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We guarantee your complete satisfaction with what you buy at Tech Hifi. And we do it in writing.

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Our Sixty-Day Defective

"stereos" you find in department stores.

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Whatever you spend at Tech Hifi, we'll guarantee you the lowest price of any store offering similar services (or we'll refund the difference if you let us know within thirty days of purchase).

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Unless you're something of a stereo expert yourself, you're going to need some expert advice in selecting the right components for your home. Which is why we're always glad to spend as much time with you as you want. More importantly, we'll never try to confuse you with a lot of technical jargon. In fact, in our well-equipped sound-rooms, we can show you how to make the most important decisions just by using your own two ears!

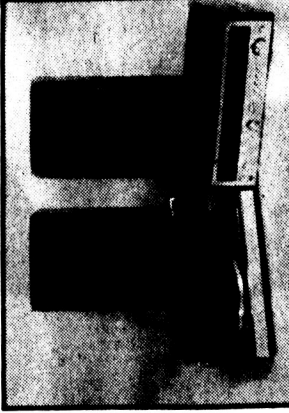


For high performance at a moderate price, it's hard to beat this \$439 Tech Hifi music system with an excellent Nikko 3035 am/fm stereo receiver, top-rated EPI 100V "Linear Sound" loudspeakers, and a precision Kenwood KD-1033 belt-drive turntable equipped with an AudioTechnica AT190E magnetic/elliptical cartridge. You could spend several hundred dollars more somewhere else and not get this calibre of accuracy, FM performance and record-playing ability.

KENWOOD **EPI** **\$439**
NIKKO
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It costs less than you think.

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To enhance stereo imaging and high frequency dispersion, Microelectronics designed a unique variable-axial tweeter in their new PFM-5 loudspeakers. By combining these efficient dual-ported speakers with a powerful Kenwood KR-3600 am/fm stereo receiver, we've come up with a system that'll play as loudly as you'd ever want in the average-size room. The turntable is the elegant Technics SL25 — a belt-driven semi-automatic model equipped with an AudioTechnica AT100E magnetic/elliptical cartridge.

TECHNICS **KENWOOD** **\$549**
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Exchange Guarantee eliminates the possibility of manufacturers' defects spoiling your listening pleasure.

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Places to go Things to do



Supplement to the State News

Friday, April 15, 1977

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Recreation, research coexist

PHONE SURVEY REVEALS ACTIVITIES

Favorite student pastimes varied

By PAM WEAR
If variety is the spice of life, favorite activities, exercise and fun weren't always the motivations behind the sports, either. A telephone survey of 30 MSU students last week revealed that there might be as many different favorite activities as there are students. Four students said listening to music is their "favorite thing they like to do." Activities mentioned were playing tennis, basketball, getting high and going to bars. Every other Mary MSU student mentioned various sports as their favorite activities. Exercise and fun weren't always the motivations behind the sports, either. "I like to swim because it gives me time to be alone and think," sophomore Pam Smith, explained. Romance was on the hearts and minds of a few MSU students; two men mentioned taking out girls as their favorite activity. For others, even school work can be that "favorite thing." "I like historical research," senior Steven Mrozak said. "It's my business, it's why I'm going to school, so I can do what I like to do." For another MSU senior, though, her favorite activity was a hobby quite apart from her major. "I like taking pictures," said Barbara Derr, a senior majoring in finance. "Outdoors, I like to look for picturesque settings. I like the fact that I can perceive the end results of my work while I do it." In the midst of all the expected survey responses, there is always the unusual. One medical technology major said laughing is her favorite thing to do. "I like enjoying life," Karen Corvas explained. "Through laughter, I can make people happy." Travel, sleeping, reading and just plain relaxing were also mentioned as favorite things. For most, the value of their pastimes was being able to have fun doing it, to relax in it or to escape through it. "I like going to movies," senior Gloria Neary said. "I like it because it's relaxing, and because you can just sit for two hours and not worry about

