

# SPORTS

## DEL WEBB MINT 400 DESERT RACE

Norman Johnson from Las Vegas, author of the 1976 edition of "The Off-Road Racer", has entered the \$100,000 Del Webb Mint 400 Desert Race scheduled April 26, 1977.

Johnson will drive a single-seat, 1200cc Volkswagen featuring drive train modifications for desert race competition. (Mint 400 Class 9). The entry brings the total Class 9 raders to 54, or nearly 20% of the entire field of 305 cars. Johnson will start 94th.

Rolf Tibblin from Escondido, Calif., will prove his racing skill versatility by returning as perennial 1976 Mint 400 Motorcycle Champion, to take command of a 40 horsepower VW Hi Jumper, (Class 9), in hopes for a repeated winning performance. Rolf will be 14th off the line in the annual desert classic.

Final race car registration for the Mint 400 will be Sunday and Monday, April 24 and 25, with vehicle safety technical inspection and contingency declarations on Monday, April 25th. The spectacular off-road vehicle parade will begin at 7:00 a.m. on Tuesday, April 26, on Fremont Street, directly in front of Del Webb's Mint Hotel and Casino.

Awards and trophies will be presented during a public picnic on the grounds of the Mint Gun Club, adjacent to Tule Springs recreation area, on Wednesday, April 27th. The public is invited to attend all events.

## TEEN DISCO DANCE

Attention Teens! The Department of Parks & Recreation Services Doolittle Center Girls softball team will be sponsoring a FUNKY DISCO DANCE to help them in their efforts to obtain softball uniforms. The Disco Dance will be held Friday, April 15, 1977 time 7:00 p.m. - 11:00p.m. All teens are encouraged to attend this worthy function, admission is only one dollar. For further information call the Doolittle Center, 386-6374.

## PIANO RECITAL

The Department of Parks & Recreation Services Doolittle Center will be presenting it's annual Piano Recital, Sunday, April 17, 1977 time 4:00 p.m. at the Reed Whipple Cultural Center, located at 821 Las Vegas BL. North. The public is cordially invited to attend this annual piano recital. For further information call the Doolittle Center, 386-6374.

Musical works by the eminent cellist Ennio Bolognini will be presented in concert at 8 p.m. Saturday, April 16 in the Artemus W. Ham Concert Hall at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

The concert is being presented by the Las Vegas Music Teachers Association in association with the UNLV Department of Music.

Preceding the program, the winners of this year's Bolognini Scholarship Awards will offer a cameo concert.

Tickets for the event, which are tax deductible, may be purchased at the office of UNLV's Music Department.

## PITCH, HIT & RUN REGISTRATION STARTS WITH OPENING OF MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL SEASON

With the beginning of the 1977 Major League baseball season this week, youngsters in this area will have the opportunity to enter Pitch, Hit and Run, Baseball's official youth program, sponsored by Thom McAn in association with the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) and the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports.

Registration officially begins Wednesday, April 6 and runs through May 22. All boys and girls between the ages of 9-12 (age determined as of August 1, 1977) are eligible to enter. Tips Books and official entry blanks are available free at all Thom McAn stores and participating dealers in this area. No purchase is necessary to enter.

The Tips Books include valuable pitching, hitting and running tips from three star Major Leaguers----Jim Palmer, the Baltimore Orioles' three-time Cy Young Award winner; Rod Carew of the Minnesota Twins, a five-time American League batting champion and Joe Morgan of the World Champion Cincinnati Reds, who has won the National League Most Valuable Player Award the last two seasons.

In addition, the book also contains conditioning recommendations from the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports.

Youngsters will compete in four levels of competition----local, district, division and finals. The finals competition will take place at the All Star Game at New York's Yankee Stadium.

All entrants will compete in the three events----pitching, hitting and running. The pitching competition gives each youngster three throws to hit a specially designed target 46 feet from the pitching line. In hitting, they get three tosses to hit two fair flies, fungo style. The contestants must run around the bases against a stop watch. The bases are 60 feet apart. Winners are determined on a total point basis.

All local competition winners advance to the district competitions. Winners scores in the district championships are compared against other district winners scores in their respectful PH&R competition area. The top two in each age group then advance to the division competition, which will be held in twelve Major League parks and Aloha Stadium in Hawaii.

Youngsters competing in the division championships will be the guests of Thom McAn, along with their parents. They will wear a replica uniform of the host team.

The finalists at the All Star Game, with their parents, will also be the guests of Thom McAn and Major League Baseball. The finalists are the two youngsters, in each age group, with the highest scores from all the divisional championships.

NRPA officials will conduct all four levels of competition.

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