



**Me, I'm Ugly! Tom Greenwood -Partners Saloon**





THE PUMPS, PEARLS AND  
TWO BIT GIRLS REVUE!

the KREWE OF  
ELAN presents ...

"a night of comedy  
you won't soon  
forget!"

SUNDAY MAY 20th

at the PARAGON

SHOWTIME 9:00 PM

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**PARAGON**

1501 Broad St. Lake Charles, La. 70601 (318) 436-8225



# entertainment/news

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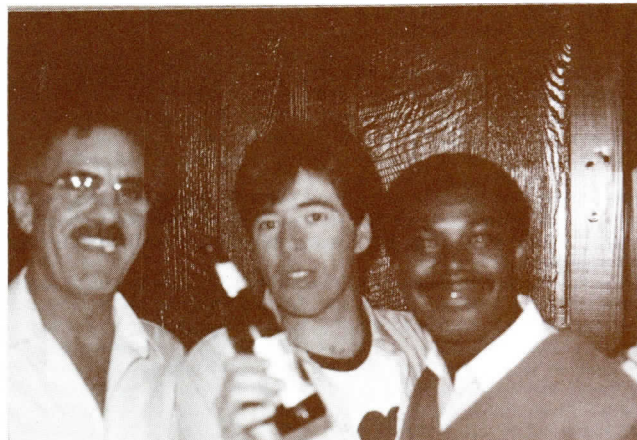
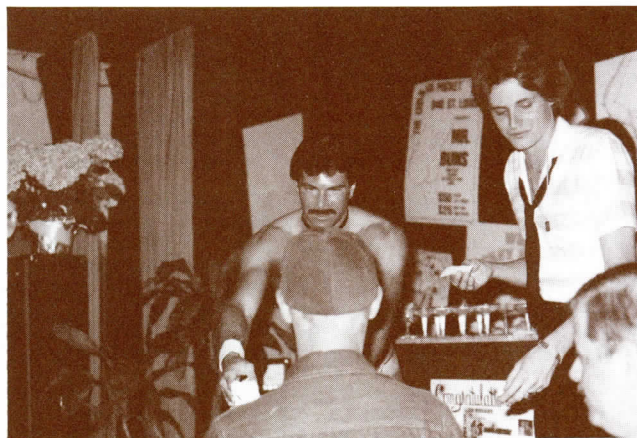
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## Me, I'm Ugly!



### About the cover...

This Month's Cover features Tom Greenwood, Bartender at Partners Saloon, 718 N. Rampart, New Orleans. Tom was the only gay bartender in the New Orleans area to enter the Ugliest Bartender Contest sponsored by Miller Brewing Co. The object of the Contest was to raise donations to help fight MS (Multiple Sclerosis). Every 25¢ donation Tom recieved put him one vote closer to True Ugliness. Tom ranked as one of the Top Ten Contestants in Louisiana. Tom would like to thank all who helped especially all of the gay bars in the New Orleans area who took up donations for the cause. If Tom would have placed first in the contest, he would have won a trip to Mexico with 8 cities to choose from. The all expense paid week in Mexico was worth \$2,200. Tom is to be congratulated on the fine job he did raising some \$3,000 for MS. Tom has adopted the slogan for the contest "Me, I'm Ugly!"

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## THE NATIONAL MARCH FOR LESBIAN AND GAY RIGHTS San Francisco 1984

Friends,

In less than four months, history will be made in San Francisco, not just for the Democratic Party, but for the Lesbian/Gay Community as well. The National March for Lesbian and Gay Rights is planned to coincide with the Democratic National Convention. Its purpose is to move Lesbian and Gay Issues to the center of the American political debate. We are writing to inform you of our plans and to solicit your opinions and support.

Monday, July 16th, the leadership of the Democratic Party will gather in San Francisco to select a candidate for President and to debate the issues which confront our nation. In attendance at this national convention will be approximately 20,000 media representatives reporting this debate to hundreds of millions of people. (Media audience to be between 500 million and 1 billion, according to Roz Wyman, Executive Director of the Democratic National Convention.) We have an opportunity to raise the issue of the oppression of the Lesbian/Gay Community to these millions of people. The purpose of the National March is to raise these issues in a constructive and non-partisan manner, providing the best spokespeople of our community to speak to the nation. In this time of A.I.D.S. and widespread discrimination against our people in many areas including employment, housing, child custody, reproductive rights, immigration, and social services, it is imperative that we utilize this opportunity to speak out against the continuing second class citizenship of our people.

As you are aware, the Lesbian/Gay Rights movement, like many civil rights movements, has often used massive marches and rallies to make visible our concerns. Here in San Francisco this tradition is particularly strong with each Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day being attended by approximately 250,000 people and lesser events drawing thousands. We believe that tens of thousands of our people and their friends will participate in the National March for Lesbian and Gay Rights. We are confident that because of our community's experience with massive marches and rallies that we can provide proper attention to the many logistical details such as security, sound, toilets, etc. which will necessarily accompany this event.

The Committee organizing the March has aggressively sought support within our local community and we have received widespread support. Endorsing groups include all four Lesbian/Gay Democratic Clubs of the S.F. Bay Area, (Alice B. Toklas, Harvey Milk, Stonewall, and East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Clubs), the Lesbian/Gay Labor Alliance, the Local National Women's Political Caucus, and the San Francisco County Democratic Central Committee. Elsewhere the March has been endorsed by the National Gay Task Force, the National Coalition of Black Gays, Black and White Men Together-International, the Arizona Gay Task Force, and the California Democratic Council.

Within the structure of the March Committee, supporting groups have two options: First, they can endorse, which allows us to use their name and if possible contact their members to solicit their personal support. Second, they can become Sponsoring Groups, which in addition to the above requires a donation of at least \$100 for groups of over 100 people or \$50 for smaller groups. Only the Sponsoring Groups will be given the right to vote on the National March Demands and Speakers. If 10% or more of the Sponsoring Groups object to a specific demand or speaker, the National March Committee will automatically reconsider that demand or speaker. In this way we seek to include the concerns of those groups around the nation which support the March in the decision-making process. Many of you reading this letter may have attended the National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights in 1979. Most of you have participated in your local Lesbian/Gay Pride Celebrations. The event we are planning will be similar to those events with an important difference—in San Francisco in July we will have the attention of the world. As you know, such actions require both volunteers and money. Here in San Francisco, numerous volunteers are already working and funds are being raised. We urge those of you who are supportive of the National March to do what must be done to make any march and rally a success—donate money or volunteer time.

Time is short to organize this event. We need your support and your participation to make the National March for Lesbian and Gay Rights as successful as possible. In the great political debate which is being waged across America, many issues—economic, military, civil rights and environmental are being raised. In all the televised national debates in this or any Presidential election campaign, no mention has been made of the oppression of millions of Lesbian and Gay People. In the 1980 Democratic Convention, a gay man was nominated for Vice President, but still the media and the nation did not address the concerns of our people. We of the National March Committee are determined that when the 1984 Convention comes to San Francisco, Lesbian and Gay Issues will be raised in such a powerful and positive manner that the nation and the world must take note. Join us. SUPPORT THE NATIONAL MARCH FOR LESBIAN AND GAY RIGHTS—San Francisco—1984.

For the Committee, Mary Dunlap and Paul Boneberg, Co-Chairs—2301 Market Street, Suites A,B & C; San Francisco, California, 94114; 415/552-4287.

## CAPITAL IDEAS

BY: Ross Dennison, Baton Rouge Editor

There are some 20 million lesbians and gay men in the United States today. We represent a community which is as diverse as the people of our great nation. There are gay persons in every economic class, racial group, religious organization and occupation. There are only two things that all homosexuals have in common. The first of these similarities is that solely on the basis of our sexual preferences and whom we choose to love, we are feared and despised by the majority of people in our society. Inevitably, the result of such extreme hatred has been the development of an abundance of stereotypes about homosexuals. It is widely believed that all gay people are promiscuous, that we molest children, engage in sexual activities in public, are psychologically maladjusted, and are untrustworthy. It can not be denied that these things are true about a small percentage of gays, but the percentage of straight people suffering from these same maladies is just as large. The second similarity we share is that for centuries these false assumptions have been the foundation for the institutionalized discrimination against us.

We all realize how much change needs to take place in order to change the laws which subject us to these absurd and vicious prejudices. It is an uphill battle which requires the aid and support of countless thousands of strongly committed people. The most important of our undertakings should be the education of the public in the realities of lesbian and gay lifestyles. Legal change alone will not be enough. It is imperative that we change the cultural prejudices and stereotypes which keep these archaic laws alive. If this bigotry is not deterred, the real changes we search for will never become realities. However, while we work for the changes we feel to be so necessary, it is equally as important for us to provide assistance and information that will help us as gay men and women to cope with the world as it now exists.

One of the most dramatic changes in gay lifestyles in recent years has been the increasing number of lesbian and gay couples living together as loving couples. This is one area in which solid legal information has long been needed, and now this information is available to us. A *LEGAL GUIDE FOR LESBIAN AND GAY COUPLES* by attorneys Hayden Curry and Denis Clifford is an easily read and very informative publication which covers most every aspect of gays living together.

**NOW THAT YOU KNOW: WHAT EVERY PARENT SHOULD KNOW ABOUT HOMOSEXUALITY**, written by Betty Fairchild and Nancy Hayward, is an enlightening and upbeat guide for people who will learn that they are not alone, but among 30 to 40 million other such parents in the United States. The book summarizes how today's experts define homosexuality, why it develops, and what it all means to the parents of gay children. The book explains how to best respond to a child when they first confide their homosexuality, how to help them (and how not to hurt them), whom to turn to, how to reconcile homosexuality with religion, and how homosexuality will affect their child's career. Both Betty Fairchild and Nancy Hayward have been instrumental in the formation of Parents of Gays, an organization with chapters in every major city in the United States and Canada.

Above all the book is a sounding board for the dozens of gay men and women and their parents whom the authors have interviewed: honest, painful, dedicated, cheerful, determined, the stories cover the full ranges of experiences, from the deepest despair to the unexpected joys parents have found while coping with their children's homosexuality.

I would like to say how happy I am to be the newest member of the *AMBUSH* staff. If there is anything you would like to comment on, or any suggestions you may have concerning topics of interest to the gay community, drop me a line. I want to talk about things which interest you, nor bore you with my own petty ramblings. Til next time—stay gay & stay proud. ROSS

## BRAGPAC LISTS ACCOMPLISHMENTS

It's been a busy, but very productive year for Baton Rouge Area Gay Political Action Caucus (BRAGPAC). Many of you haven't heard from us in a while, so we thought we'd spread the word about what we've been doing. Your Baton Rouge gay rights group isn't dead—nor is it asleep.

Naturally, our major effort concerned last fall's elections. Working closely with our parent organization, Louisiana Gay Political Action Caucus (LAGPAC), and its New Orleans chapter, NORCO/LAGPAC, BRAGPAC members interviewed candidates for several offices, including Governor and Superintendent of Education. We sent questionnaires to all state-wide and local candidates, some of whom responded very favorably. In the end, we endorsed Tom Clausen for Superintendent of Education, Michael Haynes for State Representative, and Sandra Thompson for Clerk of Court. We recommended Edwin Edwards for Governor and Bobby Freeman for Lieutenant Governor. To spread the word on these candidates' views, BRAGPAC printed, mailed and distributed sample ballots for gay men and lesbians to carry with them to the polls.

Sandra Thompson was particularly receptive. She was the only local candidate we actually interviewed. We escorted her to several



of the local bars, where she could speak directly to gay people about her support for their problems and her willingness to listen and learn. This is the first instance we know of where a local candidate has come to our turf to campaign.

Not only were we active participants in others' campaigns, but we also fielded our own candidate. BRAGPAC treasurer John Ducote ran for Democratic State Central Committee as the first known gay candidate in the Greater Baton Rouge area. This was BRAGPAC's first effort to bring local gay people together in support of a gay candidate. Though John lost, we did do well in those areas we targeted: LSU, downtown and Spanish Town. As we learn and grow in numbers, we will do even better.

But politics was not the only arena in which we were active. Despite the "Political" in the name, BRAGPAC recognizes its responsibilities as Baton Rouge's only area-wide gay rights lobby. We received numerous complaints of anti-gay violence and harassment of transvestites. A local Christian fundamentalist church decided it should try to close the two gay bars downtown, The Industry and The Mirror Lounge. Some lesbians and gay men felt the police were disinterested, if not actively hostile. In response, BRAGPAC organized a Police Liaison Committee to meet with Police Chief Pat Bonanno. Through its efforts, three BRAGPAC members and two bar owners met with Chief Bonanno last fall. We found the chief to be very cooperative and feel we can call on him again. Several people have commented that they have found the police more responsive since this meeting.

