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NSU forms international collaboration for new Cell Therapy Institute

By: Li Cohen
@Current_Yakira

As part of the Center for Collaborative Research, NSU will open the Cell Therapy Institute for cell-based biomedical research in spring 2016, in collaboration with Sweden’s Karolinska Institutet, one of the world’s leading medical universities that has conducted over 40 percent of academic medical research in Sweden.

Research programs at the new institute will focus on cancer, cardiovascular disease and disorders known to cause blindness. To help support the programs, the institute will offer high quality resources in the areas of genomics, cell therapies and flow cytometry.

Thomas Temple, senior vice president for translational research and economic development and an orthopedic surgeon, is one of the new researchers at CTI. He will conduct research on cancer stem cells and bone regeneration alongside Director of the Cell Therapy Institute Richard Jove, who was previously the director of molecular oncology at the Moffit Comprehensive Cancer Center and Research Institute.

Temple said that the new group of researchers has a “global flavor” and that many of the primary researchers are from the Karolinska Institutet.

Construction on 36th Street

By: Darren Hendricks

NSU’s Facility Management will finish an ongoing construction project over the winter break to renovate 36th Street so that it is safer to travel on and to open up space for new residence halls on the field across from the Shark Athletics Building.

36th Street starts at University Drive and connects to SW 75th Avenue, just in front of the Shark Fountain. 36th also connects to SW 72nd Avenue, which curves around Cultural Living Center (CLC), The Commons and Goodwin Residence Hall.

Project Manager Randy Seneff said, “This whole project will improve the structure of 36th Street and free the area for future development of residential halls. This road will cause less traffic around the residence halls.”

Once the project begins, it will take nine months to complete. The project will first focus on renovations around the residence halls.

Seneff said, “The entire project has been divided into five parts that will take about six weeks each. Once we are finished around the residence halls, then we will work on 36th Street.”

The first part of the construction project will be from Dec. 7 to Jan. 23, and will be from College Avenue to the first entrance of The Commons/Goodwin Residence Hall. During this time, the section of the road will be closed; however, students will still be able to access the parking lot for The Commons and Goodwin.

“This part will be the most inconvenient because students like to use this road as it is the quickest way to get to the residence halls from the highways,” Seneff said.

The second part of the project will be from Jan. 25 to Feb. 27, and will be from the entrance in The Commons/Goodwin parking lot to the entrance in front of Cultural Living Center (CLC). Students will also have access to the parking lots during this time.

Although there is no set date, as of set, part three will be from CLC to the three-way stop sign of 36th Street. Part four starts at the three-way stop sign of 36th Street to the entrance in front of Founders, Farquhar and Vetel Apartments (FFV). The final part will be from FFV to the four way stop sign of SW 75th Avenue.

“We will maintain detour points throughout each part,” Seneff said. “The trickiest part will be part four, but we will have a detour road so traffic can go around the construction. But there shouldn’t be too much confusion, as students will still have access to the entrances to the residence halls.”

While originally expected to be completed in March, Seneff said that because of the time it took to get a permit, the project likely won’t be completed until fall 2016.

Even though it is almost a year away, Thomas Ingalls, junior marine biology major, said that he cannot wait for the new road.

“It’s all part of NSU President George Hanbury’s vision to create a truly transformative research enterprise at NSU and leading scientific discovery with clinical enterprise — in other words, getting ideas from the bench to the bedside in rapid order,” he said.

Aside from the research projects already announced, Temple said the institute is also in the process of forming groups of computational biologists, recruiting more researchers from Europe, working with Professor Stephen O’Brien from the Department of Biological Sciences to set up a genomics group and collaborating with the Guy Harvey Oceanographic Center to discover drugs that stem from sea life.

“It’s really taken off in a major way,” Temple said. “Everything is coming together at once. The educational piece is linking to the research piece, which will be linked to the new hospital. It will all be seamless — all these new discoveries will make their way into the hospital and be available to the patients who need them.”

Temple said that students must be involved in research at the institute and that he believes the opportunity will attract a lot of students who have a profound interest in research and have a scientific background.

“It’s all about education and training the scientists for tomorrow. We really want students to be involved in the laboratory enterprise and in educational processes,” he said. “Students are the future of scientific endeavor, and if they don’t engage, then we’re going to have a problem in society. This is really going to raise the bar as far as sophistication, greater jobs, a sense of purpose and a sense of pride in the community.”

The Center for Collaborative Research is a 215,000-square-foot facility next to the Health Professions Division. It will include wet labs for research, a General Clinical Research Center, the Emil Buehler Research Center for Cancer Research, the Emil Buehler Research Center for Engineering, Science and Mathematics and a private incubator for information security businesses.

For more information on the NSU Cell Therapy Institute, visit nova.edu/research/cell-therapy/index.html. For more information on the Karolinska Institutet, visit ki.se/en/startpage.

For questions or more information, contact Facilities Management at 954-262-8845.
Second-largest diamond discovered in Botswana

The Lucara Diamond firm reportedly found the second-largest gem quality diamond in company mines in Botswana, a south African country between Namibia and Zimbabwe. The 1,115-karat diamond, called the Karowe AK6 after the mine in which it was found, is the largest diamond to be found in Botswana and the largest find in 110 years. The largest diamond in the world, a 3,106-karat gem, was discovered in South Africa in 1905. It was cut into nine smaller gems, some of which are the British Crown Jewels. Two other large karat diamonds were found in the same mine, one 813 karats and the other 374 karats. Botswana is the world leader in diamond mining and exports.

Scotland Yard’s Crime Museum opens to the public

Home to Scotland Yard’s crime artifacts, from a spade used to bury a murder victim to the revolver of the last woman to be executed in the U.K., the Crime Museum opened to the public after more than 140 years. The museum, founded in the 1870s to educate police recruits, contains weapons and other evidence from high-profile cases from as late as the 2010s. Only ininform作文ent officials are allowed to use the then-private museum. Exhibits include the medical case of poisoner and jack the Ripper suspect Dr. Neil Cream and the tools used by the 1949 acid bath murderer, as well as the maces used to hang criminals. The more disturbing parts of the collection, such as human remains, will not be on display.

Study shows that more Mexicans leaving U.S. than entering

A study conducted by Pew Research Center, a nonpartisan group based in Washington D.C., found that one million Mexicans returned to Mexico from the U.S., while only 870,000 Mexicans migrated to the U.S. Uneven economic recovery is cited as the U.S., while only 870,000 Mexicans migrated to the U.S., while only 870,000 Mexicans migrated to the U.S., while only 870,000 Mexicans migrated to the U.S., while only 870,000 Mexicans migrated to the U.S., while only 870,000 Mexicans migrated to the U.S., while only 870,000 Mexicans migrated to the U.S., while only 870,000 Mexicans migrated to the U.S., while only 870,000 Mexicans migrated to the U.S., while only 870,000 Mexicans migrated to the U.S.

Colombian government pardons 30 FARC prisoners

The Colombian government said in a statement that it would release 30 FARC guerrillas serving time for minor crimes from prisons across the country. The government said the decision was made to set a peaceful tone with the leftist rebel group. FARC, or the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, has been in contention with the Colombian government since 1964. The two sides formally initiated peace talks last September when Colombian president Miguel Santos and FARC chief Rodrigo Londoño, also known as Timochenko, agreed to sign a final peace deal by March 2016.

Solar thermal plant to give electricity to one million Moroccans

The plant in Ourazza, capital of Ourazza Province in south-central Morocco, will use the sun’s warmth to melt salt, which will retain enough heat to power steam turbines and generate electricity for the entire city. Arabian Company for Water and Power Development, or ACWA Power is running the project and said the plant’s mirrors will move and track the sun throughout the day, optimizing the amount of solar heat captured. The plant is just one part of the country’s plan to provide 90% of its energy with renewable resources by 2020 and will be one of the world’s largest solar plants with an area of approximately 45 square miles, the size of the country’s capital, Rabat.

