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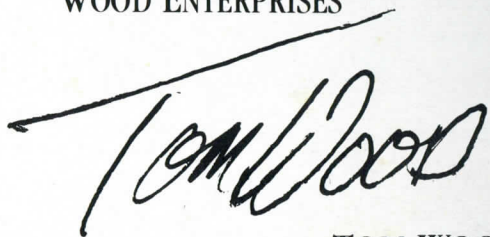
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NEW ORLEANS



TOM WOOD

Vol. 1, No. 15 May 25, 1984 \$1
COMPLIMENTARY ISSUE

round the clock

THE GAY NEW ORLEANS WEEKLY



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editorial



ON CREDIBILITY AND "BEING USED BY ONE'S OPPRESSOR"

In an interview conducted by the publisher of *Impact*, Harry Connick, Orleans Parish District Attorney, replied to a question about the recent raid and subsequent arrests on Iberville Street:

"What raid? Am I involved in it? Are my people involved in it?"

But a first page article in *The Times-Picayune/The States-Item* (April 27, 1984), sporting the headline "DA raid in French Quarter nets 33 street crime suspects," tells it a little differently. The article says:

"The special task force was assembled by District Attorney Harry Connick. About 50 police officers — active and retired, on foot and in cars — cruised the Quarter, offering themselves as bait for would-be hustlers.

"The media perceives this as a crack-down on prostitution," Connick said, "It's not. It's a crackdown on street crime."

The paper went on to name each of those arrested. Twenty-nine of the 33 were charged with prostitution, crime against nature, obscenity, and/or a municipal violation. In the article, Connick was quoted as saying:

"The first time I went down there (to the French Quarter), it was just like picking plums,"

In the same *Impact* interview, Connick said:

"There was a letter from the American Dermatology Association when they were here a year and a half ago. They brought 9,000 people to town for a week and said they weren't coming back . . .

That a couple couldn't walk down the streets — not only Bourbon Street but other streets — without being molested, having someone come up to them and proposition them and literally grab them, or push them in a doorway."

The Times-Picayune/The States Item, in an article published January 6, 1983 about that same letter, said:

" . . . There were at least eight crimes committed against people attending the convention. They included one armed robbery, two holdups, purse snatching, and theft of jewelry from a hotel room. New Orleans Police say only three crimes were reported."

In the *Impact* interview, much is made of the statement that "public sex is illegal." We should not forget that many sexual acts — practiced by homosexuals and heterosexuals, resident and visitor, married and single, old and young — are illegal no matter where they are practiced, even in the "privacy" of one's bedroom.

So much for credibility! So much for being used by one's oppressors! ♦

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THE GOLDEN LANTERN

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MARDI GRAS KREWES GATHER FOR UNITY DAY PICNIC

Plans are going forward for a "Unity Day Picnic" where members of gay Mardi Gras krewes can meet, many for the first time, at Cabrini Park on Sunday, June 10.

Krewe of Olympus President Brian Hoffman told a meeting of krewe representatives at Diane's Cocktail Lounge that this would be the first time in history that all the krewes had gotten together.

The picnic is needed, host of the meeting, and President of the Krewe of Ishtar, Diane DiMicelli, said.

"Most of the women in my krewe don't know any of the men in the others," DiMicelli added.

Hoffman said that each krewe would be responsible for bringing their own food and refreshments, and he cautioned against bringing bottles of liquor to the park site, which is just off Barracks Street between Burgundy and Dauphine Streets.

A volleyball tournament for teams from the krewes is being organized, with the winner and first runner-up in the elimination competition to be awarded trophies, DiMicelli said.

Each krewe will also be responsible for running another event for participation by members of other krewes.

Hoffman said Olympus' competition "is a variation of pigs in a blanket."

In the contest, which resembles bobbing for apples, the competition will be to see how many people can be crammed into a sleeping bag while passing an apple from person to person without

biting into it.

The Krewes of Armeinius and Polyphemus will jointly run what they called "drag races," where contestants will have to run a race in full drag.

The Mystic Krewe of Tragoidia will run a greased wrestling competition where contestants will be provided with bathing suits and drenched in cooking oil. Then they'll wrestle, according to Co-Ball Captain Scott Bloom.

Bloom added the winner will be given a trophy for the "Slippery Nipples Winner."

Ishtar will host a sack race, DiMicelli said. "You know how we women like burlap," she added.

The Krewe of Petronius will set up a water balloon contest, though krewe members are reportedly unsure of how to run one.

The Krewe of Celestial Knights reportedly is interested in hosting a Tiara Toss competition, which would resemble a ring toss or horse shoes, though using tiaras.

Other krewes had not announced what competitions they will be running.

Olympus secretary, Skip Kibodeaux, stressed that Unity Day is not a fundraising function for the krewes, and that the krewes would have to share in the costs of setting up the party, including such costs as port-o-lets, permits, etc.

One more meeting will be held before the picnic on Wednesday, May 30, 7:30 p.m., at Diane's Cocktail Lounge, 2317 Jefferson Highway. ♦

IEFSNEWSBRIEFSNEWSBRIEFSNEWSBRIEFSNEV

CONNICK STAFFERS DIG FOR MOLE

Although Orleans Parish District Attorney Harry Connick has publicly denied that his office has issued warnings of raids, DA staffers are trying to find the source of those reports.

Around the Clock on May 11 reported that a man on the DA's Office Diversionary Program was warned to stay away from two New Orleans gay bars, as they would be raided.

An unidentified source also on the diversionary program (but not our original source) has said he has come under pressure from program counselors because they think he is responsible for giving the information to *Around the Clock*.

The Diversionary Program, which requires that an accused person pay costs and attend counseling sessions, eliminates the necessity of going to trial.

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NEW ORLEANS**

EFNEWSBRIEFSNEWSBRIEFSNEWSBRIEFSNEW

LESBIAN COUNSELOR LOSES APPEAL

A lesbian high school counselor can be fired from her job, even though the only evidence of her sexuality was her telling a secretary, the Ninth Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals in Cincinnati has ruled.

In a 2-to-1 decision, the appeals panel overturned a lower court decision awarding \$40,000 to the counselor who was identified only as Ms. Rowland, who was fired from her job with the Mad River Local School District in Ohio in 1982 after telling a secretary of her sexual orientation.

The National Gay Rights Advocates, which had been part of the case after filing a friend of the court brief, blasted the decision.

"We firmly believe that Ms. Rowland's first amendment rights were violated," NGR legal director Leonard Graff said. "In addition there is an equal protection of the law problem."

He added, "Obviously a straight teacher would not be discharged for revealing the fact of his orientation."

NGRA Executive Director Jean O'Leary added that the group would help with preparing an appeal to the entire appeals panel.

GAYS TO BE PORTRAYED ON FALL TV SERIES

More gay characters will be seen in next fall's television season, with two networks and a major cable service announcing they will broadcast programs with major gay content.

