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BOY'S DANCIN'

carnival issue
volume 3

ASLEY 85
by Irene Szvirc
AMBUSH
MAGAZINE



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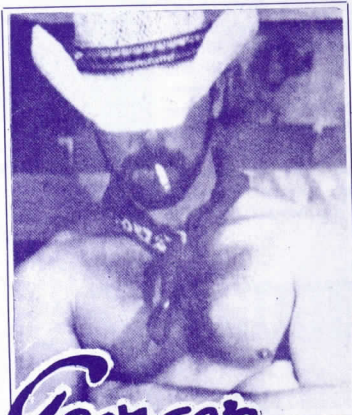
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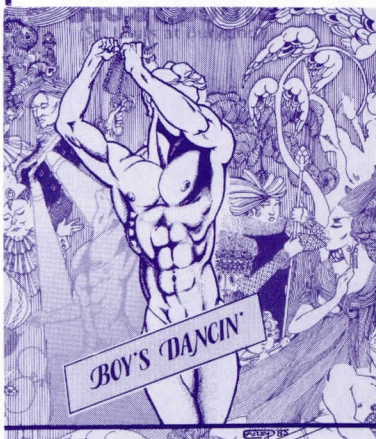


entertainment/news

CARNIVAL EDITION

FEBRUARY, 1985

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 2



about the cover

THE CARNIVAL EDITION COVER was designed by Art Director Marc Easley. The illustration is depicting a Carnival atmosphere which will prevail during Mardi Gras at the Corner Pocket, 940 St. Louis at Burgundy in New Orleans. (The Front Cover Illustration is available each month on a first come first serve basis. For rates contact Rip at 504/383-8605.)

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GAY PRESS ASSOCIATION

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HAPPY MARDI GRAS !!!

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Medically Speaking!

"AIDS: CHAPTER ONE" SET FOR FEB. 12 ON PBS

Imagine being struck down with a disease so new it has no name. So deadly, it will kill more than 2,000 people in its first four years. So baffling, it is being called the "disease of the century". Could this be the plot for a new science-fiction film? Unfortunately not.

This scenario is grounded in real life.

Doctors now have named this ailment: Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome, or AIDS. How modern science has been unraveling the mystery of the disease is the subject of NOVA's "AIDS: Chapter One", airing Tuesday, Feb. 12 at 8 P.M. on PBS (check local listings).

NOVA, the award-winning weekly science documentary series, is produced for PBS by WGBH Boston and is made possible by grants from public television stations, the Johnson & Johnson Family of Companies and Allied Corporation.

"AIDS: Chapter One" takes viewers back to 1981, when the first ominous clues appeared. Doctors in Los Angeles, New York and San Francisco were reporting a highly unusual pneumonia and rare form of skin cancer in otherwise healthy, young homosexual men. Although the two diseases are vastly different from one another, a pattern was emerging: Both were signs of breakdown in the body's immune system. What was happening?

NOVA picks up the trail in Atlanta, Georgia, where the job of fitting together the early pieces of the puzzle fell to the Center for Disease Control (CDC), whose elite corps of epidemiologists investigate the causes and control of epidemics. NOVA talks to the medical detectives at the CDC who sifted through the evidence, searching for the who, what, when and where of the deadly ailment.

The hunt for the "why" of AIDS makes up the rest of NOVA's modern-day detective story. The chase intensifies when two laboratories—one in Bethesda, Maryland, the other in France—close in simultaneously on the lethal culprit.

All this is played out against a very human backdrop—the ongoing struggle of people who are fighting for their lives. NOVA talks with AIDS patients and their doctors as they watch for signs that treatment methods will be found.

"AIDS: Chapter One" was produced for NOVA by Thea Chalow. The executive producer of NOVA is Paula Apsell.

Off the Presses

KEY INTERNATIONAL GUIDE HAS 160% INCREASE IN '85

The 1985 edition of KEY INTERNATIONAL GUIDE to hotels, resorts and guest houses which welcome gay men and women has 180 more listings than last year, covering 38 countries and two U.S. territories. That represents a 160% increase over 1984.

A major improvement in KEY '85 is the inclusion of telephone numbers, complete with international direct dialing codes. "This was suggested by several readers," said Stan Leehei, publisher of KEY INTERNATIONAL. "Although it required still more research, we're happy to provide phone numbers for nearly all our listings."

Instead of codes or symbols, KEY '85 uses "extended listings" for many establishments, showing clientele, facilities, special services, credit cards and so on. The terms used in these are translated into French, German and Spanish.

"We believe it is the only directory of its kind because of its international scope and the detailed information it provides, compared to what are essentially bar and bath guides," Leehei said.

Several 1984 entries were deleted, but 233 more establishments were added, he noted. "There are also indications that existing facilities are being upgraded and that management is improving in this expanding and competitive field."

Most of the KEY '85 listings are in the U.S. (343) and its territories, but Great Britain (64), Germany (45), the Netherlands (28) and France (25) are well represented. In all, 274 establishments are listed in Europe, 26 in Latin America and the Caribbean, and 19 in Australia and the Pacific.

In the U.S., California leads with 84 listings, followed by Florida (65), Massachusetts (51) and New York (20). Leehei said these figures reflect the popularity of gay resorts such as Palm Springs, Russian River, Provincetown, Key West, Fort Lauderdale and Fire Island.

Though pleased with the results of mail order sales in 1984, Leehei said he is looking for distributors in the U.S. and Europe, to increase direct point-of-sale figures.

A single copy of KEY '85 can be obtained for US \$5 in North America, or for US \$6 elsewhere (postage included) by writing House of Leehei, Box 330406, Coconut Grove, FL 33233.

"CONSENTING ADULT" STARS THOMAS, SHEEN & TUBB



"Consenting Adult", the made-for-television movie based on the controversial best-selling novel by Laura Z. Hobson, aired Feb. 4 on ABC-TV.

Starring Marlo Thomas, Martin Sheen and Barry Tubb, and produced by Ray Aghayan, it was the story of how a college student, Barry Tubb, comes to terms with the realization that he is gay, and the way in which those around him deal with this news.

MISS GAY TEXAS WILL NOT RENEW KRISTIE CONTRACT

BY: the Board of Directors of He & She Productions and the Miss Gay Texas Pageant, Jerry M. Bird, C.J. Harrington, Buddy Jones, Phil Baird & Michael Titus

HOUSTON—The board of directors of the Miss Gay Texas Pageant (MGT) have decided, after unsuccessful business negotiations with Norma Kristie, not to renew our franchise agreement with the Miss Gay America Pageant for the following reasons:

The Miss Gay America Pageant (MGA) has demanded five times the franchise fee for the Miss Gay Texas Pageant (MGT). Why? Because Norma Kristie said, and we quote, "Texas can afford to pay more."

In the last two years He & She Productions and its board of directors have written checks in the amount of \$8,800 to Kristie's MGA Pageant. For What? Just for the right to send our winner and 1st runner up to MGA. In addition to these unjust and inflated franchise fees, the MGT Pageant has had to cover all advertising, cost, promotional prizes, plus personal and travel expenses, in excess of \$15,000. But this is just the beginning. At each MGA preliminary, you have to fly Miss Gay America to your pageant, plus \$125 for each performance, round trip air fare, hotel and living expenses.

Then when MGA is held each year, in addition to all the money already paid to Kristie, we had to pay Kristie inflated entry fee for each contestant, plus five days hotel expenses for each contestant. This year at the MGA Pageant in Dallas, the entry fees for the Texas contestants were \$660 and the hotel expenses were \$432. We might add that all contestants are required to stay at the hotel of Kristie's choice. Why? Because while all of the MGA preliminaries promoters are paying huge hotel bills, Kristie and his staff are staying for free in the best suites. It is apparent that all Kristie wants from Texas is our money.

After Kristie took a reported \$37,000 cash profit from MGA in Dallas, we feel Kristie has more than benefited from the generosity of the Texas gay community and has given nothing back to the community who have supported him so generously in years past. In contrast He & She Productions have produced the Mr. Texas Pageant and donated 100% of its revenue to important non-profit gay causes each year.

No reigning Miss Gay Texas has ever won Miss Gay America; however, seven Texans have gone on to win Miss Gay America, only after entering an out-of-state MGA preliminary. It is of interest that at this year's MGA Pageant in Dallas over half of the top 10 would have found it difficult to win a Texas Preliminary Pageant, much less Miss Gay Texas.

Why is this allowed to happen? We can only assume that MGA Mid-Western politics override the importance of sound judgement and fair national treatment for all contestants regardless of which state or area they represent, or the number of years a contestant has entered the MGA Pageant.

It should be noted that He & She Productions is not going to renew the franchise agreement on the Miss Gay South Pageant. Norma Kristie also demanded five times the franchise fee for this MGA preliminary.

The board of directors of the MGT Pageant tried to negotiate a fair agreement with Kristie. We offered to pay the same amount of

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money paid by the majority of MGA preliminary pageants, \$300. but as expected Kristie wanted more money! So the MGT and the Miss Gay South Pageant are added to the long list of MGA preliminary pageants across the U.S. who have refused to renew their franchise agreements with Kristie.

Therefore, it is the decision of the board of directors of the MGT Pageant that the thousands of dollars which have gone to the MGA Pageant and Kristie, in the last 10 years from Texas, be invested in the betterment of our own state pageant in the form of more elaborate productions, larger prize money, and the support of Texas non-profit gay organizations which need financial help. The MGT Pageant has for too long been the financial backbone for the MGA Pageant!

Kristie's 10-year financial rape and stranglehold on Texas must end! The thousands of dollars profit taken by Kristie each year should have and must be retained in our state, not placed in Kristie's out-of-state pockets! The board of directors of the Miss Gay Texas Pageant only hope that if Kristie decided to come back to Texas again for your money that you, the paying public, won't forget his greed or actions of the past 10 years.

DREAMSTATE JOINS MGT IN KRISTIE BOYCOTT

BATON ROUGE-The Board of Governors of the People's Court of Louisiana (PCL), promoters of the Official Miss Dreamstate (female impersonators) Pageant, held its quarterly meeting Dec. 28. The Board decided against renewing its franchise agreement as a Miss Gay America (MGA) preliminary, for the time being.

The Board feels that the situation with the Miss Gay Texas (MGT) and Miss Gay South Pageants, out of Texas, has produced strong feelings across the South. At this time, the PCL Board feels that massive boycotts to many preliminaries of Miss Gay America will ensue by participating to these pageants, if the situation in Texas does not change. The Texas situation has strongly affected the Miss Dreamstate Pageant. Many individuals who plan to enter Miss Dreamstate this year, will not do so if Dreamstate is a preliminary to the MGA system.

In addition, even though Miss Dreamstate, Naomi Sims, went on to win Miss Gay America, the Board is wondering if its massive losses in the Dreamstate '84 pageant was worth it. The Board feels its losses, in part, were due to the immense cost of producing a preliminary is the MGA system.



(l to r) Naomi Sims, Reigning Miss Dreamstate
Coco, Miss Dreamstate Emeritus

REVISED EDITION OF GAYS & FILM RELEASED

New York Zoetrope recently announced the publication of a revised edition of GAYS & FILM by Richard Dyer.

First published in 1977 by The British Film Institute, this classic work was one of the few books of gay film criticism published outside the gay press. This updated edition features a new chapter, new photos and an updated filmography.

GAYS & FILM presents a politically aware and socially conscious look at gay people's relationship with the cinema. By examining the explosive issues of ideology and sexuality, the authors reveal their diverse viewpoints and offer intriguing insights into revolutionary practices of both film making and film viewing.

