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New Orleans

Data

News Weekly

"The People's Paper"

Beauty Meets Brains

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November 27 - December 3, 2010 45th Year Volume 26 www.ladatanews.com

2010 Bayou Classic Weekend

New Orleans' Holiday Tradition



The Soul of New Orleans

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State Farm® presents the 2010 State Farm Bayou Classic®



Historic Classic represents decades-long partnership between NBC Universal and State Farm

The highly-anticipated rivalry between the Grambling State University Tigers and the Southern University Jaguars is set for November 27. Each year, four to five million viewers watch the play-by-play drama of the State Farm Bayou Classic® on NBC and 60,000 fans fill the New Orleans Superdome. This year, the Classic celebrates a 20-year partnership with NBC Universal and the 15-year Anniversary of the State Farm title sponsorship.

These relationships have propelled the Bayou Classic to more than just a game. Through enrichment programs

like the Super Job and HBCU College Fair, NBC Internship Programs with Grambling and Southern University students and the Annual Playground Build, the Bayou Classic has contributed to important economic development and rebuilding of New Orleans in the years prior to and following Hurricane Katrina.

"Bayou Classic is so much more than a game and we are thrilled to celebrate our 15 years as sponsor," said Pam El, State Farm Marketing Vice President. "This game brings more than 250,000 people to the City of New Orleans on Thanksgiving weekend generating vital revenue for the City. And with community focused efforts like our Annual Playground Build, our agents and volunteers are able to give thanks and give back to the people of New Orleans."

"We are very proud of our association with the game and thrilled to be celebrating the 20th Anniversary of the Bayou



