

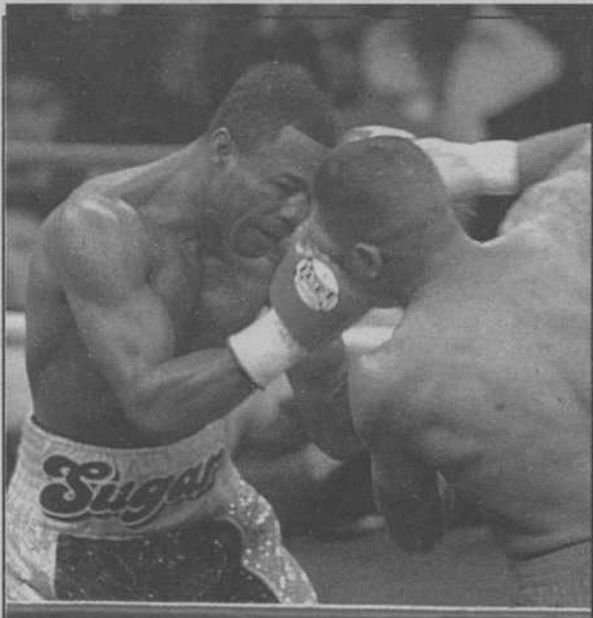
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"THE TRUTH SHALL SET YOU FREE"



Sentinel-Voice photo by C.J. Cansler

Shane Mosley, left, pounded out a 10-round TKO win over Fernando Vargas Saturday night at Mandalay Bay.

Mosley tops Vargas, eyeing Mayweather

LAS VEGAS (AP) - Shane Mosley moved back into the boxing limelight by stopping Fernando Vargas, and now he wants a shot at a bigger match.

"Floyd Mayweather is a talent. Pound-for-pound, we're two guys with great skills," Mosley said. "It should be a great fight."

Mosley, whose once-shining career dimmed when he lost twice to Vernon Forrest in 2002 and twice to Winky Wright in 2004, restored some luster when he stopped Vargas in the 10th round Saturday night.

The 34-year-old
(See Mosley, Page 20)

Barden bullish on downtown

By Tasha Pope
Sentinel-Voice

Don Barden became the first and only African-American to own a major gaming property in Las Vegas after purchasing Fitzgerald's Hotel and Casino in 2001. His four-year anniversary celebration was held three days last weekend along several blocks of the Fremont Street Experience where his property is located. The festivities also marked Barden's immediate business plans for more expansion in the downtown area.

The anniversary events included the Taste and Sounds of Soul, a celebrity movie screening of "Madea's Family Reunion," the Gospel Brunch, and an official ribbon cutting for Barden's latest acquisition: an 11-story office building at 302 Carson Street purchased for a reported cost of more than \$13 million.

"It's an investment for the future," Barden said.

The new 150,000 square foot complex, which has the new Barden Corporate Center designation, is located directly across from the Fitzgerald's.

The building and its adjacent parking garage will be managed and leased by Burnham Real Estate until Barden makes planned upgrades to accommodate Barden Companies Inc.

"It's an excellent facility that we will upgrade and [eventually] house our corporate offices in," Barden said.

Barden shares his vision for downtown with Las Vegas Mayor Oscar



DON BARDEN

Goodman. They both express optimism. "A lot of exciting things are going to happen [in down town Las Vegas] over the next five to ten years," Barden explained. He shares Goodman's enthusiasm for rapid development of the area as a business and resort corridor.

The two visionaries say there will be a tremendous amount of growth and restoration in that area, and Barden will most likely play a significant role in helping change the landscape of downtown.

Purchasing the Carson Street building is only the beginning for Barden who said he hopes to own a bigger casino with an address including "Las

Vegas Boulevard."

"We'd love to someday be on the Strip with a mega resort, but we'll take one baby step at a time," Barden said. "We're learning the market [in Las Vegas] and liking it very much," he added.

Barden also owns Fitzgerald's casinos in Tunica, Mississippi, Blackhawk and Colorado, as well as the Majestic Start Casino in Indiana, and he recently acquired Trump Casino located in Indiana, also.

He feels that with the success of his company and his continued expansions, he'll open the door for future Black casino owners.

"I think we lead by example. The more people see that I can do it, they'll know that they can do it," Barden stated.

He wants African-American's to realize potential. "Rather than being servants and consumers we can be producers and owners as well," Barden said.

Not only does he want Blacks to step up to the plate, he feels Black ownership is a necessity for winning.

