

AMBUSH

MAGAZINE

OCTOBER



***Astride the
Broomstick***
P. 20

D BRINE STEVENS '83

Saturday, October 15 - LSU Homecoming Party

Thursday, Friday, October 20-21 - Miss Dreamstate 1983

Saturday, October 29 - Pre Halloween Party and Costume contest. Cash Prizes

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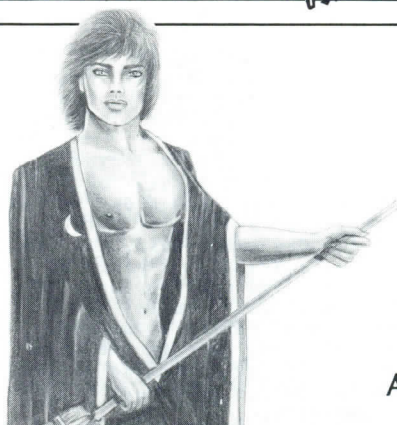
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About the cover...

See "Astride The Broomstick" (p.20) and "Star Struck" (p.7) by Thomas-John Grieves, a practicing witch from Houston. Cover illustration by D. Bruce Stevens.

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The Plume

TWO WORLDS

BY: HARRY C. COLLINS

Wherein doth lie
A quiet plain
Where all can meet
And thus acclaim:

That they who do not patterns fit
Are welcomed and with all wit
Can melt and merge into the fray
And plan and hope for future day,

We ask? We plead:
We do implore!
Chase not to that other shore
A place where neither one will speak
Where neither sees the others cause
Nor listens, nor gives pause
Nor waits upon the meeting site
In hopes another walking there
Seeks also another care,

One who needs anothers love
Anothers understanding word
Anothers understanding look
That seems in essence to us all
Please help me before I fall.

Keep love within its proper clime
That only says thou art mine
Mine only if thou wish it so,

And what we ask from those around
Is, but a joyous sound
Which states in some inortal way
Thou weres't not just made of clay

But were rather here began
To fill a full founded plan
Which say's to all in thought sublime
We are just man-no other kind.

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OFF THE PRESSES

DUCOTE SEEKS SEAT ON DEMOCRATIC STATE CENTRAL COMMITTEE

BY: D. BRUCE STEVENS, EXECUTIVE EDITOR

John Ducote of Baton Rouge, is running for one of the 205 seats of the Democratic State Central Committee. This committee is the governing board for the Democratic Party in Louisiana, and sets the platform upon which the democratic party operates.

Ducote is presently a student at LSU, majoring in French and Microbiology. He is active in gay politics and issues, including "BRAGPAC" (Baton Rouge Gay Political Action Caucus) as treasurer and public relations chairman, LSU's "Students for Gay Awareness", and the Catholic's "Dignity". Ducote serves as a liaison between these three organizations and other groups. He was instrumental in working with police chief Pat Bonnano and BRAGPAC concerning the problem with David Diamond's fundamentalists harassing gays in the downtown area of Baton Rouge, and is still working on improving relations between the police force and city government, and the gay community.

Because of his contact with all the different strata of the gay community, Ducote feels he is aware of the problems and issues of each group, and can serve the entire gay community. Ducote is running openly as a gay candidate within the gay community, but is not "pushing the issue" with the heterosexual community. "I've always found that no matter what you're doing, it always works much better to get to the position of power, get to know the people, and let them know you as a person, and then let them know you're gay," says Ducote.

"I think I would be doing a disservice to myself and the gay community if I labelled myself 'the gay candidate' and didn't get elected for that reason."

Since the committee is nearing the end of its term, there are no gay issues on the agenda for the upcoming term as yet. But Ducote plans to strongly oppose any anti-gay issues that come up and will work with his peers to introduce pro-gay rights legislation.

Ducote asks the support of the gay community in his race. Volunteers can contact John at 1394 N. Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, or call 343-5741. Financial support is also appreciated. Checks can be made out to the "John Ducote Campaign Fund". John is #300 on the ballot.

BRAGPAC ENDORSEMENTS

BRAGPAC endorses Sandra Thompson, #80 as Clerk of Court; Michael Haynes, #52 as State Representative District 62; Tom Clausen, #17 as State Superintendent of Education and John Ducote #300 as Democratic State Central Committee.

In addition, BRAGPAC recommends supporting Edwin Edwards, #1 as Governor and Bobby Freeman, #13 as Lt. Governor.

LAGPAC URGES

LAGPAC (Louisiana Gay Political Action Caucus) urges gay people to support the candidates who have indicated a willingness to work with our community and to become informed and actively work in the campaigns of the candidates they favor.

GOVERNOR-EDWIN EDWARDS: Edwards demonstrated his accessibility by meeting with representatives of LAGPAC on Sept. 2. His responses to our questions were generally favorable, and he seemed genuinely concerned about the needs of gay people, including support for AIDS research, individual privacy, and equal access to public employment. He welcomed the support of gay people in his campaign, but gave no indication that he would openly support gay causes at the state level.

DAVID C. TREEN: Governor Treen would not accept our invitation to meet or return our questionnaire stating he felt he had little chance of receiving our endorsement. He expressed his concern for all people regardless of race, sexual orientation, or any other factor and pledged he would treat all citizens with "decency and fairness and respect".

CHARLEY MOORE & MICHELE SMITH: Two other candidates Independent Charley Moore and Socialist Workers Party candidate, Michele Smith answered our questionnaire and granted interviews which were extremely positive. Both very much wanted our endorsement.

The other candidates in the race for governor did not respond to our questionnaire and request for an interview.

We found Edwards to be much the more accessible of the two major candidates, although his support was not as enthusiastic as we might have wished. Nevertheless, his meeting with us was precedent-setting. We believe his generally tolerant attitude and support of personal privacy should make his candidacy attractive to gay people.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR-ROBERT "BOBBY" FREEMAN: Lt. Governor Bobby Freeman responded positively on most questions on our questionnaire. He stated he welcomed the support from all people. To warrant the support from our community he stated, "I have always supported everyone's civil rights and have actively advocated these rights for minority groups."

JAMES E. "JIMMY" FITZMORRIS, JR.: Jimmy Fitzmorris responded to our questionnaire and request for an interview by sending his campaign biography.

The other candidates did not respond.

SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION-THOMAS G. CLAUSEN: Dr. Clausen responded to our questionnaire and granted an interview. He gave favorable responses to questions regarding arbitrary discrimination in housing, employment and public accommodations. He supports funding for AIDS research and supports the rights of any teacher regardless of sexual preference. To warrant our response he stated, "My record of administering the statewide Career Education program and implementing, for the first time in Louisiana, a statewide program for handicapped students demonstrates my commitment to fair and equitable services and treatment for all students."

J. KELLY NIX: Superintendent Nix agreed to an interview with LAGPAC but would not respond to schedule a meeting. He did not return his questionnaire.

The Board of LAGPAC endorses Dr. Tom Clausen for Superintendent of Education.

STATE BOARD OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION 6TH DISTRICT-RICHARD CAPPS: Mr. Capps met with LAGPAC. Although uninformed on gay life-styles he was anxious to learn. He stated his opposition to arbitrary discrimination.

JESSE BANKSTON: Mr. Bankston did not respond to LAGPAC's request for an interview or return our questionnaire.

LEGALLY SPEAKING

WHAT SHAPE YOUR FUTURE TAKES?

The Baton Rouge Area Gay Political Action Caucus, a chapter of the Louisiana Gay Political Action Caucus, can be your means of determining what shape your future takes. BRAGPAC exists to work through the political structure for equality and civil rights of all gays in East and West Baton Rouge, East and West Feliciana, Livingston, Ascension, Iberville, St. James, Point Coupee, St. Helena, Assumption and Tangipahoa parishes. BRAGPAC works through and with LAGPAC to repeal existing criminal statutes against sexual expression between consenting adults, to protect gays in employment and gaining access to housing and public accommodations, and to develop political clout through voter registration, education and turnout.

The strength of BRAGPAC lies in its membership. Although we are a young, and relative to the large gay population of the Baton Rouge area, small organization, we are working to increase voter registration in the area. BRAGPAC has also been in contact with the local candidates for public office to inform you of their virtues and attitudes toward our community. We are also working to improve certain other conditions around Baton Rouge to be discussed in forthcoming articles. If you wish to have a say in what matters about your future, your personal freedoms, your civil rights as a citizen of the State of Louisiana, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: BRAGPAC P.O. Box 19098, Baton Rouge, LA 70893.

Together, we can become a driving political action force that will make a difference in our state. Take the challenge!

CANDLELIGHT VIGIL & MARCH

These Vigils are "a sober, determined demonstration for increased federal funding for AIDS related research and health care and a public expression of support for persons with AIDS in their fight to live and die with dignity."

National Commissioners for the Vigil include Senators Kennedy, Weicker, and Weiss, Representatives Green Boxer, and Waxman, Bella Abzug, Ed Asner, Rev. Troy Perry, Virginia Appuzzo, Steve Endean, and many others. Mayor Dutch Morial of New Orleans is also one

of the thirty-eight Commissioners. As of the last communication with the Vigil committee, he is the only elected official from Louisiana listed as either a commissioner or an endorser.

New Orleans AIDS Task Force is the organizer of the companion vigil in New Orleans. The candlelight vigil will begin in front of St. Louis Cathedral in Jackson Square with a short program of speakers and a performance by the N.O. Gay Men's Chorus. Participants will then march through the French Quarter and Faubourg Marigny, disbanding at Washington Square.

Please try to attend. LAGPAC has endorsed the Vigils in both Washington and New Orleans. If you belong to an organization please urge them to endorse the Vigil. A letter stating such an endorsement should be sent to National AIDS Vigil, 2335 18th St., N.W., Wash., D.C. 20009 and NO-AIDS Task Force, P.O. Box 70472, N.O., LA 70152.

October 7 has been set in Washington as the day to lobby Congress about AIDS. Please contact your representative and our two Senators during the week prior to Oct. 8 to indicate your support of the Vigil and concern about AIDS.

It would also be useful to contact your local media, newspapers, radio and TV stations letting them know of your interest in seeing substantial coverage of the Vigils.

Boardmember Doug Pratt of Baton Rouge will be LAGPAC's official representative at the Washington, D.C. Vigil.

LAGPAC is making available a copy of 20-20's excellent, hard-hitting documentary on AIDS from last spring. It is on VHS video tape. If you would like to get together a group of friends to see this special please contact Alan Robinson, (504) 586-8107 or Skip Ward, 112 Pelican, Alexandria, LA, to borrow the copy.

Margaret Heckler, U.S. Health Secretary, reiterating that her department is considering AIDS its number one priority, announced that the Reagan administration is more than doubling its earlier request to Congress for AIDS funding from \$17.6 million to almost \$40 million. She, along with New York Mayor Ed Koch, attempted to allay some of the fears about AIDS being spread by casual contact by being photographed with a man who has AIDS.

Evidence is increasing that AIDS may be spread by blood transfusions. Dr. Harold Jaffe of the CDC, states "suspicious" donors have been found in all six of the fully investigated cases of persons coming down with AIDS within five years of having received blood transfusions.

The Red Cross has ordered the recall of two batches of blood factor concentrate for hemophiliacs after one of the donors whose plasma was used died of AIDS.

Canada has established a National Advisory Committee on AIDS but failed to include any representation from high risk groups, gays, hemophiliacs or Haitians. The latter group has complained of extensive discrimination against them in such large cities as Montreal.

As hysteria grows, officials in Tulsa, OK, ordered a swimming pool drained after it was used by a gay rights group for a private party. Officials later admitted that the draining of the public pool was more of a "P.R. gesture" than a "medical or biological concern." (from the ADVOCATE).

Information in this advisory is from the ADVOCATE, the Times-Picayune, CDC, National AIDS Vigil Committee, and NO-AIDS Task Force.

MEDICALLY SPEAKING

THE MYSTIC KREWE OF TRAGOIDIA

New Orleans, LA.--On December 2, the S.S. President will be the site of a gala evening for finding a cure and for helping to treat victims of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS).

The Friday evening date was reached after negotiations between The Mystic Krewe of Tragoidia and New Orleans Steamboat Company, owners of the S.S. President, Krewe Co-Ball Captain and spokesman Scott Bloom announced.

