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weekly nightlife section in



the DISH

Weekly Dining Guide in
WINDY CITY TIMES

SAVOR

Bar Cargo; Andersonville Restaurant Week

BY ANDREW DAVIS

Bar Cargo (605 N. Wells St.; BarCargo.com) is a pizzeria bar that's the newest offering from the Stefani Restaurant Group, which is behind from the Broken English spots to MAD Social to The Flamingo Rum Club (next door to Bar Cargo).

The spot, my friend and I were told, is known



Crab and avocado Benedict at Bar Cargo.

Photo by Andrew Davis

for its authentic Italian fare (complete with consulting chef Massimo "Max" Moresi).

This made what happened at the brunch we went to all the more baffling—as it was the non-Italian dishes that shone. (By the way, the brunch menu is available on weekends as well as the regular menu, making for an incredible number of choices.)

The best items we tried were very different. The crab-and-avocado Benedict is a feast in itself—lots of avocado and flaky, delicious crab served on charred ciabatta, topped with a generous (but not too generous) helping of hollandaise. On the other end was a Nutella-stuffed French toast with berry compote that sounded like it'd be too sweet, but actually wasn't.

Also excelling were tenderloin sliders accompanied by arugula, gorgonzola and red-wine shallot confit.

However, as previously indicated, the traditionally Italian dishes puzzlingly came up short. A dish called Giovanni Rana's ravioli (with butternut squash, brown butter, sage and hazelnut) sounded delicious, but the pasta was a bit overlooked. And the carbonara pizza (a white pie with pancetta, pecorino cheese and egg yolk) was something my friend described to the server as "flavorful," but which we both agreed had so much salt that it overwhelmed the nuances of everything else on the pizza—particularly surprising for a Stefani spot. (But the drinks were great, particularly the beermosa.)

Fortunately for Bar Cargo, it's a relatively new spot (having opened last November), so maybe this young dog can learn some new tricks regarding its more traditional fare.

Andersonville Restaurant Week

The Andersonville Chamber of Commerce is hosting this winter's Andersonville Restaurant Week on Feb. 23-March 4, highlighting some two dozen Andersonville eateries.

Each of the participating restaurants will offer at least one menu option priced at either \$10, \$20 or \$30 per person; however, many are expanding their focus this year to also include breakfast, brunch, drinks and lunch as well as dinner options. A few of the participating spots will include Appellation, Bar Roma, Big Jones, First Slice Pie Cafe, Hamburger Mary's, Hutch American Kitchen + Bar, Reza's and Vincent.

Visit Andersonville.org/events-2/andersonville-restaurant-week/.

Note: Restaurant profiles/events are based on invitations arranged from restaurants and/or firms.



CELL BLOCK

Pals and confidantes at Golden Girls trivia with Swish Embassy.

Photos by Kirk Williamson



SIDETRACK

Fat Friday/Saturday parties.

Photos by Jed Dulanias



BILLY Masters

"Unless it's changed overnight, the motto of the Olympics, since 1894, has been 'Faster, Higher, Stronger.' It appears the US Olympic Committee would like to change that to 'Darker, Gay, Different.' If your goal is to win medals, that won't work."—Fox News Vice President John Moody criticizes the diversity of the US Olympic Team. In case anyone is keeping track, there are 243 athletes on the US Olympic Team. Two of them are (openly) gay. That's not even one in 10!

So, who's watching the Olympics? Eh, I know you were watching. You at least watched the Opening Ceremonies, which I thoroughly enjoyed. Far be it from me to turn my back on a hot shirtless man—although, you know, occasionally these things do happen. Anyway, I did find the presence of the now-requisite shirtless flag bearer from Tonga somewhat odd for a Winter Olympics—although it did remind me that I need to get an oil change! Turns out, **Pita Taufatofua**, who was a taekwondo competitor in the Rio Olympics, is suddenly a cross-country skier. He picked up the sport two years ago—when he first saw snow! Well, how many skiers do they have in Tonga?

Although **Mike Pence** allegedly got a selfie with Pita (but it does look like it could be a fake), he hasn't yet gotten one with **Adam Rippon**. You'll recall that Adam previously said that he wasn't a fan of the VP due to his association with gay conversion therapy. Shockingly enough, Pence addressed the situation in a Tweet. "@Adaripp I want you to know we are FOR YOU. Don't let fake news distract you. I am proud of you and ALL OF OUR GREAT athletes and my only hope for you and all of #TeamUSA is to bring home the gold. Go get 'em!"

