

The COCONUT TELEGRAPH

MARGARITAVILLE MARCH-APRIL 1993

VOLUME 9, #2



**Ran into a chum
With a bottle of rum,
And we wound up
Drinking all night.**



We've lived in Washington, D.C. for most of our lives but have never been very active in politics or it's surrounding affairs. That is until we heard that Jimmy Buffett was performing at the Tennessee Ball; one of the official inaugural celebration balls President Clinton would be attending.

Being true Parrot Heads, we had to find a way to witness this historic event. Not having tickets (which started at \$175.00) made this somewhat difficult, but not impossible. Having an inside connection at the Washington Hilton, and with a local company providing the lighting at this event greatly enhanced our chances.

We showed up early Wednesday (Jan. 20) evening, underdressed in jeans and "If we weren't all crazy we would go insane" T-shirts, and naturally stood out from the rest of the revelers outfitted in rental tuxes and evening gowns.

We discovered that Jimmy was not scheduled to perform until midnight, so we decided to head back to Georgetown. We found ourselves at Champions Bar standing next to Ted Koppel doing an Nightline interview with a member of the Young Republican Party while his cronies chanted "Quayle in '96!" [Insert comment here.] At any rate, we got our picture taken with Ted Koppel, had a couple of beers for courage, and headed back to find Buffett.

lights, overlooking the entire ball. It was very cramped and hot as hell from the heat of the spotlights.

Paul Simon began performing "You Can Call Me Al", prompting Vice-President Al Gore and his wife Tipper "Watch Those Lyrics" Gore to jump on stage and show all America their own version of the Tennessee Waltz.

After a brief intermission, Jimmy Buffett & The Coral Reefers finally took the stage.

**Is this a great country or what.
Where else can you see the president
jamming with Jimmy Buffett?**

We found our contact person and proceeded to our vantage point, sandwiched between the sound system and the stage

It was a definite surprise to see Jimmy dressed in a black tux with a Telecaster hanging around his neck. It was no surprise, however, when he tore the bow tie from around his neck and tossed it into the crowd.

The big moment came when President Clinton appeared and announced to all that, "Yes, Jimmy Buffett is a friend of mine!" Jimmy then brought his family on stage to meet the first family, and segued into the most appropriate "Changes in Latitudes, Changes in Attitudes." It was then that the President of the United States of America, the leader of the free world, and arguably the most powerful man on the face of the earth, grabbed a saxophone and jammed along with Jimmy to the roar of the crowd. Certainly a moment in Parrot Head Madness that will long be remembered.

By The Mayr Brothers - Ingo & Andy



Jimmy & The Reefers at the Tennessee Ball. Photo: J.L. Jamison

THE IGUANAS

A piece of music from the Iguanas has the basic elements of soulful, rootsy expression and engaging rhythm, but any attempt to categorize or label the New Orleans-based band is impossible. As their debut album on **Margaritaville Records** shows, they find the right qualities for Iguanas music in everything from New Orleans rhythm and blues to Tex-Mex conjunto music and all points in between.

The Iguanas kick off the album with the syncopated hometown beat of "Late At Night" and then move immediately to the Latin atmosphere of "Para Donde Vas." From that point, any style of music is fair game, from the country rock of "This Night of Sin" to the Mexican polka of "Take Your Pictures, Your Letters And Your Ring," from the twin tenor saxophone sound of "If I Turned To You" to the accordion lead on "Dark And Dangerous Love." They create a hypnotic atmosphere for legendary New Orleans writer **Allen Toussaint's** "Fortune Teller," a contrast to the rocking-good advice set forth in "Don't Treat Her Mean." Lyrically as well as musically, the Iguanas keep the scenery changing constantly, from the poetic Spanish imagery of "Por Mi Camino (Along My Way)" and the romance of "No Te Olvidare (I Won't Forget You)" to the direct one-on-one confessional of "Nervous" and the other-woman situation of "You Make It Hard."

The sound of the Iguanas came to life in New Orleans in 1990, but it is rooted all across North America in the diverse backgrounds of the five band members:

Joe Cabral, vocals, tenor sax and bajo-sexto (a Mexican rhythm guitar), was raised in Omaha where his first musical experiences came in his father's Mexican hand. Attending college in Missoula, MT., he discovered Chicago blues, New Orleans R&B and honking sax players.

Rod Hodges, vocals, guitar and accordion, began playing guitar in San Francisco-area blues and rock bands at the age of 14. Later, while playing in a blues band in Colorado, he rediscovered the conjunto music that was a part of his mother's Mexican heritage. Inspired by master musician **Flaco Jimenez**, he took up the accordion.

