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Being away at school doesn’t mean you lose your power to vote. Call the Louisiana Secretary of State at (504) 342-7319. Find out how easy it is to vote by absentee ballot.
Wheeeeeee!

Young and old practice their wheelies as LSU and Baton Rouge go bicycle crazy.

LSU Triathletes, Mike Volt (left) and Rich Sharp (right) compete on River Road.

Photo by Lennart Larson

By Lennart Larsson
Did you ever ride a bicycle? Sounds like a silly question, doesn’t it? Just about everyone knows how to ride a bike, and the trend these days seems to be that more people are making use of the skill that they first learned on the driveway back home at about age six. Chances are that the bicycle was the first vehicle many of us ever mastered, if we disregard the tricycle.

Today, people are using bicycles for a variety of purposes. Some go to work or school on them, others take them off-road to experience nature and exercise at the same time, and some are involved in competitive biking. Bicycle racing in one form or another is one of the oldest Olympic sports in the modern era. Newer developments include the triathlon (swimming, biking, and running combined) and the biathlon (biking and running).

The Gumbo Magazine talked with people around LSU and Baton Rouge who have made biking a part of their lives. In this article, they tell us about some of their experiences.

The Dealer

The tougher and more durable mountain bikes are taking over LSU’s campus, and Brent DeLoach is happy to provide them. The owner of World Class Bicycles on Lee Drive, DeLoach says the campus market is big on racing bikes as well, but the mountain bike sales are rising more.

“It’s gotten to the point where the manufacturers are cutting back on the number of racing bike models and are putting out more mountain bikes instead,” he says. “The traditional 10-speed bike is slowing down, and I think that’s a trend that will be going on for a couple of more years.”

Butler Murrell of The Bicycle Shop says he sells about 90 ATB’s (all terrain bikes) for every one racing bike at his Highland Road store.

However, a college campus environment does not necessarily represent the general population, says Kathryn Ryan, a sales representative from Ryan’s Schwinn Cyclery in Alexandria, where ATB’s and road racing bikes are selling about 50-50.

“Probably there would be more mountain bikes on a college campus,” Ryan says. “Sales trends like this usually begin in California, then they move to college campuses, and later you can see the trend in the general population. I would speculate that the rate of ATB’s to road bikes in California is about 80 to 20 right now.”

Murrell estimates 90 percent of his customers are LSU students or faculty, and says that for every 10 customers he serves, about seven are male.

That seems to hold for other parts of the state as well. Ryan says that substantially more of her customers are male.

“There are very few ladies who are campus riders or commuters,” DeLoach says.

Simple observation seems to confirm this. An entirely unscientific study of the bikers passing by the Student Union building during 30 minutes at lunch time on an October Thursday showed that the vast majority were male. Of the 31 bikers that passed, the distribution was as follows:

* Males on ATB’s: 16
* Females on ATB’s: Two
* Males on racing bikes: 10
* Females on racing bikes: Three

That’s a total of 26 to five, or about five male campus bikers for every one female biker.

DeLoach sees other developments than the male/mountain bike domination facing the market in the near future. Looking for speed and durability, people are starting to demand a combined racing/mountain bike which is known as the “hybrid” in bicycle lingo.

“The typical commuter does not need the weight and sturdiness of the traditional mountain bike, but he likes the straight handle bar and the durable tires,” he says. “He also wants the speed that you can get from a good 10-speed, so you’re going to see a combination of the two hit the market in greater numbers soon.”

Another interesting aspect of biking is the bike polo that is starting up in different parts of the country, says DeLoach. Using ATB’s instead of horses, innovative bikers have found a new way to use their vehicles.

“It would give people with mountain bikes something to get together and do on a Sunday afternoon,” he says. “It would be really fun to get a bike polo college series started here.”

The Commuter

Trying to get from A to B on LSU’s campus can be annoying, especially if it means walking from an 8:30-class in CEBA to a 9:30-class in the School of Music building. Getting on and off campus in a car can be equally difficult, with rush hour traffic jams and packed parking lots.

Some students solve the dilemma by biking to school. It makes for easier and quicker transportation than walking or driving, most commuter bikers think. However, there are disadvantages too. Bikers fear cars driving too close or turning in front of them, and pedestrians complain about bikers in the wrong places, such as the quad or on sidewalks.

Despite the controversy, biking remains one of the faster and easier (and cheaper) methods of getting around for the college student. Greg Jeansonne, an LSU senior, uses an Outpost mountain bike (“they don’t get flats”) to get him where he’s going. He says his fraternity friends leave the house to catch the bus to class much earlier than he does, “but I get on my bike and beat them there all the time.” For Jeansonne, there is no question which is the better mode of transportation.

“Biking is convenient,” he says. “I get all the conveniences of walking, without the exertion.”

Senior Cheryl Wilson uses her $89 Huffy commuter bike to get from her apartment to class and practice every day. Though a competitive spirit, Wilson has no place for race biking in her life. A runner-up in the heptathlon at the 1989 NCAA national track and field championships and a member of LSU’s national championship winning track team, she thinks of the bike only as a way to save her legs for practice and still go places.

“I ride my bike because I don’t have a car,” Wilson says. “If I had a car, I’d be driving.”
"You have to be really careful biking in traffic on campus. There are just so many people out there."

Zipping up the front of her Sports Festival wind jacket on a sunny afternoon at Bernie Moore Stadium, she says: "It may not be windy out today, but when you’re riding it’s always windy."

The Veteran

You don’t have to be young and strong to get into biking. Old and determined will do the trick too, as Bruce Edwards has shown.

Edwards, 65, started biking in 1970 when he and his Raleigh 10-speed joined the Baton Rouge Bicycle Club.

"I had seen some bicycles advertised, and I thought it would be fun to try it," says the graying but fit-looking New Orleans native.

The biggest inspiration, however, might have been his friend Fonville Winans, a well-known portrait photographer and one of the organizers of the BRBC. Winans rode his bike to work a lot, and Edwards says that inspired him to get involved with biking. Even though he fell on his first ride, and despite doubting his abilities at first, Edwards is still biking.

"I thought, ‘Well, Bruce, you can’t do this kind of stuff, you’re too old. This is for kids’," Edwards says. "But then I saw this little old fat man, he must have been about 75 years old, and he was biking really well. He didn’t look athletic at all, and I thought, ‘If he can do it, I can too.’ A couple of years later, I did a 100 mile ride."

An avid cyclist since, Edwards has done several biathlon competitions (running and biking combined), raced or toured in many places including Arizona, Maine, Florida, and Texas, and won the Louisiana Veteran Championship in his age group. His best time in the "century," as the 100-mile ride is commonly known, is 5 hours, 56 minutes.

Edwards first got into biathlon after a break from biking in the late ’70s, when he took up jogging and later realized he could combine the two.

"I met a lot of new people who were combining running and biking," Edwards says. "I saw some who obviously could be a lot better bikers than runners, and I told them so."

One of the runners he saw was Elaine Gomez, a former track distance ace for LSU. She took Edwards’ advice and is now reportedly riding professionally in Austin, Texas.

Edwards, a retiree from the highway department, has seen biking develop during his almost 20 years with the sport. For him, it has meant moving up to a 15-speed Fuji which he uses both for touring and competition.

"The bikes have been tremendously improved," he says. "They are so much lighter now than they used to be."

As for the people in the sport, Edwards says they are the same kind of people now as they were when he started. The bikers tend to separate themselves into two groups: the competitive bicyclist and the touring biker, he says.

"The interest in biking fell off in the early ’80s," Edwards says, "but it’s coming back strong now."

A victim of a recent wreck in a biathlon race, Edwards has some ideas on how to make biking safer for everyone.

"Everybody should wear a helmet," he says with conviction. "Falling is no fun, and it happens very fast. If I hadn’t worn a helmet, I could have been killed. Also, I think seats for children on the back of bikes should be looked at very carefully. I don’t think they are a good idea, because the kids are totally unprotected back there."

A major goal for this active age-group athlete is the 1991 track and field World Veteran Championships in Turku, Finland. Staying in shape, whether it involves biking or running, or both, is a way for Edwards to get more out of life.

"I want to enjoy the places I go to and the things I see," he says. "If I have to be able to ride 40 miles hard in the mountains to be fit, that’s what I’ll do."

The Road Racer

Bicycle road racing has a special sort of charm, but few people at LSU seem to know about it if you look at the participation in Leisure Sport’s Intramural Racing Club. From a high point of 35 members in 1985, the club has shrunk to six enthusiasts, says club president Chris Bowler.

"Many wanted to get in," Bowler says of the club start in 1982, "but they didn’t stick with it. It takes a lot of time and effort to be competitive, and not everybody is ready to make the commitment."

Lots of time, indeed. Bowler says anyone who wants to be competitive in road racing will need to practice about 350 miles a week, although it is not necessary to be looking for
competition to join the club initially. The so-called criterium, racing laps on a closed course in a city, takes about the same amount of practice time. Bowler says the challenge may be one reason why few women, at LSU and elsewhere, get into competitive biking.

“There is even sex distribution at the recreational level, but there are not enough women who are serious about the competitive aspect of biking,” he says. “That’s the irony of it all, because men have to start at a much younger age to be good in the long run than women do. There are women coming from other sports, like speedskating, and they make the national team in road racing.”

Bowler mentions a 31-year-old female speedskater who made the national team recently. Even though it is harder to do the same in the men’s division, the male counterpart would be five-time Olympic gold medalist speedskater Eric Heiden, who after the 1984 Lake Placid Olympic Games became a successful bicyclist.

There are some outstanding female road racers from Louisiana, however. Baton Rouge native Elaine Gomez has been on the national team and was an alternate in the 1988 Olympic Games, Bowler says.

Many traditional summer sports see European competitors travel to the United States for training during parts of the year. Not so with biking. Instead, Americans make the trip to Europe to develop and to race in high-level meets. Big meets like the Tour de France attract the very best from the U.S. as well as Europe, and American Greg Lemoide who won the Tour in 1989 has lived in Europe for years.

Bowler says the win helped in boosting interest for the sport in the U.S. even though ABC, which had covered most of the Tour, missed showing the final day of the race.

“Cycling is a big sport in Europe,” Bowler says. “It’s like Little League baseball in the States — everybody’s doing it, and they start at an early age.”

There are road racers from Louisiana who go to Europe to race and train, Bowler says. The consensus among serious bikers is that you have to do altitude training in order to be competitive, and that necessarily means leaving the state.

For competitive biking, Bowler suggests that a $300 - $400 racing bike is a good start. However, it’s not the equipment that makes the biker, he says. An inexpensive bike can still be fast, if the right person is riding it.

“We were training down on River Road with a guy who was a speed skater on roller skates,” Bowler says. “I was on my racing bike and he was on his $120 department store special, and you couldn’t lose him for nothing. He just had the strength.”

The Risks

No sport is free from risks, and biking is no exception. Anyone who has experienced a fall from a bike, or being hit by a car, knows it can happen in an instant. Biking on campus roads is especially hazardous with narrow streets and lots of traffic and pedestrians.

The most common injuries related to biking on campus are broken arms and having the skin scraped off legs and face when falling or being knocked off the bike, according to Student Health Center records. Clara Franklin of Medical Records at the infirmary said the injuries are usually painful but not very serious. The accidents are usually not caused by reckless driving or biking, but rather attributable to road conditions, she said.

“To be truthful, on this campus, I don’t know how to avoid the accidents,” Franklin said. “They are not caused by the people driving or biking, there’s just not enough room. The streets aren’t wide enough.”

Franklin said the Student Health Center receives more victims of biking accidents during the summer months, but that the total average of accidents is as low as about 10 per semester.

LSU Police Captain Connie Swain estimated about 12 accidents involving a bike and another vehicle are reported to LSU Police during any given semester. There are no separate statistics kept for accidents involving bikes specifically, so no official figures are available, he said.

Joe Nicolosi of the Baton Rouge Physical Therapy Clinic said recreational bikers usually come to him for treatment following “all sorts of crashing.” In nine out of 10 cases, this involves shoulder injuries like a shoulder separation, he said. Other common problems are neck injuries, lower back tightness and knee pains.

“Those types of problems usually come from being in a constant position on the bike for a long time, and they can be fixed by changing the position,” Nicolosi said.

Nicolosi treats triathletes and people who combine biking and running, but more seldom sees the “true cyclist.” He said women tend to take better care of themselves and need less treatment than men, but men and women are about equally represented among his patients.

To reduce the risk of injuries in biking, Nicolosi said the advanced bikers should know how to get their feet out of the toe clips quickly in case of an accident when they need to get off the bike in a hurry. Having your feet caught on the pedals in a fall greatly increases the risk of serious injury, he said.

“Also, all bikers should pay attention to the road and know the terrain where they are riding,” he said. “You have to look for the pot holes.”

