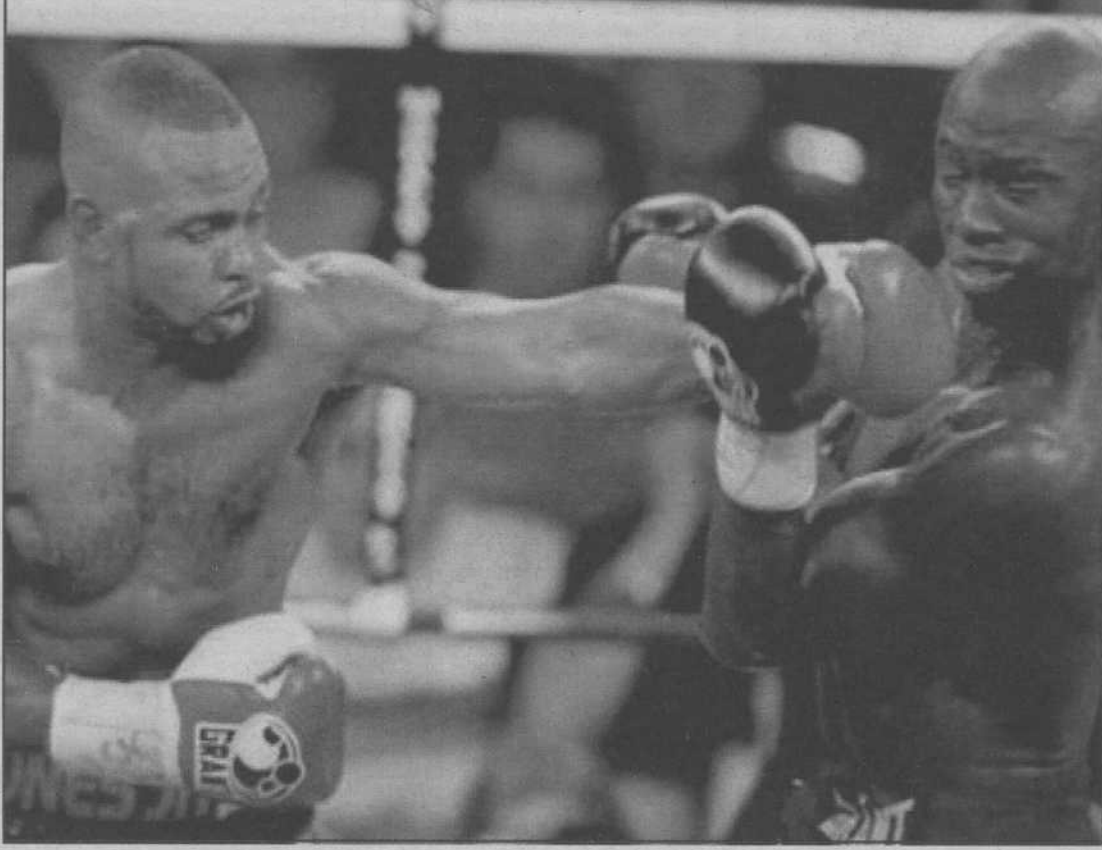


Roy Jones Jr. of Pensacola, Fla. (left), hits Antonio Tarver of Tampa in the ninth round of their WBC/WBA light heavyweight title fight at the Mandalay Bay Events Center Saturday night. Jones shed 24 pounds to fight Tarver, who berated him after winning the WBA heavyweight title in March.



Jones again light heavyweight king

LAS VEGAS (AP) - Roy Jones Jr., nearly paid the price for trying to take care of some unfinished business. Jones, looking nothing like the fighter who dominated the light heavyweight division for years, had as much as he could handle Saturday night from Antonio Tarver before winning a majority decision to regain the 175-pound title.

Both Jones and the decision were loudly booed after a fight in which Tarver was the aggressor and Jones waited until the late rounds to throw more than one punch at a time. Jones won back the title he vacated to move up and win the WBA heavyweight title from John Ruiz in March, but Tarver gave him as much

trouble as any fighter in his 14-year pro career. Tarver seemed to land the bigger punches and more of them, marking the left side of Jones' face and taking the fight to him. But Jones landed well to the body and did enough to win on two of the three ringside cards. Judge Glen Hamada had Jones winning 117-111,

Judge Dave Harris had it 116-112 and Judge Jerry Roth had it 114-114. The Associated Press had it even 114-114. "I beat the man tonight, that makes me the man," Tarver said. "I won the fight hands down. His face tells the story." In a fight full of trash talking and taunting, Jones (See Fight, Page 14)

100 Black Men to present gala

By John T. Stephens III
Sentinel-Voice

The Las Vegas Chapter of 100 Black Men of America will raise funds for scholarships and a mentoring program when the group holds its annual Holiday Gala. "They are a group of dedicated men," said Lillian McMorris, a spokesperson for the group. Mentored youth "get to see positive Black professionals," said McMorris, director of public relations for GEA & Associate. The Holiday Gala is scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 6 at the MGM Grand Conference Center, 4701 Koval Lane. This is a black-tie affair, McMorris said. Cocktails will be served at 6:30 p.m., followed by dinner and the program at 7:30.

