NSU’s MAKO Rangers are selling original Power Ranger-themed merchandise on Redbubble, an online artistic marketplace, to help raise money for the victims of Hurricane Matthew.

The MAKO Rangers is a service-based organization with a focus on service to children. Their name stands for Monumental Action for Kids, Orphans, and Youth. Their name stands for Monumental Action for Kids, Orphans, and Youth. The MAKO Rangers began selling their original Power Ranger-themed designs earlier this semester as a way to keep their fundraising efforts going year-round.

Li Cohen, senior communication studies major and vice president of the MAKO Rangers, said, “We really work to put a smile on kids’ faces. We go to children’s hospitals dressed as superheroes, and we do a lot of the child-based events on campuses, like a Day for Children.”

The MAKO Rangers suited up at local children’s hospitals to surprise the patients. The MAKO Rangers suited up at local children’s hospitals to surprise the patients.

Their name stands for Monumental Action for Kids, Orphans, and Youth.

MAKO Rangers get creative for charity

MAKO Rangers product isn’t just buying a cool item, it’s buying materials needed to shelter, clothe and feed the hurricane victims in Haiti, said Cohen. For more information or to view the designs available for purchase, visit redbubble.com/people/lcohene.
Hurricane Matthew hits Haiti

NPR reported that hurricane winds in southern Haiti reached up to 125 mph, destroying homes and flooding villages. Around 350,000 people were affected, 13,621 displaced people are living in shelters and around 800 people are confirmed dead.

Pakistan passes legislation against honor killings

According to CNN, honor killings are now illegal in Pakistan under a new law. Pakistan’s prime minister, Muhammad Nawaz Sharif, was placed under pressure to indict those committing violence against women. A killing now leads to a minimum sentence of 25 years in jail, even if the murder is pardoned by the family.

Iraq prepares to end ISIS control

Reports from CNN state that living quarters are being brought in for the troops of Iraq’s 9th Armored Division to stay in Erbil, Iraq. This will be an improvised base as an assault is prepared to end ISIS control of the second largest city in Iraq.

Hundreds in India arrested for IRS scam

According to NPR, thousands of American taxpayers lost tens of millions of dollars to phone scammers posing as tax collectors. The scammers asked for the taxpayers’ names and proceeded to tell them they owed money from audit miscalculations and that police would come to arrest them if the payment was not made. Indian police questioned more than 700 and arrested over 70 suspects during their investigation of this scam.

Shortages in medicine lead to death in Venezuela

NPR reported that Venezuela currently suffers from a lack of food, water, electricity and medicine. Though Venezuela is going through an economic crisis, they currently refuse donations from other countries and turn back shipments from the U.S., keeping out all medicine.

Pakistan suffers from a lack of food, water, electricity and medicine. According to CNN, they currently refuse donations from other countries and turn back shipments from the U.S., keeping out all medicine.

Wildlife weekend service trip

Sharks and Service (SAS) is planning a trip to the Everglades to help rehabilitate injured animals and release them back into the wild. To sign up, go to orgsync.com/13934/forms/213930. For more information, email sas@nova.edu or call 954-262-7395.

Trip to the treat of a research or internship

Career Development and The Halmos College of Natural Sciences and Oceanography will host the 5th Annual Trick to the Treat of an Internship or Research Experience event on Oct. 19 in the art gallery on the second floor of the Alvin Sherman Library from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Students will present their biology and medicine internship experiences and learn how and why to apply for science-related internships and research opportunities. Career Development staff and faculty will be on hand to answer questions about programs and provide information. For more information or to RSVP, visit Handshake at nova.joinhandshake.com/login. Contact Career Development at 954-262-7291 or Emily Schmitt at 954-262-8349.

Maastl Indian bake sale

The Maastl Dance Team is having a bake sale in the Don Taft University Center Spine on Oct. 19 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Indian sweets, appetizers, and meals will be available for purchase, and the proceeds go towards the dance team’s expenses.

Wellness workshop

Kiss your unhealthy habits goodbye at this free wellness workshop on Oct. 17 in the Rosenhall Student Center, room 200 from 12 a.m. to 1 p.m. Lunch and a giveaway are included in the workshop. To sign up, call 954-262-7301 or go to the RecWell front desk. For more information, email nsuwellness@nova.edu or call 954-262-7301.
Homelessness: An ongoing problem

By: Oswaldo Tortoledo

It’s one of the biggest issues worldwide: people that live in the streets because they can’t afford a home. Homelessness occurs for different reasons. According to the National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty, an estimated 2.5 to 3.5 million people are homeless. Drug addiction and crime involvement are a couple of things that cause homelessness, but others who are homeless have had reduced opportunities at a normal life because of a mental or physical disability. Here in the United States, however, there are other reasons that people become homeless.

Florida has been voted the most dangerous state for homeless people. According to the National Coalition for the Homeless, in 2012 hate crimes in Florida against people living in the streets more than doubled crimes committed against the homeless in other states. Since 2008, this organization has named Florida three times as the most threatening state for the homeless.

