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The Current

NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY

JANUARY 30, 2006

HTTP://WWW.NSUCURRENT.COM

VOLUME 16, ISSUE 17

Take Back the Night Annual Event Dedicated to Memory of Slain NSU Student

By Kristine Belizaire
Distribution Manager

Hundreds of members from the Broward community gathered for NSU's 4th annual Take Back the Night in hopes to heighten awareness about assault and domestic violence. This year's event, sponsored by the Office of Residential Life and Housing and Student Counseling, was dedicated to Nichola Seegobin, an optometry student who was brutally murdered by her ex-boyfriend in 2005.

A personal touch was added to the event this year as friends and family of Seegobin spoke on her behalf, describing her as a selfless person who was always willing to help others. Seegobin's family was presented with a plaque in honor of their daughter.

Described as a daydreamer, Seegobin was murdered by Mohan Persaud, her high school sweetheart, after his verbal abuse led her to end their relationship. Once she began seeing someone else, an erratic path of jealousy eventually caused Persaud to snap. According to the

Associated Press, Persaud trapped his ex-girlfriend in her car and fired over 30 shots, killing Seegobin and later himself. "Why her?" friends questioned. "It could have been me."

Program hostess Marci Washington presented statistics of assault and domestic violence, saying that 1 in 3 women nationally are attacked by a partner. Every 9 seconds, a woman is being abused. Less than 39% of assaults are reported, and in Broward County, 184 women died from domestic violence in 2004.

"If you or someone you know is a victim, and is a student at NSU, I urge you to tell them to take back their lives. Together we can take back the night," said Dr. Gay Holiday, the Associate Dean of Students Affairs. She stated that while incidents occur both on campus and in the community, she said that fear, shame, guilt and embarrassment



The shirts of Project Clothesline on display

are reasons why these crimes go unreported.

Purple ribbons were given to event attendees in acknowledgement of domestic violence awareness. A pledge to never raise their hands in violence was also signed.

An open microphone allowed for survivors to tell their stories of abuse. One by one, they rose and shared their tales with the crowd, remembering feelings of helplessness and fear.

The night ended with a candle light vigil led by Sami Ray, president of Gay/Straight Student Alliance, and Josh Wentz, Operations Coordinator of the Student Union.

Graphic T-shirts were hung for the Clothesline Project. White shirts represented deaths, purple represented violence, black symbolized violence in politics, blue and green meant incest and yellow and red symbolized the survivors. The shirts will be hung in the Alvin Sherman Library until Jan. 30.

Take Back the night is an event to bring awareness about assault and domestic violence. The program began in 1877 when women in England protested the fear and violence that they felt when walking the streets at night. In 1978, protestors from California used the phrase after an anti-pornography conference where people affected by pornography could speak out about it.



The program closed with a candlelight vigil in memory of domestic abuse victims. Photos by Kristine Belizaire

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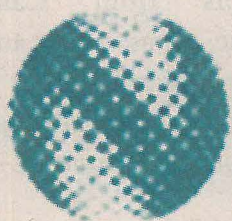
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Bizarre Briefs

Compiled by Greg Kyriakakis

Woman Aims to Lessen Enormous National Debt

A deceased Ohio woman wanting to do her civic duty has left the federal government her \$1.1 million estate in hopes of paying down the \$8.1 trillion US national debt. The Associated Press reported that Margaret Taylor, who had no immediate family living, found it fitting to give the government her money rather than donating it to the needy, or perhaps a charity. Although Taylor's lawyer advised against the donation, the 98 year-old Democrat did what she thought to be her part in reducing the deficit. Other confused citizens donated a total of \$1.5 million toward the debt last year.

Another Way to Cure Hiccups

In Colombia, a man with hiccups was shot to death in an attempt by his uncle to scare him. Rafael Vargas thought pointing a gun at his hiccupping nephew David Galvan would cause for a good fright, but got more than he bargained for when it accidentally fired. According to Reuters, the two men were drinking but "were aware if what was going on." Vargas cured Galvan's hiccups the hard way and then took his own life after realizing what he had done.

Glowing Dollars Plague Kazakhstan

"Radioactive dollars" are on the loose in Kazakhstan. About \$4,000 of US currency being circulated in that country has levels of radiation that are 100 times the normal level. Reuters reported that in November a Kazakh citizen brought them into the country. The Kazakh central bank is urging banks and the exchange bureau to find the tainted money based on their serial numbers or how brightly they glow.

Broncos Fan Mocked by Teacher

Wearing a Denver Broncos jersey during class sent a Beaver Falls, PA, student to sit on the floor to take his ethnicity class midterm exam, according to an Associated Press report. Not content with his punishment, teacher John Kelly then instructed students to throw crumpled paper at Joshua Vannoy while calling the student a "stinking Denver fan." Kelly insisted that the "silly fun" incident was done to intentionally make the boy uncomfortable as part of a lesson. "That's what (the class) is designed to do," he said. Vannoy was having so much fun that he left 20 of the 60 test questions blank and walk out of class.

Pentagon Accused of Monitoring College Groups

By Michael Walek

The Daily Free Press (Boston U.)

(U-WIRE) BOSTON - Reports surfaced in December that student groups expressing anti-war views and joining protests at the University of California at Santa Cruz and other colleges suspected the Pentagon was monitoring them. Because of this, many student groups around the country have been wondering if they could be targets as well.

Boston University has about 400 student organizations, but none that "have organizations formed for an anti-war purpose," according to Student Activities Office Director Carolyn Norris.

While some clubs may express liberal or anti-war views, many also have other activities or beliefs.

"Most of the BU students are socially liberal," College Democrats vice president Megan Jacobs said.

"I don't believe any of us supported going into the war in Iraq," the College of Arts and Sciences senior continued. "I don't

worry about it personally. I do worry about it in the broader sense of civil liberties violation."

Jacobs said the College Democrats would not change their agenda or actions if they found out they were being monitored.

BU is not one of the universities the Pentagon was allegedly collecting information from, according to Norris, who has been SAO Director for almost five years.

"We have not had a problem with any organization protesting the government or government policies in the time that I have been here," she said.

BU spokesman Colin Riley said he is unaware of any student groups at the university that have been monitored by the government.

Please See GROUPS
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News from Around the World

Compiled by Paul Saneaux

Asia

South Korea investigates stem cell trials

According to BBC News, the South Korean government said on Jan. 23 that it is examining allegations that "abuses took place during clinical trials for stem cell treatments, which critics say exposed desperate patients to unacceptable risks." Previously, the South Korean government had no involvement in stem cell research, but it was found that Hwang Woo-suk, the cloning pioneer, had "fabricated research for his claimed breakthrough on cloned stem cells." After numerous complaints of complications from patients after treatments, Professor Lee Sang-ho of the Biotechnology School at Korea University said that "painstaking research on animal models should have been conducted before rushing to clinical trials." Sang-ho also said patients should not have paid for what was supposed to be "emergency trials." The government's initial support and praise of Woo-suk has also come under scrutiny after accusations of research fraud were confirmed. *For more information visit www.news.bbc.co.uk.*

South America

Venezuela and McCain trade insults

In an interview on Fox News on Jan. 22, Republican Senator John McCain commented on the U.S. reliance on foreign oil saying, "We better understand the vulnerabilities that our economy and our very lives have... when we're dependant on Iranian mullahs and wackos in Venezuela." Reuters reported that Venezuelan Vice President Jose Vicente Rangel returned the statement that McCain "can go to hell." The relationship between Venezuela and the U.S. had deteriorated since President Hugo Chavez's inauguration in 1998. Critics believe the unstable ties may threaten the 15 percent of the U.S.'s energy imports from the South American country. U.S. officials also say "they worry Chavez has become a destabilizing influence by interfering in the politics of his South American neighbors." *For more information visit www.today.reuters.com.*