Apart from crashing, one of the biker’s nightmares is having the bike stolen. A good lock is usually a good way to prevent this from happening, but sometimes it is not enough. Bike dealers encourage customers to buy a quality lock (called “Gorilla,” “The Great Protector,” “Kryptonite,” or some other of the fantastic brand names around) and use the quick release feature for the front wheel in order to lock all parts of the bike to a rack. Butler Murrell of The Bicycle Shop said the best way to prevent having the wheels picked off your bike, and still not have to take them off yourself, is to lock the bike to a rack and run a cable through the wheels and the lock.
All the same, bikes are stolen. Police patrols make several arrests every semester when juvenile offenders are found trying to steal bikes at night, Swain said.

"If an officer sees someone tampering around a bicycle rack on campus, he will look into it," Swain said. Thirty-five bikes were reported stolen with LSU Police from January through June of last year, up from 27 for the last six months in 1988 but low compared to the 80 stolen bikes in the first half of 1988.

"If the trend keeps up (for the rest of 1989), it looks like we’ll do a lot better in ’89 than we did in ’88," Swain said.

In the meantime, the advice is clear: if you want to keep it, you’d better lock it well.

The Touring Cyclist

Picture a more laid-back version of a competitive cyclist, one who stops on the side of the road to look at things that interest him, or her, rather than racing for the goal line as fast as possible.

That’s a fairly accurate description of the typical tour biker. And even though they use the same mode of transportation, the tour biker and the competitive cyclist don’t combine interests a whole lot, says tour biker Al Troy.

Just back from an eight-day, 320-mile tour in Wisconsin, Troy says: "There doesn’t seem to be a lot of racers that tour also. Either you race or you tour."

Troy started tour biking in 1972 when back problems kept him from his two favorite sports, tennis and waterskiing. In 1980 he got serious about it when he "married someone who really was into the same thing."

Having toured in Maine, Vermont, Nova Scotia and British Columbia, among other places, Troy and his wife go on all tours together. Troy says more men than women are involved in this type of activity. However, he considers it a sport well suited for women and says they generally can be as good riders as the men.

"Bicycling is easy on the body, there are no shocks to the joints," he says. "You don’t have to be perfectly fit, you just gauge your time and pace yourself accordingly."

A former president of the Baton Rouge Bicycle Club, Troy represents the club on the recently created Louisiana Bicycle Advisory Committee. The committee is seeking ways to develop and promote bicycle touring, promote tourism, and assess the future of bicycling in Louisiana. One of the steps on the way will be to create a map outlining good touring routes in the state, Troy says.

"There’s a lot of good places to tour bike in Louisiana, but we don’t have a bike map," he says. "This state has the least interest in biking in the country. It’s not really a ‘hot’ activity here, and I don’t know why. You can ride here all year around."

Troy contrasts this lack of interest to the enthusiasm for the sport shown by biking organizations like the Bikacenten-
Louisiana State Championships, the race is contested over 120 laps, or 40 kilometers (about 25 miles).

"You have to be a serious biker to go out on the velodrome," Kerst says. "A track racer has to spend more time in the weight room than a road racer. If you want to be a national or Olympic level racer on the velodrome, you have to put in at least 30 hours a week of hard training."

Kerst, who will be giving weekend clinics in velodrome racing this summer, won't discourage anyone interested from trying, however. He says he coached two young boys on the track for six months, with one of them making it to the National Championships and finishing ninth.

Blessed with one of about a dozen Olympic size velodromes in the U.S., Baton Rouge is better off than most parts of the country. However, lack of funds due to advertising policies of the Department for Culture, Recreation, and Tourism (BREC) keep the Baton Rouge Bicycle Racing Club from putting on big meets to promote the sport, Kerst says.

"We need the money that advertising would bring," he says. "BREC does not try to get sponsors to advertise on the surface and on the boards around the track. That's the way it's done on other tracks, but BREC won't allow that."

However, Kerst says the Baton Rouge racers are better off now than before 1984 (the velodrome was constructed for the Sports Festival here), when the closest track was in Atlanta, Ga.

He says recently decreased interest in velodrome racing may have something to do with more people getting into triathlon and biathlon, leaving other bicycle-related sports with less participants.

A determined and serious biker who owns two mountain bikes, one time-trial bike for both road and track, one track bike and one road bike, Kerst still says: "It's a lot of fun, that's what it's all about."

The Mountain Biker

His bike and body covered with mud and leaves, Craig Prejean pedals up the final hill of the trail and stops.

"Look, I've got a wreath around my foot," he shouts to his friends, inspecting a wad of leaves and weed clinging to his ankle. "I just got the Golden Leaf Award for best rider."

There are some sports that from the outset seem to be reserved for the rough and ready, and serious mountain biking, or all-terrain biking, certainly seems to be one of them. But you don't have to ride the muddiest of trails or the steepest of inclines to enjoy this form of biking, which is proven by the sharp increase in sales of mountain bikes in the past few years.

"Mountain bikes are dominating the bicycling industry," says competitive mountain biker Kiley Baham, an LSU architecture student. "They're outselling road bikes almost two to one."

Baham says more people are getting interested in this off-road type of biking because of the closeness to nature and the outdoor experience that it provides. The exercise comes with it, he says.

There was an estimated 200,000 mountain bikes in the U.S. six years ago, but that number is expected to grow to 10 million in 1990. But the increased number of bikers that take on the trails and the open ground in parks and public land have caused problems in some areas. According to a Wall Street Journal story, park officials and public land managers in California and Colorado are concerned with bikers taking over hiking trails and posing high-speed threats to backpackers. This danger is not as great in Louisiana however.

"We don't have as many people biking here as they do (in California), and we have bigger areas where people can ride," says Brent DeLoach of World Class Bicycles. The Department of Wildlife and Fisheries recently opened up wildlife management areas to all terrain biking, he says.

"Hunters here in Louisiana are starting to use the mountain bikes to get out to their hunting camps," DeLoach says. "The bikes are quiet, they don't give off any exhaust, and the hunters can get where they're going without tearing up the land with truck tires."

There are not a lot of hilly trails around here, especially in the southern part of the state, but Baham says there are still plenty of good places to ride.

"It's uneducated to say that you can't ride a mountain bike in Louisiana because it's flat," he says. "There are good trails out there, you just have to find them. Anywhere there's a river there's going to be hills and valleys cut out by the river, and that makes for great places to ride a mountain bike."

In the Baton Rouge area, Baham and his friends go to a trail off the Choctaw extension or a smaller trail off Lee Drive. To find even better riding, they sometimes make trips to Alexandria. Out of state, the favorite spots are the trails in Percy Quinn, Black Creek, and Jackson, Miss., along with Austin, Texas. Strapping a head-set lamp on the helmet (an essential part of an off-road bikers equipment, Baham says) and riding in the dark adds excitement to the sport, he says.

The basic mountain bikes usually cost about $300, while the advanced competition versions will run up to 10 times as much. Compared to road bikes, they are easily cared for and built to take lots of abuse, Baham says.

"You can punish it, to a certain extent, and it will come through without a whimper," he says. "The fat tires make for a softer ride and they cut down on flats. That lowers maintenance costs and appeals to students even more."
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No one faces cancer alone.
Two LSU acting school grads go for the brass ring in L.A.

by Jennifer Futch

One year ago the two friends were working with highly respected director Barry Kyle of the Royal Shakespeare Company in the LSU production of "Macbeth."

They were teaching acting improvisation and scene work to inexperienced undergraduates.

They were doggedly honing their own monologues and scenes for the day when they would leave the "ivy tower" of LSU to audition in the offices of Los Angeles casting directors.

They were full of hope, enthusiasm and a special kind of naive confidence, typical of aspiring actors, that their dreams would eventually come true.

One year later, Joe Chrest and John Mese are struggling to forge careers in Hollywood.

One year later, how much has changed?

John Mese rolled over and answered the phone on the first ring.

The 25-year-old Baton Rouge native graduated from LSU's Masters of Fine Arts in acting program last May before moving to California in the summer.

This morning Mese is lying in bed, marking time until he must get up and go to work as a waiter/host in a "hip little cafe on Melrose Boulevard."

But Mese can afford to lounge in bed for a while. Though he has not acted since moving to LA, his progress (in a town that thrives on breaking aspiring actors) has been remarkable.

Mese signed with agent, Century Artists, less than one month after arriving in town.

And though LSU theatre professor John Dennis warned him not to expect work for six months...
after landing an agent, Mese got his first job after only one month of auditions.

Cast in a small role for a fall replacement situation comedy, Mese was to play the boyfriend of Moon Unit Zappa’s best friend.

“You can only be so picky right now,” he laughed.

“I had three lines as far as I knew. I was going to go into the studio for three days, rehearse it, and do it in front of a studio audience the third day,” Mese said.

Unfortunately, the part was written out of the script a few weeks later.

The change, however, did not adversely affect Mese. He was paid for the job, and is now eligible to join the Screen Actors Guild, the union all actors must join if they hope to work in television or film.

“Basically I’ve been trying to get in the union,” Mese explained. “I like the way the situation worked out because I haven’t sold my soul, so to speak, to get into it.”

Though Mese has auditioned numerous times in the past months, he felt the lack of the union card keenly.

“A lot of directors say they’d like to hire you, but without the SAG card... you’ve got to break in the union first,” Mese said.

Presently Mese is re-examining his audition prospects. He said the scripts he sees are less than thrilling.

“It’s all s—t down here,” he fumed. “A lot of things have looked like someone wrote them down this morning while they were eating breakfast!”

At the moment Mese is excited about his coming audition with the Mark Tapor Forum. The theatre is one of the most prestigious on the West Coast. It is also the theatre at which Dennis, Mese’s mentor, directed professionally before teaching at LSU.

Mese is uncharacteristically anxious about the audition.

“For months I’ve been auditioning for sit-coms,” he fretted. “And I’m going to be auditioning for someone who actually knows something tomorrow.”

He paused.

“I’m actually kind of nervous now,” he said.

But the stress passes and Mese laughs.

“Yeah, at 11:00 I’m auditioning to be an alien in ‘Alien Nation,’ and at 12:00 I’m at Mark Tapor. Shows you how weird this place is,” he sighed.

Auditioning for the regional theatre will put Mese back in touch with his training at LSU.

In fact, his only filmwork was a piece with rising director Steven Soderberg, also of Baton Rouge.

To date, the relationship has not boosted his career much.

“It’s added good small talk to my conversations,” Mese remarked. “But it’s really weird... it might be the thing to turn the trick one day.”

He said the biggest advantage of the Soderberg connection has little to do with landing a job.

“As weird as it sounds, you get real tired of talking about yourself. I talk about Steve instead,” Mese admitted.

“But I wouldn’t put it past me to ask him to give me a part,” he added.

Not far away, Joe Chrest prepared for another day of soliciting agents and auditioning for theatre productions.

Chrest landed his first role in a LA production of “Grease” playing Kinicki. The play finished its run last month, however, and he must decide what to do next.

“When I first got here, my objective was to get into anything as soon as possible, just to get seen as soon as possible, to give myself that extra boost of confidence that I could do it,” Chrest said.

The experience was not all the West Virginia native hoped it would be.

The play demanded little of him as an actor. Chrest discovered that simply being onstage was not enough.

“I had to re-evaluate where I stand with my acting,” Chrest explained. “‘Am I happy being onstage?’ And the answer was ‘No, I’m miserable.’”

“When you’re onstage just trying to connect with somebody, you feel very alone. I found out how frustrating it can be. After being pushed to do good work and really discriminate, it’s not satisfying anymore just to be acting,” Chrest continued. “I want to do something really worthwhile. I want to work with good actors.”

Despite his desire to work, Chrest found himself in the same position as Mese: he needed an Equity card to prove membership in the theatre actors union.

Chrest had one advantage, however.

Already a member of the Screen Actors Guild, he was only required to wait one year before being eligible to become an Equity actor. His wait was almost over.

“I’m only shooting for Equity jobs now,” Chrest said.

“You have to be Equity to get auditions to the good theatres. There are so many bad actors out here that the really serious regional theatres, like the Mark Tapor Forum- and those were my primary targets- only hire union actors,” Chrest added.

But Chrest learned that persistence helps.
"I've just been able to keep going down to Tapor. I did finally get an audition with them," he said.

In this instance his LSU training was a serious asset.

"They are a little more likely to see you with an MFA degree," he noted, "and just being able to mention names helps, too."

"Being able to say I worked with John Dennis, or that Barry Kyle of the RSC directed me, gets attention here."

Chrest said, however, that if fighting a lack of union membership was difficult in LA, it was equalled by the emphasis on looks.

"They tell you at home that head shots are so much more important in LA than in New York," Chrest said.

"Well, a casting director was talking to me about how important they really are. Out of 1,000 head shots sent in, they won't even turn over 500 of them to look at your resume; that's how important the look is," he clarified.

"The face is it out here," Chrest acknowledged.

The dogfight to get a good audition, much less a part, is exhausting. Chrest misses the comfort of LSU.

In an April interview last year, Chrest said that "where we are [at LSU] right now is just the ideal place for artistic security."

His feelings haven't changed.

"This is the first time I've been out of school in my life, and it's strange," Chrest reflected.

