Cajun dance contest competition continues

By DRUANN DOMANGUE
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The traditional waltz, two-step and Cajun jitterbug were trotted out in fine style Friday night at Randol's during the continuing preliminaries of the 1989 Cajun Dance Contest.

In its fifth year, this contest is a benefit for Acadiana Youth, Inc., Acadiana Shelter for Girls and The Children's Shelter. Twenty couples entered the competition in hopes of placing in the top four of each category. These preliminary winners will go on to the finals, set for 7 p.m. Saturday, August 12 at Cajun Station USA in Broussard.

The Jambalaya Cajun Band provided the music for the contest. Judging of the three styles of Cajun dancing was divided into three categories: the under 12 group, the over 60 age group, and the open category.

Judges for the Randol's preliminaries were Leslie Windham from Lafayette who holds a Master of Arts degree in dance; Randy Speyrer from Opeoules, producer, director and star of the "Video of Cajun Dance" which won an American Film Institute award; Sheri Richards from WVLA Channel 33 in Baton Rouge; and Miriam Fontenot, the first professional dance instructor of Cajun music in south Louisiana.

Katherine Monteith and Michael Babineaux swept all three dance categories in the under 12 age group. In the over 60 age group, couples Lou and Harold Crochet and Louise Sommer and Earl J. Hebert both placed in all three categories.

In the waltz, open preliminary winners were Daisy and Alan Bravo, Mae Morgan and Mike McReynolds, Fannie and Horace Metrejean, and Sue Guidry and Russell Dartez.

Two-step open winners were Grace and William Dore, Mary Lou and Wesley Hebert, Emeritte and Michael Bourque, and Emma Bonin and Ken Stewart.

Jitterbug open winners were Daisy and Alan Bravo, Emma Bonin and Ken Stewart, Emeritte and Michael Bourque and Fannie and Horace Metrejean.

Competitors Karen and Chris Domingue (left) and Emma Bonin and Ken Stewart (right) face run off.