

Vatican IV Convenes Tomorrow

LAS VEGAS -- Her Holiness Pope Madonna II will officially convene the Fourth Vatican Conference of the Holy Roman Catholic Church, Inc., tomorrow, welcoming delegates from around the world. In a break with centuries of tradition, the conference is being held in Las Vegas, Nevada, in the Grand Ballroom of the Caesar's Palace Hotel. Rome, the site of three previous Vatican conferences, was rejected for this gathering for a number of economic and practical reasons.

In explaining the change, Her Holiness said, "We were offered a much better hotel package in Vegas than we could get in Rome. Also, the Grand Ballroom at Caesar's is more comfortable than St. Peter's Basilica, and the sightlines are better for the delegates. The room is already wired for television coverage, which appealed to the networks and HBO." The cable giant is airing portions of the conference on a pay-per-view basis.

Pope Madonna also cited the interests of the conference's corporate sponsor as a reason for the switch. The meeting is officially titled the Bartles & Jaymes Wine Cooler Fourth Vatican Conference. Said Her Holiness, "Our sponsor wanted a U.S. time zone to increase viewership here in America. While we would have liked a spot in the Eastern time zone, the damned chiropractor's association refused to reschedule its convention in Atlantic City this week. But we'll get those bastards for that."

Delegate needs were also mentioned as being behind the venue switch. "Conference sessions are expected to run late," the Pope observed, "and I know from experience that Vegas is a 24 hour town. In Rome, you're lucky to find so much as a lousy espresso joint open after midnight. Here, the delegates will be able to party to dawn if they want to."

In the panel directive announcing the conference, Her Holiness expressed her belief that the church would avoid the problems experienced at the Sunsweet Prune Juice Third Vatican Conference, held in 1993. "The recognition at Vatican III of the equality of all humankind and resulting sexual integration of all church clerical positions and religious orders

is now universally accepted," said Pope Madonna. "At last, the Roman Catholic Church Inc. is prepared to march boldly into the 20th Century."

The conference is expected to address numerous issues raised by the complete sexual integration of all church positions and organizations, including the following:

† proposals for the establishment of a worldwide network of Vatican Day Care Centers to care for children of church clerics.

† increased funding for the Vatican Dating and Escort Service, established after the last conference to help church clerics find suitable romantic companions and spouses.

† increased funding for the Vatican Women's Clinic.

† proposal that the now confusing honorific titles of "Father", "Sister" and "Brother" be replaced by the universal generic titles "Parent" and "Sibling".

The conference is the first since the historic merger last year of the Roman Catholic Church, the Greek and Russian Orthodox Churches, and Mary Kay Cosmetics. The merger was financed by the largest junk bond offering in history, handled by the Wall Street firm of Solomon Brothers. However, the merger has created financial problems for the church that must be solved. Related issues to be addressed at the conference include:

† plans for expansion of church telemarketing efforts by establishing a 24 hour Vatican Shopping Channel.

† continued expansion of the recently introduced system for administering the sacrament of confession through the use of a 900 number.

† adoption of strategies to combat the anticipated hostile takeover of the Roman Catholic Church Inc. by the Japanese giant Mitsubishi.

† approval of a proposed joint venture with Citibank for a line of automated confessional machines that will be able to forgive a user's sins and to sell indulgences in exchange for a debit to the user's bank account or major charge card.

In addition to practical issues, the conference will also consider the following matters of faith:

† The proposal of Pope Madon-

na II, expected to win easy approval, to make the practice of spinal manipulations an excommunicable offense.

† the proposal to establish a separate order of space Jesuits, whose mission will be to claim foreign worlds in the name of the church and to convert alien pagans.

† the creation of new clerical position for inner city churches, to be known as "Rap Master".

† adoption of an official church position on the validity of the reported apparition known as "Our Lady of Milwaukee", who has reportedly appeared to regular patrons of a tavern on the east side of that city with the message, "I said Bud Light."

† the proposal to recognize the validity of the recently discovered 11th Commandment, translated by scholars studying previously secret copies of the Dead Sea Scrolls. The new commandment reportedly reads "Thou Shalt Not Take Life Too Seriously".

