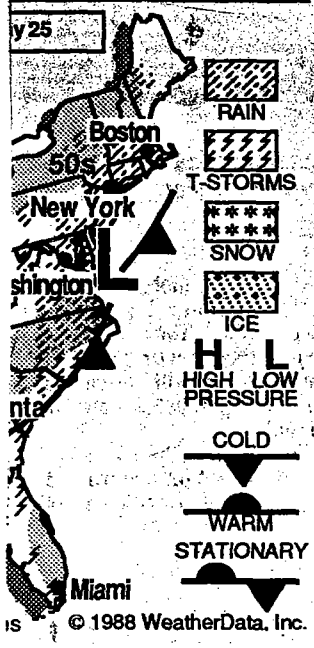


MARY

uch of the Southeast on Tues- wind. Dime- to nickel-size hail ll-size hail noted in Alabama. North Carolina.

ed along a cold front sagging Ohio and Tennessee valleys. throp, Massachusetts. Rainfall ch were common across much n.

stward into the Eastern Sea- erstorms farther west across rthern Rockies. A few showers

es are expected in the Great aching into the 50s and 60s. In ue mostly sunny and hot with

..... 27
V..... 108

LD

urs ending noon St. Louis time.
, R-Rain, T-Thunderstorms, W-Windy

Tuesday			Tuesday	
0-50	F	Oslo	46-34	F
3-54	F	Ottawa	72-50	M
3-73	M	Paris	64-55	F
0-50	F	Rio	81-72	R
7-73	F	Riyadh	108-81	F
0-52	M	Rome	73-61	F
0-M	C	San Jose,C.R.	86-68	C
0-79	M	San Juan	90-75	H
0-64	H	Santiago	68-32	H
0-M	F	Santo Domingo	88-75	H
0-48	F	Seoul	70-59	F
0-50	M	Sofia	57-48	H
0-M	M	Stockholm	55-34	F
0-79	H	Sydney	64-50	F
0-55	H	Taipei	72-68	M

Amen!

Nation Is Honoring Willie

By Charlene Prost
Of the Post-Dispatch Staff

Well-known gospel singer Willie Mae Ford Smith of St. Louis is among 12 American folk artists who will be honored in September by the National Endowment for the Arts.

Smith, 83, and the other artists will receive citations and grants of $5,000 each at a celebration starting Sept. 29 in Washington.

"Through these awards, we put the spotlight on some of America's most unheralded yet important art forms," said Frank Hodsoll, chairman of the arts agency. "By recognizing individual artists like Willie Mae Ford Smith, we pause to admire some of the rich cultural traditions that comprise our country's diverse artistic heritage."

Smith, who lives at 3114 Franklin Avenue, learned of her selection Monday through a telephone call from an agency representative.

"I don't know what it's all about," she said in an interview Tuesday, "but I'm very grateful for what the Lord has sent my way. I'm very grateful."

Smith says she has been across the country and "here, there and everywhere" singing gospel music.

She helped found the National Convention of Gospel Choirs and Choruses in St. Louis in 1934. In 1982, she was featured in an award-winning movie, "Say Amen Somebody."

She is also an ordained Methodist minister and was described in 1974 in a Post-Dispatch story as being "a traveling evangelist, crisscrossing the country for a quarter of a century with her music and her message."

Smith learned to sing as a child at home in Rolling Fork, Miss. She moved to St. Louis with her family when she was 12.

"My mother and father were both singers," she said Tuesday. "And there were 14 of us in the family. When they wanted us to keep quiet they would start singing, and we would jump in. They taught us how to sing."

She first sang professionally as part of a quartet she formed with three of her sisters. That group disbanded after the women married.



Gospel singer Willie M home at 3114 Franklin

Both live in St. Louis. Jame died in 1950.

Over the years, Smith has ued her association with tional Convention of Gospe and Choruses, and today s

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