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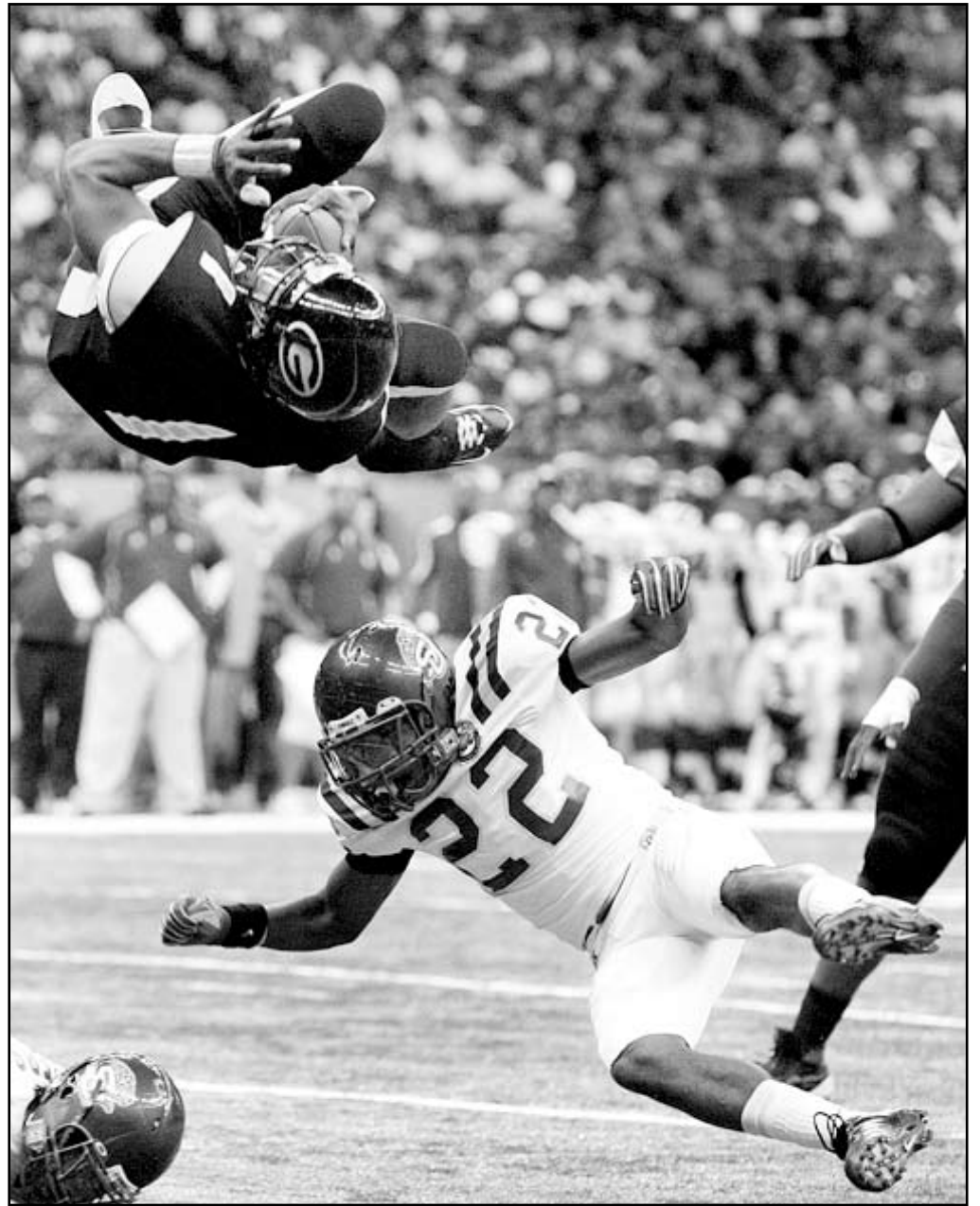
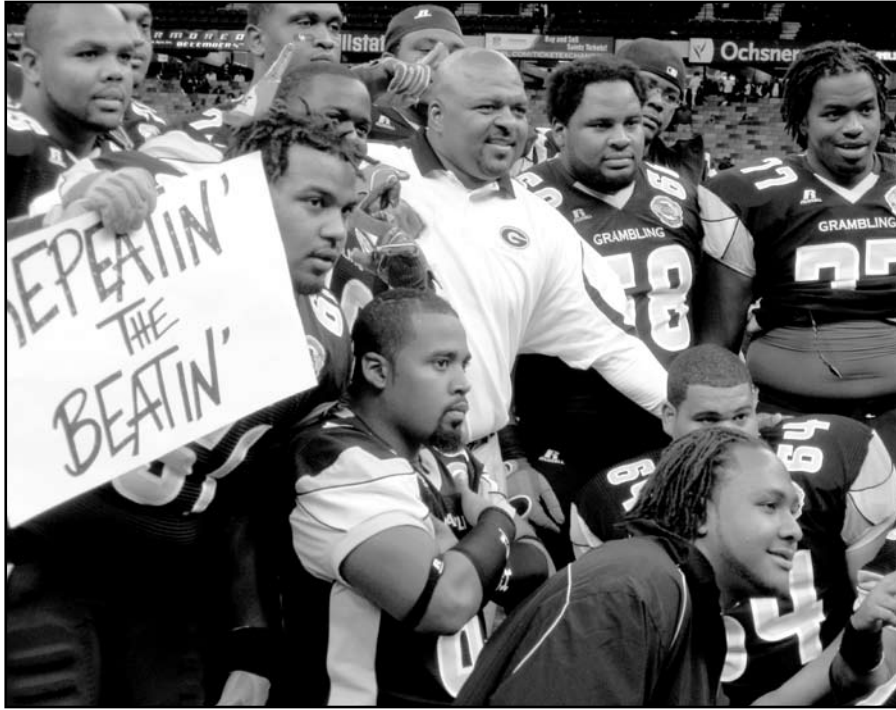
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Cover Story, Continued from previous page.



Classic on NBC. The Classic is a slice of Americana that is now synonymous with Thanksgiving weekend and provides four hours of great entertainment for our viewers," said Gary Quinn, Director of Business Development for NBC Universal. "We're also very proud of our partnership with Grambling and Southern and our Title Sponsor State Farm. Both the schools and State Farm have proven annually that this is more than just a football game, it's also about giving back to New Orleans and the local and regional communities in the State of Louisiana."

The State Farm Bayou Classic is the complete entertainment package. Tune into NBC at 1 p.m. on November 27th as the Tigers and Jaguars battle to break the 18-18 Bayou Classic tie.

