

LAS VEGAS

SHOWCASE

Bill Willard's VEGASTARS

A minimum of 80,000 computer people will plug into Vegas this week when COMDEX takes over Convention Center, Las Vegas Hilton, Riviera, Caesars Palace and MGM Grand. It's the 7th anni Computer Dealers Exhibition where 1100 computer-related exhibitors and a 32-session conference will keep delegates hopping through Sunday. This year's COMDEX will focus on the changing role of the industry's indie sellers and the importance of Value-Added Resellers (VARs) in the maturing small computer marketplace...As for the Winter Consumer Electronics Show skedded for Jan. 9-12 the \$34 billion industry will show off 1200 exhibits for an estimated 102,000 to gawk, wheel & deal and report. It's a media event with this year's count of 1500 accredited journalists already badged and more on the way...For conventioners there is this new stat about Nevada -- it was the second fastest growing state between 1980 & 1983. California, of course, was No. 1...Those tent cards on tables between Vegas and L.A. reading "Get Your Lei at Sheri's" are the work of PR guy Sherrell Dacey. Indeed, they are handing our garlands to visitors of his account, Sheri's brothel over the mountain pass at Pahrump in the adjacent county.

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MITZIE SHORE back from Gotham and highlevel meetings with HBO moguls where it

was okayed to shoot a spec at the Dunes of The Comedy Store in March or April. This week's comedy Shore-ups are TAMAYO ITSUKI, JACK PERDUE, REX MEREDITH, LICASSI & SIEGEL holdovers and ANGEL SALAZAR...JIM HALSEY skied in from L.A. to go over his company's bookings adjacent to and during National Finals Rodeo the second week in December. HALSEY's people start this week with CONWAY TWITTY & DOTTIE WEST at the Frontier and continue with ROY CLARK & BRENDA LEE, LEE GREENWOOD & SYLVIA through Dec. 18. At MGM Grand, HALSEY has the OAK RIDGE BOYS & NITTY GRITTY DIRT BAND Nov. 28-Dec. 4; MERLE HAGGARD & THE JUDDS at Caesars Palace LARRY GATLIN AND GATLIN BROS. & T.G. SHEPPARD, Desert Inn Nov. 28-Dec. 15; TAMMY WYNETTE & GEORGE LINDSEY in "Bal du Moulin Rouge," Las Vegas Hilton, with DONNA FARGO a one-nighter there Dec. 6, and at the Hacienda Dec. 6-15, FREDDY FENDER. HALSEY would love to have the popular GEORGE STRAIT in his stable, noting that the young C/W superstar will play Thomas & Mack Center Dec. 11 presented by MICHAEL SCHIVO & PACE CONCERTS.

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LOU RAWLS has his say in the Golden Nugget Cabaret for six nights opening Thursday. DAVID BRENNER is set for the Cabaret over New Year holiday weekend Dec. 27 through Jan. 1...GEORGE CARLIN comes on with his advanced comedy classes at the Sahara through Saturday. "A Chorus Line" plays early at 7 p. m. giving CARLIN the later shows...SHEILA KENNEDY, 1984 Penthouse Pet of the Year took in the town visiting her old place of business, the Flamingo Hilton, where she was a camera girl. Her gig concerned some pretty posings for the Specialty Equipment Market Association con-

vention....Another pretty, CHRISTA DANIEL of Vegas, won the English Leather Calendar Girl Pageant at the Frontier...In a more serious role, JUDITH MARKHAM, former pubrel director of New Orleans and Tulsa Symphs is now exec director of Las Vegas Symphonic & Chamber Music Society...Palace Station food director JOE CANFORA has adapted a Monopoly game into his menu. Squares read "shakes," "desserts," "beverages," "appetizers," "croissants" etc.

