CRIME LOG

Jan. 29
Hit and Run
A complaint reported to a CCU DPS officer that he/she had witnessed a vehicle strike another vehicle without leaving information on the struck vehicle. The complainant gave a description of the vehicle to the officer. This incident is still under investigation.

Jan. 30
Traffic stop: careless operation, driving under suspension
A CCU DPS officer stopped a vehicle for careless operation. During the interview with the driver it was discovered the driver was driving on a suspended license. The driver was written citations for both offenses and transported to the Horry County Detention Center.

Feb. 1
Verbal Disagreement
The victim reported that he/she had a disagreement with the subject in the parking lot. The victim did not want to press any charges against the subject.

Feb. 1
Public Drunk
Two subjects were observed by CCU DPS officers near the Woods residence area behaving in a suspicious manner. One of the subjects was stopped and the other fled on foot. The one subject was interviewed and found to have been drinking. Both subjects are being referred into the campus judicial system.

Feb. 2A
Missing Person
The complainant reported to a CCU DPS officer that the victim had not returned from an off-campus visit. The victim was later located in good health and no crime was committed.

Feb. 3
Leaving the scene of a collision
The victim reported to a CCU DPS officer that they returned to their vehicle after class and found a note from a witness describing the vehicle that struck the victim’s vehicle. This incident is still under investigation.

Feb. 3
Assist another agency
CCU DPS was contacted by an Horry County Police officer with a warrant for a suspect failing to appear for court. The subject was located, served with the warrant by the HCPD officer and transported to the Horry County Detention Center.

CORRECTIONS

THE CHANTICLEER is committed to accuracy. Please contact the editor to report mistakes at chanticleer@coastal.edu or (843) 349-2330.

- In Volume 46, Issue 9 of The Chanticleer, in Elaine Urban’s article on page 6, the first sentence should have read, “Many people at Coastal Carolina University just don’t recycle.”

- In the same issue, in Brandon Lockett’s opinion on page 13 about midway down, it should of read, “In all seriousness though, if the individual really believes in what they are standing for, they probably should not be weak enough to accept the terms.”

Two resolutions presented at recent government meeting

SGA member recounts the minutes of the most recent meeting

At the Student Government Association meeting on Feb. 2, two resolutions were introduced that may affect students.

One of these resolutions suggested the University outsource Coastal Carolina University e-mail services to an outside provider in order to improve the performance. Students expressed concerns that the current system fails to deliver a reliable service and needs to be updated.

The second resolution calls for the university to continue to allow tailgating and consumption of alcoholic beverages for those of the legal drinking age in the Rooster’s Nest area in the baseball stadium.

It had come to a senator’s attention that the area added to the stadium last season will be a “dry” area under the new campus wide alcohol policy.

Senators were concerned that the loss of this privilege will hurt the student attendance at baseball games.

Both resolutions will be voted on at the next SGA meeting on Feb 9.

MASON CAMPNEY
SGA Contributor

STUDENTS

SUNDAY 15
Operatic Arias, Duets and Transcriptions
3 p.m. to 5 p.m.
Edwards Recital Hall

Men’s Tennis vs. Gardner-Webb
1 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Tennis Center
Edwards computer lab moves

Expansion of graphic design program calls for additional classroom space and computer accessibility

MAEGEN SWEAT
Assistant Editor

The computer lab in the Thomas W. and Robin W. Edwards College of Humanities and Fine Arts, formally located in room 108, has been moved to the former conference room near the main entrance of the building, room 171. Joseph E. Baxley, coordinator of lab support at Coastal Carolina University says the room is smaller and now with less computers.

"The reason we had to move it was that we are expanding our graphic design program, and we will have a new major in graphic design. As a result, we need the additional classroom to handle the courses for that major. For the nature of graphic design, it requires special computers and space," said Dr. Bill Richardson, dean of the college. "We were faced with the problem of, one way or another, having to convert something to another classroom."

According to Richardson, the former computer lab had all the wiring and was well equipped to put the new graphic design classroom in the space. It will also be used for other courses that are technology intensive.

"We knew students would be upset. We looked around, and the best place we found [to relocate the computer lab] was what used

LAB, continued on page 05

SUSTAINABILITY

New battery recycling program now available

Campus and Community Sustainability initiative implements battery recycling program on CCU's campus

ASHLEEE WILLIAMSON
News Editor

Coastal Carolina University has begun a new recycling program that provides students with not only more recycling bins, but now with battery recycling tubes, as well.

The new plan is part of the University's Campus and Community Sustainability Initiative, with help from the students in the Eco-Rep Program.

