

**RECREATION IN  
CLARKSVILLE 1974-1979**

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RECREATION IN  
CLARKSVILLE 1974-1979

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An Abstract  
Presented to  
the Graduate Council of  
Austin Peay State University

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In Partial Fulfillment  
of the Requirements for the Degree  
Master of History

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by  
Kevin C. Kennedy

July, 1979

## ABSTRACT

Any examination of the Clarksville community and the major recreational opportunities available leads one to develop, first of all, a thesis on the effect of recreation upon the individual who participates in it. The second theme throughout this analysis is the number of people involved in the recreations which are examined. Lastly, this analysis examines the changes which have occurred within the recreation fields examined.

The individual in today's society has an ever-widening variety of recreations from which to choose. The material presented in this thesis offers examples of varied recreational fields. It is the opinion of this researcher that the individual who participates in recreation develops a better appreciation of life which helps that individual better to participate in other areas of life.

One believes from observations that the number of people participating in recreation has increased. It is the partial purpose of the researcher to gather information to back up this visual observation.

As each field is examined (movies, restaurants, institutional recreation) one sees facts reflecting the major changes in each field. The themes developed in the movies today are different from those of five years ago, as shown in the interviews.

The number of people eating out has increased and with this increase has come a change in the eating habits of the people. Along with the two above mentioned differences is the increase in the number of restaurants.

More schools and churches are building recreational programs that serve their members. An increasing amount of funds is being funneled to recreational programs. Individuals, themselves, are taking steps to participate in activities outside those organized by institutions. This, the researcher believes, can be supported by the number of persons in Clarksville who participate in water sports and by those who actively seek out health clubs in which they can continue to enjoy physical exercise programs.

It is with the above beliefs in mind that one should approach the thesis presented. These are the premises of the researcher and the facts help to support them.

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July, 1979

To the Graduate Council:

I am submitting herewith a Thesis written by Kevin C. Kennedy entitled "Recreation in Clarksville 1974-1979." I recommend that it be accepted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Arts, with a major in History.

Carleton J. Hubbard  
Major Professor

We have read this thesis and  
recommend its acceptance:

Walter B. ...  
Second Committee Member

Thomas P. Dixon  
Third Committee Member

Accepted for the Council:

William H. Ellis  
Dean of the Graduate School

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I want to express my gratitude for the cooperation of the people interviewed. While some owners and/or operators of various establishments were not interviewed, those who were, provided excellent information and offered, upon occasion, a sudden insight into the running of recreations in Clarksville.

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## INTRODUCTION

An increasingly important aspect of the average American's life is his leisure time. As our society, and individuals within it, has prospered we have found ourselves with "time on our hands." The urban character of our lives has eliminated much of the work which, until recently, filled man's waking hours.

A new industry developed to fulfill America's new recreational needs. The movies developed as did restaurants--those which cater to leisurely, family meals and those which we know as "fast-food" restaurants, designed with younger, more active people in mind.

Schools and churches have found themselves confronted with a social change in the area of recreation and have been forced to adapt themselves to these changes. Thus we find schools with a number of different activities offered ranging from organized sports to musical activities. Churches have expanded their programs to include church-league softball and basketball. Some larger churches offer an even wider variety of physical activities for their members.

As individuals, we have a greater awareness of our physical needs--such as exercise and conditioning--which has helped to spur a growth in exercise clubs. Also, individuals have devoted themselves to a greater active part in all forms of recreation. Clarksville, due

partially to its location, has developed a number of recreations associated with camping and water activities.

American society is now undergoing a new change, one which could radically decrease the number of people participating in recreation. These changes, though, lie in the future; or they may not occur at all.

The concern of many people is to be able to involve themselves in as many activities as possible. To keep one's self occupied is a full-time job with many. The amount of our involvement in recreation leads one to awareness of the types of recreation available within our community.

Examination of the recreation here in Clarksville and its recent past shows several obvious changes--an increase in the number of restaurants and theaters in the area as well as increased individual participation in all areas of recreation. But within that increased participation there are other, less obvious changes. It is these changes that we need to explore. How have we changed? Is this change for the better or for the worse? How many of the changes are a result of society changing? Do the changes in recreational activity change a society? With these questions in mind, let us proceed with an analysis of recreation in Clarksville.

## Chapter I

### FOOD ESTABLISHMENTS IN CLARKSVILLE, TENNESSEE

The goal of this chapter is to establish a good overall picture of eating establishments in Clarksville, Tennessee, and what it is that they have to offer the public.

Changes made between the years 1974 and 1979, will be stated and discussed. By analyzing these changes we can see if they have been beneficial or detrimental to the public. We, as citizens of Clarksville, should be made aware of information concerning our local restaurants and fast-food places.

There should be more stimulation of the public to bring forth an interest in whether or not we are being fairly treated by establishments of Clarksville. If these establishments are not what they should be, what can we do, if anything? The purpose of this chapter is to help us learn more about evaluation of restaurants and fast-food establishments. But, more importantly, the purpose is to help us to put to work these evaluations. Only through observation and evaluation can we find the answer.

The following is the questionnaire used in assessing and evaluating the restaurants:

## QUESTIONNAIRE FOR RESTAURANTS

1. How long have you been in business?
2. Do you have a chain name?
3. How many managers and owners do you have?
4. At what time of day and what day of the week do you do most of your business?
5. Do you attract a certain age group?
6. Do you allow tipping?
7. Have you seen any changes since 1974?
8. Do you see any for 1979?
9. Do you think your customers come for social entertainment?
10. Do you think more people are eating out these days?
11. How long does a normal customer stay?
12. What is your most popular food?
13. Do you have more male or female customers?
14. Do some customers protest the cost?
15. Security, how successful are your means of protection?
16. Do you think there has been a trend away from black workers in the kitchen, if so, why?

The first session of interviews concerning changes in food places of Clarksville, Tennessee, during the years 1974-1979 was held with affiliated personnel of area restaurants and steak houses. These include Beef and Sea, The Carriage House, and Briarpatch:

### Beef and Sea

The Beef and Sea Restaurant is located on Riverside Drive. This elegant restaurant has a view of the Cumberland River. The business has been located in Clarksville for 5 years and is a privately-owned facility. The Beef and Sea is a highly respectable restaurant of Clarksville. The manager stated:

We have been in business for five years and we are very proud of the changes we have made in our restaurant since 1974. Remodeling has played the largest role in these changes and also in our accommodating more customers.<sup>1</sup>

The Beef and Sea is a privately owned restaurant. It is owned and operated by Jack and Shirley Feagan. Due to good management on the owners' behalf, the Beef and Sea attracts a large family crowd. This tends to provide a more comfortable atmosphere. However, there are more male customers than female.<sup>2</sup>

Saturday is the busiest time for this restaurant. This may be due partly to the popularity of their prime rib and crab. Customers

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<sup>1</sup>Interview, James Carter, Assistant Manager, Beef and Sea, January 29, 1979.

<sup>2</sup>Ibid.

seem pleased with the things this restaurant has to offer. Prices are not protested, as most customers seem to understand inflation.<sup>3</sup>

A normal customer stays in the restaurant for one to one and a half hours. However, this time may be increased with the addition of a lounge, which is the future plans. This could also draw more of a variety of customers and keep them there longer while increasing profits at the same time.<sup>4</sup>

"We do not see a trend away from black workers in the kitchen. Ten percent of our workers are black and we are very much pleased with their performance on the job," the assistant manager said.<sup>5</sup>

### Carriage House

The Carriage House is located in downtown Clarksville, on Fourth Street. Since the interview the restaurant has been purchased by Clarksville's mayor Ted Crozier, and remodeled. The building is pre-Civil War and its furnishings reflect its long history.

The manager said:

The Carriage House is an establishment I am very proud of. The house has been standing since 1843, therefore, one great change over the past five years has been remodeling. I have had a business in the house for two and one half years. I am the owner and manager of the Carriage House.<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>3</sup>James Carter, op. cit.

<sup>4</sup>Ibid.

<sup>5</sup>Ibid.

<sup>6</sup>Interview, Larry Heing, Owner and Manager, Carriage House, February 5, 1979.

Weekends, mainly Saturday night, are the busiest times for the Carriage House. The crowd drawn is mostly couples and some elders. They usually stay from forty-five minutes to one hour. Perhaps the large crowds are due to the ribeye steak and lobster, which is a speciality of the Carriage House.<sup>7</sup>

Future plans include plans for more business and variety. "It is the hope we can reach more customers by offering a larger variety of foods. However, we now have equal participation from male and female customers alike," the manager stated.

Security here is very good. "We have had no break-ins. We feel this is very good work on behalf of the police department," he added.<sup>8</sup>

### Briarpatch

The Briarpatch began business in Clarksville in 1972. Its original name was Kentucky Rib-Eye. This restaurant is part of a nationwide chain. It specializes in steaks, which are prepared to your order while you wait. The interior furnishings are rustic and rugged.

The Briarpatch does most of its business on the weekends during the afternoon. Favorites offered are ribeye, sirloin and filet mignon. These favorites hold an average person to his table for forty to fifty

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<sup>7</sup> Interview, Larry Heing, Owner and Manager, Carriage House, February 5, 1979.

<sup>8</sup> Ibid.

minutes.<sup>9</sup>

The manager reported that:

Crowds attracted by this establishment are mostly families and couples. The male to female ratio is one to one. Customers seldom complain of the prices, as most know it is expensive when they come in. Customers also tip waitresses very well.<sup>10</sup>

Future plans include the desire to provide more prompt service. Also, there are hopes of retaining the same high grade security we have had up to this time. The effectiveness of our security program is largely due to an effective alarm system. This has prevented many break-ins for us.<sup>11</sup>

There was no reason to believe in a trend away from black workers. There were a few blacks employed here and they were reported as being good workers.<sup>12</sup>

All of the above establishments sell liquor by the drink, as allowed by law. Liquor by the drink has increased the amount of time a customer remains in the restaurant. The restaurants are making higher profits due to their selling of liquor. Interviews indicated that the availability of liquor had increased, not decreased, the number of patrons for these restaurants.

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<sup>9</sup>Interview, Mike Blair, Manager, Briarpatch, January 29, 1979.

<sup>10</sup>Ibid.

<sup>11</sup>Ibid.

<sup>12</sup>Ibid.

The second session of interviews concerning changes in food places of Clarksville, Tennessee, during the years 1974-1979 was held with affiliated personnel of area Mexican restaurants. These included El Taco and El Palacio:

### El Taco

El Taco is a restaurant that has served the Clarksville area for three years. It operates under one owner, Raymond Sota. Mr. Sota says changes seen over the past five years most definitely include higher prices. This is due greatly to inflation.<sup>13</sup>

The manager said:

El Taco attracts different types of crowds at different times of the day. Business people come during the day for lunch meetings. We do our best to serve each one equally and efficiently.<sup>14</sup>

Enchiladas are the number one food served here. They help to satisfy many customers that come here on Friday and Saturday night, the leading nights for large crowds. These crowds include an equal number of male and female customers. These usually stay twenty to thirty minutes, adequate time to eat their meals.<sup>15</sup>

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<sup>13</sup> Interview, Helene Mills, Manager, El Taco, January 27, 1979.

