

ENTERTAINMENT
TRIP
AROUND
THE
WORLD



DICK MCINNES

ZERO TRIPPING....Went to a press luncheon for the great **ZERO MOSTEL** (at the equally great **JADE WEST Restaurant** last week. The food was terrific and Mostel was at his funniest. About the movie version of "Fiddler on the Roof?" "I'm not a critic but it was boring. It had nothing to do with **TOPOL**, he's a good actor. The scope of the movie was too big. When I was approached to do the movie with a different producer, we had a budget of \$750,000. The **JEWISON** version cost 19 million. Smaller would have been better. There was no need to make that show into such a big film." Why is he repeating his role (for the first time in L.A.)? "Because it's the most successful musical in Broadway history and besides they are paying quite well." Was "Fiddler" always good? "When I first read it, the script was bad and the score wasn't too hot but they worked on it. The first performance we gave was a **Blue Cross** benefit. I was the only Jew in the house. We thought they'd hate it but they loved it and cried at the end. You Christians have a lot of guilt." Why is "Fiddler" so popular even in the hinterlands? "The universality of poverty." How did he get the name of Zero? "I was born **Samuel Joel Mostel** but my grades were so bad that the other kids started calling me Zero and it stuck." Would he move to the West Coast? "Never, I'm a walker and there's no place to walk around here. I just put on my suit of armor and walk through **Central Park**. Seriously, I have never been mugged in the park but I have been kissed a few times." What role would he like to play? "Falstaff. I was invited to play it at **Stratford** but have never had the time. I am going to **London** next season to do "The Merchant" a new play by **ARNOLD Wesker** who wrote "The Kitchen" so maybe it'll happen then." What are his two sons doing? "One is an actor, the other is a **Renaissance** scholar, a painter and a borrower." Does his painting (for which he's very well known) help his acting or vice versa? "Money wise, my acting helps my painting." With that he finished his **Sports Deli** sandwich, he wasn't ready for the **Chinese** food and left. I had told him that I used to be an usher at the **Alvin Theatre** in **New York** when he did "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum" and he smiled "I bet you never saw the same show twice, did you?" He's right but what a show!

THEATRE TRIPPING....So where did I go the next weekend, right! To see "Fiddler on the Roof." And it is an absolute joy! A lot of musicals like "Hello, Dolly" and "Mame" to name a few don't seem to hold up. When you go back to see them, you realize that they aren't very good shows. It's usually the **Channing**, **Lamoura**, **Baileys**, **Rogers**, **Lansburys** that make you love the shows. Now first off, **Mostel** is truly fabulous. He is a genius and he does make **Tevye** one of the most enduring characters in musical history but the show is also fabulous. Every scene is beautifully written and the score still stands on its own merits. This particular production has been given the full treatment. The sets are the originals and the costumes are perfect. Supporting cast is good now and I know that after a few weeks they will be top notch. **RUTH JAROSLOW** as **Yente**, **PAUL LIPSON** (who has starred as **Tevye** on Broadway himself) as **Laza Wolf** the butcher, **IRWIN PEARL** as **Model** the tailor are all particularly good. By the way, it's first time since "Follies" that I have seen the entire house stand up and cheer at the curtain call and deservedly so.

Take a bow this week yourself. You deserve it, too.

STARDUST HOTEL \$70,000,000 EXPANSION

The first phases of a \$70 million Stardust Hotel expansion and renovation program will be completed in early July. Argent Corporation President and Chairman of the Board **Allen R. Glick** announced. The massive building project will include a complete \$3.5 million casino overhaul -- more than doubling its previous size -- a brand new \$1.6 million race and sports book, a \$1.5 million frontal face-lift, a 650 seat casino lounge, an expanded and remodeled 600-seat coffee shop, and eventually, a 1,000-room high rise addition.

Glick said all plans were finalized, except for the high rise. The financial arrangements for that phase, he said, are still being negotiated.

But already, much of the mammoth casino expansion is nearing completion. And when all is said and done, the Stardust will boast the largest gaming area in the world -- more than 70,000 sq. ft. of casino space.

By comparison, the **MGM Grand**, currently the world's largest casino, has "only" 50,000 sq. ft.

Glick said the Stardust will build a 650-seat casino lounge that will feature dusk till dawn entertainment. The new entertainment lounge will measure more than 9,000 sq. ft. in area, and will feature a revolving stage replete with the latest in technical sound and lighting equipment.

Glick said the new lounge facility will cost nearly three-quarters of a million dollars. It is scheduled for completion in mid-September or October

of this year. By nearly the same time, Glick added, a complete renovation of the Stardust's corps of restaurants should be finished. This will include the addition of a large 24-hour piano bar and holding area designed to accommodate more than 130 people.

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IDEAL GOLFING PROVIDED BY SAHARA

Las Vegas and visitors to this entertainment capital of the world will be in for a gala summer of golfing at the **Sahara-Nevada Country Club** with two special programs through **Labor Day, September 6**.

"Once again we are offering our 'Early Bird Golf Special' said **Charles Teel**, SNCC golf pro. And we also have added a 9-hole golf package, 'Twilight Golf

76.'" The "Early Bird Special" will include cart, greens fee and a \$3 coupon toward food or beverage at the **Country Club**, all for \$12. The program will be featured from 6 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

The "Twilight Golf 76'" program will include cart, greens fee and a drink ticket, all for \$6.50. Special hours for this program will be from 3:30 to 6 p.m.

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