Knights of Mondu Solve JFK Assassination

[CLASSIFIED] -- Prince Mondu, the illegitimate son and rightful heir to the throne of LaPlace's Krewe du Monde, continues to parade in exile through the streets of the French Quarter since his banishment two years ago. Mondu and his Mystic Knights, returning this year for their second stumble with the Krewe du Vieux, will present their recently discovered final solution to the JFK conspiracy.

While previously suggested culprits have ranged from Fidel Castro to LBJ to the CIA, not to mention a full cast of others, Prince Mondu will debut his startling new theory right here in the Crescent City, home to the Mother of All Assassination Theories. Oliver Stonehead will certainly be paying close attention as Mondu points the finger, erasing any doubt that may remain as to the true identity of the assassins. Mondu is currently hot on the trail of these fickle fiends, and no one is beyond suspicion -- including our beloved City Councilwoman Dorothy Mae Taylor.

Hungry Russians Barely Makin' Groceries

MOSCOW -- "Better Fed Than Red" is the most commonly heard phrase around the hallowed walls of the Kremlin these days, as thousands of erstwhile Soviet citizens do their best to fill grocery carts among the empty shelves of Schwegmannov's and other grocery stores.

Modern vestiges of the ancient concept of beating swords into plowshares surface as plaintive citizens offer to trade nukes for cukes, and the new symbol of the realm, displayed in kitchens everywhere, is the Hammer and Pickle.

Many readers may be asking, "what do Russians eat, anyway?" The answer is simple: whatever they can get.

Conditions in the former superpower are so bad that many Russians hope to leave their native shores for the promise of a brighter future in foreign lands. Indeed, one early contingent has reportedly made it to the Crescent City of New Orleans, where they march the streets in roving bands, wearing long red underwear; or stand at the corner of busy intersections, holding signs that read "Will work for vodka".

One key factor that apparently attracted the starving Soviets to the queen city of the South was the widespread local popularity of red beans. Other attractions included red street cars along the riverfront, the popularity of Archie "The Redhead" Manning, and the city's infamous red light district.

In fact, the Russia - New Orleans connection is growing so strong that a popular rumor circulating in Moscow has Lenin's tomb being removed from the Red Square, where it is an embarrassment to officials of the new Commonwealth of States, and being relocated in St. Louis Cemetery #5.

"The whole situation has left us red-faced," said one official who asked not to be identified. "We'd love to unload the old fossil on someone else. A place like New Orleans, where the dead are more important than the living anyway, would be perfect."

Reaction at New Orleans' City Hall was mixed. Some City Council mem-

bers were said to be in favor of the plan; one even suggested placing Lenin's body in a tank at the New Orleans Aquarium. "At least that will be one exhibit that we know won't die on us," sources quoted the official as saying.

On the other hand, Councilwoman Dorothy Mae Taylor was reported to be against the move, on the grounds that the former Soviet leader represented an unwanted minority element.

In an effort to help alleviate the Russian food crisis, President Bush has offered to send thousands of cartons of Big Three car parts to the republics. "Japan told us to eat them," commented the President, "but golly, I think they would go down much better over there."

Back in New Orleans, sightings of red underwear in the streets were expected to peak (or peek) on the night of Saturday, February 15, in celebration of the Festival of the Krewe du Vieux, a bayou rite that coincides with the Russian observance of the feast day of St. Boris the Emaciated.

De Nile on De Mississippi

CAIRO ON DE BAYOU -- Although the great Pharaohs of Carnival, Comus and Momus, appeared to have been eternally preserved for the ages, Dorotiti, Queen of De Nile, decreed that their mummified remains must be unwrapped and turned into dust.

They petitioned the Queen not to disturb their dynasty, but all she replied was "Tut, Tut."

Big asp Dorotiti was clearly going to go barging in no matter what, and things were turning into a real Mess o' potamia. The whole situation was a big Mama Roux, and no one knew what to Sphinx any more.

