

# Gospel artists perform at third A&M Gospelfest this Saturday in Rudder

By LINDA SCARMARDO  
Reporter

The Texas A&M Voices of Praise Choir, a subcommittee of MSC Black Awareness, will sponsor its Third Annual Gospelfest Saturday at 7 p.m. in Rudder Theater.

One soloist and six gospel choirs from around the state are expected to attend, Felicia James, president of Black Awareness, said.

James said the purpose of Gospelfest is to bring spiritual enhancement to A&M and the

Bryan-College Station community.

The program's purpose is not to make a profit, said Robert Bisor, executive vice chairman of Black Awareness. Money from ticket sales will be used to cover program expenses including a public banquet before Gospelfest in 201 Memorial Student Center.

Membership in the choir has grown from 20 members in 1981 to more than 50. The choir performs at various community events and in statewide musical programs.

Other choirs participating in this year's Gospelfest are: Gram-

bling University Choir from Louisiana, Inspirational Choir of Coliseum Park Baptist Church from San Antonio, Christian Hope Baptist Church from Houston, the Soul Lifters from Sam Houston State University and the Prairie View A&M Baptist Student Movement Choir from Prairie View A&M University.

Tickets purchased at the MSC Box Office before Gospelfest are \$3.00 for students and \$3.50 for non-students. A combination ticket for the event and banquet is \$10.00. Tickets at the door will be \$3.50 for students and \$4.00 for non-students.

# Groups push racial awareness

By MICHAEL CRAWFORD  
Reporter

Best-selling author Alex Haley will be the keynote speaker during a week long program promoting racial awareness at Texas A&M next week.

Several student organizations and A&M administrative offices will sponsor Racial Awareness Week Nov. 5 to 11.

"We want to bring programs from diverse cultures to the A&M campus because the University is so weak on bringing in other cultures," said Charnella Swanson, chairman of the Black Awareness Committee.

The theme for Racial Awareness Week is "A Diverse Unification."

"This is a week where we can all work together, rather than waiting for Cinco de Mayo for Mexican-Americans to celebrate and Black History Month for blacks," Swanson said.

The program is sponsored by the MSC Black Awareness Committee, MSC Committee for the Awareness of Mexican-American Culture, MSC International Programs, the Puerto

Rican Students' Association, President Frank E. Vandiver and the Texas A&M Department of History.

"We want the students to get a wider range of exposure to different cultures on campus," Joe Acosta, chairman of the Committee for the Awareness of Mexican-American Culture, said.

Haley will speak Wednesday at 8 p.m. in Rudder Auditorium. He is best known for his book, "Roots," which later was made into a television movie and shown to record audiences in 1977. Haley will speak to history students at 9:30 p.m. in room 575 of the Harrington Tower Wednesday and at 8 p.m. in Rudder Auditorium.

The Department of History is presenting a speech by C. Alwyn Barr on "Black Reconstruction Legislators of Texas." Barr headed the Texas A&M Department of History from 1958 to 1973 and is now chairperson of the Texas Tech University History Department. Barr will speak

Monday at 7:30 p.m. in room 111 of the Kleberg Animal and Food Science Center.

The tentative schedule for Racial Awareness Week includes:

- Monday — A display of Rudder Fountain from a.m. - 3 p.m. and a Mexican folk dance from 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. in the Memorial Student Center.
- Tuesday — Political Awareness Day.
- Wednesday — Alex Haley speaks at 8 p.m. in Rudder Auditorium.
- Thursday — "Career Awareness Day" with a representative from the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, "Gregory Cortez" and "Pretty Tiers" will be shown in the MSC, the Committee for the Awareness of Mexican-American Culture.
- Friday — A reception at 4 p.m. and a dance in the Pavilion at 8 p.m.



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