

# Life & Arts

@thepinelog 

# EAT HEART OUT ...or don't



By Meaghan Morton  
*Life and Arts Editor*

Let's be honest here; like anybody else, I like a good meal. Preferably pasta, but I don't think I'd ever turn down a steak cooked medium rare. But that is beside the point. The fact is I don't like going out to eat for every date. Yes it's safe for the first date, but why not switch it up a little bit this Valentine's Day and do something adventurous, something a little off the beaten path. While the local eateries fill up with reservations or are packed on a first come - first serve basis, miss the crowd and try out one of the ideas the editors of The Pine Log compiled in an attempt to get you brownie points with your significant other, or just give you ways to treat yourself or be with friends.

### Volunteer -

Spend time together while making your community and world better. On the third floor of the Baker Pattillo Student center across from the commons is a board giving advice on getting volunteer hours. Also, ask your friends who are in organizations to figure out if they have any opportunities.

### Sports -

We say sports in general because there are so many ways to enjoy sports. Play a one-on-one basketball game, watch the Lumberjacks defeat opponents in the coliseum or diamond or even play a sports themed video game.

### Goon a picnic -

Okay, we know, this is kind of cheating just for the fact you will end up eating dinner, lunch or breakfast. But there is a little bit more work to it than just ordering at restaurant. Pick a nice spot, good food and a soft blanket. Chill out and cloud watch and talk the day away.

### Try out an escape room -

If you want to go on a group date, this would be the best choice for you. Escape Nac has rooms to escape from while trying to crack different codes in different themed rooms. One room can host a minimum of two people per session.

### Concert -

With venues such as Banita Creek Hall and Maklemore's, a concert and a night of dancing is just a short drive away.

### Go to a play -

SFA's school of theatre work on shows during the semester. However, if the school doesn't have a production in the making, check local community theatres.

### Aquarium /Zoo -

Cute animals and cute people go hand in hand. Take a trip to Lufkin and look at the animals at the Ellen Trout Zoo. The zoo has reptiles, wild cats and so much more.

### Take a brewery tour -

The Fredonia Brewery opens its doors to the brewery usually every Saturday, according to their website. While doors are open, tours are offered. Get to know what's in your brew.

### Planetarium -

You can always check out the planetarium in the Math Building. Admission is \$2 and a new show begins Feb. 16 called "The Explorers."

### Walking trails -

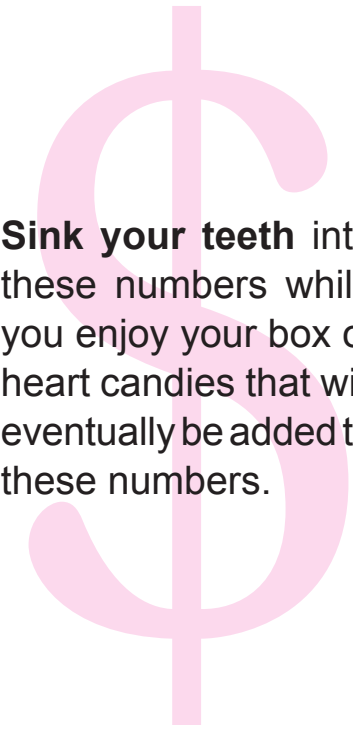
Take a break from car noise and spend time with your significant other among the pines. Sometimes a serene situation can foster in-depth conversations.

### Painting -

You can each paint your own canvas or both paint one together for one of you to keep.

### Board games -

Due to the extreme competitive nature of the games, Monopoly and Uno are not good ideas.



Sink your teeth into these numbers while you enjoy your box of heart candies that will eventually be added to these numbers.

