

Boxer is no-show at hearing

**By Sue Lindsay, Rocky Mountain News
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Denver boxer Stevie Johnston is back in hot water for failing to pay child support for four children with three different mothers. Johnston won a reprieve from jail last year so he could fight Alejandro Gonzalez in Las Vegas on April 20, 2002, and turn over the proceeds to pay off \$136,000 in child support.

But since then, fights have been few and far between said his attorney, Sharon Liko.

"There's been nothing to turn over," she said.

Johnston was to be sentenced Monday in Denver Juvenile Court for failing to pay child support, but the hearing was continued when he failed to appear. He faces six months in jail in each of three cases.

The three mothers attended the hearing, which was closed to the public, but declined to say how much Johnston owed. "He didn't comply with any of the court's orders," said Lanese Thomas, mother of two of Johnston's children. "He'd pay a little here, a little there, but never the full amount, not even a month's worth in six months' time.

"Ebony Gray, who has a daughter with Johnston, said she is fed up with the boxer." "In my opinion, he pays a little to make it look good for the court," she said. "It's like an insult, like a slap in the face. And he keeps getting away with it." Latasha Hall, mother of a daughter with Johnston, said she thought the court business last year would have made Johnston more timely about paying up. "I thought it would be done and over with by now," she said.

Johnston won a decision in the Gonzalez fight in Las Vegas. He also knocked out Ever Bolanos in a Feb. 21 fight in California, his first fight in 10 months.