<sup>14</sup> Ibid.

<sup>15</sup> Ibid.

## El Palacio

El Palacio is another great Mexican food restaurant and a member of a nationwide chain. Here we specialize in burritos and steak fingers. We have been in business for six or seven years. There is one owner, Dick Demmee, and one manager, Steve Terry.<sup>16</sup>

The greatest amount of business is done on Friday and Saturday night. A large number of customers is composed of Fort Campbell residents. When customers come in they stay for almost one hour. Tipping is allowed here. Most of the customers are male.<sup>17</sup>

The worker stated:

As for changes since 1974, a fifteen percent increase in prices takes the leading role. There was a small amount of complaints from the customers over this increase, but nothing really serious.<sup>18</sup>

A security alarm system served as a protection against break-ins. Also, a police patrol is on hand if requested.

"As for black workers, we have two. Not many blacks apply for work here. I definitely think this is a trend away from the black kitchen worker," the hostess said.<sup>19</sup>

The third session of interviews was conducted with affiliated personnel of area oriental restaurants:

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<sup>16</sup>Interview, Elizabeth Gunn, Hostess, El Palacio, January 31, 1979.

<sup>17</sup>Ibid.

<sup>18</sup>Ibid.

<sup>19</sup>Ibid.

## Fuji Oriental

Fuji Oriental has been in operation for approximately two years. It does its greatest amount of business on weekdays from 5:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. and on weekends from 5:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m. Families and couples combined comprise the customers.<sup>20</sup>

There has been an increase in business since 1974 due to a larger variety of foods offered and the more-pronounced Chinese restaurant. Our most popular foods are Sukiyaki dinners and Sukiyaki steak. These foods must appeal more to the male sex, as most of our customers are males.<sup>21</sup>

There is really no trend seen as growing away from black workers. There was only the statement by the hostess, Oriental food and atmosphere just doesn't seem to appeal to blacks."<sup>22</sup>

The fourth session of interviews was conducted with affiliated personnel of an area fast fish place:

### Captain D's

Captain D's is a place that appeals to all ages. It has been in operation for five years. It has one owner, Ray Danver, who is also the manager. Its most popular food is fish 'n chips, which is the same food on which it started its business.

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<sup>20</sup>Interview, Su-Chim Oni, Hostess, Fuji Oriental, January 26, 1979.

<sup>21</sup>Ibid.

<sup>22</sup>Ibid.

Most productive operating hours are on Friday night from 5:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. Tipping is also allowed here.

The manager said:

Security is no problem, as the area is well patrolled. Blacks also are no problem, we hire a lot of them, but unfortunately a lot of them quit. However, we do not see this is any way discrimination on our part.<sup>23</sup>

The fifth session of interviews was conducted with affiliated personnel of an area fish restaurant:

### Catfish House

The Catfish House has been in operation for seven years. It has one manager-owner, George Jerles. It appeals largely to families. The most productive operating hours are weekdays 5:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. and weekends 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m.<sup>24</sup>

According to the manager, "Our most popular food is our catfish and hush puppies. We feel twenty to thirty minutes is adequate time to eat. We also allow tipping, but it is not necessary."<sup>25</sup>

Installing a carry-out is in future plans as a means of obtaining

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<sup>23</sup>Interview, Harry Repah, Manager, Captain D's, January 30, 1979.

<sup>24</sup>Interview, George Jerles, Owner, Catfish House, January 15, 1979.

<sup>25</sup>Ibid.

more business while at the same time better serving the customer.<sup>26</sup>

The sixth session of interviews was conducted with affiliated personnel of area fast barbecue places:

### Red's Smoke House

Red's Smoke House has been in operation only for one and one half years. Their business is ever growing. A recent advancement is the addition of ham and white beans to the menu. Friday and Saturday are busy days all day long. No tipping is allowed. The most popular foods are pork barbecue and stuffed potatoes.<sup>27</sup>

The manager stated:

Red's Smoke House, we feel, offers a comfortable atmosphere for all ages. Our customers can come in, order, and eat within thirty minutes without being rushed in any way. Also, we are in no way prejudiced, as we have three blacks working in the kitchen. We have a very safe and well patrolled eating place.<sup>28</sup>

### Hungry Pig Barbecue

Hungry Pig Barbecue has been in operation since September 3, 1976. It is privately owned. It is a nice family eating place. It especially appeals to male workmen because it is a very casual place.

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<sup>26</sup>Interview, George Jerles, Owner, Catfish House, January 15, 1979.

<sup>27</sup>Interview, Jean Gillman, Night Manager, Red's Smoke House, February 1, 1979.

<sup>28</sup>Ibid.

No tipping is required, yet it is allowed.<sup>29</sup>

The manager stated:

Our best working hours are 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. on weekdays and all day on the weekends. The most popular food is barbecue. We feel twenty to thirty minutes is adequate time to which to eat. This attracts more customers, as many people have only thirty minutes for lunch. Our future plans include intentions of maybe increasing opening hours.<sup>30</sup>

### D and W Barbecue

D and W Barbecue has been in operation for two years. It is privately owned and operated. This eating place largely attracts working men and middle-class people. Its best opening hours are weekdays at lunch and Saturday afternoons. Tipping is not really allowed; however, some customers do tip.<sup>31</sup>

The owner explained:

Our most popular foods are barbecue and ribs. Perhaps this is a major reason for our attracting more male customers than female. Adequate eating time for our customers is twenty to thirty minutes. Our working customers greatly praise this fast service.<sup>32</sup>

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<sup>29</sup>Interview, Breston Groves, Owner, Hungry Pig Barbecue, January 30, 1979.

<sup>30</sup>Ibid.

<sup>31</sup>Interview, Lupel Daniel, Owner, D and W Barbecue, February 9, 1979.

<sup>32</sup>Ibid.

The security is good due to police patrol. As for blacks, there are many working in the kitchen and doing a very good job. Future plans include expanding the varieties of food and maybe some building remodeling.<sup>33</sup>

The seventh session of interviews was conducted with affiliated personnel of area fast chicken places:

### Kentucky Fried Chicken

Kentucky Fried Chicken, a part of the Colonel Sanders' franchise, has been in operation for ten years and it is owned by Mr. Jack Marshall. The most productive hours are weekends - 11:30 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. All age groups enjoy eating here. Eating time ranges from thirty minutes to two hours. There is a comfortable relaxed atmosphere that seems to draw in more customers.<sup>34</sup>

The Restaurant provides three different varieties of chicken. This has been a definite improvement over the past five years. It has three black workers in the kitchen. The security is good due to police patrol.<sup>35</sup>

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<sup>33</sup>Interview, Lupel Daniel, Owner, D and W Barbecue, February 9, 1979.

<sup>34</sup>Interview, Sylvia Adams, Manager, Kentucky Fried Chicken, January 25, 1979.

<sup>35</sup>Ibid.

## Popeye's

Popeye's is a new eating establishment that has only been in operation for six months. The business is growing rapidly. It is a good family eating place. Best hours are 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. on weekdays and Saturday nights. No tipping is allowed, yet some customers still choose to do so.<sup>36</sup>

There has been no protest regarding the prices. Adequate eating time for our customers is twenty to thirty minutes. Customers seem to approve of this fast moving service. So far security has been good, with no break-ins. The restaurant has black workers; however, no blacks work in the kitchen.<sup>37</sup>

The eighth session of interviews was conducted with affiliated personnel of area pizza places:

## Sir Pizza

Sir Pizza has been in operation for four years. It is owned by one person, Bob Tortner. There are two managers working under this owner, Donda Shipper and Bruce Tortner.

The best times for business are Friday and Saturday nights. These nights show customers consisting of families and teenagers.

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<sup>36</sup>Interview, Louie McDowell, Owner, Popeye's, January 16, 1979.

<sup>37</sup>Ibid.

Although there are more male than female customers, there is always a large number of couples.<sup>38</sup>

The assistant manager stated:

Our most popular food is pizza. We also feel our customers come here for the peaceful atmosphere in which they can relax. Approximate dining hours for these customers is thirty to forty-five minutes.<sup>39</sup>

"We have one black waitress. We do not really see a trend away from black workers in the kitchen, yet there does not seem to be as many when viewed by the public," he added.<sup>40</sup>

### Shakey's

Shakey's has been in operation serving pizza, its leading food, for seven or eight years. Live entertainment draws customers to Shakey's. Audience participation in the entertainment also draws customers. This entertainment is provided on Saturday and Sunday at 7:00 p.m.<sup>41</sup> Couples comprise the largest number of customers. They come and enjoy the atmosphere for as long as two to three hours.

"Our future plans include the addition of more live entertainment and perhaps quicker service. Security here is good due to police patrol.

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<sup>38</sup>Interview, Sid White, Assistant Manager, Sir Pizza, January 19, 1979.

<sup>39</sup>Ibid.

<sup>40</sup>Ibid.

<sup>41</sup>Interview, Donald Williams, Manager, Shakey's, January 22, 1979.

We have had no break-ins."<sup>42</sup>

There are three blacks employed at Shakey's. They work the front as well as in the kitchen. The owner of Shakey's is also black.

### Pizza Hut

Pizza Hut is a restaurant that has been serving Montgomery County for several years. It especially appeals to families and college students. It is managed by a woman, Carol Hastings. This restaurant is one among many in the chain of Pizza Hut, Inc.

According to a worker:

We do our best business on Friday and Saturday nights. Our customers can come in and be fed and relax within one hour. Pizza, of course, is our most popular food. We do allow tipping and most of our customers tip well.<sup>43</sup>

Security here is good, which is due to police patrol. This means a lot to the success of the business. There are three blacks employed here. Each person who applies for jobs here has an equal opportunity.<sup>44</sup>

### Pizza Inn

Pizza Inn, a member of Pizza Inn, Inc., has been serving the

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<sup>42</sup>Interview, Donald Williams, Manager, Shakey's, January 22, 1979.

<sup>43</sup>Interview, Patricia Minnehan, Worker, Pizza Hut, February 7, 1979.

<sup>44</sup>Ibid.

Clarksville area for three years. It provides a good atmosphere for its customers, which are mostly families and couples. The most successful hours are 5:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. every night.<sup>45</sup>

The assistant manager said:

We feel thirty to forty-five minutes is enough time for our customer to eat. Certainly, pizza is the most popular food on the menu. Many groups and clubs come to Pizza Inn to hold special dinners and meetings. We do allow tipping, which most of our customers do.<sup>46</sup>

Blacks hired here meet the percentage the law requires. This quota must be maintained and is.<sup>47</sup>

#### Mr. Gatti's

Mr. Gatti's has been in operation since August 1, 1977. Their most popular foods are pizza and spaghetti. The average time a customer spends here is thirty to forty minutes. These customers are dominated by couples, especially on Saturday nights. Weekdays from 11:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. are their busiest hours.<sup>48</sup>

The manager stated:

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<sup>45</sup>Interview, Tommy Tucker, Assistant Manager, Pizza Inn, February 8, 1979.

<sup>46</sup>Ibid.

<sup>47</sup>Ibid.

<sup>48</sup>Interview, Randy Sisk, Manager, Mr. Gatti's, February 12, 1979.