Tickets for the State Farm Bayou Classic range from \$15 - \$50. Tickets for The Battle of the Bands and Greek Step Show are \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door. All tickets can be purchased by calling Ticketmaster at 800-745-3000, online at www.ticketmaster.com or at the Box Offices of Southern University [225-359-9328] and Grambling State University [318-274-4795].

Coors Light Continues Support of Bayou Classic

Company Encourages Fans to Plan Ahead and Never Drive Drunk, Also Provides \$20,000 in Scholarship Funds

Coors Light® reminds Bayou Classic fans that drunk driving is completely preventable. MillerCoors is partnering with TEAM Coalition, an alliance of professional and collegiate sports, concessionaires, and the beer industry, among others, to host a designated driver booth at the State Farm Bayou Classic Fan Festival in the Superdome's Champions Square. Fans that pledge to

be responsible will receive a free souvenir commemorative picture of themselves. In addition, MillerCoors will sponsor public service announcements about responsible alcohol consumption throughout the game.

Additionally, Coors Light will present a \$10,000 scholarship check to both Grambling State and Southern universities' representatives during the game.

"At the Bayou Classic, we will help provide safe and alternative transportation through initiatives such as issuing cab vouchers at festivities leading up to the game and by hosting a designated driver booth," said Gene Giron, manager of alcohol responsibility for MillerCoors. "While fans enjoy the game, MillerCoors reminds them to plan ahead for a safe ride home and never drive drunk."

Ethics Proceeding Against Rep. Maxine Waters Cancelled

NNPA Newswire - The House Ethics Subcommittee cancelled the Nov. 29th hearing that was scheduled to consider allegations of ethics impropriety against California Democrat Rep. Maxine Waters.

The Committee on Standards of Official Conduct panel said in a statement it postponed an adjudicatory hearing, the equivalent of a trial by the Committee, because new evidence has surfaced. The matter has been referred back to investigators.

The California Congresswoman decried the delay, saying it showed "a complete disregard for due process and fairness" given that the investigation began more than a year ago.

"Today, the Committee has brought discredit upon itself and this institution by denying me,

and more importantly my constituents, the right to set the record straight," she said in a statement.

Waters became a target of the ethics panel over allegations that she helped OneUnited, a Massachusetts-based, minority-owned bank in which her husband owned stock and once served as a board member, received \$12 million in bailout funds.

The Congresswoman was accused of arranging a meeting between the Black-owned bank officials and Secretary of Treasury Henry Paulson in 2008 without disclosing her husband's history with the company.

The Wall Street Journal, one of two newspapers that chronicled the receipt of \$12 million in federal money under the Troubled Asset Relief Program, has pointed out that members of Congress



US Representative Maxine Waters (D-CA)

may vote on matters that affect their financial holdings. But, the paper noted that the rules are unclear about the role members of

Congress can play in contacting Executive Branch Agencies about firms in which they have a financial stake.

The Congressional Black Caucus Member has maintained that her efforts to ensure that the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act assisted small and minority institutions were not solely on behalf of OneUnited.

"As the highest ranking African-American and woman on the Financial Services Committee, my staff and I did what we said we did and what we have always done, which is provide a voice in

the process for those who lack it," she said.

The evidence referred to by the Committee is, according to the Associated Press, an e-mail that, the wire service says, shows Waters, a Senior Member of the House Financial Services Committee, followed the drafting of language in the bank bailout bill that would have affected OneUnited. The newly discovered document—which Waters said the Committee actually had since Oct. 29th—will likely support her claims, she added.

"If this evidence is so damning, the Committee should present its case before the public, as we asked them to do when I first learned of their desire to postpone the hearing. Apparently the Committee now recognizes, as I have maintained, that there was no benefit, no improper action, no failure to disclose, no one influenced, and there is no case."



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Katrina Victims Stop Mississippi Governor's Plan to Divert Federal Hurricane Recovery Dollars

By Shernay Williams
AFRO-American Newspapers

"...Major Accomplishment...for Thousands of Households Previously Denied Assistance..."

NNPA Newswire - Some low-income Mississippi residents, still in need of recovery funds five years after Hurricane Katrina, will receive disaster recovery assistance following a recent settlement with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. After two years of litigation, the department agreed to redirect to needy residents for home rehabilitation a portion of funds earmarked for other Mississippi recovery efforts, including the expansion of the state's commercial port.

