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07 // SPORTS

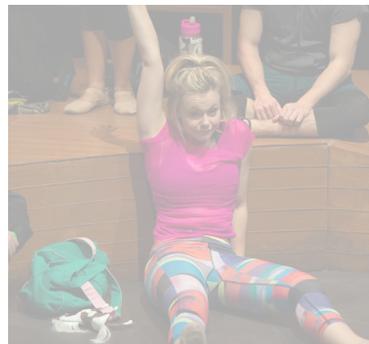
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Presidential search committee has goals to find candidate by Spring 2020

Alyssa Brennan // Editor-in-Chief

The current president of Coastal Carolina University is David A. DeCenzo, who plans to retire in 2021.

He began serving as president on May 7, 2007 and announced his retirement plans last year. When the announcement was released, CCU's Board of Trustees approved the creation of a presidential search committee to begin the process of finding the next president.

The committee has seven trustees, a faculty member, a staff member, a dean, an athletic administrator, and one representative from the Faculty Senate, Staff Senate, Executive Council, Student Government Association, Coastal Alumni Association, Chanticleer Athletic Foundation, Coastal Educational Foundation and the Horry County Higher Education Commission, according to News 13.

CCU held Presidential Search Listening Sessions on Oct. 14-15. Faculty and staff sessions were well attended, but there was low attendance for student sessions. Faculty and staff were vocal about the qualities they are hoping to see in the new president.

"Feedback provided by faculty, staff, students, alumni, and members of the public will help refine the criteria by which the Presidential Search Advisory Committee screens and evaluates candidates," the CCU email said. "The sessions are intended to gather input

on the qualities and characteristics that CCU stakeholders hope to see in the next president."

The Buffkin/Baker Search Firm will be aiding the Board of Trustees in the search process. During these sessions, Martin Baker was there to listen to the members of the CCU community over the course of two days during the 11 sessions. Based on the qualities described during the sessions, a job description will be created.

"There's no reason to believe this will be anything but an authentic search," Baker said. "Coastal Carolina University would not invest in a firm if they were not serious about the search and I'm excited to be working on it. I think the process is to be a confidential search, and when the new candidate is chosen, they will interface with the community. This is what most universities do."

With it being a closed search, the sessions were the biggest chance for the community to share the qualities they hope to see in the new president. However, Baker said that a presidential website will be developed, and he hopes to receive emails if any nominees come to mind. The goal is for the search to be concluded in Spring 2020. Whoever is selected will have the opportunity to work alongside DeCenzo until his retirement, however, it will not be a requirement.

"This is a historical transition for this great institution and we want to ensure

that members of the CCU community are able to fully engage in this process," the chair of the Presidential Search Advisory Committee Delan Stevens said in a CCU email.

President David DeCenzo's Timeline

1986-2001 | Served in several capacities at Towson University

2002 | Became dean of the E. Craig Wall Sr. College of Business Administration

2006 | Became provost of CCU

May 7, 2007 | Became president of CCU



President David DeCenzo will be retiring in 2021 and the new candidate will have the option to work alongside him for a year. // Photo by CCU Photography



The presidential search listening sessions were held to hear what the CCU community is looking for in their new president. // Photo by Alyssa Brennan.

What's new for you at CCU: Several new clubs for students take root

Thomas Healy // Reporter

Editor's note: This is Part 1 of an ongoing series looking at new clubs and organizations popping up at Coastal Carolina University.

Every semester at Coastal Carolina University brings new opportunities for student engagement.

Unlike a typical classroom setup, student-led clubs and organizations offer comradery based upon non-academic interests. From world renowned humanitarian collectives to frisbee and golf, listed below are the newest clubs on campus.

American Red Cross

The American Red Cross club is an official member organization of the American Red Cross located on the CCU campus. Primarily serving as volunteers for on-campus blood drives, members also work with the CCU disaster unit and are planning to assist in disaster management. Club President Tramone' Hester, a biology major, spoke about his experience as the youth-engagement lead for the Pee Dee area and how he took his passion for the community a step further when he decided to open a chapter here at CCU.

"It's just getting started this year. So, we're trying to get our blood count up and to work a little bit with the disaster management department here at Coastal," he said.

As the chapter was founded this semester, its members are actively recruiting new volunteers to assist with the workflow.

Soon, members of the organization will be offered training by the Red Cross of Myrtle Beach to become certified in disaster response. Although this feature of the organization is still being formed, Hester is hopeful about its impact on the community.

Speaking to students who are interested in registration, Hester said, "It's a good opportunity to build your resume [and] build your leadership skills, because we have a lot of positions for leadership in the Red Cross. You can be a leader within the club and be a leader in the larger organization."

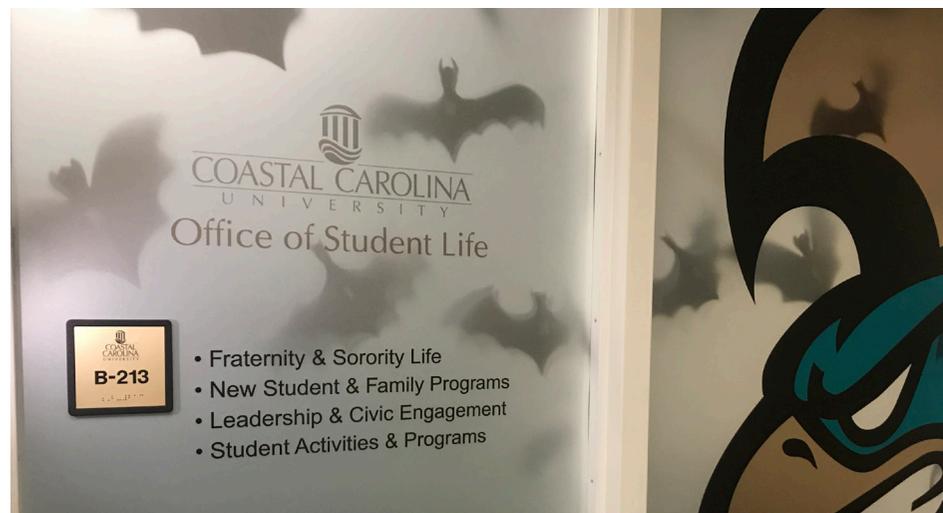
The Ultimate Frisbee Club

The Ultimate Frisbee club is a great fit for students who are athletically inclined but wish to participate in an informal setting. Club President Brandon Jackson, a sophomore majoring in exercise science, spoke about how the club got started.