Jerry Jones, National Coalition for the Homeless’ executive director, said that this is because of a “lack of empathy for fellow human beings; the same moral failure that allows our society to tolerate the larger tragedy of homelessness.”

According to HomeAid, more than half of homeless are families with children. HomeAid, a non-profit organization that provides housing for the homeless, says that the majority of people who are homeless became homeless because of a life-altering event or a series of events they weren’t expecting. These events, such as a job loss, losing a loved one or going through a divorce leave many families at a tipping point, emotionally and economically. Without proper care, if these families can’t get back on their feet, they may end up losing their homes.

Some of the homeless are veterans. According to the National Coalition for Homeless Veterans, 11 percent of homeless people in the United States are war veterans. Many have ended up in their situation because of a lack of healthcare, unaffordable housing and few job opportunities that give them a livable income.

The National Coalition for Homeless Veterans (NCHV) says that most homeless veterans are suffering from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and are mentally incapable of maintaining themselves. According to NCHV data, homeless veterans are usually younger than others in their situation, and are mostly between the ages of 18-30. NCHV has determined that 1.4 million other veterans are currently at risk of homelessness.

Ways to help

Even though there are a number of services that help the homeless every year, citizens can also get involved in their local community by supporting non-profit organizations that benefit the homeless, like HomeAid. HomeAid has built more than 200 multi-unit shelters. They provide transitional homes and temporary houses for the homeless and help them regain a normal life. Individuals can also volunteer or make a donation to different shelters or homeless services, like Chapman Partnership, Miami Rescue Mission and Camillus House in Miami.

Due to the high number of homeless people in Fort Lauderdale, the city has been the center of many controversies regarding state laws about homelessness that have in some cases prevented the community from helping them. For example, in the past the city banned feeding the homeless on the streets, but have since backed off the ban. Today, in Broward County there are organizations that help accommodate the homeless and reintegrate them into society, such as Broward Partnership and the Broward Outreach Center.

Even though homelessness is an ongoing issue there are ways to prevent people from ending up in that situation. Just learning more about the problem and getting involved in the community takes you one step closer to helping people currently living in the streets. Don’t forget to check out your local shelters and see if the workers there need anything.

For more information on homelessness, visit endhomelessness.org, which has specific data regarding homelessness in the United States and ways to help.
From the moment I stepped off the plane, I knew that I wanted to pursue a U.S. career. I got to know the American culture and the U.S. system, and I cried a lot because of homesickness. We lived, however, for both faculty and students. It is important, for both faculty and students to learn the process, both the university’s policy and procedures regarding sexual misconduct on campus. When it comes to such a large topic, both Bennett and Martinez said that the policy, legislation and procedures can be confusing for both faculty and students. It is important, however, for both faculty and students to learn about the process, at least at a basic level. Here’s what you need to know about instances of sexual assault and how NSU handles them.

What is Title IX?

Title IX is a piece of federal legislation designed to protect students and their ability to go to class, regardless of gender. According to Bennett, Title IX is an umbrella term that covers topics such as student pregnancy, transgender and sexual misconduct. In the law and at the university, sexual misconduct is an umbrella term that refers to anything from sexual assault to intimate partner violence to sexual harassment.

Title IX requires the institution to respond to reports of sexual assault within 60 days. The legislation sets the order for how universities form procedures to handle sexual assaults.

What happens when a student files a report? It depends. Although it seems like a backhanded response, the actions that take place after students file a report depend on a few factors. When a student reports to a responsible employee, someone who has to send the report to administration and a university investigation will occur. According to Bennett, a responsible employee includes those whose job it is to protect the campus, those who the university says has an obligation to report and anyone a student may reasonably think has the authority to report.

By: Aldana Foigel

Aldana Foigel is a sophomore communication major with a minor in business. She is from Argentina and is currently a contributing writer for The Current.

When I was a little girl, I used to watch Disney movies and dream about visiting the U.S. one day. I wanted to go to Disneyland and meet Mickey and Minnie Mouse. I would never have imagined that my dream would actually become reality. I have many passions in my life, and golf is one of them. I started playing when I was 10 years old, and the day that I began, my life became reality.

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October 11, 2016 | nsucurrent.nova.edu

**Features**

**True life: I worry too much**

*By: Samantha Yorke*

Floridian with a passion for empowering others.

Warning: We all do it. Our lives are filled with challenges and obstacles that make our hearts race a little faster than we would like sometimes. The thing is, worrying means we care — it is healthy to be a bit anxious. Of course, it is important to make sure this stress is manageable on a day-to-day basis.

There are some tips to calm some of those unwarranted nerves:

- **Accept that you are anxious**

Avoiding your feelings can only make things worse. Accept that you are anxious and more importantly, that it is okay to be anxious. Being able to accept the anxious feeling you have is the first step in finding your confidence again. There are many assessments you can take to evaluate how stressed or anxious you truly are or what type of stress you are currently feeling. Some of these assessments are the Life Pod Balance Assessment and Priority Management Assessment, both of which are available in the Office of Student Success.