The \$132.8 million will also provide rehab funding to homeowners who were previously denied governmental support because of a stipulation against

rebuilding homes damaged by wind during the 2005 catastrophe. Through HUD's Community Development Block Grant Program, these low-income citizens will be eligible for up to \$75,000 in repairs and home reconstruction or receive assistance to seek permanent alternative housing, according to the Mississippi Center for Justice.

The lawsuit, filed by the Mississippi NAACP Chapter, the Mississippi Center for Justice and Gulf Coast Housing Advocates on behalf of the needy residents, challenged Mississippi Gov. Haley Barbour's decision to spend \$570 million in federal hurricane recovery money to expand the state's port at Gulfport. "This is a major accomplishment for the Plaintiffs in the lawsuit as well as the thousands of households previously denied assistance that will now be eligible for the federal aid they have always

needed," Larry Schoen, one of the attorneys that represented the residents, said in a statement. "It is a testament to the commitment of these Plaintiffs and the willingness of all parties to work toward a pragmatic and satisfactory solution."

Advocacy groups say priority was given to the insured when it came to federal assistance. Over \$1.4 billion in grants were paid to homeowners with insurance, but only \$387 million went to low and moderate-income households, according to Mississippi Federal Disaster Recovery reports in March. Which means only 27 percent of poor residents saw those recovery funds.

"Our focus always has been to get Mississippi to finish housing first," said James Crowell, Treasurer of the Mississippi NAACP. "With this plan, Mississippi has committed to repair low-income

households...We can now make progress toward repairing and rebuilding housing in low-income African-American neighborhoods that have been neglected for the past five years." As a result of the agreement, attorneys for the plaintiffs and HUD will withdraw their suit, now in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, the Chicago Tribune reported.

The state has begun an outreach campaign to identify further unmet recovery needs in nine southern Mississippi counties; Hancock, Harrison, Jackson, Pearl River, Stone, George, Lamar, Forrest, and Jones, according to a correspondence issued by the State's Disaster Recovery Division. Residents can apply for assistance through the Mississippi Disaster Recover Web site.



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A Million Dollar Girl Event



Dionne Character, Author
Entertainment Editor & Columnist



Meredith Dunbar, Nakina Eugene, Jevada Jones and Dorothea Wilson are all candidates competing for the 2011 Miss Black Louisiana USA Crown

With platforms such as stopping gun violence, increasing awareness of children's mental health issues in Louisiana, health awareness for African-Americans focusing on the prevention of chronic diseases and Youth Empowerment, Meredith Dunbar, Nakina Eugene, Jevada Jones and Dorothea Wilson, candidates competing for the 2011 Miss Black Louisiana USA, altogether come packaged with not only a beautiful mind, spirit and body, but with a mission for change.

Miss Black Louisiana USA is one of the state's leading and foremost successful scholarship programs providing assistance to young women of color. The goal of the organization is to promote educational, financial, and leadership status state-wide and on a national level within the African-American community. Miss Black Louisiana USA 2010, Dominique Melder, a Student of the University of New Orleans with a declared major in Theatre Production, whose platform focused on developing opportunities for children and young adults to express and expand their creative talents in building careers, will turn over her crown after a successful year of accomplishments.