"I did this sport in high school, it was like a little club that we did. So, I said 'You know, I want to carry it on to here,'" he said.

Jackson shared his desire to someday create a competitive league among other universities.

"Right now, we're just trying to [get to] know each other by playing games and stuff. But, later on, we're going to be having tournaments within our groups. Then we



The Office of Student Life plays a big role in the different organizations on campus. This is where you can check out golf carts, find out budget information and ask about things relating to your organization. // Photo by Thomas Healy

might travel to other schools like College of Charleston," he said.

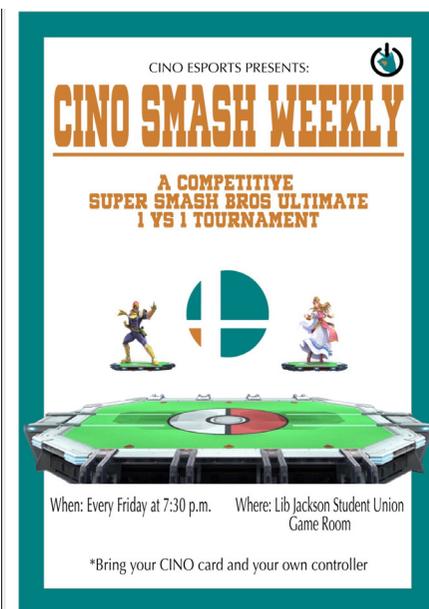
Although the league beyond CCU has yet to be formed, Jackson hopes to have it established by Fall 2020.

The club meets every week at the track field to practice. They divide into brackets and then compete. The club meetings are open for any student to attend.

Jackson explained that the club provides numerous benefits for those seeking to improve their skills, specifically in the recreation and sports industries.

Coastal Economics Club

Some organizations, such as the Coastal Economics Club, straddle the line between a professional organization and a social hangout. This group discusses economics over rounds of disc golf. Jacob Hunter, a



Every Friday, the Esports Club hosts a game night.

What's new for you at CCU: Several new clubs for students take root cont.

Thomas Healy // Reporter

sophomore economics major, spoke about his inspiration for club.

“Dr. Weinbach has always done some disc golf, so when I was a freshman in his class he invited his entire class out there [and] I really enjoyed it and we had a nice talk about economics, the stock markets, and all that while playing disc golf. It was kind of rewarding that there was something fun to do while we talked about it. But I was inspired to create the club after me and my two other presidents Matt and Robin decided we wanted to establish an official club, so we could attract a lot of econ majors because up until that point there wasn't really anything extracurricular that the econ department had,” Hunter said.

Discussions primarily focus on stock-market issues and how recent events and policy changes affect the market. Economics isn't the only thing this group has to offer. Apart from golf and discussions, the club also offers training in Python, a programming language used to handle large data sets.

“We're starting to move more towards Python, learning how to code – when we're playing disc golf, we don't have our computers with us - but he (Dr. Weinbach) offered to meet with us after the disc golf to show us a little bit of coding,” Hunter said.

This addition to the club's benefits open doors of opportunity for computer science majors or anyone else wishing to enhance their resume with a new skill set.

Although the golfing interest of Coastal Economics Club is solely recreational, the

club is looking to collaborate with economic departments at other universities, such as College of Charleston, to arrange corporate events.

Collaborative Learning Initiative for Molecular Biology

The Collaborative Learning Initiative for Molecular Biology is a student-led club of biology majors seeking advancement in a variety of fields. They divide themselves into groups of four to focus on three major areas of biological research: developmental biology, cancer, and neurobiology.

A.I.G.A.

A.I.G.A. is a new club on campus specializing in design. Design majors can obtain valuable skills such as leadership and firsthand experience within the industry.

CINO Esports Club

The CINO Esports Club specializes in one of the fastest growing markets of entertainment in the country: Electronic Sports.

“This organization was created because a group of friends wanted to find more competitive players on campus. We wanted to give those people a group to make friends, play, and compete with,” Club President Malik Bennett said.

They are currently setting up teams for 3 games: Smash Ultimate, Overwatch, and Counter Strike: Global Offensive. However, they also have plans in the future to expand into Fortnite and Apex Legends.

The group meets weekly on Thursdays.

It also has its own Discord server where members can interact and share the latest news. Smash Ultimate tournaments are hosted in the CINO game room at 6:30 pm every Friday. Interested players who value competition are welcome to join. They support most platforms including PC, Xbox, PlayStation, and Nintendo Consoles. Although the club does not officially provide training, members have expressed willingness to coach new players.

The only additional stipulation besides those posed by general CCU club guidelines is the ban on toxic language and behavior while gaming. Anyone with an interest in competitive gaming can apply and become part of a growing community of like-minded people. Malik even had some words for those who may be interested in gaming.

Hester said, “We're a new club. We're growing. We're learning. I'm learning. Our exec board is learning. However, Esports is one of the largest growing sectors of entertainment in the US. If you have even an inkling of interest in gaming, we can help. My email is mebenne2@coastal.edu . . . contacting me and talking about the club and your interests is always a good first step.”

Get Involved

Should you want more information about these clubs or any others, the campus will be hosting an Organization Kick-Off Day for the Spring semester on Jan. 15, 2020 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on the Prince Lawn. You can also check coastalconnections.edu for a full list of clubs as well as contact and registration information.

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CCU women's soccer team end the season with a 2-1 win over Arkansas State

Morgen S. Cvetko // Reporter

On Friday, Oct. 25, the Coastal Carolina women's soccer team travelled to Arkansas State to face the Razorbacks.

During the first half of the game, there was a constant back and forth between both teams. Coastal's Mackenzie Gibbs, junior midfielder, was the first to claim a shot on goal, but the ball was saved by ASU goalie, Megan McClure.

No one was able to score during the first half. Coastal was able to claim more shots on goals than ASU during the first half.

The action picked up toward the end of the second half. With time decreasing on the clock, Hannah Miller was able to assist Gabby Smychynsky score the first goal of the game. Coastal led 1-0 with around 40 minutes left in the game.

Arkansas State would go on to score, tying the game, with only eight minutes

left. With three minutes left on the clock, Gibbs subbed in and gained one more point for the Chanticleers, breaking the tie.

Coastal beat Arkansas State 2-1.

The Women's Soccer team would then travel to University of Louisiana – Monroe for their final game of the season, on Sunday, Oct. 27, 2019.

The game against ULM was neck and neck. It was not until the end of the second half, with only 15 minutes left in the game, Hannah Miller was able to score a goal courtesy of an assist by Caeden Prince, a sophomore defender.