Africa

Deaths confirmed in Nairobi building collapse

Over 11 people have been confirmed dead and numerous others have been injured after a four-story building collapsed in the Kenyan capital of Nairobi, reported the Agence France-Presse. The building, which was under construction, was believed to have collapsed due to "poor building standards," said Kenyan Housing Minister Soita Shitanda and Police Inspector Matthew Limo. Shitanda also suggested the "owners had either ignored or flouted accepted construction standards." A spokesman of the Kenyatta hospital told the AFP that they had initially "received around 75 patients, most of them with chest, limb, and head injuries. Rescue workers also reported communicating with survivors trapped in the building's basement as of press time. William Njaramba, a rescued worker who suffered broken arms, said he believed "the problem that caused this collapse was the speed at which [workers] were doing [their] work." *For more information visit www.abc.net.au/news.*

North America

Alito close to possible Senate confirmation

The Associated Press reported on Jan. 24 that "the Judiciary Committee favorably recommended Samuel Alito's Supreme Court nomination to the full Senate on a party-line vote." It is believed that Alito's confirmation would come earlier because "all ten Republicans voted for Alito, while all eight Democrats voted against him." Fifteen of the 18 Senators also reportedly announced their vote before the committee's session began. Additionally, the Republicans hold power in the Senate number 55 against the Democrat's 44, and one independent. Utah Republican Senator Orrin Hatch echoed the thoughts of fellow Republicans, saying "Judge Alito clearly believes in self-government, that the people and not the judges should make the laws and that judges have an important role but must know and stay in their proper place." Democrats fear that Alito will be instrumental in overturning significant cases like Roe vs. Wade. *For more information visit www.msnbc.msn.com.*

Europe

Train crash in Montenegro kills over 44 passengers.

A train heading to the coastal town of Bar from Bijelo Polje in Montenegro derailed last Monday, Jan. 23, killing over 44 people and injuring more than 200 others as of press time. Reuters reported that rescue workers searched throughout the day and night for bodies stuck in the wreckage or tossed into the surrounding woodland and 330-foot deep ravine. According to initial reports by Montenegrin transportation officials, the cause of the derailment after the train exited a tunnel above the Moraca River was faulty brakes. Police also arrested the driver under suspicion of negligence. A makeshift tent was set up at the Podgorica hospital to identify the dead. Prime Minister Milo Djukanovik said the rescue workers had "reacted as well as could be expected in harsh and inaccessible terrain." The inhospitable area dampened rescue efforts and claimed the lives of many injured passengers. "I lost my whole life in this tragedy," wept Radomir Cobarkapa, whose wife and son were killed and two other children

Can Facebook Lead to Your Arrest?

By Stephanie Perry

The Daily Free Press (Boston U.)

(U-WIRE) BOSTON - Students may find that incriminating photos of themselves on facebook.com leading to less desirable photos -- police mug shots -- as police departments and university authorities across the country increasingly use the popular website to identify and prosecute students who have broken the law.

At several schools, students have faced disciplinary action because their posted messages and photos reveal their participation in illegal activities.

Photo tags in an album titled "I rushed the field after the OSU game and lived" helped Pennsylvania State University campus police find students involved in a recent post-game victory riot.

Facebook.com, a vastly popular online social network for college students, is one of many methods that the Penn State University Police are using to identify and prosecute fans who rushed the field after the Oct. 8 Ohio State game, said University Police Assistant Director Tyrone Parham.

"We are doing as much as we can to identify people who violated the law," Parham said. "Facebook is a method we are using, but it's one of many -- some pictures are on people's personal Web pages and there are cameras inside the stadium that can zoom in pretty well."

Investigators are turning to the pictures posted in online photo albums, video footage from the field and member groups from Facebook to identify as many fans as possible, Parham said.

Emilie Romero, OSU junior, said a university police officer called her Nov. 1 and said he had identified her as a student who had rushed the field after the Ohio State game from her photos on her Webshots, an online photo album she maintains.

Romero said she posted a photo on her Webshots that clearly showed her on the field after the Ohio State game.

"I didn't know they could do that," she said. "This really scares me."

Romero said she has not been officially charged with anything, but she was told she could face up to two years in jail, up to \$2,000 in fines and sanctions from the university's Office of Judicial Affairs.

These tactics, she learned, are

perfectly legal.

Groups such as "I rushed the field after the OSU game (and lived!)" are acting as "laundry lists of suspects" for the police to interview, said Communications and Law Professor Clay Calvert, who is a co-director for the Pennsylvania Center for the First Amendment.

"If it's accessible to the public, it's fair game," Calvert said. "People have expectations of privacy in cyberspace that don't exist."

Posting a declaration on Facebook.com or any other personal page is the equivalent of hanging a sign outside the Willard Building, telecommunications professor Matthew Jackson said. Police have just as much legal right to view that sign as they do a public access Web site, he said.

In addition to joining a facebook.com group that links a student with illegal activities, students can also find themselves under investigation for posting defamatory political comments.

According to The Oklahoma Daily, Saul Martinez, a student at Oklahoma University last March, was questioned by a Secret Service agent for a comment he posted on the "Bush sucks" group on Facebook. The comment that prompted the investigation involved a plan to collect money to hire an assassin and to replace the President with a monkey.

At Northern Kentucky University, students have been disciplined for underage drinking in their dorms after photos of the incidents were posted on Facebook. NKU Dean of Students Kent Kelso said the administration at NKU looked into the Facebook photos as evidence of students' misdeeds after being tipped off by another source. When the administration followed up on the accusation, they found the Facebook photos that led them to the students involved in the illegal activity.

With incriminating photos and physical evidence in students' dorm rooms, Kelso said the students confessed to their actions.

"Facebook gave us the people. It made it kind of easy, you have an obligation to follow up [on an anonymous tip]" he said, adding that Facebook was only a tool in the normal investigative process.

"I don't have any staff that are spending their time on Facebook,"

Kelso said. However, "using the internet to pursue judicial cases isn't new. Facebook just makes it a heck of a lot easier."

Kelso said that in the past, when students had been victimized or harassed by other students, internet postings have provided key evidence in proceedings.

He added that Facebook and other internet sites are useful for perceiving not only student drinking but also cases involving possible drug use, violence or suicide.

Shawn McGuirk, director of judicial affairs for Fitchburg State College, said in an email that "generally speaking, administrators use Facebook for a number of reasons. Some believe that it's a good way to connect with students. Others use it to stay in touch with friends and colleagues. Some just think it's a fun thing to utilize."

When used by judicial administrators, McGuirk said they "will use it indirectly as part of their judicial process ... I have heard more often than not that a judicial administrator will

access Facebook when they have been informed that an egregious violation of policy is evident on the site. I have not often heard that professionals will use it to snoop around."

McGuirk adds, however, that "all you need to access Facebook is a .edu email."

McGuirk said he knows alumni from various schools with .edu email addresses, and when looking for potential employees, "they will sometimes review Facebook as part of a hiring process."

According to McGuirk, as far he knows, such practices are legal.

"Facebook is not a secure site, but a person can adjust his/her privacy settings," he said. "Most students do not do this. I think in general people need to better understand that the information they post on Facebook, as well as other sites, can be viewed by hundreds of people if they don't adjust their setting properly."

"If you're going to put info or pictures on [Facebook] that violate policy ... you have to be prepared to be questioned about it in the very least," he added.

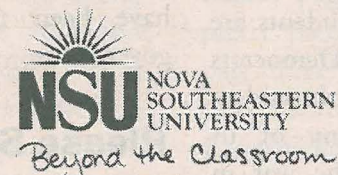
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NSU Women's Softball Team: Young and Talented

By Alicia Winslett
Sports Editor

"I'm excited about this year, we've already been having fun," said Head Coach Lisa Bonee of the women's softball team. This season starts up with a game on Feb. 11 at 5 p.m. at home against Northwood University.

With ten new players this season, Bonee said that, "we

tried to get some depth this year. We have more versatility than anything, and that's good for a team."

Newcomers to the team include freshmen Nelly Mesa and Valen Eberhard, who Bonee had nothing but positive things to say about. "Nelly has strong fundamentals, and Val is going to anchor shortstop. All of our freshmen come from strong backgrounds." The softball team also returns pitchers Shannon Lynch and Laura Cepicky, and makes the addition of transfer Adrian Tuttle.

