8245.—Marty Hunter

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1-800-WMCA-NEV

Or write the Winnemucca Convention & Visitors Bureau, 50 West Winnemucca Blvd., Winnemucca, NV 89445



Kids and clowns enjoy the Lamoille Country Fair.

grounds, McDermitt, 532-8742.

Elko's National Basque Festival • July 5-7 • 738-7991.

All-Indian Rodeo, Stampede, and Pioneer Days • July 19-21 • Fallon, 423-2544.

Silver State Stampede • July 20-21 • Elko, 738-1499.

Lyon County Fair and Rodeo • Aug. 15-18 • Yerington, 463-2090.

Winnemucca Labor Day Rodeo and Fair • Aug. 30-Sept. 1 • 800-WMCA-NEV.

Rail Days • Aug. 30-Sept. 1 • Ely, 289-2085.

Western Art Roundup • Aug. 30-Sept. 2 • Winnemucca, 529-0452 or 623-2225.

Elko County Fair • Aug. 30-Sept. 2 • Elko, 738-3616.

Pioche Labor Day • Aug. 31-Sept. 3 • 962-5544.

Rich Roping: West Desert Finals • Sept. 7-9 • Wendover, 664-3289.

Pahrump Valley Harvest Festival • Sept. 13-15 • 727-5800.

Fernley Frontier Days and Rodeo • Sept. 28-29 • 575-4459.

World Finals • Oct. 13-15 • Bonneville Salt Flats, Wendover, 664-3414.

Te-Moak Powwow • Oct. 19-20 • Elko, 738-7681.

SHOWGUIDE

Casinos often bring star entertainment to rural Nevada. For example, Danny Marona will appear at Cactus Petes in Jackpot, and the popular club band Steel Breeze plays at Stockmen's in Elko. Many lounges have comedy or karaoke during the week and bands on weekends. Call ahead for show times.

COWBOY COUNTRY

BATTLE MOUNTAIN

Nevada Hotel • 635-2453.

Owl Club • 635-5155.

ELKO

Commercial Hotel • 738-3181: Comedy on Wed.

Holiday Inn • 738-8425: Piano bar, Tues.-Sat.; dance club, Thurs.-Sat.

Red Lion • 738-2111 or 800-545-0044 (Western U.S. outside Nevada): Club Max Showroom: Comedians and a country band, Tues.-Sun.

Stockmen's Hotel • 738-5141 or 800-648-2345 (U.S. and Nevada): Doug Supernaw, May 3-4; Wheels, May 7-19; Midnight Riders, May 21-June 2; Steel Breeze, June 4-16.

JACKPOT

Barton's Club 93 • 755-2341.

Cactus Petes • 755-2321 or 800-821-1103: Cabaret Lounge: Danny Marona, June 25-July 7.

Horseshu Casino • 755-2321.

MILL CITY

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

WENDOVER

Nevada Crossing • 664-2900 or 800-537-0207.

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

Rainbow Casino • 664-4000 or 800-217-0049.

Red Garter • 664-2111 or 800-982-2111 (continental U.S. outside Nevada).

Silver Smith • 664-2231 or 800-354-3671.

State Line • 664-2221 or 800-648-9668.

WINNEMUCCA

Winners Hotel • 623-2511: Shawn Jones, thru May 7; Madison Ave., May 7-12; Livin' Daylights, May 14-19; R.C. and Lonesome Heart, June 11-23; karaoke on Mon., comedy on Wed.

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

Exchange Club • 553-2368.

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

HAWTHORNE

El Capitan • 945-3321.

Joe's Tavern • 945-2302.

PAHRUMP

Mountain View Casino and Bowl • 727-7777.

Saddle West Casino • 727-1111 or 800-GEDDY-UP.

TONOPAH

Mizpah Hotel • 482-6202.

Station House • 482-9777.

YERINGTON

Casino West • 463-2481 or 800-227-4661 (U.S. and Nevada).

Dini's Lucky Club • 463-2868.



