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Daily Nebraskan

Precinct

Continued from Page 9 surroundings, the Precinct is the best Lincoln has to offer. and, by the way, the Lycra definitely is

optional

Funnybone

Lincoln, no! One could choose from decide who drank what. Isn't it the plethora of bars open, go to a always a surprise how much you movie or go to the Funny Bone, drink when you drink on a tab? 808 P St. Waiting in line was a bit of a from \$1.50 to

pain, but no more than waiting in \$3.50. any line. The price is comparable to a movie (\$4 Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday; \$6 Friday and Saturday).

Going in, one notices an attractive bar with pictures of the comedians that have performed at the Oscars club. The lounge in front is separate from the showroom.

The doormen, looking sharp in their tuxedo shirts and bow ties, Project S was playing. A few of the escorted our group in. We were pseudo-Irish partiers were danc-seated near the back, but amaz- ing. Green beer flowed and merriingly we still could see quite well. ment went 'round.

The floor of the showroom has when we sat down there was more keeping the patrons "buzzed." than enough room. Remember when Oscar's used

longest wall and people are seated even in the top five. One reason all around it.

As each comedian's pummel the offender. name is announced, the neon sign

and did 10 to 15 minutes of mate- sible for his problem or not. rial to warm up the crowd. All in all,

sprang forth. Decosse was funny, drinks. Thurday specials are 50-but didn't give the audience a gut- cent draws and \$1.50 for 32-ounce wrenching laughter kind of com- draws

edy routine. He did do some cliche routines, but to his credit, he did them very well.

The emcee came back on stage to give the crowd a chance to relieve themselves.

Finally, it was time for the headliner, John McDowell. McDowell came dressed in red, green and white plaid pants and a white shirt. -- Lisa Maul His humor was unequaled and in-ventive, although he did harass the two middle-aged couples in front of the stage quite a bit. When the bill came (yes, they

Bored on a Sunday night in run on a tab system), we had to Drink prices range

It was Saint Patrick's Day at Oscar's, 800 O St.

The, uh, "interesting" band,

The garden was closed, but the rows of small tables that seat four. inside was filled but not packed. t seems tight at first sight, but The waitresses did a fine job of

The stage is centered along the to be the place to be? Now its not could be the large, often mean The lights go out. The music looking bouncers at the door. They starts. A loud voice bellows out, look as if they are just waiting for "Good evening ladies and gentle- someone to screw up so they can

displaying the "Funny Bone" logo Wendelin, always seems to be pis--- the penis with a hat -- is flashed. sed off about something. It doesn't The emcee, Jim Dixon, came out matter whether you are respon-

The prices are as cheap as, if not he was pretty good. cheaper than, other college bars. Next, from the hidden room in Drink specials on Wednesday are back, the feature act, John Decosse, 75-cent well drinks and 85-cent call

The owner and manager, Rich On stage at the Zoo Bar ... 17-year owner Larry Boehmer surrounded by some of the nearly 40 portraits of performers who have played there. Clockwise from bottom left: Carey Bell, Jay McShann, James Harmon and Hollywood Fats, J. B. Hutto and Matt "Guitar" Murphy.

> The bartenders are friendly and quick, a good sign for someone who likes to party.

> Oscar's needs something that is unique, something only they can offer. They will have to do better

> > See OSCARS on 11

gether. Oscar's used to be fun, now it is just there.

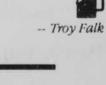
Cliff's

fills the bill

same reason.



Inside Cliff's Lounge, 140 N. 12th St.



Thursday, March 22, 1990

Daily Nebraskan



Oscars

Continued from Page 10 than the run-of-the-mill bar in Lin-

The crowds at Oscar's do not socialize. If a person goes in with friends, do not expect any other drinker with group or people to socialize with the light that person. It's as if one is trans- wallet. ported back to a junior high dance, with little cliques standing off to

-- Troy Falk

quiet, but not intimate atmosphere, a lively, but not obnoxious clien-

tele, and the most extensive flavor Platte, then Cliff's at 140 N. 12th St.

Cliff's has an exceedingly invit-ing flavor to it. It's comfortable The Zoo Bar is a

kamikazee's, customers get an entire Cigarette smoke hangs in the air real classy.

walls to the shagged floors is userfriendly at Cliff's. It's for the serious

Zoo Bar

The Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St., has a reputation

First-class blues musicians Moore and Moments Not wait to play there again. For those with a penchant for a The Zoo Bar is widely regarded as THE blues bar in the Midwest outside of Chicago and Kansas City. It seems kind of odd to find a

list of kamikazees this side of the true house-rocking blues joint in a relatively safe, quiet, college town like Lincoln. Maybe that's part of

ing flavor to it. It's comfortable The Zoo Bar is a long, dark, enough to let the first-time visitor narrow room with worn wooden feel at home enough to belly up floors. It has a high, tin-relief ceiland get sloshed to the bejeezus without making a scene. Heck. The majority of the bar is there for the Prices and portions are set with in the blues. Otis Rush. Sleepy LaBeef. Charlie Musselwhite. Big the college student in mind. When Twist. All are musicians who played Guaranteed. ordering one of Cliff's famous at the Zoo at one time or another.

pint-glass full of the mix, complete like an old black-and-white movie. with an ice skimmer and extra high-ball glass for sipping. Classy, Cliff, varnish -- and an old, pleasantlymusty, comfortable aroma -- like a Everything from the bookshelved sad, beautiful memory.

At any rate, the Zoo reeks with

The Zoo Bar feels like a piece of blues history. Things happen at the Zoo. That's probably why impor-Lisa Stankus tant blues figures like Buddy Guy John Hammond, Charlie Musselwhite, Matt "Guitar" Murphy Magic Slim and others play regularly at the Zoo.

Many musicians popular out-side of the blues world, such as Robert Cray, played at the Zoo before they were "discovered." And after one night at the Zoo, many up-and-coming bands, such as lan Moore and Moments Notice, can't

Or that's part of the reason the Zoo Bar is a great blues bar, anyway. The Zoo also attracts a pretty diverse crowd of hard-core blues fans. On any given night, the Zoo is filled with student people, working class people and professional office people. All of them bit by the same blues bug.

Often, the diminutive dance floor is filled and sometimes people dance in the aisles between tables all the way back to the bar.

The bartenders are friendly, the beer flows freely, and the always is good

at the Zoo.

- Mick Dve



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