

IMPACT news

Let's do
**MARDI
GRAS**

Your complete
guide begins on
page 23



Volume 25, Issue 04

GAY & LESBIAN NEWS FOR NEW ORLEANS AND THE GULF SOUTH SINCE 1977

FEBRUARY 25/2000

36 students suspended after McKinley protests

Gay-Straight Alliance could be in jeopardy

by MELINDA SHELTON

BATON ROUGE—After meeting Tuesday with school officials, a gay student battling to form a Gay-Straight Alliance at his public high school said he now believes his request may be denied due to the suspension of fellow students who protested last week and escalating public disapproval of the club.

Marty Pfeiffer, 17, first asked McKinley High School Principal Alma Warren to permit the club five months ago. Warren declined, forcing Pfeiffer to take his fight to the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board. Two weeks ago, school system officials gave principals permission to approve all extracurricular clubs, and Pfeiffer said Warren implied in earlier conversations that she would permit the GSA.

But after protests against the club rocked McKinley last Friday, and a group of ministers met with Warren to voice their opposition on Monday, Pfeiffer said he thinks officials will forbid the GSA based on a policy against groups that are "disruptive to students and schools."

Pfeiffer said he met with Warren and East Baton Rouge Parish High Schools Executive Director David Corona on Tuesday, the same day 36 students were suspended for the Feb. 18 protests. In the meeting, Corona "repeatedly" stressed that a decision against the clubs can be appealed, Pfeiffer said.

The students received 3-day suspensions—beginning Feb. 23—to a parish discipline center because they participated in an "inappropriate disturbance" and "refused to return to class when ordered to do so," Corona told *IMPACT News*. Those suspended could return to McKinley Feb. 28, Corona said.

Students protest 'gay club'

GSA organizers Pfeiffer and Leslie Spillman, both 17 and seniors,

refused to attend class Monday, saying the student demonstrations and escalating verbal and physical harassment created an atmosphere of intimidation and terror.

On Feb. 18, several groups of students—estimated to number between 25 and 50—staged protests at the school. The first protest occurred in front of the school shortly after students arrived on campus at 7 that morning. A group of students then entered the building and ran through hallways banging on lockers and classroom doors, chanting "No gay clubs," said Pfeiffer, an honors student in the school's gifted and talented program. Those students ignored Warren's announcements to return to class, he said.

"I don't know what they would have done if they'd spotted my bleached-blond hair," Pfeiffer said. "There's no way my English teacher could have protected me from 50 angry students. I was scared to death—and angry."

Another protest occurred later in the morning when media again showed up on campus. Those students obeyed Warren's orders to disband and go to class, Corona said.

Although Warren had prior warning that a protest would occur and alerted all teachers to be at school Friday morning, she did not inform Pfeiffer, Spillman or their parents. Pfeiffer and Spillman told *IMPACT News* they would not have attended classes that day had they known of the protests.

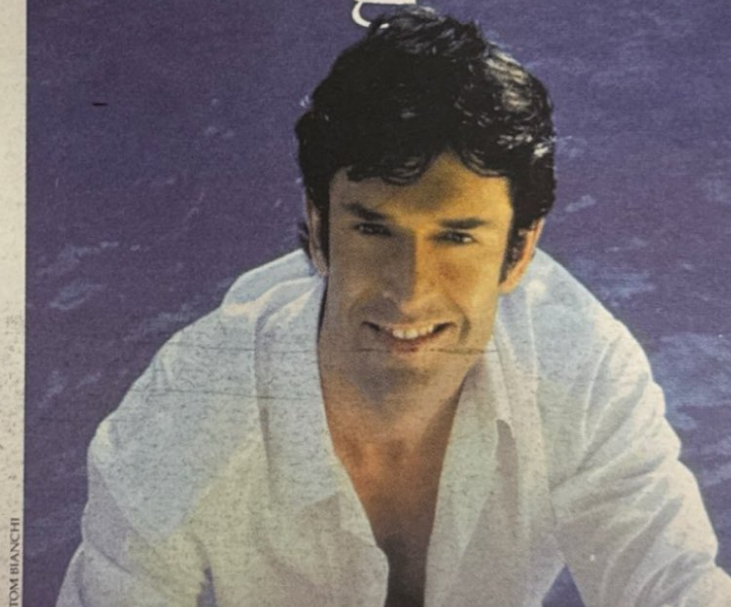
Pfeiffer said several protesters carried signs with messages including "God made Adam and Eve, Not Adam and Steve" and "We love the sinner but not the sin."

Spillman said she was accosted in a hallway by a female student who physically threatened her and spewed obscenities, all related to Spillman's sexual orientation and her efforts to start a GSA. She and Pfeiffer

➤ Continued on page 9

Gay goes HOLLYWOOD ...again

For Rupert Everett,
being gay is "The
Next Best Thing"
and film-goers will
get to see how
when the film
opens March 3



by LUCAS J. MIRE

MIAMI—"Is that him?" another writer asks, tapping my shoulder and pointing toward the entrance of Liquid, one of South Beach's gay hotspots. Tonight the club is the site of the little soiree Paramount has staged to promote its new gay-themed film "The Next Best Thing," starring Madonna and Rupert Everett.

"No," I reply, taking a sip of my complimentary cocktail as my eyes adjust to the bar lighting. "He's too short."

Wrong answer.

Before I know it, Rupert Everett, movie-star-on-the-rise, is looming nearby, a puddle of people around him while he casually sips a Heinken.

Within minutes of my sighting, photographer Tom Bianchi, who's on hand to shoot a special set of Rupert promo photos the next day, ushers me into the tiny group. Other writers want their time with Rupert, so I sit back, trying to pretend that meeting the actor/model/novelist who made being gay

➤ Continued on page 16

Bourbon Street Awards

Mardi Gras Day at Noon

740 Burgundy Street - At the corner of St Ann Street



With Your Favorite Hostess

Varla Jean Merman



**"The Greatest Free Show
Of Mardi Gras"**

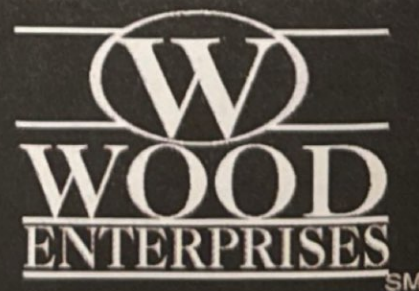


Categories include:

**Best Male - Best Female - Best Group
Fantasy - Leather - Best tits (male or female)
Best of Show**



**Proud Sponsors
Year After Year**



Why stand in line awaiting restaurant seating during Southern Decadence, when French Quarter Reservation Service offers an "all Gay" two hour dinner cruise down the legendary Mississippi River.

Southern DECADENCE

2000

SEPTEMBER 2ND

The "John James Audubon" leaves the dock at Toulouse Street Wharf (located behind Jackson Square on the River) at 7:00 pm on Saturday, September 2nd, and returns in time to visit your favorite venue.



The ship will carry you in style down the river and back to the French Quarter Landing. It's a cruise through time. Along the way, we'll show you some of the most remarkable sights ...and we'll bring them to life with colorful stories and historical reminiscences. On board, you'll savor the age old power and majesty of the river in a spirit of adventure while enjoying a "cajun delights" dinner.

This trip is included in your accommodation rate!

when you book your
French Quarter accommodations.

French Quarter
Reservation Service

Toll-free: 1-800-523-9091

*Premier Hotels and Guest Houses
in the Heart of N'awlins*

Phone: (504) 523-1246 • Fax: (504) 527-6327

E-mail: fqrsinc@bellsouth.net • Website: www.neworleansgay.com

1000 BOURBON ST., PMB #263, NEW ORLEANS, LA 70116

IN THIS ISSUE

NEWS

36 students suspended	1
Same-sex legislation passes	5
Gay teens promise tolerance	5
Around the Nation	6
Around the South	7
Health News	19

VIEWPOINTS

Editorial	10
Ron Williams, cartoon	10
Positive Viewpoint	11
Ethan Green	11
Lesbian Voices	13
Dykes to Watch Out For	13
Claiming our past	14

TIME OUT

Gay goes Hollywood...again!	1
Quote/Unquote	21
Barkus	23
Hotbeats	23
Mardi Gras do's & don'ts	24
Music for a Queer Planet	27
Health & Fitness	29
Eating Out	30
Raquel's Social Calendar	33
Barmap	34
Out in Print	36
On Stage	37
Classifieds	42
Service Directory	44
My Stars!	46

VOLUME 25
NUMBER 04

IMPACT news

All material in IMPACT is protected by federal copyright law and may not be reproduced without the written consent of IMPACT. The sexual orientation of advertisers, photographers, writers and cartoonists published herein is neither inferred or implied. The appearance of names or pictorial representation does not necessarily indicate the sexual orientation of that person or persons.

IMPACT accepts unsolicited editorial material but cannot take responsibility for its return. The editor reserves the right to accept, reject or edit any submission. All rights revert to authors upon publication. Guidelines for freelance contributors available upon request.

IMPACT NEWS
2116 - 18 Burgundy
New Orleans, LA 70116
(504) 944 6722

Gay teens ask schoolmates to promise tolerance

MIDDLETON, Wis. (AP)—Calling for an end to harassment and narrow-mindedness, a group of gay and lesbian teen-agers and their friends is trying to persuade a majority of teachers and students to sign a pledge calling for tolerance of students of all backgrounds and persuasions.

Lindsey Clough, one of the students organizing the pledge drive, said she identifies with the gay community in part because a close friend of her family lost a partner to AIDS.

She described her childhood as "extremely difficult," and said she has found gays and lesbians to be "some of the most understand-

ing people I've met in my life."

The student group says its goal is to get most of the school's 1,600 students and 200 teachers to sign a pledge of tolerance and in the process prove that the school accepts all students.

High school is often a prime place for gay students to be abused, according to a report last year by the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network. The group surveyed teens in 32 states and found that 91 percent of gay and lesbian teens reported "homophobic" remarks at school and 69 percent said they experienced some form of harassment or violence.

Patrick Kelly, an openly gay freshman, said that while Middleton tends to be more accepting of gay students than many other high schools, there is always room for improvement.

"Middleton is rich white people," Patrick said. "Minorities are probably feeling so alone."

Lisa Aarli, a teacher who advises the student group, says she has seen great enthusiasm over the pledge event. "It's given a lot of kids something to grab onto for a lot of different reasons," she said. "The kids on the margins are being pulled into something big and powerful in the school."

Same-sex legislation passes crucial vote

OTTAWA—A proposed law that extends same-sex couples the same benefits as common-law pairs passed a crucial vote in the Commons late Monday. Thirteen Liberals broke ranks with their government to side with the Reform party and a handful of other MPs who did not want the legislation passed in its current form. But the opposition wasn't enough and the bill passed second reading by a vote of 161 to 60. The bill can now proceed to the all-party Commons justice committee, which will study it and hear from witnesses on how it may be improved.

The bill, which must also be passed by Senate before it becomes law, changes some 68 federal statutes to allow same-sex couples to get benefits and obligations now exclusive to heterosexual common-law pairs. Among other things, the bill would allow couples to claim each other or their children as dependants on their income tax, collect survivor benefits under the Canada Pension Plan, and pass registered retirement savings to their partners without being taxed. Ottawa began working on the bill in earnest after the Supreme Court of Canada struck down last year Ontario's definition of "spouse" because it excluded gay and lesbian couples.

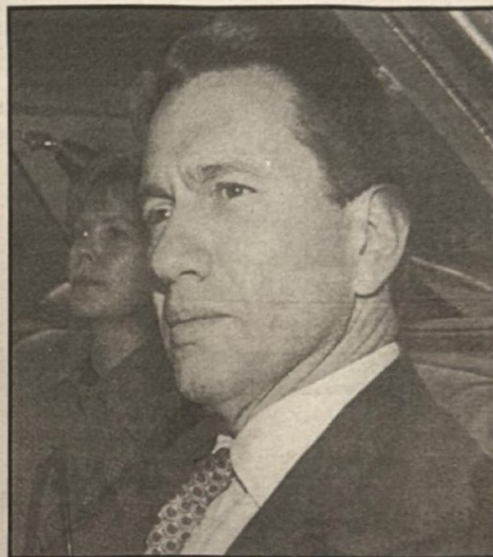
House of Lords defeats repeal of 'no promo homo' law

LONDON—British Prime Minister Tony Blair vowed to press ahead with the abolition of Section 28, which bans local authorities in Scotland from talking about homosexuality in schools, despite suffering a

defeat in the House of Lords, the Electronic Telegraph reported. After the 201-165 defeat, Blair rejected a call by William Hague, the Tory leader, to abandon repeal of the clause. In a hardening of the Tories' stance on retaining the ban, Hague said opposition to repealing Section 28 was "about whether millions of parents in this country have the right to determine what their children are taught." Blair should now "listen to people and drop this whole idea," Hague said. Blair replied bluntly: "No, I won't." The prime minister is expected to seek a vote on Section 28 in the House of Commons in the coming weeks, after which the measure would go back to the Lords. But if the Lords rebuff the government again, the repeal would be unlikely to pass before the next general election, widely expected next year.

House of Commons votes to lower gay consent age

LONDON (AP)—British lawmakers voted 263-102 to approve a bill to lower the age of consent for gay sex from 18 to 16, though it still faces opposition in the House of Lords. Home Secretary Jack Straw said lowering the age of consent for gay men was about creating a society "free from prejudice." Straw's Tory counterpart spoke against the move. "It's wrong that a young person of 16 should be free in law to embark on a course of action that might lead to a lifestyle which would separate him, maybe permanently, from the mainstream life of marriage and family," MP Anne Widdecombe said. Michael Portillo, the recently elected Conservative MP who



Conservative MP Michael Portillo decided this time to vote in favor of lowering the age of consent, after admitting several months ago he had "homosexual experiences" as a youth.

many think will oppose Tony Blair for Prime Minister in the next election, supported lowering the age. He recently admitted having had "some homosexual experiences" as a student when he was under 21, the prevailing age of consent at the time. The House of Lords has the power to delay legislation, but Blair's government has already indicated it will resort to the rarely used device to force the bill through if it is defeated by the Lords again.

Germany to allow joint gay tax returns

BERLIN (AP)—Germany is proposing to treat same-sex couples largely like married partners for tax purposes, the

Finance Ministry said. The proposals are part of efforts by the center-left coalition government to make good on a 1998 campaign promise and grant legal rights to gay couples. Plans to draft a law have been delayed by coalition disputes, mainly over whether gays should be able to adopt children. The Finance Ministry recommended that officially registered gay couples be allowed to file joint tax returns, and gay partners would have the same deductions as married people on support payments and inheritances. The Christian Social Union, a rightist Bavarian opposition party, called the proposals an "attack on the institution of marriage and the family."

—From staff and wire reports

Around the Nation

Gay/straight alliance meets under court order

ORANGE, Calif.—Reaction spread throughout the county as Orange Unified School Board trustees indicated that in July they plan to require students to get parental permission before joining school groups, the Orange County Register reported. Meanwhile, a gay/straight alliance at the center of the controversy met for the first time—under court order—at El Modena High School. A brief melee broke out as school let out, and 30 or so students swarmed a dozen anti-gay protesters across the street from campus and shouted at them to go away, the Los Angeles Times reported. The students rushed across the street as the poster-waving protesters, most of them from Utah, shouted "Stop gay clubs!" and "Stop the propaganda!" About 70 students walked off campus on Feb. 11, some to protest the club, some to support it, some supporting a recently suspended student, and some just trying to get their faces on TV, district spokesperson Judy Frutig said. Meanwhile, two students have asked to start a gay support group at another Orange County high school. But officials in their school district said they have a policy that prohibits all clubs not related to the classroom.

Court reverses gay partner's award

TACOMA, Wash. (AP)—A man who shared the house, business and financial assets with his gay lover for 28 years cannot inherit his partner's estate, a state appeals court ruled in reversing a judge's decision. Frank Vasquez was denied any of Robert Schwerzler's \$230,000 estate, including the home they shared in suburban Puyallup, because the state's community property law only applies to heterosexuals, the Washington State Court of Appeals Division II ruled. "We find no precedent for applying the marital concepts, either rights or protections, to same-sex relationships," Appeals Court Judge C.J. Bridgewater wrote in the 3-0 decision issued last Friday. Extending the law that governs unmarried, long-term couples to gays "is for the Legislature to decide, not the courts," Bridgewater wrote. The ruling reversed a decision by a Pierce County superior court judge to award virtually all of Schwerzler's property to Vasquez, who is in his mid-60s. The appellate panel sent the case back to the trial court, where the judge had rejected claims by two of Schwerzler's four siblings. Schwerzler died at age 78 in 1995 without leaving a will. Vasquez's lawyer, Terry Barnett, said he expects to appeal the ruling. Barnett said that until the case is resolved, Vasquez would be allowed to remain in the house, where he ran a burlap-bag business with Schwerzler.

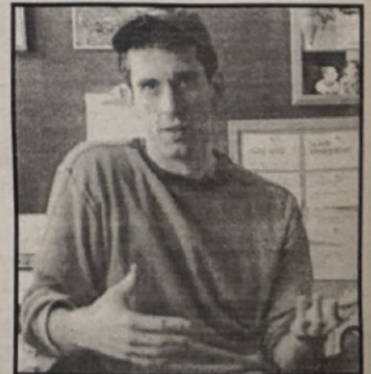
Foster parent sentenced in molesting

ANDERSON, Ind. (AP)—A foster parent who prevented a girl in his care from being adopted by a gay man was sentenced Wednesday to 40 years in prison for molesting the girl. Earl "Butch" Kimmerling pleaded guilty last month to four counts of molesting his foster daughter, now 9. He and his wife, Sandra, fought in 1998 to keep the girl from being adopted by Craig Peterson—a gay man who had adopted the little girl's three brothers. At his sentencing, Kimmerling tearfully apologized for molesting the girl and pleaded for leniency. He could have received up to 50 years in prison. Prosecutors had argued for a harsh sentence. "It's hypocrisy at its highest level. He holds himself out to be a person of God, as a representative of the Christian community, and at the same time engaging in outrageous behavior," prosecutor Rodney Cummings said. During their adoption fight, the Kimmerlings gained support from various Indiana political figures, including Anderson Mayor Mark Lawler and a Republican state representative who unsuccessfully tried to ban gay adoptions. The Kimmerlings eventually succeeded in adopting the girl, but Kimmerling was arrested and charged with molesting her after Sandra Kimmerling notified police. The girl remained in Sandra Kimmerling's care.

Gay columnist says flu terrorism aimed at Bauer was a joke

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP)—A Seattle columnist under investigation for alleged voter fraud during the Iowa caucuses says his story about trying to infect former presidential candidate Gary Bauer with the flu was just a joke. During the final days of the campaign, Dan Savage posed as a volunteer at Bauer's headquarters in Des Moines. He also claimed, in a column for the on-line magazine Salon, to have voted in the caucuses. Savage, who was suffering from the flu, also wrote that he licked doorknobs and coffee cups and slobbered on a pen, all in hopes of slowing Bauer and his conservative agenda. "A good chunk of it was satire," said Savage. "People overlooked the fact that it was called 'The Merry Prankster.'" Prosecutors are still deciding whether to file charges.

—From staff and wire reports



Faced with voter fraud charges, columnist Dan Savage now says he was mostly joking when he wrote that he tried to infect then-GOP presidential candidate Gary Bauer with the flu.

1999 Jeep Grand Cherokee

Adventure Edition

- Leather Interiors
- Sunroofs
- Spoilers
- Convertible Tops
- Seat Covers
- Wooddash Accents
- Vinyl Tops
- Auto Carpet Replacement

Leather Specialties, Inc.
AUTOMOTIVE INTERIORS

455-5505 • 3522 12th St.
Metairie, LA 70002

Monday—Friday 8 AM until 5 PM • Gift Certificates Available

Featured Nationally on PBS Television's "In The Life"

The Bienville Foundation presents Roberts Batson's acclaimed

GAY HERITAGE TOUR

A 2 1/2 hour walking tour depicting the events that shaped an era in New Orleans, it illuminates such personalities as Tennessee Williams, Ellen DeGeneres, Oliver Stone, Jim Garrison, Clay Shaw, Anita Bryant ... and Mother Bentivoglio. Highly entertaining and deeply moving.

"A swell idea... filled with jokes and giggles and camp..."
— Jon Newlin, Ambush

"An irreverent, comic French Quarter stroll that brings history, gossip, polemics, and culture together."
— Genre

"Covers the history of gays and lesbians in all of its colorful, poignant, angry, and outrageous splendor."
— USA Gay Access Guidebook

"An important part of New Orleans."
— The Times-Picayune

"A perfect balance ... we heartily recommend it."
— IMPACT

For Everyone — Visitors, Locals, Gay & Straight (consenting adults only, please ...)

Departs from Alternatives, 909 Bourbon
Schedule: Wednesdays and Saturdays at 2 pm
Tickets at Alternatives — \$20

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED: 504.945.6789

Around the South

Sodomy challenge survives another dismissal motion

LITTLE ROCK (AP)—A judge let a lawsuit go forward that seeks to overturn Arkansas' anti-sodomy law. Circuit Judge David Bogard dropped Attorney General Mark Pryor as a defendant but said the group challenging the 1977 law could proceed with its suit against local prosecutors. Seven Arkansans sued Pryor and local prosecutors in an attempt to void the law that prohibits certain sexual conduct between people of the same gender. The law does not prohibit heterosexual sodomy. "It is finally time for us to proceed on the merits of our case. We're delighted about that," said Beatrice Dohm, legal director of the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund. A U.S. Supreme Court ruling 13 years ago upheld a Georgia sodomy law but state courts in Georgia, Tennessee, Kentucky and Montana have since thrown out laws prohibiting consensual homosexual contact behind closed doors.

Va. moves to make consensual sodomy a misdemeanor

RICHMOND (AP)—Oral sex between consenting adults would be reduced from a felony to a misdemeanor if legislation endorsed earlier this month by a Virginia legislative committee becomes law. State legislator Karen Darner has tried several times to repeal the state's "crimes against nature" law, which applies to all consenting adults—homosexual and heterosexual—who engage in oral sex in public or private. Violating the law is a felony, punishable by up to five years in prison and loss of voting rights. The committee wouldn't go along with decriminalizing the sex act but did approve making it a lesser offense punishable only by a fine of up to \$250. "My feeling is I would still like to have it decriminalized, but this is at least a recognition that the current law is outrageous," Darner said after the panel voted 13-8 to endorse the bill. The Virginia Court of Appeals agreed in December to review the constitutionality of the law, which some authorities say is a legitimate way to deter public sex acts.

Ads for ex-gay, anti-gay conference rejected by Tampa media

TAMPA—A Christian group promoting a conference aimed at preventing homosexuality among teens has claimed it is being censored by media that won't run their ads, the Tampa Tribune reported. "We have a constitutional right to this message, and we feel that people are at work to get our message silenced," said John Paulk of Focus on the Family, which has sponsored six "Love Won Out" conferences across the U.S. Their ad, "Tired of Being Gay?" has run since Jan. 28 in the Tribune's "Friday Extra" section. But a 10-second ad they ran on WSSR-FM caused local radio personality Carmen Conner to apologize after it aired, and the station quickly dropped the ads. Several other radio stations have cancelled promotional spots for the conference. Eller Media Co. in Clearwater backed out of a verbal commitment to work on a bus shelter promotion. In its materials, Focus on the Family says its purpose is to educate public school administrators, teachers and parents about the "homosexual agenda in Florida public schools, and how they should respond." The conference is set for Feb. 26 at a Baptist church in Brandon, Fla.



'Ex-gay' John Paulk claims Tampa media outlets are wrongfully refusing to run paid ads for a conference called 'Love Won Out.'