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Write or Call:
 Nevada's Cowboy Country
 Dept. NM
 1601 Idaho St.
 Elko, Nevada 89801



Tom Sanders rides Georgi Zarina at the American Bashkir Curly Registry Convention and Horse Show in Ely. Curly horses and fans gather June 20-22.

Jarbidge Wilderness Area • North of Elko, 208-543-4129.
Northeastern Nevada Museum • 1515 Idaho St., Elko, 738-3418.
Pershing County Marzen House Museum • Marzen Ln., Lovelock, 273-7213.
Western Folklife Center • 501 Railroad St., Elko, 738-7508 or 800-748-4466.
Wild Horse State Recreation Area • 65 miles north of Elko, 758-6493.

PONY EXPRESS TERRITORY

Cave Lake State Recreation Area • 15 miles south of Ely, 728-4467.
Churchill County Museum and Hidden Cave • Tours of museum and archaeological site, 1050 S. Maine St., Fallon, 423-3677.
East Ely Railroad Depot Museum • 289-1663.

Eureka Opera House • Open Mon.-Fri. or by appointment, tours, Eureka, 237-6006.
Eureka Sentinel Museum • Eureka, 237-5010.
Fort Churchill State Historic Park • Silver Springs, 577-2345.
Great Basin National Park • Baker, 65 miles east of Ely, 234-7331.
Hickison Petroglyph Recreation Site • Ancient rock-art

area, 24 miles east of Austin on U.S. 50.
Nevada Northern Railway Museum • Seasonal, 1100 Ave. A, East Ely, 289-2085.
Sand Mountain • 20 miles east of Fallon, 885-6000.
Ward Charcoal Ovens State Historic Site • 16 miles (11 dirt) south of Ely, 728-4467.
White Pine Public Museum • 2000 Aultman St., Ely, 289-4710.

PIONEER TERRITORY

Belmont Courthouse State Historic Site • 50 miles north of Tonopah, 867-3001.
Berlin-Ichthyosaur State Park • 23 miles east of Gabbs, 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 • 400 10th St., Hawthorne, 945-5142.
Pahrump Valley Winery • Tours, 3810 Winery Rd., 727-6900 or 800-368-WINE.
Rhyolite Bottle House, Historic Site • Four miles west of Beatty, 553-2424.
Walker Lake State Recreation Area • Hawthorne, 945-5896.

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.

A Reminder:

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

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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, be sure to first dial the state's area code (702).

Statewide Information

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

Las Vegas Territory

Boulder City C of C: 1305 Arizona St., Boulder City, NV 89005; 293-2034

Boulder City Visitor Center: 100 Nevada Hwy., Boulder City, NV 89005; 294-1220

Henderson C of C: 100 East Lake Mead Drive, Henderson, NV 89015; 565-8951

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 East Desert Inn Road, Las Vegas, NV 89109; 735-1616

Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority: 3150 Paradise, Las Vegas, NV 89109; 892-0711

Latin C of C: 829 S. Sixth St., Las Vegas, NV 89125; 385-7367

Laughlin C of C: Box 77777, Laughlin, NV 89028; 298-2214 or 800-227-5245 outside Nevada

Laughlin Visitor Bureau: 3650 S. Pointe Cir., No. 104-B, Laughlin, NV 89029; 298-3022

Laughlin Visitor Center: 1555 Casino Dr., Laughlin, NV 89029; 298-3321 or 800-452-8445

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

Mesquite Visitor Center: Interstate 15 Exit 122, Box 1560, Mesquite, NV 89024; 346-2703

Moapa Valley C of C: Hwy. 169, Box 361, Overton, NV 89040; 397-2193 (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

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



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.

Reno-Tahoe Territory

Carson City C of C: 1900 S. Carson St., Suite 100, Carson City, NV 89701; 882-1565

Carson City Convention and Visitors Bureau: 1900 S. Carson St., Suite 200, Carson City, NV 89701; 687-7410 or 800-NEVADA-1 in U.S.

Carson Valley C of C and Visitors Authority: 1524 Hwy. 395, No. 1, Gardnerville, NV 89410-7814; 782-8144 or 800-727-7677 in U.S.

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.

