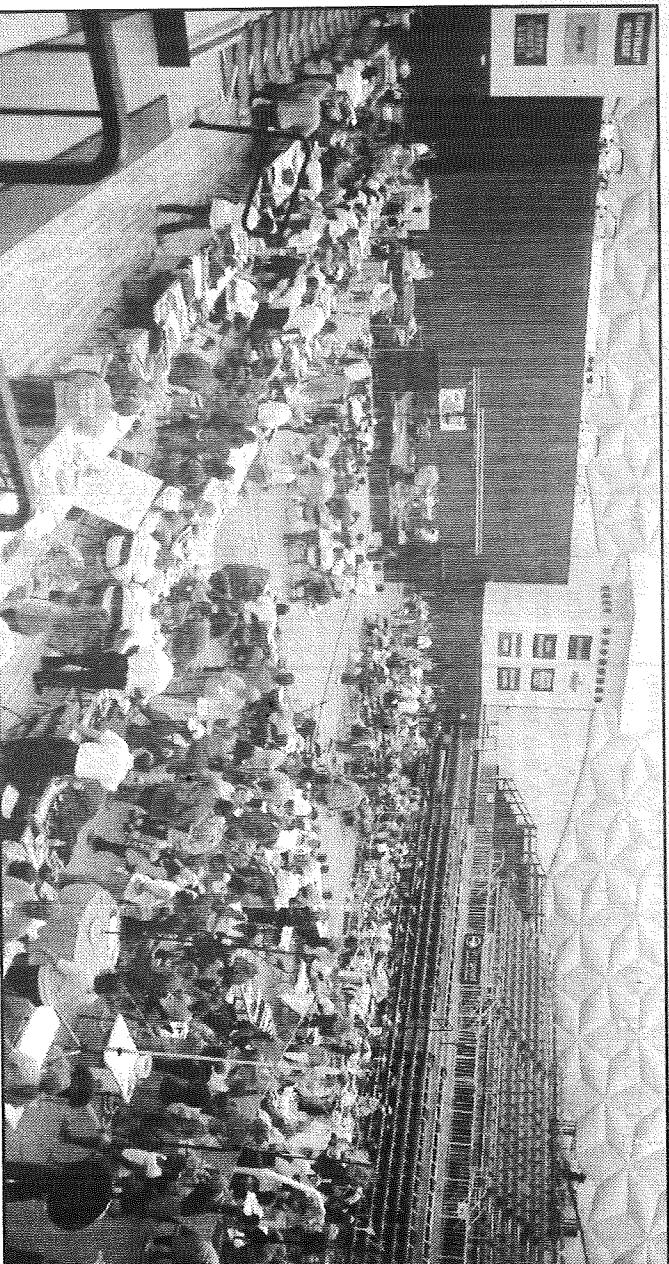


Outreach Event expected to draw thousands



by J. Kojo Livingston

This Saturday from noon to 5 p.m. thousands of people from the Shreveport-Bossier area are expected to converge on the Centenary Gold Dome for the largest outreach/giveaway event of its kind in the area. The event is the fourth annual "Taking it to the Streets" evangelistic outreach.

In addition to spiritual ministry, participants will receive free food, toys, clothing, prizes, entertainment and other giveaways. Minister Ron Hampton is founder and president of the event.

A lot of information and services will be shared at the event.

A mobile pregnancy unit will offer free pregnancy testing, and counseling to encourage adoption for those considering abortion. Everything is done confidentially. Robert Super-

mann Blount and Eve Goins will give a fitness presentation. Amerigroup will talk about Medicaid and the LaChip program and sign up people for that. Alpha Phi Alpha will host a voter

registration drive. There be plenty of free food, "Ernest Orleans restaurant, one of our regular partners comes out with his catering crew and this time will be fried fish and French fries. Frontline Caterers is providing hamburger and French fry dinners," he said. Inside the dome will be entertainment on a stage provided by Rich Matten, "This brother makes a 500 mile round trip to bring his stage at his own expense. He has been with us since we started. The

group White Chocolate from Longview Texas will do a concert. Jeffery Prager will play the saxophone.

The Shreveport-Bossier Rescue mission choir will also perform. There will be a Kids Room in the back with a space bouncer supervised by members of the Shreveport Community Church. Then we've got a guy named Capri the Clown who rides around making animal figures out of balloons and giving them to

the kids," added Hampton.

Hampton says "Taking it to the Streets" does not require I.D. or other information at their giveaways, "We don't ask for proof of income. All we ask is for people to come," he said.

For more information about the outreach/giveaway contact Pastor Ron Hampton at takinittothestreets.inc@gmail.com or P.O. Box 4007 Shreveport, La. 71134, or (406) 545-9167.

Southern Black Theatre Festival

accepting applications

Mahogany Ensemble Theatre will present the third biennial Southern Black Theatre Festival September 27 through October 6. The festival celebrates the rich tradition of African American theatre in the South. The two-weekend event will feature live theatre productions, cultural films, youth talent showcase, drama awards, workshops, and celebrity appearances.

This year's festival will showcase the broad spectrum of black theatre with

works, and original stage plays.

Festival submissions are being accepted for plays, staged readings, showcase performers, arts summit exhibitors, and workshop presenters. The submission deadline for mainstage performances is: July 31 by 5 p.m. The festival also welcomes participation of volunteers, community partners and sponsors.

For more information, call 318-382-2841, visit southernblacktheatrefest.org

Nubian Cultural Center

Sponsors Old School Dance

Afrocentric Women Orientating through Mentoring, Affirming and Nurturing (A.W.O.M.A.N.) Group is hosting a scholarship fundraising dance July 28 from 8 p.m. until midnight at the Nubian Cultural Outreach Center, 7720 Linwood Ave., Suite 3.

Proceeds from the "70's, 80's and 90's Old School Dance" will go towards A.W.O.M.A.N.'s Scholarship Fund.

Refreshments will be available.

Tickets can be purchased at the Nubian Cultural Outreach Center for \$10 per person.

For further call Angela Randall or Charlene Tolleit at (318) 585-4477 or visit the website at