

AROUNDTOWN

Pizzeria offers tasty variety of pies

W Zoe Ljubic
Editor in Chief

Ian's Pizza by the Slice, a new pizzeria that opened in July in Wrigleyville, offers diners the perfect place to sample a large variety of pizza.

The restaurant features casual decor with limited seating and a large counter filled with pizza, salads and drinks. Customers order at the counter and have a seat in the comfortable dining room, with an atmosphere that welcomes patrons into a cool and casual environment.

The wide variety of pizza available to choose from overwhelms customers, so this reviewer decided to try a variety of slices available at the pizzeria.

The sampling began with the Barbecue Steak and Fry pizza, which *looked* appealing, with its toppings of steak, French fries and barbecue sauce. Despite its inviting appearance, the pizza featured too much barbecue sauce and overcooked steak.

Next was Smokey the Bandit pizza slice, which beat the Barbecue Steak and Fry in terms of taste. Featuring barbecued chicken, bits of bacon, three kinds of cheeses and drizzled ranch dressing, the slice was delicious.

Finishing the barbecue category was the Barbecue Chicken Pineapple. Diners should expect a slice filled with both sweet and sour flavor. Just like the name, the Barbecue

Chicken Pineapple contains barbecue chicken with pineapple in an Italian marinara sauce.

Alfredo. The Chicken Penne Alfredo consists of chicken and penne pasta, over a creamy Alfredo

pizza, consisting of macaroni, onto of a layer of crust topped with melted cheddar cheese. Ian's number one selling pizza will leave patrons pleased and full.

For dessert, Ian's currently offers the S'mores pizza, which consists of marshmallows, chocolate chips, graham crackers, and chocolate syrup. This mouth-watering treat will satisfy diners. Before departing, all the customers at Ian's were given a brownie on the house in order to offer feedback on the new recipe. This delectable delicacy made from pure cocoa truly finishes the meal off well. The brownie will be on sale soon at Ian's.

On the whole, Ian's Pizza turned out to be an excellent place for one to dine. Because the Cubs game made traffic horrific and parking difficult to find, patrons are encouraged to take public transportation or to wait until November after the Cubs win the World Series.

This little pizzeria, located at 3462 North Clark, makes dining fun and enjoyable. The workers were friendly and helpful in identifying each pizza. If one wishes to have a premium, delectable meal in Wrigleyville, Ian's Pizza is the place to be.



Ian's pizza offers a wide variety of original and delicious pizza pies.
Photo by Zoe Ljubic

West Word food critics then sampled Dino's Florentine pizza, which contains spinach, feta and chopped tomatoes. This slice proves to be perfect for vegetarians.

Equally delicious is the Chicken Penne

sauce. Although, the Chicken Penne Alfredo may sound messy, one can expect a delicious slice—or two—of Italy.

The *piece de resistance* at Ian's is the specialty of the house: the Mac 'n' Cheese

Ian's Pizza by the Slice

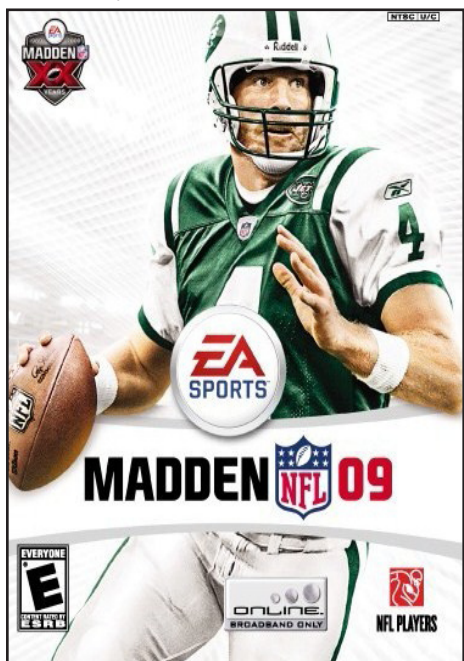


3462 North Clark

Player adaptation highlights Madden 09

W Rexly Penaflorida
Managing Editor

Since the introduction of the *Madden* video game franchise, football addicts and sports gamers alike have played countless hours with their favorite team or created a player that would eventually rise to Hall of Fame. In celebration of the 20th year of the franchise, the team at EA



Sports has raised the bar for the *Madden* series even higher. With the all new **Madden IQ** and other numerous brand new features, *Madden 09* is one of the must-have games for 2008.