The free use of the S.S. President was one of the conditions agreed to by New Orleans Steamboat President Wilbur Dow Jr., after his company cancelled a Krewe function because the group was gay. Reimbursement for expenses resulting from moving the cancelled event is still under negotiation, Bloom added.

Bloom stated that the Krewe is still negotiating for entertainment for the night. "We are talking to many well known national entertainers, as well as

local ones," Bloom said. "An announcement of the evening's performers will be made after everything is firmed up."

All proceeds from the evening will go to the New Orleans AIDS Task Force, an umbrella organization of interested individuals, the Crescent City Coalition (CCC) and the Louisiana Gay Political Action Caucus (LAGPAC), Bloom said.

These groups have already announced that the money raised from the event on the S.S. President will be used to inform all local health care professionals of the creation of AIDS victims support groups with competent medical personnel, public information on the disease to help allay hysteria in the local community over AIDS, and to support victims, families of victims and others concerned over the disease.

December 2 was the earliest available date, Bloom said. This was due to prior bookings of the popular riverboat and also to the fact that the S.S. President will be shut down for annual maintenance during the first three weeks of November.

New Orleans Steamboat has already apologized to the Krewe for the cancellation of their August 28 Speakeasy Night, which had to be moved to the St. Bernard Cultural Center, after the cancellation on August 10.

The agreement for the free use of the S.S. President was reached on August 27, Bloom said.

Other provisions of the agreement was the announcement of a non-discriminatory policy by New Orleans Steamboat towards gay groups, which has already been done, he said.

Writers Cramp

B.R.A.G.P.A.C. held a fund-raising cocktail party the evening of September 4. Guest of honor was L.S.U. graduate assistant, Kristine Naragon.

While working on a doctorate degree from the School of Music, her teaching position was changed to a level of research, whereby there would be no contact with any undergraduate students. Kristine was very appreciative of the support shown her by B.R.A.G.P.A.C.

We wish to extend our thanks to the many people in attendance, and to all the bars for their generous donations.

Please receive this letter as a warning from Jesus Christ:

The activity of a homosexual bar brings the wrath of God. Run for your life. Find a Holy Ghost filled man and get saved and delivered and not die.

This letter comes in the Love of Jesus. Receive it and live.

Rev. B.F. Kirskey

Ezekiel 3:17-21 Says: Son of man, I have made thee a watchman into the house of Israel: Therefore hear the word at my mouth, and give them warning from me. When I say unto the wicked, thou shalt surely die; and thou givest him not warning, nor speakest to warn the wicked from his wicked way, to save his life the same wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at thine hand. Yet if thou warn the wicked, and he turn not from his wickedness, nor from his wicked way, he shall die in his iniquity but thou hast delivered thy soul. Again, when a righteous man doth turn from his righteousness, and commit iniquity, and I lay a stumbling block before him, he shall die: Because thou hast not given him warning, he shall die in his sin, and his righteousness which he hath done shall not be remembered; but his blood will I require at thine hand. Nevertheless if thou warn the righteous man, that the righteous sin not, and he doth not sin, he shall surely live, because he is warned; also thou hast delivered thy soul.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

As a loving, caring homosexual and American, I am outraged at the barbaric shooting down by the Soviets of flight 007. However, besides the passing of human life and the suffering of the families of the victims a dark era in our fight for acceptance is now behind us as a community.

On board the doomed Korean airliner was a Georgia Congressman Larry McDonald, the president of the John Birch Society and Rev. Jerry Falwell's right-hand man in congress.

(CONTINUED ON SEVEN)

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WRITERS CRAMP...(CONTINUED FROM FIVE)

Almost every piece of legislation ever offered by Congressman McDonald was anti-gay, anti-women, anti-black. Although most of the legislation was defeated in Committee, McDonald had a knack for reattaching damaging legislation concerning gays to major appropriations bills in the form of riders, thus guaranteeing passage.

Most of the opposition to increase AIDS funding on Capitol Hill was led by Larry McDonald, who viewed AIDS as punishment from God on our perverted ways. That was funding which could have led to a cure, thus saving lives and suffering. Our lives. Our suffering.

I extend my prayers to his family and children, as well as to my brothers and sisters who are dying of AIDS. And as Falwell says, and to which I agree, "God indeed works in mysterious ways."

Jamie Hays

Star Struck

BY: THOMAS-JOHN GRIEVES, HOUSTON

For all signs: October is month for new beginnings. The stars are placed to greatly encourage a turn for the better in our finances. Mercury has just gone direct and opens the door for much better communications. If you've been out of touch or quarrelling with someone, you will find reconciliation much easier now.

ARIES: The month begins with you feeling a little on the worn side. Do your best to set aside a weekend either alone or with some solid friends and some good music. You will find that by week two your energy level is higher than normal and you are attracting people to you as never before. Be cautious though, there is a strong indication that you may find yourself being pulled between two people. When this happens, take a night off and relax, your heart will tell you what to do. Week four confirms you've made the correct choice and gives you a great sense of fulfillment.

TAURUS: Balance yourself out. All work or all play

just doesn't work. You'll find a dinner party during week one will be especially satisfying. Week two the energy is ideal for asking for a raise at work, or coming up with an idea to raise some extra money. For you who are still shopping for the perfect partner, week three holds a grand surprise, don't give up on your dreams, a good chance they'll become flesh. Week four brings you a deep satisfaction. Something you have wanted for along time is realized, justice is wrought.

GEMINI: You may be feeling a little pressure right now. There is energy affecting your sign that is encouraging you to grow, sometimes this can be painful. Confide in a good friend and take a deep breath. You are beginning a new phase in your life. By week three your choices have been made, you literally feel as if you are sitting on a throne and that the world is your own. Week four may very well turn out to be the best week of your life. It all begins in the first of the month when you dare to be open to constructive change in your life.

CANCER: Your sign feels things so deeply in the heart. You are sometimes tempted to feel that no one loves you as deeply as you love them. You have to understand that not all signs can feel emotion as powerfully as you do. Look for the tradeoff in their own unique way of expressing love. You are entering a time in your life when you feel as if you are tired of games and ready to accept yourself and others the way they are. This gives you a deep inner confidence that others find very inspiring. You will find by the first of November that you've grown a lot. You will hear a lot of comments from your friends that they like the change.

