

*"The first morning (after) I worked here I couldn't get out of bed."*

**Collette Gray**  
Mataya's Babydolls dancer

# stringer

# high-strings from the poles



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: Dancers have time between sets to change and get ready in a small dressing room behind the stage at Mataya's Babydolls, 5620 Cornhusker Highway. Cole and Chyna have forged a friendship despite the stress of the job.

Stress takes its toll on Cole after a slow night. She has not danced long enough for her legs to get used to the poles. Her legs are lined with bruises.

Chyna learned her pole tricks from the club's owner. She twirls from the top of the pole at the beginning of her sets.

Photos by Josh Wolfe, Story by Josh Funk