Coach Bonee is working her team extra hard for this season. "We've hit the weight room hard in the fall. This is the leanest team I've had," she commented, adding that the team works on lifting, speed, and strength



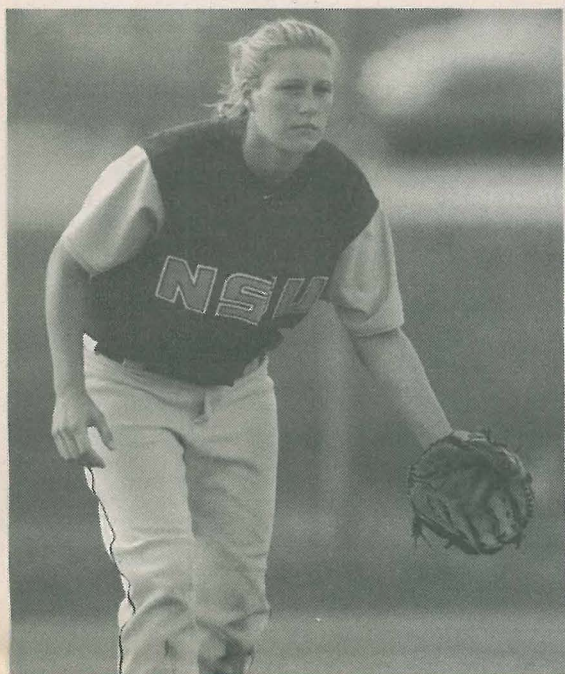
Angela Martinez with steady eye coordination strikes on right out of the ballpark.

work, and does yoga three times a week.

This season, the women's softball team will have 12 to 15 regional games, many of them at home. The team will also have three tournaments where they play two or three games against their opponent. Last year, the team was 25-29 and 9-15 in

regional games, which made them tenth in the conference

"I'm very pleased because we've already had one of our best fall seasons," said Bonee. This spring season we will have fun and we will be fun to watch. I know we're talented, and we have great team unity."



Ashley Matthews waiting for the ball. Photos by Gary Curreri

NSU Cheerleaders Compete in the 2006 College Cheerleading and Dance Team National Championships

By Alicia Winslett
Sports Editor

The 2006 College Cheerleading and Dance Team National Championships marked the first time that NSU's cheerleading squad has competed on a national level. "Each year, our squad sets approachable goals for supporting our athletic programs and competing at the national level," said Head Coach CA Tolchinsky. "Also, through hard work and endless dedication, we prepare to achieve our highest goal - to be a strong competitor at nationals." Which is exactly what the cheerleading squad did this year.

There were a lot of steps leading up to nationals, because the team had to be selected to compete. "First we attended UCA, the summer camp in Clearwater in August. The team had to qualify in the summer camp to keep going. Plus, we had to submit a video of the school showing fans, the school, [and]

the student population at various events so we cheered at soccer games, basketball games, and at the pep rally where our new mascot was revealed. We also had to submit transcripts to show our academics, and how we're involved in community service such as World Aids Day and Kids in Distress," said Tolchinsky, adding that a video of stunts had to be submitted so that anything illegal could be identified and changed before the competition.

The team works together rather than individually. "To prepare for nationals takes a very dedicated group of cheerleaders that have a pure love for what they do," said Tolchinsky. "Regardless of our busy schedule supporting our athletic teams, we always find time to practice." Tolchinsky, who is in her third year of coaching cheerleading at NSU, said that the team puts in about twelve hours of practice each week at Flairs Gymnastics. To get ready for nationals they also put in extra

practice hours on Sundays whenever they had time in between games, workouts, and academics, and in October they hired a choreographer to put together their routine.

Once the team was chosen, they competed against all Division II schools. They were not only judged on their choreography, but also on the video they sent in of their performances at all the games at NSU.

Although the team didn't make it to the finals, Tolchinsky



was optimistic. "I was very pleased with how the girls competed this year; it was really big for us to be at nationals."

Men's Basketball Team Dominate University of Tampa; Women's Team Takes Unfortunate Loss

By Nelly Mesa
Staff Writer

BCC's George Mayer Gymnasium roared with hundreds of wild NSU basketball fans as the men and women's basketball team took on conference rivals, University of Tampa in a double header on Saturday, January 21.

Student's jumped up and down with cardboard shark fins attached

to their backs, holding signs and banners rooting the Sharks on, while cheering throughout the game. The NSU men's team (11-4, 5-1 SSC) fed off the crowd's energy from the very beginning as they ended the game in complete domination, 71-44. Freshman point guard Rhys Martin displayed yet another dazzling performance as he put up the game high of

21 points. Martin is averaging 16 points a game in conference play. The Sharks are ranked 2nd in the Sunshine State Conference, just behind Lynn University (6-0 SSC). With this win, the men's team is now ranked 2nd in the NCAA Division II South Region, following Montevallo University, who is ranked 1st in the nation.
NSU women's basketball team

(10-7, 3-3 SSC) struggled against the Tampa Spartans, and after a 6 game winning streak on their home court, they were defeated 55-47. The loss was huge for the women as it put them down in the SSC ranking. The Lady Sharks are now ranked 4th in the SSC, behind Rollins, Tampa and Florida Tech.

NSU's Sports Stats for the Week

Men's Basketball

SSC STANDINGS						
	SSC				OVERALL	
	W	L	PCT		W	L PCT
Lynn	6	0	1.000		14	3 .824
Nova Southeastern	5	1	.833		11	4 .733
Rollins	5	2	.714		11	5 .688
Eckerd	4	2	.667		14	3 .824
Tampa	3	3	.500		12	5 .706
Florida Southern	2	4	.333		11	6 .647
Barry	2	4	.333		9	7 .563
Saint Leo	1	6	.143		5	13 .278
Florida Tech	0	6	.000		3	13 .188

FREE THROW PERCENTAGES

# Team	G	FTM	FTA	Pct
1.Lynn.....	17	255	339	.752
2.Eckerd.....	17	304	412	.738
3.NSU.....	15	239	338	.707

FIELD GOAL PERCENTAGES

# Team	G	FG	FGA	Pct
1.Lynn.....	17	473	999	.473
2.Rollins.....	16	410	871	.471
3.NSU.....	15	382	822	.465

3-POINT FIELD GOAL PERCENTAGES

# Team	G	FG	FGA	Pct
1.Lynn.....	17	122	308	.396
2.Eckerd.....	17	102	267	.382
3.St. Leo.....	18	174	469	.371
4.NSU.....	15	91	248	.367

STANDINGS	CONFERENCE				OVERALL				WINNING STREAK	
	W-L	Pct	PF	PA	W-L	Pct	PF	PA	Team	NO.
Lynn.....	6-0	1.000	75.0	66.5	14-3	.824	77.8	64.4	Lynn	6
Nova Southeastern...	5-1	.833	77.8	69.5	11-4	.733	72.9	69.0	Nova Southeastern	5
Rollins.....	5-2	.714	72.1	63.7	11-5	.688	71.3	65.1	Eckerd	2
Eckerd.....	4-2	.667	70.3	63.2	14-3	.824	76.6	62.6	Rollins	2
Tampa.....	3-3	.500	60.3	62.2	12-5	.706	76.5	63.3		
Fla. Southern.....	2-4	.333	63.2	69.8	11-6	.647	74.2	67.8		
Barry.....	2-4	.333	68.5	66.8	9-7	.563	69.0	62.1		
St. Leo.....	1-6	.143	71.9	79.9	5-13	.278	77.1	81.0		
Florida Tech.....	0-6	.000	60.0	77.7	3-13	.188	70.7	83.5		

Women's Basketball

SSC STANDINGS						
	SSC				OVERALL	
	W	L	PCT		W	L PCT
Rollins	7	0	1.000		15	0 1.000
Tampa	4	2	.667		12	5 .706
Florida Tech	4	2	.667		10	7 .588
Nova Southeastern	3	3	.500		10	7 .588
Lynn	3	3	.500		8	8 .500
Saint Leo	3	4	.429		6	11 .353
Florida Southern	2	4	.333		6	11 .353
Barry	1	5	.167		4	13 .235
Eckerd	1	5	.167		3	14 .176

SCORING DEFENSE

# Team	G	Pts	Avg/G
1.Rollins.....	15	776	51.7
2.Tampa.....	17	924	54.4
3.Florida Tech.....	17	959	56.4
4.NSU.....	17	1036	60.9