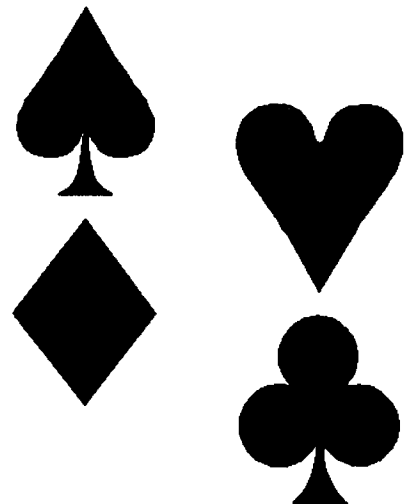
So, having lost their legions of eunuchs and dancing slave girls, not to mention their great protector Ramses, the pharaohs nevertheless took comfort in retorting, "We still have our balls."

Edwards Sells French Quarter; Pays Gambling Debt

LAS VEGAS EAST (also known as Baton Rouge) -- On assignment for the Gemini Visionary Society, investigative politically correct reporter Richard Angelica Huston uncovered information suggesting that new Governor Edwin Edwards intends to sell New Orleans' historic French Quarter to pay off Las Vegas gambling debts.

In a salute to the unlucky leader of our state, the Gems will create a floating crap game and other casino accoutrements to give spectators a feel of a typical day in the life of the governor of Louisiana. Gems, SPOGS (Sweetie Pies Of Geminis) and FOGS (Friends Of Geminis) will don Las Vegas attire and throw mini king cakes (yes, Virginia, you can eat 'em) to honor Edwin IV.

If luck is with us, the Geminis will roll the dice atop our Snake II's Wonder Float, the invention of the century that still gives Mr. Wizard nightmares. She walks, she rolls, she crawls on her belly like a bicycle. If you never see another Mardi Gras parade again in New Orleans (don't bet on it, Ms. DMT), then you'll never see the Gemini Visionary Society present "Edwin sells French Quarter, pays gambling debt".



Krewe Of Space Age Love to Reveal Secret Comus Parade Theme

NEW ORLEANS -- The Krewe of Space Age Love announced today that they will reveal the theme of the canceled Comus parade during their own march with the Krewe du Vieux. While Krewe officials refused to say where or how they had acquired such top-secret information, inside sources said the legendary "Deep Float" had been the leak.

Upon hearing the news, City Councilwoman Dotty Mae Taylor was reportedly beside herself, a scary thought indeed.

Extra Top Secret Map of the 1992 Comus Parade Route

The Decline of Mardi Gras

NEW ORLEANS -- Seeds of Decline? New Orleans Mardi Gras? Dorothy Mae Taylor? Is there a connection? Only if the Seeds sown by Dorothy Mae and the parade of the Krewe du Vieux are both symbols of the declining traditions of Mardi Gras. No doubt! Momus and Comus have taken their balls and gone home, while the Seeds of Decline takes the rabble and the perverse to the street. These lumpenproletariat even imagine themselves as much the social muckety-mucks and political satirists as old Momus himself.

While choosing a theme for the Seeds of Decline marching group, it became evident that the decline of much more than Mardi Gras was at hand. In the mist of smoke and jumble of Schaefer, Budweiser, Busch and Bush, our illustrious captain (who, in the tradition of Momus, will remain anonymous) belched and maintained disorder.

On to new business, Michael Jackson's new hit "Black or White" and whether this could be incorporated into Dorothy's view of Kansas (this isn't Kansas, it's New Orleans). The suggestion was to build a paper maché Michael Jackson icon and drag him through the French Quarter singing to the tourists and locals "Am I

black or white, am I man or woman." Everyone loved it, which is probably why it won't be used.

At her womanship the Captain's request, we all relinquished our grip on our beer cans and raised our hands to speak when recognized. We finally decided to paint half our faces one color (purple? green? gold?) and the other a different color. Someone even suggested we wear men's clothes on one side and women's clothes on the other. Shoot, why not be four different groups at once? The room went wild! People wanted Serbs and Croats in the parade. I even suggested a Jew from Chalmette, but dropped the idea when we couldn't find a Palestinian at Rocky & Carlo's.