In September 2008, Marissa Mitzner, sustainability coordinator for the Sustainability Initiative, attended a conference in Raleigh, N.C. where she learned of a nationwide battery recycling program called Battery Solutions, Inc. It was through this program that CCU was able to provide the recycling materials for students across campus.

The recycling tubes accept dry-cell batteries, which include double A and triple A batteries, cell-phones, watches and calculators.

"We need something tangible so that people can see we are working toward sustainability on campus and that Coastal is dedicated to it," said Mitzner.

Mitzner explained that most discarded batteries are dumped into municipal solid waste, with the rest of everyday garbage. The batteries contain various chemicals such as mercury and lead and can cause serious environmental problems.

"All of these harmful things are eventually buried in the landfill," Mitzner said.

Eight tubes are located across campus and are being utilized fully by the student body and faculty. Tubes can be seen in the different colleges with several

RECYCLE, continued on page 05

Tubes are located in eight different university buildings to serve as drop-off points for students' batteries.
DeCenzo considers going charter

Coastal Carolina University finds a middle ground for less restriction and state funding

MAEGEN SWEAT
Assistant Editor

Facing growth and expansion, Coastal Carolina University is now looking to explore new grounds on becoming a charter university.

CCU President David DeCenzo is actively pursuing charter status for several reasons.

“There are a lot of definitions as to what a charter university looks like in any given state. In a university, you have two ends of a continuum. You have a school that would be all public, like we currently are, and a school that would be all private,” he said.

“The distinction is in a public institution you are regulated by a state and a state-governing board. In a private institution, obviously it’s all local governments,” explained DeCenzo. “A charter system is a hybrid of the two.”

According to DeCenzo, a charter is still considered a state institution, but with less restrictions and state funding.

“We’re looking for some changes as they reflect human resources. For example, we have to get permission each year for full-time equivalence.

“When I made my first presentation to the House of Subcommittee on Education, I asked them because of our growth and increasing class size, I need more faculty positions.

“I have to get permission [from the state] to hire X number of people,” said DeCenzo. “We have to find a way to pay for them, but they give us permission to hire them.”

DeCenzo said that becoming a charter university would free CCU from long approval processes to build new facilities.

CHARTER, continued on page 06
STORIES CONTINUED....

LAB, from page 03

to be a conference room. It's easily accessible right at the front of the building,” said Richardson, who also admits that things were a little slow getting ready for the spring semester.

While the reasons of the move are solid, it has caused a bit of confusion for some students.

Chancey Greco, a senior English major, was unaware of the recent move of the computer lab.

“I would’ve never known it was there, I never walk through the main entrance. A sign would really help,” said Greco.

Richardson said that this is only part of the situation with the growth of campus.

“We just need to reallocate the facilities. We are flexible. [The computer lab] is up and running. I would encourage any students to stop by and try out the new computer lab.”

RECYCLE, from page 03

batteries dropped in them.

Sophomore Marcus Mtshali is a studio art major and frequently visits the Thomak W. and Robin W. Edwards College of Humanities and Fine Arts, where one tube is located.

“It’s good to see Coastal taking the initiative to help prevent toxins in the land and water. I think they’re very responsible for implementing such a program,” Mtshali said.

Additional tubes are located in the University Place activity house, the Coastal Science Center and Bill Baxley Hall.

For other recyclables, a 30-cubic yard receptacle has been set next to the basketball court between the Woods Residence Hall and the Waccamaw Residence Hall.

The receptacle is only for plastic, glass, aluminum and minimal cardboard, but Mitzner encourages the campus to utilize other recycling bins on campus for paper recycling.

Junior Tiffany Kasarjian is serving as an eco-rep for the first time this semester, but says she has always been interested in recycling and being environmentally friendly.

“I think that Coastal made a very good call on the battery tubes,” said Kasarjian.

“Recycling isn’t mandatory or easily accessible in South Carolina. And the fact that we’ve made it so easily accessible to students should encourage them. It’s so easy to help the world and people don’t realize that.”

Mitzner said she is very pleased with the students’ engagement and hopes everybody is turning toward a greener culture.

“It’s more than recycling. It’s more than turning off the lights,” she said. “It’s a lifestyle. It’s a way to look at our lives and see how we can create a better future for ourselves and future generations.”

CHARTER, from page 03

“We are dealing with an issue around the state appropriations. It is well chronicled that we are one of the lowest-funded public institutions in South Carolina.

“Because we have been funded so poorly, we are looking at all possibilities of how we can increase that funding, or how we can find a different way of managing that,” said DeCenzo.

