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May/June 1981

NEVADA

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Editorial

The gamble paid off.

Tourism, the fancy name for gaming, is the backbone of Nevada's economy. In the year ended June 30, 1980, gross receipts from gaming (all winnings minus all losses) were $2.4 billion. Taxes collected during the same year totaled $169.7 million which is nearly half the state's revenues. The number of Nevadans employed in the gaming business is about 110,000, or 27 percent of the state's work force.

Obviously, gaming is important to the state. If you read the last issue you'll know that March 19, 1931 was when the law was passed legalizing gambling in the Silver State. And why our March/April 1981 issue turned into a very special golden anniversary of gaming edition.

Nevada Magazine is in her middle age. At 45, she occasionally feels pain, but that's mostly financial. With each issue we do our best to give you a feeling for the state. We want to give you information that will enhance your holidays; we want to tell you about Nevada's past; we want to show you some exquisite parts of the desert that will never appear on picture post cards; and we want to introduce you to some rough, some brilliant westerners.

Sometimes it works; sometimes it doesn't. Your letters tell us what you like and what you don't like. After receiving the gaming issue one subscriber wrote: "Please cancel my subscription, I refuse to subsidize this vice."

At the magazine, the gaming issue was a big worry. It cost $200,000 just for printing and shipping. Before the postal increase last March, mailing a single copy of the issue cost $1.72. Page size was doubled, the amount of color quadrupled. But for the state's gaming jubilee we had to do something very special.

We felt a responsibility to the industry that has kept our state one of the healthiest in the union. We wanted to offer a tribute to its glorious and crazy first half century.

The similarity between the gaming industry and the state's official publication is that they are two old girls who have a sense of humor and a need to be independent; neither has won any major popularity polls. In our March/April issue, the two finally got together. The magazine talked, complained, raved and laughed about the growth of the industry. Cover price was raised to $2.95 (no effect on subscribers). Writers and photographers included some of the best in the country. It took six months to produce. And, best of all, when it finally tumbled off the presses, the media, airlines, casinos, legislators and most subscribers liked it.

Special appreciation goes to Mike O'Callaghan, Rollan Melton, Tim Anderson, Dee Coakley, Darryl Monahan, Phil Hevener, Bill Thornton, KTVN-TV Reno, Rossie Ralencotter, Guy Shipler, KDWN Las Vegas, Nancy Austin, Washoe County Library, Mitzi Briggs, Las Vegas News Bureau, UNLV Special Collections, Nevada Historical Society, UNR Special Collections, Humboldt County Commissioners, Model Dairy and Raley's who offered talent, advice, encouragement and actually helped sell the issue.

For that, the other members of Nevada Magazine's permanent staff thank you all.

As for me, I'm delighted, appreciative, and amazed the bloody thing worked.—*Caroline J. Hadley*

P.S. If you have a relative or friend who hasn't seen Nevada's terrific, expensive, popular, thick and colorful gaming publication, just send us $2.95 per copy with their address. We'll send a gift card and pay the postage. —*CJH*

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Letters

GAMING NO WHITEWASH

Just a note of congratulations to you and your staff on the splendid "50 Years of Gaming" issue (March/April '81).

It is a real "keeper" and I thought you handled the material in a fair and objective manner. I was glad that it wasn't a "whitewash job."

You should be proud of both the content and graphics.

Ted Conover, Professor
Dept. of Journalism
University of Nevada, Reno

Please cancel my subscription. I certainly did not expect a complete issue advertising the vices of your state.

Marlyn Ewald
Billings. MT.

Your Gaming Issue is great; so very interesting and informative. We've read it over and over and have learned we didn't know much when it comes to blackjack and roulette. We hope we've learned enough to play better.

We have been vacationing in Nevada for the past 30 years and always have a good time and the best meals you can find anywhere. We haven't missed many cities or towns. We love to rock hunt—our hearts beat a little faster as we near Tonopah, Goldfield, Ely and Dixie Valley.

We wish you continued success with your wonderful magazine. Needless to say, each copy keeps us contented until time to pack up and start out for God's Country.

Mr. & Mrs. Tom Tulloch
Los Osos, CA.

I have just received my copy of the Gaming Issue and note its ornate and colorful advertisements, flamboyant articles about the gambling and entertainment industry of the state, all of which is beautiful to see and read, but for gosh sakes, Lady, is that a forerunner of what the magazine is going to be like in the future?

No offense meant, but please don't turn your fine magazine into a lure sheet for them only.

Dewey Tidwell
Las Cruces, NM

I would like to say I am distressed to find no Show Guide or Nevada Calendar in the Gaming Issue. Do like the magazine but hope you keep these departments in future issues.

Betty Jenkins
Biggs, CA.

We wanted our 50th Anniversary Edition to be a collector's item and decided it would "keep" longer without any dated material in it, which meant eliminating Show Guide and Nevada Calendar ONLY for that special issue. It won't happen again.—Ed.

SPECIAL TO LEGISLATORS

Very impressed with your magazine. It and "Arizona" are outstanding. Yours is the livelier. Well written, well edited. Wish the Legislature would give you the funds for monthly publication.

Seth H. Moseley 2nd
Canaan, CT.

So do we.—Ed.

CAN'T WAIT FOR MUENCH

Regarding Muench's Gallery. At first I enjoyed his fabulous photos; then I found I was holding my breath 'til I opened to that super surprise each issue. Now I don't waste any time. I open to it first! Thanks for bringing me the sight, feel and smell of *my* Nevada!

Shirley Parker Drake
Northern Virginia, VA.

Good news for Muench fans. Nevada Magazine's 1982 calendar will have 12 months of beautiful Muench photos in all their glorious color. We expect delivery this summer (there's order information in the center insert card).—Ed.

Nevada Magazine is my love.

The historic features are informative, warm, human touches of the early Nevada that I cherish. David Muench's Gallery tells its own story of Nevada's sights, sounds and changing seasons. The current articles on travel, gaming, skiing and entertainment in general serve as a most useful and informative guide for anyone who travels to Nevada often.

Thank you for this fine publication. It is indeed refreshing in these days of high taxes, inflation, questionable politics, earthquakes and an uncertain future. Sometimes we forget what America is and what we are about; Nevada Magazine is always a gentle reminder.

Diane Sime
Albany, OR.

NEVADA PROOF OF EVOLUTION

With the so-called "Monkey Trial" ending in a toss up it behooves me to furnish proof of evolution being fact instead of theory and by no twist of imagination am I an atheist.

Just compare the dinky, drab Nevada Magazine of a few years back with the brilliant, whizbanger of a "Nevada" today and there, folks, is evolution.

Harry Webb
Tujunga, CA.

SUSPENDER BATTLE AT THE GOLDEN GATE

I wore my Nevada Magazine suspenders one evening into the Golden Gate Bar in Silver City. With pride I laid my dollar on the bar, ordered a brandy, and ran my thumb down the length of my suspenders, my chest expanded.

Friend Nye picked his head up off the bar and with one eye closed, one eye aimed carefully at my thumb, said admiringly, "Those

(Continued on page 34)

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TAHOE: Seven Days in May (or June, or July...)

An action-packed week at Lake Tahoe.

By James McKimmey

You've got a few days off, and Tahoe beckons. After all, there are few places in the West as beautiful as Lake Tahoe in the summertime. At 6,225 feet, the lake sits high above the Nevada desert, cradled by the Sierra and fed by cool alpine streams where trout dance in the morning light.

There's no lack of man-made attractions, either. You find great hotel-casinos on the south and north shores, more than 150 lodges and motels, 16 marinas. Among the lake's seven golf links are two of the West's most challenging, Incline and Edgewood. At Tahoe you can fish, swim, water-ski, sail, cruise, raft, snorkel, hike, bike, eat, drink, golf, gamble and ramble to heart's content.

And that's the rub. With so much to do, how do you pack it into a day, three days or a week? Here are some suggested scenarios, a day by day sampling of the fun and beauty you can enjoy at the lake this summer.

MONDAY: It's the Water

The lake itself, blue and clear, is the common god.

Water at Tahoe is the common god of a diverse array of people. Because it offers one common reward: pleasure.

Some people get theirs from doing 20 knots on a Hobie Cat. Steve Dunham, skipper of the sailing craft Woodwind based at Zephyr Cove, says, "Those people love the exercise and to demonstrate their agility. And they've been influenced by those TV beer commercials."

Some float for hours on inflated air mattresses, belly down, euphoric. Others power 36-foot Sea Rays across the chops and slow into the Sunnyside Marina on the west shore where you can guide your craft right to the bar for a tall one.

Some leave the driving to the captain and take a cruise from either the south or east shore to beautiful Emerald Bay. There's the paddle-propelled M.S. Dixie berthed at Zephyr Cove. You can take the evening cruise for a steak and wine dinner and dance your way back to the Dixie's floating band. Another good bet is the Tahoe Queen at Ski Run Marina at South Lake Tahoe. The Queen has an unusual observation deck. You not only can look out across the water, but also down. Part of the bottom is glass.

There are enough marinas and retail outlets at the lake to supply the widest demands of water-sports enthusiasts.

And then there are the fishermen, whose only demand of the water is fish.

If you're looking for very personal fishing guidance with a party no larger than two to three people, sportsman incarnate Keith Olsen is arbitrary and adament: "The main guides here are Jack Martin and Dick Garcia. You can find them through The Outdoorsman or through Dick Nagi at Tahoe Bowl—they don't advertise."

Martin, a licensed Coast Guard guide, says, "In May it's mackinaw. June through September it's kokanee. And I care about just one thing—my customers getting fish.

"Can you imagine what it's like to charge someone thirty to forty dollars and then take them home without a fish? A nightmare. If the conditions tell me so, I won't even go out."

Which is why he quit early last summer—the fishing was that bad. But Martin knows his conditions. This year, he claims with certainty, will be a good one for kokanee.

There are many pleasures to be gotten from the water at Tahoe. Happily, there's a lot of it.

TUESDAY: High Rolling

The suite is $472 a day. What do you care?

Imagine this. You are going to spend a day at Lake Tahoe with absolutely unlimited funds. You and your vacation mate might do it this way:

You awaken in the morning in the best suite in Harrah's Lake Tahoe hotel with its five-star, five-diamond ratings.

It's $472 a day. What do you care?

The breakfast chef takes pride in the Eggs Benedict. The butler, who comes with the suite, serves them to you in bed.

Downstairs, you decide on a little gaming. You have a chauffeur waiting outside in a $130,000 Mercedes limousine at $40 per hour. Let him wait. Try some keno with the possible $50,000 win each game. But be smart. Bring down the odds.

Play a $16,666.66 one spot.

After a sight-seeing ride in the limo, you stop at the Chateau Gourmet to have your driver pick up your catered picnic trays. Then you're driven back to the hotel where a luxury Jet Ranger chopper from Pine Belt Helicopters is waiting for you in the parking lot.

You are flown to Freel Peak's lofty 10,881-foot top, where you can see forever, as you enjoy the antipasto and roast turkey sandwiches with a modest California '78 Pinot Chardonnay. Lunch costs you $390, counting the chopper. But you could have spent more if you hadn't been roughing it on top of a mountain.

Afternoon is on a two-masted 41-foot motor sailing yacht with a skipper and crew rented at a clean $500 from Deutsch Sailboat Charter, just for you and yours. While you think about dinner.

And now is the time to realize that putting yourself into the hands of maitre d's is the only way to optimum dining pleasure. They know what is best for you.

Each has his favorites, including special dishes. Jeffrey Kokinacis of

Caesars' Edgewood prefers flaming Cafe Diablo at $7 each. Ron Riggs of Harvey's Sage Room likes an assorted seafood appetizer plate at $10. Lenny Mormando of the Sahara's House Of Lords is partial to Iranian caviar at $30 per person.

Tonight you have put yourself into the hands of Claude Oertle of Harrah's Summit. With impeccable judgment, Claude starts you with a goose liver pate. Then large scampi. On to a saddle of veal. A Kentucky limestone salad in its proper order. The best cheeses and an excellent dessert, of course. All with perfect accompanying wines, from a special cellar available only to Claude.

It's $300 for the food, $700 for the wine. Indecent but incredibly delicious.

The evening ends in one of the show rooms. Don't take chances. Secure the seating you desire. Tip a thousand dollars going in. You will hardly be the first to have done it.

The day has cost you $96,568, including four keno games and generous tokes. Give or take.

But consider this: with the 4-to-1 odds and a little bit of luck, you might have won at keno. Two games are perfectly conceivable. Which would have returned $100,000. Meaning you would be leaving with a $3,432 profit. After a day such as that.

Think of it in that fashion.

Why not?

WEDNESDAY: Alpine Cowboy

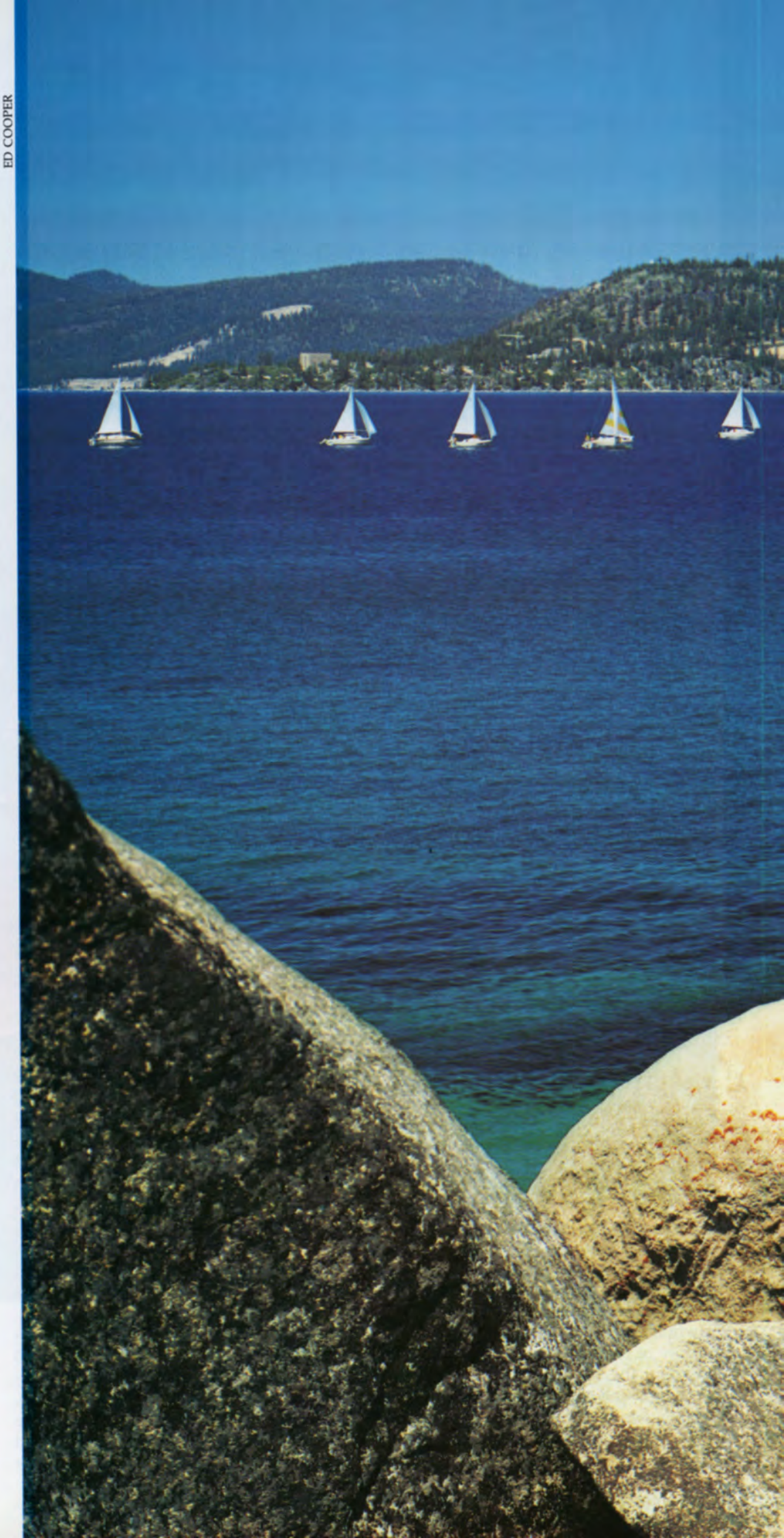
High in the saddle even if you've never been there before.

Cowboy mania. The country's got it bad, especially in the West. Especially at Lake Tahoe.

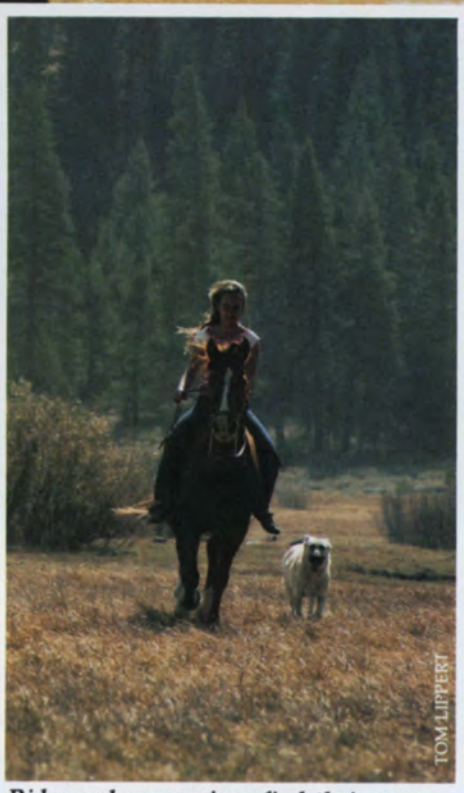
On June 20 a wagon train circles for the night at Round Hill on the east shore. Four hundred teamsters, hands and followers of the Highway 50 Association, with 30 wagons, 75 outriders. From there the procession will head westward for a week, finishing on June 28 at Shingle Springs near Placerville.

You can sign up for the journey at Round Hill before the emigrants break camp on the 21st. It's $10 a day or $40 for the entire trip. A horse is not required. Western dress is.

ED COOPER



Summer regatta on Lake Tahoe, looking west from Sand Harbor.



TOM LIPPERT

Rider and companions find their own trail in the backcountry.

The third week in August it's the Moose Rodeo at Cass Amacker's ranch on Sawmill Road in the south shore community of Myers. Every local dude who ever had the itch to put on a large hat turns out. Calf roping, saddle bronc riding, the whole crowd-pleasing works.

But at Tahoe any day can be a western day—or night for that matter.

Harvey's Inn has long been a buckaroo stomping ground with its country-western bands. The Sahara has installed a lounge featuring the same in the center of its casino. The Boomerang, on Kingsbury Grade, offers nothing but country-western dancing. You can find one of those mechanical bulls in the Monte Vista in Zephyr Cove.

People dress western for the riding stables. They put on the denim and pointed-toe boots and head for the corral, to sit tall in the saddle even if they've never sat there before.

Three nights a week girls at the Boomerang teach willing customers how to dance their country feet off. Some wearing worn Levi's, run-down work boots, and ragged straws on their heads. Some wearing $335 Charlie Onehorse hats and $3,000 Cosimo Lucchesi boots with the alligator vamps. But they all dance the Texas ten-step to the same beat.



