

11-12-2007

## The Current Volume 18 : Issue 10

Nova Southeastern University

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Nova Southeastern University, "The Current Volume 18 : Issue 10" (2007). *The Current*. 319.  
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# 2008 Presidential Candidate Mitt Romney Visits NSU

Tanya Parnes NSU News Editor

▼ “I believe we are a culture, a society based upon the family. We are also a people who, by and large, believe in something greater than ourselves,” said Mitt Romney, former Governor of Massachusetts and one of the GOP candidates for the 2008 Presidential election. Romney spoke in front of a group of over 200 listeners in the H. Wayne Huizenga School of Business and Entrepreneurship on Nov. 5.

Romney was invited to speak at NSU by Nicole Saviano, a second-year law student and Vice President of the Federalist Society. Saviano contacted Romney because she thought that it would be a great idea for him to come and speak to NSU students. “I’ve seen him speak before, and I think he’s a brilliant and dynamic man,” said Saviano. “I was extremely happy with the attendance level, and everyone was really polite.” The Federalist Society hosted the event. However, the Federalist Society made certain to mention the fact that neither they nor NSU was endorsing Romney by inviting him to speak, but rather providing students with a unique educational experience.

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Above: Presidential candidate Mitt Romney speaks at NSU.

# Dean Harbaugh Resigns as Dean of the Shepard Broad Law Center

Kristine Belizaire Current Affairs Editor

▼ Effective June 30, 2008, Joseph D. Harbaugh, Dean of the Shepard Broad Law Center at NSU, will resign from his position. Harbaugh will return after a sabbatical as a faculty member for the law center.

Harbaugh has served as Dean of NSU’s law school for the past 13 years. Harbaugh has also served as Dean for the University of Richmond’s School of Law and has been a member of law faculties at many universities, including the University of Connecticut, Duke and Georgetown.

Under Harbaugh’s deanship, the Shepard Broad Law Center has been named twice as “the most wired law school in the nation” by National Jurist magazine. Harbaugh has also brought new programs to the law center, among them the annual Goodwin Symposium, which brings national and international distinguished legal scholars and political leaders to the law center to network with students, faculty, and alumni. Harbaugh, along with members of the law faculty, has created the Critical Skills Program (CSP) to help students improve and develop the skills needed to achieve success in law school and future law practice.

According to Harbaugh, he tried to resign from his position as Dean two and a half years ago. Harbaugh’s intent to resign ended during a very short conversation with President Ray Ferrero, who convinced him to stay in order to stabilize some programs



Above: Dean Joseph Harbaugh

that had been newly initiated into the law center. “This fall, I convinced him that [stabilization of the programs] has occurred,” said Harbaugh.

Harbaugh has launched three online master’s programs for non-lawyers in the fields of education law, employment law and health law. Harbaugh has also instituted an evening division for part-time students. “The law school faculty and University administration encouraged and supported innovation,” said Harbaugh.

After consecutively serving as a law school dean for 21 years and possibly being the longest serving law school dean in the United States, Harbaugh is excited about returning to the classroom. “The best title a university can grant to anyone is that of a professor. I hope that when I get back to the classroom I can convey my excitement

about the law as an academic and professional discipline,” said Harbaugh.

Jo Externo, executive assistant to Dean Harbaugh, has mixed feeling about his decision to resign. Externo said, “He is the most wonderful person to work with. He is understanding and kind. As busy of a man that he is, he always makes time in his day for anyone who needs to get his advice or guidance. I will miss him, but I’m happy for him and hope that he will have more time to spend with his wonderful family.”

According to Harbaugh, President Ferrero has appointed a search committee to find his successor. The committee is chaired by Dean Wells Singleton of the Fischler School of Education, and includes faculty, deans and alumni from the Shepard Broad Law Center.

# Should We Negotiate with Terrorists?

UK students debate the issue at NSU

Kristine Belizaire Current Affairs Editor

▼ Members of the NSU community gathered on Nov 6<sup>th</sup> in the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor gallery of the Alvin Sherman Library to listen to an exhibition debate featuring the British National Debate Team and NSU students.

The debate was set in a parliamentary style forum, making it more of an academic debate than one based on competition. The topic being debated was “Should We Negotiate with Terrorists?” with NSU students Adam Agresti and Nur Abdool taking the affirmative side and Alistair Cormack and Alex Just, representatives of the Great Britain and the English Speaking Union, taking the negative side.

The affirmative side argued that it is in the interest of the government to negotiate with terrorists. By negotiating, said Agresti and Abdool, the government can gain enhanced political intelligence, identify the needs of the terrorist groups and organization, which would eventually lead to peace. To illustrate their point, Agresti and Abdool spoke about the Cold War between the United States and the Soviet Union, during which time U.S president Ronald Reagan met with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and devised programs that led to the end of the Cold War.

The opposing team disagreed with these notions, saying that there is no way to target many of these terrorist groups. According to Cormack and Just, terrorist groups such as Al-Qaeda do not have an address or a specific location. They also argued that if the government chooses to negotiate with terrorists, then they are legitimizing these groups. By legitimizing the terrorist group, the government is saying that these groups represent the community that they live in, which might not be true. Instead of negotiating with these terrorists, Cormack and Just suggest providing economic aid to help poor countries so that they do not feel the need to terrorize.

The debate came to an end with closing remarks from judges Chetachi Egwu, Ph.D., Ben Mulvey, Ph.D., and Gary Gershman, Ph.D., professors in the Farquhar College of Arts and Sciences, Division of Humanities.

What do YOU think? Should we negotiate with terrorists? Send your thoughts to nsunews@nova.edu with the word Terrorist in the subject line. The best responses will be printed in the paper.

# NSU News

## Online Courses: The Death of the Traditional University Classroom?

Stefani Rubino Staff Writer

▼ Everybody has heard about them, most have even taken one, and in the world of laptops and e-mails, online courses are becoming more and more popular. What was originally created for older students trying to seek an education that would fit into their busy professional and home lives may completely take over traditional classrooms in the not-too-distant future.

According to a survey of 2,500 college campuses published last week by the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, the College Board, and a Babson College research group, nearly 3.5 million college or graduate students, or one of every five, took an online course last fall, which is double the amount of five years ago.

