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PROFILES

by Percy Villa

Meet the first lady to be 'Profiled' by us and the first lady of the local society pages, DEE SPENCER McMAHEN, REVIEW JOURNAL SOCIETY and ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR.

Dee was born in January, 1925 in Belvidere, Illinois where she attended schools and graduated from Belvidere High. She later attended a special school majoring in English and Contemporary Literature.

She worked for two years as a society editor for the Belvidere Daily Republican. In 1950 she was a police reporter for the Rockford (Illinois) Morning Star and Register Republic. During the same time, she had a five-piece combo, appearing throughout the immediate Midwest.

She is not a middle-of-the-roader. You are either her friend or you are not.

She doesn't imply by this that if you are nother friend, she dislikes you. She just doesn't waste a second thought on you. Dee is an independent.

After 4-1/2 years with two newspapers, she married Sunny Spencer (who now appears nightly in Vegas Hotels with his own group). For a while she left the newspaper and joined Sunny's group as a piano and bass player.

She loves to read. Claims to be the world's worst cook. She thinks pink cars are the worst taste.

After Dee had traveled with the group for six years, she joined Gene Austin's group, The Whipperwills,



DEE

as a drummer for 2 years, eventually being booked in Vegas. After appearing here for seven months she joined the editorial staff of the R-J on May 2, 1960.

She is a plain food eater. ("I don't go for fancy dishes. When I like a food, I stay with it.") Her favorite foods are steak, baked potatoes and most any soup. Usually has a drink with her dinner.

The past two years she has added being the entertainment editor for the R-J. She attends most of the openings on the Strip and even the Casino Center Hotels.

Her favorite all-time entertainers are Sammy Davis Jr., and Judy Garland.

Dee worked on NBC national network, radio, records. Traveled with the Sunny Spencer Show through the United States, playing all major clubs and hotels.

Her job at the R-J includes reporting on weddings, en-

gagements, community events, parties, galas, benefits and feature stories. She also does the Sunday Society markeup for the section and writes a "homey" column, "Dear Diary," in addition to covering fashions, food, home furnishings, etc.

Dee has a daughter Valerie, 15, who is a sophomore at Valley High School. many times Valerie would appear with Dee on road shows, dancing and singing. She is a typical teenager, loves rock 'n roll music and is a record collector. Her ambition is to be either a news-woman or an airline hostess.

Dee also has a son, Bradley, 21-1/2 who is a senior at Wisconsin State Teacher's College, Whitewater, Wisc., majoring in biology. Handsome Bradley has (must be in the family) a popular recording group which travels four days and a night weekly, appearing at various universities and during the summer plays nightclubs and hotels throughout the midwest, east and south.

Rick and Dee own a beautiful home at 1088 Sierra Vista and the weekends are spent cleaning up the yard and the house.

She weighs 91 pounds, is 5 feet tall, and has beautiful blond hair. (She has a number of wigs, but won't say how many.)

The society section is a must even to most male readers, and for that Dee gives credit to Ann Valder and Judy Patterson of the staff.

She is very careful with the dimes and fancy free with the dollars. She loves to give presents and is delighted when surprised with one her self.

On May 8 of 1968 she married the likeable Richard A. McMahan (Rick). He is art director for the R-J.

Her hobbies are (what

Willkomm!

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