



Gosstroy, State Committee for construction VALERYI MIKHAILOVICH and People's Deputy, Member of the Supreme Soviet, Chair of the Subcommittee on Budget ANATOLII NIKOLAEVICH SAUNIN on a tour of the Excalibur. Visitors were comparing Russian architecture, technology and construction methods with those in the USSR. SEROV & SAUNIN admitted that many similarities abounded, some innovative building methods were new. Film at 11.

You've probably heard or read the puffery about SIEGFRIED & ROY's extravaganza coming to the Mirage sometime, mebbe in January, mebbe not. S&R's press agents/publicists et al came forth with info about what producer KENNETH FELD (Ringling Bros., Barnum & Baily Circus) calls the "ultimate" spectacle. The puff said it's the most expensive show ever staged, \$20 million, in a special 1500-seat showroom designed for S&R and costing more than \$25 million by Mirage boss STEPHEN WYNN. He (WYNN) is paying \$57.5 for S&R's 5-year contract aided by FELD's allstar team of creators. They are JOHN NAPIER, designer & co-director; JOHN CAIRD, writer & co-director; ANTHONY VAN LAAST, choreographer; WILLIAM IVEY LONG, costume designer; TOM BAHLERD, music producer & composer; ANDREW BRIDGE, lighting designer; JONATHAN DEANS, sound designer and LISA CUSCUNAS, scenic projection designer. What got to me in the puff was info that "the new production will feature a computerized audio system delivering an unprecedented level of

quality and fullness in a pre-recorded soundtrack to provide an audience experience not possible with any other form of musical presentation," FELD said. Get the business of "pre-recorded soundtrack." That means the S&R show is taped with no live musicians performing. How can taping any show "provide an audience experience not possible with any other form of musical presentation"? All of this, S&R, cast of 70 humans and 24 exotic animals, for \$49.50 a ticket, on tape!...

"The Neon Empire" which debuted this month in a 4-hour miniseries on Showtime cable tv, will be available for sale on videotape in a 2-hour version March 7. Film, produced by RICHARD MAYNARD starring RAY SHARKEY & MARTIN LANDAU ostensibly about BUGSY SIEGEL and the rise of the Flamingo Hotel back in the 40s was partially shot in Florence, Arizona, resembling what the film folk thought Old Vegas looked like...My favorite soprano, a localite, ELAINE MANLEY-CHANCE will sing the role of Flora in NEVADA OPERA THEATRE's "La Traviata" set for Feb. 18 at Cashman Center Theater...Not exactly my favorite baritone, HENRI LEWIN, tosses another party Dec. 29 at the Sands celebrating LEWIN's desire to sing "I Can't Stop Loving You" at least a dozen times. HENRI loves to rib the Mirage opposite the Sands. His sendup for this party, among others, will be on SIEGFRIED & ROY, called FREDRICK the BOY. It will be a night of goulash edibly and otherwise ... FRANK SINATRA buffs, who mourn his absence from our midst this month, should know that he celebrated his 74th birthday at Chasen's in Beverly Hills. According to Daily Variety columnist ARMY ARCHERD, toasting FRANK were his wife, BARBARA, daughters NANCY & TINA, grandchildren AMANDA & A.J. LAMBERT, also JILL ST. JOHN and R.J. WAGNER, VERONIQUE & GREGORY PECK, DANA & CUBBY BROCCOLI, JOLENE & GEORGE SCHLATTER, ALTOVISE & SAMMY DAVIS JR., DINAH SHORE, JILLY RIZZO and MILTON BERLE.

Happy Chanukah



DOUGLAS MAC-VALLEY's "Globe of Death" in the Riviera's "Splash," continues through 1993 under a new \$1 million contract and the bike riders MAC-VALLEY, HUMBERTO FONSECCA & AN-DERSON DANTAS will careen wildly in the new hightech globe early next year...The BRECK WALL/ PATRICK MAES "Bottoms Up" howler at the Sahara, usually have their cast and chorus ready daily at 2 & 4 p.m., but because "Boylesque" is on Xmas vacation, "Bottoms Up" moves into the 8 & 11 p.m. slots (except Sunday) through the 26th ... Here's some irony for you. DAVID McLEOD, who happens to be WARREN BEATTY's cousin and producer of "The Pick-Up Artist" film, was ordered to appear in Bronx Criminal Court Dec. 14 to face 17 counts of criminal solicitation and sexual abuse. He is accused of being a real-life pickup artist in picking up at least 12 boys aged 12-16 to accompany him to New Jersey motels where he allegedly paid them \$30-40 after sexual encounters...Remember when we all were devastated about Atlantic City as competition back around 1976-77? Although DONALD TRUMP and Caesars Palace are tops in Taffyland, four casinos are struggling - MERV GRIFFIN's Resorts Casino Hotel, Claridge, TropWorld and Sands with GRIF-FIN in bankruptcy court trying to arrange a payback about half of what he owes. He stopped

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