- **Use positive self-talk**

When you wake up in the morning, look in the mirror. You may be hesitant to try this at first, but compliment yourself: "You are incredible and you are going to conquer the world today." This can make a difference in your mindset for the remainder of the day and squash those nerves of yours. "Attitude is everything" and "mind over matter" may serve as cliché quotes, but they are true.

- **Realize that your brain is playing a trick on you**

Worrying is betting against yourself. You know how much you are capable of, and you know there is a light at the end of the worry tunnel — you just have to get through it first. Reflect on what it is that you are actually worried about and how probable or improbable that idea is. Realize that what you are worrying about is an outcome that may never even happen… ever.

**Focus on the now**

You aren’t able to plan or predict the future, but you are able to manipulate the present. Focus on what’s in front of you for the day. It is more manageable, practical and a lot less stressful. By focusing on the now, you are taking control of future situations. For example, if you are worried about a final exam, stop worrying about a grade that does not yet exist. Instead, use the present time to study, which will influence that grade later on.

**Use your resources**

The Honors Student Success Center provides tips and tools to help you stay as stress-free as possible, including professional staff to discuss concerns or questions with. Check out the website for a list of services, or call them at 954-424-4911.

**Breathe**

Take three deep breaths every single day. This will assist the circulation in your body and calm you down quite a bit. You can even try it right now.

The next time you feel tense or overwhelmed over various components of your life, remember that you have all of the control to change your mindset. You also have a great deal of resources and friendly faculty, staff and peers to support you along your NSU journey.

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**Tis’ the season to register**

*By: Chris Densmore and Jessica Tavares*

Jessica Tavares is an academic adviser in the Undergraduate Academic Advising Center. She works with undergraduate students within NSU’s online and off-site populations. She helps students cultivate degree plans to attain their goals.

Christopher Densmore is a NSU alumnus and an academic adviser in NSU’s Undergraduate Academic Advising Center. He works with undergraduate students to achieve their highest learning potential and pursue academic challenges.

Midterms are approaching and some students are already excited to register for the new semester — well, maybe not excited but instead a little nervous. So, where do students begin when choosing their classes for next semester?

While there are many factors to consider when planning, a schedule is not as daunting as it may seem. Begin by reviewing a degree audit (CAPP) from SharkLink and schedule a consultation with your academic adviser, who can help you work through all requirements. This audit will list all of the credits that you have as well as the credits you are still missing and need to register for.

From start to finish, it took me about four months to inflate my PouchCouch. The first few times I put my PouchCouch away, it was difficult to get in the bag. After watching the demonstration videos again, I realized that I had been packing it up the wrong way. However, even when putting my PouchCouch away incorrectly, it still took less time to fit into the pouch than it did to set up.

So, the “instant relaxation anywhere, anytime” is mostly true. The PouchCouch didn’t agree with everyone, but I liked chilling in it, although I can’t think of many contexts in which I would use my PouchCouch.

**Features**

**Chilling in the PouchCouch**

*By: Grace Ducanis*

Grace Ducanis

PRINTED WITH PERMISSION FROM G. DUCANIS

The PouchCouch commercial advertises that the PouchCouch “fills with air in seconds” for “instant relaxation anytime, anywhere.” But how well do these claims hold up in real life?

The PouchCouch deflates very easily, which I would use my PouchCouch.

As it may seem. Begin by reviewing a degree audit (CAPP) from SharkLink and schedule a consultation with your academic adviser, who can help you work through all requirements. This audit will list all of the credits that you have as well as the credits you are still missing and need to register for.

Students may wonder which instructor matches their learning style and best suits their academic needs. It is important to form academic relationships with instructors as that will set the stage for courses.

When considering a schedule it is important to keep in mind that time spent in the actual classroom accounts for some of the work but there is also time required outside. This includes time for study groups, lab activities and library research, to name a few. Taking all of this into consideration, it would be a good practice to leave a few hours between classes and not to take more than three classes on any one day.

For example, take three classes on Monday, Wednesday and Friday and then two classes on Tuesday and Thursday.

Students typically register for the upcoming semester about midway through the current semester. Although a student may only register for the next semester, except in the case of summer registration, planning really involves the scope of the remaining degree program. If a student needs to take a course that has several prerequisites then it is best to begin planning when to take those courses. For example, MATH 2020 Applied Statistics has several prerequisites and serves as a prerequisite for several research based courses, so it would be best to carefully plan this course into your schedule.

A well-thought-out schedule can make a big difference in the outcome of not only the next semester but the next few years. The Office of Academic Advising provides assistance with scheduling in addition to many other areas that apply to the curriculum.

