ROTAC marches onto Coastal’s campus

Jessica M. Green  
Staff Writer

Soon, Coastal Carolina University’s campus will be resonating with the sound of marching and cadences.

Fall 2008 will mark the first semester of the new Army Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) that has been created for Coastal Carolina University.

“In the last five years, so many students asked if there was an ROTC program at CCU. It’s in high demand,” said Dr. Judy Vogt, vice president of Enrollment Services. “ROTC is not a major or minor. It’s an emphasis which leads to both leadership and military training.”

Initially, it is going to be affiliated with the University of South Carolina’s ROTC program, which is designed to develop men and women at the college level to serve in leadership positions and learn responsibility. This will, in turn, get them ready to be officers in both the U.S. Army and as civilians in corporate America.

“Freshman will not be committing themselves to going into the Army just by taking ROTC 101. It’s just an introductory course. At the sophomore and junior level is when they make more of a commitment,” said Vogt.

At this level, students can then make a decision to become a commissioned officer or not.

Prior coursework in Junior ROTC programs in high school is not required; however, this new program will be suited toward those who were in such programs. Two to four years will be needed to complete this collegiate ROTC program, depending on the qualifications of the student. For the initial class, 20 incoming freshman are currently being sought out to join the program.

“I can’t wait to see [the company] during an early morning run on campus. It’s so inspirational,” said Vogt.

Some members of the faculty and staff have varying opinions on bringing an ROTC program to CCU at this particular time in American history.

“I do not believe that Coastal’s leaders are making a political statement about any of this by inviting ROTC onto our campus,” said Palmetto Professor of Politics Dr. Richard Collin, pertaining to the U.S. involvement in the Middle East and the politics surrounding it.

“They want to create a program that will be attractive to students and of use to the community. I worry only about the timing,” he said.

“We are in the middle of a presidential election,” said Collin. “The two surviving Democratic candidates have both promised to begin the difficult business of withdrawing troops from the area; under these circumstances, ROTC will mean preparing capable officers to help rebuild a shattered army.

“The Republican candidates, on the other hand, have all vowed to pursue the military option, which means that we at Coastal Carolina University will take part in the business of feeding young men and women into the meat grinder of the Middle East. Could we wait a year?”

For more information:  
Visit: www.cas.sc.edu/army/index  
Call: (803) 777-3639  
E-mail: armyrotc@gwm.sc.edu

Photo by Staff Sgt. Russell Lee Kilka, courtesy U.S. Army

Army cadets participate in events wearing full combat gear. Coastal Carolina University is starting an ROTC program in fall 2008. The program will be affiliated with the University of South Carolina’s ROTC program.
SGA bids fond farewell to the dean of students

As some students may already know, Coastal Carolina University’s Dean of Students Dr. Lloyd Holmes has decided to continue his career at another institution. He has taken another dean of students role at an institution just outside of Boston. This move will provide even more opportunities for him. Although we here at CCU will miss him greatly, we all understand and wish him the best of luck. Please make sure you send your warmest wishes to him before he leaves on Feb. 15. He will need all the warmth he can get with his move up to the blustery north.

Sean Clemmensen
For The Chanticleer

SGA Elected Positions Applications are due Feb. 13. They are available in the Office of Student Activities and Leadership office. The following is a timeline for SGA elections:
• Feb. 13 - Applications due
• Feb. 18 - Mandatory candidates meeting
• Feb. 22 - Budgets and campaigning approval
• Feb. 25-29 - Campaigning
• March 4-5 - Online elections

Corrections

The Chanticleer is committed to accuracy. Please e-mail or call the editor-in-chief if you see any mistakes in The Chanticleer at chanticleer@coastal.edu or (843) 349-2330.

In Volume 44, Issue 13, the Relay for Life Kickoff event was listed in the Campus Calendar under Thursday, Feb. 7. The event was actually hosted on Thursday, Jan. 31.

In an article titled “Celebration of Inquiry: Students challenged to learn and discuss,” a speaker was named as Miss South Carolina. The speaker is actually Mrs. South Carolina.

Coastal is looking for outstanding students to be nominated for award

The Ronald D. Lackey Service Award will be presented at the University’s Annual Honors Convocation on Tuesday, April 29. This is one of the most prestigious awards on Coastal Carolina University’s campus, according to Dr. Lynn Willet, vice president of Student Affairs. Only students who are nominated will be considered.

The campus community is invited to nominate students who meet the following criteria:

> in good academic standing, minimum GPA 3.0;

> will graduate in May 2008 or December 2008;

> have been significantly involved in campus organizations;

> have provided leadership and service that has benefited the campus; and

> have contributed significantly to the quality of campus life.

Nomination forms are located at: http://www.coastal.edu/students/affairs/lackeyaward. Nominations are due no later than 4:30 p.m., on Friday, Feb. 22. Information forms from nominees are due no later than 4:30 p.m., on Friday, March 21.

Celebrate Birthdays, Holidays or a Special Occasion with a Cake or Pie from Bruster’s. Let us Cater a Sundae Party for Business, Birthday or Special Occasion – 10 Sundae Minimum with 48 Hours Notice Required.

Coupon expires April 30, 2008
Benefit performance raises money for rape awareness campaign at COI

Claire Arambula
News Editor

“People are worried about the word vagina. ‘Ew, vagina! Don’t say that word!’ It’s just a body part. Get over it.”

