South Florida declares public health emergency

On Feb. 3, the Surgeon General of Florida declared a public health emergency in Broward and Miami-Dade Counties due to reported cases of the Zika virus, which may lead to Guillain-Barré Syndrome and birth defects.

According to Miami Herald, as of Feb. 11, 16 people have tested positive for the virus in Florida, six of whom are in Miami-Dade and two of whom are in Broward. All cases are travel-related.

Although none of the reported cases in Florida were contracted in the continental U.S., officials have expressed concern that the virus will spread in the counties that those infected reside in, including Broward, Hillsborough, Lee, Miami-Dade, Ocoee, Santa Rosa and St. Johns.

The mosquito species Aedes aegypti and Aedes albopictus carry and spread the virus through bites. Symptoms are generally mild and include fever, rash, joint pain and red eyes.

Mayi said the best way to respond to mosquito-born diseases is using mosquito eradication techniques, such as insecticides and repellants that contain DEET or picaridin. Mayi also recommended that people living in South Florida should drain any stagnant water they keep in or around their homes, as stagnant water is typically a breeding location for mosquitos.

In the memo sent out by Gimenez, it was also recommended that people cover doors and windows with screens and discard old time, drums, bottles and other items that they do not typically use.

“The key is a level of awareness in which we respond to any health issue or emergency,” Mayi said. “It would be ignorant of us to expect that we will always have a lid on every infectious illness that affects humans.”

On Feb. 8, President Barack Obama asked Congress to provide $1.8 billion to help fight the virus in the Americas through mosquito control, training programs and laboratory expansion. If agreed upon, the Department of Health and Human Services would receive $1.48 billion, and $250 million would be allocated to aiding pregnant women in Puerto Rico.

The proposal came after a case was reported in Texas on Feb. 3, where someone contracted the Zika Virus after having sex with a partner who had recently traveled to Venezuela, where the virus has spread extensively.

As reported by CNN, Zika remains in the bloodstream for about a week; however, it is unknown how long it is able to remain in semen. Researchers are testing the virus to find a timeframe.

As of Feb. 8, officials have reported cases of Zika virus in Venezuela, Mexico, Jamaica, Ecuador, Colombia, Ireland, Australia, the Pacific Islands and Cape Verde in Africa. Locally transmitted cases have been reported in Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands and American Samoa. For a full list of infected areas, visit cdc.gov/zika.

Registration for the race/walk will be open until the day of the event. Participants can register at the event from 7:30 a.m. until 9 a.m., when the timed 5K race begins, Women in Distress will have a warm-up program, which includes a welcome message from the center’s CEO and a 10-minute Zumba dance. The race, which is 3.1 miles, will start and finish between the Alvin Sherman Library and the Student Union.

Registration is open to join Women in Distress as they raise funds to end domestic violence at the 17th annual Safewalk-run 5K on Feb. 27 at NSU’s Fort Lauderdale-Davie campus.

Registration for the race/walk will be open until the day of the event. Participants can register at the event from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. From 8:30 a.m. until 9 a.m., when the timed 5K race begins, Women in Distress will have a warm-up program, which includes a welcome message from the center’s CEO and a 10-minute Zumba dance. The race, which is 3.1 miles, will start and finish between the Alvin Sherman Library and the Don Taft University Center.

According to Mary Helen Olejnick, manager of the event, Women in Distress is the only state- and nationally-certified domestic violence center and is the biggest domestic violence center in South Florida. It provides, in addition to shelter services, professional therapy for adults and children, and it has an innovative early childhood therapy program for infants and children up to 4 years old.

Olejnick said that not only will the event’s proceeds go toward funding the services Women in Distress provides, but they will also be used to raise awareness in the community about domestic violence.

“Their mission to increase awareness for the people whom domestic violence affects. "This is our second year at NSU, so we’re really looking to really get the college crowd out there because we feel like this is such an important issue [for them],” she said. “It’s a way to get people to know that this resource exists — that it’s completely anonymous, completely private. If you’re in an abusive situation, our only concern is to get you out of that.”

Olejnick said Women in Distress’ education and prevention team works closely with NSU, and the center has had a long-standing relationship with the psychology department, which provides interns. "The interns are the direct service providers for the victims, and they provide them with counseling services," she said.

Until Feb. 19, Women in Distress is also holding a special contest in which those who sign up and raise at least $100 get the chance to win a FitBit, restaurant gift certificates and other prizes.

General attendance is free. For more information about Safewalk-run 5K, or to register, visit womenindistress.org/event/safewalk-run-5k. For more information about Women in Distress, or to learn about volunteering and internship opportunities, visit womenindistress.org.
France plans to strip convicted terrorists of their nationality

France’s National Assembly voted 162-148 in favor of President Francois Hollande’s plan to strip passports and citizenship from convicted terrorists following the November 2015 Paris attacks, ISS claimed. The French court will judge for the attacks that killed 130 people, and some of the attackers were French citizens who trained with the militant group, both factors prompted Hollande to call for a revision of the French Constitution and the addition of a clause that would allow the country to revoke citizenship from these convicted of terrorism. The lower house of parliament approved it, 317 in favor and 399 against, in a vote on Feb. 10. The Senate and third-fifths of France’s Congress must support the proposal before the government can amend the constitution.

Canada to end airstrikes against ISIS

By Feb. 22, Canada will cease its airstrikes against ISIS in Syria and Iraq and recall six F-18 fighter jets to build pride and spirit in Greek life, major and president of Sigma Delta Tau, is part Order of Omega, a Greek leadership honors organization and Greek Week will give the organizations and philanthropic events, from Feb. 16 to Feb. 20. Greek Week will include a field day, karaoke night, lip-sync battle, women’s clothing drive and a fundraiser. Fraternities and sororities will compete with each other throughout the week for first-, second- and third-place trophies. The fraternity or sorority that wins the first-place trophy will donate all of the money raised during the week to a charity of their choosing.

United Arab Emirates PM creates ministries of tolerance and supervision

Prime Minister Mohammad bin Rashid Al Maktoum announced the creation of a ministry of state for happiness “to create social good and satisfaction” and a minister of state for tolerance to promote tolerance “as a fundamental element of our society.” These ministries, along with the newly created UAE Youth National Council, are a part of an initiative to institute a flexible government that is capable of adjusting to change. A female minister of state younger than 22 will lead the youth council, which will advise the government on youth issues. “The energy of youth will fuel our government in future,” Sheikh Mohammed said.

