

B-BIM-BAAB RESTAURANT,
9543 42nd Ave.,
Ph: 433-1239,
dinner for two
without wine: about \$40

Hidden gem serves up fantastic feast

Can it really be that this restaurant has been operating here on this bland industrial side street since 1979, for most of that time as the Korean Gardens, and somehow escaped our detection? Apparently so. Big oversight on our part; we're definitely coming back.

B-Bim-Baab — it's fun to say, isn't it? — is a dish apparently known to every Korean but few others, although it's becoming trendy now in parts of the U.S. As I understand it, the B-Bim means "mixed" and the Baab means "cooked rice," particularly the short-grained sticky variety the Koreans favour. Light and satisfying, B-Bim-Baab is a bowl of pearly, steamed rice, topped with a rich mix of mountain vegetables, seasoned and raw, along with a bit of egg and a spicy-sweet chili sauce. A dash of sesame oil adds a subtle nutty flavour and you can add a bit of seafood or meat, if you like. Healthy dining is rarely this delicious.

Another dish not to be missed is the Seafood Pa-jeon (\$10.99), a green onion pancake lightly pan fried and filled with little bits of red pepper, shrimp and mussels — we passed on the squid. Big enough to feed four hungry mouths, the pa-jeon is more like a quiche than a traditional North American pancake.

— Richard Helm



ED KAISER, THE JOURNAL

**B-Bim-Baab cooks Kum Baek, left,
and Ilsu Park serve up a delicious meal.**

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DEC. 16th, 17th, 20th & 21st, 2000

\$25.00 per person

Includes Appetizer & Dessert

Reservations must be made 1-1-00

Advance ticket purchase required.

708.441.8822



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