**WANT TO READ MORE? HEAD ON OVER TO THE CURRENT’S WEBSITE FOR WEB–EXCLUSIVE PHOTOS AND ARTICLES!**

nsucurrent.nova.edu
David Ortiz, better known as Big Papi to baseball fans, celebrated his last regular season game at Fenway Park on Boston on Oct. 2. Prior to the game, Ortiz was honored by fans and the Red Sox organization. The Red Sox announced that next early season they will retire Ortiz’s No. 34, making Ortiz the first Red Sox player to have his number retired prior to joining the Hall of Fame, according to ESPN. The pregame ceremony lasted 40 minutes, Massachusetts Gov. Charlie Baker, Boston Mayor Marty Walsh and Dominican Republic President Danilo Medina were all in attendance.

Ortiz was born Nov. 18, 1975 in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. He attended Estudia Espillat High School, where he played basketball and baseball. Ortiz’s father, Enrique “Leo” Ortiz, played in the Dominican Professional Baseball League. Leo Ortiz was a huge influence for his son. David Ortiz was never able to see his father play baseball, though, as his father quit playing when David was born to find a steady job, according to grunge.com. Leo Ortiz, while a talented fielder, couldn’t hit and Dominican Republic President Danilo Medina were all in attendance.

Ortiz is one of only four major league baseball players to have finished a career with more than 500 home runs and three or more World Series titles. The only other players to have accomplished this feat are Mickey Mantle, Reggie Jackson and Babe Ruth. In 2011 Ortiz was the recipient of the Roberto Clemente Award, which recognizes the player who best represents the game of baseball through sportsmanship, community involvement and positive contributions, both on and off the field,” according mlbcommunity.org.

Ortiz’s talents are not limited to the field. Coaches, players and administrators alike applauded Ortiz’s ability to make people feel important and welcomed.

In an interview with ESPN, Mike Lowell, a former teammate of Ortiz, said, “The fact that he is someone from another country that endeared himself to learning English and being able to express himself, I think he was able to really bridge a gap. He already had that relationship with the Latin players, but I think it really extended to guys from everywhere. When you’re that good and you still make other people feel important, I think that’s a pretty special quality.”

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As the only center on the NSU men’s golf team, Richard Mansell hopes to be a leader for his teammates. From Staffordshire, England, Mansell transferred to NSU after his freshman year at Newberry College.

After two successful years at NSU, including a National Championship in 2015, Mansell is looking forward to his last year as a Shark. His main goals are to enjoy himself and to become a professional golfer after graduation. Although he already has a lot of experience, he is willing to keep learning every day.

Mansell explained his passion for golf and why coming to NSU was the right decision.

**By: Aldana Foigel**

**Athlete of the Week: Richard Mansell**

**PRINTED WITH PERMISSION FROM M. SHATTUCK Mansell hopes to win an individual national title in his final year at NSU.**

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**On the Bench: Women in sports journalism**

**By: Alyssa Johns**

Sports have always been a tough area for female journalists. In a predominantly male profession, female sports journalists often fall under much harsher scrutiny than their male counterparts.

Recently, Houston Astros minor league infielder, Brooks Marlow, tweeted, “No lady needs to be on ESPN talking during a baseball game specially Mendoza says.” The tweet, directed at ESPN broadcaster Jessica Mendoza, was later deleted. The Astros stated that they “do not condone” Marlow’s behavior and issued an apology statement. Though Mendoza probably never saw the tweet of a minor league player, it’s the principle of the matter.

Mendoza is a former professional softball player, holds five Stanford records and is partially responsible for bringing Stanford to its first ever Women’s College World Series, according to jimbuzz.com. Her website also details her story as a former member of the U.S. Women’s National Team and her win of both silver and gold Olympic medals. In 2008, she was named Women’s Sports Foundation Sportswoman of the Year. To add to her already impressive list of accolades, she is a member of the 2021 Women’s College World Series, according to the NSU Women’s Soccer Complex. The question is, when will gender equality in sports media become commonplace?

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**ON DECK**

**MEN’S SOCCER**

vs. Florida Tech
Melbourne, Fla.
Oct. 12 | 7 p.m.

vs. Rollins
NSU Soccer Complex
Oct. 15 | 7 p.m.

**WOMEN’S VOLLEYBALL**

SSC/GSC Crossover
Orlando, Fla.
Oct. 14 – 15

**WOMEN’S SOCCER**

vs. Florida Tech
NSU Soccer Complex
Oct. 12 | 7 p.m.

vs. Rollins
Winter Park, Fla.
Oct. 15 | 7 p.m.
Letting loose after midterms

By: Jelawnella Register

If you’re reading this, then it’s official — you’re in the middle of midterms. But once you’ve taken every last test and turned in every last paper, the time will come to emerge from the library, put down the vent lattes and trade them for the sun and sand. Basically, it’ll be the time to focus on living. From 8 a.m. on Monday rolls around again.

