

... and some of the rest

faculty with current ID. Thursday night is ditto for LCC.

The specials and the easy walk from campus are the best to be said for Lyon's. The decorators strove for the comfortable look of a den and failed, with an interior of wood grain formica and rust-toned vinyl.

The drinks are even tastier when you think of the price.

Jo Federigo's
259 East 5th
343-8488

Daily Happy Hour Monday through Friday from 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., with well drinks, beer and wine at two-for-one prices. From midnight to 1 a.m. Sunday through Thursday and 4-7 p.m. weekdays, all drinks two-for-one. Free hors d'oeuvres are offered from 5:15-6:45 p.m. Opens at 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Price range of mixed drinks \$1.75 to \$2.85.

Jo Federigo's is an intimate cellar bar beneath an upstairs restaurant. Whatever the time, the lighting is subdued, as if the place wears sunglasses. An old Wurlitzer jukebox is stocked with tunes from the '40s and '50s. Live piano jazz from a three-piece combo is refreshingly different. It's a shame there's no real dance floor. Small nooks off the main room allow for conversation that doesn't compete with the music.

The drinks were wonderful. The juice in the Mai Tai had been freshly squeezed, and the margarita didn't fade after the first sip. The younger, casually dressed crowd had the place three-quarters full on a Monday night.

The Hilton Encore
Sixth and Oak
342-2000

No regular Happy Hours. Ladies' Nights 5-7 p.m. Monday through Thursday. Each night features a different mixed drink for only 75 cents. Monday — strawberry or peach daiquiris. Tuesday — champagne cocktails. Wednesday — margaritas. Thursday — tonics. Hors d'oeuvres at half price. Drinks cost \$2 and up.

Prices at the Encore paralleled the elevation, \$3.25 for each drink, the highest for the evening. The Hilton Mai Tai was mediocre, but the Spanish Coffee

(tequila and coffee) was sweet and strong. While nursing a drink, you can catch a glittering view of the lights of Eugene's downtown and South Hills.

The interior of the bar is much more soothing. Baby spotlights running along the ceiling highlight colorful silkscreened graphics on beige walls. Chrome fixtures and furniture, plus plenty of mirrors in back of the bar give the Encore a high-tech feel, but there's country on the juke box.

The Vet's Club
1626 Willamette
345-3261

No Happy Hours, Ladies' Nights, or specials. Live entertainment Friday and Saturday nights.

Some people say The Vet's Club is the best bar in town. It's certainly the cheapest and the drinks are strong. Well drinks start at \$1 and rarely go past \$2, unless you want something special. A Myers rum and orange juice is only \$1.60. The decor is straight 1950s tacky, the room is dark and always thick with smoke. The crowd is a mixed bunch of senior citizens, students and blue collar workers. Everyone gets along just fine. Not for the faint of heart, or for those who are looking for a chi-chi atmosphere. But if you're looking for real character, you can't miss.

The Excelsior Cafe
754 East 13th Ave.
342-6963

No Happy Hour. Well drinks \$2, wine \$1.75 per glass, blended drinks starting at \$2.50. Live entertainment every other Sunday evening.

At last we come to the Excelsior Cafe, well-known in these parts for its casual elegance and good food. It's an easy walk from campus to a French cafe atmosphere.

The bar is light and airy, an excellent place for an afternoon refresher or a late night coffee laced with something good. Fruit drinks are made with fresh fruit and well blended. The Mai Tai was blended, an unusual but delightful change.

By Sally Oljar
and William Kogut
Photo by Mark Pynes

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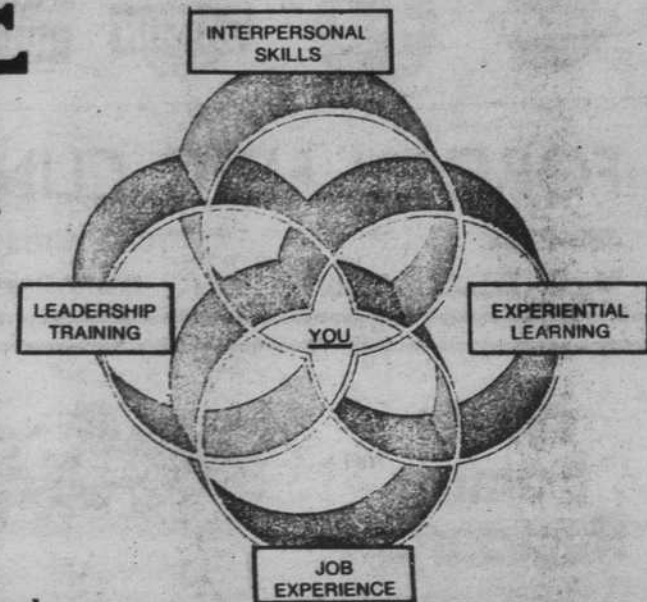
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