



Junk-food love preserved

Last night, I ate myself to sleep with Little Debbie's Fudge Brownies. I awoke this morning and munched down some blueberry Pop Tarts and chewed half a bag of sunflower seeds while walking to work.



Chris Burbach

I love junk food. From Raspberry Zooper Dooper to Nacho Cheese Doritos, it's a food genre that delights the senses, pads the midriff, pumps preservatives into the body and, most importantly, takes the work out of eating.

Sometimes I like to hop down to the Kwik Shop even when I don't have any money, just to roam the aisles and gaze in lust at rows of Ho-Hos, cherry pies, Slim Jims, and frozen burritos. That rotund little Ho-Ho guy frolics in my dreams, tossing a Chips Ahoy cookie back and forth with Charlie Brown and Lucy until, inevitably, Snoopy leaps off of his donut package, catches the cookie in his mouth and eats it. Then I see myself in the middle of a desert,

my parched tongue swelling in my mouth, heat waves crawling over me as my brain shrinks right in my head from dehydration. Just as I begin to teeter, the sand whirling up to suck me in, a huge pitcher of Tropical Punch trots onto the scene amid a cherubic chorus: "Here comes Koolaid, here comes Koolaid, he's gonna save the day" — and he does.

The more junk food I eat, the better I feel. I'm developing, at age 23, that pleasant paunch which takes many of us 40 years to grow. It's getting to where I can barely feel the bars in my hide-a-bed anymore, and I feel more confident and assertive now that I'm starting to get a little weight to throw around. And all for a few thin dimes. No cooking, no cleaning, no mess, no fuss. Just open the package and eat. That may be the best part of junk food: It's the one-night-stand of the world of eating — no long-term investments, no last names, no dirty dishes — just you and me, Little Debbie, here, tonight, and let the Devil's food take tomorrow.

Beyond the pleasures of the moment, junk food could really improve the quality of my after-life. Scientists say we Americans

eat so many preservatives that it takes our bodies longer to decay than it used to — after we die, that is. I plan to eat so many preservatives that my corpse will be around and looking good for a long time. Come the Resurrection, I may be considered handsome. Bury me deep, in a cool, dry place, and I'll come out fresh as a Twinkie.

Letter Policy

The Daily Nebraskan welcomes brief letters to the editor from all readers and interested others.

Letters will be selected for publication on the basis of clarity, originality, timeliness and space available. The Daily Nebraskan retains the right to edit all material submitted.

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