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Nova Southeastern University

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The Current

The Student-Run Newspaper of Nova Southeastern University

October 5, 2010 | Volume 21, Issue 8 | nsucurrent.nova.edu

Facebook "friends"
the law

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NSU receives grant
for being a minority-
serving institution

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Medical records go
from paper to PC

PAGE 7

College women at risk for sexual assault

Written by:
Alyssa Sterkel

A recent study by the Department of Justice estimated that one in four college women will be victims of sexual assault or attempted sexual assault before graduation.

Vittoria Santini, junior communication studies major said, "I think that's a part of reality. I'm sure it happens at parties and stuff. It's a little bit shocking because one in four college students is a lot."

Shane Lam, assistant director of field operations for Public Safety, said they prioritizes the well-being of students, faculty and employees, especially in sexual harassment cases. In the Public Safety Campus Safety and Traffic Handbook, a section is devoted to sexual harassment encouraging victims to report all sexual assaults, including violent and acquaintance rape.

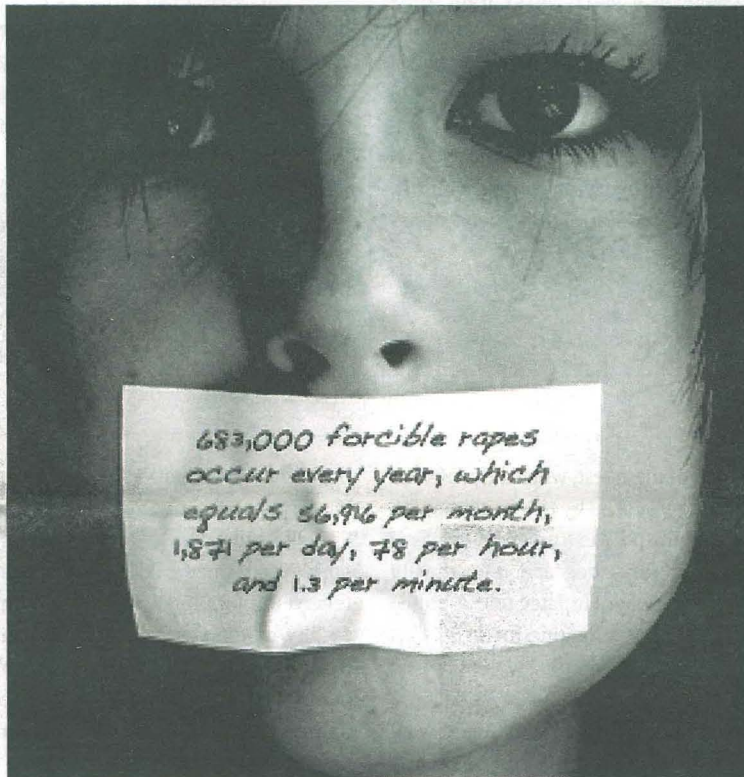
NSU has three Davie police officers who work on campus full time to patrol the residence halls. The university also provides an escort service for students. A Public Safety officer will escort students from anywhere on campus to their car or vice versa.

Lam said the Office of Public Safety also conducts bimonthly that checks of all external lights to ensure no place on campus is dark enough for a predator to attack.

"The parking garage is lit up like a light bulb," he said. "It is one of the most well lit places on campus."

Sexual assault victims have the right to have campus personnel cooperate in notifying the proper authorities, to have the assault investigated, and to have access to campus counseling services.

See RAPE 2



COURTESY OF WWW.BREAKDOWNOFAMERICA.COM

NSU professor arrested



COURTESY OF BROWARD SHERIFF'S OFFICE
Mug shot of NSU professor Russell Abratt. Abratt was arrested for loitering on Sept. 20.

Written by:
Annarely Rodriguez

An NSU professor was arrested on Sept. 20 when a neighbor reported seeing him looking into several neighborhood windows in Weston.

Russell Abratt, Ph.D., professor and chair of marketing and decision sciences at the H. Wayne

See PROFESSOR 2

Business school launches sales program

Written by:
Annarely Rodriguez

The H. Wayne Huizenga School of Business and Entrepreneurship added a new program to its curriculum.

The Sales Institute, located on the third floor of the Carl DeSantis Building, will teach students the skills needed to succeed in the sales world, be it selling a product or selling an idea.

"We want our students to have a clear, definite competitive advantage getting positions," said Michael Fields, Ph.D., dean of the business school. "And we want to demonstrate to employers that our students have a market-based education."

The college added the program after representatives met with approximately 50 Florida companies to determine what was expected of graduates in the sales world.

Courses in the institute's curriculum include productive approaches to relationship selling,

marketing principles and applications, award-winning concepts for business negotiations, and real world management of sales systems.

According to Dennis Dan-nacher, director of recruitment and admissions in the Huizenga business school, there are only 30 out of 4,000 colleges in the country that offer a sales program.

Andrew Davis, senior business administration and marketing major, said he believes sales skills are essential. He said he is glad NSU is one of the few schools that offer the program.

"Sales is just part of business that you'll probably have to do whether you like it or not," said Davis. "As such, I appreciate that NSU has put a focus on sales education because I know that learning these sales skills will help me be more successful in my career."

With the program, the school added two concentrations to its Master in Business Administration program, one in sales and the other in sales management. The school also added a minor in sales and

two required classes to its Bachelor of Science program. There are 38 students already enrolled in the sales minor.

Denise Sharp, freshman marketing major, is one of them. She enrolled in the program because she did not want her lack in sales skills to prohibit her from finding a job.

"I believe the skills I obtain in the sales minor will allow me to be more valuable to a company," said Sharp. "Yes, I will be fresh out of college, but I would be able to add immediate value to a company without them having to spend dollars on intensive training."

Students enrolled in the program will be able to take advantage of the 82,000-square-foot facility, which includes 16 mock sales presentation and interview rooms, and an executive conference room.

The presentation and interview rooms are equipped with cameras at different angles: One to film the interviewer, another one on the student, and a camera that films

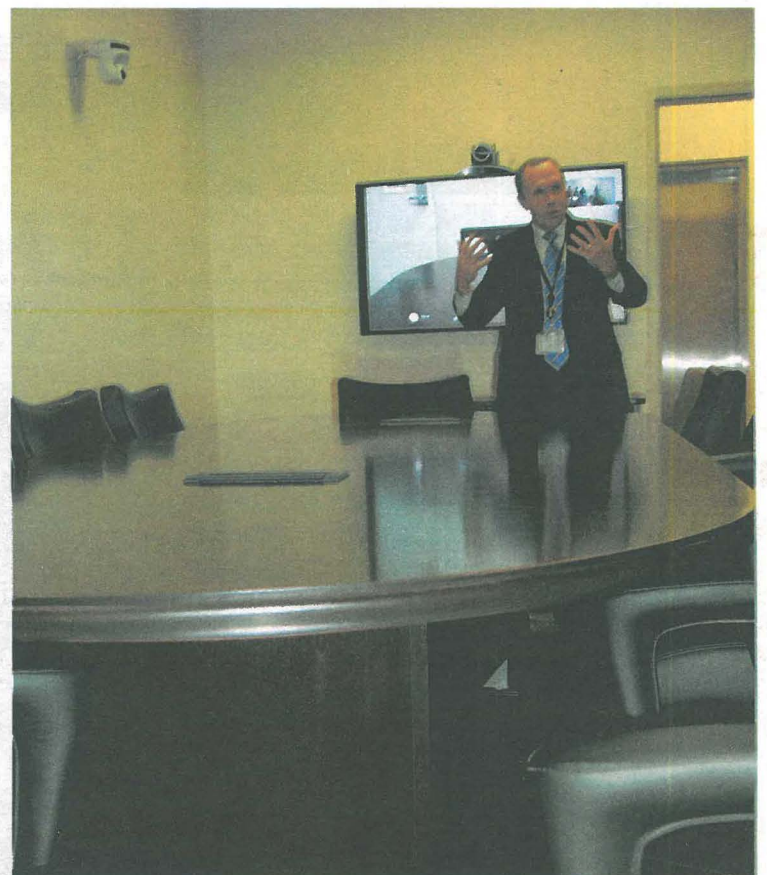


PHOTO BY A. RODRIGUEZ

Dean Michael Fields demonstrates how to use the cameras in an interview room. Dean Fields said that at the end of the year, each student will have a video portfolio with the presentations made in those rooms.

See SALES INSTITUTE 2

RAPE from 1

“We encourage victims to report these crimes. A lot of the time, girls won’t report a sexual assault because they think it was their fault, but it’s not. Reporting it is the only way we can catch the people and put them in jail.”

— Jim Ewing, director of Public Safety

“We encourage victims to report these crimes. A lot of the time, girls won’t report a sexual assault because they think it was their fault, but it’s not. Reporting it is the only way we can catch the people and put them in jail,” said Jim Ewing, director of Public Safety.

Lauren Llorente, freshman biology major, said, “I don’t feel like I will be sexually harassed on campus, especially if it’s only 30 percent guys. I just feel safe and I think everyone feels that way. I went to UF a week ago and I didn’t feel as safe as I do here.”

