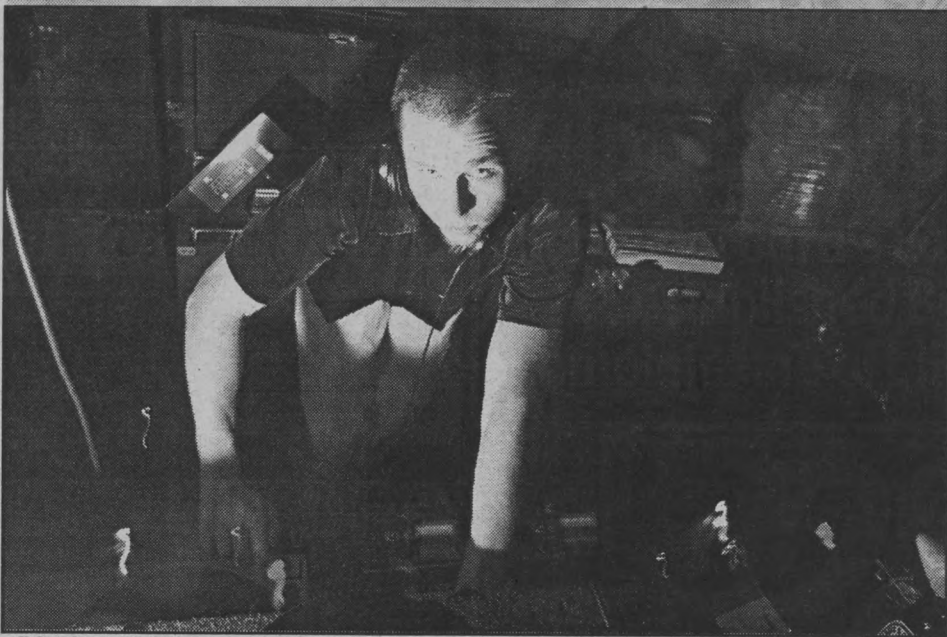


Weekend Connection



Photos By Jason Schock

Insane Fun at the Madhouse

Where do the artsy kids hang out on a party night? Madhouse! Known for sick live beats mixed by DJs that won't give you any of that overplayed "Better Off Alone" schmutz, Madhouse caters to a unique crowd. You don't get the "I-want-to-fight-you" vibe from the guys, and the women, well, they're real respectable-like. Just good people, having good fun in an atmosphere where you're likely to run into old friends and sure to meet new ones.

But let's talk about the music. They like to bring it loud, and they like to bring it funky. Madhouse is a place to get your dose of progressive techno, house, trance, drum 'n' bass, jungle and hip hop. You're not going to hear the Venga Boys nor Alice DeeJay; that's at the "other bars." DJs Q, Calvin, Wallace and others bring it to you live and in your face, forcing you to move your body whether you're getting your drink on or just popping in for a quickie. Can you say 805 Underground?

What about the people? Madhouse caters to a lot of cool cats from UCSB and the Brooks Institute, not to mention

See MADHOUSE, p.3A

An Eaters Guide to E-Bar

In an ongoing effort to ease the reader's important decisions, the Weekend Connection presents the Elephant Bar encyclopedia.

Epicure: That's me. The one *Webster* defines as "one with sensitive and discriminating tastes, especially in food or wine." I eat a lot, and I know what I like. My date for the evening likes food, too. He's been eating his entire life. Quite frankly, I think we're overqualified.

Elixirs: AKA drinks, including, but not limited to, margaritas, beer, cocktails and wines. The E-Bar has no shortage of these. Some specialties include the Jungletini, E-Tea and the Elephant Rampage — a blend of Captain Morgan spiced rum, DeKuyper Peach Schnapps, pineapple juice and cranberry juice over ice. Go ahead. Indulge. The E-Bar, located on Hollister Avenue by the Santa Barbara Airport is more conveniently located than lesser restaurants downtown, increasing the chances that a sober friend will come pick you up or that cab fare won't break your budget.

