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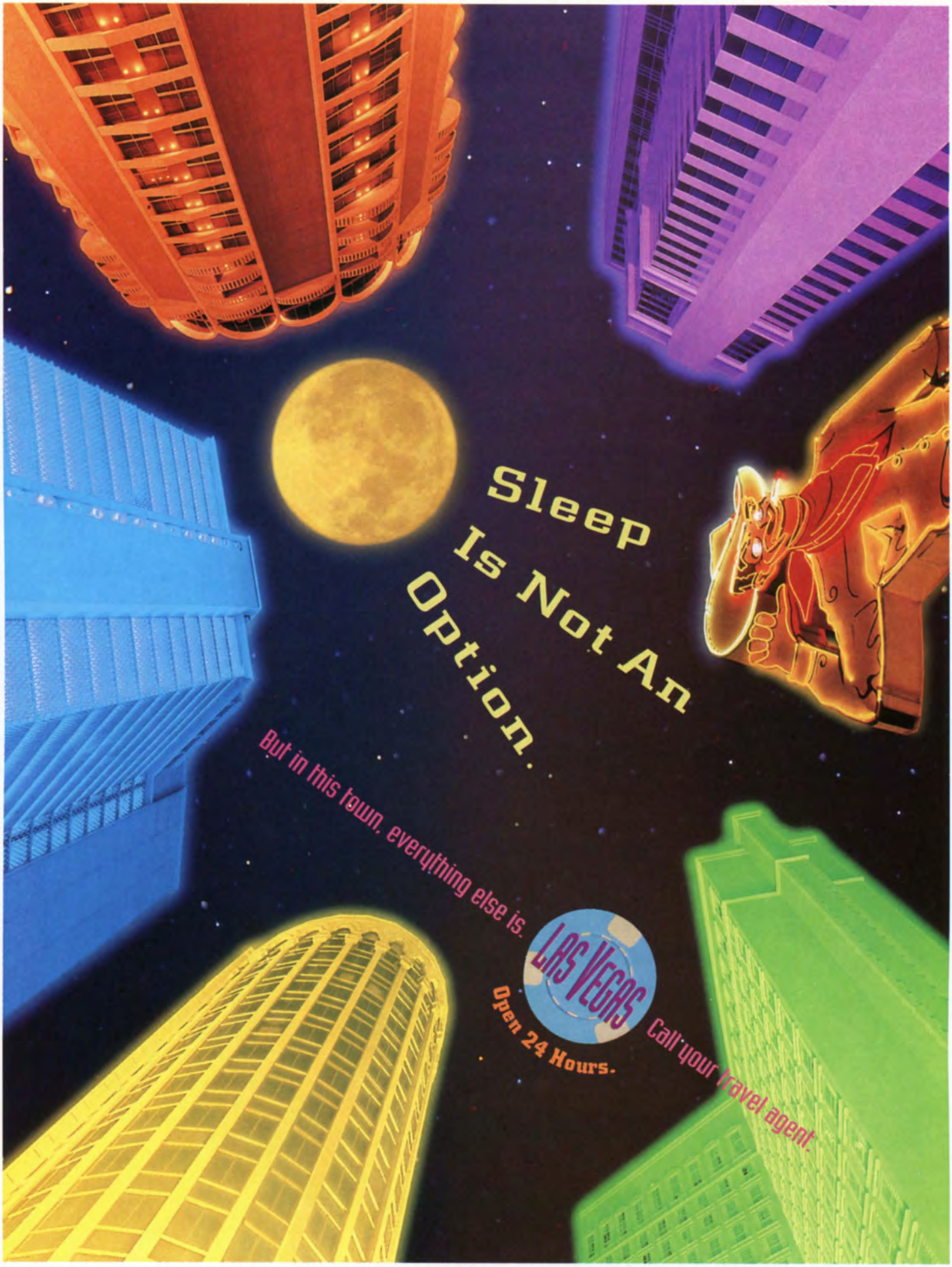
Discovering the summer pleasures of Great Basin National Park on its 10th anniversary



An ancient bristlecone pine on Wheeler Peak

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On the Cover: Ancient bristlecone pine on Wheeler Peak in Great Basin National Park. Photo by Carol McKim

Photos and Illustration (from top to bottom): Jamie Hoggard, John Bardwell, Gabriela Vangstad

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PUBLISHER'S NOTE

See You on the Net

You can now find *Nevada Magazine* on the Net. Readers who punch up "http://www.travelnevada.com" can link with *Nevada Magazine Online*, our new page on the World Wide Web. Tucked into the Nevada Commission on Tourism's Web site (which itself is filled with useful visitor information), *Nevada Magazine Online* offers updated events listings, information about upcoming articles, and magazine subscription and merchandise information.

Nevada Magazine Online also has a special archive section, which presents selected articles and photos that have appeared recently in the magazine. Current offerings include: "Old Time Saloons," a guide to historic watering holes around the state; "Nevada Golf '96," a complete listing of courses in and around the state; and dining reviews of Cafe 333 in Incline Village and Wild Bills Saloon and Steakhouse at the Excalibur Hotel in Las Vegas.



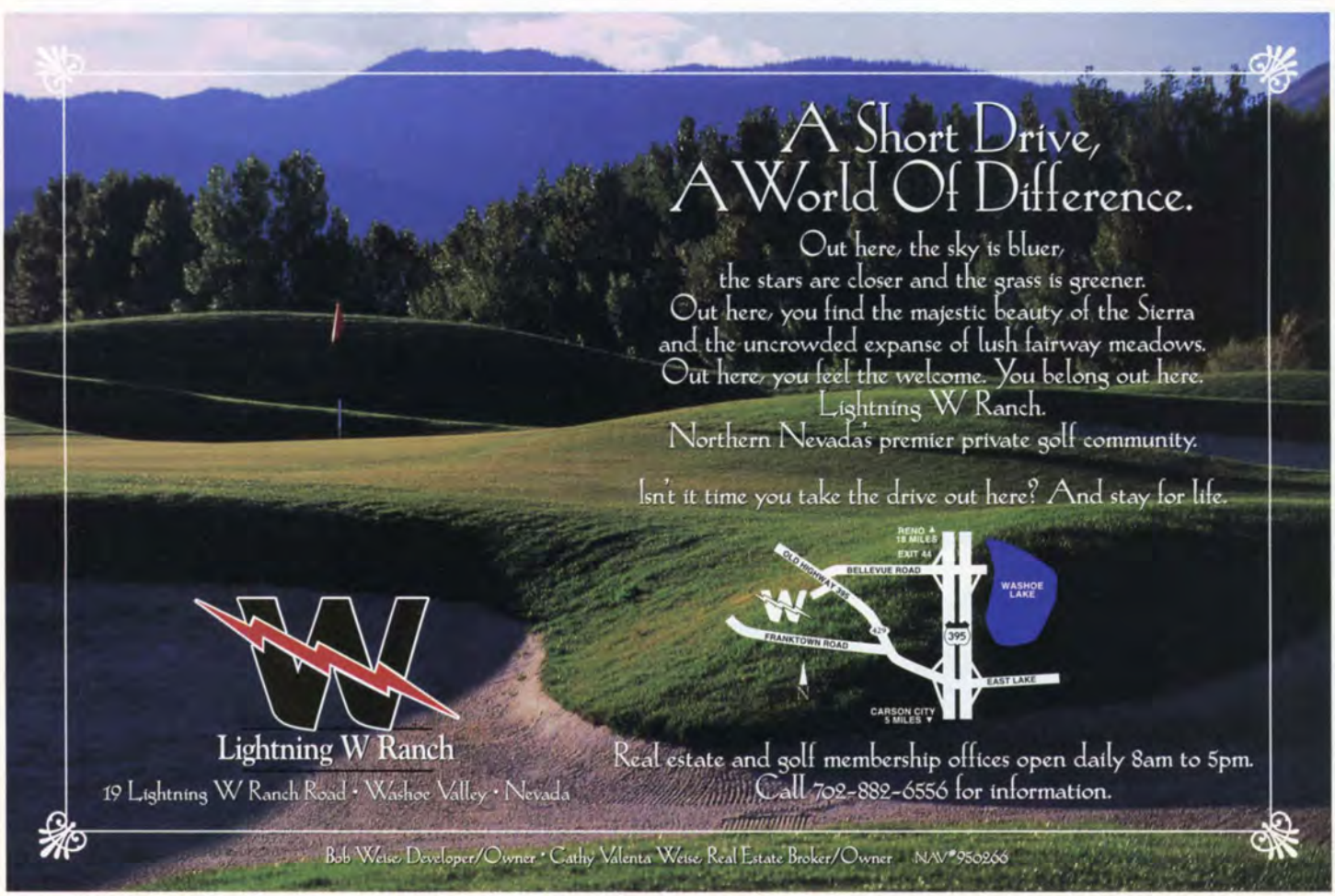
Internet users can now call up *Nevada Magazine Online* on the World Wide Web.

Additionally, users will find articles and information inspired by stories from the magazine. For example, "See You Latte," a feature about Nevada's coffeehouses that appeared in the May/June '96 issue, helped generate a listing of java joints, which is featured on *Nevada Magazine Online*.

Our goal is to make *Nevada Magazine Online* complement *Nevada Magazine*. After more than 60 years of publishing, we're not giving up on paper and ink, but we think *Nevada Magazine* also has a place in the fast-growing Internet world.

I invite you to surf with us.

—*Richard Moreno*



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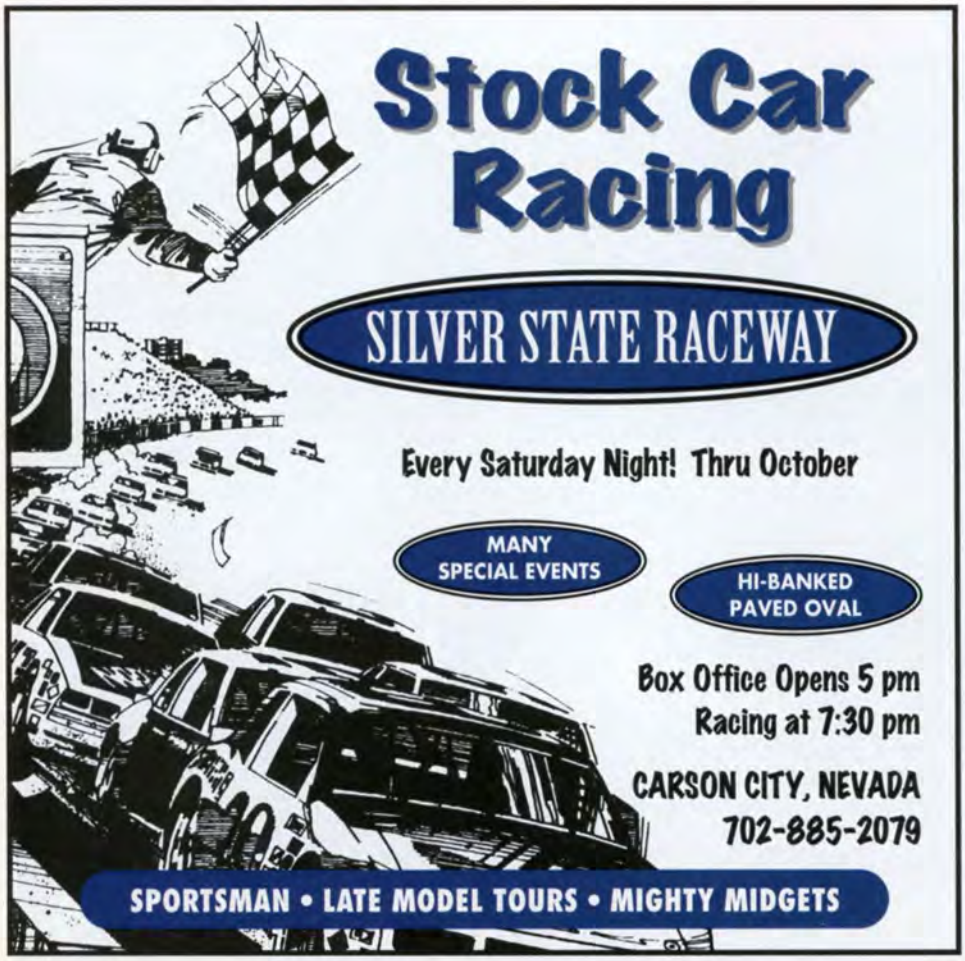

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EDITOR'S NOTE

Extremes

When we hear the expression, "Nevada is a land of extremes," we normally think of the contrast between desert and mountain, heat and cold, bonanza and borrasca. For instance, in this issue's cover stories on Great Basin National Park, Salt Lake City writer **Richard Menzies** and Publisher **Richard Moreno** point out extreme park features like 4,000-year-old trees and the state's only glacier.

But you'll also learn in this issue about other Nevada extremes—namely, daredevil athletes and theme-park rides that let you play the daredevil. In "The Extreme Scene" **John Trent** introduces four Nevada athletes who live to climb, run, pedal, and skate as fast as humanly possibly. "It's remarkable how they push themselves to the limit," says John, a feature writer for the *Reno Gazette-Journal* and avid long-distance runner.

Dahn Shaulis, a Las Vegas writer and ultramarathoner, recalls the extreme athletes of the 1870s who were known as "The Pedestrians." Dahn describes how long-distance walkers were wildly popular in Nevada.

At today's theme parks, the wilder the ride, the more popular it is. So **Deke Castleman**, our Dean of Extreme, not only reviewed Las Vegas' growing number of thrusters and coasters in "Good to the Fast Drop." He also tested two extreme rides at the Stratosphere Tower. Deke describes how he survived the Big Shot in "Tower of Power."

Speaking of big shots, **Katherine McDonnell** has been a wiz as Nevada's events editor for the last year. Katherine kept the Nevada Events and Shows section both organized and full of energy (much like herself). We're considering donating her filing system to the Smithsonian. But Katherine recently decided to move to Las Vegas, where she can combine her writing career with her first love, ballet. Fortunately, **Ann Henderson**, who has worn numerous hats at the magazine for the past 16 years, has taken on the role of events guru. Ann will remain based in Las Vegas and continue to oversee the *Nevada Travel Update* newsletter. As a widely traveled native of Pioche, Ann knows the state well. We wish Katherine the best, knowing Ann also will be great in the extreme.—*David Moore*

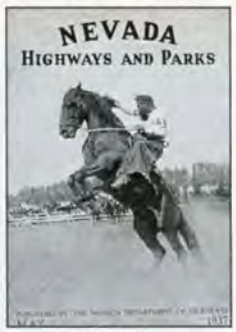
LETTERS

Claws for celebration in Austin.

A Point on "The Breaking Point"

Seldom does one find a condensation of a story as complex as that of the Donner Party fit to read. "The Breaking Point" by Martin Griffith last issue did it admirably.

Of course, authors always seem to disagree about details regarding the Donner Party, especially about the location and date of the Reed-Snyder fight. It would appear that an error was made in the calculation of elapsed time from the troubles at Wasatch to the intersection of the Goose Creek-Humboldt River Trail. The story states that the fight happened near Golconda on October 5, 1846. I believe this is an error of almost two weeks—12 days to be exact.



I believe the fight occurred at Gravelly Ford on the Humboldt River about September 22 or 23. The numbers simply will not allow the fight to occur at any other time or place. I have recently completed a book titled *Incident at Gravelly Ford*. James F. Reed is my central character, and his banishment in Nevada for the stabbing death of John Snyder is my central theme.

Robert C. Mack
Gaston, OR

Thanks, Robert. Martin Griffith adds that the location of the incident between Snyder and Reed is one of the great mysteries in Nevada history: "It's quite a detective story. Everyone has their theories, and it's hard to know for certain, but my best guess is still the sandy hill at Iron Point just east of Golconda. Historians agree, and I've walked every mile on both sides of the Humboldt River looking for that site. But I'm open to hearing more evidence."—Ed.

Nevada in Bosnia

I am writing this letter from the deployment in Bosnia. I have received your magazine twice since I have been here. I was born in Carson City and raised in Reno. I have been in the Army for three-and-a-half years. It makes me feel a little closer to home. I just thought I would let you know that your magazine is greatly appreciated by a couple of us here who are from Nevada.

Tyeson C.K. Muhlenberg
Operation Determined Effort

Collecting *Nevada*

I read in the Jan/Feb issue about the exhibit in Carson City on 60 years of *Nevada Highways and Parks*. I sure wish it could be shown in Las Vegas. I have lived in Nevada since 1967, buying my first *Nevada Magazine* in 1968. I started collecting them at that time and am missing only three issues: Vol. 1, No. 1 (1936); Vol. 2, No. 2 (1937); and Vol. 5, No. 4 (1940).

Carl R. Harley
Las Vegas

Thanks, Carl. You and other dedicated fans and collectors in Southern Nevada can see the exhibit, "60 Years of Nevada Magazine, *1936-1996," through August 15 at the Clark County Heritage Museum in Henderson.—Ed.*

Hot Purr-suit in Austin

This is a letter about the warm and caring people of Austin.

While en route from Colorado to California, we (two people, two dogs, and two cats) stopped for the night in our camp trailer just west of Austin. Our adventurous calico Manx cat, Scrounge, managed to slip out of the trailer despite our rigorous security precautions. We spent several hours with flashlights in below-freezing weather trying to find her, to no avail.

We talked to everyone in Austin and while doing so met some of the warmest, friendliest, most helpful people we've ever run into. Scrounge's disappearance was even announced at the school so the kids could look for her during recess.

Two days later we had to resume our trip, but we left our phone number and notices on the chance that our cat had survived two nights in the wild and cold.

Just outside of Fallon we retrieved a message on our home phone that Scrounge had been found, and we probably made the fastest U-turn in history. She had been discovered under a motel by a lovely lady named Kim, who with the help of Ann and Vickey at the International Cafe saw that she got back to us.

Bob Grater, Dinosaur, CO
Sandy McGee, Granite Bay, CA

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ROADSIDE ATTRACTIONS

Harvests, horses, and bargain beaches.

SHOPPING



Carson's farmer's market has fresh produce this summer.

Farm-Fresh Finds

CARSON CITY—The **Third and Carson Farmers Market** presents farm-fresh produce every Wednesday this summer. Traffic is diverted off Third Street next to the St. Charles Hotel, where shoppers can pick from baskets and bins filled with cantaloupes, zucchinis, peaches, plums, okra, and strawberries. Shoppers also find crafts, cut flowers, herbs, fresh-baked bread, and finger-lickin' ribs and barbecue sandwiches. A barbershop quartet and other groups often perform. The market is held from 4 till 7 or 8 p.m. on Wednesdays through October 9.

This summer you'll also find fresh fruits and veggies from 4 to 9 p.m. on Thursdays (beginning July 11) at the **Sparks Open-Air Marketplace** at Victorian Square and on Tuesdays from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the **South Shore's Farmers' Market** in South Lake Tahoe.—*Carolyn Graham*

TOURS

Tahoe Carriage Rides

LAKE TAHOE—You can hitch up with Lake Tahoe's history, nostalgia, and scenic vistas aboard the **Borges Family Carriage Rides** at Stateline.

The 30-minute rides are led by blond Belgium draft horses or one of the family's rare American-Russian Baskhir Curlies. Rides begin in front of both the Lake Tahoe Horizon and Embassy Suites. The horse-drawn Victorian carriage passes by the scenic Edgewood Tahoe Golf Course and then winds near the beach, where the driver points out such landmarks as the snow cross on Mount Tallac. Carriage and Western-style surrey rides are available from noon to sunset daily (weather permitting), and reservations are required for rides after sunset. The cost is $10 for adults, $5 for children 10 and under, and free for infants. Tickets are purchased from the driver. Call Borges Sleigh, Hay, and Carriage Rides, 800-726-RIDE.—*Katherine McDonnell*



Borges offers horse-powered Tahoe tours.

NATURE

Wild About Nevada

LAS VEGAS—Visitors can touch a rattlesnake skin, hear a coyote's howl, or stop and smell the sagebrush at the **Las Vegas Natural History Museum's** Wild Nevada exhibit.



Museum visitors can see bighorns and other desert dwellers.

Wild Nevada features three ecosystems found within 100 miles of Las Vegas. In the lower Mojave Desert snakes and burrowing owls are perched among the rocks and creosote. In the mid-mountains of the Mojave are bighorn sheep and coyotes. The third ecosystem, in the upper Spring Mountain Range, is home to the mountain lion and the pygmy blue butterfly, the smallest butterfly in the world.

The Las Vegas Natural History Museum is located at 900 Las Vegas Boulevard North. Hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily. Admission is $5 adults; $4 military, seniors, and students; and $2.50 for ages four to 12. Call 702-384-DINO.—*C.B. House*

PARKING ALERT

Tahoe Beach Traffic

LAKE TAHOE—Beach bums, grab your walking shoes: It may be tough to find a parking place on the east side of Lake Tahoe this summer. The U.S. Forest Service is removing dead trees, so the east shoulder of State Route 28 between Spooner Lake and Incline Village will be closed on weekdays through October 15. The west shoulder will be closed beginning August 15. Also, Nevada Department of Transportation road work will close the highway to nighttime weekday traffic this summer. After Labor Day, the highway will be shut down entirely on weekdays for two to three weeks. The Incline Village/Crystal Bay Visitors and Convention Bureau (800-GO-TAHOE) has current road, parking, and shuttle information.—*Carolyn Graham*

Photos: Day Williams (top left), Dennis R. Gershick (bottom)

The Bargain Advisor

By Deke Castleman

Nevada's summers were made for spending time at the beach. The Nevada Division of Wildlife lists nearly 30 bodies of water statewide that are large enough for fishing and boating, not to mention swimming and floating.

The warmest bargain beach, both in the water and out, is on the Colorado River at **Harrah's Laughlin** (702-298-4600). The sand is fine, the riverside store sells sandals, sunscreen, and soda, and everything from Sea-Doos to sternwheelers motor by while you sunbathe and swim. Perfect for those 120-degree days, Harrah's beach is open to nonguests.

The place to go on Lake Mead is **Echo Bay**. It has a sandy bottom (unlike the more popular and aptly named Boulder Beach), and it's cozy and uncrowded (being 50 miles northeast of Las Vegas on North Shore Road). There's a marina and a resort (702-394-4000) with a bar and restaurant. This is Nevada's best free beach, in my humble opinion.

Sand Harbor at Lake Tahoe is two beaches in one, split by a rocky spit. There's a long crescent of white sand on the windward side and a calm little cove on the leeward. Part of Lake Tahoe Nevada State Park (702-831-0494), Sand Harbor costs $6 to get in. Tahoe warms up to only 68 degrees at the height of summer—bracing!

Finally, you can mix and match your water temperatures at Hot Steam Well on the north shore of **Pyramid Lake**. Years ago geothermal researchers dug a well at water's edge and then capped it. Over time the cap sprang some leaks, and now the steaming water streams into the lake. Soaking in the spot where the hot well water and cold lake water mingle is a tingly sensation. Pay your $5 at the Sutcliffe Ranger Station (702-476-1155) and get directions. The road is rough and sandy, but the water's great.



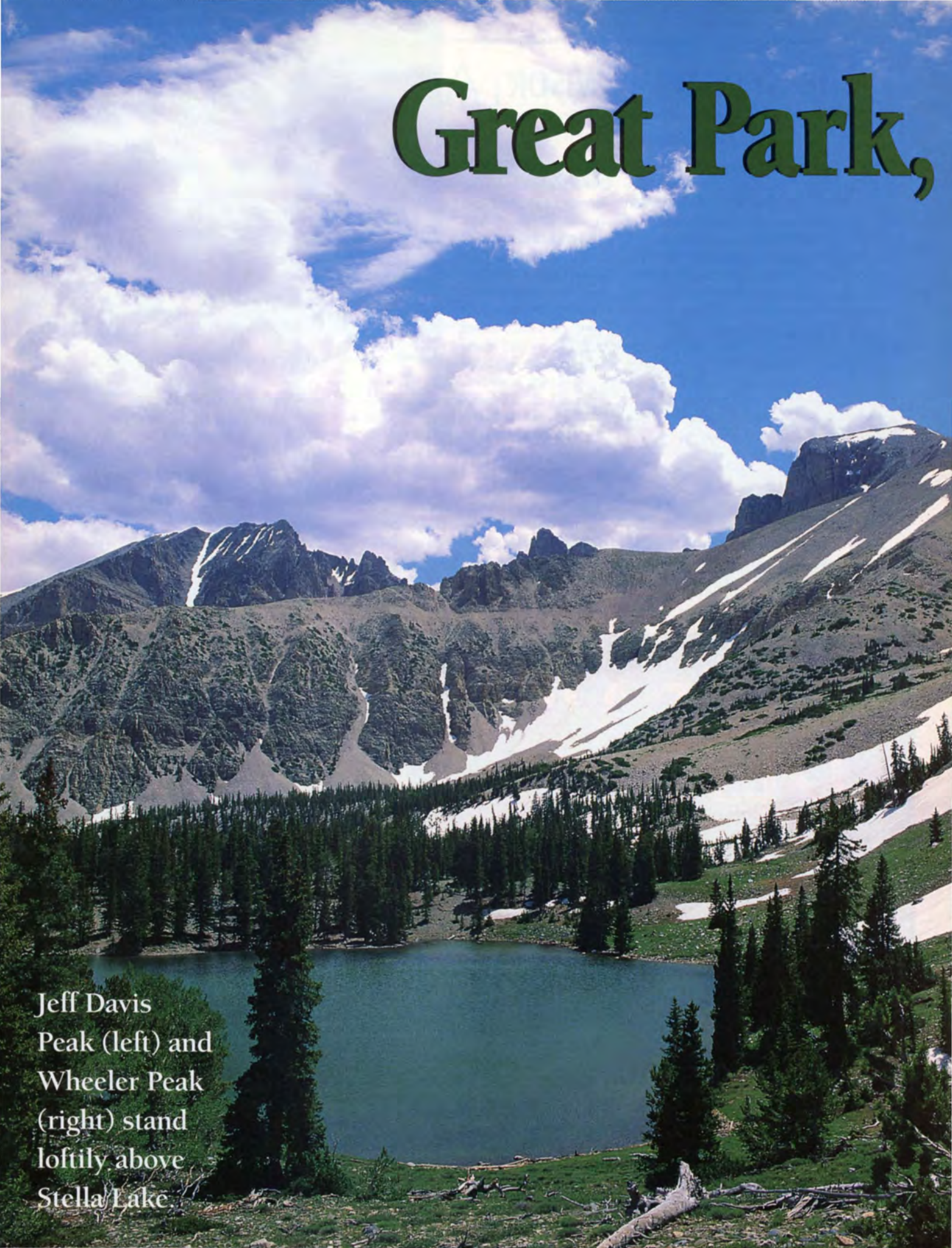
Harrah's Laughlin has a cool beach for hot days.

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



Photo: Chris Leedham

Great Park,



Jeff Davis Peak (left) and Wheeler Peak (right) stand loftily above Stella Lake.

Great Basin

A celebration of gnarly trees, spooky caves, and a desert glacier as Great Basin National Park turns 10.

By Richard Moreno



Since the 1880s, visitors have taken tours of Lehman Caves, where water first carved and then decorated the limestone and marble cavern.

In spite of the bright sun overhead, it's cold at the glacier. A breeze races across the long, narrow field of ice and slaps me hard in the face. I jam my hands deeper into my coat pockets and stifle a shiver.

It is August—the heart of summer—at the glacial cirque below Wheeler Peak in Great Basin National Park. Seated on a large boulder to admire the view, I take a sip of water, remembering the ranger's advice: Drink plenty of liquids when above 10,000 feet to avoid dehydration. "When you're high, you get dry," he said.

This is a quirky little glacier. It doesn't seem to move much or make loud noises like the ones on *National Geographic* TV specials. Still, there is something surreal about a mound of cold, white stuff in the desert that never melts.