We came up with a banner indicating the segments of our multi-cultural, mixed up krewe. In the interests of inclusion, we will carry want-ads to fill in the missing pieces of the pie, to satisfy our politically correct "Dorothy's Taylor-Mae'd Parade".

But what about our friends in the animal kingdom? After all, Dorothy might want to bring Toto, if she decides to join our parade.

Now, as far as the future of Mardi Gras is concerned, I think I'll decline to answer that one.

March with
The Krewe of Kosmic Debris
Fat Tuesday at Noon
Forming at 534 Frenchmen St.
Everyone Welcome!

The Wilder Tchoupitoulas: Equal Opportunity Mardi Gras Indians

DOWN BY THE RIVER -- Conforming to the age old tradition of a racially mixed Mardi Gras krewe, L.E.W.D. will march with its multi-national ensemble of weird degenerate Indians. Indians from almost every country (Italy, Israel, Ireland, Uzbekistan, Klingon, Louisiana, among others) will parade in native costumes.

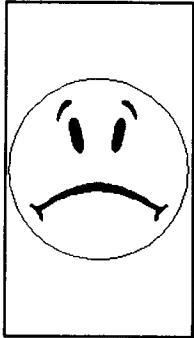
Guided by its revered leader, Big Chief Golden Blonde, L.E.W.D. will march to the stirring strains of its traditional anthem, "My Big Chief is a Golden Blonde".

Like so many other aspects of Carnival, controversy seems to have attached itself to the Wilder Tchoupitoulas, who are being accused in certain city council circles of being politically incorrect. "They should call themselves 'Mardi Gras Native Americans'" huffed one unnamed but certainly easy enough to guess City Councilwoman-At-Very-Large.

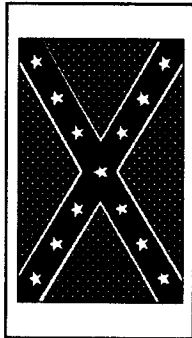
The brave braves displayed few fears of retribution. "Our only real concern is being taken prisoner by the horse-riding N.O.P.D. cowboys and being sent back to our reservation," observed one deluded L.E.W.D.

Society Pages

Taylor - Duke Nuptials Set



Taylor



Duke

BUCKTOWN -- The parents of Dorothy Mae Taylor and David Duke are pleased to announce the engagement of their children.

Ms. Taylor, a well-known member of the New Orleans City Council, is an honors graduate of the Al Sharp-ton School of Politics, Ethnic Relations and Carnival Studies, from which she received her degree in Self-Righteousness.

Mr. Duke, the ubiquitous candidate for public office, is a graduate of the White Studies Program at the University of Berlin. He is the grandson of the late A. Hitler, a famous international merger and acquisitions specialist of the late thirties and early forties who, together with the recently defunct firm of J. Stalin & Associates, attempted -- unsuccessfully -- a hostile take-over of the world. Mr. Duke remains gainfully unemployed as usual, counting on his current candidacy for the Presidency to be profitable if not necessarily politically successful.

Friends of the couple have suggested that they might run for office together, creating a political as well as a personal union.

Plans for the wedding are incomplete as of yet, as Mr. Duke attempts to remember exactly which church it is he belongs to. However, the popular swing band "Demagogues in Heat" is expected to perform at the post-

nuptial reception.

Sources say that the couple's honeymoon plans will take them to the Republic of South Africa for a tour of the scenic townships and white enclaves, and then onto a pilgrimage to selected Central and Eastern European historical sites, including Treblinka, Buchenwald and Auschwitz. Upon returning home, the newlyweds will reside at the groom's heavily fortified, tax-free home in Bucktown.

Tit 'N' Tat

A Socially Unconscious Column by
Miss E, Queen, Krewe of the Mystic Inane & Mario, Princess, Krewe of the Mystic Inane

UPTOWN (Where else?) -- Political debate recently replaced queenly reparté at the den of the Krewe of the Mystic Inane. "Enough is enough!" cried **Robby Haywood**, Co-Captain. "Expose them for what they are!" screamed inebriated Co-Captain **Terri Blakeney**. The remainder of the Krewe was heard to chant "Strip 'em naked! Strip 'em naked!"