Entrees: Whatever you're craving, the Elephant Bar can handle. The menu is so large that when I held it up to look at the selections I couldn't see my date. Of course, at that moment I didn't care; I was completely absorbed in a tremendous decision-making process. Despite the restaurant's distinctly safari theme, the cuisine reflected a world of options — American, Mexican, Italian and Chinese options were listed. I selected the chicken fajitas; my date ordered sirloin steak with barbecue shrimp. The tiniest details were

See E-BAR, p.2A



E-BAR

Continued from p.1A

exceptional. The fresh garden salads arrived with what my date called "seriously good croutons" and warm rolls. Though delicious, these appetizers were mere teasers for the feast we were about to consume. The chicken arrived thinly sliced on a bed of grilled vegetables accompanied by warm tortillas and a plate of cheese, lettuce, guacamole, sour cream and salsa.

Ecstasy: Although as a general rule I find any dessert with more than two words in its name pretentious, I was tempted by the Guiltless Chocolate Peanut Butter Yogurt Pie and the Polynesian Island Coconut Cake. But when our waiter offered a Fudge Fudge Brownie (the second "fudge" necessary for accuracy, not emphasis), I couldn't resist the simplicity of chocolate and ice cream. It arrived standing 7 or 8 inches tall. It was a fudge brownie sandwich with hot chocolate in the middle and four generous scoops of vanilla ice cream and whipped cream sprinkled with chocolate shavings and sliced almonds towering above. It was more fun than I'd had all day and more dessert than the two of us together could finish.

Exercise: What I felt I needed after eating the Fudge Fudge Brownie.

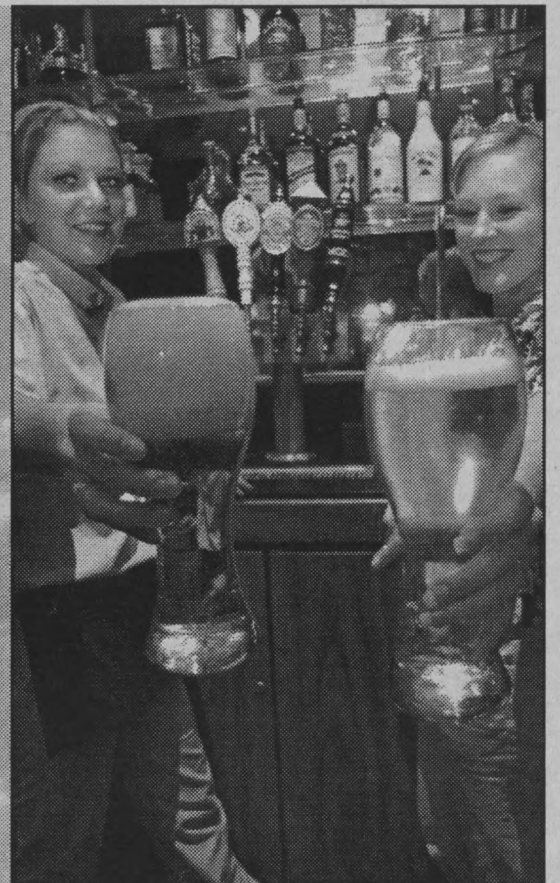
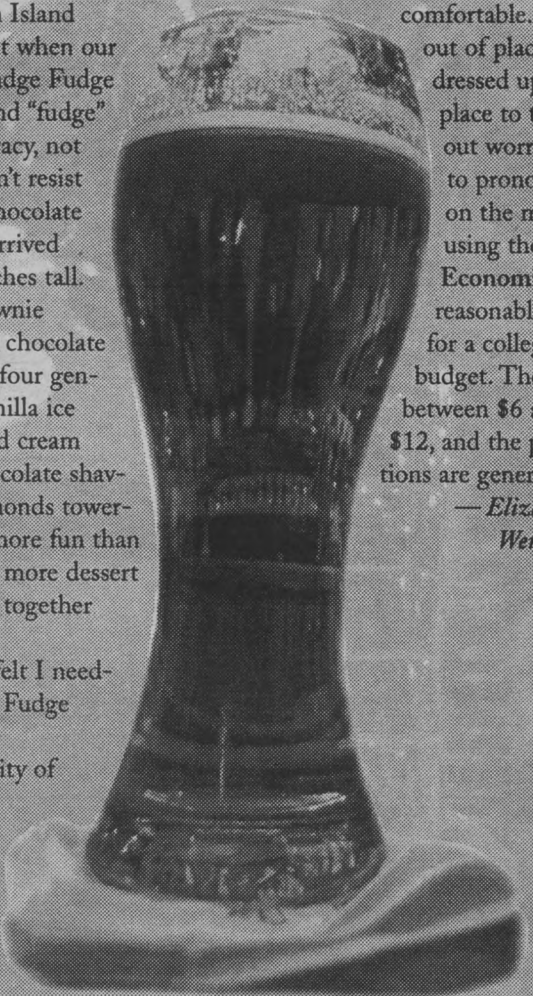
Expedient: A quality of the service. In the spirit of Halloween, our server, TJ, was wearing a sombrero and pon-

