

box. Anyway, point is, the real team deciding on what wins Best of Eugene is composed of hundreds of players, and that team is you. Don't accept substitutes.

BEST PICK-UP LINE FOR EUGENE COPS

"My union's got my back. Do you want my front?"

BEST DOORS OF DOWNTOWN TO DARKEN (DAYTIME EDITION)

OK, you told us you love the Lord Leebrick, McKenzie Outfitters, Down to Earth, Kiva and Davis', and we so agree, but we also love countering those who live in the outskirts and think downtown is scary by telling our tales of excellent little downtown businesses. For the vino enthusiasts, of course, there's Oregon Wine Warehouse, the Broadway and Kiva within a few-block range; there's the wonderful service and quirky, fun recommendations of James and Amelia at Books Without Borders; there's the less-wonderful service but interesting food at the Savoy Truffle; there's people-watching from the benches by the Jacobs Gallery after you get one of Café Perugino's gelatos or lattes; there's the slightly oily smell but generally good food of Park Street Café; there's the insufferably adorable stuff at Letterhead; there's the sweet reused baby goods at Bambini; there's lavender aplenty at Gervais Salon; there's mushroom biscuits 'n' gravy at Morning Glory and yummy omelettes at Keystone Café; there's the newly pretty

Amtrak Station with its funtabulous local art (and stupid parking policies) ... we even heart the post office, at least most of the time. Why aren't you people hanging out in the already functional, already interesting, already full of places to park downtown?

BEST DOORS OF DOWNTOWN TO DARKEN (NIGHTLIFE EDITION)

Honestly? It's hard to pick: John Henry's, for concerts, strong drinks and pinball? (Oh, and '80s Night. Did we mention '80s Night?) Luckey's, the oldest bar in Eugene? Jameson's, for cheap bar eats and a superb atmosphere? Eugene City Brewery, for trivia and bingo and Rogue pints? Luna, for classy drinks and mellow tunes? Horsehead, for the food you guys voted Best Bar Food, for pool, for spacious outdoor seating and Eugene's Best Bartender, Ty Connor? The Moxie, for style, cocktails and atmosphere? Davis', for their fantastic mash-up of dining room and dance floor? The WOW Hall, for a huge variety of concerts and their totally underrated little bar? The Vintage, for sweet cocktails and tiny, perfect fries? We think our point is made — and there are still other establishments we could mention. You'll

understand, we hope, if we're a bit tired of a certain snobby, dismissive attitude toward the heart of Eugene's nightlife. Now, if you don't mind, we're heading out for a drink.

BEST EXCEPTION TO THE WORST RESTAURANT SERVICE WIN

You've voted, we've counted, and you (rather exuberantly) dubbed McMenamins the home of Eugene's worst service. But you clearly meant to write "except Dan Schmid" on those ballots. The tall, lanky musician-slash-waiter is friendly, funny and seems unaware that something like "stress" exists in the world. If you order a beer he thinks you might not like, he might ask, "Do you want to try a little sippy first?" Going to High Street and not getting Dan as your waiter — OK, that you can complain about. But the guy deserves a gold star.

BEST NEWS FOR YOUR THROBBING SHIN SPLINTS

The fresh layer of woodchips on the Amazon/Rexius trails. While the softer surface may make your splits slow a few notches, eventually the tread will get packed

after the winter rains and will revert back to its firmer, faster, less smelly self. Just in time to show off for the Olympic Trials!

BEST WAY TO PISS OFF LONG DISTANCE RUNNERS WHO VALUE TRADITION

Start the Eugene Marathon *outside* of Hayward Field and finish the race at a football field parking lot, home of some, uh, real good running (or should we say *rushing*) memories.

BEST PSEUDO-RIVAL PLACE TO GET OUTTA TOWN TO

From its flourishing downtown (made up of local businesses, top to toe) to its sweet downtown park; from its activist nature to its scientific grounding, we like the town that is Corvallis. Then there's the theater at the Corvallis High School, a theater that hosts acts from Ladysmith Black Mambazo to Greg Brown along with high school musicals and plays — it's a training ground for aspiring costumers, lighting designers, state managers and fly guys (and gals) of all stripes, and the kids run the place like pros. OK, we don't love the forestry department (though we're happy that our own James Johnston has infiltrated the clearcut-lovin' place), and if push came to shove, we might want the Ducks to win any sports battles, but otherwise we'd be happy to hang out in the little place of cuteness that is Corvallis (and maybe hike in some of the glorious parks near the town) before returning to our bigger, more traffic-focused, just as timber-controlled city.

CREDIT WHERE CREDIT IS MORE THAN DUE

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