

# LAS VEGAS

# SUNDAY EAST

## Bill Willard's VEGASTARS

Travel agents are responsible for booking one - third of all rooms rented in Vegas which amounts to 4,000,000 persons who shell out something like \$114 billion a year. That's the word from ROSSI RALENKOTTER, the Convention Bureau's director of marketing and tourism, who also said that 46% of Vegas visitors travel by air....BURT REYNOLDS & DOM DE-LUISE dressed up like waiters to serve honoree WAYNE NEWTON'S table at National Conference of Christians and Jews \$150-a-plate dinner at Caesars Palace last Tuesday. Others curtsying to NEWTON, named as Distinguished Citizen of the Year by the org were NORM CROSBY, LOLA FALANA, NIPSEY RUSSELL, GOV. BOB LIST and CP's HARRY WALD. CROSBY hailed the evening's hero, part Cherokee, part Powhatan, part Irish and part German as an honorary Jew, quipping, "Now, you'll have 2000 years of suffering like the rest of us." Newton's comeback to that was "If anything, in the last two

months, I've been suffering," referring to his Aladdin purchase problems.

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Press night for the new BRECK WALL-PAT MAES "Bravo Vegas" at Imperial Palace was Wednesday...CRYSTAL GAYLE debuts Vegas at the Sahara with chortler MIKE NEUN.....LIBERACE, in final stanza of his summer Hilton roompacker, returns for a double fortnight September 23 after six frames touring theatres midwest and east coast...Sandstar TONY BENNETT inked for July 17 - 30 Harrah's reprise... It's been seven years since the SPINNERS played Vegas, but they make up for it in the BURT BACHARACH epic at MGM Grand through the 16th...DAVE BARRY, who opened with WAYNE NEWTON at the Frontier in time for the fireworks is preening about son Dana whose tune "Kamali" will be introed by HERB ALPERT in his new I.P. In the Circle F Lounge SAM BUTERA and FRANKIE CARR alternate with wild sounds and comedy... SIDRO'S ARMADA returns to Merrimint Lounge of the Mint for a month.

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Hacienda's jazz concert headliner Monday night is HERB JEFFRIES. Last week guitarist

MUNDELL LOWE headed the MERV GRIFFIN ALL-STARS. GRIFFIN taped at Caesars through Tuesday with guests KENNY ROGERS, CHRISTY LANE, CAL TJADER, BILLY PRESTON, SY-REETA, ARTHUR MURRAY DANCERS to name a few. Mr. G's Trans-American Video of Nevada wrapped the current series of "Hollywood Squares" at the Riviers after leasing the "Victor Awards" at the Hilton. Then a LYNDIA CARTER shoot and the weekend boxing spec for ABC wound up that week's work. Otherwise, there was nothing for the TAV crew to do.... CAL TJADER, by the by, with his Quintet, BILL BERRY & I.A. ALL-STAR BAND featuring ERNIE ANDREWS on vocals and sidemen JACK SHELDON, PETE CANDOLI, PETE CHRISTLIEB, MARSHALL ROYAL, JIMMY CLEVELAND, BUSTER COOPER, NAT PIERCE AND MONTY BUDWIG revved up the Sahara Congo Room last Sunday ayem at 2:30 for a Las Vegas Jazz Society concert with PETE BARBUTTI emcee.....CHIER skips back to Caesars for seven, then it's WILLIE NELSON time a week of 10 - gallon partying...."Side By Side By Sondheim" wrapped in UNI V's Judy Bayley Theatre with plentiful critical kudos handed ELMARIE WENDEL, GARY MARSHAL and CAROL KIMBALL.

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SUZANNE BUHRER'S "Hot Ginger & Dyna-

### PLAZA HA

### "HOT GINGER"

The Union Plaza Hotel believes in starting July 4 with a bang -- and no explosion has ever been more appropriate than "Hot Ginger And Dynamite!" -- the Suzanne Buhrer revue that attracted so much attention when it was originally produced at the Meadows Playhouse -- now guaranteed to attract even more attention when it moves into the showroom of the Union Plaza for daily 2 and 4 p.m. performances. "Hot Ginger and Dynamite!" debuts July 4 for a four week stretch ending July 24.

Produced and directed by Buhrer, whose career in show business was cemented when she became one of the comedy fixtures of Breck Wall's popular "Bottoms Up," the show also stars Jan Sutton, Phillip William McKinley, Peter Soderberg, and Sandy Smith, with Peter Bugel as musical director.

When "Hot Ginger" first opened, Buhrer was scared to death of audience reaction. "You're always afraid of bad reviews," she says. Fortunately, that's one fear she doesn't have to worry about anymore.

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