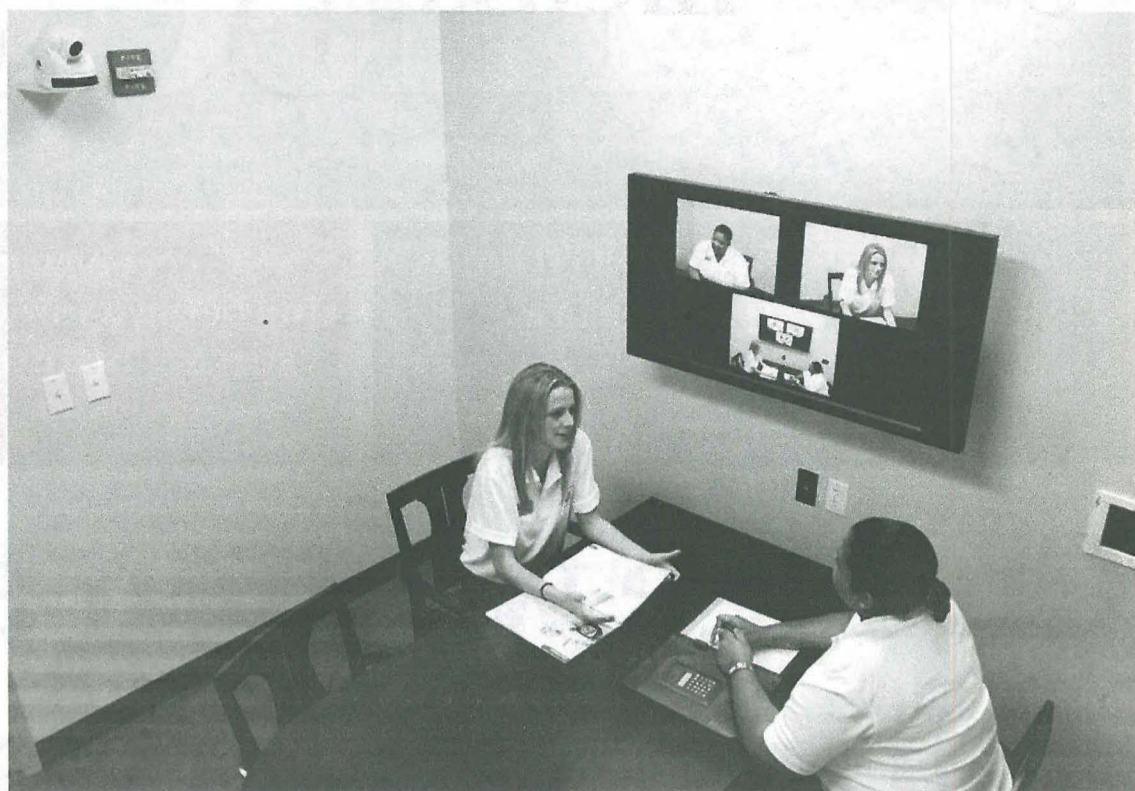
Despite the measures taken by NSU to protect against the statistic, Lam said that women also need to be

proactive in protecting themselves from attacks.

Lam said, “Girls need to be aware and not put themselves in situations where they can be victimized.”

“If you’re at a party, it’s safety in numbers. Most of the assaults are date rapes. If you’re drinking at a bar or at a party, never walk away from your drink. If you’re going to drink, drink responsibly. Don’t drink to the point where you’re not in control of your faculties,” said Ewing. “If you’re out in public and somebody is trying to drag you off, yell and scream, and try to get someone’s attention.”

SALES INSTITUTE from 1



Models pose in one of the interview rooms to demonstrate the different camera angles in the rooms. The 16 rooms have three cameras — one on the presenter, one on the receiver, and one on both people — that transmit the visuals to a screen.

both people at the same time. These cameras provide professors with the opportunity to review the interview or presentation and tell students what they did wrong.

Once students complete the program, Dean Fields said, they will have a video portfolio to show employers their potential.

“It will put you on par with

people who have experience,” said Fields.

Many of the rooms are also equipped with video conferencing so that students may speak with potential employers anywhere in the world.

To construct the program the school teamed up with Sandler Training, a company with 35 years

of experience training Fortune 500 corporations, as well as small and mid-sized companies. Sandler Training also trained faculty in its methods.

The Sales Institute will host its grand opening on Oct. 13 with two sessions, one at 7:30 a.m. and one at 4:30 p.m.

PROFESSOR from 1

Huizenga School of Business and Entrepreneurship, was arrested for loitering and prowling.

According to the Broward Sheriff’s Office arrest report, neighbors reported seeing Abratt walking suspiciously between houses, late at night, three weeks prior to his arrest as well.

The report notes that on the

night of the arrest, when the professor was approached by the neighbor who called the police, Russell said he was looking for a dog and immediately walked away. He later told a police officer he was looking for a cat.

Russell said his lawyer advised him not to speak to the press because the investigation is still underway. However, the professor said that

once the investigation is over, he would speak to The Current.

Russell has been an NSU employee since 2006 and has received multiple awards, including faculty of the year in the Huizenga School in 2009. He has also published more than 95 academic journal articles and taught at universities all over the world.

Never miss an issue

The Current

The Student-Run Newspaper of Nova Southeastern University

3301 College Avenue
Athletics and Student Affairs (ASA) Building, Room 105
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33314-7796
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<p>NEWSROOM</p> <p>Phone: (954) 262-8455 Fax: (954) 262-8456 nsunews@nova.edu</p>	<p>BUSINESS & ADVERTISING</p> <p>Phone: (954) 262-8461 Fax: (954) 262-8456 thecurrentad@nova.edu</p>
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Joydel Trail	Editor-in-Chief	nsunews@nova.edu
Annarely Rodriguez	News Editor	thecurrentnews@nova.edu
Keren Moros	Features Editor	thecurrentfeatures@nova.edu
Craig Heenighan	Sports Editor	sportseditor@nova.edu
Juan Gallo	Arts & Entertainment Editor	thecurrenta&e@nova.edu
Samantha Harfenist	Opinions Editor	lettertoeditor@nova.edu
Alek Culpepper	Contributing Writer	nsunews@nova.edu
Alyssa Sterkel	Contributing Writer	nsunews@nova.edu
Sabrina Talamo	Contributing Writer	nsunews@nova.edu
Lauren Aurigemma	Chief of Visual Design	thecurrentad@nova.edu
Chelsea Seignious	Visual Design Assistant	thecurrentad@nova.edu
Megan Fitzgerald	Adviser	mf821@nova.edu
Eddie Jitpraphai	Adviser	jitpraph@nova.edu
Michelle Manley	Adviser	mmichell@nova.edu

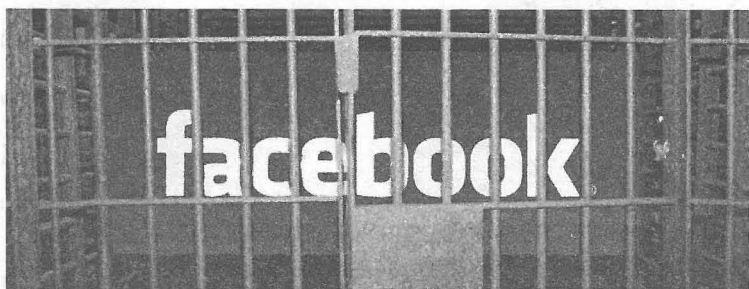
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Social media close the case



COURTESY OF WWW.TECHI.COM

Written by:
Alek Culpepper

Facebook, MySpace, and other social networks may be ways to stay connected to or reconnect with old friends, but for some, it could mean solitary confinement because things posted on Facebook may be used as evidence in a court room.

Assistant professor of law, Amanda M. Foster, said, "There can be a lot of things these sites provide that can be useful. For instance, the things people send in messages, pictures they post, or even give someone an alibi," said Foster.

Evidence that comes from these social networks may be beneficial in numerous ways. Law enforcement and prosecutors can use it to identify suspects and even build cases.

Reshma Daniel, freshman legal studies major, said, "I feel that it's a great source of evidence. It's a written document that just happens to be an online database."

In a Niagaran County court, a judge increased the bail of a defendant who was charged with

felony assault and misdemeanor weapon possession based on photos found on MySpace. The accused was released on \$5,000 bail, but a prosecutor showed 10 additional pages on MySpace that showed him wearing gang clothing, holding up gangs signs, and standing with other gang members. Based on this information, the judge raised his bail to \$50,000.

Posts, statuses, and comments can be used in the court room in several ways. For example, if a husband or wife twitters about getting a piece of jewelry, the court may view that as marital assets being disbursed to a third party. If a husband says to the court that he cannot pay a certain amount of child support due to his lack of a job and then posts about a day at work, then he could be in trouble.

Foster said that while social networks can be fun, they should be used with caution.

"Everyone is using it. It's a generation thing, just use it in a smart professional way," she said.

Public schools get help with education



COURTESY OF GETTY IMAGES

President Barack Obama signs the \$10 billion bill that gave Florida \$554 million to rehire fired teachers.

Written by:
Annarely Rodriguez

Florida's public schools received \$554 million to help the schools' budgets and secure jobs in the education field. The grant was part of a state aid bill that President Barack Obama signed last month.

To get the grant, the state had to pledge that the money would be used only to save jobs, not to pay off debts.

"What's unique about this is that it is specific to faculty," said Steve Thompson, Ph.D., executive director of marketing communications at the Fischler School of Education and Human Services. "These are very difficult economic times. The state never had to deal with such a large scale lay-off of teachers. Teaching was always viewed as a recession-proof profession."

The grant will expire at the end of the school year and those teachers who were hired as a result of the funding from the grant may be fired.

Nichole Evans, freshman biology major and Florida public school graduate, said, "If it's just for one year, then it won't help anything. It's not going to make a big difference."

The grant has been criticized as a bailout that will not help the economy.

Valentina Bustamante, sophomore athletic training major, said, "I think it's good that it helps [teachers], but the economy is so bad and people are cutting jobs everywhere. This is not going to help."

Thompson disagrees. "I think investing in education always helps the economy. It may not be immediate, but it definitely helps for people to have professional skills," he said.

NSU receives government funding to assist minorities

Written by:
Annarely Rodriguez

On Sept. 27, NSU received a \$2.87 million grant to expand opportunities for minority students. The university will use the money primarily to improve the success of Hispanic students at the Oceanographic Center.

Larry Calderon, Ed.D, vice-president for community and governmental affairs, said that the funding will also assist other minority students at NSU as well.

"You qualify for the funds by being a Hispanic-serving institution, but the programs benefit all students," said Calderon. "What's good for one student is good for another."

The grant was part of a push by the federal government to increase students' interest in the areas of

science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM).

"The federal government is giving more money to the STEM fields because a lot of professionals in those fields are beginning to retire and they have found there is a vacuum of students who are pursuing science," said Calderon.

Lee Ballard, second-year law student, said he liked the fact that the university is opening more opportunities for students.

"I think if NSU qualified because it has a high minority population to gain more funding and they use that money to generate more interest in science, that's good," he said.

