

AMBUSH MAG 2000

Flamboyant **T**abloid . . . **F**or **A**dults **O**nly!

www.ambushmag.com www.gaymardigras.com www.gayneworleans.com www.southerndecadence.com

DRAG PHOTOGRAPHS [4]

TUNA CHRISTMAS [4]

WORLD AIDS DAY [28]

BEAUTY & THE BEAST
FUND-RAISER [28]

PEARL PARTY II [28]

VCMCC ADVENT

SCHEDULE [28]

SUPER BOWL FUN [28]

Dee Dee Lewis & Friends of la Cage!

Celia Putty &
Monique Lauren

Illusions of
Mommie Dearest • Madonna
Cher • Fran Drescher
Liza Minnelli • Dolly Parton
& more!

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 4TH

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GREAT *Q* CAST!**





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**Congratulations
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OF THE YEAR**

**BILLY:
BITCH OF
THE YEAR**

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SHERREECE BAND
10:00 PM**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1ST
VIBRATORS
5:00 PM**

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7TH
COMEDY DRAG NIGHT
FOR CHERYL'S BIRTHDAY - 10:00 PM**

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13TH
SAGITTARIUS PARTY
MUSIC BY THE VIBRATORS
-bring ID for drink specials-**

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14TH
SOFT TOUCH
10:00 PM**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15TH - 4:00 PM
SUE MARTINO BENEFIT FEATURING
Soft Touch & Becky Cymard**

**PLAN AHEAD FOR NEW YEAR'S
SWEET REVENGE
PARTY STARTS 8:00 PM - ADVANCE TICKETS AVAILABLE**

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Gay Dance Club

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Special Live Performance

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Parade

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GOLDFINGER

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 11TH
9PM • \$10.00

weezer



sponge
FRIDAY, DEC. 13TH
10PM • \$10.00



SUNDAY, DEC. 15TH
9PM • \$15.00

Discount Validated Parking Available
at Canal Place

Drag Photographs

Rubyfruit Jungle presents the photographs of **Rachel Stix Neill** through Dec 1. Known for work such as "The Marriage Project" and "Men On God," Neill displays the more whimsical side of her aesthetic with **Drag Photographs**. Working with local drag performers Lisa Beaumann and Reba Douglass, Neill created a series of images which celebrate their talent in creating illusion. Neill captures the inherent glamour and sensuality of the drag experience as expressed by Lisa and Reba, who are both gifted performers. **Rubyfruit Jungle, Rachel Stix Neill, Lisa Beaumann, and Reba Douglass**, all invite you to "An Evening of Photography and Drag", Sunday, November 24, 1996. The reception will begin at 8pm. There will be a Drag Show at 9pm, with the reception continuing until 11pm. Come meet the photographer and the performers, and fall in love. Pick up a photograph of your favorite Drag Queen. All photographs will be for sale at affordable prices. Come have a wonderful evening with, of course, drinking and dancing following all night long at **Rubyfruit Jungle**.

Rachel Stix Neill has a MFA from the University of New Orleans, and a BA from Bennington College in Vermont. She has lived in New Orleans for 7 years, photographing local festivities, artists, musicians, and others. She has exhibited widely, at locations including The Contemporary

Arts Center, Le Mieux Gallery, UNO Fine Arts Gallery, ICONS Gallery, La Belle Gallery, and others. She has been featured in Tribe Magazine, with her "Men On God" series, and continues to pursue her diverse photographic interests here in New Orleans.



Model Reba Douglas

A Tuna Christmas at the Orpheum

Get out your plastic poinsettia earrings and dust off the Andy Williams Christmas albums; the Yuletide approacheth in Tuna, Texas, where the worst of the holiday spirit is zestfully celebrated in the irreverent hit comedy **A Tuna Christmas**, starring the Broadway cast of Tony Awardnominated Joe Sears and Jaston Williams. **A Tuna Christmas** arrives in New Orleans and plays the Orpheum Theatre, November 26-December 1, 1996, and is being presented by Ron Bookman Presents.

A sequel to the Off-Broadway hit **Greater Tuna**, which became one of the most often produced shows in America, **A Tuna Christmas** features the two actors making lightning-fast costume changes in order to play all 22 inhabitants (male & female) of Tuna, the third smallest burg in Texas. And

Christmas in Tuna is nothing to sing hymns about; the annual Yard Display Contest is being sabotaged by a phantom, the Smut Snatchers are trying to censor "Silent Night" on the grounds that decent people don't sing about "round young virgins," and the Tuna Little Theatre's Christmas show is being artily staged by a temperamental director who snaps when his artistic vision is challenged.

Those familiar with **Greater Tuna** will find the town has remained a hotbed of conservatism, where the Lions Club is too liberal, every pickup boasts a gunrack and bouffant hairdos continue to reign as the height of fashion.



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WED., NOV. 27TH
ABSOLUTELY
DRAGULOUS
 with Tori, Tiffany & Cody!

THURS., NOV. 28TH
THANKSGIVING
 Yes, It's Still The Cat's Ass!
 Karaoke With Cody King!

SAT., NOV. 30TH
THE
FORBIDDEN
FRUIT

Lisa Beaumann &
 Reba Douglas from the
 Rubyfruit Jungle!
 With Host Cody King!

WED., DEC. 4TH
HOLLYWOOD
CREATIONS!

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Mirror Lounge

"You've been to the rest . . . now come back home!"

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HAPPY HOUR DAILY
6:00PM - 9:00PM

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 Sat. Nov. 30 - 9pm

Miss Louisiana U.S. of A.
Pagent

Fri & Sat Dec. 6 & 7
10:00pm

Featuring

Natasha Richards
 Miss Gay U.S. of A

India Sherry
 Miss Gay La. U.S. of A

Tiffany Alexander

Nicole DuBois

For information call: 387-6468

The Mirror Lounge Presents
EN-STROKE

Featuring From Norfolk, Va.
Jasmine SX
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 "Miss Capital City USA 1996"

Joselyn Onyx Colby
 "Miss Tidewater Plus 1996"

Elektra
Donna Revlon

Saturday Dec. 14 - 10:30pm

Happy Hour: 7 days, 3-8 pm \$1.50 Well Drinks, Wine & Domestic Beer! 75¢ Schnapps!
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Fantasies In The Night!

Featuring Rayne Fanveare &
The MRB Dancers!

A Night Of Flesh, Fun & Fantasy!

Fridays & Saturdays - 11:00 pm

**ANDY'S ANNUAL
THANKSGIVING BUFFET**
Thursday, November 28th • 2 pm
Turkey With All The Fixin's!

**PETRONIUS'
CHRISTMAS BAZAAR**
Annual Auction &
\$5.00 All-U-Can-Eat Buffet!
Sunday, Dec. 8th • 1-6 pm



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HOT TAILS OF THE RED STICK...

www.ambushmag.com/gossip2.htm by Brad Benedict

Classy Claudette Defends Her Pussy - and Delightful Debbie's Too

The pussy war in Spanish Town is still in high gear. (No pun intended!) It all centers around this black, shaggy pussy that was stolen right out from under classy Claudette's

nose - oops - truck. A third person is involved in this dastardly deed, and she has skipped town and is hiding out in

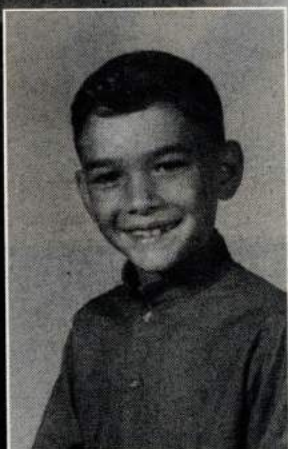
[Continued on 10]

*in
loving
memory...*



Dave DeLage

April 29, 1959 - November 6, 1996



*Beloved brother,
son, and friend.
Rest well,
big brother.*

Dave's unique artistry and humor endure at
<http://www.intersurf.com/~mutex/dave.html>

THURSDAY
november 28th

happy thanksgiving!
free drinks & beer all
night! music by DJ JASON

guest d.j. JOSE - he's back!
-all new music
-free draft beer till
midnight!

FRIDAY
november 29th

SATURDAY
november 30th

Gearing up for
1 year anniversary!
* 2 free weekend packages
* shot specials starting
at midnight

back door thursday!
men's night out!
free beer and house
cocktails all night!

THURSDAY
december 5th

FRIDAY
december 6th

one year anniversary...
-hors 'd oeuvres!
-drink specials!
-bar tab giveaways!
-wet boxer short contest!



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Open At 4:00 pm - Friday, November 29th

(Join Us After The Battle Of The Bands)

& Saturday, Nov. 30th

DANCE TO THE HYPNOTIC SOUNDS OF
DJ'S PROBLEM CHILD & SHI: 9 PM - TILL THE WEE HOURS!

MONDAYS

CONNIE'S RED BEANS & RICE

7 - Till They Last!

ANDY'S ANNUAL
THANKSGIVING BUFFET!
THURSDAY, NOV. 28TH - 9:00 PM!



THURSDAYS

I LOVE THE NIGHT LIFE!

With D. L. Broadway & Vamps

Showtime - 11:30 pm

\$3.00 Cover

FIFTH ANNUAL
TURNABOUT!
WEDNESDAY, DEC. 18TH
10:00 PM
Benefitting Belle Reve/Belle Esprit

SUNDAYS

Connie Marcelle
& The Climbers!

Showtime - 11:30

Cover - \$3.00



THURSDAY - SUNDAY
Dance To The Hypnotic
& Retro Sounds of
DJ's Problem Child & Shi!
10:00 - Till

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Nov. 29-Dec. 12, 1996

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RED STICK ...from 8

Dinky Springs.

All in all, it was an expensive pussy. Claudette got stuck with the tab because of Debbie's little indiscretion in this matter, so our Claudette is shy \$300 - and she's still without her pussy. Poor darling!

Well, it all started in front of the Capitol Grocery, our landmark establishment in historic Spanish Town. Claudette's seven-year-old pussy was about to be snatched - uh, kidnapped - by this despicable culprit. She came to the rescue, saved her fuzzy companion and even ran the culprit off. Later, however, her pussy just up and disappeared. Debbie was distraught.

Our dynamic Debbie proceeded to dash over to the accused culprit's apartment on 8th Street. After a barrage of obscenities directed at our sweetheart by this culprit, sweet and gentle little Debbie Do-Good proceeded to slap the "merde" out of the guilty party - and she didn't gain a pussy out of the deal either.

Instead, the police came, Debbie got charged with the deed, and the judge in turn slapped her with a hefty fine. Things haven't settled down yet. Our culprit convinced the judge it was her pussy, even though a qualified pussy doctor confirmed that there were two pussys involved in this conflict - one brown-eyed and one green-eyed.

Now we are about to be off to court again. All Claudette wants is the refund on her pussy, and she's willing to bare all in a

lawsuit with this Dinky Springs culprit. This little town just may not be far enough away for our culprit to hide her stolen pussy, and the court system in Red Stick may never be the same after Claudette explains everything about her pussy.

Pussy, or no pussy! That is the question. Stay tuned to this channel for further developments in the amazing Spanish Town pussy caper.

Well, Red Stick is about to lose another long-time stud. Gracious Grant is just fed up with everything in Woodyville, and he's heading out for Tulsa. He has it all together, and this has been on his mind for a while. It wasn't a sudden decision. His long-range plans include a new job, new friends, new life. Knowing Grant, he's going to be one happy young man, and I wish my friend the very best.

Last Friday, I made a brief stop over at the magnificent home of Baton Rouge's most dynamic lawyer couple, that extraordinarily beautiful Joseph and his fantastic companion Richard. It was a special event in honor of Jennifer's exit from Woodyville. This sweetheart is headed up into the Ohio River Valley. She will be missed by so many here in Red Stick; Jennifer is such a wonderful human being. She is loved because she is such an outstanding individual. She is caring and giving. I love you too, Jennifer. Keep in touch, and stay out of trouble. Hope you land the teaching job of your dreams.

While looking through my picture files tonight for an elusive photo for the internet, I ran across a couple of prizes that I forgot I had. It was Christian Fox and a friend sharing one drink, with two straws, at the wonderful land of Oz. He looked so happy, and, as I recall, we all had a great time that day. This very same day, I was looking through some old magazines and ran across Christian's layout in *Advocate Men*. Twice in one day! Earlier this week, there was a notice of his death in another magazine. I guess I'll always remember him. He was one of the good guys.

I've had a great week of visiting around big BR. I started things out at *Traditions*, a simply great dance emporium with a wonderful atmosphere of togetherness. I always enjoy my visits here; all the employess treat me so nicely. Karen was the music master of the evening. I simply think she's adorable and very sexy. We chatted for a long while up in the sound booth.

The Dick man was his normal self, and that's really good. He's so young at heart, and I admire this about him. He thinks young - real young. This can only keep him looking happy and contented. Someone told me he was a smooth operator - I'm sure they are referring to his printing empire. When I called over to his print shop the other day, this sexy voice answered the phone and informed me that the Dick was out, but he was the good lookin' one anyhow, so I didn't need the Dick I was calling

for. He then proceeded to ask me what he could do to help me. Who was this, Dickey darling? He was so sweet and so willing to please me. And did.

Ricky and Tyson were bartending downstairs and having a great time treating their customers with their charming ways and fixing them great drinks. There were a couple of new customers, sweet eighteens who made this their first bar stop. I had to calm Tyson down. I noticed his tongue was hard. Hair was the sweetie at the door welcoming all the party-goers, and the crowds started arriving early. This is a great sign of what excellence in management can do for a club which results in a successful business endeavor. Obry is a good man and, as far as I can tell, is a fine and caring manager; Jim runs a great bar in the upper quarters. Bossman George just keeps those feet up in the air - on his desk, honeys! Honestly! How could you think such a thing about our Georgie?

By the way, remind me to tell you sometime about this shirtless Red Sticker and prominent member of the *Traditions* staff who, it seems, had a blast on a recent trip to Hottshotz in Monroe. I believe it was our man George, who found him. Maybe, I'll just get the story directly from him and pass it on to you. I've made a couple of journeys to Shreveport, and I've done some "strokin' columns" there. I think the world is now in need of a "Makin' Out in Monroe" column. Watch out, Jay! Here I come! I hear

[Continued on 12]

WEDNESDAY
4 DECEMBER 96
ALL NITE!

Beefy, Brawny,
dudes...in their
skivies!

SHOT SPECIALS &
DRINK SPECIALS
ALL NITE LONG!

Surprises and
General Hedonism

underwear
PARTY

...and don't forget--every Tuesday is
2-for-1 (beer & well only) from 9pm til 1am

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450 Oklahoma Street • Baton Rouge

...and on Friday, December 6th, 1996...

RODEO
DAYS

Pool Tournament
9pm • \$100 Cash
Prize • \$5 Entry

DJ on site plus...
dancing in lines, circles or
squares...Thank God you're a
country boy!



Fabulous Show...
Apollo In Revue
featuring current
& former Ms.
Apollos.
Begins
after pool
tournament

Donation
of \$5.00 at the
Door
A Benefit
for the
Baton Rouge
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Apollo

the Blue Parrot

The Krewe of
PETRONIUS

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CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

'96

Entertainment!!!

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China

Artwork

and much, much more actioned off to the
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\$5 ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT BUFFET

Dec. 8th
from 1:00 pm

Andy Boudreaux's

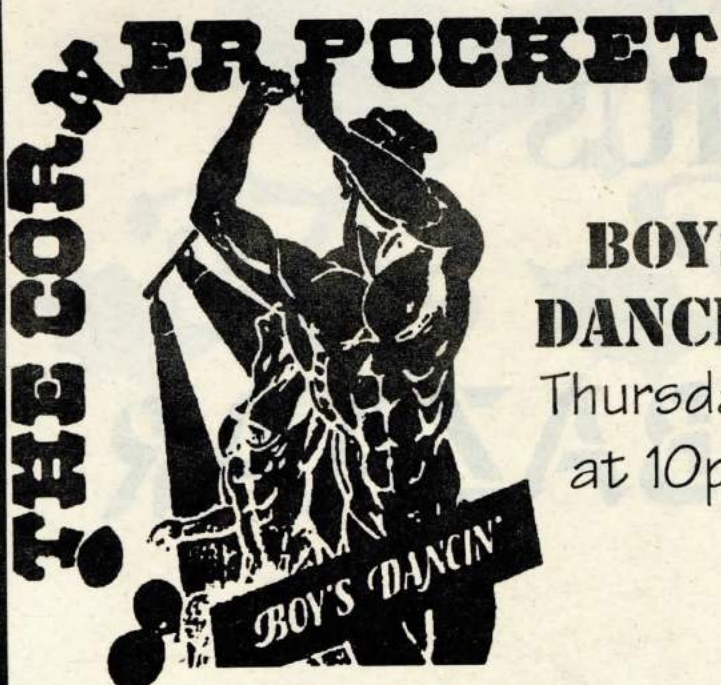
MRR

515 St. Philip
New Orleans

Nov. 29-Dec. 12, 1996

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**BOYS
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at 10pm

**NEW MEAT
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Every Friday-10pm

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**BOYS ON
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10pm

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BAR**

24 HOURS
7 DAYS

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THANKSGIVING POT LUCK
TURKEY DINNER
Call For Details...
Happy Hour All Day LONG!!!

706 FRANKLIN AVENUE 504/948-2300

Red Stick ...from 10

the meat market is great there. Did you know that Monroe model who posed in "Freshmen" this month? Wow! What a nice specimen of young manhood!?

