

Jeni's sweet treats

By **Jovana Kuzmanovic**,
Online Entertainment Editor

This summer an ice cream shop that defies the laws of ice cream has opened up in the Oak Brook Center Mall. Jeni's Ice Cream is an artisan ice cream shop that has been scooping up business since the moment they opened their doors.

After I arrived, I had to wait 20 minutes until I got served; that was the least stressful part of my visit. Once inside, it was time to pick out my flavors.

The shop has 23 flavors to choose from, ranging from basic flavors such as "Green Mint Chip" and "Milkiest Chocolate" to unique flavors such as "Wildberry Lavender," and "Goat Cheese with Red Cherries." Luckily, the employees give you unlimited samples, so you can pick out the right flavor for you.

Jeni's is perfect for people with any number of food restrictions. A variety of their flavors are dairy/gluten-free, vegan or a combination of the choices.

If the view of the ice cream isn't a treat itself, the design of the store is aesthetically pleasing. From the bright orange stools to the tiles, there's definitely not a chance that your Instagram post won't be popping.

Once I was done admiring the ice cream and the store, I sampled a few flavors and decided to get a freshly made waffle cone with both "Goopy Butter Cake" and "Green Mint Chip" ice cream.

At the first lick, I was captured by the creaminess of the ice cream. The "Goopy Butter Cake" ice cream had chunks of moist vanilla cake in it, and the goopy caramel butter-scotch sauce was a perfect complement to the sweet vanilla cake ice cream.

The "Green Mint Chip" had big chunks of milk

chocolate in it that melt on the tongue. The mint flavoring was an excellent combination of sweet peppermint and cooling spearmint that keep your mouth feeling refreshed with every lick.

Both scoops of ice cream had an obvious consistency. They weren't too soft or too hard when you took a single bite.

The waffle cone perfectly suited the ice cream since it was subtly sweet, but it had some sea salt to cleanse your palate from the sugary components of the treat. The perfect funnel shape made it easy to hold, and I had no worries of my ice cream dripping all over the floor.

Waffle cones are one of many options that your ice cream can be served in. Also, the shop has both regular cups and sugar cones for no additional service charge.

Customers can choose from different scoop options, too. A standard scoop of two different flavors or a regular scoop of one flavor are the exact same price.

The bold scoop selections include a "Trio" which is three scoops of three different flavors and is served in a cup with a waffle cone wedge. Also there's the "Flight" which is ten scoops served in a bowl with a waffle cone wedge.

Personally, I paid \$6.75, but it was worth every penny with the amount I received and the quality of the ice cream. For these reasons, I would give Jeni's Ice Cream five out of five scoops.

Jeni's Ice Cream is absolutely the perfect cute and quirky ice cream shop for all people: from families who want a sweet treat to the teenagers who are on the hunt for a perfect VSCO photo. If this is what you are looking for in an ice cream shop, Jeni's is for you.



Jeni's Ice Cream is located next door to Nandos in the Oak Brook Mall. Photo by **Jovana Kuzmanovic**



The truck itself represents Forever 21 now-- a giant screenprinted mess. Graphic by **Kevin Tate**

Not so Forever 21: A fashion giant tumbles

By **Kevin Tate**,
Graphics Director

From the massive piles of trendy mini skirts flooding into the aisles to finding a potentially cute shirt only to turn it around and see "I don't care. I'm getting tacos" screen printed across the back, shopping at Forever 21 is rarely a satisfying experience, which contributed to its recent monetary downfall.

Forever 21 was once a \$4.4 billion powerhouse, but the company is filing for bankruptcy. This was caused by a snowball effect of problematic behaviors driven by the fast fashion industry.

Fast fashion works exactly like fast food. Both are easy to make, extremely affordable and the quality of the product is highly questionable. If you can willingly buy chicken nuggets from Burger King for \$1 without pondering if it is suitable for human consumption, Forever 21 is the place for you.

The company has become successful by utilizing quantity over quality, capitalizing on whatever is the current trend. Keeping up with the times by plastering quirky phrases on hoodies and handbags and selling them for dirt cheap

is precisely the company's formula for maximizing profit.

In order to do that, companies like Forever 21 have come under fire for allowing inhumane working conditions accompanied by underpaid factory employees. Environmental insensitivity also plays a role as these workers are exposed to toxic chemicals that pollute both the air and the water.

Now a \$3 T-shirt seems harmless at first, but the rate Forever 21 mass produces its clothing has many dangerous implications. The retail giant relies on constantly releasing new products to maintain cultural relevance, instead of restocking its current supply. This forces consumers to buy more as

a new purchase may go out of style.

This shorter than average lifespan of clothing has created an excess in landfills across the globe, which ultimately contributes to the issue of climate change. The famed research journal "Nature" states that "Textile production is one of the most polluting industries, producing 1.2 billion tonnes of CO2 equivalent per year, which is more emissions than international flights and maritime shipping."

Forever 21 is planning to file for the less serious chapter 11 bankruptcy, which means the company is not closing down as a whole but instead is scaling down by closing stores for the purpose of reorganizing. Although this may not be the end of Forever 21, consumers should be more conscious about the longevity of their wardrobe. This can be done by prioritizing quality when shopping, switching to sustainable brands and mending clothes that get worn out.

Buying new clothes should be a worthwhile investment, and the fast fashion industry is the very antithesis of that.

And to be completely honest, two months from now you'll definitely regret that t-shirt with the embroidered pizza on it.

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