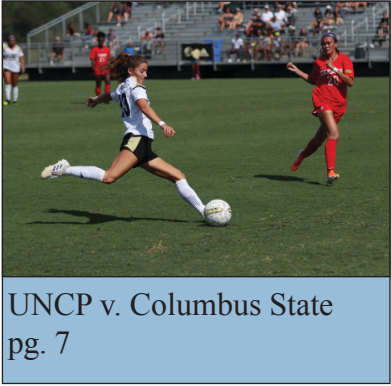




UNCP holds 30th annual Pembroke Day

By Sara Goldsberry
Managing Editor

The University of North Carolina at Pembroke hosted the 30th annual Pembroke Day on Sept. 27, 2019.

Thousands of students, faculty, and Pembroke community members gathered on the quad between Old Main and the Mary Livermore Library, where more than 100 organizations, set up tables to inform the public about their services. Both on-campus organizations and local businesses participated in the event and connected with attendees at the tables.

Orlando Alvarez, a senior and Business management major always makes a point to attend Pembroke day.

“Pembroke Day really does help bind campus and the Pembroke community together. I love meeting the locals and seeing all the culture in our area. It really makes Pembroke feel like home.” said Alvarez.

Pembroke Day featured entertainment from the

Pembroke Singers and The Spirit of the Carolinas marching band, along with different community and campus members.

Pembroke Day also features food trucks and stands from different restaurants in Robeson County.

Not all the food at the festivities was meant to be eaten. UNCP Athletics held a pie throwing activity as a fundraiser for the Make-A-Wish Foundation. For three dollars, people could smash a plate of whipped cream into the faces of athletics staff. Braves Club Coordinator Jahavae Giddens and Assistant Athletic Marketing Director, Jack “Bull” Slavin were among the people willing to receive pies to the face.

Organizations located on campus made special efforts to involve and educate the community. The Museum of the Southeast American Indian invited 130 children from Pembroke Elementary to join them in the Pembroke



Police Officer Keith Oxendine slams pie in Bull Slavin's face for fundraiser. PN Photo/ Stephanie Sellers

Day festivities. The students learned how to make cultural crafts. One of which was a corn husk doll.

“Today we shared some culture with the local fifth-graders. It was a great time seeing them engaged on

our campus,” said Taylor Strickland, a student at UNCP.

“It is the 30th year,” said Paul Jolicuoe, Director of Community Relations for the university.

Many were excited about

this year's milestone. The event is a collaboration between UNCP and the Town of Pembroke, and it continues to serve the university and community by connecting them with each other.

UNCP professor recieves award at conference

By Sara Goldsberry
Managing Editor

On Saturday Sept. 28, Dr. Jamie Litty, a mass communication professor for UNCP, received the 2019 Betty Jo Welch Award from the Carolinas Communication Association at the organization's annual conference.

Each year, the award is presented to a professor who demonstrates “continuing and outstanding service to the association and the professions,” according to the CCA.

Litty moderated a panel on the sustainability of paper student media. The organization surprised Litty at the conference with the award.

“I was shocked. I have never been an officer; I do more grunt work. They appreciate that kind of work,” said Litty.

This is not the first time Litty has been

recognized for her service or outstanding performance. In 2014, she was awarded the Adolph L. Dial Faculty Award for Community Service by the university, and in 2011, she recieved the UNCP Outstanding Teaching Award.

Litty is the Mass Communication Department Chair and has been a part of UNCP since 2001. Litty also serves as the adviser for “Carolina News Today,” a weekly student-produced newscast.

The CCA recognized her efforts to fill needed positions and her willingness to help. As a member of the CCA, Litty has served on many committees.

She has helped with the Jarrard Student Paper Committee in 2014 and the 2015 Nominating Committee. Litty has also worked as a reviewer for the “Carolinas Communication Annual,” a peer-reviewed

journal published by the CCA.

“[Litty] stood out as always here and eternally present with presence. She is a joy to work with and a brilliant mind,” said the Welch Committee on why they selected Litty for the award.

The Betty Jo Welch Award was first presented in 1989 and honors one of the founding members of the CCA, Betty Jo Welch, who was the first woman elected chair of the UNC Faculty Assembly and the first communications faculty member for the University of North Carolina at Wilmington. Today, the CCA continues to honor Welch by recognizing professors like Litty for their service to their communities and universities.



Dr. Jamie Litty displaying her award after the Carolinas Communication Association's Annual Conference on Saturday.

Apple releases three versions of the iPhone 11

By Alexis Polson
Social Media Manager

Every year, people scramble to become one of the first owners of the latest Apple iPhone. On September 20th, unlike in previous years, Apple released not one but three new phones.

The three different options, per Apple.com,

have different sizes and capabilities. With that, there's different prices and specifications.

This year's phones were the iPhone 11, iPhone 11 Pro and the iPhone 11 Pro Max.

The prices for the 256GB versions of the phone are \$549, \$749, and \$849 respectively.

“I like [the phone] because of the improvements in the

camera for photography,” Madison Hardin said.

Hardin recently upgraded from her iPhone X to the new iPhone 11 Pro.

One of the most talked-about features on all of the phones are the new cameras. The iPhone 11 has two lenses, including the new ultra-wide-angle lens. The iPhone 11 Pro and iPhone 11 Max Pro

sport a triple-lens system with Wide, Ultra Wide, and Telephoto lenses.

Although the iPhone 11 offers many different price points not everyone is convinced they were good prices.

“I think the price is ridiculous,” says UNCP alumnus Adam Peele.

Madison Long was not impressed by the prices

either. She said the prices of the new iPhones are comparable to Apple's computers.

