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"THE TRUTH SHALL SET YOU FREE"

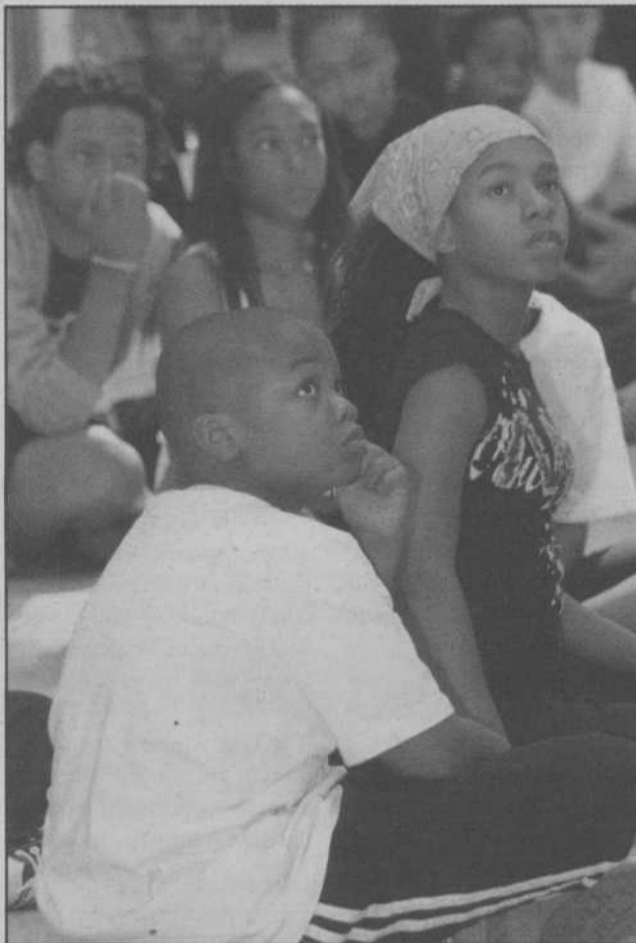
Annual camp nurtures young talent

By Kanika Vann
Sentinel-Voice

The future of music, theater, film and dance — the talented, gifted and artistic youth that showcase their skills and talents at the West

Las Vegas Arts Center — often go unnoticed in the city that features the world's most attractive nightlife, entertainment, gaming and culinary venues.

Annually, the cultural



Sentinel-Voice photo by Ramon Savoy

Captive audience: Marvin Coleman Jr., Ralisha Avery and other youth in the West Las Vegas Arts Center's summer camp receive skills and instruction from various leaders.



Sentinel-Voice photo by Ramon Savoy

A pictorial montage displayed on the wall at the West Las Vegas Arts Center reflects the students, instructors and invited guest of the summer long Performing and Visual Arts Camp. The program raps up next week with two free performances.

center at 947 W. Lake Mead holds its eight-week theater and arts camp. This summer camp, however, is no ordinary one.

Gone are the days of playing games like Red Light, Green Light and building Popsicle stick houses to occupy one's time away from

school during summer vacation. What takes place here is something more precious and more impressive — 57 youth and young adults enjoy their performing crafts enough to spend the entire summer working to improve their skills.

This year's program theme, "Generation Next: Pulse, Passion, Power," features musicians, singers, actors, poets and dancers, ages 10 to 16. The center also provides a venue to showcase their talents. At the conclusion of the camp, the group proudly presents a variety show to the local community.

What is also special about this camp are the instructors. There is a wealth of experience molding these children.

"We try to teach them about their history while we teach them about themselves," said instructor Arthur Moore, a proficient and well-known percussionist.

"These are young children. And many of them aren't aware that they are as talented as they are. We help

them tap into their talents, show them how fun it can be and help them become the best they can be," Moore said.

But Moore, who has 40

years of Cuban, African, Brazilian and Haitian drumming experience, is not the only established instructor in the camp. Eddie Downing and

(See WLVA, Page 6)

Hopkins flummoxes Wright for upset win

LAS VEGAS (AP) - Bernard Hopkins outfoxed age and Winky Wright the same way: First with his head, then with his heart. The 42-year-old Hopkins earned another stunning victory in the twilight of his career Saturday night, ending Wright's 7 1/2-year unbeaten streak with a unanimous decision in their 170-pound fight at the Mandalay Bay Events Center.

Hopkins (48-4-1, 32 KOs) landed his biggest blow when he opened a gash over Wright's left eye with a head-butt in the third round. Hopkins spent the night picking at it while Wright (51-4-1) scrambled and counterpunched.

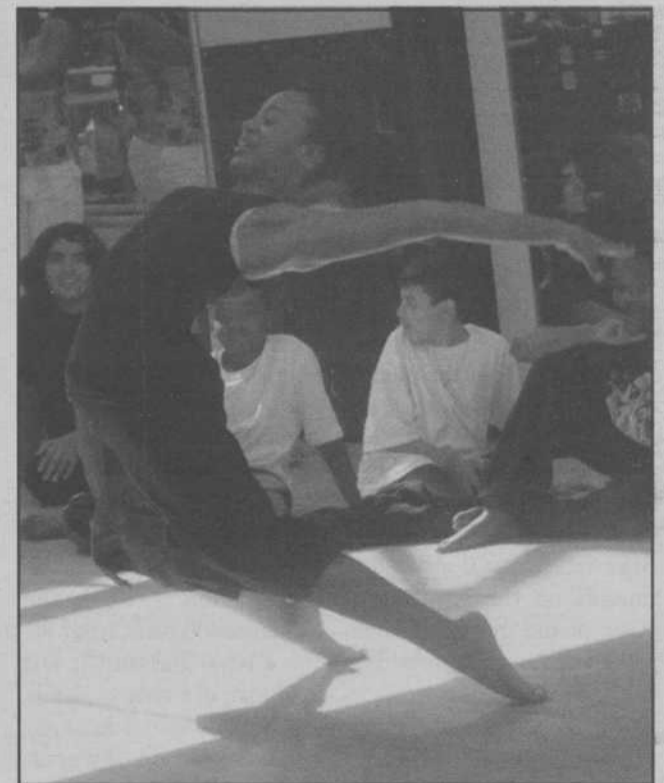
Wright grew frustrated and tired in the

late rounds, and Hopkins stuck with his patient, steady strategy in a light-heavyweight fight featuring more action than most expected from two defensive masters — and Hopkins finished strong for another remarkable chapter in his legacy.

"It was a tough fight, a very close fight," Hopkins said. "Winky is tough, and he kept coming. He knows that I respect him a lot. I had no ill intent. It was all good for both gentlemen, and boxing is back."

Hopkins retired last year after a career highlighted by 21 straight middleweight title defenses and last year's shocking win over Antonio Tarver. Months later, he abandoned

(See Hopkins, Page 12)



Sentinel-Voice photo by Helen Murphy

Dexterity demonstrated: Primrose Martin displays for arts and theater camp students the amazing litheness of an Olympic gymnast. Behind her, participants look on in awe.