Ready to hike back down, I stand and am suddenly overcome with dizziness. It's the altitude—I bend over to catch my breath.

Since its creation in 1986, Great Basin National Park has had that kind of effect on people, especially those hikers who explore the rarefied reaches of Wheeler Peak. Visitors find breathtaking altitudes and views on the way up Wheeler, which, at 13,063 feet, is the second highest peak in the state.

Located 70 miles east of Ely, Great Basin National Park has other features unique to this corner of Eastern Nevada. The glacier is the state's only one. The park's bristlecone pines are among the world's oldest living things; some have lived here more than 4,000 years. The limestone formations inside Lehman Caves are some of the most richly decorated in the country.

As the park celebrates its 10th anniversary this summer, it also celebrates the diversity of the Great Basin, a vast region of wide valleys and mountains that includes Northern and Central Nevada and parts of Utah, Oregon, Idaho, and California. The name "Great Basin" was coined in 1844 by explorer John C. Fremont, who noted that it was a land where rivers flowed to the interior, not into an ocean. The park contains seven of the eight ecosystems that are found in the Great Basin—from Sagebrush Desert, characterized by jackrabbits and sagebrush, to Treeless Alpine, home to ravens and the endangered Nevada primrose.

"This is one of the few places in the country where you don't have to go very far to be truly alone with nature and your thoughts," Rebecca Mills, the park's superintendent, later told me. "One of the great things about the park is that you can sit on a rock and feel that kind of silence and a tremendous sense of space—without noise and visual interruptions."

The silence and sense of openness cover this mountainous refuge like an old, comfortable quilt. The park offers the solitude of more than 77,000 acres, nearly all of it rugged, scenic, and far from civilization. The opportunities for meaningful contemplation are limitless.

The bristlecone grove is such a sanctuary. On my way down the mountain

Photos: Jamie Hoggard (left), Richard Menzies (right)



Hikers on the Alpine Lakes Trail can visit Stella and Teresa lakes, branch off to see the bristlecone pines, or hike to the windy top of Wheeler Peak (on the right).

from the glacier, I notice that the ancient trees appear to be bleached almost white by centuries of exposure to sun, wind, snow, and rain. They seem to possess extraordinary character and strength—having taken nature's best shots and survived.

Later, back at the visitor center, I buy a ticket for a tour of Lehman Caves and am soon following a group of tourists down a long corridor that leads into the caves. A park ranger explains that the caves were discovered in 1885 by a farmer named Absalom Lehman. The ranger stops in the first large chamber, called the Gothic Palace, which is filled with sharp-edged stalactites hanging from the ceiling and imposing stalagmites rising from the floor. She douses the lights. After a long minute, she lights a candle.

"This is how the caves appeared to Absalom Lehman when he discovered them," she says, her face partially bathed in the candle's glow "As you can see, they must have seemed very big and mysterious to him." The flickering flame barely lights the room. Previously benign formations take on the appearance of giant teeth while the dancing shadows hint of even stranger things.

Once the lights are back on, the 90-minute tour winds for three-quarters of a mile through chambers filled with drapes, circular shields, and twisting helictites. Then we emerge into the sunlight at the visitor center, refreshed by our subterranean sojourn.

Whether or not you're going underground, the visitor center is a good place to stop. The center, open 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. in the summer and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. the rest of the year, has exhibits, a gift shop, and a cozy snack bar. You also can learn about park programs and attractions such as:

At nearly 10,000 feet, the Wheeler Peak overnight area is the highest campground in the state.

Cave Walks: Tours of Lehman Caves are offered hourly between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Special 45-minute candlelight walks are scheduled at 5 p.m. on weekends between Memorial Day and Labor Day. Fees are $4 for adults, $3 for ages six to 15, and $2 for holders of National Park Service Golden Age /Golden Access Passports.

Camping: The park has four campgrounds: Lower Lehman Creek (11 sites), Upper Lehman Creek (24 sites), Baker Creek (32 sites), and Wheeler Peak (37 sites). The nightly fee is $5. The Wheeler Peak overnight area, at nearly 10,000 feet, is the state's highest campground.

Trails: Wheeler Peak Trail, eight miles round trip, leads to the summit. Alpine Lakes Trail visits Teresa and Stella Lakes in a three-mile loop. Bristlecone Pine Grove Trail is four miles round trip. Lexington Arch Trail is a two-mile round-trip visit to an elegant limestone arch. The visitor center has hiking books and brochures.

Ranger-Led Activities: Ask about campground programs and daily hikes to the bristlecone grove.

Scenic Drives: The 12-mile Wheeler Peak Scenic Drive follows a paved road 3,000 feet up the mountain to Wheeler Peak Campground, reaching to about 10,000 feet. Dirt roads lead to Baker Creek and other areas. Check at the visitor center for road conditions.

Fishing: The park's lakes and creeks

Photo: Larry Prosor

A spring snow field radiates below Jeff Davis Peak (above). The park's glacier is tucked in the Wheeler Peak cirque to the right. Lexington Arch (below right), in the remote southern corner of the park, is reached by a rough dirt road and trail.





Photos: Salvatore Vasapolli (top), Alvin R. McLane (right) Map: Gary Elam

are not stocked, but the creeks contain limited numbers of rainbow, cutthroat, brown, and brook trout. Fish usually aren't found in the lakes, which freeze in winter. Anglers must have a Nevada fishing license.

Information: Write to Great Basin National Park, Baker, NV 89311, or call 702-234-7331.

Travelers should note that Ely, 70 miles west of the park, has numerous restaurants, RV parks, and motels. Ely

For hikers tired of trail mix, the town of Baker is burger heaven.

is home of the Nevada Northern Railway Museum, where you can take train rides on selected summer weekends (see page E-33), and the White Pine County Museum.

And don't forget the hamlet of Baker (population 65). For hikers tired of trail mix, Baker is burger heaven. The community five miles east of the park has a couple of restaurants, a pair of motels, a mini-mart, and gasoline.

But no glacier.

Richard Moreno is Nevada's *publisher He plans to hike all the way to the top of Wheeler on his next visit.*

Park Programs

This summer, Great Basin National Park will celebrate its 10th anniversary with a series of special events. Experts will present programs on birds, plants, and children's activities related to the region.

For details on July and August events, see the Rural Territories listing in this issue's Nevada Events and Shows section. Two more events will be held in October. A program on American Indian Life is scheduled October 10-14, and a park open house will be held October 27 celebrating the park's 10th birthday. Call the park, 702-234-7331, for information.

'The First Regional Park'

Great Basin National Park was years in the making.

By Richard Menzies



The Rhodes Cabin, near today's visitor center, was used as a guest house in the 1920s.

When it was created 10 years ago, Great Basin National Park became a 77,000-acre natural showcase and a notable microcosm of the terrain that covers most of Nevada.

"It's the first regional national park in America," explains Robert Starr Waite, a geography professor at the University of Utah in Salt Lake City. "It's a place where you can come to one park and get an interpretation of the landforms, the vegetation, and history of the whole geographic region."

Waite spent 20 years promoting the establishment of the park, and the 1,000-page doctoral dissertation he wrote at UCLA was one of the first reference works on the area. He says he looked at other possible park sites, including the Ruby Mountains near Elko and the White Mountains in California.

"But, of course, the Snake Range had them all beat," he says. "It had a glacier, it had a cave, it had the bristlecone pines. It had Lexington Arch and many other things that the others didn't have."

Bob Waite wasn't the first to recognize the area's tourist potential. Way back in 1924, Senator Key Pittman of Nevada introduced a bill in Congress to establish the "Lehman Caves-Wheeler Peak Area National Park." But the bill didn't get far. The name was a mouthful, for one thing, and the Nevada Livestock Association was against it.

At the time hardly anyone back East had the foggiest notion of what Pittman was talking about. Only the native Shoshones and Paiutes, as well as a handful of hardy prospectors and ranchers, were familiar with the territory, and Lehman Caves was pretty much a local attraction. Records show that during all of 1921 resident caretakers Clarence and Beatrice Rhodes entertained a mere 80 visitors.

Then, in 1922, President Warren G. Harding signed a proclamation making Lehman Caves a national monument. That year, the number of paid admissions jumped to 287—a threefold increase, but still barely enough to keep Mr. and Mrs. Rhodes in candles and bat repellent.

The few who saw the limestone caverns were not disappointed. "If you have traveled extensively," wrote U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Henry Wallace to a friend, "I can best describe it to you by drawing comparisons. The Great Mammoth Caves, of Ky., are like a great big, overgrown, unpainted, unkempt dilapidated BARN, as compared to a magnificent marble palace, when

Photo: Jeff Gnass

compared with these Nevada caves."

In spite of such glowing reviews, the Sagebrush State didn't lure many tourists away from the Bluegrass State. The main problem, no doubt, had to do with the logistics of travel. By automobile the monument was a 234-mile drive from Salt Lake City, a 286-mile ramble from Las Vegas, and a tire-blowing 385-mile one-way trip from Reno.

As a result, the scenic splendors of the area continued to languish in obscurity until about 1955, when a second major attempt to establish a park was launched by the Great Basin Range National Park Association, a grassroots organization headed by Darwin Lambert, editor of the *Ely Daily Times*. Vice president was Weldon Heald, an Arizona writer whose "rediscovery" of an active glacier on the north cirque of Wheeler Peak had caused a stir among the conservationist community, including the Sierra Club and the National Parks Association.

A second Congressional bill was submitted by Nevada Senators Howard Cannon and Alan Bible, but like the first, it was met with resistance from mining and grazing interests as well as the U.S. Forest Service.

Then in the mid-1960s park proponents were dealt a wild card no one had even suspected was in the deck. At the request of Donald Currey, a young scientist conducting a study of trees living at the timberline on Wheeler Peak, the Forest Service cut down a bristlecone pine. Upon counting the rings, Currey determined the tree was very close to 5,000 years old. To this day it remains the oldest known tree—and perhaps the oldest thing that ever lived.

At the time no one could even imagine a plant as old as the pyramids.

In hindsight, most everyone agrees that cutting down the tree was a monumental blunder, but at the time no one could even imagine such a thing as a plant as old as the pyramids of Egypt. If there's a bright side to the story, the downed tree is said to have yielded a wealth of scientific information, and it's a safe bet one of the sounds you'll never hear in a bristlecone forest again is that of a chainsaw.

The incident helped build support for the park, although area miners and ranchers still opposed it, one suggesting that a better course of action might be to "tar and feather" Bob Waite.

But by the mid-1980s, after Kennecott had shut down copper operations in Ruth and McGill, White Pine County residents were more favorably disposed toward promoting tourism. A compromise was reached allowing mining claims and livestock grazing in the proposed park. And when Great Basin National Park was signed into existence on October 27, 1986, there were mostly hats flying and not many feathers.

Waite, for one, was not disappointed. After 35 years, he insists he still hasn't seen all there is to see in the Wheeler Peak area.

"You can go to the caves," he says, "and maybe drive on the road up to 10,000 feet, but you've gotta get out of your car and start walking, get into the lakes and forest and the ice to really understand that park."

Richard Menzies of Salt Lake City set out in the spring of 1967 to be the first man to descend Wheeler Peak on an inner tube, but he got cold feet and turned back at the 9,000-foot level.


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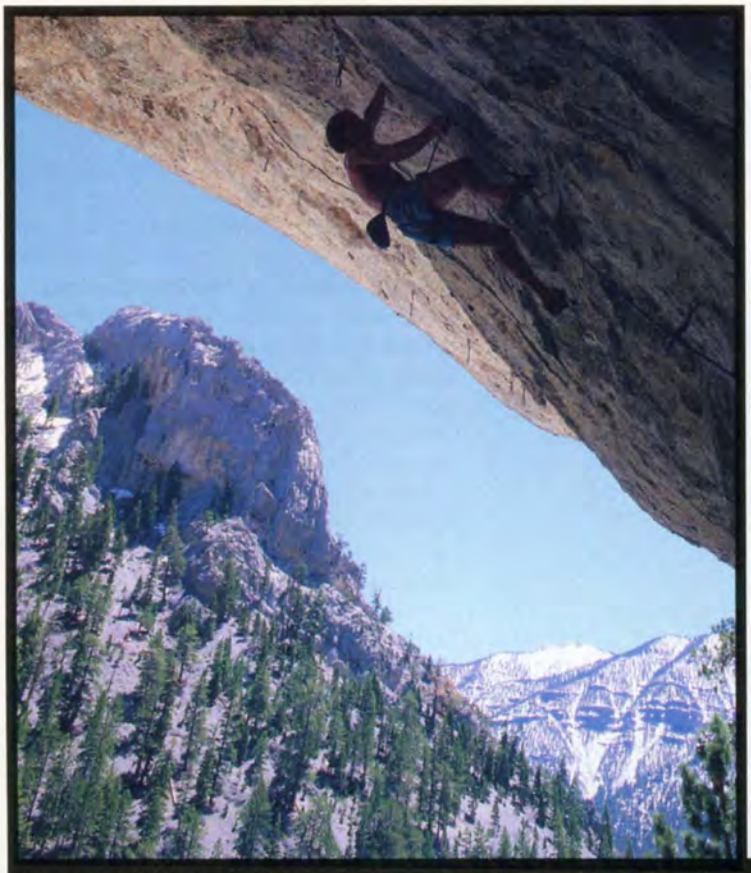
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Doug Englekirk climbs at the Hood on Mount Charleston.

The Extreme Scene

These Nevada athletes relish challenges that take them beyond the limit.

By John Trent

Colin Duncan is 37 years old. He wears a suit and tie Monday through Friday as a senior engineer in resource planning for Sierra Pacific Power Company in Reno. But when he straps on a pair of in-line skates, he assumes another identity: that of a nationally ranked, on-the-edge athlete.

Last summer Duncan was one of the oldest competitors invited to MTV's Extreme Games. Like the younger competitors at the Rhode Island festivities, he pushed the outside of his personal envelope, racing with uninhibited fury and enjoying every reckless second of it.

Duncan hopes to break the world 24-hour in-line endurance record.

"A lot of people who know me saw it on TV," Duncan says with a chuckle. "I think they were all just hoping I wouldn't get killed." Duncan survived several heats of street skating in which competitors reached 50 mph while hurtling down a half-mile course.

"Maybe it's too obsessive," Duncan admits, "but whenever I start to do something, I always try to take it to the next level. I get to the point where a lot of times, it's all or nothing."

Duncan is among a growing number of Nevadans—runners, bike riders, rock climbers, and skaters—who take their summer sports to the extreme edge of competition. Their focus on "extreme sports" is both a joy and obsession, and they regularly risk life and limb with little thought of money or adulation.

Instead, these athletes wage a constant battle. They pit themselves against trail, rock, and road for the simple pleasure of discovering if they are up to the challenge. And almost always, they are.



Colin Duncan (right) leads training partner Ross Klobuschar through the loops in Reno.

Photos: Chris Leedham (top), Craig Sailor/*Reno Gazette-Journal* (bottom)

Duncan, who faces the challenge of skating both indoors and outdoors, may be Nevada's most versatile in-line skater. He has few peers indoors—last summer he qualified for the indoor nationals in Syracuse. Outdoors, he often competes in Norcal Skating League events, which regularly draw more than 500 entrants.

In Reno, Duncan can be found each lunch hour pounding out a series of 35-mph repeats as he winds through a slalom course of warehouse buildings in the southwest part of town. Duncan grew up skating in Reno and competed in ice-speed-skating events. But the drudgery of indoor training dulled his enthusiasm. He quit at 16, found a career in resource planning, and did not return to the sport until five years ago.



Englekirk climbs in the Las Vegas and Lake Tahoe areas.

His goal then? To shed some weight. He had ballooned to 220 unhappy pounds spread over creaky knees.

Today, Duncan, a muscular and agile 175 pounds, brings all of his experience to bear in a sport dominated by youngsters. Each week Duncan trains at Carson City's Skate Trak, where he has helped develop 14-year-old in-line skater Todd Tierney, a double-bronze medalist in his age group at last year's indoor nationals.

"It's amazing how quickly Todd keeps improving," Duncan says. "He keeps getting faster and faster. I just keep getting older."

Not really. Duncan, married to his wife Christine for four years, is ranked among the top 10 skaters for his age group (35 to 39 years old) in the country. He aims to improve that ranking at the indoor nationals in Lincoln, Nebraska, this August.

Later this year Duncan hopes to break the world 24-hour in-line endurance record of 287 miles. He has found a flat, 1-1/2-mile stretch of pavement near Reno/Tahoe International Airport. He will need to average about 12 mph to set a new mark. Duncan explains, "I guess it's just another one of those extreme things you get inspired to do."

Las Vegas is many things to many people—but a rock climbing mecca? Absolutely, according to three-time national sport-climbing champion Doug Englekirk.

"This is probably one of the best year-round climbing areas you could find," says Englekirk, who lived the past year in Las Vegas before moving to Zephyr Cove recently with his wife Dana and her seven-year-old son Nate. Southern Nevada has several good limestone-climbing spots such as Mount Charleston and the Virgin River Gorge, and the sandstone walls of Red Rock Canyon also attract world-caliber climbers.

Englekirk is so enamored with sport climbing that he worries little about the dangers. In fact, the more difficult the route, the more he enjoys the challenge. "My focus is to do hard routes on rock," says Englekirk, the U.S. national champion from 1992 to 1994. "My interest is competing against the Europeans."

Sport climbing, in which competitors race up a rock wall, has exploded in popularity in the '90s. In Europe, sport climbers are media stars and fully sponsored by equipment manufacturers. Americans like Englekirk, who works full-time as a general contractor, are lucky to sock away enough of their own money each season to travel to Europe for three or four important meets. In a good year Englekirk might make $6,500 in prize money. Still, it's enough to keep him keenly interested.

Englekirk, 34, started climbing in 1981 while attending UCLA. He moved to Mammoth Lakes and quickly burned out several Sierra climbing partners. Champion climber Randy Leavitt taught him the basics of sport climbing on the boulders and small pillars of Joshua Tree National Park in 1986. The giant walls of Yosemite beckoned in 1987, and two years later he began entering competitions.

During competitions, Englekirk scans the wall not as an opponent but as rock with possibility. In 100 feet he might see a dozen routes. The key, he says, is deciding in a split second which is the quickest way to the top.

"It's hard to describe the exhilaration when you find the route—you know exactly where you're going to go and how you're going to do it," he says. "It's a powerful sensation."



Claudia Berryman-Shafer tests her limits on high peaks and Fernley's canal road (above).

Claudia Berryman-Shafer, a mountain climber and ultramarathoner from Fernley, has known high points. Thirteen years ago she climbed Alaska's 20,370-foot Mount McKinley, the highest peak in North America.

The sixth-grade teacher also has known low points. In 1994, Berryman-Shafer, then 44, discovered a lump in her breast. Soon after, she underwent a modified radical mastectomy. During chemotherapy, Berryman-Shafer began making plans. She not only would survive breast cancer but also

Photos: Chris Leedham (top), Gary Elam (bottom)

would deliver the disease a defiant knockout.

She would go higher than Mount McKinley.

"Sometimes you choose to meet certain challenges," Berryman-Shafer says. "Other times, challenges are given to you. When you get through the ones that are given to you, it seems like getting through other challenges life has to offer becomes a lot easier."

On February 4, 1995, after two weeks of hard climbing, Berryman-Shafer and a group of 16 other breast-cancer survivors stood atop Argentina's 23,085-foot Mount Aconcagua, the highest point in the Western Hemisphere. The climb was sponsored by JanSport and the Breast Cancer Fund and raised $2.3 million for breast-cancer research. A critically praised documentary on the endeavor, *Expedition Inspiration,* aired nationally on PBS last summer.

"It was real exciting to be able to go higher," she says. Her mother, Katherine Berryman, 77, is a 30-year cancer survivor. "Personally," Claudia says, fully realizing the possibilities of climbing a little higher, "I feel I will live to be as old as my mom."



Brian Schow trains in Cottonwood Valley, south of Red Rock Canyon.

Berryman-Shafer, who prefers to spend quiet summers with her husband Jim as a backcountry ranger in the Emigrant and Desolation wilderness areas near Lake Tahoe, is drawn to sports requiring persistence and endurance. She has run ultramarathons, races that extend beyond a marathon's 26.2 miles, throughout the West, including the Leadville 100-miler in Colorado.

She says she derives her strength from training in and around Fernley. Each weekday morning she and Jim awake long before dawn and are out the door running by 3:15 a.m. Beginning a 12-mile loop, they hit a dirt canal road and continue toward Derby Dam. The only other moving things are the jackrabbits that dart across the deserted road.

"There is nobody out there," she says. "Every once in a while we might see a guy walking his dog." She adds, "One time a man in a truck drove up and asked if he was allowed to shoot guns. We told him just as long as he didn't aim at the runners."

On weekends Berryman-Shafer repeats the loop twice, sometimes three times, covering up to 48 miles in a single session. It's the type of training that not only builds stamina but also helps the mind to focus for long periods of time. Berryman-Shafer prepared for her Aconcagua climb by running up to 125 miles per week.

"I felt very conditioned for the climb," she says. "But because of the altitude, it all just got very slow." She

(Continued on page 74)

Extreme Events

You can test your on-the-edge skills with two outdoor companies in Las Vegas. **Sky's the Limit** (702-363-4533 or 800-733-7597) conducts climbing classes for all abilities in Red Rock Canyon. **Thrillseekers Unlimited** (702-699-5550) offers climbing, skydiving, and even firewalking. Also, you can consider the following events:

Las Vegas International Marathon and Half-Marathon is the state's biggest running event, attracting 5,500 runners last February. The next one is February 9, 1997 Call Al Boka, 702-876-3870.

Silver State 50-50, in May on the Saturday before Memorial Day weekend, has 50-mile and 50K races in the Reno area. Field is limited to 125 runners. Call Ken McKim, 702-329-6122.

Black Rock Self-Invitational Golf Tournament in June is an extreme test of golf, stamina, and sunscreen on the playa north of Gerlach. Call 510-658-5766.

Western States Endurance Run in June is a 100-mile ultramarathon in the Sierra from Squaw Valley to Auburn, California. Call 916-638-1161.

Death Ride: Tour of the California Alps on July 13 sends cyclists up and down five mountain passes on a 130-mile course that begins and ends in Markleeville, California, 30 miles south of Gardnerville. Call 916-694-2571.

Trans-Tahoe Swim, sponsored by the Olympic Club of San Francisco, holds its 20th annual relay race on July 20. Teams of six swimmers each cross the 11 miles from Sand Harbor to Tahoe City. Call 415-775-3088 ext. 326.

Pyramid Lake Triathlon on August 11 includes a one-mile swim, 25-mile bike ride, and six-mile run for individuals and teams. Individuals also can compete in half-distances. Call Finish Line Productions, 702-786-5531.

Mount Charleston Trail Run is an informal fun run in which Las Vegas-area runners trek 36 miles from Lee Canyon to Cold Creek and back, with elevations of 8,000 to 10,000 feet. This year's run is August 24. Call Ed Furtaw, 702-363-8941.

Silver State Marathon, Half-Marathon, 10K Run, and 10K Walk on August 25 in Washoe Valley will attract about 1,200 participants. The marathon's course record is 2:37 Call 702-849-0419.

Tahoe 72 takes place on the Friday after Labor Day (September 6). For safety reasons the 72-mile race may move from the highway to trails. Call 702-329-6122.

Race to the Angel on September 14 is a 13-mile race (with a 2,800-foot vertical climb) from Wells to Angel Lake in the East Humboldt Range, with divisions for runners, walkers, and road and mountain bikes. The runners' record is 1:33. Call 702-752-3328.

OATBRAN, a.k.a. One Awesome Tour: Bike Ride Across Nevada, on September 22-28 covers 428 miles on U.S. 50 from Lake Tahoe to the Utah border near Baker. Call Curtis Fong, 702-588-9658.

Photo: Chris Leedham

THE PEDESTRIANS

Long-distance walkers raced with their hearts and soles in the extreme sport of 1870s Nevada.



By Dahn Shaulis

During the late 1870s, performers known as "pedestrians" gave walking exhibitions in saloons and theaters around the country. Men and women walked for hours along bar tops and small tracks, reaching distances of 200 miles and more, while spectators gambled on the outcome. As "pedestrianism" evolved from a fad to a major sport, great crowds jammed Madison Square Garden in New York and Platt's Hall in San Francisco to watch the endless pacing of the competitors. Women athletes, known as "pedestriennes," also walked in multiday contests, sometimes outdistancing men.

The craze found a foothold in Nevada towns friendly to wagering. In 1878, a pedestrienne named Kate Lorence performed in several Nevada walking matches. She walked inside Virginia City's National Guard Armory and on the main streets of other Nevada towns. Lorence defeated all the local men who tested her mettle, including *Gold Hill News* editor Wells Drury. Another editor joked that Lorence's success "was a time that tried men's soles."

Pedestrianism was considered low-brow entertainment when it first emerged in the 1850s, due to the drinking, smoking, gambling, and brawling that were part of such events. But the sport gained respectability after Edward Payson Weston, an ex-newspaperman, walked throughout the United States and England in the 1860s and '70s. Weston was known for long, cross-country treks and as the first pedestrian to walk 500 miles in six days, previously thought to be an unbreakable barrier. Prompted by Weston's fame—and with the hope of escaping dismal work in factories and sweatshops—hundreds of people tried their pedestrian talents. Participants included Native Americans, African-Americans, and Irish and French immigrants.

> While the two women raced, hundreds of spectators stayed to drink and bet.

In August 1879, two women staged an epic contest in Virginia City at the peak of pedestrianism's popularity. The competitors were Bertha Von Berg, "Champion Lady Pedestrian of the World," and Madame Tourtelott, "Pacific Coast Champion." The location was Piper's Opera House.

During the weeks beforehand Virginia City's newspapers reported daily on the athletes. Von Berg was described as a compact woman weighing 140 pounds "with movements as smooth, graceful, and swift as a finely wrought

Illustration: John Bardwell

engine." Tourtelott was characterized as a "giantess," slimmer than Von Berg but weighing almost 200 pounds. Their objective was to complete the greatest number of miles around the indoor track in six days. It was not a test of speed but of sheer endurance.

At the race's start, Piper's was crowded to the rafters. The two women began their walk on the oval track, built with soil and topped with two inches of tightly packed sawdust. Both wore colored stockings and daring, knee-high dresses of black silk. Von Berg carried a riding whip, which was the fashion for many pedestriennes. A brass band, and later a piano player, performed while hundreds of spectators stayed for hours, watching, drinking, and betting on the contest. One ardent fan was a city judge, the *Virginia Evening Chronicle* noted:

"Judge Knox puts in every spare minute of his time watching Von Berg. It doesn't take more than ten minutes to try a case in court. He finds everybody guilty on almost any pretext, sends them up for 30 days, and then rushes to the track."

For nearly a week the women walked 15 or 16 hours a day, sleeping a few hours each night in the dressing rooms upstairs. While trodding the track the pedestriennes took short breaks to consume countless bowls full of mush and milk and bottles of ginger ale. During rests the two women were handled by their nurses, trainers, and managers. Reporters wrote that Von Berg maintained a businesslike pace while Tourtelott relieved the boredom by "kissing her hand to some venerable and demonstrative admirer, or dancing along in a girlish way to the tripping music of the piano."

Several newspaper editorials addressed the issue of women and physical fitness. The *Territorial Enterprise* suggested that the contest was making men realize "that women are not such feeble creatures as they have all pretended to be." The article continued: "Now let us set them to sawing and splitting wood, heaving coal and handling the rake and pitchfork!"

On the fourth day Von Berg took a 14-mile lead. The next day a physician was called when Madame Tourtelott became ill. Her trainer, who suspected foul play insinuated that someone betting against Tourtelott had poisoned her food. After six hours away from the track, Tourtelott resumed walking.