North Lake Tahoe C of C: 245 N. Lake Blvd., Tahoe City, CA 96145; 916-581-6900

Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority: 4590 S. Virginia St., Reno, NV 89502; for information call

827-RENO or 800-FOR-RENO in U.S.
Reno-Sparks Indian Colony Tribal Council: 98 Colony Rd., Reno, NV 89502; 329-2936

South Lake Tahoe C of C: 3066 Lake Tahoe Blvd., S. Lake Tahoe, CA 96150; 916-541-5255

Sparks C of C: 831 Victorian Ave., Sparks, NV 89431; 358-1976

Tahoe-Douglas C of C: Box 7139, Stateline, NV 89449; 588-4591

Tahoe North Visitors and Convention Bureau: Box 5578, Tahoe City, CA 96145; 916-583-3494 or 800-TAHOE 4 U

Virginia City C of C: V&T Railroad Car, C St., Virginia City, NV 89440; 847-0311

Cowboy Country

Battle Mountain C of C: Box 333, Battle Mountain, NV 89820; 635-8245

Elko C of C: 1601 Idaho St., Elko, NV 89801; 738-7135

Elko Convention and Visitors Authority: 700 Moren Way, Elko, NV 89801; 738-4091 or 800-248-ELKO outside Nevada

Jackpot Visitor Information: Box 508, Jackpot, NV 89825; 755-2321 or 800-821-1103 anywhere in U.S. (Cactus Petes)

Jarbidge Community Assn.: c/o Trading Post, Box 260072, Jarbidge, NV 89826; 488-2315

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

McDermitt Information: Box 278, McDermitt, NV 89421; 532-8742

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

Wendover USA Visitors/Convention Bureau: Box 2468, Wendover, NV 89883; 664-3414 or 800-426-6862 outside Nevada

Winnemucca C of C: 30 W. Winnemucca Blvd., Winnemucca, NV 89445; 623-2225

Winnemucca Convention and Visitors Bureau: 50 W. Winnemucca Blvd., Winnemucca, NV 89445; 623-5071 or 800-WMCA-NEV

Pony Express Territory

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

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, 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: Box 956, Beatty, NV 89003; 553-2424
Caliente C of C: Depot Building, Box 553, Caliente, NV 89008; 726-3129
Gabbs, City of: Box 176, Gabbs, NV 89409; 285-4019
Goldfield C of C: Box 219, Goldfield, NV 89013; 485-3453
Goldfield Historical Society: Box 178, Goldfield, NV 89013; 485-6365
Greater Smoky Valley C of C: Box 2020, State Route 376 at Carver's Station, Round Mountain, NV 89045; 377-2490
Mason Valley C of C: 227 S. Main St., Yerington, NV 89447-2536; 463-2245
Mineral County C of C: 601 Fifth St., Box 1635, Hawthorne, NV 89415; 945-5896
Pahrump Valley C of C: Box 42, Pahrump, NV 89041; 727-5800 or 800-633-WEST
Pioche C of C: Box 127, Pioche, NV 89043; 962-5544
Tonopah C of C: 301 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: Stewart Indian Cultural Center and Museum, 5366 Snyder Ave., 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 Department of Transportation: 1263 S. Stewart St., Carson City, NV 89712; 687-4997
Bureau of Land Management: Main: Box 12000, Reno, NV 89520; 785-6402; Box 26569, Las Vegas, NV 89126; 647-5000; Box 831, Elko, NV 89801; 738-4071
Humboldt National Forest: 2035 Last Chance Rd., Elko, NV 89801; 738-5171
Nevada Division of Wildlife: Main: Box 10678, Reno, NV 89520; 688-1500; Southern Nevada: State Mail Complex, Las Vegas, NV 89158; 486-5127
Pyramid Lake: Pyramid Lake Fisheries: Star Route, 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

- 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 credit cards accepted.

INTERNATIONAL

- Riviera Hotel/Mardi Gras Food Court**—734-5110. 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 cuisines plus prime rib served nightly. B, L, D. \$, major.