cho. He was friendly, accurate and always on top of things. The minute I took the last bite of my final fajita, he was at the table with more warm tortillas. Our drink glasses remained full. We never once had to ask, "Where did our waiter go?"

Entertainment: The bar is long and the clientele friendly. What more do you need than good food, good drink and good people? Patio seating is available for temperate afternoons or evenings, where you can watch the planes at the airport.

Etiquette: E-Bar is casual and comfortable. You won't feel out of place in jeans or dressed up. It's a nice place to take a date without worrying about how to pronounce something on the menu or if you're using the right fork. **Economics:** E-Bar is reasonably priced, even for a college student's budget. The average dinner costs between \$6 and \$12, and the portions are generous.

— Elizabeth Werhane



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MADHOUSE

Continued from p. 1A

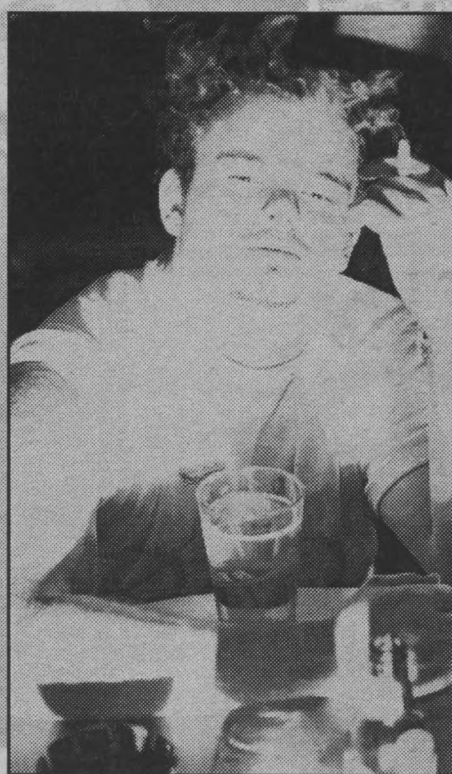
a host of other regulars. The first thing you'll notice about this bar is the friendly, tight-knit atmosphere among patrons and staff alike. True, many of the Madhouse customers are long-time, but even newcomers will feel at home after encountering the charm of bartenders like Carissa and Andre, and friendly security guys Josh and Joey.

ing your way through a horde to get your hands on a tasty beverage. Madhouse has room for you all. If the main bar room/dance floor gets too stuffy for your liking, take a trip out back to the open-air patio to partake in your vices, mingle or get even more drinks at the mini-bar! To top it all off, Madhouse is decorated in ultra-cool techno/retro/wacky style to feed the part of your brain that gets shut off while you're sitting in your cubicle.

And the bar? Drink specials up the yin, my friends! And don't worry about claw-

For great music, great people and great drinks, head to Madhouse bar on lower State Street, Santa Barbara. You won't just *feel* cool, you'll *be* cool.

— Jason Schock



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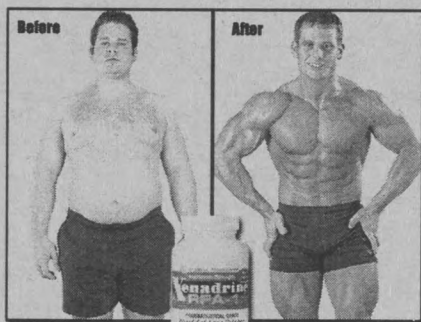
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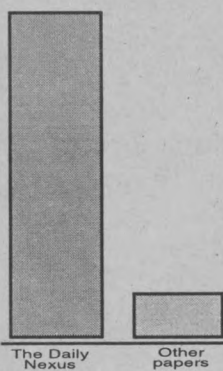
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