

I'm still hungry

COREY HADLEY

Everyday I go to the cafeteria and I leave hungry. Do you experience the same problem? Are you hungry at night too? The problem is the servers won't give us enough food in one trip. Plus, the lines are so long that most people just go through once and only get one small serving. Since the servers don't give us enough food in the first trip, many people have to come back for more food that creates longer lines and a longer wait for everyone.

It would be much easier for the cafeteria just to give us a sufficient amount of food the first time through. Is there any reason why they don't give us a lot of food? Maybe they should start looking at how many people return to the line to get seconds, thirds or even sixths. There are solutions to this prob-

lem, but the cafeteria workers just aren't looking for them. One solution is they could create a profile for each student. They could find the average amount of food that each student eats, then serve the students that amount of food the first time through the line. After all, isn't that the way our parents do it at home. Or they could be sensible and give us the amount of food that we specify at the time; again, this is the way our parents do it at home. It's not like your mom and dad give you three potato chips at a time (after you've waited in line for all the other people to get food).

The servers are also kind of mean toward me because I keep trying to get more food. It's not like I'm a bum. I don't like it that they treat me really bad. It makes me feel real bad about wanting more food, but sometimes it gets to the point

when I really don't care about other people's opinion of me. I just get driven by my hunger. With all the wasted time in long lines there's also the short interval of time when dinner is served. It's a race against time. I feel pressured to make it through the lines in short amounts of time and I regret to say that I have actually skipped people before in an attempt to satisfy my hunger. There have been instances in which juniors have not been able to feed themselves in the lines and had to withdraw. I believe in evolution but this is ridiculous. Survival of the fittest should have no part

in the modern cafeteria.

I'm getting tired of eating two more dinners after leaving the cafeteria. Back home I was used to eating one dinner. But now I spend an enormous amount of money and time on dinner after so-called "dinner." I am now in debt \$37 (seriously) for food-based expenses. Not only am I in debt to other people but my grades have slightly declined because of waiting to be serviced in the cafeteria. I'd hate to think that I might not get into the college I want just because the servers didn't give me enough tacos. I once ate twelve tacos. That meant getting up

from the table twelve times. This happens frequently and as a result my social life has suffered. Not only do I have to excuse myself from conversations but I can't go out to Happy Half (or "O-Vis") because I'm waiting for food or simply too "tucked out" from lack of proper nutrition. And girls don't talk to me anymore because I'm so poor and weak. I can't get to sleep at night without enough food either. Which means I'm too tired to wake up and go to breakfast. It's a vicious cycle. And I want out. This may seem funny to you, but I'm not laughing.

Rotten TV

STEPHANIE POOLE

At least, that's what your mom always told you as she directed you to do your homework, right? Millions of teens flock to TVs every day to catch up on Joey's new love with Pacey, see Buffy save the world again, and have few laughs at the Central Perk with their *Friends*. Here at S&M, students tend to be too rapped up in their own drama to pay attention to regular TV shows and provide enough comic relief by themselves.

"I don't watch TV. I have better things to do," says senior Alistair Anagnostou. "Maybe if I had nothing else to do I would. I usually just don't ever watch anything."

However, when the time is available and the stress gets to be too tiring, we do regress back to what teenagers are best at. We become lounge couch potatoes. With networks desperately trying to recruit younger viewers in this new fall season, the variety of options is getting broader. So what shows do NCSSM students prefer?

"I'm addicted to *The Real World*," says S&M's very own SGA President, Kenny Gibbs. "I know it's not real life; real people have jobs and responsibilities. I can't help it, though. I love it."

Natasha Marcuard's favorite show is *Charmed*. "It really has a good storyline. It's suspenseful, even though you can pretty much count on it ending happily."

"My current favorite would probably have to be *Moesha*, says senior Fatimah

Shahid-El. "It relates to a lot of real-life issues, and Brandy is a great actress and singer."

Junior Spencer Moore likes Comedy Central's *The Man Show*. "It's dumb humor, but really funny to watch," he says.

"SNL is the best!" Stu Pratt, a senior, believes strongly. "It's hilarious."

What about educational TV? Surprisingly, some students still rely on an old, classic channel: PBS.

"I love *Wishbone*," says junior Sarah Lovejoy. "They take all the classic novels and condense them into one adventurous, half-hour story. The new season is great, too; the guys are older. And the dog is so cute."

Students enjoy adult educational programs, also. Nick Jones is interested by *The Operation* on the Learning Channel, a show that takes people into hospitals for up-close looks at operations.

It also turns out that a few previous teen favorites are no longer cutting it. The long popular *Dawson's Creek* has students complaining from its repetitive, dull plot.

"[*Dawson's Creek*] is getting annoying. There's nothing new," says Tasha Marcuard of her least-favorite show. "It's always about the same messed-up love lives. It gets boring."

S&M students prove that we are still average, influenced American teenagers, despite our more commonly voiced cynicism. But, hey, what's wrong with a little TV now and then?



The author (top, third from right) was so hungry that he was forced to eat during hall pictures

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