Nudity ban has little effect Focus of Smokeout is future on business at dance clubs

Owners of The Night Before and Mataya's said they have seen little change since it has passed.

BY JOSH FUNK

A month-old public nudity ban has had little impact on Lincoln's three clubs that feature topless dancing in the city, according to club owners.

Topless women must make sure their nipples are covered under the law, which took effect Oct. 10 and was revised Nov. 6. The law also requires men and women to cover their genitals.

The law applies to all public places, though it was clearly aimed at three particular businesses - The Night Before Lounge, Mataya's Babydolls Gentlemen's Theatre Club and the Foxy Lady - for their adult entertainment.

The Night Before and Mataya's owners said they have complied with the law. The Foxy Lady's owners did not return calls for comment Thursday

What impact has the city's nudity ban had?

"None really," said Ken Semler, owner of The Night Before, 1035 M St., who testified against the law before the city council earlier this fall.

"It's still unnecessary, but it has no effect."

Semler said the dancers in his club have been wearing pasties over their nipples since the law took effect, and his customers have probably laughed more than they have com-

This month the City Council mandated that the pasties had to be big enough to cover not just the nipple, but the areola, which is the colored area around the nipple.

Mataya's majority owner, John Ways Jr., said his club was using a form of liquid latex pasties even though it was not required to.

We're not obligated to (use pasties) because we meet all the criteria of a private club," Ways

The city's nudity ban applies to any person in a public place

"We're not obligated to (use pasties) because we meet all the criteria of a private

John Ways Jr.

Mataya's Babydolls' owner

or any place open to the public. Ways said that to enter his club people must buy a membership for either eight hours, six months or one year at the

When the City Council proposed the law, its members expected the quality of life around the clubs to improve after the ban passed.

Semler said he was still skeptical about the motivations of the law and its effect.

"It will always be a mystery to me" why the City Council passed this law, Semler said.

"I think the city of Lincoln is much safer with the nipples covered," Semler said sarcasti-

Smokers who quit can regain 30 percent of lung functions lost after just three months.

BY JILL CONNER

Cardiovascular disease, cancer, emphysema, asthma and bronchitis is what smokers can look forward to unless they quit, according to the American Cancer Society.

This message was the emphasis of Thursday's Great American Smokeout, a national campaign to urge smokers to quit for a day.

"At least it will show them (smokers) they can actually quit for one day," said Andy Link, wellness coordinator for the University Health Center. "It gives you some confidence."

This year the campaign was sponsored by the second-year health aides at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

The health aides sat behind a booth in the Nebraska Union and explained the ill effects of smoking to passers-by.

Paint thinner, acetone, formaldehyde, butane and bat-

tery acid are ingredients of cigarettes, said Kelly Ascherl, a junior psychology major and health

"It just looks nasty," said Sarah Carse, a junior pre-nursing health aide.

Ascherl said after three months of not smoking, people regain 30 percent of lung functions lost because of smoking.

"After 15 years, your risk is reduced to that of a non-smoker," said Julie Lindauer, a junior animal science major and health aide.

"With all the benefits of not smoking, why don't you stop? Why don't you try?" Carse said.

Many smokers said they were unaware of the nationwide

"I think it is a nice thing, and I really need to quit, but I didn't know it was today," said Erin Alzun, a 1999 UNL graduate who works in the University Bookstore.

"If I would have known, I would have made a conscious

Ilenia Pontel, a junior architecture major, said she did not know about the campaign but probably would not have quit

"With all the benefits of not smoking, why don't you stop? Why don't you try?"

Sarah Carse

UNL student health aide

smoking.

"I am close to a due date for architecture, so I would have not done anything."

For those who do want to kick the habit, the University Health Center is offering smoking cessation classes possibly offered once or twice a week starting in January.

Those interested in going to the class should call Andy Link at (402) 472-7405.

It is a good time to quit smoking when the weather turns cold, Ascherl said. Twenty minutes after quitting, the temperature of hands and feet increases to normal, she said.