Heated discussion of the Klan drove the usually sedated group into a frenzy. "They're nothing but trash," snickered **Jeffrey "Olive" Melton**, "but I'd still like to strip 'em naked." Members of the elite clique had not been this agitated since Elvis died.

Shrouded in a cloud of P.M.S., **Alvina Mae Massey** grumbled, "Let's not talk about these clowns any more." But it was too late. As if by singular mind an idea was born: Ku Klux Klowns.

At the meeting's close heavy appetites were sated by ever-popular Irish Channel (not Disney Channel) chef **Dale Collier's** original potted meat sculptures and weenie stew. A good time was had by all.

Society Shocker: **Bashful Talks:** **"Snow White is Dwarf Tossing"**

ENCHANTED FOREST -- In a shocking interview that is a *Le Monde de Merde* exclusive, Bashful, one of the seven live-in companions to well-known socialite Snow White, has alleged that the fairy tale heroine has forced her companions to indulge her fondness for the sport of dwarf-tossing.

"She has a serious problem," Bashful said from his bed in Enchanted Forest General Hospital. "She's always sneaking up on one of us and throwing us across the room. Also," he continued, "she runs around the house singing 'Hi-ho, hi-ho, let's see how far you go.'"

It is not known how Ms. White was first introduced to dwarf tossing, a sport that originated in the pubs of Australia. However, reports from reliable sources confirmed that the renowned cartoon star has suffered from an addiction to the sport for some time. "We've lived in terror of this woman for years," said one dwarf who insisted upon remaining anonymous. "Thank God Bashful had the courage to speak up."

Bashful claims that Ms. White used her superior size to force her companions to allow her to indulge her secret passion. "She's much bigger than any of us," he said, "and we soon found out that resisting only made her that much more determined. Putting up a struggle only meant you got tossed even farther."

According to Bashful, he decided to speak out after sustaining serious lacerations, requiring numerous stitches, in his latest tossing by Ms. White. "She was really on a roll last night," he stated. "She threw me all the way across the room and right into the Magic Mirror. There was broken glass everywhere -- I could have bled to death."

Bashful is not the only one of Ms.
(continued on page 6)

Snow White: Dwarf Tossing

(continued from page 5)

White's tiny companions to sustain serious injury as a result of her violent hobby. Unconfirmed reports say that Sneezy now suffers from permanent nasal congestion after breaking his nose in one particularly vicious toss that sent him crashing into a wall. Another of the dwarves, Sleepy, has sustained the most injuries because he was the most frequent object of Ms. White's hurling desires. According to Bashful, "Sleepy was her favorite. He was easy prey, because he kept falling asleep. I can't begin to tell you how many times the poor fellow woke up in a heap across the room from where he nodded off. Fortunately, Doc was



Still photo taken from amateur videotape showing Snow White in one of her dwarf-tossing frenzies.

always around to patch him up."

Bashful does acknowledge that not all of his cohorts were harmed by their experiences. "Maybe it's because of all the blows to the head he absorbed, but Dopey does seem smarter now," Bashful admitted. "Also, Grumpy seems much happier, but his therapist says that's because he harbors a secret desire to be dominated by a strong female figure."

Several of the dwarves are consid-

ering legal action against Snow White, according to Bashful. "We've been in touch with attorney Morris Bart, and he assures us that he's represented plenty of people with problems like ours and they've all gotten big checks," said the pint-sized patient. "I like Morris, he says he's on our side."

Ms. White is reportedly staying at the local castle of Prince Charming and could not be reached for comment. However, a palace spokes-elf denied Bashful's charges and suggested that they may be an effort to deter a police investigation into a recently reported attempt to poison the fairy tale heroine.

When reached for comment, several of Ms. White's close relatives denied that they shared her penchant for this macabre sport. "Wheel of Fortune" hostess Vanna White, a second cousin, admitted that she does enjoy working with the diminutive Pat Sajak, but vigorously denied that she has ever been tempted "to throw him anywhere." Television actress Betty White, a great-aunt, conceded that she was once tempted to "chunk the hell out of Herve Villechez" when she appeared as a guest star on "Fantasy Island". However, she stated that, after years of extensive therapy and "avoiding anyone under four-foot-ten," she has conquered the urge. Comedian Slappy White, a distant uncle, did not return phone calls.

