

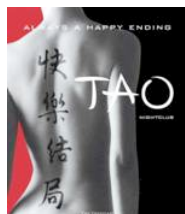
From: "Ciara O'Rourke" <corourke@statesman.com>
Subject: **correspondence with Matt Angle, April 9**
Date: April 14, 2010 12:34:53 PM CDT
To: Ciara O'Rourke <corourke@statesman.com>
6 Attachments, 443 KB [Save](#) [Slideshow](#)

From: "Matt Angle"
Date: April 9, 2010 3:07:45 PM CDT
To: "Ciara O'Rourke" <corourke@statesman.com>
Cc: "Sam Angleassn", "Kyle Weideman"
Subject: **RE: Forty Deuce Clips - Please confirm receipt**

Oh my gosh, Ciara.

Tao is almost by definition "adult entertainment." No parent would take their teenage child to Tao. No responsible brother or sister would take their teenage sibling. It is without question an adult club that tolerates, promotes, markets adult, sexually oriented entertainment. Again, had Sessions not wanted to take advantage of the adult themes and sexual circumstances afforded by Forty Deuces and Tao, he could have chosen from dozens of other more family oriented venues. He chose Forty Deuces and Tao for the obvious reason. To reach any other conclusion is naïve.

This is a Tao bill board:



"Always a Happy Ending" -Source: Tao Billboard

Here is a link promoting an appearance by an porn star:

www.vegasnews.com/8244/evan-seinfeld-tera-patrick-and-lingerie-girls-at-tao.html

Below is more promotional coverage of other times when TAO has featured a porn star celebrities.

[Adult Star Stormy Daniels Hosts TAO Nightclub](#) [\[Photos\]](#)

Posted on January 12th, 2010 by Brian Golbourne | @Bgolbourne
[Share](#)

Adult Star Stormy Daniels was the host of the evening at [TAO Nightclub Las Vegas](#) on Saturday night, directly after the AVN Awards ceremony at The Palms.



Photo by Al Powers

After walking the TAO red carpet, Ms. Stormy Daniels was joined by (hot) friends at a VIP table where they enjoyed Vueve Clicquot.



Lexi Love, Angelina Armani, Mariah Milano & Alexis Ford | Photo by Al Powers

Wednesday, January 13, 2010

[ADULT FILM STAR KAYDEN KROSS HOSTS TAO IN CELEBRATION OF "THE 8TH DAY"](#)





Friday night adult film star Kayden Kross hosted the evening as Adam & Eve celebrated the biggest adult film of the year, **The 8th Day**. Kross began the night with dinner at the Asian bistro with a group of ten, including **Stormy Daniels**. Under the watchful eye of TAO's famed Buddha they dined on signature items along with sparkling Sake and Asian beer before heading up to the night club and a VIP table in the moat section. Kross danced on the catwalk, took photos with fans and hopped into the DJ booth with DJ Reach to get on the microphone and thank her fans.

This is from <http://www.vegas.com/nightclubs/tao/> – a cite that promotes Vegas venues like Tao:

"Depending on where you are, you can watch a **go-go dancer on an elevated platform**, watch the dance floor pulsate with a mass of bodies or shut it all out and hole up in a VIP booth."

From: Ciara O'Rourke [<mailto:corourke@statesman.com>]

Sent: Friday, April 09, 2010 3:28 PM

To: Matt Angle

Subject: Re: Forty Deuce Clips

I won't quibble that Forty Deuce is clearly adult entertainment, but I'm not seeing where the Tao Web site makes clear that patrons will be entertained by nude or near-nude women, or where it advertises itself as adult entertainment.

Ciara O'Rourke
PolitiFact Texas staff writer
Austin American-Statesman
corourke@statesman.com
512-445-3882

On Apr 9, 2010, at 2:23 PM, Matt Angle wrote:

Ciara,

Given how Tao promotes itself and the way it is set up, it is very unlikely that Sessions' guests did not have the opportunity to visit the night club and pool. Actually, the more pertinent question is can Sessions provide complete assurance that none of this guests had access to the night club and pool. As you can see from the New York Times, they promote access to ALL their amenities.

