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Southwest 36th Street construction to finish by January

By: Rachael Hirstein
@RachaelHirstein

Southwest 36th Street, the road that runs past the Commons Residence Hall and ends at the Rolling Hills Graduate Apartments, is estimated to finish construction by January 2017. The road has been under construction since Dec. 11, 2016. Part of the new road will be open for vehicular traffic by Thanksgiving of this year. Parts of the current sidewalk will be built on the new parts of Southwest 36th Street near the Commons residence hall.

Jessica Brumley, vice president of Facilities Management, said, “They’re taking the existing Southwest 36th Street and moving it further south, so ultimately the street you drive on today will be closed and there will be a new road on the southernmost part of campus.”

Brumley said there were two reasons for the construction. She explained that NSU needed to create room for the athletic fields and an existing infrastructure agreement with the town of Davie required NSU to build the new road.

“We have a master plan for the overall Davie/Ft. Lauderdale campus and facilities ultimately brings project recommendations to executive management’s EVP, COO and president,” she said. “We also have a building and grounds committee that’s comprised of board of trustee members that make the final determination.”

Southwest 36th Street is the main route for students without vehicles to take to get to classes or the bookstore in the University Park Plaza (UPP). Francescka Castillo, sophomore biology major, said she used Southwest 36th Street very often, but that she did not feel comfortable walking on and off the field.

“I walked down the road three times a week to get to my sociology class in the UPP,” she said. “[Southwest 36th Street] is not safe to walk on, and I feel like I could get trampled.”

Castillo said she felt in danger walking on the street and would not have taken the street if she did not have to. She also said she just wants the construction to be finished.

For more information or any questions regarding the construction, please call the Office of Facilities Management at 954-262-8835.

The NSU Team for Sustainability and NSU Green Sharks have been working to make NSU a sustainability-certified campus through the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE).

Guenola Nonet, scholar in residence for sustainability and responsible strategy, research and education, and Green Sharks faculty advisor, is working closely with NSU to help them achieve certification.

“Reporting [data] involves everything from the curricula, the scholarships, the administration and employees, nature, the buildings and all the way to resource management,” she said. “Once we report, we can get a certification: bronze, silver, gold or platinum.”

Nonet said that to reach this goal, all of NSU needs to be involved. “We need students, we need staff and we need professors, directors and deans to help us know what is going on around campus,” she explained.

Steps have already been taken to achieve sustainability on campus. Christian Oppel, member of Green Sharks and representative in the united business council at NSU’s Huizenga College of Business, explained what has already been accomplished.

“The Green Sharks are responsible for the recycling bins in the residence halls,” he said. “We are also using reclaimed water here on campus to water the gardens, and we have certified, sustainable buildings.”

The plan is to send the data report by June 2017. It will take a few months after the data submission before NSU can become certified.

To help report, contact Seth Mangasarian, director of facilities management, at smangasari@nova.edu or Nonet at gnonet@nova.edu.

The Green Sharks are helping to make NSU certified as sustainable.
**News Briefs**

The offices of Residential Life and Housing and Student Leadership and Civic Engagement (SLCE) are hosting Trick or Trunk or Trunk on Oct. 31 from 6-8 p.m at the Shank Fountain. Park your car around the circle, pop your trunk and hand out treats to NSU and community members. Tickets are needed for this event, and the deadline for sign-ups is Oct. 26, at 5 p.m. To volunteer, go to nova.edu/trickortrunk.

**Sustainability: Learn how you can be sustainable on campus and at home**

NSU’s Green Sharks “Mission: Student Sustainability Club is hosting the Sustainability meeting in the Flight Deck Pub on Oct. 28 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Attend and learn how sustainability connects in your everyday life. For more information, contact Cassilly Lough at cl2212@nova.edu.

**CAHSS to host Intellectual Conversations**

NSU’s College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences (CAHSS) will again host its Intellectual Conversations on Oct. 27 in the Castilla Gallery on the second floor of the Alvin Sherman Library from 12-1 p.m. Tim Dixon, associate professor of history and legal studies, will present the lecture, called “European Union and Refugees.” For more information, call CAHSS at 954-262-8000 or visit sherman.library.nova.edu/sites/spotlight-series/intellectual-conversations/

**Presidential election night watch party**

The Office of Student Leadership and Civic Engagement (SLCE) is hosting a presidential election watch party on Nov. 8 in the Flight Deck Pub at 8 p.m. The election results will be screened and pizza will be provided while supplies last. For more information, contact SLCE at alc@nova.edu or call 954-262-7195.

**No Shave November**

NSU is hosting a No Shave November event on Nov. 2 in the Don Taft University Center Spine from 12-1 p.m. to raise awareness for men’s health. The event is free for students, and there will be free t-shirts, giveaways, food and much more. For more information, email wellness@nova.edu or call 954-262-7201.

**RecWell opens bike rental program**

Sharks often have a difficult time traveling on land. To help NSU students get around and stay active, NSU Recreation and Wellness opened the free bike rental program Sharks on Wheels on Oct. 17.

With a valid SharkCard, students can rent a beach cruiser bike, helmet and bike lock from the RecPlex during normal operating hours. Rented bikes can only be used on campus and must be returned 30 minutes before the RecPlex closes.

Marcela Sandigo, associate director for programs in the Recreation and Wellness department, said that the program combines wellness and outdoor adventure. Powell said that she and Sandigo modeled Sharks on Wheels after bike rental programs on other campuses like FIU.

“We were looking to grow the wellness aspect,” Powell said. “Our other supervisor wanted to start doing rental equipment, so this was a good way to transition into a new program and renting equipment.”

There are three bikes available for rental. Powell said that if the rentals go smoothly and they rent out. They will be charged a $275 replacement fee for the bike if it is not returned as other types of recreational equipment like kayaks, paddleboards and tents.

“We wanted to test [the program] out and see what the interest is, if students are interested, because it wouldn’t be worth it for us to buy all these bikes and have them just sit there,” Sandigo explained. “Better to start small and then grow.”

Sandy said she hopes people use the bikes. “We feel like it’s a really good way to get away from the campus,” she said. “Our main goal is to promote wellness and activity.”