Well, I "finally" made it to my car and eased on over to the Blue Parrot where I ran into Jacques and Larry from over Acadiana way. I hadn't seen them for quite some time, and it was nice to be in their company again. Charlyn and her sweetie were there too. She's still radiantly happy and looking forward to that big wedding in the not so distant future. Roland was tending bar while boss Paul did the pool thing and Michael. That Livonia girl Steve charmed the other customers. Paul did take a short breather to show me around the patio and explain some of the upcoming changes. Those guys are really sprucing up the place. There's going to be a bar there, and one on the roof later. Wow! I really admire this dynamic duo. They've overcome a number of obstacles, and are coming up with a great happy hour facility that just seems to keep drawing in new customers. Every time I drop by, the place is packed, and I'm so happy for these guys. They are a fabulous couple and deserve all this success.

From the Blue Parrot, I made it over to George's where I ran into that fabulous Rodger Dodger in the parking lot. Rodger, darling, guess what? We have something in common. You have a Matt, and I have a Matt. Isn't that just dandy? Oh, yes, I have a great picture of you two (taken in Shreveport), and I'm sure you'll want to have it blown up and placed in a prominent place of importance in your home. My Matt is straight, dammit! Of course, sometimes, that is the best kind. No strings attached. No phone calls. No wanting to move in. Isn't that right, Roger sweetie?

I waited for Richard a long while but that sweetie had gone home for a nap and didn't wake up until 11 p.m. I did run into quite a few old pals here - Les, Joe, Jimmy, Marshall, Larry, magnificent Mitch, Tori (The Gorgeous One) of Lafayette, Howard, PeeWee, and that "San Francisco" buddy. Sweet Rodney and sexy (well-endowed) Jody were bartending. It seems everyone was out for an enjoyable evening. The bar was really packed. It was a happy, happy bunch.

My Matt was at the Mirror when I arrived there, but I'll tell you more about him later. I actually made it to the Mirror twice. I just liked the atmosphere here on this particular night. I took my pictures, chatted with the crowd that had gathered for Run Jane Run, and then ran on out to the Hide-A-Way for another encounter with that dazzling bartender, sweet Marie, a lesbian's answer to gorgeous Ricky of Traditions.

She was so outgoing and nice, but then she always has been. She's a guiding force in all the good things that have been giving off such positive vibes from this super-nice bar. One of my favorite people in the whole world was also there, marvelous Michelle, who I learn bartends now on Fridays. Now hear this everyone - there is no cover charge on Fridays, so come on out, kick up your heels and enjoy a fabulous evening. There are plenty of drink specials, and it's Marie's night to take care of the music. It's an all-request night; Everyone gets to pick what they want to hear or dance to. I'm going back this week, and I may be taking a certain adorable European stud with me. After all, straight significant others usually can't go to bars, so I'm forced to go with sexy men who will. I'm going to make sure this stud enjoys his evening, and I'm sure Michelle will help to make it a perfect night for us at the Hide-A-Way. No kidding! Try the Hide-A-Way. I find it to be very, very nice, and all my gal pals are absolutely fantastic, especially the most beautiful one of all, gorgeous Suzanne.

After I left, I decided to return again to the Mirror. I really like the way Sandy and Jackie welcome me to their establishment. That wonderful Little Wayne just makes my day every time I'm with him. I must tell you this: I'm not sure how Little Wayne got that handle, but it had to be because there was another Wayne already working there - or did. I just want you all to know that "little" is not the way this young man should be described. Damn! Whopper would be more appropriate! Oh, excuse me, Wayne sweetie, I got carried away. I really didn't mean to tell everyone how beautiful your weenie is - but it is - and so are you.

My time at the Mirror with B.J., Debbie, Tammy, and Matt was absolutely the most relaxing time I've had in quite a while and a most welcomed period of relaxation and camaraderie on this particular Saturday. I don't know when a more gorgeous and macho man graced the Mirror Lounge. Debbie, darling, your nephew just made my tongue get hard immediately. I was

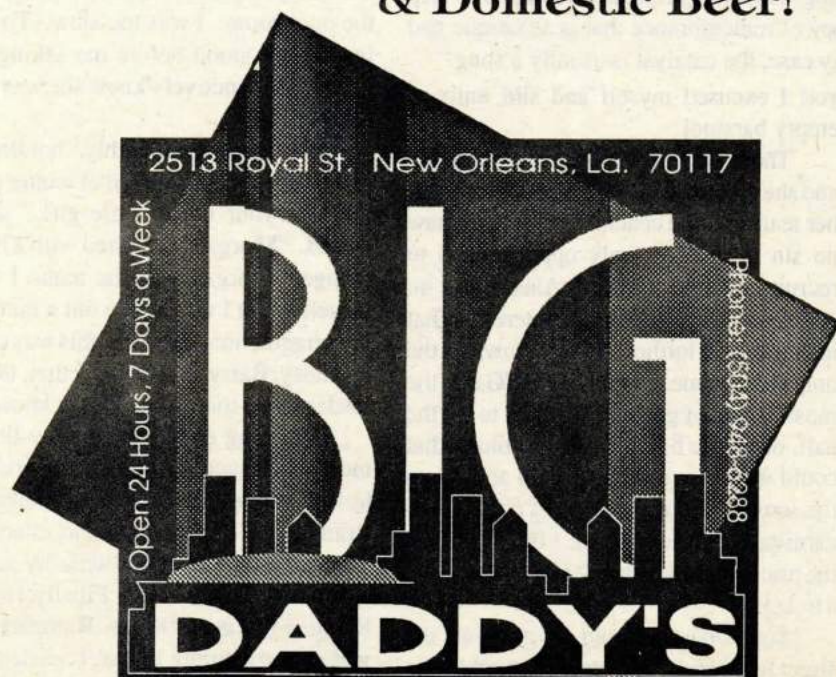
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HOLIDAYS IN THE MARIGNY

Super Holiday Special!
Happy Hour Fridays 4-9 pm

\$1.00

Well Drinks
 & Domestic Beer!



Sunday, Dec. 8th • 4 pm!



**Christmas
 Party
 and Gala
 Drag
 Show!**



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 @ Franklin
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**"A GALLEY HOUSE DRAG
 SHOW FUNDRAISER"**

**Mama Sue Martino
 needs us!!!!**

Sunday, December 1st...6pm
Raffle: \$100.00 Cash Plus lots more



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New Orleans

Nov. 29-Dec. 12, 1996

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Gay Bars!

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Gulf South Directory

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Halloween XIII

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Limbo

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Magnolia Cotillion

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cotillion/

New Orleans

Alliance of Pride

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NO/AIDS Task Force

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Oz

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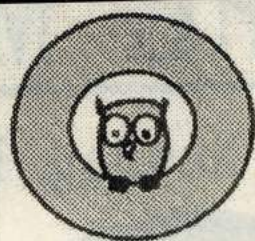
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U'I

ON A LIMB

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by Pam Young

Time Capsules—Music and Memories

Just when we least expect it, something will come along and invite us to step backwards in time... to take a journey of remembrance that is as unique and individual as our fingerprints. In my case, the catalyst is usually a song.

I was driving along Esplanade Ave. last week, fumbling for a CD to play. Keeping one eye on the road and the other on the clutter of discs on the seat, I finally grabbed one and let it slide into the player. As the first strains of Parsley, Sage, Rosemary and Thyme made their way into my ears, I looked up and was unexpectedly greeted by the old man, himself... H. G. Wells. There he stood at the corner of Burgundy and Esplanade with his time machine. I saw him beckoning me to climb aboard. Who could resist that delicious temptation.

Are you going to Scarborough Fair... I was 21 and eager to know what the gay social scene was all about. Two friends decided that it was time for me to enter the smoky world of the gay bar. I was excited, terrified, thrilled, and nervous beyond my wildest expectations. This was to be my first journey to Rampart Street and I was ready... sort of.

First stop on this adventure was The Grog. We walked in the door and down the long bar to the smoky back room where women were dancing together. The music came from an old juke box and it had the herculean task of playing louder than the customers were speaking. Tiny tables lined the walls. My friends wanted to know what I was drinking. Beer. I only had \$10 to spend.

The back room was too intimidating, so I moved to the wall near the bathrooms. Soon I was approached by a well-dressed woman. She smiled. I smiled. She asked me what I was doing there. I answered that I was checking out the scene. She then launched into a 15 minute tirade on why The Grog was located at the gates of hell. Oh great, just what I needed... repentance, and I hadn't even had my first taste of sin

yet! I excused myself and slid onto an empty barstool.

There I met Star. That was her name and she was into softball. She talked about her team and the coach. She, at least, saw no sin in the bar, only opportunities to recruit new ball-players. Alas, I was no athlete, so she quickly lost interest. That left me to drift further up the bar towards the only video game... PONG. PONG was the most boring of games. You had to hit the ball, or let the ball hit, a small block that could only move vertically up and down the screen. Pong... a game of chance in a carnival side-show where I did not know the price of admission or even where to get a ticket.

Someone suggested we go down the street to Brady's... there were pool tables there. (Big deal, I couldn't play pool either.) So off we went to Alice Brady's. At the door sat the person for whom the establishment was named. White shirt, tightly pulled over her breasts, cigarette package rolled up in the sleeve. Black slacks and men's shoes. This was the keeper of the castle, and one had to pass Alice Brady's inspection before being allowed to enter her kingdom.

"You new?" she asked me.

"Yes, my first time," I replied. She laughed uproariously as though I had just told the funniest ribald joke. I didn't know if I should join in her merriment, but before I could decide, she had waved me in with my friends.

Brady's was dark. There was a long bar and a back room with a pool table in it. Otherwise there were only a few tables, a juke box, and the bar stools. The juke box sang "Midnight at the Oasis, send your camel to bed" while a few women swayed

together to the sound. I was fascinated by the dress of the crowd... very delineated between butch and femme. The butches wore duck tails and button down shirts, penny loafers and men's slacks. The femmes wore dresses, an occasional skirt, some wore blue jeans and pony tails. Me... I was dressed in my Levis and a flannel shirt... the original granola dyke.

Another song began to play... this time Barry White. That's when I got nervous... across the floor came a blonde-haired woman who wore cowboy boots and a big silver buckle. "That's Sonny," my friends whispered and they hurried off to the pool room. I was too slow. The next instant she stood before me asking for a dance. I instinctively knew she was going to lead.

She danced smoothly, holding me close. Her breath smelled of winter green. "What's your name, little girl," she inquired. "Morgan," I replied with a bit of a twinge. Morgan was the name I called myself when I was acting out a fantasy in my imagination. Besides, this was clearly a fantasy. Barry White knew that, the bartender knew that, Alice Brady knew that.

The song ended and Sonny thanked me for the dance. I smiled and scurried off to find my friends. I was a stranger in a strange land... and I needed an interpreter. The rest of the evening went by without any more human contact. Finally, I told my friends I was going home. Rampart Street was overwhelming to me. I needed more practice. As I walked down the street back to my car, I passed drag queens and men dressed in leather, other dykes in butch/femme attire. Where, oh where, did I fit into this world, I wondered. My love for women was obviously not enough to help me translate the language of the gay social scene. I would need lessons on etiquette, on manners, on customs. I was truly a babe in the woods.

And that was when I got another lesson that I would not forget for a long time to come. Do not park your car in the bus zone! I had much to learn.

Something jolted me back to the present. Simon and Garfunkel were finished their Dangling Conversation and I was back on Esplanade Ave. searching for a parking space where the meter Nazis wouldn't find me. I was meeting a friend for lunch at Port of Call, and as I entered the

[continued on 16]

FANGS & LASHES by Saurf

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OUT ON A LIMB ...from 14

door, the juke box played the Righteous Brothers... "you've lost that loving feeling, oh that loving feeling..." I hummed the rest of the song as I sat on a bar stool waiting for my lunch date. Then the Three Degrees started singing When will I see you again... and I imagined as I looked into the smoky mirror behind the bar that I could see Star and Sonny and Alice Brady leaning against the wall looking back at me.

Dear Mr. Wells, your time machine is both a blessing and a curse.

RED STICK ...from 12

at a loss for words or, at least, how to get them out. He is a charmer - squeaky clean, beautiful smile, tight britches (smile), outstanding personality. Matt, darling, I'm not going to let anyone see those pictures I took. I plan to keep you all to myself. Is that okay, Debbie? B.J.?

By the way, Roger Dodger - eat your heart out, baby!!!! I think my Matt is the greatest! I can hardly wait for our next period of togetherness. (smile)

Another happy couple was out enjoying the Mirror's program of the evening - Skeeter and Tatia. This dynamic duo plan a New Year's Eve wedding. This ought to be a wonderful ceremony. I'm looking forward to it so much. Keyth is scheduled to take the pictures, so this will mean some great memory prints for this happy couple. I talked to Keyth earlier, and I need to get back with him. He was a little under the weather at last report.

[continued on 25]

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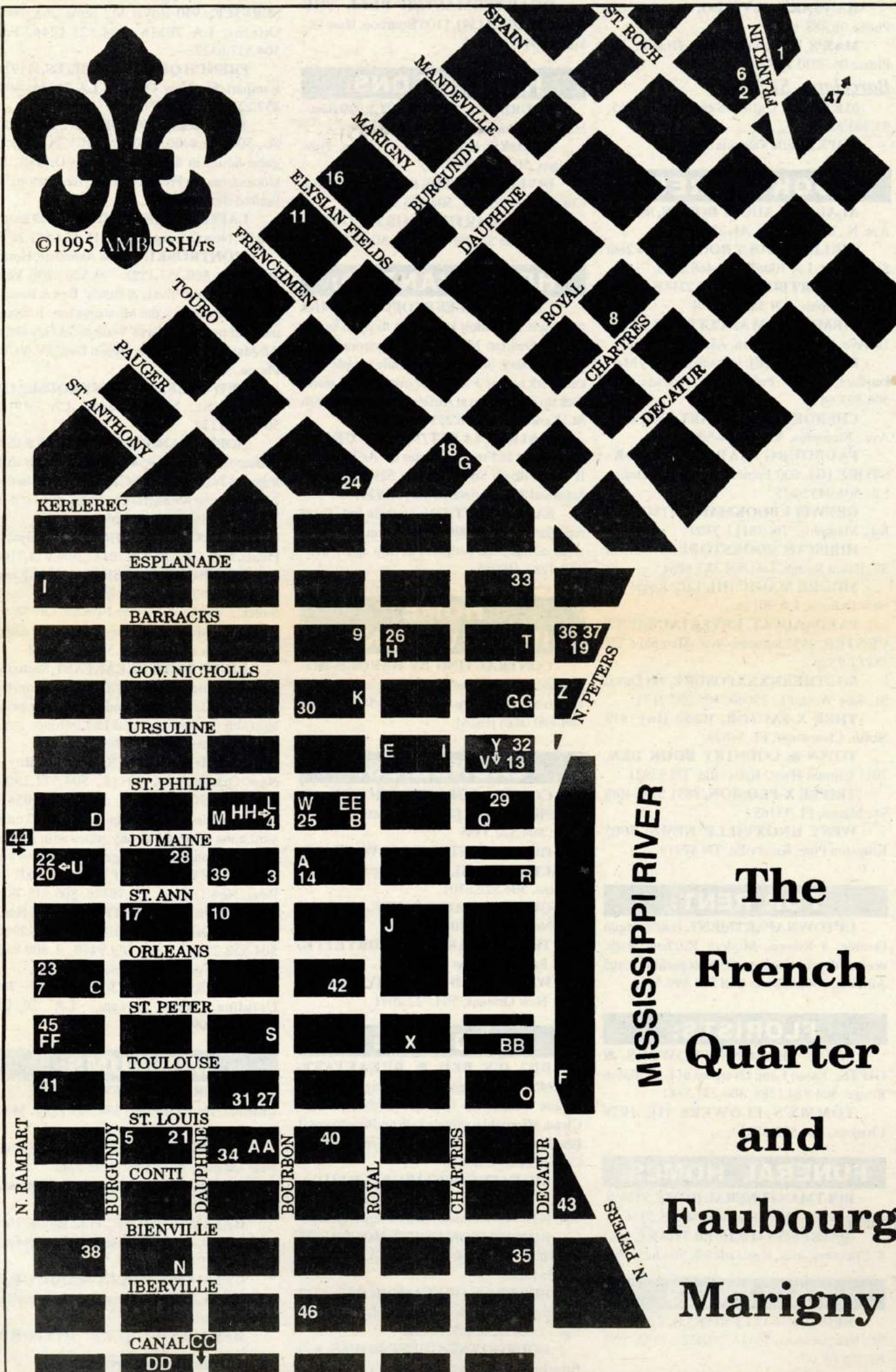
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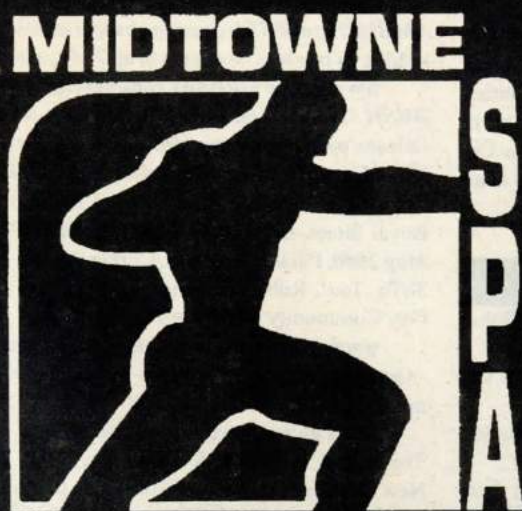
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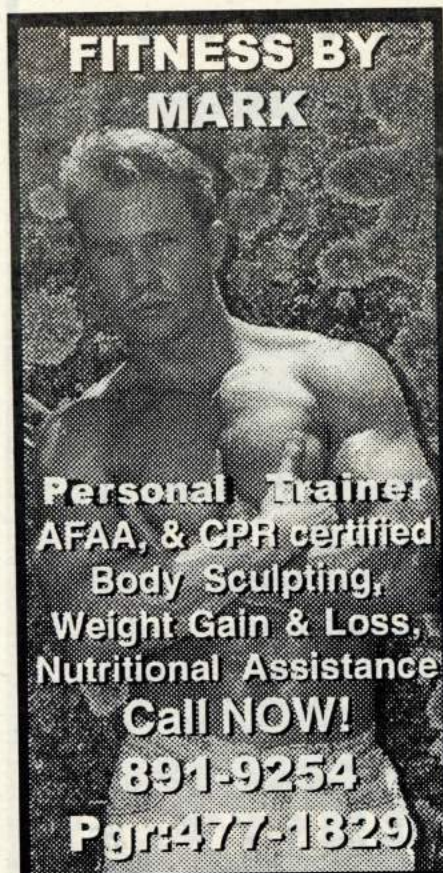
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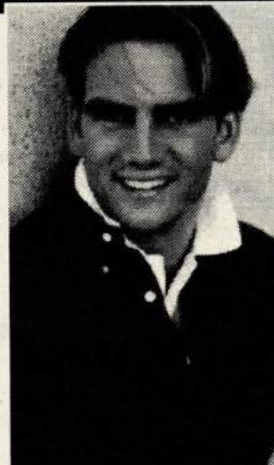
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GROUPS WANTED I'm 23 years old, 5'8, 130lbs, Brown hair, Brown eyes. I'm looking for other guys to have fun with. Groups are a plus. (New Orleans) #14444