Caroline Sheldon offers her thoughts on lesbians and film including the politics of lesbian feminism, pornography, and avant-garde cinema. Richard Dyer addresses the issue of stereotypes and how they function ideologically and aesthetically, and Jack Babuscio examines camp and the gay sensibility by identifying the elements of camp and their various portrayals on the screen. The newest addition to this trio of exceptional essays is the work of Andy Medhurst, who comments on recent gay film criticism.

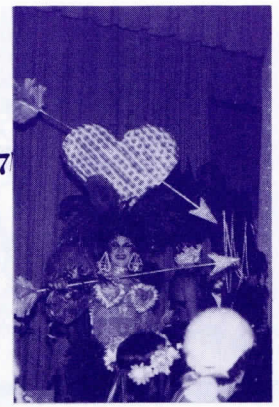
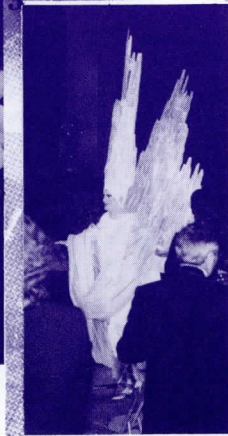
A selected bibliography and a comprehensive filmography complete this intelligent and perceptive look at GAYS & FILM.

Available now, 112 pages, illustrated, paper \$8.95, New York Zoetrope, Suite 516/80 East 11th Street, New York 10003.

New York Zoetrope specializes in film and media books. For additional information about other titles, call Ina at 212/420-0590 or write for a free copy of Zoetrope's catalogue.



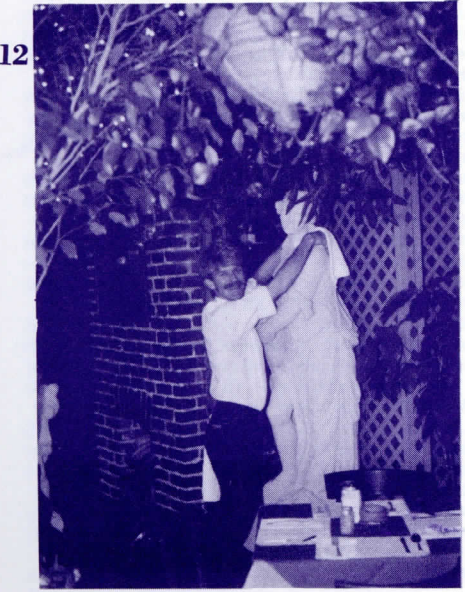
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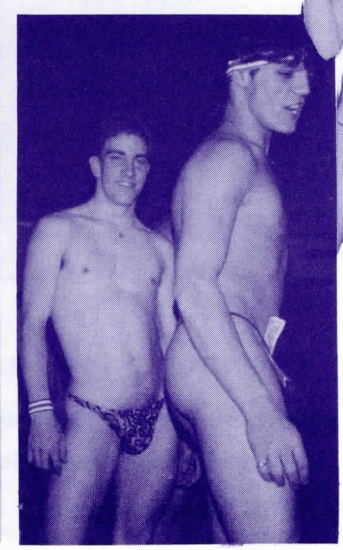
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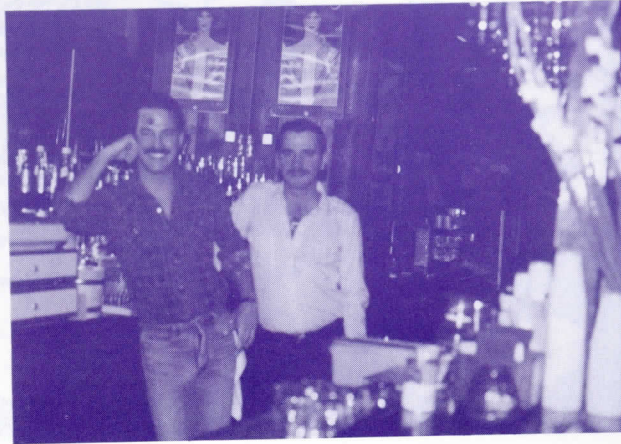
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23



14



in motion

1. King & Queen Polyphemus III, 2. & 3. Brides in the Polyphemus Ball, 4. King & Queen Apollo Baton Rouge IV, 5. King Apollo III, 6. & 7. Characters in the Apollo Baton Rouge Ball, 8. Captain of Apollo Baton Rouge, 9. The gang on the way to the Krewe of David Ball, 10. Jerry & Bob posing at their new show lounge Applause, 11. Jerry from Partners being spanked by "Santa Buttons", 12. Sam gettin' in the Mardi Gras Spirit at the Quarter Scene, 13. George & Jamie posing outside of their new establishment-the New Country Club, 14. Boys' Dancin' at the Corner Pocket (last photo-posing with Mike of the CP), 15. Reigning Queen of Apollo Lafayette, 16. A dance crowd at the Paragon in Lake Charles, 17. A beauty from the Krewe of Elan out of Lake Charles posing at one of their comedy shows, 18. The dance crowd at Neimans in Baton Rouge, 19. Melanie, Suzan & Carol-New Year's Day at Moon Lake in Monroe, 20. Four Seasons Florist in Baton Rouge, 21. Some of the Ladies of the Paragon posing at the Lawrence St. Pub in Lake Charles, 22. Carl & company at the Louisiana Purchases, 23. Marty and Randy at the Mississippi River Bottom

MANHATTAN GAMES RELEASES THE TRIVIA GAME—CAMP EDITION

Now, at the height of the trivia phenomenon, comes a new concept in specialized games, THE TRIVIA GAME—CAMP EDITION.

It's three thousand questions are designed to appeal to a sophisticated audience. These questions are arranged into six standard categories: Nightlife, Gay History, Style, Entertainment, Travel and Arts. All questions have been carefully researched and especially selected to amuse, edify and maybe titillate a little.

The Camp Edition was developed and is being marketed by Manhattan Gaymes, Inc., a company formed by Nick Poshkus, a New York corporate banker, and Joe Castaldo, a top men's fashion consultant. Their penchant for the witty and arcane inspired them to effect the inevitable wedding of trivia entertainment and the Camp sensibility.

The questions are printed on color coded cards which can be played as a game by themselves or as a supplement to any standard trivia board game.

For further information: Manhattan Gaymes, P.O. Box 1899, Cathedral Station, New York, N.Y. 10025.

MURPHY'S MANOR JOINS AMBUSH!

MURPHY'S MANOR comic strip, written and illustrated by Kurt Erichsen, cartoonist & illustrator, has joined AMBUSH MAGAZINE, the only publication in the Louisiana area to carry the strip.

The first Murphy's Manor comic strips were written and drawn in the fall of 1981. A roommate and his date came home from the bar one night with INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE MONTHLY, a gay newspaper out of Toronto. In the classified section was an ad from the publisher, asking for a cartoonist to do a gay comic strip. After some prodding from his roommate, Erichsen did six sample strips and sent them off. The publisher liked them, and wanted the strip included in a package of material he was putting together to syndicate to local gay newspapers. The syndicate never materialized, but he did send a mailing list of gay publications. It was two years old at the time, but it was good enough to put Erichsen in contact with a number of papers who wanted to carry the strip.

MURPHY'S MANOR is described as "About being gay in Middle America". While Toledo, Ohio is usually not considered one of the prime chic hotspots to live, it is a good place for watching Middle America. The characters in the strip are all based on people Erichsen's known. Usually bits and pieces of several different people go into a character. And usually something of Erichsen himself.

MURPHY'S MANOR is now starting its fourth year, and is carried by eleven papers around the country. A few of the earlier strips were reprinted in GAY COMIX # 4

Destiny

Decisions on Mandates

COMING OUT: A DETRIMENT TO INDIVIDUAL'S RELIGIOUS FAITH?

Much has been written about religion and homosexuality. A few "daring individuals" have come out in print, expressing their belief that there is no conflict between their sexual orientation and their religious conviction. It has been only in recent years that denominational leaders have begun to take such "blowings in the winds" with any seriousness. Courageousness on the part of church leaders has crossed denominational lines, as would be expected. The drive for justice and compassion cannot

To Jim and Jayson of the Rainbow
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-The Staff of Neimans



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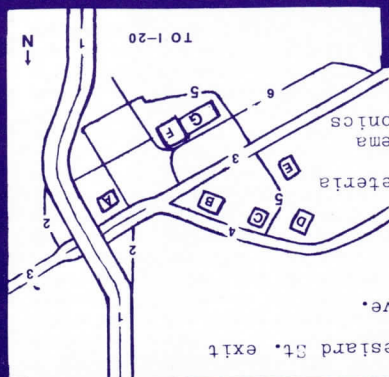


Feb. 23rd

&

Feb. 9th

NITES
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E. Eastgate Cinema
D. Howards
C. Carousal Cafeteria
B. Cuco's
A. Shoney's

6. Commerce
5. STANLEY
4. Louisville Ave.
3. Desiard St.
2. MLU-Hwy 80/Desiard St. exit
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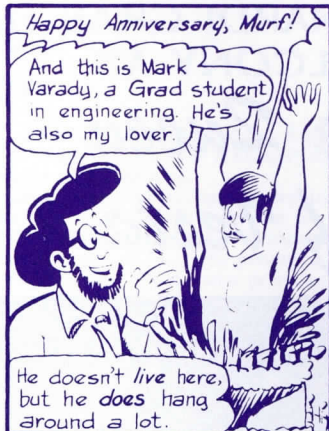


SHE WILL NOT GIVE UP HER CROWN
& YES IT HAS BEEN BROKEN !!!

*1035 St. Peter St.
Noon Til*

MURPHY'S MANOR

by Kurt Erichsen



be locked up in a given credal statement!

A new, slowly growing, definite and positive feeling is emerging in the various Lutheran bodies on the Continent. There is an organization that has been "keeping it's finger on the pulse" of the Lutheran Church, and reports much more favorable attitudes currently.

Jim Brown, Southern Regional Director for Lutherans Concerned/North America, cites the increasing participation of Bishops and other officials at biennial assemblies of the organization. "While the churches and their members are not falling all over themselves to involve us in their work, we have noted a definite and significant increase in semi-official participation in our major events," reports Brown.

"Bishops or their assistants have preached at the worship services of the last three North American Assemblies of Lutherans Concerned. That has not gone unnoticed," he adds.

Brown continues, "Evidently sensitive and thinking leaders of the Lutheran Church are finally beginning to become aware of the reality of 10 percent of their membership being gay or lesbian! This awareness seems to be leading to a more compassionate and justice-oriented approach to 'the problem'. It's a shame that the church has not become more sensitized sooner, as many gay/lesbian church members have already been driven from active participation in their congregations."

Lutherans Concerned, however, seeks to pick up where the church cannot or will not exercise a ministry of love and reconciliation. In its 10 years of existence, it has seen more than 20 chapters of the organization founded across the North American Continent. Each of them seeks to bring to Gay Lutherans the message that God loves them AND their sexual orientation; that God indeed even created them 'the way they are'! Chapter members try to help each other through mutual encouragement, to build positive, faith-filled lives.

"It's been a long, hard struggle, and there is much more to do," notes the Southern Director. "But at least we are seeing cracks in the wall that separates us from our heterosexual brothers and sisters."

One very notable 'crack' is the recent announcement by the Lutheran Church in America (LCA), largest of the Lutheran denominations, that it will include LC/NA in an official study of the issues surrounding homosexuality and the church.

"We now need many more lesbian and gay brothers and sisters to join us in this important ministry; to come out, at least to one another, and seek further reconciliation," Brown pleaded.

You can obtain more information of the work of Lutherans Concerned, and membership in the organization, by writing: Lutherans Concerned/North America, P.O. Box 10461, Fort Dearborn Station, Chicago, IL 60610.