To do so the university will invest the money to improve student engagement, enrollment of Hispanic and other underrepresented populations and the availability of

advisement among other areas.

Heather Fehlner, who is applying to NSU's physical therapy program, said, "Science usually leads to a career in health care, which is a growing field. I think it's great that this grant gives students the opportunity to do graduate work in science, which is usually needed to get into health care."

The OC will create a new Fellows program, an enhanced process for admission and for accessing enrollment information, a new web portal, enhanced faculty development. The curriculum, co-curricular and extra-curricular activities will also be reviewed.

"We want to not only make NSU more aware to our Hispanic students, but to our students in general," said Calderon. "We want to help them succeed and graduate."

OIT official gives reason for Skype block on campus

Written by:
Annarely Rodriguez

Greg Horne, executive director of Information Technology Systems and Services, said students are barred from using popular video chatting service, Skype, on campus to protect the university's computers.

He said this is due to the way Skype transfers information.

"Skype sessions (voice, video, IM, file transfer) are encrypted in a single tunnel, making the traffic invisible to network security systems," he said.

Similar video chatting programs, like ooVoo, are not blocked because they do not use this system.

"Unlike Skype, most other services use standard communication protocols, which do not prevent network security systems from detecting and eradicating malicious traffic from entering the NSU network," Horne said.

Horne added that the office is working to make the service available on campus without presenting threats to the university's network, but there is no time frame as to when it will happen.

News Briefs

NSU releases new microwave policy

On Sept. 24, NSU restricted the use of microwaves to break rooms, kitchen rooms, kitchenette areas, vending rooms, and student residential rooms on campus. The Office of Facilities Management will inspect the university buildings to ensure compliance with the policy. The policy was established to prevent fires and false fire alarms. The policy applies to all of NSU's campuses. For more information, contact the Office of Facilities Management at (954) 262-8845.

Finding a career made easy

The Office of Career Development will host a business career fair on Oct. 7 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the atrium of the Carl DeSantis Building. Employers are looking to fill positions in management training, accounting, sales, marketing, finance and more. This event is open to the public.

Bookstore offers a chance to win \$1,000 gift card

The NSU bookstore is will raffle a \$1,000 Barnes and Noble gift card. To enter, students must "Like" the NSU bookstore on Facebook by Oct. 29. They must also fill out an application found under the "Enter to Win" tab on the page. For more information, log on to nsubooks.bncollege.com.

FBI to visit Huizenga School of Business

Special Agent in Charge John V. Gillies of the FBI in Miami will speak at the H. Wayne Huizenga School of Business and Entrepreneurship on Oct. 5 at 10:30 a.m. The lecture is in the Grand room on the third floor of the Carl DeSantis Building.

President Obama signs \$42 billion bill

On Sept. 27, President Barack Obama signed a \$42 billion bill to aid small businesses. According to a summary of the bill from the senate, the bill is expected to create 500,000 jobs.

Four public figures die

Pro Football Hall of Famer George Blanda died after a brief illness on Monday, Sept. 27. Blanda scored more than 2,000 points during his 26-year pro football career. On Tuesday, a day after his 88th birthday, Arthur Penn, director of "Bonnie and Clyde," died due to heart failure. Comedian Greg Giraldo also died last week. Giraldo, who was found on Wednesday, accidentally overdosed at age 44. Finally, actor Tony Curtis, 85, also died on Wednesday due to a cardiac arrest. Mr. Curtis, known for his role in "Some Like it Hot."

Skype on Facebook

People on Facebook will be able to use Skype's video, phone, and text capabilities without having to exit the Facebook Web site. The two companies were rumored to be finalizing the details of the collaboration last week.

Rutgers University student commits suicide

Tyler Clementi, a student at Rutgers University, committed suicide last Wednesday after his roommate posted a video online of Clementi having sex with another man. The roommate, Dharun Ravi, and his friend, Molly Wei, were arrested for invasion of privacy. If they are found guilty, they could face up to five years in prison.

Reason #107



And you can read it.

The Current Print Edition

See something that happened on campus?

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NSU observes Suicide Prevention Week and raises suicide awareness
"Machete" is 100 percent male approved
Using the N-word: The Trinita controversy

NSU Oceanographic Center investigates oil spill

Joe Jonas participates in Special Olympics fundraiser at NSU

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Religious freedom in America: Why building a mosque near Ground Zero should be allowed

Get more from your SharkCard

Obama ends combat missions in Iraq

Rise in mental illnesses for college students

Homesickness: Not just about your momma's cooking

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Extreme Makeover - A new look, new layout, new features and more. The Current got a summer makeover.

NSU celebrates back-to-back national championships

\$2.1 million grant awarded to NSU program puts grannies in good hands

Judge outs Proposition 8

Let us know!

Inform The Current about on-campus events by calling us at (954) 262-8455 or emailing us at nsunews@nova.edu

Diary of...

A student who doesn't give up

Written by:
Mickele Mentz

Mickele Mentz is a senior economics major. He was the president and founder of the Billiards Club. He is the public relations chair for the Society of Anime, Games and Entertainment, a senator for the Undergraduate Student Government Association, the president of the Interfraternity Council and the vice president of Kappa Sigma Fraternity.

Some may know me as a brother in Kappa Sigma Fraternity, the president of the Interfraternity Council, campus entertainment director or someone who works at the Flight Deck. Many people are familiar with what I do as a leader here at NSU.

However, not many know what I do as a student. I entered college just like any other freshman. However, not every other freshman has a learning disability. As much as I would like to think that I am just like everyone else, deep inside I know I am not.

I have leadership skills and the keen ability to motivate others. However, being a leader at NSU comes with a hefty price. That price is a time commitment to my studies. To be a leader in a Greek organization you have to maintain a GPA above a 2.75.

Not that hard, some may think but when someone has to study twice as hard for the same results, a 40-hour study week turns to 80. With those 65 to 80 hours a week dedicated to study, I also dedicate nine hours a week to student government, 15 hours to the Interfraternity Council, 15 hours to my job at the Flight Deck, and 25 hours to my fraternity. And I still find time to socialize with my friends and hang out with my girlfriend.

I have always been recognized for everything I have done at NSU. My brothers have always thanked me for helping out with the events, the community service and the countless other projects I have been involved with. But the defining moment, and one of my best memories here at NSU, was winning Greek Man of the Year.

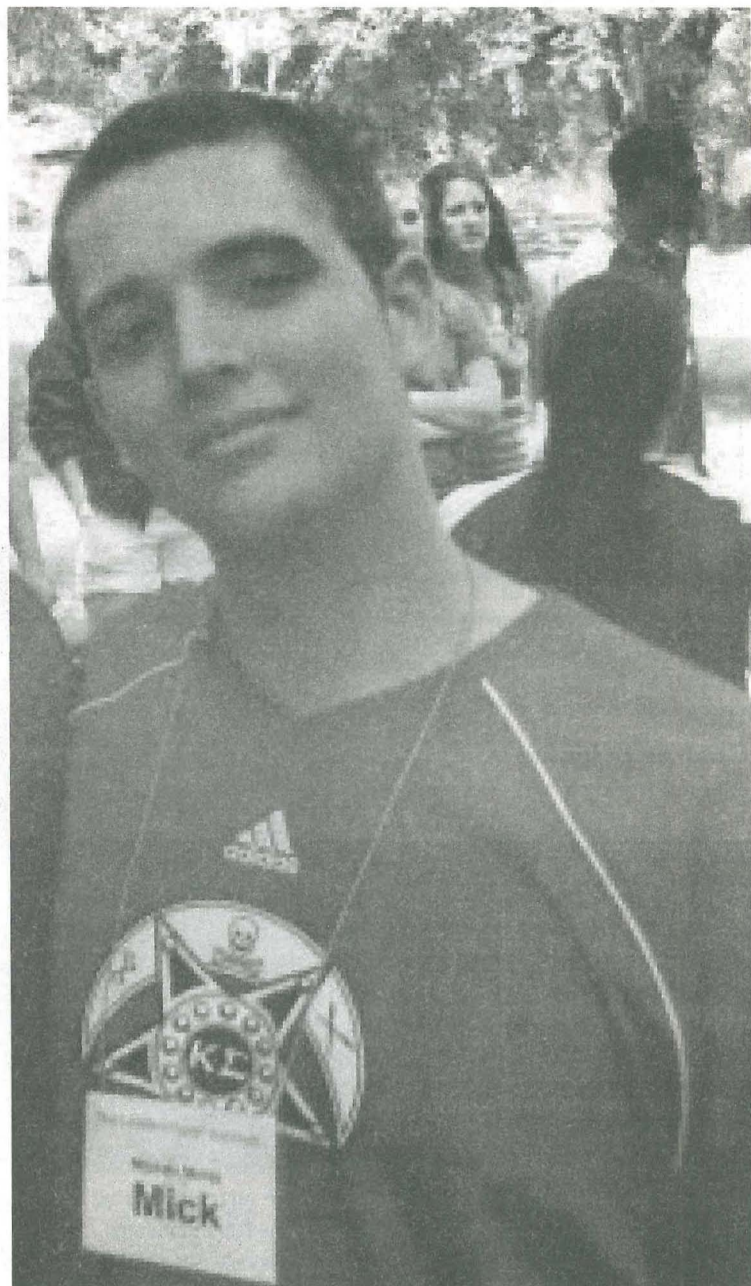
Out of all the student leaders I had won one of the most prestigious awards at the Greek awards banquet. It goes to show you that even with a learning disability I still managed to succeed at the highest level.

Some may think there is not enough time in a day to do what I do. I have something to tell everyone: You can do anything you set your mind to. I was told I should drop out of high school and pursue a career as a janitor or garbage man.

Then I came to college where a group of guys told me the ideals of Kappa Sigma Fraternity: Scholarship, fellowship, leadership and service. They told me that Kappa Sigma strives to make you a better man. Then they told me a quotation, "Diligence should be your watchword. Whatever you do, do well and may success attend your efforts."

This stuck with me and from that day forward I put forth a 100 percent in everything I do and success has attended my efforts.

If you take anything away from this I hope it would be to never give up.



COURTESY OF M. MENTZ
Mickele Mentz is a senior economics major. He is involved in several organizations on campus and does well academically despite having a learning disability.