LEO: I can't remember when I have seen a more perfect time for getting married. Relationships formed during this time period will be very significant. October will be a very magical month for you. The energy for your sign is so aligned that you will find many people attracted to you. It is very important that you make an effort to express clearly what you are really wanting in your partner. The end of October is the perfect time for you to enjoy your home and your friends. A party is definitely in order.

VIRGO: You've worked hard to please people. Early
(CONTINUED ON NINE)

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STAR STRUCK...(CONTINUED FROM SEVEN)

this month you will realize that you are loved not for what you do but for who you are. As always you will respond by doing all that much more, but that glimpse into this realization will have a profound effect on you. Week three you will find that many negative assumptions you have maintained were in error. There will be some powerful new insights into your life. Week four finds you purring like a kitten with a bowl of milk. You will feel like a woman happily pregnant filled with meaning and excitement.

LIBRA: Careful! A strong tendency to be spread too thin. Carefully look and see if you can't consolidate some of your projects and excell with them. Week two is ideal if you're planning a trip to Las Vegas. If not, then buy at least one of those church bazaar tickets. You are very lucky. Week three can easily find you taking an expected trip. Take a few minutes and set your goals down on paper. You will later feel as if you had a magic wand as things begin to come true. Week four is ideal for dealing with any problems you have been avoiding.

SCORPIO: You know how sometimes you feel especially dumped on? There is a tendency for you to feel this way week one. Now forewarned is forearmed. When you feel this, stop and look at the feeling honestly. You'll be surprised that the feeling will fall away very quickly and you'll feel as if you have tapped a new strength within. Your friends will notice the difference. Week three is ideal for the beginning of a new relationship and the renewing of an old one. There may be a disagreement among two of your friends at the end of the month. You will find that you can be very helpful in solving the problem.

SAGITTARIUS: Start your month by prioritizing your dreams. The planets are affecting your sign in such a way that you can realize some tremendous goals this month. It is important for you to be very clear in your thinking. Week three brings you an excellent opportunity jobwise which you will be able to seize because you had clearly ordered your dreams. Week four brings great contentment and rest. I would recommend a weekend away the end of the month with some good friends.

CAPRICORN: You are on your way to the top. You have been recognized as a powerful person with great potential. You will find that you seem to be quite

(CONTINUED ON TEN)

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STAR STRUCK...(CONTINUED FROM NINE)

psychic right now. Trust your intuition, it won't fail you. There are some great powers within you that you are going to discover that will give you more confidence than you've ever dreamed. You will be called upon to make a major decision during week four. Be quiet and listen to your heart. You will make the right one and be very happy.

AQUARIUS: This is honeymoon time. Get up in the morning and say "This is it. This is my day." And you'll find it very true. This is an excellent time to put any projects into full gear. You are destined to acquire great wealth and you'll begin to see the signs during week three. Pay special attention to the full moon on the 21st. Sit outside and be quiet in its light. You will receive specific guidance that will be of great help to you.

PISCES: Something has been bothering you that you will find if you give yourself a chance has no basis in fact. Shake yourself and look for the good side of the situation. You will discover that things are changing for the better. People ultimately always get what they deserve. Week three is an energy that is very conducive to warm relationships. It would be an ideal time for a short vacation with someone you love. You should discover an opportunity to invest either your time or money the end of the month. It is an excellent time for you.

The new moon is October 6th, the perfect time for goals for the coming lunar month. The full moon is October 21st, take a moon bath and soak up the energy for this month's projects.

What's Hot?!?

HOUMA TEA

MARK SCURLOCK, HOUMA EDITOR

Beginning on Friday, Sept. 16, Grand Opening festivities were staged for a new bar in Houma--Opposite Trends. The activities continued through Sunday, Sept. 18. Part of the weekend's festivities was a Mr. and Miss Opposite Trends contest, emceed by Miss Terrebonne, Lady Chantel Simone Briley, and Miss Gay Houma.

Crystal Nicole. Contestants were Kristi Lynn Meadows, Lady Sweet Darkness, Ebony Chantell, Dristina Collins, and Mr. Eddie Roberson, Jr. The Judges--Mark Anderson, Kay Scott, Gerard Lancon and Laren Joseph--announced the winners. They were: Miss Congeniality, Ebony Chantell; 2nd runner-up, Kristi Lynn Meadows; 1st runner-up, Kristina Collins, and Mr. and Miss Opposite Trends, Mr. Eddie Roberson Jr., and Lady Sweet Darkness. A special thanks to Harry Bourgeois, the show's coordinator and to the contestants and patrons.

DOING LAFAYETTE

JAMIE HAYS, LAFAYETTE EDITOR

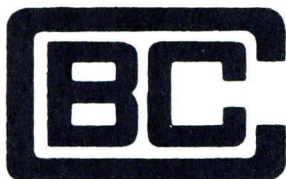
IN THE SPOTLIGHT: Ms. CHESTNUT has brought the very lovely COCO to Lafayette as his permanent full-time Show Director. Be looking forward to FANTASY'S future shows, as COCO will be bringing in the big guns in entertainment. MR. GLENN ELLIOTT is already scheduled for a return engagement. Using her connections in Houston, COCO can tap Texas' finest entertainment, as well as continuing FANTASY'S tradition of only the best in national talent. Also, HAPPY BIRTHDAY wishes to BOBBY R. AND LEE J. And DOUGY, don't feel bad about your birthday, we all turn into trolls someday.

BIG CITY BEAT: AT FRANK'S, the new bar in the back of the new game room is now open for your enjoyment, complete with stereo music and dim lights. So if you are wondering where the men in your life are, check it out - they might be back there. Sunday's have taken on a new twist, as New Orleans Saints Football is shown on TV over \$1 drink specials. RONNIE and the gang welcome out-of-towners to experience Lafayette's cruise alternative.

At C'EST LA GUERRE, many changes are taking place. With the mysterious burning of GEMINI, new Manager and part owner, MARGE has embarked on major redecorations. The club has been repainted pink with blue highlighted wallpaper and ocean blue bathrooms. JOHN'S is no longer offering 40¢ drinks on Thursdays, and show admission has been reduced to \$2.