We don't really see a trend away from black workers in the kitchen. We now have three blacks employed. They are all given an equal opportunity. As for security, so far we have had no problem.<sup>49</sup>

The ninth session of interviews was conducted with affiliated personnel of area fast hamburger places:

### Super Giant

There are two Super Giants serving Clarksville. They have been in operation for five or six years. They have the same owner, Henry Bumpus. Leading goods are hamburgers and fries. Teenagers are the bulk of customers.<sup>50</sup>

The Super Giant manager explained:

Changes since 1974 include a definite increase in business. We believe this is strongly due to the fact more people are eating out nowadays. Many people sit around and visit for awhile after eating.<sup>51</sup>

Security here is tight due to an alarm system and police patrol. As for black workers, many are employed but quit. At the present none are employed here.<sup>52</sup>

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<sup>49</sup>Interview, Randy Sisk, Manager, Mr. Gatti's, February 12, 1979.

<sup>50</sup>Interview, Ronnie Rittenburg, Manager, Super Giant, January 26, 1979.

<sup>51</sup>Ibid.

<sup>52</sup>Interview, Jeff Fletcher, Manager, Super Giant, January 18, 1979.

Wendy's

Wendy's, a member of Wendy's International, has been serving the Clarksville area for one and a half years. Its popularity has grown very fast in this area. This could be due to the support of college students. It is owned by two joint owners, Dan Davis and David Mason.<sup>53</sup>

Their most popular foods are hamburgers and chili. Lunch time everyday is their busiest hours. The customers spend approximately twenty to thirty minutes eating.<sup>54</sup>

There are four blacks employed at Wendy's. Some of them work at the grill, so there is no trend away from the black worker in the kitchen. Security is efficient here due to police patrol and an alarm system.<sup>55</sup>

Kelly's Big Burger

Kelly's Big Burger has been in operation for seven years, seven days a week, twenty-four hours a day. Best working hours are 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. everyday. There is one owner-manager, Kelly Austin.<sup>56</sup>

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<sup>53</sup>Interview, Steve Hester, Manager, Wendy's, February 13, 1979.

<sup>54</sup>Ibid.

<sup>55</sup>Ibid.

<sup>56</sup>Interview, Kelly Austin, Owner, Kelly's Big Burger, February 6, 1979.

The success of Big Burger is mostly due to the fact that it is always open. Most of the customers are college students, but most of these are male. Customers can eat and visit within thirty to forty minutes.<sup>57</sup>

Security here is good due to an alarm system and police patrol. "We have no black workers and I care to make no comment as to why not," Austin said.<sup>58</sup>

The final session of interviews was conducted with affiliated personnel of popular restaurants in the Clarksville area:

### Hungry Farmer

The Hungry Farmer has been serving Clarksville for three years. Its popularity has grown each year because of the high quality of food they serve. Ham and roast beef are favorites among their food. Customers seem to enjoy the atmosphere. Among these customers the majority is families.<sup>59</sup>

Their best days are on the weekends, especially Sundays from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. Customers usually stay from thirty to thirty-

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<sup>57</sup>Interview, Kelly Austin, Owner, Kelly's Big Burger, February 6, 1979.

<sup>58</sup>Ibid.

<sup>59</sup>Interview, Ron Cagood, Manager, Hungry Farmer, January 23, 1979.

five minutes. "We get a few complaints on high prices, but most people understand food and labor costs are always going up. Tipping is allowed and most customers do tip," the manager explained.<sup>60</sup>

Hungry Farmer employees consist of 50% blacks. They do not believe there is a trend away from blacks in the kitchen, yet they did say their black workers did not stay very long. As to why the black workers did not stay long, there was no reason stated.<sup>61</sup>

Security here is good. There have been no break-ins or robberies. The business seems to have no seriously negative setbacks. Future plans include offering a wider variety of foods to attract more customers. If past results are a foreshadowing to this goal, the future looks good.<sup>62</sup>

### Bonanza

Bonanza has been serving Clarksville for seven years. It is part of the South Central Enterprise chain restaurants. Bonanza is a family restaurant, one with a good morale and comfortable atmosphere. Weekends and evenings are the busiest hours. There are two owners, Stewart Binnard and Bill Johnston.<sup>63</sup>

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<sup>60</sup>Interview, Ron Cagood, Manager, Hungry Farmer, January 23, 1979.

<sup>61</sup>Ibid.

<sup>62</sup>Ibid.

<sup>63</sup>Interview, Barbara Riggs, Assistant Manager, Bonanza, January 20, 1979.

Bonanza advertises no tipping and they stated that they do not allow tipping. They seem to believe this helps their business. They have a party room for large groups which provides privacy. This is very popular with the customers, many of which are businessmen.<sup>64</sup>

Their most popular food at Bonanza is ribeye steak, of which they are very proud. Their customers usually stay from thirty to forty minutes.<sup>65</sup>

Security at Bonanza is tight due to an alarm system and an impressive police patrol. They have two black employees.<sup>66</sup>

#### Shoney's

Shoney's has been a successful Clarksville restaurant for 17 years. It is a member of the Shoney Big Boy Enterprises chain. The manager is Randy Carrigan and the assistant manager is Roy Allen. It is a very productive family restaurant. Weekdays during lunch and all hours on weekends are the busiest hours.<sup>67</sup>

Changes initiated during the past five years include the establishment of a salad bar. The salad bar seemed to extend the visit of cus-

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<sup>64</sup>Interview, Barbara Riggs, Assistant Manager, Bonanza, January 20, 1979.

<sup>65</sup>Ibid.

<sup>66</sup>Ibid.

<sup>67</sup>Interview, Randy Carrigan, Manager, Shoney's, January 30, 1979.

tomers from thirty to forty-five minutes. There are more female customers than male.<sup>68</sup>

Black workers are highly praised at Shoney's. There are nine black workers, and seven out of the nine work in the kitchen. These workers do their job efficiently and are said to be some of the best employees.<sup>69</sup>

### Red's Bakery

Red's Bakery has been serving the Clarksville area efficiently for fifteen years. Thursday through Saturday all day are very good hours for business. Many families enjoy dining here, as well as couples and young people. There has been a large business increase since 1974 and the trend is continuing.<sup>70</sup>

The wide variety of foods in addition to the regular restaurant menu draws many customers. A favorite food among Red's Bakery is their stuffed baked potatoes. They seem to go well with all their foods. Most of their customers spend forty-five minutes to an hour when they come in.<sup>71</sup>

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<sup>68</sup> Interview, Randy Carrigan, Manager, Shoney's, January 30, 1979.

<sup>69</sup> Ibid.

<sup>70</sup> Interview, Jinks Morrison, Night Manager, Red's Bakery, February 3, 1979.

<sup>71</sup> Ibid.

Security is good, there are no break-ins. Police patrol and an alarm system serve as a means of protection. They have proved positive preventions over the past five years.<sup>72</sup>

There are several black workers employed at Red's Bakery. There was no comment as to whether there was a trend away from black workers in the kitchen. However, due to the fact they hire several blacks, we can safely assume Red's Bakery does not discriminate.

The facts compiled in this chapter are an attempt to provide a clear over-all picture of the food establishments in Clarksville, Tennessee. Many of the food establishments in Clarksville declined to comment on their business, therefore the selected interviews are limited.

The belief that there is a trend away from black workers in the kitchen was a delicate situation not very many managers and owners cared to discuss. Many seemed to feel this might affect their business. Therefore, they supplied very little information concerning this matter.

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<sup>72</sup> Interview, Jinks Morrison, Night Manager, Red's Bakery, February 3, 1979.

## Chapter II

### INSTITUTIONAL RECREATION IN CLARKSVILLE

Through the writing of this chapter, I will endeavor to convey to the reader facts concerning the institutional recreation of Clarksville, Tennessee, 1974-1979. This will include church recreation, elementary school recreation, junior high school recreation, high school recreation, college recreation and community recreation.

If sports, exercise, and recreational programs are to serve humanity, they must fulfill the emotional, health, and enjoyment needs of people during all phases of their life cycle. These leisure interests begin in childhood. Therefore, it is essential to begin educating for leisure when the interest is first expressed. It is crucial to begin with youth, because incorporating physical activity into one's lifestyle is more a matter of habit begun early in life than the mere acquisition of knowledge or even skills developed later in life.

Physical education programs are the appropriate medium accessible to all children through which they can receive this instruction. Fundamental to such a program are the following earmarks:

(1) Education for leisure must begin with the young. (2) Education for exercise conducive to long-term health should be provided. (3) Education for a variety of sports and recreational skill is essential so that an

individual can choose those appropriate to his (her) skills and interests, health, enjoyment, and community environment as an adult.

Physical education programs can make a considerable contribution to the mental health of the community. Instructional, intramural, and interscholastic programs have tremendous appeal for young people during their formative years. Consequently, these programs have good potential for stimulating the reexamination of the roles of males and females in contemporary society and for educating participants and followers in the wisdom and benefits of basic human equality. Physical educators and school administrators control the degree to which physical education and interscholastic athletics will contribute to this socialization process.

Therefore, the purpose of this chapter is to establish these facts concerning physical education and outside activities. Each of these plays a tremendous part in our everyday lives. They are there for our benefit, at our choosing. This is just one more of the freedoms we enjoy as American citizens. Let us enjoy this freedom to the fullest.

## SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Should a wider range of activities be offered?
2. Are adequate activities offered to fulfill student needs?
3. Are adequate activities offered to fulfill community needs?
4. Is there sufficient community support for these activities?
5. Is there sufficient community participation for these activities?
6. Are there adequate facilities to offer numerous events?
7. Have there been improvements in the program made from the year 1974 to the year 1979?
8. Are there plans for future improvement?
9. Will there be anticipated community support for these activities in the future?
10. Do participants express desire for future activities?

## AVAILABLE ANSWER CHOICES:

1. Yes
2. No
3. No comment
4. Not applicable

The first session of interviews concerning institutional recreation of Clarksville, was conducted with authorities of area elementary schools. Those schools included were as follows: Barksdale School, East Montgomery Elementary School, Central Elementary School, St. Bethlehem School, Woodlawn School and Ringgold School.

### Barksdale School

"Barksdale Elementary school is a school with very limited activities. There is a great need for more activities to be initiated into their school system."<sup>73</sup> The students' activities needs are not being sufficiently met. A very limiting factor in the increasing of student activities is the lack of facilities. Establishment of adequate facilities is the first problem with which to contend; only then can concrete plans be made to supply a more well-rounded activities program for the student.<sup>74</sup>

The principal explained:

The delay of an activities program could possibly prove detrimental to the health and economy of the school.<sup>75</sup> Student interest must be stimulated athletically, as well as

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<sup>73</sup>Interview, Albert E. Alcock, Principal, Barksdale School, January 8, 1979.

<sup>74</sup>Ibid.

<sup>75</sup>Ibid.

scholastically. Therefore, this is future achievement of Barksdale School. <sup>76</sup>

An interview with the secretary of Barksdale Elementary School, provided information concerning the School's P.T.A. "The Parent-Teacher Association is the select group which offers community activities for Barksdale Elementary School," she said. <sup>77</sup>

The programs offered by the Parent-Teacher Association are: An annual music program and a physical education program. These programs have been very successful throughout the past five years, with an increase of participation within the community.

