

2006 best of lima



Written by bubba



Maybe I'm wrong. Maybe I'm off the mark. But when I think of 'Best Of' competitions, I really do think of quality and uniqueness...things that are so good from one particular source that the same product simply isn't available anywhere else. Lima issued its 11th annual 'Best Of 2006' magazine this Sunday and let me tell you, I am completely bewildered. The winners just seemed a bit unusual to me.

Granted, Lima has its own culture and it is entirely different than anything I've ever experienced before. It's a little rougher around the edges, a little less cultured and a little more back to basics. That said, quality is something that exists at every level of experience from simple to complex, refined to rudimentary. That's why I was surprised that every one of the following establishments won or placed in at least one 'Best Of' category: *McDonalds, Pizza Hut, Olive Garden, Applebees, Subway, Arby's, Wendy's, Red Lobster, WalMart.* See what I mean? Hardly unique.

So either I'm right about my long-standing opinion about how drab it is in this town or I'm right about the winners in this contest being unusual for a 'Best Of' competition. Either way, I'm right and I like that. Here are some other interesting observations from the '2006 Best of Lima' ~

The 'Best Coffee House' category was a bit strange since Lima only has one coffee house. Maybe that's why McDonald's placed in the top three (?). However, the only coffee house in Lima didn't win in the 'Best Coffee' category. They lost to Kewpee's, a local hamburger place.



Happy Daz (another local hamburger chain) was in the top three in both the 'Best Healthy Options' and 'Best Fast-Food' categories.

All three Mexican restaurants in Lima placed in the 'Best Mexican Restaurant' category...first, second and third. So nobody had to be left out.



Texas Roadhouse barely edged Western Sizzlin out of first place for 'Best Steak.' Happy to accept their award, Western Sizzlin says they cater to the customer who has "...stopped at the grocery store to pick up a steak, taken it home and grilled it to perfection only to be disappointed when they sat down to eat it later."

Olive Garden was a top placer for



'Best Wine' but didn't win. They were beaten by a grocery store.



Captain D's (think Long John Silver but not as nice) took the blue ribbon for 'Best Place for Fish'...barely beating out Red Lobster. Notice this category was not titled 'Best Seafood.' That could be because each dish recommended by the editor comes from a 'lake' and not a 'sea'...any sea.

For 'Best Sunday Brunch', The Golden Corral played runner up to the Old Barn Out Back who boasts "...fried chicken, noodles, mashed potatoes and steak and eggs" among their signature items. Then they reminded readers they have "sugar free dietetic dessert bars for people who are interested in counting calories."



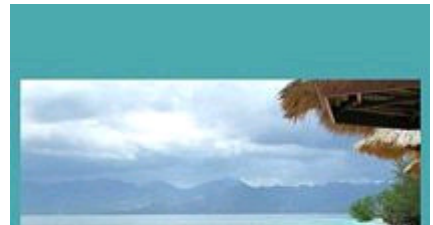
In the 'Best Chinese Restaurant' category, the House of Hunan (I believe the only Chinese restaurant owned and operated by Chinese people) tied for third place with the China Buffet.

The only three high school football stadiums within 40 miles had a three-way tie for 'Best Place to Watch High School Football.'



Daryl & Daryl's placed in both the 'Best Wings' and 'Best Drive Through Liquor Carryout' category, beating Wally's Filling Station and claiming that they are so efficient with their drive-through service that every customer "...feels like a NASCAR driver as they speed through."

Every venue in the 'Best Vacation Spot' category was not in Lima.

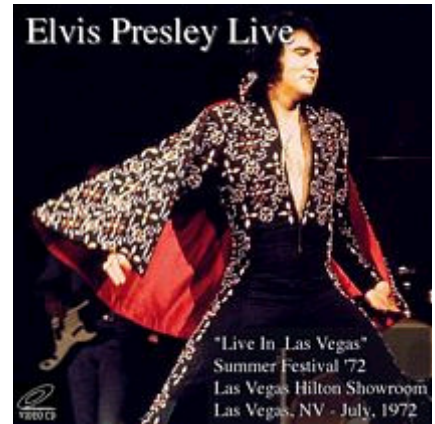




In a surprising show of market potential, WalMart eased its way into third place in the 'Best Oil Change' category, letting first and second place Pennzoil Ten Minute Change and Jiffy Lube know that they had better get their act together.



Finally, although Carrie Underwood easily secured her place in first, 'Best Musical Group' was a fiercely competitive contest with a seven-way tie for runner-up! Among them: The Wiggles, Rihanna...and Elvis.



Close Window