HOT TAMALES I'd like to get together with men in my area. Call me and we will have a real hot time. (New Orleans) #13372

SECOND THAT EMOTION I'm interested in meeting any men for fun, long walks, picnics, and anything you want to do. (New Orleans) #13284

CUM TOGETHER OVER ME I'm a White male looking for other men for friendship and get togethers. I'm 6ft, 185lbs, Black hair, well hung. Get in touch. (New Orleans) #12255

NATURE BOY I'm 28 years old, 6ft, Blond hair, Blue eyes, very well hung. I would like to meet other guys in my area who like beaches, nude sunbathing, making out, and more. Call me. (New Orleans) #9467

SHOW AND TELL I'm looking for exhibitionist and guys who like to play with toys. Get naked and call me. (New Orleans) #10584

HUMAN ART I'm an artist looking for a human canvas. If you would like to be painted call me. All pieces signed. (New Orleans) #10799

GETTING EVEN If you are tired of the same old poetry call me. (New Orleans) #10188

LET'S HAVE FUN I'm mid 40's, 5'9, 165lbs, masculine, dark hair, short beard. I like to travel and I'm looking for guys to have fun with. Call me. (New Orleans) #21640

SAFE AND SANE I'm 24 years old, sophomore in college, 4.0. I want someone who is fun and knows what he wants out of life. I'm a top looking for bottoms. If you are 24 to 34 and like to play safe call me. (New Orleans) #21742

WHY CAN'T WE BE FRIENDS? I'm looking for some straight acting Gay friends 25 to 30. Call me. (New Orleans) #21324

FUN AND KINKY GUY I'm looking for young masculine men. I like all kinds of kinky sex. Call me. (New Orleans) #20505

GET IN TOUCH WITH ME I'm 59 years old, semi-retired, and want to meet someone who wants friendship and possibly more. Please, don't be on drugs. #18276

Mississippi

LOOKING FOR A LOVER I'm a 29 year old Gay Black male looking for a very muscular, handsome, witty, loving, and caring man. Someone who is fun. If you would like to know more about me please call. (Greenwood) #5164

COMMON INTERESTS I'm a 23 year old male, 5'11, 190lbs, muscular. I'm seeking guys in my area for fun and friendship. (Jackson) #2882

LONG TERM I'm looking for a long relationship with someone who likes to hike, camp, swim, horseback ride, and more. I'm 30 years old, 140lbs, light Brown hair, Blue eyes. (Pascagoula) #14937

SMALL TOWN BOY Hello guys. I'm a healthy, Gay White male, 5'7, 125lbs, 27 years old and kind of a small fellow. I'm tired of the games. I'm looking for a sincere, descent gentleman who is older than me. Call only if you are serious! (Tupelo) #19217

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY BOTTOM I'm a Gay, Black male, 5'6, 135lbs, 28" waist, bottom. I'm seeking a masculine, top man, 18 to 30, of any race. #15202

YOU ONLY LIVE TWICE I'm a Gay White male, 5'8, 120lbs, Brown hair. I'm looking to be friends or start a relationship. I'm a coffee drinker, smoker, artist, and poet. Call me. #20041

BIG, MUSCULAR MEN ONLY I'm a 23 year old, Italian guy, looking for tall, muscular men. I like football players, poppers, and business men. #16719



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XXX-7



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Calendar Boy Contest THURSDAYS

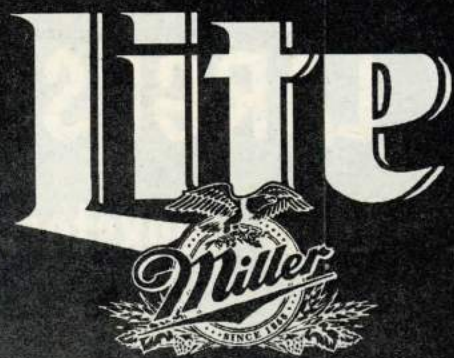
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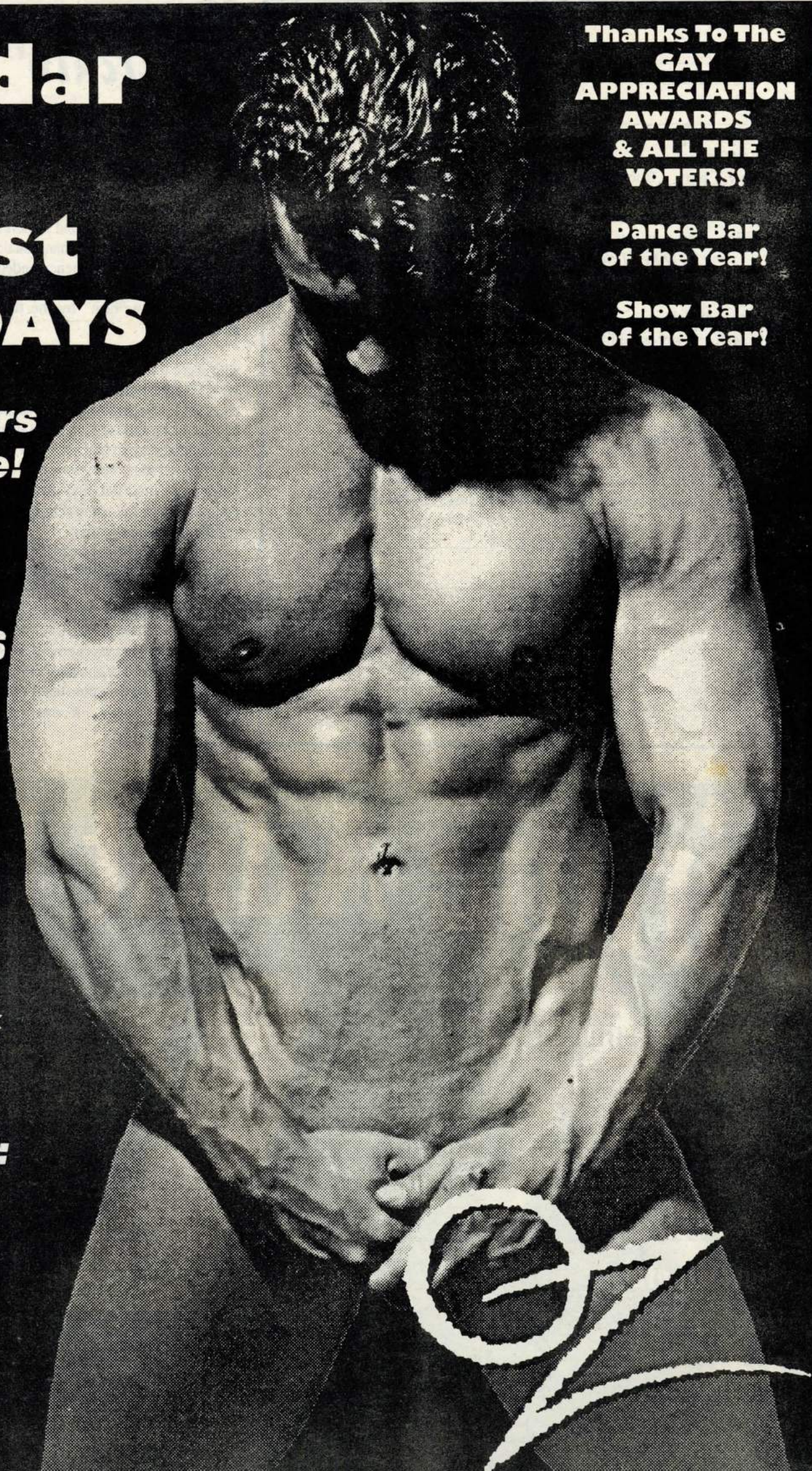


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XXX-9

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☐ Laundries ☐ Massage/Escorts ☐ Messages ☐ Organizations ☐ Personals
☐ Photography ☐ Restaurants ☐ Retail Sales ☐ Roommates ☐ Services
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[All information on this form remains STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL]

ADPRICES:

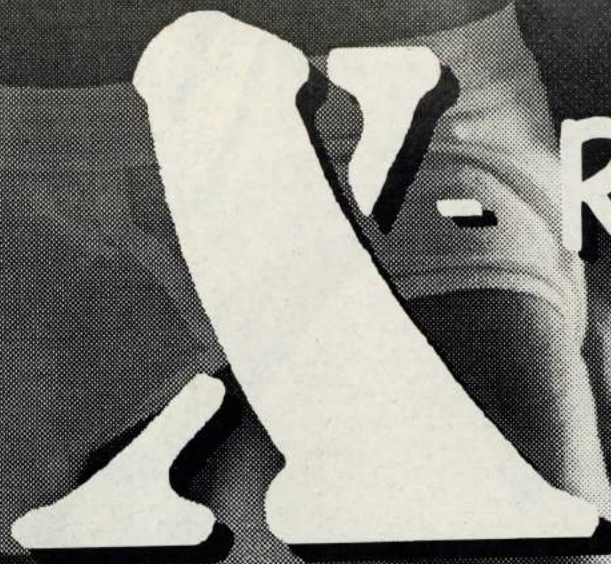
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Flickin' with Brad

by Brad Benedict

Hot Copy is a current release of Minotaur, a division of Studio 2000. This one is really hot, and I found myself using a little more Astroglide than usual. No sooner than one hot sequence ended, another would begin. I want you to know I was completely "beat" by the time the movie ended.

This one was about cute newsboys who were trying to win a trip to Disney World for the most newspapers and magazines sold. Michael Anthony was the first one out to earn those points and thanks to our computer expert (Alex Kincaid), he was off to a good start. They were all over each other in no time flat, and that oversized computer desk got some action not in the regular internet programs.

Next we see Brian Maxx ringing a doorbell and peeking into windows and, when our inhabitant doesn't respond, little Brian just goes around to the garden area and finds our homeowner (Chris McKenzie) hard at work. That was nothing compared to the work that was about to follow. Poor little Brian worked his little fanny off to earn those Disney points. It was a hot and heavy encounter.

Next up, we have another meeting to tell everyone that the contest is about to end, and to get those last points together for the final tally. Well, our news manager (Chris Dano) asks Jeff Austin to stick around for a conference, and cute little Ryan Wade hides in the stacks to hear the awful plot our manager has planned. It seems Jeff was runner-up last year, and Dano decides to help him get top spot this year. Of course, a little sex is in order to achieve this lofty position, and our Jeff took it all in stride. I just loved his beautiful, expressive eyes, and pretty weenie.

Not to be outdone, Ryan Wade (who also uses the name Ryan Wagner) goes to sexy Todd Steven's house, and he tells him about the plot. Now, what do you think they do? Guess, dammit! That's the twist, and we get to see all that sex play as they seal the deal with a fantastic number of sexual positions and a double shootin' sequence from our talented Todd.

Todd is absolutely the greatest. It was Bobby Revere of the Parade who introduced him to a New Orleans audience recently. Now Bobby darling, you have to get Ryan Wagner down for a show. This is one I've had the hots for ever since he was a cover boy for "Bound and Gagged" magazine. I think another interview is in order, don't you, sweetie?

Hot Copy rates a 10 on any scale, and be sure to have plenty of Astroglide handy. It's a 5-jerkoff masterpiece, from a company that seems to be giving Falcon and Bel Ami some stiff competition.

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BOOK BEAT

by Brad Benedict

In "Being Homosexual," Dr. Richard Isay demonstrated that homosexuality is an inborn and normal variant of human sexuality. In his latest book "Becoming Gay," he shows how important it is to make the journey from private acknowledgment of same sex longings to open expression of a gay identity. Drawing on both his own painful odyssey and the experiences of his patients, Dr. Isay explores what it means to accept one's true nature and reveals the harm done by misguided authorities who attempt to cure homosexuality.

In "Becoming Gay," Dr. Isay illustrates the crucial role that sexual identity plays in the development of all humans. According to Dr. Isay, disguising one's sexual identity, or living an "inauthentic" life, can cause anxiety, depression and low self-esteem. He places great importance on coming out to friends, family and co-workers in order to establish a healthy continuity between one's private and social lives.

Dr. Isay seems to have written this book out of deeply personal commitment and understanding. It should prove to be an invaluable item for anyone in developing a positive gay identity. It should also enlighten families, friends and therapists, if they will just read and heed.

This hardcover Pantheon book sells for \$23.00.

One of the cutest books to come across my desk is called "Campy Vampy Trampy Movie Quotes." This out contains 901 bitchy barbs, wicked wisecracks and lusty

lampoons.

Compiled and edited by Steve Stewart, it makes a perfect little stocking stuffer.

For instance: "Cameron's so tight if you stuck a piece of coal up his ass, in two weeks you'd have a diamond." (Matthew Broderick, "Ferris Bueeler's Day Of")

"You're too much of a cunt to be a prick." (John Ritter, "Skin Deep")

"It's not the men in your life that counts - It's the life in your men." (Mae West, "I'm No Angel")

"It's so quiet up here, you can hear a mouse get a hard-on." (John Belushi, "Continental Divide")

I haven't had anything this pure since the Vienna Boys Choir hit town." (Lauren Hutton, "Once Bitten")

Etc. Etc. Etc. Companion Press, \$9.95.

Both men and women can find "Drinking the Rain" a delightful book. It is a memoir that shows how a quest for alternatives can actually be a pleasurable experience. Written by Alix Kates Shulman, author of "Memoirs of An Ex-Prom Queen," this is a look at a transformation from the hectic life in Manhattan to the low-key life on an island off the coast of Maine.

I can't say this is something that everyone would want to do, but it does show how one can exist with a lot less and be just as happy and healthy. Living without plumbing, electricity, or telephone for a decade of island summers doesn't seem that appealing, but Shulman shows how feminism gave her meaning to life. The island experience helped her to understand the expansion from gender to the whole natural world.

