

1984 - McFarland

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LESBIAN NEWS FOR NEW ORLEANS AND THE GULF SOUTH

IMPACT



SINCE 1977

VOLUME 22 ▼ NUMBER 10 ▼ MAY 9 — 24, 1997

and the Ball

IN THIS ISSUE:

- Gay Man Touted as Hero
- Red Ribbon Day in Lafayette
- State ENDA Bill at Committee

When Will **WYES** Say **YES?**
... and
the Ball and all

plus ...

- The Movie Police
- The Wicked Stage
- Lesbian Voices
- Book Reviews
- Letters to Impact
- Wanderlust
- Regional and National News

and continuing our
20th Anniversary Series:
1984 and Dr. Louise McFarland



Carnival will finally come to an end, June 8, after playing non-stop for almost two years at True Brew Theatre.

See related article on page 10

OUT IN THE COMMUNITY



Grammy nominee and trumpeter Terence Blanchard is one of several artists who will be showcased at "Brass 'n' Sass," NOCCA's annual gala fund raiser. The gala is set for Sunday, May 18, from 8:00 - 10:30 p.m. at the CAC, 900 Camp Street. Call 504-523-7708

(photo by Hans Neleman)

MAY 9

Several theatre productions continue:

Theatre Marginy's *Wait Until Dark* through May 17 with Friday and Saturday performances at 8:30 p.m. and Sunday at 5 p.m. For reservations and information call 944-2653.

NORD Theatre presents *The Trial of the Big, Bad Wolf*. For ticket information and reservations, call 566-7860. (See Edward Real's review on p. 20)

The NOCCA Theatre Ensemble performs Shakespeare's *Comedy of Errors* at Southern Repertory Theatre, One Canal Place (Third Level).

MAY 10

"One person's trash is another person's treasure." Come see how true that may be today at the **Phoenix Bar**, located at the corner of Elysian Fields Ave. and N. Rampart St. The sale takes place from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. If you have items to donate or would like more information, call the church at 945-5390.

Friends United is hosting the **3rd Annual Red Ribbon Day benefit for Acadiana C.A.R.E.S.** at Girard Park. Scheduled events include a 5K Run/Walk and Wacky Jamboree Games. Call Ted Viator at (318) 237-3044.

MAY 9-11

The **5th Annual PrideFest** continues in Philadelphia today through Sunday. The nation's largest annual gay and lesbian symposium and festival will include among its events the National Body Building Championship, 2nd Annual National Gay & Lesbian Leaders Symposium and the

International Gay Travel Association's Travel Expo.

MAY 17

Tickets are still available for HRC's "Dine, Dance & Dream! ... Black Tie Takes you to the Rainbow Room," at the Sheraton Grand Ballroom. The event features an elegant '40's style Supper Club atmosphere with table decorations by Perfect Presentations' Glenn R. Vesh. Highlighting the evening will be a silent auction "Shopping on Fifth Avenue" led by local artist Chris Maier and gallery owner Arthur Roger.

Georgia Ragsdale, nationally acclaimed comedienne, is the Mistress of Ceremonies. The key note speakers are Republican Steve Gunderson, retired Congressman from Wisconsin and his partner, Rob Morris.

Tickets for Black Tie V are available for \$125 per person. Gala weekend tickets are \$150 per person, which includes admission to Black Tie V on Sat. May 17, and the Oz Honoree Reception on Friday, May 16. For more information, please contact Co-Chairs Ti Martin or Robert Ripley at 504-949-2572.

MAY 18

The **Krewe of Petronius'** 10th Annual Fiesta D'Mayo, beginning at 1 p.m., will be held at MRB, 515 St. Philip St. For \$5, you can partake of an all-you-can-eat Mexican buffet and an enjoy a musical extravaganza and a special performance of "Muscles in Action," beefy male strippers from Texas at 4 p.m. The krewe will also raffle a color TV, as VCR and a portable telephone.

Also, today **Vieux Carre MCC** will celebrate Pentecost Sunday, which is traditionally known as the "birthday" of the Christian Church. A reception will follow the morning worship at 11:00 a.m.

Tonight at 8:00 p.m., the **New Orleans Center for Creative Arts (NOCCA)** is holding its annual fund raiser. This year's theme: **Brass 'n' Sass**, the musical benefit will feature performances by several select NOCCA graduates. It all happens at the CAC, 900 Camp Street, call 523-7708 for details.

IN LAFAYETTE

Every Sunday, 11 a.m.: MCC Worship Service, Evangeline Village Community Center.

OTHER INFORMATION

The Mayor's Advisory Committee on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Issues is seeking people who are interested in serving on the committee. Members must live in New Orleans, be 18 years of age, and demonstrate familiarity and support of community issues. Members must also serve on one committee. The Mac meets once a month; committees meet as necessary. People

interested in joining should call MAC Chair Robert Udick at 527-6387.

In a future edition of **IMPACT**, we will be writing a story about gay and lesbian parents and their children. If you are a gay man or a lesbian, have at least one child and are comfortable having yourself and your child photographed with an accompanying story, please write to us: **IMPACT P.O. Box 52079, NOLA 70152**, or call us at 944-6722. Ask for Jim.

Volunteers are needed for the first nationwide study of Alternative medicine and HIV/AIDS. If you are HIV positive, using alternative medicine or treatments, able and willing to give informed consent and complete questionnaires and are at least 18 years old, you may be eligible. Call 1-800-475-0135 for more information. This study is funded by the National Institutes of Health Office of Alternative Medicine.

The U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C. is reaching out for support from the gay and lesbian community. Donations will be used to conduct "much-needed research into the untold story of homosexuals in the Holocaust, and for the general support of the museum and its many educational and scholarly activities." Checks are to be made payable to the D.C. Holocaust Memorial Council, P.O. Box 900988, Washington, D.C. 20090-0988. Δ

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about the cover

As "... and the Ball and all" enters its final weeks, we salute **Ricky Graham and the cast**. See related story on page 10.

Cover Photos: **Chuck Davis**
Design: **Phil Marino**

IMPACT

2118 Burgundy Street
New Orleans, LA 70116
Phone: 504-94-IMPACT
Out of state: 1-888-94-IMPACT
Fax: 504-944-6794

e-mail: gaymail@impactnews.com
web sites: <http://www.impactnews.com>
<http://www.showmesomething.com>

Address all correspondence to:

IMPACT
PO Box 52079
New Orleans, LA 70152

PUBLISHER / EDITOR IN CHIEF
Kyle J. Scafide

PRODUCTION MANAGER
Phil Marino

Associate Editor
Jim Palmer

DISPLAY ADVERTISING
Tommy Jones, New Orleans
Randy Dietrich, Baton Rouge 504-686-1895

INTERNET CONSULTANT
Mark Sottek

ADMINISTRATION
Gaynel S. Carroll

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
Roberts Batson, Margaret Coble,
Karel Gazdacka, Marilyn McConnell,
Russell McCulley, Bode Noonan, Jim
Palmer, Edward Real

Ira Gruber
National Gay/Lesbian Travel Desk

CONTRIBUTING ARTISTS
Ron Williams, Allison Bechdel

PHOTOGRAPHY
Chuck Davis

NATIONAL NEWS
The Associated Press

ACCOUNTING
Sharon Robinson

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what
if the
whole
world
were
gay?



...For one weekend
in New Orleans,
it will be.

celebration '97

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featuring

TONI CHILDS IN CONCERT

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FEM2FEM

They have been called the sapphic sisters, soft-porn kittens and the wild ones of rock-n-roll. This raunchy lesbian band, who often perform topless, is a mesmerizing cross between Annie Lennox, Madonna, and U2.



ROBERTA ACHTENBERG

Roberta Achtenberg is one of America's most successful, openly-gay public figures. The story of her groundbreaking appointment to President Clinton's administration is sure to be inspiring.



ALSO SPEAKING AT THE CONFERENCE:

Claudia Brenner, author of *Eight Bullets: One Woman's Story of Surviving Anti-gay Violence*
Paul Kawata, a dynamic, witty speaker who is a leader in the fight against AIDS
Marilyn McConnell, one of New Orleans most respected journalists & activist

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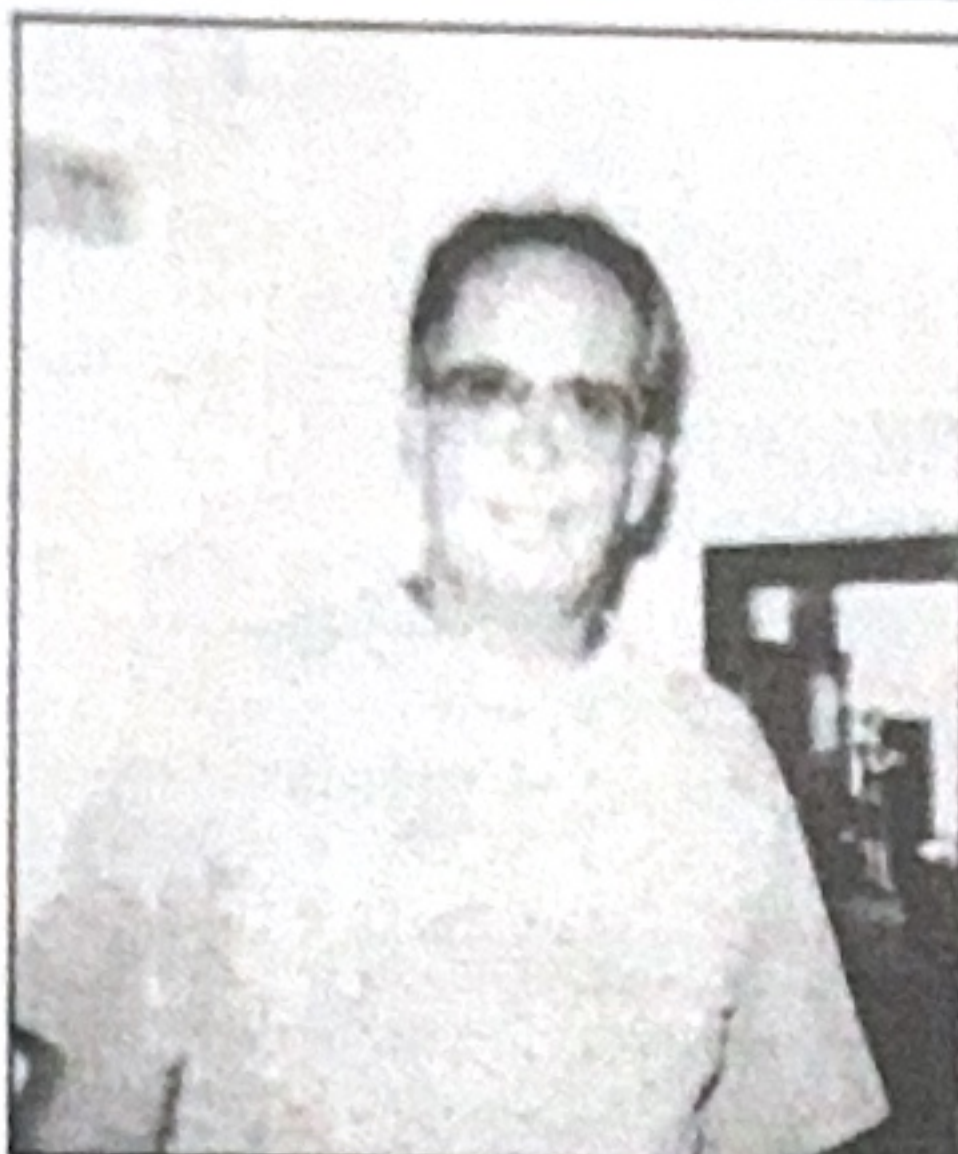
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celebration '97

THE 17TH ANNUAL SOUTHEASTERN GAY & LESBIAN CONFERENCE



Robert Cowley, newly-arrived in New Orleans, discovered his purpose when he saved a boy from drowning in the Mississippi River. (staff photo)

LOCAL GAY MAN SAVES BOY FROM DROWNING

Robert Cowley, 30, who had been in New Orleans for only a few weeks, was walking on the Moonwalk, when he heard John and Diane Anderson yelling that their son, who can't swim, had fallen into the swollen Mississippi. Cowley recounted to the Times Picayune how he "watched this kid and his head bobbed under and came up, ..." Without thinking, Cowley dove into the water and as he "reached for him, ..." the 9-year old boy, "grabbed on for dear life ..." The current forced them upstream and farther out, but, Cowley said, "I finally broke loose of it ..." and as they reached, "the point of no return" the current suddenly lessened, allowing Cowley to swim to the embankment. Except for swallowing a lot of water, the boy was unharmed.

On returning to his temporary quarters at the YMCA, Cowley said, "It hit me hard. I realize that I could have died; this river is very dangerous." Asked if he would do it again, Cowley responded, "... if someone fell in and they couldn't swim. Because a human life means more than anything you can find in this world."

FIRST COMMERCE CORP. SPONSORS HRC SCHOLARSHIP

First Commerce Corporation, the parent company of First National Bank of Commerce (FNBC), announced that it will sponsor 20 "Helping Hands" Scholarship tickets to the fifth annual Louisiana Human Rights Campaign Dinner/Dance, Black Tie V on Saturday, May 17.

The scholarship program is designed to facilitate the participation of lesbian and gay youth, persons with AIDS, and others who might otherwise not be able to attend the event, which features nationally renowned speakers, special guests, and presentation of the 1997 LA/HRC Awards.

Individuals interested in applying for scholarship tickets to Black Tie V should submit their name and a statement indicating their interest in attending to: LA/HRC Dinner Committee, c/o Sandra

Paillet, 1699 Robert St., New Orleans, LA 70115. A four-hour volunteer internship, during the gala weekend, May 16-19, is required as a part of the scholarship program.

For more information about the 1997 HRC/LA Dinner Weekend, or to learn more about the work of the Human Rights Campaign, please contact dinner Co-Chairs Ti Martin or Robert Ripley at 504-949-2572.

3RD ANNUAL RED RIBBON DAY TO BENEFIT ACADIANA C.A.R.E.S.

Friends United hosts the third annual Red Ribbon Day benefit for Acadiana C.A.R.E.S. to be held on Saturday, May 10 at Girard Park. Red Ribbon Day will consist of a 5K Run/Walk and Wacky Jamboree Games.

Friends United was established in April 1995 by a group of individuals representing various area organizations to raise funds for our local HIV/AIDS services agency, Acadiana C.A.R.E.S. (Concern for Aids Relief, Education and Support), a non-profit agency offering HIV/AIDS information and services throughout Acadiana.

Monies from Red Ribbon Day will help ensure the continuation and expansion of direct client service programs provided by Acadiana C.A.R.E.S.

Race Day registration:

5K Run/Walk — 7:30 a.m. to 8 a.m.

Wacky Jamboree Games — 9:15 a.m. to 9:45 a.m.

Wacky Jamboree Games:

Tug of War, Obstacle Course Relay, Timer Relay, Balloon Toss, etc.

NO/AIDS WALK DATE HAS BEEN CHANGED TO SEPTEMBER 14

The Eighth Annual NO/AIDS WALK has been rescheduled for Sunday, September 14, one week earlier than previously planned. According to co-chairs Charlie Khoury and Helen Siegel, the decision was based on the Saints 1997 schedule. Instead of people having to make a choice of which event they would be participating in, the co-chairs decided to move the WALK back one week to a day when the Saints would be playing out of town.

The NO/AIDS WALK supports services to HIV/AIDS affected and infected individuals throughout the state of Louisiana. Since 1990, the WALK has raised nearly \$1.5 million. Every year 10,000 to 20,000 individuals come together to raise over \$300.00.

For more information contact Mark McKeown at 945-4000.

BRASS 'N' SASS 1997 NOCCA GALA

The Brass 'n' Sass of New Orleans are coming together! Musicians and supporters of New Orleans Center for Creative Arts (NOCCA) will celebrate the future of New Orleans' young artists with Friends of

NOCCA's annual gala fund raiser. The gala is set for Sunday, May 18, from 8:00 to 10:30 p.m., at the Contemporary Arts Center, 900 Camp St.

Celebrating under the theme "Brass 'n' Sass," the musical benefit will feature performances including select NOCCA graduates. The evening will showcase Grammy Award nominee and trumpeter Terence Blanchard, flutist Kent Jordan, pianist Moses Hogan, trumpeter Marlon Jordan, harpist Rachel Van Voorhies and a theatrical performance by Hollywood actor Wendell Pierce. During the event, the work of current NOCCA students in creative writing and visual arts will also be on display throughout the CAC.

A patron party will kick off the evening festivities from 6-8:00 p.m. The gala's main entertainment will begin at 8:00 p.m.

Admission to the patron party and gala is \$200/person and gala tickets are \$100/person. For more information or to reserve tickets, please call Friends of NOCCA at 504-523-07708.

SATURDAY MATINEES OFFER MOVIE MAGIC FOR CHILDREN

For the average child, a free Saturday matinee of *Yogi Bear* is like Christmas in July. Throw in a bag of popcorn and a delicious Coke for just a dollar and you've got pandemonium on your hands. As a true veteran in such affairs, Rene Brunet of the

Prytania Theatre has made this child's dream into a reality.

The remaining scheduled pictures are: *Little Nemo* on May 17; *The Magic of Lassie* on May 24; *Happy Ever After* on May 31; *Where the Red Fern Grows* on June 7; *The Smurfs And the Magic Flute* on June 14; *The Lion Who Thought He Was People* on June 21; *The Princess and the Goblin* on June 28; *Pinocchio's Greatest Adventure* on July 5; *Treasure Island* on July 12; and *Arabian Knights* on July 19.

All times are 10:30 a.m. on Saturdays. Tickets are \$3 for children.

The Prytania Theatre is located at 5339 Prytania Street, uptown New Orleans. For more information, call 891-ARTS.

SHAKESPEARE UNDER THE STARS MARKS FOURTH YEAR

Something magical happens when the genius of Shakespeare meets the beauty of New Orleans' City Park. In this the fourth year, excitement is escalating because "Shakespeare Under the Stars" is moving from City Park Peristyle to the wide open spaces of Dreyfus Meadow — just adjacent to the New Orleans Museum of Art.

