



RICHARD REID/Daily Nexus

Hunting Down Those Happening Happy Hours

By Brent Anderson, and William Diepenbrock

Mankind's two eldest vices are under seige. Indeed, they face almost certain extinction in today's stampede for health and safety in the modern world. Simply put, they are happy hours and smoking, and while the war over smoking nears its final stages, a chance to save happy hours from the clutches of safe-drinking proponents remains.

The current attack on the popular drinking gimmick stems from the high rate of auto and other accidents that result from rapid over-consumption. Too much too fast. It is the argument of these crusaders that elimination of the happy hour would greatly relieve a number of drinking-related problems.

Their prime target is the two-for-one drink special, which can induce a person to accept additional drinks simply because they're "free." Peabody's in Montecito has already revised its happy hour and other bar owners in town may follow.

While the ideological battle continues, happy hours can still be enjoyed. The first step is in knowing which ones provide munchies, key to off-setting the effects of reduced-price drinks. The second is to know which offers the best in quality atmosphere, service and alcohol. This guide should help.

ACAPULCO'S

A good first stop for most State St. crawlers, Acapulco's is a Mexican style restaurant with arguably the best margaritas in the area. With an expansive outdoor patio and fountain, Acapulco's is a magnet for locals who like to see and be seen. The combination bar-restaurant features generally fast service and a healthy happy hour food spread. A great place to go in the afternoon, especially while the sun is staying out until 8 p.m.

The Low Down: Sunday through Thursday happy hours from 4 to 7 p.m. Margaritas for \$1 (25 cents more for flavored margaritas).

ALEX'S CANTINA (Goleta)

The cream of the crop when it comes to happy hours,

especially for its mostly student crowd. The main reason is the glorious munchies. Soft tacos made with Alex's tortillas and endless amounts of warm chips and salsa. Lively atmosphere aside from its seven television screens and the "meat market" aura among some revelers.

The Hoe Down: Monday through Friday happy hours from 4 to 7 p.m. Margaritas and well drinks for \$1.75. On tap domestic beer for 75 cents.

THE BEACHSIDE CAFE

Situated on Goleta Beach, the Cafe combines the aromatic ocean breeze with a happy hour that literally never ends. Chips and salsa and warm foods (usually Mexican) are served from 4 to about 6:30 p.m.; popcorn is free all night. An outside patio allows graceful drinking or dining in the moonlit and sunset hours.

The Run Down: Monday through Friday happy hours from 4 p.m. till closing. Daily drink specials, such as margaritas on most Fridays. Tomorrow will feature a \$1 off on Cape Cods, down to \$1.75.

(See HUNTING, p.2A)

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Shooters	\$1.00
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• Heineken	• Carta Blanca
• Beck's on tap	• Sol
• Molson	• Bass Ale
• Kiwi	• More to Come!

6396 HOLLISTER GOLETA



Hunting Happy Hours Continued

(Continued from p.1A)

CANCUN CANTINA

The Cantina offers high quality margaritas and constant entertainment. Immediately following the one-hour happy time, a sushi bar opens up and musical entertainment starts later in the night.

The Deal: Margaritas reduced to \$1.50 during the daily 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. happy hour. No free munchies.

DON THE BEACHCOMBER

Ooh boy, we're in the midst of what Santa Barbara voters consider the area's best happy hour. You've got to be into Don Ho and tikis to get the most out of the place, but with a great view of the harbor and some interesting drinks it can be a worthwhile trip. Try the Double Scorpion, a rum-based concoction (like most of their drinks) served in a huge porcelain clam shell. The expansive free appetizer table also demands seconds and thirds.

The Bottom Line: Happy hour from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday with half-price drinks.

ELEPHANT BAR

Great outdoor seating is only part of the reason why the Elephant Bar's happy hour is one of the finest in town. Also contributing are daily drink specials and an incredible variety of mouth-watering treats. No, we're not talking popcorn and milk duds. Try steaming ribs, freshly baked ham, fresh fruit and vegetables and tacos. A college crowd and after-work yuppies make up much of the customer stock. And the safari fans and elephant tusks above the bar area certainly don't hurt the atmosphere.

The Extended Bottom Line: Daily happy hours from 4 to 7 p.m. During happy hour Margaritas, Coco Locos and 23 oz. drafts for \$1.75. 10 oz. draft beers are 75 cents. All day long specials (the drinks change daily) include well drinks, the Coco Loco, Daiquiris, Long Islands, Margaritas, Kalahari coolers and Bloody Marys. Prices range from \$1.75 to \$1.

HOLA AMIGOS!

If you're willing to pay, you can always play at Hola Amigos' happy hour. Not only are the drinks pretty expensive, but a good deal of the food has some kind of price tag as well; oysters for 35 cents, two shrimp for 50 cents and fajita tacos for 50 cents each. After paying though, the fajitas are great. The place lacks character, but lively crowds and a nice view help to lighten things up a bit.



The Scoop: Happy Hour Monday through Friday for all drinks (including 12 oz. domestic beer).

LONG BAR

First, the Long Bar truly is the longest in town, eclipsing even Rocky Galenti's. That alone should be commended for interesting decorations (just \$20 for a Long Bar reduced drinks and free nachos. Good outside seating, it's a great place to kick back.