The National Broadcasting Company has announced a pilot comedy in the works, "All Together Now," which stars Tom Byrd, star of last season's "Boone" as a character who comes out of the closet.

American Broadcasting Company will broadcast a segment of its popular "Love Boat" which deals with a gay couple.

In that segment, Roy Thinnes plays an old college friend of the regular character, Doc, who comes out to his friend on a cruise.

The cable service, Showtime, has announced they will air a mini-series called "Brothers" where five brothers deal with the announcement of their

sixth brother that he is gay.

The announcements were greeted by many as a great improvement in the portrayal of gays and lesbians.

"There are more of what we call 'happens to be gay,'" Chris Uzler of the Alliance for Gay Artists said.

GAYS BANNED FROM BEING METHODIST PASTORS

Gays and lesbians may not hold ministerial posts in the United Methodist Church, the church's governing body decided at its annual meeting this month.

The action was expected and was cited because of the requirement that ministers must be moral and also not be seen as possibly advocating an immoral lifestyle.

The only openly gay minister in the church, the Rev. Paul Abels, pastor of the Washington Square Methodist Church in New York City for 11 years, had previously announced he was retiring from the church.

Abels cited as his reason the fact he was tired of struggling to stop the move by his church.

SAN FRANCISCO BATHHOUSES CLOSE DOWN RATHER THAN ABIDE WITH "NO SEX" POLICY

Two San Francisco bathhouses have already closed down while a third will close on June 2, rather than abide with rules announced this month prohibiting sex in that city's baths due to fear of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS).

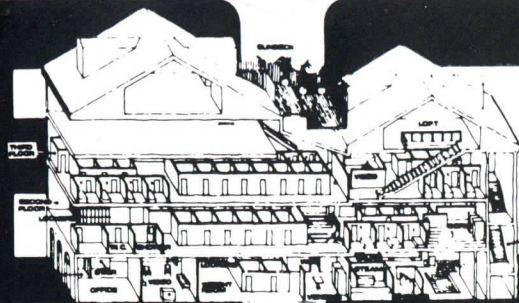
The Liberty Baths and the Catacombs have already closed and one of the nation's few male-female bathhouses, the Sutro Baths, will close on June 2 after a "final safe sex" party.

The closings come after the May 7 announcement by San Francisco Public Health Director Mervyn Silverman, that sex in bathhouses would be banned.

In order to insure the ban was enforced, Silverman proposed that all doors be removed from cubicles in the bath houses, and all areas be lighted and patrolled.

The closings come after the announcement by the Independent Gay Health Club (IGHC) Association

(continued page 20)



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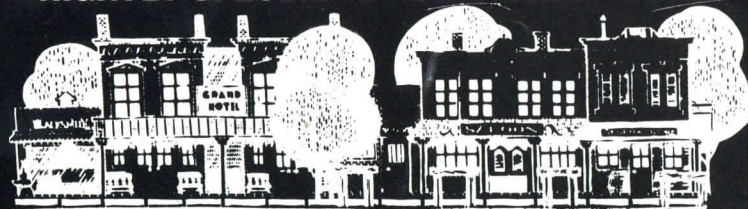
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TUESDAY 8-11 PM

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DOING AMERICA

PITTSBURGH
by Bob Damron



Pittsburgh has experienced an exceptional renaissance from the cloud of smog, soot and smoke that enveloped it twenty five years ago.

The "Golden Triangle," where the Allegheny and Monongahala Rivers come together to form the mighty Ohio River, is the "Gateway" to the new Pittsburgh . . . one of the most impressive civic redevelopments in America.

Pittsburgh, after New York and Chicago, is the third largest corporate center in the United States. Although the city's economy is still based on coal and steel, everything from atomic energy to plate glass windows are manufactured here now.

The second largest city in Pennsylvania has a population of approximately

425,000 people, but the greater metropolitan area includes over two and one half million inhabitants.

It was founded in 1758 by a young army major named George Washington . . . and named Fort Pitt in honor of the famous English Prime Minister.

Some of America's foremost industrialists, Andrew Carnegie, Henry Ford Frick and Thomas Mellon settled here in the last century. It was the latter's descendant, Richard King Mellon, who was one of the key contributors to Pittsburgh's revival . . . so much in fact that some local wags dubbed it "the Mellon Patch."

The American Federation of Labor (AFL) was first started here in 1881.

The Post Gazette was the first news-



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— People

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paper established west of the Allegheny Mountains. A very worth successor in today's world is "Out" . . . one of the finest gay publications in the U.S.

Pittsburgh has the "hottest" bar scene in the Tri-State area of western Pennsylvania, eastern Ohio and northern West Virginia.

The bars are open Monday through Saturday until 2:00 a.m., but private clubs are open much later and on Sundays . . . but you must be a member.

Some restaurants serving food also remain open on Sundays.

This city's two private clubs are the Norreh at 1226 Herron Avenue and the Travelers Club at 6525 Hamilton in East Liberty. Norreh has an upstairs bar for women, basement cell for leathermen and everyone else on the main floor. The Travelers follows more of a disco format.

Zack's at 334 Fourth Avenue is a new disco, jam-packed on weekends, with den and game room downstairs, while Players at 430 E. Eighth Avenue in Homestead is the "in" spot for younger women. Pegasus is another ever popular downtown disco at 818 Liberty Avenue.

The Crossover at 1241 Western Avenue, on the north side of West End Bridge is the best Levi and Leather cruise bar for hundreds of miles around, but should be facing stiff competition from the new Pittsburgh Trucking Company at 730 River Avenue.

The Holiday at 4620 Forbes Avenue, in Oakland, is Pittsburgh's oldest gay bar, but attracts some of its youngest and best looking post preppie Levi and western guys. Other spots include Shawn's and The Tender Trap.

Pittsburgh has three baths, the Arena, Club Pittsburgh and Schume's. For books, try the Book Stall, 3604 5th Avenue in Oakland.

The new gay Beaux Arts Ball is held annually in May . . . this year at the William Penn Hotel, which may never be the same again. Besides costumes, fun and all night parties, it also serves a good cause. Sponsored by the Pittsburgh Tavern Guild, they attract thousands of gay men and women. The proceeds benefit the Lambda Founda-

tion . . . a sort of Gay United Way.

I like to stay at the Pittsburgh Hilton at Gateway Center, which is centrally located above the confluence of the three rivers.

The Sheraton Hyatt at Chatham Center and newly remodeled William Penn are all good hotels too.

The top gay dinner house is Jackson's, at 1241 Penn Avenue, but some women visit Wildsisters at 27th and Jane.

For casual, mostly straight dining try the Grand Concourse and other new restaurants in Station Square: Del's, Figgins, or C. J. Barney's for marvelous gourmet hamburgers.

