

# LAS VEGAS

# SHOWCASE

## Bill Willard's VEGASTARS

Typical tv network bunco was sneaked via typical RATHER BLATHER on "48 Hours in Las Vegas" that aired recently over CBS through KLAS-TV-8. Sure, the CBS team did a fast turn-around from what senior producer AL BRIGANTI honey-mouthed: "We expected to find, and did find, a community that sees itself apart from the gambling culture. We found a regular town where people feel it's a fine place to raise their kids. When you're here you realize there's a greater community than the image leads us to believe." And "48 Hours" concentrated mainly on our netherworld and sleaze factor among certain kids who hang out in our beautiful tempting casinos. But, what a vivid commercial for our hotel-casinos, matching the one that SIG ROGICH and his ad company dreamed up to lure the country into our aleatory cathedrals! I could have done without all of the cliches every outsider regurgitates, but look, podner, cliches sell ad nauseam - day and night as stupified couch potatoes buy all that junk..What was more fascinating to me was the RATHER BLATHER the night before "48 Hours" aired as DUTIFUL DAN attempted to put veep BUSH on the griddle

on CBS evening news. The BUSH contribution to the Iran-Contra affair has been written and printed many times, but not in establishment publications. For your edification, the latest exposure of BUSH-league hanky-panky in that sordid biz is in THE NATION, titled "Memo to HAIG," written by JEFF NASON & MALCOM BYRNE, information analysts at the National Security Archive in Washington D.C. and editors of "The Chronology"; The Documented Day-by-Day Account of the Secret Military Assistance to Iran and the Contras," published by Warner Books. The authors write: "Perhaps the most conclusive piece of evidence on the BUSH-CONTRA connection was a series of memos written in April and May 1986. Two of the memos state that the purpose of a May 1, 1986 meeting between BUSH and contra operative FELIX RODRIGUEZ was 'to brief the Vice President on the status of the war in El Salvador and resupply of the contras'....BUSH is clearly being protected by staff members as well as by colleagues in the cabinet. All have suffered a remarkable case of collective amnesia. It would seem that nobody can remember what BUSH said or did, or even if he attended certain key meetings. Will BUSH's staff forget everything he says when he is President too?"



Nevada's first statewide screenwriter's competition is underway, with scripts due March 1.

Winners will be feted by the state Motion Picture Division and the five best works will be read by a well-known screenwriter, director or producer who has recently filmed in Nevada. For info, call ERIK JOSEPH, 486-7150...STEVE LESNICK, art teacher and art columnist for the L.V. Sun, was presented with an award and a check in Jackson, Wyoming, by none other than candidate for prez, Veep BUSH, for his painting of the Lincoln Memorial to adorn a future postage stamp...The poker chumps and champs and otherwise converged upon Caesars Palace this week for the start of AMARILLO SLIM's 10th anni Super Bowl of Poker underway Thursday. Another Caesars item: stunner LAGRECELLA OMRAN, the CLEOPATRA, who undulates around the premises, is the current MISS NEVADA U.S.A. and will rep the state in the MISS U.S.A. pageant televised nationally March 1...Presto chango and MICHAEL DARIN's outre "Magic Magic" disappears from the Landmark for incoming prestidigitation from MELANIE, who recently embellished her charms with now-you-see-it-now-you-don't at Bourbon Street...GEORGE STARESINIC moves from local papers as columnist, also with Associated Press and UPI, to write publicity for the Imperial Palace as JUDI WOLFE forsakes that very same job at IP for publicity and ad chores at the Paddlewheel...Producer MAYNARD SLOATE has JACK BUNCH to direct and stage "52nd Street" for the Sahara to replace the current "Ain't Misbehavin'" on the 23rd...FRANK MARINO, who emcees "An Evening at La Cage" as JOAN RIVERS, has

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