49 dead, 12 injured in Mexican prison riot

A riot broke out in the Topo Chico jail near Monterrey in northern Mexico when rival gangs clashed with sharp weapons, bars and sticks for 30 to 40 minutes, according to Nuevo Leon state governor Jaime Rodriguez, leaving 49 inmates dead and 12 more injured, five of which were in critical condition. The inmates also set fire to a storage room. Juan Pedro Zaldivar Farias, known as Z-27, is a member of the Los Zetas drug cartel and led one of the groups, while Jorge Ivan Hernandez Cantu, member of the rival Gulf cartel, led the other. Officials reported that no inmates escaped. According to a National Human Rights Commission report, the Topo Chico jail housed nearly 1,000 more prisoners than its maximum occupancy in 2014. Mexico’s prisons are notorious for their gang violence, break-outs, overcrowdedness and corruption.
Play video games with SAGE

The Society of Anime, Gaming and Entertainment (SAGE) is hosting Game Wars, where students can play games on the latest gaming systems for free, on Feb. 19 from 4 to 6 p.m. in the Dunn Tait University Center Pit. Game Wars is a Ft. Lauderdale-based company that provides games and gaming systems for events. For the event, monitors will be set up in the UC Pit, and students can stop by any time throughout the event to play.

Shanelle Grizzle, senior biology major, is the event coordinator for SAGE, and said that the event is an alternative way for students to de-stress before midterms.

“It’s a really fun event because it brings the NSU community and friends together so they can play together and have a good time,” she said. “Also, since Game Wars is the Friday before midterms, it’ll let students relax before they have to crack down on studying for midterms.”

Jennifer Cecere, art major and member of SAGE, said that Game Wars is a chance for people who don’t have time to come to SAGE to be able to participate in their events.

“We’re meant to be a place where people can relax and don’t have to stress about school,” she explained.

Cecere, a gamer, said she is looking forward to seeing what new games and systems are out.

“Sometimes, you don’t have money to buy the games or a certain gaming system,” Cecere said. “Game Wars is fun because I get to play on a system I may never own.”

SAGE is a society that celebrates nerd culture, according to Grizzle.

“We watch anime, we read comics, we play video games,” she said. “We try to find other people who share the same interests that we do. You can come in with any weird or interesting things that you like, and, more than likely, you’ll find someone else who’s interested in the same things you’re interested in.”

Grizzle wants Game Wars to get more people interested in SAGE.

“We’re a small club, and we’re not that well-known,” she explained. “This event will get our name out there so people will know who we are. Hopefully, people who have been looking for a group like us will be able to find us.”

Grizzle hopes the event will showcase SAGE’s diversity and show that any stereotypes about gamers aren’t true.

“Our club is proof enough that there’s a wide range of people who can be considered gamers and nerds in general,” Cecere said. “We have people in SAGE who major in biology, criminal justice and art.”

SAGE is also planning a student café for later in the semester where members of the club will act as wait staff and serve food to students.

For more information about Game Wars and SAGE, contact Grizzle at sg1352@nova.edu, or visit sagens.org/weekly.

Serve the homeless with SLCE

By: Grace Ducanis
@GraceDucanis

NSU students can serve the homeless at Broward Outreach centers in Hollywood and Pompano Beach on Feb. 20 with the Office of Student Leadership and Civic Engagement (SLCE) from 8:15 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Students will organize clothing, toiletries and other items.

Camilo Yibrin, assistant director of SLCE, said that service trips are a great opportunity for students to learn about the community.

“They become more concerned with why things are happening and more aware of all the community problems,” he said. “That’s when they decide to do something for themselves and become active citizens.”

Schar Maynard, junior environmental science major, is a student facilitator for the service day and will help students reflect on their experiences throughout the day. She said that she loves seeing fellow students get excited about service work and being part of the experience with them.

“My experiences with service days have been absolutely incredible,” she said. “The energy of the groups is the best part of the day. People really get excited to help others and make an impact on our local community. The opportunity to get to give back to something bigger than yourself is really awesome.”

Yibrin said service work that involves people in more fulfilling than service work that involves picking up trash or weeding.

“In my opinion, homeless people in Florida aren’t being helped the way they’re helped in other states,” he said. “The interest is not as much as you see in other places. They need help. They need to get back on their own feet, and they will, if you help them.”

Maynard said that service helps students to reflect on their lives.

“Take a lot of stuff in my life for granted,” she said. “Having the opportunity to see the way your life is not necessarily the way that everyone else’s life is helps you reflect on what you, as a person, can do.”

Elizabeth Mazorowicz, graduate student for SLCE, said that service days are a good way for students to develop a passion for service. “I know it sounds cheesy,” she added. “But it feels good to help people. It’s easy to forget that a lot of people have different circumstances when you’re at a university and constantly focused on your studies.”

Yibrin said that service allows students to understand community-related issues.

“They’re able to see things that they’ve never seen before in their lives,” he said. “They get interested in those things, and, hopefully, they become more engaged citizens.”

SLCE will provide transportation to and from the centers; buses will leave from the Horvitz Building at 8:15 a.m. Lunch will be provided. Students can sign up for the event at orgync.com/47587/forms/177373.

For more information, contact the SLCE office at slce@nova.edu or 954-262-7195.

On Shore Calendar

February 17

LCO Session @Rosenthal 200
3 - 5 PM

Globe Sign @Recwell Multipurpose Studio @ (8 at door)
7 - 9:30 PM

February 18

February Day of Service @Orange Fountain
8:15 AM - 2 PM

February 20

NSU receives grant for oil spill projects

Researchers at the Halmos College of Natural Sciences and Oceanography have received over half a million dollars for further research on the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill. Abigail Renegar, Tammy Frank and Bernhard Ringl are working with fellow researchers at Texas A&M University as part of the Gulf of Mexico Research Initiative. The anticipated three-year project will explore toxicology of deep-sea zooplankton and microecosystems that resulted from the oil spill. The team will receive approximately $590,000 over three years.

Learn about leadership

NSU students have until Feb. 19 to register for a chance to attend the World Leaders Conference on March 2 and 3 at the West Palm Beach Convention Center. The event hosts speakers from industry, professional athletics and leadership fields, including John Maxwell, H. Wayne Huizenga Jr., Joyce Meyer and Tony Robbins. Usually $600 per person, the student ticket is free for the first 40 students who sign up and include lunch and transportation. The event will last from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. both days, and business casual attire is required.

To register, visit orgync.com/37641/forms/172487.

For a full list of speakers and more information about the event, visit worldleadersconference.com.

Discover time at TEDxNSU

Tickets for TEDxNSU, a day of presentations by the NSU community, are available until March 10. The fifth annual event, hosted by the College of Psychology, will focus on the idea of time. Presented speakers include: Dr. Brenda Elder, professor Steven Gold, assistant professor Malak Trivedi, visiting professor Ruchanda Rutledge, Schae Maynard, senior development director at SunGard, Alina Michelle Rice, associate professor Robert Hayward, Dr. Mike Faber, Robert, and Dr. Stephen Rafferty and Qass Shoukat. Tickets are limited to 200 people. The non-refundable fee is $10 for NSU students and $25 for non-NSU students. To apply, visit shad.fdmu.nova.edu/tedxnsu-2016. For more information, contact TEDxNSU@nova.edu, or visit psychology.nova.edu/tedxnsu.