Groups cancel events over discrimination suit

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. (AP)—A gay and bisexual men's organization became the fifth group to cancel reservations at the Adam's Mark Hotel in Denver over a pending racial discrimination lawsuit filed against a Daytona Beach hotel in the same chain. "Gays are discriminated against every day. We can't meet in a place that discriminates against any group," said Cal Hackler, president of Prime Timers Worldwide. St. Louis-based Adam's Mark was sued in December after U.S. Justice Department investigators said there was a pattern of discrimination at the chain's 21 hotels, including charging African-Americans more to discourage reservations. The suit named the Adam's Mark in Daytona Beach, Fla., which hosted a convention of African-Americans last year. Adam's Mark has denied all allegations. Other organizations that have cancelled events include several religious denominations and the Human Rights Campaign. The cancellations could cost the hotel chain \$5 million, said Andre van Hall, general manager of the Denver hotel.

Miami commissioners approve anti-gay ballot initiative

MIAMI (AP)—Miami-Dade County commissioners allowed the Christian Coalition to begin collecting signatures for a petition to repeal a 1998 amendment to the county's civil rights law that makes it illegal to discriminate in employment, housing and public accommodation based on sexual orientation. The commissioners' move comes a week after the county attorney's office approved the petition's language. The coalition now must collect 32,500 signatures in 60 days. If they succeed, the measure could be on the ballot in September. Voters overturned a similar law in 1977 after former beauty queen Anita Bryant led a crusade against it.

—From staff and wire reports

if you are HIV+ and considering selling your life insurance policy, consider this...



M. Bryan Freeman
Founder & Chief Client Advocate

As one of the oldest and most knowledgeable viatical settlement brokers, we have the experience to get you the highest cash settlement possible through a proven competitive bidding process. We work for you, not the buyer.

- ★ One quick, simple application.
- ★ No cost or obligation at any time.
- ★ Up to 85% of face value.
- ★ Confidentiality, now and always.
- ★ May be tax-free — ask us.
- ★ All policies may qualify, including those less than two years old.



Return your completed application and receive a free videotape: Exercises for People with HIV by People With HIV.

BENEFITS AMERICA

800-777-8878 www.benefitsamerica.com 404-233-5411

Celebrating 10 years as your viatical advocate

Member: Viatical Association of America

Benefits America NA, Inc.

When you have issues to deal with, being gay shouldn't be one of them.

If you're struggling with addiction or depression, you need a treatment center where you can be yourself.... Where you can talk frankly and safely to people who understand you.

We're Pride Institute, the nation's leader in providing treatment for the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered communities. We have programs offering residential, outpatient and halfway house services. You have the power. Call us today.

FT. LAUDERDALE NEW YORK CHICAGO NEW JERSEY MINNEAPOLIS DALLAS

PRIDE INSTITUTE

800-54-PRIDE

Medicare and most insurance plans cover our programs
www.pride-institute.com

JCAHO Accredited

**Depression
Anxiety
Drugs
Alcohol
Sex Addiction
HIV-related Stress**



ROYAL TREASURES
Jewelry - Gifts
Feathers - Trimmings

1034 Royal Street
586-8746

**Now open in the
New Orleans French Quarter**

*"We'll make you look like
royalty, even if you're not!"*

- Carnival gifts
- Costume jewelry
- Sterling silver jewelry
- Masks, Boas
- Headdresses
- Tiaras, Wings
- Rhinestones
- Ostrich Plumes
- Peacock Tails
- Crystal, Unique Gifts
- Sequins, Appliques
- Trims, Thread
- Sewing Supplies
- Purses, Boxes

Allegro City Flowers

- Fresh Cut Flowers
- Orchids
- Gifts & Gourmet Baskets
- Special Events
- Holiday Decor Consultations

**1200 Magazine St.
525-2489
fax 525-2488**

**nationwide
delivery available**

*Order your
Carnival centerpieces
EARLY*

The Queen of Shangri-la 2000

commands you to have a
"Marvelous
Mardi Gras!"

~ BERGEN GALLERIES ~
THE LARGEST SELECTION OF
MARDI GRAS AND JAZZ POSTERS,
AND MALE AND FEMALE NUDES

BERGEN GALLERIES
730 Royal Street
New Orleans, LA 70116
(504) 523-7882 • toll free (800) 621-6179
open daily 9 am - 10 pm
www.bergengalleries.com

36 students suspended after McKinley protests

> Continued from page 1

said they asked other students to escort them to their classes and both checked out of school before noon last Friday to avoid protesters.

Pfeiffer said he and his father met with Warren Monday to discuss what she intended to do to protect the students. Spillman met with Warren Tuesday to discuss her safety.

"We told Mrs. Warren that we wanted increased teacher presence in hallways and areas where we have to walk," Pfeiffer said Monday evening. "We also wanted increased teacher duty before, during and after school, and she basically agreed to all of that."

"She said she would announce over the intercom what the school policy is regarding harassment, and what the punishment can be for violators."

Differing accounts

Pfeiffer and Spillman said they felt physically threatened by the demonstrators and believe the situation could have turned violent. They criticized school administrators for not immediately halting the first protest and summoning law enforcement to campus to keep order.

Corona told *IMPACT* News Monday afternoon that he felt the protests were "non-threatening." He said the campus was "relatively calm" when he arrived there at 9:30 a.m. on Feb. 18, and that a combined lunch shift and early afternoon demonstration likewise were controlled.

Asked why Warren had not alerted the Pfeiffer and Spillman families about the planned protests, Corona said "I think she was not certain of the degree of the protests."

"I certainly recognize and don't make light of any fact regarding this matter or any that threatens bodily harm," Corona said.

Corona said he also would work with

Warren to make a decision as to whether or not a GSA will be allowed to meet on the McKinley campus. He said Pfeiffer had filed required paperwork but that he and Warren had questions about the club's goals and objectives and would talk further with Pfeiffer, which they did Tuesday morning.

However, another possible roadblock to the club's formation may have been thrown up Monday when a group of conservative African American ministers met with Warren and announced plans to meet with the system's superintendent.

The ministers said they oppose homosexuality and believe a GSA would tarnish the historically African-American school's image and hurt the community at-large.

The ministers said they intend to discuss their views with EBR School Superintendent Gary Mathews.

Despite the ministers' opposition, Pfeiffer said he remains encouraged by Warren's response to last week's demonstrations, and he said she suggested that GSA members meet with several of the protesters "to talk things out."

"They need to know from us—not the media—what the GSA is really about, that it's not a 'gay club' but a group for gay and straight students to discuss tolerance," Pfeiffer said. "They [protesters] have heard a lot of stuff in the community, and we can only imagine the kinds of anti-gay talk they've heard at home or at church. Too, I heard from some of my friends that they get kidded when they go to other schools about being from that 'gay school,' and that's not good for morale."

"If the School Board had done its job sooner and dealt with my request to start a GSA five months ago, none of this would have happened the way it has. ...It's gotten absolutely crazy and it shouldn't have. A simple request to form a club whose goal is to teach tolerance and to provide a safe space for students has been contorted to the point that Leslie and I and our friends literally fear for our lives. None of this should

Come out, come out, wherever you are!

Bejeweled
— Be proud

ANNE RICE
DESIGNS

Gay Pride Jewelry
Affordable, Upscale,
Unique, Hemite,
Onyx, Bone, Fiber
Optics, and much
more, only as
Anne could do it.

VISIT

THE ANNE RICE
COLLECTION

2727 Prytania St. (at the Rink)
504/891-9483 • also orders
by phone, website, annerice.com



WE WELCOME A DIFFERENT APPROACH



Billy C. Henry, Funeral Director

OUR FUNERAL HOMES ARE ELEGANT, DIGNIFIED, THERE'S A CERTAIN WARMTH. AT BULTMAN AND THARP SONTHEIMER WE WELCOME A DIFFERENT APPROACH.

WHERE PLANNING A TRADITIONAL FUNERAL OR MEMORIAL SERVICE WITH CREMATION MEANS ADDING YOUR OWN PERSONAL TOUCHES... PLAYING A JAZZ TUNE, A FAVORITE MELODY, RECITING A POEM... CREATING A UNIQUE CEREMONY. IT FITS HERE.

TO DISCUSS YOUR ADVANCE PLANNING NEEDS CONTACT
BILLY C. HENRY, FUNERAL DIRECTOR

Bultman
FUNERAL HOME

3338 ST. CHARLES AVE. 895-7766

Security Plan

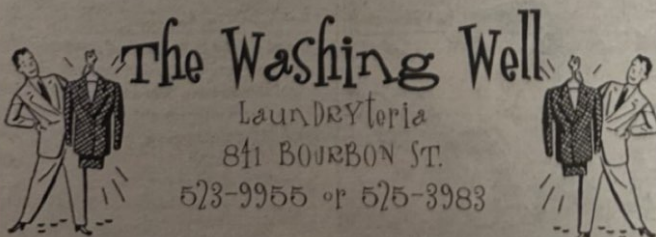
THARP SONTHEIMER THARP

4127 S. CLAIBORNE AVE. 821-8411

<http://www.funeraldirection.com>

(SERVING ALL CEMETERIES)

LAUNDRY SHIRTS DRY CLEANING
PICK UP AND DELIVERY



In before 9 a.m., ready for 2 p.m.

In before 1 p.m., ready for 5:30 p.m.

Monday-Friday 7:30 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday 7:30 a.m.-2 p.m.

IMPACT news

STAFF

Editor
Melinda Shelton

Production Manager
Lucas J. Mire

Administrative Assistant
Dale Boggs

Advertising Sales
Mike Theri

National Advertising Representative
Brendell Marketing
(712) 242-6863

Internet Consultant
PC Solutions

Senior Writer
Roberts Batson

Music Critic
Margaret Coble

Contributors
Alison Bechdel, Dale Boggs, Rachel Chevalier, Gloria Daughin, Bill Dearman, Amy Gill, Greg Herms, Marilyn McConnell, Lucas J. Mire, Eric Orme, Rex Wockner

Cartoonist
Ron Williams

National News
Associated Press

A WindowMedia Publication

Publishers
Chris Crain
Rick Elbasser

The editorial policies of Impact News are expressed in editorials and in editor's notes as determined by the editor. Other opinions expressed are those of the writers and do not necessarily represent the opinion of Impact News or its staff. Contents of Impact News are copyrighted 1999 by Crescent City View, LLC, including all photographs, designs and graphic layouts, and cannot be reproduced in any way without the written permission of the publisher. Advertising and persons mentioned or appearing in photos in Impact News are not a reflection of that advertiser or person's sexual orientation. Impact News will not accept responsibility for unsolicited materials, nor does it accept any responsibility or liability for the claims of advertisers. Impact News is published in New Orleans, Louisiana, and distributed free on alternating Fridays. (\$1 outside LA.) Sample copies or back issues are \$2 postpaid. Subscriptions are \$50 for 26 issues, postpaid domestic.

IMPACT News
2118 Burgundy Street
New Orleans, LA 70116
Phone: 504-94-impact
Out of state: 1-888-94-impact
Fax: 504-944-6794
E-mail: editor@impactnews.com
Internet: www.impactnews.com

IMPACT is owned and operated
by Crescent City View, LLC.

Founded 1977

To submit a letter:

Letters should be fewer than 400 words and may be edited for content and length. Names may be withheld upon request, but must be included with phone number for verification.



EDITORIAL

Adults to blame for backlash against gay students

by MELINDA
SHELTON

"Dereliction of duty" is the deliberate or conscious neglect of one's responsibilities, and this applies to the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board, school administrators and the McKinley High School principal and staff.

These adults have the responsibility—the duty—to represent the best interests of all students in the parish's public schools: black, white, gay, straight, Christian, non-Christian, poor or privileged. They must put aside their own bigotry, racism, sexism and homophobia when dealing with school-related matters. It is their job to do so.

These adults get an "F" for failing to overcome homophobia.

It was a simple matter, really. Marty Pfeiffer and Leslie Spillman, both 17 and seniors at McKinley High School, learned about Gay-Straight Alliance clubs—almost 1,000 across the country—that are student-led and which focus on alliance-building between straight and gay students. The premise is simple: educate students about homophobia and discrimination and provide a safe space for students who are or feel threatened for whatever reason—sexual orientation, race, for being "different."

These two students, both of whom are openly gay, know first-hand the perils of being out in high school.

Leslie has long-suffered taunts from students—mostly black—because she is biracial. Racism exists in the African American community just as it does in every community.

As an out lesbian, Leslie is called "dyke" by students who have no qualms about getting into her face and spewing hatred and bigotry. She is routinely verbally abused and physically threatened.

Some of Leslie's classmates see only her "differences." But as her mother points out, they don't know the student who takes

seven classes and correspondence courses so she can graduate this spring, who works hard for good grades, who is a brilliant artist and a marvelous singer.

Marty likewise has become a target of classmates who see only his differences, and resent them. He is white, intelligent, articulate, confident and out-spoken. His bleached-blond hair and lanky height—along with pierced ears and proudly displayed rainbow pins, buttons and ribbons—visibly set him apart from students who prefer to blend in and resent those who refuse to do so.

The adults in charge sacrificed countless gay teenagers and their supporters—not only at McKinley but in every school. The lives of these children are now in peril because adults didn't do their jobs.

It was Marty who went to McKinley principal Almenia Warren last October to get permission to start a Gay-Straight Alliance. When she refused, he carried his case—as directed—to the School Board.

These two students, along with a group of gay and straight friends who believe a GSA is needed at McKinley, are learning a hard lesson in Activism 101: Success often comes only after a long struggle.

They've also learned another painful lesson: The adults charged to represent, respect and protect them, and to treat them equally, have failed.

Granted, not everyone on the School Board has acted irresponsibly. A subcommittee developed new policy governing extra-curricular clubs, including GSAs, and sent it to the full Board.

When push came to shove at a Feb. 10

meeting, six board members—Noel Hammatt, Dan Henderson, Eldon Ledoux, Press Robinson, Pat Smith and Patrice Niquille—risked right-wing ire and voted in favor of the policy.

Members Jay Devall, Ingrid Kelley, Warren Pratt and Jackie Mims voted against the policy. Devall and Pratt have been particularly outspoken against GSAs, and Pratt went so far as to tell Marty and Leslie that—thanks to their request and the ensuing maelstrom of publicity—they should not go crying to him if things got rough at school. That victim-blaming mentality has no place in a public body.

Board president Roger Moser was out of town and member Bill Black abstained. Seven votes were needed to adopt the policy.

The next day, Board attorney Max Kees announced that new rules regarding school clubs were being given to school administrators, and the administrators could decide which clubs would be allowed on campus.

Finally, there was policy governing clubs.

Because of some members' unwillingness to overcome their homophobia and deal with the subject—equal access for all clubs that meet established criteria—what should have been a simple matter became an emotional powder keg.

The issue became "gay," not Gay-Straight Alliance. Instead of an "alliance" and focusing on what that means, school administrators, the board, the media and the public zeroed in on "gay."

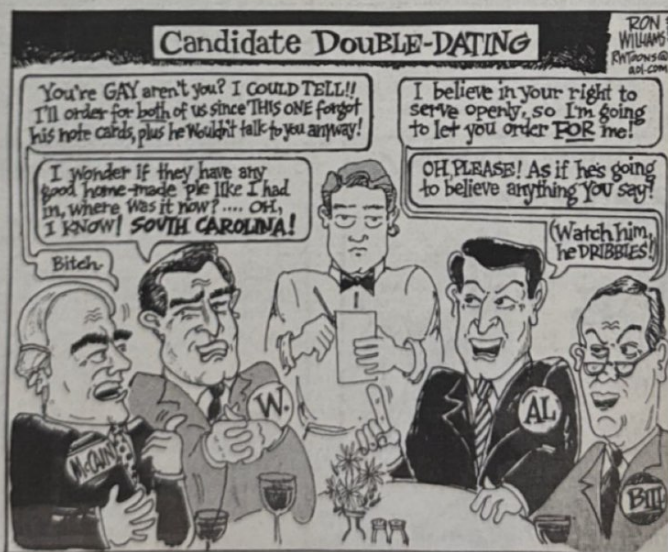
As the right wing has learned to do well, it whipped conservative religious groups, including students, into a frenzy over "gay." Homosexuality and the students' sexual orientation became a wedge the right wing is using to divide the community.

Black ministers see only "gay." Bigots and homophobes see only "gay." Officials elected to represent all students see only "gay." A principal who told Marty she was part of the black civil rights struggle sees only "gay." Media desperate to turn what is at best an ordinary story into a sexy headline have focused on "gay."

Students whose parents have taught them well the perceived power behind racism and homophobia now shout "gay"—and "queer" and "fag" and "dyke" at their classmates. The public backlash, fueled by bigotry and fear, has emboldened students to the point they feel justified in throwing rocks, protesting and threatening to harm—even kill—Marty, Leslie and others they label "gay."

The adults are to blame. The School Board should have quashed any attempts to focus on "gay" instead of fairness. The principal should have held a student rally to discuss the Gay-Straight Alliance, what it stands for and hopes to accomplish, and she should have put her gay students on equal ground with all of her charges.

The adults in charge sacrificed countless gay teenagers and their supporters—not only at McKinley but in every school. The lives of these children are now in peril because adults didn't do their jobs.





POSITIVE VIEWPOINT

Reports on CDC report misleading

by DALE BOGGS

A headline in the Feb. 11 issue of *IMPACT News* slapped me in the face: "Oral sex poses 'significant' risk for HIV; CDC study shows eight percent of participants infected through oral sex."

Sorry, but I don't need and don't want to hear this. When I showed the story to other HIV-positive men, we all had a very similar reaction. One guy asked: "What right-wing organization printed that crap?"

As a writer for *IMPACT News* I was confronted with very difficult problems. Can I question the validity of front page headlines? As an HIV consumer can I question a scientific study? Want to talk about walking a fine line. How do I challenge the article without losing the opportunity to speak about it?

The bottom line is the headline made a statement that affects the infected community, and as a member of that community I feel I have a responsibility to address the article.

As an HIV-positive man I am beginning to feel that the CDC is "beating a dead horse" and I am the horse. Most of us infected with the HIV virus share one

common conviction: We don't want to infect anyone else. Consequently, in an attempt to be responsible many of us discuss safe sex with our partners and what risks we would take in our sexual relationship. We often base those decisions on reliable—hear me?—information.

To refresh the memory: At the February Retrovirus Conference in San Francisco, the University of California-San Francisco and the CDC presented "The Options Project." The project was a study of 102 recent-seroconversion men who have sex with men (MSM).

The study drew five conclusions, but yet the press releases and subsequent articles only covered one of the five conclusions: that eight of the 102 gay and bisexual men studied "likely" contracted the HIV virus through oral sex.

Before we go further, here are all five conclusions from "The Options Project":

1. Oral transmission represented 7.8 percent of primary HIV infections in MSM.

2. Oral sex may be an important current mode of transmission in some MSM populations where unprotected anal sex has decreased but unprotected oral sex is frequent

3. Oral sex transmission is easily overestimated as other risks are not always revealed at initial interview

in the mouth are ways for the HIV virus to enter the bloodstream. Rudimentary, my dear friends. So "why" was that not

question such studies, particularly when headlines scream out news that's hard to take, or proves to be inaccurate or under-reported.

"The Options Project" reported that 85 percent of those surveyed reported "oral sex without a condom has little risk of transmitting HIV." What this tells me is 85 percent of those surveyed were listening to educators and determined their safe sex practice accordingly. And if current studies change the education standard the public will adapt its behavior. Because of this we need to be confident in current studies.

Each person must educate him/herself regarding recommended safe sex practices and choose what risk they are willing to take. We should develop solid guidelines that all parties feel comfortable with. We must always remember that drugs, alcohol and passion cloud judgment. It only takes one mistake with the wrong partner to change the remainder of your life. There's not a trick out there worth giving your life for.

And we must also learn to read beyond the headlines. I'm getting tired of being the horse the CDC keeps beating up—only to find out later it's a horse of a different color.

As an HIV-positive man, I am beginning to feel that the CDC is "beating a dead horse" and I am the horse.

4. Standardized investigation of reported oral transmission is needed to better understand the epidemiology and risk of this behavior

5. Prevention strategies are needed that appropriately address the issue that unprotected oral sex is lower risk than anal or vaginal sex but still has risk of HIV transmission.

In late-breaking news, I learned that what the headlines and the stories behind them "didn't" say—because the information wasn't made public at the conference—was that "about half [of the eight who tested positive] did have gum disease or an oral ulcer," researcher Rick Hecht told *The Washington Blade*. As *The Blade* correctly pointed out, this clarified information is in line with previous studies touting similar results.

We know, because we've been told repeatedly, that bleeding gums, ulcers, even scratches

included in the original CDC news releases about the "significant" risk factors with oral sex they were so eager to get publicized?

Oral sex is a risk. Oral sex with mouth sores, cuts, abrasions, ulcers, gum disease is a "higher risk."

Want one more example? The same report failed to get headlines for this point: "2% of New HIV Infections Report Blackouts From Use of Alcohol and Drugs." For me, that's a new and newsworthy statistic.

Gay, Lesbian Medical Association President Don Abrams told *The Blade* "the report would not necessarily change the group's position. If you restrict people to the point where they feel like they can't do anything, they're going to say 'To hell with it' and throw up their hands in dismay."

This latest CDC report—and its more enlightening version—is proof that I—you, we—should

The Mostly Unfabulous Social Life of Ethan Green...

...by Eric Ormer

The Big Announcement

THIS CARD YOU MAILED CAMP BACK, YOU FORGOT THE STAMP. SO, WHO'S "GAY"?

'SIGH' (LONG PAUSE) ... A FEW WEEKS AGO, WHEN YOU WERE AT THAT WEATHERMAN CONVENTION... I... I JUST WENT OUT FOR A BEER... AND MET THIS KID, GAY AND I... I CAN'T STOP THINKING ABOUT HIM AND... AND...

The Gory Details

AND YOU SLEPT WITH HIM?

WELL, I DIDN'T! I NEVER EVEN TOUCHED HIM!

The Bottom Line

BUT YOU WANT TO...

NO. I UH, IT'S NOT ABOUT SEX, WELL, IT IS ABOUT SEX, BUT, ON A LARGER SCALE, DON'T INTERFERE WITH ME...

Your Options at this Point

KILL HIM. SPEND REST OF YOUR DAYS IN STATE PEN.

IMMERSE YOURSELF IN PAST-LIFE REGRESSION THERAPY. DISCOVER PREVIOUS EXISTENCE AS VIRGIN QUEEN.

JOIN DALI, LANA & TINA TURNER IN A SPIRITUAL QUEST FOR MEANING OF LIFE...

The Bottom Line Refined

SO... WHAT DO WE DO NOW?

I DUNNO... MATE, I NEED SOME TIME TO UNDERSTAND WHAT I AM FEELING.

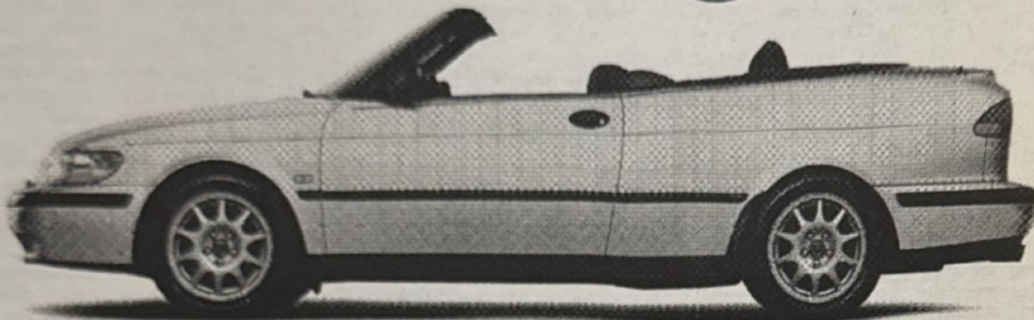
HAYRAT HAYRAT

Preliminary Response

"UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU'RE FEELING?" LET ME SEE IF I CAN HELP YOU OUT, DOUGIE, YOU'RE FEELING LUSTY. FOR A KID HALF YOUR AGE.

