

IN SEARCH OF THE WHOLE ENCHILADA



Merari Calderon Ruiz gets ready for her torta delivered by Oscar Uribe at Don Chico.

BY MERARI CALDERON RUIZ

MEXICAN FOOD IS AN ART, IT TAKES TIME TO MAKE AND NOT EVERYONE CAN PULL IT OFF.

Cinco de Mayo is coming up, and it's a great opportunity to celebrate Mexican culture. It may not have been the day that Mexico earned its independence, but it is a great excuse to get together and celebrate its food, drink and culture.

Looking for an authentic Mexican restaurant can be harder than it sounds. Apart from eating homemade Mexican food and going to Mexico over the summer, I love to go out and eat at different places nearby. I sampled some of the classic Mexican dishes from local restaurants including enchiladas de pollo, tamales de pollo, tacos de carne asada, and rice and beans.

Super Torta

710 Washington St, Oregon City

This restaurant is small. I tried not to hit anyone inside with the door since there were a lot of people. The order took about 10 minutes to complete. I started off with the enchiladas de pollo and it was topped with lettuce and cream, which looked fine. The tacos de carne asada tasted pretty decent but there were a couple pieces of meat that were burnt. It was overloaded with tomato.

Next, the tamale was plain terrible. It was hard on the outside and super dry on the inside including the chicken. As for the beans, it looked like they were topped with plastic cheese. Thankfully they didn't taste as bad as they looked. The rice had a good color and flavor to it. I was a little surprised when I ordered a horchata and the guy got it from a soda fountain; it was okay, but the drink was watery.