REGIONAL DIRECTOR: Jim Brown, 602 Welch, Houston, TX 77006, 713/521-0863 or 522-4251

LCNA PRESIDENT: John Ballew, 762 Lake Ave. N.E., Atlanta, GA 30307, 404/659-5175

LCNA SECRETARY: William R. Host, Jr., 5325 S. Hyde Park Blvd. #3B, Chicago, IL 60615

Silly Sally's

**FEB. 15 — BRANDI ALEXANDER
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**"YOUR NEWEST
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rev. ron rites

Ah yes, it's that time of year when we stand before rows of valentine cards and try to find one that fits gay relationships. "To my special friend" sounds stilted and "to my husband" is too heterosexist. So, the safest option is to buy a box of candy!

This "lover's holiday" brings feelings of happiness and romance to those who have a lover. For some, it's a reminder of their lack of love. Unfortunately there's a lot of misunderstanding about this thing called love. Have you ever thought of the interesting ways we use the word? "I love oranges. I just love that painting! I think I'm in love (after one date)! I love to dance!...etc."

So, what's the true meaning of love? Many confuse love with feelings of physical desire. There's nothing wrong with having rapid palpitations when you first date someone. Just seeing that special person makes your palms sweaty and causes other remarkable physical changes. That's a wonderful experience. But, too many people move into an apartment, set up happily-ever-after joint checking accounts and plan their retirement while they're still in the irrational stage of erotic, sensual response. Two dates and it's got to be love!!

Suddenly, the glow wears off. Panic sets in as two strangers realize they weren't "in love", but rather "in lust".

In the English language we have only one word for love. But, in the Greek language, they had three words. "Philia" (from which we get Philadelphia—the city of brotherly love) was used for the relationship that we have with our friends; the affection we feel for people we like. "Eros" referred to sensual love—to a physical experience. "Agape" is a higher quality of love. It is the word used for God-kind of love. "Agape" is an unselfish love that does not attempt to possess or control. It is a trusting, caring love that seeks to uplift. This kind of love looks beyond the other's faults and weaknesses. It focuses on the uniqueness of the other person. It is totally accepting and affirming.

Obviously, the ideal lover relationship will involve all three qualities of love, "philia, eros and agape". Love that lasts, is real, takes time to develop and work to guard it's continuance. Many more gay relationships change our understanding of what it means "to be in love". There are volumes of books written about the subject. However, it's impossible to provide an accurate, fool-proof method of establishing loving relationships that will work for everyone.

I personally believe that true love is a gift from God. As two individuals begin growing in their love, it is to their advantage to involve God in the process.

Happy Valentine's Day and I wish for you—LOVE.

REV. RONALD COONS, MCCBR

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services at 107 Mudd Ave., 11 A.M. Sundays, Rev. Jon DiMaria-Kuiper, Pastor, 318/237-9588.

MCC BATON ROUGE, P.O. Box 64996, Baton Rouge, 70896-services at 7877 Jefferson Hwy., 6:45 P.M. Sundays, Rev. Ron Coons, Pastor, 504/387-4543.

MCC, CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION, P.O. Box 51384, New Orleans-services at 1800 Jefferson, 7 P.M. Sundays, Rev. Linda Bynam, Pastor, 504/899-1468.

RIVER CITIES MCC, P.O. Box 4723, Shreveport, 71134-services at 1134 Shreveport-Barksdale Hwy., 4:30 P.M. Sundays, Rev. Terri DeMarco, Pastor, 318/865-5789.

Writers Cramp

Opinions, Comments and Questions

THIS ALL GIRL BAND IS FOR YOU

DEAR EDITOR:

If you want good quality entertainment, then this all girl band, SOFT TOUCH, is for you. The harmony flows smoothly from the 50's and 60's of yesterday to the latest country hits.

Kim Prather provides the Top 40 sound with songs such as "Another One Bites the Dust" by Queen, "After the Glitter Fades" by Stevie Nicks, and "Bout to Make me Leave Home" by Bonnie Raitt, "Old Time Rock & Roll" & "Betty Lou Getting out Tonight" by Bob Seager. Before playing with Soft Touch, Kim was with Southern Rose and Royal Street. She plays bass and guitar.

Glenda Smith, our bass player, also comes from the group Southern Rose. Glenda, along with Kim provides the comedy for the group with jokes and their version of "Honky Tonk Queen" by Moe & Joe. No one, even the band is spared from their jokes. These two girls are very entertaining.

Brenda Kendrick, our drummer, is the most versatile musician in the group. She not only plays drums, but also guitar, bass, keyboard, sax, clarinet and harmonica. Every group should have a member such as this. The only thing wrong is she can only play one at a time.

Melanie Parker, the first original member of "Soft Touch", plays keyboard and sings mostly country music, but has her own version of old rock & roll songs such as "Nutmash City Limits" by Tina Turner and "Shame, Shame, Shame" by Shirley & Co. Melanie played as a single for many years and still does some of the old torch songs such as Timi

Yuro's "Hurt". She also sings an original song by Glenda Smith, "I Never Really Let You Go", which the band hopes they record soon.

This group is available for bookings in the surrounding area's. For information, you can contact Lynn Sims at 504/355-2531 or 357-3426.

We donate our music for charities, nursing homes and hospitals free of charge. If you need our services for any of the above, please give us a call.

THANKS, L. SIMS, SOFT TOUCH, BATON ROUGE

WGBH TO AIR AIDS DOCUMENTARY

DEAR EDITOR:

On Feb. 12 at 8 P.M. on PBS (check local listings), WGBH Boston's award-winning weekly science documentary series, NOVA, will present a program entitled "AIDS: Chapter One". The program takes an indepth look at the AIDS story, focusing on the medical and scientific aspects as researchers attempt to close in on this lethal disease.

We hope that you will help us to let people know about the program so that it is seen by as many as possible.

Thanks.

SINCERELY, ELLEN FREY, IRWIN MESCH & SUSAN BLUTTMAN

SFGA WANTS DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT ADOPTED BY LSU

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

My name is Lonnie Russell and I represent Louisiana State University's Students for Gay Awareness (SFGA). Our organization had been disbanded since the end of our last Spring term until four months ago. We have reorganized with a fresh outlook for the future and an affirmative action attitude incorporated into our political and social projects.

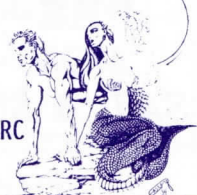
The LSU SFGA would like to have incorporated into LSU's by-laws a non-discrimination statement (such as the one below) to insure security for our fellow students, staff and faculty. In order to help us achieve this goal we ask that your organization address a letter of support for

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our effort to LSU's administration, specifically to Chancellor James Wharton and the Board of Trustees. I ask that you mail your letter to the SfGA to insure that we have a copy in our files and to ascertain that the letter is made known to the proper authorities.

In addition to the letter, feel free to send any literature concerning your organization. We would be happy to include it on our literature table on campus.

If you have any questions or suggestions, write LSU SfGA, P.O. Box 16031, University Station, Baton Rouge, LA 70893. Thank you in advance for your assistance.

SINCERELY, LONNIE N. RUSSELL, JR., PRESIDENT, LSU SfGA

(EDITOR'S NOTE: *AMBUSH MAGAZINE* strongly urges all organizations to support the LSU SfGA by drafting a letter in support of LSU adopting its official non-discrimination statement reading as follows: "It is the policy of Louisiana State University and the Board of Trustees that no discrimination against or harassment of individuals will occur on any of the campuses or in the programs or activities of the University. Consistent with this policy, the Board of Trustees expects that all judgements about and actions toward students and employees will be based on their qualifications, abilities and performance. Attitudes, practices and preference of individuals that are essentially personal in nature, such as private expression or sexual orientation, are unrelated to performance and provide no basis for judgement. The Board of Trustees expects all Louisiana State University campuses to take appropriate action to implement this policy of fair treatment.")

INTRODUCING LUTHERANS CONCERNED

DEAR EDITOR:

Let me introduce Lutherans Concerned to you! We are a group of lesbian, gay and non-gay Christians, seeking to foster a spirit of understanding and acceptance between Lutheran Church groups and gay & lesbian Lutherans. Lutherans Concerned/North America (LCNA), our parent organization, recently celebrated its 10th anniversary.

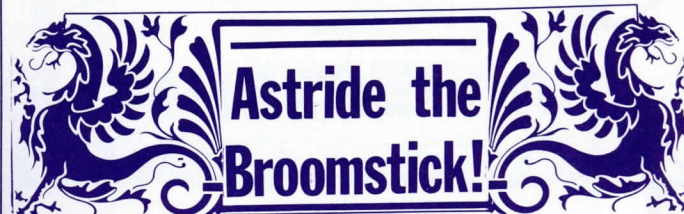
I have recently made a survey of Lutheran populations in the Southern Region, and find that there may be a sizable gay Lutheran population in your readership area. We are a totally voluntary organization, working only from donations. We are therefore looking for your spirit of "charity" by including us in your regular "directory", or by giving us a one-time shot in a news release.

Let me express my appreciation, on behalf of LCNA for any assistance you can provide us. At the bottom of this letter is a suggested directory insertion. I'm also including press releases which you may use/modify at your discretion. Tear sheets or a copy of the issue you print any of this material in would be helpful to us!

Thank you for any help you can give us. It is appreciated!

SINCERELY, JAMES L. BROWN

GAY & LESBIAN LUTHERANS: *You are not alone! Someone does care—Lutherans Concerned. We are seeking to form a chapter in your area. If interested, write: LCNA So. Reg. Dir., 602 Welch, Houston, TX 77006 or 713/521-0863.*



BY: THOMAS-JOHN GRIEVES, CONTRIBUTING EDITOR, HOUSTON

February is Valentine month and time to start the cauldrons of Love oil, love potion, and love wine agoin' again. Those of you old married folks can brew it up for yourself and for all your single friends who like to moan and groan about their lack of love.

Witches are first sought out for matters of Love and then money. So this month we'll handle the Love and next month we'll talk about money.

First: Love potion. Take one part of rose oil and one part of cinnamon oil. Combine them on the night of the Full Moon, preferably outside in the moonlight. Before you cap the bottle, hold it up to the moon and pretend that the moon is filling and charging the atoms of oil in the bottle. As you hold the bottle up think of romantic things, slow walks in the moonlight, hand in hand with your lover, slow sensuous lovemaking in the grass under the full moon, candlelit dinners for two by a slow fire in the fireplace. Then capture all those feelings into the bottle and cap it. Then hide it in a special place in your bedroom. Every evening take it out and gently caress the bottle (fondle it if you wish) and sing (to your own made up tune) "LOVER, LOVER, COME TO ME, I'M READY FOR YOU AS YOU'LL SOON SEE. ARMS AROUND ME, TASTES SO SWEET, EYE TO EYE, SOON WE MEET."

Lose yourself to the feeling, slowly, sensuously dance around the room singing the chant. Do this every evening. On the third night anoint yourself in the pubic hair and above each nipple as you dance and visualise great energy radiating from your body in the form of a triangle and going out to the perfect lover (note I said PERFECT, if you have your cap set for someone, DON'T use their name, but mentally say "someone just like _____ OR BETTER", otherwise you'll slip into manipulative black magic and that always causes trouble). If you can do these rituals right before going to sleep you'll find you will dream of your love and may actually begin your love affair in the astral world before meeting

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in the physical world. Astral sex is wonderful.

Be sure you do the practical steps to go along with this spell making. Have your house very clean and clean sheets ready for your bed. Dismiss any half hearted lovers cluttering up your space. Get a haircut and be groomed and ready for the Love of your Life.

From the first night you anoint yourself, you should do this ritual for seven nights. So the whole process takes nine nights. It happens this February that the time from the Full Moon to Valentines day puts V-day on the day AFTER the ninth night, so this should be a doozy!

