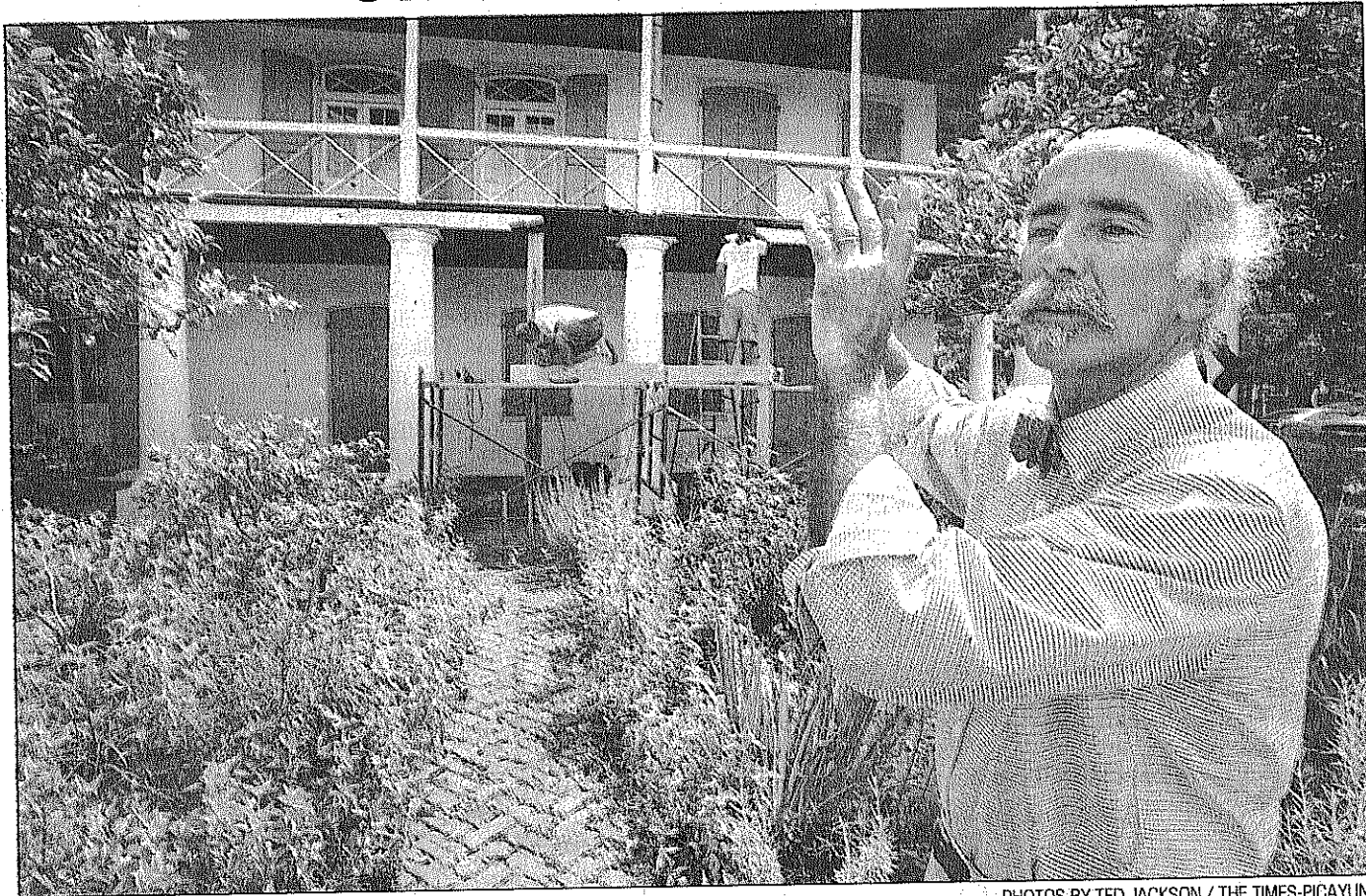


New Orleans Picayune

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2009

STRUCTURAL SUPPORT



PHOTOS BY TED JACKSON / THE TIMES-PICAYUNE

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.

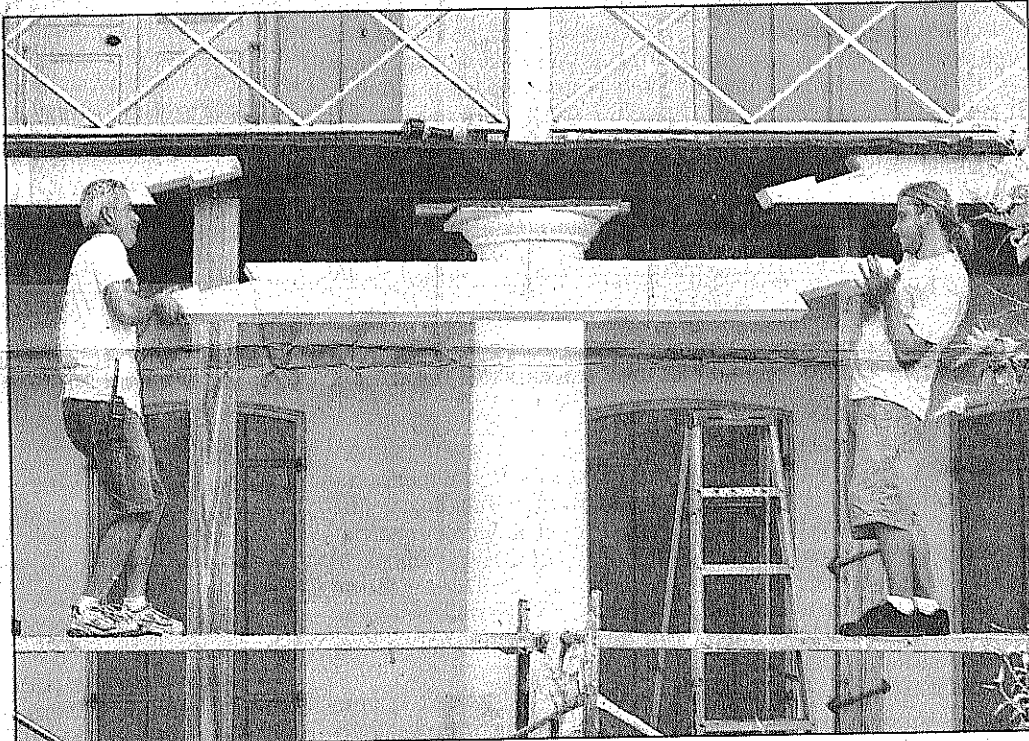
Grants spur repairs to landmark

Needs assessed before Katrina

By R. Stephanie Bruno
Contributing writer

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 Preservation.

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Nicholson and Siegel lift the specially milled beam into place.

Crusaders come out running

Great ground game makes first two wins

By Mike Strom
Staff writer

Somewhere Bobby Conlin is smiling. 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 season.

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 said.

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 river?"

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



CRESCENT 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 Davenport. 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, 233 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 Doulooureux 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.

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GETTING IN TOUCH

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

Lynne Jensen, community news editor
Gordon Russell, city editor

E-mail: orleans@timespicayune.com

WHERE I'M AT in new New Orleans



PHOTOS BY ELIOT KAMENTZ / THE TIMES-PICAYUNE

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 Lafayette 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.