So something looks different at the "Social Alternative?" It must be the addition of even more new lights over the dance floor and the new red sign outside on the building as owner RANDY continues to make

(CONTINUED ON ELEVEN)



SPECIALS

Tuesdays:
8 A.M.—Midnite • Rooms*-\$6 • Lockers-\$4

Wednesdays:
Buddy Nite • 4 P.M.—Midnite
2 people share Room* or Locker

Thursdays:
Happy Hour • 6:30 P.M.—7:30 P.M. • Lockers-\$4

Regular Prices

Lockers-\$6 • Rooms*-\$8
*Private dressing areas

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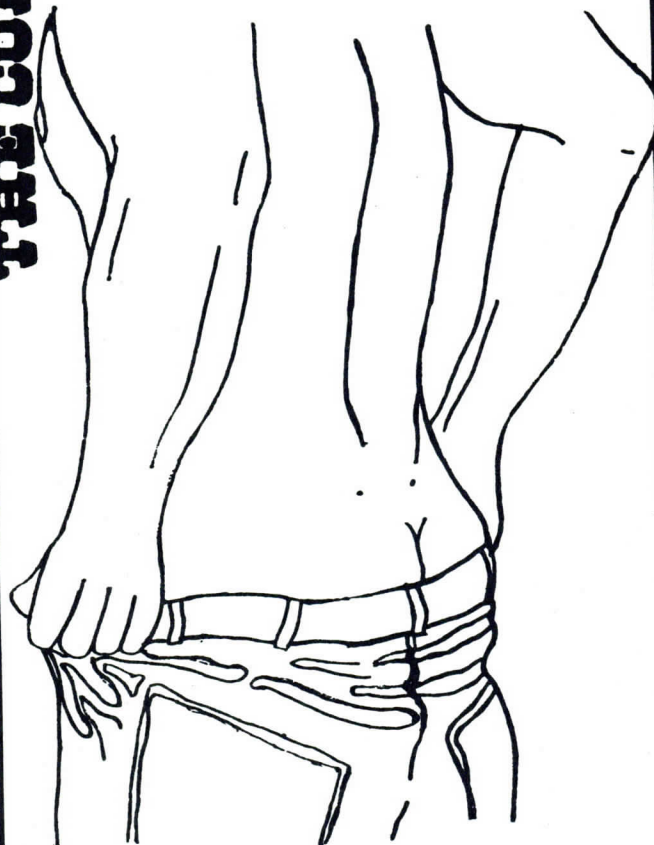
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Mr. Buns Contest
Friday, October 14th
9 pm
\$50.00 cash-1st prize
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**Halloween Party
Costume contest**
Friday, October 30
9 pm
\$50.00 bar tab-1st prize

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Tuesday, September 27. Free Tacos

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75' Schnapps all the time!
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WHAT'S HOT...(CONTINUED FROM TEN)

improvements. FANTASY I has become the hottest disco in this part of the state, and the management still isn't happy. Tuesday nights are h-o-t with 50¢ schnapps, and if you ladies are wondering where all the hot gals are now going, check out FANTASY. Since the weekends are so crowded and packed, and RANDY had to hire an additional bartender, there has been some discussion as to whether AL or PAUL is Lafayette's #1 bartender. Well, PAUL is younger and quicker, but AL, being up in years, is more efficient. We aren't talking beauty, either, as BRYAN has that category all to himself.

Leave it to RANDY CHESTNUT to come up with an unbeatable trio, so if you are visiting Lafayette, stop by and let them treat you to that good ole Southern Comfort only the three of them know how to give.

The METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH is nearing the Nov. 1 closing date on their purchase of a new Church Community Drop-In Center. If you haven't been to a Sunday Morning Fellowship, throw on your sneakers and shorts and join them at 11 am at 207 N. University. Many activities await you, and you don't have to be a holy-roller or a member to participate. Be looking forward to weekend after-hours entertainment, as MCC is considering bringing the ROCKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW to Lafayette.

FYI: If anyone is interested in fielding a football team for USL, let Coach Robertson know. Tennessee-Chattanooga scored one of their touchdowns so fast that even Action 3 News missed filming it.

If you have any news you want covered in "DOING LAFAYETTE," give me a call at 231-4627.

NEW ORLEANS. . .

GIANT HERCULES AT PARTNERS SALOON: The newest arrival at Partners Saloon, direct from the Arcade at Pontchartrain Beach, is "The World's Largest Pinball Game" called "Hercules." If you ever experienced this GIANT with its Paul Bunyan sized features, then you know how unique it is, and if you haven't. . .you should! There is a weekly tournament for a bar tab, and the winners will receive special souvenir T-
(CONTINUED ON NINETEEN)

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Tuesday --- Wooden Nickel Nite --- 6 P.M. - 12 Midnite
Wednesday --- Lancers Club Nite --- Beer Bust 8 P.M. - 11 P.M.
Thursday --- Western Nite --- 8 P.M. - 12 Midnite
Saturday --- KRAZY DAZE --- Noon to 5 P.M. "Bonkers"
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On the Way to the Top

BY: WALLY SHERWOOD, ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

One of the major enjoyable events of the summer season was the exchanging of vows by Scott Bloom and Tony Morgan at The Clinic, with Frank Distasio officiating. The powder-blue and white motif was carried out in the couple's formal wear, as well as the announcement embossed with a unicorn.

Terri Arneson attended Scott while Jerry Radtke was Morgan's best man. Music direction was by Bob Keesee. The ceremony was followed by a champagne reception at Partners Saloon.

The premier event of any fall party season in gay New Orleans, as just about everyone knows, is the Krewe of Petronius' Satyricon. Costumes are required for the epic that is scheduled at the Country Club October 1. Tickets for the 8 til midnight affair are available from any member for \$10.

There is plenty of other krewe fun coming up, according to the Uniboard function calendar released by Courtney Craighead, secretary of Olympus.

In October, there is Apollo's Overture to the Deb Season on the 8th; Tragoidia's Hayride and Barn Dance on the 15th; Tragoidia's Therapeutic Awards on the 30th; and Armeinius' Halloween Function and Raffle on the 31st.

Petronius gets back into the picture November 13 with a Hairy Lady Contest and Tragoidia's Turkey Shoot is scheduled the 19th. On December 11, Petronius will get into the spirit of the season with a Christmas Bazaar.

The ball schedule, according to Uniboard's calendar, has Tragoidia opening the Carnival season January 14, followed by Perseus the following evening. Polyphemus will have its presentation on the 29th.

