

Meat substitutes vex eager eaters

By Dave Ware

Heralded by notices stuck into the table sugar caddies and a giant placard hung over the entrance to the food-serving area, the age of textured vegetable protein meat additives dawned at the C****r-P****d cafeteria last Wednesday.

Eager with anticipation and with curiosities fired by the sugar caddy messages, students jostled their way into the lunch lines, holding onto their meal tickets with tenacious fingers.

The wait for the serving door to open seemed to stretch on for an eternity as the ticket checkers took their places with seemingly over-deliberate caution.

At last, the appointed hour drew nigh, and the serving door swung inward without a sound. The mob surged forth, eager to taste the wonder that certainly would titillate their jaded palates and sate their burgeoning appetites. Once past the checker, it was a clear path to the matter in question.

First, students went to the dessert section, usually a place of consummate deliberation, but for today a spot of secondary interest. Then they proceeded past the salads, where a few wavered, but the majority pressed on.

david ware omelet

At last, the main course was at hand. The students' trembling hands reached out and into them were pressed warm, steaming plates. The plates contained generous helpings of french fries, accompanying a seemingly beef-based mush appetizingly spread over oven-fresh hamburger buns—in short, sloppy joes.

The first student to go through the line (who requested that his name be withheld pending notification of nearest kin) rushed out quickly, seized a glass of iced tea and ran to grab a chair by a window.

He sat down, took a quick breath and then, with quivering fingers, raised his sloppy joe to his mouth and bit deeply into the hot and steaming sandwich. He set it down, chewed reflectively for several seconds, then swallowed.

Approximately three seconds later, he began to emit a string of non-repetitive profanities, the like of which this reporter had previously heard only in a seamy bar on the Baltimore waterfront.

After he had expelled his last abusive reference to the parentage of the persons responsible for the meal, the first student paused and then said in a sad voice, "Well, it wouldn't have been so bad if it had been different tasting, but it—it—well, it tasted just the same!"

Saying this, he quietly expired, was carried from the cafeteria by his friends and interred in an unmarked grave upon the Salt Creek floodplain. His friends then filed back to the C****r-P****d cafeteria, sorrowful that the dream of brighter vistas and new horizons in dormitory food had been, after all, naught but a dream.

Preregistration ends Wednesday

Procrastinating UNL students can still preregister for 1974 spring classes.

Preregistration forms will be accepted until next Wednesday, according to Ted Pfeifer, director of Registration and Records.

Pfeifer said Wednesday that over 13,000 forms already had been received from students. He said he expects a total of 14 to 15,000 students to preregister.

He encouraged all students to preregister in order to obtain the courses they want. Pfeifer said college deans adjust the course offerings of their college to meet demands which are shown by preregistration course requests.

Course schedules will be returned to students during the week of Dec. 10, he said. A free computer-terminal drop and add period will be operated the last week of fall semester until Dec. 17, he added. Other information about the drop-add period will be included with course schedules when they are mailed to students.

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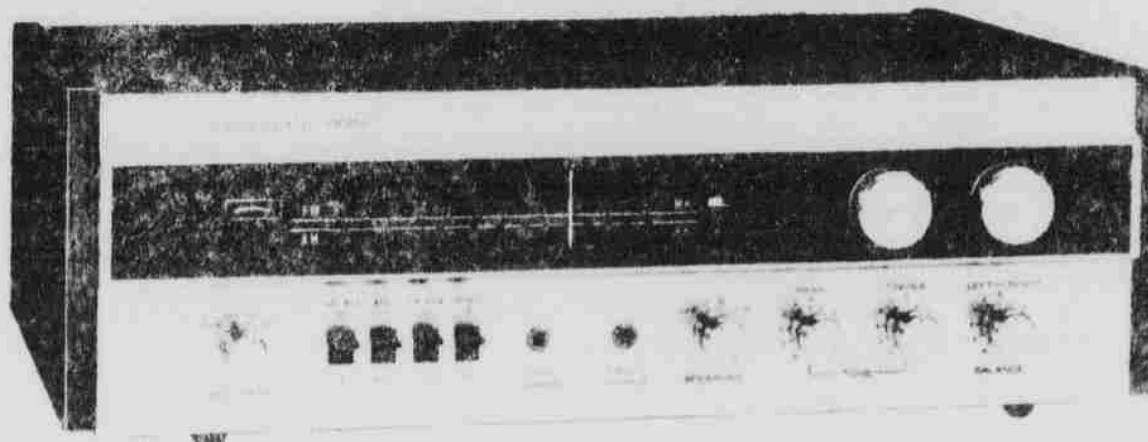
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