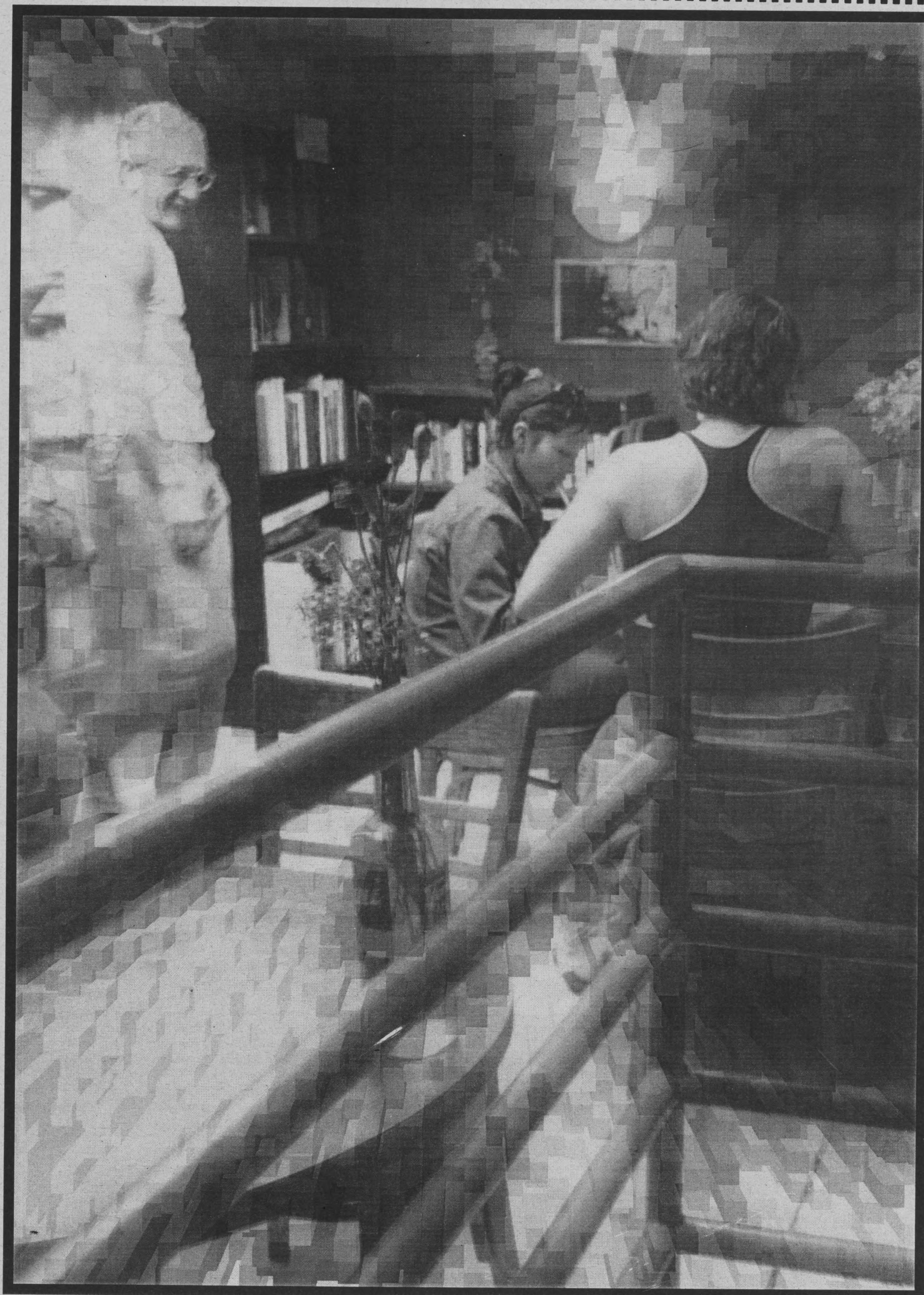


After Tearful Debate, Egotistical Soul-Searching, and Free Lunch, The Weekend Connection Proudly Endorses

Caffeine Addiction



The Weekend Connection Proudly Presents:

The following is a highly informative dossier of coffee shops in the Isla Vista and Goleta area.