DALE SMITH

Getting ready for more buckaroos at the Ponderosa Ranch.

Bonanza, the long running TV western, ended eight years ago. But the Cartwright spread near Incline Village is busier than ever. At Bill and Joyce Anderson's Ponderosa Ranch, you can take a breakfast trail ride, visit a new-but-old western main street and belly up to the Silver Dollar bar. Buy a sarsaparilla and take home your souvenir Ponderosa tin cup. With likenesses of Ben, Hoss and Little Joe on it, of course.



Sand Harbor, a Nevada state park, is one of Tahoe's best sites for sand and sun.

That night, if you aren't camping in a moonlit mountain meadow, find a Randolph Scott movie on the late show, and hang up your spurs until next time.

THURSDAY: Taking the Kids

How to keep them busy every minute—and sleep late the next day.

It's summer vacation. A whole week at Tahoe, each day to be filled with exciting activities. And you brought the kids along.

Well, look on the bright side. Pack one day so chock full of activities that the kids will be too tired to hound you for the rest of the week.

Start the day with a hearty breakfast of eggs and Wheaties so starvation doesn't cloud the morning. Then head for the nearest bike and skate rental shop and gear up for a few hours on wheels exploring the many attractions along the lake's bike-and-skate paths.

There are two principal paths. South Tahoe has a four-mile bike route that starts at the "Y" where U.S. 50 meets California 89. The trail passes beaches, hiking trails and the Lake Tahoe Visitor Center, operated by the U.S. Forest











Sporting types have their choices: waterskiing, golf and rafting on the Truckee River.



Cruise boats like the M.S.Dixie paddlewheeler visit Emerald Bay and Vikingsholm (top).

RIDING THE WIND

The afternoon on Lake Tahoe is hot and still. A group of men and women sit on the sand, drinking beer, chatting, watching. Surfboards lie at the water's edge. It is a scene from any Southern California beach blanket movie, but the surfers wait not for waves. They wait for wind.

Suddenly, out on the lake a breeze colors the water a dark blue. The windsurfers are moving, setting up sails on their boards, pulling on wet suits. A gust rustles the leaves as it reaches the shore and then one, three, the entire group is out, riding the breeze onto the lake.

Windsurfing, a cross between sailing, surfing and flying, has become increasingly popular with Tahoe residents and visitors. Like skiing, windsurfing can be both strenuous and relaxing, demanding coordination and a knowledge of technique. It is also a superb sport, exhilarating, and in intimate contact with the outdoors.

The sport has grown rapidly since the late sixties when it was developed in Marina Del Rey, California. The windsurfer's basic equipment consists of a long, foam-injected surfboard with a tail fin and center board. The mast holding the sail attaches to the board with a universal joint, allowing it to swivel 360 degrees. As the wind increases, the surfer leans, holding the sail closer to the water until he can literally drop his head back into the lake, the sail holding him there as he speeds across the waves. Leaning the sail forward or backward steers the board.

With practice, a windsurfer can relax, watch the lake bottom pass swiftly underneath through the clear water or lean back and watch clouds swirl above. At this point, windsurfing has many of the soothing characteristics of conventional sailing. If you lose balance and hit the water, the speed will not be enough to hurt. The sail drops into the water and stops the board a few feet from the surfer.

Tahoe, with strong mountain gusts, provides excellent though unpredictable conditions for windsurfing. Elsewhere in Nevada, Lake Mead and Pyramid and Walker lakes have good conditions for windsurfing, and warmer water than Tahoe.

Competitive racing at Tahoe is scheduled throughout the summer, on Sunday and Wednesday evenings, at Lake Forest Beach on the north shore. Some of the best windsurfers in the western U.S. will compete in the 19-mile Lake Tahoe Crossing on July 5 and a district series race on August 8.

There are three main Tahoe outlets for renting and lessons: on the main beach at King's Beach, Sierra Surfing at Lake Forest beach near Tahoe City, and at Ski Run Marina on the South Shore. All three rent boards for hourly or daily rates, from $7 to $10 an hour. Sierra Surfing at Lake Forest has an excellent six-hour instruction program using dry-land simulators for $50 including board and wet-suit use.

The cost of a new windsurfer runs about $950. But after that there is practically no additional expense, and the strong breeze is free.—*Chaco Mohler*



CHACO MOHLER

Service. There you can find easy nature walks and an unusual stream "profile chamber" that shows fish swimming in Taylor Creek. On the west shore an intermittent bike trail links Tahoma and Tahoe City, from where a 6-mile path leads to River Ranch.

Rentals are available at the Bike Shop in Tahoe City; Western Auto in Kings Beach; and Tahoe Sands Vagabond, Way Station, and Ski Country Sports and Rentals on the south shore.

After a morning of sight-seeing, take the kids to a lunch at one of the fast food restaurants that dot the shore. Load up on tacos.

The kids have eaten. They're smiling again. Now is the time to take them to the beach for your much needed rest.

A good choice is Sand Harbor, chief beach of the east shore's Nevada State Park. It's open from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. from Memorial Day to Labor Day. Lifeguards are on duty.

At the beach the kids can swim and build castles while you stretch out in the sun. Remember to bring suntan lotion—the sun burns quickly at Tahoe's 6,225-foot elevation.

Toward evening send the youngsters to fish for trout from the boulders along the shore. There's no license required for kids under 12 years of age, and a junior license for ages 12-15 costs just $2. Between casts the young anglers can use a net to catch minnows, the best bait.

Wash down at one of the beach's shower stations and get ready for dinner. Have a lakeside cookout of trout, burgers, corn on the cob and soda. Enjoy the sunset.

Now the tykes are tired, but they've had a day worth remembering. And they may even sleep past eight tomorrow morning.—*Joan D. Morrow*

FRIDAY: Low Rolling

Econo special: making it on less than 10 bucks.

You are contemplating the next day's activities at Lake Tahoe. How, you think, could you possibly spend that day luxuriously at a cost of under $10? Ridiculous, you decide.

Not true, if you take the trouble to do a bit of advance planning.

From home, make your motel reservations by phoning a toll-free number, 800-824-5150, or 800-822-5922 if your home is in California. That'll get you

the South Lake Tahoe Visitors Bureau. They, in turn, will connect you with a motel that meets your desires.

Your desires will include an economical motel with a pool. A motel that is given courtesy bus service by the Stateline casinos. And one that gives out the free casino coupons that practically all motels do.

Go for the in-room coffee, too. Take your time. You're not paying.

Having done that, and as you're driving into the Tahoe basin, pick up your next morning's breakfast: a Winchell's donut for 23 cents.

The next morning, after enjoying the treat with coffee, swim and laze a couple of hours.

Then ride the free courtesy bus to Stateline where you're going to lunch at Harrah's Sports Casino. But do it before noon. The special goes off then. The special is actually called breakfast. But after a morning of swimming and sunshine, you think two eggs, hash browns, your choice of ham, bacon or sausage, plus toast, butter and jelly won't make one of the most delicious lunches you ever wolfed down?

For 99 cents?

Phoning 916-544-2266 will tell you where to buy bus tokens at the cut rate of 50 cents each. Buy two and get on a city bus that'll take you to the El Dorado National Forest and a choice of four beaches: Pope, Baldwin, Kiva or the new one at the Tallac Historic Site.

Good for one entire afternoon of splendid sloth.

Then take the bus back to Stateline: $1.00 for the round trip.

The sun is ready to set. Take an elevator to the top of Harrah's hotel and watch. Or go to the Top of the Wheel at Harvey's. A fantastic view either way.

Then, with coupons in hand, go to the Sahara/Barney's courtesy bus depot in front of the Sahara. Ride free on a red Nugget express to the Nugget. And live it up.

A coupon gets you two pre-dinner cocktails for the price of one, $1.25. Another allows you a high-stake gamble on a special slot machine. A minimum return of five nickles, a maximum of a thousand dollars.

Take your profit and head for the dining room. It's all you can eat at the salad bar (hit it hard). Then the teriyaki chicken, say, with free wine: $4.95.

Back to Harvey's Inn to watch and listen to the band from behind the bar seats, no charge. Go in and dance, if you like—no charge for that, either.



And back to Stateline on Harvey's shuttle. Caesars, Sahara and Harvey's Hotel all offer entertainment you can enjoy without paying.

Happily exhausted, it's home to your motel on the courtesy bus. Having accomplished all of it for under ten bucks.

You thought it couldn't be done?

SATURDAY: On the Trail

The long and short of Sierra hikes.

Winters, professional photographer Jon Hosmer, a grown man at 36, likes to head for the outdoors and lolligag on oval snowshoes while munching jelly beans. Summers, he often hikes with a knit cap pulled over his ears while munching jelly beans.

He's not crazy. He's just outdoors-smart. "It's an old rule," he says. "When your feet get cold, put on a cap. Even in warm-weather months, you can get cool hiking in these mountains.

"You want to be happy when you're out on a beautiful day walk. You need those munchies to give you the energy so you don't get grouchy. Raisins, peanuts, granola, dried fruits, whatever. I happen to like jelly beans."

Hiking should be fun, Hosmer insists. And one of his favorite jaunts, as the father of two boys, is a 4.5-mile hike on the Rubicon Trail.

You can start the journey at Calawee Cove Beach in the D.L. Bliss State Park, off California 89. The trail follows the Lake Tahoe shoreline, two to three hundred feet above the green water that is unique to this area. The well-marked trail takes you to the finish at Vikingsholm, an elegant castle-estate in Emerald Bay. If you're carrying nothing heavier than a light nylon pack, you can walk it in tennies.

Stu Harkness, a backcountry guide for the past 25 years, also believes in the sensibility of dressing properly and eating for energy. "At three or four in the afternoon in the Sierra, it starts getting honestly chilly. Be prepared."

His idea of a day hike that also could be turned into an overnight camping trip starts at the edge of Desolation Wilderness off U.S. 50 at Lower Echo Lake. You can hike around the lake or for about $2 take a two-mile taxi-boat ride over the dark blue-green water, cutting through clean, cool air touched with ice even in the summer. You hike four more miles to Lake Aloha, through spectacular territory of bunch grass slopes and steep hills of Lodgepole, Western White Pine and Jeffrey Pine.

Unlike the Bliss-Vikingsholm trek, this one requires a U.S. Forest Service permit. Both day-use and camping permits are free and can be obtained at the Lake Tahoe Visitor Center on California 89 near Fallen Leaf Lake or at the forest rangers' offices on the same road just west of the "Y" in South Lake Tahoe.

A fine short hike is to circle Spooner Lake in Lake Tahoe Nevada State Park. Parkman Wayne Perock says, "It's a beautiful, serene walk and only takes about an hour. It's also striking when the trees change their colors in the fall."

Park hikers can also try more strenuous stuff in the mountains north of Spooner. There's the rugged trail to Marlette Lake, about 10 miles round trip through North Canyon. From Hidden Beach you can follow another trail past Tunnel Creek Station to Hobart Reservoir, a tough seven-mile journey. It's possible to camp overnight there at the Red House, part of the Marlette Water System complex dating back to the 1800s.

If you want to camp in the park, be sure to register at Sand Harbor headquarters. See the rangers, too, for advice on shorter hikes. For your own safety and pleasure. You can contact the Nevada Division of State Parks at 702-831-0494 at Sand Harbor headquarters. For other trail advice and

(Continued on page 15)



CHURCHILL COUNTY MUSEUM

OLD TIME SALOONS

Part Two: 17 great watering holes for cow county travelers thirsting for refreshment and history.

You'll find few of Nevada's top-ranked saloons in this summer's guidebooks, but experienced cow county travelers have developed their own five-star rating systems. In Hawthorne, some visitors prefer the view from Joe's Tavern, a Main Street landmark favored by locals and any politician who knows his way south of Walker Lake. The biggest deal in Austin is usually the blackjack game at the Golden Club dealt by proprietor Clara Williams. North of Ely is the McGill Club whose striking barroom is decorated with the portraits of scores of McGill boys who went to war.

There are many other cow county saloons where the traveler can stop to admire local wonders like the Incredible Penny Collection at the Green Parrot, or simply to quaff a beer and relax. Overall, relaxing is the most important activity.

Herewith are 17 of Nevada's finest old time saloons found along rural routes 395, 50 and 6. Most have lodging (some open-air) nearby.

Tonopah & Environs

MANHATTAN BAR—"There are two things to do at night if you live in Manhattan," explains bartender Joe Weaver. "You can come in here and get drunk, or you can stay home and get drunk." Given the choice, many townfolk prefer to whoop it up at the Manhattan, a turn-of-the-century style saloon attractively landscaped with wagon wheels and sodium cyanide barrels. Besides drinking, you can shoot pool, play cards or browse through the bar's modest library. For a dollar and a half, you can even launder your clothes in the back room. The Manhattan features occasional live music and dances, and patrons are inclined to celebrate whenever the spirit strikes. "Just last week we celebrated Thursday," says Joe. Monday night football pools are also popular, but before the town acquired TV reception last winter, Manhattan sports fans usually had to wait a day or two to find out who won. Or for that matter, who played.—*Richard Menzies*

BELMONT BAR—Once a booming silver camp and the seat of Nye County, Belmont today is a quiet community of six residents and a single business, the Belmont Bar. The building was once a miner's changing room, lately remodeled and furnished with a bar salvaged from the sagging Cosmopolitan Saloon up the street. Owner Dick Ashton opens the doors only on weekends, when the ghost town comes briefly back to life. The Belmont features a rustic decor of Old West artifacts, burlap bag wallpaper, sardine tin ashtrays and a dead steer for a doorstop. There's a jukebox but not much in the way of electricity, so most customers settle for the simple luxuries of a warm wood stove and kerosene lamps. —*RM*

REX CLUB—On the west side of Tonopah's main drag, the Rex is known as a place for fun and active drinking. Good pool action, and an assortment of hunting trophies and photos grace the walls. Next door is the Rex Cafe.—*DM*

Goldfield

MOZART CLUB—The Goldfield club's founder, Maurice Durand, had a series of "Mozart" bars, one in Colorado where he promoted Jack Dempsey's first professional fight. A picture of Dempsey today dominates the bar's interior. Durand built in Goldfield shortly before World War I. The bar burned in 1934, but Durand returned and built it again. The Mozart is not fancy, but is a warm, friendly, miner's bar with wooden fixtures and card tables. —*A.D. Hopkins*

GREEN PARROT TAVERN—Opened in 1960 in a much-older motel, The Green Parrot is Goldfield's most unusual waterhole. Co-owner Dick Gilbert explains that while he was shopping for a bar top, a customer left 18 pennies on the bar. Another customer joked that Gilbert should cover the bar with them. More customers donated more pennies. And so today in the center of a penny-covered wall is a sign made of silver coins, saying there are 114,561 pennies on walls and bar. Actually, says partner Ed Denton, there are about 30,000 more, but the wall just won't stand the prying to change the sign. There is still a jar for contributions; the partners state with pride that they have never asked anyone for a penny.—*ADH*

THE NORTHERN—The Esmeralda County seat also boasts one of the several "Northern" saloons that commemorate Alaskan miners' participation in Nevada's early 20th Century mining boom. This Northern traces its heritage to the most famous of all—the one opened in Goldfield by the famed promoter and saloonkeeper, Tex Rickard.—*ADH*

Hawthorne

JOE'S TAVERN—Joe's is the kind of pure Nevada saloon they don't make much anymore: part museum, part clubhouse, part psycho ward and totally itself. The museum aspect of Hawthorne's famous tavern attracts the eye and sends it crawling over the inspired collection of dusty memorabilia on the crowded back bar. There are shotguns, lanterns, a doughboy's helmet, a green ceramic spittoon and anyone who can identify the large copper object hanging over the far end of the bar without reading the label may be considered an expert on historic Nevada lifestyles. On the highest level of clutter are photographs of state officers and politicians who have paused at Joe's to wash away the dust of the campaign trail. The clientele is as heterogeneous as the decor and is served by Dutch the day bartender and evenings by Joe Viani, Jr., in the great tradition established by his mother Julia, who is often in attendance, and his father, the original Joe whose photograph occupies a place of honor among the treasures behind the bar.—*David W. Toll*

Austin

GOLDEN CLUB—Built in the 1860s as a hardware and saddle shop, since 1943 the Golden Club in Austin has been owned and operated by Clara Williams, whose grandparents were the first couple married in Austin. The club has the only 21 table in town—Clara is the dealer—and is notable for its collection of Nevada nostalgia on the walls and for its handsome, ornate back bar. —*Bert Zwonechek*

THE INTERNATIONAL—In 1863 the building, originally a hotel in Virginia City, was hauled by horse and wagon and reassembled piece by piece on Austin's main street. The historic back bar arrived later, being shipped around the Horn in 1850-52 and used in San Francisco, Virginia City and Goldfield before finally landing in Austin in 1905. Some locals consider bartender Mel Easton's margaritas the best in town.—*BZ*

VANCE AND ARLENE'S—This former assay office and grocery store in Austin became a saloon in recent years. Vance and Arlene's is the most sedate of Austin's drinking spots, and loud or raunchy behavior is not tolerated. Featured is a jukebox with a private collection of records dating back to the 1940s and the only electronic game machine in town. Gun buffs can talk, buy or trade with owner and gun dealer Vance Middaugh.—*BZ*

Ely & Environs

OUTLAW INN and the HITCHIN' POST—In Baker, it's a toss-up between these two saloons. Both cater to tourist traffic and feature a down-home friendliness characteristic of Baker residents. The Outlaw appears to be the more progressive, decorated in a swag lamp and flagstone motif, with several immaculately groomed pool tables and a Space Invaders game. The Hitchin' Post offers the more traditional stuffed jackalope on the wall and the familiar currency on the ceiling. Baker bartenders are walking encyclopedias of hard-to-find information, such as the best remedy for barroom elbows, the best fishing spots, how to "blow up" a night crawler, and how to remove the gum from your fingers after pine nut harvesting. But even if your hands aren't sticky or your elbows don't hurt, the Outlaw's 50-cent draft beer in a frosted mug is worth stopping for. —*RM*

ELY HOTEL—A great Basque hotel where you can enjoy a couple of drinks before the cook shouts that dinner is ready. Marianna the proprietor is the most no-nonsense bartender in the county; she keeps the place cheerful and relaxed. Good place to take family, friends or a date for good food, drink and conversation. Rooms to let as well. —*Joe Merica*

McGILL CLUB—The premier saloon of the milltown 12 miles north of Ely has been a millmen's watering hole

The Mozart Club in Goldfield gives every customer a friendly warning.



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WHITE PINE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The ladies at Sadie's Place in Riepetown, once a freewheeling honky-tonk burg, wait for the copper miners at nearby Ruth to get off shift.

for three generations and the nest for one of the West's largest hand-crafted bar assemblies shipped around Cape Horn. The club's attractions are enhanced by a pair of emcee-bartenders whose reservoir of White Pine folklore stands unmatched in eastern Nevada territory. Norman Linnell, born in McGill in 1922, manages the landmark, with backup support from 66-year-old "Suzy" Symes, who began swamping out the place while he was attending grade school. Although there's floor space for dancing, the McGill Club has been a male establishment since the World War II boom days when the Kennecott smelter turned out copper bars 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Wartime also spawned a unique entrance display—an array of floor-to-ceiling framed portraits of nearly 300 McGill GIs. During Prohibition the bar's front section was partitioned into a soft drink parlor and barber shop. In the busier cavern behind, millmen gathered for the more exciting diversions of roulette, poker and blackjack. Since McGill was solely a company town in those days, the club never dispensed bathtub gin—at least over the soda fountain, insists Suzy.

