

Coffee complaint



Geoff Garner protests low wages for coffee bean harvesters at Starbucks on 18th Ave. Saturday.

Beer displayed at festival

Scott Spielman
For the Oregon Daily Emerald

Thirty-six micro-breweries from as far away as Fort Collins, Colo., and Calgary, Canada filled the main exhibit hall at the Lane County Fairgrounds Friday and Saturday.

The 36 micro-breweries showcased 71 beers, ranging in flavor from the Trout Stout of the Fish Brewing Company of Olympia, Wash., to the Seven Sisters Hard Raspberry Cider from the Selkirk Cider Company in Sandpoint, Idaho.

Although darker beers have been more popular in the past, lighter, fruitier beers are gaining in popularity.

"Today I've sold more of the Lemon Lager," said a spokesperson for Saxer Brewing Company, who, in addition to the Lemon, exhibited its gold medal-winning dark, Three Finger Jack Hefedunkel. "By the time they come around here, people begin to shy away from the darker beer."

Local micro-breweries shared the trend of serving one dark and one lighter beer. High Street Brewery & Cafe served its popular Hammerhead and its unique Ruby Ale, while Steelhead exhibited its Steelhead Amber and fruity Bombay Bomber. Eugene's newest micro-brewery, Oregon Field's Brewing Company, displayed its Nomad Oatmeal Stout, and Maris-Otter Organic Heferzezen, an unfiltered rye ale.

Other exhibits included a malt tasting booth sponsored by Great Western Malting, suppliers of a majority of regional micro-breweries; and Oregon Hot Nuts, which sold spicy hazel nuts designed to be the perfect beer nut.

Beginning home brewers had the chance to take advantage of home brewing demonstrations and the Expo Brewschool, which included classes on "How to Get Started with Home Brewing," "All Grain Brewing," and "Beer Ingredients," as well as classes on beer styles. Guest speakers included author Fred Eckhardt and Larry Baush, editor of *Pint Post*, a magazine for brewers.

People who want to try their hand at brewing

By the time they come around here, people begin to shy away from the darker beer.

— SAXER BREWING COMPANY
Spokesperson

their own beer, but don't want to deal with the equipment or clean-up, had the opportunity to sign up for programs at specialized brewhouses that provide materials, supplies and assistance. Glisan Street Brewhaus in Portland, and Westside U-Brew in Beaverton, represented two of the three U-Brews in Oregon.

The idea, started in Canada and now growing in the United States, is that the customer can pay to use the facility's commercial brewing equipment, recipe and ingredients to brew their own beer. In the two-stage process, the customer brews the beer in about 90 minutes, then returns two or three weeks later with their own bottles to bottle it up. The average batch of beer yields 128-12 ounce bottles.

In addition to the beer exhibits, visitors were treated to live music from local bands, a sports bar area, and The Hungry Brewer Cafe, which featured food from the Treehouse Restaurant, Oregon Seafood, Coffee Corner, Potatoes, Peppers & Things and Track Town Pizza. The exposition also had a beer gear shop where visitors could buy shirts and hats advertising their favorite brewery or beer.

The Bogwater Ales Expo Express transported visitors from participating local pubs. The express stopped hourly at Steelhead Brewery, Rennie's Landing, Good Times Cafe and Bar, Fields Brewpub and Restaurant, the Eugene Red Lion Inn and Track Town Pizza. And for people who had sampled too much beer to be able to drive, a free taxi service was available.

Symposium presents results of homelessness study

Mara Stine
For the Oregon Daily Emerald

The results of a two-year study conducted by the Homelessness in Lane County Committee were presented at a symposium on homelessness Saturday in Eugene.

"We wanted to identify the homeless and what the stumbling blocks to helping homeless people are," said Penny Anderson, chairwoman of the homelessness committee.

Three different panels composed of local organizations that participated in the study presented the information. The symposium was sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Lane County.

Tabulating percentages of the homeless is impossible because the definition of homeless varies from a drunk sleeping on a sidewalk to a brother-in-law living in the backyard, said Wayne Ford of the Homeless Action Commit-

tee. However, more children and teenagers are being counted among the homeless, according to Gladys Belden of the homelessness committee. She said an estimated 500 teens are homeless in Eugene and 25 percent of the pregnant and parenting teens using Catholic Community Services are homeless.

"Renters don't want to rent to them, they are kicked out by their parents and sometimes the father of the child is a family member," Belden said.

Terry Falkenstern, of Eugene District 4J, said some homeless children go to five or six different schools a year, which makes it difficult for them to be educated.

Many homeless people are mentally ill, said Bonnie Tull, of the women's league. She said an estimated 50 percent of the mentally ill homeless is schizophrenic and that many are alcoholics and/or drug addicts. These

addictions increase the severity of schizophrenic symptoms and interfere with treatment, Tull said.

Susan Ban of Lane Shelter Care said 25 percent of their clients are homeless as a result of leaving an abusive spouse. She said the number of families calling for services increased 33 percent last year.

Marti Floyd, from First Place Families, described the snowball effect bills have, explaining that first the electricity and heat are shut off, and then the family is evicted.

"You're at the mercy of the landlord and utility company," said Anne Williams, from St. Vincent DePaul. "One raise in fees can put you out on the street."

Floyd said that having an address or phone number prevents people from getting jobs.

"People say, 'Why don't you just get a job?' but you can't put 'I live in my car or call me in my car' on an application," she said.

She also said many families include one full-time worker but that wages are too low to make ends meet.

Basic needs, such as getting mail, a hot meal, clean clothes or a shower, are not met, which makes it hard for the homeless to find jobs.

Ford also said the homeless are denied civil rights. He explained that not having an address prevents the homeless from registering to vote and getting photo identification, such as a driver's license, because applications require an address.

He also said police harassment is also a problem and that many homeless people are too intimidated to file complaints.

James McCoy, from the Lane County Housing Authority, said more affordable housing is needed. Norman Riddle, from the White Bird Clinic, that the high cost of meeting building codes limits the number of homeless from getting affordable housing.

He said "rubber stamp approval" is a middle-class standard, and people who are sleeping under bridges, in stairwells and ditches just want to be warm and dry.

Riddle said for the \$75,000 it takes to build one house, four or five homeless people could be sheltered if building codes were given leniency.

He also proposed an access center where the homeless could eat soup, get warm and talk to somebody.

Susan Ban, from Lane Shelter Care, said "We need a real living wage." She also said more affordable housing is needed because homeless families must wait six to eight weeks before units are available.

During her keynote speech, State of Oregon Representative Cynthia Wooten said she has proposed a \$2.5 million emergency housing fund increase as well as a \$350,000 state housing assistance program increase.

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