Mojo Coffee

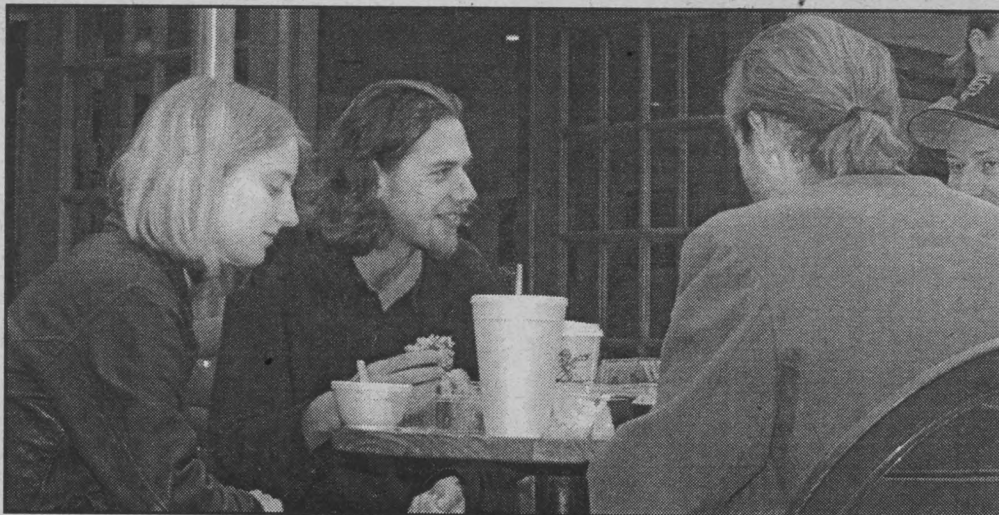
Location: 7127 Hollister Ave., next to Rite Aid
Hours: 6 a.m. to midnight, seven days a week
Why Why Why: Cuz cold goes with hot like sweet goes with honey.

Mojo is the newest in our wild bunch of coffee corrals. It's clean and pleasant. The art on the walls is interesting, but not insistent. The location, next to Rite Aid and Albertson's, puts it in the right place for a quick coffee after grocery shopping. And if you're hungry, they've got a sandwich bar, pastries and Stanton's bagels. But the highlight is their full selection of Ben and Jerry's pints. I asked them what flavors they had; they told me, "everything." Ice cream and coffee? Umm, yeah.

Espresso Roma

Location: 6561 Pardall Rd., I.V. You know where Roma is.

The Most Extensive Coverage of Santa Barbara Coffeehouses Ever!



Hours: 6 a.m. to midnight Mon.-Fri.; 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. weekends

Try Try Try: Try the pizza, try the salad, try the breakfast.

What's the rule of thumb for real estate? Location, location, location. Espresso Roma in Isla Vista is close to your house. It's closer to campus. And it's not far from the stranger's house you woke up in this morning. You should have gone to Roma and had their breakfast special. Assuming you're not a vegan, it would have filled

you to capacity. For \$4.50, you could have had two eggs, three (three!) strips of bacon, hash browns and a small coffee. Hell of a lot better than the pop tart you stole from the stranger's roommate.

Borders

Location: 7000 Marketplace Ave., Goleta
Hours: 10 a.m. to 11 p.m. Mon.-Sat.; 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sun. (same as the store)
Buy Buy Buy: Buy anything you can read or listen to.

Where else can you read very expensive glossy magazines and sip on fine coffee? In our area, nowhere. Borders (café inside a bookstore!) also provides a non-sense study area, where smart kids learn and understand things that the rest of us can't pronounce. If spending Dad's money on pricey art books has made you weary, take a load off. Have a joe. Have some cake, too.

