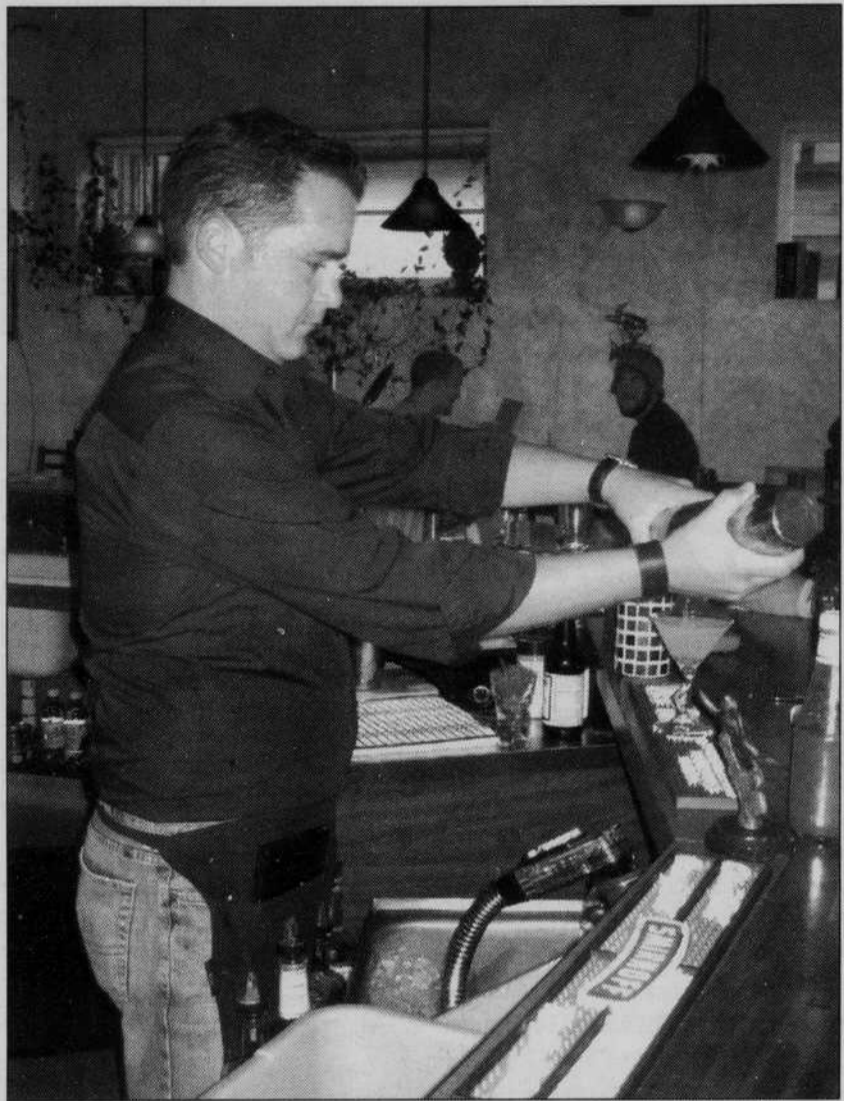


■ Restaurant review

Turtles: Shabby-chic mood meets with drinks and food



KRISTEN GERHARD | PULSE REPORTER

Bartender Tully Spring mixes a gin martini on a Sunday afternoon at Turtles Bar and Grill. Spring has been with the restaurant for about a week.

Kate Bonéy's Turtles Bar and Grill filled an open niche in South Eugene after a failed attempt as Pinot

BY KRISTEN GERHARD
PULSE REPORTER

In various cultures, the turtle has symbolized a number of things. Mayans believed the reptilian creature was the embodiment of Mother Earth. In Chinese lore, turtles stacked on the backs of one another represented new generations building on the lives that came before them.

In Eugene, a trip to Turtles Bar and Grill at 2690 Willamette St. will conjure up all new representations of the reptile: visions of tasty food, drinks with fresh-squeezed juices and an ambiance of calm familiarity.

"If Turtles were an outfit, I would call it shabby-chic," proprietress Kate Bonéy said of the restaurant she has operated for almost six years. "It's a very open environment. At any time of day or night, you'll see business men in three-piece suits, a mom with her kids after a soccer game or a couple dressed up for their first date. We even get some hippies that come in and

sometimes they smell funny, but you know, they sure eat well!"

Originally, Bonéy opened a more upscale restaurant called Pinot's in the location Turtles now occupies. She said the food was beautiful, something that belonged in a maga-

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Chōkōsai Eishō, Eizan of the Takeya, c. 1790s, on loan from the Weatherspoon Art Museum, the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

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