# RENO HAPPENINGS

By Caryn Shetterly SUN Staff Writer

CARSON CITY - Rep.

surrounded by what he called his "troops,"

announced his candidacy

Monday for the United States

Senate, saying the 1986

Reid, D-Nev.,

contest is "about our state, our families and our way of

life."
"The question for Nevada
voters is one of personal
commitment, not whether a
candidate has an 'R' or 'D'

after his name," he said.
"The question in this race is
who cares most about
Nevada and puts the
interests of the state ahead of

Reid announces candidacy for U.S. Senate

Refusing to comment on likely opponent James Santini, Reid said he would not talk about running against "phantoms."

his own ambition.'

He said one of his biggest campaign tasks would be to make himself known to a chunk of Northern Nevada voters who are not familiar with him.

"The thing I'm going to spend a lot of time on is the 35 percent of the people in Washoe County who don't know who I am," he said. "There has been so much growth in that area that there are people who have to know me better and understand where I stand on issues."

Monday's announcement began a weeklong statewide campaign swing through Tonopah, Ely, Hawthorne, Yerington, Reno and finally Henderson.

Reid, elected to the House of Representatives in 1982, made his announcement in the old state Assembly chambers in Carson City, amid a circle of Nevada politicians who were Gov. Richard Bryan, former Govs. Grant Sawyer and Mike O'Callaghan, retiring Secretary of State William Swackhamer, former U.S. Sen., Rep. Berkeley Bunker and State Senator Joe Neal.

Included in the audience of about 50 were representatives from Nevada's labor, education and business factions, and state Democrats said the long awaited event showed strong party unity.

Bryan said Reid's popularity throughout the state will help him overcome "North-South" problems inevitable in a Nevada campaign.

"There's a misconception that Washoe County is more conservative and Clark County is more liberal," he said. "I recall during my term as a legislator several environmental issues, which are typically identified as 'liberal,' coming out of Washoe County."

Reid pledged to fight the "national scandal" of rising health care costs, and to reform the insurance industry. He praised the state's healthy gaming industry, but urged the creation of a law requiring a "cooling off period" for gaming officials before going into private resort industry jobs.



Delores Feemster, Reno Sentinel-Voice General Manager. For news, weekly locations of paper and advertising information, contact her at 323-3677.

Increased international competition will force Nevada into strengthening its educational and economic systems, he said, and of national concern to Nevada residents is the overwhelming deficit.

"But Nevada must be for Nevadans," he said. "It must not be for the nuclear trash of other states. It must not be for the federal government to abuse."

Reid said his political stances are difficult to categorize, but insisted he is not the liberal that Republicans have painted him to be.

"I think if anyone referred to me as a liberal in Washington there would be bellylaughs from the Capitol," he said.

He said his proposal to designate 723,000 acres of Nevada land as wilderness would not dominate his campaign, nor would it hinder his ability to gain support from voters.

State Republican Party Chairman Marilyn Gubler said a race between Reid and Santini is virtually even at this point.

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