

# DOMINO COLLEGE

## Summer school was never this fun!

ne of those winters back in the early eighties, Dan Fogelberg showed up in St. Barths, and we took off south aboard that grand old yacht Escapade.

The night before, my guitar had been stolen out of my car, and of course we had been inspired by events of the week and wanted to

write songs. Now our trip had a mission. We picked up some leads in the marketplace in Charlestown, the main city on the island of Nevis, which led us into the hills to Butlertown, where we met a man who made guitars. On the way to his home, we passed a roadside shed with a cold beer sign and the words Domino College painted on a piece of driftwood. I sat in for a few games and was given a quick education by the old men seated around the table. That night, as we lay at anchor under the cliffs below Brimstone Hill listening to the monkeys jabbering in the trees, we started this song. I have often thought I might like to go back down to Domino College and get my master's degree." - Jimmy Buffett's flashback in the Parrot Head Handbook, included in the double platinum compilation, Boats, Beaches, Bars & Ballads.

Domino College first graced the pages of the Coconut Telegraph back in 1992. Roving reporter Juliette Borchers wandered across the campus of this less than auspicious university and sent us her report. We've sent Juliette back for a

refresher course. Actually she's fortunate enough to live in Nevis, and we're fortunate enough to have her scouting the place for future Margaritaville sites. Juliette's report was faxed to our foreign affairs desk, subjected to very little editing, and presented here both for its educational and entertainment

value.

We first visited The College back in 1992 when a group of adventuresome Parrot Heads visited the

unique bar on the remote island of Nevis in the

West Indies. The site where Jimmy received his "education" and learned to "roll 'dem bones" is still in operation in the tiny village of Butlers on Nevis.

Domino College was inaugurated in 1972 by Joseph Sargeant.

The venue provided an opportunity for local Nevisians and visitors to learn and perfect the fine art of dominoes. It's sole classroom is a covered area beside the bar with a blackboard on the wall used to tally the scores, a few tables and chairs and some of the finest domino game pieces on the island.

In 1992 Joseph "Sarge" Sargeant recalled the day in 1976 when Jimmy and Dan Fogelberg happened upon the college, treasuring the memory of two weather-worn young men and the session described

by Jimmy in the Parrot Head Handbook.

Sarge passed away on March 23, 1993, after a long and fruitful life on the small island of Nevis. Sarge's life was celebrated by those in his community, as his impact was felt across the entire island. Like many of the characters embraced in Jimmy's songs, Sarge was well-loved by the island people.

Sarge's wife, Winifred Sargeant, has taken over the running of the college, and during a recent visit she detailed the history of Domino College. The primary purpose of the college was to provide a place where the young men of the island could spend their time and not "get into trouble." Sarge wanted to give the young folks an opportunity to socialize in a friendly but competitive environment. The annual domino tournament is held every September 19th, Independence Day, and features the best players from the island and around the region. The winner retains the Domino College Trophy for the year. The spirit of Domino College is kept alive by weekly competitions and meetings for anyone interested in the pur-

suit of domino knowledge. Winifred Sargeant goes on to share the basic ideals and principals taught by her husband with Parrot Heads all over the world. "He looked at life with a unique perspective and love which was shared with any and all who frequented the college."

While the "sun shines daily on the mountaintop" of Nevis Peak just beyond the campus, the ideals of fun, sun and rum remain a standard by which all who visit the college, whether

for a day, a week or a lifetime - continually strive to live by. As Parrot Heads around the country cram for the Domino College summer tour, it is important to remember Sarge's most basic and fundamental philosophy of life; we were put on this planet to have fun!



Photo by John Denlinger

The primary purpose of the college was to provide a place where the young men of the island could spend

their time and not "get into trouble."



# Domino College - Stateside

# On the road with Professor Buffett and the tenured staff from Domino College.

A Jimmy Buffett concert traditionally covers much more than a live rendition of everyone else's favorite song. What would a Buffett appearance be like without those merry Margaritaville mix-ups; imagine Jimmy muttering a condescending "thank you" after each song, and exiting stage left - the somber, soulful, bitter Baby Boomer. Yeah, right. That would be too easy, too simple, almost like Cliff notes. This years' summer session involves a variety of extracurricular activities, beginning on the parking lot, cascading across the lawn and into the "shed." The courseload is taxing, but fresh-faced fans will emerge as Parrot Head Ph.D's.

