

# LAS VEGAS

# SHOWCASE



If any of the downtown Glitter Gulch resorts hoped to outstrip the Strip with topless revues -- forget it. City commissioners nixed such anatomical displays as of April 15 except in heavy industrial areas not too close to a park, playground, church or school...The Hilton's top czar, next to BARRON HILTON, is HENRI LEWIN and he has achieved a rep for nonstop talking about his hotel and HL. At the press luncheon for SUZANNE SOMERS, in his zeal to tout the Hilton, he tossed off this zinger, "I know there are rooms at the Sahara for \$15, but when I was a prisoner of war I had better accommodations." Later he apologized to the Sahara's PAUL LOWDEN after his remark was printed. "We are neighbors," LEWIN rushed to say, "and I want us to be friends. I was only kidding and didn't realize that my comments would end up in print." Meanwhile the erst-

while honoree of that luncheon is filling the Hilton's showroom starring in "Moulin Rouge" as "The entertainment bargain of the year" with low dinner minimum of \$16.50 and late show at \$12.50.

★★★★★

SAMMY DAVIS JR., out of Washoe Medical Center and recuperating, will host this year's Nevada Special Olympics benefit concert at Aladdin Theatre for Performing Arts April 16. Sharing the stage will be DIANA ROSS, BERNADETTE PETERS, SIEGFRIED & ROY, BERT CONVY, DON RICKLES, JACKSONS, MELISSA MANCHESTER...The Sahara opened its Space Center Tuesday night for a first, a gospel concert featuring Grammy winner ANDRAE CROUCH, former rockstar WAYNE COCHRAN and Vegas gosieler, MORRIS CHAPMAN -- a freebie... OAK RIDGE BOYS with WILLIAMS & REE at MGM Grand had a cocktails only opening show with invited guests upping to the 26th floor suite afterwards for an "American Made" feast... She's in her 70s and singing strong at the piano, BETTY HALL JONES, at Carlos Murphy's.

## "SOPHISTICATED LADIES" AT D.I.

It's definitely a class act.

The classy Desert Inn and Country Club presents Las Vegas with the classiest Broadway musical ever -- "Sophisticated Ladies." This stunning song and dance experience is a tribute to the life and music of the great Duke Ellington.

The transition from Broadway theatre to the D.I.'s Crystal Room is a natural one for "Sophisticated Ladies." After all, Duke Ellington created his modern masterpieces for the informal and lively atmosphere of the saloons and nightclubs in which he worked. The musical offers an abstract portrait of Ellington, encompassing the main events of his life and reflecting the man through his musical work.

"Sophisticated Ladies" features classic songs by the Duke, notably "Satin Doll," "Mood Indigo," "Take the 'A' Train," "In a Sentimental Mood," and (of course) "Sophisticated Lady."

Starring Paula Kelly, Harold Nicholas and Freda Payne, the show presents a company of versatile performers under the inspired direction of Michael Smuin.

The Desert Inn offers two cocktail shows nightly (except Monday) at 7 p.m. and 11 p.m. For reservations, call 733-4566.

**PAULA KELLY  
HAROLD NICHOLAS  
FREDA PAYNE**

**DUKE ELLINGTON'S**

# SOPHISTICATED LADIES

*The Hit Musical that took Broadway by Storm... from the man who took America by Swing.*

**Broadway's best Musical now in the Crystal Room**  
2 Shows Nightly  
7 p.m. & 11 p.m.

For reservations  
733-4566

**DESERT INN**  
and Country Club

RED McILVAINE returns to his riposte between platters April 4 on a morning KNUU-AM show...MAMAS & PAPAS are making a career in Vegas, now at the Sahara with THE ASSOCIATION through the 6th followed by DON RICKLES hurryback with LESLIE UGGAMS for a fortnight...DIANA ROSS begins her Caesars Palace month Thursday. On the bow of the rolling Celopatra's Barge, MARK CALLAS & ENERGY share the deck with VEGAS COMPANY and LAURA TAYLOR...After the one-point defeat of the UNLV Runnin' Rebels PCAA basketball champs to N. Carolina State, the Golden Nugget's STEVE WYNN with wife ELAINE bought full pages in local press to console and hail the team...JIM BAILEY is set for late spring concert in UNLV's Ham Hall...Foursome eking laughs from Union Plaza Showroom audiences in "It's My Affair" are JANE KEAN, PHIL FORD, TONY RUSSEL and VIRGIL CURRY. In the Omaha lounge there's footstompin' to JERRY DYKES & COUNTRYPOLITAN...After the Meadows Playhouse shuttered up sprang another eager group calling itself Southern Nevada Regional Theatre with perfs planned for this fall, but haven't selected a site to date.

★★★★★

MERV ADELSON partnered with MOE DALITZ, and other La Costa owners IRWIN MOLLASKY and ALLARD ROEN to get a \$4,400,000 bond issue okayed by state Board of Finance to built Sahara Nellis Apartments...Arbitron ratings reveal Channels 8 & 13 (KLAS-TV & KTNV-TV) have the lead in Vegas ratings battle, with Neilson handing a slight edge to Channel 13...Talkshow host JACK LONDON interviewed Sheriff JOHN MORAN on KVVU. Channel 5 last week with this exchange getting a bit of a hoot: "Would it cut the crime rate if we didn't have gambling, sheriff?" "It sure would. We wouldn't have any people!" ANDREW QUICKE, board chair of Britannia Films over from London to huddle with impresario MATT GREGORY and set

## A RENAISSANCE



*If 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.*

**maxim**  
HOTEL/CASINO