

Goatfeathers waiters need a tip

STAR WARS continued from page 7

The Restaurant Review



by ADAM DAWKINS

South By Southwest

Out of four stars



600 Gervais St.
The Vista
\$\$\$

South By Southwest is a newer, trendy addition to Columbia's family of restaurants. The executive chef creates some excellent, but often pricey, dishes and always gives out hearty portions.

As an appetizer, I recommend the chicken chili stew, served with grit

cakes. The grit cakes might sound odd, but I found they went very well with the stew. Entrees worth trying include the half rotisserie chicken, served with cornbread stuffing and an array of vegetables; the tuna steak, very thick and best when prepared medium rare; or the pork tenderloin.

Be sure to ask your server to tell you about the evening specials, as well. Most of them are quite creative and very good. Recently, I tried the rack of lamb with a habenero pepper sauce. Although it nearly set me ablaze, it was very tasty.

The wine list is rather extensive and reasonably priced. South By Southwest also has a separate margarita list with some nifty drink ideas.

They also have a nice selection of desserts. My favorite is the Godiva chocolate cake, which certainly is worth about an hour on the treadmill. The decor is modern with a southwestern American motif that gives the dining room an open feel. All in all, South By Southwest is worth trying if you're in

search of a great margarita, friendly service and an enjoyable meal.

Goatfeathers

Out of four stars



2017 Devine St.
Five Points
\$\$

Goat-Feathers, while serving some commendable dishes, must have some of the worst service I've ever come across. I've dined there on several occasions and have found consistently poor service and often rude servers.

As far as food goes, however, the culinary staff produces some above-average creations. They do very well with gourmet sandwiches and other entrees. I especially enjoyed their crab cakes, which I found to be some of the best around. Also, in my opinion, Goat-Feathers serves some of the best desserts in Columbia. Check out their killer cheesecakes and other sweets, al-

ways sure to calm even the peskiest sweet tooth. But Goat-Feathers isn't always consistent in quality. The kitchen sometimes has off-nights, and my food has arrived cold on more than one visit. As far as a bar and place to hang out late at night, Goat-Feathers isn't bad. The atmosphere is fun and eccentric, and they have an extensive beverage selection for those who enjoy top-shelf liquors and wines. But take my advice: sit at the bar. Otherwise, you might need to develop a new life for yourself while waiting for your order. Key to pricing guides:

\$ = \$1-\$10 per person

\$\$ = \$11-\$20

\$\$\$ = \$21 - \$30

\$\$\$\$ = over \$31

Adam Dawkins, a native of Greenville, S.C., is a hotel, restaurant and tourism administration senior. He's a member of the National Restaurant Association and has published restaurant reviews in newspapers and publications throughout the Southeast.



Ashton June Photo Editor

If there's one complaint I have about this movie, it's the use of Darth Maul. He was built up to be this incredible presence in the movie. At most, he had three speaking parts. He had about five minutes of screen time before he faced Qui-Gon and Obi-Wan. I also didn't care for the Trade Federation. The voice characterizations of the Viceroy's species reminded me of a bad kung-fu movie. They didn't seem convincing as alien creatures.

I don't care what people say. I liked Jar Jar Binks. I thought he was a brilliant character. The trend I'm noticing is that people who liked C-3PO like Jar Jar. Well, I liked 3PO, and I like Jar Jar.

I also was annoyed by Yoda in this picture. I thought the whole reversed-sentence thing had played its course after two minutes of hearing him talk.

But this movie was incredible. Lucas can create a transition from plot to plot like no other. At one time, he's handling the battle on Naboo, the Queen's mission to capture the Viceroy and Anakin's battle with the Trade Federation's space station. Not many can match his skill with so many crossing plots.

The score is pure John Williams. Perhaps the best in his lifetime at what he does, Williams has proven his talent with the previous trilogy and the Indiana Jones saga. He doesn't disappoint in his latest triumph.

I have seen "The Phantom Menace" twice, and I plan on seeing it again. It's just a joy to watch. Now I know what people my age felt when they were first taken to a place "a long time ago in a galaxy far, far away." I can't wait for the next two movies.

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Play musical Web sites at www.mp3spy.com



If you're like me and enjoy music, the Internet has a quickly developing technology to provide this luxury.

The technical term for it is audio streaming, but it comes in several forms. There's the lower-quality but quick "Real Audio" that many sites are now using to make their pages more aesthetically pleasing. Then there is my personal favorite, MP3 streaming technology.

MP3 technology is one of the fastest-growing Web products on the Internet. It is the simple but effective compression of audio data into a more portable and easy-to-trans-

fer form. Though much controversy surrounds this technology, one thing is evident; it's becoming a new medium for audio traffic.

Not only are these compressed audio files simple to transport, but the data is easily broken into parts and transmitted. This gives rise to a new form of broadcasting: net radio. Most software designed to play these files can also receive audio data from anywhere on the Internet. The first piece of software to take advantage of this explosive combination of properties is MP3Spy.

MP3Spy is a free application you can download from <http://www.mp3spy.com> that seeks and notifies the user of all the computers on the Internet currently broadcasting MP3 audio data. These "net radio stations" can be subdivided into categories such as rock, rap and other genres and presented in an organized fashion. To put it another way, it's like radio, only far bet-

ter. You can almost choose what you want to hear!

Many proponents of the recording industry argue that this infringes on various copyright laws, but what the world is gradually waking up to is that just about any element of everyday life can be emulated with data. In technicians' talk, it's been proven that any physical piece of hardware can be emulated with a sufficiently fast processor and two instructions. Data can be used to provide more convenient services to the populace; there is no stopping this trend. MP3 audio will never be outlawed; it will have to be controlled rigorously if it is to be contained at all.

But as I always say, the law is always a year behind the computer industry. Despite the controversy, net radio is here today, and you can enjoy it now.



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