—Jack Fleming

CHERRY CREEK SALOON—A new bar in the old mining camp located 54 miles north of Ely, the last nine miles on a paved westward road. Proprietor Dale Park, who is also the local fire chief, opened business a couple of years ago largely to accommodate deer hunters looking for a cold one. The bar is open intermittently, usually according to traffic.—*JM*

MAJOR'S STATION—A friendly road stop at the base of Connors Pass 28 miles south of Ely, the station has a cafe, packaged goods and gas pumps. The bar is basic linoleum-and-moose-heads and is most visited by travelers and area ranchers.—*JM*

BLACKJACK INN—Located 24 miles southwest of Ely where U.S. 6 meets Nevada Route 38, the Blackjack is a clean, friendly place with bar, cafe and gas pumps. Its patrons are mostly ranchers, locals and oil workers, with business growing these days as more travelers use the mostly-paved Sunnyside Shortcut between Ely and Alamo. —*JM*

CURRANT STATION—Once a stage stop, the isolated station is a good watering hole on the long stretch between Ely and Tonopah. Sixty miles southwest of Ely, Currant Station has food, gas and motel rooms, all embellished with wood framing, log rails and wagonwheels.—*JM*

THE THIRD ROUND IS COMING UP

Part three of the old time saloon guide will appear later this summer and include the famous watering holes of Virginia City, Carson City, Genoa, Dayton and other western Nevada towns. Part one, in the Jan/Feb 1981 issue, covered 32 saloons around Las Vegas, Reno, Pioche and the northern cow counties. Readers who would like copies should send $1.50 per copy to Nevada Magazine, Capitol Complex, Carson City, NV 89710.

(Continued from page 11)

advance reservations for permits, call the U.S. Forest Service's South Shore office at 916-544-6420, or 916-587-3558 for the Truckee office.

Keith Thurkill of the Forest Service says, "We want people to check with us for ideas about where to hike and camp. We can give them the information they need."

If you want the most from the outdoors, it may be the best invitation you'll get all year. Take them up on it.

SUNDAY: Get a Horse

Tahoe's riding stables may have the best views of all.

For a special view of Tahoe there is none more unique than riding a horse along a trail through the forest near the lake. You move closely by tall rough-barked trees that perfume the clean, cool air with pine. Your rented mount crosses the shallow water of a swift alpine stream with practiced expertise. The tallest peaks where frozen snow glistens in the sunlight surround you. You've been carried to true mountain solitude in less time than it takes to walk around a city block.

"Riding a horse is a luxury," says Pat Martin, owner of Sunset Corral. "It's just plain fun."

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So if there happens to be snow in May, eight dollars will still buy you a gorgeous 45-minute ride along some of nature's most beautiful trails anywhere.

By June other stables ringing the lake will open as well. Twelve altogether, on the south, north, east or west shores, take your choice.

Some stables offer fishing trips to small but lovely mountain lakes not too far away in distance but isolated and well-stocked just the same. For those who want to travel horseback even deeper into the back country, pack trips into rugged Desolation Wilderness can be arranged. ☐



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GAMES PEOPLE PLAYED

Chuck-a-luck, faro and other old timers are back in the spotlight for Nevada gaming's 50th anniversary.

Visit the State Museum in Carson City this year and you'll meet some of the real old timers of the Nevada gaming scene. These relics—fixtures in back rooms and parlors since the late 1800s—are part of a special exhibit of antique games and memorabilia honoring the state's 50 years of modern gaming.

One of the best old time layouts is that of faro, the favorite game of the frontier sporting world. Faro was king in Nevada's early boom towns where it was said the gambling houses ran like the mines, on eight hour shifts from "dusky eve till dewey morn."

Poker was second in popularity with early-day gamblers. During a famous game in the 1880s in Virginia City, on a table similar to the one on display, some heavy sports sat down to "buck the tiger." After playing five-card draw continuously for three days, the players confronted each other with three jacks,









an ace-high straight and four threes—and the exhausted but happy holder of the last hand cleared the table of $10,000.

Also on hand are antique roulette, blackjack and chuck-a-luck tables. French in origin, roulette remains popular today, and blackjack has supplanted faro as the top casino game. Chuck-a-luck, however, is rarely found now in casinos. The game uses either a cage or a wheel, and gamblers bet which three dice numbers will appear on the next spin.

For those with an affinity for slot machines, there is a variety of one-armed bandits, including Charles Fey's turn-of-the-century Liberty Bell, the first three-reel slot to pay out cash automatically, and the so-called trade stimulators that dispensed tokens good for drinks, cigars and other items. Occupying center stage is a massive Caille Twin, a 600-pound Victorian floor model noted for its woodwork and elegant metal castings.

You can also see ingenious card cheating devices, which have apparently met a kinder fate than the cheaters themselves.

The show, which began March 19, exactly one half century after Governor Fred Balzar signed the wide-open gambling law of 1931, is open daily at the State Museum from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. through March 1982. The museum is four blocks north of the Capitol in Carson City.—*Richard Datin*



PHOTOS COURTESY WM. R. WILLIAMSON COLLECTION



Before it came to Nevada, the faro layout at top left was used on a Mississippi riverboat. Gamblers placed their bets on the layout cards to bet whether that denomination would show up next on the table or in the dealer's "shoe." It was close to a dead-even gamble.

The beautifully crafted wooden keno goose, at lower left, which holds 100 balls, is the predecessor of the wire cages and plastic globes used in casinos today.

The .41-caliber Remington Over and Under Derringer was favored by many early-day gamblers because it fit so well in a coat pocket.

The roulette wheel at left is a portable model once used by an itinerant Nevada dealer.

Chuck-a-luck, originally called Hazard, is still played in a few casinos with either a wheel or a cage like the ones shown above. The object is to correctly bet which three numbers will come up on the next spin.

The jig was up for cheater P.J. Kepplinger, top right, when other players realized he had something up his sleeve. This illustration appeared in 1894, six years after Kepplinger was discovered—and promised to duplicate the leg-controlled device for his cronies.






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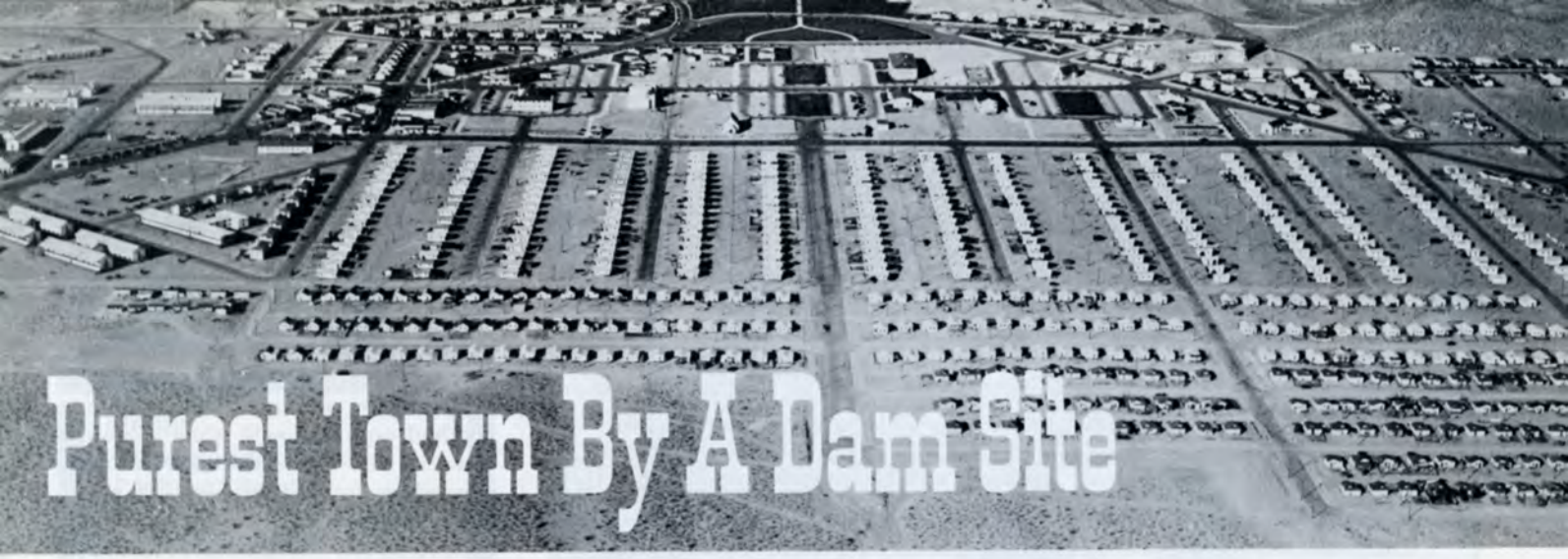
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Purest Town By A Dam Site

While other Nevada towns thrive on wine, women and song, Boulder City is celebrating its 50th year of clean living. By Gene Wines Segerblom

In 1935 Boulder City was four years old and scheduled for extinction. Hoover Dam was nearly completed, and the construction company planned to tear down its homes and businesses in the government town when work was finished.

Many townspeople, however, did not want to leave, so the contractor offered to sell them the cottages at $250 apiece. Sensing a bargain, Herman Nelson, secretary to City Manager Sims Ely, asked his boss whether he should buy a couple of the frame houses.

"No, the town is definitely going to fold," Ely said. "The cottages will have to be removed."

For once the city boss was wrong. Citizens stayed in droves, and this year the town's 10,000 residents are celebrating Boulder City's 50th birthday.

During its first half century Boulder City has had the reputation of being the healthiest, purist town in the state, a designation its citizens don't dispute. Gambling is outlawed, and it was 1969 before the town had its first legal drink.

Boulder City owes its existence to Hoover Dam. The great construction project required thousands of workers, and they in turn needed places to live. At the peak of construction the town's population was 6,000.

While choosing the site for the dam was critical for the irrigation and electrical power needs of Southern California, choosing the site for the town was almost as important. Weather, topography, remoteness from the job (and the evils of Las Vegas) controlled the decision.

A town would be created to "provide reasonable comfort for the working man's family," according to the government. Officials of the Bureau of Reclamation, the agency in charge of the project, believed the furnace-like heat in Black Canyon, where the dam was to be built, might be endured by the men if their families were comfortable.

At first there was some speculation that the government would house workers and their families in Las Vegas, about 30 miles away from the job. But when Ray Lyman Wilbur, Secretary of the Interior, came out West to investigate, he did not fail to notice the city's gambling, bootlegging and ladies of the night—even though Las Vegas officials hoped to impress him with the city's purity by allowing no liquor to be sold during his visit and by closing the houses of prostitution in Block 16.

Thus it was no surprise the next day when Wilbur announced that Las Vegas was not his choice. Instead the model city would be built on a barren desert hillside seven miles southwest of the Hoover Dam site.

Elwood Mead, then commissioner of the Bureau of Reclamation, explained the choice: "It is the intention of the government that the bootlegger, the gambler or other law violators shall not interfere with the well-being of the workmen assigned to that task of building and maintaining the dam." The city was to lie inside a Federal reservaton where there would be no liquor, no games of chance and only

Motor stage stops at the shopping center run by Six Companies, the contractor on the Hoover Dam project. In top photo, a 1934 aerial view of Boulder City shows a symmetrical government town patterned after Washington D. C.





On May 29, 1935, workmen make the final pour of concrete for the nearly completed Hoover Dam in Black Canyon.

demure behavior permitted.

A name for the perfect city could have been Wilbur, Nevada, to honor the Interior Secretary, but that would have been too political. Because the original congressional act for the dam project was called the Boulder Canyon Project, it was decided the town would have the safe name of Boulder City.

On February 1, 1931, the Union Pacific Railroad completed its 22.71-mile branch from the main line through Las Vegas to the site of Boulder City. Ground breaking took place on March 15, 1931. By then 17 carloads of lumber, equipment and men to do the job had rolled up the hill to the construction camp.

As a community with every modern convenience supplied by Uncle Sam, Boulder City was not permitted to spring up in a haphazard manner like other frontier towns of the past. It was developed systematically and artistically; Boulder City was under architectural control. S. R. DeBoer, a prominent, award-winning city planner from Denver, originally designed the city layout, but his green belt forest, 18-hole golf course and circular residential blocks with wedge-shaped lots were too expensive for depression days' government pocketbook. Many of his plans were changed to get the city built as quickly as possible.

Patterned after Washington, D. C., three main streets fanned out from the Reclamation administration building perched on a hill with a commanding view of the city. The streets were crossed by four others, and all seven were named for the seven states drained by the Colorado River: Wyoming, Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, Arizona, Nevada and California. Three plazas in the center of town were named Coronado, Escalante and Cardenas after Spanish explorers of the Southwest.

Buildings constructed by the government for its permanent staff included offices, a hospital, warehouses, bunkhouses, mess halls and cottages. The permanent government houses in the middle of town were constructed of brick or stucco. Unlike most homes in the desert at that time, they had full basements and fireplaces, with walls about a foot thick. Temporary structures were used by the general contractor, Six Companies.

Six Companies also took care of employees with families. A company cottage with two rooms, toilet, shower and large sleeping porch rented for $19 a month; a similar house with an extra bedroom rented for $30.

The early thirties were a time of great speculation, and as Boulder grew, it attracted the attention of commercial interests. Many southern Nevada residents believed that when the enormous generators of Hoover Dam poured out their great store of electrical energy, it would set off a spark of building and prosperity ending with Las Vegas and Boulder City as keen competitors. The area might even become a metropolis with both communities joining to become one great city.

The towns had already been joined in a fashion. During construction days there were thousands of the biggest, most rugged working stiffs in the nation at Hoover Dam. The toughest were quartered at Railroad Pass between Las Vegas and Boulder City in two camps, Texas Acres and Oklahoma City. For the sake of harmony the clannish Texans and Oklahomans who

(Continued on page 27)

As the Boulder City post office opens in April 1931, Postmaster J.L. Finney, right, receives a letter from Elwood Mead, the Reclamation commissioner for whom Lake Mead was named. At left is Ray Lyman Wilbur, Interior Secretary, for whom the town almost was named.



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DESERT PASSAGES

The desert is rugged and honest. It also can be wildly beautiful. Bearing witness are two southern parklands, Valley of Fire and Cathedral Gorge. By Bill Fiero

The rocks breathe, and the air is electric with color and vibration. Like the amoeba, we sense everything around us. The air has substance, and subtle shifts of light and shadow accentuate the texture of rock. Our hands are drawn as if by a magnet to feel the rough, cool surface. The fragrance of creosote bush is pungent, and the slightly choking odor of desert dust catches deep in the throat.

The desert is direct—blunt and honest in its reality—and nowhere is this more obvious than in two of Nevada's southern state parks, Valley of Fire and Cathedral Gorge. Both are places of exciting, eerie beauty, with fantastic forms created by the scouring of uplifted land. At once forbidding and attracting, they are among nature's finest work.

Gravity is the force that shapes the land, producing the eternal yin-yang of uplift and erosion. Gravity pulls the immense, rigid plates of the earth's crust into motion. The collisions of these plates cause pressure waves to ripple deep in the earth and force shuddering blocks of rock to heave upward. Ocean bottoms rise high above the sea, lakes tilt and drain, and rocks long buried in the crust rear up into sunlight.

As inevitably as the land rises, erosion attacks the surface. Pulled by gravity, water destroys the rock. Carving along fractures and planes of weakness, the flow of water abrades downward. Seeping through the rock's tiny pores, water dissolves the cementing agent between the grains, and the rocks disintegrate internally.

The result of the dual workings of gravity, uplift and erosion, is the landscape of Nevada. In the Valley of Fire and Cathedral Gorge, the combination of rock textures, fractures and erosion has created landscapes of wild beauty.

The combination of rock textures, fractures and erosion has created a landscape of wild beauty. Elephants, ducks and dogs appear sculpted in the stone. Spires rise in the sky. Holes beckon for children to explore.

Elephants, ducks, fish and dogs all appear sculpted in the stone. Church-like spires rise into the sky. Holes beckon for children to explore. Adults with youthful minds scramble up rock slopes to see what lies on the other side. Families gather among the domes and pinnacles to celebrate weddings, anniversaries and reunions.

Recognizing the appeal of such regions, Nevada has dedicated some of its most scenic areas as state parks for all people to enjoy. In the southern part of the state, these areas are best appreciated during all but the hottest summer months. In winter, surrounded by snow-capped highlands, the warm pinks, oranges and reds seem to cut the chill of a desert evening. For centuries, people have rested in the cool shade of a cliff, or snuggled into a hollow to shelter from arctic blasts. The apparent harshness of the landscape belies the comforts a knowledgeable desert dweller can find.

The wildness of these eroded areas has a strong, universal attraction. Close to the land, we are aware of energies larger than our own, of nature's great designs.

(Please turn page for more photos)

JEFF GNASS



DESERT PASSAGES

(Continued from previous page)

Elephant Rock on the eastern edge of Valley of Fire State Park (previous page) shows the result of erosion along rock fractures and the radical tilting of formations in the area, which is 55 miles northeast of Las Vegas. Other rock sculptures in the park have acquired names like the Beehives and the Seven Sisters.