Nan Parati and the hired guns from Home Team have designed a phlocking that would rival any Ivy League Homecoming. Nan, who bills herself as an independent graphic designer, is responsible for the Parrot Head Parties held in New Orleans and Columbus, OH. Her work also graces The New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival every year. Domino College coeds will enter a virtual campus complete with palm trees, workable sharks, parrots and parrotphernalia suspended from the ceiling, and elections for prom king and queen. We would ask that you consider your underclassmen; others later in the tour who will enjoy the props, and take no souvenirs please. Oh, and no bonfires on the parking lot.

BMOC Jimmy Buffett explains it best, "Domino College will provide a more audience interactive environment along with new tricks, new costumes and an overhauled pacing and song selection for this summer."

School's in!

Photo: Sunshine Smith

Many recording artists are somewhat less than frugal regarding album cover photos. Jimmy Buffett's Tahitian photo shoot on One Particular Harbour for example; a tad pricey, but well worth it. The Land of The Rising Sun's recent divestiture of MCA inspired Jimmy to reduce the budget for the Barometer Soup album cover; high priced spreads perhaps returning under the tutelage of a well-established moonshiner.

Returning from Chris Blackwell's Compass Point in Nassau, Bahamas, Jimmy happened upon Wally's Photo



Magic. He introduced passport photographer Antoinette Williams to the fascinating world of album photography, exercised complete creative control and assumed his spot in the photo booth. \$16.00 later, we're treated to a series of self-exposed exposures. Antoinette Williams has snapped the quintessential Jimmy Buffett. The line forms to the left at Wally's.

# Marshall Chapman

it's about time...

ne searing southern summer evening a young Marshall Chapman was grabbed purposefully by the hand and hauled to the segregat-Palmetto Theater in Spartanburg, SC. "C'mon child! Let's go see what all the fuss is about. They say he's white, but he sings like he's 'colored'!" He was Elvis Presley, and the year was 1956. Babysitter Lula Mae Moore half-dragged and half-carried the towheaded Chapman up two flights of stairs to the balcony reserved for "coloreds" only. That night, at the impressionable age of seven, Marshall Chapman was exposed to the future of the music industry, and her personal future

"I must have felt like Dorothy when she realized she was no longer in Kansas," Marshall recalls. "I just remember that it was hot as hell up there with everybody buzzin' around. And when he came on, well...it was like an explosion! The whole place just shook. You know how babies bond with their mothers? Well I held out and bonded with Elvis."

Several years later Elvis hooked up with Priscilla and Marshall Chapman hooked up with a Silvertone amp and electric guitar. "I learned to play the bass riff from Ray Charles' "What'd I Say" before I ever learned a chord. After that I learned Chuck Berry's "No Money Down". The first 45 I ever bought was "Poison Ivy" by the Coasters. First LP was Stay with Maurice Williams and The Zodiacs."

Marshall attended Vanderbilt University in Nashville, TN. Her parents attracted by the school's academic reputation, Marshall by the town's musical reputation. She remained in Nashville after graduation, waiting on tables by day and singing in bars at night. After a few years of drifting around (LA, Boston, London, Ketchum, ID. etc.) she returned to Nashville and began writing songs.

"The first five were recorded in the order they were written. I was encouraged!" Within a year she was signed to Epic Records (CBS). Three albums later, she was dropped from the label.

Alanna Nash, writing in Stereo Review, claims that, "Marshall Chapman was too cool and too real for Nashville in the seventies. Not to mention too bluesy, too irreverent, too original, too powerhouse, and too tall for

an industry that expected it's "girl singers" to be complacent, subservient, and, of course, petite. Not surprisingly, she scared the hell out of folks, and her label (Epic) let her go."

In the early eighties Marshall recorded an album for Rounder Records, *Take It On Home*. She also toured with John Prine, Lonnie Mack, Jimmy Buffett, and others. Tall Girl Records, Marshall's own label, was initiated with the motto; "we're too tall to sell ourselves short."

Tall Girl Records' first release was Dirty Linen, which received rave reviews and was distributed nationally and in Europe. Marshall continued to write songs that others occasionally recorded. People like Joe Cocker, Emmylou Harris, Tanya Tucker, John Hiatt, Jimmy Buffett, Sawyer Brown, Ronnie Milsap, Dion, and others.

