

LAS VEGAS SHOWCASE

Bill Willard's VEGASTARS

State Sen. JAMES BILBRAY proposed a constitutional amendment allowing a lottery by 1986, if okayed twice by legislators and public referendum, to generate up to \$20,000,000 yearly. Major hotel - casino interests have opposed lotteries in the past, but BILBRAY said they could avoid a tax hike by endorsing the plan now...Strip beautification with trees and trash receptacles is aiming for April when National Association of Broadcasters convene, Nevada Resort Association raised \$100,000 for the trees and containers, but taxpayers are going to be stuck with upkeep at \$7,500 a year...Summa Corp's info on its hush hush planned community called Husite (Howard Hughes bought the 27-square miles back in the '50s) was computerized to keep "unauthorized" persons from finding out what's going on. Tentative plans call for Husite to become a master - planned community of 250,000 people out on the far western perimeter

of Las Vegas within 20 years...Convention Authority dropped price of 300,000 square feet of exhibit space from \$16,000 to \$14,000 to "help sell the facility," per LVCVA director of facilities GENE STEPHENS.

★★★★★

LIBERACE, a hit at MGM Grand, toured Gotham - based ABC "Good Morning America" crew through his Vegas home Tuesday, a taping for net airing next month...ANN-MARGRET'S trips to Caesars Palace are now rare as she takes on a week Thursday in the Circus Maximus... Flamingo Library is showing the award-winning film "Heartland" Tuesday eve with guest speakers author WILLIAM KITTREDGE and exec producer ANNICK SMITH. Pic is a Wilderness Women/Filmhaus production...GEORGE "GOOBER" LINDSEY churns up the comedy for LARRY GATLIN & THE GATLIN BROS, returning to the Riviera Thursday for a frame. It's the Gatlins' second headlining Riv trip...HARRY "SWEETS" EDISON trumpets confectionately for ALAN GRANT'S Monday night jazz concert tomorrow night at Four Queens.

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SIG SAKOWICZ co-hosts the fourth anni Cerebral Palsy "Weekend With The Stars" wrapping last Sunday at the Landmark. With

RUTA LEE and GARY MARSHAL, SIG'S big show had TOM JONES, LIBERACE, LOLA FALANA, DAVID BRENNER, SIEGFRIED & ROY, DAVID COPPERFIELD and "Sophisticated Ladies" toppers PAULA KELLY, FREDA PAYNE & HAROLD NICHOLAS among the couple dozen that entertained. Tenor MARCO VALENTE, who was with the LIBERACE show before current DOMINICK ALLEN, also on the telethon, flew in from SanFran for a couple of solos... "C'est Magnifique" exits the Aladdin March 10 with end of year's pact. Boss ED TORRES will probably announce the replacement show by the end of the month...Distaffers winning plaudits in "Tribute" at Meadows Playhouse now in third week are LINDA WOODS, ARLENE PEIKOFF, KATHY GREENE and BETTY BUNCH...DENISE CLEMENTE was BILL COSBY'S partner at the Sahara ending Wednesday with WAYNE NEWTON churning the room for a week. CLEMENTE also zips back Feb. 3 with the DON RICKLES chapter.

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All of the halls at UNLV resonated with outre sounds of international composers and musicians attending and performing at the 11th anni Contemporary Music Festival. Ole' time in Ham Hall -- Community Concerts brought in Ballet

The Desert Inn and Country Club presents
The Magic of Ellington...in Broadway's
Best Musical



Authentic Bob Fosse dancing is what the delighted audiences are finding in the hit musical "Chicago" now enjoying a successful run in the main showroom of the newly remodeled Union Plaza Hotel.

The Maynard Sloate production of the musical can be seen twice nightly, at an 8:00 P.M. dinner and an 11:45 P.M. cocktail show.

Bob Fosse, famed choreographer for the Broadway stage and Hollywood films, conceived of the idea for "Chicago" from a true case of a murderess who was not only acquitted of her crime but who became a famous performer.

The setting is Chicago in the Roaring Twenties, and the leading ladies, Roxy and Velma, make their way to the vaudeville stage by hook, and more often, by crook.

Roxy and Velma, played by vivacious dancers Barbara Carlton and Kristin Childs, do achieve their tremendous publicity at their trials, and they do land big jobs on the vaudeville circuit. The show's story is told with lots of fun, music and dance.

It was during the staging of one of the show's memorable songs, "All That Jazz" when Bob Fosse suffered his heart attack, that was later relived in the award-

winning autobiographical film of the same name.

For this production, Bob Fosse's assistant, Jeremy Blanton, has used all the Bob Fosse staging for the dance sequences. Veteran director Jack Bunch uses innovative techniques to bring this full - scale musical

comedy to the Union Plaza stage.

"All That Jazz" is just one of the memorable tunes from the show that is leaving audiences dancing in response to the spirited performers who have brought "Chicago" to Las Vegas.

"CHICAGO" AT UNION PLAZA



RENAISSANCE

Of fine dining awaits you tonight at DaVinci's in the Maxim Hotel. DaVinci's is casual elegance at an affordable price. Call 731-4300 for reservations.

