

# LAS VEGAS

# SHOWEAST



Overhead conversation of two knowledgeable opera lovers brought interesting info that "Rigoletto," presented by the Riviera Hotel, TIBOR RUDAS and KNPR— PUBLIC RADIO, to be performed by the New York City Opera National Company, is the roadshow company. That means up-and-comers, no big names in the opera firmament. Highly hyped in NYCO's general director BEVERLY SILLS, who will introduce her cast & chorus on Friday, March 29 (she will not sing in the opera) and will be honored guest at the \$25 Riviera reception after the performance at Thomas & Mack Center. There is also a Saturday (30th) performance of the Verdi melodramatic opera set in 16th Century Mantua, Italy...RAY STECKLER's new film production office on East Sahara & Burnham, Room 111 of the complex, was abuzz Saturday night with partying

well-wishers and acting hopefuls. STECKLER's students followed him and are the mainstays of the productions underway after he was so unceremoniously frozen out of UNLV's film department. Show producer MATT GREGORY is associated with the enterprise...HELP THEM WALK AGAIN FOUNDATION, with indefatigable JOAN TOADVINE founder prez, urged a view this past Tuesday of "First Steps" on KLAS-TV, Channel 8 of DR. JERROLD PETROFSKY's research in programmed electrical stimulation that enabled NAN DAVIS to walk. HTWA, at 5300 W. Charleston Blvd., a nonprofit organization, has the PETROFSKY program, the second in the nation for local spinal injury victims and a visit to the outreach clinic to see the results is both eye-opening and heartwarming...When DOC & CLAIRE KEEFNER operated the theater at Calico Ghost Town near Yermo, they became heir to old vaudeville and burlesque dialogue, sketches & blackouts, also musical scores, photos of actors and stage scenes. The valuable memorabilia is for sale and the number to call is 878-7245...MARGARET ANKA has begun some gentle arm twisting to remind Las Vegas about NEVADA DANCE THEATRE's spring program April 11-14 in UNLV's Judy Bayley Theater. She sez "the program offers a variety of ballet styles

highlighted by the modern thriller 'A La Hitchcock' and features two stars of the STUTTGART BALLET of West Germany. Tickets from \$15 to \$5 are available at NDT office, Green Room of Ham Hall, or call 739-3838."



What with "best chest" contest and other come-ons, Sam's Town Hotel & Gambling Hall is looking for a special young lady with talent, charm and loaded with personality to rep the place for various promos. Incidentally, for the chesty ones, male & female, top prize is \$250 and finals will be next Wednesday at Sam's Town...SARAH VAUGHN, superb singer, reveals her career in song at the Golden Nugget Cabaret April 4-9...DOUGLAS PETERSON leads the MUSICAL ARTS CHORUS & ORCH in ANTON BRUCKNER's "Mass in F Minor" in memorial to his late wife, MARTHA PETERSON, March 31 in Judy Bayley Theater, 3 p.m. 100 singers and musicians will make up the forces with soloists PAT DAWSON, HELEN MAYNARD, LARRY WAYNE & GEORGE SKIPWORTH. Also MADELINE CAPELLE will sing Rachmaninoff's "Vocalise." The concert is free to the public...On Saturday, CONTINUUM, a 20th century music group from New York, appears in UNLV's Alta Ham Recital Hall, Room 132, 7 p.m., presented by LAS VEGAS CHAMBER PLAYERS...LOUIS BELLSON, the fantastic drummer man, joins UNLV's JAZZ ENSEMBLE for the group's annual spring concert Tuesday in Judy Bayley Theater. Jazz Ensemble director FRANK GAGLIARDI sez the concert is dedicated to members of the group who'll graduate this spring -- and that's about half of the band...Las Vegas VICTORIA ROCHA, who won a booking in "Solid Gold" last month after topping the Sunday "Search for Gold," returns this engagement with the 5th DIMENSION. Her hilarious comedy includes the spoofy VICKI VEGAS & LAURIE LOUNGE...POINTER SISTERS -- RUTH, ANITA & JUNE debut March 27 as Caesars Palace headliners. Latest album by the trio, "Breakout" is a platinum blockbuster...CHARLES & BONNIE SUPIN host third annual party Sunday aft for VEGAS mag supplement of the L.A. Herald-Examiner with special guest SAMMY DAVIS JR., Desert Inn star, chosen by VEGAS as "Vegas Entertainer of 1985." Also VEGAS will present donations to the ALLIED ARTS COUNCIL, MASTER CONCERT SERIES & NEVADA DANCE THEATER.



Miffed National Association of Broadcasters will receive 30 tickets to the THOMAS HEARNS/MARVIN HAGLER fight at Caesars Palace worth \$500 each. NAB's feelings were hurt because

age of 14. The Bay Area p.m. and 11:30 p.m. native has spent the presentations of Jon better part of his years Paul's "Highsteppin'," entertaining audiences an energy-packed in Northern Nevada, as well as the Greek Jackie Theatre in Los Angeles, illusionist Brandon the Paramount Theatre, Scott, and the talented Nannette Barbera Dancers. Marona will have a special Saturday 1 a.m. show, and then appear in the Saturday 2 a.m. performance of "Highsteppin'". For On stage through reservations, call the March 31, Marona will Merrimint Theatre at alternate with the 9 387-MINT.



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**Merrimint Theatre Presents Danny Marona**

Everyday situations provide the material for comedy/musician DANNY MARONA who opened March 13 in the Merrimint Theatre of Del Webb's Casino-Hotel.

With unusual sensitivity, Marona makes hilarious observations on such topics as politics, women's lib, sex, commercials and divorce. His comedy shows, at 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. nightly except Monday, depict an "everyday man" at war with day-to-day life. Interwoven with the laughs are the musical talents which allowed Marona to debut as a concert pianist at the age of seven, and join the San Francisco Opera Company's boys' chorus at 10.

Marona's popularity stretches throughout the country, since he has been performing in nightclubs since the