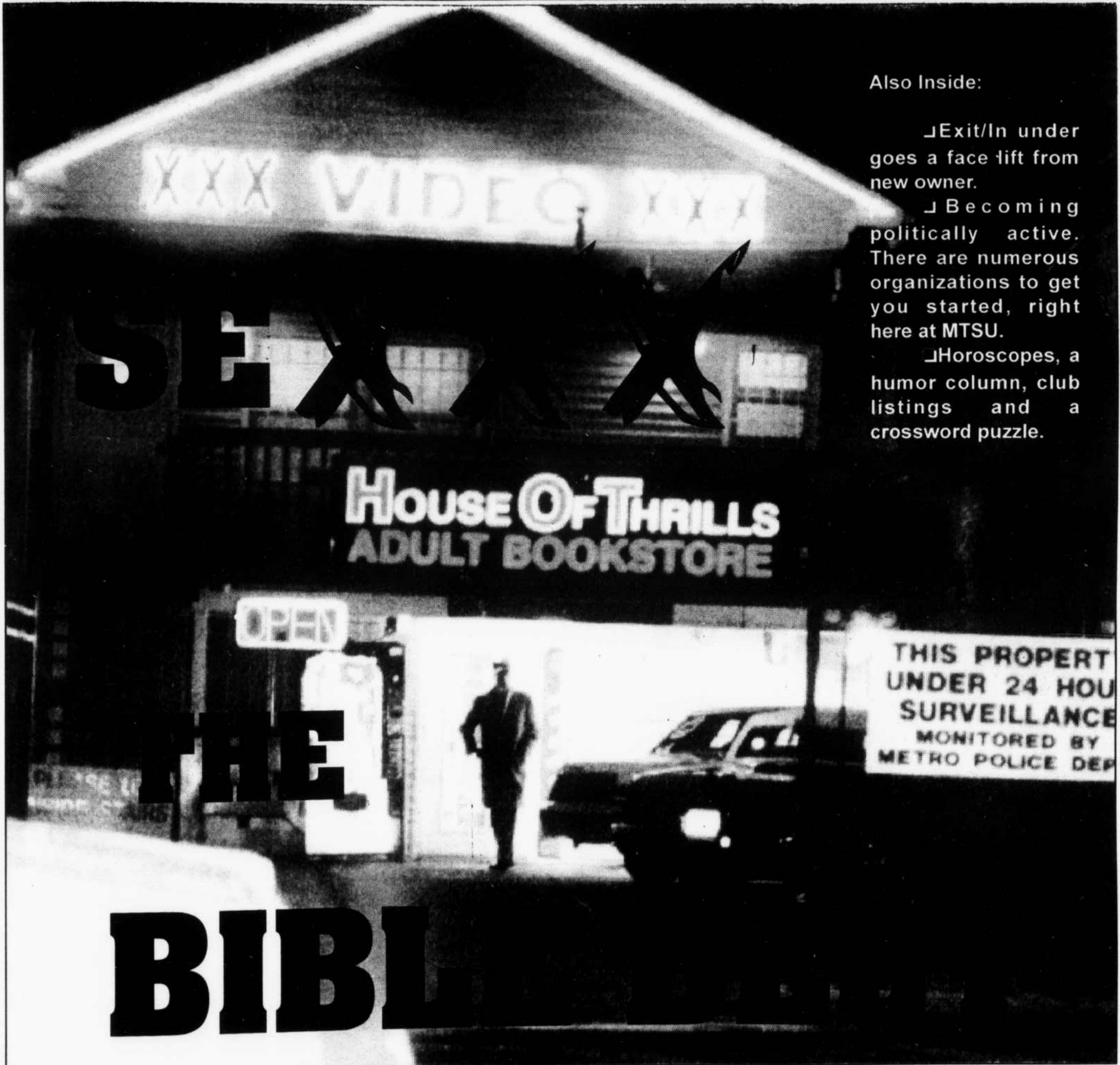


POST MODERN

A supplement to Sidelines

February 17, 1998 Volume II Issue V



Also Inside:

└Exit/In under goes a face lift from new owner.

└Becoming politically active. There are numerous organizations to get you started, right here at MTSU.

└Horoscopes, a humor column, club listings and a crossword puzzle.

BIBLI

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CONTENTS

Volume II, Issue IV

Page 3, **Becoming politically active**

Leaders of three political organizations--College Democrats, College Republicans and the Green Party--at MTSU give students an inside look as to how their particular groups inner act with local and national politicians.

The opinions expressed in the columns are those of its writers and not necessarily that of *Post Modern*, *Sidelines*, Student Publications or Middle Tennessee State University.