Recently, according to the study, there is a growth in enrollment in specialized online career-oriented schools like the University of Phoenix and other schools like it. On top of that, the amount of students enrolled in online courses and programs is expected to keep growing, especially due to Congress' recent decision that college campuses do not have to provide more than half their classes in actual classrooms in order to qualify for financial aid. Still, the question must be asked: Why have colleges so welcomed the idea of online courses into their curriculum, and why have students not been hasty in signing up for them?

Kathleen Waites, Ph.D., Division of Hu-

manities professor at NSU, has a theory. "They are becoming more commonplace because it is an inexpensive way of delivering an education to the students and is more convenient for students, especially those who are continuing education students," said Waites. Waites warns, however, that students taking online courses must be able to "self-direct their education," and that an online course could never duplicate the experience a student gets from being inside a classroom, face-to-face with a teacher.

Regardless, many students at NSU and abroad are signing up for online courses whether it is for convenience or other reasons not anticipated by the study. At NSU, online courses from fine arts to sciences to mathematics and even public speaking are offered to undergraduate and graduate students. Although there are more students signing up for these courses and more courses are being offered, can online courses ever truly replace traditional classrooms?

"Maybe," says Felicia Selan, undergraduate sophomore at NSU. "Technology, specifically computers, is such a huge part of people's lives, [online courses] are so popular now, and are very convenient." Selan is currently enrolled in one online course and plans on taking three online courses next semester.

Whether online courses will actually replace traditional classrooms is debatable, but one thing is certain: they are incredibly convenient, and in the bustling world that people live in, they could come in handy for many students.

## Fraternities and Sororities Stomp Away the Night

Jany Cabezas Staff Writer



Above: Zeta Phi Beta performs at Stomp Off.

▼ The sound of reggae and modern rap resonated from the Rose and Alfred Miniaci Center for the Performing Arts on Nov. 2 as students gathered for Lambda Theta Phi's First Annual Stomp Off.

Andrew Ibrahim, president of Lambda Theta Phi, was pleased with the outcome of the event. "I think we really demonstrated that quality over quantity gets the job done. I would like to thank all the organizations and departments that came together and supported us this week," said Ibrahim.

The event united students from various campuses in the state of Florida, and was intended to show NSU different kinds of organizations, specifically multi-cultural and minority fraternities and sororities. "Shout-outs" ranged from universities such as Florida Atlantic University (FAU) to University of Miami (UM), along with their corresponding fraternities and sororities. Due to the recent hurricane affecting the Dominican Republic, the Lambdas decided to donate the proceeds to help provide relief. "It's a philanthropic event that connects the NSU community as well as other universities," said Lambda Theta Phi member Raphael De La Rosa.

The audience was entertained by DJ Rico, from NSU's Radio X, and "Jack the

Rippa," who hosted and presented the competitors. Lambda Theta Alpha started off with an exhibition which detailed the history of their sorority, and then the performances began. A stomp off is a Greek's version of a step team, which involves creating rhythms through stomping and clapping along with a few chants. All of the performances exhibited the same kind of step routine with several alternations. Performances were given by NSU's own Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, UM's Lambda Theta Phi, NSU sorority Zeta Phi Beta, FAU's Christian Fraternity Alpha Nu Omega, FAU Sorority Delta Sigma Theta and University of South Florida's Iota Phi Theta.

Other performances were given by NSU's step team, Chicks On Point, and the NSU Vocal Ensemble. During the judging, students in the audience jumped on stage and danced to the music provided by DJ Rico. The winners of the competition, announced a bit later on in the evening, were NSU's Zeta Phi Beta for the Sorority prize and FAU's Alpha Nu Omega for the Fraternity prize. The winners each took home \$500.

Students, whether they were part of Greek life or not, admired the work of the performers as well as those who organized it. "I thought they all performed very well. Each put in a lot of effort and showed creativity and spirit," said Business Administration major Lisa Vignola. "Lambda Theta Phi did a great and tremendous job in putting it all together, as well as bringing together groups at NSU." Junior Anthony Ferrara walked out with a strong dance mood. "I wanted to stomp, but couldn't because I'm not in a fraternity!" Ferrara said. Ferrara was really satisfied with the work that Lambda Theta Phi did. "I'm glad we had something like that on campus. We've never had anything like it. And I am glad other universities came out to support the event."

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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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# Current Affairs



Above: Mitt Romney

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Romney spoke about his extensive background and experience in the business sector. After graduating from Harvard Business School with an MBA in 1975, Romney entered the world of business where he began helping businesses grow and improve their operations. Romney quickly became a Vice President at Bain & Company, Inc., a leading management consulting firm, in 1978. By 1984, Romney had founded his own company, Bain Capital, which became one of the nation's most successful venture capital and investment companies.

"I spent my life in the private sector," said Romney, "and I did not anticipate that I would go into politics." Romney did of course become very involved in the political sector when he ran for and was elected Governor of Massachusetts in 2002. Romney brought about many changes in Massachusetts, including a reduction in the unemployment rate, an increase in the number of new jobs and several education reforms. In 2006, Romney proposed and signed into law a reform that ensured that every Massachusetts citizen would have health insurance without an increase in taxes or government subsidization.

Romney considers himself a strict constructionist and supports judges who uphold the values of the Constitution and its laws. "As I look at our society today, I am concerned," said Romney. "In some cases, the foundation of society is under stress." The stress Romney is referring to is the stress on the family. Romney believes marriage ought to be between a man and a woman and that judges should not take it upon themselves to rule otherwise through looser interpretations of the Constitution. "I am committed to the principle that our judges are elected based upon the principle to be committed to our Constitution," said Romney. However, Romney fully supports citizens' rights to amend the Constitution if they so choose, in order to change the law that states that the only legal kind of marriage is one between a man and woman.

Michael Morse, a junior at Nova High School who attended the event, disagreed with Romney's position. "I thought he presented himself very well and one of the most important things going into this election is a person who can convey themselves in a certain way," said Morse. "However, I would disagree on same sex marriage. He kind of wants it both ways. He's very family oriented, but then if you're gay, you're not family."

