

# Steelhead: Pub offers wireless Internet

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"I hadn't thought about professional brewing before," Floyd said.

Now Steelhead is making a name for itself with distinctive ales with names to match. The four flagship ales created at Steelhead are Bombay Bomber IPA, Raging Rhino Red, Hairy Weasel Hefeweizen and the Barracuda Blonde, but throughout the year Floyd introduces seasonal and specialty brews like Peregrin Took IPA, on tap now, or Heatmiser in the winter.

Fans of the bitter flavor of hops will enjoy many of the ales brewed at Steelhead, such as specialty ale Hopasaurus Rex. Even traditionally malty ales, like the Raging Rhino Red, are considerably more bitter than other breweries. When the brewery opened the favorite drink was Hefeweizen, but Eugeneans' tastes have drifted toward bitter beers, resulting in a prominence of hops on the Steelhead menu, Floyd said.

Steelhead brews most of its ales and lagers with Northwest grown grains. With exceptions for imported grains for specialty beers, Floyd uses hops grown in the Yakima and Willamette Valleys. The malts are also grown in the Northwest.

Stopping into the Steelhead for a pint may prove more adventurous than your average brewery, as Floyd introduces more experimental beers, including a chocolate stout

that contains chocolate, cinnamon and spicy peppers creating what he says is a Mexican-mole-flavor stout.

Since its opening in 1991, Steelhead has pulled in 23 awards at the Great American Beer Festival. Twelve of the award-winning beers were created at the original Eugene site, seven of those by Floyd himself. Starting with its first award for the Raging Rhino in 1991, Steelhead has brought home an award almost every year.

Steelhead distributes its four flagship ales around town at restaurants and at Emeralds' games, but to get the specialty award-winning ales you will have to pay a visit to the brewery itself, which has two branches in California.

Non-beer drinkers have no shortage of options. The bar offers mixed drinks and local wines, but to dip into the local flavor of the Steelhead Brewery, try one of their two root beers. Steelhead offers a bottled mild honey vanilla root beer and a spicier draft root beer on tap. Their root beers are made with pure sarsaparilla extract.

The food is standard northwest pub fare. Steelhead offers a variety of soups, sandwiches, pizza and pastas with an emphasis on seafood. The fish tacos, pecos chicken sandwich and the pizzas are some of the more popular menu items, according to Floyd. Many menu items, such as the Steelhead Stout Chili and beer-battered fish and

chips include Steelhead ales in the recipe. Steelhead also offers a few in-house desserts, including a mud pie and chocolate brownie.

Over the weekend Steelhead serves breakfast until 3 p.m. and offers several types of omelets and the standard eggs, hashbrowns and ham or bacon. Steelhead has lunch and dinner menus daily, and appetizers and pizza are available after 10 p.m.

"Steelhead's success is due to the fact that people feel comfortable hanging out here," Floyd said. The pub serves "business types to hippie types," Floyd said, and is open to minors as well.

The bar is a common site for University and other local organizations to have meetings, study groups or just hang out. Large groups of 12 to 20 can make reservations Sundays through Thursdays and will find several large tables for group meetings. Floyd also offers tours to groups that call ahead to schedule.


Students can take advantage of the Wi-Fi Internet connection. And what better way to beat the summer weather by replacing that hot coffee at the Wi-Fi café with a cold IPA at the Steelhead?

The Steelhead Brewing Company is open every day from 11:30 a.m. to 11 p.m. The brewery and restaurant is located at 199 E. Fifth Ave.

## Heads up Penny



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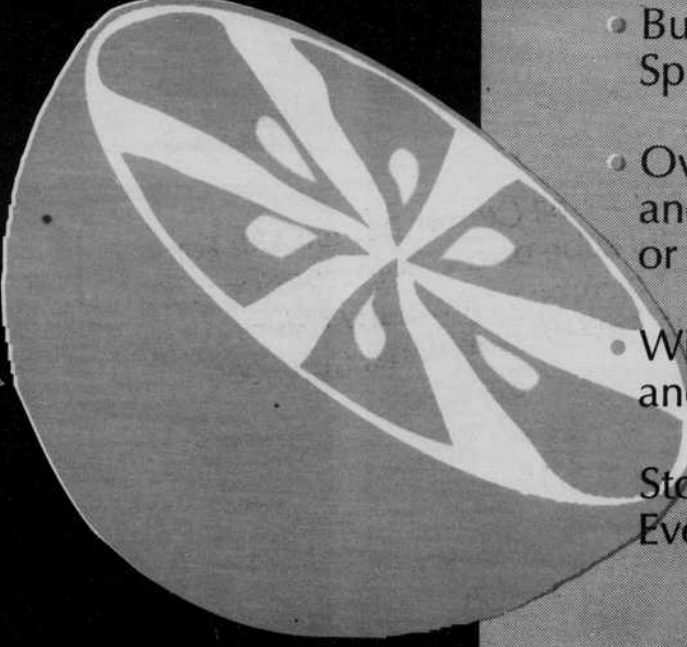


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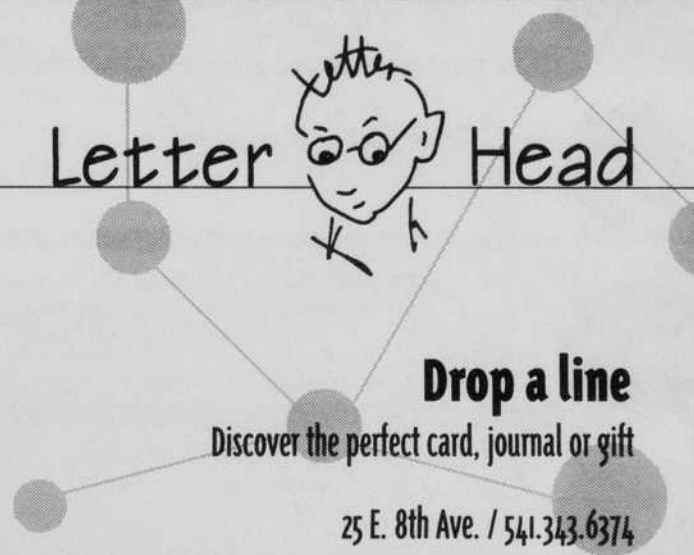
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