Coastal would take the game, 1-0, ending their season with a two game two game winning streak.

The Sunbelt Women's Soccer Conference will be held in Foley, Ala., Nov. 6 – 10.



Women's soccer ended the regular season with a win over Arkansas State on Oct. 25. // Photo by CCU Photography

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Chanticleer athletes rake in academic achievement awards, from soccer to tennis

Morgen S. Cvetko // Reporter

This year, nine different teams at Coastal Carolina University received team or individual recognition for academic achievements.

Men's and women's soccer received the USC Academic Honors. To have received this honor, the team had to hold a combined GPA of 3.0 or higher. This honor was awarded to 992 men's and women's soccer teams around the United States.

CCU was one of 258 schools to be recognized for both men's and women's soccer teams receiving the award. This is the 11th time CCU men's soccer has received this honor.

The Coastal Carolina women's soccer team was also awarded the United Soccer Coaches Academic Award, having held a combined GPA of 3.0 or higher. The team is one of 647 to receive the award and this is the 15th year that CCU Women's Soccer has received the award.

Coastal Carolina men's and women's tennis teams were awarded the Intercollegiate Tennis Association (ITA) Academic Honor. This honor requires that teams have a GPA of 3.20 or higher.

Seven members from the women's team: Somer Dalla-Bona, Viktorija Demcenkova, Maria Khomchenko, Jessie Mount, Alexa Tiefel, Iryna Vardanian, and Alicja Zduniak were selected as ITA Scholar Athletes. Gonzalo Achondo, Juan Castellanos, Francesco Cori, Luiz Faria, Zac Talic, and Daiki Tanabe of the men's team received



The women's tennis team earned the Intercollegiate Tennis Association Academic Honor. // Photo by CCU Photography.

the same accolade.

In order to become an ITA Scholar Athlete, one must have been enrolled for at least two semesters, have maintained a 3.50 or higher GPA, and have received a varsity letter. This is the 26th time this award has been honored to CCU.

Beach volleyball also took their studies by storm and were awarded the AVCA Team Academic Award. This marks the second year in a row that CCU beach volleyball has received this award. For a team to receive this award, it must have a combined GPA of 3.30 or higher. CCU beach volleyball finished their spring season with a combined GPA of 3.5. CCU

is one of 41 beach volleyball programs to receive this award.

Coastal Carolina women's basketball and golf teams were awarded the Sunbelt Team GPA Award for 2018-2019. Coastal Carolina women's golf had the highest GPA in the sunbelt with their combined GPA at 3.86.

Ten players of the women's lacrosse team were inducted into the Intercollegiate Lacrosse Coaches Association (IWLCA) Zag Sports Division I Academic Honor Roll. This requires student athletes to be a junior, senior, or graduate student with a GPA of 3.5 or higher.

The 10 players honored were Haley

Alexander, Madeline Bromley, Emily D'Orsaneo, Abbey Buchanan, Megan Kilpatrick, Hannah Krin, Haley Kyger, Regan McComb, Lyla Robinson and Haley Wells.

Lastly, the women's softball team was recognized by the National Fastpitch Coaches Association for having a GPA of 3.485, ranking 42nd out of the 140 division one teams. Twelve players on the team were recognized by the NFCA as All American Scholar-Athlete Honorees. The AASA is awarded to students whose GPA is 3.50 or higher.

The 12 players include Alexis Alvino, Kaitlin Beasley-Polko, Kendall Coyle, Chelsea D'Avilar, Sydney Guess, Allison Keyer, Ally Marcano, Cassidy Smith, and Adrienne Visintine. Also, among the 12 players were Courtney Dean and Abbey Montoya, who both maintained 4.0 GPAs.

Matt Hogue, the athletic director at CCU, is proud of all the student-athletes and coaches here at CCU.

"I am always very proud of our student-athletes and their academic achievements. Success in the classroom has been a hallmark of CCU Athletics for decades and a goal we continue to pursue. As for softball, in particular, Coach Green has established a sound foundation for her athletes regarding their academics and we all take great pride in their being recognized with the NFCA honor," Hogue said.

Rugby grows in popularity across America

Grace Wells // Reporter

Women's rugby is one of the fastest growing sports in America when it comes to playing and attendance. Rugby is on the rise nationally and here at Coastal Carolina University as a club sport.

According to The National Small College Rugby Organization, the game of rugby was invented in 1823 in London by William Webb Ellis. Women's rugby teams were unheard of until 1884 in Ireland. Women were documented playing rugby throughout the UK up until the second World War when women were inspired to challenge the roles which were formerly reserved for men. The game made its way to Canada and the U.S. in the early 70's. The first Women's U.S. National Championship was Sept. 1978 in Chicago, IL. Since the 1990's, women's rugby has gained popularity around the globe.

At CCU, women's rugby is offered as a club sport, meaning the team competes with other universities, but is not regulated by the NCAA.

University of Maryland Women's Rugby shares the standard structure of women's rugby. These teams are composed of 23 players in total with 15 players on the field during each match. Players compete as either forwards or backs. Forwards defend the territory and any scrums, which are the restarts of plays. Backs are the primary scorers and oversee advancing the ball while in possession.

There are 15 different positions of play: Front Row-Mains oversee winning scrums. Second Row-Locks primarily defend and charge on offense. Loose forwards or "Loosies" support backs and take position

at the back of scrums, preparing to gain possession of loose balls. Half Backs distribute the ball on the offense and are the main scorers. Midfield-Sets up the wingers to score. Inside Backs perform a lot of defensive work for the backs and gets the ball out to score. Five Eights work on both offense and defense. Three Quarters are right winger's and left winger's who sit on the blindside or short side of the field waiting for an opportunity to score the ball. Back three make up the last line of defense, hanging back to cover opponents' kicks. Outside Backs typically sets up the wingers.

Jerrica Nesmith, who competes in the front row as a Tighthead Prop, has played on CCU's team for a semester and a half.

"I had no idea that it was [one of America's fastest growing sports]. Truth be told, I didn't know anything about rugby before I started playing," Nesmith said.

Even though Nesmith didn't know about the rise in rugby, she has noticed many women attending matches to see about joining the team.

"With a growing crowd, participation is automatically increasing. We're always doing fun, hands on activities and drills that makes [sic] us better players," Nesmith said.

A 10-year study led by USA Rugby measuring the participants in America ending in 2016 concluded that the amount of rugby players increased more than a million. As of 2016, there were more than 900 colleges that offered rugby as a club sport.

