March 19-23, 2001

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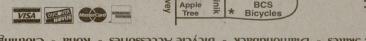
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El Salvador quake survivor fights kidney, heart failure

SAN SALVADOR, El Salvador to where Moreno lay. They pushed in son. They wept in the hospital will be a garden hose, and told Moreno to ing room. (AP) — For two days and a night, the young musician lay beneath 15 feet of cinderblocks and mud while resćuers worked desperately to pull him

But the elation when Sergio Moreno was finally freed turned to agony on Monday when heart and kidney failure left him fighting for his life.

"After so much joy when we saw him pulled out, we are again living in anguish," said his mother, Leticia del Carmen de Moreno, weeping in the hospital.

Moreno, 22, is the keyboard player for the popular Salvadoran merengue band Grupo Algodon. But he recently decided to return to college to study computers, and had bought a humble, two-story house in the Las Colinas neighborhood of Santa Tecla, just outside the capital where he would study

Saturday morning, Moreno was painting his new home when an earthquake sent the hillside above crashing down on top of him.

Moreno was trapped in darkness in the bathroom, with cinderblocks pinning his legs. The ironwork of a balcony shielded his upper body.

He had a cellular phone with him and dialed a friend. He got through, and within an hour, rescuers were cutting through concrete to open a pathway.

It was tough work, and with the earth still trembling, the rescuers knew they could be crushed at any moment. But Johnny "Cannibal" Ramos and Manuel Guzman were not going to abandon Moreno.

"We made a pact: No matter what the risks, we weren't going to leave until we got him out," Guzman said.

Digging mostly with their hands, the two rescue workers tunneled down 15 feet and opened a small hole

put it in his mouth.

Then they attached the hose to an oxygen tank so the young man could breathe.

Ramos eventually made the hole bigger and told Moreno to stick his arm through it. Ramos inserted an IV tube to provide medicine and nourishment.

Slowly the work progressed. Aftershocks closed the hole even as the

The rescue of Sergio was such a joy. But then the compli-

cations began.'

- Juan Moreno Sergio Moreno's father

rescuers opened it, and Moreno became more and more frightened. "You stayed here to watch me

die," he told Ramos. "No, I stayed to get you out of

here," the rescuer assured him. Finally, at 6:30 p.m. Saturday — 31

hours after the earthquake - the rescuers pulled Moreno from the rubble. "It was an incredible joy," Ramos said. "We were all crying and hug-

ging each other.' But out in the open, Moreno took a turn for the worse. The cinderblocks had cut off circulation to his legs, and when his blood began flowing again his body rejected it.

His heart stopped and paramedics got it started again.

His kidneys shut down, and they gave him dialysis.

Moreno's parents, an unemployed couple from the small port of Acajutla, 55 miles to the southwest, had rushed to the capital to be near their

"The rescue of Sergio was such joy," said his father, Juan Moren But then the complications began

When he arrived at the hospit Moreno fell into a coma. His mother talked to him,

his only response was to sque her hand, and then he could even do that.

'Sergio my love, we're here w you. We won't leave you for a si moment," she told him, crying

On Monday, Moreno lay ini sive care with a neck brace and pirator and a web of tubes snak into his arms and torso.

Doctors were preparing to am tate his left leg.

The attending nurse, who hospital regulations prevented from giving her name, said More heart was unstable but that his neys might start functioning the shock passed.

She said whether he could vive was "a question for God."

Guzman, the rescuer, ret home to find his wife had left angry that he had abandoned family during his 40 straighth

So he went to the hospital to how Moreno was holding up.

His fatigues caked in mud surgical mask at his chin, he b into tears when he saw Moreno's ents in the waiting room.

"Just seeing you moves a Guzman said, shaking hands Moreno's father.

The father tearfully thanked for his efforts, and Guzman res ed: "Don't thank me. Thank Go

Moreno's mother, motion the waiting room, said there nothing they could do any more.

The only thing we can wait," she said, "and accept."



Campus With A Dream

The common thread that connects us all

Jazz Band: Karan Chavis Tuesday, January 16, 2001 Rudder Fountain, Noon - 1 P.M. MSC Town Hall

Unity March Rudder Fountain, 11:30 A.M. - 1:30 P.M. Reception following in Wayne Stark Gallery

A Slice of Rice, Frijoles & Greens

A fun-filled mix of stories that give vivid insights into the multicultural experience! Thursday, January 18, 2001 Rudder Theatre, 7:00 P.M. MSC Asian Cultures Education Committee and the Southwestern Black Student Leadership

Come hear the teacher who helped a group of elementary school students understand racism in her riveting assignment, Brown Eyes, Blue Eyes. Wednesday, January 24, 2001 Bush Presidential Center, 6:00 P.M. Beta Xi Chi Multicultural Fraternity

Speaker: Jane Elliott

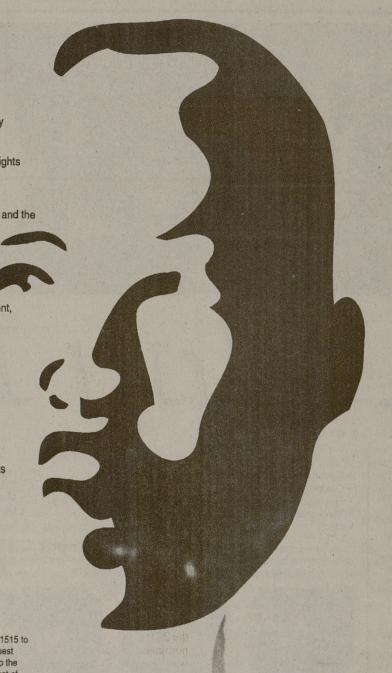
Film: Remember the Titans Friday, January 26, 2001 Rudder Theater, 7:00 P.M. MSC Film Society

Million Family March Discussion Texas A&M and Prairie View A & M Students Review the October March Monday, January 29, 2001 MSC 206, 7:30 P.M. MSC Black Awareness Committee

A World of Faith Discussion of World Religions Tuesday, January 30, 2001 MSC Forsyth Center Gallery, 7:00 P.M. MSC L.T. Jordan Institute and MSC Current Issues Awareness



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