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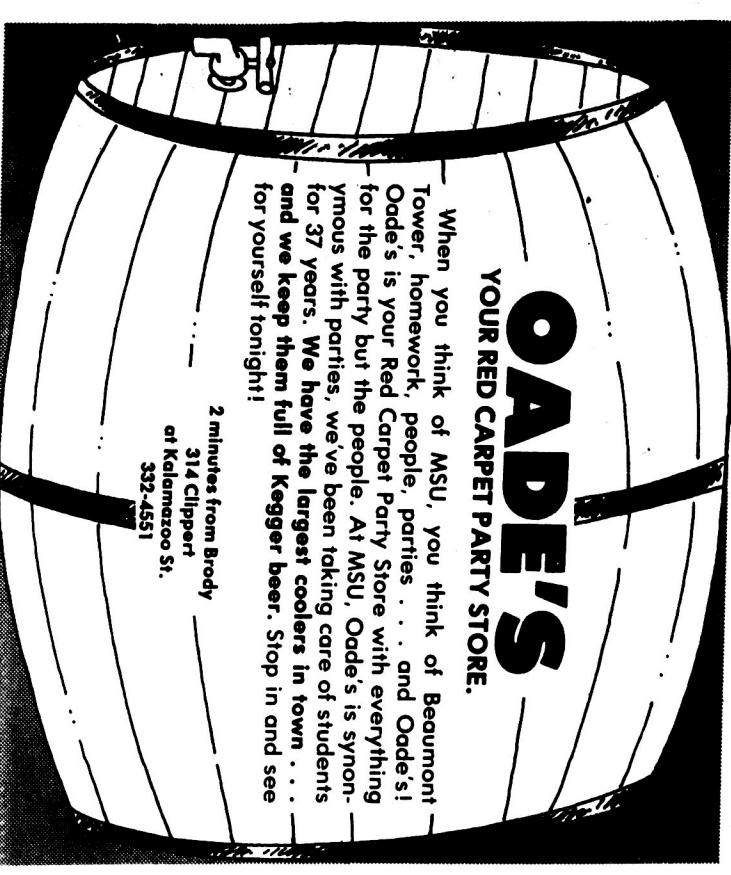
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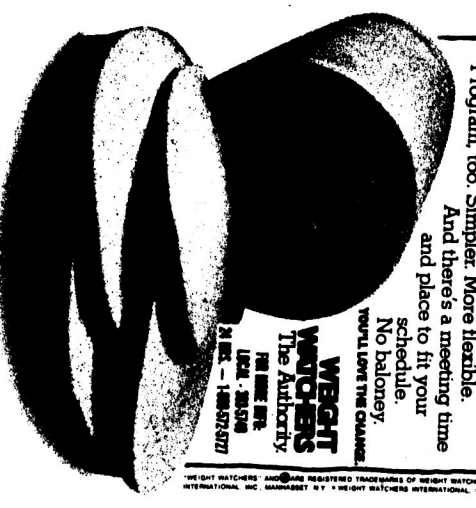
When you think of MSU, you think of Beumont Tower, homework, people, parties... and Oade's! Oade's is your Red Carpet Party Store with everything for the party but the people. At MSU, Oade's is synonymous with parties, we've been taking care of students for 37 years. We have the largest coolers in town... and we keep them full of Kegger beer. Stop in and see for yourself tonight!

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Authentic cuisine served

(continued from page 8)
\$3 and the portions are large. Among his better orders is the Taco Plate for \$2 which includes two beef tacos, another filled with chicken, rice and refried beans that Santa Cruz relishes up with melted cheese. There is also chicken enchiladas, a pepper dish made with soft flour tortillas and served with beans, rice and a soppilla. Everything on the El Astero menu, except for the tortillas, is made or baked in its small kitchen in the rear and under the watchful eye of Santa Cruz. If you stroll into El Astero looking for a place laden with Mexican folklore, sombrero and earthenware dishes, you won't find it. The interior is plain, the glasses are plastic and the decorations are few. But if you're looking for some inexpensive authentic Mexican food, have a seat.

Recreation, research coexist

(continued from page 14)
those in Traverse City. Then there is the agricultural land of southern Michigan," he said. According to Heizer, Rose Lake was abandoned farm land with poor soil that the state began purchasing in 1988. "At one time we could buy this land for five or six dollars an acre," he said. "The people were leaving because they were poor. But the prices started going up during World War II." "The first farm that the state purchased was owned by the Rose family," he said. "On that farm was a lake, which is directly south of our headquarters, thus the name Rose Lake." "There are several other lakes on the property which are usually used for fishing, he said. "Rose Lake has just about everything — deer, squirrels, raccoon, duck, pheasant, possum, quail and no hawks."

'COMON... GO FLY A KITE!

And when you do, wear this "Go Fly a Kite" decal on your shirt while you fly your kite at Lansing's Riverfront Park on Saturday, April 30. It's Michigan National Bank's 1st Annual "Go Fly a Kite" contest. The contest is for kids ages 8-16, but everyone is invited to spend the day and fly a kite for the fun of it... Watch Sara Katzman, Kite flying expert and MSU student, demonstrate the art of flying several unusual types of kites... or just come, bring a picnic lunch, and welcome Spring. That's Saturday April 30, at Lansing's Riverfront Park.



Just iron it off the page on to your T-shirt...

