

# AGGIELIFE

THE BATTALION

**WHAT THE TOUR GUIDES DON'T TELL YOU**

## The different sides of Dallas

### D/FW proves to be more than Six Flags and professional sports for college travelers

BY KELLY PREISER  
The Battalion

It is a typical Friday night; you find yourself once again sitting around the television with friends discussing what to do and where to go for the evening.

It seems as though there is nothing to do. At least nothing you have not done before.

Sound familiar?

After living in the same town for awhile, everything that used to be fun becomes mundane and one finds oneself looking for new forms of entertainment when the old standbys just don't cut it anymore.

Residents of Dallas are no exception to this scenario. While Dallas is known for being home to sports teams such as the Mavericks, the Cowboys and the Stars, and tourist attractions, but how many times can one go up to the top of Reunion tower, eat at Planet Hollywood or tour the Book Depository and still find it amusing?

Many who live in and travel to Dallas are completely unaware of the endless alternative entertainment possibilities Dallas has to offer.

If one enjoys hanging out at those wooden-floored, wooden-walled, bar-stooled establishments with country music jangling in the background and graffiti on the table or on the wall—like the Dixie Chicken, Shadow Canyon, or Hole in the Wall on Northgate—then one should appreciate the similar atmosphere of Adair's Saloon in Downtown Dallas.

Adair's has a true Texas country history behind it. Legendary musicians Willie Nelson and

Junior Brown were regulars at Adair's before it was relocated to its current location in 1983. Another Texas celebrity, Jack Ingram, cut a five record at Adair's before ever hitting the Billboard Country music charts. Adair's wallows in its honky-tonk atmosphere while also being a great place to get a greasy burger and a cold beer.

Sushi Nights is the name of a Sushi Bar in Deep Ellum that offers a whole lot more than cold, raw fish and offers a completely contrasting atmosphere to Adair's. A sushi bar probably does not sound too exciting, but this place is worth the trip just for the experience.

At no other place in Dallas can one experience food one would not typically venture to eat and a rock atmosphere at the same time.

Scott Melton, owner and manager of Sushi Nights said he hires musicians as servers. Hiring musicians attracts a musical crowd as customers, he said. Sushi Nights does not just serve sushi; it also offers a wide range of food from soups to beef entrees, to desserts and ice creams.

There is one place in Dallas found in the heart of Deep Ellum that truly rocks, literally. Classic City Rock Cafe ranks among the most unique eateries in Dallas. A haven for fans of Led Zeppelin, Jimmy Hendrix, The Rolling Stones and others, it is a cafe-bar dedicated to classic rock.

Walking into Classic City Rock Cafe is like falling into a time warp that takes the patron back to the '60s and '70s.

"It's the alternative to the alternative, and the only one in Deep Ellum of its kind," said Gary Cartwright, a Classic City Rock Cafe bartender.

When customers walk in, they are likely to hear a Pink Floyd or Hendrix song in the background and will be amazed at the decor of this place.

There is a long bar with televisions above it that are framed by retro faux zebra fur. On the wall to the right, a psychedelic glow in the dark spray painted mural of Jimmy Hendrix decorates the wall.

The cafe features tribute bands twice a month that perform the music of classic rock greats such as Lynrd Skynrd and Led Zeppelin.

Cartwright said the Classic City Rock Cafe gives classic rock fans a place to go where they can feel at home.

Ketama is the another eatery that offers an alternative to the typical Dallas scene. The atmosphere of Ketama is very alluring and has a relaxing, casual decor, with comfortable couches lining the perimeter of the restaurant and dim lighting. At night, the restaurant is lit with candles and classical flamenco music is played in the background.

Bryan Luisi, managing partner and an owner of Ketama, said the restaurant features a flamenco show twice a month. The stage has a backdrop mural of musicians that appears as though colors are changing when the lights are placed on it.

The menu consists of a varied list of tapas, which are small, inexpensive entrees. Customers usually order two to five of these at a time as one by itself is not meant to be filling; a glass of Sangria is the drink of choice to wash them down.