Java Jones

Location: 6560 Pardall Rd., follow the clove smoke
Hours: Soon expanding to 6:30 a.m. to 1 a.m., seven days a week
Cry Cry Cry: After 1 in the morning, where are you going to get a Snickers mocha?

Java Jones has so much to offer. They have bulk candy for \$3.99 a pound. They have cigarettes in rainbow colors (Fantasias) and fancy flavors (cloves, deadly and yummy). They have a smiling helpful staff eager to serve you up a sweetalicious mocha or latte at nearly any hour you're likely to want one. All this and nice tables outside to watch the pretty people walk by.

Java Station

Location: 4447 Hollister Ave. (at the corner of Modoc)

Hours: 5 a.m. (wow) to 11 p.m., seven days a week
My My My: They wanted me to tell you they have sandwiches from Cantwell's.

Java Station is your all-purpose coffee emporium. With their all-inclusive hours, they serve the working souls in the morning and the college kids after dark. They've got scones and bagels. But as the name of the place says, coffee is the name of the game. Java Station is so serious about coffee that they're switching from Santa Barbara Roasting Company coffee to Caribbean brand coffee, because it's "richer." What this town needs is another cup of coffee, and make it rich.

Kung Pao Kitchen Will Kick Your Ass!

PHOTOS BY SKIP MOSS AND NICK HAGGARD / DAILY NEXUS



I was walking down Pardall Road to campus one day, ready to start another exciting day at the *Nexus*, when suddenly the smell of Chinese food overwhelmed my senses, taking away all rational thought. I found my feet turn, and I began to walk toward Kung Pao Kitchen, straight up to the counter. *What? I've walked by this place a million times and never have I had this overwhelming, uncontrollable urge to ... eat everything in the restaurant.* I figured there had to be a rational explanation — and there was.

The restaurant was recently bought by the same lovely people who brought you Ming Dynasty (that delectable place

over by K m a r t with all the really cool bamboo plants). Kung Pao Kitchen is the less expensive and quicker alterna-

tive when you feel that hankering for some really good Chinese, and can't get your car out from the driveway with 18 of your neighbor's vehicles behind it.

Featuring a wide array of Mandarin, Szechwan and Hunan cuisine, Kung Pao Kitchen offers an all-you-can-eat lunch and dinner buffet, as well as food to go

and delivery (after 5 p.m., with a \$10 minimum). Open seven days a week from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m., the lunch buffet is served Monday through Friday from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., and the dinner buffet is Monday through Sunday from 5 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

While the menu can be a bit overwhelming for those with little experience in Eastern cuisine (there are 117 dishes) take some advice from the expert:

For appetizers, go with the egg rolls and three shreds with sizzling rice soup. I personally don't do the whole beef thing, but my roommate tells me that the tender twice-cooked pork (\$6.99) and the delectable spicy Szechwan-beef (\$7.50) are both to die for. If you're in the market for a little seafood, try the kung pao or sweet and sour shrimp (\$7.99 each). There's always the need for some chow mein (soft

noodles, vegetarian, \$5.99) and if you're stuck with my boyfriend, you'll probably have to order the chicken fried rice, but I'd recommend the noodles. Call Kung Pao Kitchen at 968-9383 if you can't get your stoner ass off the couch and walk the three blocks ... either way, it's worth it.



Feed the Monkey! Feed the Monkey! Feeeeed the Monkey!



The Best Lower State Caffeine Dealers in Town

I am 22 years old, with the heart rate of a deer mouse, an ulcer as big as Jupiter's red spot and the hypertension of Don Rickles. I'm caught in a negative feedback cycle of: caffeine for cramming, cramming because I work, working to buy the coffee, the coffee for the caffeine. I blame all addictions on heredity and disavow myself of free will to change my behavior. I most likely will continue to do so through early adulthood and middle age in therapy sessions. I only hope my shrink has a coffee maker in his/her office.