"I can't tell you for sure why rugby is growing so fast. However, I believe that



Rugby is a fast-growing sport and a good way to get involved on campus. // Photo by CCU Photography

people are looking for more diverse ways to be active and get in shape by doing something fun and sporty," Nesmith said.

Adreinne Higgins, who has been playing for CCU for a year, said, "I think it gives girls a space to work out and get connected with all different types of people. I also think it's great for women that used to play sports to be a part of a team again."

Higgins also was not aware of the recent popularization of rugby in America, but she has noticed it here at CCU.

"Now that I've been playing, I have noticed a lot more people wanting to know about the sport and come out to practices. We had a huge number of girls sign up to get information," Higgins said.

For any woman looking to get involved in athletics and make friends, both athletes said being on the team feels like a family.

"My favorite part of playing rugby is



CCU's team puts up a fight against their opponent. // Photo by CCU Photography

bonding with my teammates. They're family now," Nesmith said.

There are many different sports offered at CCU for anyone looking to find a way to be active and more involved.

Journalist Issac Bailey shares story of race, social acceptance with CCU audience

Rae'L Jackson // Reporter

At 9 years old, Issac Bailey's life took a horrific turn.

Bailey watched as his hero, his older brother, was carried away in handcuffs. On Thursday, Oct. 17, 2019, The Charles Joyner Institute for Gullah and African Diaspora studies brought Bailey to Coastal Carolina University to speak on the link between crime and social acceptance within the black community.

Bailey grew up in the small town of St. Stephen, S.C., and at the tender age of 9, watched as his brother was convicted for murdering a white man.

"When they sent my brother, Moochie, to prison, we were treated like the black sheep of the black sheep," Bailey said. "My family didn't get a hug, we got handcuffs."

During Bailey's presentation, he challenged the audience to recall a single incident in which they had forgiven a black person for any crimes they committed.

"Amber Guyger is a white woman who murdered a black man. . . . after her sentencing the victim's brother forgave her for killing his brother. What would happen if the roles were reversed?" said Bailey.

The lecture was based upon Bailey's book, "My Brother Moochie: Regaining Dignity in the Face of Crime, Poverty, and Racism in the American South." Bailey tells the story of living in a family who suffered from misplaced guilt and shame.

Terrance Smalls, a sophomore engineering science major, attended Bailey's lecture.

"Hearing tonight's lecture left me in tears, mainly because I'm experiencing this now with my father while he is in prison," Smalls said.

Smalls is Bailey's first cousin. After the lecture, both Smalls and Bailey's family hugged tightly. Tears, laughter, and stories were shared among the family members who bravely fought, side by side, through the hardships of which Bailey spoke with the CCU community.

"This lecture was important to me, so I decided to educate my students on it by making them attend," said John Roper, a history professor at CCU.

Roper wishes to educate his students of the recent events of the American South in order to raise awareness for the persisting racial inequality.

Bailey kept his challenges from defining who he is and kept his past from painting his future. He is now a journalist, author, husband, and father.

For those who dealt with similar situations, Bailey encourages them to find treatment.

"I was diagnosed with PTSD 34 years . . . after my brother's conviction," said Bailey. "I was scared to speak out because I was ashamed and hurt."



Bailey shares his story on racial inequality at the lecture. // Photo by Rae'L Jackson



Bailey's family was there to support him. // Photo by Rae'L Jackson



The moving lecture ended with tears and hugs from Bailey's family. // Photo by Rae'L Jackson

Bailey received the necessary care to turn his tragedy into an empowering story. To purchase his book, "My Brother Moochie: Regaining Dignity in the Face of Crime, Poverty, and Racism in the American South", visit the Chanticleer bookstore or search online.

Artists share their stories at the Atalaya Arts Festival: Q&A Part 1

Sarah Bartholomew // Assistant Editor

Editor's note: This article is part one of a series.

The Atalaya Arts Festival is an annual event held at Huntington Beach State Park which attracts artists from across the country. This year's event ran from Friday, Sept. 27 to Sunday, Sept. 29. These artists told their stories of inspiration, travel, and even the hardship of venturing into the career field of creativity.

This first interview is with Dennis Clarke, who was present at the festival on behalf of artist and South Carolina native, Sarah Sanders.

Would you mind sharing a bit about Sarah Sanders and her story?

Sarah lives on Goat Island, it's off the Isle of Palms. It's only accessible by boat, and she was the first full time resident back in 1969. She's a retired school teacher and coach. When she retired, she started making these treasure boxes, and her friend has a framing shop, and she just picked up the leftovers that she had and started making boxes out of them. Now she's turned it into a business. She buys them in 12-foot lengths, the picture frame moldings, and makes boxes. She designs finials to put on top of them and she just turned 78 years old.

What do you enjoy in this line of work?

The people!

Meeting new people?

Coming to shows?

Yeah, just talking with people.

Leslie Peebles whose work focuses on line cuts, wood cuts, and caustics spoke about her art.

What got you started in the medium?

Well, when I was an art teacher 25 years ago, the high school teacher next door said, 'I hate linoleum, do you want all these supplies for your middle school students?' and I said yes. And so, I've been doing

line-a cut ever since. And I just, I have a degree in painting and drawing, but the line-a cuts just, just spoke to me.

Would you mind talking about how you like fantasy, surrealism, and magic?

Yeah! I have a lot of really remarkable dreams. I have an amazing dream life and so I started doing surreal art as you know, to record my dreams. And that's moved

into doing more like, fantasy and fairytale as well.

So, tell me about the different shows you have been a part of- where all have you traveled, sharing your art?

Oh goodness, well I did the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival in May.

I haven't heard of that!

Oh my god, it is amazing. It is one of the best shows in the nation. And Winter Park in Florida and Coconut Grove . . . I've done Artists Fear in Greenville, South Carolina which is amazing- that's a first-tier show. It's a great show. I've been all over the Eastern seaboard, and West, I guess New Orleans is about as far West as I've gone.

Would you mind sharing what exactly happened to get you on the cover of Atalaya's handout for this year's contest?

Well, I was a first place winner last year in print making, . . . so I got on all the promotional materials. They do all that- best of show, and first and second is on that.



Leslie Peebles // Photo by Sarah Bartholomew

If you wish to share your story idea please contact...

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Get to know your student government president: Jazz Jackson

Shelbi R. Ankiewicz // Reporter

The Student Government Association President, Jazz Johnson, is making big changes here at Coastal Carolina University.

Johnson is in her third and final year at CCU. She is a double major in political science and LIS Hispanic studies.

