

The Profile

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5th Earl Market, a cheap culinary delight for Decatur

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One of the newest additions to Decatur's culinary choices, the 5th Earl Market, is located just a stone's throw away from the Agnes Scott campus (309 E. College to be exact), and is a welcome addition to the community.



When I mentioned to people that I was reviewing 5th Earl Market for the school newspaper, it seemed to already have a fan base (I heard several rave reviews from both students and staff). Therefore, I was anticipating a good experience as I approached the inauspicious restaurant, tucked between a new children's clothing store and a bar, I was certainly not disappointed.

As I entered the market, I was struck by the homey ambience. The cozy brick walls and atmospheric lights were an immediate respite from the hot day outside. There was even a wine bar situated in the back. The menu reminded me of Panera Bread or Atlanta Bread Company. There was a wide variety of cold and hot sandwiches, paninis, and salads uniquely named (e.g. "The Blacksmith" or "The Windsor"). After being greeted by a friendly server, and perusing the menu for a few minutes, I settled on The Moat, a hot sandwich, described as a "BBQ beef brisket, smothered in our sweet and smoky red BBQ, then topped with...white BBQ sauce, served open face on a Pugliese roll." The sauce was the perfect balance between sweet and spicy and the Pugliese roll was crunchy almost to perfection. The food I tried was of much better quality than I have had at other restaurants of its kind.

Although the prices are fairly reasonable, considering the quality of the food, the sandwiches are not exactly cheap. The prices range from \$5.50 to \$8.50 (The Moat was \$6.25, a fairly average price). My only complaint would be that fountain drinks are sold separately (at \$1.25). I bought chips separately as well. However, the sandwich was so large, it was unnecessary.

5th Earl Market is already starting to get a reputation in the Agnes Scott community. Even while I was eating there, I noticed another Scottie come in. Being so close the campus, it is a very welcome addition to the dining choices in the immediate Decatur area. The 10% discount for Agnes Scott students doesn't hurt, either. With great service, good quality of food, and an abundance of items for sale, it will hopefully develop a great constituency among Agnes Scott students.