Of course, Korea isn't the only place where there's a competition. We've got one going on right here in the ole US of A—Celebrity Big Brother. As much as people claim to hate her, everyone I know tuned in the first night to see **Omarosa**. And she didn't disappoint. All everyone was talking about was her entrance in a ball gown and her attempt to walk down a non-existent runway. It was just a little piece of heaven. Then there was the whispering with **Ross Mathews**. Shhhh—we don't want anyone to hear ... even though we're wearing microphones! It's pointless to say much more since everything on that show could change by the time you read this column.

Then there's the continuing battle between **Sarah Jessica Parker** and **Kim Cattrall**. I refuse to regurgitate the story of why there will be no Samantha in Sex and the City 3—although one fan suggested perhaps the next film could open with the three girls at Samantha's funeral! Maybe they could get that "Mannequin" out of storage to lie in the casket. Last we heard, Cattrall told **Piers Morgan** that Parker could have been nicer and that they were never friends. Parker then told **Andy Cohen** that Cattrall's comment left her "heartbroken." Last week, Cattrall Tweeted



Shirtless Tongan Pita Taufatofua is back—at the Winter Olympics.

Photo from Taufatofua's Instagram account

that her family was trying to locate her brother Christopher, who was missing. A few days later, it was revealed that he had died. Upon hearing the news, SJP posted this on Instagram: "Dearest Kim, my love and condolences to you and yours and Godspeed to your beloved brother. Xx."

At first, Cattrall tweeted, "I don't need your love or support at this tragic time @sarahjessicaparker." In case that didn't drive the point home, Kim had a follow-up: "My mom asked me today 'When will that @sarahjessicaparker, that hypocrite, leave you alone?' Your continuous reaching out is a painful reminder of how cruel you really were then and now. Let me make this VERY clear. (If I haven't already) You are not my family. You are not my friend. So I'm writing to tell you one last time to stop exploiting our tragedy in order to restore your 'nice girl' persona." OUCH!

I knew it was a matter of time before someone asked this "Ask Billy" question. Steve in Miami says, "We miss you in Hot Spots' But since I still read you online, I've been wondering when you would address the sexual-assault charges against **Topher DiMaggio**. Are they true? I mean, he's totally hot—who's saying no to him?"

First, I miss my SoFla fans and hope to be back in print with you again very soon. But, I will be back in town for the Winter Party. Many gay men find it hard to imagine anyone not wanting to have sex with Topher DiMaggio. But, regardless of how hot someone is, no means no. According to reports, the underwear model (and occasional gay-porn star) has been accused of verbal harassment, sexual assault and even rape. His fellow gay porn star, **Tegan Zayne**, claims that the night before they were going to shoot a scene, Topher pressured him into having sex. DiMaggio responded, saying, "These horrific accusations have shocked me to my core. All of my relations with this person have been consensual and willing." I wonder how many people helped him string those words together.

Shortly after Zayne went public, two other men accused Topher of rape. Then two more accused him of sexual assault. One of those attacks allegedly took place at an event in Seattle that **Andrew Christian** was hosting! None of this is

WEDNESDAY. FEBRUARY 21

LOVE IS SYNC IT!

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A NIGHT OF CONCERT PERFORMANCE VIDEOS

DRAG BY SQUAD GOALS GURLS
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Joonage À Trois
Blonde Benét

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9pm-2am/no cover

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good news for the underwear giant—especially since DiMaggio (a name I doubt appears on any official paperwork) is the face, er, body of the brand. Christian said Topher is on "indefinite suspension while we look into the matter." I doubt he's suffering, financially—that's what I hear from several people who claim to have paid for his services. In case you're interested in seeing what they get for their money, check out BillyMasters.com.

When politicians are tweeting statements, it's time to end yet another column. Call me old-fashioned, but can you imagine a tweet from Henry Kissinger? Can you imagine Kissinger limiting a statement to 280 characters? You'll find a helluva lot more characters on BillyMasters.com—and most of them will be nude. It's a big week for me. On Feb. 13, I turned 49. I really should say 59. For 49, I look OK; for 59, I look AMAZING! However old I am, I'm inviting you to reach out and touch me in any way you feel comfortable at Billy@BillyMasters.com, and I promise not to sue! So, until next time, remember: One man's filth is another man's bible.

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