With Apple products so popular among students, some students have to prioritize when deciding whether or not to buy the new phone.

“I need a new laptop more than I need a new phone,” Long said.

The Pine Needle
The University of North Carolina
at Pembroke

Founded in 1947

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UNCP concludes Suicide Prevention Month with Pembroke Day Table Event



Children from the community decorate luminaires with words of encouragement at the CAPS table for Suicide Prevention and Recovery. PN Photo/Sara Goldsberry.

By Sara Goldsberry
Managing Editor

“Help is available; you are never alone,” said Olga Phoenix, Assistant Director of Health Promotion for Student Health Services. Throughout September, Student Health Services and Counseling and Psychological Services have worked together to break down the stigma on mental health to encourage conversation on topics such as suicide prevention. September is National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month.

Suicide is the second leading cause of death among college students, and most cases can be linked to untreated depression. The stigma surrounding mental health can deter people from seeking the help they need.

“The key to combating this stigma is raising awareness about mental health, among college

students especially. The counselors at CAPS are committed to helping fight this stigma,” writes Andrew Sheppard.

The organizations began the month of events with “Chalk about Suicide”, which was designed to help students speak more openly about mental health, and ended with a table at the Pembroke Day festivities. Their final event focused on recovery to make people aware that recovery is possible and how to help.

“People who are concerned about a loved one should go ahead and ask the question. Sometimes, that’s what people are waiting on,” said Cheryl Harris, counselor and outreach coordinator for CAPS.

At Thursday’s table, Harris and Jasmine Boykin, a CAPS intern, reached out to the community with activities to engage Pembroke Day attendees. They gave away temporary

tattoos including the “My Story isn’t Over” semicolon design and offered brochures on depression. They also provided paint, glitter, stickers and other art supplies for people to make luminaries that would be lit at the end of the event.

Along and around the table, were bags decorated by students and members of the community with encouraging words, names of loved ones and phrases like “love yourself sunshine” and “keep fighting.”

People felt encouraged to participate in the event for different reasons. Some brought awareness by remembering loved ones who have been personally affected, while others enjoyed learning about the importance of supporting others through the table’s activities. Working to spread awareness on topic like this, Boykin, who is completing on her master’s in social work, hopes to

empower youth in the future by making sure they have everything they need to succeed.

Students who would like to receive more information or to find help, can go to CAPS, located in the Braves Health Center, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Appointments are not required. Community members can also contact the organization to be directed to resources that will best fit their needs.

“No one should suffer in silence; reach out for help. This is not a weight to be carried alone,” said Harris.

Every month, Student Health Services and Counseling and Psychological Services work to bring awareness to different issues. October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month, and they will begin the month’s events with Pony Palooza on October, 2, from 4-6 p.m.

Mid-Autumn “Moon Celebration” Brings Culture Lesson to Students

By Tiarra Gordon
Contributor

The Mid-Autumn Festival also known as The Moon Celebration was at the UNCP in the UC Annex on Sept. 27. The event is a harvest festival that is traditionally celebrated during a full moon and celebrated by Chinese and Vietnamese people.

Students, faculty, and community members gathered to celebrate together by enjoying in food, festivities, and learning about the Chinese culture.

Chinese Students and Scholars Association, The Student Government Association, Genshiken, and Student Inclusion and Diversity

combined to plan the event. They provided food, activities, and entertainment for the Festival.

The Mid-Autumn festival began with a speaker who introduced the performers and offered guests a Chinese snack to enjoy during the show.

One of the professors who teaches the Chinese culture gave a presentation about the origins of the Festival, which is rooted in a legend that dates back to ancient China between an archer named, Hou Yi and his wife the moon goddess.

Chang’e Hou Yi was given an elixir for immortality for his heroic deeds. One of his students wanted the elixir for himself

Chang’e consumed it before the student had the opportunity to grab it for himself.

Chang’e became immortal and made the moon her home. She became known as the goddess of the Moon and left her husband behind- never to be reunited and forever star-crossed lovers. Chinese people honor Hou Yi and Chang’e by getting together with loved ones as the two lovers could no longer do.

The Chinese used this myth to decide when to plant crops.

The audience was also entertained by a UNCP international student and a faculty member who sang songs that entertained the crowd. Two musical guests

played songs that students enjoyed. When performances ended, the president of CSSA invited guests to enjoy food in a picnic style. The menu included a traditional Chinese desert, moon cakes.

Genshiken provided lanterns for guest to draw on and keep, and a chance to try traditional Chinese wood printing.

Charlotte Youth Protest for Action on Climate Change

By Sara Goldsberry
Managing Editor

On Sept. 20, North Carolina stuentis joined people around the world in a climate strike. Students and other activists walked out of classes, jobs and other obligations to raise awareness of the situation’s urgency.

The strike featured speakers whose topics ranged from a push for clean energy to an analysis of groups who average more exposure to the effects of climate change than others. Students and other activists took turns expressing their concerns to the crowd of protesters.

“It is because of the youth, that we’re here today. They inspire us, and they are gong to make a difference,” said Kim Porter, an environmental activist who works for organizations such as the NC NAACP, NC Poor People’s Campaign and NC WARN.

Climate activists held different booths to engage protesters in different aspects of the crisis. One station offered pens and paper and a submission box for people to write letters to elected officials. Another station offered alternatives to single use plastics; one of which was a single use bag that dissolves in water.

Among those involved in the strike were: Deb Arnason, a grandmother on strike in honor of her grandchildren, David Slesinger, a MIT graduate who began protesting on climate change in the 1970s, and Harry Taylor, who ran for congress in 2008 and was one of the event’s speakers.