Caroline Davis, a passionate student of musical theater at Coastal Carolina University, is on the cast list for the play, “The Vagina Monologues,” premiering on Thursday, Feb. 14 at 7:30 p.m. in Wheelwright Auditorium, as a part of CCU’s 2008 Celebration of Inquiry.

The award-winning play, conceived by Eve Ensler, is a benefit performance directed by Robin Russell of the CCU theater faculty. “The Monologues” is a production in conjunction with V-Day, a global organization working to stop violence against women and girls.

This is the 10th year “The Monologues” has been performed on stages across the world and it continues to raise awareness and gain support for women. The script mimics the real-life stories of abuse victims, yet it is presented in a humorous light.

Erika Fathing-Coffey, a member of the Myrtle Beach community, initially approached Russell after reading about the play in Glamour Magazine.

“I was so moved,” said Fathing-Coffey. “I wanted to bring it to the area. It’s important for young people to make a difference for other women. I’m proud to be a woman, and I hope all CCU students will go to the show.”

Fathing-Coffey is not performing in the play, but she will be working a silent auction and raffle in the Wheelwright Auditorium to raise money for the V-Day campaign, the Rape Crisis Center and Citizens Against Spouse Abuse.

“We try to keep [the play] as realistic as possible,” said Davis. “It’s important for people to understand, stand up and speak out. We need to not be afraid of our sexual orient.’’

It’s easy to forget what our grandmas and great-grandmas went through because it doesn’t happen to us, said Davis. “Women have just as much to say as men.”

 “[The Vagina Monologues] is truly a piece of political theater,” said Russell. “I’ve done the play twice in the past, and all of a sudden, it just started clicking. It was meant to be. So, here we go.”

The cast includes CCU students Becky Henegar, Jen Hartman, Caroline Cuseo, Lauren Sloan, Caroline Davis, Kimberly Daniel and Brandy Ward. Faculty and staff members are Russell, Melissa-Anne Blizzard Hall and Anne Monk.

General admission is $10, seniors $5 and students and faculty are free with CCU ID.

For more information: Log onto vday.org/vspot
For tickets: contact the Wheelwright Auditorium box office at 349-2502.
CRIME LOG

JAN. 29
Traffic stop, drug paraphernalia, weapon violations
A CCU DPS officer observed a moving violation and initiated a stop of the vehicle. The vehicle did not stop and turned onto Jackson Bluff Road. The rear passenger exited the vehicle and fled the scene near Campus Edge Apartments. The officer called for assistance and when help arrived, the officers removed the two remaining subjects from the vehicle. The vehicle was checked for further occupants and a knife was found. The driver was arrested for possession of the knife and for driving under suspension. A search revealed a glass pipe and green plant material that was field tested and found to be consistent with marijuana, and a gun was found in the glove compartment. The driver was arrested and transported to the Horry County Detention Center.

JAN. 30
Dryer fire
CCU DPS officers responded to a fire alarm at Waccamaw Hall. Upon arrival, officers cleared the building. A CCU employee at the scene had unplugged and moved the dryer away from the wall. The fire department arrived and established the fire had self-extinguished and proceeded to clear the smoke from the building. The employee was treated at the scene for smoke inhalation.

JAN. 31
Alcohol violations, public drunk, resisting arrest
CCU DPS officers responded to Quail Run Village in reference to a complaint of noise and underage possession of alcohol. Upon arrival, the officers noted empty beer containers and loud noise. Individuals were seen fleeing the house as the officers approached. While officers were attempting to identify the residents of the house, several people tried to flee the area. One of the subjects attempting to flee became belligerent when stopped. Subject began to fight the officers as they attempted to arrest the subject. The subject continued to fight and was sprayed with pepper spray. The officers handcuffed the subject and called for EMS to check the subject before transportation to the Horry County Detention Center. This subject was arrested for resisting arrest, two residents of the house were arrested for alcohol violations. All three subjects were transported to the Horry County Detention Center.

BIZ STUFF

Knowing your credit score

It is no secret that America's economy is driven by the availability of credit. In fact, recent data from the Federal Reserve's Consumer Credit Outstanding report shows that the total amount of outstanding credit in the U.S. tends to increase every year.

Companies that issue credit to consumers do so within specific parameters of risk management which allow them to profit safely. One of the key metrics that a company will use to judge the risk of a certain line of credit is a consumer's credit score.

The Fair Isaac Corporation computes the most widely used credit score, known as the FICO score. According to personal finance expert Suze Orman, knowledge of one's own FICO score is the single most important factor in taking control of personal finance.

Orman's book, "The Money Book for the Young, Fabulous and Broke," outlines the components of the score, what factors affect the score and what is considered a good or bad score. According to Orman, a record of paying one's bills on time accounts for 35 percent of the score. Second, the balance on credit cards and other loans compared with one's available amount of credit on the cards and loans accounts for 30 percent of the score. One's length of credit history accounts for 15 percent of the score. Finally, recent applications for credit and the mix of different types of credit each account for 10 percent of the score.

Scores between 720 and 850 are considered to be the best available, while scores between 500 and 599 are considered to be the worst. Effective rates in the fall of 2004 showed that a person with a score between 720 and 850 could receive a four-year car loan at a 5.1 percent interest rate.

Similarly, a person with a score between 500 and 599 was required to pay a 15.8 percent interest rate. Depending on the value of the loan, the difference between a 5.1 percent rate and a 15.8 percent rate could equal thousands of dollars.