FREE THROW PERCENTAGES

# Team	G	FTM	FTA	Pct
1.NSU.....	17	227	304	.747
2.Tampa.....	17	252	362	.696
3.Lynn.....	16	267	393	.679

3-POINT FIELD GOAL PCT DEFENSE

# Team	G	FG	FGA	Pct
1.NSU.....	17	60	249	.241
2.Florida Tech.....	17	54	224	.241
3.Rollins.....	15	63	243	.259

STANDINGS	CONFERENCE				OVERALL			
	W-L	Pct	PF	PA	W-L	Pct	PF	PA
Rollins.....	7-0	1.000	73.3	55.0	15-0	1.000	75.3	51.7
Tampa.....	4-2	.667	61.8	57.2	12-5	.706	66.5	54.4
Florida Tech.....	4-2	.667	63.3	59.7	10-7	.588	64.0	56.4
Nova Southeastern...	3-3	.500	61.5	60.0	10-7	.588	61.5	60.9
Lynn.....	3-3	.500	65.7	66.5	8-8	.500	65.3	65.8
St. Leo.....	3-4	.429	61.7	65.4	6-11	.353	64.4	62.6
Fla. Southern.....	2-4	.333	54.7	59.3	6-11	.353	57.0	61.1
Barry.....	1-5	.167	53.2	63.7	4-13	.235	56.6	64.5
Eckerd.....	1-5	.167	55.8	66.7	3-14	.176	62.1	70.2



Andrea Martin looks inside to dish the ball. Photo by J.C. Ridley

Men’s and Women’s Basketball Team Took Wins Against Saint Leo University

By Nelly Mesa
Staff Writer

NSU men’s basketball team (10-4, 4-1 SSC) stole another conference win while on the road on January 18 vs. St. Leo 87-85, after being pressured into overtime for the 2nd time this season. Freshman Point Guard Rhys Martin had 20 points, 10 of which he scored in overtime alone. Senior forward CJ Jenkins played with intense enthusiasm, putting up 19 points before he was fouled out

towards the end of the second half. Senior guard Luis Gurrieres scored 11 while freshman forward Tim Coenraad had 26 points of his own.

NSU’s women’s basketball team (10-6, 3-2 SSC) put St. Leo away in what started as a blow out and ended in a close game, 72-70. Senior point guard Missy Guadagnino had an outstanding game scoring 23 points. Guadagnino, along with sophomore forward Amber Bishko, are both averaging 12 points a game in the conference play.

UPCOMING GAMES

Women’s Basketball

Date	Day	Time	Opponent	Site
1/25/06	Wednesday	5:30 p.m.	Florida Southern College	Away: Lakeland, FL
1/28/06	Saturday	2 p.m.	Rollins College	Away: Winter Park, FL
2/1/06	Wednesday	5:30 p.m.	Lynn University	Home
2/4/06	Saturday	5:30 p.m.	Florida Tech	Home
2/8/06	Wednesday	7:30 p.m.	Florida Southern College	Home

Women’s Golf

2/4/06	Saturday	Kiawah Island Women’s Intercollegiate	Kiawah Island, SC
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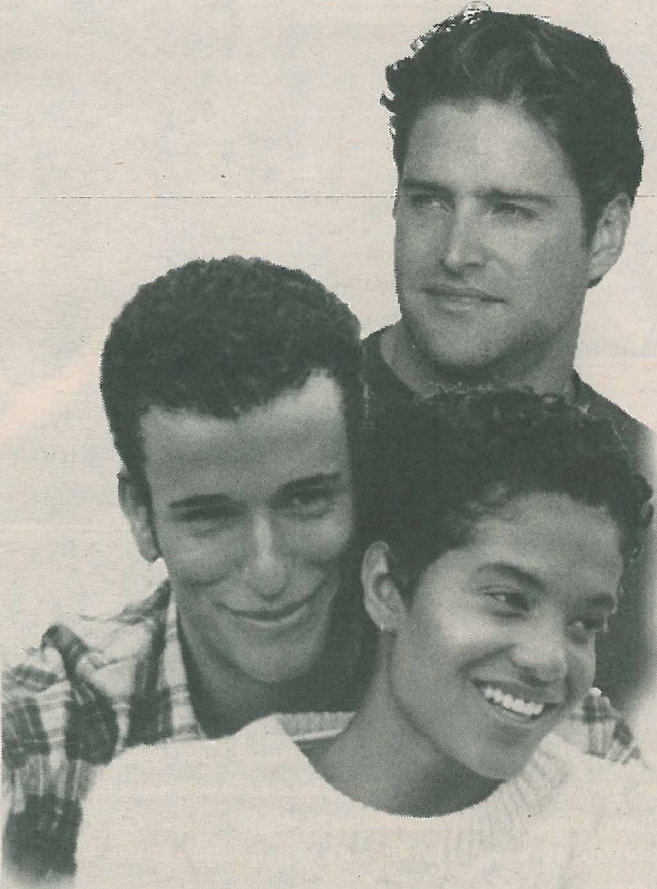
Men’s Basketball

Date	Day	Time	Opponent	Site
1/25/06	Wednesday	7:30 p.m.	Florida Southern College	Away: Lakeland, FL
1/28/06	Saturday	4 p.m.	Rollins College	Away: Winter Park, FL
1/30/06	Monday	7:30 p.m.	University of West Florida	Home
2/1/06	Wednesday	7:30 p.m.	Lynn University	Home

Men’s Baseball

Date	Day	Time	Opponent	Site
2/2/06	Thursday	6 p.m.	Lynn University	Home
2/3/06	Friday	6 p.m.	Presbyterian College	Home
2/4/06	Saturday	3:30 p.m.	Palm Beach Atlantic University	Home
2/5/06	Sunday	12 p.m.	Presbyterian College	Home

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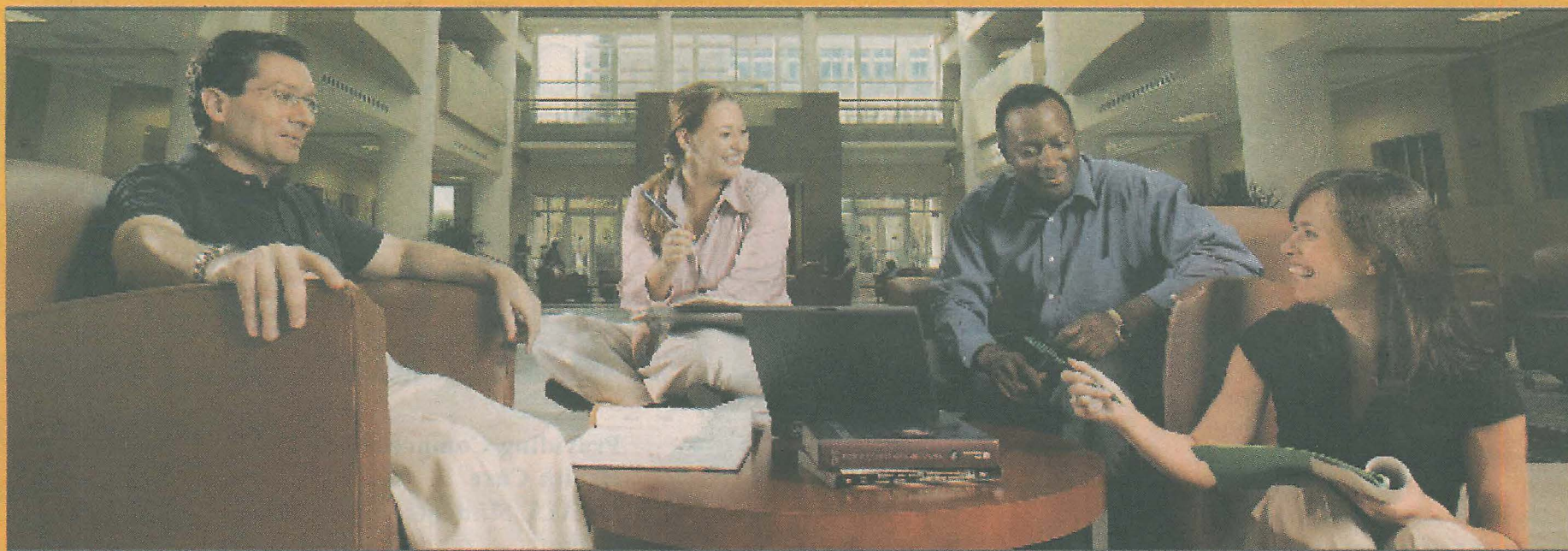
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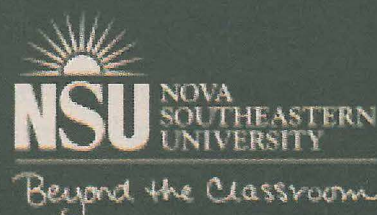
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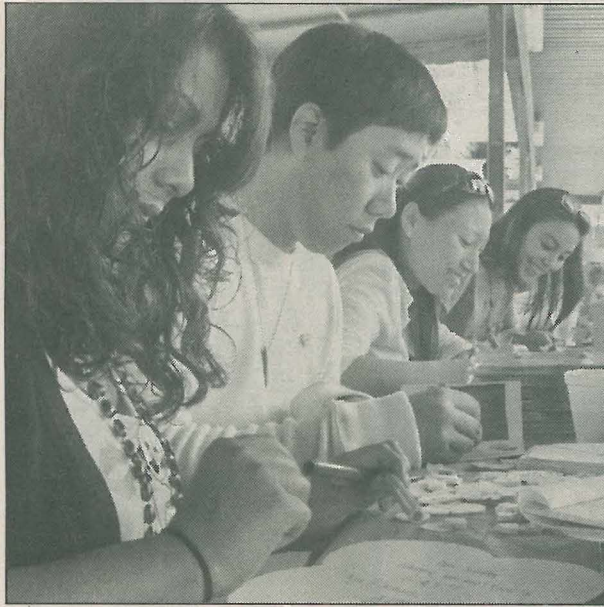


