

Picnic Pops Concerts Include an Evening of Good Times and Great Tunes Featuring the Great Joe Williams

Bring a picnic and serve up an evening of good times and good tunes for the entire family at the Las Vegas Symphony's 5th annual Picnic Pops Concerts September 16 and 30 at UNLV sponsored by Valley Bank of Nevada.

Tickets for the relaxing concerts under the stars are \$10 each for adults and are available at the Artemus Ham Hall Box Office, at Bullock's Credit Department, or at Ticketron locations including all Smith's Stores and Tower Records. Children 14 and under can attend the concerts free.

The first concert includes favorite selections from the Big Band era including Tommy Dorsey's "I'll Never Smile Again," Glen Miller's *A String of Pearls*, and Benny Goodman's *Sing, Sing, Sing* and features guest soloist Joe Williams in an encore Picnic Pops performance.

A blues singer considered a "singer's singer," Mr. Williams rose to fame as vocalist with the Count Basie Band. After six years with the band, Mr. Williams



Joe Williams

began a successful career as a soloist. His entertaining versions of blues, romantic ballads, and contemporary music lead to several successful recording albums. Today he continues his distinguishing career as a living legend by performing in concerts and clubs, and participating in school clinics and jazz festivals, and appearing on television worldwide.

Like a bottle of fine wine, Big Joe gets smoother with each passing decade.

So bring family, friends and picnic to the musical event of the season, September 16 on the UNLV grounds. Gates open at 4:00 P.M. Pre-concert entertainment featuring the UNLV Jazz Combo will begin at 4:00 P.M. with the concert beginning at 6:30 P.M. Gates open at 4:00 P.M.

ROWE

From Page 10

their choice of delicious hot or cold hors d'oeuvres.

NEWS BITS: -- This corner keeper is Black, bothered and bewildered by the answer actress Erika Alexander gave the print media to the silly query "If her preference was a white or Black show?" The new female addition to the household of Dr. and Atty Huxtable, answered, and we quote, "I feel no obligation to support a show whether it has a Black or white cast. If I like it, I'll look at it." She is replacing "Vanessa," Tempest Bledsoe, who will sidetrack television's top rated comedy for a serious fling at education at NYU. Ms. Alexander is no stranger in the acting arena. Critics who have observed her performance at home and abroad have been most generous with their adjectives in a belief that she will import a fresh perspective to the *Cosby* comedy series which is moving into its seventh season...That \$200 million dollar loan to rescue the Higher Education Assistance Foundation from the abyss of bankruptcy may be locking

the barn after the mule has been stolen. This federally insured guarantor of student loans is believed by experts to have had the heart cut out of it by former Prexy Richard Nixon...The report is that a sharp drop in movie attendance cut Spike Lee's "Mo Better Blues" box office figure intake to a mere \$550,000. We could live with that!! It stars Denzel Washington, the 1990 Oscar winner...Since Curtis Mayfield's near fatal accident, super stars are thinking more than twice about having all that electronic and steel stuff over head to distract from their

lack of solid talent. The singer's nearly fatal brush with total disaster also has the fire regulators tightening the rules..."Jack the Rapper" staged another traditionally super Homecoming in what he dubbed "Martin's Town." And That's the Truth, Ruth..."The American Society of Newspaper Editors has scheduled a dozen industry job fairs. The bottom line is to aid minority college students in finding media jobs. The events are scheduled for a dozen cities...STAY LOOSE...Billy Rowe is a syndicated columnist.

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