Romney spent a lot of time discussing immigration and healthcare reform. "We have an immigration policy that makes it difficult for legal immigrants to come here and easy for illegal immigrants to stay," said Romney. Romney described his recent visit to the border in San Diego, where there were a steel fence and Border Patrol agents guarding the open areas. Romney was told

by the agents that about 100 people try to cross the border every day and that only 60 of them are actually stopped before successfully entering the US. Romney said that this is part of the overall problem that he would like to prevent by cutting back on funding for those sanctuary cities that don't enforce the law and by clamping down on the use of illegal visas. "I believe very strongly in an end to illegal immigration while promoting legal immigration," said Romney. "I'm convinced that good Republicans can get the job done." Romney is also very concerned about the healthcare system in this nation. "When it comes to healthcare, one of my favorite accomplishments as governor was creating health insurance for all citizens." Romney would like to help all Americans get health insurance if elected. Romney said that he believes each state should create its own healthcare plan for its residents that will rely on both public and private sources. When Romney was asked about how his healthcare plan compares to Hillary Clinton's plans his response was, "Well, mine passed!"

Romney said that he really believes in this nation. "Americans are patriotic. We will sacrifice for our country," said Romney. Romney said he realizes that there are a lot of things to be done and that he is the one who can do them. "When you look at presidents over time, in some respects more important than their policies was the nature of their characters," noted Romney. "Presidents have a huge impact on our society and our nation, and I can tell you that I do love my country."

Many students had several comments to make after Romney's speech. Lavinia Strimbu, a senior student and First Vice Chair of the NSU Conservatives said, "I really like the fact that he mentioned he was from the private sector. He's a businessman and his policies are the best thing for our economy." Strimbu has seen Romney speak before, and she was really pleased with the event. "I think he is a true conservative, and I think he is the best presidential candidate."

Grace Pazmino, a first-year graduate student in the MBA program, said that she really enjoyed the event. "I liked this candidate very much," said Pazmino. "He is very well prepared to direct a country. I think he will be the next President of the United States."

James McCann, a third-year dental student, shared Pazmino's sentiments regarding Romney. "He has a commanding presence," said McCann. "I liked how he's strong on the issues of family, and he doesn't shy away from it." McCann thought that he was right on the money and plans to vote for Romney in the upcoming primary election on Jan. 29. Alex Gatzoulis, a third-year law student and President of the Federalist Society was also happy with the turnout for the Romney event. "We were just thrilled with the way the event went off. It was truly amazing," said Gatzoulis. Gatzoulis noted that there were over 200 people in attendance, which surpassed the amount that the Romney campaign was expecting. "In my time here at NSU, this is the first presidential candidate that we have hosted. We're just very happy that we were able to do this," said Gatzoulis.

Sheela Venero, Chairwoman for the NSU Conservatives, said, "I think his opening and his speech left you knowing where he stood on most of the issues." Venero said that the room was packed and the audience was really receptive to Romney. "Republicans in general are looking at a true conservative," said Venero. "He has a really good chance of being the Republican candidate in the election."

## Current Affairs Calendar

Kristine Belizaire Current Affairs Editor

### Monday

▼ **Monday Night Football:** The Flight Deck will be hosting "Monday Night Football". Come out to the Flight Deck for free food and the chance to watch the Baltimore Ravens take on the Pittsburgh Steelers. For more information call the Flight Deck at 954-262-7260.

▼ **Distinguished Lecture Series:** Members of the NSU community are invited to attend the Distinguished Lecture series, which will be featuring Mr. John F. Tenaglia of John F. Tenaglia Consulting Inc. The lecture will be held in Room 1124 of the Carl Desantis building at 10: 30 a.m. For more information, contact lschweit@nova.edu.

### Tuesday

▼ **Faculty Lecture Series:** Truth and Power in Modern China. Members of the NSU community are invited to listen to Tim Dixon, associate professor of Legal Studies and History, speak on "Truth and Power in Modern China." The lecture will take place at 12 p.m. in room 240 of the Parker Building. For more information, contact Jim Doan at doan@nova.edu.

▼ **Japanese Culture: Women in Ukiyo-e:** Members of the NSU community are invited to learn more about Ukiyo-e, "the Art of the Floating World." This event will take place at 12: 30 pm. For more information about the event, contact Heike Dose at 954-262-8471.

### Wednesday

▼ **Student Government Association Meetings:** Come speak your mind and voice your opinions about issues on campus. The meeting will take place in the classroom of the Goodwin Building at 4 p.m.

### Thursday

▼ **NSU Theatre presents The Women of Lockerbie:** The NSU Theatre will open its third season with *The Women of Lockerbie*, a story about a mother from New Jersey who roams the hills of Lockerbie, Scotland, looking for her son's remains, which were lost in a fatal plane crash. On her journey, she meets the women of Lockerbie, who try to change acts of hate into acts of love washing the clothes of the dead and returning them to the victim's families. The play will take place at 7:30 p.m. in the University Arts Center Black Box Theatre. For more information, contact the NSU Theatre at call 954 262-8179.

### Friday

▼ **Flight Deck Fridays.** The Flight Deck will be hosting "Flight Deck Fridays." Come out for live music, free food and drink specials. For more information call the Flight Deck at 954 262-7260.

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# Current Affairs

## Chick Lit & Chick Flicks Revolutionize the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

Tanya Parnes NSU News Editor

▼ “To call somebody a *chick* in the 1970’s meant risking losing your head,” said Suzanne Ferriss, Ph.D., who delivered a lecture entitled “Chick Lit: The New Woman’s Fiction & Chick Flick’s Contemporary Women at the Movies” Thursday, Nov. 1 at the Lifelong Learning Institute. Ferriss discussed the history of women’s literature and film as she painted its progression from the early twentieth century until today.

Ferriss noted that men used to refer to women as *birds*, which helps to explain the shift to the term *chick*. The reference was a derogatory one that implied that women were helpless and relied on men for both support and protection. Ferriss said that the term today has taken on a much different meaning, which is best explained by mapping out the three waves of feminism that have served as precursors to today’s modern post feminists.

During the first wave of feminism that emerged in the 18<sup>th</sup> century, women began fighting for greater rights and equality. The second wave of feminism sprang up during the early 19<sup>th</sup> century as women fought for the right to vote and continued their struggle for equality in the male dominated world. Ferriss said that by the time the third wave of feminism emerged in the late 1960’s and early 1970’s, these women had become serious man-haters. These third-wave feminists

were focused on gaining political freedoms and relied heavily on political action, movements and solutions to reach that end. “They saw the patriarchy as responsible for these inequalities,” said Ferriss. “People associated feminism with radical extremism because of these views.”