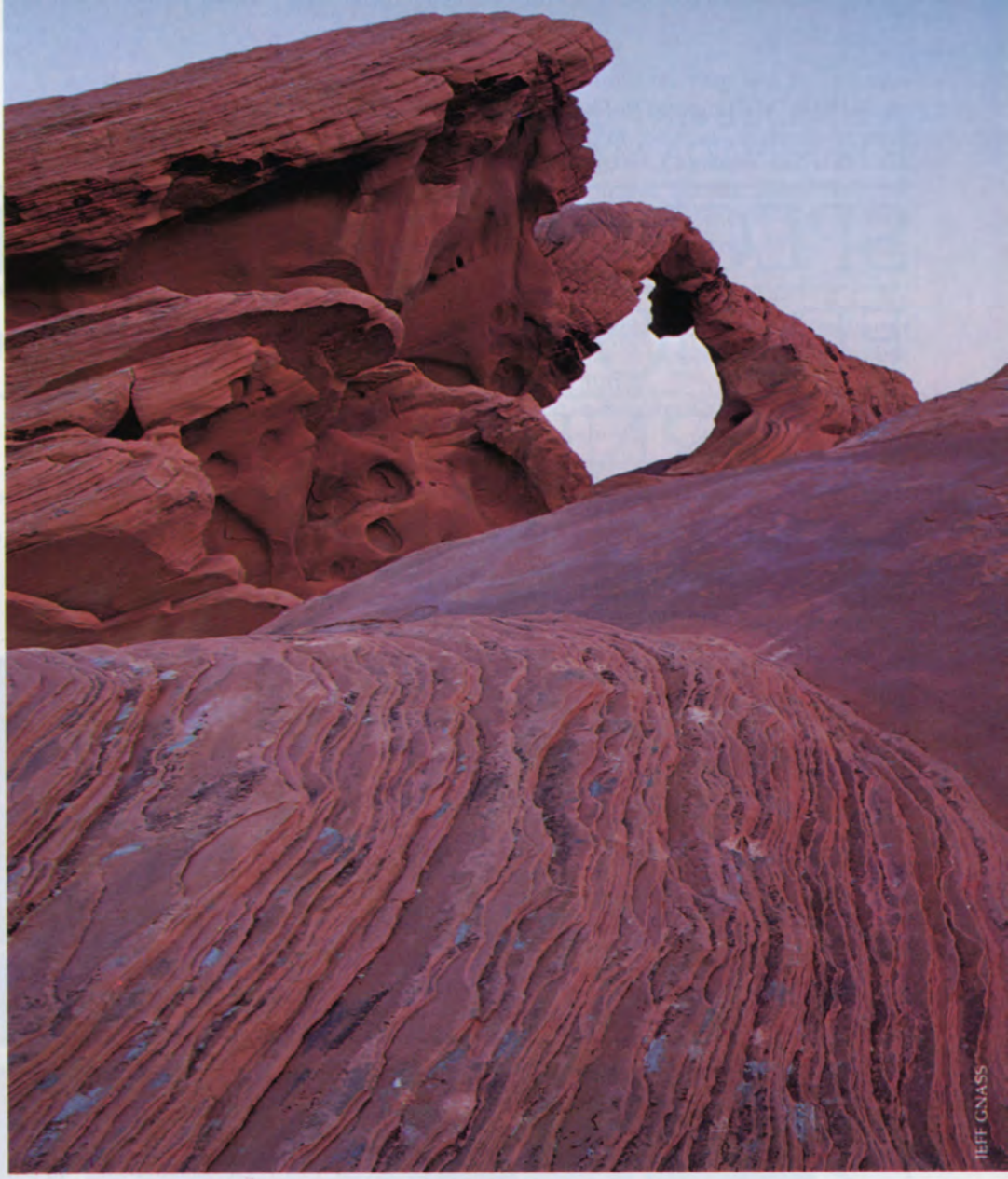
A network of spires and domes form the inspiring badlands known as Cathedral Gorge (below). Located two miles west of the Lincoln County town of Panaca, the eroded clay formations can be seen from overlooks or from the gorge floor where campers and picnickers can explore the cathedral-like passageways.

Wind and water have exposed the layers of the ancient sandstone beds of the Valley of Fire (top right). The dark patina known as desert varnish results from iron and manganese leached from the rock. Early Indians favored such a surface for their petroglyphs, or rock art.

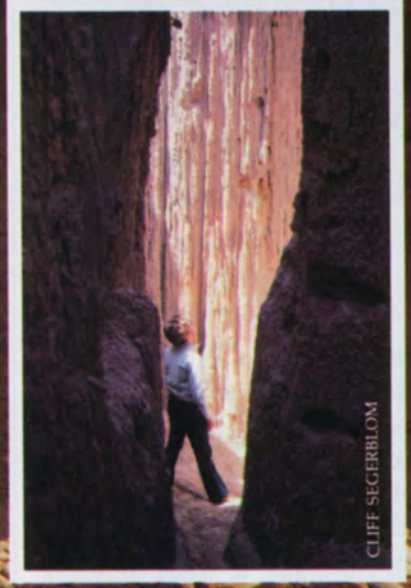


Jurassic sandstone formations appear along the rugged floor of the Valley of Fire. This view looks east to the Visitor Center in the middle of the valley and to the snowcapped Virgin Mountains in the distance (lower right).





JEFF GNASS



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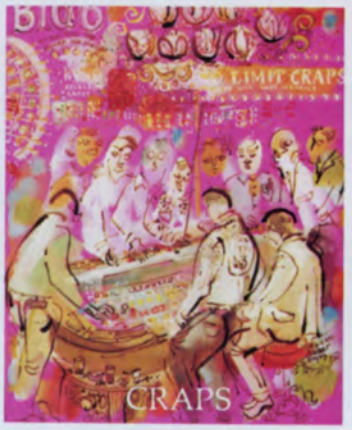














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BOULDER CITY

(Continued from page 21)

converged on the area kept to themselves in these camps.

There were problems for the "dry" city, however, including the fact that there was a string of 94 bootlegging spots along the highway between Railroad Pass and Las Vegas. So a checking station was maintained 24 hours a day on the Las Vegas-Boulder City highway, where all persons entering the Federal reservation were examined for liquor and narcotics. Guns, symbol of the frontier days, were held at the station to be returned to the owner upon departure.

But Boulder City, with unlimited U.S. government resources behind it, took a different course than Las Vegas. Officials could resist attempts to "open the town up." City manager Ely was known to expel anyone even slightly intoxicated.

Perhaps because of the limitations, private enterprise didn't flourish. Permits for businesses were issued by the government and doled out judiciously by Ely, who tried to keep competition to a minimum. He ruled out businesses that might involve anything illicit. Most workers shopped at the Six Companies commissary anyway.

At first the government made no provision for private homes, but it became apparent that the only way to get squatters into town was to allow some private building on leased land.

"The government was anxious to get people out of tents," says Erma Godbey, a Boulder pioneer. "So on February 1, 1932, we obtained the first permit to build a privately owned home. The permit called for spending at least $250 on the house, and it could not have a tarpaper or tin roof and must have indoor plumbing." Erma was married to the late Tom Godbey, who represented Boulder City in the Nevada Legislature for many years. She still lives in that Boulder City house.

"Lease on the land was good for 10 years," she continues. "Government officials believed that no one but government employees would be left here after that time."

Of course, it didn't work that way. Tourists came to see Hoover Dam and Lake Mead, the reservoir behind the dam, and workers found other jobs and stayed. The town didn't become a ghost town. Many early dam construction workers still reside in those temporary houses, and some remodeled cottages have sold recently for as much as $50,000.

When Boulder City left the protective cloak of bureaucracy to venture forth on her own as an incorporated city in 1960, residents decided it should remain a quiet, placid town. Its new charter prohibited the sale of intoxicating liquor, gambling and pandering, prostitution and disorderly houses.

Nine years later, in 1969, Boulder residents decided by a close vote to opt for the sale of liquor, but not gambling or prostitution. There will be no celebration in Boulder City this year for the 50th anniversary of Nevada's legalization of gambling. And at the last city election residents voted overwhelmingly for a limited growth ordinance to keep the city small in the midst of a Clark County population explosion.

Although the reservation gates have been gone for years and Boulder City is under the same laws as the rest of Nevada, the effects of that early day Federal government discipline and restraint are seen today in the well-behaved, socially conservative populace of Boulder City residents.

Even with 4,000 more people now, Boulder City celebrating its 50th birthday remains much the same as it was in the beginning—no bright lights, no glamour—just a "clean, green, peaceful" model city. □



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INCLINE VILLAGE—NORTH SHORE, LAKE TAHOE



M-M-Mel

Country singer-comedian Mel Tillis is a four-star discovery even for those who aren't into cowboy hats and Copenhagen. By Ann Henderson

"One reason I'm here t-tonight is to d-d-dispel those rumors going around that Mel Tillis has quit st-stuttering. That's not true. I'm still stuttering, and I'm making a pretty good living at it, t-t-too!"

In fact the man who received country music's highest honors in 1976—Entertainer of the Year and induction into the Songwriter's Hall of Fame—was once told he couldn't make it in the entertainment business because of his speech impediment.

The stammer appeared after a bout with malaria when Tillis was three years old. "Some people said it was an emotional problem and would go away. I felt embarrassed about it as a youngster, but it didn't go away," he says.



Country star Mel Tillis appears June 11-24 at John Ascuaga's Nugget in Sparks and returns to the Frontier Hotel in Las Vegas September 17-October 7.

For six years Tillis entertained without opening his mouth onstage except to sing; that is until Minnie Pearl and Glen Campbell urged him to talk to his audience, stutter and all.

"I was scared to death, but I did it and from that time on my career went uphill all the way."

Tillis may have reached the point in his career when he can afford the fancy trappings that go with success, but there are also some simple things that sit well with the 48-year-old country star. Like Copenhagen snuff, carefully laundered Levi's and a bottle of beer. And wandering the wooden sidewalks of Virginia City, or fishing in the Sierra.

"When I'm appearing up in Sparks I can go up in the mountains and fish. I do that a lot," says Tillis. "All you gotta do is just put your bait in the water," he drawls. He also plays tourist when he's in Nevada.

"I like to go to Virginia City. I bought a painting up there, it had some chickens in it which reminded me of home."

Tillis has plenty of time to get homesick for the 1,300-acre spread near Nashville where he raises tobacco, wheat, corn, soybeans and horses. He leaves showing the Tennessee Walkers, trotters and quarter horses to his wife, Judy, because Tillis is on the road 250 days per year performing in Nevada showrooms, making television talk show appearances and running his own music company.

"I love to perform," he says taking a pull on his beer. "I worked so hard to get there, might as well enjoy it. There's always another guitar player on the stump waiting for me to slow down. Besides, you hafta work, you know. Without it I'd go nuts. Whenever my wife would open the refrigerator door and the light went on, I'd smile—like it was a camera or something."

Tillis has written more than 1,000 songs, of which 500 have been recorded. One, "Detroit City," was a gold mine for Bobby Bare. Many of Tillis' songs are taken from personal

(Continued on page 59)



The Oak Ridge Boys appear May 7-13 at the Frontier Hotel and June 25-July 8 at John Ascuaga's Nugget.

Las Vegas

ALADDIN, 736-0111: Lou Rawls, thru 5/6; Captain & Tennille, 5/7-13; Wayne Newton, 5/14-6/24*; Lola Falana, 6/25-7/8

BARBARY COAST, 737-7111: The Royal Dixie Jazz Band, indf.

CAESARS PALACE, 731-7333: Tom Jones, thru 5/13; Diana Ross, 5/14-27; Cher, 5/28-6/3; Sammy Davis Jr., 6/4-17; Ann-Margret, 6/18-7/11

CIRCUS CIRCUS, 734-0410: Round the World Circus Acts, 11am-midnight, free

DESERT INN, 733-4444: "Chorus Line," thru 5/2; "Annie," starts 5/7, indf.

DUNES, 737-4110: Casino de Paris. Dinner show 7:45pm, from $15; cocktail show 1:45am, $14 includes 3 drinks

FLAMINGO HILTON, 733-3111: Razzle Dazzle. Dinner show 8pm, from $14.50; cocktail show midnight, $12 includes 2 drinks

FOUR QUEENS, 385-4011: Nightly entertainment

FRONTIER, 734-0110: Wayne Newton, thru 5/6; Oak Ridge Boys, Dottie West, 5/7-13; Roy Clark, 5/14-27; Wayne Newton, 5/28-6/24*; Kris Kristofferson, 6/25-7/8

HACIENDA, 739-8911: Ice Fantasy. Dinner show 8pm, from $11.95; cocktail show midnight, $9.95 includes 2 drinks

HOLIDAY CASINO, 732-2411: Wild World of Burlesque. 10pm & 12:30am, Mon.-Fri.; 8pm, 12:30am Sat.; dark Sun.; $6.95 includes 2 drinks

*WHO'S GOT WAYNE?

Wayne Newton is scheduled to appear at the Aladdin Hotel May 14 through June 24. He's also booked into the Frontier May 28 through June 24. When informed of the conflict, each hotel put the claim on Wayne as their headliner. There's a problem because Newton owns the Aladdin but is under contract to Summa Corporation which owns the Frontier. Well-known Mud Lake oddsmaker Hiko Henry calls it dead even, so the suggestion from here is to call ahead.

IMPERIAL PALACE, 731-3311: Bravo Vegas, indf. 9pm & midnight, from $8 includes 2 drinks

LANDMARK, 733-1110: Continuous entertainment.

LAS VEGAS HILTON, 732-5111: Bill Cosby, Juliet Prowse, thru 5/4; Neil Sedaka, 5/5-11; Englebert Humperdinck, Stewie Stone, 5/12-25; Bill Cosby, Doug Henning, 5/26-6/1; Liberace, 6/2-22; Tony Orlando, Doug Henning, 6/23-7/6

MARINA, 739-1500: Continuous entertainment

MAXIM, 731-4300: Old Tyme Burlesque. 8pm, 10:15pm, 12:30am, $9.50 includes 2 drinks

RIVIERA, 734-5110: Bob Newhart, thru 5/12; Anne Murray, 5/13-27; Waylon Jennings, Jessie Colter, 5/14-6/3; Liza Minnelli, 6/4-10; Dolly Parton, 6/11-24

ROYAL HOTEL CASINO, 733-4000: Burlesque Burlesque, indf.

SAHARA, 735-4242: Johnny Carson, Sahara Girls, 5/1-3; Jerry Lewis, Mel Torme/George Carlin, Sahara Girls, 5/4-13; Don Rickles, Lainie Kazan, 5/14-20; Don Rickles, Marvin Hamlisch, 5/21-27; "Madame Goes to Harlem," Broadway play, 5/28-7/11

SAM'S TOWN, 456-7777: 24-hour entertainment

SANDS, 733-5000: Shecky Greene, thru 5/2; Alan King, 5/13-19; Bobby Vinton, 5/20-6/2; Glen Campbell, Lonnie Shorr, 6/3-23; Shecky Green, 6/24-7/7

SILVER BIRD, 735-4111: Continuous entertainment

SILVER SLIPPER, 734-1212: Boy-Lesque, indf.

STARDUST, 732-6325: Lido de Paris 81

TROPICANA, 739-2411: Folies Bergere 81. Dinner show 8pm from $19.50; cocktail show midnight, from $14

UNION PLAZA, 386-2444: Broadway plays nightly except Mon., 8pm & 11:45pm; Mickey Finn Show daily except Sun., 2pm & 4pm

Lake Tahoe

CAESARS TAHOE, 588-3515: Nightly entertainment

CLOUD'S CAL-NEVA HOTEL, 832-4000: Atlantis, thru 5/3; Ron Pearson & The Ron Dons, 5/4-17; Elmo & Patsy, 5/19-6/7; Ray Paul Show, 6/9-21; Jack Ross Show, 6/22-7/5



Diana Ross stars at Sahara Tahoe May 1-7 and at Caesars Palace May 14-27.

CRYSTAL BAY CLUB, 831-0512: Nightly entertainment

HARRAH'S LAKE TAHOE, 588-6606: Roy Clark, 5/1-7; Lou Rawls, Natalie Cole, 5/8-21; Merle Haggard, 5/22-28; Crystal Gayle, 6/5-13; Willie Nelson, 6/14-25; Dionne Warwick, 6/26-7/2

HARVEY'S, 588-2411: Eddie Cash, 5/1-10; Elegant 14, 5/1-10; Keri Grossman, 5/4-17; Garfin Gathering, 5/4-19; Jerry Sun, 5/18-6/7; Leah Clark, 5/25-6/7; Ernie Menehune, 5/25-6/14; Bach, 5/29-6/4; Motifs, 6/1-14; Kaye & Mokie, 6/2-21; Cathy O'Shea, 6/8-21; Rusty Draper, 6/8-21; Johnny Western, 6/15-28; Jonas, 6/22-7/5; Elements, 6/22-7/5

HYATT LAKE TAHOE, 831-1111: Garfin Gathering, thru 5/3; Bach, 5/5-24; Jerry Sun Show, 6/9-21; Martha's Children, 6/23-7/5

SAHARA TAHOE, 588-6211: (800-648-4322 toll free CA, AZ, OR, ID, UT): Diana Ross, 5/1-7; Rich Little, 5/15-28; Engelbert Humperdinck, 5/29-6/7; Mac Davis, 6/16-29; Liberace, 6/30-7/13

Reno, Sparks, Carson City

CARSON CITY NUGGET, 882-1626: The Invaders, thru 5/3

CIRCUS CIRCUS, 329-0711: Round the World Circus Acts, 11am-midnight, free



Razzle Dazzle plays nightly at the Flamingo Hilton.

CLUB CAL NEVA, 323-1046: Custer's Last Band, Kelly & the Kid, 5/1-30; Boxcar Willie, 5/8-9; Susan Raye, 5/15-16; Jimmie Rodgers, 5/29-30; The Willow Springs Band, The Sutton Brothers, 5/2-28; Johnny Tillotson, 5/12-13; Ferlin Husky, 5/26-27

ELDORADO, 786-5700: Nightly entertainment

HAROLDS CLUB, 329-0881: Showroom dark

HARRAH'S RENO, 329-4422: Helen Reddy, thru 5/6; Eddy Arnold, 5/7-20; Neil Sedaka, 5/21-6/3; Tony Orlando, 6/4-17; Bill Cosby, 6/18-7/1

MAPES, 323-1611: Nightly entertainment

MGM GRAND HOTEL, 789-2000 (800-648-3568 toll free CA, AZ, OR, ID, UT): *Ziegfeld Theater:* Hello Hollywood Hello; *Lion's Den:* Gold Fever, Gary & Sandy's Common Ground, thru 5/19; Clutch, Shazam, 5/20-6/16

JOHN ASCUAGA'S NUGGET, Sparks, 358-2233: *Celebrity Room:* Mel Tillis, 6/11-24; Oak Ridge Boys, 6/25-7/8; *Casino Cabaret:* Follies on Broadway, thru 5/3; Lelands, 5/5-15; Muglestons, 5/16-6/7

ONSLOW, 786-7310: Nightly entertainment

ORMSBY HOUSE, Carson City, 882-1890: Nightly entertainment

RIVERSIDE, 786-4400: Toni Ingraham, 5/1-31; Zella Lehr, 6/1-30

SAHARA RENO, 322-1111: *Gilded Cage Cabaret:* Four Aces, 5/5-24; Coasters, 5/26-6/14; Leland Four, 6/16-7/5