- ...Ever-thumping **music** pumps in the dining room and two levels above, sending the stylish and scantily clad to the dance floor.....
-"It's really a nightclub with the food to complement the club," Mr. Desiderio said.
- ... The philosophy at Tao Las Vegas is at once high concept — multiple opportunities for eating and drinking **under one roof**
- ...**"We want you to never leave our building," said Richard Wolf, ... "We're offering all these different experiences — a drink in the lounge, a meal in the restaurant, a dance club, a beach club. It gives us a tremendous edge over our competition."** ...
- The club's Opium Room, too, is rented out for corporate or private events from 5 p.m. until 10 p.m., when it transforms back into another level of the nightclub.

Source: NY Times, July 22, 2007

Another interesting side-bar about Tao is this blurb from Mazda New York Magazine:

The most famous of [Tiger] Woods's alleged mistresses is Rachel Uchitel, who occupies a position of power in this strobe network of girls and money and celebrity. As VIP concierge and director of VIP hospitality at Tao in Vegas

A source in the business estimates that she made more than any other VIP host. "At my best," Uchitel says, "I made \$250,000 base, plus a guaranteed \$250,000 from the tip pool." Half a million a year, paid by a single club-probably Tao, though Uchitel will not confirm it.

(Source: New York Magazine, April 12, 2010)

There are dozens of very nice restaurants, hotels and casino clubs in Las Vegas that do not feature scantily clad women as entertainment. If Sessions did not want to capitalize on the

attraction of naked women to raise money, he would have chosen one of these more tame, family oriented venues.

The substance of our claim is that Pete Sessions has held fundraisers at adult-themed night clubs that feature nude and/or near nude women as entertainment. Reasonable people can fairly call them "strip clubs." Sessions has not apologized in any way, admitted making a mistake, given the money back or even pledged not to do it again. Unlike, his national party committee chair and counter-part, Michael Steele, Sessions has gotten no flack from GOP party leaders.

Again, to confirm the accuracy of our ad, you need only to believe your own eyes. To do otherwise is to defy common-sense. Both Forty Deuce and Tao advertise themselves as adult entertainment. Their websites make clear that patrons will be entertained by nude and/or near nude women. Sessions used this type venue to lure donors and raise money. He promotes himself and his party as promoting "family values." The hypocrisy and double standard are clear.

I've pasted the entire NYT article below, plus some other descriptions of Tao.

Please confirm receipt.

Thanks.

Matt

[<image002.gif>](#)

[<image003.png>](#)

July 22, 2007

Setting Restaurant Records by Selling the Sizzle

By [JOE DRAPE](#)

LAS VEGAS — There is the 20-foot golden Buddha, and enough velvet and silk swathing 60,000 square feet to evoke an Old West bordello. Ever-thumping [music](#) pumps in the dining room and two levels above, sending the stylish and scantily clad to the dance floor.

The allure of Chilean sea bass satay often competes with sightings of celebrities, like New England Patriots quarterback [Tom Brady](#) or the actor Jamie Foxx. This is Tao Las Vegas, the highest grossing independent restaurant in the United States, according to Restaurants & Institutions magazine, which for 24 years has been ranking the top 100. In 2006, its first full year open, Tao did \$55.2 million in business, or \$16 million more than its closest competitor, Tavern on the Green in New York.

Even judged against other huge-volume restaurants, where revenues in the tens of millions are not unusual, Tao is setting a new standard. In figures for 2000, when Tavern on the Green was in the No. 2 spot behind Windows on the World, the gap between them was a razor thin \$485,000.

Michael Desiderio, the chief operating officer of Tavern on the Green, marvels at the vital statistics for Tao Las Vegas: it served 600,000 meals, its average dinner check was \$70, and 50 percent of its revenues came from alcohol.

