Students' reflection of The Underground space

By Alex McCracken Staff Reporter

The Clarion has sent out some reporters to gauge student opinion, because this is the kind of stuff we're here for. If there were any kind of movement to get something (reasonable) into the Coltrane space it would probably happen.

What did we find?

"We could use a relaxed coffee lounge, something that brings back the sense of the arts. Maybe the art majors could change the walls, make murals with light and dark colors. I think we could remove the cafe," said junior Karen Howell.

Senior Tyler Fisher would love to see some sort of coffee/espresso machine as well as some kind of automated sandwich setup.

Sophomore Thomas Spitelli said, "It would be cool to have a Barista Shack, like Starbucks, or Caribou Coffee. Maybe we could add bean bag chairs." Spitelli added, "There could be a spot where people just hang out and play Xbox or something; the consoles could be kept in plastic cases like at Walmart."

Senior Christie Bethard claims that the issues with the only student lounge available on campus, in Boshamer, are overcrowding, lack of supplies, and wants to see Coltrane go the direction of a typical student union—with pool, foosball, ping pong, the classics.

Non-athletes that were interviewed suggested either Fisher or Bethard's plan, whereas a small

group of soccer players wanted "a Subway."

Many students are ambivalent as to what actually happens to Coltrane—they don't really care if they get pool tables or sandwich machines. But the athletes are visibly upset over losing a cornerstone of their meal plan.

There is a happy medium to be found here. There are some pretty incredible vending machines on the market today selling all kinds food, and no college can ever have enough ping pong tables.

That being said, Chris Holland had several ambitious suggestions. He proposed SGA get a focus group started, and turn the underground into "a dance arena, or a vent area" but was really open to anything else the students had in mind.

So here we sit with a blank slate. What would you want to do right after dinner? It's next door.



Photo by Patrick G. Veilleux

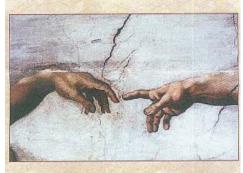
The current state of Coltrane

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