DeCenzo explained that CCU is poorly funded by the state partly because of the large number of out-of-state students attending the university.

Senior finance major Hollie Smith, vice president of finance for the Student Government Association, thinks if CCU continues to house more out-of-state students, becoming a charter will be beneficial.

“If in that case they would need to be a charter because it is very difficult for Coastal to get money. If they wanted to make Coastal a mostly in-state institution, then they would need to up out-of-state tuition.

Then it will be predominately in-state, and South Carolina will give them more money,” said Smith.

“Being chartered, we’d be able to make a lot of decisions on our own and not wait for signatures.”

According to DeCenzo, legislation is being written on regulatory relief, and if approved by the state, charter status could be ready to be filed by July.

Assistant Dean International Programs of the Wall College of Business, Dr. Darla Domke-Domonte, thinks DeCenzo will steer CCU in the right direction.

“He has been a very strong and visionary leader who has clearly thought outside the box for Coastal to continue to serve the outside needs. There is very strong trust in his leadership.”

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How to do V-Day on broke days

A few unique and cheap ways to celebrate the day of love

BARBARA ASTRINI
Staff Writer

This Valentine’s Day isn’t as threatening as Hallmark makes it seem, and even though students are short on cash, they can still celebrate it in a unique and cheap way.

WHAT TO GET

Fargo the ties or cheap jewelry, and don’t even think about crossing the Wal-Mart Valentine’s Day aisle to pick up a cheesy stuffed animal. Think about things that you can do together:

• A gift card at Cinemark can guarantee a date.
• $10 worth of e-tokens for Jungle Fun at Coastal Grande Mall equals up to 44 tokens or about 15 arcade games.
• Get a $20 gift card at Wal-Mart but vouch that to only buy (kids’) toys.
• Drop by FYE and browse through the used CD section together and find anything from good to goofy: REM to Britney Spears, all costing anywhere from $2.99 and up.
• At FYE, calendars cost about $3.50 and have themes like “The Office” and Fall Out Boy, but don’t stop there. Fill random dates with things to do with the honey, like a massage, a movie, or a naughty camping trip. He or she will always look forward to those days for the rest of the year.
• Get him/her a magazine subscription: buy the actual mag and put a ribbon on it, and don’t forget to mail the subscription card (and of course, take the bill!). Rolling Stone costs $4.50, and a year subscription is only $14.95, while Men’s Fitness is $10 for a year, and Vogue is $12. Better yet, grab her a Cosmopolitan, read it, and try out all the tricks on Valentine’s Night.
• Earthbound is a foolproof shop with affordable and creative gifts, like vintage rock posters of the Rolling Stones and the Doors from $6.95, or large Andy Warhol replicates from $12.47.
• They also have elaborate incense burners with statues of Buddha and King Tut, shaped like a gold leaf or the sun and moon, and start at $7.95.
• Even funnier – and very useful – are large book-shaped stash boxes to hide anything in.
• For the one adamant about flowers, skip the boring roses, and get a medium bouquet of tulips at Wal-Mart for $5. These are much prettier, livelier and last longer.
• For the creative one, get a cork tile, usually costing $5.47 and up, and cover it with pictures and notes. It’s an easy way to personify something, and ends up being very useful.
• A few aisles down, get a beta fish, costing $4.67, and a starter kit (comes with bowl, water neutralizer, fish food, and other fishy garnishes - $7.98), and share a pet that’s easy to take care of.

WHAT TO DO

The truth is, most people are probably both broke, and fighting for a reservation at some overpriced restaurant is just overrated.

• Instead, go out to eat for lunch, which is a lot cheaper, and it gives more time for the rest of the night.
• Have a wine night – both grab a bottle of a favorite wine, and try them out. Smoking Loon goes for $10.87 at Wal-Mart and Kendal Jackson is $13.17. If the money really is tight, Australian wines, such as Yellow Tail, Lil Penguin and Bensrock, are as cheap as $4.87, and a bottle of Oak Leaf is $2.97 – but how picky can one really be?
• A snack tray (by the vegetable aisle) costs $5 and comes with cheese cubes and pepperonis. And of course, don’t use the red MySpace cups for these – a set of two wine glasses is only $4.97.
• Not a wine fan? Do the same with different beers neither one has tried. Either bring some favorites, or just grab some new ones. A case of Shiner Bock goes for $5.84, and one of Dundee Ale is $5.84.
• Of course, all of these can be done without a date. Grab friends and have a drink tasting night or get together for some fondue.
• If a fondue pot is out of budget, just melt a 23 oz. bag of milk chocolate morsels ($4.98) and dip fruit into it. The best with chocolate are bananas ($1.62/lb), strawberries ($2.98 a pack), grapes ($1.77 a pack) and pineapples ($2.98/lb).
• Regardless if Valentine’s Day is deemed to ruin wallets, you can still manage to do it in style.
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Authorities give explanations for superstitious tendencies when 'the Universe gives us signs'

CORRIE LACEY
Copy Editor

Black cats. Broken mirrors. An open umbrella indoors. Silly superstitions? Or fate? Why do people find themselves walking around ladders rather than under them or avoiding cracks on the sidewalk?

