Arem Orleans Aficanume

HURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2009



CURRENTS

Lynne Jensen

Crimestoppers invites you to Carnivale

Crime is no stranger to our city. Thankfully, neither is Crimestoppers. For about three decades, this nonprofit citizen-run group has worked with residents to put criminals in jail and make neighborhoods safer in the parishes of Orleans, Jefferson, St. Bernard, Plaquemines, St. Tammany, St. Charles, St. James and St. John.

Crimestoppers wants to help "anyone who becomes a victim of a felony crime," said Darlene Cusanza, Crimestoppers executive director. Her small staff handles about 15,000 hotline calls each year, she said.

"For the great majority of our work, we depend on volunteers," said Cusanza, recently chosen as a Young Leadership Role Model for 2009. She wants everyone to know that it's time for the annual Crimestoppers Carnivale and patron party fundraisers.

The dressy patron party will be held Tuesday from 7-9 p.m. at 5631 St. Charles Ave. Tickets are \$100 and people will enjoy the mellow sounds of Jeremy Daven-port. Chef Donald Link of Herbsaint and Cochon will cook up tasty treats.

Saints linebacker Scott Fujita and musician Irvin Mayfield are honorary co-chairmen.

The Carnivale event takes place Sept. 26 from 7-11 p.m. at Blaine Kern's Mardi Gras World, Newton St. in Algiers. Tickets are \$75 and attire is casual.

There will be "lots of law enforcement" personnel at the event, Cusanza said. "It's nice to come and thank them.'

Music will be by Tic Douloureux and Passport. Food will be cooked up by more than 35 restaurants and caterers and there will be an open bar:

Creole Creamery has whipped up a batch of ice cream called Crimestoppers Crunch for the Carnivale, Cusanza said. The new flavor will be served at the event and sold at their Uptown and Lakeview stores to benefit Crimestoppers.

Hundreds of items will be auctioned at each event, including a guitar signed by the Eagles and a violin signed by the cast of the Sopranos.

For information and tickets, call the Crimestoppers office at 504.837.8477 or visit www.crimestoppersgno.org/ carnivale php on the Web.

Anyone with information about a felony crime is asked to call Crimestoppers at 504.822.1111 or toll-free at 1.877.903.7867. Send a tip online to www.crimestoppersgno.org.

WHAT'S INSIDE

▶ Church News

▶ Prep Report

▶ Tail Talk ▶ Check It Out

▶ Scene and Be Seen

3 3 4

5

6

10

School news

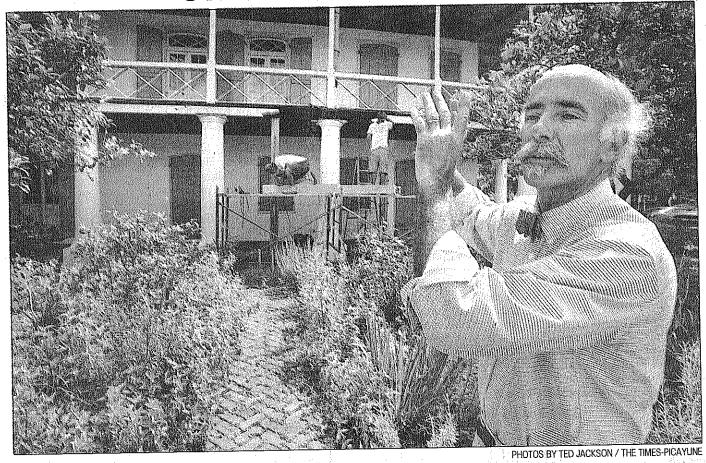
GETTING IN TOUCH

To report community news, call the New Orleans office at 826-3310.

Lynne Jensen, community news éditor Gordon Russell,

city editor E-mail: orleans@timespicayune.com

STRUCTURAL SUPPORT



Architect Daniel Taylor describes the procedure as Barry Nicholson, left, and Barry Siegel of Bywater Woodworks prepare to replace a beam at the Pitot House.

Grants spur repairs to landmark

Needs assessed before Katrina

By R. Stephanie Bruno

Barry Nicholson and Elijah Daniels of Bywater Woodworks recently balanced themselves on scaffolding in front of the historic Pitot House, wrestling a mammoth wooden beam into place. The craftsmen were working on structural support for the building's front gallery, one of a host of repairs and upgrades begun this summer with grants from the Almar Foundation, Ella West Freeman Foundation and National Trust for Historic Preserva-

See PITOT, Page 2



Nicholson and Siegel lift the specially milled beam into place.