Students will be held responsible for bikes they rent out. They will be charged a $275 replacement fee for the bike if it is not returned within a day after the rental period ends and could be charged $75 if they return the bike after the RecPlex closes. Students will also be charged if the bike is damaged while in their possession.

For more information about the program, visit rec.nova.edu/Sharks_on_wheels.html or contact Sandigo at pmarcela@nova.edu or 954-262-7201.
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Poetry has time and time again captured the fascination of humans. The whimsical feelings we get from poetry often evoke emotions we repress, something authors so often strive to do. In August of 2013, I sent a text message to my best friend, Sal Fratto, at 3:30 a.m., telling him how much I love poetry and the reactions people have to my work. Since it was so late, I did not expect a response from him, but less than a minute later my phone lit up with a new notification. I had an hour-long conversation about life and poetry, and eventually wrote a poem together via text message. Impressed by our creation, we determined to continue creating. We agreed to write a book together.

We had the concept for our book. All we needed was a title and actual content. We brainstormed and shared poems we had already written. Sal, the optimist and encouraging person that he is, said, “Duh, everyone knows you’re a [expletive] genius,” in response to one of the poems I sent him.

“It’s because we just keep approaching the unknown infinity,” I replied.

He quickly responded by suggesting we make “The Unknown Infinity” our title, but I wanted to highlight our collaboration and suggested the title we stuck with: “Everyone’s a Genius & We’re All Approaching Infinity.”

The creative process became a fluctuation of up days: finding past poems we wrote and writing new ones, and down days: formulating and research into publishing. Because we were so busy as seniors in high school, the book took a back seat in our lives.

Poem ideas came and went, shaped by impactful events in our lives. Heartbreak, loss and hope were the main focuses of our work, but often writer’s block took over. Some days it seemed as if we wouldn’t be able to finish the book, but we were determined to do so by the time we graduated high school. In a fashion true to our artistic intentions, we pushed forward and found inspiration in the smallest things. We used our determination to complete the book one month before graduating.

Sal mentioned our need to create a dedication. We sent him back the same paragraph and forth word for word that had touched both of our lives: our AP U.S. history teacher Charles Foti. Foti had ensured that along with Supreme Court cases, presidents, wars and the overall history of the United States, we learned life lessons in his class. He reiterated the importance of diversity, acceptance, freedom of expression and the importance of standing up for what we believe in. Taking these lessons to heart, we dedicated our book to him.

When we finally managed to get our collection of 52 original poems formatted, along with photography done by our friends, into a book, it was late April. Due to our lack of time, resources and money, we elected to self-publish our book through Amazon’s sub-

company CreateSpace. The service allows us to have our book available on Amazon and Barnes & Noble’s websites, as well as small retailers that chose to sell our book.

The feeling of being able to hold something you created is almost unmatched. Sal and I take great pride in knowing we took the initiative to publish the book and do what we can to market it, but knowing that we touched people’s lives through our work is what makes it worth it in the end.

Haunted days: The origins of Halloween and the Day of the Dead

By: Athena Edwards

Halloween, the day when people dress up in costumes and consume sweets, is right around the corner. However, around this time, some might wonder how we started celebrating this unusual holiday. Often, Halloween is associated with the Mexican holiday, the Day of the Dead. But Halloween, despite sharing certain similarities with the Day of the Dead, such as visiting the deceased relatives into their house for a visit. The second day is used to celebrate the visits of those who passed away in childhood, while the first day is used to remember the native Mesoamericans. The Aztec Festival of the Dead, a two-month celebration, was a time for participants to set out offerings to the dead as they visited the earthly world. Again, the practice of trick-or-treating.

The Day of the Dead and its origins

The Day of the Dead, which is the day after Halloween, is actually a holiday born from two different cultures, according to the National Endowment for the Humanities. It consists of practices that come from a blending of traditions from Spanish conquistadors and traditions of the native Mesoamericans. The Aztec Festival of the Dead, a two-month celebration, was a time for participants to set out offerings to the dead as they visited the earthly world. Again, the attempt to convert indigenous holidays into a Christian concept turned these celebrations into All Saints Day and All Souls Day, collectively celebrated in Mexico as Los Dias de los Muertos. According to the National Endowment for the Humanities, the first day is used to remember those who passed away, while the second day is used to celebrate the visits of those who died as adults. Families will invite their deceased relatives into their house for a visit. These practices are a direct reflection of the idea of death as it was before the time of Columbus.

Halloween and the Day of the Dead, while pouvoirous, however, are two different holidays, though they have changed with time.

For more information, visit edsitement.

Managing school during an emergency

By: Jenna Kopec

For more information, visit edsitement.

Sometimes, in life there are situations that you’re unprepared for. Maybe you’ve broken a bone, maybe you’ve lost a loved one or maybe you’re about to welcome a child into the world. Whatever the case may be, the Office of Student Disability Services can help verify class absences and collaborate with professors when a student encounters these situations.

Jennifer Wilson, director of student disability services, said that students might not know about these processes if they haven’t experienced a temporary injury or family emergency.

What is a temporary injury? Family emergency?

A temporary injury is a condition that is not permanent. According to Wilson, the most common forms of temporary injuries include broken bones, hospitalizations, recovery from surgery and concussions. When a student becomes temporarily injured, they can have their absence verified and communicated with their professors.

Students who encounter a family emergency can also have their absences verified. Wilson said that family emergencies include death or hospitalization of an immediate family member and the birth of a child.

How can I get my absence verified?

According to Wilson, students can choose to email their professors directly in order to discuss their situation and have their absences verified, but most faculty will refer students to the Office of Disability Services in order to have the verification on record.

At that point, the student will need to provide a copy of any relevant documentation. Documentation could include medical records, a doctor’s note, death certificate, etc. A member of the office will review the documentation, including any recommendations given by the doctor that’s relevant to the student’s academics. These recommendations could include things like allowing a student to write out information if they can’t look at a computer after a concussion.

After reviewing this information, the office will email professors the student requests verifying their absence and providing any recommendations for the student and professor moving forward.

Wilson said that depending on the reason for the absence verification, students may want to follow up. This could benefit the student if their timeline of recovery changes.

If my mobility is limited, is there any way to get accommodations?