The community support is consistent. Their school and P.T.A. officials are confident that the community will offer support in endeavors to initiate more activities into the school system for the students' benefit.

Both principal and secretary feel very confident accomplishments will have been made before the year of 1985. The secretary added:

We feel through hard work and community support we can better our school as high as a 50% activities increase, as well as better our community through increased activities. We also feel it will be to each parent's benefit to see that we accomplish our goal because of the importance this goal may possibly have on their children's futures. <sup>78</sup>

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<sup>76</sup>Interview, Albert E. Alcock, Principal, Barksdale School, January 8, 1979.

<sup>77</sup>Interview, Betty Cherry, Secretary, Barksdale School, January 8, 1979.

<sup>78</sup>Ibid.

### East Montgomery Elementary School

"East Montgomery Elementary School has a good activities program, one both students and community can enjoy."<sup>79</sup>

The after-school recreation program involves well over one third of community members. This is a program in which the gymnasium is open for public attendance three nights a week. Many young people enjoy the use of facilities, though they are limited. Participation has increased over the past five years by 60 percent. This program reached young and old participants alike. Officials hope, through public support, to formulate a means by which to upgrade the program with adequate facilities for various events. The principal explained:

Although facilities at East Montgomery Elementary School are now very limited, there are high hopes of an increased activities program through school and community projects. This would not only provide a beneficial pastime for students, but it would also teach them how to better get along with several different age groups. This is very important to the health and well-being of each of the students.<sup>80</sup>

Next, information concerning East Montgomery Elementary School's Music Department was obtained from the music teacher.

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<sup>79</sup>Interview, Dorothy Perry, Secretary, East Montgomery Elementary School, January 11, 1979.

<sup>80</sup>Interview, Sam Winters, Principal, East Montgomery Elementary School, January 11, 1979.

The teacher stated:

We have an annual band concert each year. This is usually what we call our Spring Concert. The students take an active part in this concert, as do the faculty. We all work very hard each year to make our concert a great success, as this is the only large school event we have at this time.<sup>81</sup>

The support of the community is tremendous. However, over three fourths of the concert audience is close friends and relatives. This inspires the students to do a better job, so as not to become embarrassed.

Principal Winters, Mrs. Perry and Mr. Morris, each expressed personal opinions concerning future plans at East Montgomery, "We all hope to upgrade our existing program, yet we feel a desperate need to also expand." Morris added.<sup>82</sup>

"The music program could be very much more successful through an addition of student participation. This can hopefully be accomplished in the near future," he explained.<sup>83</sup> The percentage of student participation at East Montgomery can be raised from 30 to 100 percent, through the implementing of new plans.

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<sup>81</sup>Interview, Jim Morris, Music teacher, East Montgomery Elementary School, January 11, 1979.

<sup>82</sup>Ibid.

<sup>83</sup>Ibid.

Central Elementary School

"Central Elementary School is very proud of its well-balanced activities program," the school principal reported.<sup>84</sup> The Y.M.C.A. sponsors Little League basketball, baseball, and softball at Central Elementary School. These programs are very well-supported by the community. Attendance at these sporting events is largely composed of relatives and families. However, their support is consistent and this, in turn, keeps the children interested.

There is also a very active adult softball program. Adults from the community particularly enjoy this activity in the Spring. Mrs. Cobb said:

Their participation is overwhelming; nearly forty percent of the adult community participate as a spectator at some time during the Spring. Further discussion included the use of the gymnasium. Three nights a week the gymnasium is open to the public, also on Saturday nights. Young adults, college students and young married couples compose the largest percentage of these participants. They seem to find recreation a comfortable way to spend their leisure time.<sup>85</sup>

The Y.M.C.A. also sponsors several basketball teams, through the use of school facilities. These teams are composed of, and divided into, various age groups. The young, as well as the old, benefit most definitely from this program.

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<sup>84</sup>Interview, Betty Cobb, Principal, Central Elementary School, January 12, 1979.

<sup>85</sup>Ibid.

Future plans are an expansion of the program to include wider range of activities. There has been the addition of basketball and softball activities since 1974, and there is an expressed desire for at least two more new activities before 1984.

### St. Bethlehem School

The school secretary reported that:

St. Bethlehem School has very limited activities. The only activities offered at all are an annual music program and an annual presentation by the P.T.A. Community. Support for these programs is very impressive.<sup>86</sup>

The reason there are limited activities at the school is because the grades are K-5. This almost eliminates the student participation, due to their young ages. The only way there could be active direct student participation, instead of indirect participation, would be through the initiating of little league sports. There was no comment as to whether or not this would materialize in the future.

### Woodlawn School

Woodlawn School has very little to offer the public or the student, athletically. There are no sports for students to learn the spirit of competition. This can also limit, to a certain extent, the community interest in Woodlawn School. The school secretary said:

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<sup>86</sup>Interview, Joan Marshall, Secretary, St. Bethlehem School, January 9, 1979.

Programs offered by Woodlawn School are: an annual Fall Carnival and we also had a yard sale this year. The community was very supportive, as this give it a chance to directly affiliate themselves with our school.<sup>87</sup>

Parents of the students especially enjoy assisting the school in these activities. Sometimes, as high as 40% of the total number of student parents have played either a direct or indirect part in these school functions. Without their help, success could have been difficult to achieve.

The secretary added:

As for future improvements, I really have no comment. There has been an expressed desire for additional activities, but we must also take into consideration our school budget. This would be the first step toward a well-rounded activities program. I do not feel in a position to discuss this openly at this time.<sup>88</sup>

### Ringgold School

Ringgold School has been very successful in promoting activities for the school and community. There has been a great improvement in the recreational program between the years 1974 and 1979. School facilities are also available to the community, thus declaring that the school sees its role as a community function, not just an educational center.

The school secretary explained:

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<sup>87</sup>Interview, Virginia Owen, Secretary, Woodlawn School, January 13, 1979.

<sup>88</sup>Ibid.

The activities offered by Ringgold School with extensive use of the gymnasium are: after-school recreation for young children through youth from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., each day, women exercise program from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., two days per week, and recreation time available for anyone from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m., three nights a week. These nights are Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday.<sup>89</sup>

Another exciting activity provided for the community by the school is the annual Halloween Carnival. Parents, teachers and students combine to make this a most festive event. Over 5 percent of the community engages in this carnival to raise an outstanding amount of money.

As for future plans, there was no comment. Also, there was no comment as to whether students expressed a desire for more activities to be offered within their school physical-activities program.

The second session of interviews concerning the institutional recreation of Clarksville, was conducted with authorities of an area junior high school, Greenwood Junior High School:

#### Greenwood Junior High School

Greenwood Junior High School offers a wide variety of activities for its students and the community. The athletic portion of these activities include: football, basketball, and track. Student participation for these events is overwhelming.

Football holds the title for most supported athletic event by the public. There is an ever-growing interest in this sport and school

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<sup>89</sup>Interview, Louise Damiron, Secretary, Ringgold School, January 13, 1979.

facilities are maintained and kept up through a very well-budgeted program. The principal stated: "Equipment is expensive, but we see this, as well as other sports events, as an essential part in the life of a well-rounded and educated student."<sup>90</sup>

Basketball is another leading sport at Greenwood Junior High. Community support is also very important and impressive here too. Equipment and facilities upkeep is not as expensive as that of football, but viewed as equally important.

Branson added:

Track is a sport which has been more thoroughly developed since 1974. It is an ever-growing sport in our school, and one which seems to have a different "flair" from our other two athletic activities. Also, the public, as well as the students, greatly admire and praise the skill of these track participants.<sup>91</sup>

The band at Greenwood Junior High School holds two annual performances. These include: a Spring Concert and a Christmas Concert. Attendance at these events is commendable, although largely composed of close family members and friends.

The third session of interviews concerning the institutional recreation of Clarksville, was conducted with authorities of area high schools. These include: Northwest High School, Central High School and Clarksville High School.

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<sup>90</sup>Interview, Doyal Branson, Principal, Greenwood Junior High School, January 10, 1979.

<sup>91</sup>Ibid.

Northwest High School

Northwest High School has one of the most outstanding and highly-developed athletic programs in all of Clarksville. Available sports include: basketball, football, track, tennis, cross-country, and wrestling. Student participation in these events is so astounding, it has stimulated the authorities to begin plans for future additions to the program. As to what these additions would include, there was no comment.

The coach said:

Football and basketball are the best-supported events in our program. Relatives and friends of the participants compose the majority of our fans, but this only seems to further student determination. These sports provide adequate entertainment during the Fall and Winter for students and community members.<sup>92</sup>

Cross-country, tennis and track provide Spring entertainment. These sports are ever growing within the school system. Each year noticeable improvements are made in these areas. Also each year, student participation is on the increase. Between the years 1974 and 1979, there was a 10 percent increase of student participation.

There is also a very active Music department at Northwest High School. Annual performances include: Christmas Concert, Spring Concert, Dinner Concert, and a musical. Throughout the year there are one hundred and twenty individual performances given. The community

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<sup>92</sup>Interview, William Covington, Basketball Coach, Northwest High School, January 16, 1979.

is very supportive in these events. This helps to build the department from year to year, as to the number of performances given.

### Central High School

Central High School provides a well-rounded atmosphere for its students through organized events in sports, band, chorus and drama. These events also provide weekly entertainment for the community, which is very supportive in all events.

The principal explained that:

Fall and Winter sports are composed of football and basketball. These sports have always held the "upper hand" in our activities program. The students and community take a special interest in these events. This may be due to the large number of students involved in these events. Also many of our students come from families of two or more children which may serve to pass down ideas concerning activities involvement to younger siblings.<sup>93</sup>

Spring sports include tennis, track and baseball. These sports provide students with a very beneficial way to spend leisure time. These sports also seem to be on the increase among favorite student activities. These are the sports most recently added to the sports program. They have increased in popularity by 20 percent since the year of 1974. There is the hope of another 10 percent increase before the year of 1985.

The Band also plays a contributing role in the activities program at Central High School. There are two major events provided by the Band

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<sup>93</sup>Interview, James Young, Principal, Central High School, January 15, 1979.

annually. These are two concerts: Christmas and Spring. Along with the Band the chorus also performs at these events. These concerts have been a success over the past five years and there are good indications they will continue to be so over the next five years.

The school secretary added:

The Drama department at Central High School is a contributing part of the activities program, although a very small part. They perform two plays per year; one in the Fall and one in the Spring. They also sponsor an annual Barnwarming.<sup>94</sup>

### Clarksville High School

Clarksville High School, like the other two high schools in the area, provides a well-balanced activities program for its students.

The three departments responsible for these events are: Music, Athletics and Agriculture.

The music teacher reported:

Sports offered at Clarksville High School are: basketball, football, track, and tennis. These sports keep the community and students equally entertained all three quarters of each school year. There is always a growing interest in these sports. There has been a 23 percent increase in participants since 1974.<sup>95</sup>

The Agriculture department at Clarksville High School provides a type of enjoyment for students not athletically stimulated, yet still

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<sup>94</sup>Interview, Dorothy Young, Secretary, Central High School, January 15, 1979.