After all of the speeches were delivered to the crowd, protesters marched around the Charlotte-



People gather in front of Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center to protest for actions to be made addressing climate change. PN Photo/Sara Goldsberry

Mecklenburg Government Center. An eleven minute die-in followed the march.

Student Involvement in the Strike

One of the event’s organizers was Mary Ellis Stevens, the Executive Director for Earth Uprising Charlotte. After a research project in her eighth grade class, she realized the situation’s importance and was inspired to do more. This was week 24 of her striking in the Fridays for Future School Climate Strikes. Other students also became aware of climate change through school projects. Lucia Paulsen and Kate Harrison were inspired to help organize the event when they learned that it is possible to be able to tell

others about the urgency of climate change.

While the students expressed their passion for environmental activism, they also explained that they were upset for feeling obligated to be the voices for the climate crisis.

“We can’t do this alone. Right now, us youth are forced to grow up and become adults for the adults can’t seem to understand simple facts!” said Paulsen.

Global Connections

The speakers reminded the crowd that this is a worldwide issue. Some focused on the global effects of climate change.

“People around the

world are being harmed by droughts, flooding, superstorms, wildfires and other extreme weather made worse by climate change,” said Porter.

Other speakers emphasized actions that are being taken.

“When we lose hope, the planet loses,” said Former Charlotte Mayor Jennifer Roberts.

Roberts presented a global report card from National Geographic of

the efforts being made by different countries. The countries that ranked at the top of the list were India, Costa Rica, and Morocco. This event was one of many kicking off the Global Climate Strike, a weeklong movement that ran from Sept. 20-27.

*“When we lose hope, the planet loses...”
- Former Charlotte Mayor Jennifer Roberts*

Plant-based meats, the “Impossible Burger” and the Future of Food

By Eric Velasquez
Staff Writer

With the introduction of the Impossible Burger in Burger King’s menu, the conversation about meat replacements has grown in the spotlight. As the success of such innovation in meat is made, many companies such as Tyson and Kellogg’s are joining in and either investing into companies such as Impossible Foods or are entering the market and creating their own brand of plant-based meats.

Here at The Dining Hall, there are already a variety of vegan and vegetarian options. Among those options, there are also plant-based protein options as well. Chef Glen Reynolds answered that “Fifteen percent of the menu” is plant-based protein. When asked about implementing any more plant-based products, he referenced Oumph!, which is a Swedish company that has entirely vegan products “We plan to use Oumph! product in our tacos in upcoming months” says Reynolds. Cultured meat doesn’t seem to be on the menu’s radar yet, although he did mention “It’s all up to demand, if students want genetically engineered meat, we’ll see to it.” There has certainly been a rise from the interest of students “I call it the Impossible Whopper movement” laughed the chef. “Students are more conscious of their foods and want to know where it comes from, and I think that’s good.”

Impossible Foods is the creator behind the Impossible Burger. The success of the Impossible Burger shows a transition into the next generation of food. Unlike vegetarian alternatives or that of tofu, Impossible Foods are completely vegan as it uses plants in a way that texture and flavor resemble that of beef. The new plant-based products

also contain one big difference from that of vegetarian products, and that is that they are marketed towards meat-eating customers. This is important to note as plant-based products are produced in a way to resemble meat as close as possible.

For instance, the meaty texture is achieved from elements from that of soy and potato protein. The meaty taste is achieved from heme, which is what gives meat its flavor. Although heme is abundant in animals, plants contain heme as well. The plant-based heme is what Impossible Foods uses, and the heme is made through the fermentation of genetically engineered yeast. The final product not only achieves the meaty flavor, but it is also the reason behind how the Impossible Burger “bleeds” and appears pink in the middle.

Just Inc. takes a different approach in where they have lab-grown meat. The product is often interchanged between lab-grown meat, fake meat, and cultured meat. The process consists of harvesting cells from an animal, such as a chicken. After collection, the cells are grown

and cultivated in a lab until it reaches the desired state. The process of growing the cells tricks the cells into thinking that it is part of the animal, in where after growing, it results in a fully formed chicken breast, thigh, or patty. The meat itself does not come from the death of an animal, however fetal bovine serum (FBS) is needed in order to cultivate the meat.

As with most things new, there are plenty of questions revolving around how healthy and safe these products are. Although the Impossible Burger is plant-based, it should not be thought of as a health food. These products are designed to imitate their meat counterparts. However, there are no growth hormones or antibiotics used within plant-based products as well as no GMO’s.

*“I call it the Impossible Whopper Movement”.
- Chef Glen Reynolds*

UNCP AIS Students Visit Native American Art Museum at Duke University

By Zachary Young
Reporter

Several students from various American Indian Studies (AIS) classes at UNCP visited The Nasher Museum of Art at Duke University on Thursday, September 26th. Students toured “Art for a New Understanding: Native Voices 1950’s to Now”, which is “the first nationally-travelling survey of contemporary Native American art” according to Dr. Marshall Price, Curator of Modern and Contemporary Art at the Nasher Museum. This exhibit showcases various pieces of art created by Indigenous artists such as Fritz Scholder (1968) who has been compared to the likes of Andy Warhol. As well as more recent artists like Jeffrey Gibson, who is a 2019 MacArthur Fellowship awardee. Awardees are nominated based off of being considered as having “exceptional creativity, as demonstrated through a track record of significant achievement, and manifest promise for important future advances.” (macfound.org)

“Art for a New Understanding: Native Voices 1950’s to Now” will be at the Nasher Museum until January 12th, 2020. This exhibit is open to the public and Dr. Price encourages everyone, regardless of what ethnicity they identify with to make the trip: “The Nasher Museum of Art at Duke University has a robust program with a particular focus on presenting the work of under-represented artists. Visitors can expect to see some of the most compelling contemporary art, learn about Native history and current issues, and have a moving aesthetic experience.”



