

# Panera rises among classy Lincoln bakeries

By J.J. Harder  
Staff Writer

It's part Garden Café, part street-corner deli, and part Starbucks. Panera Bread Co. has come to town. And what more appropriate place than South Pointe Pavilion?

Panera is a chain of bakery/cafes that was founded in St. Louis and has spread to 26 states. Omaha has two locations, making it one step ahead of its kid sister Lincoln.

At first glance, Panera seems like an expanded Barnes & Noble coffee bar, but you won't find plastic-wrapped sandwiches in a refrigerated display here. Freshness is obviously what Panera has relied upon to become successful. So Panera's bread and butter is its bread and butter, so to speak. But that's just where the menu begins.

There aren't any extravagant dishes with words like flambé or Marsala; Panera just serves solid soups, salads and sandwiches. But these aren't the types of sandwiches you'd get at the Sandwich Factory or the Sawmill Deli.

I always feel like I'm getting

ripped off there because I could make the sandwich myself for a third of the cost.

But at Panera, the unique breads take away that notion. There are 11 sandwiches, including everything from Tuscan Chicken to Peanut Butter & Jelly. These are big sandwiches, like Schlotzsky's, but better-tasting and more fun.

The Bacon Turkey Bravo is a perfect example of a sandwich that could have been boring — bacon and turkey are not exactly exciting.

But Panera's addition of Gouda cheese and the flavorful Tomato Basil Bread made it excellent. Same story with the Smoked Ham and Cheese. A few bean sprouts and rye bread made it out of the ordinary.

Panera offers four soups a day, including Cream of Chicken and Wild Rice and Vegetarian Gumbo. The Potato Cream Cheese was hearty, but at the same time not very filling. The Chicken Chili tasted more like a liquid burrito than it did chicken or chili (I still don't know if that's good or bad). Panera also has five choice salads.

I hate coffee, so I didn't try

any, but they seemed to have everything you could ever want with the words latte or hazelnut in the name (What's a Caffe Borgia?). What really caught my eye was the smorgasbord of pastries Panera displayed behind glass.

If Willy Wonka ever opened a bakery, it would probably look like this. Chocolate cookies, huge muffins, glowing Danish pastries, bear claws the size of your head — I couldn't decide, so

I tried a little of everything. It tasted as good as it looked.

Behind the mouth-watering glass counter of treats is the wall of bread. Panera has pretty much every bread you could want — I hope. Swirl rye, French loaf, sourdough strip, asiago cheese, fiesta and many more. The bread is baked fresh daily at least, and probably more often. The Panera

Please see **PANERA** on 5

**REVIEW**

**PANERA BREAD CO.**

**WHERE:** 2940 Pine Lake Road

**WHAT:** Bakery/Café, \$5-8 per meal average

**BOTTOM LINE:** High-class bakery second only to Molan

**JULY JAMM 2000**  
**JULY 27-29**  
**GROUNDZERO**  
**Friday**  
**12th & N Streets**  
**Downtown Lincoln, NE**

<b>Thursday, July 27</b>	<b>Friday, July 28</b>	<b>Saturday, July 29</b>
5:00 - 6:30 Heartsmurrs	11:30 - 1:30 Faltones	11:00 - 12:30 Toasted Ponies
7:00 - 8:30 Rob Rio and Carl Sonny Layford	5:00 - 6:30 Prairie Cats	1:00 - 2:30 Doug Lynn and the Retreads
9:00 - 10:30 Rumba Club	7:00 - 8:30 LF Brian and the Zydeco Travelers	3:00 - 4:30 Randy McAllister
11:00 - 12:30 Roy Gaines	9:00 - 10:30 Deanna Bogart	5:00 - 6:30 Mark Sellings and the Famous Unknowns
	11:00 - 12:30 LF Ed and the Blues Imperials	7:00 - 8:30 Blue Riddin' with Ernie Smith
<b>Friday, July 28 (2nd Stage)</b>		9:00 - 10:30 Sista Monica
5:00 - 6:00 Randy Morse & Brazil		11:00 - 12:30 Walter "Wolfman" Washington and the Roadmasters
6:30 - 7:30 Baby Needs Shoes		
8:00 - 9:00 Darryl White Quartet		<b>Saturday, July 29 (2nd Stage)</b>
		12:30 - 1:30 Lincoln Light Opera
		2:00 - 3:00 Scott Victory Trio
		3:30 - 4:30 Nebraska Brass Quintet
		5:00 - 6:00 JJ Anderson
		6:30 - 7:30 Rusty White Trio
		8:00 - 9:00 Chris Coyne

Compassion. Is that too much to ask? One more class and you could graduate in August. One. The class that isn't being offered until next fall. There has to be another way. A better way. Before you rearrange your life and put off graduation until December, consider UNL's College Independent Study Program. You can complete a class in as little as 35 days and take your place at graduation. No joke. Call us at 472-4321 for a free catalog or visit our office at the Nebraska Center for Continuing Education, Room 269, 33rd and Holdrege St.

**KEEP AUGUST GRADUATION ALIVE**

OR SUFFER THE AGONY OF DA FEET.

UNL's most popular courses in:

- Accounting
- AG ECON
- Art History
- Broadcasting
- Classics
- Ecology
- Economics
- English
- Finance
- Geography
- History
- Human Development
- Management
- Marketing
- Mathematics
- Nursing
- Nutrition
- Philosophy
- Physics
- Political Science
- Psychology
- Sociology

Division of Continuing Studies • Department of Distance Education  
www.unl.edu/conted/dled

**Nebraska**  
UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA-LINCOLN

The University of Nebraska is an affirmative action/equal opportunity institution.

**Immerse Yourself in Romance this Summer at the**

**Nebraska Repertory Theatre**

**The Last Night of Ballyhoo**  
by Alfred Uhry  
opening July 7  
Johnny Carson Theater  
Lied Center 11th & Q

in rotating repertory with

**Picnic**  
by William Inge  
opening July 13  
Howell Theatre  
Temple Bldg. 12th & R

Clip this Coupon for \$2.00 off Individual Tickets to **The Last Night of Ballyhoo or Picnic**  
Redeem at Lied Center Box Office  
Regular Ticket Prices: \$20 Patron, \$18 Faculty/Staff/Sr. Citizen, \$7 Student/Youth  
Not redeemable for cash. Not valid with any other offer. Valid 6/11/2000 - 8/6/2000

**\$2.00 OFF**

**\$2.00 OFF**

Ticket Information:  
(402) 472-4747  
In Nebraska:  
(800) 432-3231

**Nebraska**  
UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA-LINCOLN

Box Office Mailing Address:  
Lied Center For Performing Arts  
University of Nebraska-Lincoln  
301 North 12th Street  
P.O. Box 880151  
Lincoln, NE 68588-0151

Single Tickets priced from \$7.00 - \$20.00  
Box Office hours: 11 am-5:30 pm M-F