From the beginning of human life, people have feared what they don’t understand. They pride themselves on making rationale through science or religion. However, through the centuries and still today, many people turn to these fascinating rituals to protect themselves from the unexplained.

Many people admit to being a little superstitious, and while others claim that superstition is child’s play, they may still be seen knocking on wood from time to time or throwing salt over their left shoulder.

Dr. Jane Risen, a psychologist and professor at the University of Chicago, said she knows better than anyone how irrational superstition is.

“I don’t turn my watch to the new time zone until my plane lands,” she said. “I know that it has nothing to do with whether or not we get to the location without difficulties and on time, but I just feel like it’s presumptuous to assume that everything will work smoothly. And by engaging in that presumptuous behavior, it somehow makes it more likely that things won’t go smoothly.”

Why would a woman of her rationale be so reluctant to tempt fate?

CCU marketing assistant, Wendi Lee also claimed that she’s not superstitious; however, she also practices common superstitious rituals such as crossing her fingers or looking for signs.

“I don’t consider my self superstitious, but I think the Universe gives us signs,” said Lee. “I believe God gives me clues here and there. When strange things happen, its God’s way of saying, ummm, we should pay attention to this.”

Maybe strange habits to some ward off bad spirits for others.

According to Ashley Baldon, writer for The Clarion at Citrus College, in England, test takers begin each exam with a new pencil because it has never written a wrong answer.

Experienced actors will never be heard saying the title “Macbeth” in a performance space; it is always referred to as “The Scottish Play.” Likewise, theatergoers never wish “good luck” to performers going on stage, instead they use the phrase, “break a leg.”

During the Black Plague in the 1300s, visitors would bring a pomander, dried orange stuffed with sweet smelling spices, to a sick friend for protection from sickness. To this day, many people still bring flowers to sick friends.

The phrase “God Bless You” came from the plague era as well. It was believed that when a person sneezed, evil was exiting his/her bodies. Therefore, the Pope passed a law requiring all people to quickly bless the person while the evil was expelled from them.

The legend of bad luck after walking under a ladder came from another old Christian belief.

The ladder against a wall created a triangle with the ground. Walking through the triangle was seen as “breaking the Holy Trinity” which brought about bad luck.

Whether these age-old rituals are truly protecting agents or just passed down from each generation, many people still practice them today.
New trends in for a new year

Winter 2009 is pushing the buttons with a mix of luxe-bohemian and edgy ‘90s rock ‘n’ roll.

**FEATHERS, FUR, ANYTHING ANIMALISTIC!**

Fashion has gone primal, so pull out the leopard. Small animal prints are the call – croc, snake, tiger, but make sure they are real-sized and colored. Feather headbands and clips are a must; the bird look is hot! And if you can splurge, get a real(looking) fur coat and rock it over a cocktail dress.

**BOOTS IN DIFFERENT HUES**

Brown and black are so 2008, and boots this time of the year are cheap, so go for something in a purple or red suede. If you’re reserved, gray is another striking tone that will go with anything and will still stand out over a sea of beiges.

**OVERSIZED ACCESSORIES**

Go big with giant cocktail rings and headbands adorned with big bows and feathers. Make sure they sit low on the headband.

**LEATHER JACKETS**

This look is no longer reserved by bikers. Avoid the try-hard hipster look and save the motorcycle jacket for the nighttime. During the day, stick with a bomber of a lighter wash and layer it over a light-colored top or dress.

**VESTS**

These are back with versatility. They come in different fabrics and a long wool vest works looking effortless. Wear it open to avoid highlighting love handles.

**PLAID**

The button up shirts are cool, but don’t stop there. Go for plaid pants, plaid skirts and plaid gloves! Try out different patterns too, but keep the rest of the look modern to avoid the schoolgirl look.