There is some inspiration here, but I can't understand why I would want to give up what I have now to live on an island. Well, as long as it wasn't an isolated island and I could hop back to New Orleans when I so desired, I suppose I could make do with a toddy and a friend or two on a daily basis

[continued on xxx-12]

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XXX-11

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

ACADIANA CARES [Concern for AIDS Relief, Education, and Support], located at 1405 W. Pinhook Rd., Suite 108, PO Box 91446, Lafayette, LA 70509-1446; 318/233-2437, FAX: 318/235-4178; 800/354-2437

ACADIANA RAINBOW SOCIETY OF THE DEAF, PO Box 57166, New Orleans, 70157; 889-0138

AIDS HOTLINE, 944-AIDS[2437] in New Orleans, 1/800/99-AIDS[2437]-9 toll free statewide

AIDS Law, New Orleans, 504.944.5035

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS, Lambda Center, 2106 Decatur, New Orleans, 947-0548

BELLE REVE/BELLESPRIT [Shelter Resources, Inc.], AIDS Residences for Families, PO Box 3305, New Orleans, 70177, 945-9455

CAMP SISTER SPIRIT, P.O. Box 12, Overt, MS 39464

CELEBRATION, PO Box 51877, New Orleans, 70151, 586-1006

COMING OUT SUPPORT GROUP, New Orleans, 899-6024

DARRELL HAMBY MEMORIAL FOOD BANK, 704 N. Rampart, New Orleans, 524-3488, Monday-Friday 10am-4pm

DROP IN CENTER/YOUTH, 1214 N. Rampart, New Orleans, 524-8334

FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH FOR THE GAY & LESBIAN TASK FORCE, 1800 Jefferson Ave., New Orleans; Men 865-7005, Women 822-3278

FOOD FOR FRIENDS, New Orleans, 944-6028

FORUM FOR EQUALITY, PO Box 850096, New Orleans 70185-0096

FOUNDATION FOR MACROBIOTIC WAY, New Orleans, 552-9434

FRIENDS FOR LIFE/CAPITAL AREA HIV/AIDS SERVICES, 4521 Jamestown Ave., Suite 12, Baton Rouge, 70808, 923-2277

FRONT RUNNERS, A Gay & Lesbian Running & Walking Club, New Orleans, 947-1081

GALA/UNO, [Gay and Lesbian Alliance/University of New Orleans], Office of Campus Activities, New Orleans, 70148, 286-6349

GAY COUNSELING LINE, 504.885.4476

GLSA [LSU Gay & Lesbian Student Assn.], PO Box 16031, Baton Rouge, 70893, 383-8255

GO CARE, 2121 Justice, Monroe, 71201, 318/325-1092

GRACE FELLOWSHIP IN CHRIST, New Orleans, 944-9836, 949-2325

GREATER NEW ORLEANS PRIME TIMERS, PO Box 71611, New Orleans, 70172-1611, 525-3299; Meets 2nd Friday of each month, 7:30pm, Vieux Carre MCC

GULF GENDER ALLIANCE [GGA], Non-Profit Support Group for transgendered persons. Monthly meetings, socials and political activism. Privacy respected and expected. Interview required. Nondiscriminatory. Call 504.833.3046 or write PO Box 56836, New Orleans, LA 70156-6836; e-mail: crystgaa@aol.com

HALLOWEEN'S IN NEW ORLEANS, INC., PO Box 52171, New Orleans, 70152-2171

HOMOSEXUAL INFORMATION CENTER [HIC], 115 Monroe St., Bossier City, 71111, 318/742-4709

INTEGRITY GAY/LESBIAN SPIRITUAL SUPPORT GROUP, New Orleans, 944-5346

JEWISH GAY & LESBIAN ALLIANCE, New Orleans, 525-8286

JOIE DE VIVRE METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH, PO Box 64996, Baton Rouge, 70896, 383-0450

KOCKTAIL BUNCH BOWLING LEAGUE, New Orleans, Contact Glenn Culp, 861-0233

KREWE OF APOLLO / BATON ROUGE, PO Box 3591, Baton Rouge, 70821

KREWE OF APOLLO/LAFAYETTE, PO Box 53251, Lafayette, 70505

KREWE OF APOLLO/SHREVEPORT, PO Box 4918, Shreveport, 71134

KREWE OF PETRONIUS, 1021 Gov. Nicholls, New Orleans, 70116, 525-4498

LaCARP [Louisiana Community AIDS Research Program], New Orleans, 584-1971

LAGPAC [Louisiana Lesbian & Gay Political Action Caucus], PO Box 53075, New Orleans, 70153, 566-0329

LAKE CHARLES METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH, PO Box 384, Lake Charles, 70602, 318/439-9869

LAMBDA GROUP, PO Box 1911, Baton Rouge, 70821-1911

LEGAL [Louisiana Electorate of Gays and Lesbians], PO Box 70344, New Orleans, 70172, 365-3105 Voice Mail; LEGAL ALEXANDRIA

-PINEVILLE, PO Box 3036, Pineville, 71361; LEGAL BATON ROUGE, PO Box 44370, Baton Rouge, LA 70804; LEGAL LAFAYETTE, PO Box 90501, Lafayette, LA 70509; LEGAL SHREVEPORT, PO Box 44543, Shreveport, LA 71134-4543

LEAGUE FOR EQUALITY, PO Box 53425, Lafayette, 70505

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF NEW ORLEANS, 234 Loyola, Suite 421, New Orleans, 70112, 581-9106

LESBIAN AVENGERS, PO Box 791375, New Orleans, 70179-1375, Voice Mail 365-3069

LESBIAN & GAY COMMUNITY CENTER OF NEW ORLEANS [LGCCNO], 816 N. Rampart, New Orleans, 522-1103, <http://www.gayneworleans.com/acc.html>

LESBIAN INCEST/SEXUAL ABUSE SUPPORT GROUP, 827-5924, 486-9577

LEWIS HUMPHREY'S FOOD FOR FRIENDS, Baton Rouge, 387-9798

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF LAFAYETTE, PO Box 92682, Lafayette, 70509, 318/232-0546

MOC/NO [Men of Color/New Orleans], PO Box 57694, New Orleans, 482-5341

MOC/PROJECT BROTHERHOOD, 704 N. Rampart St. New Orleans, LA 70116, 504/522-8656, (fax) 504/524-5691

NEW ORLEANS GAY MEN'S CHORUS, 245-8884

NEW ORLEANS ALLIANCE OF PRIDE, INC. [NOAP] PO Box 52343, New Orleans, LA 70152; 504/943-7455

NEW ORLEANS PWA COALITION, The Boswell Center, 704 N. Rampart, New Orleans, 524-3488

NEW ORLEANS WOMEN'S MUSIC COLLECTIVE, 2903 Jefferson Ave., New Orleans, 70115; Ann 838-7918, Sydney 833-2834

NO/AIDS TASK FORCE, 1407 Decatur, New Orleans, 945-4000

NORTHLAKE AIDS NETWORK [NoLAN], PO Box 2397, Slidell, 70459, 504/641-6750, 1/800/264-4241 FAX 504/641-4241

NORTHWEST LOUISIANA AIDS TASK FORCE, PO Box 832, Shreveport, 71162-0832, 318/221-8219

PFLAG/LAFAYETTE, PO Box 31078, Lafayette, 70503

PFLAG/NO [Parents & Friends of Lesbians & Gays/ New Orleans], PO Box 15515, New Orleans, 70175, 895-3936, 581-2749

PHILADELPHIA CENTER, PO Box 44454, Shreveport, 71134-4454, 318/222-6633

POSITIVE FEEDBACK, 1407 Decatur, New Orleans, 944-AIDS[2437]

POSITIVE ATTITUDE, P.O. Box 2543, Lafayette, LA 70502; 318.365.8090

POSTIVELY SOCIAL, PO Box 72225, New Orleans, 70172-2225, 365-3027; is a loosely organized social club for people who are HIV+ or HIV friendly

PROJECT LAZARUS, A Residence for PWAs, PO Box 3906, New Orleans, 70177-3906, 504/949-3609

REGIONAL AIDS INTERFAITH NETWORK [RAIN], 523-3755

ROYAL ORDER OF UNICORN, PO Box 3985, Lafayette, 70502

SOUTH LOUISIANA HUMAN RESOURCES [SLHR], non-profit service organization for HIV/AIDS clients in Region III., 106 Exchange Alley, Houma, LA 70363; 504.879.3768

SOUTHWEST LOUISIANA AIDS COUNCIL, 717 Pujos St., Suite B, Lake Charles, 70601, 318/439-5145

ST. AMBROSE HOLY CATHOLIC

CHURCH, New Orleans, Masses held at St. George's Episcopal Church, 4600 St. Charles Ave., Sundays @ 12:30pm, Call Fr. John Rubar at 504/558-0713 for info.

ST. TAMMANY PARISH NETWORK, PO Box 2453, Slidell, 70458, 649-7043

TWENTYSOMETHING, a fresh new social alternative all inclusive group for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender adults. The group meets twice a month to plan daily activities. Activities planned for the future are brunches, movie excursions, and informative seminars. Hotline: 504/836-9242.

UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL HOSPICE, 2021, Perdido St., New Orleans, 588-3138

WILLIAM J. FANNING FOUNDATION [Buzzy's Boys & Girls], 2301 Chartres, New Orleans, 70117, 943-8929

VIEUX CARRE METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH, 1128 St. Roch, New Orleans 70117, 945-5390

WOMYN OF COLOR, PO Box 4406, New Orleans, 70178-4406, 891-0673

YWCA AIDS MINORITY COMMUNITY OUTREACH, 700 Pierre Ave., Shreveport, 71103, 318/226-8717

BOOK BEAT ...from xxx-11

in a quiet and romantic setting. Yeah! I think I could handle that!

From Penguin, "Drinking the Rain" sells for \$11.95.

In "American Dreams," Sapphire (author of "Push") explores the raw edges that center around urban life. Taking incidents from life, such as the shooting of fifteen-year-old Latasha Harlins by a Korean grocer, a look at an abused child who grows up to escape her past, or the vicious cycle of family violence, she explores her topics with strength and honesty.

This is all done in poetry and prose and will not meet the wide audience that it should. However, once you begin reading it, it becomes a challenge to continue. It's worth the effort, and it is definitely worth more than a passing glance.

"American Dreams" is \$12.00 and comes from Vintage.

There are many different decisions a young gay person must make. One of the toughest and often the first is just coming out. A new book called "The World Out There" is the first book for young men and women who want to learn what being part of the gay and lesbian community is all about.

In clear, accessible language, it tackles subjects that many older gay men and women are still dealing with - from dating and the bar scene to career and education choices. From coping with homophobia to understanding the truth, this book recommends films, books and other resources for further exploration and explanation of the gay culture. The author, Michael Thomas Ford, depicts gay communities in eight cities, and any of these could easily be New Orleans or Baton Rouge. He also profiles seven men and women, including singer Melissa Etheridge, who have successfully incorporated their gay identities into their personal and professional lives.

The book is very important, especially

for those young people living in isolated communities, but it is also ideal for those migrating to larger urban communities. It is an enlightening view of living in a world where acceptance is a luxury you have to work so hard to achieve. Read it by all means. It is an important book for the '90s and beyond.

Regardless of age, this is one book that deserves a place on your shelves, a prominent one for all to see. Whether closeted or out, just read it.

It's hardcover, priced at \$22.50 and from The New Press.

Many of you will remember Achy Obejas' "We Came All the Way From Cuba So You Could Dress Like This?" Well, she's back and "Memory Mambo" is an interesting look at how a lesbian from Cuba struggles with violence, desire and the meaning of love. Juani Casas, her main character, is obsessed with memory. She has a fixation on extracting the truth of her life from the nostalgic mythology of exile. Surrounded by relatives, Obejas offers the reader an exciting look at life, which appears to be almost autobiographical or perhaps biographical. There is realism there. The writing is clear and often humorous.

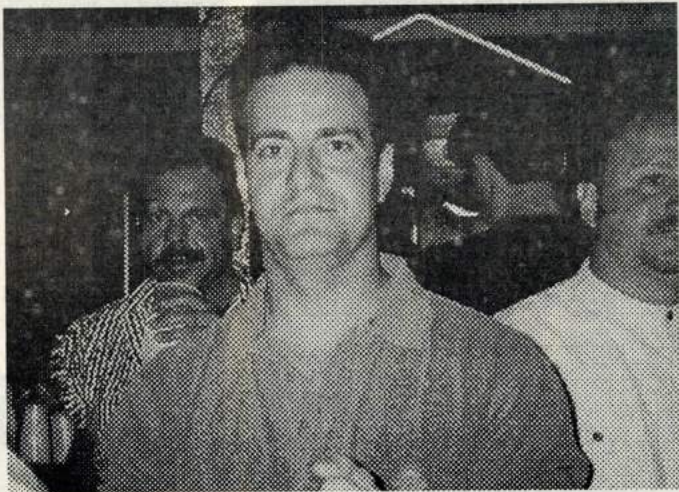
If you liked her first book, you are going to thoroughly enjoy "Memory Mambo," which comes from Cleis Press, \$12.95.

Undressing Lesbian Sex: Popular Images, Private Acts and Public Consequences" draws on up-to-date scientific research to present down-to-earth reviews of what lesbians do, how they do it, and how often. It is based on information provided by women from three 1992 surveys, two in London and one in New York. The result is a lively and informed discussion on current issues.

It contains information on many issues affecting lesbian sexual health and well-being, including the latest thinking on HIV/AIDS, the SM debate, social lubri-

[continued on xxx-16]

Lafayette Paparazzi!



Acadiana's Lee Hubbell in the midst of it all while out on the town in Lafayette.



St. Martin's Will Parr joins John for another beer at Lafayette's newest nightclub Reality's.



Cupid takes a Mistress at Lafayette's Images.



"Birthday Babe" John Breau (right) hams it up with a "dirty" Blonde bombshell Will at Images.

[Photos & captions by: J.D. Norris]



Baton Rouge Paparazzi!

[TOP LEFT] Mary & Rusti at the Hide-A-Way Lounge.

[TOP CENTER] Skeeter and her Tatia celebrate a night out...they're planning a big wedding for New Year's Eve. Congrats from the **AMGIRLS!**

[TOP RIGHT] Sandy, Bettina and Jackie welcome guests to the Mirror and Run Jane Run concert.

[BOTTOM LEFT] Hair, darling, what are you doing to our Dick?

[BOTTOM CENTER] Jacques, Paul and Larry at the Blue Parrot.

[BOTTOM RIGHT] Les, Joe, Jimmy and Donald party away the night at George's Place. Where was Vince, Jimmy darling?

[Photos by Brad Benedict]



Capital

City

...and the party goes on!

[TOPLEFT] Bartender Lance at the new hot spot on the Westbank known as Secrets.

[TOPCENTER] Bartender Yvette giving a fashion statement during the 8th Annual Black Ball dance party at The Parade.

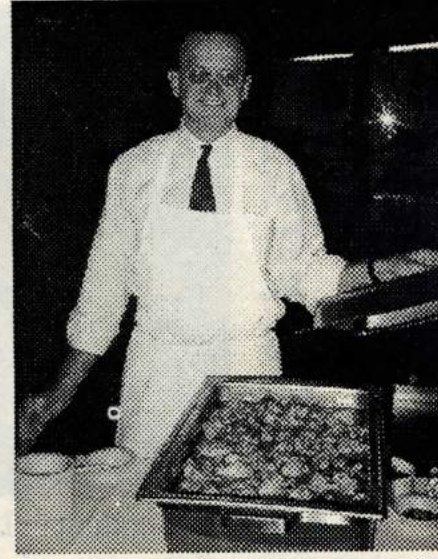
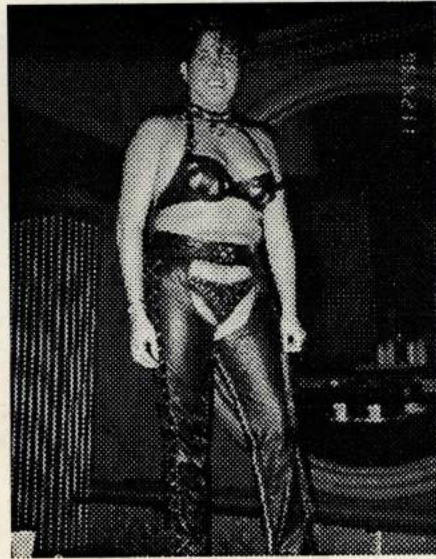
[TOP RIGHT] Mark Sollmeyer of Quarter Scene Catering serving up just some of his delicious cuisine to hundreds of participants during the Art Against Aids Benefit at New Orleans Center

[BOTTOMLEFT] LA. Hardbody caught up with singer Sherreece on her birthday to give her a BIG present at Angles/Metairie.

[BOTTOMCENTER] Rafflesales queen and bar baron Terry of the Golden Lantern at the Belle Reve/Belle Esprit Thanksgiving Gala bringing in over \$1,100 for the hospice.

[BOTTOM RIGHT] Mr. Louisiana Bear '96 Bobby Creekmore and Glenn host the Belle Reve/Belle Esprit Thanksgiving Gala in the Bywater.

[Photos by Joan Jette and Rip Naquin-Delain]



The People have VOTED!!!

[TOP LEFT] Reba Douglas and (artist) Michael C. Landry at Michael's art opening at the Community Center featuring "FRAGMENTS".

[TOP CENTER] Just a few of the GAA "Fly Fashion Award" recipients included Caroline Carnes, Reba Douglas, Hoyle (accepting for Jay Loomis), Dion, and not shown Smurf and Paloma.

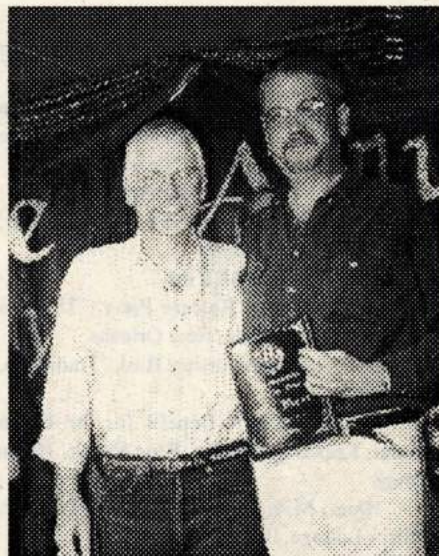
[TOP RIGHT] Bartender of the Year James Cockrell of 4 Season/Metairie fame, is presented by Connie Marcelle.

[BOTTOM LEFT] Tiffany Rae Buttons and Jamie Gender, of Rampart fame, presenting an award.

[BOTTOM CENTER] Lisa Beaumann and Rubyfruit Jungle owner Pam Young reading a recipients name.

[BOTTOM RIGHT] The bold and beautiful co-emcee Teryl-Lynn Foxx being presented with Entertainer of the Year Award by Petronius Captain Mickey Gil.

[Photos by: Rip Naquin-Delain]



The People's Choice!

[TOP LEFT] Political Activist of the Year Toni Pizanie giving her thanks to the GAA revelers.