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Current Affairs

PAGE 10



Above: Members of APO decorate Valentines for troops. **Right:** APO members in front of Parker helped passing students create cards for overseas troops. Photos by Greg Kyriakakis

Students Send Valentine Wishes to Troops

By Greg Kyriakakis
Current Affairs Editor

"Happy Valentine's Day and Be Safe" read the card that Alpha Phi Omega member Arpit Patel prepared for a soldier serving in Iraq. The service fraternity, stationed at various campus locations from Jan. 23-26, was encouraging passing students to sign one of about 1500 Valentine's greetings for US troops.

Ann Hoang, Service Vice President of APO, said that the event serves two worthy purposes; bringing NSU students together and aiding troop morale. "The soldiers really appreciate [the cards]... it's a nice opportunity to

show them our love and thanks on Valentine's. It's also great to bring the NSU community together," explained Hoang.

During each day of signings, about four to five APO members occupied a table adorned with Valentine decorations. "We've had a really good turn out," said APO member Rob Keever. "The soldiers know they have people out there caring for them."

Students like Daven Sawh, who signed a card for troops, were happy to send their regards. "I think it's a great idea," said Sawh, a senior at NSU. He thought that those in combat without family would especially appreciate the

cards. Sawh viewed the event as "good for [troop] morale" while stationed away from home.

The four day event, which featured refreshments, allowed participants to write a message and decorate a Valentine's card. APO, a co-ed fraternity, was stationed in front of the Parker Building for the first three days of their effort, and a table was established in the library quad as part of Quad Thursday on the final day. The fraternity had a similar drive last semester when they sent cards to troops overseas during the holiday season.

Annual Love Jen Family Festival to be Held on February 4

By Kristine Belizaire
Distribution Manager

With carnival rides, games and food, NSU will host the 15th annual Love Jen Family Festival in memory of Jennifer Masi, who passed way from cancer at 14.

The festival, hosted by the

Mailman Segal Institute for Early Childhood Studies, is not only a carnival, but a fundraiser which has raised over \$1 million for the Love Jen Fund. The fund provides money for support services for the families of children dealing with cancer at Joe DiMaggio Children's

Hospital.

With over 200 volunteers, all of the proceeds will go to charity. Everyone is encouraged to come out and support the event on February 4 from 10 a.m. to 5p.m.

Nova Southeastern University Student Medical Center Question and Answer Corner

Let's talk about...

Herpes

What is genital herpes?

Genital herpes can be caused by one of two herpes viruses, herpes simplex virus type 1 (HSV-1) and herpes simplex virus type 2 (HSV-2). HSV-1 commonly causes infections of the lips or mouth, otherwise known as "fever blisters," but can also cause infection of the genital area by genital-genital contact or oral-genital contact with a person who has these "fever blisters." HSV-2 is most commonly spread by direct sexual contact with someone who has genital HSV-2. But remember, you can get herpes from an infected partner who does not have a visible sore.

So how is herpes spread if there is no visible sore?

The herpes virus goes through stages once it enters your body. The initial phase is usually associated with small painful blisters which can break easily and become small open sores. Many times the blisters are not noticeable and patients complain of a small abrasion or itch in the genital area. Females often think they are having a urinary tract infection because the open sores can cause burning with urination. Some patients have no symptoms at all. During the second stage the virus travels from your skin to the nerves near your spine. The virus then enters the third stage and it starts multiplying and it can enter body fluids. There can be no visible sores during this shedding stage, however, the virus is easily spread.

Is there a safe time to have sex and not spread the virus?

NO. As written above, the virus can be spread even without an active lesion. However, you should avoid having sex when you have visible sores because the virus spreads *more* easily during these times. Use of latex condoms can reduce the risk of spread if used consistently and correctly. Condom use cannot guarantee protection because it may not cover all infected areas.

What are the treatment options?

There is no cure as of yet for the herpes virus, but there is medication to shorten and even prevent the outbreaks. Oral antiviral medications are prescribed routinely for patients infected with the virus.

If you have any further questions regarding herpes or suggestions for upcoming issues please email : Dr. Sandi Scott-Holman at Sandi@nova.edu.

GROUPS

Continued from page 5

If the government wanted any information about the student groups, the university would have to hand over any information, according to Riley.

"We would require a lawfully issued subpoena," he said.

"Our students do a wonderful job of recognizing that peaceful

protest is understood and welcome," Riley continued, "but anything that would threaten or harm people and property is unwelcome."

Norris said because of the student body's diversity, it is impossible to generalize the school as politically liberal.

"BU is very diverse," she said.

"We have students from all over the world and country. We have 400 student groups, and one of the things that is good is that the groups represent a lot of ideologies and cultures, and I wouldn't put BU students into any category."

P.O.D Mixes Up Their Sound on *Testify*

By **Marines Alvarez**
A&E Editor

San Diego rockers P.O.D are back with their latest offering, a mix of hard rock, reggae, rap and hip-hop that translates to a strange assault on the ears. Finding decent success with their 2001 release *Satellite* and the following *Payable on Death*, P.O.D has had a hard time finding their mainstream footing.

Since *Satellite*, the band lost their original guitarist and acquired replacement Jason Truby with mixed results. Another change comes in the form of acclaimed producer Glen Ballard, who gives the album a big sound and makes it a more radio-friendly experience. Despite all the different sounds they try, the mixed bag feel of *Testify* still falls short of excellence.

The album starts with reggae rock anthem "Roots in Stereo," which is a sad example of what goes wrong with this album. The song boasts cheesy lyrics, and would've probably been better buried away in the middle of the album. "This Time" and "If You Could See Me Now" are lyrically the best songs, while "Goodbye For Now" (their strange but infectious first single)

displays some of the strained rhymes that sometimes plague this album.

Guest artists on *Testify* include Hasidic rapper Matisyahu and hip-hop legends Boo-Yaa T.R.I.B.E. Though the idea is to add flavor and mix up several tracks, it makes it seem as though P.O.D is a guest on their own album, particularly on the track "The Grind."

Musically, the band is at its best when it embraces its hard rock roots and thoughtful lyrics. This is exemplified on arguably the strongest track off the album, "This Time" and the reflective "Let You Down."