Hope you have a wonderful valentines day! If any of you want to send a valentine to your favorite (I hope) witch, I'll be glad to send you a thank you blast of ENERGY. Take care and love somebody.

BEWITCHINGLY YOURS, THOMAS-JOHN GRIEVES, P.O. BOX 20007, HOUSTON, TX 77225.

What's Hot?!?

Events & Happenings

DOIN' LAFAYETTE!

BY: LARRY WADE, LAFAYETTE EDITOR

The Mystic Krewe of Apollo du Lafayette presented its ninth annual Mardi Gras Ball at the Lafayette Hilton, Jan. 5. The theme for this year's Bal Masque was "The Aztecs" honoring King Apollo IX, Garland Romero and Queen Apollo IX, Mark D. Anderson. This year's Bal Masque was dedicated in memory of King Apollo VI, John Frank, who passed away Dec. 24, 1984.

Each year you wonder how it can get better, and sure enough it does get bigger and better. This year was no exception and the Captain and Krewe are to be congratulated on the beauty and originality of this year's ball. The tableau was breathtaking and the color combinations were brilliant.

The video tape is excellent and we understand there is a possibility that the 1985 ball may be put on again later this year. Congratulations to Mark and Garland and all that put on a spectacular ball.

Metropolitan Community Church of Acadiana is very busy during this Mardi Gras Season. There is much activities, hustle and bustle down on Mudd Ave. 1985 board members were installed at MCCA. Board members inducted were Mark Anderson, Roy Martin, Larry Wade and Richard Yackle, who join "Daddy Warbucks", Wayne Moeller who is treasurer of MCCA.

Members of Lafayette journeyed to New Orleans, Jan. 20 for a retreat with MCC of New Orleans.

A state wide retreat of MCC's will be April 12-14 in Baton Rouge. A task force from South Louisiana met in Baton Rouge and much excitement has been generated from those who attended from Lafayette. Motoring to Baton Rouge to represent Lafayette was Wayne Moeller, Monica Espinaza, Angelo DiMarie-Kuiper and Pastor Jon.

We cordially invite the Lafayette community to join us each Saturday evening in the MCCA Community Center, 107 Mudd Ave. for a rousing game of Trivial Pursuit or other board games. The MCCA Chrysalis Center is open from 7 P.M. to 11 P.M. each Saturday and we urge everyone to drop in for hot coffee, juices or soft drinks. You all come!

The Royal Order of Unicorn has been active also as Mardi Gras quickly approaches. Mr. R.O.U. was held Jan. 12 at Fantasy in Exile. The riotous scream Mistress of Ceremonies, Ms. Maude opened the show with "Big Spender" and the pageant never lagged for one second.

Lady M was crowned Miss R.O.U. by Danny Campbell, King Unicorn I.

Winner of the Mr. R.O.U. Pageant was Ted Richard with first runner up going to Reed McGowen. Both contestants were hot and this editor was highly intrigued by those hunky young men.

Entertainers who joined Maude were Lady M, Jennifer East, a lovely new entertainer and what can I say, Edee Void was not to be believed. E.J. promises to be a hot entertainer with comedy being his forte. All together a smashing evening of hot cakes and great fun was had by all.

A champagne buffet was held Jan. 19 honoring King and Queen I of the Royal Order of Unicorn, Danny Campbell and Barbra Garcia. Hosted by Randy Chesnut and Fantasy in Exile. Everyone enjoyed the excellent food and camaraderie. Good luck on Feb. 2.

By now, all you readers must realize that Lafayette is on the move for Mardi Gras and that is what is taking place throughout party town USA!

John's Bar is still the punk capitol of Louisiana. Three hundred fans packed in to see and hear the Butthole Surfers from San Francisco along with Baton Rouge's Reality on Trial and New Orleans' Graveyard Rodeo. We read the bar review in *TIMES OF ACADIANA*, good job John, hope to hear from you real soon in *AMBUSH*. It's great to read about gays and female impersonators spoken of positively in a straight publication.

We miss our brother Willie Latiolais, who worked at John's seven years. Willie has finished school and is now residing with his spouse in New Orleans. We love you Willie and wish you the best—Bon Voyage!

It was great visiting with John and Mike, and if alcohol is not your bag, then check out the juice bar, I sampled and enjoyed. We want to wish John and Margaret a very happy thirty year anniversary. May you enjoy many more.

Have you met the roving ambassador of Frank's neighborhood pub? Miss Boo has become quite a public relations person, so we understand. Joe is a welcome addition at Frank's, keep up the good work. I hear

Ronnie, as resident manager and P.R. director, is a support teacher.

Can't wait to visit during Mardi Gras, as everyone will be in costume, and we hear Ronnie and Boo are the tea! Mom, Pop, the whole gang at Frank's wish you all the best and will be open all day Mardi Gras. Come on by, play cards, party, whatever and let the good times roll.

Mardi Gras on the Nile promises to be bigger and better than ever with Mardi Gras festivities galore and more! Pharaoh's is currently closed for extensive remodeling. We hear the big opening date will begin with a Mardi Gras bash Mon., Feb. 18th, beginning at 5 P.M. Later in the evening at 12 midnight is the Miss Mardi Gras Pageant. We could not find out much more, but Rod has a lot in store and it will more than be worth your time to party on the Nile. And who knows, you may just find that special someone to spend the forty days of Lent with! Naomi, Hot Chocolate, Donna Day and Jerri Harper are still show favorites at Pharaoh's.

Ms. Maude sends warm Mardi Gras returns. Mardi Gras eve brings on a festive combination party and show with a special costume judging contest. Some very good entertainment has been coming to the stage of Fantasy in Exile, watch for Lady M (Miss R.O.U.), Jennifer East, the incomparable Ms. Maude and if you missed Edee Void, catch her act with Maude.

So you see, no matter what your cup of tea, Cheri, Lafayette has it! Come join us for Mardi Gras '85; Laessez Les Bon Temps Rouler!!!

EXPOSURE PLUS!

BY:..RIP NAQUIN & MARSHA DELAIN, BATON ROUGE

The Partners/Lancers MC annual drive for the Heritage Manor Nursing Home for Forgotten People was a huge success, even larger than last year. Not only numerous gifts, but over \$400 in cash was donated to the home.

By 11:30 P.M. Dec. 31st, the waiting line was all the way down to Partners on Rampart and Orleans. Patrons were anticipating the grand opening of Applause Show Lounge at 700 N. Rampart. Champagne flowed like water and there was a standing room only crowd to the wee hours of the morning. The opening show began with hits from Broadway featuring Mr. Mitzi, Pearl Mae Douglas, Stacey Lee and Felicia Eilan. The cast closed with "Here's to Us" entering from throughout the audience pouring champagne for the numerous guest while performing.

And of course, New Year's at George's in Baton Rouge featured customers bouncing off the walls—with such immense crowds. George himself made a special appearance and the staff served free champagne and party favors with no cover as usual.

The New Year's Eve Bash at the Phoenix transferred the next day to the grand opening of George & Jamie's The New Country Club. They served the traditional black eyed peas, cabbage & cornbread—and yes,

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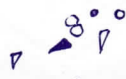
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People Magazine



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many ended up in the pool.

What a pleasure to attend Polyphemus III, the theme "I Do, I Do!" Before the tableau even began, the huge crowd knew there would be too much in store for them with every table in the auditorium having a two-tiered-columned wedding cake for the centerpiece. Each cake was topped with a redheaded and blondheaded groomsman. We were not well! The Ball began with our National Anthem, which brought a patriotic audience to its feet. Out waltzed Arrianne Wells (hope the spelling is correct) as the vivacious Mistress of Ceremonies. The popular returning royalty, King and Queen Polyphemus II as the Unicorn & Maiden in a beautiful pink-the Queen sporting some 400 fresh orchids on her beaded collar. Each character thereafter came out as the bride of a particular region beginning with the stunning Captain as New York. The Ball Lieutenant as Spain, followed by the flawless bride of Paris, the regal bride of England, the hunky-but one of Russia, the unbelievable bride of the Arctic, the silken brides of China and Japan, the duo of chiffon & sequins of India, the immense headresses of Africa, mountains of plumes of Rio, the pineapple bride of Hawaii, the fantasy bride of Hollywood, and last-but certainly one of the most favored-the Chalmette bride featuring wash & wear wedding attire. It was hard to believe that anything could top the festivities thus far, but believe us the new royalty did just that. King & Queen Polyphemus III dazzled the audience with their thousands of plumes and stones-the most breathtaking costumes we have ever seen. The Captain of Polyphemus is certainly to be congratulated on the superb costuming, choreography and showmanship of this exquisite production. We would also like to thank the Captain for inviting **AMBUSH** and allowing this publication photographic privileges.

The New Orleans Volleyball Association hosted a banquet at the Country Club with over 200 in attendance. Fourteen teams were represented from around the country. Local talent entertained the guests, while the guests were treated to red beans and rice, jambalaya and salad-all Louisiana style.

We must recommend Les Bon Maison, a guest house at 835 Bourbon in the French Quarter. This establishment actually features guest apartments. The suite we stayed in hosted a large living/dining room, full service kitchen (with pots, pans and dishes), bath, a master suite (with a huge mirrored headboard) and guest bedroom. It is quite economical at \$80 for two and \$100 for four. Make your reservations at 504/561-8498. This guest house is conveniently located in the center of the French Quarter.

On to Lake Charles, "a great place to spend the night". Our first stop was the Lawrence Street Pub, a quaint video cruise bar. We met some of the "Ladies of the Paragon" there and were invited to their show-"Ladies of the 80's" on Feb. 22nd at the Paragon. We have a prior commitment, but we were told these Ladies put on one hell of a show-don't miss it. We then got directions for the Elan Ball. The Krewe of Elan hosted its Carnival Ball at the Habibi Shrine Temple on Jan. 19th. The theme was "Puttin on the Ritz". King Elan I ruled over the festivities. Each character in the tableau did their normal parading, but each stopped and saluted the returning King with a toast. And the moment we all waited for, the presentation of King Elan II, Colton Courville. Colton and Marc, the Captain were feted at a celebration in the Hilton following the extravaganza. Following the ball, we journeyed to the Paragon for some of the hottest sound and one of the best light shows in the South. Jim and Byron have done a superb job in converting the Paragon into a disco/show bar.

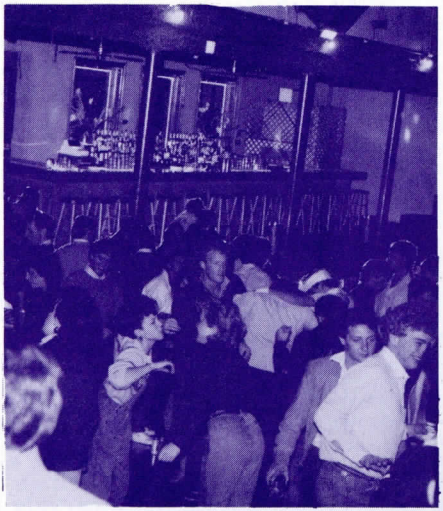
Bobbie Ramone joined the cast of Applause on his birthday, Fri., Jan. 11th, the first show ended with a special birthday celebration for Bobbie.

On our last trip to the City of Sin, we were feted with a surprise "Boy's Dancin'" presentation at the Corner Pocket. David and Kenny are two of the newest dancers at this popular night spot. And Mike, we hadn't realized how provocative the photo's had turned out to be, until my photo lab asked me if I would be bringing in any more photo's that "might be considered dirty pictures"-we were not well women. Perhaps next time we might not drink as much, so that we may remember what sort of photo's we're taking. Anyway, if you haven't been to the Corner Pocket-make sure you don't miss "Boy's Dancin'" on the bar top every Thursday and Saturday.

