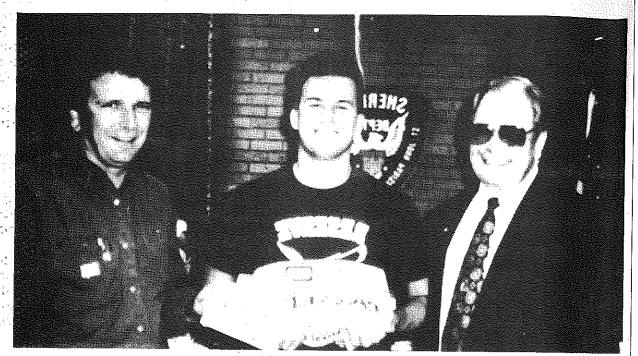
## **PASSED DRUG-FREE STUDENT**



JAMES BROUSSARD, center, is a PASSED Drug-Free Student for September. Broussard, a student at Reserve Christian School, received a \$50 savings bond and a T-shirt from BE&K Construction Co., represented by Milton Kelley, right. With them is St. John the Baptist Parish Sheriff Lloyd B. Johnson. PASSED (Parish Area Students Systematically Eliminating Drugs) is an anti-drug and anti-peer pressure program for high school students.

## Dancing couples eligible for contest

Ormand Plantation in Destrehan this year, will feature a couples dance competition.

The festival is Oct. 23, 24 and

The dance contest, which will include country and Cajun music categories, will be on the festival grounds Saturday and Sunday in front of the main stage.

From 4 p.m to 8 p.m. Saturday and from noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, contestants will dance to live music provided by country and Cajun bands. Finalists will be chosen by audience applause.

All finalists will perform to individually chosen taped music on Sunday starting at 8 p.m. All finalists will receive awards.

Appropriate costumes are

Andouille Festival, moving to There will be a \$5 entry fee per couple.

For more information or to

DESTREHAN — The required for all competitions. register, contact Margie Cavalier at 785-8077 in Luling, or Glenda Jeansonne at 869-4042 in Grand



## Council okays lease for hosiery plant

By KEITH DARCE Staff Reporter

LaPLACE — An agreement that would bring a hosiery manufaturing plant and nearly 200 new jobs to St. John the Baptist Parish could be signed early this week. parish officials said Friday.

The parish council, without discussion, gave final approval Thursday night to the 30-year lease agreement with Baker-Heritage Quality Hosiery of Hickory, N.C.

The lease agreement includes provision for rental credits for each full-time job created by the plant and an option for the company to pull out of the deal if its business sours.

The company plans to open an expansion plant in April 1993 in a parish-owned facility on land in the Port of South Louisiana's Globalplex industrial complex in Reserve.

The parish will finance construction of the manufacturing facility with \$800,000 in local economic development money and \$2 million in state funds.

The parish also will lease the property for the facility from the port.

The council approved a lease proposal for the property Thursday. The port commission is expected to consider the proposal Wednesday during its next meeting.

The council has set a special meeting for 7 p.m. Monday, Oct. 26, to open bids from contractors to construct the \$2.8 million facility.

If Baker-Heritage signs the lease, the company will pay as much as \$22,166 a month to the parish for rent for the first 20 years of the agreement and \$3,333 a month for the last 10 years.

A \$427 credit would be subtracted from each month's rent during the first 20 years for each full-time job at the plant. The credit would drop to \$25.06 a month per job during the lease's final 10 years.

The credits, however, could never reduce the monthly rent below the amount of money paid each month by the parish to pay off the building's construction debt.

Parish chief administrator Pat McTopy said the parish's monthly debt payment could be as low as \$4,000, depending on interest rates and final construction costs.

The agreement also allows Baker-Heritage to terminate the lease early without penalty if "business conditions" prevent the company from meeting its rental

obligations.

However, the company would not be allowed to lease, purchase or operate another similar facility for two years following cancellation of the lease with the parish.

The lease also:

• Makes Baker-Heritage responsible for all repairs and improvements to the building except those involving the roof, sub-floor and exterior walls.

 Requires the company to set up a \$15,000 escrow account.

 Forbids the company from subleasing the property without permission from the parish.

 Requires the company to maintain at least \$1 million in liability insurance.

Renewal options would let Baker-Heritage extend the conract for two 10-year terms without changes in conditions.

"I want to make informed choices that will be respected by the professionals who help me give birth."



At River Parishes Hospital 500 Rue de Santé « LaPlace, LA 651-1400