It's clear that *Testify* is not P.O.D's best. The reggae peppered throughout the album doesn't mix as well as it should, and at the core, P.O.D is at home with its rock-rap recipes. What is there to like here? Precious little, but oddly it is enough. Fans of P.O.D. (Warriors, as they are sometimes called) will find that they have not completely fizzled out. *Testify*, if nothing else, is something to be admired, as the boys of this band are brave enough to experiment with sound. It's just a little sad that they fail once or twice throughout the album. Clearly, though, this is not the end of P.O.D.

Movie Review

Little Red Decieves Moviegoers

By **Kristine Belizaire & Marines Alvarez**
Current Staff

It seems that these days, the fairy tales of yonder year no longer do the trick. Hollywood seems intent on pumping sarcasm, extreme sports and pop culture references into classic fables and tales in search of moviegoers' money. The latest story to get a Hollywood shot of adrenaline is Little Red Riding Hood in Weinstein Company's *Hoodwinked*.

In this *Roshomon* style re-telling of Little Red, we start at the end. Chief Grizzly (Xzibit) and Detective Stork (Anthony Anderson) are called in to investigate a domestic disturbance. Although you may think you know what happened, *Hoodwinked* shows the events through the point of view of the four main suspects: Little Red, Granny, the Woodsman and the Wolf. Through the series of flashbacks we learn that all is not what it seems to be, for Granny leads a double life as a snowboarder, Little Red is a black belt and the Woodsman is actually an



Hoodwinked's version of Granny (Glenn Close) is more into extreme sports than knitting.

aspiring actor. The confrontation at Grandma Puckett's house we know and love is just the beginning as it gives way to an investigation of stolen goodies and the much talked about and elusive "Goody Thief."

Hoodwinked finds just enough jokes to make the movie passable, though it may not be everyone's cup of tea (or basket of goodies, as the case may be.) Glenn Close (Grandma Puckett) saying things like "fo' shizzle"

Please See RED
Page 12

Showbiz Bits

By **Marines Alvarez**
A&E Editor

Even Hobbits Need Some Loving

Lost star Dominic Monaghan is living proof that every dog has his day and every hobbit has his incredibly gorgeous fiancée. Or something like that. Britain's *Sunday Mirror* is reporting that Monaghan proposed to his costar and girlfriend Evangeline Lily in Hawaii. The couple is reportedly planning to visit Dominic's family and share the news. It's a dream come true for Monaghan and anyone who knows him, but I can't help but wonder what Evangeline is thinking. Hello? Is she not watching the same show I am? You're on a island with Josh Holloway and Matthew Fox, and you're walking away with the Hobbit? They weren't kidding about those island mysteries, were they.



You Can Call Me Jesus Khryst

The new issue of *Rolling Stone* features none other than Kanye West on the cover. And if you're wondering what great ensemble he's wearing or what "bling bling" he's rocking, get ready to be amazed because apparently, Kanye West thinks he's Jesus. In the article he says, "In America, they want you to accomplish these great feats, to pull off these David Copperfield-type stunts... You want me to be great, but you don't ever want me to say

I'm great?" You know what? He is so right. We great people have a right to say so. When you are great, like me and Kanye, you just have to say it all the time! In other news, though, don't be surprised if crown. of thorns and potato sacks become all the rage. Seriously, you heard it here first.

The Cocaine Chronicles

Page Six is reporting that Kate Moss is agreeing to write an autobiography. Hold your shock. Pretty people can write too. The book will tell her side of the scandal surrounding the pictures of her snorting cocaine. I don't know how much there is to explain when the pictures feature her, the cocaine and her... well, you know the rest. Apparently, Richard Branson of Virgin Books thought there was a story there and offered the supermodel two million dollars to write her little heart out. And, by the way, if the super skinny supermodel decides to use the above title, I expect a check in the mail.

Brangelina is Having a...HeShe

Either that or there is a universal plot to mess with our heads. I don't know why everyone is so interested in this new baby. Maybe it's because it has the possibility of being the perfect human specimen. Maybe because babies from people like Katie Holmes and Tom Cruise scare us. Maybe because we are all secretly hoping that God has a sense of humor and that the baby will actually be horribly ugly. No matter, it isn't like we know anything about the new baby. *US Weekly* is reporting that it will be a girl. *Life & Style* is reporting that it will be a boy. So what have we learned? The baby will either be a boy or a girl. Or, if they wanted to be very interesting and put their millions of dollars into action, they could inject the baby with DNA from a panda bear, or something equally cute, and have a great hybrid baby.

This Week in Arts & Entertainment

Movie Openings

February 3



When a Stranger Calls

Starring: Camilla Belle, Brian Geraghty

Director: Simon West

Genre: Horror, Thriller

MPAA Rating: PG-13

While babysitting, a high school student is terrorized by a stranger who calls her, asking "have you checked the children lately?" The police eventually notify her the calls are coming from inside the house.

Something New

Starring: Sanaa Lathan, Simon Baker, Mike Epps

Director: Sanaa Hamri

Genre: Comedy, Drama, Romance

MPAA Rating: PG-13

If love is an adventure, it's one yet to be embarked upon by Kenya Denise McQueen (Lathan). A beautiful L.A. career woman, Kenya works as a senior manager at a prestigious accounting firm, and is on the verge of making partner. But she has yet to find her own partner and a fulfilling personal life. After another Valentine's Day spent working late, Kenya agrees to a blind date with Brian Kelly (Baker), a sexy and free-spirited landscape architect who turns out to be not exactly what she'd pictured for herself. Then again, she does need the yard of her new house fixed up...

Album Releases

Available January 31

For Me It's You by Train

She Wants Revenge by She Wants Revenge

In my Mind by Heather Headley



Book Releases

Available January 31

Gone by Lisa Gardner

When someone you love vanishes without a trace, how far would you go to get them back? For ex-FBI profiler Pierce Quincy, it's the beginning of his worst nightmare: a car abandoned on a desolate stretch of Oregon highway, engine running, purse on the driver's seat, and his estranged wife, Rainie Conner, gone, leaving no clue to her fate. Together with his daughter, FBI agent Kimberly Quincy, Pierce is battling the local authorities, racing against time, and frantically searching for answers to all the questions he's been afraid to ask.

Love and Other Impossible Pursuits by Ayelet Waldman

For Emilia Greenleaf, life is by turns a comedy of errors and an emotional minefield. Yes, she's a Harvard Law grad who married her soul mate. Yes, they live in elegant comfort on the Upper West Side of Manhattan. But with her one-and-only, Jack, came a stepson--a know-it-all preschooler named William who has become her number one responsibility every Wednesday afternoon. As much as Emilia wants to find common ground with William, she becomes completely preoccupied when she loses her newborn daughter. After this, the sight of any child brings her to tears, and Wednesdays with William are almost impossible. When his unceasing questions turn to the baby's death, Emilia is at a total loss.

DVD Releases

Available January 31

Tim Burton's *Corpse Bride*

Cameron Diaz and Shirley MacLaine in *In Her Shoes*

Antonio Banderas in *The Legend of Zorro*



Entertainment

January 30

Paco Pena at the Jackie Gleason Theater in Miami Beach

January 31

"Breaking Up is Hard to Do" at the Actors Playhouse in Coral Gables

February 2

Ebony Fashion Fair at the War Memorial Auditorium in Ft. Lauderdale

Movie synopsis and photo courtesy of www.yahoo.movies.com

Book synopsis courtesy of www.barnesandnoble.com

Compiled by Marines Alvarez

RED

Continued from page 11

may be sweet and endearing to some, but not the laugh a minute riot many expect of their movies. The spoof on old cop shows is cute and the last ten minutes of the movie will have your head spinning for all its lunacy.

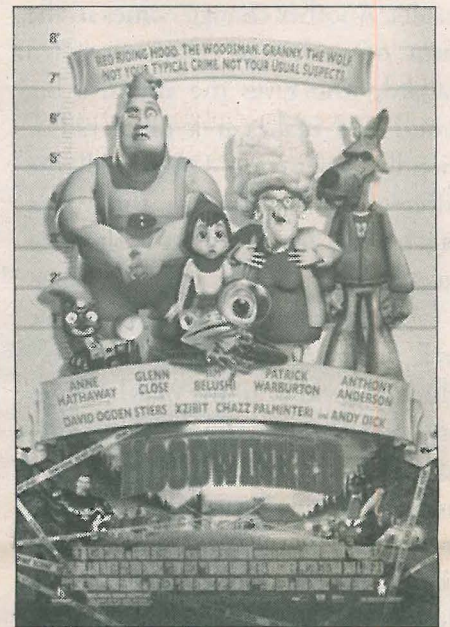
Besides Xzibit and Anthony Anderson, *Hoodwinked* features Anne Hathaway as Little Red, Jim Belushi as the Woodsman and Andy Dick as an overly cute bunny. At points it seemed that story line pales in comparison to the characters themselves. I was more drawn to a goat who sings everything he says than to what the "investigation" was uncovering.

