

The Food Corner with Allan Carter

-once again, tough economic times send Allan in search of fast service and cheap potatoes

The Keg, situated on 280 King Street, is a relatively new restaurant in Fredericton. And while it may become known for its good food and fast service, it is more likely that it will become notorious for its high prices. A few months ago I went to The Keg for lunch and although I can hardly remember what I ordered, I do remember commenting on how reasonable the prices were on the lunch menu. The same, unfortunately, cannot be said about The Keg's dinner menu. The prices are high.

However, it is difficult to complain about the food or service at The Keg. While it is not outstanding or much different from other expensive restaurants in Fredericton, The Keg appears to have one unique feature: fast service. The other night I thought something must have been wrong with my watch when my friend and I went to the restaurant and ordered an appetizer and two hefty dinners and were served and dined all within about an hour. That's impressive for expensive restaurants in Fredericton.

The Keg has a wide variety of choices on its dinner menu which consist of seafood dinners, chicken and rib combos and steak platters. Most of these dinners begin at an acceptable price of \$9.99 then shoot straight up to \$19.99.

The usual appetizers can be ordered at The Keg such as escargots or cheese sticks. That evening I ordered the \$4.99 cheese sticks. They proved to be quite tasty and were not the least bit greasy. Included with our meals was fresh, home-baked, crusty bread with creme cheese. I thought this was a nice, unique touch compared to other restaurants which are satisfied with serving their customers small unsatisfying salads or tasteless tiny rolls as appetizers.

My friend ordered the chicken and rib combo (\$15.99). The ribs are, apparently, centre cut baby ribs and the chicken is grade A (boneless) basted with barbecue sauce. While she found her chicken to be a bit salty, the meat was tender and white and it was well cooked. The eight, good-size ribs were also well cooked and remained very nice and crisp despite being covered in sauce. Having a choice of potato my friend had the baked potato which was not very big, but baked thoroughly.

I ordered the prime rib and shrimp platter (\$19.99). This includes an eight oz slice of prime rib steak and also grilled shrimp on a stick. The steak was indeed the best steak I have ever had in any Fredericton restaurant. It was cooked medium all the way through despite its thickness. It was generously covered in mushrooms and the meat was very tender. The grilled shrimp were a nice change from fried shrimp and while six does not seem like a whole lot, they were very adequate considering their richness and the large steak I had to contend with. I choose homemade french fries which were very crisp, a bit spicy and not at all greasy.

While some restaurants serve the conventional carrots or peas with their meals, The Keg has, thankfully, decided to try something else. They serve large fresh cauliflower which is covered in a tasty cheese sauce. Another pleasant change from the old standards.

We decided not to have dessert, but we did order something which I advise you to try if you ever dine at The Keg: mocktails. These drinks which are apparently suppose to replace alcohol drinks are superb. They are relatively cheap and are served in big glasses. My friend tried the fruit punch and she was enjoying it so much I also had to try a drink. The fruit punch mix consists of pineapple, orange juice, lemon juice and 7-up. I tried the Mock Strawberry Marguerite which consists of fresh strawberries, lemon juice, and lime juice. A very refreshing and delicious alternative to alcohol and only for \$1.49.

Although we did not order salad, it was tempting. The salad bar at The Keg is very rich in variety with approximately thirty nine different dishes to choose from. If you enjoy salads and wish to treat yourself to one for lunch, The Keg's salad bar may be worth a try at a fair price of \$6.99.

The service at the keg is very impressive. Immediately after you sit down a waiter is promptly there with menus and asking if you wish to begin with a drink. Sadly, the prices are a big drawback and although both my friend and I enjoyed our meals, they weren't worth \$53.97 combined (taxes included). However, I probably will try The Keg again, but perhaps at lunch time when their prices are a bit more reasonable. I just hope the mocktails are available at noon. Nevertheless, if you can afford it, I recommend The Keg if you are searching for a good steak dinner. From what I have experienced, their steaks do not disappoint.

CHSR FM your only alternative

CHSR presents another night of local alternative music on Saturday, March 14th at 7pm at St. Charbels Hall on the corner of Argyle and Westmorland Street. Front Porch, Idea of North, Kotton Krown, be joined by special guest Skeleton X for a delightful evening of making noise. Get out and experience something for a change. Four dollars gets you five acts, how can you go wrong? No, seriously, go. Get out. **DO YOU HEAR ME??!**

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RAPTURE
BY DAVID HARE

ADULT SUBJECT MATTER presented by
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Happenings

The UNB/STU Art Centre presents its annual talent competition, sponsored by the UNB/STU CreativeArts Committee. The competition features original works of art by students of UNB and STU. Prizes will be awarded in the following categories: Visual Arts, Poetry, Music, and Short Fiction. Prizes will be announced at the opening reception March 13, 1992 at 4:00pm in Memorial Hall. Entries will be displayed, read and performed. The show continues through April 1st, 1992. The UNB Art Centre is located in Memorial Hall, UNB campus and is open from 10am to 5pm weekdays and on Sundays from 2 to 4pm.

Gallery Connexion continues its presentations of music on Wednesday nights, this week (Wednesday 18th March) featuring two Fredericton Bands, **Kotton Krown** and **3 People**. Admission is \$3 at the door. Continuing also at the Gallery (March 8-29) is an exhibition called **Warship/Worship** by **Ghislaine McLaughlin** of Moncton. The artist says her series of multi-media works explores "the eternal attraction of the warrior 'persona.' From avenging angels to movie heroes, from sports idols to military role models, the fascination with powerful figures punctuates our history and still dominates our culture." Gallery Connexion is located downtown at the back of the Justice Building on Queen St. The entrance is off the York St. Parking lot. The Gallery is open Tuesday to Friday 12-4pm and Sundays 2-4pm. For more information please call Connexion Co-ordinator Roslyn Rosenfeld at 454-1433.

The work of New Brunswick artist **Roger Simon** will be featured in an exhibition entitled **Roger Simon: Children of the Sunrise** at the Beaverbrook Art Gallery from March 6 to April 12, 1992, as part of a Fundy Cable Vision sponsored Studio Watch Exhibition. The artist places the figure, usually attired in ceremonial Micmac dress, in surroundings which are rich in color and texture. For more information, please contact Caroline Walker, Education/Communications Officer, at 458-8545.

CHSR FM presents *Breathless*, the groundbreaking New Wave Classic from 1959 in McLaggen Auditorium at 8pm tonight. Admission is \$3. Don't miss this classic Jean Luc Godard production!

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