The Poop: Happy hour 3-7 p.m. Monday and Tuesday with reduced drinks and nachos. Well drinks and M. Probe — you'll be a new person.

PEABODY'S

Another great deck for sunning and an (as well as one of the few good reasons to visit Montecito). No free food during happy hour but their good assortment of appetizers.

The Dope: Drinks reduced by \$1, and vacation and the Beach Ball. Good service.

THE PUB

Catch it while you can. Nothing's free in the pub. Beer is the way to go, with happy hour prices for those on tap. Although much can compare to Gnarly Nachos.

All You Need To Know: Small price reduction during regular daily happy hours from 4-7 p.m. Fridays.

ROCKY GALENTI'S

Probably the most charismatic bar in town, walls and roof, to famous sayings from Rocky Galenti (fish fuck in it). To top even the Watermelon — reminiscent of those Jolly Jolly slightly greater kick.

Rules To Live By: Happy hour from 5 to 7 p.m. with \$1 off well drinks.

SPIKES

Probably on most people's favorite bar in town, an incredible array of beers, an outdoor patio, food. Take some friends, get a Spike's and on your way to finishing the 40 beers required on the ever-growing list on the wall.

The End Of The Line: Happy hour from 5-7 p.m. Friday, with double drinks instead of single.

After it's all over, remember a few solid friends you're hammered — get a sober friend to drive you home. Usually choose three or four places close together, needed between stops. Practice a little common sense again tomorrow. Salut!

HAPPY HOUR

4-8 P.M. EVERY WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY

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50¢ FOOD
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Cattlemen's Restaurant & Saloon	Gustaf's Restaurant	Moo Shi Factory
Chopstick's Express	Hobson's in I.V.	Morninglory Music
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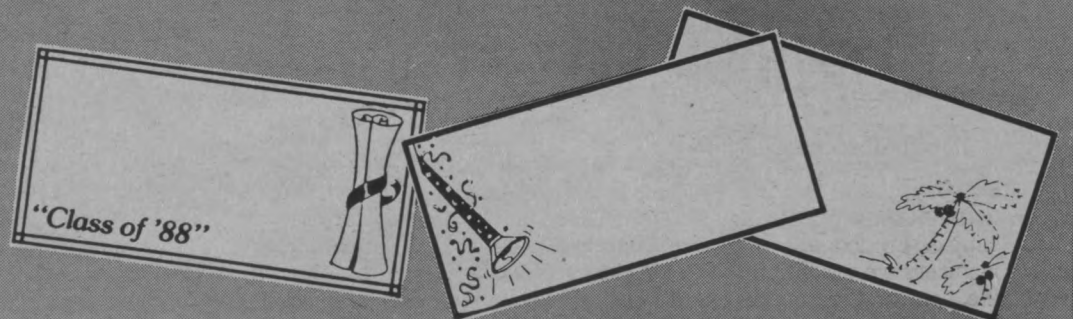


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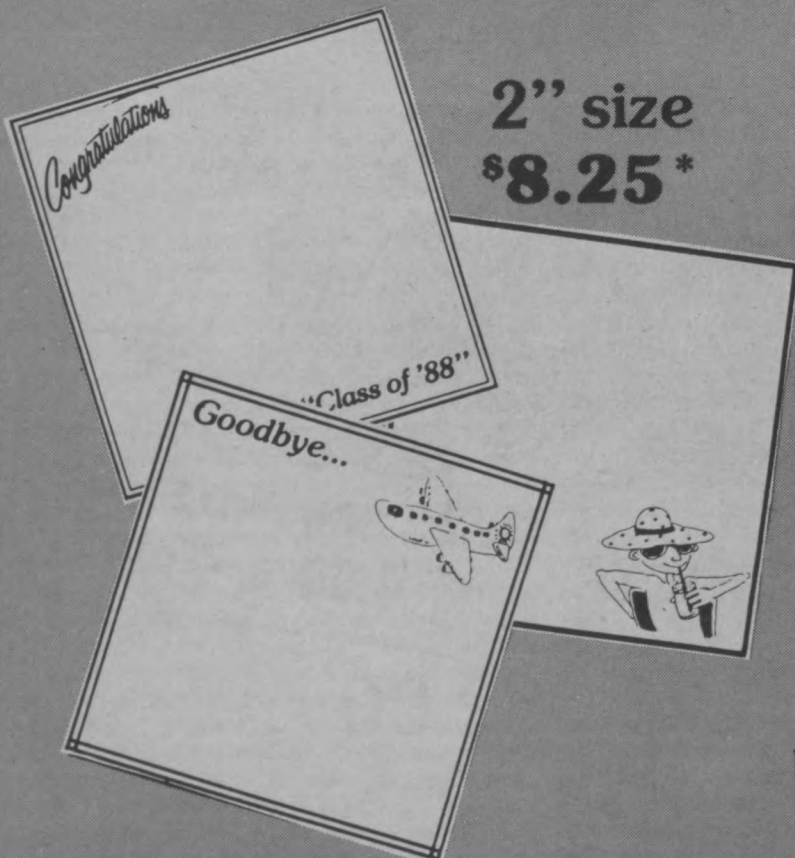
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