Ketama's atmosphere

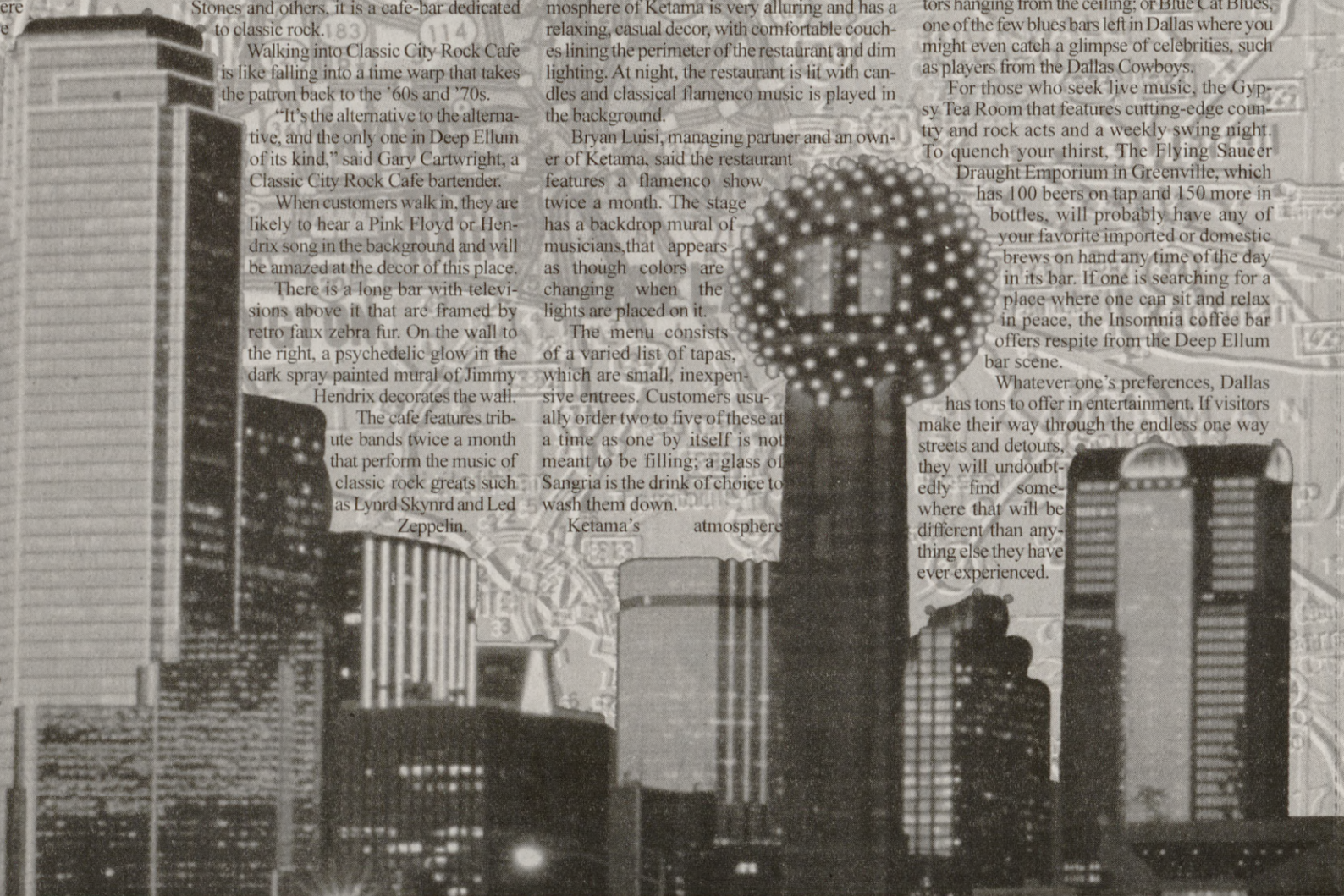
changes drastically to that of a club at night and draws large crowds of various ages.

Other places of interest in Dallas include Gator's Croc & Roc, a party venue with a row of frozen drink machines and paper mache alligators hanging from the ceiling; of Blue Cat Blues, one of the few blues bars left in Dallas where you might even catch a glimpse of celebrities, such as players from the Dallas Cowboys.

For those who seek live music, the Gypsy Tea Room that features cutting-edge country and rock acts and a weekly swing night. To quench your thirst, The Flying Saucer Draught Emporium in Greenville, which has 100 beers on tap and 150 more in bottles, will probably have any of your favorite imported or domestic brews on hand any time of the day in its bar. If one is searching for a place where one can sit and relax in peace, the Insomnia coffee bar offers respite from the Deep Ellum bar scene.

Whatever one's preferences, Dallas has tons to offer in entertainment. If visitors make their way through the endless one way streets and detours, they will undoubtedly find somewhere that will be different than anything else they have ever experienced.

JP BEATO/THE BATTALION



he says,  
"I'd call the  
guys back  
home and  
describe my  
sly moves  
on this babe  
at our kegger."



she says,  
"I'd call my  
sister in  
Topeka to  
laugh about  
the loser  
who hit on me  
at the party."

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age is not bad, but there is a need for improvement," she said. "It is a good time for SGAs to step up because with the election coming up, and people are going to want to know what they want to do next, they want to get involved."

She described the program as fun and relaxed. "Our attempt to be more involved in the campus community."

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Mariam Mohiuddin  
Editor in Chief

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