

# Letters to the Editor

## NOT SO QUICK TO DEFEND THE 80'S SCENE

To the Editor:

This is in response to the letter from J. Miles Layton regarding early eighties nostalgia and the lack of "quality" pop music today.

There are several points I'd like to make:

1) Layton cites Def Leppard and Cheap Trick as examples of late eighties/early nineties "heavy metal ballad bands." Get your facts straight, Miles. Both of these bands began their recording careers in the late seventies. I vividly remember Cheap Trick's "Surrender" and Def Leppard's "Photograph" blasting from many a stereo in the early eighties.

2) Asia was a joke. That's just my opinion. I'm a big fan of the individual musicians in the group, especially Steve Howe, but their music represents, to me, the single biggest sellout by members of the progressive rock movement of the late sixties and early seventies. It's even worse than what has happened to Genesis since Peter Gabriel and Steve Hackett quit.

3) Layton entirely dismisses rap music. How narrow-minded of him. I'm not a big rap fan. I rarely listen to it. However, I do have a great deal of respect for the form's artistry and its innovation.

Strangely, in the next paragraph Layton cites the Beastie Boys as a great band from the early eighties. Correct me if I'm wrong, but aren't the Beastie Boys a rap band at least part of the time?

Layton's ill-conceived and unwarranted attack simply shows his ignorance. In their early days, rock, blues and jazz all fell under similar criticism from the musical establishment. Today they are vital parts of our musical heritage. I envision a similar future for rap.

4) Layton puts forth the claim that Top 40 music from the early eighties is better than Top 40 music today. Strange. As a devoted music lover I have always assumed that Top 40 music from all eras, including the early eighties, is equally bad. With very few exceptions Top 40 is definitely not the place to turn for music of substance. It's mostly record company manufactured swill. Frankly, I question WQFS's eagerness to dredge up this stuff. It doesn't seem particularly "alternative" to me.

Chris Hosford

## KUDOS TO RESTAURANT REVIEW

To the Editor:

I am writing with compliments to the Restaurant Review section of *The Guilfordian*. It is great that Laura Davis points out how vegetarian and vegan-friendly the restaurants are. Vegetarians and vegans are sometimes unsure of unknown restaurants, which may have completely meat-based or meat and dairy-based menus. Thanks, Laura, for taking away the food mystery.

Carolyn Howes

## COMPENSATION NEEDED FOR WQFS STAFF

To the Editor,

This year has been an extremely productive one for WQFS. This semester we have 102 DJ's and staff, making us the largest student organization on campus.

There are 10 of us who work to coordinate the people, the music, the legalities, the promotions and the equipment involved. These are large responsibilities for students who already have a full load of courses.

Our jobs are rewarding in themselves, but only to a certain extent. First of all, we have a great group of DJ's, many talented individuals who do great shows and as a result create for us a huge listening audience.

It's commonplace to go to concerts at venues as far away as Charlotte and still see many cars with WQFS bumper stickers. WQFS is the third most powerful college radio station in the state, with 1900 watts, and can be heard in Winston-Salem and sometimes to the Virginia border.

Nationally, our music department receives priority on new music from both independent and conglomerate record companies.

There is a lot of work that goes into the jobs that get these benefits. For example: each member of the music staff spends at least 12 hours a week previewing new music in order to edit obscene lyrics, and this is with five interns to help out.

Programming is also a huge responsibility. First, one must get all 102 staff members properly trained and fitted into a schedule. Then, for the rest of the semester, the director is responsible for making certain that all DJ's follow the proper, legal procedure for every single show that is done.

Also, there is the promotions director, who spends seven hours a week coordinating the concert calendar and any WQFS events. And the other managers: news, productions, business, and general manager all spend time equivalent to one four-credit course in the office or doing WQFS-related tasks. This also includes vacations sacrificed or shortened in order to keep WQFS on the air.

WE all knew what we were get

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# Restaurant Review

## •Anton's Italian Cafe•

Laura Davis  
Staff Writer

*Anton's Italian Cafe, across from the Janus Theater*

My first negative review. I feel bad writing this, the employees were quite polite and all that, but the food was lacking, the atmosphere rather laughable, and the booths small.

Anton's has almost a Bavarian feel to it. I think they were attempting a sort-of "nicer Italian restaurant" feel, but the dark wood, white stucco, and black-and-white table cloths made me think of every other German restaurant I'd ever been in. Things might have been a bit better if they had been playing some sort of Italian-sounding music instead of the Top 40-influenced Musak being piped in. Caeli and I were seated in a booth built for two, which would probably be cozy and romantic for a fun and perky couple that jog together, but for us it was a bit cramped.

This casual-dress, cloth-napkin restaurant had a fairly decent array of dishes—salads, various pasta dishes, chicken, seafood, veal, some beef. There's no sweet tea at lunch, but both sweet and unsweetened at dinner, along with a relatively well-stocked bar and wine list, espresso, cappuccino and "specialty coffees." Four children's dishes were also available. Prices range from \$2 for soup to \$12 for one of the veal (yuck!) dishes. Most entrees are in the \$7-9 range.

Dinner dishes come with salad and bread. Although the bread came with real butter (wow!), it was cold and Caeli aptly described it as Italian-shaped Wonderbread. The salad was good—not too much dressing and not too little. The main courses, however, were not. Caeli ordered the lemon chicken (\$9.95) which was tender and very lemony, but not very hot—almost lukewarm. I ordered the eggplant parmigiana with a side of spaghetti.

The spaghetti was OK, but the sauce was lacking in the spice and heartiness categories, which is pretty bad for an Italian restaurant. The eggplant was terrible—the waitress brought it to the table with mitts on (it was served in the dish it was baked in), but it wasn't hot at all and the eggplant was mushy and yucky and generally gross. I do give the management credit for taking it off my tab, but it's also a relatively hard dish to mess up (even I can make it).

Overall, the meal wasn't a complete loss. I was in good company and we went to White Mountain (a VERY happy place) for ice cream after. Anton's is close to the Janus theater, but that's about the only thing going for it. I wouldn't recommend this place to anyone, but I'd still tip big if I went again.

*Laura is looking for a vegan to help her with a review. If interested, please call her at ext. 3207.*

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Opinions expressed in editorials and letters to the editor do not necessarily reflect the views of the staff and editorial board.

The editors reserve the right to edit all submissions for length, style, and taste.

## Submissions

The Guilfordian encourages submissions. Typed articles and letters are due by 6:00 PM., Monday. Letters are limited to 250 words or less and must include author's name, phone number and P.O. Box. Write to:

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