

# Food, foot-longs...

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'To my luck, close to campus was the perfect place to broaden my stomach. W. C. Franks, 1320 Q St., has an all-you-can-eat night on Tuesdays from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.

For a small price, you get a regular soda, your choice of chips, and all the foot-long hotdogs and toppings you can eat.

My first foot-long was covered with cheese and onions. In three short bites it was gone and I had another in my basket. Alternating toppings of chili and cheese with onions, I managed to swallow seven feet of the delectable morsels without effort.

Then came the eighth. I took a couple quick bites and started feeling a thought coming on. "I think I'll slow down," I said to my cheering section. The eighth hotdog took so long to eat that all but one of my friends left.

On the way to the counter for my ninth foot, which tied the store record, I overheard a mother tell her son that he could not have another hotdog, until he had grown up. Until that day, he had to listen to his mother and shut his mouth. Where was my mother when I needed her?

When I sat down, I took a more serious look at this record-tying dog. Some people, including one football player, came in with the record on their minds. But by the time I finished, these humans of a larger size had downed only five measly foot-longs and left.

As I contemplated going to get my record-breaking foot-long, I looked across the room at a heavy man with about seven foot-long

baskets in front of him. Another profound thought came to my mind: "I think I ate too much."

Knowing I should have quit at five and that I had gone far past my limit at eight, I decided number 10 would be my last.

I inched my way to the counter, ordered the record-breaker plain, and immediately took the bite that immortalized my name in big green letters on the all-time pig list.

I went home with a feeling of accomplishment and thought, "I think I ate too much."

On the cover: A boy and his dog — Mark takes a moment to pose on his route to glory. Opposite page: He ate 10 of these?

Above: Mark celebrates his conquest in the Nebraska Union Porcelain Room. Right: Our hero is distraught.



Joel Sartore/Daily Nebraskan

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