Bush Names Quayle Special Trade Representative

WASHINGTON -- President Bush announced today that Vice-President J. Danforth Quayle will be sent as his personal trade representative to Japan. When reached for comment at a Palm Springs golf course, Mr. Quayle expressed gratitude for the President's confidence in him and leapt immediately into his 280 Z.

When asked about his specific goals, Quayle replied that "Japan needs to open its markets to products such as Cracker Jacks and Mars Bars." He also said "the Nips need to understand that Detroit views building better, cheaper cars as an unfair trade practice under the GATT agreement."

Purifying Carnival Is A Bad Idea

NEW ORLEANS -- Carnival has forever been non-conforming, mocking orthodoxies of all kinds for 4000 years, respecting no individuals or institutions. What we are seeing now is the reduction of a very complex and ancient set of traditions to a very limited and dated set of political clichés.

Since before ancient Greece, Carnival embraced such pagan rituals as fertility rites, sacrifices, cross-dressing, orgies, feeding frenzies, blasphemy, vulgar extravagance, anarchy, and various ecstatic fantasies involving the appeasement of the gods.

These celebrations dealt with political and social issues by way of non-compliance and mockery, and they still do, including the satirical parades and other parodies we've seen in New Orleans over the years.

Trying to tailor these freewheeling insubordinations to someone's standards of political correctness is bound to fail, and certainly misses the point of Carnival completely: that for one or two days a year, people can be let alone to do as they please.

The Dorothy Mae Taylor ordinance leads to the contrary: conforming to the ethical norm even on the one occasion set aside to do otherwise. Even the popes gave up that fight.

Regarding supposed discrimination by the Mardi Gras krewes, I can only observe that, on the contrary, the parades belong to everyone present, and attest to the singular resilience and camaraderie of New Orleans' social fabric, which changes more comfortably and gradually than some would wish but without notable harm to anyone's particular aspirations.

Trying to purify Carnival would merely negate the oldest customs we retain that invoke for us the special significance of tribe, race, age, religion and class that keep life from becoming totally banal and prim.

Spare us -- male, female, black, white, straight, gay -- from having to toe the line for some politician. Carnival is no time to scold and badger people.

[The above is excerpted from a letter to the *Times-Picayune* by noted Carnival historian Blaine Butler, and is used by his permission]

Clay Pigeon Placed on Endangered Species List

WASHINGTON - The Environmental Protection Agency announced yesterday that it was placing the clay pigeon (*Shittibirdus Georgias*), also known as the skeet, on its endangered species list.

The move was made in response to the environmental action group Save The Skeet. STS President Doofus Legtrap, commenting on the EPA's action, said "No single flyer in America is on the receiving end of more potshots than the skeet, with possible exception of Edwin Edwards. We went after this listing with both barrels, if you'll pardon the phrase, and we scored a direct hit."

EPA Administrator William Reilly was unavailable for comment, reportedly due to problems cleaning up an oil slick in his bathtub. However, EPA spokeswoman Exxon Valdez said the listing would "ensure that the sound of these graceful objects whirring overhead will not be lost on future generations."

Opponents of the measure were quick to respond. Billy Joe Joystick, Environmental Impact Specialist for the NRBGA (National Really Big Gun Association), called the action "an absurd farce, another obscene instance of government knuckling under to the will of the people." However, Joystick said his organization would not appeal the listing. "We're looking for bigger and better targets anyway," he commented. "Greyhound buses, Nighthawk fighter planes, the space shuttle -- if it moves, we'll shoot it."

The threat to the clay pigeon has come from many sources, according to

the dropping-stained fact sheet released by the EPA. The skeet's natural habitat, the shooting range, is a disappearing American phenomenon, often displaced by malls, golf courses and suburban blight. Also cited as a factor was the replacement of the shotgun, traditionally the most popular skeet hunting weapon, by Uzis, AK-47s, and Scud Missiles.

