

USA TODAY

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The Creamery, Pennsylvania State University, State College, Pa.
The retail outlet of Penn State's world-famous ice-cream school sells up to 8,000 cones a day in football season — including Peachy Paterno, named after the legendary coach. Lines are so long that

customers are allowed only one scoop. "They have Teaberry ice cream, a root beer flavor — that's pretty unusual — and a coffee flavor



dy's are the best." Servers use M&M candy to stop up the hole: "It's so great when you get to the bottom and there's that touch of chocolate."



Handel's, Youngstown, Ohio

Begun in 1945 by Alice Handel, who used fresh fruit from her yard and set up a single machine in her husband's gas station, Handel's now has six locations — all walk-up only — in Ohio and Pennsylvania. The smooth, creamy ice cream is made fresh daily, and the original store scoops 12,000-15,000 portions a week (most popular: Chocolate Pecan). "I love an ice-cream place (whose flavor board) says 'Peach — In Season.'"

Four Seas Ice Cream, Center-ville, Mass.

A Cape Cod fixture since 1934, the Four Seas features unique flavors, such as Penu-

che Pecan, inspired by the brown-sugar-based fudge "that the grandmas in New England used to make." The building, once a garage and blacksmith shop, "is sort of an old wooden rattletrap, but that adds to its charm. (Owner Dick) Warren's personality and the (hired high school) kids' exuberance make it the place everyone in the Hyannis Port area goes to." Indeed, Warren provided the peach ice cream at Caroline Kennedy's rehearsal dinner. "The best

total experience of all (ice-cream places) I've enough to keep it scoop



By George M. Duke, above; Janet Cobb for USA Today; Bob Rina Jr.

Ideal ice cream: Carl's in Frederickst Va., above, uses a rare 1940s machine to make its daily output of frozen custard. Askew, right, prepares a banana split at Robin Ro Cream & Chocolate in Venice, Calif.

