

# Leisure

SECTION

## Before you watch 'Idol,' check out the real thing



**1** Tony Bennett's "I Left My Heart in San Francisco" — Many have tried but none can duplicate the octogenarian

who still sells millions of records with each new release. Certain songs are immortalized by the vocalist singing them. In this case, listen for the smoothness and stylization of his delivery.



**2** Andrea Bocelli and Celine Dion's "The Prayer" — Two of the finest vocal artists combine their exception-

al technique to make "The Prayer," one of the unique duets of the last quarter century.



**3** Aretha Franklin's "Respect" — This classic R&B singer has for five

decades thrilled us with her vocal artistry. Whether it be fast or slow songs, her vocal technique is one of a kind.



**4** Mario Lanza's "Be My Love" — Lanza is the only American-born tenor to achieve world renown. He hits

a "C" above a high "C," which is a premiere note for a tenor in full-belt voice. He just does it brilliantly in this song.



**5** Johnny Mathis' "Chances Are" and "Misty" — No one can doubt the vocal beauty and amazing styliza-

tion of the ageless Mathis. He has a unique vocal timbre.

We asked Linwood vocal coach Sal Dupree to help us pick the 10 essential vocal performances — the kind the "American Idol" amateurs aspire to. If you like great singing, you'll love these classics.



**6** Elvis Presley's "American Trilogy" — "I could name

hundreds more song titles that have never been vocally duplicated. He put a spiritual meaning behind the "Trilogy," like gospel singer Mahalia Jackson. On the technical side, it's breathtaking how he builds the emotion throughout the song.



**7** Judy Garland "Over the Rainbow" — She was 16-

years-old at the time and had one of the most pure and beautiful voices in the world. No one has ever duplicated her version, even though many versions of it exist that are beautiful including ones by Patti LaBelle and Katharine McPhee.



**8** Frank Sinatra's "All The Way" — A classic song

by a classic singer. Also, his renditions of "New York, New York" and "My Way" will always be related to the Sinatra legacy. Many have tried but few have been able to duplicate his vocal interpretations of these classic songs.



**9** Barbra Streisand's "Memory" — Once again,

"Memory" from the Tony Award-winning Broadway show "Cats" has never been quite duplicated with the vocal technique of this world-renowned artist.



**10** Luther Vandross' "A House Is Not a Home" — Vandross was

one of the top R&B male vocalists of our time. No one before or after will ever sing a romantic ballad as beautiful as he could.



— Vincent Jackson

'American Idol' airs  
8 p.m. Tuesday  
on WTXF-TV 29.

Fox reality show's credibility  
is strong and growing.  
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Sal Dupree has been a voice teacher for 32 years. Several of his students have done well in 'American Idol'-type competitions, including Tiffany Evans who won the grand championship of 'Star Search' and Bianca Ryan who won 'America's Got Talent.'