



Tight race for chicken wing king

Sarah Leavitt

sarah.leavitt@transcontinental.ca

Despite last week's incredibly humid heat wave, seven members of the Chronicle staff took up the challenge of tasting the best of the West Island chicken wings. Luckily for them, the office provided a comfortable air-conditioned environment to test out the wings from Jack Astor's, Brasserie Le Manoir and Clydes. It should be noted that the judges had to forgo the usual accompanying beverage of beer since they were on the job.

The judges made sure to keep a few chicken wing essentials in mind while determining the best. The tenderness of the chicken was evaluated, along with the flavour and size. The scores were the closest ever, with only 14 points separating third place from the first.

In third place, with 588 points out of 700, was Clydes in Pointe Claire (286 Lakeshore Blvd.). These wings were the most garnished with sauce providing much finger-licking and flavour. As I stated, the "wings were perfectly tender, juicy enough to provide a great taste but with an added crunch."

In second place, with 592 out of 700, was Jack Astors in Dorval (3051 Sources Blvd.). For these wings, the stand-out characteristic was the crispiness. As Chronicle sales coordinator, Talia D'Costa put it "A good-sized, well-fried wing. Not too saucy or greasy, the perfect find food."

Taking the crown were the chicken wings from Brasserie Le Manoir in Pointe Claire (600 St. John Blvd.) with 602 points out of 700. Chronicle journalist François Lemieux said it best when he said "Man, are they tender and juicy or what? Incredible." These wings won the best points in all categories from their perfectly spiced flavour to what sales consultant Graham Doughty said were "big wings." These chicken wings were a delight and are inexpensive, too!

The Best of the West is going on all summer. Anybody can vote by calling (514-685-4690, extensions 243, 258 or 252) and voting verbally or by leaving a message, or e-mailing (info.chronicle@transcontinental.ca).

The following categories are left: Best Pita Sandwich/Wrap (July 28) Best Playground (Aug. 4) Best Dessert (Aug.11) Best Cold Sandwich (Aug. 18) Best Hot Dog (Aug. 25) and Best Hot Beverage (Sept. 1).



Our intrepid judges worked tirelessly to determine who, exactly, boasts the West Island's top chicken wing last week. (Chronicle photo Sarah Leavitt)