

Food service improvements outlined

By TIMOTHY LETHBRIDGE
Managing Editor

Beaver Foods manager Phil Bonin was concerned all year last year about whether his company would regain the food service contract for UNB. With the contract safely secured, Bonin expressed confidence about the service they will be providing the university community over the next three years.

"We will be glad to be able to offer some alternatives to students," said Bonin, "to enhance their dining pleasure." He was referring to the many changes planned to the food service.

Many of the changes will take place in the residence service. The most noticeable change was the introduction of a fourteen meal plan. This is offered as an alternative to the nineteen meal traditional plan, and allows students to eat any fourteen of the nineteen available meals. This is an advantage to those who do not eat breakfast or who leave campus on weekends. Although the alternate plan has been demanded by students for a long time, the Mens' Residence Office reported that eighty percent of students still chose the nineteen meal plan.

Another major change to the meal plans was the introduction of a cash equivalency option. With this, a student who has missed a meal in the previous week may obtain food at the SUB up to a value of \$3.00 for every meal missed so far in the term. The cash equivalency could also be used by the various houses to buy house dinners or other services from Beaver.

The introduction of cash equivalency and the fourteen meal plan mean that the "missed meal factor," is reduced when Beaver foods calculates how much it must charge students. This factor previously resulted in lower meal card charges for all

students because, on average, students were expected to miss a certain number of meals. The lack of this factor has meant that the standard nineteen meal plan costs about \$100 more than it would have, according to Bonin.

Bonin stated that it was student dissent which resulted in the introduction of the new system. "Students felt ripped off, even though this was not really the case, when they missed a meal."

Microwave ovens have been installed in the residences so students can re-heat food. Other subtle changes to the dining hall management are also visible.

Major changes are taking place in the Student Union Building Cafeteria as well. All four stalls are being renovated and the types of service each provides is being changed.

The following are some of the major changes in the SUB: —The Bake shop will be selling a new line of baked goods. Students will be able to buy rolls by the dozen and bread by the loaf at lower prices than individual items would cost.

—The Deli will continue to offer sandwiches to order but will also offer meat, cheese and yogurt.

—The sizzler will allow students to more easily help themselves to pop and coffee.

—A professionally built condiment counter will be available.

—A supervisor has been hired who will circulate among customers in a public relations capacity. This person will discuss suggestions and complaints. An example of something this supervisor might do, said Bonin, would be to encourage those who simply want to purchase coffee to go directly to the counter as there is no need for them to line up.

—New menu items are being introduced. Stuffed baked potatoes and Mexican foods were examples cited by Bonin.

One of the most significant changes to SUB food operations will be the introduction of a pizza counter. This will operate from the same stall as the Sizzler, and will open at the time the Sizzler closes. It will operate until 3 a.m. on Friday and Saturday night and until 1 a.m. every other night.

Pizza delivery will be available to the residence system, and three pizza sizes may be ordered. Bonin said his Beaver Foods has no objections to students continuing to order pizza from other pizza places in town. He added that the new service came about primarily because Beaver was made aware by Student Union President Bosnitch that a late night service is necessary.

"I regret the lack of summer renovations," said Bonin, in reference to the fact that the changes to the SUB were still continuing as students returned to University.

This year, Beaver Foods provided service from the SUB seven days a week. Attendance, however, was poor for weekend meals, and Bonin seemed uncertain as to whether the increased level of summer service would continue next year.

In another development on the food service front, Beaver foods has sub-contracted the vending portion of its service to Boyds Vending; Beaver still remains ultimately responsible though. Students will note that a price drop took effect at campus vending machines when Boyds took over.



Beaver foods' hostess locations around the campus are being improved. New counters are being built, and a wall is being built in d'Avray hall so

that the cafeteria will still be open for vending when the hostess service closes for the day.


In order to help plan changes for this year, Beaver took surveys of customers this spring. Among the complaints listed were: unclean tables, high prices, bad coffee, lack of a liquor licence, lack of variety, lack of seating, lack of a non-smoking area and slow service. Bonin said he hoped changes will alleviate some of these problems.



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Each committee has a certain number of students as members. All students are invited to apply for the positions listed below. The committees meet on varying schedules averaging several hours every six weeks.

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Deadline for application Friday, September 21 at 5 p.m. Applications must include Name, Address, Phone number, any committees preferred, any committees you would rather not be on, and any relevant experience.

Send applications to: Timothy Lethbridge, Student Senator, co Brunswickan, Student Union Building, P.O. Box 4400 Fredericton. Applications will be reviewed by the student senators, and a list of successful candidates will appear in the Brunswickan on September 20.