We're sure you heard of Kristine Naragon's case. Kris—now a LAG-PAC board member—is the lesbian graduate assistant removed from her LSU teaching duties after having an affair with an undergraduate who was NOT her student. Although her case is being handled by the

Louisiana ACLU, BRAGPAC has done everything it could to help her and give her support. We co-hosted a cocktail party in her honor last fall; the attendance and rapport were phenomenal! Kris's case was initially denied, but she is appealing. And we will continue to do everything we can to help. Her suit is a very important challenge to the "right" or employers to fire or reassign gay people because of their sexual orientation.

The Louisiana Democratic Party has finally come to agree with our position. Working again with LAGPAC and NORCO/LAGPAC, BRAGPAC members helped convince the Louisiana Democratic Central Committee to add "sexual orientation" to its anti-discrimination plank in the 1984 Louisiana Democratic platform. Right now, we're trying to get the Democratic party to add gay people to its quota system of delegates, thus guaranteeing us a voice at the national convention.

We feel our accomplishments to date are numerous and impressive. But we cannot sit back and congratulate each other on a job well done. Much work remains. We already have several goals for the coming year.

Of course, THE single most important election coming up is the Presidential contest. While we are not yet endorsing any candidate—we must wait for the final nominations and the results of our questionnaires and interviews—we are working to ensure the gay voice is heard when those nominees are selected. John Ducote is again running, this time to be a delegate to the Democratic National Convention. If you are a Mondale supporter, we ask you to attend your local Democratic caucus and vote for John as a Mondale delegate. If you are a Hart supporter and you attend the caucus, please consider Randy Beech as a Hart delegate.

We're gearing up now for the many elections this fall. Locally,

## *The Official* **Mr. & Miss Dreamstate '84** *Pageants* **\$7,500 Cash & Prizes**

Miss Dreamstate  
\$5,000 Cash & Prizes  
A Preliminary for the States of  
Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi & Alabama  
to MISS GAY AMERICA '84  
Entry Fee \$100  
Fri. & Sat., Aug. 17th & 18th  
PHARAOH'S  
Lafayette, Louisiana

Mr. Dreamstate  
\$2,500 Cash & Prizes  
Open to States of  
Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi & Alabama

Entry Fee \$75  
Sat., Sept. 1st  
PHARAOH'S  
Lafayette, Louisiana





we will be voting for district attorney, Mayor/President, a U.S. Senator, a U.S. Representative, several positions on the City/Parish Council, and numerous judgeships, as well as the U.S. Presidency. BRAGPAC, as a local organization, will be concentrating on the district attorney's, mayoral and Council races.

There's a lot to be done. And we need your help. If Baton Rouge is to have an effective gay rights organization, it must have the strength of numbers. We ask all of you who are not currently LAGPAC members (local LAGPAC members are automatically BRAGPAC members and vice versa) to fill out and return the enclosed membership application.

## Off the Presses

### A CHANGE OF PACE

BY: Ross Dennison, Baton Rouge Editor

Are you tired of the same old thing every time you go partying? Well here's some welcome good news for Baton Rouge. PHARAOH'S, located on Jefferson St. in Lafayette has a special just for the Capitol City. Every Wednesday nite all you have to do is show your driver's license with a Baton Rouge address and you get in for free!

I went there Apr. 11 and let me tell you they had one heck of a show in store for us. Naomi Sims, Miss Gay Universe and Female Impersonator of the Year, emcee'd the show along with PHARAOH'S regular Coco, Miss Dreamstate and Miss Gulf Coast '84. Special guests that night included Kelly Lauren & Brandy Alexander, along with two Baton Rouge favorites R. Reba Ross & Tiffany Alexander. Needless to say, the show was nothing but electrifying. When Lafayette parties, Lafayette PARTIES!

The PHARAOH'S staff were friendly and really made us feel that we were welcome there, something I know we all appreciate. Strong cocktails and ice cold beer were ready for us to enjoy almost before we had the chance to ask for them. And as far as being able to see the show, no one had any complaints. Every seat in the house provides a clear view of everything that's happening onstage.

As far as the regular crowd goes, all I can say is I found the beef! Someone definitely knew what they were doing when they made Cajuns. Lafayette people have to be some of the most genuinely friendly people in Louisiana.

There's no need for all you beautiful people in Alexandria or Houma to feel left out. Alexandria patrons get free admission on Friday nights and Houma residents get in free on Saturday nights. So all of us have the opportunity to enjoy the hospitality of the biggest and best show bar in Lafayette. You too ladies, Thursday nites, no matter where you're from, free admission for any and all ladies, along with 2 for 1 bar drinks for everyone, at PHARAOH'S.

If you're in the mood for a change of pace, give Lafayette a twirl. You won't be disappointed. I didn't make it over to FANTASY I that nite, but I'll be there before long to see what's happening over there of interest. I'm sure I won't be unhappy with what I find there, they've never let me down before.

By the way, thanks for the party Joey Breaux and company. And thanks to the Lafayette editor, Jamie, for the help he offered, it most definitely helped. Most of all I would like to thank the entire gay community of Lafayette for a wonderful nite past, and for many more to come. Stay proud Lafayette, You're doing just fine!

### IN SEARCH OF THE FOUNTAIN OF YOUTH

BY: Ross Dennison, Baton Rouge Editor

Don't you just hate it when you're sitting in a barroom and an elderly gentlemen sits down next to you and begins chatting away with you? Why?

I can't say that I've never politely excused myself, walked away, and told my friends about the "old troll" who just tried to pick me up. But in retrospect, I can see just how hypocritical such a response is.

Every one of us, one day will walk into a bar, sit down next to an attractive young man, begin an innocent conversation, and have him run off to his buddies and tell them the same stories we used to tell.

How terrible this type of experience must be to endure for these older, and usually wiser, members of the gay community. The only crime committed is their wanting to share the company of an attractive person. Age, quite probably, did not even enter their minds. By excusing ourselves and walking away, we only show how terribly unattractive we really are on the inside.

By taking the time to become engaged in an intelligent conversation with these valuable members of our society, we can only enrich our lives. If we were to utilize their knowledge and experience, we would be able to learn from them and make the world we live in a much better place to be gay.

Are we all so damned insecure that we are ashamed to be seen in the company of someone who was able to vote before we were born? Just think of the humiliation these people have had to face in a world even more viciously prejudiced than the world we live in today. Maybe we could learn from them how to best cope with the discrimination we encounter in our everyday lives.

The next time you see an elderly man sitting at the bar all alone,

# Andy Boudreaux's MISSISSIPPI RIVER BOTTOM MRB DRAWING

## Different Prizes Awarded each Month

The DRAWING is held the last Sunday of Each Month. Must be present to WIN! GOOD LUCK!

THE APRIL PRIZE WAS A TEN SPEED BIKE!!!

To enter—simply write your name on your cash register receipt after purchasing your drink, then deposit your receipt with an MRB Bartender. THAT'S IT!

## ANDY BOUDREAUX'S MISSISSIPPI RIVER BOTTOM SALOON AND COUNTRY STORE PROUDLY PRESENTS THE FIRST

## WALLY LOOK-A-LIKE CONTEST AND BIRTHDAY PARTY

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BEGINNING AT 5 P.M. IN OUR NEWLY DECORATED PATIO

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ADMIN. STATE HANDICAPPED  
CHILDREN'S SERVICES PROGRAM

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"MOTHER" SHIVELY  
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MARDI GRAS AWARDS

### -JUDGING-

- ★ BEST MIMIC OF PHYSICAL APPEARANCE & LIFESTYLE
- ★ TELLING OF BEST ANECDOTE

FACT/SUGGESTION SHEETS AVAILABLE AT THE BAR  
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(MORE WILL BE DEEPLY APPRECIATED)

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SAT. MAY 19th 11P.M.

## Featuring Tiffany Alexander Miss Greater Louisiana **THE THEATRE**

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### Emcee

Tiffany Alexander  
Reigning Miss Greater Louisiana

Sat., May 26th  
10:30 P.M.

Winner  
Crown, Trophy  
\$100 Cash & \$100  
Entry Fee Paid into  
Miss Dreamstate '84.  
\$10 Entry Fee-Prizes  
Guaranteed!

## *Miss Greater Louisiana 1984*

AN OFFICIAL PRELIMINARY TO  
MISS DREAMSTATE '84

### PHARAOH'S

JEFFERSON ST...LAFAYETTE...LA.

An Official PCL Production  
Information: R. Rip Naquin 504/383-2535

Special Guest Star  
Naomi Sims  
Female Impersonator  
of the Year



Judged in Beauty & Talent; Entry Fee \$10 CASH  
CONTESTANT REGISTRATION 9:30 P.M.



sit down next to him, buy him a drink, and listen to what he has to say. Chances are that you will add to your life an insight that too many of us are too small to even look for. And chances are, you will have made a friend worth knowing.

In sharing our experiences, and overlooking our differences, we most certainly will be able to say that we have tasted and savored.....the Fountain of Youth.

#### A QUICK NOTE ON LOVE

BY: Arthur King, Baton Rouge

How do you tell someone that you love them? How can you possibly know whether or not you are going to offend them? How can anyone cope with having their love rejected by the object of their affections?

These are good questions, and most of us have asked them if only to ourselves. But the answers to these questions are quite elusive, if not absolutely unattainable.

How should one go about expressing their feelings to that special person? No one, absolutely correct, method could cover the myriad of possibilities. But in my opinion, no irreparable damage can be done by a simple, honest expression of your feelings. Depending on the existing relationship, flowers may be appropriate, or perhaps an inexpensive gift such as a good book or album. The worst thing you could possibly do would be to keep your feelings to yourself and risk never knowing if your affections were in vain. Many wonderful relationships have never even begun simply because neither party wanted to take that first step.

How to predict whether or not your feelings will be considered offensive by your loved one should not even be a concern. Any person whom you consider to be close to you should be able to understand the way you feel even if they wish no more than your friendship. And any friendship should be strong enough to withstand honesty between both parties.

In any case, there is the possibility that your affections will not be returned. This is a fact of life and should by no means keep you from expressing yourself honestly. If you should find your affections not accepted it is not an end to your world. It has no bearing on whether or not you will ever find that special someone with whom you will share your life.

The most important thing to remember is that someday you will find him. And when you do, all of the disappointment which once seemed so terrible, will seem unimportant. It will more than likely seem worth all of the heartbreak and desperation. Because when you do find him, his smile will make you smile, his laugh will make you laugh, and his touch will make you the happiest man in the world.



BY: Thomas-John Grieses, Houston

May is the month of the May Pole. An ancient fertility ritual. Can you guess what the Maypole stands for? (O, please tell me you got the pun!!!) Some of you may have danced the Maypole when you were children, my, what you didn't know then and know now!

An interesting variation of this ritual is to get long lengths of ribbon of various colors and fasten them to a hook in the ceiling. Get a friend or several friends together and dance and weave the ribbons into a cord. The cord will absorb all the laughter, confusion, fun and jokes you weave into it. You can then use this cord for psychic protection-wearing it around your waist when you feel vulnerable, making a circle out of it and napping in the middle-laying it across the doorway of your apartment when you go to sleep.

You may also use it for a simple variation of the witches wedding called a "handfasting". A Handfasting is a marvelous ceremony. Witches generally consider that the commitment is binding for a year and a day, rather than "until death do us part". There is certainly a lot of good psychology to the thought. At six months a conscientious couple will avoid both throwing in the towel because it got too rough or taking the other for granted, both common errors in a relationship.

While witches will generally have a wiccan priest officiate, the ceremony can be performed beautifully by the couple themselves. Invite your friends and prepare a nature setting if at all possible. Instruct all guests to wear "magical" clothes, whatever that means to them, (a fifties ball gown, a velvet tuxedo, or an old tent dress) and bring a covered dish for a feast following. Have a small table covered with beautiful cloth for an altar on which lies the cord, and a chalice filled with love wine (recipe and ritual was in the February issue-but to remind you one teaspoon of juniper berries and one quarter teaspoon of basil to a pint of red wine and left to soak for nine days in the refrigerator-fondled every day), and two white candles. You may use red candles if you really want to accent the sensual part of the relationship.

