

bars & taverns



The Hayloft's hokey hardware

The Hayloft
5411 E Mill Plain Blvd.
(Tower Mall)
Vancouver, Wash.

What can you say about a tavern that occupies the last office space in a shopping center? That it has atmosphere problems--and with the Hayloft those problems don't stop once you get inside.

At the door you're met by uniformed "Oregon Security Patrolmen," who are going to be certain to check your identification, even if your 35-year old daughter is with you. From there things get worse, still.

The tavern is built with largeness in mind (its one selling point is its 1200 person seating capacity) but to achieve that size you've got to sacrifice a lot. The Hayloft did.

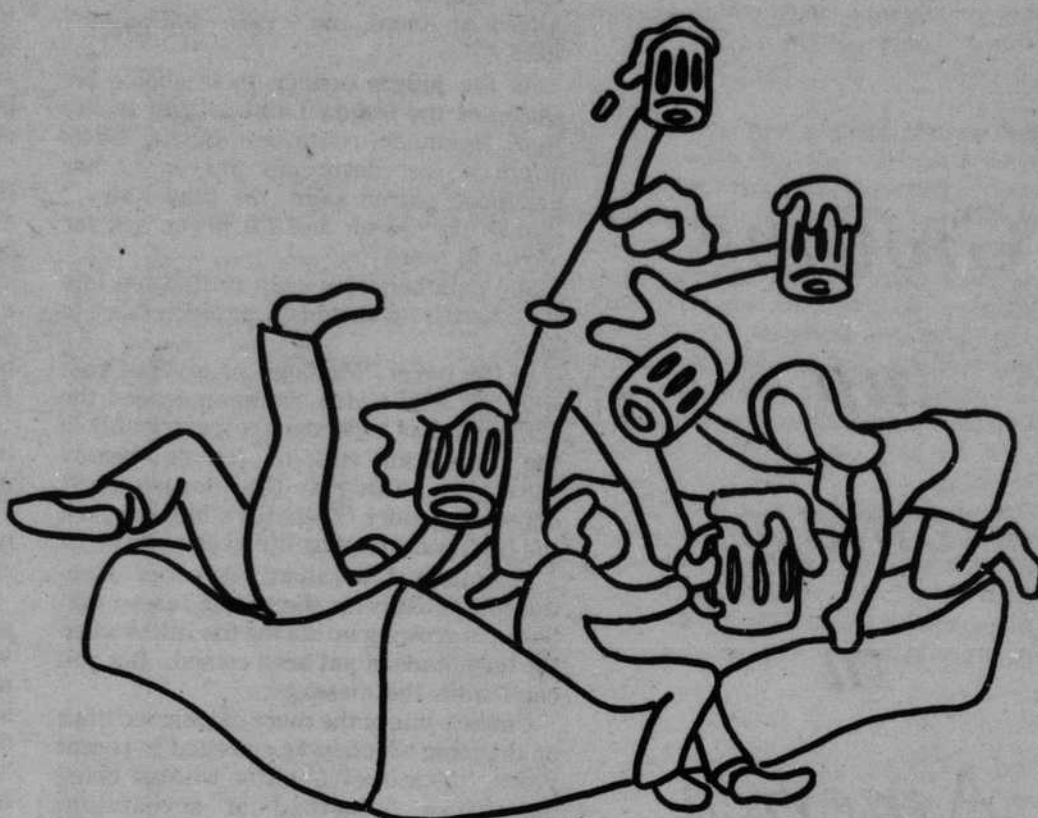
Being inside this tavern is like being in a large warehouse. That in itself wouldn't be so bad, but the owners tried to make the place "cozy" by covering every square inch of wall space with old farm implements. (Get it, the Hayloft?)

The result is pure schmaltz.

The one good thing about the place is that it's in Washington and that state--like most others--sells you a pitcher when they sell you a pitcher, not the large glass you get in Oregon.

The Faucet
6821 SW Beaverton
Hillsdale Hwy.
Beaverton, Ore.

This small Portland area tavern does one of Oregon's highest volume beer



The Faucet's fantastic water bed

businesses annually. Once you've been inside, it's easy to see why--The Faucet is simply a nice place to be and a nice place to drink.

All kinds of atmospheric gimmicks--hanging bamboo chairs at the bar, a water bed at one of the tables, live music and an outstanding games area--help the beer go down easier, even if it is Blitz.

The high point of the games area is a

nifty one-on-one confrontation called "Air Hockey," which requires quickness and good reflexes. With the amount of popularity this game has in Portland, it's somewhat surprising a Eugene tavern hasn't latched onto one before now.

If one were brought here, its novelty would probably make it a better draw than a pool table (which is about the same size).

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