WYES Informed Sources Archive

5 boxes

Special Collections & Archives
J. Edgar & Louise S. Monroe Library
Loyola University New Orleans

Collection 29

WYES Informed Sources Archive
Reference Code

Collection 29

Name and Location of Repository

Special Collections and Archives, J. Edgar & Louise S. Monroe Library, Loyola University New Orleans

Title

WYES Informed Sources Archive

Date

1984 - Present

Extent

5 boxes

Subject Headings

WYES-TV (Television station : New Orleans, La.)

Administrative/Biographical History

In 1984, WYES, New Orleans' public television station, began broadcasting Informed Sources, a program devoted to in-depth discussion of the news by local journalists. During that first show, a panel of journalists speculated about the reasons for the financial dilemmas of the Louisiana World Exposition, locally known as the World's Fair. Now more than two decades later, every Friday night at 7:00 p.m., Louisiana's newsmen and women continue to speculate, discuss and examine the news of the week.

The idea for Informed Sources originated in 1971 on WYES with City Desk, a news and talk show, which featured the staff of the New Orleans States-Item and ran for seven seasons. The station had been without a news program for several years when Marcia Kavanaugh Radlauer, an experienced television reporter and independent producer, was asked to create a new show. Like City Desk, the format was a panel discussion of current news, but instead of featuring journalists from only one source, a variety of participants from television, radio, newspapers and eventually, online newsletters contributed their talents and expertise.

Informed Sources originally included a "Newsmakers" interview to help fill the half-hour, but before long that segment was omitted. The panelists could (and did) talk for 30
minutes about newsworthy topics, limited only by the clock and Marcia Radlauer who doubled as producer and moderator. "The problem," she said in a 10th anniversary interview, "was getting them to shut up on time."

Errol Laborde became the program's producer in 1985, and at about the same time Warren Bell began a two-year stint as moderator. A tape in 1987 shows auditions for a new moderator. Dr. Alfred P. "Larry" Lorenz, professor of Journalism at Loyola University, was chosen and since then has been a constant in the moderator's chair alongside Laborde. The list of panelists over the years tells the history of New Orleans and Louisiana media.

In fact, watching Informed Sources is studying the modern history of New Orleans. The issues and personalities are explored before and after every election, and certain topics -- crime, education, business, sports, the Legislature -- are ongoing. During each year-end program, "the Saints will go to the playoffs," is predicted.

For the first 15 years, only a few of all of the Informed Sources tapes were saved. The celebration of the show's 15th anniversary on March 12, 1999, must have impressed someone at WYES with its significance. From that date through the end of 2004, the run of shows is complete. Fortunately, the tapes were stored in the Loyola Library archives on August 29, 2005 when the high waters after Hurricane Katrina flooded the WYES facilities and its contents, including the 2005 Informed Sources. The show began broadcasting again in January 2006, taping shows in facilities at WLAE and Dillard University until repairs to WYES were completed a year later.

**Scope and Content**

The Informed Sources collection consists of DVDs, originally recorded in both VHS and Betacam formats. The tapes are fragile and becoming more unstable with each viewing. In order to preserve the shows for future researchers, the tapes have been transferred to DVDs. However, as recording technology progresses, DVDs themselves are expected to become obsolete.

As each DVD was prepared, the data was saved onto a 1-terabyte hard drive which was, itself, backed up on another 1-terabyte hard drive, from which more DVDs (or other devices of the future) can be recorded and viewed.

The size of the collection expands as the show continues to broadcast and the programs are transferred from WYES to the Loyola University Monroe Library Special Collections & Archives for cataloging and safekeeping. Just as there are no plans to discontinue Informed Sources, the cataloging process will be ongoing.
System of Arrangement

The collection is arranged chronologically by the episode air date.

Conditions Governing Access

The collection is open for research use. Digitized copies of the VHS tapes are available in the Louisiana Digital Library: http://cdm16313.contentdm.oclc.org/cdm/search/collection/p16313coll96. The metadata for each digital file is publicly available but the digital videos themselves may only be viewed from Special Collections & Archives.

Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use

Physical rights are retained by the J. Edgar and Louis S. Monroe Library, Loyola University New Orleans. Copyright is retained in accordance with U.S. Copyright Laws.

Language and Scripts of the Material

Collection is in English.

Notes

The collection continues to expand as the show continues to air. Missing episodes and gaps in the collection are expected to be filled over time.

Processing Information

## INFORMED SOURCES

### BOX 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>PARTICIPANTS</th>
<th>TOPICS DISCUSSED</th>
<th>COMMENTS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>#1 June 14, 1984 (Taped)&lt;br&gt;June 15, 1984 (Aired)</td>
<td>Marcia Kavanaugh&lt;br&gt;Radlauer, moderator&lt;br&gt;Elizabeth Curren&lt;br&gt;Ron Ridenhour, Gambit&lt;br&gt;Pierre DeGruy, WDSU-TV&lt;br&gt;John Powers, City Business</td>
<td>Council President Joe Giarruso interview re investigation into World's Fair finances. Panel discussion: Why aren't people attending? Waterford III -- NRC questions for LP&amp;L before moving toward full-power liscensing. Investigations into missing and forged records.</td>
<td>Petr Spurney&lt;br&gt;Joe Giarruso</td>
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<tr>
<td>#2 December 19, 1986</td>
<td>Warren Bell, moderator&lt;br&gt;Errol Laborde, producer&lt;br&gt;Clancy DuBos, WDSU-TV&lt;br&gt;Lea Stevenson, WVUE-TV&lt;br&gt;Pierre DeGruy, WDSU-TV</td>
<td>Special session: Bills proposed to allow governor to balance the budget though cuts. Gradual shift of power from governor to legislative leaders. Crime in NO: Shortage of police. Increased judicial activity. Improve economy Christmas</td>
<td>Edwin Edwards&lt;br&gt;Harry Lee&lt;br&gt;Warren Woodfork&lt;br&gt;Jim Singleton&lt;br&gt;Sidney Barthelemy</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| #2 | December 26, 1986 | Warren Bell, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
Gary Esolen, Gambit  
Joe Duke, WWL-TV  
John Maginnis, Gris-Gris Weekly | Year-end wrap up  
Economy: Not much to be happy about. Good things- Riverwalk, Macy's, passage of millage for aquarium. Oil prices going up. N.O. Economy has bottomed out. Problem made worse by political system. Electorate doesn't believe the elected.  
Politics: First mayoral runoff between two black candidates Jefferson vs. Barthelemy. Edwards no longer a strong governor. LA populism ends?  
Quality of life: suffering  
Behavior of media: Great attempts to cover Edwards trial; gambling; aquariums, poverty | William Jefferson  
Sidney Barthelemy  
Edwin Edwards  
Henson Moore  
Bob Livingston  
J. Bennett Johnston  
John Breaux  
Rudy Lombard |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| #3 | July 16, 1987 | Auditions guest hosts:  
Mike Kremetis  
Larry Lorenz  
Bill Roussel  
Lisa Trapani  
Lisa Barr  
Oliver Houck |  
NOPSI Buyout: Council negotiations.  
Politics: Roemer surprise. Reaction to Edwards. Think Edwards is finally gone. Only reelected because of Treen's problems. Voting for change, but Roemer administration doesn't know how to make the changes.  
Quality of life: Rough year; people leaving. New realism is positive. Finally beginning to promote tourism. Need economic stimuli and citizen participation.  
Housing: Badly needed.  
Economy: Starting back up. New oil development, fewer layoffs, retail is up. National image gets bigger. Saints in playoffs.  
Media: Papal coverage big moment; Edwards withdrawal from campaign; did not prepare us for Roemer.  
1988 Predictions: Turning point year. | Buddy Roemer  
Mike Yenni  
Harry Lee |
| #4 | April 15, 1988 | Oliver Houck, moderator  
Lawrence Chehardy, Jefferson Parish Assessor  
Mark Drennan, Public Affairs Research Council  
Errol Laborde, producer  
James Gill, Times-Picayune | **Tax Reform**  
Proposed plan: 1. Budget reform - balance requirement, 2. Let business compete by decreasing emphasis on sales tax; increasing personal tax; 3. Economic development by repealing certain taxes. Give local governments ability to impose taxes to take care of local problems.  
Problem with tax shifting from small business to higher middle income individuals. About 50% of citizens will pay more.  
Lower business taxes increase local business' ability to compete.  
Property tax exemption a "corrupt" system? |
| #5 | October 21, 1988 | Mike Longman, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
Bob Courtney, WBRZ-TV, Baton Rouge  
Lea Stevenson, WVUE-TV  
Cheryl Hickman, WWL-TV | **Budget**  
Shrinking revenues.  
Question over last 5-6 budgets, where is the revenue coming from?  
Big cuts -- Fire and police O.K. but not going to fund criminal justice system. Separation of Civil and Criminal Courts means funding not equal. Cuts in NORD--once the pride and joy of NO. The budget the point from which we begin to argue.  
**Legislature**  
Governor getting down to business. Homestead exemption, tolls, gas tax proposals. Big challenge will be in getting people to vote for tax increase. Gov. learning how the system works. May have to have another special session in January.  
**Recycling**  
Pilot program due to begin in few months. High start-up costs. Hope is to break even. People being asked to separate their garbage. Will take time to socialize. Landfills at capacity. NIMBY. Dangerous stuff.  
**Finances in Tagipahoa**  
Revenue not earmarked for operations. | Dutch Morial  
Sydney Barthelmy  
Frank Minyard  
Jim Singleton  
Delesseps Morrison  
Buddy Roemer |
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Moderator</th>
<th>Producer</th>
<th>Journalists/Contributors</th>
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<tr>
<td>October 28, 1988</td>
<td>Lea Stevenson, moderator</td>
<td>Errol Laborde, producer</td>
<td>John Maginnis, Gris Gris, Mike Longman, WWL-TV, Linda Easterlin, Freelance journalist</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Failure of tax reform</td>
<td>Sticking point the homestead exemption. Roemer willing to compromise but voters could not support. Too complicated. Didn't do enough to keep legislators informed about plans.</td>
<td>Buddy Roemer, Iris Kelso, Edwin Edwards, Mack Spiers, John Breaux</td>
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<td>Black middle class</td>
<td>Hard to achieve middle-class status. For every three who get there, seven fall behind. As black middle-class grows so goes New Orleans. Two paycheck families. Nature of black community has changed. In NO not achieving like they are in other cities. Education is the answer. 90% of black middle-class in NO work for the government. Business jobs not available.</td>
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<td>Bayou Savage Wildlife Refuge</td>
<td>Previously considered as new airport site.</td>
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<td>Mississippi River study</td>
<td>Death rate higher for people who live along the river. Greenpeace findings. People more concerned. Toxic march.</td>
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<td>November 4, 1988</td>
<td>Larry Lorenz, moderator</td>
<td>Errol Laborde, producer</td>
<td>John Hill, USA Today, Clancy DuBos, Pierre DeGruy, WDSU-TV</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Drug task force</td>
<td>Federal grant to work overtime on drug enforcement. Have cleaned up some hotspots. Citizens cooperating -- fed up with it.</td>
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| #6 | November 11, 1988 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Hill, USA Today  
C.C. Campbell-Rock, New Orleans Tribune  
Garland Robinette, WWL-TV | Election  
Democratic congress and Republican president -- George H.W. Bush  
Higher Education  
Steps taken to achieve racial balance. Justice department monitoring. Blacks agree but don't want to lose identity of institutions. Legislature voted not to merge SUNO and UNO. Several different plans--may end up being up to feds. Promised funds did not come. Turf battles -- back to the old numbers game. Special master will be appointed.  
Duck hunting  
Hunting clubs in other states are mad at us for overkilling ducks. Not so many now because of loss of wetlands, drought, etc. Not enough wildlife agents to enforce regs. We will lose our ducks when they have no place to land and make babies. Been trying to raise consciousness for years. The enemy is us.  
River pollution | Ronald Reagan  
George H.W. Bush  
Clyde Holloway  
Jim McCready  
Bennett Johnston  
Bill Jefferson |
Suits over election of judges  At-large needs to be changed. Plaintiffs pushing for single member districts (like legislature). Black candidates do not have a chance under present system.

Plans for Higher Education  Redistricting  Everybody trying to protect their own institution. Governor wants single board.


Drug sales  Awash in drugs. Not even cutting it -- shows how much there is. All races and socio-economic levels. Problem other cities have had for years. For every street-level pusher arrested, there are ten to take his place. Not being kept in jail. Buyers need professional help and counselling. Have to stop demand. Seize the Roys-Royce.

Budget recommendations  Won't touch police and fire. Lowest levels of society will feel the pinch most.
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<tr>
<td>November 25, 1988</td>
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<tr>
<td>Conditions of the Poor in New Orleans</td>
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<tr>
<td>Larry Lorenz, moderator</td>
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<td>Errol Laborde</td>
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<td>Lea Stevenson, WVUE-TV</td>
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<td>Sally Ann Roberts, WWL-TV</td>
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<td>Jeanne Weill, freelance journalist</td>
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<td>Hunger</td>
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<td>Housing shortage</td>
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<td>Education</td>
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<td>Reynard Rochon</td>
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<td>Jessie Smallwood</td>
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<td>Pat Taylor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Larry Lorenz, moderator</td>
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<tr>
<td>Errol Laborde</td>
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<td>John Hill, USA Today</td>
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<td>Eric Paulsen, WWL-TV</td>
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| #4 | December 23, 1988 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Maginnis, Gris-Gris  
Joe Duke, WWL-TV  
Richard Baudoin, Times of Acadiana | Year-end review  
**Economy:** Improving. Tourism and the port have been boom areas. Overall, still feeling effects of oil bust.  
**State government:** No substantial fiscal reform changes. Improved morality. Voter doesn't feel government has been cut enough to agree to tax increases. Emphasis shift from state to local.  
**Environment:** More concern about wetlands, pollution. Improvements in state DEQ by Roemer.  
**Education Consciousness raised.**  
**Quality of Life** Symphony cancelled season but is being resurrected. Literary and artistic interest. Zoo popular. Local musical talent expanding nationwide. Cajun music and cooking becoming more popular.  
**Media** Coverage of state politics. Republican convention. Cabildo fire. USA Today phenomenon showing up locally. Agenda setting—the economy.  
**Predictions** Fiscal reform—maybe gambling. Lottery, more indictments from Edwards admin. | Buddy Roemer  
Ben Bagert  
Anne Rice  
Jimmy Swaggert |
| #7 | September 22, 1989 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
Wilbert Rideau, The Angolite  
Allen Johnson, Louisiana Weekly  
**Prison overcrowding** State prison space is limited. So local jails backed up. Improve education -- cheaper than keeping them in prison. Need middle ground between maximum security and parish prison. Privatization following the Civil War. Harshest system in the world...longest sentences.  
**NOPSI Buyout** Something's going to happen. | Sidney Barthelemy  
Mike Early  
Peggy Wilson  
Garey Forester  
Charles Foti |
| Larry Lorenz, moderator  
| Errol Laborde, producer  
| John Maginnis, Gris-Gris  
| Joe Duke, WWL-TV  
| Roy Brightbill, State Editor, UPI  

| David Treen  
| Edwin Edwards  
| Buddy Roemer  
| Ben Bagert  
| Hap Glaudi  
| Buddy Deliberto  
| Sidney Barthelemy |
Mayoral race  Strong mayor-city council type of government. The economy. Though Barthelemy is honest, the rest of city hall in considered patronage-ridden. Morial pulled out and then died. Dutch Morial's legacy benefits B. A sense of "the mayor is ours now." Mintz is the "change" candidate. A period of relative racial calm. More people, black and white, are comfortable with Barthelemy. Mintz doesn't project the warmth although he would probably be a more efficient administrator. Drug problem solutions. Barthelemy has vision but doesn't articulate it well. Mintz's plans don't show the steps needed to get there. Can B hold his lead for two weeks?

City Council  Hardest job in politics. Not insulated with big staffs. 18 candidates in District C. Impossible to cover. Everybody has their own little pocket of support. Voter interest  Not much. A sleeper. If Morial was in it, race would be more exciting.
#8
December 28, 1990
Larry Lorenz, 
moderator
Errol Laborde, 
producer
Joe Duke, WWL-TV
Kevin Brennan, 
WVUE-TV
Andy Barton, WDSU-TV


**Public safety**  Depends on the neighborhood. People have supported efforts. Regional attitudes towards preventing crime and economics are improving.

**State government**  14 amendments, including lottery, passed. More concern with incompetence that corruption.


**Education**  Teachers' strike. Shortage of funds in public education. Politics. Has to be in the home.

**Predictions**  Good year for incumbents. Woman police chief. 1991 big hurricane year.

Harry Lee
Ben Bagert
David Duke
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#9</th>
<th>September 20, 1991</th>
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</table>
| Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
Linda Lightfoot, Baton Rouge Morning Advocate  
Richard Baudoin, Times of Acadiana  
Edwin Edwards  
David Duke  
Bennett Johnston  
Clarence Thomas  
Rush Limbaugh  
William Broadhurst  
Marion Edwards  
George H. W. Bush  
John Breaux |

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<tr>
<th>#9</th>
<th>December 25, 1992</th>
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</table>
| Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
Bill Capo, WWL-TV  
Lea Stevenson, WVUE-TV  
Norbert Davidson, Louisiana Weekly | Giving Court decision strikes down Superboard. Separate but equal doesn't work. Fear this will be the end of smaller black colleges. Agencies that meet needs. What a tragedy life would be for tens of thousands in NO without charities. Welfare system needs to be reformed. Huge response to media requests for help. City full of fund raisers. People who help others have more fun. Corporate contributions help fill the needs government cannot meet. | Sheriff Foti  
Sheriff Valteau  
Kevin Buckle  
Larry Lundy  
Jim Bob Moffett  
Pat Taylor |
| #10 | December 31, 1993 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
Joe Duke, WWL-TV  
John Maginnis, Louisiana Political Review  
Rob Masson, WWL-Radio | Year-end review  
Top news stories: Crime, Gambling, Tulane Scholarship, Sherman Copelin investigation, Waco.  
Sherman Copelin Involved with drug rehab programs paid for with state funds. Disproportional share of money going to people who don't really need it.  
Shooting of ATF agents in Waco: Agents based in N.O. When locals are involved in national stories.  
Casino vote: Surprised by Harrah's victory  
Mayor's Race: New mayor and council to be elected in spring  
Police Investigations/Corruption  
Murder rate  
Fairgrounds Fire  
Seeber Bridge collapse  
Tulane Scholarships: Mayor's son given Mayor's Scholarship at Bro. Martin  
Riverboat Commission Dealings: Open to investigations  
Early interest in governor's race | John Breaux  
Johnny Jackson  
Sherman Copelin  
Sybil Morial  
Paul Valteau  
Marc Morial  
Antoine Sachs  
Edwin Edwards  
Mary Landrieu  
Buddy Roemer  
David Duke |
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<th>Election Special</th>
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<tr>
<td>Pre-election leaders Morial and Mintz</td>
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<td>All agreed -- not debates but forums becoming more provincial. So many debates they lost their impact. Against the incumbent and for change. Animosity between Morial and Copelin. Mudsling the only way to tear down someone...people like it. Dutch did it a lot. How to win -- having run once and getting beat gives experience and organization. 59 candidates total (Mayor and City Council). Street organizations really count for something in NO. Get the vote out.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Mayoral Election  Morial vs. Mintz. Morial campaign good from start to finish. If he can just run the city the same way....
Teams to bring voters to the polls. Ultimately racial.
Council  Young group elected. Good chance that Morial will build relationships/wield power in state.
Impact of World's Fair  Convention Center and riverfront development. Good memories.
In 1984, New Orleans discovered the river.
Duke-Edwards Election  Forced a lot of soul-searching. Some of Duke's views have been embraced by others. Gave us Edwards for a 4th term. Preyed on conservatives.
Education  As oil industry declined so did education. School board better.
Economy  With failure of World's Fair, began to realize how bad economy was. Last 10 years soul-searching for something big on the horizon.
Founding of Informed Sources  Marcia Kavanaugh originator, Warren Bell moderator for two years. Taped first year, after that live -- Errol came on board.
Clips from past shows
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<th>#11</th>
<th>September 29, 1994</th>
<th>Education Special</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Larry Lorenz, moderator</td>
<td>Low test scores 1993-94 improvement in NOPS. Catholic school closings where there are fewer children than before.</td>
<td>Gail Glapion, NOSB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Errol LaBorde, producer</td>
<td>Universities providing teachers? Many talented students not going into education. Need to provide a better sense of the realities of teaching in inner city school systems. New problems -- weapons, abuse, poverty.</td>
<td>Howard Jenkins, Archdiocesan Superintendent</td>
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<td>Andre Trevigne, WWL-Radio</td>
<td>Emphases for the future: Reading, technology.</td>
<td>Morris Holmes</td>
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<td>Guy Coates, Associated Press</td>
<td>Louisiana ratings: Among the lowest in every characteristic.</td>
<td>Edwin Edwards</td>
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<td>Marsanne Godley, WASB-TV</td>
<td>Not enough money or not spending it wisely. Children not prepared for school in state with 33% poverty rate.</td>
<td>Dwight McKenna</td>
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<td>State Superintendent: Now appointed, but state doesn't really make a difference. It's the individual elected school boards that determine the operation of schools. Know your candidates.</td>
<td>Buddy Roemer</td>
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<td>Solutions: Mandatory preschools. Vo-tech schools. Teach kids to communicate. Grammar is grammar and should be color-blind. Good stories not being told because media isn't notified. Identify troubled children and have a place for them. Reward good teachers. Children not being educated to stay in Louisiana.</td>
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<td>#11</td>
<td>December 9, 1994</td>
<td>Newsmaker of the Year</td>
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<td>Larry Lorenz,</td>
<td>Riverboat state police crackdown</td>
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<td></td>
<td>moderator</td>
<td>Supposed to cruise. Who is</td>
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<td>Errol Laborde,</td>
<td>responsible? State Gaming</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>producer</td>
<td>Commission or State Police.</td>
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<td>Andre Trevigne,</td>
<td>Harrah's agreed not to challenge</td>
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<td>WWL-Radio</td>
<td>for a year. Why now? Trying to</td>
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<td>John Hill, Gannett</td>
<td>force the legislature into action.</td>
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<td>News</td>
<td>Times-Picayune series shows the</td>
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<td>history of gambling in Louisiana.</td>
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<td>Kathy Finn, City</td>
<td>Police Indictments Warehouse</td>
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<td>Business</td>
<td>on border of Marigny and</td>
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<td>Bywater, FBI sting. Low police</td>
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<td>salaries. Too much politics.</td>
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<td>Politics Business Business leadership</td>
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<td>trend began with Jim Bob Moffett</td>
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<td>The Arts Louisiana</td>
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<td>Philharmonic. Gallery openings.</td>
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<td>Preservation Resource Center.</td>
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<td>Education Not well-known.</td>
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<td>Don't pay our police or our</td>
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<td>teachers and this is what we get.</td>
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<td>Harmony on the school board.</td>
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<td>Much more businesslike and</td>
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<td>effective.</td>
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<td>Environment Investigation of</td>
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<td>oil and gas pollution. Those in</td>
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<td>Mandeville fighting against a</td>
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| #12 | December 30, 1994 | Larry Lorenz, moderato  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Maginnis, Louisiana Political Review  
Heath Allen, WDSU-TV  
Andre Trevigne, WWL-Radio | Year-end Review  
Marc Morial  
Pascal Saladino  
Richard Pennington  
Robert Harvey  
Miriam Waltzer  
Bernadette Johnson  
Bob Evans |
Harrah's Temporary Casino Opens in Municipal Auditorium May 1. Permanent will take a year more. More choices than riverboats and Indian casinos. 75% expected to come to Harrah's from out-of-town. National and international marketing. Generally higher income individuals at casinos. More jobs good for the economy. Not the real answer to progress in Louisiana. Need to keep any eye on possibility of organized crime. Politics Greed. Shocked the nation. Efforts to limit campaign contributions from gambling interests. Gambling will surpass oil and gas.

Big business First example of a city already established trying gambling. A model for others. Conventioneers not necessarily gamblers. Other tourism businesses may be cannibalized. Sociology Rivergate and Joan of Arc statue. Always been some gambling (except for 50s and 60s) in NO. Almost a defense mechanism against people going to Mississippi to gamble. Haven't addressed the social problems at all.

Forms Land-based casino. Harrah's would have been happy to operate in the Rivergate - city wanted it torn down. Boats. Pumping money into state treasury more than expected. Shreveport-Bossier City legal dockside gambling. Replicating in Lake Charles. When Harrah's opens, will local riverboats survive? Lottery (1990) interest has tapered off, mostly because of video poker. Video poker very popular. All the money stays in state, except for cost of machines made out of state.
<p>| #13 Crime Special (Probably 1995) | Larry Lorenz, moderator  Errol Laborde, producer  Allen Johnson, Gambit  Michael Perlstein, Times-Picayune  Andre Trevigne, WWL-Radio, WGNO-TV | Crack cocaine  Correlation with the amount of crime. In Kenner to a lesser degree. Nationwide problem. Even if borders sealed, people find other ways to experiment with mood enhancers. Politicians and judicial system must support law enforcement. More killings of/by people who know each other.  Gang activity. Individuals group according to neighborhoods. Protective of themselves and territories. In Kenner, youthful delinquents. In N.O. most having to do with drugs.  Federal Crime Bill  Will enable force to hire more officers.  Semi-automatic weapons  Effort to lift bans. Only reason to have them is for crime. Hunters don't hunt with them.  Gambling effect  Riverboats have supported police. Harrah's needs to be determined.  No running away from problem  Crime doesn't stop at parish lines.  In New Orleans  Crime not limited to one area but some areas have more -- poor people without jobs. Roughly 50,000 in projects. 95% on AFDC. Social ills at the root of crime.  Community policing  Previous urban squads (which worked).  Who are victims  Media covers crime in different ways. Drug-related &quot;garden variety.&quot; The exceptional gets attention. Need stories of hope.  Solutions  Plug holes in judicial system. Get police reports the DA can accept. New police chief without political connections. Reforming police department. Have to improve school system.  Role of the Press  Broad analysis may be missing in the heat of the moment spot news story. Need to have access to cops. | Richard Pennington  Nick Congemi  Harry Lee  Charles Foti |</p>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Participants</th>
<th>Discussion Topics</th>
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<tr>
<td>June 30, 1995</td>
<td>Larry Lorenz, moderator</td>
<td>Redistricting Supreme Court ruled on Georgia suit. Louisiana escaped because plaintiffs not in district in question (Cleo Fields). Ruled race cannot be used to determine districts. Several will be redrawn. Bush administration forced the issue. Challenge at every level, i.e. school board. <strong>Legislature</strong> Edwards vetoed just enough bills that he didn't offend too many. Medicaid cuts. Could be waste in the system. <strong>UNO Poll</strong> Buddy Roemer leading. Reform, anti-crime candidate. Some prisons look too good. Looking for someone that's going to be tough enough. <strong>Anti-crime week</strong> Issue of police competency, quality resources, trust -- fragmented enclaves, lack of technology. Grappling with fundamentals. No solid cohesive criteria. Ultimately wants to change the public's perception of police. Nobody realized the depth and breadth of corruption and number of incompetent officers. <strong>The past year</strong> Community spirit has improved with new administration. Wide public support of Morial administration. Economic impact of casino industry, Convention Center. The poverty level, however, continues to grow. Need more than the tourist industry. Stimulate business growth. Need combined, unified effort to improve education.</td>
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<td>Errol Laborde, producer</td>
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<td>Norman Robinson, WDSU-TV</td>
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<td>Rob Masson, WVUE-TV</td>
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<td>#13</td>
<td>October 19, 1995</td>
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<td>Errol Laborde, producer</td>
<td>Mike Foster</td>
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<td>John Maginnis, Louisiana Political Fax Weekly</td>
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<td>Richard Baudoin, Times of Acadiana</td>
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| December 29, 1995 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Maginnis, Louisiana Political FAX Weekly  
Mike Longman, WWL-TV  
Norman Robinson, WDSU-TV | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Maginnis, Louisiana Political FAX Weekly  
Mike Longman, WWL-TV  
Norman Robinson, WDSU-TV | **Year-end review**  
Big stories: Mike Foster - conservative with a chance to do something. The disintegration of Louisiana Democratic Party  
Video Poker Tapes - Without indictments or trial defeated state senators  
Casino collapse - 3500 people looking for work. Debacle.  
Medicaid  
Last year of Edwin Edwards and Bennett Johnston.  
May 8 flood  
Antoinette Franks and Police Corruption - Concept of one officer killing another is unthinkable.  
Baby Killed in attempted carjacking  
Richard Pennington's first year  
60 Minutes program on crime in NO. Probably has majority of force behind him. Tough, disciplined. Some decrease in crime but not enough.  
Growth of the North Shore | Mike Foster  
Richard Pennington  
Edwin Edwards  
Bennett Johnston  
Antoinette Franks  
Harry Lee  
Marc Morial  
Tom Benson  
Mary Landrieu |
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<th>#15</th>
<th>May 5, 1996</th>
<th>Crime and Punishment</th>
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<td>Warren Bell, moderator</td>
<td>Capital Punishment Only certain cases will fit the profiles of those who are executed. Who are the victims? Unseen victims families of those executed. Not a deterrent. U.S. is the only Western nation practicing the penalty. Over 70% of executions happen in Southern states. LA, TX, FL, GA, and VA. Poverty always play a part. In Orleans Parish, 62% (both blacks and whites) support death penalty. Getting tough on criminals. Brings closure? &quot;Life&quot; imprisonment doesn't really exist. Keeping people in jail costs taxpayer money.</td>
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<td>Errol Laborde, producer</td>
<td>Jury attitudes Biggest change the growth of juvenile crime. Juries more likely to punish now because in the past, were reluctant to believe police. Now have more confidence. Need more early intervention. Not enough probation officers. Identification of habitual criminals and get them out of society. We permit criminal conduct and don't do anything about it. 70-80% of violent crime has to do with narcotics.</td>
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<td>Allen Johnson, Gambit News</td>
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<td>John Hill, Gannett News</td>
<td>Is penal system adequate? Some good people but not enough beds. If you want a system which locks up out of the way, LA is fine. But rehab is lacking. Not enough room. No money for probation officers.</td>
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<td>Silas Lee, sociologist/political analyst</td>
<td>Prison system the repository for the failure of all other systems. At Angola, they are learning to be farmers - how to pick cotton. Healthcare a key issue in prisons.</td>
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<td>Sr. Helen Prejean</td>
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<td>Charles Foti</td>
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<td>Race</td>
<td>Political reality that race, gender, income and education are factors. Multiple political idealities. Socially conservative on some issues - pro-life, education. Also Cleo Fields-Mary Landrieu feud. As people become more affluent, they tend to become more conservative. Split between haves and have-nots. If have to label state, it would be centrist.</td>
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<td>Possible Surprises</td>
<td>Low turnout. Good economy Why rock the boat? Clinton has come to Louisiana for Mary Landrieu. His own election isn't in doubt. Also to try to motivate the black turnout. More outside money from national parties in Senate race. Archbishop statement against Landrieu Trend toward Jenkins. Orleans DA If Connick gets 25% of black vote he's in. Jefferson DA Wide open. If there was an issue, it would be Capella's association with John Mamolides. Experience. Been talking about being lawyers, not administrators. Gambling propositions Land-based casino, riverboats, video poker. If video poker is defeated, there will be a phase-out. Amendments State retirement system. Donation of abandoned property to non-profits. Allow exemptions.</td>
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| #16 | December 27, 1996 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Maginner, Louisiana Political FAX Weekly  
Kathy Finn, City Business  
Norman Robinson, WDSU-TV | Year-end review  
Foster takes charge  
Record of accomplishment in the legislature. Restored integrity  
Landrieu wins - Strongly organized support  
Gambling survives Referendum  
Legislature in reform  
Being careful to avoid even the appearance of impropriety. Gambling corruption cases  
Oil comeback  
Hotel growth  
Business mobilized against crime  
Schwegmann stores to be sold  
Riverwalk catastrophe  
Crime  
Not politically safe to talk about accountability. Work the issue every day not just during crises.  
McFrugal's Fire  
Neighborhood resurgence. Warehouse District, Algiers Point, Bywater. Northshore boom.  
Saints collapse. Resignation of Jim Mora.  
Film boom  
TV Wars | Mike Foster  
Mary Landrieu  
Woody Jenkins  
Jim Bob Moffett  
John Kasban  
Ian Arnoff  
Pat Taylor  
Jim Mora |
January 14, 1997

Larry Lorenz, moderator
Errol Laborde, producer
Bruce Eggler, Times-Picayune
Marty Mulé, Times-Picayune
Marcia Kavanagh

Goals for Growing: The Making of the Arena
Raymond Manning, Ronnie Ewing, Arthur Q. Davis, architects. Concept began in 1993 trying to develop property behind Dome (part of Union Passenger Terminal project). First class arena without any frills. To be managed jointly with the Dome. Cost $84 million. State/city already owned land. Air conditioning from Dome. Ingenious plan. Dome has generated $4.5 billion in 20 years for the state. Barthelemy had a vision, the Casino and the Arena connected by Canal Street streetcar. Legislative effort "Christmas tree" bill, including Zephyr field. Hockey and NBA. Will people go downtown on weeknights? Intense debate in the legislature. Financing by hotel/motel tax. Justifiable to use to advance tourism. Bill started with East Jefferson baseball stadium, which was totally justified (had team, land) and all the other things were piled on. Original cost of Superdome -- $38 million grew to $120 million. Once you start the Arena, you have to finish it...even if it means more money (with a real battle). Bill passed during Edwards' tenure...Foster more fiscally conservative.

Dome revitalized downtown/Poydras corridor. UPT -- intermodal transportation hub. Trains to outlying areas (Jefferson Parish, etc.) RTA transfer facility, airport transportation. Park and ride. Pile-driving to begin in February.
| December 26, 1997 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
| Errol Laborde, producer  
| John Maginnis, Louisiana Political FAX Weekly  
| Kathy Finn, NO City Business  
| Kurt Davis, WDSU-TV | Year-end review  
| Edwards investigations  Going on since April. Expected to go to Grand Jury soon.  
| Landrieu-Jenkins election  
| Boosted Landrieu's popularity  
| Delay in getting Harrah's deal done  
| Building partially built and waiting  
| Fiscal good news  
| Environment  Fight over Shintech. Clean up Grand Bois  
| Video Poker trial  
| Ditka and the Saints  A legend, brings news interest wherever he goes.  
| Tornado on the Northshore  
| School Board and Superintendent Morris Holmes  Opening the door for Mayor to get involved. Conditions deplorable. Highly politicized. Needs to be rebuilt.  
| Local business being sold/closed  
| Schwegmann's, K&B, LL&E, Kraus, First NBC  
| Oil and gas comeback  New technologies mean growth of service sector. Utilities and telecommunications competition  
| Airline "Drive"/Elmwood booming  
| Zephyr Field, Home Depot, Palace Theater, new upscale neighborhood in Old Metairie.  
| Hockey comes to LA  6 teams in state. | Edwin Edwards  
| Edward DeBartolo  
| Mary Landrieu  
| Woody Jenkins  
| Mike Foster  
| B.B. "Sixty" Rayburn  
| Mike Ditka  
| Morris Holmes  
| Jim Mora  
| John Breaux  
<p>| Marc Morial |</p>
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<th>Mayor</th>
<th>Token opposition to Morial. Leadership and organization. Three minor opponents. &quot;Life&quot; political organization. Crime and education the major issues.</th>
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<td>Council</td>
<td>Hard to beat an entrenched incumbent</td>
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<td>Clerk of Criminal District Court</td>
<td>Ed Lombard New machines prevent human error. Corruption now limited to what happens on the way to the polls. 1968 first black elected to a parochial office against an incumbent.</td>
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<td>Council-at-Large</td>
<td>Peggy Wilson, Jim Singleton, Eddie Sapir</td>
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<td>Master Plan</td>
<td>Council in line with mayor until term limits expire. Only city in state with seven assessors.</td>
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| September 29, 1998 | Larry Lorenz, moderator
| Errol Laborde, producer
| John Hill, Gannett News
| Norman Robinson, WDSU-TV
| Paul Pastorek, BESE Board
| Leslie Jacobs, BESE Board |
| **Chicago's system** | Business leaders must be involved in changing schools. Education at the top of the agenda. Put the weight of the mayor's office behind education reform. In Chicago, school board is appointed by the mayor, who also selects a CEO, education officer and financial officer. Accountability of teachers, students and mayor. Comparing apples and oranges - vast differences between Chicago and NO. NO scores probably lower to start with. Can strategies be implemented here? Entrenched education administration which is resistant to change. Illinois legislature created new system in Chicago as an experiment. CEO able to terminate employees and reorganize, saving the system $300 million. Used to create new programs and curriculum. How to marshal interest when many students go to private schools. With enough support from the community, even a "green" school board can affect change. **How to select superintendent** Strong leader and communicator with the ability to operate in NO and Baton Rouge. Ability to shape team without interference. People from other fields with different perspectives. **School Performance Scores** Legislative support for accountability model. Worked in Texas where school populations are similar to LA. Schools had to name bottom 20%. Nobody wants to be labeled low performing or academically unacceptable. Teachers support high-stakes testing, focusing on student achievement. **Principals** Cannot have good school without good principal. |
| **Marc Morial** |
| **Richard Daly** |
| **Morris Holmes** |
| **Norman Francis** |
| **Scott Cowen** |
| **Mike Foster** |
| #18  | December 11, 1998 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
Rob Masson, WVUE-TV  
Stephanie Riegel, WWL-TV  
Jim Gallagher, WVUE-TV | Property service fee defeated  
By 85%! Not good omen for Morial's bid for third term. Across-the-board measures not as popular as those for specific purposes. BGR opposition. School Board candidates Three came to be interviewed but none were hired.  
(Tape overwritten with 10/29/99) | Marc Morial |
|-------|------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| #19  | December 23, 1998 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
Rob Masson, WVUE-TV  
Kathy Finn, City Business  
John Hill, Gannett Newspapers | Year-end review  
Clinton Impeachment  
Livingston's resignation  
Serious blow to state and city. Federal funds will slow down. Edwards Indictment  
Oil Price plunge  
Will lose several hundred jobs. Natural gas prices remain high  
State finances force budget cuts  
Hurricane Georges  
First real threat in a long time  
Defeat of Proposition One  
Will impact police department which has cut murder rate 43%. Want to continue to make improvements.  
Jazzland  
Construction on schedule. Addition to tourism mix.  
Technology center at UNO  
Neighborhood activism  
Controversy over schools  
School board turnover, weakened Superintendent, look for a CEO type. Weakness of public education has been known for years.  
Sugar Busters  
Maison Blanche closing  
Tulane and the Zephyrs triumph | Bill Clinton  
Bob Livingston  
John Breaux  
Richard Pennington  
Mike Foster  
Marc Morial |
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Title</th>
<th>Participants</th>
<th>Topics</th>
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<tr>
<td>March 12, 1999</td>
<td>15th Anniversary Special</td>
<td>Larry Lorenz, Errol Laborde, John Maginnis, Kathy Finn, Norman Robinson</td>
<td>Clips of former shows, Stock market and local stocks, Low inflation and booming national economy, Locally, banking sector and oil sector not part of the boom, Shell has decided to stay in NO, Candidates for Bob Livingston's seat, Interim election, Morial's candidate (Cade) defeated State senate, March madness N.O. good at hosting championships, Home of championships - not champions, Political newsmakers in the last 15 years, ( Took a break and did not record the last half of show )</td>
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<td>April 16, 1999</td>
<td>On Higher Ground: College Education in Louisiana</td>
<td>Larry Lorenz, Errol Laborde, John Hill, Gregory O'Brien, Terrence Kelly, Delgado Chancellor</td>
<td>Delgado students coming from public schools not prepared, UNO different because it has selective admissions, but even those qualified, may not still need extra help, TOPS program has helped students want to raise scores, Set a curriculum and grade and ACT threshold, Separate boards governing and coordinating higher education, Funding below southern average - salaries 14% lower, Funding formula based on enrollment, Number 4 in improvement nationwide, Duplication of programs Not a big issue, Board of Regents has done a good job, New library at Loyola, Interaction between University Presidents, Seen as an important group of leaders in the NO community, Rich resource of talented faculty, Mayor Sammy Nunez, Dominic Massa, Bernard Knoth, SJ, Norman Francis</td>
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and the city recognize that resource. Different missions and functions for each university.

**Faculty** Way behind in salaries and benefits so best faculty are being hired away.

**College students** More than teens, most are working people looking to better themselves. Average age at UNO - 27.

**Xavier** New science complex. #1 African-American University in providing pre-med and physics students. Emphasis on training quality teachers.

**Degree programs** Huge demand for computer science, management information. More students than jobs in communications. Hard to find a niche. For every college graduate, there are significant jobs available - although finding them may take time. Great need for skilled automobile mechanics, machinists, welders. Hard to find good jobs in early childhood education - poor salaries.

**Future changes** Distance learning, internet studies. Trilogy of teacher, student and book has been and will always be with us. Empower students to learn that knowledge is temporary so that they can become continuous learners. Is state going to be able to keep up with changes in knowledge and training?

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**#21**
July 30, 1999

Larry Lorenz, moderator
Errol Laborde, producer
Rob Masson, 

**Educational Outages** Rolling blackouts. Entergy usually buys extra energy in the summertime from other places that are not so hot.

**Phil Johnson**
Don Westbrook
Gerald
Gallinghouse
Moon Landrieu
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<tr>
<td>#21</td>
<td>August 6, 1999</td>
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| Larry Lorenz, moderator | Police Department Racial Balance  
SUIT filed in 1973 by black officer to balance races in department resulted in consent decree. System set up to make equal track for blacks and whites. Pennington requested end to consent decree because top heavy with rank. Goals for each rank. |
| Errol Laborde, producer | Schwegmann closing  
| John Maginnis, Louisiana Political FAX Weekly | Decline of Schwegmann's in politics  
Public Service Commission. Shopping bag endorsements. |
| Kathy Finn, City Business | Edwards case  
| Allen Johnson, Gambit | Canal Street streetcar project  
Pushed back from 2001 to 2002 |
| Richard Pennington | Carl Barbier |
| | Larry Williams |
| | Marlon Defillo |
| | Mark Robert |
| | Melinda |
| | Schwegmann |
| | Edward DeBartollo |
| | Ecoute Fuller |
| | Edwin Edwards |
| | Greg Tarver |
| | Mike Foster |
| | Robert Namer |
| | David Duke |
| | Bernie Boudreau |
| | Boysie Bollinger |
| | Pat Taylor |
| | Jerry Fowler |
| | Marc Morial |
| | Michelle Miller |
| #21 | August 13, 1999 | Larry Lorenz, moderator
Errol Laborde, producer
Rob Masson, WVUE-TV
Norman Robinson, WDSU-TV
Mark Schleifstein, Times-Picayune | Hurricanes  Warm water breaks off the Gulf Stream into the Gulf forming eddies which can increase intensity of hurricanes. Studying. Model to predict flooding developed. Foster's purchase of David Duke's donor list  Paying fine to Ethics Board. Will have to campaign harder than planned. Albertson's in Central City Passed from City Planning Commission to City Council. Residents seem to want it more than preservationists do. School Board  Monumental task. Appointment of 4 area superintendents. Termites  Record numbers. New chemicals may be working. | Mike Foster
David Duke
Bill Jefferson
Phil Preis
Oliver Thomas
Bill Bowers
Gail Glapion
Greg Henderson
Polly Thomas
Ken Hollis |
| #22 | August 20, 1999 | Larry Lorenz, moderator
Errol Laborde, producer
John Maginnis, Louisiana Political FAX Weekly
Rob Masson, WVUE-TV
Dave Cohen, WWL-Radio | Foster fine  Ethics board levied $20,000 for buying Duke list. Avoids criminal penalties. Hasn't hurt him in the polls. Fowler indictment  Kickbacks to Elections Commissioner over 7 years. Only state in the union to elect elections commissioner. Schools  Leap tests for 4th and 8th grades for the first time. As high as 70% could fail in Orleans. Have to say "sir" and "ma'am" Security measures in the wake of Columbine. Metal detectors, armed deputies and uniforms. Proteus to parade again  Have to sign an affidavit stating they do not discriminate. Bush campaign | Jerry Fowler
Mike Foster
David Duke
Woody Jenkins
George Bush
Susie Terrell
Joe Cannizaro
Frank Stewart
Boysie Bollinger
Elizabeth Dole
Peggy Wilson
Steve Forbes
David Duke
Jessie Ventura |
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Participants</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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</table>
| August 27, 1999 | Larry Lorenz, moderator
Errol Laborde, producer
Kevin Magill, Associate Press
Norman Robinson, WDSU-TV
Allen Johnson, Gambit | Police arrests
To maintain good relationships need to be open and above board. Appearance of responsibility.
Police officer accused of rape.
Case against Edwards
Role of Player's Casino in Lake Charles--victim of extortion.
Insurance side of it.
Insurance Commissioner Jim Brown being investigated.
Office (Elections Commissioner, too) created by Earl Long to dilute power of Wade Martin, the Secretary of State. Jerry Fowler running again.
Hurricane evacuations for nursing homes
Working on plans
Grass put in the Dome for Green Bay game
New stadium will be topic of debate. |
| September 3, 1999 | Larry Lorenz, moderator
Jennifer John, WWL-TV
John Hill, Gannett News Service
Kathy Finn, City Business
Dave Cohen, WWL-Radio | Labor activity
Convention center employees negotiated with management company for dining space for workers. Avondale will probably go union.
Offshore workers association.
Charter Schools
Privately run on public funds. 42 statewide.
Designed to be different.
Originally for at-risk students; five-year contracts.
Facilities comparable. Nothing special.
Harahan police layoffs
Small municipalities having budgetary problems. NOPD raised the stakes.
Jerry Fowler
One week after indictment requisitioned designer Ford Expedition.
People deciding whether to run for state offices.
Hotel tax to pay for public transportation
Could be more requests to raise tax for other purposes. |
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<th>Date</th>
<th>Participants</th>
<th>Discussion Points</th>
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<td>#23</td>
<td>Larry Lorenz, moderator Errol Laborde, producer John Maginnis, Louisiana Political FAX Weekly Ro Brown, WDSU-TV Scott Simmons, WDSU-TV</td>
<td>State elections Challenger to Mike Foster. 13 for Elections Commissioner. Jimmy Davis' 100th birthday An entertainer that happened to be governor. Came in as reformer in the 40s; also in 1960 as a segregationist. The Saints Ditka's third year--Ricky Williams. Both hard workers. Free agency has hurt the NFL. School Board scrapping NOCCA. State built building, NOCCA got the property, school board supposed to provide operating funds. Short of funds; state not happy. Parish factionalism Urban specialist study. Regionalism. Need a plan for regional cooperation.</td>
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<td>#23</td>
<td>Larry Lorenz, moderator Errol Laborde, producer John Maginnis, Louisiana Political FAX Weekly Dan Milham, WDSU-TV Rob Masson, WVUE-TV</td>
<td>Hurricane preparedness Discussion of Floyd, George, Frances. Direct hit is all relative. Better forecasting. Idea of reversing the interstates Have to build crossover ramps. First week after qualifying shakeups Shorter period between qualifying and election. Career Fields Information systems, tourism, engineering, welding, auto mechanics, machinists Criminal District Court proceedings Fire Department residency All city workers supposed to live in parish. Those promoted being investigated. 300-400 live outside parish. Canal Street Streetcar Controversy. Serious funding issues. Beetles in N.O. 35 years ago</td>
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</table>
| #23 | September 24, 1999 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
Kevin Magill, Associated Press  
Dave Cohen, WWL-Radio  
Kathy Finn, City Business | Jim Brown indictment  
Cascade Insurance one of several that went out of business in the late 80s. Deseer took money from company before liquidation. Edwards and Brown tried to help him so that he would not have to pay back the money. Brown wanted power to do liquidations and receiverships. Wiretaps. Brown running for office while under a gag order. Timing of grand jury--term expiring in two weeks.  
School rankings 50 unacceptable in NO. Lusher showed up well. Standardized tests, attendance, dropout rates, poverty. Wanted to identify schools that need help.  
Gulfport Port has massive expansion program...using gambling money. Houston and Mobile also expanding.  
Auto dealerships Sales booming. More competition, consolidation.  
Highway crossovers Completed to double capacity. | Edward Deseer  
Edwin Edwards  
Jim Brown  
Foxy Sanders  
Eddie Jordan  
Frank Polozola  
Harry Rosenberg  
Bill Jefferson  
Gary Lagrange  
Walter Blessy  
Ronnie Lamarque  
Dutch Morial  
E.J. Orso |
| #24 | October 1, 1999 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
Kevin Magill, Associated Press  
Norman Robinson, WDSU-TV  
Lt. Gov. Blanco the incumbent.  
Insurance Commissioner Jim Brown trying to get elected despite indictment. Gag order lifted.  
Edwards Cascade indictment "Silly, baseless" Plans to defend himself.  
Radio's role in evacuation Not prepared for Georges. State will give radio more information. Multiple generators. Emergency broadcast system.  
Death of John Wilds | Bill Jefferson  
Bill Clinton  
Cleo Fields  
Kathleen Blanco  
Cornell Martin  
Larry Bankston  
John Volz  
John Wilds |
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Panelists</th>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>Participants</th>
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</table>
| October 8, 1999 | Larry Lorenz, moderator
Errol Laborde, producer
John Maginnis, Louisiana Political FAX Weekly
Scott Simmons, WDSU-TV
Kathy Finn, City Business | Gubernatorial election Gov. Foster will not debate; absence makes debate a non-event. Taking chance that he will say something memorable. Other races Jim Brown, Alan Boudreaux, Winston Riddick for insurance commissioner. Ken Duncan, John Kennedy for treasurer. Election commissioner - Woody Jenkins, Susie Terrell, Jerry Fowler. John Hainkel defamed by DeSoniat campaign. Insurance case gag order lifted Edwards talking a lot trying to "work his magic." Jazzland underway Scheduled to open May 2000. Ogden corporation selling entertainment division. Parks may have to be sold individually. Harrah's Opening October 25. A lot of New Orleans inside. Arena Also soon to open. NOCCA State built building. School board has not received adequate funding to repay state. Offer to rent or lease from state. | Mike Foster
Phil Preis
William Jefferson
Jim Brown
Alan Boudreaux
Winston Riddick
Ken Duncan
John Kennedy
Susie Terrell
Jerry Fowler
Woody Jenkins
John Hainkel
Edwin Edwards
Foxy Sanders
Christopher Hemmeter
Mark Drennan |
| October 29, 1999 | Larry Lorenz, moderator
Errol Laborde, producer
John Maginnis, Louisiana Political FAX Weekly
John Hill, Gannett News Service
Mike Foster
Jerry Fowler
Edwin Edwards
Suzanne Haik Terrell
Woody Jenkins
Ken Duncan
John Kennedy
John Johnston
Louis Charbonnet
Sherman Copelin
Leonard Lucas
Naomi White
Cedric Richmond
Eddie Scott
Lynn Dean
Diana Dysart |
| November 12, 1999 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Maginnis, Louisiana Political  
FAX Weekly  
Jennifer John, WWL-TV  
Dave Cohen, WWL-Radio | Last election in the 1900s  
Negative campaigning may turn people off.  
Jenkins playing the N.O. card -- a symbol of all evil and liberal politics as well as race.  
Legislative court tests  
State laws challenged and overrun.  
Legislators under pressure from constituents trying to push the envelope.  
Election of Speaker  
Governor wants Downer replaced with quarterback to push his agenda.  
In Louisiana, a powerful governor prevails.  
Edwards attorneys challenge  
Wiretaps obtained under false pretenses.  
Granted legally?  
Casino Riverboat licenses  
Lake Ponchartrain  
Lake cleaner than many beaches in Florida according to foundation.  
State has not lifted swimming bans as yet.  
Only beach that will be open is Lincoln Beach.  
Ice Skating at City Park  
Open until Mardi Gras  
NOCCA agreement by Thanksgiving? | Jim Brown  
Suzanne Haik Terrell  
Woody Jenkins  
Lynn Dean  
Diana Dysart  
John Hainkel  
Mike Foster  
Louis Charbonnet  
John Johnston  
Sherman Copelin  
Leonard Lucas  
Karen Carter  
Larry Bagneris  
Cedric Richmond  
Larry Scott  
Butch Ward  
Shane Guidry  
John Laverine  
Robert Garrity  
Richard Ieyoub  
Mike Barry  
Hunt Downer  
John Alario  
Charles DeWitt  
Mike Foster  
Frank Polozola  
Edwin Edwards  
Fred Hofheinz  
Boysie Bollinger |
| #25 November 29, 1999 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Maginnis, Louisiana Political FAX Weekly  
Bill Capo, WWL-TV  
State of Social Services  United Way short of goal but still more than they have collected in the past. Those on the edge are most likely to give what they can.  
Pennington's role in gun sale  Criticized for handling of deal with Glock.  
What to be thankful for  Decrease in crime, no hurricanes, Convention Center expansion, Sugar Bowl, Audubon Institute, Riverfront use for recreation and leisure, boutique hotels, Arena, medical research, the Saints. | Harry Lee  
Butch Ward  
Richard Pennington  
Jim Brown  
Allen Boudreaux  
Suzanne Haik Terrell  
Woody Jenkins  
Sherman Copelin  
Leonard Lucas  
Cleo Fields  
Wilfred Pierre  
Hunt Downer  
Shane Guidry  
Marlin Gusman |
| #25   | December 3, 1999 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
|       |                | Errol Laborde, producer  
|       |                | John Hill, Gannett News  
|       |                | Kathy Finn, City Business  
|       |                | Ro Brown, WDSU-TV  
|       |                |  
|       |                | More Indictments  
|       |                | Paid Cecil Brown lots of money to do business in Louisiana.  
|       |                | NOCCA Orleans Parish School System vs State of Louisiana.  
|       |                | Friends of NOCCA has decided system can't fund it so want the state to take over.  
|       |                | Gambling licenses Penalized by State for not reporting dealings with Stephen Edwards.  
|       |                | Harrah's expected to go to legislature to ask for lower taxes.  
|       |                | Privatization of public utilities  
|       |                | Outside management can get things done better than cities.  
|       |                | Top news stories of the 1900s  
|       |                | 1984 World's Fair  
|       |                | Development of I-10  
|       |                | Saving the Riverfront - beat back expressway and revitalized area  
|       |                | WPA - City Park, Tennessee Williams, Enrique Alferez  
|       |                | Saints and the Superdome  
|       |                | Howard Johnson's sniping  
|       |                | Evolution of Jazz  
|       |                | Hurricane Betsy  
|       |                | Civil Rights  
|       |                | Great Flood of 1927  
|       |                | Nick Sabin to LSU  
|       |                |  
|       |                | Fred Hofheinz  
|       |                | Patrick Graham  
|       |                | Cecil Brown  
|       |                | Edwin Edwards  
|       |                | Stephen Edwards  
|       |                | Tennessee Williams  
|       |                | Enrique Alferez  
|       |                |  

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Moderator</th>
<th>News Sources</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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<tr>
<td>December 10, 1999</td>
<td>Larry Lorenz, moderator</td>
<td>Errol Laborde, producer John Maginnis, Louisiana Political FAX Weekly Norman Robinson, WDSU-TV Mike Hoss, WWL-TV</td>
<td>Harrah's first month Figures not encouraging. $16 million - need $26 million to pay state $100 million per year. Mayor's chance for a third term Believes he has a better chance than his father (who tried to eliminate term limits) for a third term. What's better -- crime down, accountable mayor -- but still don't want a dynasty. Downer's attempt to remain Speaker Governor has to change focus to raise taxes Changes at the Saints 2 wins 14 losses State finances Expected shortfall. Foster has to cut budget and raise taxes. Top elections of 1900s David Duke not elected governor - Edwards last term - 1991 Mike Foster first Republican to be reelected. 1995 Dutch Morial first Black mayor 1977 Moon Landrieu elected mayor in 1969 Voter approval of two terms for governor and domed stadium 1966 Voter approval of new state constitution - 1973 Morrison election - 1946 McKeithen election - 1964 Edwin Edwards - 1971 Huey Long - 1928</td>
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<td>Larry Lorenz, moderator</td>
<td>Hostage crisis at St. Martinville</td>
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<td>Errol Laborde, producer</td>
<td>New immigration law which mandates deportation for lawbreakers. 1983 crisis at Oakdale.</td>
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<td>John Maginnis, Louisiana Political FAX Weekly</td>
<td>Year-end review</td>
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<td>Kathy Finn, City Business</td>
<td>Opening of the Arena.</td>
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<td>John Hill, Gannett News</td>
<td>Vitter-Treen election</td>
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<td>Opening of Harrah's</td>
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<td>Good reviews esthetically but not very profitable so far.</td>
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<td>Education</td>
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<td>New superintendent. Still</td>
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<td>infrastructure problems.</td>
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<td>Squabble over NOCCA</td>
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<td>Decline of crime</td>
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<td>No more Schwegmann's</td>
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<td>Growth of Robert's</td>
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<td>Avondale sold to Letten Industries and put under control of Ingals in Pascagoula</td>
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<td>Convention center expansion</td>
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<td>Oil companies merging, cutting</td>
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<td>Politics</td>
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<td>Fall of Bob Livingston, replaced by David Vitter.</td>
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<td>20th Century New Orleanians</td>
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<td>Baldwin Wood - pump inventor</td>
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<td>Louis Armstrong</td>
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<td>Huey Long</td>
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<td>Oil industry - once 50% of state revenue; now 10%</td>
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<td>Pat Taylor - education and the arts</td>
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<td>Roger Ogden - art collector</td>
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<td>Dave Treen</td>
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<td>David Vitter</td>
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<td>Alphonse Davis</td>
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<td>Mark Robert</td>
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<td>Bob Livingston</td>
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<td>Roger Ogden</td>
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| #26 | January 7, 2000 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Hill, Gannett News  
Mike Hoss, WWL-TV  
Dave Cohen, WWL-Radio | Massacre at Saints Camp  
Coach Ditka, entire staff and Kouharek. Ditka overall 15 wins, 33 losses.  
**Edwards Trial begins**  
Jury selection key.  
**Morial third term attempt**  
Polls show opposition to charter change. 33-member task force to study issue.  
**Opening in 2000**  
D-Day Museum, Jazzland Tourism  
$8.3 billion in 1999.  
More hotel rooms | Tom Benson  
Mike Ditka  
Bill Kouharek  
Jim Finks  
Jim Mora  
Paul Tagliabue  
Roy Glapion  
Suzanne Haik Terrell  
Gail Glapion  
Scott Shea |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| #27 | January 14, 2000 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
Kathy Finn, City Business  
Dave Cohen, WWL-Radio  
John Hill, Gannett News | Edwards Trial  
Media circus.  
Geared up for four months of fun. Jury questioning -- money, "n" word on tape, immunity for testimony. Edwards hospitalized with flu.  
**Leap Test**  
Some parents upset. Can't punish kids for years of poor education. BESE board -- need standards. Huge numbers expected to fail.  
Schools held accountable.  
**Business in NO**  
Jobs lost in oil industry being replaced with tourism jobs. Also high-tech jobs available to those with skills. More high-tech graduates.  
**Crime**  
Harrah's numbers  
No word on December revenue. Bad news expected.  
Foster's second inauguration  
Festival of Fins | Edwin Edwards  
Mike Foster  
Bill Quigley  
Gail Glapion  
Tim Ryan  
Charles Foti  
Harry Lee |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#27</th>
<th>January 21, 2000</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Errol Laborde, producer</td>
<td>John Maginnis, Louisiana Political FAX weekly</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kathy Finn, City Business</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dave Cohen, WWL-Radio</td>
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<tr>
<th>#27</th>
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<tr>
<td>Errol Laborde, producer</td>
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<tr>
<td>John Maginnis, Louisiana Political FAX Weekly</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mike Hoss, WWL-TV</td>
<td>Randy Mueller</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ro Brown, WDSU-TV</td>
<td>Jim Finks</td>
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| Mike Longman |
| Charlie Dewitt |
| Steve Windhorst |
| John Alario |
| Bryant Hammond |
| Mike Foster |

| Frank Polozola |
| Randy Mueller |
| Jim Finks |
| Jim Mora |
| Tom Benson |
| Willie Roaf |
| Jim Haslett |
| Sid Bolling |
| Robert Guidry |
| Stephen Edwards |
| Andrew Martin |
| Cecil Picard |
| Alphonse Davis |
| Steve Winn |
| #28 | February 4, 2000 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Maginnis, Louisiana Political FAX Weekly  
Mike Hoss, WWL-TV  
Tom Benson  
Mike Ditka  
Ricky Williams  
Edwin Edwards  
Andrew Martin  
Stephen Edwards  
Harry Connick  
Frank Marullo  
Charles Elloie  
Jim Garrison  
Peggy Wilson  
Brian Wagner  
Scott Shea  
Jay Batt  
Mike Foster  
Jim Singleton  
Marc Morial |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| #29 | February 18, 2000 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Maginnis, Louisiana Political FAX Weekly  
Kathy Finn, City Business  
Dave McNamara, WWL-TV | Harrah's good month Up to $19.2 million for January. Riverboats down 15% on average. Impact on Harrah's of big events, i.e. Sugar Bowl. Edwards trial Extortion scheme in which no license was awarded. Not much sympathy for victims who were greedy and let themselves be extorted. Law clinic restrictions Shintec case. State Supreme Court set guidelines. Hard to qualify. Neighborhood groups have to get everyone to fill out lengthy forms. Parade restrictions Move in Jefferson Parish to lower restrictions. Defeated. Some throws banned. State budget More like $330 million. Legislators distrustful. High-tech conventions Convention center well-wired. Still a need for hotel rooms. May expand center even more. | Ricky Shetler  
Stephen Edwards  
Cecil Brown  
Judge Polozola |
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<tr>
<td><strong>February 25, 2000</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Larry Lorenz, moderator</td>
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<td>Errol Laborde, producer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Norman Robinson, WDSU-TV</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dave Cohen, WWL-Radio</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Edwards trial</strong> Shetler taped Stephen Edwards by accident, but kept it in his safe. Ledger of payments from Players Casino to him and then to Edwardses.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>City Council District A</strong> Super Tuesday Pro-Bush. Republican renewal to take the party back from Conservative faction.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Affirmative action</strong> Corporate America supporting it more than government. Infume, NAACP head, working to make TV diversify. In Louisiana, economic reciprocity process.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sales tax revenues being reduced by e-commerce</strong> Percentage of internet commerce increasing. Moratorium due to end in 2001.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Carnival</strong> Cheaper to parade in Orleans than in Jefferson. Trying to enforce laws against showing flesh.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<p>| Ricky Shetler |
| Robert Guidry |
| Edwin Edwards |
| Stephen Edwards |
| Scott Shea |
| Jay Batt |
| Ellen Hazeur-Distance |
| Roy Glapion |
| Cynthia Willard-Lewis |
| Sherman Copelin |
| Marc Morial |</p>
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<tr>
<th>March 3, 2000</th>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Ro Brown, WDSU-TV</td>
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<tr>
<td>Allen Johnson, Gambit</td>
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| Lundi Gras | Began 1987, Proteus, Orpheus (superkrewe with features of old time parades). Becoming a big celebration. |
| Edwards trial | FBI forensic accountant. Edwards had money and was trying to use it. Cash payments for everything, including home-building/decorating payments. Jury taking everything very seriously. |
| Leap tests | Orleans Parish parents filed suit against retention aspect. Both school board and city council passed resolutions against test. Rest of state accepting test. We don't spend enough compared to other states. Teaching the test. Successful because people are paying attention. |
| Crime statistics | Dropping, but still higher than other cities. Don't include all offenses. Unique counting methods. |
| Saints training camp in Thibodaux | Marketing tool. Fielkow hired by Benson from minor league baseball. |
| Deaths | Betty Werlein Carter, wife of Hodding Carter. Richard Baudoin, Times of Acadiana |

| Whoopi Goldberg |
| Edwin Edwards |
| Cecil Picard |
| Richard Pennington |
| Randy Mueller |
| Arnold Fielkow |
| Hodding Carter |
| Betty Werlein Carter |
| Richard Baudoin |
| Jason Berry |
| Roy Glapion |
| Larry Lorenz, moderator | District A council race
Complaints about Audubon Tavern II, street repairs.
Negative campaigning.
Edwards trial
Baton Rouge Jazz scheme.
Cameramen have adopted a black cat "Bullpen".
Saints new training facility at Nichols State
No real benefit except marketing. Won't really save money over LaCrosse, Wisconsin.
Wall Street study of Harrah's
Big event activities in N.O. will spur casino action. Probably $255 million in first year. Need $287 million. Will have to redouble efforts at state negotiations.
Luring new business to state
Foster wants to revamp Department of Economic Development. Climate of corruption and poor education systems don't help. Tax exemptions for new business. | Jay Batt
Scott Shea
Bobby Johnson
Edwin Edwards
Mark Bradley
Doug Morrow
Jim Haslett
Norman Hand
Jeff Blake
Mike Foster
Kevin Riley |
| Errol Laborde, producer | John Maginnis, Louisiana Political FAX Weekly |
| Mike Hoss, WWL-TV | Mike Hoss, WWL-TV |
| Kathy Finn, City Business | Kathy Finn, City Business |

March 10, 2000

#30
| #30 | March 17, 2000 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Maginnis, Louisiana Political FAX Weekly  
Bob Breck, WVUE-TV  
Dave Cohen, WWL-Radio | Edwards Trial Videotape showing Fields putting money in pocket (missed the part about Edwards being in the room). So far, not enough to convict Edwin. Others in more trouble  
Leap test Supported by 77% of those surveyed. Small groups made noise -- making the kids nervous.  
District A Runoff Both live in Lakeview, shift in power from Uptown. If Shea, as a former school board member, wins, it will be a rarity.  
Republican Renewal Foster persuaded elected officials to serve on state central committee. | Cleo Fields  
Edwin Edwards  
Greg Tarver  
Eddie DeBartolo  
Stephen Edwards  
Bobby Edwards  
Cecil Brown  
Andrew Martin  
Bobby Guidry  
Scott Shea  
Jay Batt  
Mike Foster |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| #30 | March 24, 2000 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Maginnis, Louisiana Political FAX Weekly  
Kathy Finn, City Business  
Allen Johnson, Gambit | Jazzland First theme park built from the ground up since 1980s.  
Edwards Trial DeBartolo associate "trouble with the license".  
Harrah's February numbers Slight increase over January. $20.4 million. Break even point $20 million. Talk of Harrah's changing deal with state.  
Beau Rivage Sold by Winn's Mirage Resorts to MGM.  
Causeway Police scandal Tapes of supervisor's racist remarks (6/10/98) released by Metropolitan Crime Commission.  
Special Session Trying to raise fees to run state departments. Can't be dealt with in fiscal session. Took teacher pay raise off the table.  
Inter-American Development Bank Meeting in NO.  
Manship School Honors Linda Lighfoot and John Maginnis Walter Cowan 88th birthday. | Ed Maransky  
Eddie DeBartolo  
Edwin Edwards  
Bobby Johnson  
Ronnie Guagliardo  
Mike Foster  
Linda Lightfoot  
Walter Cowan |
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<td>Marc Morial</td>
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<td></td>
<td>producer</td>
<td></td>
<td>Three-cent &quot;temporary&quot; sales tax Passed -- been in effect 15 years. Inklings of budget problems not talked about in election year.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Mike Foster</td>
<td>Scott Shea</td>
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<td>#31</td>
<td>April 7, 2000</td>
<td>Bobby Johnson's surgery</td>
<td>Suspicious circumstances. Timing issue. Motion to try him in absentia.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Edwin Edwards</td>
<td>Judge Polozola</td>
<td>Mike Foster</td>
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<td>22 April 2000</td>
<td>Larry Lorenz, moderator</td>
<td>Kevin Magill, Associated Press</td>
<td>Edwards Trial</td>
<td>All over but the verdict. 6-hour closing by government. Some gaps. Tapes missed key conversations. Key witnesses had something to gain by telling prosecutors what they wanted to hear. Have to have unanimous verdict. 32 counts. Leap Test: Opponent suit shot down in court. No victims at this point but door left open for future. Lack of parental involvement -- 183 parents showed up for meeting with superintendent. Beatification of Francis Seelos: Ceremony in Rome. Cure of Gretna woman 34 years ago. Katherine Drexel started Xavier. Legislative session: $260 million hole to be filled. Sin tax increase. Saints draft: Trying to improve.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Participants</td>
<td>Notes</td>
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| April 28, 2000 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Maginnis, Louisiana Political  
FAX Weekly  
Kathy Finn, City Business  
Marcia Kavanaugh | Jury deliberations  
96-page charge. Hung up on process rather than verdict.  
Making of the Arena  
Ten-year process. Hotel-motel tax from Orleans and Jefferson Parishes.  
Big package including Zephyr Field. State-owned land and facilities shared with the dome.  
In first six months since opened, above projections.  
Council election  
Winn-Dixie closings  
None in New Orleans area. Largest share of market.  
Wal-Mart competition.  
Jazz Fest  
Convention Center  
Not doing as well as anticipated. More expansion? Need more big hotels. |
| May 5, 2000 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Maginnis, Louisiana Political  
FAX Weekly  
Dave Cohen, WWL-Radio  
Eric Paulsen, WWL-TV | Juror #68  
Removed by Judge Polozola. Did not follow instructions to consult and deliberate. Made up his mind beforehand. Could have been previous complaints. Grounds for appeal.  
State Budget  
Governor made cuts in response to legislature. Teacher protests closed down schools for day. Where would we be without gambling? Big ticket items. TOPS, highway overlay, oil and gas slump.  
Transportation  
Airport needs expansion. Have to regionalize. Worried about Mississippi. Parish lines like brick walls.  
Big weekend  
Jazz Fest, Golf Tournament  
Openings  
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Moderator</th>
<th>Producer</th>
<th>Journalist 1</th>
<th>Journalist 2</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 26, 2000</td>
<td>Larry Lorenz,</td>
<td>Errol Laborde,</td>
<td>John Maginnis,</td>
<td>Louisiana Political FAX Weekly</td>
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<td>producer</td>
<td>John Hill, Gannett News</td>
<td>Rob Masson, WVUE-TV</td>
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<td>Scott Simmons, WDSU-TV</td>
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- Closing of Mackenzies
- Health code violations and Schwegmann's closing.
- Opening of Jazzland
- More rides and less music.
- Edwards Verdicts
- Media reaction. Sense that nothing would happen to Edwards once again. Shock and surprise at guilty verdict. Juror #68 says he doesn't know why he was dismissed. Loud shirts. Weight of the evidence. Strong case presented well. Bullpen the cat.
- Legislature
- Foster at war with the business community. No one wants to vote for new taxes. Timing not right for Harrah's renegotiations.
- Monkey Hill renovations

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<tr>
<th>June 2, 2000</th>
<th>Larry Lorenz,</th>
<th>Errol Laborde,</th>
<th>John Hill, Gannett News</th>
<th>Kathy Finn, City Business</th>
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<td>Dan Milham, WDSU-TV</td>
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- State legislators
- Increased corporate taxes. Knew they would have a deficit but ignored it until after elections. Foster doesn't play politics well.
- Drought
- Longer it goes on, heavy toll on homes. Older homes are sinking unevenly. Shoring companies building up a backlog of business. Nearly 17 inches rain deficit this year.
- Edwards Sentencing
- Delayed until Cascade Insurance trial in August. Appeals: Juror #68; use of anonymous jury; decisions along the way.
- D-Day Museum
- Stephen Ambrose, oral histories, and increased information.
- Mackenzie's Purchased and Reopening
- Hurricane Predictions
- Don't say when or where. Forecasting of center or track has improved. Now working on intensity prediction.
| June 9, 2000 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Maginnis, Louisiana Political FAX Weekly  
Dave Cohen, WWL-Radio  
John Hill, Gannett News | Legislative Fiscal Session  
New area codes Two plans. Geographical split or overlay (new lines get new code).  
Cascade Insurance Trial Edwards charged with trying to bribe Judge Foxy Sanders. Possible appeal of gambling verdict. Biggest problem for Brown interview with FBI -- lying?  
Canal Street Streetcar RTA gets part of hotel/motel tax. New streetcars being built in N.O. May open 2003. | Mike Foster  
Charles DeWitt  
Stephen Ambrose  
Charles Ogden  
Edwin Edwards  
Foxy Sanders  
Candy Edwards  
Jim Brown  
Marc Morial |
| June 16, 2000 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
Kevin Magill, Associated Press  
Allen Johnson, Gambit  
Rob Masson, WVUE-TV | Violent crime increase | Marc Morial  
Richard Pennington  
Skip Bertman |
| June 16, 2000 | Violent crime increase | Violent crime increase | Just as city has been named "most livable" and police department has reformed. Black tar heroin. Witnesses afraid to testify. Witness Protection Program not working because people don't want to relocate. |
| June 16, 2000 | Special Session Revenue Estimating Conference predicts higher oil and gas revenues. Higher education underfunding to be addressed. |
| June 16, 2000 | Demolition of Leitz-Egan on Canal | Mayor stepped in to stop it. Confusion between historic interests, housing interests, safety. Conservation review committee. |
| June 16, 2000 | Airport Expansion | Can't all be hubs. Geography major factor. New airport studies. |
| June 16, 2000 | LSU in College World Series | Going for number five. ULL also did well. |
| June 23, 2000 | Errol Laborde, moderator | New Edwards Trial Act as own attorney. Jury selection may be difficult. Dershowitz working on appeal of gambling conviction. Probably will be based on how the case started. Convinced appeal will succeed. Legislative session Approval rating down. Bill to raise tuition fees. Balanced budget but still working on allocations. State will have to come up with more to finance TOPS tuition-equivalent grant. Harrah's Revenue Climbing and approaching break-even point. Setting stage to go back to legislature and ask for lower tax burden. Strip searches at parish prison Legal but not for misdemeanor offenders. Have to have reasonable cause. At OPP, blanket strip searches being conducted. LSU Baseball Win Hiring new football coach. Tiger Athletic Foundation put up part of the salary to hire Nick Saban. Industrial Canal Lock Bottleneck needs expanding, but neighborhood associations have fought it. | Edwin Edwards Jim Brown Alan Dershowitz Nick Saban Skip Bertman Kathleen Blanco Richard Ieyoub |
June 30, 2000

Errol Laborde, moderator
John Maginnis, Louisiana Political FAX Weekly
Kathy Finn, City Business
John Hill, Gannett News
John Copes, deductbox.com

Louisiana Politics
Two legislative sessions -- a minus for Mike Foster. Business community avoided tax bullets. First term tort reform but didn't even want to talk about taxes. State does not overspend -- underspending in education; overspend in corrections and prisons. Higher education tuition increase but still need more for public education. May be a break to have a governor whose not so omnipotent.