Go on an adventure with Rec Well

The Office of Recreation and Wellness will host three trips as part of the Outdoor Adventures Program from March 12 to April 16. All trips will be at 8 a.m. They include a visit to K1-Speed Indoor Go-Karts on March 12, painting at Extreme Rage Paintball on March 19 and a beach day at John U. Lloyd State Park on April 16. The times and locations are subject to change. For more information, contact Emily Powell at ep668@nova.edu, or visit rec.nova.edu.

Get the real deal on real estate

The Office of Career Development will host a real estate career panel on Feb. 22 from 4 to 5:30 p.m. in the Carl DeSantis Building Rooms 3032 and 3034. Attending professionals include Chelsea Rotella, an associate from Rotella Group, Larry Genet, senior associate from CBRE, Robert Richter, vice president of business development at Flagler Global Logistics, Jessica Joly, senior development manager at Siles Corporation, Evans Gedeon, financial analyst from Altman Companies, and Viola Sanchez, director of real estate at Watsco, Inc. To attend the workshop virtually, visit nova-csm-sympli.com.

Save the sea turtles

To help raise funds for the Broward County Sea Turtle Conservation Program of the Halmos College of Natural Sciences and Oceanography, NSU will host a “Party with a Purpose” on Feb. 17 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Mickey Howes Irish Pub. Tickets are $10 in advance, all of which will go to the program, or $10 at the door, 50 percent of which will go to the program. The party will feature a silent auction and raffle prizes, and 50 percent of the activities’ proceeds will go directly to the conservation program. For more information on the event, and to purchase tickets in advance, contact the program at 954-262-3762, or email bctcp@gmail.com. For more information on the program, visit cmo.nova.edu/events/index.
On Feb. 11, PBS hosted the Milwaukee Democratic debate. Presidential candidates Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders participated in the event. Candidates made the following statements throughout the debate, and The Current staff determined the verdicts after heavy research of reputable sources. Full transcripts of the debate can be found online at The Washington Post, The New York Times and other sources.

“The American people are looking around, and they see a broken criminal justice system. They see more people in jail in the U.S. than any other country on earth, 2.2 million. We’re spending $80 billion a year locking up fellow Americans.”—Bernie Sanders, in his opening statement

According to the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the state incarcerated 12.8 percent of African-American men. The national average is 4.7 percent. The other top incarceration rates were 9.7 percent, 9.4 percent, 9.1 percent and 8.6 percent for Oklahoma, Iowa, Pennsylvania and California, respectively. The report used data from an April 2010 U.S. Census Bureau report.

VERDICT: True.

“The statistics from Wisconsin are particularly troubling because it is the highest rate of incarceration for African-Americans in our nation, twice the national average.”—Hillary Clinton, on black incarceration

According to a University of Wisconsin report, the state incarcerated 12.8 percent of African-American men. The national average is 4.7 percent. The other top incarceration rates were 9.7 percent, 9.4 percent, 9.1 percent and 8.6 percent for Oklahoma, Iowa, Pennsylvania and California, respectively. The report used data from an April 2010 U.S. Census Bureau report.

VERDICT: True.

“The reality is four times as many blacks get arrested for marijuana. Truth is that far more blacks get stopped for traffic violations. The truth is that sentencing for blacks is higher than for whites.”—Bernie Sanders, on black incarceration

In an article in The Washington Post, in 2010, the incarceration rate for blacks was more than 700 per 100,000 people, and, for whites, it was just under 200 per 100,000 people. This article also showed that, in the same year, less than 15 percent of blacks used marijuana within the previous year, and nearly 12 percent of whites used marijuana in the previous year. The Bureau of Justice Statistics reported that, in 2011, more than 32 percent of blacks were stopped for traffic violations, while less than 10 percent of white were pulled over for the same offense; however, the reasoning for the violations are higher for different races. While white drivers were pulled over more than blacks for speeding, sobriety checks, seatbelts, cellphone and stop signs/lights, black drivers had a higher stop rate for vehicle defects, record checks, illegal turns and no given reason.

The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) reported in 2014 that sentencing for black males was nearly 20 percent longer than those on white males for similar crimes.

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VERDICT: True.
Explore graduate options at open house

By: Grace Ducanis
@GraceDucanis

Students can attend the Graduate Open House on Feb. 19 from 6 to 8:30 p.m. in the Maltz Psychology Building, room 2057, to learn about graduate programs.

At the open house, students can meet with faculty and staff from different graduate programs in the College of Psychology and the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences during breakout sessions. They can also ask questions at a panel, learn more about financial aid and get information about applying to different programs.

Paula Boros, graduate student in the marriage and family therapy program and graduate assistant in marketing and recruitment, is helping organize the event.

“You’re going to get a faculty perspective on the different programs, and, sometimes, you’ll get a student’s perspective,” she explained. “For people who aren’t really sure what they want to do, because graduate school is a big step, the open house gives them the opportunity to get to know all the different programs. It’s a warm welcome to NSU, and it helps them to find out how to further their careers in different ways.”

Boros said that it’s important for students considering graduate programs to meet with faculty and staff from the programs, instead of just learning about the programs online.

“My personal experience is that personal interaction makes all the difference,” she said. “You can read material online about graduate programs, but personal interaction presents a program in a different way.”

Ivelisse Abreu, graduate assistant in the marketing and recruitment department, is also organizing the open house and attended an open house before she decided to join the Mental Health Counseling and Applied Behavior Analysis programs at NSU. The event helped to affirm her decisions about her education.

“It’s a great opportunity for prospective students to see the university, meet with professors, network and explore more of a certain field before applying to it,” she said.

Abreu recommended that students who are considering a graduate program at NSU attend the open house.

“Learn as much as you can about the career that you want beforehand,” she said. “You’re going to be investing a lot of time and money in this career, and you want to be sure that you’re using your resources wisely.”

Boros hopes that students will walk away from the open house with a better understanding of the programs that NSU offers.

“I, personally, love it here at NSU,” she said. “It’s so friendly and open. It’s one of the better schools in South Florida, and the education that students get here will really benefit them and pay off in the long run.”

Abreu said that the open house is not a very serious setting.

“We want students to relax, ask questions and get to know their potential classmates, who might be sitting right next to them,” she said.

Students can register for the open house online at nova.edu/changelives.
By: Gaby Alfaro Alvarado

Gaby Alfaro Alvarado is a junior finance and business administration major and the business manager of The Current. She is also a member of NSU’s women’s soccer team. After graduation, she hopes to become a professional soccer player and entrepreneur.

