

**Takeout Taxi: Not worth the expense!**

Review

Robin Hollingsworth

This summer while on a date at Darryl's I noticed a stack of restaurant delivery menus. I picked one up on my way out and skimmed through it on the way home. Basically it was a book of menus offered by a new Raleigh service. It's called the Takeout Taxi and, like their slogan says, "We bring the restaurants to you!" I thought it was a pretty neat idea and I couldn't wait to try it. After all there are so many nights when you want a real honest to goodness meal, you're sick and tired of that trek to the cafeteria, but you just don't want to change out of those sweats, plus you're waiting on a call and your

favorite show's coming on.

This past Thursday provided just that opportunity, after all "Friends" was going to be on any minute! So I twisted the arms of three of my friends to be my guinea pigs. We pulled out the menu and the choices didn't look bad. The menu for the Hillsborough Street area included Chili's, 2nd City Grill, Black Marlin, El Rodeo, Oh! Brian's, Two Guys, Chicks Natural, Peking Garden, and a few others. Your selection of restaurants depends on your delivery zone. Takeout Taxi offers a different menu guide for each section of Raleigh. We chose two of our favorites: Oh! Brian's and Chili's. After we made our choices, we

called 840-FOOD. The operator was very friendly, but she had problems with her computer and I had to give her the address over and over and over again. Finally I placed the order and was pleased that she asked how we wanted our meat cooked, what kind of bread we wanted, everything you would expect a waitress to ask. My excitement about the whole deal leveled off when she said the wait would be an hour to an hour and a half.

By the time our food did arrive at the Johnson Hall fountain, we were starved. It came in styrofoam takeout boxes all stacked in a plastic bag. I was disappointed they weren't a little more creative in the delivery, but then I realized there aren't many options in takeout. We dug into the appetizers first. The cheese sticks weren't great because the cheese had hardened and the potato skins were fair, only a little bit warm. We opened our entrees next and were really upset when we saw how cold and soggy the fries were. Two of us had ordered mushroom burgers and they disappeared in no time. My "knifeandafork" chicken from Oh! Brian's was all right. The food would have all been great if it was served hot, but after all, I reminded myself it was takeout.

There are a few catches that come with the Takeout Taxi. You pay the same price as the restaurant charges, but a \$4 service charge is tacked on, with an additional \$2 charge for each different restaurant and a \$10 minimum food order from each restaurant. A 15% increase is added on for delivery, tax, and gratuity. All these charges combine to make the price a little steep for a college pocketbook. I learned a lesson from the experience though: if I'm going to spend the price for a nice meal, I should get everything that I'm paying for. That includes the ambiance of the restaurant itself, the decor, company, music, and just different scenery!

They can't package any of that in a styrofoam box, so the next time I want a good meal, I'll head on over to the restaurant and save the leftovers for the takeout box instead, with change to spare!

**SGA Corner**

- Order your Student/ Faculty Directory today! The directory includes on and off campus names, school addresses and phone numbers, birthdays and also faculty and staff campus phone numbers. This directory will be spiral-bound with a colored cover. To order your directory, send \$4 and your name and phone number to Amy Harper at 318 Heilman.
- The first edition of the SGA newsletter "Connections," will be out on September 22. Be sure to pick up your copy and meet your new SGA Executive Board.
- The first Open House of this semester will be held on September 23, from 1 to 5 p.m. Be sure to invite your friends!
- WINGS will be holding a meeting on Sept. 25, at 10 a.m. in 114 Harris. All members be sure to attend!
- An Ethical Leadership Reception will be held on Sept. 27, at 7 p.m. in Carswell Auditorium. Mark your calendar, invitations will be coming soon!
- Everyone is invited to join WINGS for an "End of the Summer Bash" on Sept. 29. Come out and join us in the courtyard for good food, volleyball and a great time. RSVP by Sept. 26, at 829-8353.
- Get ready to "Free Your Mind" at the Student Life Forum on Oct. 5. Bring concerns, suggestions, ideas and an open mind to the Chapel from 7 to 9 p.m. You can make a difference! Your agenda is our agenda!

**Officers:  
Prepare to  
train!**

It's here! Officer Training Workshops  
All Presidents, Vice Presidents, Secretaries and Treasurers  
Choose one of the following sessions to attend. Note: You need to attend a General Session and an Officer Group Session.

Thursday, September 14, 3:30- 5 p.m.  
3:30- 4:10 p.m. — General Session Cate AUD  
4:15- 5:00 p.m. — Officer Groups  
President/ Vice President  
Cate AUD  
Treasurer  
104 Harris  
Secretary  
114 Harris

Monday, September 18, 5:15- 6:45 p.m.  
5:15- 5:55 p.m. General Session  
101 Ledford  
6:00- 6:45 p.m. Officer Groups  
President/ Vice President  
101 Ledford  
Treasurer  
213 Ledford  
Secretary  
214 Ledford

**WORKSHOPS ARE REQUIRED  
FOR ALL OFFICERS**

Each workshop will begin with a general session (40 minutes) for all officers. Please invite any co-chairs in your organizations to this general session as well. Afterwards, we break into separate groups (45 minutes) for each of the following: Presidents, Vice-Presidents, Secretaries and Treasurers. If you have any questions, please contact the Office of Student Activities and Leadership Development at #8338.