- INSTRUCTIONS**
- For best results, apply to material made with at least 50 percent polyester and 50 percent cotton. Shirts of 100 percent cotton do not hold the colors after repeated washings.
 - Cut out pattern along dotted lines.
 - Place a protective piece of cloth or bonded typing paper over the ironing board to keep excess ink from staining ironing board cover.
 - Slip the T-shirt over the end of the board so that the front (or back) is directly over the board's protective cover.
 - Place the cartoon face down on the area of the T-shirt you wish to decorate and pin it on the shirt so it will not slide. Place a clean sheet of paper directly over the cartoon to protect the iron's surface. Heavy paper will prevent the proper heat transfer from occurring.
 - Set the iron on "cotton," allow it to heat up and apply with firm, even pressure over entire surface for 30 seconds. Use a dry iron, not steam.
 - Allow to cool for at least one minute before removing paper.
- LAUNDERING:**
No special laundering is required. The colors will mellow with the first washing to a slightly faded look which will not wash out if you have followed the directions carefully. Wash and dry with other permanent press clothes using the proper settings or temperatures. Do not use chlorine bleach on any permanent press materials. If properly applied and laundered, your T-shirt design will last through repeated washings and dryings.

Michigan National Bank

Pinball games gain popularity



State News/Robert Keadoff

By PETE BRONSON

Pinball, like hookers and wines, was once found mainly in sleazy downtown bars and bus stations under signs that read "No Minors Allowed."

Now, thanks to better marketing and more liberal laws, pinball and other games of skill have gained respectability and skyrocketing popularity.

In restaurants, night clubs, dormitories and shopping malls people are playing pinball games endorsed by celebrities such as Elton John and Evel Knievel, or shooting down bad guys, airplanes and wild game on highly sophisticated electronic equipment.

Merrill Millman, vice president of Aladdin's Castle, Inc., in Chicago, attributes the new respectability of pinball mainly to better marketing.

"Pinball is a part of Americana which has been kicked around for many years," Millman said.

"To introduce pinball to shopping centers like the Meridian Mall we had to overcome the 'hang-out-gameroom' connotations connected with pinball and arcade games."

Sharing the new popularity of pinball and quickly developing a following of their own are the electronic arcade pieces, known in bar lingo as "TV games." Millman said that the new games can be designed to duplicate anything from competitive sports to war maneuvers.

Unlike "purs" pinball where man and machine compete against gravity and chance, the TV games place more emphasis on imagination and skill. For two bits, the Walter Mitty in all of us can sink ships, pilot jet planes or drive race cars so realistic that they fishail on tight curves.

In spite of their higher initial returns, however, Millman said "TV games will never replace pinball."

"The returns on arcade pieces and TV games gradually decline as the novelty wears off, but you can play the same game of regular pinball for weeks and never get tired of it," Millman said.

Pinball Pete, whose arcade on Grand River just east of campus boasts the lowest priced — 5 cent — game of pinball in the state, agrees that regular pinball is here to stay.

"My TV games bring in more than pinball during my peak capacity hours on Friday and Saturday nights because of their shorter playing time, but they don't offer the steady returns pinball does," he said.

Thirty-five of Pete's 41 games are pinball. Most of those are Gottlieb's, D. Gottlieb, the manufacturer which introduced flippers to pinball in 1947, is "the brand played by the pros," claimed Pete, who prefers not to use his last name.

Since the first pinball machine in America, called "Log Cabin," was built in 1898, the machines' complexity of design along with their popularity and price has steadily increased. A modern machine containing as much as 500 yards of wiring and several hair-trigger balance devices to prevent "tilt" has a base price of \$1,900, but sells for about \$400 used.

Old pinball machines never die, and there is an increasing market in used machines for home entertainment.

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for information on upcoming competition!

PINBALL PETE'S • Next to Coral Gables

Recreation, research coexist at Rose Lake

Flying relaxing habit

By DIANE COX

wildlife photography.

But the main purpose of the experiment station is research, cause we are doing experiments," he explained. "We put on public use, according to biologist-in-charge Keith Heizer.

Camping and motorcycling are not allowed and no vehicles are allowed off the country roads, he said.

"Sometimes we place restrictions on certain areas because we are doing experiments," he explained. "We put up notices, but some people don't understand why they can't do something this year that they could last year."

Due to a tight budget, only a few MSU students are hired (continued on page 15)

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Lansing area has few beaches