Our next "hot stop" was the Mystic Krewe of Apollo-Baton Rouge's presentation of "Pages Through The Ages", theme for its '85 Bal Masque. This year the ball was hosted in the spacious Iberville Parish Civic Center in Plaquemine. The ball began with the lighting of the crest of Apollo-Baton Rouge and then the entrance of the very popular Ball Captain, Larry Fremin, in a beautifully stoned burgundy costume with an attached color some 4 or 5 feet in the air-superb. Out came returning royalty in a burst of gold, King Apollo III. The pagentry began with the Master of Ceremonies and Co-Captain, Hal, coming forth. He played his part well as what appeared to be a very old wizard out of the past. You could have found no better character than Hal-his performance could not be beat on Broadway or Hollywood. Hal took us through the ages with all sorts of characters from the past from Adam (he was to die for in a simple fig leaf) and Eve, to Egypt, to Madame Pompadour, to Greece, to China, to Rome, with many other characters inbetween, and finally to the present time. The present time was the introduction of King & Queen Apollo IV, with stunning costumes of white plumes, huge half-moon headresses of white and gold with many stones-the color scheme of white and gold was carried throughout the elaborate costumes. The tableau was laced with many comedy routines throughout which brought the immense crowd to its feet time and time again. This ball was unique in that the presentation of each character went through the audience via three major isles-so all of the seats in the house were great. It made the audience participation a part of the tableau. We would like to express our thanks to Larry for the seats at the Captain's table-we really enjoyed ourselves with S.J. of the Mirror on one side

You've seen downstairs...

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Disco

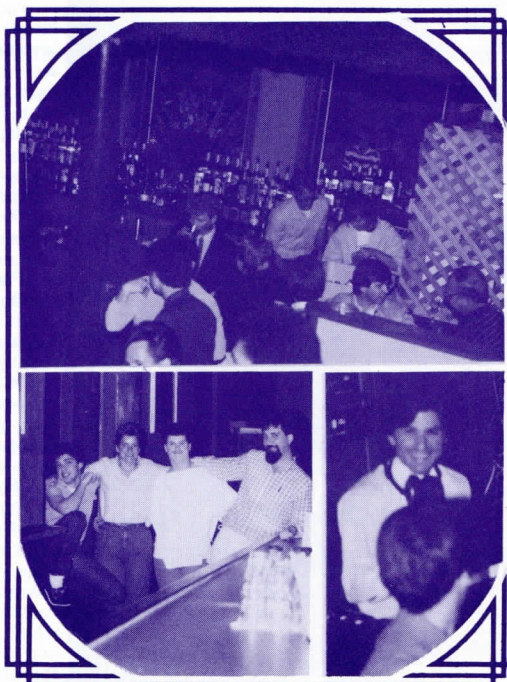
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and the captain and president of Polyphemus on the other. *AMBUSH* expresses its thanks for photographic privileges. Gary and Gene-ya'll were most gracious and simply fabulous.

We're looking forward to the Lords of Leather presentation of their Ball Monday, Feb. 18 at 12 midnite at St. Marks Community Center in N.O. If you're interested in attending, you can apply for invitations at Partners Saloon. The only gay ball held on Mardi Gras, the Lords of Leather always carries the "English Style Coronation" as its theme. The Monarchs are crowned King and Consort. Returning royalty is King Jerry Radtke and Consort Bob Keesee. *AMBUSH* has the honor of being selected official photographer of this carnival event.

Icebreakers at 2330 Aubin Lane in Baton Rouge is now open 7 days a week featuring Sunday Brunch from 1 P.M.-3 P.M. and a Sunday Tea Dance from 3-7 P.M., as well as many other specials.

Le Bistro at 800 Bourbon is still hosting its 3 for 1 drinks every Thursday from 8 P.M. to 4 A.M.

The St. Louis Crepe Shoppe has changed to Petunia's. The restaurant has also had real nice facelift.

While Neimans in Baton Rouge hosted a blow out grand opening celebration Feb. 1st. The never ending flow of champagne greeted the huge throngs of patrons, while they experienced the Disco with dance music by Sammy Landry, Piano Bar, Theater Room and the Upstairs & Downstairs Cruise Bars. This total entertainment complex is the rage of the South. Check out the friendly bartenders—Becky, Bubbles, Mark, Terry and Wood. The club is managed by Wesley Boudreaux, formerly of Lafayette. (Suggestion—get there early if you want to park in the totally fenced in—patrolled parking facilities.)

A great place to stay for Mardi Gras—the Club New Orleans at 515 Toulouse. The totally clean facility offers a whirlpool, sundeck, 2 video rooms, sauna and an exercise room, as well as private accommodations.

And congratulations to Eddie & Ernie on another fabulous anniversary celebration at Silly Sally's in Alexandria.

Check out the only gay after hours in Northern Louisiana—Illusions at 201 South Stanley in Monroe.

And, of course, get some of that good Southern hospitality at Corky's Cajun Lounge at 100 Melvyn in Monroe.

When you least expect it, you're elected, you're the star today (Bubbles for only \$585 you can be the FACE of the 80's!) If you want to be an Estee Lauder woman, consult Bubbles in Baton Rouge for details.

The Roundup at 819 St. Louis in New Orleans host its free evening buffet every Sunday. In addition a midnight annual buffet was hosted Feb. 3rd for Celestial Knights and will be hosted for Petronius Feb. 10.

For those great pizza's, muffalotto's, etc. visit Mama Rosa's Slice of Italy at 616 N. Rampart, New Orleans.

Rose has completed a facelift for the Louisiana Purchase just in time for Mardi Gras at 740 Dauphine, New Orleans.

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Scotty's Toulouse House at 607 Dauphine, New Orleans will be open the whole weekend for Mardi Gras. In addition to all the great things Bill stocks, he now has most film stocked for just about any camera.

The Krewe of Trash is presenting its 2nd annual Mardi Gras Parade Sun., Feb. 10th beginning at the Corner Pocket. Costuming (bring your own garbage bag) begins at noon, the coronation of King and Queen at 1 P.M. and the parade following coronation. Join the group at the Corner Pocket or at your favorite bar. The Mississippi River Bottom is hosting a Coronation Party at 2 P.M. A buffet will follow the parade at the Corner Pocket.

Back in Baton Rouge, join the Spanish Town Mardi Gras Parade Feb. 16 beginning at 12 noon. Following the parade, the **AMBUSH MARDI GRAS AWARDS** will take place at George's at 860 St. Louis. Awards include the 'DWI Award' for the campiest individual or group; 'Best Impersonation of a Queen' for most elaborate costuming and the 'Publisher's Award' for something unusual or unique. So join us for the festivities.

In New Orleans Wolfendale's will be presenting the 1st Annual Rampart Street Awards Mardi Gras, Feb. 19th at 3 P.M. sharp.

While the Mississippi River Bottom will host the 2nd Annual St. Philip St. Awards at 6 P.M. sharp the same evening.

For you early birds, check out Judy Garland appearing live on her balcony at 12 noon on Mardi Gras at 1035 St. Peter St.

The Mirror at 111 Riverside Mall, Baton Rouge, held its Mardi Gras festivities with Damascus on Feb. 1st and of course it was great as usual.

George's, 860 St. Louis, Baton Rouge is celebrating its 14th anniversary with a big weekend celebration Feb. 22nd & 23rd—look for some good food, free champagne and the incredible Georgettes.

THE NORTHEASTERN STAR!

BY: SUZAN ARNOLD, MONROE EDITOR

Hello, again, from the big town of Funroe! Have ya'll been keeping your New Year's Resolutions? No? Me, either!

Well, January was rather a slow show month. (I guess everyone was still recuperating from New Year's!) Corky's show included the ever-popular Shayla Kruz and Ebone! Sanchel. What can I say about the "Misses Ebony and Ivory" that hasn't already been said?

Jan. 26 was showtime at Illusions. It featured the fabulous Corky Broughn and Emily Starr from Jackson, and myself. "Corky, will you marry me?" Anyone with THAT kind of voice HAS to have something going for him! Amd Emily!!! Now I know why they call her "the twinkling star of Jackson". Girl—you're just too GOOD!!!

Things will start picking up in February. Plan your Feb. festivities for Valentine's Day and Mardi Gras with everyone at Corky's. Highlights include Full Moon Party Feb. 5, Valentine Teddy Bear Party Feb. 14, Mardi Gras Ball (costume preferred) Feb. 19, Talent Nite Feb. 21 and Feb. Birthday Party Feb. 25.

Every three weeks, Corky's will host a talent show on Thursday. Plus, Thursdays throughout the month will be "Lady's Nite". "Men's Nite" out will be Tuesdays. There are also drink specials nightly. So come out and party with Corky, Bubba, Mike, Ricky and Terri—they'll do you right.

Oh, yeah! Corky's is also looking for "new talent" for their shows, plus they want to remotivate the old talents. Personally, I'd like to see James C., Jan B., Marcie, Debra W., Sherri M., Tina A., Jo, Bobby L. and Craig F. in more shows. Those of you who agree, should tell them; or tell Corky or Sher to ask them to do a show sometime! But, if you think you have what it takes to be an entertainer; or even if you don't think you have what it takes, but you'd like to try anyway—then call or come by Corky's and they'll do the rest! Corky's is at 100 Melvyn Dr., 318/343-9828.

Illusions, Monroe's ONLY gay after-hours bar, is now open on Sundays! (But a reminder to those who come from big towns—Funroe can't sell liquor on Sundays, but the bar will have free "party punch".) Illusions, which is at 201 S. Stanley is open Wednesday, 10 P.M.-3 A.M. with Birthday Beer Busts; Friday, 10 P.M.-4 A.M. with a Keg Party; Saturday, 10 P.M.-5 A.M. with a Beer Mug Nite and Sunday, 8 P.M.-2 A.M. with Party Punch—it's B.Y.O.B. and set-ups are available. But don't forget, there's free draft beer for those of you who forget your "bottles"! Just ask Troy and Alex, they drink practically a half keg, themselves!

Illusions will host a show Feb. 16, featuring none other than Monroe's own "Raven", along with Morgan Woods and a surprise guest! Showtime at Illusions is 1 A.M. Anyone interested in being in a show at Illusions, contact Sher or Sara, 318/325-9148, or talk to their D.J., Brick.

Speaking of Brick, she opened her own shop Feb. 1st, Brick's Records & Tapes. It's located at 1211 DeSiard, 318/388-4596. The shop specializes in 12" records and the latest albums; but will also include buttons, smoking accessories, etc. You need to come check it out, because like Brick says, "She's got your 12-inch!!!!"

Sher celebrated her 36th birthday Feb. 1. So if you saw Sara show up with a bow on her head—you'll know what's going on! (Sorry, I couldn't resist!) Oh, yes—I'd like to apologize to Delyn for an error I made. She was 21 in Dec., not 20.

Well, since I'm picking on everyone else, I might as well tell Nita S. that Beverly KNEW all along! "Who'd you think you were fooling, girl?" By the way, Bev, which side of the fence do you like best? To Lisa D. and Kelly in Baton Rouge—Bev says hi! I want to say hi to everyone in Alex—I miss ya'll! And in Nachtiches—especially Debbie D., Tracy, Missy, Mamou, D.J., Julie, Jeannie and Ginger. Good basketball game Missy and Ginger. If you ever come party in Monroe, you may get to meet Lisa! Hi also to Debbie C. in Ft. Worth—it was great getting to see you! And to Carol E. and Ann T. at Gae-Tana's in New Orleans—hope to see ya'll soon!

