



The Chocolate Mousse Ltd. in University Square

DTH file photo

Sweet things

A dessert-lover's dream

By JOANNE GORDON
Arts/Features Editor

With all the sweet shops in Chapel Hill, it may be too easy to satisfy one's sweet tooth and gain the "freshman 15." Within walking distance, Chapel Hill has four ice cream shops, two yogurt shops and five bakeries — in addition to restaurants which serve desserts.

Among the ice cream establishments are Swensen's Ice Cream Factory, Gelato D'Oro, Baskin Robbins and Haagen Dazs. According to shop employees and managers, the most popular flavors are cookies 'n cream, pralines 'n cream, chocolate chip, caramel chocolate crunch, praline pecan, swiss orange chocolate and mint chocolate chip.

Swensen's Ice Cream Factory, located at 133 W. Franklin St. at Granville Towers Square, really is

an ice cream factory — the shop makes its own frozen flavors. According to owner Leon Todd, Swensen's has recipes for 176 different flavors but makes only about 40.

Gelato D'Oro, 121 E. Franklin St., also makes its own ice cream. Gelato D'Oro is an Italian phrase meaning "golden ice cream." The ingredients include an imported dairy mix as well as fresh ingredients.

At Baskin Robbins, 145 E. Franklin St., the favorite flavors are chocolate chip, caramel chocolate crunch, pralines 'n cream and mint chocolate chip, employee Tammy Williams said. Baskin Robbins has three different sizes of cones and dishes that range in price from eighty cents to \$1.55. They also serve shakes, freezes and sundaes.

"Haagen Dazs ice cream is more expensive because it is made with a higher percentage of cream," employee Lisa Upchurch said. One scoop is \$1.10 and two scoops are \$1.96; a waffle cone is 30¢ more and a one scoop sundae is \$1.93. Haagen Dazs is located at 112 W. Franklin.

For the calorie counters, Chapel Hill has two frozen yogurt shops, including the Yogurt Pump, 106 W. Franklin St. and TCBY at Eastgate Plaza on E. Franklin St. The Yogurt Pump serves chocolate and vanilla yogurt with daily flavor specials and toppings including carob chips, banana chips, granola, nuts and fresh fruits.

The yogurt served at TCBY ("The Country's Best Yogurt" or "This Can't Be Yogurt") averages 29-42 calories per ounce and vary according to flavor, assistant manager Larry Massenbourg said.

Among the five bakeries in Chapel Hill are Grump's, La Patisserie and specialty shops including the Chocolate Mousse Ltd. and The Cookie Jar. Grump's, located at 124 E. Franklin St., sells cookies, brownies, apple and cherry turnovers, ice cream, drinks, cinnamon/raisin bread and rolls.

La Patisserie, located in the Courtyard on W. Franklin St., features gourmet bakery items including croissants, fruit pastries and cakes.

The Chocolate Mousse Ltd., at University Square near Granville Towers, features hand-made chocolate items as well as oreos, cookies, brownies and fudge. Chocolate Mousse is known for its molded items in the shape of moose heads, pigs and frogs. A new feature is "tropical snow," made of Hawaiian shaved ice and low in calories, only 50 calories per serving. UNC students receive a 10 percent discount on all items excluding daily specials, sales employee Debbie Meagher said.

Besides cookies, The Cookie Jar also sells frozen yogurt, "cakies" and drinks. The Cookie Jar features six different types of cookies, with chocolate chip the favorite, employee Gretchen Kohall said.

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