FICO scores can be found at www.myfico.com. Because three different agencies use the FICO formula, one may want to check all three at a charge of around $15 each. Yet for a college student, one score will probably be enough to get an idea of one's own financial circumstances.
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Security makes efforts to keep CCU community safe

Jesse Edwards
For The Chanticleer

For most students in this day and age, getting the best education they can receive is one of the key aspects of attending college and becoming successful in life.

An aspect of college life that may help achieve that goal is the safety of the campus they attend. Students of Coastal Carolina University have Chief Greg Weisner, director of public safety, to thank for the general safety of CCU.

“Our main goal is to maintain an orderly campus in order to progress the education of the young adults who go to school here,” said Weisner, who, with the help of more than 90 employees attending to the issues of campus safety, does not have to fulfill this goal single-handedly.

Students witness CCU’s Department of Public Safety in action every day performing acts and services ranging from parking duties and directing traffic, to law enforcement and basic security.

“I feel pretty safe because I see a lot of security people around,” said sophomore Tiffany Strickland.

“Coastal is diversified in safety and that is good,” said Weisner on how varied the Department of Public Safety is.

Weisner likes working on CCU’s campus, especially amid CCU’s current state of rapid growth.

“I love [CCU]. It’s high energy; it’s fast growing and it has been great to be a part of the cutting edge of higher education,” he said.

Since Weisner began as chief of public safety in May 2006, he has garnered much respect for the student body.

“Our ambition is to be a ‘student-centered department and students should know that we are here to help them, give advice and offer protection,’” he said.

Recently, CCU-improved campus security by initiating the mobile alert system, which in case of an emergency would send information to the cell phones or the e-mails of every student who is signed up for the service.

Weisner believes these mobile alerts help the students make personal and safer judgments in times of crisis and they also keep the students properly informed, since “the key to a safe campus is an informed campus.”

The department is also keen on releasing information, as Weisner believes students should know exactly what is going on in the campus community.

Because of these information-obtaining assets, junior Corey Brooks feels, “Coastal is 90 percent safe, thanks to the mobile alerts and the presence of cops everywhere.”

Even though CCU will be reformulating some of its policies in the near future, Weisner will still be there to help enforce those policies no matter what form they may take or how challenging they may be.

When asked what about security frustrates him, he sighed a little and replied, “The fact that you cannot always see the results of your work immediately.”

With the ambition of being a “student-centered department” still firm in the beliefs of CCU’s public safety department, that dream may one day be a reality.

For more information: contact the Department of Public Safety office at 349-2177. To sign up for mobile alerts, visit CCU’s home page, coastal.edu, and click on the mobile alerts link.

Alumni Association helps graduates stay involved at Coastal

Lauren Valery
For The Chanticleer

Most graduating seniors will leave campus in May, but they do not have to leave Coastal Carolina University behind. Joining the Alumni Association has many benefits that graduating seniors are encouraged to take advantage of.

Committed to helping former students continue relationships with friends, professors and faculty members, the Alumni Association offers a variety of benefits and privileges to its members.

Founded in 1976, the CCU Alumni Association has grown considerably, keeping up with the continuing expansion of student enrollment. CCU alumni range across the U.S., covering almost every state, as well as various foreign countries.

The Alumni Association is primarily centered on keeping former students in contact with CCU. By giving the university an annual $25 donation, members become qualified to receive the following benefits:

> continual access to Kimbel Library;
> support from the Career Services Department;
> a subscription to Coastal Magazine;
> a discount on a Quail Creek Golf Club membership;
> discounts on purchases made at the campus bookstore and at the Quail Creek Pro Shop;
> an MBNA credit card program;
> name listing in the president’s annual report;
> short and long-term insurance options;
> renters, automobile and homeowners insurance options;
> an invitation to alumni and area chapter events.

“When businesses are looking to hire Coastal graduates, the Career Services Department will match the business with former students” based on the enrolled alumni who match the qualifications of that business, said the Director of Alumni Relations, Jean Ann Brakefield.

“Chapter events are an informal way for people to get together,” Brakefield said.

The events help alumni who are located in different areas of the country meet other CCU alumni in the same area and get to know one another.

For more information: visit the Singleton building, Room 206, or contact class of 1984’s Jean Ann Brakefield, director of alumni relations, at jeanann@coastal.edu.
A woman’s perfect Valentine’s Day could be defined by tradition, from the flowers, the chocolate and the romantic dinner for two. This is everything that all those cheesy romance movies have implanted in our heads.

From a personal standpoint, and from the inspiration of fellow females, the following is every guy’s idea to the perfect Valentine’s Day date following the ladies’ favorite, traditional theme.

The beginning of the perfect evening would start with my date picking me up from my house, making sure to be on time. This would be the perfect opportunity for him to present me with a lovely bouquet of flowers. Bonus points if he gives me my favorite kind, but you can never go wrong with red roses.

He should take my hand and lead me over to the car, making sure to open the door for me, and carry on a sweet and meaningful conversation, instead of just blasting his favorite music.

We would head to a quaint and romantic restaurant, where he had already made reservations for a private table. Once we arrived he would come around and open the door on my side and take my hand to lead me in.

The table would be located in a quiet area, illuminated by candlelight. Rose petals scattered around would be a plus.

After sharing a delicious dinner and bottle of wine (if you are of age; of course) my date would present me with a little box, that would contain a beautiful bracelet, necklace, ring or some other type of jewelry. The more it sparkles and shines, the better.

The perfect night would end with a trip to the beach, as we would take a romantic walk and look at the stars and profess our perpetual college love for each other.