Zaxby’s offers ‘savory flavor’

Despite fluctuating customer service, chicken joint provides satisfaction

ELIJAH BLACK
Staff Writer

Every now and then, the Coastal Carolina University student will hear a familiar whistling tune coming from his/her standard or high-definition screen followed by a guy or gal eating a serving of chicken fingers, fries or chicken wings.

That’s right, located right off U.S. 501 is Zaxby’s, the prospering restaurant chain that tempts the commercial viewers as well as the drivers who pass by the restaurant on the way home, school, etc.

Sometimes the smell tempts that certain urge to spend that $6 or more for the Large Chicken Finger Plate. Each bite satisfies that horrible rumbling in the customer’s stomach as the savory flavor influences the Zaxby’s customer to buy a golden Basket of Toast. The thick bread is smoothly buttered with melted margarine on each side, giving it a sweet biscuit smell that is similar to the Texas Toast grandma used to make before church.

Perhaps the CCU student is tired of the store-bought sandwich meat and finds oneself in the long drive-thru ordering a grilled chicken sandwich. Those who haven’t had a Zaxby’s Chicken Sandwich are missing out on a great taste.

Let’s not forget the great taste of the variety of wing flavors NFL fans enjoyed during Super Bowl XLIII.

Imagine that Super Bowl Sunday when CCU fans of the NFL enjoyed Zaxby’s Tongue Torch and Original Flavored Chicken Wing Platters. Maybe some brave soul wanted to literally spice up the party with Zaxby’s hottest sauces, “Nuclear” and “Insane.” Of course, the usual beverages and pretzels or beer nuts will be present, but nothing can match the great taste of the wings as every person watching Super Bowl XLIII screams at the screen.

Aside from the great taste, the service can be described as fluctuating. Although the taste is good, one should be aware of an impatient worker. The long lines in the drive-thru and dine-in areas make the Zaxby’s employees restless.

The usual, “I would like fried mushrooms... wait no, fried onions” make the employee roll his or her eyes, which may result in a mix-up of customer orders. At times, it is the customer who might want to show patience because some Zaxby’s employees may try to rush an order by announcing the price before the customer can finish. Think of how annoying it is to be behind six cars and then deal with an employee rushing the order. It all depends on the scene of the drive-thru or dine-in area and on who is working.

If the customer orders in the lunch hours, be prepared to wait about 10 minutes for the food. It’s best to catch Zaxby’s when other customers have left. Thus, it is better for CCU students to go when Zaxby’s is not busy so the wait isn’t long; however, CCU staff should go during lunch hours so they have an excuse for being late.

If you don’t want to order at the restaurant just call-in at 843-488-2005, but as the customer, you have to pick it up yourself.

HBO has recently started airing another show, “Summer Heights High.” The Australian show stars one man, Chris Lilley, playing three different characters. Set as a documentary, the show’s three characters are drama school teacher, a private school student and a troubled Polynesian student.

Mr. G., whose real name is Greg Gregerson, is promoted from senior drama teacher to head of performing arts. The very flamboyant Mr. G. goes over the top with his musical about a girl who gets involved with sex and drugs, but then the school is “saved” by one teacher, Mr. G.

Throughout the series, “Mr. G. the Musical” goes through many ups and downs, including the fake death of his Chihuahua, Celine, and being forced to cast Toby, a mentally challenged boy who is frequently called a spaz and a retard, the play to role of Mr. G.

Ja’mie King is a very emotional and snooty student moving from a private school to a public school. King comes into Summer Heights High with the opinion that public school kids end up becoming rapists and murderers while private school kids become “better quality citizens.”

King finds the popular Year 11 girls and becomes their “friend.” Throughout the series, King dates a Year Seven boy and tries to go to the formal with a lesbian.

Jonah Takalu, a Year Eight student, is the biggest troublemaker in Summer Heights High. Takalu is passionate about break dancing and always ends up in trouble with English teacher Ms. Whitley. Determined to make his mark on the school, Takalu draws his “dictation” tag on teachers’ cars, school buildings, etc.

All-in-all, “Summer Heights High” is a must see.