Page 4 **Cover Story, Sex in the Bible Belt**

As Nashville's metro population continues to grow, so too will the sociological problems that seem to go hand-in-hand with rapid growth. Sex in the Bible Belt is an up close look at the growing adult entertainment establishments in Nashville and the surrounding area.

Examined from all angles, Sex in the Bible Belt, tells just what the Nashville City Council is doing to fight the "problem" as well as first hand accounts from those who work in the industry.

From council members to the Mayor's office to exotic dancers to prostitutes to transvestites, Sex in the Bible Belt tells the whole story regarding one of Nashville's fastest growing industries.

Page 6, **The interactive page**

The interactive page of *Post Modern* contains a club directory, crossword puzzle and horoscope for the month of February.

Page 7, **Exit/In**

Long on tradition, former radio DJ Ned Horten recently purchased the historical club Exit/In with the intention of returning it to its once storied Music City legacy.

Sidelines is the non-profit, editorially independent student newspaper of Middle Tennessee State University and is published every Wednesday during June and July and every Monday and Thursday during the fall and spring semesters. The opinions expressed herein are those of the individual writers and not necessarily *Sidelines* or the university.

WAZZ

WMMOT-FM 89.5

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

Becoming politically active

College Democrats

political column

Pam Arnold

The old adage "there are strength in numbers" has never been so well applied as it is to the world of politics. Too many times I hear students say they don't want to be involved because they can't make a difference. Then they go on to start complaining about parking, construction, the computer labs, or the lack of adequate day care on this campus. The truth is most of us think it would inconvenience us to write a letter to the editor, talk with an SGA officer, or even vote in an on-campus election. The reason the SGA doesn't play a larger role on this campus is not because the officers and members aren't working hard, it's because it doesn't have the support of the student body. This is the basis of getting involved. Serve on a committee. Write a letter. Make phone calls. Talk to people and find out how much of an interest there is in your cause. This same process will work when you're trying to solve a problem in the community in which you live. Know who your city council members are, your state representatives and your state senator. Admittedly, there have been politicians in the past that served their own interests before their constituents' and have

given our hard-working politicians (which are the majority) a "bad rap." Most politicians will make your concerns their concerns and if they can't answer a question, they will find the answer.

This isn't just about partisan politics. Whether you're a Democrat, Republican, Green Party or Reform Party, you should get involved. Politics touches every aspect of YOUR life, from the number of children in a classroom to your college tuition. What it comes down to is this: do you want to live out your existence letting other people make decisions about your life and your children's lives? Or, do you want to be part of the decision making process?

Getting involved doesn't have to be a difficult decision. I've told newcomers to our meetings that what is important is that they are showing an interest in what is going on in our world. Of course, I hope they all become life long Democrats and stay dedicated to the cause. As a College Democrat, I hope part of what they are doing is forming their own ideals and opinions. I want them to really look at what is going on in the world and to get to know the people making the decisions and how the process works.

We have a responsibility to care for ourselves and families first, but it is also our responsibility to help

our neighbor when times are tough. These are words that I live my life by and they are also reasons I am a Democrat. The Democratic Party is the party of the working men and women. It's concerns lie with the average American and not with the giant corporate interests. I am also a Christian, which is something that a lot of people have somehow come to believe that you can't be a Democrat as well as Christian. The best part about being a Democrat is that everyone is welcome and everyone is considered equal. I've volunteered at numerous Democratic events, met people from across the state—people that have a lot more money and power than myself—and never once have I ever felt out of place or treated differently or looked down upon. Being a member of the College Democrats has taught me more than some of the classes I've had on campus. It's opened my eyes and my mind. I believe I am a better citizen, a better mother, a better teacher and a better person because of my involvement in politics. I feel very blessed to live in a country where I have the opportunity to participate in my government and where I can voice my opinion without fear of persecution. I encourage everyone to get involved, not only for yourselves, but for the future of our communities and our country.

For information call the Tennessee Democratic Party 327-9779, the College Democrats or Rutherford County Democratic Women 898-4534.

fact, past CRs have worked as campaign managers for candidates for local office and as campaign assistants and interns for candidates for Congress and even the Presidency. This campaign experience can be one of the most profitable extracurricular activities of your college years.

While membership in the College Republicans can provide practical benefits to every student that joins, it also provides the means for students to become active in public affairs. At almost every meeting, a guest speaker gives a presentation on issues ranging from education to the happenings of the state legislature. Past speakers have included federal, state, and local officials and candidates. Several times each year, the CRs sponsor or co-sponsor open forums on issues relevant to each MTSU student.

The College Republicans hold meetings twice per month, usually on Tuesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. For more information, contact Chairman Dawn Throneberry at 274-6885 or by email at each002e@frank.mtsu.edu.