But alas, this is only a fantasy for me on this upcoming Valentine’s Day, as my single self will be spending time with my girls, watching cheesy romance movies and pining for the guy from “The Notebook” to come sweep us off our feet.

Valentine’s Day is a day for lovers to express affection for each other. The question is, who is this St. Valentine and what is the history behind this holiday?

The history of Valentine’s Day has both Christian and ancient Roman traditions.

The legend goes that Valentine was a Roman priest in the third century. The emperor at this time was Claudius II who decreed that young single men make the best soldiers. Consequently, he outlawed marriage for young single men.

Valentine realized how unjust this was and decided to ignore the law. He continued to perform marriages to young lovers in secret. When Claudius II heard that Valentine was doing this, he ordered Valentine’s death. Valentine became a martyr for young lovers.

Being a guy, the perfect Valentine’s Day I envision for a girl is to first start the morning off by delivering a dozen roses to her with a lovely card on the inside.

I would take her to lunch somewhere like the Olive Garden or to a Japanese hibachi restaurant. Then I would take her to Coastal Grand Mall and let her spend the whole day picking out dresses and clothes she wants.

Dinner is the most important aspect of a girl’s perfect Valentine’s Day and it would have to be a nice fancy restaurant like the Bone Fish Grill. At the dinner table I would give her my present, which might consist of a necklace and a box of chocolates.

Being an English minor, one of things I enjoy doing is reading literature. So, I would find a poem that expresses how much I care for her and read it to her.

Finally, I would end this perfect night by taking her to see any movie she would want to see.

Because I am single at the moment, it is difficult to say what exactly I would do for a girl on this special day. However, my belief is if you are truly in love with someone, then every day should be like Valentine’s Day.

---

**MARTY KEISER**

So, do you have anything for me today? A card...flowers...chocolates???

---

**WELL, I DIDN’T WANT TO USE SOMEONE ELSE’S WORDS TO EXPRESS MY FEELINGS FOR YOU. I DIDN’T WANT TO EXPRESS MY EVERLASTING LOVE FOR YOU WITH FLOWERS THAT WILL DIE. AND FINALLY, I KNOW HOW HARD YOU’VE WORKED ON YOUR FIGURE AND I DIDN’T WANT YOU TO WASTE IT ALL ON CANDY.**

**ARE YOU CALLING ME FAT??**
CCU President David A. DeCenzo spends the first hours of his day reading e-mails and signing papers.

Stepping in the shoes of the Coastal president for a day

Maegen Sweat
Staff Writer

Wouldn’t we all like to be the president of Coastal Carolina University just for a day?

Think of all the experiences and challenges the president faces. Think of the level of admiration and respect he receives from fellow faculty members and students. Think of the awesome benefits and travel that coincide with daily meetings and conferences.

With all of that being said, what exactly does President David A. DeCenzo do during a normal day in the life as the president of Coastal Carolina University?

“First off, there is no such thing as a ‘normal’ day,” said DeCenzo. “Nothing is ever planned, and I never know what may come up.”

Because every day is not a routine for the CCU president, DeCenzo explained that when he enters his office at CCU usually around 7 or 7:30 a.m., he spends the first hour or so of his day reading and responding to e-mails.

“From there, I usually have a stack of papers that need to be signed and stamped. The papers can be anything ranging from travel authorization, letters of recommendation, signing for donors, contracts for sporting events, you name it.”

And of course, what kind of president would he be if he didn’t have meetings to attend?

“The number of meetings I attend a day varies, really. Take today for example, I have five meetings set up. Sometimes I even have one meeting that lasts all day,” said DeCenzo.

“This morning I had a meeting with the Board of Trustees, then I met with an individual whom I’m asking to serve as a member of the Board of Visitors.

“I then have a meeting with an official concerning Family Weekend, and I can’t forget the basketball fundraiser at 6 tonight,” he continued.

With such a high status and value to CCU, it’s no wonder the president is a very busy man, always caught in between meetings and fundraisers. But what about outside of CCU?

DeCenzo said he is actually out of the office 60 percent of the total time he spends on campus.

“Today is my first day on campus in 10 days actually. Earlier this week, I was at a conference in Columbia with the State Procurement Office. From there, I flew to Miami to meet with several recent CCU graduates to discuss how the university prepared them for their real-life jobs. I also spent three days in Charlotte, N.C., for the Dean of Edwards interviews,” DeCenzo said.

With such a hectic schedule, some may wonder if DeCenzo gets enough interaction with the students.

“I try to walk around campus a good bit, but I enjoy more formal interactions, as well. I will continue the ‘Meet with the President’ and the ‘Hot Dogs with the Top Dogs’ events on campus in order to know the students of CCU better. What’s most important to me is quality time, which is much better than quantity time,” the president said.

Obviously, being president of the university is a 24/7 job, and it’s fast paced with a rapidly changing schedule. Anyone hankering after a position that carries such a vast amount of authority has to be willing to make the time commitment. 

“A year ago, my idea of the presidency did not adequately prepare me for the actual investment,” said DeCenzo. “But at the same time, I’m having fun and it’s definitely a learning experience.”

Can you remember the exact moment you grew up?

As children, we pretend to be grown up by putting on our parents’ clothes and pretending to make dinner, or by pushing the shopping cart at the grocery store.

As young adults, we think we are grown up when we experience our first relationship, or when we land our first part-time job.

As college students, we think we are grown up because of the more fact that we are in college and hence, in our minds, “on our own,” even though deep inside, we know this is not the case.