To Bill M., we're gonna miss you when you move to Lake Bruin—especially Darin! Mark—it was a lovely party...let's do it again sometime! Oh, yeah—Keith, would you please "jump" on Mark and put him out of his misery??? But not the way Tina jumped on Debra! For anyone interested, Tina, Bobby and Jay are considering opening their own "party club" on Susan Drive. For details, contact one of them. Tina, I know I promised never to include you in one of my articles, but I couldn't resist!

Earlier, I mentioned former entertainers I'd like to see in a show again and forgot to include Glitter! "Come on, Miss Thing! There's ways to work around your parents!" You haven't lost your briches in a cotton field anymore—have you? Butch, did you ever get you some new jeans? I'd also like to see Bubba in a show. If he can dance that well behind a bar, just think what he could do onstage! I really think Ricky, Mike and Bubba all should do a show! Let Corky and Terri run the place! Later, they could swap and let Corky and Terri do a show!!!

Well, I guess that about wraps it up for now. So until next month, I'll leave you with this thought: "When yogurt goes bad—how can you tell?"

SHERWOOD'S FOREST!

BY: WALLY SHERWOOD, NEW ORLEANS EDITOR

New Year's in Chicago is something special—and it was something even more special for this columnist this year. The four-day festivities marked my first participation as a member of the Hellfire Club.

Although I was the only representative from New Orleans, here is an appropriate time to welcome aboard another brand-new associate from our fair city, David R.

Chicago was cold to be sure, but just as warm and friendly as ever. Perhaps even more robustly so, due to the holiday cheer. And capping it all off was a mid-season snow on the seventh day of Christmas.

The good times got underway quietly Saturday evening with an intimate dinner party at the Oak Park home of coordinator Albert K. Another Southern associate member included on the guest list was tall Ron S. of Birmingham. On the menu, during the candlelit affair was a discussion and admiration of Al's candlestick collection.

The pace then quickened with a no-holds-barred private party at the Hellfire clubhouse for members and invited guests—and, believe you me, was it ever packed in the spirit of brotherhood and togetherness!

Sunday's activities got started at the new N. Halstead Street location of the Redoubt, where most of the locals and out of town members gathered for brunch. The new bar is much larger than the old one and includes a very attractive restaurant.

Unfortunately, both the service and food left a little bit to be desired, but it is still a nice place to go. And those in the Windy City from the Big Easy need to be forewarned, Mimosa in Chicago apparently does not mean the same thing as in New Orleans. The Redoubt brunch menu listed a "complimentary Mimosa", but instead of a drink, all we got was a fruit cup!

After dining, most headed for Touche' home bar for the Cossacks, which offered a touch of home away from home with the Bourbon Pub, T.T.'s West and the Ursuline Guest House included in their poster collection. The entire weekend was set aside as a Black and Blue celebration, and that particular afternoon featured free hot dogs and draft specials.

The upstairs is still just as interesting as ever, with three nicely-rendered wall murals behind the bar. Neon cocks and balls still guide your way up the stairs into those famed dark corners.

Male Hide Leathers, which was once included in the old Gold Coast/Redoubt complex, is now conveniently located directly across from Touche'. I popped in to pick up a requested souvenir for my Christmas present, slave Eddie Cunningham.

Next on the calendar of events was a dungeon party at Desmodus Publications, with still more food and drink, plus the added attraction of video training films for those who rather watch than do it.

Desmodus has greatly expanded its original concept of only publishing the S&M newsletter, Dungeon Master. Next came an equipment shop, the Sandmutopia Supply Co., and now it's the Sandmutopia University of Continuing Education with classes held at Touche'.

Come New Year's Eve, with the snow coming down to blanket Chicago with about four inches, we made our way to the North Shore residence of Hellfire active Paul E. for eggnog. But his artistry at the buffet table got as many raves as the original art—both his and others—which adorns his home.

And to see the old year out, it was back to the clubhouse for another private party and champagne toasts at the stroke of midnight—with most people as bare as Baby 1985, rather than a fully-clothed Father Time.

Climaxing Touche's Black and Blue weekend was the eight New Year's Bash, which is Hellfire's only open to the public event held during the year.

The eight hour affair, with proceeds going to combat AIDS, featured numerous door prizes as well as demonstrations of those things the S & M organization is world-famous for, all the way from bondage and flogging, to electro-torture and mummification.

I was happy to be a part of the benefit as a doorman, and assisting in the raffle—but there was a note of sadness underlying the event for all the members of Hellfire. Associate "Lord Mac" of Houston was absent, having died of AIDS last October.

A long-time friend of this columnist, McAdory did me a very personal favor several years ago, when he allowed himself to be handcuffed and serve as my slave. I'm sure that his performance, in my fantasy competition as a gay cop, aided me much in being one of the Mr. Prime Choice winners at the Different Drum in Houston.

?

AMBUSH, OF COURSE ! (AND YOU CAN BE WITH THAT.)

In memory of "Lord Mac", the resident center of the Karposi's Sarcoma/AIDS Foundation of Houston—which he founded and was president emeritus—has been named the McAdory House in his honor. It is the only solely gay community-funded facility of its type in the world.

It is, therefore, gratifying that now the Chicago Hellfire Club has established its own McAdory Fund to help in the fight against the disease. In fact, over the last three years, the club has donated \$5,135.03 to AIDS-related charities and, of course, this New Year's donation will swell that total.

On a happier note for the New Year's Bash was the presence of New York associate Henry Romanowski, who won Interchain's Mr. Leather Contest 1984 in that city during the Mineshaft's Eighth Anniversary. That event raised more than \$11,000 for the Gay Men's Health Crisis.

It was also a joy to sample the hospitality of my sponsor, assistant coordinator, Jim B., out in suburbia along with Aton active member, Ralph C. of Minneapolis—who finally got his nipples pierced by a real pro, meaning our host, who always commands demonstrations on that medical subject.

And with Jim, off to take some bites out of the Big Apple, thanks to president Vince B., house committee chairman Tom C., and Al again, for letting me sack out for the rest of the week. Now for the rest of the story...

On the entertainment scene, gays were flocking to the Blackstone Theatre to see "Torch Song Trilogy" (which featured a different cast than the show in New Orleans) running through Twelfth Night.

But I was more interested in bar-hopping and attending club events, so I headed out in the ice and snow for my first visit to the relocated Gold Coast.

It was also the perfect time to visit with the members of 2nd City at their Club Night. It was also their Trivia Night with free drinks for the first in the bar with the correct answers. Needless to say, I got pleasantly high on the three beers I won.

The new Gold Coast at 5025 N. Clark is just a few steps from the popular baths, Man's Country. In addition to the motorcycles in the front bar, you will pass Gold Coast Leathers on your way to the Back Yard Barn.

It was great to see that the macho murals of Dom (Etienne) had been preserved and transferred from the Pit to the new residence. In fact, if you're a devotee of his works (and who isn't?) you'll be interested to know that a new volume, "The Erotic Art of Etienne", is currently available from Falcon Studios in San Francisco.

While in the N. Halstead area, I naturally had to pop in and say, "Hello!", to all the wild life and high life of that friendly place, Buck's Saloon. And I found that late-night spot, Little Jim's, is still one of Chicago's cruisiest bars—complete with never-ending porno videos.

I also bounced over to 3231 N. Clark at the invitation of manager Steve Picon of BJ's for a complimentary drink downstairs in their leather cellar. Better known as B'low, it offers large-screen movies as well as S & M Green Stamps. You get one with each drink purchased and then can exchange five coupons for a free one.

It wasn't until my last night in Chicago that I heard someone screaming, "Hey, Wally!" as I made my final trip upstairs at Touche'. It was none other than Michael Fair, former bartender at the Golden Lantern, who wanted to be remembered to all his past patrons and current friends.

Michael is now making things fair for the men at Manhandler Saloon, located on N. Halstead St. at No. 1948.

I really didn't know where Michael had moved to, but it wasn't the only bit of news I picked up while in Chicagoland. One is that currently underway is a formation of a confederacy binding together clubs with S & M or related interests.

It was in Touche's that Neal Mann, past president of The Pride, confronted me with membership in a new group honoring the "old-timers" of the leather/levi scene—meaning those who were involved on the ground level 15 or so years ago.

Plans sure sound exciting and a run site for 1985 has already been chosen by the organization. You'll be hearing a lot more in the near future.

DAVID OPENS CURTAIN ON CARNIVAL SEASON

The 1985 Carnival Season got off to an eloquent start at the St. Bernard Cultural Center thanks to Krewe of David, which displayed much growth and maturity from its first outing only a year ago.

Phil Esteve did his usual deft job as master of ceremonies, correcting right off the bat the mistake in the program, "Mardi Gras Ball", by greeting all celebrants to the first Carnival ball. It was, after all, the first day of the season—not the last, which as all of us who know French, is Mardi Gras.

Phil, who welcomed the crowd to "beautiful downtown Chalmette", also noted that last year's premiere theme was "Cruising Down the (Mississippi) River (Bottom)".

And while the Sun King has departed and taken up residence in Washington, D.C., it was no cause for alarm. David merely created its own royal fantasy, "A Ball at Versailles".

A stage rich in its simplicity was the imposing background for the proceeding, featuring guests from such far-flung corners of the world as Italy, Ireland, Sweden, Hungary, Portugal and Belgium.

While all deserve praise, Austria, Russia and Switzerland were particularly creative (and even a few untimely mishaps with costumes failed to spoil the effect—but, most of all, I think again, the elegant simplicity of the Spanish matadors knocked my eyes out the most.

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And if David I, was stunning, what adjective can you use for his successor with such a towering crown and long train? He and his queen were a sight to behold, and rather than carrying out the same color scheme, did an about face in complimenting one another in their own shades and styles.

In the well-designed program, there was an appropriate full-page pictorial memorial to the krewe's late member, Alton (Tiger) Tubbs.

But a real downer to me personally (and, of course, it was no fault of the krewe) was when we returned to our table after paying our respect's to the new king and queen, all our liquor had been stolen. If we cannot trust the people in our own community, who can we trust?

But still, it was heartening to see the Krewe of David, a diamond in the rough last year, become a sparkling gem in the Carnival crown this season.

The Krewe of Trash will take to the streets for the second time Feb. 10, leaving and returning to the Corner Pocket. The bar-hopping parade will begin at 1 P.M. and if you wish to donate throws to their zany efforts, please leave them at the Pocket. The coronation party will be at the Mississippi River Bottom at 2 P.M. and a buffet will climax the parade at the Corner Pocket.

The Roundup was festive for the midnight buffet, hosted by Bill for Celestial Knights on Feb. 3rd. Look for another midnight buffet following the Petronius Ball on Feb. 10th.

Another campy krewe, Snow White, held its annual benefit brunch at Jackson's Place with a rummage sale thrown in for good measure. Dishes and drinks that have long delighted dwarfs, as members of the krewe are called, handsome princes and even evil queens got everyone in a warm Carnival mood despite the chill.

I repeated my delight from last year: Snow White's Special Cinnamon Apple and Cream Crepe. Also on the menu were Eggs Rochenbeau, Princely Omelets, Grandma's Wonderful Pecan Waffle and the Hearty Dwarf Special.

Cartoons served from the bar included Snow White's Crystal Slipper, Dopey's Delight, Sneezzy's Remedy, Doc's Prescription and Happy's Hiccups—although it was reported that Bashful still had not completed his mixology course.

A bit more traditional was the Sister Sunday Social held by Amon-Ra at Wolfendale's and all the snow and ice seem to have little effect on the fine turnout.

The smorgasbord covered not just one large table, but many—and an additional feast for the eyes were the male strippers on the bar's huge video screen. There was a long Parade of Prizes, but the biggest prize of all, a microwave oven, was won by Second Skin Leather.

