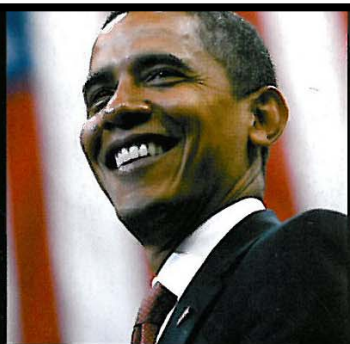


Time Out

Chicago



HEARD ON THE STREET
BEST LINES

The hit list

Five bars to get high at this weekend

1

▲ C-View (166 E Superior St at St. Clair St, 312-523-0923)

Good cocktails, a nice view, sushi and burgers from C-House downstairs. But the best part: Now that summer's over, many of the scenesters have moved elsewhere.

is slowly ending."

their whole act together that day and so it might be an inaccurate representation to give a reader who is looking for an idea of what it will be like in general.

PV The old argument has been, "they're charging full price on the first day, so first-day reviews are fair." The reason most print critics gave a restaurant more time to hit its stride is that we knew that first review was likely the only one we'd write for a long time.

Phillip Foss On the one hand, if the doors are open, so is the game. On the other hand, restaurant openings are very fickle and gigantic monsters. Very frequently, the true character of a restaurant does not come out for several months afterward. In my opinion, bloggers should post anytime. The printed article—depending on the size of the distribution—I believe should check back in a few months.

GEB I spent many a day and sleepless nights at Avenues fighting panic attacks and anxiety, wondering if we would get 4 stars, what our reviews would say...when we went to open GE, we realized that achieving those things did nothing to make us happy.

Therefore, we made a conscious decision to not worry about any of the major critics and/or reviews. We also knew we would constantly be changing the restaurant, menus, etc., and if you look at what was written at the

you're visiting downtown simply makes the team wanna throw you out the door....

PV I get calls from restaurants from time to time wondering about people who've tried to cadge free meals. It's disgraceful, not only for the handout but for the implied blackmail. Some restaurant owners are afraid to deny those people, because they fear the mean-spirited posting that's likely to follow.

PF I twinge when a "critic" comes in announced. It sincerely cheapens the review. Then again, there are chefs who offer their staff bounties for recognizing anonymous critics.

Although the advantages to knowing your critic are obvious, it is much more rewarding to be positively reviewed by an anonymous visit. Also, it keeps you on your toes with all the guests.

GEB Recently we had a certain someone (older, bearded, Santa-looking) review our place and he proceeded to get wasted at the table... wonder how that affected our review... I know what all of you look like, so don't feel intimidated when you stop in for dinner.

PV Ha! I was in last night and you missed me!

GEB Dammit!

PV Actually, I wasn't.

GEB I always assume someone wearing nerd glasses, a backpack, Western-style shirt, etc., works for Time Out.

TOC I know a certain chef who started wearing those nerd glasses....

PV I dress as Pat Bruno. Seems to work.



Eat Out

1 ▲ **C-View (166 E Superior St at St. Clair St, 312-523-0923)**
Good cocktails, a nice view, sushi and burgers from C-House downstairs. But the best part: Now that summer's over, many of the scenesters have moved elsewhere.

2 **Cityscape (350 W Mart Center Dr at Orleans St, 312-636-5000)**
This recently renovated hotel bar is nice enough on the inside, but it's the sparkling river view (pictured, page 23) that'll make you forget you're in a Holiday Inn.

3 **Vertigo (Dana Hotel & Spa, 660 N State St, 312-202-6060)**
The view's not great here—it's mostly of the condos across the

street. But the bar itself is cool and relaxed. Besides, depending on what's going on in those condos, this could be very entertaining.

4 **Signature Room (John Hancock Center, 875 N Michigan Ave, 95th floor, 312-787-7230)** Tourists may crowd the place, but looking at the city from 95 floors up is infinitely better when you actually live here.

5 **Sky Lounge (160 E Huron St, 312-787-2900)**
The outdated decor and the business-trip clientele leave a lot to be desired, but the spectacular view of the lake (and, funnily enough, Vertigo) leaves very little.—DT