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT: DR. RALPH EUGENE CASH

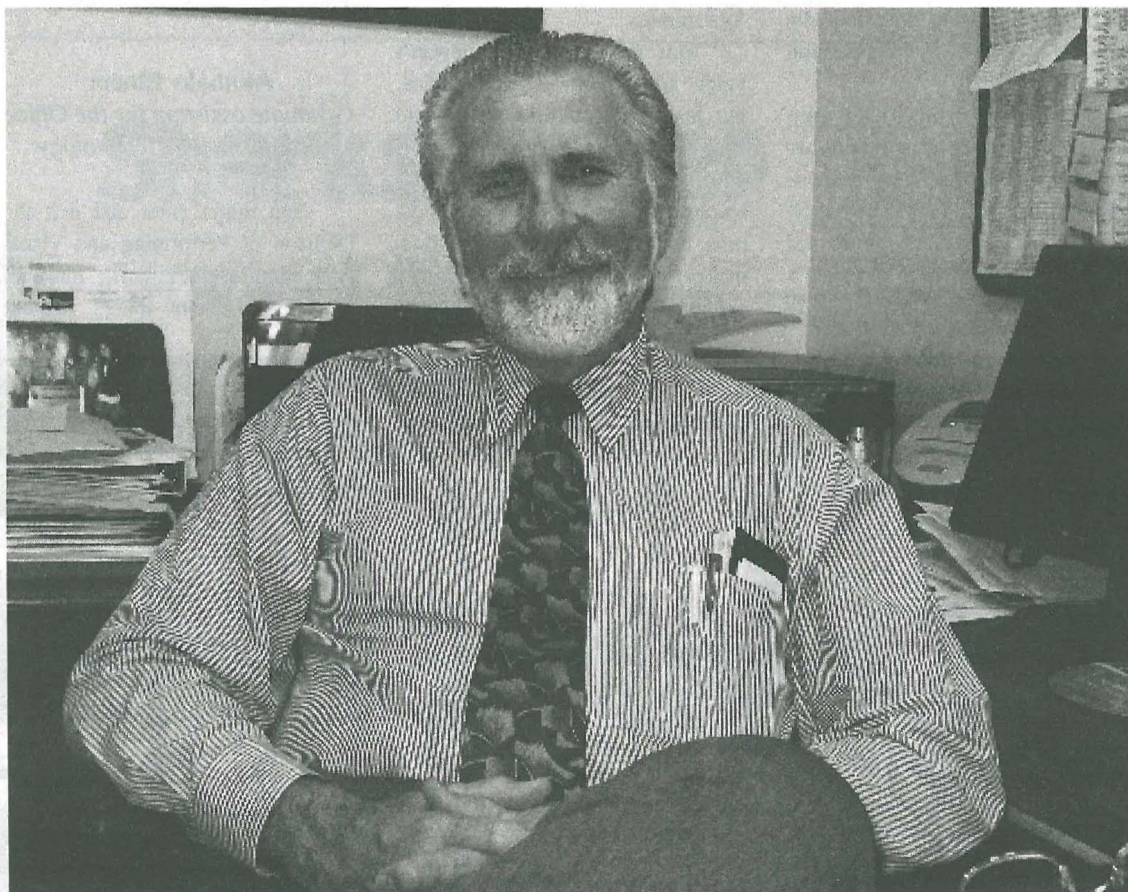
Written by:
Keren Moros

Gene Cash, NCSP, associate professor of psychology at the Center for Psychological Studies, doesn't use his first name, Ralph, but he signs his name R. Eugene Cash. When asked why, he said that the signature forms a question: "Are you Gene Cash?"

This is an example of the humor Cash brings to his job. Cash tries to find and add humor to the things he does.

"Like, the name of our clinic is the School Psychology Assessment and Consultation Center and so we call it SPACEY and the practicum students there are SPACEY cadets," Cash said. "And we have a didactic portion of our supervision that we call Enhancement of Intensive Evaluation Intervention and Observational Skills or EIEIOS. I love acronyms. I love to bring humor to the process because I believe you learn better if you're having a good time."

Cash grew up in a family, which he said was "so poor that the church mice moved out of our house and back into the church." Only one person in his family had gone to college. However, Cash enrolled at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville as a chemistry major. He later made an impulsive decision to change his major to psychology



Gene Cash is an associate professor of psychology at the Center for Psychological Studies

PHOTO BY K. MOROS

when he decided that he would rather work with people than chemical calculations. This love for working with people shows in Cash's teaching style.

He incorporates his philosophy of life into his teaching, telling students that getting a degree takes persistence.

"I tell them that it's really important to be a good person in order to be a good professional," Cash said. "That it's very important to go into psychology not because you want to make a lot of money. Go into psychology because you really want to help people."

Cash has been a professor at

NSU since 2003 and was nominated for a Student Life Achievement Award in 2007 for co-curricular advisor of the year. He was the Student Government Association Specialist Professor of the Year for 2004-2005 and 2005-2006.

Outside of NSU, he has been the president of the National Association

of School Psychologists and has received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Florida Association of School Psychologists, of which he was also president.

But Cash's hobbies extend well beyond psychology.

Cash loves to sing and was a member of the Nova Singers for a few years. He is an amateur actor, plays guitar and enjoys going skiing, scuba diving, boating and skydiving. Cash has visited every continent except Antarctica, which he plans to visit soon.

"Traveling is a passion of mine, not just a hobby," Cash said. "I travel as often as I can. I try to get introduced to other cultures and other people as often as I can."

Cash's enthusiasm for life is contagious and the way he follows his passion mirrors the advice that he gives to others.

"Do what you love," he said. "Follow your passion the very best that you can and other things will come — money, fame, if that's what you want. Whatever it is that you hope to achieve will come about as a result of doing what you love and doing it the best that you possibly can."

Unsung heroes of NSU



PHOTO BY C. SEIGNIOUS

Lucy Mawhinney, Chartwells retail operations director at the main campus, has a passion for her job and her customers.

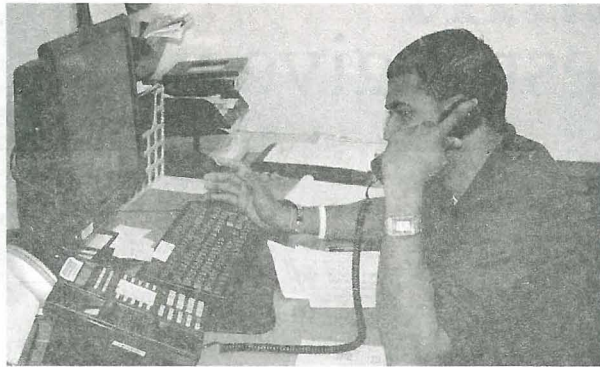


PHOTO BY C. SEIGNIOUS

Kendall Ramsijewan, accounts coordinator for the Office of Residential Life and Housing, is used to juggling phone calls, drop-in visitors, and other administrative tasks.



PHOTO BY C. SEIGNIOUS

Abubakr Elnoor, graduate assistant for the Office of Information Technology, enjoys working with students and professors, as well as learning computer skills.

Written by:
Chelsea Seignious

You see them every day on campus. You pass by and might not even think about what they do.

They are the assistants to the big wigs. They are the ones who work behind the scenes. They're the thread that holds it all together — the essentials to a successful mix at NSU.

Lucy Mawhinney, Chartwells retail operations director at the main campus, Kendall Ramsijewan, accounts coordinator for the Office of Residential Life and Housing and Abubakr Elnoor, graduate assistant for the Office of Information Technology, are a few of these people.

Lucy Mawhinney Chartwells Retail Operations Director at Main Campus

The best word to describe Lucy Mawhinney is passionate. Strike up a conversation about her job and you will see the sparkle in her eyes. You've probably seen Mawhinney behind the counters of the Don Taft University Center food court, rushing to fill orders or stopping to help employees with the cash register. She's the retail operations director at the Main Campus and has been with NSU for almost three years. She took the job as an opportunity to work with a large variety of

brands after leaving a teaching position at a culinary school.

Mawhinney said she likes the bustling atmosphere of working in the food court.

"My manager always says, 'It's your building.' I like the craziness," said Mawhinney. "It's nonstop."

She arrives to work at 8 a.m. and leaves campus around 5:30 p.m. Though it's not part of her work schedule, Mawhinney also pops in on the weekends to make sure everything is running smoothly. She attributes her weekends off to "awesome supervisors" who are able to keep the team motivated.

However, she doesn't mind coming in on the weekends from time to time.

"It's more than just a job for me," she said. "I'm one of those people who always wants to be a star. I like to do a good job. I want people to be happy. I want their food experience to be good. I want it to succeed and do well."

Mawhinney said her favorite part of her job is when the food court is the busiest.

"Around 12:10, when it's crazy full of people, seeing everyone here happy and seeing everything running properly," she said.

Mawhinney works by the grin-and-bear-it philosophy and trains her employees to do the same because she wants her customers to be happy.

"[When a problem comes up] you just have to solve it and keep a smile on your face as much as you

can," she said.

Each day involves solving problems and implementing solutions for Mawhinney. She also coordinates events and menus for the food court.

"No day is typical," said Mawhinney, grinning.

As a full-time mother to a six-year-old son and a member of the faculty club, Mawhinney keeps herself busy, which is just the way she likes it.

Kendall Ramsijewan Accounts Coordinator for the Office of Residential Life and Housing

Between phone calls and drop-in visitors, Kendall Ramsijewan could barely get a sentence in without being interrupted.

Ramsijewan is the accounts coordinator for the Office of Residential Life and Housing. He seemed used to the busyness. He was a resident assistant for two years and has been working in the Office of Residential Life and Housing for four months.

You may hear Ramsijewan's voice when you call the office, but his responsibilities go beyond answering the phone. He conducts payroll for roughly 60 employees, schedules meetings, runs reports and budget transfers, makes room reservations, issues receipts and takes care of e-mail

correspondence. And, he manages six front-office employees.

"It takes a lot out of me," he said. From 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m., his day is about the students and he said he loves it.