DOES THAT... Y'KNOW, HELP BRING FOCUS TO YOUR PSYCHIC FRIGGING! ETC... A SKETCH.

Saab vs. Yoga



**A true four-person convertible.
Flexibility not required.**

Lease a Saab 9-3 Convertible

\$419 Per mo.*
For 36 mos.

Amount due at lease inception: \$2,837.88
(includes down pmt., sec. dep., acq. fee & first mo. pmt.)

Introducing the Saab Scheduled Maintenance Program. No additional charge on scheduled maintenance for three years or 36,000 miles.

People who test drive a Saab, usually buy one.



SAAB

Crescent City MOTORS

CHUCK LACOSTE • 3000 Tulane Avenue • New Orleans, LA • (504) 827-1200

www.saabusa.com

1 800 SAAB USA

*Subject to credit approval. Delivery must be taken out of dealer inventory by February 29, 2000. Dealer participation may affect consumer cost. Terms apply to a 2000 Saab 9-3 Convertible w/ 5-speed manual transmission with in-dash CD based on MSRP of \$40,025.00 (including destination charge). Lease payment for the 9-3 Convertible is \$419.88 for 36 months totaling \$15,079.68. Option to purchase at lease end for \$21,613.50 (plus any license, title fees and taxes). Amount due at lease inception and purchase option amount higher in NV. The customer is allowed 36,000 miles during the term of this lease. The customer is liable for a mileage charge of \$15 per mile over 36,000 miles and for excess wear and tear. Taxes, insurance, title and registration fees extra. Not to be combined with any other program offer. Buy or lease a new 2000 Saab and receive at no additional charge scheduled maintenance for 3 years or 36,000 miles, whichever comes first. Offer does not include 9-3 5-door Base and 9-3 3-door models and is subject to cancellation at any time. Call 1 800 SAAB USA for program details and limitations. SEE YOUR PARTICIPATING SAAB DEALER FOR COMPLETE DETAILS ON THIS AND OTHER LEASE AND FINANCE OPTIONS.



LESBIAN VOICES

A year later, Charlene's carries on

by MARILYN
McCONNELL

Charlene Schneider closed the popular lesbian bar "Charlene's" on Elysian Fields and Rampart one year ago. This bar, opened for 21 years, was not only a safe, comfortable place for women, it was the site of a variety of receptions and parties, a fabulous lesbian art show, and many lesbian and gay political activities. It's place that can never be duplicated.

Charlene moved to Bay St. Louis and opened "Charlene and Linda's On the Coast," which provides a very different setting but still is a comfortable, women-affirming place. Two weeks ago, as the popular local musician Becky Eymard played favorites at the Valentine's dance at On The Coast, Charlene was on door duty meeting and greeting friends and customers. Standing in the spacious grounds surrounded by pines, Charlene talked about Mardi Gras. Always a wealth of New Orleans lesbian history, she pointed out the decorative papier mache heads adorning the second floor balcony that also has bird feeders. Made by the talented Bill Wooley, during Mardi Gras the heads decorated Brady's, a once-popular French Quarter bar. Charlene and Linda's free-standing beer hut resembles a decorated float, fit for a low number in Elks Krewe Of Orleanians. This is the domain of friendly and personable Linda Tucker, Charlene's partner of 12+ years.

A large swimming pool provides yet another activity to the popular volleyball and basketball games. At "On the Coast" there is something for everyone, from a nice dance floor to a game room and plenty of outside tables to sit and enjoy the outdoors.



On The Coast

Left: Linda Tucker
Right: Diane Brisolara,
Queen Ishtar II, and
Charlene Schneider



When former New Orleanian Diane Brisolara arrived Charlene introduced her as "Queen Ishtar II" and they both reminisced. In 1982, ball captain Judy Thompson's theme was "I Am Women." This was the year Diane was queen. Ishtar, the only lesbian Mardi Gras krewe in New Orleans, was founded in 1980 by Sue Martino, Shirley Pino and Diane DiMiceli. Named after the Babylonian goddess who was lovable, passionate and strong, Ishtar took her place in battle among men in her chariot drawn by seven lions. The krewe produced elaborate balls from 1981 to 1989. The balls cost up to \$15,000 and the first ball in 1981 was attended by 4,000 people.

"On the Coast" is a short hour's drive from New Orleans.

March 6 @ 6 p.m.: ESPN2 Big Ten Championship

March 6 @ 10:30 p.m.: ESPN2 Conference USA Championship

March 7 @ 6:30 p.m.: ESPN2 Big East Championship

RUNNING

The 2000 Crescent City Classic is Saturday, April 22 at 9 a.m. More than 20,000 runners and walkers will compete in this 22-year-old 10K race from the French Quarter along its new route to City Park. Many world class runners will be entered in hopes of establishing a 10K world record and winning prizes, trophies and cash. This race is such fun, with almost as many walkers as runners. At the post race party you can meet friends in alphabetized meeting areas. The 10K distance is a little over six miles so preparation is important. Check The Times-Picayune for recommended training schedules and entry forms. For further information call 861-8686 or register via the web-site at www.ccc.com.

SOCCER

On Feb. 26-27, club and college teams will compete in the Mardi Gras Tournament at Lafrenier Park. There will be food, t-shirts, lots of action—all with free admission.

RUGBY

The Mardi Gras Rugby Tournament is March 4-5 at the UNO fields near the university's health and PE building. Club and college teams will compete in this 20-year-old tourney, popular Mardi Gras Rugby Tournament at UNO fields (near Health and PE building).

WOMEN'S SPORTS

Basketball

Feb. 26 @ 3 p.m.: Loyola/Talladega College. Last Loyola home game at the Loyola Sports Complex

(March 3-6: Gulf Coast Athletic Conference)

March 1 @ 7 p.m.: UNO/S. Alabama. Last UNO home game at Lakefront Arena

(March 3-6: Conference USA Tournament)

(March 3-5: SEC tournament; LSU is an SEC leader)

TV BASKETBALL

Feb. 27 @ 1 p.m.: ESPN2 Big Ten game to be announced

March 5 @ 4 p.m.: ESPN2 SEC championship game

March 6 @ 4 p.m.: ESPN2 Atlantic10 Championship

Dykes To Watch Out For by Alison Bechdel





CLAIMING OUR PAST

The magic and the madness

by ROBERTS
BATSON

Carnival has long been a favored occurrence for gay people, an opportunity to mask, to embellish ourselves, to hide, to fantasize, to reinvent ourselves. All who participate can experience a magic—a strange, exhilarating power—that comes from masking.

It is a rite much older than New Orleans. When Henry Hay founded the first national gay rights organization in 1950, he named it the Mattachine Society, after medieval secret societies in France. The membership was composed of unmarried men who conducted dances and rituals, always performing in masks.

Since the celebration of carnival in New Orleans is open to all, it was inevitable that gay people would form their own clubs. The first of these began quite simply in 1958. A small group assembled in Doug Johnson's living room on South Carrollton Avenue and presented a tableaux, complete with royalty, pointedly satirizing the traditional conventions of New Orleans carnival. They called themselves the Krewe of Yuga. No one today recalls what the word meant or why that name was chosen, other than the obvious amusement its initials elicited.

The first three Yuga balls were small-scale affairs, costume parties really. By the fourth year a larger site was needed, so the party was moved to a fishing camp on Lake Pontchartrain.

The fifth year—1962—they moved to a still larger venue, a nursery school on Edenborn Avenue in Metairie, right behind the Schwegmann's on Veterans Boulevard. Someone complained, however, and Jefferson Parish deputies raided the ball. As was the practice at that time, the daily newspapers printed the names of 96 arrested people. And that was the end of Yuga.

But the demise of Yuga did not mean the end of gay carnival. One week before the Yuga raid, a second club, the Krewe of Petronius, presented its first ball. The Krewe of Amon Ra followed in 1966, and the Krewe of Arminius in 1969.

Throughout the '70s and most of the '80s, the gay carnival ball culture flourished, peaking with a season of 11 balls during the 1984 season. They were sometimes tawdry, often grand, spectacles to which the public was admitted only by invitation. By the early '90s, only four of the clubs had survived: the three oldest and the Lords of Leather, which debuted in the pinnacle year of 1984.

Several factors contributed to the decline. One was the economic recession

brought on by a depressed oil industry. Another was the matter of changing times and tastes: fewer young gays seemed interested in participating in the carnival tradition. A third, devastating factor was the AIDS holocaust that decimated gay carnival club memberships as well as the larger public that supported the clubs in their fundraising.

Despite adversity and evolving social conditions, the fabulous tradition of gay carnival continues, and does so with élan and a spirit that is uniquely New Orleansian. The year 2000 brought a new ball when the Krewe of Mwindo premiered earlier this month. And the Krewe of Amon Ra just celebrated its 35th anniversary.

The other three clubs will unveil their magic during the final week of the carnival season. Each now sells tickets to the general public, so visitors can join in the fun. From the gutters of Bourbon Street to elegant black-tie balls, gay Mardi Gras madness lives on, its spirit undiminished.

Award-winning writer Roberts Batson is the author of more than 200 published articles on New Orleans GLBT history and contemporary culture. His research provides the basis for his *Gay Heritage Tour*, which he conducts. He welcomes suggestions and can be reached at The Bienville Foundation, (504)945-6789.

INFO

Petronius Ball

Municipal Auditorium
Sunday, Feb. 27 @ 8 p.m.
General admission tickets: \$10
Info: 525-4498
Required dress:
Formal or costume

Arminius Ball

St. Bernard Auditorium
Saturday, March 4 @ 9 p.m.
General admission tickets: \$15
Info: 524-5222
Required dress:
Black tie or floor-length gown

Lords of Leather Ball

St. Bernard Auditorium
Sunday, March 5 8 p.m.
General admission tickets: \$15 in advance, \$20 at door
Info: 945-3402
Required dress:
Formal, costume or leather

LATTER & BLUM

INC./REALTORS-

BONNIE J. JONES
REALTOR®



Life member, Million Dollar Club
Providing Prompt & Courteous Service

Office (504) 866-2785 ext. 290
Home (504) 864-1500
Pager 1-(800)-529-1956
E-mail bonniej@eatel.net
7835 Maple St., New Orleans, LA 70118

"Leaving Behind a Trail of
Satisfied Buyers & Sellers...
That's My Best Advertising."

Pat O'Rourke

948-3011 - Historic • 833-5643 - Home
888-4585 - Metairie • N.O.Pat@worldnet.att.net

Don't Just Make A Good Choice When
It's Possible To Make A Great One.



LATTER & BLUM

INC./REALTORS-



LATTER & BLUM

INC./REALTORS-

GEORGE
COSSITT
REALTOR®

1999 Quality
Service Award



Office (504) 948-3011
Home (504) 948-2068
Fax (504) 948-4044
V. Mail (504) 539-9799

941 Elysian Fields Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70117

WestCare
MEDICAL CENTER

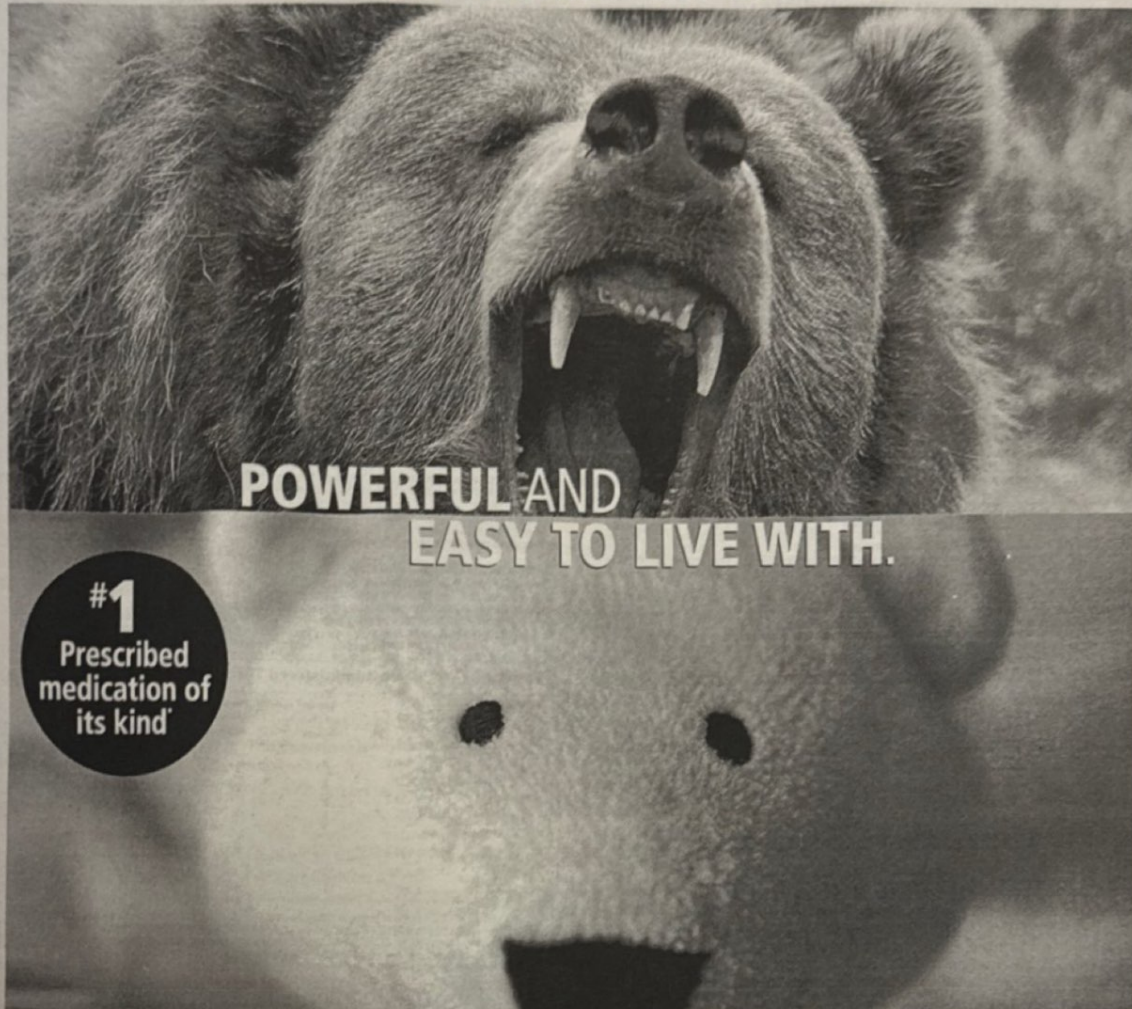
WESTCARE MEDICAL CENTER

MULTISPECIALTY FACILITY

Internal Medicine • Gynecology
Surgery • General Practice
Pediatrics • Podiatry

1220 BARATARIA BLVD., MARRERO • 504 340-6711

WHAT YOUR PROTEASE INHIBITOR CAN BE:



**POWERFUL AND
EASY TO LIVE WITH.**

#1
Prescribed
medication of
its kind*

VIRACEPT IS POWERFUL It's tough on HIV. In many people, VIRACEPT lowered the amount of HIV in the blood to levels below the limit of detection of the test used, and substantially increased CD4 cell counts after 24 weeks of triple combination therapy. (The clinical significance of changes in viral RNA levels in blood has not been established. The virus may still be present in other organ systems.)

VIRACEPT IS EASY TO LIVE WITH Take it three times a day with your normal meals or light

snacks. **VIRACEPT IS GENERALLY WELL TOLERATED** People treated with VIRACEPT may experience some side effects; the most common is diarrhea of moderate or greater intensity in 20% of people in clinical trials. **VIRACEPT WORKS** It's indicated

for the treatment of HIV infection when anti-HIV drug therapy is warranted. It is not yet known whether taking VIRACEPT will help you live longer or reduce the number of infections or other illnesses that can occur with HIV. Some common

medications and some HIV related medications should not be taken with VIRACEPT. For some people, protease inhibitors have been associated with the onset or worsening of diabetes mellitus and hyperglycemia, and with increased bleeding

in patients with hemophilia. Ask your doctor. For more information, call toll free 1-888-VIRACEPT or visit www.agouron.com.

(Refer to the Important Information on the next page.)

VIRACEPT
nelfinavir mesylate
tablets and oral powder

Agouron
Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
A Warner-Lambert Company

*IMS NPA Prescription Data 8/98 – 5/99

Copyright © 1999 Agouron Pharmaceuticals, Inc. All rights reserved. 1-A2599003

VIRACEPT

nelfinavir mesylate

Information for Patients About VIRACEPT® (VI-ra-cept)
Generic Name: nelfinavir (nel-FIN-na-veer) mesylate

For the Treatment of Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) Infection

Please read this information carefully before taking VIRACEPT. Also, please read this leaflet each time you renew the prescription, just in case anything has changed. This is a summary and not a replacement for a careful discussion with your doctor. You and your doctor should discuss VIRACEPT when you start taking this medication and at regular checkups. You should remain under a doctor's care when taking VIRACEPT and should not change or stop treatment without first talking with your doctor.

WHAT IS VIRACEPT AND HOW DOES IT WORK?

VIRACEPT is used in the treatment of people with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection. Infection with HIV leads to the destruction of CD4 T cells, which are important to the immune system. After a large number of CD4 cells have been destroyed, the infected person develops acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS).

VIRACEPT works by blocking HIV protease (a protein-cutting enzyme), which is required for HIV to multiply. VIRACEPT has been shown to significantly reduce the amount of HIV in the blood. You should be aware, however, that the effect of VIRACEPT on HIV in the blood has not been correlated with long-term health benefits. Patients who took VIRACEPT also had significant increases in their CD4 cell count.

VIRACEPT is usually taken together with other antiretroviral drugs such as Retrovir® (zidovudine, AZT), Epivir® (lamivudine, 3TC), or Zalcitabine® (ddC). Taking VIRACEPT in combination with other antiretroviral drugs reduces the amount of HIV in the body (viral load) and raises CD4 counts.

VIRACEPT may be taken by adults, adolescents, and children 2 years of age or older. Studies in infants younger than 2 years of age are now taking place.

DOES VIRACEPT CURE HIV OR AIDS?

VIRACEPT is not a cure for HIV infection or AIDS. The long-term effects of VIRACEPT are not known at this time. People taking VIRACEPT may still develop opportunistic infections or other conditions associated with HIV infection. Some of these conditions are pneumonia, herpes virus infections, Mycobacterium avium complex (MAC) infections, and Kaposi's sarcoma.

It is not known whether VIRACEPT will help you live longer or reduce the number of infections or other illnesses that may occur.

There is no proof that VIRACEPT can reduce the risk of transmitting HIV to others through sexual contact or blood contamination.

WHO SHOULD OR SHOULD NOT TAKE VIRACEPT?

Together with your doctor, you need to decide whether VIRACEPT is appropriate for you. In making your decision, the following should be considered:

Allergies: If you have had a serious allergic reaction to VIRACEPT, you must not take VIRACEPT. You should also inform your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist of any known allergies to substances such as other medicines, foods, preservatives, or dyes.

If you are pregnant: The effects of VIRACEPT on pregnant women or their unborn babies are not known. If you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant, you should tell your doctor before taking VIRACEPT.

If you are breast-feeding: You should discuss with your doctor the best way to feed your baby. You should be aware that if your baby does not already have HIV, there is a chance that it can be transmitted through breast-feeding. **Women should not breast-feed if they have HIV.**

Children: VIRACEPT is available for the treatment of children 2 through 13 years of age with HIV. There is a powder form of VIRACEPT that can be mixed with milk, baby formula, or foods like pudding. Instructions on how to take VIRACEPT powder can be found in a later section that discusses how VIRACEPT Oral Powder should be prepared.

If you have liver disease: VIRACEPT has not been studied in people with liver disease. If you have liver disease, you should tell your doctor before taking VIRACEPT.

Other medical problems: Certain medical problems may affect the use of VIRACEPT. Some people taking protease inhibitors have developed new or more serious diabetes or high blood sugar. Some people with hemophilia have had increased bleeding. It is not known whether the protease inhibitors caused these problems. Be sure to tell your doctor if you have hemophilia types A and B, diabetes mellitus, or an increase in thirst and/or frequent urination.

CAN VIRACEPT BE TAKEN WITH OTHER MEDICATIONS?

VIRACEPT may interact with other drugs, including those you take without a prescription. You must discuss with your doctor any drugs that you are taking or are planning to take before you take VIRACEPT.

Drugs you should not take with VIRACEPT:

- Seldane® (terfenadine, for allergies)
- Hismantel® (astemizole, for allergies)
- Propulsid® (cisapride, for heartburn)
- Cordarone® (amiodarone, for irregular heartbeat)
- Quinidine (for irregular heartbeat), also known as Quinaglut® Cardioquid® Quinides® and others
- Ergot derivatives (Calegra® and others, for migraine headache)
- Halcion® (triazolam)
- Versed® (midazolam)

Taking the above drugs with VIRACEPT may cause serious and/or life-threatening adverse events.

• Rifampin (for tuberculosis), also known as Rimactane®, Rifadin®, Rifater®, or Rifamate®

This drug reduces blood levels of VIRACEPT.

Dose reduction required if you take VIRACEPT with:

• Mycobutin® (rifabutin, for MAC); you will need to take a lower dose of Mycobutin.

A change of therapy should be considered if you are taking VIRACEPT with:

- Phenobarbital
- Phenytoin (Dilantin® and others)
- Carbamazepine (Tegretol® and others)
- These agents may reduce the amount of VIRACEPT in your blood and make it less effective.
- Oral contraceptives ("the pill")
- If you are taking the pill to prevent pregnancy, you should use a different type of contraception since VIRACEPT may reduce the effectiveness of oral contraceptives.

HOW SHOULD VIRACEPT BE TAKEN WITH OTHER ANTI-HIV DRUGS?

Taking VIRACEPT together with other anti-HIV drugs increases their ability to fight the virus. It also reduces the opportunity for resistant viruses to grow. Based on your history of taking other anti-HIV medicine, your doctor will direct you on how to take VIRACEPT and other anti-HIV medicines. These drugs should be taken in a certain order or at specific times. This will depend on how many times a day each medicine should be taken. It will also depend on whether it should be taken with or without food.

Nucleoside analogues: No drug interaction problems were seen when VIRACEPT was given with:

- Retrovir® (zidovudine, AZT)
- Epivir® (lamivudine, 3TC)
- Zalcitabine® (ddC)
- Videx® (didanosine, ddI)

If you are taking both Videx (ddI) and VIRACEPT: Videx should be taken without food, on an empty stomach. Therefore, you should take VIRACEPT with food one hour after or more than two hours before you take Videx.

Nonnucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NNRTIs):

When VIRACEPT is taken together with:

- Viramune® (nevirapine)
- The amount of VIRACEPT in your blood may be reduced. Studies are now taking place to learn about the safety of combining VIRACEPT with Viramune.
- Other NNRTIs

VIRACEPT has not been studied with other NNRTIs.

Other protease inhibitors:

When VIRACEPT is taken together with:

- Crivarin® (indinavir)
- The amount of both drugs in your blood may be increased. Currently, there are no safety and efficacy data available from the use of this combination.
- Norvir® (nelfinavir)
- The amount of VIRACEPT in your blood may be increased. Currently, there are no safety and efficacy data available from the use of this combination.
- Invirase® (saquinavir)
- The amount of saquinavir in your blood may be increased. If used in combination with saquinavir hard gelatin capsules at 600 mg three times daily, no dose adjustments are needed. Currently, there are no safety and efficacy data available from the use of this combination.

WHAT ARE THE SIDE EFFECTS OF VIRACEPT?

Like all medicines, VIRACEPT can cause side effects. Most of the side effects experienced with VIRACEPT have been mild to moderate. Diarrhea is the most common side effect in people taking VIRACEPT, and most adult patients had at least mild diarrhea at some point during treatment. In clinical studies, about 20% of patients receiving VIRACEPT 750 mg (three tablets) three times daily had four or more loose stools a day. In most cases, diarrhea can be controlled using antidiarrheal medicines, such as Imodium® A-D (loperamide) and others, which are available without a prescription.