Both women continued to walk 1,500 laps a day. Toward the end, the *Chronicle* noted, the opera house was so still that Von Berg's footsteps could be heard on the sawdust. "The exhausted piano player laid his head down on the music rack, and drifted away in dreams of his home on the banks of the Danube.. The scorers were still marking the laps and having hard work to stay awake. The gas was turned down low, and in the dim light the sturdy Von Berg flitted on her ceaseless rounds, with a face as impassive as a sphinx."


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Champion of the World,

Commencing on Saturday morning, August 2, at 1 o'clock, and ending Thursday evening, August 7, at 11 o'clock.

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THE NEVADA BOOKBINDERY.

The big 1879 match between the two champions was advertised in *The Footlight*, a Virginia City newspaper

Von Berg won. Tourtelott finished 275 miles, but Von Berg had taken an insurmountable lead on the final night. Still, the race wasn't over for the gambling crowd. Urged on by several plungers who had bet that she would break the San Francisco record of 307 miles, Von Berg returned to the track to complete 308 miles.

The excitement generated by the women's contest spurred Virginia City residents to hold another multiday race. In December, a newspaper carrier named Mike Kennedy won a six-day race by finishing 362 miles, defeating Wilcox (a blacksmith), Chenowith (occupation unknown), and Murphy (a miner).

In the late 1880s, pedestrianism declined in popularity, but a number of transcontinental walkers kept the sport alive. One was Zoe Gayton, a pistol-packing former actress from Spain. In 1890-91 the dauntless pedestrienne walked through Lovelock, Winnemucca, Battle Mountain, and Elko during a 3,395-mile trek across the United States.

> Zoe Gayton, a pistol-packing former actress, walked through Nevada in 1890-91.

In 1909, Edward Payson Weston, the man who had launched the pedestrian era, passed through Reno. At the age of 71, he walked more than 200 miles a week on his jaunt from New York to San Francisco while giving speeches on exercise and temperance.

A crowd of men and boys met Weston between Reno and Sparks and walked with their hero to the Golden Hotel. In his hotel room the next day, he told a *Reno Evening Gazette* reporter the secret of his success—an ability to stride onward.

Weston noted that "after walking about three miles I become in a way tired and want to rest, but I always plug right along and at the beginning of the fourth mile I begin to feel like myself again. I advise all pedestrians to look out for this third mile."

Dahn Shaulis is a Las Vegas writer ultramarathoner and exercise physiologist who is working on a Ph.D. in sociology at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

Photo: Nevada Historical Society

Get your entries ready for this year's ...

Great Nevada Picture Hunt

Announcing *Nevada Magazine's* 19th annual photo contest.

"We're looking for photos that say 'Nevada.'" That's what this year's judges will be thinking when they review the entries in the 19th annual Great Nevada Picture Hunt.

So when you shoot and select your photos—you can enter up to seven—for this year's *Nevada Magazine* photo contest, keep that in mind. Consider photos that say something vivid about Nevada—a windsurfer hopping waves on Lake Mead, an Indian dancer at a powwow, the bright lights of hotel-casinos, or a dog bringing your slippers to your campsite high in the Rubies.

This year, the top 10 photos will receive prizes. Photos will not be judged in specific categories, as they have in the past few years. But those old categories are helpful as tips: They are the kinds of photos the judges love to see. Good topics include people, cultural events, outdoor recreation, ghost towns, hotel-casinos, city and country scenes, plant life, and wildlife. And don't forget humor.

As in the Picture Hunt's previous 18 years, there is no charge to enter, and the contest is open to all photographers, professional and amateur. Be sure to send your photos soon. Entries must be postmarked by August 9, 1996.



Jane Thompson of Reno was a winner last year for her photo, "Golden Glow on the Pyramid."

The Prizes

Cash prizes will be awarded to the top five winners. Prizes are: $200 for first place, $100 for second, $75 for third, $50 for fourth, and $25 for fifth through 10th. Additional winners will receive their choice of a Nevada T-shirt or historical calendar.

Contest Rules

Photos: All photos must be unpublished and taken in Nevada. (Photos previously printed in local newspapers are still eligible.)

Entry Form: The entry form below must be filled out, signed, and included with photos. All entries must be mailed in. Drop-offs will not be accepted at the magazine office.

How Many Photos: You can enter any combination of black-and-white prints, color prints, and color slides, for a maximum total of seven.

Labeling: Your name and address must be on the back of each print and on each slide, along with title, location, and description.

Color Photos: Transparencies must be 35mm slides or larger. If possible, present slides in plastic sleeves. No metal or glass holders. Color prints must be 8"x10" to 11"x14" unmounted.

Black-and-White Photos: Prints must be 8"x10" to 11"x14" unmounted.

Packaging: The smaller and simpler, the better. Maximum envelope size should be 12"x16" Only one photographer with up to seven photos per package.

For Return: When mailing in entries, you must enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope to ensure your photos' safe return. No pickups at the office.

Judging: Entries will be judged by a prestigious panel drawn from the ranks of professional photographers and magazine staff members.

Permission: Contestants grant *Nevada Magazine* permission to print winning entries in the November/December 1996 issue. Contestants also give the magazine permission to make reproductions of winning entries for use in a traveling art show and Picture Hunt slide show presentations.

Entry Form: 19th Annual GNPH—Deadline: August 9, 1996

Quantity of Photos Entered

COLOR SLIDES _____

COLOR PRINTS _____

BLACK & WHITE PRINTS _____

TOTAL QUANTITY (UP TO 7) _____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

DAY PHONE _____

SOCIAL SECURITY # _____

SIGNATURE _____

Send this form with entries to: Great Nevada Picture Hunt, *Nevada Magazine,* 1800 Hwy. 50 E., Suite 200, Carson City NV 89710.

Land of Basque Proportions

Carson Valley's trio of Basque restaurants relish the Old World pleasure of eating in a big way.

Story by Heidi Hart, photos by Jay Aldrich



Jesus Rey, with daughter Dioni and son Esteban, serves lamb chops with asparagus, shrimp with wine and garlic, and other dishes at the Carson Valley Country Club.

The town of Gardnerville has three Basque restaurants, and each has a double story to tell—of life in a far-off country of vineyards and white-washed houses, and of life in the American West.

The restaurants hark back to the state's old Basque boardinghouses. Basque sheepherders began emigrating to Nevada in the 1890s from their homeland, which takes in parts of Spain and France. Although the origin of the Basque language remains a mystery, names like *Etchegoyhen* and expressions like *eskerrik asko* (thank you) seem perfectly familiar today in the Carson Valley, 45 miles south of Reno.

In the old section of Gardnerville, just down the street from Sharkey's casino, is the J.T. Many visitors are surprised to find that the two-story building from the 1870s originally stood 30 miles away in Virginia City The bar's walls are lined with more than 200 signed cowboy and military hats, which patrons began donating 30 years ago after a valley rancher became known for forgetting his hat at lunch times.

Until his death in 1993, longtime owner Jean Lekumberry symbolized the J.T 's Old World feeling with his beret, cigar, and stories of his native village in Basse-Navarre. Today, Jean's children carry on the tradition. His daughter Marie Louise says, "Local ranchers have been coming here for years, but we also get regulars in the summer, people who have cabins at Lake Tahoe or just like the area. It's great—now the children of the people who came in when I was little are grown, and they bring their own kids."



Elvira Ceñoz of the Overland is joined by Noel (left) and Angie Arraiz. Carne verdura and New York steak "Basco-style" are among Elvira's specialties at the one-time boardinghouse.

Mediterranean chicken is a specialty at the J.T For his flavorful meat dishes, chef J.B. Lekumberry, Marie's brother, uses plenty of fresh tomatoes and peppers. The restaurant's stews and homemade French fries are other favorites of the lunch and dinner crowds.

On the other side of Main Street is the Overland Hotel. The building, which dates to 1906, for a time served as a boardinghouse for Basque immigrants. Today, owner Elvira Ceñoz runs the restaurant as well as 14 hotel rooms. "We're always full," she says. "Half of our rooms, you can get by the week." Many of the restaurant's patrons are business and pleasure travelers, although the mirrored bar attracts its share of loyal locals.

Ceñoz says that locally grown lamb has become the restaurant's most popular meat in recent years. "Lately children have been raising the lambs for the families, and they turn out more tender and juicy than the cheaper lamb you get from Australia." Unlike the other Basque restaurants, the Overland serves fried chicken as a regular entree. But don't expect Kentucky Fried: These crispy chicken pieces are flavorful

enough without a lot of extra spices.

The valley's other Basque restaurant, the Country Club, has a large local clientele. Located two miles south of downtown Gardnerville at the Carson Valley Golf Course, this Country Club is anything but stuffy Not only is it open to the public, but it's also a place where old-timers come to wind down after a hard day on the ranch. Buffalo and elk heads stare curiously from the walls.

The walls in the J.T.'s bar are lined with more than 200 signed hats.

Co-owner Jesus Rey says, "People come here year after year and order the same thing—usually the steak." Other popular offerings include juicy shrimp, a Basque version of minestrone, and the picon punch, an exotic cocktail found at Nevada's Basque restaurants.

The J.T., Overland, and Country Club all serve family-style meals—that is, with large platters of side dishes—at individual tables. The key decision is choosing the entree, usually lamb, beef, chicken, or shrimp.

The meal typically begins with a mild soup (often chicken stock with rice or pasta) and a loaf of thick white bread. After the soup, expect a simple green salad splashed with oil and vinegar. Another prelude is lamb, tongue, or



Proprietors Marie Louise and J.B. Lekumberry serve Chemartin Etcheverria (left) and Jeannine MacMichael at the bar of the J.T in downtown Gardnerville.

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oxtail stew, sometimes served with beans. If tongues and tails sound unappealing, try the stew anyway—tomatoes, peppers, garlic, and onions blend with the meat to create a deliciously earthy flavor. Meanwhile, a small bottle of red wine will be placed on the table.

The large main course, which usually comes with an even larger helping of fries, may make you wish you'd been out in the hills all day, working up a sheepherder's appetite. You won't want to miss a bite of tomato-topped chicken slipping off the bone, or steak covered with roasted garlic.

For dessert, Basque restaurateurs are sensible enough not to bombard you with dense chocolate cakes or pecan pies. A simple scoop of ice cream and a cup of coffee finish the meal, if you have room.

J.T Basque Bar and Dining Room, 1426 U.S. 395, 702-782-2074. Open for lunch and dinner· closed Sunday. Lunch $6.50 to $12.50, dinner $14 to $16. MC, Visa.

Overland Hotel Basque Restaurant, 691 U.S. 395, 702-782-2138. Open for lunch and dinner· closed Monday. Lunch $3.50 to $11, dinner $14. MC, Visa.

Carson Valley Country Club, 1029 Riverview Drive, 702-265-3715. Open for lunch (except Sunday) and dinner· closed Tuesday. Lunch $4 to $11, dinner $15. Credit cards are not accepted, but there is an automatic-teller machine.

Basque Eateries

There are clusters of other Basque restaurants in Nevada besides the trio in Gardnerville. All are known for vast quantities of food and the potent Basque-American beverage, the picon punch.

Reno has Louis' Basque Corner and the Santa Fe Hotel, both near the downtown casinos.

Winnemucca has four Basque restaurants: the Martin Hotel, Ormachea's Dinner House, the Winnemucca Hotel, and the San Fermin.

Elko also has four: Biltoki ("the gathering place" in Basque), the Nevada Dinner House, the Star Hotel, and Toki Oni ("the good place").

Heidi Hart of Carson City is a staff writer for the Reno News and Review *Jay Aldrich is a Minden photographer who often feasts at the three Basque eateries.*

Nevada Sojourns

Our magazine assignments were family affairs.

By Gene Segerblom

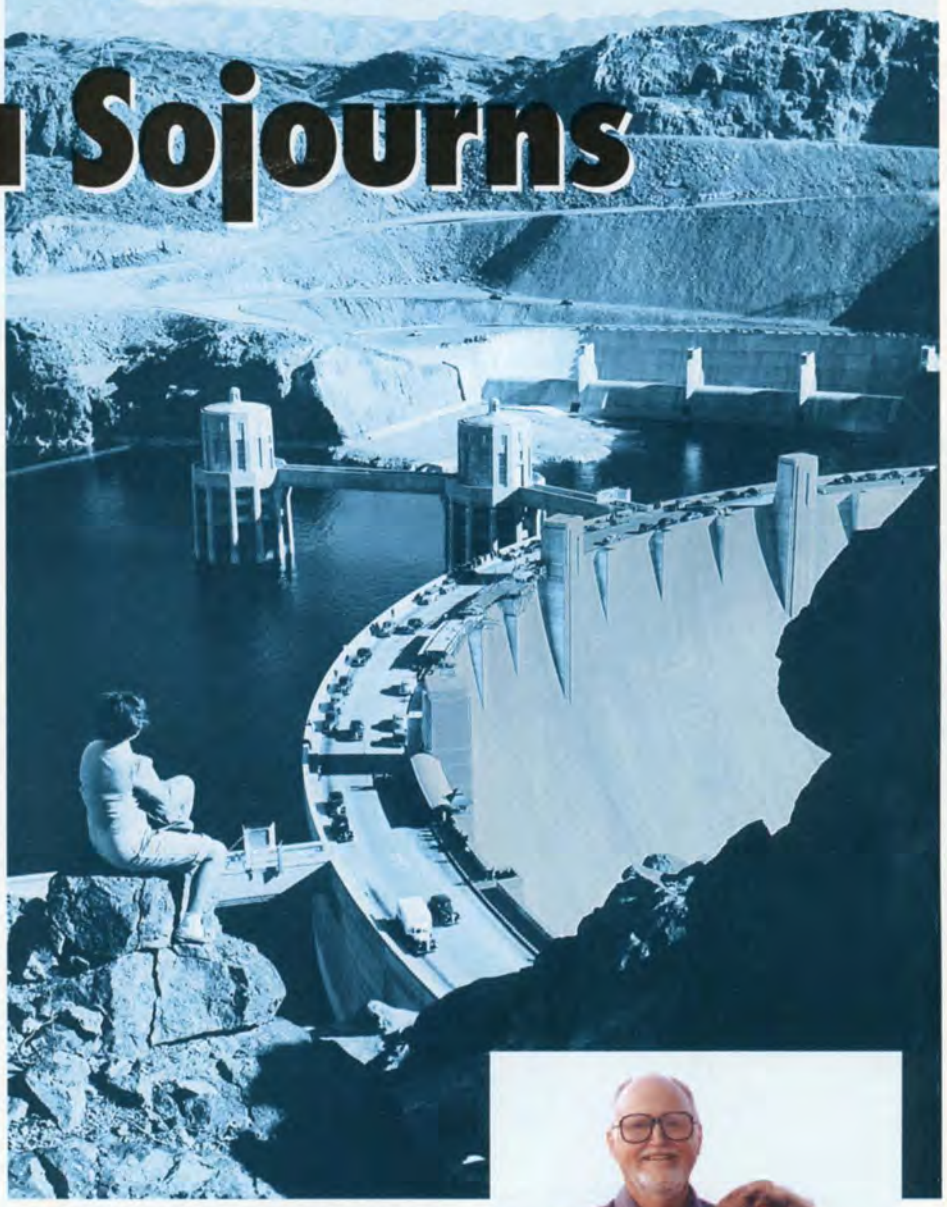
Over the years my husband Cliff and I collaborated on more than 200 articles and photo features, many of them for *Nevada Magazine*. Cliff was the photographer of our team, and I the writer. From our home base in Boulder City, we loved to travel the state with our daughter Robin and son Tick in search of stories.

We always looked forward to *Nevada Magazine* assignments. One of our first was "Boulder City Comes of Age," a feature about our hometown in 1960. That was the year Boulder City, which had been built in the 1930s to house Hoover Dam workers, shed its federal cloak and became an independent community I wrote at the time, "Boulder City is not a dull place to live.... It is an unhurried, peaceful town known throughout southern Nevada as a wonderful place to raise the children." You could say that about Boulder City today.

Of course, residents in those days were spoiled by the federal government. One expected to have the trees in the park watered, the alleys sprayed for bugs, and rangers patrolling the streets. Citizens could own homes but not the land, which was rented from the government. The rental fee, however, was even lower than taxes would have been.



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



Gene Segerblom posed high above Hoover Dam for her husband Cliff in 1940. The photo was used in a Kodak ad and proved to be one of his most widely published photos. At right, the Segerbloms.



Cliff's cover photo for the 1960 issue showed Robin sitting on our boat's deck and Tick floating on an air mattress. I'm over on the right—trying to look calm while I hold the boat off the rocks.

Those early assignments came from Don Bowers, editor of the magazine in the 1960s and early '70s. Don spent many evenings with us on Lake Mead.

Later, when C.J. Hadley was editor, she often asked Cliff to help judge the magazine's Great Nevada Picture Hunt. (Since he had served as justice of the peace and municipal court judge in Boulder City, it was an appropriate assignment.) In 1983 she accompanied us on one of Cliff's UNLV painting-class trips, visiting historical areas in rural Nevada. C.J.'s watercolors of Jarbidge were excellent, and we thought she might give up photography and writing

Photos: Cliff Segerblom (top), Lee Bernhard (bottom)

for painting—but she hasn't, as I see from her *Range Magazine*.

Cliff and I planned our annual Nevada vacations around potential stories. He served on the State Parks Commission, so we made a habit of exploring all the state parks and the backcountry where most tourists feared to tread. If we saw a dirt road, we took it.

When we were on the road, Robin and Tick would lie in the back of the station wagon to read. One day I looked back and noticed they both had their fingers crossed. I asked them why. "We hope Dad doesn't take another photo," Robin explained. Tick piped up, "It takes too long." Still, the kids continued to serve as photographer's models. In fact, both admitted it was fun to see their photos in print.



The 1960 cover photo showed Tick, Robin, and the author (right) on a Lake Mead outing.

One of our trips resulted in perhaps my favorite *Nevada* feature, "Return to Buckskin." Buckskin was a gold and silver mine north of Winnemucca owned by my grandfather, W.J. "Johnny" Bell, a state senator from Humboldt County The story allowed me to reminisce about the summers my sisters and brother and I spent at the old mining camp. On horseback we would ride to the top of Buckskin Mountain to watch the sun set on the mountains of four different states—Nevada, Idaho, Oregon, and California.

Grandpa's Model T Ford still stood on the hilltop. We kids used to fight over who was going to ride with Grandpa in the Model T, which traveled well in that rugged country (Newer cars had low oil pans and often hit the high center of dirt roads, leaving the passengers stranded.) When Grandpa and the Model T both got too old to drive, he left it on the hilltop. During our visit Cliff painted a watercolor of the old car, and it became one of his best known paintings. Later he gave the painting to Robin.

Cliff and I produced several features on Boulder City and Lake Mead for the magazine, including "Purest Town by a Dam Site," a story of rafting "Down the Colorado to Lake Mead," and "Sails Over Lake Mead." Our last *Nevada* story before Cliff's death in 1990 was "The Ghosts of Nob Hill," about an unspoiled place in the Eldorado Mountains where we liked to go camping.

Some of our best adventures came while doing Lake Mead stories. We spent many nights stranded in coves, due to high winds.

Then there was the time I almost rammed the *Bluebird*, a big racing boat that was attempting to set a speed record. We were out in our 15-foot outboard and arrived at the dock just as the *Bluebird* tied up.

Ready to take photos, Cliff jumped out—but he dropped the bow line. Soon the boat and I began drifting toward the *Bluebird*.

"Start the motor!" Cliff yelled. Well, I had never done that. "Pull the starter cord!" he roared. I tried, it worked, and I missed the million-dollar *Bluebird* by a few inches. Later we laughed about our teamwork. With a twinkle in his eye Cliff told me, "I'm sure glad you learned how to start the boat so quickly."

Gene Segerblom is a Boulder City writer and State Assemblywoman. She has written for Arizona Highways, Sunset, Popular Mechanics, *and* Family Circle *as well as* Nevada Magazine.

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Photo: Cliff Segerblom

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PEOPLE PAGE

Hunks, a Monk, and a fan with spunk.



The Monks were the self-proclaimed anti-Beatles. At left: Shaw and his wife Anita Klemke.

Monk Time

Carson City resident **Thomas Edward Shaw** was a Monk—but not the sandal-wearing type. During the 1960s Shaw was a member of the Monks, a rock band—formed by ex-GIs who had been stationed in Germany—that is credited by music historians with spawning punk rock.

Shaw and his wife **Anita Klemke**, whom Shaw met in Germany, tell all in their new book *Monk Time*. In August the group's only album, also called *Monk Time*, will be released for the first time in the United States (rare originals sell for up to $800).

Shaw, a soft-spoken writer and publisher who played bass guitar in the group, credits his Carson High School music teacher, Al Saliman, for giving him the confidence to become a musician. "He told us that you can go anywhere in the world and make it as a musician," Shaw says of Saliman. "I was his pride and joy Little did he know that I would become a punk musician."—*Carolyn Graham*

Repeat Performance

Lily White of Las Vegas has set a showroom endurance record that may never be matched. She has seen "An Evening at La Cage" at the Riviera more than 300 times. "'La Cage' is my Number One. Vegas is a town where you can do things 24 hours a day—it keeps you young," says the 70-year-old fan, who often sees the show two or three times a week.

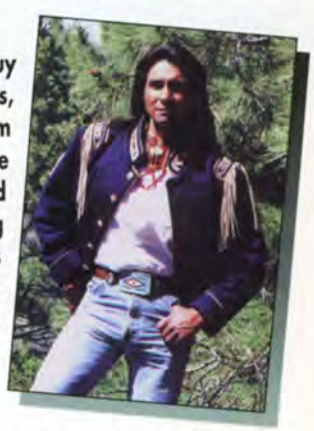


"La Cage" star Frank Marino (left) says of Lily (right): "Anyone who holds the world record for seeing 'La Cage' gets a lot of respect from me."

Lily and her husband Ron moved to Las Vegas from Balboa, California, 11 years ago, just before "La Cage" opened. "We, I mean, they, just celebrated the 10th anniversary of the show," Lily says. "I'm a people-watcher, and I love to watch the audience reaction to the acts."—*Chaz Kasper*

Calendar Guys

Mike Williams of Fallon is one of seven hunky guys featured in the 1996 Native American Men wall calendar. "I've gotten compliments from a lot of people," Williams says. "Being on the calendar is a great feeling. It brings me back to my heritage."



Calendar guy Mike Williams, a Paiute from Fallon, made the jewelry and chose clothing that reflects his Native American heritage.

Other calendar hunks include Anthony Kintz of Hawthorne, Richard Russell of Reno, Dewey Willie of Wadsworth, Roger Cunha of Schurz, Travis Bill of Sacramento, and Howard Wahnetah of Carson City.

"The calendar is done in good taste," says **Calvin Birchum**, photographer and president of Eagle Earth Enterprises of Reno. "These guys are good role models—it just so happens they look good."

Birchum is working on the 1997 Native American Men calendar, which is to be released this summer. Calendars are available at the Stewart Indian Cultural Center in Carson City, the Washoe Trading Post in Washoe City, and smoke shops throughout the state.—*Katherine McDonnell*

Photo: Gary Elam (top left)

Good to the Fast Drop

Hair-raising thrill rides are at an all-time high in Las Vegas.

By Deke Castleman

Roller coaster fans are riding high on big thrills like Desperado (above) at Buffalo Bill's at State Line.

Ever since Sir Isaac Newton developed the law of universal gravitation in the 17th century, people have been trying to break it. From ski lifts to space shuttles, from pole vaulting to Wonder Bras, the tendency of technology is to exalt, countering gravity's tendency to weigh down.

These days, gravity-defying (and -employing) mechanisms occupy a significant niche in Nevada's entertainment world, especially in Las Vegas. For 50 years, Las Vegas was content to entertain its patrons on a metaphoric roller coaster—the crests and troughs of the gambling experience. But with casinos proliferating around the country, the growth of family travel, and the popularity of amusement parks, the Entertainment Capital has been quick to supply new thrills and chills. And now that the Stratosphere Tower is open with two rides at the top (see sidebar), the city's hair-raising opportunities are at an all-time high.

With the popularity of amusement parks, Las Vegas has been quick to supply new thrills and chills.

Las Vegas' thrill rides fall into three categories: dry, wet, and virtual. The "dry" rides include the roller coasters





Grand Slam Canyon has twice the twists. MGM has a splashy ride.

Photos: Gabriela Vangstad (top), Chris Leedham (bottom left and right)

and sky launches. The "wet" rides are the water-park slides, amusement-park flumes, and even bungee jumps. The "virtual" rides combine hydraulics with computer and video effects to simulate thrill rides.

Roller coasters, anyone? Desperado at Buffalo Bill's, 43 miles southwest of the city at State Line, is the tallest and fastest roller coaster in the country, hurtling passengers down a 225-foot drop on a 60-degree grade at speeds approaching 85 mph. The terror is over in a few seconds; your stomach catches up later in the day.

The wet rides are no less thrilling than the dry, and, as an added bonus during the scorching Southern Nevada summers, you can do some of them with very few clothes on. Shirts and

The wet rides are no less thrilling than the dry, and you can do some with very few clothes on.

shoes are required on the Over the Edge flume ride at MGM Grand Adventures and the Rim Runner flume ride at Circus Circus' Grand Slam Canyon; both feature steep drops into big puddles with ensuing splashes. But only bathing suits are required for the slides and tubes and waves and flumes of Wet 'n Wild, Las Vegas' original theme park, which opened on the Strip in 1985. The top two thrills there are Blue Niagara, a six-story-high water slide, and Der Stuka, whose 76-foot drop is so steep that it imparts a few moments of free fall.

The greatest wet thrill of all, though, is found at A.J. Hackett Bungy, where true daredevils tie themselves to a super-duper rubber band and swan-dive off a 200-foot tower into a swimming pool. The bungee cord cuts just enough slack to dip the jumper gently into the pool. Plop!

In 1990 at the Excalibur, visitors to Las Vegas were introduced to virtual thrill rides by Merlin's Magic Motion Machine. Hydraulically controlled seats move with the action (roller coaster, runaway train, toboggan ride) presented on a large screen. Since then, motion-simulation science has improved enormously. The Deep Earth Exploration ride at MGM Grand Adventures

TOWER OF POWER

By Deke Castleman



Big Shot riders get a lift out of the G-forces.

Check your fear at the elevator: The Big Shot is here.

I've been looking forward to the opening of the Stratosphere Tower since 1990, when I saw an artist's rendering of it at the old Vegas World. Finally, at the resort's recent grand opening, I find myself on a high-speed elevator, ready to keep my date with the two hair-raising, high-wire amusements at the top.

The elevator lifts us 900 feet above the Strip, and we join the line to board the High Roller roller coaster, which is bolted to the side of the pod. The view as expected, is phenomenal: a life-size relief map of Las Vegas Valley and the mountains surrounding it.

My fellow thrill seekers are animated, exuberant. When it's my turn, I clamor into a car. The attendants lock down the restraints, wedging my head between two hard-rubber fists. When the coaster starts to roll, I feel like a punching bag. I poke my head out of the rubber vise, but just then the ride ends. The attendants yell, "Exit right! Exit right!" to make sure we don't step to the left and drop off the building. Walking away, people are subdued, defused, and—I hate to admit it—disappointed. The ride seems too fleeting, too tame.



Daring Deke is a fearless fan of zero gravity.

Next, I find the line to board the Big Shot, the "skythruster" attached to the tower's needle. By contrast, the people waiting there are restrained, excitement held in check by utter suspense. This is possibly the least impatient line I've ever stood in, as if people aren't sure they want to get to the front. As we stand there, the Big Shot is launched. We look up at 16 pairs of feet flailing in the air.

"Whoa!" someone notices. "No shoes!"

"Oh, my God!" someone else says, trembling. "It shot the shoes right off their feet!"

And then everyone is in even less of a hurry.