In February, it will be Olympus, February 4; Celestial Knights, 12th; Amon-Ra, 25th; and Petronius, the 26th. Leading into Mardi Gras, which is March 6 next year, will be Apollo on the 1st; and Armeinius, the 3rd.

And in 1984, a new krewe emerges to give us a royal coronation on Fat Tuesday itself. And isn't it ironic that our first true Mardi Gras krewe, the Lords of Leather, is also New Orleans' only leather club--but it's about time we have something on the Big Day itself!

IT WAS quite appropriate for the New Orleans Gay Men's Chorus to participate in the first historic festival of its kind in the prestigious Lincoln Center. Although homosexuals have always been at the center of the creative arts, the current New York theatre season marks the time when Broadway really came out of the closet.

Harvey Fierstein's semi-autobiography, "Torch Song Trilogy," won Tonys for him as Best Play and Best Actor. But Harvey didn't stop there and, of course, is behind Broadway's brightest new hit, "La Cage aux Folles," about two aging homosexual lovers.

Around the Big Apple, "Quartermaine's Terms" also focuses on a gay male relationship--and Ellis Rabb directed himself as Lady Bracknell in "The Importance of Being Earnest." "An Evening with Quentin Crisp" was at the Actor's Playhouse before making its journey south to New Orleans.

The New York company of "Sister Mary Ignatius Explains It All for You" sported a gay male, while the Roundabout will house a revival of Frank Marcus' "The Killing of Sister George."

And before the footlights of "The Knack," actor Daniel Gerrell is asked if he's gay. "No, he replies, "but thanks, anyway."

And, of course, as everyone knows, Broadway's longest-running musical, "A Chorus Line," features two homosexual men. And when the Ridiculous Theatrical Company opens Charles Ludlam's "Galas, a Modern Tragedy," Ludlam himself will portray Maria Magdalena Galas, a character based on Maria Callas.

"Five, Six, Seven, Eight, . . . Dance!," which recently closed at the Radio City Music Hall, included a drag queen. Caryl Churchill's "Cloud Nine" which I was privileged to see at the Apollo Theatre in Chicago last May before departing Greenwich Village, explored both male and female homosexuality.

So the stage door was wide open for New Orleans and other gay choruses to participate in COAST, meaning "Come Out and Sing Together." It was a monumental event, and the Crescent City group was magnificent. They, and all of us of the New Orleans gay community, can be mighty proud.

They opened the concert September 10 with an appropriate blending of our American/French heritage:

(CONTINUED ON FIFTEEN)

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Saturday, October 22nd - NO COVER
**FREE Jambalaya
Dance Contest**

Saturday, October 29th
**DAMASCUS
Halloween Party/Costume Contest**
1st place - \$15 bar tab 2nd place - \$10 bar tab

SPECIALS

Monday - Beer Bust - \$2.00
Tuesday - Kamikazies, Screwdrivers - 50¢
Wednesday - Booze Blast 9 til 1 - \$5.00
Thursday - Long Island Tea - \$1.75 Beer Bust - \$3.00
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ON THE WAY...(CONTINUED FROM FOURTEEN)

"The Star-Spangled Banner" and "La Marseillaise." From that rousing start, they had the audience literally eating out of their hands. The applause was often long and loud, sometimes cutting into numbers so that it was almost impossible to hear what was being sung.

The first bravos gave at the end of "The Showboat Came to Town"--but the "Oliver!" medley was obviously a crowd-pleaser, particularly "Oom-Pah-Pah." And, again, it was another cause for celebration with more bravos. An emotional peak was reached with "Be Thou My Vision," which had the chorus, and the audience, in tears.

But the best was to come, and the New Orleans Men's Gay Chorus almost brought down the roof of the Alice Tully Hall with "When the Saints Go Marching In." Needless to say, decorated umbrellas and silver doubloons netted no less than two standing ovations for the group.

On the same program that night were the lesbian Artemis Singers of Chicago and the Seattle Men's Chorus, which many observers considered the best of the entire festival.

The previous two nights were a blending of the talents of the Chicago Gay Men's Chorus, the Madison 3 Gay Men's Chorale, the Gay Men's Chorus of Los Angeles, the Denver Gay Men's Chorus, the Men's Chorus of Orange County and the Gay Men's Chorus of Washington, D.C.

But that wasn't all, as other gay singers were present individually for the historic happening even if their entire hometown group couldn't make the trip.

The grand finale was Sunday evening in Avery Fisher Hall, with all the vocalists blended together under the deft direction of Gregg Smith.

It was a stunning sight to see 750 gay men on a single stage--but to tell the truth, it was too much of a mass to master, and the world premiere of Ned Rorem's "Walt Whitman Cantata," based on some of his unpublished gay poems, turned out to be disappointing.

The finale night started with the Stonewall Chorale's "Live or Die: A Ceremony of Healing" by Calvin Hampton. The New York City Gay Men's Chorus presented Ron Nelson's "Behold Man" and a brilliant medley of Cole Porter tunes.

Then the two groups teamed up with the Artemis Singers for the true highlight of the last concert: the world premiere of "Everyone Sang" by Libby Larsen and commissioned by the Come Out and Sing Together festival.

The initial outing of such a fest was so successful, it is now planned to hold it every three years. Proposed site for 1986 is Minneapolis.

MUSIC OF A different kind will be aired on television Oct. 10 at 8:30 p.m. CBS will present the 17th Country Music Association awards, and the group, which in the past has shunned Willie Nelson, has asked him to be co-host with Anne Murray this year.

A contest of a different type, Mr. Ishtar and Ms. Gay French Quarter, will be staged by the krewe Oct. 15, beginning at 8 p.m. at the DAV Hall in Arabi. You can get your ducat from any member or at Diane's and Pino's.

The Saenger will open its new season Nov. 1 with Hershel Bernardi in "Fiddler On The Roof". Two plays will also be chosen from this list: "42nd Street", "Nine", "On Your Toes" and "Dreamgirls". Call 504/524-0876 for more info.

Oct. 6 at 7:30 P.M., Channel 12 in New Orleans will present the very important program, "Diagnosis: AIDS". It will feature just about everyone from Margaret Heckler on down to the Rev. Jerry Falwell.