“The Monster Indian” painting by Fritz Scholder at the Nasher Museum. PN Photo/ Zachary Young

UNCP professors Dr. Jane Haladay and Dr. Mary Ann Jacobs helped orchestrate this visit to the museum to share an opportunity for students that would “highlight Indigenous peoples from their own perspectives and in their own voices... Dr. Price knew that UNCP has a large number of American Indian students and is an historically American Indian university, and he wanted to be sure that this unique and important show was accessible to Native students in North Carolina.”

UNCP Freshman Noah Freeman told the Pine Needle what he took from the trip to the Nasher Museum was “a lot of Natives have diverse outlooks on what art is and from that comes a lot of beautiful work, but also some that makes you truly consider what is art?”

Dr. Halladay hopes that “seeing this large collection of powerful, beautiful, provocative, political, contemporary Indigenous artists; work in a single exhibition will make an impact on students, letting them know that Indigenous peoples continue to express themselves and their cultures in diverse and moving ways... For anyone who think Native artwork is just a dreamcatcher or a random pot or basket, I think they’re in for an exhilarating surprise, maybe a shock, and definitely a memorable experience.”



The Story Teller painting by Norval Morrisseau at Nasher Museum of Art. PN Photo/Zachary Young

Disney Announces Streaming Service

By Tiarra Gordon
Staff Writer

Disney opens new access to fans and audience members as the company launches their own streaming platform, Disney+. Opening up their vast collection including the movies from their reclusive Disney vault that are not or rarely seen on television or other streaming platforms. New and recent films will be featured live action Lion King, Avenger: Endgame, Frozen 2 and Star Wars: Episode. Disney plus will be official launched in America on November 12 at \$6.99 a month.

Disney+ will be introducing younger and older generations to restyled shows, new movies, and original series. Featuring rebooted show Lizzie McGuire, a series about teenager going through high school is now aged up to her thirties. A mockumentary series based on High School Musical called High School Musical The Movie: The Series, and in addition to Monster Inc. the movie franchise is now becoming Monsters at Work. Disney’s new additions to their Marvel Cinematic Universe (MCU) films that will now be series for new and old heroes into the universe including Falcon and The Winter Solider, Loki, She-Hulk, WandaVision and many more.

Disney will be removing their content from

other streaming services making it only available on their new platform. Including movies form MCU, Pixar, Star Wars and everything else Disney owned. Challenging their competitors and giving their consumers everything, Disney related that might bring an end to different platforms. Bringing in heavy competition to Amazon Prime Video, Hulu, Netflix and other streaming services. Making it only available for download on PS4, Roku, Xbox, Google and Apples devices.

“I’ll go get it for my family and they will probably love it more than me.” UNCP student Sterlyn Dominguez said.

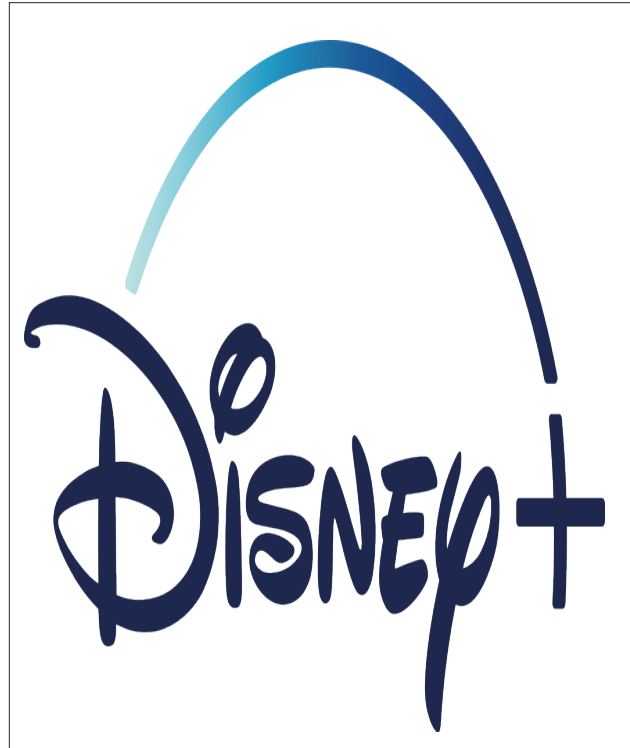
Other weren’t so happy to hear about Disney new venture fearing that it would cause more damage than good.

“From audience point of the streaming service are getting a little bit crowd we get more streaming content. I don’t care about if they’re trying to make more money.” said student Josh Hill.

“I’ll look into if they don’t mess it up just depends on the product how it comes out.” Jay Moore stated, In reference to the new rebooted series and Marvel based series.

There are both doubts and praises for Disney

Plus but no will know the effects of the service until it’s officially out.



The Disney Plus streaming service will cost \$8.99 per month, or \$89.99 per year, when the application launches on Nov. 12. (File Photo By The Walt Disney Company – Own work, Public Domain)

Zeta Tau Alpha Hosting Cornhole Event



UNCP sorority, Zeta Tau Alpha promoted upcoming Corn Hole Competition and more events during a hula-hoop demonstration on Thursday, Sept. 19, 2019. PN photo/Stephanie Sellers.

