

Blues harmonica legend swings into Lincoln

By Matt Burton
Senior Reporter

Lincolniters will have the opportunity to see a bonafide blues legend do

concert PREVIEW

his thing Saturday night.

James Cotton, one of the most acclaimed blues harmonica players, will swing through Bourbon Street, 200 N. 70th St., on his "Take Me Home" tour.

Cotton has been playing blues harmonica for most of his life. He first began at the age of 5, learning from his mother how to mimic sounds such as trains and hens. After listening to a blues program on the radio, "King Biscuit Time," Cotton discovered the blues through Sonny Boy Williamson.

At the age of 9, Cotton got the opportunity to travel with Williamson, playing the harmonica and learning the blues lifestyle first-hand.

By the time Cotton was 15, he had his own band, James Cotton and the

Rhythm Playmates. Sam Phillips, of the historic Sun record label, heard Cotton and his Rhythm Playmates on the radio and had them cut a single.

Cotton's band came to an end shortly thereafter, giving him the opportunity to play a short stint with blues

Despite such acclaim as three Grammy nominations and the W.C. Handy International Blues Award for "Best Instrumentalist/Harmonica," Cotton is still not satisfied with his playing.

"I don't think I've mastered it yet," Cotton said in a phone interview from his hotel room in Kansas City, Kan. "I'm never satisfied. I always think of something I could do better."

Cotton explained that playing the harmonica is a way of life.

"You gotta play it, eat it, sleep it, you can't lay it down . . . it's like being married," he said.

Normally Cotton goes on stage without a song list, but past performances of Cotton's band have featured blues standards such as "Got My Mojo Woman" and "Sweet Home Chicago."

In May of last year, Cotton was featured nightly when "Late Night with David Letterman" did a series of broadcasts from Chicago.

Tickets for the Cotton show are \$9 in advance, \$12 at the door. The show starts at 9 p.m.

I'm never satisfied. I always think of something I could do better.

Cotton
blues legend

legend Howlin' Wolf in Memphis, Tenn. During this gig, Cotton met Muddy Waters, who needed a harmonica player at the time. Cotton was a member of Waters' band for 12 years.

Since then, Cotton has shared his harmonica talents with Paul Butterfield and Peter Wolf from the J. Geils Band.



Courtesy of Bourbon Street

Deeds

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nationally-known band) tunes."

You never lie awake thinking about them.

So go down to your local men's fashion store and get an application -- suspenders and a disco shirt

or something, and some shades.

Oh yeah, then buy an instrument. Learn to play it if you feel like it. Remember to maintain an image.

And for Pete's sake, when it comes down to show time, and millions of screaming fans are reaching up to you, remember to play covers. Drunks don't like origi-

nals.

Besides, all reigning Lincoln musicians play covers -- though I have a sneaking suspicion some are in the music business to play under them.

Deeds is a senior news-editorial major and Daily Nebraskan Arts & Entertainment editor.



Paul Chandler/Daily Nebraskan

Mothers

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narrative text, mixed media and traditional black-and-white documentary investigations.

Although the exhibit has many artistic aspects to be appreciated, it offers a certain intimacy to the female viewer because of its selected subject content.

The great variety of this exhibit is obvious. It ranges from the newborn infant and mother to the elderly mother and adult child. Most of the photo-

graphs cover a 40-year-span.

From the photograph of a young mother at the Woodstock Festival holding her toddler-sized daughter high above the crowd to the combined images of three generations of mothers and daughters sitting at the eldest's sickbed, the photographic settings are unique.

"Mothers and Daughters" was previously on display at the Field Museum of Natural History in Chicago. It is open to the public from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, 7 to 9 p.m. Thursday through Saturday and 2 to 9 p.m. Sunday.

Folk, blues artist to perform at UNO

From Staff Reports

Blues artist and bandleader Taj Mahal will perform Thursday at the University of Nebraska at Omaha.

The performance is sponsored by UNO's Student Programming Organization with assistance from the Mid-America Arts Alliance.

Mahal has released 15 albums and has soundtrack and performance credits on two motion pictures, "Sounder" and "Brothers."

He grew up in Springfield, Mass., as the oldest of nine children. His father was a West Indian pianist and composer/arranger; his mother was a school teacher and gospel singer who tried to encourage Mahal to play clas-

sical piano when he was younger.

While studying at the University of Massachusetts, he became involved in folk music; his experience with a wide variety of artists inspired him to become an acclaimed folk/blues guitarist.

When he finally moved to California in 1965, he was proficient in piano, guitar, dulcimer, bass, banjo, vibes and harmonica.

Tickets for the 8 p.m. concert at the Strauss Performing Arts Center are available at UNO's Milo Bail Student Center business office.

Costs are \$6 for students, \$8 for UNO faculty/staff and senior citizens, and \$10 for the general public.

Daily Nebraskan

Wednesday, February 7, 1990

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110 Announcements

"N.U. Meds" Important Informational Meeting Wednesday, February 7 6:30 p.m. at the NE Union. Shirts will be ordered. New members welcome.

Same Place/Same Time. Meeting your room at The Coffee House, 1324 P. was more fun than I thought! Ask him to join us for lunch today after Psyche!

STUDY ABROAD WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS! Earn 6-10 credits on Summer Institutes in Germany, Greece, Italy, Mexico, France, Spain and England. Contact The University of Kansas Office of Study Abroad, 202 Lippincott, Lawrence, KS 66045. (913) 864-4918 for course offerings and an application. Semester and year long programs are also available. **FARAWAY PLACES ARE CLOSER THAN YOU THINK!**

Amnesty International Meeting Tonight 7:00 pm Union Write a letter, save a life!

AMS
Administrative Management Society meeting 6:30 in the Union tonight. Guest speaker Max Hoffman from Bullseye Computer taking on security. **New Members Welcome**

Are you energetic and self motivated? Then UPC-AMC needs you. There are two positions available. Call 472-2454 for more information or stop by the CAP office 200 NE Union.

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