

Restaurant review



Coffee Culture offers more than caffeine

By MICHELLE DELKA
Staff Reporter

Students returning to campus this week have a pleasant surprise waiting for them. A new coffee place, Coffee Culture, 1311 O St., opened about a month and a half ago. The friendly staff of Coffee Culture appears ready to serve the incoming UNL staff and faculty with the freshest roasted coffee in town.

Coffee Culture is an easy walk from campus and has a great atmosphere, perfect for studying or a much-needed chat with a friend. It's a refreshingly hip new place that should do well in Lincoln.

When you first walk into the Coffee Culture, you might be surprised by how narrow the shop is, but co-owner Greg Looney says the design of the shop is reminiscent of the older coffee bars of Europe. Although seating looks slim from the front of the shop, seating is available in the back.

Coffee Culture has 11 espresso

drinks to choose from, including the strong and flavorful pressed Viennese and the chocolatey white mocha. They also have four brewed coffee drinks and several specialty drinks to choose from. No matter what you are thirsting for, the Coffee Culture will have it.

Near the back of the shop is a large menu devoted to whole bean varieties of coffee. I was amazed at all of the coffee choices. Coffee Culture prides itself on having coffees from all over the globe.

Coffees are featured from Guatemala, Eurasia, South America, Africa, North America, the West Indies and the Middle East. The staff seems knowledgeable about the various blends and was helpful in explaining the differences between the coffees.

Loose-leaf teas can also be found for those wanting a milder treat. Caffeinated and decaffeinated varieties will be sure to please even the pickiest tea lovers. You can even smell the tea leaves and herbs before making your selection to ensure that you are satisfied.

I brought a friend for this assign-

ment because I am not a coffee connoisseur. He tried the yemen mocha java, a blend of three different coffees. He rated the yemen, served in a large glass coffee mug, two thumbs up, a high mark from my experienced coffee companion.

Keep in mind that this place isn't just for the coffee connoisseur. I sampled the hot chocolate and it wasn't just your plain old cup. It was served in a large mug with a dollop of whipped cream and topped with hand-shaved chocolate. It was just the right mixture of chocolate and was the smooth treat I was looking for. I gave it two thumbs up and will be back for more. I might even try the white hot chocolate next time.

I recommend the Coffee Culture to all. It is open from 6:30 a.m. until midnight Monday through Thursday, and until 2 a.m. on Friday and Saturday. It's a great place to stop on your way home from the bars. Don't wait until later in the semester when you need a quick caffeine fix to try this place. I recommend you experience it soon.

Pointless plot of 'Very Brady Sequel' leaves audiences less than impressed

By ANN STACK
Senior Reporter

Maybe last year's "The Brady Bunch" was such a big hit because no one expected it to be.

It was fresh and innovative in its satire. It parodied the squeaky-clean '70s TV sitcom right down to the platform shoes and oversized belt buckles.

It didn't take itself at all seriously, and that's what made it so darn funny.

It made all of us twenty-somethings feel a bit nostalgic for the days when the Bradys rocked our world.

That's why it hurt so much to see the sequel, aptly titled "A Very Brady Sequel," fall short.

Way short.

The sequel picks up with the cast from the first movie reprising their roles. Carol's (Shelley Long) presumed-dead first husband Roy (Tim Matheson) shows up and moves in with the bunch. The boys think he's groovy in a hip, happenin' kind of way, and

the girls are glad to have daddy back.

Roy, of course, is an imposter and scam artist who kidnaps Carol and takes her to Hawaii. The family takes off in hot pursuit after her, enjoying a bit of that "Good Time Music" in the aisles of the airplane.

The problem is, the plot (as it were) isn't the central force behind the movie. In fact, it's hard to tell exactly what the force behind the sequel is.

Arlene Sanford, making her directorial debut, doesn't seem to know either. There are plenty of lame sex jokes the Bradys don't get and plenty of bad '70s fashions. But what's missing here is the interaction between '90s culture and the blissfully unaware Bradys the first movie had.

Instead, we get tons of unfunny references to plots from the original TV series, like Greg's surfing accident, the tiki doll, the tarantula, Tiger the family dog and even poor, misguided cousin Oliver. But the jokes never hit the mark — not even a die-hard Brady fanatic would laugh.