"No species could stand up to this kind of onslaught without protection," said the EPA's Valdez, "with the possible exception of David Duke voters. But who would want to protect them anyway?"

Save The Skeet President Legtrap said his group was "almost unnaturally gratified" by the new status conferred upon the clay pigeon. "We're planning a big barbecue tonight to celebrate," he added.

Several other species are thought to be under EPA consideration for similar protection, including the Louisiana Reformer, the NFL Referee, the Incumbant New Orleans City Councilman, the Reagan Republican, the Well-Fed Russian, the Momus Knight, the Ethical Politician, and the Blonde.

Comus Pleads Guilty to Traditional Carnival

NEW ORLEANS -- In a surprise move, Comus pled guilty today to practicing traditional Carnival. As part of a plea-bargain, prosecutors agreed to drop charges of aggravated silk-stockingism and flambeauing in public. Sources said that the prosecution has also agreed to recommend that Comus be allowed to retain his cup and mask at least through next Carnival. As a community service, Comus is to replace his traditional orchestra with Walter "Wolfman" Washington and the Roadmasters.

Giant Mudslide Buries Louisiana

AUSTIN -- Scientists confirmed today that a massive mudslide, coming down the Mississippi to the Gulf of Mexico, has deposited the entire state of Louisiana in an enormous pile of debris on the Gulf floor.

As no geoscientists from Louisiana could be reached for comment, the exact cause of the slide is unknown. However, several theories have been proposed. Dr. Grantworth Millions, Bubba Bob Baker Professor of Geology and Cowchip Throwing at Texas A&M, said Louisiana had been significantly weakened in recent years by massive accumulations of debt, ignorance and toxic waste. "These factors, along with a rapid drop in state revenues and the way the earth moved when Edwin Edwards took office, just pushed that poor ol' state right off the edge," said Dr. Millions. "Hooey -- it musta been like ridin' one of them big ol' water slides right on down into the Gulf."

The process, known as "retrogressive slumping" or the "Duke-Taylor Effect", is believed to have been responsible for causing other famous submarine canyons, such as the Marianas Trench, the Irish Channel, and the 17th Street Canal.

While the mudslide appears to have been something of a setback for Louisiana, neighboring states could barely conceal their delight. Officials in Texas, Arkansas and Mississippi were assembling plans to develop the nearly 1000 miles of new coastline into hotels, condos and other typical waterfront eyesores. Little Rock has reportedly established a deep-water Port Authority, and Jackson MS has initiated a new tourism campaign billing itself as "the new Miami".



C.R.U.D.E. Gives Good Headlines

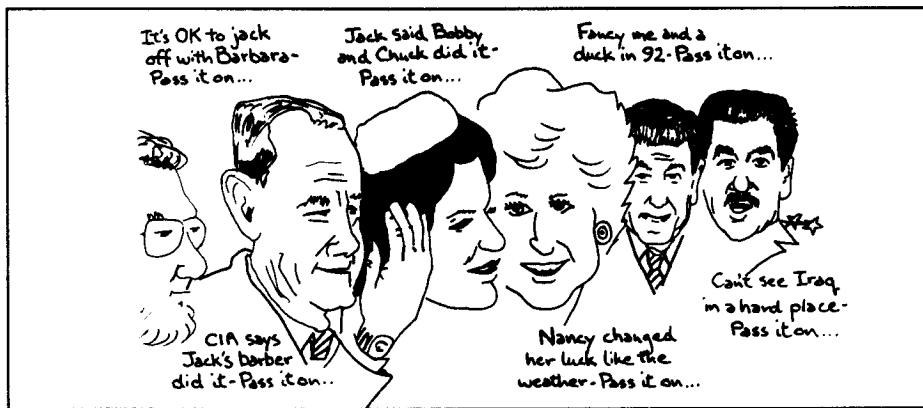
DA QUARTERS -- In keeping with our tradition, the Council to Revive Urban Decadent Entertainment once again walks the fine line between poor taste and no taste. Aptly described by a disgruntled critic, this "bunch of preppie assholes trying to be cool" has no substance but can cover the superficial in great depth. While Krewe du Vieux Rights the News, C.R.U.D.E. gives good headlines -- and hopes we won't be slapped with a gag order.