Deductbox.com
Need a statewide news source. Daily snapshot of what's going on. Most media regionally-driven. 60,000 hits per day during Edwards trial. Government employees, lobbyists, academia. Gannett purchase of Alexandria Towntalk and other western newspapers
Local autonomy.
Business in state politics
Future state leaders
Business money going into lobbying activity.
Basic HMO's dropping Medicare patients
Managed care not the answer to all of our problems.
| July 7, 2000 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
Dave Cohen, WWL-Radio  
Mark Schleifstein, Times-Picayune  
Scott Simmons, WDSU-TV | Booting cars  Business people like; perpetrators don't. No laws pertaining to vehicles on private property. More social issue than legal issue.  
New judge for second Edwards trial  Tough reputation. Will have to commute to Baton Rouge. All BR judges asked to step down.  
Dead Zones in the Gulf  River water full of nutrients flows into the Gulf. Sun reacts with it, creates algae bloom, dies, goes to bottom, and as it decomposes, kills organisms. Nutrients need to be reduced upstream and wetlands need to be developed downstream. Concerns about what humans are doing to the Gulf -- chemicals, overfishing, loss of wetlands.  
Crime rate going up  Not specific to NO. Murders not random acts -- those involved know each other. More heroin. Taking longer to solve murders. Witnesses more reluctant.  
Carnival in Jefferson Parish  Some commercialism. Hard to find enough riders, bands, marchers, etc. Probably too many parades. Superkrewes. Gambling has reduced bingo attendance.  
Termites in St. Louis Cathedral  $2.5 million goal to stave off termites and make repairs. Bait traps in Jackson Square seem to be working -- won't know for sure for 3-4 years. | Frank Polozola  
Edith Brown  
Clement  
Foxy Sanders  
Ed Gonzales  
Ed Muniz |
| #35 | July 14, 2000 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Maginnis, Louisiana Political FAX Weekly  
Stephanie Riegel, WWL-TV  
Ro Brown, WDSU-TV | Cascade Insurance Trial  
New Orleans Judge Edith Brown Clement appointed. Trial continued to September. Middle district (Baton Rouge) the smallest. Federal judges appointed. Background investigations.  
Superintendent evaluation A "B"  
Surprised to find the number of people involved who don't really care about children. 7,000 out of 12,000 didn't pass Leap Test. Principals want to unionize. Paycheck problems. New software.  
Cruise destination Second tier of cities being developed.  
Cruise terminals need to expand. Mostly Western Caribbean cruises. People will come to NO a few days early.  
Head of State Troopers resignation | Edith Brown Clement  
Alphonse Davis  
Whittington  
Terry Landry |
| July 21, 2000 | Larry Lorenz, moderator Errol Laborde, producer Kevin Magill, Associated Press Norman Robinson, WDSU-TV Bob Breck, WVUE-TV | Cascade Plea Bargain  David Daceer plead guilty and will testify against Brown and Edwards. The Heat  Do TV weather forecasts exaggerate the problem? We have been hot before. Now have heat index. Technology gives more to talk about. Have always had climatic change since the beginning of time. Is man responsible? Harrah's looking for concession $100 million tax burden. Want the same as riverboats -- 18%. Parent corporation will only support through December. Gambling statewise  Farmerville (Union Parish) wants video poker back. 13 Riverboat casinos, more to come, Indian casinos. Gambling reaching saturation point. Brown's Velvet changing to Brown's Dairy  Expansion within Central City. Active in neighborhood. Walker-Roemer cow. Tobacco settlement  Large Florida settlement could bankrupt companies and as a result, take money away from states. | David Daceer Jim Brown Edwin Edwards Temple Brown John Kennedy Richard Ieyoub |
| July 28, 2000 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Maginnis, Louisiana Political FAX Weekly  
Scott Simmons, WDSU-TV  
Judi Russell, City Business | McKenzie's Bakery  
Couple who bought (and were managing) it decided to call it quits.  
Superseding Indictment against Jim Brown  
More involved.  
Dacir plea agreement. Different set of attorneys than gambling trial. Harder to hold jury's attention.  
Blue Cross Supplemental Medicare Insurance  
Internet Pornography on Library Computers  
Arrest in Harahan library. How to filter without limiting access to information.  
Jefferson Parade compromises  
Must have 10 marching units; 5 have to be a real band. Commercialism allowed on floats. Maybe two strong krewes; others trying to find their way. Decline due to superkrewes, loss of Bingo revenue to gambling. Harrah's tax break  
Have to operate at least one year before can negotiate. Need to make $35 million a month to break even. Has to give three-month notice before walking away. Knew about the deal beforehand, but it's not working. |
| --- | --- |
|  | David Daceer  
Foxy Sanders  
Edwin Edwards  
Robert Guidry  
Jim Brown  
Eddie DeBartolo  
Ken Hollis |
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<tr>
<th>#36</th>
<th>August 4, 2000</th>
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<tr>
<td>Larry Lorenz, moderator&lt;br&gt;Ro Brown , WDSU-TV&lt;br&gt;Kathy Finn, City Business&lt;br&gt;Allen Johnson, Gambit&lt;br&gt;John Maginnis, Louisiana Political FAX Weekly</td>
<td>Death of Dorothy May Taylor&lt;br&gt;Civil rights pioneer.&lt;br&gt;Desgregation of Mardi Gras krewes. Ordinance to limit tobacco advertising in black community. Instrumental in involvement of black community is politics. Divisiveness in krewes already there -- just pointed it out. Leap Test failures More than half of eighth graders in Orleans did not pass retest. In Jefferson, much better. Test has helped inspire system. In Orleans, first year was bound to be a problem. Harrah's numbers Revenue increasing, but don't want to appear to be doing too well -- want to reduce tax burden. Riverboat revenues down anywhere from 25% to 30%. Council races Not a lot of interest. Democratic Convention Less prospect for Gore in LA Tough job. Financial disclosure reports Foster's failure to disclose purchase of Duke's mailing list. 91% in state file in a timely manner. Those who didn't face fines (often waived). Saints Better in some spots. Can tell too much from pre-season. Things seemed to go well in Thibodaux.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mike Foster&lt;br&gt;Boysie Bollinger&lt;br&gt;George W. Bush&lt;br&gt;Bill Clinton&lt;br&gt;David Duke&lt;br&gt;David Vitter&lt;br&gt;Jessie Jackson&lt;br&gt;Richard Pennington&lt;br&gt;Marlin Gusman&lt;br&gt;Joyce Glapion&lt;br&gt;Cynthia Willard-Lewis&lt;br&gt;Edwin Edwards&lt;br&gt;Alan Dershowitz</td>
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<td>Date</td>
<td>Participants</td>
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| August 11, 2000 | Larry Lorenz, moderator, Errol Laborde, producer, John Hill, Gannett News, Ed Reams, WDSU-TV, Jennifer John, WWL-TV | Harrah's attempt to reduce tax burden  
Council proposal to reduce from $100 million to $30-40 million. Increase riverboat taxes.  
Bidding process question - if others had known taxes would be reduced. Without a break  
Harrah's threat to leave after March. Attempt to have hotel or restaurant might be more successful. Trying to pass legislation difficult -- construed as pro-gambling vote.  
Parish prison  
Suits alleging that Foti keeps people in jail too long to make more money. Foti blames fingerprinting system.  
Complaints about prison overcrowding. Another issue is prisoners being released when they should not have been. Too many mistakes being made.  
Elections  
No real challenge for incumbents. Term limits?  
Edward's reaction to conviction  
Planning to have a great time representing himself at insurance trial. Some financial problems -- sold home. Trip to Colorado "for perhaps the last time."  
Convinced that appeal will be successful but in the meantime he will spend some time in prison. Presentence report recommendations for Stephen Edwards.  
Downtown Development  
Beautification of Canal Street. Replace facades on buildings, plant trees, clean up. Want to diversify types of stores.  |
<p>|          | Mike Foster, C.B. Forgotson, Charles Foti, Buddy Roemer, Edwin Edwards, Stephen Edwards, Marc Morial |                                                                                           |
| #37     | August 18, 2000 | Larry Lorenz, moderator Ro Brown, WDSU-TV Kathy Finn, City Business Allen Johnson, Gambit John Maginnis, Louisiana Political FAX Weekly | Death of Dorothy May Taylor Civil rights pioneer. Desegregation of Mardi Gras krewes. Ordinance to limit tobacco advertising in black community. Instrumental in involvement of black community is politics. Divisiveness in krewes already there -- just pointed it out. Leap Test failures More than half of eighth graders in Orleans did not pass retest. In Jefferson, much better. Test has helped inspire system. In Orleans, first year was bound to be a problem. Harrah's numbers Revenue increasing, but don't want to appear to be doing too well -- want to reduce tax burden. Riverboat revenues down anywhere from 25% to 30%. Council races Not a lot of interest. Democratic Convention Less prospect for Gore in LA Tough job. Financial disclosure reports Foster's failure to disclose purchase of Duke's mailing list. 91% in state file in a timely manner. Those who didn't face fines (often waived). Saints Better in some spots. Can tell too much from pre-season. Things seemed to go well in Thibodaux. | Dorothy May Taylor Alphonse Davis Elton Lagasse Marlin Gusman Joyce Glapion Cynthia Willard Lewis Mark McKenna Bill Jefferson David Vitter Al Gore Mary Landrieu John Breaux Marc Morial Mike Foster David Duke Ricky Williams Fritz Windhorst |</p>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>#37</th>
<th>Larry Lorenz, moderator</th>
<th>Edwards hires attorney</th>
<th>Been discussed. Edward's has not been in a courtroom (as an attorney) in 40 years. Gag order.</th>
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<tr>
<td>August 25, 2000</td>
<td>Errol Laborde, producer</td>
<td>Bush visit to Dillard</td>
<td>Reaching across party lines. Louisiana a bellweather state...voted for every winning presidential candidate since the 1940s.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>John Hill, Gannett News</td>
<td>Local races</td>
<td>Only interesting races in District D and District E. Increase in number of women on city council.</td>
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<td>Jennifer John, WWL-TV</td>
<td>Taxes not being collected</td>
<td>Bad checks.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Dave Cohen, WWL-Radio</td>
<td>Louisiana Inc.</td>
<td>Private corporation created and funded by the state. $100 million put in hands of private corporation. No other state does this. Must be approved as a constitutional amendment in November.</td>
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<td>Booting in Jefferson parking lots</td>
<td>Can't outlaw because of property owners rights. Fees to be capped. Lack of due process to be remedied in Justice of the Peace courts.</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Edwin Edwards</td>
<td>Candy Edwards</td>
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<td>Robert Bourgeois</td>
<td>DeJulio</td>
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<td>Foxy Sanders</td>
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<td>Joyce Glapion</td>
<td>Marlin Gusman</td>
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<td>Cynthia Willard-Lewis</td>
<td>Marlin Gusman</td>
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<td>Mark McKenna</td>
<td>John Kennedy</td>
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</table>
| Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Hill, Gannett News  
Rich Lenz, WDSU-TV  
Rob Masson, WVUE-TV | Saints prospects  
Huge number of changes. Jeff Blake quarterback. Eternal hope.  
Organized labor in LA  
Lost its grip. Right to work state, open shop laws. As powerful as the governor wants to make it.  
Edwards close to labor; Foster not. Avondale unionized; working conditions improved. Hotel workers trying to unite.  
French Quarter high-rise  
Council approved variance for Marriot. 100 feet taller than previous quarter standards. Preservationists trying to take it to court.  
Quality of cancer care in state  
No reason to leave state. Great care even for those without funds.  
Local elections  
People decide to qualify and then change their minds and drop out.  
Tulane & LSU  
Nick Saban new at LSU. Should see great improvement. New expanded stadium. Tulane, Chris Scelfo. Difficult schedule. | Jeff Blake  
Cam Cleland  
Andrew Glover  
Ricky Williams  
Victor Bussey  
Edwin Edwards  
Mike Foster  
Oliver Sartor  
Cynthia Willard  
Lewis  
Mark McKenna  
Sherman Copelin  
David Vitter  
Arnold Lupin  
Bruce McConduit  
Scott Shea  
Nick Saban  
Chris Scelfo  
Tommy Bowden  
Rich Rodrigues  
Sandy Barber  
Josh Boodie  
Rohan Davey |
<table>
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<tr>
<th>#38</th>
<th>Larry Lorenz, moderator  Errol Laborde, producer  John Maginnis, Louisiana Political FAX Weekly  Ro Brown, WDSU-TV  Judi Russell, City Business</th>
<th>School Superintendent Took his child out of public school. A perception problem.  Cascade Insurance Case Cheated State Insurance Fund out of money. Reams of insurance documents. Expect a more aggressive defense than in gambling trial. Not expected to be as exciting.  Gasoline Prices OPEC will increase production but shouldn't be a real moderation in gas prices for awhile. More gradual process.  NO Ties to the Olympics People are older, they are sponsored, groomed and developed from childhood. Now a career. NORD has improved but not enough. Kids can still become champs.  Broken sidewalks in the French Quarter A whole range of projects need to be done. Legislators decided who gets money.  Stelly Plan Started out as Flat State Income Tax. Instead turned into a income tax increase. Can no longer deduct federal tax. Louisiana, Inc. project is being affected. A lot of distrust.  Louisiana Philharmonic Tenth Anniversary Musicians got together and formed a musician-run symphony. Started at $50 a week for their efforts. Now making about $19,000 a year. Unique. Administered by a board of musicians.  Krewe of America Gone</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 15, 2000</td>
<td></td>
<td>Alphonse Davis  Edwin Edwards  Jim Brown  Ashley Tappin  John Lovell  Emmett Tipino  Audrey Patterson  Tyler  Wilma Rudolph  Vic Stelly</td>
</tr>
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</table>
| #38 | September 22, 2000 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Maginnis, Louisiana Political FAX Weekly  
Kathy Finn, City Business  
Jennifer John, WWL-TV | Cascade insurance  Jury selection. Witness Judge Foster "Foxy" Sanders testified against Edwards. Plea bargain. Edwards less vulnerable in this case because he was acting as an attorney for Cascade.  
Harrah's Threat  Without break, will fold. Gaming Control Board looking for guarantee past March.  
Booting guidelines  $70 all inclusive. No booting after business is closed. Booting company has to be open 24-7 and has to answer call in 30 minutes. Owner may not stay in business.  
Consumer complaints  Offers from foreign companies on the Internet.  
Use of Strategic Oil Reserve by Clinton to keep prices down (and to benefit Democratic candidates). Oil states want more drilling instead.  
Elections  Bush still has double-digit lead. Polls don't mean the same in council races.  
McDermott rumors  Moving to Houston. | Foxy Sanders  
Mike Small  
Jim Brown  
Mike Foster  
Salvatore Palmisano |
| September 29, 2000 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
                Errol Laborde, producer  
                John Maginnis, Louisiana Political FAX Weekly  
                Stephanie Riegel, WWL-TV  
                Sabrina Wilson, WVUE-TV | School Shooting  At Woodson Middle School. Gang war between neighborhoods. Trying to heal with counseling. Kids are numb to what's going on. Programs in projects. Are they meeting the needs? Schoolyard brawl with guns added. National media comparing this incident to Columbine. Minors identified.  
Cascade Insurance trial  Defense presentation that Sanders manipulated situation. Edwards and Brown expected to testify.  
State Retirement System  Legislature is helping system out of debt. Administrators went to Hawaii. Handsome raises to upper echelon.  
Term limits  Peggy Wilson. Incumbents in final terms are looking for other options. Elected to other offices, vacancies left on City Council. More turnover.  
Harrah's requests  Not only tax break from state, now want rent reduction from City Council. City has more to lose than state. Hotel association afraid to let Harrah's build.  
Katherine Drexel  Founded Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament. Xavier. She purchased land. One of four American saints. People in NO have strong commitment to faith. | Judge Edith Brown  
Clement  
Foxy Sanders  
Alphonse Davis  
Peggy Wilson  
Ellen Hazeur-Distance  
Suzanne Terrell  
Katherine Drexel  
Sybil Morial |
<table>
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<tr>
<th>October 6, 2000</th>
<th>Larry Lorenz, moderator</th>
<th><strong>Insurance trial</strong></th>
<th>Case gone to jury. Not a whole lot to decide. Government case not impressive. <strong>Ritz-Carlton</strong> Opened in old Maison Blanche building. Largest and plushest on Canal in a couple of decades. 3,300 rooms added this year. <strong>Elections</strong> District B, District D, school board, court of appeals. <strong>High-tech companies</strong> Much as companies want to be here, growth capital hard to get. Late to the game.</th>
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<tr>
<th>October 27, 2000</th>
<th>Larry Lorenz, moderator</th>
<th><strong>Presidential Election</strong></th>
<th>Bush leading. Democrats concentrating on turnout to benefit them. No Louisiana races. <strong>Winners of local elections</strong> Joan Armstrong, Yvonne Hughes, Marlin Gusman, Cynthia Willard-Lewis <strong>Harrah's one-year anniversary</strong> Panel formed to make recommendation about tax relief. No one wants to see Harrah's shut down. Beau Rivage profitable because of hotel and restaurant facilities. <strong>Cascade verdict</strong> Brown guilty of lying to FBI. Unreliable note taking. <strong>Tapes from first trial</strong> Implicated 1st assistant AG Connie Corey. Made others (Foster and Breaux) look good. <strong>McKenzies</strong> It is open, now under new ownership and management.</th>
</tr>
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</table>
| #40 | November 3, 2000 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Maginnis, Louisiana Political FAX Weekly  
Rich Lenz, WDSU-TV  
Jennifer John, WWL-TV | Presidential election  
A squeaker. Dems trying to get out the vote. Louisiana votes more than any other southern state. Higher than the national average. High absentee vote. Even those who don't usually vote will turn out for presidential election.  
Saints winning season  
Ahead of the game. Wonderful defense. Was Ricky Williams worth it? Hasn't brought a championship home. Done their share of winning ugly. Better coaching staff. New Orleans no longer fits the profile of an NFL city.  
Leap Test  
BES board considering modifications of rules. Would allow 8th graders who have failed but are able to complete course work to be promoted. Parents for Educational Justice against test.  
Constitutional Amendments  
Louisiana, Inc. proposal has not been well-presented. People confused. Unanswered questions. Stelly Plan -- tax increase in trouble right off the bat. Referendum on the way. Mike Foster has handled fiscal matters in the past.  
Sugar Bowl  
Orange Bowl the championship game. Probably the SEC champion in Sugar Bowl. May go to 11th hour before teams chosen. | Ricky Williams  
Jim Haslett  
Charles Bosworth  
Mike Foster  
Tommy Bowden |
| #40 | November 10, 2000 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Maginnis, Louisiana Political FAX Weekly  
Keith Esparros, WVUE-TV  
John Hill, Gannett News | Electoral Chaos in Florida  
Louisiana has voting machines in all precincts and computers in most. Florida trying to do it on the cheap where ballots differ from county to county. Exit polls? Calls being made too early. It's a guess. Amendments All failed. Blow to Foster. Tax structure needs changing, but this isn't it. Distrust.  
Brain drains College grads leaving the state for better jobs. Death of Jimmy Davis  
Edwin Edwards  
Ralph Nader  
Pat Buchanan  
Mike Foster  
Jimmy Davis  
DeLesseps Morrison  
Skelly Wright |
| #40 | November 17, 2000 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Maginnis, Louisiana Political FAX Weekly  
Kathy Finn, City Business  
Jennifer John, WWL-TV | Superdome suitability  
Rumors fueled by referendum in Phoenix for funds to build new stadium. L.A. Harrah's 2,600 full-time employees -- 3,000 total. Cut hours to reduce costs. Organizational restructuring includes reducing state's tax demand, opening restaurant and hotel. Foster wants to dedicate gambling money to teacher pay raise.  
Edward's verdict  
Mail fraud counts thrown out on constitutional grounds. Juror #68 expected to go public. Probation office recommendation 11-14 years. Hopes for reducation.  
David Duke  
Investigation into spending. Suspected of gambling away donation money. Mail fraud? Home raided.  
Political Party Donors  
Joe Cannizaro, Freeport to Republicans. Taylor to Dems. Some to both.  
School Security  
Fill-time police officers in schools. | Mike Foster  
Edwin Edwards  
David Duke  
Eddie Jordan  
Pat Taylor  
Marc Morial |
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<tr>
<th>Edwards sentencing delay</th>
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<th>Frank Polozola</th>
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<td>Postponed to January.</td>
<td>Postponed to January.</td>
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<td>Florida vote count</td>
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<td>Stephen Edwards</td>
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<td>Ricky Williams</td>
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<td>Devisiveness throughout country.</td>
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<td>Saints injuries</td>
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<td>coming from the state.</td>
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| December 1, 2000 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Hill, Gannett News  
Stephanie Riegel, WWL-TV  
Dave Cohen, WWL Radio | Oil Spill  13,000 barrels of oil spilled by Winchester, lost power and may have run over anchor.  
6:00 p.m. -- put out containment booms in the dark. Extremely lucky.  
Harrah's Wants 750-room hotel. Hotel-Motel Association opposing because of fears that casino hotel will give lower rates or comp rooms.  
Election Commissioner Trial  
Jerry Fowler pled guilty to accepting kickbacks from voting machine vendors. Only state in the south with all voting machines. Move to make election commissioner no longer elected.  
Orleans bills the state too much for elections  
More precincts and voting machine but fewer registered voters than in Jefferson. Too many employees who fix machines, answer phones, some double-dipping.  
Supreme Court involvement  
Edwards court appearance  
Oral arguments on the impact of federal court decision that mail fraud laws do not apply to unissued licenses. Each count to be examined. Lawyers will argue that all should be thrown out. Still other appeal issues. To hear from Juror 68, records must be unsealed. | Jerry Fowler  
Suzanne Haik Terrell  
Ed Lombard  
Frank Polozola  
Edith Brown  
Clement |
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<th>Date</th>
<th>Participants</th>
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<tr>
<td>December 8, 2000</td>
<td>Larry Lorenz, moderator Errol Laborde, producer John Maginnis, Louisiana Political FAX Weekly Kathy Finn, City Business Ed Reams, WDSU-TV</td>
<td>Florida court ruling Regardless of who wins, John Breaux will be important as the man in the middle if Bush wins. Everybody aiming for the center -- probably one of the reasons election was so close. Some relief for Edwards in federal courts 11 counts remaining. Now to 5th circuit. Appeal on three fronts: mail fraud counts, wiretap challenge and juror 68. Strong likelihood Edwards will do time -- a ten year sentence or more. Harrah's appeal Advisory council investigating Harrah's numbers and performance. Tax cut recommended from $100 million to $60 million. Riverfront improvements Moonwalk in 70's, Worlds Fair and Woldenberg Park provide river vistas. Pearl Harbor anniversary D-Day museum will expand to include the war in the Pacific. Opening on December 7, 2001.</td>
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<th>Participants</th>
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<tr>
<td>John Breaux</td>
<td>George Bush</td>
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<td>Joe Lieberman</td>
<td>Al Gore</td>
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<td>Billy Tauzin</td>
<td>Eddie DeBartolo</td>
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<td>John Kennedy</td>
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<td>Stephen Ambrose</td>
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</table>
Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Hill, Gannett News  
Norman Robinson, WDSU-TV  
Rich Lenz, WDSU-TV

Harrah's offer  Mayor (without a Council vote) offered to sell the land for $600 million. Harrah's turned it down. Mayor more comfortable with numbers on council.  
Edwards' sentencing in January  
Enjoying Christmas at home.  
What do you give a man who's about to go off to federal prison? Still hopes he might stay out pending appeal. Attorneys negotiating what to say to the judge at Jan. 8 sentencing.  
Breaux turns down cabinet seat  
Would rather stay in the senate. Power broker. Why give that up to come back to Louisiana? Saints playoff prospects  
Got to beat the Falcons. Tampa Bay has to beat the Rams. Christmas Eve Saints vs Rams at home. The emergence of Aaron Brooks.  
Bush effectiveness? Thin margin. Some who acheive victory by narrow margins are very successful, eg Huey Long, John McKeithen, Robert Maestri, Russell Long, Edwin Edwards won by one vote per precinct. The problem Bush faces is fighting off the right-wing. Basically a Centrist.  
Insurance fraud  Adjusters stealing -- identified $1 million in fraudulent claims.  

Marc Morial  
Jacques Morial  
Edwin Edwards  
Candy Edwards  
Frank Polozola  
John Breaux  
George Bush  
Norman Hand  
Jamal Anderson  
Aaron Brooks  
Huey Long  
John McKeithen  
DeLessups Morrison  
Robert Maestri  
Russell Long  
Shaquille O'Neal
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Congress</th>
<th>Billy Tauzin chairman of Commerce Committee. Switched from Demo to Republican. Called for hearings on election issue. David Vitter named to Appropriations Committee. Opponent of New Orleans control of airport. High Utilities Combination of low temps and shortages. Paying more for natural gas at the wholesale level and passing cost on to consumers. Saints Winning with people who are not supposed to be there. Baffling. Now, they think they're supposed to win. Harrah's Bankruptcy Expected to happen. Had to occur in order for casino to keep doing business in N.O. Parent company will no longer pay tax to state after March 31. Crime Murder rate due to black tar heroin. Doubled number of narcotics officers and the rate dropped. Now have 1700 officers -- goal. Education Secretary of Education former Houston superintendent. Talked about repairing dilapidated schools. Death of Mervin Trail Influential in getting things done in State. Power and connections and extremely well-liked. Political, medical and tourism advances.</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Billy Tauzin</td>
<td>David Vitter</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ricky Williams</td>
<td>Jim Haslett</td>
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<tr>
<td>Randy Mueller</td>
<td>Mike Ditka</td>
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<td>Norman Hand</td>
<td>Mike Foster</td>
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<tr>
<td>Charles Dewitt</td>
<td>John Hainkel</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mervin Trail</td>
<td>Errol Laborde, producer Kathy Finn, City Business John Maginnis, Louisiana Political FAX Weekly Ro Brown, WDSU-TV Dave Cohen, WWL Radio</td>
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<tr>
<td>Accommodations with Harrah's JCC Holding Co. agreement with creditors to cut debt in half. Financial concessions from city and state. From $100 million from $50 million this year and $60 million in subsequent years. Saints demands Threatening to leave unless concessions from the state. Foster not a backer of the Saints. Met with commissioner and Benson last year so knew this was coming. Hard lease with Dome until 2006. Revenues in bottom third of league. Make Dome a football only facility. Edwards sentencing 10 years. But will he really go? Will definitely do 8 years unless appeal is successful. Clinton will not pardon -- doesn't want to get involved. Finances disappearing -- fines, legal fees, etc. Commodore Cruise Lines Busted. San Diego venture failed.</td>
<td>Tom Benson  Dave Dixon  Mike Foster  Paul Tagliabue  Edwin Edwards  Bill Clinton</td>
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The Good Shepherd School Experiment. Jesuit Nativity School for children below the poverty level. 15 for the first year (K-1), 15 second year, adding a grade each year. Kid’s Cafè teaching basic behaviors, physical, emotional and spiritual. All day, 12 months a year. Layperson focus because there are not enough Jesuits and nuns to staff school. Capital Campaign goal $5 million. Asking for more than just the money; want community to commit their time, offices, etc. Willing to pay salaries equal to or above parochial schools – not hirelings but those who will make this a vocation. Will demand parental involvement. Difference might not be in curriculum – smaller classes, dedication of teachers. Successful methods will be copied by existing schools.

Innovation in Public Education Parkview Academy. Most improved in state. Learning styles evaluated and accommodated. Set the bar high. Never lower high expectations. Accountability. If student leaves 8th grade and cannot approach basic level, low probability of high school graduation. Norm reference tests the same year-after-year so test is taught. Leap 21 test is different. Open-ended tests A lot more writing and critical thinking. Certification has been changed. Pay becomes an issue when teachers are going to other states. Program for those who cannot pass tests for graduation. Cost of high-risk and special ed education much higher, and public schools must bear the burden. No problem educating kids from two-parent families, middle-income.
| January 19, 2001 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Maginnis, Louisiana Political FAX Weekly  
John Hill, Gannet News  
Kathy Finn, City Business | Presidential Inauguration  
Bush probably more connected to Louisiana. Oil connection?  
Astronomical energy bills  
Utilities knew it was going to happen. Why not prepared. Some use futures market -- not Entergy.  
Special Election  
Sherman Copelin vs Pat Swilling in NO East district for legislature. Swilling real estate developer already trying to help area.  
Harrahs  
Restaurants and hotel rooms? Right now concentrating on tax relief. Don't know what they would do if they received permission for restaurants and rooms at this point. Hotel-Motel Association objection hard to sell when rooms are tight.  
Mardi Gras  
Balls held on top of ice rink at Municipal Auditorium. | George Bush  
Bill Clinton  
John Breaux  
Mary Landrieu  
Billy Tauzin  
Gennifer Flowers  
Edwin Edwards  
Jim Brady  
Sherman Copelin  
Pat Swilling |
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<th>Date</th>
<th>Reporters</th>
<th>Story</th>
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<td>January 26, 2001</td>
<td>Larry Lorenz, Errol Laborde, Scott Simmons, John Hill, Kathy Finn</td>
<td><strong>Jim Brown Case</strong> Guilty of lying to FBI. Some counts tossed out. Range of 0-6 months in jail. <strong>Edwards appeal</strong> Due to report to jail February 5. To Fort Worth, a medical based prison. Wants to be with his son Stephen. Fifth Circuit will probably rule on whether he can stay out on bond pending appeal or delay sentencing date. Defense filed letter madating that all records, particularly re Juror #68, be forwarded for Fifth Circuit. Improper removal of juror during deliberations. <strong>Entergy buyout by city</strong> Talks spurred by high bills. Can do it legally but where is the $1 million coming from? Still a regulated utility in Louisiana. <strong>Ron Brinson retirement</strong> 16 years at Port of New Orleans. Complete revamp of warves in Uptown. Unifier. Master of getting money into New Orleans. Milleneum port plans. <strong>Revamp of DA's strike force</strong> One senior member in each courtroom (on the front lines). Questions about the way they pursue cases as well as the working relationship with NOPD.</td>
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Harrah's Special session on March 5. Some consensus. Rates will not be advertised and will be in line with other hotels. Governor making calls. Simple majority or two-thirds? Raising riverboat tax in return for dockside gambling. Edwards evades jail Fifth Circuit found enough questions raised to extend bond as long as the appeal takes. Had problem getting documents from Polozola. Allowing bond extension like this only happens in small percentage of cases. Bitter statement by Edwards. Juror #68 interview may have had influence. Shift worker, brought dictionary into jury room, felt other jurors were against him. Made up his mind early and says other jurors did too. Anonymous jury. Brown sentencing Six months behind bars. Argues that he should have seen the notes taken by FBI. Teacher pay raise Teachers threaten to walk out during Leap Test. Unlikely, but it is keeping the attention of local lawmakers. The Saints Meeting between Benson and Foster scheduled. Other cities who lose franchises are big enough to get another. Not New Orleans. NFL doesn't want any teams to move right now.
<table>
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<th>#44</th>
<th>February 9, 2001</th>
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<tr>
<td>Errol Laborde, producer</td>
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<td>Dave Cohen, WWL Radio</td>
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<td>John Hill, Gannett News</td>
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<td>Kathy Finn, City Business</td>
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<td>Tom Benson</td>
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<td>Mike Foster</td>
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<td>Ken Hollis</td>
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<td>Steve Windhorst</td>
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<td>Hank Berchak</td>
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<td>Robbie Evans</td>
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<td>Ed Markle</td>
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<td>Jim Tucker</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sherman Copelin</td>
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<td>Pat Swilling</td>
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</table>
| February 16, 2001 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
Stephanie Riegel, WWL-TV  
John Hill, Gannett News  
John Maginnis, Louisiana Political FAX Weekly | Special Election  
Pat Swilling has advantage of being beyond politics. Copelin has been in politics too long. Youth movement in the Black Caucus.  
West Bank election competing with Mardi Gras parade.  
Influence of special interest contributions on future behavior in legislative bodies.  
Election Commissioner  
Suzanne Haik Terrell wants office to be appointed -- not elected. Too much opportunity for corruption. Insurance Commissioner likely to remain elected.  
New Archbishop  
Alfred Hughes of Baton Rouge.  
Harrah's Hotel-Motel Association criticizing Harrah's for going back on their word.  
City Council voted to give them $5 million in concessions. Ken Hollis spearheading efforts in legislature. Foster needs to step forward. New riverboat tax. Teachers concerned.  
Vancouver Grizzlies  
Owner wants to move team. Remote possibility. Drawback -- poor economy and trying to save the Saints at the same time.  
Early Childhood Education  
No state money used. Study shows those parishes who support have higher scores. 91% decrease in juvenile delinquency. #1 in rate of incarceration and #50 in early childhood education. Evidence overwhelming. One-third of Louisiana children in poverty. | Pat Swilling  
Sherman Copelin  
Terry Guerin  
Jim Tucker  
Ed Markle  
Robby Evans  
Steve Windhorst  
David Vitter  
Bill Jefferson  
Billy Tauzin  
Suzanne Haik Terrell  
Jerry Fowler  
Archbishop Schulte  
Archbishop Hannan  
Alfred Hughes  
Ken Hollis  
Mike Foster |
Larry Lorenz, moderator
Errol Laborde, producer
John Maginnis, Louisiana Political
FAX Weekly
Rich Lenz, WDSU-TV
Rob Masson, WVUE-TV


Desire Project Fewer than 100 families left as people move away. All have to leave before rebuilding. Slow progress. Movement across the country to replace projects with townhouses, etc. Runoffs no surprise Pat Swilling vs Terry Guerin. Jim Tucker vs Robby Evans

Whole Foods Renovation of Arabella Bus Barn approved with restrictions. Told to scale it back. Traffic problems. Planning Commission approved over neighborhood objections. Concerned that if not Whole Foods, what will be there?
| Larry Lorenz, moderator | Saints | Not so much that they don't like the Dome -- they don't own the Dome. Absolutely need a brand-new stadium that they get all the revenue from. Where -- West Bank, Riverfront -- and who's going to pay for it. Will cost state $250 million. Governor thinks we can afford it. Naming rights, gambling money. Multi-purpose stadium means multiple tenants who share revenue. Not configured for specific sport. Grizzlies looking at walking into the Arena rent free. |
| Errol Laborde, producer | State providing for N.O. | A lot of capital outlay for Convention Center expansion. Giving away lots of money to the Saints is a hard sell. Governor has a habit of making assurances the legislature won't confirm. |
| Dave Cohen, WWL Radio | Police Department Hiring | Growing discontent. Last pay raise 4 years ago when led to believe it was only the first installment. Promotions not happening. Too long to put applicants through process -- 11 months. |
| John Hill, Gannet News | Mardi Gras | In other cities, riots, but in N.O. peaceful. In other cities, just a big bash for mostly young people. NOPD very good at crowd control because so much experience. |
| Dave McNamara, WWL-TV | Jim Brown | Paroled during appeal. Lying to the FBI when not under oath happens all the time. Volz said would not take it to new trial. Significant appellant issues. |
| Mike Foster | Oxicontin | Godsend for people in intense pain. Abuse makes it hard to find. Pharmacies being robbed. Abusers snort, chew or inject. Easy to get hooked. If take too much, lungs forget to breathe. Concern all over the country. |
| Charlie DeWitt | | |
| Jim Brown | | |
| John Volz | | |
| John Volz | | |
| Harry Rosenberg | | |
| #46  | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
|      | Errol Laborde, producer  
|      | Norman Robinson, WDSU-TV  
|      | John Hill, Gannet News  
|      | Kevin Magill, Associated Press  |
|      | **Grizzlies** Only chance a team who has been given permission to move. Good chance...biggest competition Anaheim (Disney support). Las Vegas drawback -- sports gambling. Casinos don't want to drop it. The Arena is the major reason it might happen in N.O.  
|      | **New Census Figures** Bill Jefferson's district will encompass large white constituency in St. Tammany. New Orleans lost 12,000. Suburban areas growing. Rate of outmigration may be slowing. Teacher pay raises? How can they get them if the state puts out $250 million for a new stadium, and Harrah's gets a tax cut. Can't pay $100 million now, but under new agreement will guarantee $60 million per year (to partially fund raises.) Riverboats allowed to stay dockside and barges allowed to perhaps increase revenue. If New Orleans delegation is splintered, others will follow suit. All tied to teacher pay raises.  
|      | **Third term effort** Mayor says billboards touting achievements have nothing to do with 3rd term try. Not a lame duck. No anti-third term movement yet. Also classic Dutch Morial.  |
| Larry Lorenz, moderator | Senate vote for Harrah's Finally Governor gave enough reasons to vote for it. Teacher pay raise made the difference. Confident will pass through the House. No more cruising for riverboats. Harrah's deal with city Jobs guaranteed. Council vote important to keep momentum in legislature. Mayor's effort to look tough. Grizzlies' guarantees About $50 million package. Even without a major team, the Arena is making money. Saints Bottom of the market. Pattern going on in other communities. Plus to have Dome downtown. Better opportunity to renovate. Whole Foods Preservationists and neighborhood people (with help from other neighborhood groups) pressured council (Scott Shea) to vote against it. Now talking about a mini storage facility. Historic building cannot be torn down. Run-off election Taking shots in last week of campaign. Swilling endorsements. Rehabilitates run-down properties. High profile. West Bank campaign cursed by parades. Jim Tucker the favorite. | Mike Foster Louis Lambert John Hainkel Jay Dardenne Ken Hollis Lambert Boissiere Jim Singleton Oliver Singleton Scott Shea | Errol Laborde, producer John Maginnis, Louisiana Political FAX Weekly Sabrina Wilson, WVUE-TV Scott Simmons, WDSU-TV |
End of Special Session
Successful for Foster, school teachers and Harrah's employees. Minimum $2000 per teacher. Riverboats have stability in the market.

Morial Third Term effort Fliers being distributed. Who else is out there to run for mayor? Morial wants to be an education mayor. No authority but has a lot of clout.

Saints marketing report City can't support NFL team. If so, how can they expect a new stadium? Asking people of N.O. to take the numbers on faith. Some merit in what they say.

Grizzlies Deadline Monday. Now Chicago suburb in the running. Enough support from the business community? Not that many big companies anymore.
### Legislative regular session

Now a lame duck governor trying to lay out progressive agenda. How's he going to pay for it without raising taxes. Wants to go from being the gambling-enabling governor to the education governor. Teacher salaries closer to national average. Beyond that, how to finance higher education raises and highways? Bill to sell off half the tobacco settlement.

**Chemical Industry**  Bill Moyers special. Documents showing that dangers not revealed to public. Did not consult current industry officials. Used conditions of 40 years ago -- safety now improved. Others disagree. Industry now more involved with community.

**Third term**  Good public policy to make an exception and/or to allow any mayor to have a third term? What's so special about Morial? Sheriffs have no limits.

**Crime**  Homicides are down. Better that 1994 N.O. but still 4 times higher than NYC. Pennington blames tighter gun laws in NYC. More 18-24 year olds coming of age=more criminals.

**Grizzlies going to Memphis**  NBA front office may have done a lot to guide the owner, Eisley. N.O. had no big corporate sponsor. Our arena will be a shill for teams looking to move, like the Charlotte Hornets.

**Saints**  Paul Tagliabue wants the Saints regionally marketed. Now Saints want mediation.
| #47 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Maginnis, Louisiana Political FAX Weekly  
John Hill, Gannett News  
Kathy Finn, City Business | Entergy Merger failed. May be in better position for future negotiations. Started out as merger of equals. Turned ugly.  
Elections Millage renewal tied to issuance of bonds by Downtown Development District (for Canal Street improvements)  
Legislature Bills to sell Dome naming rights, outlaw out of state telemarketers. Everything else still in committee. Water policy. Shut down changes in TOPS program.  
Tobacco settlement funds Governor proposes selling 40% of settlement. Get $500 to $750 million as a sure thing. If they do this, it should all go into research re tobacco-related illness.  
Death of Fr. Harry Thompson Jesuit, Manresa, Good Shepherd School, educator, preservationist, popular. | Wayne Leonard  
James David Cain  
John Kennedy  
William Jennings  
John Hainkel  
Richard Ieyoub  
Kathleen Blanco  
John Breaux  
Russell Long  
Bennett Johnston  
Ken Hollis  
Hunt Downer  
Fr. Harry Thompson |
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<tr>
<th>Constitutional Convention Proposal</th>
<th>Tightening it up might lead to fiscal reform. Idea is still young. Senate committee approved bill to lower blood alcohol level to be considered intoxicated. Passage would make state eligible for federal incentives. Opposition by social drinkers.</th>
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<tr>
<td>Naming the Dome</td>
<td>Hire consultants to help keep the Saints here. Options. Regional marketing.</td>
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<td>Third term attempt</td>
<td>Morial collecting signatures. Term limits in Jefferson Parish will all end at the same time, and with the end of elected terms, appointments will also expire. Study for possible solutions.</td>
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<td>Children with guns</td>
<td>Small children find parents' guns. Such a gun culture, but people are not educated to care for weapons or to be safe. Violence kids are exposed to through video games. Neighborhoods so dangerous, hard to keep guns locked away -- they should be at hand.</td>
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<td>Easter</td>
<td>Catholic population has declined. Decline of religious Easter observances. Candy made in New Orleans. Merlins and Elmers.</td>
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<td>Date</td>
<td>Summary</td>
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| April 20, 2001 | Gasoline Prices  Murphy Oil deal with stores to set up in parking lots and sell gasoline at low prices. Bill in legislature to set minimum pricing. Issue in other states as well. Efforts to hold back bigger and cheaper are losing. Water policy necessary? Some trouble at aquifers. Study commission set up for two years. Perhaps a bigger issue if electric deregulation takes place. Lake Pontchartrain testing Weekly by Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation under an EPA grant. Counts are low - in 30s. Below 200 is safe for swimming. Shell dredging has been stopped. Southshore cities have stopped dumping untreated sewage. Northshore still guilty. Testing on Tuesdays, results on Thursday. If heavy rain, numbers may be invalid. French Quarter Festival An outgrowth of World's Fair when streets were redone. Mayor promised the festival to appease residents. Loss of sense of neighborhood because numbers of residents are only there sporadically. No sense of family life. Tchoupitoulas corridor Almost redone. 13 years. More residential activity in Lower Garden District. Now will have to deal with more truck traffic. Lake Forest Plaza Largest mall in area. New owner. Political polls Good for Mary Landrieu and Mike Foster. Agriculture commission under investigation Storage of food commodities. Kickbacks. Hurricane predictions 10 named storms, 6 hurricanes, 2 powerful. Just takes one to really cause a problem. 15 in 2000 but none hit U.S
| #48 | April 27, 2001 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
Kevin Magill, Associated Press  
Ro Brown, WDSU-TV  
Rob Masson, WVUE-TV | Kidnapped Slidell child  
School choice BESE board approved plan to make eight lowest performing schools "Learning Academies" with best teachers and resources. Hope to keep children from transferring out. Subsidized by state. Principals and teachers have to reapply for higher-paying jobs.  
Brass demands East Coast Hockey League competed with Benson (International) and Couhig (American) to play in arena. Attendance down. Don't want to do anything to jeopardize keeping the Saints here.  
Saints drafts Deuce McAllister. Smart, crafty group making decisions.  
Jazzfest Model event. Diversity of entertainment, quality control. Efficiency. Spillover events.  
Parking difficult. | Rob Couhig  
Tom Benson  
Deuce McAllister  
Ricky Williams. |
| #48   | May 4, 2001 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Maginnis, Louisiana Political FAX Weekly  
John Barry, *Rising Tide*  
Scott Simmons, WDSU-TV | Kidnapper caught  
Media had a sense of doing something good.  
Slidell girl found at bus station.  
Touched hearts of law enforcement and media as well.  
Serial pedophile.  
Morial third term try  
Enough signatures to put on ballot.  
Have to be well-organized politically.  
Sent cards to all registered voters - 100,000  
Saints concessions  
Also trying to fund Convention Center expansion, Dome renovation, speedway in New Orleans East.  
Need funding source for new stadium somewhere down the road.  
*Rising Tide*  
Understanding Louisiana politics.  
Exacerbated the attitude of the rest of the state to N.O.  
10,000 victims promised reparations and then stiffed them.  
Made the time right for Long.  
Decision to bomb the levee made by bankers, not politicians.  
At that time, N.O. most prominent city in south.  
Banking system stressed by flood -- went under during depression.  
No way the flood was going to reach N.O.  
Hard to justify not paying victims.  
Newspapers ignored facts -- too concerned with their own interests.  
*Bill to reduce mandatory sentences*  
Giving judges discretion. | Huey Long  
Herbert Hoover  
Leah Henry  
Gary Dale Cox  
Rob Callahan  
Lisa Bruno  
Suzanne Haik Terrell |
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Participants</th>
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<tr>
<td>May 25, 2001</td>
<td>Investigation into Saints Dome lease called off</td>
<td>Harry Connick</td>
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<td>because too much time had passed. Amount of money to be paid if Saints leave Louisiana should have been much higher than the actual contract negotiated by Edwards. Donelon asked about difference between act and contract in past, but why now? Benson so angry has called off negotiations.</td>
<td>John Maginnis, Louisiana Political FAX Weekly, Mike Hoss, WWL-TV, Dave Cohen, WWL Radio</td>
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<td>Negotiations were going well</td>
<td>Tom Benson</td>
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<td>Saints like half of state's plan.</td>
<td>Ken Hollis</td>
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<td>Sticking point that $8 million not guaranteed until club seats, boxes, etc. are sold. No promise of new stadium. Identify funding options by December 2005.</td>
<td>Mike Foster, Buddy Roemer</td>
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<td>Legislature Passed budget.</td>
<td>Billy Tauzin</td>
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<td>State revenue higher than expected -- able to restore previous cuts.</td>
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<td>Creation of prescription drug formulary.</td>
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<td>Gasoline pricing regulation defeated.</td>
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<td>New bill to take out all controls.</td>
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<td>Census People leaving Louisiana for better jobs. Losing the best, most educated. Want to come back if we can get more good jobs.</td>
<td>Buddy Roemer, Mike Foster, Ken Hollis</td>
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<td>Reduce prison population Take away mandatory sentences and create a review panel to look at current sentences. Crime victims association supported it.</td>
<td>Buddy Roemer, Mike Foster, Ken Hollis</td>
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<td>Switching parties Many elected officials have changed from Democrat to Republican. Were conservative Democrats.</td>
<td>Buddy Roemer, Mike Foster, Ken Hollis</td>
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| June 1, 2001 | Larry Lorenz, moderator
Errol Laborde, producer
Kevin Magill, Associated Press
Rob Masson, WVUE-TV
Ken Hollis
Joe Cannizaro
King Milling
Norman Francis
Mark Lewison
Drew Lewis |
June 8, 2001

Larry Lorenz, moderator
Errol Laborde, producer
John Maginnis, Louisiana Political FAX Weekly
Bob Breck, WVUE-TV
Ro Brown, WDSU-TV

Heavy rains Over six days. Never will have enough pumping capacity to deal with large volume of rain in a short time. Would cost billions. Have already had one hurricane -- prediction increased.

Legislature Gov. declared a week of prayer to end the drought. Education support workers did not get a raise so tried to "raid" the high-tech funds. Higher ed won. News blackout on Saints negotiations.

School report cards Orleans improved from 47 to 11 academically unacceptable. The 11 will become learning academies. Putting best teachers and resources where they are needed most.

Morial third term Council has no choice except to put it on ballot. No groundswell of support. Three new council members and probably a mayor in February.

Challenge to Mary Landrieu Republicans have lost majority. Two candidates John Cooksey and Suzanne Haik Terrell. Landrieu vulnerable in Acadiana because pro-choice.

Tulane in College World Series LSU-Tulane playoffs terrific.

D-Day Museum Second anniversary. Beyond expectations. Revival of interest in WWII. All about Ambrose.

Mike Foster
Marc Morial
Terrence Hunt
John Cooksey
Suzanne Haik Terrell
Dave Treen
Henson Moore
Rick Jones
Skip Bertman
Steven Ambrose
Dwight Eisenhower
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<th>Legislative accomplishments</th>
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Saints brouhaha  Saints left talks. Confusion. No proof that state cut off talks. Speculation that Benson and Foster might not have all the info. Saints started by needing money. State offered money. Then Saints insisted they had to have a new dome. Want $15 million guaranteed, not dependent on sales, naming rights and other uncertainties. Input from the business community. Adamant that they want a long-term commitment from the Saints. Ready to be the cheerleader from seats and suites for a long time. Owner bashing the arena in which he's trying to sell tickets. Why does he need all these unshared revenues? To get best players in free-agency? Richest teams are not more likely to go to playoffs. State-of-the-art stadiums closer to the action. Super Bowl comes to the city for the city -- not the facility. Benson in early days a heroic figure. Both good and bad hiring decisions. Perception -- a tire-kicking used car salesman intent upon wringing the last nickel out of the consumer. Even if they come to agreement, the Legislature still has to vote. Will eventually need a new stadium -- 2006?

TAPE ENDS
| #51          | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
|             | Errol Laborde, producer  
|             | Dave Cohen, WWL Radio  
|             | Scott Simmons, WDSU-TV  
|             | Kathy Finn, City Business |
| **July 13, 2001** | **Saints Deal** The state will give them $12.5 million for each of the next two years. Committee to study the renovated dome vs new stadium issue. Benson told business leaders he wants to stay in N.O. Timing -- agreement in time to sell tickets. How long is business community going to try to help Saints? Excess Dome revenues. Why does Benson want a new stadium. To revitalize parts of the city and because everybody else has one. Suddenly the Superdome is the most popular building in team. **Third term efforts in court** Suit claims that signatures were faulty, fraudulent or incorrect. Is judge connected to Morial somehow? There will be other steps to oppose to the measure. **Economy** Fed has cut prime six times this year. Sales tax collection increase. Business people aren't really paying attention to what the fed is doing. **Nash Roberts retirement** First weatherman. Legendary hurricane predictions. Wasn't dominated by TV. | Tom Benson  
|             | Mike Foster  
|             | Dan Packer  
|             | Arnie Fielkow  
|             | Ken Hollis  
|             | Arthur Davis  
|             | J.T. Hill  
|             | Nash Roberts  
|
| July 20, 2001 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
Mark Schleifstein, Times-Picayune  
Christopher Hallowell, author *Holding Back the Seas*  
Kathy Finn, City Business | Layoffs at local Harrah’s  
Big Harrah's earnings up, but have pockets of trouble.  
Less than four months since tax cut.  
Can't cut more than 10%  
Detachment from local population.  
Decline in table games for more slots.  
What about the plan to bring in high rollers.  
McKenzies closes again  
Trend to supermarket bakeries.  
*Holding Back the Sea*  
The plight of the marsh.  
Deteriorating due to erosion  
because of oil company dredging,  
Mississippi River levels, sea level rise.  
Oil and gas infrastructure at risk.  
Buffer against storm damage.  
Book from standpoint of people who live and work in the marsh.  
Concern about hurricane damage risk is significant.  
Will cost $14 billion.  
Won't get it unless the rest of the country feels that Louisiana really wants to preserve marshes.  
Feeling that Florida really wants to save Everglades.  
Unclear whether Christmas trees help that much.  
Public involvement really important.  
*Canal Street streetcar*  
2004. | Mary Landrieu  
Bob Livingston |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#51 July 27, 2001</th>
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</table>
| Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Maginnis, Louisiana Political FAX Weekly  
Dave McNamara, WWL-TV  
Kathy Finn, City Business |
| Arnold Fielkow  
Marc Morial  
Richard Pennington  
Troy Carter  
Jim Singleton  
Paulette Irons  
John Breaux  
Richard Ieyoub  
Kathleen Blanco  
Hunt Downer  
David Vitter  
Mary Landrieu  
Trent Lott |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Errol Laborde, moderator</th>
<th>History of Gambling</th>
<th>B.B. &quot;Sixty&quot; Rayburn</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kevin Magill, Associated Press John Maginnis, Louisiana Political FAX Weekly</td>
<td>Riverboats, Louisiana Lottery, Horse Racing, Slot Machine, Illegal Casinos 1990's - Louisiana became the textbook for how not to do something. The only state to legalize gambling without a vote of the people. Lottery most difficult legally because of post-Civil War crooked lottery. Once passed, led to Video Poker and eventually, land-based casinos. Big mistake was not doing casino in NO earlier. Riverboat gambling A natural in N.O. Set up 15 licenses -- automatically became very valuable. Edwards took advantage. Out of town interests realized they needed a local connection. Success story in Western Louisiana (Texas market). Video Poker good for business. Where voted out, after the fact, businesses failed. What we thought we were getting wasn't what we got. Remnants of Marcello mob saw an opportunity but got caught. Gambling here to stay. Approval of land-based casino</td>
<td>Edwin Edwards Ronnie Edwards Carlos Marcello John Alario Huey Long Frank Costello Estes Kefauver Francis Grevenberg Ken Pickering Chris Hemmeter Cleo Fields</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| #52 | August 10, 2001 | Errol Laborde, producer  
Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Ro Brown, WDSU-TV  
John Maginnis, Louisiana Political FAX Weekly  
State poverty More than 20% of population. Key areas, North Louisiana and New Orleans. Nature of cities to be caregivers. Costs more to educate poor kids - special needs. Whites as well as blacks. Shift away from housing projects. St. Thomas, Desire almost gone. Many resigned to it. Those against Leap Test point out "you tested before you taught". Failure of business to come here Educational systems one reason. Additionally, the political climate is impediment. Not necessarily corrupt -- difficult legislative procedures and red tape. Other states have ability to commit money with short term notice. Incentives -- tax exemptions. Strong business presence in Baton Rouge. Administration could position itself more to attract business. Need a better salesman. Can find a good education if you can pay for it. | Charles DeWitt  
Mike Foster  
Mary Landrieu |
| Larry Lorenz, moderator | Morial Third Term | Proposed involvement in education. Has happened in other places. Chief executives (President, Governor) becoming more involved. Education has become more popular with the voters. If you have trouble with an issue (3rd term), change the subject (education). "If not me, who?" his biggest point. Nobody wants to announce until the third term attempt passes or fails. No matter what, he avoided being a lame duck. Wal-Mart | Ronnie Musgrove |
| Errol Laborde, producer |  |  | Mike Foster |
| John Maginnis, Louisiana Political FAX Weekly |  |  | John Breaux |
| Mike Aiken, WDSU-TV |  |  | Marc Morial |
| Ed Renwick, WWL-TV |  |  | Richard Pennington |

**Rating State CEOs**
- Ronnie Musgrove in Miss. eats and sleeps economic development.
- Foster not a salesman. New demand on governors to sell to business. If John Breaux runs, many candidates will not. Will not run for Senate again.
- Decline in Cajun population
- Figures probably off.
| #53 August 24, 2001 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Hill, Gannett News  
Mike Aiken, WDSU-TV  
Dave Cohen, WWL-Radio | Water main break 30" geyser in Uptown from 10:00 p.m. to past noon. Pipe almost 100 years old in 1800 block of Audubon St. Effects felt as far away as New Orleans East. Ground shifts with drought and rain. Trying to replace infrastructure over the next 10 years. Crisis in older cities.  
**Wal-Mart** Numerous objections. Historical cotton warehouse. Changes made to adapt to neighborhood. Albertson's pull out probably due to company financial situation.  
**Early childhood education** Programs for 2000 kids to start in January. $15 million from unused TANIF funds. How to maintain programs?  
**Honduran residents** Such a large population, Honduran candidates are campaigning here.  
**Edwards appeal** Motions on merits for appeal to be filed in September. Record of trial finally arrived at Fifth Circuit. | Harold Gorman  
Pres Kabacoff  
William Reeves  
Cecil Picard  
Edwin Edwards |
| Errol Laborde, producer | |
| John Maginnis, Louisiana Political FAX Weekly | |
| Norman Robinson, WDSU-TV | |
| Brett Clanton, City Business | |
| Marc Morial | |
| Ron Forman | |
| Leslie Jacobs | |
| Cecil Picard | |
| Mike Foster | |
| William Jefferson | |
| David Vitter | |
| Billy Tauzin | |
| Richard Baker | |
| #53 | September 7, 2001 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
Scott Simmons, WDSU-TV  
Kathy Finn, City Business | Stock Market drop  
Ironically, N.O. holding up better than other parts of country because of tourism and oil and gas, both doing well so far. Companies will rethink travel budgets.  
**Saints ticket sales sagging**  
Supposed to do well this season. Battling with state doesn't do much to boost support. Still studying new stadium possibility. Where to put it. 9th Super Bowl. Downtown a massive selling point.  
**French Quarter Taxing District**  
To fund improvements within district. Impetus from tourism industry.  
**Council elections**  
Mayor on hold until third term decided.  
**Advertising revenues**  
Down nationwide. In NO, 15% down. Looking forward to political campaigns.  
**Saints prospects?**  
Harder season this year because team did well last year. | Oliver Thomas  
Troy Carter  
Jim Singleton  
Scott Shea  
Jay Batt  
Marlin Gusman  
Cynthia Willard  
Lewis  
Eddie Sapir  
Al Gore |
<table>
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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Larry Lorenz, moderator</th>
<th>President's Stop at Barksdale AFB</th>
<th>Huge base in Shreveport. Closest large secure base between Florida and Omaha (SAC Headquarters).</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Errol Laborde, producer</td>
<td>Defense of NO against terrorism</td>
<td>Over 300 potential targets in N.O. Anything that will produce largest number of casualties and publicity. Terrorists believe they are acting for the oppressed people of the world. Strategy for protecting the Superdome. N.O. Police more expert than most (well-trained by Mardi Gras experiences) for pre-advanced planning.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lou Reese, freelance writer</td>
<td></td>
<td>Effect of 9/11 on N.O. Strikes to the heart of a tourism-based economy. Saints game cancelled. Projects on hold. Not much local news. As bodies are identified, local news angle will increase.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#54</td>
<td>September 28, 2001</td>
<td>Larry Lorenz, moderator Errol Laborde, producer Kathy Finn, City Business Scott Simmons, WDSU-TV Ed Renwick, WWL-TV</td>
<td>Drop in tourism  Convention bureau targeting locals. Bookings still holding up in October. Troop call-up could cause problems for employers. Superbowl postponment  NADA holds the date the NFL wants. Mardi Gras, Super Bowl and election all on the same weekend. Saints agreement  To stay another 10 years. Where will state get the money? &quot;Memorandum of Understanding&quot; Mayor's race  No real indication that the charter change will pass. How to reorient the public when everyone is otherwise occupied. The only thing on the ballot. The lower the turnout, probably better for Morial. Wall-Mart  Revitalization of St. Thomas project area with help from HUD. Mixed-use project. Tax financing district.</td>
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<td>#55</td>
<td>October 5, 2001</td>
<td>Larry Lorenz, moderator Errol Laborde, producer John Maginnis, Louisiana Political FAX Weekly Scott Simmons, WDSU-TV Dave Cohen, WWL Radio</td>
<td>Superbowl  Will be held here. NADA will come a week earlier. Haggling. Not just a matter of convenience but a matter of good will. First weekend of parades moved up a week. Morial third term  Latest poll shows only 30% support. Redistricting Business coming back up  But not fast enough. Still only 50% of last year. Saints  N.O. happy but the rest of the state is not. Who will buy naming rights?</td>
</tr>
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</table>
| #55 October 26, 2001 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Maginnis, Lousiana Political  
FAX Weekly  
Rob Masson, WVUE-TV  
Brett Clanton, City Business | The failure of 3rd term  
Most don't like it philosophically. Too much power. After 9/11 people lost interest. Other candidates would not attack him, so he had to attack them.  
Convention business  
Business going to Mississippi  
Foster not comfortable trying to sell state.  
Audubon Golf Course  
Revised clubhouse plan in favor of trees. Now sharing details with public. | Paulette Irons  
Troy Carter  
Jim Singleton  
Bill Jefferson  
Richard Pennington  
Dan Packer  
Ron Forman  
Marlin Gusman  
Mike Foster  
Ronnie Musgrove |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| #55 November 2, 2001 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
Dave Cohen, WWL Radio  
Stephanie Riegel, WWL-TV | Mayoral candidates  
Higher consumer confidence  
Because we don't have big companies, etc. Insecurity throughout the country. Foster doesn't travel.  
TOPS Program  
After 4 years, there are still no statistics to track. Are they better prepared and will they stay in the state?  
Wal-Mart  
Trying to compromise by getting size of store reduced. Don't want it to look like a Wal-Mart. | Richard Pennington  
Leonard Lucas  
Sherman Copelin  
Pat Swilling  
Troy Carter |
| #56  | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
|      | Errol Laborde, producer  
|      | John Hill, Gannett News  
|      | Norman Robinson, WDSU-TV  
|      | Stephanie Riegel, WWL-TV  | Mayoral Race  Singleton announcement included information about hearing/speech problems.  
|      | Elected to City Council in 1970s.  
|      | Dominate figure on council.  
|      | Pennington has not been in politics. Singleton taught the business of politics by Moon Landrieu during "helping hand" period.  
|      | Grading the Governor  
|      | Interested in technology. Put the dollars into education. Teacher raises, more money into higher ed. Main fault lack of economic development -- won't travel even within states. Hasn't done his job as salesman for the state.  
|      | Visit to Austin  
|      | For economic success, had to get rid of barriers, form a plan and stick to it. Took advantage of every resource. Music promotion. Metrovision things NO can do the same thing but so far, no coordinated plan.  
|      | State Finances  
|      | Since 9/11, business and jobs down. Huge psychological impact on the economy. Question is how far it is going to drop.  
|      | Economic development grants  
|      | From million dollar funds, have doled out small grants, some of which are not used for stated purposes. Consistent problem with monitoring funds. Now say they will track the funds and measure success.  
|      | Louisiana schools  
|      | Elementary schools showed improvement, but still many below national average.  | Richard Pennington  
|      | Jim Singleton  
|      | Moon Landrieu  
|      | Mike Foster  
|      | Steve Perry  
|      | Leslie Jacobs  
|      | David Oreck  
|      | Bill Roussel  
|      | John Kennedy  |
| Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Maginnis, Louisiana Political  
FAX Weekly  
Kathy Finn, City Business  
Rob Masson, WVUE-TV | **Wal-Mart**  Got OK, with restrictions, from City Planning Commission. Reduce size, parking spaces. Another Uptown development war. Need to have larger size in order to finance the rest of the development planned for St. Thomas project area. Will it hurt other business in that area? New frontier for Wal-Mart, going into an inner city. Albertson's Uptown project may be abandoned.  
**Council-at-Large race**  A stepping stone for mayor. Usually one black and one white. Closest there is to a vice-mayor. Short campaign, delayed by third term attempt.  
**State Supreme Court Judicial Election**  Weemer vs Becnel  
**Ochsner**  Former Brown  
McCardy internists joining staff. EJ assuring patients they can still go there. Competition. Too many hospitals in area.  
**Corps plan for Wetlands Restoration**  Plan to build Gulf outlet so that mouth of river can build up. More recognition that something needs to be done and Louisiana is not getting fair share of dollars.  
**Harrah's**  In the black on an operating basis. Positive sign. | Pres Kabacoff  
Eddie Sapir  
Jim Singleton  
Oliver Thomas  
DeLesseps Morrison  
Vic Schiro  
Harry Lemon  
Troy Carter  
Jim Singleton  
Richard Pennington |
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<th>#56</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>November 23, 2001</td>
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</table>

Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
Bill Capo, WWL-TV  
Dave Cohen, WWL Radio  

**Pennington announcement**  
No real surprise. Popular public figure but still attached to Morial.  
Don't know how he stands on anything but crime. Seem almost shy. Taking leave of absence. Not from NO.  

**Gumbo Krewe**  
Group from Norco with donations from throughout the area took nine trucks. 70,000 plates of gumbo and jambalaya. Magnitude of site is enormous and cannot be captured.  

**Privatization of sewer and water board**  
Move to privatization nationwide has slowed since 9/11. Don't want to take responsibility away from government.  

**Social services**  
Local agencies have suffered in the wake of 9/11. Seems to be improving. Those most likely to give are those closest to the age. New Orleanians always seem to rise to the demand.  