Largest Austrian state powered completely by renewable resources

Lower Austria, the largest of Austria’s nine states, announced that all of its electricity is produced by renewable resources. The state invests $3 billion in renewable energy, including solar, wind, biomass, power plants to replace fossil fuel plants, which were all closed. It is also refurbished the Danube River hydroelectric stations, which produce two-thirds of the state’s electricity. With 38,000 green jobs created since 2002, the state has a goal of 50,000 new jobs by 2030. In total, Austria produces three-fourths of its electricity from renewable resources.

The Current serves Nova Southeastern University from its location in Room 310 of the Student Affairs Building. The Current is NSU’s established vehicle for student reporting, opinion and the arts. All community members are invited to contribute. Editorialists, commentators and advertisements in this publication reflect the opinions of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the University or its officials. The Current staff or other advertisers. The Current will not publish unsigned letters except under special circumstances at the discretion of the Editor-in-Chief. The Current reserves the right to edit. Contributing writers must not be directly involved with their coverage. Coverage by contributing writers must be meaningful and of interest to the NSU community. The Current reserves the right to edit, publish or deny submitted works as it sees fit. The Current shall remain free of associations, contributions and advertisements that may compromise integrity or damage credibility or otherwise create a bias, real or perceived.

Editor’s Note

Hello NSU,

The holiday season has arrived. After 16 weeks of textbooks, coffee, numerous all-nighters and memories that will last a lifetime, the time has come for us to depart for a much needed break. As much as we are all looking forward to spending this season with our families and friends, we cannot wait to come back to our home-away-from-home and spend another semester with all of our favorite Sharks. For those of you who will be back next semester, we can’t wait to see your bright, shining faces in January, and to those who are graduating within the next few weeks, we are going to miss you, but we are just a short swim away!

Fall 2015 was a semester to remember at The Current. All of our staff members and contributing writers worked extremely hard to up our game and bring you the best of the best at everything from important news, sports and entertainment to student-produced news. This past four months at NSU has convinced us that NSU is not only a catalyst for success, but a community of tradition in our events, strength in our values and compassion for the world.

Next semester, we hope to maintain the same caliber of work that we have exhibited so far this year, and make the remaining issues of the paper the best that they’ve ever been. This has been the best volume of The Current so far and we aim to end strong.

The Current’s resolutions for 2016 are to give students a larger voice, emphasize and localize world issues and to epitomize NSU’s 2020 Vision. We can’t wait to help all of you achieve your dreams and resolutions, and we are looking forward to starting off 2016 on a good note. Here’s to making a memorable holiday season.

With Love, Nicole & Ti
By: Li Cohen | @Carreras_Yukia

To educate the community on information technology and donations for children in South Florida, NSU’s College of Engineering and Computing will host the fourth annual ITPalooza on Dec. 3 from 1 to 11 p.m. in the Carl DeSantis Building.

The Student Events and Activities Board, which is the chairman of the Department of Information Systems and Cybersecurity, said that while ITPalooza is meant to provide educational opportunities for the IT community, it’s important to note that it is a charity event.

“Over the past few years, we’ve collected tons of thousands of dollars to really help the underprivileged kids in South Florida have a much more holiday season,” he said. “Getting Toys for Tots involved just seemed like a logical decision, so the IT community can give back to the tri-county area.

Toys for Tots was started by the U.S. Marine Corp Reserve to collect new and unused toys from communities for redistribution to underprivileged children.

This year’s conference will include a pre-conference event about advanced data analytics with Microsoft’s new Cortana Analytics program on Dec. 2, educational breakout sessions, a hiring fair, holiday party and the annual hackathon.

In previous year, the hackathon was during the day of ITPalooza and was used by the event community; however, this year, the hackathon will be produced by AT&T Developer Program and will take place on Dec. 4 and 5. Attendees will build information technology solutions and mobile applications in a competition for prizes. The first place winner will receive a $1000 gift card, and other prizes will be given for various categories.

There will also be live Microsoft certification training, which Parrish said is beneficial for attendees of any industry.

“Technology is impacting every sector of our economy, whether it’s bio, business or engineering — everything uses technology,” Parrish said. “Technology is important, and students need to grasp a good concept of technology fundamentals to be successful in any discipline.”

Approximately 2000 people are expected to attend this year’s event, and Parrish said that the number of people has grown almost 100 percent in the past four years.

“This is the one place you can go in the year to see the progress of technology in South Florida,” he said. “It’s not just a networking event; it’s an educational event and a hiring event.”

Parrish said that the event wouldn’t have been able to grow as much as it has without the help of those involved, including Event Chairman Alex Fundhouser, Team Lead Rick Sehaly, Public Relations Specialist Jessica Rodrigues and the volunteers who have driven the event every year.

“It shines a spotlight on the IT industry here in South Florida…ITPalooza is actually a very nice vehicle to demonstrate the vitality and the strength of the technology industry in our region,” he said.

To see a full schedule of events or purchase tickets, visit itpalooza.nova.edu. For more information, email info@itpalooza.com.
The second Democratic debate between Democratic presidential candidates was hosted on Nov. 14. The following statements were made by candidates throughout the debate, and the verdicts were decided upon by The Current staff after heavy research of reputable sources. The article is justified by Islam. The Washington Post and The Sunnis retaliated against it, leading to the creation of extreme protesters. One group of these protesters became known as Al Qaeda.

**VERDICT: True**

“Most important is to understand is we have organizations, whether it is ISIS or Al Qaeda who do believe we should go back several thousand years, we should make women third-class citizens, that we should allow children to be sexually assaulted, that they are a danger to modern society.”—Bernie Sanders, on the term “radical Islam”

According to CNN, ISIS has claimed that murdering, enslaving and raping women is justified by Islam. The Washington Post explained that the reasoning for this is that the jihadis group says the torture of women is a long-standing tradition. The article continued that after women are ranked by age, some younger than 13 years old, and physical attributes, they are distributed to men based on research and development and number one in women-owned businesses.

**VERDICT: True**

“The blipurin in Maryland that we follow was, yes, we did, in fact, raise the sales tax by a penny. And we made our public schools the best public schools in America for five years in a row with that investment. And, yes, we did ask everyone — the top 14 percent of earners in our state to pay more in their income tax. And we were the only state to go four years without a penny’s increase to college tuition.”—Martin O’Malley, on making public college debt free

According to Maryland.gov, during his two terms as Governor, Martin O’Malley created the fastest job growth in the region, led Maryland public schools to number one ranking of all public schools in the country for five years in a row and helped make Maryland colleges number one in ranking for keeping tuition costs down. He also made Maryland number one nationally in median income, number one in PhDs. scientists and researchers per capita, number one in research and development and number one in women-owned businesses.

**VERDICT: True**

“There is a broad consensus. 92 percent in the most recent poll of Americans want gun safety measures.”—Hillary Clinton, on gun control

Gallup reported that in a poll released Oct. 7 through Oct. 11 of the selling of firearms, 55 percent of participants wanted more strict laws, 11 percent wanted less strict laws and 33 percent wanted no change. A Gallup poll also found that 86 percent of participants were in favor of universal backround checks for gun purchases.

**VERDICT: Mislabeled. While the majority of poll participants did say they wanted more gun safety measures, it was not 92 percent.**

“This nation is the most powerful military in the world. We’re spending over $600 billion a year on the military. And yet significantly less than 30 percent of that money is used to fight international terrorism.”—Bernie Sanders, on Syrian refugees

Nationalpriorities.org reports that for the 2015 fiscal year, $689.5 billion of federal discretionary spending, the portion of the budget, was spent on international security and assistance, and 1 percent was spent on other defense needs.

**VERDICT: While he overestimated the amount of the budget, Sanders was correct in the amount of the money spent to fight international terrorism.**

“But two of our counties actually went to $12.80. And their county executives if they worked. The fact of the matter is the more our people earn the more money they spend and the more our whole economy grows.”—Martin O’Malley, on the economy

According to the Department of Labor, the federal minimum wage has increased 22 times since 1938, and, since that time, the real GDP of the economy has steadily increased as well. The site also says that raising the minimum wage allows families to have more money to spend on goods and services, which will stimulate local and national economic growth.