You might think achieving grown-up status occurs when you walk across the stage and grasp that bachelor’s degree firmly in your hand, and are thereafter firmly thrust into what college students have dubbed “the real world.”

While that may very well be true, I achieved grown up status the minute I signed the papers that legally made me a co-owner of a brand-new, 1,800-square-foot home.

Some people might think it foolish of me to have bought a house while the real estate market seems to be floundering. I consider myself somewhat informed on this issue, and I maintain that I made an excellent decision to buy.

With builders nationwide struggling to sell off property and builders in Myrtle Beach being no different, my fiancé and I bought a house that we get to build to suit our wants, and because of his excellent credit and my decent credit (and some help from his parents), we qualified for a low fixed-rate mortgage.

Just saying the words “low fixed-rate mortgage” and knowing what they mean I think qualifies me as a grown up. Two years ago, the workings of the real estate market and credit scores were all Greek to me. Now I realize how important having credit is to making real-life, grown-up decisions.

Low credit scores are an indirect reason for the pathetic state of the U.S. real estate market and the economy. People with low credit scores can usually only qualify for high interest rates and adjustable mortgage rates.

Because of this, some people default on their loans and end up losing their homes. This could have been easily avoided had those people exercised a little bit of responsibility.

Establishing credit doesn’t mean you have to have three credit cards and use them for everything on top of having student loans. Yes, having outstanding loans does hurt your credit—I have some of those myself—but if you have one credit card and enough money to make regular, on-time payments, then your credit score may be higher than you think.

Someone gave me advice once that you should be able to pay 10 percent of your total credit card debt each month; if you can’t, you’re using your credit card(s) too much. And even while I recognize this as excellent advice, I didn’t always follow it. Even now, I can only make about 5 percent payments of my total credit card bill each month.

I tell you all this so you can see that it is possible to build credit as a college student—enough to buy a house while still in college. All it takes is a little responsibility, and maybe more than a little self control when it comes to the near-limitless shopping possibilities of Myrtle Beach and the constant tease of a credit card’s “buy now, pay later” appeal.

Editor’s note:
Please see page 4 for a related story on knowing your credit score.
Food pick: New sushi place is ‘king’ of the forest

Casey Church
For The Chanticleer

Beware, there is a new king of the forest.

King Kong Sushi recently opened its doors for business in the Forest Square shopping center on Carolina Forest Boulevard.

Inside, the cozy atmosphere makes it easy to forget King Kong is part of a strip mall. The dark wood and warm lighting creates a great atmosphere. Relaxing, modern music plays softly throughout the entire dining experience. The layout is open and allows plenty of room for customers to walk around.

Photos in the menu and suggestions from the knowledgeable and helpful wait staff make ordering easy despite King Kong’s wide array of choices.

For those who do not care for sushi, there are a few tempura items that will be sure to tempt your taste buds. King Kong also offers a vegetarian section.

“I have been to most of the sushi restaurants here in the Myrtle Beach/Conway area and theirs is the best I’ve had,” said Ellen Gunning, a sophomore special education major.

There is also a selection of hibachi items. Choices such as lobster, shrimp and chicken are available.

For those simply wanting to enjoy a cocktail or two, King Kong has a spacious bar with a vast selection of liquors, bottled beer and sake. If the attractive bartenders are not enough to enjoy, there are two flat-screen TVs located right above the array of liquors.

King Kong also offers a delightful “lunch box” section offered from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. This feature is great for those just looking to grab a quick bite.

If dining in should be a problem, King Kong also delivers. Their route stretches from around campus to the Carolina Forest area.

Japanese terms to know:
Sushi - Anything made with vinegared rice.
Sake - Rice wine.
Maki - Vinegared rice and fish (or other ingredients) rolled in nori seaweed.

Definitions from catsushi.com.

Tempt Your Palette:
Dish: #95 Shrimp Tempura Maki and Clear Soup
Review: The sushi was well rolled for eating with chopsticks. Everything tasted really fresh and truly opened up my taste buds. The clear soup is just that—clear. It is broth with a few mushrooms. Don’t let its simplicity fool you though, it was absolutely delicious.
Rating (1-5): 5, without a doubt.

This dish from King Kong Sushi is calamari, crab rolls and an avocado and cucumber roll.

The bar and grill have drink specials regularly and have sushi specials coming soon.

The restaurant is located close to campus and is a great place to enjoy with friends or a significant other.

My overall experience was excellent from the friendly greeting of the wait staff to the exquisite cuisine offered; I am sure to go back.

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With winter fading into spring, it's time once again for a preview of the attractions coming with the season. There are five movies that have the chance to be blockbusters of spring 2008:

"Jumper"  
Hayden Christensen stars in this science fiction thriller about a young man who learns he has the ability to teleport anywhere. He discovers he is not alone and there is a war that has been raging for thousands of years. In spite of Christensen abysmal performance in "Awake," I'm willing to give this movie a shot. It has an interesting plot and one other element that often leads to promising movies: Samuel L. Jackson.

"Vantage Point"  
This movie has been getting hype since early November, so of course it's going to be included in this list. Eight strangers, all with different points of views, attempt to find the one truth in a presidential assassination attempt.

The cast: Matthew Fox, Dennis Quaid and Forest Whitaker all star in this thriller that's sure to keep you guessing until the very end. This movie has the potential to be huge.

"Semi-Pro"  
This movie will almost certainly be a box office hit for one reason: Will Ferrell. Is there anything else necessary to be said? "Talladega Nights" and "Anchorman" are two outstanding comedies that catapulted Ferrell's career into superstardom.