<sup>95</sup>Interview, Carol Anderson, Music teacher, Clarksville High School, January 17, 1979.

competitive. There are events such as: public speaking, soil judging, and crop judging. "Public attendance at these events is very impressive and important to the success of the school," the agriculture teacher said.<sup>96</sup>

Another teacher added:

There is a very active Music department at Clarksville High School. They hold Spring Carnivals annually, one in March, one in April and one in May. They also perform Sunday concerts at various times throughout the year. The money from these events goes to the Foundation for Retarded children.<sup>97</sup>

Not only do Clarksville High School students have an active events program, but they also take time to help those less fortunate than themselves. This is achieved through a direct effort and much utilization of their personal leisure time.

The fourth session of interviews concerning the institutional recreation of Clarksville, was conducted with participants of area churches who have organized recreational programs:

#### Hilddale Church of Christ

Hilddale Church of Christ has two available events for its members and community; basketball and softball. These sports provide

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<sup>96</sup>Interview, Harden Harris, Agriculture teacher, Clarksville High School, January 17, 1979.

<sup>97</sup>Interview, Mary Erabegra, Music teacher, Clarksville High School, January 17, 1979.

adequate entertainment for its members, young and old alike. Participation is very good and supportive in these events.

The young members of the church especially enjoy the provided athletic events. There are expressed desires from this select group to initiate more activities into the recreation program. "We believe community support will be on hand to assist when funds have been allotted to expand our program," a participant said.<sup>98</sup>

Old members of the church and community enjoy attending these events, and they also support them consistently. They also take part in the events provided for the adults. These include the same events provided for the youth.

"Overall, I feel that Hilldale Church of Christ provides more than enough activities to meet the needs of its members, and the needs of the community," the participant added.<sup>99</sup>

### Hilldale Baptist Church

"Hilldale Baptist Church is a church that is forever striving to meet the needs of its members and community, spiritually, mentally, emotionally and also very importantly, physically," the church song leader said.<sup>100</sup>

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<sup>98</sup>Interview, Merle Glasgow, Activities participant, Hilldale Church of Christ, January 20, 1979.

<sup>99</sup>Ibid.

<sup>100</sup>Interview, Rick Harris, Song leader, Hilldale Baptist Church, January 16, 1979.

Hilldale Baptist Church also engages in competition with other churches through basketball and softball. The quality of these events has been upgraded very much since 1974, through the building of a gymnasium. "New facilities always mean a better quality of activities for participants," a member added.<sup>101</sup>

Members of the church enjoy participating, as well as attending, these events. They provide a very meaningful way for the young and old to spend their leisure time. "Through participating in these events, we feel our members are also achieving a higher state of being," the member said.<sup>102</sup>

### First Baptist Church

First Baptist Church has a well-developed activities program. In spite of consisting only of two sporting events, softball and basketball, they feel they can sufficiently meet the needs of their participants.

According to a member:

First Baptist Church is continually striving to expand its program to keep its participants adequately entertained. Also they wish to eventually provide their members with a larger selection of activities.<sup>103</sup>

Members express a strong desire for expansion, as well as

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<sup>101</sup>Interview, Glenda Harris, Participating member, Hilldale Baptist Church, January 16, 1979.

<sup>102</sup>Ibid.

<sup>103</sup>Interview, Debbie Stafford, Member, First Baptist Church, January 20, 1979.

an interest in playing a leading role to make their future events a success. There was no comment as to what events would be initiated into a future activities program.

The final session of interviews concerning institutional recreation of Clarksville, was conducted with authorities and students of Austin Peay State University. The departments surveyed were: Art, Speech and Theatre, Music and Athletics. A combination of the events provided by these departments, provides a well-balanced entertainment source for approximately 5,000 students, as well as an enormous percentage of community members.

### Art Department

The Art Department of Austin Peay State University provides seven shows annually for the entertainment of students and community members. Attendance at these shows is very supportive.

Also, among annual shows, there is a student photograph show, a paintings show and a sculpture show. These shows are exhibitions of outstanding and rare works. Also, these shows provide the students with a means of publicizing their works, as a means for the achieving of future goals in their field.

The departmental secretary reported:

Community members also seem very interested in the work done by our students. Their comments have been very

helpful in the past, and we are confident they will continue to be so in the future.<sup>104</sup>

There is a desire to encourage more students to participate in these shows. This could also mean an expansion and upgrading of the Art Department. "There has been a great deal achieved since 1974, but we hope to achieve even more before 1984," the secretary explained.<sup>105</sup>

### Speech and Theatre Department

The departmental secretary explained:

The Speech and Theatre Department of Austin Peay State University is an ever-growing department. Each year we seem to be appealing to a larger number of participants, as well as providing a higher-grade entertainment for community members.<sup>106</sup>

Annual productions by the Speech and Theatre Department include five major productions: two in the Fall, one each Winter and two in the Spring. "These productions display an enormous amount of the talent we have here among the students of Austin Peay State University," the secretary said.<sup>107</sup>

In addition to the major annual productions of this department, there also are six or seven one act plays performed each Spring quarter.

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<sup>104</sup>Interview, Cindy Spangler, Secretary, Art Department, Austin Peay State University, January 9, 1979.

<sup>105</sup>Ibid.

<sup>106</sup>Interview, Pat Patterson, Secretary, Speech and Theatre Department, Austin Peay State University, January 11, 1979.

<sup>107</sup>Ibid.

She added:

Students enjoy performing these plays because there is little time involvement, yet an outstanding performance just the same. It gives them a break from the regular "run of the mill" Spring activities.<sup>108</sup>

### Music Department

The Music Department of Austin Peay State University is one of the best developed departments on campus. The number of productions is enormous and very complimentary of the work done in the department.

The departmental secretary explained:

We, here in the Music Department, realize the ever-growing popularity of music throughout the world. Our goal is to keep this popularity on the increase by providing several different types of music for student and community attendance. Especially the student should be taught to love and appreciate the growth of American music.<sup>109</sup>

Annual events of the Music Department include: Mid-South Jazz Festival, free choir concerts, two Orchestra concerts, Opera Theatre Production, Brass Choir and Clarinet Choir. Other events include: Faculty Recital, Choir concerts, Band concert, three Jazz Collegians productions and three Probass Ensemble productions.

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<sup>108</sup>Interview, Pat Patterson, Secretary, Speech and Theatre Department, Austin Peay State University, January 11, 1979.

<sup>109</sup>Interview, Sue Ball, Secretary, Music Department, Austin Peay State University, January 9, 1979.

The community is an avid supporter of these productions, and it has helped to upgrade the quality of the Music Department productions since the year 1974.

### Athletics Department

The Athletic Director at Austin Peay State University said:

We feel the Athletics Department of Austin Peay State University is a department that literally has "something for everyone." We are always devising an annual budget that will keep our program on the increase in growth, and student and community participation.<sup>110</sup>

Events provided by this department include: Track, basketball, football, volleyball, baseball, tennis and golf. A student worker explained:

These events involve all students at Austin Peay, either directly or indirectly. Ticket sales for these events support this statement 100 percent. Nearly 50 percent of our tickets are dispensed throughout the year. We feel this is proof of community support.<sup>111</sup>

Perhaps the most popular sport at Austin Peay would be the Governors' football. A football player commented:

Speaking on behalf of the football team, I feel confident in saying there have been definite improvements made in our program since 1974. During 1977-78, we captured the OVC Championship under Coach "Boots" Donnelly. From here, Coach Donnelly led us to another winning season during 1978-79. Another great improvement has been made this year also. I am referring to the new coaching

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<sup>110</sup>Interview, Johnny Miller, Coach, Athletic Director, Austin Peay State University, January 18, 1979.

<sup>111</sup>Interview, Nena Taylor, Student worker, Athletics Department, Austin Peay State University, January 18, 1979.

staff we now have. Coach Watson Brown is not only building a strong team, he is also building a strong unity among its members. Community support has been 100 percent in this area, which in turn, encourages the support of the campus also.<sup>112</sup>

Austin Peay is a small university, yet an ever-growing one. Future plans include the intent to increase the student population by 30 percent before 1984. The Athletic Director explained:

We feel we can achieve this goal through community support and a growing activities program. If we met the needs of the student, scholastically and physically, we feel we can eventually achieve our goal.<sup>113</sup>

"Institutional Recreation of Clarksville" was covered through the conducted survey and organized interviews whose results are recorded and discussed throughout this chapter.

Many comments concerning future plans, available facilities, percentages of community and participant involvement, and the improvements made between the years 1974-1979, were withheld from me for various reasons. Due to these reasons, I feel that in certain areas only a surface picture has been painted, rather than an in-depth look provided.

Overall, community and authority assistance was very good. Many people were eager to let it be known what they, and their activities programs, had to offer. These are the people we must look to for guidance in our attempt to achieve a well-rounded state of being through

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<sup>112</sup>Interview, Clinton Bell, Football player, Austin Peay State University, January 19, 1979.

<sup>113</sup>Interview, Johnny Miller, Coach, Athletic Director, Austin Peay State University, January 18, 1979.

involvement in the institutional recreation of Clarksville.

We learned of the vast importance of keeping alive our loves for art, music, drama, and athletics. We must in turn teach our children to love and exercise these freedoms, as we have been taught to do. This brings to mind a quote taken from Voluntaries III, America should learn and love, "When duty whispers, Lo, thou must, the youth replies, I can."<sup>114</sup>

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<sup>114</sup>Ralph Emerson, Voluntaries III, New York, Delacorte Press, 1968, p. 187.

### Chapter III

## CHANGES IN THE CLARKSVILLE-MONTGOMERY COUNTY MOVIE THEATRES

There have been many great changes made in this form of entertainment in the past 5 years: changes to better accommodate the public, changes to upgrade the movie system, changes to meet the rising cost of living.

This thrilling world-wide babysitter has come a long way from the original movie theatre, an old barn. With the addition of a few acoustics, a floor of carpeting, some comfortable chairs, and a good sound system, this old barn suddenly transformed into an unbelievable miracle--a movie theatre. The public received their miracle with open arms and happy hearts.

From here we will begin to discuss developmental changes of the movie theatre: what changes took place, the people involved, and the overall effect of these changes. Clarksville, Tennessee, was greatly affected by the development of its many movie theatres, and we will see how and why upon the reading of this chapter. I present to you the movie theatre in Clarksville.