"It's really a nightclub with the food to complement the club," Mr. Desiderio said.

The philosophy at Tao Las Vegas is at once high concept — multiple opportunities for eating and drinking under one roof — and blue collar. Much like a factory, Tao wants to squeeze revenue from every square foot of its plant as close to 24 hours a day, seven days a week as possible.

"We want you to never leave our building," said Richard Wolf, who with his longtime partner, Marc Packer, created the multilevel complex as well as Tao Asian Bistro in New York, which ranked fourth with \$26 million in revenues. "We're offering all these different experiences — a drink in the lounge, a meal in the restaurant, a dance club, a beach club. It gives us a tremendous edge over our competition."

To that end, they recently opened Tao Beach Club, home of the \$1,000-minimum poolside cabana stocked with food and drink, and equipped with high-definition plasma screen televisions and Xbox gaming consoles. Preprogrammed iPods are available, as well as staff members who look plucked from the fashion runway and whose attentions extend to cleaning your sunglasses or massaging your muscles.

Come nightfall, however, the fire columns burn in the desert air, the DJs take their place in the booth and Tao Beach becomes a rooftop nightclub. The club's Opium Room, too, is rented out for corporate or private events from 5 p.m. until 10 p.m., when it transforms back into another level of the nightclub.

Keeping all these parts in motion is a huge endeavor. The \$20 million complex employs more than 700 people, many of whom are constantly moving like ninja — dark clothes, ear pieces — through the shadows.

Tao Las Vegas's culinary neighbors in the Venetian hotel and casino include more acclaimed restaurants by Mario Batali, Thomas Keller and Emeril Lagasse. But like Tavern on the Green and other high-grossing restaurants, Tao Las Vegas does not rely on well-known chefs or, for that matter, the approval of restaurant critics for its popularity.

Assessing the original Tao in Manhattan in The New York Times in 2001, William Grimes wrote, "Tao is

not so much a restaurant as a nonstop party interrupted by funny food.”

The emphasis here is on small-plate eating, where spare ribs and lobster wontons and sushi are shared. The proliferation of Buddhas, pulsating music and sensuous décor are perhaps the signature of what Mr. Wolf calls “vibe dining,” and others say is simply scene making.

The New York nightlife impresarios Noah Tepperberg and Jason Strauss are co-owners of the nightclub component and use many of the same tactics found at other successful clubs: importing celebrities and charging exorbitant prices.

People like Bono, [Paris Hilton](#), Madonna, [Chelsea Clinton](#) and the entire roster of England’s Manchester United soccer team have become fodder for Tao Las Vegas’s marketing blitz.

This in turn gives the club heat and allows Tao to charge \$300 to \$5,000 for bottle service. What does \$5,000 get you? “A table on the dance floor on a busy holiday weekend,” Mr. Tepperberg said, “or for a Dom Pérignon Mathusalem,” the equivalent of eight regular bottles of Champagne.

“We sell stratification, but we have an entry point for everyone — from retirees to 21-year-olds who have saved up to blow it out on their first trip to Vegas,” Mr. Tepperberg said. “You can come to our lounge and just have a drink, or stay for dinner and then get a premier table in the club.”

As any habitu   of the nightclub demimonde in New York knows, the sizzle of a new establishment can quickly subside. Mr. Wolf says Tao spends \$3 million annually on marketing, and revenues so far are up more than 10 percent for 2007. With the addition of Tao Beach, he said, he expects to exceed \$65 million this year.

Mr. Wolf concedes that Las Vegas is probably the only city that can sustain a venture like this. Some 38.9 million visitors came to Las Vegas last year, and a local population base has grown by about 18 percent in the last six years. In fact, Las Vegas now accounts for 21 restaurants on the list of the highest ranking 100, more than twice as many as it had in 2000.

“You’ve got a constant stream of people,” he said. “You have a new customer every two or three days, and many of them are here only once a year or a couple of times.”