If elegant and expensive dining is your bag, try Christopher's, Colony, Hugo's Rotisserie, La Normandie, La Plume, Lemont or the Park Schenley.

As you drive into Pittsburgh from the airport, you travel through rolling hillsides and the Fort Pitt Tunnel . . . then pow! Point State Park and the soaring skyscrapers of the "Golden Triangle" hit with an unexpected impact.

You should visit the University of Pittsburgh and Lake Erie Railroad Station, which is now an entertainment complex called Station Square. Carnegie Institute, Phipps Conservatory, Allegheny Observatory, and Heinz Hall, home of Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra.

The new PPG Place is a "must" for architectural inventiveness.

For a thrilling view of the city, take the Duquesne Incline Railway to the top of Mt. Washington, and if you're a Steeler or Pirate fan, try to catch a game at Three Rivers Stadium.

One of the newest subways in America is nearing completion, and should help alleviate some of Pittsburgh's congested traffic scene.

Former mayor David Lawrence of Pittsburgh, once described it as "the dirtiest slag pile in the United States." The acid tongued architect Frank Lloyd Wright was asked what could be done about Pittsburgh, and answered, "Abandon it." That was some time ago, and anyone who jokes about Pittsburgh today simply has not been there for a long time. It is a power packed city, and getting better all the time. ♦



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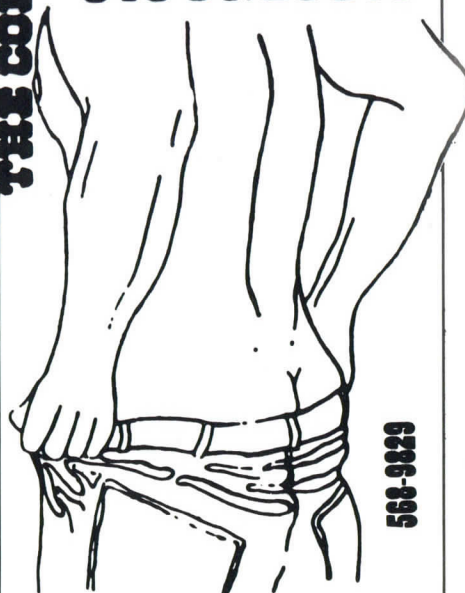
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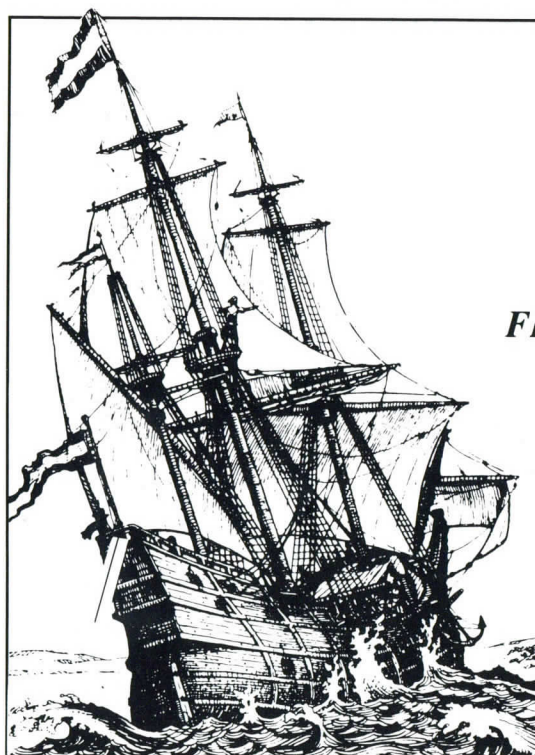
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NEW ORLEANS WOMEN

LADY — THE BAND

by Loretta Mims, Special Correspondent



Up until now, *Around the Clock* has been interviewing individual performers. With this interview, we take it a step further, interviewing the members of a band — LADY. Drummer Connie Stribling tells us about the group.

Connie Stribling — Our band consists of Kay Lindsay on bass guitar, Barbara Jennings on guitar, me on drums and Ginny Bull on keyboard and synthesizer.

Kay and I were friends in Memphis playing around with music.

We met Barbara when she was playing in a club and we approached her with the idea of forming an all female band. We thought that it could work, and besides there weren't that many female bands around at that time. So we formed the band 'Lady.'

ATC — How did the name 'Lady' come about?

CS — Oh, God, we hate the name.

In the beginning, it was my idea, but we want to change it.

We just haven't been able to come up

with a name that we all like — we're even thinking of having a 'Name The Band' contest.

But in the early '70s we thought the name fit us. However, we've outgrown the name — and since our name is known, we're afraid that if we change it, our fans won't know us. So we don't know what to do.

ATC — How long has your group been together?

CS — Off and on since 1973.

ATC — At one time the band broke up. Can you tell us why?

CS — I personally got tired of touring. We were always on the road, living in hotels and in cars. It got old. Barbara and Kay decided to stay in Memphis and I wanted to live in New Orleans.

So we broke up for two and a half years and it has been only recently that we have formed our band again.

Ginny is the newest member and the four of us have decided to try it once more.

ATC — You describe your music as the

Where to find it!

BARS

- 1 Bourbon Pub, 801 Bourbon
- 2 Brompton's, 1431 Royal
- 3 Cafe Lafitte in Exile, 901 Bourbon
- 4 Charlene's, 940 Elysian Fields
- 5 Clinic, 540 Burgundy
- 6 Corner Pocket, 940 St. Louis
- 7 The Corral, 901 Bourbon
- 8 Cuckoo's Nest, 2128 St. Claude
- 9 Finale IVFilling Station, 642 N. Rampart
- 10 Galley House, 542 Chartres
- 11 Golden Lantern, 1239 Royal
- 12 Great American Refuge, 1031 Royal
- 13 Gregory's, 439 Dauphine
- 14 Jewel's Tavern, 1207 Decatur
- 15 Le Bistro, 800 Bourbon
- 16 The Loading Zone, 721 Bourbon St.
- 17 Louisiana Purchase, 740 Dauphine
- 18 Lucille & Friends, 622 St. Philip
- 19 Menatee's, 1101 N. Rampart
- 20 Mississippi River Bottom, 515 St. Philip
- 21 Mona's, 700 N. Rampart
- 22 Parade Disco, 801 Bourbon
- 23 Partner's, 718 N. Rampart
- 24 Paw Paw's, 700 Burgundy
- 25 The Phoenix, 941 Elysian Fields
- 26 Pino's, 641 Elysian Fields
- 27 Play It Again Sam's, 740 Burgundy
- 28 Roundup, 819 St. Louis
- 29 Soiled Dove, 308 N. Rampart
- 30 TT's, 824 N. Rampart
- 31 Travis, 834 N. Rampart