Have your guests form a circle around you. Use nature invocations if you want to write them, or just have everyone be quiet for a moment and in their own way pray for powerful energies of love to flood the area. A circle dance around the couple is appropriate also. Then let each of the pair simply recite or improvise a promise to love and support

# HUNGRY?

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## \$6.00 Booze Blast

Mon. thru Sat. in the Disco  
\$6.00 Cover includes all the  
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**Bartender — Johnny Kelly**

## THE COCK & BULL STORY

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the other. I would suggest words like these:

"May I love and support you to become strong and to love yourself. May I give you the room to grow and the love to become all that you can be. I will try my best to be honest, to communicate, and to share my love in good times and in difficult times. May the forces of nature help me to love you truly and more day by day."

Choose a good friend to help you or devise a way to do the following yourselves: join your right hands and tie them together with the cord that was woven previously. And say:

"For a year and a day may we grow together. May friendship, love, and laughter be ours forever."

Now dance, drink, play and later make love. Be blessed!

## The Plume

*Passions in Verse*

### PUNK LOVE

BY: Margaret Clary, Monroe

LIFE IS funny, the time is now  
New looks abound us, so much funk  
Braids and hats and boots  
Make up and leather  
But punk love fades too

REGGAE RHYTHM and untanned girls surround the world  
Love comes out of synthesizers to a beat that drugs  
London new waves it while punk love stings the brain  
And leaves the world on a winged Horse and fades  
GIRLS LOOK like boys and boys like girls,  
the man on the corner, look at his curls  
Mega music hurts ears and laser lights cut the night  
and punk love sits at the bar ready for flight  
Hold on now, now tonight

TAKE ME now, take me tonight  
I love your soul, it burns so bright  
Is it me or the world, I know the choice  
The mirror says the star,  
and punk love fades but never says good-bye

## OPPOSITE TRENDS

Thur. June 7th



## COCO & COM.

Happy Hour 9 P.M. til 10 P.M.

TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY  
Bar Drinks \$1; Schnapps 25¢

**Hours-8-2 Tues.-Sat.**

504/876-9975



925 BAYOU BLACK DR.  
HOUMA, LOUISIANA



PSEUDO WATERS  
BY: Arland 'Beau' Purvis, Monroe Editor

ROARING WATERS  
Muddy and unsettled  
Rushing wild  
And destroying all  
WASHING AWAY  
The brush and trees  
The land  
That was-That isn't  
CLIMBING THE gorge's walls  
Up higher than ever  
All the way  
To the old thorn tree  
NEVER HAVE I  
Seen such anger  
From a once  
Resting babe  
A BABE  
That lies still  
That rolls over  
Slowly and silent  
THAT CRAWLS  
Through the gorge  
Pass the brush and trees  
And comforting the land  
BUT NOW  
Enraged by the heavens  
Bounded by the gorge  
Dared by the brush, trees and land  
THE BABE awakes  
With the might  
Of a roaring lion  
And the wickedness of a serpent  
BUT THE babe  
Cries only for the moment  
For the parental sun and earth  
Will soak its' tears away  
YES THE babe  
Will birth its' tantrum  
And then settle down  
To sleep again

FORGIVE THE MAN  
BY: Ross Dennison, Baton Rouge Editor

LEAVES, SCATTERED on the ground,  
The ruins of a noble life.  
Above, the tree stands tall and bare  
Naked to the eyes of the world.  
Alone it sleeps till dawn of spring,  
Its barren limbs exposed.  
They die and rot, then break away,  
And gather on the ground.  
AS WINTER fades and melts away,  
The tree is standing still.  
Its limbs are few and dried and weak,  
But soon the tree awakes.  
New leaves appear upon new limbs,  
And shade the ground below.  
The birds return and make new homes,  
The tree is noble once more...  
MEN, LIKE trees, live noble lives,  
Like trees, at times men fail.  
Men build and grow and live and love,  
Men fall, they make mistakes.  
Forgive the man who goes astray,  
Forgive the man who errs.  
For when winter comes to noble men,  
No spring will wake him from his sleep.

"HEART OF STONE"  
BY: Lois, Baton Rouge

I am just beginning to live,  
but my love I won't give.  
I'll not think of the past,  
of a love that did not last  
The sounds of our laughter  
ringing in my ears,  
brings no more Happiness...Just Tears  
My Heart seems to be made of stone...  
Where Love had once shone.

LOVELINESS  
BY: Arland 'Beau' Purvis

This room in which I sit  
Has walls that will not answer  
The questions of which I ask  
Whose answers I already know  
To time I cannot find  
Or more so will not allow  
To find me in this shadowed room  
To deal with the problems I face  
So I sit here in a room of comfort  
That has become my prison cell  
With all my familiar warmth  
That I have allowed to hide me from this world  
And as I sit here with age pressing  
I find myself denying the realization  
That if I will not reach out  
No one will know to reach in

HEAVEN BY THE SEA  
BY: Ross Dennison, Baton Rouge Editor

I MET you on a summer's day  
and I knew right from the start,  
That you could never belong to me  
but I could hold you in my heart.  
I don't know why I love you so  
or why you mean so much to me,  
But I need to have you desperately  
in our heaven by the sea.  
I LONG to touch your golden hair  
to gaze into your eyes,  
To have you lying close to me  
beneath the starlit skies.  
I want to have you holding me  
like a father holds his son,  
I'd cling to you, never let you go  
until my life on earth was done.  
I KNOW that I can't have you  
and I can never let it show,  
So I sing this song of love to you  
'cause I just wanted you to know,  
That I hope someday you'll find someone  
and that I hope you both will be  
As happy as I once was with you  
in our heaven by the sea.

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SUNDAY DINNER 6 P.M. til 10 P.M.  
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WED-SAT - 9 PM-2 AM

*Glenn  
Elliott*

*Sat., May 12th  
11 P.M.*



*"Swimwear Fashion Show"*

*by Prime Cut Hair Studio*

*Sat., May 26th  
11 P.M.*

**Wed. -**

*"Hump Nite"*

\$1.00 Cover

50¢ Beer, 50¢ Kamikaze

\$1.50 Well Drinks, 50¢ Schnapps

**Thur. -**

*"Half Price Nite"*

\$1.00 Cover

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**Fri. -**

*"Two Bit Nite"*

\$3.00 Cover

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our new D.J. direct from Memphis

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## REASONS

BY: Ross Dennison, Baton Rouge Editor

ALL OF my life I've been searching for reasons,  
Why people hurt people the way that they do.  
And in all of my lifetime I've seen many seasons,  
But never found reasons like I've tried to do.  
IF ONE man is different from two other men,  
In the words that he says or the things that he does,  
They'll curse him and shame him, call what he does sin,  
And when you ask them their reason, "Because, just because."  
IF ONE man is happy and another man sad,  
With which man would you spend the day?  
I don't know the reason but from what I have seen,  
Most happy men have many friends.  
NOW WOULDN'T the world be a much better place,  
If we didn't have reasons at all?  
'Cause there's only one thing that doesn't need reason  
There isn't a reason to love.

## Star Struck

Galactic Direction

MAY 1984

BY: Thomas-John Grieves, Houston

You may have noticed things being a little different—all but two of the planets, Venus and Jupiter are retrograde and stay that way through much of the month. The first eight days of May, even Jupiter is retrograde also. The Energies are perfectly aligned to rethink your priorities and to clarify exactly what you want out of life.

The Full Moon occurs May 14th in Scorpio at 11:29 P.M. and the New Moon occurs at 11:48 P.M. the 30th. Remember new moons are the natural time to begin new projects. If you failed to do this on April 30th, set a priority quickly so that you can absorb the nurturing energy of the Full Moon to speed that project along!

ARIES: It is important that you spend a few hours as early in the month as you can, with a notebook and some quiet music, evaluating your priorities. You may find some of your projects are no longer worthy of your time. Strip yourself of unnecessary worries and decide to completely enjoy exactly where you are right now. You are ready to move into a mental space where you are happy and free from stress if you can make this preparation right now.

TAURUS: Things are NOT as bad as you might think. It is very possible that you have recently suffered a significant loss that has left you feeling very vulnerable. With the right attitude you will discover that this apparent set back is opening a door for you that will change your life. Accept your feelings, experience them, and then explore the opportunities this creates for you. There is a lot going for you now to really grow.

GEMINI: you have already made your difficult climb up the mountain. Any day now you should begin to feel as if life has never been better. Besides enjoying these good feelings, it is a very important time to set some new goals for yourself. You have strengths that you have not yet discovered. With your birthday coming up a vacation is in order to really bring in the new year with a roar.

CANCER: A month or so to wait for your birthday and already it looks as if there is a tendency to be feeling sensitive. A great prophet should rise to explain the Cancer heart to the rest of the world. No one can read your mind! If you need a hug you may have to ask for one, or better yet give one. You are approaching a time when you need to spend some time, perhaps a weekend, alone, evaluating your emotional needs, objectively. A visit to a good bookstore on relationship material might be useful too. You really are loved.

LEO: There is a lot of fire in this month's signs to encourage your own natural fire. You could hire out for parties to guarantee a great time. The stars are aligned right now in such a way that if you will put your mind to great tasks you can accomplish them. Temper your zeal with some good friends for wisdom, but allow your natural enthusiasm to flow. You are closer than you might guess to experiencing some of the highs you have desired. Be sure you are setting your goals clearly.

VIRGO: There is a strong Plutonian influence in your sign. This can be disruptive, except you've been warned, so now you can look forward to unusual opportunities to surface. If you feel that things are somewhat chaotic, take a deep breath and look closer, you will find that various aspects of your life are actually jelling. This is also a time for highly developed intuition. Keep a notepad by the bed and write down any key words or symbols that you remember from your dreams. By June you will feel as if some major breakthroughs have occurred.

LIBRA: This is a perfect time for either a new love affair or some new life to be given to the present one. Be careful however not to scrutinize things too closely. Love is to be enjoyed not analyzed. Much of life is really like a stage play, an attitude of serious play can help you learn your lines and enjoy the interaction with the partner. Things will be quiet for the first half of the month. But the later part, whew... Get yourself ready for a lot of fun.

SCORPIO: This is an especially good time for any new venture in finances. Careful planning and supportive friends will help, but the important thing is to dream big and DO something to set this in motion.

## SILLY SALLY'S

Upcoming Events!!!

★ May 11 - MISS TASHA KOHL  
MISS GAY AMERICA

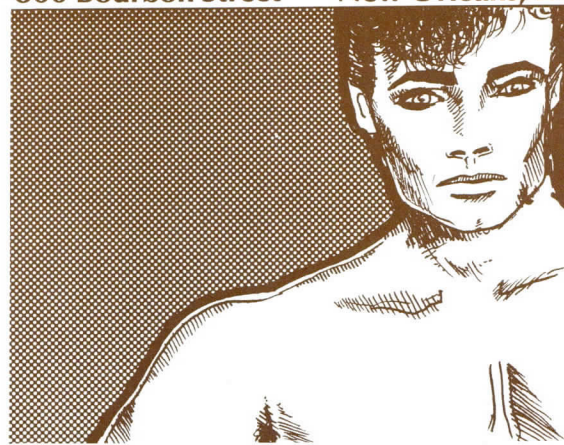
★ May 24th - MISS ALEXANDRIA  
ENTERTAINER OF THE YEAR

Coming in September  
MISS GAY LOUISIANA

924 Jackson Street  
Alexandria, Louisiana

318/448-9164

504/525-3862  
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800 Bourbon Street New Orleans, LA



Wednesday - 2 for 1 Draft, 50¢ Schnapps  
8 till 12 Midnite

Thursday - 3 for 1 Well Drinks, 3 for 1 Draft  
8 PM till 4 PM



**Whirlpool**  
**Weight room**  
**2 Video rooms**

**Sundeck**

**Sauna**



### SPECIALS

#### Tuesdays:

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

#### Wednesdays:

Buddy Nite • 4 P.M.-Midnite

2 people share Room\* or Locker

#### Thursdays:

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



Member Club Bath Chain  
 504/581-2402

515 Toulouse • New Orleans, LA

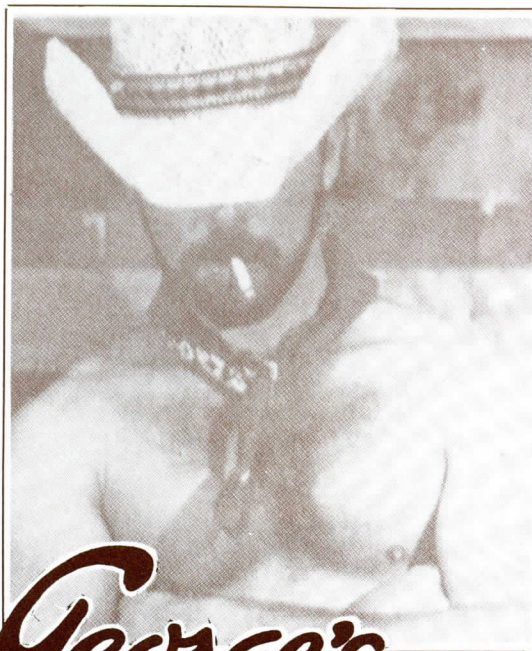
It will be necessary to be just a little "showy", a little assertive. Balance this with some earthy practicality and you are off. You will not see a massive return on your investment over night. You will however see a strong steady return.

