

BOOKS

HARDBACKS



New Orleans: What Can't Be Lost
 Edited by Lee Barclay,
 photography by Christopher
 Porché West
*University of Louisiana at
 Lafayette Press, \$30*

► "I found 88 stories and traditions, each a piano key in a love song to New Orleans," says editor Barclay of the book whose contributors include Jason Berry, Amanda Boyden, Leah Chase, Joshua Clark, Andrei Codrescu, Lolis Eric Elie, Richard Ford, Dennis Formento, Errol Laborde, Tom Piazza, Chris Rose, Kalamu ya Salaam and Christine Wiltz. The book will be launched during a party today, 4 p.m., at d.b.a.; and signed Tuesday, 8:30 p.m., during a party at Rock 'n' Bowl, and Thursday, 8:30 p.m., during a party at 3 Ring Circus.

PAPERBACKS



Before (During) After: Louisiana Photographers' Visual Reactions to Hurricane Katrina
 Additional essays by John Biguenet, Tony Lewis and Steven Maklansky
University of New Orleans Press, \$24.95

► Twelve noted local photographers — Eric Julien, Elizabeth Kleinveid, Rowan Metzner, David Rae Morris, Thomas Neff, Samuel Portera, Frank Relle, Jennifer Shaw, Mark J. Sindler, Zack Smith, Jonathan Traviesa and Lori Waselchuk — provide "a visual and literary narrative" of how Hurricane Katrina transformed their work. The book will be signed by photographers and Biguenet on Saturday, 1 to 3 p.m., Garden District Book Shop.



A.D.: New Orleans After the Deluge

By Josh Neufeld
Knopf Doubleday Publishing Group, \$16.95

► The new paperback edition of the acclaimed book by alternative cartoonist Neufeld ("American Splendor") depicts seven extraordinary true stories of survival in the days leading up to and following Katrina, when each person was forced to confront the wrenching decision we all had before us: whether to stay or go. Neufeld will be honored at a release party Saturday, 2 p.m., at Octavia Books.



My Bright Midnight
 By Josh Russell
LSU Press, \$18.95

► In a book about loyalty to country, friends and lovers, Russell, who set his acclaimed novel "Yellow Jack" amid the yellow- fever panic in antebellum New Orleans, returns here for a story set in 1945 — when it seems the war never will end. People have too long been denied their butter, sugar and Mardi Gras, and Walter Schmidt's simple life has become horribly complicated. After he finds his wife in bed with his best friend, she adds insult to injury, accusing him of being "more German than American — more enemy than friend."

CHILDREN



Ruined: A Novel
 By Paula Morris
Point, \$8.99

► A new paperback edition of Tulane University creative writing teacher Morris' book for 9- to 12-year-olds features lonely newcomer Rebecca, who feels invisible to everyone around her. But one night, among the oak trees in Lafayette Cemetery, she makes a friend eager to show her around. But there's a catch: Her newfound confidante is a ghost — with a deep, dark secret, and a serious score to settle.

— Suzanne Stouse

HOT
 READS

Book of local
 interest now
 on shelves