Beach trip
Whether you drive yourself or take the Shark Shuttle, a little sun and sand will have you feeling rejuvenated after midterms. To soak up what the sun has to offer, connect with friends to Fort Lauderdale, Dania Beach, Hollywood or even the Keys, if you’re feeling adventurous, is always a good idea. Just remember to check the weather beforehand and pack the sunscreen.

Laser tag
The Laser Quest Center, located in the Sunset Square Shopping Center, is a great place to go with friends to let off some steam after midterms. The $8.50 per game fee includes playing time and your equipment pack. The establishment offers an “Ironman Game” on Fridays and Saturdays starting at 10 p.m. The Ironman Mission, according to the website, is in the multi-level arena and includes fog and music. The Ironman Mission is offered for the special cost of $11.50 for a game.

Jungle Queen Riverboat cruise
Jungle Queen Riverboats offer different options for day cruises that leave from The Bahia Mar Yachting Center on A1A. The four different cruises vary from $35 to $95, offering sightseeing to a dinner and a show cruise that is hitting the books. Here’s what we like to listen to when studying.

Music
When I’m studying, I like to listen to music with a steady, calm beat. Classical music distracts me because it changes so often, so when studying, I prefer music that’s repetitive, acoustic and guitar-based. My favorite artists to listen to while I study are the Foo Co Dulls, Phillip Phillips, Needtobreathe, James Bay and Lifehouse. Listening to music helps me draw upon background noise, and since I’m so familiar with most of the songs from these artists, I don’t get caught up listening to the lyrics.

Jenna Kapur, features editor, said Daughtry and Hoobastank.

I have two go-to stations on Pandora that I like to listen to when I study: Daughtry and Hoobastank. Although both stations play similar songs, they provide a really relaxed and focused vibe to accompany the mountains of material I have to cover. A lot of the songs are throwbacks or from my favorite bands as well, so the lyrics aren’t distracting so much as comforting.

Ben Underhill, arts and entertainment editor, said instrumental post-rock.

As specific as it is, I enjoy listening to instrumental post-rock while I study. The lairdmeal melodies and mellow feel of the songs create an almost white noise feel while the song is played at a lower volume. Since it’s instrumental, there’s no lyrics that will distract you from your studies, and the genre itself doesn’t energize you or tire you too much.

Painball
Extreme Range Painball Park located in Hollywood, Florida is an outdoor painball arena that serves the greater Fort Lauderdale area. The park has a $15 entrance fee for the day, a $15 equipment fee and rentals of painball varying in size and price from $5 to $60. Upgrades are available as well. The park is open on Fridays from 3 a.m. to 11 p.m., Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sundays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., as well as Monday to Thursday by appointment.

Tour of the intracalss
The Fort Lauderdale water taxis are a great way to explore the city. The tour runs through the Intracalss Waterway, a prime area for famous homes and beautiful yachts. The taxi’s Fort Lauderdale route offers 12 stops in total, including the Las Olas Riverfront and Shopping Center, Bahia Mahr and Bokamarer’s Sports Bar. Prices, locations and times for the taxi vary. Visit淦tuxami.com for more information.

Unlimited bowling
AMF Davie Lanes offers unlimited bowling every Friday night after 10 p.m. for $15. All hours, all prices include unlimited bowling until 2 a.m., but shoe rental is not included. AMF Davie Lanes also offers a snack menu with daily specials on pizza, fried snacks, sweets and an array of beverages.

NSU Museum of Art
Located in downtown Fort Lauderdale, the NSU Art Museum is easily accessible to students. The museum offers a students admission price of $5 when you present your student ID. The hours of operation are Tuesdays-Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sundays from 12-5 p.m.

Netflix marathon
Let’s face it, after midterms you are probably going to be feeling worn out and somewhat drained, so going out might sound about as appealing as reading your textbook. In this case, you might want to watch an entire season of “American Humor Story” or “The Leftovers” which is probably your best room. Luckily for you, the coming “The Coming to Netflix in October,” the “Leaving Netflix in October” and all of the continuing streams of show lists, there are hundreds of options for you to choose from, like “How to Lose a Guy in 10 Days,” “Breakfast at Tiffany’s,” “Supermans,” and “Ferris Bueller’s Day Off.” Sometimes a day in bed with takeout is just what you need after midterms.

Staff Picks: Study Music

By: The Current Staff

It’s midterm’s week, and The Current staff is hitting the books. Here’s what we like to listen to while we study.

Grace Ducanis, copy editor, said acoustic, guitar-based, and country music.

When I’m studying, I like to listen to music with a steady, calm beat. Classical music distracts me because it changes so often, so when studying, I prefer music that’s repetitive, acoustic and country-based. My favorite artists to listen to while I study are the Foo Co Dulls, Phillip Phillips, Needtobreathe, James Bay and Lifehouse. Listening to music helps me draw upon background noise, and since I’m so familiar with most of the songs from these artists, I don’t get caught up listening to the lyrics.

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Jamey Oettle, co-editor-in-chief, said anything without lyrics.

