

# Marlins on top of world

## Miami turns out to see Series champs

By Patrick Reyna  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MIAMI — Thousands of screaming fans, most dressed in the team's teal and black and others waving Cuban flags, cheered their champion Florida Marlins Tuesday as the team paraded through a confetti-strewn downtown Miami.

Under cloudy skies with a balmy breeze, fans in team caps and World Series T-shirts waved pennants and crowded close to the parade route to shout their thanks to the Marlins.

"This community has come together in a way I haven't seen for many, many years," said Dade County Mayor Alex Penelas, riding in the back of an open convertible and wearing a Marlins jersey.

Riding in the parade of convertibles was Gov. Lawton Chiles, Marlins owner Wayne Huizenga and his wife Marty and the Marlins mascot Billy the Marlin.

Team president Don Smiley, who is trying to organize a group to buy the team from Huizenga, found the enthusiasm heartening.

"I had no idea there so much interest out here for baseball," Smiley said. "We needed a jump start and winning the World Series is absolutely what you need for a jump start."

Huizenga said the team lost more than \$30 million this year. Whether Huizenga keeps the team or finds a buyer, the team wants a baseball-only stadium with a retractable dome — and it wants the public to help pay for it.

Business, however, was not on the minds of fans. Loud cheers went up for such World Series stars as outfielder Moises Alou and former Charlotte Knights pitcher Livan Hernandez, the series MVP.

As a car passed with Hernandez, he gave high-fives and people pressed forward to touch him and chant "Livan, Livan, Livan." Some fans climbed on top of his car.

Fans threw confetti at the cars because many of the buildings near the parade route do not have windows that open to allow a traditional ticker-tape parade. Hernandez's car was filled with confetti.

The parade down Miami's Flagler Street headed to a

bayfront amphitheater for a ceremony with the players.

One fan at the parade was Jay Knight, a 38-year-old bus mechanic who painted his body teal from head to toe. He was riding a bicycle plastered with

Marlins stickers. He saw a World Series when he was a child, but it meant more this time.

"It's just overwhelming," he said. "I'm waiting for it to soak in. All of Florida can be proud."

## Senior games champs



PHOTO/MECKLENBURG COUNTY

Mecklenburg County athletes earned several medals in the N.C. Senior Games in Raleigh. Medalists were Mary Coleman (silver in basketball shoot and football throw; women 85-89); Aurelia Law (gold, 100 and 200-yard dash for women 70-74); Elsie Leslie (bronze in softball throw for women 70-74); Elsie Leslie and Janie Dinkins (gold and state record in doubles bowling for women 55-59); Paul Holmes and William Little (bronze, 3-on-3 basketball, men 55-59); Paul Holmes (bronze, men's billiards 55-59); Minnie Gaine, Vie Shepherd and Lucille Stitt (gold, Silver Arts Large Group). Pictured are Normesa Morrison, Janie Cochran, Dorothy Crawford, Dorothy Harris, Mary Coleman, Elsie Leslie, Sarah Allen, Lucille Allison and Norma Brewton.

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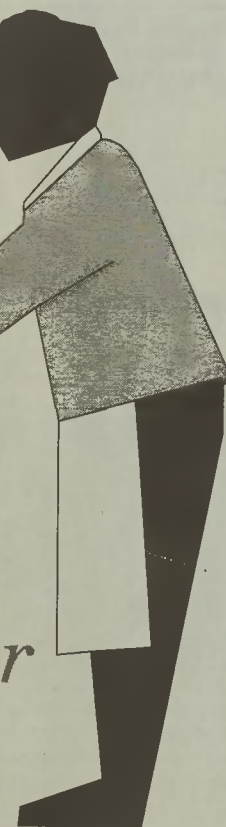
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## Locals wins golf challenge

By Herbert L. White  
THE CHARLOTTE POST

The John McDonald Golf Association won its first-ever team championship earlier this month.

The Charlotte-based team defeated the Somerest Bermuda Golf Team of Bermuda in Atlanta, the first win for McDonald since the series started in 1991. Participating from Charlotte were Milton Gaines, John White, Ray Rorie, Geneve White, Evelyn Mercer, Ed Fox, Tom Beatty, Johnny Foster. Leroy Polk of Belmont and Paula Tucker and Roland McDonald from Atlanta rounded out the American contingent.

The competition, started in 1991 by the late owner of McDonald's Cafeteria and McDonald's Inn, had been dominated by the Bermudans, who won the first five championships. Now, though, the Americans have broken through.

"We hope that it will never leave Charlotte again," said Milton Gaines, president of the McDonald Association said.



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