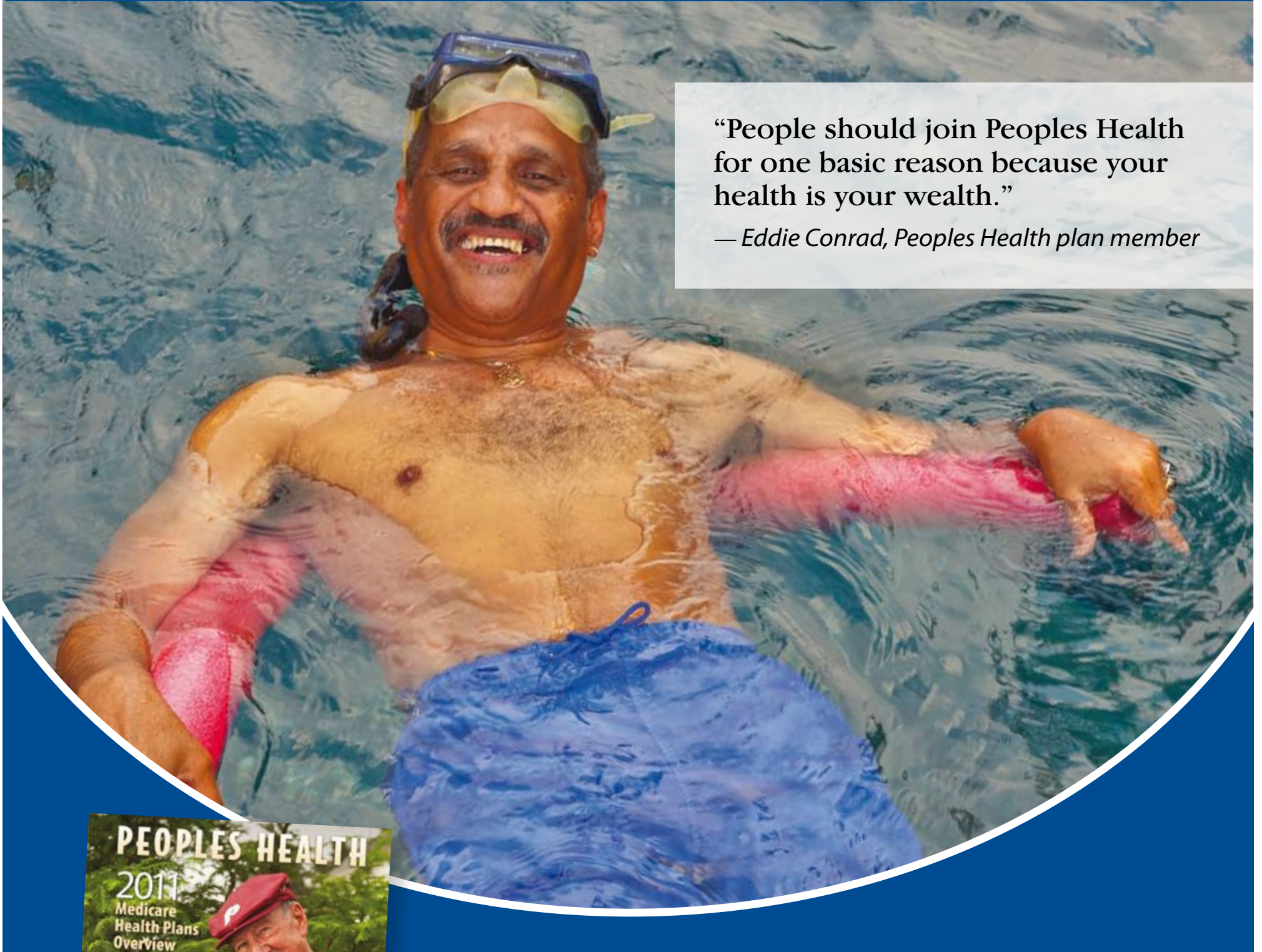
On Sunday, November 28, 2010 at 5:00 p.m., The Miss Black Louisiana USA Organization will be hosting The Million Dollar Girl Event on the campus of Tulane University in the McAlister Auditorium.

www.missblacklouisiana.org.

Dionne Character can be reached at www.dionnecharacter.com. For more information visit



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Jade Young is on a mission

Armed With Beauty, Brains and Bravery

By Melanie Kaufman
Photos by Irving Johnson III

When Jade Young, Miss Xavier 2010-11, stood in blinding spotlights before dozens of cameras and an audience of millions, she said she experienced an “out-of-body” moment. Young stood behind a podium that bore the distinctive seal of the President of the United States and, voice steady, introduced President Barack Obama to the exuberant audience.

Obama, flanked by his wife Michelle, acknowledged Young’s thoughtful introduction and flashed her one of his wide smiles.

From the pinnacle of introducing the first African American president as he visited Xavier on Aug. 29, 2010, to a nightmare that very nearly took her life three years earlier, Young has emerged as a campus leader, an advocate against violence, and a very different Miss Xavier.