**VERDICT: True**

“People talk about the large influx of people leaving the Middle East, going to Europe and some of them wanting to go to the United States, that it may not be a benign thing to accept so many tens of thousands of people coming from the Middle East because many of them actually with us harm.” — Rand Paul, via The Boston Globe

“No, we shouldn’t be taking on any more Syrian refugees right now. In the last year, America has received almost 70,000 refugees, of which nearly 2,000 are from Syria. We’ve spent something like $4 billion in humanitarian relief in terms of helping the situation in Syria. So we’re doing more than any other country in the world, and it’s got to be clear that the problem that has to be addressed is not the refugee issue — that’s a symptom. The real problem is this administration fails to deal with taking in ISIS.”—Scott Walker, via NPR

“Immediate role should be to support our regional allies who are on the front lines through public and private assistance to the international organizations who are best poised to administer aid...In terms of settling the migrants, if the ultimate goal is to return them to their homes, which I believe it should be, it doesn’t make sense from a logistical or a security standpoint to move large numbers of them to safe countries like the United States. Ultimately, we need to address the cause of this crisis or we will just have more and more displaced.”—Ted Cruz, via CBS News

“If I sit down with [our allies] and say let’s look at what the flow of the refugees is going to be and the United States should play their role and not along with other allies.”—Chris Christie, via NPR

“On Nov. 19, the House of Representatives passed a bill that, if passed by the Senate, won’t allow Syrian and Iraqi refugees into the country until national security says they are not a security risk. The vote was passed 289-137. Because of the majority vote, it could override President Obama’s veto power. On whitehouse.gov, Obama announced a plan to bring in at least 10,000 Syrian refugees to the U.S. next year. The plan is to have each refugee go through high-level security checks. However, the bill will be given to what the U.S. government defines as most vulnerable, including survivors of violence and torture, those with severe medical conditions and women and children. The following statements were made by presidential candidates regarding the refugee debate.

“Turning aways orphans, applying a religious test, discriminating against Muslims, slamming the door on every Syrian refugee — that is just not who we are...It would be cruel irony, indeed, if ISIS can force families from their homes and then also prevent them from ever finding new homes.”—Hillary Clinton, via CNN

“The United States honestly, sadly, cannot relax our entry criteria. We are having to be very careful about who we let enter this country from many of the regions of the world that ensure that terrorists are not coming into the U.S. I think the Europeans need to continue to step up here both in terms of the amount of money they provide for humanitarian relief. They have not done as much as the United States has done on that front.”—Carly Fiorina, via NPR

“I was the first person on this stage to say that we should accept the 65,000 Syrian refugees that were fleeing the sort of murder of ISIL, and I believe that that needs to be done with proper safety measures.”—Martin O’Malley, via The New York Times

“What the magic number is, I don’t know. Because we don’t know the extent of the problem. But I certainly think that the United States should take its full responsibility in helping refugees.”—Bernie Sanders, via The New York Times

“But we have so many problems of our own...We have border problems that are bigger league that I exposed...We have so many problems to solve...We have to fix our own country. Now, Europe is handling it. Germany has been very generous so far, which is very surprising to me, to be honest with you. But there’s a huge problem, and we should help as much as possible, but we do have to fix our own country.”—Donald Trump, via CBS News

“That’s [background checks are] one of the reasons why I said we won’t be able to take more refugees. It’s not that we don’t want to, it’s that we can’t. Because there’s no way to background check someone that’s coming from Syria. Who do you call and do a background check on them.”—Marco Rubio, via ABC’s “This Week with George Stephanopoulos”
DANTE STEWART
M.B.A. in ENTREPRENEURSHIP, 2013

Everything’s a business

Which is why everyone should know business – whether your major is biology, counseling, or theatre. And that’s why you should boost your resume with one of NSU’s business programs. The Huizenga Business School offers six bachelor’s degrees, 11 unique MBA degrees, 7 master’s degrees and 10 certificate programs. And our flexible class formats work with your schedule to help you get the skills you need to advance your career – no matter what field you’re in. To learn more visit nova.edu/business or call (954) 262-5168.
I was looking for a life that I could live without world, there was one thing I was always seeking. As a young woman figuring out this type of prisoner you may come across, but I fled from a prison of expectations. I was an anxious soul with a strong arm and chain for control over my own body. I shared this sentencing with other people seeking the same fate I was. Fortunately, I have encountered, a reason to question what they spoke at TEDxNSU about “Rising above the Social Flexpectations” in the fitness industry and general culture. I began the magazine to give myself, and the many people I have encountered, a reason to question what they see on the magazines claiming to show “health.” I wanted people to start seeing themselves as healthy beings without the approval of six pack abs, or Photoshoppered perfection. I have come a long way since the beginning of my own journey and have met amazing souls who have helped me in spreading my mission. My greatest opportunity was speaking at TEDxNSU last year. My talk featured my own edited photographs and the speech of a lifetime about the experiences I have gathered in my young life so far. TEDxNSU gave me the chance to spread my wings as a public speaker and gave my mission room to grow. It is safe to say that both men and women are affected by this issue and need to see that it’s okay to be in your own body and not what is already out there. It is time for a paradigm shift in the perception of health and beauty. I want to give other people a chance to get a look from the inside out, and a gain a sense of pride in what each of us has to offer this crazy and beautiful world with no Photoshop required.

Since I graduate from NSU this semester, for the next chapters of my life, I plan on pursuing graduate school in sports psychology and grow Rawk Sport and Fitness as a whole-bodied company. I have not “written” my path, and I can’t “edit” it either, so it looks like all of us will have to look out for the next issue of Rawk Sport and Fitness Magazine to see what else I have learned.

The New Year comes with the opportunity to start, well, new. According to various sources, including Forbes magazine and The Washington Post, anywhere between 40 percent and 50 percent of Americans will make a resolution for 2016. This isn’t hard to imagine—almost everyone has something that they want to improve on. The problem is, according to Forbes magazine, only about 8 percent of those who make a resolution end up keeping it. Doesn’t sound very encouraging, right? Don’t worry; there is plenty that can be done to help you keep yours. Here are some helpful hints to consider while creating your New Year’s resolution.

Pick the right resolutions
April Coan, academic success coach and the assistant director at the Office of Undergraduate Student Success, said you should choose resolutions that are going to make positive changes in your life.

“Everyone has his or her own personal goals, so whatever is meaningful to you should be your resolution,” said Coan. Depending on where you are in life, there may be a lot of things that you want to change. As a college student, you may want to do everything from making new friends, fixing your grades, making money and getting fit. That’s a tall order for anyone to accomplish in a lifetime, let alone one year. Of course, there’s nothing wrong with trying to achieve all of these goals. But for the sake of keeping your New Year’s resolutions, try to stick to a small list of attainable goals. Want to get healthy? Try a resolution like going to the gym at twice a week, cutting out fast food and drinking three bottles of water a day. Not only is this list easier to handle, but also it’s also easier to measure.

Make a plan
Whenever trying to accomplish anything, it helps if you have a plan. Sometimes, making a plan can sound a lot easier than it actually is, so the first step is to do your research. Any time a big change is made, it’s important to go about it in the correct manner. If your resolution is to bring up that GPA, use your resources to research study strategies and organizational strategies. If you’re trying to socialize more, hit the internet to see what events are going on. If you’re trying to get fit, talk to a trainer about the work outs that would be right for you.

After doing research, write out a plan of action. This can include steps you are going to take and scheduled times for when you are going to do them. Make sure you give yourself that hour at the gym or that block of study time. Knowing how to accomplish a resolution will make achieving it that much easier.

Don’t give up
Coan said, “It takes 21+ days to form a habit.” That means it takes a little bit of effort to make a positive change.

When making a resolution, it’s unlikely that you’ll see the change instantly, especially with any of the big-ticket resolutions that are so popular. However, by sticking to your plan, you’re bound to see results. Perseverance is key. Unless your resolution is to party, you most likely aren’t going to have a good time trying to keep your resolution at all.

“By the third week, it’s just going to feel like part of your routine,” Coan explained. And that’s the ultimate goal, isn’t it? To make a positive, permanent change.

