

LAS VEGAS

SHOWCASE

Bill Willard's VEGASTARS

Whenever anyone sends me an S.O.S. for help in anything that promotes a cultural event for Southern Nevada, I'm a sucker for the plea. This one has to do with a jazz/cultural event which started out nowhere and didn't even get to the first corner. It was the 1st Annual Las Vegas Jazz Festival supposed set for Memorial Day Holiday weekend. DORIS KALMENSEN, ROBERT HARRIS & ARSENIA PITTS have reset sights for their jazz fest in the SAM BOYD SILVER BOWL, now Oct. 3-5. What this trio is doing, however, brings on some suspicion. They're attaching the phrase "A benefit for missing children," as part of the sell. With their latest news release is this paragraph: "With the commitment of 95% of every dollar of net proceeds going to all qualified Missing Children and child protection organizations in the U.S. and Canada, Festival organizers have taken measures with the Festival date change to guarantee that these revenues will not be in jeopardy due to so many other important events on that weekend," sez DORIS KALMENSEN, prez of the American Foundation For The Preservation of Jazz, sponsor of the event. Let's watch this one closely and not let any organization jump on the backs of

children, especially missing children...Did anyone see WAYNE NEWTON couple of weeks ago in that mini-series "North & South Book II" on ABC Channel 13? Fiercely musatachiod (false), he was a villain as the full page ad in Daily Variety blurbred: "A nation divided, embroiled in the conflict of a Civil War, and Captain Thomas Turner (NEWTON) was the vindictive confederate commandant of the infamous Libby Prison." Gee, friendly ole WAYNE wearing a black hat and he didn't even sing a note...She may not push DIANA ROSS aside, but former SUPREME, MARY WILSON, pulled fine notices at the Roxy in L.A. last week and drew many a celeb. She has written a book about those dear, departed SUPREME years titled "Dream Girl -- My Life," due off the presses in September. She sez it promises to be very revealing. Some sharp booker (are there any?) in town should have her on the list for a new, fresh act for one of our showrooms.

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The Justice Department will be interviewing Golden Nugget's BOBBY BALDWIN & STEVE WYNN Thursday with questions regarding a November 1982 incident involving alleged money laundering at the Atlantic City GN store...SHERMAN HEMSLEY will be a deacon if the pilot he recently starred in, titled "Amen," hits the prime time next year. It's a JOHNNY CARSON/NBC production and also has LITTLE RICHARD in the cast as a choirmaster. Which means that SHERMAN can possibly extend his "Norman, Is That You?" Hacienda fling to July...Speaking of CAR-

SON, another JOAN done him in, cheated on JOHNNY, left him for big MURDOCK bucks. Which is a switch. JOHNNY's JOANNEs or JOANs, usually hit him for big bucks...The Riviera is installing an amusement park on its mammoth rear parking lot featuring 234 rides, midway and large refreshment center opening this weekend. It's called RIVIERA SUMMER FAIR and will run through September 15. Elsewhere at the Riv, BUDD FRIEDMAN's IMPROV sports comedians FRED WOLF, J.J. WALL, ELLEN de GENERES & JOE ALASKEY through Sunday night, comedian JOEY VILLA opening next Thursday in JEFF KUTASH's "Splash," ANNIE & KENNY in Le Bistro Lounge and on the 29th starts the Blackjack Classic Tournament...A future Riviera date to remember has SI ZENTNER ORCH on June 7, when NATE MACK LODGE B'NAI B'RITH presents a fancy evening, also tossing a tribute of one of Las Vegas' finest comedians PETER ANTHONY for his many contributions to the community. ARTHUR WALTZMAN, the Riv's prez, serves as honorary chair for the event. Call 734-1581 for tickets, just \$10 per donation...TONY CELESTE, onetime band-leader on the local scene is now prez of Arm Wrestling International (AWI) and he'll be conducting an arm wrestling battle between the SAN FRANCISCO 49ers & NEW ORLEANS SAINTS June 8 at Imperial Palace. There'll be 14 other NFL teams represented in the scrimmage, the 9th anni Pro Football Team Arm Wrestling Championship.

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The Grand Movie Theatre Continues

LAS VEGAS, NEVADA — Bally's Manufacturing Company, which recently purchased the MGM Grand Hotel and has renamed it "Bally's Grand," has announced its intention to keep the Grand Movie Theater.

The Grand Movie Theater is one of the most unusual and certainly the most comfortable movie theater in America. From the outside, the theater, in the downstairs Shopping Arcade, looks like a movie marquee out of

the Forties. But inside, this cinema palace is designed to resemble a Hollywood Screening room, with soft luxurious loveseat couches and cocktail tables.

Just press the little red button on the edge of the cocktail table, and a waitress will be there to take your order faster than you can say "Bally's Grand." You can enjoy the pleasure of a cocktail while watching your favorite movie. In the past, the movie

NEW YORK (WNS) — The National Conference on Soviet Jewry reported that 72 Jews emigrated from the Soviet Union in April, 25 more than were allowed to emigrate in March. Of the 72 April emigrants, 18 went to Israel. From October 1968 to April 1986, 265,939 persons left the USSR with Israel visas and some 163,620 of them went to Israel, according to the Conference.

Spiritual Thought For The Week

Let the money of your fellowman be as dear to you as your own.

theater has featured films from Hollywood's Golden Era of the thirties and forties -- especially MGM films -- but now the Bally Corporation has announced that in the future it will show contemporary films and also run film festivals.

A series of movies under the theme of "The Gallant Rogues" will be displayed from May 28 through July 15. They include:

May 28 - June 3 - "The Bad and the Beautiful" (1952) with Kirk Douglas and Lana Turner.

June 4 - 10 - "The Rainmaker" (1956) with Burt Lancaster and Katharine Hepburn.

June 11-17 - "The Adventures of Don Juan" (1948) with Errol Flynn and Ann Rutherford.

June 18 - 24 - "Too Hot To Handle" (1938) with Clark Gable and Myrna Loy.

June 25 - July 1 - "Too Mark of Zorro" (1940) with Tyrone Power and Linda Darnell.

July 2 - 8 - "To Catch a Thief" (1955) with Cary Grant and Grace Kelly.

July 9 - 15 - "Scaramouche" (1952) with Stewart Granger, Eleanor Parker and Janet Leigh.