Caught in crossfire

Young’s life changed one evening in fall 2007.

After enjoying a night out on the town in Baton Rouge, the Xavier freshman unknowingly walked into a gun battle. An innocent bystander, she was caught in the crossfire and was shot four times in her lower and upper arms. “I didn’t hear or feel anything. I just remember waking up on the ground,” Young recalled.

Young was hospitalized for three weeks. She underwent a number of orthopedic and reconstructive surgeries and was forced to sit out the remainder of her first semester at Xavier. “I returned the following semester. I had goals and a mission to tend to,” Young said. Since then, the P1 pharmacy student from New Orleans has consistently been named to the honorary dean’s list and has served as an active member in almost a dozen student organizations.

An Obama moment

Three years after her near-death experience, Young was given the honor of introducing President Obama, who visited New Orleans on the fifth anniversary of Hurricane Katrina.

The momentous occasion was “unbelievable and overwhelming; I cried backstage before and as I introduced the president,” Young said. The oppor-



tunity to tell First Lady Michelle Obama that she is her role model made the day even more meaningful. She remembers tearing up as the First Lady told her to “Believe in your dreams. Everything is possible if you believe in God.”

Voice against violence

“Part of my reason for becoming Miss Xavier was to become a voice for stopping violence,” Young ex-

plained. Likewise, she hopes her ability to overcome the physical trauma and permanent scars the bullets left behind will inspire other young women who face adversity.

“Our physical flaws don’t take away from our beauty,” she explained. “Beauty is an attitude, a way of being.”

She reflects on her past adversities and regards them as “humbling experiences.”

When she was featured in the September issue of Ebony magazine as one of the top 10 HBCU Campus Queens, the student again took the recognition in stride: “I am so blessed to be in this position. It is truly amazing, and I never thought that all of this would happen.”

As Young looks to the future, she is enjoying every moment in the present. At the coronation ceremony,

she will be joined by her mom, dad and siblings. After completing pharmacy school, Young intends to land a residency in infectious disease or veterinarian medicine. “I just want to make an impact on my society and the world around me,” she explained.

JMJ
Joseph M. Jones
Continuing Education Fund



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Dryades YMCA and New Orleans Saints Teamed Up for Annual Thanksgiving Food Basket Giveaway



Volunteers at Dryades YMCA handed out baskets with turkey and "fixins" to the community which were provided in partnership with the New Orleans Saints on Monday. Photo by Christopher Mercadel

1,200 families received a complete Thanksgiving dinner basket including a turkey and all of the fixins'

The Dryades YMCA and the Superbowl Champion New Orleans Saints football team hosted their Annual Thanksgiving Food Basket Giveaway on Monday. Twelve hundred families received a complete traditional Thanksgiving dinner basket including a turkey and all of the trimmings. The New Orleans Saints players were joined by the Dryades YMCA staff and volunteers in distributing the baskets.

Avis Brock, Director of Youth Development at the Y, and Coordinator for the event said that "we traditionally give away 1,000 dinners, but to address the rising need in our community we increased our efforts to 1,200 dinners this year. People started calling in September about the giveaway," Brock said. "Every family had to pre-register to receive a dinner basket. It's based on need." Brock says that the New Orleans Saints and Dryades YMCA have been a team for the annual giveaway for as long as she can remember. "I've been here at the Dryades Y for 10 years, and they were doing it long before I got here."

University Chorus Presents Christmas Cantata "Nazarene" and Premiere of "Songs on the Coming of Christ"

The University Chorus at Xavier University will present two Christmas concerts on Thursday, December 2nd at 7:30 pm and Saturday, December 4th at 2:00 pm in the Music Building Recital Hall. Both concerts are free and open to the public.

The University Chorus is directed by Dr. John E. Ware. The students will perform Nazarene by Luigi Zannelli, a Retired Professor of Music at the University of Southern Mississippi. The Christmas Cantata features two student soloists Crystal Morris, Soprano from Jackson, Mississippi and Justin Williams, Baritone from Los Angeles, CA; and two narrators - Danovan Calhoun-Bettis of New Orleans and Jennifer Smith of Inglewood, CA.

The chorus will also give the premiere performance of new music composed by Dr. Ware.