SHY CLOWN, 358-6632: Country Western Music

Rural Nevada

ELKO: Commercial Hotel, 738-3181, and Stockmen's Hotel, 738-5141

ELY: Hotel Nevada, 289-4414

FALLON: Fallon Nugget, 423-3111

GARDNERVILLE: Sharkey's, 782-3133

HAWTHORNE: El Capitan, 945-3322

JACKPOT: Cactus Pete's, 755-2321, and Horseshu Casino, 755-2331

TONOPAH: Mizpah, 482-6202

WENDOVER: Stateline Casino, 668-2221

WINNEMUCCA: Winners Inn, 623-2511

YERINGTON: Casino West, 463-2481, and Lucky Club, 463-2868

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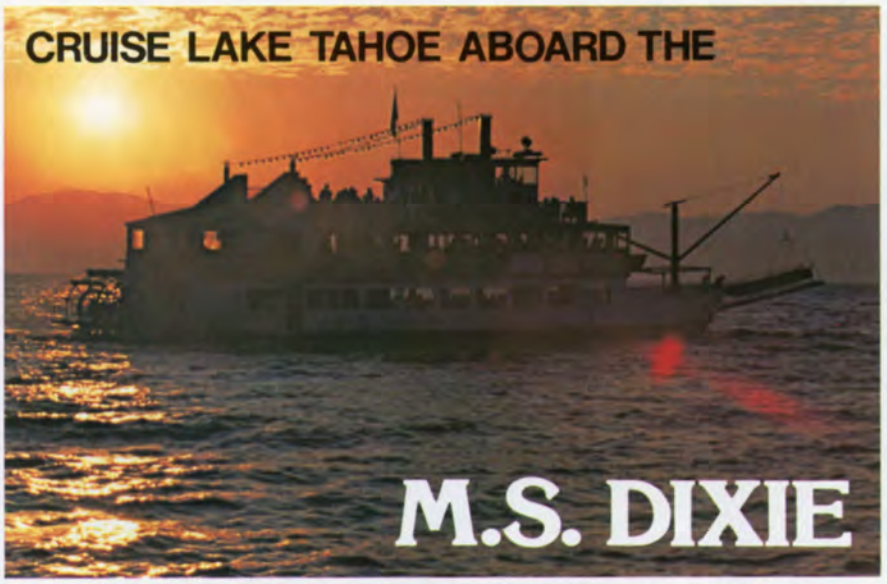
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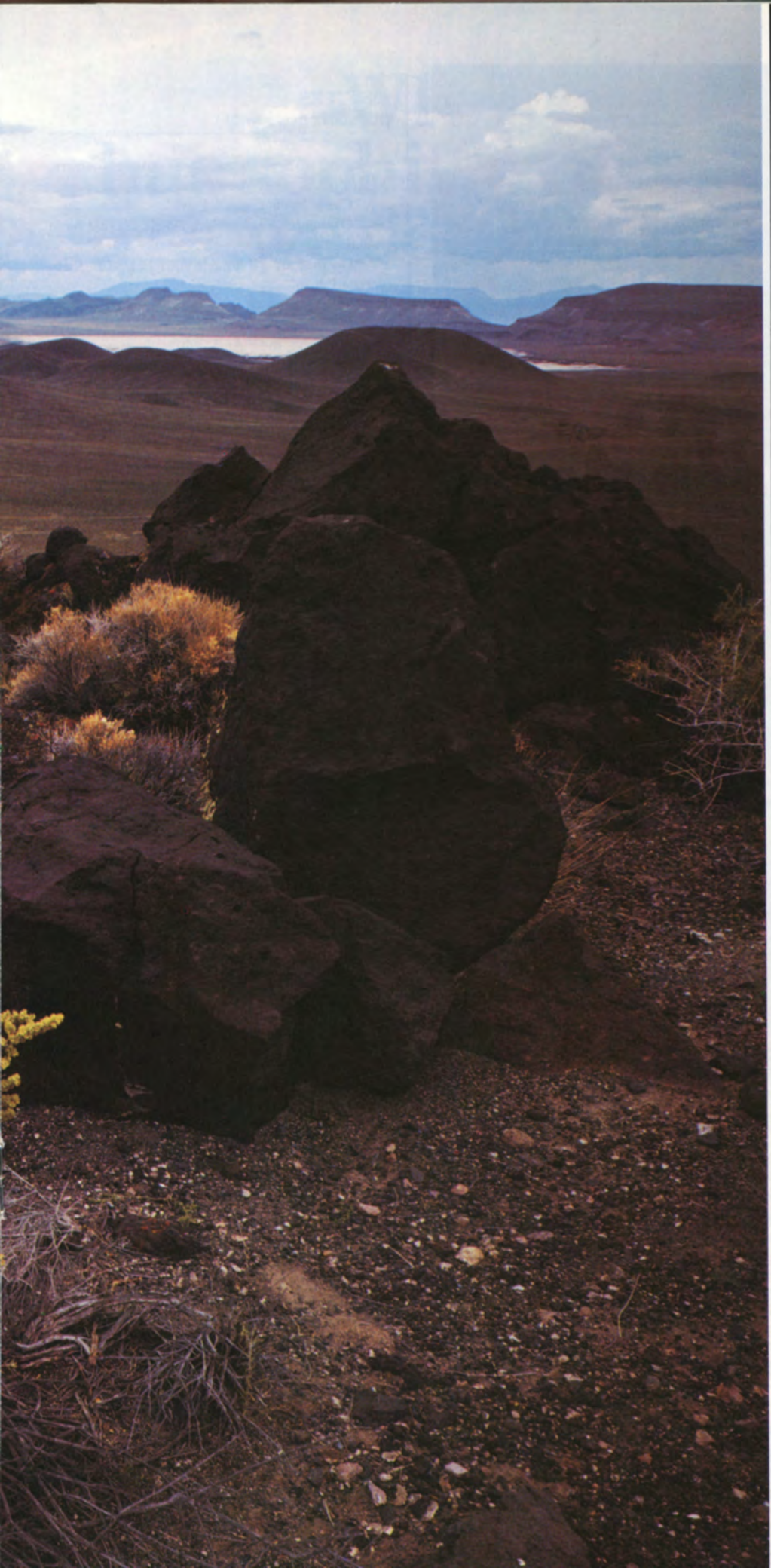
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MUENCH'S GALLERY

David Muench, one of the Southwest's great landscape photographers, presents selections from his Nevada portfolio in each issue.

Isolated and beautiful, the Lunar Crater area in the Pancake Range between Tonopah and Ely is a discovery for the adventurous. There is an unimproved road off U.S. 6 leading to the edge of the crater and nearby lava beds. Those who travel the seven miles into the area find a panoramic view that is dramatic and peaceful.—*AH*



LETTERS

(Continued from page 5)

sure are fancy suspenders you got there, Germino. I want them."

"Can't have them," I said.

"Oh yeah," he drawled. "Well, I'll just have to take 'em then."

"Do that an' I'll smash your hat," I fiercely warned him.

By this time I'd already bought too many beers for Nye and drank too many brandys he'd bought me. And while I grew more stubborn about giving him my suspenders he got more intent on taking them.

The tension grew until he caught me by surprise and wrestled me to the floor. We rolled on the floor—first east, then west—until I struggled free. Before I could scramble to my feet he had me goin' south again down to the floor. This time I got him by the hat and had myself in a good situation.

That's when we picked ourselves up and ordered just one more round. And I kept my thumbs in my pockets.

Bill Germino
Gold Hill, NV.

I enjoy the Nevada Magazine very much and look forward to each new issue. To me there is no state that compares to Nevada.

Clara Pearson
Orangevale, CA.

Disappear Here.



Brilliant colors brush your ankles as you walk the valley. Masses of gold and purple blossoms ripple in a fresh breeze that sweeps the desert floor. Spring is now appearing in Death Valley, so leave your grind behind and do a vanishing act—disappear to Furnace Creek Inn & Ranch Resort.

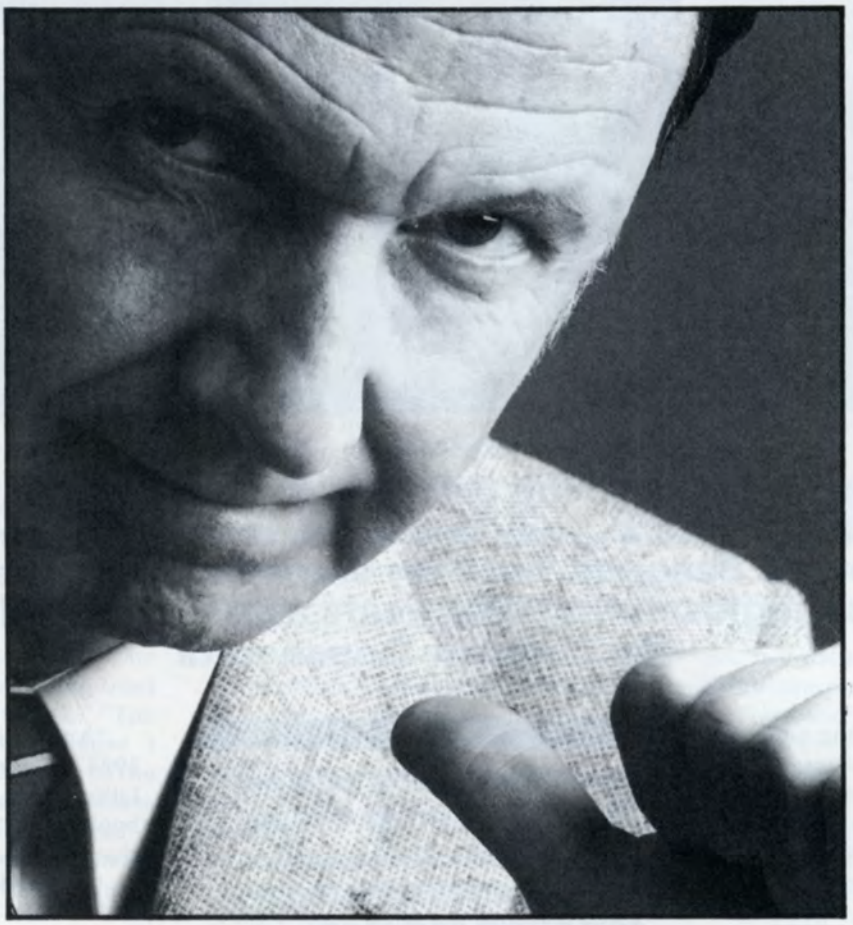
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The Sheepherders



AMBROSE ARLA COLLECTION



GENE SARRATEA COLLECTION

Ambrose Arla and Gene Sarratea are both former herders and camptenders. They represent different generations of Nevada Basques, but they shared many of the same struggles during their years alone in the hills.
By Christine Cendagorta

The grove of aspen at the north end of Little Valley, a dense, shady area bordering a pollen-covered swamp, holds the names of scores of Basque sheepherders dating from an Aguirre in 1907 to Pete Sarratea in 1967

Sixty years of sheepherding history are recorded in this small Sierra valley between Washoe Valley and Lake Tahoe. Most of the herders are gone now—dead, moved on, or returned to their homeland. Pete Arroues carved his name in Little Valley in 1940, herded a few more years and went back to France. Lorenzo Sarralegui was also tending sheep in the mountains in 1940; now he lives and works on a cattle ranch in Austin, Nevada.

Two men whose names are cut in neighboring aspens still live within 30 miles—a sheepherder's easy walking distance—of their carvings. Ambrose Arla and Gene Sarratea are both former herders and camptenders. Their paths have crossed many times even though their herding jobs were 30 years apart.

I was lonely and scared. I'd never herded sheep before. The boss said, 'See that hill? Be there tomorrow and then the next hill a day later.' I felt lost.



"Ambrosio Arla" dated "27 June 1934" is carefully drawn on a tree in Little Valley. The 1981 Reno telephone book lists "Ambrose Arla." Why the change? Arla grins and explains, "Most of the herders were Spanish Basque and I was French, so I wrote the Spanish 'Ambrosio.' I thought it might make things better," acknowledging the early-day animosity between the French and Spanish Basques.

In 1929 Arla was working in a swank hotel in Biarritz on the French Riviera. He was happy and had no intention of seeking a new life in America. In those days many Basques came for the economic opportunity, for conditions then were not good in the Basque country. In America most of the men took herding or ranch jobs, planning to stay for a few years and then return home with enough savings to buy a farm or business.

That was not Arla's purpose; he came only to escort his soon-to-be-married sister to Nevada. He did not have a return ticket, but as with most new arrivals, he did have friends and

relatives to help him find a job. For herding recruits, experience with sheep was not required. Basques were hired because of their willingness to work hard and accept the austere, solitary life of the sheepherder.

Arla recalls, "I came to Reno on September 10, 1929, and two days later I was dropped off with a band of 2,000 sheep just west of Reno (at what is now Lakeridge Golf Course). I remember that first night sitting on a rock and watching the stars with tears falling down my face. I was lonely and scared. I'd never herded sheep before. The boss said, 'See that hill? Be there tomorrow and then the next hill a day later. I felt lost."

His pay that first year was $100 per month, but the Depression had begun and Arla didn't get paid. His goal was $350, cost of passage back to France, but the pay steadily decreased, and he stayed.

A year of herding for Arla meant a winter in the desert, a spring move to the lambing sheds near the hot springs on U. S. 395, and then the trek up to the higher elevations for the summer. He worked as a herder and then camptender for nine years, covering the deserts and mountains of western Nevada and the eastern Sierra in California.

During his travels in the hills he carved his name on countless trees from Little Valley to Truckee. "The later carvings are clearer because I learned to just barely cut the skin of the tree," Arla says. "That way, the letters don't spread but stay easy to read. I didn't try many pictures, but my name is all over. Everywhere I went I carved my name."

When he came into Reno, Arla usually visited the Basque hotels, which were popular with all vacationing herders. He first met Mary Inda at the Santa Fe Hotel in 1931. He left the sheep business after their marriage in 1938 and moved with Mary to Carson City to run the French Hotel, then a well-known Basque place. In 1943 they sold out and moved to Austin to work on the ranch of Mary's stepfather, St. Jean Laborde. The ranch was sold after Laborde's death, and the Arlas returned to Reno in 1960. Arla worked at the University Farm as an irrigation foreman until he retired in 1968.

Thirty years after Ambrose Arla arrived in Reno, Eugenio "Gene" Sarratea showed up at the Toscano Hotel on February 18, 1959. (Both Sarratea and Arla cited the exact dates of their arrivals.) The oldest of 11 children, Sarratea was the first of seven brothers to leave their home near Pamplona, Spain, for herding jobs in the American West. Today it is not unusual to see the carvings of two or three Sarratea brothers in a single aspen grove, with dates ranging from Gene's 1959 to Pete's 1967

Gene Sarratea was the first of seven brothers to seek a herding job in the American West. Of the seven, only one has returned to Spain.



Sarratea's introduction to the sheep business was one that most herders can recite nearly word-for-word. The boss said, "Here's your sheep, your dogs, a donkey, and I'll be back in five days with more food." Sarratea echoes Arla's feelings about that first evening's camp. "I sat and cried at the thought of being alone." Later he had the advantage of having brothers in the area, but it was still lonely. "Your dogs are your only company, they're your best friends," he says.

After five years of herding, Sarratea became a camptender. Every five days he covered the area from Floriston to Incline, from Little Valley to the desert near Fernley. Just as he once waited anxiously for that human connection, the herders in those remote camps were eager to see him arrive with supplies, news and talk.

Camptending brought big changes for Sarratea. He was in town more often, picking up the English he had not learned before. As camptender in the 1930s, Ambrose Arla used a horse to deliver supplies, and the delicious sourdough bread he carried came straight from his underground dutch ovens. By Sarratea's time the camptender frequently drove a truck and picked up his bread early in the morning at a Reno bakery.

Sarratea did a great deal of tree writing as a herder, but as camptender he didn't have the long, lazy afternoons to carve on the aspens. The traditional inscription of name and date was not something learned in the Old Country; it just relieved the boredom. "The sheep bed down from nine in the morning until two in the afternoon," Sarratea explains. "There's not much else to do besides fish and carve trees." He admits, with a blush, to doing some "pictures." He doesn't elaborate, but his wife, Kathy, laughs and teases him about the subjects—an allusion to some of the more suggestive tree drawings found in aspen groves all over the West.

Sarratea left the sheep business in 1969 after 10 years of herding and camptending. He moved directly into construction work where the money was better and the life not so austere and lonely. Of the seven Sarratea brothers who immigrated, only one returned to Spain. The others all left herding after a few years and eventually moved into their own businesses or construction.

Like Arla, Sarratea has the distinctive, fast-paced gait of the sheepherder. Kathy complains that she'd like to see her husband's carvings, but she can't begin to keep up with him once he's off and walking. One thing he does share from his past is his cooking skill. He has remembered enough to teach his Italian wife to make the lamb stews, beans and soups of his herding days.

Between Ambrose Arla's arrival in 1929 and Gene Sarratea's arrival 30 years later, the sheepherder's life changed very little. Even with all the later conveniences, the herder was still a man alone walking the hills and deserts with his band of sheep.

The years of herding still show on Ambrose. At just over seventy he is lean and active, able to outwalk much younger golf partners. Today he and Mary frequently dine at the 19th Hole restaurant at Lakeridge, and from their table they have a nostalgic view of his first lonely campsite, now part of the rolling fairways on the west side of the course. At what is now the third hole were the camptender's bread ovens, and electric carts now buzz over the paths Ambrose walked 50 years ago with only his donkey, two dogs, a bedroll and five days' supply of food. □



Horse Sense & Nonsense

Carlin was known as a wild town, but nothing topped the day a 'shoe and sox cowboy' caused an uproar that had President Hoover's Secret Service men reaching for their guns.

By Harry E. Webb

Folks in Carlin, Nevada, often said "Excitement" should have been the town's middle name and they were sure right. Carlin could even boast of having one of its citizens, a Mrs. Potts, being taken to Elko and hanged because she shot and killed an old man for his paltry dollars.

We Pine Valley ranchers seldom went to Carlin, other than passing through it on our way to Elko, but it seemed every time we did hell was popping.

One day the town was in an uproar because Dolph Berning, the town marshal, had killed a "box car passenger" (hobo) when he insisted on coming downtown to buy a loaf of bread.

Another time found the town in a frenzy when the murderer of four Elko citizens calmly snoozed in Max Sperlich's saloon while the law combed a dozen states for him. His undoing came when the murder weapon fell out of his inside coat pocket and Berning snapped the cuffs on him. Shortly after that Berning was shot dead when he stopped a car thief, and we found the armed citizenry taking off in hot pursuit, though some said, "Dolph got his today and it's good riddance!"

But for unadulterated excitement, nothing topped the day President Hoover was making a speech from the rear platform of his palatial car while the train made its Carlin stop. Mr. Hoover was in deep trouble with cattlemen, ranchers and railroaders alike, so he was out doing some political fence mending. We ranchers had been apprised of his Carlin stop, so we were on hand to see how he was going to talk himself out of *this* jam.

Now comes the cause of said excitement in the form of Winn Griffin. Winn was termed by some as a "shoe and sox cowboy" because he never wore boots, though that didn't hinder his bronc riding ability. Winn liked to get soused to the gills on Frank Lightner's gulch-perked firewater, ride a green bronc into town and have it knock down folks as it bucked all over the street and store fronts. Winn had also heard of the president's arrival and decided to give the folks something to remember the event by.

The president was having difficulty in driving home the good points of his tenure due to the catcalls and boos from his disgruntled audience when, as if that weren't enough distraction, our drunked-up Winn rounded the corner of the depot with a war whoop and hung in the spurs.

With a bucking, squealing bronc among them, the people lost what little interest they had in Hoover platitudes and were trying to save being trampled as someone shook his fist and made a disparaging remark. That did it, bringing a shouted piece of advice from the red-jowled Hoover: "If you won't respect the man you should at least show respect for your president!"

With Winn whooping like crazy the bronc slammed into the side of the moving presidential car, went down in a heap and was dragged along as the passengers and the crowd shouted, "Stop the train! Stop the train!" Somehow, the bronc had got to his feet and was mowing a path through the crowd on its way out of town. As Winn was being hauled from the rail, the air brakes took hold and passengers were catapulted from their seats by the dead stop.



But the pandemonium in the cars was lost to us by the shouts of "Don't anybody leave this spot!" by half a dozen Secret Service agents with drawn guns.