BATHS

- 29 Canal Baths, 1040 St. Ann (at Rampart)
30 Club Baths, 515 Toulouse
31 Midtown Spa, 700 Baronne (not shown)
- RESTAURANTS**
- 32 Apple Barrel, 609 Frenchmen
33 Coffee Pot, 714 St. Peter
34 Country Cousin, 942 N. Rampart
35 The Fatted Calf, 729 St. Peter
36 Feelings, 2600 Chartres
37 Golden Star, 911 Decatur
38 Harlow's, 534 St. Philip
39 Jason's, 1119 Decatur
40 La Peniche, 1940 Dauphine
41 Madame Chenille, 800 N. Rampart St.
41 Mama Rosa's, 616 N. Rampart
42 Mandot's, 602 St. Philip
43 Marigny Restaurant, 2101 St. Claude
44 Marti's, 1041 Dumaine
47 Menefees, 1101 N. Rampart
62 Prospector's Cafe, 903 St. Peter
45 Quarter Scene, 900 Dumaine
46 Raintree, 437 Esplanade
26 St. Louis Crepe Shoppe, 817 St. Louis
47 Tortilla Flats, 501 Esplanade
48 Vera Cruz, 1139 Decatur
- FAST FOOD/PO BOYS**
- 70 Clover Grill 900 Bourbon St.
60 Gene's Po-Boys, 1040 Elysian Fields
49 Makin Groceries, 1100 Bourbon
50 St. Ann Deli, 800 Dauphine
51 Verti Marte, 1201 Royal

FAST FOOD/PO BOYS

- 70 Clover Grill 900 Bourbon St.
60 Gene's Po-Boys, 1040 Elysian Fields
49 Makin Groceries, 1100 Bourbon
50 St. Ann Deli, 800 Dauphine
51 Verti Marte, 1201 Royal

SHOPS

- 67** As You Like It, (haircutting), 1301 Royal St.
52 Bogie's Posters, 509 Dumaine
53 Faubourg Marigny Book Store, 600 Frenchmen

Frenchmen

- 54** Frame Shop & Gallery, 1038 Bourbon
68 Headquarters, (haircutting), 900 Dauphine St.
55 Jordan's, 713 Toulouse
56 Kruz, 432 Barracks
57 Mary's True Value Hardware, 912 Bourbon
28 Second Skin, 818 N. Rampart

RESTAURANTS

- 32 Apple Barrel, 609 Frenchmen
- 33 Coffee Pot, 714 St. Peter
- 34 Country Cousin, 942 N. Rampart
- 35 The Fatted Calf, 729 St. Peter
- 36 Feelings, 2600 Chartres
- 37 Golden Star, 911 Decatur
- 38 Harlow's, 534 St. Philip
- 39 Jason's, 1119 Decatur
- 40 La Peniche, 1940 Dauphine
- 61 Madame Chenille, 800 N. Rampart
- 41 Mama Rosa's, 616 N. Rampart
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- 49 Makin Groceries, 1100 Bourbon
- 50 St. Ann Deli, 800 Dauphine
- 51 Verti Marte, 1201 Royal

HOTELSGUEST HOUSES

- 64** The Frenchmen Hotel, 417 Frenchmen St.
65 Lafitte's Guest House, 1003 Bourbon St.
66 Ursuline Guest House, 708 Ursuline.

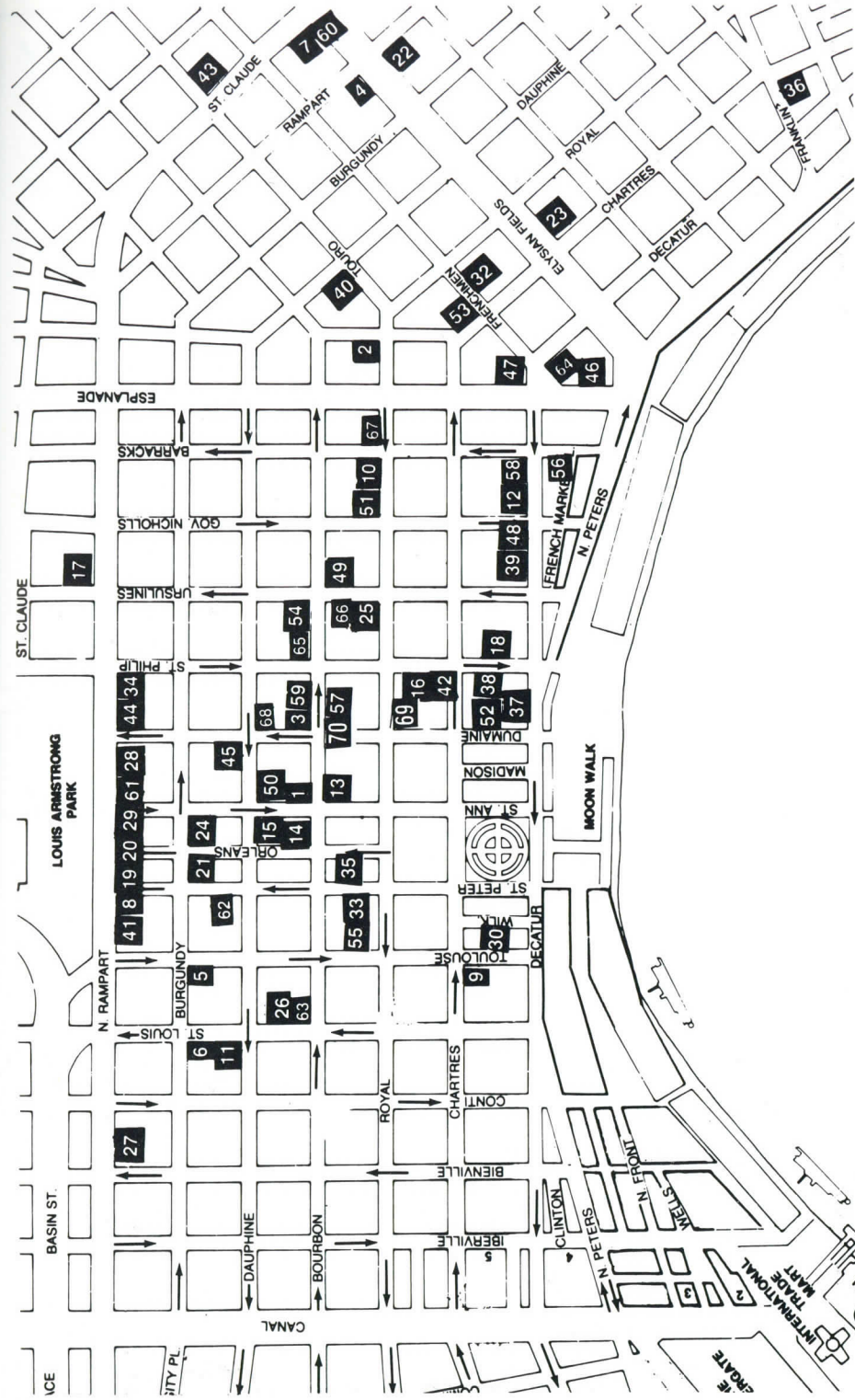
Like we've said, there are lots of fun places outside the vicinity of the French Quarter. They're worth a little travel time!

