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carolina review

Goatfeathers provides atmosphere, little else

By MELISSA TENNEN
Encore Editor

If all you want is atmosphere when eating in a restaurant, eat at Goatfeathers Coffee Bar & Restaurant in Five Points.

Friday night, two friends and I decided to try the casual 1920s-style bar, located at 2017 Devine St., for dinner. None of us had ever eaten dinner at Goatfeathers before. But, in the past, we had been to the restaurant often for coffee and dessert.

There were not many people in the bar at 8 p.m. Goatfeathers usually doesn't get crowded until later. Our waitress greeted us with little eye contact. I do marvel at how waitresses are able to remember what people order without writing it down. This is a nice touch.

The menu is somewhat limited in its number of items, but a variety of foods is offered. However, the food descriptions should have been written clearer.

We did not know the dishes we ordered would be spicy despite reading the menu descriptions.

The food prices in proportion to the size of the meals we ate were a little higher than what would be expected.

DINING



I had stir-fried vegetables on French bread with Cantonese sauce. My meal was extremely hot. The taste of the food wasn't remarkable.

One of my friends had a Jamaican-Jerked Vegetable dish that disappointed her. She said it wasn't good. Mostly, it consisted of assorted, unripe fruit.

My other friend said her dish was too spicy as she reached for her empty glass of water. She only ate a vegetable dish.

While Goatfeathers might have a dark, alluring setting in which to drink coffee and alcohol, it does not divest much of its energies into its restaurant, which proved to be a disappointment to us. We were expecting much better.

Goatfeathers needs to urge its wait staff to be friendlier to the customers. Perhaps, this simple gesture would have made our meal better.

No reservations are needed.

Goatfeathers	value	
	atmosphere	
	selection	
	service	
	speed	
	food quality	

poor excellent



Customers at Goatfeathers enjoy the fine atmosphere and a variety of imported beer and is an excellent for cozy socializing.

'Skin Tight' a wonderful, dark comedy

By J.T. WAGENHEIM
Editor in Chief

Miami Herald columnist Carl Hiaasen has done it. He has written a fast-paced, suspenseful and funny read that combines the most bizarre characters and plot into one outstanding novel. *Skin Tight* (1989, Ballantine) is morbid comedy at its best.

First, there's Mick Stranahan, a retired Miami detective with a pet barracuda and a house on stilts in Biscayne Bay, Fla. One day, after fishing, Mick finds an intruder in his house. After a short struggle, Mick kills the villain with a stuffed marlin head. However, it wasn't just some street crook out for a CD player.

Mick knows just a little too much about a botched nose job performed by plastic surgeon Rudy Graveline, who has called someone in New Jersey (so cliché, isn't it?) to take care of his problem. After the first attempt at Stanahan fails, Graveline hires a new hitman, Chemo, a 7-foot barbarian who needs major plastic surgery to cure an acne problem and is

willing to trade Graveline the Stranahan job for some dermabrasion.

But wait, there's more. *In Your Face*, a popular talk show hosted by Reynaldo Flemm, who is the spitting image of Gerardo, wants the story of the plastic surgeon with the shaky hands. The TV crew gets twisted into the whole mess, and the chase is on.

The plot of *Skin Tight* is full of unforgettable good guys and bad guys who couldn't be funnier. Just to give you an example, Chemo loses his hand to Mick's barracuda, and Graveline replaces it with a weed whacker! Now there's a 7-foot, acne-plagued hitman with a battery pack under his arm and a weed whacker for a hand. Imagine some of the fight scenes.

Don't worry, there's a heroine, too. *In Your Face* producer Christina Marks is just what *Skin Tight* needs to keep the plot in line. Her strength and humor through this bizarre chase helps draw the line between reality and fiction. Hiaasen has done his homework!

Through all of this crazy, downright ludicrous storyline, Hiaasen stays focused and doesn't drift. Every paragraph is full of suspense and humor. This book is unpredictable. Don't even try to guess what's next. Just sit back, and let Hiaasen deliver.

BOOKS



The following is the New York Times bestseller list for the week of Sept. 5.

Paperback Fiction

1. "The Stars Shine Down," Sheldon
2. "Rising Sun," Crichton
3. "Pelican Brief," Grisham
4. "The Firm," Grisham
5. "A Time To Kill," Grisham
6. "Congo," Crichton
7. "Jurassic Park," Crichton
8. "Sphere," Crichton
9. "Deeked," Clark
10. "All That Remains," Cornwell

Paperback Non-Fiction

1. "Uh-Oh," Fulghum
2. "The Road Less Traveled," Peck
3. "Every Living Thing," Herriott
4. "A Rose For Her Grave," Rule
5. "I Know Why The Caged Bird Sings," Angelou
6. "The Silent," Sheehy
7. "A Year In Provence," Mayle
8. "Truman," McCullough
9. "I Can't Believe That I Said That!" Gifford
10. "A World Lit Only By Fire," Manchester

Hardback Fiction

1. "Without Remorse," Clancy
2. "The Bridges of Madison County," Waller
3. "Vanished," Steel
4. "Streets Of Laredo," McMurty
5. "Like Water For Chocolate," Esquivel
6. "The Client," Grisham
7. "The Night Manager," LeCarre
8. "The Shining Ones," Eddings
9. "Pigs In Heaven," Kingsolver
10. "A Case Of Need," Crichton

Hardback Non-Fiction

1. "Embraced By The Light," Eadie
2. "Maybe (Maybe Not)," Fulghum
3. "Women Who Run With The Wolves," Estes
4. "Listening To Prozac," Kramer
5. "Reengineering The Cooperation," Hamner
6. "The Way Things Ought To Be," Limbaugh
7. "The Hidden Life Of Dogs," Thomas
8. "Care Of The Souls," Moore
9. "The Fifties," Halberstam
10. "Girl Interrupted," Kaysen