Other side effects that occurred in 2% or more of patients receiving VIRACEPT include abdominal pain, asthenia, nausea, flatulence, and rash.

There were other side effects noted in clinical studies that occurred in less than 2% of patients receiving VIRACEPT. However, these side effects may have been due to other drugs that patients were taking or to the illness itself. Except for diarrhea, there were not many differences in side effects in patients who took VIRACEPT along with other drugs compared with those who took only the other drugs. For a complete list of side effects, ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist.

HOW SHOULD I TAKE VIRACEPT?

VIRACEPT is available only with your doctor's prescription. The light blue VIRACEPT Tablets should be taken three times a day. VIRACEPT should always be taken with a meal or a light snack. You do not have to take VIRACEPT exactly every 8 hours. Instead, you can take it at normal times when you are eating.

Take VIRACEPT exactly as directed by your doctor. Do not increase or decrease any dose or the number of doses per day. Also, take this medicine for the exact period of time that your doctor has instructed. **Do not stop taking VIRACEPT without first consulting with your doctor, even if you are feeling better.**

Only take medicine that has been prescribed specifically for you. Do not give VIRACEPT to others or take medicine prescribed for someone else.

The dosing of VIRACEPT may be different for you than for other patients. Follow the directions from your doctor, exactly as written on the label. The amount of VIRACEPT in the blood should remain somewhat constant over time. Missing doses will cause the concentration of VIRACEPT to decrease; therefore, you should not miss any doses. However, if you miss a dose, you should take the dose as soon as possible and then take your next scheduled dose and future doses as originally scheduled.

Dosing in adults (including children 14 years of age and older)

The recommended adult dose of VIRACEPT is 750 mg (three tablets) taken three times a day. Each dose should be taken with a meal or light snack.

Dosing in children 2 through 13 years of age

The VIRACEPT dose in children depends on their weight. The recommended dose is 20 to 30 mg/kg (or 9 to 14 mg/pound) per dose, taken three times daily with a meal or light snack. This can be administered either in tablet form or, in children unable to take tablets, as VIRACEPT Oral Powder.

Dose instructions will be provided by the child's doctor. The dose will be given three times daily using the measuring scoop provided, a measuring teaspoon, or one or more tablets depending on the weight and age of the child. The amount of oral powder or tablets to be given to a child is described in the chart below.

Pediatric Dose to Be Administered Three Times Daily

Body Weight		Number of Level Scoops*	Number of Level Teaspoons*	Number of Tablets
Kg	Lb			
7 to <8.5	15.5 to <18.5	4	1	-
8.5 to <10.5	18.5 to <23	5	1½	-
10.5 to <12	23 to <26.5	6	1½	-
12 to <14	26.5 to <31	7	1½	-
14 to <16	31 to <35	8	2	-
16 to <18	35 to <39.5	9	2½	-
18 to <23	39.5 to <50.5	10	2½	2
23 to >23	50.5 to >50.5	15	3½	3

In measuring oral powder, the scoop or teaspoon should be level.

* 1 level scoop contains 50 mg of VIRACEPT. Use only the scoop provided with your VIRACEPT bottle.

* 1 level teaspoon contains 200 mg of VIRACEPT. Note: A measuring teaspoon used for dispensing medication should be used for measuring VIRACEPT Oral Powder. Ask your pharmacist to make sure you have a medication dispensing teaspoon.

How should VIRACEPT Oral Powder be prepared?

The oral powder may be mixed with a small amount of water, milk, formula, soy formula, soy milk, dietary supplements, or dairy foods such as pudding or ice cream. Once mixed, the entire amount must be taken to obtain the full dose.

Do not mix the powder with any acidic food or juice, such as orange or grapefruit juice, apple juice, or apple sauce, because this may create a bitter taste.

Once the powder is mixed, it may be stored at room temperature or refrigerated for up to 8 hours. Do not heat the mixed dose once it has been prepared.

Do not add water to bottles of oral powder.

VIRACEPT powder is supplied with a scoop for measuring. For help in determining the exact dose of powder for your child, please ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist.

VIRACEPT Oral Powder contains aspartame, a low-calorie sweetener, and therefore should not be taken by children with phenylketonuria (PKU).

HOW SHOULD VIRACEPT BE STORED?

Keep VIRACEPT and all other medicines out of the reach of children. Keep bottle closed and store at room temperature (between 59°F and 86°F) away from sources of moisture such as a sink or other damp place. Heat and moisture may reduce the effectiveness of VIRACEPT.

Do not keep medicine that is out of date or that you no longer need. Be sure that if you throw any medicine away, it is out of the reach of children.

Discuss all questions about your health with your doctor. If you have questions about VIRACEPT or any other medication you are taking, ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist. You can also call 1.888.VIRACEPT (1.888.847.2237) toll free.

The following are registered trademarks of their respective manufacturers: Retrovir, Epivir/Glaxo Wellcome Oncology/HIV, Zalcitabine, Videx/Bristol-Myers Squibb Oncology, Invirase, Versed/Roche Laboratories Inc., Seldane, Rifadin, Rifamate, Rifater/Rischel, Marion Roussee, Hismantel, Propulsid/Janssen Pharmaceutica Inc., Halcion, Mycobutin/Pharmacia & Upjohn Co., Rimactane, Tegretol/CibaGeneva Pharmaceuticals, Viramune/Roxane Laboratories, Inc., Dilantin/Parke-Davis, Crivarin/Merck & Co., Inc., Imodium A-D/McNeil Consumer Products Co., Cordarone/Wyeth-Ayerst Laboratories, Quinaglut/Berlex Laboratories, Cardioquin/The Purdue Frederick Co., Quindex/A.H. Robins Co., Inc., Calergot/Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corp. Norvir is a trademark of Abbott Laboratories.

Issued 11/13/97

CALL 1.888.VIRACEPT

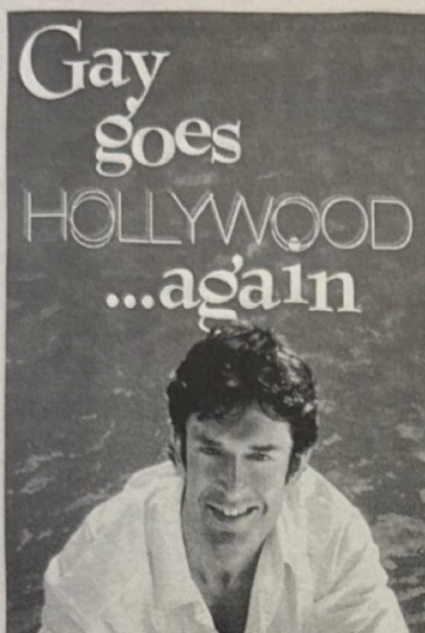
VIRACEPT is a registered trademark of Agouron Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
Copyright © 1999 Agouron Pharmaceuticals, Inc. All rights reserved.

Agouron

Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

A Division of

La Jolla, California, 92037, USA



➤ Continued from page 1

A-OK with mainstream America is last on my to-do list. I look around and notice Ingrid Casares, Madonna's famed gal pal and South Beach social queen, chatting up Paramount Pictures executives and other movers and shakers.

Suddenly, the others are back at the bar and Everett's assistant makes the introductions. We small talk about life in the South, Mardi Gras and how proud he is of the new movie. The expected movie-star attitude is conspicuously absent tonight and Everett is in the mood to win friends and influence people. As he works the room he's all easy-going hospitality, complete with firm handshake, eye contact and a smile.

Then, just like that, my time is up and Everett presses on to meet the rest of the bar. Word has it that his boyfriend is at the party and I spend some time trying to see if I can figure out who the lucky guy is. I can't. Everett's PR person sidles up to me and says, "So, how'd it go?"

I tell her "it" went fine, but that it was hard to hold a conversation above the loud music. I spy Everett looking animated and laughing as he talks with Steve from Denver. "Oh, that's OK, you'll have plenty of time tomorrow," she assures me. "And besides, Rupert just told me he can't hear a thing either."

Hmmmmmm.....

A few hours later it is tomorrow and another gorgeous day in South Beach. Arriving early at the poolside bungalows set aside for press interviews, Everett, 40, seems relaxed and a little sleepy. Casually dressed in black athletic pants and shoes, and a tight heather gray short-sleeved T-shirt, he complains of recently battling the flu. Again, he's disarmingly down-to-earth, but all business—and for now, his business is getting people to see "The Next Best Thing."

"My fantasy for this film has always been for every gay and lesbian person to come see this film," Everett reports. "If they did, it would be more successful than 'Titanic' and there would be so many more movies coming out with gay and lesbian characters in them—because all Hollywood needs is the financial incentive."

While "The Next Best Thing" reeks of marketing manipulation and studio suits trying to strike while the having-a-gay-best-friend-iron is hot, Rupert Everett is sympathetic.

"Hollywood's not really homophobic," he says. "Hollywood's just business-oriented. Whatever's going to make money is what they're interested in."

After the \$286 million world-wide gross of 1997's "My Best Friend's Wedding," you can bet Hollywood is very interested in making sure the John Schlesinger-directed "The Next Best Thing" does big business. After all, a movie

starring a woman by the name of Madonna and her best friend, who happens to be America's gay sweetheart—well, you do the math.

"I think films like this are very puzzling to Hollywood [business people]," Everett explains. "They're not sure where the audience is, if there's an audience, if one audience is going to be turned off because it's too in-your-face. The whole thing is a series of compromises that have to be made."

Everett had some compromises of his own to suggest in regards to the original script, which portrayed Abbie (Madonna) as a "very hard and bitter woman" and Robert (Everett) as a "flubby, asexual queen." He smoothed out Abbie's rough edges and made Robert more of a hero. In the film, the best friends have an unexpectedly passionate evening together (read: have sex) and wind up co-habiting and co-parenting—until Abbie meets Ben (Benjamin Bratt) and falls in love.

But those expecting a simple comedy about the knee-slapping pratfalls of raising a kid with your best friend might be surprised. The film starts out as a quirky comedy and unexpectedly u-turns into a courtroom drama.

"I was looking to do another gay role that was still funny and accessible to middle American straight people," Everett explains. "This story seemed to me to be ideal because it's jerky and fun in the beginning and then it has a turn, which personally, I liked a lot."

But does Everett think that watching a gay "Father Knows Best" type could be a big turn off to both straight and gay audiences?

"I think [the film is] good on the subject of family and it's good on the subject of what actually does make a father. Is it blood or is it commitment?" Everett asks. "In the end it deals with a series of serious subjects. The one that was the most beguiling to me was that you can be a practicing homosexual and a really good father and I think that was a very important point to make."

With popular recent books like Dan Savage's adoption story "The Kid," and "The Velveteen Father" by Jesse Green, gays and lesbians as parents is an idea who's time has arrived. But critics of the film have wondered if Everett's character, Robert, undermines the true gay identity, a la Anne Heche's "Oprah" appearance and the "choice" brouhaha. In a country where homosexuality is largely misunderstood, and in the age of Reformation ministries, does his character's actions portray being gay as a choice?

"I don't like the idea—whether it's truthful or not—that

gay guys disappear into a puff of smoke as soon as they're confronted with a woman." Everett says. "When I knew I wanted to make the sexual act between the characters a spontaneous one, I thought Madonna was the perfect person to pull it off. And that's aside from the fact that we are friends because she is one of the few women you could put into a gay club and everyone will still try to fuck her."

"I wanted that to be an easy bridge for the audience to make," he continues. "I think if you put Helen Hunt in the role, it would have been harder to imagine. Madonna's got a certain appeal that crosses the board, which is part of her fascination."

If Madonna fascinates gay audiences, it's only a reflection of how much Everett fascinates legions of straight people who didn't know gay people could be so much fun to have as friends. The opportunity to trade in a so-so acting career ("Another Country," "Dunston Checks In"), and a sideline novelist gig ("Hello Darling, Are You Working?", "Hairdressers of St. Tropez"), and a seedy past for superstardom came as a surprise to Everett as well. But it's clear he intends to make the most of every opportunity that comes his way. He's focused, intelligent and a budding marketing maven.

Everett shrewdly suggested that Paramount fly a dozen or so writers from gay papers around the country to Miami Beach to eat, drink and, oh yeah, write about "The Next Best Thing." Why?

Everett wants to promote the film without the political stances that come with coverage in glossy magazines like the *Advocate*. According to Everett, he prefers papers that tell you what's going on in that particular city on that particular weekend. Like grassroots campaigns of old, Everett believes in the cause. He wants you to see his movie.

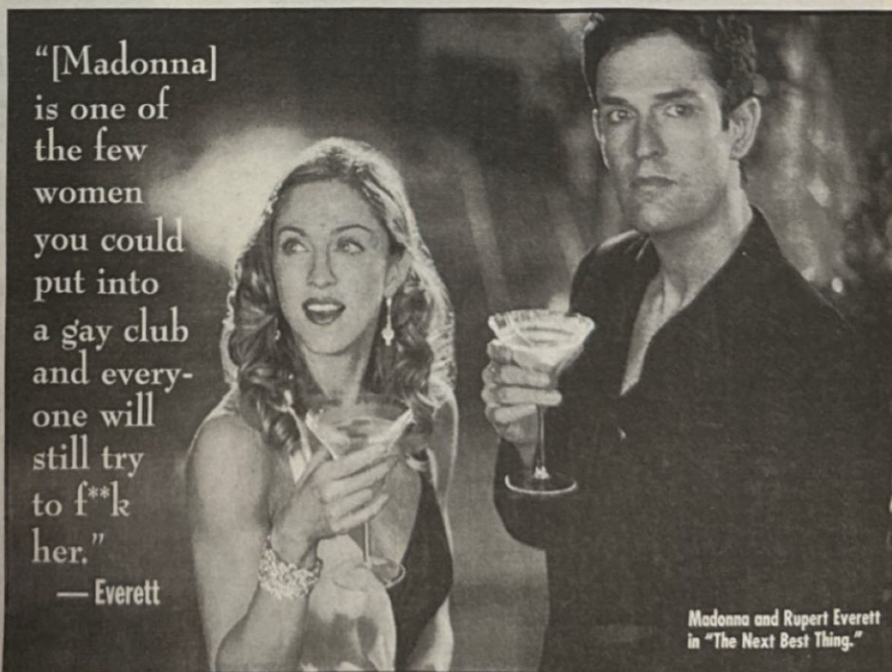
"It's exciting for gay characters to join the Hollywood family in a mainstream way," he explains. "I think it's obviously more exciting for me to become more successful, and it's also really exciting to be a part of a movement to de-stereotype characters like this."

But, despite his drive, ambition and unexpected success, Everett knows that he could quickly become an episode of VH-1's "Where Are They Now?" While his role in introducing gay characters to major motion pictures cannot be denied, Everett is cautious about patting himself on the back so soon.

"I think the moment you start worrying about what you'll be remembered for is the beginning of a downhill slalom."

"[Madonna] is one of the few women you could put into a gay club and everyone will still try to f**k her."

— Everett



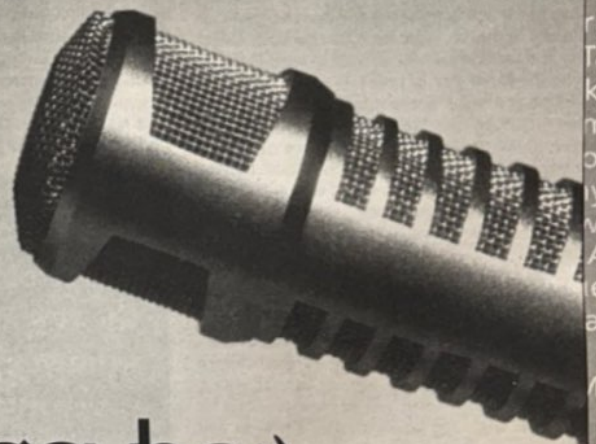
Madonna and Rupert Everett in "The Next Best Thing."

All Mixed Up with Jeremy Hovies The Mike Webb Show Hangin'OUT with Chelle Mileur & Jeff Calley TraQz with Charlie Dyer Dr. Ruthless with Malcolm McKay reX's ranTs with reX booTh The Daily Dose with Michael Wengert The Grethe Cammermeyer Show The Signorile Show with Michelangelo Signorile The John McMullen Show Electric Brunch with Jeremy Hovies Point of View with Ann Northrop My Queer Life with Michael

We Give Great LIP SERVICE!

AURAL GRATIFICATION

All Day, All Night



g@ybc)))

www.gaybc.com

Mightier Than a Million Watts

©2000 GAYBC Radio Network & Stellar Networks, Inc.

Thomas Ford reX's ranTs with reX booTh The Daily Dose with Michael Wengert The Grethe Cammermeyer Show Point of View with Ann Northrop My Queer Life with Michael Thomas Ford Times of Our Lives with Don Romesburg Fi\$callly Fit with Peter Berkery The Culture Corner with Chris Diani & Charlie Dyer Aubrey's Playroom with Aubrey Sparks GenderTalk with Nancy Nangeroni SpiritWave with Christian de la Huerta All

Health News

Studies show St. John's wort may interfere with HIV medication

LONDON (AP)—St. John's wort, a popular herbal remedy used to relieve mild depression, can interfere with drugs used to treat HIV-infected people and heart transplant patients, new research has found. Two studies published in The Lancet medical journal found that St. John's wort dulls the effectiveness of both the HIV medicine Crixivan and the transplant drug cyclosporin. In the study on Crixivan, also known as indinavir, NIH researchers gave the protease inhibitor to eight HIV-negative volunteers, then added St. John's wort tablets three days later. Tests indicated that the concentration of Crixivan in the bloodstream was on average 81 percent lower when St. John's wort was added. Overall, levels of the HIV medicine in the blood dropped 57 percent when taken with St. John's wort. "This is a cautionary note," said Dr. Fred Valentine, professor of medicine at New York University Medical Center. "These [herbal remedies] really aren't necessarily benign compounds." Last month, CVS Corp., the second-largest drugstore chain in the United States, said it has started asking customers to list the herbal supplements they use—in addition to their prescription drugs—in an effort to avoid potentially dangerous drug interactions.

Gay medical students face hostile training environment

TORONTO—Canadian medical schools are being asked to develop ways to combat homophobia following a study that found some gay students face a hostile training environment, the London (Ont.) Free Press reported. The study of 29 gay and lesbian physicians-in-training concluded many hide their sexual orientation because of fears that "coming out" will harm their grades and careers. "I don't do anything to let people know," said one budding doctor in the study. "A large part of that is spawned from the fear that I won't get a residency spot in a specialty that I want to be in if people know I'm gay." The 16 women and 13 men students, from all over the country, said they frequently faced negative attitudes. "Hateful jokes and remarks targeting gay and lesbian patients were common and usually went unchallenged," the researchers wrote. The study appeared in the Canadian Medical Association Journal.

AIDS texts among worst in training doctors on end-of-life care

CHICAGO (AP)—Top medical textbooks generally don't include enough information on how to care for patients at the end of their lives, researchers reported in the Journal of the American Medical Association. Previous studies have concluded that many patients die in pain unnecessarily or in hospitals rather than at home. Inadequate training has been blamed for the deficient care—and doctors have reported increasing anxiety about treating dying patients. "The information exists, but it's not being relayed" to medical students, said Dr. Michael Rabow, the study's lead author. "Pain goes untreated primarily because the focus is on extending life." Textbooks covering surgery, AIDS and oncology were the worst offenders, researchers said. Dr. Nicholas Christakis, who specializes in hospice care at the University of Chicago, said the study confirmed that "Americans die needlessly bad deaths.... Textbooks are not the only problem or the magic bullet that will solve it, but it's an important step," he said.

Birds bad for those with weak immune systems, study finds

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—People with weakened immune systems who come in contact with birds may be putting themselves at risk for developing life-threatening illnesses, according to a study published in the Annals of Internal Medicine. It found that the 1998 death of a 72-year-old Boston woman might have been caused by breathing an airborne fungus found in bird feces. The woman, who lived in a house with family members, had owned a pet cockatoo for seven years. She did not live on the same floor as the bird, but did pass its cage several times a week. The woman had undergone a liver transplant in 1989 and was taking drugs that suppress the body's immune system.

The study's authors said it may be wise to advise people with compromised immune systems, including HIV and AIDS patients, to consider avoiding pet birds and public places such as parks where pigeon and other bird feces may be found.



A fungus found in bird feces has been blamed for killing one woman and could threaten others with compromised immune systems, researcher said.

Johnson & Johnson unveils high-tech, high-priced Band-Aid

NEW YORK (AP)—Johnson & Johnson introduced a high-tech, higher-priced Band-Aid this month. The new bandage, called the Band-Aid Brand Advanced Healing Strip, promises to heal wounds fast and eliminate the formation of scars, which can cause scarring. At \$3.79 for a box of 10, it will be at least eight times more expensive than normal adhesive bandages, and is expected to be on store shelves in April. Company officials said that unlike most bandages, which need to be changed daily, its new bandage can be worn for several days, including in showers and baths.

—From staff and wire reports

Desktop publishing

(Newsletters, flyers, menus, mailing labels, sender/ addressee envelopes)

Powerpoint presentations •

Relational databases, html tagging for web pages, one-on-one training (MS Office, Excel, Word, Powerpoint, Outlook, Access) • Customization of Excel and Access applications

THE
ROSSOF-
BERMAN
GROUP

Victor Berman 525-6164

Tax & Estate Planning, Probate, Corporate, Employee Benefits, Executive Compensation
EXPERIENCED IN GAY/LESBIAN ESTATE AND TAX PLANNING



GLENN J. REAMES
ATTORNEY AT LAW

Counseling, Transactional Analysis & Document Production
Licensed in Georgia & Louisiana

919 St. Philip St., Ste. B • New Orleans, Louisiana 70116

Phone: (504) 587-6184 • Fax: (504) 569-8999 • Toll Free: (800) 337-6186

LL.M. (Taxation) New York University • Board Certified (Taxation) Louisiana

ProTech

PEST CONTROL SERVICE



(504) 736-0736

LARRY GUMPert

LICENSED & INSURED



KENNY TAYLOR

Agent • Auto, Property, Life, Business

Allstate®
You're in good hands.

ASK FOR BEN MACH
cell 494-8168

24 Hour a Day Service

Allstate Insurance Company

7833 St. Charles Avenue

New Orleans, LA 70118

Bus. (504) 861-4812 • FAX (504) 861-9656

Rob Clemenz

525-4361

Jack Jernigan

CLEMENZ & JERNIGAN
THE CONSUMER LAWYERS GROUP

210 BARONNE STREET, SUITE 1800, NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70112

Bankruptcy, Auto Fraud, Collection Abuse, Credit Errors

ASK US ABOUT OUR QUALIFICATIONS

ALSO HANDLING SELECT CRIMINAL & PERSONAL INJURY MATTERS

LATTER & BLUM
INC./REALTORS®



"Full-time Million
Dollar Agent"

I'll help you buy, sell or rent

Office (504) 948-3011

V. Mail (504) 948-4334

(888) 942-4334

LANE LACOY

REALTOR®



Armeinius 2000 Russia Bal Masque' XXXII

Saturday, March 4, 2000

9:00PM

St. Bernard Civic Theatre

Donation \$15.00

Tickets available at the following
locations:

Hit Parade	4 Seasons
741 Bourbon St.	3229 N Causeway
524-7700	832-0659

Alternatives	Second Skin Leather
909 Bourbon St.	521 Rue St. Philip St
524-5222	561-8167

For further	Something Different
Information	5300 Tchoupitoulas
Call 616-7241	891-9056

www.armeinius.com

"Quote unquote"

compiled by REX WOCKNER and STAFF



"I don't care whether a person is gay. I judge people based on their capability, honesty, and merit. Being in the entertainment business—that is, owning casinos and... several large beauty pageants—I've worked with many gay people. I have met some tough, talented, capable, terrific people. Their lifestyle is of no interest to me."

—Donald Trump, real estate developer and possible Reform Party presidential candidate, to the Advocate

"I don't see the Pet Shop Boys as a gay pop group. I mean, do you have to see Benjamin Britten as a gay composer?"