"In school you are really there to fail, and learn from those mistakes," he added. "Now you can fail in the rehearsal process, but if it proves to not be worth any person's while, particularly an audience's, then you feel, 'why did I dedicate my time to this?'"

But most of all, Chrest said, "I miss the football season."

Chrest and Mese became friends when they joined the MFA in acting program the same year. They seem drastically different.

Mese is the showman. Over six feet tall, the shoulder-length brown hair and cocky grin suit Mese's outgoing, live wire personality.

The man is notoriously self-confident, witty and aggressive. These traits led one good friend, LSU student Claudia Ancalmo, to say that "one thing about Mese: you either love him, or you hate him."

Chrest is the perfect complement to Mese.

Tall and lanky, Chrest is less intense. He is quiet and more apt to think before he speaks. He possesses a wonderfully subtle sense of humor, as well as a brilliant, easy smile.

The two together have an interesting chemistry. Though to date, they have not tried this chemistry on the stage.

They have performed together recently, however.

"It's slow getting in the doors at first."

- John Mese

"John and I do this scene from 'Hurly Burly' together," Chrest explained.

"We both agree," he continued, "it's the best work we've done together, ever. That's sort of one of our long-range dreams, to do a project together. We never got to, really, at school."

Mese was enthusiastic about doing the scene for a casting director at Universal Studios.

"Joe was real hip to it, too," he added.

"We haven't heard anything yet," he said, "but it went well. The whole interview went so much better than a lot of them do. I know it was because Joe was there."

Instead of getting bulldozed,
Mese related the postcard’s contents in detail. John apparently met Woody Harrelson of the sit-com “Cheers” at the Improv one evening. Knowing Harrelson to be a fellow Sigma Chi fraternity brother, Mese approached him and “slipped him the grip,” quoted Gordon.

Gordon drank in every word before putting the postcard away. “We’ve always tried to outdo each other,” he mused.

“John’s drive to impress the family is a big part of his ambition,” he added.

But the younger Mese was not jealous of his brother’s good fortune.

“I think he has the potential to be a great success. And I’d love for it to happen,” Mese said.

Another person rooting for Mese and Chrest is close friend Claudia Ancalmo. The 19-year-old college student first met the two in the spring of 1989, when she took Mese’s improvisation class.

The friendships lasted beyond the final exam. Now Ancalmo helps keep up morale by sending letters, pictures and assorted care packages to California, which often include such diverse additions as cheesecake, cookies, beef jerky, bumper stickers from local bars, and Pat O’Brien’s Hurricane mix.

“I hated John when I first met him,” Ancalmo said, “but once I got to know him I found out he was really a good person. He certainly brought out the best in his students.

“He’s exciting and fun to be around. He’s just a cool dude.”

Ancalmo readily admitted that her favorite MFA candidates were Chrest and Mese.

“I love Joe. It was great that he got a part so soon after he got to LA,” Ancalmo smiled.

“I think they’ll both do well out there. They are really confident- if they were wimpy, they wouldn’t have the power to move you when they were onstage,” she maintained.

For the first few months, Chrest and Mese were much too busy to do anything except work and sleep. The fast pace of the city was a shock to them.

“Up until now, my time has been filled with just working and going to auditions,” Mese said. “And I don’t think, “ Mese continued, “that I’m finished making the adjustments yet. Baton Rouge is slower, simpler and nicer. I think when I can I’ll move back. I don’t want to live here forever.

“But once I land a job, I think things will loosen up.”

Chrest agreed that the LA atmosphere was more harried than that of Baton Rouge.

“I’ve never been this busy in my life!” he said.

“It’s so expensive to live here,” Chrest said, “and then you see so much luxury around you every day.”

Mese concurred that “money is very tight. I work two jobs, and I’m making just enough to survive right now.”

Part of the problem is the high rent. Mese lives in Glendale, California, about 30 minutes outside of central Hollywood. He shares a three-bedroom, one bathroom house with two other men.

“I live with two other guys I didn’t know before I got here,” Mese said, “but it’s really like a hotel; when I close my door, I’m alone. And Glendale is like suburbia- a pretty nice thing to come home to.”

Mese pays $380 a month for his share of the rent.

“The same house in Baton Rouge you could get for $350 total,” he sighed.

But at least Mese has a home. Chrest’s lease ran out at the start of the month. Since then he has been living on the floors of various friends in the Hollywood area.

“Yeah, I’ve been moving my stuff around from people’s floors,” Chrest remarked.

“It’s really boring. All my time is eaten up working [as a waiter in a Beverly Hills restaurant] or looking for affordable living quarters,” he added.

Still, both men occasionally find time to relax. Because of money problems, however, those occasions are few and far between.

“I’ve gone out a couple of times, but the thing is, it costs money. You’ll spend $90 on two beer,” Mese said.

“I see movies by myself a lot here,” he continued, “because it’s hard to hook up with people here.”

“There are loads of movies out here that you don’t get in Baton Rouge,” Chrest said, “but you’re struggling financially, so you think you can’t afford that luxury.”

Chrest acknowledged that, for an actor, seeing movies and playing is more than light entertainment.

“It’s a luxury, but it’s also research- it’s part of the job,” he said.

For this reason actors are allowed to subtract ticket costs and movie rentals from their tax returns.

“I have to scrape up money to go see plays,” Chrest asserted, “but that barbeque cleaned me out financially. I’ll be recovering from it for weeks.”

Meanwhile the graduating MFA candidates are watching the progress of their predecessors with alternately anxious and amused eyes.


Yet all of them know the truth of Chrest’s words from the previous year: “there are no co-ops for actors.” This class firmly supports its predecessors.

And while one class prepares for graduation, Mese and Chrest meet the challenge of Hollywood head-on.

They always keep the words of John Dennis in mind.

“You can never be totally prepared,” he said, “but I think this class is going to work.”
January Events

Jan. 15
Martin Luther King Commemorative
William Raspberry
12:30 p.m., Union Theater

Jan. 18
Union Colonnade Theater
Film, "Polyester"

Jan. 19
Union Colonnade Theater
Film, "Polyester"

Jan. 22
Me & My Girl, Broadway Play
8 p.m., Union Theater

Jan. 23
Blacks in Film Mahogany
7:30 p.m., Union Theater

Jan. 24
Perspectives Speaker
Julian Jaynes
8 p.m., Union Theater

Jan. 25
Union Colonnade Theater
Film, "Blade Runner"
Julian Jaynes
7:30 p.m., Union Atchafalaya Room

Jan. 26
Union Colonnade Theater
Film, "New York Stories"

February Events

Feb. 1
Union Colonnade Theater
Film, "Beyond the Valley of the Dolls"

Feb. 2-3
Union Colonnade Theater
Film, "License To Kill"

Feb. 4
The Bartok Quartet
Chamber Music Series
4 p.m., Union Colonnade Theater

Feb. 8
Union Colonnade Theater
Film, "Amarcord"

Feb. 9
Union Colonnade Theater
Film, "Crimes of Passion"

Feb. 11
Soviet Acrobatic Revue
Great Performances Series
3 p.m., Union Theater

Feb. 14
Charmaine Neville

March Events

Mar. 1
Union Colonnade Theater
Film, "Rashomon"

Mar. 2
Union Colonnade Theater
Film, "Whatever Happened to Baby Jane?"
Mar. 4
The Alexander String Quartet
Chamber Music Series
4 p. m., Union Colonnade
Theater

Mar. 7
Wallace Terry
8 p. m., Union Theater

Mark Nizer
8 p. m., Union Cotillion
Ballroom

Mar. 8
Union Colonnade Theater
Film, “Purple Rose of Cairo”

Mar. 9
Union Colonnade Theater
Film, “Bugs Bunny Festival”

Great Performances Series
Texas Opera Theater
Romeo & Juliet
8 p. m., Union Theater

Mar. 16
Union Colonnade Theater
Film, “Dr. No”

Passport To Adventure
Travel Film Series

“Alaska”, 4 p. m., Union Colonnade

Mar. 20
Blacks in Film
Carmen Jones
Colonnade

Mar. 22
Union Colonnade Theater
Film, “In Cold Blood”

Mar. 23
Union Colonnade Theater
Film, “True Stories”

Undergraduate Student Art
Show
(Mar. 23 - Apr. 9)
Union Art Gallery

Mar. 27
Perspectives Speaker
James Randi

Mar. 29
Union Colonnade Theater
Film, “On Her Majesty’s
Secret Service”

Mar. 30
Union Colonnade Theater
Film, “Swept Away By An
Unusual Destiny On an Azure
August Sea”

April Events
Apr. 1
Passport To Adventure
Travel Film Series
“Scotland”, 4 p. m., Union
Colonnade

Apr. 3
Blacks in Film
A World Apart
7:30 p. m., Union Colonnade

Apr. 5
Union Colonnade Theater
Film, “Blood of A Poet”

Apr. 19
American Scenes Art Exhibit
(Apr. 19 - May 18)
Union Art Gallery

Apr. 20
Union Colonnade Theater
Film, “Live and Let Die”

Apr. 27
Union Colonnade Theater
Film, “Willy Wonka”

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Page 18 Gumbo Magazine Spring 1990
Flight Of Fancy

Bummed by the beach? Go somewhere else. Check out some alternative spring break spots.

BY WENDY LAVENDER

This April, students will begin their annual pilgrimage to various vacation spots to participate in a ritual known as spring break. The most popular locations for this ritual are Florida and Colorado. Despite the popularity of the beach and the slopes, many students seek out alternative areas to spend their spring break.

Students who want to spend time at the beach, but want to avoid the typical spring break scene, often migrate to California.

Suewan Johnson, a business management major, enjoys the California beaches because “there is beautiful weather and there are always places to go.”

California allows one to enjoy the benefits of the beaches which, according to Shelly Miller, an English major, are “no responsibilities, sleeping late, eating a lot, doing nothing, and listening to the crash of the waves.” One can enjoy these benefits while still avoiding a routine spring break.

California is not the only beach area outside of Florida. Renee Smith, a psychology major, plans to spend spring break in the Bahamas.

Smith says that the Bahamas offer the perfect opportunity “to relax, to do something different, and to get away from it all.”

Water sports and fresh air are not limited to the beaches, however. Students can enjoy the outdoors by camping for spring break.

Pre-veterinary medicine major Carla Richardson likes to spend time on the Nantahala River in North Carolina with her family. Richardson loves “going there because we camp out in the mountains. My dog is allowed there and we always bring her with us. The weather is great—cold at night, cool in the day, but always sunny. We kayak or raft on the river.”

This unique spring break option permits a student “to see the beauty of nature that is missed in Baton Rouge.”

Music proposes another option for spring break. The break is long enough to justify travelling to see a concert.

Richard Valadie, a graphic design major, plans to see the Grateful Dead over the break. Valadie claims that “it doesn’t matter where they (the Dead) are in March, (he’ll) be there.”

Devoted R.E.M. fan, Stacy Miller, a psychology major, spent spring break last year in Dallas. She travelled home with her roommate to see her favorite band perform with Robyn Hitchcock and the Egyptians.

Miller stated, “I got to see where my roommate is from, what her family and friends are like, and R.E.M. in the same week.”

Miller plans to spend spring break this year in New York City. “It’s the greatest and coolest thing I am able to do at the moment. I’m going to see everything and spend as little money as possible by staying in youth hostels. I’ve always wanted to go to New York.”

According to travel agent Charlotte Buhler, New York is one of the most interesting
places that a student can spend spring break. For people who have never been there “it is one of those towns that you just must visit.”

Gina-Rae Freeland, a French major, will be a first time New York traveller this spring. “I’ve never been and I just can’t wait. I’ve got friends up there that I will stay with. It’ll be great,” stated Freeland.

The big city is not the appealing choice for all students. Some choose to come to the aid of others during the break instead of exploring unfamiliar areas.

Nadine Neswadi, a psychology major, spent last spring break in Kentucky. Neswadi participated in a “Habitat for Humanity. (She) built a house for the poor and it was very interesting.”

However, helping others does not necessarily mean assisting strangers. One can spend time with the family and be a great help at the same time.

“I worked for my Dad in his income tax processing firm. Spring break is right before the April 15th deadline. The company gets so many returns and everyone needs to pitch in and help,” stated Amy Swatling, a business major.

Furthermore, one can relive childhood during spring break.

According to Rena Holmes, a psychology major, “Disney World is the best. I’ve had the most fun there on family vacations.”

Victoria Goldstein, an English literature major, agreed, “Disney World is the best place to spend spring break. It’s much better than dealing with drunken college students all week long. I’ve been there many times, and each time is better than the previous one. I guess I’m just a kid at heart.”

Several students prefer the versatility of the East Coast.

Kathleen Merritt, a Zoology major, prefers Bar Harbor, Maine. “I love the ocean, the mountains, the sailing, the fishing, and everything else Maine has to offer.”

Only one thing is certain in selecting an out of the ordinary spring break locale—the options are limited only by the individual’s imagination. From Maine to California each student is sure to find his or her niche somewhere in the vast country.