**SAGGITARIUS:** You are worrying too much. It is a good thing to set goals for yourself, but you will live out those goals day by day, and make the decisions the same way. You need to be very careful when you finish your workday to leave it behind you when you close the door. The best thing you can do to accomplish what you so seriously desire right now is to pat yourself on the back and treat yourself to an evening or two of real relaxation, a good dinner and a friend.

**CAPRICORN:** You've been spreading yourself too thin. Remember the goat can and will under all circumstances make it to the top of the mountain. There is no need to do it all in one day. Set aside three things that you want and allow your natural organization to help you gain them. After the full moon this month it would be great for you to let business and love rest a little and take a breather. There is some special refreshment coming your way.

**AQUARIUS:** This may be the best month of the year for you. You should find your mental faculties unusually sharp and feel great authority in your decisions. You will function best when you can be out of doors. Fresh air and exercise will prolong this great "high" in your life. You will enjoy people, but will also feel the need to not be crowded. You can accomplish this easily by planning some activities out of the norm. An excellent month.

**PISCES:** You have recently entered a period of real growth. Some of the decisions you are making now will open doors for you that will have effects for months to come. You should feel well prepared for most of these opportunities. There is a need to ignore things that you see with your eyes and acknowledge what your "inards" tell you. What sometimes looks like a desert is really the space to create miracles.



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# Writers Cramp

Opinions, Comments & Questions

## PLANNING TRIP TO WORLDS FAIR

AMBUSH,

We are planning a trip to New Orleans in late Sept. to middle Oct. to the Worlds Fair. I would like all information you can send me on what N.O. and Baton Rouge has got to offer. I would like to stay at a gay campgrounds or gay resort.

If there are any private homes open for the Fair, please send information on them. Give me the prices of staying at these and all places that are gay. We will be there at the most one week. There will be two of us. Tell me if pets are allowed at these places. The bars I plan to visit are in N.O.—The Corral, Golden Lantern, Jewels Tavern, Partners and Tracks. These are the type I like—if there are any like these in B.R., tell me about them. Please send as much as you can. Send a copy of your magazine, if you have a complimentary copy—if not, tell me what it will cost.

THANK YOU, JOE, MT. CLEMENS, MICH.

## LOOKING FOR MAY INFORMATION

DEAR SIR,

In May, I plan on being in your area. Would it be possible to get a copy of your publication or some listings of happenings in May?

THANK YOU, WILLIAM, VANDERGRIFF, PENN.

## THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW ORLEANS T A PUBLIC DEPOSITORY FOR AMBUSH

EDITORS/AMBUSH MAGAZINE-DEAR SIRs:

Louisiana Collection, Library, University of New Orleans, was pleased to have received our first issue of AMBUSH as a gift: volume 2, number 4. We would ask, if it pleases you, to be allowed to be a public depository for AMBUSH. We hold that position for a couple of titles which are published within the State. We would further ask, if it is possible, for copies of the back issues so that our holdings may be as complete as possible.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

SINCERELY, KENNETH E. OWEN, HEAD LOUISIANA COLLECTION

## AMBUSH COPIES REQUESTED

GREETINGS AMBUSH,

Currently, I'm presently confined at the Louisiana State Penitentiary, Angola, LA. I've been here for the last eight and a half years. My primary reason for writing to you is simply to ask you if you can send me a destitute copy of your old Editorials(Papers). Needless to say, there is little of nothing here to read. From time to time we manage to obtain a few old newspapers or magazines. On occasions the Prison Library furnishes us (upon writing) with a few old newspapers or magazines. Hopefully, you can understand our adverse situations.

LOVE, CHUI, ANGOLA, LA.

## HOMOSEXUAL INFORMATION CENTER SEEKS AMBUSH

EDITORS/AMBUSH MAGAZINE-DEAR FRIENDS:

A copy of your December issue has come to our attention. We are interested.

As you can see from the enclosed brochure, Homosexual Information Center was one of the first major efforts to collect and disseminate information and literature on homosexuality. We try to have as complete a file of each movement publication as possible. It would help in the case of AMBUSH if we could be placed on your mailing list to receive all future issues. We are not sure from the title page how long AMBUSH

# EDITORIAL

AMBUSH is joining BRAGPAC (Baton Rouge Area Gay Political Action Caucus) in its endorsement of John Ducote as a delegate candidate from the Louisiana delegation to the Democratic National Convention. Ducote is running as a Mondale delegate at the State Caucuses to be held May 19th in the 6th Congressional District. The 6th Congressional District is made up of State Senate Districts 11,12, 13, 14, 15, 16 and 18. Each State Senatorial District is holding a caucus. We urge each registered Democrat to find the caucus locations in their Senatorial District and vote for Ducote. The voting locations are open from 9 A.M. until 5 P.M. You can vote and leave.

Ducote is competing only against other Mondale delegates. We want to ensure that a Mondale slot goes to a gay voice—John Ducote. For additional information, contact R. Rip Naquin, 504/383-2535.

has been published, but if back issues are still available, we would appreciate receiving them.

In exchange we would be pleased to send you any of our own publications listed in the brochure you may find of interest. And we will list AMBUSH in the next edition of our directory if you wish—no obligation on your part of course. Good wishes.

CORDIALLY, URSULA ENTERS COPELY, HOMOSEXUAL INFORMATION CENTER, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA.

## LEATHERMEN/ATLANTA TO HOST KUDZU 1

Dear Sirs:

The Leathermen/Atlanta are proud to announce the formation of their first annual run, Kudzu.

The Leathermen/Atlanta have participated in several runs (Atlanta 4-Ways, '81 and '82); and held the first single club inter-city run (Atlanta) last year on their 4th anniversary.

This year the Leathermen/Atlanta will host Kudzu 1 over the Labor Day weekend, Aug. 31 thru Sept. 3; with enduros, bike events, people events, picnics (charcoaled steaks), ballgames (Braves vs Cubs), tours, poker run, and a send off/winddown party poolside at the Club Baths in Atlanta. Pin and T-shirt included in package.

Run fees for the 4 day run are \$85 until July 31; \$95 from Aug. 1 until Aug. 30 and \$105 at registration. Limited housing available on a first come basis.

Please bring colours if available. All inquiries may be addressed to L/A Kudzu 1, P.O. Box 8595, Atlanta, GA 30306, ATTN: RAC or call 404/624-3664.

We would be grateful for any publicity you may be able to give us. We will try to keep you posted for further information.

THANK YOU, PETE GILLELAN, RAC.

## LORDS OF LEATHER BALL PRAISED

(EDITOR'S NOTE: This letter was reprinted with the permission of Bob Keese and Jerry Radtke, proprietor of PARTNERS SALOON/LEATHER AND...)

DEAR BOB & JERRY,

I heard about the Lords of Leather Ball upon my arrival in New Orleans on the Thursday before Mardi Gras. Even though the odds were stacked against my going to the party, I never gave up hope that somehow I would get lucky and end up there just the same. You can imagine how happy I was when my wizard/friend, Palmer, managed to procure from you my ticket.

I am regretful I never had a chance to meet you and thank you personally. And, just today, I learn that you two were the most prominent men at the party. So, in effect, one could say that I was admitted to the party by the top two Lords.

I enjoyed myself immensely, I had never been to such an event before. The mixture of men in uniform, leather, leather and skin, and black ties worked fabulously. It was an awesome gathering and it was a privilege to be there.

I wish to thank you for being so generous to us out-of-towners. You put a real sparkle on an otherwise pretty fabulous Mardi Gras. I'll be back next year for sure. I hope to get to meet you personally and if I'm lucky again, to attend the Lords of Leather's functions, this will be a pleasure to anticipate.

BEST REGARDS, MICHAEL, LOS ANGELES, CA.

## LITTLE WALLY LOOK-A-LIKE CONTEST SET!

DEAR FRIENDS:

Andy Boudreaux and the staff of the Mississippi River Bottom Saloon & Country Store are proud to announce their intention to honor one of the French Quarter's best-known personalities, Wally Sherwood, on Mother's Day, May 13, at 5 P.M. in our patio.

We of the Bottom will not only be serving cake in recognition of his birthday, but are indeed honored to be hosting the very first Little Wally Look-A-Like Contest. He told his friends he would allow it only if the proceeds went to the agency he works for, the Louisiana Handicapped Children's Services Program.

We cordially invite all other bars, businesses, organizations and interested individuals to join in all the fun and camp it up by entering a contestant. Entry fee will be only \$2, but any donation you can make will be deeply appreciated to help the handicapped kids.

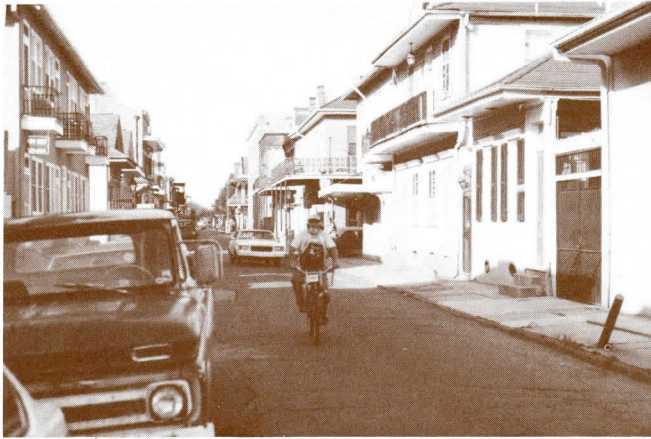
We are honored to have Wally's boss, Doris Haar, state administrator of Handicapped Children's Program accept our request to be head judge. Other judges will be announced shortly and we are hopeful of obtaining some of Wally's friends from Alabama, Georgia and Texas.

Contest coordinator and master of ceremonies will Jim Shively, who emceed the first St. Philip Street Mardi Gras Awards at the Bottom and is the newest partner in the operation of the St. Louis Crepe Shoppe and Restaurant. Jim Keyes is donating his talents rendering the first contest poster.

A "Fact Sheet" which should be useful to anyone planning to enter the contest is available from the Mississippi River Bottom or from "Mother" at the restaurant.

Again, Our entire staff hopes you will be a part of our very special celebration, and while having a good time, take joy in the knowledge that we are helping those less fortunate than ourselves.









**"OFTEN IMITATED,  
NEVER DUPLICATED!"**

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**" BRING A PARTNER... MEET ONE...  
OR JUST BE ONE OF OURS!"**

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Monday-Leather/Western Uniform Nite-8 P.M. til 12 Midnite  
 Tuesday-Wooden Nickel Nite-6 P.M. til 12 Midnite  
 Wednesday-Lancers Club Nite-Beer Bust-8 P.M. till 11 P.M.  
 Thursday-Spin For Specials-8 P.M. til 2 A.M.  
 Saturday-Krazy Daze-Noon til 5 P.M.-"Bonkers" Booze Bash  
 Sunday-Early Afternoon Happy Hour-2 P.M. til 5 P.M.-Live Music at the Organ Bar  
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## What's Hot?!?

*Events, Gossip & Happenings*

### ALIVE AND WELL

BY: Dee Dee Welch, Alexandria Editor

Greetings once again from the "Showplace of Louisiana". Central Louisiana is very much on top of things, as always. The people in Alexandria seem to be at a steady pace with new ideas and new happenings around the city. However, it never fails and I always seem to be seeing those tired, old bodies, flabbing along, trying to figure out where they are, or what's going on around them. People, believe me, it can't be that bad, because this is only the beginning. This is 1984 and things have changed and believe me, so has TIME. Many of the people in the city seem to be on a constant nagging trip, trying to condemn each other. Somehow, we all fail to realize that we have to struggle for each other, help each other, let alone fight one another. But I know for a fact that this sort of thing not only happens in Alexandria, but in Vegas, Jersey, New York City and everywhere else. Whether a person is gay or straight, it happens.

Incidentally, speaking of happenings, Alexandria recently had the pleasure of being entertained by one of Texas' finest. Miss Brandi West of Houston appeared at Silly Sally's on Fri., Apr. 13th to give Alexandria a touch of magic. Performing that evening was Louisiana's own Kayla Champagne, who is the reigning Miss Gay Louisiana. The show was definitely an evening of professionalism and superb entertainment.

