

Southern Living®

Classic Southern Desserts

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FEBRUARY 2012

\$4.99US \$6.50CAN





Belly's sweet treats and friendly service

Ecco and its famous pappardelle (below)



The Varsity, a local icon since 1928



Date Night: Dinner and a Movie

Between flicks at next month's Atlanta Film Festival (March 23-April 1) grab a bite at one of these restaurants you might recognize from the silver screen

THE MOVIE: *The Change-Up*

THE SCENE: The date between Mitch (Ryan Reynolds) and Sabrina (Olivia Wilde) in this switch-a-roo comedy.

THE RESTAURANT: Ecco, lauded for exceptional seasonal fare with European influences in the former Atlanta Fencing Club.

THE DISH: The chili-braised pork with garlic and pappardelle (\$16) featured on the menu since the 2006 opening. ecco-atlanta.com

THE MOVIE: *We Are Marshall*

THE SCENE: On a recruiting trip to rebuild the football team that lost players in a plane crash (true story), coach Jack Lengyel (Matthew McConaughey) wolfs down hot dogs at a timeless classic.

THE RESTAURANT: The Varsity, an iconic carhop-era fast-food spot beneath the downtown skyline, open since 1928.

THE DISH: A chili dog (\$2) with onion rings (\$2) and a Frosted Orange (\$2.50). thevarsity.com

where freelancers on laptops come for freshly baked muffins, cupcakes, and WiFi.

THE DISH: Red velvet cupcakes with vanilla buttercream frosting (\$2). bellystore.com

THE MOVIE: *Hall Pass*

THE SCENE: A memorable (read: racy) round of "Would You Rather?" on a guys' night out with Rick (Owen Wilson), Fred (Jason Sudeikis), and pals.

THE RESTAURANT: Taco Mac, a local chain with on-tap beers and flat-screens galore.

THE DISH: Buffalo chicken wings in seven heat options, ranging from a mild lemon-pepper to a scorcher known as "Death" (from \$6.29). tacomac.com

THE MOVIE: *What To Expect When You're Expecting*

THE SCENE: Sources say Jennifer Lopez and Cameron Diaz filmed scenes in a favorite Midtown bar. (We won't know

for certain until its May release.)

THE RESTAURANT: Smith's Olde Bar—a beloved, no-frills joint with pool tables, chicken fingers, pitchers of beer, and up-and-coming bands.

THE DISH: Pulled pork sandwiches (\$9) catered by Fox Bros. Bar-B-Q, widely regarded as Atlanta's No. 1 barbecue spot, which got its start right here in Smith's. smithsoldebar.com

THE MOVIE: *The Blind Side*

THE SCENE: A homeless man who becomes a first-round pick in the 2009 NFL draft (true story), Michael Oher (Quinton Aaron) hugs a man he later learns is his brother.

THE RESTAURANT: The Shed, a tiny Grant Park spot that serves locally sourced food on an often-changing menu.

THE DISH: Sliders in all varieties, from braised lamb to fried green tomato (\$4.50 each). thesheadatglenwood.com



Life As We Know It