This year The Dog and Pony Theatre Company production, "The Life and Times of Henry IV," opens May 8 and runs through May 25. Performances are Thursday through Sunday with show times at 8 p.m. Tickets may be purchased on site at the Box Office which opens in Dreyfus Meadow two hours before each

QUARTER NOTES

What contribution(s) can lesbians and gay men make to the community that they are not already doing?



Donovan Castille — self-employed

People could be more open about who they are. Maybe the City Council could be made more aware of the needs of gays and lesbians.



Joan Ladnier — activist

I think gay men and lesbians should be involved in improving the community at large by being concerned about the environment, crime, and so forth. But I see a need for people to get more involved in our own community — to infuse new energy into it.



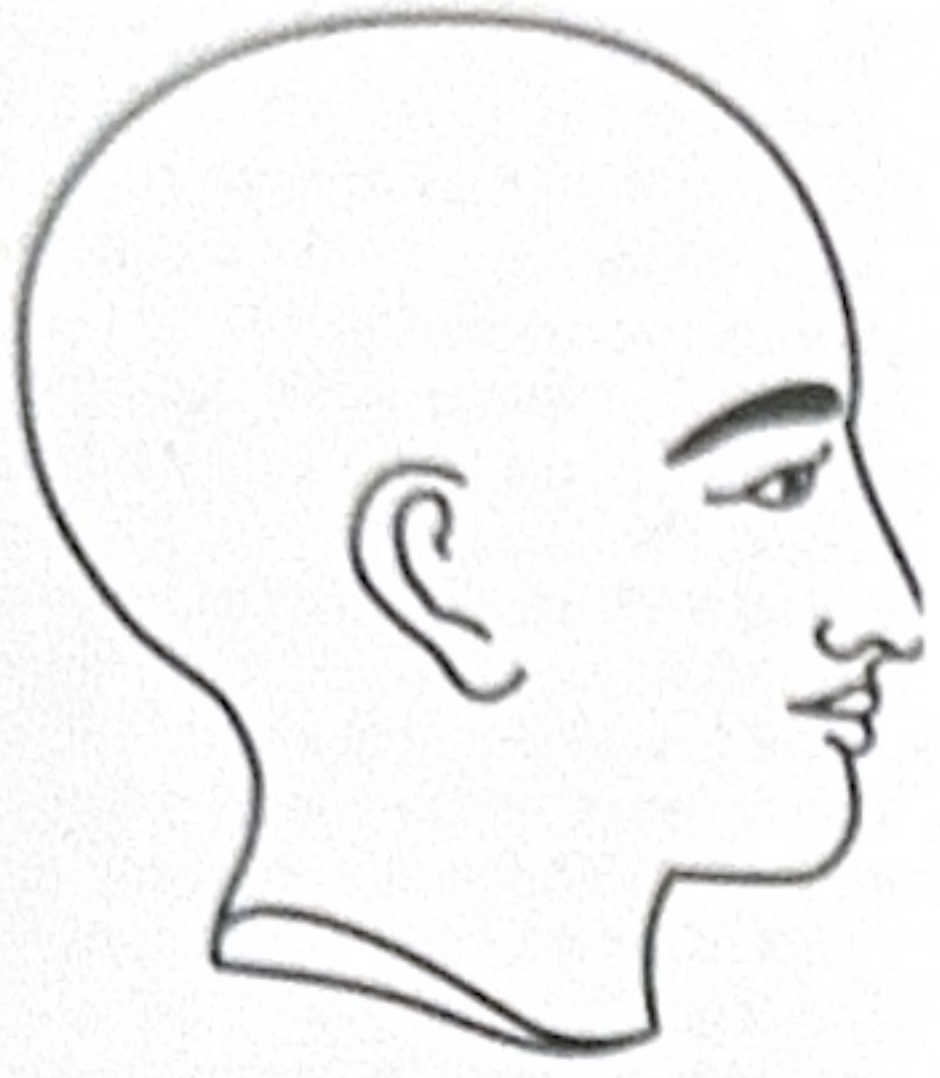
Todd Wilborn — self-employed

As a community, we need to take more responsibility for our actions by educating the public — especially our youth — on the reality of HIV and AIDS. There is a lot of information out there, but so few of us are actually practicing it.



Jim Palmer — retired professor; associate editor

We can contribute by becoming more visible through volunteer work — things like reading for the blind, helping a gay publication, working at the community center or Food for Friends.



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QUARTER *Scenes*

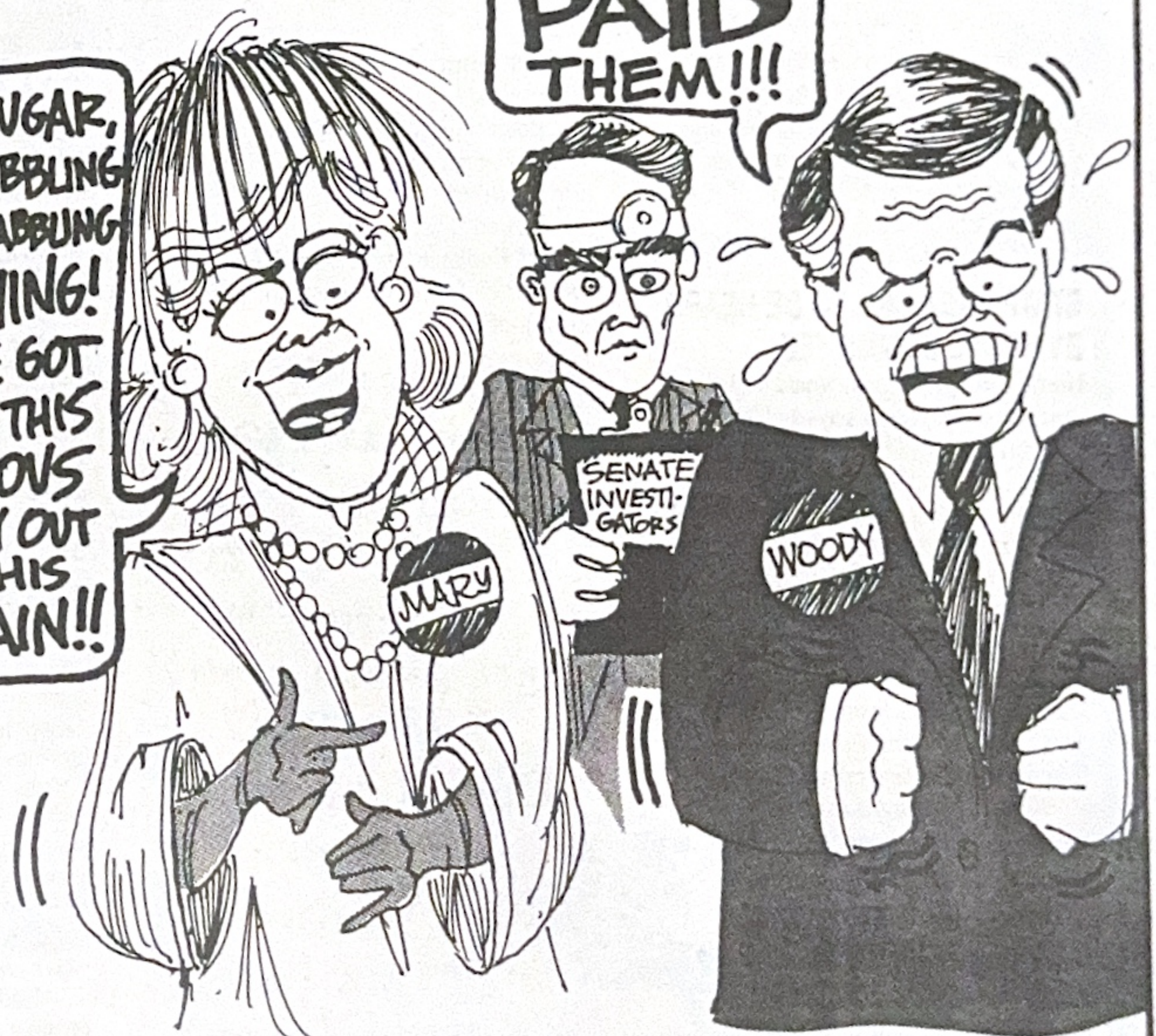
DEBRIS...DEBRIS...
GREAT TRAILS OF DEBRIS

**SUDDENLY,
LAST
NOVEMBER**

DR. SUGAR,
HE'S BABBLING
AGAIN, BABBLING
AND LYING!
YOU'VE GOT
TO CUT THIS
HIDEOUS
STORY OUT
OF HIS
BRAIN!!

SHE...SHE...
**PAID
THEM!!!**

RON
WILLIAMS



Regional News



Cochon Cotillion

Bridge House held its first annual "Cochon Cotillion" on the Riverfront in April. The annual event's purpose is to raise money for the institution, which assists the homeless, those who are dependent on substances, and women and adolescents lacking resources of their own.

At left is Queen Barbara Bush and King Eric Paulsen.



Pictured at left is Chairperson Suzanne Rusovich and Wayne Olivio, Bridge House Director of Development. Above, having a good time are Tony Leggio (N.O. Metropolitan Convention & Visitors Bureau) and Doug Rake.

(photos by Kyle Scafile)

performance. Tickets are \$10 for general admission, \$8 for students, seniors, and Friends of City Park members. And this year, for the first time, luxurious Box Seats will be available by reservation. Box seats are \$25 each.

STATE ENDA BILL TO BE HEARD BY HOUSE COMMITTEE

House Bill 1816, which would outlaw discrimination against gays and lesbians in the workplace will be heard before the House Labor and Industrial Relations Committee at 8 a.m. on Friday May 9. The committee is chaired by LAGPAC-endorsed Rep. Garey Forster (R-New Orleans).

Testimony will be given in support of the bill by Ron Mason, Senior Vice-President and General Counsel of Tulane University, Earl Jackson, Vice-Chair of the New Orleans Human Relations Commission and several other speakers.

Citizens are urged to contact their representative by phone 504/342-6945 or by fax 504/342-8336.

LAGPAC-ENDORSED CANDIDATE WINS IN SCHOOL BOARD RACE

Sixth District Incumbent William Bowers won the special May 3 run-off election for

the Sixth District Seat on the Orleans Parish School Board.

Bowers received 2,157 votes (57%) to Woody Koppel's 1,601 votes (43%) in a race which saw a turnout of only 10.5%.

Bowers, former chair of the New Orleans Human Rights Commission, was endorsed by LAGPAC in both the primary and run-off. Δ

Memorial
Mother's Day
1904 - 1987
Catherine V.
VerDugos Lareux
1893 - 1987
Daniel Marquis
Lareux
I love you, mom.
Jean-Mark Lareux
(Rusty/Johnny)

Letters

Dear Editor,

As Art Director of the Lesbian and Gay Community Center, I feel I must reply to Gary Wargen's letter in your most recent issue.

Regarding the current art exhibit at the Center, "Dreams & Fantasies of Latin America/Photographs by Lorry Salcedo-Mitrani," Mr. Wargen claims that it is an attempt by the LGCC Board of Directors "to degrade or to debase the community, both lesbian and gay." Nothing could be further from the truth.

This show took months of planning and hours of hard work, drew tremendous support from both the gay and straight communities, and has proven to be the most successful show the Center has had in the two years that I have been Art Director. None of this would ever have come about if the intention of the artist, myself or the Center were "to degrade or debase the community."

The photographs in this exhibition are a celebration of the male form. As such, they are sensuous, lyrical, playful, passionate, tender and striking. Some are audacious, some are quiet. Some are bold, some witty. None of them are exploitative as Mr. Wargen would have it.

If Mr. Wargen had taken the time to read Mr. Salcedo's biography, he would have discovered that this internationally acclaimed photographer has exhibited on three continents, winning awards from Unesco and the Armand Hammer's Photographic contest among others. His works are in the permanent collections of Houston's Museum of Fine Arts, the New York Public Library's Bessie Shomburg Center, Dallas' Museum of African-American Life and Culture, and the National Afro-American Museum and Cultural Center in Ohio. In May 1994, he received a grant for international residency in Brazil from the Lila Wallace-Reader's Digest Foundation. And last fall, Tulane's Latin American Studies Department acquired thirty of his photographs for their permanent archives.

Unlike the photos Mr. Wargen refers to which "once were viewed between the covers or hidden in brown wrappings," Mr. Salcedo's works convey beauty in a sophisticated manner. Also, unlike the salacious photos of Mr. Wargen's youth, Mr. Salcedo's evince such a high mastery of photographic technique (composition, lighting, developing, etc.) that one Julia Street gallery owner's mouth dropped open in admiration when she viewed these works.

Mr. Wargen mentions that "there are many fine and excellent artists...in the New Orleans area. Many of them are within the Gay and Lesbian community." I agree. Where were you for Chrysantha's exquisite portraits? Where were you for Peter Bane's enchanting collages? Did you see Bobby Wozniak's evocative photos of Louisiana landscapes? What about Deanna Webb's wonderful watercolors? If Mr. Salcedo's art "stoops to a new low for the Center," who previously held that prestigious title? Jim Leasure's luminous "Angels of Healing"? Or perhaps Ron Williams' delightful cartoons? Mr. Wargen, if there are artists you think should be exhibiting at the Center, please let me know. Otherwise, don't insult the Center and those members of the artistic community who have contributed to it.

Had Mr. Wargen been at Mr. Salcedo's opening (and if he was there, why didn't he express some of his concerns to us then?) he would have seen many people, more than at

any other opening we've had in the past two years, appreciating Mr. Salcedo's works. Gay and straight, men and women attended and I heard nothing but praise for this immensely talented up-and-coming artist.

Mr. Wargen comments that, "it is shameful that the LGCC saw fit to import an outsider [Mr. Salcedo lives in New York] and attempt to charge such high and outlandish fees for this form of so called art." Indeed we should feel privileged that the LGCC had the honor to premiere this important body of work. Thanks to Lorry's generosity, the Center realized a greater profit from this show than any we've done in the past two years. And the prices for Lorry's works, while not inexpensive, are commensurate with his talent and are certainly in line with today's market. When was the last time Mr. Wargen visited A Gallery for Fine Photography?

Mr. Wargen refers to "the progress the Gay and Lesbian community has made." Precisely. Whereas in previous times a show such as this might not have been allowed to take place, nowadays the "general public," about whose opinion Mr. Wargen seems to be so concerned, barely raises an eyebrow. In fact, we were given the distinction by Gambit Magazine as being one of their featured art selections.

Mr. Wargen is a self-described "older member" of the gay community and as such came of age in a different atmosphere than that which exists nowadays. "Dreams and Fantasies of Latin America" remains up till June 1. I would invite the community to come and see the show. I would hope that those who would blind themselves, for whatever reasons, to artistic beauty would be few.

Sincerely,
 Brian Sands
 Art Director and Board Member, LGCC

P.S. There are, in fact, sixteen photographs in this exhibition, not the "fifty to sixty" referred to, as Mr. Wargen's letter was printed. I have seen Mr. Wargen's original letter and I think he was comparing Mr. Salcedo's works to photos of the 1950's or '60's.

Dear IMPACT/ECLIPSE:

Nice to hear from you! Many thanks for the mention in IMPACT/ECLIPSE. Mentions like this are very helpful.

Thanks again!
 Aloha.
 Douglas Simonson
 Simonson Studio
 Honolulu, Hawaii

Dear Editor:

Thanks for the copy of IMPACT. And what a totally terrific review! I was delighted for several reasons: it's extremely well written; it's helpful for them that know nothing of the book; it's a deft interweaving of your reviewer's different responses to the book plus the reading. I've not made an accurate account, but I'd guess that there are so far circa 35-40 reviews, and your review is one of my 2-3 favorites. It's obvious that your reviewer took time and care in writing it, for which my heartfelt thanks.

Sincerely,
 Alan Helms, author
 The Young Man from the Provinces

VIEUX CARRÉ MCC



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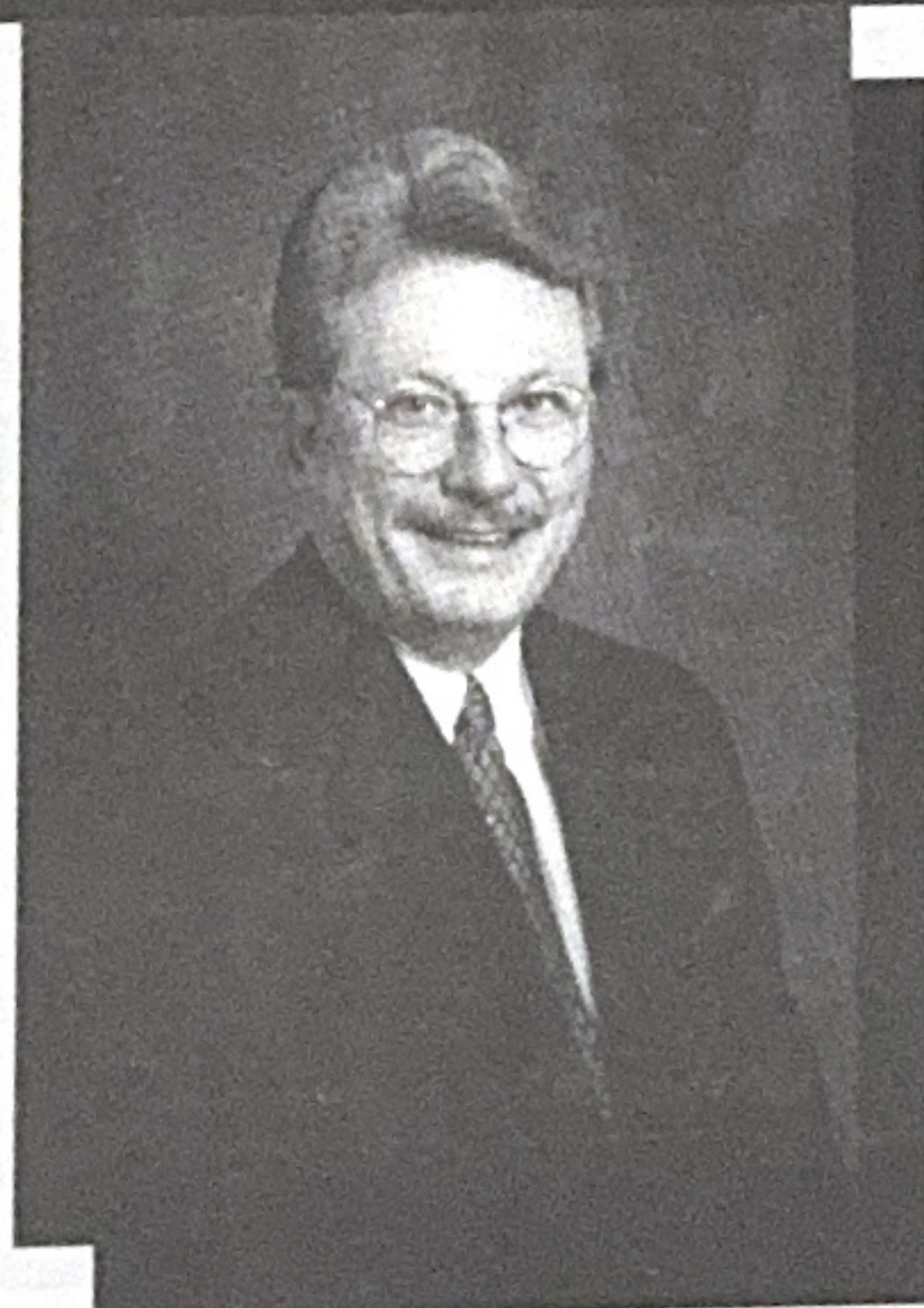
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'and the Ball and all ...' Blithely Bounces to its Closing!

