

OF THE STARS

LACY J. DALTON, in the country fold although she sings any style well, has joined the JIM HALSEY CO. for exclusive worldwide representation. Recently at DON LAUGHLIN's Riverside Starview Room, she joins REBA McENTIRE, MICHAEL MARTIN MURPHEY and rising new star HOLLY DUNN in the HALSEY stable...Worth a visit for the food and MARY MAGNANI's songs, is a drop-in and stay-awhile in Claudine's Restaurant at Holiday Casino Center Strip...The 5TH DIMENSION add another dimension to JEFF KUTASH's "Splash" at the Riviera, ditto for space-age magician RUSSELL FEIG in the Flamingo Hilton's "City Lites."

SAM DeSTEFANO, the Riviera's entertainment poobah, skied to L.A. Monday for the Playboy party and last rites for clubs shuttered there, Chicago and Gotham. With Playboy as entertainment chief for 25 years, he sez the key clubs are passe everywhere and that era is finito. "But at one time," he chuckles, "having a key card was like having citizenship papers"...MELVIN DUMMAR, for whom one half of the movie title, "MELVIN & HOWARD" was named and JASON ROBARDS playing HOWARD HUGHES, is back in Gabbs, Nev., 100 miles southeast of Reno, flipping hamburgers. DUMMAR lived in Gabbs in 1968 when he allegedly gave a ride to tattered, torn, tired HOWARD HUGHES enroute to Las Vegas and HUGHES left him \$150,000,000 in his will. After a tough 7-month trial, this so-called "Mormon Will" was declared a fake...Bridge over rushing waters -- DON LAUGHLIN, boss of the Riverside hotel-casino in the town named after him, will fork over \$2,000,000 of his own cash to build a four-lane bridge over the Colorado River

to Bullhead City, saving 6,000 Laughlin Strip casino workers a trip driving up to and over Davis Dam, or riding the little water jitneys each trip...The '86 Laughlin River Days will start July 25 and the hoopla lasts nine days and nights. On Aug. 1, The Edgewater tosses its anni "New Year's Eve Party" charade.

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JACKIE VERNON switches from standup to top banana comedian for "Touch of Burlesque" opening at the Marina tentatively within first fortnight in July. A HARRY SEYBOLD production, the burley buffonery will also spot singer/impressionist CARME, diminutive second banana CHARLIE VESPIA and talking lady ANGELIQUE PETTIJOHN, plus BETTY FRANCISCO DANCERS...There's also talk of a Minsky revue to replace the SHERMAN HEMSLEY "Norman Is That You?" starrer at the Hacienda after he exits July 6...Comedian ROSEANNE BARR has her second date at Caesars Palace, this one with JULIO IGLESIAS current through next Monday. Her other blast was with RODNEY DANGERFIELD, who finished in the L.V. Hilton showroom Sunday with a distinct comedy find, BOB NELSON in the forefront. Now at the Hilton, "Emotional" JEFFREY OSBORNE is in tandem with NATALIE COLE. Separating the two singers, ventriloquist J.T.O. and his quirky BABY DUCK spiel some comedy quackery. J.T.O., by the way, was a recent winner on "Sale of the Century," taking away \$15,000 in cash and \$10,000 in prizes.

Take stock in America.



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ERIC GILLETTE, for months the ringmaster in the L.V. Hilton's "Bal du Moulin Rouge" during the "Barnum" sequence, signed a year's pact with Ringling Bros. He'll travel to Sarasota for training and join the national tour. He kept singing "Join the circus" during the Hilton run, now the lyrics are for real...SIEGFRIED & ROY returned from vacation to resume their "Beyond Belief" illusions at the Frontier Tuesday. Saturday, by the way, is a S&S "family show," when no nudity is good prudery...TONY BENNETT, who can't get arrested in any Vegas showroom, did get to town recently to spy on some shows and in particular, LORETTA HOLLOWAY in the Tropicana's Atrium. She dedicated "If I Ruled the World" to him, one of his early smashers. She's currently resounding her notes at Trumps Castle in Atlantic City.

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The Trop went slightly disoriental with grand opening of Golden Spa Mizuno last Friday with a VIParty and looksee at all the high-tech equipment to keep ladies and gents in fits, or fitness...To update a cliché -- DAVID FRYE is back and BUDD FRIEDMAN's got him. FRYE will Xerox political windbags and other noxious celebs at the Riviera's Improv July 4th & 5th...ANNIE AMPLE, whose extraordinary chestiness favored the Royal Nevada's showroom a few months ago, has now moved her doublemint to the Cherry Patch and Mabel's brothels between Crystal and Ash Meadows, over the hill from Vegas in Nye County. She's the new madam for both houses. ANNIE was in the movie "Stripes" and threw her thoracic weight around on video's "The Dating Game," plus cavorting in Nevada niteries. She still wants to moonlight from madaming to stripping with breezy one-liners in the clubs.

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