

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor:

Bravo! To anyone who speaks out in behalf of their beliefs in today's world. Hesitant boo's to those who speak out without having sufficient information about what they wish to speak out about.

Walter Hackett's article concerning the food in the cafeteria as being the culprit in the illnesses of college students was, at least in reference to the additives the cafeteria uses, erroneous and without provable information. I have spoken to the manager of the cafeteria and they "do not use MSG" in the preparation of the food.

In an attempt to help those who become ill, before, during, or after the "eating of the food" I would like to speculate on a few things myself. I see and hear many things around this campus that could also be contributing factors to the various illnesses that abound. Among them are:

Remaining up very late at night for many days in a row can upset one's body functions, including digestion;

The ingestion of other items, not usually associated with the human diet, can be very upsetting to the digestive process (not that this would be the case with any Brevard students);

Roaming around campus with very little seasonal clothing and sandals in weather that is very capable of causing illnesses that affect the digestive process, and

Eating other types of foods, not normally thought of as good for the digestive system, can be very disruptive as well.

None of these can be blamed on another person or a part of the institution.

Also, I am sorry that there are people who are without money by the time they get to the cafeteria, but I think there are possible solutions to that as well. This is not a direct reference to the author of the article, but it could fit some of the "broke" students. If you parked your big cars and didn't drive from Green Dorm to MG for classes, or to the cafeteria for dinner, there would be more money to step across the street to purchase a more award winning meal for yourselves.

Walter, if he has not already, I know for a fact that the manager of the cafeteria is willing to have you spend part of a day following them through the preparation of the food. It sounds interesting to me and I find our cafeteria food to be some of the best in many institutions I have had to deal with.

Clarion, keep up the good work by letting the freedom of expression be a way of life here, but try to have some writers work on the gathering of facts to support their opinions. Having an opinion without having something to justify your feelings is called something I probably couldn't print in the school newspaper, but we could spread it on a communal garden to show chemical free vegetables for a good home-cooked meal.

--Robert Allwyn White

In Response... Walter Speaks

Hi! There has been some speculation as to the validity of an editorial that I wrote in the last issue of this newspaper regarding MSG in the cafeteria food. The cafeteria has made a firm statement regarding this issue and we have also received a letter from a professor refuting my claims. I ask two questions:

How can it be denied that the cafeteria food fills one's belly with less food than it would normally take?

How can it be denied that after eating in the cafeteria one experiences a dull throb in the tummy followed immediately by the unbearable urge to poop?

Now, I've been around, and I know my editorial turned some heads. I've also asked around, and I have not

found one student who has disagreed with the above statements. I received, from a lot of students, praise for actually coming out and saying what I felt (and feel) about *our* cafeteria.

If there is no Monosodium Glutamate used in the food here on campus, even during preparation and packaging in the factories it comes from, then I certainly apologize for my lack of proof and irresponsible overlooking of facts. But, if that is the case, what makes us have to poop ten minutes after every meal?

What is in your food, Mr. Manager, that makes me full after four bites of my sandwich?

I promise that a lot of students would be happy to know.

"Lose Your Inhibitions for a Week..."

by Ryan Bauslaugh

If you are like me, you are experiencing serious spring break withdrawal. Getting back into the daily life of Brevard just doesn't seem to cut it after the fabulous week you just had. Maybe it was a good week because you made some money, or because you hung out with family and friends you have not seen in a while, or perhaps because you did not have to wake up and go to class, or, if you were like me, because you skipped town and partied every night until the rooster crowed. I feel a sense of moral obligation to share my vacation experience in the hopes that I may educate people on what spring break is supposed to be all about. Now bare with me as I indulge on the glorious and magical world of Panama City.

The drive to Panama City is not the greatest drive in the world because of the long trip to Florida, but the reward comes as soon as you hit Beach Front Drive. This street, commonly referred to as "The Strip," is every college kid's dream. When I first hit the strip, I was completely overwhelmed at how much was going on. At about one o'clock the party on the Strip is in full effect. The Strip is about two miles long, but driving through takes about an hour. The street is crammed full of hotels, clothing stores, fast food joints, amusement parks, sporting goods stores, novelty shops, gas stations, and liquor stores. Young people of every size, shape, and color are simply spilling out of every crack car and hotel in sight. Driving by is not nearly the experience as walking, where joining a party is as simple as opening a can.

My next discovery in Panama City was the beach. I thought I had been on crowded beaches before, but I have never seen anything like this. For about

a mile a couple thousand college students cram the sand to unwind, party and soak in the sun. Many of the people were throwing football and playing volleyball, while some were throwing Frisbee. There were not many people in the ocean because the water was so cold, but there were still plenty of aquatic sports going on. Additionally, MTV was hosting this huge party on the beach with games and contests. It was a blast.

This brings me to the best part of vacationing in Panama City, the night life. When the sun started to set and people started leaving the beach the party was just getting started. Everyone was out at night. I met people from just about everywhere, Indiana, Connecticut, Kentucky, Iowa, Georgia, New York, Massachusetts, Ohio, and North Carolina to name a few. The Strip was crazier at night than it was in the daytime as everyone party-hopped looking for the best possible time. The clubs were where I found the best parties going on. In Club LaViela, there are thousands of people dancing to various types of music. I am not sure I even went to all of the different stages because I just didn't have time. Sometimes it was so crowded in the club that I could not move. One night LaViela hosted a WCW Monday Night Nitro, and I think just about everyone in Panama either watched it on television or was there. After I had been at the club for a while I would come back to my hotel where there was always a party somewhere. It was nonstop.

Honestly, I could not suggest a better place to go for a spring break vacation than Panama City. There may be no better place on this planet to lose your inhibitions for a week, so save some money over the summer. I will see you there next spring break.

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