61.8%  
Consumers who celebrate Valentine's Day

Over \$13 billion  
Average annual Valentine's Day spending

\$116  
Average amount a consumer spends on Valentine's Day

Average amount a consumer spends on Valentine's Day

Data from Statisticbrain.com

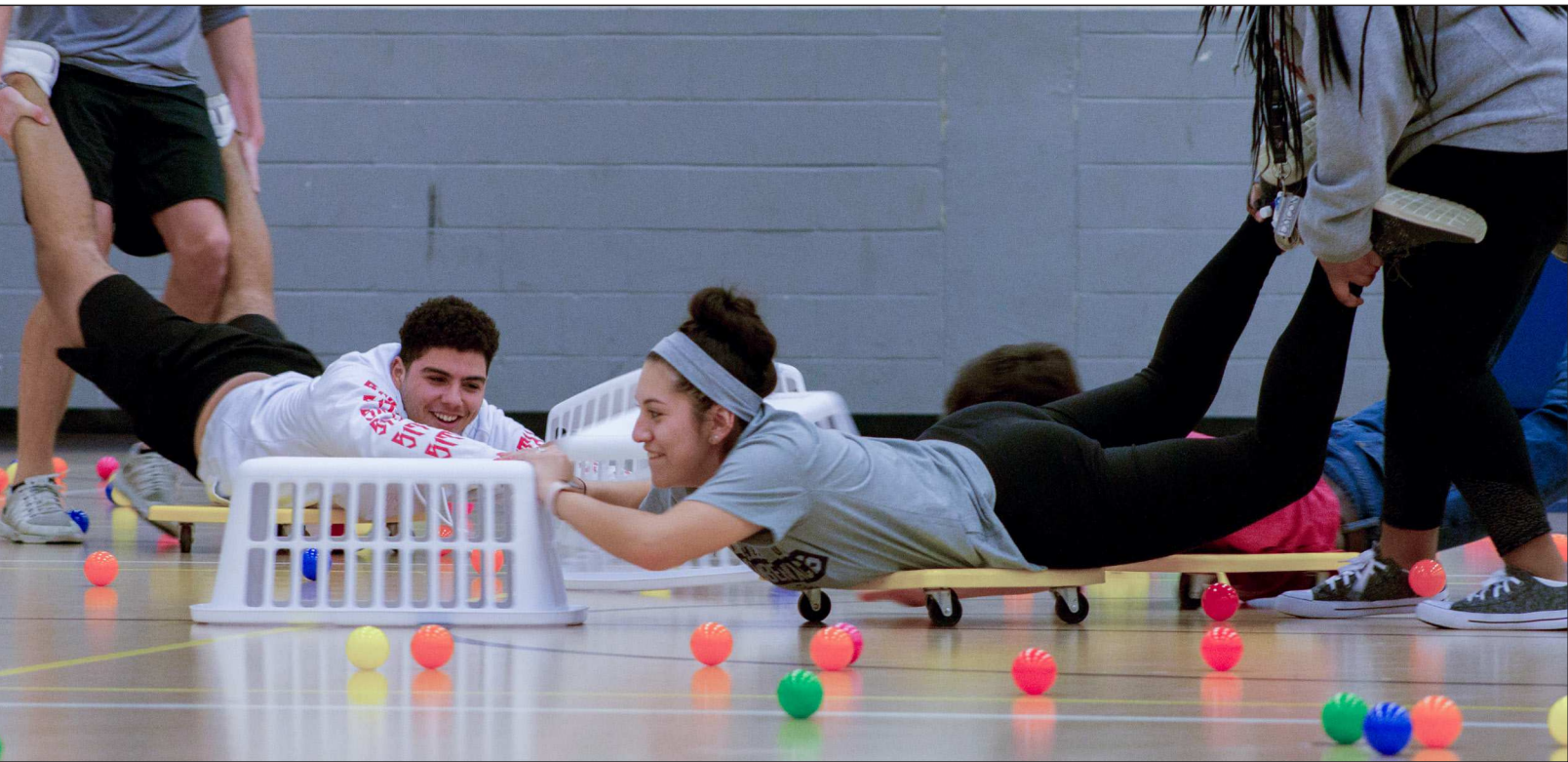


Photo by Danielle Sanchez/ The Pine Log

## Hungry Hungry Hippos

SAA hosts life-size version of classic board game

Every month SAA hosts a series of events, attempting to get more students involved. Students roll and stretch toward the multicolored plastic balls to earn more points for their team.

To keep up with events around campus, check out the boards with fliers on them, watch your mySFA and visit the Student Activities Association section of the SFA website to see a calendar of the current month's events.