Crusaders come out running

Great ground game makes first two wins

By Mike Strom

Somewhere Bobby Conlin is

Certainly, the late, legendary Brother Martin football coach

would have to be pleased at the results of the Crusaders' first two games under Mark Bonis.

Brother Martin has run roughshod over its first two opponents with an authoritative ground game reminiscent of Conlin's heyday on Elysian Fields Avenue. Conlin died in 1997 after serving as Martin's coach for 27 seasons from 1970 through 1996.

The Crusaders running back tandem of Dante' Butler and Chris Sutton combined to rush for 308 yards and three touchdowns in a 32-7 victory at Northshore last Friday. One week earlier, the Crusaders opened the Bonis coaching era on the road in Baton Rouge with

See PREP, Page 2

Longtime rivals meet for 40th time on Friday

Holy Cross, Chalmette seek season's 1st victory

> By Pierce W. Huff Staff writer

When Holy Cross plays at Chalmette on Friday for the 40th time in the state's oldest public-private school rivalry there will be something more on the line than St. Bernard Parish bragging rights.

Holy Cross (0-2) and Chal-

mette (0-2) each will be looking for their first victory of the sea-

And the quest for that first victory will only add fuel to the fire of both teams.

Chalmette opened the season with a 16-10 loss to McDonogh on Sept. 4. The Owls lost at East Jefferson 10-7 on Friday.

"We're just a bunch of no names trying to get a win," Chalmette Coach Jason Tucker

See HOLY CROSS, Page 2

Children's Museum exhibit more than a facade

Displays delve deeply into local architecture

> By Mary Rickard Contributing writer

Children growing up in New Orleans since Hurricane Katrina have probably seen more demolition, new construction, renovation and restoration than any generation since they city's founding as a French colony. When some of them walk into the newest permanent exhibit at the Louisiana Children's Museum, which opens Saturday, they'll probably pick up a T-square and know exactly what to do with it.

Proud to Call It Home is an invitation for children ages 4-10 to play architect, builder, draftsman, designer, plumber or electrician.

The exhibit is decorated with murals and has a New Orleans "look, feel and spirit," said Rachel Moritz, exhibit developer. "It's all about the architecture of New Orleans and about how kids 5, 6 and 7 years old might experience it... They can step into the shoes of the architectural designer and look at the planning stages. Do you put a skyscraper next to a house? Do you put a warehouse near the

The 1,800-square-foot installation is a place for children to learn about urban planning, said Julia Bland, the museum's executive director. "It helps them think of jobs and what elements are needed in a community."

When the museum started planning the exhibit before Katrina in 2003, one of the objectives was to demystify what's found behind Sheetrock, including pipes and wiring, Bland said. Thanks to Katrina, "we all know. what's behind the Sheetrock," she laughed.

KidZibits, the Minneapolis design company that conceived, built and installed Proud to Call it Home, as well as the Little Port of New Orleans exhibit, specializes in creating three-dimensional educational experiences for children.

Children will design at a drafting table, learning how to organize space, and will construct buildings with wooden blocks. They can put on hard hats in a construction zone and practice motor skills while imitating an electrician.

"It's all about doing, being and exploring," Moritz said.

Learning through hands-on, interactive experiences is an essential part of the museum's mission. "Play is the real work of children," said Shannon Seyler, marketing and public relations director, quoting Fred

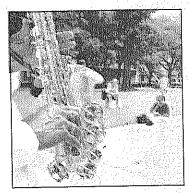
See MUSEUM, Page 2

A in new New Orleans



CONCERT SERIES KICK-OFF

Kristy Buchanan follows the beat as The Second Harvest Food Bank of Greater New Orleans and Acadiana kicked off its Harvest the Music series Sept. 10 at Layfayette Square with the Treme Brass Band. The free concerts will continue on Thursdays from 5-7:30 p.m. through Oct. 29 at the square. Food, drinks, art and crafts will be sold and money collected at the event will benefit Second Harvest Food Bank. For a concert schedule, visit www.harvestthemusic.org on the Web.



Holy Cross' move softens school rivalry

HOLY CROSS, from Page 1

Holy Cross began its season with a 19-7 loss at Slidell on Sept. 4 followed by a 41-7 loss against Jesuit on Friday in the 90th game in that storied ri-

Holy Cross allowed 244 yards rushing and had five turnovers (three fumbles and two interceptions) last week.

"We're real young," Holy

Cross Coach Barry Wilson said. "We're just not playing at the level where we need to play."

