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Forking it over: the truth behind the plastic

by Cheyenne Carmack

It must truly be the simplest things in life that give us happiness and/or grief. For example, the recent change from metal to plastic utensils in the cafeteria has caused major questions, com-

ments, and snide remarks from the students at Rockcastle County High School.

Rumors have spread like wildfire. Students think that the lunch ladies have suddenly grown lazy,

or that they're tired of washing dishes. Some students say that the school system is cheap.

But students, if this were a multiple choice question, the answer would be D: None of the Above.

Our cafeteria, which we have fondly come to know as the Hard Rock Cafe, was recently ordering new silverware weekly. Each day ten to twelve forks would turn up missing.

Each fork or spoon whose fate turns out to be a high school trash can cost the lunchroom thirteen to fifteen cents. Doesn't seem like much? It adds up.

According to Mr. Glen Van Winkle, Rockcastle Co. Schools' Director of Food Services, no funding comes from the Board of Education. The entire amount of money that our cafeteria receive are from what they

make during the school year.

"It was simply more cost effective for right now," said Mr. VanWinkle.

The money that is lost replacing forks could be used in ways that would actually benefit the students.

As for those of you concerned about your safety, you should be relieved about the decision to go plastic.

It seems that some artistic students were making sculptures, models, and possible weapons instead of eating lunch.

Even with all of these concerns, some students still believe that the plastic forks just don't cut it (or anything for that matter).

The solution? Get over it. Lincoln County High School has used plastic utensils for almost two years, and so have all three

Pulaski County secondary schools. As a matter of fact, these schools use all plastic - styrofoam plates, plastic forks. Everything goes in the trash.

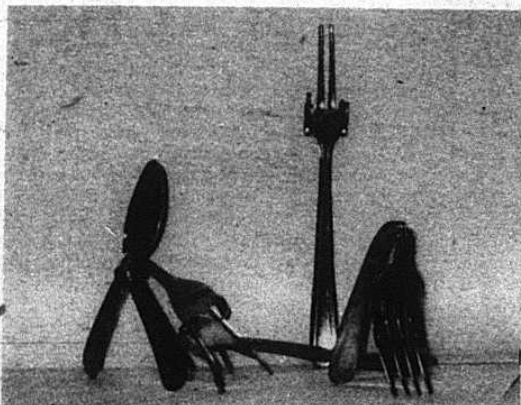
In a way, we are lucky.

The elementary and middle schools in the area still use metal utensils the majority of the time. Each school admitted that they had problems with silverware finding its way to the trash can, but decided that it was not so big of an issue that they needed to make a change.

Somerset High School considered using metal strips placed around the tops of the trash can. These are guaranteed to catch 60% of the utensils thrown away.

So what changed their minds? Each one of these strips costs

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The destruction of silverware in the school's cafeteria has finally caused the lunchroom staff to rely on all plastic utensils.

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Scheduling begins for 2000-2001

by Courtney Alexander

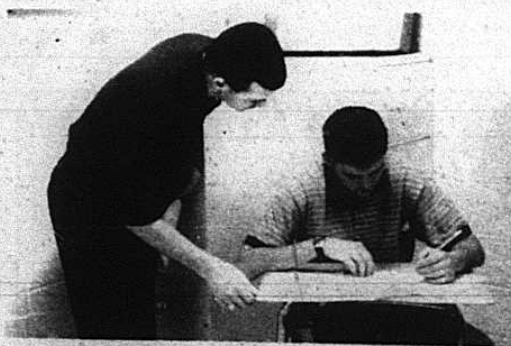
The scheduling of classes for the 2000-01 school year proved to be quite a task on Wednesday, March 8. Students spent almost 2 hours in Academic Advisory trying to complete "perfect" schedules.

Guidance counselor Mr. Dale Whitaker visited each classroom trying to answer questions about class requirements and to explain the new format for scheduling.

The STI scheduling program required each student to fill out a bubble sheet which will be scanned into the computer. This information will be used to plan out classes for the upcoming year.

According to sophomore advisor Miss Susan Norton, "The bubble sheets did some cause confusion."

All schedules had to be flawless which put pressure on both teachers and students. Errors in scheduling occur when the bubble sheets are not properly filled out. The computer can only do what you tell it to do.



Mr. Travis Brenda was one of many teachers who helped students complete their schedules. Above he is seen conferencing with junior Jason Puckett.

"By being more familiar with the STI scheduling program which the school purchased last year, we hope to have a smoother run with scheduling than in previous years," commented Mr. Whitaker.

Past summers have been spent trying to complete schedules to satisfy student needs. Last year, it came right down to the wire for

schedules to be completed by the beginning of school.

"By beginning the scheduling process earlier, we hope to have the schedules completed by the end of this school year," stated counselor Ms. Janice Miller.

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