Dining in Dayton

Roosters covers all criteria for a fine sports bar



File Photo DBJ Roosters has five Dayton-area locations. Contact info can be found at roosterswings.com



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With football season now underway, it's time to evaluate the local sports restaurant scene. Dayton has an impressive number of worthy establishments to visit, such as <u>Fricker's</u>, <u>Champps</u>, Elsa's and more. To decide on just one, I queried some rabid sports fan, and a few suggested I visit <u>Rooster's</u>. So, that's where I ventured:

Atmosphere: When it comes to a sports bar I have a few requirements. First, a TV must be in clear sight from all tables. Second, it can't be so noisy that I can't hear the game. Third, it must have above-average food and beverage selections. That brings us to Rooster's, which has five Dayton-area locations. The Miamisburg location has a fun, festive atmosphere with its wooden booths and tables situated around dozens of TVs. Movie posters lauding Rocky, Reservoir Dogs and The Hangover adorn the walls, sports jersey hang over the bar, while pop music comes from the speakers. From my vantage point, I could eyeball seven different TVs. The place is lively with plenty of chatter from various tables, which were almost all full on a recent weekday lunch.

Food info: Rooster's menu boasts a cacophony of sports bar classics: Chicken wings, pizza, subs, burgers, sandwiches and appetizers (OK, there are salads too). I was half-tempted to order one of everything, but my belt line prohibited such as feat. Nevertheless, we started with some chicken wings, five boneless (\$3.89) and five traditional wings (\$4.29.) Both received high marks as they were plump and tender, and larger than most wing places. We also ordered the chicken Parmesan sandwich (\$4.99), as well as a 9-inch pepperoni pizza (\$5.58). The sandwich, served on a soft warm roll, scored with a tender, breaded chicken breast, covered in mozzarella cheese and marinara sauce. The pizza, meanwhile, was just OK, and lacked

the flavor and great crust of Dayton's traditional pizza joints. Rooster's clearly has a handle on its chicken items, all of which were really good.

Overall: While few football games are played during work hours, that doesn't mean you can't catch highlights during a weekday lunch. Rooster's may not be ideal for a classic business power lunch, but the place brimmed with business clientele.

It also meets the criteria of a good sports bar: TVs in every direction, not too noisy, and tasty food. You can't beat that.