



Photos by Heath Chapman, for FLORIDA TODAY

Having a ball. Sports memorabilia line the walls while sports fans pack the house at Duffy's Sports Grill in Melbourne.

Sports fans have a ball at Duffy's

BY HEATH CHAPMAN
FOR FLORIDA TODAY

What: Duffy's Sports Grill, the ultimate sports bar.

Where: 1700 Evans Road, Melbourne; 725-2840; www.duffysportsgrill.com

Hours: Duffy's opens at 11 a.m. daily. There is no set closing time. The earliest the grill will shut down is 11 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and 2 a.m. Friday and Saturday. Happy hour is from 4 to 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. to close day, offering two for one cocktails, beer or wine.

Entertainment: Catch your favorite sporting event on one of the 38 50-inch plasma TVs or four high-definition 8-foot projector screens. Duffy's carries all major sports packages, 16 satellites and all pay-per-view UFC fights. For all you gamers, PlayStation and Guitar Hero can be hooked to one of the TVs close to your table. After 9 p.m. Friday and Saturdays, take part in some beer pong while Duffy's brings in a DJ to keep the party going.

Cover charge: None

Food and drink: Duffy's offers a diversified, upscale sports grill menu. From wings to London broil, there is something for everyone. Kids eat free on Wednesday. Duffy's offers a full liquor bar and plenty of draft and bottled beers.

Atmosphere: Sports, sports, sports and memorabilia everywhere. Framed sports pictures and signed jerseys cover the walls. Football helmets of pro and college teams throughout the restaurant had everyone looking for their favorite. This



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Teaming up. Bartenders Valerie Smith and Ashley Holmes keep the drinks flowing.

place was packed and loud as people cheered on their favorite teams or athlete. The friendly staff decked in sports apparel was the perfect touch.

The crowd: On the night I was there, families, friends, couples and loners packed the place. Loud, fun and full of energy, this crowd was ready to go all night.

Ages: All ages

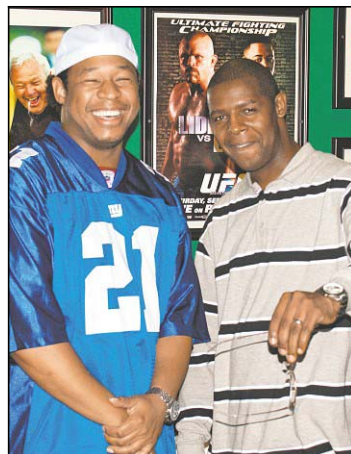
Dress code: Casual, but trust me, you'll want to wear your favorite team's attire.

Parking: Lots of parking on site

Smoking: Covered smoking dining and waiting area outside



The gang's all here. Friends enjoy a night out at Duffy's Sports Grill.



Just the guys. Thabiti Hosey and Anthony Johnson are looking good at Duffy's Sports Grill.

with TVs available so you don't miss any of the action

Other stuff: Free MVP card with incentives and rewards for loyal guests ■



That's it! Helen Kovach finds her favorite football team's helmet.



Say 'cheese.' Scott Helvoey and Rachel Sweeney are all smiles.