

# Students, food service workers disagree on vegetarian choices

By Charles Kornis  
Emerald Contributor

Only about one percent of the 3,000 students who live in the University residence halls are vegetarians, according to Fred Babcock, food service director for University Housing.

"Vegetarian was one of those fashion things that have gone out of vogue," Babcock said. "We don't have the numbers that we once had."

Sue Esau, food service supervisor at Carson Hall, prefers not to use the label "vegetarian" because "there are so many different degrees." A more ap-

propriate term is "meatless," she said.

Babcock maintains a demand for meatless meals, however, does exist well beyond one percent. He estimated about 10 percent of the students opt for the meatless entree, which is served with every lunch and dinner menu.

Some of those entrees served last week were cheese enchiladas, broccoli-rice-cheese casserole and fried rice with tofu.

"We try to make the entrees as tasty as possible," said David Funk, food service supervisor at the University Inn. Salad bars and potato bars enhance the meatless

possibilities for evening meals at the UI, Funk said. A salad bar is served with lunch and dinner at all the dining halls.

"We try to balance between what we know is healthy food and everybody's desire to eat chicken nuggets and burgers," Funk explained.

Peter Quady, a sophomore living in Carson Hall, is a vegetarian who isn't satisfied with the meatless selections.

"The meatless entree is a real joke," Quady said. "It's usually not nutritionally complete," he added, citing an example of an English muffin topped with melted cheese and a tomato. Quady said the tofu chili is "pretty good," however.

Quady criticized the housing department for not offering a reduced meal ticket for students who occasionally want to eat elsewhere. If such tickets were available, "you wouldn't be forced into feeling that you have to eat all your meals in the dorm to get your money's worth," he said.

Hoping to change that policy, Quady decided this term to join the Food Advisory Committee, composed of students



Graphic by Lorraine Rath

representatives and food service supervisors from each dorm.

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favorite.

The EMU Food Service also operates two food vans that usually park and set up shop near Gilbert Hall on 13th Avenue and next to the University Library off of Kincaid Street. The vans serve sandwiches, doughnuts and beverages.

Karen Pisk, a graduate student in English, said she buys food from the vans because it is convenient and "much less expensive than any of the restaurants."

A ham and cheese sandwich from one of the two vans runs \$1.50.

Located on the top floor of the EMU, the Skylight Reflectory has discarded its Italian cuisine to offer an Oriental take-out menu. Meals include combination plates for \$2.95 as well as single-item entrees.

Although the choices are not endless, the University Housing Department and EMU Food Service provide numerous meal possibilities and facilities on campus.

**'W h y e a t  
anywhere else when  
the food is paid for  
at the dorms?'**

— Chris Galbraith

Catering and bulk order takeouts from the EMU also are available to students planning social events. For more information, call 686-3718.



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