A bus ride to the casino — the best bet in town

Associated Press Writer

CLARK, N.J. — As the bus begins its journey, Phyllis Gilrain, an unemployed machine operator, squeezes a pair of woolly trolls. She carries one in each pocket of her leather jacket for good luck.

A man with thinning long hair, denim vest and a tattoo of a flower on his arm, has taken a back seat. A couple dozen elderly women talk quietly to each other as they settle in. Their destination is Atlantic City, 110 miles

away. Their destiny is less certain.

They are aboard one of 18 buses that leave Mrs. Gilrain, 49, and her husband Bob, 50, this New York City suburb each day and one also unemployed, discussed how they would

casino-bound passengers from New Jersey and nearby New York and Philadelphia.

They are the well-to-do, the poor, the unemployed and especially during the week, predominantly elderly and female. For a \$16 ticket, they get a ride to Atlantic City, \$15 in chips and coupons, about six hours to gamble and a ride back.

On a recent Friday morning, the bus carrying Mrs. Gilrain and other would-be gamblers rumbled onto the Garden State Parkway, the main conduit to Atlantic City from the north.

dren — ages 1 month to 5 years — would definitely get some of the money.

Mrs. Gilrain, who took her first trip to Atlantic City three months ago, said she would try the slot machines first and then head for the blackjack table.

Don, a lab technician who visits the casinos six to eight times a year and who asked that his last name not be printed, sat nearby, telling two friends which games have the best odds. He recommended blackjack.

After two hours, the bus pulled up at the Golden Nugget Casino Hotel. The casino had been open about an hour, but already there N.J., lost about \$100 in the quarter slot was a long line at a booth where bus riders machines."I definitely made my donation,"

of 900 buses that daily carry about 30,000 spend their winnings: their three grandchil- pick up their coupons: \$12.50 for a roll of Ms. Holler said. "But I'm prepared for it. It's quarters to play the slot machines, \$2.50 toward lunch at a casino restaurant, two \$5

coupons to lure them back within the month. Glenn Lillie, a spokesman for the Tropicana Casino Hotel, said bus patrons account for about a third of the total casino business, ''obviously a key part of our market.''

Several hours later, Don, 37, clutched a heavy paper cup filled with \$1 tokens. They are what is left of a \$100 slot machine jackpot.

"I want to show this to my friends," he said. "But I'm not going to play anymore." Delores Holler, 25, a bookeeper from Clark,

what I would spend for a play and dinner."

There was still some time to kill before the p.m. departure time. One of her friends found a roll of quarters in his pocket and gave it to Ms. Holler and her sister, Evelyn. They dashed off to the tables.

They made just enough to pay back the loan. On her way out of the casino, Evelyn found a coin on the floor. She took one more pull on the handle of the slot machine without

On the ride home, Mrs. Gilrain didn't want to talk. "This is not my lucky day. I just about broke even," she said.

Las Vegas is home court for legal sports gambling

By SCOTT KRAFT **Associated Press Writer**

LAS VEGAS — Like most other cities. Las Vegas has Little League book director at the Castaways Hotel baseball, Pop Warner football and co-

But it also has the Super Bowl, the World Series and every other major book operations. sporting event.

followed on big screens in air-condifigure was \$123 million. tioned casinos by players who have a

players in uniforms. in Las Vegas, none has grown as sports bookmaker in Vegas. quickly as the sportsbook. Although illegal wagering on sporting events is transformed. He arrived here 13 widespread, Nevada is the only state years ago, when there was one large in which a gambler can place a legal bet on such contests.

"It was so wild here the week before the Super Bowl you would have thought we were having it here," said Sonny Reizner, sportsand Casino on the Las Vegas Strip. About \$75 million was bet on that game alone in Las Vegas' 22 sports-

For the year ending last June, \$518 Those contests aren't played here million was bet legally on sports in in the middle of the desert but are Nevada. Just seven years ago, that

"It's just unbelievable what has lot more to win — and lose — than the happened here. There's no business or industry that has kept pace with .Of all the forms of legal gambling sports betting," said Reizner, a top

Reizner has seen the industry 22 sportsbooks today are large. That helped.



means a gambler can wager hundreds of thousands of dollars daily.

Betting on sports has lost much of the stigma it has had for the past two decades, he said. Television has helped. Wagers between friends and working associates, illegal every-

Gambling said to be addictive

By ROBERT WADE

Associated Press Writer

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. - The symptoms include a ter. "It's impossible to get away from it." general restlessness that often swells into cold sweats, head and stomach pains and even vomiting. Only one short-term cure exists — find a game, or

create one, and bet some money on the outcome. It doesn't matter whether the bet is placed in an alley, ville, Md.

at the corner delicatessen or in a plush casino. The cash can be hard-earned, borrowed or misbegotten.

thing is to put some money down, and - win, lose or draw the symptoms begin to disappear.

recent years in some regions, mainly in the Northeast money after he had won. where about a fourth of the nation's population can reach Atlantic City's casinos on one tank of gas.

'We have an epidemic on our hands," said Arnold Council on Compulsive Gambling.

