

# LAS VEGAS SHOW EAST

## Bill Willard's VEGASTARS

The new Strip? It's on Boulder Highway if you ask L. NIEL DEXTER whose development company holds the Travel Lodge franchise for that thoroughfare and who would build a casino and 550 - room hotel on the corner of Tropicana Blvd. Why this location was picked DEXTER explained "We felt it was the hottest spot for the lowest priced land and because SUMMA CORP. has tied up all the land on the Strip and Paradise Road"...And SAM BOYD has the green light from the Planning Commish to build a nine - story 198 - room hotel and casino next to Sam's Town on Boulder Highway with restaurants, lounge and convention facilities.. Although California, Texas and Florida spread out with the biggest population growth since 1970, Nevada logged the highest percentage of any state -- 43.6%.... No snow, but SKI INDUSTRIES OF AMERICA is the largest of 48 conventions this month, some 14,000 at the Hilton and Convention Center this weekend. Smallest is BEER CAN COLLECTORS OF AMERICA with around 150 beer - empty - buffs comparing what they compare at the Showboat Thursday and Friday. County Commissioner THALIA DONDERO is standing tough for her ordinance to toss out head shops refusing a compromise from store owners to keep open but prohibit minors.

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CHARLES VANDA is bringing in the Mexico Symphony Thursday to UNLV's Ham Hall Master Series with conductor ENRIQUE BATIZ batoning works by Mozart, Rodrigo, Revueltas and Beethoven....JOHNNY DARK, comeding with DONNY & MARIE & JIMMY OSMOND at the Hilton -- he was a former regular on the siblings' network vidviewer -- sashayed outside the Oz circle last week to tape a guestint on "DINAH & FRIENDS".....TONY BENNETT has the indefatigable DAVID BRENNER for partner at the Sands a fortnight... ANN-MARGRET SHARES Caesars Palace bill with DINONATALI & RALPH ADANO, RAW SATIN Thursday through the 19th.....

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Among the celebs teeing off at the Desert Inn Country Club on the 20th for LPGA national pro - am are PRESIDENT GERALD FORD, BOB URICH, JOE DI MAGGIO, GLEN CAMPBELL, FRED DE CORDOVA, JIM (DALLAS) DAVIS, CLAUDE AKINS, MONTY HALL, and TELLY SAVALAS. Tourney Director HERB McDONALD opines the celeb list (and there's much more than the above on the way) doubles the established BOB HOPE and BING CROSBY golf events combined....BUDDY HACKETT and JOEY HEATHERTON take a Sahara week's fling opening Thursday. In the Casbar WAYNE FLOWERS & MADAME cast their risible aspersions alternating with the SAHARA GIRL'S SHOW....Guest presenters and hosts for "Best of Las Vegas" awards at the Tropicana taping March 21 will be ANN-MARGRET, JOAN RIVERS, TONY ORLANDO, RIP TAYLOR and producer JOE PETERSON hopes MILTON BERLE will be on hand also....Silverbird's Silver Star lounge reverts to a poker parlor on April 20 with last hurrah belted by THE CHECKMATES. The explosive ZARAS are in there through Sunday.

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TORI PADELLFORD is Anne Frank in the Meadows Playhouse production of "The Diary of Anne Frank," directed by JOAN SNYDER.... UNLV Jazz Ensemble will perform in the nations most exclusive club, the U.S. Senate office building March 26 under direction of FRANK GAGLIARDI. The 18 - piece jazz band took second place honors at Montreux fest four years ago.... Re the Caesars Palace Grand Prix swallowing precious gas during its whizzes around the new track to open behind the resort in October, the fuel is methanol.....Loved that Sahara seemingly non sequiter ad series about "Famous Bridges of the World" including a payoff blurb about GEORGE WASHINGTON's bridge -- his wooden false teeth bridge. Pitch was for the Sahara Bridge just finished spanning the huge parking lot on Paradise Road and the hotel....The Lake Mead Marina, where a bunch of the resorts and resort poobahs stasch their yachts, floated away after a storn the other day and it took some work to re-anchor the dock, restaurant and lounge.

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Las Vegan B. B. KING, who rarely plays the town, unfortunately, is embarking upon a world tour with guitar Lucille, bleating the blues in such countries as Ireland, England, France, Germany, Finland, Sweden, Norway and Denmark on the first leg; then to the Montreux Jazz Festival in Sweden, Brazil, Argentina, Australia, Japan, Hong Kong, Singapore, Manila and Bangkok. After the world, where else?... More celeb names came in for the LPGA national pro - am at the DI -- FRED McMURRAY, JACK KLUGMAN, EFREM ZIMBALIST, CHAD EVERETT, PETE MARSHALL, and WAYNE ROGERS according to coordinator PETE PETERS....RAY EADE is finding excellent response to his casino games instruction courses at Community College this spring semester winding May 9....Wanna see a movie premier without popcorn? Catch the Chamber of Commerce film "Coming On" produced by L. V. News Bureau in the Sahara showroom at noon March 21 at the C of C luncheon....New director of pufflicity and promos at the Tropicana is DON GUGLIELMINO, former sales manager of the Hotel Captain Cook, Anchorage....HERB PASTOR'S new venture downtown is SASSY SALLY, skedded to open April Fool's Day, no kidding, at First and Fremont.

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## ORIGINAL T-BONE TUESDAY

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A HORN HARDY Casino

American Academy of Dramatic Arts, located in the onetime famous Pasadena Community Playhouse (I'm one of the PCP Survivors), is holding auditions in Vegas March 28 - 29....DEBRA FEUER is recuping from car accident injury, a slight concussion, suffered last month while enrote to a party celebrating her signing for lead role in "Nightmares," shooting in Australia. Her pop plays keyboard for PAUL ANKA at the Riviera and mom is co-host on "Vegas Digest" Channel 10 with JOE DELANEY....ANKA plans to collaborate with MICHAEL McDONALD of the DOOBIE BROTHERS and PABLO CRUISERS CORY LERIOS AND DAVE JENKINS for some future hits..RED McILVAINE's "Vegas Connection" newsletter provides this finale "OOOUCH" with his typical deadpan humor -- "The Frontier's search for Miss "11," inspired by BO DEREK's success in the movie '10,' has gotten over 300 entries from across the country and England. In an effort to out - Bo Bo, some have braided their hair....had pictures taken while running on the beach....and one girl....with obviously lovely limbs changed her name to Bo Legs."

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