Green Party

political column

Gary Wolf

Tennessee used to be solidly in the Democratic column but it's shifting into a Republican state. That's a remarkable, even historic change. But it masks a larger truth: The difference between the two major parties doesn't amount to much.

Both speak for the status quo. Both speak for big money. To an alarming and ever-increasing degree, corporate class, the ruling class, the exploit-and-run class.

Voters who identify themselves as Democrats and Republicans don't belong to those classes for the most part. But when the only two available labels are two sides of the same coin, citizens don't have much of a choice.

That's why some of us would like to create some new choices. The Green Party is mine.

There isn't much of a Green Party in Tennessee yet. Please consider shifting start one.

Nearly every democracy in the world has a Green Party. The oldest ones are barely a generation old, yet their members have elected mayors and members of Parliament. And on a range of issues, their voices are heard beyond the foot-in-the-door measures of electoral success.

Several dozen Greens have been elected in this country, too. About half of the 50 states have an organized Green Party. Consumer advocate Ralph Nader was the Green nominee for the president in 1996. He beat every other minor candidate (and there were a slew of them) except Ross Perot, who spent millions. America is ready for a Green Party.

And even where the Green effort hasn't reached the ballot box, the Green philosophy has been given voice by activists working for change, working to improve the world in all sorts of ways.

"Green" means more than environmental issues, although ecological wisdom is one of 10 key Green values. Others include grassroots democracy, decentralization, community-based economics, social justice, and nonviolence. Greens promote gender equity and respect diversity. They want political decisions to include a focus on future generations, not just immediate effects, benefits, or profits. And they want people to take responsibility both for themselves and the rest of the world.

How all that would apply in practical terms here in Tennessee isn't hard to project, but the details are yet to be worked out. If you think Green, you can be part of that work.

In short, it's a progressive agenda, liberal in some ways, conservative in others. And most importantly, it's new. So new, your participation is urgently needed and wanted.

Let's start a Middle Tennessee chapter, or a campus chapter, or both. There will be an organizational meeting soon. Keep your eyes peeled, your minds open, and your hearts beating that different drum.

College Republicans

political column

Dawn Throneberry

The College Republicans are the nation's largest and oldest Republican student organization. Founded more than one hundred years ago, the CRs have played a vital role in recruiting, educating and involving many students each year in the political process.

At MTSU, the College Republicans have been an active force in student life for many years. While it may seem obvious that membership in the CRs allows students a chance to make their voices heard on important issues, the practical benefits that membership in the CRs can provide may not be so obvious.

First, the CRs provide networking opportunities that can become vital to a student's future and career. Not only will you meet friends with similar interests and ideas, but you will also make

professional contacts that will be beneficial when searching for your first job after graduation. Additionally, you will get a chance to meet elected and appointed officials from every level of government. No matter what a person's major, from business to political science, joining CRs could provide that crucial link to a successful future.

Second, participation in the CRs provides practical experience that is applicable to virtually any career path. Perhaps the most important skill you'll develop is leadership. In joining College Republicans, you are becoming a part of an organization that is entirely run by students. In order to ensure the success of the group, each member gets the opportunity to participate in fundraising activities, in the planning and execution of events and in public relations. Additionally, each member of the CRs can be connected to campaigns for public office at every level. In

SEX

explained. "Aside from risking sexually transmitted diseases, the men are actually buying sex from someone who hates them.

"The women really have a love-hate relationship with the men."

Most of the women who end up selling their bodies are known to be as young as 16 and as old as 60, however, at times some can be younger or even older and they come from every background imaginable.

Though the details of their stories are different, they almost all lead to the same results—confusion, depression and even suicide.

Michelle, a 38-year-old divorcee from Franklin, recently began working as a call girl through an agency. After 21 years of marriage it turns out she learned her

IN

younger.

Compounding Michelle's problem is the fact that she is the mother of two teen-age children. Money is tight, so her children now live with her father while she stays with a truck driver she met only two months ago.

Since she started working, Michelle typically works on the days that her boyfriend is out of town on deliveries.

Att. Mary Martin Schaffner said, "There seems to be an awful lot of taking advantage of women who need money."

said.

The board, Schaffner is member of, is a five-person panel put together by Nashville Mayor Phil Bredesen to oversee the Adult Entertainment Ordinance he signed into law Aug. 21.

"Its main purpose is to clean up the adult establishments in town," said Shannon Hunt, the mayor's press secretary. "They pose a number of health problems.

Because of the health risks t h e establishments pose the mayor has said that he has a responsibility to clean them up.

According to the mayor, the ordinance highlights seven major points:

Establishes tough, new

establishments to obtain a license.