In Nevada, gamblers say they have special problems in problems and suicides. a state where gaming is the No. 1 industry. Bars, supermarkets and convenience stores are lined with slot eight fatally shot himself as a judge was to sentence him sportsbook and three small ones. All where but in Nevada, also have machines. Many jobs are gaming-related. Even the for pilfering funds from two trucking companies to feed ashtrays at the Gamblers Anonymous meeting bear the his gambling habit.

names of Harrah's, Gold Dust and other local casinos.

"Everywhere you go there are slot machines," said Al Fialdini, founder of Reno's Gamblers Anonymous chap-

Compulsive gamblers wager an average of \$20,000 every year and account for \$34 billion in legal and illegal bets made annually in this country, according to the Washington Center for Pathological Gambling in Rock-

Wexler once received a call on the council's hot line from a sobbing young bank teller who said that a \$20,000 To the sufferers, compulsive gamblers, the important weekend casino spree had left him without a quarter to pay the road toll home.

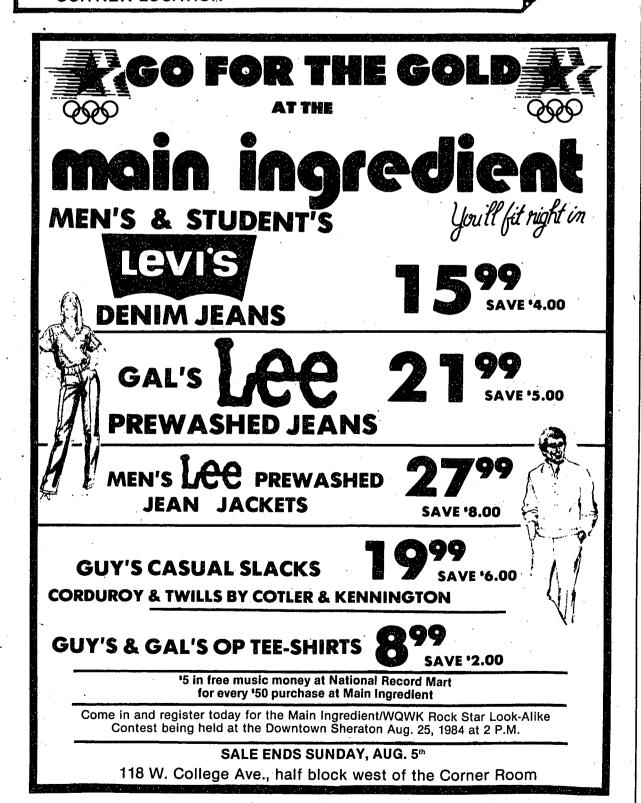
The young man described stealing his bank's money to The rolls of Gamblers Anonymous have doubled in gamble; he had planned to make a bundle and replace the

> "I suggested he go turn himself in. I told him to call me again. He never called back," said Wexler.

Law enforcement officials say they fear that the more Wexler, vice president of the New York-based National gambling is available, the greater will be the number of compulsive bettors and the risk of related thefts, family

In a New Jersey courtroom earlier this year, a father of





Reep Happy Valley beautiful. Don't litter

Turntable

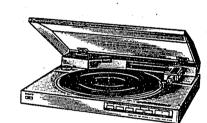
Sóny has introduced NEW 85 models with improved features at very affordable prices. This entire NEW Turntable selection offers Quartz Lock Technology to guarantee accurate speed control. Quantitites are limited, so shop early for best



Sony PS-LX310 semi-automatic Quartz lock Direct Drive Turntable, straight tone arm. P-mount design with cartridge \$13900



Sony PS-LX55II fully automatic, Quartz lock, direct drive, compact linear tracking turntable, P-mount design with cartridge



Sony PS-LX510 fully automatic Quartz lock, direct drive, linear tracking, P-mount, Front Panel Controls, and Cartridge \$21900



SONY DOLBY CASSETTE DECK CLEARANCE Some models in sealed cartons, others are display units

Sony TC-FX25 . . . feather-touch controls, automatic tape selector and Dolby B

Sony TC-FX44... automatic music sensor, Dolby B and C noise reduction \$15900 Sony TC-FX45 . . . music scan, blank skip, and repeat remote control capability^{\$}189⁰⁰

Sony TC-FX505R . . . auto reverse, laser-amorphous head, music scan, dolby

PAUL & TONY'S CAR STEREO INSTALLATION CENTER

Visit our showroom and listen for yourself to the exciting sounds of Quality Sony Autosound products. Our car stereo demonstration center makes speaker comparisons easy. We'll inform and answer your questions. New models for 1985 by a world leader in car stereo technology.







Sony XR-20 indash am/fm stereo cassette with hi-filter auto reverse and speaker balance \$14900



Sony XR-40 indash am/fm stereo cassette, hi filter. balance, 3 position equalization and fader . \$20900

CAR SYSTEM SPECIALS

Sony XR-20 indash am/fm stereo cassette and Sony XS-101 Speaker systems18900

Sony XR-40 indash am/fm stereo cassette hi filter, fader, and XS-301 Speaker system \$26900

PAUL& TON

3151/2 West Beaver Ave., State College, Pa. 16801

814-237-8152 OPEN Monday thru Saturday 10:00 to 6:00