

OF THE STARS



formation kiosks at WALT DISNEY'S EPCOT CENTER...KVVU-TV 5 is again ranked as numero uno indie TV station in the U.S., according to the latest ARBITRON ratings (Feb. 1988). MEREDITH CORP., station owners have moved into their new \$7 million broadcast center, sez RUSTY DURANTE, veep and g.m. for the vidstation.

going to be easy to show that Las Vegas is a sophisticated city that is fully diversified, and has more to offer than just our life's blood casinos and 58,585 hotel and motel rooms."



A new survey out of New York could cause worries for Las Vegas resorts who want people to play, play, play. Titled "Americans and the Arts V," sponsored by a tobacco company and conducted by the National Research Center of the Arts, an affiliate of Louis Harris & Associates, the study found that time spent working has gone up since 1973 and play time has been shrinking. Another section of the survey revealed that the fastest-growing entertainment medium in the U.S. is the video cassette recorder, a gadget far removed from the casino's lure...Despite shrinking playtime, the Las Vegas area gained 45,000 new residents last year as California contributed about 25% of the newcomers, with Texas following and Arizona third. They're probably coming to Vegas to work...Force-feeding the message of Vegas falls to a Las Vegas city hall staffer, FRANK REYNOLDS and UNLV prof Hugh Burgess in a conference at Arizona State U. at Tempe. They will attempt to prove that the image carried by a majority of people in the country is outdated, in a nutshell as stated by REYNOLDS, a former city planning commissioner in Michigan: "It's not



When two Shaws got together by phone on an interview for a book, one -- Artie Shaw -- agreed to talk to the public, free, at UNLV Tuesday April 12 as a guest of the College of Arts and Letters, also to conduct a master class with UNLV Jazz Ensemble. Arnold Shaw, author and composer, instigated the event for the Popular Music Research Center, whose archives at UNLV are filling with interviews and music examples of entertainers, musicians and composers. Swing's onetime top clarinet player, with the late Benny Goodman, has chosen as his subject at 3 p.m. in Wright Hall 103, "Three Chords for Beauty's Sake and One to Pay the Rent"...The Strip is awaiting the announcement from Circus Circus board chair Bill Bennett where he'll build his next theme resort in Vegas. He and partner BILL PENNINGTON have brought still more crowds to boomtown Laughlin on the Colorado River south of Las Vegas with the huge paddlewheel replica Colorado Belle. Their Edgewater, adjacent to the Belle, begins a \$5,000,000 expansion of the casino and -- mirabile dictu -- enlarging the show lounge and move it to a more convenient location...Still on the Laughlin Strip, both Harrah's and Ramada have begun accepting employment applications for upcoming openings of

their sizeable resort-casinos, and DON LAUGHLIN's Celebrity Room at the Riverside keeps rolling along with varied name entertainers to fill the 1000-seater. This past weekend ShaNaNa tripped '50s fanciers back to their nostalgic sock hop years and another R&R star of the '60s, JOHNNY RIVERS is set for April 14-15.



ANNE MURRAY tries her luck again in Vegas on the Hilton stage for a week opening the 26th, but for an immediate kick to country idolators, GEORGE STRAIT opened Wednesday...It's GALLAGHER's psychology method school of hard comedy knocks in the Sands Grand Ballroom through the 14th, using his principal weapon, the Sledge-O-Matic, which brings on a new type of ringsider swathed in plastic to ward off the detritus from that bonked spew. As for the Sands' Copa Room future, Sean Sullivan, veep of marketing & entertainment, announced the opening of the long awaited "Beach Blanket Babylon" music revue on May 4...former President Jimmy Carter may be visited by RICH LITTLE when he fills a UNLV Barrick Lecture Series evening in Ham Hall on the 14th. Little, at the Desert Inn, with ANTHONY NEWLEY, can brush up on his Carter, one of his better simulations within a hoot filled with past and present White House occupants..."Sex Over 40" cast at the Continental afternoons is running a contest for blackouts, jokes, sketches, bits and pieces with a monthly grand prize of \$100. Stacie James, Tropicana "Follies Bergene" principal singer, who was Miss Nevada 1987 and second runner-up to Miss America, joins the select Miss America Talent Troupe to tour with Misses from Oklahoma, Virginia, New York, North Dakota, Maryland, Missouri, Colorado and Connecticut.

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