America's Cup—a tropical oasis


There is a place in East Lansing where a student can find relief from deep snow drifts, cold winds and freezing temperatures during the winter. He can order a Greek-style sandwich, play Monopoly or take in the view of the salt water tanks in the walls. He could even have a drink. The America's Cup, 220 M.A.C. Ave., is labeled by its management as a "tropical oasis." The description fits well because the restaurant and bar is not just another East Lansing watering hole. Its decor gives a person the feeling of being on a yacht in

the tropics; the main item on the menu is gyro sandwiches; its atmosphere is warm and colorful. "Let's face it—there is a lot of competition for restaurants in East Lansing," said Norm Robinson, manager and designer of the America's Cup. "So we wanted to do something unusual with our restaurant. "We wanted to serve inexpensive food that didn't take long to prepare," the MSU graduate said. "You're going to

have a hard time selling a steak in downtown East Lansing. So Robinson brought the gyro sandwich to the area. The featured dish is strips of beef, tomatoes, onions and sour cream rolled in Syrian bread for \$1.25. It is unique and extremely well-priced. The restaurant, open from 11:30 a.m. until 2 a.m., also prepares a club gyro, turkey, bacon, swiss and cheddar cheese for \$2.35, a swiss cheese and ham gyro for \$1.50 and a


vegetarian model for \$1.25. Though the menu is small, the America's Cup also serves salad, an assortment of pastries including baklava and some delicious homemade soups which change weekly. "The America's Cup is a restaurant, not a bar," said Robinson. "The vast majority of our sales is from the kitchen and in food." But the main attraction is the interior and not the menu. Laden with hanging plants

and tropical scenes of a yacht, the restaurant is divided into sections with the round bar in the middle of them. "Each section has a different mood at night," Robinson said. "The area with the fireplace is intimate, the platform with the pool tables is active and the back section is brighter than the other two. "But we wanted it all to flow together with a common motif," he added.



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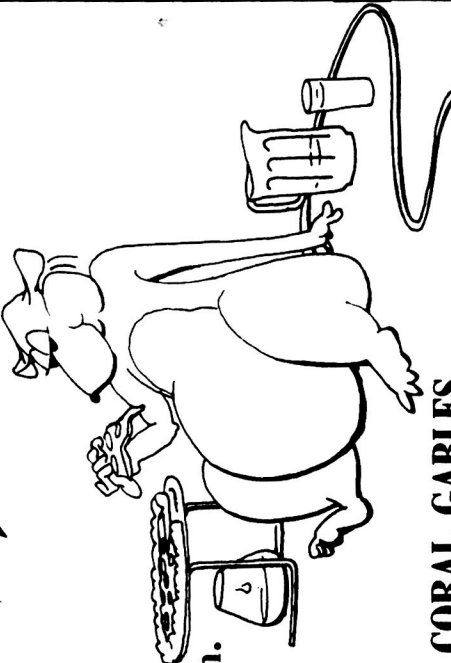
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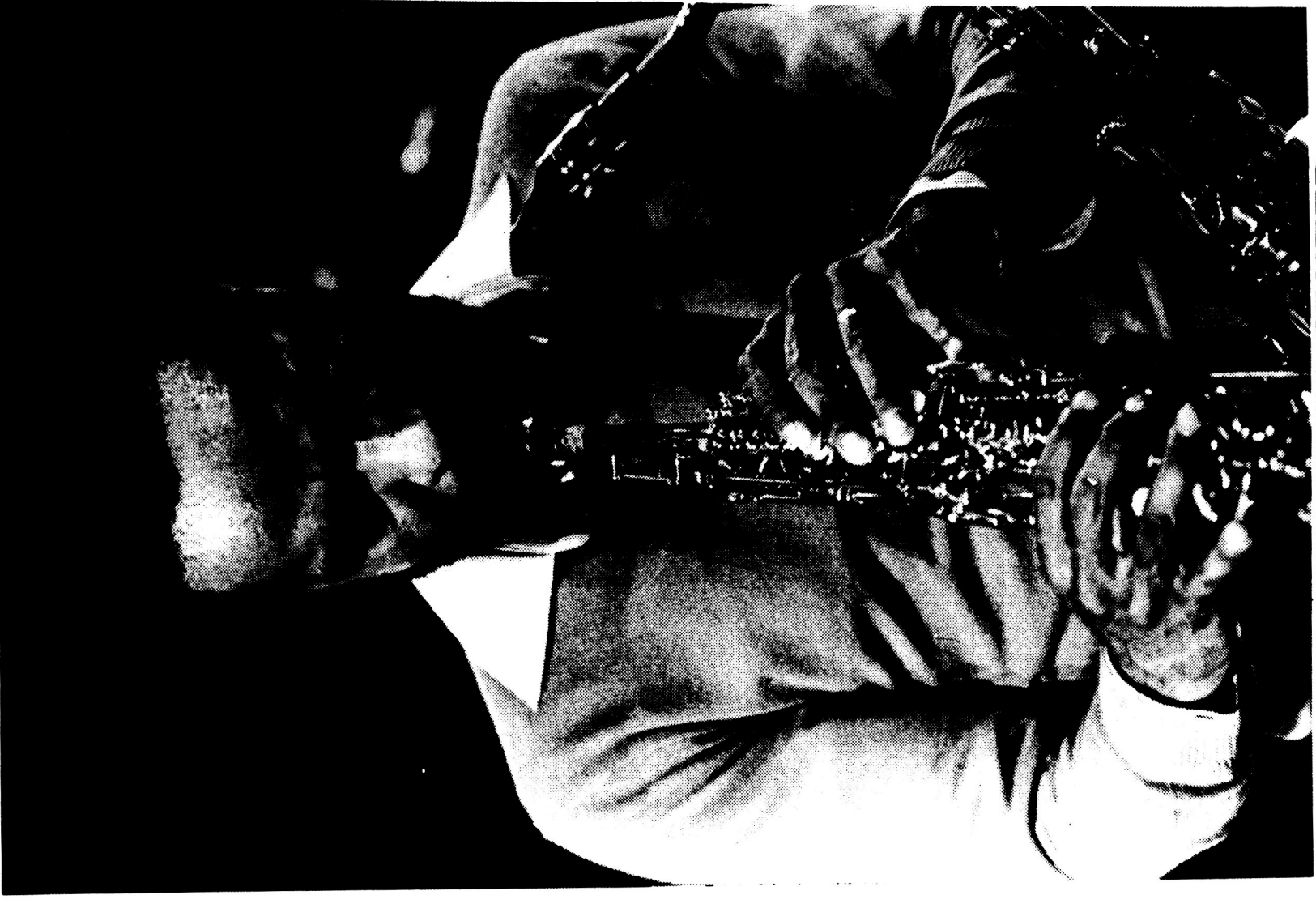