Tucker said the Chalmette-Holy Cross rivalry isn't the same since Holy Cross moved from the Lower 9th Ward to Gentilly.

"I think the rivalry is less than it was, because less kids who grew up in St. Bernard Parish go to Holy Cross," he said. "It used to be that these kids grew up playing ball together, but that's not the case." But Wilson said he wants to

keep the rivalry going as long as possible.

"It's always going to be a rivalry because of how close the schools were when Holy Cross was in the Lower 9th Ward," he

Holy Cross leads the series 26-10-3. The only year the teams didn't play was in 2005 because of Hurricane Katrina.

The last time Chalmette de-

feated Holy Cross was in 2003.

"We don't treat Holy Cross any differently than any other school," Tucker said. "We try to prepare for them the same

But that could change as Chalmette and Holy Cross each search for their first victory of the season.

Pierce W. Huff can be reached at phuff@timespicayune.com or 504.826.3787.

Crusaders face undefeated O. Perry Walker

PREP, from Page 1

a 49-6 thrashing of Glen Oaks in which Butler and Sutton each ran for two touchdowns to spark a 242-yard rushing effort.

"I'm sure Coach Conlin is (smiling)," Bonis said. "I'm happy with the running game. Numbers-wise, we have been productive. The offensive line has played well. Our running backs ran hard this week. They had a great week of practice and they're starting to understand that you play how you practice.

"That's been the emphasis to our entire team," Bonis added, "that you play how you prac-

Now the Crusaders play host to another undereated team in O. Perry Walker (2-0). Kickoff for the Crusaders-Chargers matchup is set for 7 p.m. Friday at City Park's Tad Gormley Sta-

Brother Martin's junior tailbacks, Butler and Sutton, and the front line have been nothing short of fabulous in establishing a rushing attack that for the first two weeks of the season has been the city's most impressive following an uninspiring effort in a preseason scrimmage versus West Jefferson. The Crusaders are averaging 301.5

PITOT, from Page 1

"We're finally getting the op-

portunity to do the work," said

Susan McClamroch, Pitot House director. "We started

evaluating the building's needs

several years ago, before Hurri-

cane Katrina, but it wasn't until

we were able to get grants for

the project that we were able to

Daniel D. Taylor of Koch and Wilson Architects evaluated the

centuries-old building's needs

and drew up plans for the re-

"The house really hadn't had

a comprehensive repair pro-

gram since the 1960s, when the

Louisiana Landmarks Society

moved it to its current site and

restored it," Taylor said. "There

had been spot repairs, but we

evaluated the entire loggia and

gallery system to identify areas

where wood was deteriorating

what was visible to his well-

trained eye, Taylor used three

investigative tools that he con-

siders crucial to any building

condition assessment: an ice

pick, a moisture meter and a

you can determine a lot with

those three tools," Taylor said.

"I use the ice pick to poke the

wood and see if it's really as

"It sounds unscientific, but

Instead of relying solely on

and needed work.

hammer:

rushing yards per game, 7.4 per carry, and have run for 10 touch-

No. 2 tailback Sutton, at 5-feet-11 and 190 pounds, leads the way with 263 yards and four touchdowns on 27 carries, while starter Butler, 5-feet-10 and 200 pounds, is a close second with 246 yards and three touchdowns on 28 attempts. Junior quarterback Ronnie Arant has contributed 78 yards and a touchdown on 10 rushes, while fullbacks Kyle Keen and Kyle Bencsek also have run for touchdowns.

Center Taylor Hebert, guards Hunter Dawson and Elbert Fulgham, tackles Jordan Greene and Francis "Trey" Williams, and tight end Patrick Regan have been the convoy clearing the way for Butler and Sut-

"Sutton is the one who has set the tempo for everybody with his practice habits the three weeks after we got throttled by West Jeff," said Bonis, who was Martin's offensive coordinator for the past three seasons before replacing Jay Pittman as head coach. "It's trickled down to everybody. We didn't perform to our capabilities (in the scrimmage). We had more of a lackadaisical mentality at practice then."

solid as it looks. If the pick sinks

in, I know there's trouble, so I

use the moisture meter to figure

out if water is intruding. The

hammer is useful because some

wood members aren't rotten on

the outside but they are at the

core. If the hammer hits it and

it sounds hollow. I know there's

Taylor's study uncovered the

rotted beam supporting the gal-

lery on the front of the building,

and deteriorated bases on some

of second-floor colonettes, which

are slender wooden columns. He

also found decayed railing

pieces and a variety of issues on

the rear loggia, the open porch

situated between two small

"When Landmarks got the

house from the Cabrini nuns

and moved it here, the loggia

had been completely closed in

and so it was opened up and

weather boards were installed

between the colonettes below

the railing," Taylor said, "But

once we started investigating,

we found that the weather-

boards had trapped moisture

and caused a lot of rot. We

didn't want to make the same

To find a solution to the loggia

issues, Taylor pored over files,

handwritten notes and sketches

made by his firm's founder,

Samuel Wilson, who served as

mistake again.'

rooms called cabinets.

an issue I can't see.'