—Pet Shop Boys singer Neil Tennant to Out magazine

"Being gay wasn't a prerequisite of being in the group, it was how well you sang and you danced. But it was basically a group formed to appeal to gay audiences."

—Village People construction worker David Hodo to London's Gay Times, Feb. issue

"I've gone out with some nuts. When I first met them, they seemed decent and regular and said they weren't big fans, but then they turn out to be crazy—mad, insane Madonna fans. Looking back, it's pretty funny. Nobody's ever caused any harm. Let's just say it was bad judgment on my part."

—Madonna's brother Christopher Ciccone to the Advocate



"Gaydar can lead to a social form of racial profiling. The police aren't stopping gays on the highway, but a gay who comes anywhere near the Richard Simmons profile still carries an added burden in the workplace. At its worst, gaydar is deadly. At the Army base in Kentucky where Private First Class Barry Winchell was beaten to death with a baseball bat last July 5, he hadn't told that he was gay, in strict compliance with regulations. It was gaydar that tracked him down."

—Time magazine columnist Margaret Carlson

"This should be up to the states, and if a state has decided to allow medical marijuana, the federal government should be ashamed to forbid it. Who the hell are they to tell people with AIDS or cancer what to take—they should take anything they damn well want to!"

—Minnesota Gov. Jesse Ventura, in an interview in the February issue of Poz magazine

"Every [gay] stereotype is the basis of someone's lifestyle, and at any gay gathering large enough to be noticed by the press, you'll see the violation of your most cherished belief on flagrant display."

—Village Voice Executive Editor Richard Goldstein writing in the Advocate



You want to see courage? Watch somebody come out. Watch them take the risk of losing their relationship with their parents, their clergy, their brothers and sisters—to say the truth about who they are. Look at somebody who has the courage to come out and say, "I have HIV."

—Actress Judith Light, who is starring on Broadway in "Wit," the Pulitzer-winning play by Atlanta lesbian Margaret Edson, in an interview in Poz magazine

"I can't do anything to help Matt anymore. But maybe I can use this platform to help others. He would want me to be doing it. He always said I shouldn't have been a housewife, I should have a career."

—Judy Shepard, Matthew's mother, on her expanding role as a gay-rights activist, at a San Francisco press conference. Shepard is campaigning against Proposition 22, the California ballot initiative that would ban gay marriage

DISCOVER THE LOVE OF CHRIST...

DISCOVER MCC OF GREATER NEW ORLEANS

WORSHIP WITH US SUNDAY AT 11 AM

1128 St. Roch Ave., New Orleans 945-5390

vcmccgno@aol.com • www.mccgno.com • Rev. Dexter S. Brecht, pastor

Learn from yesterday, prepare for tomorrow, LIVE TODAY!



JOHN KANE AND ASSOCIATES

INSURANCE AND INVESTMENT SERVICES

LIFE • HEALTH
HOME • AUTO
ANNUITIES
MUTUAL FUNDS

504 - 523-2826

MUMFREY'S Pharmacy

1021 W. JUDGE PEREZ
CHALMETTE, LA 70043
279-6312

- Free Prescription Delivery
- Direct Billing to Medicaid/Medicare
- Private Insurance & Third-Party Payers
- Billing Assistance
- Competitive Pricing
- Confidential, Personal, Professional Service

Rodney Culotta, RPh

279-6312

24-hour beeper: 457-7543

A proven community leader in value and customer service!

- We deliver or ship to your home/office
- We accept Medicaid/Medicare and Insurance Assignments

IV Services:

(504) 394-9037

THE SCHOOL OF ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS
LSU Health Sciences Center presents your invitation to

\$20 in advance
 \$25 at the door
 ~ Silent Auction ~
 DJ Mary Pappas

CABARET

CAST PARTY GALA

benefiting Special Olympics Louisiana

Complimentary
 Hors D'ouvres, Beer,
 Wine and Soft Drinks
 ~Live Entertainment~

join the cast of the award-winning Broadway hit at



Honorary
Chairperson
 Eric Paulsen
 TV Personality

World Famous
MID CITY LANES



ROCK 'N BOWL

New Orleans

Hostess
 Ms. Becky Allen



Emcee
 Lyle Henderson



located at 4133 S. Carrollton Ave. • (504) 482-3133

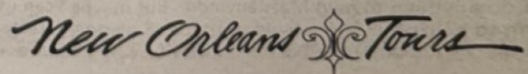
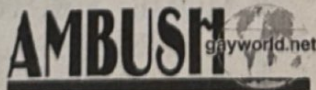
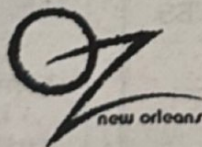
Tuesday, March 28, 2000, 9 p.m. - 1 a.m.

Company arrives around 11 p.m./No one under 21 admitted

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT:

**Le Meridian Fitness Center, Downtown Fitness Center,
 Saenger Theatre, and all French Quarter C.C.'s Coffee Houses**

For more information call 585-3612



time out

IMPACT NEWS
FEBRUARY 25/2000

Taking pride in our culture

Puttin' ON THE dogs

"Joan of Bark" Barkus parade should be a howling good time

by GLORIA DAUPHIN

Where does the amalgamation of the perky morning banter of local TV personality Margaret Orr, an undying love for man's best friend (canine, that is) and a gathering of folks at Good Friend's Bar take you? Down the yellow brick road, you say? Not quite, but in this adventure Toto and his four legged friends are queens—and kings—for a day.

But of course it's the fabulous and fabu-

lously funny Mystic Krewe of Barkus and its annual canine parade set for Sunday, Feb. 27. This year's theme is "Joan of Bark" and there's sure to be no shortage of imaginative variations on this theme.

Hundreds of pups and their mistresses and masters will take to their leashes and wagons beginning at noon at Armstrong Park. The parade will step off promptly at 2 p.m. and wag its way down St. Ann to the Royal Reviewing Stand (and judges) at Good Friends, then hang a left on Dauphine and continue through the French Quarter.

Day-of registration is \$20.

The Krewe of Barkus was conceived over drinks (imagine that!) between a group of friends who shared a common love. Meeting one evening at Good Friends, members of the Margaret Orr Fan Club wondered aloud how they could pay tribute to Ms. Orr and simultaneously help a good cause. (If you must ask why there's a fan club for Margaret Orr, the WDSU-TV weathercaster/morning show filler-inner, then you really don't need to know, now do you, dahlin'?)

However, for all you out-of-townners,

> Continued on page 40



Mardi Gras, beads. They're sizzling in 2000

by AMY GILL

Beads. Can't live with 'em, can't live without 'em—at Mardi Gras anyway. We fight for them, barter for them, buy them and bare it all for them. Even the greenest tourist learns quickly to distinguish between "good" and "bad" beads.

Want a hot tip on the hottest new beads to hit Mardi Gras in years? Hotbeads. Remember this word.

An innovative entrepreneur named Leslie Jackson has invented a new line of beads that flash. Yes, flash, just like those body parts we see way too much of—or maybe not enough—at Carnival.

Hotbeads contain a nifty microchip that makes them flash, and if early runs on them are any indication, they'll be hot sellers.

Jackson calls her Hotbeads "the Mardi Gras throw of the new millennium."

Jackson has lived in the New Orleans area since 1994, but her first Mardi Gras was in the early '80s. She loved the holiday, describing it as a "lost weekend" that resulted in a headache, an empty wallet and an enormous smile. She also admits to "losing her mind" at many subsequent Mardi Gras celebrations.

Since moving to New Orleans, Jackson has made her living peddling jewelry at the French Market and in two local stores. In 1977 her thoughts turned to Mardi Gras beads.

Jackson first developed the Hotbeads idea during a conversation with a friend who is a toy maker. The discussion turned to the evolution of Mardi Gras beads and their persistent move toward flashiness. With some beads now bordering on the obscene, Jackson realized that "the necklaces had evolved to the point where they couldn't get any flashier without incorporating new technology." With that revelation, which she describes through the apt metaphor of "a light bulb over [her] head," Jackson became appropriately obsessed with making the idea a reality.

The beads combine traditional Mardi Gras appeal with new technology. Each 36-inch strand includes six "hot" beads that are one-inch in diameter and include light-emitting diodes (LED). The larger beads are separated by smaller, normal beads. According to a Hotbeads advertisement, the overall design is carefully structured to ensure the beads "can withstand the rigors of Mardi-Gras-style partying and balcony throwing."



> Continued on page 40

Do's and don'ts during Mardi Gras (or what to do when you do a don't)

Show your privates, earn a trip to the clink. Really, when those babes and dudes tempt you with plastic trinkets you simply can't bear to live without out, well, bare your breasts or genitals and you could find yourself behind bars.

Our gals and guys in blue mean it this year, folks. "Lewd behavior" won't be tolerated at Mardi Gras. (Snickers aside, the cops really do mean it thanks to an article in *Playboy* that—we are surprised!—encourages tourists to bare it all on Bourbon Street.)

NOPD public information officer Joseph Narcisse said the department has distributed flyers throughout the French Quarter warning the public that those committing "obscene acts" will be arrested.

Here's the scoop: "Uniform and plain clothes officers will be vigilant in the French Quarter and WILL TAKE the appropriate action if the law is violated—just ask the 350 people who were arrested last year for lewd conduct."

The illegal acts are described as "obscene live conduct" and "exposure of the male/female genitals or female breasts in a public place." (Now don't go there with the argument about female breasts not being obscene...we don't have the time or space.)

Know what else is illegal? Urinating in public. That's right, whipping it out or dropping the old 501s and getting instant relief—on someone's stoop or sidewalk or bush or car tire.

If you're caught, you'll be arrested, and we support that. It's a disgusting abuse of private and public property.

The police advise you to "plan ahead" and use the facilities where you purchase beverages. We know what that means: long lines, poor planning on our parts. Doable, but not easy.

For some inexplicable reason New Orleans' powers-that-be send out a couple of million invitations to Mardi Gras and forget folks once they arrive. A few misplaced Port-O-Janes on Rampart ain't gonna cut it, boys! Want to cut out the public urinating? Put up LOTS of VISIBLE portables. (Check out Bourbon/Iberville streets.

Last year an entrepreneur had clean portables at the ready and well worth the bucks. You can even buy a pass!!!)

See someone being arrested? Don't interfere. You don't want to get hurt and the police certainly don't need your help. Have a beef? Write down badge numbers and names and file a complaint later.

Our law-keepers work 12-hour shifts through Mardi Gras Day, and their patience wears thin. We know there are some less-than-hospitable cops out there, but the majority do a great job keeping things in a checked-chaos state. For the bad apples: report them to the appropriate sources. For the majority of good ones: tell 'em nice job.

I'm arrested. Now what?

You (or maybe a friend) will be taken to Central Lock-Up at 2800 Perdido St., booked, fingerprinted and photographed.

If you can prove that you have a local address (i.e. have a valid driver's license or other good ID) you may be released on your own recognizance. That means you could post bail and get a court summons for a later court appearance.

No ID? Expect rather uncomfortable lodging with countless other unfortunates, many of whom will be less-than-gracious about keeping their stomach and bladder contents to themselves.

Need bail? There are plenty of helpful bail bondsmen/women conveniently located next to Central Lock-Up. Yes, they'll be open during Mardi Gras. No, personal checks and credit cards aren't accepted. It's cold hard cash or a bond.

No cash? From out-of-town? Incoherent? No concerned friends? Then expect at least one over-night stay with Sheriff Charles Foti's jailers.

How long does it take to be processed out? That depends on how busy the facility is when you're arrested. Consider this: It's Mardi Gras, Stupid. Don't expect express check-out.

Other tips:

Don't drive to the French Quarter. There's never enough parking. Take a metered cab, or be sure to barter with a cabbie without a meter.

Take a bus or streetcar. Carpool. This includes to points outside the Quarter.

Read ALL of the streets signs, even those on adjoining streets. And for heaven's sakes, if there's a cardboard sign that says no parking for two hours before or after a parade, BELIEVE IT!

Don't block personal driveways. We locals don't take kindly to that and think nothing of having you towed or blocked in until you show the appropriate amount of remorse.

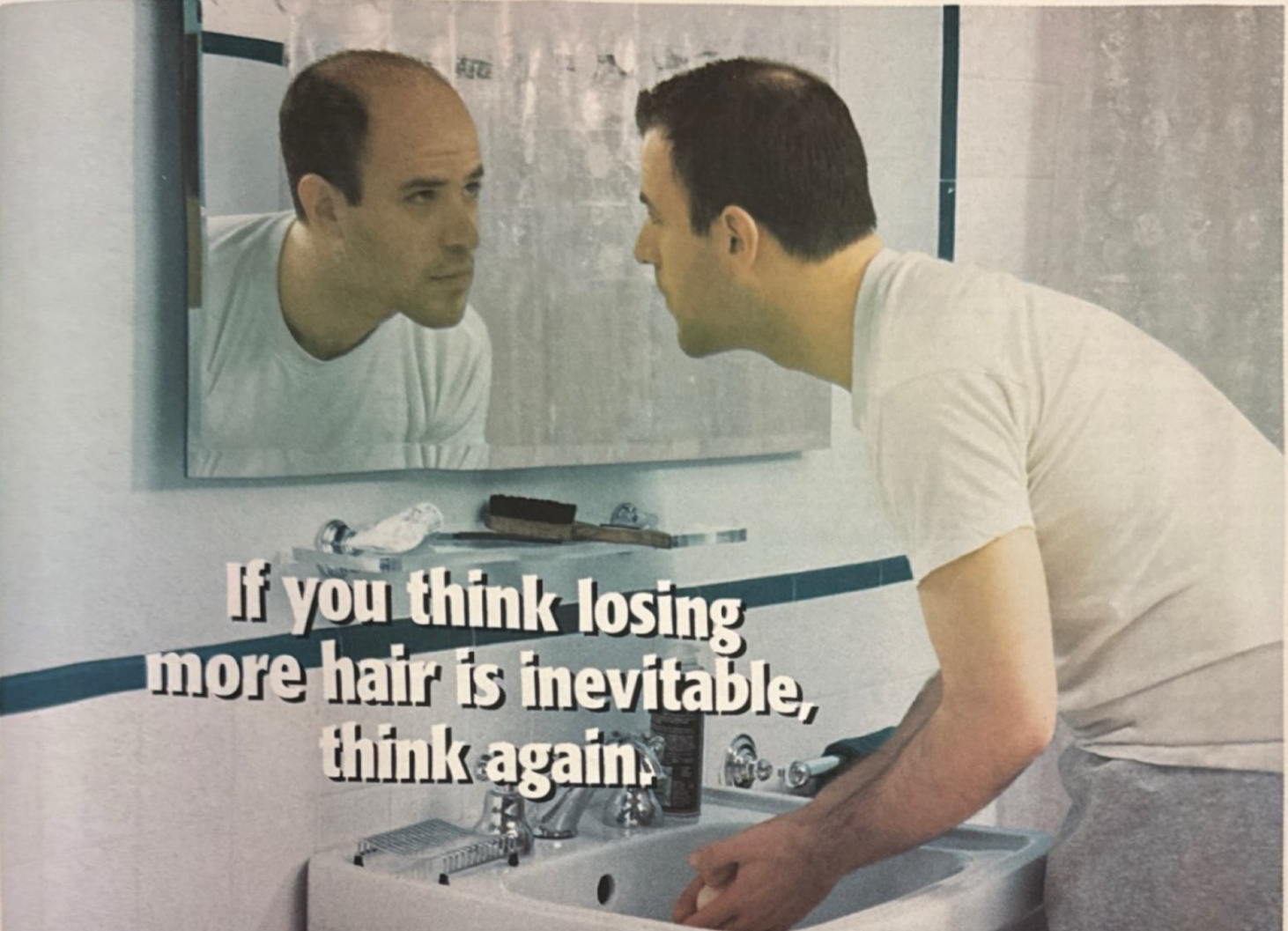
Don't park on sidewalks or the "neutral grounds."

Bottom line: observe "No Parking" signs.

If you're towed—and thousands of you will be—don't call the cops. Call Park and Control at 826-1900 and expect to take out a personal loan to get your car back. If they can find it.

Best advice: Carry identification, take a cab or public transportation, keep your head, laugh at the fools—and enjoy the greatest free show on Earth!





If you think losing more hair is inevitable, think again.

The first and only pill clinically proven to treat hair loss in men.

PROPECIA is a medical breakthrough—the first pill that effectively treats male pattern hair loss on the vertex (at top of head) and anterior mid-scalp area.

By all measures, the clinical results of PROPECIA in men are impressive.*

- 83% maintained their hair based on hair count (vs. 28% with placebo).
- 66% had visible regrowth as rated by independent dermatologists (vs. 7% with placebo).
- 80% were rated as improved by clinical doctors (vs. 47% with placebo).
- Most men reported an increase in the amount of hair, a decrease in hair loss, and improvement in appearance.

*Based on vertex studies at 24 months of men 18 to 41 with mild to moderate hair loss.

Scientists have recently discovered that men with male pattern hair loss have an increased level of DHT in their scalps. PROPECIA blocks the formation of DHT and, in this way, appears to interrupt a key factor in the development of inherited male pattern hair loss in men.

Importantly, PROPECIA helps grow natural hair—not just peach fuzz—and is as convenient to take as a vitamin: one pill a day.

Only a doctor can determine if PROPECIA is right for you. PROPECIA is for **men only**. Further, women who are or may potentially be pregnant must not use PROPECIA and should not handle crushed or broken tablets because of the risk of a specific kind of birth defect. (See accompanying Patient Information for details.) PROPECIA tablets are coated and will prevent contact with the active ingredient during normal handling.

You may need to take PROPECIA daily for three months or more to see visible results. PROPECIA may not regrow all your hair. And if you stop using this product, you will gradually lose the hair you have gained. There is not sufficient evidence that PROPECIA works for recession at the temporal areas. If you haven't seen results after 12 months of using PROPECIA, further treatment is unlikely to be of benefit.

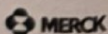
Like all prescription products, PROPECIA may cause side effects. A very small number of men experienced certain side effects, such as: less desire for sex, difficulty in achieving an erection, and a decrease in the amount of semen. Each of these side effects occurred in less than 2% of men. These side effects were reversible and went away in men who stopped taking PROPECIA.

So start talking to your doctor. And stop thinking further hair loss is inevitable.

CALL 1-888-806-3725 or visit our website at www.propecia.com today to receive detailed product information, including clinical "before and after" photographs.

Please read the next page for additional information about PROPECIA.

Propecia
(finasteride)
Helping make hair loss history™



© 1999 Merck & Co., Inc. All rights reserved. 99045189003 PWP-CON

Propecia® (finasteride) Tablets

Patient Information about PROPECIA®
(Pro-pee-sha)
Generic name: finasteride (fin-AS-tur-eyed)

PROPECIA™ is for use by MEN ONLY.

Please read this leaflet before you start taking PROPECIA. Also, read the information included with PROPECIA each time you renew your prescription, just in case anything has changed. Remember, this leaflet does not take the place of careful discussions with your doctor. You and your doctor should discuss PROPECIA when you start taking your medication and at regular checkups.

What is PROPECIA used for?

PROPECIA is used for the treatment of male pattern hair loss in the vertex and the anterior mid-scalp area. PROPECIA is for use by **MEN ONLY** and should **NOT** be used by women or children.

What is male pattern hair loss?

Male pattern hair loss is a common condition in which men experience thinning of the hair on the scalp. Often, this results in a receding hairline and/or balding on the top of the head. These changes typically begin gradually in men in their 30s.

Doctors believe male pattern hair loss is due to heredity and is dependent on hormonal effects. Doctors refer to this type of hair loss as androgenetic alopecia.

Results of clinical studies.

For 12 months, doctors studied over 1800 men aged 18 to 41 with mild to moderate amounts of ongoing hair loss. All men, whether receiving PROPECIA or placebo (a pill containing no medication) were given a medicated shampoo (Neutrogena T/Gel™ Shampoo). Of these men, approximately 1200 with hair loss at the top of the head were studied for an additional 12 months. In general, men who took PROPECIA maintained or increased the number of visible scalp hairs and noticed improvement in their hair in the first year, with the effect maintained in the second year. Hair counts in men who did not take PROPECIA continued to decrease.

In one study, patients were questioned on the growth of body hair. PROPECIA did not appear to affect hair in places other than the scalp.

Will PROPECIA work for me?

For most men, PROPECIA increases the number of scalp hairs, helping to fill in thin or balding areas of the scalp. Men taking PROPECIA noted a slowing of hair loss during two years of use. Although results will vary, generally you will not be able to grow back all of the hair you have lost. There is not sufficient evidence that PROPECIA works in the treatment of receding hairline in the temporal area on both sides of the head.

Male pattern hair loss occurs gradually over time. On average, healthy hair grows only about half an inch each month. Therefore, it will take time to see any effect.

You may need to take PROPECIA daily for three months or more before you see a benefit from taking PROPECIA. PROPECIA can only work over the long term if you continue taking it. If the drug has not worked for you in twelve months, further treatment is unlikely to be of benefit. If you stop taking PROPECIA, you will likely lose the hair you have gained within 12 months of stopping treatment. You should discuss this with your doctor.

How should I take PROPECIA?

Follow your doctor's instructions.

- Take one tablet by mouth each day.
- You may take PROPECIA with or without food.
- If you forget to take PROPECIA, do **not** take an extra tablet. Just take the next tablet as usual.

PROPECIA will **not** work faster or better if you take it more than once a day.

Who should **NOT** take PROPECIA?

- PROPECIA is for the treatment of male pattern hair loss in **MEN ONLY** and should not be taken by women or children.
- Anyone allergic to any of the ingredients.

A warning about PROPECIA and pregnancy.

- Women who are or may potentially be pregnant:
 - must not use PROPECIA
 - should not handle crushed or broken tablets of PROPECIA.

If a woman who is pregnant with a male baby absorbs the active ingredient in PROPECIA, either by swallowing or through the skin, it may cause abnormalities of a male baby's sex organs. If a woman who is pregnant comes into contact with the active ingredient in PROPECIA, a doctor should be consulted. PROPECIA tablets are coated and will prevent contact with the active ingredient during normal handling, provided that the tablets are not broken or crushed.

What are the possible side effects of PROPECIA?

Like all prescription products, PROPECIA may cause side effects. In clinical studies, side effects from PROPECIA were uncommon and did not affect most men. A small number of men experienced certain sexual side effects. These men reported one or more of the following: less desire for sex, difficulty in achieving an erection; and, a decrease in the amount of semen. Each of these side effects occurred in less than 2% of men. These side effects went away in men who stopped taking PROPECIA. They also disappeared in most men who continued taking PROPECIA.

In general use, the following have been reported infrequently: allergic reactions including rash, itching, hives and swelling of the lips and face; problems with ejaculation; breast tenderness and enlargement; and testicular pain.

Tell your doctor promptly about these or any other unusual side effects.

- PROPECIA can affect a blood test called PSA (Prostate-Specific Antigen) for the screening of prostate cancer. If you have a PSA test done, you should tell your doctor that you are taking PROPECIA.

Storage and handling.

Keep PROPECIA in the original container and keep the container closed. Store it in a dry place at room temperature. PROPECIA tablets are coated and will prevent contact with the active ingredient during normal handling, provided that the tablets are not broken or crushed.

Do not give your PROPECIA tablets to anyone else. It has been prescribed only for you. Keep PROPECIA and all medications out of the reach of children.

THIS LEAFLET PROVIDES A SUMMARY OF INFORMATION ABOUT PROPECIA. IF AFTER READING THIS LEAFLET YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR ARE NOT SURE ABOUT ANYTHING, ASK YOUR DOCTOR.

1-800-426-7375, Monday through Friday, 8:30 A.M. TO 7:00 P.M. (ET).

Propecia®
(finasteride) Tablets

*Trademark of MERCK & CO., Inc.
**Registered trademark of MERCK & CO., Inc.
***Registered trademark of Johnson & Johnson
COPYRIGHT © MERCK & CO., Inc., 1997
All rights reserved.