At the present time, Clarksville, Tennessee has three movie theatres. These are the Roxy, Martin Twin, and Capri Twin. These theatres are located in three convenient areas so as to accommodate

all the community equally. The Roxy Theatre located at 100 Franklin Street, downtown Clarksville, is managed by Dana Moore. The Martin Twin is located at 1005 South Riverside Drive. The Martin is managed by John Harper, who is the city manager of all three theatres. Capri Twin is located at 1955 Madison Street in the Tradewinds South Shopping Center and is managed by Donnie Travis. With the location of these theatres, the Clarksville community can easily find a near-by form of entertainment. The Roxy manager commented:

We think one of the major reasons for the popularity of the movie theatre is the fact that you can't entertain yourself any better anywhere else than the movies for two hours only costing you three dollars. This entertainment is not only inexpensive, but it is also enjoyable, educational, and most importantly, safe. Where else can you find entertainment that meets these same requirements at the same cost as the movies? You can't, and that is why we think the movie theatre will be around for a long time to come.<sup>115</sup>

The manager of the City Movie Theatres added:

Despite the movies' grand popularity, we are beginning to feel very stiff competition. This competition has always been felt from the television, yet even more so now that a higher quality of television shows are being produced. However, the strongest competition we have ever experienced has come about since 1974. This is the production of cable television. People can stay at home and actually see many very good shows, as opposed to driving to the movies and paying three dollars to see a show too often no better than the television production.<sup>116</sup>

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<sup>115</sup>Interview, Dana Moore, Manager, Roxy Theatre, April 23, 1979.

<sup>116</sup>Interview, John Harper, City Manager of Movie Theatres, April 25, 1979.

There is the popular belief that all the competition felt from television and cable television has prompted movie industries to produce higher quality movies. They have begun to appeal to a much wider range of audiences and provide things in their movies so that every person can find something with which clearly to identify.

"I believe now movies are produced with people in mind, not just profits. When the trend begins to run this way, the public is coming our ahead, and they like it," the manager of a theatre explained.<sup>117</sup>

### Profits, Upkeep, and Management

The manager of the Roxy explained:

The profits obtained through a movie theatre are not as high as the public believes. High percentages must be paid on the films to rent them for a given amount of time. You really don't begin making money on the films until they are held over. The paid percentage rate is lowered the longer you hold over the film. This makes it easier for us to continue to show a film the public especially likes. This, in turn, pleases the public, and when the public is happy, they'll keep coming back. Therefore, the profits in the movie industry are a reciprocal process: You please the public, they'll please you.<sup>118</sup>

The manager of the Capri added:

The upkeep of the theatres is minimum, yet very important. They are cleaned everyday, but this is not an especially difficult task. More thorough cleanings, for example, would be required after children's afternoon

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<sup>117</sup>Interview, Donnie Travis, Manager, Capri Twin Theatre, April 30, 1979.

<sup>118</sup>Interview, Dana Moore, Manager, Roxy Theatre, April 23, 1979.

matinees. You simply fit the daily cleanings into your routine schedule, and they seem to be as much a part of the movie operation as the selling of tickets. Also, another very important part of the upkeep is the routine checks of the Fire Marshal. This insures the safety of our customers, as well as the safety of our theatres. This is perhaps the most important part of theatre upkeep.<sup>119</sup>

The city manager of the theatres stated:

Management of a movie theatre can make or break you. Poor management can cause you to lose customers, and this, in turn, causes you to lose your business. Management takes in much more than the simple job title reveals. The manager must be an individual who can select suitable movies for all audiences, react wisely in a crisis, and see that everything runs as smoothly as it should. A very fine practice of our managers is to return customer money if something goes wrong with the film. People should not be expected to pay for something they could not even see. I would refuse to do so, and so does the public. Another very important part of theatre management is being aware of the trend of movies appealing to the public at certain times. For example, there has been a great trend away from romantic movies since 1974. The trend now leans toward science fiction, war, comedy, suspense, real-life occurrences, and horror. We must be attuned to these facts in order to serve the public consistently through the showing of what they want to see.<sup>120</sup>

### Roxy Theatre

The Roxy Theatre is the oldest existing theatre in the city of Clarksville today. It is not as attractive, nor as comfortable, as the other two city theatres. This, however, is due to the age of the theatre

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<sup>119</sup>Interview, Donnie Travis, Manager, Capri Twin Theatre, April 30, 1979.

<sup>120</sup>Interview, John Harper, City Manager of Movie Theatres, May 3, 1979.

and seems to be accepted quite graciously by the public. "Remodeling has made the theatre safer, and with regular cleanings, the Roxy can accommodate an impressive audience if called upon to do so," the janitor said.<sup>121</sup>

The Roxy is noted for its R rated movies. This may be due to the fact that over 90 percent of the best movies are R rated. These movies attract a sizeable crowd with each new production, especially young couples. The "back-row neckers" especially seem to like the Roxy Theatre. This may be due to the fact that not as many adults attend the Roxy as they do the other two theatres. The young customers seem to feel more at ease here.

As for concessions, a very good business is done each night. Younger customers are more likely to snack on junk food than are adults. Also, the success of the concession may be due to the variety of snacks available. A concessions worker explained:

However, we believe the greatest reason for the popularity of the concession is due largely to a popular American belief: You can't watch a movie without popcorn, and while you're having some popcorn, why not a candy bar, a coke, a sucker, etc?<sup>122</sup>

The ticket sales at the Roxy are always on the increase. People have now become resigned to the fact a movie costs an adult

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<sup>121</sup>Interview, Robert Chilton, Janitor, Roxy Theatre and Martin Twin Theatre, April 13, 1979.

<sup>122</sup>Interview, Tammie Denton, Concession Worker, Roxy Theatre, April 20, 1979.

three dollars and a child one dollar and fifty cents. When the price was first raised, people complained, but they still attended the movies. "Movies are just like everything else; they are affected by inflation," the cashier said.<sup>123</sup>

### Martin Twin Theatre

The Martin Twin Theatre is a somewhat new theatre in the Clarksville area. Its success is growing and meeting the demands of the public. Having the two theatres, Martin Twin I and II, allows for a greater variety of movies to be shown. This seems to appeal very much to the public, especially parents. The parents can attend one movie at the same time their children are attending another movie, and they can all leave the theatre together.

Commenting on the equipment, the projectionist explained:

The projector system used at the Martin Twin Theatre is semi-automatic. This system provides for a better overall picture. The sound system is also included in this. The sound and the picture achieve a higher accuracy rate due to less maneuverings by hired help. The audiences get very restless if something goes wrong with the sound or the picture. This system helps to prevent this from happening.<sup>124</sup>

The Martin Twin Theatre provides a grand variety of special interest type movies. These include: karate, animal, wilderness,

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<sup>123</sup>Interview, Janet Bruner, Cashier, Roxy Theatre, April 4, 1979.

<sup>124</sup>Interview, Mark Louie, Projectionist, Martin Twin Theatre, April 25, 1979.

athletic movies, etc. These are the types of movies which people can identify. People enjoy movies they feel have left them with a new insight to some aspect of life. They like to feel they have had a personal experience, rather than just watched a movie.

Concessions are always on the increase due to the large number of young people in the audiences. Also, when parents bring their children to make a purchase among the concessions, they usually make a purchase themselves. "Eating is a good way to spend the time before the movie starts. Also, letting children eat is a good way to keep them quiet during the movie so that they don't disrupt the other attendants," an employee said.<sup>125</sup>

Ticket sales are always high, due to impressive attendance each night. A cashier explained:

People accept the prices now without much complaint and seem to be generally excited over the thought of seeing a new movie. Anticipation is always evident in the lines, people waiting excitedly for a new encounter.<sup>126</sup>

"Blacks especially seem to become overly excited while waiting in line. They talk loudly and fidget a lot. They also retain this excitement while in the lobby and theatre until the movie begins," a doorman said.<sup>127</sup>

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<sup>125</sup>Interview, Pam Hicks, Employee, Martin Twin Theatre, April 16, 1979.

<sup>126</sup>Interview, Pam Violette, Cashier, Martin Twin Theatre, April 25, 1979.

<sup>127</sup>Interview, Irving Rhinehart, Doorman, Martin Twin Theatre, April 24, 1979.

## Capri Twin Theatre

The Capri Twin Theatre is the newest theatre in the Clarksville area. It shows a wide variety of movies. The ratings of these movies are G, PG, and R. Many R rated movies are shown here. However, this does not necessarily mean these movies are sex-oriented; they are largely rated R due to the violence they contain. Although a lot of R rated movies are shown here, PG rated movies dominate the screen. These movies can be attended by a wider variety of people.

The projection system used here is fully automatic, carbon lamphouse. This is the newest and the best type of projection system used in theatres today. This is a definite change since 1974 in the movie theatres of Clarksville. "Through the use of this system, you achieve the best possible sound and picture. Audiences especially appreciate the higher quality of the Capri Twin Theatre movies," according to an employee.<sup>128</sup>

Concession sales generally have been on the increase here. Many young children attend the movies, and they enjoy snacking throughout the movie. Also, the good quality snacks sold have a lot to do with the high sales. "If children buy snacks that are tasty, their parents will send them back to get some snacks for them. Good snacks mean good

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<sup>128</sup>Interview, Eddie Marshbanks, Employee, Capri Twin Theatre, April 28, 1979.

business," a concession worker said.<sup>129</sup>

Ticket sales are on the increase too at the Capri Twin Theatre. A very definite reason for this is the fact that the Capri is a new theatre and people want to try it out. Its furnishings are very accommodating for all age audiences. The comfort of the seating is viewed pleasantly by the older movie attendants. Another worker added:

When people hear there is something new, they want to try it. If they are impressed, they pass the word on to their friends. This was the case in the successful opening of the Capri Twin Theatre.<sup>130</sup>

#### Drive-In Theatres: Moonlit and Family

The Moonlit Drive-In is no longer operating, due to its lack of customers. The largest majority of its audiences was composed of young couples who came to "neck," rather than watch the movie. It was failing to reach older, more mature audiences. Also, people had rather watch a movie from a comfortable heated or air conditioned seat in a theatre, as opposed to a cold or hot car. It now serves as a mobile home park.

The original Family Drive-In is no longer in existence due to its socially unacceptable X rated movies. Much public opposition played

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<sup>129</sup>Interview, Rebecca Powers, Concession Worker, Capri Twin Theatre, April 18, 1979.

<sup>130</sup>Interview, Cathy Richardson, Concession Worker, Capri Twin Theatre, April 24, 1979.

a role in the termination of this drive-in theatre. A great problem here was the attendance of young people under 18 years of age attending these adult films, thus the termination of the theatre. John Harper explained:

A drive-in is hard to be strictly controlled, and chances like this cannot be taken. A reconstruction of the Family Drive-In produced a good drive-in that now shows quality R rated movies. Also, it runs several GP and G rated movies so as to appeal to a more versatile audience.<sup>131</sup>

### Tuesday Night (Family Night or Cheap Night)

There has been a fond stereotyping of Tuesday night movie attenders as "cheap." However, interviews with several attendants of these movies prove this statement very wrong. People from different vocations commented on why they attend Tuesday night movies:

1. I attend Tuesday night movies because I am also a student and during the week is the only available time I have for attending movies, due to working on weekends. I attend Tuesday night movies because I also pay my way through school, and it helps to save whenever I can.<sup>132</sup>

2. Being an Austin Peay student, I have to budget my money carefully. I don't consider this as being cheap, because on weekends I bring dates and pay the full price.<sup>133</sup>

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<sup>131</sup>Interview, John Harper, City Manager of Movie Theatres, May 3, 1979.

<sup>132</sup>Interview, Emily Byrd, Food Stamp Office Employee, April 15, 1979.

<sup>133</sup>Interview, David Evans, Austin Peay State University student, April 7, 1979.