"I enjoy helping them on a day-to-day basis and making sure they're happy and comfortable in their rooms," he said.

Outside of work, Ramsijewan co-advises Nova Nine, a student organization that recognizes student accomplishment at NSU. He also attends commuter assistant program meetings.

He attributes his success to a disciplined background in Trinidad and Tobago.

"The circumstances I grew up in helped define me," he said. "I didn't grow up from a lot of money. Now, I value the opportunities provided."

As the first in his family to earn a college degree, Ramsijewan has no plans of stopping. He will begin graduate school soon, adding another full-time job to the one he already has.

"I want to set a precedent for my family members," he said.

Abubakr Elnoor Graduate assistant for the Office of Information Technology

You might enter and exit the Division of Performing and Visual Arts computer lab in the morning or early afternoon hours without

noticing Abubakr Elnoor, a graduate assistant for the Office of Information Technology. As a lab monitor, his responsibilities are to keep chairs and computer screens lined up, to load the printer with paper or toner when needed and to assist students who need technological help. He also sets up technology for special events.

Elnoor said, "[My favorite part of work] is the people I deal with students and professors — not the public. It's easy to communicate with them because of their educational level."

He said that the job has taught him more about sophisticated technology and using various platforms, both PCs and Macs.

"I was not computer savvy before this job," he said. "But now it adds more flavor to my résumé."

Elnoor enjoys learning new things each day.

"I love what I'm doing," he said. "That motivates me, but let's also be realistic. We're students, and we need money."

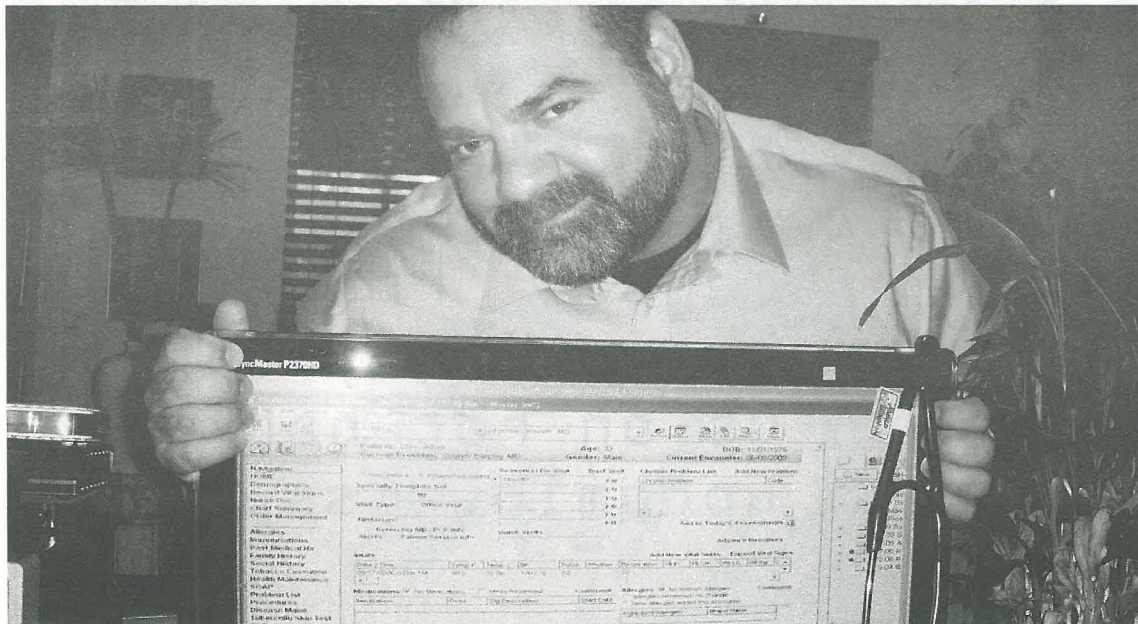
As a fourth-year graduate student studying conflict analysis and resolution, Elnoor spends his days after work in the library writing his dissertation on international terrorism.



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Medical history available at the click of a mouse



COURTESY OF MARK CARNEMOLLA

Mark Carnemolla, second-year Master of Science in Biomedical Informatics student, practices using electronic medical records on the NextGen System.

Written by:
Keren Moros

The next time you see your doctor, he might not be carrying a manila folder with your name on it.

President Obama signed the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act into law in February, providing \$19 billion in

incentives for hospitals to incorporate electronic medical records in health care.

Now, Jennie Lou, M.D., professor and director of medical informatics at NSU's College of Osteopathic Medicine, said that paperless patient history is probably the hottest topic in healthcare.

Lou said that one of the benefits of these kind of records is that they

prevent lost records and duplicate medical tests.

"Say you're traveling to Las Vegas and you get sick," she said. "Who's going to find your paper records? There's no way. But with electronic medical records, anybody you authorize will be able to pull your record and know what medications you're on, what complications you have had."

Lou said that the majority of

NSU's clinics use NextGen, a software program for electronic medical record use. NSU's clinics started using this method three years ago.

Medical students are also learning how to use the program.

"We just received a grant from Health Resources and Services Administration to provide a simulation lab where students are using robots to practice their clinical skills," Lou said. "In that lab, students are going to be using electronic medical records. So, they're getting used to having the computer system instead of a traditional paper one."

Bruce Peters, D.O., professor and medical director at the College of Osteopathic Medicine, said that virtual medical records give patients greater access to health information, but has potential for violation of privacy.

"You really have no control over how the information is used or recorded or transmitted," he said. "Once you say something, it's no longer one-on-one. You think it's one-on-one, but it's really one-on-a million, or one on an unlimited number of people that may be looking at the same information at the same time. "You can encrypt things on your side, but it's hard

to encrypt things on the other person's or patients' side of things."

Another innovation in health-care is telemedicine, which Lou said is the use of technology to solve patients' problems via distance.

"It's gaining a lot of momentum," Lou said. "Patients seem to love it. Doctors are getting more and more comfortable as the technology is becoming more and more mature and the confidentiality issues, privacy issues, security issues are being solved at the higher level."

Lou said that NSU clinics have not used telemedicine, but that there has been discussion among NSU doctors of using it to treat patients in prison.

Robert Hasty, D.O., assistant professor of internal medicine, said that he doubts whether remote procedures will ever take off because of coordination and backup issues. However, he believes that some medical fields can benefit from it.

"While there will probably always be regional disparities, the solution will be how to efficiently deliver available resources to those who need it in remote areas and I think this is best accomplished by policy, productivity increases and incentives," he said.

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Visit our Flickr® photostream at www.flickr.com/photos/thecurrent_photos.

Ways to get cash in college

Written by:
Sabrina Talamo

If your book bag is heavy and your wallet is light, you're most likely a college student. But being broke doesn't have to be part of your college experience. Here are some ways to make extra cash.

Sell your stuff online

List your personal items and sell them on eBay or Craigslist. Someone might want to buy your old videogames, movies, comic books or other items.

Sell your body parts

Don't start removing your organs just yet. These body parts are replaceable. Clinics will pay you up to \$35 for blood plasma, \$40 for sperm, and \$5,000 or more for eggs.

Turn your car into an advertisement

If you are willing to give your car a makeover, you can get paid to put advertisements on your car. Companies pay drivers to display their advertisements with bumper stickers, graphic panels or a full car wrap.

Sell your clothes

Clean out your closet and trade your used clothing for cash.



PHOTO BY L. AURIGEMMA

Consignment stores such as Plato's Closet buy used clothes in exchange for money.

Get an on-campus job

Having trouble finding a job off campus? Become a lab monitor, work at the food court or become a security officer — just a few of the jobs offered at NSU. On-campus jobs provide good salaries and some include benefits such as discounted tuition.

Participate in medical research

If you don't mind being a guinea pig, then participate in a research study. The pay for volunteering varies depending on the amount of time involved and the study's risks.

Sell your books

When the semester ends, don't throw your textbooks in a corner of your room. The bookstore will buy back many of your used textbooks for half their selling price. If not, you can sell them online.

Get coupons

With coupons, you can sign up for birthday club rewards, get free breakfast at IHOP, get \$35 off a Benihana meal or receive free ice cream from Coldstone.

College life can be expensive and taking advantage of creative options of making extra money can alleviate money woes and make the college experience that much sweeter.

YOU KNOW YOU WANT TO...

Read the latest updates • Check out photos from yesterday's event • See what's happening on campus Friday night • Have a forum to voice your opinion • Connect with us on Facebook Suggest a story for an upcoming issue.



SO WHY DON'T YOU?

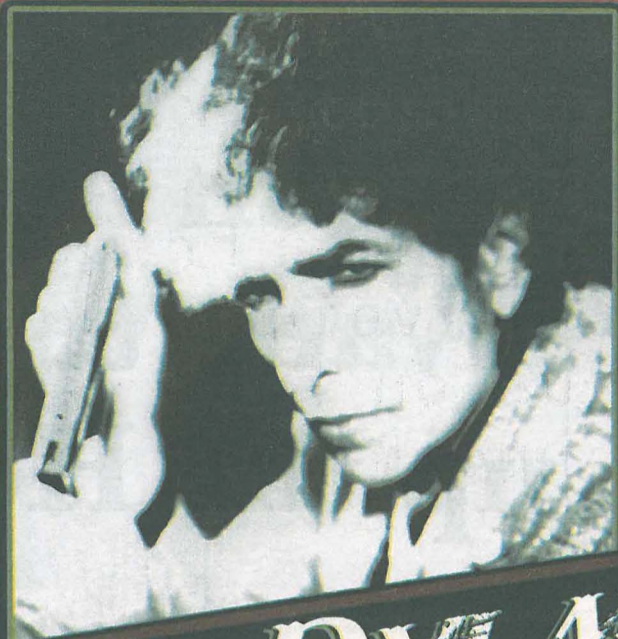
There's a new website in town:

NSUCURRENT.NOVA.EDU

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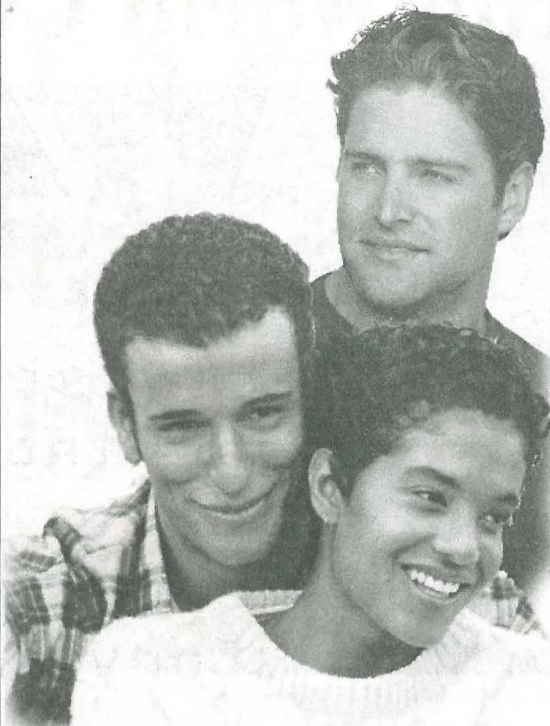
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US vies for a chance to host the World Cup



COURTESY OF WWW.SEE THE CUP.COM

Written by:

Craig Heenighan

On the heel of a summer-long soccer love affair, the U.S. is ready to take center stage at the world's biggest sporting event. The U.S. is one of nine candidates being considered to host either the 2018 or 2022 FIFA World Cup finals.