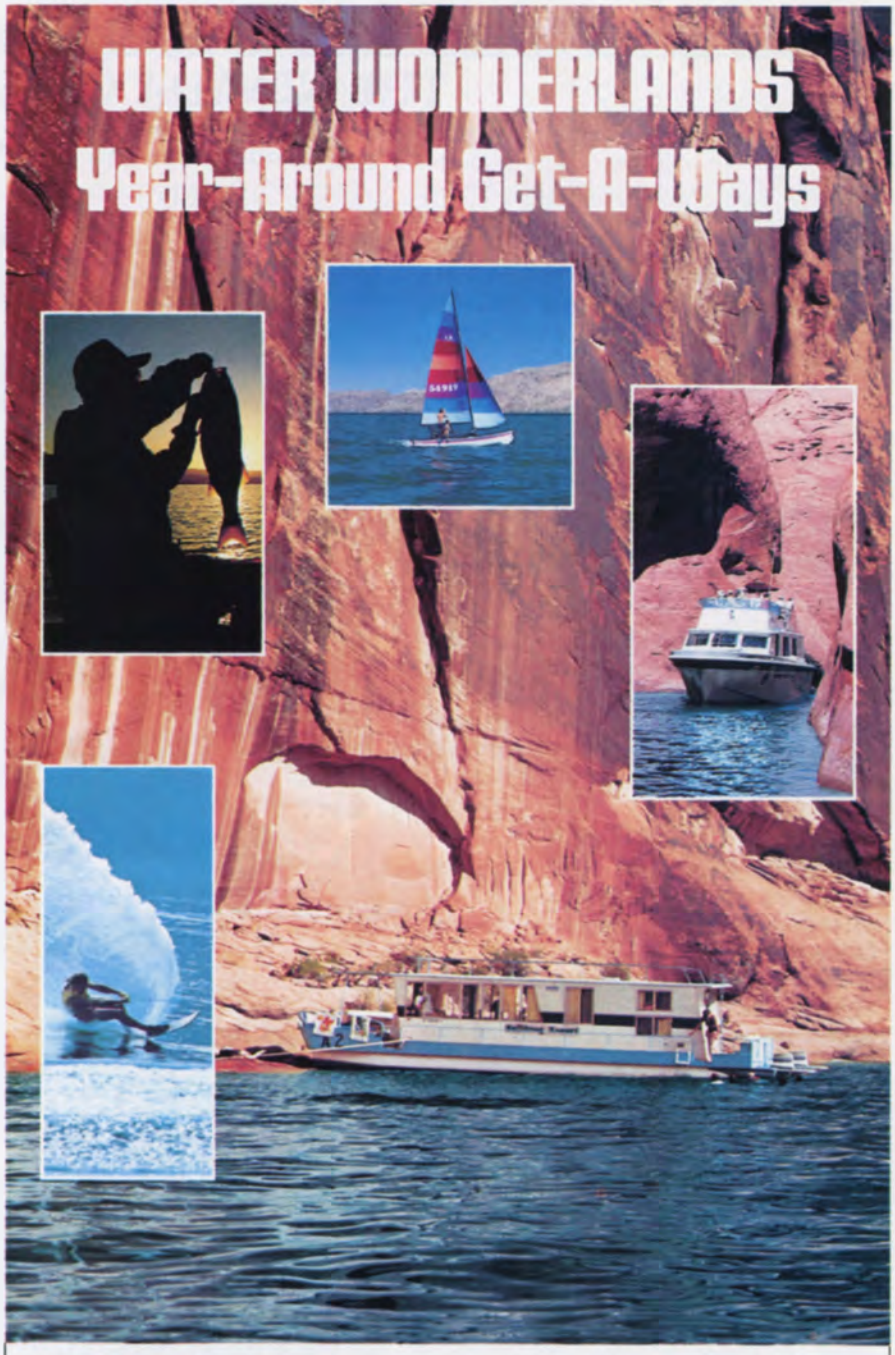
As they circulated among us the agents plied the question that appeared to be of prime importance: "Which one of you shook his fist at the president and shouted bush-wah?" Apparently they believed the bucking act and ensuing commotion had been a planned cover-up for an assassin to gun down the president. It is hard to say how long the interrogation would have gone on among the stilled crowd had it not been for an agonized female scream of "Oh, My God. The train cut that man's foot off!" Then she fainted.

"Sure enough did," someone exclaimed. "I can see the bone sticking out of his shoe there!" Winn was streaked with blood from his face to his one good foot and blood was oozing through the leg of his Levi's. Also, the severed foot was so spattered with corpuscles it was hard to determine the extent of the mayhem. "Poor ol' Winn," a drunk said. "I knowed them damn broncs would someday cripple him worse than he already was." Eager hands were steadying Winn as he sat flat-bottomed on the ground.

Bill Arthur, co-owner of the Rutledge-Arthur Garage, picked up the begrimed shoe and took it to its owner. "You okay, Winn, or shall we get ol' Doc to look you over?"

"Hell yes, I'm okay," Winn mumbled as he tried to screw the damaged food back on his metal stub. Many watchers showed signs of getting sick as Winn fumbled with the gruesome foot until Bill Arthur said, "It's only Winn's *wood and leather* foot, folks, so there's nothing to get excited about. Years ago I saw him staggering along in Battle Mountain with his foot screwed on backward. Sure looked funny to see one spur pointing ahead and the other like it should be."

As the president's guardians climbed aboard the palatial car, one was heard to say, *"Now, by God,* I've seen the world's eighth wonder!" □



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SOUTH

ONGOING EVENTS

Las Vegas Mormon Fort Tours, Tues.-Sun.
Historic and Cultural Focus Tours, Las Vegas, 382-7198
Historic artifacts on display, Southern Nevada Museum, Henderson, and UNLV Museum of Natural History, Las Vegas

MAY

Mint 400 Off-Road Race, 4/30-5/3 over a 100-mile course northeast of Las Vegas
"Our Town," 1-3, drama, Judy Bayley Theatre, UNLV, Las Vegas
Art-A-Fair, 2, Flamingo & Charleston Heights libraries, Las Vegas
Spring Beer Fest, 2, German American Social Club, North Las Vegas, info. 648-4589 or 736-3603
Folk Dances, 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, UNLV Dance Studio, Las Vegas, info. 732-1079
Las Vegas Civic Symphony, 3, Charleston Heights Library, 2pm, Las Vegas
Violin & piano recital, 3, Guillermo & Myriam Romero, Flamingo Library, 2pm, Las Vegas
Ken Kline's Trompe L'Oeil, 3-30, art exhibit, 1pm, Flamingo Library, Las Vegas
May Fest, 3, German American Social Club, North Las Vegas
"Pourquois Pas," 6, film, 7:30pm, Redrock Theatre, Las Vegas
Festival Chamber Players, 7, Charleston Heights Art Center, 2pm, Las Vegas
"Our Town," 7-10, drama, Judy Bayley Theatre, UNLV, Las Vegas
Helldorado Days, 8-17, carnival, exhibits, village bar, BBQ daily at Las Vegas Convention Center; western art show daily, Elks Lodge; 9: parade at 9am, Strip; 9-10, 13-17: rodeo at 8pm, Convention Center
"Fads, Flappers & Follies," 9, Meadows Playhouse, 8pm, Las Vegas, info. 739-7525
Greek Food Festival, 10, Sahara Hotel, 11am-11pm, Las Vegas
$150,000 Riviera World Championship of Craps, 11-14, Riviera Hotel, Las Vegas, info. toll free 800-522-1500 in California or 800-854-2003 elsewhere
"Odd Man Out," 15-31, drama, Charleston Heights Art Center, 7pm, Las Vegas



Nevada's events, shows and celebrations are listed by region as a speedy reference for weekend trips and vacations.

LAS VEGAS HELLDORADO

RENO RODEO

BASQUE FESTIVALS

HAWTHORNE LIAR'S RACE

CARSON VALLEY DAYS

MIME IN CARSON CITY

HOLLERING IN JACKPOT

PIGEON RACES

FOURTH OF JULY PARTIES

YERINGTON SACK RACE

Aaron Copland Compositions, 17, classical symphony, 2pm, Ham Hall, UNLV, Las Vegas
Merv Griffin TV Show Taping, 18-22, Riviera Hotel, Las Vegas
Spring Fling Square Dancing, 22-24, Convention Center, Las Vegas
U.S. Navy Band, 23-25, Morrell Park, Las Vegas
"Charley's Aunt," 26-6/20, comedy, Meadows Playhouse, 8pm, Las Vegas
World Wide Flea Market, 31, Convention Center, Las Vegas

JUNE

"Same Time Next Year," 4-14, comedy, Judy Bayley Theatre, Las Vegas, info. 739-3641
Radio Control Model Airplane Show, 5-7, Meadows Mall, Las Vegas
International Festival of Nations, 7, Convention Center, Las Vegas, info. 735-2365
Festival Chamber Players, 7, Charleston Heights Library, 2pm, Las Vegas
$400,000 American Backgammon Tournament, 9-14, Dunes Hotel, Las Vegas
Musical Arts Singers, 14, Charleston Heights Art Center, 2pm, Las Vegas
Sahara Summer Blackjack Classic, 14-17 Sahara, Las Vegas
Merv Griffin TV Show Taping, 15-19, Riviera Hotel, Las Vegas
World Wide Flea Market, 28, Silver Bowl, Las Vegas
Fibre Art Exhibit, 28-7/24, by Charlotte Baklanoff, Charleston Heights Library, Las Vegas

CENTRAL

MAY

Ely Amateur Golf Tournament, 16-17, White Pine Co. Golf Course, Ely, info. 289-4095
Jim Butler Days, 21-25, Tonopah; horseshoe contest, sky diving, junior and senior contests in mucking and double jack drilling, street dances, beard contest, arm wrestling championships, info. 289-8877

JUNE

Casino Employees State Golf Tournament, 17-18, White Pine Co. Golf Course, Ely
American Bashkir Curly Horse Convention,

RODEO & COWBOYS: GREAT AMERICAN SPORTS

There are lookalike mechanical bulls, Willie Nelsons, Jane Fondas and 100-percent cotton blue jeans all over the world. There are millions of pairs of fancy, high stepping, high priced, high heeled, sharp toed boots on men and women who don't want to own a horse, never dream of sitting on the back of a wild bull or hang around the aromatic stockyards of the American West.

But they all have something in common: they want to be cowpokes.

And in a way they are.

These urban cowboys and cowgirls are showing up and showing off in the saloons and dancehalls that house mechanical bulls. They drink beer or whiskey, wear tight western clothes and brag about the speed and fury of their particular 11-second ride.





C.J. HADLEY PHOTOS

"It's harder to ride a mechanical bull," says one Nevada bureaucrat who spends his spare time and $2 a ride at a Carson City bull-bar. "You can always tell what a real bull will do by the way he turns his head; if the head is going to the left, that's where the body's going to follow. With the mechanical bull you have no help because there is no head!"

The advantage of riding a bull machine is, if you get bucked off, a furious bovine won't come back to eat your lunch. For cowboys who have been in the arena, the mechanical bull is simple entertainment, and the sport of rodeo a deadly serious and expensive way of life.

But that's the life they choose. Without a win, there obviously is no cash. Travel costs are high, entry fees average between $50 and $100, and rigging has to be right. Cost of special equipment is not much for a bull rider who needs a glove, rope and bell. But it's a lot for the barrel racer, calf roper or team roper who needs a horse, trailer, hay and grain to keep moving down the road.

Professional rodeo riders are the most daring of America's athletes. They must have speed, agility, balance, split second timing, strength, endurance, grace and a knowledge of livestock. Also one hell of a lot of guts.

To appreciate the West indoors you can visit a bar with a bucking machine, a western band, a cowboy/cowgirl clientele and a jukebox filled with country tunes. You'll have a good time.

To take advantage of the real West, to get the best family entertainment

(Continued on page 56)

19-21, Bristlecone Convention Center, Ely
White Pine County Rodeo, 27-28, fairgrounds, Ely, info. 289-4439

NORTH

ONGOING EVENTS

Northeastern Nevada Museum, 9-7 Mon.-Sat., 1-7 Sun., historical and natural history exhibits, 1515 Idaho St., Elko, 738-3418

MAY

Team Roping, 1, Spring Creek Horse Palace, Elko, info. 738-7135
Cactus Pete's Air Race, 9, from Lander, WY. to Jackpot
Air Force Band, 13, Nixon Aud., 7:30pm, Winnemucca
Home, Garden & Recreation Show, 17, Convention Center, Elko, info. 738-4091
Cactus Pete's Air Race, 30, from Seattle to Jackpot

JUNE

Western Days Festival, 5-7, parade, contests and dancing, Elko, info. 738-7135
High School Rodeo, 5-7, Spring Creek Horse Palace, Elko, info. 738-7135
Cactus Pete's Air Race, 6, from Orland, CA. to Jackpot
Basque Festival, 13-14, Winnemucca; 13: parade at noon, downtown; endurance and strength contests in afternoon, followed by 9pm dance at fairgrounds; 14: Mass, 11am,





The works of Robert Montanucci and Adam Fortunate Eagle will be featured in a month-long exhibit at the Round House Gallery, a showplace for Indian art and artifacts on the Fallon Indian Reservation. Montanucci is a Lake Tahoe artist who specializes in oils on both canvas and gessoed masonite. His 16x20" oil, "Buffalo Pipe," from the T.E. Davidson collection is shown here. Fortunate Eagle is a silversmith, beadworker, painter and sculptor. A portion of one of his intricate slate carvings is also shown. The opening night reception is Saturday, May 23 from 6-9 p.m., and the exhibit continues through Sunday, June 21.

followed by BBQ, native Basque dances, City Park
Cactus Pete's Air Race, 20, from Denver, CO. to Jackpot
Cactus Pete's Air Race, 27, from Dalles, OR. to Jackpot
Lamoille Country Fair, 28, arts, crafts, food booths, games, 10-5, Lamoille

WEST

ONGOING EVENTS

Nevada Artists Assn. Gallery, 1-4 Mon.-Sat., 12-4 Sun., 449 W. King St., Carson City
Art exhibitions, 2-6 Wed.-Mon., 599 D. St., Saint Phillip's Center Gallery, Hawthorne
Dayton Flea Market, weekends
Atmospherium-Planetarium, open daily, UNR, Reno, show info. 784-4811
Art Exhibit, Reno Tahoe Visitors Center, 135 N. Sierra, 10-2 Tues.-Sat.

MAY

American Painting of the Sixties & Seventies, thru 5/23, Sierra Nevada Museum of Art, Reno
Oregon Mime Theatre, 1, Carson City Community Center, 8pm
Reno Padres vs. Stockton Ports, 1-3, Class A pro baseball, Moana Stadium, Reno
Silver State Square Dance Festival, 1-3, Coliseum, Reno
Spring Concert, 1-3, Church Fine Arts Theater, 8pm, UNR, Reno
Early Morning Bird Walk, 12, bring binoculars to Silver Springs Beach entrance, Lahontan Rec. Area
NAA Art Show, 2-3, National Guard Armory, Yerington
UNR Band & Choral Concerts, 5-6, Pioneer Theatre, Reno
Reno Padres vs. Lodi Dodgers, 5-7, Class A pro baseball, 7pm, Moana Stadium, Reno
Fastcar Races, 6, 13, 20, 27, fairgrounds, 6:30pm, Reno
Family Peace Festival, 6, Governor's Mansion, 3-6pm, Carson City, info. 883-7654
Sierra Nevada Chorale Concert, 8, Pioneer Theatre, Reno
Guided Tour of Lahontan Dam, 9, meet at day use area at 10am, Lahontan Rec. Area
Motorcycle Races, 9-10, Virginia City
Reno Chamber Orchestra Concert, 10, Eldorado Hotel, 3pm, Reno
Carson River Canoe Trip, 10, guided tour by state park rangers, bring your own canoe or kayak, 10am, Ft. Churchill picnic area
North Lake Tahoe Symphony Assn. Orchestra, 10, free concert, 2pm, Chateau, Incline Village
Walker Lake Art Club Show, 14-17, Convention Center, Hawthorne, info. 945-3030
Reno Padres vs. Redwood Pioneers, 15-16, Class A pro baseball, Moana Stadium, Reno
Folk Craft Festival, 15-17, Coliseum, Reno
"Lion in Winter," 15-17 22-23, Brewery Arts Center, Carson City
Lemmon Valley VFD Picnic, 16, BBQ, dunk tank, children's games, 10am-7pm, Lemmon Valley
Lahontan Water Sports & Boat Show, 16-17, Silver Springs Beach, 10am-7pm, Lahontan Rec. Area
The Montana Theater Of Silence, 16, Reed High School, 7pm, Adults $4; Students $3; Seniors and children under 12 $2. For information call TTY number (or voice) 358-8804.
Armed Forces Day, 16, Hawthorne
Fireman's Ball, 16, dinner, dance, Genoa firehouse
Fashion Show & Luncheon, 16, Silver Springs firehouse, 1pm
"Gaite Parisienne," 16-17, Nevada Opera Assn., 2:15pm, Pioneer Theatre, Reno
Soaring Competition, 16-17 23-25, Douglas Co. Airport, 11am, Minden
Up With People, 16-17, Carson City Community Center
U.S. Air Force Concert Band, 17 free, 2pm, Chateau, Incline Village
Harp Duos, 19, Brewery Arts Center, Carson City, info. 883-1976
Reno Padres vs. San Jose Mission, 19-21, Class A pro baseball, 7pm, Moana Stadium, Reno
Harolds Club Gun Show, 23-24, Coliseum, Reno
Lovelock Portuguese Festa, 23-24. 23: dance at 9pm, Meisekothen Hall; 24: outdoor procession at 10am to St. John the Baptist Church for Mass, noon, dinner followed by auction of baked goods and handcrafts, Lovelock
Reno Padres vs. Modesto Athletics, 25-27 Class A pro baseball, 7pm, Moana Stadium, Reno
Tony Sandler Celebrity Dinner, 27 MGM Grand Hotel, Reno, info. 786-1222
Wild West Days, 27-30, shootouts, hangings, quick draw shows, Comstock Hotel, Reno
"Bedroom Farce," 29-31, Reno Little Theater, info. 329-0661
Yerington Portuguese Festival, 30-31. 30: dance at 8pm, Fanning Hall; 31: parade at 11:30am to Holy Family Church for Mass followed by free banquet and auction of handmade items, Yerington
Barbershop Quartets Concert, 30, Pioneer Theatre, 8pm, Reno

JUNE

Dance Recital, 1, Pioneer Theatre, 7pm, Reno
Fastcar Races, 3, fairgrounds, 6:30pm, Reno
"Zion," 4-5, musical, Pioneer Theatre, Reno
"Bedroom Farce," 4-6, Reno Little Theater, info. 329-0661
Reno Padres vs. Fresno Giants, 5-7, Class A pro baseball, Moana Stadium, Reno
Concerts in the Atrium, 5, 12, 19, 26, Airport Gardens, noon-1pm, Reno
Carson River Canoe Trip, 6, guided tour by state park rangers, bring your own canoe or kayak, 10am, Ft. Churchill picnic area

(Continued on next page)



C.J. HADLEY

Amazing Basque Feats

Basque strongman Benny Goitiandia cuddles a 225-pound granite ball just before rolling it on his shoulders. Contests of strength and endurance are popular at Nevada's four Basque festivals—June 13-14 in Winnemucca; July 3-5, Elko; July 18-19, Ely and August 8 in Reno.