Ultimately it's my turn. Along with 15 other sad sacks, I'm led to my seat, a flimsy affair at that. Attendants instruct riders with loose-fitting shoes to remove them before cinching down the rubber restraints tightly over torsos. Our heads stick out like the heads of so many terrified turtles.

Then we wait, sitting quietly while the ride is readied. Anticipation building, adrenaline pumping, trepidation flowing

WHOOSH! We're launched 160 feet up the needle, squeezed by gravitational forces equal to four times our weight—heads flattened, spines compressed, butts squashed—until we reach the apex of the ascent, where all is calm, all is bright. Hey great view! Look at the

OOOPH! All of a sudden we drop like a rock, but I don't weigh a thing. It's the zero-gravity segment of the show, and for a harrowing split second it's as if the ride has plummeted but I'm still at the apex, floating with the angels. Then.

UNH! We're bounced back up, but this time the G's are only about twice our weight, and we're dropped back down, like half a rock. Finally, the ride quivers to a halt. Knees knocking, we slip from our seats, retrieve our shoes, and check to see that all body parts are in place. We chatter incessantly to no one in particular about thrust and free fall and angels.

The feeling stays with me for hours.

Photos: David B. Parker/*Reno Gazette-Journal* (top), Dennis R. Gershick (bottom)





Desperado reaches a heart-stopping 85 mph. Swimsuiters can get loopy on Wet 'n Wild's waterfalls.

surrounds you with video simulation, and the Cinema Ride at the Forum Shops at Caesars has 3-D computer-animated graphics.

The best simulated thrill-ride experience is found at Luxor, in Part I of a trio of high-tech episodes. Part I consists of two high-impact motion simulators: A sabotaged "freight elevator" that gives you the sensation of dropping like, well, a runaway freight elevator, and a high-speed chase through a subterranean temple. It's all fluid dynamics and special effects, but it's as close to the real thing as sitting in a chair and watching a movie can ever hope to be.

There's nothing virtual about the SkyScreamer, the new ride at MGM Grand Adventures, which was in need of a real thriller since it opened in 1993. Riders are strapped into harnesses and hauled to the top of a 250-foot launch tower.

The best simulated thrill-ride experience is found at Luxor, Part I of a trio of high-tech episodes.

After the rip cord is pulled, the riders plummet 100 feet in free fall, then swing out like a pendulum at 70 mph. Picture a playground swing—amplified by supersonic proportions—and yet another way to defy gravity.

Deke Castleman, managing editor of the Las Vegas Advisor *and author of the* Nevada Handbook, *believes the laws of gravity were meant to be broken.*

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Photos: Gail Bandini

RIDE GUIDE You can get dropped, splashed, and bounced at theme parks in Nevada. Following is a statewide bill of thrills.

Las Vegas Area

A.J. Hacket Bungy offers a 170-foot bungee drop into or over a swimming pool for $79 ($59 for students) for the first jump. The price includes a videotape of your fall, a T-shirt, certificate, and membership in the survivor's club, which entitles you to a future jump rate of $29. Phone 702-385-4321.

Roller coaster fans will find huge dips and high speeds aboard Desperado, the world's tallest roller coaster at **Buffalo Bill's**, 43 miles southwest of Las Vegas at State Line. A shooting gallery is being added (tentatively ready August 1) to the log flume ride. Buffalo Bill's also has two motion-simulator rides. The Desperado is $4 per ride, the log flume is $3 ($4 after the shooting-gallery has opened), and the motion-simulators are $3. Call 702-679-RIDE.

The **Cinema Ride** inside the Forum Shops at Caesars allows riders to wear 3-D glasses during a submarine race, a haunted-graveyard adventure, and an interstellar flight. Tickets are $6 to $12. Call 702-369-4008.

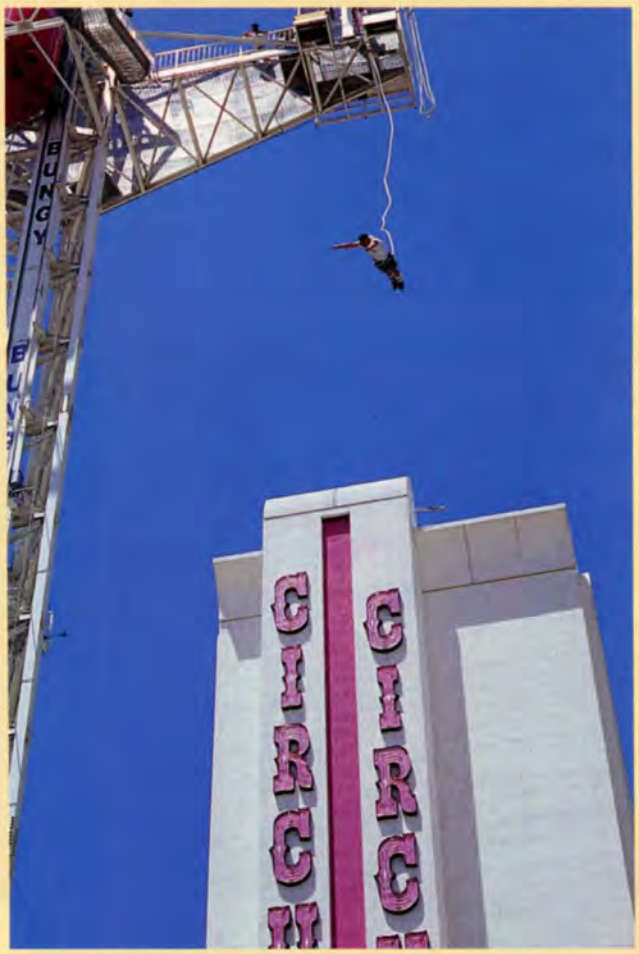
The **Excalibur** offers motion-simulator rides aboard Merlin's Magic Motion Machines. Rides are $3. Call 702-597-7777

The pink-domed **Grand Slam Canyon** next to Circus Circus has a wide range of rides. The Canyon Blaster is a double-loop, double-corkscrew roller coaster, while the Rim Runner follows a flume over a 60-foot waterfall. There is no charge to enter the park. Rides cost $2 to $4 each; an unlimited-ride pass is $13.95 ($9.95 if your height is less than 48 inches). Call 702-794-3939.

Luxor has a motion-simulated deep-Earth exploration called "In Search of the Obelisk," which is Part I of a trilogy and definitely the biggest thrill. The ride costs $5. Luxor is revamping its amusements and closing the Nile River Tour boat ride. Call 702-262-4000.

MGM Grand Adventures Theme Park's new 25-story-high Skycoaster, known as the SkyScreamer, offers a 100-foot free fall followed by a 70-mph pendulum swing. Other rides include the Lightning Bolt roller coaster and Over the Edge log-flume ride. Admission to the park is $17 for 13 years and older; $12 for 42 inches tall up to 12 years; and $10 for military and seniors. The SkyScreamer will have a separate price. Call 702-891-7979 or 800-891-1111.

Stratosphere Tower has two rides, the Big Shot, a slingshot-type ride to the tower's needle, and the High Roller, a roller coaster that circles the observation pod. Each cost $5. The high-speed elevator ride to the top costs $7 ($5 for kids). Call 702-380-7700 or 800-99-TOWER.



Jumpers can take a flying leap toward a pool at A.J. Hacket Bungy.

Virtual World offers high-tech thrills for intergalactic pilots during two 10-minute missions. Virtual World is located near the Sheraton Desert Inn on the Strip. Prices are $7 to $8 per tour of duty on weekdays and $9 on weekends. Call 702-369-3583.

Wet 'n Wild makes a splash on the Strip with water rides such as Bomb Bay, where riders drop like a bomb into a pool, and Der Stuka, a free fall down a 76-foot-long water chute. Admission is $21.95 for ages 10 and up, $15.95 for ages three to nine, and free for kids under three. Call 702-737-SURF.

Thrills to come: **New York-New York** is scheduled to open late this year with a Coney Island-style roller coaster.

Reno-Sparks

Wilbur D. May Great Basin Adventure at Rancho San Rafael Park in Reno has a quick but decent log-flume ride that young children enjoy At $1 per ride, it's also a cheap thrill that ends in a refreshing splash. Great Basin Adventure is part of the Wilbur D. May Museum and Arboretum and Botanical Garden. Admission to the three attractions is $3 for adults, $1.50 for kids ages three to 12. Rancho San Rafael Park is located at 1502 Washington Street off North McCarran. Call 702-785-4064.

Boomtown in Verdi, 10 miles west of Reno, has a motion-simulator theater that shows four or five different movies throughout the day, including "Dracula's Haunted Castle" and a bumpy desert dune buggy race. Motion rides cost $3.50 each. Call Boomtown's Fun Center Hot Line, 702-345-8668.

Wild Island in Sparks has several slides, rivers, and lagoons. The most popular are the Black Widow and the Red Viper, both high-speed slides. Admission is $15.95 if you're four feet tall or more, and $10.95 if you're less. Kids ages three and under are free. Call 702-359-2927.—*Carolyn Graham*

Photo: Gail Bandini

The Extreme Scene

(Continued from page 18)

clearly remembers standing on Aconcagua's summit. She and the other members of Expedition Inspiration snapped hundreds of photos. The images were of smiling faces, of pure, unadulterated glee.

The way Brian Schow sees it, there is not that much difference between himself and, say, world-champion mountain biker Ned Overend. True, there may be a difference in experience. At 27, Schow has been riding competitively for only three years and year-round for only the last year. And the Henderson resident has, in his own words, "gotten strict on nutrition" just in the last few months.

His dedication has helped Schow become the Las Vegas area's dominant mountain-bike rider, according to observers. Last season Schow had top-50 finishes at Mammoth Lakes and at the U.S. nationals in Spokane. Now he hopes to make a bigger splash on the national scene.

"I'm trying to land the big fish," says Schow, who works full-time as an electrician. "To get a big ride from a major sponsor, you have to ride well at nationals."

Schow, whose wife Tami is an escrow administrator, usually begins his electrician's job at 6 a.m. and works till 3 p.m. Then he rides his bike for two or three hours. He often takes his sleek Ellsworth Handcrafted bike, provided by his sponsor, Team Ellsworth of San Diego, for punishing repeats up Henderson's Black Mountain. The half-mile climb is basically straight up.

"It's granny gear all the way," Schow says. "You're standing up, over the handlebars, just a lung-popping climb."

Schow grew up riding BMX bikes in Henderson, but he never raced. "I was shy, scared basically," he says. "I was no daredevil. When I was a kid I was afraid to test my limits. As I've gotten older, I've learned my limits keep expanding. I'm not as afraid to try different things, to really go for it, now—which seems kind of strange. You're supposed to grow more cautious as you grow older, aren't you?"

At Basic High School, Schow showed great potential as a cross-country runner. However, he says, "Once I discovered girls, it wasn't nearly as much fun to run anymore."

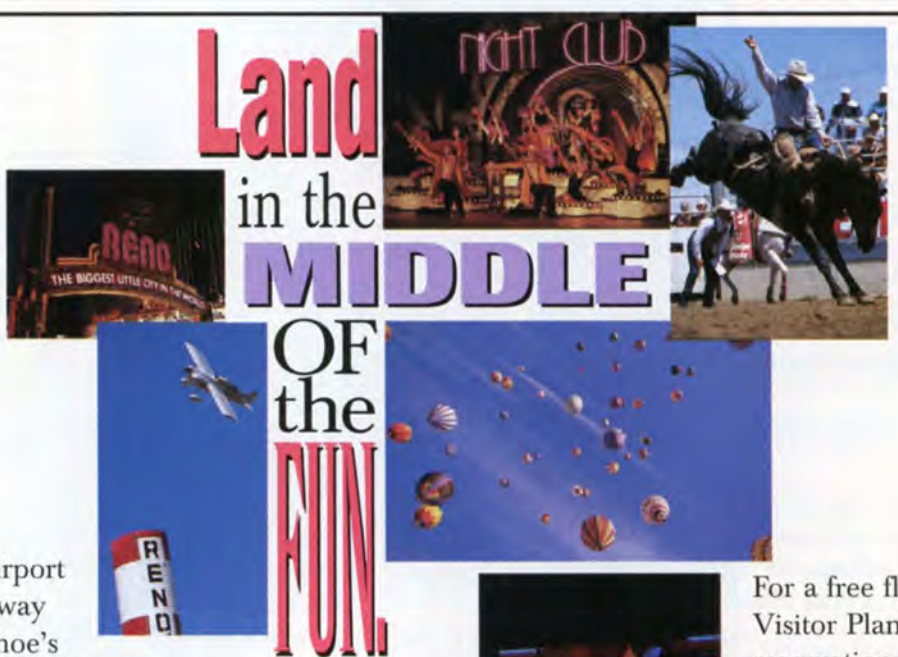
Still, the question of "what if?" haunted Schow. He was satisfied to become an electrician, to make a good living, to find a good wife. But he often wondered why he hadn't raced BMX, or lasted in cross-country, when he obviously had the talent for both.

So when a friend suggested that he enter a Las Vegas mountain-bike race, Schow took a chance. He chased a group of riders up and down the foothills of Cottonwood Valley, and, to his amazement, he finished third in the beginner's category. He was hooked.

Now Schow races practically every weekend in Colorado, Utah, Arizona, and California as he pushes to become a professional rider.

"When I first started," Schow says, "a lot of people told me, 'Oh, you could never be as fast as them.' And I think, 'Why not?' At one time, the pros were in the same place I was."

John Trent is an outdoor-recreation and features writer for the Reno Gazette-Journal. *Inspired by Claudia Berryman-Shafer, he recently completed his first ultramarathon.*



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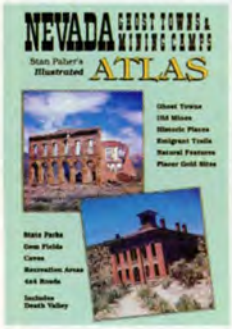
NEVADA BOOKSHELF

Summer reading of Nevada interest.

Nevada Handbook, Fourth Edition *by Deke Castleman, Moon Publications, Box 3040, Chico, CA 95927 473 pages, 40 maps, $16.95.* One of the best guidebooks on Nevada, it's jam-packed with hard information, yet very readable on topics ranging from casino characters to Diana's Punchbowl.

•

Nevada Ghost Towns and Mining Camps: An Illustrated Atlas *by Stanley W. Paher photographs by Nell Murbarger Nevada Publications, 4135 Badger Circle, Reno, NV 89509.* Separate Northern and Southern Nevada volumes ($14.95) are available. Combined edition 208 pages, 590 photos, 54 maps, $24.95. Publisher and ghost-town explorer Paher has updated his 1993 atlas with new, more detailed maps. Most photos were taken in 1940s and '50s by Murbarger, the late ghost-towner, and her images lend a pleasant nostalgia.



•

Last Buckaroo *by Mackey Hedges, Gibbs Smith, Publisher Box 667 Layton, UT 84041, 338 pages, $22.95, hardcover* In this novel, old-timer Tap McCoy and tenderfoot Dean McCuen team up to work on ranches near Gerlach, Elko, and Bishop. Episodes are taken from the life of Hedges, now a Utah resident, who spent 30 years cowboying in Nevada. Hedges weaves a good tale with attention to cowboys' spending habits, horses, and romance.

•

But You Can't Leave, Shirley *by Shirley A. Porter Western Book/Journal Press, San Mateo, CA (Shirden Books, Box 50251, Reno, NV 89513), 163 pages, $9.95 paperback.* First published in 1992, this is the story of one woman's encounters with ghosts and business reversals while living in the Goldfield Hotel in the late 1970s. The author, who lives in Reno, also recounts the mystery of Room 109. —*David Moore*



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Bruno and Friends "These are people I've known in Gerlach. From left to right are Clyde Fisk, a dairyman in the 1930s and '40s; Helen Thrasher, the postmistress and owner of the power plant; Bruno, the most prominent businessman in Gerlach; Frances Selmi, wife and partner of Bruno; John Welch, a true cowboy who was always polite; Dewayne Williams, the guru of Gerlach, who built Dooby (his nickname) Avenue, where he inscribed rocks in tribute to the people he loved."

Mary Chadwell

Nevada images in miniature.



Mary Chadwell prefers a small view of a big state. The Reno artist, who paints on canvases the size of a palm print, says her miniatures are the ideal medium to exhibit Nevada's vast landscape and the people in it. "I enjoy the detail," she says. "I'm drawn to miniature painting because it's challenging to fit so much in a little space, yet depict a feeling for the larger scene. It's a unique view—never beyond four by five inches."

The artist and her husband Chad often tour the state. "I like to travel to such places as Pyramid Lake and Austin to get material—and to become inspired." She usually paints from snapshots, working in watercolors and oils.

Chadwell has lived in Nevada since 1933, when her father, a railroader, moved the family to Gerlach after she graduated from high school in Salt Lake City. "He wanted an area where it was better for the family to be together, not seeing him for a month or two at a time," she says. "We lived in Gerlach until the outbreak of the war, when we moved to Reno."

She began painting seriously in 1963 after taking summer classes in Reno from Stanford University art professor Raymond Brose. "I was ready to quit after the first week, but he told me to stay with it," she says. Chadwell began miniature painting in 1973 and in 1985 was one of 10 founding members of the Miniature Artists of America. She has earned more than 300 awards, including 30 best of shows and more than 75 national awards.



Great Stone Mother "Legend speaks of an Indian mother who grieved so much for the quarreling children she sent away that her tears formed Pyramid Lake. The scene is on the lake's east shore."

Her work is displayed in the permanent collections of the Nevada Legislature in Carson City and the Nevada Museum of Art in Reno, with continuing displays at both the Artists Co-Op on Mill Street and Frame-Up in the Southwest Pavilion on South Virginia in Reno.—*Chaz Kasper*

The Road 'Out There'

Visitors keep their eyes on the skies while traveling the ET Highway.

By Carolyn Graham

At first glance, one wonders why even aliens would land in Rachel. The tiny town is situated on State Route 375, a 98-mile ribbon of asphalt flanked by volcanic hills and sparse vegetation. It is a route without theme parks, casinos, or palm trees. So why travel this road to nowhere?

In a word, UFOs. The hope of a close encounter lures people from around the world to Rachel, 150 miles north of Las Vegas. UFO watchers claim that nearby Area 51 at Groom Lake, a super-secret Air Force testing facility, is where alien spacecraft and their pilots are studied and stored. (Visitors beware: The military is darned strict about keeping binocular-toting tourists from peeking into Area 51's hangars and runways. Trespassing is not an option.)

State Route 375 was dedicated this spring as the Extraterrestrial Highway in honor of its unique reputation. But travelers will find an ET Highway trip worthwhile even if ET is not to be found.



Travelers will see signs of flying saucers along Rachel's Extraterrestrial Highway east of Tonopah.

"There's a little bit more to the community of Rachel than people think," says Burnadine Day, owner of the Quik-Pik, a convenience store packed with traveler's necessities such as ice, soda pop, and glow-in-the-dark alien key chains.

After rattling off a list of service clubs and nearby attractions, Day points out that eight miles east you'll find the old mining camp of Tempiute. Also, the Lunar Crater Volcanic Field is 96 miles north of Rachel. Surprisingly, the Timpahute Range offers pine forests and pleasant day hikes. In fact, Day says that aliens are only half the lure of the area. "People can go out all day," she says, "and then at night sit and watch the UFOs."

Rachel, a community of 105 residents, has a few new businesses in the works. Day says her brother-in-law is starting a business this summer called Close Encounters, where he will sell Area 51 memorabilia and memberships in the Groom Lake Yacht Club. The Little A 'Le' Inn, a popular UFO-watchers' hideout, has an RV park, motel, restaurant, UFO library, and a shop with alien-themed T-shirts and mugs.

The hope of a close encounter lures people from around the world to Rachel.

The town really hit the big time last April when the ET Highway was officially dedicated. The 4-H club sold hot dogs to the bizarre gathering of celebrities, state officials, Elvis impersonators, and curiosity seekers. Actors Jeff Goldblum, Bill Pullman, and Brent Spiner (who plays Data on *Star Trek: The Next Generation*) and news crews occupied the town for one wind-blown afternoon.

The Hollywood stars dedicated a time capsule and a concrete obelisk to serve as a "beacon for visitors from distant stars." The event helped promote 20th Century Fox's new sci-fi flick, *Independence Day 4*, or *ID-4*, and put Rachel on *Inside Edition* and in *Newsweek*.

Subsequent travelers pursuing UFO sightings near Rachel will find a new support system. The ET Highway Experience, a club sponsored by the Nevada Commission on Tourism, provides maps, information, and itineraries for the journey on State Route 375 (call 800-NEVADA-8 for information). To join, you must send a receipt from two businesses at opposite ends of the loop that includes the ET Highway and U.S. Highways 6, 95, and 93.

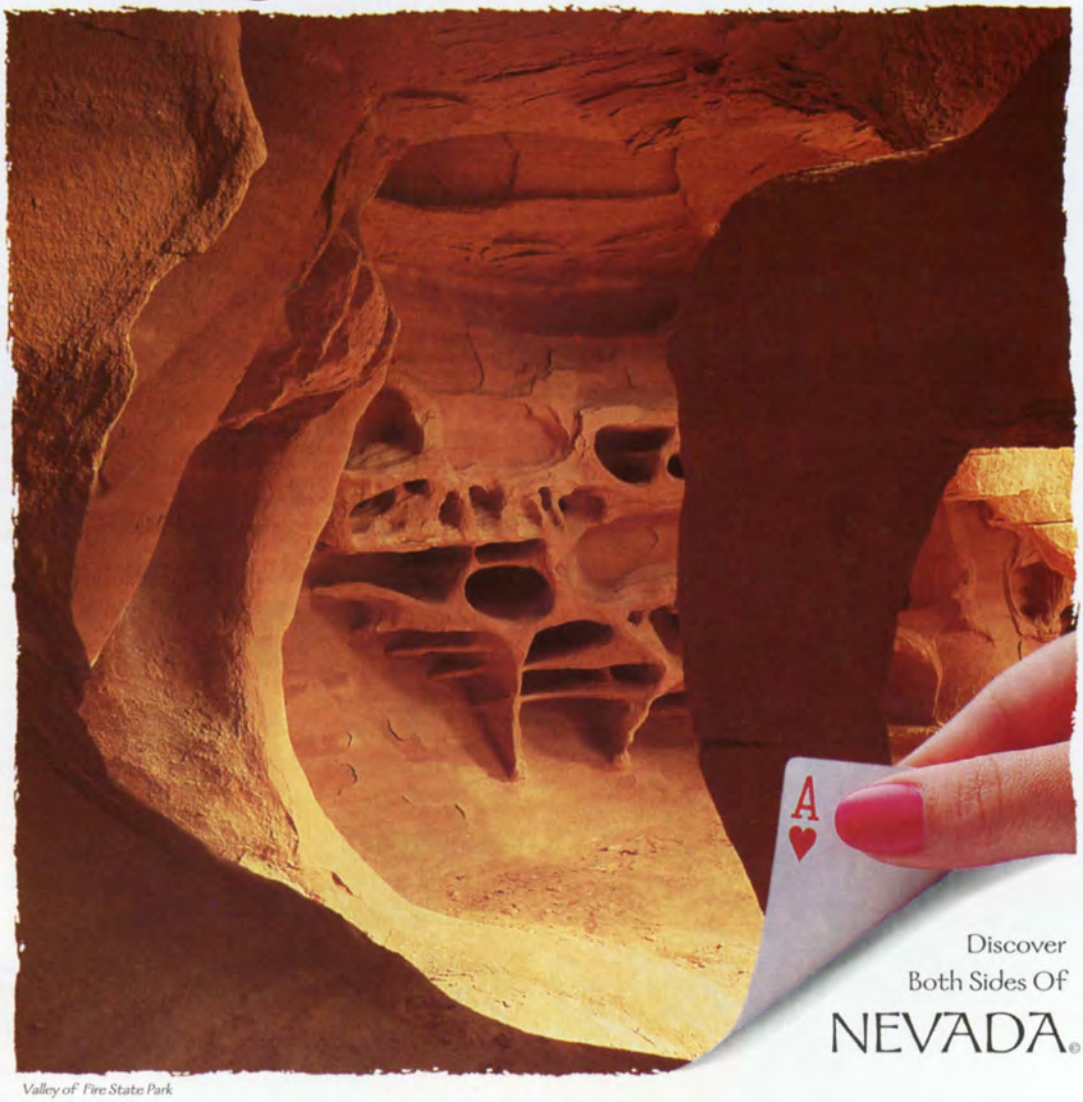
You also must submit a "truthful" tale of your travels on the ET Highway for the club newsletter, *Eyes Only*. As an official member, you'll receive a bumper sticker, map, and a glow-in-the-dark license-plate frame that sums it all up: "I was out there."



Carolyn Graham, Nevada Magazine's associate editor plans to join the Groom Lake Yacht Club this summer

Photo: Nevada Department of Transportation

Glitter gulch.