This is a movie about a basketball team that's all gimmicks and no talent, but has to realize their "inner potential" or become an afterthought in basketball lore, as the NBA and ABA will merge and only the best will stay a team.

"Harold and Kumar: Escape From Guantanamo"  
Yeah, they're back again. Harold and Kumar have gone international, this time getting busted by the feds as "terrorists." It doesn't help matters that they try to sneak a bong onto their plane.

Neil Patrick Harris is here to lend a hand this time...as himself. Since the first movie was golden, it's not too far-fetched to think that Harold and Kumar can strike gold again. If you're debating seeing this movie, just ask yourself this one question: What would NPH do?

"21"  
Jim Sturgess is in the early stages of a breakthrough after his performance in "Across the Universe." He intends to capitalize on the popularity of that movie, as well as the star power of Kevin Spacey, in "21," a movie about an MIT student with a spectacular knack for numbers who needs money for college.

He finds a way when he joins a team of mathematical geniuses who have figured out the secret to beating casinos in Las Vegas: counting cards. As Sturgess' character becomes enveloped in the Vegas lifestyle, he and his team must learn to stay one step ahead of Cole Williams, a casino owner played by Laurence Fishburne.

"Harold and Kumar: Escape From Guantanamo"  
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Students team up against cancer

Coastal Carolina University’s volunteer organization, Students Taking Active Responsibility, or STAR, held its kick-off event for this year’s Relay for Life. Team members and captains attended the kick-off that was held in the Wall Auditorium on Thursday, Jan. 31. Seventy-five people were in attendance, according to Todd Harwell, a co-coordinator of STAR. Those who are interested in starting a team to participate in Relay for Life should contact STAR at ccustar@yahoo.com or stop by the office in the Student Center, Room 206F for information.

Photos by Meghan Miller

Above left: STAR co-coordinator Todd Harwell holds the certificate that officially recognizes the CCU chapter of Colleges Against Cancer.
Above middle: (Left to right) Melany Mader, the American Cancer Society partner; Jennifer Regan, STAR co-coordinator; Todd Harwell, STAR co-coordinator; and Brett Klein, assistant dean of students.
Above right: Participants at the Relay for Life Kick-off event join in on the ice cream-eating contest that was a fundraiser at the event. Bruster’s donated the ice cream.
Left: Assistant Dean of Student Brett Klein gets ice cream on his face during the “Sunday Relay” ice cream-eating contest during the Relay for Life Kick-off event on Jan. 31.
52-inch key donated to Wall College

A large bronze key mounted on a 2,300-pound granite base has been installed in the entrance of the E. Craig Wall Sr. College of Business Administration at Coastal Carolina University.

The 52-inch key, the official emblem of the Beta Sigma Gamma national honor society for business students, was given to the university by Margaret Jordan and McKenzie Jordan in honor of their husband and father, Charles Jordan of Conway.

Jordan, chairman of Chancellor Construction Group, is a longtime supporter of the university, having served on the Wall College’s Board of Visitors for many years. Margaret Jordan and son McKenzie Jordan, who also serves on the Board of Visitors, designed the memorial in consultation with Henry Lowenstein, dean of the Wall College of Business. The key was unveiled on Dec. 24 as a surprise to Charles Jordan.

“This splendid memorial recognizes the outstanding contribution that Charles Jordan and the entire Jordan family have made to the growth of the Wall College of Business and to the success of our students and graduates,” said Lowenstein.
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Student loans offer solution to paying for tuition

Greg Martin  
Staff Writer

Beer, food, books and gas are some of the things a minimum wage job can pay for, with a little extra cash to either put away or take a significant other out to a nice dinner. So when the time comes around to pay the semester’s tuition bill, how is someone with a minimum wage job going to get the money?

The most advertised solution is student loans; however, student loans have been known to trap college graduates in debt until they have to start saving for their own child’s education. Students who can understand the terms of the loan best fit for them may be able to avoid that inevitable debt.

Free Application for Federal Student Aid, more commonly known as FAFSA, is the free government financial aid form that determines whether a student’s family meets the “need-based” requirements to receive a common Stafford Loan.

The pros of a Stafford Loan are that they require no credit checks. These loans are fixed-rate loans, meaning they remain at a set rate for the entire term of the loan. Also, these loans have flexible repayment plans and have a 180-day grace period after a student’s college graduation day. For Coastal Carolina University seniors graduating this semester, that day is May 10.

The disadvantages to Stafford Loans are they come in small amounts—$3,500 maximum for first-year students—they require the refile of the federal FAFSA form each year and these loans can only be used for tuition.

While Stafford Loans are considerably easier and more flexible than other loans, if a student needs to pay the entire tuition bill, there are other alternatives.

If students’ parents are willing to co-sign a loan, then they might be better suited for a Parent Loan for Undergraduate Students, or a PLUS loan. These loans still have flexible payment options; however, the payments for the parents of the student begin 60 days after disbursements have been made to the school, but the student can choose to defer payments until after they graduate.

Other advantages of this loan are students can borrow up to the entire cost of the tuition and low-interest rates are available for graduates and professionals.

These loans may seem inconvenient because they require credit checks, the annual reapplication of the FAFSA and they require that any student applying for PLUS loans must use Stafford Loans first.

A PLUS loan is intended to make up for the deficit of the amounts of money students receive in Stafford Loan.

Yet another common choice college students have when trying to pay for tuition is a private student loan.