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Unanticipated, seapunt the Cave

Costa's Restaurant worth looking for

Tucked away in the Prudner Shopping Center, behind a delicatessen and next to a bar, is a small restaurant that is worth spending an afternoon looking for. Costa's Restaurant, Open from 8 a.m. until 10 p.m. Monday through Saturday, the diner serves breakfast, lunch and dinner. But most of its business is done at noon and during the morning.

Its evening menu specializes in Greek dinners such as Musakka, an eggplant casserole; Nedouma, a stuffed cabbage dish; and Kaperna, baby lamb shank, priced around \$4. There are also several crepe dinners, including spinach, mushroom and shrimp, for around \$5.

The prices are high for diners, the recipes less than authentic and the preparation of the food unimaginative.

This holds true, however, only for diners. At noon Costa's is a bustling cafe with a menu and dishes that are worth seeking out. The house specialties at lunchtime are some of the best sandwiches found. A small loaf of French bread is sliced in half, a heap of roast beef is stacked on one side and lettuce, tomatoes and peppers. Though the price is \$1.55 and it is called a half-sandwich, don't let that fool you. It's really a meal in itself. Costa's serves breakfast from 8 until 11 a.m. and features Western, ham and cheese and Mediterranean omelets for \$1.95 with toast and jelly. For those with only a \$1 bill, there are two 99-cent specials in the morning.

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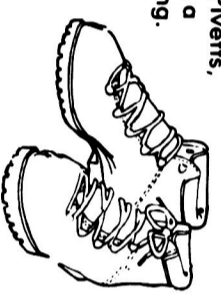
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State Room offers stately atmosphere

Among the classrooms, dormitories and administration buildings on campus is a hotel — the Kellogg Center. And in the middle of this hotel, though few students know it and even fewer have eaten there, is a restaurant — The State Room.

A fully commercial and public business, The State Room is run by the University and, as far as restaurants are concerned, is the pride of Lansing. The refined service and stately atmosphere and walls covered with portraits of past and present University presidents) reflect the deep tradition found at MSU.

So does its clientele, most of whom graduated years ago.

"Our primary purpose is to serve the University conference programs," said manager Fred Hawley. "I'm sure

Pan Tree evolves from post office transformation

The rest of the prices on the bill of fare are not as agreeable. Egg orders run between \$2.50 and \$3.50, crepes around \$2.75 and most dinners \$4.

Among the egg delicacies worth trying are the Copen smothered with mushrooms

Eatery stresses authenticity

Banquet. "We made our reputation by serving and experimenting in dishes nobody has before."

Begger's breakfasts, which Blunt said he derived from "classical combinations," are completely out of the ordinary. Priced around \$3, the dishes include Eggs Florentine — two poached eggs on a bed of cooked spinach topped with mozzarella sauce, Eggs Lorraine — made with ham, Swiss cheese, sour cream and baked; and Eggs Penseuse — a dish garnished with asparagus.

Begger's Banquet, open from 11 a.m. to 2 a.m., also serves lunches, which are the restaurant's better buys. Among the items is a peppery bowl of chili, with its own rating scale, for 95 cents and listed in the menu as "sympathy for the devil." Right below that is another paragraph.

"Our first draft with chili, \$1.10. Sympathy for the Customer."

Banquet like the food does. "Anybody can cook a steak, we do more than that," Richard said. "We have steaks but they are tucked away in the corner of our menu."

