

LAS VEGAS

SHOWCASE



BURT REYNOLDS, settled in for "Heat" shooting for the next six weeks or so, is enamored enough of Vegas to consider buying a home here. During the press gathering in his Sandsuite last Thursday aft, he hinted that a well-known localite may have influenced him on the move. "WAYNE NEWTON's a very good friend of mine," REYNOLDS confided. "I raise Appaloosas and Arab horses and you know WAYNE has Arabs. As a matter of fact, seven years ago, WAYNE gave me three Arabs and I still have them. I just like the idea of being able to get on a plane and be in Los Angeles in 45 minutes and still be far away from everyone to go fishing, snow skiing." Then he dropped the opinion, "Also, I may be wrong, but it doesn't seem to be as showbiz orientated here." He didn't say, compared to where. REYNOLDS disclosed he's "working with CHRIS KARAMANOS on a number of deals" locally. KARAMANOS, with his highly reputed food kitchen for production companies filming here, extends his authority with "Heat," preparing the gustatory goodies as well as local casting for SAG and SEG people out of his office.

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The Las Vegas Hilton deal for BILL COSBY, a \$500,000 weekly check for Cos, hasn't been signed. But entertainment boss JOE GUERCIO is very busy lining up talent for apres - "Moulin Rouge" in June, including offers to EDDIE MURPHY...RICH LITTLE fanfared "Megabucks" special show at the Stardust with impressions of JACK BENNY, JOHNNY CARSON, RONALD REAGAN and GEORGE BURNS trying to hit the big jackpot on the giant 40-foot slot machine on-stage. Inventor, conceiver SY REDD, chair of International Gaming Technology, did the job of hitting the four sevens and later when the VIP mob tried their luck in the casino on the machines linked statewide for million \$\$\$ pulls, GOV. RICHARD BRYAN started off the progressive amount by putting the first potential jackpot into the Reno computers of \$1,200,000. This and future amounts will be registered on a statewide hookup from IGT's headquarters in Reno to the Stardust, Fremont, California, Sam's Town in Vegas, Cal-Neva, Comstock, Gold River, Harveys and Karl's casinos elsewhere in the state participating in the "Ultimate Jackpot." The IGT Megabucks superduper slot is hyped as the state's secret weapon against the California lottery. We'll soon find out whether the state profits from Megabucks as much as IGT and the several M-casinos.

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After her week at MGM Grand with DOM DELUISE, DEBBIE REYNOLDS offs to Atlantic City to star with her MGM pix-partner of "Singin' in the Rain," buddy DONALD O'CONNOR at Harrah's Trump on the Boardwalk opening Friday...FRANK SINATRA JR. invited FRANK SINATRA SR. across the street from the Golden Nugget to the Four Queens for his closing party last Sunday night. Natch, SINATRA SR.'s opening act, RED BUTTONS, came along to see if JR. might give him a dinner sometime, maybe even a cocktail...KITTY KOVER is a hit at LIBERACE's Tivoli Gardens after her smash opening on the 4th, accompanied by the dashing DARYL WAGNER on a special LIBERACE piano...TONY BENNETT revisited his heart in SanFran last Friday toplining a Fairmont concert...Newlywed DIANA ROSS brings her vocal bouquets into Caesars Palace for an extended stay through the 24th. Meanwhile the fight draw of HAGLER/MAGUBI & HEARNS/SHULER Monday in Caesars' back lot, was enough to bring on another three-day holiday time in Vegas.

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MITZI SHORE's COMEDY STORE at the Dunes is delivering mobs of laughs each week with the names on the marquee showing newcomers STEVE MOORE & ROBERT TOWNSEND with returnees STEVE OEDEKERK, KAREN HABER and REX MEREDITH through Sunday...JOE WILLIAMS joins DON RICKLES at the Sahara for a six-nighter...It's double-ECKSTINE time at the

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