"More diversity is needed, because diversity is good for America," Barden explained.

Barden, who is chairman and CEO of Barden Companies Inc., is recognized as one of the top Black entrepreneurs in the country. His company, which grosses \$372 million in revenues each year, is one of the largest African-American owned companies in the country.

Katrina survivors searching for return to calm, normalcy

By Hazel Trice Edney
Special to Sentinel-Voice

Part 3 of an 8-part series of stories about the Gulf Coast and the road to recovery after Hurricane Katrina.

NEW ORLEANS (NNPA) - Nakia Hooks was relieved. With all the fanfare about the coming of Hurricane Katrina, he found minimal damage to his New Orleans neighborhood, such as torn shingles, downed tree limbs, strewn debris and damaged street signs as the rain stopped around 2:00 p.m. on Aug. 29, about six hours after the full blast of the hurricane.

Although the power had been out since 6:00 a.m., he felt blessed that the destruction was not as bad as predicted and that his family was safe. His mother, his 39-year-old handicapped brother, a sister, his 5-day-old niece and her mother, who'd had a cesarean; another niece, and a family friend with her 11-year-old son, all huddled in the house,

where they'd come for safety.

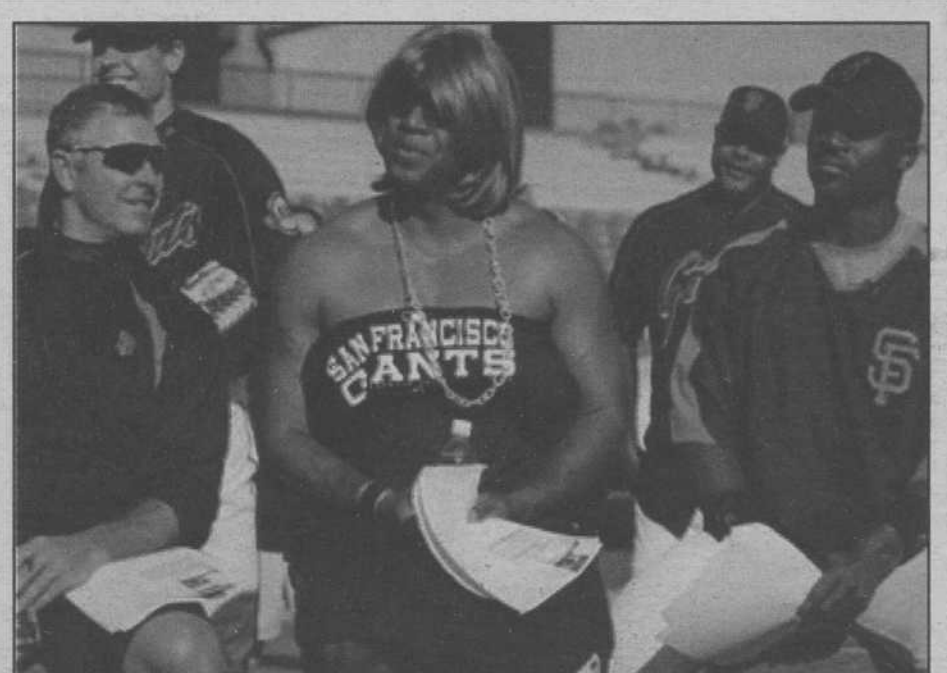
"We were just fascinated that a hurricane was coming through the city. I'd never experienced anything like it," said Hooks, 30, a native of New Orleans who works as a nurse recruiter with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

Only a week and a half earlier, he had moved in to the peach-colored duplex on Cleveland Avenue from River Ridge, a suburb of New Orleans. He'd bought the duplex for his mother seven years ago and now hoped to be closer to her as she lives on one side and he on the other.

Only days before Katrina hit, Hooks had moved in a new refrigerator, kitchen stove, bedroom and living room suites.

As the family began to venture outside around 2:00 p.m., Hooks thought again how forecasters appeared to have been wrong about the Category 4 hurricane and its impact on the city below sea level. Then, around 6:00 p.m., he noticed something. The wet

(See Katrina, Page 16)



SHE-MAN

Dressed in drag portraying Paula Abdul of 'American Idol', San Francisco Giants' left fielder Barry Bonds, center, participates in a rookie hazing spoof of the hit television show beside pitcher Jeff Fassero, left, as Simon Cowell, and second baseman Ray Durham, right, as judge Randy Jackson prior to a Major League baseball spring training workout on Tuesday in Scottsdale, Ariz.