

AN **OBSESSIVE'S GUIDE TO** **THE SOUNDERS**

# SEATTLE

## METROPOLITAN

# Pizza



**55**

**PIE TASTINGS**

**22**

**PIZZERIAS**

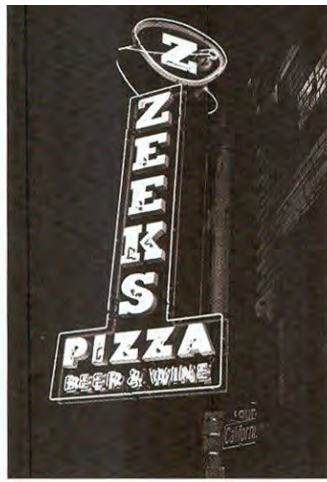
**10**

**SMACKDOWNS**

**AND THE WINNERS ARE...**

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Zeeks (above and opposite page) elevates the dial-and-dine experience with flat-out delicious pies.

## **DELIVERY** **PAGLIACCI vs. ZEEKS**

Like us, the peeps at **PAGLIACCI** and **ZEEKS** categorically reject the notion that delivery pizza, by virtue of its inherently low effort-to-enjoyment ratio, need only be edible to be satisfying. Because really: Why, in a city where it takes longer to drive to a pizza joint than it does to bake the pie, should anyone be denied the right to an exceptional dial-and-dine experience?

We'll forgive Pagliacci its Orwellian practice of answering the phone by reciting our name and address back to us because, well, the less we have to talk, the sooner the pizza will get here. But we can't excuse the crust: Why dream up tantalizing topping combos like marinated chicken, artichoke hearts, red onion, peppers, and ricotta cheese only to plop them on the hand-tossed equivalent of a Kenny G concert? It says something about the quality of those toppings that Pagliacci has reigned over the delivery world for more than 30 years, ever since it began as an Italian family hole-in-the-wall on the Ave.

So that's why the following pronouncement might come as a shock. On all counts, the relative newcomer Zeeks (it opened in '93) is the czar of delivery 'za. From the airy, buttery crust, to the tangy-yet-sweet marinara, a Zeeks pie is a flat-out delicious disk of awesome. Even on the überpopular Puget Pounder—piled with Canadian bacon, pepperoni, mushrooms, black olives, and Italian sausage—the toppings are so flavorful, you'll taste each one.

Zeeks' only misstep: Its online ordering option. Makes sense in theory—we go the delivery route expressly to cut down on person-to-person interaction—but they call seconds later to confirm your order. A responsible, prank order-prevention tactic to be sure, but the extra interaction has no place in our antisocial eating.

**BOTTOM LINE:** Tasty **ZEEKS** makes it safe to phone in dinner.