The third-wave feminists today, who are also referred to as the post-feminists, have a much different view on feminism than their predecessors. Ferriss said that the third-wave feminists of the ‘60’s and ‘70’s were suspicious of the media and read a lot of books. These women used humor to emphasize the discrepancies between the traditional women’s roles and women as powerful and independent beings. “Post-feminists focus more on the personal as political,” said Ferriss. “They reject the second-wave anger and blame against the patriarchy.” Post-feminists embrace shopping and popular culture, which means that they chose to have families, careers, different hair colors, different nail colors and even cosmetic surgery. The humor in these post-feminist texts emphasizes the discrepancies between feminism as portrayed by the media and the reality of life in the post-modern world. “They see themselves as the inheritors of the benefits of feminism, but they reject some of the seriousness and attitude surrounding feminism,” said Ferriss.

Chick Lit is a modern type of literature for women. The protagonists in these stories are women in their early twenties and thirties who are searching for their partners and their storylines are often marked by longing. These women are everyday women, however, with flaws. They are focused on

pursuing their careers and having families. These novels are often funny but they mostly use self-effacing humor. Ferriss noted that women can often identify with and relate to the main characters in these novels. “People love this stuff,” said Ferriss. “In traditional romance fiction, the novels are about a women searching for one guy to come and rescue her. That is not chick lit at all,” said Ferriss. “The focus here is on the fact that these women have had sexual pasts. Their stories don’t always culminate in marriage.”

Ferriss drew many comparisons and contrasts between post-feminist literature and 19<sup>th</sup>-century literature. Both types of novels feature women as the protagonists or the heroines of the story, but they do so in very different ways. In 19<sup>th</sup>-century novels, there is an emphasis on flirtations, courtship and marriage. The women in these stories value virtue and there are no references to sex. In post-feminist novels the women have often had sexual pasts and often have sex during the course of the story. While there is a focus on searching for the “perfect guy,” these relationships usually fall just short of marriage. The heroines in both types of literature are flawed, but in 19<sup>th</sup>-century literature the protagonists are often humiliated in order to be educated on the proper behavior. In post-feminist literature, the women pursue careers, heavily fixate on beauty regimens and embrace consumerism as a part of their self-conceptions.

Ferriss said that there are many different categories of Chick Lit that have emerged over the last few years. Hen Lit, Matron Lit or Lady Lit are novels aimed at women over 40. Chick Lit Jr. novels are made up of sto-

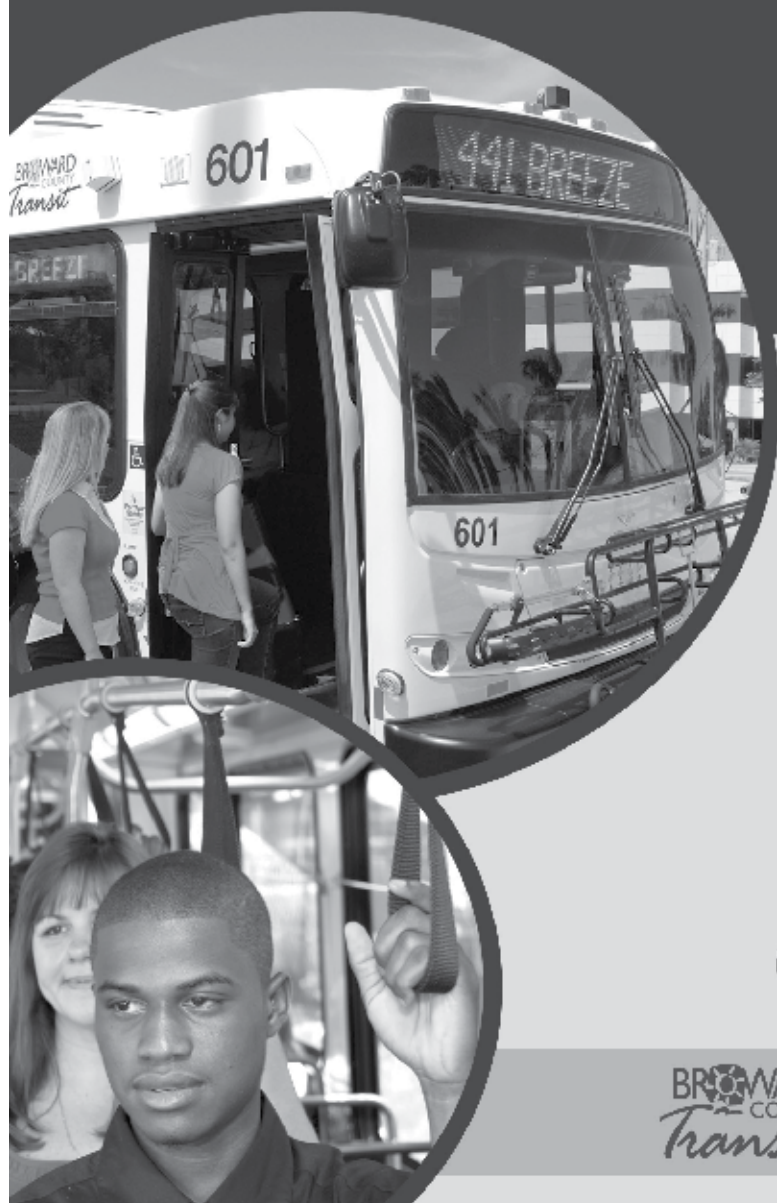
ries created for young adolescents such as Ann Brashares’s *Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants* series. Mommy Lit is comprised of literature made specifically for mothers such as Allison Pearson’s *I Don’t Know How She Does It*. Sista Lit is a compilation of literature geared specifically towards black women such as Terry McMillan’s *Waiting to Exhale*. Chica Lit is made up of literature specifically designed for Hispanic women such as Alisa Valdes-Rodriguez’s *Hater*. Ferriss noted that there are even some international and regional forms of post-feminist literature in countries like Sweden, Indonesia, Hungary and India. “Women across all cultures share the same controversies,” said Ferriss.

Chick Flicks also began to emerge in larger quantities than ever before during this time period. Ferriss said that the term chick flick existed well before the 1990’s and has always been associated with the denigration of women by men. These movies are often described as tear-jerkers and weepies. “No one notices that the derisive terms are only applied to the ones targeting women,” said Ferriss. These flicks appeal heavily to women, and yet most of them have been directed by men. Ferriss noted that even some of the classic women’s films of the 1940’s such as *Now, Voyager*, *Mrs. Miniver*, and *Mildred Pierce* were directed by men.