The city's newest krewe, the Lords of Leather, have scheduled their first rush party for Oct. 4 at 8:30 P.M. If you're interested in the only krewe function to be held on Mardi Gras, then call one of these numbers: 523-9265, 887-7586 or 244-7114. But hurry, as the number of invitations are limited.

Often referred to as the First Lady of American Theatre, Helen Hayes was in town to give the oldest continuing little theatre group in the country a big push for La Petit Theatre du Vieux Carre's opening production of "South Pacific". --And just very recently, New York's Little Theatre--where "Torch Song Trilogy" became a big Tony winner--was renamed the Helen Hayes Theatre in her honor.

Perry Brass of New Orleans had his original poem, "The Man in the Picture", published in the September issue of the New York gay news magazine, THE CONNECTION.

(CONTINUED ON EIGHTEEN)

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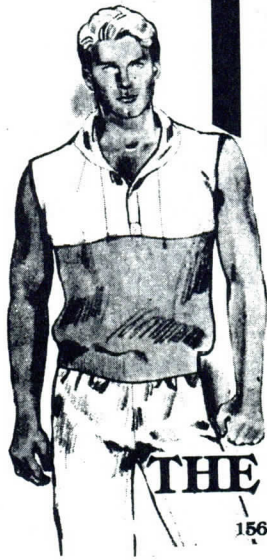
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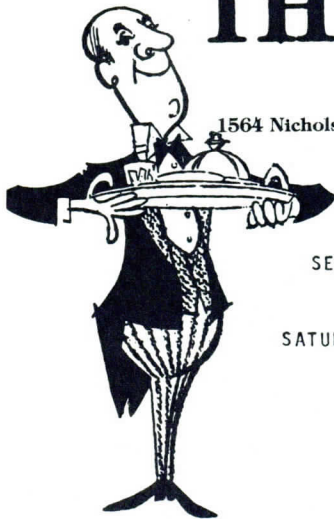
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ON THE WAY...(CONTINUED FROM FIFTEEN)

Jackson, bartender at Partners Saloon, won the second Jock Strap Contest at the Filling Station--while Louie and Bill threw a combined birthday party at the Roundup.

Play It Again, Sam has transposed itself into a glittering show bar--while Cafe Lafitte in Exile has turned to a different type of entertainment: "Voyages in Video". The Golden Lantern, meanwhile, has refloored its patio room complete with skylight.

Opera fans will be happy to know that WYES-TV in New Orleans will carry "Live From the Met: The Metropolitan Opera Gala Centennial Concert" Oct. 22 at 7 P.M. and Oct. 26 at 7:30 P.M.

Could you use \$1,000? If so, latch onto a member of Armeinius for a chance in their raffle Oct. 29. They are a dollar a piece or 6 for \$5, also available at the Clinic, Finale II and the Louisiana Purchase.

And it'll be time Oct. 7-9 for another Gumbo Festival in Bridge City, with continuous entertainment on an outdoor stage.

Travis' Show Bar will wind up Super Week Oct. 2 at 9 P.M. with another Turnabout, while the night before the Show Boat Lounge will stage a Men's Bikini Contest at 11.

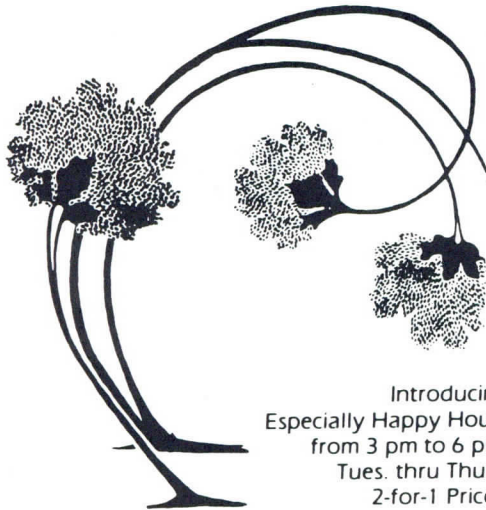
And don't dare forget another Octoberfest at the Galley House, featuring free beer all day long Oct. 2 with a buffet served from 5 until 7 P.M.

AND IN THE NEXT ISSUE, you'll get the best of Broadway.

I'll claw and crawl with "Cats" and pit "La Cage aux Folles" against "Torch Song Trilogy".

Wally Sherwood, entertainment editor of AMBUSH magazine, will make his New Orleans stage debut in October when the New Orleans Opera Association raises the curtain on its 40th Anniversary season.

The journalist will appear as a super in "I, Pagliacci," as one of the five members of a traveling entertainment troupe. The opera, written by Leoncavallo in 1892, will be presented in tandem with "Cavalleria Rusticana" October 4, 6 and 8 at the Theatre of the Performing Arts. Tickets are available by calling 529-2278 or through Ticketmaster.



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WHAT'S HOT...(CONTINUED FROM ELEVEN)

shirts, so stop by and try your hand.

While you're there say "Hello" to their second newest arrival, a bartender named "Jackson" who just won FIRST PLACE in the "Jock Strap Contest" held September 17th at the "Filling Station."



Owners Bob Keese and Jarry Radtke with "Hercules" at Partners Saloon

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Woman
to
Woman

Linda Parks
Editor
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tell of the rapes, beatings, starvations of women that is going on daily." Please send personal experiences

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NEW IBERIA. . .

A new bar has opened in New Iberia at 206 East Main Street. It is called Jackie's Place, and caters to a mixed crowd--men, women, and straights. The hours are Sunday through Thursday 11 til 1, and Friday and Saturday 11 til 3. For special events, contact the bar at 318-364-9132.

BATON ROUGE. . .

Baton Rouge Area Gay Political Action Caucus was formed to work for the rights of all Louisianians and in particular, the area residents. Join now. Face the challenge. Send a self-addressed, stamped envelope for applications and information to PO Box 19098 Baton Rouge, LA 70893.