All My Heroes Are Cornballs: Album Review

By Jalen Head
Entertainment Editor

Ecclectic hip-hop artist and producer, JPEGMAFIA released his third studio album, “All My Heroes Are Cornballs” on Sept. 13, 2019. The album comes 20 months after his sophomore effort under the moniker, “Veteran”. Veteran garnered attention never seen by JPEGMAFIA, whose real name is Barrington Hendricks, and allowed for him to rise through the ranks of underground hip-hop. The project also earned him a slot at the two-weekend music festival, Coachella 2019.

Veteran featured witty one liners about the current political landscape and the internet age. It saw the Baltimore-based wordsmith take artistic risks unforeseen at that stage in his career. With the lack of such sharp political commentary in hip-hop, aside from prominent names like Kendrick Lamar and J. Cole, JPEGMAFIA was able to stand out from other lyricists with his political arcs featured throughout the experimental, alternative, and sometimes industrial sounding album.

With this new album, he has ushered in a new genre-bending, melody driven album that demands his audience to interpret his double-entendre packed lyrics in a matter of seconds before being hit with another politically charged line. The album is a shift in sound from Veteran, with more singing and different instrumentation featured via sampling. The sometimes cryptic and glitchy sounding album meshes perfectly with the change in approach and is a breath of fresh air for his long-time fans.

JPEGMAFIA, warned his newer audience that this project may not be what they are anticipating. He referred to the project as a “DISAPPOINTMENT” throughout the promotion run he started in August, ahead of its September release. As Veteran was a brash, punk hip-hop, non-compromising album. All My Heroes Are Cornballs takes a different route both stylistically and instrumentally. The shift in sound has also showcased Peggy’s singing ability and allowed for him to further experiment with his production. With this sudden shift in sound not everyone will be happy with this album. Roughly eight days after the release of A.M.H.A.C. he tweeted, “I will never make Veteran 2. If your ever expecting that please leave now and keep playing harsh noise music on a loop I have nothing else to offer u.” Despite some negative opinions from newer fans, the album has been praised by the majority of his listeners for pushing the boundaries of hip-hop.

Mirrorland: Album Review

By Jalen Head
Entertainment Editor

Atlanta-based duo, EarthGang released their highly anticipated album, “Mirrorland,” on Sept. 6 2019. The duo consists of Olu (formerly known as Johnny Venus) and WOWGR8 (formerly known as Doctor Doc). The album features guest appearances from Young Thug, Kehlani, T-Pain and more.

Mirrorland is the group’s fourth project released under J. Cole’s Dreamville records but is their first full length album since signing with Dreamville in 2017. The album is 14 songs and has a runtime of 55 minutes. EarthGang released three EPs in a span of 18 months in hopes of expanding their fan base and building anticipation for the major label debut album. The group hinted towards the three EPs having a connection with the album.

The EPs titled, “Rags,” “Robots,” and “Royalty” all tackle themes seen on the album without fully exploring them but rather touching on them and saving them for revisiting. Mirrorland acts as their debut album and has garnered attention and praises from hip-hop heads and Dreamville fans around the world.

With this praise has also come lazy comparisons to the legendary hip-hop duo OutKast. Because the group is from Atlanta and is a duo making alternative hip-hop, fans and spectators have attempted to draw comparisons between the two groups.

On Mirrorland, EarthGang showcase their artistic range from complicated, fast wordplay over up-tempo, noisy, and boombastic instrumentals like “Lala Challenge” to their more melodic, introspective tracks like “This Side”. The album discusses various subject matter from songs like “Tequila” featuring T-Pain which discusses alcohol dependency to cope with the struggles of the day and “Swivel,” a track that discusses staying aware of one’s surrounding to avoid the familiar troupes present in impoverished communities. Mirrorland as a body of work represent complete thought from the high tempo start of the album with Lala Challenge to the harmonious outro “Fields,” featuring Malik. The album sees the collective tackle a wide range of topics and push their artistry to new heights.

Cozy Corner Restaurant Review

By Stephanie Sellers
Copy Editor



Thursday’s chicken and pastry comes with two sides. PN photo/Stephanie Sellers

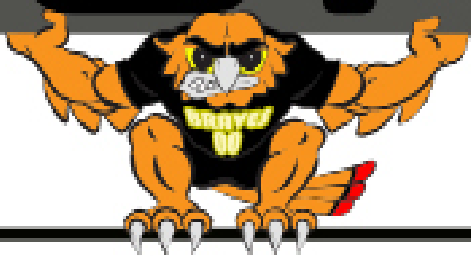
The next time a hankering for southern soul food hits, run down to the end of Prospect and stop at Cozy Corner Restaurant. This small white structure holds about thirty diners which is good to know because nearly every seat is taken on Thursdays when the special is chicken and pastry. It is served on two plates. Call-in orders are welcome. The prices are low, and the plates are stacked. Come hungry.

Lifetime resident, Carolyn Dial said, “Fridays they have chicken and fish. Last week I came and they had some spots in. I got the last three. Tasted like they came right out of the ocean. Every day they have fried chicken and I forget which day is the hamburger with gravy. It’s all good.”

The restaurant was opened by Mr. and Mrs. Wilton Cummings and is now owned by Dwayne Cummings. The manager is Barbara Hall-Smith and she welcomed UNCP students to come on in anytime.

The Cozy Corner Restaurant is open from 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. The address is 2971 Prospect Road, Pembroke, NC. (910) 521-0855

SPORTS



SECTION
B
The Pine Needle



Faheem Diaab (88) catches a first quarter touchdown pass from Josh Jones at Grace P. Johnson Stadium on September 28, 2019. The Braves lost to Limestone College, 41-25. PN/Photo by Trevon Knight.

