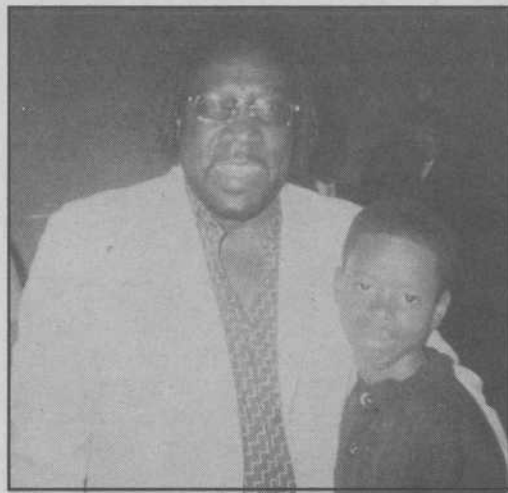


# Amer-I-Can

(Continued from Page 1)  
return, Tony Brown, speaking to 850 gathered in the Lagoon Ballroom, said. Included among the guests were 30 elementary school and middle school students from the Clark County School District.

"The solution to our problems is divine," he said. "That is, it must spring from the laws that govern our universe. In other words, it must be based on an objective assessment of reality, on an unflinching quest from threat and utilization of resources that give life and create opportunity. Believing people must act with this in mind."

No fewer than five Hall of Famers turned out to honor Brown and support the children served by Amer-I-Can. Of course, Jim Brown is enshrined in the Pro Football



In keeping with Amer-I-Can gala's youth focus, singer Eddie Levert chills with Chandler Cooks.

Sentinel-Voice photo by Dianna Saffold

Hall of Fame in Canton, Ohio. Answering the call was Bill Russell, who won 11 NBA championships in 13 seasons with the Boston Celtics; Julius "Dr. J." Erving; George "The Ice Man" Gervin; and Joe Morgan.

Morgan, two-time Major League Baseball Most Valuable Player with the Cincinnati

Reds, came to honor Jim Brown.

"I think there are guys who are athletes, guys who transcend their sport," Morgan said.

"Michael Jordan is one. Jim Brown is another. Jim Brown left professional football at an early age to do work in the African-American

community. Most guys don't know what to do with themselves when they leave their sport. Jim Brown, however, has only grown in stature since leaving football."

Morgan, a baseball analyst, lives in Danville, Calif. Willie Gault, former Super Bowl champion with the Chicago Bears, is now an actor, writer and producer of television shows. He has "created a couple of pilots" that he is pitching to the networks. He has a guest-starring role on "Still Standing" this month.

"Jim Brown is synonymous what a hero is," Gault

said. "He is a pioneer in what athletes of notoriety can do with their fame in serving the underprivileged. He's just a great guy. He paved the way for guys like me. When he believes in something, he gives with his whole heart."

Mother Love, radio personality, has known Jim Brown for a long time.

"I've been knowing him since he was a baby. Jim Brown is a powerful man," Mother Love said.

Eddie Levert Sr., vocalist and lead arranger for the O'Jays and Jim Brown are friends. "I think it's great,"

Levert said about Brown being honored. "They need to give him more awards. People really don't know all he has done for Black people. He was a great football player. Since he left the game, he has led the fight for the Black cause. I have known him for 18 years. I consider him a great friend."

The O'Jays are planning to tour this summer with The Temptations and Four Tops.

"We plan to raise money for worthy kids," Levert said. "Some of the money we raise will go to Jim Brown's Amer-I-Can Foundation."

# Tarver

(Continued from Page 1)  
lead midway through the first round, and it looked as if Jones was going to be the faster and stronger fighter.

In the corner after the first round Tarver said to trainer James "Buddy" McGirt: "He doesn't respect me."

"Go out and get yours," McGirt replied.

Tarver did just that, bringing the fight to a stunning end almost before it began.

Both fighters were the same age - 35 - but there was a wide difference in experience. Jones was in his 25th world title fight, while Tarver was fighting for a title for only the third time.

But it was Tarver who seemed to have an idea how to handle this fight, much like the first fight in which he lost a majority decision to Jones that he thought he won.

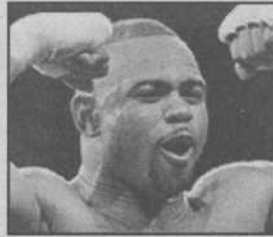
Jones blamed that close win on having to lose 25 pounds after moving up to heavyweight to win the WBA title from John Ruiz, but there was nothing to blame this time.

"I'm not making any excuses," Jones said. "It's just the way it happens sometimes."

Jones had won the first round on all three scorecards, and seemed well on his way to winning the second round with lead right hands. But he left himself open after throwing one midway through the second round when Tarver launched the left hand that ended it.

"Overhand left right on the kisser," Tarver said. "It was beautiful."

Jones tried to get up right



"I'm not making any excuses. It's just the way it happens sometimes." — Roy Jones Jr.

after going down, getting to one knee before sinking back to the canvas. He finally got up, but Nady waved the fight off and he staggered along the ropes into a neutral corner.

"I was hit with a good shot, a very good shot," Jones said.

Jones was a 4-1 favorite going into the fight, and he seemed determined to show his fans that his disputed win in the first fight was largely due to being out of shape and having to lose too much weight.

He admitted though that Tarver, a tall southpaw, caused him problems with his style. It showed when he had to take a chance to get inside against Tarver and got hit with the left.

"What basically happens is I probably got bored with this guy," Jones said.

Tarver, seldom at a loss for words, had a few for Jones even as the fighters stood in the center of the ring getting their final instructions from Nady.

"What excuse are you going to use tonight," he asked Jones.

Before the fight, Tarver had said Jones' legacy was on the line, and he may have proved correct.

Jones said he would not fight Tarver again, and said he might move back to heavy-

weight for possible fights against Mike Tyson or Vitali Klitschko.

After being stopped on one punch by a light heavyweight, though, Jones' might have trouble convincing boxing fans he can slug with heavyweights, regardless of what happened in his win last year against Ruiz.

"I would rather fight heavyweights," Jones said.

Jones earned \$6 million for a fight he seemed to take personally. Though Jones is widely regarded as perhaps the best pound-for-pound fighter of his era, he has been criticized for taking relatively easy opponents throughout his career.

For Tarver, who recently filed for bankruptcy, the \$2 million purse was his biggest payday of a pro career that began after he won a bronze medal in the 1996 Olympics.

"It takes a great fighter to beat a great fighter," Tarver said, "and I am a great fighter."

On the undercard, former 140-pound champion Zab Judah won a split decision in a welterweight fight against former champion Rafael Pineda.

Judah was fighting for the second time in five weeks, after losing a decision to welterweight champion Cory Spinks on April 10.

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