Sets guidelines that would prohibit licenses from being given to anyone convicted of a crime of a sexual nature (i.e. rape, prostitution, etc.)

Sets new operating rules for sex-oriented businesses including distance requirements between the dancer and the patron and requires other health precautions to be taken.

"The mayor has made no

story by
Keith Ryan Cartwright

A drive through the area located just south of downtown Nashville can turn up everything from adult book stores, topless dance bars, massage parlors and street walkers.

Finding such establishments isn't hard; 2nd and 4th Avenues contain nearly a dozen topless and nude dance bars, while a half-dozen or more massage parlors make their home on 8th Avenue.

As Nashville's population continues to grow, so too does its sex industry.

Despite its Bible Belt location, Nashville hosts a sex industry rivaling that of supposedly more hedonistic metropolises like Los Angeles, Chicago or New York.

The industry wears many faces and speaks with many voices. However, one common thread holds Nashville's sex industry together—sex and drugs.

"The sex industry is way organized," said the Rev. Becca Stevens, president of the Magdalene Program, "and it's depressing."

Stevens works mainly with women who have sold their bodies for everything from money to drugs to food.

Through her work at Magdalene, Stevens has discovered that many of the women involved in prostitution were sexually abused at a young age and as a result became very promiscuous at a young age.

The life of a prostitute usually begins with dancing at a topless bar. However, it often leads to the underworld of drug abuse and a desire to make more money.

More often than not the women wind up broken and dejected, slowly gravitating toward working in massage parlors and eventually wind up working the streets.

"The women are broken, and the men are dysfunctional," Stevens



Chad Gillis/staff

On a Friday night, a group of men gather at the front entrance of The Odyssey Club, an adult dance club located in the heart of downtown Nashville's red light district. Mayor Phil Bredesen is hoping to quickly impose strict health regulations regarding businesses like this one.

husband had been paying for prostitutes for the past three years.

"He makes me angry," Michelle said. "I just want to know what he sees in it."

Although Michelle claims to have never been a drug addict, she does fit a pattern found in most prostitutes.

Married at 17, she admits to having engaged in a wild sex life with her former husband and to have "dabbled a bit" with drugs when she was

Schaffner is a member of Nashville's Metropolitan Sexually Oriented Business Licensing Board and believes that a lot of women like Michelle don't realize that not only is sleeping with men for money prostitution, but so is living with a strange man and sleeping with him in exchange for a place to live.

"A lot of women try to make a difference between trading sex and working the streets for money," Schaffner

regulations on Nashville's growing adult entertainment industry.

Establishes an Adult Entertainment Regulation Board.

Creates a full-time adult entertainment inspector who will be able to more closely monitor adult establishments.

Requires any sex-oriented establishment to obtain a license.

Requires any performers who plan to work in these

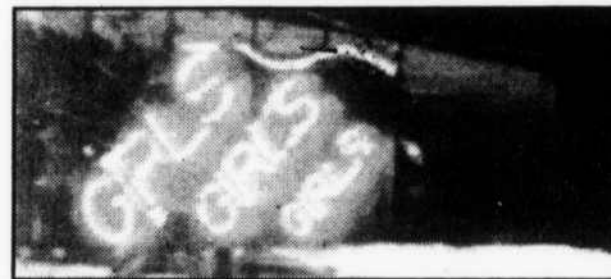
excuses for not liking those types of places," Hunt said.

However, despite the fact that the mayor and the Nashville community may not want to house such establishments in their neighborhoods, entrepreneurs do have legal rights when they stay within the existing laws.

As expected, some of the business owners have filed suit against the city claiming that their rights have been violated. Also, Judge Nixon is concerned

Piecing together Nashville's growing sex scene

B I B L E



B E L T

that the appeal process won't be timely enough for those who are denied permits.

The city has in turn filed a bill with the state Legislature that would, in fact, grant a speedy appeal.

Nixon and the mayor are waiting to see if the Legislature will pass the bill.

Hunt said that it is frustrating to be on one side of an issue and have to jump legislative obstacles in order to do what she believes is right for the city.

She also hopes that the Legislature resolves the bill sooner rather than later.

If the injunction against the ordinance is finally lifted, Hunt said city officials plan to "rigorously implement it and enforce it."

However, some citizens may be disappointed that the ordinance will not do away with the sex industry but instead monitor it from a health standpoint.

"Most people in the community are glad that something is being done," Hunt said. "But, they do get frustrated that you can't just go in and close them down."

The initial permit fee to get an operating license is \$500 while a license for entertainers is \$100.

Potential adult entertainers can be denied a permit if the applicant is under 18, has been convicted of any misdemeanor crime of a sexual

nature in the past two years or five years for felonies, has already violated the ordinance within one year of the application date or falsified any information on their application.