It all started around seven years ago when I was 13 years old and left San Jose, Costa Rica, on Aug. 21, 2009, to pursue my passion for sports. It was the beginning of many lonely birthdays and holidays away from family and friends. At the age of 5, I became passionate about soccer and tennis. I knew I had potential for soccer because, in his head, my father still refused to believe that I had potential for soccer because, in his head, soccer was still only for men. At the age of 7, I was playing soccer and tennis with girls who were all my age. I was good at both sports because I was naturally athletic.

Eventually, I started winning awards for most improved player, best player, most coachable player and others for both sports. However, my father still refused to believe that I had potential for soccer because, in his head, soccer was still only for men. I continued to play soccer for my school, but it was recreational because tennis was still my main focus. At this time, I was roughly 11 years old. One day, I went up to the men’s soccer and told him that I wanted to play with the men’s team. I wanted to improve my skills and challenge myself. I wanted soccer to be my main focus not tennis. He said, “Yes,” and next thing I knew, I was playing soccer with the guys.

In the meantime, I was still playing tennis as well. A year after playing with the men’s team, the school got invited to go to Minnesota to compete for the Schwanz’s Cup. The Schwanz’s Cup is an international soccer tournament held in Minnesota. There were 25 players on the team, but only 21 could travel, so that month of training was very competitive since everyone was trying to make the roster. Thankfully, I made the roster and was the only girl on the team. I was the only female in the entire tournament, which was quite hilarious. Not going to lie, though — I had so much fun competing against and alongside male athletes.

Months after that tournament, my mom received an email from IMG Academies, which is a very well-known sports academy in Bradenton, Florida. In the email, the academy offered me a full scholarship to play sports. I attended IMG’s camp and was offered a full scholarship to play sports. I attended IMG’s camp and was offered a full scholarship to play sports. I was very competitive since everyone was trying to make the roster. Thankfully, I made the roster and was the only girl on the team. I was the only female in the entire tournament, which was quite hilarious. Not going to lie, though — I had so much fun competing against and alongside male athletes.

Next thing I knew, I was finishing my last semester at my middle school before going to the U.S. It all happened very quickly, and I didn’t really get a chance to say goodbye to my family and friends or to my country, Costa Rica. Eventually, I started winning awards for most improved player, best player, most coachable player and others for both sports. In the meantime, I was still playing tennis with girls who were all my age. I was good at both sports because I was naturally athletic.

It was difficult at first; I remember spending my sweet 15 all alone in a room crying. But, as time went by, I started to adapt and understand that every sacrifice I made was going to pay off, and it has. I would say what I miss the most, though, is spending time with my family, seeing my nephew grow and playing with my dogs. Fortunately, I still keep in contact with my friends and family, and I visit Costa Rica maybe three times a year.

Day trippin’

By: Roddia Paul

Spring break is rapidly approaching, and if you are anything like the average college student, procrastination is your middle name. Whether you’re planning last minute or in need of something quick but fun, a day trip may be just what you need.

Location, location, location

Paradise is closer than you think, especially in sunny South Florida. There are many nearby cities with beautiful shopping centers and even prettier beaches: Naples, Port St. Lucie and Key West, just to name a few. The location you choose really depends on what experience you are looking for. If you’re looking for a theme park, you’ll probably want to take a trip to Orlando. If museums are your thing, St. Petersburg is for you. If shopping is what you’re after, Fort Lauderdale and Miami are the places to go. Whether you’re planning last minute or in need of something quick but fun, a day trip may be just what you need.

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Money is the universal language of college students, and, most of the time, the language focuses on their lack of this trading tool. For many students, college is the time to gain knowledge but lose money, and the struggle to find a happy medium has proven to be challenging.

Part of the money problem is the financial terms that come along with understanding how to better manage income. From savings to checking, from stocks to bonds, the money dictionary is filled with confusing words that make maximizing profits seem like a far-fetched notion. However, one of these terms is actually quite simple and is beneficial to earning some extra income.

The name of the income game is investing, and it’s not as daunting as the term may sound.

Albert Williams, associate professor of finance and economics, said that investing is using savings to purchase assets that increase in value over time. “It’s putting your money to work today so it can grow in the future,” he said. “You can buy things that you can see will go up in value, and then, after a while, you can sell them for a higher price [than when you bought them].”

There are many types of investments, including stocks, bonds, mutual funds and alternative vehicles. While many typically think of investing in the stock market, Williams said that students should also consider investing in valuables, such as jewelry or artwork, and small businesses.

Williams said that students need to have a cushion in case of an emergency and that investing is one way to increase the value of that cushion. To figure out what to invest in, Williams said to look around the house and pick out items that are the most useful. Upon researching the manufacturers of these products, one can then decide to invest in their companies, and, generally, make a profit.

Although he is an advocate for investing, Williams strongly suggested that students take personal finance classes, which give overviews on how to manage money and do research before becoming involved in the stock market or bonds. “Get your financial education. It’s almost non-negotiable,” he said. “You need to get a hold of some books or take a course and learn how money works. If you don’t do this, you’ll take your money and spend it, and you won’t have money in the future.”

NSU offers personal finance courses every semester, and there are also websites available that allow students to compete in a mock stock market to gain experience.

“When you put your money out there, you can make [more], and you can lose,” Williams said. “All NSU students need to learn how to manage money. When you’re in college, you can take advantage [of your education] and learn how to do so.”

Williams said that, in college, it’s difficult to find time to invest, but once students are out of college, they will need something to fall back on. He said that investment isn’t only critical for individuals, but also for corporations and the government, and that it’s a key part in developing the country.

“Investment is a continuous process,” he said. “Every student who comes to NSU is making an investment in human capital. Everybody is investing every day to increase their value.”

How to stay up-to-date on current events

By: Chastel Grant

College is the ultimate twilight zone. A student’s workload and the struggle to maintain sanity overshadow almost everything that happens outside of the classroom. While it’s easy for current affairs and news to fall to the wayside, it’s still important to have some general idea of what’s going on in the world.

While Facebook and other social media outlets may bombard your timelines with news and current events, sometimes they lack validity. Media outlets have outpaced their competitors by sinking their teeth into the new social media app. According to expandedrambling.com, 77 percent of college students use Snapchat every day, so the next time you find yourself scrolling on the app, simply wander over to CNBC’s account and view a story or two about what’s going on the world.

No one wants to be that student who becomes so consumed by college that he or she sounds like an oblivious, self-centered college student when he or she tries to socialize with friends and family. So save yourself, and stay current with current events.
In Our Own Words:
Student debt a concern
By: President George L. Hanbury II

This guest editorial was originally published on NSU News on Sept. 21, 2015. It was reprinted with permission from the Office of Public Affairs.

