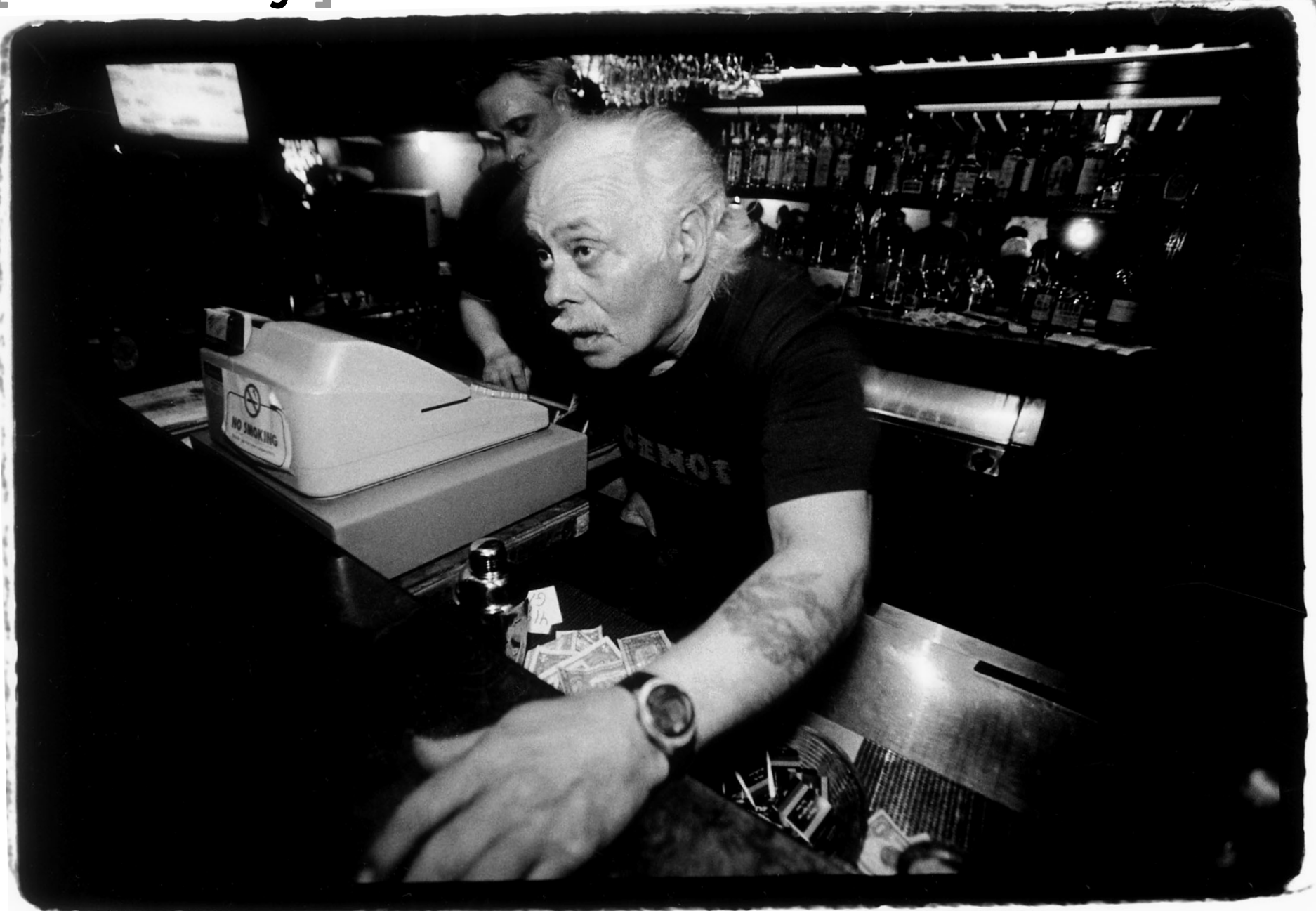


[cover story]



March 20, 2005



GENO'S *continued from cover*

The fact that anyone would want to bring this collection of butt-stained tables, warped two-by-fours, and aging beer signs anywhere clearly befuddles Geno, but he wants to keep the customers happy. And it's not like there's nothing new about the new Geno's. Though the bar top and foot rest are old, the bar itself is brand-new and easily accessible, angling in at the bottom so you can really sidle up to it. They've covered up the green-and-blue paint job rendered by the ill-fated Congress Hall (post-Skinny — never opened) with a crisp red (a "true red," says designer Sean Wilkinson) and black. And they've built in a new stage with walls to house bands in front of a three-tiered dance floor with which the Congress Hall folks replaced the old Skinny slant.