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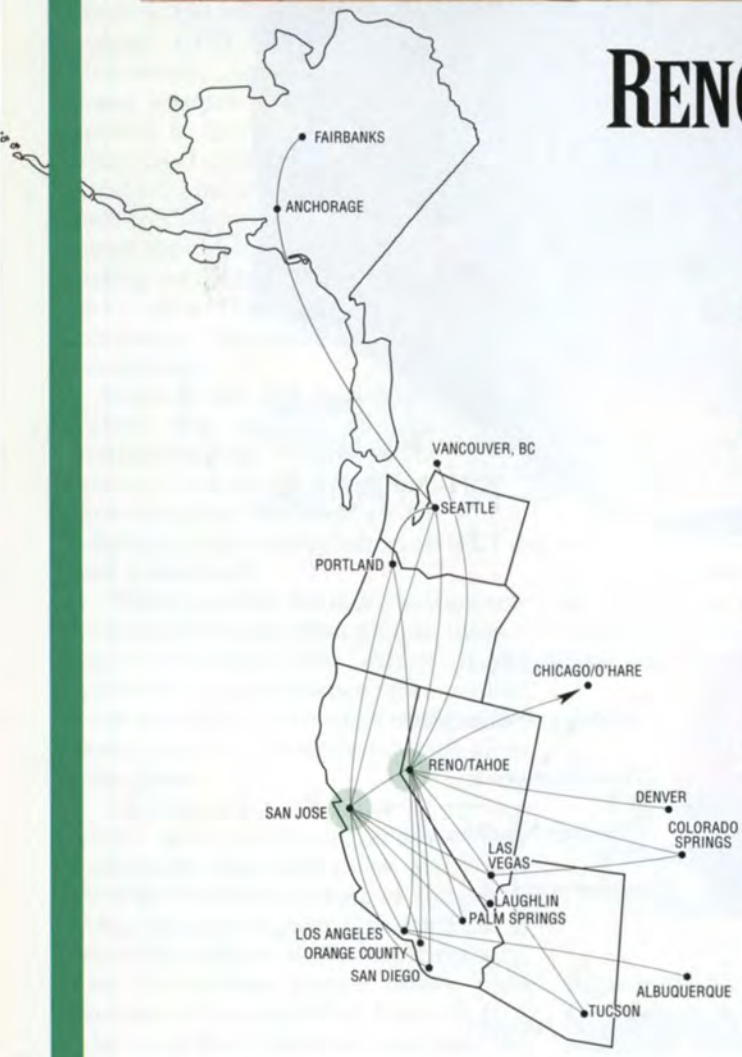
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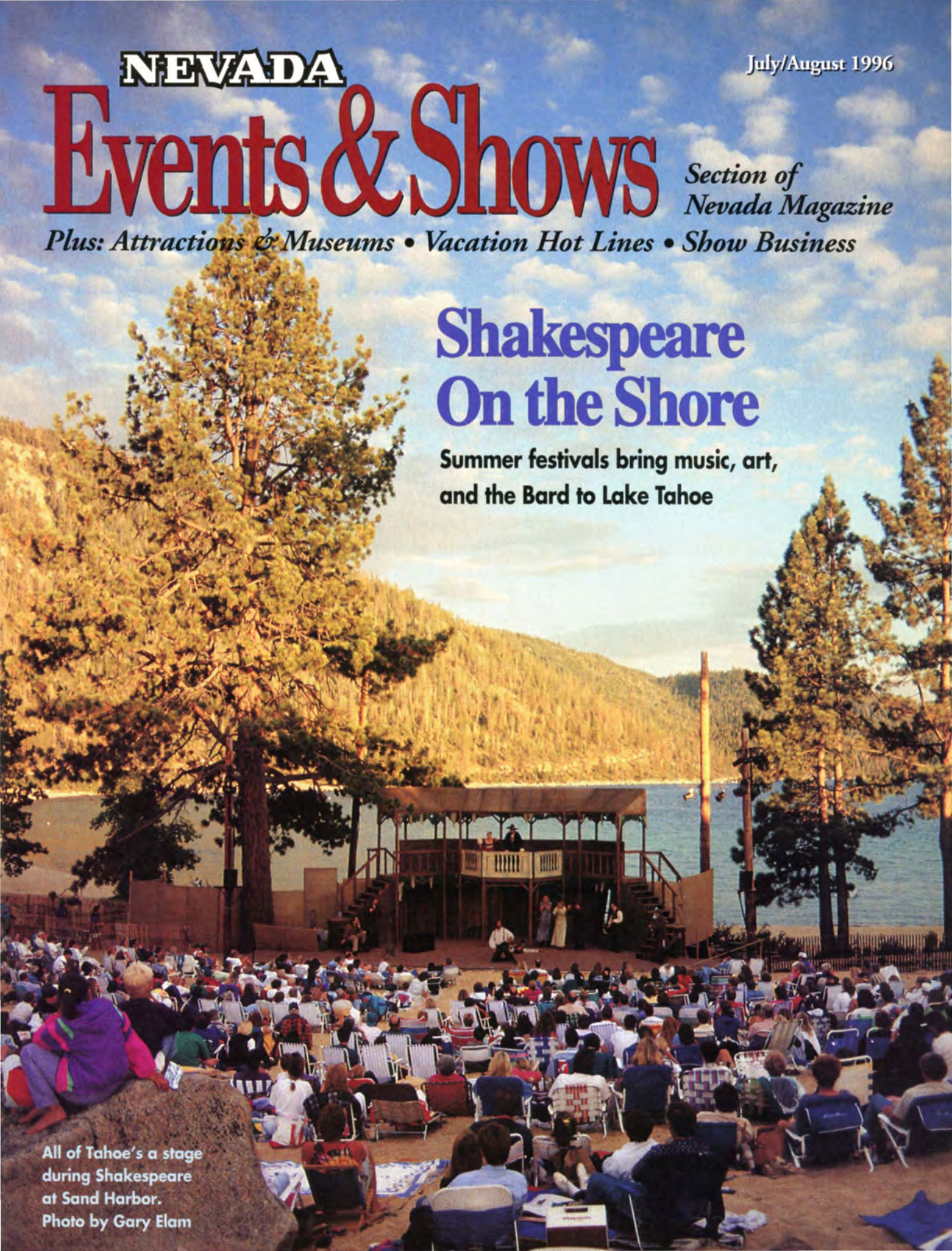
Events & Shows

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Shakespeare On the Shore

Summer festivals bring music, art, and the Bard to Lake Tahoe



All of Tahoe's a stage during Shakespeare at Sand Harbor. Photo by Gary Elam

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The Bard on the Beach

Lake Tahoe sets the stage for two Shakespearean comedies this summer.

By Kim Pryor



The San Francisco Shakespeare Festival company will perform "Comedy of Errors" and "Much Ado About Nothing" at Sand Harbor's open-air amphitheater at Lake Tahoe.

Think of Shakespeare at Sand Harbor as two shows for the price of one. Each night when the sun sinks behind the mountains, Mother Nature stars in her own play as Lake Tahoe turns into a pool of sapphire blue followed by a splash of fiery orange. Then the curtain of night drops, and the other show begins under a canopy of stars.

On 27 evenings between August 2 and September 1, Bard-loving crowds will dig their toes in the sand at the Sand Harbor amphitheater during Tahoe's 18th Shakespeare festival. This year the San Francisco Shakespeare Festival company will perform "Comedy of Errors" and "Much Ado About Nothing." Last year's shows drew more than 20,000 people.

As spectators wait in line before the show, a costumed Elizabethan troupe mingles with the crowd, playing period music. Inside the sandy bowl at Lake Tahoe Nevada State Park, audience members spread blankets and devour picnic feasts worthy of King Lear. Some festival-goers dine with fine silver and candelabras; most munch on casual dinners and sip wine. The Hyatt Regency of Incline Village also sells picnic dinners, beer, and wine at the event.

Audience members spread blankets and devour picnic feasts worthy of King Lear.

With up to 1,000 people scrunched onto the beach, a camaraderie develops among the crowd. "That's the most important aspect—the special atmosphere pervading the place," says Bob Anderson, sales and marketing manager of the Incline Village/Crystal Bay Visitors and Convention Bureau, which produces the event. "There's a friendly party atmosphere. People can take their shoes off, put their feet in the sand, and relax."

As part of this laid-back ambience, the actors beg a lively audience response. Last year the cast of "A Midsummer Night's Dream" encouraged the audience to boo or hiss at appropriate moments.

The festival producers also have organized two children's events. On Saturdays and Sundays throughout the festival the Tahoe Players Association will present afternoon performances of "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" at the Incline High School Little Theater. (The sand in the Sand Harbor bowl is too hot for afternoon shows.) The weekend plays

Photo: Jeff Ross/Incline Village/Crystal Bay Visitors and Convention Bureau



Spectators bring blankets and low-backed chairs.

will be performed at 3:30 p.m., with admission $5.

In addition, eight- to 16-year-olds can learn voice skills, improvisation, and other acting techniques from the San Francisco Shakespeare Festival company during a week-long "Mid-Summer Shakespeare Camp," August 12-16. The camp costs $185 per child. For reservations call 800-978-7529.

The San Francisco troupe performs "Comedy of Errors" August 2-3 and odd-numbered days from August 7 through 31 "Much Ado About Nothing" is scheduled on even-numbered days from August 4 through September 1 Monday nights are dark.

Early admission tickets (6 p.m. seating) are $18 midweek and $20 on weekends. General admission (6:30 p.m. seating) is $14 midweek and $16 on weekends. Senior (65 years and older) and youth (16 and under) tickets are $12 midweek. Saturday and Sunday performances can sell out, so purchase your tickets in advance by calling 800-74-SHOWS or by visiting one of the ticket outlets: the Incline Village/Crystal Bay Visitors and Convention Bureau, South Lake Tahoe's Cork and More, or the Sierra Arts Foundation in Reno.

Seating is first-come, first-served, so the earlier the better to find a good spot.

Seating is on a first-come, first-served basis, so the earlier the better to find a good spot to spread your blanket and picnic supper. Lines start forming at 4:30 p.m. for the 6 p.m. early seating.

A reminder: Only low-backed chairs are allowed on the beach. You can rent a chair for $2 at the site, with proceeds benefiting Incline Village nonprofit organizations. After the show you can avoid the inevitable traffic jam by taking time to stargaze.

Kim Pryor is a Lake Tahoe-based freelance writer who enjoys getting sand in her toes while watching Shakespeare.

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Photo: C. Steven Short



The Honeymoon Cabin at Tallac Historic Site, setting of the Valhalla Arts and Music Festival.

Lakeside Celebrations

This summer Lake Tahoe festival-goers can enjoy other events that bring the arts, music, boating, and celebrity linksters to the Sierra.

South Shore's Farmers' Market takes root every Tuesday morning from July 1 to October 31 near the American Legion Hall on U.S. 50 in South Lake Tahoe. Call the Farm Trails Growers Association, 916-622-8467

The North Lake Tahoe Symphony Association will present its **Summer Music Series** from July 5 to August 14. Most concerts are held at the Château near the Incline Village golf courses. Call 702-747-7673.

Tahoe Mountain Musicals' Fifth Summer Festival takes place July 5-August 31 at the North Tahoe Regional Park in Tahoe Vista. After a picnic on the lawn, you can enjoy "Annie Get Your Gun," "The Music Man," and pops concerts by the North Lake Tahoe Symphony at the Lakeview Amphitheatre. Call 916-583-5086 or 800-606-4-SHOW.

The **17th Annual Valhalla Arts and Music Festival,** July 6-September 4, returns for a series of concerts, plays, and art shows. Reggae Sunday on the Valhalla Lawn is August 11, and a Rhythm and Brews Festival with music and microbrews will be held at Harveys Lake Tahoe on July 21. Most events take place at Tallac Historic Site on South Shore. Call 916-541-4975.

You can listen to blues, jazz, and bluegrass during **Music at Sand Harbor** on July 12-13 (call 916-583-7625). The North Lake Tahoe Symphony performs July 20 (call 702-588-0686).

Sports and entertainment stars will tee up July 12-14 for the **Isuzu Celebrity Golf Championship** at Edgewood Tahoe in Stateline. Practice rounds are scheduled Tuesday and Wednesday. Gallery tickets can be purchased at the gate or in advance through BASS Ticket outlets. Prices are $10 Tuesday and Wednesday, and $15 Thursday through Sunday. Call the Lake Tahoe Visitors Authority, 800-AT-TAHOE.

The Tahoe Yacht Club hosts the **12th Annual Tahoe Wooden Boat Week and 24th Annual Concours d'Elegance** on August 8-15. Visitors can see wooden speedsters during Boat Week at the Sierra Boat Company in Carnelian Bay. The concours is Saturday and Sunday, and a parade at Sugar Pine Point takes place on Monday. Call 916-581-4700.

The **Great Gatsby Festival** returns August 16-18 to Tallac Historic Site. Activities include a flapper's ball, an antique-auto display, croquet, and Charleston dance contests. Call 916-541-5227.—*Katherine McDonnell*

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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.

Map: Nevada Commission on Tourism

Las Vegas Territory

EVENTS

The Las Vegas area hosts festivals, musicals, and baseball this summer. You can catch Fourth of July fireworks at Mesquite or Logandale, watch the Las Vegas Stars' boys of summer, and enjoy a Broadway play outdoors at Spring Mountain Ranch. The following listing is divided into areas of interest. Be sure to call ahead to confirm dates and times.



The flag unfurls for the Fourth of July Picnic Pops Concert at Hills Park in Summerlin.

July & August

FESTIVALS

Good Old Summertime • Aug. 3 • Street party and antique car show. Boulder City, 293-2034.

National Catfish Celebration • Aug. 3 • Noon-4pm, catfish dishes, crafts, and entertainment sponsored by the Walker African-American Museum and Research Center. Doolittle Community Center, Las Vegas, 647-2242.

FOURTH OF JULY

Boulder City Damboree • July 4 • Breakfast, parade, games, booths, band concert at Central Park, fireworks at old airport. Boulder City, 456-6695.

Las Vegas July Fourth Fireworks • July 4 • 45th annual display. Sam Boyd Stadium, 895-3900.

Laughlin July Fourth Celebration • July 4 • Barbecue at the Ramada, free concert, 9pm fireworks. 298-2214.

Moapa Valley July Fourth Celebration • July 4 • Games, water contests, watermelon bust, barbecue, fireworks. Fairgrounds, Logandale, 397-8088.

Mesquite Old Fashioned Celebration • July 4 • Community picnic, games, fireworks. Pioneer Park, 346-2902.

Picnic Pops Concert • July 4 • 8pm. Hills Park in Summerlin, Las Vegas, 792-4337.

PERFORMANCES

"Jesus Christ Superstar" • July 10-13, 17-20, and 24-27. • Community theater and picnic under the stars. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 17 miles west of Las Vegas, 594-PLAY.

Bonnie Phipps and the Elastic Band • July 11 • Winchester Center, Las Vegas, 455-8264.

Linda Severt Concert • July 25 • Winchester Center, Las Vegas, 455-8264.

Friday Knight at the Fights • Aug. 2 • Swashbucklers from the National Stage Combat Workshops and the Society of American Fight Directors cross swords. Judy Bayley Theatre, UNLV, Las Vegas, 895-3801.

"Pajama Game" • Aug. 7-10, 14-17, and 21-24. • Broadway play and picnic held outdoors. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 17 miles west of Las Vegas, 594-PLAY.

Peter Davison Concert • Aug. 8 • Winchester Center, Las Vegas, 455-8264.

Concert Fantasy '96 • Aug. 17-18 • Production show to benefit the Make-A-Wish Foundation, past performances have included excerpts from "Grease" and "Jerome Robbins' Broadway." Cashman Theater, Las Vegas, 458-7575.

"Gypsy" • Aug. 27-Sept. 8 • Broadway musical. Cashman Theater, Las Vegas, 895-3801.

EXHIBITS

Nevada Biennial Exhibit • Thru July 14 • Works chosen from statewide artists' competition. Nevada Institute of Contemporary Art, Las Vegas, 434-2666.

Ancient Memories • Thru July 14 • Artist Marion Brinker's handmade paper, Native American designs, and petroglyphs. Summerlin Library Gallery, Las Vegas, 256-5111.

Miracles of Mexican Folk Art Exhibit • Thru July 30 • Post-colonial religious paintings (1780-1910). Clark County Heritage Museum, Henderson, 455-7955.

Nevada Camera Club Slide Competition • Thru Aug. 4 • Includes Photographer of the Year. Whitney Library Gallery, Las Vegas, 454-4575.

Batik Faces • Thru Aug. 11 • Pastel portraitures of African and Afro-Caribbean faces against a backdrop of African Batik. Rainbow Library Gallery, Las Vegas, 243-7323.

60 Years of Nevada Magazine, 1936-1996 • Thru Aug. 15 • Clark County Heritage Museum, Henderson, 455-7955.

Bats • Thru Oct. 31 • Exhibit featuring species common to Las Vegas Valley and the Spring Mountains. Nevada State Museum and Historical Society, Las Vegas, 486-5205.

Beyond Gum San: The Story of the Chinese in Nevada • Thru May 18, 1997 • Exhibit honors the importance of the Chinese people in the history of Nevada. Nevada State Museum and Historical Society, Las Vegas, 486-5205.

Paintings by Chinese Peasant Women Artists • July 16-Sept. 22 • Summerlin Library Gallery, Las Vegas, 256-5111.

Mine and Mining Promotions of Southern Nevada and Death Valley • Aug. 3-Nov. 2 • Clark County Heritage Museum, Henderson, 455-7955.

FOOD & DRINK

Brewmaster's Dinner • July 31 • Quarterly feast. Holy Cow! Casino, Las Vegas, 732-2697.

SPORTS & COMPETITIONS

World Junior Frisbee Competition Regional Finals • July 11 • Baker Park Community School, Las Vegas, 733-6599.

Las Vegas Stars • Triple-A baseball, San Diego Padres farm club playing in the Pacific Coast League. July 11-14 v. Edmonton Trappers, July 15-18 v. Salt Lake Buzz, July 27-30 v. Vancouver Canadians, Aug. 1-4 v. Calgary

Nevada Events & Shows

Nevada Events & Shows is a section of **Nevada Magazine**. To list an event, contact Events Editor Ann Henderson: 702-486-2433 • fax 702-486-2789 • 555 E. Washington, Suite 5600, Las Vegas, NV 89101. Subscription rates for **Nevada Magazine** are $15.95 for one year, U.S.; $21.95 Foreign. To subscribe call toll-free, 1-800-495-3281.

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Cannons, Aug. 5-8 v. Tucson Toros, Aug. 17-20 v. Albuquerque Dukes, Aug. 22-25 v. Tacoma Rainiers. Cashman Field, Las Vegas, 386-7200.
Calling All Green Bay Packers Fans • Aug. 25 • 3pm, preseason tailgate party. Draft House Barn and Casino, Las Vegas, 645-1404.

NATURE WALKS & TOURS

Desert Dangers • July 13 • 8:30-11am, presentation on flash floods, earthquakes, and desert survival. Red Rock Visitor Center, 15 miles west of Las Vegas, 363-1921.
Rattlesnakes: Learnin' to Lov 'um • Aug. 3 • Importance of desert reptiles and their behavior. Red Rock Visitor Center, 15 miles west of Las Vegas, 363-1921.
Bugs: They're More Than Just for Squishing • Aug. 18 • 9-11am, rangers lead a lecture and easy hike. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 17 miles west of Las Vegas, 875-4141.

COMING EVENTS

Laughlin Desert Challenge • Sept. 6-8 • Off-road race, 298-2214.
Lake Mead Marathon • Sept. 7-8 • 50- and 75-mile water-ski races, 714-994-4572.
Chautauqua • Sept. 13 • Historical reenactment. Boulder City, 293-2034.
Hoover Dam Days Festival of Pride • Sept. 20-22 • Boulder City, 294-1988.
Rattlin' Rails Handcar Races • Sept. 21-22 • Boulder City, 293-2034.
Las Vegas Jaycees State Fair • Sept. 20-Oct. 8 • 457-8832.
Wurstfest • Sept. 28 • Boulder City, 293-2034.
Las Vegas Invitational Golf Tournament • Oct. 2-6 • PGA Tour players compete. 382-6616.
Octoberfest • Oct. 4-7 • Laughlin, 800-243-6846.
Art in the Park • Oct. 5-6 • Boulder City, 293-0973.
Columbus Day Parade and Block Party • Oct. 14 • Downtown Las Vegas, 736-4293.
Henderson Expo • Oct. 18-20 • 565-8951.
Laughlin RiverFlight '96 • Oct. 18-20 • Hot-air balloons, 298-2214.
Las Vegas Balloon Classic • Oct. 25-27 • Silver Bowl Park, 434-0848.
National Finals Rodeo • Dec. 6-15 • Las Vegas, 731-2115.
Lake Mead Parade of Lights • Dec. 7 • 457-2797 or 438-2485.



An exhibit honoring the Chinese people and their contributions to Nevada is on display at the Nevada State Museum and Historical Society in Las Vegas. Above is the Ah Cum Kee family of Hawthorne.

SHOWGUIDE

The Las Vegas area offers big-name entertainment and production shows at many clubs and hotels. Penn and Teller are coming to Bally's, and Freddy Fender performs at the Riverside in Laughlin. 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 music 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.); Sinbad Lounge: Entertainment nightly; Theatre for the Performing Arts: "Grease," Aug. 28-Sept. 2, Broadway production on tour.
Arizona Charlie's • 258-5100: Naughty Lady Saloon: Live music Tues.-Sun.; Palace Grand Theatre: TBA.
Bally's • 739-4567 or 800-237-SHOW: Jubilee Theater: "Jubilee!" (dark Fri.); Celebrity Room: Paul Anka, thru July 3; Barbara Mandrell, July 4-17; Steve Lawrence and Eydie Gorme, July 19-31 (dark July 25); Penn and Teller, Aug. 1-8; George Carlin, Aug. 8-21; bands play nightly in the Panda Lounge.
The Beach • 731-9298: Concerts by contemporary artists.
Boomtown • 263-7777 or 800-588-7711: Rattlesnake Ricky's Lounge: "Boomtown Belles of the West" (dark Mon.); Opera House Theatre: TBA.
Boulder Station • 432-7777 or 800-683-7777: Railhead Saloon:

Photo: Kee Family Collection



Teenage champion Michelle Kwan performs on the edge in Las Vegas July 5 during the Tour of World Figure Skating Champions.

Las Vegas on Ice

Ice skates and triple axels are unusual summertime fare in Las Vegas, but that won't stop the Tour of World Figure Skating Champions from gliding into the Thomas and Mack Center on July 5.

The skating exhibition is one of the "coolest" places to beat the desert heat and see a cast of more than 30 athletes, including such performers as Olympic champions Brian Boitano, Oksana Baiul, and Viktor Petrenko, a Las Vegas resident who spends his off-season training at the Santa Fe Ice Arena. United States ladies champion Nancy Kerrigan and 15-year-old world champion Michelle Kwan also are scheduled to skate.

The show includes singles skating, pairs, and ice dancing, with tricks like the death spiral and salchow jump. Because this is an exhibition rather than a competition, there is no judging or scoring—the athletes can challenge their creativity with gutsier, flashier routines.

A tip: You may want to bring a jacket or sweater as well as gloves to watch the performance—the arena will be cold for obvious reasons. Tickets are $20 to $45 and can be purchased at the Thomas and Mack Center ticket office, 702-895-3900, and Ticketmaster locations.—*Katherine McDonnell*

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Concert Fantasy '96 dancers kick off a showcase of Las Vegas talent August 17-18 at Cashman Theater.

Headline entertainer monthly, dance bands nightly; piano music is presented in the hotel-casino's Lobby Bar.

Bourbon Street • 737-7200: Basin Street Lounge: The Dummkopfs, comedy band, 4-7pm Tues.-Sun.; "Laffs Vegas Tonight," featuring Steve Rossi, comedy variety show (dark Mon.).

Caesars Palace • 731-7333 or 800-445-4544: Circus Maximus: Huey Lewis and the News, July 3-7; Johnny Mathis, July 11-14; Natalie Cole, July 18-21; Julio Iglesias, July 24-29; Ray Charles, Aug. 28-Sept. 1; Omnimax Theater: "Survival Island," wildlife documentary, thru Aug. 31; live bands play in the La Piazza Lounge, Olympic Lounge, and Cleopatra's Barge.

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

Continental • 737-5555: Continental Theater: Cook E. Jarr presents his unusual lounge act, Wed.-Sat.

Debbie Reynolds Hollywood Hotel • 7-DEBBIE or 800-633-1777: Star Theatre: "The Debbie Reynolds Show" (dark Sun.); "Boy-lesque! Starring Kenny Kerr and His Women of Hollywood," 10:30pm Mon.-Sat.; "That's Entertainment! Live!" starring Rip Taylor, Mon.-Sat. afternoons; "Jazz and Jokes," 10pm Fri.-Sat. in the lounge.

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; Minstrel's Theatre Lounge: Entertainment 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.); Bugsy'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 or 800-331-5334 (U.S. outside Nevada): East Lounge: Sorta Dixie Jazz Band, noon-6pm Mon.-Fri.; bands play in the lounges; Dance Hall and Saloon: Touch of Country, thru July 8; Jumpin' Boots, July 10-22; Randy Anderson, July 24-Aug. 5; ballroom dancing with deejay Larry Taylor, 7:30-11:30pm Tues. and 1-5pm Sun.

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

Hacienda • 739-8911: Fiesta Theatre: "The Four Kinsmen," musical comedy (dark Mon.); entertainment nightly in the Bolero Lounge.

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





Casino Notes



A new lion will bask in the glow of the MGM Grand's reconfigured entryway.

Anniversary Specials: The Imperial Palace is celebrating its 20th anniversary this summer. One of the hotel's promotions is a 20/20 Funsight Special with commemorative room rates and food and beverage credits.

Face Lift: The MGM Grand is spending $250 million to spruce up the 112-acre hotel and theme park complex. MGM officials plan to replace the lion's head over the main pedestrian entrance, make changes to the theme park, and add luxury suites, parking, a convention center, and retail complex.

Sky Thrills: A new Skycoaster thrill ride is opening this summer at MGM Grand Adventures. Riders release themselves into a 100-foot free fall and 70-mph swing before landing gently onto terra firma.

Big Laughs: The Riviera Comedy Club was named "Best of Las Vegas" in the 1996 readers' poll of the *Las Vegas Review-Journal*. The club at the Riviera Hotel presents four comedians nightly.

Sahara Renovation: The Sahara is undergoing an expansion and renovation that will create a Moroccan theme for the Strip resort under new owner William Bennett. The expansion includes more casino space, two new restaurants, and a new buffet. The hotel's 1,750 rooms will be renovated, as will the lobby, restaurants, and bars. Among the changes will be a "harem-style" pool with sunbathing platform just below the water's surface. Construction began last spring with the demolition of bungalows where the Beatles, George Burns, Ann-Margret, and other performers once stayed.

Revolutionary Dining: The new Stratosphere Tower offers high-altitude dining in its Top of the World Restaurant, which is perched 832 feet above the Strip. The Stratosphere's restaurant makes one revolution per hour, allowing diners to enjoy a 360-degree view of the Las Vegas Valley without having to leave their prime rib and scampi.

Station House: Texas Gambling Hall and Hotel in North Las Vegas recently changed its name to Texas Station. The change is in keeping with other Las Vegas-area properties of the parent company, Station Casinos, including Palace Station, Boulder Station, and the soon-to-be-opened Sunset Station in Henderson.

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Las Vegas

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.); entertainment nightly in the Court of Two Gators Lounge.

Holiday Inn Boardwalk • 735-2400: Lighthouse Showroom: "Teeze," revue (dark Mon.).

Imperial Palace • 794-3261: Imperial Theatre: "Legends in Concert" (dark Sun.); "Hawaiian Hot Luau: 'Imperial Style,'" Tues. nights, poolside; entertainment in the Nomiya Bar.

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

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

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

Las Vegas Hilton • 732-5755 or 800-222-5361: Starlight Theatre: Andrew Lloyd Webber's "Starlight Express" (dark Fri.); The Nightclub: Kristine W and the Sting, the Emeralds (dark Thurs.); guest entertainers every Thurs.

Luxor • 262-4000 or 800-288-1000: Nefertiti's Lounge: live music 8:30pm to 12:30am.

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

MGM Grand • 891-7777 or 800-929-1111: Grand Theatre: "EFX" starring Michael Crawford (dark Thurs.); Hollywood Theatre: Carrot Top, July 4-10; Righteous Brothers, July 11-31; the Four Tops, Aug. 1-4; Tom Jones, Aug. 15-28; Center Stage Cabaret: "Catch a Rising Star," comedy-variety club; bands play during Late Night after the comedy; Bobby Dickerson, nightly except Mon. in the Flying Monkey Bar; entertainment in the Santa Fe Lounge; Grand Garden Arena: Ellen DeGeneres, July 6; Gloria Estefan, Aug. 2; Sting, Sept. 1.

The Mirage • 792-7777: Siegfried and Roy Theater: "Siegfried and Roy," magic spectacular (dark Wed., July 18-24, and Aug. 22-28); Bill Cosby, July 19-21; Barry Manilow, Aug. 22-27; bands play in the Lagoon Saloon and Baccarat Bar (piano bar).

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

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 Dinner Show," revue (dark Sun.-Mon.); Ipanema Piano Bar: Steven Boyd, thru Aug. 1; Club Rio: Dance-video nightclub, Wed.-Sat.; Mambo's Lounge: Entertainment nightly except Sun., Concerts on the Beach: Chris Isaak, July 20; Sunset Beach Parties every Mon. with live entertainment, thru Aug. 26.

Riviera • 794-9301 or 4-SPLASH: Splash Theatre: Jeff Kutash's "Splash II, Voyage of a Lifetime," nightly; Grand Ballroom: Drew Carey, July 6; Mardi Gras Showroom (third floor): "An Evening at La Cage," celebrity



Natalie Cole appears July 18-21 at Caesars Palace.

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Photo: Firoz Zahedi

female impersonators revue (dark Tues.); Mardi Gras Showroom (second floor): "Crazy Girls: Sensuality, Passion, and Pudgy!" adult revue (dark Mon.); "Bottoms Up," burlesque-style revue, 2 and 4pm (dark Thurs.); "Riviera Comedy Club," nightly; Le Bistro Lounge: "Jazz on the Strip," Mon.; music 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; Roxy's Saloon: Entertainment noon-5am.

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

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

Sheraton Desert Inn • 733-4566 or 800-634-6909: Crystal Room: Smokey Robinson, July 31-Aug. 4; The Golden Boys of Bandstand, Aug. 16-18; Dennis Miller, Aug. 20-25; Starlight Theatre: TBA.