Braves notch early-season win against Catawba, 21-14

By Zachary Young
Reporter

In their third game of the season, the Braves defeated the Catawba College Indians on Sept. 21., 21-14. The victory was led by their defense which held Catawba to only 14 points, despite allowing the Indians to produce 329 total yards. Redshirt Junior linebacker David Salser set the tone for the Braves’ defense with seven tackles. Salser wasn’t alone, Redshirt Freshman defensive lineman Devin Cowan registered two and a half tackles for loss, one of which was a sack. On top of his six tackles, Freshman Defensiveback Sean Hill’s interception in the fourth quarter put to bed any hopes that Catawba may have had of making a comeback late in the game. This was his second pick of the season.

On the offensive side of the ball, the Braves were efficient, scoring four touchdowns on each of their trips inside the Indians’ red zone. Sophomore quarterback Josh Jones ended the night on 16 of 24 passing attempts with 127 yards and 2 touchdowns through the air. On his two passing touchdowns Jones connected on a 20-yard pass to Sophomore tight end Faheem Diaab on the Braves’ second possession of the game, putting UNCP up 7-0. In the 4th quarter, Jones completed an 8-yard pass to Redshirt Senior wide receiver Quay Threatt, making the score 21-7. Additionally, Jones scored on a diving rushing touchdown in the second quarter, his first of the season.

Josh Sheridan controlled the game on the ground by racking up 154 yards on 20 rushing attempts with 1 touchdown. Sheridan also had the longest rush of the game by either team with a 33-yard touchdown run to seal the victory for the Braves late in the fourth quarter, with a final score of 28-14. With their record now 2-1, the Braves are undefeated so far at home this season. This was the first time the Braves defeated the Indians since Oct. 22, 2016. The series between the two schools is now 5-4, in favor of the Indians.

Head Coach Shane Richardson expressed his appreciation for his team’s resiliency and ability to bounce back from a tough loss the previous week against Virginia State University. “It was really gratifying as a coach to see our players buy in to a process of maturity.”

Next Game: Oct. 5 @ Carson-Newman (2-1)

Braves fall short against Limestone, 41-25

By Mike McGuinness
Sports Editor

After a promising opening drive, the UNC Pembroke Braves fell short against the Limestone College Saints, 41-25 on Saturday, Sept. 28 at Grace P. Johnson Stadium.

The Braves finished their first possession of the game with a beautiful pass from quarterback Josh Jones to Faheem Diaab for a touchdown in the back of the end zone. After the opening drive, the Braves struggled to keep up with Limestone.

Multiple penalties from the Braves allowed the Saints opportunities to extend drives, including a roughing the kicker penalty in the first quarter that led to a touchdown. Limestone attacked the Braves defense all night, racking up huge chunk plays, including touchdown runs of 38 and 20 yards in the first quarter. The Braves kept it close in the first half and headed into halftime down 20-13.

The second half opened with another Limestone touchdown from Jerko’ya Patton, giving the Saints a 27-13 lead. Braves quarterback Josh Jones led two scoring drives, allowing the Braves to close the gap to within two points, 27-25, but a missed two-point conversion failed to tie the game. On Limestone’s next play from scrimmage, Alec Morton connected with wideout Juwan Scott for a 75-yard touchdown pass. Limestone would tack on another touchdown late in the fourth quarter.

Josh Jones again led the Braves with 287 yards passing, throwing for a touchdown and rushing for two more. Josh Sheridan led the Braves in rushing with 72 yards and a touchdown. Quay Threatt led all Braves receivers with 106 yards.

The win gave the Saints their first victory since Oct. 21, 2017, when they defeated Newberry College. Despite the loss dropping the Braves to 2-2 overall, this is the best start to the season that they have had since 2016, when they opened the season 3-1.

UNCP’s next game will be Saturday, Oct. 5 in Jefferson City, Tenn. Against the Carson-Newman Eagles. Kickoff will be at 1 p.m.

CA Gov. Newsom signs NCAA bill

By Mike McGuinness
Sports Editor

Monday morning, Sept. 30, California Governor Gavin Newsom signed SB 206 into law. Newsom did this while appearing on HBO’s “The Shop” in an online-only episode in front of NBA superstar LeBron James, WNBA star Diana Taurasi, and former UCLA player Ed O’Bannon, who was the primary plaintiff in a lawsuit against the NCAA advocating that players should be able to profit from their likenesses being utilized to generate profits in video games, jersey sales, and other merchandise.

The bill, forwarded by Calif. Senator Nancy Skinner, will allow student-athletes the ability to do just that. The bill prohibits the NCAA from barring member schools from competition if that school’s athletes are compensated by the use of their names, likenesses, or image. The NCAA has a strict policy of amateurism, and that student-athletes should receive no compensation for representing universities on the field.

SB 206 states that schools will not directly compensate players. The bill will allow athletes to sign with agents to negotiate deals in which players could be compensated for

jersey sales and other merchandise that is available to consumers. It would also allow student-athletes to sign endorsement deals, such as with shoe companies, and would also allow those athletes the ability to seek out employment as paid youth coaches, which is currently prohibited by the NCAA.

Jeff Pearlman, sports-writer and author of “Football for a Buck: The Crazy Rise and Crazier Demise of the USFL” and “Sweetness: The Enigmatic Life of Walter Payton,” commented on SB 206, “I think it opens the floodgates in a good way. Athletes should be allowed to make money off of their labor. It’s criminal seeing rich coaches get richer off the backs of players, meanwhile these kids get nothing but a scholarship. Their work is worth millions to the schools. So I’m in favor of this.”