Snow and Suntan Oil

More LSU students will spend spring break along the Florida coastline or in Colorado than anywhere else, according to Union Travel Agency employee, Celia Rose. Whoever said that there was strength in numbers must have been involved in this annual migration.

“Florida is a great place to get away close by,” stated Heather Hall, a graphic design major. Hall plans to spend spring break in Florida this year with a group of friends, but claims that “Colorado is (her) favorite vacation spot because (she) loves the mountains.”

Hall’s vacation preferences are not unlike those of many other students.

Zoology major Scott Daigle prefers Fort Walton beach for its “sun, fun, and women.” Fort Walton is one of the most popular Florida beaches. Destin and Fort Lauderdale are, also, prime choices for college students.

Brent Herman, an accounting major, has spent spring break in various areas of Florida every year. “Once you go for one spring break, it’s hard to stop going back for every other one. It’s the place where most of my friends go, and it’s the spot where all the LSU students hang out. People from all over the United States go to Florida for the break.”

In the opposite extreme, if one wants snow insteads of sunshine and skis instead of suntan lotion, Colorado is the place to be. Many students would agree. Colorado is the second most popular spring break choice among students. Many ski resorts offer special spring break rates for advance reservations. According to travel agent Celia Rose, a student on a limited budget can spend a fairly inexpensive week skiing in Colorado and living in the lodge. There are, also many towns such as Frisco, Colorado, which are surrounded by ski resorts and offer cheaper lodging than the resorts. Most of these towns also provide a shuttle bus service to the nearby resorts.

Kimberly Belzer, a zoology major, prefers Colorado to all other spring break spots. “The scenery is so beautiful. I’ve always loved the view from the mountains.”For many students the cold weather is a welcome change from the humidity of Baton Rouge. Furthermore, the mountains offer the opportunity for skiing, a rarity to Louisianians.

Casey Bass, a Microbiology major, enjoys skiing because “it’s like flying. It’s as close as anyone can ever get to really flying. It’s such a challenge.”

Whether crashing through the waves or gliding down the slopes, Florida and Colorado remain the most popular spring break choices among students.
Whether for fun, recreation, or to visit the family, LSU students often feel the need to escape the pressures of school. When the urge to escape calls, students flee to a variety of places on the weekends. “Sometimes I just need a break from school—I’m taking 18 hours and working. I just need to relax,” stated English major, Victoria Goldstein.

Wherever home may be, it is one of the top weekend excursions among students. According to Shelly Miller, an English major from Lafayette, home is a great place to spend the weekend “to get free food and laundry service.”

In addition to the practical aspects of going home, many students go to visit their family and friends. Jeneska Lovette, a finance major, goes home, because “it’s peaceful. (She) goes there to relax and to see (her) friends.” “I just like to spend time with the people I care about,” stated Amy Swatting, a Business major.

Other students choose to go to the beach for their weekend escape. Limited by time, most weekend beachcombers choose the beaches in Biloxi, Mississippi or Gulf Shores, Alabama, because they are the closest.

Susan Richardson, a zoology major, prefers these beaches, because “they are convenient and usually aren’t very crowded.”

The more recreational students enjoy weekends outdoors. The Louisiana area provides many opportunities for camping and sailing.

Graphic Design major, Richard Valadie likes to spend his weekends camping nearby. “It’s relaxing, I can get in touch with nature, and I get to play with fire,” Valadie said.

Carla Richardson, a sophomore in Pre-Veterinary Medicine, also enjoys spending her weekends outdoors. “I go sailing on Lake Pontchartrain in Mandeville. I love sailing, because it’s relaxing, quiet, but still exciting.” Richardson spent a weekend with the LSU sailing club at the Pontchartrain Yacht Club “to get everyone acquainted with the new boats.”

Another nature lover, Patti Tramontana, a Zoology major, loves to go “anywhere that the fishing is good.”

Of course, not every student would be thrilled at the idea of spending an entire weekend outdoors. Some students prefer the mad rush of the city. Travel agent, Charlotte Buhler, claims that most students who come through the agency choose to spend their weekends in New Orleans and Houston, because they are “close and inexpensive.”

Ben Mizell, a microbiology major, has spent weekends in both cities. “I like Houston, because it has some fun clubs. New Orleans is also fun, because it has many interesting daytime things to do, like museums, antique stores, leather shops, witchcraft shops, and bookstores.”

Mechanical Engineering major, Oscar Pereda summed up the main objectives that students consider in choosing the ideal weekend getaway, “wherever is close and cheap enough to go.”

- Wendy Lavender
by Jennifer Futch

Better Than Ezra

they are incredibly like three frolicsome puppies.

Today the band has just returned from playing in Oxford, Mississippi. Despite an eight hour drive through a rainy night, the three members present are animated and psyched to talk about their band and their debut cassette “29.”

No one answers the door at the house where three of the members live—just knock and walk right in.

The decor is messy and comfortable. Empty cans and glasses are scattered throughout the house. The worn beige sectional sofa, littered with stray pieces of mail and Tiger Gold coupons, sits opposite a four-foot-tall, bright orange “Slice” can. The guys quickly point out the strange feather mask nailed into a corner of the ceiling. They also offer to give a tour of the Elvis shrine upstairs.

The house is exemplary of the residents.

They, too, are laid back, with interesting, funny quirks.

At first, it is as hard to distinguish between their personalities as it is to distinguish between three lively puppies. They are all witty and alert, continually interrupting one another in their efforts to answer the questions.

Yet once they settle down to the business at hand, three strong, distinctive characters emerge.

First, there is Cary Bonnecaze, the tall, lanky “barefoot drummer.”

Bonnecaze lies on the floor with his head on his hand while he absently turns over a bottle of window cleaner. At 26, he is the oldest band member, as well as the most vocal.

“I just like to talk,” he says cheerfully. He maintains, however, that “if Kevin [Griffin, the lead vocalist/
guitarist] were here, he’d probably dominate “the conversation.

To his right is Tom Drummond, the 20-year-old bassist. Drummond sits languidly in a corner chair, watching and listening with amusement to the proceedings. Though he periodically tosses out witty observations of his own, the shy, dark haired musician leaves most of the talking to the others.

Across the room is guitarist Joel Rundell. This 24-year-old changes positions restlessly throughout the conversation. Neither shy nor nervous, he contributes his opinion on most every issue.

Better Than Ezra is a band out to have fun and make their fortune, in that order.

They are so vibrant that it is difficult to tell when they are serious and when they are teasing.

For instance, they refuse to divulge the significance (assuming any exists) of the band’s name.

“It’s a secret, very Biblical,” Bonnecaze says archly.

“There are a few people who know,” Rundell chimes, “but it’s stupid anyway.”

“We’d rather leave it to the imaginations of our fans,” Drummond peaceably offers.

They are just as rambunctious when speaking of their origins.

Bonnecaze says he and Griffin had known each other for about a year.

“They met at Opinions!” Drummond interjects.

Bonnecaze and Griffin had toyed with the idea of starting a band, but in the winter of 1987-88, they acted upon the notion.

Griffin contacted Rundell, a high school friend. Rundell was living in Monroe at the time, but he quickly moved to Baton Rouge.

Lacking a bassist, the three took out an advertisement in the Reveille to remedy the situation. Drummond answered, and the band was complete by March 1988.

“We got together to play and make money while going to school,” Bonnecaze said, “but then we got a little bit further into the music deal. It got to the point where we quit school.”

All of them agree that they have “never regretted it yet.”

All four are self-taught musicians who had played in bands throughout junior high and high school.

“We’re all self-taught, except Joel. He’s still learning,” Bonnecaze laughs.

Rundell concurs.

“All singing and playing, I’m playing ‘Stairway to Heaven,’” he jokes.

Once together, the foursome wasted no time. After only a couple of weeks of practice, they opened up for a band called Will and the Kill in Baton Rouge.

After spending the summer of 1988 in Boston, the band returned to Baton Rouge. They began playing fraternity parties and local bars such as Murphy’s and the Chimes.

“We ended up by signing with a booking agent, and then started playing a whole hell of a lot,” Bonnecaze says.

While some local bands sneer at more “Greek oriented” bars like Murphy’s, Better Than Ezra enjoys the shows there.

Such bars offered the band a chance to incorporate their two types of audiences—the Greek crowd and the following that appreciated the original songs.

Better Than Ezra made the astute observation early in their career that they would need separate sets for their fraternity functions and their club dates.

“There are different audiences between frats and original clubs,” Bonnecaze allows.

Unlike many bands that start with covers before progressing to original songs, Better Than Ezra did just the opposite.

“The first few songs we worked up were originals—none of which are on the cassette,” Bonnecaze remarks. He adds that a song called “CDU” is the only
song on the cassette that had roots in those early originals.

"The lyrics stayed the same," he says, "but the music completely changed."

The creative and business workings of the band are purely democratic. Lead singer Griffin writes the lyrics to the songs, while Bonnecaze, Drummond and Rundell collaborate on the music.

"Everybody does everything," Bonnecaze asserts.

"All of us manage the band, " he continues, "so we all get equal cuts."

Better Than Ezra recently released their debut cassette, entitled "29," in the United States, Europe and Japan on an independent record label.

Again they refuse to elaborate on the meaning of the title.

"It’s Cary’s favorite age," Drummond and Rundell insist.

"It’s another Biblical meaning that you can’t say," Bonnecaze replies.

The cassette consists of eight songs. Among the eight are local favorites such as "CDU," "Circle of Friends," "Winter Coats," "And We’re Fine" and "Hold Me Down."

The band members say they had similar tastes in music from the start. They list the same high energy progressive bands as their biggest influences. They admire good live bands such as Drivin and Cryin, Let’s Active, Guadalcanal Diary, and the Replacements.

They describe their own music style as "very diverse."

"We have songs that are heart-touching," Bonnecaze says, "and very driving songs!"

Curiously, Better Than Ezra are trying to squash rumors that their cassette was released with Martini Records. They were unwilling to comment on their reticence.

Presently Better Than Ezra is at a crossroads.

The band has reached a level of local fame rivaled only by that of Dash Rip Rock. Their frequent appearances at local bars, as well as fraternity and sorority functions, garnered them a following that increases with each show.

In fact, they are amazed at their own popularity.

"We used to know everyone at the shows," Bonnecaze says, "but recently a lot of new people are coming up that we don’t even know, but they know us."

"Yeah," Drummond adds, "and the weird thing is, they know the words to the songs already."

When the Trash bash organizers claimed the band drew one third to one half of the total crowd, the group responded with skepticism.

And Rundell was astounded when a girl at a show in Ruston told him that she came to see them on the recommendation of Alabama college students.

But being courted by such record labels as Mammoth and Chameleon is a dead giveaway that bigger things are on the horizon.

While Better Than Ezra will fight to get national and international acclaim, they do realize that success will have a price.

"To make it, we’ll have to be on the road constantly," Bonnecaze acknowledges.

"We’ll have to play even the smallest towns. You just can’t stay in the big cities. I don’t know if that’s a drawback or a plus," he muses.

"Right now you can never do anything you want to do," Rundell added.

"And we don’t get a chance to practice anymore," Drummond notes, "because we’re playing all the time."

Yet all the inconveniences seem minor. For the moment, Better than Ezra is on top.

This band is a tightly-knit group whose biggest strengths are their friendship and their ability to laugh at themselves.

"We are strong, we are men, hear us roar," Rundell jokes.

The guys don’t know what is coming, but they are enjoying the suspense.

"We’re all virgins at this, too, you know," Drummond grins.
LUMP BETWEEN LOWER LIP AND GUM.

BAD BREATH.

STAINED FINGERS.

LUMP BETWEEN LOWER LIP AND GUM.

TIN BULGES AND RING.

NO FRIENDS.

DRIBBLE CUP.

TWOALLY, WIRED LOOK CAUSED BY NICOTINE.
A high nicotine content makes smokeless tobacco just as addicting as cigarettes.

STUBBORN ATTITUDE.
WON'T LISTEN TO SOUND MEDICAL ADVICE.

STUBBORN ATTITUDE.
WON'T LISTEN TO SOUND MEDICAL ADVICE.

TOBACCO-STAINED TEETH.

WHITE PATCHES AND SORES.
Leukoplakia.
In time, could lead to oral cancer.

RECEDING GUMS.

RECEDING GUMS.

TOBACCO JUICE.

TOBACCO JUICE.

HOW TO SPOT A DIP.

DIPPING IS FOR DIPS.
DON'T USE SNUFF OR CHEWING TOBACCO.

DIPPING IS FOR DIPS.
DON'T USE SNUFF OR CHEWING TOBACCO.
When Ronald Reagan played a college professor opposite Virginia Mayo in “She’s Working Her Way Through College” in 1952, Hollywood was continuing its tradition of fun college films (that year’s included the masterpieces “Bonzo Goes To College” and “Francis Goes To West Point”).