Willie Panker, drums began playing blues in his hometown of Chicago at the age of 10. He has performed with such blues greats as **James Cotton**, **Albert Collins** and **Junior Wells**.

Rene Coman, bass, is a native of New Orleans. A professional musician since high school, he has toured the U.S. and Europe. His recording credits include **Alex Chilton**, **Guitar Slim Jr.** and **Willy DeVille**. He also produced an album for **Tav Falco's Panther Burns** of Memphis.

Derek Huston, tenor sax and background vocals, grew up in Washington, D.C., playing roots-rock, New Orleans R&B and rockabilly music. He majored in music at **Duke University** and moved to New Orleans on Halloween, 1990.

In the late 1980's **Cabral** and **Hodges** moved south from Colorado to pursue their favorite music; the distinctive New Orleans style of rhythm and blues. Initially they played New Orleans style music, but when they threw in some music from their Mexican heritage, the fans loved it. The Iguanas quickly became the hottest new band in New Orleans, winning the 1990 **Big Easy Award for Best Emerging Talent**. The following year they received a **Big Easy Award for Best Rock Band**, and a spot at the **Jazz and Heritage Festival**. Their debut album was produced by **Justin Niebank**, a veteran of the Chicago blues scene.

Catch the Iguanas this month on their southern **Spring Break Tour**, and also this summer opening for **Jimmy Buffett & The Coral Reefer Band**.



By Sun Tracks writer **Robert Baird**

Every year at Austin's South by Southwest music conference, the who's hot buzz quotient gets a little more frenzied.

The most unusual case of trendy-band buzz in recent memory happened three years ago, when most of the preshowcase hype centered on an unknown band from New Orleans called the Iguanas. The word was they were fronted by a pair of tenor-sax honkers, both of whom could sing in English and Spanish. Its music, according to a legion of music fans who'd never seen the group live, ranged from "calypso" and "Tex-Mex" to "New Orleans R&B" and "roots rock." The

best pregig summation came from a crusty guy who'd seen the band at **Tipitina's** in New Orleans.

"It's the best band in Nawlins," he slurred late one night. Everyone in the room agreed that any band that could excite a musically jaded, not to mention well-lubed, New Orleans native had to be worth a look.

The band's showcase the following night at Austin's shoebox-size **Continental Club** was packed full of wide-eyed critics and Texas music celebs. Unlike most hype-assisted acts, the Iguanas delivered in spades.

As the set progressed, the points of the





The IGUANAS

Joe Cabral
Rod Hodges
Rene Coman
Derek Huston
Willy Panker
(L-R)



If you love Tex-Mex ~ zydeco ~ cajun ~ norteno ~ R&B ~ mambo ~ conjunto ~ button-accordion ~ cumbia ~ saxophone ~ dance-til-you-drop ~ conga line music, then you're already an IGUANAS fan.

To keep up to date on where and when they'll be in your town, what's hot and what's new, just send us your name and address.

We'll send you a free copy of the IGUANAS newsletter, *Lizard Tales*, plus complete information on how to become a charter member of the IGUANAS Fan Club!

Name _____
Address _____
City _____
State _____ Zip _____

THE IGUANAS

PO Box 23203
Nashville, TN 37202

Iguana style became apparent - blues, Tex-Mex, and lots of saxophone powered R&B of the King Curtis-Sam Taylor variety. Musically, the Iguanas sound remarkably like Los Lobos - border rock with New Orleans second-line rhythms and Caribbean dance music spiced in to give it a kick.

When asked to describe their music, all the band's two reed rockers, Joe Cabral and Derek Huston, could do was shrug. "Actually, we still have trouble describing it," Cabral said. He and the rest of the band were at New Orleans Recording Company, a well-known studio outside

N.O. where the group is currently recording it's debut album for Margaritaville Records, the MCA-distributed label owned by Jimmy Buffett.

"It's definitely a New Orleans kind of thing," Derek Huston says, still searching for words to capture the band's music. Much of it comes from the diverse musical personality of the Big Easy. "It's a New Orleans city sound, closer to mambo than to Cajun music. I don't know if there's anywhere else other than New Orleans where a band and a sound like ours could have evolved."