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New casino host of the Tropicana is GENE KILROY, former exec assistant to the Dunes' MORRIS SHENKER and biz manager for MUHAMMAD ALI...It's DAVID SHIRE's bubbly score in the music comedy "Baby," now playing at Community College Theater...JOE FRANCIS, senior veepo and g.m. of Holiday Inn Casino was named Man of the Year by Maitre de's & Captains Association...Current in the Frontier's Wild Horse lounge is THE LAST BAND alternating with newcomer TONI JARRETT...The Sands Winners Circle lounge has CARLEEN TERRANO early eves, JERRY TIFFE late...ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE arrives at 9 p.m. in the Union Plaza's Omaha Lounge.

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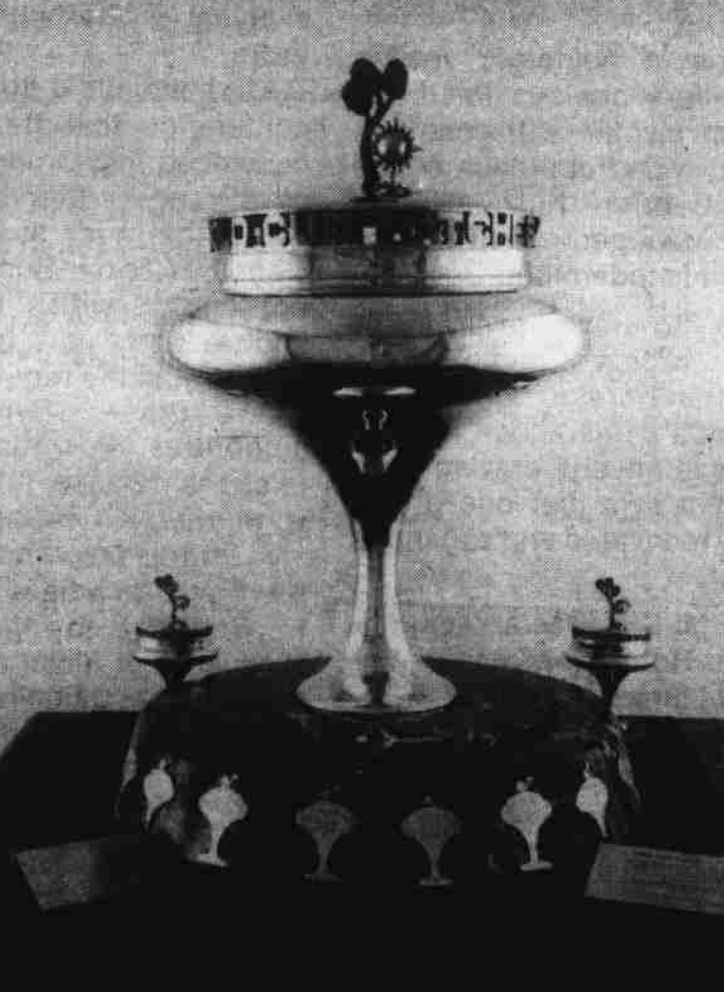
HELP THEM WALK AGAIN FOUNDATION springs its anni fundraiser Jan. 27 at Convention Center. Honored this year are ROY WOOFER & RON LURIE sharing "Man of the Year" laurels. HELP THEM WALK AGAIN clinic, on West Charleston, has one of the most selfless, dedicated ladies in our community watching over the patients to help them walk again. She's JOANNE TOADVINE and she's up top in my book. Cost per ticket for the fundraiser is a modest \$35 per...I knew AL PROCTOR well, the

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Desert Inn Gold Cup



Mint Casino Awards \$18,000 In Cash Prizes

Del Webb's Mint Casino Hotel's Daily Dollars promotion came to an exciting close as the downtown property gave away \$18,000 in cash prizes!

The Mint girl, Cathy Stengal, drew the names of the Grand Prize \$10,000 winner, three \$1,000 cash second prizes and fifty third place \$100 winners.

Vivian Campbell, a Fairfield, Texas resident, was selected as the \$10,000 Grand Prize winner and the three \$1,000 winners were Connie Nardi of Long Beach, California; Rita Brock of Lakewood, Wisconsin; and Elisae Pair of Katy, Texas.

Three of the fifty third prize winners were present at the Daily Dollars drawing and each received their \$100 checks from Jeff King, director of marketing.

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