Unlike federal loans that are processed through the college, these loans are processed quickly and require no federal filing.

To acquire a personal loan, students must be willing to take on high interest rates and are required to reapply for the loan each academic year.

A home equity credit line can be a way to become independent and to build credit. With a home equity credit line there is no need to file federal forms.

Students can get a low interest rate, credit lines have flexible repayment options, there is a one-time application and these funds can be used for anything.

Having a large amount of credit can be tempting for students to have fun with, especially in an area like Myrtle Beach that offers a variety of shopping and dining facilities. If the students pass the credit check, deal with the interest rate and have enough equity in their home to receive enough funding, then this is a viable option.

Many Fortune 500 company owners have used lines of credit to build their wealth. The greatest risk of taking out a home equity line of credit is that if students violate the contract, they can possibly lose their house.

There is no perfect answer for the question of paying for higher education, but by understanding the guidelines of the loans available to students, it is achievable to pay for college and not start one’s career in debt.
CD REVIEW: Alicia Keys’ ‘As I Am’

Kimberly Daniel
Staff Writer

Alicia Keys continued her streak of placing her debut albums at No. 1 on the Billboard Top 200 with her latest “As I Am.”

Keys kept her street yet jazzy, blues, neo-soul sound through studio albums “Songs in A Minor” (2001), “The Diary of Alicia Keys” (2003), and most recently, “As I Am,” released over 13 last year.

One of the most effective songs of the album is track six, “Lesson Learned,” in which Keys is piecing her life together after heartbreak as she sings “I was burned, but I call it a lesson learned.” John Mayer completes the sound of the track as he accompanies Keys.

The name “As I Am” sums the album up in three words. Keys has matured since her previous albums and has grown into a more confident and focused artist which is revealed through every track.

Track Listing:
01. “As I Am” (Intro)
02. “Go Ahead”
03. “Superwoman”
04. “No One”
05. “Like You’ll Never See Me Again”
06. “Lesson Learned”
07. “Wreckless Love”
08. “The Thing About Love”
09. “Teenage Love Affair”
10. “I Need You”
11. “Where Do We Go From Here”
12. “Prelude To A Kiss”
14. “Sure Looks Good To Me”

What’s new this week

MOVIES
- “Definitely, Maybe” - Ryan Reynolds, Abigail Breslin
- “Jumper” - Hayden Christensen, Samuel L. Jackson
- “The Spiderwick Chronicles” - Freddie Highmore, Mary-Louise Parker
- “Step Up 2 the Streets” - Briana Evigan, Robert Hoffman

MUSIC
- Widespread Panic - “Free Somehow”
- Mighty Mighty Bosstones - “Medium Rare”
- Smashing Pumpkins - “American Gothic”

ACROSS
1. Valentine’s Day treats
3. Hugs and
5. Tickled
6. Stuffed, cuddly friend
8. Hallmark, etc.
9. Spouse
10. Valentine’s Day month
11. Love’s symbol
12. Valentine’s Day (date)

DOWN
1. Flying baby in diaper arrows
2. Chocolates, flowers, etc.
4. Public Displays of Affection (abbr.)
7. Dinner arrangements
Kyle Drapeau  
Staff Writer

Super Bowl XLII: The Coronation of the Perfect Team, the New England Patriots. At least that's what most NFL fans thought, save those few faithful Giants fans who believed in their team down to the last tick of the clock.

Admit it, you crowned the Pats too. To quote Arizona Cardinals head coach Dennis Green, “If you wanna crown 'em, then crown their ass.” Just be prepared to admit that you were wrong. I'll go first. I was wrong. Here are five reasons why the Giants won Super Bowl XLII:

1. Eli Manning came through.
   I've despised this guy since the day he snatched San Diego in the NFL Draft. He was mediocre for four years, showing flashes of brilliance on a team that during those four years needed more than flashes. In the past five weeks, the younger Manning transformed into what we've all been waiting for: a Super Bowl MVP. That drive with less than three minutes left in the fourth quarter was the stuff legends are made of.

2. Plaxico Burress was right.
   In Super Bowl III, "Broadway" Joe Namath guaranteed a win against the Baltimore Colts. Thirty-nine Super Bowls later, Plaxico Burress revived the art of the guarantee, though his score was slightly off. He only had two catches the entire game, but one of them essentially iced the game for the Giants.

3. The regular season really doesn't matter.
   The Patriots were 16-0. A perfect regular season. On the flip side, you have the Giants, who were 0-2 to start the season, 6-2 by mid-season and 10-6 at the end, squeezing out a wildcard berth by the skin of their teeth. Much like the 2005 Pittsburgh Steelers, the Giants won three road playoff games and stole the Super Bowl from the nation’s shiny-in-pick. The regular season is meaningless as long as you make the playoffs.

   Super Bowl XLII featured two of the league's top ten defenses. The Patriots offense averaged 37 points a game during the regular season.

   That being said, it's hard to be a "prolific offense" when your quarterback is spending half the game on his backside. The Giants had a defensive scheme that kept Tom Brady guessing and made him look like something he hasn't looked like in a very long time: human.

5. Never underestimate the underdog.
   This goes beyond just the NFL. In every sport, there has always been one constant: the underdog. Even the Patriots, prior to their recent dominance, were once considered underdogs.

   Remember Super Bowl XXXVI back in 2002? Brady exploded from that point on to become one of the NFL's best quarterbacks. Perhaps Super Bowl XLII was Eli Manning's coming-of-age party. Only time will tell.