"What frustrates me is (smokers) are sitting out there all cold, complaining how cold it is and they are sucking down a

Ex-sweatshop worker calls for action

■ The factory worker told UNL's Anti-Sweatshop Campaign of her efforts to raise awareness of poor conditions at factories.

BY LINDSEY BAKER

Chie Abad used to work in the factory that assembled the clothing that appear on the racks and shelves at the Gap.

After six years of working in what she called "squalid" conditions, Abad is speaking out against the abuse that goes on behind the scenes at the factories that produce sweaters and jeans.

University students in the UNL Anti-Sweatshop Campaign organized a presentation Thursday that featured Abad, now a spokeswoman for Global Exchange, a human rights organization.

ASC raised the question of using sweatshops to produce university apparel last May. According to ASC facilitator Jaclyn Geist, the UNL Athletic Department is still looking into the matter.

The Athletic Department was unavailable for comment on the issue.

"Most of the people on campus are

aware (of the problem)," Geist said.

She said even though the university was associated with the Fair Labor Association, the code of conduct mandated by the university does not use clear language upholding women's rights or a living wage.

Geist said because of the investigation, UNL was now planning on adding more specific rules to the code.

"That's a positive thing for us," she said. Abad was an assistant to the supervisor of a Saipan sweatshop that produced clothing for many companies, including the Gap Corporation, for six years. She began her presentation with a 1998 20/20 segment for which she wore a hidden camera to record the conditions of her factory.

The video detailed the contaminated water and food the women were given, the living barracks surrounded by barbed wire and the non-working sanitary facilities.

Abad said 90 percent of sweatshop workers were women, and most were forced to sign "shadow contracts," giving up such basic rights as joining political or religious organizations, and falling in love and marrying to work 12 to 16 hours a day, seven days a

factories also forced women to

have abortions or take contraceptives in order to keep their jobs, Abad said.

"No worker should be treated like a slave," Abad said.

Disgusted with the working conditions at her factory, Abad led the first union organization effort in Saipan four years after she began work at the sweatshop. She was not successful in forming a union.

Abad then began more efforts to improve conditions; eventually, she was fired. After several lawsuits, the wages at her factory have been raised to \$3.05 per hour, an amount Abad still finds unacceptable.

The women are now receiving health insurance, however.

"I'm proud of my role in shedding light (on sweatshops)," Abad said. "There is a solution for this. We need to build grassroots campaigns here in your school. We need to lead the struggle to end sweatshops. We are on the right side of the history."

The ASC and Abad encouraged students to call the Gap Corporation every Friday at 1-800-333-7899 to ask that workers be treated

The ASC meets Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. in the basement of the Culture Center, and can

Electoral College process debated after election

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mum percentage needed to win, Hibbing said.

runoff elections in situations where no candidate captured a distinct majority, he said.

ond favorite candidate on the ballot, which would be factored into choosing a winner, if no candidate garnered enough support, Hibbing said.

butterfly ballots baffle voters, having to select two candidates may be too much for the country to handle, he said.

To be honest, Gruhl said, the United States probably won't have to worry about complicated ballot schemes because such changes will not likely happen.

to be approved by three-fourths of the state legislatures or two-thirds of both houses in Congress.

switch all of the states over to an electoral system like Nebraska's and Maine's, Gruhl said. In those states, he said, all of the electoral votes do not go to the

wide vote. Rather, he said, electoral votes are divvied out on a district by district basis.

one candidate who won the state-

Two additional electoral votes would go to the candidate who won the entire state, Gruhl said.

Even with all of these possibilities, Gruhl doubts the United States will tweak its system. Most people don't understand

the present system and probably won't take the time to learn much about the alternatives, he said.

"My hunch is there won't be much changed," he said.

