

If you can read this, testing has not begun

[Chicagoland FINAL Edition]

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It's time again for the Zartini, that magical holiday drink first discovered by Q when we crashed an office party two years ago.

Since 2003, Chicagoans Cary Zartman and Faron Greenfield have held an annual competition among their friends to come up with that year's version of the Zartini. The winning drink is unveiled at—and dare we say, is the highlight of—their annual holiday bash for friends and clients of their ad agency, Z Factory.

This year, though, the boys have changed the rules. We all have a chance to choose the 2007 Zartini.

They've set up a Web page (www.zartini.net) featuring the recipes for all the drinks that have ever been in the running. So even the non-winners—and that is the correct term, because there are no losers in this competition—get a new life.

Yes, now you can try the Razmatazzini (Class of '03), the Moist 'N Juicy Zartini ('04), the Itsy Bity Teeny Weeny Yellow Polka Dot Zartini ('05) or the King Kong Zartini ('06), along with any of the 27 other recipes. Pick your favorite and vote. Because the deadline is Thursday, we suggest you limit your test runs. Try every recipe by Thursday, and all you'll get is an interesting anecdote for your obituary. So drink responsibly.

The winning recipe will be posted on the Web site in plenty of time for you to spring it on holiday visitors. Assuming, of course, that you can focus your eyes by then.

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