The biggest feature in the game is the introduction of **Madden IQ**. The back cover reads, "The first game that adapts to you," and that is exactly what *Madden IQ* does. Before playing a single game, John Madden gives the player a series of tests on passing, rushing and defense. After each test, a rank is given from Rookie to All-Madden. Depending on how well the player does on each test, the difficulty of the game will increase. For example, if a player receives an All-Madden ranking in passing, the probability of making a decent pass will

decrease. **Madden IQ** also takes a post-game assessment that rates whether or not the player increased his/her IQ in the game.

In addition to **Madden IQ**, two additional features have been added to make the player more aware during plays. In **Backtrack** mode, if the player throws an interception, incomplete pass, or loss of yards, the commentators show the options that the player could have made. After Backtrack, the player has the option to choose **Rewind**. Rewind can be used to repeat a mistake from the previous play. This feature can be abused easily since there is an option to how many rewinds the player can have.

The look of the game in terms of graphics is amazing. The field looks realistic, and the

players' jerseys don't stay clean if they play in the mud. Weather conditions look realistic as well. It feels as if one is watching the game on television when the Bears play the Packers at Soldier Field with blizzard-like conditions during the game.

The **Superstar** mode has been upgraded as well. It used to be that players had to create a player from scratch, but there is now an option that allows rookies of the current season to be played as a superstar. That means that West alumnus and Pittsburgh Steelers running back Rashard Mendenhall can be played as a superstar.

Madden 09 is a landmark in the world of gaming, not just because it is the 20th *Madden*

game to be released, but because of its user-friendly gameplay. There is no longer a moment where the players have to pick between an easy game on All-Pro difficulty or to a challenging match on All-Madden. The **Madden IQ** has broken ground with giving players a chance to play on their own level of gameplay. Like its 19 predecessors, *Madden 09* will impress players and give them a new experience in gameplay.



Madden 09

Multiple systems

Ghost Town creates a hilarious spirit

W Naomi Prale
Around Town Editor

Ghost Town uses the supernatural and elements of surprise to create a romantic comedy worth seeing.

The film features a superb performance by Ricky Gervais (known for the British version of *The Office*), who plays Bertram Pincus, a dentist who lives in Manhattan and who lacks people skills. Between avoiding neighbors and being sour with patients, it is clear that Pincus is a complete jerk when he chooses to snub his co-worker's celebration of his new baby. When Pincus accidentally dies for seven minutes during a delicate, uhm, medical procedure (this is a student newspaper) and then is inexplicably revived, he suddenly gains the ability to see and communicate with ghosts. So, not only is the misanthropic Pincus

forced to deal with the living, but he also sees and hears the dead.



One particularly obnoxious ghost is Frank Herlihy (Greg Kinnear) who joins the spirit world early in the movie. His widow Gwen (Tea Leoni) is remarrying and for a good reason, because it is seen early that Frank was having an affair. Frank understands that he has some unfinished business left on Earth and seeks the help of Pincus, the only living person with whom Frank can communicate.

Frank believes that Gwen deserves better than her new fiancée and wants to interfere and break up their engagement. After humorous scenes of Pincus doing his best to avoid Frank and all other ghosts, Pincus decides to give in against his moral judgment and intrude in Gwen's love life. With Frank guiding him along the way, Pincus spends his free time talking with Gwen, hoping that if

she becomes attracted to him, Gwen will end the engagement. Through amusing and tear-jerking scenes, Pincus learns to enjoy talking to and helping others, something he barely tried to attempt before his near-death experience.

The film uses many supernatural elements with interesting special effects. The ghosts look like real people, but they can walk through any objects. At one point in the movie, when a ghost walks through Pincus, he sneezes. This indicates the supernatural presence.

The humor used in this movie is a bit corny, but funny nonetheless. Pincus does not know how to interact with people, so people become the victim of his jokes. However, Pincus is not expected to have a sense of humor, so his small jokes are another contribution to the surprise in the film.

As this bitter man comes out of his shell and learns to love, this light comedy succeeds at what its set out to do: to amuse us and pull on our heartstrings. *Ghost Town* is a movie to be remembered for its witty and excellent acting by Gervais and for its sentimental and sweet plot line.



Ghost Town

Directed by David Koepf