

LAS VEGAS

SHOWCASE



Most of top management people from Circus Circus showed up for the EVE & JOE BEHAR COMMUNITY DRAMA WORKSHOP roast for Circus Circus exec MEL LARSON, except the two biggest shots, BILL BENNETT & BILL PENNINGTON. They were over at Convention Center telling Las Vegas Convention & Visitors Authority exec director FRANK SAIN where to shove his COMDEX. The affair last Thursday in the Frontier's Americana Room drew a goodly crowd for cocktails and dinner with the main entree ROAST LARSON. Delivering stolen jokes and one-liners to tease the roast-toastie LARSON were GEORGE "GOOBER" LINDSAY, MAYOR RON LURIE, COUNTY COMMISSIONER THALIA DONDERO, DEEDA HYMES, JIM COREY, SHERIFF JOHN MORAN, IRA DAVID STERNBERG and the best roaster POPI, the orangutan from the Stardust's "Lido" show, given hints and nudges by his (her?) trainer, BOBBY BEROSINI, who trainted POPI to give LARSON the finger as he has trained his pet to give Stardust audiences the finger nightly. Actor ERNEST BORGNINE delivered the eulogy and LARSON's pal from Texas, JIM HAMILTON, who

sold LARSON and his wife those pink Bell Helicopters, also entered the fry, but barely simmered with his stories about LARSON's past malfunctions in the air and on the ground, particularly on a Paris junket. RED McILVAINE was the provider of some original hilarity as emcee. He's a card! When LARSON got up to rebutt his tormenters, there was a mass exodus by tablers for the door, but the worst part of that action was that they didn't complete their exit and returned to hear LARSON get all sloppy sentimental. The only roaster of note missing was I, who could have blurted out the BEST OF BERLE, UNCLE MILTIE being the King of Roasters. Congrats to the BEHARS - turn the page for columnist JOE BEHAR's tortured blips & pips - and to the COMMUNITY DRAMA WORKSHOP. Long may it thesp.



The GREENSPUNS with their L.V. Sun bully pulpit to exorcise JOHN 3:16 and city councilman STEVE MILLER (and using hatchet man JEFF GERMAN's adulterated prose), are also in conflict of interest as they blame MILLER for that shameful exercise. However, if they are after MILLER for receiving \$1600 a month to rent the DONREY company space for billboards, what about the hundreds of thousands of \$\$\$\$\$\$ both newspapers eke monthly from advertisers, which can -- and does -- taint their news and editorial side...JOY BRITTAN and spouse RICK SIAS will be leaving on a tour of eight months to the Ukraine in the Soviet Union for celebration of the UKRANIAN MILLENIUM, or 1000 years since

the capital city of Kiev was converted to Christianity. JOY has made an international name for herself in her zeal to sing and tell about her beloved Ukraine on her recorded album and in personal appearances in churches and Ukrainian festivals throughout the U.S. and Canada...A shout and a cheer for EDDIE FOX, recuping from ailments. He was my boss, producer and director during those halcyon days of the SILVER SLIPPER SALOON & GAMBLING HALL, born in 1950 and may die in 1988. In case you missed it, Vegas had the best of burlesque at the Slipper with topmost banana HANK HENRY, diminutive SPARKY KAYE and foghorn-voiced JIMMY CAVANAUGH, plus hundreds of name stars both onstage and in the audience nightly. HANK, SPARKY & JIMMY have all departed this vale of tears...ANGELO GIOUZELIS, Caesars Palace maitre d' and owner of the popular hangout for the UPBEAT SET, the Superstar Cafe at Flamingo & Maryland Parkway in the new Target store plaza, has been so crushed with biz that he is looking to expand and take care of comestibles crowds...Top lure for International Television Association Conference & Golden Reel Awards at Caesars Palace starting Wednesday through Saturday will be film critic GENE SISKEL, who will critique "Academy Award" winners of corporate TV. Opening sesh will spotlight presentation of the 1988 Chief Executive of the Year Award for a major corporation to AT&T chair and CEO James E. OLSON. He has backed significant expansions of the company's video use from its corporate satellite TV network in interactive videodisk in-



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