MERCK & CO., INC., Whitehouse Station, NJ 08889 USA
Issued January 1999
300002
3014510500-PRP-CON



THE WINDSOR COURT

NEW ORLEANS, LA



THEY AREN'T ON THE MENU. YOU CAN'T ORDER THEM.


Nonetheless, They Are Served

WITH EVERY MEAL.

NEW ORLEANS' ONLY MOBIL 5-STAR RESTAURANT

— THE —
GRILL ROOM

504-522-1992

 ORIENT-EXPRESS HOTELS

THE WINDSOR COURT HOTEL • 300 GRAVIER STREET

THE TIMES-PICAYUNE FIVE BEAN AWARD • COMPLIMENTARY PARKING



Music for a Queer Planet

by MARGARET COBLE

Choices: Mardi Gras Nightlife

OK, so the [insert any Mardi Gras parade name here] parade is over, you're all revved up after screaming "throw me something, sister/mister" for several hours straight, and you're absolutely weighed down with beads and useless plastic items. Now what do you do with all that festive Carnival spirit? (And more importantly, where do you get a cocktail?)

We'll hit some of the highlight here, but for a more complete listing of gay and gay-friendly bars, check out the map on pg.34.

For starters, you could check out what's happening at some of the area's always-active nightclubs, bars, and live music venues. Too overwhelming in a city with literally thousands of offerings? Let us help you narrow it down a little with an overview of some of our favorites.

New Orleans sports a bevy of queer and queer-friendly nightclubs, the majority of which are dance clubs or neighborhoods bars.

For girls just wanting to have fun, **RUBYFRUIT JUNGLE** (640 Frenchmen) in the Faubourg Marigny should be your first stop. It's the most lesbian-friendly joint in the downtown area. They've got something different going on every night of the week, and with a large dance floor, state of the art sound system, and a variety of high energy and house music DJs, it's the best place in town for a dyke to disco.

If hip-hop and more urban musical fare is what you gals crave, try the more intimate setting of **SAN MONE** (Dourgenois & Banks Streets), a popular African-American women's dance club. It's a short ride out of the downtown area, but at two o'clock in the morning when you're looking to get your groove on, San Mone is THE place to be and be seen.

Hoping to hear a good live band or just hang out with some friends? A short walk up Elysian Fields will land you at the new **MINT** (940 Elysian Fields), a friendly neighborhood bar with a mixed gay male/lesbian clientele that occupies the former location of the legendary lesbian bar Charlene's.

And right across the street **THE PHOENIX** (941 Elysian Fields) is a neighborhood bar popular with the leather crowd but welcoming to all. Wednesday is the night to get the best martini in town, courtesy of star bartender Red.

Boys will most likely want to head right over to Bourbon Street where high energy dance spots **THE BOURBON PUB/ PARADE** (801 Bourbon), **OZ** (800 Bourbon) and the country's oldest gay bar **Café LAFITTE IN EXILE** (901 Bourbon) will be filled to the

brim with shirtless hunks. **WOLFEN-DALE'S** (834 N. Rampart) is a dance club preferred by African-American men, and in that same area there's **VOODOO AT CONGO SQUARE** (718 N. Rampart) and **FOOTLOOSE** (700 N. Rampart).

Casual hangouts like **GOOD FRIENDS** (740 Dauphine) and leather-Levi bar **RAWHIDE 2010** (740 Burgundy) are other popular gay-male destinations. Gals, the Pub/Parade and Good Friends are great places to meet and mingle, so keep that in mind.

A mixed gay/straight crowd can be found at the new, glamorous **735 CLUB** (735 Bourbon), the largest dance venue in the city which features high profile local and out-of-town DJs and a wide variety of dance music sounds. Pop diva Madonna recently shot a music video there, so the club's buzz quotient is high right now.

For those looking for something a little more off the wall, the funky **SHIM SHAM CLUB & JUKE JOINT** (615 Toulouse) should be on your list, featuring both live music (mostly rock) and DJ theme nights; Thursday's "1984" retro-80s night is fast becoming legendary.

A brief cab or car ride to the Lower Garden District will get you to the seediest underground club in town, the **AUDUBON HOTEL** (1225 St. Charles), where the soundtrack is always eclectic and the clientele is colorful. Performance art happenings, drag king/queen shows, and visual art openings are often featured on their calendar, along with a revolving lineup of DJs.

If you're headed out to the suburbs, don't fret that you're leaving the city's gay-friendliness behind. There are a handful of gay/lesbian bars in Metairie and Kenner where you can duck out of the craziness of the Quarter and still have a good time. At the top of the list are **ANGLES** (2301 N. Causeway Blvd.) and **4 SEASONS** (3229 N. Causeway Blvd.), Metairie bars that cater to a mixed gay/lesbian clientele and feature pool tables, DJs, karaoke and live music on the weekends. For women, **CLUB**

> Continued on page 39

the

Bourbon

Pub

Parade

SHEILA NICHOLLS



Witness **SHEILA NICHOLLS**
3/11 Neutral Ground



Her starkly personal lyrics and intimate production offers a rare and revealing glimpse of the artist's beliefs and convictions.



album in stores now
www.sheilanicolls.com



Time was,
relationships were completely predictable.
Then again, so was banking.

If everyone is different, then why are all banks the same? Introducing a new way to bank via the Internet at www.glbank.com or on the phone, 24/7/365. G & L Internet Bank is designed for you, or you and your partner – whether business or personal.

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to bank with someone who understands your life? We provide hassle-free mortgage, checking, savings, consumer loans – and more – without leaving your home. We may just be the alternative you've been looking for.

We'll even pay your monthly bills for you ... on time. Just one more thing you won't have to worry about at G & L Internet Bank.

G & L Internet Bank: The bank without walls.

We're not only gay friendly ... *We're your only gay bank!*



Check us out on the web at www.glbank.com, or call us at (888) 226-5429

Copyright © 2000 G & L Internet Bank



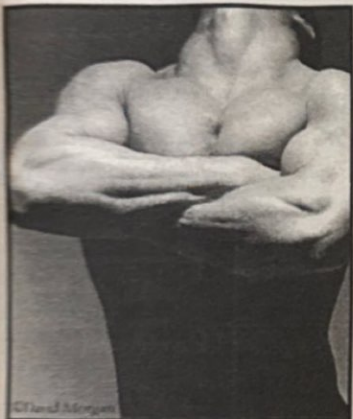
Health & Fitness

by GREG HERREN

Fit at Mardi Gras: not an oxymoron

Carnival is here. Need some hints? Bleachers are up at key viewing locations around the area and those barricades have been stacked in the medians for weeks. Houses are festooned with purple, gold and green. King Cakes are now daily dietary staples. Need more? There are the 3 Bs: beads, booze and bared breasts.

What does all of this have to do with health and fitness? Mardi Gras offers the perfect excuse to blow off workouts—"dear me, I can't maneuver through those crowds and get to the gym"—and God knows our healthy eating habits either get thrown to the wind or risk taking a backseat. Temptation is everywhere.



There's a myth that being fit and healthy means you can't enjoy Mardi Gras. What a crock. Guess what? Having a slice of king cake at work isn't going to turn you into the Pillsbury Dough Boy overnight. Having to miss the gym because the streets are closed won't immediately shut down your metabolism and cause you to gain 30 pounds. Enjoying a cocktail or a beer isn't going to destroy everything you have set out to accomplish. Ain't gonna happen, folks.

Here's a fact that's going to shock most people. Did you know that there is such a thing as good fat? Yep, it's true. Fat is not Satan incarnate or something destined to clog the arteries and add flab to the body. Your body requires fat. Gasp! How can that be?

Body fat serves two purposes. It is stored by the body as an energy reserve, and it serves to keep the body's inner organs warm. When the body doesn't have enough fat to keep the organs warm, the heart has to work harder by pumping more blood through the system to keep the organs at the proper temperature. The heart is only a muscle, after all, and is usually the strongest one in most peo-

ple. For an analogy, imagine stressing your biceps muscles steadily for an hour. The biceps would eventually fail, completely exhausted and weak. Because the heart works all of the time, why not take some of the pressure off of it? Consuming some fat is not going to kill you.

About that King Cake. There isn't a lot of fat in it, although King Cake is high in sugar and cholesterol. The cholesterol isn't a good thing, but if you're eating a heart-smart diet anyway, the cholesterol you're going to get from eating King Cake every now and then won't adversely affect your body. This is why every reputable diet plan has a cheat day where you can eat anything you want. You need to eat some fat and sugars.

As for alcohol, well, even if you aren't trying to be healthy we all know that excess alcohol is not a good thing. It impairs the way the mind functions (haven't we all done things under the influence of alcohol that we really, really regretted later?) and alcohol is primarily made up of simple carbohydrates, which means the body processes it as sugar. Sugar that is not burned up turns into fat. This is the worst way to get some fat into your system because when sugar turns into fat it is generally not stored around the organs for warmth but beneath the skin as energy reserve.

The key is moderation. Nothing in excess is good for your body. Even protein can be bad if you input an excessive amount because the kidneys and liver have difficulty processing it. Do I really need to explain why excessive alcohol is bad for you? Those who drink are very aware of what it does and those who don't drink have nothing to worry about anyway.

Mardi Gras is a time to have fun and for everyone to just enjoy themselves. If you are eating right and exercising regularly, whatever you do during Carnival is going to just be a slip and won't affect your long-term fitness goals.

If you can't make it to the gym, just take 20 or 30 minutes a day at home and do some abdominal crunches and push ups. By not taking breaks in-between the sets you'll get your heart rate up to a good level to help burn off any extra calories. Alternate the crunches and push ups. Do crunches till your abs burn and then switch to the pushups. When the pushups start to burn go back to abs. Keep this up for half an hour and you'll burn off a nice chunk of calories.

Carnival comes only once a year, so don't worry about a temporary lapse in your routine. Why do you think Mardi Gras ends at Ash Wednesday and is followed by Lent? So you can shed your guilt, of course! So relax and enjoy yourself.



SAAB

Saab vs. the Chiropractor



The world's first active head restraint, designed to help prevent whiplash injuries."

Lease a Saab 9-5

\$399 Per mo.
For 36 mos.

Amount due at lease inception: \$2,792.68
(includes down pmt., sec. dep., reg. fee & first mo. pmt.)

Introducing the Saab Scheduled Maintenance Program. No additional charge on scheduled maintenance for three years or 36,000 miles.

People who test drive a Saab, usually buy one.



www.saabus.com

1 800 SAAB USA

*Subject to credit approval. Delivery must be taken out of dealer inventory by February 29, 2000. Dealer participation may affect consumer cost. Terms apply to a 2000 Saab 9-5 4-cylinder w/ 5-speed manual transmission with sunroof based on MSRP of \$33,150.00 (including destination charge). Lease payment for the 9-5 is \$398.48 for 36 months totaling \$14,362.48. Option to purchase at lease end for \$19,890.00 (plus any license and title fees and taxes). Amount due at lease inception and purchase option amount higher in N.Y. The customer is allowed 36,000 miles during the term of this lease. The customer is liable for a mileage charge of \$0.15 per mile over 36,000 miles and for excess wear and tear. Taxes, insurance, title and registration fees extra. Not to be combined with any other program offer. Buy or lease a new 2000 Saab and receive at no additional charge scheduled maintenance for 3 years or 36,000 miles, whichever comes first. Offer does not include 9-3 5-door Saab and 9-3 3-door models and is subject to cancellation at any time. Call 1 800 SAAB USA for program details and limitations. **Active head restraint front seats only. SEE YOUR PARTICIPATING SAAB DEALER FOR COMPLETE DETAILS ON THIS AND OTHER LEASE AND FINANCE OPTIONS. © 2000 SAAB CARS USA, INC.

Crescent City MOTORS

CHUCK LACOSTE

3000 Tulane Avenue • New Orleans, LA • (504) 827-1200



Christino's tantalizes diners with imaginative,

The latest jewel to be added to our City's crown of culinary gems...

lighter dishes — rich in flavor — creatively represent the culinary influences for which New Orleans is famed. Breakfast. Lunch and Dinner, seven days.

©1999 OMNI HOTELS

MONDAY THROUGH SUNDAY:

Breakfast 6:30-10:30am, Lunch 11:00am-2:00pm, Dinner 5:30-10:00pm

Valet parking at Dinner • Reservations accepted

Christino's
OMNI ROYAL CRESCENT HOTEL

228 Camp Street at Gravier, New Orleans, LA 70130

504/571-7500

www.omnihotels.com

VOTED BEST MARGARITA. BEST HAPPY HOUR

**S.I.N. AT
VAQUEROS**

EVERY MONDAY, ALL DAY

**20% OFF
ALL FOOD & LIQUOR**

JUST SHOW YOUR
RESTAURANT PAY STUB

VAQUEROS RESTAURANT

4938 PRYTANIA (AT ROBERT) • 504-891-6441 • WWW.VAQUEROS-RESTAURANT.COM

Eating Out

RESTAURANT
REVIEWS

by THE FOOD CRITIC

Dining out with the "family"

New Orleans is home to many wonderful restaurants, and many of those are owned by the same families. One name in our fair city synonymous with fine dining is "Brennan." The facts are indisputable: The extended Brennan family is responsible for some of the most exquisite dining anywhere.

The Brennan family opened its first restaurant on Bourbon Street in the mid-1930s, and "Brennan's" later moved to its current location on Royal Street. The third generation of Brennans now owns and/or manages a "family" of restaurants, which includes the five-star "diamond" Commander's Palace. For this column, we've chosen to spotlight a couple of the family's restaurants to give readers an idea of the elegance and diversity you can expect from this long line of culinary experts.

Catch the Red Fish Grill

Certainly any diner would be hard-pressed to forget the incredible decor and welcoming ambiance at the RED FISH GRILL. A large, oyster-shell mirror with pearl hangs over the bar. Perhaps the symbolism here is that the restaurant is the family's "hidden pearl." My partner and I had reservations and were very pleased to find we were seated almost immediately after arriving. While the primary dining room is large and open, we were seated in a smaller, more intimate space. There was an abundance of friendly, hospitable waitstaff to serve us promptly and smoothly.

My partner selected drum fish and I ordered the signature, blackened redfish dish. Both dinners, without question, were excellent, the fish cooked and seasoned to perfection. Each entree was served with crispy green beans and a delightful citrus rice. The rice was a blend of lemon and orange that tantalized the taste buds but couldn't really be described as tangy or spicy. We chose to indulge ourselves after dinner by ordering "Bananas Foster-up." This is a specialty dessert at the Red Fish Grill. The bananas were lightly fried and served over banana bread and homemade banana ice cream. Divine!

Elegant Bacco

If you are looking for that special romantic spot, BACCO—another Brennan restaurant—is the place to go. Bacco fits about mid-way up the family's restaurant spectrum. The food and the decor are definitely Italian. The simply stated elegance could be considered a little cold, but a delightful staff exudes warmth. The wine cabinet in the main dining room contains one of the most extraordinary selections I have experienced.

Executive Chef Haley Gabel was wonderful. When I expressed interest in the spinach and artichoke dip served with

Tuscan bread, she printed the recipe (complete with the "per serving" information) and brought it to my table.

My partner ordered the "Chicken and Wild Mushroom Bowtie," which is a hearty bowl of sautéed red onions, bell peppers, garlic, wild mushrooms and fresh herbs tossed with roasted chicken, bowtie pasta and porcine, topped with goat cheese. The description of the redfish was too good to resist, and it arrived covered with a home-made pecan crust and served on roasted Tuscan potatoes, sautéed onions and peppers, accompanied by asparagus and drizzled with a hazelnut butter sauce—purely a work of art!

Dessert was a chocolate mousse, which was the only part of the meal I did not enjoy, although my partner found it to be above average.

Food for thought from the food critic:

Cafe Gumbalaya, 1000 N. Peters St.

The service was excellent, however, the spices on the green beans left my tongue in pain for two days. Other members of our party reported similar experiences from their dinners, with the hottest of spices showing up on the most unsuspecting of dishes. Overall, spices excepted, the food was fine. Check it out when everything else is jammed at Mardi Gras!

Voo Carre's Cafe, 1018 Decatur St.

Make funeral arrangements before going; you might actually die while waiting on your food. My partner had time to take a cab to Rampart Street, conduct a short meeting, return by taxi and wait another 15 minutes before being served. The appetizer we ordered might still appear at the table, but after 90 minutes we gave up.

Red Fish Grill

115 Bourbon St.
Reservations: 598-1200

Bacco Restaurant

310 Chartres St.
Reservations: 522-2426

Food File

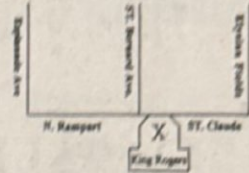
Food: C C C C C
Service: C C C C C
Value: C C C C C
Scene: C C C C C

Ratings:

C = stay at home and eat cereal
C = well, if you really must
C C C = Fine for all but the finicky
C C C C = Worth the drive, so live a little
C C C C C = As good as you'll find in this city

King Rogers Seafood

"Where All Our Seafood Is Fresh Daily"
(Corner of St. Bernard & N. Rampart-St. Claude)



**We Accept
Food Stamps**

944-6150

**We Accept
Food Stamps**

**Fresh Water Cleaned
Catfish \$1.99 lb.**

Fresh Daily (ALL FISH CUT FREE) **Fresh Daily**

* Small \$1.99-\$2.49 lb. * Large \$3.29-\$3.69 lb.
* Medium \$2.69-\$2.99 lb. * Jumbo \$3.99-\$5.99 lb.

SHRIMP

CRAWFISH
Boiled—\$1.99 lb.

CRABS
Boiled or Live—\$8.95 lb.

Red Fish	3.99 lb.
Speckled Trout	3.99 lb.
White Trout	2.99 lb.
Drum Fish	2.69 lb.
Mullet (BIG)	1.99 lb.
Flounder	2.99 lb.
Croaker	1.99 lb.
Sheephead	1.69 lb.
Garfish	2.99 lb.
Crawfish Tails	5.99 lb.

Supper Fish-Trout Fillets \$1.99 lb

**Patton's Hot Sausage
5 lb. bucket \$7.99**

DAILY SPECIALS

MON. - Red Beans & Rice 3.50 / BBQ Ribs 4.99
TUES. - Spaghetti & Meatballs 2.99 / Meat Loaf & Potatoes 3.99
WED. - Philly Steak 4.99 / Chicken Parmesan 4.50
THURS. - Okra & Rice, Breaded Pork Chop 4.50 / Beef Stew 3.50
FRI. - SEAFOOD SPECIALS

PO-BOYS dressed w/ lettuce & tomatoes

	<u>1/2</u>	<u>WHOLE</u>
Hot Dog bun only	1.25	
Hamburger	1.25	2.25
Roast Beef	2.99	4.99
Ham & Cheese	2.25	4.50
Hot Sausage	1.99	3.99
Smoke Sausage	1.99	3.99
Italian Sausage	1.99	3.99
Meatball	1.99	3.99
B.B.Q. Beef	2.99	4.99
B.B.Q. Pork	2.99	4.99

HOUSE SPECIALS

Etouffee	\$4.99	Lasagna	\$3.99
Shrimp Creole	\$4.99	Chitterlings	\$3.99
Jambalaya	\$2.49	BBQ Beef Ribs	\$4.99
Red Beans & Rice	\$3.50	BBQ Pork Ribs	\$4.99
Stuffed Peppers	\$4.50	Spaghetti & Meatballs	\$2.99

SEAFOOD PO-BOYS

	<u>1/2</u>	<u>WHOLE</u>
Trout	1.99	3.99
Shrimp	2.99	4.99
Crawfish	2.99	4.99
Catfish	2.99	4.99
Oyster	3.99	6.99
1/2 & 1/2	3.99	6.99
with cheese add	.20	.20

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK • Mon. - Sat. 9:30 am - 7:30 pm • Fri. 9:30 am - 9:00pm

Enjoy 7 Varieties
of Gulf Fish
Nightly at




Ralph Brennan's
RED FISH GRILL
CASUAL NEW ORLEANS SEAFOOD

"Best Seafood Restaurant"
WHERE New Orleans' Visitor's Choice 1997 & 1998

"Best Grilled Fish"
New Orleans Magazine Reader's Poll 1998

115 Bourbon Street
Reservations: 529-FISH (3474)
www.redfishgrill.com



ROLAND ADAMS AND JED GISCLAIR
INVITE YOU TO DINE AT
Café MARIGNY

Just one visit and you'll fall in love with the award winning cuisine at Café Marigny. The eclectic and ambitious menu is made with fresh seasonal ingredients prepared to order.

Try our homemade soups, steamed mussels, duck and Andouille spring rolls, oysters remoulade, strawberry walnut salad, grilled vegetable Napoleon, bronzed salmon, double cut pork chop, roasted rack of lamb, shrimp and tasso cream, and save room for our daily dessert specials.

Weekend Brunch served 11 til 3.

Café
MARIGNY

1913 Royal Street, New Orleans
(504) 945-4472 Major credit cards accepted.
Bring your own wine. Corkage fee \$6.00 per bottle
Hours: Sunday - Thursday 11-10, Friday and Saturday 11-11
www.cafemarigny.com Make your reservations on-line!



Mama Rosa's

Home of the
Great American Pizza
&
The Outrageous Muffuletta

(504) 523-5546
Free Delivery

616 N. Rampart St.
French Quarter - New Orleans

NOW AVAILABLE
VALET PARKING



ONLY
1/2 Block
Away

Maison Dupuy Hotel

Mama Rosa's

Maison Dupuy Hotel
1001 Toulouse St.

TOULOUSE ST.

NORTH RAMPART

**14" cheese pizza
with 3 FREE
toppings for \$8⁹⁹**

DELIVERY OR PICK-UP ONLY
Manager has right to refuse coupon



bar map

- 1 **another corner**
2601 royal
945-7006 [men] [women] [black] [transgender]
 - 2 **big daddy's**
2513 royal
948-6288 [men] [women] [black] [transgender]
 - 3 **body and soul**
2300 chartres [men] [women] [black] [transgender]
 - 4 **bourbon pub**
bourbon parade
801 bourbon
529-2107 [men] [women] [black] [transgender]
 - 5 **burgundy st. outback**
235 burgundy st.
525-9793 [men] [women] [black] [transgender]
 - 6 **café lafitte / the corral**
901 bourbon
522-8397 [men] [women] [black] [transgender]
 - 7 **corner pocket**
940 st. louis
568-9829 [men] [women] [black] [transgender]
 - 8 **country club**
634 louisiana 945-0742 [men] [women] [black] [transgender]
 - 9 **cowpokes** (opening soon)
2240 st. claude
 - 10 **double d's**
706 franklin
948-2300 [men] [women] [black] [transgender]
 - 11 **double play**
439 dauphine
523-4517 [men] [women] [black] [transgender]
 - 12 **footloose**
700 n. rampart
524-7654 [men] [women] [black] [transgender]
 - 13 **the friendly bar**
2301 chartres
943-8929 [men] [women] [black] [transgender]
 - 14 **funky butt**
714 n. rampart
588-0872 [men] [women] [black] [transgender]
 - 15 **golden lantern**
1239 royal, 529-2860
 - 16 **good friends**
740 dauphine
566-7191 [men] [women] [black] [transgender]
 - 17 **hi-ho lounge**
2239 st. claude
947-9344 [men] [women] [black] [transgender]
 - 18 **house of blues**
225 decatur
529-2624 [men] [women] [black] [transgender]
 - 19 **the mint**
940 elysian fields
944-4888 [men] [women] [black] [transgender]
 - 20 **mrb / the patio**
515 st. philip
524-2558 [men] [women] [black] [transgender]
 - 21 **oz**
800 bourbon
593-9491 [men] [women] [black] [transgender]
 - 22 **the phoenix / eagle**
941 elysian fields
945-9264 [men] [women] [black] [transgender]
 - 23 **rawhide 2010**
740 burgundy
525-8106 [men] [women] [black] [transgender]
 - 24 **the roundup**
819 st. louis
561-8340 [men] [women] [black] [transgender]
 - 25 **rubyfruit jungle**
640 frenchman
947-4000 [men] [women] [black] [transgender]
 - 26 **735 Club**
735 bourbon
581-6740 [men] [women] [black] [transgender]
 - 27 **tt's**
820 n. rampart
523-9521 [men] [women] [black] [transgender]
 - 28 **voodoo at congo sq.**
718 n. rampart
527-0703 [men] [women] [black] [transgender]
 - 29 **wolfendale's**
834 n. rampart
596-2236 [men] [women] [black] [transgender]
- metairie**
m1 angles
2301 n. causeway
834-7979 [men] [women] [black] [transgender]
- m2 4 seasons**
outback
3229 n. causeway
832-0659 [men] [women] [black] [transgender]
- west bank**
w1 cheers
1711 hancock
367-0149 [men] [women] [black] [transgender]
- w2 the full moon**
424 destrahan
341-4396 [men] [women] [black] [transgender]
- w3 lance's**
3714 WB Expwy
328-8100 [men] [women] [black] [transgender]
- northshore**
billy's
2600 hwy 190w
897-1921 [men] [women] [black] [transgender]
- miss. gulf coast**
on the coast
1205 blue meadow rd
228-467-7298 [men] [women] [black] [transgender]
- key**
[men] [women] [black] [transgender] [leather/levi] [dancing] [entertainment] [video] [strippers] [neighborhood]

our legend codes give you an idea of the usual clientele; however, in most bars everyone is welcome. all numbers have a (504) area code. have fun & play safe.