Student loan debt is of great concern to me as president of NSU, as I am sure it is to all college and university presidents. At NSU, we do everything to keep tuition as low as possible and offer the quality education expected of a private selective research university. Of our nearly 26,000 students, 80 percent, or approximately 21,000, of whom are graduate and professional students. On a per student loan basis, we have made an examination of the average loan amount, versus per institution, revealing that there are more than 170 colleges and universities with higher average unsubsidized loan amounts per student and more than 180 with higher grad PLUS loans per student than NSU.

Our student debt burden is indeed large, and, when NSU students feel they must borrow funds to assist them in paying for their education, they do so confidently because of our solid track record of professional job preparation and employment. In fact, NSU graduates have a loan default rate that is among the very lowest of any university in America, graduate and undergraduate, private or public, at just 3.5 percent. This supports that, after completing rigorous academic programs, our graduates are getting jobs in professional careers sufficient enough to keep current with their student loans. Although we are just 50 years old, we're seeking to build our endowment and expand research in an effort to attempt to offset rising tuition costs, just as older research universities have been able to do successfully in the past.

Unfortunately, many of the recent articles on graduate student debt, while dutifully reporting the contents of a study, omitted much of this important information and perspective. The discussion about graduate student debt needs to be in context with the academic programs offered at an institution, the total number of students and the ability of the student to repay the loan after graduation.

The proof for NSU is indeed in the low default rate statistic, but also in the stories that our graduates tell. They are physicians, dentists, lawyers, college and university presidents, school system superintendents, government officials, chief officers of national companies, and one is the vice president of a country; and the list goes on.

As the largest private, non-for-profit research university in Florida, our value proposition is outstanding. We have been recognized by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching as High Research and Community Engaged, and NSU is also designated as a Hispanic Serving Institution by the U.S. Department of Education. With our focus on in gradum-level educational excellence, we are equally dedicated to research, and the betterment of our community, our nation and our world.

That is the whole story.

How to learn a foreign language for less
By: Chantel Grant

Almost everyone has had some exposure to foreign languages, even if it was just learning in the first grade that “el gato” is Spanish for “cat.” However, by the time many of us are in college, we simply lack the time or resources.

Unfortunately, everyone thinks that learning a foreign language means forking out hundreds of dollars on highly-advertised foreign language programs like Rosetta Stone. As college students, one of the biggest deterrents for trying new things is the cost, but here are a few cost-effective ways to learn a foreign language.

Mr. Alvin Sherman is your private tutor

NSU has one of the best libraries in the country, so it would be a waste not to use it to your advantage. The Alvin Sherman Library is open from 7:30 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. almost every day, and after hours, you can search for books from home using your NovaCat account.

For example, visit sherman.library.nova.edu, sign into your NovaCat account and type in the foreign language you want to learn, like Chinese, Spanish, French or German. You will find an audiobook titled “German, Part A: The complete course.”

Of course, the hardest part will be dedicating a few hours a day to studying the language, but telling someone “Halt die Klappen,” “German” for “shut up,” when they upset you will be worth it in the end.

Free websites

It's very hard to find websites that do anything for free these days, but with a little research, you can find a website that is either free or so cheap that it’s basically free. A few of these websites include openculture.com, which lists other websites that you can use to learn a particular language, and babbel.com, which goes straight into teaching you the language. On babbel.com, you can choose from 14 different languages, and the best part about using this site is that you can hear the pronunciations after you select each word. Also, if you’re always on the go, you can download the Babbel app on your phone via iTunes or Google play.

Friends are teachers, too

The best way to learn something new is to practice it. So if you meet someone who knows a language that you want to learn, practice speaking to them as often as possible. They will be easy to talk to and nice when correcting you so you won’t feel like a complete idiot. If you’re serious about learning someone’s native tongue, he or she will be patient and open to teaching you. Go as far as to schedule some time for you guys to run through some vocabulary and simple phrases. You can also google terms and phrases on your own and then ask your friends to clarify and verify their meanings. Don’t be shy about doing your own research, as this will definitely prove to your friend how serious you are about learning his or her native tongue.

Foreign movies or TV series

YouTube can be used for educational purposes. Use free movies on the website to learn new words and learn how to construct sentences. Just don’t forget to type “with English subtitles” after the foreign language. If you miss a term or phrase, you can always pause or rewind the video, and you can watch the same video repeatedly, which will help you to become even more familiar with the language.

Watching a TV series is also helpful because shows are shorter than movies, so you won’t be easily overwhelmed with all the foreign terms and accents.

If this is how you are going to learn another language, try picking a movie or TV series that you actually like. One of the worst things that could happen to you is feeling stuck watching something that isn’t interesting. Sometimes, you can even find mainstream English movies in another language. Try searching for your favorite movie in the language you want to learn; you won’t be distracted by the plot if already know it.

Spend a little, learn a lot

In addition to each of these tips, buy a dictionary in the language you want to learn and download as many apps as possible, like Duolingo or iTranalaria. You can also take a foreign language course in the language you want to learn, like Chinese, Spanish, French or Arabic, especially if you have an open elective. With that being said, “viel Glück und einen guten Tag,” or good luck and have a good day.

Photo of the Week

Freshman Kyler Hess rocks out on the drums with the Pep Band at the basketball game on Feb. 10.
On the Bench:

The major league sports coaching conundrum

Coaches are the backbone of any sports team. Whether it’s little league sports or the major leagues, a team is nothing without a good coach. It may seem like all coaches do is give motivational locker room speeches or bark orders from the bench during games; however, a coach’s job is certainly not that easy. When a team is performing well and consistently winning, the players receive praise and applause for their hard work, but when a team is losing, the coach will often shoulder a majority of the blame.

It’s understandable to want a coaching change when everything seems to be going wrong, but there are a large number of factors that contribute to a losing team, and the coach isn’t always one. For example, in the National Hockey League, the Boston Bruins Head Coach Claude Julien is in the hot seat after missing out on last year’s postseason. However, the team’s recent lack of success isn’t solely Julien’s fault; a lot of the blame actually falls to the Bruins’ front office staff, namely former General Manager Peter Chiarelli.

In the final few years of his nine-year career with the team, Chiarelli managed to make a mess of the team’s salary cap through bad contracts and forcing key players to be traded or leave as free agents. Julien now has very limited talent to work with due to Chiarelli’s mistakes, but he is still taking the heat for the team’s losing season. Julien will most likely be one of the next coaches in the NHL to be fired despite his great track record with the team up until the past two seasons.

