

Shiki, Four Seasons Restaurant

By Kelly Justman

We have a new Japanese restaurant in town. Shiki, which just opened their doors on August 6th, is located in the same shopping center as Wal-Mart on Sardis Road. We have been watching the development of this restaurant waiting for their opening day, so when we saw the open sign, we had to try it.

The restaurant serves Hibachi (not tableside), Teriyaki, noodles, and four different sushi rolls. There is a children's menu with chicken wings and hibachi chicken as selections. They also serve beer and wine. Prices range from \$1.00 (onion soup) up to \$11.99 (Shrimp and Scallop Combination). The menu is a little confusing so I hope they will change it soon.

For an appetizer, we ordered the spring rolls (\$2.50 for two). They came out fast and hot. I noticed that there wasn't any dipping sauce. Please keep in mind, I am an American and I am used to getting sauce with spring rolls. I was told they didn't have sauce for their spring rolls. The spring rolls were filled with chicken and vegetables and were very hearty. We did opt to use a little bit of soy sauce with them to fill the need to dip.

I order the Chicken and Shrimp Combination Special with mixed vegetables (\$9.99) and my husband ordered Udon Noodles with steak (\$6.99). Mine came with soup and salad.

The soup and salad came out together almost immediately in cafeteria-style dishes (i.e., small). The salad was made with iceberg lettuce, tomatoes, shredded cheese (?), and a creamy dressing that reminded me a little like Thousand Island but I couldn't be sure. I really wasn't impressed by it. I was hoping for the traditional Japanese ginger dressing. The soup was very good. It was your basic Japanese onion soup but had more flavor than most I have tasted.

My entree came out first and my husband's a minute or two later. I think they only had one chef cooking that night. The portions were very large. The shrimp was very tasty and plentiful and the chicken was in large chunks, not shredded to a pulp. The mixed vegetables consisted of mushrooms, broccoli, onions, and zucchini. There was also a side of rice, cooked sliced carrots (?), and a container full of sauce (I was told it was a shrimp sauce; however, it looked just like the salad dressing). The food was seasoned perfectly and I never once reached for the soy sauce or any other sauce. My husband's Udon was equally as tasty (the one bite I was able to sneak). The noodles were cooked perfectly and it was served with some vegetables.

We both had leftovers to box up. I would recommend ordering what we ordered and would be comfortable with anything else on the menu; however I would skip the salad.