We can't be bothered with details, and don't quote us, but our headlines will rival those of *The Star*, *The Globe* and *The Enquirer* for verisimilitude. We'll have it all -- all the news that isn't fit to print (and we won't), the innuendo you thought you heard, the rampant rumor, the apolitical satire, headlines of the noun and renown, of the past and the future.

Samples of what you may see:

- ⇒ Dorothy Mae Bears Duke's Love Child; Friends Say They Met At The Burning Crossroads
- ⇒ Japan Bombs Detroit, Uses Chrysler Products; Photos by Nikon
- ⇒ Michael Jackson Has 14th Dermabrasion: He's Bad (To The Bone)
- ⇒ Dorothy Mae Taylor: "Let Them Eat King Cake"
- ⇒ Sheriff Harry Lee Says Accused Rapist Has No DNA
- ⇒ Bush: "I've Fallen And I Can't Throw Up!"
- ⇒ Dorothy Mae Taylor Vows: "Christmas Is Next!"
- ⇒ Lone Assassin in JFK Slaying Revealed: D.A. Jim Garrison
- ⇒ Mayor Barthelemy Found Dead in Office; Unavailable for Comment
- ⇒ Cure Found For AIDS; FDA Withholds Approval, Says it Causes Male-Pattern Baldness
- ⇒ David Duke Buys Convenience Store Chain: Circle KKK
- ⇒ Dorothy Mae Taylor: "Don't Play That Funky Music, White Boy"
- ⇒ Aunt Jemima to Star in Latest Urban Flick: "New Flapjack City"

Be sure to look for C.R.U.D.E. on the streets: we're the Krewe with the truth (or at least its second cousin, once removed) written on our foreheads. Headlines will roll!



Queen Dotty Fiddles, Burns

(continued from page 1)

ferred to make Ms. Taylor a Maid, complete with ceremonial mop and broom; however, snotty Dotty declined the invite.

Mayor Sidney Barthelemy tried to intervene by taking a nap, but awoke to find the crisis still raging. "Rats," said Hizzoner. "Does this mean I have to take action?"

While Simple Sidney puzzled out an official response to the problem, several other organizations announced plans to postpone, cancel or relocate their Mardi Gras functions. Among others, the New Orleans Saints will wait until next year to win a playoff game; the Streets Department will stop filling potholes; and Edwin Edwards will move the Governor's Mansion to Caesar's Palace.

In fact, as of press time, only the plucky Krewe du Vieux was sure to stick to its original parade plan. Said Krewe Captain Plaine Kern, "As you can tell by one look at our members, we don't discriminate at all, based on race, sex or perversion, so we figured we'd go ahead and roll." Since this may be the last desperate gasp of true Carnival, all citizens and visitors are encouraged to attend this all-out celebration of satire, irreverence, and plain old bad taste.

Jean Dixon's predictions will not be published today due to her unexpected death.

Death of Soviet Union Reported

MOSCOW -- Dead at the age of 74, after a prolonged struggle with humanity and common sense, is the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. The Soviet Union was born on November 17, 1917 in Petrograd, now St. Petersburg, formerly Leningrad. The parents were Marxism and the late Russian Empire, both of which contributed to Mr. Union's best-known traits: massive bureaucracy, social oppression, militarism, and economic backwardness.

Mr. Union had been suffering from *perestroika* and *glasnost* for several years, aggravated by setbacks in Afghanistan and the Balkans. Those closest to him said it was a relief to see him go.

Mr. Union is survived by Russia, the Ukraine, Armenia, and numerous other republics whose names change frequently and are almost impossible to spell. Family members asked that food be sent in lieu of flowers.

COA Statement

Le Monde de Merde is offered by the Krewe du Vieux in the true spirit of Carnival as a venue for satire and political comment. The views expressed herein may not reflect those of krewe leaders or all krewe members. They are designed to entertain and provoke thought. Besides, ain't none of us got nothin' worth suing for. All material © 1992 by the Krewe du Vieux