The college movie was a light snack: rooting for the home team and dancing the nights away were the heaviest thoughts on a coed’s mind in the earlier half of the century, and Tinseltown churned out one after another (1938 boasted fifteen college films in theaters). The sixties’ social conscious slowed campus-oriented film production to a near halt, but a resurgence in 1970 boosted the college movie status with a new image of the college student as a troubled soul. Right up until today, the silver screen has painted a portrait of college life as a balance of drunken weekend bacchanalia and the rites of passage to adulthood.

Now, grab the popcorn, warm up the VCR and check out this list of top ten college flicks:

NATIONAL LAMPOON’S ANIMAL HOUSE (1978) - The grand daddy of ‘em all. John Landis directed the tale of Delta Tau Chi quest to turn their Faber College years into an exercise in hedonism, drive Dean Wormer crazy and created an indelible picture of the American college experience. The images are etched in our brains: John Belushi sucking down the Jello in the cafeteria line, the toga party, the pledge nicknames, the general disrespect for authority, and ultimately, the fraternity’s blazing finale at the Homecoming parade. This was parents are worried about to this day. It’s anarchy with a devilish grin; it’s irreverence with a brew (“Don’t cost nothin’”). Unforgettable.

THE GRADUATE (1967) - A post-college entrant, but a film that all graduating seniors should see. Mike Nichols won the Best Director Oscar, and Dustin Hoffman gave his first major film performance here opposite Anne Bancroft and Katherine Ross. Hoffman’s freshman year of life becomes complicated by relationships with mother Bancroft and daughter Ross. As he struggles to maintain his sanity through the complications, he wrestles with his own wants and the uncertainty of his future after undergrad. When dad William Daniels asks Hoffman what all that work was for, he replies “You got me.” A soothing and beautiful score by Simon and Garfunkel rounds out a very funny and very real film.

THE FRESHMAN (1925) - The great Harold Lloyd plays Harold “Speedy” Lamb, the lowly newcomer trying to make good with the in-crowd of upperclassmen. Oft hailed as the first great college movie, the naive Lloyd stumbles and bumbles his way through his first year, showing that attempts at fitting in are as old as college itself.

THE PAPER CHASE (1973) - Okay, it’s a law school movie, but as Oscar nominee John Houseman so fondly said, they earned it. His pre-Smith Barney performance as the stodgy, hardline professor plays well off Timothy Bottoms first year student and his woes. All pre-law majors should see this film before signing up for that LSAT.
WHERE THE BOYS ARE (1960) - The original spring break film, but from the girl’s point of view. Mr. Tanmaster himself George Hamilton stars with Connie Francis in her first screen role. Fort Lauderdale is as packed in 1960 as in 1990, and the attitudes on premarital sex may see out of place in what could have been dismissed as a silly go-go romp. The film stands up well after thirty years, though, and look for Timothy Hutton’s father as a goofball college kid. A pre-Easter must see.

LOVE STORY (1970) - This adaptation of an Erich Segal weeper, Uppercrust snot Ryan O’Neal meets ethnic down-towner Ali MacGraw, and the goo goo eyes commence. The two must hurdle the usual obstacles of different backrounds, and then MacGraw becomes afflicted with a fatal disease. A two box of tissue film (rent Oliver’s Story also if you’re really into depression).

SCHOOL DAZE (1988) - Spike Lee’s post- She’s Gotta Have It, pre-Do The Right Thing tale of the tensions at a black college campus gave light to the traditions as well as the setbacks of the negro college scene. The film explores greeks versus independents, light skin versus dark skin, and activists versus anyone not down for the cause. A bit long on insignificant musical numbers, the film is still amazing thanks to Lee’s psyche-probing lens and a no-holds-barred look at black fraternity hazing.

HORSE FEATHERS (1932) - All four Marx brothers come barrelling into Huxley College for a madcap romp through campus life. It’s hijinks and gags-a-plenty as Professor Wagstaff (Groucho) becomes involved in a plot to recruit two ringers for the big game versus Darwin U. Proving that the true reason for college is, of course, football, Groucho mistakenly brings in Chico and Harpo. The result is a hilarious game and a haywire finale. A wisecracking hoot.

THE WAY WE WERE (1973) - Set in the 1930s, Sydney Pollack directed this Academy Award winner-about (what else?) love. Although not totally set at college, political activist student Barbra Streisand and BMOC jock Robert Redford fall in love in college, and spend the rest of their lives trying to relive it. Cuddle up in front of a warm VCR and a warm fire with a warm person and enjoy this warm movie. Memorieeeees...

FRATERNITY ROW (1977) - This stark and true-to-life account of traditional hazing of fraternity pledges at a typical college stars a cast of virtual unknowns, save Trapper John M.D.’s Gregory Harrison and Scott Newman, the late son of Paul Newman. The tale pits brother against brother in this tale of mindless and embarrassing pledge ritual tradition against the actual ideals of brotherhood. A film for all students.

—HONORABLE MENTIONS—

KNUTE ROCKNE ALL AMERICAN - Pat O’Brien and company win one for the Gipper.
THE STERILE CUCKOO - Senior Liza Minnelli falls for a freshman.
THE NUTTY PROFESSOR - Jerry Lewis as the faculty bucktooth bungler.
THE YOUNG LOVERS - Peter Fonda and abortion in 1964.
THE MALE ANIMAL - Professor Henry Fonda dedicates himself to academia.
THE WILD PARTY - Clara Bow wants special tutoring (wink wink nudge nudge).
EVERYBODY’S ALL AMERICAN - Hey, look! There I am! In the background with everyone else!
CHARLIE’S AUNT - Classic Jack Benny on campus.
THE STRAWBERRY STATEMENT - Columbia University faces riots.
Looking for excitement but don’t know what to do with your time? Well, spring is in the air and that brings with it many opportunities for students to participate in many different activities. While watching the basketball team pave its way to the Final Four, you may find yourself wanting to get in on some of the action. Although you can’t join the basketball team, there are other alternatives to choose from.

When it comes to sports, football, basketball and baseball pop into the minds of most people. But just because mainstream sports are the going trend, that doesn’t mean they are the only sports in which you can participate. There is another group of sporting events that has grown in popularity over the past few years at LSU. These sports are (not commonly) known as alternative sports. Alternative sports include such things as fencing, lacrosse, soccer, rugby, water polo, martial arts, etc. Some of these sports, although they are not supported by a varsity program at LSU, have become as much a part of the University as other mainstream sports. Many of the teams play against teams from the SEC and other major universities around the nation and some have become very successful. But the best thing about these sports is that all students can participate. All it takes is the courage to sign up, the desire to play, and the determination to stick with the game.

“There’s a position for everybody,” said Francis Mayer, who is an LSU senior and team selector for the LSU rugby team. “At registration we are usually there to talk and try to sign people up, but we welcome people anytime,” he said. Mayer pointed out that rugby is a tough sport, but that it is one that anyone can enjoy. He said one of the problems in getting people to sign up for the team is that people have always had a negative view of rugby as a sport because of how rough it can get. But Mayer argues “It’s always been called a gentleman’s sport because you can go out and play hard and tackle hard, but after the game you are good friends. You leave the game on the field.”

Mayer said the sport has grown so much at LSU that the University has come to host one of the largest rugby tournaments in the nation. He said the Mardi Gras Tournament usually has about 42 teams from all over the country and Canada participating. “We may even have a team from Australia this year,” he added.

The rugby season is year round sport with breaks only between the fall and spring semesters. During the fall and spring semesters the teams play a normal game with the regulation 13 players on the field at one time. But with the hot weather of summer, the teams are reduced to seven players. Mayer said the summer league, called sevens, is for “the Feraris of the rugby world” because of how demanding and fast-paced the game becomes. He added that although rugby is a tough sport “it’s just like any other sport, it’s rough but it’s fun.”

Now that you have heard a little about rugby, let’s take a look at lacrosse. “It’s known as the fastest game on foot,” according to Pat Freyou, a graduating senior and vice president of the lacrosse team. Freyou described the game as somewhat like
a cross between hockey and football. He said it is like hockey because the game has many of the same rules, but it's like football because many times there is rough contact.

The lacrosse team has been around LSU for a few years, but a couple of years ago it almost ceased to exist. Participation was low then, but Freyou said, "because of people working hard, the program is doing real well now." Lacrosse season goes on during the fall and spring semesters with breaks during the Christmas holiday and during the summer. "The fall is pre-season and we play about eight games during that time," Freyou said. He added, "But during the season, which starts in early February, we'll probably play about 16 games in conference." He said LSU plays teams like Tulane, Texas A & M and Oklahoma University.

"It doesn't matter if you have experience," Freyou said, but, "you have to be in shape." With the coordination it takes to control the lacrosse stick and mom the ball being thrown to you, it seems like it would take a long time to learn to play. But according to Freyou, it's not as hard as it looks. "It takes a while but it's not hard," he said. He said sometimes players join that have never seen a lacrosse stick before, but with coaching and practice they have become good players. Freyou said it takes two weeks to get used to passing and receiving the ball. Speaking to prospective lacrosse team mates, Freyou pointed out that "anybody is welcome to come out and play, but they have to be devoted.

Looking at other alternative sports, one can't help to think about soccer, or futbol as it is called in Spanish countries where the sport's popularity compares to our football. The sport is not quite that popular here at LSU, but has grown since the club was formed in 1978. Men's Soccer Club president, Robert Daigre, said the team has grown so big that the club had to form an A and a B team last year to accommodate all of the players that turned out to join. Daigre said the older more experienced players are on the A team and the younger players with lower skill levels are on the B team. "We had a real good turnout this year. We had a lot of young players come out," he said.

Daigre said the past soccer teams have had a great deal of success playing teams in the Southeastern Conference. In 1982 and 1985 the team won the SEC tournament and in 1983 and 1984 the team placed second. In 1986, the Gulf States Conference was formed and LSU was placed in the conference with many other teams from Louisiana and Mississippi. "We won the conference in 1986 and 1987 and we finished third last year," Daigre said. "At the end of our season is the Southeastern Conference Tournament. Our goal this year is to win that."

The Men's Soccer Club plays games year round and usually has games every weekend during semesters. Although the team does not play teams where soccer is a varsity sport, Daigre said, "I feel confident that our team could compete with a lot of varsity schools." He said in the past many of the players have been from other countries, but now that many of the younger generation students have grown up with soccer that trend is changing. "This year our starting line up has seven American players and a lot of the younger kids are American," Daigre said. Any student, full or part-time, is welcome to join the team, but Daigre stresses he must have "desire and dedication for the sport."

On the other side of the coin is the Women's Soccer Club. Unlike the Men's team, the Women's soccer team just started in the fall of 1988 and has not met with as much success. Although the team is in its developmental stages, club president, Jill Richert, said things are getting better. She said the team started out in the Baton Rouge Women's league, but has since moved up and is playing more universities. Richert said last spring the team played a few teams like Stephen F. Austin and Baylor in the Team's first major tournament. "We didn't win, but it was fun. It was the experience that was important," she said. Although the team is all-American, Richert said anyone from any nationality is welcome on the team. She said the fall semester's team had 21 members, which is a big improvement from last year's turnout. "It gets bigger every semester," she added.

Well, if you have considered some of the alternative sports and haven't quite found the right one for you, maybe you need something new. You might think to yourself "but there isn't anything new." Ah, but there is. For those of you who haven't heard, there is ultimate frisbee. You might ask "what is ultimate frisbee?" Well, according to Jill Richert, LSU senior and ultimate frisbee spokesperson, "it is a worldwide sport which I don't think people are aware of." She said the sport is often erroneously called frisbee football, but "it more closely resembles basketball in that players cannot run with the disc but must establish a pivot foot and pass the disc down the field to score in the endzone."

Richert said the exercise a person gets from this sport is great for the cardiovascular system. "It's a lot of running. You can run anywhere between three and five miles in a game," she said and pointed out that the exercise is ranked above tennis and soccer as a good cardiovascular exercise. "One of the most important aspects of the sport is what is called the spirit of the game," she said. She explained the spirit of the game as the sportsman's code that places the responsibility of fair play on the players themselves since there are no referees calling the game. Richert said student participation is a must for the sport to survive at LSU.

Now that you have a taste for some of the more popular alternative sports and how much they have grown, it's now up to you to choose one in which to participate. If you have difficulty choosing, you might try them all until you find the one that is right for you. Remember that you can find out about the alternative sports that I have talked about and many more through the Leisure Sports Department, so don't just think about it, do it.
LOOK AWAY, LOOK AWAY

Louisiana's Antebellum Tradition: Blessing or Curse?
The Old South with its grand plantations, and ladies and gentlemen of leisure sits nestled in the ancestry of many Louisianians like Rosedown sits nestled among azaleas and live-oak trees, almost hiding the mansion from view.

But for a small fee any 20th century sightseer can intrude on the old glory of Rosedown, as well as, many other surviving plantation homes in the South. What is the attraction of these survivors of time and war? What legacies have they left behind?