LeBron James, who did not attend college, is perhaps the biggest supporter of the bill. “This is a game changer for student athletes and for equity in sports. Athletes at every level deserve to be empowered and to be fairly compensated for their work, especially in a system where so many are profiting off their talents,” said James.

There is something to be said of James’ remarks—big-time college athletic departments, such as the University of Texas-Austin can pull in hundreds of millions of dollars a year; in 2019, UT-Austin generated \$210.4 million in profits, according to Pew Research. Conferences also generate tens of millions of dollars through television deals, as well as signing clothing deals with specific partners such as Nike and Under Armor to develop and produce jerseys, shirts, and hats that are sold in stadiums. There is corporate sponsor space sold throughout stadiums that hold tens of thousands of seats, that require a ticket to be purchased in order to attend the game. Coaches at high-profile schools make millions, and can job hop whenever they want. According to the Department of Education, 231 member institutions generated \$9.15 billion in revenues for the fiscal year 2015. So, what does the NCAA have to say about the situation?

The NCAA and its’ president, Mark Emmert, have spoken out against SB 206. Emmert called on Gov. Newsom to hold off on signing the bill until a working group, formed by the NCAA during the summer,

could conduct an impact study into how this would affect the amateurism model. Emmert has called the bill “unconstitutional” and “a scheme,” claiming that it would upset the amateurism model.

In a letter sent to Newsom in September, the NCAA said that “Right now, nearly half a million student-athletes in all 50 states compete under the same rules. This bill would remove that essential element of fairness and equal treatment that forms the bedrock of college sports.”

The bill becomes law in 2023, and Gene Smith, the athletic director at Ohio State University, went on record that he would not schedule games against schools in California until NCAA rules and SB 206 can be reconciled. The NCAA has made mention of suing California under the commerce clause of the Constitution, which states that only Congress can regulate trade between the states, as well as saying that California schools may be stripped of the ability to compete for NCAA championships. Sen. Skinner, on the other hand, has stated that after receiving multiple legal opinions, it would be difficult for the NCAA

to sue the state, “...to do so would be a violation of anti-trust” law, according to Skinner.

There is still under four years before the bill becomes law, and other states are already looking at similar legislation. New York and Florida appear close to signing similar legislation. North Carolina Republican Mark Walker wants to couch athlete compensation on a free-market model of labor that would see universities stripped of their tax exemptions if they failed to compensate those athletes.

Rep. Walker has been a vocal proponent about athlete compensation at the collegiate level. “Signing an athletic scholarship should not be a moratorium on your rights to your name, image, and self-worth. It’s time to bring equity to student-athletes and fix the injustices that exist in the current NCAA model. After nearly two years of discussions with players and leaders, we are introducing legislations that won’t cost the NCAA or our schools a single dollar, while empowering college athletes with the same opportunities that every Americans should have in a free market,” he said.

Soccer Wins Overtime Thriller vs. Columbus State



The UNCP soccer team won it’s September 28 matchup with Columbus State 2-1 after scoring its only goal of regulation late in the second half. Junior Rilee Seering scored in the 96th minute in extra time to give the Braves the win over their ranked opponent. PNPhoto/Trevon Knight

Braves swimmer breaks two school records in first collegiate meet

by Mike McGuinness

Ketlyn Rodriguez Matos set two school records in her first collegiate meet on Saturday, September 28. Swimming in multiple events, Rodriguez Matos set records in the 200-yard individual medley and the 100-yard breaststroke. Ketlyn, who hails from Ponce, Puerto Rico, started swimming competitively at age 7, and attended a prep school in Florida for her junior and senior years of high school.

She said about the meet that “I am used to club teams, but being on this team...the camaraderie and all the support, was the best thing.” The Braves swim team opened up their season with a 128-48 victory over Charleston College.

Rodriguez Matos did not expect to break records from the beginning of her college career, and expects a great season ahead for the Braves swim team. “We have two great coaches who have done really well for the team,” she said.

UNCP Braves Swimmer Ketlyn Rodriguez Matos (right), broke two school records helping the Braves defeat Charleston College, 128-48 last



Road Trip! #1: A Travel Guide to Myrtle Beach

By Mitchell Doub
Staff Writer

It’s Fall, the leaves are starting to change and every now and then, in the evenings, there is a nip in the air. So, should students put away their t-shirts and shorts and give in to the season change? No! Students everywhere should hang on to summer and hit the pavement for a weekend road trip, and where better to continue summer than in Myrtle Beach South Carolina?

Students should plan on leaving UNCP around 10:00 am and should set their GPS for 9939 Nance St., Calabash, NC 28467. Priority one on todays road trip is lunch in Calabash, one of the East Coast’s pre-

mier seafood destinations. GPS will take students to Captain Nance’s Seafood Restaurant, right on the Calabash River. Captain Nance’s serves a \$7.99 lunch special with locally caught fried shrimp, slaw, French fries and hush-puppies. Not to be missed!

For destination number 2, students should set their GPS to “Myrtle Beach Boardwalk” and should choose to take the Hwy 31 south option. (The 1.2 mile boardwalk is between the 2nd Avenue and 14th Avenue piers on Ocean Blvd.) Completed in 2010, the wooden boardwalk was featured on the

television show “Cake Boss” when the guys delivered a massive “flip-flop” cake for the grand opening. There is ample metered parking and public restrooms near the central section of the boardwalk where students can park their car and hit the beach (sunscreen, cooler, towel or chair and umbrella suggested. No glass containers please). Spend a couple of hours walking the beach and splashing in the surf and then go up to one of the several arcades that line the central business district area of the walk. Some of the arcades have old-school games (baseball, skeeball) popular when

students parents were kids, address is around 902 N. Ocean Blvd. Travel and leisure magazine ranked the Myrtle Beach Boardwalk America’s second best.

