

NEW ORLEANS STATES-ITEM

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Connick for District Attorney

(An Editorial)

The States-Item endorses Harry Connick for district attorney in the Nov. 8 Democratic primary.

Let's lay the cards on the table. The issue in this election is Jim Garrison and the way he has abused and misused the powers of the office of district attorney.

Is this the kind of district attorney New Orleans needs? We think not.

As we said in a March 1 editorial calling for his resignation, Mr. Garrison "has shown himself unfit to hold the office of district attorney or any other office.

"Mr. Garrison has abused the vast powers of his office. He has perverted the law rather than prosecuted it."

We stand by this judgment.

What, we ask the citizens of New Orleans, is more important, making our families, our homes and our streets safe from criminals, or a witchhunt into the past? We think the answer is obvious.

New Orleans needs a district attorney who will not indulge in wild fantasies while organized crime gains a foothold in New Orleans. We need a district attorney who will crack down on organized crime. We need a district attorney who will cut down this city's spiraling crime rate. We need a district attorney who will prosecute the guilty, not persecute the innocent.

We believe that Harry Connick is such a man.



HARRY CONNICK

A lifelong resident of New Orleans, Mr. Connick received his law degree from Tulane University. He has served as chief of the criminal division of the Legal Aid Bureau and chief of the criminal division of the U.S. attorney's office.

He is amply qualified for the job.

Is New Orleans ready for a real D. A.? We believe it is. We urge the voters of this city to support Harry Connick in the Nov. 8 election.