Rosedown built in 1830 is considered the finest plantation-house in Louisiana according to Lyle Saxon, author and editor of Old Louisiana, copyright 1929. Saxon writes of Mr. Bowman, one of the last surviving owners of Rosedown:

“Mr. Bowman died only a few years ago. He was the most distinguished-looking old gentleman that I have ever seen, and I cannot visit Rosedown nowadays that I do not remember him vividly, a white-bearded patriarch in a white linen suit, coming down the broad steps in the afternoon sunshine, a gold-colored collie at his heels.”

The memory of white-bearded Mr. Bowman may represent a time come and gone, but a time that still influences the attitudes and actions of many southerners today. And at times, the Old South, particularly the early 1800’s before the Civil War, pulls back its shroud and touches Louisiana.

Kappa Alpha fraternity’s Old South is one vestige from the mid-1800s. The fraternity members dress in confederate uniforms and their dates wear hoop-skirted gowns for the event that is a tribute to a time of gentlemen.
The election of David Duke to the Louisiana House of Representatives by a district in Jefferson Parish is perhaps a more controversial remnant of that Antebellum attitude, while in a similar way, even current Louisiana architecture may reflect its more benign historic past.

"Down through the years (the philosophy of racial superiority) has been mostly dissipated by progress and by changes in the law, but I suppose many white southerners, probably more than would admit it, still feel as their ancestors did that blacks are inherently inferior," said an LSU Louisiana history professor Mark Carleton.

"But that feeling is no longer... as intense as it was in the antebellum south nor is it shared by that many people, but I'm sure it still exists."

Things are better in 1990 than they were 30 years ago.

When Paul Sanzenbach, a professor in LSU's Social Work department, arrived in New Orleans in 1960, he had never been in the South before and what he found surprised him.

"Blacks had no political powers in Louisiana," he said. At the time there were only a handful of black voters in the entire state and it was very difficult, if not impossible for blacks to register to vote, he added.

"All this was a total surprise to me," he said. "I knew we had a segregated society, but until you come into it, you don't know how it permeates everything."

In New Orleans, there were no blacks in the City Council or on the School Board and many public places had separate facilities for blacks and whites, an example would be busing or public restrooms. The school system was segregated and blacks were legally not allowed in certain establishments.

"Blacks could shop at stores like D.H Holmes and Maison Blanche, but they couldn't use the bathrooms there," said Sanzenbach, who participated in the New Orleans Poverty Program in New Orleans.

"Those are residues from attitudes of Antebellum society," he said. Since the 1960's there has been a drastic change. Poll taxes and literacy tests, which restricted many blacks from voting, have been eliminated, schools are integrated and it is illegal to have separate facilities for blacks.

"We've eliminated almost all elements of legalized segregation, but prejudice, or racism, is an individual thing," he said. "If a corporation has a racist policy against hiring blacks, that can handled in the courts, it's against the law, just as if they had a sexist policy."

"If I, as a male, am uncomfortable working with women under certain conditions, I can be accused of having a sexist attitude - that can't be eliminated by the courts."

Sanzenbach said these attitudes probably stem from history and from the way people have been raised.

"If we're brought up in a community where blacks are discounted, we pick up those values," he said.

At LSU, one young black man expressed in the November 2, 1989 issue of the Daily Reveille the anger he felt at a "little red caboose" position the state's flagship university had taken in meeting the cultural needs of black students at LSU.

"The reason for my discontent is the lack of sensitivity on the part of LSU in addressing the feelings of isolation, displacement, and separation felt by so many African-American students," wrote Kirt Bennett. A similar letter appeared the following day from another discontent black student.

"Now here's something blacks will say, 'In the South, you're either the son of a slave or the son of a slave owner.' How do you think black people deal with that, I think it's a major identity problem for blacks," Sanzenbach said.

A racial cleavage shows up not only in discontentment, but also in social patterns that have arisen. The racial imbalance in enrollment of Southern University and LSU is one obvious cleavage, as is the separation in LSU's Greek system.

There are black fraternities and sororities, as well as, white fraternities and sororities. That is just the way it is and has been at LSU since the Greek system began here. Also since sorority and fraternity houses have been on campus, house mothers have been white while cooks and maids for the most part have been black.

"A black person can be adored as long as they stay in their place, but as they try to move out of that place they become a threat," Sanzenbach said.

President of Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity Leonard Castiglione said he does not see that applying to the fraternity cooks, maids or house mother.

The head cook for Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity, Bertha Roberson, started working as a salad girl for the fraternity in 1957. Roberson, a widow, put her three daughters through higher education programs.

Castiglione said, "I don't think just because they're black means they have to be a cook. Bertha probably gets more respect than anyone around here."

The Lambda Chi's speak fondly of Roberson. They seem proud of the fact that she has been around for so long and has managed to give her family so much.

"Everyone has a great deal of respect for both (Roberson and their house mother, Grace Brousard)," the chapter president Leonard Castiglione said. "If Bertha left we wouldn't know what to do."

Castiglione said Roberson is a connecting force between the alumni and new members because she is something familiar to both groups.

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SOUTHERN COMFORT: NOT A LADY'S LIQUOR

Most people feel more comfortable with things that are familiar to them, but perhaps southerners hold onto the past stronger than people from other areas. Several people interviewed talked about a conservatism in Louisiana that is stronger than many other areas.

"The southern, I think, even in mobile 20th century, still retains more than easterners and westerners this sense of place and time, my home is Louisiana not where I hang my hat at this particular time."
This conservatism shows up in the state's actions on feminist issues. The Equal Rights Amendment has never gotten to a vote in this state and it was not until 1972 that Louisiana formally agreed with the 20th Amendment that gave women the right to vote in 1920.

"Despite the revolution for female equality, the South is still the most traditional area of the country with regard to seeing women in a more traditional role as wives, mothers rather than equal to men in the work place, although I think that is changing quickly," Carleton said. "But most of the states that haven't ratified ERA are southern states, including Louisiana."

Though many advancements have been made in the area of women's rights, an attitude that women need to be protected persists among southerners, Sanzenbach said.

The "steel magnolia" image of emotionally strong women like the character Scarlet O'Hara and former-first-lady Rosalynn Carter are types of women who have been occurring in southern history for a long time, Carleton said.

"Probably the first one's were the women who were left behind while the men went off to fight the Civil War. They had to run the plantations, the farms, take care of the family, pay the bills, supervise the slaves and the servants and that kind of thing," he said. "They became very tough; they had to be and most of them did a very good job."

All that work gained these women a lot of respect but no rights, Carleton said.

Currently LSU is working to offer a degree in women's studies, said Emily Toth, an LSU professor in American literature and women's studies. She directs the women's studies program and 25 faculty members teach a collection of courses about women.

"We still live in a patriarchy," Toth said. "We still have to manage things in a society run usually not to the advantage of women."

Toth also said that the southern belle stereotype is not helpful in the advancement of equality for women because white women are not taken seriously and black women could never fit into that role.

"It cuts down their possibilities and choices," she said.

ETIQUETTE

While the rest of America considers the South an authority on etiquette, southerners are having to catch up with modern society, or more precisely, women in the business world, said Joan Cole, author of Emily Post Talks with Teens about Manners.

"The South had tried to hold onto their tradition of ladies and gentlemen and manners and consideration much longer on the grand scale than the rest of the country, but with women in business that is having to change," she said.

A man is no longer expected to hold the door open for a woman, if it is inconvenient for him, Cole said. She added that a table full of men at a business meeting should not be expected to stand up when a woman enters the room. These courtesies are no longer practical in today's society, though many southerners may want to keep them alive, she said.

"I like the fact that men and women are relating to each other as people and they are emphasizing the similarities more and more, but I do think that's slower to come in the South," Cole said. "I'm proud to be a southerner, and I think heritage has been a big part of who we all are. I think it definitely influences our view of life, growing up in the South."

Cole said she thinks her parents generation held onto the "Old South" etiquette rules more so than her children's generation. She also said her children rarely think about racial differences.

"I think my parents' generation was operating on a lot of that Old South stuff that's been around forever," Cole said, revealing a soft southern drawl. "I've learned a lot about today's etiquette from my daughter who's a freshman in college and who thinks nothing of picking up the phone and asking a guy for a date."

ARCHITECTURE

Homes around Baton Rouge are signs that tastes have swung back to that of the 1800s in Louisiana. Many houses are built in the Greek Revival style that was the most popular in Louisiana in the 1800's, Patricia Duncan, an architectural historian with the Division of Historic Preservation, a part of the Office of Cultural Development.

Madewood, built 1840 to 1848 in Napoleonville, is "a very fine example" of Greek Revival with its six fluted Ionic columns and "well-proportioned pediment," according to Dorothy and Richard Pratt's A Guide to Early American Homes.

"People in Louisiana in the 1800's were very conservative, what this means for architecture is once they decided they liked a style, in this case Greek Revival, they didn't want to give it up," she said. "People were conservative and didn't want to give up what was familiar and what they liked."

Several homes that were built in the 1870s and 1880s (when the Victorian style became popular elsewhere) prove Louisiana's stubbornness to change. Modern homes in Baton Rouge evoke an antebellum image with Creole roof lines and Greek Revival columns, Duncan said.

"My guess would be that these styles still influence people in Louisiana today, because they do invoke what is perceived as a romantic and elegant past and they symbolize prosperity."

Besides the Creole roof lines and Greek Revival columns, Duncan said today's garages, especially the one's that are separate from the house, are equivalent to former carriage houses.

Front porches are coming back in style because people want back "a sense of community," said Jerel Giarrusso, a media relations officer for the State Office of Tourism.

The sense of community that is so important to many Louisianians is one reason people tour the state, Giarrusso said.

"Our people are our greatest resource," she said. "Tourists come to see our culture.

"Louisiana is a state of mind."
FICTION

the electric fishbowl

By Colleen A. Keogh
A bright red Ford pulled into a gravel drive-way and up to an old wood house. Jack Stone quickly got out of his truck and ran to the door. He knocked feverishly on the old wood door making the grayed white paint peel. Before he could complain about the splinters in his knuckles, the door swung open to reveal a small gray-haired woman in a conservative brown plaid dress.

"Thank God you're here Sheriff. There's been a terrible accident." Mrs. Guilderbag led the Sheriff through a white-walled room. "Cousin May and Cousin Ben came over for dinner. I went into the kitchen to finish supper." She walked to the kitchen door to retrace her steps. "When I came out..." She walked to the middle of the living room and looked around. "I looked around for them and they were nowhere to be found. I glanced down at the sofa and all I saw was their clothes underneath the coffee table." Her index finger pointed to a lime green leisure suit and a pink and green paisley polyester housecoat laying beside each other. There was a puddle of water that trailed from the clothes across the room and right in front of an old gold fishbowl with green lights on the sides. Jack walked over to the fishbowl and stared at the odd symbols engraved on a tarnished gold band that encompassed the bowl. The fish swam merrily in the bowl that stood on a green and gold stand about four feet high. The two three-inch fish made bold loops and flips in the water as Jack watched on.

"These are interesting fish," Jack commented taken in by their black and red horizontal striping.

"Yes. They are Tantalizing T Tailers. I don't know much about them. I got them from an old friend of mine who is an antique dealer. He said that they were very rare." Mrs. Guilderbag pulled a wadded-up kleenex from her pocket and wiped her nose.

"The electric fishbowl is quite unique also." Jack ran his fingers along the engraved gold band, over something that looked like a sun and a pyramid.

"It came with the fish. It's a little gaudy for my taste though." She leaned over the bowl and stared down at the fish. "They seem a little bigger than they were earlier."

Sheriff Stone stood up and turned to Mrs. Guilderbag. "Um. Mrs. Guilderbag, do you think that maybe your cousins left in a hurry without.

"Good heavens no. Cousin May is not one to go around and expose herself. She is a tad overweight, you know." She walked to the antique loveseat and sat down.

"Do they have a history of mental illness or have they been acting strangely lately?"

"In our family? I should say not!" Mrs. Guilderbag's face turned slightly red. "Cousin Ben has been acting a little off lately since he has lost control of his bowels and has to wear those diapers. But I don't think that would cause him to do anything really crazy."

"I'm sorry. I didn't mean to offend you but you must understand that I have to ask these questions for my investigation. Do you know of any people that might try to do them harm?" Sheriff Stone sat down cautiously into a rickety old rocking chair.

"No. Not that I know of." She blew her nose loudly as a tear formed in her left eye. "I don't know what to do, Sheriff. They were close to me even though they were my cousins." The tear was wiped away
before it hit her cheek.

Jack stood up and went to Mrs. Guilderbag's side. "Now ma'am. Take it easy. I'll have to do a little investigating. I'm going to take a look around the place for clues. Please stay where I can reach you. I'll get in touch if I find anything."

"Would you like some tea, Sheriff," she said as Jack began inspecting the discarded clothes.

"No thank you." He forced a smile.

