

Cop discovers pot 'pipeline'

United Press International
PATTERSON, La. — A sheriff's officer on routine patrol Sunday stumbled across six men unloading about 10 tons of marijuana from a leaking shrimp boat in a remote area of coastal Louisiana.

The weed had an estimated street value of \$8 million, St. Mary Parish Sheriff Chester Baudoin said.

The arrested men were unloading bales of marijuana from a 62-foot shrimp boat, the M.V. Kenny,

when deputy Dan Irwin ran across them on a routine patrol.

The area where the seizure occurred is part of the "Louisiana pipeline," a coastal section popular with drug smugglers because of its accessibility from the Gulf of Mexico along hidden bayous and bays.

When Irwin came across the suspects, they fled into a wooded area. Two helicopters and four-wheel-drive vehicles were used by sheriff's deputies and state police in a search

for the men. They were arrested several hours later.

The sheriff said 125 bales of marijuana were unloaded at the Cotton Road Landing. Another 103 bales were taken from the boat after it was moved to neighboring Morgan City.

Bond was set by a judge at \$200,000 each and they were held in the St. Mary Parish jail on felony charges of possession of marijuana with intent to distribute.



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what's up?

Monday

HASSLE-FREE: Today is the last distribution date by Hassle-Free. All notices should be turned in today.

HISTORY HONOR SOCIETY: Ryan Smith, director of the Star of the Republic Museum, will speak on "The Historian and the History Museum: A New Perspective," at 7:30 p.m. in Room 502, Rudder Tower.

BASKETBALL: The men's team will play Oral Roberts University at 7:30 p.m. in G. Rollie White Coliseum. The women's team will play Prairie View A&M University at 5:15 p.m.

Tuesday

PENTAGON AREA HOMETOWN CLUB: The last meeting of the fall semester will be at 8 p.m. in Room 302, Rudder Tower. Rides and carpools for the Christmas holidays will be discussed. For more information, call Darrel Westbrook (845-7103) or Scott Beach (845-2502).

TAMU INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCERS: A meeting will be held in Room 201 of the MSC at 7:30 p.m.

A&M WHEELMEN: A meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m. in Room 141 of the MSC.

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Bread polished same old songs

By STEVE LEE
Battalion Campus Editor

Chalk one up for apple pie, motherhood, and AM radio. David Gates and Bread are back with a new look but, amazingly, the same sound.

And the group certainly didn't disappoint a packed G. Rollie White Coliseum audience Thursday night. The group played what the crowd wanted to hear — mainly a greatest hits collection of songs many hadn't heard since junior high or high school days. Aside from a few other

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more recent David Gates compositions, that is all they played.

The sound was very much like the original cuts of the early seventies, except for an occasional rush of electricity from lead guitarist Bill Ham, or a flute or saxophone from brother Warren Ham. But the sound was so much the same that Town Hall might as well have been sitting up there on stage playing old Bread albums (with, of course, our famous G. Rollie acoustics).

BUT, THE PERFORMANCE wasn't as bland as all that. The members of Bread are seasoned performers, or, in one word — polished.

David Gates came out on stage displaying a baby-faced grin and looking like the all-American high school sophomore. I was immediately reminded of what a disc jockey remarked when Bread was at its peak. He made the observation that while Donny Osmond's voice was getting lower, David Gates' voice was getting higher. I soon regretted having placed Gates in the same reference with Donny Osmond.

Gates is in perfect control while on stage. He conversed with the crowd, introduced many of his songs and explained how they were conceived,

and displayed a good sense of humor. Once, he observed that many people in the audience were singing along on each song and remarked that he could remember the words.

HIS VOICE SEEMED to have aged.

CHANGED from the group's prolific single-producing days of 1974. He still hit the high notes on "Don't Matter To Me" and "Dear Heart." His most effective moment was performing "Diary" while playing acoustic guitar, with no other accompaniment. He also showed remarkable talent in performing "Goodbye Girl" at the piano.

Of the original four members of the group, three remain, but the fourth, Bill Ham, has been replaced by Ham brothers, there is David Gates on bass, who has played with Led Zeppelin, Bill Ham has played with the Carpenters and Sonny and Cher, and Warren Ham was with Blue Rock (no, they didn't play DOA). Mike Botts is the drummer, who stole the show with a his version of the old rock 'n' roll classic "Love's a Mystery."

But probably the most talented member is mainstay Larry Knecht, pianist and keyboardist extraordinaire. He proved that his reputation as a fine composer and arranger musician is no fluke.

BREAD PERFORMED other favorites such as "Lost Without Love," "Baby I'm A Wat Man" (whatever that means), "Make With You," "Lost Without Love," "Everything I Own," "Guitar Man," where Bill Ham played a surprisingly good guitar.

By contrast, Britisher Ian Matthews, the warm-up act, played a commercial set of tunes, showing versatility with country-rock numbers and then going to more pop songs. In fact, it was hard to tell where his musical style stood. He could turn out soft lyrical melodies with a style like Michael Murphey, including the voice.

Then, he and his band would lead into a number similar to Steely Dan and then, finally, Jackson Browne. **HIS STRONG POINT** is his voice, but it was often drowned by the loud bass. But maybe an even stronger point was his tolerance for a typically rude Aggie crowd. Typing because it has happened before, it will happen again for warm-up groups.

People persisted in yelling "The Hell Outta t.u.," even while he was introducing his songs. Another performer would have left the stage. I'm glad he didn't hear some people clapping when he announced that was doing his last song.

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