The three hottest reasons to come to Mardi Gras



Cafe Lafitte, the oldest gay bar in the U.S. with the FRESHEST music and the HOTTEST men.

901 Bourbon Street
New Orleans • (504) 522-8389
www.LAFITTES.com

Good Friends Bar, voted Best Neighborhood Bar two years in a row. Come see how neighborly we really are.



740 Dauphine Street, New Orleans
(504) 566-7191
www.GOODFRIENDSBAR.com

RAWHIDE 2010

Rawhide, voted one of the top 10 Leather Bars in the country. Everyone ends up here sooner or later.

740 Burgundy Street • New Orleans
(504) 525-8106
www.RAWHIDE2010.com

"Fun" • The Advocate
"Cool Site" • Yahoo
"Best online matchmaker" • HX Magazine

LET'S MINGLE!

Doll!
Don't be shy...
Try it for free!

Not listings, but a **real** online dating service!

SINGLE?

Edwina
www.edwina.com

Edwina and Edwina character are trademarks of Edwina, Inc.

Coors LIGHT

Cool and refreshing, Coors Light is the one beer that gets you where you want to be. No wonder it's one of America's fastest growing beers.

241

Card # Exp

Choices: Mardi Gras Nightlife

➤ Continued from page 27

PARK AVENUE (3515 Hessmer) is a relatively new hang-out, and **PRESLEY'S PUB** (5029 Quincy) is a more established venue where you can listen to music, grab a bite to eat, and hang out with friends.

Beyond the gay club scene, New Orleans has an endless supply of live music venues, most of which are fairly gay-friendly despite catering to a straight clientele. French Quarter super-club **THE HOUSE OF BLUES** (225 Decatur Street) stands out as one of the city's finest live music venues, featuring a wide variety of local, national and global talent. Look for local favorites Cowboy Mouth, Galactic and the Neville Brothers on the roster throughout the week of Mardi Gras.

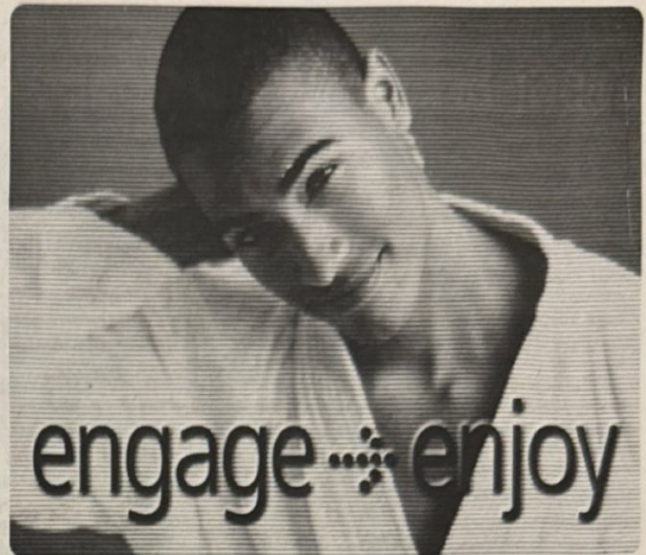
Legendary music hall **TIPITINA'S** is flourishing now with two satellite venues in addition to the original Uptown spot. While **TIPITINA'S FRENCH QUARTER** (233 N. Peters) caters to the downtown tourist crowd, **TIPITINA'S UPTOWN** (501 Napoleon Ave.) remains desirable to locals and tourists alike, with a Mardi Gras lineup that includes everyone from pop/modern rock stars Hootie and the Blowfish to local favorites Better Than Ezra, the Radiators, and Galactic. Their third location, **TIPITINA'S RUINS**, is located in the Warehouse District and is utilized only for special events.

Also located in the Warehouse District,

THE HOWLING WOLF (828 S. Peters St.) stands out as perhaps the most gay-supportive and gay-appealing of the area's larger concert venues. Their consistent booking of off-the-beaten-path local and national talent helps draw a widely diverse audience to cozy accommodations, and the regular Wednesday night women's night is quickly becoming a lesbian "happening," having recently featured community mainstays Whitney McCray, Ricki Comeaux and Portia Pollack (of the Proud Marys), among others.

MID-CITY LANES ROCK & BOWL (4133 S. Carrollton Ave.) is a fun change of pace for those looking for Zydeco music and some different scenery. Not only can you bowl a few rounds while eating delicacies like cheese fries and drinking a pitcher of beer, but most nights of the week you can get down to some of the area's finest Zydeco, rhythm & blues and rock bands.

Lastly, brass band aficionados will want to stop by **DONNA'S BAR & GRILL** (800 N. Rampart); Latin and world-beat fans should check the calendar at bohemian hangout **CAFE BRASIL** (2000 Chartres St., in the Marigny); and if you consider yourself part of the swank cocktail set, you should make a bee-line for **THE RED ROOM** (2040 St. Charles Ave.), where you can hear swing/big band, Latin and jazz in a trendy, yet elegant environment.



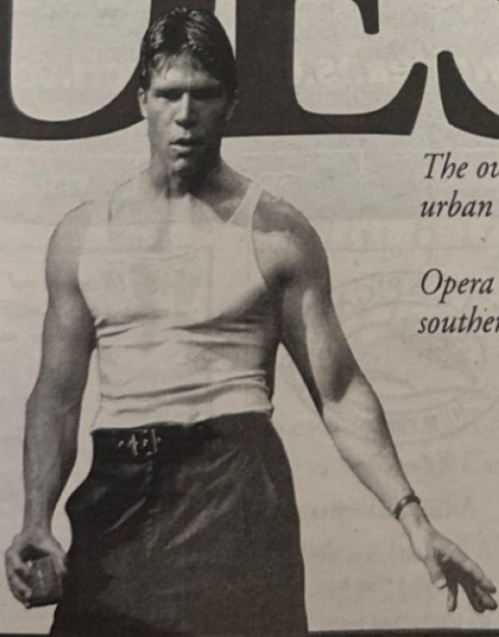
Chat | Personals | News | Travel | Entertainment | People


PlanetOut.com

www.planetout.com | AOL Keyword: PlanetOut

engage → enjoy

WHAT DO YOU DESIRE?



The overlay of blues and the pop idioms creates an overall sound of urban America.

—David Littlejohn, *The Wall Street Journal*

Opera gives poetic depth to Tennessee Williams' story of the haunted southern aristocrat Blanche DuBois...

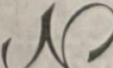
—David Patrick Stearns, *USA Today*

A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE

March 22, 25 & *26 (*Sunday Special Matinee)

Group and Student Discounts Available

Mahalia Jackson Theatre for the Performing Arts

 New Orleans
Opera
Association

Call (504) 529-2278

Barkus

> continued from page 23

out-of-touchers and cat-lovers, Barkus head honcho Robert Ripley explains: "We simply enjoyed her early morning banter and repartee and we all knew that Margaret is a huge supporter of the SPCA, so Barkus was a way for us to honor Margaret."

It should go unsaid—but we'll say it anyway—the founders also shared a love for dogs; hence, the Krewe of Barkus.

Proceeds from Barkus benefit the Louisiana SPCA, Southern Animal Foundation, the St. Tammany Foundation and other humane societies.

Celebrity guests for this year's event are Orr, WWL-TV anchor Angela Hill, who's another huge supporter of the SPCA, and Cox Cable's Nikki Reyes.

This year's reigning royalty are King Barkus VIII Oscar Olivier and high highness Queen Pasha. Krewe members select each year's king, and the queen is randomly selected from recent adoptees from the local SPCA.

The Grand Marshal and Lieutenant Escorts will be Hound Lady Louisa, escorted by Dr. Charles

M. Dickson; Starlight, a black Labrador hound, escorted by Dr. Price Gripekoven; and Lady Belle de Bark, escorted by Lamson "Choppy" Rheinfrank.

King Oscar Olivier, an eight-year-old Gaffney Hound, was taken to the shelter in 1992 and now allows LA/SPCA community affairs director Catherine Olivier to keep him in her home.

The LA/SPCA rescued Queen Pasha, a mixed breed, after she was found in a paper bag on Japonica Street near the shelter. She made her way into the heart and home of Terry Barber last August. When Barber first met Pasha at the And Toto Too! pet store—an LA/SPCA Vieux Carre adoption center—he spent over an hour getting to know her. When Barber looked into her "beautiful black eyes" he knew she had to be a part of his life. He later discovered that they shared the same birth week.

Since being selected as Queen of Barkus, Pasha has received the royal treatment. From limousine rides to TV appearances and calls from the New York Times, Pasha and her father have been on a whirlwind ride.

Taking Pasha on walks has become an adventure, Barber says, because "people come up to us and say 'Hail to Pasha.'"

Get thee to Barkus!

Mardi Gras beads: They're sizzling in 2000

> continued from page 23

The beads are powered by common watch batteries, and they include an on/off switch to save power between parades or when the wearer doesn't want to attract so much attention.

Hotbeads are available in three designs: tricolor, black and red, and a special Mardi Gras medallion.

Jackson received a utility patent for her idea, which gives her control over the design and overall concept.

Jackson found two business consultants who were also inspired by the idea and formed a company, We're Talkin' Mardi Gras (WTMG). WTMG has in turn become affiliated with Kern International, a massive organization with extensive experience in Mardi Gras beads. The affiliation with Kern International allows them to offer customers "the option of incorporating custom designs and logos" for special promotions, Jackson said.

Hotbeads are widely available in the city, and Jackson has already seen glimpses of the beads' seemingly unstoppable success. During a recent publicity stunt in the French Quarter demand for Hotbeads was so high that tourists began an extreme level of Mardi Gras bartering—weeks in advance of the usual bead frenzy, she said.

After her two-year struggle to get the product on the market, Jackson still is not yet able to relax and enjoy success with her partner of eight years and her four-year-old daughter. She's involved in all the decisions involving Hotbeads, and she expects to spend this Mardi Gras working.

What do the beads hold in the future for Jackson? Think "new line of rave accessories" and you'll begin to see the light.

ACTION! info

Hotbeads

\$10-\$15, three designs, replaceable battery

We're Talking Mardi Gras
1-877-59beads

Distribution points:

Numerous shops on Decatur, Bourbon Street and throughout the French Quarter, also Beads by the Dozen and The Bourbon Pub

www.hotbeads.com



life is short. weekends are shorter.

 **neworleans.citysearch.com**
Get to the good stuff.

tickets	arts	shopping	movies	sports	music
---------	------	----------	--------	--------	-------

LEATHER REPAIR PLUS

Leather/Vinyl Repair-Redye
auto • residential • cuts • tears
punctures • restore color

We use only Lexus and Toyota factory approved dyes

FREE ESTIMATES ask about specials (a great gift idea)

Don Boudreaux David Harper
259-0416 or 606-5152

Flower Boy Sez:

FOR MARDI GRAS
SHOW YOUR
STAMEN
& PISTIL



patrick's 839 Spain • New Orleans
little shop of flowers
504.943.0410



Il buon pane

Artisan Bakery

Soup & Sandwiches made daily
Tues. - Fri. 7am - 2pm • Sat. 8am - 2pm

949-BAKE • 2440 Chartres



Rings of Desire

EXOTIC BODY PIERCING
JEWELRY FOR PIERCING



1128 Decatur St.
New Orleans
524-6147
www.ringsofdesire.com

Fast, friendly, gentle,
and safe piercings
by experienced
professional piercers.
Established in 1993

Open 7 days a week

Voted Best Piercing Shop in New Orleans
in the Gambit Weekly 1999 Readers Poll

Christopher Radko CUBBY'S RAINBOW!



In a snugly sweater with all the colors of the rainbow, as well as a cap bearing the red ribbon of AIDS awareness, an endearing little cub offers warmth and encouragement. "Cubby's Rainbow" is Christopher Radko's seventh annual ornament whose profits will be donated to organizations that provide AIDS education, research and care.

Come see "Cubby's Rainbow" and our entire assortment of ornaments from Christopher Radko's amazing 1999 collection. Radiant with color and aglow from within, these ornaments are more than holiday decorations. They are works of heart!



©1999 Christopher Radko

Christopher's on the Web!
www.christopheradko.com

"Cubby's Rainbow"
Profits from this ornament go towards
AIDS research.



Jillian - Cherish the Day

Veraphim Classics
Heaven on Earth

A place of Christmas

Huntsville, AL
Madison Sq. Mall
256-830-0556

Birmingham, AL
The Galleria
205-985-3665

New Orleans, LA
New Orleans Centre
Second Level
Poydras St.
504-581-2140
800-843-9689

Hattiesburg, MS
Turtle Creek
601-261-3322

Destin, FL
Lindz's Mole Hole
The Harborwalk
888-839-8070

Pelahatchie, MS
Hwy. 80 East
601-854-8383

Gatlinburg, TN
The Marketplace
888-436-9425



\$5,549.78 • "CINEMA 96" with Light & Adapter • \$85 • \$139.99
• Front panel of marquee is removable for changeable billings.
• With its classic 1950s facade and 3-D box office this theater ought to be in pictures.

Gold Key
dealer of all
56 villages

Lindz's

JUST THE RIGHT CLUB

The Perfect Fit!

Keep in step with Just the Right Shoe™

Barracks Street Cafe & Yogurt Shoppe

Your healthy choice
in the French Quarter
WE DELIVER

430 Barracks St.
525-0330

Sun. - Thurs. 10 am - 9 am
Fri. & Sat. 10 am - 10 pm



Classifieds

Real Estate For Sale

Bayou St. John!

3210 St. Peter, \$69K, Cent H/A, Driveway, near American Can Company renovation. Frank Pizzi/Park Place Realty, 483-8885

LANE LACOEY- LATTER & BLUM, INC.

948-3011/957-5116

PRICE REDUCED to \$164,900!!! 2 bed, 2 bath, F.Q. condo, french doors, St. Ann Balcony, in-ground pool, motivated sellers.

Immaculate "Penthouse condo in the sky" 2 bed, 1-1/2 bath, Vieux Carre, french doors to private terrace/balcony, in-ground pool, parking. \$215,000

Mint Marigny Triangle Duplex with parking, \$240,000. 3 bed-2 bath down, 2 bed-1 bath up, deck.

Fabulous 2-story Bywater single, 2 bed, 1-1/2 bath, medallions, kit/wood beam ceiling, living room, dining room, den, balcony off bedrooms, gas burning fp's, hardwood floors...\$155,000

Cute Gentilly cottage, 2 bed, 1 bath, living room, dining room, large yard and parking. needs TLC. \$49,000

RENTALS

available all the time, just call 957-5116.

Beautifully Renovated Marigny single—Sale by owner, 2 bed, 1-1/2 bath, double parlor, new kitchen, plumbing & electrical, hardwood floors, large out building, exc. location. 943-6692

Faubourg Marigny - A must see • Completely renovated, 3 bdms, 2.5 bath, cen. a/h, FQ, ceramic tile, Berber carpet, lt, dr, den, nice rear yard. Call 277-7406/pgr., 538-6384

For Rent

Bedrooms for rent \$250/mo., \$50 dep. Access to kitchen, laundry, patio, phone (local only). Walking distance to French Quarter. Call 504-943-6372

1/2 dbl in great area. 1800 sq. ft. 4 rms up/2 rms down, 2 baths, hrd wd floors, Central H/A, closets, ceramic tile. \$1100/mo. Sandra. 488-1864

Wonderful 2-bedroom, 2 1/2 bath condo for rent. New appliances, washer/dryer, dishwasher, Central H/A, off-street parking. Walk to Whole Foods, Jazz Fest. \$750/mo. 482-8278/947-5805

2 just-renovated homes in Bywater for rent. Everything new! Central H/A, 2 bedroom, washer/dryer, \$750/mo., 2 bedroom, \$650/mo. See to believe! 482-8278/947-5805

Huge apt., 3 bdms., 1 bath, Marigny Triangle, 5 houses off Royal, brand new appliances, w/d hookup, yr. lease, \$875, with parking. Call Mike at 940-0040

For Sale

233 Pentium desk top computer w/15" monitor, loaded with software, 1 - 1/2 years old, \$600.00 521-9500

Help Wanted

Small guest house needs part-time desk/housekeeping help. Must be willing to and be outgoing. Some typing/computer skills required. Starting salary \$6.50/hour plus commissions/tips. 943-4994

Telephone Receptionist Needed. Must be organized and have excellent verbal skills. Call 949-0073 or email resume or qualifications to weddingc@bellsouth.net

Full- and part-time positions for front desk Marigny B & B, call 943-6818

HELP WANTED: 800 Bourbon St., bar/restaurant security, apply in person Tuesdays, 2-5 p.m.

Roomates Wanted

Room for rent, Mid-City, 75.00 per week + Utilities, 75.00 Sec. Dep. - call Les. 484-7999

Travel/N.O. Rentals

The Abbe Inn—Atlanta's newest gay-owned B&B is also Atlanta's oldest, most authentic Victorian. www.abbeinn.com (404) 767-3708 for reservations

New renovation, luxury rooms, Uptown, 5 min from Quarter, available for Mardi Gras. Call 281-897-0008

It's all here in
IMPACT News Classifieds

SERVING THE COMMUNITY
WITH HONESTY AND
INTEGRITY, WIT AND WISDOM
FOR OVER EIGHT YEARS
AND
WORKING FOR YOU
14 DAYS A WEEK!



NANCY KATZ
STEPHANIE EMMERLING, GRI

866-8573

RE/MAX

n.o. properties
8001 Maple Street
New Orleans, Louisiana 70118
Each Office Independently Owned and Operated



Louisiana International Mortgage Corporation

- ¥ 100's of loan programs!
- ¥ All credit considered
- ¥ Multifamily (2 - 4 or even 5 and above units)
- ¥ 100% purchase loans

Call David Wagner
at 454-7210

or visit
<http://www.louisianamortgage.com>



Join our winning team. We offer opportunities for career growth and excellent benefits package.

We have immediate openings for:

- FRONT DESK
- FOOD SERVER
- MAINTENANCE
- HOUSEKEEPING

Apply in person:

345 St. Joseph St., New Orleans, LA

Drug Free Work Environment/EEO AA M/F/V/D

The Mystic Krewe of Barkus 2000

Pre-Registration Form

Each Krewe Member is entitled to one escort who will be provided with an official Barkus Krewe Escort ID. Escort ID's will allow for certain amenities in Armstrong Park both pre and post parade. Pre-registration credentials for registrants received after 2:19.00 may be picked up in Armstrong Park on Sunday, February 27, 2000. Registration for "JOAN OF BARK" will begin at 12 Noon with Pre-Parade Activities. The 2000 Mystic Krewe of Barkus will roll at 2:00 p.m. Sharp!

All proceeds from The Mystic Krewe of Barkus are applied to parade events and donations to local animal shelters and national humane societies. **NO RAIN DATE IS AVAILABLE!** Your registration fee is a non-refundable donation to the Mystic Krewe of Barkus 2000. All Krewe Members and their Escorts must wear their ID's to parade. You must supply vaccination proof during the parade day. The Mystic Krewe of Barkus was founded by Wood Enterprises in 1993 to benefit local dog lovers and those that help them. We appreciate your involvement! Additional escort passes may be purchased for \$5.00 on parade day. Please respect the rules and have your additional guests purchase these passes!

Krewe Member (Pet) Name: _____
 Age: _____ Sex: ☐ M ☐ F Breed (if known): _____
 Escort's Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City/State/ZIP: _____
 Phone (day): _____ (evening): _____ Is this your pet? Yes ☐ No ☐
 If no, then please give the owner's name: _____
 Year's Participated In Barkus Parade? '93 '94 '95 '96 '97 '98 '99

Participation Levels

\$500.00 TOP DOG-Entitles the Escort to two (2) tickets to the Barkus Ball III, two (2) tickets to the pre-parade VIP Reception, Two (2) tickets to the Royal Reviewing Stand and two (2) T-Shirts from the 2000 Mystic Krewe of Barkus Parade and two (2) limited edition parade posters and Krewe member registration.

\$250.00 LEADERS OF THE PACK-Entitles the Escort to two (2) tickets to the Barkus Ball III, two (2) tickets to the pre-parade VIP Reception, Two (2) tickets to the Royal Reviewing Stand and two (2) T-Shirts from the 2000 Mystic Krewe of Barkus Parade and Krewe member registration.

\$100.00 RUNNING DOGS-Entitles the Escort to two (2) tickets to the Barkus Ball III, two (2) T-Shirts from the 2000 Mystic Krewe of Barkus Parade and Krewe member registration.

\$15.00 Pre-Register \$20.00 Day-Of Register REVELING KREWE MEMBER-Entitles the Krewe member and Escort to all pre- and post-parade activities and amenities and Parade privileges.

I hereby agree to be responsible for the actions of my pet and myself during the 2000 Mystic Krewe of Barkus Parade. I also further agree to indemnify and hold harmless the Mystic Krewe of Barkus, its sponsors and organizers from any liability arising out of the actions of my pet or myself. I will read and abide by the rules and regulations that accompany the Barkus Parade ID.

Signature: _____ Date: _____
 Enclosed: \$ _____ Check # _____ OR Visa _____ Mastercard _____ (Please check one!)
 Credit Card # _____ Expiration date: _____

Name as it appears on the card? _____
 Billing address and phone (if different from address of escort) _____
 City/State/ZIP: _____
 Credit card authorization signature: _____

I hereby certify the Mystic Krewe of Barkus to debit my credit card account for the total amount indicated above. Send this form and your payment or payment information to 1000 Bourbon Street PMB 317, New Orleans, LA 70116.

Mardi Gras Special — MENTION THIS AD FOR
25% off all Rhinestone Collars & Harnesses fit for
 Kings and Queens... all Barkus Ball-worthy and super fabulous!

Unique
designer
collars and
leads!

Fun and
glamorous
COSTUMES
in all sizes!

Complete
selection of
pet foods &
supplies!

Hurry,
Dorothy...
the crowd's
getting ready for Barkus!
validated parking with purchase (Central Parking/enter Dauphine)

Adopt a lovable
LWS/CA shelter pet here!