Yes. Wilson said that students are able to get temporary access to closer parking lots and spots, but they may not normally be able to reach in order to get to work or class. She said that once students express their need to the office, they can help work with Public Safety in order to grant access. However, the office cannot issue a temporary handicap pass for students. Wilson said students have to go to the DMV for that.

Not many people may want to encounter a family emergency or temporary injury during their journey as a Shark. That being said, knowing the steps to take when encountering a situation like this can help ease the healing process. Students can contact the Office of Disability Services with questions at disabilitieservices@nova.edu.
Success coach

Virtual classroom, tangible results

By: Samantha Yorke

Samantha Yorke is an assistant director and success coach for the Office of Undergraduate Student Success at NSU. She earned her bachelor of science degree in psychology from the University of Central Florida and her master of science degree in higher education from Florida State University. Samantha is a proud Floridian with a passion for empowering others.

Virtual classes may be one of the coolest creations since sliced bread. In a virtual course, you are provided with opportunities to interact and engage with a class and a professor, and you get the opportunity to learn from an off-campus location that may be more convenient for you. It is important to remember that these virtual classrooms still require several steps for success, just like any course would. If you are currently enrolled in or are considering enrolling in a virtual classroom, make sure to keep these tips in mind.

Confirm technical requirements

As early as possible, make sure you have the right technical devices propped to be successful in the course. Consider consulting with the Office of Innovation and Information Technology at NSU for assistance if you have any problems, such as connecting with Blackboard. You can contact the office at nova.edu/it.

Connect with instructors early

Online courses can be formal, which means you can introduce yourself to the professor during a class. This can help you make new connections and get to know your instructor, which will ensure you have the best possible experience.

Prepare for class

You need to have a schedule in place. It is important to keep track of the due dates and deadlines. You should also have a consistent study schedule. For more information on the best ways to study, read our article on “The Art of Studying.”

Create a schedule for your coursework

Your online course should be treated like an on-campus course when it comes to studying, and you should have specific times and days that you log into the course to work on your assignments. Consider building virtual class spaces with spider webs and jack-o-lanterns. You can do this in an on-campus course anyway, so why not do it in a virtual class as well?

What does valuing yourself look like?

Halloween for adults

Success coach

By: Rachael Hirstein

Halloween was once about dressing up and walking door-to-door to get candy from strangers. But as college adults, trick-or-treating is sometimes frowned upon, so what can you do to celebrate Halloween?

Here are some suggestions for those wanting to get in the spooky spirit as an adult.

Decorate

Decorating for Halloween may be half the fun of celebrating it. Bring your friends and family together and adorn your houses and work spaces with spider webs and jack-o-lanterns. Create a dark and eerie atmosphere or go for a cozy autumn vibe, and show your neighbors and coworkers how prepared you are for the spooky season.

Pass out candy

You may not be able to go house-to-house to hand out your candy, but you can still enjoy trick-or-treating. Here are some ideas to celebrate the holiday in your own way.

Costume party

Nothing says spooky like a costume party. You can go for a classic costume like a witch or a pumpkin, or you can try something more modern, like a pumpkin carving party.

20 percent discount. For more information or to schedule a time, visit locknbookescape.com or call 954-353-2933.

Movie marathon

For some, Halloween cannot be complete without a movie marathon. Gather your friends, lay out some blankets, pop some popcorn and kick back with your favorite flicks. Decide whether or not you want to have all of these movies all at once or spread them out throughout the day and watch them in groups.

Make your own treats

You may have seen the Pinterest witch finger and mummy cupcakes, so why not make some yourself? Websites like Pinterest and Delish provide creepy and creative ideas to make tasty Halloween treats. You can go for simpler ideas, such as banana Halloween, or really test your baking abilities and make the ultimate edible appetizers.

Scary stories

Break out the Edgar Allen Poe poems and dim the lights to set the mood. Have you and your friends turn telling the scariest horror stories you know or read old classics like Mary Shelley’s “Frankenstein.” Place the flashlight under your chin and prepare to tell bone-chilling tales.

If you are bummed that the transition to adulthood is spoiling your trick-or-treating, never fear. There are still great fun activities for an exciting, spooky Halloween.
Men’s and women’s cross country

The men’s and women’s cross country teams competed in the Sunshine State Conference Championship in Melbourne, Florida, on Oct. 22. The men’s team finished third overall with 64 points. Christian Opei earned a spot on the 2016 All-SSC team, with a ninth place finish and a time of 25:23.95.

On the women’s side, the Sharks came in sixth overall with a total of 132 points. Sophomore Anabel Knoll led the team with a seventh place finish of 25:23.95.

This decline in ratings has been talked about enough that top NFL executives have sent a memo to the 32 NFL teams stating the problem and explaining that the presidential election is the underlying cause. Brian Rolapp and Howard Katz, two league executives, also mentioned that they are unconcerned about the long-term effects of this season on the future of the NFL.

“While our partners, like us, would have liked to see higher ratings, they remain confident in the NFL and unconcerned about a long-term issue they said.

Many fans are blaming players like 49ers quarterback Colin Kaepernick, whose protests have incited an emotional backlash. Kaepernick chose to sit or kneel during the National Anthem in a silent protest for Black Lives Matter. Many fans chose to boycott the games, trending the tag BoycottNFL. A survey done by Rasmussen Reports revealed that almost a third of the 1000 Americans surveyed said they were less likely to watch games because of the protests. Fifty-two percent said that the protests did not impact their decision to watch.

While fans argue that this is the reason for the falling ratings, the NFL added, “That one can discount. That’s not what makes people decide what to do or what to watch. Nor do players make a viewing decision for themselves and their kids based on how the NFL settles its own lawsuits.”

Given Peyton Manning’s retirement, Tom Brady’s four-week “Deflategate” suspension and many big name players on the sidelines with injuries, fans are not tuning in to watch “no name” players. Despite players like Dak Prescott, quarterback for the Dallas Cowboys who has shaken the game, it’s not enough for some fans and viewers to watch the games. Since games are now being aired at more times than ever, audiences and markets could have become fragmented, according to sports analysts.