**Saints**  
Could be in position for a wild card spot  

Richard Pennington  
Marc Morial  
Jim Singleton  
Paulette Irons  
Troy Carter  
Duane Johnson  
Marlon Defilo  
Kyle Turley  
John Carney
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ray Naquin</td>
<td>Richard Pennington</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Marc Morial</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paulette Irons</td>
<td>Leonard Lucas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Teddie Solomon</td>
<td>Duane Johnson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clarence &quot;Frogman&quot; Henry</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Participants</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 7, 2001</td>
<td>Larry Lorenz, moderator Errol Laborde, producer John Hill, Gannett News Kathy Finn, City Business Sabrina Wilson, WVUE-TV</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Council Elections
Washington delegation Trying to pass budget. Breaux working with Republicans on compromise bill for economic stimulus package. Landrieu sticking with Dems. Education bill will increase federal govt. profile in education both in funding and in accountability. More funding for special ed. Needing in LA.
Sugar Bowl Mixed emotions seeing LSU in game. Not as much boost to tourism when fans drive in for game. Opening of D-Day Museum big boost to tourism. Hotel bookings up in December. Game is a guaranteed sell-out. LSU fans bought Illinois tickets.
Mardi Gras NFL compensation for moving parades to accommodate Super Bowl post 9/11. Amount undisclosed. Rejected previous offers ($5,000 when wanted $20,000).
St. Thomas relocation Proposals for site usage. Consortium to provide social services assistance. 700 households displaced. Some found housing on their own. About 75 families seem to be unaccounted for. Kingley House managing work. Part of federal program rethinking the whole idea of high-density public housing.
YEAR IN REVIEW
All shaped by September 11
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#58</th>
<th>January 4, 2002</th>
<th>Larry Lorenz, moderator</th>
<th>Breaux decision</th>
<th>Will not run for governor. The race is on.</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>Errol Laborde, producer</td>
<td>Mayoral Race</td>
<td>Quiet.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>John Maginnis, Louisiana Political</td>
<td>Schwegmann withdrawal from council-at-large</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>FAX Weekly</td>
<td>School System</td>
<td>Statewise improvement. Also in Orleans but had a long way to go.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>John Hill, Gannett News</td>
<td></td>
<td>Finally got an organized curriculum. High-stakes testing. State forced school board to replace principals in lowest-performing schools.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>Ro Brown, WDSU-TV</td>
<td>Gannett poll</td>
<td>Education and economic development most important in LA.</td>
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<td>Wal-Mart</td>
<td>Zoning petitions before council. Protests at meeting.</td>
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<td>Saints</td>
<td>Reports of turmoil in locker room. Losing record disappointing. Coaches didn’t do as good a job.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Richard Ieyoub
Kathleen Blanco
Buddy Leach
Ken Hollis
Hunt Downer
John Kennedy
David Vitter
Bill Jefferson
Richard Pennington
Paulette Irons
Jim Singleton
Troy Carter
Melinda
Schwegmann
Scott Shea
Jay Batt
Jackie Clarkson
Renee Gill-Pratt
Marlin Gusman
Cynthia Willard-Lewis
Willie Roaf
Norman Hand
Ricky Williams
Aaron Brooks
Jim Haslett
| #59 | January 11, 2002 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Maginnis, Louisiana Political FAX Weekly  
Jim Henderson, WWL-TV  
Scott Simmons, WDSU-TV | Hornets Owners loving NO. Certain, almost guarantee. Lost money and bid to build new facility in Charlotte. NBA could stop it.  
Polls Pennington and Irons, Carter and Singleton. Unique because woman a contender.  
Vitter Speculation might run for governor. In LA, state and national elections are separate. Has set himself against the culture of Louisiana politics. Smart, wealthy.  
Saints post-mortem Collapse. Not even a good effort. A group of people who really didn't care about winning.  
Jim Henderson's heart problem High cholesterol, shortness of breath, pressure. | Ray Woolridge  
George Shinn  
David Stern  
Paulette Irons  
Richard Pennington  
Bill Jefferson  
Jim Singleton  
David Vitter  
Ken Hollis  
Melinda Schwegmann  
Kathleen Blanco  
Randy Ewing  
John Breaux  
Buddy Leach  
Jim Haslett  
William Roaf  
Norman Hand  
Randy Mueller  
Ricky Williams |
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<tr>
<th>#59</th>
<th>January 18, 2002</th>
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<tr>
<td>Larry Lorenz, moderator</td>
<td>Hornets Sneaky. Whole deal came about because of sports arena. Credit to those who conceived the arena. About $40 million -- redo locker rooms, more suites. Still has to be approved by NBA and other owners.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Errol Laborde, producer</td>
<td>Eddie Jordan intends to run for D.A., not mayor.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Maginnis, Louisiana Political FAX Weekly</td>
<td>Mayoral Race Naquin endorsed by Times-Picayune. Attack ads against Paulette Irons. Polls show Pennington and Irons leading though Irons' lead is slipping. Is two weeks enough time for Naquin to move up?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scott Simmons, WDSU-TV</td>
<td>Southern University President fired. Need to get the politics out of university appointments.</td>
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<td>Steve Perry</td>
<td>Bill Heinz</td>
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<td>John Hainkel</td>
<td>Edwin Edwards</td>
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<td>David Stern</td>
<td>Eddie Jordan</td>
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<td>Ray Naquin</td>
<td>Paulette Irons</td>
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<td>Jim Singleton</td>
<td>Bouie</td>
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<td>Andrea Jefferson</td>
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</table>
| #59 | January 25, 2002 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
Ed Renwick, WWL-TV  
Kathy Finn, City Business  
Ro Brown, WDSU-TV | Mayoral election: Polls show Pennington, Irons and Naquin (moving up). Big difference endorsements from T-P and Gambit. White voters going to Naquin. Pennington has not been able to break out. Many undecided.  
Orleans minimum wage referendum: Supreme Court could not rule on proposal. Constitutionality will be tested if it passes. Higher wage in Orleans could chase business into Jefferson.  
Hornets ticket sale: Jazz left in April, 1979. Poorest market in the league. 10,000 season tickets must sell before March 15 to cinch the deal. Courtside tickets $10,000 for the season.  
Report card on Alphonse Davis: First two years, could excuse with past problems. Now the honeymoon is over. The system is no better. Last mayor to take over schools Martin Berman. Easy for mayoral candidates to talk about but really have no influence.  
Changes due to 9/11: Parades a week early to allow for Super Bowl. Parades on Canal Street now on St. Charles. | Richard Pennington  
Paulette Irons  
Ray Naquin  
George Shinn  
Alphonse Davis |
| #60 | February 1, 2002 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Maginnis, Louisiana Political FAX Weekly  
Dennis Woltering, WWL-TV  
Norman Robinson, WDSU-TV | Carnival and Mayoral Election  
Pennington and Naquin seem to have momentum but a very fluid situation going into election.  
Irons started out strong until negative press and didn't defend well. Singleton has best organization. Voter turnout in primary is trickier. T-P front page editorial day before election -- some think it's unfair. Naquin came across well on TV. Singleton also did well. Turnaround artists. Give government back to the people.  
Other Races  
Super Bowl apprehension  
Security hassles for those who attend. Rather not be caught in the crowd. | Richard Pennington  
Ray Naquin  
Paulette Irons  
Jim Singleton  
Marc Morial  
Jay Batt  
Scott Shea  
Renee Gill Pratt  
Jackie Clarkson  
Oliver Thomas  
Dwight McKenna  
Frank Minyard  
Charles Foti  
Morris Reed |
| February 8, 2002 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Maginnis, Louisiana Political FAX Weekly  
Ed Renwick |  |  |  |
| #60 | February 15, 2002 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
Rob Masson, WVUE-TV  
Kathy Finn, City Business  
Scott Simmons, WDSU-TV | Mayoral race  
Hornets tickets Only 2,062 tickets so far. 30 days to sell many more.  
Saints Going to legislature special session dealing with economic development. What will Hornets mean to Saints sales?  
Mardi Gras numbers Good but not as big as when it coincides with Spring Break. Give police credit for handling Mardi Gras-Super Bowl-Mardi Gras crowds.  
Sewage and Water Board bids How much will it cost? | Richard Pennington  
Ray Naquin  
Marc Morial  
Bill Jefferson |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| #61 | March 1, 2002 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Maginnis, Louisiana Political FAX Weekly  
Rob Masson, WVUE-TV  
Kathy Finn, City Business | U.S. Attorney appointment Fred Heebe pulled out. Unproven allegations of domestic abuse. Will start over but meanwhile, Letten acting.  
Mayor's race Last day of campaigning. Two non-traditional candidates. Naquin talking about transition team. Grueling schedule of appearances. Whether you want the future right to vote on privatization contracts. BGR against it, because there of potential for too many expensive votes.  
Jazzland bankruptcy and possible sale New investors interested. About to start third season. New roller coaster promised but never happened. Should have new attractions all the time.  
Choctaw casino in Vinton Foster deal criticized by Vitter. Prelude to governor's race. Secret deal.  
First Royal Caribbean cruise | Fred Heebe  
George Bush  
Jim Letten  
Constantine Georges  
Jack Capella  
Billy Tauzin  
Mike Foster  
Ray Naquin  
Richard Pennington  
Jay Batt  
Scott Shea  
Mike Foster  
David Vitter  
Hunt Downer  
Chris John |
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<th>#61 March 15, 2002</th>
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<td>Larry Lorenz, moderator</td>
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<td>Mitch Landrieu</td>
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<td>Ronnie Musgrove</td>
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<td>Edwin Edwards</td>
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Hornets  NBA came to NO, happy about arena and presentation of business leaders. Need to sell club seats (three-year commitment). Guidelines city/team have to meet. Signs of long-term commitment.
Corporate support. Will be offering other packages but first want to sell season tickets. Fastest ticket sale in league history. Threshold of bright economic future??
Unprecedented united effort. Medical center depends on what legislature does. Wonderful plans.
Wetlands  Losing 35 square miles per year. Protection from hurricanes. State has to do something. $14 billion mostly through diversion. Feds don't care about the environmental issue -- have to appeal to economic issues. MR-GO started at 200 feet wide, now 2000 feet wide. Oil and gas industry has been allowed to dredge canals which are not being used anymore.
Louisiana movie  Financed and filmed in Louisiana. "The Scoundrel's Wife"
Harrah's  Creditors fighting with Harrah's Entertainment. Want to change balance of JCC board.
| Larry Lorenz, moderator | March 29, 2002 | hornet's ticket sales | Still 700 club seats left. Didn't want any single business buying all the seats. NO East delegation trying to add race track to legislation for Saints and Hornet's. Corporate sponsor quota - six. Have four. Local delegation split. Standards set high because Stern doesn't want to let NO have team. NO Delegation in Legislature Split but must come together or other legislators won't vote. Intense pressure. Convention Center expansion Snarling around the legislature. Governor doesn't do his homework. Not real communicative. Jazzland Plan to open in two weeks with funds freed up by bankruptcy court. But will anybody come? Harry Connick retirement Somebody who knew how to pay politics. Came in as reform politician after Jim Garrison. Close to Marc Morial. Minimum wage proposal Legal question -- who has the right to increase minimum wage? State of the Catholic Church in New Orleans Tough year for American Church. Sex scandals. Not as much hoopla for new archbishop. Death of Harry Thompson and Monseignier Runnels, both downtown preservationists. Associated Catholic Charities. Two Vietnamese Priests died on fishing trips. Church will decline until they deal with celibacy issue. |
| Errol Laborde, producer | | | |
| John Hill, Gannett News | | | |
| Rob Masson, WVUE-TV | | | |
| Dave Cohen, WWL Radio | | | |
| David Stern | | | |
| Monroe Carroll | | | |
| Mike Foster | | | |
| Marc Morial | | | |
| Steve Perry | | | |
| Ken Hollis | | | |
| Jim Garrison | | | |
| #62 | April 5, 2002 | Larry Lorenz, moderater  
Errol Laborde, producer  
Scott Simmons, WDSU-TV  
Renee Gill-Pratt  
David Stern  
Bill Heinz  
Bill Jefferson |
<table>
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<tr>
<th>NBA Owners</th>
<th>Met but did not make decision. Paperwork has not caught up with commitments. Team going to playoffs.</th>
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<tr>
<td>Oath HMO</td>
<td>Taken over by state department of insurance. Most in NO area loosing money. Hard to figure how much will have to be paid out in claims. Lowballed rates to attract customers.</td>
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<tr>
<td>French Quarter Festival</td>
<td>Coalition to provide clean-up services. Absentee owners. No sense of community. Next year Bicentenniel. Tour buses downsized. Not as many quaint shops.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minimum wage in Orleans Parish</td>
<td>Passed by 2:1 margin while voting for Naquin who opposed it.</td>
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<td>LSU Chancellor</td>
<td>Real academician and representative of LSU got big pay raise to stay there. Mostly funded through private sources.</td>
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| Warren Triche |
| Hunt Downer |
| Mark Emmert |
| #63       | April 19, 2002 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Maginnis, LA Political FAX Weekly  
Pete Reichard, City Business  
Pete Reichard, City Business  
Wal-Mart Approved  
Devisive.  
Sales tax from Wal-Mart will be used to finance housing.  
Construction to begin within six months, completion by end of next year. Have gone through all the proper steps.  
General Business Incentive  
Legislature created new program to provide tax credits for businesses who offer quality jobs. Had to be at least $9 an hour.  
Metrovision  
Ray Naquin and Tim Coulon co-vice chairmen. Transition team. Gets respect from business community.  
Jazzland  
Entertainment Associates couldn't come up with funds. Still investigating other possible buyers. April 25, need money from bankruptcy court to keep going. All theme parks have suffered since 9/11.  
Catholic scandals  
New archbishop from Boston. Took a while for Rome to catch on that this is a really big deal. Started 20 years ago.  
Grammy Museum  
Funding source taking a second look. A few more pieces need to fall into place. | Mike Foster  
Ray Naquin  
Tim Coulon  
Greg Meffert  
Alfred Hughes  
Oliver Thomas  
Pres Kabacoff |
| #63 | April 26, 2002 | Catholic Cover Up | Haven't really dealt with the crisis adequately. Hoped Pope would state definite policy. Moving, but ambiguous, statement. Ways to go before they forge an agenda. Pope out of touch. Not fully cognizant of problem. Attorneys have bargained money for silence. Sheltering men no matter how dastardly their acts. Grand juries investigating all over the country. Probably the numbers of Priests who committed these crimes are larger that the general population. So many survivors are now coming forward. Morial looking back Greatest accomplishment dealing with crime issue. Still an issue but different. Regrets that a revised zoning ordinance was not passed to make NO more business-friendly. Future plans. Wouldn't want to run against Mary Landrieu; couldn't beat John Breaux. School overtime investigation Alphonse Davis father. DA couldn't find grounds to charge. Davis' honeymoon over. Jazzfest "Nobody goes. It's too crowded." Developing the music industry. More recording studios than ever before. Nationally televised music program from NO would promote it best. Saints draft Administrators are adressing needs. Hornets Should be signed soon. Just holding off because they are in the playoffs. | Marc Morial Mary Landrieu John Breaux Harry Connick Alphonse Davis Willie Roaf Joe Johnston Leroi Glover Dante Stallworth Joe Horn David Stern |
| #64 | May 3, 2002 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
Dave McNamara, WWL-TV  
Kathy Finn, Freelance business reporter  
John Maginnis, LA Political FAX Weekly | City Hall Audit  
Fiscal crisis despite what Morial has proclaimed. Independent audit shows expenses are exceeding revenue and processes are inefficient. No fiscal planning. Everybody just buys what they need at the time.  
Review of Morial administration  
Greatest accomplishment crime/police reform. Literally cleaned up City Hall. Arrogant. Happy warrior in politics. Almost seemed to have perfected the politics of the past. Hands on. Accessible to the media. Tight control over information. Hornets Way has been cleared. Bad feeling between Charlotte mayor and David Stern. Team in playoffs.  
Cardinals' meeting in Rome  
Have stopped short of zero tolerance policy but set the stage for meeting with Bishops in Dallas. National standardized policy. How old cases will be handled? Prior to meeting, issue was not being covered by Italian press. Were diocesan problems.  
Jazzland to be run by Six Flags  
The largest operator of theme parks in the country. Expertise. Will invest $25 million in the next two years. Reduce the city's liability for HUD loan. Need to examine pricing policy.  
House election District 91 turnout expected to be low. | Ray Naquin  
Marc Morial  
David Stern  
Jamal Mashburn  
Fr. Mark Lewis |
| #64 | May 24, 2002 | Larry Lorenz, moderator
Errol Laborde, producer
John Maginnis, LA Political FAX Weekly
Rich Lenz, WDSU-TV
Rob Masson, WVUE-TV | Governor's race
John Breaux
and David Vitter opt out.
Cooksey's remarks about racial profiling have made him radioactive.
Naquin takes over City Hall
Eddie Compass new Chief of Police. Popular within department. Pioneered community policing in projects. Other team members -- non-traditional. CAO Williamson from Downtown Development District.
Benson fires GM Mueller
Surprise. Benson trying to take upper hand. Wants granddaughter, Rita, to be groomed to take over.
Hornets Heroes who got them here.
Governor Legislature passed his budget but did not pass enough tax bills to fund it. Not well-connected with Republicans in state. Legislators call his bluff (promised cuts). Not buying his "sky is falling" routine. | John Breaux
David Vitter
Hunt Downer
Ken Hollis
Suzanne Haik Terrell
Mary Landrieu
John Cooksey
Eddie Compass
Ray Naquin
Duane Johnson
Richard Pennington
Greg Meffert
Kimberly Williamson
Butler
Tom Benson
Randy Mueller
Jim Haslett
Mickey Loomis
Mike Foster |
| May 31, 2002 | Superintendent's father investigation Alphonse Davis Sr. janitor made too much overtime. Records missing so investigation inconclusive. $85,000 in overtime and a part-time job as realtor. Neither DA nor state could find enough to indict. Takes away superintendent's credibility. No explanation. Changes in way overtime is earned. Edwards' appeal Juror 68 and the use of an anonymous jury major two issues. Whether or not fair trial. Substantial issues allowed him to stay out of jail until appeal complete. Hurricane season Forecasts relatively accurate. About average this year 9-13 tropical storms, 6-8 hurricanes, 2-3 becoming Category 3 or higher. More flooding from tropical storms than hurricanes in the last 10 years. Evacuation route changes. Contraflow. DA's race First time in 29 years no incumbent. Governor and Legislature Seem to be coming together. Sales tax proposal differences between Senate and House. Want programs to take back to district but don't want to pass taxes to pay for them. Drought Borderline. Last year alleviated by Allison. What does this do the the crops? Some not planting at all. Without water source on farm, in trouble. |

| #64 | Larry Lorenz, moderator Errol Laborde, producer Scott Simmons, WDSU-TV John Hill, Gannett News Dan Milham, WDSU-TV | Alphonse Davis Harry Connick Dan Keyle Alan Dershowitz Frank Polozola John Volz Dr. William Gray Marc Morial Morris Reed Mary Landrieu James Gray Eddie Jordan Morris Reed |
### June 7, 2002

**Larry Lorenz,** moderator  
**Errol Laborde,** producer  
**John Maginnis,** LA Political FAX Weekly  
**Eric Paulsen,** WWL-TV  
**Rob Masson,** WVUE-TV

**Naquin Revolution**  
Greg Meffert trying to bring city online.  Cuts in economic development office as well as other departments.  $1 million saved already.  Surprised at how backward City Hall was computer-wise.  Privatization of sewage and water board may be challenging.

**Mexican Consulate closing**  
Opening in 1826, first consulate opened by Mexico.  Bad sign. 54 Consulates in New Orleans now, all but 13 with honorary consuls.  Mexican population in NO 2.5%  More Hondurans.

**Stelly Plan**  
Appeal in its simplicity.  Lower the brackets and increase income taxes, take off temporary sales taxes.  Would be tax break for most people.  Has to get through Senate and then go to the people in the fall.

**Interview with Stephen Ambrose**  

**Judges charged**  
Ronald Bodenheimer.  Suspicious activity at marina.  Arrested for conspiracy to distribute oxycontin.  Sharon Hunter.  11 cases in danger of being overturned.

**Proposed new racetracks**  
Prospect of slot machines enticing.

**Greg Meffert**  
**Vic Stelly**  
**John Hainkel**  
**Mike Foster**  
**Stephen Ambrose**  
**Ronald Bodenheimer**  
**Sharon Hunter**  
**Louis Roussel**  
**George H.W. Bush**
| June 14, 2002 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
Kathy Finn, Freelance business reporter  
John Maginnis, LA Political FAX Weekly  
Ro Brown, WDSU-TV | Superintendent's resignation  
Board wanted to do evaluation. Bought out contract not due to expire until end of the year. Had business community behind him. Positive male role model. However, not an educator and may have lacked administrative skills. Probably would not have renewed contract. One person cannot solve the problems. Culture of protecting turf. Ollie Tyler resigned day before Davis. Remedial Leap test summer school laid out well—40% of 8th graders didn’t show up. Decentralization of school system discussed.  
Legislative session “Temporary” taxes. Stelly plan will go to voters in November. Sales taxes on food, drugs, utilities will be wiped out. Income tax brackets will change. 90% will see reduction in taxes. Will be a hard sell to business.  
Future of the Brass  
No more room in Arena. Will either go to the Auditorium (which has had its floor replaced or not at all. Jefferson Parish considered. Will take year off to consider. Wealth of grocery stores now. | Alphonse Davis  
Leslie Jacobs  
Ollie Taylor  
Vic Stelly  
Mike Foster  
Randy Ewing |
Ship Collision. Minor but could have been worse. A lot of questions about steering systems. Jefferson Parish Judges. Federal Grand Jury investigation into Jeff courts. Connection with Marcotte Bail Bonds. Bodenheimer and Copeland divorce. Seafood business trying to set up at Venetian les Marina. Sense of paranoia. State Supreme Court proceedings confidential and cloak of secrecy extends to FBI. Insurance bailouts. The fourth largest insurer in state is the state (FAIR plan set up as last resort) financed by private insurance companies. Eddie Compass organization. Generally welcomed. Confidence level has to be reached to convince that the bad old days are not coming back. Canal Street Bordello. Dr. Howard Lipton arrested for Medicare fraud. Told authorities about brothel. So far the only patron identified. To convict the Johns have to have proof that they forced interstate commerce. New Carnival Krewe La Cage au Folles. First openly gay krewe.
| #66 | June 28, 2002 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Maginnis, LA Political FAX Weekly  
John Hill, Gannett News  
Kathy Finn, Freelance Business Writer | New Director Convention and Business Bureau  
Steve Perry, former Foster chief of staff.  
New Orleans centered. Worked in tourism in Treen administration.  
Avondale now Northrup Gruman. Major Coast Guard initiative (more than 90 new vessels and 150 new aircraft) will benefit. Further long-term stability. Bollinger also will benefit. Consolidation of shipyards means stability and perhaps added employment. Offshoot of 9/11.  
New Cancer center Tulane and LSU. Money has been appropriated and will be available Monday. Money available in cancer research and biotechs. LSU Shreveport in very good shape. Taking intellectual property and nurturing. Advantage in the size of putting LSU and Tulane together. Biotechnology explosion. One of few states with health system centralization.  
Voucher system. Not unconstitutional. State is expected to implement. Already encouraging more charter schools.  
**WorldCom Bankruptcy**  
Steve Perry  
Steve Moines  
Leslie Jacobs  
Mike Foster  
Jim Singleton  
Marlin Gusman |
| July 5, 2002 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Hill, Gannett News  
Rich Lenz, WDSU-TV  
Dave McNamara, WWL-TV | Meeting of Bishops Make everyone use the same playbook. Recent actions include review board, no confidentiality agreements (with exceptions), cases involving minors will be immediately reported. Any Priest found guilty in old cases will be removed from ministry. Hard to punish for isolated cases.  
Congressional elections  
David Vitter will run. Clyde Holloway, Rodney Alexander  
State’s Agreement with Saints $186 million happy for Benson. New stadium will rise up again in a few years. Really wants the team here.  
Amtrak  
Good service but not many use it. Use it while you can.  
Hornets  
Appear to be solid organization. Small team can win in the NBA. Could be in Eastern Conference Finals.  
Cancer Center  
Hired consultants to advise on how to merge. Want to be designated a National Cancer Center. | David Vitter  
Robert Namer  
Clyde Holloway  
Rodney Alexander  
John Cooksey  
Mary Landrieu  
Monica Monica  
Bill Jefferson  
Tom Benson  
Arnold Fielkow  
Baron Davis  
Dr. Oliver Sartor |
| July 12, 2002 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Hill, Gannett News  
Ed Reams, WDSU-TV  
Dennis Woltering, WWL-TV | Crime Increase  
Gang arrests this week show police are being aggressive in getting guns off the street. Witnesses afraid to come forward. Working on plan with ministers.  
Kenner Airline Crash  
One of the stories you cover but can’t adequately describe. 20 years ago. How the media reported it. Radio first there; then TV.  
Naquin  
Appointment of Singleton  
Singleton probably knows more about city budget than anyone. Decision seen as political.  
Senate Race  
Suzanne Haik Terrell pressured by Republican Party to run against Mary Landrieu  
Galatoire’s Waiter fired  
Only in New Orleans | Eddie Compass  
Melissa Trahan  
Mike Zita  
Gerald Hibbs  
Marlin Gusman  
Suzanne Haik Terrell  
Billy Tauzin  
Cleo Fields |
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<th>Date</th>
<th>Participants</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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<td>July 19, 2002</td>
<td>Larry Lorenz, moderator Errol Laborde, producer Jennifer John, WWL-TV Mark Schleifstein, Times-Picayune Dave Cohen, WWL Radio</td>
<td>Naquin-Coulon Meeting Metropolitan cooperation. Airport in Kenner built by New Orleans. Would like to work together more but Naquin still having problems with city. Need for light rail. Homeland Security Appointment Council won’t approve salary without names of possible appointments. Little power struggles. Honeymoon is over. Hurricanes Bad location to start with, but we have made it worse by wetlands loss. Gulf is marching northward with larger and larger areas of open water. Emergency preparations not made. Could take six months to pump water out. We have known what could happen. Need plans in place. Crime rate Up and down. Drug problem the major part. Stranger crime the most frightening. Termite problem Rather dry spring so didn’t swarm as much. Need total treatment program. Orion Refinery Deal Want a buyout like Shell gave Norco residents. Orion says their operation not as close.</td>
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<td>Tim Coulon Ray Naquin John Hainkel Marlin Gusman Marlon Defillo</td>
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<td>Larry Lorenz, moderator</td>
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<td>Dave McNamara, WWL-TV</td>
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<td>John Maginnis, LA Political FAX Weekly</td>
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<td>Rob Masson, WVUE-TV</td>
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City Hall Corruption  Taxi Cab Bureau and Brake Tag Stations. Cabbies being arrested for not having proper documentation. Mayor passed out evidence going back to 1994. Office of Municipal Investigations not effective. 7000 city employees. Civilian Review Panel report being released. First case of City Hall investigating itself (actually a previous city hall) in a big way. Post-Huey Long Louisiana Scandals, Brilab Scandal both uncovered by Feds. Makes the D.A. election particularly important. Perception of NO by outsiders Louisiana written off by businesses looking to invest. Cleanup might help that reputation. The debris of the past continues to wash up on shore. Foster has fundamentally changed but he’s dealing with perceptions from the past.

Newspapers Laid Story Out Newspapers prepared public for what was going to happen. Had the interview with Naquin. Media was not completely surprised. Could have lost element of surprise for police making arrests. Crime Commission believes there is a lot more to come (or should come). Only 7 City Hall workers arrested so far.
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<tr>
<th>Serial Killer in Baton Rouge</th>
<th>Affected area around LSU/Lakes. Gun sales and firearms training classes up. Ongoing investigations of City Hall</th>
<th>No probable cause to arrest Lillian Regan; no rule against waiving some fees. Police should have checked with DA’s office before making arrest. Ongoing rift between DA and police. Potential for Corruption</th>
<th>Great many businesses in NO do business with city. Have to do something about patronage while helping reduce dependence on city. Governor’s Election Poll Kathleen Blanco leading. Harrahs Ownership Big Harrah’s now in charge; wants to develop second floor. Sole ownership. West Nile Enough cases that state has declared state of emergencies. Now spraying round the clock. Serious danger. CDC base in Slidell. 13 parishes involved so far. Sentinel chickens. Landrieu Senate Race Bush doesn’t plan to come to Louisiana before primary.</th>
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<tr>
<td>Errol Laborde, moderator/producer Norman Robinson, WDSU-TV John Maginnis, LA Political FAX Weekly Scott Simmons, WDSU-TV Kathy Finn, Freelance Business Journalist</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Mike Foster Lillian Regan Martin Regan Pat Fanning Marc Morial Tim McElroy Rafael Goyeneche Kathleen Blanco Dave Treen Richard Ieyoub Hunt Downer John Kennedy Randy Ewing Ken Hollis Buddy Leach Mary Landrieu Suzanne Haik Terrell</td>
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August 16, 2002

Larry Lorenz, moderator
Errol Laborde, producer
Dave Cohen, WWL-TV
John Maginnis, LA Political FAX Weekly
Chris Bonura, City Business

West Nile 11 deaths nationwide, most (8) in LA. People aren’t dealing with standing water or wearing repellent. 5 cases under the age of 14. Rural parishes don’t have means for round-the-clock spraying. Air Force doesn’t want to spray at night.

East Jefferson Hospital Financial Crisis Brown-McHardy closed down: many docs went to Ochsner. Insurance market problems (Oath) caused financial shortages for hospitals. Rough times expected in health care industry. Same problems at other hospitals – Slidell Memorial. EJ has to cut employees – 300 eligible to take early retirement. More indigent care.

Cargo Airport proposed between BR and NO. Private investors. International shippers now using Houston and Miami. South American trade.

Privatization of Louis Armstrong Airport Take money and put it in city’s general fund. 65% of airlines have to approve. Another prospect state takeover.


Corruption Probe Shut down media. Still going on but not publicizing. 10 full-time investigators. Sent the message that corruption will not be tolerated.

Serial Killer Investigation Copycat crazies trying to get into women’s cars.
November Elections  Jefferson vulnerable because of his involvement in local politics. Metropolitan Crime Commission study  Concluded that DA’s office and police department do not cooperate. Takes 60 days for DA to bring charges after arrests. Problems with police reports – too much time and not complete. Witnesses get cold feet. Judge Sharon Hunter  State Supreme Court called her incompetent. Dismissed her from the bench. No rehearing. Cannot run for re-election for five years and then has to get permission from court. School’s Open  Davis gone, Ollie Tyler acting superintendent. Big problem getting kids to come to school. Expect reduced enrollment 70,000. Feud with BESE Board. Davis made some inroads with business community. Downfall so many problems with administrative stuff. Funds cut in Jefferson Parish. Sales tax raise defeated. Massive traffic jam on interstate Flipped car blocked road near cemeteries for three hours. Tow truck came with the traffic and got stuck. Then had to call fire department to clean up gas and oil in road. Priority list of tow trucks. Supposed to be there within specified amount of time. Whole parish jammed up. Galatoire’s waiter now at Bombay Club
| #69 | August 30, 2002 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
Kevin Magill, Associated Press  
Kathy Finn, CityBusiness  
Jennifer John, WWL-TV | City engineer arrested Bill of information filed by feds. Extortion charges. May be more than one department. Fake licenses being issued. Lives in LaPlace but promoted to chief engineer. Complaints from business Shakedowns reported but reluctant to go on the record. Since investigations have started, more forthcoming with complaints. Zoning problems. More whistleblowing now. Edwards Appeal Denied Spoke at news conference. 10 years ago defeated Duke and in that last term he could have played to the history books. One more spin of the wheel. Ironic. Will be remembered for his legal troubles more than what he accomplished. Jim Brown also denied Third insurance commissioner to go to jail. Found him guilty of lying about a crime he didn't commit. Insurance commissioner usually rises out of the industry. Senate Race Steel Embargo Exceptions being offered. Cemetery restoration | Wallace Sheaf  
Jim Letten  
Ray Naquin  
Kerry DeKay  
Rafael Goyeneche  
Edwin Edwards  
Jim Brown  
Sherman Bernard  
Doug Green  
Bob Odem  
Jerry Fowler  
Tom Clausen  
Mary Landrieu  
Suzanne Haik Terrell  
Mike Foster  
John Cooksey |
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<th>Date</th>
<th>Moderator</th>
<th>Producer</th>
<th>Guests</th>
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<tr>
<td>September 6, 2002</td>
<td>Larry Lorenz, moderator</td>
<td>Errol Laborde, producer</td>
<td>Firings of Steven Hatfield at LSU FBI Person of Interest. LSU Academy of Counter-Terrorism. Anthrax letters investigation. Also fired Hatfield’s supervisor, Stephen Guilliot. Hasn’t been charged. 9/11 Anniversary Tourist industry repercussions. Recovered more quickly than other towns. Advertising and media took a hit. First test of security the Super Bowl. Probably better off here because we are good at crowd control. Security measures will be standard from here on out. In the rest of state, tighter security at Capitol. Higher State Farm car insurance rates High accident rate from bad roads, more lawsuits. Will people just let insurance lapse? DWI enforcement. In some parishes, can take course and expunge record. Appointed Insurance Commissioner Will take two-thirds of both houses to change. Get rid of Insurance Rating Commission. Changed Education and Election Commissioners to appointed. New Saints season Will be better. Chemistry problem has been fixed. Senate Race Terrell endorsed by national party; Cooksey backed by Foster, Jefferson Parish Republicans.</td>
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<td>September 13, 2002</td>
<td>Larry Lorenz, moderator</td>
<td>Errol Laborde, producer</td>
<td>Tropical Storm Hannah Will pass over the mouth of the Mississippi with 60 mph winds. Hunkering down in Plaquemines Parish. Flying into the eye of Hurricane Fay. WC130 prop plane. TAPE ENDS</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kathy Finn, Freelance Business Reporter</td>
<td>John Maginnis, LA</td>
<td>Rob Masson, WVUE-TV</td>
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| #70 | September 27, 2002 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
Norman Robinson, WDSU-TV  
Kathy Finn, Freelance Business Journalist  
Bob Breck, WVUE-TV | Tropical Storm Isidore  
Flow of information via Internet and Doppler Radar better than ever.  
Problems with Internet because so many trying to access at once.  
Great danger in having untrained people have access to so much information. Hurricane Center most reliable. If it had remained strong, could have been disaster.  
How could Metairie Road underpass flood again?  
Continued reliance on pumping station instead of raising roads.  
If power goes out at pumping stations, no backup. We allow things to happen. Not prepared.  
Weakest links not being addressed  
Sewage and Water Board Privatization  
Three bidders presented plans. Difference of opinion about what it costs now.  
No basis for evaluating the bids.  
DA’s Race  
Mayor endorsed James Gray. Trying out his political coattails by endorsing an underdog. | Ray Naquin  
James Gray  
Eddie Jordan  
Dale Atkins  
Jim Carvin  
Harry Connick |
| #70 | October 4, 2002 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
Norman Robinson, WDSU-TV  
John Maginnis, LA Political FAX Weekly  
Bob Breck, WVUE-TV | Better prepared for Lily  
Jefferson Parish bought generators. We are not prepared for the big one. How can we get us all out. Weakened at the last minute. Fast-moving.  
Edwards going to jail  
October 21st but doesn’t know where.  
Re-hearing denied. Accepted plea bargain would have meant release by now.  
DA Race  
Voter turnout crucial. Expect 30%. Politics have changed with election of Naquin. Newspaper endorsement of Gray could be important.  
Court of Appeal  
Saying tough on crime but mostly handle civil cases. Race a factor although not racist.  
TV Commercials  
More important than ever. Hurricane distractions. | Edwin Edwards  
Judge Polozola  
Jim Brown  
Harry Connick  
Morris Reed  
Marc Morial  
Eddie Jordan  
Dale Atkins  
Ray Naquin  
Sidney Cates  
Yvonne Hughes  
Edwin Lombard  
Leon Cannizaro  
Jeff Hand  
Hans Liljleberg  
Ernestine Gray  
James Gray |
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<th>Date</th>
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<th>Details</th>
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| October 25, 2002 | Edwards in Jail    | Still in denial. Has to serve eight and a half years. Deep down inside, must know he did something wrong. Serenity prayer personified.  
Doesn’t show emotion. Poker face. Media favorite – the charming politician.  
**Harry Connick** Kicking back cases having to do with city hall corruption probe. Taxi licenses without having to take tests. Bad blood between Police, DA’s office and Mayor’s office. Federal govt doing own investigation.  
**DA Runoff** Want somebody who can lock up criminals. Turnout less than 25% in primary. Timing (with Edwards jailing and Connick investigations) good for Jordan.  
**Privatization** All bids rejected. Board still had Morial majority. Naquin making own appointments.  
**Mary Landrieu re-election** Close to making it in first primary. |
| November 1, 2002 | Senate Race      | Landrieu “on the bubble” close to 50%.  
**DA Race** Atkins charging Jordan for not indicting Cleo Fields.  
**Hornet’s Opening** Big night for NO. Some owners still expressing doubt about success.  
**Police Department** 50 new recruits sworn in. Murder rate still up – all others down. Need to move away from numbers of arrests to numbers of convictions.  
**Propositions on Ballot** Stelly plan would be a swap of sales taxes for income taxes. Problem is that sales taxes are more invisible. Hard sell.  
**Brake Tag Officials** Connick accepted charges. Mad at Naquin. Saints doing well 6-2 at break. |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Participants</th>
<th>Senate Race</th>
<th>Stelly Plan Passage</th>
<th>Jordan victory</th>
<th>Cates-Lombard election</th>
<th>Education</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>November 8, 2002</td>
<td>Larry Lorenz, moderator, Errol Laborde, producer, Scott Simmons, WDSU-TV, Rob Masson, WVUE-TV</td>
<td>Landrieu vs Terrell. Landrieu has to define herself more clearly. Who can Landrieu invite to help her? Terrell has Bush. Animosity between Terrell and Foster.</td>
<td>Amazing. Expected poor parishes to support it. GNO area supported it too. Support by Governor, newspapers. Opposition not strong.</td>
<td>Atkins’ momentum fell short. Things will be different in DA’s office. Will look at brothel case and the corruption charges kicked out by Connick. Office problem – low pay, lack of follow-through. What will happen to assistant DAs?</td>
<td>41 votes separating them. Lombard’s office in charge of elections.</td>
<td>High Schools down. Red alert for state education. Measures to be taken must be addressed. Ben Franklin (194) best; Frederick Douglas (10) worst. Elementary schools performance scores better. Most happy to see some kind of accountability</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senate Race</td>
<td>Greatest challenge facing Landrieu’s career. Republicans targeted this race with lots of money. Landrieu trying to appeal to grassroots. Foster-Terrell bad blood, so his final support became important.</td>
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<td>Six Flags</td>
<td>No more Jazzland. $20 million to be spent this year on the park. Six new rides. Lots of shade – waterpark on their minds for the future. No raise in ticket prices and many incentives. Season pass $49.</td>
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<td>Carnival Cruise Line</td>
<td>Conquest too big for power lines. Entergy can’t raise lines (although in contract with Corps of Engineers). Ship wouldn’t have come in here if they had known Corps was not enforcing contract. If problem isn’t solved, ship will move to Gulfport.</td>
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<td>Playground Shooting</td>
<td>Coach shot in front of his players. Rumored to have past drug connections. Volunteers now must have criminal background checks.</td>
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<td>Death of Gary Groesch</td>
<td>Political activist concerning rate paying.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Larry Lorenz, moderator</td>
<td>Wal-Mart Approval</td>
<td>City Council unanimous. City needs to look at the procedure used in these cases. Master plan. Complicated by housing issues. Senate race National attention. Paradigm of politics is changing. Democrats don’t know what they’re doing. Like a deer caught in headlights. Operatives from all over the country working on this. Naquin-Benson meeting New stadium not such a bad idea after all. Can’t be considered for Super Bowl with a stadium controversy. Competition for tickets with Hornets. Highway Money In 1998, supposed to be used for 16 road and bridges projects. Only 3 completed. Poorly planned. 400-500% increase in the estimates. Indictments Officials in taxicab bureau. The people who got paid off, two of who had already been fired.</td>
<td>Suzanne Haik Terrell Mary Landrieu Cleo Fields Mike Foster Ray Naquin Tom Benson Harry Connick Lillian Reagan</td>
<td>November 22, 2002</td>
<td>Errol Laborde, producer</td>
<td>Norman Robinson, WDSU-TV Stephanie Riegel, WWL-TV John Maginnis, LA Political FAX Weekly</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senate Race</td>
<td>Too close to call. Landrieu in a dangerous position. Congressional runoff in 5th District.</td>
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<td>Jobs for the future</td>
<td>New economy jobs. Promising growth in engineering, biotech and biomedicine, scientists and technicians. Computer and information technology. Food scientists – local products got national. Teachers. State universities are producing 5 times as many graduates as there are jobs available in the state.</td>
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<td>The NBA Experiment</td>
<td>Going well. Entertainment experience. Great people to work with.</td>
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<td>Local Charities</td>
<td>Still being affected by 9/11. How to care for the homeless continues to be a problem. Efforts to get them out of the French Quarter and growth areas.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saints losses</td>
<td>Tough games. Still playoff hopes.</td>
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<td>ATF Training</td>
<td>Much more intense since 9/11. Bomb detection and disposal.</td>
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</table>
| #73 December 6, 2002 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Maginnis, LA Political FAX Weekly  
Ed Renwick, WWL-TV  
John Hill, Gannett News | Senate election  
Did away with party primaries in 1970s. Gave more people incentives to register Republican. Runoff does not necessarily mean Republican vs Democrat. This has been made a more partisan election. Issues abortion and sugar.  
Mud-slinging ads  
Direct mail, radio and TV. Social issues energize both sides. More studies show that attack ads are effective. But some people get so disgusted they don’t vote.  
Supporters  
Terrell had national Republicans; Landrieu relied on local support. Lack of popular national Democrats.  
Get-Out-The-Vote  
Targeting those whose vote they want.  
Polls  
Candidates use to help plan campaigns. | Mary Landrieu  
Suzanne Haight-Terrell  
George Bush  
Peppi Bruneau  
Mike Foster |
| December 13, 2002 | Trent Lott’s attempt to recover from remarks | Trent Lott 
Strom Thurmond 
Cardinal Law 
Archbishop Hughes 
Fr. William Maestri 
Archbishop Hannan 
Mary Landrieu 
Susie Terrell 
Mike Foster 
John Cooksey 
Bennett Johnston 
John Hainkel 
Ken Hollis 
Mike Foster 
Edwin Edwards 
Cleo Fields 
Bill Jefferson 
Eddie Compass 
Harry Connick 
Ray Naquin 
Paul Pastorek 
Elleneese Brooks-Simms |
|------------------|---------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Larry Lorenz, moderator 
Errol Laborde, producer 
Rob Masson, WVUE-TV 
Ed Reams, WDSU-TV 
John Hill, Gannett News | Apology for remarks at Thurmond’s birthday party. 
Archbishop Hughes Answering charges of involvement in Chicago Archdiocese scandal. 
No real call for Hughes to resign. Doesn’t speak out like Hannan did. | 
| Landrieu election Democratic effort to get out the vote. Foster and Cooksey did nothing for Terrell. Sugar issue. 
Governor’s Race Terrell on top due to name recognition. 
Rising Murder Rate Attrition in the department. Pennington pulled officers out of headquarter and into divisions. Not as many experienced officers now so putting them back into centralized command. Trying to improve case reporting to DA. 
Jazzfest sponsorships Copeland’s, City of New Orleans, -- classic Ray Naquin move. 
School Board plan for progress Chartering lower performing schools. Training for teachers and principals. |
| December 20, 2002 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Maginnis, LA Political FAX Weekly  
Kathy Finn, Freelance Business Reporter  
Norman Robinson, WDSU-TV | Duke Conviction Inevitable.  
Tried to run away to Russia, but knew they had him. Long-time investigation. Fraud on supporters and the IRS. Plead guilty – probably will get 15 months which fits within federal guidelines.  
Jim Letten Still acting US Attorney. Fred Heebe likely to be appointed.  
Trent Lott’s resignation as Majority Leader Don’t have to worry about him taking away from LA any more. Bill Frist leading candidate.  
Meridian Hotel under new management Interstate hotel and resorts. Also operate Maison de Ville. New name “Grande Hotel”.  
Music tax repealed Jazz outgrew NO.  
Hospital CEO salary $350,000 at East Jeff; $337,000 at West Jeff. Health care a tough business to be in. Complexities. Because of reimbursement cap system, doctors can’t make as much money. | David Duke  
Edwin Edwards  
Jim Letten  
Fred Heebe  
Mike Foster  
Mary Landrieu  
George Bush  
Trent Lott  
Bill Frist  
John Breaux  
Bobby Jindal  
Peter Betz |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Larry Lorenz, moderator</th>
<th>Political</th>
<th>Edwin Edwards</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Errol Laborde, producer</td>
<td>Edwards finally goes to jail. 20 months out on appeal.</td>
<td>Mary Landrieu</td>
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<tr>
<td>John Maginnis, LA</td>
<td>Letters dispel myths of country club prison. Landrieu wins.</td>
<td>Bill Frist</td>
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<tr>
<td>Political FAX Weekly</td>
<td>Shriv message of pro-life forces.</td>
<td>Jim Brown</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kathy Finn, Freelance</td>
<td>Out-migration of people from Louisiana, politically young people right out of college. Jim Brown goes to jail. Stelly plan passed. State relying more on income taxes.</td>
<td>Sherman Bernard</td>
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<tr>
<td>Business Reporter</td>
<td>Business City put CEO in mayor’s office. Business mobilizes to get Hornets. EJ Hospital fires CEO Peter Betz. Health care systems crunch all over town. Homeowner insurance rates rise.</td>
<td>Ray Naquin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norman Robinson, WDSU-TV</td>
<td>Local stories Education key issue before economic development can take place. Experiment with non-traditional superintent a dismal failure. Education failure leads to poverty which leads to time. Storms show how unprepared city is for hurricane emergencies. Canal Street brothel. Amistad Freedom Schooner visited NO.</td>
<td>Peter Betz</td>
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<td>Trent Lott</td>
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**January 3, 2003**

**Larry Lorenz,** moderator  
**Errol Laborde,** producer  
**Joe Trahan,** WVUE-TV  
**John Hill,** Gannett News  
**Scott Simmons,** WDSU-TV

**Murder rate**  Efforts tied to Project Safe Neighborhoods, agencies coming together to investigate and decide which should be prosecuted in state court and which should be in federal court (if they have prior convictions). Repeat offenders need to be taken off the street. If individuals are locked up, less likely to intimidate witnesses. Police reports sloppy? Connick just kicked cases instead of trying to improve them.  
**Saints did it again**  Were doing well and blew it again. Mentality at the end of the season. Didn’t have the answer and didn’t seem to care.  
**Foster performance**  Economy in wretched shape. Movie industry doing well. Too early to tell whether emphasis on medical/biotech development is successful. People leaving state for better jobs. Voters high on educational assessment programs. Voters are seeing local schools (outside of Orleans) improve. Passage of Stelly Plan.  
**Serial Murder Case**  Is every kidnapping/murder connected? Howard Johnson sniper case 30th anniversary. Horror in not knowing what was going on.  
**Hornets**  The fact that they came to NO is incredible. Haven’t been able to stay healthy this season.
| January 10, 2003 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
Claudia Coffey, WVUE-TV  
Stephanie Riegel, WWL-TV | New DA  Connick’s recent feud with police department. Jordan will focus on cases that Connick kicked for faulty reports. Williams picked as first assistant. 90 assistant DA’s to be looked at before he decides whether to keep them. Will Jordan be the politician he needs to be?  
Convention business  
Republicans not coming. NATP is having its last convention here. Mega-conventions drying up.  
Fallout from 9/11 and economy. More cities trying to get in on the business. New convention centers. Steve Perry new head of NOCTB. Have not been keeping ahead of the game.  
Excess of abandoned housing  
Steps to take to deal with blighted houses. 26,000 properties in city. Fires. New plan to restructure property.  
Conflict with historic preservationists.  
Naming rights for dome and arena. Superdome has such a strong identity, naming rights aren’t that attractive but two-for-one deal might.  
Canal Street Brothel case  
Ending without identifying Johns.  
Eddie Jordan  
Gaynelle Williams  
Steve Perry  
Ray Naquin |
| January 17, 2003 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborder, producer  
John Maginnis, LA Political FAX Weekly  
Dennis Woltering, WWL-TV  
Jennifer John, WWL-TV | Solving DA Problems  
Jordan looking at Atlanta DA office to help solve problems in NO.  The length of time it takes to screen and charge criminals (which takes months in NO) has been cut to hours in Atl.  ADAs on call at all times to look at evidence, determine whether more is needed so that charges can be made in 6 hours.  If not released while awaiting charges, witnesses feel more secure.  
Witness and Victim Assistance program gives moral support and has been so successful witnesses can provide new evidence.  In five years, case backlog reduces substantially.  
City Hall investigations  
Paralleling Federal probes which began before Naquin took office.  
Greg Meffert in charge of looking at contracts -- cancelled, cut back and reduced ties to subcontractors.  
Governor's Race  
Dan Keyle, Legislative Auditor, resigned position to announce.  No voting record to be attacked.  
Republican.  
S&W Board Privatization  
Naquin taking another look.  
Board chartered by the state for the city to run.  One of the few cities in the world with a water surplus.  
Other state offices  
Candidates for Lt. Gov., Attorney General, Insurance Commissioner, etc.  
Hornets  
Classy operation.  
Good people in front office.  
Variety of combo packages.  
Good show. | Eddie Jordan  
Paul Howard  
Richard Pennington  
Greg Meffert  
Ray Naquin  
Dan Keyle  
Jay Blossman  
Hunt Downer  
Ken Hollis  
C.B. Forgotson  
Melinda  
Schwegmann  
Steven Rue  
Charles Foti  
Mitch Landrieu  
Susie Terrell  
Steven Wooley  
David Stern  
Paul Silas |
| #76 | January 24, 2003 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
Rob Masson, WVUE-TV  
Kathy Finn, Freelance Business Reporter  
Scott Simmons, WDSU-TV | DA Office Firings 67 fired, most investigators. Going through all cases before criminal court. Less multiple billing than in past.  
13% homicide conviction rate last year. Some concern that this massive firing will affect prosecutions. Complaints that most being fired are white. Not many blacks in office under Connick. Some prosecutors resigning before they expect to get fired. Jordan believes he can hire more people and pay them more.  
Bodenheimer Investigations  
Copeland custody case deal?  
National Finance Center  
Excitement in tech sector. Research and technology center at the Lakefront. Will be handling millions of records for U.S. Personnel all over the country. 500-2000 new jobs over next 2 years.  
Chamber goal new jobs Forman proponent on change. Naquin exciting people the most. Trying to meld Metrovision into Chamber.  
The Brass No place to play. Dormant but owner has given city to Feb. 15 to make a deal. City wants a revenue-neutral deal. Had some level of success, but Mardi Gras people don’t want hockey in Auditorium. Owner wants concessions from city.  
Stelly confusion 4% reduced to 2% for groceries and utilities -- on July 1 will be eliminated altogether. Witholding rates changed. | Harry Connick  
Eddie Jordan  
Ronald Bodenheimer  
Gil Copeland  
Al Copeland  
Luann Copeland  
Alex Copeland  
Ron Forman  
Ray Naquin  
Roy Rodney  
C.B. Forgotson |
| #76 | January 31, 2003 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
Scott Simmons, WDSU-TV  
Rob Masson, WVUE-TV | Cancelled contract  
RTA consulting contract with Morial uncle, Nick Haydel and Metro Transit. Filed suit in October but just served. Performed little work for a lot of money. Tried to hire Naquin’s brother-in-law. Naquin nixed the deal.  
DA’s Office  20 new investigators. Big focus on witness protection.  
Lt. Governor  Announcement by Mitch Landrieu. In charge of culture and tourism.  
Expansion of Stuart Hall School  
Carrolton residents protesting. Big traffic problem. Bought two houses – neighbors had declared historic.  
Brass  Ongoing fight with city. Filed suit accusing city of withholding documents. Blackberry communications across the negotiating table. Snickering. Whether the city is negotiating in good faith. | Nick Haydel  
Marc Morial  
Bob Tucker  
Cedric Smith  
Glenn Haydel  
Clyde McCoy  
Mitch Landrieu  
Melinda Schwegmann  
Kathleen Blanco  
Charles Foti  
Scott Shea |
<p>| #76       | Larry Lorenz, moderator          | Missing Police Evidence Three cases confirmed by Compass. Happened before he took over. Threw out rape kits, but supposed to save DNA. DA’s office trying to restaff. So slow down in prosecutions. |
| --------- | Errol Laborde, producer          | Effect of war on Mardi Gras Mardi Gras, a date on the calendar, cannot be cancelled. Parades can be. Likely to go on unless something really catastrophic. |
|          | Kathy Finn, Freelance Business Reporter | Domestic Violence 4 million women in LA victimized. NOPD domestic abuse counselor for each district. More shelters needed. State number one in murders due to domestic violence. |
|          | Rob Masson, WVUE-TV              | New brake tag system Investigations. 29 stations replacing city stations. |
|          | Eddie Compass                   | Washington Mardi Gras Ball A lot of business and networking done. Corporate sponsorships. |
|          | Richard Pennington              | Federal Payroll Center Headquarters moving here from NM. Good jobs. |
|          | Eddie Jordan                    | |
|          | Norbert Simmons                 | |
|          | Ray Naquin                      | |
|          | Blaine Kern                     | |
|          | Bobby Savoie                    | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bodenheimer Case</td>
<td>New round of indictments having to do with alleged corruption on the bench. Possibility that they may be looking at Copeland. White plead guilty and is cooperating. One part of investigation of Jefferson Parish Courthouse.</td>
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<tr>
<td>NO Superintendent</td>
<td>Anthony Amato. Former superintendent in Hartford, CT. Reformer. Divided school board. Protest because he is not African American.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Governor’s race</td>
<td>Education and economic development key issues. Problem is lack of money. Candidates in the middle cancel each other out. Extremes in the runoff.</td>
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<td>Vouchers</td>
<td>Would like to offer state tuition vouchers to students in failing schools. Cuts to be made – health care and higher education most vulnerable.</td>
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<td>American Sector</td>
<td>Want to bring back name for CBD. Those opposed don’t want to lose term “Warehouse District.” Decision to be made by Downtown Development District.</td>
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## Governor’s Race Funds
Democrats lead the pack. Primary costs $300-$400 million. White House does not want to get involved. 
Michoud concerns: Sean O’Keefe remains committed to shuttle program. Pep talk. Michoud the only place that makes external fuel tanks.  
Gas Prices: Really not that high. Still way below consumer price index. Every $4 per barrel hike equals about a dime per gallon.

### Edward’s Petitions

### New Superintendent
Hope for the best. Problem with race seems to have gone by the wayside. More approachable than Davis. Seems to be establishing inroads with universities.

### Raising or burying power lines
Entergy won’t sign agreement with Carnival Cruise Lines. Corps of Engineers called to enforce previous contract which requires Entergy to raise lines with 24 hours notice.
| #77 | February 28, 2003 | Hughes' Grand Jury Appearance | Archbishop Alfred Hughes  
Terry Ebbert  
Bobby Jindal  
Bob Livingston  
Tony Perkins  
Mike Foster  
Bob Odom  
Kathleen Blanco  
Mitch Landrieu  
James David Cain  
Ray Naquin  
Kimberly Williamson  
Butler |
| Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
Kevin Magill, Associated Press  
Sabrina Wilson, WVUE-TV  
Allen Johnson, Gambit | Boston pedophilia investigations.  
Intense questioning about clergy under his authority.  
Listened to experts who caused him to make decisions which are now under investigations.  
Cardinal Law’s number 2 from 1990 to 1993.  
Few demonstrators – bitter cold.  
Carnival  
What economic impact.  
Still security concerns.  
Patriotic duty to have fun.  
Krewe of Muses.  
Professional women.  
Krewe d’Etat next generation of younger men.  
Governor’s Race  
Bobby Jindal will run.  
31 years old.  
Mayor filling potholes  
Restructured government.  
Butler  
CAO but does not have control of budget.  
In charge of potholes.  
Taken a long time to complete staffing.  
Lt. Governor’s Race |
| #78  | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
|      | Errol Laborde, producer  
|      | Kevin Magill, Associated Press  
|      | Norman Robinson, WDSU-TV  
|      | Meg Farris, WWL-TV  
|      | Rainy Mardi Gras Hotels at 90% capacity. Internet has increased flexibility of travel plans. Rex captain change. Not supposed to sell positions on parades, but participation often part of travel packages.  
|      | Harry Lee gastric bypass At over 300 pounds, expects to drop than 100 by next Mardi Gras. Physical problems dictate life-saving procedure. Going to Pittsburgh because he is higher risk because of age and existing diseases. Two hip replacements, two knee replacements.  
|      | Carnival ship Conquest Going to Gulfport because problems with Entergy have not been addressed. Another example of Mississippi doing things easier. Intractable position we take. Lines raised (by NOPSI) in the 60s for a military ship. Economic loss. Supposedly had an agreement months ago.  
|      | Senate Conflict City Hall Naquin has managed to shield himself even when restructuring CAO position. Detractors using best efforts to undermine his efforts. Taken the political dynamism out of city politics.  
|      | Juvenile Prisons Legislative commission recommends one (Tallulah?) be shut down. Opposition.  
|      |  
|      | Harry Lee  
|      | Henson Moore  
|      | Dave Treen  
|      | Mike Foster  
|      | John Breaux  
|      | David Duke  
|      | Buddy Roemer  
|      | George Bush  
|      | Clyde Holloway  
|      | John Cooksey  
|      | Susie Terrell  
|      | Ray Naquin  
|      | Terry Ebbert  
|      | Eddie Compass  |
Governor’s Race  Dave Treen announces. Pushing for tax on oil pumped through LA. 74 years old.

Entergy Bills  Diversifying fuel sources will reduce bills despite rate increase.

Exxon-Mobil leaving  Downsizing and consolidating. Moving corporate offices and jobs (400) to Houston. In process of consideration. State working on incentive package to persuade them to stay.


Cruise Boart controversy  Corps won’t enforce agreement because of dependence on Entergy. Lines frayed, need replacing.

DA’s Office  Project Safe Neighborhoods with feds. Have to have more evidence because witnesses are afraid. Intelligence database to consolidate information. Feds will prosecute some of these cases. Connick resistant to previous fed cooperation.
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Moderator</th>
<th>Producer</th>
<th>Reporter</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Authors</th>
<th>Joey Strickland</th>
<th>Terry Ebbert</th>
<th>Ray Naquin</th>
<th>Jacques Chirac</th>
<th>Homer Dupuy</th>
<th>Marc Morial</th>
<th>Jay Blossman</th>
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<td>#79</td>
<td>March 28, 2003</td>
<td>Larry Lorenz, moderator</td>
<td>War at Home</td>
<td>National Guard leaving from Fort Polk, 1,800 troops. Transportation company in Slidell never deployed before. Waiting for rail cars to transport vehicles.</td>
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<td>Errol Laborde, producer</td>
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<td>Port Security</td>
<td>Never reduced after 9/11. Port seen as vulnerable both to people who may want to harm large numbers of people and/or disrupt commerce. Grant money administered by TSA. Homeland Security Funds slow in coming.</td>
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<td>Sabrina Wilson, WDSU-TV</td>
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<td>Backlash to French Animosity</td>
<td>Chirac supposed to come to NO for Bicentennial. Movement to rescind invitation.</td>
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<td>Kathy Finn, Freelance Business Writer</td>
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<td>Serial Killer Task Force</td>
<td>Rally to promote awareness, distribute questionnaires to LSU students.</td>
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<td>Charter School at Belle Chasse NAS</td>
<td>First on a military base. Special need when kids move around so much and when parents are going to war.</td>
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<td>Mike Foster</td>
<td>Bobby Jindal</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Kathleen Blanco</td>
<td>George Bush</td>
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| #79 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Maginnis, LA  
Political FAX Weekly  
Rob Masson, WVUE-TV  
Final Four Lots of dollars for the city. Nothing really compares to Super Bowl, but this is a big weekend. Packages for the entire tournament locked in. Sports Foundation does good job of running these things – machinery in place.  
Superdome Naming Rights Deal doesn’t seem close to getting done. Other places in country are still waiting to be named. $60 million for Dome and Arena combination.  
Legislative Session Budget calls for health care cuts and higher ed increases. If cuts need to be made, Foster is leaving it up to the legislature. Agenda – school vouchers and accountability. Limited voucher program with accountability attached. Members running for governor.  
Slidell Memorial Hospital Sale Referendum on Tenet takeover. | Ronald Bodenheimer  
Al Copeland  
Louis Marcotte  
Jim Letten  
Mervin Trail  
Mike Foster  
John Hainkel  
Ken Hollis  
Hunt Downer  
Bobby Jindal |
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<tr>
<td>Larry Lorenz, moderator</td>
<td>Errol Laborde, producer</td>
<td>Ed Reams, WDSU-TV</td>
<td>Rob Masson, WVUE-TV</td>
<td>Kimberly Williamson Butler</td>
<td>Ray Naquin</td>
<td>Mike Foster</td>
<td>Gene Fields</td>
<td>Dr. Peter Scharf</td>
<td>Cecil Picard</td>
<td>Anthony Amato</td>
<td>Alphonse Davis</td>
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</table>
Larry Lorenz, moderator
Errol Laborde, producer
Norman Robinson, WDSU-TV
Allen Johnson, Gambit
Curt Sprang, WGNO-TV


Encouraged by Amato Very impressive and informed. High school for science and math. City Hall Running the city like a business both mayor’s strength and mayor’s weakness. Butler couldn’t get along. Mayor’s announcement of her physical problems not politically wise. Underground investigation of her possible electronic eavesdropping found nothing. Saints Training Facility From Thibodaux to an indoor facility in Metairie. Lawmakers not happy. Hornets in playoffs Scant attention. Successful year economically. Entertaining.
Larry Lorenz, moderator
Errol Laborde, producer
John Maginnis, LA Political FAX Weekly
Kathy Finn, Freelance Business Writer

Exxon-Mobil Moving to Houston. 350 white-collar jobs. Business decisions really can’t be fixed by municipalities. Poor educational system may factor in. Changes on Poydras Street.

Legislature School takeover expected to pass. 21 out of 23 failing schools in New Orleans. Question is how will state do a better job? Hope Amato can turn the thing around. Reform and overhaul juvenile justice system. More community based systems to deal with the problem.

Jazzfest Historic importance – brought forms of music (gospel, Cajun) to large audiences. Good for business. The array of music plus culinary and cultural aspects.

Canal Street Streetcar Federal funds. Red cars on the line. Will open in October. Cars being made locally.

Governor’s race Too many Republican candidates. Hard to get around Dave Treen’s high name recognition. Need to focus on one candidate. Who can raise money?

Hornets Losing in playoffs. Injuries. New Orleans playoffs trend – losing. Have won the public relations battle.

Ray Naquin
Anthony Amato
John Hainkel
Ken Hollis
Dave Treen
Hunt Downer
Jay Blossman
Dan Keyle
Bobby Jindal
Baron Davis
Jamal Mashburn
May 2, 2003

Larry Lorenz, moderator
Errol Laborde, producer
Norman Robinson, WDSU-TV
Scott Simmons, WDSU-TV
Rob Masson, WVUE-TV

Crime Summit  Public frustrated. Officials want to solve problems but don’t know how to do it. Got speeches from public officials – holistic approach. Trying to get help from community. Suggested churches adopt schools to try to instill values in kids. Task force. Crux of problem tearing down public housing and moving people to new areas. Efforts to calm have not been effective.

Naquin’s Anniversary  Positives – persona, reformer image, trust, business, hi tech, fixed pot holes. Negatives – turmoil in administration, crime, political animosities. Does the mayor really know what his people are doing.

Entergy  Through miracle of engineering will reconfigure lines to accommodate Carnival Cruise lines. Consumers will pay for it. Not enough for Conquest, still in Gulfport.

Lockheed-Martin  Investigators looking again at foam insulation. Michod has advantage because they are the only ones who make external fuel tanks.

Gas prices  38.4% tax in LA. Each state is different.

Ogden Museum  Construction stopped because of mold. Testing continues. Taylor concerned.

Ray Naquin
Eddie Compass
Eddie Jordan
Greg Meffert
J. Wayne Leonard
Gary LeGrange
David Vitter
Ron Dittmore
Patrick Taylor
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<th>#81</th>
<th>May 23, 2003</th>
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<tr>
<td>Larry Lorenz, moderator</td>
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<tr>
<td>Errol Laborde, producer</td>
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<td>John Maginnis, LA Political FAX Weekly</td>
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<td>Bob Breck, WVUE-TV</td>
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<tr>
<td>Christopher Hallowell, author</td>
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**Governor’s Race** Not much movement expected before end of summer. Jefferson Parish group trying to anoint favorite son. Fund-raising tough.

**Hurricane** Doesn’t really matter how many storms are predicted. Late-arriving crowd whether buying tickets to events or leaving town. Four out of five storms will be false alarms.

**Metairie Road overpass pumps not complete.**

**Wetlands Loss** People becoming aware. American Wetlands Project studying problems and solutions. 10-15 year projects. Sea-wall a short-term solution but even that will take time and money.

**Hornets’ Loss** Business success.

**Morial** Made president of the Urban League.

**Death of Russell Long** Loved politics and could have really gotten a lot done if he had chosen to stay in office longer. Persuasive force in getting the Saints for NO.

**Legislature** Bill allowing state to take over schools passed. Voucher bill did not. Passed budget -- cut their own discretionary grants. Rebalanced proposed cuts.
| #81      | Larry Lorenz, moderator  | Serial Killer Arrest  | Derrick Todd Lee |
| May 30, 2003 | Errol Laborde, producer  | 32 different agencies, not including State Attorney General’s office who actually made the connection. Bickering between agencies. Took swabs from 1000 men with no hits.  | Richard Ieyoub |
|          | John Maginnis, LA Political FAX Weekly  | New Orleans gunfight Judge Elloie let suspect out on low bond. What does this say about witness protection when suspects can be out on the street so easily. Metropolitan Crime Commission protesting.  | Lynn Marino |
|          | Kevin Magill, Associated Press  | Legislature Bill to change the way judges are selected. Board makes nominees, governor makes selection, has to be approved by governor. After one term can run for election. Would take a constitutional amendment. Legislators often want to run for judgeships in future. Bill to allow insurance companies to raise/lower rates by 10% without going before insurance rating commission.  | Pam Kinnemore |
|          | Scott Simmons, WDSU-TV  | Governor’s Race Poll Blanco way ahead. Ieyoub, Jindal and Treen tied for second. Still anybody’s race.  | Pat Englade |
|          |                           | Tulane Athletic Programs Games in Dome have not worked well. $7 million/year deficit. Historically Tulane football good for city. Stadium attracted Sugar Bowl.  | Dr. Peter Scharf |
|          |                           |                           | Charles Elloie |
|          |                           |                           | Elwood Pleasant |
|          |                           |                           | Rafael Goyneche |
| #81 | June 6, 2003 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Maginnis, LA Political FAX Weekly  
Stephanie Riegel, WWL-TV  
Allen Johnson, Gambit | Hollis Endorsement  
Jefferson Business Leaders for Governor.  
None of those considered are high in the polls.  
Republican contender Bobby Jindal has never held elective office and has not voting record. He speaks the vision.  
Attorney General Foti will run.  
Connection with sheriffs all over the state.  
SWB Privatization  
Atlanta privatized in late 90s – something of a disaster.  
Contract poorly drawn. City took back control.  
Downgrading police statistics  
Probe reopened after five years. Crime Commission invited to participate.  
High-ranking commanders under the microscope.  
Legislature  
Bill to require ministers to report sex crimes.  
Liquor lobby opposes bill to ban open containers in cars – law most municipalities already have.  
Brass leaves town  
Couldn’t come to terms with city.  
Arena football coming in February–team owned by Benson. | Ken Hollis  
John Hainkel  
Jay Blossman  
Bobby Jindal  
Charles Foti  
Richard Ieyoub  
Richard Pennington  
Ronald Serpas  
Eddie Compass  
Tom Benson |
| June 13, 2003 900th Show | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Maginnis, LA Political FAX Weekly  
John Hill, Gannett News  
Jim Henderson, WWL-TV | Tulane Football Chance of dropping football or move to division III. Possible repercussions from Conference USA. Large deficit running the program. Huge endowments but interest rates are low. Big benefactors are getting older. Governor’s race Big contributions to Downer. Treen and Hollis dropped out; Hainkel will probably follow. Friction in Republican Party. Cartel of rich white men. Edwards Resigned to it. Past depression. Cleans recreation room in the morning; afternoon clerk to chief correctional officer. New Hornets Coach Floyd losing coach but young guy with vitality and a New Orleans face. Team needs some additions. Top Newsmakers Tom Benson, Buddy Roemer, Harry Lee, Sidney Barthelemy, Richard Pennington, Mike Foster, Marc Morial, David Duke, Bob Livingston | Rick Dixon  
Hunt Downer  
Ken Hollis  
Dave Treen  
John Hainkel  
Boysie Bollinger  
Joe Cannizaro  
Billy Tauzin  
Bobby Jindal  
Mike Foster  
Edwin Edwards  
Tim Floyd  
Butch Von Bredakoff  
Paul Silas  
P.J. Brown  
Baron Davis  
Tom Benson  
Buddy Roemer  
Harry Lee  
Sidney Barthelemy  
Richard Pennington  
Bob Livingston |
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<tr>
<th>#82</th>
<th>June 20, 2003</th>
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<tr>
<td>Larry Lorenz, moderator</td>
<td>Legislative Session Allow insurance companies to raise rate without rating commission approval. Elect Insurance Commissioner without any ties to companies. Open container law defeated. Most parishes already have laws.</td>
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<td>Errol Laborde, producer</td>
<td>School System Audit $20 million per year being given in $5,000 checks to dead, unemployed, etc. Feds called in. Construction department still to come. Previous problems with Oracle payroll software.</td>
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<td>Kevin Magill, Associated Presss</td>
<td>Chamber name change Chamber and Metrovision have been working together for last decade. Merger into “Greater New Orleans, Inc.” Hope to be more effective. Kickoff to much larger reorganization effort.</td>
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<td>Kathy Finn, Freelance Business Reporter</td>
<td>Saints marketing More regional efforts. From local 1.5 million to regional 4.5 million.</td>
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<td>Dave Cohen, WWL Radio</td>
<td>Serial Killer Case Derrick Todd Lee may have committed many more than previously suspected. DNA being compared. Six cases so far.</td>
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<td>Jefferson Parish Elections Term limitations kicking in. Six districts and one at-large.</td>
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<td>Tony Perkins Jimmy Fahrenholtz Alphonse Davis Ron Forman Derrick Todd Lee Geralyn DeSoto Tim Coulon Aaron Broussard Ken Hollis Polly Thomas</td>
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<td>#82</td>
<td>June 27, 2003</td>
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Stormy Day  Expected afternoon thundershowers but the atmosphere seems overloaded with moisture this summer. Over six inches in an hour and a half in City Park. So intense not enough time for city to drain.

Murders  People who fought back against robbers. Marrione 30-year policeman trained to resist. Crime overall is down, but murders are up.

Martin Marietta spree  Very rare when unexpected. Businesses taking steps to prevent employees from flipping out at work.

Campaign Finance Reports  Having private money helps. Not beholden to contributors but limits candidates to rich people.

Harry Lee  Has lost 55 pounds. Blood sugar down drastically.

Efforts in legislature to require insurance companies to pay for surgery, which, by decreasing other illnesses, actually cutting medical costs.

