

## Bobby Wade's Imperials Still Cruising Down Memory Lane

LAS VEGAS -- For Bobby Wade's Imperials, the cruise down memory lane has been smooth and long. And they never have to leave Las Vegas.

Bobby Wade's Imperials have built a large following over the years, stemming from their soulful hits of the '50s and '60s from the original Little Anthony and the Imperials. Now, group members Bobby Wade, Sherman James, Harold Jenkins, James Davis and Larry Jones enjoy the best of the past without having to leave their home base--Las Vegas.

"We stay home all the

time," Bobby Wade says. "We're working regularly and like it that way."

If Las Vegas is the home of the Imperials, then Caesars Palace is their castle. The band will be appearing in the resort's La Piazza Lounge through June 18.

"It's a great deal of prestige playing at Caesars," Wade says. "I love the new lounge. I think it's very classy, great sound system, great atmosphere. It seems to attract a higher level of clientele."

And those who come to listen to oldies the Imperials made famous -- "Tears On My Pillow," "On the Outside

Looking In," "Hurt So Bad" and "Going Out of My Head" -- get just what they want. The band interacts well with the audience, making each show different and unpredictable.

"I'm finding the public really likes nostalgia music," Wade says. "We never have a set show."

To satisfy a deluge of requests, Bobby Wade's Imperials always perform oldies medleys of Sam Cook, Marvin Gaye and Otis Redding songs. Those are the songs people long to hear.

And for Bobby Wade's Imperials, the longer the cruise, the better they get.

## Freda Payne Opens for Jay Leno at Caesars Palace

Songstress Freda Payne will open for Jay Leno at Caesars Palace May 16-28.

She is best known for her international hit record "Band of Gold." Other chart songs were "Cherish What's Dear To You," "Deeper and Deeper," and "You Brought the Joy."

A star of several cable

television musical/variety specials, she also has been active in live theatre. Payne understudied Leslie Uggams in the Tony Award-winning musical "Hallelujah Baby," then went on to star in Broadway musicals "Daddy Goodness," "Ain't Misbehavin'" and "Duke Ellington's Sophisticated Ladies."

Ladies."

A popular soul music stylist, Payne is equally at home with '40s swing or lush ballads.

She has shared the stage with such talents as Pearl Bailey, Duke Ellington, Lionel Hampton, Bill Cosby, Bob Hope, Quincy Jones and many others.

## Jazz Harp Trio to Perform Mother's Day Concert

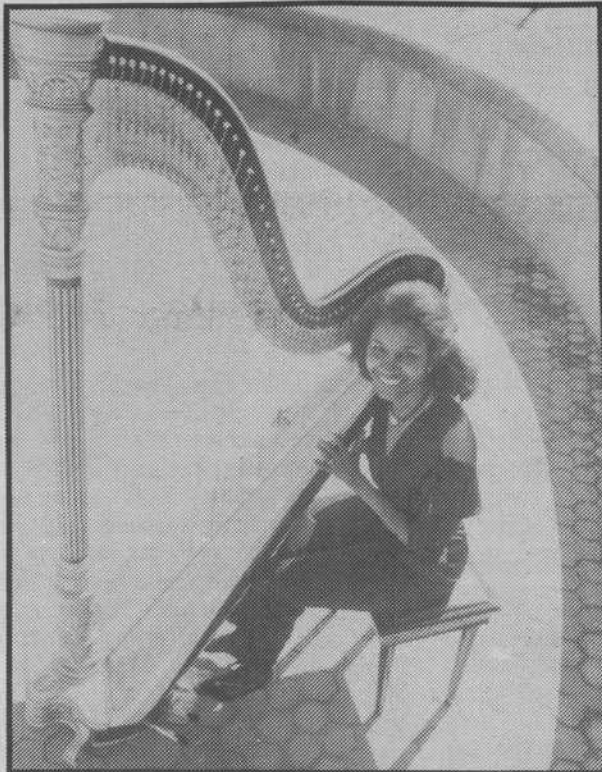
The Janet Anthony Jazz Harp Trio will perform in a special Mother's Day concert May 13 at 2:00 p.m. at Winchester Community Center, 3130 S. McLeod. The program of light jazz and popular favorites is sponsored by the Cultural Division of the Clark County Parks and Recreation Department.

Janet Anthony is an accomplished musician with a wide variety of experience to her credit. She has played in all major Las Vegas showrooms, with entertainers such as Sammy Davis, Jr., Wayne Newton, Tony Orlando, Gladys Knight and the Pips, Doug Henning and many others. She has also been a featured soloist in many top gourmet restaurants, as well as performing with the trio.

Trained at the Cleveland Institute of Music, Anthony has studied with several noted harpists such as Ann Hobson Pilot of the Boston Symphony and Lisa Wellbaum Geber of the Cleveland Symphony.

In addition to performing, Anthony is also a teacher. Recently she has put together a program for school children with her trio to teach students about the history of jazz as well as about the individual instruments. The program has received an enthusiastic response at several Clark County schools.

The performance at Winchester Center features bassist Vic Fouquet and percussionist Gabe Nappi as the other members of the trio. Admission is \$2. For information call 455-7340.



Janet Anthony

## Big Cultural Festival Planned For Memorial Day Weekend

A Cultural Festival, co-sponsored by Mayor Ron Lurie and the Westside School Alumni Association, is planned for Saturday, May 26 from 12 noon until 6:00 p.m., at Lorenzi Park. The Festival is the start of many activities held during what is known as Reunion Weekend, and will feature entertainment, art exhibits, craft sales, informational booths, jazz and blues singers, dance groups, and will end the day with a Gospelfest featuring choirs, vocalists and musical talent from many of the local community churches. Any organizations,

groups or individuals wishing to participate may obtain registration information by calling 649-7070.

The Reunion Weekend will end with a Scholarship Banquet, to be held at the Union Plaza Hotel, Sunday evening, May 27, beginning at 7:00 p.m. Tickets are from \$10 (dinner not included) and \$35 (dinner) per person, and can be purchased by sending check or money order to: WSAA, 1804 Jansen Avenue, Las Vegas, NV 89101.

Information about other activities can be obtained by calling 649-7070.

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