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BEST NORTENO ALBUM



LOS TERRIBLES DEL NORTE

BEST GRUPERO ALBUM



ATRAPADO

BEST TEJANO ALBUM



JIMMY GONZALEZ Y EL GRUPO MAZZ

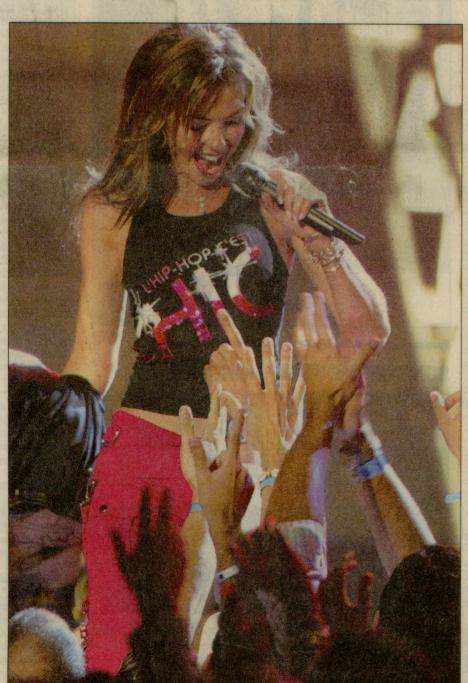
JENNIFER PEÑA: **GRACIOUS IN DEFEAT**



"It's just a good feeling to be among these people who are being recognized for their music."

Freddie takes home 3 Latin Grammys

HIS ARTISTS WERE UP FOR 8 | KUMBIA KINGS PLAY | CUBANS STAY HOME



Singer Thalia performs during the 4th Annual Latin Grammy Awards in Miami on Wednesday. The Latin sensation did not take home any Grammys, but local producer Freddie Records won three.

By Cassandra Hinojosa Caller-Times

Freddie Records artists scored big Wednesday night, winning three Latin Grammy Awards. Los Terribles del Norte won Best Norteno Album for "La Tercera es la Vencida... Eso!"

Jimmy Gonzalez y El Grupo Mazz won Best Tejano Album for "Si Me Faltas Tu."

And Atrapado won Best Grupero Album for "Qué Sentiras?"

Artists from Corpus Christi's Freddie Records received a total of eight Latin Grammy Award nominations. Last year Freddie Records won in all three categories in which they were nominated.

"From Freddie Records' standpoint, it's very exciting to have that many nominations at the Latin Grammys," said Freddie Martinez Jr., vice president of Freddie Records, before the awards ceremony. "It's a reflection of the work we do as a label to promote and market the recording. Through the years, we have had many nominations, but it never gets old. It's always special for us and even more so for the artists. It sounds cliché, but it really is an honor just to be nominated and anything beyond that is just icing on the cake."

EMI Latin recording artist A.B. Quintanilla III gave a live performance with the Kumbia

He received two nominations — one for Best Pop Album By A Duo Or Group With Vocal, for "Cuatro" by A.B. Quintanilla III Presents Kumbia Kings, and another for Best Regional Mexican Song, "Ay! Papacito," by A.B. Quintanilla III with Alicia Villarreal of Limite—but did not receive an award.

"I'm very proud of the work that he has done and the work he is accomplishing whether he wins or not," said A.B.'s father, Abraham Ouintanilla of Corpus Christi's O Productions.

Although Tejano performer Jennifer Peña also missed taking home a Latin Grammy Award, she was proud of her Best Grupero Album nomination for "Libre."

"It's an honor to be nominated," Peña said, while at the event in Miami. "It's just a good feeling to be among these people who are being recognized for their music.'

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Celia Cruz honored

Celia Cruz was given a tribute at the beginning of the Latin Grammy Awards, with a rousing medley of some of her biggest hits. Page A2



Juanes wins big

Juanes, whose album "Un Dia Normal" has enjoyed a marathon stay on the charts, was showered with five Latin Grammy awards on Wednesday, including trophies for record and album of the year.