BARS

- Back Door Lounge, 827 Derbigny St., Gretna
Blue Odyssey, 2820 Lime St., Metairie (show)
Country Club, Pool, spa, bar, etc., 634 Louisiana St.
Diane's Cocktail Lounge, 2317 Jefferson Hwy.,
Jefferson
Kathryn's Upstairs/Downstairs, 3229 N. Causeway, Metairie
The I-Beam, 1302 Aljo, Marrero
The Showboat Lounge, 3712 Hessemer, Metairie (show)

RESTAURANTS

- Enraged Chicken, 1115 St. Mary St.
Flamingo's, 1625 St. Charles Ave.
Mamie's Restaurant, 3247 So. Carrollton Ave.





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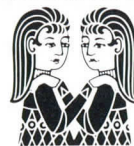
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Around the Zodiac clock

MAY 25 - June 1, 1984

by Lawrence of New Orleans

FOR EVERY SIGN: Mercury receives bad signals from Mars and Saturn, causing mental frustrations, but good vibrations from Jupiter help us to bend and alleviate the strain. The new moon touching Venus makes this a beautiful time to commence recent plans, and gives them momentum for two weeks.



GEMINI: Get a new slant on life or enhance your image. Attend to health. Others are generous.



CANCER: This spring is your mating time, but watch out for "light romance." Work on private plans.



LEO: Get out of the house as much as possible. Make new friends. Work conditions can improve.



VIRGO: Psychological stress is offset by something creative. Seek promotions.



LIBRA: Put money worries on hold. Start training in something you like. Take somebody new home with you.



SCORPIO: If you need to let off steam, don't fight, put it into writing or talk things out. Buy or sell now.



SAGITTARIUS: Don't stay indoors, feeling sorry for yourself. A shopping trip does wonders. Partnerships grow.



CAPRICORN: Don't let anyone get in the way of your aims. Use your new found charisma. Exercise pays off.



AQUARIUS: If the boss seems hard on you, keep it to yourself. Engage in a favorite pastime. Be creative.



PISCES: Travel is dubious. Enjoy the social scene or make domestic improvements this week.



ARIES: Control spending. Money differences are left better unexpressed. A job opportunity arises. Begin a new schedule.



TAURUS: Put some distance between you and someone who is touchy right now. Start budgeting so that you can travel.

* ASK THE STARS *

Dear Curious:

You can't find out your rising sign unless you have your horoscope done, or else study astrology yourself. The "ascendant" (or sign rising at the minute of birth) shows the outer self. When you learn yours, add it to the above forecast. ♦

If you have any personal questions, address them, including your birth date, year, town, and time (if known), to:

*Lawrence of New Orleans
Around the Clock
P.O. Box 70377
New Orleans, LA 70172*

(continued from page 7)
that the national bathhouse owner group was going to provide San Francisco bathhouses with a \$500,000 "war chest" to fight the move.

Silverman's action comes after pressure from some gay groups, which has been resisted by others and which has split segments of the community.

Bathhouse owners have maintained that with giving customers condoms, they (the baths) do not provide an easy place for the spread of AIDS.

Sal Accardi, the elected spokesperson for the Northern California Bathhouse Owners Association, stated that the baths provide a very important educational outlet on how to have safe sex, and that all the baths were teaching safe sex techniques.

He suggested dropping the thousands of unused condoms held by the baths over City Hall.

The "no sex" rules reportedly were drawn up by AIDS experts, the San Francisco City Attorney said.

They could become effective after a public hearing held by the Chief of Police. ♦

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perspective

Prententious Places; Familiar Faggots

by Patrick Shannon III

The next time someone says something stupid to me like, "Oh the luck o' the Irish," I really do think I'm going to pull that *cinematic scene of the decade* when Jane Fonda in the role of Lillian Hellman (JULIA) throws a drink in the face of a vividly unlovely male chauvinist drunk cruel enough to allude to a "possible lesbian affair" between her and a childhood friend lost in Nazi-occupied Europe, and whom she was never to see again.

Let me set the scene: Lillian has become a successful playwright, and Hitler is just doing his unforgetably sick things to solve some of his problems among his "chosen race," playing with a master's touch upon the great List-zean piano of political hypocrisy, and this drunk **All American Asshole** performs the all-time great moments of insensitive American stupidity (forget Ronald Reagan and Hollywood Hops-cotch), I mean it's really the last role in final tastelessness, captured for all eternity on the silver screen — you get the point I think!

Anyway, if you remember the moment, don't forget how she slapped him in the face and then turned the whole table over on him at Sardi's burying him beneath it.

Then, with a "before-its-time" chemically calm expression on her face she leaves (a la Proust) "with a flourish, a smile, a brave conceit of the past," and sails gloriously out of Sardi's, her real anger later I guess to be expressed in *A Night On The Rhine*.

Now I know Lillian was not Irish, and I don't think Jane Fonda is either, but I think you will understand what caused me to write the above if you continue to read on, because I **never have the 'Luck o' the Irish'** when I get invited to a pre-tentious place by a familiar faggot.

But still, as the Duchess of Windsor is reputed to have said on a visit to New Orleans (when some innocent little

queen, upon hearing she was thirsty, handed her a cold can of Dixie Beer), "Thank you my dear," and handed the stuff to her host.

Later when asked if she was offended, she said, "Certainly not, after all, one does have one's obligations."

Well I had my obligation that night, so I went to the "pretentious place" to obligate myself to the company of very boring "familiar faggots" and I can only comment to wit:

Item No. 1: I **really want** to like this place and I didn't even have to wear a tuxedo to enter, so why . . . (a) Do I always get there before anyone else and have to spend a half hour waiting for my "familiar faggots" to gaggle in and the maitre d' puts me on a stool next to a 2000 horsepower blender; (2) The specialité du maison is a choice of 2 gross of fruit daiquiris in season, and they're all on sale that evening. Whatever happened to plain old scotch and water, or even the old 50's favorite for immaculate conceptions, a cherry coke?

At least they didn't cause more than a gurgle to create. Here I am stuck on a stool like some dumb Egret that **has to hatch its last egg** for the Sierra Club and my nest is on the edge of a bar version of Moisant Airport. Every ten seconds another 50 thousand decibel jet roars by. And I hate daiquiris!!!

Item No. 2: An extension of Item No. 1. At least I didn't have to sit next to the Transcontinental Blender, that for some reason (maybe because I didn't think I had to dress formally) I get taken to another table next to the kitchen.