BY JAMES PALMER

Imagine, if you can, a New Orleans without red beans & rice, oyster po-boys, or live jazz, and you'll get some idea of what it's going to be like when Ricky Graham's long-running hit, *...and the Ball and all*, at the True Brew Theatre closes on June 8. While this fun-filled production hasn't been around as long as other New Orleans' traditions, the fact remains that *...and the Ball and all* is so unique to this city that one audience member suggested that a copy of the script should be put into a time capsule.

After an un-interrupted run of one year and ten months, *...and the Ball and all* becomes the longest running non-musical in the city's theatrical history, topped only by the run of the musical *One Mo' Time*.

According to the show's producers, Trish Denmark and Fred Nuccio, the over 250 performances before an audience numbering 26,250 has resulted in some fascinating statistics. And along the way, the characters in the play have consumed 1050 Hubig Pies and 350 Green Bean Casseroles. And since every member of the motley patrons at Arceneaux's Mid-City

Lounge adamantly refuse a piece of left-over King Cake, that original prop dates back to opening night, almost two years ago.

themes and will, once again, feature Becky Allen in "two-thirds of the lead: the *Demon Dominatrix of the Moon and the Amazon Queen*." IMPACT's own Ron Williams

"the audience can consist of about 10% tourists and the rest natives, among whom there will always be many people who are there for their second and third times."

Ricky Graham, the show's author and director, attributes the long run not only to the bountiful and hilarious high-jinx of his krewe, but also to the many poignant moments that result as differences are settled and compromises reached. Graham said that the most common comment he gets from audience members is, "I know people like these women so well!" On any given night, Graham further explained, "the audience can consist of about 10% tourists and the rest natives, among whom there will always be many people who are there for their second and third times."

A long-running hit show always produces a strong bond between the members of the cast. "It's fabulous! We've become a real family!" one member of the cast exclaimed. And another, when asked how she felt about the production's imminent closing, explained, "Well, I have mixed feelings. I hate to see the show end, but the time has come to move on to other things."

True Brew Theatre's next venture, *Daryl's Perils: Demon Dominatrix of the Moon Meets the Amazon Queen of the Lost Lagoon*, will have book and lyrics by Ricky Graham and David Cuthbert and an original score by Harry Maronne, Jr. Graham wouldn't give away too many of the production's details, saying only that "it's sort of a Flash Gordon meets Sheena, Queen of the Jungle take off." Graham also pointed out that *Daryl's Perils* ... will be "totally different," containing no New Orleans

will play the male lead and is designing the show, which, according to Fred Nuccio, "is going to be a more ambitious production, meaning more money will be spent on sets and costumes."

Daryl's Perils is another Ricky Graham/Becky Allen collaboration, which began over twenty-five years ago, during a Tulane Summer Lyric production of *Gypsy* in which the two young performers played supporting parts. Graham and Allen are so inseparable that many people have assumed that they're married. When asked how they felt about this assumption, Graham responded, "Wonderful! If we were married, we probably wouldn't be still

"Darling, it's terrific. We've been together for twenty-five years. You can't even get that for murder in Louisiana."

together." And Allen, in her inimitable style, growled, "Darling, it's terrific. We've been together for 25 years. You can't even get that for murder in Louisiana." To the comment that the Graham/Allen act has become somewhat of an institution, Allen raucously responded, "Hell, Darling, we'd rather be an institution than in one."

After all these years and many shows later, Ricky Graham and Becky Allen will again be doing *Gypsy*, but this time Becky will be playing Mama Rose and Ricky will directing the musical for Le Petit in the Spring of next year.

But meanwhile, they're hard at work on *Daryl's Perils: Demon Dominatrix of the Moon meets the Amazon Queen*



Becky Allen and Ricky Graham, "A New Orleans Institution," embrace following Becky's recent return to her featured part in *...and the Ball and all*.

of the *Lost Lagoon*, which opens at True Brew on July 11.

And while you wait for *Daryl's Perils* and *Gypsy*, you still have the opportunity, until June 8, to see a talented group of New Orleanians strut their stuff "New Orleans style" in *...and the Ball and all* for your first, second, or third time.

The new performance schedule for the final weeks of *...and the Ball and all* will be as follows: Friday, Saturday, at 8 p.m. and a Sunday matinee at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$10; seniors can receive a \$2 discount at the matinee performance. For ticket information, call the box office at 522-2909. Δ



Graham's motley krewe anticipate True Brew's final "Mardi Gras Ball" on Sunday, June 8.



Fred Nuccio, producer, and Ricky Graham, author/director, confer briefly about True Brew's next production.

(photos by Chuck Davis)

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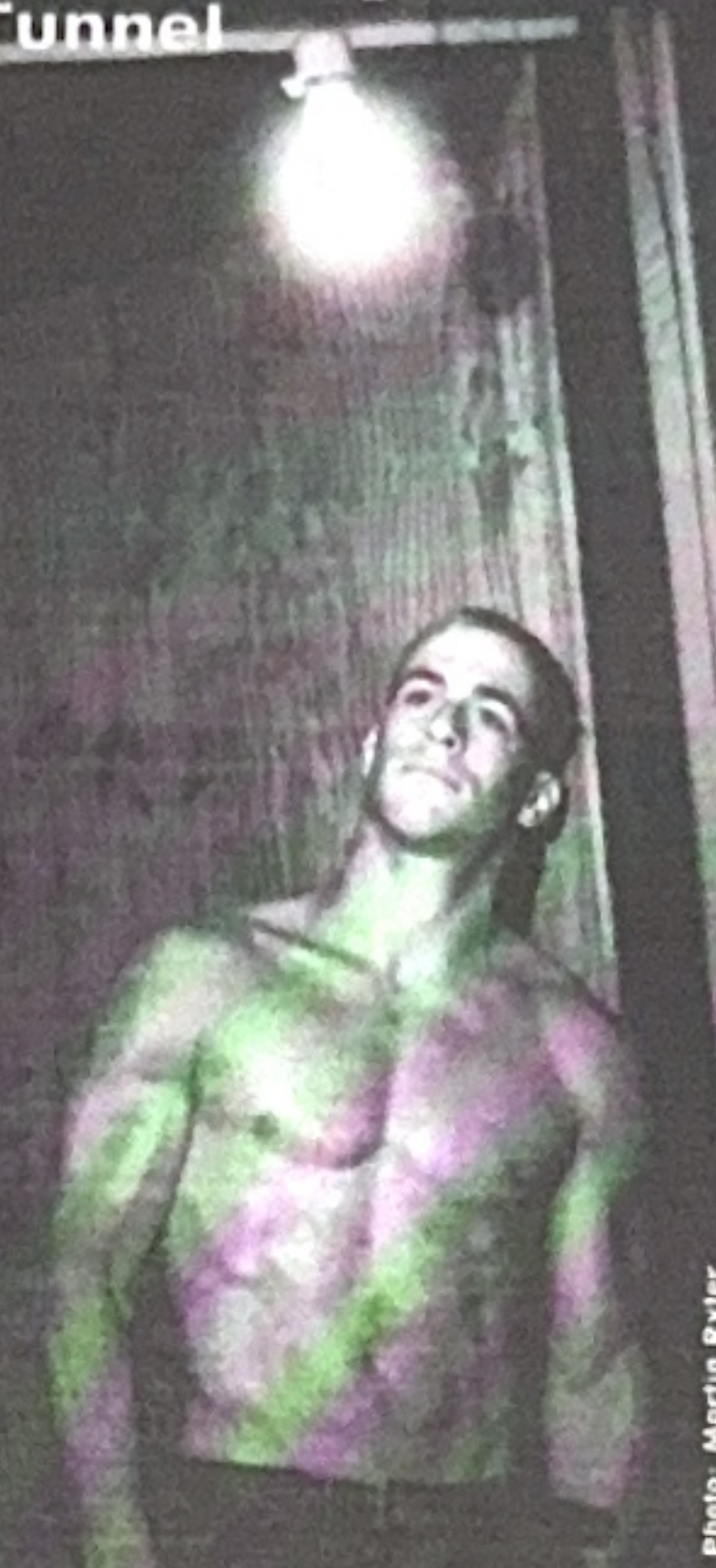


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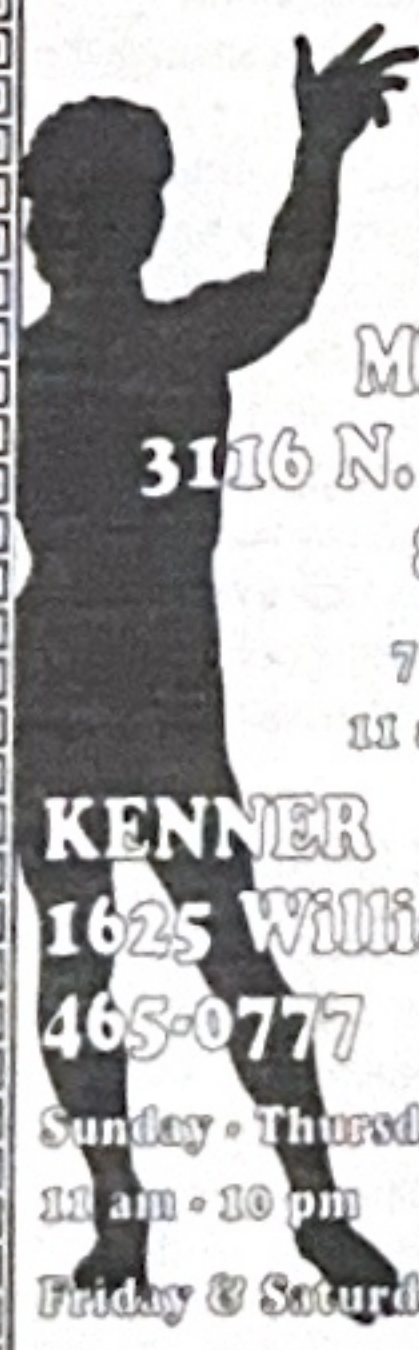
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LAW DENYING STATE FUNDS TO GAY GROUPS LOSES APPEAL

ATLANTA (AP) A federal appeals court has upheld the decision of a federal judge who struck down a 1992 Alabama law prohibiting state funds from going to homosexual groups, chiefly student groups at public universities.

The ruling, made by a three-judge panel of the 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, affirmed a 1996 decision that threw out the law as being unconstitutional and discriminatory.

The 11th Circuit panel's action came as Alabama appealed the decision by U.S. District Judge Myron Thompson of Montgomery, who called the law unconstitutional and a blatant form of discrimination.

The statute prohibited groups from using public facilities or receiving public money if they "foster" and "promote" activities prohibited by the state's sodomy and sexual misconduct laws.

The Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual Alliance at the University of South Alabama, located in Mobile, sued over the law after the alliance was denied student activity money because of the statute.

Thompson ruled last year as then-Attorney General Jeff Sessions and conservative activists pointed to the law as they sought to block a regional conference for homosexuals at the University of Alabama.

COP BELIEVES HE WAS FIRED BECAUSE HE'S GAY

ALLENSTOWN, N.H. (AP) An Allenstown police officer says he was fired because he is homosexual, but the town says he violated police policies and lied about it.

"The chief doesn't like me with regard to my sexual orientation," Bruce Nadeau, 25, told selectmen and about 30 members of the public at a hearing to consider whether the police department acted appropriately when it fired him on Jan. 15.

But officials said Nadeau was fired for lying about police policy violations, including failure to log a car stopped for speeding, failure to obtain permission to write to the Candia Police Department about the car stop, and dishonesty about his noncompliance with written police policy.

Tony Soltani, the attorney for the Allenstown Police Department, said officials fully investigated the incidents and can document the violations.

But Nadeau said Police Chief James McGonigle disliked him and assigned a biased officer to investigate the charges of police policy violations.

Nadeau said he protested Green's assignment to his case because of an informal complaint he had filed against Green for sexual harassment.

Soltani said that Nadeau alleged in the informal complaint that Green had once asked Nadeau if he was wearing lipstick. Nadeau claimed that he had been wearing Chapstick at the time and took offense at the comment.

Nadeau also said the fact that he was fired just three days before his probationary period ended underscores his belief that the investigation was unfair.

OREGON HOUSE APPROVES GAY-RIGHTS BILL

SALEM, Ore. (AP) The Oregon House approved a measure that would prevent employment decisions based on a worker's sexual orientation.

The vote was a victory for gay-rights organizations and a personal triumph for Rep. Chuck Carpenter, a gay Republican from Portland who maneuvered the bill out of the limbo of committee to easy passage on the House floor.

The measure, HB3719, landed in House quickly considering it languished for weeks in the Judiciary Committee. Two weeks ago Carpenter, fed up with the lack of action, mustered enough votes to threaten to have the bill pulled from Judiciary.

His fellow Republicans gave in and reintroduced the issue in the Commerce Committee, where it was quickly approved.

Rep. John Minnis, who headed the Judiciary Committee, lashed out at the bill's supporters for going over his head.

HB3719 passed by a 40-20 margin, with 19 of the 20 nay votes coming from Republicans. But 12 Republicans joined 28 of the 29 Democrats in supporting the measure, insisting that all employees should be protected.

Rep. Richard Devlin, D-Tualatin, likened the bill to a 1949 state law banning discrimination on the basis of color.

MAINE BILL TO PROTECT GAYS APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

AUGUSTA, Maine (AP) A legislative committee narrowly backed a bill that would protect homosexuals from housing, employment and other forms of discrimination.

The 13-member Judiciary Committee split 8-3 on the bill, with one member absent and another undecided. The bill now goes on to the full House and Senate.

By outlawing discrimination based on sexual orientation in housing, credit, employment and public accommodations, the bill would add homosexuals as a class to a Maine law that already bans discrimination based on age, sex, religion and national origin.

Hundreds of people turned out for a lengthy hearing on the bill April 8, but the committee voted without discussion.

Supporters contend a gay-rights law is needed to protect homosexuals from pervasive discrimination in basic facets of their lives, such as getting a job or an apartment.

Opponents say such safeguards are unnecessary and they would violate local control in cities such as Lewiston, where voters overturned a gay-rights ordinance several years ago. Portland and Long Island are the only communities in Maine that have such ordinances now.

HOUSE DEFENDS DEFENSE OF MARRIAGE ACT

ST. PAUL (AP) With her parents in the audience, Rep. Karen Clark pleaded with her fellow lawmakers to get rid of a portion of a bill that would ban state recognition of same-sex marriages.

Arguing that her lesbian partner of nine years is as much family as anyone else, Clark, DFL-Minneapolis, said that a vote to ban same-sex marriages is a vote out of ignorance.

But the Minnesota House rejected her arguments, voting 105-24 to keep the ban, also known as the Defense of Marriage Act, in a health and human services budget bill. The bill passed 123-11.

House Minority Leader Steve Sviggum, R-Kenyon, who is against gay marriages, offered the amendment that would have removed the issue from the bill.

Minnesota law requires marriages to be between members of the opposite sex, although it doesn't specifically prohibit same-sex marriages.

Debate on the amendment lasted nearly two hours, with several lawmakers recounting personal stories of gay family and friends. It was the first time this session that the full House voted on the issue.

Rep. Arlon Lindner, R-Corcoran, said without the ban, lawmakers could open up what the state recognizes as marriage.

ADVISORY COUNCIL VOTES TO BAN HOMOSEXUAL CURRICULA

VANCOUVER, British Columbia (AP) Parent advisory councils from across British Columbia have voted to recommend that school curricula about homosexuality be banned, along with any resource materials prepared by gay and lesbian organizations.

Delegates at the annual meeting of the B.C. Confederation of Parent Advisory Councils passed two motions over the weekend, both forwarded by Surrey parents' groups, that urge the province to keep discussion of homosexuality out of the classroom.

The other resolution said schools should use anti-harassment policies rather than class curricula to protect homosexual students from discrimination.

The confederation, which has no formal powers, opposes curricula that deal with same-sex couples as well as any educational materials prepared by "homosexual lifestyle advocacy group" such as the Gay and Lesbian Educators of B.C. The group can only give advice to local schools and hope it is acted upon.

In a statement, the confederation said it does not support promotional material of any kind in schools, "whether from political parties, product marketing firms or special interest group."

BAN ON GAY BOOKS WON'T STOP CLASSROOM DISCUSSION

VANCOUVER, British Columbia (AP) Teachers in suburban Surrey can teach

primary grade students about same-sex parents even though the school board has banned three books about gay families.