On that note, the actually storyline wasn't as much fun as it could've been. The writers seem to abandon the story at times in favor of an action sequence. For all its parody on cop shows, *Hoodwinked* had a painfully obvious villain. It was a good start, but I couldn't help feeling like more could've been done.

As the debut film of the Weinstein Company, *Hoodwinked* is a decent effort. If you line this film up against the Pixar greats like *Finding Nemo* and *The Incredibles*, the animation is almost laughable. This film is to animation what old Hanna Barbera cartoons are to

Disney features. The humans are glassy looking, the backgrounds are uninspiring, and all the movements are graceless. *Hoodwinked* is a retro cartoon in disguise. A better comparison might even be to Nickelodeon's "Jimmy Neutron," but then again, that could be giving it too much credit.

In all, this movie holds it's own in isolation. Forget every lost clown fish, every heroic ogre, or every monster you've ever seen. If you can manage to do that you'll find that, though Little Red's basket is not exactly full, she might have enough goodies to draw you in.



Take a Bite Out of This... Current Events Calendar

January 30

IVCF General Meeting

7 - 9 p.m.

Goodwin Classroom

January 31

Bowling Night

9:15 - 11:30 p.m.

AMF Pembroke Pines

February 1

Prescription Drug Abuse Meeting

7 - 9 p.m.

Steele Auditorium

February 2

Dorm Town Hall Meeting

5 p.m.

Goodwin Lobby

February 3

Black History Month Film Series

The Long Walk Home

6:30 p.m.

DeSantis Knight Auditorium

February 4

Love Jen

10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Goodwin Yard

Learn to Surf

7 - 9 a.m.

Island Water Sports

Suture Clinic

8 a.m. - 12 p.m.

9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

HPD Histology Lab

*Compiled from the Student Affairs calendar & NSU Shark Bytes.



Alisha VanHoose
Editor-in-Chief

Dear NSU Community,

I've discovered, over the past several years, the same thing that many of you have discovered: that the internet is a fabulous time-waster. Yes, it's also a great time-saver when it comes to research papers, communicating and the like, but for some reason, I doubt that the majority of internet use is that academic. (Just ask the guys who wrote the lyrics for *Avenue Q*.)

When it's time for me to get really busy doing absolutely nothing (which is easier than you might think), there are a number of places I can turn to for the most stimulating mental fluff available (if such a thing exists).

I've mentioned places like Postsecret and inpassing.org in prior notes and articles, mainly because they both have a really interesting and unique theme. Other places, like eBaum's World and albinoblacksheep.com, have some really novel jokes, photos and flash animations, and you really can't mention wasting time online without mentioning procrastination.com. Robot Sandwich (which I discovered only today while searching for something to write about) is high on the 'totally random' scale, and I'm sure any one of you could add a number of other sites to the list.

And then there's the forum/gaming communities (like Gaia Online and Neopets, which I have successfully kept away from for the better part of four years) and art communities (like deviantArt), and . . . well, there are probably communities out there for any random thing you could think of, like alpacas and radish farming.

With so much out there to distract us (Facebook, anyone?), it's a wonder we get anything done. I go to check my email, look away from the screen for a moment, and my computer has spontaneously (without my knowledge, I swear) taken me to Livejournal or something. Okay, maybe not Livejournal, but you get the point. Then again, maybe the rest of you have more cooperative computers (AKA, more willpower) than I do.

In the end, despite it's many detours and late-night chat session inducers, the internet is a happy and useful place. But that's for another note, since this one is about wasting time.

Signing off (literally),

Alisha VanHoose

A Fly On the Wall:

By Paul Saneaux
Staff Writer

New Blood



The last few weeks have indeed been a hectic period for the SGA. The Senate recently emerged from settled problems with the budget hearing and the Senate Reserve Fund; a student concern letter caused a major racket among the Senate and students alike; new Senators had to be confirmed and sworn in; and the issue of organizations not fulfilling the requirements of the volunteer mandate reared its ugly, oxymoronic head.

There is a good side to all this madness however; the situations presented by the SGA are a journalistic heaven, a never-ending supply of material for articles. And even with what most would consider being negative events, last week's Senate meeting still progressed with a refreshing air of lightheartedness and frivolity. Besides, there were new Senators to be confirmed and sworn in: new blood to get drawn into the vortex of bills, legislation, and motions.

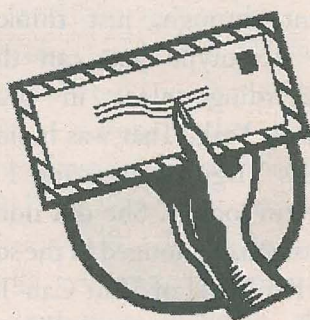
From very early on, the Senate was running without all of its positions being filled. Several Senators, if not all of them, dealt with the business of the SGA remarkably, even though the workload may have

been distributed unequally. For example, IOC Senators Jessica Boyd and Mirtha Rivera handled the dealings of the needy and numerous clubs and organizations despite missing a third senator. Senator Boyd, who 55 students apparently believe is incompetent, more than often took in two of the three groups of clubs during split IOC meetings. That's the exact text book definition of "negligence of duty."

Anyway, the SGA has functioned admirably considering the hindrances it has experienced. And sincere congratulations go out to the new, promising senators: Commuter Senator Christopher Tann, Minority Senator Etta Mills, Fraternity Senator Nick Revisa, and IOC Senator Marilyn Callwood. Congratulations are in order not because they were simply chosen, but because these people stepped up, decided to take action, and waited patiently as the OSB, which was nonfunctional when applications were being accepted, got itself in order. Make the campus a better place, have fun, and watch out for those pesky impeachments. They can be quite bothersome from what I hear. Otherwise, welcome to the NSUSGA.

Speaking of impeachments, the issue was brought up again. But I could've guessed it was coming: this problem will disappear only well after the OSB presents its findings. Vice President of Judicial Affairs Davia McDonald said the student concern has caused "lots of tension of rumors." She recommended that the meeting on Feb. 22 be closed; it was proposed that SGA Advisors Terry Morrow and Gary Gershman, and probably others, would act as mediators so the senators can openly discuss their complaints with one another. It is a good idea; according to what McDonald and Morrow said, rumors have been circulating within the SGA that a senator, or senators, is looking to impeach another. I thought the issue of impeachment was isolated to the student population and didn't reach the motives of the senators, but that could turn out to be false.

Please See FLY
Page 14



Letter from a Reader

Mr. Saneaux,

I have to admit, while I enjoyed reading your article, "Best Served Cold" on January 23, 2006. I was rather upset that you only represented one side of the story. The main grip the students are making is that the Senators are not educating the Student Organizations on campus. The Senators have failed to inform their constituents that when a bill, or budget is turned down; not all is

lost. In addition, many on campus organizations have lost funding, mainly due to poor attendance during an IOC meeting. The Senators should be looking out for their constituents by informing them a resolution can be brought before the senate to have their funding reinstated. While some students know the NSUSGA

Constitution and bylaws like their own social security number, sadly many do not. You might be asking yourself if it is not the job of the Senators to educate the students. However, it is not like the Constitution is prominently displayed on the internet or on any wall like the Constitution of the

United States of America. When it comes right down to it, some Senators are not meeting the needs of the students. The main point for the student concern letter was to be a wake-up call to the SGA, and that is a fact. In regards to my application not being furnished to me, Ms. Boyd should have at least given the courtesy to inform me how NSUSGA operates, as each university SGA operates differently. Oh by the way, isn't it proper procedure to ask my side of the story before you publish a story?