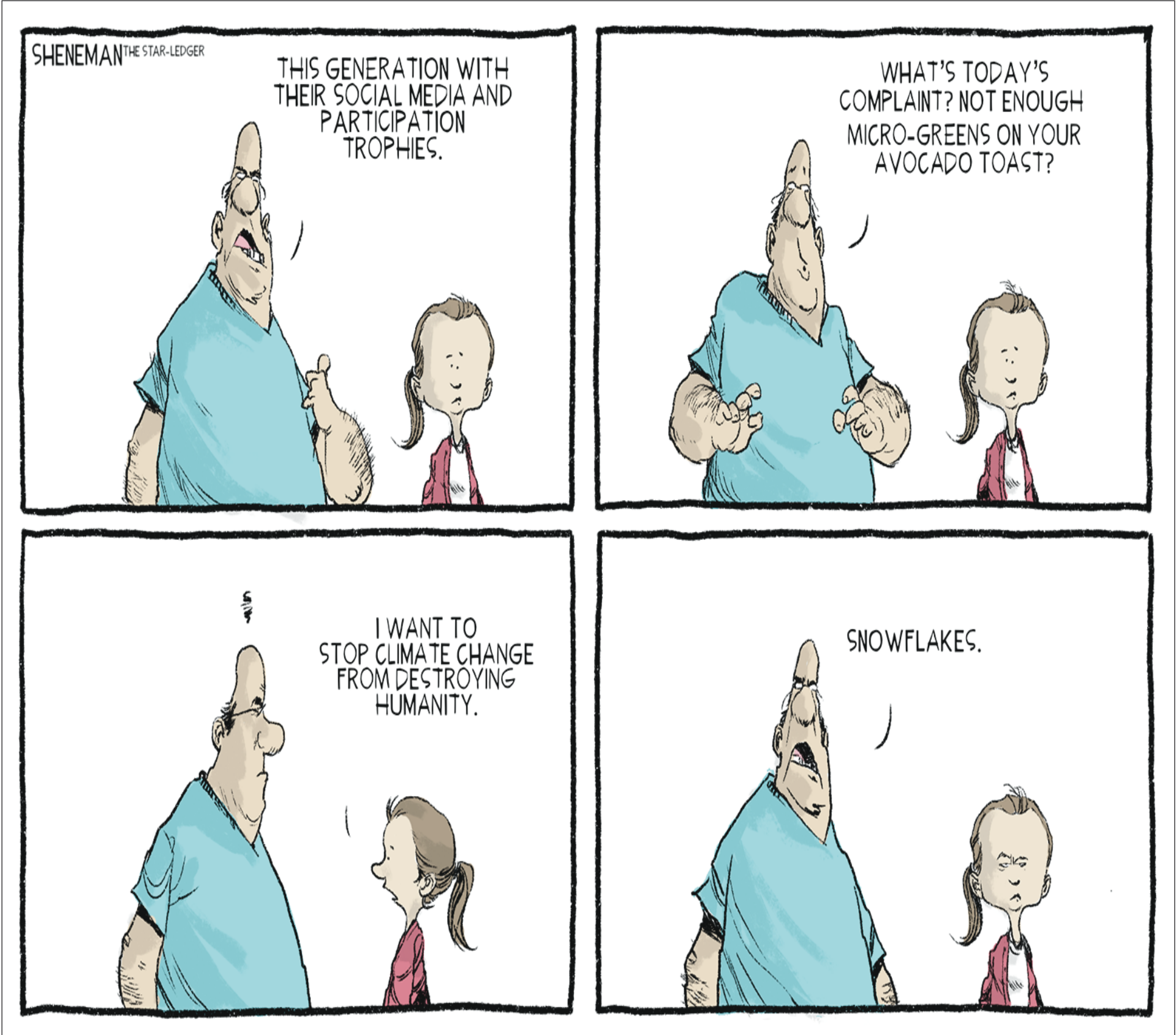
For destination number 3, students should set their GPS to “Broadway at the Beach”, South Carolina’s top tourist attraction (the address is 1325 Celebrity Circle, Myrtle Beach, SC). Restaurants, amusement rides, mini-golf, Ripleys aquarium, shops, Hard Rock Café, it all can be found at “Boardwalk at the Beach”. Students that are on a budget can still have loads of fun here (don’t plan on eating supper, restaurants are quite expensive, but do split a milkshake at “Johnny Rockets” as you watch the wait staff dance on the tables to 50’s music) as it would take a full weekend to see and do everything. Students that would like to play mini-golf can play the Dragon’s Lair course (complete with fire breathing dragon) or can wait for destination number 4.

For destination number 4, students should set their GPS for “Mayday Golf”, choosing the Hwy 31 north option (715 Hwy 17 N, North Myrtle Beach, SC). Mayday Golf, complete with a real airplane and a real helicopter is beautifully landscaped and is most fun when played at night. There are two 18-hole courses and there is a discount if students play both. (Dragons Lair and Mayday Golf are both around \$11.00 for one round and a few dollars more for the second 18 holes.)

If students choose to avoid the pricey food options at “Broadway at the Beach” and are famished after conquering “Mayday Golf”, they should set their GPS for nearby “Mod Pizza” (1400 Hwy 17 N, North Myrtle Beach, SC). Here students can enjoy a made-to-order, 11” wood oven pizza with unlimited toppings for only \$8.95.



Boardwalk at the Beach in Myrtle Beach, SC. PN Photo/Mitchell Doub



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