A teacher doesn't have to wait until a child in a same-sex family raises the issue, but can discuss homosexual parents as part of lessons on various family groupings, Education Ministry official Dianne MacDougall said.

Education Minister Paul Ramsey said he'll investigate whether the board is violating the provincial school curriculum.

A school board can restrict written materials but the provincial government controls curriculum, which allows discussion of same-sex families.

School trustee Ken Hoffman, who voted for the ban at a board meeting last week, said he was surprised when told the ministry still permits teachers to talk about same-sex parents in elementary schools.

Trustee Mary Polak, who also opposed the books, said she believes teachers are only permitted to identify a same-sex family, without presenting anything about the family in a positive light.

The three book Asha's Mums, Belinda's Bouquet and One Dad, Two Dads, Brown Dad, Blue Dads were written for kindergarten and first-grade students. They all feature same-sex parents as a backdrop to a children's story.

MORE MEN ALLEGE SEX-ABUSE AND SUE 'FRUGAL GOURMET'

TACOMA, Wash. (AP) Six more men have sued 'Frugal Gourmet' TV chef Jeff Smith over allegations that he sexually assaulted them when they were teen-agers.

Through his attorney, Smith, 58, denied the allegations in the new lawsuit filed in Pierce County Superior Court, as he has denied the claims in earlier suits filed by two other men.

In the new suit, seeking unspecified damages, five men allege that Smith sexually assaulted them in the 1970s when they were teen-agers, and a sixth claims he was hitchhiking as a teen-ager when Smith picked him up and raped him in 1992.

The lawsuit says the 1970s incidents occurred when the men worked at Smith's Tacoma restaurant and catering business, the now-closed Chaplain's Pantry.

The suit alleges that Smith groomed high-school-age boys for sexual intercourse by using alcohol, seduction and coercion.

No criminal charges were ever filed against Smith, and the statute of limitations has expired on the alleged incidents.

HAWAII MOVES TO GRANT GAY COUPLES MARRIAGE BENEFITS

HONOLULU (AP) Gay and lesbian couples could be walking hand-in-hand into state Department of Health offices in less than three months to sign up for many of the rights and benefits now enjoyed by married couples.

Hawaii's voters, however, are expected to make sure in a vote next year that these

continued on page 17

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In The Life

Nearly a year has passed since an article was published in *IMPACT* about the national television series, "In The Life," which is produced in New York City.

"In The Life" is the only regularly scheduled series on broadcast television which provides positive visibility about gay men and lesbians. Now nearing the end of its fifth season, the program is shown on PBS stations around the country, including cities in the South such as Houston, Dallas, Atlanta and Tampa ... but not New Orleans.

Why not? First, a little background.

John Scagliotti, the creator of the show, won an Emmy for his documentary "Before

*Cities in the South
that are airing
"In the Life"*

Atlanta
Austin
Dallas
Houston
Miami
Norfolk, VA
Tampa

Stonewall." He then decided to try to create a national gay and lesbian series.

When the production first hit the airwaves five years ago, it was a 30-minute program with a variety show

format. Back then they produced the show with a live audience, hosted by stand-up comic Kate Clinton.

The first year they produced seven shows, the second year eight. Each show was 30-minutes. Three years ago, around the time of Stonewall 25, many changes began to take place. The most obvious alteration occurred when they transformed the program into a newsmagazine format that was a full hour in length — and aired only every other month — in order to allot more quality production time. Now the show is produced in a smart, professional format and hosted by Katherine Linton.

In the beginning years, the show was dependent primarily on a single generous source, with other sources helping out. Now a burgeoning membership provides the majority of funding needed to keep the show on the air.

However, though the show is now available to about 80 percent of the nation's viewing audience, it is not available in New Orleans.

Why not?

Despite the fact that New Orleans is considered to be one of the most gay-friendly cities in the nation, with a vibrant gay and lesbian population that keeps the city strong even in its most trying times, the fact remains that New Orleans is the last major gay urban area in the U.S. that is not airing "In The Life."

Why not?

Is the show controversial? Hardly.

"Our mission is to represent positive images of gay and lesbian culture," says producer John Catania, "and we only have a handful of television time that has ... horrible stereotypes, so we work hard to show what good the gay community gives to society as a whole."

The show is still not aired in New Orleans. Two years ago, local activists Jack



"In The Life" is hosted by Katherine Linton. (photo by Nigel Teare)

Sullivan and Christopher Daigle presented a petition with more than 200 names to the management of WYES. "They had two objections," says Sullivan. "The first was that the program was only 30 minutes long and hard to schedule. Their other objection was that the quality of the programming was lacking."

The first objection is now moot, because the show is now an hour in length. The second objection is a questionable opinion that seems to be held by WYES, in opposition to the opinions of dozens of PBS stations across the nation, including their presenting station WNET, the largest PBS station in the country.

Even with the printing of the article in *IMPACT* a year ago and with some encouragement from WYES that they would consider including the show in their programming, nearly a year has passed without any results.

Is the show simply too avant garde for the powers-that-be at WYES? Perhaps, but as producer Catania says, they are now even shown in Norfolk, Virginia — home of CBN (Christian Broadcasting Network) and a virtual seat of conservatism.

Can New Orleans be that far behind?

In our next issue, we hope to print the comments of WYES Program Director Linda Delaney, who had not returned our call in time for the printing of this issue.

Also, there is the possibility that the next issue of *IMPACT* will include postage-paid cards that readers may send in to WYES. This mail-in approach is one of several ideas in a campaign that leaders in the community are planning in order to convince WYES that the time has come for them to put aside their doubts and air the show. Δ

(If you would like to make your opinion known, please call the program manager at WYES at 486-5511. If you would like to become a member to support "In The Life" programming you can call (212) 255-6012.)

IMPACT CELEBRATES 20 YEARS: 1984

During our anniversary, each issue features one of the twenty years we have covered. The retrospective includes articles reprinted from the pages of *IMPACT* and an historical overview of the year. In addition, in each issue we honor a citizen whose leadership and generous contributions have helped build the community.

New Orleans: REMEMBERING 1984

BY ROBERTS BATSON

Of course, it was the year of The World's Fair, so for many Orleanians, 1984 was divided into three parts: anticipating the fair, enjoying the fair, and missing the fair once it was over.

In addition to serving as a popular amusement park for many local gays, the fair also served as a venue to bring a positive gay presence to a wider audience: on June 2, right there in The Great Hall, the New Orleans Gay Men's Chorus performed for all America, augmented by the visiting Chicago Gay Men's Chorus. While not identified as gay, two visiting clogging groups, Buffalo Chips from Atlanta and the Barbary Coast Cloggers from San Francisco, also appeared at the fair.

All in all, 1984 seemed a world away from George Orwell's gloomy prediction, especially those nights spent watching Freddy Palmisano's and Ricky Graham's delightful *A Night in Old New Orleans* at the Moulin Rouge on Bourbon Street, and discovering the late night show that they, along with co-star Becky Allen, were trying out in the intimate back bar at the club. New Orleans show business history was being made here, and ecstatic audiences reveled in the fun.

The gay social season had gotten off to a glittering start with a record 11 gay carnival balls. Debuting at Baker's Hall with a coronation ceremony at midnight on Lundi Gras was The Lords of Leather.

Gay organizations of all sorts continued to proliferate. Serving the religious needs of the community, in addition to the Grace Fellowship and a M.C.C. congregation, were Lutheran, Episcopalian, Jewish, and Catholic groups. Recreational activities were presented by such as the Women's Coffee House and the Gay Men's Chorus, as well as rugby, volleyball, bowling, bridge, and golfing clubs.

Volleyball Jocks Coming... This Weekend.

January 6-8 will mark one of the first and largest national gay athletic events to ever be held in New Orleans, as over one hundred gay athletes will be in town to compete in the first annual Gay Mardi Gras Classic Volleyball tournaments, sponsored by the New Orleans Volleyball Association.

January, 1984

Support groups included P-FLAG, a Gay Parents organization, three counseling groups, the Lambda Center, and Sex Addicts Anonymous. Political activism was focused in the Crescent City Coalition, which was about to fade away, and the Louisiana Gay Political Action Caucus (LAGPAC), which had developed active chapters in New Orleans and Baton Rouge.

Many of these groups met at the St. Louis Community Center on Barracks Street, made available to them by center director Norris Elliot and by his successors, Sister Joann, Sister Stephanie, and John Richardson.

Gay Pride Month was roundly

1984 Gay Fest Will Be!

This is the goal set by the 1984 board of directors. "Whether Gay Fest is represented by many clubs, restaurants and numerous other businesses which are owned, operated, or managed by gay people."

June, 1984

celebrated by both Gay Fest, which returned to Washington Square after a two-year absence, and Celebration '84, which moved up from the Jazz Complex in Armstrong Park to the Bayou Plaza Hotel. Although rain limited attendance at Gay Fest, the fact that it occurred at all after a sorry two years of nasty infighting, battling egos, angry resignations, and disappearing funds, is a credit to a determined board headed by Erroll Rizuto and Cindy Mirambell.

Celebration grew and expanded, and its two keynoters were two of the most dynamic speakers in the national gay movement, Virginia Apuzzo and Rev. Troy Perry.

A failure, however, was a grand plan to produce a sort of gay exhibit hall to coincide with The World's Fair. Called "Stonewall + 15," it was proposed by the Crescent City Coalition. Like the plans proposed by the 1982 Gay Fest board, it was unrealistically ambitious and never got off the ground.

The big political news of 1984 unfolded in the spring: bringing an ordinance before the New Orleans City Council which would forbid discrimination based on sexual orientation in housing, public accommodations, and employment. LAGPAC had set such an ordinance as one of its principal goals upon organizing in 1980, and was now joined by the local chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union and the Crescent City Coalition in pursuing the venture.

Three of the seven City Councilmen had agreed to support the ordinance during their 1982 re-election campaigns: Sidney Barthelemy, Mike Early, and Lambert Boissiere. A fourth, Councilman Wayne

Community Center??

Dear Editor:

I, probably like many other people, am wondering what happened to Stonewall + 15. I contributed money to CCC* to help finance a Community Center for the gays of New Orleans. As of this date, I have yet to know what has happened to this money.

I really think that it is in poor taste for any organization to solicit funds for a specific reason and then to apply the monies to other functions of their organization without contacting the contributors.

I have not been contacted by CCC* to be asked what I would like to do with that money.

August, 1984

Sincerely yours,
J. E. Gayhart

Babovich, enthusiastically volunteered his support. With the hope that support from all four would hold, organizers felt it was time to give it a try.

Early and Babovich introduced the ordinance and a full day of citizen testimony was heard on March 8. Proponents

outnumbered opponents, and opposition was mostly from fundamentalist Protestant churches and from the Catholic Archdiocese. Archbishop Philip Hannan personally weighed in, writing to Councilmembers and authoring a letter of opposition which he dictated be read at Sunday services in churches throughout his control.

A second day of testimony — and a vote — was set for April 12. Barthelemy, Early and Boissiere met with organizers to tell them that Babovich had changed his mind and was going to vote against the ordinance. Since it was already known that Councilman James Singleton (who was thought to oppose the ordinance) would be out of town on April 12, passage depended on gaining the support of one of the two remaining Councilmen, Joseph Giarrusso and Bryan Wagner.

Mayor Dutch Morial had declined to support the ordinance, a critical loss, since it was hoped that he would use his considerable influence with his allies on the Council, Giarrusso and Singleton.

April, 1984

N.O. Gay Ordinance fails to pass

It would be appropriate to say that on Thursday, April 12, time stood still in the New Orleans City Council Chamber Room. Ordinance 11-4-11 that would have prohibited discrimination based on sexual orientation or affectional preference in employment, housing, and public facilities, was defeated after debate beginning at 10:00 a.m. and lasting nearly six hours. Councilman Singleton was the only member who was absent due to a military leave. The council room was, as it was on March 8, filled with citizens both for and against the ordinance, this time even more emotional and in even greater need of being reminded not to

demonstrate, a request that was acknowledged only with reluctance.

Before the forum officially began, Councilman Babovich made a statement regarding his decision in the matter, a statement that would end up foreshadowing the result of the debate. He stated, "We have had seven hours of debate... We have had phone calls and visits from our constituents... The vast majority of the people throughout this city including my district have handled it (the ordinance issue) with understanding, compassion, or recognition for the other side's views... It has impressed me that ministries that violently op-

pose this issue have at the same time recognized the need for human rights... He went on to say that his constituents, "have made it abundantly clear... that they are adamantly opposed to this ordinance (and that he would) follow the feelings of the people."

Speakers were again alternated between those in favor and those against the ordinance. First to speak in favor was Jim Kellogg who demonstrated the combinations of intelligence, empathy, and eloquence of nearly every proponent. He said to the council, "You have been exposed to anger, fear, personal attacks, hatred and threats, some death threats, some threats to your job. You have seen in a few weeks what gay people see

Barthelemy, Early, and Boissiere told organizers that they didn't expect the legislation to pass unless employment was dropped from the ordinance. They suggested that the ordinance would pass if it covered only housing and public accommodations. The ordinance organizers, however, insisted on going for the whole package.

After a second full day of heated testimony, the ordinance failed on a 3-3 vote. Giarrusso and Wagner joined Babovich (by now called Baboswitch) in voting the ordinance down.

Organizers were disappointed, but, in general, felt a tie vote wasn't too bad a first effort. The sponsoring organizations (LAGPAC, ACLU, CCC) soon announced The Sexual Privacy Project, a planned lawsuit to challenge the Louisiana "crime against nature" statute in federal court.

By summer, another political advance was realized when two openly-gay delegates were elected to the National Democratic Convention, Mary Jones of New Orleans and John Ducote of Baton Rouge.

August 1984

LA. SEXUAL PRIVACY PROJECT

On Saturday, August 18th, the Louisiana and the 22,000 New Orleans State Fair

A sad sign of the times was the announcement early in the year that, due to "reasons of health," for the first time in fifteen years, Edd Smith would not be emceeing a Bourbon Street costume contest at Mardi Gras. Smith would later die from AIDS, but not as early as was erroneously reported.

At the beginning of 1984, several organizations were struggling to meet the growing AIDS crisis. LAGPAC and CCC were involved with lobbying and education, while the newly-formed NO/AIDS Task Force was getting organized.

Barely a few months old, the Task Force was already having to answer questions as to its purpose, as well as accusations concerning its funds. As a result, the Task Force released a financial statement to *IMPACT* that detailed its first six months of operation. The report revealed that income had totaled \$2,333.14, while

IMPACT CELEBRATES 20 YEARS: 1984

disbursements amounted to \$1,133.92, with \$251.34 going for administrative expenses and \$882.58 for the candlelight vigil, the first AIDS memorial in New Orleans.

January, 1984

Why there is no cure for AIDS

Three organizations were attempting to provide AIDS services: the Task Force, the Health Committee of the CCC, and the Foundation for Health Education New Orleans (FHENO). The three met early in the year to try to avoid duplication of efforts. As a result, the CCC discontinued most of its AIDS activities. FHENO continued to exist for awhile afterwards, but gradually, the Task Force began to absorb most of the AIDS service activities.

Later in the year, *IMPACT* printed a statement from Reagan's Health and Human Services Secretary, Margaret Heckler, who pronounced that the "probable cause of AIDS has been found — a variant of a known human cancer virus called HTLV-III," that a blood test had been developed "to identify AIDS victims," and that she expected that a vaccine to prevent AIDS would be available "in about two years."

In the same issue, Dr. Michael Kaiser warned that Heckler's assessment was unrealistically optimistic. He wrote, "It will be many years, if ever, before AIDS can be prevented, or treated, or eradicated."

May, 1984

IMPACT: You hear a lot these days especially dealing with public sex in parks and bookstores as victimless crimes. How do you consider these acts?

CONNICK: I don't think there is any such thing as victimless crime. I think somebody is hurt by criminal activity. You have to keep in mind that the legislature determines what acts are going to be criminal. I don't do it and you don't do it. The people in Baton Rouge decide in the Senate and in the House what activity is going to constitute a crime. We're in a position under the oath of office of enforcing that.

On a decidedly lower note, an *IMPACT* survey of its readers revealed their favorites: Movie actors - Burt Reynolds and Bette Davis; writer - Stephen King; politician - Edwin Edwards; TV show - "Dynasty"; cigarette - Marlboro; vegetable - broccoli; shampoo - Vidal Sassoon. On the other hand, respondents chose these as their "most disliked": vegetable - squash; TV show - "Three's Company"; politician - Dutch Morial; fast food - Burger King.

In addition, readers chose lethal injection as their preferred method of execution, and, to the question, "How many different sex partners have you had in your lifetime?" the first choice response was 501 plus.

From the distance of today, one might wonder if anyone, indeed, was reading George Orwell. Δ

1984: From the pages of *IMPACT*

The following story was printed in *IMPACT* in the early part of 1984. Coast to coast, the gay and lesbian community was horrified by the events surrounding the death of nationally-revered Harvey Milk, who had become a symbol of gay liberation. Finally, it was thought, gay men and lesbians could aspire to and attain positions of authority. When Milk was horribly murdered by Dan White, the gay and lesbian community was especially outraged. Then, when only a lenient sentence was handed down, the g/l/b/t community of San Francisco reacted violently, rioting in the streets. You think Stonewall was something? The spectacle in the streets of our sister city was something to behold.

This story is about White's release. Here's an interesting addendum to that tale: It was reported that Dan White later killed himself, dying an ostracized man.

SAN FRANCISCO GAYS OUTRAGED OVER WHITE RELEASE

Almost 2000 gay activists and political sympathizers marched in harmony last week throughout the streets of San Francisco in a noisy, colorful, and many times emotional protest against the parole of Dan White, the former city supervisor who gunned down the city's mayor and one other gay rights activist in a bloody confrontation in 1978.

White, 37, was released by the state department of corrections and sent to an undisclosed location in Los Angeles where he will live in an apartment and try to begin a new life.

In 1978, White, a young, moderate city worker who grew up in an area of San Francisco considered to be on the conservative side - for San Francisco, that is - walked into the office of San Francisco Mayor George Moscone and gunned him down. He had earlier killed gay rights activist and fellow city supervisor Harvey Milk.