Neil Macker, entertainment analyst for Morningstar, said, “Sports at the end of the day is a narrative. You can’t create it. It’s organic. If you don’t have those compelling storylines, people aren’t going to take the time to watch.” The Washington Post reports that more Americans than ever, especially millennials, are abandoning traditional TV in favor of on-demand services like Netflix and Hulu. The time that Americans spend watching traditional TV has also dropped roughly 11 percent since 2010, according to Nielsen data. More specifically, the time that those younger than 24 spend watching has plunged by more than 40 percent. Since on-demand services are becoming the new standard in entertainment, the allure of live broadcasts has diminished, sending networks into a tailspin.

Football’s traditional audience is getting smaller season by season, and the newest potential fans have not been wooed by live broadcast coverage. The 2016 presidential election may be a huge factor in the ratings drop for the NFL. Although elections do tend to thin the audiences for sports, the drop recorded this year is an all-time high. During the 2000 election, NFL ratings dropped 10 percent and in the 2008 election by two percent. In comparison to last year, ratings this year have dropped 15 percent.

Rolapp and Katz said, “All networks airing NFL games are down… primetime windows have clearly been affected the most.” In a news conference held by NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell, Goodell said, “I don’t think there’s a single reason for it. We look at all those factors. Everyone has theories. There are a lot of factors to be considered. We don’t make excuses. We try to look at what’s causing it and make changes.”

Chicago Cubs reach World Series

The Chicago Cubs qualified for their first World Series in over 70 years after defeating the Los Angeles Dodgers on Oct. 22. The Cubs have not won a championship in the past 107 years, according to the Wall Street Journal, and will face the Cleveland Indians in the World Series.

New England Patriots quarterback Tom Brady announced his retirement in a news conference. His retirement will impact the team in the future. The Patriots will have to replace him with a new quarterback for the upcoming season.

Men’s golf

NSU’s men’s golf team fell 2-1 to Eckerd on Oct. 22. Bestun Mohammed put the Sharks on the scoreboard early in the game, but Eckerd answered back with two goals of their own. The Sharks are now 3-0 on the season, and 1-7 SSC play.

Women’s soccer

NSU’s No. 1-ranked women’s soccer team defeated Eckerd 2-1 on Oct. 22, to earn a record six consecutive shutouts in home games. Myrrah Troutman and Sini Laaksonen scored a goal each for the Sharks and goalkeeper Ida Norstrom added five saves. The Sharks are now 5-0-2 in SSC play.

Women’s volleyball

Saint Leo defeated the women’s volleyball team in five sets on Oct. 22. Jessica Ronyak led the Sharks with 18 kills and 10 digs. With this loss, the Sharks fell to 11-10 on the season and 3-5 in SSC play.

O U T O F T H E S H A R K Z O N E

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Adam Vinatieri sets NFL field goal record

Indianapolis Colts kicker Adam Vinatieri set a new NFL record for most consecutive field goals in a single season on Oct. 22. The 43-year-old and 21-year NFL veteran earned his 43rd consecutive field goal with a 33 yard kick in the Colts’ game against the Tennessee Titans.

Alabama safety to miss time with fractured leg

University of Alabama safety Eddie Jackson will miss part of the season with a fractured leg, according to ESPN. Jackson suffered this injury during Alabama’s game against No. 6 Texas on Oct. 22. The team has yet to release further information on the state of his injury.

Vikings running back wears Harambe-themed cleats

Minnesota Vikings running back Jerick McKinnon wore cleats featuring Harambe, the gorilla killed at the Cincinnati Zoo earlier this year. Though athletes are free to wear custom shoes during NFL games, there are no regulations that regulate their footwear during warmups, according to FOX Sports. This is the second occasion that the Vikings have referenced Harambe on the field. During week one team members reportedly chanted, “Spoons out for Harambe,” before the start of the game.
By: Alyssa Johns

Allison Porter is a freshman arts and graphic design major from Bolivar, Missouri. In high school, she played basketball and ran cross country, breaking the school record for the 800m race. She was also a member of the 4x800m team that broke another school record and won the state championship. Porter also received All-State in cross country. Porter says her father is the most influential person in her life and wouldn’t be the person she is today without him. Porter went on to explain how cross country has impacted her life.

How do you balance being a student and an athlete?

“I just do what I have to do... Our practices are in the morning and they do a good job of getting it out of the way so that we have the whole rest of the day to do classes or whatever. It is hard because our practices are at 6:30 in the morning and we have to wake up at 5:45 and getting enough sleep is such a hard thing to do. Usually I get four hours of sleep, four to five. It’s hard because you have work to do late at night and then you end up going to bed at 1 a.m. and wake up at 5:45.”

What is the most rewarding part of cross country?

“Running is just rewarding in so many ways, because it’s not only rewarding physically but also as the season goes on you become a better person. If you do your part and you work hard, then you’re going to get better. It’s rewarding to be a part of the team, you know. Everybody is working towards a goal.”

How did you start running? How did you know you wanted to be a cross country runner?

“My family runs. I’ve been running since I was a kid, really. My mom is super hyped about it. She’s my mom. He had me running since I was a little kid. So, I just knew I was going to run. Also, I have older siblings who did cross country and stuff so they had me training at a young age.”

Are there any professional runners you look up to?

“No. In particular, I mean yes, and no. I don’t really have an idol.”

Do you want to continue running after college?

“I’m going to be a runner all of my life, I think. It’s my way of coping with life I feel like. I’m a very energetic person, and so I have to run. If I don’t run for a couple of days I go crazy. I don’t know why, but I have to run. I’m not going to be in training after college, I’m just going to go on leisurely adventure runs.”

How would you describe yourself as an athlete?

“As an athlete, I feel like I’m the flattest non-athlete person ever. I am. I don’t know. I’m motivated when the time comes. Whenever I’m on the line I’m so motivated. My friends did not think I was an athlete. I don’t act like an athlete. I’m just like a fun-loving person, until I get on the line. Whenever it’s time to go, I go.”

Some athletes are so good at the sport they practice that they become famous worldwide. However, athletes can also become famous for contributing to their community and helping others. Brazilian soccer player, Rafael Da Silva, became a hero on and off the field.

