SHRIMP AND GRITS

YIELD: 18 servings

INGREDIENTS: AMOUNT (WT.):

GOUDA GRITS

Instant grits 1¾ cups
Water 7 cups
Heavy cream 1¾ cups
Gouda cheese, shredded 1¾ cups
Unsalted butter 1 stick

Kosher salt $3 \frac{1}{2}$ teaspoons Freshly ground black pepper $3 \frac{1}{2}$ teaspoons

CREOLE SAUCE

bacon, chopped $1\frac{3}{4}$ cup Shrimp, 21/25 size, peeled and deveined 56 each

Kosher salt $1\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoons freshly ground black pepper $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon

Green bell pepper, chopped 7 cups
Celery, chopped 7 cups

Yellow Onion, chopped 7 cups
Garlic, minced 1/2 cup

Red Gold Tomato Paste ½ cup

Red Gold Petite Diced Tomatoes, drained 1-#10 Can (102 oz)

Chicken stock $3\frac{1}{2}$ cups

Dried oregano 1 ½ teaspoons

Dried basil, chopped 1½ teaspoons

Dried thyme, chopped 1½ teaspoons
Cayenne pepper 1½ teaspoons
Smoked paprika 1¼ teaspoons
Chili Powder 1½ teaspoons

Bay leaf 7 each



SHRIMP AND GRITS (CONT.)

METHOD OF PREPARATION:

TO MAKE THE GOUDA GRITS:

- 1. In a large sauce pan over medium/high heat, bring water and heavy cream to a boil.
- 2. Slowly add the grits, Gouda cheese and butter while whisking until blended with grits.
- 3. Reduce heat to low and cover for five to seven minutes whisking about every minute.
- 4. Remove from heat, add salt and pepper and set aside.

TO MAKE THE CREOLE SAUCE:

- 1. In a large sauce pan over medium high heat, add chopped bacon and cook for three minutes.
- 2. Add shrimp, salt and pepper, cook for another three minutes until shrimp are pink. Remove shrimp leaving the bacon in the pan.
- 3. To the pan add green pepper, celery and onion and sauté until tender and fragrant.
- 4. Add garlic and continue to sauté for another two minutes.
- 5. Add the tomato paste and cook for 1 to 2 minutes.
- 6. Add the petite diced tomatoes, chicken stock, oregano, basil, thyme, cayenne pepper, paprika, chili powder and bay leaf.
- 7. Reduce heat to medium and stir until desired reduced and thickened. Remove from heat.
- 8. To a shallow, rimmed bowl or rimmed plate, ladle a generous amount of sauce into the plate or bowl. Top with a scoop of the Gouda grits in the middle. Place 2 to 3 shrimp around the grits tucking into the creole sauce. Garnish with your favorite herbs and lemon wedge.

