Seared Sea Scallops with Garlic-Sherry Mushrooms

Courtesy LadyFingers Private Chef and Catering Service 6 servings

Ingredients:

- 1 pound mixed mushrooms including mini white button, crimini and shiitake
- 2 tablespoons garlic-infused olive oil
- 2 tablespoons unflavored olive oil
- 4 garlic cloves, roughly chopped and then crushed
- 1 teaspoon tomato paste
- 4 tablespoons dry sherry
- 1 teaspoon fresh thyme, chopped
- 6 large, firm, unbroken sea scallops
- garlic-infused olive oil

Instructions:

- 1. Clean and coarsely chop mushrooms.
- 2. Add both olive oils to a large skillet and heat over medium-high heat.
- 3. Add mushrooms and sauté, stirring often, just until mushrooms begin to release liquid.
- 4. Add crushed garlic to the skillet and stir to combine.
- 5. Whisk tomato paste and dry sherry together and add to the skillet, again stirring to combine.
- 6. Reduce heat to medium and allow mushrooms to cook until liquid is reduced.
- 7. Meanwhile, place a large skillet over high heat.
- 8. Rinse scallops and pat them dry. Toss the scallops with garlic-infused olive oil until scallops are lightly coated.
- 9. Place scallops in hot skillet and cook until bottoms are crisp and well-browned. Turn scallops and cook on second side until crisp and well-browned. To ensure that scallops are cooked through, cover the skillet with a lid during the second side.
- 10. Transfer scallops to serving plates.
- 11. Add fresh thyme to the mushroom mixture and stir to combine.
- 12. Spoon the mushroom mixture over scallops and serve.