

OF THE STARS



Take stock in America.

LL, Joe Williams was handed a plaque and standing ovation for his contribution to the black recording industry. It was NANM's 65th anni convention.

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Bunch of Sri Lanka and other Indonesian moneybags are eyeing the Aladdin, headed by DADI DARMA. "This gang has all the money in the world," said one chap who knows the score...DESI ARNAZ JR. speaks Thursday at New Life Foundation in Boulder City by the dam, revealing his battle recovering from drugs and booze abuse. "After an incredible trip on a self-defeating roller coaster," DESI admits, "I realized there was another way to live. I found it -- and this excitement lasts!"...Ford Motor Co. sends 10,000 personnel to the Grand for largest convention skedded this month, but what piques interest is Glitter Gulch Motorcycle Jamboree, Aug. 24-26 tooling into the Tropicana....The Landmark was intending to refurbish the showroom for video pickups, but the MICKEY FINN REVUE takes over on the 28th and MICKEY will have a desk in the tower with "Entertainment Director" etched in the bronze plate.

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Jazz will be bustin' out all over Denver on Labor Day weekend. An honored invitation to attend MADDIE & DICK GIBSON's annual bash will remove me from my usual rounds in Las Vegas to lend my ear to sessions at the Fairmont Hotel. According to the GIBBONS, "Jazz will begin on stage at one p.m. on Saturday and end around nine p.m. on Monday. Over than 56 hour span, about 50 sets of music, emcompassing nearly 28 hours of actual playing time will be presen-

Hackett Showcase To Mint

LAS VEGAS - Sandy Hackett's Talent Showcase will be headquartered in the Merrimint Theatre Lounge of Del Webb's Mint Casino/Hotel beginning Sunday evening, August 12. Mint Vice President and General Manager Larry Close announced recently. Hackett's Showcase, which features the best of the new talent available, is the original and longest running in Las Vegas. The move to the Mint's new theatre lounge is seen as exciting by the 30-year-old son of comedian Buddy Hackett. "I have never had such a good feeling about the Showcase," he said. "The Mint management and staff are very cooperative and will give our Sunday night presentation much needed support

ted"...Closer to home, the LAS VEGAS JAZZ SOCIETY has its own sessions including Jazz Fest '84 and 1st anni Miss Las Vegas Jazz Society Beauty contest Saturday, Aug. 25, 6:30 p.m. at the Landmark. LVJS was founded in 1975 by the great jazz bass player MONK MONTGOMERY and now sports around 400 members. Highlighting the Landmark event will be the TOMMY DORSEY ORCH....More on NANM, where I discovered jazz mingling with gospel and song as the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF NEGRO MUSICIANS made the Union Plaza's Triple Crown Ballroom one of the places to attend. ARNOLD SHAW, eminent local author and UNLV music prof, composer and Eastern Avenue Bon Vivant, was a panelist along with singer JAMES "Old Man River" WARFIELD: a couple of music critics, LILLIAN DUNN PERRY from New Orleans and THEODORE CHARLES STONE of Chicago. GARVIN BUSHELL, legendary jazz reedman, living in Las Vegas, led a clinic titled, "Ragtime & Eugie Blake."...Final was a monster jam session and singalong saluting four generations of the FOUR STEP BROTHERS, Las Vegans, sparked by that fast stepper MACEO ANDERSON....More legends in pop music on the horizon -- EVERLY BROTHERS will headline MGM Grand opening Aug. 30. The 5 nights in the Celebrity Room are part of the recently reunited DON & PHIL EVERLY's first concertour in 11 years. They kicked off July 5 in Cincinnati, moving on to 35 U.S. cities winding up Sept. 11 in Concord, Calif.

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to make it successful." He added, "The Mint has an aggressive promotional posture which will be beneficial in insuring the Showcasea will be at the Mint for a reasonable amount of time to evaluate its overall effectiveness for the hotel.

Hackett will coordinate all aspects of the showcase including selecting the acts to be presented and hosting the evening's performance.

All types of entertainment will be con-

(Continued on page 18)

NEVADA EASTER SEAL SOCIETY's anni Silver Lily Awards Dinner is Friday (17) in the Sands' ballroom, honoring PETE BARBUTTI, SUZANNE SOMERS & ALAN HAMEL, MAJ. GEN. GENE FISCHER & SHERIFF JOHN MORAN, with PETER ANTHONY emcee...While expounding on jazz and its constant kindling, must mention ALAN & GLORIA GRANT's "cool jazz sounds, cool refreshments in cool surroundings" when GLORIA introduced "Jewels of the Sea" at Saks Fifth Avenue...BOB ANDERSON, singer/impressionist, starting the upscaling of the Mint's Merimint Theater Lounge. The Mint has picked up SANDY HACKETT, set to drifting when the Sahara's Casbar lounge went kaput. Every Sunday in the lounge SANDY HACKETT's TALENT SHOWCASE continues its long run with new acts and SANDY's patter every week...World's largest craps tourney at the Tropicana last month found J.M. BENNETT of Stilwell, OK, parlaying his \$10,000 entry fee into a \$600,000 fortune. The rest of the million bux was awarded to 19 hot crapshooters..."Help Them Walk Again Foundation" honors Humanitarians of the Year, DR. JERROLD PETROFSKY, DR. LONNIE HAMMERGREN & DR. EDWARD KOFF Friday in the Triple Crown Ballroom of the Union Plaza. A \$15 donation gets you dinner & dancing.

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MITZI SHORE's COMEDY STORE will replace the JACK JONES Dunes date for five weeks in the Casino Theatre opening Sept. 4. Deal was set by FRED MOCH with Dunes entertainment guru SID GATHRID...MAC DAVIS inked an MCA recording pack, first etching sesh now being set...Back from his native Denmark bearing luscious recipes to delight palates of LIBERACE's Tivoli Gardens Restaurant, OLE BORRESON took a side trip to famous Copenhagen Tivoli Gardens, namesake for LEE's Succe\$\$ful venture.



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