For Nashville, its current plan is to make sure that all the adult entertainment establishments are clean and free of health risks for the time being as Nashville continues to deal with what Hunt feels is an on going problem.

"As cities grow," Hunt said, "they present problems that you have to deal with."

"And, we worked on this ordinance for six months. It's modeled after the one used in Chattanooga."

The State of Tennessee already requires establishments that claim to offer massages to have a full-time licensed masseuse or masseur on duty during all operating hours.

In light of that requirement, many businesses have changed their name to something similar to Dawn's Whirlpool Center, 1025 8th Avenue South.

A reporter who called Dawn's to ask what services the establishment offered was told by the manager that for \$140 per hour you are paying for the girl's time, "what you do as two consenting adults is not what you're paying for."

During a telephone conversation two days later, the

same manager denied that Dawn's offers any type of sexual encounters or that their services are sexual in nature.

However, their own advertisement in the Nashville Scene refers to Dawn's as "Nashville's largest adult entertainment business."

In the end, the so-called oldest profession in the world is an issue Nashville will likely be facing in an on-going fashion.

"I hate when people say, 'It's the oldest profession, so why try and stop it now?'" Stevens said. "If you have a community behind you, you can do it. You can bring about a change."

"But, we can't turn our backs on those who have been victimized. Women who have survived the streets and lived have a lot to offer. They're powerful women with a story to tell."

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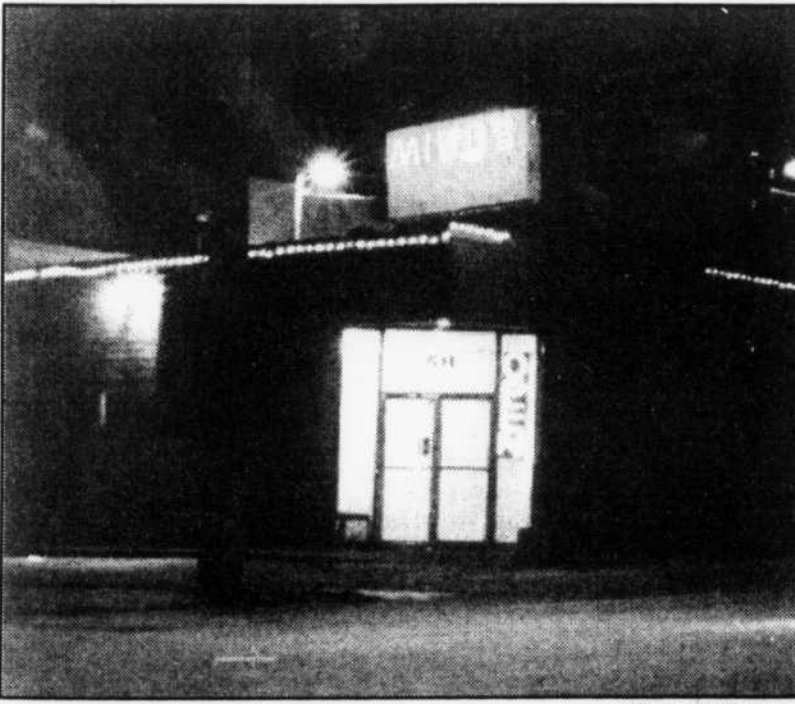
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Chad Gillis/staff

Massage parlor's like Miko's, 511 8th Avenue South, are low-key establishments located in the industrial areas of downtown Nashville.

SIDELINES

STUDENT BALLOT

Nomination for Outstanding Teacher Award
1997-98

I Nominate _____
(Please Print Full Name of Teacher)

of the Department of _____

for an Outstanding Teacher Award, 1997-98.

(Nominees must be full-time faculty members to be eligible)

(Please Type or Print Clearly)

Sign: _____

Please return this ballot via campus mail to: Office of Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, CART, or deliver it personally to the Office of Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, Cope Administration Building, Room 119.

Please Return Ballot No Later Than Friday, February 27, 1998

Mating call

Idle thoughts, while pooping

a senseless column of ideas from the bizarre mind of...

Keith Ryan Cartwright

As a journalist and an advocate of free speech I find it ludicrous that a slew of cattle ranchers can sue Oprah Winfrey over anti-beef statements made on her talk show.

Talk about tying up our legal system with nonsense.

But, I tell you what. I, if for some god-for-saken reason Oprah loses that case, have a case of my own that I plan to pursue.

My idea is to bring a class-action lawsuit against the federal government for allowing women to legally practice being lesbians.

Right now, as I write this, I am a single man. Yet, I truly believe that I do have a lot to offer someone.