ITALIAN

- Imperial Palace/Pizza Palace**—794-3261. Pizza, pasta, salads. L, D. \$, major.
- Riviera Hotel/Ristorante Italiano**—794-9363. Vermicelli salsa bella vista, lobster Francaise, fresh seafood. D. \$-\$\$\$\$, major.

ASIAN

- 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 & SEAFOOD

- 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, dessert bonbons. D. \$\$, major.

Laughlin

- Ramada Express/Dining Car Coffee Shop**—298-4200. Open 24 hours. B, L, D. \$, major.
- Ramada Express/Passaggio Italian Gardens**—298-4200. Pastas and 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. Sunday cham-



The Empress Court at Caesars Tahoe presents Chinese cuisine.

- pagne brunch, Saturday breakfast buffet, Friday 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, Sunday 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. Ca-

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sino buffet restaurant, 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, Sunday brunch. B, L, D. \$, major.
John Ascuaga's Nugget/Rotisserie—Sparks, 356-3300. Buffet, Sunday brunch. 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 Friday. B, L, D. \$-\$\$, major.
Silver Legacy/Legacy Saloon and Deli Exchange—Reno, 329-4777. Roast garlic Rosemary chicken with spinach pizza, chicken, warm lamb and feta cheese salad, assorted deli sandwiches. B, L, D. \$, major.
Silver Legacy/Victorian Buffet—Reno, 329-4777. Prime rib, shrimp and crab cioppino, homemade ravioli, chicken cacciatore. B, L, D. \$, major.
Virginian Hotel/Ranch Restaurant—Reno, 329-2673. Gambler's Breakfast, prime rib, New York steak. B, L, D. \$, AE, MC, V.

BASQUE

Louis' Basque Corner—301 E. Fourth St., Reno, 323-7203. Sweetbreads, tripe, paella, other seafood dishes. L, D. \$\$, major.

FRENCH/CONTINENTAL

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. Express cafe with hofbrau, deli, bakery, ice cream. B, L, D. \$, major.
Eldorado/Chefs' Pavilion Buffet—Reno, 786-5700. Rotisserie chicken, mushroom ravioli, salad bar, prime rib. B, L, D. \$, major.
Eldorado/Tivoli Gardens—Reno, 786-5700. Multi-ethnic, 24-hour restaurant. 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.

ASIAN

John Ascuaga's Nugget/Trader Dick's—Sparks, 356-3300. Cashew chicken, Szechwan specialties, flaming dagger brochette. L, D. \$\$, major.
Silver Legacy/Sweetwater Cafe—Reno, 329-4777. Baked homemade tortellini, fried shrimp, prime rib, Cantonese pepper steak. B, L, D. \$, major.

STEAK & SEAFOOD

Carson Nugget/Oyster Bar—882-1626. Seafood and pan roasts. L, D. \$, major.
Carson Nugget/Steak House—882-1626. Veal scaloppini, scampi in dill sauce, chicken piccata, escargot. D. \$\$, major.
Eldorado/Grill and Rotisserie—Reno, 786-5700. Mahogany-fueled rotisserie and grill, fresh fish, fowl, lamb, USDA choice dry-aged beef, soup and salad bar. D. \$\$, major.
John Ascuaga's Nugget/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.
Silver Legacy/Fairchild's Oyster Bar—Reno, 329-4777. Louisiana crab cakes, oyster pan roast, chicken and seafood jambalaya, chef's seafood salad. L, D. \$\$, major.
Silver Legacy/Sterling's Seafood and Steakhouse—Reno, 329-4777. Medallions of filet mignon, prime rib, spicy roast chicken, seafood fettuccine. D. \$\$, major.

Lake Tahoe

AMERICAN

Caesars Tahoe/Cafe Roma—Stateline, 588-3515. Lamb chops, prime rib. B, L, D. \$-\$\$, major.

ITALIAN

Caesars Tahoe/Primavera—Stateline, 588-3515. Linguini carbonara, tenderloin pizzaiola, pollo allo spumante. D. \$\$, major.

ASIAN

Caesars Tahoe/Empress Court—Stateline, 588-3515. Szechwan, Mandarin. D. \$\$, major.