So over winter break, think about what’s most important to you. Think about everything you want to change. Create a plan. Make a resolution. College is the time to work on you and grow as an individual. Part of being a Shark is moving forward, something we are all capable of. This New Year, what will you change?
My name is April Coan, and I am an academic success coach and the assistant director at the Office of Undergraduate Student Success. Throughout the fall semester, I will offer tips and suggestions in The Current, which will focus on topics like success in college and taking advantage of the unique opportunities available at NSU.

The holiday break is a great time to enjoy home-cooked meals and spend time with family; however, the long break also is a great time to take advantage of opportunities and plan ahead. If you’re thinking about ways to get ahead of the game and take advantage of your time during the break, you might want to consider these options:

Update your CV or resume. If you’re thinking about getting a job near campus or if you’re preparing for a summer internship, the holiday break is the perfect time to update your resume or curriculum vitae (CV). To learn how to create a more impressive resume or CV, schedule an appointment with a career adviser at Career Development before you leave on vacation. To make an appointment, call 954-262-7201.

Plan for your next semester. Reserving time to study and planning ahead is a great way to ensure your success in the winter semester. You can plan ahead by reviewing your syllabi, ensuring you have the right textbooks for the upcoming semester, and creating a weekly study schedule. To learn more about creating a weekly schedule planner, you can contact the Office of Undergraduate Student Success at 954-262-8386.

Volunteer. If you’re the type who gets bored during the holiday break, you might want to think about volunteering. Volunteering is a great way to get experience and build your resume. For volunteering opportunities and ideas, you can contact Student Leadership and Civic Engagement at 954-262-7195.

Regardless of how you decide to celebrate your vacation, remember to relax and have a little “you” time. The holiday break is a great time to celebrate and reward yourself for completing another semester of school. During the break, do something that makes you happy so you can recharge your mental batteries and come back feeling refreshed the next semester.

World AIDS Day: Know your facts

By: Cerone White

Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) is the end result of human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), and it has taken the lives of millions of people around the world. World AIDS Day, observed Dec. 1, is instilled to help bring worldwide awareness and to unify, show support for and commemorate people who have died from this deadly disease.

World AIDS Day, which is observed Dec. 1, was instituted to help bring worldwide awareness and to unify, show support for and commemorate people who have died from this deadly disease.

Myth #1: If I am diagnosed with HIV, then I should be sick.

This is false because people can have the HIV virus in their bodies for years and not know about it. They don’t even need medication, but those around them should be aware of being infected. The virus can still reproduce in the body and be passed on to other people if safe sex is not practiced.

Myth #2: HIV only affects certain people.

Anyone can get HIV; it does not discriminate. Anyone can become infected the first time they are exposed to the virus. This virus is spread through different bodily fluids, including blood, semen, vaginal fluids and breast milk.

Myth #3: Receiving an HIV diagnosis is an automatic death sentence.

HIV is a serious disease, and there is no cure. However, people who have contracted HIV can now live longer, healthier lives. This is, in part, due to early detections and new effective treatments.

Myth #4: Since I have HIV, I have to be careful about everyday activities such as sharing my cellphone, shaking other people’s hands and hugging someone.

One cannot get HIV from everyday activities or casual contact, such as shaking hands, or touching everyday surfaces, such as the toilet seat. The virus does not live long enough outside the human body to infect someone. People can live longer, healthy lives, and now HIV-positive females can even produce HIV-negative children thanks to the advancement of modern medicine,” Timmer said.

HIV/AIDS will always be a taboo topic within certain circles, not only in the LGBT community, but also within the heterosexual community. The more people know, the better informed they are to handle situations when they arise and the more awareness they can spread to those around them.
The holiday season is upon us. For most college students, this is an exciting time to go home and brag about how you conquered the semester. It’s also time to introduce your significant other to your parents and sell them on the idea that you are doing well in school and in the ideal relationship with someone who brings out the best in you. Also, at some point, you even imagine yourself marrying this person, living in the suburbs with that white picket fence. Well, if you found yourself reading the previous sentence and nodding your head in affirmation, you probably have to stop reading now. But if you’re anything like me, which means you’re hopelessly single, and you have already started to prepare your “I’m single because…” speech, please continue reading because I am about to save your holiday.

Below are five tips that all single college students should use before and during their holiday visits back home. These life-saving tips will reduce your anxiety about going home and allow you to focus on the important things during the holiday season. You know, things like, gifts, good Wi-Fi and free food.

Tip #1: Appear busy
In a couple of weeks, you will head home, so if you want to keep your parents off your back, you need to start now. Start ignoring your parents’ calls and then test or call them a few minutes later. Keep the response simple, with something like “I am in a meeting…”. “I’m studying. Mom” or, my favorite, “Mom, I am about to save a unicorn — can’t talk.” This lays the foundation for your holiday comeback. So when that one inquisitive relative starts to question why you’re single, just say that you were so busy that you didn’t have time to date and use the fact that you ignored your parents as proof of your busy-ness.

Tip #2: The bad example
This tip builds on Tip #1. It’s easy to be right and wrong, but desperate times call for desperate measures. Use a friend’s awkward relationship as an example as to why you have chosen to remain single. We all have that one friend who has a mean significant other, so use their relationship as a counterexample, and watch your parents become thankful you’re single. Please use pseudonyms. If your friend’s name is Jill, call her J or something like that; you wouldn’t want your parents to judge your friend’s poor relationship choices. If you don’t have a friend who is in a bad relationship, then get creative and make one up.

Tip #3: The picky dater
I think this is the best tip thus far. The picky dater excuse makes you look like you have such high standards that you could never settle, which is why you are single. In reality, on a scale of one to ten, one meaning you have really low standards, the average college student is between three and five. Like the “appeas busy” tip, you need to start laying the foundation for this excuse. So start complaining about the boys or girls at school. Start telling your parents that they are subpar in comparison to what you want and that they raised you better than to simply settle. Your parents will be so proud. Also, this gives the illusion that you are wholesome and self-righteous. This will make them drop the “Why are you single?” question faster than Hillary dismissing the Benghazi scandal.

Tip #4: The little white lie
This is probably the most obvious tip on the list: lying to your parents. I would say that this is immoral, and lying to your parents is a big no-no, but you’re in college, and I’m sure you’ve lied to your parents before, so this one little lie isn’t a big deal. However, the lie shouldn’t be a crazy one. “My boyfriend/girlfriend and I are great, and we wish we could be here.” Your parents will see right through that excuse, and it makes you sound like a lying psychopath. Instead, say something like “I’m dating someone, and it’s not at the ‘meet-the-family’ level yet.” It will keep them in suspense and get them off your back for the holiday. I mean, maybe it’s not even a lie because maybe you are seeing someone, but it’s a premature relationship. Like I’m in a premature relationship with Netflix, and I don’t need my parents to get involved and ruin my blossoming obsession.

Tip #5: Own it
The previous tips were all about dodging reality. However, this tip is about owning your situation and not being ashamed of it. Most of you are in your early 20s — still trying to figure who you are and what you like. You shouldn’t let anyone pressure you into rushing through this phase of your life. So don’t be ashamed of it, and explain this to your parents. They will love you regardless. I hate self-love articles and tearam single hashtags, but there is some truth to it all. You’re most important person in your life, and although having a significant other is fun and all, you don’t need that in college. Schoolwork and getting good grades are priority, while boyfriends and girlfriends can wait until you’re ready. Continue to date and figure life out. Be confident about being single, and no one, even not your parents, will make you feel badly about it.

As a college student, there’s nothing more stressful than tackling final exams. An entire semester’s worth of information crammed into one test is a nightmare for any college student. But some final exams don’t consist of the typical multiple choice or short answer questions. Some professors assign final papers to take the place of traditional exams, and coupled with the studying students already have planned, final papers can cause more stress than necessary. However, final papers don’t need to be a stressful endeavor; by following a few simple tips, you can streamline your writing process and finish all of your final papers with ease.

Plan out your paper before you begin writing
Before you sit down and start furiously tying away at your computer, take the time to plan out your paper. Familiarize yourself with the sources you have chosen to use, and ensure that they contribute to your paper in a positive and constructive way. Create a thesis and establish which main points you will be covering in your paper. Plan out your paper before you begin writing process.