According to FoxSports, Da Silva played for Manchester United for seven years before he signed with Olympique Lyonnais in August 2015. However, after spending one month with his new club, he was injured. Despite his injury, he still received checks, as it often happens when soccer players are injured. However, Da Silva’s reaction to his payment is unheard of. He requested the Lyon’s management to cancel his payment because he wasn’t playing. The club informed him that canceling his salary was impossible due to “the terms of his contract.”

Since Da Silva did not want to get paid while not playing, his club found a solution to the problem. He donated the money to the Olympique Lyonnais’ charity. The money was used to purchase a mobile robot for kids in a hospital to be “present” and talk to players on match days through webcam, FoxSports reported.

It’s so impressive to hear about such a great act of kindness. Da Silva is not only kind, but humble. Although his donation happened around a year ago, the world just now found out because Da Silva didn’t seek attention for his actions.

In an interview with L’Equipe, he said, “I like playing and I like getting paid for it, but I was not playing...I’m glad I made money for the kids, but it was also good for me. It did me good.”

His actions are absolutely admirable.

Athlete of the Week:

Allison Porter

By: Alyssa Johns

Allison Porter is a freshman arts and graphic design major from Bolivar, Missouri. In high school, she played basketball and ran cross country, breaking the school record for the 800m race. She was also a member of the 4x800m team that broke another school record and won the state championship. Porter also received All-State in cross country. Porter says her father is the most influential person in her life and wouldn’t be the person she is today without him. Porter went on to explain how cross country has impacted her life.

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“I just do what I have to do... Our practices are in the morning and they do a good job of getting it out of the way so that we have the whole rest of the day to do classes or whatever. It is hard because our practices are at 6:30 in the morning and we have to wake up at 5:45 and getting enough sleep is such a hard thing to do. Usually I get four hours of sleep, four to five. It’s hard because you have work to do late at night and then you end up going to bed at 1 a.m. and wake up at 5:45.”

What is the most rewarding part of cross country?

“Running is just rewarding in so many ways, because it’s not only rewarding physically but also as the season goes on you become a better person. If you do your part and you work hard, then you’re going to get better. It’s rewarding to be a part of the team, you know. Everybody is working towards a goal.”

How did you start running? How did you know you wanted to be a cross country runner?

“My family runs. I’ve been running since I was a kid, really. My mom is super hyped about it. She’s my mom. He had me running since I was a little kid. So, I just knew I was going to run. Also, I have older siblings who did cross country and stuff so they had me training at a young age.”

Are there any professional runners you look up to?

“No. In particular, I mean yes, and no. I don’t really have an idol.”

Do you want to continue running after college?

“I’m going to be a runner all of my life, I think. It’s my way of coping with life I feel like. I’m a very energetic person, and so I have to run. If I don’t run for a couple of days I go crazy. I don’t know why, but I have to run. I’m not going to be in training after college, I’m just going to go on leisurely adventure runs.”

How would you describe yourself as an athlete?

“As an athlete, I feel like I’m the flattest non-athlete person ever. I am. I don’t know. I’m motivated when the time comes. Whenever I’m on the line I’m so motivated. My friends did not think I was an athlete. I don’t act like an athlete. I’m just like a fun-loving person, until I get on the line. Whenever it’s time to go, I go.”

Some athletes are so good at the sport they practice that they become famous worldwide. However, athletes can also become famous for contributing to their community and helping others. Brazilian soccer player, Rafael Da Silva, became a hero on and off the field.

According to FoxSports, Da Silva played for Manchester United for seven years before he signed with Olympique Lyonnais in August 2015. However, after spending one month with his new club, he was injured. Despite his injury, he still received checks, as it often happens when soccer players are injured. However, Da Silva’s reaction to his payment is unheard of. He requested the Lyon’s management to cancel his payment because he wasn’t playing. The club informed him that canceling his salary was impossible due to “the terms of his contract.”

Since Da Silva did not want to get paid while not playing, his club found a solution to the problem. He donated the money to the Olympique Lyonnais’ charity. The money was used to purchase a mobile robot for kids in a hospital to be “present” and talk to players on match days through webcam, FoxSports reported.

It’s so impressive to hear about such a great act of kindness. Da Silva is not only kind, but humble. Although his donation happened around a year ago, the world just now found out because Da Silva didn’t seek attention for his actions.

In an interview with L’Equipe, he said, “I like playing and I like getting paid for it, but I was not playing...I’m glad I made money for the kids, but it was also good for me. It did me good.”

His actions are absolutely admirable.
Pokémon GO is Pokémon gone

By: Benjamin Underhill
@ActualBenU

Significantly fewer people have been staring down at their phones as they walk around a popular location. The reason? The interest in Pokémon GO in the U.S. has dramatically decreased over the past two months. The app’s downfall is the result of many flaws that discourage users.

When Pokémon GO first launched in the U.S., it quickly became one of the most popular new mobile games in the world. Millions of people downloaded the app, which was likely the reason that I and many players like me experienced server overloads. According to CNS, a brand of CBS Interactive, Pokémon GO is now available in 132 countries, yet interest in the game in the U.S. is lacking. Google Trends shows that Google searches for the game increased from July 5-11. Since July 11, searches for Pokémon GO have progressively dropped, increasing only on July 16 and 31. Currently, Google Trends shows that as of Oct. 11, Google searches for Pokémon GO are only 4 percent of what they were on the highest search date, which was July 11.

Like many preceding one-month-wonders that have quickly disappeared, such as Happy Bird and Trivia Crack, Pokémon GO was almost forgotten once the news media took a back seat in media. After the Olympics began, Pokémon GO reports dropped, helping the app gain popularity. However, once the Olympics ended and the U.S. Olympic team won many gold medals, interest in Pokémon GO evaporated. Since the release of the game was the requirement of physical activity and under-developed gameplay.

With Pokémon GO available in 132 countries, a Pokémon GO user could have usually expected to find Pokémon around them. However, when Pokémon GO was released, multiple issues were found, such as glitch, Pokémon GO users deal with multiple issues that make playing the game very frustrating. The issue with Pokémon GO is that its multiple issues are sorted out. It seems that Pokémon GO is Pokémon gone.

By: The Current Staff

Jacyc Lytle, co-editor-in-chief, said, “The Cabin in the Woods.”