This really wouldn't be so bad if I was an employee of the Health Department or maybe a spy for the IRS, but it's really very distracting to sit alone at a table next to a door that flies open from either direction about 20 times a minute, and you can overhear the conversation of the kitchen help in broken sentences.



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Around the Clock wants to help you get the word out! If you have an upcoming event . . . if you have news that will blow New Orleans' mind . . . or if you'd like our reporters to cover the action . . . simply drop us a line (remembering that we have a 10-day publication schedule).

CUMMIN' UP!

Every club, krewe and organization has fundraising functions throughout the year like rummage sales, raffles, dances, and whatnots. Below you will find a listing of those which are scheduled during the next four weeks. If your non-profit group would like to see your fundraising functions listed in this column, drop us a line at Around the Clock, P.O. Box 70377, New Orleans, LA 70172, or call (504) 947-5295. What we need is the who, what, where, when, why, and how much. It would also help our readers to let us know where tickets may be purchased.

SATURDAY, June 2

Krewe of Amon-Ra — Pajama Sock Hop at D.A.V. Hall, 151 Friscoville, Arabi. Tickets available from krewe members or at door, 8 p.m.

Krewe of Polyphemus — Prom Night at Baker's Hall, 2001 Burgundy St., 8 p.m. Tickets available from krewe members or at door.

SUNDAY, June 3

Krewe of Ishtar — "Girls Just Wanna Have Fun," Pino's, 641 Elysian Fields, 7 p.m. Tickets available from krewe members or at door.

SATURDAY, June 9

Lords of Leather — Rummage Sale, Partners, 718 N. Rampart St., 10 a.m.

SUNDAY, June 10

Unikrewe Picnic — Cabrini Park, Barracks at Dauphine, noon. Krewe members and their guests only.

FRIDAY, June 15 - SUNDAY, June 17

Celebration '84 — Annual Gay Conference, Bayou Plaza, 4040 Tulane Ave. For further information call Stewart Butler at 523-3922.

FRIDAY, June 22 - SUNDAY, June 24

Bastille II Run — sponsored by De Sade & Men. Tickets \$50. For more information, contact Chuck at 523-6745 or go by the Beer Bust, Fridays, 10 p.m.-1 a.m. at Paw Paw's, 700 Burgundy.

SATURDAY & SUNDAY, June 23-24

GayFest — Washington Square Park.

SUNDAY, June 24

"Broadway Babies Visit the Fair" — Krewe of Arminius along with "Miss Gay Expo" Contest, 8 p.m.-midnight.

SUNDAY, July 1

BBQ Party — Krewe of David, 813 Piety, 1 p.m.

Convention — Krewe of Apollo at Biloxi, MS.

They always consist of people who not only don't even speak the same language, but despise each other with Mafioso intensity.

Suddenly I get the feeling that the edge of each swinging door is cleverly inset with sharp razors and any second I'm going to get my first tracheotomy or possibly vasectomy.

I bribe a waiter for another table, and wonder if I should rush home and come back in Lauren Bacall drag or Ronald Reagan black tie and tux. I finally got a strong double scotch and water and decide to wait another 15 minutes for the fashionably late "familiar faggots."

Item No. 3: The Other Table . . . Obviously the bribe was not enough. I keep forgetting I'm in New Orleans and not Costa Rica, even though the waiter seemed very Latin with a large and very attractive L. There was also a slight accent that added a J to every English word beginning with Y.

I could only conclude that I had been out of the travel agency business too long and the rate of exchange had changed considerably.

My 10 American dollars were not worth more than 2 Costa Rican colones I guess, and Mr. Latino with the large L was not impressed.

This table is next to the toilet, and/or the hallway leading to same. I feel like I'm trying to have dinner at a funeral home having a wake for a local politician.

The overwhelming stench of flowers and God only knows what kind of ancient Egyptian embalming fluid they use in those toilet deodorants causes my throat to collapse, then my nostrils close and my ears snap shut! Taste buds become a total case of amnesiac cells.

My simple scotch and water tastes a little like soap and water sprinkled with oil of carnations. I keep looking for a family of 60 rednecks to come rushing by asking me for permission to use the outhouse.

I'm beginning to feel more and more like Lillian Hellman in that scene: I decide to slyly slip past my routinely youthful Ricardo Montalban, and wobble my (all but sense of sight gone) way to the "up-deck" bar.

Are you ready for this?

It did have a great view of the river. Lots and lots of shit-brown colored water racing by and a wonderful view of the French Quarter and one or two Lykes ships named Doreen or Sally Mae.

The bartender is attractive so I try to engage him in "engaging conversation." Unfortunately with only my sense of sight intact, I don't seem to make much engaging sense with the bartender. The waitresses seem to sense some kind of carnivorous competition and keep glaring at me with Titanic Icebergian Angst.

I keep remembering I'm really floating above the Mississippi River. Attempting to become inconspicuous I slump down into my barstool and begin to learn some wonderful bartender slangs:

Bevnaps: Anything from a subpoena to a Sanipad to a lobster bib, to a napkin. I look with glazed eye at the very Muddy Waters swirling down below me (thank you Holley Bendtsen, aka Pfister Sister) and order another soundless scotch and water.

The guest of honor finally makes a dramatic entrance surrounded by a score of sycophantic asskissers, and I really begin to regret my "sense of one does have one's obligations." There he stands, **Mr. Right Connections**. I just can't wait to see where we're all going to get to sit. The queen's throne room, probably.

Item No. 4: The Guest of Honor and Other Familiar Faggots: Either one of the first or one of the last of **the great designer-label queens!** Dressed to kill or killed to dress, I can't quite decide. Very attractive (in the dim light); no underwear (flaunt it if you've got it); in a jogging outfit that doesn't leave anything to the imagination, especially the vividly contrasting signature initials of the costume designer. I notice a few seams in need of the old Edith Head touch a la needle and thread, but God knows this faggot gets a triple crown for trying.

The first thing "guest of honor" does is order a signature-label (non-bar brand) drink. Chivas Regal, or was it a Chippendale and Perrier, or Tallsails of Scuppermong, Chateau de Marrero? We are definitely not impressed, and immediately become secretly hostile.

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remains better to release your hostility via the pen. It is mightier than the sword, they say. We are escorted to a table in a private section (of course) with a dozen close friends of "guest of honor" and at least four healthy, normal-looking, frighteningly beautiful families from places like Goldilocks, Colorado or Supercity, California.

There is also a table of honeymooners who have just won the Donny and Marie look-alike contest sitting with their new in-laws with Mormon Tabernacle glazed eyes, all either slumming or gathering in the sheaves for the Lord.

Everyone is terrifyingly polite and much too tolerant. I'm rather smashed and feel like Jeanne d'Arc just before the conflagration.

