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The Current

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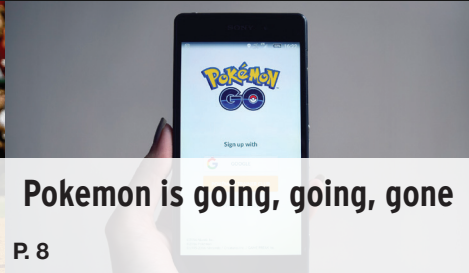
Learn to value yourself

P. 5



Athletes should be heroes on and off the field

P. 7



Pokemon is going, going, gone

P. 8



Leave Harambe alone

P. 10

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. 14, 2016. Part of the new road will be open for vehicular traffic by Thanksgiving of this year. Parts of the current sidewalk will not be redone, but new segments 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



Construction of the new Southwest 36th Street.

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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 taking the road.

"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.

Green Sharks and NSU work towards sustainable certification

By: **Rachael Hirstein**
@RachaelHirstein

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.

"When we speak about sustainability, often people think about only the environment, which is true, but it's just part of the picture," Nonet said. "Being sustainable for NSU means to be healthy and sound financially and to take care of our employees and students, so it's about wellness also."

Nonet explained that data must be collected to become sustainable with AASHE, and this data must be reported to the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System (STARS). She also said that there are different levels of sustainability.

"Reporting [data] involves everything from



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

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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.

NEWS ANCHOR

Stay up to date with world events.

Turkish airstrikes kill Kurdish soldiers in Syria

According to CNN, on Oct. 19, Turkish planes bombed Kurdish fighters, who are allies of the U.S., in northern Syria. The Kurdish fighters were advancing against ISIS soldiers 25 miles northwest of Aleppo, according to representatives from the Kurdish militia in an interview with CNN. Turkey claimed the strikes killed around 200, but a Kurdish political party in Turkey said that only 14 have been killed.

Philippines president announced break with the US

Rodrigo Duterte, president of the Philippines, said that the Philippines is breaking ties with the United States, as reported by NBC News. A State Department spokesperson said on Oct. 20 that the United States is trying to figure out what the president means by his comments and what the ramifications of the separation will be. A full separation between the countries would mean the repeal of the 1951 Mutual Defense Treaty between the Philippines and the U.S.

Mars spacecraft lost

Schiaparelli, a spacecraft that was expected to land on Mars on Oct. 19, has lost contact with the European Space Agency, according to CNN. Schiaparelli was to be the first Mars probe sent by the European Space Agency. The spacecraft lost contact 50 seconds before it was supposed to land, and the agency thinks that something may have gone wrong with the parachute. The Trace Gas Orbiter, which travelled with Schiaparelli, is still intact, and is expected to investigate the presence of methane gas on Mars, which could help determine whether life on the planet is possible, until 2020.

South Africa withdraws from international war crimes court

Within a week of Burundi's withdrawal from the International Criminal Court (ICC), South Africa's prime minister has stated the country's intent to follow suit, according to NPR. A South African minister explained to the BBC that the government does not want to carry out arrests mandated by the ICC because they amount to a "regime change." Prior to this decision, South Africa ignored an ICC arrest warrant for Omar al-Bashir, the president of Sudan. The Associated Press reported that official legislation to leave the ICC has not yet been finalized but that the legislation will likely pass South Africa's parliament.

New deal could create world's largest tobacco company

The London-based British American Tobacco company is offering to buy Reynolds American Inc. for \$47 billion, according to ABC News. A merger between the two companies would result in the largest publicly-traded tobacco company in the world. The British American Tobacco company employs over 50,000 and Reynolds employs 5,700. ABC News said that tobacco companies "are particularly keen to expand in developing countries to make up for weaker sales in Europe and the U.S."

NEWS BRIEFS

Trick or Trunk calls for volunteers

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

Sustain•U•bility: Learn how you can be sustainable on campus and at home

NSU's Green Sharks Student Sustainability Club is hosting the Sustain•U•bility 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 to your everyday life. For more information, contact Cassilly Lobaugh at cl1221@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 Cotilla 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 "Migration: The 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 slce@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 954-262-7301.

The Current

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By: **Grace Ducanis**
[@GraceDucanis](https://twitter.com/GraceDucanis)

RecWell opens bike rental program



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Sharks can rent bikes from the RecPlex to ride around campus.

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 Recreation and Wellness, said that Sharks on Wheels is a different way for students to stay active.

"We have this beautiful facility [the RecPlex] with exercise equipment and group exercise and the more traditional ways to stay active," Sandigo said. "But we want students to know that a gym isn't the only place to be active. This is a way for them to move around campus."