Ferriss noted that critics argue these Chick Flicks are reinforcing traditional gender roles. “The denigration of Chick Flicks reveals the biases that exist in today’s culture,” said Ferriss. “It provides a very interesting way of trying to interpret our culture.”

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# NSUSports

## Two Tough Road Wins for Women's Volleyball

Tim Coenraad Staff Writer

▼ The NSU women's volleyball team (24-8; 10-4 SSC) had a tremendous weekend, defeating the Rollins College Tars (17-15; 4-8 SSC) in five sets on Nov. 2, and then overcoming the Florida Southern Moccasins (23-8; 10-5 SSC) in another closely contested five set match on Nov. 4.

In their match against the Tars, NSU dropped the first set 30-26, despite five kills from junior Melinda Gorman. The Sharks found themselves behind early in the second game but rallied with a 13-6 run and never let go of the lead. Gorman once again led the Sharks attack with five kills, while the Sharks hit an impressive .362 for the game. Game three saw NSU totally dominate on both offense and defense, holding the Tars to a match low .083 hit percentage while hitting a match high .412. Sophomore Aley Tallman pioneered the Sharks onslaught with six kills in eight attempts as NSU took the game 30-20. The tempo of game four would swing from side to side as none of the teams could consistently hold the other team back. Each team put on a series of runs throughout the game and a late 4-0 run by the Tars sealed game four 30-26. Gorman and Junior Emily Carle both racked up five kills for the game. NSU looked beaten in the early stages of the fifth and final game but a late 8-2 run sealed the game and the match for the Sharks 16-14. Gorman's match high of 19 kills led the Sharks, while junior Valia Petrova put together her second triple-double of the season, posting 10 kills, 62 assists and 14 digs as well as hitting an impressive .600 for the match.

The Sharks then traveled to Lakeland, FL, where it seemed that the Moccasins of Florida Southern would capitalize on the Sharks exhausting five game match just two days before. FSC did just that, beginning with a 5-1 run and taking the first game 30-26, but the Sharks came back in game two after a 10-3 run. The Sharks refused to relinquish the lead and



Above: NSU's volleyball team plays against Rollins College.

weathered the Moccasins' attack to score 30-25, and held the Moccasins to a .029 hit percentage. Juniors Emily Carle and Melinda Gorman provided the spark for the first two games, as both came out of game two with eight kills apiece. Florida Southern steadied the ship in game three, putting on a 13-3 run midway through the game despite an amazing eight blocks from the Sharks. NSU's defense kept them in the game but FSC ran away with the game 30-26. Carle came out determined to take game four, and she led the team with seven kills for the game while freshman Paola Ruiz contributed four kills in her comeback from injury. The Sharks hit an imposing .375 and took the match to a fifth game. The final game was dominated

by the Sharks as they zeroed in on the task at hand, holding FSC to their worst hit percentage of the match at .143 and hitting a staggering .417 themselves to take the game and the match. The Sharks came up with 23 blocks for the match, setting a new program high, while Carle provided a match high of 18 kills. Petrova was once again dominant, flirting with a quadruple-double as she came up with 10 kills, 49 assists, eight digs and nine blocks.

Petrova averaged 2 kills, 11.10 assists, 2.20 digs and 1.10 blocks per game, and this awesome display over the weekend earned her the title of SSC Offensive Player of the Week.

## New Additions Hold Promise for Basketball Teams

Nelly Mesa Sports Editor

▼ The 2007 winter athletics season is quickly approaching, and NSU's Finatics are stoked to head back into the Shark Tank for the beginning of yet another thrilling basketball season. With a number of new additions to both the men's and women's teams, both teams are looking to head straight into and on through the post season in 2007-2008.

The men's team is happy to welcome aboard senior Dionte Perry, who has transferred from Division I's Southeast Missouri where he proved himself as a first rate forward. Junior Cecil Avant and his younger brother, freshman Arsenio Avant, are coming to NSU to fill point guard positions and are anticipated to aid the Sharks with their speed, competitiveness and leadership skills both on and off the court.

Freshman Dylan Drake will pose as a guard for the Sharks and is expected to achieve great heights as a result of his work ethic and great attitude. Freshman Australian additions to NSU's men's basketball team are forward Matt Massey and center Ross Allsop. Massey, a rising young talent, is projected to aid the Sharks tremendously on the offensive end of the game, while Allsop is said to have the immense potential as well as determination to be one of the greatest Shark basketball players in recent years.

The women's team is proud to announce its new additions as well, which include among their ranks the talented athletes and freshmen guards Priscilla Perez and Lauren Marshall, who are expected to assist the Sharks' offense with their fabulous shooting abilities. Freshman forward Melony Fosburgh brings not only her outstanding academic honors, but tremendous scoring ability as well.

Sophomore center Stephanie Sarosi has generated a ruckus around campus as she joins NSU from Division I's University of South Florida, where she averaged 18 points and 9 rebounds a game whilst appearing in all 31 games. Junior Katie Koenstner will sadly be red-shirting this 2007-2008 season due to SSC regulations because Koenstner has happily joined the Sharks from rivaling St. Leo University.

With the middle of November rapidly approaching, basketball season has found itself upon us yet again. Be sure to come out to the UC and cheer on your fellow Sharks.

## Men's Soccer Concludes Stellar Season

Tim Coenraad Staff Writer

▼ NSU men's soccer team (12-5-2) headed into the Sunshine State Conference Tournament with momentum on their side after coming off a 4-2 win over Flagler College on Oct. 26. In a win-or-go-home match for both the Sharks and the rivaling Lions of St. Leo University, NSU trounced the Lions with a nine to eight shot count which resulted in their victory. The defining moment of the match was in the 28<sup>th</sup> minute, as freshman Chris Pruitt climbed above the St. Leo defense and headed in sophomore Romain Onteniente's corner kick, giving NSU the goal they needed for the win. In addition, senior goal keeper Jarod Rennick's defensive performance resulted in the Shark's fifth shutout of the season.

By winning the previous match, the Sharks clinched their spot in the SSC semi-final game against Lynn University,

a team which has only undergone one loss throughout the season. The highlight of the match was without a doubt NSU's nearly unstoppable defense, which managed to keep the #10 nationally ranked Lynn University Fighting Knights scoreless for 110 minutes. Rennick proved himself in arguably the best performance of his career, leading the Sharks' defense with 11 saves.

