

# LAS VEGAS

# SOUTHWEST



Loyal union members aren't about to return Aladdin owner CINJI YASUDA's bows from the waist in obeisance to Japanese tradition. When he said in an interview "Unions have no meaning to me," Aladdin's newly hired CEO, DENNIS GOMES (from the Hilton), rushed in to say YASUDA's statement meant there'll be "no reasons" for unions at the resort. "He wants to provide greater benefits than employees can get anywhere else," Gomes gulped. "The idea is to make this a showplace for employee morale." The Aladdin plans a pre-opening around April 1 and grand re-opening Memorial holiday...Aid for AIDS of Nevada (AFAN), firing up a big benefit show May 17, is paging some Hollywood stars to augment local headliners and lounge performers. Producer Harry Seybold has three hotel showrooms in mind and in talking stage. Localites CINDY DOUMANI, LYNE DAVIES and BETTY GILDAY are spurring their socialite pals to get involved...A bit of St. Patrick's green juice prompted L.V. Sun columnist Joe Delaney to take the Dunes stage for a 10-minute standup routine after the big downtown parade and other festivities. Delaney is sponsored across the

board over KROL-AM afts at the Dunes by MITZI SHORE, boss of the Comedy Store...TV critic Howard Rosenberg is set for a talk, "Television: Aesthetics Over Substance," Monday at UNLV, part of Southwest Gas' Distinguished Artists Series.



Although the L.V. Hilton lost RODNEY DANGERFIELD to Caesars Palace, C.P. still hangs on to WILLIE NELSON despite STEVE WYNN's Golden Nugget lure. WILLIE & FAMILY are gathered on the Circus Maximus stage for nine nights (dark March 31) with only a 10 p.m. show nightly...Posh People gathered at DRS. TED & PARVIN JACOBS manse alongside the Desert Inn Country Club greens to honor Nevada Dance Theater's artistic director VASSILI SULICH and his 15 years with NDT. After toasts and tributes, lavish libations and feasting, everyone moved to UNLV's Judy Bayley Theater for SULICH's "Cinderella" ballet, danced to music of ALEXANDER GLAZUNOV. Last time to see "Cinderella" this weekend...So smashing was the recent International Gaming Business Exposition, drawing record crowds to the Tropicana, the 1988 gathering will be held at Las Vegas Convention Center.



Gaming seminars for the deaf were presented at the Flamingo Hilton Wednesday and Thursday by the resort's gaming instructor DAVID

WILHITE and blackjack dealer GERRI EHRLICH. EHRLICH, although deaf, has been a blackjack dealer at the Flamingo Hilton since 1981. Instruction was verbal and in sign language...The Marina hotel-casino's \$25,000 slot tourney in April may pale in comparison to the riches of the 18th anni World Series of Poker April 28-May 21 at Binion's Horseshoe hotel-casino in Glitter Gulch where more than 2000 players will compete for an expected \$4,500,000 in prize money. But at the Marina, each entrant will be playing with free money -- \$500 in special Marina dollar tokens...DON ALLISON's mammoth "resort city" project for the South end of the Strip, named Southstar as announced two weeks ago, had genesis in the late JAY SARNO's Grandissimo of the 70s off of I-15 West of the Tropicana. It was never built. SARNO, 20 years ago, was feted as idea man for Caesars Palace and later dreamed up the theme for Circus Circus, both resorts extraordinary moneymakers, although at different ends of the gaming/resort/recreation spectrum.



The L.A. Police Department Challenge Cup Relay, starting in Baker and winding across 120 miles through Death Valley, ended Sunday at the Hacienda. Intricate planning by Officers CHUCK FOOTE and LARRY MOORE even had Chief DARYL F. GATES running madly for the cup presented Sunday aft at the Sahara Space Center...Void left by STEPHANIE NIELSON's exit from the Imperial Palace brings on STEVE RADULOVICH as director of advertising and publicity.

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