Don’t try to write your entire paper in one sitting; cramping an entire paper into the span of a few hours will only create more stress. Taking short, frequent breaks will help you stay focused and allow you to cover more ground. Set small goals for yourself when writing, and take a break once you’ve reached those goals. You can set your goals for a certain time period or in terms of word count.

When taking breaks, try to avoid doing other tasks on the computer; give your eyes a break from looking at the computer screen, and do another activity, such as stretching or taking a short walk. Be sure to keep your break brief, though, because stepping away from your paper for too long could cause you to lose focus or motivation.

Keep your browser free of distractions
The Internet is one of the most useful tools for writing both research papers and essays. But as useful as the Internet can be, it can also be very distracting. Writing a paper can be a tedious task when you’re constantly tempted to check Facebook or watch a video on YouTube. Avoid distracting websites while you’re trying to write a paper, and only open tabs that have information that is relevant to your topic. You can reward yourself with a quick social media break after you’ve completed a portion of your paper, but, otherwise, keep your internet browser distraction-free to create a productive writing environment on your computer.

Take frequent breaks
Don’t try to write your entire paper in one sitting; cramping an entire paper into the span of a few hours will only create more stress. Taking short, frequent breaks will help you stay focused and will allow you to work on your paper longer. Set small goals for yourself when writing, and take a break once you’ve reached those goals. You can set your goals for a certain time period or in terms of word count.

When taking breaks, try to avoid doing other tasks on the computer; give your eyes a break from looking at the computer screen, and do another activity, such as stretching or taking a short walk. Be sure to keep your break brief, though, because stepping away from your paper for too long could cause you to lose focus or motivation.

Proofread
There’s nothing more tempting than finishing a paper and hitting submit right away, not giving your work a second thought. But proofreading is an integral part of the writing process, and reading through your work once or twice can help you avoid careless mistakes, such as spelling or formatting errors. After writing each paragraph, read your work aloud to ensure that all of your sentences are coherent and flow well. Proofreading your work periodically will allow you to catch mistakes and avoid needlessly losing points on your paper.

Final papers may seem intimidating and can be a major source of stress for many students, but adding a few simple steps to your writing process can make academic writing a breeze. So don’t let final papers make you panic during exam week — remember these tips, and you’ll be sure to finish the semester with a stronger paper.
By: Erin Herbert
@erin_herbert

For Dakota Villella, younger education major, softball is one of the biggest parts of her life and has helped mold her into the person she is today.

Villella, a Hollywood, Florida, native, attended American Heritage High School, where she played softball for four years and soccer for three. During her senior season at American Heritage, Villella was named First-Team All County for both the Sun Sentinel and the Miami Herald.

Last season, Villella played second base for the Sharks and was a starter in all 45 games for the season. Villella scored 19 runs and stole seven bases on eight attempts, ranking second on the team in both categories.

I got the chance to sit down with Villella and ask her a few questions about herself.

How did you get started in softball?

“My whole family is an athletic family; we all love sports. My older sister used to play softball, so it is all kind of started out with her. My twin sister and I followed her and ended up playing together.”

What do you think is the most difficult aspect of softball?

“It’s how you handle everything. Softball is more of a game of failure. Not everything will go as planned, and you have to anticipate and think through the game, and that’s when you’ll be most successful. You need to understand the game and give it the respect it deserves. But I think it’s just how you handle it, and in return I think that’s what has really made me who I am as a player.”

Are there any specific tools that you use to motivate yourself to handle those failures?

“I’ve grown up a lot from when I started playing, and I think you just learn to take those failures as they happen. No one thinks you meant to make a mistake. But how others see your reaction when you make a mistake, if you can still make the out, or get a hit, then that shows more than the actual mistake. It’s all about how you respond and how you rebound from it. So I think that’s really my motivation.”

Do you have any coaches who have influenced you during your softball career?

“I’ve had a lot of coaches, and as a player in the game, you try to get as much as you can from them. It can be revered too. They’re trying to grow as a coach, and we try to grow as athletes. Everyone comes from different places, and they learn different things, and everything is taught differently, but it all has the same outcome. Like our new coach now; she has so much passion. Both of them actually, Coach Jonas and Coach LeMaire, they both have so much passion and high expectations, even more than what we thought was possible. They really want to push us to exceed those expectations. But I think every coach I’ve had has molded me to the person I am and the player I am.”

Does the softball team have any rituals they perform before or after games?

“I’m not playing the sport, I’d like to give back and coach. I have little cousins who are seven and eight, and I want to make them better than I am. But I’d like to give back if I’m not playing after college, which I really don’t want to see that day come, but I know it’s coming soon.”

Women’s Basketball

The women’s basketball team defeated Lynn 67-58 on Nov. 18. Junior Taylor Bule led the team with 14 points. The Sharks are now 3-0 for the season.

Men’s Basketball

The men’s basketball team earned a victory over Lynn with a score of 88-84 on Nov. 18. Junior Casey Carroll and Senior Chris Page both scored 17 points for the Sharks.

Dakota Villella participated in softball, as well as soccer, in high school, but connected to the Sharks softball team during college. She has helped mold her into the person she is today.

Since their start in 1902, college bowl games have been a major source of entertainment for fans during the college football postseason. But now, college bowl games are incredibly overdone and have become nothing more than a way for college football programs to make a quick buck. Bowl games should be a chance for some of the best teams to display their skill one last time at the end of a season, not a way for universities to make even more money off of college football.

In the early days of college bowl games, there were only a handful of bowl games played exclusively on New Year’s Day, but now, there are over 40 different bowl games dominating sports television from mid-December to early January. Bowl games were originally created to display match ups between the top teams in the league. But now, teams with losing records can easily qualify to compete in a bowl game; a team only needs to have a total of six wins in order to be invited to play.

Although these not-so-elite games were originally created to break up the monotony of the entire season and the championship game, they are now nothing more than an over-commercialized mess. Long gone are the days of prestigious sporting events and bowl games like the Rose Bowl, Orange Bowl and Sugar Bowl. Now just about any team can play in one of the corporate named and sponsored bowl games such as the TaxSlayer Bowl or the GoDaddy Bowl. There are so many bowl games going on that they’ve honestly become uninteresting. Who cares who won the Zaxby’s Heart of Dallas Bowl or the AutoZone Liberty Bowl? These wins or losses don’t necessarily count for anything, and many of these matchups don’t add anything exciting to college football.

Bowl games have lost their tradition and have become nothing more than universities exploiting their athletes to earn a massive payout. According to statista.com, in 2014, each team that competed in the Fiesta Bowl earned an $18,000,000 payout. Even teams that play in one of the more obscure bowl games can earn a minimum of $325,000. Bowl games really aren’t about the football anymore; it’s all about getting the biggest sponsorships and walking away with the biggest paycheck. I used to love sitting down to watch bowl games with my dad over winter break, wondering whose team would come out on top. But in recent years, we’ve found ourselves aimlessly flipping through the games, wondering how much each university is getting paid.

College Bowl games used to be a fun and exciting tradition. There was no better way to end a winning season than with a bowl game appearance. But now that almost any team can qualify for a bowl game, a lot of universities only compete for the money and the sake of having their team on television one last time for the season. Due to mass commercialization, bowl games are no longer fun and exciting, and this winter break I definitely won’t be tuning in to see which of the 48 obscure bowl games is on ESPN.
## Men's Swimming and Diving
- Shark Invitational<br>  NSU Aquatic Complex<br>  Dec. 2-5, All Day<br>  vs. Limestone<br>  NSU Aquatic Complex<br>  Jan. 6, 3 p.m.<br>  vs. Florida Southern<br>  Lakeland, Florida<br>  Jan. 9, 1 p.m.

## Women's Swimming and Diving
- Shark Invitational<br>  NSU Aquatic Complex<br>  Dec. 2-5, All Day<br>  vs. Limestone<br>  NSU Aquatic Complex<br>  Jan. 6, 3 p.m.<br>  vs. Florida Southern<br>  Lakeland, Florida<br>  Jan. 9, 1 p.m.

