

# OF THE STARS

Take stock in America.



ceremony over Memorial Day holiday. It's called MARDI GRAS PLAZA and will spot JACOPO's Pizzeria of Beverly Hills, young entertainment center and slot arcade. A little later on, possibly in September, the up-elevator showroom will open presenting "An Evening at La Cage," where lads will be girls.

participation by the public," said WADDELL. "Current figures indicate there are more than 8000 people waiting for kidney transplants in the United States alone."

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It's time for the nicknames to lay their bets down at Binion's Horseshoe for the 16th World Series of Poker. There are "Texas Dolly" BRUNSON, "Amarillo Slim" PRESTON, "Puggy" PEARSON, "Tahoe" ANDREW, "Man From Alaska" GREEN, "The OWL" BALDWIN, "Treetop" STRAUSS, "Bones" BERLAND, "Fish" FISHER, "Moon Man" MOON, "Cowboy" WOLFORD, "Sailor" ROBERTS, "Whatta Player" SMITH, "Mad Genius" CARO, "Polish Maverick" STUPAK, "Cadillac Jack" GRIMM, "Grand Old Man" MOSS and perennial "Kotter" KAPLAN for starters. More than 1,500 players are expected to participate in the month-long contest that got underway last Thursday with \$1,000,000 in prize loot to winners of 12 skedded events...United General held a general casting call at the Press Club last week for a pilot titled "Mecca"...GARY WADDELL, Channel 8's "Eyewitness News" co-anchor with SUE LOWDEN, IS CHAIR FOR "Second Chance," first nationwide organ transplant donor education campaign in tv history. "Second Chance" is aimed at total public awareness of the current need for greater par-

SUE LOWDEN will be doing specials soon, taking leave from her KLAS-TV evening anchor chores. Husband, PAUL LOWDEN, owner of the Sahara & Hacienda hotels, sprung a press luncheon last Thursday to intro the well-known MAYNARD SLOATE. He'll be entertainment consultant at the Sahara, plus producing and directing the Claridge musicals in Atlantic City. First tuner for the Sahara will be "Promises, Promises," the NEIL SIMON/BURT BACHARACH/HAL DAVID success bowing May 31. But LOWDEN said he is not dropping his hot pectees DON RICKLES and GEORGE CARLIN. They'll play between the SLOATE dinner theater offerings. In what he calls a "value packages," LOWDEN said the tab-shows will have name stars and nominal dinner or cocktail prices. SLOATE starts casting Equity players later on this month in L.A.

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MITZI SHORE, who has her eye on a Strip showcase for more of the Comedy Store, is having six new comedians from the Sunset Strip boite in RODNEY DANGERFIELD's NYC club...MAC DAVIS wafts his 2nd MGM Grand '85 fortnight Thursday, again with JANIE FRICKE.

BIG MAC attracts beaucoup crowds pleasuring the Grand brass...JOAN RIVERS, again rendering unto Caesars, tore away from Caesars Palace Tuesday for her CP, Atlantic City bow May 10-12. It's a royal return for RIVERS, who hasn't appeared in Taffyland since being voted the board-walk city's "Entertainer of the Year" for the second consecutive annum. And DOC SEVERINSEN, with GARRY SHANDLING at CP, also is set for A.C. June 11-16 when Harrah's Trump applauds The Trumpet...Moving into CP's showroom, SAMMY DAVIS JR. joined BILL COSBY Wednesday for another of their articulations through the 20th. LIBERACE shows off his Radio City Music Hall finery opening in the Circus Maximus the 22nd...Also opening on Wednesday, JIM NABORS & LONNIE SHORR top the Hilton's "Bal du Moulin Rouge," and MEL TILLIS countrifies the Sahara through the 22nd.

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Another A.C. tripper is TONY BENNETT to headline the Atlantic hotel-casino this weekend after planting five songs on NBC-TV's "Remington Steele"...More about JERRY SHAFER of Sanford International: In cahoots with FREDDY MONICKENDAM & JOOP VISCH of SEPP, S.A. ("The Smurfs") he signed MARIANNE MARKS as fem lead in vidseries "Green Sliders." Her role is Iris, a gungho beauty in charge of the "Grand Old Optica" showroom about 50 miles north. Strip headliners will be spotlighted in the series...PETE BARBUTTI and ragtime piano player BIG TINY TIM stake a tandem in the Landmark's Empire Showroom through the 31st... "Stars of Magic Concert for Hunger in Africa" is slated for the Tropicana's Tiffany Theater May 30 with HARRY ANDERSON, emcee, LANCE BURTON, SIEGFRIED & ROY, HARRY BLACKSTONE, JR., DAVID COPPERFIELD, DOUG HENNING, JEFF McBRIDE, MAX MAVEN, THE GREAT TOMSONI CO., JOHN THOMPSON, FIELDING WEST & MARK WILSON.

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