Emily Powell, wellness coordinator, came up with the idea for Sharks on Wheels. She said that she came to Sandigo at the beginning of the year with the idea and 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 the program gets good feedback, Recreation and Wellness will consider buying more bikes and

bike equipment like lights and fenders, as well 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."

Sandigo said she hopes people use the bikes.

"We feel like it's a really good way to get around 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 954-262-7018.

CORRECTIONS

In the Oct. 11 issue of The Current, the article "NSU's sexual misconduct policy" incorrectly stated that both the student who filed the report and the student who was accused will receive a copy of the official report.

In actuality, both students will be able to review the report, but will not receive a physical copy.

In the Oct. 18 issue of The Current, the article "SEA Board raises spirits with Halloweek" incorrectly stated that SEA Board is hosting Halloweek. Alpha Kappa Psi Fraternity is the primary organizer of the events, while SEA Board is a participating department. The article also stated that the Performing and Visual Arts Department was hosting the Zombie Tag event. However, Zombie Tag is an event Alpha Kappa Psi collaborated with Rec Well and PVA to host. Also, the correct phone number for Benadette St. Sauveur is 954-668-9988.

We apologize for the errors.



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THAT TIME I... WROTE A BOOK

By: **Ben Underhill**

Ben Underhill, freshman theatre major, has been writing his whole life. He is currently the arts and entertainment editor for *The Current*.

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 2015, 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. We had an hour-long conversation about life and poetry, and eventually wrote a poem together via text message. Impressed with our creation, we were 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, "Dude, everyone on this earth is a [expletive] genius," in response to one of the poems I sent him.

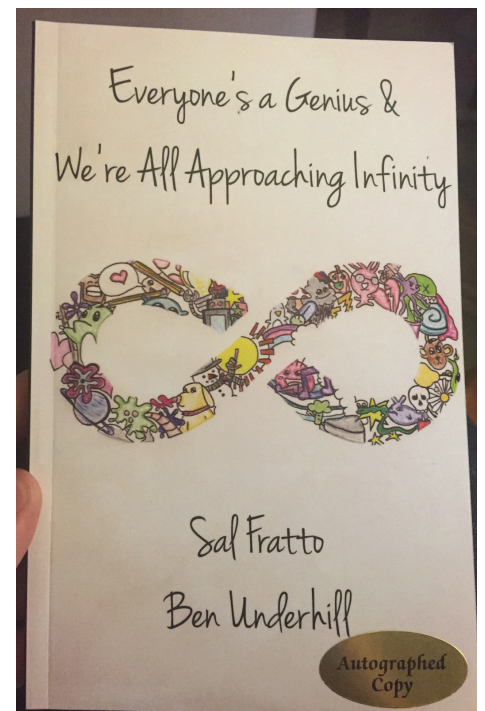
"It's because we just keep approaching the unknown infinity," I replied.

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: formatting 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 names back and forth until we agreed upon a person 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



Ben and Sal combined their creative talents to publish "Everyone's a Genius and We're All Approaching Infinity." PRINTED WITH PERMISSION FROM B. UNDERHILL

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 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 ghoulish decorations and a variety of goodies, has separate origins.

Halloween and its origins

Halloween can be traced back to the Celtic holiday Samhain. According to the National Endowment for the Humanities, Samhain, the Celtic New Year, marked the end of the harvest season and the start of Earth's hibernation period. It also marked a time during which the barrier between the living and undead worlds were thinnest, allowing the dead to visit the living. During the spread of Christianity, the Roman Catholic Church attempted to incorporate Samhain into their own traditions in order to make the conversion of the Celts to Christianity easier.

This resulted in All Hallows' Eve and, over time, Halloween.

The costumes, important to the modern celebration of Halloween, started as an attempt to fool the spirits and fairy folk that were believed to be visiting the earthly world. Several other practices from the Samhain festival are still practiced today, like parades, pranks, bobbing for apples and bonfires.

According to the History Channel, the trick-or-treating of modern-day Halloween came from the tendency of children and the poor to knock on homeowners' doors to ask for gifts. In exchange, these visitors would pray for the souls of the homeowners' relatives or, in other countries, sing a song, recite poetry or tell a joke. However, this tradition is fuzzy when considering its origins. According to the National Endowment for the Humanities, food was left on doorsteps to prevent otherworldly

beings from entering the house, evolving into the practice of trick-or-treating.

Now, large-scale pranks have become the norm. And while costumes and bonfires are still prevalent, leaving food on doorsteps is no longer practiced in the United States, although it is still practiced in several European countries. Also, instead of a time to acknowledge the dead and the end of the harvest season, Halloween is now a time associated with being whoever you want to be, having fun and, of course, receiving candy for it.

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 attempts 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 in childhood, 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 considerably light-hearted, reflecting the idea of death as it was before the time of Columbus.