Live entertainment will be provided by celebrated piano man Ghalib Ghalab and special guest Earl Turner, whose repertoire includes rock, country and gospel with lots of stops between, including rhythm and blues from the 1960s.

There will also be an "Old School" after party for those who don't want to end the night early. "It's a night full of food, fun and entertainment," McMorris said. Tickets are \$100 each or \$1,000 for a table of 10.

Founded in 1986, 100 Black Men of America is a non-profit focusing on mentoring, education, health and economic development of youths through brotherhood. The Las Vegas chapter was established three years ago and has 79 membership, according to McMorris. "It's a cohesive group that is interested in the kids. The kids, that is our main thing, the kids," she said. The national 100 organization has 97 chapters and seven international chapters. More than 10,000 members have helped change and guide the lives of approximately (See 100 Men, Page 13)

UniverSoul Circus brings big-top entertainment to town

By John T. Stephens III
Sentinel-Voice

Watch your back, Barnum and Bailey. Electric slide over Ringling Brothers. And check yourself Mystère because UniverSoul Circus is coming to town and will pitch its tent at Cashman Center Nov. 18-23.

With tigers, clowns, elephants, trapeze acts, this circus has it all, including a Ringmaster donning a Zoot Suit, acrobatics, the Biker Boyz motorcycle act, a drum line, a live R&B and Hip Hop Band and much more.

"UniverSoul is a combination of rare Black circus stars," said the circus' co-founder and CEO Cedric Walker. "You can look in the ring and see yourselves. We, African-Americans, don't have family entertainment that speaks to us. This is Hip Hop under the Big Top turned into reality."

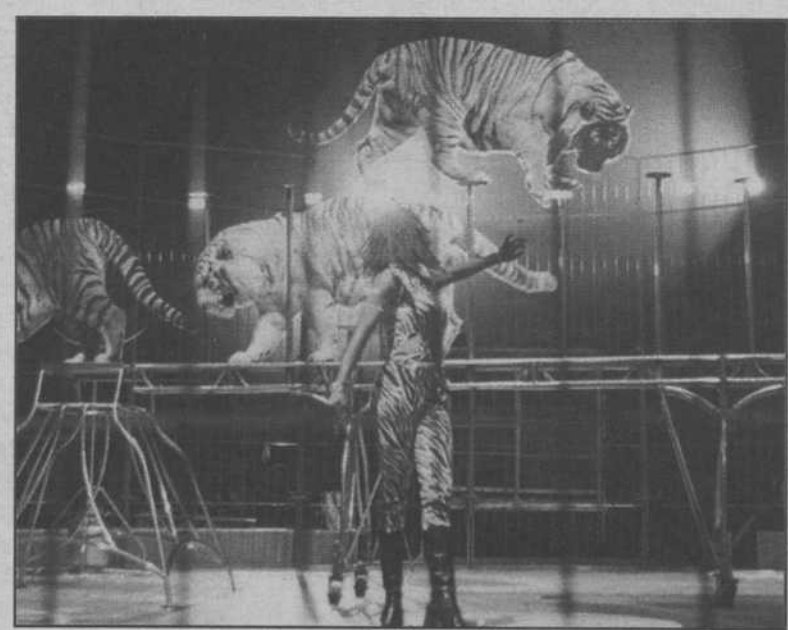
Opening night is Tuesday, Nov. 18. The circus will have matinee and night shows Wednesday-Friday and three shows Saturday and Sunday. Ticket prices range from \$10 to \$25.

All kinds of people come to see the warmth, the experience, the spirit and the soul of UniverSoul, said co-founder and ringmaster Cal Dupree. Dupree is also known as "Casual Cal, Poppin' Soul Ringmaster." He is billed as the first Black Ringmaster of a nationally touring circus.

Many of the circus' acts have performed in Europe and other parts of the world.

"Its incredible," Walker said. "That energy, that music, that soul, that flavor. The talent you see is top of the line. To perform in Europe, these guys had to be good."

UniverSoul premiered in 1994 in Atlanta and attracted more than 30,000 people during its first 10-



Ameera Diamond, who started her circus life as a Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus dancer, guides a trio of tigers through stunts.

day run. A year later they recruited performers from South Africa and Spain and were nominated for an

Emmy in 1998 for a special HBO Encore Performance. Walker circles the globe, search-

ing the world for the best circus performers. "You've got to realize," he said on the circus' Web site, "these guys come from all over the world and have never had the chance to perform before their own people. So their hearts and souls are there."

A review of UniverSoul Circus in Parade Magazine screamed, "It rocks, it amazes, it teaches kids positive values, and it's packing them in." A reviewer in The Los Angeles Times wrote, "Hip-Hop under the Big Top."

The original idea was not a circus, but a Black variety show to equal that of the old vaudeville or chitlin' circuit that blacks performed on in the 1910s and 1920s. That all changed, according to Walker, when he met a circus historian and he saw pictures and posters of Black circus performers from the past.

"That's when the idea clicked," (See Circus, Page 3)