

# SINGLES GET TOGETHER FOR A GOOD CAUSE

By **Vicki Vass. Special to the Tribune**

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**D**espite the extreme temperatures outside, the crowd inside the Drury Lane Martinique last weekend was warmed by Single-Mania.

Approximately 500 individuals braved the weather to attend the annual date auction, which benefits Park Lawn School in Oak Lawn. The evening's activities included a live auction of four bachelors and five bachelorettes and their individual date packages. In addition, there was a silent auction, a live auction for select Bulls collectibles and dancing.

Park Lawn is a non-profit organization that provides a variety of programs for adults and children with developmental disabilities. The event raised about \$20,000, which will be used for general programming.

Single-Mania's special guest was former Chicago Bull Bob Love, on hand to stir excitement for one of the auction items--an autographed Michael Jordan basketball and chance to meet the superstar after a home game. That went for \$1,800.

"I'm always ready to help," Love said. "It's fun to get out and meet the different people in the community."

Retired flight attendant Valerie White of Palos Park was excited to be one of the bachelorettes. Her date package, which sold for \$400, included a trip to Dallas and visits to some of the nightspots there. "I'm here because this is such a good cause," White said. "And I have a hard time saying no."

Tinley Park resident Mike Powers was the successful bidder for White's package. "I came here looking for warm folks," he said. "I bid on Valerie because I hate to see a lady as lovely as her go for less than what I paid."

Evergreen Park resident Laura Shallow said she was pleased to be a part of the evening. "This is always a great benefit for a great cause," she said. "Park Lawn really does good work."

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