

# Opinion

## Here Today - Gone Tomorrow

### DAY STUDENTS SPEAK OUT

by Tanya Williams  
News Editor

It happened so fast we almost didn't know what was happening. One day the canteen, located in Hauser Student Union was closed. The word around campus was that it was being renovated. And renovated it was. For almost a week before it closed it was obvious that something was going on. The refrigerator behind the counter got emptier every day, with no restocking. Everyday there was one less item on the menu. Day by day stock dwindled to nothing.

Students and professors alike are now relegated to picking from a microwave machine featuring bite-size sandwiches or a machine featuring the latest developments in the candies industry. And for drinks you can deposit your 55 cents into a machine and watch a plastic 16 ounce cup

drop down and fill to the brim with the soda of your choice. How did it all happen? Did the students just sit back and watch, or was it an administrative decision that we had no part in.

The decision was made around late spring/early summer. Dorsey Dyer, Director of Auxillary Services, Willie Grissom, Vice-Chancellor for Business Affairs, and Michael Fulton, Director of Purchasing met with SGA representatives on different occasions. The results of those meetings: the canteen was closed on August 25th. Dyer, who is in charge of the renovations, said the reason behind the closing was two-fold.

Dyer pointed out that when the canteen first opened in the early 80's it was intended to be a supplement to the cafeteria which was being remodeled. When the canteen was installed the ventilation and exhaust systems were not of the

complexity needed to run a full kitchen. There was only a grill and certain foods couldn't be served. Administrators estimate the cost of a new kitchen to be \$75,000 just for the engineering in the unused area. According to Dyer, since the canteen was a receipt-funded entity, the cost of making the canteen permanent was too high. The monies for the canteen were from student fees and such, thus, a new kitchen would be paid for out of the students' pocket.

Dyer further explained that with the financial demands for a new kitchen, a vending system would be more economical. The vending machines run twenty-four hours a day, whereas the grill hours was not economical because there wasn't a large enough clientele for the later hours. So the vending machines, supplied by Service America, were installed.

Dyer says he is aware at

the student protest of the canteen's

closing and is open to suggestions about changing the present conditions. He feels that the atmosphere has changed from a social to a study atmosphere.

There are plans to redecorate the tv room, where the grill used to be, and the vending lounge. The jukebox has been returned but it doesn't get much use now. Dyer also noted that Service America is installing a separate juice machine to free up some space in the snack machine. The company also has plans to monitor snack sales so that they may provide a better variety.

Though Dyer remains optimistic that a resolution will be found, most students are not going to be satisfied until the old canteen is back. And there's little chance of that unless WSSU can come up with the necessary funds.

## Holiday Commentary

by Joanie Tuttle

As the holiday season approaches many people dig into their pockets and generously give to the less fortunate. Although their generosity is greatly appreciated, why must it only occur around holidays?

Unfortunately, poverty does not confine itself to only occur during the holiday season. Every day a family in America becomes homeless, a statistic that is pretty unbelievable considering the wealth that exists in our country. What can we do to help our fellow Americans? One thing you can do is to reach out to your neighbors, friends, family and especially strangers if they need something.

Try to help in a way that allows the person in need to keep his or her dignity, because even when you are down and out, dignity is one thing that should not be taken for granted.

Reaching out to one another is not that difficult, but someone has to make the first move. Instead of just talking about what needs to be done in order to solve a problem, act out your solution. Like the old adage "actions speak louder than words"



## NURSING STUDENTS EARN \$1,100 A MONTH WHILE STILL IN SCHOOL

### BACCALAUREATE DEGREE COMPLETION PROGRAM

The Navy offers you the opportunity to complete your degree while receiving as much as \$1,100 a month. There are no special classes to attend. You will not be required to wear a uniform or attend drills. You must stay in school and keep your grades high. Upon obtaining your bachelor's degree, you will be commissioned an ensign in the United States Navy Nurse Corps earning good pay, 30 days of paid vacation each year and other benefits that are hard to match anywhere.

Eligibility requirements are stringent. Only the best applicants will be accepted. To qualify you must:

- be a sophomore, junior or senior enrolled in or accepted to an NLN accredited school of nursing leading to a B.S. degree in nursing
- have a minimum GPA of 3.0
- be at least 18 but not yet 33 years of age at the time of entrance to the junior year of the nursing curriculum.



FIND OUT MORE. CALL LCDR RON BOATRIGHT  
IN RALEIGH AT 1-800-662-7568.

**NAVY NURSE** You are Tomorrow.  
You are the Navy.