

# Shakira is far from Latin pop princess

□ Shakira a la Britney? Hardly. She's got talent, she's not into compromising.

LYNDA-MARIE TAURASI  
Music Columnist

I have to admit, in 1999 I was digging the Latin explosion, but after awhile even Ricky Martin got tiresome.

Critics were bashing the explosion by saying that it was a fad. Even Jennifer Lopez took the hint and ran under Hip-Hop's umbrella--changing her image and even her name to J. Lo.



MUSIC COLUMNIST  
LYNDA-MARIE TAURASI

When you thought it was over, Shakira enters--Columbia's recent export who is surfing over the Latin explosion to a pop/rock outlet nearest you. This bilingual 24-year-old purposely waited until the Latin phenomena lost its hype and until her English was perfected before making her debut. She was so popular in Latin America and Europe that before her album came out in the states, Pepsi Cola offered her an endorsement. Before you saw her on MTV, you saw her appearing in TV spots.

Her video and single, "Whenever, Wherever" from her American debut, *Laundry Ser-*

vice, is beginning to be in heavy to moderate rotation.

In her country, she was called the Latin Madonna; in the United States she is compared to Madonna and Alanis Morissette.

Shakira refers to herself as a fusion: She combines different cultures and music, enabling her to cross over and unite different kinds of music fans. Her music and style are the child of a rock/pop and international music (Arabic and Latin) marriage.

Her belly dance routine puts Britney Spears' "Slave For You" choreography back to a beginner's class and her assets will make all men and comedians alike forget about J. who?

Ladies will love the fact that this chick can rock just as hard as any guy while staying true to her femininity.

Although she is already courting the corporate sponsors, Shakira writes her own music and lyrics. She does not rely on an image coordinator to create a new change, and she actually has talent.

She does not compromise her talent or sexuality for platinum albums. They just come naturally. *Laundry Service* debuted at number 3 on the Billboard Chart just below Britney.

I don't foresee this rocker succumbing to the falsity and shallowness of--dare I say... well you should know who I mean by now.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Model United Nations Class would like to thank Dr. Jim Piazza for his work in preparing the class for the Southern Regional Model United Nations Conference.

Our award could not have been accomplished without his guidance.

We also thank Dr. Michael Novak for his support throughout the semester and his encouragement at the conference.



## CLASSIFIEDS

**Afterschool babysitter needed** for children ages 9 and 12. M-F, 3:30-6 p.m. \$9 per hr. Call Dori O'Toole at 981-0191 (work) or 851-7973 (home).

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The *Herald* does not check ads before they are placed. When you respond to an ad, do so at your discretion.



## CORRECTIONS

In the Nov. 14 issue, an error in the article "Dialogue on Diversity" on page 5 left out Charletta Sims' title. She is the Director of Commuter Life and Special Services.

Also in the Nov. 14, staff reporter Margaret Cooney's byline should have been tagged to the article "MDT impresses with unique performance" on page 5.

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