Don't get me wrong, I don't have a problem with a woman actually being a lesbian.

After all, I'm attracted to women myself. So, I guess I kind of understand what they're attracted to in a strange sort of way.

However, my plan is to outline the fact that because there are lesbians, the pool of women becomes smaller, thus leading to my being single.

Therefore, if women weren't allowed to become lesbians, I would have a better chance of finding my significant other, if for no other reason than the fact that there would simply be more women to choose from.

Amen!
We can't very well have a humorous look at men and women on the heels of Valentine's Day without bringing up our fearless leader, President William Jefferson Clinton—otherwise known as "Slick Willy."

"Wet Willy," as I actually like to call him, sure has gotten himself into some hot water lately.

Everyone likes to call him "Slick Willy" because he always manages to worm his way out of whatever problem he's in.

I prefer to call him "Wet Willy" because, well, in light of the recent events, I'm sure you get the picture.

Anyway, there are a few issues I just don't comprehend about all this.

I've worked a few internships myself. Let me tell you something; you don't get a chance to even speak to the "big wigs," let alone get yourself fondled by them.

To top it off, we're talking about the President of the United States of America—who is supposed to be the most powerful man in the free world.

Here's a guy that we all assume is busy meeting with advisors in regard to national security issues or maybe that little thing we call the national debt.

But, instead he's worried about that other "little thing" while he works with his intern? Wow! Go figure.

Until next time, happy squatting on your special port-a-potty as you continue reading Post Modern.

**Idle thought of the day...
Do whatever it takes to make yourself known.**

HOROSCOPES

Aries: Expect to meet up with some competition today.
Taurus: The Moon pays a visit to Taurus' house, bringing you special gifts.
Gemini: Small frustrations slow you down just enough to make a difference.
Cancer: Be sure to include a few friends in today's plans.
Leo: Keep your tongue inside your head and your fists out of other people's personal space.
Virgo: Your level of concentration is exceptional today.
Libra: You hear or see evidence that leads you to believe someone is taking advantage of you.
Scorpio: Avoid conflict today.
Sagittarius: Avoid investment schemes and other shortcuts.
Capricorn: Concentration and creativity are running strong today.
Aquarius: You may encounter problems with family members or co-workers today.
Pisces: In the absence of a translator, you are forced to learn a new means of communication.

Club Directory

Ace of Clubs 1114 2ND AVE. S., NASHVILLE 254-ACES
Big River Grille 111 BROADWAY, NASHVILLE 251-4677
Bluebird Cafe 4104 HILLSBORO RD., NASHVILLE 383-1461
Bongo Java 2007 Belmont Blvd., NASHVILLE 385-0575
The Boro 1211 GREENLAND DR., MURFREESBORO 895-4800
Bourbon Street Blues & Boogie Bar 220 Printers Alley, Nashville 24-BLUES
The Bunganut Pig 1602 W. NORTHFIELD AVE., MURFREESBORO 893-7860
Cafe Milano 176 3RD AVE., NASHVILLE 255-0073
The Cannery 1 CANNERY ROW, NASHVILLE 251-0979
Conrads at HOLIDAY INN I-24 EXIT 78B, MURFREESBORO 896-2420
Exit/In 2208 Elliston Pl., NASHVILLE 321-4400
Gibson Cafe & Guitar Gallery 318 BROADWAY, NASHVILLE 742-6343
Graham Central Station 128 2ND AVE. S., NASHVILLE 251-3545
Guido's NY Pizzeria 416 21ST AVE. S., NASHVILLE 329-4428
Hard Rock Cafe 100 BROADWAY, NASHVILLE 742-9900
Have A Nice Day Cafe 217 2ND AVE. S., NASHVILLE 726-2233
Jonathon's on the Square 114 N. CHURCH ST., MURFREESBORO 895-1133
Legend's Corner 428 BROADWAY, NASHVILLE 248-6334
Lucy's Record Shop 1707 CHURCH ST., NASHVILLE 321-0882
Main Street Club 527 W. MAIN ST., MURFREESBORO 890-8692
Mere Bulles 152 2ND AVE. N., NASHVILLE 256-1946
Municipal Auditorium 417 4TH AVE. N., NASHVILLE 862-6395
Music City Cafe 5751 OLD HICKORY BLVD., HERMITAGE 872-0013
Music City Mix Factory 300 2ND AVE. S., NASHVILLE 251-8899
Nashville Arena 501 BROADWAY, NASHVILLE 770-2000
Ryman Auditorium 116 5TH AVE. N., NASHVILLE 889-6611
Sebastian's 109 N. MAPLE, MURFREESBORO 895-8658
Somethin' Live 209 PRINTER'S ALLEY, NASHVILLE 254-5483
Springwater 115 27TH AVE. N., NASHVILLE 320-0345
Starwood Amphitheatre 3839 MURFREESBORO RD., ANTIOCH 641-5800
Station Inn 402 12TH AVE. S., NASHVILLE 255-3307
3rd & Lindsley Bar & Grill 818 3RD AVE. S., NASHVILLE 259-9891
328 Performance Hall 328 4TH AVE. S., NASHVILLE 259-3288
Tpac 505 DEADERICK ST., NASHVILLE 782-4000
12th & Porter 114 12TH AVE. N., NASHVILLE 254-7236
Who's on 12th 114 12TH AVE. N., NASHVILLE 254-7236
Wildhorse Saloon 120 2ND AVE. N., NASHVILLE 251-1000
Windows on the Cumberland 112 2ND AVE. N., NASHVILLE 251-0097
Zannie's Comedy and Music Cafe 2025 8TH AVE. S., NASHVILLE 269-0221