When I study, I usually just go on YouTube and listen to music while I study. As a theme from the early release of the MIFF posters, which Bleemer pointed out is "My husband," just what you need after midterms.

Morgan Thoren, business manager, said country music or rap.

Whenever I’m studying, I have to have noise in the background. Classical music makes me want to fall asleep, so I normally listen to country music or rap. This semester I’ve been listening to Spotify’s “New Boots” playlist or Tumilke’s “November Terrors.”

Allyson Johns, sports editor, said instrumental.

I listen to instrumental music when I study. I can’t listen to anything that has words because I am very easily distracted. My current favorite is “e.o.a.” by Portland Cello Project. I also like to listen to movie soundtracks. My favorite movie soundtrack is “Finding Nemo,” scored by Thomas Newman.

Erin Herbert, co-editor-in-chief, said Weezer.

I’m the kind of person who absolutely needs to have music playing in order to be productive. I have a playlist on Spotify that has about 30 songs from my favorite band, Weezer, that is always my go-to for studying. Weezer’s mix of hard rock riffs, catchy pop tunes and even slow ballads is perfect for any study session.

The museum has a plethora of collections, as well as a café that creates the perfect atmosphere for relaxing over lunch.

NSU Art Museum
One East Las Olas Blvd.
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301

The big screen of the Miami Film Festival
By: Ben Underhill

Film festival season is coming up once again, and for the 34th annual Miami International Film Festival (MIFF), it’s another year of new and exciting films. The Miami Film Festival will be from March 15 to April 2, and even senior is the GEMS festival a branch of the MIFF, which will be Oct. 16.

Rachel Bleemer, associate director of film for the festival, explained that the GEMS festival is a mini version of the festival in March.

Bleemer said, “It’s a good way for people who understand what a film festival is and what kind of film to expect. It’s really exciting.”

The GEMS festival will be displaying a variety of different movies.

Bleemer said, “For GEMS we have a little bit of everything.”

GEMS will be showing “Gimm Diane Moffee” and “Broken out and the Stooges and was directed by Jim Jarmusch, the Rolling Stones’ new documentary “Oli Oli Oli” which follows the band through countries they were banned from for 30 years, “Christine,” which is a true story about a news reporter from Sarasota who committed suicide out-air, and “Neruda,” which is about Pablo Neruda, Chilean activist and stars Gael Garcia Bernal.

To select films, Bleemer explained MIFF has different programmers that have the same studio’s job of travelling around the world, bringing films to different film festivals and bringing films to Miami.

“They keep their ear really close to the industry and they know what works for Miami, or South Florida in general, what our patrons like to see,” Bleemer said.

Bleemer said that despite the strenuousness of the programmer’s job there is a payoff to the work.

She explained, “For the programmers, and general crew, a lot of the most fun,” she said, “is being able to have a conversation with him. So that’s something that’s even different than usual.

Bleemer said that the MIFF, and film festivals like it provide a platform for film to thrive.

These films would not be able to come to Miami, especially with such a varying culture,” Bleemer said. “It’s so nice to be able to go to the theatre and see your home, wherever you’re from, especially South Florida, and actually be there, going to see the poster, be able to have a conversation with him. So that’s something else that’s really priceless for so many people. Right now we’re really seeing such a love for film… I think people are getting more and more interested in independent films. It helps continue the film community.”

GEMS will be located at MDC’s Tower Theater Miami, and tickets for the festival can be purchased on the MIFF website or the MIFF website and under “Buy Tickets” in the top bar.
Twenty years ago, “Rent” took the stage and immediately stole our hearts. Combining the raw feelings of starving artists and those suffering from the AIDS epidemic with rock music, the musical has been captivating hearts and minds ever since.

To commemorate the 20th anniversary of the Tony and Pulizer Prize-winning show, a national tour of the show, directed by Evan Ensign, has been announced by Ensign, who has been playing Roger Davis in the show ever since the early 90s amid the terrifying AIDS epidemic. It is a slice of time. It is a story that tells a story I don’t think can be told in any other art form.

In your opinion, what is one of the best songs in the show?
Wells: “One of the pieces that I resonate very strongly with and I believe I can always listen to is ‘I’ll Cover You (Reprise)’ in the second act, sung by our own Aaron Hartington who plays Tom Collins. It is just so visceral and beautiful and moving and lyrical, but also gutural and heart-wrenching. It’s a good song.”

How do you, personally, get into character and provide your message?
Wells: “Roger is kind of... he’s dealing with his own personal battles. I am very much friends with every single person in this cast, and I love to hang out and bond with them, but it is kind of hard to go on stage with that energy, like, friendship and bonding and then kind of have to sit by yourself for a while. I usually take the time before the show just to sit with them, for a coffee, a chat, just for a bit, collect my thoughts, be by myself and be OK being by myself. I kind of discover the friendships on stage naturally.”