Hurricane Season  Two tropical storms in a week. Earlier than past years.
More poll results Not much change. Blanco, Ieyoub, Jindal, etc. Haven’t seen much advertising – expect a sprint at the end. Blanco the only woman in the race, very popular in Lafayette. Jindal trying to gain conservatives. Room for a business candidate. Political diversity in Louisiana Only state in modern times to have never elected a Republican senator, but Congressional delegation is mainly Republican. Variety of factions have combined to create a middle-of-the-road politics. Looking for an economic developer – like Ronnie Musgrove in Mississippi. School system changes Amato considering moving principals of good schools to lower-performing schools. Demotions or transfers? Board balked. Whether the board is truly behind Amato. Saints Now have decided they can live with dome longer (2020), but they want other concessions. Naming rights deal hasn’t happened. School system finances Partly from overpaying for services. Security guards/chauffeurs for school board members. Not a lot of money but a glimpse of fiscal irresponsibility. Ghost Tours Residents annoyed. Rules to reduce number of participants and tours and the hours of operation. Don’t have to prove validity of ghost stories.
| July 25, 2003 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
Kevin Magill, Associated Press  
Kathy Finn, Freelance Business Writer  
Nischelle Turner, WVUE-TV | City Hall Indictments  
Conspiracy to commit federal computer fraud – awarding of fraudulent licenses. Implications of safety concern. Confidence in Ray Naquin and Jim Letten.  
**Big Harrah’s earnings down**  
Local Harrah’s among the most successful since big Harrah’s have become sole owner. Cited war in Iraq and weather problems. Announced dividends.  
**Amato reorganization plan approved**  
Enterprises concerned about transfers without adequate notice. School board united behind him.  
**Governor’s Endorsement** Foster (Republican) may back Ewing (Democrat) if in runoff.  
Function of parties – cuegiver to voters, fundraising, runoff unity, national political clout.  
**Tobacco Trial** Whether big companies should be forced to pay for health monitoring and stop-smoking campaigns. Jurors have questionnaire to complete.  
**New Boeing Plant** State bid. Letting out bids to raise the stakes in home state, Washington. Very competitive process. | Tyrone Leon  
Carlos Palma  
Ray Naquin  
Jim Letten  
Anthony Amato  
Ellenese Brooks-Simms  
Leslie Jacobs  
Mike Foster  
Randy Ewing |
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Participants</th>
<th>Topics</th>
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<td>August 1, 2003</td>
<td>Larry Lorenz, moderator Scott Simmons, WDSU-TV Rob Masson, WVUE-TV Dave Cohen, WWL Radio Michael Depp, Louisiana Weekly</td>
<td>Police Residency Rule Naquin pledged to remove it during campaign. Police Commission came to no conclusions. Not a good response to other recruiting efforts. Economic aspects. Votes on council are not there to have it repealed. Police Corruption Investigations and indictment. Not a good week for a department which needs to maintain its numbers. Letten supportive of NOPD and Public Integrity Division. Transition Housing Where to put families who want to move into eventual home ownership. Humanitas screening applicants into more secure housing. Second phase to help tenets reach goals. How to act in a community. After 60 months ready to go out into home ownership. Graduates of similar programs have been relatively successful. Homosexual Marriage Controversy Has caused growth of anti-gay sentiment throughout the country. Southern Decadence protests. Gay tourism important to NO. Teacher recruitment effort 18% of students in Orleans schools do not have certified teachers in all subjects. 300 certified teachers coming from a variety of experiences. School system helping non-certified teachers become certified. Teachers need tools – money and community support. Free trade agreement Delegates in NO to discuss Central American Free Trade Agreement. Expedite deals to increase trade between countries. Protests.</td>
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<td>84</td>
<td>August 8, 2003</td>
<td>Errol Laborde, moderator, producer Scott Simmons, WDSU Faith Dawson, New Orleans Magazine John Hill, Gannett News Allen Johnson, Gambit</td>
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| August 15, 2003 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Maginnis, LA Political FAX Weekly  
Nishelle Turner, WVUE-TV  
Dominic Massa, WWL-TV | Blackouts in the NE Energy grid systems. Our problem with energy caused by hurricanes knocking down trees.  
Governor’s Race Keyle now running for Insurance Commissioner. Businessmen John Georges and Dennis Stein considering candidacy.  
Frontrunners (Blanco, Jindal, Ieyoub) have not advertised on TV – yet.  
California Recall Attempt Makes governor susceptible to special interests. Recall only takes 12% of the vote in the last election.  
Crime rate In the Quarter overall rates are down but if you talk to people who live there, it’s rampant.  
Early TV in NO Sponsor-controlled newscasts. Editorials. Biggest change in technological advances.  
School security Making McDonogh the model school for school security. Metal detectors, guards. Amato determined to make schools safe. Other schools will get some additional security measures as well. | Dan Keyle  
John Georges  
Dennis Stein  
Clyde Holloway  
Ray Naquin  
Kathleen Blanco  
Bobby Jindal  
Richard Ieyoub  
Grey Davis  
Arnold Schwartzenegger  
Anthony Amato  
Gary Groesch |
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<tr>
<th>Qualifying for state offices</th>
<th>Budget cuts</th>
<th>Term limits</th>
<th>School attendance</th>
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<td>Blossman-Holloway ticket.</td>
<td>Charity and University Hospitals.</td>
<td>$27 million.</td>
<td>Despite efforts of new superintendent, attendance still off about 10,000 on the first day. Don’t want to start until after Labor Day.</td>
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<td>Trying to get the “Bubba” vote.</td>
<td>Programs eliminated – biggest casualty reduction of teaching facilities. Money being used to spur economic development.</td>
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<td>Four-week period until the primary.</td>
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<td>oLots of television.</td>
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<td>Jefferson Parish</td>
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<td>Term limits cause lots of shifting around.</td>
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<td>Harry Lee sheriff for life.</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 • week period until the primary.</td>
<td>Lots of television.</td>
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<tr>
<td>O Lots of television.</td>
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Abita Springs Police Chief resignation
Accused of selling police commissions (at $1000 per) for free rides across the Causeway. Buying weapons and selling in New Orleans.

Ogden Museum Opening
Emergence of important arts district.
Governor’s Race    Randy Ewing
only possible dark horse. Not much reaction to TV debates.
Jobs, stopping out-migration, all sound alike. Corporate tax cuts.
Increase state supplemental pay for police, raise teacher salaries.
How to pay for it.? During elections, the answer is always “cut waste.”

Summer tourism doldrums
Industry has stabilized for the first time since 9/11. Local market seems to be rebounding faster than other cities.

Organized labor effect    Lost political punch. Candidates still want support. Unionization has not happened to service industry.

Ponchartrain Beach    Closed Labor Day 30 years ago.
Everybody preparing for the World’s Fair. Operated for 58 years by the Batt family.

Outmigration    Losing 18-34 year olds. Started in 1982 with oil industry. When the rest of the country started growing in ’92, Louisiana didn’t. Some leaving state for retirement because of income text. Only sunbelt state to lose population. Lack of jobs or better-paying jobs.
| #86 | September 5, 2003 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Maginnis, LA Political FAX Weekly  
Mark Schleifstein, Times- Picayune | Governor’s Race  
Polls show steady rise of Bobby Jindal.  
Leach and Ieyoub trying to get black vote. Probably will cancel each other out. Blanco advantage in Acadia.  
Endorsements can make big difference.  
Coastal erosion  
Wetlands loss caused by sinking which are result of faults. Blocks of land which sink occurring naturally or as a result of oil and gas production. Differing opinions make plans to restore wetlands a bet.  
Saints  
Failure the fault of the coach and the quarterback.  
Dismal preseason.  
Formosan Termite  
See them working from April-July.  
Outside Quarter, termites continue exponential growth. In the Quarter, more under control. Every building in 15-block area in center of quarter has been treated. $10 million program.  
Minor Candidates  
Clog up the electoral process. Raise the qualifying fee. | Bobby Jindal  
Kathleen Blanco  
Buddy Leach  
Richard Ieyoub  
Cleo Fields  
Woody Gagliano  
Bob Morton  
Aaron Brooks  
Jim Haslett |
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<tr>
<th>#86</th>
<th>September 12, 2003</th>
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|     | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
Kevin Magill, Associated Press  
Kathy Finn, BizNewOrleans.com  
Rich Lenz, WDSU-TV |
|     | Governor’s Poll  
Blanco and Jindal leading. Debate shows impressive field. Like to talk about issues. Jindal has so much information. So far, not much sniping going on. Ewing endorsed by Naquin.  
Other races  
Slot Machines at the Fair Grounds  
Voters will decide. Would increase purses. Other tracks in state have them.  
Jobs  
Candidates addressing the issue. Short on specifics. Cutting corporate excise taxes and taxes on rigs in drydock. Need to focus on business retention. Small businesses becoming job creators. Biotech and health care the growth sectors.  
Same old Saints  
Unusual to hear this so early in the season. Firing of Mueller coming back to haunt them. Brooks not a leader but with Delhomme gone, has no competition. |
|     | Kathleen Blanco  
Bobby Jindal  
Richard Ieyoub  
Buddy Leach  
C.B. Forgotson  
Randy Ewing  
Ray Naquin  
Mitch Landrieu  
Charles Foti  
Suzanne Haight  
Terrell  
Byron Krantz  
Charles Dewitt  
Randy Mueller  
Aaron Brooks  
Jake Delhomme |
| #86  | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
|      | Errol Laborde, producer  
|      | John Maginnis, LA Political FAX Weekly  
|      | Norman Robinson, WDSU-TV  
|      | Bill Capo, WWL-TV  
|      | **Campaign** Undecideds may not vote. Jindal keeps moving up. May be first.  
|      | **TOPS Program** A quarter to a third of freshmen with TOPS lose scholarships by sophomore year, but of those who keep the scholarship are more likely to finish college. Also raising standards in high schools. State spending $110 million per year. Some would rather use the money at the lower end. Pre-K program being pushed. Have to have better educated workforce to attract business with better jobs so grads will stay in state. Catch 22.  
|      | **Jefferson Parish** Aaron Broussard. Vote for two council members at large, one from District A and one for District B. Term limitations a side issue.  
|      | **Orleans Parish** Rosalind Peychoud and Jallila Jefferson running for District 91 seat.  
|      | **LSU trying to change** Raised admission standards – 3.0 average to get in. Trying to rework away from party school to research/educational facility.  
|      | **Death of Bill Elder** Stickler for details. Always looking for details. Bulldog. Such incredible strength and courage.  

|         | Bobby Jindal  
|         | Hunt Downer  
|         | Randy Ewing  
|         | Kathleen Blanco  
|         | Richard Ieyoub  
|         | Pat Taylor  
|         | Aaron Broussard  
|         | Rosalind Peychoud  
|         | Jalilah Jefferson  
|         | Leonard Lucas  
|         | Ray Naquin  
|         | Charmaine Marchand  
|         | Pat Swilling  
|         | Dana Henry  
|         | Bill Elder  

September 19, 2003
| September 26, 2003 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Maginnis, LA Political FAX Weekly  
Ed Renwick, WWL-TV  
Allen Johnson, Gambit | Governor’s Race  
Blossman drops out in favor in Downer, saying Jindal can’t win. Was in last place. Jindal has support on the right but also in the middle. Vitter endorsed Jindal. Ranking in polls the same -- Jindal, Blanco, Ieyoub leading.  
Attorney General  
Foti vs Terrell. When only two candidates, get down to the negative right away.  
Lt. Gov  
Landrieu leading Schwegmann.  
Insurance Commissioner  
Dan Keyle needs to go after Robert Wooley.  
Legislative races  
|#87 | | Jay Blossman  
Hunt Downer  
Bobby Jindal  
David Vitter  
Charles Foti  
Suzanne Terrell  
Mitch Landrieu  
Melinda Schwegmann  
Dan Keyle  
Robert Wooley  
Jim Brown  
Chris Ullo  
Robbie Evans  
Polly Thomas  
Ken Hollis  
Lambert Boissiere  
Paulette Irons  
Wayne Landry  
Wayne Mumphrey  
Walter Boasso  
Rosalind Peychaud  
Jalilah Jefferson |
| October 3, 2003 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Maginnis, LA Political FAX Weekly  
Norman Robinson, WDSU-TV  
Kevin Magill, Associated Press | Governor  
Jindal leading. Blanco vs Ieyoub for second place. Most money, most campaigning by Buddy Leach. Will it really make a difference? In debates, most played it safe. Undecideds will wait for the runoff.  
More politics  
See September shows.  
Amendments  
15 to be read and studied beforehand. Not enough time in voting booths to wait till then. Coastal erosion, BESE state takeover of schools. Most amendments benign. “Save the Fairgrounds” By approving slot machines. Can’t afford to lose another industry. |
|#87 | | Bobby Jindal  
Kathleen Blanco  
Richard Ieyoub  
Buddy Leach  
Hunt Downer  
Ron Forman |
| #87 | October 24, 2003 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Maginnis, LA Political FAX Weekly  
Kathy Finn, BizNewOrleans.com  
Nischelle Turner, WVUE-TV | **Blanco vs. Jindal** Virtual tie. If Jindal can get 15% of black vote, he can be elected. Blanco nearly as conservative as he is. He is becoming more appealing to black middle-class. Distancing himself from Foster.  
**Crime statistics** Tampering investigation. Stats downgraded illegally to “miscellaneous incidents” which are not reportable. COMSTAT not the problem, but the competition for crime reduction awards has caused improprieties.  
**Hotel in World Trade Center** Lease signed but financing procedures, etc. will take time. Floors 1-19 will become convention hotel. Public/private venture.  
**Canal Street Streetcar** To begin service soon with red streetcars. | Kathleen Blanco  
Bobby Jindal  
Eddie Compass  
Larry Sisung  
Penny Dastugue  
Barbara Ferguson  
Louella Given  
Keith Johnson  
Donna Contois  
Lloyd Giardina  
John Young  
Tom Capella  
Ed Muniz  
Peggy Wilson  
Chris Roberts  
Paul Sharp  
Elton Lagasse  
Vinnie Mosca  
Kyle Green  
Byron Lee  
Kimberly Butler  
Johnny Jackson  
Ron Forman |
| #88  | October 31, 2003 | “Maw-Maw and the Kid”  The kid is pulling ahead. Foster doing a number on Blanco. Naquin endorsement will make an impact.  
House Races  Jalila Jefferson vs. Rosalind Peychaud. Pat Swilling vs. Austin Badon Jr. In NO East, legislators are like mayor.  
Hornets  Doing well under Tim Floyd. Season ticket sales down. N.O. is a walk-up down. Promised training facility has not happened. Probably won’t go to NO East.  
Tourist Attraction  Want more Europe and less spring break. Older, with more discretionary income to spend, more interested in architecture, art and history. Opening of Ogden Museum, D-Day Museum.  
Bowl Championship Series  Schools like Tulane being left out. Schools who play in Sugar, Rose, Orange, and Fiesta get much more money than those playing in other bowls. Should money be shared. Schools who spend more money on athletics should not have to share with those who spend less.  
All Saints Day  More emphasis in New Orleans – Catholic city. Also big Halloween city because of masquerade culture.  
Condition of cemeteries  Tombs are not being cared for. | Kathleen Blanco  
Bobby Jindal  
Mike Foster  
Jalilah Jefferson  
Rosalind Peychaud  
Pat Swilling  
Austin Badon Jr.  
Tim Floyd  
Jamal Mashburn  
Darrel Armstrong  
Baron Davis  
Lebron James  
Ray Wooldridge  
Allen Iverson  
Scott Cowen |
| #88 | November 7, 2003 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Maginnis, LA Political FAX Weekly  
John Hill, Gannett News  
Dave McNamara, WWL-TV | **Last Week of Governor’s Race**  
Latest polls show Jindal moving up. Naquin endorsement. probably did as much for white vote as for blacks. Lightweight attacks. Agree on most issues. Jindal has no voting record to attack.  
**Murders** Small geographical area – 7 square miles. 90% of victims had arrest records. Drug retaliations. Rearresting the same people over and over again. Police say they are getting more information from witnesses. Going federal on a lot of these cases. They stay in jail.  
**Insurance Commissioner’s Race**  
Wooley in the lead.  
**Up the Mississippi** Surprising amount of commerce. The river belongs to everyone it passes by. No levees on the Northern banks. Starts at Lake Itasca in Minnesota. Spring water.  
**Death of Iris Kelso** Newspapers and television. Loved politics. | Vern Kennedy  
Bobby Jindal  
Kathleen Blanco  
Ray Naquin  
Warren Riley  
Robert Wooley  
Dan Keyle |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Election Eve</th>
<th>In last 48 hours, incredible turn from Jindal lead to much closer race. Wed. night question about life-changing events. Him, spirituality; her loss of child. Scored with a lot of women. Followed up with appearances at gatherings of elderly women. Also he didn’t answer her attacks. Doctor’s case against him. Republican advisors told him not to attack a women. Didn’t correct his image. Her challenge in getting out the base Democratic vote.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Insurance Commissioner</td>
<td>In polls Wooley leading Keyle. If Jindal wins, Keyle may ride his coattails.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clerk of Criminal Court</td>
<td>Johnny Jackson, Jr. vs. Kimberly Williamson Butler.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legislative Races</td>
<td>Prospective turnover in black caucus. Whether Jefferson can get his people to the poll. Best restaurant Swilling can promise for NO East is an Appleby’s. Jefferson Parish has bypassed Orleans as progressive.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Death of Bill Crider</td>
<td>Associated Press reporter since the 1960s.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Larry Lorenz, moderator</td>
<td>Violence</td>
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<tr>
<td>Errol Laborde, producer</td>
<td>Shopping</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kathy Finn, BizNewOrleans.com</td>
<td>Non-profits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bill Capo, WWL-TV</td>
<td>Historic election</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sabrina Wilson, WVUE-TV</td>
<td>Health Care</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Eddie Compass |  | Eddie Jordan  
| Kathleen Blanco |  | Bobby Jindal  

**November 28, 2003**

Eddie Compass  
Eddie Jordan  
Kathleen Blanco  
Bobby Jindal  
Rev. Richard Wilson
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Murder of tourist</th>
<th>December 5, 2003</th>
<th>Area between Canal Street and Poydras. More people now in that area but not as many eyes on the streets. Impact on tourism. Suspect arrested. Third tourist murder in last few weeks.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New Housing</td>
<td>Rich Lenz, WDSU-TV</td>
<td>Rehabilitation of St. Thomas. Wal-Mart project to fund gap between funding and actual costs. Hope to be completed in 3-5 years. Each displaced resident should have a place to come home to.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LSU vs. Georgia</td>
<td>Kevin Magill, Associated Press</td>
<td>Southeastern Conference Championship. Want to beat Georgia but many other factors in play.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senate President</td>
<td>Christopher Tidmore, Louisiana Weekly</td>
<td>Hainkel wants to hold on. Business orgs supporting him. Hines the Governor’s candidate. Senate usually does what the governor wants. LeBlanc commissioner of administration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Death of Christopher Hemmeter</td>
<td>Peggy Wilson</td>
<td>Brought gambling to town although he didn’t get the development deal from the state.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saints</td>
<td>Jim Haslett</td>
<td>Good prospects – next games are against teams with losing records. Inconsistencies blamed on coach, quarterback. Haslett too lenient.</td>
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<td>December 12, 2003</td>
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<tr>
<td>Larry Lorenz, moderator</td>
<td>Senate President</td>
<td>Kathleen Blanco’s pick, Don Hines. Kathleen Blanco’s show. Asserting herself as governor. Transition team. Still picking staff. Slow and deliberate.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Errol Laborde, producer</td>
<td>Governor’s pick.</td>
<td>Sugar Bowl Lots of tickets available for NO Bowl. BCS good for NO. A big-deal game. Win-win for city. LSU national championship.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sabrina Wilson, WVUE-TV</td>
<td>John Hainkel</td>
<td>Newborn Protection Safe haven law provides options for young women who abandon babies. Allows for mother to leave baby a police station, fire station, hospital with no questions asked and no prosecution. Law on books since 2000 but not publicized.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rob Masson, WVUE-TV</td>
<td>Mike Foster</td>
<td>St. Bernard-Orleans Schools St. Bernard says no to transfers. Saban bonus Tiger Athletic Foundation supplements his salary. Only way to keep him here.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kathleen Blanco</td>
<td>James Lala</td>
<td>Robert Lambert</td>
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<tr>
<td>Don Hines</td>
<td>Harry Lee</td>
<td>Skip Bertman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Hainkel</td>
<td>Nick Saban</td>
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<tr>
<td>Breaux Announcement</td>
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<tr>
<td>Will not run again. Will be 60 soon. Has been in politics since the age of 27. The most popular politician in Louisiana. Leading centrist in Washington.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Group Homes</th>
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<td>Woman taking money for minimal care and not paying rent. Disgusting conditions. No state or federal regulations of group homes. Residents didn’t know any better.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Schools</th>
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<tr>
<td>Amato has faced a myriad of problems. Security, corruption, etc. Has instituted better training for staff. Curriculum is now matching what is being tested. Had no idea what he was getting into.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Bicentennial of Louisiana Purchase</th>
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<td>What would have happened if there hadn’t been a purchase.</td>
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<th>Joe Horn’s antics</th>
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<td>Simulated cell phone call. NFL encourages showboating. May have cost him the Pro Bowl</td>
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</table>
Larry Lorenz, moderator
Errol Laborde, producer
Norman Robinson, WDSU-TV
Kevin Magill, Associated Press
Keith Brannon, BizNewOrleans.com

State of Emergency Sets preparedness in motion. Infrastructure attacks. The port, nuclear plants – anyplace with economic impact. We’ve been through the drill before. Sugar Bowl national championship game. Humana took over Ochsner Health Plan Will help Ochsner expansion. Specialty hospitals. Naquin assessment Still popular, perceived as honest, but people are waiting for things to happen. The gargantuan promise of real economic development. As much as he hates politics, he needs politically-savvy advisors. Grass roots are still not convinced. Governor’s Staff Andy Kopelin, chief of staff (also with Foster). Choices show she’s not that far from Foster, surrounding herself with people who know what they’re doing. Waiting to see appointments to BESE board. Greater New Orleans, Inc. Merges Metrovision and the Chamber. Want to grow 30,000 jobs and $1 billion in payroll in five years. No longer a regional chamber, but local smaller groups to do chamber functions, under the GNO, Inc. umbrella. Division devoted to business retention. Match education to needs of the market. Marketing Tourism at Christmas Revillion – dinner specials at restaurants. Celebration at City Park. Christmas, New Orleans Style, in the French Quarter. Aimed at weekend travelers. Occupancy at 60% and above.
<p>| #91 | January 2, 2004 | Larry Lorenz, moderator | Errol Laborde, producer | Keith Brannon, BizNewOrleans.com | Norman Robinson, WDSU-TV | Kevin Magill, Associated Press | YEAR-END SPECIAL | Politics Legislative leadership change; failure to replace legislative auditor; death of Russell Long; retirement of John Breaux; gubernatorial election. | The Region Appointment of Judge Joan Armstrong; crime and numbers fudging; D.C. Snipers; capture of serial killer. | Business Hosting CAFTA; GNO, Inc; Department of Defense Project; growth of the port; loss of oil and gas jobs. | Wild Card Stories LSU football; the year of the museum; Hornets Fever; College Presidents in the news; construction, construction, construction. | Dan Keyle Russell Long John Breaux Kathleen Blanco Bobby Jindal David Vitter Edwin Edwards Judge Joan Armstrong Eddie Compass Derrick Todd Lee Scott Cowen Bernard Knoth Terrence Kelly |</p>
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<tr>
<th>Date: January 16, 2004</th>
<th>Host: Larry Lorenz, moderator</th>
<th>Events: <strong>Inaugural Ball</strong> Usually paid for by private donors. Legislative transition went well. Governor's work cut out for her. Healthcare, education, budget deficit. Economic development. <strong>President's visit</strong> Received well in inner-city black church in the south. Faith-based initiatives. Question of separation of church and state. Fund-raiser at D-Day Museum. <strong>Bank One</strong> Being taken over by J.P. Morgan organization. Looking to branch out into retail banking. <strong>Future of Michoud</strong> In order to build space station by 2010, many shuttle flights will take place. Good news for Michoud. <strong>Failing Schools</strong> Legislature gave BESE the power to take over failing schools -- 14 in NO. State will decide who will run them, rather than the Orleans Parish School Board. Board and BESE working together to reorganize the schools. <strong>Assessors in NO</strong> Seven (other parishes have one). Easier to influence and control. With Naquin's encouragement, reassessing many properties so that all pay &quot;their fair share.&quot;</th>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Errol Laborde</strong>, producer</td>
<td><strong>Kathleen Blanco</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Kathy Finn</strong>, BizNewOrleans.com</td>
<td><strong>John Hainkel</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Kevin Magill</strong>, Associated Press</td>
<td><strong>Don Hines</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Dave Cohen</strong>, WWL Radio</td>
<td><strong>George Bush</strong></td>
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<td><strong>David Vitter</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Ray Naquin</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Leslie Jacobs</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Anthony Amato</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Betty Jefferson</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Demolition of Fisher Project</td>
<td>Trying to move to a new level. Plan to build mixed income project to give residents to advance. Like Hope 6 project uptown, formerly St. Thomas. Implosion should be something to see. Areas will include rental assistance, ordinary rentals, and purchase. Ozanam Inn Warehouse district residents are objecting. Area has changed from skid row atmosphere. Homeless creating a nuisance. Blanco Beginning Being received well. Business initiatives. Tax breaks. Wave of optimism in the business community. No part-time law student governor. Working person. Greater New Orleans Inc. Inaugural luncheon. Working to build 30,000 new jobs in next five years. Blanco keynote speaker came out strongly to NO. Mitch Landrieu at her side. School Money Problems Tax money will be late because of clerical snafu. Had to get a $50 million loan at 2%. Tech merger Local IT company being acquired by company in DC. Gives ability to go after much larger contracts. Should mean growth.</td>
<td>Kathleen Blanco George Bush Ray Naquin Mike Foster Bill Heinz Ron Forman Mitch Landrieu Jimmy Fahrenholtz Anthony Amato</td>
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<tr>
<td>Issue</td>
<td>Details</td>
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<td>#92</td>
<td>February 6, 2004</td>
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<td>Larry Lorenz, moderator</td>
<td>Morial Investigation Documents seized from associates. Looking at contracts. Naquin has been working closely with Jim Letten.</td>
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<td>Errol Laborde, producer</td>
<td>Congress Tauzin stepping down. Much more partisan atmosphere than before.</td>
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<td>John Maginnis, LA</td>
<td>Coastal Restoration Not as much money as Blanco has requested. Energy bill with funds for restoration stalled, and now Tauzin, chairman of energy committee, stepping down. We don't get equal share of drilling revenue. OPM and DEQ have investigated ways to rebuild wetlands but administration wants to see more truncated plan.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Political FAX Weekly</td>
<td>Kenner Mayoral Election Term limit effect -- Congemi elected to Parish Council. Nick Congemi and Phil Capitano don't like each other.</td>
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<td>Mark Schleifstein, Times-Picayune</td>
<td>Harry Lee Metropolitan Crime Commission getting money from justice department. Lee asking for MCC to reveal where it gets all its money. Resents it when they come into Jefferson Parish. They say they are a private entity and don't have to reveal anything.</td>
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<td>Rob Masson, WVUE-TV</td>
<td>Presidential Campaign How are delegates to national conventions chosen?</td>
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<td>Glenn Haydel</td>
<td>Bob Tucker</td>
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<td>Roy Williams</td>
<td>Marc Morial</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ray Naquin</td>
<td>Jim Letten</td>
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<tr>
<td>Billy Tauzin</td>
<td>Hunt Downer</td>
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<td>Charles Melancon</td>
<td>John Breaux</td>
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<td>Louis Congemi</td>
<td>Nick Congemi</td>
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<td>Phil Capitano</td>
<td>Jeannie Black</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dominick</td>
<td>Weilbacher</td>
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<td>February 13, 2004</td>
<td>Larry Lorenz, moderator Errol Laborde, producer Kathy Finn, BizNewOrleans.com Allen Johnson, Gambit Kevin Magill, Associated Press</td>
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<td>February 27, 2004</td>
<td>Carnival</td>
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| March 5, 2004 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
Dennis Woltering, WWL-TV  
Rich Lenz, WDSU-TV  
Sabrina Wilson, WVUE-TV | Presidential Primary  
State-wide election very expensive.  
Handfull of states weed out the process before LA primary.  
Conventions less exciting.  
Kenner mayor's race more exciting.  
Property assessments  
Differences within neighborhoods. Based on what it originally costs. Law calls for reassessments every four years but haven't kept up with property values.  
Hornets not drawing well  
Those who bought season tickets the first year have not renewed.  
LSU has taken some of the fans.  
Saints Deal through 2010  
$15 million payment coming due.  
Gay Marriage  
Already against the law in Louisiana. Some want it in the state constitution.  
Peyton Manning contract  
Explanation of salary cap. | John Kerry  
Fox McKeithen  
Mary Landrieu  
Phil Capitano  
Nick Congemi  
Doug Turner  
Greg Meffert  
Revius Ortique  
George Shinn  
Arnold Fielkow  
Steve Scalise |
| March 12, 2004  
20th Anniversary | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Maginnis, LA Political FAX Weekly  
Norman Robinson, WDSU-TV  
Kathy Finn, BizNewOrleans.com | Blanco's first legislative session as Governor  
Pretty effective.  
Kenner mayor  
Startled that Capitano beat Congemi.  
Birth of Informed Sources  
Aftermath of World's Fair  
Laid groundwork for renovation of Warehouse District. Artistic and entertainment success.  
Morial impact  
Gambling  
Casino in NO most agonizing process.  
Edwards Domination and Decline  
Self-confident, worldly. Started believing that he was invincible. Legacy -- 1973 Constitution, gambling.  
Quality of Life  
How much there is to do in NO. | Kathleen Blanco  
Phil Capitano  
Nick Congemi  
Louis Congemi  
Marcia Kavanaugh  
Pierre DeGruy  
Ron Ridenhauer  
Gary Groesch  
Dutch Morial  
Marc Morial  
Edwin Edwards  
David Duike |
| #94 | March 19, 2004 | Lewis Marcotte Sentence | Plead guilty to paying for referrals to his bail bond empire. Judges and sheriff's deputies named in indictments. As a RICO case, can go back more years to show crimes all part of conspiracy. |
|     |               | Legislature | Tax changes in preparation for new budget. "What a difference a governor makes." "Young Turks" legislative reformers in the 70s. |
|     |               | City Economic Development Director resigned | Beth James, part of big change movement, left for unknown reasons. |
|     |               | Jazzland Audit | City loan money misspent during Marc Morial administration. |
|     |               | Piazza d'Italia reopening | Loew's Hotel agreement to maintain piazza. More activity on Poydras now. Security will be provided. |
|     |             |                      |                              |
|     |             |                      |                              |
|     |             |                      |                              |
| #95 | March 26, 2004 | DA's request for funds | If he doesn't get more money, can't prepare and protect witnesses and get convictions. Pay assistants enough. Cycle of violence. |
|     |               | Regular Legislative Session | Limited agenda. Big issue the budget. Better behaved under woman governor. |
|     |               | Superintendent's performance appraisal | Alligned the curriculum to the tests. Financial problems. Administration must support academics. Promised pay raises can not happen right now. Eventually, during governor's term. |
|     |               | LSU Chancellor resigns | Home to Washington. TOPS program and flagship agenda. Good politician for the school. |
|     |               | Canal Street Streetcar Begins | April 18. |
|     |               | Dissent in the House |                              |
|     |             |                      |                              |
|     |             |                      |                              |
|     |             |                      |                              |
|     |             |                      |                              |
| #95 | April 2, 2004 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
Jason Berry, author  
Norman Robinson, WDSU-TV  
Kathy Finn, BizNewOrleans.com | Meeting between Mayor and Ministers  
Perceptual problem. Naquin forced to be on the defensive because had no political organization. Ministers felt locked out. Funds for social programs dried up. Middle-class African Americans not as influenced by ministers.  
Office buildings for sale Freeport-McMoran building being sold to Stewart Capital (being kept in local hands). Future of New Orleans Centre, and several other bldgs. uncertain.  
Vows of Silence  
Past sexual abuse by Fr. Massiell shelved by Vatican because powerful fund-raiser, recruiter. . Pope will not acknowledge the accusations. Vatican permeated by secrecy and no independent judiciary.  
BESE Board  
Leslie Jacobs, Edward Chase, Mary Washington appointed. Shows support for standardized testing.  
NO East Economic Development reorganization  
Humana buy-out of OHP  
Significant development. Only a few HMO's operating in area. Prices may come down and level out.  
Women's Final Four  
LSU participant. Becoming a bigger event. | Ray Naquin  
Jim Bob Moffett  
Frank Stewart  
Fr. Massiell  
Tom Doyle  
Leslie Jacobs  
Edward Chase  
Mary Washington  
Mervin Trail |
| #95 | April 9, 2004 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
Kevin Magill, Associated Press  
Rich Lenz, WDSU-TV  
Allen Johnson, Gambit | Senate Poll  
Speculation that Roemer will run. Early. May depend on President's numbers.  
Legislature  
Wants to raise salaries. No consensus who or how much. Bill to outlaw cockfighting. Fowl not considered animals under animal cruelty statute.  
AAU Junior Olympics  
Summer 2005. More and more voices speaking up in favor of new Superdome...or a serious upgrade. No progress made in naming rights.  
State Supreme Court  
Moving to Royal Street. Plans to rebuild and renovate other facilities.  
Edward's Appeal  
Judge Polozola on oxycontin during trial?  
Hornets barely in playoffs  
Players not playing for Floyd who had worst percentage in NBA. | David Vitter  
Buddy Roemer  
Karen Carter  
Edwin Edwards  
Frank Polozola  
Tim Floyd  
Paul Silas  
David Stern |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| #96 | April 16, 2004 | Errol Laborde, moderator/producer  
John Hill, Gannett News  
Ed Reams, WDSU-TV  
Sabrina Wilson, WVUE-TV  
Ed Daniels, WGNO-TV | Taxes  
Survey of incomes/taxes. Stelly plan is working in that tax burden has shifted to higher incomes.  
Fair Grounds purchase  
Krantzes want minority purchaser to give cash infusion and let them hold on to track. So many gambling options. Want slots. Horse racing has not developed a new generation of fans. Churchill Downs interested.  
Anniversary of McDonogh Shooting  
Better security now. Each school has own plan...uniformity needed.  
School Expansions before Council  
Stuart Hall want gymnasium. Tulane development at Uptown Square.  
Legislature  
No open containers in moving vehicles. More highway dollars.  
Hornets tough season | C.B. Forgetson  
Brian Krantz  
Jackie Clarkson  
Oliver Thomas  
Marlin Gusman  
Jay Batt  
Tim Floyd |
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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Larry Lorenz, moderator</th>
<th>Kerry Visit</th>
<th>John Kerry</th>
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<td></td>
<td>Errol Laborde, producer</td>
<td>Tour of MRGO.</td>
<td>Kenny Campo</td>
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<td>Kevin Magill, Associated Press</td>
<td>Shining example of what can go wrong. Coastal erosion.</td>
<td>Carlton Dufrecheau</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Kathy Finn, BizNewOrleans.com</td>
<td>Initially (50s and 60s) 500 ft wide -- now 2,000 ft in places. Bank eroding at 15 ft per year. Tidal surges. Large ships. Storm surge straight into city.</td>
<td>Kathleen Blanco</td>
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<td>Dave McNamara, WWL-TV</td>
<td>Changing dynamic of Canal Street. Opening in time for the Jazz Fest</td>
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</table>
| #97 May 7, 2004 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Maginnis, LA Political FAX Weekly  
Rich Lenz, WDSU-TV  
Curt Sprang, WGNO-TV | Hornets  
Tim Floyd fired.  
Team out in first round of playoffs. Stars didn't like coach.  
Hornets need to act quickly to acquire good coach. Team is Shinn's only job.  
Legislature  
Bill to allow psychologists to prescribe drugs with physician approval. Ethics bill -- ban fund-raisers during legislative sessions. Cockfights still legal -- Cajun culture.  
Police recruiting  
Orleans wants to have 2000. Pay raises. Not ready to throw out residency rule. Kenner threat to close police department because of budget cuts.  
World's Fair anniversary  
Big hit for locals. Financial problems. No support from Reagan. Spent several years handling lawsuits.  
Senate/House elections  
David Vitter will run ahead of the pack. 3 House seats. Jindal far ahead. | Tim Floyd  
George Shinn  
Jamal Mashburn  
Baron Davis  
Byron Scott  
Hubie Brown  
Phil Capitano  
Nick Congemi  
Peter Spurney  
Ronald Reagan  
David Vitter  
Chris John  
John Kennedy  
John Breaux  
Arthur Morrel  
Bobby Jindal  
Billy Tauzin III  
Craig Romero  
Charlie Melancon |
| #97 May 28, 2004 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
Kevin Magill, Associated Press  
Dan Milham, WDSU-TV  
Jim Henderson, WWL-TV | Saints Deal  
Want inducements continued, improvements to Superdome and money set aside for new stadium. Hotel/motel tax has not grown, naming rights not sold. $7 million shortfall.  
Legislature  
Bill to raise pay for state officials opposed by governor. Budget higher than originally thought. Found more money but Saints aren't included. No more checks passed out during legislative session.  
Hurricane Season  
Conditions right for very busy season. Contraflow plans in place. New pumping station at Metairie Rd. underpass.  
Canal Streetcars  
40 years since last Canal line stopped running. Plans to revive Canal Street.  
New Hornets Coach  
Byron Scott -- players should play for him. Going into NBA West. | Tom Benson  
Kathleen Blanco  
Sammy Nunez  
Byron Scott  
Baron Davis  
Jamal Mashburn  
Tim Floyd |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Participants</th>
<th>Key Events</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>June 4, 2004</td>
<td>Larry Lorenz, moderator</td>
<td>School Board Injunction preventing firing of Anthony Amato. State house approved bill to give superintendent greater powers. Threatening political powers of school board members. Benson-Blanco meeting Governor will try to live up to deal. Naming rights won't happen. Benson will do all that he can to keep team here.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Errol Laborde, producer</td>
<td>Legislature Matters of the soul, same-sex marriage, cloning, stem cell research. Charity Hospital needs $100 million. Ministers rally at Charity When services cut, churches impacted. Such a great need and costs keep increasing. Numbers of the working poor. Senate race poll Vitter will run first.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>John Maginnis, LA Politics</td>
<td>Murder suspect released on bail Judge didn't see videotape. Voodoo Arena Football Sucesses -- affordable tickets and winning record. D-Day Anniversary Plans to make museum into national World War II museum in the next 10 years.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>FAX Weekly</td>
<td>Ray Naquin Anthony Amato Silas Lee Tom Benson Kathleen Blanco Vern Kennedy Tom Benson Stephen Ambrose</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
School Board  Fighting has stopped temporarily. Bill to give superintendent more power signed into law. Now four board members say it was basically media hype. Board called "ridiculously stupid" on Senate floor.

Money for Saints  Governor vows to pay even if she has to beg or borrow. $15 million July 5. Studies have shown they are worth the money. Legislative pay raise dead. Budget on course.

Senate race  Vitter against John and Kennedy.

Kenner Jail Closed  Captain says he doesn't have the money to keep jail open.

Car wash killings  Still not enough evidence to prosecute. Two in jail. Finger-pointing between DA and police. Tape still hasn't been played in open court.

Death of Ronald Reagan  Didn't come to World's Fair.
| DVD Not available | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
  Errol Laborde, producer  
  John Maginnis, LA Political FAX Weekly  
  Dennis Woltering, WWL-TV  
  Allen Johnson, Gambit | Murder binge Nine in 30 hours.  
  Suggestions: form career criminal bureau; hire former prosecutors as part-time screeners; victim notification system; monitor police testimony "testifying"; kid's page on NOPD website.  
  Subpoenad Morial billing records while at Adams and Reese  
  Any indication that he was being paid off for favors while he was mayor.  
  Legislature Motorcycle helmet requirement. High gasoline prices a boon to the state.  
  Restore Charity Hospital cuts. Gov got involved in NO schools situation.  
  Property reassessments State requirement will take time. System not designed for reform. Older houses undervalued based on original price. Governor contracting and trying to attract business.  
  School Board Relationship with Amato may improve from this episode. | Rafael Goyeneche  
  Sandy Krasnoff  
  Ray Naquin  
  Eddie Jordan  
  Kathleen Blanco  
  Anthony Amato  
  Donald Devore |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DVD Not available</th>
<th>Larry Lorenz, moderator</th>
<th>Train-truck collision in St. Bernard</th>
<th>Kathleen Blanco</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>June 25, 2004</td>
<td>Errol Laborde, producer</td>
<td>Oil truck burst into flames. Taken to Baton Rouge General.</td>
<td>Tom Benson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>John Hill, Gannett News</td>
<td>Legislature Budget cuts at universities and hospitals avoided. Union Tank Car Company coming to Alexandria -- largest to come to state since 1981. Gov. shepherded bills.</td>
<td>Mark Olivier</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sabrina Wilson, WVUE-TV</td>
<td>Saints Came up with money to pay obligation. Had to borrow. Long-term ideas -- would like to see the money coming out of NO area.</td>
<td>Ray Naquin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rich Lenz, WDSU-TV</td>
<td>Economic Development Trying to keep businesses in state. Gov on telephone offering help. Learning why or why not they want to be in LA. Mark Olivier new economic development coordinator.</td>
<td>Anthony Amato</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Naquin and the Ministers Still not sensitive enough to the needs of disadvantaged. Want him to appoint a faith-based coordinator at City Hall. Feel left out of the loop.</td>
<td>Phyllis Landrieu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>School Board Elections Superintendent is the issue. Amount of support for Amato. Hornets draft Shinn doing everything he can to sell tickets.</td>
<td>Gail Glapion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Byron Scott</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>George Shinn</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| July 2, 2004 | Errol Laborde, producer/moderator  
Norman Robinson, WDSU-TV  
Stephanie Riegel, WWL-TV  
Dave McNamara, WWL-TV  
Rob Masson, WVUE-TV | School Board Investigations  
Amato requested working group of law enforcement to observe audit. Embezzlement charges. Payroll, contracts, insurance fraud. Legislative auditors also involved.  
Losing Business due to Tax Laws  
Bodenheimer in Prison  
Part of 5-year investigation of operations at Gretna Courthouse. Abuse of power.  
State Climatologist Report  
Studied hurricanes. Most hit southern tip of Florida, Cape Hatteras, southeast Louisiana.  
Twin Spans  
Speed limit increased to 70. Causeway considering.  
Murder of educator and mother  
Real crisis of confidence. Mayor blaming disfunction of criminal justice system.  
Breton Island  
Set up as wildlife refuge by Teddy Roosevelt. 100th anniversary. Hurricane protection. | Anthony Amato  
Stuart Pilch  
Carl Coleman  
Jeffrey Polli  
Mark Drennan  
Kathleen Blanco  
Huey Long  
Ronald Bodenheimer  
Louis Marcotte  
Al Copeland  
Jim Donelon  
Barry Kime  
Ray Naquin  
Eddie Compass  
Teddy Roosevelt |
School Board doesn't want to give up right to fire superintendent. In his contract. Retreat in Baton Rouge. Anderson and Fahrenholtz did not attend. Supposed to be all about the kids.


Criminal Sheriff's Race Open field.

Eddie Compass Came in two years ago and had to clean house, restructure. Under Pennington, a lot of politicking going on. Interesting fight to pick with man credited with cutting murders in half.

EEOC raises discrimination by DA Federal lawsuit filed -- EEOC found 37 instances of racial discrimination.

Ampitheater Plans Along wharf near NOCC. Monument to Homer Plessey. Dock board cooperation.
| #98 | July 16, 2004 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
Dave Cohen, WWL Radio  
Ed Reams, WDSU-TV  
Kathy Finn, BizNewOrleans.com | Police Reorganization  Those on desk duty now answering calls for service. Task force teaming up to do proactive policing. Deter crimes. Hoping to reach recruitment goals.  
School Board Poll  Unfavorable rating for five members. Amato highly favorable. Shows community dissatisfaction with board actions. Poll commissioned by business community.  
Charter school  UNO will run Capdeau School. Will be a barometer for the future of charters. Stressing parental involvement. UNO had a basic plan. Private enterprise cannot charter -- up to universities.  
Coastal Erosion  Bush administration now promising aid. $2 billion plan for diversion projects.  
Lawsuit Against Ochsner  Class action charging that not-for-profits not living up to their obligations to treat poor.  
Ed Renwick  
Una Anderson  
Jimmy Fahrenholtz  
Anthony Amato  
Ti Martin  
Robert Champagne  
John Kerry  
George Bush  
David Vitter  
William McCrossen  
Moon Landrieu |
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Moderator(s)</th>
<th>Topics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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Tom Benson
Kathleen Blanco
Arnold Fielkow
David Vitter
Chris John
John Kennedy
Billy Tauzin III
Charles Melancon
Ron Forman
Jackie Clarkson
Ray Naquin

Kathleen Blanco
Chris John
John Kennedy
David Vitter
Una Anderson
Jimmy Fahrenholtz
Anthony Amato
Judge Porteous
| School Board | Ford dropout. Has become an election about Amato. |
| Sheriffs Race | May be a forerunner to sheriffs race. |
| Rodney Alexander | State court will hear suit. |
| Scalise withdrawal | Jindal popularity. Need big turnout for Bush to ensure Vitter election. |
| Revival of Tallulah | Closure of Tallulah Correctional Center where many had jobs. Name of town became synonymour with bad conditions at prison. Efforts to change prison into an educational facility. Juvenile facilities moving toward smaller institutions. |
| Airport | Cargo handling facility near Donaldsonville. New Louisiana Airport Authority signed agreement to study project. Also water and rail transportation hub. More objections from Baton Rouge airport. |
| Harrah's | Coming on strong since tax break. Planning hotel. |

Carolyn Green Ford
Phyllis Landrieu
Anthony Amato
William Hunter
Marlin Guzman
Dale Atkins
Warren Riley
Frank Polozola
Steve Scalise
Bobby Jindal
Avery Alexander
Avis Brock
Kathleen Blanco
Ken Hollis
John Mamolides
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#100</th>
<th>Larry Lorenz, moderator</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 27, 2004</td>
<td>Errol Laborde, producer</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>John Maginnis, LA</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Political FAX Weekly</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ed Reams, WDSU-TV</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sabrina Wilson, WVUE-TV</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

|     | Uptown Wal-Mart opening |
|     | Opponents still in court -- want it downsized and hours cut. |
|     | Shoppers love it. Some small businesses on Magazine not happy. Don't sell antiques at Wal-Mart. |
|     | Rodney Alexander Reopened qualifying to allow another Dem. to qualify. |
|     | Public Service Commission Incumbent in danger. |

|     | Jazzfest Finances Attendance down every year since 9/11. |
|     | Last year's rain. Problems with Jazzfest Board -- need more big money-raising. |

|     | Future of Middle Schools In '96 wanted to take younger students out of high schools. Not the answer. Many on the list of lower performing schools. |
|     | Move to K-8 schools. Smaller classes able to deal with kids on one-to-one basis. Experiments -- separating by sex and by ages. More structure in classrooms. |

|     | Gambling Saturation in state. |
|     | Looking to move to NO area. |
|     | NIMBY attitude. Opposition from other casinos -- smaller slice of the pie. Texas couldn't ever get gambling proposals together. |

|     | Mardi Gras Parade Three krewes in Gretna want to change route to go where the growth is. Like what happened to Canal Street parades. |

|     | Pres Kabcoff |
|     | Rodney Alexander |
|     | Irma Dixon |
|     | Cleo Fields |
|     | Lambert Boissiere III |
|     | Bill Jefferson |
|     | George Winn |
|     | Quint Davis |
|     | Anthony Amato |
| #101         | September 3, 2004 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
Curt Sprang, WGNO-TV  
Norman Robinson, WDSU-TV  
Rob Masson, WVUE-TV | Saints and the State  
Firmest stance yet on new stadium. Will not relieve state of yearly payment until he sees new stadium built. Working group looking at new stadium idea. Benson doesn't trust the legislature. Where to get the money for yearly payment. Jeff Sheriff's Office shakeup  
6 accused of steroid cover-up. Resignations. 4 fired for illegal taking of Vicodin. 4 fired because of a questionable fight. Republican feud  
Ray Naquin  
Making moves that indicate he is becoming more political. Endorsed Riley and allowed City Hall employees to work for Riley. Blindsided by ministers' opposition. Has now widened the circle. Previously not surrounded by the best people. Now has connection to grass roots. Visit of Clinton  
Probably the best politician to be President. | Tom Benson  
Kathleen Blanco  
Harry Lee  
Ray Naquin  
Marlin Gusman  
Warren Riley  
Sally Forman  
Bill Clinton  
Jim Brown |
Quadruple Murder at Claiborne Ave. Restaurant
Restaurants like community tragedy. Shot and stabbed.
Senate election  Vitter with more votes than all the democrats combined.
Potential shipping disasters
Saints opener  Time for Brooks to step up. Grandfathered in in the NFL. NO no longer qualifies as an NFL city. Not enough corporate support.
Jazz and Heritage Foundation
No change from Festival Productions and Quint Davis. Got reputation for being too crowded. More competition -- big names performing close by or locally. Board needs to curtail spending.
Democrats courting voters
Kerry-Edwards coming to state just in case. Kerry certainly no Bill Clinton. Republicans confident.
| #101 | September 24, 2004 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Maginnis, LA Political FAX Weekly  
Bruce Katz, WGNO.TV  
Rob Masson, WVUE-TV | Elections  
Election snafus -- delivery of machines, threat of storm.  
Congressional elections  
Will be focusing on that from now on.  
Senate TV spots.  
Ivan evacuation gridlocks  
Congratulating themselves on getting people out. But folks are upset -- "I'm not going next time." Educating people about routes.  
Reliable predictions  
Ivan difficult. Modeling much better but not 100%. Very tough call.  
Every year, with coastal erosion, we are losing more and more of our buffer. Too much concrete -- can't absorb runoff.  
Cleo Fields  
Lambert Boissiere, III  
Irma Dixon  
Kimberly Williamson Butler  
Ed Lombard  
Fox McKeithen  
Billy Tauzin, III  
Craig Romero  
Charlie Melancon  
David Vitter  
Chris John  
John Kennedy  
Bill Jefferson  
John Breaux |
| #102 | October 15, 2004 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Maginnis, LA Political FAX Weekly  
Sabrina Wilson, WVUE-TV  
Ed Reams, WDSU-TV | Can Vitter Win Outright?  
Sheriff Race  
Riley vs. Gusman.  
Social activists involved -- rights of prisoners, immigrants, etc.  
School Board  
Superintendent shut out - not on the agenda.  
Animosity means nothing getting done.  
Hornets  
Now want to build practice facility near the Arena going against promise to build in NO East. Lake Forest Plaza has not been rejuvenated by the city.  
Same Sex Marriage  
State Supreme Court will hear arguments in December. No vote on civil unions and same sex marriage.  
Fairgrounds  
Churchill Downs purchased and will manage.  
Making money through cablecast races. Expand slot machine hours. Want to improve backtrack.  
David Vitter  
Chris John  
John Kennedy  
David Duke  
Bob Jindal  
Bill Jefferson  
Billy Tauzin  
Billy Tauzin, III  
Charles Melancon  
Craig Romero  
Warren Riley  
Marlin Gusman  
Anthony Amato  
Cheryl Mills  
Elaneese Brooks-Simms  
Jimmy Fahrenholtz  
George Shinn  
Jack Capella  
Brian Krantz |
| #102  | October 22, 2004 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
Kevin Magill, Associated Press  
Dave McNamara, WWL-TV | Voter Registration 133 thousand added in the past year. Polls show Bush odds on favorite. Billy Tauzin III leading in 3rd District. School Board Opinion of superintendent the issue. Election fiasco Ivan evacuation that week added to basis inefficiency. Basically foolproof system but have to follow the law. Machine problems didn't seem to affect voter turnout. Myriad of problems. School board Amato quarrel with state auditor Theriot patched up. Changes to schools budget have to be approved by the board. Chandeleur Island Cuts caused by Ivan similar to what happened in Camille. Had almost recovered after Georges. Aggresive planting program to protect land. A speed bump for hurricanes threatening NO. Judge Timothy Ellender Attended Houma costume party in blackface. No previous history of bias in 20 years on the bench. Suspension recommended. Private party at public restaurant. | George W. Bush  
David Vitter  
Chris John  
John Kennedy  
Bobby Jindal  
Billy Tauzin, III  
Craig Romero  
Charles Melancon  
Kimberly Williamson Butler  
Fox McKeithen  
Anthony Amato  
Steve Theriot  
Timothy Ellender |
| #102  | October 29, 2004 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Maginnis, LA Political FAX Weekly  
John Hill, Gannett News  
Norman Robinson, WDSU-TV | Senate Poll Rolling poll shows Vitter over 50% and then back down again. 3rd District Race Tauzin, III, Romero, Melancon Public Service Commission Personal attacks having nothing to do with job. Both going to bring utility rates down. Sheriff's Race Social issues not as important. Personal attacks and endorsements mean more. School Board Amendments Right to hunt, fish and trap; homestead exemption; eligibility of veterans for civis service; farmers and fisherman support of industry. | David Vitter  
Billy Tauzin III  
Craig Romero  
Charlie Melancon  
Cleo Fields  
Lambert Boissiere  
Marlin Gusman  
Warren Riley  
Marc Morial  
Ray Naquin  
Elliot Willard  
Dwight McKenna  
Cynthia Cade |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Authors</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| November 5, 2004 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
|             | Errol Laborde, producer  
|             | John Maginnis, LA Political FAX Weekly  
|             | John Hill, Gannett News  
|             | Kevin Magill, Associated Press | Death of Pat Taylor  
|             | Oil and gas wealth, started program which became TOPS. Impact on state, Marine Corps backer. Generous.  
|             | Vitter victory  
|             | Combination of beautiful strategy, hard work, becoming North Louisiana candidate, rain suppressed turnout, John Kerry dead weight at top of Demo ticket.  
|             | Republican party got behind him. TV campaign appealing to women. Two Rhodes scholars -- Vitter and Jindal.  
|             | 3rd District  
|             | Tauzin vs. Melancon  
|             | Political Parties in LA  
|             | Republicans coming up. Party-builder (Vitter) on top.  
|             | Marlin Gusman Sheriff  
|             | Support of Foti, most of Council, LIFE political organization. Has been at odds with Naquin in past.  
|             | School Board shift of power  
|             | Biggest winner Amato. All members support him.  
|             | Pat Taylor  
|             | David Vitter  
|             | Bobby Jindal  
|             | Billy Tauzin III  
|             | Craig Romero  
|             | Charlie Melancon  
|             | Mary Landrieu  
|             | Marlin Gusman  
|             | Warren Riley  
|             | Ray Naquin  
|             | Dale Atkins  
|             | Anthony Amato  

- Pat Taylor  
- David Vitter  
- Bobby Jindal  
- Billy Tauzin III  
- Craig Romero  
- Charlie Melancon  
- Mary Landrieu  
- Marlin Gusman  
- Warren Riley  
- Ray Naquin  
- Dale Atkins  
- Anthony Amato
Saints  Rebuild Superdome or build new stadium. $150 million vs $500 million. Sports has changed; to compete need something better. Don't need multi-purpose stadium anymore. A lot of things can be done to improve. Have a plan to do construction without disrupting football.

Riverboat in Jefferson  Want to move Isle of Capri from Lake Charles where market is saturated. Stirring controversy among those who don't want more gambling in town.

Auto Tax  New Orleans only place in town to levy personal property tax on autos. It's based on brand name -- not fair. Assessors don't have enough information to assess based on value. Method found but assessors don't want to use it.

Police Residency  Critics say rule stands in the way of increased recruitment. Emotional issue. If you live in the community have a greater stake in welfare of community. Political hot potato.

Crime Summit  Need more police. Once again at the top per capita in U.S.

Restaurant Inspections  Statewide website of inspection reports not on line as yet.
<p>| Saints | Benson buying into the idea of renovating instead of new stadium. How to pay for it? Use state funds earmarked for Saints payments. Can be done in off-season. |
| Film Industry | Good news but don't have enough trained employees in state. How to train enough people. Tax incentives. Set up in Harahan. |
| French Quarter Hotel Development | Need new development district. Fear that precedent will be set which will lead to too much hotel development in Quarter. |
| Kip Holden mayor of Baton Rouge | First African-American in major city where blacks in the minority. Field's defeat and Holden's victory changes dynamic. |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Jobs</th>
<th>Have lost 1,200 jobs in year. Closure of Sears call center. Decline in grocery jobs - opening of Wal-Mart, closures, takeovers. Also decline in professional and business services. NO fifth among most violent metro areas Including 7 parishes. Code six program to identify, target and prosecute the most violent offenders. All components of criminal justice system coming together. No real metro strategy to stop crime. New sheriff's role Immediate concern budget deficit. State-mandated programs -- all inmates DNA tested. Pressure to do better job of medical care. Saints Benson -- &quot;played like a high school team.&quot; Tried to do the right thing over the years but has had bad luck. Martin-Marietta Concerned by NASA cutbacks. DWI Cases Arrests but few convictions. Repeat offenders. Only eight prosecutions for felony DWI in Orleans in five years. Conflicts of interest in traffic court system. In Jeff, DA handles all DWI; Orleans only if referred by traffic court.</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Congressional Races</td>
<td>Nasty commercials.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Local elections</td>
<td>State senate seat. Juvenile Court judge race.</td>
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</table>

*Domestic controversy* Report shows much more cost effective to renovate.  Gov. wants the Saints to open their books. People are not attending because the team is so bad. Saints need to come up with ways to generate revenue without the state.

**Hurricane Evacuation**
Contraflow a fiasco. How to prevent the mess. Waited too late. Going to coordinate better and stagger evacuations. Tow trucks to get stalled vehicles out of the way. Better signage to show alternate routes.

**Investigations** School Board, Wrinkled Robe, city contracts under Morial, tax evasion. **Same sex marriage amendment** More than one issue -- civil unions, marriage. Supreme Court heard arguments.
| #104 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Maginnis, LA Political FAX Weekly  
Kathy Finn, BizNewOrleans.com  
Rob Masson, WVUE-TV | **Pro Sports Study** Absolutely no measurable economic impact from a pro team. Flew in the face of research last year by Tim Ryan. Question of the Dome is going to be who's going to pay for it. Superdome did revitalize downtown but having two stadiums might cause problems.  
**Hornets** George Shinn bought out Ray Woolridge. Financial problems.  
**Close win by Charlie Melancon** 518 votes. Republicans consistent message. Don't dominate yet in LA but strength growing.  
**State of doing business** Not finding quality workers with problem-solving skills, reading skills. Decline in productivity. High percentage believe corruption is a problem. Ironically, most businesses will not leave state.  
**Party-switching** Better to stay Democrat if black constituency is large. Republicans now have undisputed leader in David Vitter.  
**Deaths** Manager of Auditorium and Mahalia Jackson Theater. Jean LePlace reported for TP -- skilled in PR. Big loss to Bill Jefferson. Political tactician. | Tim Ryan  
George Shinn  
Ray Woolridge  
Billy Tauzin III  
Charlie Melancon  
Jim Bob Moffett  
David Vitter  
Jean LePlace  
Bill Jefferson |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School Board Indictments</th>
<th>Total now 24. Multi-million dollar deficit. All predates Amato. Stealing from children and schools in such deplorable condition.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hotel in French Quarter</td>
<td>Council vote to lift the ban on site on edge of quarter. LSU Chancellor Sean O'Keefe leaving NASA. No doctorate but high-profile experience in government.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LSU Coach</td>
<td>Good chance Saban going to Miami. Crack Cocaine A fifth of the docket at criminal court consists of crack cases. Hot spots of criminal activity characterized by crack. Repeat offenders. Poor man's choice -- available and affordable.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Governor meeting with Congressional Delegation</td>
<td>Opportunity to get funds for coastal erosion, extension of I-45. Taking proactive approach. Hornets Trying to get naming rights. Trying to do Dome and Arena at the same time was not working.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| #105 | December 24, 2004 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Maginnis, LA Political FAX Weekly  
Kathy Finn, BizNewOrleans.com  
Norman Robinson, WDSU-TV | Superdome Controversy  
Commissioner involved, pushing for Saints move to Los Angeles. Benson committed to NO and to his granddaughter.  
The Governor and Congressional Delegation  
She signed bill to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation. Jindal letter showing concern of faith-based groups (exempt according to her).  
Loss of white collar jobs  
Statewide gain but NO area down.  
Union Tank Car facility  
Complaints that governor's friend, the Shaw Group, got the construction contract.  
Effect of Council lifting hotel ban  
Maintain this was an exception; ban still lives.  
Nation in a tourism recovery since 9/11. Hotel occupancy up.  
Bonfires on the Levee  
Indigenous Christmas customs; Mr. Bingle; Reveillons; The Fairmont Lobby; "All I want for Christmas is You.". | Paul Tagliabue  
Tom Benson  
Kathleen Blanco  
Bobby Jindal  
Jim Bernhard  
Vince Vance |

| #105 | December 31, 2004 | THE YEAR IN REVIEW | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Maginnis, LA Political FAX Weekly  
Kathy Finn, BizNewOrleans.com  
Norman Robinson, WDSU-TV | Political  
Political football -- Saints and LSU; retirement of John Breaux and Billy Tauzin; continued erosion -- coastal and economic; Blanco/Legislative deals; Vitter victory/GOP gains.  
Region  
Orleans School Board shakeup -- power to Amato; Ivan stops everything -- gridlock and election snafu; conviction of Derrick Todd Lee; parade route shooting; LSU national champs.  
Business  
Pro sports wrangling; gambling ups and downs; recovery of visitor market since 9/11; economic development changes; Blanco's approach.  
Wild Card  
Turmoil at Jazzfest; new sheriff in town; Churchill Downs at Fairgrounds; St. Thomas and Wal-Mart; Canal St. streetcar. | Kathleen Blanco  
Tom Benson  
Nick Saban  
John Breaux  
Billy Tauzin  
David Vitter  
Anthony Amato  
Derrick Todd Lee  
Mike Olivier  
Beth James  
Don Hutchinson  
Mike Drennan  
Scott Adams  
Brian Frees  
Quint Davis  
Marlin Gusman |
| #106 | Larry Lorenz, Moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Hill, Gannett Ed Reams. WDSU-TV  
Rob Masson, WVUE-TV | Last show before Katrina Didn't talk about storm.  
News coverage Misreporting.  
National media disappointing.  
Local very good. Turmoil being reported when it didn't happen.  
Emergency declared on Aug. 26 but Washington Post said it didn't happen until Sept. 6. So much competition. They were marooned. Problems of local media.  
Flooding, scattered staff, tried to broadcast from afar. Times-Picayune deserves Pulitzer. Amazing to watch it regroup.  
Breadth of information.  
Quality of Health Care Closings have put pressure on fragile system. Elmood to open as Level I trauma center.  
WYES First floor flooded. Second floor electronic equipment is functioning transmitted from WLAЕ. No immediate plan for the auctions. |
|---|---|
| January 6, 2006 First show since Katrina (2005 shows lost in flood of WYES building) | Donald Trump  
Ray Naquin  
Eddie Compass  
Warren Riley  
Marlon Gusman  
Oliver Thomas  
Jackie Clarkson  
Kimberly Williamson Butler |
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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Larry Lorenz</td>
<td>Moderator</td>
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<td>Errol Laborde</td>
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<td>John Maginnis</td>
<td>LA Political FAX Weekly</td>
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<td>Kathy Finn</td>
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<td>Rob Masson</td>
<td>WVUE-TV</td>
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<td>Big Plans</td>
<td>Moratorium on permits until neighborhoods decided. A lot of grey area particularly in ninth ward. At odds about where to put FEMA trailers. Baker Bill Set up corporation to buy out damaged homes. &quot;Bring New Orleans Back&quot; Commission efforts. Projections for population only half in the next three years. Presidential bravado. Level of destruction so much bigger in LA than in MS. Prospects for N.O. coming back Sustainability. Who's likely to come back? Drives around at night and sees where the lights are on. Saints are coming back City has good track record with team. Dome will be completed in time for season. Future of the port Shipping calls back up to 60% of pre-Katrina level. Future of Mississippi River Gulf Outlet (MRGO). Port has tenants out there. Big push to close outlet is expected. Blanco recall 900,000 signatures required. 33%. Approval ratings at all-time low. Probably has more power than ever before. Decides where block grants are spent. Special session will deal with levee boards. Carnival Ball locations Not Municipal Auditorium</td>
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<td>Ray Naquin</td>
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<td>Oliver Thomas</td>
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<td>Cynthia Hedge-Morel</td>
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<td>Richard Baker</td>
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<td>George W. Bush</td>
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<td>Greg Rigamer</td>
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<td>Tom Benson</td>
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<td>Paul Tagliabue</td>
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| #108 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
Kevin Magill, Associated Press  
Dennis Woltering, WWL-TV | Chocolate City  
National implications. Eloquent political leadership in times of crisis. We don't have that. Constituency was part white/part black middle class. Offended both. Thought he was talking to the crowd when actually talking to the nation. Seems to be unaware of cameras. Doesn't listen to anybody. Uses of God and "uptown."  
|**Trip to Netherlands**  
Storm surge barriers. Learned a lot about different ideas. How to keep the river open except when a storm surge. Country 60% below sea level. Wanted to learn about evacuation from us.  
Fast track ways to protect us in time for next hurricane season  
Makeshift barricades and floodgates to keep storm surge from coming in.  
|**Levee Board Merger**  
One central board. Historically a development function, but now simply want a board to maintain levels. This movement is unstoppable.  
|**Merger of courts and assessors**  
Orleans the only parish with separate criminal and civil court systems.  
|**Hotels**  
FEMA-paid guests staying there. Rooms needed for Mardi Gras. Inherited program from Red Cross but were not that familiar with the administration of the plan. If registered, cannot be forced out. | Ray Naquin  
Kathleen Blanco  
Walter Boasso  
Paul Valteau |
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<td>Event</td>
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<td>Emeril's Comments</td>
<td>Deragatory about Mayor, Gov., locals, etc. Had been criticized for not coming back sooner. Ruth's Chris on Broad did not reopen. Does this reflect what others are thinking. More tourist-oriented restaurants.</td>
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<td>Women of the Storm</td>
<td>Trip to Washington to extend invitations to congress men and women to visit N.O. Get more offshore oil revenues. Success measured by number of actual visits.</td>
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<td>Demolitions</td>
<td>Houses pushed off their foundations into the right-of-way. Will advertise addresses city wants to demolish. Those impeding, nuisance buildings will be priorities.</td>
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<td>Gov. wants to bring state legislators to N.O. on first day of session</td>
<td>Many believe special session not necessary. Move to consolidate levee boards. Compromise. Looks bad for state not to do something.</td>
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<td>Health care</td>
<td>New Orleans EMS now has to take patients to hospitals out-of-parish. Have to stay with patients until a bed opens. Cannot get back. As people come back situation will get worse. Any kind of mass casualty situation could be disastrous. Medical records lost during storm.</td>
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<td>Audubon Zoo health fair.</td>
<td>Resignation of Insurance Commissioner Wooley making early exit.</td>
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| #111  
February 10, 2006 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Maginnis, LA Political FAX Weekly  
Norman Robinson, WDSU-TV  
Dave Cohen, WWL Radio | Citizens for one levee board  
In Baton Rouge until action taken. More professional than political. How to get the money from Washington. SE Levee District should be everything south and east of Baton Rouge. Mayoral election  
Ron Forman, Peggy Wilson have announced; Oliver Thomas possible variable. Kenner Election  
Another contentious race. All public officials during hurricane have been subject to criticism. Churches being closed  
St. Augustine in Treme most controversy. A place of black, Creole culture. No justification from cultural aspect. FEMA  
Cost of building houses less expedient than getting trailers, normally, but this is not a normal situation. Too confusing. Hotels  
Those being forced from hotels are going back to shelters. System designed for people not to come back to NO. Trailer parks in Monroe -- N.O. infrastructure won't support trailers. Rooms are needing major overhauling before tourists can stay there. People were "femad." Michael Brown before Congress  
White House blew him off, so he's telling all. White House knew on Monday that levees had broken. | Ron Forman  
Peggy Wilson  
Oliver Thomas  
Phil Capitano  
Nick Congemi  
Michael Brown  
Michael Chertoff |
| #112          | February 17, 2006 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Maginnis  
Kathy Finn  
Ed Reams, WDSU-TV | 2 Levee Boards  
Professional, ethical requirements. Expect to get more funding. Bipartisan compromise West Bank separate but same requirements.  
Single assessors defeated  
No sense of urgency  
Home buyback plan Those who want to be bought out get up to $150,000. Those who wish to rebuild will get a percentage of home's previous value, based on whether insured or not. Baker Bill pretty dead. Feds would rather let the state come up with the plan.  
Future Watch  
Post-Katrina population. Based on several factors including Entergy customers. About 190,000 living in Orleans Parish. In a year region will have 1.2 million, about 90% of pre-Katrina. Racial balance should be about the same.  
Mayoral Elections in N.O. and Kenner  
In Kenner, Ed Muniz qualified at the last minute. A formidable race. First attack commercials Couhig against Forman, Naquin and Landrieu.  
Harrah's Reopened  
For now relying on locals. Building hotel. Police housing  
More suitable housing than cruise ship so that they can be reunited with their families. FEMA not allowed to put larger trailers in 100 year flood plain.  
Carnival Changes  
Condensed parade schedule. All the same route. Have to be done in 8 hours a day so that police won't have to be paid overtime. Expect day trippers. Glad bags sponsorship. | Walter Boasso  
Francis Heitmeier  
Greg Rigamer  
Ed Muniz  
Nick Baroni  
Rob Couhig  
Ron Forman  
Mitch Landrieu  
Ray Naquin |
February 24, 2006

Larry Lorenz, moderator
Errol Laborde, producer
John Hill, Gannett News
Kathy Finn, business writer
Rob Masson, WVUE-TV

**Landrieu for Mayor** Mitch is running -- enough evidence that the price is out there to grab. Second time he has run -- first against Marc Morial. Pulled out because he didn't believe white could be mayor. 25 candidates.

*Retaining citizens with incentives to repair/rebuild* Mitigation funds through FEMA -- not real popular. Louisiana not getting the same as Mississippi per household. Baker Bill designed to reimburse those whose insurance did not pay enough for damages.

**Bring New Orleans Back Commission** Many elements -- key a moratorium on new building until neighborhood is approved for redevelopment. Green space and other uses. Groups include urban planners. Concern about getting fair share of development dollars. Trying to identify funding.

**Future of Mass Media** Real signs of strength in advertising status. Most broadcast media getting advertising from relief businesses (Home Depot, etc.). No rating system at this time because of displaced households. Good deal of spending, increased employment. Media employees moving away; being replaced. How big will newsrooms need to be to serve a smaller city. Times-Picayune reporting awards.

**St. Bernard** Only parish to suffer total devastation. Trying to take advantage of assets. Plans to promote seafood industry, build up medical facilities. Like N.O. no definitive plan as yet. Big extended families not comfortable being displaced.