[TOP CENTER] Tom and Pat of Gay Mart took home the prized Gay Business of the Year Award. Good job boys!

[TOP RIGHT] Famed gay radio personality, Michael Chase, took home the well deserved Media Personality of the Year Award with much applause and an announcement of returning to the air waves soon!

[BOTTOM LEFT] House of Blues Diva Laura and Lucky Cheng Mistress Paloma present Oz owner Tommy Elias with Dance Bar of the Year. Oz also received Show Bar of the Year and Tommy himself won the first GAA Man of the Year Award.

[BOTTOM CENTER] The proud GFB manager Ken Grand Pre gives his thanks and acceptance speech as Good Friends Bar takes home Neighborhood Bar of the Year.

[BOTTOM RIGHT] With great honor and appreciation Dr. Louise McFarland is appointed by the GAA board as Lesbian of the Year, for her many years of hard work and stamina.

[Photos by Rip Naquin-Delain]



More Gay Appreciation!

[TOP LEFT] Lifetime Achievement Award recipient, Ms. Do, and Fly Fashion Award recipient, Smurf are shown here presenting Show Bar of the Year Award to Oz.

[TOP CENTER] Comedian Female Impersonator and new Miss Upper Schwegmann Heights, Clorox Bleachman of Rampart fame was voted Newcomer of the Year!

[TOP RIGHT] Well...just what should we say here...4 Seasons/ Metairie bartender and High Heel Pool Tourny Director Billy Warr PROUDLY took the Bitch of the Year Award. Hmmm! We would have never known.

[BOTTOM LEFT] GAA Show Director, Lisa Beaumann doing her famous Judy Garland impersonation for the event guests.

[BOTTOM CENTER] Co-hostess and Entertainer of the Year Teryl-Lynn Foxx setting the stage with co-host and GAA president Sonny C. Cleveland.

[BOTTOM RIGHT] GAA President Sonny watches as Lucky Chengs' Dion and newly crowned Miss Apollo National, Raquel Chevallier presents an award.

[Photos by Rip Naquin-Delain]



SPECIAL EVENTS

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 27th...

Absolutely Dragulous w/ Tori, Tiffany & Cody, George's, Baton Rouge

11:30pm, "Oh My Man!" All Star Cast Monthly Production starring Raquel Chevallier, Teryl-Lynn Foxx, Lisa Beaumann and Stephanie Williams, Oz, New Orleans

THANKSGIVING

THURSDAY NOV. 28th...

Happy Thanksgiving Bash w/DJ Jason, Traditions, Baton Rouge

Thanksgiving Karaoke, George's, Baton Rouge

2pm, Andy's Annual Thanksgiving Buffet, Andy Boudreaux's MRB, New Orleans

2pm, Thanksgiving Pot Luck Turkey Dinner, Copper Top Bar, New Orleans

3pm, Annual Thanksgiving Feast, Golden Lantern, New Orleans

9pm, Andy's Annual Thanksgiving Buffet, Andy Boudreaux's Wolfendale's, New Orleans

9pm, Orbital plus Spring Heel Jack, House of Blues, New Orleans

9:30pm, Two Year Anniversary Celebration of The Boys Next Door Male Revue, Another Corner, New Orleans

10pm, Champagne Toast to Marcy Marcell's Birthday & Show, Footloose Cabaret, New Orleans

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29th...

Guest DJ Jose is back!, Traditions, Baton Rouge

Oz VIP Cards go on Sale, Oz, New Orleans
Stone Rainbow, Rubyfruit Jungle, New Orleans

9pm, Welcome Bayou Classic Visitors w/ DJ's Problem Child & Shi, Andy Boudreaux's Wolfendale's, New Orleans

10pm, The Funky Meters, House of Blues, New Orleans

10pm, Second Annual Debauchery Party w/free food, beer and live entertainment, Midtowne Spa, New Orleans

10pm-9am, The Snow Ball 2, A Dance Party of Antarctic Proportions, Miami Beach Convention Center, South Beach, Florida

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30th...

End of Semester Blow-Out Party, Courtyard, Hattiesburg, MS

Forbidden Fruit starring Lisa Beaumann and Reba Douglas, George's, Baton Rouge

Gearing up for 1 Year Anniversary, Traditions, Baton Rouge

9pm, Mona Malone Live Band, Mirror Lounge, Baton Rouge

9pm, Welcome Bayou Classic Visitors w/ DJ's Problem Child & Shi, Andy Boudreaux's Wolfendale's, New Orleans

10pm, Ohio Players plus The Funky Soul Symbols, House of Blues, New Orleans

10pm, Sherreece Band, Angles, Metairie

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1st...

5pm, Vibrators, Angles, Metairie

6pm, Galley House Drag Show Fund-raiser for Mama Sue Martino, Body & Soul, New Orleans

9pm, Preliminary to Charmagne Monte's Miss Big & Beautiful

9pm, Welcome Bayou Classic Visitors w/ DJ's Problem Child & Shi, Andy Boudreaux's Wolfendale's, New Orleans

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4th...

Hollywood Creations, George's, Baton

Rouge

Underwear Party, Blue Parrot, Baton Rouge

11:30pm, Dee Dee Lewis & Friends of la Cage, Celia Putty & Monique Lauren w/the Great Oz Cast, Oz, New Orleans

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5th...

Back Door Thursday! Men's Night Out!, Traditions, Baton Rouge

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6th...

Centaur Video Release Party, "The Hot Fireman", The Parade, New Orleans

One Year Anniversary Bash, Traditions, Baton Rouge

Rodeo Days, A Benefit for the Baton Rouge Krewe of Apollo, Blue Parrot, Baton Rouge

10pm, Miss Louisiana USofA Pageant, Mirror Lounge, Baton Rouge

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7th...

Miss Courtyard Pageant, Courtyard, Hattiesburg, MS

6-9pm, Group Christmas Show Opening featuring various artists, Mario Villa Studio, 3634 Magazine, New Orleans

8pm, New Orleans Gay Men's Chorus Holiday Concert, Silver Belles & Blue Light Specials, UNO Performing Arts Center Recital Hall, New Orleans

10pm, Comedy Drag Night for Cheryl's Birthday, Angles, Metairie

10pm, Miss Louisiana USofA Pageant, Mirror Lounge, Baton Rouge

9:30pm, Soft Touch, Hide-A-Way Club, Baton Rouge

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8th...

"Faberge in America" exhibition opens at the New Orleans Museum of Art through Feb.

9, 1997, New Orleans

1pm, Krewe of Petronius Annual Christmas Bazaar w/all you can eat buffet and auction, Andy Boudreaux's MRB, New Orleans

4pm, Christmas Party & Gala Drag Show, Another Corner/Bear N Boots, New Orleans

3pm, New Orleans Gay Men's Chorus Holiday Concert, Silver Belles & Blue Light Specials, UNO Performing Arts Center Recital Hall, New Orleans

7pm, Grand Opening Bash w/free champagne buffet, Mother Bob's, New Orleans

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11th...

9pm, Goldfinger, House of Blues, New Orleans

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13th...

Sagittarius Party, Angles, Metairie

10pm, Sponge, House of Blues, New Orleans

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14th...

The Mint's Mary Griffin & Jack Fowler, Courtyard, Hattiesburg, MS

BOOK BEAT

...from xxx-12

cants, the lesbian "bed-death" theory, monogamy and non-monogamy, the impact of long-term illness on sexual relationships, abuse and safer sex information.

Elaine Creith is the author, and her current research interests include lesbian health care, a lesbian sex survey, and lesbians and alcohol. The softcover version of this book is \$14.95, from Cassell Academic. I think I'd pass on the hardcover at \$60.

WEEKLY EVENTS

MONDAYS...

12noon, Judge Judy, Golden Lantern, New Orleans

4-7pm, Roddy Barnes on the Piano, The Mint, New Orleans

7pm, Boiled Shrimp, Rubyfruit Jungle, New Orleans

7pm, Connie's Red Beans & Rice, Wolfendale's, New Orleans

8:30pm, Cabaret Show w/Teal Ashton & Victoria Cole, The Mint, New Orleans

11:30pm, The Gong Show w/emcee Barry Bareass, Winner gets \$100.69, Oz, New Orleans

TUESDAYS...

12noon, Judge Judy, Golden Lantern, New Orleans

3pm, Schnapps Fest, 4 Seasons, Metairie

8pm, Boot Scootin' Boogie Country Dancing, Free Lessons, Rubyfruit Jungle, New Orleans

8:30pm, Pool Tournament, Billy's, Slidell

9pm, Flippin' Tuesdays, The Mirror, Baton Rouge

11pm, Dangerous Disco w/Tim Pflueger, \$250 Giveaway, Oz, New Orleans

WEDNESDAYS...

Free Pizza, Midtowne Spa, New Orleans

12noon, Judge Judy, Golden Lantern, New Orleans

7pm, Dart League, Rubyfruit Jungle, New Orleans

7:30pm, Dart League Tournament, Footloose, New Orleans

8pm, Karaoke w/Judy & Bucky, The Mint, New Orleans

9pm, Cheap Date Night, Rubyfruit Jungle, New Orleans

9pm, Pool Tournament, Winner Takes All, Full Moon, Harvey

9pm, Wacky Wednesdays, Mirror Lounge, Baton Rouge

10pm-1am, Flipping Wednesdays, Time Zone, Baton Rouge

10pm, Hump Night, 4 Seasons, Metairie

11pm, Drag Races followed by Show Night at 11:30pm w/ the Oz All-Star Cast, Oz, New Orleans

THURSDAYS...

Customer Appreciation Night, Mirror Lounge, Baton Rouge

12noon, Judge Judy, Golden Lantern, New Orleans

7:30pm, Free Buffet, Time Zone, Baton Rouge

8pm, Karaoke w/Judy & Bucky, The Mint, New Orleans

8-11pm, Nickle Draft Night, Billy's, Slidell

8pm, Pool Tournament, The Friendly Bar, New Orleans

9pm, Pool Tournament, 4 Seasons, Metairie

9pm, Let Salvation Begin at Sanctuary w/ DJ Mary Pappas, The Parade, New Orleans

9:30pm, Boys Next Door All Male Revue, Another Corner, New Orleans

9:30pm Safe Sex Parties, Midtowne Spa, New Orleans

10pm, Boys Dancin', Corner Pocket, New Orleans

10pm, Sip & Smoke, Cognac & Cigars, Rubyfruit Jungle, New Orleans

10:30pm, The Cat's Ass - George's Karaoke/Talent Night w/ Host Cody King, George's, Baton Rouge

11pm, Calendar Boy Contest w/\$200 Cash Prize starring Stephanie Williams, Oz, New Orleans

11:30pm, "I Love The Night Life" w/D.L. Broadway & The Vamps, Wolfendale's, New Orleans

11:30pm, "I Love The Night Life" w/D.L. Broadway & The Vamps, Wolfendale's, New Orleans

12noon, Judge Judy, Golden Lantern, New

Orleans

4-7pm, Roddy Barnes on the Piano, The Mint, New Orleans

5-8pm, Happy Hour Male Dancers, "Temptations After Dark", Historic TT's, New Orleans

9pm, Sexy DJ Robbie Martin Rocks The House, The Parade, New Orleans

9pm-dawn, Jungle Fever w/DJ Mary Pappas, Plus Emcee Mix-104.1 Jammer, Rubyfruit Jungle, New Orleans

10pm, Dance to the Hypnotic & Retro Sounds of DJ's Problem Child & Shi, Wolfendale's, New Orleans

10pm, Mary Griffin, The Mint, New Orleans

10pm, New Meat Night starring The Queen of the Financial District Ms. Fly, Corner Pocket, New Orleans

11pm, Fantasies In The Night featuring Rayne Fanveare & The MRB Dancers hosted by Goddess, MRB, New Orleans

11pm, Mary Griffin & Jack Fowler, The Mint, New Orleans

11pm-3am, Men of Manwatch Dancers, Oz, New Orleans

12midnight, Midnight Double Trouble w/DJs Jason and Karen, Traditions, Baton Rouge

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12midnight, Midnight Double Trouble w/DJs Jason and Karen, Traditions, Baton Rouge

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TRODDING THE BOARDS

by George Patterson

Three Tall Women is Edward Albee's career-saving, late-in-life clinical analysis-through-theatrical-exorcism of a mother who has haunted his entire adult life. Indeed, his early successes absolutely depended upon the archetypal, hate-filled, predatory woman Mr. Albee created first as Martha in *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf*, as Alice in *Tiny Alice*, Agnes in *A Delicate Balance*, the horrendous mother in *American Dream*, the dizzy wife in *Seascape*, even the whoring housewives of *Everything in the Garden* and they owe their souls to Albee's unique adoptive Mommie Dearest.

Hallowed (and harnessed) with a Pulitzer Prize, *Three Tall Women* breezed into the CAC's Freeport-MacMaRon Theatre recently under the auspices of Carl Walker's All Kinds of Theatre production company in association with Ted Potter's CAC. Directed by Mr. Walker and starring Charlotte Schully as "A," the actress designated to portray a dying, rich old crone, with "B," the nursemaid, played acerbically by Beverly Trask, and with newcomer Sarah Stone playing "C," a young woman representing the bank looking

QUARTERMASTER DELI

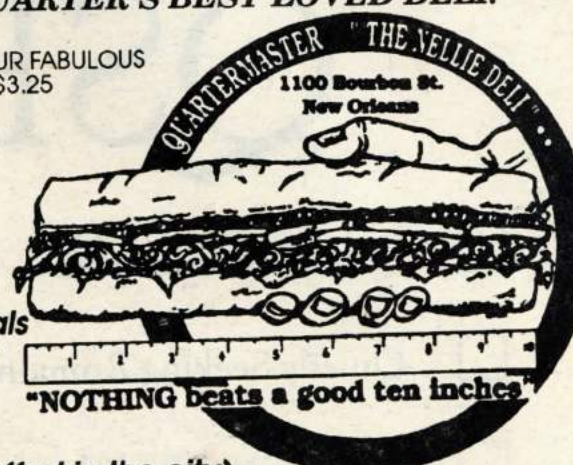
By Steve & Scott

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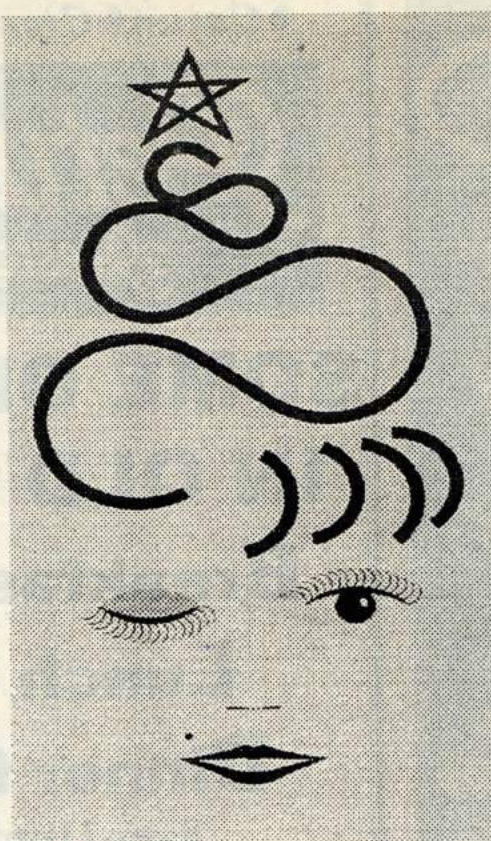
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into the dying woman's ill-kept banking records, *Three Tall Women* is this year's highbrow-hit, by far.

On a set designed by Keith Christopher, with lighting sensitively designed by Michael Batt, which perfectly evokes a sterile bedroom in a swank hotel, say the Windsor Court. Charlotte Schully thoroughly entertains in Act I as she reveals a cantankerous, earthy, incontinent ninety-something Alzheimer-addled old bag swathed in a pink satin peignoir designed by costumer Roy Haylock. Mr. Albee's laconic, suspension-pointed dialogue (which Mamet took to poetic heights) ill-suits Ms. Stone and Ms. Trask. Without adequate character-defining dialogue, A and B remain ciphers until C has a stroke which effectively turns off her lava-flowing monologue and ends Act I.

ACT II is really another play-let with the same actresses now holding an allegorical discourse over the oxygen-masked, pink-robed body in the bed. A, B & C become, most effectively, the same character at the age of 26, 52 and old age, all now swathed in pastel Calvin Klein. A young man, presumably the mother's estranged son (Albee himself?) enters and sits at the bed as B suddenly accosts him. He cannot hear or see her. She becomes most vitriolic, detesting him vehemently because of his homosexuality (she could never bring herself to fellyate her small, one-eyed, rich hubbie; therefore, homosexuality is especially repellant to her). Young C is told what will happen to her and how she will marry out of convenience and how she will suffer for the rest of her days. Finally, after another hour of three facets of the same character doing psychological vivisection, A apologizes to the audience for "running on" and the play comes to its dubious life-affirming end.