## Men's Basketball
- vs. Palm Beach Atlantic<br>  NSU Arena<br>  Dec. 2, 5:30 p.m.<br>  vs. Rollins<br>  NSU Arena<br>  Dec. 4, 2 p.m.<br>  vs. Shaw<br>  NSU Arena<br>  Dec. 17, 2 p.m.<br>  vs. Miles<br>  NSU Arena<br>  Dec. 19, 2 p.m.<br>  vs. Albany State<br>  NSU Arena<br>  Dec. 20, 2 p.m.<br>  vs. Embry-Riddle<br>  NSU Arena<br>  Jan. 2, 2 p.m.<br>  vs. Eckerd<br>  St. Petersburg, Florida<br>  Jan. 6, 5:30 p.m.

## Women's Basketball
- vs. Palm Beach Atlantic<br>  NSU Arena<br>  Dec. 2, 5:30 p.m.<br>  vs. Rollins<br>  NSU Arena<br>  Dec. 4, 5:30 p.m.<br>  vs. Eastern<br>  NSU Arena<br>  Dec. 18, 7:30 p.m.<br>  vs. Arkansas Tech<br>  Melbourne, Florida<br>  Dec. 18, 4:30 p.m.<br>  vs. Lane<br>  Melbourne, Florida<br>  Dec. 19, 12 p.m.<br>  vs. Embry-Riddle<br>  NSU Arena<br>  Jan. 2, 4 p.m.<br>  vs. Eckerd<br>  St. Petersburg, Florida<br>  Jan. 6, 7:30 p.m.

## Men's Volleyball
- NCAA South Regional<br>  TBA<br>  Dec. 3-6<br>  NCAA Elite Eight<br>  Tampa, Florida<br>  Dec. 10-12

## Women's Volleyball
- NCAA South Regional<br>  TBA<br>  Dec. 3-6
- NCAA Elite Eight<br>  Tampa, Florida<br>  Dec. 10-12

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### Out of the Sharkzone

**Canelo Alvarez becomes first Mexican to win junior middleweight, middleweight world titles**

New middleweight champion of the world Canelo Alvarez defeated Miguel Cotto after a unanimous decision on Nov. 21. The judges scored the match at 119-109, 118-110 and 117-111 in favor of Alvarez.

**Chargers retire LaDainian Tomlinson's No. 21**

During the Nov. 22 halftime of the San Diego Chargers game against the Kansas City Chiefs, the Chargers retired Tomlinson's No. 21 jersey. Tomlinson, a former running back, is one of four Chargers to be honored with a retired jersey number. The team will also induct Tomlinson into its hall of fame as its 38th member. The Chargers' top pick in 2001, Tomlinson was the NFL MVP in 2006 and is a three-time All-Pro selection, making the Pro Bowl five times. Tomlinson retired in 2012 after two years with the New York Jets.

**Red Wings Johan Franzen on long-term injury reserve with concussion-like symptoms**

Keri Holland, Detroit Red Wings general manager, said forward Johan Franzen will be out indefinitely due to concussion-like symptoms. Franzen was out for 49 games last year due to a concussion. He was also out for much of the previous season due to concussion-like symptoms.

**UF QB Will Grier suspended until 2016**

University of Florida Gators quarterback Will Grier will not play until the seventh game of 2016 after he appealed his year-long NCAA suspension for testing positive for performance-enhancing drugs. The NCAA denied his appeal to shorten his suspension, and Grier will not return until Oct. 15, 2016, in the Gators vs. University of Missouri Tigers matchup.

**Cameron Maybin traded to Detroit Tigers for Ian Krol, Gabe Speier**


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**INTERESTED IN NEWS, WRITING, OR PHOTOGRAPHY? COME TO THE CURRENT’S MEETINGS IN SAB 104.**

**AND YES, THERE WILL BE FREE FOOD.**
By: Jazmyne Brown

The entertainment industry has a huge impact on our awareness of the various issues society faces, and HIV/AIDS is no exception. Here are some noteworthy HIV/AIDS films that can help viewers understand the different perspectives of those who were directly and indirectly affected by the virus during the 1980s and that awareness is just as necessary now as it was 35 years ago.

“How to Survive a Plague” (2012)

This documentary, directed by reporter, author and filmmaker David France, follows the efforts of the AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power (ACT UP) and Treatment Action Group (TAG), two organizations dedicated to increasing awareness and research of AIDS. The film, dedicated to France’s partner Doug Gould, who died of AIDS-related pneumonia, includes news coverage, demonstrations, interviews, and conferences and follows AIDS activists as they push for research and development of HIV/AIDS treatments during the AIDS outbreak in the 1980s.

“Dallas Buyers Club” (2013)

Starring Matthew McConaughey as Ron Woodroof, this critically-acclaimed biographical drama film portrays the fear and stigma surrounding the HIV/AIDS virus during the 1980s. It is based on the true story of electrician and AIDS activist Ron Woodroof, who was diagnosed with AIDS Woodroof, given 30 days left to live, smuggled unapproved medicine from Mexico into Texas after he discovers the only FDA-approved drug used to treat AIDS, AZT, directly adversely affects his health.

Woodroof begins supplying others diagnosed with AIDS with the new drug, peptide T. He founds the Dallas Buyers Club with Rayon, a HIV-positive transgender woman addicted to drugs, played by Jared Leto. The club was originally a way for Woodroof to make money, but after several run-ins with the FDA and the deemed a close friend, Woodroof put all of his effort into supplying members of the club with the peptide T, still unapproved by the FDA at the time, despite its benefits. After the credits roll, it’s revealed that Woodroof died seven years later than predicted after the FDA allowed him to take peptide T. “Dallas Buyers Club” is the true tale of a man who gave everything to help others when the government and medical field wouldn’t, and a time of widespread fear of AIDS and the LGBT community, when AIDS was under researched and misunderstood. For their outstanding performances, at the 86th Academy Awards, McConaughey and Leto won the Academy Awards for Best Actor and Best Supporting Actor, respectively.

“Earth: A Living Planet” (2014)

Directed by Bryan Murphy, this documentary of the TV series “Glee,” “Nip/Tuck” and “American Horror Story,” this drama TV film is based on writer Larry Kramer’s 1985 play of the same name and stars several big names, including Matt Bomer, Mark Ruffalo, Julia Roberts and Jim Parsons.

Set in the 1980s, “The Normal Heart” follows writer and activist Ned Weeks, played by Ruffalo, on his heartbreaking journey amidst the 1981-1984 AIDS crisis in New York City, and later the rest of the nation. The discovery of a sexually transmitted disease among gay men prompts the medical community to refer to it as gay-related immune deficiency (GRID), and Weeks sets out a course to fundraise and push through a new support and advocacy group called Gay Men’s Health Crisis. Weeks, along with several friends and doctor Emma Brooker, played by Roberts, push for national awareness of a disease that the government dismisses and consequently kills many. This film unfailingly portrays the effects of AIDS and the consequences of limited awareness, as the number of those who succumb to the illness grows even after the film is over. "The Normal Heart" won Best Movie in the 2014 Critics’ Choice Television Awards, Outstanding Television Movie in the 2014 Primetime Emmy Awards and Best Motion Picture in the 2014 Online Film & Television Association Awards.

World AIDS Day: HIV/AIDS in film

By: Roddia Paul

You would be surprised at the holiday fun just around the corner. Take a second, and if you’re in search of some holiday fun you might want to read below. There is a ton of holiday fun in South Florida.

Let there be lights

Everyone loves lighting their way into the holiday season. So if you are looking for some good spots to view some holiday lights, see below for constant night lights.

Santa’s Enchanted Forest

When: Nov. 1-Jan. 3

Where: 7900 SW 40th St., Miami

Phone: 305-559-9609

Santa’s Enchanted Forest is also a theme park.

Admission: Season pass tickets are good for unlimited visits through Jan. 3, 2016. Season pass costs ticket $42.99 for children ages 3 to 9 and seniors ages 65+ and $53.27 for ages 10 to 64. Single day passes are good for one admission to the park. They cost $21.49 for children ages 3 to 9 and seniors ages 65+ and $30.84 for ages 10 to 64.

Holiday Lights at the Edison Estates

When: Nov 27-Jan. 3

Where: 2350 McGregor Blvd., Fort Myers

Phone: 239-334-7419

Admission: General admission for adults is $20, $2 for children ages 6 to 12 and $10 for students. Children ages 13 to college age with a student ID. Guided tours for adults are $25, $8 for children ages 6 to 12, and $12 for students ages 13 to college age with a student ID.