The only thing the movie takes a chance with is the burgeoning, twisted

The Facts

Film: "A Very Brady Sequel"
Stars: Shelley Long, Gary Cole, Tim Matheson
Director: Arlene Sanford
Rating: PG-13
Grade: C-
Five Words: Groovy factor low in sequel

romance between Greg (Christopher Daniel Barnes) and Marcia (Christine Taylor).

Not one member of the original cast makes a cameo appearance, only career-stagnant '90s celebs like Zsa Zsa Gabor, David Spade and RuPaul show up.

On a positive note, Matheson has some witty one-liners, and the cast does a superb job of portraying the clueless clan. If they could've played off some '90s characters instead of each other, maybe the movie wouldn't be such a waste.



PHOTO COURTESY OF PARAMOUNT PICTURES

THE BRADYS vacation in Hawaii in their latest groovy sequel, "A Very Brady Sequel."

Comics join Daily Nebraskan

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in Los Angeles.

"It's kind of like vomiting on paper," he said. "I took the leap into making fun of how stupid I am rather than how stupid other people are. That's when it started clicking."

Jantze said he has already started receiving fan mail at his home in San Anselmo, Calif., but is surprised mail is coming from people as young as 13, since the syndicate told him they wanted the strip to be geared toward Generation Xers.

But Jantze said he's not sure what to make of the label, since at 34 he doesn't consider himself a member of either Generation X or the Baby Boomers.

"Cutting edge humor just isn't me," he said. "I'm not good at underground comics. 'The Norm' is a happy medium."

Perhaps the most cutting edge of the Daily Nebraskan's new comics is Chad Strawderman's "The Deep End."

The Daily Nebraskan will be one of only five papers in the country, all college dailies, to carry the strip, which Strawderman created this summer.

Strawderman said he takes an "everyman" approach to the strip, not even giving the main character a name or revealing what his job is about.

"It could be anyone doing any-

thing," he said. "He's out in the world with no direction."

Strawderman said the strip is a new concept for him. For the past three years, he said, he has written a different strip called "Big Fun" for the Daily Wildcat at the University of Arizona in Tucson where he is an art design major.

He said he emphasizes the art of "The Deep End" by drawing each frame from a different point of view.

"That's sometimes more work," he said. "But there's no boredom factor from drawing the same frame four times. This is more exciting."

The strip will probably be more popular with college students, he said, since there is often a dark feel to it.

He said the strip is not the type that's likely to be picked for syndication, "but that's not necessarily where the best humor is."

"Newspaper comics are years behind what actual life is about," he said.

He said he has tried to get into syndication before with "Big Fun" and other strips, but now wants to see if he can make a living selling "The Deep End" to college newspapers and alternative weeklies to avoid the syndication middle man.

"I really want to see if I can do this on my own," he said. "Approaching it that way is better because you can be truer to what you draw. If you like it that's what matters."

Bands featured at State Fair

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enjoy yourself," he said. "We see a lot of kids at our shows. Anyone with an open mind will find something in the songs they'll like."

UNL students can see that energy live when Daniels performs at 8 p.m. in the Bob Devaney Sports Center. The bonus is, for just \$7, they can stay to see Lincoln's premier party band Lie Awake.

Lie Awake, also known for its high-energy shows, performs at 9:30 p.m. at the Grandstand.

They play many Top 40 covers from the 1980s, as well as some classic rock tunes and alternative songs. Basically, everything from the Violent Femmes to Aerosmith is up for grabs.

For the die-hard music fans, The Rumbles will play in the open-air auditorium at 6 p.m. With \$7 and some energy, fair-goers could catch all three acts.

That's not bad for the first day of school.

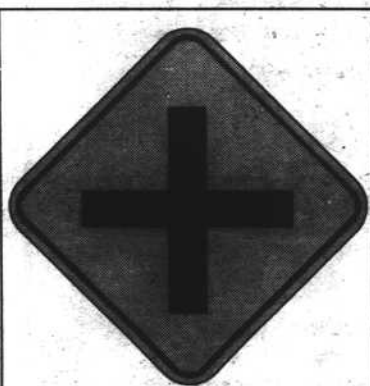
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