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ousands attend as Studio 54 storms back said Mark Fleischman, one of the invited. As people leave, others

United Press International NEW YORK — Studio 54, the disco for the famous and their fans, reopened Tuesday night with a lavish light show simulating thunder and lightning. Outside, hundreds of people waited in the real thing

The club, which closed a year ago after its former owners

pleaded guilty to evading taxes on some \$2.5 million in profits, reopened to an invitation-only celebration and drew many of the pop culture celebrities that made it famous

Brooke Shields partied at a pri-vate affair thrown by Calvin Klein,

with singer Paul Simon, actors Jack Nicholson, Ryan O'Neal, Jacqueline Bisset and comedian John Belushi.

The new Studio 54 features a light show on screens that drop down the sides of the disco. It can also simulate a walk on the moon, danced on the lower level along "It's hot, great and crowded,"

club's new owners. He and partner Jeffrey London sent 12,000 invitations for the reopening, but could admit only about 3,000

people Twelve-thousand people probably tried to come," Fleischman "It's very crowded outside. I said. presume the people outside were

will get in.'

Fleischman said the club's previous owners, Steve Rubell and Ian Schrager, were invited but did not attend. Rubell and Schrager recently finished serving federal jail sentences at Maxwell Air lion for the disco. A club spokes-Force Base in Alabama, on tax man declined to say how much

originally sentenced to three years in jail, but their jail terms were reduced.

Published reports have said that Fleischman and London paid Rubell and Schrager about \$5 million for the disco. A club spokes-

Last month, the new paid \$235,000 in back taxes one by Rubell and Schrager, the way for a reopening

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ANDF The disco closed after losing ASE. N liquor license, a spokesman s The State Liquor Authority hief say: issued the club a new license.



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