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Union Pizzeria extras



Diners choose beef or chicken for the Union Philly, which is topped with sauteed green peppers, onions, mushrooms and melted provolone. Union Pizzeria is at 1420 Cuming St. in the new Holiday Inn.

The Union is owned by Joe D'Elia, Kyron O'Brien, Chris Bollinger and a silent partner. D'Elia launched Frank's with his wife and brother in 2003 and has been making pizza since he was a teen in Brooklyn three decades ago. O'Brien is the Union's manager; and, no, he is not related to the "Tonight Show" host. Bollinger is an Omaha native who also is a majority owner of McKenna's Blues, Booze & BBQ.

In the kitchen: Matt Chamberlain is the kitchen manager and head chef; working with him is chef Brian Zuerlein. Both are recent culinary school graduates. D'Elia remains in charge of the Italian and pizza portions of the menu, O'Brien said.

In the works: An update in August will add some popular College World Series specials to the regular menu. Among them: the pizookie (a sort of molten pizza-cookie sundae), sliders (mini burgers served on the restaurant's signature garlic knots) and a biscuits-and-gravy (yes, you read that right) pizza. Also look for the restaurant to launch delivery service.

The décor plays to local sports teams. Framed jerseys represent University of Nebraska at Omaha hockey, Creighton University basketball and University of Nebraska-Lincoln volleyball. During the CWS, when the hotel hosted University of Virginia fans, the restaurant was decked out in orange and navy Virginia gear.

Reservations are accepted and appreciated. The Union seats 170 (comfortably) to 250 (capacity) inside and 100 more on its patio.

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