In 1992 Marshall released *Inside Job*. Alanna Nash, in Stereo Review writes, "It's one of those records you'll carry around in your coat and pull out at parties, winking knowingly at anybody else who's heard it. It will probably do much to enhance Chapman's cult following and little to enrich her bank account. That's the way it is with terrific music outside the main-stream"

Marshall's latest project; a collection of fifteen songs recorded live at the Tennessee State Prison for Women was released in May. "The highly anticipated new release from noted singer/songwriter Marshall Chapman features her unique brand of straight forward, no-nonsense, reality checking music!"

Capture Marshall on the Domino College Summer Session, or pick up her latest Margaritaville Records release, it's about time on CD and Cassette Tape available through the Coconut Telegraph. #CDTIME, \$17.00. #TATIME, \$9.98



1-800-COCOTEL







# Island Outpost



he soul and creator of Island Outpost is Chris Blackwell. best known as founder of Island Records.

Wandering the world in search of undiscovered talent

and letting it fly free, Blackwell has transferred his bold music instincts to the leisure industry.

Jamaican at heart, entrepreneur by design, Blackwell has sought out the special and the singular, spotting undiscovered locations rich in local character and charm. In every instance, through sensitive development and inclusive planning, he has created a genuine relationship between place and people, between hotel and community. Each Island Outpost is inseparable from its location.

The Island Outpost achievement was realized by Blackwell's hand-picked team: talented designers and architects; expert managers who put service first; superb chefs with worldly palates. Their shared philosophy incorporates aesthetics, humor, escapism, and a generous world view.

The first Island Outpost materialized when renovations on Miami's South Beach helped transform the neglected area into one of the hottest spots in the U.S. with Blackwell's popular, exquisitely designed Art Deco hotels. The Outpost idea traveled across the Caribbean to the Bahamas where new escapes are being created; Compass Point in Nassau, and the upcoming Pink Sands on Harbour Island.

Island Outpost's Jamaican properties are almost as different from each other as they are from everything else in the Caribbean. From the rustic Jake's Place to the urbane Strawberry Hill, each is respectful of Jamaican culture and ecology, and each is triumphant in bringing you a revitalizing and memorable experience.

(RIP AND KEEP)

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# Barometer Soup

his album began with an idea Russell [Kunkel] and I had to go back to Key West with several members of the band and write. It was February and in the rest of the world that means cold. There was little resistance by Roger, Pete, Jim and Jay Oliver to "wintering in Key West." In the old days before bridges and blenders wintering in Key West had worked for a hell of a lot of writers before we came up with the idea. Besides, it was a great job description. So we loaded all our gear in to the Fish Camp and built a little working studio with a waterfront view. Between the studio at the Fish Camp and the old Monroe County Library, we searched the works of our collective favorite authors for

source material. From Mark Twain to Carl Hiaasen we found the stories and titles that inspired us and we set about turning them into songs. When the songs were done, we pedaled our bikes and mo-peds across town to Shrimp Boat Sound and in between the dock-side departures of the Schooner Wolf and the occasional intrusion by spring breakers, we cooked up our Barometer Soup. I have always thought of song writing as a form of Creole cooking. You start with a basic roux and then experiment with spices and flavors until you come up with a dish. So here is a serving of Barometer Soup. Bon Appetite y'all.

Barometer Soup, Jimmy Buffett's 20-something release will be available on August 1. Jimmy is also scheduled to appear on the Late Show with David Letterman on August 1.

Anyone living in the Great Northeast interested in attending, please send a postcard to The Late Show with David Letterman, 1697 Broadway, New York, NY 10019. Only 2 tickets per request. Get yours in soon, and pack the Ed Sullivan Theater with Parrot Heads.

Jimmy Buffett, April 7, 1995 Key West, Florida

### Bike Across America 1995

Margaritaville is approached as often as any other business by solicitors requesting funds for a variety of causes. Many are admirable endeavors, some are not. We recognize our position, and take our contributions seriously. It is most rewarding to help those who are, at the risk of sounding cliche, trying to help themselves. "Give a man a fish, he'll eat for a day. Teach him how to fish he'll eat forever." The majority of our contributions are carried out at the local level, but Margaritaville is "anywhere you want it to be." And while we realize this is appearing in print, our contributions are done not for recognition, but because it's the right thing to do, and we are in a position to have a positive affect. Enough preaching, there will be no collection today.

One group we've decided to help is the Alchesay High School Falcon Pride Club. It's a club started by students at Alchesay High School on the White Mountain Apache Reservation in Eastern Arizona. The students are establishing a foundation to help the youth on the reservation. Funds raised will enable the students to undertake projects to benefit their peers and the younger children who face tough lives. The club and foundation will work to provide a hopeful future for all reservation youth, and attempt to change the harsh reality of life into a hopeful promise of a bright future. They hope to do this by providing the Apache youth with a teen center that will address social, personal and academic needs.