SOMETHING TO HOLLER ABOUT

During this year's three-day weekend, the Fourth of July will be celebrated in Nevada with town parties and many special events for shriekers, firemen, bathtub racers and Basque strongmen.

In Jackpot you can enter the annual Western States Hollering Contest in one of three divisions: men, women and junior. Winners receive gag awards and fame, including a reputation as a loudmouth. Strangely, for the last three years top honors have gone to entrants from the state of Washington. If you need more information, call 755-2321 and ask for Carl Hayden. He requests no hollering over the phone.

At Hawthorne, any contraption that will float (no boats, please) can be entered in the annual Liar's Race on Walker Lake. Bathtubs, outhouses and cars have been used by past sagebrush seamen. Just use your imagination and be there for the time trials the morning of Sunday, July 5. For entry information call 945-5253.

In Elko the holiday festivities are held on firmer ground, and with good reason. Only a Basque would think it was great fun to roll a 225-pound granite ball around his neck, or relish lifting a 300-pound cylinder a dozen or more times in a three-minute period. These incredible contests of skill, strength and endurance can be seen in Elko during the National Basque Festival July 3-5. The competition at the fairgrounds features weight lifting, weight carrying, stone dragging, handball (jai alai) and wood chopping. Dancers in colorful native dress are always a big attraction. Red scarves and bota bags are standard gear, and a good time is assured. Open air Mass on Sunday is followed by a hefty Basque feast.

Other towns also celebrate the Fourth of July with fervor. Austin, Battle Mountain, Boulder City, Caliente, Carson City, Ely, Eureka, Lovelock, Virginia City and Tonopah go all out with parades, fireworks, contests, games and picnics. Each celebration has its own flavor, and contests are open to anyone who can toss eggs or run the length of Main Street.—*Ann Henderson*



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Small headed birds that come to Jackpot know how to get out fast. They have wings, not arms or motors, which is a good arrangement these gas-short days. And though brief on luggage space, their speeds beat the best of land-clinging vehicles.

For instance, know anyone who likes to drive from Jackpot (the aggressive-progressive Nevada casino town on the Idaho border) to San Francisco in 11 hours?

The speed merchants referred to are those pectorally lusty ones—homing pigeons.

In one circling cloud, 5,000 homing pigeons are released at Jackpot each May by the Bay Cities Pigeon Racing Combine. This year's launch date is May 23. Last spring the wingers were released on take off day precisely at 6 a.m. Pacific time. The winning bird legged down in its home loft at 5:30 p.m.

Skywise, the distance is estimated by the Combine's race director, Robert W. Gerhow of Pengrove, California, at 550 miles. The flight mileage is variable, because the atmospheric sailors sometimes take on sufficient elevation to bee-line over the high Sierra on the Nevada-California border, getting a leg up on the competition.

Occasionally, and no pigeon fancier can reason why, the birds circumvent mountain peaks via the lower lands. That's one reason astronautical man should learn pigeon English: he would know more.

Very like Uncle John, a pigeon's haste to get home can be grossly interrupted by social interludes, as Wilbur Miller of Lander, Wyoming, found two years ago. Miller sent three homers on May 12, 1979, to Jackpot with pilot Bobby Barton who was competing in one of Cactus Pete's dozen annual air races. Barton released the birds on arrival, but two must have preferred life in Nevada because they never reached home. The third one took until May 31 to peck on his Lander loft.

Why? With him was a cute hen picked up during the 308-mile flight. Know what that means to a serious pigeon racing fancier? He quietly bakes the wayward one into pigeon pie. But that's the advantage of this sport. You can't eat a losing racehorse.

—*Carl Hayden*

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CALENDAR

(Continued from previous page)

Contemporary Works On Paper, 6-7/19, Sierra Nevada Museum of Art, Reno

Virginia City Frontier Days, 6-7, rodeo, miners' day, kids' games, info. 847-0270

Amarillo Slim Cutting Classic, 8-13, fairgrounds, Reno

Reno Padres vs. Visalia Oaks, 9-11, Class A pro baseball, 7pm, Moana Stadium, Reno

"Blithe Spirit," 12-13, 19-20, comedy, 8pm, High School Aud., Boulder City, tickets $2.50, info. 293-2860

"On Stage," 12-13, musical comedy, 9pm, Cloud's Cal-Neva, sponsored by NLT Symphony Assn., Incline Village, info. 831-2155

"Star Child," 12-13, Pioneer Theatre, 8pm, Reno

Berlin Wildflower Hike, 13, Berlin-Ichthyosaur State Park, 10am

Carson Valley Days, 13-14, Minden-Gardnerville; 13: parade at 10am; art show & sale, 10am-5pm, CVIC Hall; noon, BBQ followed at 2pm by beard contest, tug-o-war, fire dept. water fights, Minden Park; dance at 9pm, CVIC Hall; 14: Lions Club breakfast, 7:30am, Minden Park; daily afternoon rodeo, Pinenut Road; info. 782-2172

Hazen Day, 14, BBQ, street dancing, crafts, car show, Hazen

Annual Art Show, 15-7/15, Genoa Courthouse Museum

European & American Songs & Arias, 16, Brewery Arts Center, 8pm, Carson City

Reno Padres vs. Stockton Ports, 19-21, Class A pro baseball, Moana Stadium, Reno

Reno Rodeo Carnival, 19-28, starts 3:30pm on 19, at 11am on 20-28; fireworks at 8pm on 19, fairgrounds

Musclebound Body Building Show, 20, Pioneer Theatre, Reno, info. 331-5100

The Great Yerington Sack Race, 20, competitors race 10 miles carrying 120-pound sack of grain, downtown Yerington

Rattlesnakes, Fact & Fiction, 20 talk by Dave Doty, 10am, Silver Springs Beach day use area, Lahontan Rec. Area

Levi Ride 'N Tie International Championship, 21, two-men teams take turns riding a horse and running, Dog Valley near Verdi

Virginia City Antique Show & Sale, 20-21, school gymnasium

Wagon Train Jamboree, 20, Round Hill Mall, Zephyr Cove, info. 588-4591

Reno Padres vs. Lodi Dodgers, 23-25, Class A pro baseball, 7:30pm, Moana Stadium, Reno

Reno Rodeo, 24-28, daily performances 7:30pm except Sun. the 28th; 2pm matinee Sat. & Sun.; western dancing, exhibits, BBQ daily; 27: buckaroo breakfast at 7am, parade at 10am, downtown

Clampers' Parade, 27 C St., noon, Virginia City

Fly Fishing Demonstration, 27, Lahontan Dam day use area, Lahontan Rec. Area

Soaring Competition, 29, 7/9, Douglas Co. Airport, 11am, Minden

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nevada 81

The cow counties are bringing culture to the cities with Elko's great traveling photo show.

The annual traveling photography show of Elko's Northeastern Nevada Museum reverses the usual rules of cultural exchange. While art shows traditionally are shipped like foreign aid from metropolitan to rural areas, Nevada 81 is an example of the cow counties bringing culture to the cities.

And the people see it. Last year's show was visited by 58,151 people, making it the most popular art exhibit in the state. After its opening in Elko, this year's Nevada 81 goes on the road, visiting 11 other Nevada cities and towns (see schedule on page 51).

The show's originator and director is Howard Hickson, the ebullient chief of the Elko museum. Hickson, Elko photographer Thomas Lee Clark and Nevada Magazine publisher-editor Caroline Hadley went through eight hours of what Hickson calls "intensive discussion and selection" to select this year's top photos from 575 entries.

"We judged the photographs based on subject matter, imagination, technical qualities, while at the same time asking does it give the feeling of Nevada," Hickson says. "These photos are chosen for the public, not the ego of the photographer."

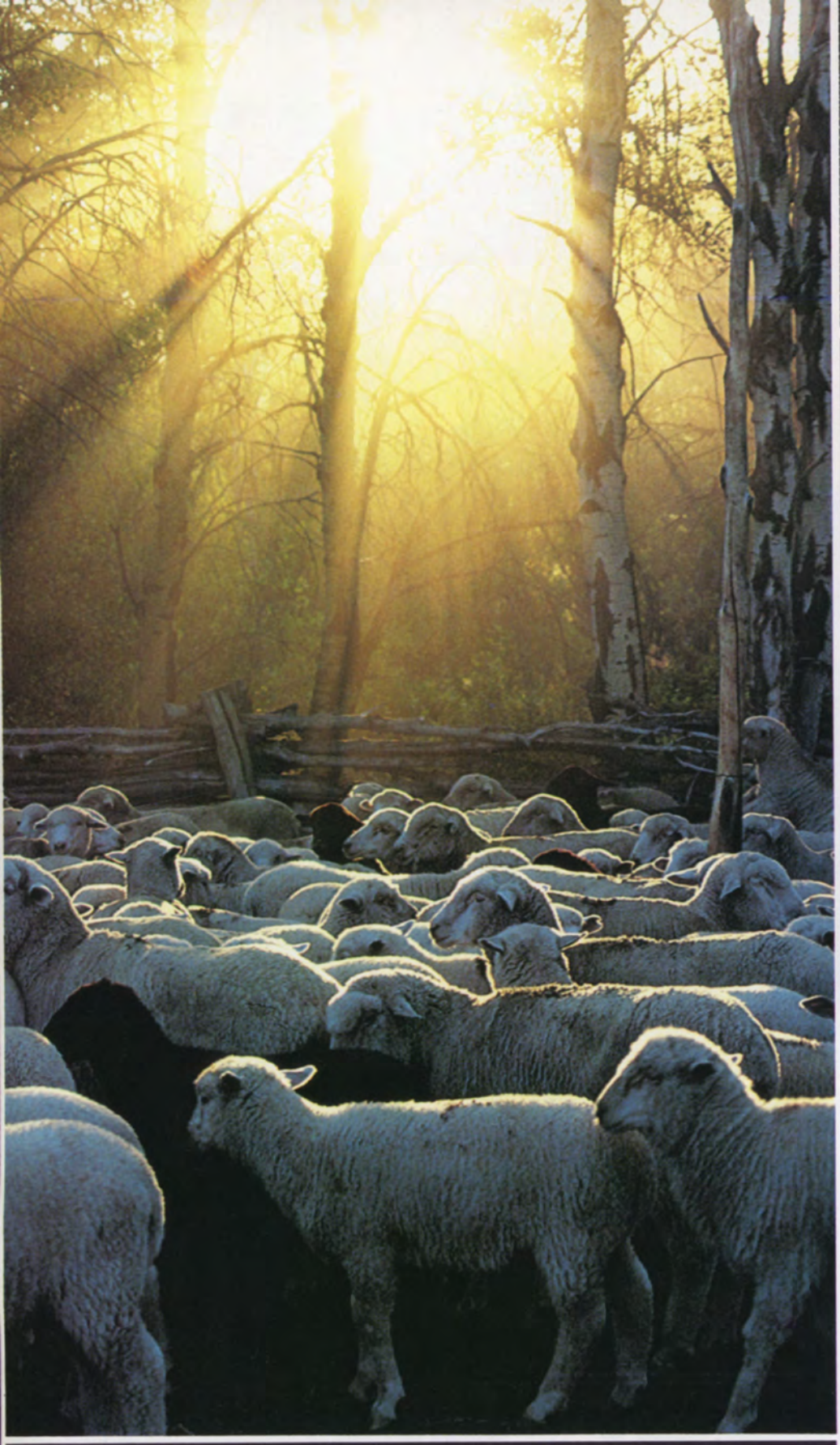
The museum has another copy of the slide show for gratis loan anywhere in the state. Borrowers are responsible for insurance and return postage. Interested groups should contact Bevette Hitchman at the Northeastern Nevada Museum, Box 503, Elko, NV 89801, or call 702-738-3418.

The 12-town traveling show includes 84 mounted prints and 120 slides in the slide-sound show. Each photo represents a unique, always personal view of Nevada, as shown by the top finalists on these pages.





Other Winning Photographers
Gayland Anderson, Verna Anderson, Carol Bailey, Alan Bittler, Linda Bunch, Roy DeGiovanni, Richard Hockey, Roberta Horton, Mabel Huber, Michael Katz, Eric McClary, Terry Miller, Bebe Ann Mills, Susan Moore, Tracy Mori, Bob Needham, Tom Vietti









Clockwise from left:

"In God's Light"
Linda Dufurrena, Winnemucca
Best of Show, Color Slide

"Tonopah National Guard"
Chad Smith, Elko
Second (Tie), Color Slide

"Tony and Mitch"
Joe Royer, Lamoille
Second (Tie), Color Slide

"Behind Bars"
Joe Royer, Lamoille
First, Color Slide

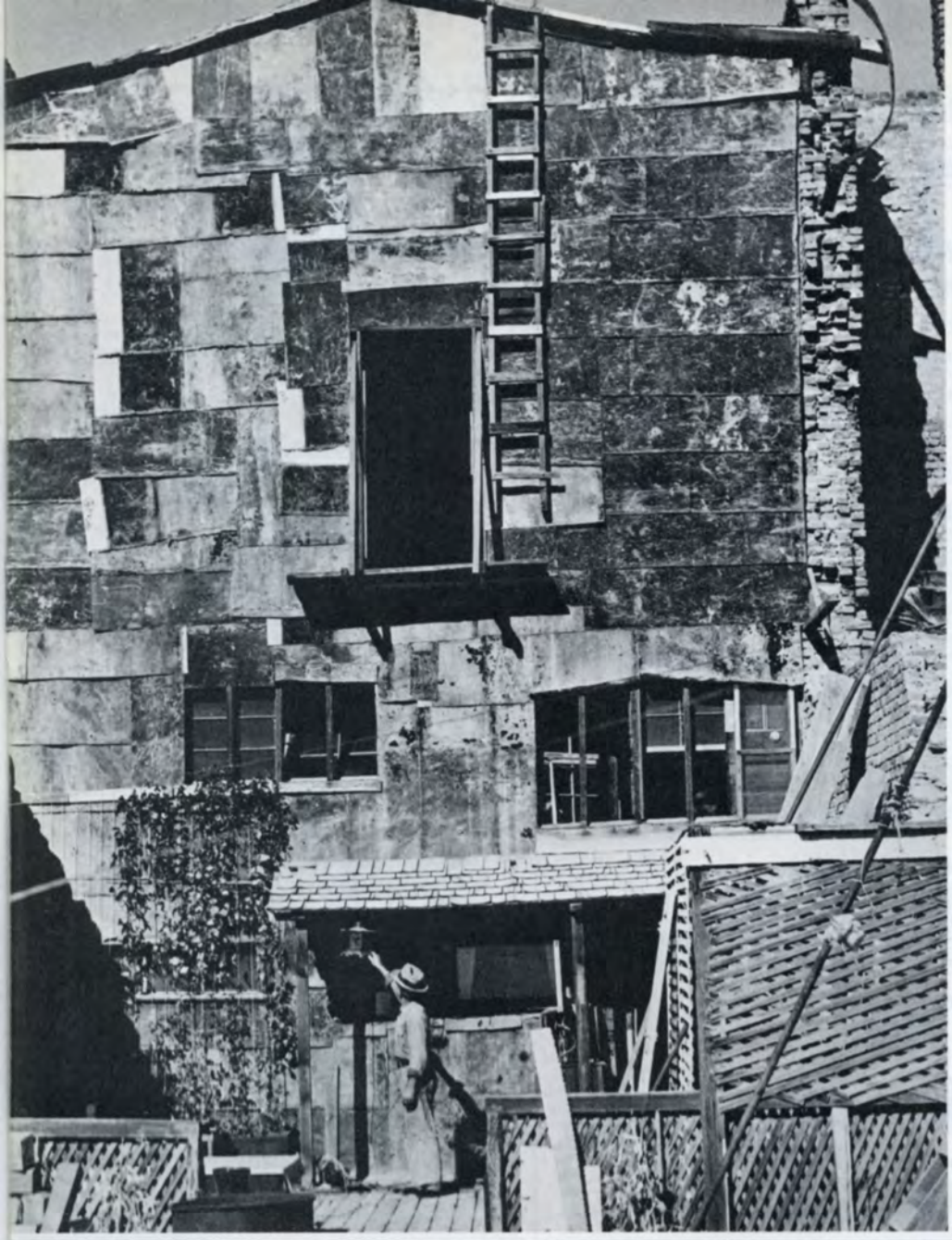
Previous Page:

"Cowboy's Dream"
Chad Smith, Elko
Second (Tie), Black and White









Clockwise from top left:

"Miller Time, Owyhee"
Tammy Mori, Tuscarora
Best of Show, Color Print

"Remodeling Job"
James Lawrence, Gardnerville
Third (Tie), Black and White

"Cowboy Sunset"
Kathy Leonard, Reno
Second (Tie), Black and White

"Wes Koyen, Silver Miner"
Richard Menzies, Salt Lake City
Best of Show, Black and White

"Morning Mist"
Jeff Jensen, Bellingham, Wash.
First, Color Print

"Boomtown Kid"
Chad Smith, Elko
First, Black and White

After its spring opening in Elko and a stop in Winnemucca, the Nevada 81 show will visit the following towns:

Lovelock, May 4-18, Pershing County Library; **Reno,** May 29-June 15, Washoe County Library; **Sparks,** June 18-29, Washoe County Library; **Carson City,** July 3-Aug. 3, Nevada State Museum; **Genoa,** Aug. 7-20, Courthouse Museum; **Yerington,** Aug. 31-Sept. 14, Lyon County Library; **Hawthorne,** Sept. 24-Oct. 8, Walker-Wassuk Arts Alliance; **Las Vegas,** Oct. 19-Nov. 2, Las Vegas Art Museum; **Overton,** Nov. 13-26, Community Center; **Ely,** Dec. 7-21, White Pine County Library.

The Northeastern Nevada Museum show is cosponsored by Nevada Magazine and partially funded by the National Endowment for the Arts, through a grant from the Nevada State Council on the Arts.





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Incident at Egan Canyon

Beginning a new life in Cherry Creek, Margaret Clayton thought the memories of pioneer trails and hard times were behind her. But were they? By Bud Hage

The sun was easing its way toward the horizon, drenching the hills in its warm rays. There was no breeze stirring; even the birds and ground squirrels were not moving about. It seemed as if all of nature had conspired to create this peaceful summer interlude.

Margaret Clayton was caught up in the peace and stillness of the afternoon. It was a two-mile walk from the stores in Cherry Creek to her home, and she enjoyed taking a rest while the twins, Arthur and Archie, played nearby.

Times were good for Margaret Clayton. On this beautiful summer day she could almost forget the hardships of recent years. There had been the long trek west in 1860 when she, 15 years old, and her sister Elizabeth, 18, without their parents, had walked all the way from Decatur, Indiana, to Fort Churchill with the Goodwin wagon train. There had been troubles because of her husband Warren's support for the Confederacy when they lived in Dayton, Nevada, and the difficulties of trying to feed and clothe a family in frontier mining camps.