Showboat • 383-9232 or 800-634-3484: Entertainment in the Mardi Gras Room.

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

Stratosphere • 383-4380 or 800-99-TOWER: Images Cabaret: "American Superstars," impersonator revue (dark Thurs.); show bands play nightly; Broadway Showroom: Danny Gans, comic impressionist (dark Tues.-Wed.); L'Isles Bar: Tropical-themed lounge featuring Caribbean and Reggae music; Big Sky Lounge: Country music nightly.

Treasure Island • 894-7111: Cirque du Soleil in "Mystère" (dark Mon.-Tues. and Aug. 7-8); entertainment nightly in Captain Morgan's piano bar and the Doubloon Saloon.

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

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

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

LAUGHLIN

Avi Casino • 535-5555.

Colorado Belle • 298-4000: Riverboat Lounge: Entertainment nightly except Mon.; the Riverboat Ramblers, strolling musicians; entertainment on "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: "Legends of Comedy" (dark Thurs.).

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

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

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

Ramada Express • 298-4200 or 800-243-6846: Little Anthony and the Imperials, July 6-9; Marvalettes, July 15-18; Drifters, July 22-25; Harold Melvin and the Blue Notes, July 27-30; Shirells, Aug. 3-6.

Regency • 298-2439.

Riverside Resort • 298-2535 or 800-227-3849 ext. 616: Don's Celebrity Theatre: Paul Revere and the

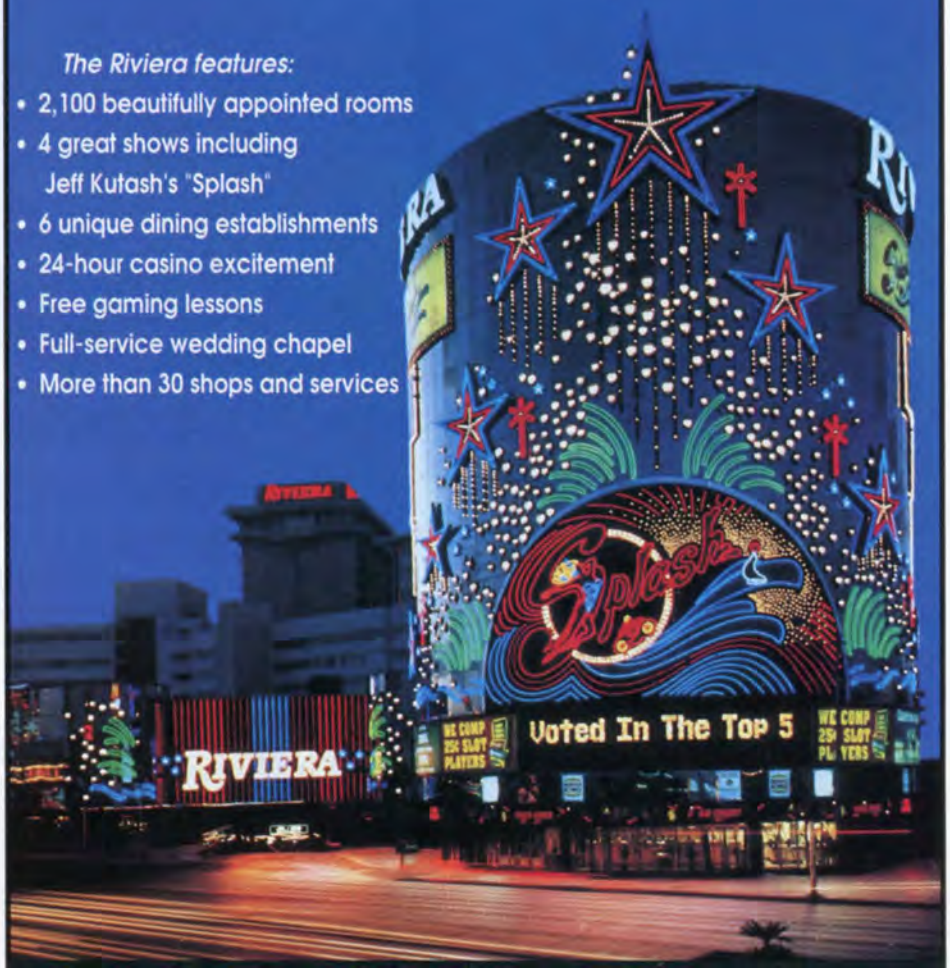
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Raiders, July 18-20; "Showgirls," adult revue, Aug. 1-Sept. 5; Freddy Fender, Sept. 12-17; Foster Brooks, Sept. 23-25.

MESQUITE

Players Island • 346-7529 or 800-459-7529: Bali Hai Theater: "Island Fever," musical revue (dark Sun.) with matinees at 3pm Tues. and Sat.; bands play nightly in the Cascades Lounge.
Si Redd's Oasis • 346-5232 or 800-621-0187: Entertainment nightly in the Cabaret Lounge.
Virgin River • 346-7777 or 800-346-7721: Entertainment TBA.

NORTH LAS VEGAS

Fiesta Casino • 631-7000: Live entertainment in the Cantina Bar; Mariachis, 10:30am-2:30pm Sun.
Texas Station • 631-1000: Nightly entertainment in the Armadillo Honky Tonk Lounge.

STATE LINE

Buffalo Bill's Resort • 382-1111 or 800-FUN-STOP: Star of the Desert Arena: Blues Festival '96, featuring B.B. King, Aug. 15; Kraft Concert Tour featuring Lorrie Morgan, Pam Tillis, and Carlene Carter, Aug. 24; 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.





GAMING TOURNAMENTS

Summer Slots Spectacular • Thru July 3 • Barbary Coast, 737-7111 or 800-634-6755.
Slots • July 7 • Flamingo Hilton Las Vegas, 733-3117 or 800-225-4882.
Tahitian Treasures Slots • July 7-10 • Tropicana, 739-2614 or 800-521-8767.
Emerald City Slots • July 8-11 • MGM Grand, 800-929-9410.
Slots • July 15-17 • Binion's Horseshoe, 800-727-7568.
Summer Games Slots • July 18-21 • Fitzgeralds Holiday Inn, 800-678-LUCK.
Rock, Reel, and Remember II Slots • July 25-27 • Imperial Palace, 800-351-7400 ext. 1.
Slots and Keno • July 28 • Flamingo Hilton Las Vegas, 733-3117 or 800-225-4882.
Video Poker • July 28-30 • Four Queens, 385-4011 or 800-643-6045.
Go for the Gold Slots • July 28-31 • Caesars Palace, 731-7485 or 800-262-2502.
Now That's Italian Slots • July 28-31 • Stratosphere, 800-SLOTS-24.
Some Like It Hot Craps • Aug. 2-4 • Four Queens, 385-4011 or 800-643-6045.
Slots and Video Poker • Aug. 4 • Flamingo Hilton Las Vegas, 733-3317 or 800-225-4882
Maximus II: The World's Richest Slots • Aug. 9-12 • $1 million in prizes, Caesars Palace, 731-7485 or 800-262-2502.
Arabian Nights Slots • Aug. 18-21 • Sheraton Desert Inn, 800-DI-SLOTS.
Slots • Aug. 25-27 • Four Queens, 385-4011.
Cotton Blossom Classic Slots • Aug. 25-28 • MGM Grand, 929-9410.

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.



Fourth of July fanfare is statewide. Above, fireworks on Lake Tahoe.

STATEWIDE

Fired Up for the Fourth

This year, Independence Day falls on a Thursday, so the four-day Fourth of July weekend will begin with parades and pyrotechnics throughout the state. The Fourth will be a day of patriotic contrasts, from kids' races in Austin to an old-fashioned barbecue in Logandale and the annual Reno Philharmonic concert at the Genoa fort. As fireworks burst high above Laughlin and Lake Tahoe, we'll be able to toast our nation's independence—and the fact that it's three more days before Monday.

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 • 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, 262-4000.
Marjorie Barrick Museum of Natural History • 4505 Maryland Pkwy., UNLV, 895-3381.
MGM Grand Adventures • Theme park, 891-7979.
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., 734-0088.

LAUGHLIN

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

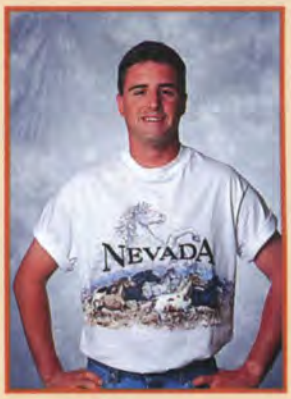
Buffalo Bill's • Roller coaster, 382-1111.

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Photo: Mark Vollmer

Reno-Tahoe Territory

EVENTS

The Reno-Lake Tahoe area offers musical performances, minor-league baseball, craft fairs, and festivals. You can enjoy a Broadway show in Reno or see fireworks on the Fourth of July. The following listing is divided into areas of interest. Be sure to call ahead to confirm dates and times.

July & August

POWWOWS, RODEOS & HISTORY

Curse of the Hanging Tree • July 5-6 • Audience participation, spoof on a murder and lynching that occurred in Genoa in 1897, three shows daily at 6, 6:45, and 7:30pm. Genoa Town Hall, 782-9828.

Way It Was Rodeo • July 27-28 • Camel Race Arena, Virginia City, 847-0311.

Wa She Shu It Deh Festival • July 27-29 • Celebration of Native American fine arts, baskets, jewelry, dancers. Tallac Historic Site, South Lake Tahoe, 883-1446.

Civil War Encampment and Reenactment • Aug. 10-11 • Living history demonstrations by Nevada Civil War Volunteers, train ambush, Victorian fashion show. Virginia City, 847-0311.

California Trail Days '96 and Donner Party Sesquicentennial • Aug. 15-18 • Wagon train, Emigrant Trail tours, Chautauqua, descendants' family reunion, Donner Party conference. Peppermill in Reno and Donner Memorial State Park near Truckee, 916-544-3053.

FOURTH OF JULY

Carson City July Fourth Celebration • July 3-7 • Carnival, games, entertainment, fireworks at dusk. Mills Park, Carson City, 687-4680 or 687-7410.

Pops in the Park • July 4 • Reno Philharmonic concert at 5pm, bring blankets and picnic, park opens at 3pm. Morman Station State Historic Park, Genoa, 782-2590 or 267-2420.

Fourth of July Fun • July 4 • Barbecue, music, volleyball. Resort at Squaw Creek, Squaw Valley, 916-583-6955.

Skyfire Fireworks Display • July 4 • Music, picnic. Rancho San Rafael Park, Reno, 800-FOR-RENO.

Star Spangled Fourth of July • July 4 • Fireworks display over Lake Tahoe, South Lake Tahoe, 916-544-5050.

Virginia City July Fourth Celebration • July 4 • Parade at noon, fireworks at dusk, 847-0311.

Camel and Ostrich Races • July 4-5 • Fourth of July parade, fireworks. McIver Arena, Truckee Regional Park, 916-582-8022.

Locomotion: A Transportation Fair • July 4-7 • Steam-ups, tours, vintage automobiles and firefighting equipment. Nevada State Railroad Museum, Carson City, 687-6953.

Independence Day Cribbage Classic • July 4-7 • 10th annual, 400 players compete for $50,000. Sands Regency, Reno, 348-2200 or 800-233-4939.



Hot August Nights rolls into Reno and Sparks with classic cars and rock 'n' roll, July 31-August 4.

CARS, MOTORCYCLES & MORE

Sports Cars and All That Jazz • July 5-7 • Show 'n' shine, Brazilian and contemporary jazz, rallies, swap meet. Downtown Reno, 686-3045 or 800-FOR-RENO.

Karson Kruzers' A&W Street Dance • July 6 • A&W Root Beer, Carson City, 882-0829.

Tri-Holiday Sweepstakes • July 6 • Stock-car race. Silver State Raceway, Carson City, 885-2079.

National Truck Week • July 10-14 • Expo, parade, show 'n' shine, rallies. Reno Hilton, 826-5337.

Comstock 200 Off-Road Rally • July 11-14 • 200-mile truck race on a 20-mile course. Virginia City, 847-0311 or 800-200-4557.

Cannibal Cruise Car Show • July 12-14 • Truckee Regional Park, 916-582-9062.

National Citroen Owners Rallye • July 12-14 • Car rally. Northstar-at-Tahoe, 916-562-1010.

American Heat • July 25-28 • '50s cars, trucks, show 'n' shine, parades, lip-sync contest, concerts. Pony Express Pavilion, Carson City, 329-7469.

Steam-Ups • July 27-28 and Aug. 31-Sept. 2 • Steam-up of historic locomotive on one-mile loop of track. Nevada State Railroad Museum, 687-6953.

Hot August Nights • July 31-Aug. 4 • Classic cars and rock 'n' roll, concerts, car auction, poker run, parade. Various locations, Reno and Sparks, 829-1955.

Modern Day Cowgirls • Aug. 5 • Pony Express motorcycle tour for breast cancer research, the tour from St. Joseph, MO, which circumnavigates the U.S., travels through Reno and Carson City, 425-1981.

Main Street Event • Aug. 23-25 • Show 'n' shine, car show, pancake breakfast, '50s-and-'60s dance, poker run, barbecue on Fri. Activities are centered on Esmeralda Avenue, Minden-Gardnerville, 265-7074.

Blue Butt Motorcycle Rally • Aug. 24 • 500- or 750-mile rally open to all street motorcycles, sponsored by the Blue Knights Motorcycle Club, begins 6am. Start and finish at Boomtown, Verdi, 851-3572.

FESTIVALS & CRAFTS

Valhalla Arts and Music Festival • Thru Sept. 4 • 17th annual, Boathouse Theatre grand opening on July 6, Tuesday Potpourri Concerts, Thursday Night Jazz Concerts, art exhibits, workshops. Camp Richardson Resort, South Lake Tahoe, 916-541-4975 or 916-544-5050.

Uptown, Downtown, Artown: Summer Arts Festival • July 8-29 • 100 events by 30 local arts organizations include music, dance, theater, opera. Various locations around Reno, 329-1324.

Antique Boat Show • July 13 • Tahoe Keys Marina, South Lake Tahoe, 916-541-2155.

Glenn Amundson Memorial Air Fest '96 • July 20 • Military aircraft fly-bys, static displays, aerobatics, hot-air balloons. South Lake Tahoe Airport, 916-541-0480.

Rhythm and Brews Festival • July 21 • Sample beers from West Coast microbreweries, music by Elvin Bishop and Red Beans and Rice, part of the Valhalla Arts and Music Festival. Harveys, Stateline, 916-541-4975.

Folklife Festival • July 27 • Multicultural event, food, crafts, demonstrations, part of the Summer Arts Festival. Wingfield Park, downtown Reno, 329-1324.

Jackpot of Gems '96 • July 27-28 • Presented by the Reno Gem and Mineral Society. Exhibit Hall, Reno Livestock Events Center, 356-9864.

Shakespeare at Sand Harbor • Aug. 2-Sept. 1 • 18th

Photo: Carolyn Fox

Impressions of a Riddler

By Guy Richardson

At 12, Frank Gorshin decided the acting life was a good life. At 17, he turned pro. He was Alan King's opening act at Jackie Heller's Carousel in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Gorshin's home town—where his parents still live. That was 45 years ago. Since then Gorshin has acted in hundreds of movies, done thousands of TV talk shows and was the Riddler in the old *Batman* TV series.

When I told a colleague that Frank Gorshin would be at Harrah's Reno (July 2-7, to be precise), she said, "The guy who did the Riddler? What's he do? Sing?"

Gorshin, I told her, is perhaps the world's best impressionist. The man gets so into his impressions that he's frightening. Alas, they don't have reruns of old variety shows, but *Batman* is forever. To my young friend, he's the Riddler and that's that.

"After all these years it's amazing," Gorshin said, after I told him about the young woman's remarks. "There are people who know me from the Ed Sullivan shows and don't know the Riddler at all. And there are people who know me only as the Riddler and are surprised that I do a nightclub act."

Gorshin's impressions are intense. You swear his Kirk Douglas is about to crack. Many of his movie roles have been extreme characters. The Riddler was a weird man. So it comes as a surprise that Gorshin in person is friendly, laughing, happy, and contented with life.

His impressions ring with emotion, he said, "because when I do the impression, I commit myself totally." He once played a TV role about a man who got stuck in characters. Gorshin was really, REALLY believable as the man called Harry Simms who kills his wife when he's being James Cagney and then doesn't remember killing her.

Also surprising is Gorshin's description of himself as anxious to please an audience. His roles have not usually been people of that nature. Anxious to kill, maybe, but not to please. Again he laughs. "Well, when I'm performing, I'm thinking, 'Please like me. When people ask me about a role, I'm never sure what to say. I listen to other actors articulate the dimension of their characters and subtext, and I think, 'Isn't that great. But when I do a role, it's hard for me to articulate it. I just feel it instinctively."



Frank Gorshin riddles audiences at Harrah's Reno.

Keeping happy for Gorshin is simple. "When I'm working, I'm happy. When I'm out of work, I'm miserable, tough to live with."

So he was happy that his agent had just called him about working in a small picture called *Lights, Camera, Haction.* It's about a fellow teaching others how to make horror films. Maybe a Shakespearean would run in terror from a role like that, but it makes Gorshin happy. It's work. He loves it.

"I just want to keep busy," says the Riddler, not wanting to leave the wrong impression.

Gorshin on Stage

Frank Gorshin appears July 2-7 in Sammy's Showroom at Harrah's Reno. Call 702-788-3773 or 800-HAR-RAHS for ticket information.

Guy Richardson is a Reno Gazette-Journal *editor and entertainment writer.*

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season, nightly except Mon., "Comedy of Errors" and "Much Ado About Nothing," also weekend children's performances of "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs." Lake Tahoe Nevada State Park, Incline Village, 916-542-4166 or 800-AT-TAHOE.

Concours d'Elegance • Aug. 9-11 • 24th annual, wooden-boat show. Sierra Boat Co., Carnelian Bay, 916-581-4700.

Summer Craft Fair • Aug. 9-11 • Lake Tahoe Horizon, Stateline, 588-6211 or 800-322-7723.

Santa Maria Day • Aug. 10 • Dayton, 246-7909 or 246-3899.

Reggae Sunday • Aug. 11 • Concert on the lawn of Valhalla Estate, bring picnic lunch, part of the Valhalla Arts and Music Festival. Tallac Historic Site, South Lake Tahoe, 916-542-4166.

Great Gatsby Festival • Aug. 16-18 • Roaring '20s living history, flapper's ball, croquet, Charleston contests, barbecue, music, 10am-4pm. Tallac Historic Site, South Lake Tahoe, 588-0529.

Air Minden Air Show • Aug. 17 • Aerobatics and static display, warbirds. Douglas County Airport, Minden, 267-5066.

Carson Valley Fine Arts and Crafts Street Celebration • Aug. 17-18 • Minden, 324-6435.

Nevada State Fair • Aug. 21-25 • Livestock shows, carnival midway, entertainment. Reno Livestock Events Center, 688-6767.

Basque Festival • Aug. 24-25 • 29th annual, traditional food and dancing, weight lifting, irrintzi contest, $3 general admission, $12 for barbecue. Sparks Recreation Center, 329-1476.



Colorful dances and games of skill and strength highlight the Basque Festival in Sparks, August 24-25.

PERFORMANCES

"Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" • July 5-6, 10-13, and 18-20 • Nevada Repertory Company in Andrew Lloyd Webber's Broadway musical, 8pm, part of the Summer Arts Festival. Performances scheduled for Redfield Proscenium Theater, U of N, and Wingfield Park, downtown Reno, 784-6847.

"Murder Mystery" • July 5-6, 12-13, and 19-20 • Melodrama. Brewery Arts Center, Carson City, 883-1976.

Tahoe Mountain Musicals' Summer Festival • July 5-6, 12-13, 20, 24, 31, Aug. 1-4, 7-10, 16-17, 24-25, and 30-31 • Theatre Sierra Nevada presents "Annie Get Your Gun" and "The Music Man." North Tahoe Regional Park, Tahoe Vista, 916-581-4323 or 800-606-4-SHOW.

"Gypsy" • July 5-7 and 12-14 • 8pm Fri. and Sat., 2pm on Sun., Western Nevada Theatre Company production. Carson City Community Center, 887-3115.

Summer Music Series • July 5-Aug. 14 • North Lake Tahoe Symphony Assn. concerts. The Château, Incline Village and Cal-Neva Celebrity Showroom, Crystal Bay, 747-7673.

George Hanepin and Shanna Carlson • July 7 • Jazz concert with bass guitar and piano. Brewery Arts Center, Carson City, 883-1976.

Summer Arts Festival Chamber Music Concert • July 8 and 12 • Piano, cello, and violin. Nightingale Concert Hall, U of N, 784-6847.

Sierra Nevada Chorale • July 10 and 24 • Encore performances following its Carnegie Hall engagement, part of the Summer Arts Festival. Wingfield Park Amphitheater, downtown Reno, 329-1324.

Music at Sand Harbor • July 12-13 • Blues, jazz, and bluegrass. Lake Tahoe Nevada State Park, Incline Village, 916-583-7625.

Douglas County Bluegrass and Cowboy Poetry • July 14 • 10am. Mormon Station State Historic Park, Genoa, 267-5066.

Pops on the River • July 15 • Concert by the Reno Philharmonic, 8pm, bring picnic dinner, $10 admission, part of the Summer Arts Festival. Wingfield Park Amphitheater, downtown Reno, 825-5905.

Great Basin Chautauqua: Democracy in America • July 15-18 • Tent show, "performances" by P.T. Barnum, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Horace Greeley, and others, part of the Summer Arts Festival. Rancho San Rafael Park, Reno, 784-6587.

Arts on the Streets • July 18-21 • Part of the Sum-

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Photo: Gary Elam

mer Arts Festival. Wingfield Park and Truckee River Walk, downtown Reno, 329-1324.

Music at Sand Harbor • July 20 • 7:30pm, concert featuring the North Lake Tahoe Symphony Orchestra, benefit for symphony and the Tahoe Rim Trail. Lake Tahoe Nevada State Park, Incline Village, 588-0686.

Sons of San Joaquin Concert • July 24 • 7:30pm. Middle School Gym, Virginia City, 847-0311.

Mary Cassatt Speaks: A Performance by Helena Hale • July 25 • 7pm, one-woman theater, Mary Cassatt was the only American painter invited by Edgar Degas to join the Impressionists, part of the Summer Arts Festival. Nevada Museum of Art, Reno, 329-3333.

"The Outlaw and Billy the Kid" • July 26 • Nevada Festival Ballet production, free, part of the Summer Arts Festival. Wingfield Park Amphitheater, downtown Reno, 329-1324.

"Graceland" • July 26-28 • Sparks Little Theatre, 7:30pm (2pm on Sun.). Brewery Arts Center, Carson City, 883-1976.

Ballet by the River • Aug. 8-10 • The Reno Ballet, classical and contemporary program, free concert. Wingfield Park Amphitheater, downtown Reno, 333-6532.

Contra Dancing Performance • Aug. 10 and 31 • New England line dancing, Brewery Arts Center, Carson City, 883-1976.

"Fangs of the City" • Aug. 16-18 • Musical comedy, 7:30pm (2pm on Sun.). Brewery Arts Center, Carson City, 883-1976.

Ball and Sultan: Goodtime Blues • Aug. 23 • Concert. Brewery Arts Center, Carson City, 883-1976.

Jazz Festival • Aug. 24 • Brewery Arts Center, Carson City, 883-1976.

EXHIBITS

Nevada Gold Museum • Thru Sept. 2 • Gaming chips and memorabilia. Skyway of the Flamingo Hilton Reno, 322-1111.

Great Basin Basketmakers • July 1-31 • Reception 1-4pm on July 7, basketmakers of Northern Nevada exhibit their works. Artists Co-Op Gallery, Reno, 825-5090.

Kings, Queens, and Soup Tureens From the Campbell Museum • July 1-Sept. 1 • Part of the Summer Arts Festival. Nevada Museum of Art, Reno, 329-3333.

Art in the Park • July 13-14 • 10am-5pm, more than 85 crafters, workshops, part of the Summer Arts Festival. Great Basin Adventure, Rancho San Rafael Park, Reno, 785-4319.

It's a Gas • July 15-Sept. 27 • Gas station memorabilia, part of the Summer Arts Festival. National Automobile Museum, downtown Reno, 333-9300.

GENERAL INTEREST

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

Outdoor Movies • July 10-Aug. 28 • Classics and family films, every Wed. Nevada State Railroad Museum, Carson City, 883-1976.

Tahoe ArTour '96 • July 11-14 • Tours through 34 North Tahoe and Truckee artists' studios, 10am-5pm. Reception and preview 4-7pm on July 11 at the North Tahoe Art Center, Tahoe City, 916-581-ARTS.

Walk the Lake '96 • July 18-21 • AIDS benefit, names-quilt display, concert, pledge walk. Incline Village, 831-6286.

Silver Legacy Birthday Party Celebration • July 26-28 • Headline entertainment includes Kenny Rogers. Silver Legacy, downtown Reno, 329-4777.

Hike Slaughter House Canyon • Aug. 10 • Explore old railroad beds with the Nevada Division of State Parks,

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six-mile round trip. Meet 10am at Skunk Harbor pullout, Hwy. 28, Lake Tahoe, 782-2590.

SPORTS & COMPETITIONS

Reno Chukars • Minor-league baseball, Western Baseball League. July 1-3 v. Long Beach Rip-Tide, July 19-21 v. Bend Bandits, July 22-25 v. Grays Harbor Gulls, July 26-28 v. Tri-Cities Posse, Aug. 12-14 v. Palm Springs Suns, Aug. 15-17 v. Long Beach Rip-Tide, Aug. 17-21 v. Salinas Peppers, Aug. 22-24 v. Sonoma Crushers. Moana Stadium, 829-7890.

July Explosion Boxing Match • July 3 • Army v. Marines amateur boxing. Cal-Neva Resort Boxing Arena, Crystal Bay, 323-1046.

Isuzu Celebrity Golf Championship • July 12-14 • Annual televised event, celebrities and sports stars. Edgewood Tahoe, Stateline, Lake Tahoe, 916-544-5050.

Lunar Lunacy 5K and 10K Run • July 13 and 22 • Lampe Park, Gardnerville, 782-9828.

Jimmie Heuga's Toyota Mountain Bike Express • July 14 • Team race to benefit the Jimmie Heuga Center for multiple sclerosis research. Northstar-at-Tahoe, 916-562-2288.

Regional Soaring Championship Contest • July 14-20 • Douglas County Airport, Minden, 782-9871.

Trans-Tahoe Swim • July 20 • 20th annual. 11-mile relay race from Sand Harbor to Tahoe City, 415-775-3088 ext. 326.

Carson Valley Classic Road and Race Criterion • July 20-21 • Bike race. Minden Park and downtown Minden, 782-7077.

Mountain Run • July 27 • 16th annual, foot race and fitness walk, 3.6-mile course that climbs 2,000 vertical feet. Squaw Valley, 916-583-6985.

Sawtooth Ridge Challenge • July 28 • Mountain bike race. Northstar-at-Tahoe, 916-562-2288.

Pyramid Lake Triathlon • Aug. 11 • One-mile swim, 25-mile bike ride, six-mile run. Sutcliffe, 786-5531.

Tahoe Fat-Tire Festival • Aug. 15-18 • Mountain bike races, rally, demo days. Squaw Valley, 916-581-1800.

Men's Lacrosse Tournament • Aug. 23-25 • Squaw Valley, 916-583-6985.

Outhouse Races • Aug. 24 • Contests include toilet paper plunge and corn cob toss. Virginia City, 847-0311.

Silver State Marathon, Half-Marathon, 10K Run, and 10K Walk • Aug. 25 • Washoe Valley, 849-0419.

