

FOOD & DRINK

New Eastgate grill offers casual service, great food

2nd City Grill

Italian and American, takeout
 Eastgate Shopping Center
 942-5844
 informal
 no reservations required

BRYAN BURNS

restaurants

adequate. Customers occasionally must wait for a dirty table to be cleared or for fresh silverware, condiments or napkins.

But the food at 2nd City is quite good, and isn't that the most important part of eating out?

As the name states, the restaurant's specialties are from the grill. There are hot dogs, hamburgers and sandwich specialties, but the key is the variety. For hot dogs, the grill offers everything — plain, relish, chili, cheese, bacon, you name it.

The hamburger selection is also large. The special is the 2ndCG Cheeseburger, which has traditional toppings including mushrooms or bacon. For something different, how about the Teriyaki burger topped with pineapple? The grilled chicken and steak sandwiches are also delicious.

And what goes better with dogs and burgers but fries and onion rings? 2nd City has awesome fries freshly made with just the right tang of salt or whatever seasoning they use. The onion rings, though, aren't quite what I expected. The batter is just a little too different. Too spicy? Maybe, but definitely unusual.

2nd City also serves various pasta dishes, from spaghetti and meatballs to fettucine with different sauces, meats and vegetables. The grill also features Straw and Grass, a dish with yellow egg noodles (the straw) and green spinach noodles (the grass), plus sausage, mushrooms and cheese.

2nd City offers two types of pizza:

The 2nd City Grill, a new restaurant and bar in the Eastgate shopping center, offers diners a wide selection of dishes ranging from burgers and sandwiches to pizza and pasta. Its casual atmosphere, full bar and reasonable prices make it a place worth trying on a weekend.

Right from the start, the grill creates a lively, relaxed atmosphere with purple and green table tops, lamps hanging from the ceiling and neon beer signs. The restaurant was slightly cramped, although the large booths, which seat up to six comfortably, offer some privacy. The restrooms are also striking, with an intensely loud black and red color scheme — I'm talking really loud.

The casual atmosphere is carried over into the service. Customers order at the front counter, then pick up the food when their number is called. Diners also get their own beverages and silverware from a self-service area. Although this allows everyone to have refills of soft drinks and tea, this design becomes a problem when the restaurant is crowded.

On a busy night, the employees barely manage to take the orders and serve the food. While their service is friendly and efficient, it's a little in-



Chicago and California (wonder where they got the names?). Anyway, the first is fairly standard, but the second style is a little different in several ways.

Most of the California pizzas have no tomato sauce, although some have sauce with less traditional ingredients. The White Pizza has no sauce of any kind, just lots of cheese and a few slices of pepperoni. Another, the Pesto Pizza, has a strong garlic pesto sauce with sausage and cheese. Oth-

ers are the Cajun Pizza and the Veggie Supreme. The California style may sound strange, but it's worth checking out.

Vegetarians can choose from several dishes at 2nd City. The restaurant features meatless pizzas, sandwiches, pasta dishes and salads, including a huge — we're talking really big — Caesar Salad, with tons of romaine lettuce and just the right dressing.

As for drinks, 2nd City offers a

full bar in addition to soft drinks and tea. The beer selection, however, was somewhat limited.

My final impressions of 2nd City Grill were definitely positive. The food was good and the prices fairly reasonable.

The main problem was the lack of service during the dinner hour. If this is discouraging, I recommend their lunch menu or take out service. The food makes it worth the slight inconvenience.

Don't panic — genuine fast food is right at your fingertips

A Guide to Restaurants That Deliver

Place	Cost	Variety	Delivery Area	Phone
Roman Wings	roast beef sub: \$4.40 (12")	subs, salads, chicken wings, chicken nuggets, fried chicken	Chapel Hill Carrboro	929-7827
Marathon Restaurant	roast beef sub: \$4.45 with fries	steak & cheese subs, pizzas, Greek dishes	dorms, campus hospital	933-0590
Pizza Hut	pepperoni pizza (large): \$11.50	pizza	Chapel Hill Carrboro	942-0343
Tony's Pizza	pepperoni pizza (large): \$10.50	pizza (by slice), salads, stromboli soon: subs	within 5 mile radius of University Mall	968-3424
Domino's Pizza	pepperoni pizza (large): \$10.26	pizza	within 5 minutes of the store	929-0246
Checker's Pizza	pepperoni pizza (large): \$9.64	pizza	Chapel Hill Carrboro	967-3636
Gumby's Pizza	pepperoni pizza (large): \$9.50 regular \$7.30 special	pizza	Chapel Hill Carrboro	968-3278

By BILLY STOCKARD
 Staff Writer

Let's face it: Dining hall food doesn't always satisfy. After six hours of class or a long Saturday afternoon, heading up to Lenoir for a "gourmet

burger" just isn't going to pack it.

Never fear, Chapel Hill offers some of the tastiest alternatives to cafeteria food around. Whether you live in an apartment or a dorm, whether you prefer pizza or subs, you can have dinner delivered right to your door

... or at least to the lobby. To assist in the search for Marriott relief, here's a guide to delivery food. Several restaurants may add service, so if your favorite eatery isn't listed, call before you panic.

Bon appetit!

N.C. CRAFTS Gallery

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