

Have a taste of Caribbean here in Raleigh

NIKKI NORRIS
Staff Writer

Tired of the same old restaurants? Ready for something besides burgers, pizza and fries? I have just the cure for fast-but not-so-great food.

A couple of weeks ago, I went out to dinner with a group for a friend's birthday. The birthday girl chose our destination: Bahama Breeze.

Although I had never heard of this rather new restaurant on Capital Boulevard, several of my friends had been wanting to go after stopping one Friday night to check the wait. The line was too long that night, but they described the lighting of the restaurant, the crowds of people, and the live music playing on the deck—a great place to relax and have fun.

Although I am always the one to suggest Applebee's, I was excited about this new restaurant. As soon as we pulled into Bahama Breeze I immediately began to fill like an islander—with valet parking, live Caribbean music and an island-style scenery, who

wouldn't?

As we walked inside, I was amazed by the atmosphere. I actually stood at the door a couple of minutes just to take in the scenery: a man playing Caribbean music to my right and a small gift shop to my left.

Although there were nine of us and we were told that our wait would be 45 minutes, we were escorted to our table within 10 minutes. After we were seated and handed menus, we were told that our "tour guides" would be with us shortly.

After skimming the menu for the first time, I became a little unsure about the list of entrees presented. However, after a few minutes, I had a hard time deciding among several choices. Entrees ranged from Seafood Pasta, Coconut Curry Chicken to Bahamian Kabobs, Filet Mignon and "Island Pizzas," which offer a Caribbean twist to traditional pizzas. The prices are fairly reasonable, ranging from \$5.95-\$16.95. Half and full orders are offered for most entrees.

After taking a rather long

time to look over the menu, I finally decided on the Jamaican Grilled Chicken Breasts while my friends chose such entrees as Seafood Pasta, Angel Hair Martinique and Margerita Pizza. Soups, sandwiches, appetizers and "Tropical Salads" are also available.

Although the restaurant was busy, we were a little unsatisfied with a long wait for our dinner. However, it was worth the wait.

My dish, Jamaican Grilled Chicken, was served and decorated with a fruit cup and tangy cooked apples, but I still couldn't resist substituting fries for beans. Although I ordered a half-order, I was pretty satisfied after finishing my dish.

Next time, though, I will get a full order, because I was only served one small chicken

breast, and being the chicken lover that I am, I would have liked more. The chicken was grilled with Caribbean spices which made the flavor unique but delicious.

Nearly everyone was more than satisfied with their dishes. I sampled the Angel Hair Pasta and one of the Island Pizzas, both of which I thought were delicious.

Although I did not have time for dessert, Bahama Breeze offers a great selection including Rebecca's Key Lime Pie, Banana Supreme, and Jose's Chocolate Tres Leches (for chocolate lovers like me).

When a couple of my friends asks for carry-out boxes, they were brought boxes decorated with ships and palm trees. The tour guides decorated the boxes

after bringing them to us, writing the date and contents on them. I thought this was a very nice gesture.

Even though we experienced a wait for our dinner and tickets, we were all satisfied with the restaurant and pleased with the service. While walking out of that island paradise to our car, my companions and I discussed going back soon—next time we would get that dessert we missed out on.

If you are eager to explore a twist on traditional dining, a Caribbean adventure awaits you at Bahama Breeze.

Locations of Bahama Breeze are on Capital Boulevard and on Old Wake Forest Road, immediately off the beltline.

Walk, raise money for AIDS

ANN GLEASON
Dean of Students

AIDSWALK 1999, an annual event sponsored by Triangle AIDS Interfaith Network, is scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 4, in downtown Raleigh at the Government Mall.

The goals of the one-mile walk are to build awareness and to raise funds to support the direct care and service to persons living with HIV or AIDS through regional AIDS Service Organizations.

For the third year, Meredith is

recruiting students, faculty and staff to walk together as a team.

The team will depart from the Cate Center at 12:30 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 4. Opening ceremonies begin at 1:30 p.m. followed by the walk.

For those unable to walk, monetary donations are welcome.

Those who are interested in walking on Meredith's team or in making a donation should contact Tohya Lester or Ann Gleason. Remember, every sole counts!

Due to the Thanksgiving holiday, the *Meredith Herald* will not publish next week, Wednesday, Nov. 24.

The final issue of the semester will be published on Wednesday, Dec. 1.

The first issue of the spring semester will be published on Wednesday, Jan. 19, 2000.

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