

Don't tear
your hair
out about
a cut.
See inside.



THE Friday EDITION

Oregon daily emerald

arts & entertainment

January 11, 1985

HIDEAWAYS



Quackers Cafe— like goin' home

The breakfast experience at Quackers Cafe near campus is a lot like taking a trip back to Grandmother's kitchen.

The cafe's windows are decorated with cheery curtains bordered in blue and white gingham, and there is a different picture on every wall. Toward the back is a nook that houses self-serve coffee, tea, ketchup, jelly and so on, as well as rack of well-read papers and magazines.

Story by Julie Shippen
Photos by Brian Erb

From the cozy tables tucked into each corner, to the heaping plates of good, "honest" cooking dished up, the atmosphere this home-style restaurant exudes is, in every way, the sensory delight of Grandma's.

The only difference here is that "Grandma" wears a mustache, sports a button-down cap and goes by the name of "Bob" — Bob Hager, that is.

Hager started the small business, a little more than a year ago, he says, under the theory that a cafe that is comfortable, reasonably priced and health-conscious would be successful in attracting the local folk.

So far his theory seems to be paying off, as Hager claims he now has more than 300 regular customers, many of whom are

happy to wait if all of the five tables are occupied — and they usually are.

"I go there a lot because it's comfortable, inexpensive and you get huge portions of food," says Bob Webb, a regular at Quackers. "Bob (Hager) creates a very relaxed atmosphere. Even in the rush times, there's never a feeling of pressure there."

The most popular item on Quackers' menu is undoubtedly the "Morning Breakfast Special," an almost overflowing plate of eggs, toast, "home-fries" and fruit for the mere sum of \$1.25. Add to that a "never empty" cup of coffee for 30 cents, and you've got a bargain that Hager serves all day.

"I know a lot of people who are looking for a good deal come here," he admits. "A lot of them say they couldn't eat if it wasn't for Quackers."

Hager estimates between 60 and 70 percent of his customers are students and the remaining number are local business people. Although he appears somewhat shy at first, Hager says it is his priority to get to know his customers and make them feel welcome.

"It seems like we have a mixture of about every kind of person coming in. Most of them are very friendly — just like family," he says. "We can usually break the ice around here."

Continued on Page 4B

More places to hide

A roommate is practically an inevitable element of student life — sort of like Top Ramen and textbooks. Roommates are great; I have two and I think they're both pretty terrific...most of the time.

Of course, there are those hours when I just need to get away from THOSE TWO, just as they, I'm sure, need to get away from me. A great neighborhood place to meet a non-roommate friend and do some of this healthy getting-away is Arnold's Hideaway, next to the Hair Loft at 1461½ East 19th Ave.

The Hideaway is run by the same folks that own Arnold's Sandwich Shop just around the corner. It's decorated in a comfortable, though definitely not chic, manner (great for conversation) and has outdoor tables for warmer evenings.

The specials are great: on Mondays the second pitcher of beer ordered is half-priced; on Tuesday free pretzels are within hand's reach; on Wednesday a small order of nachos is free with a pitcher; on Thursday there are 25 cent hot dogs; and on Friday bottled beer is marked down 20 percent. Saturday's special is half-priced draft beer from 6-8 p.m., with half-priced house wine from 4 p.m. to midnight.

Arnold's Hideaway is open from 4-11 p.m. daily, except on Fridays and Saturdays when it stays open until midnight.

Kim Carlson

Back in the dorm days I sometimes ventured to Sambo's out on Franklin Boulevard to drink coffee and read Dickens or someone (and to give my roommate a break). Now Sambo's is gone, but there is another good hideaway in the same neighborhood: On the northeast end of campus in the McKay's Market area is an inconspicuous eatery, formally known as The Butcher Block Delicatessen and Sandwich Shoppe.

Since opening up a few years ago, the Butcher Block has catered to the local dorm population — mostly because of its proximity to campus. Also students can take advantage of the deli's featured campus-area delivery for orders totaling \$3 or more.

The deli's "Hide-A-Way Dining Room" is a suitable place to study (nothing heavy, of course) or to simply do nothing. With its roomy "hanging basket décor," the Butcher Block provides unobtrusive surroundings along with a relatively comprehensive and reasonably priced deli fare; most of the sandwiches are priced between \$2 and \$4 and are made with a choice of four cheeses, lettuce, tomato, mustard and mayonnaise to the customer's request.

The Butcher Block is open from 10 a.m. until 1 a.m. Monday through Saturday, and from noon until 1 a.m. on

Continued on Page 5B