STEAK & SEAFOOD

Caesars Tahoe/Broiler Room—Stateline, 588-3515. Prime rib, seafood, Cajun specialties. Reservations for large parties. D. \$\$, major.

Caesars Tahoe/Pisces—Stateline, 588-3515. Salmon, lobster, sea bass. Flown in fresh daily. D. \$\$, major.

Around the State

Elko: Stockmen's Motor Hotel—738-5141. Coffee shop, evening dinner house. B, L, D. \$-\$\$, major.
Lovelock: Sturgeon's—273-2971. Coffee shop open 24 hours, family dining room. Fiesta Room supper club Tuesday-Saturday. Steaks, seafood, Mexican dishes. B, L, D. \$-\$\$\$ major.
Tonopah: Station House/Mary's Kitchen—482-9777. Hamburgers, steaks, seafood. B, L, D. \$, AE, MC, V.
Winnemucca: Winners Hotel/Grandma's Dinner House—623-2511. Prime rib, Maine lobster, T-bone steak, chicken cordon bleu. D. \$, major.
Winnemucca: Winners Hotel/Pete's 24-Hour Coffee Shop—623-2511. All-you-can-eat buffet. B, L, D. \$, major.



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'Wild West' in Reno

Country is kickin' in "The Great Reno Wild Wild West Show."

By Katherine McDonnell

The West may not be as wild as it once was, but you wouldn't know it from watching producer Greg Thompson's latest show at Harrah's Reno, "The Great Reno Wild Wild West Show."

The foot-stomping musical revue gives Thompson's cast of singers and dancers a chance to perform stylized country moves—something usually not associated with the erotic allure that Thompson and his choreographer, Mistinguett, have given such shows as "Playboy's Ecstasy" and "High Voltage." Instead, "The Great Reno Wild Wild West Show" is a silly, campy, and patriotic 80-minute hoedown.

You'll want to arrive early for this show. Curtain time is 7 p.m., but things kick off 15 minutes earlier when singers Mark Francis and Kirsten Kite warm up the crowd with ballads such as John Michael Montgomery's "I Swear" and Patsy Cline's "Crazy." Next, lead dancer Shannon O'Keefe coaxes volunteers on stage for line-dancing lessons.

"The Wild West Show," which Reno's *Showtime* magazine named "Show of the Year" in 1995, is a slick revue that moves quickly through country music, ballads, comedy, and magic. It opens with fast-paced production numbers set to the music of Hank Williams Jr., Elvis Presley,



Shannon O'Keefe (second row, center) leads the cast of "The Great Reno Wild Wild West Show."

the Eagles, and others. Contemporary and traditional country-western songs like "All My Rowdy Friends," "Streets of Laredo," and "I've Got Friends in Low Places" are woven into colorful routines.

The show includes the "Great Comstock Mine Disaster" sequence, during which singer Juan Cantu tells the story of a miner who used dynamite instead of a candle and discovered the famed lode. Later, an erotic mechanical bull-riding number features O'Keefe in a white lace nightgown. During the lyrical adagio to "Desperado," O'Keefe and Jim Hogan perform leaps and balances atop the bull.

Comedian Cork Proctor and magician Phelston Jones are more than specialty

acts—they are incorporated into the routines rather than slotted between production numbers. Proctor first appears as a barker touting magician Hop-Sing Jones, who gets a gentleman from the audience to join them on stage. While Proctor chats with the victim, Jones proceeds to pickpocket a bra, belt, wallet, watch, tall pole, and a pair of panties from the back of the man's shirt.

In a show-stopping number set to Charlie Daniels' "The Devil Went Down to Georgia," Jones readies for a fiddling duel as the dancers weave around him. At the climax of the Faustian scene his fiddle sends out cas-

cadades of sparks, signaling that the devil has gotten his due.

The show's finale is a wild production of Lee Greenwood's "God Bless the U.S.A.," in which the cast plays tambourines and carries American flags through the audience. "It's so corny," O'Keefe says later, "but the audience loves it."