Extensive repairs last performed in the 1960s

Against Glen Oaks, Butler's touchdown runs covered 20 and 40 yards, with Sutton's covering 1 and 52. Butler had a gamehigh 106 yards on nine carries, while Sutton added 97 yards on 11 attempts.

Their numbers were even more impressive against Northshore as Martin rushed for 364 yards. Sutton again led in rushing with 166 yards on 16 carries with touchdowns of 4 and 50 yards, and Butler was second with 140 yards on 19 carries with a 5-yard touchdown.

A goal for Martin's coaching staff and particularly that of Bonis is to get the offense's runpass ratio to 50-50. Currently, it stands at 80-20 in favor of the run, although wet and inclement weather conditions at Northshore dictated an emphasis on running the ball.

"I know you have to have a good ground game to be successful, but you've also got to have an effective passing game to get people out of the box,' Bonis said. "Obviously, we know our bread and butter is the running game, but I want us to have a good passing game as well. I want us to get close to being 50-50."

That goal and Martin's 10-game winning streak in regular-season play are expected to

project architect when the non-

profit Louisiana Landmarks So-

ciety moved the building to pre-

vent its demolition for construc-

tion of Cabrini High School. In

Wilson's files, Taylor found

sketches of three different ideas

for how the loggia could be re-

above the railing with weather-

boards below, and that was the

one they chose. There was an-

other that showed louvers above

but the Chippendale style railing below," Taylor said. "And a third drawing matched what's

on the west side of the building:

"We couldn't find a reason

why the first solution was cho-

sen," he said. "But we chose the

third because it will eliminate

the moisture-trapping condition

caused by the weatherboards

and will match what's already

on the west side of the build-

local landmark, the Historic Dis-

trict Landmarks Commission

had to review plans for the re-

pairs as well as for the proposed

treatment of the rear loggia.

Once the HDLC approved the

new approach, work got under

way immediately and now lou-

vered shutters between the col-

onettes extend all the way from

the floor to the ceiling of the log-

\$5.5 E

Because the Pitot House is a

louvers above and below.

"One sketch showed louvers

stored.

be tested Friday by always-talented O. Perry Walker, whose defense features one of the nation's top prospects in lineman Anthony Johnson, a Tennessee commit for 2011. The Chargers are coming off a 20-18 victory against Helen Cox last Thursday that followed a 20-6 seasonopening victory against Clark.

"This No. 88 (Johnson), I'm losing sleep thinking about him," Bonis said. "I may not even show film of him to the offensive line. I saw (Walker) in their scrimmage against South Lafourche and they've improved tremendously from then to now. So we'll see how we do against them because they look a lot like the Denver Broncos (whose team colors, helmet and helmet decal are worn by the Chargers)."

"We're obviously looking forward to this game," the O.P. Walker coach, Emmanuel Powell, said. "The big thing for us will be to be focused and disciplined against Brother Martin. My defense is playing well, but not as well as I would like. I think we can play so much better if we execute better."

As his crew worked to posi-

tion the support beam under

the front gallery, Bywater Woodworks owner Barry Siegel

gently guided the team while

discussing the challenges of the

to match what was there exac-

tly." Siegel said. "It had to be a

true 8 inch by 8 inch, so the

lumber supplier had to take a

bigger piece and mill it to the

right measurements. Then we

routed out slots in the beam

where the joists connect and

cut the scarf joint that will in-

terlock with what's already in

place. Before we fit it, we prime

every surface so that it won't be

susceptible to moisture in-

After a few exchanges of "a

little to the right" and "can you

lift your end higher?" Siegel's

crew secured the specially-

milled timber as if it were the

final piece in a very large jig-saw puzzle. After a few adjust-

ments and more sanding and

priming, the fit would be per-

fect. After adding a wooden peg

to prevent slippage, the crew

moved on to the next task in the

restoration of a 200-year-old

tracked on the Pitot House

Restoration progress can be

New Orleans treasure.

page on Facebook.

trusion."