The second Mardi Gras Awards will get underway at 6 P.M. at the Mississippi River Bottom with attractive prizes for the top three maskers. For complete details, check with manager Randy Clark or one of the bartenders.

The Rex organization will be one of the sponsors of a Mardi Gras Mask-a-Thon in front of the U.S. Customs House. Entry blanks are now available at McDonald's and the number will be restricted to 350. Preliminaries will be at 10:30 A.M., with winners chosen beginning at 2 P.M.

If you want to extend your partying into Lent, please be reminded that Houston follows Mardi Gras with its "Let Us Entertain You" weekend. It's co-sponsored by the Colt 45's, Mustangs, Sundance Cattle Company and Texas Riders.

For out-of-town club members, the three-day bash is absolutely free. If you're interested, check into the Ripcord, home bar of the Texas Riders, and get all the info from owner Vince Janis or any member of the club.

There is another party in Houston, "Mardi Gras Finale", but it isn't free. It'll cost you \$20 for 12 hours Feb. 23 from 9 P.M. until 9 A.M. at 901 N. Shepherd Ave. If interested, send your money by Feb. 13 to MGF, 1904 Whitney St., zip 77006.

Meanwhile, as usual, I'll be covering as many Carnival balls that I'm invited to attend. And, following a custom I started five years ago, I'll attempt to fit all the pieces together and pick the overall best ball of the season.

Before the honor has been shared by Amon-Ra and Petronius. Who will it be in 1985?

PEOPLE'N PLACES

If you need still another beer bust to savor, then the New Orleans Gay Men's Chorus now has one every Wednesday from 10:30 P.M. until 1:30 A.M. at Woodpecker's Town Hall. It's all you can drink for \$3—complete with chorus music!

Ten cities were represented at the New Orleans Volleyball Association's Mardi Gras Classic II at the University of New Orleans.

Registration was at the Mississippi River Bottom and the grand banquet at the Country Club. Wolfendale's hosted the half-time party Saturday at midnight.

Atlanta was tops again, followed by Denver and Houston. Other teams participated from Austin, Ithaca, Miami, Minneapolis, New Orleans, New York and Tampa.

Coming to Louisiana next is the Catholic Coalition for Gay Civil Rights. The seminars will be conducted by School Sister of Notre Dame Jeannine Gramick, author of "Homosexuality and the Catholic Church" published by the Thomas More Press; and Salvatorian Father Robert Nugent, author of "A Challenge in Love: Gay and Lesbian Catholics in the Church", published by Crossroad.

The 9 A.M. until 4 P.M. sessions are scheduled for Lafayette on Feb. 26 at the Most Holy Sacrament Convent's Fuller Hall, for Baton Rouge Feb. 28 at the Church of the Open Road and for Covington Mar. 2 at St. Scholastica Priory.

The Cuckoo's Nest, which gives you a free schnapps with your beer

every Monday night, hosted the January Bar Awards. The Bitch of the Month, Pat Tyler, served up a tasty helping of that old New Orleans Monday tradition, red beans and rice.

The Bartender of the Month honor went to the Nest's own Robin, while Charlene's was voted and hosted the next ceremonies Feb. 4.

Jay Borne has opened his second Second Skin Leather location next to the Bottom—and, if you need a tuxedo for a ball, then be sure to check out his new line of formal wear in his expanded facility.

Also opening with the New Year was Bob Keesee and Jerry Radtke's Applause Show Lounge in the old Mona's location, complete with champagne at midnight and a buffet during the day.

Friday and Saturday showtimes are 10 P.M. and midnight and Sundays at 8 P.M., featuring Mr. Mitzi and his special guest of Pearl Mae, Stacey, Felicia and Bobbie.

Tom Wood got his Rawhide Mining Company opened in the former Play It Again, Sam, building—and, while the interior is beautifully done, one can't help but wonder if a better name would be the "Rawhide Dancin' Company".

Bob Waters has announced that the Bourbon Pub/Parade will continue in the format that the late Jerry Menefee established. A major renovation is coming up, plus many exciting theme parties.

The Great American Refuge will be reopening soon with a new look—and the Louisiana Purchase is sporting a face-lift just in time for Mardi Gras.

And Jim, the Barber, has moved from next to the Golden Lantern (which is now using the space for an office) to 906 N. Rampart, just a few steps from Wolfendale's. He's open Tuesday through Fridays from noon until 6 P.M. and Saturdays, 9 A.M. until 5 P.M.

Dignity hosted a benefit buffet at the Phoenix—while the Roundup will be the scene of Jim's birthday party and buffet Feb. 12 at 7:30 P.M.

Hits, which will soon be opening their Slave Quarter Grill, has something special coming up Feb. 14. From 9 P.M. until midnight, the Lucky Valentine and a person of his choice will receive a bottle of champagne, a bouquet of roses and a \$50 bar tab.

And for Love's Day, Diane's in Metairie is having a very special Sweetheart's Couples Pool Tourney at 9 P.M. First prize is \$35 in cash and second, a pool stick.

The Knights d'Orleans had practically a wholesale reelection of officers. Otto Stirele is president, assisted by Bill Holton of Houston treasurer; Bill Castagno of Houston, secretary; Vic V., road captain; and Russel G., function lieutenant.

Gary N. is the Knights' Mid-American Conference delegate, with Stierle as alternate. Assuming those positions for the Texas Conference of Clubs are Castagno and Billy McCollum.

—And, a final glance at Christmas, after an early holiday deadline for the last issue.

The Bottom prides itself on having the tallest tree, but it was



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HAPPY MARDI GRAS!

Wolfendale's that had the most beautiful—although I personally liked the subtle green and blue effect at Paw Paw's. Lucille's & Friend also deserve praise for their tasteful decorations.

And two Dougs are responsible for some very pleasing effects. At Partners Saloon, it was huge wreaths made of pinecones and the Golden Lantern, it was Santa Claus multiplied again and again through the bar.

IT'S WORTH REPEATING..

February is full of holidays, but none is more important to lovers than St. Valentine's Day. So in the loving spirit of Feb. 14, I feel it is appropriate to repeat "Love or Infatuation?" from Ann Landers syndicated column:

"Infatuation is instant desire. It is one set of glands calling another. Love is friendship that has caught fire. It takes root and grows—one day at a time.

Infatuation is marked by a feeling of insecurity. You are excited and eager, but not genuinely happy. There are nagging doubts, unanswered questions, little bits and pieces about your beloved that you would just as soon not examine too closely. It might spoil the dream.

Love is quiet understanding and the mature acceptance of imperfection. It is real. It gives you strength and grows beyond you—to bolster your beloved. You are warmed by his presence, even when he is away. Miles do not separate you. You want him nearer. But near or far, you know he is yours and you can wait.

Infatuation says, 'We must get married right away. I can't risk losing him.'

Love says, 'Be patient. Don't panic. Plan your future with confidence.'

Infatuation has an element of sexual excitement. If you are honest, you will admit it is difficult to be in one another's company unless you are sure it will end in intimacy. Love is the maturation of friendship. You must be friends before you can be lovers.

Infatuation lacks confidence. When he's away, you wonder if he's cheating. Sometimes you even check.

Love means trust. You are calm, secure and unthreatened. He feels that trust, and it makes him even more trustworthy.

Infatuation might lead you to do things you'll regret later, but love never will.

Love is an upper. It makes you look up. It makes you think up. It makes you a better person than you were before."

TEA BY THE SEA

BY: JEFF PUGH, GALVESTON EDITOR

Happy Holidays from Galveston: I truly hope that each and every one of you had a very joyous holiday season.

To start the new year off right, let me say congratulations to the

new Entertainer of the Year for Texas—Miss Ultra Hot Chocolate. Also H.C. took Houston, Bryan took Galveston. Good going! And Candi Holliday—who won Entertainer of the Year for the Galveston Girls and placed #19 in the top 40 for Texas; also to Von Gretchen Sheppard, also of Galveston who placed #30. That's the way to go girls.

A special welcome to Tramps newest bartender Joey "Paige Sullivan" McDaniels. Welcome home Joey...

Mary's II would like to welcome Bryon Westbrook to their staff of bartenders.

The Kon Tiki club hosted its Christmas show in Dec. The crowd was entertained by Von Gretchen Sheppard, Chante' Cartier and Candi Holliday who was presented her E.O.Y. entertainer trophy by club owner Robert Ellison. Male dancer Oscar was too hot.

And Tramps hosted a Dec. P.J. party. It was a sight to see. Robert Lidstone won first place for best P.J. Rhapsody Seville did a special party number for the evenings affair.

Mary's is still live with their steak nights every Wed.

Also in Dec. Tramps hosted its First Annual Playsafe Christmas benefiting the KS/AIDS Foundation. The show hosted talent representing each of the bars in Galveston. Included were Tramps, Paige Sullivan and Rhapsody Seville (who got divorced that evening and changed her name to Demille); Mary's II, Taylor Kennedy and the Kon Tiki, Candi Holliday.

New Years Eve in Galveston was quite festive. The bars all had a lot to offer!! The Silver Palace hosted a different New Years show. The Kon Tiki had \$1 charge with \$5 bottles of champagne and party favors. Mary's II had no cover with free champagne and party favors.

Tramps had a \$3 cover and free champagne and party favors. Robert Lafitte's had no cover with free champagne and party favors. The club also hosted the 1985 crowning of a new Miss Lafitte's. Four girls competed in presentation and two talent numbers. Taylor Kennedy was crowned Miss Lafitte's '85 with Charmaine Monte', 1st runner up; Misty Valdez, 2nd runner up and Kansas City Kitty, 3rd runner up.

Robert Lafitte's hosted their first show of the New Year on Jan. 6th. Entertainment came from Roberta, Kansas City Kitty, Charmaine, Bobbie Scott, Misty and Taylor.

New Year's Day, while people were trying to recover from N.Y. Eve, Mary's II had a special buffet going—ALL YOU COULD EAT—black eyed peas, cabbage, potatoe salad, brisket, corn bread and 50¢ beer. The Kon Tiki had \$1 drinks all night, while Tramps had Happy Hour prices that evening.

Thanks for a good year! Happy New Year!



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FRIDAY—FEB. 22—1985

LADIES OF THE PARAGON

PRESENTS

"LADIES OF THE 80'S "

Star Struck

Galactic Direction

BY: THOMAS-JOHN GRIEVES, CONTRIBUTING EDITOR, HOUSTON

Because of Valentines Day, February has always meant a month of Love celebration. The Full Moon on the 5th in the Sign of Leo (9:19 A.M.) gives a real boost to the developing energy in that direction. The New Moon in Pisces (12:43 P.M.) on the 19th will give a really excellent beginning to spiritual projects.

ARIES: There is a slight tendency for you to feel that things around you are out of step, but look again. There is a shift of energies in your life right now which will open new doors for you and higher understanding. Try to spend some time in Nature around the middle of the month if at all possible. A weekend retreat would be just perfect right now.

TAURUS: There is a strong love vibration coming into your life. You must beware a tendency to be too analytical. It is possible to love and to enjoy the developing relationship without throwing all caution to the winds. Review the facts on any legal or detailed project you've just completed, you may discover you still have time to strengthen any weak areas you discover.

GEMINI: This would be a wonderful time for you to be on stage. There is an unusually strong dramatic vibration in your sign right now. You will soon feel like you could tackle giants with your bare hands. An unusual time for some profound meditations and some pretty heavy channeling of messages for others. Utilize this energy to break through any old habit patterns you're ready to dump. You'll really look back on this month with pleasure.

CANCER: A profound time of inner communication. With just a little effort you will find almost all of your relationships deepening right now. A weekend alone and one especially by sea will be very beneficial right now. Make a definite effort to be very honest to yourself and to others. It will be easy to learn secrets during this time period. For those of you seeking love, this is the time to be positive and to mingle, odds are very good for you right now.