**LSU president William Jenkins resigns** Took early retirement. Board can start selection process. Carnival Abbreviated by Katrina hits but still attracting tourists -- happy to see N.O. still standing.
Mayoral race  No incumbent has lost reelection since 1946. Naquin counting on the fact that he is the mayor that went through Katrina and has connections. City polarized beyond color. Not only whose going to be in run-off: who is going to vote? Population so scattered. Are polls accurate? Whoever has the right message and can convince the voters they will get things done should win.

Futurewatch  Politically looking toward 2010. Race is not as simplified as people think. Coalition-building across racial lines. Effects of Katrina could be healthy situation in the long run. What the President knew and when  Info showing he knew the flooding was occurring much earlier than admitted before. Mike Brown looks a little better.

Breakdown in communications on all levels.

Floodgates  Being built on three of the outfall canals which were breached during storms. Repairing breaches but not trying to improve other sections of canals which could fail next time. Instead of Cat 5 canals, true Cat 3s and coastal restorations could be adequate.

Housing  No more cruise ships or hotels. Where will people live? And where will they get services (laundry, meals, etc.) FEMA not bringing in trailers fast enough. People leaving hotels in other cities and finding housing and jobs in those locations. N.O. losing population.

Butler  Contempt hearing re evidence room at Tulane and Broad.

Mardi Gras  Most hotel rooms filled. Low crime.

French Quarter businesses  Need local shoppers; in trouble financially.
Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Maginnis, LA Political FAX weekly  
Curt Sprang, WGNO-TV  
Dave Cohen, WWL Radio

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<th>Why the levees breached</th>
<th>The clay gave way and the storm surge was longer and more intense than anticipated.</th>
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<td>President's visit</td>
<td>Took him to the Ninth Ward this time. Took aerial tour first. Made more aware of situation. Told Congress to keep their hands off Louisiana money. Influence with Congress at all-time low.</td>
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<td>Mayoral debates</td>
<td>Nine (out of 23) participated. Have serious ideas. Race will be a big issue. Mayor will play to that strength, though Mitch Landrieu will be strong with blacks as well. Move to make changes, defeat incumbents. Landrieu uniter; Couhig most aggressive. Polls show Naquin, Forman and Landrieu front-runners. The ones that will have the money for advertising. Kimberly Williamson Butler</td>
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<td>Gov. Blanco's future</td>
<td>Done all she could do to secure federal money. Radio ads to promote her budget so the public will push the lawmakers. Making &quot;Deja Vu&quot; Good for city. Many projects moved to northern LA right after the storm. Seems to bode well. Includes Katrina story. Hornets in town from Oklahoma City David Stern has been very supportive. Will play Lakers. Superdome Hope to renovate and improve in time for Saints season.</td>
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George W. Bush  
Lindsay Graham  
Ray Naquin  
Mitch Landrieu  
Rob Couhig  
Kimberly Williamson Butler  
Ron Forman  
Peggy Wilson  
Al Aider  
Charles Foti  
Edward Lombard  
Kathleen Blanco  
David Stern  
Kobe Bryant
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<td>March 17, 2006</td>
<td>Larry Lorenz, moderator Errol Laborde, producer Allen Johnson, freelance journalist Bill Capo, WWL-TV</td>
<td>NOPD First priorities housing/new uniforms, dealing with personnel issues. Meanwhile criminal justice system being rebuilt. More guns on the street by law-abiding citizens who want to protect themselves. More isolated. Being sued by gun-rights groups because weapons were confiscated after Katrina. Mayoral race Naquin, Forman, Landrieu still leading. NAACP suing to postpone election (which has already been postponed). Process may end up in court. Councilmembers-at-large election Everybody can vote twice. 11 running. FEMA 52,000 trailers in LA so far. Eventually, 98,000 expected. Essential for those who want to get back in their neighborhoods. Biggest problem getting trailers delivered. National/international press re NO Horrified because still looking for bodies. Delayed by bureaucracy. Unless you've been here, can you understand? 1,500 names of people still missing. St. Joseph's Altars Came from Sicily (where they don't preserve tradition as much as N.O.). Indigenous tradition to N.O. Hope traditions aren't lost due to Katrina.</td>
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| #117 | March 24, 2006 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Hill, Gannett Newspapers  
Norman Robinson, WDSU-TV  
Ed Reams, WDSU-TV | Bring New Orleans Back plan  
Naquin's reaction -- objects to green spaces, moratorium on rebuilding. Wants to present parts to the voters, playing safe. Plan more like long-term goals when people need immediate relief. Rebuilding going on. But will they be told in the future that shouldn't build because levees not adequate. Naquin and his challengers  
Lakeview a big factor -- very passionate voters. Hard to judge because so many voters not here -- who will vote absentee. Naquin confident. African-American middle class also a factor.  
Protest against election Some say unfair because so many voters still gone. Jesse Jackson and others maintain minority evacuees not being given opportunity. Voter education drives in other cities. May be lawsuits on the back end of this election. Conspiracy?  
Kenner Mayor Expecting a rerun of last election. Post-Katrina spending and contracts an issue. Muniz may be the spoiler.  
Legislature A lot expected to happen. Money -- teacher pay raises. Consolidation of New Orleans courts will have to go to the voters. New Orleans needs to look like the rest of the state. Cockfighting, abortion -- in LA legislature anything can happen. Blanco and staff have made a point of visiting and consulting individual legislators. Agenda to be announced Monday.  
Rita damage Different dynamic because of disappearing wetlands. Something needs to be done so that small towns will not be inundated. Any building up will involve taking property.  
State money Regular income down but budget up because of "funny money" from FEMA. Increased spending will continue. | Ray Naquin  
Mitch Landrieu  
Jesse Jackson  
Phil Capitano  
Nick Congemi  
Ed Muniz  
Kathleen Blanco |
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| Levee repair costs | Had lowballed costs...now over $9 billion. Have enough to fix some but not all. Can't be certified by Corps, so FEMA floodmaps cannot be released. Monumental mistake. Wholly incompetent. |
| Kenner election | Did Muniz spend enough to get elected. |
| N.O. Mayor's election | Change-of-address forms show most voters are close to home. Concern will be confusion at mega-polling places. Everybody will be watching. |
| Streecars | Canal Street and Riverfront lines will begin this week with Carrolton/St. Charles green cars. |
| FEMA | Who is picking up the trash? Mind-boggling problems with trailers, getting in, getting them unlocked, and getting them taken away. |
| State Legislature | Hearings on eminent domain. Rarely used. |
| LSU Men in Final Four | Chance for both men and ladies to play championships. |

| David Vitter |
| Kathleen Blanco |
| Ray Naquin |
| Nick Congemi |
| Ed Muniz |
| Phil Capitano |
| Greg Rigamer |
| Ray Naquin |
| Ron Forman |
| Mitch Landrieu |
| #119 | April 7, 2006 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Maginnis, LA Political FAX Weekly  
Norman Robinson, WDSU-TV  
Eric Paulsen, WWL-TV | **Poll results** These times tricky to poll. Mitch Landrieu and Ray Naquin in a statistical tie. Landline telephone poll. Rigamer says 55% black in city now. Some have just left and don't care about voting.  
**Business** Owners very concerned about what will happen with economy. Biomedical, tourism and port the tripod of N.O. Economy. If it's so bad why are investment bankers so interested? Are they really here or are they waiting for economy to tank? Market will drop because the tax base hasn't recovered.  
**Politics** District A -- "Anybody but Batt" campaign. It's bigger than race. We want a clean slate. We have been embarrassed enough. "You don't matter because you don't manage."  
**Kenner** Muniz the favorite to win run-off. Division between Capitano and Congemi left a path for Muniz. Everything that could go right went right.  
**Legislature** Third session in five months. Not dealing with budget until May. Consolidation of N.O. government won't take place until after election.  
**Death of the Hanzens** Gerard Made Sno-bliz machine in 1939. Mary made syrups. | Ed Renwick  
Ray Naquin  
Mitch Landrieu  
Greg Rigamer  
Donald Trump  
Jay Batt  
Shelly Midura  
Stacey Head  
Renee Gill Pratt  
Ed Muniz  
Nick Congemi  
Phil Capitano |
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| Media in New Orleans | Have always found a lot to report in N.O. Local media personalities have gone on to national media. Take their lead from the daily newspaper -- more reporters and beats. Never been as proud of our newspaper than since Katrina. Cooperation between media. Call from a source to Mark Schlifstein that alerted that levees at broken. Picayune highly praised for distinguished reporting. Disputed rumors. Reporting from N.O. every story a front-page story. New York Times attention. Called it like it is. Capturing the humanity of the situation. TV stations lost facilities and broadcast from other sites. Channel 4 never went off the air but where was the audience. On the web amazing attention from the world. Since the storm taking on issues which wouldn't have been covered before. Came back angry. So much hard news. Rating system will take time to come back. Radio WWL-Radio and WDSU on FM valuable during evacuation. Garland and Spud call-in shows -- what's going on in New Orleans. Media has become proactive and persistent -- issues of the public are the same issues which matter to the media. Websites sometimes the only connection to home. Biggest form of communication during time away from home. Helped find relatives. High-tech grapevine. Katrina first big laptop event. More levels of communication going back and forth. Citizen journalism. All have helped each other out in many ways despite competition.

| Garland Robinette Spud McConnell |
Mayoral election Liable to be confusion. People are scared, frustrated and angry. About stabilizing situation in city. Want to elect someone to rescue us from our malaise. Better service. Voters more motivated. Early voter breakdown about the same as a regular election. Council-at-large People can vote twice. District A Batt has taken a lot of hits and down the stretch came out swinging. District B Strong opposition to incumbent Pratt. Upsurge in crime in that district. District C No incumbent. District D Cynthia Hedge Morrell incumbent, favored. A fighter. District E Cynthia Willard Lewis also a fighter for her area. Ardent and outspoken since the storm. The dump in N.O. issue. Assessors Campaign for one assessor. If incumbents reelected they will use it as an indication that people want individuals. Everyone likes their own representative. Measures taken to ensure orderly election Secretary of State's office has taken steps. Help from other parishes. Extra poll-watchers. Absentee ballots include avadavits which must be signed. If too many have to be discarded, election could be contested.
#122
April 28, 2006

| Larry Lorenz, moderator | Who voted? Not many. Difference Motor Voter law, all who drive are registered, even those who don't ever vote. Turnout differential between races about even. Naquin's strength surprising. Landrieu has Forman endorsement. Naquin had difficult time in debates; heaped with worst disaster in American history. What does this portend for the general election? Council-at-large runoff Clarkson vs. Fielkow. Fielkow endorsed by all other candidate. Momentum for the challenger. Big move for change in the city. Anti-Tom Benson. District A Batt vs. Midura in run-off. Uptown district anti-Batt. District B Pratt vs. Head. District C Carter vs. Palmer Assessor's races Brought the issue to the fore. People like the idea...as long as it's not their assessor. Kenner runoff Muniz the peace candidate the favorite. UNO declared financial exigency Can fire tenured as well as untenured faculty. Getting rid of programs. Tulane, Loyola, SUNO, Dillard are all doing this. Puts university presidents and chancellors in unenviable positions, drawing fire from all sides. |
| Clancy Dubos, Gambit Weekly Ed Renwick, WWL-TV Rob Masson, WVUE-TV | | |
Larry Lorenz, moderator
Errol Laborde, producer
Bill Capo, WWL-TV
Ed Reams, WDSU-TV
Rob Masson, WVUE-TV

Doing away with MR GO
Congress created; only Congress can deactivate. Believed the waterway acted as a conduit for storm surge. Money being proposed to enable Corps to make plan to close it. Diversions proposed. A few businesses affected but never was economically as successful as planned. Boysie Bollinger in favor.


FEMA  Eight months later, still making problems. Shifting personnel. Everybody's got a FEMA story. People still waiting to get in trailers, get power and get keys. Delivery rate has slowed down. Why doesn't person who delivers have the keys? Complicated process...probably very expensive. Only when everything works will you get the keys. 70,000 so far.


Doug Brinkley book  Critical of Naquin. Went to Dallas, long shower -- denies all. Some don't like the angles Brinkley takes. Timing. Doesn't historian need more time?

Muniz landslide  If he can handle Kenner like he handles New Orleans in matters pertaining to Endymion, he will be successful. Peacemaker.
Larry Lorenz, moderator
Errol Laborde, producer
Kevin Magill, Associated Press
Curt Sprang, WGNO-TV
Eric Paulsen, WWL-TV

Mayoral Race
Both are forerunners. Unpollable election. Conservative Republicans ambivalent.
Council-at-large Neither have negatives. Feeling that Fielkow might leave N.O. if not elected.

Economic prospects
Taken a hit like no other city. From 39,000 to 2,000 businesses in N.O. Short term optimism if federal money comes in as promised. Biomedical community shattered. Tourism may take a couple of years to recover. If small businesses can hold on through the summer, may recover. What's going to make business flock here now? Mayor big on technology coming in.

State Legislature
Road Home Program given final legislative passage. Plan must be approved by HUD and must be funded. Congress previously unhappy because we had no plan. First session dealing with issues other than hurricanes. Blanco has a long way to go to get past being unprepared for hurricanes. How strong can the cockfighting lobby be?

Pine trees now more feared Being cut down; effort to replace with other trees.

Fats Domino's no-show at Jazz Fest. Had tests at Ochsner but still wasn't feeling well. Just went to Fair Grounds to wave at the fans. Friends with Eric for about two years. Gregarious and upbeat.

Jazz Fest Biggest force in preserving a lot of our culture. "Do you know what it means to miss New Orleans" our anthem.
May 19, 2006

Larry Lorenz, moderator
Errol Laborde, producer
Dennis Woltering, WWL-TV
Norman Robinson, WDSU-TV
Rob Masson, WVUE-TV

Mayor's Race  So many debates and so many potentials to examine the candidates. Hard to get any reading. Naquin's national image is horrible; conservatives favor Naquin. Don't want to change horses in the middle of the stream. Basically the same on the issues. Differ on style. Running not to lose. Mayor extremely savvy re politics. Since election is so late, new mayor will be sworn in right away.

Council-at-large  Leadership the issue. Interesting campaign. Shadowboxing from a distance.


Clerk-of-Court  Name recognition and voting along racial lines. Who voters identify with.

Assessors' Races  IQ candidates hope to send message to legislature that consolidation is favored.

Fire at Orange St. Wharf  Fire department helped by FEMA helicopters and fire boats. Stretched-out department. Equipment up but manpower down.

Ray Naquin
Mitch Landrieu
Jackie Clarkson
Arnold Fielkow
Jay Batt
Shelly Midura
Renee Gill-Pratt
Stacey Head
William Jefferson
Kristen Palmer
James Carter
Kimberly Williamson
Butler
Nick Varrecchio
Arthur Morrell
| #127  | June 2, 2006 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Hill, Gannett Newspaper  
Ed Reams, WDSU-TV  
Bruce Katz, WGNO-TV | Election Aftermath  
Shortest time gap between election and swearing in.  
Pleas for unity.  To bring all aspects of community together.  4 new members of council.  
Beginning of hurricane season  
Preparation time.  Actual storms not likely in June and July.  Need people to come and not be frightened of storms now.  
Minimal threat.  Covering storm was surreal.  
RTA  Building up numbers; backup plan for drivers.  Asking them to be first responders.  
FEMA taking proactive stance re preparedness.  
Gas prices  Ethanol value depends on who you talk to.  
Cable wars  Bellsouth wants to bring digital TV through internet.  Only pay for what you watch.  
Cable has to negotiate with individual markets and pay franchise fees.  Steady source of income for cities.  Internet protocol TV unlimited number of channels.  
Downtown redevelopment  
Strategic hotels and resorts wants to develop complex around Superdome, Jazz Museum, City Hall complex. | Ray Naquin  
Michael Chertoff |
| Congressional appropriation Extra 4.2 billion, plus additional 7 billion to bring levees up to Category 3. Now recovery is funded; recovery is in state hands. Equal with Mississippi housing amounts. Already had a rough ride. Last thing we need is to screw up this housing plan. Still at issue: will FEMA pay to repair sewage/water system. Offshore oil sharing. Population estimates Figure around $200,000. Where is the ticket-buying population living now? Assessor consolidation N.O. business is more the state's business and vice versa. Governor deserves credit for securing funds. Naquin's reelection encouraging for her. Water department problems FEMA helicopters to be withdrawn. Fire department checking supplies. Many problems pre-Katrina. Millions of gallons have been dropped on over 800 fires. Immigration increase Between 40 and 60 thousand migrant workers in N.O. Illegals being pursued. People who were here before are still responsible for most crime. But guarding against Latin gangs. No evidence of them so far. Criminal courts reopen Building still needs repair but getting wheels of justice rolling. Evidence room flooding may be an issue. Chain of custody questions.
Recovery package  So much added, President threatened veto. Went to conference committee, passed and signed. $4.2 billion. LRA taking applications; people should begin receiving by end of summer. War spending also included.


Assessor consolidation  Has passed legislature but still must be voted on by public (part of the state constitution). Court system consolidation passed -- vote not necessary. Will take a long time to implement. Katrina provided impetus for changes -- including state takeover of public schools.

Katrina stress  Federal mental health officials aided right away. PTSD, depression, alcohol abuse. Normally one out of five suffers. Some bipolar going without medications. More likely to end in violence. Cops also stressed. Mental health system collapsed in N.O. No crisis intervention unit since Charity closed. Suicide rate is up. Not confined to poor.

Public housing demolition  HUD has plan to demolish four units. 1930's well-intended idea that never really worked as hoped. St. Thomas replaced by River Gardens complex before Katrina. Mixed use. Social movement nationwide. Poverty attitude increased by poor housing.

NOPD Corruption  Veterans recruited during Pennington era. French Quarter beat particularly tempting. Been going on for 3 years. Push to ensure integrity since Katrina.
<table>
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<tr>
<th>#130</th>
<th>June 23, 2006</th>
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<tr>
<td>Larry Lorenz, moderator</td>
<td>National Guard 300 troops supplementing NO police patrols. Mostly assigned to Gentilly, 9th Ward, Lakeview areas to prevent looting. Volunteers from all over the state. Five murders the catalyst. Open-ended commitment. Joint operations. Rise in crime could have been predicted -- FEMA payments running out, people coming back. The police are the strongest part of the criminal justice system -- in chaos. Police department morale has taken a dip. Admitting they need help. Camaraderie among those who stayed and worked together during the storm.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Errol Laborde, producer</td>
<td>Legislative session Governmental reorganization bills. State has to put up 10% of money spent by FEMA. Put money in emergency support fund to be used for evacuations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Hill, Gannett Newspapers</td>
<td>Corps of Engineers Restructuring Hurricane protection office. What it will take to get us up to 100-year storm protections. Plans to close the MR-GO.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Allen Johnson, freelance journalist</td>
<td>Conventions Librarians the first. 18,000 people. Unfortunately, the National Guard was the big story. 27,000 hotel rooms are open. Cruise ships returning. Conventioneers working on cleaning up city libraries.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rob Masson, WVUE-TV</td>
<td>VA Hospital will be working with LSU to build joint facilities. $625 million from feds for VA portion. So badly needed. Hope to get old University Hospital running by fall. Can state come up with funds to pay its share.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Kathleen Blanco</th>
<th>Jim Letten</th>
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<tr>
<td>Eddie Jordan</td>
<td>Warren Riley</td>
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<td>Col. Jeff Beedy</td>
<td>Walter Boasso</td>
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| #131 | June 30, 2006 | Errol Laborde, moderator/producer  
Alan Johnson, freelance journalist  
Jed Horne, Times-Picayune  
Norman Robinson, WDSU-TV  
Dawn Ostrum, freelance journalist | National Guard tough job.  
Armed, locked and loaded and ready to engage criminals. Timing of the announcement was unfortunate. Five young men who were shot had been terrorizing before. Guard is relief for the police who are overwhelmed. PTSD. Looking for real support.  
85% of mental health professionals have left the area. Breach of Faith to be published in July. Breakdown in communication caused misinformation. Still don't know how many died. Exceedingly malignant for tourism.  
Port As long as uncertainty with MR GO continues, will lose shipping business. This week working 26 ships -- back to more than 100% of pre-Katrina business. Cruise ships returning. Expect to lose 1000 jobs (3-4 businesses) if MR GO closes.  
Criminal Justice System Needs a strong mayor and police chief. Backlog of 6,000 cases. Clerk of Court Morrell believes that many of the cases should be dismissed. No police reports = no probable cause. Shortage of experienced ADAs and public defenders.  
Public Housing N.O. already behind the rest of the nation in tearing down and replacing units with mixed use housing. Katrina just made it worse. Now want to demolish four at once. Where will people who want to return live?  
Good results Activists galvanized by the storm. Remarkable. | Ray Naquin  
Warren Riley  
Eddie Compass  
Eddie Jordan  
Arthur Morrell  
Alfonzo Jackson |
| July 7, 2006 | Errol Laborde, moderator/producer | Plan to come up with plan Several being formulated. LRA, City Council, neighborhood groups, etc. Meanwhile people are rebuilding despite insecurity of city services. Tension between urban planning and property rights. Bill Jefferson's seat Unless charges are bought, no decisions to run against him. Roll of the dice whether to run or not. Will probably be challenged indictment or not. Future of Conventions 2004 the best, 2005 set to be better before Katrina. Convention Center being restored. National Library Convention the first. Real big one National Association of Automobile Dealers in November. Many dates postponed to make sure facilities available. Renee Gill Pratt Used donated cars. Now being returned to charity. Care Unlimited recipient of slush fund money. Raising questions. Breach of Faith Lack of information systems caused fantasy, myth, paranoia, and all kinds of irrational fear. People trying to make messages with hyperbole and irrational situations. Break in 17th Street Canal probably happened much earlier than reported. Huge sense of importance now attached to reliable, accurate information. Evacuations the mayor's purvue; contraflow coordination with state. Internet information Attacking governor and state. Some good ones overseeing state legislative actions. | Ray Naquin | Bill Jefferson | Oliver Thomas | Derrick Shepherd | Karen Carter | Cleo Fields | Renee Gill Pratt | Kathleen Blanco | C.B. Forgotson |
Concerns about Ray Naquin  Has been on a two-month victory tour. Time to get to work. Better at cheerleading than actual administration. Need somebody to be in charge...perhaps Couhig. Meffert makes decisions on his own and Naquin backs him up. Not so much rallying for Naquin as against Landrieu. Sinking Mitch the first shot against Mary. Renee Gill Pratt Damaging to council even though not on council anymore. Impetus to hiring Inspector General.

**Path to Destruction**  Katrina has stirred environmental debate over effects of global warming. Theory that climate change is increasing sea temperatures leading to increase in number and intensity of hurricanes. Other side says weather is cyclical -- 40-70 year period. Still in active scenario. Everybody has to wait and see what happens.

**Future of the arts**  Getting better even though most performing artist have lost their venues. Loyola, Tulane, Convention Center hosting all. No word on reconstruction of large venues. Small spaces are opening. Fewer things to do, so audiences are flocking to what's available.

**Twin span repair**  Money appropriated for future 6-lane bridge. Parish sales taxes up tremendously but northshore parishes don't feel they are getting fair share. More crime coming from southshore. Need more funds for law enforcement and infrastructure.

**Fewer termites**  Silver lining, although in many houses termites may be back before people. Only takes two to make a colony and 5-7 years to put out swarmers.
Homicide charges  Foti has charged Dr. Anna Pou and two nurses of euthanasia at Memorial Medical Center following Katrina. Questions why medical personnel would stay with patients and then euthanize. Autopsies delayed two weeks. Foti passionate about protecting the elderly. No question about whether he believes the charges but does he have the science to back it up?

Health care reform  Want to be flexible enough to change rules so that federal funds can be used to care for uninsured in private hospitals. Charity knocked out of commission. Hospitals also working to maintain teaching aspect for medical students. Not enough beds for psychiatric need. Specialists are leaving town. If Foti's charges stick, many medical professionals say they will never stay during hurricane again.

Drug problems in African-American community  Exacerbate existing problems -- lack of education, dysfunctional families, violence, lack of structure. St. Louis program designed to deal with the situation. We don't have funding sources here.

Red tape preventing business development  Taking 5-6 times longer than pre-Katrina. Incentives available but have to establish businesses before '08. City planning office needs help.

Water leaks  System antiquated before storm. Big problem now. Sewage and Water Board sending out crews and cutting off water for repairs. Businesses want prior warning. Don't know ahead to time.

State elections  Insurance Commissioner and Secretary of State.
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Reporter(s)</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July 28, 2006</td>
<td>Errol Laborde, moderator/producer</td>
<td>100 Day report from the Mayor</td>
<td>Only place city is lagging is sales tax revenue. Need big box retailers. Home Depot will have 3 stores by the end of the year. Losing so much to Jefferson and St. Tammany. Stores are so crowded and congested. Previous objections to big stores have fallen by the wayside. Insurance biggest barrier to investment Allstate threatening to drop wind and hail coverage. Donelon, acting insurance commissioner, disagrees. Running against Cain. LA needs to set up better state insurance of last result. FEMA 11 months after Katrina, people still looking for trailers. 13,000 left to be delivered. Maintenance issues. FEMA a huge operation -- far bigger than expected. Future of medical education Very bright. More students than last year. Back in their buildings. New human simulators. Relationships forged between facilities to ensure good medical education. People choosing to come to N.O. to help with recovery. More offshore drilling royalties Being considered in U.S Congress. Could mean $200 million a year for first few years and $650 subsequently -- money to be devoted to coastal restoration. Public education in N.O. Charter schools, recovery school district operated by the state and the (6) schools of the Orleans Parish School Board. Trying to get students to register in advance. City-wide access schools. Open to every student no matter where they live. Expecting 30,000 students. Parents have to figure out where the children will go. State won't know which schools to open until attendance is determined.</td>
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Crime problem  Most murders per capita even though some criminals have not returned to city. Crime summit may or may not be helpful. Need to know what works/doesn't work. Reforms under Pennington were not institutionalized. Too many different officials with different agendas.

Path of Destruction  Call from Max Mayfield on Saturday before storm asking about building security. Mayor doing good job of asking everyone to leave. Could not have been more clear about telling people to get out.

Offshore royalty  Jindal bill opposed by White House. Senate bill more acceptable. Texas came in to Union as a nation with Spanish 3-league designation; LA purchased and federal government set the law. Leander Perez influenced Earl Long to turn down deal. All receipts for coastal restoration.

Future of hospitals  Lack of mental health beds biggest problem. Tulane expected to be up by end of year. Touro has more staff than pre-Katrina. Ochsner purchased Baptist; will open in fall. Baby boom post-K. More trauma care becoming available at Elmwood. Will be in University Hospital in fall. East Jeff and West Jeff expanding in response to shortage of facilities. Mental patients stand-offs with police.

Migration to Baton Rouge  Better since road construction bottleneck being opened. Still commuting from BR to NO. Lack of housing.

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<tr>
<th>#136</th>
<th>August 11, 2006</th>
<th>Depression and crisis  Greater need and less services. Only 22 psychiatrists in town post-K. American Psychological Assn. report on mental health of first responders. Suicide by cop. Learning how to diagnose and treat in the field. No place to bring them. When you are suicidal, chemicals in brain are misfunctioning. Not 100%. 44% of police are getting help.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Errol Laborde, moderator/producer Tom Gregory, WLAE Producer Kevin Magill, Associated Press Meg Farris, WWL-TV</td>
<td>Turmoil in the Gulf  Trying to get royalties. Closest we have ever come to getting what we should. Also trying to postpone sale of offshore leases. House bill more generous = White House opposition. State proposing that funds be used for coastal restoration. Coastal erosion 25 miles closer to Gulf than we were 40 years ago. If we get the money, do we know what to do with it? Can't wait any longer. Oil industry realizes past mistakes. Much more aware of what they do to wetlands. Katrina has increased awareness nationwide. Wetlands could have slowed surge. Must increase preparedness. State of medical care  Hospitals getting uninsured and under insured patients. Ochsner more involved. Will slowly reopen Memorial. Serious wait in ERs. LSU Health Sciences/West Jeff partnership. Medical research trying to come back. Elections  Jefferson has a fight on his hands. Flap over whether raid on office was legal. Melancon running for re-election. Jindal in good shape.</td>
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Errol Laborde, moderator/producer
John Maginnis, LA Political FAX Weekly
Dawn Ostrum, freelance journalist
Roop Raj, WDSU-TV

Future of Kathleen Blanco Long hard tough year. Approval scores have crept up. Jindal campaigning in areas where he didn't do well before. Blanco deserves a lot of credit for getting fair share of funding for states. Ads from last campaign different in different parts of state.
Future of residential real estate "Pause" Summer traditionally slow. People waiting to see whether hurricanes come and whether basis services are restored. High-end stuff is sitting. Second homes bought by tourists are not moving. Insurance, taxes are increased. Should see a buyers marked soon. No race to buy up properties at this point. When recovery money starts coming in and we make it through this hurricane season unscathed, market should improve. Modular homes.
Fluctuation in population 230,000 in city (half pre-K). Regionally have extra populations. Who's coming back and who's not?
Television market ratings -- before market 42, expected to be market 56 (like Austin).
Elections Congressional 2nd district. 12 challengers against Jefferson. Substantially black district. Insurance Commissioner and Secretary of State.
| #138 | August 25, 2006 | Evolution of Katrina
Tropical Depression 10 and Tropical Depression 12 came together at the Bahamas. Hit Florida, went south and became a concern. Aimed for N.O., hit hot seas in Gulf and became Category 5. Expect storms to make last-minute turn to right. Just didn't go long enough. Friday afternoon/Saturday morning knew we were in trouble. Media coverage
National coverage hysterical. Usually follows local newspaper's lead. When T-P went down on Tuesday, there was no communication. Only knew your own little piece of the storm. National media isolated at the end of Canal Street -- excessively covered Convention Center. Contemporary history
Rumors and facts. Notion of levees being blown up exists with remarkable vigor. "Explosion" could have been barge falling onto pavement. Article of faith that levees were blown up during Betsy. Wildly exaggerated rumors of rampant gunfire. All contributed to picture of N.O. as a place of savagery. Protection
Better off but would still have significant flooding. In Eastern N.O. and St. Bernard higher levees but with a Katrina-like storm would still have some flooding coming over the levees. Is Cat 5 protection really possible? Can be done but will cost billions of dollars. Performance of politicians
Harry Lee
David Vitter
Mary Landrieu
Karl Rove
Bobby Jindal
Charlie Melancon
Bill Jefferson
Kathleen Blanco |
| Errol Laborde, moderator/producer
John Hill, Gannett Newspapers
Mark Schleifstein, Times-Picayune
Jed Horne, Times-Picayune |
Katrina Anniversary  Despite sad stories, good economic news. Michoud awarded contract to develop new Orion spacecraft. Will bring 200 jobs to facility. Anniversary message getting out to the world is that recovery is stalled. Mayor Naquin has become a side-show. A source of juicy quips. Now in New York trying to drum up business. Saints opening game will be a media attraction.

Presidential visit  Democrats here to criticize slowness of federal response. He didn't shy away from bad areas. Polls show low scores for Katrina. Hurt previous Republican attempts to court Black vote. Local anger demonstrated by signs of protest.

Maps showing population trends  Electrical utility accounts. Far fewer except along old historical crescent. Numbers generally corroborate population counts. Discussion of footprint adjustments has been shouted off the table. May lead to Jack-o-lantern pattern.

Tragedy tourism  Will see rebound in tourism numbers will include surge in curiousity about city.

Planning process  Started well but lost funding. Green space concept frightened neighborhoods. Too many plans. Now have unified N.O. plan.


Small business reopening  Local independents have been opening more quickly than national chains. Seem to have taken wait-and-see attitude. Some small retailers are barely holding on. Empty spaces in the Quarter.
| September 8, 2006 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
Roop Raj, WDSU-TV  
Dawn Ostrum, freelance journalist  
Jeff Mietrodt, Times-Picayune | High-profile murder  
Vince Marinello, long-time sports reporter. Paralyzed a lot of Old Metairie. To-do list.  
Chaotic school situation  
53 schools, charter, state recovery and 5 public schools plus private schools. Only half of those enrolled showed up. Why aren't things better? Some schools not ready to be opened. Parochial schools want share of money.  
Methodist Hospital  
Series about what happened there. Some heroic stories. Private individuals.  
Government/Tenant too little too late. Alleged criminal conspiracy. Administrators searched for doctor who would euthanize. Most think they will be unable to get conviction. Sketchy physical evidence. Foti must have been surprised by backlash from public.  
Future of non-profits  
United Way and Catholic Charities. United Way has become hands-on since Katrina. Wants to raise 20 million this year. Generosity of community is amazing. Trying to bring child care agencies back. Catholic Charities concentrating on housing. Big focus for both has been health care, particularly mental health.  
Bring back N.O. Commission  
Recommendations have not been implemented.  
Saints first home game  
Great to have them back. Whole nation wants them to win. Almost sold out season tickets. Good season should do us a world of good. |
|---|---|
| | Vince Marinello  
Buddy Diliberto  
Hap Glaudi  
Mark LeBlanc  
Charles Foti  
Bryan King  
Anna Pou  
Rob Couhig  
Jeffrey Thomas  
Ray Naquin  
Aaron Brooks  
Drew Brees  
Reggie Bush  
Joe Horn |
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<tr>
<th>#141</th>
<th>September 15, 2006</th>
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<tr>
<td>Larry Lorenz, moderator</td>
<td>First 100 days of Naquin's second term</td>
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<tr>
<td>Errol Laborde, producer</td>
<td>Considering the scope and scale of destruction, not that bad.</td>
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<tr>
<td>John Hill, Gannett Newspapers</td>
<td>Quality of life -- crime and sanitation. City has not yet had to tap into $150 million line of credit.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dawn Ostrum, freelance journalist</td>
<td>Welcome home centers in N.O. and journey home centers in other places. Have to be prepared for the long haul.</td>
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<td>Clancy Dubos, Gambit</td>
<td>Need a recovery czar</td>
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Hard to find someone to whom you can give unlimited power. So hard to build consensus with so much diversity. Need a Gen. Honoré.

State elections Secretary of State to replace Fox McKeithen.

Insurance Commissioner to replace Robert Wooley. 13 amendments including levee board consolidation.

Federal City Plan has not disappeared; delayed by Katrina.

Use base slated for closing for other federal purposes. Should start construction in fall 2007. Could be a facility with 1000s of employees.

Lakeview Fest St. Dominic's. Last year was to be the centennial celebration. Having it this year. Huge pile of trash on West End gone. Taking note that we are still here and are coming back.

Movie Industry in N.O. Lift Films and Element Films to have major distribution. Gravitating back. Not necessarily films about N.O. |

| Ray Naquin |
| Rob Couhig |
| Virgina Boulet |
| Tom Watson |
| Fox McKeithen |
| Francis Heitmeier |
| Jay Dardenne |
| Mike Francis |
| Jerry Fowler |
| Robert Wooley |
| Jim Donelon |
| James David Cain |
| #142 September 22, 2006 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Maginnis, LA Political FAX  
Weekly  
Dawn Ostrum, freelance journalist  
Curt Sprang, WGNO-TV | Fulton Street  Center of World's Fair. Now 22 years later, being redeveloped again thanks to Harrah's. Have a nice dinner in restaurants close to Harrah's.  
**Gulf Coast casinos**  Rebuilding money and permission to build inland. Concerns about effects on LA. Benefitted from short-term spike right after Katrina.  
**LA Recovery Authority**  Money to increase tourism. Fall in love with LA all over again. Post-Katrina, have to go out and find new ways to promote N.O. 75% of big conventions returning. More money will depend on measured impact.  
**Future of higher education**  All admissions are down. Cuts made. Depends on neighborhood development as well as national publicity. Programs known nationwide will continue to do well. Universities didn't suffer as much as feared.  
**Insurance Commissioner's race**  Slugfest between Donelon and Cain. Charges going back and forth.  
**Who Dat?**  Eyes of country will be on the Saints. More than 1000 press credentials requested. 68,000+ season tickets sold. Atlanta favored, but who knows what emotion can do. | Todd English  
Emeril Lagasse  
Kathleen Blanco  
Charles Foti  
Jim Donelon  
James David Cain  
Deuce McAllister  
Sean Payton |
| #143 | September 29, 2006 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Hill, Gannett Newspapers  
Dawn Ostrum, freelance journalist  
Steve Majors, NBC News | Saints Perfect Game  
Most exciting thing the mood of the town. Different groups who came together. Perfect construction project in only 9 months. Choreography worked. 850 people working inside and 100 on the roof at one time. For the first time, New Orleans was able to show what New Orleans could do right. An opportunity for the national media to show a very positive story. LA contractors 1) drained the city 2) opened the twin spans 3) the dome. 
Network coverage of city NBC bureau. This story was about what kind of country we want to be. Issues of class and race. The environment. What it takes to rebuild a major American city. Risk of Katrina fatigue. Important for journalists to remind people of stories after the fact. Game the highest rated ever in the history of ESPN. More than just a football game. So much accomplished with that broadcast. Gov. Blanco walked down Bourbon St. after the game. 
Cattle drive  
Commemorating Rita and the cattle lost. $50 million loss. Trail ride in Cameron Parish showed losses. Recovery proceeding slowly. Deep state of mourning for a year. 
Future of hotels  
Looking better though this summer will go down in the books for the worst in history. Year-long trend 50%. Not a beautiful picture yet and will not be back for several years. Damage estimates higher than thought so some repairs not attempted. 
Elections "Contrast advertising" in Insurance Commissioners race. Secretary of State race. Heitmier was leading. | Michael Vick  
Doug Thornton  
Jerry Jones  
Kathleen Blanco |
<p>| Larry Lorenz, moderator | Distribution of federal funds | Haley Barbour |
| Errol Laborde, producer | Impression that Mississippi is getting more for homeowners' grants turns out to be a myth. | Kathleen Blanco |
| John Maginnis, LA Political FAX Weekly | Delays in both places. LA puts more safeguards on distribution -- MS more vulnerable to fraud. | James David Cain |
| Dave Cohen, WWL-Radio | Road Home trying to balance the interests of the community. | Jim Donelon |
| | Because of Haley Barbour, MS did get its funds first. Didn't pass his program through the legislature. 17,000 (MS) vs 120,000 (LA) cases. | Bobby Jindal |
| | Are commercials by Blanco proper use of federal funds? | Mary Landrieu |
| | Population projections LA Recovery Authority figures show that less than 200,000 actually sleeping in NO. More coming in from other places to work. Results questioned by Naquin, among others. He believes more than 200,000 -- looking at Entergy numbers -- people who have had utilities turned on so they can work on houses but aren't actually living in city. | Ray Naquin |
| | Offshore oil revenue Part of energy bill expected to pass. Who will control Congress after the election. | William Jefferson |
| | Garbage collection Can't be fully automated in New Orleans; streets too narrow. Cans to be moved by hand and then picked up and dumped automatically. &quot;Disney-like&quot; services proposal out for bids. Richards and Metro proposal. | Karen Carter |
| | Challengers for Jefferson seat Has not been indicted and does have congressional experience. Money in the freezer is the big stumbling block. Endorsed by Naquin. | Oliver Thomas |
| Judge suspended | Those he released went on to commit other felonies. Metropolitan Crime Commission lobbied for removal by Supreme Court. Very serious. Delayed by the fact that courts were closed down after Katrina. Frustrated by rise in violent crime. Secretary of State election Heitmeir defeated in Orleans. People care about their governor and their sheriff. When they are not on the ballot no motivation to vote. &quot;Chronic voters.&quot; Amendment to combine assessors Attitudes have changed; will probably pass. Goes into effect 2010. Assessors, no matter what the vote, have been charged with reassessing properties. Future of MDs Retention the problem. Future looks bright. 51% reduction of MDS in area. Sufficient supply of primary care physicians. Shortage of psychiatrists, dentists, nurses and medical care for the uninsured. Ochsner fully-staffed and is expanding. Nursing shortage a national problem. Shortage of flights Some conventions (Microsoft) cancelled because not enough flights into N.O. Southwest biggest presence. So many routes. Mystery why realtors could come but Microsoft couldn't. No international flights. State money to help Entergy New Orleans Most bang for their buck. Probably won't alleviate the need for rate increases but may not be as large. Haven't gotten full commitment from insurers. More expensive to restore natural gas. | Judge Elloie Francis Heitmeier Ed Renwick Darren Meyer |
| Murder/Suicide | Nobody saw it coming. Whether Katrina had anything to do with it. Rode out the storm and stayed. Killed and dismembered his girlfriend. Points to problem with mental health facility shortage since storm. Can't get them admitted anywhere -- shortage of mental health beds. Insurance rates rising statewide From 119% in South LA to actual decreases in North LA. Trying to rebuild cash reserves depleted by Katrina. Reinsurers reluctant to do business. Expect rises to continue until time passes without a storm. Homes are not selling because people cannot get insurance. Health care plan More reliance on private facilities to provide health care for the indigent who have always depended on Charity. Ideally plan will provide for everyone regardless of income. Need help from federal government to implement. Eventually there will be another Charity, but in the meantime, plan would depend more on regional clinics and preventative care. Ochsner's plans Have bought three Tenant hospitals with the idea of regional care. Since Katrina, ERs have been inundated. Need access to federal monies for indigent patients. LSU says it's eager to share the load with private hospitals. William Jefferson Went to Democratic state central committee for endorsement. Didn't get it. Karen Carter did. Hollywood South Project to build production facilities/film school in Treme. Recovering from post-Katrina hit. Having post-production facility here represents more dollars for LA. Tax incentives an important part. The Saints Uplifting the community. Favorites nationwide. |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Harry Lee</th>
<th>Reggie Bush</th>
<th>Kathleen Blanco</th>
<th>King Milling</th>
<th>Junior Rodriguez</th>
<th>Mike Foster</th>
<th>Trent Lott</th>
<th>William Jefferson</th>
<th>Karen Carter</th>
<th>Troy Carter</th>
<th>Derrick Shepherd</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Plans to reduce crime</td>
<td>Harry Lee took delegation of civil rights advocates to Boston and New York to learn how to reduce crime proactively. Worked in NY. In Boston, different approach. Aligned with community activists and clerics to support police.</td>
<td>State budget surplus</td>
<td>Increased gambling revenue, personal income taxes and sales tax.</td>
<td>Saints/Hornets not selling suites</td>
<td>Saints tickets sales good, but harder to sell out basketball season. Need local investors.</td>
<td>City Park future</td>
<td>Voodoo Fest will be back, Celebration in the Oaks, rides to open. Reggie Bush started donations to renovate Tad Gormley Stadium. Maintaining the park a major challenge.</td>
<td>Coastal erosion</td>
<td>Lawsuit against Minerals Management settled. Lawsuit about forcing agency to acknowledge there has been damage and to study it. Ways to mitigate it. Filling in MR GO. In 2001, Mike Foster declared war on coastal erosion. Katrina provided intense world-wide education about the problem.</td>
<td>Revival of Central City</td>
</tr>
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</table>
Inspector General  New concept to LA. Reform movement represented by new council. Dicey.

2nd District Race  Polls show 2 out of 3 (who have made up their minds) want someone other than Jefferson. Also looking for reform. Muddy commercials. If indicted and tried, Jefferson would rather be in office.

Romero vs Melancon  Melancon has the edge.

Jindal  Only question how many votes he will win by. Preparing for Governor's race. Putting his name out there.

Budget message  Naquin would like to put city in the lending business -- gap loans for those waiting for Road Home so that they can get started on fixing up their homes. Crime-fighting priority. Barely 1,400 officers so critical need to get new recruits. Residency requirement dropped.

Future of the Port  Cargo levels higher than before Katrina. Cruise business starting to pick up again -- four boats by the end of next year. Want more development along the river. Don't know about container facilities yet. Cruise customers often spend extra days in N.O.

Amendments  Consolidate 7 assessors into one. Undercurrent of fear that assessments will go up. Also have personal connections to individual assessors. Amendment to exempt art from taxes.

Costs of new health plan  LSU has constitutional mandate to provide health care for indigent. Wants new facility. Projected costs a concern.

Streetcars  $43 million to restore red streetcars and buy new buses. St. Charles line is missed; people don't like buses. Replacing electrical system.
| November 10, 2006 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Maginnis, LA Political FAX Weekly  
Dawn Ostrum, freelance journalist | William Jefferson  
Got plurality with 30% of vote. Karen Carter second. Needs to get West Bank support. Carter will get financial support from national Democratic party. Jefferson made case that, despite investigation, he has not been charged. $90,000 in the freezer resonates. National opinion.  
Charlie Melancon big win. Did well through the storm. One assessor Passed easily across the state. People intent on change. Would have voted on it earlier if politicians had not blocked the movement. Tribute to grass-roots politics.  
Future of World Trade Center Lease expired for those who had been trying to develop as a hotel since 1998. New terms will be established, and project put out for bids soon. City-owned. One of the most desirable pieces of property in state/nation. Want lease deal in one year. Not many consular offices in N.O. now.  
Effect of Democratic win on LA Lost some clout in House; gained in Senate. Democratic caucus will be trying to help Landrieu apply a moderate agenda. Coastal restoration, offshore oil royalties priorities. Democrats promised to do more for Katrina relief. Could use a Congressional seat after next census. 2012.  
Winners and Losers  
Winners:  
Bold Political Group, Consolidation.  
Losers: Naquin, spending evening at Jefferson Headquarters, loss of clout, the Jefferson family.  
Jindal Won by 88% and immediately started talking about running for governor. Others: Walter Boasso, John Georges. Vitter wants to get him out of Washington. Blanco has not decided whether or not to run. | William Jefferson  
Karen Carter  
Derrick Shepherd  
Troy Carter  
Harry Lee  
Charlie Melancon  
Craig Romero  
Mary Landrieu  
Ray Naquin  
Walter Boasso  
John Georges  
David Vitter  
Foster Campbell  
Kathleen Blanco |
Congressional election Strategic endorsements going on. Naquin/Derrick Shepherd endorsed Jefferson -- not expected to be there long. Keep options open. May be why Naquin was reelected.

State surplus $800 million more than expected. How to spend it. Citizens Insurance deficit. Tax credits. Pay raise for state employees, most notably for teachers and state employees. Sources -- sales tax spending. Tied to the recovery.

Attracting big-time special events Super Bowl not a possibility until Saints get a long-term deal. 2008 NBA All-Star game. List of about 15 events being worked on. Trouble is having confidence in city's ability to host these events. Bayou Classic and New Orleans Bowl both recurring events. Will get slot machine revenue from Fair Grounds. NO Sports Foundation invaluable.

Fair Grounds Reopening Thankful that track is owned by Churchill Downs; able to open sooner. Plans to upgrade in the works since before Katrina.

NOPD Deficiencies Shortage of personnel. Hard to get accurate statistics. Still operating out of trailers. Don't know how many officers we need if we can't determine crime statistics. Top brass being fired...Capt. Harry Mendoza. Timmy Bayard ("hero of the row boat") reassigned. Jeff Wynne transferred to Police Academy. Transfers increase bad morale.

| #152 December 1, 2006 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Maginnis, LA Political FAX Weekly  
Dawn Ostrum, freelance journalist  
Curt Sprang, WGNO-TV | Population figures  
Louisiana Recovery Authority percentage compared to pre-Katrina -- 90% in Jefferson, 40% in Orleans, 38% in St. Bernard. 66% in entire area. Polls show people satisfied but many want to leave. Several different cities at the same time. Need something to give people a little confidence.  
Congressional election  
Future of the Fair Grounds  
Churches Closing  
St. Francis Cabrini badly damaged. Holy Cross moving to area and needs space where church is located. Delayed for review by Historic Landmark Commission. Archdiocese says it has to go.  
Sugar Mill at Bunkie  
Proposed by Bob Odom. Defeated. State getting involved in a business a new area. Last sugar mill proposal passed easily. Governor did not support.  
Lawyer advertising  
Regulations being strengthened. Trying to access those who might not otherwise trust attorneys. Historically unbecoming a lawyer. Has turned a profession into a business. Free speech issue involved. | Susan Howell  
William Jefferson  
Karen Carter  
Harry Lee  
Spike Lee  
Bob Odom  
John Kennedy  
Don Hines  
Morris Bart  
Abraham Lincoln |
| #153 | December 8, 2006 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
Kevin Magill, Associated Press  
Dawn Ostrum, freelance journalist  
Sabrina Wilson, WVUE-TV | Special Session  Called to determine how to spend $1.6 billion surplus. Rebates, tax cuts, teacher pay raises. Worried about whether these projected revenues will last more than a couple of years. Many think it's too soon to distribute the surplus. Recovery is so uncertain. Next 10 days crucial.  
Recovery czar  Blakely sees things are bad here but can be improved. Has been successful in other locations. Wants to bring all the competing plans together under one umbrella. Irritated by press' question about timelines.  
Future of SPCA  Working on an 11-acre campus setup in Algiers. Three buildings planned. 1. Rescue and care center hopes to be completed by March 2007. 2. Adoption, education and public clinic center. 3. Agility center and doggie daycare.  
Offshore drilling legislation Optimistic that it will pass. $14-20 billion package to fight coastal erosion. Impetus inspired by coming elections.  
Congressional election  Hard to get past $90,000 in the freezer.  
St. Rita's nursing home case  Change of venue to St. Francisville. 35 negligent homicide charges. Manganos argue that patients would have died during evacuation.  
Vince Marinello case  Minor celebrity. Interesting story. No money to pay an attorney. Evidence seems convincing. May be a call for change of venue as well. | Kathleen Blanco  
Don Hines  
Ed Blakely  
Laura Moloney  
Patricia Clarkson  
Bobby Jindal  
Mary Landrieu  
William Jefferson  
Karen Carter  
Harry Lee  
Sal and Mabel Mangano  
Jerome Winsberg  
Vince Marinello |
| December 15, 2006 | Larry Lorenz, moderator | Congressional Election  Jefferson victory a surprise to everyone. Second thoughts about a more direct challenge to Jefferson. The assumption that he will not be around in two years. A lot of conservatives simply stayed home. | William Jefferson |
| Errol Laborde, producer |  | Canal Street Theater District Horizon initiative to take private investors and civic leaders to make a plan to rejuvenate the city with an entertainment district. Go Zone money will only be available for a short time. | Karen Carter |
| Dawn Ostrom, freelance journalist |  | Hornets return Shinn to Oklahoma City press he is coming back to N.O. The right thing to do. Looking for minority investors. Connection between performance on the court and attendance. Paul and Bush may be rookies of the year. | Derrick Shepherd |
| Roop Raj, WDSU-TV |  | Failed Special Session Didn't get the pay raises, highway instruction. Walked into a trap. Didn't realize that it would take a two-thirds vote of the legislature to spend too much money too fast. Limited by constitution. Senate majority leader Hinds withdrew support (payback for failed sugar deal in Bunkie.) Disorganization and failure to communicate. | Harry Lee |
|  |  | Demolition in St. Bernard Blighted houses not worked on in 16 months. LRA is not helping anyone very much. Great delay. Serious problem with drugs. Organization and sense of community have not been re-established. | Roger Wilson |
|  |  |  | George Wentz |
|  |  |  | Brad Pitt |
|  |  |  | George Shinn |
|  |  |  | Chris Paul |
|  |  |  | Reggie Bush |
|  |  |  | Kathleen Blanco |
| December 22, 2006 | Flooding First since Katrina. Power outage at 17th Street Canal pump station. Several dozen homes and cars. Silt still remaining in pipes. Residual damage to system. Billions of dollars of infrastructure repairs needed. Numerous plans Supposed to funnel down into unified plan. FEMA started planning right after the form. Bring New Orleans Back Commission had 7 subcommittees. Land use got most press. Controversy about which neighborhoods should be rebuilt first. Council plan for neighborhoods (46). Each had individual plan. Unified NO Plan to release draft in January. Total cost $8-12 billion. Failure of temporary session Must have two-thirds to authorize spending more than spending cap. Blocked by Republicans and many Democrats (who wanted to be consulted). Hotel situation Good for those up and running. Fewer rooms= higher rates. Occupancy 12% lower than pre-Katrina. Opening of Harrah's hotel (450 rooms). Will still be using rooms in other hotels as well. Fairmont future unsure. Hyatt's 1,200 rooms not reopened. Morial associates charged Huge contract with Johnson Controls negotiated at end of Morial administration. Has cost the city more than it has saved. Election prospects Blanco counting on Road Home and distributing largesse. Jindal the wide-open front runner a year out. | Joe Cannizzaro Ray Naquin Ray Manning Paul Lambert Kathleen Blanco Mike Foster Mark Morial Terry Songy Stan "Pampy" Barre Glenn Haydel Jim Letten Reginald Walker Julius Lipps Bobby Jindal Walter Boasso John Georges |
| #156  
| December 29, 2006  
| Year-end show  
| Errol Laborde, producer  
| Kathy Finn, freelance business journalist  
| John Maginnis, LA Political FAX Weekly  
| Rob Masson, WVUE-TV  
| Marcia Kavanaugh, freelance journalist  
| Political  
| 5. Insurance  
| 4. Offshore revenue sharing  
| 3. Bill Jefferson investigation/re-election  
| 2. Re-election of Ray Naquin  
| N.O. Vote about half of pre-Katrina  
| 1. Road Home start and stall.  
| Business  
| 1. Slow pace of recovery. Should have taken advantage of good will.  
| 2. Port comeback fast. Impact of closing of MR GO still to be seen.  
| 3. Health care dynamics in flux.  
| 4. Grand proposal by outside corporation -- Hyatt Regency. $700,000.  
| 5. Dwindling of large corporations in N.O.  
| Recovery  
| 1. Parishes and parks. Jefferson and St. Tammany. River sliver of N.O.  
| 2. Trash - debris mountain and trash piles are disappearing.  
| 3. Power and water -- being supplied despite need for repairs.  
| 4. Tourism. Airport and Superdome open.  
| 5. Health care.  
| 6. Court systems are home.  
| 7. Spirit of the people of the community. Still sad but laughing.  
| Individuals  
| 5. John Alario knows how to get things done in the Legislature.  
| 3. Jimmy Delery working with national media to get things right.  
| 2. Steven Singer taken over IDP in courts.  
| 1. Paul Tagliabue provided leadership in keeping the Saints here.  
| Wow factors  
| 5. Increased national media awareness.  
| 4. Restaurants  
| 2. Naquin Chocolate City comments.  
| 1. The Saints' first Monday night game. One of the city's greatest days.  
| Predictions  
| Riverfront plan.  
| More-partisan driven elections. Slow but steady progress on road to recovery. Allen Toussaint will win the Grammy.  
| Bill Jefferson  
| Ray Naquin  
| Al Ater  
| Kathleen Blanco  
| John Alario  
| Warren Riley  
| Jimmy Delery  
| Harry Anderson  
| Paul Tagliabue  
<p>| Allen Toussaint |</p>
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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>January 5, 2007</td>
<td>Errol Laborde, producer Norman Robinson, WDSU-TV Mike Perlstein, freelance journalist Dawn Ostrum, freelance journalist</td>
<td>Danziger Bridge shooting Six shot; cops cheering. People claim to be innocent. Details sketchy. Communications bad. Discrepancy about what was said. Police on edge and under seige. Widespread panic and emotional meltdown. Gunshots in the distance constantly. Some signaling for help. Effect of closing MR GO on businesses Those depending on deep water shipping are suffering. Having to truck cargo to the wharf. New Orleans Cold Storage and others located because of MR GO presence. Also France Road Container Facility. Container business suffering. From a business perspective MR GO made sense. Crime What happened to institutional reforms adopted under Morial/Pennington. Actually driven by individual leadership. No national search when Compass and Riley were appointed. Important to follow a reform chief with another. Compass a street cop who got rid of reforms in favor of his buddies. Still have COMSTAT. Some challenges to public integrity even before Katrina. Status of recovery Depends on where you were -- wet or dry. Some say mayor has become irrelevant. Road Home program cumbersome. Red tape and crime keeping people from coming home.</td>
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<td>March against crime</td>
<td>Many felt victimized by the leadership. Katrina gave us a clean slate but missed the opportunity to get ahead of the crime curve. Witnesses not called back, victims of police brutality. Afraid of the thugs and the police. Community relations problem. Not a lot of confidence in NOPD. Arming themselves. Now a much smaller area; gangs and turfs overlap. Business efforts to control crime consolidation won't help. Shutting down the lakefront at night. Police disjointed -- lack of communication. Same old tired cliches Difference in education may eventually make a difference in crime. The power of the people is in the ballot box but haven't make changes. Obstruction to tourism and to those who would like to return. Fixing it at the neighborhood level. Communication the key. Saints in the playoffs The Eagles.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Larry Lorenz, moderator</td>
<td>Errol Laborde, producer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Michael Perlstein, freelance journalist</td>
<td>Dawn Ostrum, freelance journalist</td>
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<td>Alan Johnson, freelance journalist</td>
<td>Eddie Compass</td>
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<td>Warren Riley</td>
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<td>Marc Morial</td>
<td>Richard Pennington</td>
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<td>Eddie Jordan</td>
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**January 19, 2007**

**Larry Lorenz, moderator**
**Errol Laborde, producer**
**John Maginnis, LA Political FAX**
**Dawn Ostrum**
**Kathy Finn**

**Guilty pleas** Stan "Pampy" Barre, Reggie Walker, Kerry DeKay. Would have been a trial of the Morial administration. Robert Tucker, Roy Rodney. Receiving money for essentially doing nothing. A lot depends on what those pleading guilty have to say.

**Saints vs Bears** Odds make Saints 3-point favorites but snow is forecast.

**Lakeview recovery** Slowly coming back. A lot of action. Number of demolitions are encouraging. Oddly it looks cleaner (and better) than with ruins present. Largest need a grocery store. Robert Fresh Market has begun preliminary work. Restaurants returning.

**Insurance companies** Many complaints. Now companies have their own plans to make situation better. Proposals to get rid of Insurance Rating Commission and to set different deductibles in different areas. "Want to beat 'em up but don't want 'em to read."

**Future of Audubon Institute** Facilities are up and running -- only problem lack of tourists. Insectarium opening date flexible. Sea lion exhibit still closed -- return in May. Aquarium new exhibit open. "Hurricane on the Bayou" opening nationwide. Nature Center significantly damaged; taking wait and see approach. Sticking with breeding research on West Bank.

**Polls** Road Home killing the governor. Dems hope she will step aside.

**Marc Morial**
**Stan "Pampy" Barre**
**Reggie Walker**
**Kerry DeKay**
**Robert Tucker**
**Roy Rodney**
**Glenn Haydel**
**Mark Robert**
**Kathleen Blanco**
**Bobby Jindal**
**Foster Campbell**
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<tr>
<th>Larry Lorenz, moderator</th>
<th>Federal agent assistance</th>
<th>James Bernazzani</th>
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<td>Errol Laborde, producer</td>
<td>FBI, ATF, DEA agents to help with personnel and technical assistance. Deploying personnel to go after those who have been targeted. Gun charges, drug running, long history of violent offenses. Crime lab procedures to ease the reliance on witnesses who may or may not testify. Intimidation problem.</td>
<td>Jim Letten</td>
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<td>Jed Horne, Times-Picayune</td>
<td>Unified New Orleans Plan In draft form has been submitted to panel. Flood protection/neighborhood stabilization. Planning areas based on population and flood risk. Incentives to elevate properties. Secondary flood protection. Cluster concept. Plan approval process. From panel to neighborhood groups to City Council. Mayor hopes to sign off on it in March.</td>
<td>Kathleen Blanco</td>
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<td>Norman Robinson, WDSU-TV</td>
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<td>George W. Bush</td>
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<td>Marcia Kavanaugh, freelance journalist</td>
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<td>Andrew Card</td>
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<td>Haley Barbour</td>
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<td>Michael Brown</td>
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<td>Donald Powell</td>
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<td>Bobby Jindal</td>
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**Breach of Faith**  What happened between Blanco and Bush? Whether to federalize the national guard. Pressure brought to bear. Haley Barbour not asked. Senate hearings revealed that there wouldn't have been any advantage to the state if it had been done. Biggest evidence of partisanship was initial distribution of money between LA and Miss. Donald Powel made things right. Governor Jindal announcement. Different now because he's older and has experience. **Property tax increases** Some haven't claimed homestead exemptions. New homeowners paying much more than neighbors. Not assessed properly in the past. Under the new system, new assessments will be made in the next two years. **Playoff game in Chicago** Ugly fans. Wait 'til next year. Hornets back in town.
<p>| #161 | Larry Lorenz, moderator | Senators looking at recovery | Barack Obama |
| #161 | Errol Laborde, producer | Republican administrators questioned about slowness of recovery by Democratic majority. | Joe Lieberman |
| #161 | John Hill, Gannett Newspapers | Committed to recovery for decade. Obama pinned Powell about favorite treatment for Mississippi. | Mary Landrieu |
| #161 | Dawn Ostrum, freelance journalist | Federal officials all trying to blame locals -- senators not buying it. Understanding and reassurance. Didn't let LRA off hook about slowness of Road Home. | David Vitter |
| #161 | Kathy Finn, freelance business journalist | Cox vs WWL-TV  Cox will show Super Bowl in high definition and continue to carry WWL and channel 15 until end of February. Contract actually expired the end of 2006. Analogue signal will end in 2009. Options -- must carry or demand compensation and negotiate with cable company. Cable company has the option. Sweeps not a bargaining tool since ratings have not been calculated since Katrina. | Donald Powell |
| #161 | | Dr. Anna Pou case  Coroner says no evidence of homicide. Will DA take case to grand jury and if so, how will they rule? Public sentiment on her side. | Hunt Downer |
| #161 | | Future of restaurants  Business and tourists slowly but surely coming back. Shortage of staff. Roughly 40,200 employees in restaurant industry in city. Having to turn away some business and continue reduced hours. Hope to come up to 98% of before-Katrina in 2008. Drago's opening new location. Neighborhood restaurants doing very well. Jefferson Parish needs more. | Anna Pou |
| #161 | | Governor's race  More than Jindal-Blanco. Will file financial statements in Feb. | Eddie Jordan |
| #161 | | | Tommy Cvitanovich |
| #161 | | | Kathleen Blanco |
| #161 | | | Bobby Jindal |
| #161 | | | John Georges |
| #161 | | | Walter Boasso |
| #161 | | | Foster Campbell |
| #161 | | | Jim Bernhard |</p>
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| February 9, 2007 | Larry Lorenz, Errol Laborde, Curt Sprang, Sabrina Wilson, Alan Johnson | **Mayor's description of city** At a tipping point; many depressed and apathetic. Mental health professionals are seeing it too. Concerned about crime, people stay home. Separated from support groups. People looking to mayor for answers. Issues with FEMA. National press not helping. Best leadership coming from neighborhoods.  
**Need for better image** Tourism industry officials fighting a battle against crime coverage, etc. New campaign to cover 20 major media markets and speak for a bigger picture representation. Slightest thing becomes a major story. Amplified. Carnival season will help -- if nobody gets shot.  
**Effects on children** Bad situations have been made worse. Have problems getting into school on a timely basis. Special school for evacuees in Houston. Tested and dealt with PTSD. Not dealing with it in NO. Friction resulting from merging of school districts. Shortage of positive activities for children -- need trained people to work with them to come through this positively.  
**New airline** Express Jet starting in May with nonstops. Not a hub - origin and destination stop.  
**Archbishop Hannan school furor** Upset to be on temporary campus at Abbey. No cafeteria, science lab, library or gymnasium. Realize the new buildings will take time, but in the meantime want better quality. Originally considered no school. Principal threatening to quit.  
**Crime-fighting** Mayor's pledge to concentrate on solutions to crime problems. Local websites being established. NOPD has site. nocrimecommunity.com to be modeled on Chicago site. |
Tornadoes Carrolton and Claiborne. No panic, people generally dazed. Near Corps of Engineers headquarters on Leake. About 50 homes damaged uptown. One in Ponchartrain Park. No comparison to Katrina. FEMA crews there within two hours picking up debris. Freight train sound.

Crime Marches on City Hall 10 years apart -- Louisiana Pizza Kitchen killings in Quarter. Helen Hill, filmmaker in Marigny sparked latest march. 2000 murdered between those two marches. Can't get involved and marched only once every 10 years. People need to be fed up all the time. DA and police chief not seeing eye-to-eye. Perception is reality. People and businesses on the fence about whether to stay or go. No plan behind demonstration -- just venting. A lot of talk but not a lot of action.

Federal forces On the scene of crimes. 25 new agents and attorneys through FBI and DEA. Letten's 90% conviction rate. Almost like Iraqui peacekeepers. Can't do it all themselves.

Future of Municipal Auditorium and Theater of Performing Arts Nothing has been done. SMG previous managers offered to front funds for repairs after the storm. Mayor fired SMG. Performing arts groups hopscotching around the city to various venues. Third FEMA team has final architectural plans. Guess both buildings will be up and running by next January (2008). Low priority. Have to restore criminal justice first.

Mardi Gras Still under the cloud of Katrina. No place like Auditorium for balls. Press couldn't get here because of lack of flights. Possibility of last-minute regional travel.
| #164 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Maginnis, LA Political FAX Weekly  
Kathy Finn, freelance business writer | Mayor's remarks at Mardi Gras  
Mahalia Jackson comes first; Municipal Auditorium has a wall problem. Fighting with FEMA re-funding. Endymion should be able to return to Canal St. next year. Message to expatriates is "we need you." Tourism good. Sales tax collection about 80%. Health services Will be a new hospital in NO; released money to buy property and submit plans in tandem with V.A. Vitter wants small trauma facility. LSU wants large facility with med school. Want feds to reimburse hospitals for charity medical care. Size of hospital may guide future health care reform. Nationwide trend towards more primary care clinics, less emergency rooms. Bringing small business back Gulf Opportunity Zone program. Tax-based -- doesn't do a lot for start-ups. Formations up 18% in the year after the storm. JEDCO issued occupational licenses to 4000. Finding help through business development centers. Insurance a major hurdle. Also the labor shortage related to affordable housing shortage. Categories -- about 25% having to do with construction. John Breaux for governor The sad state of Blanco's approval ratings. Might run if she doesn't. Not a registered voter in LA and only owns an unimproved lot in Crowley. Courts would have to determine eligibility. Capital One Hibernia acquired primarily for Texas holdings. Headquarters will probably not stay here. Mardi Gras Great success. Ripple effect will attract more for future Mardi Gras. Something we needed. Restaurants and businesses happy. Quarter clean -- thanks to SDT. | Ray Naquin  
Ed Blakely  
Kathleen Blanco  
David Vitter  
Mark Drennan  
John Breaux  
Bobby Jindal  
Charlie Melancon  
Mitch Landrieu  
Foster Campbell  
Herb Boylston |
| #165 | March 2, 2007 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
Roop Raj, WDSU-TV  
Dawn Ostrum, freelance journalist  
Rob Masson, WVUE-TV |
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<td>Road Home</td>
<td>2,268 closings short of their goal. ICF press release congratulating themselves. People who have received funds are happy though they wish it had happened faster.</td>
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<td>Bush visit Promised more money. Frustration about the lack of more Road Home progress. Building coalitions. $110 billion approved for Gulf Coast. Well-received at Green Charter School. No addressing of 10% funds state has to match for FEMA payments.</td>
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<td>Image of New Orleans Frustration with national media. NBA talking about how dangerous it will be to have all-star game here. Mardi Gras a good time for image. Visitors Bureau contracted with NY company for campaign.</td>
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<td>Hotels Mardi Gras a positive time, 31,000 rooms filled. Pool getting larger -- just have to get people to come back to town. Year will end at 55-60% occupancy. Leisure tourist has not returned yet.</td>
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<td>Danziger Bridge Motion to quash indictments based on promised immunity. Studying evidence and statements. DA insists he did everything by the book.</td>
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<td>Clean French Quarter SDT.</td>
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<td>Sidney Torres, former real estate developer, has passion for city and determined to clean it up. Huge difference. Taking that extra step. 80 people. Torres on the side of a truck after Mardi Gras. Had trucks waiting after each parade. Richards picking up in neighborhoods on a regular schedule but leaving droppings behind.</td>
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| | George W. Bush  
David Stern  
Eddie Jordan  
Warren Riley  
Judge Raymond Bigelow  
Sidney Torres  
Lenny Kravitz |
| #166 | Errol Laborde, producer  
March 9, 2007  
Kathy Finn, freelance business writer  
Mark Schleifstein, Times-Picayune  
Dawn Ostrum, freelance journalist | Coastal erosion  Projects have to start within the next 10 years.  
Will be getting $20 million a year from offshore oil revenue to 2017 -- after that $680 million a year.  
Not really enough to start major projects. Up until now money has been the real issue. How to rebuild end of Mississippi River to create huge diversion. Mining river for sediments to pump out and build wetlands. Gov. wants to use tobacco settlement money. $25 billion. Should be national priority.  
Damages to businesses by Katrina  GNO area seriously affected by storm. Still down 27% overall -- 68% in St. Bernard. Significant growth in Jefferson. As of January '07, employment up 8.5% since January '06.  
New projects  New I-10 twin spans being built. Will have 3 lanes in each direction with large shoulders on either side. Funded by feds. Largest public works project ever. Much more secure. Huey P. Long to be completed in 2012. $700 million.  
Global warming  Attempts to link to Katrina. When storm goes over patch of warmer water, not caused by global warming. Since 1995 in a period of more frequent hurricanes -- Katrina the biggest year. Last year El Nino effect blew tops of the clouds which would become hurricanes. Natural cycle occurs every 40 years or so. It's not going to stop -- some say because of global warming.  
Cable controversy  Resolved with WWL. Terms not announced. Still negotiating with WDSU. ESPN demanded an arm and a leg -- but cost for all the cable companies. |
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<tr>
<th>#167</th>
<th>March 16, 2007</th>
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<tr>
<td>Larry Lorenz, moderator</td>
<td><strong>Defective pumps</strong> Memo from May '06 saying pumps were defective and would only operate for 2-3 hours. Have to reinstall 40 citywide. Pumps supplied by associates of Jeb Bush. Knew they were defective but had to have them for last season. Could only pump out 40% of amount necessary. After hurricane season sent the pumps back and had them reworked.</td>
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<td>Rob Masson, WVUE-TV</td>
<td><strong>Governor's job security</strong> Retreating from definite plan to run. Poll data shows she doesn't have a chance but John Breaux might beat Bobby Jindal. Constitution doesn't say he has to be a resident. &quot;Citizen of this state for 5 years.&quot; What does that mean? State Republicans hitting issue hard in ads.</td>
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<td>John Hill, Gannett Newspapers</td>
<td><strong>City in Crisis</strong> According to Jim Letten. Federal agents on the streets arresting criminals. 46 since January. Problems since before Katrina have been exacerbated with no improvement. Additional federal agents, special investigators and U.S. attorneys. Community activists trying to get involved.</td>
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<td>Dawn Ostrum, freelance journalist</td>
<td><strong>The health of Ochsner</strong> When will Baptist campus reopen? Still in the planning stages. Kenner Regional and Meadowcrest are open. Medical student match day - - Ochsner filled all 50 positions. Tulane and LSU filled as well. Majority of people who train here stay here. About 50% from out of state. University Hospital's new ER much more sophisticated.</td>
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<td>Alan Johnson, freelance journalist</td>
<td><strong>Celebrity-watching</strong> Characteristic indifference in the French Quarter. Paparazzi annoying -- protective of Brad and Angelina. Press coverage good news. City is not wet.</td>
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<td>Kathleen Blanco</td>
<td>Mary Landrieu</td>
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<td>Jeb Bush</td>
<td>John Breaux</td>
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<td>Bobby Jindal</td>
<td>Jim Letten</td>
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<td>Peter Sharp</td>
<td>Warren Riley</td>
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<td>Jim Bernazzani</td>
<td>James Carter</td>
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<td>Brad Pitt</td>
<td>Angelina Jolie</td>
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March 23, 2007
Larry Lorenz, moderator
Errol Laborde, producer
Clancy Dubos, Gambit
Dawn Ostrum, freelance journalist
Norman Robinson, WDSU-TV

Blanco's not running Katrina and Rita and resulting circumstances were too much for any governor. Poor and black citizens most affected her voter base. So concerned about making Road Home squeaky clean. Not a good speaker. Bad time for incumbents. Expect lower African-American turnout. Next step is whether Breaux with run. Needs to make decision soon. "Lame duck" relationship with Legislature. She is free to take the high road. Unfair to write her legacy now.

