

Chicago's People Newspaper

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CHICAGO SKYLINE



July 22, 2004

40 Pages



Whitney Smith and Elizabeth Hamilton



U.S. Ambassador Howard Leach and his wife



Tyler Hood (left), astronaut Buzz Aldrin and Elliot Hood



Kristin Smith and Christophe Straus



The Steven Rockefellers



Jimmy Buffet entertained



nable parties —

at Versailles crowns 7-year dream

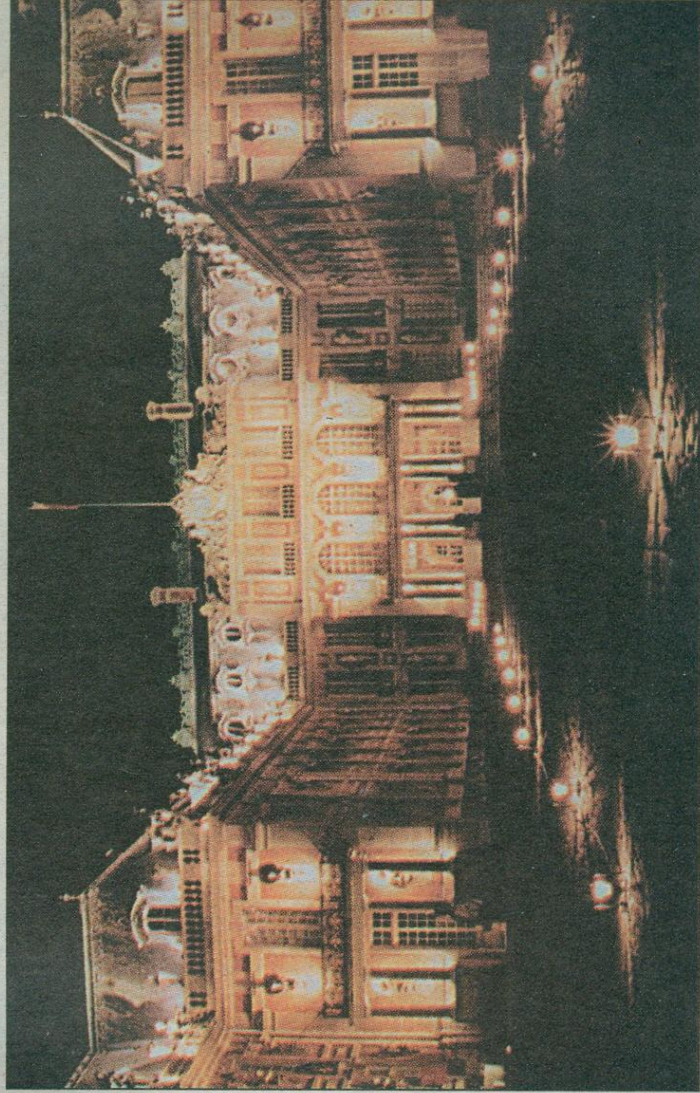
By ANN GERBER
Associate Editor

Through seven long, cold years, Catharine Hamilton and her American Friends of Versailles kept warm their dream of restoring the exquisite Trois Fontaines Bosquet in the gardens of Versailles outside of Paris.

This past June, it became a magnificent reality, crowned with a splendid gala in the Orangere of the fabled gardens. The \$4 million feat was accomplished with financial help from "friends" in Texas, Chicago, New York, England and France.

A fabulous "jewel" was reborn thanks to Catharine's vision and determination.

Jimmy Buffet performed, there were fireworks, a memorable feast, dancing till the wee hours, and the satisfaction of knowing that a beautiful facet of history had been returned to an appreciating world.



The marble courtyard at Versailles welcomed all to the gala. Guests rubbed elbows with A-list celebs at events marking the successful restoration. In the crowd: Princess Michael of Kent, the Robert Forbsses, Patty Hearst Shaw, Madame Jacques Chirac, Jacqueline de Ribes, the Steven Rockefellerers to name a few.