LEO: With the Full Moon occurring in your Sun sign, there is great opportunity to get to know yourself. You may experience a tendency to be overly serious right now. Throw yourself into a building project, something tangible you can do with your hands. This will help you direct your energies outward. You'll find an unusual amount of romantic energy coming your way this month.

VIRGO: To your surprise you'll find yourself taking a trip this month. The energies for your sign are such that for a while you can let others be responsible and careful and you can take a vacation. You'll discover there are friends who would dearly love to do something for you. Give

them a chance. It is very important right now to dream big dreams. Sit down with a travel guide and plan your cruise, or build your home in the mountains. A lovely month for you.

LIBRA: A time of great stability for you. For a while the great scales find their balance and you can breathe a deep sigh of relief. This is a time when you are active in several social groups of very different natures. You find that this is very satisfying. You are beginning to experience an inner calmness and detachment that remains the same when times are fantastic and also when times are very difficult. The foundation has been pretty well laid for some very good times for you ahead.

SCORPIO: There is a tendency right now for you to be overly sensitive. If you find that you are dwelling on negatives, on people and events that have disappointed you, make a strong effort to become active. Go for a long walk, clean house, scrub the bathtub. You'll find the state of being active and attempting positive projects will lift you into a great mood. You'll discover shortly that you are very loved and really doing very well. Relax.

SAGITTARIUS: A lovely flow of energy in your life. You should find events and circumstances falling into place very naturally right now. This is also a good time to seek advice and instruction from those you respect. This is the perfect time to be laying plans for your summer's activities, especially if you can vacation by the sea. A chance encounter may develop into a wonderful romance this month. You are really ready for romance and will attract it quickly. Those of you who are married can use this energy to revitalise your marriage.

CAPRICORN: This is a secure, quiet month when you can sit back and enjoy the work you have accomplished. Try to arrange your schedule so you can take it easy and enjoy this time. Any projects you have in the back of your mind should be put to paper in the middle of the month. If you give the matter some thought, you will discover that an old project of your's, that you discarded, is now ready to be attempted again (romantic ones too!).

AQUARIUS: Focus your attention on one thing that you want RIGHT NOW. There is such a wonderful arrangement of stars right now that you can accomplish anything you seriously want and are ready to work for. You'll find that it comes to you easily if you think clearly and are willing. It will be very helpful to you if you can have flowers around near you this month. Roses are particularly useful right now. At least try to wear a flower scented oil somewhere on your person. Great success and luck right now.

PISCES: It is time for you to make a decision about your future. Any career change you've considered should be seriously considered this month. Sometimes when we try to look ahead it looks difficult and scary, but you discover that step by step, the path is very manageable. With this attitude in mind, you will discover a special opportunity presenting itself to you very soon. This opportunity lies very near you now. This is an excellent time to make investments in yourself!

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On the Way to the Top

Artistic Reviews

BY: WALLY SHERWOOD, ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Thirty-five years ago, people weren't exclaiming "Happy Mardi Gras" or even "Hail, Rex!"

There instead, two questions "Should they?" and "Would they?"

Mardi Gras was Feb. 21 in 1950 and New Orleans, still smarting from the social slap given by the Truman ladies when they refused to bow to Carnival royalty, was awaiting a royal visit from the Duke and Duchess of Windsor.

As one journalist of the day put it, "Most Orleanians feel that visitors to Carnival balls, regardless of their royal status, should enter into the spirit of this make-believe and recognize our kings and queens for a day."

But the questions remained, "Should they?" and "Would they?"

Visiting in Houston as a part of a goodwill trip, the Duke and Duchess were only delighted to extend their American visit to include New Orleans, and, not incidentally, Mardi Gras.

The royal couple arrived at Union Station in special railroad cars attached to a Missouri Pacific train.

The day started early with a press conference at City Hall, where they were received by Mayor and Mrs. Chep Morrison. There was dining at Antoine's and the Boston Club and much parade watching—during which they personally greeted Rex at Gallier Hall.

Then the activities moved into the Municipal Auditorium for a magical evening and, again, "Would they?"

"There was a hush in the auditorium," according to one written report. "Escorted by the captain of the ball, the royal visitors approached the rulers of Comus. The Duke bowed, first to the king of Comus...then to the queen. The Duchess curtsied—not once but twice. Once to the king, then to the queen."

"And the crowd went wild!"

What Kind of Animal are YOU?

Ash Wednesday may follow Fat Tuesday—but it'll still be cause for celebration for the Chinese. Feb. 20 marks their New Year or, more specifically, ushers in the Year of the Buffalo.

And, so, what kind of an animal are you? Check out the year of your birth to find out.

MOUSE—1924, 1936, 1948, 1960, 1972, 1984

BUFFALO—1925, 1937, 1949, 1961, 1973, 1985

TIGER—1926, 1938, 1950, 1962, 1974

CAT—1927, 1939, 1951, 1963, 1975

DRAGON—1928, 1940, 1952, 1964, 1976

SNAKE—1929, 1941, 1953, 1965, 1977

HORSE—1930, 1942, 1954, 1966, 1978

GOAT—1931, 1943, 1955, 1967, 1979

MONKEY—1932, 1944, 1956, 1968, 1980

ROOSTER—1933, 1945, 1957, 1969, 1981

DOG—1934, 1946, 1958, 1970, 1982

PIG—1935, 1947, 1959, 1971, 1983

BUFFALO: -Calm, but like to have their own way. They find the most happiness in personal and business affairs with Snakes, Roosters and Mice.

TIGER: They get along poorly with their bosses but are very close to their loved ones, which may well be Horses or Pigs. In business, they do well with Dogs.

CAT: Smart and can do many things well. Rewarded personally most with Pigs and Goats, but in money matters they will have the most success with Dogs.

DRAGON: Brave and honest. Most likely to fall for a Mouse, Snake or Monkey, but for financial success they deal best with Roosters.

SNAKE: Smart and like to make up their own minds. They enjoy the company of Buffaloes and Mice, but actually work best with Roosters.

HORSE: Cheerful and usually good-looking. They are closest with Tigers and Dogs, but in business they connect best with Goats.

GOAT: Easy to get along with and make very good lovers, particularly with Cats, Pigs and Tigers. Business matters go very well with Horses.

MONKEY: Clever. They have few real friends, but the ones they do have are likely to be Dragons. Their best business associates are Mice.

ROOSTER: Believe they are always right and often are. They find the greatest personal happiness with Pigs and Snakes, but often choose Dragons for business.

DOG: Honest, true to their friends and good leaders. They thrive with Horses and Tigers personally and do best with Cats financially.

PIG: They always finish what they start, but spend money like water. They are likely to marry a Cat, but in business go for Goats.

MOUSE: Popular, work hard and do not waste money. They relate well to Dragons and Monkeys, while business partners are Buffaloes.

Beat DRUMS for 'Boys in the Band'

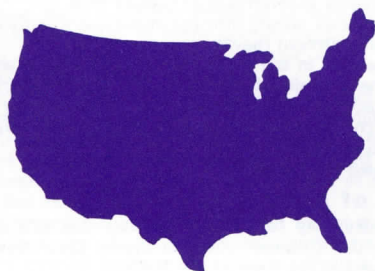
It has been quite a while since I have seen "The Boys in the Band" and I was really wondering how it would hold up over two decades. It has been about that long ago that I went to New York and saw what is considered as the break-through in presenting homosexuality on stage.

I missed the original cast as they were involved in the movie, but

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friend Mart Crowley, the playwright from Vicksburg, made up for it by presenting me with a recording of the play.

In its current Theatre Marigny presentation through Feb. 9, running Thursdays through Saturdays at 8:30 P.M., it holds up quite well under the direction of Chip Stelz.

(I had more than just a casual interest in the play. Although I wanted the role of Hank myself, I was eventually cast as Donald in a semi-professional dinner-theatre production before moving to New Orleans.)

Although the director has made the play a study in excessive characterizations, it is well worth seeing and deserves a better draw than it has been getting at the small Frenchman Street theatre. So go see; go and enjoy.

This "Boys in the Band" doesn't have a single bad performance in the lot, but the overall effect comes off flawed and uneven. For all his marvelous acting, for example, Warren Sampson's Emory as a flaming queen just doesn't work. Are we honestly to believe that Alan is so naive as not to recognize this right off the bat?

And as far as Kelly Blair as the Cowboy, how many hustlers do you know that can afford to wear leather? Gays have to be very affluent to be able to support their leather life-style. It would have been far better if Blair has portrayed just what he is in real life; a construction worker.

Then there is the matter of Hank and Alan, in which perhaps the actors playing the roles should have been transposed.

And while everyone lends the necessary support to the show, I still would have to single out Richard Chaney as Hank, David Swisher as Harold and Glenn Watson as Bernard, as the most convincing.

The assistant director, Rusty Radcliff, assumes the role of the bitchy Michael, with Ron Williams as Donald, Kevin Mauldin as Larry and Stelz as Alan.

—But still, for all its faults, "The Boys in the Band", is more satisfying than "Little Shop of Horrors", which ended Feb. 3 at the Saenger.

This spoof of a spoof has practically entered the cult genre and, apparently, is still on the fringe of it. For most, the play's the thing. In "Horrors", the plant's the thing.

But if you think you would like a takeoff of Roger Corman's low budget 1960 flick, you should have gone and seen it. I personally found it lacking substance, but the cast really did a great job—although a smaller house would probably have improved the presentation.

As noted before, the man-eating (is it gay?) plant, Audrey II, is the real star of the show. It's William Szymanski inside and it's Michael Leslie's voice you hear.

Ken Ward, who left his high heels on the Broadway stage of "La Cage aux Folles" to join the roadshow, is wonderfully inept as Seymour, the florist.

Eydie Alyson as the original Audrey is the love interest and Stan Rubin is Mr. Mushnik, the shop's owner. Ken Land plays a variety of roles including, "Everyone Else".

A trio in the Supremes tradition—B.J. Jefferson as Chiffon, Louise Robinson as Rommette and a Southern gal from Birmingham, Tena Wilson as Crystal—are really one of the most delightful things about all this "Horror".

Director/author Howard Ashman is currently working on a new movie which is based on the musical, which was based on an earlier movie. Should I respectfully say, "Please spare us?"

The Plume

Passions in Verse

THE ALLEYCAT LOVER

*I was born on the seediest side of the tracks
 With an uncommon flair for unnatural acts.
 In my carnal career, I have bedded the best—
 Choosing only the choicest, ignoring the rest.
 In the course of my errant and amorous life,
 I have mounted the maid and the minister's wife,
 Plus an Amazon princess, and albino whore,
 A midget masseuse, and a multitude more.
 Should I meet a maiden by chance in the park,
 And should she succumb to romance in the dark
 Under the cloak of anonymous night—
 She'll no longer be fit to wear virginal white.
 Like a panther I prowl through the canyons of night
 To crouch in the caverns of carnal delight.
 With the pavement beneath and the shadows above,
 I have known the abandon of alley cat love.
 So maidens be wary, and widows beware!
 The Alley Cat Lover is lurking out there.
 Lock up your virtue. There's no one immune
 When I walk abroad by the dark of the moon.
 @ 1984, JANOLYN, JKH-3/84*

FORTY

*those piercing dark eyes
 close to me on the pillow
 the silver that shines
 through the darkness of night
 Your touch and your kisses
 more fiery each moment
 you're not getting older,
 you're better, my dear.
 The strength of your presence
 the comfort of home
 remind me, ever so joyful,
 at least forty more to go!
 —JON DiMARIA-KUIPER*



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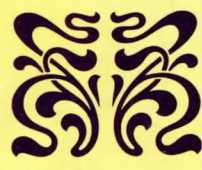
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