



All eyes on:
Brenda Higgins
page 11

Order up

The Index editorial staff picks Kirksville's top eats

BEST BREAKFAST

Rosie's Northtown Café

Located just north of Wal-Mart on Baltimore, Rosie's Northtown Café, famous for its breakfast selection, is quiet and reasonably priced. For even the pickiest eater, Rosie's is great — simple food done right. Even their toast is delicious. Because of the distance from campus, Rosie's is often discounted or forgotten, but be sure to make the trek.

BEST COFFEE

Washington Street Java Co.

The hip atmosphere and addicting coffee drinks at Washington Street Java Co. make for an attractive place for students to unwind and relax. Its wide menu includes hot and cold coffee drinks, like the French Kiss Mocha, a white chocolate and raspberry coffee drink, as well as light fare such as salads and sandwiches. Java Co. offers free Wi-Fi and often hosts live bands. Like most coffeehouses, it can get expensive but is a good treat after a hard school week. Java Co. is located on the south side of the Square.

BEST CHINESE

China Palace

With so many local Chinese joints, this category is the most hotly debated. China Palace, located on Franklin Street on the Square, beats out the others with its cleanliness and huge buffet of typical yet addictive Chinese chow. The flat crab rangoon gives a perfect ratio of crust to filling, and the sweet coconut chicken is a must-try.

BEST LATE NIGHT

Pancake City

Unanimously named by Index staff as the best and most popular late-night dig, Pancake City is open 24 hours a day, every day but Sunday, and serves up greasy but tasty diner food. Located just south of Wal-Mart on Baltimore Road, its iconic yellow sign shines in the night, inviting the tired and hungry. Denise Davis, an overnight waitress who has worked at Pancake City for four years, said the "Imma Starving Man's Plate" — a half order of biscuits and gravy, two eggs, hash browns, bacon, sausage, toast and pancakes — is a late night favorite.

BEST LATE NIGHT - RUNNER UP

Greek Corner Gyros

Kirksville's newest addition, Greek Corner Gyros, gained its huge fan base almost instantaneously. The small, family-owned restaurant offers both inside and outside seating, and its walkup window is open until 2 a.m. Thursdays through Saturdays, perfect for grabbing a bite after last-call at the bars. Just south of the Square on Franklin, the restaurant serves traditional Greek fare as well as American favorites, such as hamburgers and fries. Owner Steve Liberis said late night customers tend to go for the signature gyro, made with chicken or beef and lamb meat, pita bread, homemade special gyro sauce, onions and tomatoes.

BEST PLACE FOR A FIRST DATE

Bonzai Steaks, Teriyaki and Sushi House

Relatively new to Kirksville, Bonzai's quiet atmosphere and adventurous menu provide a great place to woo your Biology lab partner. Kirksville's only Japanese restaurant, located on Harrison Street on the Square, serves cooked and raw sushi — try the A.T. Still Roll — as well as cheap but delicious teriyaki bowls and house salads made with their homemade sesame dressing. Ordering something adventurous will guarantee you and your date will have something to talk about and a fun first memory.

BEST MEXICAN

La Pachanga

Kirksville has several good Mexican restaurants, but La Pachanga's proximity to campus and cheap prices keep the restaurant packed with patrons. Its huge menu ranges from taco salads to enchiladas to burritos to chalupas. Drink specials and sweet desserts make it a great spot to celebrate a birthday or just relax on the weekend.

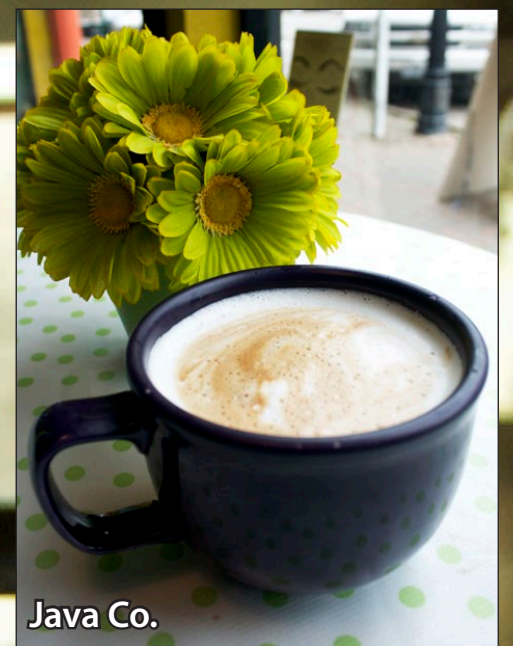
BEST BURGER

Dukum Inn

The Dukum's limited bar-food menu claims its burger is "The Second Best in Town," but the Index disagrees. Dukum waitress Stephanie McGrew said the burger's bun comes toasted and lightly buttered, and patrons can ask for a "garden on the side" that includes lettuce, onion and pickles. Other items on the menu, such as the fries and chicken fingers, promise a meal that's cheap, greasy and delicious. Dukum is on South Elson Street, south of the Square.



Greek Corner Gyros



Java Co.



Pancake City



story and photos by Blaise Hart-Schmidt, Features Editor

Dukum Inn