CHOCOLATE-HAZELNUT (GIANDUJA) CROSTATA

(Recipe adapted from "Milk Street")

Makes: 8-10 servings

1-1/4 cups hazelnuts

1/2 cup all-purpose flour
3/4 cup whole-wheat flour
1 cup white sugar, divided
1/4 tsp baking powder

Kosher Salt

6 Tbsp (3/4 stick) salt butter, cut into 1/2" cubes and chilled

1 large egg yolk, plus 3 large egg whites

2-1/2 tsp vanilla extract, divided

4 oz bittersweet chocolate, chopped

1 tsp instant espresso powder

Powdered icing sugar

Whipping cream or crème fraiche



- 1. Heat oven to 375°F with rack in lowest position. Mist a 9" springform pan with cooking spray. Spread the hazelnuts on a rimmed baking sheet, then toast until deep golden brown, about 10 minutes. Enclose the nuts in a kitchen towel and rub vigorously to remove the skins. Set aside.
- 2. In a food processor, combine both flours, 1/4 cup of the sugar, baking powder and 1/4 tsp salt. Process until combined, about 5 seconds. Scatter butter over the mixture and pulse until resembles coarse sand, 10-12 pulses. Add egg yolk and 1/2 tsp of vanilla extract, then process until moistened and clumping together, 20-30 seconds.
- 3. Transfer dough to the prepared pan; do not wash the food processor. Press into an even layer and prick with a fork about every 1/2". Bake until golden in centre and slightly darker at the edges, 15-20 minutes. Meanwhile, in a small microwave-safe bowl, microwave the chocolate on 50% power, stirring every 30 seconds, until smooth and melted. Set aside.
- 4. In food processor, pulse hazelnuts until roughly chopped, about 8 pulses; measure out 1/4 cup and set aside. Add remaining 3/4 cup sugar and process until it resembles wet sand and sticks to corner of the workbowl, about 2 minutes. Scrape the bowl. Add egg whites, remaining 2 tsp vanilla, espresso powder and 1/2 tsp salt. Process until smooth, about 10 seconds. Add chocolate and process until incorporated, another 10 seconds, scraping sides as needed.
- 5. Spread the hazelnut-chocolate mixture in an even layer on crust, then sprinkle reserved chopped nuts around the perimeter. Bake until slightly puffed and edges begin to crack, 20-25 minutes. Let cool on wire rack until the edges pull away from side of pan, about 15 minutes. Remove the pan sides.
- 6. Serve warm or room temperature. Before serving, dust the baked crostata with powdered sugar. Top with whipped cream or crème fraiche.