

# □ THINGS TO DO

## Best coffee houses provide more than java

The coffee house is a place of sanctuary for many students, providing a site to study, eat, relax or socialize when other facilities, like the library, do not

**Review by  
Steve Hoenisch**

have the capability to accommodate such needs.

Some coffee houses provide an atmosphere congenial to study, while others offer a more diverse environment that may include fast music and fast talk. But coffee houses are more than just a haven for study or socialization. They are a special place where lofty ideas are born, where theories are espoused, and where the heart of culture beats.

The coffee house evolved primarily as a European phenomenon in such cities as Vienna, Austria and Berlin. But wherever it transplants itself, the coffee house has always been a place with a special mood, a spirit all its own.

Cafes have often been a place for intellectual conversations, such as the existentialist cafes of Sartre's post-war France, for artistic gatherings, like the Dada cafes of wartime Germany; and a place for the planning of revolution — like the cafes of Seoul, South Korea, where the energy of opposition recently gathered pace resulting in significant steps toward social and political reconciliation.

Oregon, and particularly Eugene, has some killer coffee houses where a community's members can gather and converse. In fact, some of the finest coffee establishments in Oregon are concentrated near the University campus, due primar-

ly to the large number of coffee drinkers among the student population.

Prominent coffee-drinking establishments near campus include some oriented toward day-time customers and some directed at night-time patrons, but one common trait permeates all the coffee houses: the provision of a place to sit and enjoy a cup of Joe.

The following is a rundown on some of the campus-area cafes, including their distinguishing characteristics and most admirable features.

**The Beanery, located at 719 E. 14th Ave.** is more of a day-time coffee house than late-night, but it is still among the options available to the coffee drinker until 10 p.m.

The Beanery offers a rich variety of coffees, teas and other

amenities — such as Ferragosto truffles — particularly attractive to the connoisseur. The Beanery also lists certain food items on their menu, including breakfast specials, bagels with cream cheese, and desserts. Among breakfast entries, the "Basic Breakfast," which includes two eggs, potatoes and a bagel, is a fairly good deal. Beginning this year, the Beanery also will serve items from a new lunch menu until 8 p.m.

In regard to coffee, the Beanery has one of the best selections of any cafe in town. In addition to the house blend, this restaurant has espresso, cappuccino, and other specialty brews. For example, Cafe Russe, a combination of espresso, whipped cream and hot chocolate, is delicious as

well as stimulating.

The Double Beanery is a hearty blend of espresso and hot chocolate. It is the ultimate study drink, and is virtually guaranteed to keep one awake through even the most lengthy of cram sessions.

On the walls of the Beanery hang artwork by local artists, adding a special touch of local color to the decor. In regard to special entertainment, the Beanery occasionally provides local musicians for the listening pleasure of its patrons. These musical endeavors take place

either in the evening or the morning, and are generally relaxing to watch. During regular hours, tasteful music, such as X and Talking Heads, is played over the stereo system.

Generally speaking, the Beanery is frequented by University students who study, but it is a casual, yet lively place to socialize as well. As an added benefit, the Beanery is one of the few places on campus where the award-winning weekly newspaper Willamette Week is

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