For more information on the University Chorus' Christmas concerts,

Contact the Xavier Department of Music at 504-520-7597.

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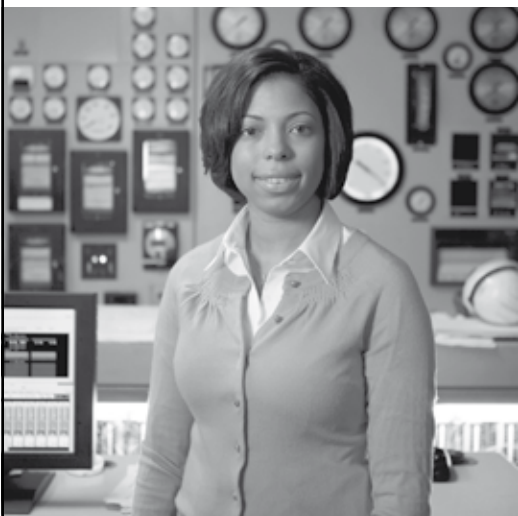
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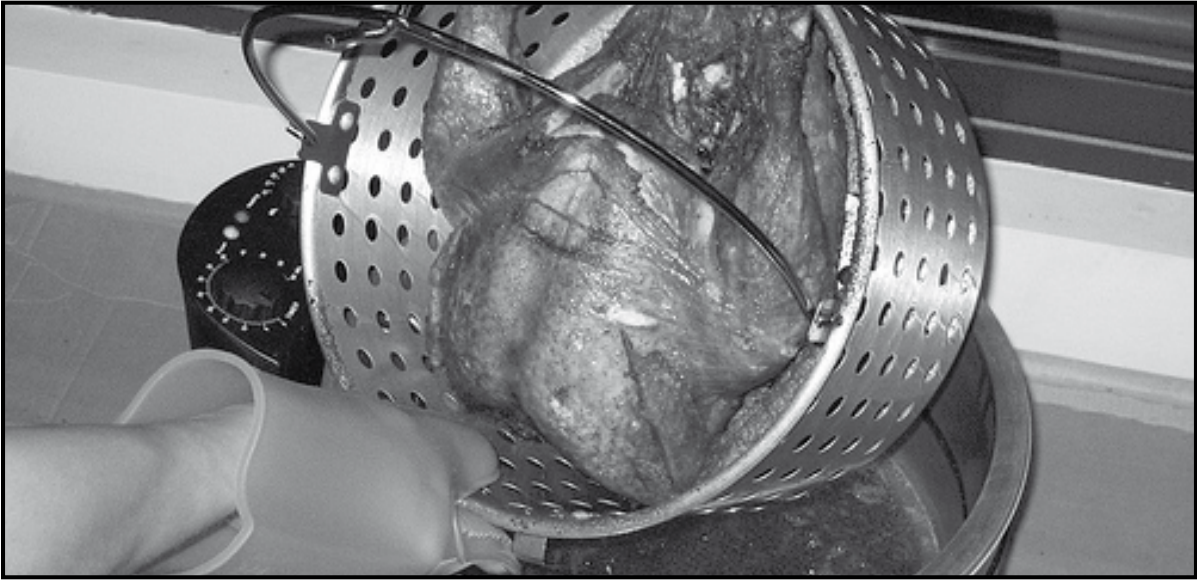
Leah Badger, Engineer



A message from Entergy New Orleans, Inc. ©2010 Entergy Services, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Fried Turkey Grease Drive

Fry turkey. Donate grease. Reduce emissions. Save our planet.



The peanut oil used to fry turkeys can be recycled to produce biodiesel.

Did you know that the oil you use to fry your holiday turkey could fuel an 18-wheeler?

The Gulfsouth Youth Biodiesel Project (GYBP), a program of Operation REACH, Inc., and AmeriCorps NCCC have partnered to collect used cooking oil from households frying turkeys this Thanksgiving. The collection campaign runs from November 29th to December 4th. All cooking oil will be used to produce eco-friendly biodiesel fuel.

The weeklong grease collection will help raise environmental

awareness about alternative fuels and will enable local households to recycle the cooking oil used to fry turkeys for Thanksgiving. The used cooking oil collected by the GYBP will be made into biodiesel fuel by youth participants involved in the program.