In his always meticulously detailed presentations, Mr. Walker does not disappoint. His direction, disregarding an especially slow, fumbling beginning, gives the play wings on more than one occasion. Charlotte Schully makes an especially healthy, regal "old bag" have energy to spare and she expends it lavishly. Ms. Schully, who left New Orleans for New York but has now returned, and remarried, is a local treasure and in this performance she glitters and gleams. Ms. Trask, another local theatrical gem, is not well-suited, personality-wise, to her character's venomous, inner turmoil, but she indicates this with

studied vigor that gives her performance a certain nervous edge that is in keeping with the writer's intentions. Alas, although Ms. Stone is most appealingly lovely, she too must reach for—what? Perhaps it's the fact that she's given so little with which to create a character, she remains a cipher to the end. Or perhaps that's Mr. Albee's intention all along. At 26, his mother was still a blank page; after all, he hadn't even been born and adopted by her yet.

TOSCA is one of Puccini's major operatic accomplishments and never ceases to move an audience; that is, as long as its three principals are able to deliver the vocal goods and

[continued on 22]

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ALLONS ACADIANA

by J.D. Norris

www.ambushmag.com/gossip4.htm

Happy post Gay-Pride, Thanksgiving, pre-Christmas shopping rush to you all! The fall weather always puts me in a great mood, especially to be among the bayou and some of the best people in the country. I hope your past two weeks have been marvelous!

COLOR ME APOLLO!

The Krewe of Apollo, Lafayette had its annual Announcement Party last Friday and everyone's still talking about it! Of course the HUGE highlight was the announcement of the 1997 royalty.... The krewe's 21st ball masque will present **Sherman Mire** as King Apollo XXI and **Lady Chante'**, (a.k.a. Blake Devillier) as Queen. Krewe Vice President **Teddy Viator** told me just prior to the big party that this season's ball will be about the most unique and trendy to date. The 1997 theme, "Apollo XXI, Works'd Art?" will explore all areas of the art world and feature mini-themes from the art of dance, to the art of entertaining, (I hear Martha Stewart will have a choice role in this event!). Ted's promised that this will be the largest and most extravagant ball yet. Of course, every year the krewe makes the same promise and it comes true, leaving us wondering how they could improve on *that*. Leave it up to Teddy, caterer extraordinaire **Michael Doumit**, Captain **Billy Evans** and co-Captain, burly-man, my leather fantasy **James Poole**! (AND OF COURSE THOSE COSTUMES!) I'm wet with excitement! Somebody get me a doughnut! Anyway, the announcement party was even more wonderful than it usually is. Who says the gay community can't get together for one dressed-up, non-pretentious evening and have a ball of it?!

CLUB MIX!

The club scene's warming up on all fronts... THE QUARTER has quickly become the comfy, classy, low-key hangout we all wanted! **John Gilland**'s shown us all a thing or two about how to take an old favorite and make it into a new one; and on a low-risk budget at that! **Reality's** has become a grand success with DJ **Scott Lannier** running the place... It got off to that apprehensive start, not everyone knew just how to take someplace big enough to compete with the state's largest dance emporiums. But it's already being whispered about in Red Stick, N.O. and all over Louisiana.... And while I'm talking about night clubs, has anyone seen **Images** owner

Lorrie Wheat?!!! What's with that grin?!? Either she's pregnant or another CD matured.... **LORI** doll, I'm not sure what you're so happy about lately, but I hope it tastes great! (You deserve it!)

GO MONKEY THIS!

And then there were five! A new club has hit the scene, (Well, almost), and it's come out of nowhere and surprised even the most diehard of gossips! **Mojo Monkeys** is being brought to you by **Stevie Gregory** and her blonde-cutie partner **Dawn**. (Check out the club's ad in this issue). Stevie is an old hand at running nightclubs despite her young age. She's managed Lafayette's **Swamp Water Saloon** for more than three years now and the place has become Acadiana's premier R&B emporium. **Mojo Monkeys** will be located where the old Blue Note used to be just off General Mouton in Lafayette. Of course, the club will cater to women, (not that sweet Stevie and Dawn mind a few guys stopping

by every now and then). Of course **Ambush** has gotten a sneak-peek at the club to see what Stevie and Dawn have done with it. They describe the setting as kind of hippie-chickish with lots of wood, hunter-green walls and burlap. That's right, I said **BURLAP**!! Cool, huh? Opening night should be sometime next week or by Dec. 13, so stay tuned to these pages or just drop by and check it out! FINALLY a place catering to Acadiana's gay womyn! Color me **Melissa Ethridge**!

CARES HONORS

Acadiana C.A.R.E.S. recently took time out to honor its most loved, (no, not that Florida insurance guy), the **Volunteers**!... **Cares** threw a huge banquet at **A La Carte** to say "THANKS" to its finest. Those honored as Volunteers of the year were **Charity Harvey**, **Mike Landgrave**, **Ted Viator**, **Norman Tauzin**, **Peggy Tipton** and **Ted Richard**. If you're from anywhere within a 100 mile radius of Lafayette, you

know who most of these people are. The organization also honored **Ashley Taylor** as its Junior Volunteer of the Year. **Ted Richard** has been a local celebrity when it comes to educating an increasingly less-biased community on HIV and AIDS. **Norman Tauzin** is likely the most counted-on volunteer in the place. There's not enough paper to mention all the work **Ted Viator** and **Mike Landgrave** have put into Lafayette's only HIV/AIDS service agency and **Peggy Tipton** and **Charity Harvey** are two of those unsung heroes that keep things going behind the scenes with very little recognition, until now! Congratulations to them all! Now if the **REST OF ACADIANA** had a **CARES**, we'd all be a lot happier....

SEEN & NOTED

My buddy **Curley** was out and about when we made our last rounds a couple of weeks back... **CURLY**, I still need that "creative writing help" we talked about! **Lady James A.** has been seen, noted and seen

SOON, VERY SOON LAFAYETTE



MOJO

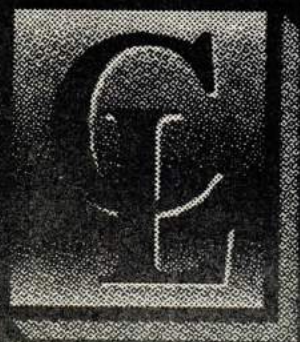


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some more at all the clubs. She's one of those lives-of-the-party that can never remember the party the next day, but James is always the funnest person to paint the town with! (and he never goes to **Frank's!** NEVER!) Saw **Troy R.** out too Noted.... Uh, not so noted.... And who was that big girl in the red dress a couple of weeks back that kept going in and out and in and out the door of **Images?** She couldn't remember where she was going!!! And I think she had

enough liquor in her to float a river boat! Anyway, I loved the red dress sweetie! But whose collie did that wig come from? Been seeing the Apollo gang out and about lately too! They're like those honey bees that only start swarming right before the honey's all made ... You never seem to see them all in one place until ball time comes around. Is it some secret code with them or

[continued on 25]

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TRODDING THE BOARDS ...from 18

the orchestra is able to play Puccini's action-driving pre-movie movie-music with grace and oomph.

The New Orleans Opera Association's recent production met all these requirements, and more, to deliver a first-class production that had the opening night audience roaring its approval in wave after roaring wave of standing ovations.

There were four major stars in this production whose brilliance burned with unwavering brightness through the terse, plot-driven three acts: Elizabeth Holleque essayed the role of Tosca with total vocal control and an uncanny acting ability coupled with movie star good looks; tenor Cesar Hernandez, while slight of stature,

sang and acted the role of Cavaradossi, Tosca's painter-lover, with absolute conviction, and he captured his audience's collective heart as surely as he did that of the jealously driven Tosca; baritone Valery Alexeyev was the evil Scarpia, the Roman Chief of Police whose totalitarian rule is at the political heart of *TOSCA*; and, Louis Salemno conducted a well-rehearsed Louisiana Philharmonic Orchestra, the singers and Carole Raush's chorus with uncharacteristic control and dynamism. *TOSCA*'s success was due, in no small part, to his precise contribution.

From Alfred Anderson's Angelotti, a political prisoner whose escape sets off the plot, Donald Bernard's Sacristan, Joseph Harris's Spoletta to young Paul Kearney's Shepherd Boy, all in this cast comported themselves with an acute professionalism that made this reviewer "kvell" more than

once at the sheer beauty of it all. With this production, New Orleans Opera proved it stands on its own among the great opera houses of the world.

One must also not underestimate the invaluable contribution made by director Linda Brovsky, whose choices were clear-eyed and always correct. David Gano's sets, although designed to play smaller houses, were also a decided asset; likewise, Noele Stallmach's ethereal lighting that perfectly complemented, and completed, Mr. Gano's intricate set pieces.

Only one on-stage gaff was noticeable and one audience gaff, which was unconscionable: Scarpia missed his window-closing cue in Act Two which is supposed to coincide with the offstage cantata's end, so it appears he is closing the window to blot out the sound. He closed the window but the cantata contin-

ued. In the audience, however, there was one selfish idiot who permitted his, or probably her, cellular phone to ring, not once, not twice, but three times, and this at the very beginning of Tosca's lovely aria, *Visi D'Arte*, which Ms. Holleque delivered with heart-wrenching purity. Like they do in London, there should now be purse searches—not necessarily for bombs, but for these obnoxious little status symbols. The offender on Wednesday night should have been sent directly to Scarpia's torture chamber for a session of corrective vanity torture.

The Disney Company has roared into town with 30 truckloads of scenery, costumes, magic-making paraphernalia, and gallons and gallons of eyewash done up in the prettiest pre-Christmas package called *Beauty and the Beast*.

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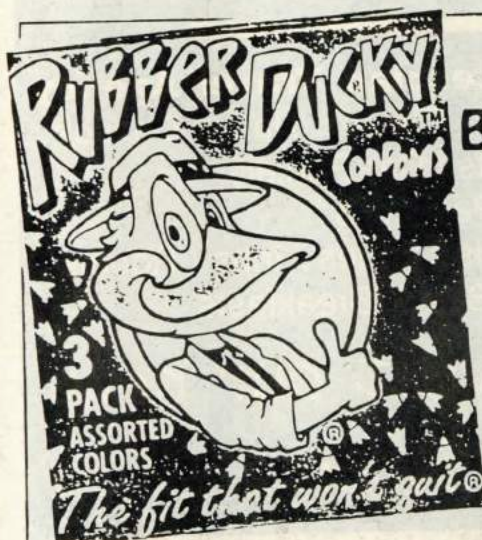
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And it's all on display at the Saenger theatre now through December 21.

Based on Disney's hit movie, which won its song creators, Alan Menken and Howard Ashman, Oscars, this theatrical version was penned by Linda Woolverton (who also worked on the animated version), and has been padded with additional

songs by Alan Menken, with lyrics by Tim Rice (who replaced the late Mr. Ashman). The reworking balloons the ninety-minute film into two hours of stage time that nevertheless seems to whiz by.

From an opening prologue, which establishes the show's magic parameters (fireworks, smoke, levitation, and a glowing,

slowly disintegrating rose), to the final penultimate transformation of the beast into an 8 X 10 glossy through more fireworks, more smoke and David Copperfield levitation, the creators have been careful to keep the proceedings moving at a brisk, breathless pace.

Just about everything the animators created has been translated into theatrical terms.

Tony Award-winning costume designer Ann Hould-Ward has successfully, and wittily, created outfits for the many characters who are prisoners of the hapless Beast, all locked into the evil spell that causes them to become inanimate objects: a candelabrum, a tea pot, a tea cup, a chest

of drawers, a feather duster, a clock and, of course, plates and flatware.

Director Robert Jess Roth turns in a solid, journeyman creation, keeping the traffic flow from colliding with the scenery flow and making sure the wires and hydraulics keep the illusions illusory.

Choreographer Matt West gives us stale, obvious dances that are perfectly in keeping with the overall Disney conservative concept.

Kim Huber is a wonderful, *bellissima* Belle with a clear, gorgeous soprano; Frederick C. Inkley is the 8 X 10 glossy disguised as a scary, hairy, befuddled beast

[continued on 24]

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ON THE BOARDS

by George Patterson

A CHRISTMAS CAROL

Southern Repertory Theatre, 3rd level, One Canal Place, 504.861.8163.

Ricky Graham reprises his unique adaptation of Charles Dickens' classic Christmas fable. Mr. Graham, along with fellow chameleons Michael Bennett and Shelley Poncy, play everyone — from Tiny Tim to Bob Marley — a holiday treat for the whole family. From Nov. 22, Fri. & Sat., 7 pm, Sun., 2 pm, thru Dec. 22.

A CHRISTMAS CAROL

Le Petit Theatre du Vieux Carre, 616 St. Peter St., 504.522.2081.

Lyla Hay Owen's musical adaptation of the above, done in a maximalist rendition, with a cast of 31 playing over fifty roles, starring Al Shea as Ebenezer, Ted Butler and Ellen Flohberger as Mr. & Mrs. Cratchit, and Mary Margaret McCrea, Danny McNamara & Jack Harris as the three Christmas spirits. Musical direction is by Jon Dendinger, choreography is by Amy Embry; and sets, Bill Walker. Thurs., Fri. & Sat, 8 pm; Sat. and Sun., 2 pm, Wed., Dec. 11, 8 pm, thru Dec. 15.

...AND THE BALL AND ALL

True Brew Theatre, 200 Julia St., 504.522.2907.

Now in its second year, this comic masterpiece, written and directed by Ricky Graham, concerns the problems of the

TRODDING THE BOARDS ... from 19

with a big baritone voice, Tony Lawson is a tall, beefy Li'l Abner of a Gaston, the villain of the piece — a male chauvinist beefcake who batters and bullies his way, taking most of his comical rage out on his side-kick, Lefou, played by Dan Sklar, who must get extra hazard pay for the unceasing knocks and socks he receives, causing him to fly through the air and crunch to the floor on numerous occasion. Grant Cowan is the Frenchy fire-in-hand candelabrum with the most loved and anticipated song, "Be Our Guest;" Betsy Joslyn is the motherly tea pot whose rendering of the title song, "Beauty and the Beast" is one of the few quiet, and lovely, moments; and, her small son, Chip (alternated by Asher Book and Patrick J. P. Duffey) appears to be a floating, disembodied head-in-a-teacup: the ultimate illusion created by the team of Jim Steinmeyer and John Gaughan who, with lighting designer Natasha Katz, are the true stars of this gaudy, over-produced musical.

[continued on 26]

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REEL to REAL

by Thom Murphy

Everything old is suddenly new again. In the movie business when things get stale and the big studios run out of fresh ideas, what do they do? Return to the classics. This seems to be the trend starting a few years back with *Much Ado About Nothing* and followed with remakes of everything under the sun from *Little Women* to *Frankenstein*. One of the big things about these endeavors is that they weren't commercially successful. That is such a shame, because when I was studying the classics, if I could have seen this remake of *Romeo and Juliet* I would have sat up and paid attention.

The new version of *Romeo and Juliet* is one of those films that I was going to wait until it came on cable, but, as fate would have it, I had a friend who talked me into going to see it, our time schedules fit into the time the movie was playing and we were there.

All of you know the story about the star-crossed lovers, so we won't go there. You all know that the text is by William

Shakespeare and we will not go there either. Where we will go is to Mexico City and Veracruz where this masterpiece was shot. It has been a long time since I have seen a movie as visually stunning as this film. The acting is no great shakes, the actors do give you the whole story in a passable way but, the thing that I enjoyed the most was that they did not deviate from the text of Shakespeare, and they brought it into the present day. It is amazing that this piece of work is as current as it was when it was originally written.

Romeo and Juliet is a must see, if you don't want to see it in the movie theater, wait until it comes on cable. It will enlighten you and give you a whole new respect for the classics.

Caught is the new film starring James Edward Almos and Maria Conchita Alonso. A basic love triangle with a man and his wife and the hired help. I thought it was very predictable, until the entrance of the son of the married couple. I really did not catch the actor's name who played this part because he played it with such a creepy demeanor I had to get out of the theater. When he enters the movie, that's where all the twists and turns start to happen. *Caught* is one of those films that stays with you. You think about it at different times just to wonder if there really are people who are involved in situations like this.

Caught is a small independent film, but if you can catch it at the movies you will be *Caught*.

ALLONS ACADIANA

...from 21

just a marketing thing?

Ooh, who IS that big girl on the dance floor wearing black all the time?!? I loved Danny DeVito as the penguin too, but I don't dress like him!

Todd Courville's doing a great job at *Reality*'s! All right for the friendly service, banging music and huge cups full of liquor! SHE'S HOW OLD?!?

HAPPY BELATED BIRTHDAYS GO OUTTO: Yours truly... I hit the big number 30 last year and all those great expectations I had not so long ago about changing the world have expired like my Prozac prescription. But I still have my boyish waist line, (yeah, right). I'm just happy I've made it this far.. (Birthday cards and gifts-in-kind still being accepted at the drop-off nearest you) ... Happy Birthday's also go out to Robie McCull, eh, MacCulle.. Eh... You know, *Robbie from Reality*'s!! I always forget the spelling of that boy's name.. I'll learn it for you next time booger, I promise! Happy belated to you anyway! Does everyone know that *John Breau*x turned 30-something two weeks ago?!? (Nov. 17 to be exact!). My significant other says birthday's aren't important at all ... I think he's just blocking... HAPPY, HAPPY BIRTHDAY SWEETIE!!! You've done so many wonderful things for me (and to me) this year that you deserve a Rolex, so I'm getting you one! The fancy kind with the

smooth turning motion that you can show-off to all your little co-workers! (Or is it a Rolodex? I always get it mixed up with those pricey watches). HAPPY number ** JOHN! You're my favorite pessimist, my sobering realist and my best friend! So many, many more!! WE LOVE YOU!!!