Downtown holiday boat parade

When: Dec. 12 at 6:30 p.m.

Where: 17th Street Causeway

Admission: $25 for adults and $10 for children

Phone: 954-467-6677

Seminole Hard Rock WinterFest Boat parade

When: Dec. 12 at 6:30 p.m.

Where: 1 Seminole Way, Hollywood

Phone: 866-502-7529

Boat tour and boat tour

Choose from a variety of famous homes, toiletry and costume balls. This holiday season, you can look forward to your holiday celebrations.

By: Sandi Land

This celebration is perfect for SoFlo weather. Enjoy the holiday feel and Florida weather as you admire snowville, aquariums, snowflakes and holiday concerts.

When: Dec. 3-Dec. 31

Where: On the waterfront at West Palm Beach

Admission: free

Wpb.org/events

SAYW: A dance trilogy

If you love dance, you’ll just love this magical show. Be mesmerized by this ballroom dance mixed with urban youth vibes and Latin culture. This year’s performance will include Roxie Hart and Ramer Willis. Their performances will definitely add some passion to your holiday celebrations.

When: Dec. 3- Dec. 6

Where: Olympia Theater at the Gusman Center for the Performing Arts in Miami

Admission: Director’s box tickets are free with admission, second level balcony tickets are $69, first level balcony tickets are $99, orchestra tickets are $149, mezzanine tickets are $189, premium tickets are $249 and VIP tickets are $649.

Dancethrillsensusa.com/sayw

Islamorada holiday festival

Come enjoy the 11th annual holiday festival of Miami and embrace a 35-foot Christmas tree, snow, a 20-ton snow mountain, parade, costumes and baked goods.

When: Dec. 4

Where: Fortuners Park, 8700 Overseas Highway, Islamorada

Admission: free. $65 parking dollar fee.

Islamoradachamber.com

Holiday fun in the Florida sun

By: Roddia Paul

December 1, 2015 | nsucurrent.nova.edu

World AIDS Day: HIV/AIDS in film

by: Jazmyne Brown

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2015 was a big year in entertainment. From highly anticipated albums, box office hits and memorable celebrity moments, this year had several highs and, equally, many lows. The Current Staff listed their favorite and least favorite arts and entertainment moments of 2015.

Best of 2015
Nicole Cocy, co-editor-in-chief, said

“No No No” by Beirut

I fell in love with Beirut, an indie band from Santa Fe, when it released “The Ride Trip” in 2011, and I never thought anything could ever top my excitement for this new album. The multi-talented musicians led by the prodigious Zach Condon proved me wrong when it dropped “No No No” in September. Like in its previous albums, “No No No” pairs an eclectic collection of random instruments that I’ve never even heard of, like glockenspiels and flugelhorns, with sweet, delicate vocals in classic American music. It has a traditional eastern European folk vibe. However, “No No No” is much more polished than its predecessors and features a minimalist approach. Previous albums were random, funky, folky sounding, and each other in a way that still managed to be cohesive; in “No No No,” Beirut gives each melodic riff air to breathe and masters the inclusion of brief melodies piled on top of each other. The simple slogan standing in front of a green screen, prompting “Just Do It.” The actor posted a hilarious speech that my favorite band can do no wrong, which is

Jazmyn Brown, copy editor, said

“Orange is the New Black” Season 11 of “The Bachelorette”

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“The Hunger Games: Mockingjay, Part 2”:
Katniss yelling at the family cat, induce the Peeta’s discussion of Katniss' feelings and that aren’t meant to be funny, like Gale and audience to consider which side is the good side of the fight makes decisions that ask the moral ambiguity of war. “Mockingjay, Part 2.” Katniss is determined, but with a stiffness that is fragile and breaks when understanding of Katniss and plays her character shines. After three movies, Lawrence has a good punctuated with the sound of a single drum. The concluding movie of the Hunger Games series captures the grace and imaginative storylines, this show creates ending. Because of her unwavering hatred, the Queen sought out help from one The Dark One, Rumpelstiltskin, who created a curse enacted by the Evil Queen, Regina, who was envious of Snow White's happy chance to tell the story of how their troubled path led them to a destination of darkness. For instance, the Evil Queen’s story explains how her mother chased her out of the kingdom, which is why she was so adamant about her daughter getting married. The evil characters who once threatened the happiness of our beloved heroes finally get a chance to tell their story of how their lives brought them together in one swoop. The plot of the show is based around a curse enacted by the Evil Queen, Regina, who was envious of Snow White’s happy ending. Because of her unyielding hatred, the Queen sought out help from one The Dark One, Rumpelstiltskin, who created a curse which would transport all of those living in the Enchanted Forest to a land without magic, rubbish their bodies and memories of being fairytale characters. The only way to break the curse lied within the fate of Snow White and Prince Charming’s love. It’s the darkness of times and happily-ever-after endings happen to everyone, this no longer a dream of times and happily-ever-after endings happen to everyone, this no longer a dream of times and happily-ever-after endings happen to everyone, this no longer a dream of times and happily-ever-after endings happen to everyone, this no longer a dream of times and happily-ever-after endings happen to everyone, this no longer a dream of times and happily-ever-after endings happen to everyone, this no longer a dream of times and happily-ever-after endings happen to everyone, this no longer a dream of times and happily-ever-after endings happen to everyone, this no longer a dream of times and happily-ever-after endings happen to everyone, this no longer a dream of times and happily-ever-after endings happen to everyone, this no longer a dream of times and happily-ever-after endings happen to everyone, this no longer a dream of times and happily-ever-after endings happen to everyone, this no longer a dream of times and happily-ever-after endings happen to everyone, this no longer a dream of times and happily-ever-after endings happen to everyone, this no longer a dream of
Seriously Kidding

Purging on Black Friday

By: Redd4a Paul

Incoming reports from last week show that this was the most successful Black Friday to date, with the most aggressive shoppers thus far.

When you heard the sirens, you knew what it was. Those that weren’t hardcore shoppers had been waiting to get their loved ones and take cover. Streets were pitch-black and the only lights that could be seen were the ones bursting from the crowded stores.

At 5 a.m., many people dressed in disguise and left their homes to participate in Black Friday, and none of them returned home the same.

“I participate in the Black Friday event every year,” Ana Miller said. “It’s the only time of year that I won’t get penalized for violently pushing a fellow shopper down an escalator at the mall.”

It has been reported that there were over 60 cases of pushing and violent trampling in the Aventura Mall alone.

“They could set this off,” Michelle Sanders said. “I turned my back for one second, and all of my hard work this Black Friday was gone.”

There and other acts of violence rapidly increased during the event. Children need to stay indoors, or they risk becoming hostage victims forced to hold their kidnapper’s place in line.

People have been known knocking down house doors and breaking into garages trying to steal their neighbors’ SUVs and trucks so that they can have more trunk space to carry their new merchandise home.

Just know that if you choose not to participate, you can still find yourself a victim of Black Friday rage. A message was sent from President Obama himself regarding the issue.

“Fools, if you do not participate in Black Friday, I suggest you protect yourself by staying indoors. Do not call 911, and do not participate, you can still find yourself a victim of Black Friday rage. A message was sent from President Obama himself regarding the issue.

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“This is one of the reasons why Black Friday is banned in my state,” Ana Miller said. “It’s a way to say ‘thank you’ for the million dollars that a celebrity donated so that the school can continue to house, teach and provide resources for students who are actually working towards their bachelor’s degrees.

“Wait,” she said. “When you hear the sirens, you knew what it was. Those that weren’t hardcore shoppers had been waiting to get their loved ones and take cover. Streets were pitch-black and the only lights that could be seen were the ones bursting from the crowded stores.

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“A college degree is far more than a piece of paper that one gets in the mail once they complete a required number of credits that the university requires. A college degree is one more opportunity to be successful that might not have existed prior to receiving it.

For schools just to give it away for a dollar and a handshake, they are turning the world over the work hard daily just for the same recognition is a slap in the face. The best part of it all is some of these celebrities cannot construct a proper sentence on their own without the help of their publicists.