The U.S. submitted a 1,250 page proposal to FIFA earlier this year, which included a list of 18 potential cities where games can be held.

One of the 18 potential cities is Miami. The inspection team visited the Sun Life Stadium, home of the Miami Dolphins and Florida Marlins on their recent visit.

Miami stands a great chance of being selected as a host city if the U.S. were to win the bid. South Florida had the highest TV ratings in the U.S. for the 2010 World Cup.

Miami is fourth, behind Indianapolis. In registering their support for the 2018/2022 campaign.

Eugene Canal, athletic communications coordinator at NSU, believes the South Florida region, in particular, would benefit from hosting the World Cup.

"I think it would be great for the city of Miami," said Canal. "I think the city has proven it can host big events like, that we have had multiple Super Bowls and the World Baseball Classic down here."

A six-men FIFA inspection team visited the U.S. in mid-September to evaluate the nation's chances of hosting the coveted tournament. The inspection team assesses each of the nine countries that are in the running based on criteria that remains very secretive.

"Miami is the perfect city for the World Cup because it is an international community and it would do wonders for soccer and the

economy of the sport down here," said Canal.

The other contenders to host the World Cup are England, Russia, Spain/Portugal, Belgium/Netherlands, Australia, Qatar, South Korea and Japan.

Kevin Rafael Preciado, junior business administration major, said, "I believe that soccer is one of those sports that you have to see in person, and to be given the opportunity to host the biggest sporting event in the world can only be a positive experience."

"Playing on your home-field always gives a team a slight advantage," said Preciado. "To look up in the stands and know that the majority of the people there are going to support you and cheer you on has to be a good feeling."

If the U.S. wins the bid, it would be for the first time since 1994. The decision will be made in December.

ON THE BENCH

Commentary by:
CRAIG HEENIGHAN



LeBron, Bosh and Wade turn up the Heat

Miami is no stranger to extravagance and hype. It's a city that prides itself on being the playground for society's elite. However, this fall, that playground will become crowded. There are three big kids who want to play, and they happen to play basketball.

In one of the most anticipated trades in the history of sports, LeBron James announced this summer that he would take his talents to South Beach. James is teaming up with Chris Bosh and Dwayne Wade to make a fantasy trio that has every Heat fan wanting to join the big kids on the jungle gym. Right now the big three are the coolest kids in the sandbox, but in order to stay that way they must keep the rest of the playground happy. In order to stay happy, the rest of the playground expects the big three to share one thing — an NBA championship.

James joined the Heat because it's his best chance to win a championship ring and, with two all-stars by his side, many believe he will do just that. The Heat has the recipe for success — great players, great coaches, and great fans. Individually, the ingredients taste great, but when thrown into the pan will they produce a championship stew or will they burn the kitchen down?

The Miami Heat will win a championship, but it may take some time for the ingredients to simmer. There is no doubt about it. Heat fans will be watching three of the game's top ten players, but three guys don't make a basketball team.

If we learned anything from the Boston Celtics last season it was the fact that strength in numbers is crucial. Granted, the Celtics fell at the final hurdle, but they pushed the L.A. Lakers all the way and did so because every player contributed. There were times in last season's playoffs when Kevin Garnett, Paul Pierce and Ray Allen

(the original big three) didn't perform, and bench players like Glen Davies and Nate Robinson picked up the slack.

The key to Miami's success will come from the guys on the bench. As the spotlight shines on the league's newest big three, it will be the guys in the shadows who will need to stir the championship stew.

Before a free throw is tossed or a dunk is slammed there is already a winner this season: South Florida. The buzz surrounding the Miami Heat is incredible; the entire region is eagerly anticipating the start of the season.

From LeBroward County to West Palm Bosh to Miami Wade County, South Florida has come alive since James made his decision. The American Airlines Arena has become a church and thousands will flock to see Miami's newest gods.

Season tickets sold out soon after James' decision and game jerseys went soon after that. NSU was very much a part of this summer's drama, as Dwayne Wade was interviewed live on ESPN in the Don Taft University Center, where he announced his decision to stay.

Wade, hosting his annual basketball camp, was on campus for a number of days and even addressed fans outside the Don Taft UC. Fans gathered in large numbers pleading with Wade to stay in Miami and hoping he could persuade Bosh and James to join him. Wade stayed, James and Bosh joined him and the rest is history.

Anyone remotely affiliated with South Florida is suddenly now a Heat fan and basketball has become the region's newest religion.

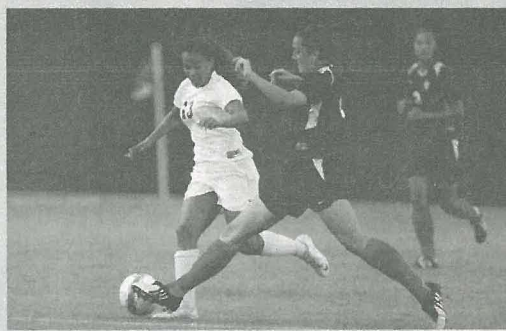
The Miami Heat will win a championship and may even win multiple championships in the coming years. Whether they win or not, the other kids on the playground have welcomed the big kids with open arms.

SPORTS SHORTS

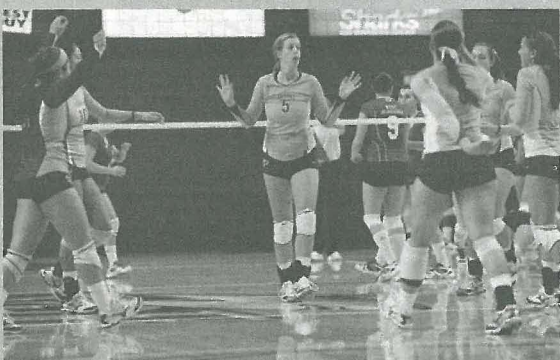
WRITTEN BY
CRAIG HEENIGHAN



Men's soccer defeated St. Thomas University 3-0 on Sept. 24. The Sharks closed out the week with their second defeat, losing 3-2, in overtime to Florida Tech University on Sept. 29.



Women's soccer claimed back-to-back 3-0 victories. The Sharks defeated St. Thomas University on Sept. 24 and Barry University on Sept. 29.



Women's volleyball lost 3-0 to local rivals Lynn University on Sept. 24. The Sharks finished with a 3-2 victory over Florida Tech University on Sept. 25.

Wherefore art thou Chromeo?



Chromeo's third album, "Business Casual"

COURTESY OF DETAILSOFMYLIFE.NET

Written by:
Juan Gallo

It's not what you think. Chromeo is not a tricked-out Shakespearean Romeo with platinum spinning necklaces and matching grill. However, as odd as a pairing between Shakespeare, and something usually used to make cars look shiny seems, Chromeo is quite the odd pair themselves. Hailing out of Montreal, Canada, P-Thugg (Patrick Gemayel) and Dave 1 (David Macklovitch), are the self-proclaimed "Arab/Jewish partnership" that makes up the group Chromeo.

Together since 2001, Chromeo released their third-album "Business Casual" in September, and are looking to follow-up the success of their 2007 sophomore effort, "Fancy Footwork." The group is heavily influenced by hip-hop, but their music expands to several genres and eras (they have garnered comparisons to 80's popular duo, Hall & Oates). The strength of their sound comes from their ability to create songs that are popular among DJ's who play their songs all around the world.

"Business Casual" is business as usual for Chromeo, who dish out track after track of fun, dance-driven beats that sound like they would have fit in just as well in an 80's New York club. The album kicks off in typical Chromeo fashion with the smooth, dancey vibe of the opening track "Hot Mess," which also features the signature velvety-voiced rapping of Dave 1. But as the album progresses,

even as early as the second track "I'm not contagious," a distinct level of maturity is heard in the sound created on this album.

Every song overflows with confidence as Dave 1 makes his romantic declarations in part-time lover fashion. In "I'm not contagious" he sings, "I got the kind of love that knocks you down" — let me clarify that this is not a reference to domestic violence. The highlights of the album come in the second half and they are back to back. "Don't walk away" and the entirely French song, "J'ai claqué la porte" or "I slammed the door," are heartfelt songs that immediately transport Chromeo beyond seemingly simple dance songs to carefully crafted pieces that prove these guys are not just here to have fun and party. They know what they're doing.

The best thing about this album is how Chromeo are now comfortable enough, both in their music as in their style, to not have to force dance songs. Instead they slow many tracks down and create music that has a great groove but is also perfect for crowded rooms in which the music is playing in the background but you can still have a conversation.

You might not know who Chromeo is, but take it from me, you should. "Business Casual" may not be the next best-selling album, but I guarantee if you play it at your next party, everyone will be asking you who's playing? And they'll think you are the coolest person they know, who's in the know, on the hottest bands that no one else knows. You're welcome.

