

POWER TABLES

WHERE THE BUSINESS ELITE ARE EATING

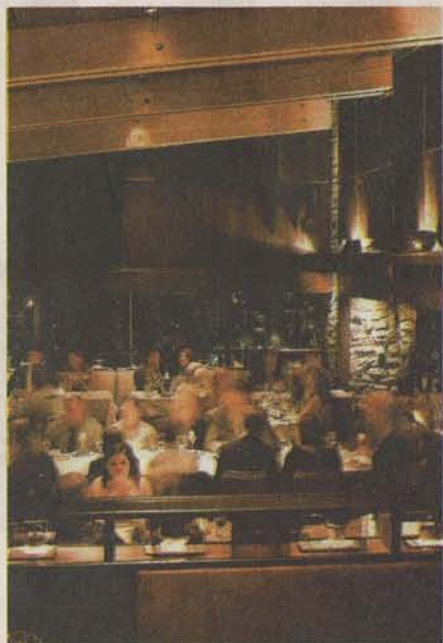
Canlis, Seattle

CANLIS IS A Seattle institution. Since 1950, the Canlis family has forged friendships with the city's elite. **Bill Boeing Jr.**, son of the aviation giant's founder, recalls that owner Chris Canlis swam in the Boeing family pool as a child. **John Wayne** and **Joe DiMaggio** were patrons. That history, the seafood and the views over Lake Union still draw VIPs like Microsoft's **Bill Gates** and **Steve Ballmer**, who dined here the night before Mr. Gates announced he would scale back his involvement at the company.

—*Camille Ricketts and Jessie Knadler*

RECENT SIGHTINGS

After dinner following an October concert, jazz great **Wynton Marsalis** played trumpet and piano for patrons, including his friend actor **Laurence Fishburne**. **Laurie** and **Lars Jonsson**, owners of real-estate company Stellar Holdings, celebrated their 20th wedding anniversary. Washington Mutual Chairman and CEO **Kerry Killinger** was spotted at table 28 with **Craig Tall**, the bank's vice chairman of corporate development. **Ron Elgin**, CEO of DDB Seattle, whose clients include Holland America Line and The North Face, ate at table 1.



WireImage (O'Brien); Rick Dahms (Sinegal)

THE REGULARS



Costco CEO **James Sinegal** was introduced to Canlis by company co-founder and chairman Jeff Brotman; the two still frequent the restaurant.



When **Rick Fersch**, former CEO of Eddie Bauer, comes in, a bottle of Champagne and flutes engraved with his initials are waiting at table 26.



Mark Pigott, chairman and CEO of Paccar, maker of Peterbilt and Kenworth trucks, favors table 5 for social meals and the Cache room for board meetings.



Late-night TV host **Conan O'Brien** and his wife, a Seattle native, eat here when they're in town. They prefer table 22.



Ted Baseler, president and CEO of Ste. Michelle Wine Estates, one of the country's largest wine companies, prefers table 31, with a view of the lake, and almost always orders one of his own wines.

THE POWER TABLES

The tables lining the section dubbed lower level east, including coveted table 26, are usually occupied by movers and shakers who are also longtime patrons. Quiet and softly lit, it's the place for intimate dinners and business conversations. For the see-and-be-seen crowd, upper-level tables 5 and 8 are the most popular for larger parties and tables 1 or 2 for twos. The upper level affords diners a view of the entrance, the open kitchen and the lower levels. The most serious business is done in the private Cache room upstairs, which seats only four.