My favorite Halloween movie, if I had to pick just one, would probably be “Halloweentown.” I love the magic and soft suspense that occurs throughout. It’s an exciting and well-developed movie that encapsulates the spirit of Halloween. It reminds me of my childhood, my shoeing up my face of candy while I indulged in Freesmore, formerly the ABC Family’s, 13 Nights of Halloweentown lineup.

Rachel Hirschen, news editor, said, “Addams Family Values.”

My favorite Halloween movie is “The Addams Family Values” because the humor is dark and creative. This movie is a classic, and the characters all bring something different and quirky to the plot. I try to watch this movie every year because it never gets old, and the Addams never fail to make me laugh.

Grace Ducanis, copy editor, said, “Freaky Friday.”

I’m not one for Halloween or horror movies, so this not-so-scary film is about as freaky as it’s going to get. Actresses Lindsay Lohan and Jaime Lee Curtis, portraying an unhappy mother-daughter relationship, switch bodies with the help of a Chinese fortune cookie. Literally in each other’s shoes, they have to find a way to keep things normal and get switched back before it’s too late. The film is funny, light and heartwarming, and I would like to watch it again.

Jenna Kucier, features editor, said, “The Nightmare Before Christmas.”

I’m not the biggest fan of Halloween, so I don’t watch a lot of Halloween movies. However, when I was a kid, “The Nightmare Before Christmas” was my go-to movie. It’s an absolutely adorable holiday animated film that features a few ghosts, some teamwork and some laughs. If you’re looking for a throwback this Halloween, I definitely recommend this one.

Aidan Rivas, visual design assistant, said, “The Cabin in the Woods.”

Horror is one of my favorite genres, and although there’s a heck of a lot of horror movies I enjoy, my favorite movie to watch around Halloween time is “The Cabin in the Woods.”

It’s a spin on the classic “a bunch of college kids are camping out probably to be chased by something” story. However, it doesn’t end up the way you might expect. I guarantee the film is supremely entertaining, if nothing else.

Alyssa Johns, sports editor, said, “Insidious.”

I love Halloween and I love scary movies, so it’s hard for me to pick a favorite. If I had to pick one, it would be “Insidious.” It has just enough of a creep factor to keep me interested, and it isn’t overly cheesy.

Morgan Thurm, business manager, said, “Halloweentown.”

When it comes to Halloween movies, there’s only one I’ll watch: “Halloweentown.” I don’t even know how many times I watched the original and sequels and wished I could be Marnie Piper. Who doesn’t want to be visited by their witch grandmother and learn they have powers as well? I would much rather watch Halloweentown over any “scary” movie.

Erin Herbert, co-editor-in-chief, said, “The Little Vampire.”

“Little Klowns from Outer Space” is my go-to movie for Halloween. It’s an incredibly creepy 80s horror film that follows a teenage couple trying to save their small town from a group of clowns from outer space. The film is completely ridiculous and quite comical, but the creepy clowns will make you want to watch the circus again. The film is extremely entertaining, and I highly recommend it.

Carli Lust, chief of visual design, said, “The Nightmare Before Christmas.”

My favorite movie to watch on Halloween is “The Nightmare Before Christmas.” It was one of my favorite movies as a kid, and I still try to watch it every year during the month of October. “The Nightmare Before Christmas” is a classic movie about a bullied little boy who becomes best friends with a vampire after moving to Scotland. It always made me want a vampire best friend.

Ben Underhill, arts and entertainment editor, said, “The Nightmare Before Christmas.”

This quirky stop-motion animated musical movie is an all-time classic. Directed and created by none other than Tim Burton, the movie serves as both an excellent Halloween movie and Christmas movie. Jack Skellington the Pumpkin King searches for new ways to make Halloweentown scarier before stumbling onto a portal to Christmas Town, and the rest is brilliant musical madness featured on ABC Family, now Freesmore, every year.

Danielle Pucill, multimedia manager, said, “Sleepy Hollow.”

As a huge horror fan, I have to say my favorite movie to watch on Halloween is “Sleepy Hollow.” The atmosphere is dark and still maintains a certain fancy, a trademark of its legendary director Tim Burton. Christopher Walken’s performance as the Headless Horseman is fantastic; he is terrifying, but I still empathize with him on a certain level. The imagery of the flaming pumpkin head, gnarled trees and a full moon the color of bleached bone captures the essence of All Hallows’ Eve.
Alternative electronic group Crystal Castles, consisting of producer Ethan Kath and singer/frontwoman Alice Glass, has always been something of an oddity. Any artists that label their genre “witch house” is understandably viewed as strange. Regardless of their weirdness, however, they did manage to create a unique image of themselves in the music industry. Not to mention, their music makes for perfect Halloween listening. Kath’s signature aggressive and energetic beats, with underlying feelings of unease and horror and the haunting and distorted vocals provided by Glass, allow anyone to easily identify a Crystal Castles track.

Because of their apparent codependence, it came as quite a shock when Glass left the project for “personal and professional reasons.” Many fans understandably predicted that after releasing a trilogy of self-titled records, the split would leave the band in a good position to say its goodbyes, and Kath and Glass would pursue new projects.

But, as evidenced by the release of the new Crystal Castles album “Amnesty (I)” on Aug. 19, with Edith Frances as the new lead singer, it seems that Kath is determined to show that he doesn’t need Glass for Crystal Castles to be successful. So, how have these industry politics surrounding the record’s release impacted its content?

Kath still has his knack for juxtaposing unsettling synths and chimes with heavy, grungy beats. The intro track “Femen” is a prime example with its reversed string samples, melancholy piano chords and creepy echoed vocals of a choir of little girls on top of aggressive snares and trap drum breakdowns. The cut “Sadist” features chilling echoed chimes that would be at home in any stalker movie, with soft, airy vocals by Frances brushing by. This relative calm is broken at varying intervals as the track devolves into heavily-modulated synths and then regains its composure as if the track itself was having a panic attack.

My favorite cut on the record, “Ornament,” takes a slower and more melodic route. The choir samples have been cut up and overlaid with stop and go snares and hi hats, which gives the whole track a glitchy feeling.