Two hours went by as Jack searched the house and around the small Guilderbag farm. The whole time he conducted his search he worried. This is a bizarre situation for Jack and he didn't know exactly what to do. The only apparent suspect was Mrs. Guilderbag, but Jack felt something inside him that she wasn't morally capable of such an act. Besides, how could Mrs. Guilderbag have done this crime, and why, if she was capable of such an act? He was beginning to believe in all those science fiction comics that he still read on occasion.

As Jack got ready for bed that night, he turned to his wife. She sat on bed wearing a tan terry cloth robe and reading Vogue. Jack started to talk, "Yo woe, woney."

"Jack, take the toothbrush out of your mouth before you start to talk. I can't understand a word you say." Vickie kept her eyes on the magazine.

He walked to the bathroom. "I just wanted to tell you what happened today at old widow

Guilderbag's house." He gurgled and then loudly spit. Vickie put down her magazine and listened intently as Jack went through the strange event of the disappearance of cousin May and cousin Ben.

"Do you think that poor little old Mrs. Guilderbag did away with them?"

"I really can't believe that she would ever want to do such a thing much less be capable of doing it." The comforter was pulled aside as Jack laid down in the bed.

"You know it seems to me that I remember something about an electric fishbowl in some stories I used to hear as a kid." She got up and changed out of the robe into a short white cotton nightgown.

Jack sat up in bed. "What do you remember about these stories?"

"Not much. My dad used to tell them before I went to bed. He was always trying to scare me." She got back in bed pulling the sheets up to her neck. "It was something to do with fish with supernatural powers that zapped people they didn't like. Dad insisted that he didn't make it up. I believe that he said it was an old story that had been told in for many generations. Isn't that a weird story?" A short gold chain was pulled down by Vickie causing the light to go off. "Who would believe super powered fish?"

"Yeah, ferocious fish." He turned over with his back to his wife muttering, "I hope it isn't possible."

Bright and early Jack made a visit to the small town's library. He looked at several books until he found one dusty, ripped, and smelly old book on The Beginnings of Fish and Their Roles With Man. There was an
old redwood table and chair nearby. He plopped the book down and flipped through the pages. Soon he came across a page and a half devoted to Tantalizing T Tailers. Some symbols were illustrated at the top of the first page that included a sun and a pyramid which were footnoted as being from an Egyptian cult thousands of years ago. In the short documentary, the fish were said to have been worshipped by an Egyptian cult that believed the fish came down from the sky in a ball of flames. The Egyptians believed that the fish had supernatural powers capable of destroying people. Tantalizing T Tailers were now thought to be extinct. The part about destroying people put a feeling of terror in Sheriff Jack Stone, who was almost convinced that the fish had played a large role in the demise of cousin May and cousin Ben. He got up and quickly walked to the phones in the lobby. The operator was fast in getting him through to Mrs. Guilderbag.

"Hello," answered a sweet, gentle voice.

"Hello, Mrs. Guilderbag. This is Sheriff Stone."

"Why yes Sheriff."

Do you have any news for me?"

"Not just yet." Jack was feeling uncomfortable and nervous. "I need to ask you one more question, if you don't mind?"

"Why, no. Not at all." Mrs. Guilderbag sounded very helpful. "Uh. When did you get your fish?"

"Oh, well." It seemed to Jack that Mrs. Guilderbag felt that he had asked a rather unusual question. "I remember very clearly because it was the frightful day that my cousins died." Jack began to sweat profusely as he grew more terror stricken. "I'm really in a tizzy over the funeral arrangements. I don't know what I should bury. Do you have any suggestions, Sheriff?" the old lady continued. "Sheriff?" Nothing could come from his mouth. "Sheriff, are you there?"

"Uh, yes Mrs. Guilderbag. Do you have a place that you can stay for the night? I need to do some investigating that I believe would go better if you weren't there." Jack looked around the lobby uneasily.

"Well, yes. I could stay at cousin June's house." She sounded a little shocked.

"Good. Leave as soon as you can and I'll come by in a short while."

"Alright. I'll leave the key for the front door in the mailbox. Help yourself to the pecan pie that's in the icebox and there's..."

"Yes, Mrs. Guilderbag. That will be fine. I must go now. Thank you, Goodbye." The phone went dead, and he was out the door going toward his house in seconds.

Once in the garage, he opened a drawer in the metal tool cabinet and pulled out a case of dum-dum bullets and loaded his gun. He reached onto a shelf for a box labeled "ACME Flame Thrower—Junior Model 30", and took out the flame thrower, which resembled a child's water pistol, and fastened it to his belt.

Sheriff Stone went into the house and sat in the lotus-position in his bay window to meditate. After a half hour of "Ommmmm's, he felt he

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had gathered enough cosmic energy for his confrontation with the fish.

He climbed into his red Ford pickup truck and drove slowly toward Mrs. Guilderbag's house. Jack fished for the key in Mrs. Guilderbag's mailbox, but the door squeaked open before he touched the doorknob. He nervously walked through the house toward the living room, glancing into the other rooms for hidden dangers. As he rounded the hall and entered the living room, he turned his head quickly to the far right corner. The fish were leisurely swimming in their bowl.

"It's about time you got your buns here," the wimpy fish on the right lisped.

"We've been expecting you," the other added.

"Who do you fish think you are?!?" Jack demanded.

The fish bugged their eyes at each other. "Actually, we're tourists. "Tourists?" Jack plopped down in the old rocking chair with a look of confusion.

"Yeah, honey, and lemme tell you, I've never been anywhere so gauche!" the skinny fish said.

"We were sent to this planet from the Argyle Nebula to preserve good taste in the universe."

"Yes, baby, our home was ravaged, simply ravaged, by bad taste. So we came here to live and to destroy all bad taste."

The fat fish made a dive through a little plastic shipwreck. He called out, "We consider ourselves to be the guardians of good taste."

The skinny fish gurgled happily. "I know you want to destroy us, baby, but there's only one way to do that."

Jack sat up in the chair and cried, "Your damned right I want to destroy you, you can't keep zapping people into nothing."

The skinny one shook his fins. "No, baby, we zap 'em into fish and eat 'em."

Jack noticed the thousands of tiny fish skeletons at the bottom of the fishbowl and gasped. "How horrible!"

"The way to destroy us is to display exceptionally good taste. You have to pass a taste test that we give you."

"I'll do it."

"Oh goody, goody," the fish said. "It's been a long time since we've done one of these. Oh, lets see—what can we ask him?"

"How many questions are there?" Beads of perspiration formed on Jack's forehead, and the armpits of his shirt darkened with sweat.

"Only three. And here's your first question."

"It's been a long time since we've done one of these. Oh, lets see—what can we ask him?"

"How many questions are there?" Beads of perspiration formed on Jack's forehead, and the armpits of his shirt darkened with sweat.

"Only three. And here's your first question."

The fish swam around the bowl, as if they were thinking. "If
you were stranded in the desert, 120 miles from civilization, in 110 degree weather, and you saw a Mary Kay Cosmetic Cadillac, would you get in and drive? Or would you walk until you collapsed?"

Jack said, "Oh, that's easy, I would walk."

The fish looked at each other in amazement. The skinny one said, "It's my turn! Okay, suppose you were throwing a party on a yacht, 100 miles off the coast of Greenland, and you saw that you were out of hor's d'oveurs. You go down to the ship's kitchen and see that all you have on board is a package of marshmallows, a tub of pimento cheese, some vanilla waff ers, and a case of sardines. Would you try to throw something together and hope your guests would be too drunk to notice? Or would you get into your insulated wetsuit and swim to Nova Scotia for caviar and quail's eggs?"

Jack mopped his brow. "I guess—"

"Yes?"

"I'd—I'd swim!"

The fish slapped fins and yelled "Right On!" Then they turned away from Jack and whispered "We'll have to collaborate on this one."

After a moment, the skinny fish said, "Okay, baby, this is your last and final question. You're the ninety-ninth caller in this radio station contest, so you win a thousand dollars and a pair of tickets to your choice of three events. Now you have to go to one of these events to collect the money. The events are—the fish snickered together—" The Chinese Roller Derby, the Skoal Regional Championship Tractor Pull Contest, or a night of women's Jello Wrestling with Emmense Emily and Betty Buttocks."

Jack got up and paced the room, his hand pressed against his head. After several minutes, the fish said, "Your time's almost up!"

Jack tentatively held up a finger. "Couldn't I just, like, hang up?"

"I can't believe it! He won!" They laughed and rolled around. "But too bad, so sad! It doesn't matter, you've lost!"

What are you talking about? I won! I played your game and I got all three questions right!" Jack fumed. He panicked and ran up to the fishbowl and shook it. "Whoo, cowboy!" the skinny fish yelled. "Don't get us pissed off! you see you were doomed from the moment you walked in here."

Jack backed up. "What!?"

"Look down at those pantslegs. Those are bell-bottoms aren't they?"

"But—," Jack sputtered, "they're part of my uniform, I have to wear them. Why did you make me answer these questions, if it wouldn't matter?!

"Cause we're badass fish. It gets boring in here all the time you know. All we ever do is eat. Eat?" They looked at each other, then back at Jack. "Dinnertime!"

Jack screamed and tried to run, but before he got four feet, a blast of multi-colored light enveloped him, and he was turned into a brightly colored little fish. A beam of light drew him into the fishbowl.
A Room With A View
A guide to help stack your shack without getting your wallet out of whack

By Garilyn Ourso

Take a look around your living quarters. What do you see? Do you like your furniture? Can you stand your furniture? Do you even see any furniture? Want to upgrade or even own some different pieces but say you can't even afford to pay your loan shark this week, much less invest in such social luxuries as a chair at this time? Pull up a cardboard box and take heed, for you no longer have to live like a bear during this grisly financial time in your life.

Whether you're just looking for something adequate yet durable enough to survive the pizza crumbs and spilled Pepsi until you make "the mega bucks", or something kinda cozy you hope to name and become attached to, you may be happy to know that the world of furniture is full of pleasant and inexpensive surprises just waiting to be discovered. Because depending on your income, taste and tolerance level, there's something out there for you. Answers to your furnishing woes are closer than you think, and he who takes the time out to plan and shop around, reaps the best of the cheapest goodies. So get those boarding passes ready, say goodbye to your current excuse for apartment furnishings and look at what's available in this neck of the woods.

Once upon a time there were these four righteous dudes who, like, needed some furniture for their new bachelor bungalow, pronto. They had only two days left until their annual beer-a-rama-blowaway. Items sought: one decent warp-proof table that would take a good fist pounding while still retaining that slick and balanced surface so important for accuracy in the fine sport of bouncing quarters; several chairs upon which to rock back upon and add support to the tipsy minded, helping them complete the game in an upright position; and last, one durable sofa which many friends and the slime they will bring with them into the dudes' fine home can prop their muddy feet, slosh their generic beer and crush out a few cig butts upon. When they graduate(?) the dudes planned to have a big bonfire with all this stuff anyway, so they just wanted something with which to pass the semesters away on.

These dudes were ever so lucky to find their furnishing supplies at the Airline Highway location of the Salvation Army. As students, the salesman offered to work with them in meeting their decorating needs. The dudes collaborated and produced a crumpled wad of ten's and twenty's plus a few dimes. They then set about the showroom floor to adopt pieces of home decor they could call their own. After the staples were chosen, they had some cash left to blow and sauntered into the back where they witnessed the great American custom of abandoning neat-o stuff which other people could put to use (i.e. one man's trash is another man's ecstatic fetish.) Anyway, they picked up pans for under sixty cents, assorted glasses, plates and food prodding instruments.
mega cheap, and even found some cool old albums for a dollar. Dude number one picked out an ice chest while dude number two opted for a suitcase in which to tote his goods.

Venturing further down the corridors of this great graveyard of commercialism, (remember "Light Brite" and eight tracks?) they entered The Garment Zone. Now I know what you're thinking, "If it isn't Perry Ellis, I won't consider it." Well consider this, half the stuff isn't so bad and if you're usually not in the habit of advertising your purchase whereabouts, what does it matter? If anything, there's inexpensive garb with which to wrestle a muddy football or play swashbuckler while your Ralph Lauren's sit politely aside for game nights. Another bonus— clothing here
god-send for turning up useful and hard-to-find items. Poke around its stock sometime and see if anything suits you. Be creative! Amaze your friends! And most of all, revel in the idea that you have saved yourself some serious bucks which could go towards more important things, like bills. Or beer.

For all you naturalists out there, there's nothing like the earthy smell of unfinished wood, which you may stain, dye, or splash your own choice of toxic paint upon. Conveniently, unfinished furniture offers many purchasing options for the heavy stuff like chest of drawers and dressers without toting a heavy price tag. You add the finishing touches to accommodate your surroundings. Whether it's in-
dates back to whenever and pretty much covers many costume needs if you take a little time to put it together.

Their arms loaded, the righteous dudes were impressed to find the Salvation Army delivers. So they asked them to throw several sheets of plywood and a cartload of bricks (also C-H-E-A-P) on top of their present order and to run it by their place. As if this wasn't the best service the dudes could ask for, the Salvation Army offered to take the stuff back if the dudes ever needed to unload it on someone. The Salvation Army is a
stalling your own choice of handles or staining to match that wonderful indoor paneling, your options are only limited by your imagination.