Carson Valley Bocce Bash • Aug. 30-Sept. 2 • Carson Valley Inn, Minden, 782-9711 ext. 625 or 800-321-6983.



Steve Young trades a pigskin for a putter at the Isuzu Celebrity Golf Championship, July 12-14.

LECTURES & PRESENTATIONS

Flumes of the Tahoe Basin • July 13 • Mormon Station State Historic Park, Genoa, 782-2590.

Nevada Historic Mining Town Cemeteries • July 13 • Slide show, 8-10pm. Dayton State Park, 687-5678 or 687-4379.

Lucky Bill and Major Ormsby, and Women's Voices of the Overland Trail • Aug. 4 • Reenactment by Chris Bayer, sponsored by Nevada Humanities, Doris Dwyer presents women's voices lecture. Mormon Station State Historic Park, Genoa, 782-2590.

Evening Star Gaze • Aug. 17 • Astronomers from the Fleischmann Planetarium in Reno guide viewers to the major constellations and discuss astrological myths, 8:30-10pm. Dayton State Park, 687-5678.

Railroads of Nevada • Aug. 24 • Slide show, 7-10pm. Dayton State Park, 687-5678.

FOOD & WINE

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

South Shore's Farmers' Market • July 1-Oct. 31 • 8am-1pm, every Tues., fresh produce. American Legion Hall, South Lake Tahoe, 916-622-8467.

Carson Valley Heritage Days Chili Cook-Off and Arts and Crafts Fair • July 6 • Minden Park, 782-3589.

Meet the Winemaker • July 8 and Aug. 12 • Six-course gourmet dinners served with wines from the featured winery of the month. Fiona's, Carson Valley Inn, Minden, 782-9711 ext. 650 or 800-321-6983.

Sparks Open-Air Marketplace • July 11-Sept. 26 • 4-9pm every Thurs., fresh produce, cooking demonstrations, baked goods, music. Victorian Square, 353-2291.

Ice Cream Social • July 20 and Aug. 17 • 11am-4pm, turn-of-the-century street scene, old-fashioned games and entertainment, Dixieland band. National Automobile Museum, downtown Reno, 333-9300.

Pepper Tree Chili Cook-Off • July 21 • ICS-sanctioned chili cook-off to benefit the Ryan Valley Maloy Endowment Fund for Children, music, arts and crafts. Hillcrest Shops, Reno, 828-5088.

A Taste for Art '96 • Aug. 23 • 6-9:30pm, wine tasting. Mountain Gate, Reno, 329-3333.

Ice Cream Social • Aug. 24 • "Innocence Triumphs," melodrama performed by Sparks Little Theatre, exhibit on women's organizations in Nevada. Nevada Historical Society, Reno, 688-1191.

Best in the West Nugget Rib Cook-Off • Aug. 30-Sept. 2 • Rib cookers compete for "Best Ribs" and "Best Sauce," concerts, crafts. John Ascuaga's Nugget and Victorian Square, Sparks, 353-2284.

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COMING EVENTS

Great Reno Balloon Race • Sept. 6-8 • 826-1181.

Virginia City International Camel Races • Sept. 6-8 •

Photo: John Ballweber

Stars Under the Stars

Concert-goers will find the moon and the stars—not to mention musical stars—at the Reno Hilton's outdoor amphitheater this summer.

Cool, clear nights have made the hotel's Concerts Under the Stars a good place to catch such performers as B.B. King, Lyle Lovett, Bob Dylan, and Bonnie Raitt during the past three years.

The concert area is situated in the parking lot between the dramatically lit 27 story Reno Hilton and its aquatic golf-driving range. Performers sometimes are accompanied by distant thunderstorms and jets landing at the Reno airport. Spectators don't seem to mind the unpredictable elements—even the occasional summer sprinkle—and can wet their whistles at concession stands offering beer, wine, soda, and cappuccino.

The stadium bleachers offer a decent view of the on-stage action, but it's worth the extra $10 or so for the more comfortable seats closer to the stage. If you do sit in the cheap seats, it's wise to bring cushions. Dancers usually find roped-off sections where they can grind, shimmy, or two-step.



Sting appears outdoors August 14 at the Reno Hilton.

The Hilton's outdoor-concert season lasts from May through October. This year's lineup includes: Crosby, Stills, and Nash, July 11; House of Blues Tour with Joe Cocker, Buddy Guy, and the Fabulous Thunderbirds, July 30; the Beach Boys, August 3; Styx and Kansas, August 7; Alabama, August 10; Blues Music Festival with B.B. King, the Neville Brothers, and Delbert McClinton, August 11; Sting, August 14; Linda Ronstadt, August 22; Allman Brothers Band, August 25; Boston, August 27; Tim McGraw and Faith Hill, September 13; Jeff Foxworthy, September 14; Jethro Tull and Emerson, Lake, and Palmer, September 25; and Wynonna, September 27

Tickets, which range from $25 to $50, often sell out. Call the Hilton Ticket Office at 702-789-2285 or 800-648-3568 (outside Nevada).—*Carolyn Graham*

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JULY 17-22

DAVID COPPERFIELD
JULY 23-29





JULIO IGLESIAS
AUGUST 2-4

RAY CHARLES
AUGUST 23-25

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Fearless jockeys ride galloping camels. 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 Fair • Sept. 28-29 • 782-TOWN.
Firefest '96 • Oct. 4-6 • Gastronomic event. Reno Hilton, 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 Celebration • 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. Kenny Rogers will be at the Silver Legacy, Linda Ronstadt visits the Reno Hilton, and David Copperfield returns to Caesars Tahoe. It's always wise to call ahead for show times and reservations.

RENO/SPARKS

Atlantis • 825-4700 or 800-723-6500: Bands such as Perfect Choice and Rochelle del Carmen play 6pm-5:30am nightly in the Center Stage Cabaret; dancing to hits of the '70s, '80s, and '90s in Atlantis Nightclub.
Circus Circus • 734-0410: Free circus acts, 11am-midnight.
Comstock • 329-1880.
Eldorado • 786-5700, 800-648-5966 (U.S. outside Nevada) or 800-648-3024 (Canada): Honolulu and Rob Hanna perform in the cabaret; Brew Brothers: Crazy Copper Keys (Wed.-Sun.).
Eddie's Fabulous '50s • 329-1950: Runningstar Sound, Wed., Sat., and Sun. (Reno's only televised karaoke show); open mike on Thurs.
Fitzgeralds • 785-3300 or 800-648-5022 (U.S. outside Nevada).
Flamingo Hilton Reno • 785-7080: Flamingo Showroom: "American Superstars" (dark Tues.); Summer Outdoor Concert Series: Jerry Lee Lewis, Aug. 1; Disco Reunion '96, featuring KC and the Sunshine Band, Rose Royce, Thelma Houston, and Peaches and Herb, Aug. 17; "Fierce," revue, alternates with the Powwer House Band in the Showspot Cabaret (dark Mon.); music at Top of the Hilton restaurant.
Harrah's Reno • 788-3773 or 800-HARRAHS: Sammy's Showroom: "Playboy's Ecstasy" and "The Great Reno Wild Wild West Show" (dark Tues.); Frank Gorshin, July 2-7; Paul Revere and the Raiders, July 30-Aug. 4; Kingston Trio, Aug. 27-Sept. 8; bands play during holidays in the Rendezvous Bar.
John Ascuaga's Nugget • Sparks, 356-3304 or 800-648-1177 (U.S. and Nevada): Celebrity Showroom: Lacy J. Dalton, thru July 10; Exile, July 11-24; the Lettermen, July 25-Aug. 7; Herb Reed and the Platters, Aug. 8-21; Charo, Aug. 22-Sept.4; Rose Ballroom: Barbara Mandrell, Aug. 22-23; 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.); Outdoor Amphitheater: Crosby, Stills, and Nash, July 11; House of Blues Tour, featuring Joe Cocker and Buddy Guy, July 30; the Beach Boys, Aug. 3; Styx and Kansas, Aug. 7; Alabama, Aug. 10; Blues Music Festival, starring B.B. King, the Neville Brothers, and Delbert McClinton, Aug. 11; Sting, Aug. 14; Linda Ronstadt, Aug. 22; Allman Brothers Band, Aug. 25; Boston, Aug. 27; Aspen Lounge: Bands play Tues.-Sun.; Just for Laughs Comedy Club: Comics perform.
Reno Hotel • 788-2000.
Riverboat • 323-8877.
Silver Club • Sparks, 358-4771 or 800-648-1137 (U.S. outside Nevada).
Silver Legacy • 329-4777 or 800-225-BASS (U.S., Nevada, Canada, and Mexico): Grand Exposition Hall: Kenny Rogers, July 26-27; Silver Legacy Gazebo: Wally Jones and Perry Joe Schirmer, afternoons noon-6pm; Gary Xavier, evenings till midnight; bands play in the Legacy Saloon.
Virginian • 329-4664.
Western Village • Sparks, 331-1069 or 800-648-1170.

CARSON CITY/CARSON VALLEY

Carson Nugget • 882-1626 or 800-426-5239 (continental U.S. including Nevada): Preston Hodge appears in the Cork and Bottle 3-9pm except Mon.; bands such as Speedy Garfin and Justine 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 Zella Lehr and Louie Fontaine.
Ormsby House • Carson City, 882-1890: Enterprise and Herb McQuay are featured in the casino lounge.
Piñon Plaza • Carson City, 885-9000: Karaoke, Mon. in the sports book lounge.
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: Diana Ross, July 17-22, David Copperfield, July 23-29; Julio Iglesias, Aug. 2-4; Ray Charles, Aug. 23-25.
Harrah's Lake Tahoe • 588-6606 or 800-HARRAHS: South Shore Room: "Lacumba! The Beat" and "Lacumba! The Passion," Latin revues, thru Aug. 5 (dark Fri.); Rain: A Tribute to the Beatles, July 5-7; Crystal Gayle, July 12-14; Smothers Brothers, July 19-21; Paul Revere and the Raiders, July 26-28; Bill Medley, Aug. 2-4; the Everly Brothers, Aug. 7-11; An Evening at the Improv, Aug. 16-18; Jim Messina, Aug. 23-25; Blood, Sweat, and Tears, Aug. 30-Sept. 1; 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: America, July 5-6; ELO II, July 12-13; Carrot Top, July 19-21; Louie Anderson, July 26-27; Waylon Jennings, Aug. 30-31; Golden Cabaret: "Phantasy," magic and comedy revue (dark Mon.); bands such as Rhythm and Motion play in the Aspen Lounge.

HOTELS

Casino Notes



The tropically themed Clarion in Reno has a new name—the Atlantis.

Atlantis Surfaces: The Clarion Hotel has changed its name to Atlantis. The Reno property's new name reflects its tropical-aquatic theme and atmosphere.

Circus Ambiance: Rooms and suites at Circus Circus in Reno have been undergoing a change in decor reflecting the European circus period at the turn of the century. The $15-million project started in January and is expected to modify 1,520 rooms by late this year.

Top Hand: The editors of *Blackjack Confidential* magazine named the Crystal Bay Club at North Lake Tahoe as the top spot to play blackjack in Northern Nevada. Single decks, the number of cards dealt between shuffles, and player-oriented rules are considered in the rankings.

Cool Brew: The Brew Brothers at the Eldorado received top marks in a recent *Reno Gazette-Journal* article on area microbrews. Two certified beer judges praised its Redhead Amber Ale and Double Down Stout. The restaurant-microbrewery is open for lunch, dinner, and late-night beer tasting.

Dine With a Star: The Flamingo Hilton Reno is offering a dinner show nightly (except Tuesday) for "American Superstars." Dinner packages are also still available for those preferring to dine at hotel restaurants. Or you can simply order cocktails while watching tributes to Elvis, Madonna, and Michael Jackson.

Extended Contract: Harveys has honored Ron Rose (see Jan/Feb '96) with a special award for his 38 years as a piano player and band leader in all of the Tahoe hotel's premier restaurants. Rose is said to have had the longest continuous contract at one location in the entertainment business nationally. He plays Wednesday through Sunday in Llewellyn's, Harveys' 19th-floor penthouse restaurant.

Diamond Award: For the 15th consecutive year the American Automobile Association (AAA) has presented Harveys with its Four Diamond Award. The award recognizes quality at lodging establishments.

Nevada Club Turns 50: The Nevada Club recently celebrated its 50th birthday. The downtown Reno casino still features '40s and '50s memorabilia and furnishings as well as some of the same mechanical slots it opened with in 1946.



Gourmet rib tasters gather in Sparks for the Best in the West Nugget Rib Cook-Off on Labor Day weekend.

Lakeside Inn • 588-7777.

NORTH LAKE TAHOE

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

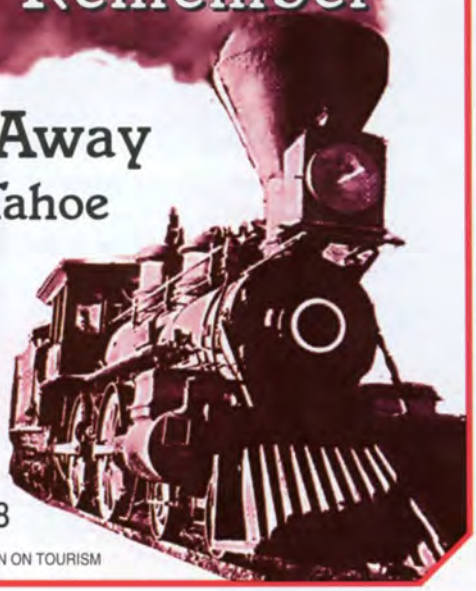
Crystal Bay Club • Crystal Bay, 831-0512: Dakota and Impact play in the north-shore casino's lounge.

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

Jim Kelley's Tahoe Nugget • Crystal Bay, 831-7157: "Monday With Merle," Merle Haggard and the Strangers, Aug. 5.

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

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GAMING TOURNAMENTS

July Keno • July 1-3 • Fitzgeralds, 786-3663.
Slots • July 4-5 • Peppermill, 689-7282.
Super Slots • July 7-9 and 21-23 • Comstock, 329-1880.
Slots • July 7-9, 21, and 29-30 • Atlantis, 824-4440.
Silver Legacy Slot Marathon • July 11-12 • Silver Legacy, 329-4777.
Keno • July 12-13 • Peppermill, 689-7282.
July Blackjack • July 18-20 • Fitzgeralds, 786-3663.
Super Keno • July 19-21 • Comstock, 329-1880.
Comstock Pai Gow Poker • July 26-28 • Comstock, 329-1880.
Blackjack • Aug. 4-6 • Peppermill, 689-7282.
Fitzies '50s Drive-In Dollar Slots • Aug. 5-7 • Fitzgeralds, 786-3663.
Blackjack • Aug. 9-11 • Comstock, 329-1880.
Dollar Slot Marathon and Car Give-Away • Aug. 11-13 • Eldorado, 786-5700.
Slots • Aug. 11-14 • Flamingo Hilton Reno, 322-1111.
Slots • Aug. 18-19 • Atlantis, 824-4440.
Super Slots • Aug. 23-25 • Comstock, 329-1880.

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, 687-7410 or 800-638-2321.
Nevada State Capitol • 687-5030.
Nevada State Library and Archives • State Constitution exhibit. 100 Stewart St., 687-5210.
Nevada State Museum • 600 N. Carson St., 687-4810.
Nevada State Railroad Museum • S. Carson St. at Fairview Dr., 687-6953.
Nevada Supreme Court • Tours. Stewart St., 687-8616.
Roberts' House Museum • 1207 N. Carson St., 882-1805.
Stewart Indian Museum and Cultural Center • 5366 Snyder, 882-1808.
Warren Engine Co. No. 1 Museum • 777 S. Stewart St., 887-2210.

DAYTON

Dayton State Park • 687-5678.

GARDNERVILLE

Carson Valley Museum and Cultural Center • Old Douglas County High School on 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.

Photo: Lonnie Peck/Reno News Bureau

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

Earth Window Museum • 500 N. Sierra St., Town Center Mall, 333-2828.
Fleischmann Planetarium • U of N, 784-4811.
Galena Creek Regional Park • Mount Rose Hwy., 785-4319.
Liberty Belle Slot Collection • Liberty Belle Saloon, 4250 S. Virginia St., 825-1776.
National Automobile Museum • 10 Lake St. S., 333-9300.
National Bowling Stadium • Domed theater. 300 N. Center St., 334-2695.
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.
Sierra Safari Zoo and Animal Ark • North of Reno on Red Rock Rd., 969-3111.
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 • Ranch house replica displays collection of Wilbur D. May, who traveled around the world 40 times. Rancho San Rafael Park, 785-5961.



Engines steam up July 27-28 and August 31-September 2 at the Nevada State Railroad Museum in Carson City.

PYRAMID LAKE

Numana Hatchery Visitors Center • 574-0290.

SPARKS

Sparks Heritage Museum • 355-1144.
Wild Island • 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 • 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 • 849-1825.
Davis Creek Park • 849-0684.
Washoe Lake State Park • 687-4319.

A Reminder:

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



TIME TRAVEL ON FOOT?

Weekly summer walks: Take our historic home tour You'll be introduced to about 20 homes and some famous residents from the past. You might even be invited in. Two-hour guided walks depart from the Nevada State Museum at 10AM.

Every Day: History speaks for itself. 24 Talking Houses broadcast their past on special radio frequencies for self-guided tours.

Oct. 26: Annual ghost walk. It's a historic home tour with a Halloween twist, starting at the Nevada State Museum. First tour 11AM, last tour 5PM.

For information and lodging reservations, call:

(800)NEVADA-1

CARSON CITY

TIME TRAVEL TIP: WEAR COMFORTABLE SHOES.

Photo: John Ballweber

Rural Territories

EVENTS

Rural Nevada has fireworks, fairs, rodeos, and more. Visitors can ride the rails in Ely or catch classic-car shows in Tonopah and Winnemucca. The listing is presented by territory and area of interest. Please call ahead to confirm dates and times.

July & August

COWBOY COUNTRY

RODEOS, FAIRS & FESTIVALS

Fishing Derby • July 4-5 • Lovelock, 273-7213.

McDermitt Ranch Hand Rodeo • July 4-5 • Seventh annual, saddle bronc riding, wild cow and horse roping, barrel racing. McDermitt Rodeo Grounds, 532-8742.

Elko's National Basque Festival • July 5-7 • 33rd annual, handball contest 8am, parade 11am, contests of strength and endurance 1pm, public dance 9pm at Basque House on Sat.; Mass 11am, irrinitzi contest and sheepherder's bread auction 12:30pm on Sun. Downtown Elko, fairgrounds, City Park, 738-7991.

International Cattleman's Roping Assn. National Roping Finals • July 7-11 • Fairgrounds, Winnemucca, 623-5071 or 800-962-2638.

Silver State Stampede • July 13-15 • PRCA Wilderness Circuit Pro Rodeo. Fairgrounds, Elko, 738-1499.

U.S. Team Roping Championship: Northwest Regional Qualifier • July 18-21 • Free admission. Fairgrounds, Winnemucca, 623-3086 or 625-3009.

Lovelock Frontier Days • July 26-28 • Parade, music, Basque dancers, flea market, street dance, car show, games and contests, softball tournament, pancake breakfast. County Park, 273-7213 or 273-7144.

Winnemucca Hot August Nights • July 26-29 • Fifth annual, Lil' Elmo and the Cosmos perform an outdoor concert on Fri., show 'n' shines, barbecue, pancake breakfast, trivia and poker runs, drag races. Red Lion and Winners hotels, convention center, 623-6458 or 800-WMCA-NEV.

Wells Junior Rodeo • Aug. 3-4 • 752-3553, 752-3644, or 752-3896.

Nevada Cutting Spectacular and Winnemucca Summer Cutting • Aug. 5-11 • 12th annual, cutting horse show, barbecues, entertainment, street dance. Fairgrounds, Winnemucca, 849-1476 or 520-636-0695.

Jarbidge Days • Aug. 10-11 • Arts and crafts, dance on Sat. Jarbidge Town Hall, 488-2311.

Lovelock Junior Rodeo • Aug. 10-11 • Rodeo grounds, 273-7213.

U.S. Team Roping Championship: Northwest Regional Finals • Aug. 21-25 • Teams from the Western U.S. Fairgrounds, Winnemucca, 623-5071 or 800-WMCA-NEV.

Elko County Fair • Aug. 30-Sept. 2 • 75th annual, 4-H show and sale, horse races, parimutuel horse show, branding, team penning and roping, parade, dance, buckaroo breakfast. Fairgrounds, Elko, 738-3616.

Winnemucca Tri-County Fair and Stampede • Aug. 30-Sept. 2 • 75th annual PRCA Labor Day Rodeo on Fri. and Sat., Williams and Ree perform 7pm on Sun., hot-air balloon rally, emigrant encampment, wagon train departs on Mon. to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Applegate Trail. Fairgrounds, Winnemucca, 623-5071.



Strongmen flex their pecs at Elko's National Basque Festival, July 5-7

FOURTH OF JULY

Lovelock Fourth of July Fireworks Show • July 4 • McDougal Ball Park, 273-7213.

Fourth of July Gala Celebration • July 4 • Family run and bike ride, parade at 10am, picnic and barbecue noon-4pm, fireworks at dusk. Three-Mile Hill, Scobie Park, Wendover, 664-3414.

Jarbidge Fourth of July Barbecue and Dance • July 5-6 • Dance on Fri. and Sat. with music by Running For Cover, parade at noon and pit barbecue at 4pm on July 6, children's games and races. Jarbidge Town Hall, Outdoor Inn, 488-2311.

PERFORMANCES

Zenbat Gara Basque Dancers • July 27 • Performance of traditional dances in authentic regional costumes as part of Frontier Days. City Park, Lovelock, 273-2005 or 273-2197.

EXHIBITS

Basque Exhibit • Thru July 31 • Coinciding with National Basque Festival. Museum Gallery, Northeastern Nevada Museum, Elko, 738-3418.

Photo: Shirley Yvonne Fraser

PREVIEW

Rodeo Season in Fallon



Steer wrestlers hold on tight at Fallon's popular back-to-back rodeos in July.

Rodeo fans seeking broncs, bulls, and brave buckaroos this season in rural Nevada will find two special events in Fallon.

On July 3-7, 450 high school kids will invade the Fallon fairgrounds to rope and ride in the 11th annual **Silver State International Rodeo**. Amateur and professional riders, most of these young cowboys and cowgirls are past champions from across the U.S. and Canada. Competition features the standard 13 events, including bull and bronc riding. More than $25,000 in scholarships and prizes will be awarded.

Spectators can watch the action in two continuing-action arenas. A trade show and Western parade on Fallon's Maine Street also are planned. For information call 702-423-4674.

Two weeks later, on July 19-21, Fallon celebrates Native American heritage and cultures with the 29th annual **All-Indian Stampede and Nevada Indian Days Powwow**. Participants come from as far as Mexico and Canada for the action-packed weekend of rodeoing, tribal dance and song, crafts, and food; some fans even make a yearly trek from New Zealand. A qualifying event for national competition, the rodeo pays $40,000 in money and prizes. The all-Indian rodeo is known for its authentic exhibits of Indian tradition and unusual events such as the Mane and Tail, which challenges the riders to hang on to an ornery bronc without reins or saddle.

The Indian Days Powwow welcomes tribal groups from across the country and Canada. Performers take part in the Hand-Drum Contest and Owl and Clown dances. At the crafts fair, artisans weave intricate beadwork and hone silver into tools. Food booths offer traditional recipes using pinenuts, acorns, and herbs as well as tamales and fry bread. The event is alcohol free. Spectators can participate in hand-games, old-fashioned trading, and a rodeo Calcutta. For information call 702-423-2544.—*Renee Ballenger*

Photo: Gustafson Rodeo Photography

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Rural

Art in the Park • July 20-21 • 12th annual, original art, handmade crafts. City Park, Elko, 753-3581 or 738-1553.
Sarah Sweetwater Exhibit • Aug. 2-Sept. 30 • Memorabilia and photographs. Museum Gallery, Northeastern Nevada Museum, Elko, 738-3418.
Western Art Roundup • Aug. 30-Sept. 2 • Winnemucca, 529-0452 or 623-2225.

GENERAL INTEREST

Oregon-California Trail Assn. Convention • Aug. 14-17 • Tours, workshops, guest speakers, banquets, kiosk dedication for the sesquicentennial of the Hastings-Donner Trail and Donner Party trek across Nevada. Elko Convention Center, 738-4091 or 800-248-3556.

SPORTS & TOURNAMENTS

Run and Ride • July 4 • 12th annual, eight-mile bike ride and 5K run. State Line and Silver Smith hotels, Wendover, 800-848-7300.
Safety Olympiad • July 8-13 • Team mine-rescue competition with accident scenarios. Elko, 738-4091 or 800-248-3556.
Summer Mixed Ball Golf Tournament • July 15-16 • Toana Vista Golf Course, sponsored by the State Line and Silver Smith hotels, Wendover, 664-2231 or 800-848-7300.
One-Man Scramble Golf Tournament • Aug. 1-2 • Toana Vista Golf Course, sponsored by the State Line and Silver Smith hotels, Wendover, 664-2231.
World Fast Draw Championships • Aug. 17-18 • Shoot-out with participants dressed as celebrities such as John Wayne, Western crafts, chili cook-off. County Park, Lovelock, 273-7213 or 273-7144.
Fall Mixed Ball Golf Tournament • Aug. 22-23 • Toana Vista Golf Course, sponsored by the State Line and Silver Smith hotels, Wendover, 664-2231.

CAR SHOWS & RACES

Bonneville Opener and Hot Salt II • July 24-28 • Street rods, custom cars, land-speed racing, poker run, BLM tours around the Bonneville Salt Flats, golf tournament, historic land-speed race-car exhibit featuring the Mormon Meteor, '50s and '60s dance. Bonneville Salt Flats, Wendover, 801-533-9176.
Fun Run Classic Car Show • July 26-28 • City Park, Wells, 752-3540.
Bonneville Speed Week • Aug. 17-23 • 48th annual, attempts at land-speed records. Bonneville Salt Flats, Wendover, 619-274-8826.

GAMING

Silver Smith Slot Tournament • July 10-13 • Silver Smith Hotel, Wendover, 664-2231 or 800-848-7300.
Hot August Nights Keno Tournament • Aug. 4-5 • Peppermill, Wendover, 800-648-9696.

PONY EXPRESS TERRITORY

RODEOS, FAIRS & FESTIVALS

Silver State International Rodeo • July 3-7 • 11th annual, downtown parade 10am on July 4, championship youth rodeo with contestants coming from the U.S. and



Colorful hot-air balloons fly over Winnemucca during the Tri-County Fair and Stampede, August 30-September 2.

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Photo: Tom Felts

Canada. Fairgrounds, Fallon, 423-4674 or 423-7668.

All-Indian Rodeo, Stampede, and Pioneer Days • July 19-21 • Indian rodeo, Native American foods. Fallon, 423-2544.

Bristlecone Arts in the Park • Aug. 3-4 • 13th annual, arts and crafts, ethnic foods, bands. County Park, Ely, 289-2671 or 289-4038.

Eureka County Fair • Aug. 9-11 • Sheep show, working-dog contest, roping, hay contest, exhibits, carnival, band on Sat. night, operating display of Eureka and Palisade Railroad locomotives. Fairgrounds, Eureka, 754-2344, 237-5263, or 237-5269.

Raildays '96 • Aug. 31 • Battle of the Rails contest with spike driving and races, auction, barbecue, street dance, $12. Nevada Northern Railway Museum, East Ely, 289-2085.

White Pine County Fair • Aug. 31-Sept. 1 • Fairgrounds, Ely, 289-8877.

FOURTH OF JULY

Austin Fourth of July Parade and Roping • July 4 • Community parade, children's street racing. Austin Roping Arena, Main Street, 964-2304 or 964-2530.