However, there are a number of situations in which firing a coach is the most fitting. The Brooklyn Nets of the National Basketball Association recently fired Head Coach Lionel Hollins. Hollins led the Nets to their worst season in his one-and-a-half-year career with the team and had a coaching record of 48-71. However, a losing record isn’t the only element that warranted Hollins’ termination. Many players on the team had little respect for Hollins, and, by the middle of this season, he had completely lost control of the locker room. Firing Hollins was the appropriate course of action to take in this situation because a team can’t be expected to win when they have no real leader.

On the Bench:

By: Erin Herbert
@erinherbert

Sports

Out of the Sharkzone

Browns LB Armonty Bryant indicted on felony drug possession charges

Cleveland Browns inside linebacker Armonty Bryant faces charges for possession of Adderall and Oxycodone, which are Schedule II controlled substances.

Former practice squad member De’Ante Saunders was arrested for improper uses of a firearm in a vehicle. On Dec. 25, police stopped the two for speeding and, upon searching the vehicle, found a Glock handgun, a 22-round magazine and the drugs. Police arrested both men. Authorities later released Saunders, while Bryant’s arraignment is set for Feb. 24.

Marc Gasol out indefinitely with broken foot

During a Feb. 9 game against the Portland Trailblazers, Memphis Grizzlies center Marc Gasol (31), broke a bone in his right foot, sending him to the bench for, potentially, the rest of the season. He started in the game despite a preexisting issue with his foot; team officials cleared Gasol to play and said he was not at risk for re-injury. Gasol, who averages three minutes more per game than his teammates, leads the Grizzlies in scoring with 16.6 points per game.

Marshawn Lynch reportedly hasn’t touched his NFL salary

According to Business Insider, former Seattle Seahawks running back Marshawn Lynch earned $49.7 million during his nine-year career with the NFL, none of which he has spent. Forbes reported that Lynch makes an additional $5 million in company sponsorships, from brands like Skittles and Pepsi. Lynch retired in a tweet during Super Bowl 50.

Dion Phaneuf traded in one of NHL’s largest deals

The Toronto Maple Leafs traded defenseman Dion Phaneuf to the Ottawa Senators for nine players in one of the league’s biggest trades. The Maple Leafs also sent forwards Matt Frattin, Casey Bailey and Ryan Duprat, as well as defenseman Cody Donaghey to the Senators. The Maple Leafs received defenseman Jared Cowen, forwards Colin Greening, Milan Michalek and Tobias Lindberg, as well as a 2017 second round pick.

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For senior business administration major Santiago Gomez, coming to NSU meant being one step closer to accomplishing his dream of playing professional golf in the U.S. Gomez, who is originally from Colombia, is no stranger to success in golf, both inside and outside of the U.S. In high school, Gomez was ranked number one in Colombia and played on the Colombian National Team.

Before coming to NSU, Gomez spent two years at Midwestern State University, where he earned two first place tournament finishes, and the Golf Coaches Association of America named him to the All-Freshman Team.

In 2015, he was the number-one ranked golfer in all of Division II, earned the Jack Nicklaus Award and was also a member of the NCAA National Championship team.

After graduation, Gomez plans to pursue a professional golf career.

I got the chance to sit down with Gomez and ask him a few questions.

**How did you get into golfing?**

“I am from Colombia, and my family has a membership to a country club there. My mom used to play tennis and would take me to tennis lessons there when I was 3 years old. When I would walk to the tennis courts, I had to walk past the tee box, and I would just stay there and watch the guys hit the ball. I was the one who told her I wanted to play golf, so she started taking me to lessons, and that’s how it started.”

**Do you plan on continuing to play golf after college?**

“Absolutely. I am planning to turn pro at the end of the year, obviously to pursue my dream, and maybe get into the PGA Tour.”

**What do you think is the hardest aspect of golf?**

“It think you just have to be really humble. Golf is a really mean sport; it can take your confidence down very easily. It’s not like other sports, where every match you play is similar. Obviously, the opponents are different, but, when you play something like tennis, all the courts are the same. They aren’t very different, maybe the weather, but golf is different. Every week is a different course, and, actually, the same course changes every day because of the pin position. A lot of the best golfers in the world can win one week and then next week miss the cut. So you need to be humble every day in golf because it can really get your confidence down, and it might never come back. You need to have a strong mentality for golf.”

**What do you think is the most rewarding part of playing golf?**

“I think the most rewarding thing would be getting to know a lot of people from around the world and getting to travel and learn about different cultures. Getting to enjoy the nature, too, since we play outside. It’s relaxing and fun.”

**What is your proudest achievement as a golfer?**

“I would say getting to come to the U.S. I got the opportunity to come here and get a scholarship, and study my whole career in the U.S. It wasn’t very easy for me to come here since I’m from another country. Not a lot of people have the opportunity to come here, and it was my dream. But I’m here now, and I’m graduating very soon, so I’m very proud of getting this scholarship and coming to the U.S. to start my career.”

**How was the transition coming to the U.S. from another country to play golf?**

“It was tough in the beginning, obviously, because things are different, like the culture, the food and the people, but it was my dream, and I wanted to live the experience of going to college in America. It was tough because I miss my family and my friends, but I got used to it, and it’s helped me grow a lot, not only as a golfer but also as a person. I love the U.S., but I think it was really tough in the beginning, obviously, but I got used to it, and it’s helped me grow a lot, not only as a golfer but also as a person.”

**Do you have any goals or expectations set for yourself this season?**

“Absolutely. As you might know, we won Nationals last year, and we’re trying to do that again. We want to win tournaments in the fall as a team and, then win as individuals. Last year, basically every tournament, I was close to winning, but I couldn’t win, so I really want to do that.”

**What do you enjoy doing in your free time?**

“I’m enjoying working out, watching TV shows, traveling and getting to know places I haven’t been. Maybe go bowling with the team or play ping pong or go to the pool. I like all of that stuff.”

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He’s helped me in a lot of stuff, not only my golf game but also in my school work and in learning responsibility. He’s definitely been a person who has been influential. Also, my golf coach from Colombia was the one to build my swing and a lot of my personality, too. I have a strong mentality to play the game, and that’s why I’m here. He’s one of the people that gave me all of those values.”

**Are there any professional athletes who you look up to?**

“Yeah, obviously, Rory McIlroy and Jordan Spieth. All of the young guys. I admire them. They showed me that it’s possible to get there. We’re all humans. They’re not perfect either. We all commit errors, and so it shows me that it’s not impossible to get to that level. You’ve got to work hard, obviously, but I do look up to them, and I admire how they play and how they deal with all of the elements of pro-life; they’re really mature.”

Santiago Gomez is known for being number one on and off the green.
\begin{quote}
Karena Washington started out at NSU as a marine bio major, but the rhythm was too hard for her to resist, so she switched her major to music.

