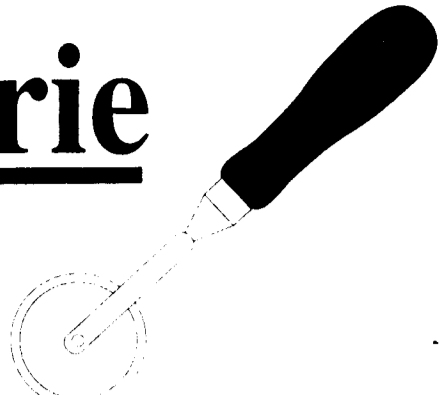


# Finding the Best Pizza in Erie



## THE RESULTS

BY ROGER BURLINGAME AND JENNIFER HEMME

WELL, THE BEACON'S SEARCH FOR THE BEST PIZZA IN TOWN WAS A BIG SUCCESS. SEVEN MEMBERS OF THE BEACON STAFF SAMPLED PIZZA FROM SIX PIZZA PLACES THAT ALL DELIVER TO CAMPUS: PIZZA HUT, PAPA JOHN'S, LITTLE CAESAR'S, BRUNO'S, LUCCHETTI'S, AND BARBATO'S. WHILE IT WAS A CLOSE RACE FOR FIRST, BETWEEN PIZZA HUT AND PAPA JOHN'S, THE DECIDING FACTOR FOR PIZZA HUT WAS ITS SAUCE. ALMOST EVERYONE AGREED THAT PIZZA HUT'S SAUCE WAS THE BEST.

TASTERS WERE EACH GIVEN A PLATE WITH A SLICE (CHEESE OR PEPPERONI, DEPENDING ON PREFERENCE) FROM EACH PIZZA PLACE. SLICES WERE MARKED WITH COLORED TOOTHPICKS, SO TASTERS COULD NOT TELL THE SOURCE OF EACH SLICE. PIZZAS WERE RATED ON A SCALE OF ONE TO TEN. THE PIZZAS WERE GRADED ON THREE MAJOR QUALITIES: CRUST, SAUCE, AND CHEESE. WHEN JUDGING PIZZA, EVERYONE HAS TO KEEP THIS IN MIND: PIZZA IS LIKE SEX. WHEN IT'S GOOD IT'S GREAT, AND WHEN IT'S BAD IT'S STILL KIND OF GOOD.

THE WINNER OF THE COMPETITION, PIZZA HUT, HAD A TOTAL OF 145 POINTS. PAPA JOHN'S CAME IN SECOND WITH 135 POINTS. LITTLE CAESAR'S WAS THIRD WITH 131 POINTS. BRUNO'S CAME IN FOURTH WITH A TOTAL OF 93 POINTS. LUCCHETTI'S, USUALLY A FAVORITE WITH THE ERIE DAILY TIMES NEWS STAFF IN THEIR PIZZA TASTING COMPETITION, CAME IN FIFTH WITH 89 POINTS. BARBATO'S WAS THE SIXTH AND LAST PLACE PIZZA AND HAD A TOTAL SCORE OF 64 POINTS.

WHY DID BARBATO'S, A VERY POPULAR ERIE PIZZERIA, SCORE SO LOW WITH OUR BLIND TASTE TESTERS? DEANNA SYMOSKI, COMM 04, SAID THAT

IT WAS "GREASY AND HAD A BAD TASTE." NICOLE MCGEE, ADV 02, SAID THAT IT WAS "WAY TOO DRY." DANIELLE MARSHALL, POLSC 06, SAID THAT IT "WAS THE WORST BECAUSE ALL OF THE INGREDIENTS

WERE HORRIBLE. THE TASTE OF IT WAS DISGUSTING TO MY TASTE BUDS." MIKE COURSEY, POLSC 08, MADE A VERY VIVID COMMENT, SAYING THAT IT WAS "WORSE THAN FROZEN PIZZA THAT SAT IN YOUR FREEZER SINCE 1969."

THE HIGHEST OVERALL. MICHAEL COURSEY II, A YOUNG PARTICIPANT, SAID THAT THE PIZZA HUT SAMPLE WAS THE BEST BECAUSE OF "THE SAUCE...IT WAS DELICIOUS."