That's it for now! Hi to my friends in N.O., miss me? Let us know if you have any news, comments or snide remarks. E-mail me at: JayDempsey@WorldNet.att.net Ti amo Carlos. Until next time!

RED STICK ...from 16

Damon got a big surprise last week. Christina, of Christina's Restaurant on St. Charles, treated him to a dinner delivered to his bookstore in appreciation for all the business he has helped to bring into her fine eatery. Damon and Richard, along with Alan, Denny, and Danny are regulars there. It's become the great gay food mecca on Saturdays. Christina is very gay-friendly. She and her mother often volunteer to work at Apollo functions in the capital city. Of course, I have to say that a lot of credit for the exceptionally large crowds on Saturdays has to be because of her brother Michael. This dark-haired, studly boy wonder can make ANY guy's tongue hard just looking at him.

As the night was about to close down, I made my way over to the Time Zone to see how

[continued on 30]

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ON THE BOARDS ...from 24

members of the fictitious all-female Krewe of Terpsichore, when the treasurer absconds with the ball money. The cast includes local favorites, led by the indomitable Becky Allen as the dominating ball captain, with costumes and wigs by Roy Haylock. Produced by Trish Denmark and Fred Nuccio, it will have an open-ended run. Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 6 & 9 pm; Sun., 3 & 7 pm.

A TUNA CHRISTMAS

Orpheum Theatre, 120 University Place, 504.522.5555, 504.1.800.488.5252, 504.524.1207.

The irreverent hit comedy starring the Broadway cast of Tony Award-nominated Joe Sears and Jaston Williams and directed by Ed Howard, A TUNA CHRISTMAS features the two actors making lightning-fast costume changes in order to play all 22 whacky residents (male and female) of Tuna, the 3rd smallest town in Texas. Nov. 26, 27, 8 pm; Nov. 29, 3 pm & 8 pm; Nov. 30, 2 pm & 8 pm; Dec. 1, 2 pm, 7:30 pm.

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST

Saenger Theatre, 143 N. Rampart St., 504.522.5555 or 800.488.5252.

Broadway Series at the Saenger Theatre presents Disney's BEAUTY AND THE BEAST now thru Dec. 16. Featuring the Academy Award-winning musical score from the animated film, by the late Howard Ashman and Alan Menken, this elaborate Broadway production is the largest ever to play New Orleans. Thru Dec. 21; Tues. thru Sat., 8 pm; Sat. & Sun., 2 pm. Additional 2 pm Thurs. Nov. 21, Dec. 5, 12 & 19; additional 8 pm Mon., Dec. 16; additional Sun., 7:30 pm, Nov. 17 & Dec. 1.

THE GOOD DOCTOR

Rivertown Repertory Theatre, 325 Minor St., Kenner, La., 504.468.7221.

Ricky Graham directs Neil Simon's adaptation of several Chekhov short stories with Greg Di Leo, James Palmer, Rene Piazza, Erika Hamburg and Linda Hubchen. Thurs., Fri. & Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2:30 pm thru Dec. 8. An optional buffet dinner is offered prior to performance.

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True Brew Cabaret, 200 Julia St.,

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The fast-paced, New Orleans satirical revue starring, and written by New Orleans' premiere musical comedy couple, Becky Allen and Ricky Graham. Fri., 10:30 pm, thru Nov.

PAINTING CHURCHES

Lafayette Community Theatre, 529 Jefferson St., Lafayette, La., 318.235.1532.

A drama by Tina Howe, directed by Scott Blum, about a painter (Emily Stephenson) painting portraits of her aging parents (Vince Barras and Gloria Breaux) and in the process coming to terms with them and them with her. Thurs. - Sat., 8 pm., thru Dec. 14.

THE MARRIAGE OF BETTE AND BOO

CAC, 900 Camp St., 504.522.1314, 504.522.5555.

Beefield Productions and the CAC present the New Orleans premiere of Christopher Durang's Obie Award-winning comedy which moves through three decades of divorce, alcoholism, madness and fatal illness, all treated with farcical brilliance.

Directed by Janet Shea, it stars Stella Curtis and Kris Shaw with Michael Cahill, Stocker Fontelieu, Pauline Prelutsky, Raymond Vraisel, Jr., Abby Lake, Kathleen Eason, Madelaine Hedgpeth and Alton Geno. Thurs. - Sat., 7:30 pm, Sun., 2 pm, thru Dec. 8.

THE WIZ

NORD Theatre, Gallier Hall, 504.565.7860.

Ty Tracy directs Rahsaana Ison as Dorothy in this Tony Award-winning musical adaptation of L. Frank Baum's THE WIZARD OF OZ, with choreographer Leo Jones as the Wizard, Joshua Powell as the Scarecrow, Mitch McMurren as the Tinman, Alex Reed as the Lion and a cast of 55 ranging in age from 4 to 40 who are featured as the yellow brick road, tornado, wind, crows, poppies, mice, kalidahs, flying monkeys, wizettes, winkies, quadlings, munchkins and Emerald City denizens. Bob Bruce supplies the costumes; Gloria Fallo, the music. Dec. 12 - 15; Jan. 10 - 19; Thurs. - Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm.

[continued on 30]

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AIDS Watch -- World AIDS Day

WEST HOLLYWOOD-December 1, 1996 will be a landmark in cable television and AIDS awareness. CommuniTV through the facilities of Century Communications / Santa Monica will produce AIDS Watch, a 24 hour campaign to bring the devastation of AIDS to the living room. Every two seconds a different victim of AIDS name will appear on a black screen, 42,000 names.

This will represent only 1 in 9 of the number of Americans to have died from AIDS. The screen will be black with individual names in white and each holding for a brief two second interval. There will be no sound. There will be no identifying logos. It will be carried throughout the Century Communications system / Los Angeles on Channel 28 for the entire 24 hour telecast day. "This is as much an art piece as an awareness event", creator/producer David Reid pointed out. "It's different from other projects in that it will be in your home. It reaches the passive people and will hopefully spark some involvement by the uninformed." "We are working to find a satellite transponder to be donated for the day to allow all of North America to watch AIDS Watch" said Steve Eng, who is producing the project along with Reid.

"The technology is there, if we can only find a willing company to bring this to the

entire continent." This is the ninth annual World AIDS Day begun by the Association for World Health to bring a global focus to the AIDS crisis. It has evolved into the day the art world acknowledges its loss from AIDS. One year the art community designated World AIDS Day as "A Day Without Art" and many galleries and museums shrouded their paintings and statuary. In this one event the potential audience reached is greater than the participation in all AIDS functions combined to date. "That's the power of television," Reid said. Gail Fetzer of Century Communications noted, "We are quite excited about the interest this will generate." The Century system reaches 160,000 homes throughout Los Angeles. "Everyone needs

to get involved. This is a project for the entire community. We need businesses to commit to televise this event all day. If they are closed on Sunday we need them to run "AIDS Watch" on a television in their storefront window," Reid concluded, "We're all in this together." Individuals will be able to add names of friends and loved ones to AIDS Watch by writing CommuniTV. Submit names for this World AIDS Day event to either: AIDS Watch, CommuniTV, Post Office Box 69991, West Hollywood CA 90069-0991, OR AIDSWATCH1@aol.com.

CommuniTV is a West Hollywood, California-based company developing a 24 hour television channel to service the lesbian and gay community.

Beauty and the Beast Benefit Against Aids

The touring company of Disney's Beauty and the Beast is proud to announce their "Beauty of Love" Cabaret Benefit for Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS and the N.O. AIDS Task Force. The event will take place on December 8th at 11:00pm and will be graciously hosted by Maxwell Toulouse Cabaret at 615 Toulouse Street in the heart of the French Quarter.

The evening of variety entertainment will include holiday music and magic presented by the cast and staff of Beauty. Slated to appear are Fred Inkley (Beast), Patrick Page (Lumiere), and a dozen more of the incredibly talented cast members from the show.

Those who attend the benefit will have the unique opportunity to bid on the "Belle's Library" Silent Auction Packages, which include such items as: *Dinner & Show - dinner at a fine local restaurant and Producer's House Seats for Beauty and the Beast at the Saenger Theater; *Show & Tour - Producer's House seats for Beauty and a backstage tour given by cast or your favorite cast member; *become the Beast - the once-in-a-lifetime chance to be transformed into the Beast by the Beast's makeup artist, hairdresser, and wardrobe assistant (photo included).

In addition, during the weeks prior to

the benefit, Beauty and the Beast posters signed by the entire cast will be on sale at Alternatives (907 Bourbon at Dumaine) and Postmark New Orleans (631 Toulouse at Royal).

All proceeds from ticket, poster, and auction sales will benefit Broadway Cares/

Equity Fights AIDS, an organization which utilizes the unique abilities within the entertainment industry to assist those affected by HIV/AIDS nationwide, and the N.O. AIDS Task Force.

To make a reservation for this wonderful evening of entertainment, please call Alternatives 504.524.5222; Postmark New Orleans 504.529.2052, or Maxwell's Cabaret 504.523-4207.

Admission \$50.00 Patrons (Patron Reception TBA); General Admission \$25.00.



Shelley Poncy and Ricky Graham in So. Rep's "A Christmas Carol"

Super Fun for Super Bowl

Thursday evening, Dec. 5, 1996, Greater New Orleans Sports Foundation House of Blues and Miller Lite will host a spectacular fund-raising event to benefit Super Bowl XXXI. This very special event will feature the legendary masters of Motown soul The Four Tops and New Orleans' own good-time band, Hot Rod Lincoln featuring New Orleans rock 'n' roll businessmen Bill Metcalf, John Casbon, Darryl Berger, Lewis Stirling and friends. The evening's entertainment will be preceded by an auction featuring super prizes like a walk-on role on a FOX primetime TV show; a romantic getaway for two to New York; a Commodore Cruise for two and, of course, tickets to Super Bowl XXXI. There will also be a pre-concert reception with invited celeb-

rity guests.

The Monies raised from this amazing evening of electrifying music, gourmet food, premium drinks and super fun will insure that: 1: The sports programs and athletic clinics conducted year round for local youth will continue; 2: New Orleans remains the #1 favorite Super Bowl city and "Sports Capital of America" and; 3) The Super Bowl Host Committee's financial obligations to

Super Bowl XXXI are met. This is a record 8th time the city of New Orleans will host the Super Bowl. Over 150,000 people are expected to visit our city creating an economic impact of millions of dollars and making Super Bowl XXXI the number one, revenue-generating event of 1997.

For ticket or general information, call the House of Blues box office, 504.529.BLUE, or the GNOSF, 504.525.5678.

Pearl Party II to Benefit Belle Reve

Men of All Colors together (MACT) will be trading pearls for dollars Friday, Dec. 6 at 7:30 pm. at **Good Friends**, 740 Dauphine St. The Second Annual Pearl Party features a Grand Prize trip for two to San Francisco plus a two night stay at a bed and breakfast. Tickets for the drawing are \$5.00 and are available at **Good Friends**. They may be purchased until the time of the drawing. Ticket holders need not be present to win.

MACT hosts Pearl Party II as a membership drive and fund-raiser with free admission, free food and snacks and happy hour drink specials. A portion of the fund-raiser will be donated to Belle Reve. Separate drawings from \$1.00 tickets will be held throughout the evening prior to the Grand Prize raffle. Available as prizes are T-shirts, bar tab at **Good Friends**, dinners for two, merchandise from French Quarter businesses, a one year membership to **The**

Country Club, a gift certificate from a local nursery, subscriptions to a national gay magazine, and much more.

MACT was founded in March 1995 at the Lesbian and Gay Community Center of New Orleans and includes over fifty members. The group promotes understanding and friendship among gay and bisexual men who are interested in relationships that cross racial or ethnic boundaries. Meetings are held monthly in members' homes and at the Community Center. Alliance of Pride organizers recently congratulated MACT for the largest showing of volunteers at Pride Fest 96. For further information contact Jim at 482-6763 or write P.O. Box 52801, New Orleans, La. 70152-2801.

VCMCC Advent Services Scheduled for December

VCMCC invites all members of the community to share in the Advent services during the month of December. December 1st marks the first service, which will focus on hope. A Judeo-Christian blend will occur at the December 8th service, as it combines the Advent theme of faith with Hanukkah. The service on December 15th will focus on peace. The final worship service of the Advent season, scheduled for December 22nd, will center around the theme of love.

The Church is located at 1128 St. Roch Avenue in New Orleans. For further information about VCMCC or the Advent services please contact the Church Office at 504/945-5390.

VCMCC Sing-along and Candlelighting on Christmas Eve

Everyone is invited to join the VCMCC choir in its Christmas sing-along scheduled to begin at 8:00 p.m. on December 24th. The affair, which will include a combination of traditional and queer carols, will be followed by a reception.

Following the reception, a candlelighting worship service will take place beginning at 10:30 p.m., and concluding at midnight.

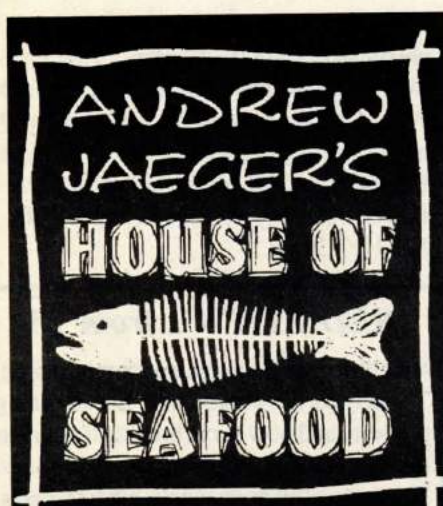
Please contact Vieux Carre MCC at 504/945-5390 for more information.

VCMCC TO HOLD CHRISTMAS MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE

Everyone is invited to join VCMCC as it holds its worship service on Christmas morning. The service will be formal in its style, and is scheduled to begin at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday December 25th.

Come share the true spirit of Christmas as we celebrate the birth of Christ!

Contact the Church Office at 504.945.5390 for more information.



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Madame John Dodt's Legacy #8

by Jon Newlin

It's time to lend a few rich or perhaps even some lo-fat reduced salt no MSG thoughts on the idea of Queers As Secret Society, as an Underground "Culcha." PC historians, and their near-relatives, CP (crowd-pleasing) historians, like to glamorize what few shards and remnants of Queer Culture they can dig up before the so-called *Annus Mirabilis* of Stonewall by telling us in all seriousness that gay poets, painters, sculptors, choreographers, architects, novelists, photographers, memoirists and such only managed to squeak through by disguising themselves, by somehow emerging from the mud of centuries-of-oppression like creatures From the Black Lagoon; that they used camp as a "defense" against the horrors of the straight world; that everyone spoke and moved in some cryptic, near-masonic code that, only thanks to "gee, guess what," these same historians, can we now understand *what was really going on*.

Nonsense, nonsense, say we. And we'll tell you why in a minute or two. The fact is, that depending on how you define it, there's always been a rich queer culture operating, sometimes in the midst of some oblivious or indulgent greater culture, sometimes like some parallel universe, but it's always been there in some degree or other. And without that old chest-nut of having to throw off, like one of your old tippetts, some straitjacket of straight society in which you've been imprisoned as though it were some sort of iron maiden. (The recent spectacular finds of cave paintings in southern France -- the oldest Art in the world, darling -- inspire heady visions of Neolithic sissies in their sables and Persian lambs, telling the rest of the boys they just don't want to throw spears, can't they just stay inside and decorate the caves and make it pretty for the big banquet that night when the boys come home with some dressed mastodons to throw on the grill? And there they are, cutting up, mixing up the paints and back-seat decorating, "Etienne, I think that corner needs a couple more rhinos fighting, Miss Thing." Well, it could have happened.) Well, perhaps you don't believe me, and why should you? And you may have that nagging question, which newer historians feel that they simply have to ask themselves, which is, never mind the queers and dykes that became famous and made the art or commanded the armies or ran up the frocks and bonnets, but what about those everyday little people, like you and me, that no one ever hears about? Well, they were there, that's all, you simply have to take it on faith.

Really, do you think every last queer in late-Victorian England was mixed up in the Oscar Wilde case? It seems that way, sometimes, but there were no doubt others who were perfectly happy not to get mixed up in such a deliciously sordid affair, or who either sneered at or were frightened

at the thought of taking street trash to supper at the Savoy or high tea at the Cadogan, which is virtually what Oscar's offense boiled down to, if you read the trial transcripts carefully. By the by, since this is supposed to be a historical column, we might add that Richard Ellman, Wilde's most thorough, if not most entertaining, biographer claims that Oscar was a top, and that he was (suuuure) disgusted by the mere idea of sodomitical penetration. Admirably freethinking in some respects, the late Professor Ellman, like so many straight men, can conceive of Oscar getting his dick sucked but his mind, petrified of getting porked, reels when he has to consider one of those telegraph messenger boys climbing on top of O.W.'s big white butt. This is the freest and purest and loosest speculation on the Professor's part since he offers no evidence whatsoever to, ahem, bolster his arguments.

In New Orleans as in other big cities, we have to assume that a queer underground existed alongside that other, more nebulous Bohemian underground, and was even a part of it. Bohemia ("desert country near the sea," as Shakespeare calls it with charmingly deliberate inaccuracy in a stage direction in *The Winter's Tale*) is a peculiarly modern idea, only about a hundred fifty years old. It's one of the legacies of the Romantic Period, which singlehandedly did more damage to life, art, and letters than just about anything else since the fall of the Roman Empire -- but don't get me started about that, pliz.