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Fitness classes help CCU stay in shape and get healthy

Meg Duvall
Assistant Editor

Fitness classes offer a different approach to working out while still providing the same physical benefits as a traditional workout. The Department of Campus Recreation at Coastal Carolina University offers a variety of fitness classes for those who want to be physically fit.

Tara Saville, assistant director of Campus Recreation, talked about the benefits of the fitness classes offered at CCU.

“All the classes we offer target different things,” said Saville.

In addition to reduced stress, higher energy levels and building muscles, taking a class encourages meeting fitness goals through a social aspect. People pay more attention to what they eat when they are held accountable by others, said Saville.

Classes being offered this semester include Abs, Yoga, Pi-Yo and TNT.

Abs is a 20- to 30-minute workout that focuses on the body’s core, which includes the lower back and abdomen. Yoga is a class that enhances strength and flexibility through poses and meditation. Pi-Yo is a class that combines pilates and yoga.

For those wanting a complete body workout, TNT is a class that uses weights, balls, bands and other personal fitness equipment.

Saville said her favorite class is Spinning(R), which is a group cycling class.

“It’s a different type of energy. The lights are off,” said Saville. “It’s a pretty intense workout, but anyone can do it.”

The spinning class has limited space with only 15 bikes available, so the first 15 to sign up get the bikes, said Saville. To get a spot in the spinning class, show up early, Saville said. The sign-up takes place 15 minutes before class starts.

The newest class offered by Campus Recreation is Tango. The class is being taught by Paul McTaggart, who is an instructor for Carolina Dance Partners in North Myrtle Beach.

“Last semester I did a one-day crash course in ballroom and night club dancing, tango is one of those,” said Saville.

She asked McTaggart to come to CCU to teach tango as a fitness class to interested students.

McTaggart will be teaching tango for the first eight weeks of the semester to teach the basic steps of tango, and the culture and dress of tango as well. His goal is to create a tango society at CCU, said Saville.

Students who take the class do not have to have a partner, but should come ready to learn the basic steps and progress into learning the more advanced types of tango movement.

All classes being offered this semester are held at the Recreation Center in the Aerobics Studio. To view a complete schedule and description of fitness classes, visit www.coastal.edu/recreation.

For more information:
Contact Tara Saville at 349-2815.
Only four starters return to softball team for 2008

Amanda Kelley
Photo Editor/Writer

The women’s softball team finished the 2007 season with a losing record of 22-34. Last season the ladies had a weak offense but a solid defense. The lowest field percentage was .914 and only two players had more than six errors.

Only four starters are returning from the 2007 team; there are seven newcomers. Returning is starting pitcher Ashley Fredrick who finished last season with a 2.66 ERA. Also returning are Allison Cantrell, Brittnay Birnbaum and Kelsey Riffel with batting averages of .314, .223 and .116, respectively.

Joining the 2008 team are sophomore Me­ caela Ballard; freshman Cass Stuart; sophomore Laicole Walker; freshman Ashley Pi­ sone; sophomore Alyssa Tornatore; junior Verity Long-Droppert; freshman Ashley Pedersen; sophomore Alicia Irwin; freshman Michelle Evans; and freshman Morgan Dodd.

The lady Chants were picked third out of six in the Big South Conference Preseason Poll. Rival and defending champion Winthrop University was picked first.

The softball season begins at the Jacksonville University/Best Western Invitational in Jacksonville, Fla. Feb. 8-10. The first home game is against Maryland, 11 a.m. Feb. 16.

Lacrosse, page 18

The second half was more intense, causing the game to go into double overtime. Sophomore Tommy Cawley scored in the few minutes remaining making the score 10-9, Chanticleers.

The following game brought East Carolina University to CCU. It was a high-scoring game, but CCU came out on top with a score of 16-10.

Juniors Ryan Dunham, P.J. Graziano, Matt Masey, Matt White and John Maisel all gained points for CCU. Sophomores Tommy Caw­ ley, John Tysco and freshman Noah Sadoun also flung balls past ECU’s goalie. Freshman Jon Russo, goalie, saved 21 balls.

“Winning the ECU game was a surprise for us. They beat us last year. To beat them this year was a good outlook on the season,” said Sadoun.

The team’s third home game was against Winthrop University and seemed to be a breeze for the Chanticleers. CCU’s boys ran circles around Winthrop and left them in the dust with final score of 30-1.

Even though the game lacked nail biting excitement, many energetic fans were still present.

“The boys aren’t afraid to hit hard and they know how to get it done,” said Laura Poth.

“We’ve always had the talent to do well, but the commitment was not always there,” said freshman Chris Smith. “This season ev­ erything has come together and we possess the potential to be a very strong team in the SELC. The road to the championship will be a long one, but I have the feeling this just might be our year.”

SPORTS CALENDAR

| M Basketball | at Radford University | Mon. 2/11 at 7 p.m. |
| M Basketball | V. Liberty University | Sat. 2/16 at 2 p.m. |
| W Basketball | V. UNC Asheville | Wed. 2/13 at 7 p.m. |
| W Basketball | at Liberty University | Sat. 2/16 at 7 p.m. |
| Softball | V. University of Maryland, Elon University | Sat. 2/24 at 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. |
| Softball | V. University of Maryland, Elon University | Sun. 2/24 at 1:30 p.m. and 4 p.m. |
| M Tennis | at Wofford University | Tue. 2/12 at 2:30 p.m. |
| M Tennis | at UNC Wilmington | Thu. 2/14 at 1 p.m. |

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