In the center of the menu there are some of the most unusual dishes found in East Lansing. Entrees like Rainbow Trout scudded with crabmeat, shrimp and green onions covered with a cream sauce and sherry; or Casserole of Shrimps Bordelaise — shrimps covered with shallots, mushrooms, tomatoes and brandy — are experiences in eating.

Dinners include salad, bread and vegetable and are priced from \$6.50 for London Broil to \$9.75 for Filet mignon.

"We try to keep a little bit ahead of people's taste," said Christopher Blunt, one of the owners and the head chef at Begger's.

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When Cave of the Candles opened up in 1967, William True was a busboy, East Lansing was dry and the MSU students were radical.

Today True is the floor manager of the restaurant on the corner of Abbott Road and Grand River Ave., East Lansing supports more than 20 bars and the attitudes around the campus are content.

The "Cave," however, is still an atmosphere of intimate dining, rare and classical dishes basically the same. And that's

the main reason why the restaurant, beginning its ninth year, is the oldest one in East Lansing.

"We took down the stailices hanging in the entranceway and we have expanded quite a bit," True said. "But really the 'Cave' hasn't changed that much since it opened."

Cave of the Candles offers an atmosphere of intimate dining, rare and classical dishes

and East Lansing's first and largest wine list. It also has the prices that normally accompany such items.

Dinner for two could run anywhere from \$12 for Cornish game hens, wild rice and salad to \$38 for an appetizer of imported dry sherry, appetizers of Beluga Caviar, Alaskan King Crab Legs, Caesar Salad and Bananas Foster. Flame for dessert.

"Seafood is our speciality

because very few other places in the area handle such dishes as Alaskan King Crab, Maine lobster or Dover Sole like we do," True said. "We are the only restaurant that keeps live lobster in a tank until cooked."

Seafood may be the "Cave's" speciality but the restaurant's large menu is what captures the eye. The bill of fare includes 22 appetizers, 6 salads, 16 seafood dishes, 24 meat entrees and 17 desserts.

Though its list is long, entrees that stand out at the "Cave" are Alaskan King Crab Legs for \$9.25; Broiled Gulf sandwiches and salads.

East Room atmosphere:

unique dining experience

Every restaurant in East Lansing is built at ground level overlooking a particular street or buried beneath some bar.

Except for one — Jacobson's East Room. The restaurant is located on the top floor of Jacobson's department store and its large windows overlook a bustling Grand River Avenue, Morrill Hall and the most northern section of MSU. This scenic view gives the East Room a unique dining atmosphere found nowhere else in East Lansing.

Unfortunately, it can be enjoyed only two nights a week.

"Being on the third floor makes it hard for people to get to the East Room after the store closes," said Dale Shuck, manager of the restaurant. "That is the main reason why we serve dinner only on Thursdays and Fridays."

During those two days the East Room, like the rest of the store, stays open until 8:30 p.m. and begins serving lunch at 11 a.m. On Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturday, the restaurant keeps the hours of 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Though the menu changes daily, a diner can always count on a roast beef buffet on Thursday and a truly delicious seafood one of Friday night, both for \$3.95.

Along with a salad bar, freshly baked bread and a choice of vegetables, the seafood buffet includes stuffed crab, shrimp, smelt and baked cod. And it is labeled "all you can eat."

The East Room, however, is really known not for its dinners but rather for its luncheon and afternoon tea menu. Dishes at noon range from reuben sandwiches and Quiche Lorraine to a Maurice salad with strips of ham, turkey, Swiss cheese and the restaurant's own blend of dressing. All midday specials are priced around \$2.30.

The matinee tea time menu from 2 until 5 p.m. daily is the most popular at the East Room which, more often than not, will be filled with women shoppers. Along with salads and sandwiches, the restaurant serves an assortment of desserts including strawberry cheese cake, ice cream cake and Turtle Sundae described as "two scoops of French vanilla ice cream layered with caramel sauce, pecans and topped off with hot fudge."

One other special the East Room has every Friday is a drink special. "All drinks are a \$1 and we usually create a drink of the day," said Shuck, who was a bartender before becoming involved in restaurants. "Last week we mixed creme de cocc, rum, whipped cream and crushed strawberries and called it a Strawberry Blond."

"You wouldn't believe how well it went over," he added with a grin. That helps explain why Jacobson's and the East Room stay open late on Friday night.



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WASHINGTON (AP) — In what was a battle in yesterday's recess to Carter's conservation taxes. President is sons of the nation's "freedom" and then to

Authentic cuisine

Arturo Santa Cruz, 32, was born and raised in New Mexico, had parents of Mexican origin and has eaten Mexican food his entire life.

So when the New Mexico State University graduate purchased the Plaza, he last August, the first thing he did was change the menu. And, surprise, the owner and chef of the El Azteca Restaurant replaced pizzas and submarine sandwiches with burritos and tacos.