Even then the hard-sell does not stop for Tao Las Vegas. They hope their patrons stop by the gift shop and take home a bronze Buddha head (\$39) or a mango-scented pillar candle (\$20).

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<image001.gif> [tp://www.nytimes.com/2007/07/22/us/22vegas.html?_r=1&pagewanted=print](http://www.nytimes.com/2007/07/22/us/22vegas.html?_r=1&pagewanted=print)
<image004.png>

Club #2 - Tao in Las Vegas

“[Pete] Sessions, the Sleuth has learned, held a fundraiser in February at a racy venue in Las Vegas whose Web site features come-hither looking women scantily clad in lingerie slithering all over each other....Republicans point out the NRCC chairman’s fundraiser was held at the Tao restaurant, not the Tao nightclub. **(Never mind that the two are under the same roof, as the night spot’s Web site proudly proclaims.)**”
Source: Washington Post, May 4, 2009

“Now, it seems topless swimming pools are the new nightclubs, and though they aren’t as prevalent, all signs point to that changing, especially with the success of European-style pools such as Bare and Tao Beach.”
(Source: Las Vegas Review-Journal, May 29, 2007)
<image005.jpg>

“Always a Happy Ending” -Source: Tao Billboard

From: Ciara O’Rourke (<mailto:corourke@statesman.com>)
Sent: Friday, April 09, 2010 2:19 PM
To: Matt Angle
Subject: Re: Forty Deuce Clips

I think so.

But here’s another concern: Is there any substantial evidence that the Tao fundraiser ventured into the nightclub, or pool?

Ciara O’Rourke
PolitiFact Texas staff writer
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512-445-3882

On Apr 9, 2010, at 12:31 PM, Matt Angle wrote:

Ciara,

In follow-up to your call, I'm attaching links to all the footage from the Forty Deuce Club website that we reviewed. All these performances took place at the Forty Deuce.

As you can tell, we did not "cherry pick" the most salacious parts for our spot. In fact, out of concern about offending some viewers, we tried to select some of the less overtly sexual clips.

Quite frankly, to confirm the accuracy of the spot, you simply have to believe your own eyes. Pete Sessions was using the perceived appeal of scantily clad, nude and/or nearly nude, women to entice donors. He paid for the event with funds from his leadership PAC, and he kept the money raised. Sessions, or anyone else trying to pass this off as "innocent" or "burlesque" is being dishonest. As you can see from the Forty Deuce press release below, the performances at the club are described using terms like: "burlesque striptease show", "striptease empowering to women", "ain't your granddaddy's burlesque", "vintage naughtiness" and "nightly seduction."

His party's leaders know about the events, yet they have not criticized him publicly, called for him to be disciplined in any way or even suggested that he not do it again. This stands in stark contrast to the treatment of Michael Steele.

Thanks for reviewing this so carefully. I believe the information we've provided makes clear that the ad is 100 percent accurate. Just call if you need more information.

Matt

This is the video we used to pull clips for the spot.

(it's listed on the front page as "View Forty Deuce Tour Video"):

<http://fortydeuce.com/video-new.html>

This is other footage available from the Forty Deuce website

(it's listed on the front page as "View Forty Deuce Promo Reel"):

<http://fortydeuce.com/video-promo.html>

This is the press release from the website

<http://fortydeuce.com/pr.pdf>

**IVAN KANE'S FORTY DEUCE
WORLD-FAMOUS BURLESQUE
CREATED, PRODUCED AND DIRECTED BY
IVAN KANE
PRODUCED BY CHAMPAGNE SUZY
CHOREOGRAPHY: TOVARIS WILSON
COSTUMES: AMANDA BENEFIEL
SETS: JASON VOLENEC
TECHNICAL DIRECTOR: ERIK A. NELSON**