While Kath does still own his style well, that’s also kind of a problem. On a lot of these tracks, it seems he’s too comfortable and hasn’t done much to innovate or expand like he did over the course of the original album trilogy. Tracks like “Fleece” and “Char” feature the same sounds and style choices of the other tracks, but they sound so similar and repetitive that any charm is lost.

In terms of Frances’s vocals, there are some tracks that put them to good use, but tracks like “Concrete” and “Enth” distort them so badly that the listener can barely understand her. This just adds insult to injury, considering that those two tracks, as well as “Fleece,” are the only ones that Frances wrote herself.

It’s easy to say that with a single listen-through of the album, Crystal Castles still sounds like Crystal Castles. Kath still has his signature sound, and Frances’s vocals on the various tracks are used to varying levels of efficiency, just like Glass’s were on previous records.

But sounding the same is not necessarily a good thing. While the record isn’t terrible, it doesn’t live up to the first two LPs released by the band. It does some things right, but ultimately it’s a very safe record; it sounds like Kath’s only reason for producing it was to prove to his fans that he can keep Crystal Castles alive on his own. The result is a mediocre record Kath only put just enough effort into and nothing more.
It’s that time of year again: cotton spider webs, pumpkins and goats, cheap decorations and enough candy to make you gain a few pounds are all back. That’s right, it’s almost Halloween. But honestly, this holiday is so much more than soliciting candy from your neighbors. It’s a deep-rooted, all-American tradition. Halloween is in our blood. We all remember the days of dressing up and going out into the night with millions of other children. We did it, our parents did it and our grandparents did it. It is imperative that we protect this holiday for the sake of our children and grandchildren, and what better way to do that than to make Halloween a federal holiday? That’s right, we need to close public buildings, cancel school and shut down businesses. We need to do everything we would do for equally important holidays like Columbus Day and Thankgiving.

The choice is obviously clear. Everyone loves Halloween, especially our economy. Jackson Gutierrez, junior business major, recently studied the benefits of holidays on the economy. “Holidays are quite literally catalysts to the economy,” Mr. Gutierrez said. “Businesses increasingly thrive around capitalist-based holidays. The period between Thanksgiving and Christmas saw the biggest boost to the economy, but Halloween followed just behind it.”

Making Halloween a federal holiday will give people the opportunity to have more time to go out and spend more money, which helps the economy. It’s a capitalist’s dream scenario. Think about it: Black Friday does too well in a business sense because many non-retail businesses give their employees a four-day weekend for Thanksgiving. Alexander O’Neill, owner of Spooktown, a local Halloween business, explained that her business is reliant on Halloween. “I’m lucky enough to be able to fund my entire business and life while only being open for one and a half months out of the year,” O’Neill explained, “Unfortunately, I often struggle to get by once we get to the summer months, but I’m certain that if students and some employers had off on Halloween, I would be financially stable all year without any fear.”

On top of the fiscal importance of Halloween, the holiday observes some deep-rooted traditions. Let’s face it, on what other holiday does society acceptably dress your baby dog in a silly costume? The costume allows everyone to express themselves without fear of judgment, whether as a cat vampire, a scandalous nurse or a demon. In reality, people will get a good laugh out of your costume as long as you’re not a clown. Clovers are over.

The festivity of Halloween wouldn’t be complete without an out-of-the-way trip to a farm to pick out the perfect pumpkins either. What better way to bond with your family than to make a huge mess in your kitchen just to design a silly face in a brutally-slaughtered pumpkin?

Overall, Halloween is just as important of a holiday to be overlooked by our federal government. The best course of action is to recognize the huge impact Halloween has so that we can better respect the holiday. Let’s make this year fantastically: make Halloween a federal holiday.

It amazes me that society can remember a name so quickly, but so quickly forget why that name matters. In May, when social media broke out in outraged discussions about the death of a gorilla in a Cincinnati zoo after a child fell in his enclosure, I was excited for discussion and how we can avoid future tragedies. I truly believe everyone of us deserve to die.” That’s exactly the point.

With social media, society could have opened a discussion on how we treat other creatures, how we approach situations and how we can avoid future tragedies. I truly thought that the discussion was going to be had initially and it just wasn’t. When a tragedy strikes, it’s horrible to make a joke out of it no matter how much time has passed. No life deserves to be cut short and when it is, society should have a conversation rather than making fun of a horrific situation and taking a dollar out of a dead soul’s expense.
Opinions

Fifteen minutes between classes isn’t enough

By: Aldana Foigel

When I was a freshman, I struggled to figure out my class schedule. Because I am an international student, I didn’t get the chance to have a face-to-face appointment with my academic advisor, so we went over my classes on the phone. When she mentioned that I had 15 minutes to get from one class to the next, I thought that was going to be fine. I was wrong.

In college, attending class is the students’ responsibility and most professors give points for attendance. If you have a “good” schedule, you probably have plenty of time between classes, but if you have a tight one, being on time for your class can become an adventure.

During my first semester of freshman year, I took two classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays and only had 15 minutes to get between them. At the end of the semester, I was totally exhausted at the end of those two days. So, is 15 minutes enough to get between classes?

I took a class at the library that ended at 10:30 a.m. and my next class started at 10:45 a.m. in the Parker building. The walk from the library to Parker took me seven minutes, but my first class never finished on time so I used to leave the library at 10:35 a.m. Since my classes were near the afternoon, I was always hungry but didn’t have time to stop for coffee or a snack. I had to wait until lunchtime to eat something or get a snack and be late to class. It doesn’t feel right to have to choose between getting a snack and making it to class on time.

Other students have expressed similar concerns about not having enough time to get to class. Michelle Ruiz, junior psychology major, said that during her freshman year, she had a class in DeSantis and fifteen minutes later a class in the University Park Plaza, which is located near the bookstore.

“Since I didn’t have a car, I had to walk there because by the time I was in the Shark Circle the Shark Shuttle was gone,” she said. “I think I made it to class on time only two times. The walk to the University Plaza is really long, it took around 25 minutes to get there from DeSantis. It wasn’t nice to be late for class nearly every week. That is why I now make sure I have at least 30 minutes between my classes.”

Having at least 30 minutes between classes is necessary, because that way you don’t have to rush to be at the classroom on time. Also, a 30 minute break is enough time to sit down, have some coffee or snacks and be ready for the next class. Even if you are not hungry, having at least 15 minutes to just rest between classes feels good.