Johnson first became involved with the SGA as a freshman. Her entering position was senator and she was soon promoted to vice president during her sophomore year. In the Fall of 2019, Johnson was elected as president. Her work in the SGA is especially credited to her work behind the scenes.

"I saw over the years where we, as an organization, could go. I could bring that knowledge into that [president] role to push us forward," said Johnson.

As president, Johnson is the most reputable spokesperson for the student body. She encourages everyone to get involved and speak on topics and desired changes for CCU. Professor Renee Smith, former mentor of Johnson, believes Johnson is flourishing in her role.

"She's taking advantage of the whole Coastal experience. She listens to others' needs and wants to be a voice for them," said Smith.

Khyle Mingo is the current vice president for SGA. He met and worked with Johnson through the organization last year. Mingo plans to run for president next year and feels it would be a privilege to take the position after Johnson.



Jackson has made the most of her time her at CCU and is prepared for graduation. // Photo by Rae L Jackson

"She's making a[n] impact on campus. She's doing a good job separating her emotions with what has to be done," said Mingo.

Johnson believes SGA is heading in a good direction. The organization hosted their first ever SGA retreat in October. Schools from all over brought their student governments and discussed their organizational and leadership methods.

Johnson's goal for our SGA is for students to attend at least one meeting within their four years at CCU. The more

involved students are, the more change can be brought about. Another way students can get involved is by responding to surveys sent through Coastal emails for feedback on various service.

Although the student president is heavily active with SGA, she also enjoys working out, writing poetry, and participating as a member of the Kappa Alpha Sorority Incorporated.

After graduation, Johnson plans on joining the United States military. She

plans on a commitment to the reserves, so she can serve and attend law school at the same time. Surely, her participation as a leader and fellow student through SGA will help her tremendously with her future endeavors.

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Defining sex: What it is and what it isn't

Courtney Douglass // Reporter

Editor's note: This is a sex education column that contains explicit and graphic content.

Note from the reporter: I write about sexuality because I believe that people have a right to accurate information and that good sexuality education works to create a more equal and just world by emphasizing bodily autonomy, consent, and diversity in sexuality. Sex education should include information people can actually use and apply into their sexual lives (while the science behind how a pregnancy is created is fascinating, it is not ultimately as useful for people than, say, a discussion of contraceptives or condom usage is). Finally, good sexuality education is also feminist and queer education and strives to provide justice for people who have been abused because of their sex or gender and provides information condemning sexual abuse, assault, and rape.

What is sex?

When most people hear the word sex, they think of the casual definition: penis-in-vagina intercourse. There are a few problems with considering this definition to be the one and only answer.

Firstly, this definition does not represent the LGBT community. For example, can sex occur if both partners have vulvas and vaginas? If we're sticking to our answer of penile penetration being sex, then no, that isn't considered to be sexual intercourse. The casual definition seems to be problematic, for it does not matter what body parts or what gender identity the partners have.

Queer sex is still sex, but it does not carry the same health risks as vaginal intercourse, right? Well, that's not true, either. Manual

and oral sex both carry STI risks, while anal sex is usually far riskier than vaginal sex. From a medical standpoint, if you have engaged in these forms of sexual activity, you're considered sexually active.

Also, for many, vaginal intercourse by itself doesn't feel all that great. It is the clitoris that has the greatest amount of nerve endings. It is through clitoral stimulation that most people will get aroused and orgasm. The vagina doesn't have that many nerve endings, especially its outer two thirds.

Vaginal intercourse is the only form of sex that pertains to one losing virginity, right? The hymen breaks and then an individual is no longer a virgin, so vaginal intercourse is the "right" form of sex, right?

Much of the information surrounding the loss of virginity is not based upon fact. There is no way of knowing, by looking at someone's vulva and hymen, whether they are a virgin or not.

If you were born with a vulva, you were probably born with a hymen. Throughout life, the hymen stretches and holes form as a result of activities including bike riding, gymnastics, inserting tampons, and masturbating. By the time most people reach adolescence, their hymen wears away. Pieces of it will remain throughout one's lifetime. How could someone, with a still fully intact hymen, menstruate? If someone were to have a membrane covering their vulva, they would not be able to. Some people have resilient hymens and they have their hymens removed for this very reason. There are surgeries to restore the hymen but save your money.

Some people will say this goes against their personal experience, because they may bleed during their first experience of intercourse. However, it's a common

misconception when one believes the bleeding is caused by the tearing of the hymen. When we're nervous, our muscles tense up, including the muscles in the vagina. Pain, with bleeding as a result, is more likely to be felt when we're feeling this way but continue with intercourse. Since many people are nervous the first time they have sex, it makes sense that bleeding occurs then.

In an article by Heather Corinna titled "Get Real! Myths & Realities of Bleeding with First Intercourse," Corinna describes the long history of virginity being used as a metric to value the worth of women. Men would not marry women who were believed to have lost their virginity because men considered them to be worthless. Men believed there was a risk of not knowing if the children she had would be his. Many older women knew the bride might not bleed the first time, so they showed her how to soak up a sponge of animal blood. She would insert it into her vagina, so she wouldn't get hurt if her husband assumed she wasn't a virgin. It's gross, in more ways than one.

Besides the reasons why vaginal intercourse is not the only form of sex, the question remains: what is sex? Sex is consensual, mutual erotic pleasure. That's it.

This open-ended definition includes everyone. By this definition, forms of sex where no one is touching another person's genitals are as valid as ones that do. Things that most people might not consider sexual, but others do, such as fetishes, become equal. It doesn't say things like oral, anal, or manual sex are "the best." Those forms of sex also carry risk of STIs, and so you should use protection when doing those. Penis-in-vagina intercourse also carries chance of pregnancy.

My definition also includes masturbation. Masturbation isn't any better or worse than partnered sex, but it is a very different form of sex. Sometimes we're not in the right mindset to think about another partner. That's when it makes sense to masturbate instead. One form of sex does not replace the other. They're both equal, and people can choose what they want without being shamed.

According to my view, neither partner must reach orgasm for the act to be considered a valid form of sex. That takes the pressure off both partners. Everyone can think about feeling good. Besides, when the focus is shifted from reaching orgasm, orgasms can still be reached and often better felt. Even people whose genitals can't get aroused can still have amazing sex. In this definition, sex includes so much more than genitals. Your whole body and mind are capable of pleasure!

If there are endless forms of sex, then there are endless ways to lose your virginity, no matter your experience. If you're trying something new and being creative, then you may have lost your virginity to that one act. Every time you have sex with someone else, you're losing your virginity all over again. You're getting to know other bodies and what other people like, because everyone is different.

