Cincinnati "Three-Way" Chili

Ingredients

1 qt. hot water

2 lbs. ground beef

1 t. white wine vinegar

1 12-oz. can tomato paste

½ t. cumin

1 lg. onion (chopped)

1/4 t. Worcestershire

3 T. chili powder

1/4 t. cayenne pepper

3 bay leaves

¼ t. garlic powder

1 t. cinnamon

1 T. salt

1 t. ground pepper

1 lb. cooked spaghetti

Grated cheddar cheese

Chopped onions and kidney beans

Directions

Brown the ground beef. Remove from the pan and put in a crock pot.

Sauté the onions for a few minutes. Add onions to the beef. Mix all ingredients except spaghetti and cheddar cheese. Simmer for 3 hours.

Make spaghetti. Pour chili over spaghetti top with a good amount of grated cheddar cheese.

You can serve with beans and chopped onion if desired.



For those of us who did not grow up in the Cincinnati area, we are not familiar with the 3-way, 4-way or 5-way. First of all, most of us do not eat chili with pasta, but Cincinnatian's do.

A 3-way is pasta with chili and cheese; a 4-way is pasta with onions or kidney beans, chili and cheese; and a 5- way is pasta, onion, kidney beans, chili and cheese. Cincinnati chili also has a little different flavor (almost sweeter with a hint of cinnamon). This is a great food and especially a good after-bar food. I was introduced to it the first time I met Tom's parents and became a big fan. One day I was paging through a magazine and found a recipe that was called Cincinnati "Three- Way" Chili. It did not have cinnamon in it, but I made it anyway and added a little cinnamon. It was a hit. I made it a few times varying the amount of cinnamon until we liked it.



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