Owls that do more than hoot



COURTESY OF WWW.FILMOFILIA.COM

Written by:
Juan Gallo

Zack Snyder has never directed a romantic comedy. Why would he? When you can direct a movie that makes owls look as fierce and heroic as the Spartans he created in "300," there is nothing else you need to be doing. This is what you were born to do Mr. Snyder.

"Legend of the Guardians: The Owls of Ga'Hoole" is Snyder's latest project, and it was certainly an interesting choice. Here's the guy who brought us the line "Tonight, we dine in hell!" in "300," as well as Ving Rhames shooting celebrity zombies from a rooftop in "Dawn of the Dead," and even a steamy sex scene set to "Hallelujah" by Leonard Cohen in "Watchmen." What business does he have directing an animated film about owls? I mean, when was the last time anyone ever even saw an owl and thought, "Now, there's an animal to base an action film on?" The answer is never. Owls hoot. They sleep during the day and turn their head really far, but they don't go to war.

Then again, people doubted that the critically-acclaimed graphic novel "Watchmen" could be turned into a great movie. They also wrote off "300" as a brainless blood-bath, with no well-known actors

that was just a gimmick to get men to stare at guys running around in their underwear for two hours, but feeling okay about it because, well, they are killing people. It seems that Snyder is not concerned with what expectations are put on him or what anyone tells him he can or can't do. So it makes perfect sense that this would be, not only his next challenge, but after having seen it, I can say, his next success.

"Legend of the Guardians" tells the story of a small community of owls who live in peace, but are often told stories of ancient battles and legendary owls called the Guardians, who protected the weak and fought for justice. Soren (voiced by Jim Sturgess) is a teenage owl who believes whole-heartedly in the legend of the Guardians, although he is constantly told by those of lesser faith, that they are simply mythical. Soren and his brother, Kludd (Ryan Kwanten), are kidnapped and taken to a mountain where Metalbeak (Joel Edgerton), the infamous evildoer, is building up an army, the Pure Ones, to overthrow the Guardians. It's up to Soren now to muster up the courage and strength to fly to the Guardians and inform them, and perhaps, even join them in an epic battle against the Pure Ones.

When I say epic, I do mean epic. Think King Leonidas vs Xerxes in "300." The build-up is a little slow

but, the visual beauty of the film makes up for that. The 3D worked wonderfully and Snyder imposes every bit of directorial prowess to make every shot into a moving art piece. The detail and verisimilitude of the owls was amazing and sequences of them in flight were spectacular.

Although this movie is animated, and actors are not acting in practical terms, their vocal performances, along with superb animation, gave the characters unique personalities that brought an intriguing story to life. Halfway through you'll be following all of the action as if you had a personal invested interest in the outcome of the inevitable battle.

And what a battle it is. When the decision is made that a confrontation is necessary, the Guardians show why they are not to be messed with. Warriors on both sides don helmets and blades on their talons and face off by diving at each other, talons first, in midair winged wreckage. It is awesome.

"Legend of the Guardians" was very entertaining, and the fact that all the characters were owls made it wonderfully unique. Snyder has proven that a great action movie is a great action movie, no matter who the subject is. He's also proven, yet again, just what a talented director he is, as these owls made for a hoot of a time.

offshore
Oct. 5-Oct. 11

Wednesday 10.6



Bob Dylan
Don Taft
University Center
Arena in Ft.
Lauderdale
6-8 p.m.

Thursday 10.7



Young Frankenstein (Play)
Broward Center of the Performing Arts
Au Rene Theatre 2 p.m.
(other dates/times on website)

Friday 10.8

The Eagles
Bank Atlantic
Center 8 p.m.



Saturday 10.9



Dancin' in the District
Hatian Heritage Museum
8-10 p.m.

Sunday 10.10

Improv: Bill Bellamy
Seminole Hard Rock Cafe 8 p.m.



Monday 10.11

Motherhood the Musical
Rose & Alfred Miniaci
Performing Arts Center 2 p.m.
(other dates/times on website)



Your guide to the best movies on SUTV this month

Written by:
Juan Gallo

Trick or treat. Sharks United Television's October movie offerings are like a giant bag of assorted candy. Some candy is king-sized, and full of chocolaty goodness. But then, when you're done with all the good stuff, you're left with "Hot Tamales," Candy Corn, and other stuff that doesn't even have a name. It's just soft and sticky, and wrapped in orange paper, that has "tampered with" written all over it.

When you reach into this SUTV bag o' treats, the first thing you might pull out is "The Good Heart." This 2009 drama, which stars Paul Dano and Brian Cox, is definitely the wild card of the bunch. Dano plays Lucas, a young homeless man who is taken in by Jacques (Cox), to help

him run his bar, and eventually take over. Although the film looks very promising, and both Dano and Cox are excellent actors, this one may just be too out there for most people to follow. Both Lucas and Jacques are bizarre characters who the audience may have trouble relating to. It's a toss-up. It could be M&M's that melt in your mouth and not in your hand, or it could be "Bazooka" gum that you will be chewing for hours, but only enjoy for five minutes.

However, you are guaranteed satisfaction, minus the stomach-ache, if you watch these next films over and over, and over again. They are the crème-de-la-crème, the king-sized chocolate, infused with caramel, that gets you hyper and, therefore, slightly mad with over-indulgence — "Ironman 2," "Letters to Juliet" and "Shaun of the Dead."

"Ironman 2" was one of the most successful movies of the year, and for good reason. You can't go wrong with actors like Robert Downey Jr., Gwyneth Paltrow, Don Cheadle, Sam Rockwell, and Mickey Rourke — oh, and did I mention the awesome suit that we all wish we could put on, if only for five minutes. "Ironman 2" finds Tony Stark (Downey Jr.) digging deep to overcome the challenges posed by his new foe, Whiplash (Rourke). "Ironman 2" is funny, with great action, a stellar cast, awe-inspiring special effects, and an intriguing story. You will be watching this one multiple times.

From the brilliant mind of director Edgar Wright, we have "Shaun of the Dead", one of the most memorable films in the zombie genre, of the last 20 years. When the world is plagued with zombies, Shaun (Simon

Pegg), a slacker, must try to get his life in order, while at the same time fighting back these undead villains that have pursued him into his local pub, the Winchester. This film is hilarious and will make for an all-around good time.

Lastly, to finish off the best offerings this figurative bag of treats has to offer, there is "Letters to Juliet". This is undoubtedly a movie for a date night. What else says romance like a movie set in Italy? Sophie (Amanda Seyfried) is an American on vacation in Italy who finds an unanswered letter to Juliet. She takes it upon herself to answer this letter, and then she is taken on a self-discovering journey of love, romance, and fate, as she sets off to reunite the long-lost lovers addressed in the letter. This one is sure to please the hopeless romantics on campus.

Unfortunately, after sifting and

picking out the best "candy" in the bunch, all that remains is "Bit-O-Honey," black licorice, circus peanut — and a toothbrush? "Killers," "MacGruber," "Sweeney Todd," and "Twilight," are, to put it gently, not the candy you're excited to unwrap. You will probably watch them because you're either bored, not sleepy, or there's just nothing else on, and you may have a laugh or two. Or maybe you will like some aspects, but overall, you will be disappointed. If these were candy, they would give you a stomach-ache and have you thinking that the toothbrush is actually not so bad after all.

So, enjoy the treats, stay away from the tricks, and when all else fails, there's always reruns of "Jersey Shore."

If you knew what you were missing, you would become a fan, too.

SEARCH FOR THE CURRENT ON FACEBOOK.



Google:
Going where no search engine has gone before

Written by:
Keren Moros

Google isn't just a place for googling. It's also a place for apps.

Although a simple search engine may always be the first thing that students think about when Google comes to mind, Google's other applications can be valuable tools for balancing school, work and life.

For example, Google Docs provides a place to create, store and edit documents, presentations and spreadsheets. You can create new documents within the site or upload one from your computer. But the best thing about Google Docs is that you can invite others to edit and view your documents, making it ideal for group projects. No more countless emails with multiple versions of the same document.

If you're doing research and don't feel like rummaging through hundreds of thousands of search results, Google Scholar can help. Google Scholar searches your search terms among scholarly literature like books, theses, articles and court opinions.

When the members of your group project are having a hard time finding a time to meet, you can use Google Groups. With Google Groups,



COURTESY OF WWW.GOOGLE.COM

you can start a discussion group that meets in one place, like a private chat room. You can also share documents and Web sites with group members.

You can create a Web site for a project with Google Sites. Google Sites lets you create and customize Web sites for free. You control the content and who is able to edit it.

Perhaps the most valuable tool that Google provides is Google Calendar. With Google Calendar, you can organize your appointments, due dates, to-do lists and reminders in an easy-to-use, color-coded format. You can even attach documents to events and send reminders to your cell phone.

So don't limit yourself to just "googling." To Google and beyond.

School shootings: Stop playing the blame game

Written by:

Samantha Harfenist

On Tuesday, Sept. 28, the silence of the early morning on the University of Texas' campus was shattered when freshman Colton Tooley fired an AK-47 assault rifle across the manicured lawns. No one was injured except for Tooley, who put a bullet in his own head.

Police at the University of Texas are still searching for a motive. The problem is, they may never find one. Sure, the cops might discover a surface excuse, such as the man broke up with his girlfriend. But, this is not the core reason. It's never that simple.

We keep asking ourselves, "Why? Why does this keep happening? Why do those kids have to die? Why there? Why not here?" There are no answers. That's what scares us.

The school might be miles away, but we feel the violence and deaths just as acutely as if they'd happened next door. Because the reality is, it could happen here.

Really, who looks at their fellow peers, and thinks that they might be a crazed gunman? And since we are unable to find a direct internal source for this violence, we've targeted

a convenient scapegoat. Every time there is a school shooting, inevitably, I hear many people

blaming some form of media.

The public has often blamed the media for acts of violence in schools, but this is a fallacy. Students don't shoot up their universities because they played a violent video game or watched a horror movie.

A tragic irony that blasts the media influence in school shootings theory is that that University of Texas had a prior school shooting — long before Grand Theft Auto and Freddie Krueger.