What has it been like to work with Evan Ensign, Danny Harris Kornfeld and the rest of the cast and crew?
Wells: “Fantastic. Every single person in the cast and the production team and creative team are all wonderful, giving people. They have a such positive energy, high energy, passionate energy, which I think is the most important thing. Every single person shows up every single day wanting to do their job, wanting to do their job to the best of their ability and there’s such a passion for the show and you really feel it. Everyone, no matter who they play or what their position is in the show, is ready to do ‘Rent’ justice and to bring the story to the best of their ability. It’s such an honor to be working with such talented, passionate people.”

What makes musical theatre so distinguished from different art forms?
Wells: “I think musical theatre, when it’s done well, is one of the all-inclusive performing arts. It has to be emotionally connected. I find that a lot of musicals are very surface level, very entertaining, very song and dance. But a musical that is really emotionally connected and tells a story that needs to be told, well it’s through so many different disciplines. You have music, you have acting, you have dancing, you have the set design, you have costume design, you have lighting, you have sound, you have every single scene telling that story in a different way and being informed by different art forms. And when they work together, “Rent” is one of those shows that works. It is a full-body, full-sensory experience that tells a story I don’t think can be told in any other art form.”

What is one of the funniest things that’s happened on the tour so far?
Wells: “One of the first buses that we took from the airport ended up breaking down on the side of the road twice, and it was one of our first stops so the cast hadn’t really been on a bus together. We had been in rehearsals and stuff but to have that sense of humor of breaking down and having to restart the bus with people who you kind of just met was a really funny experience, and we had a lot of good laughs.”

For more information regarding show dates, visit playbill.com/article/rent-20th-anniversary-tour-launches-tonight
Snapchat is the best new medium for long-form storytelling

By: Grace Ducanis

Move over, YouTube. Long snap stories are taking over the Wi-Fi, and storytelling hasn’t been so innovative since the first cave dwellers wrote on the first cave wall. Young people are using their Snapchat to tell their stories and document their lives in the least permanent way possible.

“Like Twitter, this medium was clearly designed for lengthy storytelling,” said Anna Sequester, a Snapchat user who regularly posts snaps of herself talking about how much schoolwork she has to do, how such and such is, and how fake her always-anonymous friends are.

“Sometimes, because of the 10 second video limit, my words will get cut off mid-sentence,” Sequester said. “But I can’t get the dog filter on YouTube, so I put up with it.”

Sequester said she didn’t know how many people watch her stories.

“I’m guessing low,” she said. “I get messages from people all the time saying, ‘Your stories are way too long and nobody has time to watch all of this,’ but I just shake them off. You gotta shake off the haters.”

Reston Hayes says he doesn’t get it.

“Snapchat isn’t designed for stories hundreds of seconds long,” he said. “It’s like when people try to tell a story on Twitter using multiple tweets. Everyone’s annoyed, and no one can figure out what’s going on. Nobody on Snapchat wants to watch someone else tell a story about running into their ex at the grocery store while getting cut off at 10 second intervals.

Hayes obviously isn’t tuned into how the young people are using new media to tell personal stories.

“I’m 19,” Hayes said. Hayes is obviously socially inept.

Francis Windly frequently posts snap stories upwards of 300 seconds featuring his dog.

“I used to just post one or two snaps of my dog to my story, a day,” he said. “Then, I realized that taking the time to post this dog so much, all my other friends must love watching him too.”

He says he feels like Snapchat has given his life a purpose.

“I’m leaving my mark on the world,” he explained. “I spend so much time filming, photographing and posting snaps to my story because I feel like it’s my legacy. It’s going to last.”

Belina Nolife is an avid Snapchat watcher.

On average, she estimates that she watches about five hours’ worth of snap stories each day. Since she doesn’t work or attend school, she credits all her watch time to her extremely uneventful life.

“What’s great about Snapchat stories is that each day there’s something new,” she said.

“I wake up wondering, what timestamp did my friends use on their obligatory start-of-work car selfies today? How many different people will my friends face-swap with today? How many different photos of one sunrise can my friends possibly get? Each day is a new experience.”

Is the Flow Hive really worth all the buzz?

By: Erin Herbert

@Erin_Herbert

Thousands of people have been buzzing on social media about the latest trend in beekeeping technology: the autoflow beehive. With the alarming decline of the world’s bee population, thousands of people have begun advocating for safe beekeeping practices. And the Flow Hive, one of the most successful brands of autoflow beehives, seems like the best way to make the honey harvesting process stress-free for both bees and their keepers. But due to the hidden dangers for bees inside of these hives, they really aren’t worth all of the buzz.

The Flow Hive was wildly popular, even before its initial release, raising a record-breaking 12.2 million in the first three months of its GoFundMe campaign. The hive has a wooden structure and is equipped with plastic tubes that allow honey and honeycombs to flow freely out of the hive with the turn of a key. The Flow Hive promised to provide a completely stress-free way to remove honey from hives and keep disturbances to bees to an absolute minimum. Conventional honey harvesting techniques involve manually removing bees from their hive, filling the hive with the use of a smoker, and then using a heated knife to remove honeycombs from the hive. But although the Flow Hive and other autoflow alternatives seem like the answer to every beekeeper’s prayers, there are a number of hidden dangers lurking inside of these hives.

