

ENTERTAINMENT

HAIRS LOOKING AT YOU

Participants show off different hair styles during the Styles for the Mullenium hair show at the Alexis Park Hotel on Sunday. The hair show was sponsored by Tiffany's Paradise of Hair.



Sentinel-Voice photos by Ramon Savoy



Rebelpalooza '99 highlights hip-hop artists

Caisha Marsh
Sentinel-Voice

UNLV's Rebelpalooza '99 rocked on for over eight hours on Friday attracting a freely flowing crowd of about 1500.

The Lyricist Lounge, a New-York born hip hop smorgasbord of up and coming rap talent, hosted by Def Jam recording artist, Slick Rick and featuring Buckshot, Evil Dee, and the 5f.r. (formerly known as the group Black Moon) headlined the event.

Local bands like Joynt Chief and God Among Men showcased with newly signed talent such as Zebrahead and reggae artists Flexstyle and Bonafide serving as opening acts.

Alternative, hip hop, rock and reggae comprised the music

of this fifth annual outdoor festival, patterned after the famous Lalapalooza.

"All I really wanted to do was be reflective of the UNLV population," said Michael Johns, UNLV entertainment and programming board director. "So, we conducted a survey: alternative rock came in No. 1, and Hip Hop was No. 2."

Johns said that one of the biggest challenges of putting on the event was that it involved "mad work." The full-time student began planning with his team in February and hopes to bring more big-name acts to Las Vegas' younger population.

"My first obligation is to the students," said Johns, who happens to be African-American. "I try to find entertainment that's within our budget."

Artist

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tweak them. He gave no timetable for their release.

"Most artists lose their voice, their hair and their bands," the 40-year-old singer said. "That's not going to happen to me."

The workaholic songwriter said he's composing an opera, presumably in his spare time. He's also making another studio album, and in another departure from his work habits, he is allowing other producers to work on his music, and is writing songs with others.

He won't identify the collaborators, other than to say, "I'm working with some people you wouldn't expect me to be working with." They might even remain unidentified on the final release due to contractual issues.

And how will the strong-willed Artist deal with it when a collaborator disagrees with him on how something sounds?

"They know it's my album," he said. "They're going to give me the last word."

Since leaving Warner Bros., the Artist briefly had a distribution deal with EMI. Most recently, he's been selling his music primarily through orders placed to his Web site, including last year's box set, "Crystal Ball."

But he said he's likely to work out a deal with a major label to release his next album. He said he has no problem working with a big label. "What I had a problem with is ownership of the work when I was finished."

Re-recording would be the latest salvo in

his decade-long feud with Warners. It was that feud that led to him scrawling "slave" on his face during some performances, and to legally changing his name to an symbol. While he has his own typically eccentric spin, he's also a model for the growing trend of musicians taking control of their business affairs.

His "freedom" mantra is actually consistent with the unusual announcement that he had renewed his vows with his wife, Mayte, in February. He said they wanted to "transcend" their marriage without the encumbrance of a legal contract. But he stressed that he and his wife, a former dancer whom he married in 1996, did not get a divorce.

His album sales have steadily tumbled



BOBBY BROWN



WHITNEY HOUSTON

Whitney Houston: I'm crazy in love

NEW YORK (AP) — Whitney Houston says she's the aggressor in her marriage to Bobby Brown.

"Contrary to belief, I do the hitting, he doesn't. He has never put his hands on me. He is not a woman-beater," the singer and actress said in the May issue of *Redbook*. "We are crazy for one another. I mean crazy in love, love, love, love, love. When we're fighting, it's like that's love for us. We're fighting for our love."

Brown's arrest history includes drunken driving and

battery against women other than his wife.

Brown was sentenced in 1998 to five days in jail and a year on probation for drunken driving. Last week, a judge in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., put him back on probation for showing up drunk to do his time. Houston conceded that her singer husband is "a party guy" who "likes to hang with his friends. He likes to dance with different people." But she said she knows he's loyal to her because "I checked him out when he wasn't even looking."

Coolio accused of carrying handgun

TORRANCE, Calif. (AP)—Grammy Award-winning rapper Coolio, accused of carrying a concealed handgun in his vehicle, has changed his legal tune again.

Coolio, whose real name is Artis Leon Ivey Jr., originally pleaded innocent to the charge and then changed it to no-contest. Last week, the rapper's lawyer withdrew the no-contest plea.

No explanation was given. A preliminary hearing was set for April 28 to determine if there is enough evidence for the rapper to stand trial.

Coolio was in his military-style Hummer when a sheriff's deputy stopped him in September for allegedly driving on the wrong side of a street in suburban Lawndale.

The rapper told the deputy that he had a gun in a door pouch, prosecutors said. The deputy allegedly seized a 9mm semiautomatic pistol. Coolio was convicted of a similar offense in 1994. He won a Grammy for best rap solo in 1996 for "Gangsta's Paradise."

since "Purple Rain" sold 12 million. That's not unexpected, since few musicians stay on top for so long.

But his decision to stand apart from the traditional record business machinery also probably ensures that his hitmaking days are over.

He said he's much happier now.

"It's more fun for me because you can actually see the difference in the music," he said. "You can feel the freedom in the air when you're like that and you're not thinking about anything like what is the next single or how can I make my image look good for the video."

"All that stuff is in your head whether you're thinking about it or not."