---

TELEVISION

Popular Australian series a must-see

Known for famous line, ‘I said puck you, Miss, with a P,’ show brings drama

ALYSSA FREY
Guest Writer

Across
1. Intense desire
6. Love is an ___ rollercoaster.
8. Make love not ___
11. Significant
12. The color of love
14. Another word for handsome
15. Baby with the arrow
18. Character who died for love
19. Closely personal
24. Cliche candy
25. Short-lived infatuation

Down
2. To appeal strongly
3. Virgil’s “Love ___ all.”
4. All you need is ___
5. Love of ideal beauty
7. A letter or gift
9. Loss of love causes ___
10. Waiting for Prince
13. “___ are forever.”
16. To court or woo someone
17. Packer up for a
20. Not an Italian kiss, but a ___ kiss
21. Popular song, “Fall for ___”
22. ___ mate
23. Term of endearment

Compiled by CLAIRE ARAMBULA, answers on page 19

SUDOKU

Courtesy of dailysudoku.com, answers on page 19
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in Edwards Conference Room 101

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Meetings are held on the first and second Monday of each month, 5 to 7:30 p.m. in Counseling Services

COASTAL CAROLINA UNIVERSITY
www.coastal.edu

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at 843-349-2305 to sign up for the session.
SQUAWK IT OUT

A day to be different

Student expresses opinion on how Valentine's Day should be unique and apart from ‘social norms’

REBECCA FILLER
Guest Writer

I have spent days contemplating this article and no matter how many times I get lost in hopeful fancies or cry over lost loves, I cannot seem to put my finger on how one expresses true love.

It certainly cannot be done in a single day, in a box shaped as a heart or a rose drizzled with chocolate. Social norms have placed an excessive amount of pressure on men and women to uphold a ritual.

Why must we reassure our commitment to another by purchasing cardboard words written by a complete stranger? Feb. 14 has become a day of expectancies. Women expect their significant other to break the bank for expensive flowers or another empty piece of glitter, while men anticipate silk and candle light—all in the name of Valentine’s Day.

Maybe these symbols of affection would be more significant if they were not products of marketing schemes but of deep and sincere emotions that are embedded in the heart.

When planning a day that symbolizes your love for another, go beyond the social norm of Hallmark holidays and create a day that is significant to your unique relationship.

BE HEARD

Who would be your perfect Valentine's Day date?

Fennis A. Qualls
junior computer science major:
"Stacy Dash." 

Adam Jenkins
sophomore accounting major:
“My girlfriend of two months, Carlee and Simms.”

Denis Sulce
sophomore computer science major:
“My Girlfriend.”

Terrell Ouzts
freshman exercise/sports science major:
“Beyonce AND Keyshia Cole.”

Angry student vents on fees

Not only do students pay to get in college, they now have to ‘pay to get out’

BRITTANY OUSLEY
Guest Writer

After charging a monstrous $400 on my credit cards for used books this semester, it would be an understatement to say that I was irritated to pay a fee for graduation. Not only do we have to pay to get into college, we now have to pay to get out!

As a senior at Coastal Carolina University, my parents and I have been fueling the University with thousands of hard-earned dollars over the past four years. As we all know, college is not cheap, and it seems like every time I turn around there is another senseless fee. Whether we are paying for books, lab fees or technology fees, our built-up college funds are dwindling much faster than expected.

While I do understand that nothing in life comes free, this situation makes me think of the phrase “Money does not grow on trees.”

I would like to know where exactly this money is going. Is it the graduation ceremony, the cap and gown, the speakers, what? The receipt I received after payment did not give any detail as to whom, what or where my money was going.

All those graduating in May have put their time, energy and money into CCU. Graduation should be a time of cheer, relief and finality. Instead of feeling rewarded or accomplished for my hard work, I felt cheated as I handed over a check for $25 bucks.

The economy has had a huge effect on all of our wallets and the last thing a college student needs is another place to spend their very limited dollars.
Remember Your Orientation?

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The Green Niche: how to be eco-friendly on V-day
Green is the new Valentine’s Day color for the sustainability of Mother Nature

ELAINE URBAN
Features Editor

Ahh, Valentine’s Day. The holiday of love. How could anyone criticize a whole day contributed to giving presents of affection and devotion? One entity who would appreciate the delivery of well-deserved love on Valentine’s Day is Mother Earth.

According to www.thriftyfun.com, it is estimated that consumers will purchase 180 million roses, 36 million delicious chocolate boxes and 188 million greeting cards for friends and that oh-so-special someone. The fact not to be forgotten is that this isn’t only in the United States we are talking about. Several other countries celebrate this popular holiday as well. So while preparing for the day of love, keep in mind these eco-friendly tips.

As much as Valentine’s Day cards are appreciated and make people feel all warm and fuzzy inside, they will most likely be thrown away and probably not even be recycled. To make a card memorable and “green” instead of just pink and lacy, hand crafting the cards is a prime choice. Materials such as old magazines and newspapers are a good alternative to buying cards. Making homemade cards saves money and more love is put into it. An easier alternative is to send a thoughtful card over e-mail or Facebook.

