

# ENTERTAINMENT

## Love Unlimited means music unlimited



Hollywood, California: People are always asking me about LOVE UNLIMITED and how we got together. Well, from the time they "Walked In The Rain With The One They Loved" musically that is,) they have been consistent hit recording artists and work hard to remain that way.

Individually, my young ladies answer to the names of Linda James (Capricorn), Diane Taylor (Pices) and Glodean White (Libra & my wife).

LOVE UNLIMITED got started in San Pedro, California, when two sisters, Glodean and Linda, started singing with their friend, Diane, for their own amusement and pleasure. They, of course, never dreamed that singing, as a group, would become their professional career or that they would travel all over the world performing as a result of their recording fame, popularity and success.

They have been together for seven years now and they laugh when they remember their reluctance to sing with a friend who was recording at a Hollywood studio under my direction in the early stages of my producing career. Glodean said, "We always thought we were good enough as a singing group, but we were a little shy and kind of afraid to get involved as a recording group

without the proper guidance." Before the session was over I had coaxed them into singing one of tunes they had written to get an idea of their sound. This started it all. I spent the next couple of years or so rehearsing them, coaching them and convincing them that when I did take them into the studio to record, they would be an instant hit recording group.

From this recording date came their first hit single, "Walking In The Rain With The One I Love," which became a million seller. Following this hit single, I then signed LOVE UNLIMITED to 20th Century Records and this became their new "record home", when my main man and personal friend, Hosea Wilson, was handling national promotion. The first release on 20th Century's label, "Under The Influence of Love" was also a million selling record, and LOVE UNLIMITED never looked back.

I personally feel that LOVE UNLIMITED, as a group, has no boundaries or limitations. We've been working together and digging every minute of it for quite a number of years now, and they are just as popular abroad as they are here in the United States.

The group has recently completed filming a segment in a motion picture called, "It May Be Winter Outside"; and incidently, this is the motion picture where my wife Glodean had the accident which hurt her knee quite badly. There are other motion picture involvements in store for my girls, LOVE UNLIMITED; and, of course, we plan to release more singles and albums sung in their own inimitable style.....all about love.

## ----- Meanwhile in Las Vegas -----

Dionne Warwick and Eddie Fisher followed Tony Orlando and Dawn into the Riviera Hotel last Thursday, continuing a dazzling string of attractions which have kept the Versailles Theatre filled to near capacity for the past 10 weeks. It began with Burt Bacharach and Anthony Newley, continued with the Smothers Brothers and Olivia Newton John, The 5th Dimension and Goerge Kirby, then the Carpenters and Jose Feliciano.

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The Frontier Hotel June (11) was the scene of a double 'Telethon' taping for Cystic Fibrosis and The United Negro College Fund; and The Checkmates Ltd. were right there, prior to their closing a successful four week engagement at The Las Vegas Hilton Hotel, to entertain and appeal on the nationally syndicated 'Telethons', for both worthy causes.

Hosted by Wayne Newton and Billy Eckstine respectively, both the Cystic Fibrosis and the United Negro College Fund 'Telethons' are scheduled to air nationally during the fall.

In addition to The Checkmates Ltd. answering the call and donating their entertainment services to help raise funds for Cystic Fibrosis and The United Negro College Fund, other outstanding Las Vegas celebrities taping the 'Telethons' included, Joe Williams, Liberace, Lou Rawls, and many others.

Following their closing at the Las Vegas Hilton Hotel, The Checkmates Ltd. will open for a two week engagement at the Playboy Club in Century City, California, beginning July (8)

## Monte & Turman TOGETHER in 'Cooley High'



Eric Monte and Glynn Turman have been friends since both hit Hollywood, a number of years ago, as an aspring playwright and actor, respectively. Monte has since gone to create the hit television series "Good Times," besides writing for other popular shows and Turman, now one of the most-in-demand young actors around is fresh from his triumph of starring in the award winning television special "Ceremonies In Dark Old Men." They join forces in "Cooley High," a lighted romp through the memories of high school life in the 1960's.

Perfect unions are hard to come by, perfect friendship is harder. But playwright Eric Monte and actor Glynn Turman, writer and star, respectively, of American International's "Cooley High," both outstanding in their own fields, have a friendship of years standing.

Eric Monte, creator of the hit television series "Good Times," poet and playwright, has seen many of his earlier works performed by Turman. Additionally they share a love of the outdoors, photography, tennis and horseback riding. Both are inveterate readers.

Glynn Turman, who was for years a regular on the popular television series "Peyton Place" and more recently, a smash hit in the award-winning television special, "Ceremonies In Dark Old Men," has for a long time looked forward to doing something outstandingly professional with his friend and, with "Cooley High," the perfect union between playwright and actor has happened.

The catalyst was producer Steve Krantz. It was he, being aware of the friendship and respect between the two men and of both their talents, brought them together for what promises to be one of the major motion picture events of the year.

Culled from Monte's memory of what it was like to be a high school student in the ghettos of Chicago in the 1960's the film has a light-hearted touch, yet seriously deals with the problems of a group of spirited youths in transition from being boys and girls into women and men. And, although most of the characters are black, it is by no means a "Black Film" in the recently accepted sense of the term. It is, rather, a graphic delineation of experiences which many are going through or a touch of nostalgia for those who have gone through the period.

In addition to Turman, the film stars Lawrence Hilton Jacobs, Garrett Morris, and Corin Rogers and introduces as Brenda, the Cooley High beauty, a young actress named Cynthia Davis.

Another friend involved in the making of "Cooley High" was the brilliant young black director, Michael Schultz. He had become friends with both Monte and Turman; Monte through the direction of some of his teleplays and Turman when he directed Lonnie Elder's "Ceremonies In Dark Old Men."

Throughout the location filming in Chicago the three buddies were as inseparable as their screen counterparts, Preach, Cochise and Pooter (character names for roles portrayed by Turman, Jacobs and Rogers). And, if the end result of their collaboration is any pronostication, they would do well to consider keeping the trio together.

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