Brian Carlson contributed to

JFK adviser contrasts Former KKK leader's home raided 1960 election, 2000's

■ The FBI refused to disclose why David Duke's home was targeted.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MANDEVILLE, La-Federal agents raided the home of former Ku Klux Klan leader David Duke on Thursday, carting off boxes of documents and a rifle during a search that lasted more than seven hours.

FBI agent Sheila Thorne refused to disclose the nature of the investigation.

But Roy Armstrong, who identified himself as Duke's bodyguard and a caretaker at the house, said agents told him they were looking into whether Duke was illegally using money raised for his new white-rights organization for his personal

"It's a fishing expedition," Armstrong said. Duke's associ-

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ates said the 50-year-old former KKK leader and one-time state legislator was in Russia, promoting a new book, and that they had not been able to reach

His new organization is the National Organization For European American Rights, or NOFEAR. He launched it in January, declaring that whites in the United States face "massive discrimination" at the hands of minorities.

Agents from the FBI, Internal Revenue Service and the Postal Inspection Service took part in the search of Duke's home in a suburb outside New

Agents carried out about a dozen boxes. Armstrong showed reporters a copy of the search warrant, which sought a variety of financial and personal records, including gambling and travel records and direct

As for the rifle, Armstrong

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said agents told him they believed it was stolen.

Armstrong said that he had never seen the gun before and that he did not know whether it

belonged to Duke. Duke appeared before a federal grand jury in New Orleans in 1999 as news broke that Gov. Mike Foster had paid him more than \$150,000 for a list of his supporters, supposedly for use during the 1995 governor's race. Duke had considered entering that race but ultimately stayed

The grand jury reportedly was seeking information on whether Duke paid taxes on the

It was not known if the raid on Duke's home had anything to do with that matter.

Foster "hasn't spoken to the FBI," said the governor's spokeswoman, Marsanne Golsby. "He doesn't know anything about it." Foster, a Republican, paid a

\$20,000 fine to the state Board of

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Ethics in connection with the list of supporters.

Duke spent years on the political fringe, first as a Klan leader with neo-Nazi sympathies, then as founder of the National Association for the Advancement of White People, which decried integration.

He got elected to the state House in 1989 as a Republican and ran unsuccessfully for the U.S. Senate in 1990, pulling 44 percent of the vote against Democratic Sen. J. Bennett Johnston.

In the 1991 governor's race, he shocked the political establishment by making it into a runoff with former Gov. Edwin Edwards, who was trying for a comeback.

Edwards won in a landslide. Duke made a run for the presidency in Southern primaries in 1992 but was soundly defeated. He finished third in the 1999 race to replace Rep. Bob Livingston in Congress.

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They also could select a sec-

In an era where mysterious

"It could be too demanding,"

"There are too many roadcks in front of an amendment,"

this report. Hibbing said.

ELECTION from page 1

tion so enough votes from the other party constitute a majority." In 1960, the situation was dif-

ferent, said University of Nebraska-Lincoln political science professor John Gruhl. The Cold War was at its height, and partisan differences - especially on foreign policy-were muted by the presence of a common enemy.

Now, the impulse for biparti-

sanship may not be as great, he said. Since the beginning of the 1990s, he said, the partisan gridlock in Washington has grown To make matters worse, this year's election irregularities already have caused deep bitter-

Capitol in January with their "heels dug in." "A lot of things have happened since 1960 that have made

ness, and many members of

Congress are likely to arrive at the

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bipartisan. "But I'm afraid there's been so much partisanship in the last decade that I'm afraid it will slowly give way to rancor."

Sorensen said presidents

"Everybody is talking the talk

right now, and I suspect there will

be a sincere effort to try to be

could work with Congress to build coalitions supporting legislative measures. Those coalitions may differ from issue to issue, he said. With strong presidential leadership and statesmanship from

members of Congress, the federal government can find some common ground in the next few years, he said, even if sweeping reforms are unlikely. "I would think it would be possible to put together coali-

tions to pass legislation," he said in the interview. "But we probably shouldn't expect too many farreaching measures for the next few years.

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