Now, she plays the saxophone with NSU’s pep band, performing at volleyball and basketball games and at other events. The pep band’s repertoire includes “Forget You” by Cee Lo Green, “Party Rock Anthem” by LMFAO and other pop songs.

Washington was instrumental — pun intended — in restarting the pep band during the fall semester. To find out just how peppy NSU is, I sat down with Washington to ask her some questions.

\textbf{What’s your background in music?}

“I grew up in a family where my parents were both musicians. I’ve always been interested in music and singing. I took piano lessons when I was in second grade. In middle school, I joined the chorus, acapella and band where I played saxophone, which is what I play in the pep band now. Now I do band and the acapella group here on campus.”

\textbf{Why did you decide to switch your major from marine biology to music?}

“I liked marine biology, but it’s a tougher field. You have to be really devoted to it because, if you don’t get funded for your research projects, you can’t really do anything. Music was always in the back of my mind, and I thought about music education. I really want to be a band director, so I decided that music was a better fit for me because it was more of a secure job, and I really like it. Also, the school that I really want to go to after NSU has a great music program, and I want to be involved with the band there.”

\textbf{Why do you want to be a band director?}

“A lot of my best mentors were band directors, and I really want to be like them. I’ve given lessons in other small-group settings, and people have always told me I would be a great teacher or great music director. It really stuck with me.”

\textbf{Why is it important for NSU to have a pep band?}

“It gets more people to come to games. It gets people spirited and into the games. We’re there to have fun and to help other people have fun. President Hanbury has come up to us and told us that he has wanted a pep band for a while. Also, the arts programs are really small here, and we’re trying to get it to grow. Having the pep band shows that we have a band here because a lot of people don’t know that I’m hoping that, one day, the pep band will get really large and that more music people will come to NSU.”

\textbf{What are some of the biggest challenges of being a pep band director?}

“The music is difficult,” said Matherson. “Music has always been my number-one passion, so to get it started here on campus was a big deal for me because I get to watch other people enjoy music just as much as I do.”

\textbf{What songs get the crowd going?}

“Power” by Kanye West, “The Hey Song” and “Roncalli 400.” “Power” is my favorite song to play.”

\textbf{What is your favorite part of being in the pep band?}

“I came from a place where I played mostly classical music, so to be able to play music that’s on the radio lets me groove with what I’m playing more. Also, I get to help others develop their music skills. I get to learn what works when teaching someone and what doesn’t.”

\textbf{Why do you love music?}

“When speaking, it’s hard to express yourself sometimes. But, with music, you can shape how you want to play something to explain how you feel or what you want to say. It’s also a time to escape, in a sense. If you’re stressed out, you can play out your stress and have a little break. It’s just you and your instrument.”

You can catch NSU’s pep band at games and at their concert on March 29. The location of the concert is yet to be determined.

Follow the pep band on their musical journey on Twitter @NsuPepBand.
\end{quote}
There’s nothing more American than barbecue, and Mission BBQ brings the greatest flavors from around the country to South Florida. Stepping into Mission BBQ isn’t like stepping into a traditional barbecue restaurant — it takes that southern-log-cabin feel and gives it a modern twist. The owners have a deep sense of respect for the men and women who serve in the military, members of the police force and first responders, and this joint is about as patriotic as it gets. The wood and metal-clad walls are adorned with patches and photos from every branch of the U.S. Military, and they even play the national anthem every day at noon.

From brisket to ribs, and everything in between, Mission BBQ has something for every barbecue fanatic. They offer tender pulled pork sandwiches piled high with coleslaw, smoky fall-off-the-bone ribs and moist or lean brisket. All meals are served up hot and fresh with a huge variety of classic southern favorites, like tea or a fountain drink, Mission BBQ offers a something a little more authentic than iced Mission BBQ has you covered. In addition to the standard fountain drinks, they also have a wide variety of classic southern favorites, like Cheerwine and RC Cola, in glass bottles. However, great food and drinks aren’t Mission BBQ’s only claim to fame. They also have some of the friendliest staff and fastest service around. As soon as customers walk in, the customers get all the great barbecue they need in a timely manner, and your napkins or drink refills and may even bring a tray of complimentary fries to your table, as well.

If you need something to wash down that barbecue chicken or mac and cheese, Mission BBQ brings the greatest flavors from around the country to South Florida. Mission BBQ has to offer. Their side dishes can spice up their meal anyway they like. All meals are served up hot and fresh with a huge variety of classic southern favorites, like tea or a fountain drink, Mission BBQ offers a something a little more authentic than iced tea or a fountain drink, Mission BBQ offers a wide variety of classic southern favorites, like Cheerwine and RC Cola, in glass bottles. However, great food and drinks aren’t Mission BBQ’s only claim to fame. They also have some of the friendliest staff and fastest service around. As soon as customers walk through the doors, cashiers yell out a greeting and ensure that customers know where to find menus. Once you place your order, it takes mere minutes before they call your name, and your food is ready at the front counter. After you take a seat at one of the tables or booths to start your meal, staff members will come by to offer you napkins or drink refills and may even bring a tray of complimentary fries to your table, as well.

If you’re ever worried about dietary restrictions, simply ask one of the friendly staff members to see a menu of gluten free options. Or, if you have food allergies, visit their website mission-bbq.com/allergy for a comprehensive list for every menu item that could pose a threat for an allergic reaction.

Thanks to Mission BBQ, the residents of Davie can finally taste what good barbecue is.
To promote local and international musicians and sustainability awareness, Virginia Key Grassroots will host the Virginia Key Grassroots Festival of Music and Dance from Feb. 18 to Feb. 21 on Virginia Key Beach.

Grassroots is a four-day not-for-profit music and cultural festival featuring performances by over 50 bands, including The Family Stone, The Wood Brothers and Charles Bradley. All of the proceeds of the event will go to local and international causes, like AIDS organizations and Doctors Without Borders.

Natalee Carroll, university outreach coordinator for Virginia Key Grassroots, said the festival lineup will be diverse, representing a variety of music genres.

“Funk, jazz, bluegrass, electronic, afro-Cuban, rock, blues, folk — there will be a very wide variety,” said Carroll. “The idea is to be as diverse and multicultural as possible.”

While local artists will perform at the festival, musicians from around the world will attend the festival, as well. Carroll said she hopes the blend of local and international talent will benefit the local community as much as it benefits the musicians.

“We want to nurture the local talent and also introduce locals to international and bigger movements, different ways of life, different people and different music,” said Carroll. “I think that’s very beneficial for everybody to understand each other.”

In addition to music, the Grassroots Festival will include cultural workshops, like salsa dancing, African drum and dance, Colombian folklore percussion, morning meditation and other dance, music and healing arts courses.