Coffee was my gateway drug to espresso shots, and it wasn't long before I was playing a version of whiskey-down with random passersby on the street. In high school, I found a job at a coffee shop to feed my addiction for free. The caffeine and nicotine regimen that began so many years ago continues to this day and is a part of my former identity as much as it is a chemical addiction. And though it is admittedly pathetic to think of oneself in relation to a place that sells liquid energy devoid of nutritional value, where one buys his vanilla latte is a deeply personal decision.

Each coffeehouse, like the many different roasts, has a flavor all its own. You can tell a great deal about people by where they buy their caffeine. But if you haven't taken the time to find your personal coffeehouse home away from home, don't fret. The footwork has been done for you and I garnered some free coffee samples in the process. Gotta feed the monkey.

Cinema Café

Location: 935 State Street

Hours of Operation: Sun.-Thu. 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Fri. & Sat. 9 a.m. to 11 p.m.
Gestalt: Got any milk duds?

This relatively new addition to the State Street coffeehouse opened its doors in August of last year. The establishment is the synergistic vision of owners Dwayne and Lisette Kershner. After running a successful collectibles shop sandwiched between a Gloria Jeans Coffee and a movie theater, the husband and wife team

chose to combine all three concepts into one café.

"We had a strong business up north, with an established client base, but there wasn't much room for growth. We needed a place with more opportunities. Lisette grew up and went to school in Santa Barbara, so it seemed a natural place to run a family business in a location that could appeal to locals and visitors alike," said Dwayne Kershner. Don't be surprised to find an original Fillmore concert poster for your hippie dad, right next to a Spawn action figure for your little bro. The coffee bar offers the usual fare, with a few notable specialty drinks including "the Snickers," a personal favorite. Though the vintage magazines, poster art and action figures provide eye candy for kids of all ages, the main attraction is the 6-by-8-foot projection screen and Dolby surround system which plays a feature film every weekday at 6 p.m. and

on weekends at 8 p.m. The DVD library of over 80 films includes classic titles ranging from Chaplin's "Modern Times" to "American Beauty." In addition to the movies, employee Tym Straw has taken off the apron and taken up the mantle as booking agent for musical acts, to be featured the second and fourth Friday of every month. For any coffee addict/film buff, the café is a cheap way to kill two addictions in one locale.

Café Siena

Location: 1101 State Street

Hours of Operation:
Gestalt: RPGs and GPCs

This coffeehouse, under the same ownership as the Espresso Roma chain, offers an average selection of coffee and espresso drinks (in addition to their bottled fruity teas and juices) at average prices (\$2.45 for a small mocha.) A haunt for fledgling dispossessed youth, the side patio offers plenty of smoker seating, a definite plus in my book. Indoors however, there is only a narrow aisle of tables and chairs. If you are on the go and just happen to have a coffee craving, Sienna will suffice, but there is better to be had.

Coffee Bean and Tea Leaf

Location: 811 State Street

Hours of Operation:

Gestalt: That price includes Kahlua right?

A gilded fish tank of a coffee bar occupies a prime location on State Street: the high-traffic area of the Paseo Nuevo mall. Its polished copper ceilings and solid oak paneling must have been expensive. Perhaps that's why this is an expensive place to get your fix. The quality is excellent and includes a large selection. Sitting at the bar gives a nice 180-degree view of the street — perfect people-watching conditions.

Starbucks

Location: 800 State Street

Hours of Operation:

Gestalt: "We feature Fair Trade coffee. Told ya we were the good guys."

Yes, Starbucks is using political correctness as a marketing tool. If you have crossed the threshold of new age yuppie-dom, there is no point in reading any further in search of a cup of mud that will mesh with your particular idiom. Just go to Starbucks. I know you want to. I myself enjoy their hot chocolate beverage on an occasional cold and wintry night — in hell. What am I saying, it's just coffee, right? If you like Starbucks, good for you, drink up. I just bought a cell phone and am without an anti-commercial ethical leg to stand on.