Attention drafting students: Unfinished furniture on Airline offers pine/plywood design tables for under $70.00. Most dressers go for under $160.00 and many of your table selections are conveniently priced. If you've got the time, want something you'll keep around and wanna get a bargain, unfinished furniture stores might be a good stop off point. So ditch those cardboard Wal-mart dress-
ers you replace every other semester and get some real furniture you could be proud to stub your toe on.

Looking for a reasonably priced, non-offensive to the eye sofa you can drag with you into the real world? How about an o.k. couch to last you for the duration of your college "term"? How about that same couch, plus a loveseat, plus a matching chair all for under $200.00? How about you must be waiting for Elvis if you don't think there's something here you can use in the low price range.

Unclaimed furniture on Airline at Old Hammond carries a large and selective assortment of furniture in every species—from $25 daybed frames to $98 odd sofas, this place stocks it all. Kelvin is the dude to ask for and he'll promptly direct you to the student big sellers. In case your parents offer to pick up the tab via Mastercard, there's your higher scaled merchandise still at a convenient price. A durable loveseat and chair in pleasant colors and patterns can leave with you for under $400. You'll also find nice dinette sets (smoked glass table tops, brass or wooden frames, etc.) which sell for more in department stores. You can snatch up one long coffee table and two matching end tables for under $100 or under $200 depending on your choice of style.
For the shop-for-price crowd, be sure to check out their dining sets, specifically the brass/wood/glass table and two chairs for under $90. For under $100, you can grab an imperial table set with four chairs which should last a while, provided you don’t plan to stage your own version of a barroom brawl.

By all means, try to check this place out the next time you need to be fixed up quick with some decorating additions or need a cheap place to sit. Aw heck, bring your significant other or a few of your fellow tribesmen and make a day of it.

At Den-mart on Airline at I-12, one finds the wonderful world of Melamine—a substance of which perfect apartment products are made. This durable coated pressed wood doesn’t scratch, chip, rust, warp, attract termites, or mutate under the cigarettes of your careless friends. The ideal bargain items at Den-mart are the melamine bookcase units: three shelves, 34” in height for under $25 and five shelves, 69” high for under $40 (three for under $100). These units look great, are lightweight, yet are sturdy enough to store those massive, overpriced textbooks you’ll never use or sell again. You can also find a nice melamine desk (two drawers, 48” x27”) for under $90. Slick, basic, and very handy.

The furniture adheres to the R.T.A., ready to assemble concept, which in turn means mucho savings for you, the buyer. It’s no chore to slap these basic pieces together. They can also come apart again for moving purposes. Just don’t get carried away, these are not Leggo products. The easy instructions come in several languages, so invite some international friends over and have an assemble-thon.

Den-mart carries the Scanbirk line (made in Denmark and Italy) which one could classify as “New Lifestyle.” It beats the heck out of the bulky Jabba the Hutt furniture so popular in your parent’s day. Similar to the Space Designers style without a designer’s price tag, one can walk away with some stylish “happy save the whales day,” pop up several times during the year so watch the papers, check the stores and get there early.

In case you need a place to sleep soon, say tonight, you may want to check out Mattress Makers Factory on North Foster which carries what they call “short term bedding.” A twin mattress and foundation (serves the same purpose as a box spring but consists of upholstered wood framing minus the springs) can be yours for under $85. This simple set up is sturdy enough to last you till you get a real job.

Here’s a surefire idea—try out the power of media, specifically THE SHOPPER a.k.a. the bible of swapping and bargaining. How many items in your lifestyle collection are useless to you and you’d just love to send them packing? Other people just like yourself are currently begging the public to take items off their hands. Where else can you find couches already broken in by hyperactive children for just about the same price as a night out with a date for pizza, beer and a movie? Most items carry a few years with them and are in good shape, just no longer suit their owner. More than likely, advertisers will work with you on the price. Gather up that old guitar or blender, sell it through THE SHOPPER and invest your money in something you can use.
College students are misusing their credit without thinking of the consequences, a bad credit history, said Jerry Thornhill, a consumer loan officer of Commercial National Bank in Shreveport.

One LSU student, Gretchen, owns 11 credit cards: American Express, VISA, Master Card, Montgomery Ward, Maison Blanche, Dillards, Sears, Mobile, Exxon and two JC Penney’s charge cards.

Gretchen says she’s not in over her head. She spends about $500 a month paying the minimum on all charge cards except the American Express. Her total debt is $2,000.

“I’m a special case. Most college students don’t need a lawn mower or a weed eater. My parents are older and don’t have credit so most of the cards are used for things they need,” Gretchen said. Gretchen’s parents give her the money to pay for their purchases. However, all the credit cards are in Gretchen’s name, even the one her father failed to give her the money for.

Gretchen said she applied for several credit cards after she failed to pay the CONOCO gas card. She said credit card companies didn’t check her credit history. She said if they did they should not have approved her application.

“Character is something I look at when I’m considering this person for a loan. Although a credit report does not issue any judgment on a person’s relia-

bility it does say something about their character,” said Thornhill.

This credit report is a detailed listing of how much you owe on personal loans, credit cards and other debts- like those fashion magazines you ordered but never paid for. The report tells how quickly you’ve paid these debts and how many times your payments have been late. Also the name of your employers and your residences are listed.

Banks, finance companies, department stores, apartment complexes and some employers will check the credit history of an applicant applying for a loan, credit card, residency or a job. Most don’t realize that promptness is important. On a credit report numbers are coded to reveal the timeliness of payments; ones are used for 30 days late; two, 60 days; three, 90 days; four, 120 days and zero if your payment is not late.

Generally, all credit reports contain the same information: the name, number, type and activity of credit cards issued; the amount of time the customer has had these cards; the timeliness of payments; the credit limit and the balances.

But a bad credit rating is a major problem for many college students.

“Owning credit cards is becoming the ‘in thing to do’ for college students,” said Dennis Fiene, head of risk management security for VISA.

The Society of Louisiana Certified Public Accountants said that all consumers should check their credit report every two to three years; credit bureaus do make mistakes. Tina, an LSU residential assistant, said she didn’t find out until after she was turned down for a credit card and requested a list of the sources used to make that decision that her credit report showed that she owed a local hospital a large sum of money. It took three months to erase this error from her credit report.

Credit bureaus usually charge a fee of $3 to $25 for a copy of a person’s credit report. However, anyone who has been denied credit because of information in their credit report is entitled to the name and address of the credit bureaus from which the information was received. The consumer then has 30 days to request a copy of the report.

Ekua Agha, an LSU student from England, recommends that LSU devise a system of credit like Tulane’s that “allows students to use their student identification card to charge books, supplies and food anywhere on campus.” She says many students use credit cards to purchase necessities throughout the semester. This way, she said, they wouldn’t need a credit card.

She says, “If students knew they had to pay the school back, or else they wouldn’t get their grades or graduate, they’d be more cautious about charging.”

by Erika Prelow

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Foreign Exchange

A look at LSU's student programs across the globe Aimee Edmonson
For a change it might be interesting to spend the summer rummaging through Mexican markets and archaeological sites, to walk along the banks of the Siene, to attend theatre productions presented by the Royal Shakespeare Theatre Company as over one hundred LSU students did last year.

Professors and students that have experienced an LSU Study Abroad program reflect that the programs in England, France, Mexico, Italy and Jamaica extend far beyond the routine realm of classes and tests.

Replacing the LSU in Florence program, the trip to Italy will be centered in Sienna. This fourteenth century city, with narrow, irregular streets and small picturesque squares is lined with timeworn palaces and medieval houses. Sienna is thirty miles south of Florence in the midst of hills covered with fine vineyards and olive groves. The grandest town hall in Tuscany, the grand Palazzo Publico, is the center of the city.

Students will be closer to the rural experience in Sienna rather than the noisy and congested area that the program constantly grappled with in Florence, according to Joseph Ricapito, foreign language and literature professor involved in the pioneer program.

Tuition and travel will cost approximately $2,200 for five weeks in Sienna. The group will also have the option of field trips to Florence, Rome and Venice. The academic focus will be surrounded by Italian language, literature and culture, political science, and the history of architecture.

The seventeenth summer study in London will provide coursework in English, fine arts and theater supplemented by field trips to the eighteenth Century City of Bath, Oxford, Stratford-Upon-Avon, Chawton House, and Winchester Cathedral.

Despite the Great Fire of 1666, wartime aerial bombardments, and the misuse and destruction of historical buildings, the landmarks have withstood time.

The Stratford-upon-Avon field trip is limited to the first twenty-five applicants. Nestled in the county of Warwickshire, this is the birthplace of William Shakespeare. Not until 1769, more than a century and a half after the playwrights death, did the sleepy town become a tourist center, attempting to preserve its memorials and buildings. The traditions of Shakespeare’s life have become heavily encrusted with legend further depicted in the library and art gallery that opened in 1881, and in the theater that opened in 1932.

Students reside and have morning classes in a Victorian residence hall at Goldsmiths’ College, a part of the University of London.

“Students have the opportunity to see a great deal of territory. It’s easy to get to the continent to do extra traveling, see another culture and another life,” said journalism professor Ronald Garay, who worked with the trip last year.

J. Gerald Kennedy, program co-director of LSU in Paris last year, said that he began the program in 1981 when he saw the success of the London program.

“The courses offered in Paris are part of the core curriculum at LSU, only they are more real here because you are using the knowledge immediately,” Kennedy said.

This is a six week study in the heart of the Left Bank, the seat of intellectual life for more than 2,000 years, where students reside at Maison des Etudiantes near the famous cafes of Montparnasse and the Luxembourg Gardens.

“Of course the students get to know the city better than tourists, they master the city given the amount of time they are in Europe,” Kennedy said.
Program participation changes from year to year with the fluctuation of the economy, and the price tag is a bit out of reach for some. Fifty-one students went to LSU in Paris last year with Bastille Day—the celebration of French independence on July 14, 1789—being a main attraction.

“This is like living in Washington D.C. in 1976,” said Suzanne Dorsey, who experienced the celebration first hand.

Rejoicing the symbolic blow at tyranny, Dorsey danced around the Juillet Column with hundreds of exuberant people. Surrounding the monument is an iron fence with arrowhead tops people scaled in order to climb the column.

“When it was time to climb back over the fence, I stuck my arm through the spiked fence and dangled my the limb. I went to the emergency room for 11 stitches which were out before my return to the United States” Dorsey laughed.

Despite the injuries, Dorsey praised the experiences of Bastille Day and travel.

“I will definitely go back, bring others, and show them exactly what they (the professors) showed us” Dorsey said.

On the weekends, the students take trips to the Loire Valley, the landing beaches of Normandy, and the Gardens of Giverny where Monet lived.

“We did not have to deal with tourists because we lived on the quieter streets in the Art District near Le Select, La Capole and Café Du Dome” Dorsey said.

The oldest study abroad program, LSU in Mexico gives immersion for the study of Spanish in the native setting. The Aztec civilization of Tenochtitlan, now Mexico City, was one of the most advanced civilizations of the world at the time of the conquest. Spanish conquerors marveled at this splendid culture. They destroyed it by killing the natives, and outlawed their religious and social customs with their greed. As a result of the conquest, the mestizo race was born with the mixing of the two cultures.

Both the political and economic center, Mexico City is the focus of Latin American culture since the 16th century. It is a megalopolis and the continuous rapid growth has been checked only by encircling mountains. It is a city of significant colonial and modern architecture.

Students will live with host-families for a month, shop in open air markets, and visit Mayan ruins and Indian villages

Intermediate Spanish, readings in Spanish literature, Mexican civilization, and Hispanic film and theatre are some of the topics offered
to students. The price - approximately $1600 excluding airfare.

A field study program in Europe will offer students in the College of Agriculture an opportunity to examine international trade practices, to learn more about the supply and demand for agricultural production.

In Rome, students will meet representatives of the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations to get an overview of the global food situation and visit Vatican City and the Colosseum. The trip will then go to the University of Perugia to study Italian agriculture. A visit to Milan will allow the students to visit apparel manufacturers and the Italian fashion market.

After traveling through the Swiss Alps, the students will stop at a Swiss agricultural experiment station. They will also travel to Germany to learn about the Black Forest. In Sweden, the students will be hosted by the professors at Uppsala University and gather information about this country's agricultural systems.

Program cost will be approximately $2,400 for the two week trip, which includes round trip ticket, in-country travel, lodging and food.
MONDAY
BAR BUST
$2.00 Cover
• Free Draft
$5.00 Cover
• Free Bar Drinks & Draft

TUESDAY
WEDNESDAY
THURSDAY
LADIES NIGHT
Free Drinks 8-12

FRIDAY
$1 Jägermeister
$1 Wasser
50¢ Schnapps

SATURDAY
Manager's Mystery
Drink Specials Every Hour!

$1 Longnecks • Imports & Domestics • Every Night

12,896 square feet of high-tech entertainment