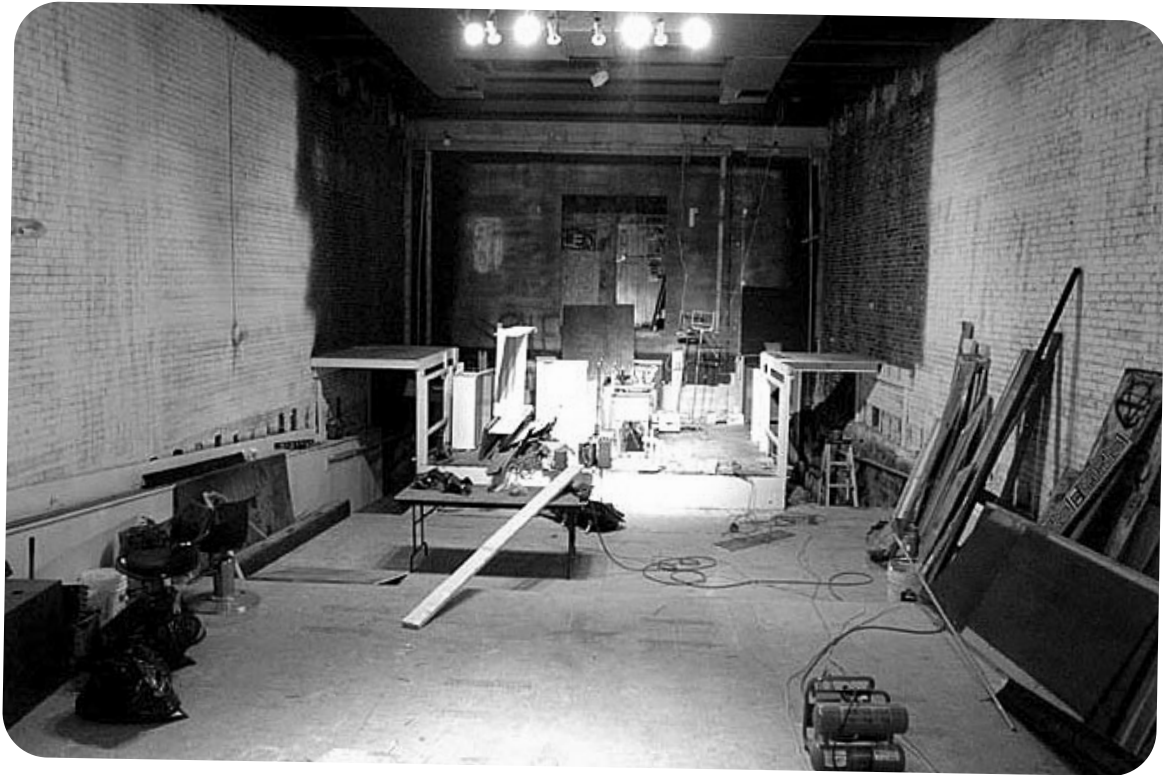
It's appropriately Geno's, though. Don't worry. You can still find that Blood on the Saddle sticker, get yourself a Busch Light, and play a couple G-'N'-R tunes on the juke box.

If you don't believe me, check out the lineup for this coming Friday's first-ever show in the new location: Eggbot, the Pontiffs, and Covered in Bees — your standard (but not standard at all) Geno's rock slate. Also, it's Tina Brown's birthday party, says Geno. She and father Kip play in the Pontiff's (maybe you've heard Kip's little speech — "I couldn't get a girl to play in the band, so I made my own"). Show up and say you were there.

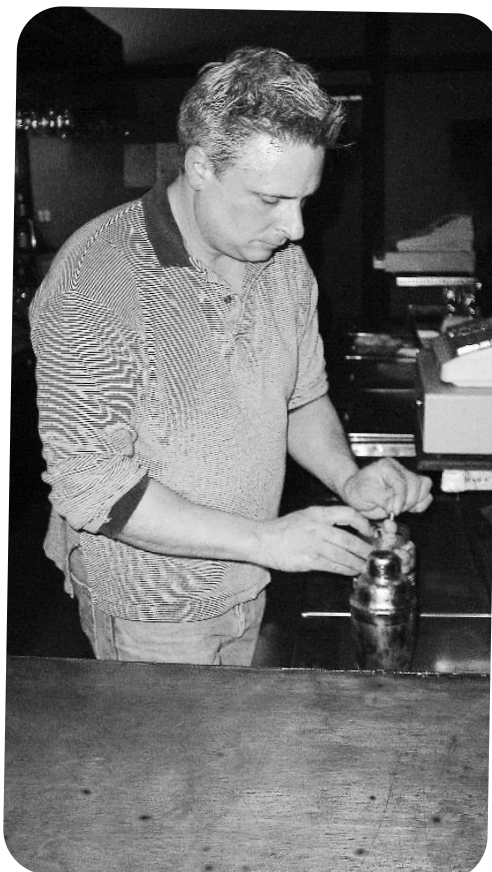
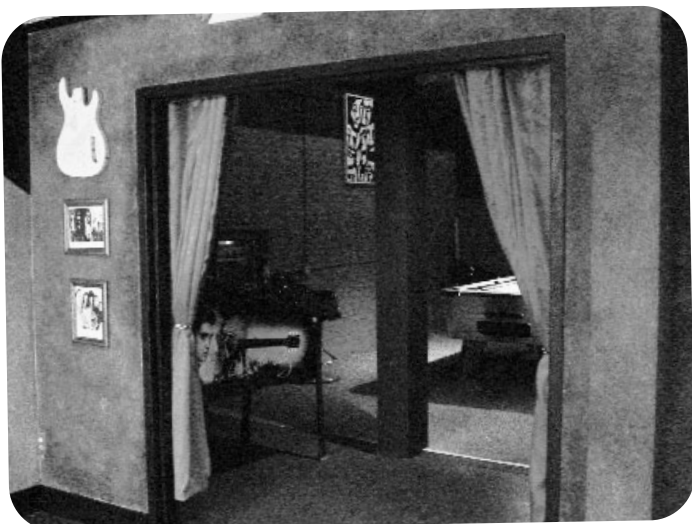
Certainly, from the last day on Brown Street to the first day on Congress Street, the *Phoenix* was there. Matthew Robbins, who'll be unveiling a show of his Geno's photography and others' in



March 21, 2005



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the lobby of the new location, has been shooting the entire process of breaking down and building up, and on these pages we give you an inside look at what happens when a club falls off the wall and then everyone works to put it back together again. Enjoy. And make sure to get in there and raise a pint for a club that managed to pick up stakes and put them down again in just three short months. ■

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Eggbot, the Pontiffs, and Covered in Bees play Geno's, at 625 Congress Street in Portland, May 27. They don't have a phone number yet, so you'll have to take our word for it.

May 13, 2005

