Ken’s Pub provides good food for pennies


I’m sure you have felt the desire to eat when you are hungry, but you don’t want to cook. Your stomach grumbles at the thought of McDonald’s, but you don’t want to think of the cost. You decide to go to Ken’s Pub for a weekend meal.

Ken’s Pub provides good food for pennies. The place is Ken’s Pub in Cambridge’s Central Square. The typical bargain lunch includes London Broil, fried chicken, baked bluefish, fried scallops, or a Reuben sandwich.

When you enter, you find yourself in the middle of a bar. After standing around for a moment or two a waitress leads you to your booth or table. The music is the standard bar fare: pop and dance, which they hope won’t spoil your appetite. But it is not too loud, and if you have brought along an interesting friend, you’ll never notice the music.

After being seated, a waitress does appear, remarkably enough, almost immediately. She takes your order with a smile, and quite often will indulge in pleasant conversation. Your food is “cooked to order”, which means that they’ll like you to enjoy a drink while you are waiting. When the food arrives, you will be surprised to find that it actually does taste good. Steak orders are cooked to your specification. The chicken is not overdone, and the Reuben sandwich fulfills your curiosity about “anything you always wanted to know about corned beef.”

But were afraid to ask. Upon a scale of 1-5, Ken’s Pub scores:

Food: 4

Considering that you are not going to a fancy restaurant, the food is quite good. The portions are large enough to be satisfying even when you are hungry.

Price: 3

The meals which include potato and some sort of vegetable can be had for about $3.00, and your meal can be rounded out nicely with a mug of beer.

Service: 5

Plentiful enough — but still a pub.

Atmosphere: 3

Nothing special — a bare tiled floor, wooden furniture. Still a pub.

Overall: 4

The menu, though a bit limited, still provides a pleasant alternative to cooking of the “Colossus”.

— Jonathan M. Cohen

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