The Fighting Knights dominated the match with a staggering 25-3 shot count and a 15-1 corner advantage. However, NSU nearly stole the match in the closing stages of regulation as SSC Player of the Year Onteniente broke past the Lynn defense in a display of speed and strength only to miss just left of the goal. Both teams battled through two overtime periods to a 0-0 draw. As such, a penalty shootout determined who advanced to the SSC Tournament final. Lynn out-shot the NSU

Sharks 4-2, bringing the Sharks season to a disappointing end.

Despite the loss, the NSU men's soccer team can look back at this season as a success, with Coach Guiseppe DePalo leading a team dominated with freshman to their highest ever ranking at the number two team in the country, putting together a seven game winning streak, as well as Aly Hassan and Romain Onteniente earning their way onto the All-SSC First Team.

Onteniente has stamped his name in the SSC as being one of the premier strikers of the league. He recently was named to Daktronics All-South Region Second Team, not to mention being named the SSC Player of the Year and accompanying Hassan on the All-SSC First Team. The future certainly looks bright for the young forward.



# NSUSports

## Melinda Gorman, NSU's Volleyball Star

Nelly Mesa Sports Editor

▼ NSU's Athletic Department has seen a number of student-athletes come and go over the years. Of course, there are always the select few who have stood out among the rest. The Sharks women's volleyball team and coaching staff are proud to be represented by #16 star middle blocker and outside hitter, Melinda Rachel Gorman. Gorman is a 20-year-old junior at NSU who joined the Shark family straight out of high school from Sarasota, FL, in 2005.

Gorman believes that a leader is one who leads by example. Gorman has proven to be a natural leader through her raw talent in multiple positions on the court over the years. Gorman has accumulated a number of achievements throughout her career as a volleyball player, and has also received honorable recognitions from both the Sunshine State Conference and the Sharks Athletic Department. As a sophomore, Gorman finished first in offensive plays on the team with a ferocious 353 kills, 1030 stellar attacks and a whopping 422 points and came in second in defense with 352 digs and a grand total of 88 blocks. In addition to this, Gorman has recently made NSU history by being the first-ever SSC

Volleyball Player of the Week on Sept. 24, 2007. In addition to skill, Gorman said that she believes she brings high intensity to the chemistry of the team. "Creating big plays to get the girls going again at a time when we might be down is huge."

Aside from

volleyball, Gorman's interests are primarily spending quality time with her family and friends. "My parents are definitely my heroes," said Gorman. "...they have sacrificed so much for me to have the opportunity to excel in volleyball." Regarding other inspirations, Gorman said, "I think I have two great coaches [Head Coach Wilcosky and Coach

Piantadosi] who mean a lot to me. They would do anything for

me and anyone else on the team. They push me to become great and mentally able to handle anything."

Upon graduation in 2009, Gorman hopes to travel overseas to continue her promising career in volleyball, and plans on eventually putting her degree in Sports

Management and Recreation to use towards some sort of involvement with children. "I haven't really narrowed down what it is exactly I want to do, but I would love to work with kids," said Gorman.

Currently Gorman works as a Student Ambassador in Admissions here at NSU.

Gorman's motto to live by is, "Ability is what you are capable of doing. Motivation determines what you do. Finally, attitude determines how well you do it."

Gorman closed the interview with the following. "If what you did yesterday still impresses you, then you haven't done much today," said Gorman.



Above: Melinda Gorman

## Cross Country Conclude Season

Men finish 7<sup>th</sup>, Women 12<sup>th</sup>

Nelly Mesa Sports Editor

▼ NSU's men's cross country team placed 7<sup>th</sup> and the women's team took home 12<sup>th</sup> place while competing in Alabama on Nov. 4 at the NCAA Division II Regional Meet.

Junior Eskender Abdalla led the Sharks with an 18<sup>th</sup> place finish amongst 127 rivaling male runners. In addition to Abdalla's already outstanding achievements in the 2007 season, he broke NSU's 10K with a time of 33:38 record while at the regional race.

Sophomore Tara Haddock was the Sharks' top female runner while in Alabama. Haddock took 31<sup>st</sup> place in the 6K course, with a time of 23:49:5, amongst 150 fellow female runners.

The men's and women's cross country team are concluding this 2007 season with their heads held high as they have achieved new heights on both an individual and team level. Amongst such

accomplishments as the men's team obtaining a regional ranking all through the season, the Sharks athletes were honored numerous times by the SSC throughout the season.

Abdalla acquired the title of SSC Male Runner of the Week a total of four times this season, as well as being voted onto the All-SSC Cross Country First Team and being the first-ever male cross country athlete in Shark history to be named SSC's Male Runner of the Year.

Not only has Haddock managed to balance commitments to both the women's basketball team and the women's cross country team here at NSU, but she has established a name for herself all through the SSC and the Sharks' Athletic Department with her break-through season on the race course. Haddock has led the women's cross country team as the Sharks' top finisher in five of the six races, as well as being named an SSC Female Runner of the Week in October.

With the majority of the Sharks top runners returning for the 2008 season, NSU has much to look forward to.



Above: NSU's cross country team runs a race.

## Women's Soccer Wins One, Loses One in SSC Tournament

Tim Coenraad Staff Writer

▼ The #19 NSU women's soccer team began their Sunshine State Conference Tournament campaign after a 0-0 draw with Florida Southern on Oct. 27 at the NSU Soccer Complex. The Sharks' first round opponents were the Fighting Knights of Lynn University. The two teams battled on Oct. 30 to see who would advance to the semi-finals. NSU struck early, courtesy of sophomore Kelly Diershow, whose powerful shot, assisted by junior Alyssa Fernandez, was too much for Lynn's goal keeper to handle,

giving the Sharks a 1-0 lead in the 4<sup>th</sup> minute. The Sharks maintained the lead throughout the match. The NSU defense, led by SSC Defensive Player of the Week and senior Jennifer Turner and sophomore goal keeper Sarah Glass, who registered her first post-season shutout, held the Lynn attack to only five shots on goal and not a single corner kick for the entire match, which resulted in a Shark victory 1-0.

Upon entering the semi-final game of the SSC Tournament, the Sharks were thrilled when the SSC announced Lauren Prow as SSC Freshman of the Year and Turner and Prow were both named to the All-SSC First Team, well-deserved honors for both female athletes.