3. Tuesday night is my only night off, and I consider the movies a restful way to spend this night. <sup>134</sup>

4. I don't get to attend the movies too often, because I am having to watch my money carefully, because I am saving for Medical School. Besides, a Tuesday-night movie is just as good as a Saturday-night movie. <sup>135</sup>

5. I like to attend Tuesday-night movies because I can bring my family, and I prefer not to have to watch young necking couples as are found on Saturday nights. <sup>136</sup>

6. Tuesday night is my only free night due to a busy schedule. I like to spend this time with my wife in a relaxing atmosphere. <sup>137</sup>

7. I don't attend the movies too often, and when I do, I prefer to bring my children. Tuesday night is the only night I don't attend school. <sup>138</sup>

8. I like to get together with a lot of my friends when I go to the movies. As we are all in school, we can't afford to spend much on entertainment. <sup>139</sup>

9. I very seldom attend the movies, and when I do, I see no point in spending more money than is necessary. <sup>140</sup>

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<sup>134</sup>Interview, Merle Glasgow, Ford Plant Employee, April 17, 1979.

<sup>135</sup>Interview, Glenda Harris, Medical School Applicant, April 16, 1979.

<sup>136</sup>Interview, David Hicks, Stewart County Sheriff, April 19, 1979.

<sup>137</sup>Interview, Robert Lee, Medical Doctor, May 1, 1979.

<sup>138</sup>Interview, C. T. Mattox, Law School Student, April 21, 1979.

<sup>139</sup>Interview, Joanie Mattox, Student Teacher, April 15, 1979.

<sup>140</sup>Interview, Tyson Mosely, Used Car Lot Owner, April 27, 1979.

10. I do go to Tuesday-night movies because I prefer not to spend a lot on a movie for myself. I prefer to spend the full price on the weekend accompanied by a date.<sup>141</sup>

11. I have just recently started in my field, and it helps to cut corners whenever I can.<sup>142</sup>

12. I usually don't go with a date on Tuesday night, so I don't care to spend a lot for a movie.<sup>143</sup>

13. Coming from Dover, Tennessee, the price of gas is high enough, so why not save on the cost of a movie when I get here?<sup>144</sup>

14. I don't have much free time, so when I go to the movies, I usually go with friends. Since we are all in school, we prefer to go on cheap night.<sup>145</sup>

15. Being in school and playing football, there is no way I can hold down a job; therefore, I have to watch my money closely.<sup>146</sup>

#### GENERAL INFORMATION

1. The reason middle-class people dominate the movie theatres is because people of a higher social economic status have their social functions to attend, rather than attending the movies.

<sup>141</sup>Interview, Tim Nelson, Fort Donelson National Park Employee, April 24, 1979.

<sup>142</sup>Interview, Artie Peacher, Dentist, April 27, 1979.

<sup>143</sup>Interview, Connie Wallace, APSU Student, April 28, 1979.

<sup>144</sup>Interview, Everett Watson, Western Auto Owner, April 12, 1979.

<sup>145</sup>Interview, Kenny Wood, Part-time student and farmer, April 21, 1979.

<sup>146</sup>Interview, Keith Wright, Austin Peay State University Football Player, April 20, 1979.

2. Since 1974, more and more movie theatres have become baby sitters. People can bring their children to the movies for \$1.50 and have them taken care of for two to four hours. This is much cheaper, as opposed to paying a baby sitter.
3. More white women than black bring their children to the movies for baby sitting purposes, though why this occurs remains unknown.
4. Since 1974, there has been a great trend away from "tear jerker" movies. White females compose nearly all the remaining criers in the audience, and these are on the decrease.
5. Blacks portray more emotion at horror shows than do whites. They seem more highly excitable than whites.
6. Previewing coming movies to a movie audience serves as a wonderful advertisement method and also increases audience attendance. People see the advertisement, they like them, and they come to see if they like the movie.
7. Love story movies draw more couples than does any other type of movie.
8. Since 1974, more people have been calling for their rides from the movie theatre lobbies than ever before.
9. Older people, grandparents especially, don't bring young children to the movies like they did in 1974.
10. Since 1974, there has been a noticeable trend away from children over 11-years old sitting with their parents at the movies.
11. There is a trend away from more blacks attending Sunday night movies than whites. They once attended movies on Sunday nights because they would have on their good clothes, and it would be their night in town.
12. The 9:00 feature of the movies has especially been established as the adult feature since 1974.
13. Friday and Saturday nights are couples nights at the theatre.

The movies have come a long way during the past five years. They have adjusted to the trends set by the public, and they have met the public's enthusiasm with movies not soon forgotten. The movies are an undying, enjoyable form of entertainment that appeals to all ages. They are a true experience. Personal encounters at the movies can be taken home and remembered for days to come. Experience, acquired at the movies can be shared.

## Chapter IV

### MISCELLANEOUS RECREATION OF CLARKSVILLE

The purpose of this chapter is to discuss and analyze changes in the miscellaneous recreation of Clarksville, between the years 1974-1979. Also future plans and hopes for achievements will be discussed. These forms of recreation, (health spas and water sports) help to make for a more well-rounded community. There is unity to be found in the sharing and competition of recreation. Each citizen of Clarksville, through these forms of recreation, comes to know a better self and have a higher esteem for nature.

This chapter is a recording of how and why people are involved in these forms of miscellaneous recreation. Also, this chapter brings out how various age groups can benefit from recreation. These forms of recreation bar no one from achieving a personal goal. Goals set should become goals accomplished. Recreation can help you on your way to achieving those personal goals.

Most importantly, this chapter brings Clarksvillians to an awareness of the importance of recreation in our society. Youngsters should become involved in these forms of recreation at an early age. They also should be taught appropriate safety rules for certain activities. Should we fail to accomplish these things through our own children, the

concept of healthy recreation might be lost forever. We each have a chosen role to play, and no one else can take our part.

Of the two leading forms of miscellaneous recreation of Clarksville (health spas and water sports) health spas are the most dominant. This is largely due to the wide range of ages spas can accommodate. These ages range from 18 years old to 75 years old. Interested persons under 18 may join if their parent or parents sign for them. The largest percentage of customers are 18 years old and up.

The manager of Spartan Health Spa reported that:

College age members are usually our most enthusiastic members. They especially enjoy involvement in our weight loss and body building programs. However, we do have a small percentage who engage in our weight gain program. Our older customers usually are involved in the weight loss program. The attitudes of both groups of members varies. The success of the program depends upon the dedication of the member.<sup>147</sup>

Upon joining the spas, authorized personnel, managers, ten salespersons and counselors, draw up an appropriate program for desired improvements. A spa manager said:

These people are consistently nearby to assist in helping you to increase your program as you progress. This is due to the 9:00 a.m. until 10:00 p.m. three-day work week for employees. We expect as much enthusiasm and dedication from our employees as we do from our

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<sup>147</sup> Interview, Tomm McKinney, Employee, Spartan Health Spa, March 18, 1979.

employees as we do from our members. In order to sell good, we have to look good.<sup>148</sup>

Atlas Lansford is the primary owner of the Spartan Health Spa Company, with Rick Morford serving as secondary owner. These men have worked determinedly since the organization of the first spa in the Clarksville area in October of 1977. This first spa was organized in the Clarksville Mart, in New Providence. Later, on April 1 of 1979, a new facility was organized on Madison Street. These two locations serve the Clarksville area within a fifty mile radius.

There are several different installment plans made available to Spartan members. These include the one year plan, the two years plan, or the lifetime plan. The cost of the one year plan is \$405.00. The cost of the two years or lifetime membership is \$830.00. "These amounts can be paid in a lump sum or through monthly installments, whichever the member prefers," the manager explains.<sup>149</sup>

A monthly payment plan can be set up by a spa employee through First Trust and Savings Bank. However, members may go through a bank of their own choosing and finance their membership fees. The members can then pay off fees at once, or pay a large down payment to reduce monthly payments.

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<sup>148</sup>Interview, Rick Morford, Secondary Owner & City Manager, Spartan Health Spa, March 28, 1979.

<sup>149</sup>Ibid.

The men's manager explains:

Our future plans include the desire to build handball courts. We also hope to continue upgrading the quality and knowledge of our personnel. There is the constant desire for us to continue increasing members of various ages. We would especially like to be able to reach more older people, as we feel the need for them to be engaged in an organized exercise program that is vital to their health. So few people realize the great need for exercise in day-to-day living. We feel it is as vital as daily consumption of food. We believe in the human body and we believe in Spartan Health Spa.<sup>150</sup>

Comments Concerning Spartan Health Spa  
From Various Aged Members:

23 Year Old: All my life I have been engaged in and enjoyed exercise. Long before joining Spartan Health Spa, I set up my own exercise programs. I followed them very dedicatedly for years. However, I feel much more confident about my daily exercise now that I have a trained professional assisting me in organizing my exercise programs. I feel as if I have accomplished much more than I ever did on my own. It's a good feeling when you work your best, you'll look your best. I strongly recommend Spartan for anyone who desires to live to the fullest.<sup>151</sup>

18 Year Old: I joined Spartan Health Spa shortly after starting college at Austin Peay. In high school I played football for four years and I began to miss that feeling of achievement through physical exercise. I am a member of the body-building program at Spartan. I can see results from my weekly exercising and weight lifting. However, I really feel better about myself because others can see results. I once again know that feeling of

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<sup>150</sup> Interview, Danny Reeder, Men's Manager, Spartan Health Spa, March 17, 1979.

<sup>151</sup> Interview, Marsha Winn, Women's Manager, Spartan Health Spa, April 3, 1979.

achievement. I intend to become a lifetime member of Spartan and to continue to work for visible and beneficial results.<sup>152</sup>

22 Year Old: I joined Spartan Health Spa because a friend, who was a member, talked me into it. I had always enjoyed exercise, but I never found it any fun having to exercise alone. My friend convinced me that if I would join we could exercise together. So, I joined. I feel this is one of the most intelligent moves I've made in years. Companionship is terrific when everyone is striving toward the same goal.<sup>153</sup>

37 Year Old: One morning I was looking in the mirror and thought I looked like a white elephant. I was so disgusted with myself for having allowed myself to gain so much weight. That afternoon I went to join Spartan Health Spa. I am working on a weight loss program. I know I have a long hard fight ahead of me, but with the support of dedicated counselors, I feel I can achieve my goal. I intend to become the best me I possible can.<sup>154</sup>

20 Year Old: All my life I have been teased for being frail and skinny. This can be very upsetting for a grown man. Upon joining Spartan I found new hope for myself. I joined the body building and weight gain programs. I feel much better about myself now. It is hard for me to stick to these programs at times, but I then reflect back on the rewards I will receive. I don't feel I have to look perfect, but I do desire to achieve a more total me.<sup>155</sup>

21 Year Old: I joined Spartan because I like keeping in shape. Being a member keeps me dedicated to working out before, during, and after football season. I can't afford to allow my body to slip below top condition, and that takes

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<sup>152</sup>Interview, Tim Byrd, Member, Spartan Health Spa, April 2, 1979.

<sup>153</sup>Interview, Cindy Waters, Member, Spartan Health Spa, March 30, 1979.