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We: 2/18 *The Nationals*
Th: 2/19 *Earl*
Fr: 2/20 *Hosemobile*
Sa: 2/21 *Haversack w/The Skoakies*
Su: 2/22 *Roland Gresham Jazz*
Tu: 2/24 *Fools Rush In*
We: 2/25 *Groovy Goolies The Donna's & Glossary*
Th: 2/26 *Special Surprise*
Fr: 2/27 *The Katies*
Sa: 2/28 *MUM's Showcase*

Brew Specials

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All Premium Drafts 7 pm-12 am

Tu: Beat The Clock-50c Draft
@ 7 pm; \$1 @ 8; \$1.50 @ 9

We: Over The Hump
\$1 Draft; 5pm-9pm

Th: \$3 Bottomless Cup
8 pm-9 pm

Fr, Sa & Su-Th: Happy Hour
Opening 'til 7 pm

Ev: Choose from 150+ Brews
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Upcoming Events

Tu: 2/24 *Fat Tuesday w/ Fools Rush In Happy Hour - All ABITA Beers .50c Brew 7pm Free Beads & Party Favors*

Sa: 2/28 *M.U.M.s Showcase*

Tu: 3/17 *St. Patrick's Day Party & Parade Happy Hour on All Irish Brew til Midnight. .50c Beer-Green or American-7 pm Music By "Secret Commonwealth"*

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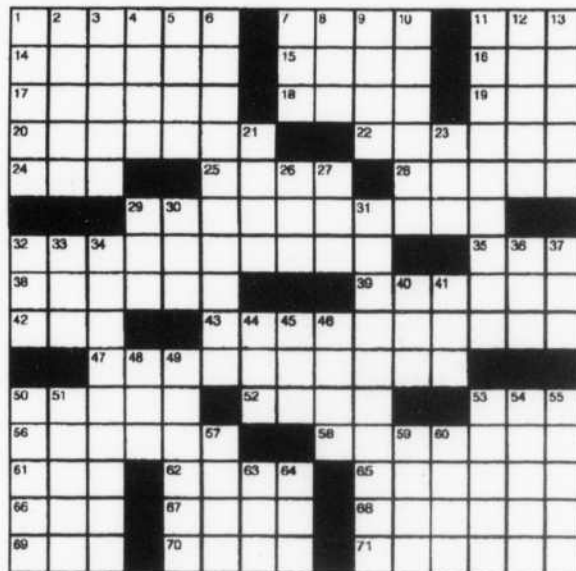
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ACROSS

- 1 Japanese entertainer
- 7 Streetcar
- 11 Steal
- 14 Tie with ropes
- 15 Distinctive air
- 16 Birthday number
- 17 In dreamland
- 18 "Hud" star Pat
- 19 Affirmative vote
- 20 Resolute
- 22 Cried loudly
- 24 Blighted tree
- 25 Attention-getting sound
- 28 Houdini's last name
- 29 Capital of Suriname
- 32 Cartoon portrait
- 35 Definite article
- 38 Tennis event
- 39 Typewriter roller
- 42 Quaker pronoun
- 43 Giraffe, formerly
- 47 Affirm
- 50 Country singer K.T.
- 52 Arkin or Bates
- 53 School org.
- 56 Word inventor
- 58 Trappers
- 61 Gore and Jarreau
- 62 Marine shockers
- 65 Garden blooms
- 66 Permit
- 67 Diligent devotion
- 68 Honshu city
- 69 Ninyhammer
- 70 Form a vortex
- 71 Expressionless

