

# STARS

Take stock in America.



st-on-the-floor couples DOC ROSS & RENEE LEE, exhibiting their terp skills. He was the skilled weather delineator for Channel 3 for many years and she's an actress/singer, both now working on a song & dance act.

★★★★★

More on the Lady Luck's Lucky Dome — this weekend features BIG TINY LITTLE & THE HONKY TONKERS in Dixieland jazz and, up ahead, a polka festival weekend Jan. 19-21 and a Chinese group performing acrobatics Jan. 26-28 to celebrate the Chinese New Year...THE CHIEFTAINS: AN IRISH CHRISTMAS" is another seasonal celebration Friday (15) with the spirited group performing Irish music presented as a CHARLES VANDA MASTER SERIES feature in UNLV's Ham Hall...GIAN CARLO MENOTTI's "Amahl and The Night Visitors" starts Friday (15) with NEVADA OPERA THEATRE, ACTOR'S REPERTORY THEATRE & SERENATA CHAMBER ORCHESTRA this weekend and next presented by CLARK COUNTY LIBRARY DISTRICT in Clark County Library's Jewel Box Theatre, free to the public except for Friday's perf and reception \$50 per. More holiday music finds the LAS VEGAS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA Sunday in UNLV's Ham Hall bursting with musical cheer and decking old Ham Hall with sounds of holly...Wait, there's more. SOUTHERN NEVADA MUSICAL ARTS SOCIETY brings on its 10th anni "Messiah Sing-In," Sunday, 3 p.m. in Clark County Community College lobby, all free. And come prepared to sing that great fave of composer HANDEL, the seasonally ubiquitous

"Hallelulah Chorus," the works led by DOUGLAS PETERSON. He's my favorite choral conductor, his "Verdi Requiem" performance in Ham Hall Nov. 26 attaining the high point of my personal musical experience of the year...Perusing art works, I forgot to take in ROY PURCELL's desert paintings in UNLV's Marjorie Barrick Museum of Natural History that closed last week. PURCELL's paintings always capture more than the surface, moving inside to the spirit and essence of our natural wonders.

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What a weekend! With all of the events taking place around us, add still another famous anni happening at Circus Circus. Saturday and Sunday finds contestants in the 14TH ANNUAL NEVADA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP CHILI COOKOFF & COUNTRY MUSIC CONTEST milling around, stewing and stirring their concoctions both edibly and aurally. One of the country music judges is GARY LeMASTER, formerly Sam's Town entertainment director and entertainer, now with the SONS OF THE PIONEERS. That legendary outfit played DON LAUGHLIN's RIVERSIDE RESORT in Laughlin last weekend. Also judging is SUNNY SPENCER of SONS OF THE PIONEERS. What both are listening for in the contest is summed up by GARY: "In this contest, the emphasis is on country music, rather than Western or Blue Grass. The differences aren't always easy to define, but the Blue Grass doesn't use amplified instruments and Western is focused around the everyday life of

the working cowboy. Country music can be more toe-tapping, and it's from the heart, often dealing with true stories, love lost, and sadness"...Incidentally perhaps, last years country music winner was the Vegas-based group SADDLE TRAMP, led by singer-guitarist BUDDY RAY...Welcome to the new local magazine OASIS. The monthly publication, with content directed toward the Black Community, is headed by publisher JIMMY JOHNSON, sided by managing ed GEORGE BURNS...A WALL STREET JOURNAL editorial recently commented: "Take \$10 out of your wallet. That's how much the collapse of Lincoln Savings & Loan will cost you and every other American. Liquidating the Irvine, Calif. thrift will drain the federal deposit insurance fund by more than \$2.5 billion, making it the largest thrift failure in history." FRED WERTHEIMER of COMMON CAUSE adds this thought: "The cost to taxpayers of the failure of the Lincoln Savings & Loan is more than the amount President Bush has proposed in additional spending next year for our national war on drugs. It's an outrage!" We, the People allowed it to happen by our election to offices of the most undeserving "public servants" in history. WERTHEIMER also hits at the "corrupt campaign finance system" and stresses that we must "win our fight to take the 'For Sale' sign off the United States Congress."

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On the other side of our existence and once more moving down to Laughlin and the Riverside Resort, here's an earth-shattering communique bound to shake up showbiz: "The Ladies Professional Wrestling Association (LPWA) of Las Vegas, Nevada, has reached an agreement with DON LAUGHLIN'S RIVERSIDE RESORT HOTEL & CASINO to videotape wrestling matches for worldwide television. The agreement reached between STEVE EDWARDS, LPWA Executive Vice President, and ROY JERNIGAN, Riverside's Entertainment Director, calls for the LPWA to present

(Continued on page 17)

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