

LAS VEGAS

SHOWEAST

Bill Willard's VEGASTARS

Nearly 3,000,000 people visited Vegas the first three months of this year and all of that gambling around generated some \$417,000,000. Overall spending was approximately 1 billion. Word from Riviera's TONY ZOPPI about the missing LIZA MINELLI is that she'll turn up "to fill a limited engagement in the Riv's Versailles Theatre in mid-December." Also, the long-awaited debut of DOLLY PARTON has been delayed again, but the Riv hopes her role in "The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas," co-starring BURT REYNOLDS may have its world preem here next June when DOLLY plans her Vegas bow... "Smokey & the Bandit 2" should rack up hefty b.o. here -- a huge batch of extras were used by director HAL NEEDHAM on several locations hither & Thither... MAC DAVIS, stepping aside this week at the Grand for DEAN MARTIN, has his pic "Cheaper to Keep Her" and new Casablanca Album "Texas in My Rear-View Mirror" to contemplate for fall releases. He returns to the MGM stronghold for a fortnight Oct. 23.. New Hacienda

showroom maitre d' is JESSE MIRANDA, whose brother, BOBBY, has the same chores at the Frontier. Hacienda's Celeb Jazz last Monday spotted horn blowers PETE CHRISTLIEF and WARNE MARSH with LOU LEVY's piano tra-ceries. Fine bash.

★★★★★

CHER and PAUL ANKA play hopscotch a week at a time at Caesars Palace until ANN-MARGRET returns for her week opening Sept. 25. Then its FRANK SINATRA time....GARY MULE-DEER, off a wild whirl with ROGER MILLER at the Silverbird, guested on one of four MAYFNUTTER'S vidspex, but the comedian shelved most funny biz to warble some tunes including one of his own, "Cowboys & Dancers".....JOHNNY CARSON buzzes into the Sahara Friday & Saturday with the SAHARA GIRLS...Showroom goes dark while the JERRY LEWIS MDA TELETHON occupies weekend time and goes live from the Space Center Labor Day.....DOUG HENNING makes BILL COSBY disappear for ANDY WILLIAMS Hilton debut this week....AL SEBAY & DIAMONDHEAD, down from Harvey's at Lake Tahoe is in MGM lounge for a month....GARY NASEEF'S ZZ TOP Concert at the Silver Bowl on Sept. 21 will have open (non-reserved) seating. He expects 20,000.

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Money-money-money -- tyro keno player H. R. Yturralde took a stab with his crayon and marked his ticket at the Fremont after studying a how-to brochure, goofed by adding some more numbers, sat down to re-read the brochure as the board flashed eight of his numbers. He picked up \$50,000. And at the Maxim fellow named GEORGE RILEY from San Diego won \$8757 on a nickel slot and about that same time JAMES KARRIS lined up five 7's on a single coin dollar machine and won \$72,935. Largest jackpot paid by the resort...PAGE CAVANAUGH is back at the Union Plaza's Backstage Lounge while in the Omaha Lounge TWIN VASION alternates with MERMAIDS AND ME & YOU.....The great water war reached an armistice when Imperial Palace dropped its lawsuit against Caesars Palace across the Strip, a water drainage problem which caused flow to stop work projects at IP. Cease the fountains, stop watering your grass and even the garbage cans out in back, accomped the \$59,000 damage claim.....With piano stylist MAFALDA returning to MGM Lounge on Wednesday will be her faithful duo LOUIS CARTO, percussion and BUDDY HILL, keyboards... Meadows Playhouse gala invitation party honoring donors of \$250 or more to the theatre features CELESTE HOLM in a one-woman show Sept. 14.

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THINGS ARE HOT AT MEADOWS PLAYHOUSE

Things are hot at The Meadows Playhouse where season subscriptions for the fourth season are selling rapidly.

The season opens with the return engagement of "Hot Ginger and Dynamite!" brought back by popular demand. The zany original review by Suzanne Buhner opens September 16 for First Nighters and runs through October 11. It broke all box office records when it played in February, 1980 with a sold out house and turnaway crowds in the closing week.

Other plays schedules are: Same Time Next Year; A Christmas Carol; Side by Side by Sondheim; A Streetcar Named Desire; Fads, Flappers and Follies; Charley's Aunt and acclaimed "Godspell" to close the fourth season in July, 1981.

The Playhouse is located at 4735 South Maryland Parkway in the University Square Shopping Center, just south of UNLV.

Theatre goers are urged to contact the Playhouse box office 739-7825.

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