Espresso Roma

Location: 728 State Street

Hours of Operation:

Gestalt: Where's my Portishead CD?

Not many coffeehouses have an art director, but for some reason it works at this Espresso Roma. This place feels like it belongs in San Francisco. In all its

arrogance of tragically hip culture, it reminds me of the bohemian bay area. Evidently this particular coffeehouse was once a dive for drug addicts of a non-legal variety up until a few years ago when some sort of coup went down and the place was taken over by an avenging force of ... artists? Taken with a grain of salt, this could be the most eye-catchingly perfect rendering of what a true coffeehouse should look like.

Santa Barbara Roasting Company

Location: 321 Motor Way

Hours of Operation: Mon-Sun. 6:30 a.m. to 11 p.m.

Gestalt: The Pablo Escobar of the local caffeine cartel.

If you live in this county, chances are you have had Santa Barbara Roasting Company coffee. Providing a wide selection of fine coffees to many local eateries and coffee shops, Ro. Co. roasts its coffee on the premises, adding another dimension of sensory experience to buying a cup of coffee. Prices are in the mid to high range. One drawback — if you want to light up, you're going to have to take a step back; they don't let smokers on the sidewalk.

Hot Spots

Location: 36 State Street

Hours of Operation: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

Gestalt: Would you like mini-thins on that?

This part tourist-information center, part coffeehouse is a local favorite of downtown nighthawks and students looking for a place to study. Open around the clock, the café is one of the few places to hammer out a paper at the last minute. Unfortunately, because of the late hours, I get the overwhelming sense that most of the employees sleepwalk their way through making the coffee drinks.



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Mon-Thur - (2:00 5:00) 8:00

Brendan Fraser

★ THE MUMMY RETURNS (PG-13)

Fri-Sun - (12:15 1:30 3:20 4:45)

6:30 8:00 9:40

Mon-Thur - (2:15 4:00 5:15) 7:00 8:15

Playing On 2 Screens

Sylvester Stallone

DRIVEN (PG-13)

Fri-Sun - (1:00 4:15) 7:00 9:45

Mon-Thur - (2:40 5:30) 8:00

Renee Zellweger

BRIDGET JONES'S DIARY (R)

Fri-Sun - (1:45 4:30) 7:10 9:30

Mon-Thur - (2:30 5:30) 7:45

FAIRVIEW TWIN

251 N. FAIRVIEW - GOLETA

Teri Hatcher

SPY KIDS (PG)

Fri & Mon-Thur - (5:15)

Sat/Sun - (2:30 5:15)

Penelope Cruz

BLOW (R)

Fri & Mon-Thur - (5:00) 7:45

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Morgan Freeman

ALONG CAME A SPIDER (R)

Fri & Mon-Thur - 5:15 7:45

Sat/Sun - 2:15 5:15 7:45

FIESTA 5

916 STATE STREET - S.B.

CHOPPER (NR)

(2:40 5:30) 8:00

Juliette Binoche

CHOCOLAT (PG-13)

(5:20)

Paul Hogan

CROCODILE DUNDEE

IN LOS ANGELES (PG)

Fri-Tues & Thur -

(2:30 5:00) 7:30

Wed - (2:30 5:00)

Warren Beatty

TOWN & COUNTRY (R)

(2:10 5:00) 7:40

Johnny Depp

BLOW (R)

(2:20 5:10) 7:50

AMORES PERROS (R)

(2:00) 8:00

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Sat/Sun - (2:30 5:15) 7:45

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CROUCHING TIGER,

HIDDEN DRAGON (PG-13)

Fri & Mon-Thur - 7:45

Sat/Sun - (2:15) 7:45

Pierce Brosnan

THE TAILOR OF PANAMA (R)

