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**Shely Pack Dancer JP Viernes opens as Billy Elliot in the
BROADWAY touring show of Billy Elliot, the Musical on
April 11, 2010 in Chicago!!!!**

HALF MOON BAY – Many students of the local dance studio “Shely Pack Dancers” have gone on to careers in the performing arts but it is John Peter (JP) Viernes (age 13), one of Pack-Manning’s most promising students, that has heads turning. Under the careful eye of Shely Pack-Manning (the studio’s director), JP has impressed even seasoned professionals on Broadway enough to win a starring role in Billy Elliot, the Musical opening in Chicago this spring.

Viernes started with the Shely Pack Dancers at the tender age of seven. He underwent an exhaustive audition process that lasted over two years. Viernes originally auditioned in San Francisco in 2007 with 46 other young boys in a regional tryout. Several trips to New York took Viernes up the ladder in the process where he was eventually named a finalist.

This is not the first success the Shely Pack Dancers in Half Moon Bay have had. Former dance alumni Peter Chursin was cast in the Broadway revival of West Side Story last year and is now dancing with the world renown Contemporary Ballet Company “Complexions” in New York City. Chursin had spent the past few years in the Los Angeles production of “Wicked” working along side another Shely Pack Dancer, Kristin Oei, who is now headed to Broadway to perform in the upcoming production of Spiderman, the Musical with music by Bono.

Amazingly, all of these success stories are coming out of a little coastal studio with less than 75 students that is affiliated with the local city Parks & Recreation Department. The studio was named one of the top fifty studio’s in the country by Dance Spirit Magazine and draws students to the San Mateo Coast from as far as Fremont, San Jose, and Livermore.

Praise for the Shely Pack Dancers
Miss Dance of America 2000, Mr. Dance of America 2003,
Teen Mr. Dance of America 2001 & 2006, and Jr. Mr. Dance of America 2009

“Choreographer Shely Pack turns stage-struck kids into award-winning professionals. The Shely Pack Dancers are the Bay Area’s brightest young stars and the very best in dreams come true”

Sean Martinfield, critic, *San Francisco Sentinel*, San Francisco, CA

...“Don’t miss the opportunity to see these exciting young dancers in action!”
Kristine Elliot, former dancer with *American Ballet Theatre, Stuttgart Ballet*