Money runs the world, even though some people try to hammer us that money is bad. Money is needed to carry out their daily functions and operate business. However, they need to consider ways of making money and attract power and prestige in schools and colleges, and support their academic institution in a classier way.

Getting a degree is an accomplishment. All of the hard work and dedication to achieve a goal has been met through the education system.

This degree, which so many people have worked hard for, will ultimately enhance the life of that person and the person who is connected to that person. When money, cars and homes are gone, what will one do? An education will always remain, unlike other material things. Education is the ultimate power.

By: Sarah Kelly

“Can I see your ID?” This is a question like a typical angry college student who wants to sneak in a drink or acquire alcohol under their drinking age, and consequences of adulthood without any of the fun.

For those of you who survived yet another Black Friday, and none of them returned home the same.

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By: Emaloke Shreprusw

700 million — the amount of messages sent via Snapchat in 2014 alone. 700 million pictures and messages we all thought were private and vacant at the snap of a finger can now be posted on a billboard without consent from their creators. This is because Snapchat changed their Terms and Conditions in the 8th hour of the 8th of the 8th of the 8th.

The revised terms and conditions state that all of the snaps that users send are stored in the Snapchat servers and can be publicly displayed and viewed. Any messages, pictures and messages that have been sent since the recent update could be up on a billboard or in a magazine tomorrow.

Read before you click “agree”
AIDS awareness is important

By: Erin Herbert
@erin_herbert

When most college students think about their personal health, they probably think about the bottles of vitamins sitting on their kitchen counter or about the brief physical checkups their parents force them to go to whenever they visit home. But for a majority of college students, sexual health and the threat of AIDS may never cross their mind. The spread of AIDS is an increasingly prevalent issue in the U.S., which too many people choose to ignore. People take the dangers of AIDS too lightly, and due to their lack of information, they never stop to think that it could happen to them. However, AIDS is a real health threat and is a topic that everyone should be thoroughly educated about.

According to aids.gov, the acronym AIDS stands for acquired immunodeficiency syndrome. AIDS is the final, and most developed, stage of HIV or human immunodeficiency virus. HIV and AIDS are diseases that lower the number of T-cells in an infected individual’s body, and over time, as the number of T-cells in the body decreases, the infected individual becomes more susceptible to viruses and infections. AIDS can affect anyone, regardless of age, race or gender.

AIDS awareness is incredibly important because it is a disease that, once infected, you will carry with you for the rest of your life. Although AIDS is very manageable with modern medicine, there is no safe and effective cure for the disease yet. Everyone is potentially at risk, but recent studies show that college-aged students are at more of a risk than ever. In fact, the Florida Department of Health reported that “14 percent of all new HIV infections reported in 2014 were among persons under the age of 25.” They also reported that Broward County has the second highest concentration of AIDS cases in Florida, meaning that students at NSU have an increased risk for exposure to the disease.

Students in South Florida are in an environment that makes them much more susceptible to AIDS than other college students, and being informed about AIDS can make a world of difference. AIDS awareness should be a top priority for both students and universities. The only way to stop the spread of AIDS is to inform individuals about the causes and risks of the disease. Everyone should take the time to inform herself or himself, as well as others, about what AIDS is, how it can be contracted and how it can be prevented.

A general understanding of what AIDS is can also help end the stigma towards those suffering from the disease. Too many people believe that those who suffer from AIDS contracted it through carelessness, unsafe sexual contact or even drug use. But in reality, AIDS can unknowingly be passed on through pregnancy, breastfeeding, incidental contact with infected blood and a number of other ways. There are far too many myths about AIDS that could be ended with increased AIDS awareness.

Increasing awareness about AIDS is an important step in ending the spread of AIDS and helping to spread acceptance and compassion for those who are already living with the disease. Awareness is especially important for college students because they are typically at a higher risk of contracting AIDS and other sexually transmitted infections and diseases. Knowledge is power, and understanding AIDS is the best way to keep yourself safe and healthy.

British pop singer and songwriter Adele released a new single, “Hello,” from her third album, “25,” released on Nov. 28. Within 72 hours of the single’s release, it had over 71 million views on YouTube. 71 million views not because she was portraying violence in her music video or exposing herself in a sexual manner, but because she said a message that was unique and was packaged to fit the content of her character.

Adèle garnered 23.2 million views in the first 24 hours. Compare that to Taylor Swift’s 2014 “Bad Blood” video that was viewed over 20.1 million times within 24 hours. According to Head of Culture and Trends at YouTube Kevin Allocca, Adele drew over 1.6 million views per hour the day her single was released. Now that is nothing to sneeze about.

Without delay, let’s switch our attention to the over-polarizing of sexual content that has dominated today’s music industry. In today’s society, sex sells — everything from the latest accessories to the clothes we put on our backs. We live in a society that believes if a product doesn’t have a sexual image associated with it, then the sale or viewership will be reduced dramatically or even fail. Society needs to steer away from this notion if it is not sexy then that means it is not good. In today’s music industry, artists are finding different avenues to display their bodies from album covers to their on-stage performances.

Adele has broken that mold. She has been able to sell millions of records, without exposing her body to make a dollar, unlike other female artists in the music industry such as Nicki Minaj, Beyoncé, Rihanna and Lady Gaga. While I respect these artists and others who bear it all on stage and give a peek show on occasion to solicit cheers, I have a greater respect for those who choose to approach their craft from a different perspective.

I applaud artists like Fantasia, Chistette Michele and Alicia Keys who conduct their business and themselves in a professional and tasteful manner. These artists have taken a page from the likes of Patti Labelle, Aretha Franklin, Gladys Knight and other artists from that era who relied on their talent to sell records rather than their body parts to entice viewers to buy their music. These artists did not expose that which was intended to be seen behind closed doors in order to make their music careers successful.

A study conducted by Dawn R. Hobbs, a psychology professor at the University Albany in New York, concluded that 92 percent of the top ten billboard songs of 2009 were about sex. While Adele songs are not primarily about sex, but rather heartbreaks and dysfunctional relationships, she consistently breaks this mold that one has to dress in sexual manner to get to the top of the charts. She is indeed a trailblazer, and others should follow in her footsteps.

It is said that beauty is in the eyes of the beholder. Oftentimes, the beholder is blinded by society and yearns for the love of society, and that love is stipulated by rules and regulations that come with a price. A buxxy price that not all can afford. One such price tag that comes with this sexual exploitation is that in order to be successful, you have to sell sex, or what was meant to be private has to be shared for public consumption for monetary gains. I salute artists who choose not to conform to the beauty that society requires of them. Their courage and the positive message that they are sending to young girls and boys is one that many others need to follow. This is the generation that will follow them, so they need to leave a legacy, one of class and high morals.

Artists should know that their bodies are temples, and they should be treated as a scared place. Something ought to be left to the imagination and not for public viewing. Do not have to expose yourself to be successful, and Adele proved it once again with her latest single.

Sex doesn’t sell: You can still keep your clothes on

By: Cerose White

I honestly look forward to all of the holiday decorations on campus, like the characters on the dorm doors.”

- Kristi Jaravellii, sophomore biology major

“I really look forward to spending quality time with my friends and creating new traditions.”

- Morgan Kiloh, sophomore finance major

“[Starbuck’s] holiday featured drinks make me so happy, and they really get me in the holiday spirit.”

- Nadia Siddiq, sophomore biology major

“I look forward to the decorations during Christmas. It really creates a really good mood and I just feel surrounded by good vibes and happiness.”

- Carolina Ruiz, sophomore speech pathology major

“I look forward to all of the holiday activities at NSU, last year, they decorated and three snow throughout the UC.”

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“By good vibes and happiness. The holiday season really makes you want to smile and be happy. I even tend to spend more time in the UC.”

- Mohammad Faraj, junior biology major

By: Erin Herbert

Opinions

15

SHARK SPEAK

*HAPPY HOLIDAYS*

“WHAT DO YOU LOOK FORWARD TO MOST DURING THE HOLIDAY SEASON?”

- Nadia Siddiq, sophomore biology major

“Happy Holidays”

- Mohammad Faraj, junior biology major

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