All senses gone, except sight; by this time of course, speech slurred from the scotch and water, I decide to break out my latest toy.

No, nothing as tasteless as that! It's the Sony tape recorder I just got for my birthday last week. Suddenly I feel like Barbara Walters without a tongue. I shove the machine into anyone's face and try to get them to talk, you know, open their mouths and cause words to come out, words like, Dick likes Jane. There goes Jane's little brown dog. I love my cat. Subject matter is obviously irrelevant. It's like trying to get a *cinema verité* version of a Fellini film not yet edited or put on the condemned list by

the Catholic Church. I hope I have large human-sized clams. I've had enough and excuse myself with the comment (actually I think I was asked to leave — oh well) "Well, I'm sorry I have to go, it's certainly not the company, it's the lack of it." All the way across the river on the Algiers Ferry I mutter like a madman into my tape recorder about "obligations, to hell with obligations."

Item No. 6: The Tape Recorder (Japanese of course), when replayed later. People who insist on name brands in public bars: (1) are born rich; (2) possess a congenital stupidity for which they are not responsible; (3) are totally insecure and read all the slick magazines praying that some of the chic slick will rub off on them; (4) spend a lot of time memorizing high-gloss ads in "all the right magazines"; (5) can't remember anything real, like being human, or friends who aren't named Jackie Onassis Kennedy or De De Warthog of Julian Bond; (6) are total alcoholics with expensive tastes, and wealthy lovers/wives; (7) own stock in Chivas Regal, et al and are just trying to fool everyone so no one will try to borrow money; (8) have only one talent — dropping brand names and buying signature/label designer clothes at chic resale shops; (9) have a real thing for Chateau du Angst shit, and designer drinks; (10) have a born talent for being a bore, and a perfect bore at that. ♦

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REVIEW "GISELLE"

NEW ORLEANS CITY BALLET

by Perry Brass

"Giselle" is one of those things that appear simple but are incredibly hard to pull off. Most choreography for the ballet offers few surprises and little (usually, no) humor. This is deadly serious stuff. A young peasant girl from the dank German woods is driven crazy and dies of a broken heart by the betrayal of her handsome but slight-of-heart lover, Loys, secretly Count Albrecht, betrothed of the aristocratic Bathilda. End of Act One.

Act Two becomes one of those infamous Nineteenth Century *ballet blancs*, all white tulle, pounds of talc on the shoulders, sooty eyelashes, as Giselle joins the avenging party of *wilis*, the wood sprites who take in the soul of a jilted, broken-hearted virgin, rather like a Salvation Army home.

The *wilis* condemn Albrecht, who has come by light of the moon to lavish lilies on Giselle's tomb, to dance himself to death — a sentence probably experienced by anyone living within earshot of a disco.

Most of Act One is more of a trial for the audience than even for poor Giselle. Adolphe Adam's music is right leaden with no grant court music to vary the peasant reels. He telegraphs every smile and sorrow with thunderous drumrolls, hunting horns, and strings.

Usually by the middle of Act I, I ask myself why I came; it is only in Act II that I realize why this ballet has lasted since 1841 when the French romantic poet Theophile Gautier conceived it for his lover, the great Italian ballerina Carlotta Grisi (who was already married to Jules Perrot, "Giselle's" choreographer).

"Giselle" requires a huge amount of acting. She must go from a simple, almost loony peasant in Act I to a supernatural creature in Act II, and still remain rather human in the company of the *wili* party. The part has actually broken some dancers and is referred to as ballet's Hamlet. "Swan Lake," another *ballet blanc* in Act II, requires less stage development from a ballerina — and

can float along on an ocean of great music.

The New Orleans City Ballet pulled off "Giselle" in the second act, which was as gorgeously *blanc*, moody and ethereal as it's ever going to get. The corps de ballet was, as ever, wonderful as the *wilis*. Christina Foisie was commanding as the wile queen (I would have liked to have seen Suzette Boyer who did it the following Sunday), and Donna Grisez as Giselle suddenly embodied the role with the kind of technique she seemed comfortable with — good point work; a small, endearing airiness.

But for some reason, this ballet seemed to have been man's work. Norman Jasinski was effective as Albrecht, especially in his second act solo variations; while Michael Sharp as Hilarion, Albrecht's rival, really commanded the stage. Sharp took the mime elements and worked them through the dance with a genuine solidity compared to Jasinski's rather puerile Count.

As I said, "Giselle" looks simple, but is very hard to pull off. The N.O.C.B. did push a little too hard in the first act *towards* simplicity making the ballet more Disney's Snow White than the kind of grim fairy tale it should be. The set was too Magic Kingdom; the lighting never changed and had no character. The second act though would satisfy anyone (including me) and deserves to replay any time.

To promote "Giselle" and the New Orleans City Ballet's first anniversary, the Ballet brought in Dame Margot Fonteyn, a former *prima* ballerina of the Royal Ballet, for a week of luncheons, dinners, and a pre-curtain appearance. A press meeting was set up last Wednesday (May 16) to which, I'm embarrassed to say, almost no one showed up.

"The World's Fair has taken over the media," Julie Kraft, the press rep, said. So I did get to speak (a lot) with Dame Fonteyn and she was as gracious and unassuming as any great British star



PHOTO BY SANDY UNDERWOOD

Richard Hoskinson in "Giselle."

should be.

"I think the idea of sharing a ballet company is immensely practical and sensible," she said about the New Orleans City Ballet which is also the Cincinnati Ballet. "I think one should approach the arts with a great deal of practicality and sense. You can't just say, 'Well, ballet is wonderful; everyone must have it,' and then everyone will just fork out the money and we'll get it.

"The expenses of putting on a production have risen so much, but the number of seats in a theatre doesn't increase and the amount of money one person can pay just doesn't rise as fast as backstage expenses. So to my mind, this idea (of sharing a ballet company) makes perfect sense. New Orleans is extremely lucky to have one very good ballet company shared by two cities.

"Our duty as artists is to give 150%

everytime we go on stage. It's not enough to just be a dancer or a musician. You have to give something to people, or else you're not worth all these kind, generous people supporting you.

"(Rudolf Nureyev) did an absolutely marvelous thing for ballet, because he showed the importance of the man in dance. Somehow or other, men had gotten out of ballet. Even with the Diaghilev company, it still gave a kind of false impression of the man in ballet. The importance of the man has been building up for a long time, but Nureyev somehow just brought it all together. He established the essential importance that there should be a man *and* a woman. When you look at any kind of national folk dancing and who really shows off — who does all the difficult steps — it is the man. Dance is for men."

Ya see, there really is nothing like a Dame. ♦

WHAT'S HAPPENING!

Organizations

FRIDAY, May 25

Lambda Chai — (a gay Jewish group) meets at St. Louis Community Center, 7:30 p.m.