The Sharks faced-up against the Lions of Saint Leo for the semi-final clash on Nov. 2 in Tampa. Diershow once again provided the offense for the Sharks in the 17<sup>th</sup> minute by capitalizing on a bad

clearance, sealing the Sharks' only goal of the match. NSU held their 1-0 lead up until the 62<sup>nd</sup> minute, when the Saint Leo's forward Hannah Beard pounced on a loose ball near the Shark's 18 yard box and locked up the match at one goal a piece. Beard was the hero of the match for the Lions when, in the closing stages of the match, she chipped the ball over Glass, finding the back of the net and crushing the Sharks SSC Tournament drive by a score of two goals to one.

However, the Sharks' defeat will not stop them from competing further in the NCAA tournament. NSU will be back in action on Nov. 9 in Tampa where they will face Ouachita Baptist University from Arkansas in their first regional match.



Above: Stephanie Quinones

# Variety

## American Gangster is an Instant Oscar

Anthony Labson Freelance Writer

▼ With a strong cast including the likes of Denzel Washington and Russell Crowe, how could the result not be a powerful movie, especially with Director Ridley Scott at the helm? Washington portrays Frank Lucas, a drug-lord in New York City who became one of the most powerful mobsters in American history; Lucas was finally arrested by Detective Richie Roberts, who was portrayed by Russell Crowe. It has been a long time since Washington and Crowe have teamed up, going all the way back to the 1995 science fiction flick *Virtuosity*, but all that time apart hasn't affected the chemistry between these two Oscar winners. Washington and Scott have also worked together before on *Man on Fire*, and these two talented men deliver the same satisfaction with *American Gangster*.

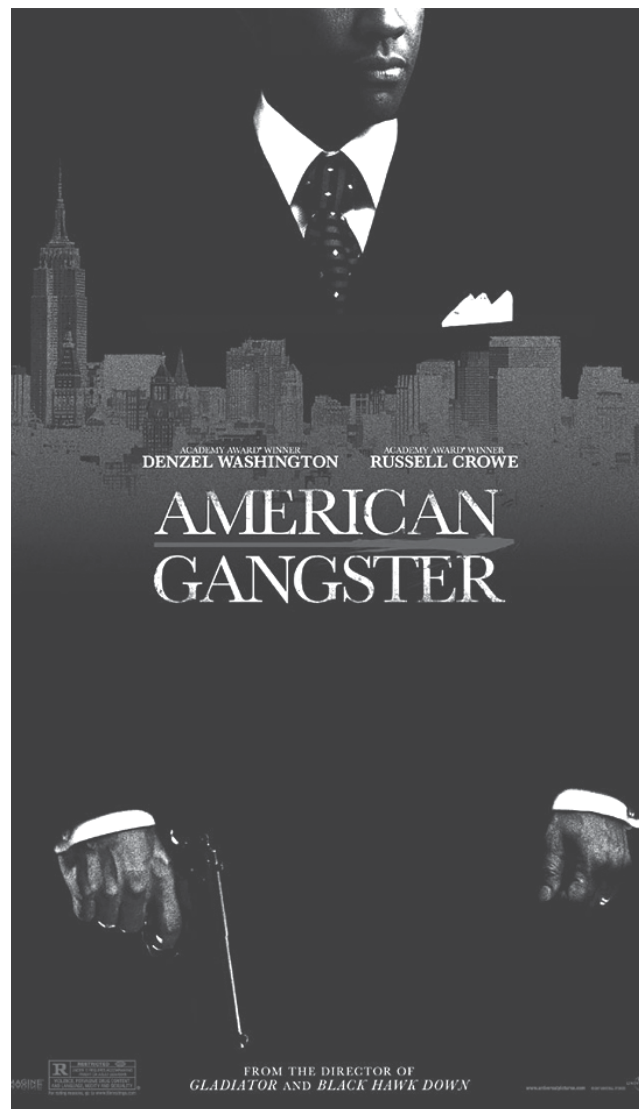
This is a film worthy of being ranked high among famous mobster movies such as *The*

*Departed* and *The Godfather*. Not since the movie *Training Day* has the audience had the pleasure of watching Washington play the bad guy. The audience could not keep their eyes off Washington, no matter what he was doing or how slow the scene, because he was always doing something completely spontaneous. From beginning to end, Washington gave a performance that is nothing short of perfection.

Crowe has also given us an Oscar-worthy performance as Roberts, the detective hired to put a special team together to put an end to organized crime and police corruption in New York City. Crowe gives this great performance as an officer who is on the outside an honest, faithful, and good man, but on the inside is an adulterer with his life spinning out of control. Whether it's out on the streets spying on Lucas, walking into a police station full of corrupted cops, or in the

court room trying to pick up the pieces of his shattered personal life, Crowe shows how Roberts suffers while bringing down a mobster like Lucas. Crowe's portrayal of Robert's pain was so moving and tragic that it brought many of the audience members to tears. Even without the surprise performances of well-known actors and hip hop stars, *American Gangster* would not have been a success without the performances of these two incredibly talented actors.

Scott is a shoe-in for an Oscar nomination this year and has quite a chance at the Oscar for Best Director. Scott kept the movie flowing and makes a point to show how racism actually kept Lucas under the radar for a short time. Scott has accomplished his best work yet with this crime drama, and there is little doubt that there will be a golden statue waiting for him at the Oscars. This film gets 4 stars as an outstanding movie.