& ToTo, Too!
 New Orleans' Premier Pet Emporium

901 Iberville (at Dauphine) • New Orleans 70112

Open 7 Days: weekdays 11-6, weekends 11-5 • 504/586-TOTO

FREE DELIVERY to French Quarter, Marigny, CBD, Warehouse & Lower Garden District

HOURS

M-F 8 am - 6 pm • Sat. 8 am - Noon

DR. MIKE'S ANIMAL HOUSE

Michael S.
Williams, DVM
 1120 N. Rampart
 504/523-4455

MEDICINE • SURGERY
 BOARDING • BATHING
 HOUSE CALLS WELCOME



COUNSELING AND PSYCHOTHERAPY



A gay & lesbian counseling center for individuals, couples and gays with families. Confidential & professional, men & women counselors. Call for information or an appointment. You'll find us helpful & caring.

A COUNSELING COOPERATIVE
3001 5th St., Metairie, LA 70002
(504) 836-0000

DAVID WAGNER, M.ED., LPC, NCC

Individual Couple Group Therapy

COUNSELING/PSYCHOTHERAPY

Lesbian/Gay/Bi/Transgender Issues
HIV/AIDS Grief/Bereavement
Family Issues Addictive Behavior

Terry F. Mayers, BCSW

Sliding Scale Medicare/Medicaid Provider
Insurance Approved

1412 Thalia (504) 824-5973
New Orleans, LA 70130

Convenient Location

Ruth Rutledge, BCSW

Addressing a broad range of issues that jeopardize good mental health and well-being:

STRESS • ANXIETY • ISOLATION
• LOW SELF-ESTEEM • LOSS
• RELATIONSHIPS • GRIEF

Confidential & Professional Help
Psychotherapy / Counseling
3500 St. Charles Ave.

By appointment 891-4788

CHIROPRACTIC

3600 St. Charles Ave. Suite 203

back and neck pain,
headaches and migraines,
auto accidents and on the
job injuries, convenient loca-
tion with parking downstairs,
HMO & PPO provider with
over 15 years experience

Call 895-2350 DR. MICHAEL
LECHLEITER

just a 15 minute streetcar ride from the French Quarter

Mindy Milam, BCSW

Clinical Social Worker

- Grief & Loss
- Stress & Anxiety
- Relationships
- Addictions
- Trauma Recovery

4902 Canal St., Ste. 203 • 482-7767

Psychic

Intuitive Guidance
Medical Intuition
Healing

Call Ocean
504-837-8058

Service Directory

Accommodations

French Quarter Reservations — 1-800-523-9091, 523-1246,
www.neworleansgay.com

Activist Groups

Gulf Gender Alliance—http://www.gga.org; email: info@gga.org;
POB 56836, New Orleans, LA 70156-6836; (504) 833-3046
Homosexual Info. Center — 115 Monroe, Bessier City, LA 71111
New Orleans Lesbian Avengers (NOLA) — 739-4124
New Orleans Alliance of Pride — PO Box 52343, NOLA 70152, info:
949-9555 (NGaypride@aol.com)

AIDS/Health

Advocacy Center for the Elderly & Disabled—210 O'Keefe, Ste. 700,
NOLA 70112, 522-2337 (New Orleans), or 800-960-7705
AIDS Law — 568-1631, 144 Elys Pl. Ste 1530 NOLA 70112
AIDS Monument Info Line — 504-364-5554

Belle Reve — 945-9455

Buzzy's Boys & Girls/The William J. Fanning Foundation — 943-
8929

Food For Friends — 2533 Columbus, 944-6028

Gay Counseling Line — 833-1500

Jefferson Parish Human Services Authority—3101 W. Napoleon,
Metairie, 70001, 838-5215 (HIV Mental Health Program, 846-6947
(Transportation and HOPWA Housing)

Lambda Center — 2106 Decatur, 947-0548 (AA)

The Live Foundation — 3562 Vestal Suite 105, NOLA 70114,
366-8697; free nutrition education & blood monitoring

New Orleans Center for Living — 507 Frenchman, 943-9009

NO/AIDS Task Force — 2601 Tulane Avenue, Suite 500, NOLA
70115, 504-821-5271 (administration), 504-821-6050 (hotline), 800-
992-4379 (statewide hotline)

North Lake AIDS Network (NoLAN) — PO Box 2397, Slidell 70459,
(504) 641-6750

Project Lazarus — 949-3609

RAIN (Regional AIDS Interfaith Network) — 523-3755

The Living Room/HIV Day Center at the MCC — 1128 St. Roch Ave.,
Tue-Sat, noon-6pm

Tulane/LSU Adult AIDS Clinical Trials Unit — 585-4002 or Perdido
Street office 584-3605

United Services for AIDS — 944-3966

V. A. Medical Center — 589-5920

Wednesday's Child — 2106 Decatur, Lambda Center, Wed. 6 p.m.

Archives

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

Attorneys

Clemenz & Jernigan — 210 Baronne St., Ste. 1042, 527-6111

Glenn J. Reames — 919 St. Philip Ste. 8, NOLA, 70116, 527-6126,
800-337-6126

Automotive

Crescent City Motors — Chuck LaCoste, 827-1200; Luke Williamson,
prev. owned car, 827-1200

Leather Repair Plus — 6051 Kuebel Dr., 825-8252

Leather Specialties, Inc. — 3522 12th St., Metairie 455-5505

Lamarque Ford — 3101 Williams Blvd. at I-10, Kenner, 443-2500

Lamarque Jeep Chrysler Plymouth — 2226 Canal, 822-7121

Catering Services

Food Art — 801 Carondelet, 524-2381

Chiropractic

Dr. Michael Lechleiter — 3600 St. Charles, Ste. 203, 895-2350

Cinemas

Landmark's Canal Place Theatre — 581-5400

Movie Pitchers — 488-8881

Zeitgeist — 1724 Oretha Castle Haley Blvd., 525-2767

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 — Biloxi MS, (601) 396-3333

The Lambda Center — 1733 Florida Blvd, Baton Rouge; hotline:
(225) 383-0777, (225) 346-0670

Lesbian & Gay Community Center — 2114 Decatur, 945-1103

Financial

Crescent Bank and Trust — Mortgage Div., 4621 W. Napoleon
Ave., Ste. 307, 885-5626

Gay & Lesbian Bank — Pensacola, FL, 1-850-429-7400

Louisiana International Mortgage Corp. — Residential &
Commercial Loans. Perfect to not-so-perfect credit considered.
David Wagner, 454-7210

Fitness

Greg Herren, personal trainer, 588-9563

Floral

Allegro City Flowers — 1200 Magazine, 525-2489

Patrick's Little Shop of Flowers — 839 Spain, 943-0410

Guest Houses

1412 Thalia — 522-0453 (70130)

Claiborne Mansion — 2111 Dauphine, 949-7327 or Toll Free:

1-888-942-4334

La Dauphine — 948-2217 www.ladauphine.com

Lafitte Guest House — 1003 Bourbon, 581-2678 (www.lafittesg.com)

Macarty Park — 3820 Burgundy, 943-4994

Millhouse Inn — Pensacola, Fla., toll-free 888-995-4575

Haircare / Salons

Busta — 752 Tchoupitoulas, 523-4645

Headquarters — 900 Dauphine, 522-2666

Insurance

Alyssa, Ben Mach — 494-8168

John Kane & Associates — 523-2826

Laundry

Washing Well — 841 Bourbon, 523-9955

Massage Therapy, LA Licensed

David A. Briggs, L.M.T. — LA Lic. 0886, 866-8442

Lucas J. Mire, L.M.T. — LA Lic. 0547, 488-4954

Irma Russell, L.M.T. — LA Lic. 1491, 248-9996

Marketing

Hess Marketing — 333 St. Charles, Ste. 1300, 522-HESS

Medical & Counseling

Freelife — Jennie Williams, R.N., neutraceuticals, 828-5743

Jewish Family Services — 3330 W. Esplanade, Ste. 600, Metairie,
831-8475

Terry F. Mayers, BCSW — individual, couple, group, 524-5973

Mindy Milam, BCSW, counseling, 482-7767

Shirley VanDamme — psycho-spiritual counseling,
L. David Wagner — Counseling and Psychotherapy, 836-0000,
833-1500

Dr. Marcus Ward — Cosmetic Dermatology, 525-3355

Westcare — 1220 Barataria Blvd., Marrero, LA, 340-6711

Mortuary Services

Bultman — 3338 St. Charles, Billy Henry, 895-7766

Newspapers & Books

Beckham's Bookshop — 228 Decatur, 522-9875

FM Bookstore — 600 Frenchmen, 943-9875

Uptown News, 5420 Magazine, 897-NEWS

Pest Control

Pro-Tech — 736-0736

Pets & Grooming

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

Pharmacies

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

Political

Federal Club of LA — 896-8777

Forum For Equality — PO Box 850096, NOLA 70185, 522-4377

Human Rights Campaign (HRC) — 733 Esplanade Ave., 949-2502

LAPAC (Louisiana Gay Political Action Caucus) — PO Box 53075,
NOLA 70153, 836-9086

Lavender Left — 1733 Florida Blvd., Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 346-0670

League for Equality — PO Box 53425 Lafayette, LA 70505

LEGAL (Louisiana Electorate of Gays and Lesbians)—PO Box 703344,
NOLA 70172, voice mail 365-3105, 595-8586

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

Real Estate & Rentals

Latter & Blum — 948-3011. Agents: Vivian Fossier 866-2785,
Robyn Halvorsen 947-2086, Bonnie Jones 866-2785 ext. 290, Laine
Lacey 948-4334, Pat O'Rourke 833-5643, Ray Ruiz 948-2217, Kyle
Scalde 482-0009, Gary Martin 539-9752, George Cossett 948-2068

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. 4C,
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, 944-9838

Integrity — 1329 Jackson, 866-1577 or 865-7343, 1st Thurs. ea. mo. at
Trinity Episcopal

Joie de Vivre Metropolitan Community Church — 330 East Chimes
(504) 383-0450

Lambda Chi Gay & Lesbian Jews — 3330 W. Esplanade, Ste. 600,
Met. LA 70002, 831-8475

Old Catholic Diocese of La. — 433-5912

Saints for Sinners—serenity stories for sharing, 482-2467. Available
at "Just Another Friday" & "The Living Room"

St. Ambrose Holy Catholic Church — Sunday Mass @ 12:30 pm,
meets @ St. George's Episcopal Church, 4600 St. Charles Avenue,
New Orleans, (504) 558-0713

TIDY

Cleaning Services

341-6959

• Well-established, gay-owned & operated business
• Residential, commercial, and also carpet-cleaning
• Quotes and references available upon request

St. Mark's United Methodist Church — 1130 N. Rampart, Sunday 9:30 a.m., 529-1681
 Tau House — 1029 Governor Nichols St., 4:15 p.m. Sunday mass
 MCC of Greater New Orleans — www.mcgno.com, 1128 St. Roch Ave., 945-5390

Restaurants & Cafés

Adolfo's — 611 Frenchmen, 948-3800/Chicken, seafood & more, great prices
 Angeli — 1141 Decatur, 566-0077
 Cafe Rami — 2917 Magazine St, 895-2500, bistro, major credit cards accepted
 Christino's — 228 Camp St. at Gravier, 571-7500
 Feelings Cafe — 2600 Chartres, 945-2222, classic Creole, lovely courtyard (L.D.)
 Fugato's Pizzeria — 7900 Maple St., 866-0100, pizzas, pastas (L.D.)
 Grill Room at Windsor Court — 523-6000
 Louisiana Pizza Kitchen — 95 French Market Place, 522-9500
 gourmet wood-fired pizzas, lunchtime sandwiches/drinks
 Marriot — 437 Esplanade Ave., major credit cards, upscale bistro
 Pajella — 3637 Magazine, 895-0340, Mediterranean Span, Culine
 Vaquerios — 4938 Prytania (at Robert), 891-6441, southwestern
 cuisine, Major cards

Retailers

Ann Rice Collection — 2727 Prytania St. (at the Rink), 89109483
 Chartres St. Concession — 107 Chartres, 586-8006
 French Quarter Camera — 809 Decatur, 529-2974
 Hix Parade — Gifts & Clothing, 741 Bourbon St., 524-7700
 Lindz — New Orleans Centre, 581-2140
 Rall DaB — Clothing, gifts, 508 St. Philip, 529-3577
 Rings of Desire — Body Piercing, 1128 Decatur (2nd fl), 524-6147
 Saints for Sinners (SFS) a div. of Ornamentals, Inc. Available at the
 Gothic Cathedral Store, 225 N. Peters or 856 City Park Ave.,
 482-2467
 Video Alternatives — 4725 Magazine, 891-5347

Social Organizations

Bayou Women's Tennis Club — PO Box 19797 NOLA, 70179-0797,
 Sharon, 943-4807
 Frontrunners Running Club — 947-1081, George
 Gay Bowling League — Mon. at Mid-City Lanes, 482-3133
 Knights d'Orleans — Box 50812, NOLA
 Krewes of Amour-Ra — 1000 Bourbon St., PMB 294, NOLA 70116
 Krewes of Maledin, Corp. — Box 51031, NOLA 70151
 Lesbian Artists — 949-8876
 Lords of Leather — Box 72105, NOLA 70172
 Men of Color/NO — PO Box 57694, NOLA 70157, 482-5341
 Men of All Colors Together — PO Box 52801, NOLA 70152,
 488-1679, 522-1103
 National Leather Association: New Orleans — PO Box 52591,
 NOLA 70152

New Orleans Bear & Bear Trapper Social Club — Box 13584, NOLA
 70185, 897-1594
 New Orleans Gay Men's Chorus — 245-8884
 Original KnitTail Bunch Bowling League — 861-0233
 Positive Attitudes — social club for HIV+ Box 2543, Lafayette, La
 70502, (318) 365-8090
 Positively Social — a social club for those HIV+ or HIV- friendly,
 861-8187
 Prime Timers of New Orleans — PO Box 71611, NOLA 70172-1611,
 John Alexander 525-3299; meets 1st Sun
 Team New Orleans — 940 Royal Street, PO Box 288, NOLA 70116
 Twentysomething, alternative group — at the Lesbian & Gay
 Community Center, 2114 Decatur St., 945-1103
 UNO Gay/Lesbian Alliance — UNO Student Affairs Office, NOLA,
 70148, 386-6349
 Volleyball New Orleans — 945-4634, POB 13306, NOLA 70185;
 gnefn.org/~volswelcome.htm
 Womyn of Color — 488-5708/891-0673

Support

Coming Out Support Group — 866-6024, Liz Simon
 Gay Counseling Line (24 hrs) — 885-4476
 GLSEN — glsen-no@usa.net, 504-948-7160
 Gulf Gender Alliance Cross-dressers, TS, TG Support Group
 — 943-1999, http://www.gga.org
 The Lambda Group, Inc. — 1733 Florida Blvd, Baton Rouge,
 504-383-0777
 The Living Room — 1128 St. Roch, 945-1635
 P-FLAG (Parents, Family & Friends of Lesbians & Gays) — 392-0001
 or 895-3936, http://pflagnola.homepage.com
 Relationship Therapy Center — Women's network: lesbian support
 group 488-9924, 4th Tue. ea. mo.
 Youth Rap Session — 945-1103

Telecommunications

SunCom — AT&T — 1-877-786-2661

Travel Agencies/Tours

Gay Heritage Tour — 945-6789

Theatres

Saenger Performing Arts Center — 143 N. Rampart, 525-1052

Veterinary Services

Dr. Mike's Animal House — 1120 N. Rampart, 523-4455

Vital Services

Benefits America — 1-800-777-8878

Positive Living Res. — 1-800-398-5177

Women's Health

Woman Care Midwife Center (and wellwoman GYN) — 6010
 Bullard Ave. Suite 210, NOLA 70128, 243-3279

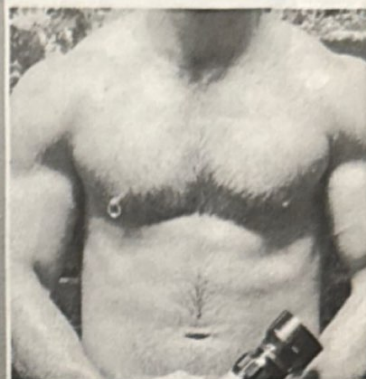
1 HOUR PHOTO LAB

OVEREXPOSED?

20%
OFF

COLOR FILM
DEVELOPING

(with this ad!)



Ray Ban • Revo • Serengeti Sunglasses 20-50% OFF Everyday!

Film Processing & Enlargements • Films, Cameras & Accessories • Postcards & Guidebooks

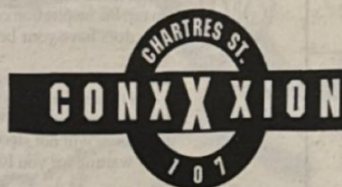
French Quarter Camera

809 Decatur Street • (504) 529-2974 • fax 522-6926

(across from Cafe du Monde)

Boost
YOUR BUSINESS!

Call Mike Theis to place
your ad in IMPACT News
(504) 944 6722



107 Chartres St.
586-8006

Both
Locations
Open 24
Hours



Airline
ADULT
Books

1404 26th St.
468-2931

BED & BREAKFAST

WILL HOUSE INN
Exclusively Yours on Perdido Bay



850-455-3400
Toll Free: (888) 999-4575
9603 Lillian Hwy.
Pensacola, Florida

Ask about our video rental club —
thousands of videos in stock to choose from.

Lotions, potions, party goods, and pills, lingerie, latex, leather & lace.

Games, girly mags, gag gifts, and garters.

Dildos, dongs, dolls, and dice.

SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE!

LIFE PARTNERS

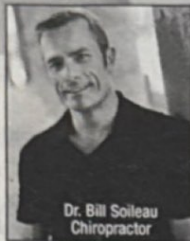
You and your spine have a lifelong commitment. Friends till the end. So nurture it! Chiropractic care is effective for optimal health now and in the future. Chiropractic has also proven effective in the treatment of work and accident injuries. For twelve years the chiropractic office of Dr. Bill Soileau has been committed to our community in delivering competent compassionate spinal care. Experience the benefits of chiropractic; we're partners for life!

504.899.9400

Dr. Bill Soileau
Chiropractor

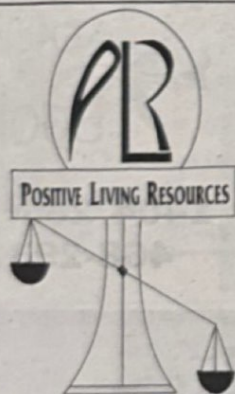
3615 Prytania St.
New Orleans, LA 70115
Uptown by Touro Infirmary

Stay safe during Mardi Gras!



Dr. Bill Soileau
Chiropractor

If you are facing a life threatening illness
You Can Receive Immediate Cash
by selling your life insurance policy



We represent you in the sale of your life insurance policy.

Our simplified process offers:

- Strict confidentiality
- Quick professional service
- No fees or obligations
- Highest cash payments
- Informational Resources

Positive Living Resources

Tips the Scales in Your Favor

We are available to help you 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

1-800-398-5177

Positive Living Resources donates a portion of our proceeds to associations dedicated to helping people living with a terminal illness, including HIV/AIDS and Cancer

My Stars!

by JILL DEARMAN

Feb. 25 - March 9



ARIES: The sun is currently transiting your house of the unconscious, so lots of weird stimuli could pop up in your dreaming and waking hours. This is a make-or-break time, sexually: there could be a major sensual breakthrough for you. Get in touch with your inner guru. A Virgo likes the way you channel your chi.



TAURUS: You could stand to show a little more patience with yourself and your crew, babe. You can get a lot done in late February if you ask your pals for some help. Group projects go well, but stick to what you know. An Aquarius will enrage and inspire you this week.



GEMINI: You are standing in your own way career-wise, Gemini. So move aside! Use your powers of attraction to discover something beautiful about yourself that you had long ago forgotten. A Virgo can be of assistance, doll.



CANCER: Right now, your life is full of chance meetings with people who can help you change how you live. Decide who you want to be and then reinvent yourself. An Aquarius could be your spin doctor, and will give you just the inner and outer examination you need.



LEO: Take advantage of the fact that so many people are looking up to you right now; so gather your resources, sweetheart. But be careful whom you sign contracts with or make promises to. Impulsiveness won't serve you well. But a Pisces would like to serve you slowly and luxuriously.



VIRGO: Love is on its way, dear Virgo! It may be only slightly delayed while your ruler, Mercury, is retrograde. Be patient and dream about what you want out of a relationship. This is a major time of emotional growth for you. A Capricorn can help you enjoy the wonderful things available to you.



LIBRA: Make a list of who's "for you" and "against you" and get together with those in Column A. You need someone to force you to be the best you can be. Inspiration comes in many strange forms this week. A Scorpio really does have your best interests at heart.



SCORPIO: It's hard to figure out what people want from you right now, so don't even bother trying. Listen to your own instincts and the power of your own lust. This week put suspicions aside and go for the gusto. Your desire will not steer you wrong, if you're true to yourself. A Cancer is just waiting for you to make a bold move.



SAGITTARIUS: Venus is encouraging you to get more social. You don't have to make any commitments, just commit to expanding your network of friends. You can see God in the weirdest characters: use that penetrating vision of yours. An Aries can't help but dream about you.



CAPRICORN: Your ruler, Saturn, has teamed up with lucky Jupiter to make you take the artist within you more seriously. Use your talent and obvious people skills to bring more creativity into it. Business partners can help you become a lot richer. A Cancer wants a different sort of partnership.



AQUARIUS: You can accomplish a lot if you pace yourself, darling. You've been burning the candles at both ends for too long now. Take this time to ask yourself what you really want to accomplish in the next few years and what you are afraid of. A Leo wants to take care of you.



PISCES: Give yourself a break, Pisces. You are about to be on the receiving end of a lot of key emotional information. You could even meet someone you are sure you knew in a past life. Honey, you are more on the money than you realize. A Libra wants to know you better in this life!

Jill Dearman is the author of the best-selling *Queer Astrology for Men and Queer Astrology for Women* (both from St. Martin's Griffin). For information on charts and consultations, call (212) 841-0177 or e-mail QScopes@aol.com.



It's clear in Louisiana and across the country.



National Sun Rate.
Now all your calls are like local calls.

- 300 min. for \$60/month
- 600 min. for \$90/month
- 1,000 min. for \$140/month
- Digital Phone, Voicemail, Pager...All-In-One
- Clear coverage coast-to-coast
- Annual contract required. Eligibility and other restrictions apply
- No additional charges for roaming or long distance
- Handsets start as low as \$49

Phones by **NOKIA**

SunCom
Member of the AT&T Wireless Network



The Bright Idea in Wireless

www.suncom1.com • 1-800-SunCom-1 • www.suncomshop.com

SunCom Stores:

New Orleans Area

Gateway 2000 Center
4704 Veterans Memorial Blvd.
Metairie
504-779-7861
Lakeside Shopping Center
3413 Veterans Memorial Blvd.
Metairie **OPEN SUNDAYS**
504-834-2786

Plaza Shopping Center
5700 Road Blvd.
New Orleans
504-245-9394
Gretna MarketPlace
2112 Belle Chase Highway
Gretna **OPEN SUNDAYS**
504-992-4786

Covington

St. Tammany Oaks
Shopping Center
51 Park Place Drive
OPEN SUNDAYS
504-867-9393

Hammond

Seville Plaza
1905 West Thomas Street
504-345-4786

Houma

The Southland Mall
5953 West Park
504-868-1786

Slidell

Midtown Square
Shopping Center
1571 Gause Blvd.
504-781-4786

Baton Rouge

Market Center at CityPlace
2561 CityPlace Court
225-216-7861

Marblegate Shopping Center
5233 Jones Creek Road
225-752-4786

Lafayette

Autumnwood Place
2668 Johnston Street
337-232-6064

Also available at:

Nexstar, Inc.
504-887-8001
Communications America Inc.
of Louisiana
504-847-2355
Beeper World
504-277-6877
Wireless Warehouse
504-818-2500
ATECC & Gifts
504-368-4222

METROCALL

Office DEPOT
OfficeMax



Business Sales: New Orleans 504-616-4500



be one
with your credit card.



neworleans.citysearch.com

Get to the good stuff.

tickets

arts

music

restaurants

movies

jobs