Beehives are living entities and should not be substituted for plastic parts and other artificial elements. Plastic is completely unnecessary in beehives. Bees typically produce their own wax, and provides storage for their food supplies. Plastic, unlike beeswax, does not change with the environment and can’t change temperatures like other elements of the hive. Plastic’s inability to adapt can cause major issues for bees inside the hive, as well as altering the composition of honey and even removing some medicinal qualities from it.

Not only do the artificial components of the Flow Beehive make it dangerous for bees, but it also promotes the exploitation of bees. The creators of the Flow Hive claim that their invention is the easiest, cleanest and cheapest way to keep bees. These claims have led many individuals to become amateur beekeepers. With the elevated number of novices in the beekeeping field, many bees are not being properly cared for. Bees cannot be left in a plastic hive indefinitely and expected to remain healthy and productive.

Although the Flow Hive has done an incredible job of raising awareness about the current bee crisis, it is simply not a safe method for honey harvesting. Between plastic parts and promoting a nonchalant attitude among novice beekeepers, the Flow Hive is destined to hurt bees much more than it can help them.
Opinions

“Hollow”een is overrated

By: Jenna Kopec
@Jen_Kopec

I remember reading stories in elementary school about the origins of Halloween. I can vaguely recall an explanation that said the term “Hallow’s Eve” eventually morphed into one word. I can’t tell you much more than that, however. That’s probably because whatever intentions set the foundation for the “holiday” have faded away, and Halloween has become one of the most overrated and commercialized aspects of American culture.

Yes, I’m saying it: Halloween is stupid. I understand why it’s popular among children — the day revolves around the promise of free candy. As a child, that was my reason for dressing up and trudging around my neighborhood. Now that I’m an adult and have to buy my own candy from stores, I just don’t understand the hullabaloo around Halloween. I think that in American culture, it’s even a stretch to say that Halloween is a holiday.

Merriam Webster defines a holiday as a “holy day” or a day where people get to take off work, neither of which really encapsulate what happens on Halloween. In our society, work and school is always in session for Halloween, and there’s no discussion about its holy origins. I consider Thanksgiving a holiday because it’s centered on the idea of gratitude; I consider Veteran’s Day a holiday because it pays tribute to those who fought for our country. Halloween just reestablishes my need to go to the dentist for a filling.

I’ve heard a lot of discussion about how multiple origins of Halloween are still relevant in certain cultures, and I think that’s beautiful. I just don’t see it where I live. Nor do Americans take the time to regularly talk about the meaning of Halloween. Instead, during the month of October, which has become Halloween season, all the major TV networks play spooky movie marathons and tons of people spend one hundred dollars for a Halloween Horror Nights ticket. None of these activities commemorate a specific event or idea. The costumes on Halloween serve no real purpose once you’re through trick-or-treating. And even then, there’s a lot of discussion lately about how the children’s costumes seen as commonplace are racist — like Pocahontas, to name one.

I know that a lot of Halloween lovers are going to claim that it’s nice to have something to celebrate and have fun with. They aren’t wrong, but it’s just difficult to believe a day in which the main objective is to scare people is everyone’s idea of fun. Halloween doesn’t have much substance to it. If you want to frolic and squeal over fake cobwebs and electronic mummies, be my guest. Just don’t say you’re doing it in the name of holiday spirit.

DO YOU THINK IT IS IMPORTANT FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS TO VOTE IN THE UPCOMING ELECTION?

"Of course. I believe I have to vote for the person who represents my views on the issues that matter most, and I won’t have a voice in this upcoming election if I don’t."

- Lorraine Sanchez, sophomore biology major

"Yes. It is extremely important to have your voice heard, especially by people who will be running the government. You want the future president to have the same ideals as you."

- Nicole Almeida, senior business administration major

"Yes. If you don’t vote, you won’t have any input, and right now, the United States has to vote between two bad candidates, so you have to choose the best of the worst."

- Gaby Alfaro, senior finance and business major

"Yes, because Florida is a swing state, and your voice can really be heard here, and this upcoming election will impact your future."

- Zack Pearce, sophomore sports and recreation management major

"No. I don’t think it’s important to vote. I don’t like either candidate, and I don’t feel either one deserves my vote."

- Tristan Semenza, freshman criminal justice major

"Yes, because we don’t need Trump in office. If he goes into office, people like me, who are on reserve for the military, will have to get called into battle because he will start a war."

- Dino Johnson, freshman psychology major

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- Juliet Romeo, junior communication studies major

SHARK SPEAK

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"I think it is really important for college students to vote because we are the generation that is about to go out into the work force. We are the ones that are going to have to start making decisions on taxes and immigration."

- Juliet Romeo, junior communication studies major
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