Entertainment, entertainment, entertainment is the name of the game in Alexandria; along with some of our surrounding cities. Most show bars tend to have a regular cast. Alexandria has 2 traveling casts shows which entertain in the Ark-La-Tex area. From Silly Sally's, "The Cenla County Express" has recently joined together making 2 appearances. On Apr. 14th, the cast traveled to Monroe to entertain at Pappy's. The group had plenty of exposure and did receive a warm welcome in the City of Monroe. The group will be appearing again



at Sally's in later May. The cast is directed by Dee Dee Welch and Renee Starr as co-directors. Other members of the group are Tiffany, Constance, Steve, Anthony, Sylvia Laren, Sandi Ross, Contessa and Carol. Congratulations to a fine cast and good luck in the near future.

Across the street at Union Station, we have a four member group known as "A Touch of Class" which appeared at the Station Apr. 7th and at Fantasy I on Apr. 10th. The group includes Jatoya Takka Roman, Dana Silvers, Ramona Baker and Solitaire. This cast is managed by Mark Brown of Alexandria. Good luck!

The fabulous Dee Dee Tremaine made a recent appearance on the 7th of Apr. bringing the crowd to their feet, begging for more. The former Miss Gay Louisiana never fails to leave the city flabbergasted. Dee Dee...we love you and appreciate you.

At this time I would like to go back and thank Nick for being such a fine host during "The Cenla County Express" visit to Monroe on Apr. 13th at Pappy's. Notice that I did say Nick and select few who gave us a warm welcome to their city. I have never seen such a boring group of gays that doesn't seem to appreciate fine entertainment when it is given to them on a silver platter. After seeing Ebone' and Shayla on a regular basis, one from Monroe would be glad to see an outside entertainer come in. If what I saw was a reaction from Monroe on Apr. 13th, may I say that the select people (you know who you are) were so rude, crude and surely unacceptable to speak or represent the gays in Monroe. You are not only a dead, but tiresome and unappreciated group. (Note: to Gersa from Dee Dee-The Grand Woman of the South. If you think you're so hot and wonderful as an entertainer darling, why haven't you ever considered entering a MGLP pageant or a pageant of the People's Court?) Come on Miss Thing, show the people of Louisiana what you have to offer. (Nothing).

People, places and things change from time to time and so does POLICY. Note: To all the female contestants in the State of Louisiana. Most of the girls shows are held according by procedure and policy. As Cindy Louper would say, girls just wanna have fun! On Apr. 5th, several female contestants gathered at Silly Sally's to have some fun and compete for the titles of Miss Butch/Miss Fem 84-85. This show happens to be one of the most recognizable shows that is held each year at Sally's. Girls from all over Louisiana compete. We saw beauty, sportswear, leather, butchwear, etc. The evening began when the ever talented Dee Dee Welch, who was on hand as emcee for the evening, who showed the city her fine impersonation of Tina Turner's "Let's Stay Together". Alexandria's own Tiffany also entertained. Competing for the title of Miss Butch were Anita, Nita, Regina and Carol of Alexandria; and Mary of Monroe. Results for Miss Butch went to Mary as winner. 1st runner up was Regina and 2nd runner up was Anita. Competing for the title of Miss Fem 84-85 was Monroe's own Susan. Susan entertained the crowd with a dazzling performance from Cindy Louper's "Girls Just Wanna Have Fun". Susan gladly walked away with the title. Susan and Mary-congratulations. By the way I enjoyed performing with you in Monroe. Let's do it again and soon.

Looking at all aspects of competition, whether it be male or female, we win and we lose. We must learn to have respect for each other regardless of the outcome. Love is a very strong four letter word and each and every one of us tend to have a different or perhaps meaningful understanding of the word.

(U.C.F.) United Church of Faith is still going strong. Perhaps we need to consider attending one of U.C.F.'s worship services to get a better understanding of the 4 letter word-LOVE. U.C.F. meets each Sunday at 11 P.M. and 7:30 P.M. According to Rev. Salser, the more people that attend will make it much much merrier. Love you all.

Note: My sincere apology goes to Miss Sandy Banes Ross. (Sister, I still love you.)

## CAPITOL EXPRESS

BY: Ross Dennison, Baton Rouge Editor

What's happening? I'd like to welcome all of our readers from all over the State to my first attempt at keeping everyone up to date on current events here in the Capitol City.

The Baton Rouge Area Gay Political Action Caucus (BRAGPAC) is alive and well. The chapter's new officer's were elected Apr. 26th. Officers include Ellie Hebert, Female Co-chair; John Ducote, Male Co-chair; Peter Landry, Secretary; Ken Barnes, Treasurer; R. Rip Naquin, LAGPAC Board Representative; and Tom Rogilio and Doug Pratt as General Membership Representatives. BRAGPAC has several social events in the planning stages. For further information on these events, contact Ellie Hebert at 291-2676 between 7 and 10 P.M. Membership information is also available through Ms. Hebert. You support for BRAGPAC; your ideas, your talents, your efforts, are all welcome and needed in order to make the most effective use of YOUR gay rights organization.

Some news of interest on the bar scene in Baton Rouge is the opening of the newest gay establishment in town. The RUMRUNNER, located at 10070 Florida Blvd. underwent a sex-change in early April. On Apr. 14th, the Miss Rumrunner contest was held. Tiffany Alexander, Miss Southeast LA., hosted the pageant with the assistance of Alexis Alexander. Lady Simone walked away with the title of Miss Rumrunner '84. 1st runner up was Brandy Alexander, one of the most talented up-and-coming female impersonators in the State. Keep your eyes on Brandy for some really pleasant surprises. Ginger Galloway was second runner up. Ginger is truly among the most beautiful of female impersonators I have ever seen. The competition was very close and I would like to personally congratulate all of the contestants for their

outstanding performances.

Also at the Rumrunner, 'Soft Touch' performed to the delight of patrons who shook the house right along with the all female group. I recommend keeping an eye out for future appearances of these talented ladies.

Our thanks to Andy for providing B.R. with some fine entertainment and we wish him much success for the future.

The Cock & Bull Story (CBS) will be holding a Mother of the Year pageant on Mother's Day this month. So mark your calendars for a night to remember. Also at CBS, Male Dancers take to the stage every Tuesday nite. With boys like Dennis, Tom and John putting on, or should I say taking off, a show that shouldn't be missed. Bartenders Tom, Johnny and former George's Barkeep, Girl Mike, keep the cocktails coming; especially in the back bar, where Monday thru Saturday nites a \$6 cover gets you free bar drinks and beer, along with music by D.J. David Elgin. And personal thanks to David Evans, owner of CBS, for providing all of this and Sundays too. Don't miss out! By the way, famous Chef Michael recently left the hospital and is currently convalescing. He will probably be back serving up that good food by next issue.

George's Place is jumping after over 13 years of serving drinks to the Capitol City's gay community. The Mr. George's Contest held Mar. 29th with the talents of R. Reba Ross as M.C. and another appearance by the Georgette's. Anytime George's does something special, the place is packed with enthusiastic spectators. The seven contestants put on quite a show with Jeffrey Harris taking the honors. One of the most memorable performances of the evening was Brain Chambers taking the cake in the face routine. I understand a Family Feud Contest is starting soon. The four weekly tournaments will be announced soon and any group of 5 may enter. MC for the event is none other than the cake face, Brian Chambers. Remember to make it over for some of the specials like 75¢ well drinks on Tuesdays and Thursdays or for Happy Hour 3-6:30 P.M. Mondays thru Saturdays. Some of the best looking men in town start their nite at this Baton Rouge tradition.

Downtown at the Mirror, 50¢ draft is available every Wed. nite. They've really got something going on over there since their relocation. HOT music and strong drinks keep everybody smiling and dancing the nite away six nites a week.

Wednesdays are Hump Nite at The Theatre on Dallas Dr. with \$1 cover and \$1.50 well drinks, 50¢ beer, 50¢ schnapps and 50¢ Kamikazes. Thursdays feature Half Price Nite-\$1 cover and half-price on all drinks. Fridays is Two Bit Nite-\$3 cover and 25¢ beer all nite long. Watch for the incredible Glenn Elliott Sat., May 12th at 11 P.M. Sat., May 19th beginning at 11 P.M., visit Tiffany Alexander, Miss Greater Louisiana, with "An Evening With The Stars". Sat., May 26th features the Prime Cut Hair Studio's "Swimwear Fashion Show". Plenty of sitting room, lots of good music, provided by D.J. Jimmy direct from Memphis, and a wonderful atmosphere are putting this bar on the map in Baton Rouge.

The Emporium, 2183 Highland Road, features its traditional Wed. nite \$6 Booze Blast-all the well drinks and beer you can drink. Every Tues.-buy a drink and win a chance to be selected for a Free Week of Booze and Admission. Drawing at Midnite. The Cold played to a packed house in April and again May 3rd. Watch for more of this high caliber entertainment. The Emporium's "4th Anniversary Celebration" begins Thur., May 10 with the Mr. Emporium Pageant. Fri., May 11 is the Miss Emporium Pageant and Sat., May 12 is the "Appreciation Party" with special entertainment. Don't forget "Upstairs" gift shop featuring cards, records, shirts, etc.

One personal note-To my wonderful lover Greg, I wish a very happy 2nd anniversary. May 8th will be two years since I met him and I want him to know how much he really means to me. Greg, I love you today and forever. Thanks for being so good to me, so very understanding and forgiving. You're in my heart and always shall be. And with you in my life, I'm the happiest man in the world.

Once again, I would like to say how glad I am to be on the staff here at AMBUSH. Stay gay and be proud Baton Rouge, we're gonna make it-together we cannot fail! ROSS

## DOING LAFAYETTE

BY: Jamie Hays, Lafayette Editor

Good Evening Ladies and Gentlemen and Children Indifferent and welcome to this month's episode of "As the Bar Turns". This month found Charlene Chesnut doing her rendition of Randi Barbaria, Bula Briscoe showing off her husband Fred G. Sanford, and Sugar explaining that Nelliness is an art. How twee, girl. And that's one area that ole girl has mastered, thank you, good evening.

Ha Bo!! (On the Road Again.) From Dan, with love: "I love it & it is good. Good luck Corky-Rusty is happy." What a polite read, Dan-I'm going to have to give you tacky lessons. They don't call me Auntie Chesnut, Jr. for nothin'.

Also, to Craig F. in Monroe (What is with all these relationships with Monroe, anyway?) from Terry N.: "Miss you lots. Use your 411 and call me. Luv ya!"

Babs wants to know if it is true that it takes 45 minutes for the water to reach Pat B.'s feet when she takes a shower.

Ran into Dewey and Tommy at Pharaoh's-Dewey, you looking good, yeh. You and your husband make a cute couple. Have you seen Lulu? I imagine since returning to Alex, she is out on that lake watching for the boat people. (Don't censor me now, queen-I'm on a roll.)

Ran into big Bob at Frank's the other day. Told me he was trimming down. I told him to increase the look by holding in his stomach. I sure was embarrassed when I found out he was. Gary is still looking for the beef. And with that juke box selection, Ronnie, you ought to take



out the pool tables and install a dance floor. It was nice to see Francois. He figures if he is an alcoholic, he might as well enjoy it, so he beaches up on the bar at noon and every three beers takes his alka-seltzer. Some of us have all the fun. You think that writing the local gossip column is all fun and respectable. So did I. But sometimes you get no respect. I went to Ned/Gerald's looking for a nice suit. I told Ned that I wanted something cheap. After all, I work for Ms. Barbara. He told me to look in the mirror. That's o.k., bitch. Howard has informed me that after eating one of your home-cooked dinners, he doesn't go brush his teeth, he counts them. Good Evening.

Naomi Sims, Hot Chocolate, Tasha Kohl and Donna Day will be appearing on a HBO special on Homosexuality in America, to be taped live at the Copa in Houston. Once that airs, Ms. Day will have answered the question "Where's the Beef?" Donna tells me she is looking for a rich husband-you know the type girls-the Asa Buchanan image.

So you like them pictures of the T-Room walls at Pharaoh's, huh? They all came from the private selection of Jeff and Roland. I know, sis-some of us have to have our ludes and smoke, others their Honcho's and Mandate's. And E.J., I luv ya to death, but you are the only friend of mine whose pet rock is in their head. No need to reply to that either, bitch. You'd just tell me the best way to save face is to keep the lower half shut.

Saw Malcom and Joe D. in Girard Park the other day. That is what is so nice about living in that area. I was just passing thru...