<sup>154</sup>Interview, Betty Harrison, Member, Spartan Health Spa, March 30, 1979.

<sup>155</sup>Interview, Steve Bearden, Member, Spartan Health Spa, March 16, 1979.

work. I am a lifetime member of Spartan and I intend to continue healthy exercising after college and throughout the rest of my life.<sup>156</sup>

37 Year Old: I belong to Spartan because I intend to keep the small shape I have had all my life. I have seen so many of my friends gain enormous amounts of weight before entering middle-age. Well, that's not for me. As long as I can remember, people have commented on how small I am. I don't ever want people to comment on how small I was. It's hard for me to work at maintaining a pleasant size. Spartan is a true friend to anyone who desires to be attractive, and is willing to work at it.<sup>157</sup>

Water sports are also among leading miscellaneous recreation. People involved in these sports include: boat owners, water skiers, and swimmers. These sports involve people of all ages. Also this is an ever-growing and ever-changing activity. Clarksville is an ideal location for water sports, due to the surrounding lakes and rivers.

Over the past five years the boating industry has been on the increase. More people are getting better jobs and that means more people are buying boats. Many more speed boats and houseboats are being sold than ever before. A few years ago, mostly just fishing boats were sold. But not, people are enjoying more and more getting away for a peaceful weekend or afternoon at the lake. Houseboats are especially popular with families who enjoy vacationing together through restful activity. However, we feel no matter how popular houseboats and speedboats become, fishing boats will never lack for popularity. Boats are being built better every year and our customers like to know they're getting their money's worth.<sup>158</sup>

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<sup>156</sup>Interview, Merle Glasgow, Member, Spartan Health Spa, March 24, 1979.

<sup>157</sup>Interview, Dee Seay, Member, Spartan Health Spa, March 20, 1979.

<sup>158</sup>Interview, David Braner, Manager, Yacht-Harbor Marina, March 26, 1979.

More people in the past five years have become involved in water sports because they are inexpensive, once you obtain needed items and they are also a wonderful form of exercise. They are good clean fun for the entire family. Many young people engage in water sports in the summer. It seems to break the "hum-drum" routine they follow throughout the school year. Boat rentals are on the increase, and traffic on the river is clear evidence of this.<sup>159</sup>

Swimming is a popular water sport that is ever-growing.

Young children seem to be engaged more in this activity than adults.

This is largely due to the fact that they have no means of going water skiing or boating, perhaps due to working parents. However, many college-age people enjoy swimming because it is fun and good exercise.

A lifeguard explained:

Many days as many as 900 people have frequented our swimming pool within an 8 hour day. Many of these people were young children. There seems to be a trend of more alert swimmers than were before. We are glad to see this because this makes for a more comfortable atmosphere around the pool. People don't enjoy "horseplay" around a pool because it is unsafe. We hope this newer attitude of our swimmers continues to improve for the benefit of all.<sup>160</sup>

Another lifeguard added:

The largest majority of our swimmers are well-behaved. The country club is highly respectable and the members realize this. Well-behaved swimmers add to everyone's enjoyment. Close supervision also helps to maintain a safety-awareness among the swimmers. Swimming can be fun, but

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<sup>159</sup>Interview, Ray Dunn, Employee, Archuleta Sporting Goods, April 1, 1979.

<sup>160</sup>Interview, Steve Stedman, Lifeguard, Barksdale Swimming Pool, April 3, 1979.

we realize it first must be safe. Most importantly, we realize that larger larger attendance at the pool means more people are getting out and exercising. We feel this is definitely a step in the right direction.<sup>161</sup>

Comments from People Involved  
in Water Sports:

Boat Owners

1. I recently purchased a speed-ski boat. I had always desired to own a boat, but I never knew how enjoyable it could be. Many weekends my friends and I go skiing or fishing. This is such a nice change from the usual movies or bowling. Upkeep of my boat is very minimal and, besides, I enjoy tinkering with it during my free time. I have always enjoyed being outside and I am sure I will continue to enjoy it even more during the years to come. Natural fun is the best fun.<sup>162</sup>

2. I have owned my own boat for several years. I hope to be financially able to purchase a new one within the next year. My friends and I have enjoyed many Springs and Summers of water skiing. We never seem to grow tired of engaging in this same activity week after week. There is always someone new to meet each time we go. I have made many good friends through boating.<sup>163</sup>

3. I am a boat lover as well as a boat owner. Ever since I was very young I have loved boats. I won a ski boat and a very impressive speed boat. I enjoy taking one of my boats out for a ride every afternoon when I get off work. For the past several years I have been a boat owner.

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<sup>161</sup>Interview, Ray Hampton, Lifeguard, Montgomery County Country Club, March 23, 1979.

<sup>162</sup>Interview, Mike Betts, Boat Owner, March 22, 1979.

<sup>163</sup>Interview, Gene Stinson, Boat Owner, March 28, 1979.

I would advise anyone who enjoys fishing, swimming, and skiing to buy a boat. You never outgrow the thrill.<sup>164</sup>

4. I am an owner of a fishing boat. I enjoy taking my boat out to my cabin on the lake for relaxing weekends. I don't get to do this too often, but when I do it is so very enjoyable. I have always enjoyed being outdoors, but it seems so very hard to find time to get away. Other times I take my family with me, as they enjoy the lake also. However, I really enjoy the peaceful solitude of being out on the lake virtually alone. Upkeep of my boat is well-worth the pleasure I receive.<sup>165</sup>

### Water Skiers

1. I learned to water ski several summers ago, and I have greatly enjoyed Spring and Summer much more ever since. Many of my friends also ski and we have such a good time when we get together for a day on the lake. I especially enjoy the exercise I receive through skiing and swimming. Sometimes I don't exercise as I should, but skiing makes up for that, as well as being fun. I think anyone who tried it would soon learn to love it.<sup>166</sup>

2. I enjoy water skiing because I enjoy the water and the outdoors. After a hard Spring of football workouts, I enjoy heading out for the lake to "party" and ski. My friends and I also like to fish while we're out on the lake. Most of all we enjoy a break from class. Being on the lake helps us to relax. Summer is a great time, and I can't imagine anyone not wanting to spend it on water. I have hopes of buying a boat when I get out of school. I think that's almost as essential as a car in my life.<sup>167</sup>

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<sup>164</sup>Interview, Greg Mosely, Boat Owner, March 18, 1979.

<sup>165</sup>Interview, Mike Barrow, Boat Owner, April 5, 1979.

<sup>166</sup>Interview, Emily Byrd, Water Skier, March 18, 1979.

<sup>167</sup>Interview, Charles Brigham, Water Skier, March 23, 1979.

3. I only recently learned to water ski, last summer. I felt as if I really accomplished something, and I have been in love with it ever since. I never knew anything could be so much fun. I am only sorry I didn't learn to ski sooner. I intend to purchase a ski boat someday after I marry. I want my children to learn to water ski at an early age. Not only is it fun, but it's also great exercise. I love being on the water and feeling the sun on my face. Skiing gives me all of this plus a great thrill of accomplishment. I hope to ski much more in the years to come. I'd love to learn to ski on one ski, only time could stand in the way. <sup>168</sup>

### Swimmers

1. I especially enjoy swimming because it keeps me in top condition. While I was at school, Austin Peay, I swam from 1 to 3 hours, four days a week! I have always enjoyed swimming, because I have met so many few friends this way. I always seem to have such a good time, and it is good clean fun. I don't care much for "partying," I'd rather be doing something that is healthy and beneficial for me. Swimming is an ideal substitute for boredom. <sup>169</sup>

2. I enjoy going to the pool with a bunch of my friends. Sometimes I seem to get on everyone's nerves hanging around the house. So, Mom takes us to the pool. We have a great time trying out new dives and new ways of swimming. Mom also says she feels better knowing I'm at the pool and not out on the street somewhere. <sup>170</sup>

3. I have always enjoyed swimming, but more recently now. I swim for exercise. I have gained a great deal of weight over the past three years, and swimming is the most enjoyable exercise I know. It not only helps me to lose weight, but also tones me up as I do lose. At the

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<sup>168</sup>Interview, Donna Mattox, Water Skier, March 26, 1979.

<sup>169</sup>Interview, Nellie Patu, Swimmer, March 30, 1979.

<sup>170</sup>Interview, Lee Boyd, Swimmer, April 3, 1979.

same time I'm losing, I can keep a good tan. I think swimming is a definite plus for physical fun.<sup>171</sup>

4. I began swimming at an early age. I spent many days at the pool when I was young, because my mother worked. Now I swim simply for enjoyment. I love being outside and soaking up rays. I like to feel good, as well as look good, and swimming helps me to achieve this goal. I intend to keep swimming for as long as I am able. Anyway...pool side bikinis aren't bad!<sup>172</sup>

Upon reading this chapter, one should become more sensitive to the recreational needs of people in the Clarksville area. He should better understand why these needs must be met, and also the positive effect the meeting of these needs can produce. Comments from involved people, professionals and employees supply valid facts concerning miscellaneous reaction.

I found a large percentage of my interviewees to be very eager in assisting to produce this chapter. They believed in what they were doing and were proud of it. They believed that the human body is a beautifully working machine if given adequate exercise. No one should let his body grow accustomed to inactivity. This could be suicidal. A working body is a healthy body. And, they believed that recreation is beneficial fun. Recreation, like anything else, must be practiced to become perfect.

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<sup>171</sup>Interview, Pam Bishop, Swimmer, April 1, 1979.

<sup>172</sup>Interview, Keith Allen, Swimmer, April 2, 1979.

## EPILOGUE

The facts presented within the research have shown an overwhelming increase, by individuals and institutions, in recreation. This obvious fact cannot be minimized. Without an increase in our personal wealth much of this participation would not be possible. The growth of recreation throughout the country, as shown by a survey of Clarksville and Clarksvillians, is a reflection of this greater wealth and more leisure time.

The community of Clarksville is somewhat a federal community--one whose income is based greatly on the existence of the Fort Campbell Army Installation. This is also reflected in the survey because the federal government had led the way in promoting healthful leisure-time activities. The Austin Peay campus, with its educated community, provides a major part of the participants in recreation. The influx of students and military personnel has led to a growth in institutional recreation, especially within public schools and churches.

If Clarksville can be used as an example of the typical American Community, then the changes in the types of recreation shown here reflect some changing ideas of American society. The increase in the number of people eating out surely shows an increase in the amount of money the individual has to spend on recreation. Increased numbers

participating in recreation, as provided by institutions, lead us to believe that Americans have developed a greater awareness of the need to care for their bodies by activity. It also may well reflect the wider variety of activities available. We may well be reaching the point of having "something for everyone." The growth in the number of people participating in individual recreation--such as boating or health spas--may well show the desire of people to remain active after they have "outgrown" the other forms of recreation. It definitely shows that more money is presently available for people to spend on recreation.

The availability and variety of recreation has led to increased participation in forms of recreation. If one does not swim, one may eat out frequently, thus partaking of recreation. If one does not enjoy football or baseball, perhaps one spends time watching a movie, noting an actor's poor or fine performance, and expounding upon the deeper meaning of the movie. All the information gathered leads us to conclude that more and more people are participating in and enjoying the various forms of recreation available.

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