In his trial the following year, White used the now-famous "Twinkie defense" in which he claimed that he wasn't thinking clearly because he had eaten too much junk food earlier in the day of the killing. Although the jury didn't buy White's argument, he was given only a sentence of manslaughter - a leniency that suggested to some that killing a liberal mayor and a gay supervisor was not a particularly awful crime.

The sentence for manslaughter at the time of White's conviction called for a maximum of seven years, eight months.

According to a report put out by the Associated Press last week, White had served "his term, less time already served and good behavior ..."

When the sentence was announced in 1979, street riots in gay neighborhoods broke out, breaking down the truce that had previously existed within the city between San Francisco's gays, liberals, and city workers.

The reaction to last week's news of White's release seemed almost to be a step back in time. Within hours of that news, gays from all over the city gathered in a barricaded block of Castro Street, carrying signs that said "White - Killer," "Eat a Twinkie, Beat the Rap," and "Dan White, the all-American murderer."

Mayor Diane Feinstein, who replaced the murdered Moscone, noted that the protesters were outraged over what they thought was a deliberately lenient sentence of a man who willingly murdered a gay. But the feisty San Francisco mayor also said that she thought the temperament in the city was much "more conservative" as a result of the White killings and that now many people were in favor of the death penalty.

Blowing whistles and banging on pots, the mostly gay demonstrators lasted late into the evening, some espousing gay rhetoric that implied that the whole White affair was a blatantly anti-gay development, while others openly threatened to seek revenge on White.

Said Jay Hanke of the Committee to Protest the Injustice: "We're here to protest the injustice of a system that does not work. Being mad is all we have."

Although prison officials refused to divulge the whereabouts of White's new residence, it was reported that several death threats to White have already been received. Some gay activists believe the White release may prove to be a rallying point for the city's giant gay population to gather around and mobilize for other political issues.

OTHER ITEMS OF NOTE THAT *IMPACT* PRINTED IN 1984:

- John Glenn, who was running for president, refused to support a gay and lesbian rights bill.
- The premier issue of *Advocate Men* hit the streets.
- *Torch Song Trilogy* was performed at the Saenger.
- Madonna made her film debut in *Desperately Seeking Susan*.
- *IMPACT* interviewed Quentin Crisp in New York City.
- In Lafayette, the Fr. Gilbert Gauthier priest-molests-altar boy suits were in full swing.

1984 Honored Citizen



photo by Marilyn McConnel

DR. LOUISE MC FARLAND

RESIDENCE: Monroe and New Orleans

EDUCATION: Undergraduate work at Northeast Louisiana University in Monroe; Masters and Doctorate in Epidemiology from Tulane School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine.

PROFESSIONAL: State Epidemiologist with the Louisiana State Office of Public Health, Department of Health and Hospitals.

COMMUNITY ACTIVISM: Co-Founder NO/AIDS Task Force; provided statewide education work in gay bars, with gay groups and in gay homes beginning in 1984; assisted in the establishment and fiscal stabilization of Project Lazarus, Belle Reve, other community-based AIDS organizations around the state; supporter and member of LAGPAC, P-FLAG, NGLTF, HRC, the New Orleans Women's Tennis Association, the National Lesbian Archives, and the National Lesbian Health Foundation; founding member of the Lesbian and Gay Community Center of New Orleans; board member of Celebration since 1988.

COMMUNITY HONORS: Recipient of national award from Centers of Disease Control, 1995; Lesbian of the Year Award, 1996.

THE MOVIE POLICE

BY KAREL GAZDACKA

INDEPENDENTS

Before the multiplex and its recent spawn, the megaplex, killed off the locally-owned and operated "grind houses," musty emporiums of second-runs and double bills, the B-movie was the training ground of Scorsese, DePalma, Demme, Coppola, today's eminencies grises of Hollywood. Practically all these titans began as tyros for Roger Corman, cranking out horror and mayhem on shoestring budgets. Today, the so-called "independent filmmaker" scraps together funds from family, friends and foundations, turns out a film with attitude in a fortnight, takes it to the Sundance Festival, and signs a three-picture deal with Miramax on the slopes.

In theory, the independent film should yield more interesting films than those of yore that were bound by conventions of genre. In theory. Somehow, I don't see a Scorsese or Demme *et. al.* emerging from the new indie ranks. Exhibit A, the highly touted *Kissed*, a creepy little Canadian film about a young woman whose fascination with dead animals eventually leads to a job

as an embalmer and who proceeds to get it on, so to speak, with the "stiffs" (ahem) at the funeral home. Her rationale for this bizarre fetish, if that's the appropriate term, is some blather about how all purpose comes from the transformation of life into death. Eventually she hooks up with a sometime med student who has not assumed room temperature and who slowly begins to share her obsession with the dead. What's missing here is any sense of just what the f**k this is all about. Lacking any "sub-text," *Kissed* plays out as a not especially compelling horror film with novice director Lynne Stopkewich displaying little flair for such a mundane thing such as storytelling or much of a Grand Guignol sensibility to take her tale of necrophilia over the top. (Best Line: when her live beau accuses her of mounting male corpses promiscuously, our embalmer quickly retorts, "I don't f**k everything that's dead!")

Traveller is another entry in the independent film sweepstakes, but this time its industry people slumming. Director Jack Green has been Clint Eastwood's cinematographer on numerous projects including *Unforgiven* and *Bridges of Madison County*, and new hyphenate producer-star Bill Paxton broke into the Big Time last year with *Twister* (which Green also shot). Travellers are the Irish equivalents of the Romany Gypsies, playing their scams in the rural South

Traveller ...



"Snipe" (Scott Shultz) and "Pat" (Mark Wahlberg) in a scene from *Traveller*, directed by Jack Green.

(photo by October Films)

selling off used automobiles as new and perfecting various home-improvement schemes, like roof-fixing and asphalt sealing. Like the Romany Gypsies, they have created a thriving subculture based on the xenophobic attitude that the world is made up of "us" and "them" and that the reason the others exist is for Travellers to get by. Into this world ventures Pat O'Hara (Mark Wahlberg, yes the former Marky Mark who has a distractingly large cranium,

distracting in a pleasing way) who returns to the Travellers to bury his father, once a Traveller cast out for marrying an outsider. He is shunned by the head of the clan but cautiously accepted by Bokky (Paxton, who grins a little too much even for a con-man) who takes the young man under his wing and teaches him the way of their forebears. The two take to the road running con-jobs and always staying one step ahead of the law. That's about it. There is a complicating

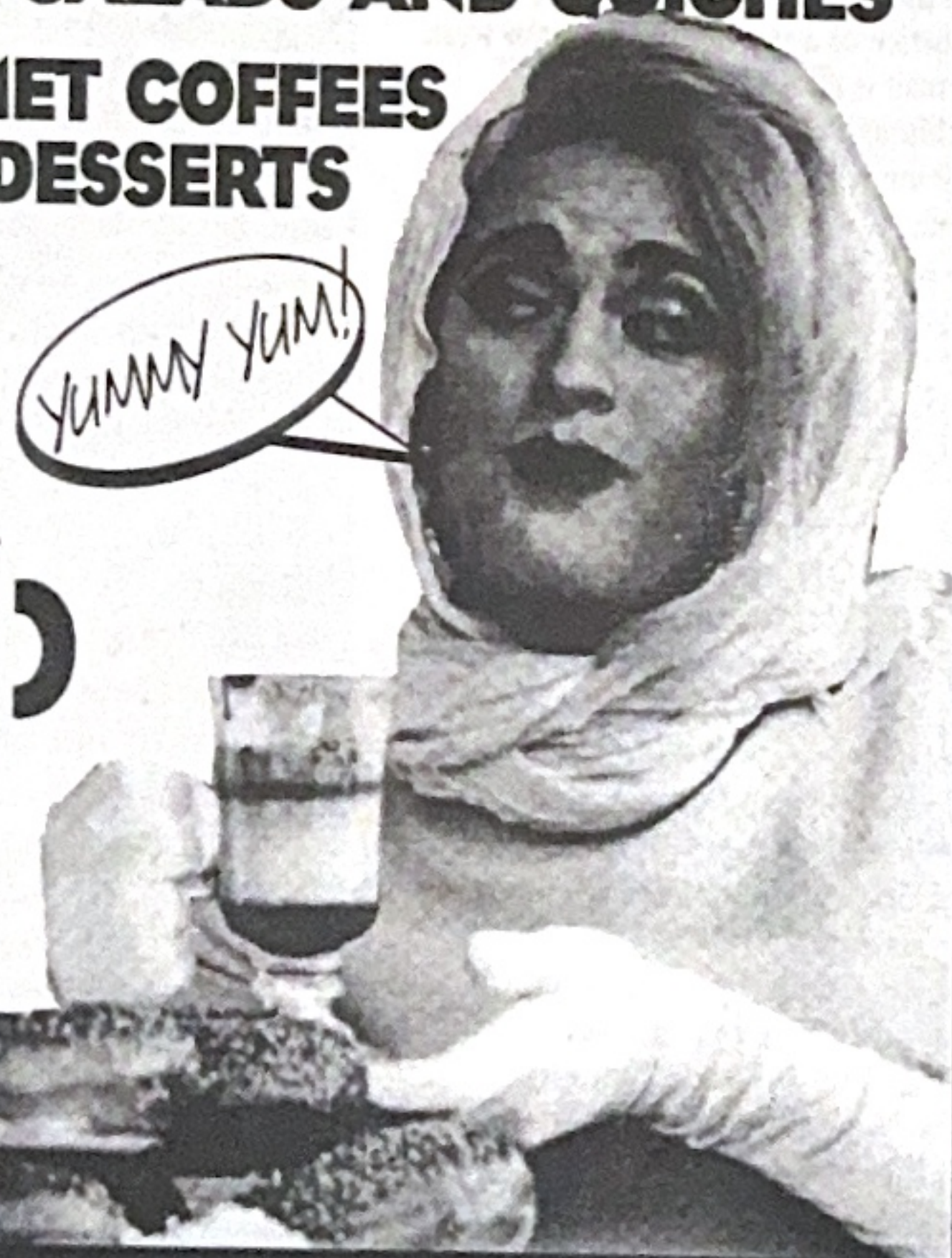
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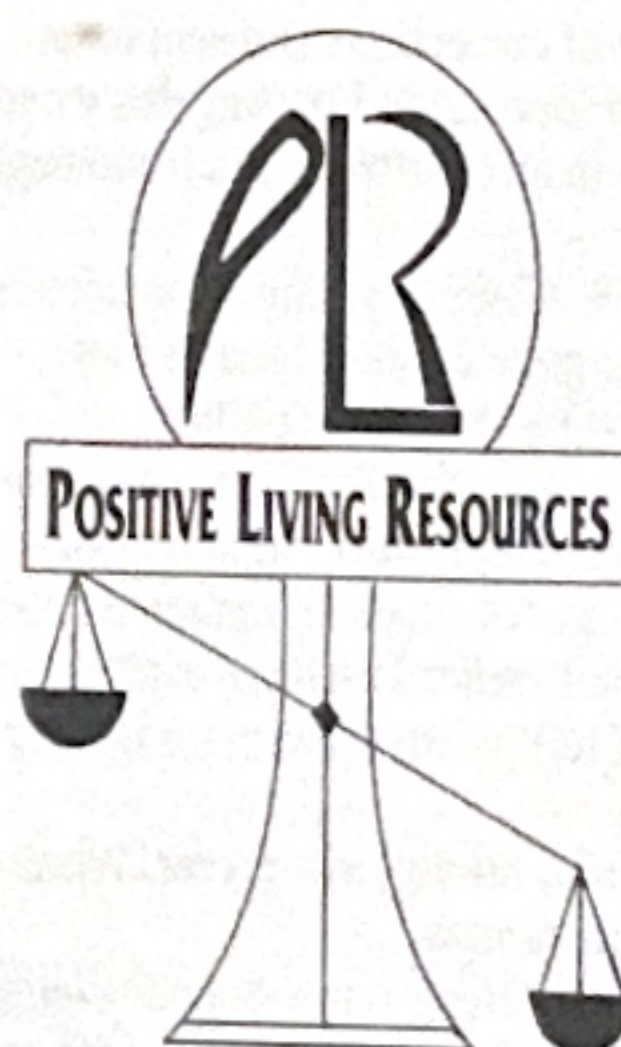
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love interest between Paxton and a barmaid played by Julianna Margulies and a shoot'em up ending that doesn't quite belong in this movie. It's all fairly skillfully executed, but somehow it doesn't add up to much. The one real revelation here is that Mark Wahlberg is turning out to be quite an effective actor, well on his way to redeeming himself from his Marky Mark antics — though I'm sure there are those out there who hope that he continues to strut around on camera in his Calvins.

GEMÜTLICH

Cozy. Every so often I develop an inexplicable craving for cozy cinema, you know, where the landed gentry gather in spacious drawing rooms for elevated conversation while sipping tea and munching on scones with lemon curd while faithful retainers scurry about to satisfy their every whim. Such an urge seized me last week, so whilst everyone else was busy shaking their groove things at the fairgrounds, I fixed some Twinings Prince of Wales tea and popped a couple of what we might call, for lack of a better term, doily movies on ye olde VCR.

After a long, dry spell, Richard Attenborough (Sir Dickie, to his friends) had a modest success with *Shadowlands*, a moist account of the love affair between the bookish C.S. Lewis and Joy Gresham, an American who teaches him, in the felicitous words of Buddy Holly, "true love's ways." Sir Dickie is poaching on Merchant-Ivory turf with this dewy account of the fustian, repressed Lewis (Anthony Hopkins who does repression better than just about anyone on stage or screen) and his sentimental education, late in life, at the hands of a feisty, impulsive "good woman." Unfortunately, the Joy (get it?) of his life will be short-lived; his bride will die of cancer within a mere three years of their nuptials. Debra Winger is almost typecast as the spirited Gresham (and who dies better of cancer on stage or screen than Debra Winger), but la Winger makes her neurotic enough to keep things from appearing too schematic. All of this against the reassuring backdrop of Oxford University before campus life everywhere turned unruly.

Shadowlands is the cinematic equivalent of "comfort food," a good hardy helping of mashed potatoes and pot roast. The screenplay is a good job-of-work by William Nicholson, who had already shaped the material for the stage and later for BBC television. You know from the outset where the writer and director are taking you, reassuring you with bromides as they take you in hand. Wisely, they soft-pedal Lewis's old-fashioned Christianity in which we are told that "suffering is a gift from God," a belief that will be put to the test by the early death, a painful early death, of his young wife. But Sir Dickie keeps such precepts non-sectarian and non-denominational; nothing seems especially Christian about Lewis's unyielding faith. If Joy Gresham were to not go gently into that good night, it would somehow spoil things.

As in the works of Merchant-Ivory (*Howard's End*, *Remains of the Day*), Richard Attenborough may encourage his audience to venture into uncharted territory, but the pleasures of the film are those of the tried and true. After a particularly grueling day, C.S. Lewis's tidy, book-lined study tucked away on the cloistered campus may seem like the ideal place to spend one's remaining days.

After brewing another pot of tea, this time some Yellow Zinger, I turned to the pedagogical tale of *The Browning Version*. Classics' professor Andrew Crocker-Harris (Albert Finney) is resigning, under duress, from the Abbey School, an exclusive British boys school where he has valiantly sought to instill an appreciation for Greek and Latin into his charges for over twenty years. Fustian in manner, taken to wearing a ridiculous hat, and ever ready to deride his young students for their halting attempts at reciting passages from the likes of Aeschylus, Mr. Crocker-Harris is not beloved by the student body like young American Physics teacher Frank Hunter (Matthew Modine), who encourages a more relaxed classroom atmosphere. The school administration has also concluded that Mr. Crocker-Harris is something of an old fossil and has hired a new department head to introduce modern languages into the curriculum. When Mr. Crocker-Harris baits the chap about introducing trendiness into the language curriculum, pointing out that just a few years prior Russian was all the rage, he invokes the specter of perestroika. Perestroika? If the reference is jarring, it's because *The Browning Version* is based on a play Terence Rattigan wrote in 1939, and, except for the odd contemporary allusion, it looks and feels and sounds like 1939. When the boys wish to deride the old Crocker, they call him "the Hitler of the lower fifth" which was probably resonant when Rattigan penned his play but seems oddly quaint today. Δ