Apr. 4th launched Charlene & Rod's Fountain of Youth Birthday Celebration. Charlene can plant throw a party with special guests Donna Day, Houston; Nicole, Austin; Dedra Allen, Miss Apollo Lafayette; E.J. White, Beaumont; Coco, Miss Dreamstate and the fabulous Naomi Sims, Female Impersonator of the Year. This was definitely a birthday bash for the Queen of Queens, Charlene Barbara.

Apr. 16th found a packed house at Fantasy I, as the staff presented their second annual Turn-a-bout. The emcee for the evening, of course, was none other than Lafayette's tackiest bitch. Randi (in drag she drops the y) was simply flawless. She does look like Charlene, though. Performing with her was Bula Briscoe, (What can I say-I know what I'd like to say, but just refuse.); Lady M., who, with a little bit of push could compete for Miss Dreamstate this year-she really is flawless; Shelly, Ms. Abbeville-Emeritus, who roused the crowd with her rendition of "Let's Hear it for the Boys", and the crowd favorite, Jessica York. (Felt good to bring those spikes out of retirement, huh sis?) Jessica (Paul) was just wonderful-but the show did have one sour note-Randi informed the crowd that after two years of loyal dedication to the club, Paul was leaving to return to Pensacola. Paul, all I can say is thank you for being my sister, and also a wonderful co-worker. We had some good times together at Fantasy. At least I have a new vacation spot to go to when I can't take it anymore. Also at Fantasy, Monday Night shows feature local and state talent, with the wonderful talents of Fantasy's Dreamgirl, Charlotte Dreams. (Who was sponsored by Pharaoh's in the Miss Southeast LA. Contest and placed 1st runner up.)

As the new home, rather, Female Impersonation Capitol of Louisiana, Lafayette continues with some high caliber shows and pageants. Miss South Louisiana, to be held at Pharaoh's Sat., Apr. 12, is a preliminary to Miss Dreamstate, which is a preliminary to Miss Gay America. M.C. for this event is Brandi West with Special Guest Star, Coco. Lafayette will be represented in Miss Dreamstate this year, as so far, Charlotte Dreams has qualified as a contestant, thanks to her sponsoring bar, Pharaoh's. No knock to any female impersonator, but last year's winner, Coco, sponsored by Fantasy I, ought to be allowed to re-enter-Coco will be a tough act to follow, girls. So get your tails in gear. Pharaoh's will be hosting Miss Dreamstate Aug. 17th & 18th with Special Guest Star, Tasha Kohl, reigning Miss Gay America; as well as Miss Greater Louisiana Sat. May 26th with Special Guest Star Naomi Sims. Pharaoh's will be hosting other preliminaries to Dreamstate including Miss Greater Bayou State and Miss Greater Lafayette. The current reigning Miss Bayou State will also be giving up her crown this year at Club C'est La Guerre, and Coc will be giving up her title as Miss Gulf Coast at Fantasy I May 25th-27th, special guest stars unknown at press time.

I want to get serious for a moment. We are all aware of the bar situation in Lafayette, so no need to air dirty laundry. A very prominent friend of mine in N 'Awlins commented to me that it is too bad the five bars, in particular, the two largest, can't get together and promote Lafayette. With the Worlds Fair coming, imagine the benefits our community, in particularly the bars, could reap by promoting Lafayette. It isn't unrealistic to vision a Bar Alliance, including our large MCC, working together and then picking up an AMBUSH and seeing the standings of bowling leagues, softball leagues, how the gay-skate went, etc. Competition is fine-but can be done without the crap going on now. Competition lies in what a bar offers the community. And if you are going to be a gay bar, maby, you have to cater to all elements of the community. Bar owners aren't God-to cast judgement on what elements of our community. are undesirable. We are one. Example? Pharaoh's. I love my favorite bar in Baton Rouge to death, and I will always love Fantasy to death. The Paragon is nice, too. But Pharaoh's is the only bar between Houston and the Parade in New Orleans that is a total gay bar. That is because the only rule to gain admittance into the place is that you agree to be yourself. Whatever that may be. Many of you feel that way-and I want to know if I am getting across the views of the community I am representing. Jot down your comments on a piece of paper or a bar napkin and hand it to me. But more importantly, make your views known to all the parties involved. We have it good here in Lafayette, but there is always room to make it better.

Social Calendar-Club C'est La Guerre; Thursday Nite show; Specials not available at press time.

Fantasy I; Monday Nite Shows with Special Guests; \$1 drinks on Wednesdays; Thursdays-Ladies Nite; Friday & Saturdays-no cover and Afterhours; Sunday Beer Bust, \$4 cover 2 til 6.

Frank's; Free Supper on Tuesdays, Mom's home-cooked supper on Sundays and \$1 Schnapps all the time.

Pharaoh's; May 9th-Donna Day; May 12th-Miss South Louisiana Contest; May 16th-Brandi West; May 23rd-Sabrina DeLorean; May 26th-Miss Greater Louisiana Contest. Afterhours on Fridays and Saturdays; Sunday T-Dance at 2 P.M. with free draft beer til 8 P.M.; Wednesdays-Show Nite; "two-fer" nite on Thursdays.

## THE LAKE CHARLES DESK

BY: Aileen Olmstead, Lake Charles Editor

The Paragon, 1501 Broad, hosted a Super Weekend Apr. 14th and 15th with shows featuring the newly crowned Miss Southwest of America, Sabrina DeLorean, who was too hot for words. Lake Charles favorites Nadia, Lady Simba and Miranda Maxwell entertained as well. The talents of these very different performers gave the audience a show to remember. The show began on time and only lasted approximately one hour which is quite impressive in itself.

On the May Super Weekend scheduled for May 19th and 20th, the Krewe of Elan is hosting the Sun., May 20th show of Pumps, Pearls & 2-Bit Girls Revue. This total comedy drag show is put on as a fundraiser by members of the Krewe. The total cabaret show to quote one member is "Sleeze with ease" and very reminiscent of the renowned Gutter Girls Revue out of New Orleans.

The Krewe of Elan is made up of young, urban professionals. The group holds garage sales, BBQ's and their Extravaganza is scheduled Feb. 18, 1985. A BBQ is scheduled for July 9th. The group is entertaining the idea of an arts festival to be held in the fall, in the garden district of Lake Charles, a historical section of town.

The groups basic membership is 35-45. The groups purpose is to unite all factions of the Lake Charles community. The all male Krewe's motto seems to be "friendship among people". Their fundraising events not only benefit the Krewe, but the community as well.

For you show goers across the state, especially in Baton Rouge, Lafayette, Houma and Alexandria, this May 20th show is a must. It's a Sunday evening, so it should be easy for you to get away. Looking forward to seeing all of you in LC.

## THE NORTHEASTERN STAR

BY: Arland 'Beau' Purvis, Monroe Editor

With spring in the air, Monroe is in full bloom and every one is

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as busy as bees with different activities. There is party after party that seem to grow larger and larger as summer gets closer. There are old faces in the crowds at the bars that haven't been seen in quite some time; whether they hibernated during the winter or just returned from college for the Spring Break. Not to mention the new and fresh faces of youth that show up about this time every year. And the bodies seem to get tighter, trimmer, and definitely tanner. Whatever it is one finds to do or that spring does to one's soul, it is a time to regroup, revive and remember love.

All the bars have been busy with their weekly shows in what is quickly becoming a great show town. Ronnie has been performing at Pappy's with a great version of 'Hello'. Gurstha puts on very vibrate numbers with his mastered dance ability. Jo has been seen 'Keeping Love New'. And joining in the crowd we've seen Portia, Razor, Felisia Michaels, Mary Day, Jan and Gerald. We sadly watched two farewell performances last month also. One was a farewell from the stage performance and the other was a goodbye performance. While Rhonda left us with memories of her in a poodle skirt in what she said would be her last performance to 'They Don't Know About Us', a team of friends joined us in saying goodbye to a much missed D.J. and performer, Brick. In her goodbye performance, Brick gave us a number from D.C. Cab and a special dedication to Cathy of 'My Best Friend'. Sherri performed to Stevie Nicks, while Jan joined Mary Day (Miss Butch Alexandria) in a duo as features in the goodbye show to Brick. Brick, we'll miss you greatly.

On the other side of town, one could see Shayla Kruz performing at her finest as usual and only as she can do. Not far behind her, Ebone' Sanchel, with her bright smile and personality, can be found giving her all to the audience. New comer, Felisia Michaels, is quickly losing that new comer attitude as her performances get better and better at the Cajun. Amateur nites are as popular as ever bringing out new and exciting faces and numbers. Soon to be performing again at the Cajun will be Texas success, Sabrina DeLorean. Yes, one can always find exciting times, talented performers, and a variety of events for all at the Cajun.

#### GOSSIP:

Happy six months to Brent and Gus.

Hi in Kenner to Debbie, Olivia, Gwen and Rhonda from Rhonda and Denise. Hi to Karen, Glenda and Uh-Jamie. Hi to Summer Day in Texas from the Sisters. Bye to Ezzie, have fun in that California sun with that candy apple red Porsche. Hi to Steve M., Bob, Rose, Mr. Bill and Charles in Houma.

Ronnie, Brick and Bubba, that was a heck of an April Fools Party. There was plenty of booze and Beef. Though there did seem to be a lack of cash, due to sticky fingers. But we all know who the fools were that took it, they needed it worse I guess. Thanks for leaving the cup. P.S./Portia, how was the dog house? Was it cold after all you were

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Sun., May 20th, at the **Paragon**, the **Krewe of Elan** is sponsoring a benefit drag show entitled **Pumps, Pearls & 2-Bit Girls Revue**-a nite of comedy you won't soon forget starring **Krewe Members**. The **Krewe of Elan**, organized in Dec. 1982 is **Lake Charles'** first all male **Mardi Gras Krewe** with 33 members. Fund raising events are held throughout the year leading to a formal ball which will be in Jan. 1985. A garage sale is planned for April 28th. For information and to donate articles for sale, contact **G.G. Gill, 318/433-4019**.

### The Northeastern Star

BY: Arland Purvis, Monroe Editor

Well a big hi-ho once again from up north. As usual we have been quite busy with a variety of events and happenings. The bars have been busy entertaining their patrons with **shows, contests, drink specials and various other events**.

The **Cajun** has been busy remodeling and is really looking great. The **Cajun** has hosted a variety of events this last month, one of which was a **Thursday Nite Talent Show**. The turn-out for the talent shows has really been great and is appreciated. The winner of last months talent show was **Felicia Micheals** who did a grand impersonation of 'Boy George'. Other participants in the contest were **Jan Beavers** and **Debra White** who performed to **Bonnie Tyler's 'Total Eclipse of the Heart'**; also included in the show were **Lena Wayback**, **Sophia Savage**, **Renea Roberts** and emcee **Shayla Kruz**. Entertainment was provided by the impressively talented **Ebone' Sanchel**.

The **Cajun** was also pleased to present **Marilyn Stevens**, **Miss Gay Shreveport** and **Sookie Symone**, **Miss Gay Tri-State**. These beautifully talented performers served their **Monroe** audience with a grand show. Among the numbers performed were 'Holiday Celebration' by **Marilyn** and a terrific performance of 'Baby Love' by **Sookie**. Also joining the troupe was **Monroe's own Glitter Stevens** with **Patti Labelles**, 'If Only You Knew'.

The **Cajun** also hosted, what I consider to have been a fabulous show, despite a somewhat slow audience, starring two of **Texas's** hot new talents. The **Cajun** was very proud to present **Miss Southwest of America**, **Miss Houston** and **Miss Texas**, **Sabrina DeLoreon**; along with what I'll predict to be an upcoming and unquestionable star on the rise, **Miss Metro Houston**, **Lauren Brach**. **Sabrina**, with her boundless talent, opened the show with a medley of songs; her energetic performances on stage are really a show within themselves and without doubt are the reason for her abundant success. As for the beautiful, **Jayne Manesfield** type bombshell, **Lauren Brach**, words cannot express the stage presence this performer manifests. Her flawless beauty alone will carry her far, but her talent is truly a measure above the normal. And a measure above the normal is what she delivered with a very sexy, sultry first number followed by an expertly delivered jazz number choreographed with exuberant dance steps that she wispied through with ease. In closing if you ever get a chance to see **Lauren** perform-'DO!' I couldn't be just without praising **Ebone' Sanchel**, a **Monroe** talent, for her bright and exciting performance. She is one of the few performers that give their all for each and every performance; whether the crowd is hot or cold, she's always on fire. Also entertaining was talent show winner, **Felicia Micheals**.

