

Sugar cravings easily fulfilled on Franklin

By Ariel Smith
Staff Writer

Franklin Street's array of dessert shops are varied and spaced just enough apart so students can visit them all in one night without receiving inquisitive stares. The Yogurt Pump has been a local favorite for 30 years. Commonly referred to as "YoPo," the shop is located just off Franklin Street.

Scott Stephenson, the shop's owner, refreshes the shop's menu approximately every three days. Students can choose from eight flavors, ranging from Ghiradelli

chocolate to dulce de leche. "Yogurt quality and value are extremely important," Stephenson said.

According to Stephenson, the YoPo nickname has been around for nearly 15 years. "Nicknames are a positive thing," he said. "Over time we've embraced that. I do think people use YoPo now more often than the Yogurt Pump."

The shop is open most nights until 11:30 and plain cups of yogurt range in price from \$2.15 for a small to \$2.95 for a large. For those looking for a gift or a solid treat, The Chocolate Door,

with its handmade-in-shop gourmet chocolates, provides a wide range of options.

Owner MJ Rosensweet elaborated on a few of his favorite creations. The store has an open kitchen, so people can watch their sweets being made in the 800-square-foot shop.

"My favorite truffle is the Mayan," Rosensweet said. He said one of the Mayan's key ingredients is Cayan chili.

Rosensweet said one of the store's biggest sellers is the maple bacon chocolate topped with toffee.

The Chocolate Door offers a permanent discount for UNC students.

"I'll be honest with you, a lot of our demographic is college-age females," Rosensweet said. "That totally changes during Valentine's Day and Mother's Day when our demographic skews towards males."

Rosensweet said he also makes specialty items based on customer requests.

"We cater to people; we cater to the community," he said.

Sweet Frog, Franklin Street's newest frozen yogurt shop, offers self-serve yogurt and toppings

from fruit to Heath bar pieces. Students who really enjoy Sweet Frog might even consider it as a job opportunity.

"We hire young adults doing well at school so we know what level they will perform to," Director of Operations Luis Martinez said. "We hire people who are friendly, with manners and who are responsible."

For a classic North Carolina treat, students can visit Krispy Kreme, also located on Franklin Street.

"People come from out of town or out of state and are always excited to get our original glazed doughnut," store supervisor Laura Koehler said.

Krispy Kreme offers doughnut flavors ranging from chocolate iced cream filled to New York cheesecake.

Koehler said her personal favorite is a simple sprinkled doughnut.

There is no shortage of desert — or snack — options in Chapel Hill, which can make for a difficult decision.

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The Yogurt Pump, often called "YoPo," has been a local favorite for 30 years. They have a changing selection of eight flavors to chose from.

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