"For that beam, the piece had

Mike Strom can be reached at mstrom@timespicavune.com or

New exhibit focuses on city's architecture

MUSEUM, from Page 1

Rogers, children's television personality.

The exhibit communicates the city's unique, historic architecture, including a miniature shotgun house and a Creole cottage, decorated for the periods in which they were built. "It has the feeling of going back in time," Moritz said. But it also displays modern architecture, including One Shell Square and the Superdome.

"A New Orleans architecture exhibit was part of the mu-seum's master plan," Bland said. One of the notable facts about New Orleans is that its original city plan is still intact, usable and visible, she added.

After Katrina, "fundraising for a new exhibit was the furthest thing from our minds,' Bland said. The museum has been focusing on outreach programs in St. Bernard Parish, Central City and the Lower Ninth Ward to bring play to children where they live. "Kids had lost so much that looked like childhood," she said.

To create a sense of relevance and authenticity for the new exhibit, the Louisiana Children's Museum formed a partnership with the Historic New Orleans Collection to select buildings typical of New Orleans to tell its history. Historian John Magill helped create a 300-year architectural timeline so children can identify where a particular building style belongs.

Magill put together a list the types of buildings and a chitectural components that a characteristic of the French Quarter, Garden District ar Uptown. He incorporated e ements indicative of the French and Spanish periods, includir galleries, balconies, courtyard and ironwork. Images were se off a few months ago, along wit the objectives of the museum, kidZibits could do the interpr tive planning.

Aftèr Katrina, much of th original exhibit plan wa scrapped and emphasis was pr on a "green" future, said Ji Clark, a KidZibits partner. The designed a house facade mad of recycled, energy-efficien materials, including solar par

"As our city continues to focu on the important task of r building, it's time for the child ren to engage in their ow building, especially a greene version," Bland said.

The Proud to Call it Home e hibit is being installed this wee on the museum's second floo between the Grocery Store ar Kids' Café, the two most pop lar exhibits. Everything is built to withstand heavy use.

About 120,000 people a yea visit the museum, includin members in 42 parishes and 2 other states, who are less fam iar with New Orleans' archite tural heritage, Bland said. Sh hopes Proud to Call it Home w continue to teach future gener tions about the significance New Orleans.

Mew Orleans Dicanune Published every Thursday by The Times-Picayune Publishing LLC

GORDON RUSSELL City Editor

LYNNE JENSEN Community News Editor

Please contact us as far in advance as

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU: If you have items of community interest, please

contact Lynne Jensen at: The Times-Picayune 3800 Howard Ave. New Orleans, La. 70125 Phone: 826-3310 Fax: 826-3007

E-mail: orleans@ timespicayune.com

possible of any scheduled event. Include with your information the date, time, loca-Also include the name of the organization and the name and telephone number of a contact person if we need to call for more information. E-mail photos or photographic prints submitted for publication should be i sharp focus. Send e-mail photos with a file size of at least 2 megabytes and in the .jpg format, to photos@timespicayune.com.

Retail advertising 826-3000

Classified advertising 821-1455

Circulation 822-6660

The Times-Picagune Classified. It Works

YOUR BEST SOURCE FOR ADVERTISING

Seturday Dental Exams Available Serving New Orleans and its Metropolitan area since 1994

COMPREHENSIVE DENTAL CENTRE NIOBE ALI JOSEPH, D.D.S.

"Come in as a Patient... Leave as Family"



New Patients/Walk-ins Welcome **Emergencies Seen Promptly**

 Bleaching Bonding

• Dentures Root Canals Veneers

 Fillings Extractions/

• Gum/ Wisdom teeth Periodontal Care

200 LAPALCO BLVD. STE B,

GRETNA, LA 70056 504-324-8042

Most Insurance plans and Medicaid accepted, Interest free financing available visa 🔠 ====

IPRE-AUTUMN SPECIAL

00 Full Exam & X Rays

Reg. • \$17000 exp. 10-31-09 w/coupon only

Toll Free 1-800-925-0000



We deliver. Get your subscription started today. 822-6660



Carrying handmade nosegays of fresh herbs, Ursuline Academy second- and third-graders led the procession at the Herb Blessing, which normally takes place on Aug. 15, the Feast of the Assumption, and honors the memory and contributions of Ursuline Sister Saint Francis Xavier Hebert. She is considered the first woman pharmacist in the United States and director of the first military hospital in the colony of New Orleans. From left are Sarah Dyer, Emma Vignes, Sophia Bell, Gloria Davies and Anna

Figueroa.