As always the **Cajun** welcomes you with open arms and smiles. Watch close for next months exciting shows and events. I'd also like to take this time to thank **Robert (Ebony)** for his extreme effort, talent and support as the **Cajun's** 'former', due to scandalist reasons, show director for doing a great job. Thanks-Monroe. Also like to thank **Corky** for giving us a nice and exciting bar to attend.

**Pappy's** has been busy with a variety of shows. Among the performers at these shows were long time talents of **Monroe**, **Bambie O'Shea** and **Maxine Raye** who delivered an exciting and charming show with the help of **Sinae** and **Susie** on March 3rd. Mar. 17th held another treat with performances by the super-talented **Brick** (also D.J. at **Pappy's**), the wild and lively **Gurtha**, **Gerald** and, the cute **Lori**. The ever changing and always surprising talent of **Glitter Stevens** graced the stage at **Pappy's** on the 24th. Also appearing were **Gurtha**, **Phillip**, the sweet and charming **Rhonda**, and the witty **Mary Day**. On the 31st, the patrons of **Pappy's** greeted the beautiful **Portia**, along with **Bret**, **Ronnie** and **Frank**.

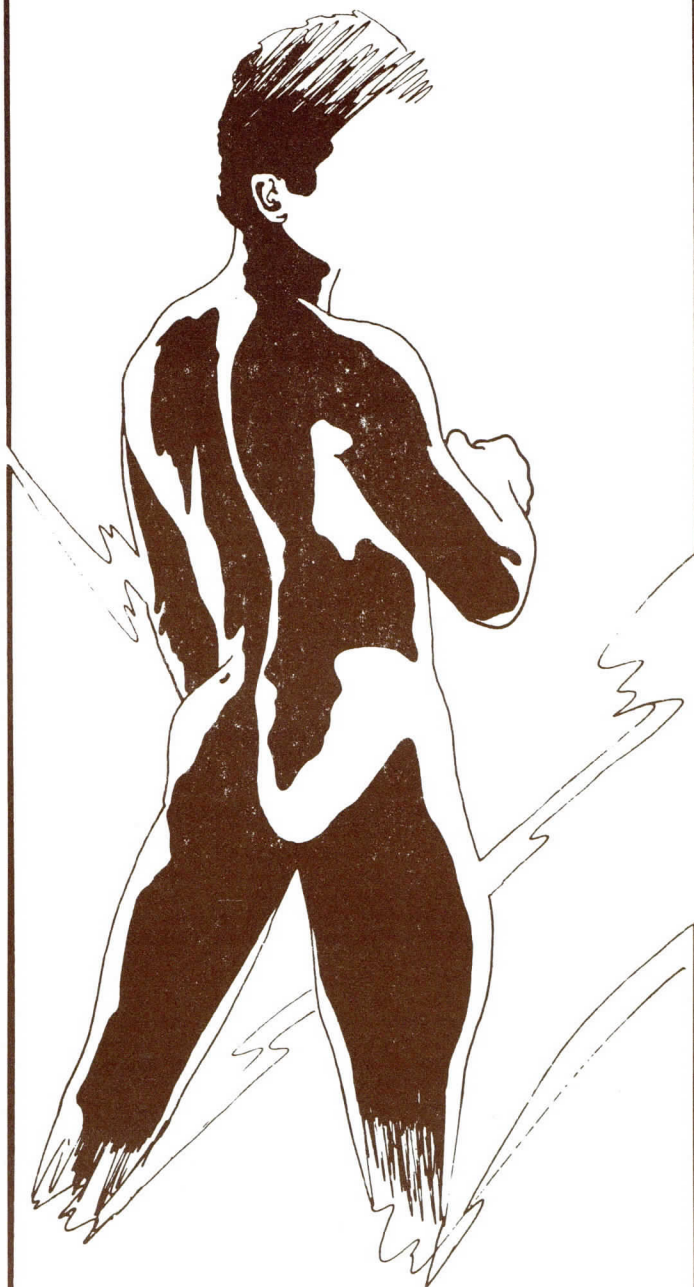
**Pappy's** would also like to invite you out to enjoy their enhancing decor with its' nightclub atmosphere. So come out and enjoy the great music played by **Brick**, the smiling faces of **Kathy** and **Darlene**, the bartenders and the delicious variety of fine drinks and appetizers. They offer a weekly line-up of drink specials which include **Tequila Nite** on Mondays, **Drink or Drown** on Tuesdays, **Wednesday Beer Bust**, **Margarita Nite** on Thursday with Friday reserved as **Schnapps Nite** and Saturday as **Show Nite**. Again, we would like to thank the owners of **Pappy's** for their gracious service.

**Alexandria** has long had **Silly Sally's**, **Baton Rouge** the **Emporium**, **Lafayette-Fantasy 1** and **Shreveport** the **Florentine**. Now, at last, **Monroe** is ready to receive a bar that is promised to be long lived and to serve the community and state full-heartedly, 'Illusions'! Soon to be opened, **Monroe's** newest and hottest club **Illusions**, will offer its patrons warm and courteous service in remodeled and comfortable surroundings. **Illusions** is fashioned with a somewhat **New Orleans** type aura in an older and spaciouly elegant three story building in **West Monroe** on **Trenton Street** at the former location of **Xanadu**. Two stories of the building have been reserved for bar space. **Illusions** offers a modern sound system and light show, large bi-level double dance area, two full service bars-one on each floor-for your convience, large and well equipped game

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## May 10, 11, 12 — 4th Anniversary Celebration

Thursday the 10th-Mr. Emporium

Friday the 11th-Miss Emporium

Saturday the 12th-Appreciation Party

THE EMPORIUM would like to wish everyone a safe  
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under that blanket. Oops!

Denise, why do people call Rhonda the teacher? Darlene, thought she had found proof of true love when the smoke started rising from the water bed, only to find that the smoke was coming from the burning varnish on the headboard caused by the candles, not Elicia. Cathy L. said she did write the book of love, just under a pin name. Fact or Fiction? Well, Brick has gone back to being the other kind of Jockey again. We're gonna miss you. Pappy's new D.J. is the sexy Lori W. Rebecca doesn't invest in savings bonds anymore, she invests in Ice Teas. Alexandria came to Pappy's to perform and as we hear it their performance on stage was definitely better and politer than their performance off stage. Miss Suzan A. be done did a drag spin, woa, stand back. She's hot. Pappy's has their own Michael Jackson now, she's called Janet H., or the Snake. Sherri, how's the gym pack? Miss King, there's no news like old news and there's no news on Miss King. Kris, maybe you wanted Rhonda's support, but she didn't want yours, keep the Washington. Miss Arnold, in these desperate times, maybe you should thank God for those pennys from heaven instead of bitching about them as tips, a little is better than none. Hi Leigh, you're so sexy, are you trying out for 'Quest For Fire: Part Two'. Lee-don't you know when to give up, yes Cathy has a new flame going, but it isn't from your spark. Darla K., are you sure that lavender mini-skirt wasn't a belt. Ann N.-Where's the Quervo? Ronnie 'Buzzes' around Pappy's like it has honey on it. Nick, where's Nicole, 'Boys will be Girls'?

APOLOGIES TO JO AND SCARLET FOR LAST MONTHS GOSSIP REMARK, IT WAS ALL IN FUN. WE LOVE YOU ALL. SORRY.

Bob had a terrific party last month. Everyone was totally blisted even the straight neighbors. Mark handled a lot of sausage and Scott did his first drag show and last. Auntie Em got blown away by shot-guns and Margo disappeared. Not to mention General Gullizer passing out and Stephanie forgetting how to get to her apartment. Smoke got in her eyes. Way to throw a party Bob.

Miss George spent the nite in the park with two idiots. Margo is turning into a bourbon and coke, while Glitter's little box in front of Sears is becoming Monroe's gossip control center. Randy J. had a wild head sucking-tail pinching party. Glenda has been impressing those girls with her muscles and home runs. Doug H. is into S & M these days all the way down to handcuffs. Don't worry Marty, I'm not writing anything about you this month. Loved your new drag outfit Butch, those earbobs were too much. Shayla, what's your last name—Cruise (Kruz). John D., beware of those ditches in front of 7-11. I never expected Jackie as a tattle tail. Way to fight and win Sher and Sara. J.R., how long is that snake that you want? I love you Tim. Margaret, please don't run into my house. Ebone! just can't keep those feet on the ground, she just be kicking them up all in the air. Love your new do Robert. Been in any car wrecks lately Miss Ebarb? Jay, how's the new eyeshadow that Bob gave you? Hi Darren, you best behave. Well that's about it for this month except hi Anna and Lisa-ya'll so cute.

## SHERWOOD'S FOREST!

(EDITOR'S NOTE: The first portion of this column was scheduled for release in another publication Mar. 16th. Because of its traditional importance to the Gay Carnival Season, AMBUSH chose to run this somewhat belated information.)

BY: Wally Sherwood, New Orleans Editor

Between the reincarnation of the zany Krewe of Trash and the beauty of the campy Krewe of Snow White, this columnist is not exactly sure how he survived Carnival, but did, nonetheless, make it through Mardi Gras.

Trash, which originated at the Finale II, has started up again under the tutorage of original captain, Norma Scott and the auspices of the Corner Pocket's Mike Mayo.

Armed appropriately with toilet brushes and plungers, King Doug Margiano and Queen Lee Fetherston paraded through the Vieux Carre'. And it was a double celebration for Doug, being his birthday as well.

I am not quite sure how I became a half-ass, half-honorary member, but the next thing I knew there I was with a trash bag over me. And, how I ever made it to the Amon-Ra ball that evening, I'll never fully understand.

The royal entourage finally got to hold court at the Mississippi River Bottom, but were duly toasted at other pit stops at The Clinic, Finale II, Mona's Bar, Partners Saloon, Play It Again-Sam, Louisiana Purchase, Lucille's & Friend, Phoenix, Bromptons and Golden Lantern.

And Trash were a very big hit with Carnival's newest "throw". When they ran out of trinkets, they merely substituted cups of draft beer. Boy, what fun! Thanks, fellows, I really had a ball!

—But how do you describe the Krewe of Snow White to someone who has never been to a Snow Ball? Maybe I could merely quote my ball guest, Ken Martin of Atlanta, (who was my house guest Easter weekend) who was literally speechless. All he could exclaim were such things as, "Oh!...Gosh!...Wow!...Gee!" and so forth, to give you an idea.

For anyone special enough to get a Snowflake, as the invitation is known, they were greeted by unfurled banners and plenty of white balloons and snowflakes decorating one of the largest, and certainly most handsome, patios in the French Quarter.

And what started out as a parody of a popular cartoon is obviously becoming more and more refined each season—and Snow White VII, in the personage of John Dombowski of Chicago, was the most elegant of them all.

A most moving tableau with "Send in the Clowns" setting the appropriate mood, featured entertainment by Kevin Flowers, Billy



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Doug Robertson showed up in what just has to be one of the most masterful costumes ever seen in Carnival, with makeup and every precise action absolutely marvelous to create a senile old woman. Thankfully, the Snow Ball was video-taped for the first time by Garland Gardner and now everyone can relish Doug's work of art.

And now for the hard part; the monumental task of picking the best all-around ball I was invited to this season.

Both David and Perseus made impressive bows, well demonstrating their staying power to become front runners very shortly. The latter, particularly, came up with some exquisite costume designs and certainly had the most striking set of the season.

There were a number of faux pas, seemingly more than usual. A crown fell from a royal head in Apollo; numerous complaints were heard about Amon-Ra's sound system; and, amid a tornado alert, a wet runway plagued Petronius. And, of course, the old clique about a "Mardi Gras" ball days—and even weeks—before Mardi Gras.

Amon-Ra, always the highlight of any ball season, shown again in 1984, although not quite as brightly as the year before. Although the returning royalty were sensational in silver and deep red, it was obviously the camel that stole the show.

Reviewing the "Signs of the Zodiac", Amon-Ra unfortunately omitted mine, Taurus, altogether and Gemini, which was listed, didn't show. The Luminaries were particularly pleasing—but so was Libra, Scorpio and a Leo straight out of "Cats".

Deserving of the highest praise is the artwork for the invitations and programs beautifully rendered by Bob LeBeauf.

Petronius came up with the most clever theme, using cartoon films and coloring books to "Connect with Petronius", and Chris Owens herself was ther to add beauty to the stage.

There were excellent costumes, such as Dumbo, the Tin Man, Goofy, Mickey and Minnie Mouse, Snow White, and the Road Runner—but Merlin has just got to be the best since another Petronius award-winner, the Puppetmaster.

