

San Francisco Chronicle

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CALIFORNIA & THE WEST

GO NOW

A perfect day of table hopping in Portland

If you go

STAY

Kennedy School, 5736 N.E. 33rd Ave., (888) 249-3983, www.mcmenamins.com/kennedy. Converted elementary school with queen or king rooms, starting at \$109, includes free admission to movies and soaking pool on premises.

Other McMenamins lodgings offer similar amenities if Kennedy is full. Try Edgefield, the Grand Lodge or the White Eagle.

EAT

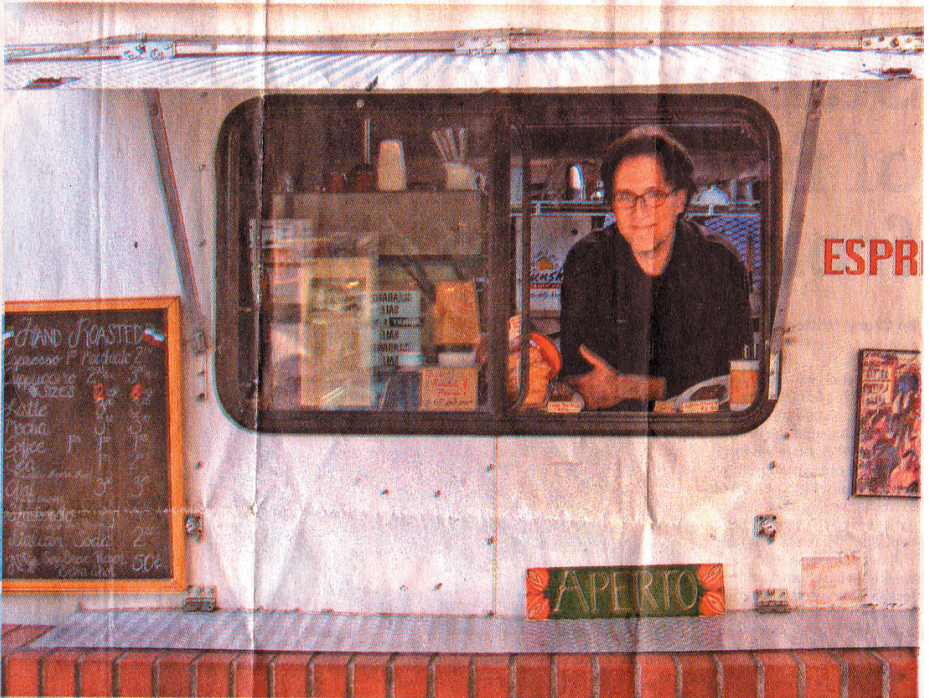
Pearl Bakery, 102 N.W. 9th Ave., (503) 827-0910, www.pearlbakery.com. Breakfast and lunch.

By Nate Pedersen and A. Genevieve Tucholke
SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

In keeping with the character of its people, Portland's best food and drink is found in some of the least pretentious places.

Fine dining is all very well, but often the most enjoyable travel experiences involve rubbing elbows with the locals at the brewpub or eating outside at a crowded Thai restaurant, nestled between the bamboo wall and a table of young indie rockers.

The heart of Portland beats



Spella Cart, a humble, downtown venue, roasts and serves some of Portland's best coffee ... but wait till you try the chai tea.

Photos by Nate Pedersen / Special to The Chronicle

1:30 p.m.: It's time for an afternoon tumble through the best nonalcoholic drinks in the city. Start with Spella Cart. This humble cart in the downtown roasts and serves some of the best coffee in Portland ... but what you really want here is the chai tea; it takes five minutes to make, but is well worth the wait. Corner of S.W. Ninth Avenue and Alder Street, (503) 421-9723.

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