Fri & Mon-Thur - (5:30) 8:00

Sat/Sun - (2:30 5:30) 8:00

Juliette Binoche

THE WIDOW OF ST. PIERRE

(R) (5:15)

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Fri/Sat - (1:40 3:15 4:50)

6:30 8:00 9:30

Sun -

(1:40 3:15 4:50) 6:30 8:00

Mon-Thur -

(2:00 3:45 5:00) 6:45 8:00

Playing On 2 Screens

Renee Zellweger

Hugh Grant

BRIDGET JONES'S DIARY (R)

Fri/Sat - (1:15 4:00) 6:45 9:15

Sun - (1:15 4:00) 6:45

Mon-Thur - (2:30 5:10) 7:30

Guy Pearce

Carrie-Anne Moss

MEMENTO (R)

Fri/Sat - (1:30 4:15) 7:00 9:40

Sun - (1:30 4:15) 7:00

Mon-Thur - (2:15 5:20) 7:45

METRO 4

618 STATE STREET - S.B.

Brendan Fraser

Rachel Weisz

★ THE MUMMY RETURNS

(PG-13)

Fri - (2:00 4:00 5:15)

7:00 8:30 10:00

Sat - (1:00 2:00 4:00 5:15)

7:00 8:30 10:00

Sun - (1:00 2:00 4:00 5:15)

7:00 8:30

Mon-Thur - (2:00 4:00 5:10)

7:00 8:15

Playing On 2 Screens

Sylvester Stallone

Burt Reynolds

DRIVEN (PG-13)

Fri/Sat - (1:30 4:15) 7:15 9:45

Sun - (1:30 4:15) 7:15

Mon-Thur - (2:15 5:30) 8:00

Antonio Banderas

SPY KIDS (PG)

Fri-Sun - (1:45 4:30)

Mon-Thur - (2:30 4:45) 7:15

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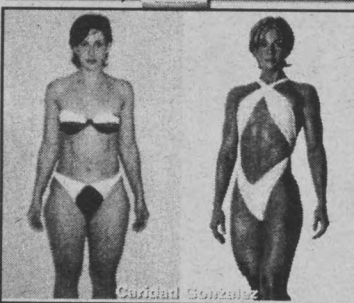
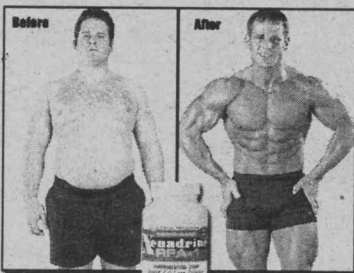
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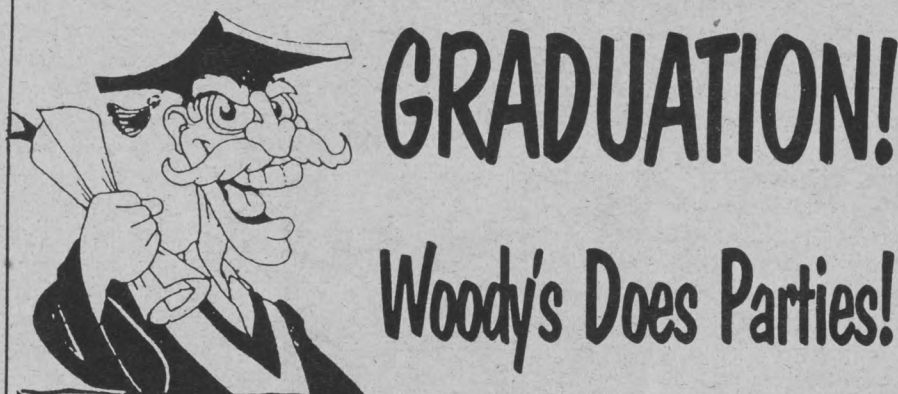
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