

LAS VEGAS SHOWCASE



The MGM Grand accounted for \$10 million or 7% of all gaming collections in the state.... Bigtime press agent factory from Hollywood, SOLTERS, ROSKIN, FRIEDMAN, Inc., which handles SINATRA, is putting out broadsides (excuse the expression) on DOLLY PARTON in advance of her Riviera opening Feb. 19. Chirped DOLLY via the SRF press release, "Since I got one of the bigger money deals (\$350,000 a week - BW), I certainly wanted to have one of the biggest and best shows seen here. I'm using my country roots as a foundation and what we feel is a fresh approach to the whole show. I'll be doing impressions and dancing and a lot of things that people have never seen me do before. Thing's I'VE never seen me do before." Now just what does DOLLY PARTON have in mind -- hmmm?...

MURRAY LANGSTON, who used to be the UNKNOWN COMIC, will be making funnies in Hawaii at the Comedy Corner, then a club in Anaheim and up to his hometown Montreal after he closes the Sahara Casbar Feb. 8... "Conversion of Momma," a play written by H. L. TANZ and DAVID GREENBLATT, will be presented by JOE BEHAR'S COMMUNITY DRAMA WORKSHOP in the Union Plaza's main showroom Feb. 9, 8 p.m. and it's free to the public... Did you hear TONY BENNETT singing "Blue Velvet" in "The Raging Bull?" TONY headlines at Tupperware Convention Center in Orlando, Fla., Feb. 20 and I certainly hope nobody pans him... CHARLES VANDA scrounged around to replace National Ballet of Spain for a Master Series Concert at UNLV's Ham Hall Feb. 3 and found OPERA LA CARTE for a perf of GILBERT & SULLIVAN's "Pirates of Penzance." But Las Vegans won't get to see LINDA RONSTADT, who clicked in the Broadway production of "Poff"... KIMO LANE is warbling in the Aladdin's Sinbad Lounge... Last Sunday's press party for DICK CONTINO at La Carreta, hosted by LINDA BEST, was sponsored by Heublein... JUDY BENTON is back in Union Plaza's Omaha lounge with ROSES & THORN and PAMELA PETFARKEN, and look for SHELE ADAMS back in Backstage on Friday... Speaking of back, the town is awaiting the return of "A Chorus Line" to the Desert Inn next Tuesday. For want of a better term I call it BURTON COHEN's triumph over adversity, spelled "Alcazar."



Musical Macchiaverna's
Ristorante Italiano
 953 E. Sahara
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MACCHIAVERNA'S In the Commercial center, 953 E. Sahara. Hours 6 p.m. to 11:30 seven days a week; Call 733-0225.

Macchiaverna's is a wonderful place! There's singing waiters, a trolley car in the center, and the traditional Italian food is terrific. Macchiaverna's is a family restaurant with a delightful atmosphere.

Theme of National Association of Home Builders confab and exhibition at Convention Center was "Where will our children live?" But some wag suggested retitling it "Where will our children get the money to live?" USC Trojan band marched up to entertain at kickoff ceremonies but the big draws Sat. and Sun. were luncheons with BEVERLY SILLS at the Hilton... Musical chairs topside in resorts Tropicana, Caesars Palace and Sahara with VERNON DANIEL named veep of gaming development for Ramada Inns' Gaming & Industrial Operations as JOHN GALLAWAY, trop veep and g.m. slips into DANIELS desk; HARRY WALD now exec veep and chief operating officer of CP elevated to prez and ROBERT SWANSON elected prez and chief operating officer of Del Webb Corp... Trop turnaround socko in "Folies Bergere" attendance with average of just under 1000 per per final four months of '80, which adds up to an estimated \$500,000 profit in the Tiffany Theatre.. Hacienda's chief PAUL LOWDEN signed a pact with BOB ARUM for televised fights from the new Matador Arena as Caesars phases out its fisticuffs -- all contingent upon okay of Nevada State Athletic Commission... SHECKY GREENE receives this

"CHORUS LINE" RETURNS TO D.I.

For those who missed it, and those who loved it, "A CHORUS LINE" -- one of the most sensational musicals of all time -- is singing and dancing in Las Vegas. The show's International Company is playing in the Desert Inn's Crystal Room for a limited engagement.

The proud recipient of the New York Drama Critic's Circle Award, nine Tony Awards and a Pulitzer Prize, "A CHORUS LINE" has shattered box office records on three continents.

Conceived choreographed and directed by Michael Bennett, "A CHORUS LINE" is a true - to - life sketch of the lives and experiences of Broadway show dancers. It was originally presented by Joseph Papp under the banner of the New York Shakespeare Festival.

The universally-acclaimed musical talent behind "A CHORUS LINE" is composer Marvin Hamlisch. Lyrics are by Edward Kleban, with book by James Kirkwood and Nicholas Dante.

The show is performed nightly Tuesday through Thursday, two shows Friday and Saturday, and one show on Sunday. The showroom is dark on Mondays. Reservations can be made by calling 733 - 4566.

year's Entertainment Personality of the Year Award (EPY) from Chamber of Commerce Feb. 6 at the Frontier with RED McILVAINE emceeing and DAVE BURTON's musical backup.



The fog is lifting from the Aladdin PR department as word filters out that boss ED TORRES has bought DONNY & MARIE OSMOND, DEBBY BOONE, DIONNE WARWICK and RONNIE MILSAP for Bagdad showroom headlining, while the other boss, WAYNE NEWTON, currently lets fly with his multiple fractures as DAVE BARRY commedes. Meanwhile, local businessman BURL COHEN has leased the Theatre for the Performing Arts where he hopes to book 150 shows a year. But the Aladdin retains the right to use the 7500 - seater with advance notice... When NEIL SEDAKA arrives at the Sands on the 28th, all dinner service will be kaput, just cocktails both shows. DOC SEVERINSEN, who'll blast with SEDAKA, fresh from conducting the Air Force Band at the Smithsonian Inaugural Gala, buzzed out to Indianapolis to toot with that city's symph.

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