Most bands that attempt so many dif-

ferent kinds of music end up with a jumbled sound that has no identifiable thread. In both their original music and their bizarre covers of long-lost classics, the Iguanas have mastered a convincing style. It's an unmistakable sound that works as well with a polka or a waltz as it does with hard-drivin' rocker. The sight of twin saxophone leads also makes the band a hot live act.

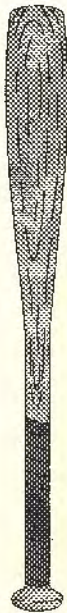
"Rather than discussing the different styles that go into it, the best way to describe our music is to say it's about dancing, about a groove and about having a hell of a good time."



MARGARITAVILLE BASEBALL JERSEY

100% cotton button-down jersey. Margaritaville - Key West screened on left front chest. BUFFETT & #22 screened on back. Features include double-stitched inner facing, extended tail and double-inset sleeves. Available in athletic gray only. BUFFETT & #22 outlined in black with color accent. Inset sleeve and color accent available in Red, Jade or Navy Blue. Size: S,M,L& XL. (Jersey's run big) **\$34.00**

Why #22? This was Jimmy's number in high school, and he requested that we use this number.



MARGARITAVILLE GLASSWARE



CAFE GLASS
Holds 10oz. \$7.50 Ea. 4/\$25.00



KEY WEST FIX
Coffee Mug \$6.50
6oz. Coffee 5.00
Coffee & Mug \$10.00



MARGARITAVILLE LICENSE PLATES

Standard size metal license plates patterned after official Florida Manatee plates. \$1.00 from each sale is contributed toward protecting manatees. License plates are **\$8.00** each.

MARGARITAVILLE BALLCAPS

100% Poplin Cotton Ballcap featuring Margaritaville Store or Parrot Head Club embroidered on front panel. **Store Cap** available in solid White, Aqua, or Tropical print. **Parrot Head Club** in solid White, Navy, or Tropical Print. Ballcaps are **\$15.00** each.



NEW MARGARITAVILLE JAMMIN' POLO SHIRT



Stone Washed 100% Combed Cotton Polo Shirt.

Island figure embroidered on left front chest, "We Be Jammin! Margaritaville Key West." Features include banded sleeves, split tail and 2-button style placket collar. Available in Navy Blue, Burgandy or Olive Green.

Size: M, L, XL & XXL. \$34.00



ANOTHER MARGARITAVILLE T-SHIRT

Unique striped rib crew neck, extra top-stitching, athletic V-insert and underarm gussets make this T' stand out. Crew neck stripe and bar in Billiard Green, Margaritaville - Key West in Navy Blue. Available in White only. Size: S,M,L & XL. \$19.95



MARGARITAVILLE GLASSWARE

MARGARITA GLASS

\$10.00 Ea. 2/\$15.00

MARGARITA MIX \$5.00

2 Glasses & Mix \$20.00



KOOLKUPS

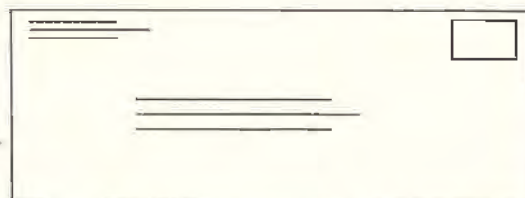
\$3.00 Ea. 6/\$15.00

CONCERT ANNOUNCEMENT...PLEASE READ

Contrary to what you may have heard, Jimmy Buffett is touring this summer. Contrary to what you may have also heard, we **do not** get early notification of the dates. We find out the dates only when the venues release them. By the time they are printed and mailed in the Coconut Telegraph, they're old news.