"This is my life," Santa Cruz said, grabbing a handful of hot red peppers in his skewer.

"I've known this type of Mexican food and have eaten it as long as I can remember."

"I always wanted to run my own restaurant," the owner said, "and there has to be a market for Mexican food in East Lansing."

His family ate northern-style Mexican food when he was younger and now Santa Cruz is



El Azteca
Steve News/Urinda Boy

'FACTORY' OFFERS WIDE VARIETY Everything on a bagel

The Bagel-Fragel Factory at 321 E. Grand River Ave. didn't receive a four-star rating from AAA and the automobile club probably doesn't even know it exists.

Its interior is simple: four tables, six stools at the front window and a series of bagel bins in the rear. The coffee shop does not have tablecloths, fancy menus or even silverware.

But it does have character.

Across from Berkley Hall, the Factory has almost become an institution to many students as a place to go for a large 25-cent cup of coffee, to kill time between classes or for a quick bite to eat.

From the minute the Bagel-Fragel Factory opens at 8 a.m. until it closes at midnight, there is a constant flow of people seated at the window stools drinking coffee, eating a cream cheese bagel and watching the traffic on Grand River Avenue.

"We are usually packed between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.," said Bob Sana, manager of the Bagel-Fragel Factory, "and we seem to get a lot of students after the 10 a.m. class."

Though it is labeled a bagel factory, the coffee shop's business is split evenly between selling the donut-shaped bread for 15 cents and making sandwiches out of the bagels. Daily the factory bakes 10 types of bagels: pumpkin-kel, garlic, raisin, egg, cheese, onion, whole wheat, salt, sesame seed and, of course, plain.

"We are very flexible around here," said Sana, who has been managing the coffee shop since it opened in 1973. "We'll make any sandwich combination a customer can think of."

The top seller at the factory, by more than a 2 to 1 margin to any other sandwich, is the classic cream cheese bagel for



Bagel-Fragel
Steve News/Robert Kodoff

Natural foods offered here

There was a middle-aged woman who ate at Small Planet at 225 Ann St. about three times a week last fall.

After one month she came into the natural foods restaurant and grocery and ordered a hamburger.

"I'm sorry," but this restaurant doesn't serve any meat," the waiter told her. To put it mildly, she was astounded.

"She had been coming in here and ordering whatever the waiter was recommending," said Brian Partley, one of the two owners of Small Planet. "She never realized we didn't serve any meat."

"To advertise Small Planet as a vegetarian restaurant," said Partley, who began the business during the fall of 1974, "I think would discourage people who would have never eaten here before."

And that would be a shame.

The Small Planet is more than just another natural foods store or lacto-vegetarian (be-cause they serve dairy products and eggs) diner. It is one of the better restaurants in East Lansing with a truly unique menu and a rustic type of atmosphere.

"We have a great cross-section of people who come here, whether they are interested in health food or not," said Partley. "That's because basically we are serving ethnic food without meat."

Open from 10 a.m. until 9 p.m. daily, the Small Planet serves breakfast until 1 p.m. until closing. The morning menu consists of omelets, granola or its special of two eggs, coffee and toast, of which the sour rye is especially good, for \$1.25.

But the restaurant's specialty is salads. There are 10 different kinds at the Small Planet and all are different and worth trying. Ranging from 75 cents to \$2.50, salads include such items as artichoke hearts, beets, mixed greens, bean sprouts, sesame buds and an assortment of cheeses.

What the restaurant serves most of, however, is egg rolls, 60 cents or two for \$1, and Golden Temple sandwiches. The Temple, the only sandwich available in the evenings, is open-faced, served with tomato, guacamole, sprouts, mushrooms and melted cheese for \$2.

Complete dinners, which in-

clude soup, salad and an entree, are priced at \$3 with a different special each day of the week.

On Tuesday is Greek-style lentil soup, feta cheese salad and a delicious spinach cheese pie.

Thursday is also a very good day to dine as Multigrainy soup, salad and corned rice are featured.

Whether a person wants a full meal or just a carrot milkshake, the Small Planet is an unique place to eat — not for its vegetarian menu, or natural food, but for exotic dishes.

Beggar's Banquet has innovative food



Merlin, Richard Jr., small-framed, thin-faced with a long, thin nose, is the owner of Beggar's Banquet, at 218 Abbott Road, just off the corner of the front of the restaurant and street lunch.

His sandwich — roast beef made with a sesame seed roll and brown spicy mustard, his salad dressing — garlic but no Italian, his wine — dark red Ruby Cabernet.

His taste — very distinctive.

"We don't believe in marketing, we serve do any of it at Beggar's Banquet," Richard said. "We cater only to our own taste."