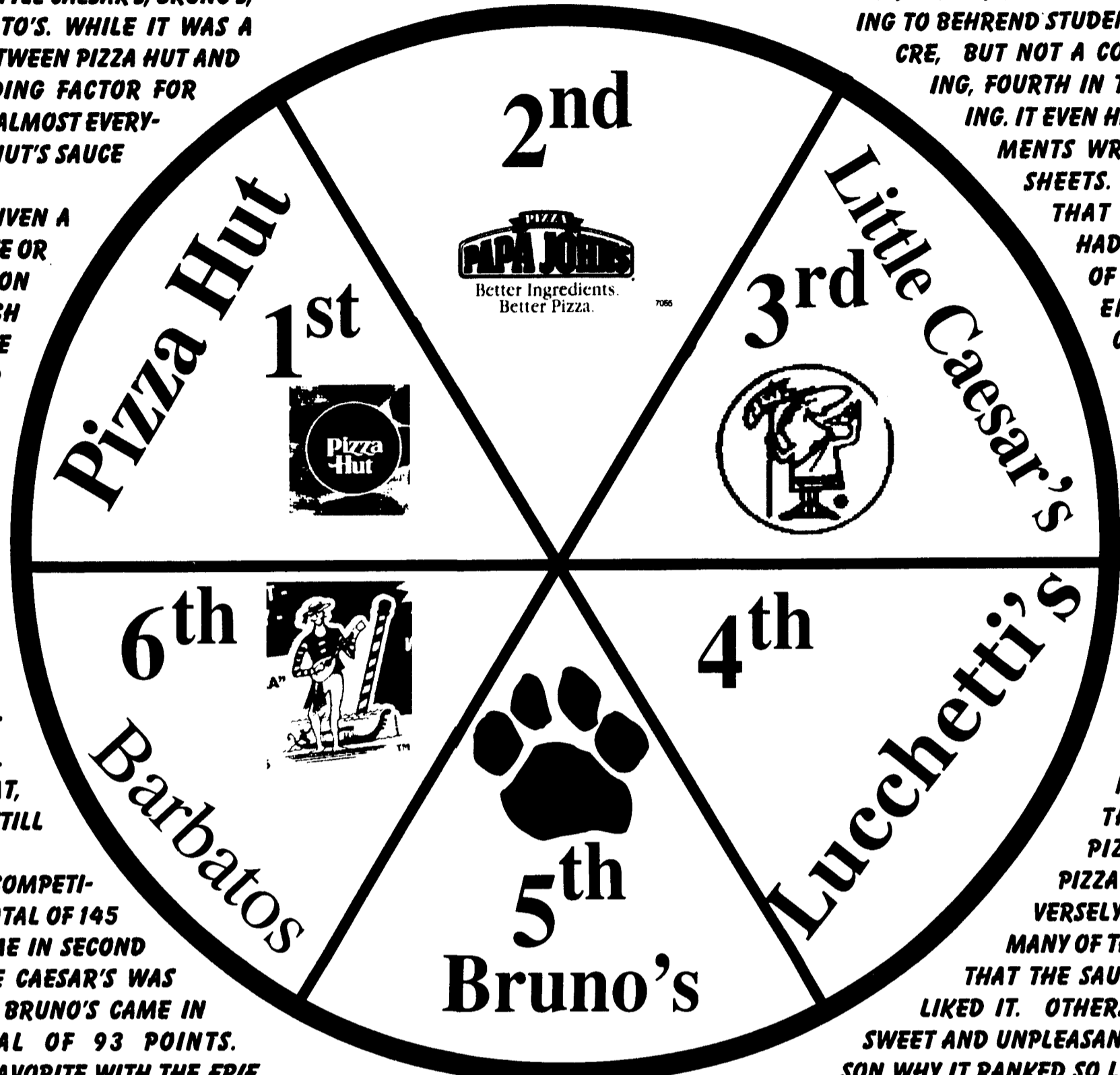
BRUNO'S RESULTS MAY BE THE MOST SURPRISING TO BEHREND STUDENTS. IT SCORED A MEDIUM, BUT NOT A COMPLETELY EMBARRASSING, FOURTH IN THE TASTE TEST'S RANKING. IT EVEN HAD SOME POSITIVE COMMENTS WRITTEN ON THE SURVEY SHEETS. SOME OF THEM WERE THAT THE BRUNO'S SAMPLE HAD A "GENEROUS AMOUNT OF CHEESE" AND "INGREDIENTS."

DAVE YOUNG, COMM 02, AGREED WITH THE OPINION OF MANY BEHREND STUDENTS, HOWEVER, BY SAYING THAT THE SAMPLE "TASTED HORRIBLE AND WAS SOGGY."

AS FAR AS PRICES GO, YOU'LL BE HAPPY TO KNOW THAT OUR VERY OWN BRUNO'S, WHICH PLACED FOURTH, WAS THE CHEAPEST BY FAR. ON ANOTHER CURIOUS NOTE, LUCCHETTI'S WAS THE MOST EXPENSIVE PIZZA. THE SMALL-SIZED PIZZA COST \$10.40, AND CONVERSELY, CAME IN FIFTH PLACE.

MANY OF THE TASTERS COMMENTED THAT THE SAUCE WAS UNIQUE. SOME LIKED IT. OTHERS FOUND IT STRANGELY SWEET AND UNPLEASANT, WHICH WAS THE REASON WHY IT RANKED SO LOW.

SO, IF YOU WANT THE BEST, ORDER PIZZA HUT OR PAPA JOHN'S. IF YOU REALLY DON'T CARE, THEN BY ALL MEANS ORDER BRUNO'S BECAUSE IT'S THE CHEAPEST. WHATEVER YOU DO, KEEP EATING PIZZA. BY DOING SO, YOU GET ALL FOUR FOOD GROUPS AND YOU CAN EAT IT FOR BREAKFAST, LUNCH, OR DINNER.



Beacon staff writers at the pizza taste test contest



Staff writer Mike Coursey ponders who has the best pizza in Erie

