

By Roy Hahn

MGM Grand's SEARCH FOR theONE

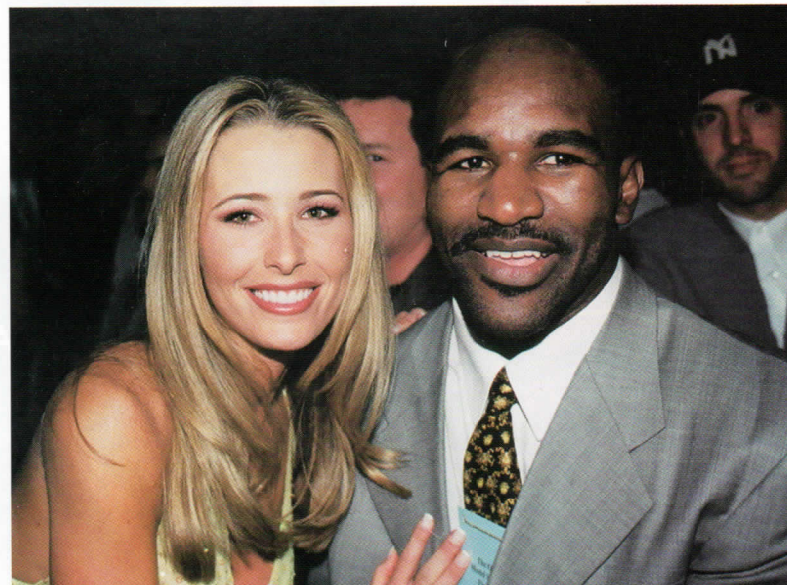
FIRST ANNUAL MGM GRAND'S SEARCH FOR theONE
ATTRACTS BEAUTIES FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD

The MGM Grand Hotel & Casino rolled out the red carpet for 50 international models who traveled to Las Vegas to participate in the MGM Grand's Search for theONE. The event was staged at Studio 54 on December 1-2, 2000.

On Friday night, the famed nightclub, closed to only MGM Grand VIP's and celebrities, was a glow with bright lights, confetti, colorful streamers, beautiful models and special talent that included a high-wire act and bungee jumpers. "We went all out for this," said Joe Brunini, president of MGM Grand/Mirage National. "The MGM Grand has never done anything like this before. We are elated. Our guests for this event got more than they came for. It was a real spectacle." In between the aerial acts and swimsuit judging, teenage sensation Jenny Mack stilled the audience with a high-energy rendition of "theONE" written by Academy Award winning songwriter Carol Connors. Singer/songwriter Mack served as MC for the night and opened the show with one of her original songs entitled, "I Will." Mack was selected out of hundreds of singers who auditioned to record the theme song for theONE.

Peruvian beauty Andrea Fernandini walked away with the title. The 22 year old model, actress, dancer, who now resides in Coconut Grove, Florida won a new car, \$5,000 cash and a cover shoot for theONE magazine at Trumps Mar-a-Lago in Palm Beach, Florida. Her prizes also included a round-trip all-expenses paid trip to Sandals in Jamaica; a spot on Ed McMahon's new show, "The Next Big Star;" and a feature part in an up-coming Universal Studios' movie, "Joe Bob Goes To Hollywood," starring David Arquette, Jon Lovitz and Heather Graham. She will also get a screen test with MGM Studios for an upcoming movie. First runner-up Tara Bollinger received \$2,500 and second runner-up was given \$1,000. Both models will be featured in theONE Magazine and on theONEmagazine.com website.

The top twelve models will be featured in an



Clockwise starting top left: Models Kathy and Tara Pomponi at the entrance of the MGM's Studio 54; Model Melissa Brewer with MGM / Mirage National President Joe Brunini; Models Melina Fasciana and Renee Jacquith; Model Jennifer Corless and Heavyweight Champ Evander Holyfield; Bungee dancers, Models Kim Foreman and Charissa Thompson.

Photography: Don Camp & Glen Lipton