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# Variety

# Opinion

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2. CONFUSIONPAINHAPPINESSJOY \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
3. WOMAN MAN CHILD \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
4. THROW ↑ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
5. CHILD  
BOARD \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
6. THESTARSKY \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

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O	C	M	B	N	N	S	Y	X	A	W	Q	
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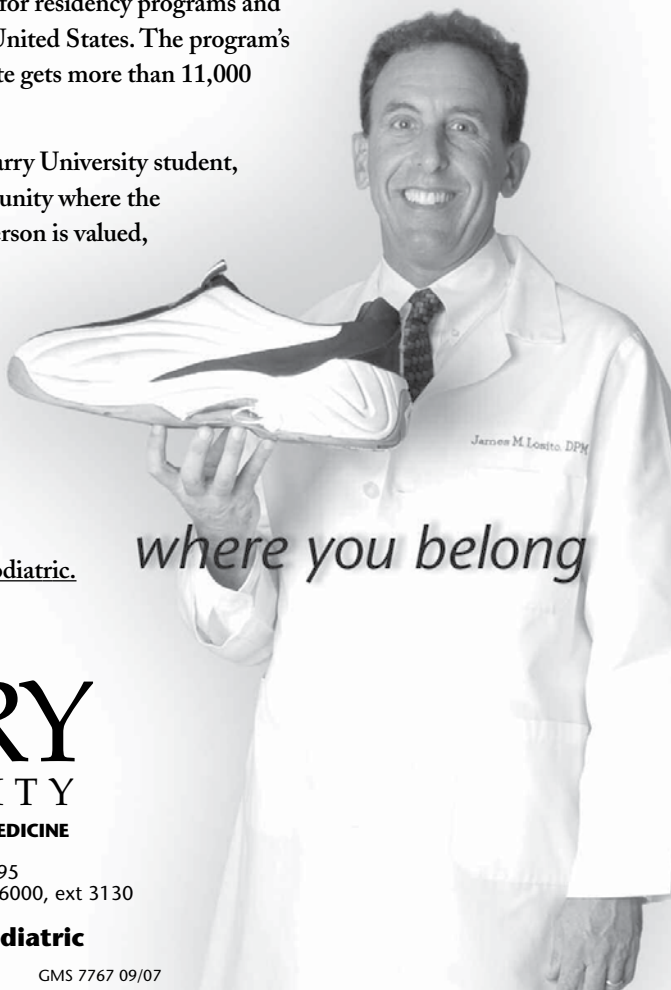
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Photography by mariapaola GMS 7767 09/07

## Ask Mr. Shark

Akshat Bhargava Undergraduate Student Government Association, President



▼ Mr. Shark-

**Q:** I heard that if you lock yourself out of your car, Public Safety will open it for free. Is this true?

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**Q:** I am an undergraduate student, currently enrolled full-time. I'm unhappy with one of my professors and would like to know if I could speak to anyone about it.

**A:** My Fin, NSU is a fine educational institute and students are a top priority. If you are unhappy with your professor, I would suggest talking to him/her before or after class, or during his/her office hours. If that does not work, or you feel uncomfortable, I would suggest that you contact your academic advisor for more information.

**Q:** I recently changed my address and would like to know where I should report my new address.

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**Please Note:** If you are a student employee at NSU, you will also need to make changes with Human Resources (Horvitz Administration Building, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor) since making a change in WebStar does not automatically change your mailing address on file with HR. In order to receive your check and other tax information at your new address, I would advise you to change your address in both locations. For more information, contact your academic advisor.

Special Thanks to  
Public Safety  
Marikay Concannon, Senior Academic Advisor Farquhar College of Arts and Sciences.  
Human Resources Information Specialist, NSU

Ask Mr. Shark is a bi-weekly column. To get your questions answered by Mr. Shark, email your question to [Bhargava@nova.edu](mailto:Bhargava@nova.edu)

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# Opinion

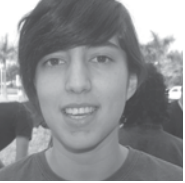
## On The Scene

Kristine Belizaire Current Affairs Editor

**Sheela Venero** English Major, Senior

“Well, I’m home now. I live here, so my whole family is gathering together at my house for Thanksgiving.”







**Carolina Usbeck** Computer Information Systems, Sophomore

“I’m staying in the area. Going back home is in Ecuador, like 500 miles away, and it’s not really worth it for three days.”

**Jean Torres** Biology Major, Junior

“I’m staying around for Thanksgiving. I live in Miami but I reside on campus.”






**Carlos Haderspock** Biology, Sophomore

“I’m not doing anything. I don’t celebrate Thanksgiving. I’m not from around here! I’m from Austria, so I plan to just watch TV and relax.”

**Christopher Rehverg** Biology Major, Freshmen

“I’m going home to Ocala. I want to spend time with my family there.”



## Editor’s Note

Michael Bergauer Interim Editor-in-Chief

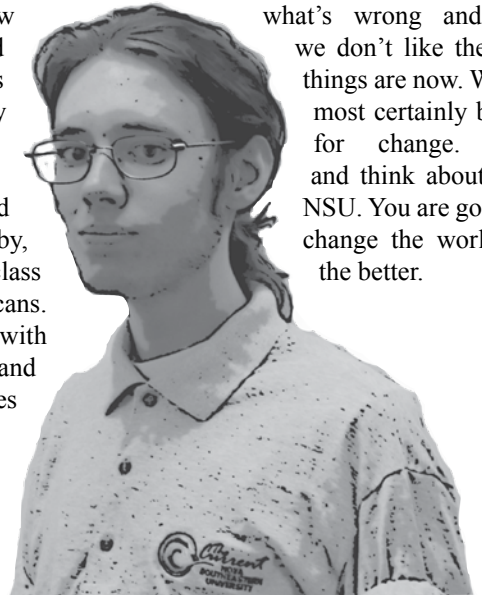
▼ Last week, we had some students from the U.K. visit our campus to participate in a debate with NSU students (you can find coverage of that event in this issue). To my infinite dismay, I missed the debate; however, I was fortunate enough to meet the students from across the pond when they came to my COMM class.

They initially stopped by to discuss communication and debate issues, but they also discussed differences between the U.K. and America. During our discussion, however, we segued into other topics. The international students asked the class how Americans believe they are perceived by the rest of the world. The responses from the NSU students were not nearly as flattering as the U.K. stereotypes the class mentioned (witty, smart, fond of tea). Some of the adjectives that surfaced regarding Americans were pushy, snobby, ignorant, intolerant and violent. The class seemed to be full of self-hating Americans. At least the U.K. students disagreed with us, using descriptions such as smart and friendly to describe their experiences with Americans.

Americans’ self-perception seems to stem from the U. S. government’s international policies. The Americans seem to be of the opinion that our

current government is projecting these negative stereotypes to the rest of the world and that these perceptions will continue to. The U.K. students found it strange that Americans seem to fear their government. The students encountered some Americans who believed that it was necessary to keep a gun in their home; otherwise, the federal government could walk in and start pushing them around.

However, there is no way that perceptions of Americans can get worse. This generation, us, is up next. We all know what’s wrong and that we don’t like the way things are now. We are most certainly bound for change. Stop and think about that, NSU. You are going to change the world for the better.





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