"This restaurant doesn't really have a theme to it," he added. "We just like good food, wherever it is."

Food, however, table clothes and chairs were. And at Beggar's Banquet, at 218 Abbott Road, you'll find all of these, along with quite a bit more.

Its decor — rustic wooden tables, barn-wood covering the walls and an old bowling alley for the stand-up bar — is different. Its waiters and waitresses, indignantly dressed with no standard uniforms, are unique. Its American wine list, with bottles of Zinfandel Late Harvest 1973 and Pinot Charentais Requetes 1974 on it, is exceptionally large. But nothing stands out at Beggar's (continued on page 11)

Pan Tree evolves from office

Inside the Pan Tree restaurant at 327 Abbott Road is a small office on a secluded second floor. An old fire escape ladder is the only way to the room's entrance and its windows, oblong in shape, overlook the main dining area.

Stuck to one of the walls inside the office is the saying "The best way to advertise is to do everything unusually good."

The pair of owners of the six-month-old restaurant have done exactly that. Not only is Pan Tree's interior and decor done well, but in a most unusual manner.

"We wanted to be an alternative to the other 24-hour coffee shops in the area," said Paul Kaser, co-owner and manager along with Jim Wade. "Now I think we have a very marketable concept."

One is overwhelmed by the Pan Tree the minute he walks into the converted 1934 U.S. Post Office.

Plants, by the dozens, hang from the ceiling and can be found in almost every corner. The windows are between the booths. And, along with the skylights, large windows and brightly colored murals, they give the restaurant a lively and active atmosphere, no matter what time of the day it is.

The unusual decor, which includes wooden ceiling fans, an antique wall in vault and mailboxes left over from the post office, is only matched by the large menu.

"We traveled around the country for two years looking for different types of dishes for our menu," Kaser said. "We got the idea for our huge fruit salad from the Pepper Mill (a chain out west), our crepes from Chicago's Magic Pan and our Quiche Lorraine recipe from the Detroit Free Press." (continued on page 11)

TABLESIDE DISHES ATTRACT DINERS Grape Vine stands unique

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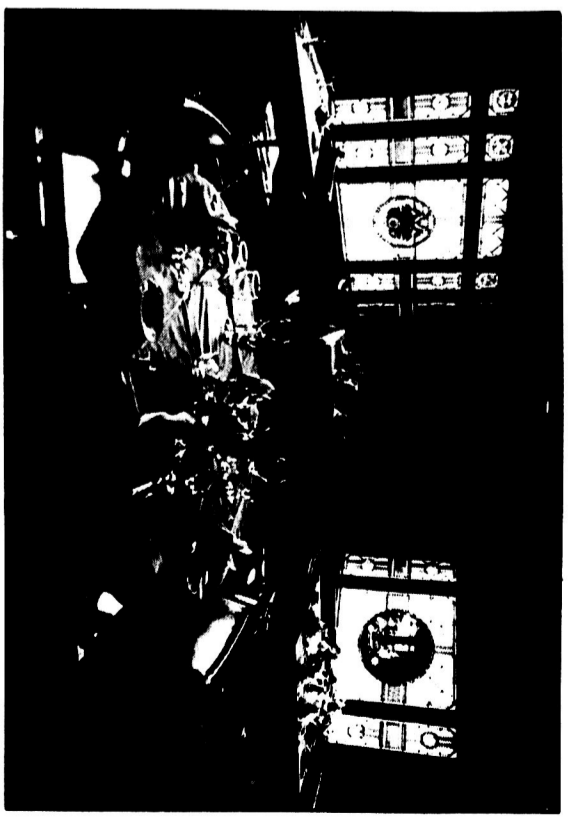
The outside of the restaurant at 2758 Grand River Ave. is covered with blue ash boards, the white paint is peeling on the west side, and the chinkholes in the driveway are so big a car could get lost in them.

Inside is one of the finest restaurants in East Lansing. The outside dining is pleasant. The waiters are personal and the food, delectable.

"Our specialty has to be our tableside dishes," said Mary Ann Bradshaw, assistant manager and MSU graduate. "A lot of people enjoy seeing the food cook right at their table."

The menu is country-French cuisine and has on it seven different orders that are prepared in the dining room and usually before some amazed diners. Though there are other restaurants in the area which prepare dishes before their customers, none do it in the extravagant manner that The Grape Vine does. An entire kitchen on wheels is brought into the dining room with each waiter putting on both a spectacle and a display of cooking talents.

Two of the restaurant's best tableside dinners are Steak Diane — buttery beef fillet, scallops and a Madeira sauce — for \$10.50, and Beef Wellington — beef tenderloin wrapped in pastry — for \$13.50. Even impressive, however, is the Fresh Spinach Salad prepared



The Grapevine
Steve News/Robert Kodoff



Small Planet
Steve News/Dora Family