Basically, Bohemia is what we now loosely refer to as the avant-garde -- the poor-but-deserving artists and intellectuals who starve and suffer and grub around and shoot their mouths off about how brilliant and unrecognized they are, supposedly in vital, life-affirming reaction against 'official' culture.

This is a new idea because, until the French Revolution fouled up Western civilization for good and all, ninety percent of the population didn't even know there was such a thing as culture, much less have access to much of it, which was all for the better. Several people we know sit around their refectory tables of an evening, drinking bad wine and listening to weird ethnic music -- Korean chants, Sardinian folk dances or inscrutably cool jazz -- and when the plates of brown rice and steamed vegetables are cleared away, talk about how Bohemian they are; that is, when they're not griping about the size of their trust fund checks or about the fact they they're so poor they can only go to Europe for six weeks instead of three months next summer. Well, guess what, Margaret? They're about as Bohemian as you or me. Something has been short-circuited in their mental definition.

New Orleans always attracted this type of person, as well as the legitimate variety of Bohemian, if there is such a thing. Drawn here, as we never tire of saying, by anything from the cheap cost of living (well,

it used to be), the quality of the light, the twenty-four-hour saloons, the music, the gay and glorious tropical climate and flora, the twenty-four-hour sportin' boys and girls, or just the proximity of other putatively creative spirits like themselves, New Orleans in the Twenties and Thirties rivaled Greenwich Village or Montparnasse as a place for artists to hang out and talk about what they were going to do when they finally did something.

About the only decent aspect of Bohemia is that it was sexually tolerant. We mentioned in our last installment that Bill Spratling, who was a sissy from the word go, shared an apartment with Bill Faulkner, who was probably anything but, since, if you're going to produce art (and Bohemia until the time Bohemians began to metamorphose into beatniks was big on such queer-dominated spheres of endeavor as the dance, the theatre, poetry, etc.), you better have some queen around 'who could tell you how to do it properly. (In American Bohemia, at least until recently, painting and novel-writing have generally been the preserve of straight people, a man's game, with a few women admitted for appearance's sake.)

The fact that there are queer artifacts from this period, like the Parker Tyler-Charles Henri Ford book, *The Young and The Evil*, or recordings by such 'underground' entertainers as Rae Bourbon, Dwight Fiske, Sheila Barrett, Madame Spivy, and Jean ("I'd Rather Be Spanish Than Mannish") Malin, and such handed-down arcane lore as the death of the great vaudeville drag queen Bert Savoy (Savoy was walking on the beach at Long Island with his stage partner during a storm in the late Twenties and turned to the guy and said, "Gracious, ain't Miss God cuttin' up something awful!" and was promptly struck by a bolt of lightning), or the alleged sex diaries of Rudolph Valentino (which didn't mention the lesbians he was married to, that's for sure) and the other Hollywood scandals regarding sissies and dykes that somehow became part of sub rosa folklore, all attest to a rich queer life in which pose and code may have been necessary but were also, apparently, some fun.

Those who want a more scholarly approach to this period are advised to have a close look at Jonathan Katz's *Gay American History* and George Chauncey's extremely interesting, if not especially well-written, *Gay New York*, for many cornea-popping details.

But back to New Orleans. We'll come back to all this, apropos Tennessee Williams, who saw himself as an archetypal Bohemian, and our dear old departed sister Eloi Bordelon, who saw herself as the last gay flowering of Avoyelles Parish Aristocracy, as well as Alice Dugas, the Gertrude Stein of the Cote d'Allemagne. Our idea of local Bohemia can be summarized in the following, which we heard from a darling gentleman who reads cards and fates and

[continued on 30]



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STAFF:

PUBLISHER/EDITOR R. Rip Naquin-Delain, New Orleans

PRODUCTION DIRECTOR M. Marsha Naquin-Delain, New Orleans

MANAGING EDITOR/SALES MANAGER Sonny C. Cleveland

THE WEB TEAM Rip Naquin-Delain, Sonny Cleveland, George Patterson

OFFICE MANAGER/PERFORMING ARTS CRITIC George Patterson

GRAPHICS ARTIST Randy Stephens, New Orleans

BOOKS/VIDEOS/REVIEWS Brad Benedict, Baton Rouge

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT Patrick Shannon, New Orleans

LESBIAN ISSUES Pam Young, New Orleans

MOVIE REVIEWS Thom Murphy, New Orleans

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS/PHOTOGRAPHERS

Jon Newlin, Mary Pappas, Brian Sands, Smurf-New Orleans

J.D. Norris-Lafayette Joan Jette-West Bank

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ON THE BOARDS

...from 26

THREE TALL WOMEN

CAC, 900 Camp St., 504.528.3800.

Edward Albee's latest Pulitzer Prize-winning drama in which three actresses play various incarnations of the same woman — the playwright's shrewish mom. Directed by the estimable Carl Walker, it stars Charlotte Schully, Beverly Trask and Sarah Stone. Thurs. - Sat., 8 pm, Sun., 3 pm, thru Dec. 8.

WERTHER

Mahalia Jackson Theatre of the Performing Arts, Armstrong Park, 504.529.2278.

Jules Massenet's sumptuous, romantic opera based on Goethe's "The Sorrows of Young Werther" stars Gran Wilson in the title role, with Melanie Sonnenberg as his unrequited love, Charlotte, and local singing sensation Melissa Marshall making her NOOA debut as Charlotte's sister, Sophie. Chris Nance conducts, David Morelock directs, and Zack Brown designs. Dec. 11 & 14, 7:30 pm.

WHERE Y'AT: AGAIN

Movie Pitchers, 3941 Bienville St., 504.488.8881.

The further (mis)adventures of Barry Marino's New Orleans characters, written and starring Mr. Marino with direction by Lee Prevost. Fri., Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm, thru Nov.

IN THE WINGS

ANGELS IN AMERICA

CAC's Freeport McMaRon Theatre, 900 Camp St., 504.528.3800; 504.522.5555; 504.566.0241; 504.897.2466.

Louisianian Tony Kushner's award winning play about AIDS and politics in Ronald Reagan's America makes its New Orleans debut under the auspices of Matt Borel and Bruce Condie in association with the Dog & Pony Theatre Company. Directed and designed by John Grimsley, it will feature local actors Michael Arata, Kathy Randels, Gavin Mahlie, Russell Hodgkinson, Kenneth Raphael, Francine Segal, Barbara Tasker and Mark McLaughlin who will portray Roy Cohn. Jan. 3-19.

DEATHTRAP

Saenger Theatre, 143 N. Rampart St., 504.522.5555 or 800.488.5252.

Elliott Gould and Mariette Hartley star in this classic comedy thriller by Ira Levin. The Broadway production played 1,800 performances and was nominated for four 1978 Tony Awards, which spawned the motion picture starring Michael Cain, Dyan Cannon and Christopher. Jan. 7-12.

PHILADANCO

Mahalia Jackson Theatre of the Performing Arts, 801 N. Rampart St., 504.522.0996.

With stunning virtuosity, PHILADANCO fuses modern, jazz, ballet and African dance into an immensely so-

phisticated style of its own. This enormously gifted company returns to N. O. With a sizzling array of works by such noted choreographers as Alvin Ailey & Donald Byrd. Under the artistic directorship of Joan Myers Brown, it plays Sat., Jan. 11, 7:30 pm.

RED STICK ...from 25

their little food business was coming along. These boys have taken over the adjoining property and now serve breakfast after bar closing time on Fridays and Saturdays. They also offer noon meals, not on wheels, but just as fast as two legs can get it there.

Arlin and Damon had a long talk about Steve this week. As some of you know, the book baron also collects flowers - those from historic homes - and Steve had given him some maiden hair fern prior to his death (which was several years ago). Damon mentioned this to Arlin, and they reminisced about the beauty and courage of this wonderful young man who left so suddenly. The void is still there. It always will be. But the maiden hair fern from Nottoway Plantation thrives in Damon's garden, and the memory of a dear friend forever remains vivid in his mind.

JOHN DODT'S LEGACY

...from 29

fortunes in a little tearoom on Royal Street, and tossing his chestnut curls about, told us about how he came to New Orleans -- oh, just decades and decades ago -- in a voice that sounded like a Black & Decker power saw on low speed cutting through a chain link fence. This career soothsayer told us he was from Kentwood, Louisiana -- Southern Baptist territory -- and that he used to come to New Orleans on the weekends and, as a result, got more and more disenchanted with Kentwood, as who wouldn't, and finally left because "it got to where they didn't like me and I didn't like them." So he came to New Orleans with a little bit of money, and "honey, I found Miss Dixie's, and I'd never seen anything like that place before. It opened my eyes! So when people would be in there, you know, Miss Dixie had this big ole stick and honey, if you got too close or touched one another, she'd hit you with that stick!" But he never looked back at Kentwood, unlike Lot's Wife, and even Miss Dixie's big stick -- a tribute to Teddy Roosevelt, perhaps? -- wasn't enough to keep him from finding what he wanted in Bohemian New Orleans. As Mamie Smith once put it, "I'm telling you, that's The Lure Of The South."

CHRISTMAS ISSUE DEADLINE:

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THE SOCIAL SCENE...

WHAT'S HOT & WHAT'S NOT?

by Rip & Marsha Naquin-Delain

www.ambushmag.com/gossip1.htm



Chuck La Venture was feted with a wonderful birthday bash by honey Kevin Limberg at their swanky By-Water digs. Ya'll know them as Chuck and Kevin of Alternatives fame on the Bourbon Street strip. Some 30 guests were there to celebrate Chuck's b-day including Kevin's parents Catherine and Karl, Uncle Dave and James of Bourbon Cuts, Starkey and Earl of Postmark New Orleans, and tv personality Andre Trevigne.

Be sure and stop in at Alternatives for their festive handmade stockings as well as an unusual assortment of gifts for that holiday shopping list.

Joseph A. Gaines, celebrity chef extraordinaire, celebrated his own bash by delivering his invites as labels on his own bottle of champagne.

Unexpected Baton Rouge guests arrived to visit us, so we missed the soiree. Sorry Joseph, we promised we'd come, but we certainly could not crash your bash with 5 uninvited guests.

Best wishes, and yes, we loved the bottle of champagne. You're just too clever hon!

The Miss Thing Contest over at Another Corner was just as good as last year with the antics of Miss Thompson at the helm. That girl is loaded with surprises, and snatched two unsuspecting attendees from the audience to be her backup Supreme dancers. The fat one didn't do to good, but the other choice was superb. And ya ever do that again girl...one of us is gonna choke ya!

Anyway, the star of this show was winner Ima Hog. This girl gave Miss Thing a new meaning. And we can't forget Miss Hooker Maxie Pad who dazzled the crowd of party revelers out for an evening of entertainment in the Marigny.

Michael C. Landry's art opening at the Lesbian and Gay Community Center was a smash exhibiting "Fragments: A Small Retrospective". We had never seen Michael's work so we were in for quite a surprise.

Michael's technique brings his canvases alive as you see his inner thoughts boldly splashed across his works. This young man is going places.

We picked out one of the more provocative pieces to go in the "Wacky Wing" of the office. That's the corner we keep wacky Miss Sonny in, so he can entertain himself and let the rest of us get a little work done.

Don't wait too long to buy. Michael just may be the next Picasso. And besides, 25% of the proceeds benefit the Center.

The much anticipated Gay Appreciation Awards [GAA] finally arrived as some 500 revelers packed out the Body & Soul for this 10th anniversary awards show. Excitement was in the air since this would be the first year the general public in access of 300 voted and decided who were the best of the best in the Crescent City.

Founder Marcy Marcell opened up the festivities with a production that featured Marcy with assistance from Jamie Gender and Felina Colby-Shane. Marcy was in her element as her stage presence conveyed to the audience what this night was all about.

The awards honor those individuals, businesses and organizations who most of the time, are not recognized for the outstanding services and efforts they perform for the lesbian gay bisexual and transgender community.

Emcees included GAA president Sonny Cleveland and stage personality Teryl-Lynn Foxx. Some of the vulgar and off-hand remarks by Teryl-Lynn were found offensive by many in the audience, and were the only things which detracted from the show. After all, we were here to put our best foot forward, showcasing and honoring the talent, professionalism and diversity of our community. We do understand that Teryl-Lynn has apologized to those offended.

And now for the awards... Newcomer of the Year went to Clorox Bleachman. Manager Ken Grandpre accepted Neighborhood Bar of the Year for Good Friends Bar. The NO/AIDS Task Force took home the Fight Against AIDS Award.

Billy Warr of 4 Seasons fame won Bitch of the Year. Show Bar of the Year went to Oz, while United Cab took Gay Friendly Business of the Year.

Media Personality of the Year went to radio personality Michael Chase. N'awlins actress Becky Allen won Performing Arts Award of the Year and Oz came out on top for Dance Bar of the Year.

The Marsha Delain Award of Excellence took on a new twist this year as the focus of the award was directed at those individual[s] who act as "drag ambassadors" promoting the artform of female impersonation in and outside of New Orleans. The winners included Reba Douglas of Rubyfruit Jungle's Forbidden Fruit, and

Lisa Beaumann and Teryl-Lynn Foxx of both the Oz cast and Rubyfruit Jungle's Forbidden Fruit. The awards were large acrylic stars symbolizing the status of Reba, Lisa and Teryl-Lynn.

And what GAA show would be complete without the Fly Fashion Awards presented by Ms. Fly herself, looking quite respectable this night. The winners this year were treated to an original Smurf creation and included Dion and Paloma of Lucky Chungs, socialite Caroline Carnes, Petunias' chef Jay Loomis, stage star Reba Douglas and King Cake Queen Smurf Murphy.

The Cheridon Award presented by GAA president Sonny Cleveland went to Miss National Apollo Raquel Chevallier, honoring tops in the drag world.

4 Seasons own James Cockrell took home Bartender of the Year with Gay Mart garnering Gay Business of the Year. Socialite/activist Toni Pizanie won Political Activist of the Year.

Entertainer of the Year went to Teryl-Lynn Foxx. The coveted Lifetime Achievement Award chosen each year by founder Marcy Marcell went to legend Miss Do, proprietress of the Double Play.

Lesbian of the Year went to Dr. Louis McFarland, Louisiana State Epidemiologist and an activist/supporter of our community for many years.

Tommy Elias took home the first Gay Man of the Year, obviously voted on for his outstanding support hosting a multitude of fund-raisers for various organizations and causes at Oz.

The evening was especially wonderful for us as we treated ourselves to the services of Chisholm Livery, Ltd. The brand new white stretch limo was driven by Roy, one of the nicest, most accommodating drivers we have ever had from such a service.

We started out the evening picking up friends Reba Douglas and Michael Landry heading over to Charlene's for a cocktail. From there we were whisked off to Big Daddy's where Pitty Pat was behind the bar slinging cocktails. Then it was off to the awards show.

Following the show we headed over to the Golden Lantern where our new balcony designer Brian Schlosser was serving up favorite brews. Brian is currently working on our Mardi Gras '97 balcony art, which will surely be quite the rage this year! Bar barons Terry and Alex were belly up to the bar cocktailing with the rest of us.

Then it was off to Andy Boudreaux's MRB for a visit with manager Bob Moore. Bob has always got the latest tea for us, because ya know we have to have the goods on our dear sister Miss Blanche. You can't let that Blanche get even a half a step ahead of you.

Our final stop was to Pam and Penny's Rubyfruit Jungle for the GAA Post Party and show. Already the Jungle was standing room only as GAA revelers jockeyed for the best spot to see the "hit" Forbidden Fruit Sunday night show. Reba, Lisa and Teryl-Lynn gave one hell of a show demonstrating to all what stage domination is all about!

What a night! Roy drove us to 828 and our fairy tale adventure this Sunday night was over.

Art Against AIDS was up next at New Orleans Center bringing in thousands of party goers for this worthwhile cause. Even Larry Haggman of "Dallas" fame was there for the festivities. The ornaments were great as usual but we chose the ones created by St. Paul's Episcopal School. We also dashed in and got the Susan Denoux artsy lamp which will be a great accent piece.

Then it was off to the auction board where we simply had to have the Gianna For Galiano International chapeaux creation complete with leopard skin and black netting. We promised Ms. Fly we'd get it for her and that we did. Certainly this will give a little class to her usually raunchy Friday New Meat Night performances.

Bobby Creekmore, Mr. Louisiana Bear can certainly be proud of his achievements at the "Thanksgiving Gala" Nov. 23rd. The event brought in support from across the city raising over \$1,100 for Belle Reve/Belle Esprit. The evening of food, drinks and entertainment was just what one would expect at a traditional Thanksgiving feast.

Terry and Alex of Golden Lantern fame joined in the fun as did Jerce Ann and Marty of Marigny fame.

The 8th Annual Black Ball landed us on bar stools opposite sex kitten Yvette's bartending station at The Parade. Make sure and look for Yvette's photo in this issue. Her ensemble left little to the imagination.

Manager Jacques was a delight treating us to some vino and good Cajun conversation. And even Bob Darling, now the t-shirt queen, was there. Ya'll know Miss Darling has always got a story to tell - Ethel or was that Ethyl-queen?

Since we were out so late, we even got a chance to see Miss Do, working for a change. Yes, Miss Do was behind the bar, slinging cocktails at the Double Play, part of the Do empire. Beefy popped in, and since we had not seen this queen since her somewhat drunken performance at lunch a few days earlier, we decided to let her have it. Yea, girl 3 sake's and 3 beers are too much for you to handle!

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