DOWN

- 1 Woods clearing
- 2 Artist's stand
- 3 Arabic religion
- 4 Lean-to
- 5 Colors
- 6 Look
- 7 Khaki shade
- 8 Wish undone
- 9 Part of U.A.E.
- 10 Neighbor of Zimbabwe
- 11 "Goodfellas" co-star
- 12 Curved moldings
- 13 Necklace units
- 21 The one there
- 23 ___ of intrigue
- 26 Flightless bird
- 27 Disfigure
- 29 Dickens character
- 30 Solitaire starter
- 31 Changing schemes
- 32 Divide the deck
- 33 Cigar dropping
- 34 King's supporters
- 36 One of the girls
- 37 Ultimate act
- 40 Parcel of property
- 41 "The Naked ___"
- 44 Actress Gardner
- 45 Country singer Tillis
- 46 Time periods



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Old owners **EXIT/IN** with the new

story by
Keith Ryan Cartwright

Its history is as long and illustrious as Nashville itself.

However, in recent years Exit/In has had a slight fall from grace.

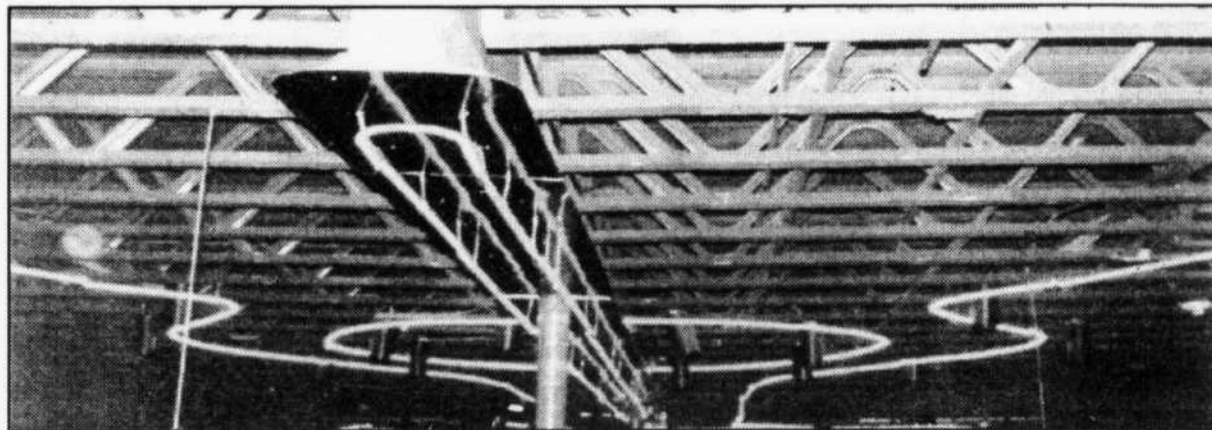
Ned Horten is hoping that by restoring the decades-old establishment, he will not only bring the club to its once elite stature but breath a little life back into what was once known as "the rock block."

"I want to keep the ambiance of it intact," Horten said. "People will realize there's been some changes made to [Exit/In], they just won't know what's different."

Horten began looking at the Exit/In back in October. He paid approximately \$250,000 for the club and officially took over control at the beginning of January.

"The negotiations were drawn out for whatever reason," Horten said. "A couple of the owners weren't excited about selling."

During the negotiations Horten met with the three former owners and the landlord in making sure the transition would run smoothly. Horten also wanted to make sure the landlord was willing to work with him on some of the



Chad Gillis/Staff

Ned Horten plans to restore this neon guitar which has hung from the rafters of the Exit/In for 30 years.

cosmetic changes he had in mind.

"I didn't want to just improve the level of entertainment," Horten explained. "I wanted to clean up the building as well. I had begun to deteriorate."

Among the problems Horten noticed was that the stage was too small, the backstage area was cramped, the fixtures in the bathrooms were old, the room needed to be painted and, oddly enough, in order for patrons to access the women's bathroom, they had to actually walk up onto the side of the stage.

Once the sale of Exit/In was finalized, Horten closed the club for nine days and gave it its first facial.

First up were the bathroom fixtures and inside painting. During the month of January, Horten spent an estimated \$50,000 in repairs and expects to continue upgrading the club in stages.

"It's become a little more difficult because a lot of us are working at night too," Horten said.

The former radio DJ has lived up to his initial plan of once again bringing in top flight talent. Recently, the club hosted Marcy's Playground in front of a sold-out crowd.

"I hope to add some more things to keep everyone interested," Horten said. "I just want to raise the level of interest not only in the club, but in the whole block."



Chad Gillis/staff

The historical Exit/In is undergoing a few renovations under new owner Ned Horten. Horten hopes his efforts with the Exit/In will help to revitalize an area of Nashville once known as "the rock block." Horten purchased the club in January for an estimated \$250,000. He has already spent \$50,000 in improvements.



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