I now know how to organize my class schedule and give myself at least 30 minutes between every class. It is much better, and I never have to stress again about being on time. I finish one class, get coffee and a snack and I am ready to go to the next one. Fifteen minutes might sound like plenty of time but to get between classes, it actually isn’t.

How do you feel about parking on campus?

SHARK SPEAK

“I think that there needs to be more parking availability, especially around the residence halls if there’s going to be a surplus of undergraduates coming in.”
- Vanessa Jones, sophomore comparative law major and residential student

“I think it’s not too bad, but there’s some days when the entire front of the parking lot is packed and then I can’t get close enough, and it’s just kind of annoying having to walk all the way to the back.”
- AJ Carbajales, freshman engineering major and commuter student

“I think parking is pretty fine here. We don’t really have an issue, except at [the Health Professions Division]. It’s such a struggle to park there, especially during the busy times.”
- Justina Joseph, junior biology major and residential student

“I think that the parking garage is great, but generally, I haven’t had a problem with parking so far.”
- Mark Ibrahim, graduate law student and commuter student

“I guess it depends. If you come to school early in the morning, it’s not too bad, but then at one point if you were to leave during the afternoon, like lunchtime, and try to come back and get a parking spot, forget about it. You’re not going to be able to do it. But, generally, I haven’t had a problem with parking so far.”
- Simona Zigmond, junior biology major and commuter student

“I get it really packed. I spent 20 minutes looking for a parking spot today in the UC parking lot. That’s really annoying, and they really need to build more parking spots. There’s parking spots, but they’re only for teachers. There’s not even that many teachers.”
- Emily Edwards, freshman nursing major and commuter student

“I think it’s not too bad, but there’s some days when the entire front of the parking lot is packed and then I can’t get close enough, and it’s just kind of annoying having to walk all the way to the back.”
- AJ Carbajales, freshman engineering major and commuter student

“I think that we should have more parking because some people are parking in the no-parking zones, so I just think they should add some more parking.”
- Emily Edwards, freshman nursing major and commuter student

“You leave campus and someone takes your spot automatically, so there’s never parking when you get back or you have to go park in the far back of the campus, and it’s just really difficult to find parking if you leave campus.”
- Genesis Perez, freshman arts administration major and residential student

“As a commuter, I think the parking garage is great, but I’m also an athlete, and the parking over by the athletic facility is not great. When there’s events, it gets really crowded and everybody just parks all in it, and it makes it really hard to get out and you nearly get hit every time.”
- Emily Mehlhop, sophomore environmental science major and commuter

“I know how to organize my class schedule and give myself at least 30 minutes between every class. It is much better, and I never have to stress again about being on time. I finish one class, get coffee and a snack and I am ready to go to the next one. Fifteen minutes might sound like plenty of time but to get between classes, it actually isn’t.”
- Vanessa Jones, sophomore comparative law major and residential student

“I think that there needs to be more parking availability, especially around the residence halls if there’s going to be a surplus of undergraduates coming in.”
- Vanessa Jones, sophomore comparative law major and residential student
### Movie Schedule

**25-Oct**
- **12:30p**: The Cabin In The Woods
- **2:30p**: No Need To Be Woke
- **6:30p**: Neighbors: Chapter 3
- **8:30a**: Neighbors 2: Sorority Rising
- **11:00a**: Neighbors
- **1:00p**: Neighbors: Chapter 3
- **3:30p**: Neighbors
- **5:30p**: Neighbors
- **8:00p**: Neighbors
- **10:00p**: Neighbors

**26-Oct**
- **12:30p**: The Cabin In The Woods
- **2:30p**: No Need To Be Woke
- **6:30p**: Neighbors: Chapter 3
- **8:30a**: Neighbors 2: Sorority Rising
- **11:00a**: Neighbors
- **1:00p**: Neighbors: Chapter 3
- **3:30p**: Neighbors
- **5:30p**: Neighbors
- **8:00p**: Neighbors
- **10:00p**: Neighbors

**27-Oct**
- **12:30p**: Neighbors
- **2:30p**: No Need To Be Woke
- **6:30p**: Neighbors: Chapter 3
- **8:30a**: Neighbors 2: Sorority Rising
- **11:00a**: Neighbors
- **1:00p**: Neighbors: Chapter 3
- **3:30p**: Neighbors
- **5:30p**: Neighbors
- **8:00p**: Neighbors
- **10:00p**: Neighbors

**28-Oct**
- **12:30p**: Neighbors
- **2:30p**: No Need To Be Woke
- **6:30p**: Neighbors: Chapter 3
- **8:30a**: Neighbors 2: Sorority Rising
- **11:00a**: Neighbors
- **1:00p**: Neighbors: Chapter 3
- **3:30p**: Neighbors
- **5:30p**: Neighbors
- **8:00p**: Neighbors
- **10:00p**: Neighbors

**29-Oct**
- **12:30p**: Neighbors
- **2:30p**: No Need To Be Woke
- **6:30p**: Neighbors: Chapter 3
- **8:30a**: Neighbors 2: Sorority Rising
- **11:00a**: Neighbors
- **1:00p**: Neighbors: Chapter 3
- **3:30p**: Neighbors
- **5:30p**: Neighbors
- **8:00p**: Neighbors
- **10:00p**: Neighbors

**30-Oct**
- **12:30p**: Neighbors
- **2:30p**: No Need To Be Woke
- **6:30p**: Neighbors: Chapter 3
- **8:30a**: Neighbors 2: Sorority Rising
- **11:00a**: Neighbors
- **1:00p**: Neighbors: Chapter 3
- **3:30p**: Neighbors
- **5:30p**: Neighbors
- **8:00p**: Neighbors
- **10:00p**: Neighbors

**31-Oct**
- **12:30p**: Neighbors
- **2:30p**: No Need To Be Woke
- **6:30p**: Neighbors: Chapter 3
- **8:30a**: Neighbors 2: Sorority Rising
- **11:00a**: Neighbors
- **1:00p**: Neighbors: Chapter 3
- **3:30p**: Neighbors
- **5:30p**: Neighbors
- **8:00p**: Neighbors
- **10:00p**: Neighbors

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