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SY'S PIZZA
 686-9598 1211 Alder

Serving Pizza in the famous New York tradition

RATERS

Track Town Pizza
 1809 Franklin Blvd.
\$4.55
 Rating: 3.2

NEXT CAME THE moment of truth. Domino's. The little white Rabbit with the glowing red and blue domino on top pulled up outside, and we remembered to ask for our two free Pepsis. (We're no rookies at this. We know the ropes.)

"Real salty," said The Connoisseur. "You take a bite and it kinda soaks up your juices."

"What kind of cheese is this?" asked Mrs. Leader. "Rubber," "Plastic," came the replies simultaneously. "Fabric crust," "Pre-fab," corrected Mr. Cheese. "It bounces!" "What a great advertising campaign!"

"It's not so much the taste, it's the texture," said The Connoisseur.

"Is there any sauce?" asked Mrs. Leader. "There's no sauce. Hey look, there's no sauce!"

"There's a hint of it," said Mr. Cheese. "Just enough to give it color. Great Pepsis, though."

"That's the best feature about Domino's. They deliver."

Domino's Pizza
 1609 E. 19th Ave.
\$6.10 (with two Pepsis, delivered)
 Rating: 2.5

"DON'T TOUCH IT, it's cute," said Mr. Cheese. "Look at it, it looks like an Easter bonnet. Awww. Looks like it's about to flower."

"Lemme see, this is Accuardi's Old Town. Lotsa crust."

"Yes," said Ann's replacement. "Not much tomato sauce, but hey, did you get charged for

tomatoes? They forgot our tomatoes! Major mistake!" said Mrs. Leader.

"That's gonna cost them in the ratings!" declared the leader, a gleam in his eye.

(silence for chewing)

"Not too bad. The only thing it needs is a little more sauce," said Ann's replacement.

(more chewing)

"Lotsa mozzarella!" recited the fearless leader. "That's expensive cheese," added Mr. Cheese, who knows these things.

"Let's see, who had the good sauce? Maybe we could come up with a synthetic pizza, where we take the best ingredients from the other pizzas and put them together."

(more chewing)

Accuardi's Old Town Pizza Co.
 174 E. Broadway Ave.
\$4.45
 Rating: 6.4

"THERE'S MORE COMING?" asked Mr. Cheese. "Uunnhhh."

"Oh, boy! Oh yeah!" said The Connoisseur as he opened the Tino's box.

"Mmmmm. Not bad. Taste that tomato sauce!"

"Probably the most seasoned pizza we've had," said Ann's replacement.

"You got your garlic, you got your oregano..." said the leader.

Long strings of gooey cheese webbed between the main bulk of the pizza and the individual pieces.

"There's olive oil in there!" trailed off the leader, his mouth full.

"The crust is a little chewy but it kinda subjugates itself to the whole," offered the anchovy-lover. "The crust and the rest of the pizza are one," attempted Ann's replacement, trying to get into the swing of things. "It's not like they're separate entities."

"Mffzerrellumph!" proclaimed the leader.

East Broadway Pizzeria
 652 E. Broadway Ave.
\$4.35
 Rating: 6.8

OUR SECOND STOP, for no more reason than the first, was at Track Town Pizza. On opening the box, the anchovy-lover exclaimed, "my first impression is that it's sloppy. It's burnt around the edge."

"Greezee. Mmmm," said The Connoisseur, settling down to serious business. "It does look kind of mutant," said our fearless leader, looking as if he had just beamed down from the Enterprise.

"Gross, man," said Ann-chovy. "Grease is just sitting there on top of the pepperoni in little pools."

"The crust is wafer thin." "Look at that," marveled Mr. Cheese. "It glistens in the light."

"The crust has a weird taste," said The Connoisseur. "It does. It has air

pockets," said the fearless leader. "Look, you could climb into those babies!"

"That comes from improper proofing of the dough," interjected the Kibitzer. "Why aren't you doing this?" everyone else asked. "Because," she replied, "I already ate."

"I don't think it's that bad," said our fearless leader, quietly.

"You know that special taste of cheese that's been frozen and re-thawed?" said The Connoisseur. "Yeah, it tastes like a Totino's," said Ann. "Sort of."

"It doesn't have any cheese," said the Mrs. Leader.

"I kind of like it," said the fearless leader, meekly.

The anchovy-lover sat quiet for a second. Something was coming to him. "It makes a mockery of pizza!" he declared. "The pizza bespeaks its own unpopularity."

"It's a pizza made for beer!" announced Mr. Cheese. "Made for Bud or Miller," elaborated The Connoisseur.

"I don't think it's that bad," said our fearless leader. Again. "Let's rate it."

OF THE LAST PIZZA

continued from 1B

"The tomatoes are a little pale and slushy. But they're all like that this time of year," said Mrs. Leader.

"Everyone had one of these?" asked Ann's replacement eagerly.

"The best part of the pizza is scraping the cheese off the wrapping," said Mrs. Leader (who, by the way, has been known to eat all the pineapples off a Canadian bacon and pineapple pizza, leaving a nude bacon pizza).

Tino's Spaghetti House
 1491 Willamette St.
\$5.45
 Rating: 8.5

THE BOX WAS opened slowly to reveal the last pizza, a huge round crater of a pizza, a full inch and a half

high at the edge and an eighth-of an inch thick in the middle. Everyone groaned.

"Look at the size of that thing," someone muttered.

"Hey, maybe that's how it got its name," said the leader. "Get it? Sy's?"

"Hey, how come pineapple instead of tomato?" asked Mr. Cheese, ignoring him. "Didn't they have any?"

"Nope. And this pineapple is kinda weird. It tastes canned."

The first bite revealed a highly-spiced sauce, probably from an old Italian recipe loved by old Italians everywhere.

"Very good crust!" asserted the anchovy-lover. "You like the crust?"

Ooooooh!!" shivered Mrs. Leader. "That's one definite like for the crust, one definite dislike."

"The ham doesn't look real," said another of the judges. "The pineapple doesn't look real. Is this pizza real?"

"I don't know about this one," said the leader. "The Canadian bacon got stuck between my teeth."

"It could just be the bias of being the last one." "I don't know. The spices were pretty strong. That taste'll stay with you for a couple of days."

Sy's Pizza
 1211 Alder St.
\$6.80 (delivered)
 Rating: 4.1

by matt meyer

The results:

Tino's	85	Sy's	41
East Broadway	68	Track Town	32
Old Town	64	Domino's	25

graphic by jane hart-meyer

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LISA: Roses are blue,
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 my back is cramped,
 fix your bed.
 Love, JOHN

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 GREYBEARD

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