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LOPEZ GETS HIS LICKS

Host **George Lopez** pulled no punches in Thursday night's fight to eradicate lupus, the autoimmune inflammatory disease. At the 10th annual Lupus L.A. Orange Ball, held at the Beverly Wilshire Hotel, the comic came out swinging.

"Lupus targets women of color, not you out there with fake tans, but blacks and Latinas. It's safe to say that lupus is the opposite of **Tiger Woods**," he sniped. And that was just his first attack.

"'American Idol' finale tickets are part of the live auction tonight," Lopez informed the crowd. "You can see them on the final show, then later at Medieval Times. I think **Sanjaya** is one of the bus boys here tonight."

And when introducing "ER" star **Parminder Nagra** as one of the presenters, Lopez took a sucker punch at **Jay Leno**, his competition for the latenight talkshow audience. "'ER' took 16 years to build NBC into a powerhouse, and Jay Leno took five months to ruin it," he said.

Rita Wilson adopted a kinder approach as she presented **Cindy** and **Glenn Frey** with the Loop Award for their activism in fighting lupus. Then the real



George Lopez and Snoop Dogg crack up at Lupus L.A. Orange Ball; Glenn Frey's wife, Cindy, breaks the color code in yellow dress.

fun began as **Joe Walsh**, Frey's musical partner from the Eagles, hit the stage. He, Frey and a seriously tight band played an extended set, which brought **Snoop Dogg** and his wife, **Shante Broadus**, to their feet, as well as **Wayne Newton**.

Even stranger was the sight of **Timothy B. Schmit**, the bass player who has been an integral part of the Eagles since 1977, sitting in the audience while his band rocked the house.

Orange was also the color of the 17th annual Race to Erase MS, held Friday at the Hyatt Regency Century Plaza, where **Tommy Hilfiger** sent actors, athletes and models out in a runway show. **Ali Landry**, **Kelly Hu**, **Deborah Gibson**, **Robert Knepper**, **Lindsey Vonn** and organizer **Nancy Davis**' two little girls, **Isabella** and **Mariella**, made sure there was a lot of strutting going on.

Vonn and **Apolo Ohno** left all modesty aside, referring to their "heroic athletic feats" as they introduced **Nancy** and **Ann Wilson** of Heart to the stage to perform. **Dr. Phil** and **Robin McGraw** tooted their son's horn instead of their own as they plugged **Jay McGraw**'s show "The Doctors" while explaining the terrible toll that multiple sclerosis takes on its sufferers. The event raised \$2 million for the Nancy David Foundation for Multiple Sclerosis.



Rita Wilson arrives, and Scott Grimes and Parminder Nagra are presenters at Lupus L.A.