

me to help her mother. We found the woman unconscious under a roof beam. We tried to lift it off of her, but it was too heavy and the fire was coming. Finally I had to apologize to the woman and the girl and left them. These memories are painful to me...

After the war, I returned to the city of Tokushima and spent almost a year in recovery. One day in August, I heard the city was going to have a dance festival. I couldn't understand why anyone would want to dance. I knew about this festival – how for years the leaders had banned it or tried to make it as insignificant as possible. Traditionally it had taken place at the time of bon, when the spirits of the ancestors return to their homes. But I felt the ancestors had surely left Japan never to return; and why would they? Before the war the leaders didn't like the

people dancing, but now after the war they wanted us to dance. What fools. I felt angry and with a scarf to cover my scarred face, I went to go watch the dancers. There were many people gathered, but there was no spirit in their dancing. I watched thinking what fools they were – what fools all of us were. I took one of the shamisens and began to play it maniacally. I shouted out at them: "You are fools! We are all fools!" Suddenly many of them were dancing around me and we started off through the streets shouting at everyone that: "Fools are dancing and fools are watching too. Both are fools, why not dance!" Soon there were thousands of us dancing. We danced for three days. I don't remember the exact moment it happened, but my anger left me and never returned...but the bomb's touch...I would never stop feeling that...

NOKOMIS LANES

- Bowling Center -

Watch for specials
on our signs



4040 Bloomington Ave. S. ▪ 612-827-1781

Sister Sludge

coffee cafe

4557 Bloomington Ave.
612-722-3933



Best Steak House

- MORE THAN JUST STEAK -
FISH, CHICKEN,
GREEK SALADS, GYROS
AND MORE...

5455 Nicollet Ave. S. • 612-824-1300

\$1.00

off your next dinner
with copy of this ad

Expires: 9/15/04

Twin City Tennis Supply

Racquet Sports Specialist
Since 1939

Kevin MacDonald
4747 Chicago Ave. S.
Minneapolis
612-823-9285 ▪ 800-503-6683
www.tctennis.com



10% Off
Next Purchase
w/copy of this ad