



by Mark Rumreich

This installment of the Pizza Scene takes us to an exclusive yet popular dining establishment - the Broad Ripple High School cafeteria.

Broad Ripple High School was established in 1886, but it wasn't until 1930 that a lunchroom was started. Before that, students were forced to walk several blocks to a restaurant or carry their lunches to school.

BRHS Cafeteria

1115 Broad Ripple Avenue
693-5700

Mon - Fri:
10:26 AM to 10:48 AM
11:21 AM to 11:43 AM
12:16 PM to 12:38 PM
1:11 PM to 1:34 PM

www.717.ips.k12.in.us

A partial solution was offered when Corwin Carter, who had two sons enrolled in the high school, parked a well-filled bakery truck at the east entrance to the building and dispensed such items as doughnuts, cream puffs, individual pies and sandwiches.

With the beginning of school in 1928, a plan had been worked out where the class in advanced foods began a project of cooking food for pupils and teachers

in two lunch periods. The daily menu consisted of two hot dishes, a variety of sandwiches, fruit, cookies, ice cream, pie and occasionally milk and hot chocolate. On stormy days, the number of customers increased dramatically. Students overflowed into the lower hall and stairway, which pupils called the "Caboose," and even into upstairs classrooms. The opening of the lunchroom alleviated the problem. As many as one

hundred ninety students bought their lunches in those days, at an average cost of twelve cents.

Today, the cafeteria serves fifteen hundred students in four lunch periods. It offers hot and cold sandwiches, salads, Mexican and American entrees, and pizza by the slice. We visited on



Broad Ripple High School has been serving lunches in the village since 1930.

a Monday for three-meat pizza, the student favorite. Chicken veggie, pepperoni & sausage, sausage, and pepperoni are the slices of the day for Tuesday through Friday.

After stopping at the office to sign in (and get our neon orange VISITOR PASS stickers), we headed to the cafeteria and got in line. We grabbed a couple of pizza slices apiece (cleverly concealed in wax paper to keep you from snagging one with extra pepperoni) and headed to a table, the editor obviously pleased that this was the least expensive Pizza Scene to date. No expensive microbrews to add to the tab here.

Now we weren't expecting Union Jack's or Bazbeaux, and we didn't get it. (Granted, they don't have a school nutritionist to satisfy.) The pizza

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had plenty of cheese, but the meat was sparse - each of my slices had but a lone piece of pepperoni. (Maybe the students in front of me figured out a way to see through the wax paper cloaking device and get the better slice.)

I found the crust to be on the spongy side. The sausage came in hefty-sized hunks and had good flavor. I have to give the sauce points for having a spicy kick to it. But what impressed me the most was the job the cafeteria staff did creating a menu that appeals to fast food appetites as well as school nutritionists, and serving it up in twenty-two minutes flat.



Pizza is served with a smile at Broad Ripple High School.

Crossword solution

puzzle on Page Six

C	A	L	F	B	A	S	S	G	R	A	B	
A	R	E	A	S	U	G	L	Y	Y	O	G	A
P	E	A	R	L	S	E	E	M	M	A	R	K
A	D	M	I	T	D	E	B	T	S	E	E	
	E	C	H	O	P	O	I	N	T	E	D	
T	H	R	E	A	T	L	E	E				
G	O	E	S	T	H	O	R	S	T	Y	L	E
O	U	R	S	E	W	E	D	O	I	L		
D	R	O	P	S	R	E	A	R	S	U	N	K
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A	N	S	W	E	R	S	T	O	O	T		
P	O	P	P	A	C	K	L	I	T	E	R	
R	O	A	R	S	A	I	L	L	I	V	I	D
O	N	C	E	E	L	S	E	A	N	I	S	E
N	E	E	D	R	E	S	T	G	L	E	N	



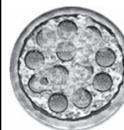
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Hours: M-Thur...11a-10p
Fri-Sat...11a-12a
Sun...12p-10p

Mark Rumreich has been vigilantly surveying the pizza scene in the Indianapolis area for over two decades. He is an avid home brewer, has written for several magazines, and is the author of the Car Stereo Cookbook.



Want your pizza to be reviewed by The Pizza Scene? Add a new pizza since your last review? Did our review overlook your specialty pizza?

Contact the Gazette at 508-6634