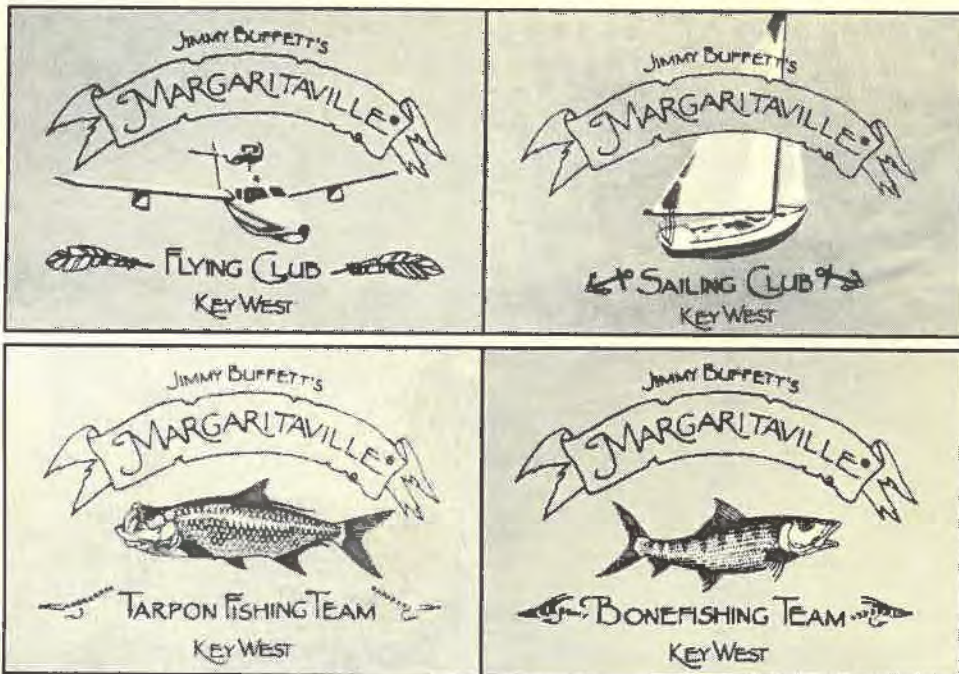
We can send you the tour schedule the day we get it. **To receive a copy, send us a legal size, self-addressed stamped envelope.** We'll dispatch it to you via a friendly federal employee. Again, send a self-addressed legal size envelope to the PO Box listed on the mailing panel. Thanks.

Self Addressed Stamped Legal Size Envelope.





**They're
Back!**



The Fin Hat is Back!

100% cotton long-billed fishing cap. Rear flap provides protection from solar flares. Velcro fin is removable, making our fin hat suitable for all social affairs.

Available in White, Royal Blue, Khaki, or Grey.

Size: S,M,L& XL. \$19.95

Small, 6 7/8-7

Medium, 7 1/8-7 1/4

Large, 7 3/8-7 1/2

XLarge, 7 5/8-7 3/4

NEW MARGARITAVILLE OUTFIT T'S

100% Garment Dyed crew neck T featuring new Club/Team Series. Designs include Flying Club or Sailing Club, and Bonefishing Team or Tarpon Fishing Team. Garment dyed material will fade naturally over time. Available in Khaki Tan, Navy Blue or Wine. Size: M,L,XL,& XXL. \$17.95

**CALL TOLL FREE
1 800 COCOTEL**

KEY WEST BOOKS

Key West Companion

Discusses the fascinating history of Key West. \$12.95

The Key West Reader

Stories of shipwrecks & smugglers, rum & romance, hurricanes & history. Hardback \$19.95, Paperback \$12.95

OCEAN LORE

Following The Equator

Mark Twain's classic piece of travel writing, brimming with Twain's celebrated brand of ironic, tongue-in-cheek humor. \$15.95

Ocean Almanac

Offers essays, anecdotes, facts, and legends all pertaining to the earth's oceans. \$17.50

BUFFETT BOOKS

Tales From Margaritaville

Jimmy's first literary effort ran for 7 months on the New York Time's Best Seller list. Hardback \$16.95, Paperback \$9.95

Where Is Joe Merchant?

Jimmy's first full length novel follows Frank Bama's search for the rock star Joe Merchant. Hardback \$19.95

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate you all who put this publication together, even if I haven't received one for a while. Diane Thompson, Queensland, Australia.

EVANGELINE

Dear Parrot Heads,

Thank you for making last summer such a rocker! Our experiences with you and Jimmy on the "1992 Recession Recess Tour" were a phenomenal delight! We were wined, dined and out of line in over 54 cities across America. Ya'll sure know how to attend a concert! And kudos to the guy in Cincinnati who arrived wearing simply a ring buoy and a fishnet. We've selected you to be our next "Bayou Boy."

We'd also like to express our appreciation to those of you who purchased our debut album, **Evangeline**. Word has it that Parrot Heads have been sighted leaving the Margaritaville Stores with bags full of tapes and CD's. Thanks guys. By the way, if you have had any trouble locating our CD in your town, you can contact us through our "Friends of Evangeline" fan club at the address below, and we'll have our record company "Pres" personally run a copy to your house...NOT! But if you're interested in finding out more about us and our schedule, drop us a line and we'll fill you in.