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THE
BROOMSTICK**

BY: THOMAS-JOHN GRIEVES, HOUSTON

Halloween is upon us. The time when witches can come out of their broom closet and get away with it, kind of like Mardi Gras! It's the easiest time of the year to speak our piece and perhaps one of the hardest to be taken seriously. Halloween marks the beginning of our year. Being an ancient Nature religion our roots are found centuries ago when the fertility of the crops and stock was the central concern of our lives. At this time of year, the last of the crops had been harvested; it was the perfect time to celebrate both the harvest and the last few days before the cold and isolation of winter. Winter typified the time of Death and confinement. The new seed was in a sense being planted and would lie dormant for the winter to begin to grow at the time of the Winter Solstice when the days began to get longer.

Our rituals at Halloween (which by the way is called Samhain by witches) center on communication with the dead. It is much more than a theological treatise to us that there is truly no death. Most witches have excellent recall of their past lives and often feel very real contact with friends who have left their bodies. You will note that the Catholic Church observes All Saints day on November 1 and All Souls day on November 2nd. We are subconsciously aware that the veil between the worlds of the "living" and the "dead" is very thin this time of year.

For many people this communication is felt as a presence of the loved one, rather than explicit words. People will often feel a comforting reassurance within themselves that Life goes on forever, and that we profit from our mistakes. When the time is correct, we will come back again, choosing the personality, the sex, the sexual lifestyle we feel will best allow us to learn some needed quality. There is such a triumph in knowing that we are not our mistakes, and that everything that happens to us can be turned to our own good eventually. Many respected witches believe that there are several reasons for people to choose homosexuality. In some instances the person persecuted gays in a former life and needed the experience of gayness themselves to get on with other lessons. Some believe that after having spent several consecutive lives as one sex the first life with the body of the other sex results with a mixture of both sexes. Some people relate that the ultimate spiritual level is a consciousness of being a "person" with a real balance between male/female energies. Gayness has the potential of opening the person to a deep compassionate spiritually balanced state.

During the Halloween time anyone can create the correct situation to open up to this Energy. Approached with a light touch and some instruction, there is no need for fear in contacting spirits. I recommend being in a quiet, peaceful setting, perhaps your home with some soothing music. A little wine to relax is useful, but excessive alcohol and any other substance should not be used until after the ritual. Secure your home, take a warm bath by candlelight, put on a kaftan or other "witchy" garment, (or nothing at all is also excellent). Light a few candles, and some incense. Find a comfortable sitting position, take some deep breaths and let out some noisy sighs to release pent-up tension. Then take three deep breaths quietly to relax more deeply. Then quietly begin to watch your breaths flowing in and out, in and out. When you find your mind wandering, don't get perturbed simply return your attention to the flow of your breath. In a few minutes you will begin to feel quiet within. Relax and enjoy the feeling. After a while, mentally express your love to your friends "on the other side". Then sit quietly. You will often "see" a symbol in your mind which will represent the person

(CONTINUED ON TWENTY-ONE)

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ROBERT LAKE

ASTRIDE THE...(CONTINUED FROM TWENTY)

you have contacted. Occasionally you will hear voices. Always use your common sense and keep a sense of humor. Not all voices should be respected. If anything frightens you then firmly say "no" and quietly and smoothly end your ritual, turn on the electric lights. A pair of candles, one white and one blue on opposite sides of the room will have a very soothing effect.

Divination or fortune telling is particularly effective on this night. An easy method of fortune telling is reading the tea leaves. Take a pinch of tea and add it to a teacup, (preferably with very sloping sides), add the boiling water and then sip. The leaves will sink to the bottom. Drink all but a few drops of tea, swirl the cup, quickly turn it upside down in the saucer for a few seconds and turn right side up, put the cup handle to your left and look intently inside. You will begin to see pictures forming on the sides of the cup with the tea leaves, exactly the same way you saw animals in the clouds as a child. Begin to "play" with the pictures. You will find yourself getting specific ideas. Be light, call yourself "Madame Zorvoski, the great reader" and play. You will be surprised.

There are thousands of good dedicated witches in this country. An excellent pagan journal filled with spells and instruction can be obtained from Circle Network News, POB 219, Mt. Horeb, Wisconsin, 53572, for \$9.00 a year, four issues a year. Tell them Thomas-John referred you. I teach courses in White Witchcraft and Tarot Card reading by cassette and correspondence. Send me a stamp and I'll explain more fully.

Let me close with a great simple love potion. Take one part cinamon oil, one part of rose oil, three drops of patchouli oil and one drop of the sexiest men's cologne you own. Blend together and keep a small bottle in your front pocket. The mixture of oil and the proximity the the high energy center of your body will produce an excellent catalyst for romance. Have fun, and as witches say "Blessed be".

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MISS DREAMSTATE 1983



Thursday, October 20th and Friday, October 21st
9 PM sharp

\$2,500 in Cash and Prizes
Special Guest Star Shayla Kruz

DEADLINE:

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15TH
(entry fees, forms and
photos are due then)

CONTESTANT REGISTRATION:

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20TH
7 P.M. SHARP---SHOWTIME
9 P.M. SHARP

The Emporium
2183 Highland Road
Baton Rouge, Louisiana
504-387-9538

V.I.P. Seating, Tickets, Information
Contact:
R. Rip Naquin
P.O. Box 64822
Baton Rouge, LA 70896
504-383-2535

CATEGORIES OF COMPETITION:

PRESENTATION(WHITE)
SPORTSWEAR
TALENT
MALE INTERVIEW
BEAUTY
STAGE INTERVIEW(FINALIST)

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Winner receives \$1000 cash, \$400 crown, Silver Champagne Bucket,
Traveling Trophy

1st runner up \$300 cash and Silver Champagne Bucket
2nd runner up \$100 cash and Silver Champagne Bucket
3rd runner up \$100 cash and Silver Champagne Bucket
4th runner up \$100 cash and Silver Champagne Bucket

WINNER---CROWN & TROPHY

NO ENTRY FEE

JUDGED IN BEAUTY & TALENT(7 MIN. LIMIT)

The LAST remaining preliminary
MISS GREATER GAY

CAPITOL CITY



Monday, Oct. 10th - 10:30 p.m.

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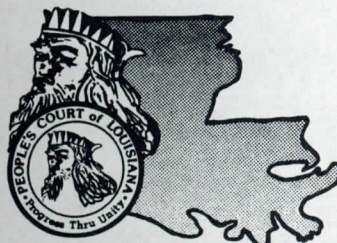
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Wednesday - D.J. Music no cover
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Thursday - Bouree' Nite
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