This definition is new for many people and stands in stark contrast with the former. Society may perpetrate certain stereotypes and standards, but these stereotypes and standards need not enter the bedroom. At the end of the day, the foundation of sex is mutual respect and kindness. Sex should be the place where you can be who you are, so long as you're allowing the freedom for your partner to be themselves, too.

CCU education majors want to see improvement in early childhood program

Alyssa Brennan // Editor-in-Chief

Coastal Carolina University's Spadoni College of Education offers various programs for students looking to become teachers, and the college is particularly popular amongst the others of the university. According to CCU's website, there were 1,182 undergraduate and graduate students in the Spadoni College as of Fall 2018.

However, the Fall 2019 semester has had many early childhood majors reconsidering their field of study.

Edward Jadallah, Ph. D., Dean of Education, is passionate about education and ensuring the program is creating the most effective reflective practitioners possible.

"The Spadoni College of Education adheres to the ideal that our educator preparation programs provide learning experiences that reflect a broader purpose of education . . . our college prepares educators who know how to analyze the validity of education reforms in relation to student learning; know how to adapt and implement effective teaching practices to varied learning contexts; and serve as professional advocates for a purpose of education that promotes relevant and meaningful learning," Jadallah said on the CCU website.

"Students learn early in their career that becoming a highly effective teacher requires a thorough knowledge of the subject matter being taught and the ability to design learning experiences that

accommodate a variety of student needs, interests, and abilities."

The college does supply the skills and experiences Jadallah mentions, as it offers many opportunities for students to get involved in schools early in their four years at CCU. During freshman year, the University 110 class brings future teacher candidates to Marion on shuttles. Based upon the students' preferred grade of which they would like to teach upon graduation, the students observe classes at the corresponding grade level for approximately an hour, once a week, for a month.

But then, time flies and junior year has arrived. This is when most candidates enter the Professional Program, beginning their internship and taking classes that focus on their major. During this time, professors will go in depth about skills and knowledge needed to become a successful and professional educator. Students will be expected to make connections from their learning in the classroom to their

observations in their internships.

In the early childhood education program, internships begin in Head Start programs in Horry and Georgetown counties. While this allows students to get experience in a classroom setting, these programs do not require the certification that those in the program are working to earn. No degree in early childhood education is required to work there. Head Start is also for children from ages 0-5 years old and is much more like babysitting than teaching.

This semester has been stressful for many early childhood majors because expectations have been unclear, and the lack of communication has caused a great deal of confusion and frustration. Most early childhood education majors have also not had many classes centering education while getting our core classes completed which has caused gaps in our learning. Professors in the Professional Program assume that we have already been exposed to things such as lesson planning and state

standards. However, for many, it is our first time being exposed to these things.

Many students feel the program has room for improvement, and not only with communication. A big part of what education majors are taught is to create community in the classroom, however, some professors haven't taken the time to build community in theirs.

"I think the elementary education major is like a family and a community, and early childhood is not. I feel like I'm not really learning anything I don't already know in the early childhood classes, and I feel like the professors aren't as compassionate. Many students in the [early childhood] program don't even want to even teach anymore," senior early childhood and elementary education double major Destiny Heyward said.

Junior Faith Cannizzo has a similar opinion on the program.

"I feel like when the professionals that were working in the program last year left, they were just quickly replaced and now the program is unorganized. I don't know when things are due, communication is unclear, and now I'm changing my major," Cannizzo said.

The program has discouraged students from wanting to pursue a career in early childhood education after a rough introduction to the Professional Program and hope to see improvement next semester.



The Prince Building is where most education classes are held. // Photo by CCU Photography

My first time in a jail cell at J. Reuben Long Detention Center

Sydney Watson // Reporter

The room was white, just white. From the ceilings to the floor, nothing but vast emptiness. People say white is supposed to be the color of purity, but as I stood there, and stared at that wall all I saw was immorality.

I didn't want to imagine the bile, blood, or feces that had been splattered on that wall. I didn't want to think of the stories this room had. The only thing I could think of was if I had to stare at this empty wall all day, I'd probably go crazy.

According to a 2018 report from the Bureau of Justice Statistics, nearly 2.2 million adults were held in America's prisons and jails at the end of 2016. Nearly 2.2 million have to stare at the blank wall every day.

Unlike those incarcerated, when the tour was over I got to leave. After those few short minutes in that cell, I promised myself I would never go back.

I had visited J. Reuben Long Detention Center, as part of a class field trip for a Criminology course at Coastal Carolina University.

"It's important for me, as a professor to give my students as many possible opportunities as I can to apply the concepts and theories we discuss in class to the real world," Schlosser said. "I want my students to see how the experiences of the inmates are different from those of the guards and the officers, and how the experience of being in a total institution like a prison affects everyone inside."

Stephanie Maza, a student of Schlosser's, had worked at the J. Reuben Long

Detention Center before visiting for the trip.

"I learned how the justice system worked and realized how many flaws the justice system had," Maza said. "I left because I knew I could make a difference in solving the real problems that occur. Being a correction officer doesn't solve the problems, but follows guidelines."

The correction officers gave us a tour of the entire facility.

"Going through the various sections of the detention centers, booking, medium level [secured areas], maximum level [secured area], [and] going into the empty cells at the "outside rec area", gave me a surreal feeling," said CCU student Gregory Stephens.

Officers went so far as letting students try out the straight jacket chair.

"The officers tightened straps around my wrists, forearms, and waist, as well as my shoulders and chest, like a tighter version of a roller coaster harness, and a "spit mask" was put over my head, which was a thin mesh bag placed over my face and head," said Stephens. "I was only in the chair for about 3-5 minutes and my pulse and heart rate had quickened and my hands started mildly shaking."

While viewing the facility, I started feeling uneasy. I was concerned about certain restraining methods, and how they might worsen the symptoms of a person with mental illness. I was distraught by the officers' referring to people with mental illnesses as "cuckoos" and "crazies."

There also seemed to be a potential issue of safety for transgender individuals.

"The officer informed us that the classification process is based on the biological anatomy, essentially below the belt," said Stephens. "This brings up safety concerns for those individuals who have not been able to go through the transition process."

I never felt at risk while I touring the detention center. I knew these people had committed violent crimes, and there are probably people here that I wouldn't want to meet on the streets, but that wasn't my concern.

