

ARA food: do students get what they pay for?

Angel Herlihy
The Pendulum

Do students really get their money's worth from the ARA dining service here on campus?

According to Bill Butler, manager of campus dining services, every student who lives on campus is required by school policy to purchase a meal plan.

Marilyn Collins of the cashier's office said that the seven-day meal plan for the 1991-92 costs \$1,850 per student. For those who did not attend Winter Term, the cost is \$1,650.

Butler says he receives \$2.02 for each meal per student. That money pays for food, uniforms, workers' wages and stolen and broken dishes. "This doesn't leave me with much money to work with," Butler said.

According to Lorraine Allen, director of accounting, Elon uses the rest of the money for the general upkeep of the dining halls, utilities, and machines.

"The food at McEwen is terrible, not only in quality but in selection as well," said Ryan Huffman, a sophomore.

Some students complain that not only is there no variety in the food, but that it is overcooked and has no flavor.

"It's not possible to please everyone and it's not home

cooking," Butler said. "When cooking in large quantities, food is not always seasoned to everyone's taste and often becomes overcooked as it sits on the steam table."

According to Butler, the menu isn't based on nutrition, it is based on which foods they serve the most. He said he feels that students don't eat as nutritious foods as they should. "If we based the menu on nutrition, the students would complain even more than they do now."

Butler went on to say that the price is factored into the food selection.

"We can't afford to serve fried chicken very often because it is expensive," Butler said. He claims that because students are allowed to eat as much as they want, it becomes more expensive.

Butler feels that the dining service is providing an adequate amount of variety. "The variety is there, it's just a matter of creativity on the part of the dining halls and the students," Butler said.

A variety of Italian, Chinese and Mexican foods are served on different nights of the week in upstairs McEwen Dining Hall. The menus are designed to create a situation where students don't have to eat the same types of meals for dinner as they did for



Students go through the line in Harden Cafeteria.

Rob Whiteside/The Pendulum

lunch.

If students don't like something, they always have the option of going back through the line and getting something else.

Some students say they eat out often because of the poor quality of the food.

"We should only pay for the meals that we eat. The meal card should be more like the Elon card, that way only the meals that we eat will be deducted from our account," said Arianne Troy, a freshman.

"If students were charged for each item that they eat separately and per meal, it will be much more expensive than the regular

meal plan," Butler said.

Butler adds that the present meal plan is cheaper than buying items "a la carte", even if the students don't eat a majority of the 19 meals provided on the meal plan.

"I would like to see a major increase in the amount of fruits and vegetables. They should be available to students during all meals," said David Cornely, a freshman.

Butler said this not possible, especially during the winter, because it is too expensive.

"It is obvious that not all students will be satisfied, but I am willing to work with a group of

students on the menus for each month, so students will have an input on the selection of food," Butler said.

He went on to say that students have shown no interest in participating in the process in the past.

For students who would like to make suggestions or voice their opinions, the dining service will be bringing back a suggestion box idea that was used in the past called "Edible Suggestions." Butler said he will respond to each suggestion and post his response on the cafeteria bulletin boards so that students will be able to see them.

Elon College Preregistration Guide

1992 Summer Terms and 1992 Fall Semester

April 20, 21, 22, 23

April 20, Monday

8:00 a.m.-9:00 a.m.
9:15 a.m.-10:45 a.m.
11:00a.m.-12:00noon
1:30p.m.-2:00p.m.
2:15p.m.- 3:00p.m.
3:15p.m.-4:00p.m.
4:15p.m.- 4:45p.m.
5:00p.m.-5:30p.m.
5:30p.m.-6:00p.m.

Seniors (93 or more hours completed) (A-Z)
Honors Program/NCTF/Leadership (A-Z)
Honors Program/NCTF(A-Z)
Juniors(60-92 semester hours completed) (U-Z)
Juniors(60- 92 semester hours completed) (S-T)
Juniors(60-92 semester hours completed) (O-R)
Juniors(60- 92 semester hours completed)(M-N)
Juniors(60-92 semester hours completed) (I-L)
Evening School

April 21, Tuesday

8:00a.m.-9:15a.m.
9:00a.m.-10:45a.m.
11:00a.m.-12:00 noon
1:30p.m.-2:00p.m.
2:15p.m.-3:00p.m.
3:15p.m.-4:00p.m.
4:15 p.m.-4:45p.m.
5:00 p.m.-5:30p.m.
5:30p.m.- 6:00p.m.

Juniors(60-92 semester hours completed) (F-H)
Juniors(60-92 semester hours completed)(C-E)
Juniors(60-92 semester hours completed) (A-B)
Sophomores(27-59 semester hours completed) (U-Z)
Sophomores(27-59 semester hours completed) (S-T)
Sophomores(27-59 semester hours completed) (O-R)
Sophomores(27-59 semester hours completed) (M-N)
Sophomores(27-59 semester hours completed) (J-L)
Evening School

All currently enrolled students returning for Summer Term(s) and/or Fall Semester may preregister at the time below or later.

April 22, Wednesday

8:00 a.m.-9:15 a.m.
9:30a.m.-12:00 noon
1:30p.m.-2:00p.m.
2:15p.m.-3:00p.m.
3:15p.m.-4:00p.m.
4:15p.m.-4:45p.m.
5:00p.m.-5:30p.m.

Sophomores(27-59 semester hours completed) (F-I)
Sophomores(27-59 semester hours completed) (C-E)
Sophomores(27-59 semester hours completed) (A-B)
Freshmen(0-26 semester hours completed)(U-Z)
Freshmen(0-26 semester hours completed)(S-T)
Freshmen(0-26 semester hours completed)(O-R)
Freshmen(0-26 semester hours completed)(M-N)

Thursday, April 23

8:00a.m.-9:00a.m.
9:15a.m.-12:00noon
1:30p.m.-2:00p.m.
2:15p.m.-3:00p.m.
3:15p.m.-3:45p.m.
4:00p.m.-4:45p.m.
5:00p.m.-5:30p.m.

Freshmen(0-26 semester hours completed)(J-L)
Freshmen(0-26 semester hours completed)(H-I)
Freshmen(0-26 semester hours completed)(G)
Freshmen(0-26 semester hours completed)(E-F)
Freshmen(0-26 semester hours completed)(D)
Freshmen(0-26 semester hours completed)(C)
Freshmen(0-26 semester hours completed)(A-B)

ATTENTION ALL STUDENTS

Before your assigned preregistration day, meet with your advisor to discuss your academic program and select courses to be taken during the Summer and Fall terms.