We are currently gathering, writing, and rehearsing new material for our second album which we will begin recording in Nashville in the very near future. Our latest single, "If I Had A Heart" has just been released, so call your radio stations and tell them to play it for you! And look for us onstage often at the new **Margaritaville Cafe** on Decatur Street in the French Quarter here in New Orleans.

Once again, thanks to all you Parrot Heads for making 1992 a great year for Evangeline. Special thanks to Jimmy "The Pres", Bob Mercer - General Manager of Margaritaville Records, Mike Utley - VP A&R Margaritaville Records, and Shellie Erwin who keeps everything running so smoothly.

See ya'll soon,
Beth McKee
Kathleen Stieffel
Rhonda Lohmeyer
Sharon Leger
Nancy Buchan



EVANGELINE
Lafayette Square Station
PO Box 2700
New Orleans, LA 70176

recycled



COCONUT TELEGRAPH

Keep in touch with Key West and Margaritaville. The Coconut Telegraph is mailed 6 times a year. \$5.00 covers printing & postage. Outside U.S. \$10.00.

ORDERS TOTALING \$25.00 OR MORE GUARANTEES A YEARS SUBSCRIPTION. SORRY, AVAILABLE TO U.S. CUSTOMERS ONLY.

MAIL ORDERS: Make check or money order payable to **The Coconut Telegraph**. Send to T-shirts, PO Box 1459, Key West, FL 33041. SORRY, NO C.O.D.'s.

CREDIT CARD ORDERS: Call toll free 1-800-262-6835 Monday thru Friday, 9AM-5PM EST. \$10.00 MINIMUM CREDIT CARD ORDER.

TOLL FREE LINE FOR ORDERS ONLY PLEASE.

FAX # (305) 296-1084

ALL OTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CALL (305) 292-8402.

We accept overseas orders. Please send payment in U.S. dollars and double surface shipping/handling charges.

SHIPPING/HANDLING CHARGES: 3 items or less \$4.00, 4-6 items \$6.00, 7 or more items \$7.50. We ship via UPS. Florida residents please include 7% sales tax. Please allow 4 weeks for delivery.

1-800-GOGOTEL

QTY	ITEM	SIZE	COLOR (3)	PRICE
We Accept VISA, MasterCard & American Express			SUB TOTAL	
Florida Residents only, add 7% sales TAX			SHIPPING	
			TOTAL	
NAME				
ADDRESS				
CITY				
STATE		ZIP		PHONE
CREDIT CARD NO.			EXP	
CHECK NO.		SIGNATURE		

Interactive Personal Service



Photo: Eric Hasenka

8

Computer Parrot Heads from across the country took Key West by storm over one unforgettable weekend in February. A media blitz occurred; Parrot Heads appeared in local newspapers and on a local radio talk show. Parrot Heads were also "news features" on other radio stations during their stay as February 15-20 was declared **Parrot Head Week in Key West.**

Who were these people? Well, they were doctors, lawyers, and Indian Chiefs. John/Jane Doe from anywhere USA came to Margaritaville with two things in common; Parrot Headism and Prodigy. For those still stuck in the 70's, Prodigy is a computer bulletin board, or as they bill themselves, an "Interactive Personal Service." Through Prodigy, it's possible to access a variety of services, including a Music Bulletin Board which contains the topic Parrot Head Madness.

"We started the topic in Prodigy in September, 1990, and Parrot Heads all over the country communicate daily to discuss Jimmy Buffett, his songs, his concerts, and how he's affected our lives. Friendships have been made via electronic mail as we all have a common Parrot Head lifestyle to bring us all together."

For the last six months members have planned to get together in Key West, and I'll be damned if they didn't pull it off. Over 100 people showed up for the **First Annual Prodigy Parrot Head Convention.** Activities included snorkeling, sailing, seaplane rides, golfing, and a sunset cruise culminating in a party at the Margaritaville Cafe Friday night. Tony Tarracino, the infamous **Captain Tony**, was on hand, and **City Commissioner Jimmy Weekley** was there to present the Official Proclamation declaring it Parrot Head Week in Key West.

Friends were made, awards were given and future plans concocted. All involved had a terrific time. We hope the Prodigy Parrot Heads enjoyed all that Key West has to offer. We hope they all received copies of the Key West Citizen and the proclamation, and we especially hope they treasure forever the commemorative Prodigy Parrot Head Madness Coconut.

Thanks to all of you for coming.



THE COCONUT TELEGRAPH
MARGARITAVILLE
PO BOX 1459
KEY WEST, FL 33041

BULK RATE
POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT NO. 225
KEY WEST, FL 33040