Fernley Fourth of July Celebration • July 4• Barbecue, parade on Main Street, calf roping, band music, fireworks. Out of Town Park, 575-4459.

Ely Fireworks Train • July 4 • Barbecue and train ride to the fireworks, departs at 6:30pm, $14 adults, $10 children. Nevada Northern Railway Museum, East Ely, 289-2085.

Eureka Fourth of July Celebration • July 4-7 • Parade at 10am, horseshoes, waterfights, roping, fireworks at 9pm on Thurs., chili cook-off Fri. and Sat., sponsored by the Eureka and Palisade Railroad Assn. Fairgrounds, Main Street, Eureka, 237-5269 or 237-5484.

PERFORMANCES

Inca, the Peruvian Ensemble • Aug. 16 • Six-member group performs traditional folk music of the Andes Mountains. Churchill County High School Theatre, Fallon, 423-1440.

GENERAL INTEREST

Nevada United Four Wheelers Assn. Convention • July 12-14 • Ghost town and mining community tours in Central Nevada, speakers. Bristlecone Convention Center, Ely, 289-6798.

Hidden Cave Tours • July 13 and 27 and Aug. 10 and 24 • 9:30 am, BLM guide leads hike to archaeological site. Churchill County Museum, Fallon, 423-3677.

Ely After Dark • July 13 and Aug. 10 • One-and-a-half hour trip along the Keystone Route on a diesel train, departs at dusk, with cheese, crackers, and wine provided, $19.95. Nevada Northern Railway Museum, East Ely, 289-2085.

Useful Plants of the Great Basin • July 20 and Aug. 17 • 10th anniversary program with naturalist Jody Davila. Great Basin National Park, Baker, 234-7270.

A Celebration of Nature Concert • Aug. 24 • 10th anniversary program. Great Basin National Park, Baker, 234-7270.

Snake Valley Reunion • Aug. 31-Sept. 1 • Dance, pioneer and ranching skills demonstrations. Great Basin National Park, Baker, 234-7270.

CONTESTS

Lyon County Live Duck Race and Duck Costume Contest • Aug. 24-25 • Ducks race a 16-foot run and compete in Best Dressed Duck and Duck Quacking contests, duck rental available, activities include barbecue, mud volleyball, pet show, craft fair. Penny Park, Silver Springs, 577-0305.

Louie Gibellini Single Jack and Mining Contest • Aug. 31 • Team mucking, double- and single-jack drilling, spike driving, tug of war, arm wrestling, horseshoe tournament, events open to men and women. Fairgrounds, Eureka, 237-5484 or 237-5280.

PIONEER TERRITORY

RODEOS, FAIRS & FESTIVALS

Lyon County Fair and Rodeo • Aug. 15-18 • Kids' day on Thurs., hay booming on Fri., rodeo, truck and tractor pull, dance, and parade on Sat., demolition derby on Sun. Yerington, 463-2090 or 463-2245.

Lincoln County Fair • Aug. 17-24 • Rodeo on Aug. 23-24, foot race, barbecue, kids' BMX races, exhibits, stock dogs working cows and sheep on Aug. 24. Fairgrounds, Panaca, 726-3333.

Spirit of Wovoka Days Powwow • Aug. 23-25 • Native American costumes, arts and crafts. Pat Peeples Softball Field, Yerington, 463-5834 or 463-2350.

SEASONAL

Mason Valley Fourth of July Celebration • July 4 • Junior rodeo, fireworks. Fairgrounds and Kiddie Park, Yerington, 463-2245.

Pioche Labor Day Celebration • Aug. 30-Sept. 2 • Street dance, nighttime electric-light parade, mining events, softball tournament, Dutch-oven dinner, games, crafts, 962-5245.

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Rural

GENERAL

Gigantic Rummage Sale • July 27-28 • 23rd annual, furniture, pictures, kitchenware, clothing, fund-raiser for the Community Hall. Smith Valley, 465-2304.

CAR SHOWS & RACES

Classic Desert Nights • Aug. 16-18 • Classic-car show 'n' shine, barbecue, poker run, dance. Joe Friel Complex, Tonopah, 482-6221 or 482-6752.

VORRA Off-Road Races • Aug. 31-Sept. 2 • Yerington, 463-2245.

TOURS

Fossil House and Ghost Town Tours • State park rangers lead daily tours of 225-million-year-old ichthyosaur fossils at 10am, 2 and 4pm, and of the Berlin ghost town site. Berlin-Ichthyosaur State Park, 964-2440.

COMING EVENTS

Mineral County Fair and Rodeo • Sept. 6-8 • Hawthorne, 945-5896.

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

Pahrump Valley Harvest Festival • Sept. 13-15 • 727-5800.

Yerington's Great American Sack Race and Pizen Switch Run • Sept. 14 • 463-2245.

World of Speed • Sept. 20-23 • Bonneville Salt Flats, Wendover, 801-785-5364.

Silver State Classic Challenge • Sept. 21-22 • Auto race, Ely, 289-8877.

One Awesome Tour: Bike Ride Across Nevada (OATBRAN) • Sept. 22-28 • 588-9658.

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

Smith Valley Fun Day • Oct. 6 • 465-2354.

Bonneville World Finals • Oct. 13-15 • Bonneville Salt Flats, Wendover, 664-3414.

Te-Moak Powwow • Oct. 19-20 • Elko, 738-7681.

Harvest Farm Auction • Oct. 20 • Smith Valley, 463-2245.

Great Beatty Burro Races • Oct. 26-27 • 553-2424.

Nevada Day Parade • Oct. 31 • Elko, 738-7001.

Cowboy Poetry Gathering • Jan. 25-Feb. 1 • Elko, 738-7508.

Fallon Air Show • May 17, 1997 • Naval Air Station, 423-4556.

SHOWGUIDE

Casinos often bring star entertainment to rural Nevada. For example, Chubby Checker will appear at Cactus Petes in Jackpot, and the popular group Band on the Run plays at the Winners Hotel in Winnemucca. Many lounges have comedy or karaoke during the week and bands on weekends. Call ahead for show times.

COWBOY COUNTRY

BATTLE MOUNTAIN

Owl Club • 635-5155.



Ely's Bristlecone Arts in the Park, August 3-4, offers homemade crafts, ethnic foods, and live music.

ELKO

Commercial Hotel • 738-3181: Comedians perform 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 toll-free 800-648-2345 (U.S. and Nevada); weekend entertainment.

JACKPOT

Barton's Club 93 • 755-2341.
Cactus Petes • 755-2321 or 800-821-1103: Cabaret Lounge: An Evening at the Improv, July 9-14 and Aug. 6-11; the Buck Ram Platters, July 16-21; Sons of the Pioneers, July 23-28; Chubby Checker, July 30-Aug. 4.
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: Band on the Run, July 2-7 and Aug. 13-18; Kim Diamond, July 9-21; Ego Maniacs, July 23-29; R.C. and Lonesome Heart, July 30-Aug. 11; Eddie Dunbar Band, Aug. 27-Sept. 1; karaoke on Mon.; comedy on Wed.

PONY EXPRESS TERRITORY

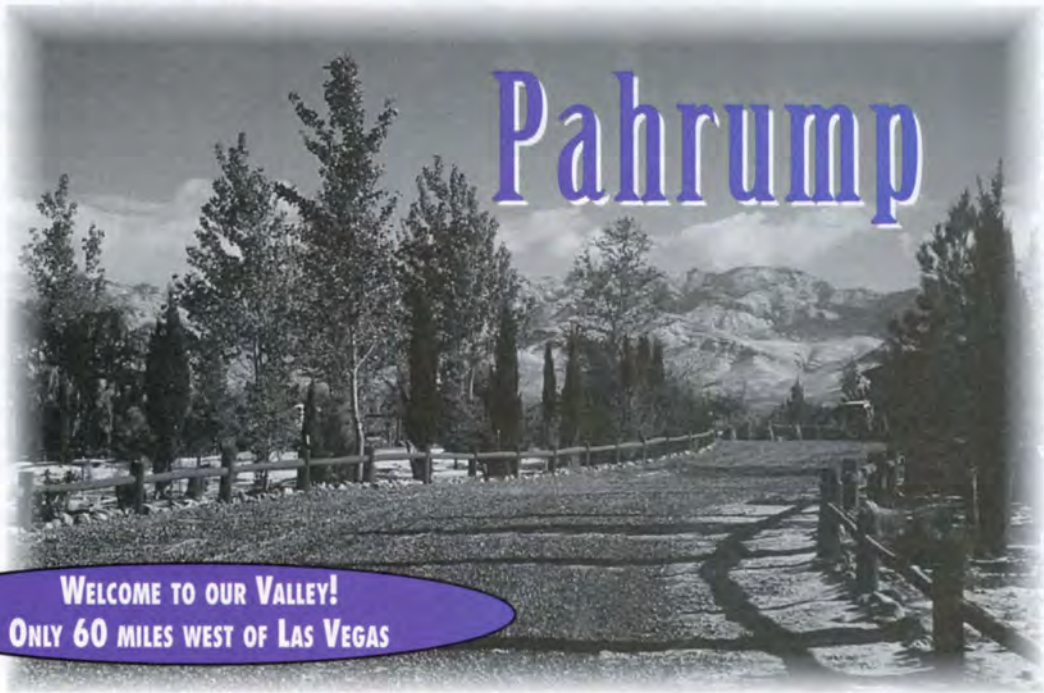
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Hotel Nevada and Gambling Hall • 289-6665: Comedy on Tues.

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Fallon Nugget • 423-3111.

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Photo: Bristlecone Arts

PIONEER TERRITORY

AMARGOSA VALLEY

Longstreet Inn • 372-1777· Entertainment on weekends.

BEATTY

Stagecoach Hotel • 553-2419 or 800-4-BIGWIN (U.S. outside Nevada): Smoke House, July 5-6 and Aug. 23-24; Kool Water, July 12-13; Morgan Territory, July 19-20; Mo Beach, July 26-27 and Aug. 9-10; Hired Guns, Aug. 2-3; Page 3, Aug. 16-17. Bands provide music on weekends in the Stagecoach Lounge, where there's room for dancing.

HAWTHORNE

El Capitan • 945-3321.
Joe's Tavern • 945-2302.

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Mountain View Casino and Bowl • 727-7777.
Saddle West Casino • 727-1111 or 800-GEDDY-UP.

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Mizpah Hotel • 482-6202.
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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.
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. 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 • 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 • Camping, picnicking, ranger-led tours of fossil house and ghost town. 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.

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.



The Nevada Northern Railway Museum presents special events and train rides on the line that once served White Pine County's copper industry. Raildays '96, August 31, is a major train-buff gathering.

Making Tracks to Ely

Summer in Ely is rail-riding time, as the Nevada Northern Railway holds train trips, a new "after dark" tour, and its annual Raildays on Labor Day weekend.

On July 4, following a Western-style barbecue, the **Fireworks Train** departs at 6:30 p.m. to view the holiday fireworks held in the foothills between Ely and McGill, 12 miles north of town. Tickets are $14 for adults and $10 for children under 12.

The **Ely After Dark** tours—July 13 and August 10—will be 90-minute excursions in a restored Pullman coach with complimentary wine and hors d'oeuvres. A new program this season, Ely After Dark takes passengers on the Keystone Route, 14 miles round trip, over the old tracks to Copper Flat. Tickets are $19.95, and advance reservations are required. The train departs at dusk with the 1952 RS-3 Alco diesel locomotive No. 109 leading two passenger cars. The coaches' interiors have been refurbished and transformed into turn-of-the-century Victorian dining cars with lace, red brocade, vintage light fixtures, tables, and a bar. The Saturday-evening rides will include wine, cheese and crackers, fruit, and musical entertainment.

The Nevada Northern Railway was incorporated in 1905 to serve the area's copper industry and ceased operation in 1983. It was built by Mark Requa, son of a Comstock silver magnate and founder of the White Pine Copper Company, as a direct route for hauling copper north to the Southern Pacific Railroad at Cobre (Spanish for copper). Locomotive No. 109 was used from 1952 to 1978 to carry ore from the mines at Copper Flat to the smelter in McGill. White Pine citizens revived the railroad as a tourist train in 1987

Summer activities close with **Raildays '96**, scheduled for August 31 The railroad-related festivities include the Battle of the Rails competition at noon on Saturday, where teams compete in contests such as flat-car races and spike driving. There will be an auction that evening, followed by a barbecue and street dance. The cost is $12.

The Nevada Northern's regular summer schedule continues until September 1 On selected weekends steam locomotive trips on the Ghost Train of Old Ely leave at 1 and 3:30 p.m. and diesel trips depart the East Ely depot at 5:30 p.m. Saturday. Call the Nevada Northern Railway Museum, 702-289-2085, for more information.—*Katherine McDonnell*

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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. Restaurant features a variety of international cuisines plus prime rib served nightly. B, L, D. $, major credit cards accepted.

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 roughy with black pepper sauce. Beef, shrimp, chicken, and pork sautéed with Chinese vegetables in oyster sauce. D. $-$$, major.



Ming Terrace at the Imperial Palace in Las Vegas serves Mandarin and Cantonese dishes.

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. Homemade 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

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Carson Nugget/Buffet—882-1626. Sunday champagne brunch, Saturday breakfast buffet, Friday seafood buffet. B, L, D. $, major.

Carson Nugget/Coffee Shop—882-1626. Open 24 hours. B, L, D. $, major.

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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. Casino buffet restaurant, open daily. B, L, D. $, major.

Holiday Hotel Casino/Shore Room—Reno, 329-0411. Entrees include fresh salmon in chive sauce, chicken, prime rib, steamed vegetable basket. B, L, D. $, major.

Peppermill Hotel/Coffee Shop—Reno, 826-2121. Filet of chicken croissant, Mediterranean omelet, California tostada salad, stuffed shells Florentine. B, L, D. $-$$, major.

Peppermill Hotel/Island Buffet—Reno, 826-2121. Seafood buffet 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 credit cards accepted.

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

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.

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, spicy roast chicken, seafood fettucine. D. $$, major.

Lake Tahoe

AMERICAN

Caesars Tahoe/Cafe Roma—Stateline, 588-3515. Lamb chops, prime rib. B, L, D. $-$$, major.

ITALIAN

Caesars Tahoe/Primavera—Stateline, 588-3515. Linguini carbonara, tenderloin pizzaiola, 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 are required 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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Where to call or write for travel tips.

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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).



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.

Statewide Information

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

Las Vegas Territory

African American Activities: 3838 Raymert Dr., Las Vegas, NV 89121; 456-3838

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

Boulder City Visitor Center: 100 Nevada Hwy., Boulder City, NV 89005; 294-1252

Henderson C of C: 590 S. Boulder Hwy., Henderson, NV 89015; 565-8951

Hoover Dam Visitors Services: Box 60400, Boulder City, NV 89006; 294-3523

Jean Visitor Center: Interstate 15 Rest Area (8 mi. south of Jean), Jean, NV 89019; 874-1360

Las Vegas C of C: 711 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 Center: 1555 Casino Dr., Laughlin, NV 89029; 298-3321 or 800-452-8445

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

Mesquite Visitor Center: Interstate 15 Exit 122, Box 1560, Mesquite, NV 89024; 346-2703

Moapa Valley C of C: Hwy. 169, Box 361, Overton, NV 89040; 397-2160

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

Reno-Tahoe Territory

Carson City C of C: 1900 S. Carson St., Suite 100, Carson City, NV 89701; 882-1565

Carson City Convention and Visitors Bureau: 1900 S. Carson St., Suite 200, Carson City, NV 89701; 687-7410 or 800-NEVADA-1 in U.S.

Carson Valley C of C and Visitors Authority: 1524 Hwy. 395, No. 1, Gardnerville, NV 89410-7814; 782-8144 or 800-727-7677 in U.S.

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 (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

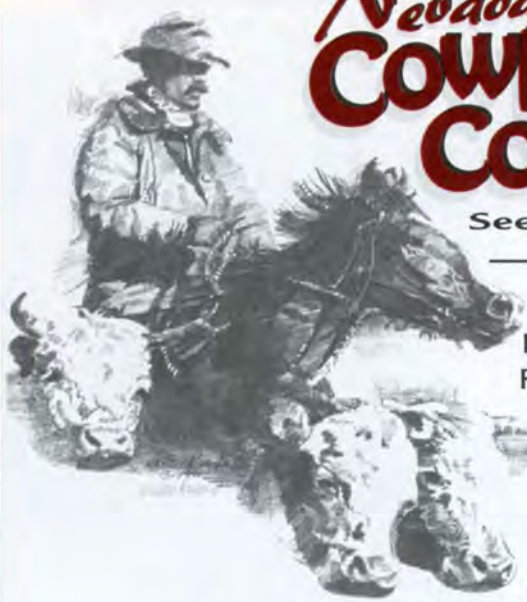
State and National Parks

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: HCR 33, Box 5500, Las Vegas, NV 89124; 363-1921

More Outdoor Activities

Bicycling in Nevada: Nevada Dept. of Transportation: 1263 S. Stewart St., Carson City, NV 89712; 687-4997
Bureau of Land Management: Main: Box 12000, Reno, NV 89520; 785-6402; Box 26569, Las Vegas, NV 89126; 647-5000; Box 831, Elko, NV 89801; 738-4071
Humboldt National Forest: 2035 Last Chance Rd., Elko, NV 89801; 738-5171
Nevada Division of Wildlife: Main: Box 10678, Reno, NV 89520; 688-1500; Southern Nevada: State Mail Complex, Las Vegas, NV 89158; 486-5127
Pyramid Lake: Pyramid Lake Fisheries: Star Route, Sutcliffe, NV 89510; 476-0500
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Guaranteed TOURS

The Men From Plaid

The singing nerds of "Forever Plaid" make a smart show.

By Mike Weatherford



"Forever Plaid" at the Flamingo Hilton Las Vegas delivers four lads patterned after '50s groups.

The big revues on the Las Vegas Strip bombard you with giant sets and special effects. But "Forever Plaid" wields quieter charms on a small, bare stage: classic tunes, warm humor, and something not found in many of the spectacles—intelligence.

The off-Broadway favorite is a sleeper hit in the Flamingo Hilton's cozy show lounge, Bugsy's Celebrity Theatre, a 200-seat room that previously struggled to find a niche with impersonator revues. The success of "Forever Plaid" has demonstrated that a revue accompanied by piano and bass, and performed with minimal staging, could hold its own amid the big shows—with the help of bathroom plungers, sombreros, and other creatively applied props.

The revue fondly rekindles the vocal quartets of the '50s in a format that allows a mildly satirical twist: The Four Plaids are a fledgling quartet in the tradition of the Four Lads, Aces, and Freshmen, until their career is cut short by a catastrophic collision with a busload of schoolgirls who are on their way to see the Beatles. Mystical forces and "astro-technical stuff" align to give the nervous and slightly inept Plaids one more chance to perform the show they never got to deliver.

And it's a delight. The script is deceptively well-written, giving a flow to the proceedings and distinctive personalities to the singers (a revolving cast of six "Plaid" veterans rotate in the four roles). While most revues hit the ground running, this one builds gradually, as the reformed nerds gradually gain confidence to deliver the show of their (after)lives.

The show offers an attention to detail and an affection for the era as well as the music.

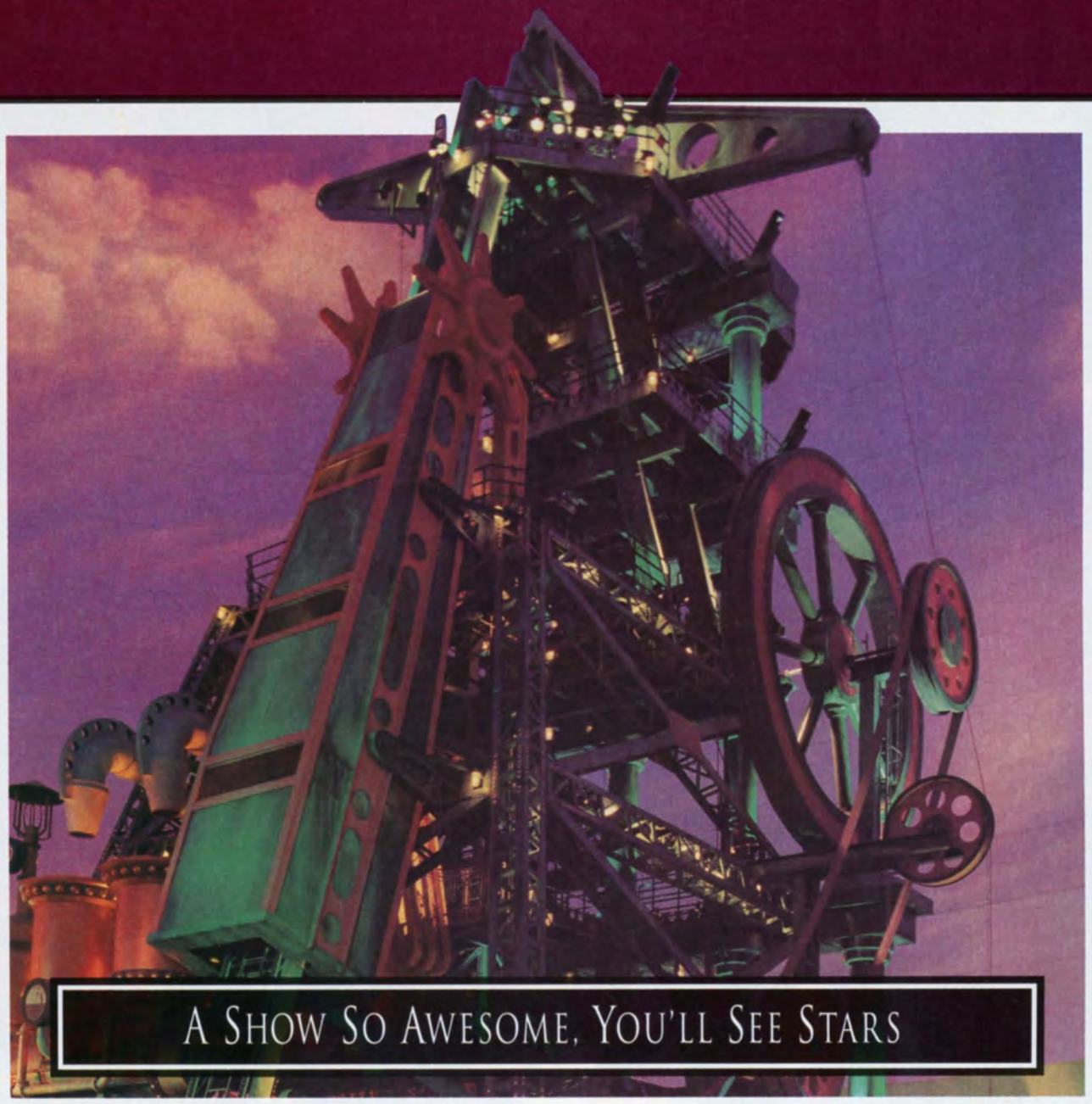
The simple staging makes you think the revue will play all its cards in the first 20 minutes, as the Plaids fend off nosebleeds and other visible signs of stage fright to deliver standards such as "Three Coins in the Fountain" and "Cry." But writer-director Stuart Ross does a clever job of finding new plateaus, including a Caribbean mini-production number of "Matilda," which takes the action into the audience, and an Ed Sullivan spoof that compresses the late columnist's hour-long TV show into three minutes. The show offers an attention to detail and an affection for the era as well as the music. Audiences laugh at Ross' recollections of high school audiovisual clubs and the thrill of opening the shrink-wrap on a record album.

It's hard to say which is the bigger achievement of "Forever Plaid": That it can simultaneously kindle nostalgia for older audiences while winning over younger ones with its winking sense of humor, or that it's the best-written and most tasteful show in Las Vegas.

Forever at the Flamingo

"Forever Plaid" plays in Bugsy's Celebrity Theatre at 7:30 and 10 nightly (dark Monday) at the Flamingo Hilton Las Vegas. Tickets are $17.95, tax and cocktails not included. Call 702-733-3333 for reservations.

Mike Weatherford is a Las Vegas Review-Journal *entertainment reporter.*



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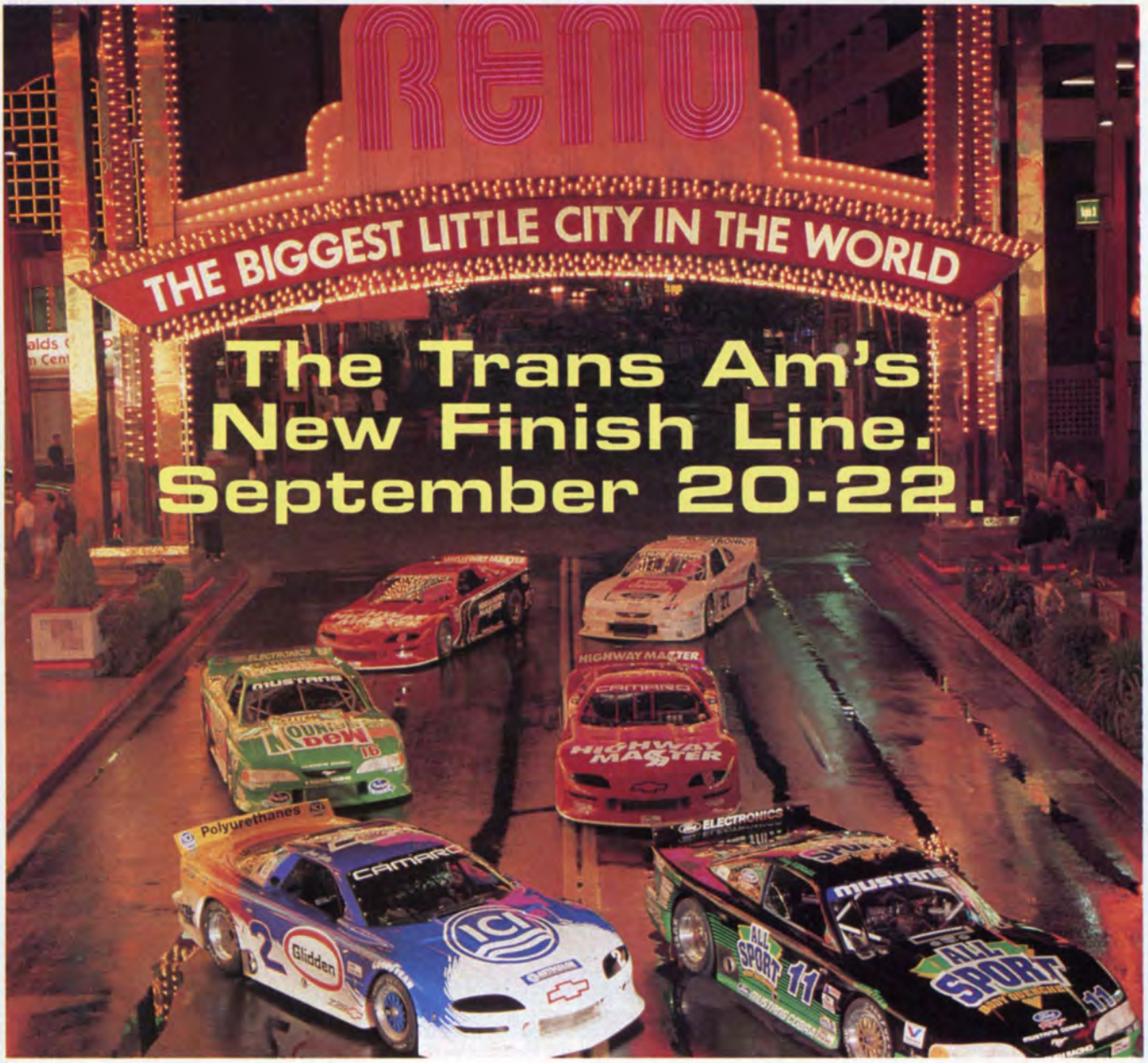
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