

AS SEEN IN
NY POST

PASS THE BICARB

SLATE OFFERS THINGS in abundance: two floors of pool tables, a huge bar and lounge area, infinite TV's, lots of noisy pa-

Restaurant Report

trons, deejay's spinning music, a smoke choked environment, busboys that don't bus and waitresses that give new meaning to the word "attitude".

A commonplace kitchen takes its sweet time dishing out the fare—or is it the servers who simply

don't pick up and deliver when dishes are ready? For example, pizza, expertly topped, becomes a casualty for being served stone cold. Perhaps this is why too many items look fatigued. Respectable exceptions: buffalo wings, hanger steak, halibut, and St. Louis ribs and fries. Shrimp and lobster roll sandwich is also palatable.

Inedible dishes: house-made cole slaw bent us all out of shape; grim, overcooked mac and cheese offered unsavory aromas and



bizarre, ill-flavored tastes; gummy shrimp and crab fritters came with bitter dipping sauces; and fries excessively covered in melted cheese were delivered tepid, wilted, and soggy. Salads, sides and desserts are generally on a par and the less said the better.

Best package deal: free lunch if you book a pool table for \$7 an hour. The wine list is reasonably extensive but expensive.

★ *Slate*, 54 W. 21 St., NY. (212) 989-0096. L & D daily. Dinner entrees \$12-\$18. \$15 brunch includes beverage and two cocktails. Accepts res., major cc.

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SCOOPS: Bukhara Grill's (E. 58 St.) First Annual Kebab Festival runs through July 30th. \$30 pp....
Leshko's (Ave. A) hottest favorites: perogis and meatloaf....Summer theater season heats up and rates cool down to as low as \$109 a room at B'ways **Milford Plaza** during

July....**Cinque Terre Restaurant** in Manhattan's Jolly Hotel, under the direction of executive chef Giovanni Sias is creating a mild sensation....Newcomer's **Django** bringing French cooking and gypsy flair to Lexington Ave., **Zebu Grill** (E. 92 St.) for fashionable Brazilian fare, and **Patsy's Pizzeria** touting perfect pizza and pasta....For Baltic sojourns cruise Russia, Estonia, Latvia and Sweden via Kristina Cruises, Viking Line and Silja. Call the **Finnish Tourist Board** (212) 885-9700.

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WHAT THE ★★★ MEAN
0- Farkackt (Beneath contempt)
1- Unremarkable but acceptable
2- Good
3- Very good
4- Outstanding

FOR THE RECORD
Restaurant reviews in this column are in no way paid advertising. Restaurants are selected at Landwehr's sole discretion and praised or panned accordingly. Feedback is welcome. Write Landwehr at 823 11th Ave., NY 10019 or call (212) 956-1882 or check-out his web site @www.SheldonLandwehr.com; Email Sheldon@.Sheldonlandwehr.com.