When it comes to sending a bouquet on Valentine’s Day, florists are glad to take people’s money, considering this is when they make their biggest sales. What most people don’t know is that the majority of roses are imported from countries from South America. Unfortunately, they are doused in harmful pesticides that are detrimental to people’s health and the environment, so try to buy organic or support a local farmer by buying locally. Some helpful Web sites for purchasing organic flowers include 1800flowers.com and www. organicbouquet.com.

Every girl loves chocolate on Valentine’s Day and, odds are, she is going to get it. Chocolate is also a crop that could contain harmful pesticides and fertilizers.

By buying organic or chocolates that are Rainforest Alliance Certified, Mother Earth is that much happier. Even better choices are Endangered Species Chocolates, which send a portion of their profits to environmental organizations.

Keep in mind that money doesn’t always buy love, so purchasing gifts aren’t always even necessary. So spread the love equally to both your sweetheart and the Earth by taking into consideration these tips.

status quo

Editor's Note: The following are actual statuses taken from Facebook.com; however, last names have been omitted to protect identity.

Casey my friends say i look better without you!
Maggie is Sitting on a cornflake waiting for the van to come.
Elizabeth will be indisposed for the remainder of the day thanks to mr. stomach bug.
Lee is not coming home from vegas! Don’t act suprised this is where I belong!
Meagan thinks it should be a sin to have this much fun at work when you are an accountant! haha.
Kali is Sometimes I wish that I was the weather, you’d bring me up in conversation forever. And when it rained, I’d be the talk of the day.
Kaitlyn is live every word, scream every song.
Ricky she aint scared of lions & tigers & bears but shes scared of loving me.
Weston is DJ Khaled is the most annoying person on earth.
Ryan just skated ravv bridge.
Jazmin LOVES HER SQUISHY :).
Will is people call us renegades cause we like living crazy.
Is Valentine’s Day a consumer holiday or about love?

BRANDON “POPPIN” LOCKETT
Art Director

Once again, the corporate abomination known as the Great “Hallmark” rotates on all corners, defecating its seductive messages of affection and adoration to all who gaze their eyes upon him, as the late Lot’s wife once stared upon Sodom and Gomorrah. However, rather than the abysmal transformation into a pillar of salt, the victim is petrified with adolescent hormones tracing back to the mellow dramatic tale of a man so heartbroken, he gave his lady friend who rejected him his still-beating heart cut from his chest. Grease your bangs in front of your eyes, shed me a tear and play Linkin Park on a holiday whose recognizable symbol companies and chocolate factories that own. Tared upon Sodom and Gomorrah, you saved the day for one more year of fake affection.

My real question is why does Valentine’s Day only exist one day, and why should some overpriced stationary and weeds represent a mysterious affection that someone may spend the rest of their life attempting to understand? The reality is the day should be everyday if you really believe that you have some kind of unexplained affection for your loved one. There are plenty of ways to show it without giving that pretty person something out of the yard and manufactured sweets produced with refined sugars. Don’t give into the evil greeting card demons. Put a smile back on Wonka’s face. After all, it’s just a day that should be like any other.

JESSICA GREEN
Opinions Editor

Valentine’s day is about expressing your love, no matter how you do it. Whether it is by spending time with your loved ones or dishing out the big bucks to make the day nice, it still all comes down to being in love. So many people put emphasis on how they do not need a holiday to show their love for a person. That is true, but the holiday is there to celebrate love, just like Mother’s Day and Father’s Day are there to celebrate those figures in your life. You show your love for them throughout the year as well, right? So that one day is just to celebrate it even more. Same with Valentine’s Day. It is basically a holiday to celebrate love.

It does not have to be the love of a significant other as so many people try to make it out to be. Single individuals can celebrate it with friends or even family, anyone they love. As long as they are expressing their love for another human being, then they are celebrating Valentine’s Day.

I can remember my favorite Valentine’s Day. It was not even celebrated with my fiancé (then boyfriend). My roommate/best friend and I threw a Valentine’s Day party for a couple of our closest friends. It was just a way of showing we appreciated them. There was no exchange of gifts. Only good food, games and just enjoying each other’s company. Even some of our friends that wanted to celebrate with their boyfriends or girlfriends stopped by before going out on their big V-Day dates.

Even my Valentine’s Day with my fiancé did not focus on buying each other things, but being in love. I drove back home from Coastal Carolina University one Valentine’s Day, not to give him a gift or get a gift, but to be in his presence. The reason why Valentine’s Day is such a “Hallmark Holiday” is because individuals have made it so. They have lost sight of what they truly should be happy with on the holiday, either because they do not have a boyfriend/girlfriend to spend it with or do not get that perfect gift, etc. They should take it back to simpler times when a scrawled note on a sheet of notebook paper was enough to satisfy their needs.