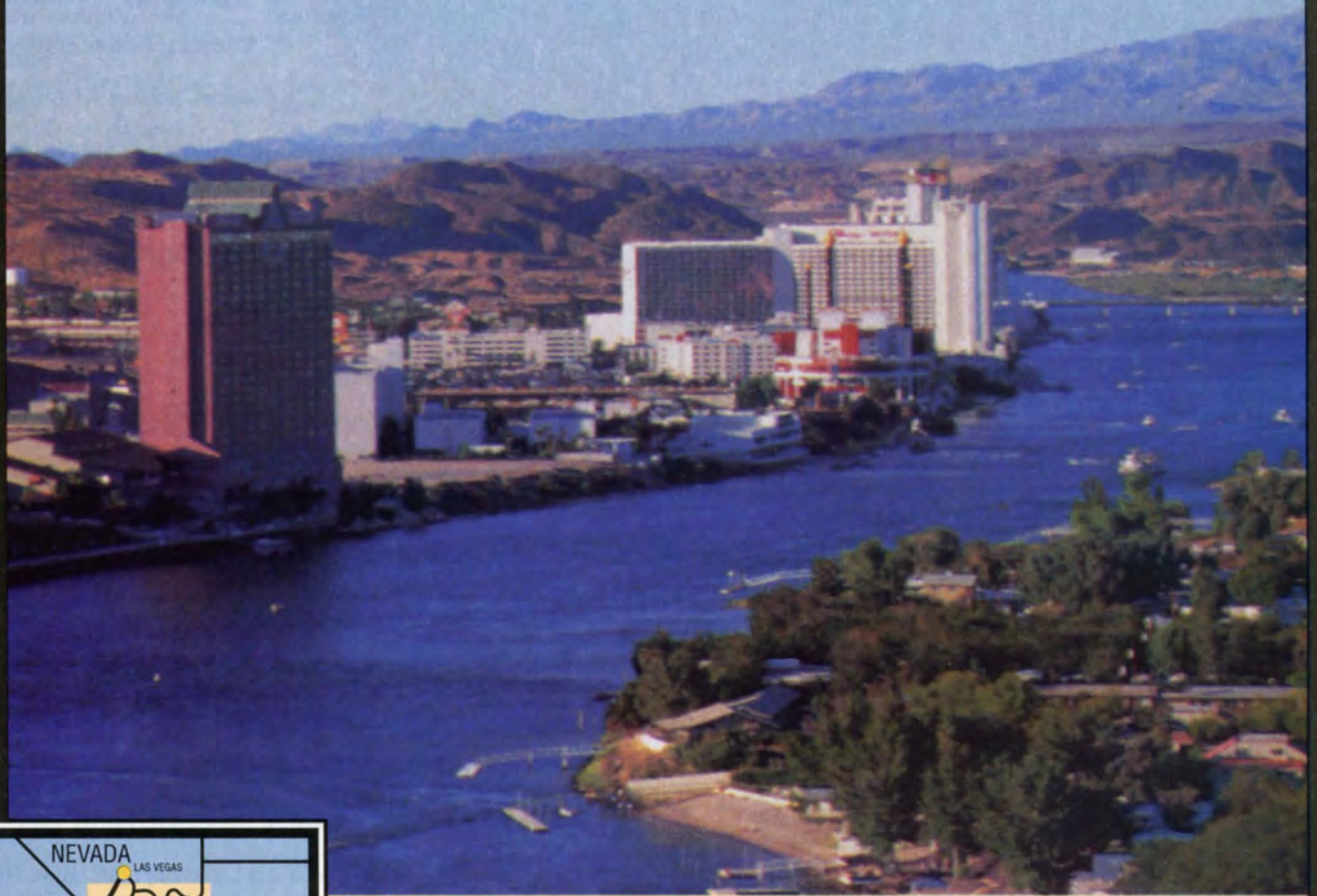
Wild Times

"The Great Reno Wild Wild West Show" plays nightly at 7 p.m. at Harrah's Reno (dark Tuesday). Tickets are \$18.50, which includes one cocktail. Call 800-HARRAHS for reservations.

Katherine McDonnell is events editor of Nevada Magazine.

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