One of the very special Carnival touches from the oldest gay krewe is the doubloon and the retiring king and queen minted their own striking colors in complimenting costumes of cranberry and gold.

Apollo is always one of those special krewes, but 1984 was even more special on the occasion of their 15th Anniversary Bal Masque, which was lovingly dedicated to the memory of Anna Mae on the inside front page of the handsome program.

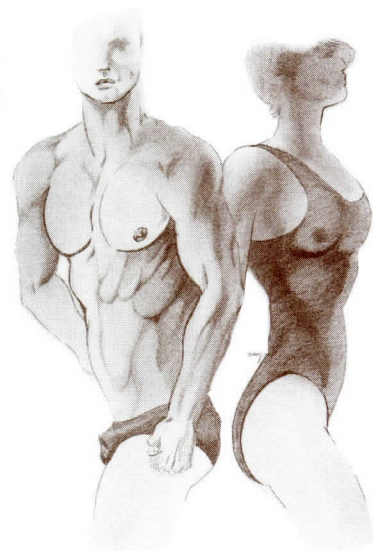
Their third ball was the first gay event to be held in the Municipal Auditorium and still the only one to be listed on the front-page calendar of the TP/SI. Therefore, it is still along the more traditional lines—but nevertheless, always a joy to behold—complete with live music, thanks to Frankie Mann's Orchestra.

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convenient to the Quarter, one doesn't have to worry about transportation and there's no worry about drinking and driving.

Following the bevy of "debutants" and in lieu of a court, a procession of all the past kings and queens—many of them mainstays in Carnival history—was held, many attired in absolutely gorgeous raiment. The new monarchs appeared in resplendent silver and white, with the queen's attendants handsome in white tuxedos.

Apollo seems to have a knack of selecting the very best master of ceremonies and, again this season, Larry Heller was no exception.

And, now the envelope, please—and Petronius regains the crown it lost last year to Amon-Ra, which slipped to third.

But, Petronius, please take note, as you won by a whisper—or, rather, by a dwarf's step—as Snow White was almost walking on your heels!

Jim Shively, formerly of the Mississippi River Bottom, was a very busy man during Carnival. First he guested in Petronius' tableau as Miss Looney Tunes, then returned to the Bottom to emcee the first St. Philip Street Awards on Mardi Gras.

But he's still busy now that the madness is over, as he sharpens his culinary talents as the new partner with Hoyle Byrd and Peter Thomas at the St. Louis Crepe Shoppe and Restaurant.

There'll be even more changes there since Mardi Gras has departed. The popular eatery, in a building erected as a residence way back in 1837, will get a much needed facelift. Breakfast will be daily from 8 A.M. til 12 Midnite, featuring a variety of omelets and Eggs Benedict.

Lunch and dinner are also served daily. The second-floor area, much in demand for club meetings, will remain available for that use as well as private banquets and parties.

The restaurant will continue its famous crepes and enlarge the blackboard specials—but with Jim's coming Cajun and Creole dishes are added as those are his forte, as chef. "I'm half coon-ass on my mother's side," laughs Shively, "and half jackass on my father's. He's from Texas." His specialties will include such seafood fare as crabs, shrimp, gumbo and crawfish.

But Jim isn't BSing when he claims he can cook Cajun. I know, I sampled his gumbo and Shrimp Creole for myself, so pay a visit and taste for yourself.

## PEOPLE 'N' PLACES:

Lou Bernard and Nick Donovan certainly had Lucille's & Friend spinning during the Carnival season with lively decorations of pinwheels scattered throughout the bar.

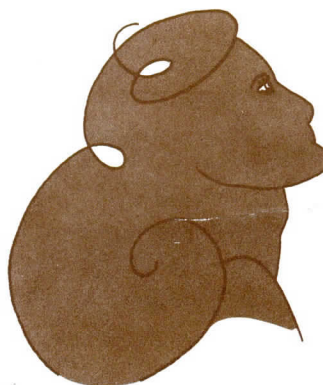
The glittering regalia from the first Krewe of David graced the walls and display cases at T.T.'s West, following the ball-while Flamingo's threw a costume brunch the Sunday before Mardi Gras and then turned right around for an Ashes to Ashes Party on the first day of Lent.

Members of Integrity gathered at the home of their retiring covenor, John Woods, for a parade party to see the processions of Venus and Mid-City on "Little Mardi Gras".

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Dr. Mark Schwartz, director of the sex-marital therapy clinic at the West Bank Center for Psychotherapy, at the Jo Ellen Smith Psychiatric Hospital, was interviewed on NBC's "Today" by Jane Pauley. His paper "Helping Dissatisfied Gays Change to a Heterosexual Lifestyle", is in a recent issue of the American Journal of Psychiatry.

And coming up from Florida for the festivities were Joyce Reynolds and Doug Smith, who visited all their Petronius friends and were guests at the Krewe of Armeninius bal masque.

D. Nuego recently displayed his sado-masochistic images at the Academy Gallery—while Morton's auctioned some of George Dureau's super works, including the 48x42 "Father With Beach Ball and Flag".

A delightful soiree during Carnival was "Tes Freres au Bijoux", a celebration of Cajun men Feb. 23 at Jewel's. There was plenty of delicious crawfish and crabs upstairs, not to mention a lot of delicious men.

Ex-Bacchus Ed McMahon didn't make it for Mardi Gras, but he was here to emcee the Battle of the Bands during the very first French Quarter Festival. The Pirates Alley Art Show held forth the very same weekend.

Former Beatle Ringo Starr and wife Barbara Bach, however were in town, but if you didn't spot them it was because they were under some very good wraps. You see, they visited maskmaker Mike Stark before hitting the streets in the French Quarter.

—And, did you know, that another musician, N'Awlins' very own Wynton Marasalis made Grammy history this year by being the first to win in the jazz and classical categories in the same year? His "Think of One" jazz instrumental solo was judged tops, along with three trumpet concerto's by Haydn, Hummel and Mozart.

And here's an event to look forward too: The Chicago and New Orleans Gay Men's Choruses will give a joint concert for the World's Fair June 9 at the Theatre of the Performing Arts.

And little did they realize, the Friday before Mardi Gras, but Hermes XLIV stole a page from the gay press as it rolled down Rampart and into the Municipal Auditorium for its ball, following a theme of "Sherwood's Forest" every inch of the way. I saw it all from my balcony—and loved every minute of it!

Nearly everyone has company for Mardi Gras and Kerry and Munde were no exception, as former resident Bill Moise came over from Phoenix to visit his old haunts.

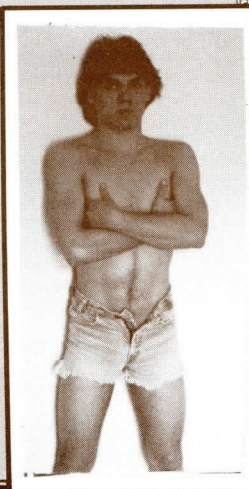
While the Crescent City was having a chilly climax to Carnival, it was a hot-blooded affair in Rio. The 171 deaths, including 19 murders, were considered "normal" by the hot-blooded natives. One unidentified young man was found strangled to death in his Carnival costume in a suburban slum. He was dressed as a woman with print blouse and lingerie, with a blond wig next to his body.

Alabama, performing on tape from New Orleans, was featured on "The Fourth Annual Country Comes Home" special over CBS-TV

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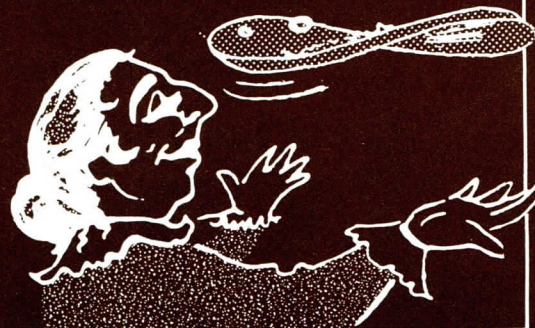
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May 3. "Little" Jimmy Dickens was guest star and a never-before-heard Hank Williams song, "Cowboys Don't Cry", was a special highlight.

And, would you believe, George Segal in drag? It'll happen over the same network May 22 at 8 P.M. when "The Zany Adventures of Robin Hood" airs.

A sure sign of spring were the rush parties held by three of the krewes: Polyphemus at 1128 Dauphine, and David and Olympus at the Bottom.

Rodney Smith and Mark Turk, proprietor and manager of the Soniat House, just played host to ABC-TV's "Good Morning America" crew. The show's critic, Stephen Birnbaum, will feature the small hotel along with the Maison de Ville's Audubon Cottages, the Pontchartrain and the Columns.

Clint Eastwood, who hit some of the gay spots about the French Quarter while filming "Tightrope", will be seen again in "Every Which Way But Loose", when CBS-TV rebroadcasts the 1978 film May 23 at 7:30 P.M.

Lisa Beaumann crowned Tracey Leigh as her successor to the Miss Gay Dixie of the South Pageant at Pino's 621 Club, with special entertainment by the "first lady" of the pageant, Felicia Ellen.

Kirk Douglas, who once lived at the Pontobla Apartments while stationed with the Navy across the river, returned to reign as Bacchus—while Kool and the Gang, who got snowed in last season and missed Endymion, fulfilled their engagement this time the last Saturday of Carnival in the Superdome.

Elliott Keener, who has reopened the Rose Dinner Theatre in Gretna and starred in the opener, "Last of the Red Hot Lovers", will be seen in "Hot Pursuit". Stars of the NBC-TV movie are Eric Pierpont and Kerrie Keane.

If you're looking for a way to kick off the long weekend, you will be interested to know the Filling Station has instituted a three-hour Friday beer bust beginning at midnite and costing \$2.

"For Sale, Liberace", proclaims the side marquee of the Saenger. No asking price was asked for the entertainer, who was recently embroiled in a dispute with a supposedly ex-lover, but it is definite that he'll be showing off on stage again May 18-20.

The Krewe of Clones, not quite as crazy this season as usual but still derisive, threw the Quarter a curve as it went down Canal Street instead. However, the detour was only temporary due to the rocky path presented by a Chartres under construction.

Well, Prince Albert didn't make it to Carnival, and as if we haven't already had enough reginas, it's possible that the Queen Mother may visit the World's Fair. But it's very definite that Lord and Lady Harewood were here Mar. 22 for a benefit to bring the National Opera to the exposition.

The Rain Tree offers two facilities for its patrons. The manager of the Bay St. Louis location is Galen Baza while Larry Moore and

Jerry Gravelle manage the New Orleans location. Bob Morgan is proprietor of these two fine eateries.

Brompton's is under new management with Michael Jones at the helm. Bobby, Mark, David and Terry are your friendly bartenders. Many new specials are in the works, check with the bartender for details.

The River Bottom was the cite of Noodles Birthday Party, one of the owners of Flamingo's

Le Bistro has 2 D.J.'s for their patrons enjoyment. Jay is manager with Speedo, Mike P., Mike K., David and Billy as the staff of Bartenders.

The Corner Pocket's First Anniversary celebration was too hot with dancer favorites Marti and Steve serving complimentary champagne to the packed house. Mike and Lee really know how to throw one hell of a celebration. By all means, let's not forget the incredible buffet served by Chef Grandma. The buffet served was impressive enough to be served the Governor.

For those many travelers coming to the Crescent City for the World's Fair—don't forget to try the lodging at Bunks By The Bayou, a bed and breakfast service offering accommodations in the New Orleans Area. Rates run \$10 to \$150. Call 504/525-6028 for reservations.

On Easter Sunday, Partners Saloon and Casablanca (formerly Mona's) hosted an egg walk with proceeds going to the Methodist Childrens Home. The object of the game was to purchase an egg from one of the bars, walk with it between your knees to the bar down the street and hand it to the bartender. If you made it without breaking or dropping the egg, the bar supplied you with a free drink. Bob & Jerry of Partners and George & Judy of Casablanca are responsible for this festive event. Oh, the 12 doz. eggs used were supplied by AMBUSH. An egg walk contest was staged and Emmett from Partners won. Better luck next year Casablanca.

It's worth repeating: "Thanks America. You've got taste, style and you know a good drag queen when you see one."—Boy George, the 16th Grammy Awards telecast. Boy George is reported to be coming to the World's Fair.

Wood Enterprises has indeed acquired the Clover Grill at 900 Bourbon. It is currently being totally renovated and is scheduled to open in less than a month as a 24 hour/7 day a week grill. Ray Foy, the manager, is currently accepting applications for all positions, all shifts, all sexes.

The renovation of the Refuge, another Wood Enterprise, is complete. Check out the freshly squeezed Orange Juice machine, which must be seen to be appreciated!

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