Dignity — Coffee House: Gay Catholics meet at St. Louis Community Center, 1022 Barracks St., 9:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, May 26

Raffle Drawing & Show — Krewe of Perseus at Play It Again Sam, 740 Burgundy. Show at 9 p.m. Raffle drawing for basket of booze at midnight.

Beach Party in the Faubourg — Krewe of Olympus stages a beach party at their den, 2531 1/2 Chartres St., 8 p.m.

Las Vegas Meets the Cajuns — a night of gambling and a Cajun dinner held by the Krewe of Cerci at Baker's Union Hall, 2001 Burgundy.

SUNDAY, May 27

Miss Street — Krewe of Apollo.

Grace Fellowship in Christ Jesus — 1913 Dauphine St., 11:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

Dignity — (Mass), 3037 Dauphine St., 4:00 p.m.

M.C.C. New Orleans — 1800 Jefferson Ave., 7:00 p.m.

MONDAY, May 28

Gay Bowling — Sugar Bowl Lanes on Franklin Ave.

TUESDAY, May 29

Sharing & Support Group — sponsored by Dignity, the gay Catholic organization. Call 949-1465 for information and directions.

WEDNESDAY, May 30

M.C.C. New Orleans — 1800 Jefferson Ave., 7:00 p.m.

New Orleans Gay Men's Chorus — Open rehearsals, St. Mark's Church, 1130 Rampart St., 7:00 p.m.

DAILY

Wanna Play Baseball? — Summer soft ball organizing now. Contact Al at the Cuckoo's Nest (949-NEST) or Loretta at The Clinic (522-1585).

AA — 2 p.m. Monday-Friday, St. Louis Community Center, 1022 Barracks St.

Lambda Center — a gay center for AA, NA, Alanon meetings, 1214 N. Rampart St., 523-9808. AA — 8:00 p.m. every night, Noon Sun., Mon., & Wed., 10:30 p.m. Sunday, 11:30 p.m. Sunday; Alanon — (for family & friends of alcoholics) Noon Sun. & 8:00 p.m. Wed.; Narcotics Anonymous — 8:00 p.m. Mon. & Thurs; Midnight Fri., Noon Saturday. Everyone always welcome!

Party Time

FRIDAY, May 25

De Sade & Men — host a Beer Bust, Paw Paw's, 700 Burgundy St., 10 p.m.-1 a.m.

Beer Bust — at the Filling Station, 642 N. Rampart St., midnight-3 a.m.

SATURDAY, May 26

Afternoon Brew — The Phoenix, 941 Elysian Fields, 4-7 p.m.

Afternoon Brew II — The Louisiana Purchase, 740 Dauphine St., 3 p.m.

Afternoon Brew III — Paw Paw's, 700 Burgundy St., 3-6 p.m.

SUNDAY, May 27

A Little Bubbly — Champagne Bust, Brompton's, 1431 Royal St., 1-5 p.m.

Afternoon Brew — Paw Paw's Beer Bust, 700 Burgundy St., 3 p.m. til?

An Institution — Jewel's Beer Bust, 1207 Decatur St., 6 p.m.

Westbank Beer Bust — The I Beam, 1302 Allo,

Marrero, 3-7 p.m.

Free Eats — Buffet at the Cuckoo's Nest, 2128 St. Claude, starting at 4 p.m.

MONDAY, May 28

World's Longest — Beer Bust, that is, Brompton's, 1430 Royal St., 8 p.m.-2 a.m.

TUESDAY, May 29

An Evening with Brew — Paw Paws Beer Bust, 700 Burgundy, 8-11 p.m.

Westbank Beer Bust — The I Beam, 1302 Allo, Marrero, 8-11 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, May 30

Lancer's M.C. — hosts a Beer Bust at Partners, 718 N. Rampart St., 8-11 p.m.

Westbank Beer Bust — at The Backdoor, 827 Derbigny, Gretna, 8 p.m.-midnight.

THURSDAY, May 31

Knights d'Orleans — hosts a Beer Bust at The Filling Station, 642 N. Rampart, 8-11 p.m.

Culture/Entertainment

FRIDAYS/SATURDAYS

Ricky Graham, Becky Allen & Freddy Palmisano in "Bourbon Street Babylon" at the Stage Door Lounge of Le Moulin Rouge, 501 Bourbon St.

FRIDAYS thru SUNDAYS

Shows — at Play It Again Sam's, 740 Burgundy St. Call to find out what's playing.

FRIDAY, May 25

Jazz Festival — at Liggett & Meyer Amphitheatre, World's Fair, 8 p.m.

Symphony — New Orleans Philharmonic ends its season with Haydn's *Mass No. 9* and Poulenc's *Glória*, at the Orpheum, 8 p.m.

SATURDAY, May 26

Jazz Festival Continues — at the amphitheatre, World's Fair, 2 & 8 p.m.

SUNDAY, May 27

Last Day for the Jazz Festival — Amphitheatre at the World's Fair site, 2 & 8 p.m.

THURSDAY, May 31

Sandy Hansen at the Stage Door Lounge of Le Moulin Rouge, 501 Bourbon St., 11:30 til?

DAILY

Tours — of private French Quarter patios, 10:30 a.m. and 3 p.m., Patios Unlimited, 566-0088.

"Spirit World" — Photographs and Journal of Michael P. Smith, the Presbytere, Jackson Square, 751 Chartres St., 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Closed Mondays.

"Louisiana Exploration and Settlement" — The Presbytere, Jackson Square, 751 Chartres St., 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Closed Mondays.

"Carnivals in New Orleans" — The Old Mint, 400 Esplanade, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Closed Mondays and state holidays.

"New Orleans Jazz" — The Old Mint, 400 Esplanade, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Closed Mondays and state holidays.

The Sun King — Exhibit of Louis XIV at the Cabildo, through November 11. Daily except Mondays and state holidays.

French Quarter Follies — Sheraton New Orleans, 500 Canal St., shows at 9 and 11 p.m., Mon.-Sat., reservations recommended.

Art Showing — the works of William Traylor, Henry Speller, David Butler, at the Fine Arts Gallery, University of New Orleans, Lakefront, 8-4:30, Mon.-Fri.

Germaine S. Wells Exhibit — Arnaud's Restaurant, 813 Bienville, showing the fine collection of Mardi Gras memorabilia of the late Germaine Wells.

Open Air Concerts — in the French Market, 1 p.m., Sat. and Sun. Local musicians perform everything from jazz to gospel. At St. Philip St.

"One Mo' Time" — A famous review of 1920's show music, Toulouse Cabaret Theatre, 615 Rue Toulouse, 7:30 & 10:30 p.m. Tuesday-Sundays, and also 12:30 a.m. on Friday and Saturday.

Western Art — Best Western art showing at the New Orleans Museum of Art. Closed Mondays.

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