Time Magazine, the London Daily Telegraph, USA Today and Rolling Stone Magazine all agree ... Ivan Kane's Forty Deuce "will blow you away. The performances will seduce you, the musicianship is phenomenal ... it brings the house down. This is the ultimate burlesque show!" The New York Times adds Forty Deuce is "naughty but nice, with an exotic revue and celebrity status" and The Los Angeles Times states "this is truly burlesque reinvented, as only Ivan Kane can do it." Ivan Kane's Forty Deuce "classic" burlesque and its rock 'n roll counterpart, Ivan Kane's Royal Jelly, have entertained standing-room only crowds for seven years. Performing at Ivan Kane's two renowned clubs in Hollywood and at Mandalay Bay Resort and Casino in Las Vegas, celebrities have flocked to catch the show everyone is talking about. From George Clooney, Brad Pitt and Leonardo DiCaprio to Nicole Kidman and Paris Hilton, a night at Forty Deuce is a guaranteed star sighting in the tabloids the next day.

In 2002, Ivan Kane's Forty Deuce was launched, a burlesque **striptease** show and nightclub in the heart of Hollywood. With his partner and wife, Champagne Suzy, the two redefined burlesque and put it back on the map, **literally dragging the concept of pre-pole dancing striptease into the 21st century**. The rest, as they say, is history, with Ivan Kane's Forty Deuce completely transforming what nightlife and burlesque could be.

"This kind of striptease is very empowering to women," explains Kane of Forty Deuce's phenomenal success. **"It appeals to both sexes."** This led Mandalay Bay Resort and Casino to come knocking, so Kane opened a branch of Ivan Kane's Forty Deuce in Las Vegas, an event documented in the hit four-part Bravo reality series, Forty Deuce, directed by Zalman King, Executive Produced by Kane and Produced by Champagne Suzy. This hit show, which followed Ivan, Suzy and the girls around the world searching out talented dancers for the new Vegas venue, brought Ivan and Forty Deuce to national attention when it achieved cult status in London on the BBC.

The Today Show and Matt Lauer, in Las Vegas to talk to three people who best represented Sin City, spoke with George Maloof, owner of the Palms Casino, Steve Wynn and Ivan Kane, in a live remote from Forty Deuce.

The Forty Deuce show has performed for Hugh Hefner at the Playboy Mansion and at the House of Blues, where it rocked the house with a special performance of Royal Jelly. Forty Deuce, one of the most sought after shows to entertain at exclusive private events, has been seen at parties for Christina Aguilera, American Idol, Vanity Fair, Fashion Week, the Lakers, Christian Audigier (Ed Hardy), W Magazine and Warner Brothers, and was the venue of choice of Britney Spears to launch her comeback tour.

Forty Deuce has also been seen several times on Jimmy Kimmel Live and Last Call with Carson Daly and Royal Jelly made its national debut when it was featured on Rock Star Supernova. Brett Michaels also brought the girls from Rock of Love to Forty Deuce for one of the highest rated

episodes of the series, where he had each of the contestants try their hand at burlesque on the famous stage with its curtain of pearls.

Sting asked Ivan Kane to provide one of the Forty Deuce headliners to perform with him on his national tour and Justin Timberlake also featured a Forty Deuce dancer in one of his music videos. Forty Deuce was requested personally by Mick Jagger to perform for him at the after-party of the famous Met Ball in New York City, after he saw the show at the Hollywood hotspot.

Says creator Ivan Kane, **"This ain't your Granddaddy's burlesque!"** Combining "classic" burlesque with the audacious and thrilling rock 'n roll burlesque show Royal Jelly, Forty Deuce now adds deep groove Funk burlesque, with a live six-piece band, including a threepiece horn section.

Solidifying Kane's reputation as the gold standard in burlesque, this new show once again proves why "Kane has established some of the country's trendiest shows; built around spectacle and unmatched ambience. **The vintage naughtiness and the pulsating rhythms of modern music are blended into a seamless scenario of nightly seduction."**

Kyle Weidleman

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