Instead I feared the inmates would see my class and feel like a caged attraction. The tour mirrored a trip to the zoo, but instead of animals held captive, there were people- fathers, mothers, friends, cousins, sisters, and brothers. Although I remained nonjudgemental of the people in the orange jumpsuits, I couldn't be sure the opposite was true. The viewing and inquisitive nature of the tour seemed to dehumanize the people locked in cells.

"I'm always uncomfortable in prison, knowing that there are people locked inside who have lives and stories and families who love them. Regardless of what they've done, [it] will always be tough for me to reconcile," said Schlosser.

I felt unsettled when we toured the Maximum Security outdoor courtyard. The "courtyard" is a small concrete room where inmates can work out or have recreational time. The room is empty and the ceilings are tall, stretching high only to reveal two

small windows at the which bring in a small amount of sunlight. Because of these windows, this area is considered "outdoors," but the room is enclosed by four walls and a ceiling.

On the wall in this room were messages scrawled by inmates. The messages broke my heart. People were pleading to be saved, channeling their anger, and writing about how they were racially charged or otherwise mistreated.

"Free me I'm innocent," was written on the wall, and I wondered if the person who wrote that was indeed innocent. Had they been kept in this concrete courtyard for a crime they didn't commit?

After reading these calls for help and justice, I immediately wanted to leave. I wanted to feel the outdoors and see sunlight- anything to not be trapped in those small empty cells.

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CCU theatre department can sell your seats ... so don't be late for the show!

Alyssa Brennan // Editor-in-Chief

Attending performances hosted by Coastal Carolina University's Theatre Department can be an enjoyable past time.

However, when planning to attend a show, be sure to avoid any hiccups that could postpone your arrival. The theatre department creates a stand-by list on the night of every show, and the list makes available any seat that is not taken by a certain time. Ticket holders are not exempt from this practice and are very likely to lose a seat they paid for if they show up late.

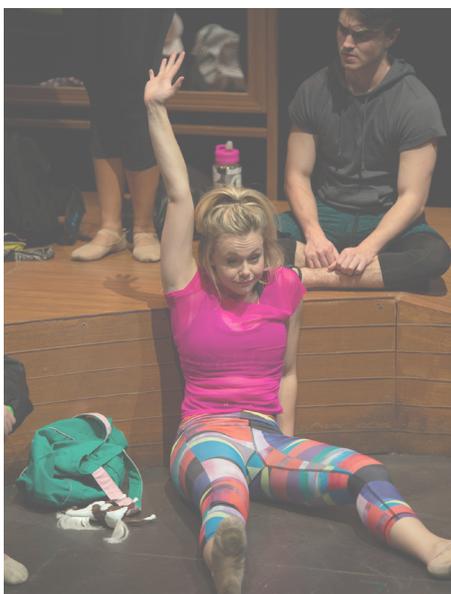
As I had been 15 minutes early to past performances I attended, I was unaware of the standby list and am glad to now know so if I ever choose to purchase another ticket, I can be better prepared. Arriving at 7:30 as a ticket holder to not have a seat in the Edwards Black Box Theatre was unexpected.

"On the evening of the performance, if you aren't there five minutes before start time, we can sell your seat," Manager of Ticketing and Patron Services James Alexi said.

If someone arrives after 7:25, their seat may be taken and access to the show denied, even though the money to attend has already been spent. Information regarding this procedure can also be found on the back of the tickets.

"I think it's reasonable since those people are waiting and seem more interested," junior Michael Weaver said.

When preparing for a night at the



CCU students work hard to give their best performance possible. // Photo by CCU Photography

theatre, allow yourself plenty of time to get ready and arrive at least 10 minutes before the showtime to avoid losing your seat and money. Many college students already struggle financially and are especially wary of seeing it go to waste. This practice of the theatre, while understandable, makes me hesitant to purchase another ticket. I enjoy going to performances, but I do not have money to waste.

When asked about the number of seats in the Edwards Theatre, Alexi said that he was not able to provide exact numbers. However, according to the CCU website, there are 120 seats.

To purchase a ticket for upcoming performances, head to the Wheelwright Box Office and present your student ID for a discount.

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Erika's Rockin' Bagels bringing a taste of New Jersey to Conway

Shelbi R. Ankiewicz // Reporter

Erika's Rockin New Jersey Bagels is a deli that opened in October in University Commons.

The owner, Dawn Hitches, and her daughter moved to Myrtle Beach two years ago from New Jersey. Hitches quickly realized there were not many bagel shops in the area. So, on Oct. 17, she opened her own family shop.

"We're coming from New Jersey where there's one on every corner," said Hitches.

Hitches opened the shop off Highway 501, anticipating much traffic as their shop is located across from CCU and HGTC. Also, the industry is right behind them, so visitors can grab food on their way to work. This is currently Hitches' only shop, but she is open to expanding into new locations.

Hitches named the bagel shop after her only child, Erika. The word "Rockin" in the name comes from Erika's love for music. Inside the shop the walls are decorated with memorabilia of musicians and bands, including the Jonas Brothers and Lady Antebellum.

The shop has also made it convenient for those who work in the University Commons.

Chelsea Brown, a senior at HGTC, said, "They picked a good spot, especially because they're a forefront coming down the road. They're also really reasonable compared to other bagel shops."

Aside from bagels, the shop also serves lunch items. Hot dogs, sandwiches, and sliders are some of the items that customers

can choose from.

When I visited, I had a bagel with bacon, egg, and cheese, along with a salted caramel cold brew coffee. I very much enjoyed my breakfast, as it also kept me full for a few hours, preventing me from snacking.

The shop is open every day from 6:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. They offer student discounts daily and a 10 percent military discount on Mondays.

Next time you're craving a bagel, head over to Erika's!



Part of the menu at Erika's Rockin New Jersey Bagels. // Photo by Shelbi R. Ankiewicz



The new bagel shop is located across the street from CCU in University Commons. // Photo by Shelbi R. Ankiewicz



Bacon, egg and cheese on a garlic bagel with a salted caramel cold brew coffee. // Photo by Shelbi R. Ankiewicz

Homecoming regicide: no more king and queen?

Thomas Healy // Reporter

Coastal Carolina University is bidding farewell to the age-old tradition of homecoming king and queen this year. The Spirit of The Chanticleer Award has taken its place.

Homecoming of 2019 will be the first homecoming week without a royal family. The Coastal Carolina University administration, in collaboration with the student government, has announced the change to the spirit award. Jessica Combes, representing Student Life, spoke on what this change entails and the reason for the change.