Naquin's foot-in-mouth
Videotape of speech to African-American group. Trying to play to his crowd while not being offensive to others. "They" in context used implied either the Bush administration or the other whites trying to keep blacks out. Class issues rather than racial.

District #94 election Jeb Bruneaux in runoff with Nick Lorusso. Bruneaux plan failed.

State of public transportation Slowly expanding. People want green streetcars on St. Charles/red streetcars on Canal. St. Charles line not scheduled to reopen until spring '08. Red streetcars flooded so all need repairs. Carrollton spur to be expanded for Jazz Fest. LA Swift line between N.O. and B.R. to expire end of June.

Road Home Friction between state and federal governments. Environmental study requirement. How to make certain people will rebuild/not rip off mortgage companies by getting lump sum payments. Program in shambles.

St. Patrick's Day parade 60th Anniversary in Irish Channel. Political tradition -- anybody running or in office. May not bring you votes but if you skip it, it could cost you votes.
| **#169** March 30, 2007 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Maginnis, LA Political FAX Weekly  
Dawn Ostrum, freelance journalist  
Marcia Kavanaugh, freelance reporter | City Hall Plan Targeting 17 development districts -- consolidation of other plans.  
Rebuild, redevelop, renew. 15-year timeline -- $1.1 billion from FEMA, CDBG, bonds, waiver of 10% match, blight bonds (monies earned from blighted properties taken or purchased).  
Concentration on economic corridors, clusters. No patience for bickering.  
**John Breaux** Should have gotten assurances from Attorney General Foti before announcing. Will probably end up in court but can't happen until qualifying in September. Foti needs to say something soon.  
**Pro Sports** Commitment until 2010 from Saints this week. Let the next governor deal with it. Hornets have gotten sponsors but no local minority investors nor practice facility. Can't get Super Bowl until Saints have a long-term deal.  
**I-10 construction** One project after another for a long time. Widened to 4 lanes in each direction to the Veterans exit. Bonnabel entrance to I-10 West raised over Causeway.  
**Cruise lines** Before Katrina, highest growth in nation. Now only one Carnival ship. Royal Carribean leaving. Ships are full out of New Orleans but not making much profit. Industry troubled. | Ed Blakely  
Don Powell  
John Breaux  
Charles Foti  
Mitch Landrieu  
George Shinn  
Bob Odom  
Mike Strain  
Wayne Carter  
Buddy Caldwell  
Dr. Anna Pou |
Larry Lorenz, moderator
Errol Laborde, producer
John Hill, Gannett Newspapers
Kathy Finn, New Orleans Magazine
Mike Perlstein

**John Breaux Candidacy**
Organizing campaign team. 1000s of hours of legal research about "citizen." Foti will probably punt. When would challenge take place? Before or after qualifying? Centrist and native son of Acadiana. Have to accept qualifying papers. Secretary of State's office cannot deny.

**Mid-City shopping development**
Target Store part of proposal. Largely residential neighborhood stirred by prospect of "big box" development. Shelley Midura councilwomen.

**Eddie Jordan looking for reversal of court discrimination suit**
Office decimated by mass firings and by Katrina. Jefferson's staff had a hand in determining firing/hiring. Jordan must reach out to work hand-in-hand with other agents of the criminal justice system. Use of a gun can give feds right to charge and prosecute.

**Airport upgrade**
Business travelers increasing -- 37% in December vs. 22% in 2003. Convention travelers down. Leisure travel about the same. Business picking up slowly. Capacity still down but more of the planes are full when flying out of N.O. Southwest not back to full capacity.

**State's role in N.O. schools**
Took over already-failing. Only 13 left for School Board. Recovery District operated by State Department of Education. Grades pushed up higher so that students can be promoted. What matters is standardized test scores.

**Effect of Katrina on religions**
Jewish congregations not back to normal. Catholic churches have combined. Small churches in 9th Ward abandoned. Spritual side of N.O. not lessened in any way.
Foti’s decision  Let the courts decide whether Breaux is eligible to be governor. Republicans may experience backlash.

Blakely remarks  Playing tiddlewinks with population figures before Katrina. Weary. Came to the game 17 months late. Sunnis, Shiites and buffoons. Not accustomed to political games in N.O. and L.A. Thought he would be the authority to establish LRA money. Goes against the recovery effort. Amalgamation of people out trying to do the right thing.

Mendicant mentality  Congressional hearing begging for funds to fight crime. Activist groups not represented. No evidence-based solutions offered. The root of our problems -- no concrete plans. Tourism city chiefs have two scripts -- one dire, one not so bad.

Deacon John’s son murdered

Future of libraries  Six libraries open -- also bookmobiles. Getting help from Gates Foundation. Have gotten too many books. Six more locations opening soon.

French Quarter Festival  People from nearby locations booking hotel rooms. All indications point toward success. Cleanup the big deal. Perfuming Bourbon Street. McDonough 15 has become a charter school.

Campaign finance laws  Who violates? Mostly for missing deadlines. Reports can tell you a lot. Inspector General to be hired. Will help keep track.

Broadway South  N.O. a festive city. Even grownups love life. Tax incentives for bringing plays to N.O. Saenger the venue. Legislature will vote in April. Must repair Saenger as well as other performing arts venues in N.O.
Governor's race Republicans happy; chased out John Breaux. Even if got a declaratory judgement could still be sued by any citizen. Breaux flirted with idea for two months. Leaves Foster Campbell the front-running Dem. Harry Lee's illness Leukemia. Still planning to run for Sheriff. Supporting Aaron Broussard. Despite actions during the storm, has strong support.

Public defender's office shortage Don't have enough attorneys to support all defendants. Cases stalled. Don't have enough money to get enough lawyers. Most drug possession and some sexual assault -- most non-violent.

Conditions of the Warehouse District Fulton Street area abuzz with activity. Section near the bridge is starting to come back. D-Day Museum developing properties. Mayor changes. City working on improving sidewalks, putting utilities underground, making the Museum District more attractive. Residential properties being bought as primary residences.

"Not Ready for Prime Time" Study by the Public Affairs Research Center and Rockefeller Foundation of Gulf Coast. N.O. problems lack of housing; efforts being led by individuals and business, not government. Plans not well put together.

Campus shootings Reaction to Virginia Tech. LSU students feel safer than Tulane students. Environmental?
| #173  | April 27, 2007 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
Coleman Warner, Times-Picayune  
Dawn Ostrum, freelance journalist  
Sabrina Wilson, WGNO-TV | Party change Walter Boasso from Republican to Democrat. Some never vote for Republicans -- family tradition. Boasso, a reformer from St. Bernard Parish. Levee board consolidation. Despite open elections, party means a lot. Recovery Lakeview and Gentilly beginning to recover. Resilience, despite numerous obstacles. Spotty recovery. Those hardest hit will be slower to recover. Some signs of business coming back on Harrison Ave. Gentilly at first glance appalling, but 95% of houses have been gutted. Mental health care Before Katrina 250 beds available; now only 20 and a lack of mental health care professionals. Incentives to attract psychiatrists being developed by state. NORD $60 million damage. Down to 30 employees (were 230). Volunteers helping to refurbish playgrounds. Help is on the way. 33 out of 130 playgrounds open. Plan to serve 2,000 kids this summer and to get 9 pools open. City helping find the resources to make a difference. Road Home Making some progress; still a tiny fraction of the whole. Confusion and anger. Penalties if the company fails to meet certain benchmarks. Legislature Blanco relieved from campaigning planning mega-education proposals. Jazz Fest Image-building. Landrieu speaking to foreign journalists. Problems finding affordable flights. Forum for different musical genres. | Bobby Jindal  
Kathleen Blanco  
Walter Boasso  
Arnold Fielkow  
Mitch Landrieu |
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<tr>
<th>#174</th>
<th>May 4, 2007</th>
<th>Larry Lorenz, moderator</th>
<th>Errol Laborde, producer</th>
<th>Rob Masson, WVUE-TV</th>
<th>Dawn Ostrum, freelance journalist</th>
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<td>Evacuation plans</td>
<td>In much better shape but worried about the West Bank. Lulled into false sense of security, but flood control still being improved. Please call 311 if no transportation. Contracts for 700 buses on standby.</td>
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<td>Road Home</td>
<td>Getting far more applications than projected. Better definition of who should apply. Projected shortfall. Insurance companies have not paid what they should. Gov. confident that situation will improve.</td>
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<td>Education</td>
<td>New superintendent for recovery school district. Past experience in Chicago and Philadelphia. Educational improvement track record. 22 regular schools, 17 charter schools in district. Orleans Parish School Board operates 5 schools. Once recovery schools start achieving certain standards will revert to Orleans. Vallas will stay as long as five years.</td>
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<td>Street Improvements</td>
<td>Have to consider how many miles total and of those how many were seriously damaged by storms. Direct and apparent damage first, direct and not apparent damage may take as long as 10 years. Pot-hole killer has fixed 26,000 so far this year. Street light repairs.</td>
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<td>Population</td>
<td>Slowly but surely improving. Hardest hit areas showing greatest growth. Developing confidence in city.</td>
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<td>Ycloskey</td>
<td>Outside the levees in St. Bernard Parish almost wiped out. Charter boat fishing business has been good. Fish brought closer by Katrina.</td>
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<td>Terry Ebbert</td>
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<td>Kathleen Blanco</td>
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<td>Donald Powell</td>
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<td>Bobby Jindal</td>
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<td>Paul Vallas</td>
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<td>Paul Pastorek</td>
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<td>Mary Landrieu</td>
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<td>Phyllis Landrieu</td>
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<td>Roger Wilson</td>
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<td>May 11, 2007</td>
<td>Errol Laborde, producer Patrick Evans, WVUE-TV Ed Renwick, WWL-TV Dawn Ostrum, freelance journalist Alan Johnson, freelance journalist</td>
<td>Surveys  If things don't improve in the next 5 years, 60% will consider leaving. Want less crime, better quality of life. Over 60 more likely to stay. Don't think levees are being improved sufficiently. Harry Lee and Kevin Davis best-liked. Get things done. Low ratings for President Bush, Aaron Broussard, Warren Riley, Gov. Blanco, Naquin, Eddie Jordan. DA's office progress  Drop in those released after 60 days because they were not charged. Cooperation with police. More cases being accepted for prosecution. Career criminal track. Legislature  Insurance and Road Home bogging down recovery. So much frustration there is a need to appear to be doing something. Were too many restrictions in place to make Road Home work. Graffiti  Improving thanks to Operation Clean Sweep and Fred Rathke. Neighborhood organizations helping him. Free paint from Sherwin Williams to match French Quarter colors. Not just gray. Competition among taggers. Police strategy  Trying to take primary responsibility for safety. Want to phase out National Guard and federal agents but are not ready yet. Less than 1,000 police on the street. Insurance  Citizens the insurer of last resort. By law rates must be higher than commercial providers.</td>
<td>Susan Howell Kathleen Blanco Harry Lee Kevin Davis George Bush Aaron Broussard Warren Riley Ray Naquin Eddie Jordan Cleo Fields Steve Scalise Walter Leger Fred Rathke</td>
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Legislature: Revenue projections determine budget. Governor expected to ask for increases in education, health care, road projects, hurricane protection. Finally banning cock fighting -- date to be determined. Hard to tell the effect of lame ducks. Many are preparing to run for other offices. Loss of steel mill to Alabama.

Airport: Southwest may be returning more flights. Express Jet debut. Sean Hunter new director of aviation. Ambitious for change.

Movies in the making: Will slow down in the summer. Have had a busy season. Film factory planned and expected to be finished in 18 mos. 3000 square feet. "K-Ville" television series pickup by Fox. Negotiations for more movies.

Pumps: Bought to prepare for 2006 hurricane season. Later found the pumps to be defective. Now have been overhauled. Despite criticism, Corps still operated as usual.

Population up: 56% of the homes are back based on electrical service resumption. 280,000 (450,000 BK). Orleans Parish not the largest. East Baton Rouge and Jefferson.
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Participants</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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<tr>
<td>May 25, 2007</td>
<td>Larry Lorenz, moderator</td>
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<td>Jason Berry, freelance writer</td>
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<td>John Maginnis, LA Political FAX weekly</td>
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<td>Alan Johnson, freelance writer</td>
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<td>Sabrina Wilson, WVUE-TV</td>
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<td>Unified N.O. Plan</td>
<td>City Planning Commission approved and sent to the City Council. Needed to get money from the LRA. Fear that Ed Blakely will overturn. He says he will incorporate it; doesn't want to start with nothing. &quot;Cranes in the skyline&quot; come September.</td>
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<td>Legislative surplus</td>
<td>Always more requests than can be filled. Record budget. Agree on roads and coastal erosion. Over 1000 new state government employees and pay raises for everyone. Shortage of the Road Home the &quot;elephant in the room.&quot; Recovery office. Concern about pay increases that funds may not be available in future.</td>
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<td>Road Home delay</td>
<td>$3-4 billion deficit. White House says money was not intended for wind damage; only for flooding due to failure of federal levees. So many did not receive adequate funds from insurance. Because of Road Home, many did not press claims. The longer we wait to give people money, the less it will be worth. Dems in Washington need to take up the cause.</td>
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<td>Criminal justice</td>
<td>Local system upgraded to disfunctional. More being charged in federal system. About 2 dozen feds imbedded with NOPD.</td>
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<td>Failure of political leaders</td>
<td>Cultural leaders are trying to fill in the gap. Music programs and marching bands could cut crime rate. Louis Armstrong credited New Orleans Waifs Home with giving him a trumpet and turning his life around.</td>
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<td>Hospital disaster plans</td>
<td>Lessons of Katrina. Heliports, wells, satellite phones. Stocking up on more meds, food, supplies. Updated websites to get the word out to employees. Children's Hospital to have NOPD substation.</td>
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<td>x Ed Blakely</td>
<td>John Kennedy</td>
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<td>x Donald Powell</td>
<td>Jim Bernazzani</td>
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<td>x Susan Howell</td>
<td>Wynton Marsalis</td>
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<td>x Harry Connick, Jr.</td>
<td>Branford Marsalis</td>
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<td>x Dinerral Shavers</td>
<td>Irvin Mayfield</td>
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<td>x Louis Armstrong</td>
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| June 1, 2007 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Hill, Gannett Newspapers  
Dawn Ostrum, freelance journalist | Legislative progress  
House passed budget bill. Balanced budget with spending cap. Competing tax cut plan proposals. Some cockfighting plan will be passed. One-time surpluses targeted to certain projects. Food banks begging.  
Mayor's State of the City message  
Take-off on State of the Union -- PR potential. Mixed responses. Message that lingered was strong blame of federal and state governments. Of course, we still need money. How much credibility does he have? The next day begging for money in Baton Rouge. Sanitation effort deserves most praise. Sydney Torres is a rock star.  
Hotel outlook  
Slow in the summertime -- anticipate 60%.  
31,000 rooms available. Essence Festival in July will bring large crowd. Hyatt and Fairmont still uncertain. Tremendous deals out there. Becoming a popular place for corporate meetings (500 or so in attendance). Be a tourist in your own hometown.  
Hurricane season  
A lot has been accomplished towards preparations. Also working on coastal restoration. Gov. wants to sell tobacco settlement with proceeds to coastal restoration. Long season (and the media) encourages undue fear.  
Mid-City progress  
Carrollton and Canal major dining area. Many homes being rebuilt. Controversy about future redevelopment.  
Political attacks  
Republicans want to take over at least one house of the Legislature. Trying to find someone to run against Mary Landrieu. Rumor that state treasurer Kennedy may switch parties to run. Landrieu registered in Monroe. Successful anti-Breaux campaign. Partisanship in the Legislature. | Kathleen Blanco  
Ray Naquin  
Sydney Torres  
John Kennedy  
Karl Rove  
Joe Cannizzaro  
Boysie Bollinger  
Mary Landrieu  
Jan Dardenne  
John Breaux  
Roger Villere |
Larry Lorenz, moderator
Errol Laborde, producer
John Hill, Gannett Newspapers
Dawn Ostrum, freelance journalist
Rob Masson, WVUE-TV

Jefferson indictment and plea
Innocent -- blaming federal law enforcement for contriving evidence. Constituents standing behind him. Two associates have pled guilty. House ethics committee investigation -- could be expelled. Already pulled off committees. $90,000 in the freezer the biggest factor. To be tried in suburban northern Virginia. Successful political history. "Dollar Bill" name from Dutch Morial.

Movie production tax credits Lift Production House has never started building promised facility in Treme. Federal grand jury looking at possible payoffs. Bad time because Broadway South bill is being considered by Legislature. Tax credit system confusing at best.

Convention Center Phase IV contract in indefinite suspension since Katrina. Waiting to see if expansion is really needed. Prices have changed dramatically since contract was signed 12 days before Katrina. Nature of convention industry have changed. Can bring people together through computers. Corporate meetings upcoming.

Danziger Bridge case Three defendants promised immunity when originally questioned. Brady evidence is evidence held by prosecutors which must be turned over to defense. Getting evidence which will help all the officers.

Legislature Republicans holding budget bill hostage. Budget authorization bill needs two-thirds to pass. What will happen next year when (if) Jindal is governor and the situation is reversed.

Judge resignation Eloi tendency to release felons too early. More and more investigations of judges.

William Jefferson
Robert Trout
Dutch Morial
Rene Gill Pratt
Bernie Cyrus
Charles Elloie
Ronald Bodenheimer
| June 29, 2007 | Homecoming  Broadcasting once more from WYES studios.  
Legislature  Money designated for research facility, expanding Barksdale AFB, new highways, NO sewage and water board improvements, rebuilding police/fire stations, Road Home. Teacher pay raise over Southern average. Freed up surplus money. Public Affairs Research Council upset because no new ethics measures. Legislators pleased with accomplishments.  
Unified NO Plan  Approved by City Council. Money will start to flow. Teams walking neighborhoods of the 17 improvement zones. Real infrastructure repairs.  
Tulane changes  Eliminated Mechanical Engineering, Computer Science  
Airport  Southwest adding flights. Hope to be up to 83% by November. Frontier, Taca, Air Canada never came back. | Ed Blakely  
Elleneese Brooks-Sims  
Mose Jefferson  
Jimmy Farhenholtz  
Rene Gill-Pratt  
Jim Letten  
Kerry Dekay  
Stan Barre  
Jacques Morial  
Calvin Mackie |
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<tr>
<th>#181</th>
<th>July 6, 2007</th>
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<tr>
<td>Larry Lorenz, moderator  Errol Laborde, producer  Dave Cohen, WWL Radio  Kathy Finn, freelance journalist  Roop Raj, WDSU-TV</td>
<td>Death of Jefferson deputy  Domestic dispute -- when are these calls dangerous. Vest did not work like it should. Better vests which protect SWAT weigh 20 lbs. Frustrations of Katrina lead to increase of domestic disturbance calls. More guns. Deputies resigning. Lack of mental health care facilities.  LSU-VA Hospital confusion  Proposal to team up on major medical teaching and research facility in downtown N.O. 60 acres targeted in Mid-City area. VA intends to proceed with or without LSU. Populations formerly served by Charity. White House wants more neighborhood clinics. LSU wants 450-500 bed hospital.  Memorial Hospital case  Grand jury. Charges dropped against nurses. Politically Dr. Pou's prosecution is the last thing DA needs.  Picture of Jesus In Slidell City Hall. ACLU wants it removed based on separation of church and state.  Streetcar progress  Wait between cars 15-30 min. Hope service as far as Napoleon Ave. by late summer. The rest of the line at least by spring '08. Big red streetcars that flooded being worked on. Hopefully will finish the first one in a year.  Taqueria trucks Derailed in Jefferson. Not attractive; complaints from other businesses. No bias involved. Law took effect July 1; not moved yet. Vegetable stands/seafood vendors should also be included but biggest concern prepared food being sold in places with no bathrooms/running water.</td>
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Experts say he should keep a low profile. Believe he can survive in the Senate. Election far enough away that re-election should not be a problem. If wife leaves him, career is over. Needs to come out with a contrite speech and Wendy by his side. Between Jefferson and Vitter, influence declining. As it is, representation is junior and therefore less influential. Location of VA Hospital. Importance of downtown location. Florida representative wants it there. Ochsner wants it in Jefferson. Lack of power figure here to take the lead in building LSU facility. Vitter arguing for health system restructuring. Too many suspects released instead of prosecuting. Lack of credible witness. Damage control. Investigation and review by DA association. Rearranging deck chairs on the Titanic. Once a DA accepts a case can no longer blame the police. Senators and representatives term limited so running for other office. Vitter's fingerprints all over this -- passed in 1995. Some simply out of power. Now power being transferred over to lobbyists. Can serve 12 years in House or Senate and then can switch, serve 12 and go back.
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<th>#183</th>
<th>Larry Lorenz, moderator</th>
<th>Jordan before the City Council</th>
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<td>July 20, 2007</td>
<td>Errol Laborde, producer</td>
<td>Dropped charges against</td>
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<td>John Hill, Gannett</td>
<td>Anderson, accused of killing 5</td>
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<td>Dawn Ostrum, freelance</td>
<td>teens in Central City. The police</td>
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<td>journalist</td>
<td>department found &quot;missing&quot;</td>
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<td>Mike Perlstein, freelance</td>
<td>witness. Under the cloud of multi-</td>
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<td>journalist</td>
<td>million dollar judgement against</td>
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<td>office for firing all the whites.</td>
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<td>Jefferson, his political patron,</td>
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<td>under a crowd. Killing of Denerell</td>
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<td>Shavers; no cooperating witness.</td>
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<td>Yet another consultants report on</td>
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<td>NOPD. Basically contain</td>
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<td>common sense suggestions. Key</td>
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<td>is implementation. Change</td>
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<td>Weathersby named but pulled out.</td>
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<td>prostitute.&quot; Eventually has to</td>
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<td>answer. Value to him was his wife</td>
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<td>crisis. No timeline set for State to</td>
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<td>give up control. N.O. School</td>
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<td>Board has 5 schools. Excited to be</td>
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<td>Sports' effect on recovery Arena</td>
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<td>football league final. Sugar Bowl,</td>
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<td>College Championship Game,</td>
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<td>Saints playoff game (hopefully),</td>
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<td>Hornets, NBA All-Star game.</td>
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<td>Blanco's travels to attract industry</td>
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<td>Good time for Londoners to invest</td>
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<td>in U.S. Opportunities to sell the</td>
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<td>state. Crime major problem. Until</td>
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| July 27, 2007 | Larry Lorenz | Errol Laborde, producer, Dawn Ostrum, Alan Johnson, Rob Masson, WVUE-TV | Refusal to indict Dr. Pou
| #185 | August 3, 2007 | Jefferson ruling | FBI seizure of evidence from his office illegal. Already arraigned. Will try to discredit the FBI. Doesn't affect integrity of case. No call for veto session Not enough votes. City and region got a lot out of this session. Property appraisal increases Not a good time with other cost increases at the pump and in the stores. So many appeals, assessors asking for info in writing. Forms unnecessarily confusing. Broadway South Same concept as movie tax breaks. Plays, performances, concerts and other productions. Only given to first-run productions. Incentive to open shows in N.O. Have to have audiences to make it work. Saenger, Orpheum, Lowe's and Joy would qualify for infrastructure tax credits. Landrieu trip to California to drum up movie business. Disney interest in Broadway South. Superdome developments New suites much more stylish. Next off-season project replacing outside aluminum (almost a mile). In four club lounge areas, 16 huge windows to be installed. Changes have given structure new life. Further renovations depend on long-term deal with the Saints. Foti's situation All he talks about is Pou case -- not doing anything to promote himself for next election. People angry because he did not champion them against insurance companies. Case against St. Bernard Nursing Home pending. VA/LSU Hospital controversy Most believe N.O. location is essential. Ochsner offering free land. Not a done deal. Study shows health care in N.O. in a bad state. Now a push to open old Charity. | William Jefferson | Julian Murray | Betty Jefferson | Roger Wilson | Ray Naquin | Harry Connick, Jr. | Wynton Marsalis | Branford Marsalis | Mitch Landrieu | Tom Benson | Doug Thornton | Charles Foti | Anna Pou | John Kennedy |
Naquin for Governor  Sources close to him say he's running. Fill the void left by Bill Jefferson. Will probably help Bobby Jindal by taking votes from Boasso. If Mayor's office is empty, replacement up to City Council. Has been approached by Demos all over the country. Rock star status.
Street justice  Brothers with long history of crime killed the same day. Criminals go in and out of the system so fast people are frightened. Vigilante attitude in the community.
Shopping Centers  Most reporting numbers off the charts. Even those dependent on tourism are approaching pre-Katrina levels. Renaissance Town Center on the books for New Orleans East. Macy's strategically reviewing their options but are committed to N.O. area.
Conversation with Naquin
Unfortunate position of being mayor when the city was decimated by Katrina. Hamstrung by president and governor. Enjoying the limelight and likes to keep people guessing. Wants incentives to build a downtown mega-medical complex. Before Katrina biomedical the only growth industry in city. State more divided than ever before.
Oliver Thomas Indictment big surprise. Previously emerging as an important frontrunner to be next major. Thomas known as crime-fighter, progressive, wanting to improve the city. Body blow to black political leaders around the state. $19,000 penny ante stuff. Director of film commission Mark Smith indicted. LIFT is the company involved but company itself has not been charged. Culture of corruption Tendency in state to give our politicians great power. Always been those at different levels trying to achieve power. Probably a lot more going on in the past when laws were not as strict. Difference is that now it's being exposed. Less tolerance since Katrina. Hoey's Basin Alliance Old Metairie/Jefferson area trying to get drainage into the river, relieving the load on 17th Street Canal. Corps looking into it (as well as London Ave. Canal. Cost $96 million would ultimately save money in flood insurance payouts. Congressional Tour of Katrina-damaged areas Pelosi says the last money was because Dems. fought for it. Tacked onto supplemental funding for Iraq. Why is it so partisan? Assessment Protests Huge lines of people appealing. All raised to fair market value. Only two weeks to appeal. Some did not receive notices. Closed offices at 4:00 p.m. Those in line told to go home. Assessing according to square footage whether shacks or mansions. Governor election polls Kennedy's subjects all registered voters -- better than random digit dialing.
| #188 | August 24, 2007 | Larry Lorenz, moderator
Errol Laborde, producer
Dawn Ostrum, freelance journalist
Clancy Dubos, Gambit
Dave Cohen, WWL Radio | VA Hospital Definite decision to locate in downtown N.O. To be an enormous hospital complex including LSU Medical Center. Next an impact study and land acquisition. Nursing community Nationwide shortage. Programs to train and keep more nurses here. Stipends offered to those who agree to stay. Ed Blakely A vision of a more diverse, better-educated city. Some of the under-educated are gone since storm and not coming back. Extremely bright if not brilliant; knows what he's doing. Doesn't have the authority he needs. Hyatt Complex on the back burner now. Concentrating on the VA to make sure it wouldn't go to Jefferson or Florida. Too much red tape for prospective business. New IG Cerasoli agrees the process needs to be simplified. WWL Radio reporting during Katrina Difficult decisions. Watching the city fall apart and officials just sitting and waiting. Never thought would cover "the big one." Struggled with ability to do the job without becoming too affected by events. Separating news reported by outside media (murder and mayhem in the Superdome) vs what was really happening. No murder in Dome, firing at helicopters. Some officials hearing rumors and repeating them as truth without checking them out. Replacement for Oliver Thomas on Council Michael Darnell experienced attorney with good reputation. Council trying to make a statement by appointing him. Decisions to be make before Dec. 1 include reforms and reconsiderations of previous votes. Thomas and Barre still talking. Void being filled by Fielkow. | Ed Blakely
Oliver Thomas
Ray Naquin
Robert Cerasoli
Michael Darnell
Julian Murray
Stan Barre
Arnold Fielkow |
| #189 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  Errol Laborde, producer  Dawn Ostrum, freelance journalist  John Hill, Gannett Newspapers  Mark Schleifstein, Times-Picayune | Why Katrina was so big Warm water to begin with; then crossed over much hotter water. Made it stronger and it continued to grow. Brief life cycle partially explains why N.O. was so ill-prepared. Mayfield "How high is your building?" Good chance for Category 5. Ability to predict where is good; intensity difficult to figure out. Media coverage Recovery a "mixed bag." Can be whatever you want it to be depending on point-of-view. Public not always getting the whole story. Some people still think there is water in the streets. Fair Grounds Thanksgiving tables being auctioned off on E-Bay. Proceeds to Charity. Sell out every year. Slot machine facility being built. Helps that track is run by Churchill Downs. Memories of John Hill Grateful that career overlapped Edwin Edwards. Meeting Mandela. Witnessing execution. Writing about his cancer. Raised the level of awareness of men regarding prostate cancer and early detection. Relationship with Edwards went from love to hate back to love. Wrote about more than casino gambling. When Feds searched and brought charges, maintained relationship. Football forecasts Saints and LSU both going into possible championship seasons. New Orleans Bowl, Sugar Bowl, NCAA Championship Game and possible NFL playoffs. Great economic impact. Hornets return to N.O. on Halloween. Sports a big factor in recovery. | Max Mayfield Edwin Edwards Jimmy Fitzmorris |
| Election qualifying | No incumbent but still one-sided. Jindal's race to win. Issues Jindal doesn't want to face in debates. Council-at-large race most interesting. Two months ago didn't know it would be available. **Charity Hospital** Calls for reopening. Indigent needs not being filled -- opening new clinics. Is it really necessary to build new hospital. Is the old hospital really suitable to be reopened. **School opening** School Board only has 2,100 students. High-performing schools (5) run smoothly. Board policies rewritten. Still has $150 million debt. Eventually all schools will return to management. People who caused so much trouble at meetings are no longer here. Launching pre-K programs citywide. **UNO Situation** Current junior and sophomore classes are small. Enrollment numbers increasing. Money to rebuild Student Union and other buildings being held up by bureaucracy. Preparing to celebrate anniversary. **Council subpoenas** City department heads called to testify. Healthy system of checks and balances. Perception that there is a vacume of leadership out there. If you have nothing to hide, you should welcome the chance to report to the Council. **Teacher shortage** Money incentives, national recruitment. Even if have no experience, training as practitioners. Teachers concerned about job security. | Bobby Jindal  
John Georges  
Walter Boasso  
David Vitter  
Ray Naquin  
Vern Kennedy  
Oliver Thomas  
Jackie Clarkson  
Cynthia Willard-Lewis  
Virginia Boulet  
Corey Johnson  
Phyllis Landrieu  
Earl Long  
Stacy Head  
Arnold Fielkow  
Paul Vallas  
Belinda Mitchell | September 7, 2007  
Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
Dawn Ostrum, freelance journalist  
Norman Robinson, WDSU-TV  
Dawn Ruth, N. O. Magazine |
| #191 | September 14, 2007 | Jacques Morial | Pleads guilty to income tax evasion. Expected to see something more serious. **Danziger Bridge** Some of Bigelow's staff had connections to defense team. Judge Parker found there really wasn't much there. Recusal because of rulings adverse to prosecution. **Status of SUNO** A trailer campus for at least the next year. Gym will be finished this fall; the rest in December 2008. Enrollment increasing at steady rate. Ponchartrain Park slowly coming back. **Council vs City Hall** Confrontations. Strong mayor and weak council always trying to assert itself. Perceived lack of accountability in City Hall. Could have been worse. **Nursing Home verdicts** St. Rita's "not guilty." Lafon's not prosecuted. Hindsight 20-20. Evacuating nursing homes doesn't really save lives. Horrible decisions in a terrible time. **Progress of recovery** When will things be safe and prosperous for those who return. Gradually will recover. Come back now and watch what happens. **National Guard** What will chief do when guard do? State wants to see a plan to reduce crime. Main mission to patrol vacant areas, to stop/question people in the neighborhood. Police recruitment up/attrition down. |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Storm threat | Everybody more cautious, watchful during tropical weather. Being vigilant, particularly in areas outside the levees. Concern about 100s of people still living in FEMA trailers. |
| Unequal share of aid | Mississippi did indeed get more with its strong congressional delegation and Republican governor Haley Barbour. Remains to be seen who will get the most of money still to be awarded. Will not look for perfect parity. LA has one arm tied behind its back because of Democratic governor. Karl Rove saw an opportunity to punish. When Congress power shifted, didn't really make much different. |
| Shrimping fleet | Moved from Bucktown to Bonnabel boat launch. No more docking along 17th St. Canal. Money issues about property there. Could have new marina and fish market paid by Louisiana Recovery Authority. About 2 dozen boats trawling the area. |
| Jena Six | March in support of African-American teens accused of beating a white student. Racial injustice? Just a school fight. White students got a slap on the wrist -- blacks facing serious charges. Appelate Court ruled the charges should not have been brought in adult court. |
| Road Home | May have to pay taxes if you get money and claimed damage as a loss on taxes right after the storm. LA delegation fighting tax on Capital Hill. |
Larry Lorenz, moderator
Errol Laborde, producer
Ed Daniels, WGNO-TV
Kevin Magill, Associated Press
Dawn Ostrum, freelance journalist

What's wrong with the Saints  Bad off-season. No new players are contributing. Other teams know Payton. Last year started with easy games; this year more difficult. So-so defense. Deuce injured.

Gubernatorial forum  No sparks or controversy.
Council-at-large race  Have to refer to race, not necessarily racism. Since 1978, unofficial understanding that one seat would be white and one would be black. Since campaign has been brief, name recognition particularly important. Everyone's in favor of recovery; against crime. Endorsements important.

Jena Six  Michael Bell out on bail; case to be moved to juvenile court. Accused of being ring-leader. 20-25,000 protesters. Why did this case get so much attention? Internet-driven over the last 16 months or so.

Audubon Institute  Everything open except the Nature Center; no plans to reopen. Insectarium to open next summer. Research Center continuing work -- has hatched crane through cryoscience. Sea lions not home yet; expected by then end of the year. Boo at the Zoo, Swamp Fest coming up.

Water Resource Development Act  Passed by Congress, but veto remains to be seen. Authorization bill -- still budget bills to be passed before funds sent. Coastal restoration, flood control.

Tulane-LSU Game  Exercise in futility for Tulane. Baseball doing well -- a different story. Football and basketball suffering. Need a commitment from Board of Directors, alums and president. Conference USA members must have football team.
| #194 | October 10, 2007 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
Alan Johnson, freelance journalist  
Mike Perlstein, freelance journalist  
Dawn Ostrum, freelance journalist | **Death of Harry Lee** Larger than life figure. Legacy of powerful and angry sheriffs in Jefferson Parish. Chinese-American Democrat. Political enigma. On individual level very magnimous and seemingly color-blind -- despite his public pronouncements. Spoke with frankness which sometimes offended but people understood what he was saying. Racially insensitive. Didn't really understand how offensive statements were. Main reason people support sheriff is because they want to be protected.  
**Council-at-large race** 8 black, 5 white. Running because Oliver Thomas convicted at taking bribes. Quentin Brown, Stacy Head's gardener, keeps everyone entertained. Nobody actively seeking Naquin endorsement or supporting him. Name recognition important.  
**Dixie Beer** Being brewed in Monroe, Wisconsin. Available in selected stores. Hope to be back at Mid-City location on Tulane Ave. Company will celebrate 100 years on Halloween. Made with city water. Need to capitalize on demand for all things New Orleans.  
**Eddie Jordan appeal** Came into office with backing of Jefferson and help from his team in sorting out the office. Nobody realized the extent of firings. Filing of class action lawsuit for reverse discrimination. Became apparent in court that firings were racial and discriminatory. $3.5 million judgment needs to be paid now.  
**Lee successors** Until he died most did not know they were candidates. Newell Normand anointed by Lee. When deceased is popular, public most likely to elect the anointed. | Harry Lee  
Willie Nelson  
Frank Clancy  
Alwin Cronvich  
Lindy Boggs  
Carlos Marcello  
Richard Pennington  
Marc Morial  
Oliver Thomas  
Quentin Brown  
Stacy Head  
Virginia Boulet  
Ray Naquin  
Joe Bruno  
Kendra Bruno  
Eddie Jordan  
Newell Normand |
| Statewide elections | Strong endorsement for Jindal from T-P. Jindal learned lesson from 4 yrs. ago -- responding to attacks. Even taking the offensive. Constantly on the road making appearances. No more organizations around to get people to the polls. Most blacks more concerned with recovery than election.  
Local level Newell Normand got endorsement; Nick Congemi dropped out. Council-at-large down to Clarkson, Boulet and Willard-Lewis. Push poll for Boulet.  
Lakefront Airport | Air traffic controller since July. Two fixed-base operators to service private planes. Average 250 planes per weekend. New buildings under construction. A levee district property run by state's division of administration.  
Charity Hospital conflict | So many factions concerned about outcome. Several areas of hospital might be operational but basic services are set up for the whole building. Concerned that repairs would be makeshift operation. Been talking about a new facility since years before Katrina. Will Wall Street support bonds needed to make it work?  
Attorney General | Three candidates running in dead heat. Fall-out from Memorial Hospital case being felt statewide.  
Agriculture Secretary | Bob Odom has real competition for the first time. A powerful job with independent financial authority. Name on every cash register and gas pump in the state.  
Future of Deutches Haus | In the way of future hospital plan. Officially supportive of complex but want to be included in retail space.

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<th>Bobby Jindal</th>
<th>John Georges</th>
<th>Newell Normand</th>
<th>Nick Congemi</th>
<th>Jackie Clarkson</th>
<th>Virginia Boulet</th>
<th>Cynthia Willard-Lewis</th>
<th>Charles Foti</th>
<th>Royal Alexander</th>
<th>Buddy Caldwell</th>
<th>Suzanne Haik-Terrell</th>
<th>Bob Odom</th>
<th>Mike Strain</th>
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<td>October 12, 2007</td>
<td>Larry Lorenz, moderator</td>
<td>Errol Laborde, producer</td>
<td>John Maginnis, LA Political FAX Weekly</td>
<td>Norman Robinson, WDSU-TV</td>
<td>Dawn Ostrum, freelance journalist</td>
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#196  
October 19, 2007

Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Maginnis, LA Political FAX Weekly  
Dennis Woltering, WWL-TV  
Dawn Ostrum, freelance journalist

Gubernatorial forum  
Answers not satisfying. Just campaign speak. Political spelling bees -- only interested when someone screws up. Jindal put race aside -- a "Louisianan." Attack ads in the last week. So many negative ads on so often. Jindal running against the past. Low black turnout good for Jindal. High turnouts caused by people feeling angry or scared.

Council race  
No public poll released but one being whispered around time shows Clarkson ahead.

Others  

Birds  
Resident backyard bird and squirrel populations dropped 2/3 after Katrina. Some are increasing; cardinals are not returning to areas that flooded. Sea birds and migratory birds not as affected.

Jindal elected

Started out at 50% and above and never went lower. Did only a few debates. Attacked Georges first.
Foti defeated Too damaged by Memorial case. Runoff between Caldwell and Alexander.
Odom withdrew Small plurality but not enough to stay in race. Served 7 terms. Northshore politicians becoming more important.

Low turnout Since storm, more and more people are seeing state government is not the answer.
Difference between areas that flooded and didn't flood.

Eddie Jordan's financial woes
Judgement started at $1.9 million; now up to $3.5 million. Can't afford it. DA's office understaffed -- can't prosecute outstanding cases. Attorney General could take over office. Then shifting financial burden to state. Fleeing armed robber went to his house -- friend of girlfriend's. Under investigation. Suspect still at large.

Derrick Shepherd Accused of money-laundering. Was reelected but if indicted may not be seated in state Senate.

Comparison of Jindal and Roemer
Both Ivy Leaguers but other than that no real comparison. If you are governor, you get a whole lot done just by trying hard. This legislature ready to work for him. White House should be wide-open for him. Vice-Presidential possiblities.

Demise of Foti Good sheriff. Obsession with Memorial case did him in. Public against prosecution.
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| November 9, 2007 | Louis Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
Kevin Magill, Associated Press  
Sabrina Wilson, WVUE-TV  
Budget shootout Between Council and Mayor. Council will not approve 2 mils raise -- wants to roll back 12 mils to compensate for increased property assessments. Mayor tied money for Inspector General's office into raise. Cerasoli wants $2.9 million.  
Legacy of Eddie Jordan Big judgement against him now up to more than $3.4 million (originally $1.9 million). Resigned when plaintiffs threatened to seize DA's office property.  
Airport status Thanksgiving full capacity. Slowly getting back to pre-Katrina normals. New signage planned. New bathrooms to all hands-free system. Revamping security and information system. Wi-fi added. No international flights at this time. Charter services coming back. 37 cities (43 before the storm) direct flights.  
Streetcars Returning to St. Charles as far as Napoleon. Absence increased appreciation for tradition. | Newell Normand  
Harry Lee  
Peter Dale  
Jackie Clarkson  
Cynthia Willard-Lewis  
George Bush  
Mary Landrieu  
Arnie Fielkow  
Robert Cerasoli |
<p>| Errol Laborde, producers | |
| Rob Masson, WVUE-TV | |
| Alan Johnson, freelance journalist | |
| Dawn Ostrum, freelance journalist | |
| David Voelker | Keva Landrum-Johnson |
| Bobby Jindal | Royal Alexander |
| Buddy Caldwell | Charlie Foti |
| Newell Normand | Peter Dale |
| Junior Rodriguez | Craig Taffaro |
| Jackie Clarkson | Cynthia Willard-Lewis |
| Cheryl Gray | Jallila Jefferson |
| Jim Letten | Jim Bernazanni |
| #201 | November 23, 2007 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  Errol Laborde, producer  Dawn Ruth, New Orleans Magazine  Peggy Scott Laborde, WYES  Dawn Ostrum, freelance journalist | Education Recovery District Schools. Class sizes smaller. New facilities planned, hopefully paid for by FEMA. Money spent on technology -- laptops, smart boards. New initiatives. Truancy center. Despite best intentions, old school board needed a Katrina to turn things around. Families who have been paying private school tuitions are now considering public schools.  Lake Ponchartrain Documentary Social history. Lake is no longer too polluted to swim or fish. Katrina affect -- lake healed itself. Elections next year Replacement for Bobby Jindal in Congress. Federal election year. Landrieu has had key committee positions and accomplished a lot for recovery. Charitable giving Across the nation, mainstream gives average of 2%. In N.O. non-profits are doing well. United Way has given grants to over 400 organizations since Katrina. Also large dollars coming in from outside the city. A city of fund-raisers. Sports Fairgrounds opening. New Orleans Saints most beloved. Benson has good relationship with Jindal -- down the road stadium issue will have to be dealt with. Hornets good team and entertainment but attendance needs to improve. Shinn wants to stay. Maybe when football's over, Hornets will attract more fans. College football. BCS Championship in January. | Carlton Dufrecheau  Dr. John  Frank Davis  Mary Landrieu  John Kennedy  Hillary Clinton  Rudy Giuliani  Tom Benson  Bobby Jindal  George Shinn |</p>
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<th>Clarkson election</th>
<th>Back in the council as at-large seat; changes unwritten custom that one black, one white councilmen-at-large. Good that we have equal competition. Healthy. People need to build multi-racial coalitions. Did the Mayor vote? Always urging others to vote. No record of voting but won't answer.</th>
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<td>Garbage collection controversy</td>
<td>After storm, collections divided among three companies. Richard Disposal and Metro Disposal supposed to pick up unlimited bulky waste. So expensive -- customers being charged three times more than Jefferson. Contract suspicious. People expect someone to pick up construction debris. FEMA pulled back when new contract went into effect.</td>
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<td>Nunez Community College</td>
<td>About 50% of pre-Katrina admissions. In St. Bernard, all buildings took 8 feet of water. Process technology program has become extremely important -- jobs in refineries assured. Nursing also growing.</td>
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<td>Blanco's last month</td>
<td>Looking back at Katrina. So much pressure on Bush, Rove redirected to Blanco and Naquin. Wedge being driven between Mayor and Governor. Finally realized they were being used. Decision not to run -- very aggressive agenda in past legislative session less difficult when not running. Worked with Jindal to get aid for N.O. Saints Will have to win all the rest of the games to have a winning season.</td>
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Demolishing projects  HUD wants them torn down (since before Katrina). Demonstrations against demolition include many who have never lived in public housing. If public housing residents want to come back, HUD will provide housing supplements. A number of units available with no takers.

Rise and fall of Bill Jefferson  Magical career. Family coalesced into political machine which became corrupt with him in the center. With Demos in power, he could be extremely powerful (if he weren't in trouble). Has been financially desperate for years. Five daughters graduated from Ivy League universities. A tragedy unfolding. Corruption began in state legislature and continued in House.


Election for Bobby Jindal's House seat  Northshore becoming more powerful. Back to separate primaries.

$300,000 in aid coming  Bulk of it will be dedicated to 17 areas of city earmarked by Blakely for most aggressive development.

Funds delayed by red tape...both HUD and Baton Rouge. "Cranes in the sky" still scarce. Amount of debris and blight staggering.
| #204 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
|      | Errol Laborde, producer  
|      | Rob Masson, WVUE-TV  
|      | Lloyd Anderson, documentary filmmaker  
|      | Dawn Ostrum, Future Watch  
|      | Vote for demolition Despite City Hall demonstrations, council voted for. People (many out-of-towners) looking for confrontation -- police officers handled well. T-P story about available housing. Outsiders' naive understanding of issues. New Orleans complex place. Incentive to want to get out ... in most places. People brought their own cameras. May have united city government in a way.  
|      | Continental Grain explosion 30 years ago. Westwego. Destroyed grain elevator and many buildings. 36 died. Cause still in question. Grain dust about 10 times more flammable than coal dust. Cold, dry day. Heat sensors have been added to all grain elevators. Now Cargill.  
|      | Christmas highlights Several hotels filling the Fairmont gap. Fulton street snow. Sports -- New Orleans Bowl, Sugar Bowl (a lot of requests from rich in Hawaii), BCS Championship (LSU vs Ohio State). NBA Allstar Game coming soon.  
|      | James Carter  
|      | Warren Riley  
|      | Arnie Fielkow |
| #205 | December 28, 2007 | Year-end Special | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
Rob Masson, WVUE-TV  
Kevin Magill, Associated Press  
Top local stories 5. Death of Harry Lee; 4. Dr. Pou, St. Rita's and the Foti aftermath; 3. Road Home funding. Delay may have contributed to Blanco's downfall; 2. Oliver Thomas' bribery case; 1.b. Downfall of Eddie Jordan.  
1.a. Public housing demolition fracas.  
Future 5. Shopping venues increasing; 4. Streetcar return -- $12 million in repairs; 3. Broadway South. Still need a venue. 2. Big money coming in as federal money is released; 3. Major events ... Sugar Bowl, BCS Championships, NBA Allstar Game; Mardi Gras; Jazz Fest; Essence Festival, bigger and better conventions and corporate meetings.  
Predictions  
Landrieu will win.  
DA's race  
Party primaries  
LSU | David Vitter  
William Jefferson  
Kathleen Blanco  
Bobby Jindal  
Anna Pou  
Charles Foti  
Oliver Thomas  
Eddie Jordan  
George Shinn  
Ray Naquin  
Arnie Fielkow  
Roger Wilson |
| #206 | Errol Laborde, moderator  
Alan Johnson, freelance journalist  
Ed Daniels, WGN- 
TV  
Mark Schleifstein, Times-Picayune  
Dawn Ostrum, Future Watch | BCS Championship Game  
Ohio State vs LSU January 7. Probably won't really determine best team. Murder capital once again Still feeling effects of Katrina. Some stations still not back up. Crime lab now functioning. Not so many early releases, but by any measure crime is still up. Traumatized, depressed police officers. Not as many middle-class blacks coming back to N.O. East and Gentilly. 19-40% of school kids who have returned have come back without parents.  
State of the environment Katrina effect in many different ways.  
Loss of forest on North Shore. 217 square miles of wetlands lost.  
Water resources development act first step toward coastal restoration. Money in the hands of the state to be used during next 4 years. Guarded optimism. Still in a period of more active hurricane occurrence.  
Louisiana primary Presidential preference primary Saturday after Mardi Gras, also after Super Tuesday primaries so probably not so important. Republican caucuses in Jan. to select delegates...only influenced if candidate gets over 50% of vote in February. Closed primary system (first since 1976). Democrats caucus after Feb. 9. Can change party before Jan. 9.  
Saints future Major step back this year 7-9. Will Deuce be healthy. Why can't we win at home?  
Hornets Playing well be attendance not that good. Have sold most of their suites. Cable on the North Shore. Deadlock between Cox and Charter.  
Celebrity Sightings Brad and Angelina sincere about helping. | Eddie Jordan  
Warren Riley  
Judge Calvin Johnson  
Jim Letten  
Hillary Clinton  
Barack Obama  
Deuce McAlister  
George Shinn  
Gary Chouest  
Bobby Jindal  
Tom Benson  
Mike Foster  
Kathleen Blanco  
Brad Pitt  
Angelina Jolie |
| #207 | January 11, 2008 | **Larry Lorenz, moderator**  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Maginnis, LA Political FAX  
Weekly  
Curt Sprang, WGNO-TV  
Dawn Ostrum, Future Watch | **Jindal inauguration**  
Blanco's legacy. Although got the money, what the state had to go through to get it had an impact. Still lagging far behind in education. Foster/Blanco transition years after Edwards. Could have made a better impression...better PR. Tried to attract business to state. Jindal starting with blank slate and many resources. Leadership ability remains to be seen. Impressive team. People pleaser.  
**Hornets new lease**  
Through 2014. Fans have to put up some good numbers. Averaging 12,000 but need to average 14,000 per game. Requiring more fans...particularly on the North Shore. Still working on getting TV coverage across the Lake. Will continue to use Alario Center for practice facility.  
**Michoud future**  
Space shuttle program ending in 2010. $2.94 billion since 2000. Concerned about gap between building external fuel tanks for shuttle and Orion programs. Boeing also coming in. Lockheed-Martin looking to expand.  
**Short Mardi Gras season**  
Feb. 5. Won't have the spring break crowd. Earlier date means lower attendance. Endymion coming back to Canal Street.  
**Football economic benefits**  
Between Sugar Bowl and BCS, great impact. LSU strong because of strong recruiting in LA and TX. Players have fun. Foundation built by Saban.  
**New den**  
Blaine Kern location on the East Bank to house Endymion floats. | **Kathleen Blanco**  
Bobby Jindal  
Mike Foster  
Angel Davis  
Les Miles  
Nick Saban |
Jindal Inauguration  Young, bright politician people want to believe in. Ethics reform top priority. Executive orders re ethics and Louisiana Recovery Authority. Some image control. Mostly men on staff. Good competent group. Setting groundwork for successful special session. Usually a 6-month honeymoon period. Going in with ample budget plumped up by recovery money.

Shrinking congressional delegation  Once had 8, now 7 and probably will be 6 by the end of decade. Jefferson wounded by charges; Baker resigned to become lobbyist. Vitter also wounded.

Jefferson charges  Complained that agents yelled at him and watched him go to the bathroom. Wants to throw out everything said the day he was questioned by FBI at home. Also complaining that other members of his family are being dragged in. Looking at place in history...so no plea bargain.

Marching bands  Simply are not enough to participate in parades. Historically have recruited from other states but even worse since Katrina. Some have merged. $2,000 per parade. Demand very high. LSU will be marching with Rex. Situation slowly improving.

Flood protection plan  SE Louisiana Flood Protection Authority organized. Talking about rejuvenating wetlands by change salinity levels. The new levee board. Mostly engineers...more intelligent discussion than in the past.

O'Keefe resignation as chancellor  Lost confidence of LSU Board of Supervisors. Not really ready to go. Interesting that board didn't seem involved.

Bobby Jindal
Richard Baker
Bill Jefferson
Rodney Alexander
Charles Boustany
Charlie Melancon
Mary Landrieu
David Vitter
Sean O'Keefe
January 25, 2008

Larry Lorenz, moderator
Errol Laborde, producer
Kathy Finn, freelance journalist
Eric Asher, WIST 690 AM
Dawn Ostrum, Future Watch

Stock Market plunge  Too soon to call it recession. Wall Street not necessarily reacting to the economy. Impact on the consumer remains to be seen. Have to be concerned about people slowing their spending in any way. Still vulnerable on the tourist front. State benefits from high oil prices even with declining production.

Saints and Hornets deals
Superdome Commission concerned that Hornets attendance is low. If it doesn't pick up by the end of next year, team has option to lead. Hopes for Saints deal very soon. Ideas for development of New Orleans Center/Dominion as a sports complex.

Stronger inspector general and the involvement of Attorney General office. Worry too much about rankings. Holding public officials to much higher standard than private business.

Habitat for Humanity  Greater NO area includes 5 parishes. Celebrating 25 years...more than half of homes have been built since Katrina. On any given day, there are 300 volunteers building houses in NO. Houses built to Florida hurricane codes. All very carefully supervised.

Efforts to build new landfills
Recycling centers, transfer stations. Residents trying to come back opposed.

Mardi Gras  Early so smaller crowds but economic prospects good.

George Shinn
Tom Benson
Bobby Jindal
Robert Cerasoli
<table>
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February 15, 2008

Larry Lorenz, moderator
Errol Laborde, producer
Alan Johnson, freelance journalist

Ethics special session
To get our house together and show the nation. 41-point call. Proposed income disclosure for legislators. Some saying we don't really need new proposals...need more enforcement. City actually has more money than state because of Inspector General. Campaign finance added on.

Obama primary victory
Conservative/moderate democrats likely to vote Republican in November. Congressional district race to replace Jindal. Whoever wins Republican primary likely to win in general election in May. If Scalise wins will have to have state senator special election.

Violent crime statistics
Up 22% in 2007 over the previous year. Armed robberies worst. In third quarter of year, council appropriated $5000 more to fight crime. Department very defensive and insular. Need community policing. Veracity of statistics has been an ongoing issue.

NBA looking at technical aspects
Social awareness and image-making. Seeing NBA players as role models worldwide. Players from other countries. Going global. Goal is average of 14,500 per game. Not much progress towards getting games shown on the North Shore.

New weapons at NOPD
Six million dollars in military-style equipment including armored personnel carriers. Picture of mayor with assault rifle pointed at chief.

Mid-City development
New housing development "The Preserve" being constructed. Robert's still not open. Mandinas and other restaurants back. Still concern about where new hospital will be. Also development on Tulane Ave.
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<th>Date</th>
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<th>Notes</th>
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| February 29, 2008 | Larry Lorenz, Errol Laborde, Rob Masson, John Maginnis, Lee Zurik |   **Death of Warren McDaniels**  First black police chief, followed McCrossen.  
**Results of special session**  Governor got about 85% of what he wanted. Have come a long way.  Money session next.  
**Use of city-owned takehome cars**  In 2006, taking all in account...300 and growing each year. Includes gas and maintenance.  City cooperated in the beginning...said it wasn't a perk but a necessity.  All non-police.  Hard to determine costs partly due to record-keeping methods.  
**Condo market**  Supposed to increase after the storm.  Trump Towers just opened sales office. $400,000 and up.  Many other projects in the works.  
**Congressional races**  First primary March 8.  Party primaries first since 1970s.  
**City Park improvements**  FEMA money starting to pour in.  North golf course should open in June.  Big plans to redo by 2018 -- tricentennial.  
**Jefferson flood control**  Pump to the river project not a big priority.  Corps reallocating money to closing MR GO and building flood barriers.  Permanent pump stations at lake now on hold. |
|             | Warren McDaniels, William McCrossen, Bobby Jindal, Jim Tucker, Joel Chaisson, Sammy Nunez, Robert Cerasoli, Steve Scalise |   **Warren McDaniels**  William McCrossen  
**Bobby Jindal**  Jim Tucker  
**Joel Chaisson**  Sammy Nunez  
**Robert Cerasoli**  Steve Scalise |
| March 14, 2008 | Spent billion dollars, phased out business taxes, and gave tax break ($300) to private school parents and some deductions (uniforms, etc.) for public school parents. Money has accumulated since last year. Half allotted to coastal restoration -- hope to be matched by feds. Highway construction money for future.  
Newcomb College State Supreme Court will hear case -- heirs suing based on Tulane not following the intent of Josephine Newcomb's will. Still getting education at Tulane, but N.O. losing an institution. Alumni upset. Classes have been coed since 1967. College slowly eroding. Concern since the 80s.  
Future of Lakeshore Drive No power thanks to Corps, but expect lights to come on by next summer. Bike ride scheduled in April. As soon as construction at Canal and Lakeshore is completed, drive will be open to all traffic. Lighthouse being restored by Lake Ponchartrain Basin Foundation. Beams and nails salvaged. Hope it will look very much the same but higher.  
Charter School funding issues Proposed legislation to help protect charters financially. Go up for reevaluation every five years. Mostly about extra money coming in from federal govt. Flows through the school board which does give some financial support to charters. Vitter Condemmed to be dragged out in public any time another scandal takes place. Now Eliot Spitzer in NY. Melancon may run against him. |
| #216 | March 21, 2008 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
Rob Masson, WVUE-TV  
Eric Asher, 690 AM  
Alan Johnson, freelance journalist | Road Home Investigations  
ICF International increase in amendment to contract. They say they have had to do more work. Originally believe contract was capped. No one knows whether corruption involved. Inept since day one.  
Superdome Commission Ron Forman now chairman. Would like to develop Arena area for tail-gating. Massive debt problem (since Katrina) needs to be solved. Want to improve whole area. Drop in tourism (and hotel-motel tax) since 9/11. Ask teams to get involved.  
Gun control Supreme Court looking at ban for Washington, DC. Challenge. Expected to uphold individual rights. Chief Riley talking about assault weapon ban. People in Louisiana want their guns.  
Condition of Lake Amazing that toxic soup pumped into lake did not have dreaded effect. Filtering itself. Looking surprisingly good. Measures in place before Katrina.  
West Bank workforce development Job training increase. Looking for legislative help. Crescent City Connection the only toll bridge across Mississippi in Louisiana.  
Celebrity Watch 4 films being shot in Orleans Parish. Hollywood South has risen again. Good supply of labor/film crews.  
Hornets 1st place in Western Division. Games being sold out. Shinn wants long-term contact with no inducements. Always going to compete with football.  
St. Joseph's Day Not as much reverence in Sicily as there is in N.O. Always an emphasis on the spiritual. | Bobby Jindal  
Kathleen Blanco  
Ron Forman  
Warren Riley  
Justin Timberlake  
Jessica Beal  
George Shinn  
Chris Paul  
Byron Scott |
| #217 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
Marcia Kavanaugh, WYES  
Eric Paulsen, WWL-TV  
Dawn Ostrum, Future Watch | Naquin granite business  
As long as he doesn't own more than 25% it's OK, but won't tell us. Stonewalling. Less scrutiny if he was open and above board. Mad at the media in general. Remembering the picture with gun. Story about his schedule. When first elected, the darling of the media. Seems to say things while forgetting the media is around. Should be given credit for recovery...if it weren't for his gaffes. No political base.  
Reshaping New Orleans  
Follow-up to neighborhood plans made six months ago. 52% of Lakeview is back. Neighborhood association very active. New Orleans East is uneven recovery. Vietnamese community, Broadmoor, Gentilly showing growth. Some getting burned out and discouraged. Many improvements due to residents themselves.  
Lakefront area  
Boathouse owners don't know what's going to happen. Southern Yacht Club rebuilding. Coconut Beach open. No plans for parts of West End which may be used for pumping improvements. Eventually hope to have facilities for fishermen and seafood markets.  
Eric Paulsen's Tennessee Williams interviews  
Death of Al Copeland  
Remembered for his businesses and his marriages. Developed great recipes. Flashy guy.  
Speedboats. Christmas lights. | Ray Naquin  
Ed Blakeley  
Carleton Dufrecheau  
Tennessee Williams |
Mose Jefferson indictments
Accused of bribing Elenese Brooks Simms, school board member who has pled guilty to diverting funds meant for charity. No trial date set for Bill Jefferson. Losing influence in Congress. No committees.
Republican runoff 1st District formerly Bobby Jindal's seat. Whoever wins between Scalise and Burns will face Reed. Probably low turnout. Winner will have to run again in the fall.
Tulane Avenue The next "hip" place for residential development. Several mixed-income apartment complexes being built. No residents on first floor -- protection from flooding. City Council spurring infrastructure development.
Third Legislative Session First ethics, second financial, now want to change the way the state trains and matches workers with jobs available. Department of Labor changing to Workforce Development.
Changes downtown Ahead of many cities because never lost it. Easier to preserve because of attractions like the French Quarter. Downtown Development District. Fiberglass streetcars distributed to raise money for performance space next to Krauss. Facade improvements.
Senate race John Kennedy raising money to run against Mary Landrieu. President Bush coming for fund-raiser. Landrieu has points for recovery efforts.
Larry Lorenz, moderator
Errol Laborde, producer
Dawn Ostrum, Future Watch
Eric Asher, 690 AM

Shepherd indictments  Money laundering. Insists on innocence. Rumor that Jefferson family introduced him to Gwendolyn Mayeaux. Betty Jefferson involved. Shepherd says FBI asked him to talk about Jeffersons but when he had no info, they turned on him. Only $100,000 -- is it worth it?

Jim Letten  Very popular. US Attorney has become a major part of the community. Has served under Volz and Eddie Jordan. Jurisdiction has widened. Jordan got credit for Edwards prosecution but Letten did more.

Closing of 33 parishes  19 of them shuttered before the storm. Our Lady of Good Counsel and St. Henry's appealing. Both had activist parishes, financially solvent, met benchmarks set by Archdiocese.

Bonnie Carrie Spillway plans  Opened this week. Goal for next opening to divert river water into the wetlands. Sending water into Lake can cause dead zones. Federal government supposed to take the lead.

Hornets Championship Season?  Attendance benchmarks being secured for next year. Winning has helped us rediscover team. Playoffs could coincide with Jazz Fest.

French Quarter Fest  Started for locals after 1983 World's Fair construction in Quarter. Biggest free festival and all with local entertainment. Cleaner these days. A post-Katrina miracle. More live music, less strip clubs are the goal.

Derrick Shepherd
Betty Jefferson
Karen Carter
Jim Letten
John Volz
Eddie Jordan
David Vitter
Archbishop Alfred Hughes
Carlton Dufrecheaux
Chris Paul
Kobe Bryant
Byron Scott
Dutch Morial
| #220 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
|      | Errol Laborde, producer  
|      | Kathy Finn, freelance journalist  
|      | Rob Nelson, WWL-TV  
|      | Jed Horne, author | Metairie flooding during Katrina  
|      | Doomsday plan called for parish workers to be evacuated -- went to Washington Parish and couldn't get back to pump out waters. Now Broussard insists he didn't know about the plan. Maestri says he knew a lot about it, and on the weekend of storm, Broussard was present as the plan was reviewed. Take your pick -- ignorance or incompetence. Ordered evacuation during Dennis before everyone else.  
|      | Recovery Zones  
|      | Gentilly and Central City still struggling. Progress being made slowly. C.J. Peete demolished. Mixed income development planned. Gentilly population spotty -- slightly above 50%. Many small businesses not reopening. Hard to find big, city-funded projects  
|      | 17th Street Canal levee leak  
|      | Jefferson lakefront levees may need to be redesigned. Gates at outfall canals big improvement.  
|      | Item at the top of everybody's agenda is level 5 defense.  
|      | Riverfront redevelopment  
|      | City property to be used for recreation. Ampitheater, leisure-type mixed use. Height limit will be imposed on buildings.  
|      | Michoud seeking new jobs  
|      | Space shuttle phasing out. Approx. 2,500 employees. New project "Constellation" designed to take men to the moon and back by 2020. Boeing and Lockheed-Martin will build at Michoud. May be a net loss of jobs eventually. But new programs could be coming in. Trying to develop new business.  
|      | Hornets  
|      | Have never won this many games. Very important in terms of reintroducing team to the city. Have made attendance benchmarks. Shinn believes it can work. | Aaron Broussard  
|      | Walter Maestri  
<p>|      | George Shinn |</p>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Presenter(s)</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>#222</td>
<td>May 2, 2008</td>
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<td>Larry Lorenz, moderator</td>
<td><strong>Airport Change of Ownership</strong></td>
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<td>Errol Laborde, producer</td>
<td>State considering plan. Would use money to develop downtown area.</td>
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<td>Eric Paulsen, WWL-TV</td>
<td><strong>LSU/Charity Hospital</strong>  Governor says we are building new hospital downtown with new VA facility.</td>
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<td>John Maginnis, LA Political FAX Weekly</td>
<td>State is fully committed. Federal government reviewing. Still questioning how big it will be.</td>
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<td>Dawn Ostrum, Future Watch</td>
<td>Want foundation to be adequate for expansion. Downtown medical corridor to include all area hospitals. Growth -- as long as we can demonstrate city is safe from flooding. Problem is to attract private patients to what they think of as a charity facility.</td>
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**Tax cuts** Could have serious repercussions on education, health care reform. State has to be careful about depending on oil and gas income.

**Presidential election** A lot depends on who the Democratic nominee is. Polls show that McCain will carry state although Katrina factor will come up. If Obama is candidate, there will be a big African-American push. Also important to get Mary Landrieu re-elected to Senate. Google/U-Tube debate sponsored by Women of The Storm, Greater NO Foundation. Didn't get debates because "couldn't handle it." **Future of Bernazani** Teamed with Letten. Admitted he was thinking about running for mayor...violation of Hatch Act. Calculated move?

**1st Congression District** Cakewalk for Steve Scalise.

**NBA Playoffs** Hornets going into second round. Shinn would like the team to be in the middle in terms of revenues. **Chris Paul** new contract.
| #223      | Larry Lorenz, moderator  | Spillway Opening Impact on Lake Silt will clear out over time but concerned about algae growth. Talk about diverting to wetlands instead of lake. Would take Act of Congress.  |
| May 9, 2008 | Errol Laborde, producer   | **Benson Purchase of WVUE** Believes it shows renewed commitment to city. Good fit because NFL games shown on Fox. Feeling positive because of return to local ownership. $40 million believed to be a bargain. Not interested in severing relationships with other stations.  |
|           | Rob Masson, WVUE-TV       | National Association of Homebuilders Looking into building "green." Learning how to become certified in green building techniques. Energy Star label started on appliances is now available on homes. Credits for solar installations.  |
|           | Kathy Finn, Onstage Magazine | **Airport future** Many more visitors to city. 17,000 left after the second Jazz Fest weekend. Expect summer downturns. Still no international traffic. Extra fees to offset higher fuel charges. Consolidated rental car facilities without need for shuttles.  |
|           | Dawn Ostrum, Future Watch  | **Veterans Health Care** Upper floors of VA are open. Problems of Iraqi War veterans. 6,000 outstanding cases of vets in area who have unresolved problems with benefits. VA committed to coming back in new facility.  |
|           |                           | **Theater in the city** Doing remarkably well considering Katrina damage. Loss of venues. Musical arts have continued despite having to move around to universities, churches, etc. Broadway South making slow progress.  |
|           |                           | **Tourism attractions** French Quarter the best. Despite efforts, people still think we are underwater. Need to do more saturation advertising.  |
|           |                           | Carlton Dufrecheaux  |
|           |                           | David Vitter  |
|           |                           | Bobby Jindal  |
|           |                           | Tom Benson  |
|           |                           | Joe Cook |
Worst of the Paris streets brought to NO, a port and a big city. 1890 Murder of police chief Hennesey by beginnings of Mafia. Recently spurred by drugs. Despite waves of progress, can't seem to change climate of crime. Police In the 90s drug cartels within the department. Biggest problem now general malaise and PTSD after Katrina. Strong leadership has not been there. Police shortage. Before storm 1,700 -- now 1,333 not enough to make up for departure of National Guard troops.

**Chief** Richard Pennington brought in by Marc Morial -- partnership. When chief recruited from department, other leaders leave.

**Weapons** Semi-automatics kill the innocent as well as bad guys. Want ban on assault weapons but strong opposition by legislature. 20% of murders by these weapons but ban would be a tool. More police officers killed since 1995. Victims and Citizens Against Crime Reparations available. Victim notification.

**D.A.'s office** Improved. Unprecedented levels of federal prosecution. Front end of the problem, counseling kids. Seem to be more and more kids returning to the city without the parents. Mental health problem.