Thank you,
Sean Burque

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FLY

Continued from page 13

Could someone in the SGA be in cahoots with the petitioners? It is kind of odd that rumors of senators trying to impeach other senators arose now. The senators appear to be on good terms with one another and meetings more than always progress without personal squabbles, but I'll let that thought simmer for now.

Additional Notes

SGA Treasurer Diane Klein reported that \$39,488.17 is left in the Senate reserve fund. Now that 22 organizations have had their charters suspended for not meeting the requirements of the 10-hour volunteer mandate, there are worries that funds will be left over.

Clubs and organizations with suspended charters can still turn in their 10 hours to have their charters reinstated. No hours means no funds from the SGA.

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The Current, formerly known as *The Knight*, serves Nova Southeastern University from its location in room 105 of the Athletics and Student Activities (ASA) Building. *The Current* is NSU's established vehicle for student reporting, opinion and the arts. All community members are invited to contribute anything they desire to *The Current*.

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In T.V. Land

The Prettiest Scholarship Program Ever Gets Hip

By Marines Alvarez
 ACE Editor

I tend to read a lot of junk off the Internet, whether it be movie reviews, or celebrity gossip or even TV recaps. I know, I'll get a life. Someday.

A few weeks ago, there were a lot of articles popping up noting the decaying ratings of the Miss America Pageant. I couldn't think of why. I, for one, tend to like pageants, specifically Miss Universe. Then I thought, "Hey, Miss America can't be that bad, because it's the one that sends the lady to Miss Universe." Well, my inner monologue was wrong (that's Miss USA) and, well, sadly Miss America is the most boring beauty pageant ever.

The pageant originated as a beauty contest in the 1920's. These days, with the help of Sandra Bullock, we know that it's not a "pageant" or a "beauty contest," but a "scholarship program." Whatever it is, though, people aren't very interested in watching. In 2004, Miss America lost its network TV home on ABC.

In an effort to revamp Miss America, the show local was moved from Atlantic City (where it had

been held since the 1920's) to the ever-cheesy Las Vegas, where CMT was to air the shortened telecast. Sadly, a "hipper" Miss America also meant a "poorer" Miss America. Last year's winner received \$50,000 in scholarship money, but this year it was reduced to \$30,000.

I can't say that I recall ever really watching this particular pageant before, so I can't help but wonder if maybe this year they reduced the "pretty" and the "interesting" elements of this show as well. Even cute and charming host James Denton (*Desperate Housewives*) could hardly keep me from wanting to poke my eyes out during the telecast. Or worse. Change the channel.

To start, the ladies paraded around, their big hair and horrendous choreography in place. It took close to three years to get through the fifty ladies. Seriously. I began to miss my family. The top ten were announced and I still didn't care.

The pageant went from sad to unbearable when a CMT correspondent took us to a "live Miss America Party." What does that consist of? you may ask. Basically, it's overweight middle aged women dressed in evening gowns, wearing tiaras, and whooping like Miss

America is more exciting than a Garth Brooks concert. I felt sad, because I was tuned into the same thing they were watching.

This year's new and improved version of the pageant saw the resurrection of the talent section. To try and imagine what I went through, just think of every stereotype you can think of regarding talent in beauty pageants. Yeah. That was basically it. Miss Virginia sang, and I use that term loosely. She did not hit one note that belonged in the song. I was reminded of "But Can They Sing?" and I was scared. We were treated to a tap routine, two ballet routines and some piano playing. No, there were no flaming batons, but I have a feeling one of the delegates was totally going to do it.

By the end of the night, I could tell that when the bigwigs at Miss America said, "revamped" they meant "exactly the same." The only significant difference was the location, which, guess what, doesn't make a difference until the day the pageant is held outside. For those of you shivering in anticipation and curiosity, Miss Oklahoma, Jennifer Berry,

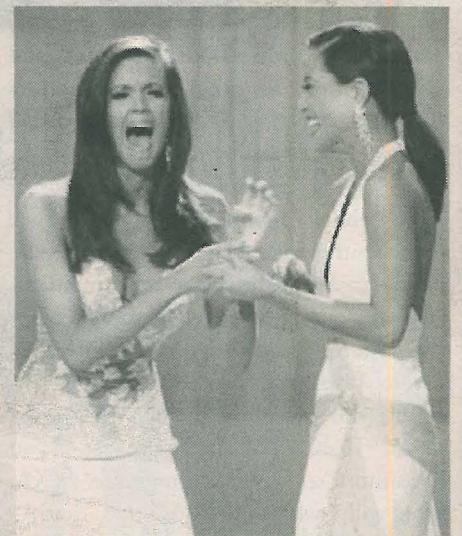


Photo courtesy CMT.com

was crowned, which made it an even bigger waste of time. I was rooting for Miss Georgia, Monica Pang, because she was actually, you know, pretty and talented. But what do I know?

The moral of the story? No one cares about scholarships. Just look at my current balance here at NSU. The continued moral? Beauty pageants are only cool if pretty people participate. Moral part three? I should've popped some corn and watched *Miss Congeniality*. At least I could've gotten an eye full of Benjamin Bratt.

NSU On The Scene:

"How prepared are you for mid-terms?"



Alecia Saolus
Sophomore
Biology
Sunrise, FL

"I had no idea that there were midterms next week, I don't ever know what's going on at this school."



Casey Hanks
Freshman
Biology
Lakeland, FL

"I love mid-terms"



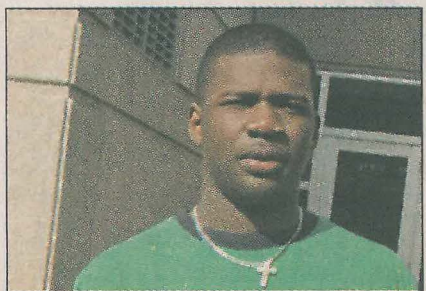
John Ogunlade
Freshmen,
Biology
Miami, FL

"I prepare myself by running 6 miles in the morning and I study for 2 hours, and then I just chill before the test in the parker lobby."



Elizabeth Bond
Sophomore
Biology
Huston, Texas

"I've been going to the library every morning, and I block off 2 hours a day for each class."



Sebastien Charles
Junior
Bio Pre-med
Port-Au-Prince, Haiti

"I am prepared but I need to study a little bit more."



Lara Murphy
sophomore
Bio Pre-med
New York

"I think they're going to try to kick my butt, but I'll put up a good fight."



Randy Rodriguez-Torres
Senior
Pre-med
Port St. Lucie, FL

"I am not prepared for the hell that's coming next week, but I'll give it my best shot."

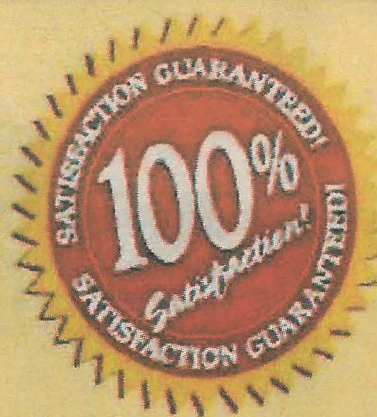
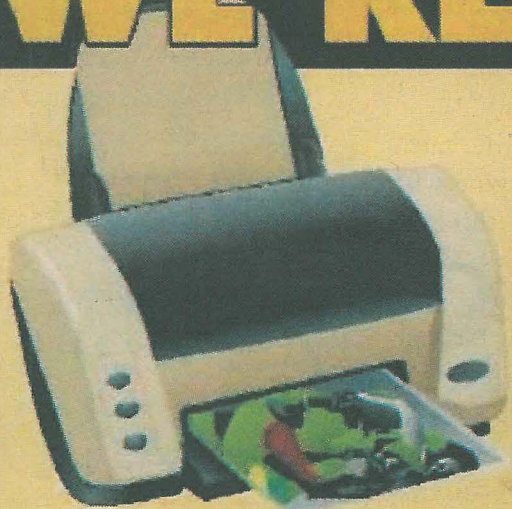


Lashunda Barrios
Senior
Physician Assistant program
Freeport, Grand Bahama (no S)

"I haven't given all my time to it, I have Bio-medical ethics, and Anatomy II, I am partially ready, I read each chapter, and I got to go read them a second time."

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