For a list of drop-off points in the Greater New Orleans area, click here: [Drop-off Points](#)

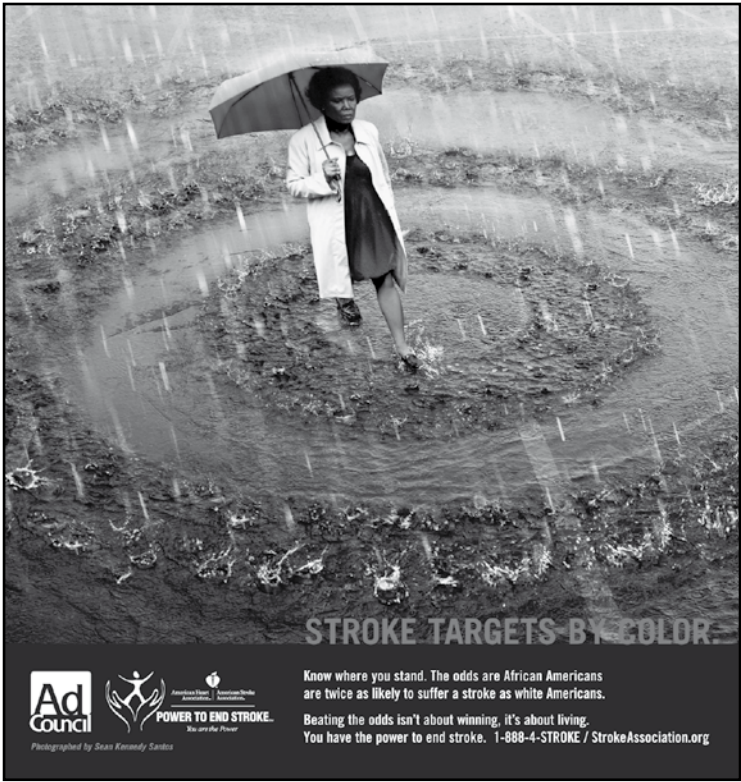
*Frying oil should not be handled until it has fully cooled. Please use a funnel to pour oil back into its original container before dropping off.

Fried Turkey Grease Drive

Fry turkey. Donate grease. Reduce emissions. Save our planet.

Turkey Grease Drop-Off Points in the Greater New Orleans Area

<ul style="list-style-type: none">Crescent City Farmers Market Tuesday, Nov. 30, 2010 9:00am-1:00pm Thursday, Dec. 2, 2010 3:00-7:00pm Saturday, Dec. 4, 2010 8:00am-12:00pm	200 Broadway St. New Orleans, La. 70118 3700 Orleans Ave. New Orleans, La. 70119 700 Magazine St. New Orleans, La. 70130
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Euterpe Recycling Center Monday, Nov. 29 - Saturday, Dec. 4, 2010 24 hours	1829 Euterpe St. New Orleans, La. 70113
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Hollygrove Market & Farm Tuesday, November 30, 2010 12:00-6:00pm Saturday, Dec. 4, 2010 10:00am-2:00pm	8301 Olive St. New Orleans, La. 70118
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Louisiana Technical College -Metairie Campus Directions to warehouse: Turn into faculty parking lot, the warehouse is on the left after the 2nd speed bump. Monday, Nov. 29 - Friday, Dec. 3, 2010 9:00am-5:00pm	5200 Blair St. Metairie, La. 70003
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Lower 9th Ward Village Monday, Nov. 29 - Saturday, Dec. 4, 2010 10:00am-5:00pm	1001 Charbonnet St. New Orleans, La. 70117
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Tallow Tree Community Center Monday, Nov. 29 - Saturday, Dec. 4, 2010 24 hours	1024 Orange Blossom Lane Harvey, La. 70058
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Whole Foods Market (2 locations) Monday, Nov. 29 - Friday, Dec. 3, 2010 8:00-10:00am and 6:30-8:30pm Saturday, Dec. 4, 2010 8:00am-5:00pm	5600 Magazine St. New Orleans, La. 70115 3420 Veterans Blvd. Metairie, La. 70002



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