**Education** More opportunities for schools to improve. Haven't worked as hard on long-term solutions.

**Victim/Witness programs** Get them help so that they can be reliable witnesses.

**Possible solutions** Return of good recreation department. Focus on child care centers. Mobile units. Consolidation of agencies.
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<tr>
<th>Jindal's future Being considered for McCain's V-P. Legislators excited not only because it would be good for state but also because Mitch Landrieu would take over. Jindal would balance ticket...helps Republican image. Recurrent theme -- too many Landrieus.</th>
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<tr>
<td>Lights on at Charity Got utility bills -- $4.5 million spent since Katrina. Have to keep the climate controlled in case building will be used in the future. Negotiations going on. FEMA says its damage assessment is done -- state is not finished. Historical contingent wants to keep building. State does not want to use building again but does want top dollar to use for new building.</td>
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<td>Hurricane preparedness East Bank has had a lot more work done to mitigate future damage. Homeland Security says inner city better protected than ever. West Bank is lagging behind. $300 million in contracts underway but when that work is finished, it will be brought up to standards of 20 years ago. Will take a lot more to bring it up to the present. Because Katrina didn't hit there is a false sense of security on W.B.</td>
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<td>Parkways Less than half the crews trying to care for more green space. Growth retardant to slow grass growth. In peak season, grass grows 1” per night. Some areas priority. NORD parks. Welcome volunteers who would like to mow. Some civic organizations do what they promise; others don't. Major citywide tree planting planned.</td>
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<td>Legislature Stelly plan partial repeal underway. Worry about it happening to quickly. The partial repeal will take place next year. Problem determining what the ethics board can do.</td>
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<td>Larry Lorenz, moderator</td>
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| June 6, 2008 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
Rop Raj, WDSU-TV  
Kathy Finn, freelance journalist  
Dawn Ostrum | Jefferson family indictments 31-count indictment accused of looting non-profit organizations they formed. Used grant money for profit to themselves. Included aggravated identity theft. Checks written to "straw" individuals, then deposited into personal accounts of those indicted. Outlined 158 overt acts. If true, either remarkably careless or remarkably arrogant.  
Jindal meeting with McCain  
In Phoenix to talk about V-P position. Says McCain has not asked. May be a little too young...no record to run on. No interest in pursuing national office. Intends to finish term. May be invited to have a prominent role at Republican convention. How they have baby-proofed the mansion. The people's house outside private residence area.  
Bike lanes  
Now open. Dedicated for cyclists. With price of gas, more commuting by bicycle. Hope to have more facilities for showering and changing at work. Educating drivers to be aware.  
Election for new D.A.  
Capitelli vs Cannizzaro. May be a black candidate. Jason Williams. Only issue is crime.  
Tour of levees  
Work to raise levees behind schedule. Trying to achieve 100-year standard. Corps says work is less than 25% finished. West Bank ahead of schedule. Addressing major problem areas.  
Jindal spokesman for Indian community  
Not something he ran on...not a key factor. Some didn't want to vote for a non-white. Parents came from India. Covered heavily in Punjab. Achieving the American dream. Small Indian population but a strong one. | William Jefferson  
Betty Jefferson  
Mose Jefferson  
Angela Coleman  
Jim Letten  
Bobby Jindal  
John McCain  
Supriya Jindal  
Eddie Jordan  
Ralph Capitelli  
Leon Cannizzaro  
Jason Williams |
| Larry Lorenz, moderator | Legislative Pay Raise Voted for themselves; now many facing recall. Thought furor would die down. T-P editorializing for governor to veto. Says he won't. During campaign, promised he would not allow pay raise in the same term. V-P story is no more. Now being called a weakling and wimp. Lost superstar image...unrealistic to start with. Jeffersons pleading innocence Except Brenda who has plead guilty to concealing information and will testify against the others. Attorneys will try to undermine her credibility. Will be hard to overcome the charges that they took money intended for disadvantaged youth. Mosquito control Standing water breeding spot. West Nile season usually begins in mid-July. Doing a good job of controlling with spray and mosquito-eating fish in abandoned pools, etc. Downpours beneficial. St. Charles Streetcars Structure work needed to be done even before Katrina. Still missing the red cars along Canal Street. Have to come back because federal funding mandates handicapped access. Other lines being considered. Other Legislative action Income tax cut came right before pay raise vote. New law against driving while taxing. Raised minimum requirements for auto liability insurance. Science education bill will allow alternative sources of information. When in doubt, let bills pass. Let federal courts decide whether Constitutional. Health care will be big issue. Camera controversy Not working as they should. Council very active in questioning the office of technology. |
| Errol Laborde, producer | | |
| Sabrina Wilson, WVUE-TV | | |
| John Maginnis, LA Politics Weekley | | |
| Dawn Ostrum, Future Watch | | |
| June 27, 2008 | | |
| Bobby Jindal | | |
| Newt Gingrich | | |
| Buddy Roemer | | |
| Brenda Jefferson | | |
| Mose Jefferson | | |
| Stacey Head | | |
| Anthony Jones | | |
Jefferson campaign Wide-open field. Jefferson Parish could make the difference. If Moreno (the only white candidate) made the runoff, he might have a chance. He's still the best-known candidate. D.A. Election Capitelli and Cannizzaro best-known. Given the electorate changes since Katrina, harder to predict. Federal cases Stan Barre sentenced. End of Morial investigation? Derrick Shepherd facing charges. Bill and Betty Jefferson somehow involved with his case. French Market improvements A trading spot since the beginnings of N.O. New facilities, lighting, etc. Took longer because complicated excavation of area. Returning fresh produce to market. Vetoes Many would come close to violations of ethics code. Will probably veto special projects in different district. Pay raise veto most infamous. Public reaction to proposal overwhelming. He can probably recover. Taking state tour and returning to campaign mode. Mandeville Mayor Accident on Causeway. Drinking suspected. Launched investigation. Has had a stellar political career. Police chief under pressure to clean up his department. Toy fund proceeds used to give mayor and others Christmas gifts. Ponchartrain Hotel closing Turning into a retirement center. Known for mile-high pie. Boutique hotel before they became fashionable.
Coastal Wetland Erosion  
Bobby Jindal trying to ease federal requirements for state matching funds. State would be expected to pay more than $1 billion by next year. A lot of talk but still no action. Need to get restoration done within the next 10 years (or less) or it will be too late.

Governor Jindal  
Trying to repair damage from legislative pay raise debacle. Critics say he should have spent more time with the legislature (and not so much time with McCain, etc.).

Ethics reforms  
Now have some of the toughest laws in the nation but no ethics board. Resignations by both board members and administrator. Loss of authority. Governor welcomes turnover.

Medical recruitment  
Situation improving. People want to come to help N.O. Physicians coming usually have some connection to city. Still a problem getting people to come for a look.

Perceptions of crime-ridden, water-logged place still exist. Biomedical corridor should inspire more growth. Lump-sum payments incentives for practicing at LSU clinics -- help pay off medical school debts.

Jindal's vetoes  
Line item cuts seem to be inconsistent. Drawing criticism. Roemer lost trust of legislature eventually -- this time more confrontation earlier in term.

"Green" construction  
Many opportunities. Need to build plus incentives to do solar installation/wind power.

Designated a "Solar America City" by Department of Energy.

Biomedical corridor plans  
A done deal. Hundreds of millions of dollars appropriated to make it work. Compromise on number of beds -- will be expandable.
Errol Laborde, moderator/producer  
Lee Zurik, WWL-TV  
Eric Asher, WIST  
690-AM  
Curt Sprang, WGNO-TV  

Oil spill in river  
Tugboat pilot not properly licensed.  Half million gallons spilled.  Water supplies compromised for a time.  100-mile impact area.  Quick response but lasting damage to environment remains to be seen.  Coast Guard cannot check on all pilots.  

New Orleans Affordable Home Ownership  
Non-profit set up by city.  1200 homes supposedly being worked on.  Some properties connected to politicians and others didn't even exist.  City says the first list not accurate (intake list). When records are requested city should realize that story might be done.  NOAH claims have files of each of 680 homes they have worked on.  Now say they will present the "real" list.  

Mayor's office and media relationships  
Don't know if they are overwhelmed or trying to hide things.  If critical of Mayor's office, very defensive and withhold information.  

Offshore drilling  
OCS (off the continental shelf).  First in production but don't receive as much share as other states.  Since 1920 Louisiana has been drilling off coastline.  

Visit from Congressional delegation  
Purpose to extend time needed to pay back federal funds.  Talk of faster FEMA money to those in need.  

Police discipline issue  
One brandished gun, one driving 90 mph over bridge, one wearing the wrong uniform on last day of work.  Is job too big for Riley?  

McCain didn't come to see Jindal  
Blamed the weather but may be more to it.  Jindal still a rising star in Republican party.  

Saints training  
Defense the Achilles heel.  

Ray Naquin  
Ed Blakely  
Ceeon Quiett  
Harry Truman  
Leander Perez  
Warren Riley  
Jeremy Shockey  
Deuce McAllistier  
Mike McKenzie  
Sedric Ellis  
Jonathan Vilma
| Larry Lorenz, moderator  
| Errol Laborde, producer  
| Rob Masson, WVUE-TV  
| Alan Johnson, Baton Rouge Advocate | Arrest of Rep. Derrick Shepherd  
| For battery. Testimony of girlfriend later recanted. Under house arrest -- 3 to choose from. Under federal indictment. Lap dancer at home -- important? Politicians resigning one after another since the storm. Naquin reaction to NOAH Seeks more concerned about discovery than the situation itself. New media making it possible to show stories in depth. Went from crackdown on corruption to apathy. First problem with CAO Kimberly Williamson Butler. Morial had committees to advise on everything. Another breech is with transparency. Police recruitment $41,000 for beginning officers, educational incentives, bonuses for college degrees. Ad campaign. Hoping to add 250 to get to 1,700. From residency law to national searches. Firings raise questions about proper hiring and training practices. Oil spill Hoping to get barge out of water soon. Worried about more oil getting out. Carnival Cruise Lines rerouted. Coast Guard tight-lipped about investigation. Enforcement gap -- may or may not have something to do with increased homeland security. River taken for granted until something happens. Road Home Taxes on monetary awards lifted. Renters going into home ownership program. Endorsements How do candidates get them? Black political organizations have weakened. Have lost populations and clout. Alliance for Good Government still influential. Endorsements mean the most when you get to the bottom of the ballot. |  

| Date: August 8, 2008 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
Kathy Finn, freelance journalist  
John Maginnis, LA Politics Weekly  
Lee Zurik, WWL-TV | Debt relief  
Have 30 years to repay feds. Couldn't justify making state pay so quickly.  
NOAH investigation  
Ran story, City Hall responded with new list. New list still had problems. 26 didn't exist. Other homes did not have work done. Contractors with ties to Stacy Jackson, former NOAH director. City set up NOAH before Naquin became mayor. Non-profit city agency. Employees terminated. Interesting evolution of a story. Stacey Head expressed concern earlier. Naquin madder at the media for breaking the story than at the situation itself. Biggest problem for administration is lack of oversight and accurate record-keeping. Billing city for work done when work was done by volunteers. Different response from administration would have served them better.  
Landrieu-Kennedy election  
Not kind to one another. Host of third-party groups taking shots at both of them. Low-excitement affair. Bill Jefferson may not make run-off.  
Airport sale  
FAA probably would not OK the deal because funds would be used for non-airport purposes. What is feasibility of transfer of control? How much is it worth? Wildly fluctuating estimates. How much would it cost to improve?  
D.A.'s race  
Williams the only black candidate. Probably will be in the runoff with Cannizzaro or Capitelli. Natural inclination to vote your race. | George Bush  
Stacey Jackson  
Stacey Head  
Tony Fasion  
Brenda Hatfield  
John Kennedy  
Mary Landrieu  
Helena Moreno  
Bill Jefferson  
Troy Carter  
Keva Landrum  
Johnson  
Jason Williams  
Sidney Barthelemy  
Leon Cannizzaro  
Ralph Capitelli |
| Larry Lorenz, moderator | Scandal in Mandeville Audit found money donated to kids' toy fund charity diverted to gifts for Price and other officials. Using city credit cards. Biggest call for investigation from Metropolitan Crime Commission. Says he won't resign. First test for Caldwell. |
| Errol Laborde, producer | Danziger Bridge incident Judge Raymond Bigelow dismissed charges. Irregularities in grand jury procedures. Immunity promised to officers was violated. Officers not in the clear. Several civil lawsuits. Federal authorities ramping up their investigations into civil rights violations. Much broader statutes. Public sentiment is with those who stayed behind. Pou charges dismissed; St. Rita case acquittal. |
| Kevin Magill, Associated Press | Federal City Decision announced prior to Katrina. Using existing military area for new plans. This week have agreed to lease terms with the Navy. Population influx into Algiers Point. New laws Outlaws cockfighting; wagering banned last year. Intimidation with hangman's noose. Guns can be brought onto property if kept in locked car. Laws against attending dog fights. Police reform City approved independent monitor. Will keep police from having to investigate themselves. Riley has promised to work hand-in-hand with monitor. Some kind of checks and balances. |
| Mike Perlstein, freelance journalist | Jefferson's seat First party primary. Candidates include Helena Moreno, Byron Lee, Troy Carter, James Carter. Whoever wins will have to face Anh Joseph Cao, Republican. |
| #235 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
Bob Breck, WVUE-TV  
Mark Schlefstein, Times-Picayune  
Rob Nelson, WWL-TV | Tropical Storm Fay Formed over Dominican Republic, went over Florida and increased.  
Candidates for 2nd Congressional District Primary key will be Times-Picayune endorsement.  
Wetlands In planning stage with state and federal government. A lot more money on the table than ever before. Will there be significant change? Depends on whether adequate progress is made before the next storm. Lots of plans -- part of the problem. Fears that levees are not as strong as they should be. Have repaired to pre-Katrina level.  
Central City progress Shopping center planned for Carrollton and I-10. Want a big green space area at Lafitte Corridor/Broad Street area. Comisky Park project has collapsed. Neighborhoods fighting to come back.  
Hurricane forecasting Still some problems with intensity forecasting. Tracking accuracy has improved. Hurricane Center will keep upgrading number until they hit it. Even if number is right, can't tell us location. Dust storms coming off Africa reducing intensity. Media tends to overcover storms.  
Cruiseship industry recovery Carnival bringing bigger ship. Riverboats still here. Cruise passengers spend more money in N.O.  
Would another storm have the same effect now? No, but still would have overtopping of some levees, but canals have been improved to decrease flooding. Recurrence every 6-10 yrs. First line of defense to restore wetlands. | Helena Moreno  
Bill Jefferson  
Mose Jefferson |
| 3rd Anniversary of Katrina and the approach of Gustave | Preparations improved. Earlier steps being taken. Individuals have their plans. Contraflow refined. Monitoring all day on the Internet. Too much info subject to misinterpretation. Congressional primary Early voting being suggested...before evacuation. If people leave town they may not return until right before voting. Prime issue is Bill Jefferson and finding a bright new face who will not get in trouble. "America Betrayed" documentary Question became why did the levees collapse in the first place? People getting contracts not qualified. "Disaster capitalism" how governments profit from disasters. Cronyism in the Corps of Engineers. Tend to give contracts to companies they end up working for. Whistle-blowers punished. LSU Board of Supervisors At issue will be the size and scope of hospital in N.O. FEMA will still need to determine how much money to give for projects. Governors want to have their way with the board. Pressure on Jindal to extract the best deal from the Bush administration. Saints Relieved that they won't evacuate to San Antonio. Show promise. Obama campaign Karen Carter Peterson leading push in LA. Obama her patron. Outsider's perspective Film making them realize what can happen anywhere. | Larry Lorenz, moderator Errol Laborde, producer Leslie Carday, filmmaker John Maginnis, LA Politics Weekly | Cedric Richmond Byron Lee Bobby Jindal George W. Bush Deuce McAllister Drew Brees Barack Obama Karen Carter Peterson James Carter |
| September 12, 2008 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
Kathy Finn, freelance journalist  
John Maginnis, LA Politics Weekly  
Dennis Woltering, WWL-TV | Gustave damage in Baton Rouge  
For 10 days, 60,000 households with no power. Streets getting cleared in time for LSU football game. Controversy whether those should be cleared first. Destruction street-to-street kept power from being restored. Successful evacuation FEMA creation started emphasizing evacuation plans beginning in 1994. Cooperation between LA and MS needs to be improved. In Houston, disastrous evacuation during Rita. Real question whether whole city could even be evacuated.  
Port Fouchon Oil service port -- most important port that nobody has ever heard of. Serves 90% of all deep-water installations in Gulf of Mexico. Access a major problem. Hopes of building an elevated highway. Need money to finish it. Essential to our energy production.  
Houma Indians suffering Island devastated by Gustave. Fishing village -- much land lost over the years. Not recognized as a nation so can't get FEMA assistance except as individuals. Many will have to move and start over.  
Jefferson poll Primary pushed back by Gustave. Now on October 4. May be a chance for another candidate to emerge. Core loyalists still supporting him. Trial will start Dec. 2.  
DA Election Crucial election. All four well-qualified. Want to get drug charges out of the way of more serious violent cases. Deal with witness intimidation and improve police cooperation. | Bill Jefferson  
Helena Moreno  
James Carter  
Cedric Richmond  
Byron Lee  
Eddie Jordan  
Leon Cannizzaro  
Ralph Capitelli  
Linda Bizzarro  
Jason Williams |
| Wetlands damage | Any recovery since Katrina pretty much wiped out. Won't know how bad things are for nesting population until next year. Trying to get Southern states together to work in unity for wetlands restoration and flooding protection. Evacuation efforts increased with realization of storm surge possibility. In 1998 Red Cross stopped opening shelters in dangerous places. Guns for protection | Don't want to be put in position of being a victim of looters or criminals again. Those who stay to protect neighborhoods are armed. Church closings | Scared of escalating insurance costs. St. Henry's really a model parish. Large campus with successful school. Our Lady of Good Counsel paying off assessment debt from the 1990s. Problems with priests who didn't pay. Now being closed despite efforts to pay down debt. Prime Garden District Real Estate. Biggest problem is so little dialogue between Archbishop and parishes. District 2 election | Jefferson still running 1 or 2 in the polls. Will probably be in the runoff. Jefferson figures his base is solid. City Master Plan | Voting on a concept to change the charter to make way for a master plan. To develop a tool that will tell developers what they can/can not build in the community. Solidify building code. Location of Charity the elephant in the room. Storm surge | Less than expected with Gustave and Ike. National Hurricane Center has a map which shows percentages. Makes no sense for N.O. because of levees here. Will be awhile until decent models are developed. |
| #239 | Larry Lorenz, moderator | Economic meltdown | What happens on Wall Street has effect of everyone. Bailout bill being designed. Unprecedented series of events. Huge names disappearing. Credit crunch happening to all...seizing up. Market needs something to settle it down. Regulators have to step in. Gold will probably remain strong. A lot of fear and anxiety. Still FDIC backing up to $100,000 per account.  |
| --- | Errol Laborde, producer |  |  |
|  | Kathy Finn, freelance journalist |  | Second Congressional District Race  Voting delayed 4 weeks by Gustave. Jefferson benefit because could be congressman rather than candidate. Everyone hyper-focused on presidential election and financial situation.  |
|  | John Maginnis, LA Politics Weekly | Lawyer advertising | Court cracking down on abuse. Ciolino and others sued Calagero based on denial of free speech.  |
|  | Alan Johnson, Baton Rouge Advocate | Airport recovery | Southeast Louisiana Airport Authority formed. Leading airline Southwest. Greatest problems are the same as those faced by airline. Only international flights are charter flights. In other areas doing quite well. New management. Trying to develop musical theme in keeping with Louis Armstrong.  |
|  |  | Sterilization proposal | Labruzzo should know better. Represents an area once represented by David Duke. Award for most boneheaded proposal.  |
|  |  | Calagero retirement | Candidates Roland Belson, Greg Guidry, Jimmie Kuhn. Campaign being overshadowed by other issues. Conservatives trying to cement a solid 4-vote majority.  |
|  | William Jefferson |  |  |
|  | Bobby Jindal |  |  |
|  | Helena Moreno |  |  |
|  | Pascal Calagero |  |  |
|  | Dane Ciolino |  |  |
|  | Charles Gee |  |  |
|  | Robert Vaughn |  |  |
|  | Morris Bart |  |  |
|  | Vernon Palmer |  |  |
|  | Louis Armstrong |  |  |
|  | John Labruzzo |  |  |
|  | David Duke |  |  |
|  | Walker Hines |  |  |
|  | Ronald Belsom |  |  |
|  | Greg Guidry |  |  |
|  | Jimmy Kuhn |  |  |
| October 3, 2008 | Larry Lorenz, moderator Errol Laborde, producer Rob Masson, WVUE-TV Kevin Magill, Associated Press Norman Robinson, WDSU-TV | **Elections** William Jefferson's 28-year political career on the line. Six challengers. Low turnout and Jefferson support could put him in runoff. Not as many attack ads as expected. Won last election soon after money found in freezer. **DAAs race** All four qualified. Judge Cannizzaro has run for office before and has campaign experience. Runoff between Capitelli and Cannizzaro expected. Mudslinging. **Supreme Court** To replace Calagero. Greg Guidry, Jimmy Kuhn, Roland Belsom **Public Service Commission** John Schwegmann wants seat back. Jay Blossman dropped out. Eric Skremetta leading. **Orleans Parish amendments** Bond renewal and solidifying inspector general's position. Not susceptible to administration changes. **Demolition** Some concern that run-down houses are being torn down to quickly. Prevailing wisdom on council is that it's about time. FEMA money for this purpose is running out. FEMA won't take care of commercial property. Always a tension between preservationists and progress. **Golden Anniversary of UNO** Originally LSUNO. In 1974, feeling among students that LSUNO a stepchild. Rally to encourage community support. Name changed. Still part of the LSU system. | William Jefferson Helena Moreno Cedric Richmond Troy Carter Leon Cannizzaro Ralph Capitelli Jason Williams Sidney Barthelemy Greg Guidry Jimmy Kuhn Roland Belsom David Treen Mike Foster John Schwegmann Jay Blossman Eric Skremetta Robert Cerasoli Ray Naquin Ed Blakely Marcia Kavanaugh Malcom Ehrhardt |
| #241 | October 10, 2008 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
Alan Johnson, Baton Rouge Advocate  
Kevin Magill, Associated Press  
Dawn Ostrum, Future Watch | N.O. Economy in the Downturn  
Influx of recovery money.  
Strength of oil and gas industry.  
Tourism. Better at weathering downturn.  
Jefferson's 25% a win. Better than expected. Helena Moreno in runoff. Gustave gave him a boost. Runoff on national election day with Obama heading ticket. Black support expected. Political growing pains for other black candidates knocked each other off. Some still believe government out to get Jefferson. Slap at the City  
Foreignpolicy.com judged city the one of the deadliest in the world. Education is improving but the impact will not take place for years. Rafael Goyeneche points to law enforcement problems. Lack of leadership at the top. Need comprehensive strategy. Jewish community About 1/3 of 10,000 population left after Katrina and never returned. Slowly but surely rebuilding. Attempt to attract new people coming in. Also program for Jewish students to help them find jobs and stay here. Membership in Jewish dating service. Ebb and flow like churches and schools across the region. Elections Cannizzaro vs Capitelli. Kimball elected. Kuhn vs Guidry. Schwegmann vs Skremetta. | William Jefferson  
Helena Moreno  
Barack Obama  
Leon Cannizzaro  
Rafael Goyeneche  
Richard Pennington  
Ray Naquin  
Ralph Capitelli  
Byron Lee  
Newel Normand  
Kitty Kimbal  
Jimmy Kuhn  
Greg Guidry  
John Schwegmann  
Eric Skremetta |
October 24, 2008

| Larry Lorenz, moderator |
| Errol Laborde, producer |
| Dennis Woltering, WWL-TV |
| Eric Asher, WIST Radio, 690 AM |
| Dawn Ostrum, Future Watch |

### Developing a Master Plan
Referendum to approve the process to be used to adopt plan. Within black community, concern about "green space". Vicious campaigning Kennedy-Landrieu debate. Charges flying but not directly at each other. Third party ads. Disagreements re Social Security, war in Iraq, etc. Rules are different when running against a woman. Come in with talking points -- no matter what the questions.

Guilty verdicts Derrick Shepherd, Gwendolyn Moyo. Tightening the noose on Jefferson. Was money a quid pro quo for endorsing Jefferson? Despite criminal charges he's expected to win runoff against Moreno. Voting for him (and Naquin) so they can find someone else to run next time.

Lakefront Airport Open and operational at about 60% of pre-Katrina levels. High fuel costs and shortened hours. Expect buildings to be restored to what they were in the 1930s. Pilots can take off and land using tower personnel at Armstrong.

Public Service Commission

| Bill Borah |
| Marshal Truehill |
| John Kennedy |
| Mary Landrieu |
| Derrick Shepherd |
| Gwendolyn Moyo |
| Betty Jefferson |
| William Jefferson |
| Helena Moreno |
| John Schwegmann |
| Jay Blossman |
| Eric Skremetta |
| James Posey |
| Chris Paul |
| David West |
| Tyson Chandler |
| Reggie Bush |
| Drew Brees |
Larry Lorenz,
moderator
Errol Laborde,
producers
Mike Hoss, WWL-
TV
Kevin Magill,
Associated Press
Dawn Ostrum

Senate/Presidential Polls
Landrieu leading in the polls by wider
numbers than expected. Ads
showing him "one confused
politician." Seniority important.
Possibility that Obama could win
electoral votes. McCain still
leading but Obama has made
serious inroads.

1st Congressional District
Harlan trying to unseat Steve Scalise in
district known as the most
conservative in LA. Perhaps
achieving name recognition.

2nd Congressional District
Moreno's task is to convince
people that Jefferson's clout in
Congress has been so damaged
that she, a newcomer, is up to the
task. Then still have general
election on Dec. 6.

I-10 Progress
Causeway Phase I
including both overpasses and
street level roads. Widening I-10
from Causeway to 17th St. Canal.
Since Katrina traffic is down, so
project should be adequate. $100
million in improvements.

Causeway/ Veterans the busiest
intersection in state. Bottleneck
should be relieved.

DA's race
Each trying to muddy
the other's reputation. Both well-
qualified with few differences.
Winner will have to face damage
control. Tarnished reputations.

Master Planning process vote
Can have huge impact on development.
Will depoliticize planning process.

Central Louisiana
Comeback of John Schwegmann?
Skremetta backed by Blossman,
who decided not to run.

Closing churches
St. Henry's and
Our Lady of Good Counsel being
"occupied" by parishioners in
protest against closure orders from
Archdiocese.
Elections Results Mary Landrieu won even though most voters came out for McCain. Thought Obama was too liberal, and there is a racial component. Compared to pre-Katrina, 60,000 less voters. Landrieu's performance got the attention of suburban parishes. DA Cannizzaro picked up swing vote.

Public Service Commission The surprise was Skremetta's large margin over Schwegmann.

Archdiocese effort to close churches Has turned into a real mess for all. What will happen to the churches? Can't sell property as long as parishioners are keeping vigil. Most middle-class, white and well-to-do. According to Archdiocese, money raised to keep churches open must follow congregations to new parishes.

Jefferson wins primary Heavy favorite in general elections, but Republicans pushing Joseph Cao. Should be lower black turnout.

Scalise returning Jim Harlan went for it with all he had.

Supreme Court Guidry vs Kuhn turned nasty. Regulations mean that more third-party groups will step in with advertising.

Master Plan Process Approved. Next step is the development of a templet for a master plan.

Rise of Bobby Jindal All the Republicans above him "blew up." Cleaning house in the party usually happens after a losing election. You don't always get to say when the launching pad goes off. Jindal needs to finish the job he has now -- a first! Probably will be a player in the presidential sweepstakes for the next two decades. We'll see how his conservatism plays on the national level.
Land for new state hospital Mid-city location for VA/LSU complex. Veterans are still having to get catch-as-catch-can medical care. Don't know where the state's share is going to come from. Not exactly sure how much it will cost to expropriate the necessary property. Neighborhood protest. SDT Billing Charges that company has been mixing trash. Parish pays for disposal of resident accounts. SDT pays for disposal of commercial trash. St. Bernard says they are being charged for disposal of too much. Despite Torres' popularity, people are questioning practices. Garbage questions in City Council Exchange between Head and White concerning numbers of customers being served. Naquin claimed racism before he viewed the tape. Head an interrogator. Friction between Mayor and Council is worse than ever. Don't have a strong CAO. City Park progress Golf has returned. Amusements, Storyland are back. Between federal money and major gifts, plenty of money for improvements. Future plans include dog park, splash park, skateboard park. Design for new tennis complex done but waiting for the funds. Slowly but surely. Have had thousands of volunteer hours. Evidence Room theft Large amount of money. $36,000 belongs to defendant. Department being sued. Riley confident he has tightened up procedures. LA Republican Party Not as bad off as national party. Jefferson running against Joseph Cao. LA has a superstar -- Jindal.
Keeping Jim Letten as U.S. Attorney. Very popular but now that Obama has been elected, may be a change. Both senators supporting him. However there are other Democrats who have a say in decision.

Recession-proof city. According to Business Week because banks are healthy. Reconstruction projects underway.

Sewage-dumping in City Park. CDT disposes of sewage in several locations. Informant showed remains at manhole in park. Says they were told to dump there as well as a location behind Rock 'N Bowl. Should go to a waste water treatment facility so that waste is treated properly. Otherwise clogs up. Had been dumping in St. Bernard until ordered not too. Supposedly dumping in Plaquemines and in Thibodaux.

City Council/Mayor's office dispute over garbage fees. Paying much more than before Katrina. Council wants to know why. No list of customers forthcoming. Oversight needed to manage contractors. Companies should not be expected to regulate themselves.

Privatization of airport. Like Chicago did to Midway. In N.O., so much political patronage connected to airport. Needs to be modernized. Consumer-friendly because not busy.

What to be Thankful for Return of Roosevelt Hotel. Saints and Hornets and classy players.

Hurricane preparation as demonstrated by Gustave. Closing in on corruption -- Inspector General. The economy.

Education being made over. Hopes for Obama administration.
Larry Lorenz, moderator
Errol Laborde, producer
Bill Capo, WWL-TV
Sabrina Wilson, WVUE-TV
Dawn Ostrum, Future Watch

Midcity Hospital Proposal VA involvement a huge step. LSU still has money to raise. Next phase will be using eminent domain to buy property for demolition. Preservationists saying these are significant properties. Mostly boarded up. Also don't know what to do about Big Charity. Art Deco facade. Target date 2013.

Most violent city in nation
According to GQ Press. City officials and FBI say report is not as reliable as it seems. However, national headlines are out there. AOL website drew attention to it. Clearly have work to do. Need more police where the tourists are. New DA may help. Riley has committed more investigators to crimes.

Charities and philanthropies
Economy having an impact. Agencies unable to help homeless. Donations down. United Ways across the country down 10%. More giving in this community. Katrina experience taught the value of non-profit help agencies. First to feel the pinch are the working poor.

Condition of tourism
Economic conditions and crime reports are having impact. But there are also some big conventions coming in 2009. Ten million visitors before Katrina; only eight million now. "Extraordinary experiences" attracting small groups.

Demolitions
Independent structural engineers must examine each case. Some houses being torn down by mistake. Anywhere from dozens to several hundred. Serious blight needs to be removed. Decaying before Katrina compounded by storm. Shortage of money before -- now federal funds involved.

Ray Naquin
Warren Riley
| #248  | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
|       | Errol Laborde, producer  
|       | Lucy Bustamante, WWL-TV  
|       | Jed Horne, author  
|       | Rob Masson, WVUE-TV  | New Orleans Center State could not exercise option to redevelop as planned. Owner plans to market Dominion Tower. Possible Saints/Hornets involvement. A smaller footprint? Recommended in 2005 but essentially is not changed. Bounceback is reaching a plateau. Jack-O-Lantern effect. Strain on city services. Will have to get creative to maintain urban architecture for small-town populations. Racial undertones to conversation. Hardly seems fair to lure homeowners back to neighborhoods with no future. Canal Street Trying to revitalize but lack of places to shop. Downtown Development District and Historic District Landmark Commission are charged with task. Issue of cooperation. Funds available. Charity Hospital Building Entrance to hospital blocked to media. Some studies show it can be revamped for 20-30% less and much more rapidly than a new hospital. 2nd District General Election Bill Jefferson won Democratic nomination. Republican Joseph Cao. Depends on turnout. If elected the first Vietnamese Congressman. Flood Protection Floodgate to block the "funnel" -- MRGO and Intracoastal Waterway. St. Bernard concerned because not all levees being improved. $700 million -- hope to complete in two years.  |
| December 5, 2008 | Stacy Head  
|       | William Jefferson  
|       | Joseph Cao  
|       | Derrick Shepherd |
| #250 | December 19, 2008 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  Errol Laborde, producer  Mark Schlefsein, Times-Picayune  John Magill, LA Politics Weekly | State Budget cuts $9.7 billion in July; $9.3 billion now. Jindal spent more than Blanco. Lots of room for cuts. Mainly in education and health care. Oil prices have dropped from $140 to $40 a barrel. Counting on oil coming back up to at least $60. Not many states with such a volatile factor.  City Budget Inspector General report showing too many city vehicles. Mayor and Council disagreeing. Since 1954 when system established, usually Mayor has some friends on council. Not now. Council an independent entity. Can council force Naquin to write the checks? May lead to a change in future budget process.  Health Care State wants to shift to an HMO type of system. Doctors would be paid on a per-patient basis. Most states have gone to managed care. Will start with children.  Receding coastline and sinking land Coasline created by Mississippi River and now that dirt is sinking. Channalized the Mississippi during the last 150 years. It doesn’t change course anymore or add to the height of the levees. Other piece of the puzzle is global warming. Water expansion and melting of glaciers, etc. We will be first to feel the effect of sea level rise. Trying to address problem with restoration and storm surge barriers. $15-18 billion already in place but need many billions more.  MR GO Corps has signed contract to cut it off.  Commutation for Edwards? Bush has only signed 8. Not likely to do one for Edwards. David Treen campaigning. Usually commutations are not controversial. | Kathleen Blanco  Bobby Jindal  Angel Davis  Ray Naquin  Cynthia Willard-Lewis  Edwin Edwards  George W. Bush  David Treen |
Banks in Louisiana Strong. Have ducked many of the real estate problems in other parts of the country. Money available for solvent banks intended to enable granting more loans. Banks who have had problems have loaned in other states (i.e. FLA).


Rising Political Stars Future statewide -- Paul Connick, Dr. Bill Cassidy, Scott Angel, J.P. Morel, Cheryl Gray, Neil Abramson, Patrick Connick, Rosalyn Johns. Present "Good 'Ol Boys" the Congressmen, John Alario Ray Naquin Baffling. First mistake Kimberly Williamson Butler. Crackdown on corruption fizzled out. Might have done okay if he hadn't had to deal with Katrina. Became a loose cannon in second term.

HIV/AIDS About 16,000 in state. New Orleans and Baton Rouge among the top ten cities nationwide. Particularly bad in the South. One-quarter got it through heterosexual contact. If you get the care, you can live a normal life expectancy. "A disease of poverty," because poor may not know as much about protection and the disease itself.

Mahalia Jackson Theater reopening More than 10 feet of water in lower level. Added upgrades. $28 million. FEMA only came up with $8-$10 million. Huge events planned. Sanger should be next.
<table>
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<tr>
<th>#252</th>
<th>January 2, 2009</th>
<th>Top stories of the year</th>
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<tr>
<td>Larry Lorenz,</td>
<td>Politics 5) Economy -- boom to</td>
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<td>moderator</td>
<td>4) Democratic losses --</td>
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<tr>
<td>Errol Laborde,</td>
<td>faultlines within the party;</td>
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<td>producer</td>
<td>3) improbable Mr. Cao; 2)</td>
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<td>Kathy Finn,</td>
<td>&quot;Vulnerable&quot; Mary Landrieu is</td>
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<td>freelance journalist</td>
<td>victorious; 1) Bobby Jindal's</td>
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<td>John Maginnis,</td>
<td>rocket ride</td>
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<tr>
<td>LA Politics Weekly</td>
<td>Business 5) Major barge breakup</td>
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<td>Rob Nelson, WWL-</td>
<td>in the river. Is it possible to insure</td>
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<td>TV</td>
<td>safety?; 4) Oil price fluctuation</td>
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<td>causing whiplash in state budget;</td>
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<td></td>
<td>3) Banks owning up to balance</td>
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<td>sheet problems; 2) Major</td>
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<td>hurricanes showed impact on</td>
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<td>businesses. Huge cost even if</td>
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<td>storm doesn't hit. 1) National</td>
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<td>financial collapse. Will continue</td>
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<td>through 2009. Port Fouchon in</td>
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<td>danger.</td>
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<td>Recovery 5) Future of Ed Blakely;</td>
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<td>4) Comprehensive zoning</td>
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<td>ordinance passed; 3) Ground</td>
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<td>broken for four new schools.</td>
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<td>Seeing decentralization of</td>
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<td>education. Large number of</td>
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<td>charters with autonomy; 2)</td>
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<td>Commitment to downtown</td>
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<td>medical corridor. Still waiting to</td>
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<td>determine FEMA amount. 1)</td>
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<td>Demolition of public housing and</td>
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<td>rebuilding new complexes.</td>
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<td>Wild cards 5) Mardi Gras, Jazz</td>
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<td>Fest; 4) Rise of the Hornets; 3)</td>
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<td>City Council taking leadership</td>
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<td>role. Strong Council - weak</td>
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<td>Mayor. Inability to respond</td>
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<td>effectively; 2) Disturbing crime</td>
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<td>statistics. New D.A. a beginning</td>
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<td>of change; 1) Passing the hurricane</td>
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<td>test. Encouraged for the future.</td>
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<td>Predictions Reinventing June as a</td>
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<td>tourism month. More economic</td>
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<td>problems. Many public buildings</td>
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<td>opening. Reawakening of Tulane-</td>
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<td>LSU baseball rivalry.</td>
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<th>Joseph Cao</th>
<th>William Jefferson</th>
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<td>Mary Landrieu</td>
<td>Bobby Jindal</td>
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<td>Ed Blakely</td>
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<td>Leslie Jacobs</td>
<td>Paul Vallas</td>
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<td>George Shinn</td>
<td>Chris Paul</td>
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<td>Eddie Jordan</td>
<td>Leon Cannizzaro</td>
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<td>Errol Laborde, moderator/producer</td>
<td>Church arrests Police raided Our Lady of Good Counsel to remove those occupying the church. Church turf war. Msgr. Nalty was reaching agreement but while he was out of town, two older priests organized arrests. Bad publicity for future fund raising. Naquin had to sign off on this. Police didn't want to. Media Tour of Charity Finally got to see upper halls. Preservation groups trying to save building -- would be 77% less expensive than building new hospital. Outmoded even before Katrina. New building projects Some planned but not yet started before. WWII Museum expansion. Federal City complex. Krauss Building condominiums. Tulane Architecture School involvement. Theater in NO Mahalia Jackson opening this week. Major announcement on Sanger coming soon. Same management. Work on Orpheum should start soon. Broadway South has coordinator so should start making progress. March on Crime Year was ending on a high note. But New Year started out badly. 1,500 officers. People want more specifics.</td>
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<td>Jason Berry, author Rob Masson, WVUE-TV Kathy Finn, freelance journalist Dawn Ostrum, Future Watch</td>
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#253 January 9, 2009
LA's hope for Obama administration Get things moving. High hopes that Charity Hospital project will progress -- stimulus package, FEMA decision. Package would also include funds for highway improvements. Only 39% voted for Obama. Katrina a significant issue during campaign. Bayou St. John Building levee to dam it off discussion. If it became a lagoon, not good for fishing or ecology. Conservation Alliance formed to fight this issue. If gates, must open regularly to allow circulation. Better water flow will be better for bayou. Connected to City Park Lagoons. Education improvements Mixed results. About one-third of schools previously considered failing have risen above the mark. Charter schools leading the way. Now realize failing schools not unique to N.O. Changes in only 3 years are remarkable. Leslie Jacobs enthusiastic. Originator of school accountability program. Teach for America. Jindal's first year Spectacular year personally. Now seen as one of the new faces of the Republican Party. Tackled ethics. Did well during Gustav. Learned from Blanco's mistakes. Legislature bruised by pay raise veto. In retrospect, with current budget deficit, did them a favor. Hurricane readiness National Guard Center opening -- hope to persuade FEMA to store relief supplies there. Faster than the aftermath of Gustav. Census Bureau Reconsidered 2007 estimate. People who are not exactly homeless but are unable to live in their homes until repairs made. Showed population return. Hope to top 300,000 this year.
| #255 | January 23, 2009 | Errol Laborde, moderator/producer  
Eris Asher, WIST Radio  
Mike Perlstein, freelance journalist  
Sabrina Wilson, WVUE-TV  
Dawn Ostrum, Future Watch | Barack Obama  
Karen Carter Peterson  
Sidney Barthelemy  
Ray Naquin  
Marc Morial  
Desiree Rogers  
Donna Brazile | Obama's plan for N.O Policy paper including hurricane protection and recovery; crime prevention, support for major medical corridor; incentives for doctors and students. How to handle FEMA.  
Inauguration Some who had tickets denied admission. N.O. parties. Feeling that LA will profit from new administration. People are plugged in.  
Juvenile Crime How to decide when to prosecute as adults. Usually depends on nature of crime, rap sheets, public sentiment. No resistance from victim -- stranger murder. In commission of a felony. Death penalty verdict must be unanimous. Life must get 10 out of jail. Cheaper to educate at Harvard than to support these kids for life.  
Union Passenger Terminal Light rail studied for years -- renewed interest. Terminal has been restored with historic murals repairs. Both Amtrac and Greyhound trying to attract a younger, more hip crowd. Some train services to East have not been restored.  
Hospital project Still quibbling over site. In limbo. Taking so long concern that federal government might pull out. Although Charity is a good building, it would not be adequate for a modern site. |
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<th># 256</th>
<th>January 30, 2009</th>
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<tr>
<td>Errol Laborde, moderator/producer Rob Masson, WVUE-TV Lolis Eric Elie, Times-Picayune Kevin Magill, Associated Press Mike Hoss, WWL-TV</td>
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<td>Inspector General Robert Cerasoli resigns for health reasons. Turbulent time trying to set up office. Too much when added to illness. Had public/City Council support. Hope the transition will be smooth. Set up office away from City Hall. Wanted special telephone system, armed deputies. State ethics board New after mass resignations last year (when board restructured). Cannizzaro asked for opinion about employing daughter. If she had previously been on payroll, would have been approved. Levee deterioration Wild hogs in St. Bernard Parish ripping more rural area levees to shreds. Have come back stronger since Katrina. Maintenance problem. Treme documentary One of earliest suburbs of the Quarter. Free people of color, Haitians. St. Augustine's Church. Fr. Ladoux. Parts of Treme closest to Quarter escaped flooding. Because of Claiborne Ave. overpass, many homeowners don't want to build. Some historic buildings being torn down. Katrina-related issues New director of Homeland Security Janet Napolitano asking for progress report. Hopes for more recovery money to come. Ninth Ward Field of Dreams Teach for America kids raising funds to build football field and track for Carver High School. Trying to get matching NFL grant. Still $800,000 to go.</td>
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<td>Robert Cerasoli Robert Odom Leon Cannizzaro Laura Cannizzaro Fr. Jerome Ledoux Janet Napolitano Paul Rainwater Brian Bordainick</td>
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February 6, 2009
Larry Lorenz, moderator
Errol Laborde, producer
Dennis Woltering, WWL-TV
Alan Johnson, Baton Rouge Advocate
Dawn Ostrum, Future Watch

Garbage controversy Mayor wanted to cut sanitation service. Controversies involved enhanced services and picking up trash from buildings with multiple tenants. Disneylike services cost $2 million per year. Stopped collecting from multiple landlords in Quarter and CBD. Now people have until March 15 to give time to obtain private services. Should contact city to have city charges dropped. Too many city cars Mayor says have to study the situation before deciding whether to comply. Letting contracts should be more transparent. No allies on the council. Has alienated those who wanted to work with him in the beginning. Cutting off trash service right before Mardi Gras demonstrates childish behavior. Pig iron plant Prospects in doubt. Claims that Nycor had not met disclosure requirements by environmental groups.

Vietnamese Community N.O. East the most concentrated Vietnamese community in U.S. Approximately 85% have returned. Mary Queen of Vietnam church. Special tax credit funding. Charter school, medical clinics, urban farm. Growth coming directly from Vietnam.

Lake Pontchartrain Foundation Has cleaned up lake. Now directing efforts to coastal restoration. Also want to bring back lighthouse. Detering juvenile crime Derrick Taub of Rebirth Brass Band has organized 80-90 kids to play music. Practice in Mid City. The Roots of Music -- will be in Bacchus and Endymion parades.

Ray Naquin
Sidney Barlthelmy
Jackie Clarkson
Carlton Dufrecheaux
Bobby Rush
Derrick Taub
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<th>Larry Lorenz, moderator</th>
<th>Jindal on Hospital Proposal</th>
<th>Bobby Jindal</th>
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<td>Errol Laborde, producer</td>
<td>Rebuilding Charity is not in the mix. City needs state-of-the-art new hospital. Bio-medical can be financially important for the city. Want to be competitive. Has told LSU they need to come up with a viable use for the old building. Still waiting for FEMA to come through with $492 billion. Stafford Act mandates replacement if building is more than 51% damaged.</td>
<td>George Bush</td>
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<td>Kevin Magill, Associated Press</td>
<td><strong>City Hall Annex</strong> In proposed area. Six-story building (no privately-owned) abandoned but signs of life everywhere. Homeless camping out there. Burn marks on floors where fires have been built for warmth. Plans for redevelopment on hold, awaiting purchase for hospital complex. <strong>Congressional Stimulus Plan</strong> $3.8 million coming to state for Medicaid, education, roads and bridges. Governor has indicated may not accept some of the money due to strings attached. Can end up costing the state down the road. <strong>Airport takeover</strong> Board set up to study feasibility of state takeover lacks funds. No scheduled international service. Lakefront Airport to be restored to its original Art Deco decor. <strong>DA's crime battle</strong> Asked area organizations to report crime. Case managers, investigators, or prosecutors will visit all rape and murder crime scenes. Best time to talk to witnesses immediately after crimes. <strong>Campaign finance</strong> Coordinated spending (between national and state Republican parties) limits being challenged. Timing of suit has to do with changes in Supreme Court. Sometimes conflicting messages -- national Republicans wanted to label Landrieu corrupt -- state felt it counterproductive.</td>
<td>Janet Napolitano</td>
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<td>Eric Paulsen, WWL-TV</td>
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<td>Cesar Burgos</td>
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<td>Richard Webster, City Business</td>
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<td>Joseph Cao</td>
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| Leon Cannizzaro          |                             | Ginger Berrigan |
| #259 | February 20, 2009 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
Norman Robinson, WDSU-TV  
Eric Asher, WIST 690 AM  
Rob Masson, WGNO-TV | Council/Mayor antics  
Relationship that's gone really, really bad. People who don’t really like each other the core of the matter. Whatever the issue, someone's upset. Playing to the gallery -- the voters.  Whole race issue is infantile. Deflects away from what's really important. How to handle themselves with proper legislative decorum.  
Biomedical District Adjacent to LSU/VA hospital. Almost 1/5 of East Bank of Orleans Parish. Trying to develop to supplant tourism.  
Saints/Hornets Financial crises due to salary caps. Deuce McAllister released. Cost-cutting measures. Hard for city the size of N.O. Need to be able to cultivate young talent.  
Stimulus Package FEMA mediation panel will try to free up allocated funds for city. To get decisions made.  
African-American ministers fighting crime Concerned that rate particularly among young black males is getting worse. Program to form groups of black men to visit neighborhoods and show there is a better way of living. Phyllis Landrieu has started early childhood education program which includes instruction for parents.  
Tyson Chandler  
Chris Paul  
James Posey  
Mary Landrieu  
Phyllis Landrieu |
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<th>Larry Lorenz, moderator</th>
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<td>Errol Laborde, producer</td>
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<td>Alan Johnson, Baton Rouge Advocate</td>
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<td>John Maginnis, LA Politics Weekly</td>
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<td>Dawn Ostrum, Future Watch</td>
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**Jindal Response to State of the Union** Widely panned. First part of speech seemed to be what he had wanted to say to convention (couldn't because of Gustave). Really not a very good speaker -- numbing audiences around LA. Delivery a killer. Almost like he was set up by rivals.

**National Guard** Leaving soon with a lot less fanfare than when they arrived. To help fight crime. Public relations disaster. Became more popular than NOPD.

**Carnival report** Still concern about repairing Municipal Auditorium. No real impact from financial downturn. What happens to floats? Most torn apart and created anew for next year.

**Pelicans** Population declined in 50s and 60s caused by DDT. In 70s more kidnapped from Florida and raised here. Now accompanying cars on Causeway. Population declines with hurricanes but they return. Good assessment of ecosystem of whole state.

**Lighthouse** rehabilitation to begin soon. Not a restoration but a replication.

**Mardi Gras shootings** Unusual because it happened on St. Charles in the daytime. Seven shot behind hundreds of people. Panic. Not sure of motive...revenge, drugs, perceived disrespect.

**Stimulus package** Turning down unemployment benefit because of strings. Would trigger a change in the law to increase unemployment benefits in the future. A small part of the package.

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<td>Bill Clinton</td>
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<td>Warren Riley</td>
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<td>Ray Naquin</td>
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| #261 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
Dawn Ruth, N.O. Magazine  
Dennis Woltering, WWL-TV | State, community and technical college system  
Celebrating 10 years of being united under a governing board. Focus on workforce development. Progress technology teaches how to operate machinery needed for high-paying jobs in industry. Most jobs require some post-high school education but not necessarily college degrees.  
Trying to get e-mail records from mayor's office  
WWL asked for e-mails and appointment calendar. Most e-mails previously deleted because of lack of server space. However, attorney Tracy Washington asked for and received city council e-mails going back more than two years. Council members never had a chance to review for sensitive, personal content. Temporary restraining order. Mayor says they are public records and public should be allowed to see them. The more he's examined, the more agitated he becomes. Search for transparency objected to on racial grounds. Seen as an assault on African-American leadership. Questionable contracts. Opening the city up should give more power to the powerless. More racial openness here than in most cities. Media criticized for revealing too much, but people need to know.  
Good news for education  
ACT scores have risen. Pretty close to national average. May be a consequence of TOPS. Charter schools having a positive impact. Autonomy of the principals in partnership with teachers. | Ray Naquin  
Lee Zurik  
Tracie Washington  
Veronica White  
Lloyd Medley  
Kimberly Williamson Butler  
Arnie Fielkow  
Robert Cerasoli |
E-mail orders Mayor fined for not turning over info to WWL. Court has not decided who will be responsible for the fines -- city or Mayor and city attorney, Pena Moses-Fields. WWL will waive fines if they are imposed on city. Washington ordered to return council e-mails because they were not requested through proper channels. Info can be redacted for security, privacy, legal reasons. Stacy Head recall effort Some of it may have been due to the old Bill Jefferson organization. Link to a N.O. policeman who is a security guard for Veronica White. Report that she is being looked at by feds. Took her laptop. Superdome commission Good news is Hornets attendance. Bad news is state has not reached new deal with Saints. State wants to get out of subsidizing teams. Bid for Superbowl will go in April 1. Need deal by May 18. Both teams selling out. No more talk of a new dome. Blaine Kern new facility On East Bank in old Delta Queen site. Big wheel, carousel and other attractions for kids planned in the next five years. New traveling exhibits to come through. Also working on plans with Tulane for an actual river turbine. Changing face of that part of riverfront. Still building and restoring floats in Algiers site. Tulane Ave. development Seven apartment complexes under construction. Go Zone money. Will provide housing for eventual medical center/ corridor. Commercial development also underway. Still vestiges of the old. Gen. Russell Honore Still does not believe city is doing enough to prepare for future storms. Should be incorporated in everything we do in LA.
| #263 March 20, 2009 | Errol Laborde, moderator/producer Sabrina Wilson, WVUE-TV Lee Zurik, WWL-TV Kevin Magill, Associated Press Dawn Ostrum, Future Watch | E-mail request WWL filed records request based on information received. E-mails from public officials are part of the public record. Can lead to officials being more careful. Requests for records have multiplied. Some organizations have specific offices to deal with these types of requests. City Council relieved that e-mails will be reviewed and information filtered. Brenda Hatfield interview Cooperating with federal authorities. Anthony Jones, technology chief, fired. State's economy New budget proposal 10% drop from last year. Drop in state revenue $1.3 billion. Cuts in health care and higher education because just about everything else is protected. University cuts based on graduation rates. Oil prices and Katrina recovery money inflated budget for the past few years. Federal stimulus money helping. Library system Will be brand-new libraries in the next five years. Rankings determined on square footages, technology, collections, proper staffing. Irving Mayfield, board director, has been able to attract new funding and attention. Home arrest program Flaws demonstrated by Mardi Gras shootings. Gaps in the system being addressed. Since 1999, have provided devices to 5,000 people, and only a few have committed crime. Garbage business SDT pump truck taken from facility and driven to 9th Ward where liquid was pumped into storm drain. Some type of manufactured event to get attention, but not sure of motives. | Ray Naquin Sarah Palin Tracy Washington Brenda Hatfield Ceeon Quiet Anthony Jones Sally Clausen Bill Gates Melinda Gates Irvin Mayfield Sidney Torres |
Mayor's response In many instances, staff not doing the job. Mayor not being briefed as thoroughly he should. Overwhelming when he is on his own. Ran on policies of openness and transparency.

Recreation Department funds FEMA funds given to us after Katrina. City Charter mandates that money cannot be spent until all necessary monies have been obtained. Money just sitting there. $16 million not enough to complete all projects that need doing. Playgrounds falling apart; swimming pools not opening.

2nd Most Dangerous State

Nevada first. N.O. responsible for the biggest chunk. Can't arrest your way out of it. Need programs to prevent crimes. Educate youth. Problems in the rest of the state as well. N.O. also has areas where crime isn't a problem. Linked to poverty in all aspects.

Legislature involvement in school board restructuring Boards have become too politicized. Boards should hire/fire superintendents and set policy...then hands off. History of interfering with superintendents. Make it more difficult to fire. Term limits for members; not full-time.

Negotiations with Hornets and Saints Saints previous arrangements changed by Katrina. Negotiations including improvements to Done. Hornets lease based on attendance; want same for Saints.

Bay Saint Louis recovery Ground zero for storm. Insurance rates through the roof. Immense amount of red tape. Plan to start burying utility lines. Still many slabs which need to be cared for -- most owned by N.O. residents.
| #265 | April 3, 2009 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
John Maginnis, LA Politics Weekly  
Dawn Ostrum, Future Watch  
Roop Raj, WDSU-TV | Rejection of part of stimulus package  
Unemployment package would necessitate permanent change in eligibility. Demos say not true. Medicaid money requires state to match. Where is $2 million coming from? Griping about how much time gov is spending out of state.  
Jeff Parish Council Probable runoff between Cynthia Sheng and Julie Quinn. Both talking about street improvements, Fat City.  
Getting married in N.O. More than double the amount of couples coming here for weddings. Make $6 million on that alone. Cheaper to get married here.  
Growing fitness destination Races held here. Half Iron Man competition sold out with 3000 competitors. Crescent City Classic. N.O. isn't just a place to drink cocktails on Bourbon St.  
Bill to raise homestead exemption Petition being circulated. Want to raise it to $160 thousand. Already pay the lowest property taxes in country.  
Roop Raj to Detroit Incredible 7 years here. May not ever understand the politics. Covering Katrina most enriching experience. Most stories traced back to storm. Storm going on in Detroit very different, but recovery experience valuable. Stations expanded hard new coverage in the most intense time ever. Humbled to have been a part of this market.  
Marcia Kavanaugh Founder of Informed Sources. Asked to create show to delve into stories more deeply. Music written by Dr. William Coleman. Consistency over the years. Gave reporters a chance to talk in more detail about stories. Filling a half-hour was never a problem. Works at 7 on Fridays. | Bobby Jindal  
Cynthia Lee Sheng  
Julie Quinn  
John Hainkel  
Harry Lee  
Mark Marino  
William Coleman  
Elizabeth Curren |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#266</th>
<th>April 10, 2009</th>
<th>25th Anniversary</th>
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<tr>
<td>#267</td>
<td>Larry Lorenz, moderator</td>
<td>Errol Laborde, producer</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>#268</strong> April 24, 2009</td>
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<td>Larry Lorenz, moderator</td>
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<td>Errol Laborde, producer</td>
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<td>Eric Paulsen, WWL-TV</td>
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<td>John Maginnis, LA Politics Weekly</td>
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<td>Dawn Ostrum, Future Watch</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Letten appointment</strong> Seeks to be up to Landrieu to recommend to president whether he will stay or go. Senators have a blackball privilege. Support at first but then agreed to look at others.</td>
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<td><strong>LSU/VA Hospital</strong> Jindal still backing the project. FEMA commitment critical -- how much is coming. Governor says remodeling Charity is not going to happen. Part of LSU's duty is to decide what to do with building.</td>
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<td><strong>Dominion Towers Deal</strong> Leaked by Sen. Alario before finalized. Right now state giving Saints $23 million a year.</td>
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<td><strong>Tourism</strong> Regis and Kelly good publicity. This weekend one of the biggest -- Jazz Fest, Golf Tournament, Hornets playoffs (this year at least). More affluent will stay for next weekend of Jazz Fest. F.Q. Fest a big deal.</td>
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<td><strong>Audubon Institute</strong> No timeline for Nature Center reopening. Area being cleared of Chinese tallows. Zoo doing phenomenally. 6,000 a day during Spring Break. Zoo-to-do profits will bring in more elephants. Audubon center for endangered species doing well. Insectarium/Aquarium do well in summer.</td>
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<td><strong>Legislative session</strong> State's fiscal situation dire so should be an interesting session. Tension will be legislators' response to one-time requests. No tax increase.</td>
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<td><strong>Starting a business in LA</strong> NO not a business-friendly city. Too many layers to go through.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Carville pol</strong> Extensive effort to describe qualities desired for next mayor. Racial polarization will not be caused by the people but by the politicians. Electorate 58% female; 70% black females who go to church. Route to election through the black churches.</td>
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<p>| Jim Letten |
| Mary Landrieu |
| Brian Jackson |
| Bobby Jindal |
| John Alario |
| Karen Carter-Peterson |
| James Carville |
| Mitch Landrieu |
| Austin Badon |</p>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Participants</th>
<th>Comments</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 1, 2009</td>
<td>Larry Lorenz, moderator</td>
<td>State/Saints Deal State funds ($85 million) to improve Dome. Benson to buy Dominion Towers, redo, and lease space for state offices. Hope to end state payments to Saints. Originally supposed to come from hotel/motel tax. Now can make a strong bid for 2013 Super Bowl. Tom Benson support for the city seems bigger than before.</td>
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<td>Errol Laborde, producer</td>
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<td>Rob Masson, WVUE-TV</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Rachel Wulff, WDSU-TV</td>
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<td>Dawn Ostrum, Future Watch</td>
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<td>Tom Benson</td>
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<td>Rita Benson LeBlanc</td>
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<td>Tom Arnold</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Errol Williams</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Nancy Marshall</td>
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<td>Michael Bagneris</td>
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<td>Jim Letten</td>
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<td>David West</td>
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<td>Chris Paul</td>
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<td>George Shinn</td>
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<td>Tom Benson</td>
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May 8, 2009

Larry Lorenz, moderator
Errol Laborde, producer
Kevin Magill, Associate Press
Eric Asher, WIST 690 AM
Sabrina Wilson, WVUE-TV

Blakely return to Australia
People wanted to believe in them. Said so many things about N.O. even embarrassed Naquin. Took credit for a lot of things. Big on talking about what he would do -- "cranes in the sky" -- long on promises, short on delivery. People wanted a General Honore kinda sky.
Naquin trip to Jamaica
Selective memory about it. Meffert's credit card belonged to city contractor, Mark St. Pierre. Mayor says he didn't know. Right after Katrina -- don't remember. Meffert identified himself as deputy mayor.

Kids getting out of trouble
Cafe Reconcile training for the future. Boys Town of Louisiana program to keep kids out of prison. Showing at-risk kids how to get along and stay out of trouble. Success stories. Criminal justice system believes alternatives to incarceration are working. Juvenile Justice System of Louisiana.

Legislative fiscal session
Able to restore some cuts to higher ed. Considering tax amnesty program. Looking at rainy day fund. Tax hikes opposed.

Mayor's e-mails
Council's not released until they can be edited. Key words to look for. Long-running court battle.

UNO Athletic fees
Students voted down increase. Shinn has offered to help out. John Georges donated for new basketball court.
High points Vatican Pavilion, Folklife Pavilion, Water Garden, Kiddy Wash, German Beer Garden, Italian Village. Isn't really much left. Fountain in front of Notre Dame.

Economic failure=bad press
Debate about bare-breasted mermaids. Media day still much construction debris -- "nowhere near complete." Well-produced beautiful place, but attendance projections too high. Rumors of bills not being paid snowballed. Parties for members of the press. Couldn't get pass the bottom line. Good for locals because not too crowded. Big difference in amounts of federal funding -- $200 million for Knoxville, $2 million for N.O. Summer Olympics in L.A. and Epcot Opening at the same time.

Political effects Reagan didn't come. No national enthusiasm. In between Treen and Edwards. Dutch Morial tough. No evidence of corruption. How did it go sour? Triggered revival of Warehouse District. Have to think about development it began. Fulton St., Federal Fibre Mills, the River. We always had our back to the river until that fair. Convention Center. River of red ink.

Petr Spurney interview
Number of visitors inflated in the beginning. Personally sued for over $20 million. Got to know the process server -- came every Wednesday. Took three years to settle lawsuits -- won them all. Vendors who lost money Landis Construction and many small companies. Some businesses began there. Also spurred on hotel development and construction. French Quarter Festival began for those being inconvenienced by sidewalk replacement.
May 22, 2009

Larry Lorenz, moderator
Errol Laborde, producer
Jerod Stevens, WBOK Radio
John Maginnis, LA Politics Weekly
Kathy Finn, Freelance journalist

Superbowl Bid Sports management team going for city's 10th Superbowl. The only domed stadium that has survived and progressed. 2013 Superbowl.

Chicken plant in North Louisiana Tradeoff for Saints support.
Painful budget cuts. Efforts to come up with more money for health care and higher education.

Superman fund.

Gambling significance Producing income for state. If Texas legalizes, it could make a big difference. Over a billion in taxes.

State of City Speech Wants to move City Hall to building the city doesn't own. Paperwork has not gone through to buy Chevron Bldg. Last state of city speech not covered by media.

Levee Protection Even promised interim protection will not be ready by August. To guard Industrial Canal from storm surge. Corps has established gates and pumping stations at canal outfalls into lake. Attempt to locate both drainage pumps and outfall pumps at same locations.

Vitter opposition Against anything Obama wants. Demos want Melancon to oppose him.

Stacy Head's e-mails Nobody really cares about content. Most more interested in the public records issue at stake. What's supposed to be redacted? What's private? Spending funds to take case to court. Process is not fair.

FEMA Trailer deadlines Program was supposed to have ended May 1. Tenants have until May 30. About 2,500 households still in trailers rebuilt. Names will be turned over to Justice Department for eviction. Will work with HUD to find alternate housing.

Tom Benson
Bobby Jindal
Jim Tucker
Ray Naquin
David Vitter
Barack Obama
Charles Melancon
Chet Traylor
Jay Dardenne
Suzanne Haik-Terreill
Stormy Daniels
Stacy Head
Tracie Washington
| May 29, 2009 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
Alan Johnson, freelance journalist  
Norman Robinson, WDSU-TV  
Dawn Ostrum, Future Watch | Travels of Ray Naquin  
Other mayors have traveled to try to improve economy, etc. Naquin going to Australia where he will be celebrity. Legislature in session but doesn't seem to matter. Has opted out of office long ago. Done in by Hurricane Katrina. Ran for reelection because didn't want to admit its impact on him. Has coasted along since storm. How did Perdigao go from successful lawyer to thief Stole $20-$50 million by computer hacking at Adams and Reese. Not greed -- the love of the game. Super Bowl preparation Host committee, dome renovations next steps. Entertainment determined by NFL. Renovations complete in Winter 2012 in time for BCS Championships and Men's and Women's Final Fours. Field level suites, moving press box. Bids for another Super Bowl after 2013 -- Saints in place until 2025. New Orleans has most experience. Jefferson Trials First the family will enter pleas on racketeering charges. Very proud, hard-working family -- history of being dogmatic and unrelenting in their pursuit of goals. Letten's track record very good. Bill's trial due to start June 9. Trying to convince the judge the FBI overstepped their boundaries. Violation of constitutional rights. Family accused of stealing from jobs programs set up by feds. Master Plan revisions Being proposed in Legislature to place more restrictions on developers. Are levees ready? 17th Street Canal dispute using involving pumps on the Lake and interior pumps at the same time. Orleans/Jefferson officials want Corps to stop using interior pumps. Don't have funding. | Chep Morrison  
Dutch Morial  
Moon Landrieu  
Ray Naquin  
Ronald Reagan  
James Perdigao  
Eldon Fallon  
Betty Jefferson  
Mose Jefferson  
Bill Jefferson  
Jim Letten  
Ted Stevens |
| Errol Laborde, moderator/producer Rob Masson, WVUE-TV Brendan McCarthy, Times-Picayune Kevin Magill, Associated Press Dawn Ostrum, Future Watch | Jeffersons in court Betty Jefferson, Mose Jefferson, Renee Gill-Pratt. Accused of fraud, RICO conspiracy. Kickback money for steering "I Can Learn" software through the legislature. FBI Crime reports N.O. had 179 murders. Discrepancy in population estimates. FBI-281,000 revised to 200,000. Number one in murder rates. Murder is the only violent crime number that cannot fluctuate. Legislature Local school boards and what they may or may not do. Micromanagement. Board interference with superintendent and trying to get teachers fired/reassigned for personal reasons. Superintendent should be CEO. Debate on proposed budget focused on higher education. LSU Press future in jeopardy. Possible that future university presses may have to form consortium. Condominium projects Actually more apartments being built. Many condo projects on hold -- deposits being refunded. Construction prices are down. Uncertainty about hospital deal and the upcoming mayor's race. More people can afford to pay rent than to buy property. Trump came to town to make big announcement right before Katrina. Controversial shooting Plainclothes unit shot Adolph Grimes 14 times. Had gunshot residue on hands and in car. Officers say he was running away while firing gun. Feds investigating. West Bank levees 4 miles of 14-foot floodwalls along Harvey Canal. 26 gates which will need to be closed when in danger. Floodwall to close off MRGO storm surge. | Betty Jefferson Mose Jefferson Renee Gill-Pratt Buddy Lehman Eddy Castaing Mike Fawer Bill Jefferson Paul Pastorek Donald Trump Adolph Grimes Warren Riley |
Legislative compromise About half of cuts to higher education and health care restored. Jindal determined no new taxes. Budget cuts necessary -- Katrina funds drying up, oil prices down. Health care cuts more dramatic. Attempt to change rules so that protected funds (K-12 education, highway funds) will no longer be secure.

Missing funds Evidence room. First heard about it when Jordan was D.A. New investigation has turned up more problems. $200,000 in cash (at least). Chief has two weeks to respond. Security measures?

New Archbishop Hughes ready to leave. Aymond local boy. First issue the closed uptown churches. Hannan said churches should have at least one weekly mass.

Tulane/LSU disagreement re hospital Tulane wants representation on board. Forming a non-profit with reps for both. Jindal put moratorium on property acquisition until matter is settled. Universities have to work together for success. Paranoia.

NASA missions What it means for Michoud. Not much right now. Making 6 more external fuel tanks. 300 layoffs so far. Boeing coming in to take over next phase. May be able to pick up workers. Jacobs Technology to take over. NASA plan to vary projects. Skilled workers with skills that do not necessarily travel well. Hope to retain Lockheed-Martin benefits while temporarily working for someone else.

Police training academy One of 8 in the N.O. area. Why can't they be regional? Differences between local law enforcement.