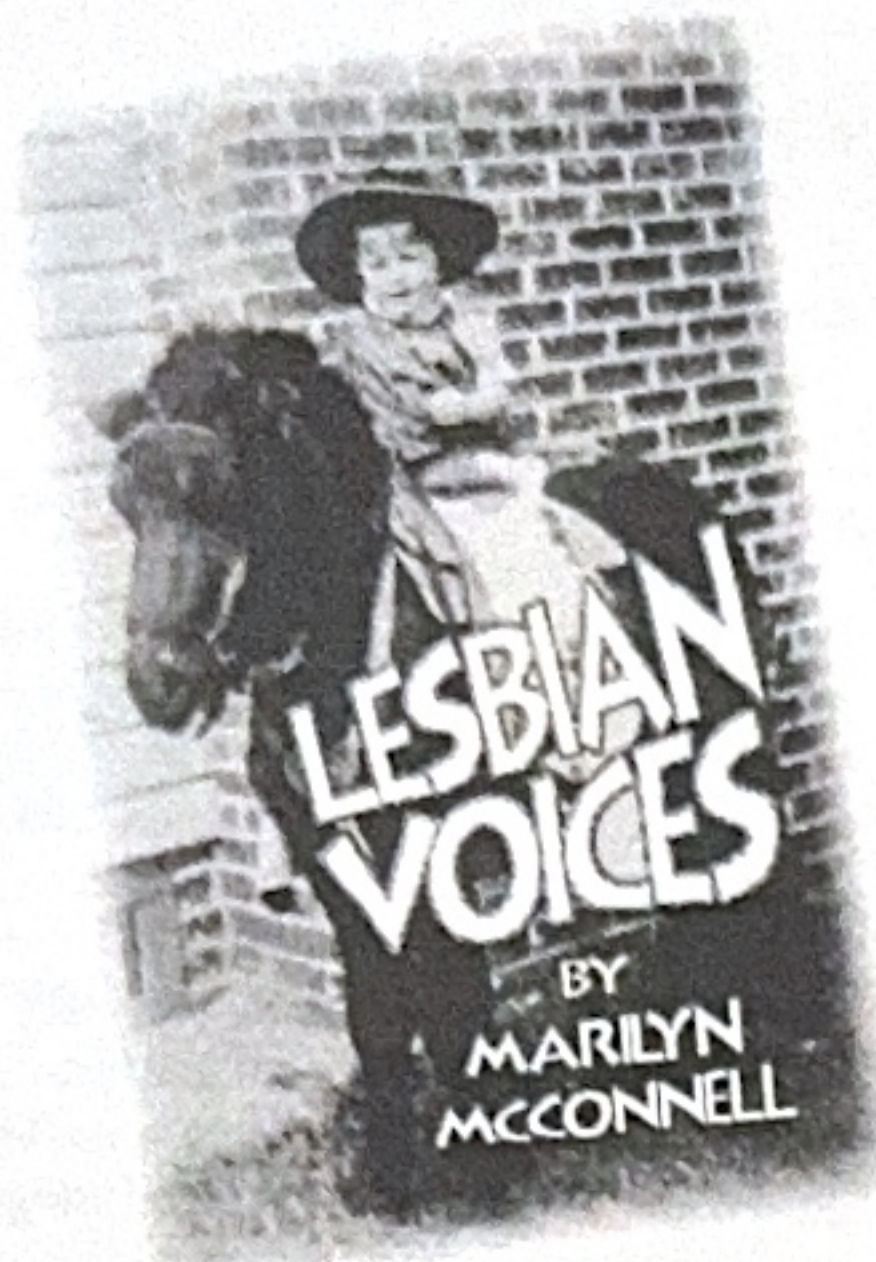
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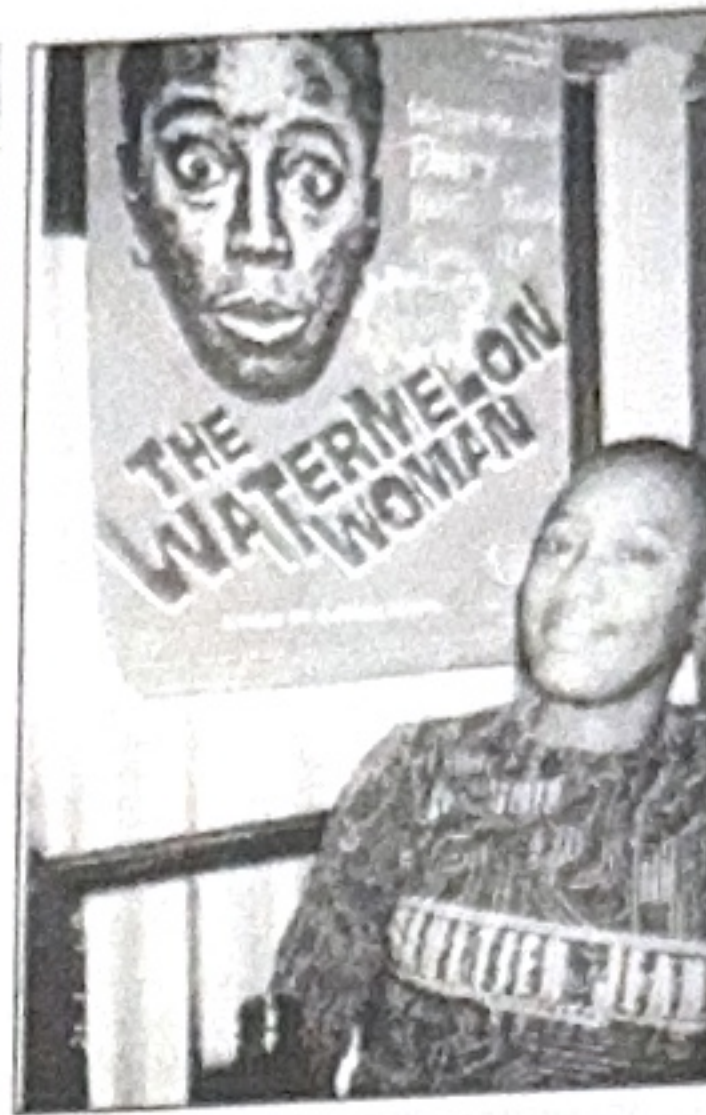
THE MOVIE POLICE
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LESBIAN CHILDREN

Hopefully, many lesbian children were watching when Ellen Degeneres, as "Ellen," announced to the large, nationwide T.V. audience that she is gay. Sure, they'll hear the Jerry Falwells and others make homophobic comments that we all heard as we grew up, but this is a different situation. These young girls saw a popular, vivacious, happy, funny woman, who is literally telling the world on national T.V. that she is a lesbian. We can always hope that, as they heard her talk about her junior high "crush" on another girl, they realized that they are not weird, wrong, or the only girl who ever felt attracted to another girl. The educational, weeklong interviews, talk shows and finally "Ellen" hopefully served as a beacon for teenage lesbians, who, maybe like Ellen Degeneres, were rejected by their families. Putting a child out of the house solely because she is homosexual is cruel. As Ellen's Dad agreed in interviews, such an action is usually based on fear and ignorance. There are also more subtle forms of rejection: homophobic parents may insist that their daughter play only with certain "girl's" toys, or wear only clothes perceived to be "feminine." Many lesbian children were forced to go to dancing school, denied baseball gloves and participation in "boy's" sports by desperate parents. Lesbian children must see lesbians in their lives as teachers, nurses, physicians, neighbors, relatives, and T.V. comedienne. We must be there for lesbian and gay children, that one in ten, we encounter everyday in the school, workplace, neighborhood, and home.

Do not reinforce the myth that children are unsafe among us and distance yourselves from them. We must be open to everyone, including children, about ourselves, our relationships and how we feel about our partners. Children, for the most part, are wonderfully accepting, even though they are growing up in a racist, homophobic society. Most feel safe and comfortable around those who love, respect



(left to right) Angela King from Hansen's Gallery with a Jazz Fest artist; Angela Torres, nationally ranked sabre fencer enjoying Jazz Fest; jeweler, Peggy Cockran, from Portland, at her Jazz Fest booth; Cheryl Dunye at reception following screening of her film *Watermelon Woman* at Zeitgeist. (photos by Marilyn McConnell)

and accept them. Children are also very vulnerable. Realize that every lesbian child's experience is not the same. Some of us knew at a very early age that we were different. And since few children or parents view "different" as a positive trait, we tended to internalize weird, strange, bad, as negative feelings — even though we didn't know the reason why. Many times we gave our parents different feedback from what they are expecting of a little girl. This was often puzzling for them and led to further misunderstanding.

Ellen Degeneres admittedly came out, not only for herself but for the lesbian and gay kids out there who are alone, ashamed, and afraid to be gay in our homophobic society. Ellen's done her part, now we must do ours. Be that positive lesbian or gay male relative, neighbor, or teacher, or T.V. comedienne who says it's O.K. to be different, it's O.K. to be lesbian or gay! It's not difficult to remember negative and possible positive lesbian and gay images and people who influenced your life. Be a positive influence on a lesbian or gay child.

According to well documented studies, the self esteem of girls in our culture begins eroding in pre pubescence, when sexual feelings toward others usually also appear. Every lesbian child must know it is O.K. to have these feelings for other girls. Unless we are open and honest about ourselves, in

our lives, they will not know that. The consequence of not knowing is very serious. It is yet another hit to their self esteem. Unfortunately, lesbian and gay teens are three times more likely to kill themselves than heterosexual children.

Thanks, Ellen Degeneres, for all of the education regarding homosexuality which was generated by the interview and talk shows, for being "out" for all lesbian and gay children, and for giving many adults the courage to be "themselves" at last.

CELEBRATION '97

The 17th annual weekend of "Celebration" will meet June 6-June 8 at the Marriott Hotel in New Orleans. Singer Toni Childs entertains Friday night; speakers Claudia Brenner and Paul Kawata followed by fabulous FEM2FEM, Saturday; and speaker Roberta Actenberg and a lesbian and gay film festival, Sunday. This is an information-packed, fun-filled, empowering, lesbian and gay weekend for \$110 advanced registration. Do not miss this event. Tell your friends from other cities to come. The Marriott is offering special rates for the conference with parking all day for \$5. There are separate admissions for different

activities. Call 488-3700 or 1-800-615-8506 for further information.

THE WOMEN'S NETWORK

This lesbian group with a focus meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month from 6-7:15 p.m. at the Relationship Therapy Center, 620 North Carrollton Avenue in New Orleans. Described as a place for women to meet, socialize and improve their level of communication, the center does not offer group therapy. Betsey Backe, Director of both the Relationship Therapy Center and the Divorce Center, opens the group with a short presentation on topics related to communications. The summer meeting dates are: May 27, June 24, and July 22.

DYKE TV

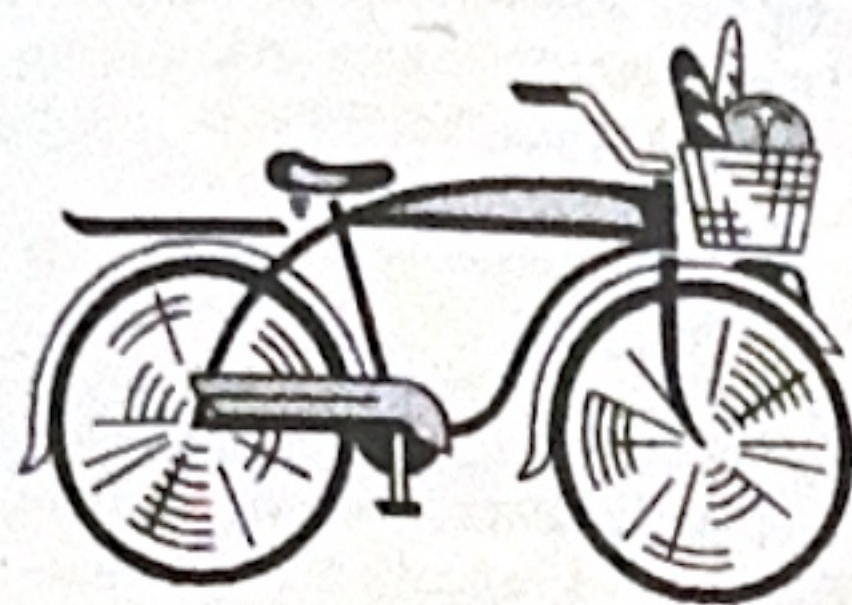
Tune in Dyke TV on Tuesdays from 4:30-5:00 p.m. on Channel 57 (or 77 in some areas). It is a weekly.

CORRECTION In the article on "More Magic" book store, Owner Ann Moore is a nurse, not a nurse mid-wife.



(left to right) All eyes were on "Ellen" at one local HRC house party; Bayou Women's Co-Chair Donna Moore at Jazz Fest with her partner, Carol; and at right, "Lesbian Child."

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National News

continued from page 10

couples don't get a traditional marriage license.

Hawaii's Legislature approved a bill to make Hawaii the first state to grant same-sex couples such things as inheritance rights, the right to sue for wrongful death, spousal benefits for insurance and state pensions, and similar rights.

If signed by Gov. Ben Cayetano, who supports the concept, it would take effect July 1. There is no residency requirement.

A second bill puts on the 1998 general election ballot a proposed constitutional amendment clarifying that the Legislature has the right to reserve marriage to opposite-sex couples.

Senate approval was unanimous while in the House, Reps. Eric Hamakawa, Scott Saiki, David Tarnas, Ed Case, Hermina Morita and Roy Takumi voted "no."

FLORIDA LAWMAKERS PASS BILL TO BAN SAME-SEX MARRIAGES

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (AP) Florida's restrictions on gay marriages would be even stronger under a bill the Legislature has sent to Gov. Lawton Chiles.

The state already bans gay marriages. But if Chiles lets the measure become law, Florida would join 18 other states that have taken the additional step of refusing to recognize same-sex marriages allowed in other states.

No state allows gay marriages. But the state Supreme Court of Hawaii may approve such unions in the future.

In Florida, the Senate voted 33-5 for the bill, a few weeks after the House passed the measure 97-19.

Critics said the bill discriminated against gays and would hurt the economy. Chiles said he hasn't made a decision about the bill. Gay activists said the decision was disappointing but not surprising. Bob Kunst of Miami said lawmakers had no right to try to regulate his lifestyle.

Same-sex couples often face legal problems when one dies or is seriously injured because no state or country recognizes their union. The difficulties include getting coverage by a partner's health plan.

HIV News

AIDS ACTION URGES CONGRESS TO RESIST COMPLACENCY

Washington, D.C. Daniel Zingale, AIDS Action's executive director, told members of a U.S. House appropriations subcommittee that while new AIDS drug therapies are keeping more people with HIV/AIDS alive and healthy, the AIDS epidemic is far from over.

Zingale urged the Labor, Health and Human Services appropriations subcommittee to recommend fiscal year 1998

AIDS program funding levels that maintain the federal government's investment in AIDS research, care, and prevention and education.

Zingale argued that Congress should demonstrate its commitment to ensure that new hope touches the lives of all Americans by increasing funding for federal AIDS programs, which include research, prevention and education, substance abuse prevention and treatment and the Ryan White CARE Act.

EXPERIMENTAL VACCINE PROTECTS CHIMPS FROM AIDS

NEW YORK (AP) Chimpanzees immunized with an experimental AIDS vaccine made from HIV genes have been protected from the virus for more than a year, an encouraging sign that the approach might work in humans.

It's the first time a "DNA vaccine" has squared off against HIV in chimps.

Two chimps got the vaccine and then a stiff dose of HIV 250 times the amount needed for infection. After 53 weeks, there was no sign of infection.

But it will take tests of the vaccine on people to know whether the approach would be useful.

Preliminary tests in people already have begun to look for side effects and see how the vaccine affects the body's defenses against disease. No results are available yet.

It will be important to follow the chimps longer to see if an HIV infection emerges, he said. The researchers are doing that.

Each chimp got two versions of the vaccine, made from certain altered HIV genes. The primates got six injections over 15 weeks, then two boosters later.

NEW MEDS: NEW CHALLENGES FOR MAINE AIDS PATIENTS

PORTLAND, Maine (AP) When the Peabody House opened in 1995, it was meant to be a hospice, a place where AIDS patients went to die.

But after taking new medicines, called protease inhibitors, two patients who expected never to leave on their own have walked out of the Portland facility.

As many of Maine's AIDS patients find hope in new medicines, Peabody House and the other organizations that help them are facing new challenges.

Some advocates worry that the new drugs will rob the epidemic of its urgency, causing people to donate less money to AIDS causes.

So far, donations have remained steady, but as people with AIDS live longer, they need more, different and frequently expensive services. The new drugs alone can cost more than \$20,000 per year, and people diagnosed with AIDS are living years longer than they once did.

As of last month, 778 Maine residents had AIDS, according to Sally-Lou Patterson, AIDS surveillance coordinator for the Maine Bureau of Health.

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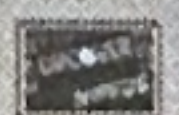
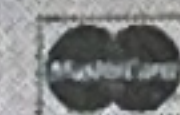
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by Edward Real

If New Orleans had hills, they would be alive with the sound of the last Rodgers and Hammerstein show. On a recent weekend when the management of Le Petit Theatre requested that the press not come to opening performances of *The Sound of Music* because the production was experiencing technical difficulties, this writer trotted uptown for Tulane Summer Lyric's gala entitled *Let's Go On With The Show*. In the course of this thirtieth anniversary celebration and fundraiser, which was a mostly pleasant excursion into nostalgia, a large chunk of *The Sound of Music* score was performed — all those treacly songs about cute dancing Nazis and kettles of kittens and lonely goatherds climbing every edelweiss and larks learning to pray.

If New Orleans had audiences with a bit more sophistication, or producers with a bit more imagination, we might not have to endure so much regurgitation of the same overworked material. I admit that *The Sound of Music* is not my cup of that drink with jam and bread, but I do acknowledge its craftsmanship, its uncanny popular appeal, and the commercial necessity for theatres to stick to the standard repertoire. Sometimes the old standards are served up with style, as in the case of the Tulane gala; sometimes they are dolloped out with a dash of cynicism by managements who seem to think the product is good enough for their audience if not for the critics.

In addition to the *S of M* score, *Let's Go On With the Show* featured tunes from *Annie Get Your Gun*, *South Pacific*, *Gigi*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Gypsy*, *Kiss Me Kate*, *The Music Man*, *Carousel*, and, for the sake of daring modernity, three Sondheim songs. If there is a certain lack of adventurous programming here, playing safe has some compensatory rewards in having familiar old tunes

performed by some of the familiar old pros who have kept the Lyric lyrical for 30 years. Among these were Frank Monachino thanking heaven for little girls with Chevalieresque charm, and Marc Embree employing his bass-baritone in "Some Enchanted Evening," proving that a big voice can deliver a great song quite effectively without the aid of personality. Anthony Laciura demonstrated that personal élan can bring vivid life to overworked material with "If I Were a Rich Man." And Elliott Keener and Alton Geno exercised some old fashioned showmanship to deliver the goods with "Brush Up Your Shakespeare."

Among the ladies on the program, Rita Lovett scored with selections from *Gypsy* and *Follies*, and Mildred Hong belted out *Mame's* "If He Walked Into My Life." Beverly Trask lit up the proceedings with her juicy, dressy, racy, lacy "Story of Lucy and Jessie," and there was surety without maturity provided by Leslie Castay ("Cockeyed Optimist" and "Will I Ever Tell You"), Patrick Rickerfur (going falsetto with "Bali Hai"), and Bridget Bazille (closing out the program with "You'll Never Walk Alone").

Let's Go On With the Show may have been more of an enchanted evening than a daring one, but it served its purpose admirably — to recall to its audience the Lyric's past seasons and to encourage support for future endeavors. I'd like to see such a revue become a regular part of the Lyric season, perhaps with a little more emphasis on what the future may hold than on what the past provided.

