

New Orleans busy cooking spicy food for World's Fair

United Press International

NEW ORLEANS — Locals might find themselves running for the nearest bottle of Tabasco, but just about everyone should discover a barrage of reasonably hot Louisiana flavors at the 1984 World's Fair April 28-May 12.

At a pre-opening tasting spoke by 24 of the Fair's 75 food and beverage concessions, compromises on spiciness seemed the only significant step away from authentic.

That is a natural, if unfortunate side effect in trying to involve as many as 11 million visitors, many of whose tolerance for things like cayenne and jalapeño is unknown.

Still, a visitor with no time to taste things away from the fair no interest in community restaurants can get a pretty good idea of what Creole and Cajun cooking are all about.

In light of Louisiana's reputation for fine food, it's only natural its first world exposition 100 years should emphasize the edible.

Regional fare is represented

in the 82-acre site by everything from crawfish to red beans to meat pies.

Several foreign participants

will serve exotic examples of native cuisines.

A good place to start learning about the state's cuisine is the Crawfish House, a re-creation of an Acadian home from southwest Louisiana. Selections include crawfish in bisque, étouffée, pie and several other variations.

A fairgrounds concession of the Gumbo Shop, an established New Orleans restaurant, will feature seafood and chicken versions of the famous soup, along with ham and sausage jambalaya, shrimp creole and alligator sauce piquante.

A visit to Mrs. Wheat's Kitchen should not be missed. It is one of the few food outlets anywhere celebrating the largely French-less northern half of Louisiana, and because its spicy meat pies from the town of Natchitoches are deep-fried delights.

Reunion Hall, a lively venture built by and around jazz clarinetist Pete Fountain, will serve food and drink as accom-

paniment to non-stop music. Creole and Cajun specialties are offered in three upscale menus — jazz brunch, church lunch and big band dinner.

Other packages of music, food and drink will be served in the revitalized Federal Fiber Mills building. Jed's Lookout will set out daily buffets of local specialties, while the Miller Beer Garden will serve high-quality German selections to the sound of an oompah band.

A handful of places will blend local eating habits with broader American favorites. Crescent City International will have specialty hot dogs, while Three Lil Pigs will feature "po' boys" — the long French bread sandwiches similar to heros or submarines found elsewhere.

The Uptown Square Winery will supply fairgoers with gourmet box lunches, rich pates, stuffed croissants, fresh quiches and wine by the glass.

Two minority-owned busi-

nesses will introduce fair-goers to the vast contributions by blacks to local cuisine. The Seafood Warehouse will serve shrimp, crabs, oysters and fish, while Golden and Golden will spotlight soul food items like red beans and rice, barbecued

ribs, collard greens and watermelon.

Several quirky local businesses will show their wares. Dr. Bananas, for example, hopes to cash in on the summer heat with frozen fruit on a stick, while Let's Make a Daiquiri will serve both alcoholic and non-alcoholic versions of the rum-based cocktail.

Evans Creole Candy will be represented with its famous pralines — addictive candies made with brown sugar and pecans.

Brown's Velvet Dairy will have ice cream kiosks all over the fair site.

Since this is a world's fair, there is a broad selection of foreign cooking. For example:

- The Italian Village, backed by members of New Orleans' large Italian community, re-creates a Venetian piazza, complete with fresh pasta, pizza, pastries, espresso and cappuccino.

- The India Delhi, an outgrowth of the city's first Indian restaurant, will serve such dishes as tandoori chicken, chicken curry and vegetable samosas.

- Sebastian's will offer the same sort of crash course in the Philippines.

40 families receive Red Cross aid after twister hit

United Press International

MATADOR — Some 40 families received Red Cross disaster assistance Thursday, and Matador officials estimated \$2.5 million in damages from the Tuesday night twister that demolished the school and 27 houses.

Mayor Gary Lancaster contacted state officials to discuss securing low-interest loans to help citizens rebuild the southern section of the 1050-member community.

Red Cross spokesman Carl Hill of Lubbock said his agency provided emergency grants for food, clothing and shelter to 40 of the 150 people left homeless by the storm.

Most people forced from their damaged homes stayed with friends or relatives. A Red Cross survey said 27 homes were demolished, 13 needed major repairs and 42 others needed minor repairs.

Lancaster said \$1.5 million would be needed to replace the 10-year-old school building. Superintendent Charlie Johnson asked state officials if the school could close for the summer.

Hill said the Matador residents needed financial help because only about half of the homes struck by the storm had

insurance and many homeowners involved were on fixed incomes.

The Lubbock's Red Cross office started accepting contributions for the tornado victims Thursday.

The twister descended on the

Panhandle community about 9 p.m. Tuesday hitting the school twice before moving through southern Matador.

Matador's electricity and phone services were out Wednesday, but most services were restored by Thursday, Lancaster said.

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Drug war blamed for homicides

United Press International

SAN ANTONIO — A drug war between local dealers and Cubans driven out of Florida resulted in two recent homicides and could lead to more as both groups seek to control the drug trade on the city's westside, police said Thursday.

Last December, a Cuban was shot not on a westside street known for heroin sales and his body was taken to Kendall County used to find burned.

Police said they believed

Cubans were responsible for

the second slaying, which may have been a reprisal.

Capt. Dennis Vickery, head of the Department of Public Safety's narcotics office in San Antonio, said some Cuban drug dealers have made the city their new headquarters.

"We're seeing a trend in it because of the pressures put on them in Florida," he said.

He said also that Texas has become attractive to drug dealers because of its coastline and remote inland regions with about 700 available landing strips. International drug trad-

ers are also working in Austin and Houston, he said.

Vickery said San Antonio is prime territory for traffickers still working out of Florida and selling to markets on the West Coast.

San Antonio police were reluctant to discuss the homicides openly, but several officers said privately that more people will probably die before one group emerges victorious in the city's drug war.

Cops find man with 60 illegal weapons

LAS CRUCES, N.M. — A man was jailed Sunday after police raided his home and found what they said was an arsenal of illegal weapons.

Valadez said undercover agents purchased a machine gun and hand grenades from Walker on Wednesday.

In a search of Walker's two Las Cruces residences, officers from the Las Cruces Police Department and the Albuquerque Police Department Bomb Squad discovered 60 illegal firearms, including silencers, short-barreled rifles, 20 homemade hand grenades, and approximately 10,000 rounds of ammunition, Valadez said.

The officers also discovered

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