

# The Friday Edition

ment newsmagazine



Low lights,  
high fashion  
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## Pizza Pasta Piña coladas



## Midnight munchers rate take-out pizza

It was a dark and stormy night. A late night, slowly turning into an early morning. Suddenly, the urge for pizza strikes. But...

Ah, yes — but. But it's dark outside. But it's raining. Maybe the car's broken down. But you want pizza. What to do? Have it delivered, of course. So grab the phone book, set your stopwatch and start dialing.

Story by Brenda Thornton  
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Photo by Mark Pynes

There are five pizza places in town that deliver to the University area: Sy's, Mama Mia's, Tracktown, Domino's and Pizza Pete's. In a very unscientific test, the *Emerald* ordered a pepperoni and mushroom pizza from each pizzeria and rated them on a scale from one to 10, one meaning throw it out the door and give the dogs food poisoning, and 10 meaning send some home to Mom.

Let's just say that Mom went hungry.

We called all five pizza places at the same time and prepared for the barrage. After exactly 20 minutes, Mama Mia's made the first delivery, one point in their favor. Unfortunately, that was also the last point in their favor.

"What is this stuff?" one editor asked.  
"Some kinda microwave pizza," another replied.  
"I don't want to try it. You try it."  
"I don't want to try it. Let's get Mikey."  
"Yeah, he'll eat anything."  
Wrong. Even Mikey has standards.

Each taste-tester entered their score for Mama Mia's pizza into the *Emerald* computer. After almost choking on the responses, it spit out an average score of 3.2. Looks like a lean year for Mom.

Domino's delivery came in on the heels of Mama Mia's. We waited the standard 30 minutes. Ten more seconds and we would have had a free pizza. Rats.

What can be said about Domino's that hasn't already been said? Most of our tasters were very familiar with the Domino's experience. It just doesn't change. The same spongy crust and the same free drinks are delivered every time. Like good friends and rain in Eugene, you can always count on Domino's.

Actually, Domino's placed a solid third in our ratings, with an average score of 4.66. Some people just like the status quo better than others.

Three minutes and two pizzas later, Sy's delivered. In order to keep things as fair as possible, we ordered a Neapolitan instead of Sy's famous Sicilian style pizza.

Overall, Sy's rated a 5.2, but the staff had definite problems with the mushrooms.

"Canned 'shrooms," grumbled one taster after another. Only one photographer, who is known for his strange taste, liked them.

The slices were gargantuan. "Too much crust. Not enough toppings," snorted one sports writer, stuffing a piece into his mouth as he reached for another.

Tracktown sprinted in at 38 minutes. Although they weren't quick, their pizza made up for the wait.

"Good crust," commented one discriminating editor. "An unpretentious blend of cheese and pepperoni. A full-bodied pizza to go with any wine."

The computer ate up the scores, and burped out the high score of the evening: eight.

What else can we say? Not a piece was left.

Pizza Pete's brought up the rear with a tortoise-like time of 54 minutes. Don't call Pete for those emergency munchies.

This is one pizza that actually stuck to the top of the box. The sauce almost drowned the doughy crust. "Thick enough for a fork, but use a spoon — you'll want every drop," wrote one tester.

The computer attempted to digest the scores on this one and ended up with indigestion and a score of 3.2. Draw your own conclusions.

Better yet, make pizza at home.