Ebony Etchings

"Taking it from the top"

The Whispers are the latest recording stars to add their names to the long growing list of popular recording acts adding a new dimension to their ongoing careers by showcasing their talents as actors in stage productions and plays on the Black Theatre circuit.

They will unveil their play "Thank God! The Beat Goes On (the Musical Story of the Whispers)" with a Pre-Broadway National Tour performance at the Wiltern Theatre in Tinseltown for one week only!! The date for their one week only performance will be November 5th through November 10th. The musical stage play will feature Alyson Williams as the late Phyllis Hyman, plus Loren Harper, Twin Force and the multi-talented Lavan Davis who was last seen playing the role of 'Pete the Mailman' in David E. Talbert's national touring 'hit' play "What Goes Around...Comes Around."

multiple-album recording deal he recently signed with Sony was revealed while Belafonte was on the west coast as part of the nationwide Discover Grammy Festival, with Grammy-winning artists doing concerts to promote music education.

Radioscope the nationally syndicated radio show is close to airing a piece on Johnnie Taylor complete with sound bites on "Good Love," some of his greatest hits, plus a very informative in-depth interview that's regarded by the production staff as one of the greatest pieces they've ever produced.

Speaking of Johnnie, his latest album and the title single "Good Love" is reportedly the fastest seller Malaco Records has had in years. Fans and followers of the veteran recording artist will be happy to know that plans for a Johnnie Taylor "Good Love" national concert tour are currently on the drawing board.



JOHNNIE TAYLOR

After 11-yrs as a client of Lee Solters Public Relations Agency, Michael Jackson has opted to sign with Burston-Marsteller PR Agency to get more world wide publicity in association with his "History World Tour" that got underway last weekend in Prague the Czech Republic. This is the same PR Agency that handles AT&T, Dupont, Kodak, and Seagram internationally.

Robert Altman will get another shot at working with Harry Belafonte following their recent pairing in "Kansas City." Harry will co-produce the big silver screen "Amos 'n' Andy" project with Hobert. The script is only in the outline stage for the project, and as usual Altman has a bevy of top name talents in mind to play the various roles in this project that will explore the existence of blackface humor in American culture and the conflict that was stirred up around the whole issue of "Amos 'n' Andy" with African-Americans way back when.

This project and the recent

ENTERTAINMENT

MAMA'S BOYZ by JERRY CRAFT







Lindyhop down to new dance class

By Nichole Davis Sentinel-Voice

Alerting all twinkle toes. Starting Friday, the West Las Vegas Cultural Arts Center will offer an intermediate to advanced dance class teaching Lindyhop, Jitterbug and Charleston steps for the next 10 weeks. The lessons are the second installment in the "Swingin' with Miss Norma Miller and Chazz Young," series, which started in the winter.

Classes will be held at the 947 W. West Lake Mead Blvd. center, and cost only \$7 for all 10 one-hour lessons. With room for more than 100 students, registration is still open for anyone ages 18 and up, officials said.

Once an original dancer in Harlem's Savoy Theater, Miller is currently on a book tour with her autobiography, *Swingin'* at the Savoy.

Young, a former member of the so-called Queen of Swing's company, Norma Miller and the Four Jazzmen, will be the primary teacher. Besides being a talented dancer in his own right, "Chazz's dad (Frankie Manning) invented Lindyhop. He knows it backwards and forwards. You can't beat that for \$7," said Marcia Robinson, senior cultural activities specialist. And "if you can't afford \$7, come see me."

Introductory level classes, which were offered back in March, were very successful, Robinson said.

"We had a full house, because it was open to all of Las Vegas," she said. These classes are also "open to anybody who likes swing.

"While we have these people, the pioneers, in our community, people should take advantage," our history."

Robinson said. "We should know For more info, call 229-4800.

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