“So, traditionally, colleges across the country have had homecoming kings and queens. Over the last few years, colleges across the country -including us- have been investigating having more of a spirit circle or kind of a lead spirit, some type of award for school spirit, getting rid of the gendered king and queen just to be more inclusive to the transgender community and those that are non-binary,” she said.

The initiative for the promotion of inclusivity on campus is but a continuation of various CCU efforts. These accommodations represent a larger cultural issue.

Inclusivity is not the only value wrapped up in this affair. A specific GPA requirement standard is also applied as a metric, certainly to promote educational success.

Combes said, “Truthfully the nomination process was a little more stringent in having a GPA requirement.



Winners of the inaugural Chanticleer Spirit Award with Dr. and Mrs. DeCenzo. Pictured from left to right: President DeCenzo, Savannah Thompson, Ke'Von Young-Reeves and Terri DeCenzo // Photo by CCU Photography

The GPA requirement is a 3.0, so students that are academically struggling or are on academic probation from the Dean of Student's office, going through the conduct process, this wasn't their year, because we wanted to have the individual who was representing the university being the top of the top. Also, a student who is involved and that supports the Chanticleer ideal and what it means to be a Chanticleer here at CCU.”

Previous nominations for homecoming king and queen were limited to those in organizations which participated in homecoming.

“The process used to be groups that were participating in homecoming could nominate their king and queen delegate. Those people would go through an interview process by staff members, and then the finalist would be announced,” Combes said.

As a result, very few students were eligible for nomination. The Spirit of The Chanticleer Award removes this restriction, so now students and members of faculty can nominate any student. Students can even nominate themselves. Nominees are required to submit an application including an essay about their involvement on campus as well as a video documenting what school spirit means to them.

Most students were open to the idea of a more inclusive award system. However, many students took issue with the GPA requirement.

Elijah Donellan said, “As far as inclusivity goes . . . we shouldn't get rid of king and queen altogether. But we have to change it so it can be inclusive to everybody, especially those that are non-gender binary . . . Maybe make it gender

neutral terms like a regent or something like that. But I think trying to get rid of it and replace it with a school spirit award, that should just be something else in and of itself entirely.”

He also shared his view on the new GPA requirement.

“That's a little unnecessary . . . if it's supposed to be like replacing the prom king and queen for homecoming, then it just doesn't make sense to me. It's not about good grades . . . they already have millions upon millions of academic awards for that; Dean's List, President's List, all that kind of stuff... That's not what prom king and queen is about, it's about having the people – your friends, your peers – say ‘this person deserves to be put here.’”

Donellan was not the only one with this criticism. Rodolfo Croes, a member of the CINO Esports Club, shared his opinion on the matter.

“To me, it's really a tradition standpoint. . . While it's an outdated concept, it's a tradition that you would keep it, but at the same time, the Spirit Award would be better because of inclusivity and all that. I'm for it,” he said.

He took a similar stance as Donellan about the GPA requirement.

“I really don't think that should matter because it's not about someone's GPA that determines what a good person is. It's about their personality, how they associate with people, and what their respect is for

Homecoming regicide: no more king and queen?

Thomas Healy // Reporter

someone. It's not really an academic thing, it's a respect thing," he said.

Croes shared how he would like to see inclusivity manifested.

"I would not keep the same titles – I would not call them king and queen . . . I would say like Homecoming Royalty if anything. And the Spirit Award, I wouldn't call it exactly an award. So, you could say, a recognition . . . as like 'Yeah, you're cool. . . you're . . . a good person, here's something.' It should include more than two people, maximum five."

Not every student took issue with the GPA requirement, however. Kayla Taylor was satisfied with the concept all around.

"I think since Coastal is open-minded about different things, . . . then I mean, yeah sure, why not?... So, if someone doesn't specify with a particular gender, then yeah," she said.

The values which the Spirit of The Chanticleer Award promotes are genuinely beneficial values. The problems

arise, however, with the additional GPA requirement. The primary issue with the spirit award is its inability to capture the qualities of what students believe to be most important for homecoming king and queen.



Homecoming King and Queen from 2017 // Photo by CCU Photography

The promotion of inclusivity needs more traction. Broadening who can and cannot be nominated is a positive change. Many students expressed dissatisfaction with the removal of Homecoming King and Queen. They expressed the desire to see

tradition continuing, but with additional options for students who are non-binary. This is an area in which colleges can create a compromise by introducing a reward that both encourages inclusivity and promotes tradition. The suggestion of terming the awards as for homecoming royalty instead, seem to resolve the issue of binary labels.

Homecoming king and queen is widely considered to not be focused on academic performance. There are many academic achievement awards available to high performing students, but not many individuals are celebrated within the campus community aside from those that excel in athletics and academics. With the rebranding of homecoming king and queen, the focus should be on the personable qualities, extracurricular achievements, and community involvement of students.

The 2019 Spirit Award winners were Savannah Thompson and Ke'Von Young-Reeves.

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Editor's Note: Time for a change

Alyssa Brennan // Editor-in-Chief

This semester has thrown a lot at me and it has been a challenging time.

I'm a junior who just began an internship to learn that the field I'm studying is not for me. I never would have thought that I would end up switching majors especially when I feel like I'm so close to the finish line.

The early childhood education program also has a sense of familiarity to me now which comforts me. I'm used to the types of classes I'm in, the building I'm always in, and my classmates that I've worked with in the education program's classes for the past three years.

But you can't hold on to something that isn't right for you just because you're afraid of what might happen when you let go. I truly find comfort in consistency and usually have a hard time dealing with new situations, but this semester has forced me to learn that sometimes you don't have a choice.

I'm also still in the process of learning

that not everything always goes according to plan. Sometimes, you have to let go of the things you thought you wanted and realize that they aren't for you. Make a new plan.

I don't regret pursuing a major that I was unsure about from the start because I've learned so much that I can still apply to my future. I've learned to stop doubting myself, to pursue what I'm passionate about, and to let go of things when I realize they aren't right for me. Change is really scary, and you might not be sure what's ahead of you, but change can also be exciting. It's a fresh start.

So, to whoever else needs to hear this: listen to your heart and follow your instincts because they usually are not wrong and let go of the things that are not right for you. It'll save you so much trouble in the long run. Embrace the change.

With that being said, I look forward to my fresh start as an English major next semester.

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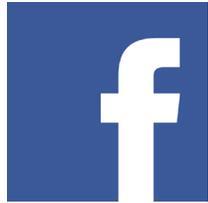
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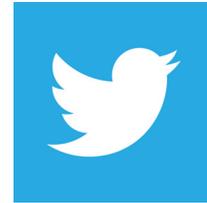
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