Candy. Chocolates. Cards. They’re all just material things which you do not need to celebrate this holiday. But there is nothing wrong for using these things to celebrate it either. Just celebrate love however you want to celebrate love. The love for a significant other, family, friends or just the love of yourself. It’s all about love.

As best said by Helen Keller, “The best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched. They must be felt with the heart.”
February 9, 2009 - February 15, 2009

OPINION

‘Read this and forward it to 50 people or die’

Student voices frustration at the absurdity of e-mail chains and forwards

CORRIE LACEY
Copy Editor -

“Forward this message to 150 people within five minutes and you will have a good day. If you do not, you don’t love God and will die in a fiery car accident tomorrow,” said an e-mail.

This is not too much of a stretch from the typical chain letters circling the Internet that find my inbox each day. And though I have yet to find any connection between my relationship with God and the “forward” button, these messages continue to pile themselves into my life.

I am a firm believer that forwarding an e-mail to 150 friends (which I don’t have in the first place) will not determine whether someone comes to my bedside in the middle of the night and stabs me, whether I get a kiss from a handsome prince at midnight or whether my love life turns around after getting hit by a bus. But, as illogical as they are, these e-mails tend to get my nerves on edge, and I’ve recently found myself pondering about them throughout my day.

First, I question the character of the individual sending the message. The chain letter clearly states that if I don’t forward the message instantly, I will face disastrous consequences. Therefore, I ask myself, “What kind of person would want to put this burden on me?” The sender must realize that I am incapable of finding 150 people to send the letter to in five minutes, so why would they send such an unpleasant message?

Secondly, I ask myself, “What kind of person seriously reads and believes these messages and has the time to forward them to me?” It takes at least 15 minutes to scroll past all the forwarding names and previous comments, so by the time I’ve read the actual content, my five minutes has run out and I have no option but to face my presumed doom.

Lastly, I question how the chain letter began. Is there a grumpy old man sitting in his house, typing away on the computer in hopes of making my day miserable? Or is it a superstitious goblin hopeful that one day his threats to non-forwarders will come true. I find it infuriating that these chain letters find my inbox each day, and no matter how many times I respond with, “Don’t forward me this nonsense.” they still drop into my life at the most opportune moment.
Crowd stands and rallies for the Chanticleers as they chip away at the deficit.

**HOOPS**

**CCU stands tall, falls short**

Coastal Carolina University makes a huge come back against Charleston Southern University; however, ends game with losing score of 69-71.

**GREG MARTIN**  
Sports Writer

The lead sifted four times in the Saturday night fight, the first of which can be accredited to Joseph Harris. Coastal Carolina University men's basketball team, digging recklessly, got themselves out of a 10-point deep hole against Charleston Southern University.

With 6:06 on the clock in the first half Harris gets a quick bucket, on the ensuing defensive stand Harris causes a turnover. Now the score is 15-17 Ellis takes a timeout.

6'10" John Pack and 6'2" freshmen Dexter Moore made an immediate impact forcing a defensive stop then speeding up the court finishing the drive with a Harris monster dunk.

The lead changed two more times in five minutes before Steven Sexton hit a three to put CCU up 28-27.

The Chanticleers captured the momentum in the first half shooting 41 percent from the field and 63.6 percent on free throws.

Compared to CSU shooting 34.5 percent from the field and 50 percent on their free throws, CCU had the advantage.

Starting the second half it looked like the 15-minute break frazzled CCU's decision making ability; they were so close to victory in the final minutes.

The Chants tied the game when it mattered with 7:15 left in the game. They brought it to within one point three times before the final horn.

With 1:14 left in the game, Logan Johnson drilled two free throws to give the Chanticleers a chance to win the ball game. Good defensive coverage by CSU left Mario Sisinii to take a long three-pointer that fell short.

Next, CCU did not capitalize on the CSU turnover, which allowed CSU to leave the Kimbel Arena with a tally in their win column.

A solid team effort kept CCU in position to win the game, but not enough for a winning number on the scoreboard. A similar story that CCU has lived a few times this year. The final score of the game was 69-71.

CCU's record is 9-14 overall and 3-8 in the Big South Conference.

The next Big South Conference contest against VMI will be on Feb. 14 in the Kimbel Arena at 2 p.m.
ALCOHOL

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