

ENTERTAINMENT



The Tuskegee University Gospel Choir is one of the 20 college groups scheduled to perform March 24-26 at UNLV's Artemus Ham Concert Hall.

Prepare for the "Vocal Extravaganza"

By Nancy Watson
Sentinel-Voice

A "Vocal Extravaganza" comprised of singers from more than 20 black colleges and universities will take place March 24 through 26 at University of Nevada, Las Vegas' Artemus Ham Concert Hall.

The singing will begin at 10 a.m., March 24, and continue until 6 p.m. "If you want to hear

some singing, come on out," said Bob Bailey, chairman of the special events advisory board. Bailey described the event as an adventure.

The choirs and soloists will spend three days singing at UNLV and some of the singers will perform at the Fremont Street Experience, the West Las Vegas Library and the Second Baptist Church.

"We're testing ground never tested before,"

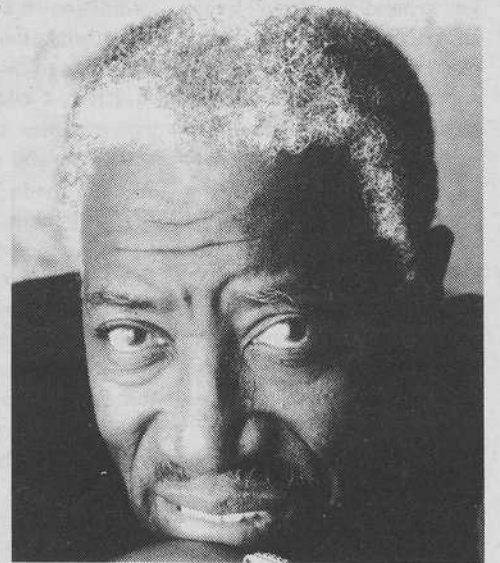
organizer Bailey said.

He was referring to the partnership between UNLV, the Las Vegas Convention Center and Visitor's Authority, Las Vegas Events and KCEP FM 88 radio to produce a cultural event that will entice African-Americans to Las Vegas.

Dubbed a first-annual event, the extravaganza will highlight choral and individual singers performing music that ranges from traditional gospel, spiritual and folk to classical opera, operetta and oratorio as well as contemporary jazz, theatrical and blues.

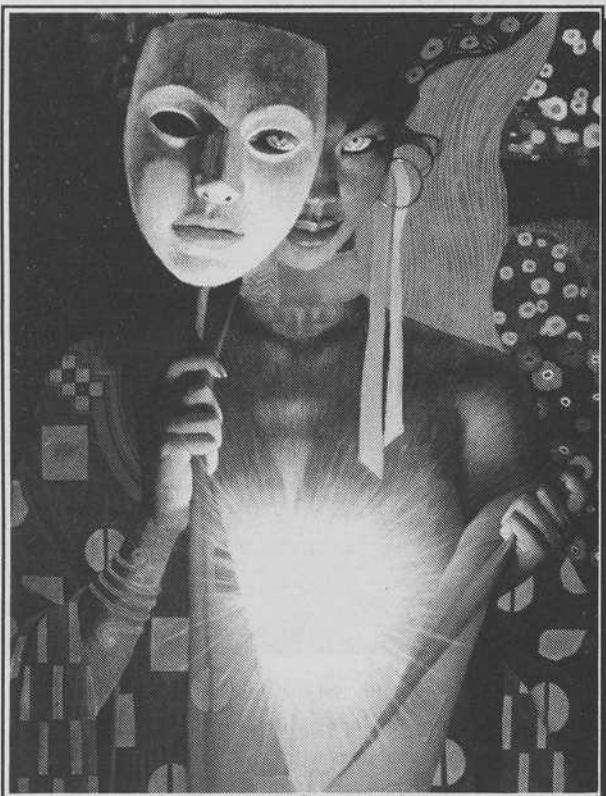
The musical extravaganza which will be filmed for television has taken over two years of work to pull the cultural event together.

The weekend will culminate with a song, "Achieve Your Dreams" written for the extravaganza by William Pate and sung by the famous Joe Williams.



JOE WILLIAMS

IN CELEBRATION: BLACK HISTORY MONTH THOMAS BLACKSHEAR IN PERSON



Detail from *Intimacy* by Thomas Blackshear © The Greenwich Workshop

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Essence to honor Ali

Former boxing champion Muhammad Ali will receive a special Living Legend Award at the 1997 Essence Awards in Madison Square Garden in New York this spring. Ali will receive the special award in recognition of a lifetime of achievement.

Although no date has been set for the broadcast of the 1997 Essence Awards, the event will take place April 4 at Madison Square Garden in New York City.

Dominique Dawes, 1996 Olympic Gold Medal gymnast will also be honored.



Muhammad Ali

The Essence Awards will also feature the presentation of the first Essence Triumphant Spirit Award, established to honor an outstanding African-American who exemplifies the true spirit of Essence through her or his extraordinary actions, accomplishments and attitude.

Sponsors include AT&T, Johnson, JC Penny, Johnson & Johnson, Kraft foods, Pepsi cola, Revlon and Toyota. This is the fourth year that Fox Broadcasting will air the Essence Awards as a two-hour primetime special.

Blessings

(Continued from Page 7)
fails at one thing or another. The biggest mistake you can make is not attempting

anything out of fear of making a mistake. If you haven't made any mistakes lately, it means you are either dead or you haven't tried anything new. If you are dead, there is nothing I can offer you. If you're alive but you haven't tried anything new lately, get off your derriere and start living. Do something new and different. Overcome your reluctance and that

uncomfortable feeling and actually try doing a familiar task a different way. Take another route to work, read a different newspaper or listen to a different radio station. Do something to shake up your life and escape from your normal routine. If you make a mistake, so what. Learn from it and find the blessing in the experience.

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