In 1966, Charles Whitman climbed to the top of the clock tower and opened fire on the school grounds, murdering 14 people. The

top-rated films of that year were the family movies, "Born Free" and "How the Grinch Stole Christmas." Oh, the violent influence.

However, guess who trained the young man how to become a sniper? The U.S. Marines did. Add to that a dysfunctional family and

heavy prescription drug use, and the reasons for the shooting become more murky.

Grand Theft Auto didn't make the Virginia Tech student kill his classmates. "Kill Bill" didn't force the University of Arkansas shooters to slay their peers. To rephrase the pompous National Rifle Association's slogan, "It's not violent video games and movies that kill people, it's psychotics."

Those who knew Tooley are saying that he was quiet and shy. They claim that the suicidal Rambo would never hurt a fly. Does this sound familiar? It seems like every school shooter was a harmless, quiet and loving person; up until the day they killed others.

Hundreds of millions of people watch the same movies and play the same games that these shooters do.

people were shooting at someone a block ahead of us, forcing us to duck behind a car. Desensitization, my butt. It was one of the most terrifying experiences of my life. And that's how normal people react.

These students didn't get their ideas from the media and the sooner that society learns that, the sooner that we can start to develop new ways to attempt to identify people with similar thoughts and give them the

Yet, they don't take an AK-47 to college and assassinate their classmates.

I grew up watching horror movies and playing violent video games with my family. Yes, the experience does get you hyped up, but you don't become Terminator.

A few years ago in the Bronx,

help that they need. Until then, these tragedies will continue to happen, and we'll be helpless to stop them.

Teen pregnancy: A reality, not a reality show

Written by:

Alyssa Sterkel

Teenage pregnancy is a reality that needs to be addressed, especially when that reality is 750,000 teenagers getting pregnant each year.

But does the media address teen pregnancy in the right way?

In 2009, MTV released a reality show, "16 and Pregnant." This is a documentary series that focuses on teenage pregnancy. A few of the show's "stars," Farrah, Maci, Amber, and Catelynn, are now seen on the spin-off, MTV's "Teen Moms," which follows their lives into motherhood.

The girls featured on "Teen Moms" didn't intend to promote teen pregnancy when they signed up for the show, but rather to document the hardships of raising a child at a young age.

However, they are still in the spotlight for babies who have babies. And this spotlight has turned them into reality celebrities.

Teenage pregnancy is not a favorable fate except for Farrah, Maci, Amber, and Catelynn. Their pregnancies seem to be glorified all over national television.

Teenage pregnancy is not a money maker except for Farrah, Maci, Amber, and Catelynn. They receive paychecks from MTV and magazines to showcase the consequences of pre-marital sex.

Teenage pregnancy is not a celebrity



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lifestyle. But it is for Farrah, Maci, Amber, and Catelynn. They are featured on popular magazine covers with their stories filling the pages.

Whether or not teen girls believe in waiting until marriage to have sex, they need to understand the seriousness of teenage pregnancy. It doesn't lead to a reality show, a paycheck, or a story in People magazine. It leads to morning sickness, childbirth, diaper changes, breast-feeding, spit up, sleeplessness, bills, pre-school tuition, and the list goes on — all before the age of twenty.

You're a mom forever. But you're only a kid once. Now, that is the reality.

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Letter to the Editor

I'd like to respond to a portion of Samantha Harfenist's Opinions piece, "Please Make Them Stop."

While Ms. Harfenist's frustration at being subjected to "a screeching youngster" is understandable, and a sentiment the majority of us can relate to, I vehemently object to her characterization and stereotyping of families.

Children are naturally louder than adults, even when behaving normally. Parents or others who are with them daily become accustomed to the natural tones, while people without children tend to be more sensitive to their volume levels.

To presume that all children in a restaurant are undisciplined behavior problems with negligent parents is not only inaccurate, it is prejudicial and intolerant. Ms. Harfenist's right to enjoy a meal she purchases at a particular restaurant is no greater and no less than a family's right to enjoy the same.

Furthermore, Ms. Harfenist describes a recent incident involving an adult striking another adult because his autistic child was too loud. She states that autism is "not an excuse for bringing your biological noise-maker to a restaurant."

As the parent of an autistic child,

I find Ms. Harfenist's comments not only highly offensive, but also quite uninformed.

Perhaps Ms. Harfenist should spend a day with the autistic preschool children here at the Baudhuin School, NSU's cutting-edge early intervention program, to educate herself on how children with autism are taught. She could interview some of the professors here on campus who teach Applied Behavioral Analysis, one of the many forms of therapy used to teach children on the autism spectrum.

If these do not interest her, I know that the planning committee for the Autism Speaks Walk is always looking for volunteers, and the NSU/UM Center for Autism Related Disabilities could use an extra pair of hands as well.

Maybe the Autism Consortium, or The Unicorn Children's Foundation Clinic would be open to accepting volunteers as well. What all these things have in common is that they are supported by Nova Southeastern University, and many are housed here on campus.

Of course, I could always ask Ms. Harfenist to explain to her fellow students here on campus, the ones diagnosed with some form of autism, why people with disabilities

are not entitled to the same tolerance and understanding as people with different religions, skin colors, or sexual orientations.

And yes, I took my daughter to restaurants. Sometimes she had a meltdown that had to be dealt with, and I'm sure some people didn't like it. However, had I not taken her to restaurants and taught her how to behave across different venues, she would not be the successful person she is today, fully included in a mainstream classroom, in the International Baccalaureate program.

If Ms. Harfenist would like, I can arrange an interview with my daughter, so she can hear what it feels like to be the recipient of ignorant attitudes and snarky comments. Or perhaps she'd like a glimpse into what raising my daughter has been like - the heartbreak, the frustration, and the constant hard work - only to have some self-important stranger approach you in a restaurant and say "A good swat to the behind would fix that."

Heidi E. Colston

Please make them stop

Written by:
Samantha Harfenist



"I'd like a table away from my children, please." Saying that to the host or waitress, it is requested to have a table away from the noise-maker. After all, prolonged exposure to a loud noise can drive anyone nuts. It's only a matter of time before psychologists put that in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders.

The little girls or boys - colloquial terms, which should tell you all you need to know about them - act like miniature devils with their high-pitched voices and athletic leaping from "Dance of the Dead" (backing out of food). Being stuck in a restaurant with a neighboring, screaming child is akin to being subjected to a loop in "Saw," only, in the restaurant, there is no escape.

I was a quiet kid, but the rate that I acted up, my parents would do "rock, paper, scissors" to see who would hold my remaining behind out of the place. My parents know the rules - respect adults. It isn't my problem that your kid is screaming because you didn't teach them the value of "inside-voice."

You chose to presume. You think your parenting style and you know where it's appropriate to bring your kid to public places. I can't control any of those and I shouldn't be punished for that.

You vehemently claim that "no one should tell you how to parent," then don't complain when you missed a little matter that those same "no one" don't want to be around.

Now that the threat of physical harm is out there, the love-blind parents might, hopefully, think twice about subjecting the general public to their pint-sized platoon of mischief.

Don't get me wrong, I don't support taking a swing at the arrogant parent with an obviously loud, obnoxious child. Just like all parents think that their baby is the most beautiful one ever, they're blinded to the fact that their entitled little brat of joy is grating on other people's nerves like nails on a chalkboard.

Don't like what's going on, parents, don't what your solution?

On the Scene

As told to:
Magdalena Kabeleis

A study published this month in the journal, *Biology Letters*, concluded that most women are attracted to flamboyant male dancing.

What kind of dance moves attract you?



"I like coordinated dancing. Everyone likes someone who can dance and is coordinated. When you hear while you dance you get the moves in it. I like that."
Patrick Harter, second-year graduate student in the MBA Entrepreneurship program

"I like when a guy can break dance. If he can flip over my head, I'll take notice. If he can use my head as a podium stand or something that would be cool."
Brianny Do, second-year pre-pharmacy major

"I like dance offs because I'm from Jamaica and that appeals to me because I grew up with it."
Jordan Lindo, senior psychology major

"I like merengue and salsa because it's sensual and there's more hip movement. It's more of a dance, not a bump and grind."
Jamone Robinson, clerical assistant at the Hultze School of Business and Entrepreneurship Enrollment Services Office.

"Natural dancing is what I like; how you feel when a beat comes on. You have to have rhythm, even if it's something that I don't particularly like - techno music. If you get on the floor and do something I agree or don't agree with, but it looks good then I like it. If you feel it then I like it."
Demetris Cooper, clerical assistant at the Hultze School of Business and Entrepreneurship

"Flamboyant dancing would freak me out!"
Megan Kim, first-year physical therapy

Letter to the Editor is referencing the article "Please make them stop" in Volume 21, Issue 7 of The Current.

On the Scene

As told to:
Sabrina Talamo

On April 23, Arizona Gov. Jan Brewer signed a bill into law, which requires immigrants to carry their alien registration documents at all times. The law also allows police to question individuals if there is reason to believe they're illegal. Candidates Rick Scott and Marco Rubio, up for election in November, support Arizona's controversial law.

How would you feel if an immigration law similar to Arizona's was passed in Florida?

"It's a lack of respect and another form of discrimination. People come here to seek opportunity and they are not going to want to come if they have to carry a piece of paper everywhere they go just to prove their residency."
Ashley Gebara, senior business administration and communication studies major

"I would be pissed off if the police stopped me because I'm a foreigner."
Richard Sung, freshman biology major

"No matter how many ways we put it, someone will feel attacked. People need to be mindful that in Florida, we deal with immigration indirectly. We have so many different cultures in South Florida that it would be hard to control by using that one strategy."
Sharifa Denis, sophomore criminal justice major



"The law makes sense in Arizona because of the Mexican border, but in Florida, I don't feel we have an immigration problem."
Erin Rogan, sophomore dance major

"I find the law offensive. As a Cuban-American, I would not want to be questioned based on my ethnicity. This law is basically allowing racial profiling."
Xavier Carcache, junior nursing major

"I agree with the law. I think we need to know who is coming to our country. It's a good way to prevent drug trafficking and other problems."
Rachel Belmont, senior dance major



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