LSU Baseball champions Paul Maneri and new stadium should give them a strong baseball program for a long time.
| --- | --- | --- |
| #277 | July 10, 2009 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
Kevin Magill, Associated Press  
Rob Masson, WVUE-TV  
Norman Robinson, WDSU-TV | Will Landrieu run? Doesn't plan to. Now open to others. Will he run for governor.  
Jefferson trial  Jury saw the $90,000 "cold" cash. Pix of money transfer to Mody. Defense says her never intended to pay the bribe. No other reason given as yet. "consulting fees" Haven't decided whether he will testify.  
Sewer discharge leak in Kenner  Expect to get it fixed soon. Long-term hope to receive money from state to improve the system and discharge into St. Charles Parish.  
Heroin increase  O.D.'s at Lusher. Young people experimenting. Ages from 16-21 in Jeff; as young as 14-16 in Orleans, snorting, smoking, shooting. Those who OD are usually getting it uncut. Inexperienced users can OD easily. Amount of heroin on the streets five times what it was before Katrina. Many made connections in Houston, a major distribution point. Thriving enterprise and very lucrative.  
UNO facing layoffs  Have been expecting cuts for several months. So far not faculty; administrative posts consolidating. Talking about soliciting business and industry to determine needing courses. Got stimulus money; probably saved at least 30 jobs. George Shinn has rescued sports programs.  
Pastorek problems in Legislature  Wanted to alter all local school boards in state. Personal style may have had something to do with it. School accountability program almost ten years old hasn't completely succeeded. Will take time to make needed changes.  
Chinese drywall  Houses have to be rebuilt and are not getting much assistance. State health department keeping tabs on long-term health effects. | Arnold Fielkow  
John Georges  
Ed Murray  
Karen Carter Peterson  
Bobby Jindal  
Lori Mody  
B.J. St. Pierre  
Jim Bernazanni  
Tim Ryan  
Ron Maestri  
George Shinn |
| July 17, 2009 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
Jenifer Van Vrancken, WVUE-TV  
Kevin Magill, Associated Press  
Lee Zurik, WWL-TV | E-mail saga WWL asked for mayor's e-mails. Only got 13. Reported others destroyed. Investigation asserts LTC didn't operate properly. City says findings not accurate. Contradictory info from mayor's office. Mayor asserts requested information has been delivered. 100s of e-mails sent each day. Most received by station were not of substance. Midura decision Not to run. Accomplishments include getting inspector general office established. Worked for transparency. Hard to be a citizen-politician. Not insulated from the public like other elected offices. Pays $42,000. High ideals. Racial issues. Film industry tax credits Saints players involved. Lost their investment. Have done this before, but suspect due diligence was not done. Contract didn't spell out penalties for failing to deliver. Hauser released as snapper coincidentally right as news about finances came out. Other players resentful. Jefferson trial Prosecution will wrap up on Monday. Defense will only take 1/2-2 days. Will probably concentrate on assertion that government didn't prove their case. Cold cases Cannizzaro investigating to determine whether current criminals are involved. Since 2005 -- some cases not prosecuted because witnesses missing after Katrina. Fear among witnesses. Life is on the line. Campaign fund-raising Melancon and Cao leading. Vitter doing well despite scandal. Who might oppose him in election. | Ray Naquin  
Shelly Midura  
Jay Batt  
Kevin Hauser  
Wayne Reed  
Jeremy Shockey  
William Jefferson  
Robert Trout  
Leon Cannizzaro  
Charlie Melancon  
Joseph Cao  
David Vitter  
Jay Dardenne  
Chet Traylor  
Chris John |
| #279 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
Dennis Woltering, WWL-TV  
Kevin Magill, Associated Press  
Dawn Ostrum, Future Watch | New City Hall Proposed to move into Chevron Building. Council found out at Mayor's State of the City address. People in city government should study and determine best location based on several factors. Something needs to be done with old building falling apart. Needs analysis. Alcohol laws Moratorium against new liquor licenses in Central City. Two new businesses are selling -- somehow convinced Safety and Permits to grant license. City didn't find out within 45 days -- loophole in the law now changed. Jefferson case Will go to jury next week. Defense want most of the charges dropped. Defense case only took a few hours. Money in freezer was intended to be bribe, but it never got passed on. Embarrassing but not illegal. St. Bernard Recovery Slow and steady. Academy Sports and Outdoors Redfishing Cup coming up. Should improve visibility. Better than half of population has returned. Big box stores. Hope to have all recovery related projects begun or bid by year's end. Recreation centerplex. Residential challenge -- part of national mortgage crisis. Federal assistance since Katrina. Contractor fraud Paul Lewikowski of Lionheart Development. Took money for modular homes and did not deliver. Woman in Metairie got one, but it was so poorly built she can not live in it. Arrest made. Recovery school district plans State took over more than 60 schools after Katrina. Half charters and half state run. Plan to make state schools more like charters -- more autonomy. Will ask for waiver from "career" diploma. Wants to keep the bar high for all students. | Ray Naquin  
Shelly Midura  
Stacy Head  
Craig Taffaro  
Paul Lewikowski  
Denise Anderson  
Paul Vallas  
Paul Pastorek |
| July 31, 2009 | Larry Lorenz, moderator  
Errol Laborde, producer  
Rob Masson, WVUE-TV  
Alan Johnson, freelance journalist  
Dawn Ostrum, Future Watch | Jefferson trial Specific jury instructions. FBI confirmed that, no matter what the result, tapes will be released. Defense asked that all but one charges be dropped -- none were. 11 schemes.  
New City Hall defeat Felt rushed. Administration is saying it would cost $20-$30 million to fix up current city hall. Gallier Hall a reminder what a good City Hall should look like.  
Violent crime down PD statistics non-audited. Coroner's office includes justifiable homicide. Rape up 35%. Need outside auditing. Sense that more and more youth involved but actually decreased. Before Katrina, 150 incarcerated; now only 30. Alternatives -- Juvenile programs in Orleans and Jefferson.  
Stimulus money for police departments To increase community policing but still not as many officers as mid-90s.  
Crime commission Would like to see someone from DAs office advising police on all cases. Still hostility on the streets toward PD.  
Child welfare LA 49th out of 50. Poverty rate not improving. At least 27% of children in state living in poverty situation. Teen birth rate, teen idleness, death rates have improved. Project to provide juvenile services all in one place. Lack of available care big problem. Working poor can not go to doctors during regular hrs.  
New Orleans Adolescent Hospital Closing. Southeast Louisiana Hospital instead. Has added bed numbers but now access problems.  
Roosevelt Hotel Sam Friedman hotel developer brought here by Joe Cannizzaro. | Rafael Goyeneche  
Sam Friedman  
Joe Cannizzaro  
Stacy Head |
April 29, 2011
Host: Larry Lorenz

Segments:

1. **Mark Schleifstein**
   Due to a result of funnel systems that poured water into the Mississippi and Ohio Rivers watershed and water levels locally are expected to rise higher than it’s been since 1927. Baton Rouge is already above flood stage and it should be seventeen inches in New Orleans by three weeks. The Bonnet Carre spillway may be opened for the ninth time since it was built in 1932.

2. **Kevin McGill – Legislature session**
   The budget is the most important issue that will be addressed. Although there was a push to raise cigarette taxes, no tax raises passed. Jindal wants to sell state prisons in Avoyelles, Allen and Winn Parishes to generate $90 million for the health care budget but hasn’t received much support.

3. **Travers Mackel – Police officers**
   It was found this week that a select group of police officers were being paid a detail to monitor traffic photo tickets. The detail is run by Ed Hosley, who is district commander and very good friends with Superintendent Ronal Serpas. Serpas’s son-in-law, body guard and three of his top commanders were all involved. It is being investigated.

4. **Errol Laborde – Jazz Fest**
   There may be no other Jazz Fest internationally that is bigger and more important than ours. It helped bring notoriety to many local musicians. The weather this year is forecasted to be great and big crowds are expected. Train travel has been impeded over the weekend because of flooding upriver. Train travelers won’t be able to leave until Tuesday or Wednesday.

5. **Mark Schleifstein – Levees**
   Hurricane protection levees are almost complete as far as hundred-year protection goes. If the river levels get too high there of course will be some flooding but not near the extent of what we saw post-Katrina. One aspect of storm protection still to be determined is armoring. There is a debate over how much of the earth and levees should be just covered grasses and how much with rocks and other material. The report will be completed by the end of May.

6. **Errol Laborde – Hornets**
   The Hornets sadly lost last night and at one point trailed by twenty points. There’s no question how important a team member Chris Paul is. There is relief that we won’t have to hear from Phil Jackson anymore, who was always trashing New Orleans. The NBA will be dealing with contract negotiations during the post-season.

May 6, 2011
Host: Larry Lorenz

Segments:

1. **James Gill –**
   8th District Commander Ed Hosli and Public Works Director Robert Mendoza have both been suspended without pay for 120 days. They were involved in a racket in which police were paid for reviewing traffic camera tickets. The question is who else will be punished before it’s all said and done.
2. Errol Laborde – Morganza Spillway
   The spillway is above New Roads in Pointe Coupe Parish and is next to the city of Morganza. A scene in *Easy Rider* featured a café there. It siphons some of the Mississippi River water into the Atchafalaya Basin. The problem is that people will have to be evacuated and sandbags will have to be placed. Social problems arise when squatters move in. Opening the Bonnet Carre Spillway adds concern to the oyster fisherman near Lake Pontchartrain. Freshwater forces algae bloom in the lake and is bad for the oysters, which take three years to mature to a marketable level so any setback is huge.

3. Dawn Ostrom – Future Watch: Lakeview’s Comeback
   The Lakeview area suffered extensive damage caused by Katrina. Now the area is experiencing a comeback. Harrison Avenue is bustling with new businesses and may be considered better than before Katrina, with even more restaurants, coffee shops and clothing stores. The library is rebuilt and the Hynes School is set to reopen in January 2012. Streets in disrepair is the only drawback to living and doing business in Lakeview.

4. James Gill – Bohemia Spillway
   In 1924, the Louisiana Legislature authorized the Orleans Levee Board to expropriate land in Plaquemines Parish to construct the Bohemia Spillway. Residents of land not expropriated sold their land to the Levee Board. Twenty years later, with the discovery of oil and gas, those residents sought to regain ownership of their land, claiming that expropriation of the land was no longer necessary. The Legislature returned that land to heirs of the original owners and the Levee Board went broke after paying about $6 million. Heirs were offered $13 million but refused to hold out for $20 million. Now the heirs will only get $100,000 a year. A suit is in progress.

5. Rob Masson – BP & Grande Isle
   Jefferson Parish is still waiting for a big cash settlement from BP but they are getting some money to promote tourism on Grande Isle. Last year, the Tarpon Rodeo, the world’s oldest fishing rodeo, was cancelled and a concert was held instead. This year the rodeo will take place in late July. There will also be a fishing festival in June. This week the state park was reopened so things look optimistic.

May 13, 2011
Special Edition: News Media

Host: Larry Lorenz

Segments:

1. Dawn Ostrom – Social Media as News Medium
   Social mediums such as Twitter and Facebook have very recently become a top forum for the public to get their news. Only five years ago, the public used news stations as their first choice for news. Even news reporters are now using these sites to acquire and share more information and stations are using them to supplement coverage. Blogs are almost a thing of the past. There is no editorial control with any of these.

2. Errol Laborde – Newspapers
   Although it seems this media source is dwindling in size, it still offers information that no other form can deliver. On-line editions offer constant updates but there is something to be said for holding the actual paper in one’s hands.

3. Rob Masson – Television News
   It wasn’t long ago that television reporters were waiting for the evening paper editions to acquire
news to report. Now top investigators work for local news stations and use assistants to gather information. Television has the advantage of using more visual graphics to share information and also utilizes the web.

4. **James Gill – Readers’ opinions**
   
   Gill enjoys many fans of his columns but also experiences much criticism. His opinion is that any writer will be criticized and that more readers dislike than like him, although the panel disagrees. The “grind” of writing concerns the challenge of finding ideas to interest the readership.

5. **Rob Masson – Radio**
   
   The decline in radio news is largely a result of deregulation and also the decrease in popularity of certain radio personalities. The Disillusion and Fairness Doctrine about fifteen years ago created a major problem. They may be more profitable because they don’t have to tell both sides of the story. In times of emergency there is no better source of information.

6. **Errol Laborde – Audiences**
   
   Is media being led by audiences or are audiences being led by the media? What people want most is what is called Service Journalism: stories that personally affect them. In magazines, it may be “how-to” stories; in television news it may be health features. Journalism is a business and choices must be made to cater to its clients.

May 20, 2011
Host: Larry Lorenz

Segments:

1. **Mark Schleifstein – Corps of Engineers**
   
   The positive aspect of the rising river is that the eighty-year system is proving to work fairly well. The river is slightly lower than was expected and flooding should be less than was proposed. This is the first time all of the floodways are operating during a major event. Also, the Army Corps of Engineers has required in the last five years all of the levee systems in the U.S. to conduct a check that they are operating up to standard.

2. **Kevin McGill – UNO/SUNO Merger**
   
   The Legislature voted against the merger; for it to pass, it would have taken two-thirds of the vote. Supporters claimed it would increase efficiency in both universities and address low graduation issues, taking aim at single-digit percentages at SUNO. But SUNO people said that was unfair given that they serve a non-traditional student body, who take more than six-nine years while working. SUNO needs to remain majority black to retain important federal funding.

3. **Errol Laborde – Police Department Changes**
   
   Chief Serpas made adjustments to detail system this week, creating a special agency outside of the police department. There will be an entire set of regulations in parceling out assignments. New rules require a six-hour gap between a shift in one’s regular job and a detail. Also, no more than 76 hours a week combined is allowed.

4. **Dawn Ostrom – Future Watch: Children’s Medical Care**
   
   The National Children’s Study is funded and driven by the National Institute of Health in their children’s health and development wing. It is a long-range study looking at children’s health from the time in the womb to the age of 21 years old. Biological and environmental samples may be taken when a good percentage of disorders and such are found. Women are being sought who are ages 18-49 who
are pregnant or hoping to become pregnant in the next five years.

5. Errol Laborde – Paul Pastornach’s Resignation

Pastornach resigned as Superintendent of Education to be council to a space contractor agency, being a lawyer by profession. His legacy will be in creating a charter school environment in Orleans Parish and in the School Board doing away with teachers’ unions.

6. Mark Schleifstein – Hurricane Projections

A more active hurricane season than average is expected. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration is usually conservative in its predictions. Three key issues that forecasters consider are the pattern, warmer than normal sea-surface conditions in the Atlantic and La Niña conditions.

May 27, 2011
Host: Larry Lorenz

Segments:

1. James Gill – Mark St. Pierre Trial

Some denizens of City Hall, including Mayor Nagin, enjoyed a hi-tech lifestyle on taxpayers’ dime. City law puts a cap of $5,000 per political campaign contribution but Mefferts and St. Pierre were allowed to contribute $100,000, distributing it into $5,000 increments to their employees and cronies to make those contributions in their names. Nagin was reelected using such illegal contributions.

2. Kathy Finn – Hydrokinetic Energy

Some are attempting to harness the power of the river for an energy source. While using water to generate electricity is nothing new, this method would not use dams but would instead place turbines at the bottom of the river to harness its flow. There are several companies with proposals and applications in with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to use the lower Mississippi River to test the method.

3. Travers Mackel – NORD Meetings

It was discovered this week that the new NORD Commission conducts scripted meetings. This is a way that the administration is assisting them in the parliamentary workings of government, which is a little suspect since most of them are involved in politics. Even the votes are decided before the meetings.

4. Errol Laborde – Military Bases

Laborde gives new statistics on military presence in New Orleans and a graphic is show an impressive number: Marine Forces Reserve Command, Worldwide; 4th Marine Aircraft Wing & HQ; 4th Marine Logistic Command HQ; Naval Air Station/Joint Reserve Base, Belle Chasse; 377th U.S. Army Strategic Theater Command HQ; Coast Guard 8th District HQ; Coast Guard Sector Command; Coast Guard ship construction, Bollinger Shipyards; Naval Ship Construction, Avondale; LA National Guard, Jackson Barracks; Federal City; Army Corps of Engineers, N.O. Command; Army Corps of Engineers, Hurricane Protection Command; National WWII Museum; Dept. of Veteran Affairs Regional Office; and SE LA Veterans Health Care System. All show a great local military presence and that the military is a major employer here.

5. James Gill – Coroner Frank Minyard

Dr. Minyard has been coroner for over thirty years and since the office has always been underfunded he has recently been complaining that he needs a new office. Minyard has been remiss in requesting money. He claims that he is not a politician. Scandalous autopsies have been seen the past, which takes away credibility.
6. Kathy Finn - Floodwaters and Wildlife
   When the Morganza flood gates were opened, some wildlife suffered. At least several hundred
Louisiana black bears, an endangered species, were displaced from what were their homes. One bear
was hit by a train while crossing a bridge to escape water. This is the time when mothers are carrying
cubs, which could add more danger.

June 3, 2011
Host: Larry Lorenz

Segments:
1. Errol Laborde – Last week’s misair
   Due to a technical clerical error, in last week’s 7pm time slot, the program from the week before
was aired. To see last week’s Memorial Day Edition, one may visit wyes.org/programs/wyes-on-
demand. The station apologizes for the error.

2. Rob Masson - Hurricane Evacuations
   Evacuating has almost become routine. All parishes say bus contracts are secure. Evacuations
with Gustave and Ike showed that things went smoothly. Citizens showed up at proper evacuation
shelters and such. There will always be a segment of the population that refuses to evacuate and that
will have to be addressed by public officials in a time of emergency.

3. John Maginnis – Prison Sales
   The Governor has proposed the sale of state prisons to generate revenue. It is not expected to get
out of the House. The Legislature’s problem with the proposal is that Jindal wants to use the money to
fill a gap in the budget. That would kind of be like selling your house to pay the month’s electric bill.
This is a step toward privatizing the prison system in which the purchaser would lease the property from
the State.

4. Rob Masson – Traffic Camera Investigation
   Inspector General visited Mayor Landrieu last week to inform him that no wrongdoing was
found by Ronal Serpas. It seems an unusual method to visit the mayor during the investigation. Hosli
and Mendoza remain suspended for its remainder.

5. Dawn Ostrom – Future Watch: Eastern New Orleans
   The area could be the city’s next bright spot and is expected to become a city within a city.
Retail is still severely limited. Fast Forward Restart is a national organization focusing on several
communities, one of which is New Orleans East. They intend to have three huge retailers committed to
the area by the coming fall. The NASA/Michoud facility is likely to be utilized too.

6. Errol Laborde – Homeless in the city
   The homeless population in Orleans and Jefferson has reached nearly ten thousand in number.
The mayor yesterday announced the creation of a task force called The Homeless Services Working
Group. They are to report September 30th after an extensive study of the area. There are various
missions and programs in the area with limited support.

7. Rob Masson – Bywater Streetcar Line
   Plans to construct a new streetcar line to Press Street but some residents claim that for the same
money it could be extended to Poland Avenue. Some accuse the plan to be nothing more than a
gentrification effort instead of actually providing transportation to the residents. It would start at Canal
Street, head down Rampart, and continue on St. Claude Avenue.
June 24, 2011
Host: Larry Lorenz

Segments:

1. Errol Laborde – Nagin’s Book
   Usually a published book is released to the media several weeks or months before the general public has access but it appears that Nagin wanted to avoid criticism from the local press. In his explanation over why it was self-published was that he didn’t want what he said to be toned down but that doesn’t make sense. His attack on Blanco that she purposely held back support to get back at him for backing Jindal is most alarming.

2. Norman Robinson – Deadly Indifference
   Michael Brown’s new book highly criticizes the president, Blanco and the mayor. The city wasn’t necessarily well-equipped enough to evacuate all citizens in 2005.

3. John Maginnis – Legislative Session
   More bills failed than passed, including the proposal to merge SUNO with UNO. The budget was extremely difficult to balance with a supposed $6 billion deficit. The state’s cash flow was not a problem. It eliminates growth in education K-12 but the budget appears to have promise.

4. Jeff Duncan – NFL
   The season is approaching and both sides are running out of time. The latest momentum is to get the matter out of the hands of the courts and into the hands of negotiators. It is a matter of how to divide the pie. Revenue will be added by increasing the schedule. Many owners have been paying significantly less than players are worth.

5. Norman Robinson – Cannizzaro charges
   D.A. Cannizzaro leveled charges against two former public officials this week. Jim Bridger was General Manager of the Public Belt Railway and Kenneth Ferdinand was Director of the French Market Corporation. Information was turned over to him by Inspector General that led him to make this move, accusing them mainly of credit card misuse. Louisiana and Orleans Parish have a long history of unaccountability in such matters.

6. John Maginnis – LSU/VA Hospital
   Senator David Vitter, House Speaker Jim Tucker and Treasurer John Kennedy are concerned about the money to be spent on the complex. They support building a smaller facility. Governor Jindal wants to collaborate with Tulane. A business plan was brought to the Joint Budget Committee of the Legislature for their case.

7. Norman Robinson – St. Augustine High
   The debate began over paddling, moved to autonomy and exploded when politics and legalities got involved. When someone decided to file a lawsuit, the Archbishop withdrew. Then the former President took on the Archbishop head-on, an unlikely win. It boils down to an issue of the Catholic
hierarchy.

**June 30, 2011**

**July 8, 2011**
Host: Larry Lorenz

Segments:

1. **Travers Mackel – NOPD**
   Three high-ranking officials are all under investigation. Retired Commander Eddie Selby allegedly made racially insensitive remarks, supposedly telling officers to target African-American males in the residential area of the Quarter during Essence Fest. Long-time Captain, Jimmy Scott was under investigation, the claim being that he took too long to report Selby. Then a third commander, Michael Harrison, who heads up the Investigations Bureau, was investigated for his alleged improper disposing of police uniforms.

2. **Kevin McGill – Betty Jefferson Audit**
   A state audit of the books of Former Assessor Betty Jefferson shows that she may have averted funds for personal use. Her trial already hinted at this but it got the Board of Assessors to ask the auditor to look more deeply into the matter. It may affect her upcoming sentencing in August.

3. **Errol Laborde – Edwin Edwards**
   Edwards is still on probation but has been relieved of house confinement. In 1987, he was defeated by Roemer and probably only won four years later because he ran against David Duke. Although some are expecting him to run again it isn’t likely. His plans are to publish his story in a book.

4. **Dawn Ostrom – Future Watch: I-10 Twin Spans Project**
   Progress is that on just about the six-year anniversary of Katrina, all six lanes on the new twin span will be open the entire way. Now the entire east-bound side is running but the west-bound side, from Slidell to New Orleans there is still a little back and forth from the old bridge to the new one. Those approaches are the next and final phase to be complete. The Southshore approach as you are entering bridge will be completed the first week of August, while the Northshore end is expected to be complete by the first week of September.

5. **Errol Laborde – Fall Elections**
   Major state offices need to be filled, including the Governor’s race. Jindal appears to be in great shape and has maintained his popularity and financial ability. It is difficult for potential opponents to even get their names out there. The Lieutenant Governor’s race may be the race to watch, as the next person to hold the position has a good chance at becoming Governor. Darden will be difficult to beat.

6. **Kevin McGill – School Vouchers**
   The plan involves the government paying for students to attend private schools. Governor Jindal won a limited voucher plan in 2008, which states that if a student in New Orleans from a low to moderate-income family and is already failing public school is eligible for a voucher to certain schools that meet certain criteria. Leslie Jacobs recently founded a group, Educate Now, which claims that there are enough students enrolled in testing-level years to see how it is working. Many students in Catholic schools aren’t doing any better.

**July 15, 2011**
Host: Larry Lorenz
Segments:

1. **Dawn Ostrom – Kenner Murder/Suicide**
   
   Department of Psychology and LSU Sciences and Trinity Hospital Group claim the woman wasn’t treated by them. Experts believe the woman suffered from post-partum depression or post-partum psychosis, being that her youngest child was 6 months old. She also had a 2-year-old and 13-year-old and they were all about to be evicted, no doubt added stress. The tragedy became a wake-up call to inform the public of the crisis hotline, 211. 911 may also be used and the LSU hotline is 568-8772.

2. **Kathy Finn – Danziger Bridge**
   
   It is a riveting trial in which the prosecution has mounted a powerful case. It will probably rest on Monday, giving the defense their turn. The government’s story is that the shootings were justified. Cover-ups after the incident is what makes that stand weak. Police entered a gun into evidence, charging a victim with eight counts of attempted murder on police officers.

3. **Errol Laborde – Schools**
   
   Three Catholic high schools, including De La Salle, a Christian Brothers institution, and St. Augustine, run by the Josephites, are facing hard times with conflicts between the school and archdiocese. They were both part of a Youth Progress Program that was an effort to raise money for new schools. Both have recently dealt with situations where their principals were fired. They are going up against the Archbishop and aren’t expected to get too far.

4. **Errol Laborde – Police Morale**
   
   Police morale is low with various trials against the department, which is anxious to see them finish so that they can move on. Police Chief Serpas is seen as having his favorites, promoting and awarding accordingly. This practice doesn’t help morale.

5. **Dawn Ostrom – Future Watch: Earhart Expressway**
   
   Mayor Nagin started the major project in 2009 and the bulk of the work will wrap up next week. The $12 million project is mostly funded by stimulus money. It is a major thoroughfare, with Calliope turns into Earhart and the corridor connects the river port downtown to the Huey Long Bridge. Only one more small leveling project will continue past next week.

6. **Kathy Finn – Entrepreneurial Talent**
   
   New Orleans has attracted much outside business talent and young natives find good reasons to stay and make a success of their companies here. Forbes Magazine declared the city the number one brain magnet for starting new enterprises.

**July 22, 2011**

Host: Larry Lorenz

Segments:

1. **Errol Laborde—Marlon Defillo**
   
   Marlon Defillo retired this week in the face of controversy due to his involvement in the Glover case. Defillo said in 32 years, he had put the N.O.P.D. before his family and that he was now putting his family before the N.O.P.D. After all of the negative attention, he felt the better option was to retire rather than risk a demotion in his career.

2. **Eric Paulsen—Benson Towers**
Business owners in Jefferson Parish are complaining about the Benson Towers being rebuilt near the Superdome. The business owners feel that rebuilding the towers near the Superdome gives Tom Benson an unfair advantage because the people are fearful that Benson will undercut them and the rest of the market in this currently depressed market.

3. **Paul Maginnis—Jindal & Vitter**
   There is a current rivalry between Republican Governor Bobby Jindal and Republican Senator David Vitter. Vitter wants to prove himself as being more conservative than Jindal. Vitter endorsed Jindal despite the fact that Jindal did not endorse Vitter which has Louisianans wondering if Vitter has future plans of running for governor of Louisiana.

4. **Sabrina Wilson—Kenner Councilman**
   Kenner Councilman, Joe Stagney, is caught up in a sexting scandal after texting a sexual picture of himself to another female city employee. Stagney has offered an apology for having the inappropriate relationship. He said that the picture was taken with his personal cell phone and not from government equipment.

5. **Eric Paulsen—LSU/VA**
   There is a heated debate about whether or not the LSU/VA Hospital should be built. There are funds on hold to be spent on the building. The building will be build sizable and expandable so that when the market is in a better condition, the hospital can be expanded.

6. **John Maginnis—Election Update**
   There has yet to be a viable Democratic challenger to run against Republican Governor Jindal in the upcoming gubernatorial election. Because President Obama’s approval rating has gone down in the state, many Democrats are hesitant to run against Jindal in the election.

7. **Errol Laborde—Tales of the Cocktail**
   Tales of the Cocktail is an “anti-wine” event created to get people in New Orleans interested in drinking hard liquor again. A series of seminars are being held here to promote the marketing and sales of hard liquor.

**July 29, 2011**
Host: Larry Lorenz

Segments:

1. **Errol Laborde—Jefferson Family Legacy**
   The Jefferson Family Legacy was built on the strengths of William Jefferson. Although some would not consider Jefferson as a many, there is no denying that he was a political powerhouse.

2. **Mark Schleifstein—Global Warming**
   The Natural Resources Defense Council is studying the effects of sea level rise and what it does to coastal cities. The city of New Orleans is aware they the city has problems and are working hard to offset any effects of sea level rise to the city. Sea-level rise has dramatically increased near Grand Isle which is a result of Global Warming.

3. **Mike Hoss—Volunteer Fire Depts.**
The volunteers control much of what goes on at the Jefferson Parish Fire Departments and the spending habits of volunteers have not been monitored in the best ways. Funds have been carelessly spent so the Parish is looking into developing a better budgeting plan.

4. **Norman Robinson—Marlon Defillo**
   The P.I.B. (Public Integrity Bureau) knew about the Glover case three and a half years before it was disclosed or made public. Defillo failed to inform the public of this because there was an investigation underway and explained that he declined the disciplinary hearing because he felt that he would be demoted. The public is questioning if Defillo was railroaded by Chief of Police Ronald Serpas due to the decisions that have recently been made.

5. **Mike Schleifstein—Levee Master Plan**
   There is a five year review of the master plan that was approved in 2007 to get a specific plan in place to protect the coastlines across all coastal areas, including New Orleans, for the next fifty to one hundred years. Some areas will be protected in the future, while others will not. New Orleans is eligible for greater than one hundred year protection due to its population.

6. **Mike Hoss—Reggie Bush**
   Reggie Bush has left the Saints to play for the Miami Dolphins. Historically, Bush was an important person in New Orleans—especially during the critical time when the city was recovering from the catastrophe of Hurricane Katrina. Although Bush will be greatly missed by the city of New Orleans, many people feel that he has served his purpose. Therefore, they are at peace with his decision to leave New Orleans and play for the Miami Dolphins.

*August 5, 2011*

Host: Larry Lorenz

Segments:

1. **Errol Laborde—Danzinger**
   The Danzinger jury convicted all five police officers on all counts except murder. “The Culture of Silence” or “The Tradition of the Thin Blue Line” is the idea within the police force that a police officer needs to protect a fellow officer by any means necessary. The conviction is hoped to have nullified these ideas within N.O.P.D.

2. **Rachel Wulff—Abramson Charter School**
   The charter at Abramson Charter School was taken away because it was thought to be a risk to the health and safety of children. Despite increase in test scores by students, there were also allegations of sexual misconduct and attempted bribery in the school within the last four or five weeks. The school is dealing with much controversy and scandal, at this point, so the charter was revoked. The Recovery School District will now be taking over the school.

3. **Jim Amos—Times Picayune History**
   New Orleans is about to celebrate its 175th birthday. The Times Picayune is paying tribute to New Orleans and both the city’s and the newspaper’s history. The first edition of the Times Picayune was printed January 25th, 1837 and was an instant success, and is still successfully in print today.

4. **John Hill—Politics**
   Louisiana, at one point, was a predominately Democratic state. However, the civil rights movements of the ‘60s caused a lot of “white flight” from the Democratic side which resulted in a huge build up on the Republican side. Louisiana eventually went from being solid Democrat to solid
Republican. In 1979, Louisiana elected its first Republican governor, Dave Treen. Several Republican governors have been elected since.

5. Rachel Wulff—Blight
   Today there are 43,000 blighted residential properties. The blighted houses in areas around schools are being targeted most. The community wants city officials to do something about blighted property. Mitch Landrieu has put in much effort to do just that.

6. Jim Amos—Future of Newspapers
   The key to any newspaper success is being rooted in its community, but the newspaper must also be able to keep up with changing times. Having a website and doing video is a great way to keep readers engaged and interested in the newspaper. Advertisement is also essential to the longevity of newspapers.

August 19, 2011
Host: Larry Lorenz

Segments:

1. Rob Masson—Chemical Spill
   A black liquid substance has spilled into the Pearl River. The plant claims that the stuff isn’t toxic, however, others claim that it is. There could be significant environmental impacts. The slime has killed various species of fish but isn’t very harmful to humans.

2. Ben Lemoine—“The Experiment” Documentary
   Before Katrina, schools were run primarily by the school board in a dictatorship-like fashion. After the storm, charter schools were started. Outsiders came and began running the schools. Charter schools are run much differently than most public schools and are overseen by private boards. Most opposition to charter schools comes from teachers unions. The documentary gives viewers an in-depth look into how New Orleans schools are now currently run.

3. Rob Masson—Updated Airports
   There have been plans to build regional airports in Nola East, however, those plans have fallen through. MSY has made a proposal to the aviation board in which the aviation board would help them update their facility. MSY is a user friendly airport, rather than a hub. Many believe MSY to be too small and compact of an airport and feel that the airport would never be able to compete with other airports unless it was renovated.

4. Errol Laborde—Hornets
   New Orleans has gotten a major sponsor: Entergy. Nola’s profitability may put it in the top half of the NBA teams. New Orleans has more money than people realize and the Hornets will help bring in even more to the city.

5. Dawn Ostrom—Future Watch: Port of New Orleans
   $17 million has been given to the city to build the Julia Street Terminal. Royal Caribbean Cruises will come with cruise ships in an attempt to make New Orleans a Port of Call. These cruises will bring more money with ships cruising to the Bahamas and Middle Caribbean. The ships will disembark in the French Quarter.

6. Rob Masson—Mendoza Fired at City Hall
   The detail was hired through public works and now Mendoza has been fired. The city feels Mendoza should have known that this detail was illegal run by police officers. Mendoza is now out.
**September 2, 2011**  
Host: Larry Lorenz

Segments:

1. **Rob Masson—Marsh Fires**  
   Many people became ill due to the smoke for respiratory ailments. It is believed the city has not acted fast enough. Due to the inaccessibility to the marshes, it is difficult to put it out.

2. **Errol Laborde—Council at Large**  
   The council must appoint and interim council member to replace Arnold Fielkow. The special election date is still in debate. The council member at large is a more prestigious position. It is too soon to tell who will be running for the position.

3. **Dawn Ostrom—Future Watch: Louisiana Children’s Museum**  
   The museum is celebrating its 25th birthday this fall in the warehouse district. The museum plans to move to City Park around 2014 calling itself an “Early Learning Village”. The museum will be bigger with more hands-on learning for children. A fundraiser called “The Festival of Trees” will also be put on this December, which will have adult cocktail party and a family brunch. Their biggest fundraiser put on earlier this spring, The Children’s World Fair, was a great success. A miniature golf course will also be put into construction in January.

4. **Jed Horne—Katrina in Retrospect**  
   The way in which the informing of the public circulated seemed to be irrational. Much of the information has been over-the-top with ideas of an eco-paradise city and a network of trains to connect neighborhoods. Now, more reasoned ideas have taken on. Although, many extreme acts have happened after the storm such as the tearing down and rebuilding of the older housing complexes, as well as the school systems changing into charter schools.

5. **Errol Laborde—Technology**  
   Katrina seemed to be the coming of age of the laptop. During the storm, it was difficult to communicate to friends and family. TV stations were also able to stream through the internet. Although cell phones were in popular use, text messaging was new to most people.

6. **Rob Masson—Mandeville Sales Tax Investigation**  
   Mandeville’s finance director, Milton Stiving(sp?), was asked to resign because of sales tax investigation. A sales tax that was supposed to be dedicated to police and fire had been used for general funding for years. The city’s budget is now in immediate concern. A poll will be brought to the voters for approval to have the sales tax be applied into the general funds, which can avoid layoffs. An active search to replace Stiving is now taking place.

7. **Rob Masson—Betty Jefferson Sentenced**  
   Some people thought it was an easy sentence of 15 months of home incarceration. Betty Jefferson testified against Renee Gilpratt(sp?), former state representative of city council. She was involved in a scheme that funneled hundreds of thousands of dollars into bogus charities.

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**September 9, 2011**  
Host: Larry Lorenz

Segments:

1. **Eric Paulsen—LSU/VA Hospital Update**
The governor says there is a business plan coming that could save financing costs for the university medical center. The plan is about one billion dollars that will be fully paid for out of pocket. The only thing that can slow down the process is the need for approval through the legislative budget committee.

2. John Maginnis—Fall Elections
Although there seems to be a lack of candidates running against him, Governor Jindal’s re-election will be tough in the upcoming election. In the last year, Jindal has worked hard to improve his reputation as Louisiana governor. His approval ratings have dipped because many people feel as if Jindal isn’t the hands on governor that they would like him to be.

3. Errol Labourde—Garland Robinette/$250,000 loan
Robinette accepts a loan from one of the owners of the River Birch Landfill. There is no evidence that Robinette did anything illegal, and Robinette continues to insist that he did nothing wrong. There is question of whether Robinette accepting the loan was morally wrong. A journalist’s job is to fulfill his obligation of informing the public, and the journalist is accountable to his listeners and/or readers. Robinette’s ethical obligation is not to get involved in conflicts of interest.

The website www.fema.gov/areyouready has been created so that the citizens can be prepared for all types of natural disasters and terrorist attacks. There was recently a bomb threat at Tulane University which caused the school to shut down. People are curious as to how much of their personal information (bank accounts, email, etc.) can be seen in the intelligence network.

5. John Maginnis—How to Guide to Politics
People don’t how to run for local office so Maginnis made a DVD explaining the process. Political Consultant, James Carville and Former Governor of Louisiana, Buddy Roemer both give tips about running for office in the DVD. Every area of running for office is covered. Visit www.howtogetelected.com for more information on purchasing the DVD.

September 16, 2011
Host: Larry Lorenz
Segments:

1. Errol LaBorde—University Medical Center
A joint committee approved the business plan for construction, in hopes of providing two things that the people of Louisiana need: jobs and healthcare. A new business plan was presented a week ago which would involve less state debt. Once the vote passes, the next day construction will start.

2. Kevin Magill—Board of Elementary & Secondary Education
The government only selects three of the members on the Board of Elementary & Secondary Education. The rest of the members come from eight districts. The Coalition for Louisiana Education will probably not have much money to spend. Jindal’s campaign has put al lot into BESE. Charter schools will be the next issue, along with deciding who will be elected superintendent.

3. Jeff Duncan—Future of Tulane Football
Tulane has a really great contract with the Louisiana Superdome. The stadium appears empty during Tulane games because the stadium capacity is 80,000 and only 20,000 spectators usually show up for Tulane games. The athletic department at Tulane is privately trying to raise funds so that they can build an on campus facility for athletes. The project is estimated to be about a $60 to $70 million project.
There won’t be a public announcement about the new facility being built until half the funds have been raised. At this point, only $15 million has been raised.

4. Errol LaBorde—Council at Large
People become squeamish in terms of race and politics. The council right now has a 5-2 white black majority. Currently there is 5-1 female male majority in the council so it is very unlikely that a female will be elected. Many wish to elect a black male to diversify the council.

5. Dawn Ostrom—Future Watch: Condition of New Orleans’ Crime Lab
The New Orleans Crime Lab is back in a sense and it is located temporarily at the UNO Foundation Office on the Lakefront. The lab has been at its location since post Katrina. The lab is a functioning lab with gun testing, initial DNA analysis, etc. but the lab is nowhere near the lab that it was pre Katrina. The city is working on getting the lab operating the way it was before Katrina.

6. Errol LaBorde—Louisiana Artworks Closing
The organization was modeled after “The Torpedo Factory” of Alexandria, VA, and although the people who begin Louisiana Artworks had the best intentions in mind, they seemed to lack the business plan needed to make sure the business remained open. The organization was in debt and there was one obstacle after another.

7. Jeff Duncan—Saints
The Green Bay Packers is clearly the best team in the NFL this season after beating the Saints in their recent game. The Saints competed really well and discovered that they have a very adequate replacement of Reggie Bush in Darren Sproles. The defense is apparently lacking this season. Aaron Rogers is arguably the best player in the NFL and some say that he’s even better than Drew Brees. The only way to succeed in football is by pressuring the quarterback and creating some big plays on defense, and at this point, the Saints are a punching bag on defense.

September 23, 2011
Host: Larry Lorenz
Segments:

1. Mike Perlstein—Judges Insurance Expenses
Local judges were dinged for buying extra insurance with court’s moneys. Eight different policies were bought with a tab that was just under $2 million. Judges were not entitled to have so much insurance as they are legally provided with a minimum insurance coverage by the state. The judicial expense fund is not a fund to be dipped into, yet the judges have done so spending millions of dollars from the fund.

2. Jeff Duncan—Hornets Future
The business model in the NBA is broken. Many teams are losing money, including the Hornets. The future of the Hornets and their ownership is unknown until the model is fixed and the teams start back making money. There have been a lot of sponsors coming in and a local television contract with Cox. Once the labor lock out is solved, there so be no problem getting a new owner to come in as soon as late December or early January.

3. Kathy Finn—Local Banking
Local banks are in a period of digestions after many Louisiana banks took over other banks in the last year. Iberia Bank out of Lafayette bought Omni Bank and Cameron Bank shares last spring and quickly became the largest Louisiana based bank. Hancock Bank of Mississippi has purchased Whitney Bank. Iberia has $12 billion in assets with Hancock having $14 billion in assets.
4. **Errol LaBorde—New Orleans Council at Large** 
When dealing with politics, you deal with race and gender. Eric Granderson has an excellent reputation at city hall and he knows the legislative process inside out. Granderson really knows how to get things done. Jackie Clarkson said that she probably will not run again.

5. **Mike Perlstein—Witness Protection** 
Witnesses need to be protected against retribution. Victims who aren’t killed the first go around, or witnesses who have been asked to testify, when they start cooperating with police they get a stern message sent their ways. Some have been shot and killed and this has been a persistent problem within the D.A.’s office over the years. There are not a lot of resources available to keep witnesses safe. On rare occasions, they will have money to relocate someone out of the parish. They help relocate people to shelters and living facilities, or they are there to provide psychological support to the witnesses and victims.

6. **Jeff Duncan—Saints Domecoming** 
The first televised game after the Superdome reopened after Katrina has become known as the Domecoming. The dome was felt with so much emotion that night and was used to tell the story of post Katrina New Orleans. Governor Blanco was allowed to expedite the renovations of New Orleans so that a year long construction schedule could be completed in only 9 months. That night, the Saints had an incredible and uplifting performance.

**September 30, 2011**
Host: Larry Lorenz

Segments:

1. **John Maginnis—Elections**
There is less interest in the judgeship election. The premier campaigning will come during the race for Lt. Governor. Republicans Jay Dardenne and Billy Nungesser are going head to head in the race. Nungesser has the support of the Tea Party but to win he’ll need to get majority of the votes from New Orleans, primarily black votes. The race is looking to be a close and interesting one.

2. **Marcia Kavanaugh—Coastal Issues**
A test project was launched in Terrebonne Parish to try and protect what is left of the marsh. The project is called “Floating Islands”. Mats of vegetation are set afloat in the marsh; being anchored and bound together. The mats are hoped to float out to the marsh and protect the remainder of the marsh from disappearing. The project costs $150,000.

3. **Dawn Ostrom—Future Watch: Public Libraries**
After Katrina, many of New Orleans’ libraries were damaged beyond repair. New Orleans has been working hard to revive their public library system. Three libraries in New Orleans East, Lakefront and Gentilly areas are scheduled to reopen in the spring. There will be community rooms, views to the neighborhoods, more computer access, etc. in the new buildings. Libraries are not a thing of the past. People will use the libraries because on average, there are 300,000 present daily in libraries using computers in search of work.

4. **John Maginnis—Political Clout**
The state stands to lose a half billion in Medicare dollars in two fiscal years and it will take a lot on the part of Mary Landrieu to prevent. Mary Landrieu has been in the senate for 15 years as it takes a lot of time to get up the political ladder, as Louisiana politics seem to be a little more treacherous.
5. Errol LaBorde—Bishop
Archbishop Philip Hannan has died and is said to have been a man who really made a difference in New Orleans. He served as archbishop of New Orleans from 1965-1988 so there was a whole generation who knew no one else as archbishop other than him. After the Vietnam War, Hannan really tried to reach out to the Vietnamese in hopes of having them settle in New Orleans and start their lives anew.

Jordan Jefferson has returned to the football team along with Josh Johns. He is no longer facing a felony, as his felony was reduced to a misdemeanor. Jared Lee earned the starting role as LSU quarterback while Jefferson was away due to his criminal incident. Lee will continue to start as quarterback. Jefferson missed four games due to being in trouble with the law; however, he will be allowed to play LSU football again.

October 7, 2011
Host: Larry Lorens

Segments:

1. Errol LaBorde—Naming Rights Dome
Tom Benson called the Mercedes company because the corporation wanted to be apart of New Orleans’ recovery so they helped renovate the Superdome. There will be a Super Bowl played in the newly renovated dome. Of all the stadiums that have corporate names, Mercedes Benz is a prestigious name to have. Renaming the Superdome to Mercedes Benz Superdome may not be such a bad move.

2. Rob Masson—Lt. Governor’s Race
The Lt. Governor’s race is race governor. There has been a lot of back and forth on which Republican has the appropriate credentials to lead this race. Louisiana has gone conservative in the past and the people like the new conservative face. Darwin has won two state elections.

3. Errol LaBorde—Legislators Races
The race is amongst two republicans. In the Lakeview/Metairie race LaRusso and LaRusso are racing against one another. The Senates race is amongst two black democrats. The Republicans seem to gain in both corners. Republicans are more solid and united during this election.

4. Rob Masson—BP
Many baseline species in the gulf are dying. There has been research conducted in the gulf that reveals problems with both humans and animals in the gulf due to the lasting effects of the oil spill that occurred last year. BP says that they need more definitive research before drawing a conclusion about the problems in the gulf. Seafood is safe, for the most part, but as the research is done, there is plenty more reason to keep a watchful eye about what happens in the seafood population.

5. Kevin McGill—Schools
The Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) has started assigning letter grades to individual schools so that parents can better understand how each school is evaluated. 44% of schools in Louisiana received letter grades of D’s and F’s Wednesday, and the most improved schools were the recovery schools. The Recovery School District appears to be working, yet so many schools in Louisiana are receiving low letter grades. There has been much progress in Orleans Parish, while Jefferson Parish has seen the least progress. The Orleans Parish School Board is one of the top districts in the state.

October 14, 2011
Host: Larry Lorens
Segments:

1. **Errol LaBorde—Political Evolution**
   Governments used to do the bare minimum, but in the late 1920’s this begin to change. The Great Flood of 1927 is what triggered political evolution in the state of Louisiana. People loved the government back then. Up until the 1960’s, there was more of a blending of government and brought the era of long vs. anti-long to an end. Edwin Edwards would dominate Louisiana politics for years. Edwards was as dominate of a figure as Huey Long would have been.

2. **Rob Masson—Scandals**
   Louisiana is the most active public corruption state in the country. Huey Long had an aura of corruption around him. Richard Lesh and many other public officials where accompanied by corruption. At one time, politics was viewed as a club which increased the risk of scandal. Scandal has been present in the state for years which cause Louisiana to seem to be prone to corruption. When you put people in charge of other people’s money, there will be corruption whether the corruption is in Louisiana or another state.

3. **Kevin McGill—Republicans and Democrats**
   Louisiana has always been a one party state; however, today it appears to be different. Louisiana is viewed on paper as a purple state as there is almost an even split between red and blue. The majority of the vote here is conservative.

4. **Errol LaBorde—The Electorate Graphic**
   Of the 2.8 million registered voters, 1.4 million are registered Democrats with 763,000 being registered Republicans and 670,000 being registered other. Of the 2.8 million, 1.8 million are white, 860,000 are black with 125,000 as other. Many voters stay registered to a party and vote for the opposing party because they don’t feel that registering their change of party is important. When there is a Democrat vs. Republican, many people will just vote with the party without knowing much about the candidate. The last Democratic candidate to be elected was Governor Kathleen Blanco.

5. **John Hill—Louisiana Powerbrokers**
   The very wealthy and very powerful families in Louisiana are known as the Louisiana Powerbrokers and are extremely important in Louisiana politics. Newspaper publishers and editors used to be viewed as power welders. Candidates always want editorials and endorsements to help boost the success of their campaign. People still want and seek those endorsements, however, newspaper publishers and editors today try to remain neutral.

October 21, 2011
Host: Larry Lorenz

Segments:

1. **Kevin McGill – BESE Regional Races in Districts 1 and 2**
   BESE (Board of Elementary and Secondary Education) races are often low profile. The governor and various businesses are involved to solidify the reform movement to charter schools and strengthen the accountability program, along with the graduate exit exams. This race is partly between money and the muscle of the teacher unions and school administrators.

2. **John Maginnis – Governor’s Race**
   Governor Jindal has a string of opponents, but none too serious. It is expected Jindal will receive at tops 70% of the votes in the polls for re-election. It’s observed that there are too many candidates for the governor’s election. The lieutenant governor’s race is the most observed race at this time. It’s a race
between two republicans: “Jay” Dardenne and “Billly” Nungesser.

3. Errol Laborde – Secretary of State Race
In some ways the most heated race. The candidates are republicans: “Tom” Schedler and “Jim” Tucker. Tucker seems to be trying to make a racial twist to the running. Tucker also seems to be in the lead, but there is a large “undecided” in the polls.

4. John Maginnis – Constitutional Amendments
In the statewide race of the five Amendments, there are two that matter most: No. 1 Millennium Trust and No. 4 Budget and Stabilization Fund. The language of the amendments is difficult to understand for the average person. Many get confused when entering their votes.

5. Norman Robinson – State Representative
The state senator regional race takes place in the 3rd Senatorial District and the 94th Representative District. The legislative restructuring of the districts has created smaller landscapes. It’s a contest to decide which family will hold sway in the polls. Cynthia Willard-Lewis has been heard to want to run for city council if she loses against “J.P.” Morrell in the race for the 3rd Sen. District.

October 28, 2011
Host: Larry Lorenz

Segments:

1. Mike Perlstein – Murders
Two recent murder arrests were possibly linked to a family whose criminal activities go back nearly two decades. The Hankton(sp?) family is well known to the police department, but not to the public. Many are too afraid to go on the witness stand. The witness protection program needs to be better enforced.

2. John Maginnis – Election Recap
Often seen as an after thought, the BESE elections took center stage in the polls. There is a renewed interest in public education. Jim Garvey won in District one, while Kira Orange Jones won in District two. November 18th is the run-off election.

In the Lieutenant governor’s race, Jay Dardenne is in the lead. In the Secretary of State race, Tom Schedler is in the lead, but not by much. In the State Senator race, J.P. Morrell, a favorite at the beginning of the race, is in the lead over Cynthia Willard-Lewis. In the State Rep race in the 94th Rep. District, Nick Lorusso is in the lead.

3. Dawn Ostrom – Future Watch: Lakefront Airport
At the Lakefront Airport, 65% of pre-Katrina businesses are back. During the last Super Bowl New Orleans hosted, more than 800 private aircrafts flew in and out of the Lakefront Airport. The new airport should be completed in time for the Super Bowl in 2013. During construction, as they were pulling walls away to reopen the second floor, asbestos covered pipes were found. The asbestos has delayed construction for about two months.

4. Errol Laborde – Hyatt Hotel
The Hyatt will be more of a convention hotel. There are 1,193 guest rooms. Since it is on Poydres Street it will take advantage of being in the sports district. The Hyatt’s niche in tourism is its meeting rooms that don’t have to be taken place at the convention center.

5. Mike Perlstein – Traffic Cameras
In public record requests, certain officials and city employees are getting out of paying for their speeding tickets. For the past couple of years, parking tickets $29,000 worth of tickets has been excused. For red light cameras, over $11,000 worth of tickets were waived. The city employees who have gotten out of their tickets were not kept on file. However, they had to write a letter as to why they had to run the light, etc. These letters were being found difficult to obtain, of course. The names of whose tickets were forgiven are still under investigation.

November 4, 2011
Host: Larry Lorenz

Segments:

1. Laborde – Culture of Violence
New Orleans is a melting pot of culture. As in most cities, poverty is a major cause of violence. People come into urban areas to find protection. New Orleanians who have lived here a long time may have found the police force and the city ignore them. The break down of social order, lack of respect for authority, ethics and morals leads to crime. Mayor Mitch Landrieu referred to the city’s “culture of violence” on the day after the tragic Halloween night shooting.

2. Mike Perlstein – History of Crime
New Orleans leads the nation in crime. In the late 80s and 90s, the explosion of cocaine was one of the most frightening criminal acts. The gun culture is the other most serious crime. Since Katrina, the murder rates have gone up in Jefferson Parish.

3. Rob Masson – Police
The police differentiate between murder that involves relatives and strangers. The crime between strangers is much more frightening to the public and the crime is harder to solve for the police. Police are more worried about the armed robberies that escalate into murdering strangers.

4. Mike Perlstein – Criminal Ct. Justice
Recently, there have been judges of criminal courts and civil courts, possibly as well as other courts, using judicial expense funds to purchase insurance above what is provided by state law. Through public record requests, nearly 2 million dollars have been used since 2006 in criminal courts alone. Judges have blocked any further requests of breaking down what the insurance is for. The district attorney, who was a judge at the time, admits he may have shared in the same insurance.

5. Rob Masson – Demo of Houses for Hospital
Reshaping of the entire Mid-City community for the new VA Hospital is one of the largest projects New Orleans has engaged in. The VA will be in the heart of Mid-City. There is a plan to save as many homes as possible. The Builders of Hope have been finding sites to move the houses these displaced homes.

November 11, 2011
Host: Larry Lorenz

Segments:

1. Errol Laborde – Police
In the last few weeks, the police have closed in on some of the high profile cases. The police are also using the media to gain tips and to keep the public updated.

2. Mike Perlstein – Judges
Look at the criminal court’s expenses, travel is the second highest expense. Since 2009, the total travel expense summed up to $173,000. There is a wide disparity amongst the judges. Judge Davis is at the top of that list. The business conducted by the court is very public. However, the business of the court itself is handled with complete secrecy through a judicial expense fund. They aren’t subject to budget hearings.

3. Kevin McGill – Occupy NOLA
Post Katrina, rent had increased significantly. There are different interests for those protesting in Occupy NOLA. However, the main outlook is against corporate greed. Many are still upset about the Federal Reserve, police corruption, and the housing crisis in New Orleans. The attended homeless group in Occupy NOLA found a mentally ill man dead in a tent that would have gone unnoticed. The lack of facilities to treat those mentally ill and with alcohol problems is common in major cities.

4. Dawn Ostrom – Future Watch: Holiday Visitors
Twenty-eight years ago, Christmas in New Orleans was an effort to help boost business. Canal Street Home for the Holidays is in its fourth year to bring visitors and locals downtown to celebrate. The downtown development district wants to get locals to come with their families to celebrate. Movies outside of the Spanish Plaza, the Krewe of Jingle Parade, and caroling on Jackson Square are a few events to look forward to.

5. Kevin McGill – BESE
Next week’s runoff has turned into a school yard brawl. BESE is a high profile race. The Mayor Blumburg of New York recently made a generous contribution to Kiera Orange Jones. Bobby Jindel’s absence of an endorsement in this race is conspicuous. This will become a low turn out election.

6. Errol Laborde – NBA
The NBA and its players are figuring out their financial details, but there is no score yet. People are confused on which side to pull for. When the NBA took over the Hornets franchise, there needs to be a good revenue sharing package to attract an owner in New Orleans. David Stern says if there is good revenue sharing, the Hornets could be more sound franchises. The Hornets get good ticket sales, support from the state, and a good sponsorship package, all which could develop into a stable franchise if in the hands of the right owner.

November 18, 2011
Host: Larry Lorenz

Segments:

1. John Maginnis – BESE Elections
   The runoff top of the ballot is the Board of the Elementary Secondary Education. There was a big push by the governor to get business candidates in support of his agenda elected. Graphics showing runoff elections in Districts 2, 6 and 8. In New Orleans, it’s been a battle between Givens, the incumbent, and Jones, a Teach America leader. There has been a big push by governor and other candidates to get the business people who supported their agenda voted in.

2. Norman Robinson – St. Bernard/Plaquemines Elections
   The upcoming Plaquemines election is for Sherriff between Bubrig and Greco, both Republicans. Greco is sort of the reform candidate for those looking for change. St. Bernard residents will vote for Parish President (Peralta and Taffaro, Jr., both Republicans) and Sherriff (Landry and Pohlmann, both Democrats).

3. John Maginnis – Other Statewide Elections
Elsewhere in the state, elections involve legislative posts. The question will be how many Republicans will be in the House. Already, the Senate will have 24 Republicans to 15 Democrats, almost a total flip from four years ago. In the House, Republicans are aiming to win 60 or more of the 105 seats.

   The two Republicans are competing over who can most come to the aid of their party. Vitter started it with his Louisiana Committee for a Republican majority in 2007, which was very successful in getting Republican Legislators in office. When Jindal saw That Vitter was trying the same this past year, he decided he better do something and formed the GOP Victory Plan. Both have done well so far.

5. Dawn Ostrom – Future Watch: Avondale Shipyards
   Honeyman/Engels announced in 2010 that they would be closing the facility by 2013. Some estimate a loss of 3,000 to 5,000 jobs. Local and state leaders are working to keep jobs intact and partnerships are being formed. $300 million dollars is available from the navy and $214 million is coming from the state as incentive for job creation credits, work force training and the like.

6. John Maginnis/Errol Laborde – Referendums
   Other voting matters include a vote on the Constitutional Amendment involving Real Estate Transfer Tax to prohibit a transfer tax to be imposed. A yes vote would prevent the tax from ever being levied, which can be a little confusing. Another is a New Orleans City Charter to revamp the Public Belt Railroad. There are currently sixteen members with 16-year terms. The vote would change that to 9 members with 4-year terms.

7. Errol Laborde – Americas
   Documentary previewed on WYES this past week, New Orleans in the Fifties. A clip is played about Delesseps Morrison, whose goal was to make New Orleans the gateway to the Americas. Jimmy Fitzmorris and Jackie Clarkson speak on the relationship between our city and Latin America and credit Mayor Morrison with the city being as international as it was at the time.

November 25, 2011
Host: Larry Lorenz

Segments:

1. John Maginnis – BESE Elections
   These elections were less about partisan issues and more about ideas. Whoever had the most money behind them won. The governor worked for his own agendas. He doesn’t decide education policies but is very involved in proposing ideas and pushing them.

2. Errol Laborde – St. Bernard/Plaquemines
   In St. Bernard, the vote created a change in the person in office but not necessarily in political pedigree. Peralta who won with 52 percent of votes, had been Chief Administrator for past Parish President, Junior Rodrigue, and served Teffaro until he was fired by him. In the Sherriff’s race, winner Jimmy Pohlmann had been Chief Deputy for past Sherriff. In the Clerk of Court race, Nunez won with 60 percent. In Plaquemines, Greco won. All were a change in person but not necessarily politics.

3. Kathy Finn – Offshore Drilling
   The Federal government has scheduled the first offshore Gulf of Mexico lease sale in deepwater since the BP spill in April 2010. The Federal government has been touting the claim that there has been recovery in the oil field in the deep waters and that the permitting process has been going well but
Louisiana industry counters that claim, that in fact permits have lagged. This recent lease sale is a huge move forward.

4. Bill Capo – Social Aid
   The New Orleans Mission’s needs are up 15 percent from last year. 106 to 170 men and women are seeking shelter there a night. Donations are up twenty percent and they are more optimistic about being able to remain open. Many non-profits are more in need of help after federal cuts but most are seeing more financial charity from their communities. Second Harvest is experiencing a food emergency but mainly because of cuts within the USDA, who blames Congress.

5. Kathy Finn – Business Good News
   We’ve experienced job growth over the last year. Greater New Orleans, Inc. reported today after a survey of 165 existing businesses that 73 percent of those businesses planned to expand in the coming year and 68 percent report market growth. New Orleans is being touted as the best “startup” city for new entrepreneurs. We’ve seen a lot of recent business growth that reflects this claim.

6. Errol Laborde – Theaters
   Le Chat Noir Cabaret Theatre recently closed, which was a severe loss to the local theater community. Le Petit was also closed but part of it was sold to be turned into a restaurant, which could give it the financial kick it needs to return to a performance theater. It was announced this year that the Joy Theater will open ahead of schedule. While it was planned for next year, it will be ready at the end of this month.

7. John Maginnis – Big Election Stars
   No statewide elected officials changed over this past election. Some newcomers to look for in the future are discussed. Walt Leger is considered by Republicans to be a Democrat they can all deal with. In Jefferson parish, Cameron Henry is one being talked about for committee assignments, and John Schroeder on the North Shore. Senator J.P. Morrell clearly has his sights on bigger things.

December 2, 2011
Host: Larry Lorenz

Segments:

1. Errol Laborde- Aaron Broussard
   Aaron Broussard was indicted today. Broussard’s former agent was not part of the indictment. Karen Parker, the former wife of Broussard, was given the job in Jefferson Parish in the legal department as a paralegal. Her salary was higher than what she was qualified to do. This was during the time when the parish’s attorney was Tom Wilkinson. The investigation included fraud and wire fraud. So far there is no evidence of a plea deal. Investigation have been placed upon a former New Orleans City Councilman and a former Sherriff of St. Bernard Parish as well.

2. Brendan McCarthy- Jindal New Orleans Crime
   This task force is based upon a Milwaukie Model. Milwaukie started a plan that when a murder occurs in a certain part of the city they send out groups; some of them are the thinkers, some deal with the social aspect of the crime, some from the federal enforcement side, some are from social work side, etc. It is a very hands on approach. This will include people, who are already leaders, coming together. The goal is to understand crime better. According to the crime stats, the city is over last year’s total. The steps that had been previously taken aren’t working.

3. Jeff Duncan- Hornets Franchise
   Hornets need to get an owner in place. It will help with the stability of the franchise long term. They are selling a lot of tickets. They have already reached the 10,000 ticket threshold. The New Orleans market
is supporting the team even though they may not want to since the Hornets might be losing Chris Paul. Paul and his camp have a lot of leverage and can probably force a trade. The Hornets are going to have to do as much as they can to get something in return if Chris Paul leaves.

4. Errol Laborde—Steve Scalise
Steve Scalise believes that the BP money received should be set aside to restoring the coast, environmentally, and economically. Not all members of Congress agree with the bill and want to spend the money on unrelated things. Need to build a bigger coalition for the bill from Congress in order to get the bill passed. However, it needs to be done before the end of the year when the settlement will finally be reached. The settlement could possibly range from 5-20 billion dollars.

5. John Maginnis- President Primaries
After Perry pulls his nomination for presidency, Bobby Jindal will eventually join the election trail to support Republican nominees. Romer will play an important roll in third party candidacy called Americans Elect. March 24 is when the Louisiana primary is taking place. If more Republicans turn out for the primary election, it could affect the New Orleans City Council race. Americans Elect do not disclose who their donors are.

6. Norman Robinson- I-10 Accidents
No lights, fog, and smoke are among the top three reasons there are bad accidents on I-10. The marsh fires are still burning in New Orleans east, which is producing thick smoke. The stretch of interstate from Orleans Parish to St. Tammany Parish has very little light. State police do not patrol certain sections of I-10.

7. Jeff Duncan- Saints
Detroit Lions resembles the 2006 Saints- nothing to lose mentality. Saints are playing better defense compared to the beginning of the season. Saints are going to have to run the ball and play defense in order to do well in the playoffs.

December 9, 2011
Host: Larry Lorenz

Segments:

1. Rob Masson- Crime
Mayor Landrieu held a news conference about the crime in the city. During the Christmas holidays and LSU and Saints football there are little reports of crime. Officers are making strides in arresting criminals. The head of the police association believes that more officers are needed. Since Katrina, the police population dropped from 1700 to 1400 officers. New Orleans is 76th in the nation for crime, but 10 times the murder rate of the country. 85-90% of the shootings that take place are between people that know one another.

2. Kevin McGill- Education
Overall the state is doing well in accountability and standards but is not doing well in student achievement. John White is head of the recovery school district. Jindal made it clear before the election last year that he wanted White, since they shared the same views. White is an African American man from New Orleans who used to be a New Orleans teacher.

3. Errol Laborde- LSU Game
When two teams play in the season, it’s not uncommon that the team who lost the first game to have an advantage over the team who won. Nick Saban outcoached Les Miles in the BCS Championship.

4. Dawn Ostrom- Future Watch
In Algiers, Marine forces resource has opened many stores, child care facilities, restaurants, banks for the Marines. There is a battle for control over money between Algiers Development District (ADD) and the New Orleans Federal Alliance. The internal complications are not helping the development. ADD is in negotiation with the Department of Defense to bring in more government agencies.

5. Rob Masson- Oysters
FDA wants to put barcodes on every sack of oysters in order to identify who caught the oysters, etc. Oyster industry is only producing 35% since the BP oil spill. FDA believes that the barcodes will boost consumer confidence in buying oysters. It may take another 2 years before the sales become higher.

6. Errol Laborde- Saints
Saints are on their way to San Francisco to play the 49er’s. The Saints have never won a playoff game on the road. Defense will be the number one issue the Saints may run into during the game. If the Saints win the game against San Francisco, the next game will be played in New Orleans.

December 16, 2011
Host: Larry Lorenz

Segments:

1. James Gill- Aaron Broussard
CEO will take a plea bargain in order to retain information from him about Aaron Broussard. Broussard has been indicted on 33 accounts in connection to the fraud. Further charger will be forth coming. Broussard is going to face prison time regardless of pleading guilty or not. Whitmore’s defense attorney said that he is going to plead guilty and could face up to 3 years in prison as well as a $250,000 fine.

2. Jeff Duncan- Saints
Everything started out badly for the Saints. Pierre Thomas got hurt on the first series of the game. There were too many turnovers. Greg Williams made reckless play calls toward the end of the game. Defense held the Saints over very well; however, the offense and special teams had too many mistakes. Turnovers were forced by the 49ers defense. Defense will not differ so much from new defensive coordinator.

3. Sabrina Wilson- Crime/Neighborhoods
Residents are frustrated and scared about the crime. Criminals are no longer afraid of policemen. If neighborhood association could step-up and do a better a job of neighborhood watch, crime may get better. According to a LSU psychology professor, little parental guidance when children are young is the main reason there is so much crime.

4. Errol Laborde- Losing 1 Congressman
Louisiana is going to have one less congressman and a fairly junior congress. There has always been 3 congressional districts that affect New Orleans; the third has been eliminated. The 2nd congressional district is the urban New Orleans district, also known as the I-10 district because it leads to Baton Rouge. The 1st congressional district, also known as the suburban areas, includes areas like St. Tammany Parish and Jefferson Parish. The 1st congressional district will pick up areas that used to be the 3rd, such as, St. Bernard Parish and Plaquemine Parish. All the congressmen in the districts are expected to be reelected, except for Jeff Landry. Since 1964, Louisiana typically votes Republican unless there is a southern Democrat running.
5. James Gill - Ed Blakely Book
Ed Blakely’s was published by University of Pennsylvania Press. On the first page of his book he talked about artists in New Orleans: Josephine Baker, Tina Turner, and Scott Joplin. His book makes no sense and is not accurate. The things he took credit for never really happened. In his book he talked about using target areas to clean up the city of New Orleans after Katrina. He then said that he doesn’t think that New Orleans should clean up after Katrina because it is going to flood again anyways.

6. Jeff Duncan - Hornets
Hornets lost 5 games in a row. They lost their best player and the player they traded for has been hurt since the day he got to New Orleans. They have 2 high draft picks. Hornets need to keep being competitive to keep fans interested. Hornets will get a new owner Gary Schwest, who is a local owner.

December 23, 2011
Host: Larry Lorenz

Segments:

1. Mike Perlstein - Crime
More street lights can help prevent crime. Street lights have been a persistent problem since Hurricane Katrina. Harry Ainsworth requested a bond to be placed upon the individuals arrested for illegal possession of firearms cases. It is problematic because it is a separate branch of government. The judges said there are statutes to which they set bail. A bond for $25,000 was placed on the suspects who killed the Good Samaritan who was trying to prevent a car jacking. 30-40% of people arrested in homicide cases have been previously arrested for illegal firearm possession. Setting bonds is more difficult than delivering a sentence. Setting high bonds for people with low criminal records becomes cumbersome since the case is usually not going anywhere and they clog the jails.

2. Errol Laborde - Election (Council)
There is not very much money in this campaign. This election is to fill Arnold Fieldco’s (sp?) spot for New Orleans Councilman at Large. Stacy Head is the head runner since she is already a councilman. Cynthia Willard-Lewis was previously a councilman. Austin Badon ran for the last mayor race. Gary Coldewy Landrieu is not endorsed by Mayor Mitch Landrieu. Stacy Head’s campaign cost a total of $55,000. Most people running took out loans in order to qualify. Biggest issues discussed are crime and The National Guard.

3. Dawn Ostrom - Future Watch: Deutches Haus
The facility was offered money to move, but it is not enough. They are in the process of fundraising. They had an Oktoberfest which was moderately successful. When they move they are going to build a Bavarian style château with a beer garden and terraces on 1700 Moss Street in Bayou St. John. They need a conditional use permit and zoning changing to build where they are going to move. They will have 200 parking spaces on site. Membership has risen from 500 to over 600 since Katrina. They are going to have a festival in May to celebrate spring. They need to raise $500,000 to $800,000 to complete the Bayou St. John project.

4. Kevin McGill - Education
There is still contention and controversy of the state takeover of New Orleans public schools. 66% of parents in New Orleans think the public schools are better than they were before Katrina. 2 years ago the approval rate was 31%. 86% of parents say they are getting informational more readily available than beforehand. There are indications of dissatisfaction here and there because they feel like they have no input in decision making. National council on teacher equality came out with a national survey- the overall grade for Louisiana is a C-. One of the things they took aim at was teacher tenor and seniority.
protections. They said it was too easy for teachers to get tenor and actual performance in the classroom is not enough of a factor when there are layoffs since many teachers have tenor and seniority. The governor is about to make a proposal to make tenor easier to lose and harder to get and diminish seniority in the hiring and firing process. Many teachers are feeling like scapegoats for long term problems that have not been resolved. You can receive tenor after 3 years. The governor will propose these ideas to the upcoming legislative session. Voucher systems are not based on actual experience since there is not much of a system.

5. Errol Laborde- Endymion
Endymion chooses its king from lottery. The new king of Endymion is a black man from the West Bank who runs a produce company. The Endymion people are subdued about the situation. The media is making a bigger deal out of it. Most krewes are integrated. It comes down to who can afford the membership prices and enough money to throw trinkets.

December 30, 2011
Host: Larry Lorenz

Segments:

1. Travers Mackel- Aaron Broussard
Aaron Broussard was initially facing 33 charges; however 5 more were added on. One of the charges involved Wilkinson being on the board of a private school and Broussard wanted a relative enrolled in that school. Broussard made sure Wilkinson received more money as long as Wilkerson let the relative in. The attorneys say they are not going to accept any deals and are going to defend to the fullest. The trial will begin in May.

2. John Maginnis- Healthcare
There is going to be a transition from public healthcare from the old Medicaid system. Now, Medicaid patients are assigned to a medical home instead of going to any doctor. The state is rolling the privatization out of the system. Healthcare advocates are claiming that this change is being too rushed. They are afraid that there are too many doctors and patients who are not going to know what is going on. The charity hospitals are going to be cut 29 million dollars and 500 layoffs. This is not going to affect the Hospital Project in New Orleans University Medical Center.

3. Brendan McCarthy- Danzinger Bridge Trial
The lead federal prosecutor referenced the Raymond Robert case which triggered the defense attorney, Claude Kelly. It was considered a mistrial by U.S. District Court Jude, Kurt Engleheart. This trial is important the federal government because this case is the largest police trial in decades.

4. Errol Laborde- Mayor Report Card
Landrieu was elected two years ago and his approval rating is good. When he was elected, he was elected by the white and black majority. There are no known scandals from the Landrieu administration to this day. His biggest decision was appointing a police chief. Landrieu’s administration is aimed towards crime. During the Nagin administration there was always a quarrel between the mayor and the council. With Landrieu, he and the council agree very well with one another.

5. Brendan McCarthy- Police Department Records
Ronald Serpas has a policy that when a person was murdered their record would be given out during a press release. His reasoning is to prove that a lot of crime in New Orleans is criminals killing other criminals. 70% of the people have criminal arrest records. Mike Ainsworth, the Good Samaritan who tried to prevent the car jacking last week, had a criminal record about 20 years ago for illegal drugs. The public record system may be a part of a PR move.
6. John Maginnis- Presidential Primary
The state is paying for the republican election. Only a handful of delegates will be selected by this primary and allocated towards the candidate they voted for. The vast majority of the 46 republicans at the Republican National Convention in Tampa Bay, Florida, will be chosen by caucuses. Romney and Gingrich could wind up most of the votes in Louisiana, but Ron Paul may end up with the most delegates. On March 24, if a candidate gets more than 25% of the vote, he gets that proportion of delegates.
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Graham, Lindsey  3/10/06
Graham, Patrick  12/3/99
Gravelle, Camille  12/2/88
Gray, Bill  8/4/06
Gray, Cheryl  11/16/07, 12/26/08
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Gray, James  5/31/02, 8/9/02, 9/27/02, 10/4/02, 10/25/02
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Johnson, Anna
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Johnson, Bernadette
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Johnson, Bobby

Johnson, Calvin
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Johnson, Corey
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Johnson, Duane
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Johnson, Latoya
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Johnson, Patricia
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Johnston, Jon
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Johnston, J. Bennett

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Longman, Mike

Loomis, Mickey
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Lorando, Mark
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Lorenz, Alfred P. "Larry"
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McAfee, Fred
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McGuire, Jack
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6/5/09

McConduit, Bruce
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McConnell, Spud
4/14/06

McCoy, Clyde
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McCready, Jim
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McCrosen, Michael
2/1/98

McCrossen, Michael
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McDaniel, Betsy
5/30/08

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