Students plan to raise funds by seeking sponsors for a 2000 mile bike journey this summer. The bikeathon will travel from the capitol of the Apache Nation, Whiteriver, Arizona to Washington, D.C.

The challenge is being led by Herve Dardis, assistant principal of the Alchesay High School, who writes, "Our student body is 99% Native American, and these kids grow up in conditions that would make some third-world countries look inviting. Their lives are quite tragic and void of much hope, so I got a group of students together this year to

try and make some of that change. We would like to build a teen center for the Apache youth and try to provide to each youngster a safe place, some positive choices, and help whenever needed."

The trip will begin June 4, cruising 80 miles a day across the southwestern U.S., head north through the midwest, hang a right at Pittsburgh and end up in D.C. on July 4. Any person or group interested should contact AHS Falcon Pride Club, PO Box 190, Whiteriver, AZ 85941 or call Herve Dardis at (602) 338-4848 ext. 258.

Would you like to be on our mailing list? The Coconut Telegraph contains news by and about Parrot Heads, Jimmy Buffett and the rich historical traditions of Key West and New Orleans. A display of Margaritaville merchandise is also offered for sale.

Merchandise orders exceeding \$25.00 guarantee a subscription for one year from order date.

Yearly subscription only, \$10.00.

Mail Orders: Make check or money order payable to Margaritaville. Send to The Coconut Telegraph, PO Box 1459, Key West, FL 3304l. Please include physical street address for merchandise delivery.

Sorry, no C.O.D.'s.

Credit Card Orders: Call Toll-Free 1-800-COCOTEL (1-800-262-6835) 24 hours a day. Calls placed between 9AM & 5PM reach Key West, night and weekends reach Toll-Free Land.

\$10.00 minimum credit card order.

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For orders outside U.S. please send payment in U.S. dollars and double S/H charges.

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7% sales tax. Please allow 3-4 weeks for delivery. Federal Express® delivery service is also available. Please inquire when ordering.



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The Coconut Telegraph is now available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Numerous phone calls and inquiries have convinced us that there is a demand. Monday through Friday, 9AM - 5PM, all calls will reach Margaritaville in Key West. All the same services will be offered: inquiries, orders, subscriptions, questions regarding your order, etc.

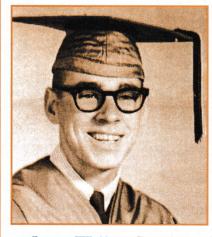
After 5PM and on weekends, your call will be magically routed to our operators in Toll Free Land. Please be kind to these people. They will be friendly and assist you in any way they can, but they are not here. Therefore, they are not in a position to check on your order or subscription. Their function is to take merchandise orders or requests for a free issue of The Coconut Telegraph. Most importantly, they do not know concert dates.

Item numbers are now listed with the merchandise, please refer to these when placing your order. The residents of Toll Free Land will take your name, address, credit card and order information and forward it to us daily via high speed fiber optic transmission. Your order will be shipped UPS from Key West.

We hope you like the new service, and will join Margaritaville as we limp into the future.

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#### Domino College Class of '95



#### James William Buffett

Nickname: Bubba
Activities: Sailing Club, Flying
Club, Live Poet Society
Organizations: AA, TWA, & I'll
see you in C-U-B-A.
Affiliations: Tappa Kega Bier
Computer Recommends: Harddrinking Calypso poet.

Voted Most Likely To Wear Contact Lenses. "I was introduced to your tunes almost 20 years ago by a college roommate.

The next year we bought tickets for a concert here, but had to turn them in for a refund because not enough tickets were sold."

Barbara Kutilek, Pittsburgh PA.

#### DOMINO COLLEGE SUMMER SCHEDULE

August 4 Tinley Park, IL
August 5 Columbus, OH
August 7 & 8 Atlanta, GA
August 11 Manassas, VA
August 12 Cleveland, OH
August 14 & 15 Clarkston, MI
August 17 Toronto, Ontario
August 19 Camden, NJ
August 20 Hartford, CT
August 23, 25 & 26 Mansfied, MA
August 28 Wantagh, NY
September 22, 23, & 26 Cincinnati, OH

New World Music Theater
Buckeye Lake
Lakewood Amphitheater
Nissan Amphitheater
Jacobs Field
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