By the following weekend, Le Petit had its *Sound of Music* running relatively smoothly — relatively meaning that it wasn't the debacle we experienced in the immediately preceding production of *She Loves Me*. Still, this *Sound of Music* raises serious questions about Le Petit's production values, for while the show avoids disaster, it is nevertheless quite bad.

The most obvious faults here can be attributed to the technical staff. The design of the show is simply trashy. The curtain opens to reveal designer Bill Walker's approximation of the Austrian Alps — a couple of step units covered with wrinkled canvas and a few grungy plants placed before a purple painted Paramount Pictures logo. A black-clad Maria can hardly hope to engage our better spirits in such squalor, even with the uplifting title song.

The interiors are just as bad, as Captain von Trapp's "palatial" home is rendered as a vast white space of no visual distinction (and the designer doesn't even attempt to mask the joints and seams). But the Trapp's salon (oops, the von Trapp's) is a thing of beauty compared to the terrace, which sports a wood, Victorian staircase railing attached to the Teutonic stone facade of the house.

The costuming of Julie Winn is no better than the sets, utterly lacking in period awareness except perhaps in the nuns' habits. The lighting of David Riddick seems intended to hide the identity of the performers (perhaps a good idea). Mercifully, the show isn't overmiked as in the past, but we were treated to amplified backstage conversation in the midst of the first act finale, just as we were throughout Williams' Fest events.

The tech staff's deficiencies were matched by the director. Brandt Blocker obviously got this assignment because of his musical expertise; he does get good sounds of music from the pit orchestra, the nuns chorus, and even the seven little Trapps. But in spite of his name, he doesn't seem to know "do re mi" about blocking. The awkwardness of his staging, coupled with the characterless and unimaginative choreography of Holly Smith, conspire to make usually reliable actors like Liz Argus and Lance Spellerberg look bad (and though Ms. Argus has redeeming vocal qualities, Mr. Spellerberg does not).

The only members of the cast who survive this experience unscathed are Julie Tollivar and Jonathan Drury (as the sixteen and seventeen-year-old romantics separated

by politics) and Megan Dearie as the Mother Abbess, who, like Jeanette MacDonald in San Francisco, just stands there in the ruins and sings.

Among the shows Le Petit has announced for next season is *The Crucifer of Blood*. It is a play that is absolutely dependent on set design. I strongly urge the theatre to make a change either in the choice of play or in the technical staff.

A community theatre organization that almost always seems to have a practical sense of what it can do is the city-sponsored NORD Theatre (and how many city agencies can we say something so positive about?) Director Ty Tracy is sort of a naturally N'Awlins answer to Maria von Trapp. Though I don't think he ever tried to become a nun, he does have a knack for teaching kids enough skills in acting, singing and dancing to communicate their joy in performance and to make their performance a joy for adults.

Part of his success is that he doesn't confine his charges to the saccharin sentimentality of raindrops on roses. Instead, he gives them something like the current production of Bob Bruce and David Cuthbert's *The Trial of the Big Bad Wolf*. This entertaining trifle stirs together such unlikely ingredients as contemporary local and topical allusion (there's even an OJ joke), burlesque sketch humor, fairy tale characters, and even a rap song by a juvenile Fred Riding Hood. All of this is served with generous portions of ham (the show has three pig roles and David Tringali), and it's a treat for kids and adults. Δ

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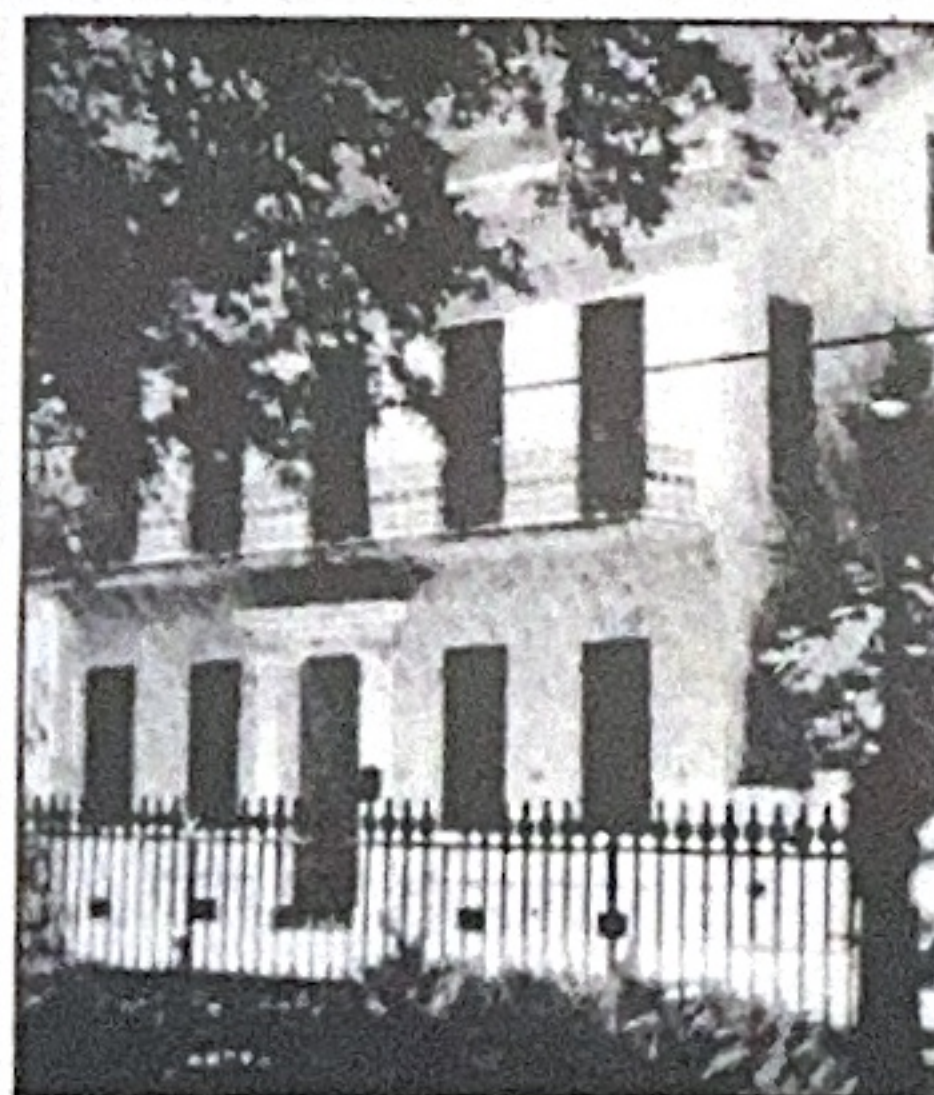
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WANDERLUST



by Ira Gruber

SAN FRANCISCO NOTES

It seems this city has everything for the gay/lesbian traveller. For those hot buzzcuts, there's a gay barbershop — Male Image at 2195 Market St. If leather drag is your bag, there's Image Leather at 2199 Market St. And for those big girls who prefer spiked shoes up to size 15 and dress sizes to size 26, there's the Foxy Lady Boutique. What doesn't this city have? Don't fail to visit the dungeon at Image Leather.

I don't need to be reminded by Mr. Gay San Francisco, David Perry, that this is a great theatre town. Check out the pink pages or *Datebook* which is published in the *San Francisco Chronicle*. There's always something pretty hot at the Hansberry Theatre at 620 Sutter near Lehr's Greenhouse, a must for lunch. You'll go gaga over their light or dry aged Angus Beef.

The Conservatory of Flowers, originally constructed in 1879 and commonly referred to as "the Crystal Palace," is an impressive example of Victorian Architecture. In 1918, a fire destroyed the original glass dome in the

central portion of the building. As the oldest building found in Golden Gate Park, it contains the only public collection of Masdevallia and Dracula Orchids in North America. Admission is a reasonable \$1.50, hours are 9-5 daily, and it's a very popular and romantic place to take a new date.

The goofiest ride is the Turbo-Ride at Pier #39. I wasn't particularly interested in going on patrol with Robo-Cop, which is a bit too tacky even for San Francisco. The Aquarium is a better choice. If you want to savor what's "very" San Francisco, dine at Neptune's Restaurant and Boudin's.

If you want to do something really special, take a Scenic Air Tour (800-353-2386) for a thrilling flight over one of the world's most picturesque cities! Flight time is one hour and admission is \$79. You can see San Francisco on a 52-foot sloop, the Yukon Jack, which is a decidedly different way to see San Francisco Bay. There are three cruises daily. Call 415-241-1803.

Ghirardelli Square, which turned 32 this year, contains the Boudin Sourdough Bakery and Cafe, Gaylord Indian Restaurant, and the Chocolate Factory. Ghirardelli still draws the crowds, because it was the first major inner city renewal effort in the country, before Rouse and Company malled the cities of America. As the Mother of All Urban Mall Renewal projects, the Square is quite distinctive. The project has even saved Domingo Ghirardelli's old factory!

The Napa Valley Wine Train is not in San Francisco. But a day without wine is a day without sunshine, and when visiting San Francisco, it pays to take Grayline to the Wine Train. Considered one of the top 1000 attractions in the United States, the Napa Valley Wine Train was around for almost 133 years until it was sold in 1987.

Vincent DeDomencio, the former head honcho at Golden Grain Macaroni Company, was looking for something unique. People around the world knew about "Rice-Aroni," the San Francisco treat, and Vincent, who owns Ghirardelli Chocolate Company, wanted to create a world class attraction for people visiting San Francisco, who also need some tranquility and want to get a feel for the Wine Country. For 10 years the Napa Valley Wine Train has been a bona-fide success. Even though the train ride is terribly slow, you won't have any complaints

about the food. For reservations call 800-522-4142.

The San Francisco's Gay Pride Parade, probably the leading gay and lesbian tourist event in the country, is organized by a committee that goes all out and even publishes a guide to the event. For a copy of the 1997 edition, call 415-864-Free.

If you are a senior or disabled, you can travel on BART at a discount, saving yourself about \$25 a week. Call 510-464-7133 for an application.

The San Francisco Shopping Center has the best on-line computer for accessing travel information. You can go hog wild on the computer. As an incentive, you can get freebies on the computer. If you are seeking restaurants and want to know about Neptune's Palace, there's a printout that says: Special Offer — "Present this coupon and enjoy a free appetizer or a bottle of House Chardonnay." Gaylord Indian Restaurant at the Embarcadero is mentioned as a winner of the *Focus Magazine* Award for Best Indian Restaurants. Hours, direction, and a special coupon are included, but they failed to mention the "all-you-can-eat" \$9.95 lunch buffet.

Neptune's Palace, known for its King Salmon and Dungeness Crab, is a San Francisco Experience, offering stunning views. Since you're going to be in that area at least once on your trip, this is a good place for lunch or dinner. Another favorite is Lehr's Greenhouse at 740 Sutter. You can dine in a magnificent garden, where towering ficus trees complement the white wicker gazebos and the abundance of plants and flowers. Bountiful salads, fresh seafood, and California cuisine is accented here.

Finding a place to stay is San Francisco is easy; finding the right place, another matter. The Willows Bed & Breakfast at 710 Fourteenth St. has been a favorite for years. Housed in a 1904 Edwardian, the Willows derives its name from the handcrafted bentwood willow furnishings which grace each room. The Willows is best suited for males and those that want the convenience of being in the Castro. Somehow the Willows typifies the gay San Francisco experience. Coziness and warmth are its chief hallmarks. Rates range from \$64 to \$105 (2 bedroom suite). Call 415-431-4770. One thing that you will never forget here is the Kimono Bathrobes

or the breakfast in bed. This place is a first class act, albeit you'd never know it from the nondescript entrance.

To get a copy of the *Bay Area Reporter* to prepare for your trip, call 415-861-5019. The best gay newspaper in the city is the *Bay Times* — 415-227-0800.



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Living in an historic home. It's something we take for granted, because most of us live in one, whether we realize it or not. We often forget how fortunate we are to be surrounded by such beautiful architecture that dates back one or even two centuries.

Once, when I was presenting a purchaser to a loan officer for an application, she asked me if the building was new or old construction. I told her new. She asked when it was built. When I told her the 1950s, she practically busted a lung, she was laughing so hard! Well, it seemed new to me compared to everything else in the 'hood.

Even now, when people ask me about the age of my own house, I tell them that it is relatively new, since it was built in 1915. People from suburbia usually stand there, dumbfounded, when we make such comments, but if they understood how old everything is here, they would be able to place buildings (and life, perhaps) into perspective as we do.

Yes, there's a lot of "old" all around us. Sometimes, when you have "old," you also find decay. That's one of the unfortunate side effects of aging. (That goes for people, too.)

But there's also something else one finds when one finds "old": gay people.

True, that statement may be an oversimplification, but not many people will disagree if you point out that gay men and lesbians are interested in older properties, even ones that have been abandoned and left for "dead." The re-gentrification process was virtually invented by gay men and lesbians.

Our subject house of the week is one such old property, which has been lovingly maintained by a gay man.

Built in the middle of the last century (we could say ante-bellum here, but that would be a bit much, don't you think?), this handsome Creole Cottage stands out in the 1800 block of Rampart in the Faubourg Marigny.

The owner, Gary Martin, says that the house is an "early dormered brick-between-post Creole Cottage." The brick between-post designation is an important one, as it dates a house's antiquity with relative surety. The term in French is *briques-entre-poteaux*, and it was a common form of construction with these Creole Cottages for quite some time. The builders of these

properties could never be certain about the strength of the bricks made from Louisiana soil, so by putting wooden timbers, or posts, to divide the bricks, they were providing a bit more support.

Now for a little lesson. Contrary to what some people may think, these facades were not meant to be exposed to the elements. For instance, a perfect example of a brick-between-posts is the old Lafitte's Blacksmith Shop. Having the bricks

exposed to the elements is wearing them down, and that is why the building looks like it does (falling down, that is). No, even though it may seem quaint to expose these architectural gems for the world to see, the fact is that it isn't healthy for the structure. In that time period, leaving this exposed would be like someone today not painting

the house after all the wood siding had been installed. It simply wasn't done, and for good reason.

Back to our subject property.

The house has a gourmet kitchen, with custom cypress cabinets and Corian countertops. Also downstairs is a double parlor with wood floors, three fireplaces and exposed brick-between-posts. ('Aha!' you're thinking. 'He did it! He exposed the walls!') Well, silly, it's okay to leave the bricks and posts exposed INSIDE the house.)

Upstairs is a very large bedroom with a sleeping loft and closets. The back yard is fenced and includes a brick patio and a pecan tree.

Now for a little lagniappe: The building also includes a one-bedroom rental unit — perfect for that extra bit of income to help with the monthly note.

The house is described in Volume IV: The Creole Faubourgs, of the New Orleans Architecture Series.

"Of special note is the single Creole Cottage with vestibule or hallway ... Note the single dormers, the pilastered entrance with recessed doorway, and the heavy box cornice with dentils surmounted by a parapet. This type Creole Cottage is relatively rare and shows the American influence in the emphasis on the entrance. This is a particularly handsome example of the style in the 1850s."

The property is being offered by Latter & Blum, Inc. for \$155,000 and is being marketed by its owner and agent, Gary F. Martin. Δ

Between the Sheets

"LOVE'S LABOR'S LOST ..."

BY JAMES PALMER

The Law of Enclosures
by Dale Peck (Pocket Books, \$12.00)

In the musical *Passion*, Stephen Sondheim's ill-fated heroine, Fosca, declares in song:

*I do not read to think.
I do not read to learn.
I do not read to search for truth.
The truth is hardly what I need.
I read to dream.*

Well, unless she wanted nightmares, Fosca shouldn't read Dale Peck's *Law of Enclosures*, a disturbing, emotional, provocative, and harrowing love story. Unlike Fosca, I read to think, to learn and to search for truth; and, therefore, from the very first page of the book, I was captivated by Dale Peck's poignant, moving and thought-provoking novel. And I'm not so sure why.

While Dale Peck's first novel, *Martin and John*, was hailed as a brilliant success both here and abroad, personally I found that book dispassionate and difficult to follow. Such was not the case with *Law of Enclosures*, which follows the narrative of the first novel. Now Peck tells the story of John's (of "Martin and John") parents, Beatrice and Henry, presenting a prospect of love and marriage full of raw emotion and intensity that "encloses" the participants.

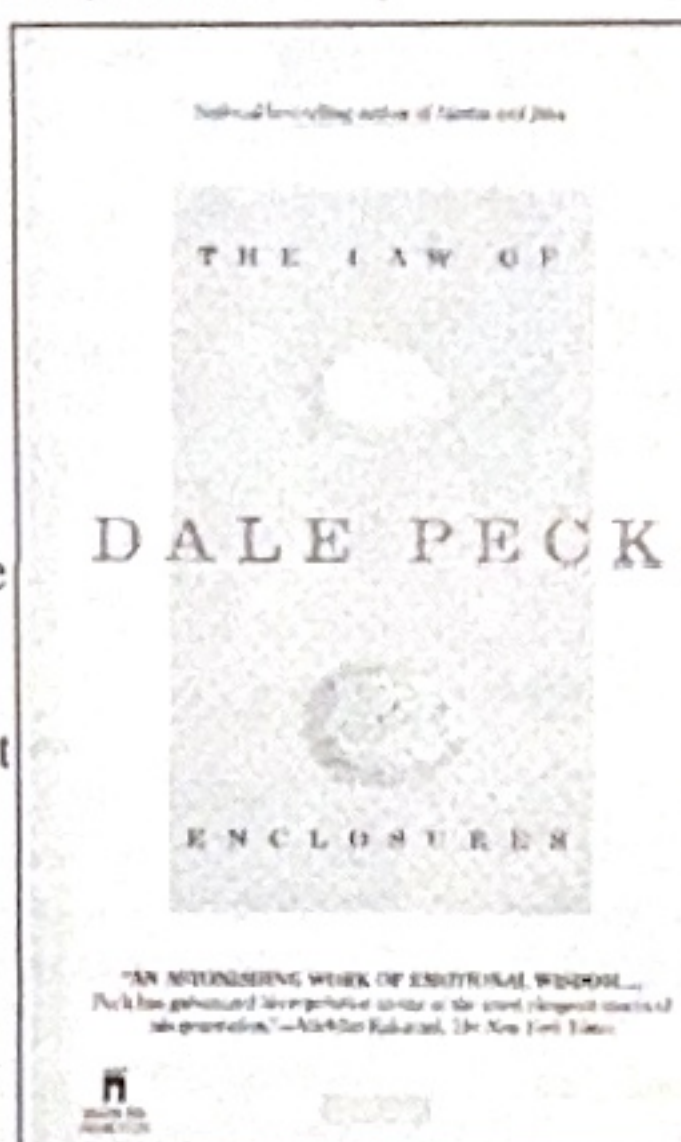
In a daring narrative construction, Peck alternates chapters in Parts I, "The Bough Breaks," and III, "Red Deer," between the couple's early, happy life together and their tormented lives some 40 years later. Part II, "Lamentations," is Dale Peck's own family memoir, "a 50-page personal account that becomes the lens through which we view Henry and Beatrice's struggle to hold on to each other."