The White Pine County mining camp of Cherry Creek boomed in the 1870s. Just over the mountains was the site of the Egan Canyon station and the lonely pioneer trail.

Since moving to Cherry Creek a few months ago, Margaret had sensed a change in her family's fortunes. The stores were beginning to receive a continuous supply and variety of goods. Civil War animosities were not so pronounced in eastern Nevada. Her husband's freight business was prospering, and he had recently been named justice of the peace for the town.

Glancing up the trail, Margaret saw the distant, plodding figure of an Indian woman coming her way. The woman was almost completely shrouded in her long dress and shawl, but Margaret recognized her as Gossie Mama, one of the older Indians who lived near Cherry Creek. Margaret had never met her, but rumor had it that Gossie Mama had been involved in the hostilities between Indians and white pioneers in the area years ago. Fortunately those days were past. Perhaps today she would speak to her and get acquainted.

Beyond the approaching woman Margaret could see the mountains above Egan Canyon. That passageway brought back special memories: after





Margaret Clayton in later years.



Warren Clayton, Cherry Creek J.P.

passing Egan Canyon on their overland journey 14 years ago, she and her sister had first learned to fear the Indians' wrath—and respect the perils of travel in places unknown.

Before then their westward journey had been uneventful, although Margaret and Elizabeth had experienced one bad scare. The wagon boss had tried to abandon the girls for lack of food just after crossing into what is now Nevada, but a group of men in the party convinced him—at gunpoint—to change his mind. In fact, Margaret had always thought, that this group of well-armed men who had joined the emigrants in Wyoming was the reason the Indians had left them alone.

The girls' job, to earn their way west, was to drive the loose livestock. They became so confident that they had taken to pushing on ahead of the plodding oxen and wagons. When the girls found good grazing for the stock, they would lie down in a shady place for a nap and wait for the remainder of the party to catch up.

Margaret and Elizabeth were walking ahead when the Goodwin party entered Egan Canyon on July 14th. Finding a grassy spot under a big willow tree, the girls lay down and enjoyed a long, peaceful sleep until the wagons reached them.

The next day they passed the Egan Canyon Pony Express station. Members of the party talked briefly with Mike Holten, the station keeper, and Nick Wilson, the rider from Schell Creek. The two men cautioned them about hostile Shoshones in the area, but the emigrants stated they had not seen any Indians for several days.

For the Goodwin party, the next day, July 16th, was routine. Breakfast was eaten and the oxen were hooked up and moving before sunrise, and the party left Egan Canyon behind.

At mid-morning a pony rider appeared out of the hills to the west. He flashed by with a quick wave and shouted greeting. Later they encountered a troop of U.S. Army cavalry traveling east to Camp Floyd.

"The two men barricaded themselves inside the Pony Express station and set their guns at firing posts, determined to sell their lives dearly."

When the pioneers arrived at Butte Station on the 17th, they found the station attendants very nervous. A west-bound pony rider had brought the startling news of a fight at Egan Station. According to the rider, Holten and Wilson had been going about their chores when they saw a large band of Indians approaching. The Indians appeared hostile, but two men against what appeared to be more than 50 called for diplomacy. Holten told the Indians they had plenty of food and would be glad to share it. The visitors ate all the cooked food, then told the men to bake more bread.

While the bread was baking Holten said he was going to round up the horses and put them in the stockade corral behind the station. An Indian told him that they would take care of the horses, and them too, after their feast. At this Holten and Wilson were certain the Indians intended to kill them, so they barricaded themselves inside the rock station house. They knew the pony rider was due in from the west, but because he was late, they concluded the Indians had already waylaid and killed him. The two men set their guns at firing posts in the walls, determined to sell their lives dearly.

Will Dennis, the pony rider, slowed his horse to a walk about a mile west of Egan Station to let him cool out from the long run. By habit Dennis stopped on the knoll overlooking the building and corrals to see if everything looked normal before galloping in. He saw the attack in progress, turned back and ran his tired horse five miles to where he encountered the cavalry.

Immediately the commander, Lieutenant Weed, ordered his 60 dragoons to Egan Station on a run. At the knoll he ordered Corporal Mitchell to take a detachment and circle to the north and east to block the Indians' retreat down Egan Canyon. Weed himself would lead the assault. Mitchell, misunderstanding his orders, circled the knoll and attacked. Upon hearing the firing, Weed immediately attacked from the west. A short but vicious fight ensued. Holten and Wilson were saved, but three soldiers and 18 Indians were lying dead when the firing stopped. Most of the Indians escaped down Egan Canyon.

The Goodwin wagon train left Butte Station early the next morning, and for the remainder of the journey, tight security and watchfulness were practiced day and night. The girls were careful not to stray from the rest of the party on their walk to Fort Churchill.

Margaret's thoughts were jolted back to the present by the Indian woman's approach. Gossie Mama walked directly up to her, dark face peering out from under her shawl. Smiling she said:

"I know you."

Margaret, taken aback, answered, "I don't think so, we've never met."

"I know you from long time ago," the woman insisted.

"No," Margaret replied, "you couldn't know me, I've only lived here a few months."

"I know you, know your sister too," the woman chuckled. "One time, long ago, me with other Indians. We coming through Egan Canyon. Find you and your sister asleep under tree. We talk for long time whether to kill you or let you sleep. We decide, let you sleep." With that she flashed a slight grin, pulled her shawl tight about her chin, and trudged on.

A cold chill crept up the back of Margaret's neck, belying the afternoon's warmth. Pulling her children close, she watched the receding figure of the Indian woman trudge on toward town. □

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RODEO & COWBOYS

(Continued from page 41)

you'll find all year, go to a rodeo.

In Nevada, rodeos happen in almost every town in the state during spring, summer and fall. The small rural rodeos often have as much fun and action as the great urban rodeos. Both are well worth a visit.

What follows are two of Nevada's biggest and best:

HELLDORADO DAYS, May 8-17, Las Vegas Convention Center.

Ten days of the largest carnival and midway in the state including 50 major rides and shows. Open May 8-17, 4pm to midnight weeknights, noon to early hours weekends.

Seven days of rodeo, May 9-10 and May 13-17, 8pm. Features 800 of the best professional cowboys competing for up to $100,000 in prize money. Special events include the Elks Helldorado Regional Buck Off for Urban Cowboys & Cowgirls May 11 and 12 at 9pm, and the Wrangler Pro Rodeo Bull Fighter Championships in which six great bull fighters compete for $12,000 in prize money during the rodeo, May 13-16.

All seats reserved, from $5-$9. For information call 702-385-1221.

RENO CARNIVAL & RODEO, June 19-28, Nevada State Fairgrounds.

On opening day, June 19, the carnival, midway and exhibition hall open at 3:30 pm, free (except rides and food). At 8pm, fireworks display and western dance, free. From June 20-23, carnival and midway open 11am till midnight, plus country-western entertainment in the arena at 8pm.

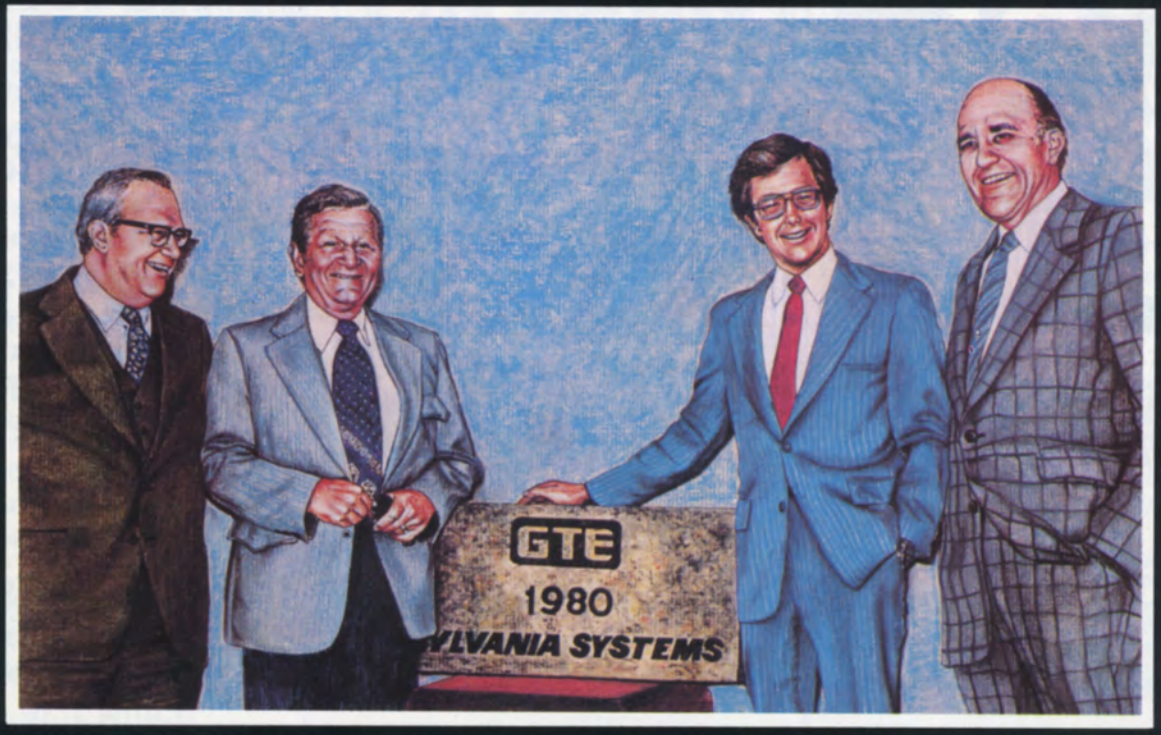
Reno Rodeo, the biggest six-performance rodeo in the nation, offers $140,000 in prize money to the world's best cowboys. Rodeo is at 7:30pm from June 24-26, at 2 and 7:30pm on June 27, with finals at 2pm, June 28.

Special events include Miss Rodeo Nevada horsemanship judging at the arena, June 23, after lunch, free; coronation of Miss Rodeo Nevada will be at Meadowood Mall, June 24, 4pm, free; horsemanship contest, Miss Reno Rodeo, arena, June 25, 1pm, free; Buckaroo Breakfast, State Street, June 27, 7am (discount if western hat and boots are worn); parade, downtown Reno, June 27, 10am.

Tickets $3-$8. Family night Wednesday, June 24, $4 all seats. For information, call 702-329-2771.

NOTE: More cowboys, ranchers, world champion Indian team ropers and the Winnemucca rodeo in the next issue!

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M-M-MEL TILLIS

(Continued from page 28)

experiences. "Ruby, Don't Take Your Love to Town" was a million seller for Kenny Rogers and The First Edition.

"I knew Ruby," says Tillis. "The story is about a G.I. in World War II and he met this girl in England at one of the hospitals. He brought her to Pahokee, Florida, and moved in behind our house in an alley. It was called Cat Alley 'cuz there was so many cats there.

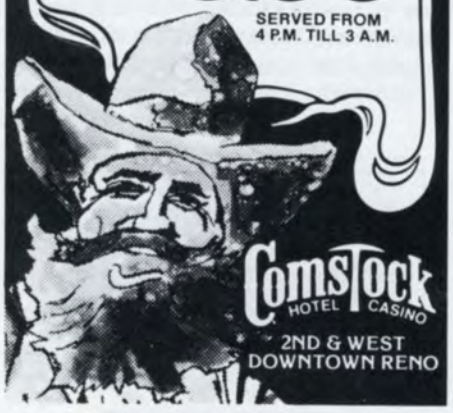
"One time he went for treatment for his wounds and got a spinal or somethin' and was paralyzed temporarily. I used to hear them over there arguin' Gawd-a-mighty, he used to accuse her of everything. She'd come over to our house crying. She put up with that for a long, long time, and I guess she finally decided, 'Well if he's going to accuse me of it, I might as well do it.' About four years ago he killed hisself and her too."

"I like to go to Virginia City. I bought a painting up there. It had some chickens in it which reminded me of home."

Unlike many entertainers who give the impression they are perfect, cool and unapproachable, Tillis works hard to convey the feeling that he is just like the rest of us. His show is warm, relaxed (although he says he's still nervous before a show), and funny. And it doesn't seem to matter that Tillis is playing to two different audiences: the country music purist and the millions who saw him on the Johnny Carson, Merv Griffin and Mike Douglas talk shows, found him appealing, and want to see more of M-M-Mel.

"My audiences are older than Willie's or Waylon's," Tillis says. "If I was going to perform at that type of audience it'd be up, it'd be kickin' and it'd be loud. But I just cannot go out there and turn them instruments up and knock 'em out of their damn seats. It's a clean show. And when they leave I want 'em to be smilin' and happy." □

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The Relentless Gourmand

SUNSHINE AND FUN, YES, BUT A FACTORY IT'S NOT

In the midst of the busy K Mart-Skaggs commercial district in south Carson City is a restaurant that is so wholesome you'd swear there's a farm out back. It's the Sunshine Fun Food Factory, a cozy breakfast and lunch cafe featuring homemade, natural meals just like grandmothers used to make.

The proprietor and chef, Susan Bourdelais, sets the Sunshine's friendly tone. The ambience is relaxed; customers often help themselves to coffee during rush hour. In quieter moments, trusting breakfast regulars ask Bourdelais to fix anything she wishes. The breakfast menu features crepes and combinations of farm eggs, bacon, ham, fresh fruit and hot cereals ($2.25-$4.50). One popular morning order is the scrumptious French toast made with apple raisin bread ($2.25).

The luncheon selection also demonstrates Bourdelais' creative abilities. For an unusual noontime taste, try the cream cheese, date and nut sandwich on whole-wheat pocket bread ($2.75) or the pocket sandwich stuffed full of cheese, avocado, tomato and sprouts ($3.10). There are daily quiche and crepes specials, and the menu also offers homemade soups ($1.20 and $1.95), garden salads ($1.50 and $2.40), sandwiches ($1.75-$4.95), omelettes ($2.95-$4.50) and mini-omelettes ($2.45-$4.00).

At the entrance bakery counter you'll find Bourdelais' freshly baked muffins, danishes, breads, cookies and other treats "to go." Only natural ingredients are used, like the stone ground whole-wheat grains, cold pressed oil, honey, molasses and raw sugar that go into the delicious chocolate chip cookies.

On my first visit I fell in love with the place, but in order to put it to the true test, one day I invited several colleagues to the Sunshine for lunch. It was a hit. One friend, who professes to be a Croatian gourmet chef, was delighted with the freshness of his Manhattan clam chowder, which was chock-full of clams and crisp vegetables. Other members of the entourage were equally happy with their selections, which included a shrimp creole omelette ($3.95), a hot tuna melt open face sandwich ($3.50) and a plate of steamed vegetables smothered with brown rice and melted Swiss cheese ($4.25). One comrade was particularly fond of the hot spiced cider and found his pecan pie with whole-wheat crust to be sweet and satisfying.

Now all my friends go there—and sometimes I have to find another place to get some privacy at lunch hour. But when I go, I leave the Sunshine feeling healthy. No matter how many pieces of date nut bread or chocolate chip cookies are inhaled, an overall feeling of well being settles on the soul. The psychological value alone is worth the modest price.—*Pam Bugge*

Sunshine Fun Food Factory, 1960 Idaho St. in Fairview Square across from K Mart, Carson City, 702-883-6427 Open 6:30 a.m.-4 p.m. weekdays and 7 a.m.-4 p.m. Sat. & Sun. Reservations recommended during lunch hour, or go early. MC & Visa.

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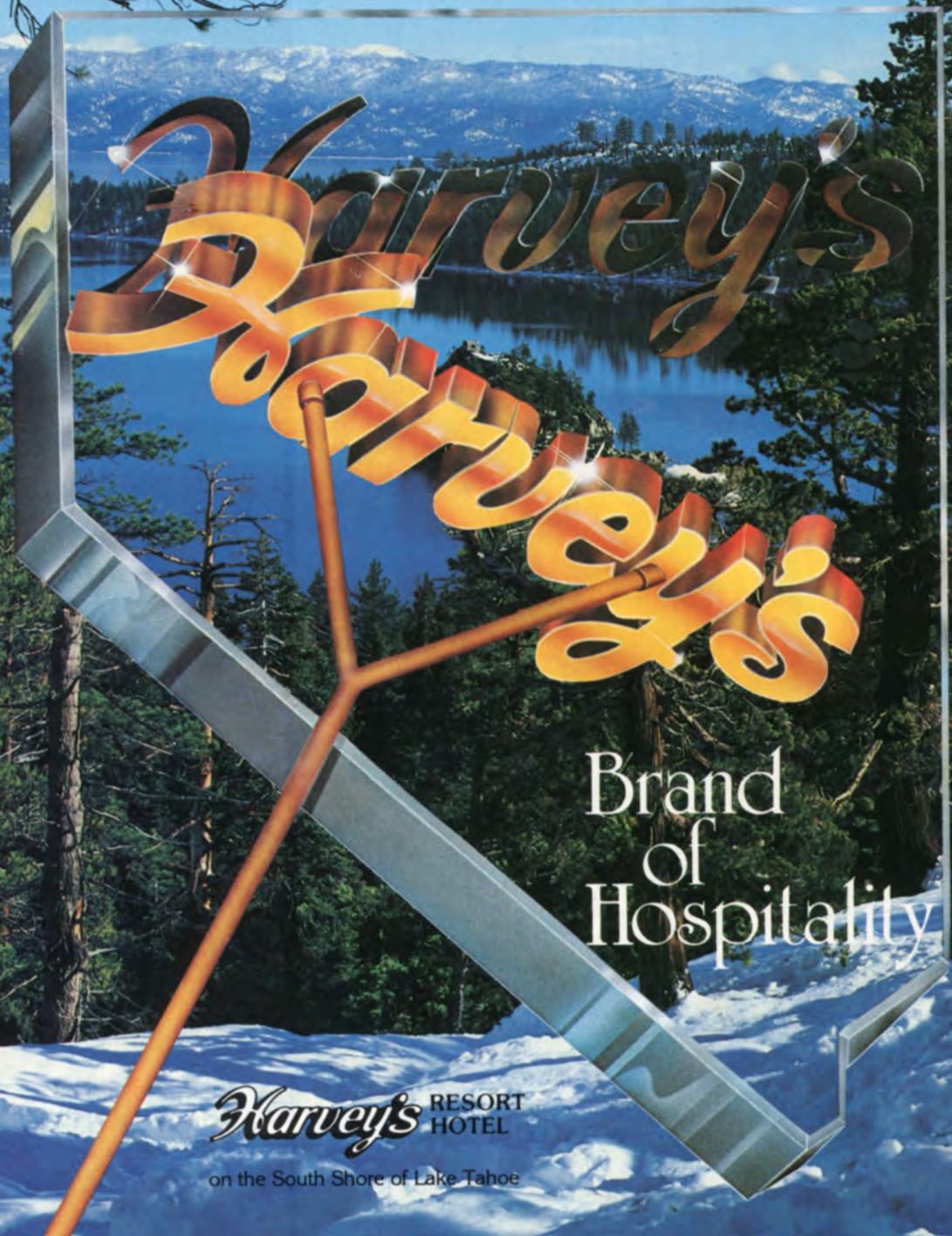
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