The Grassroots Festival will also offer a variety of different activities for guests, including various arts and craft projects, instrument contests, a silent disco and a zen tea ceremony. For younger guests, Grassroots will also set up a children’s village, which is a tent with a full lineup of kid-friendly crafts, educational activities, obstacle courses and more.

Carroll said the cultural workshops and activities intend to unify and enrich the community.

“I think different cultural diversity and exposure is highly beneficial, especially for youths and in order to sort of bring people together,” said Carroll. “Music, art, dance and education are all wonderful ways that we can come together as a global community, not just individual, small communities. And also, it’s going to be very freaking fun.”

The festival will take place on the beach, and, for an additional $60, festival goers can camp on the beach for all four nights.

“The whole idea of actually having a festival on the beach is a cool idea, you know. We thought it would be nice,” said Carroll. “The beach is a pretty good place to camp and listen to music and take yoga and meditate and whatever. The venue is perfect.”

Guests can bring their own tents, coolers and gear, but if they don’t have camping equipment, they can purchase gear from Project Shelter, a non-profit organization that is collaborating with the event. Project Shelter will sell tents, sleeping bags, sleeping pads, lanterns, water bottles, chairs and pillows. When the festival is over, guests can either choose to keep the equipment or donate it to Project Shelter, which will deliver the camping gear to a housing project in South Florida.

According to Carroll, Virginia Beach Grassroots prioritizes sustainability, and the festival’s programming and policies reflect that. “Sustainability has always been part of the philosophy of the founders of Grassroots, the band Donna the Buffalo,” said Carroll. “The region they’re from in upstate New York is a very progressive area, and they’re constantly looking for new ways to better the environment and to protect it. It’s just part of their fundamental belief system, and it was sort of a no-brainer to incorporate that into the festival.”

Through its zero waste mission, Grassroots promotes guests to bring their own reusable bottles and mugs and will also place recycling stations throughout the festival grounds. In addition, all vendors are required to use compostable materials. There will also be a sustainability expo at the festival to educate the festival’s attendees about environmental issues and solutions.

Also, if guests bike to the festival on Sunday, they can purchase their tickets half-priced.

Virginia Key Grassroots is also looking for volunteers for the festival. Carroll said volunteers can assist the festival in many different capacities, including working in the café, the ticket booth, decorating, stage set-up and the children’s village.

If attendees would like to volunteer, they can sign up online up to the day of the event. Those who volunteer for four hours will get a free one-day pass, and those who volunteer for 12 hours will get a free four-day pass.

For more information about the Virginia Key Festival of Music and Dance, including the line-up of performances and activities, or to sign up to volunteer, visit the festival’s website at virginiakeygrassroots.com.
by: Roddia Paull

This just in: a herd of spring breakers broke out of the Jungle Island Zoo here in Miami and are reportedly on their way to Daytona Beach. We advise you to stay indoors, gather your loved ones, and wait out the commotion.

Apparently, a zoo employee was about to give the spring breakers their daily feeding of boa constrictors and buffaloes when one spring breaker tromped him and stole the keys to the cage. The rest of the group tromped the worker, who wishes to remain nameless, as they frantically escaped. Before leaving the zoo, the spring breakers raided the food storage and took all of the remaining boozes.

Security attempted to stop the crazed spring breakers from escaping, but were highly unsuccessful. In a last-ditch effort, the police arrived at the front of the zoo and asked the spring breakers to halt and put their hands up. Each spring breaker, hands full of beverages, looked at the cops and changed. The leader of the pack stood 6’2” and was fastestest and longest. Chiseling on all fours, he jumped on top of a police car, raised a beer to his head, and screamed “This is college,” as he beat one fist against the other.

Animal cruelty laws prevented the cops from using hard force on the spring breakers, so they fled the scene. The cop no one saw got hurt.

Each spring breaker, hands full of beverages, arrived at the front of the zoo and asked the police for their keys.

Security was unsuccessful. In a last-ditch effort, the police had to learn the true meaning of friendship. Instead of seeing a friendship as a bond, many of us see it as some sort of obligation, but that is the beauty of friendship. True friends are about being vulnerable with each other and not having to back out of the friendship when hard times come. If we do not have true friends, we are the least common nowadays. College is the art of fake friendship; however, it is the art of fake friendship. Whether we would like to admit it or not, many of us haven’t been real friends to the people we refer to as our second family and our roommates are becoming increasingly self-centered. But how can we not be, with the pop culture influence of reality TV shows and the fact that white people have greatly contributed to American history? It’s hard to believe that the people we refer to as our second family have achieved and offer an opportunity to learn about the hardships they had to endure as they made it. So, you already know, it’s your girl Robin signing out. For video clips of the spring breakers, visit our website www.getyo411.com.

In Kanye West’s recent single, “Real Friends,” he can be heard decrying all the friends he has lost as he became famous and how he had to learn the true definition of friendship. This is, unfortunately, is the anthem for friendship in 2016.

Whether we would like to admit it or not, many of us haven’t been real friends to the people we refer to as our second family and our roommates are becoming increasingly self-centered. But how can we not be, with the pop culture influence of reality TV shows and the fact that white people have greatly contributed to American history? It’s hard to believe that the people we refer to as our second family have achieved and offer an opportunity to learn about the hardships they had to endure as they made it.

So, should White History Month be a thing? No. As much as it may seem that white history isn’t celebrated, white history is all around us.
**Opinions**

**SHARK SPEAK**

**How do you prepare for midterms?**

"I like to write everything down from class and put them on flash cards, and then I use the flash cards to help me study as far as a week ahead. Being organized and taking good notes is always very helpful."

- Maria Salaverria, freshman biology major

"To be completely honest, I try not to think about midterms until about three days before midterm week. To get prepared, I get a lot of espresso, take a good, long sleep the night before, and then I get my beach stuff ready. I like to go to the beach or somewhere off campus so I can just focus on studying, relax and have no distractions or time restrictions."

- Amy Antinour, sophomore marine biology

"I really like to join study groups. I feel like I am more disciplined while studying my material if I have people there who push me to focus and study. I just think that study groups help you stay on track, and the input of others is beneficial."

- Brianna Law, freshman marine biology major

"I study by reviewing all of my past notes, quizzes and tests, making sure to focus mostly on the parts that I got wrong or struggled with, and, sometimes, I even form study groups so that I can have discussions about the material with fellow classmates."

- Lauren Santana, freshman education major

"I like to focus on stress relief. Midterm week can be very overwhelming, and to make sure I perform my best, I like to detox my stress by doing yoga, eating well and getting a lot of sleep."

- Krystal Khemkaran, junior psychology major

"I try my best to pace myself and not overdo it with studying. Midterm week can make us feel exhausted, and I just prefer to review my notes and take my time."

- Casey Glass, sophomore marine biology major

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