Dale Peck's "law of enclosure" (for me, anyway) is a paradox in which we, in an act of love, "enclose" ourselves in another person. And as we begin to smother from desperate attempts to keep love alive, betrayal and exploitation force us into a deep, inner space into which no love may enter. While I found Peck's story a painful look at love and marriage, I was held, nevertheless, by a suspenseful wonder as to whether or not Beatrice and Henry would ultimately, through love and forgiveness, salvage "the one thing they know how to do — to love each other passionately." In the final dreamlike and surrealistic pages of the book, all Beatrice and Henry's "enclosures" come crashing down, laying bare their true love; albeit, 40 years too late!

While I can't say I really enjoyed this book, which in quality and tone has a similar feeling to Edward Albee's *Who's*

Afraid of Virginia Wolf, I must admit that Peck's "graceful prose" often raises the most mundane situation into a compelling lyricism. Ultimately, when I think of Beatrice and Henry's love story, I will always remember a section of the book in which the doomed couple are discussing their estranged children's refusal to come and visit them. To Henry's statement that "It's not right, Beatrice. You know it's not right. We never did nothing to them," Beatrice responds, "No, Henry, we never did nothing to them ...

We did it all to each other ... We just made them watch." And Dale Peck in his *Law of Enclosures* is likely to do the same thing to you.



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IMPACT DIRECTORY

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ACTIVIST GROUPS

Forum For Equality — PO Box 850096, NOLA 70185-0096
 Homosexual Information Center — 115 Monroe, Boissier City, LA 71111
 Lesbian Avengers of New Orleans — PO Box 791375, NOLA 70179-1375, voice mail 365-3069
 New Orleans Alliance of Pride — PO Box 52343, NOLA 70152, Penny Young, info 830-5056

AIDS/HEALTH

Advocacy Center for the Elderly & Disabled — 210 O'Keefe, Ste. 700, NOLA 70122, 522-2337 (New Orleans), or 800-960-7705
 AIDSLaw — 944-5035
 Belle Reve — 945-9455
 Buzzy's Boys & Girls/The William J. Fanning Foundation — 943-8929
 Charity Hospital/C-100 Clinic — 568-5304
 Darrell Hamby Memorial Food Bank — 704 N. Rampart, 524-3488
 Food For Friends — 2533 Columbus, 944-6028
 Gay Counseling Line — 885-4476
 Jefferson Parish Human Services Authority — 3101 W. Napoleon, Metairie, 70001, 83805215 (HIV Mental Health Program, 846-6947 (Transportation and HOPWA Housing))
 Lambda Center — 2106 Decatur, 947-0548 (AA & Al-Anon)
 The Live Foundation — 3562 Vestasian Suite 105, NOLA 70114, 366-8697; free nutrition education & blood monitoring
 NO/AIDS Task Force — 1401 Decatur, NOLA 70116, 945-4000 (administration), 944-AIDS (hotline), 800-992-4379 (statewide hotline), 944-2492 (TTD)
 North Lake AIDS Network (NoLAM), PO Box 2397, Slidell 70459, (504) 641-6750
 Project Lazarus — 949-3609
 PWA Coalition, The Boswell Center — 704 N. Rampart, 524-3488
 RAIN (Regional AIDS Interfaith Network) — 523-3755
 The Living Room at the MCC — 1128 St. Roch Ave., Wed. 7 p.m.
 Tulane/LSU Adult AIDS Clinical Trials Unit — 585-4002 or Perdido Street office 584-3605
 United Services for AIDS — 522-5239
 V. A. Medical Center — 589-5920
 Wednesday's Child (Adult Children of Alcoholics) — 2106 Decatur, Lambda Center, Wed. 6 p.m.

ARCHIVES

Amistad Research Center, Tulane University — 6823 St. Charles Ave., 865-5535; material on civil/gay rights, race relations & queer issues.

AUTO DEALERSHIPS

Crescent City Motors — 836-7575
 Bill Garrett Autoplex — 800-826-6562
 Bill Watson Ford — 243-7237

BARs

For a list of local lesbian & gay bars, please see *eclipse*, Impact's gay nite life and adult entertainment supplement.

CHIROPRACTIC

Dr. Michael Lechleiter — 3615 Prytania St, 895-2350

CLEANING SERVICES

Tidy Cleaning Services — 341-6959

COMMUNITY CENTERS

Adolescent Drop-In Center — sponsored by NO/AIDS, 1434 N. Rampart, 948-6696
 Camp Sister Spirit — PO Box 12, Overt MS 39464, (601) 344-2005
 GL Friendly Community Center — 308 Caillavet, Biloxi MS 39530 (601) 396-3333
 Lesbian & Gay Community Center — 816 N. Rampart, 522-1103, fax 527-5334
 Westbank Community Ctr. — 103 Brunswick Ct. Algiers 70131 433-5912

CONTRACTORS

Contracting by Harold — 840-0428 (bpr)

DENTISTRY

Dr. Kathryn Philpott-Hill — General Dentistry 6120 Magazine St, 891-7471

FINANCIAL

N. American Mortgage — 831-2908

FITNESS/SPAS

Club New Orleans — 515 Toulouse, 581-2402
 Midtowne Spa — 700 Baronne, 566-1442

GROCERIES & DELIS

A&P — 701 Royal, 523-1353
 Whole Food Co — 3135 Esplanade, 943-1626

GUEST HOUSES

Clabome Mansion — 2111 Dauphine, 949-7327
 CYGNE Guest House — 934 Port 948-4334
 French Quarter Suites — 1119 N. Rampart, 524-7725
 Lafitte Guest House — 1003 Bourbon, 581-2678
 La Residence — 1239-41 Marais, 522-4828
 Henry Howard House — 822-2798
 Macarty Park — 3820 Burgundy, 943-4994
 Mazant — 906 Mazant, 944-2662
 Over C's — 940 Elysian Fields, 943-7166
 Reinbowe House — 2311-15 N. Rampart, 943-5805 or 949-5815
 Royal Street Inn & Bar — 1431 Royal Street, 948-7499 or 1-800-449-5535

HAIRCARE/SALON

Antonio's — 839 Rue Spain, 943-0333, ask for Barry
 Headquarters — 900 Dauphine, 522-2666
 Tantalistics Tanning Salon — 301 Burgundy, 525-TANN (8266)

LAUNDRY

Hula Mae's — Dumaine/Rampart, 522-1336
 Washing Well — 841 Bourbon, 523-9955

LAWN CARE

Duane Myers — 947-5709

MEDICAL

Dr. Waldo Holt — 2001 Canal, 524-2054
 Jewish Family Services — 3330 W. Esplanade, Ste. 600, Metairie, 831-8475
 Pride Institute at Solutions — Depressions, Drugs, Anxiety, 1-800-DIAL-GAY
 Dr. Jim West, Counseling — 943-1436
 see also *Chiropractic & Dentistry*

MOVING SERVICES

New Orleans Moving Co. — 486-1810

NEWSPAPERS & BOOKS

Beckham's Bookshop — 228 Decatur, 522-9875
 Bookstar — Jackson Brewery, 523-6411
 Faubourg Marigny Bookstore — 600 Frenchmen, 943-9875
 IMPACT, & *eclipse* — 944-6722 (on the web: <http://www.impactnews.com>)
 Pink Pages/New Orleans — 947-3969

Second Stone — 899-4104

The Weekly Guide — 522-4300

PETS & GROOMING

The Groom Room — all breeds, by Buddy Jones, 1120 N. Rampart, 586-9002

PEST CONTROL

Pro-Tech — 736-0736

PHARMACIES

Mumphrey's Pharmacy — 1021 W. Judge Perez, 279-6312

POLITICAL

LAGPAC (Louisiana Gay Political Action Caucus) — PO Box 53075, NOLA 70153
 League for Equality — PO Box 53425 Lafayette, LA 70505

LEGAL (Louisiana Electorate of Gays and Lesbians) — PO Box 70344, NOLA 70172, voice mail 365-3105

LEGAL: Alexandria-Pineville — PO Box 3036, Pineville, LA 71361

LEGAL: Baton Rouge — PO Box 44370, Baton Rouge, LA 70804

LEGAL: Lafayette — PO Box 90501, Lafayette, LA 70509

LEGAL: Shreveport — PO Box 44543, Shreveport, LA 71134-4543

Log Cabin Republicans, Louisiana Log Cabin — Randy Evans, meeting info & voice mail 593-1083

P-FLAG (Parents, Family & Friends of Lesbians & Gays) — meetings 2nd Thurs at St. Charles Ave. Presbyterian Church, 581-2749 or 895-3936

REAL ESTATE

Commodore Apartments — David, 891-9300
 French Quarter Realty — 949-5400; Agent Gary Williams 581-2889

Latter & Blum — 948-3011. Agents: Robyn Halvorsen 947-2086, Lane Lacey 948-4334, Pat O'Rourke 945-4545, Ray Ruiz 948-2217, Kyle Scafide 482-0009

Marigny Brokers, LLC — Robert Rollins, 947-1999 or 944-0205

Martha Ann Samuel Realtors — Erwin H. Wallen, 861-4700 or 899-6372

Robert Rollins Appraisals — 726 St. Roch, 947-0397

Winter's Title Agency — 488-0091

RELIGIOUS GROUPS & ORGANIZATIONS

1st Unitarian Church of New Orleans Gay & Lesbian Task Force — 5212 S. Claiborne Ave., 865-7005 (men) or 822-3278 (women)
 Abundant Grace Christian Fellowship — 634 E. Boston, Bldg. #3, Covington 70433, Pastor Lee Thompson, 871-9527

Associated Catholic Charities — 1000 Howard Ave. Ste 1200, NOLA 70113
 Grace Fellowship in Christ Jesus — 3151 Dauphine Street, 944-9836

Integrity — 1329 Jackson, 866-1577 or 865-7343, 3rd Tues. each month at Trinity Episcopal Church

Jewish Gay & Lesbian Alliance — Contact: Amos Lassen, 525-8286

Joie de Vivre Metropolitan Community Church — 330 East Chimes (504) 383-0450
 Lambda Chi Gay & Lesbian Jews — 3330 W. Esplanade, Ste. 600, Metairie, LA 70002, 831-8475

Old Catholic Diocese of La. — 433-5912
 Queer Taoists — 504 949-8876

St. Ambrose Holy Catholic Church — 1128 St. Roch Ave. (Upstairs Chapel), 558-0713, Sun. 10 a.m. Mass

St. Mark's United Methodist Church — 1130 N. Rampart, Sunday 9:30 a.m. Worship, 529-1681

Tau House — 1029 Governor Nichols St., 4:15 p.m. Sunday mass, Everyone is Welcome!

Vieux Carré Metropolitan Community Church — 1128 St. Roch Ave., 945-5390

RESTAURANTS & CAFES

Bywater Bar-B-Que — 3162 Dauphine at Louisiana, 944-4445. BBQ, Sunday Brunch & Mol
 Cafe Lafayette — 717 Orleans, 571-4615
 Cafe Marigny — 1913 Royal, 945-4472, sandwiches, soups, coffees, sodas, pastries
 Cafe Sbis — 1011 Decatur, 522-5565, innovative culinary delights; Major Cards (p)
 Feelings Cafe — 2600 Chartres, 945-2222, classic Creole; lovely courtyard (L,D)
 Figaro's Pizzeria — 7900 Maple St., 866-0100, exotic pizzas, pastas, specials (L,D)
 Fiorellas — 45 French Market Place, 528-9566, Italian & Creole, daily specials, closes early; Major Cards (B,L,D)

Krystal — 114 Bourbon, 523-4030, 24 hrs, famous square burgers, breakfast & more

La Madeleine — 547 St. Ann, 568-9950, Caesar salad, croissants, French Onion soup (B,L,D)

Louisiana Pizza Kitchen — 95 French Market Place, 522-9500 gourmet wood-fired pizzas, lunchtime sandwiches; Visa, MC, AX (L,D)

Lucky Cheng's — 720 St. Louis, 529-2045, Asian Creole Cuisine; Major Cards (L,D)

Mona Lisa — 1212 Royal St., 522-6746, pizza, salads, sandwiches, Turkish; Visa, MC, AX (L,D)

Poppy's Grill — 717 St. Peter, 524-3287, burgers, sandwiches; Visa, MC, AX (B,L,D)

Red Bike Cafe — 746 Tchoupitoulas, 529-2453
 Rotisserie Cafe — 47 French Market Place, Italian wines, pasta & grilled chicken (L,D)

Sebastian's — 538 St. Philip, 524-2041, dinner restaurant with Sunday brunch.

Upperline — 1413 Upperline, 891-9822, casual atmosphere; Major cards (p)

Vera Cruz — 1141 Decatur, 561-8081

Vaqueros — 4938 Prytania (at Robert), 891-6441, southwestern cuisine, Major cards

RETAILERS

Alternatives — 907 Bourbon, 524-5222
 Anton Jewelers — 3121 22nd St., Metairie, 833-4367

Diversions — 337 Burgundy, 522-8721
 French Quarter Camera — 809 Decatur, 529-2974

Futonia — 3811 Magazine, 899-4356
 Gargoyles — 1205 Decatur, 529-4387

Gay Mart — 808 N. Rampart, 523-6005
 Kruz — 432 Barracks, 524-7370

Limbo — 1125 Decatur, 523-3435
 Panda Bear — 415 Bourbon, 529-3593

Postmark New Orleans — 631 Toulouse, 529-2052
 Rings of Desire — 1128 Decatur, 524-6147

Video Alternatives — 4725 Magazine, 891-5347

SOCIAL ORGANIZATIONS

Bayou Women's Tennis Club — PO Box 19797 NOLA, 70179-0797, contact Sharon, 482-4807

Frontrunners Running Club — 528-3023, Barry

Gay Bowling League — Mon. at Mid-City Lanes, 482-3133

"Husbands for Husbands" — at the L & G Community Center; 3rd & 4th Wed. at 7 p.m., 522-1103

Knights d'Orleans — Box 50812, NOLA 70150

Lords of Leather — Box 72105, NOLA 70172

Men of All Colors Together — PO Box 52801, NOLA 70152-2801

Men of Color — PO Box 57694, NOLA 70157-7694, 482-5341

National Leather Association: New Orleans — PO Box 50133, NOLA 70150

New Orleans Bear & Bear Trapper Social Club — Box 13584, NOLA 70185, 897-1594

New Orleans Gay Men's Chorus — 245-8884

New Orleans Women's Music Collective — 2903 Jefferson Ave., NOLA 70115, 838-7918 or 833-2834

Original Kocktail Bunch Bowling League — 861-0233

Positive Attitudes — a social club for HIV+ people, P.O. Box 2543, Lafayette, La 70502, (318) 365-8090

Positively Social — a social club for those HIV+ or HIV- friendly, 947-6306

Prime Timers of New Orleans — PO Box 71611, NOLA 70172-1611, Contact: John Alexander 525-3299; meets 1st Sun each month at Queen's Head Pub 1 p.m.

Team New Orleans — 940 Royal Street, Box 288, NOLA 70116

Twentysomething, alternative group — at the Lesbian & Gay Community Center, 816 N. Rampart, 522-1103

UNO Gay/Lesbian Alliance — UNO Student Affairs Office, NOLA, 70148, 286-6349

Womyn of Color — 488-5708/891-0673

SUPPORT

Coming Out Support Group — first and third Wednesday, 7 pm at Unitarian church, Info at 943-5976 or 524-6036

Gay Counseling Line (24 hrs) — 885-4476

Gulf Gender Alliance Cross-dressers, TS, TG Support Group — 833-3046

Relationship Therapy Center — support for gay and straight spouses & kids, 488-9924, 4th Tue. each month

TRAVEL

800 Ideas — 1-800-FLY-GAYS

Alternative Tours & Travel — 1001 Marigny, 943-5805 or 949-5815

Dart Travel — 522-6669

French Quarter Reservations — 1-800-523-9091, 523-1246

Great American Travel — Vito Zuppardo, 833-0600

Travel New Orleans — 400 Magazine, Ste 201, Discounted air and hotel rooms, 1-800-535-8747

TravelScope — Dexter, 488-3742

Uniglobe Travel — 522-0003

VETERINARY SERVICES

Begue Veterinary Hospital — 1421 N. Rampart, 944-6855

Dr. Mike — 1120 N. Rampart, 523-4455

Louisiana S.P.C.A. — 1319 Japonica, 944-7445

VIATICAL SERVICES

Positive Living Resources, 1-800-398-5177

WEB SITES & SERVICES

eclipse — www.impactnews.com/eclipse

IMPACT — www.impactnews.com

for lesbian and gay New Orleans — www.showmesomething.com (944-6722)

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To list your group, organization or gay-owned/gay-friendly business in the Impact Directory call 944-6722 or e-mail us at impact@impactnews.com. Unless otherwise indicated, area code is (504). Businesses who are not regular IMPACT advertisers may have their enterprise listed here for \$40 per year.

May 16th and 17th, 1997



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