Halloween and the Day of the Dead, while possessing many similarities, are two different holidays, though they have changed with time.

For more information, visit edsitement.neh.gov/feature/origins-halloween-and-day-dead and history.com/topics/halloween/history-of-trick-or-treating.

Managing school during an emergency

By: **Jenna Kopec**
@Jen_Kopec

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 situations 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 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 disabilityservices@nova.edu.

What does valuing yourself look like?

By: **Jeweliana Register**

Value is defined by Webster’s Dictionary as “usefulness or importance.” So, valuing yourself is the act of acknowledging and understanding your usefulness and importance.

Though finding a way to value yourself is not a “one-size-fits-all” situation, Paula Brochu, an assistant professor of psychology who specializes in stigmas related to health and well-being, had some suggestions on how college students can effectively appreciate and value themselves.

“Self-worth and self-esteem are the basis between how we navigate everything and our interactions with others, our drive to reach certain goals or how we feel about ourselves. Feelings of confidence and competence can go a long way for yourself, but others pick up on that, too, which can influence how they perceive you,” Brochu said.

There are many theories as to why college students seem to have low self-esteem. One is comparison. Comparison happens subconsciously, like when you meet someone new from a big city who’s accomplished a bunch of amazing things by age 18 or when you’re scrolling through Instagram and see someone’s seemingly perfect life. Instead of

comparing your life to someone else’s highlight reel, try looking at all of the things you love about yourself. Professor Brochu said words of affirmation help remind you of how great you truly are.

“I really like to think of self-worth as self-affirmation: this is really about a person thinking about and reflecting on the values that are important to them,” she said. “Oftentimes for people that is reflecting on personal relationships, like family and friends. It could be other things, like whatever you value most. For someone artsy it could be creativity.”

Brochu said that this can help people build self-worth as they focus on things that are important, which serves as a buffer from things that bring them down and can also bring them back up.

So what about those times when it’s harder to see your worth? Those times when you think you’ve failed or you believe that you haven’t done enough? In this case, Professor Brochu said not to obsess over the problem or failure, but to think about what you could do differently next time and then take a broader view. She said students should try to buffer out the negativity and see the bigger picture. In five years, will the problem really matter? The answer is most

likely no, but what will matter is how you handle the situation and how you use the experience as motivation to improve yourself.

Another huge part of valuing yourself is exercising self-compassion. Self-compassion is often overlooked. Sometimes you may spend so much time focusing on the negatives with your body and your abilities when in reality you are allowed to have flaws and allowed to be human. The “perfect body” and the “perfect life” definitely do not exist, so there is no use in beating yourself up over it. Professor Brochu suggests that rather than beating yourself up over your “flaws,” try to change your lens of beauty. Realizing that you are in fact beautiful and that beauty is not one size fits all can help build your self-compassion. Being compassionate, gentle and kind with yourself is vital.

Professor Brochu said that we should find both the beauty and humor in our bodies. One way to really appreciate your body is to keep a gratitude journal. Professor Brochu suggests keeping these journals simple, like writing, “I really liked the way my eyes looked today,” or, “I really appreciate that my legs could get me from point A to point B,” or, “I felt exceptionally strong today.”

“Self-affirmations, like pictures or words

on mirrors help as well. Our internal mind says all these nasty things to ourselves that we wouldn’t even say to other people. If we replace this with positive things, it can make a big difference,” Professor Brochu said.

Professor Brochu said that she really loved the body positivity movement that says, “Everybody is positive, every body is positive,” because she loves the message behind it as well as the play on words.

“People will put off doing things until they achieve [a physical] goal,” she said. “They might not go out on dates or avoid going to the beach or whatever the case. I would really encourage people to put themselves out there and don’t delay the stuff that you want to do until you are a specific size. You can do both at the same time; you can try to make changes and do things you want to do.”

Professor Brochu also said she wants to encourage others to live fearlessly.

So, although valuing yourself is a very subjective idea, and everyone’s idea of it can look different, the overall theme is the same. Accepting yourself and taking care of yourself is important, and realizing your worth is vital.

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.



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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 prepped 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/oiiit.

Connect with instructors early on

Email your professors and introduce yourself within the first week of class. You do this in an on-campus course anyway, so why not do the same for your online courses? If possible, make an appointment during the professor’s office hours to speak to them in person or over the phone. This will be beneficial to you, especially if you have questions about the course later on in the semester. Faculty want you to succeed and may have some great tips for the course you are speaking to them about.

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 hours into your current schedule to keep up with the consistency of the class, so that it is a regular part of your routine. Having an organized schedule for all courses is an ideal way to succeed in balancing your work and minimize stress for the entire semester.

Stay organized

Make sure you know due dates, group chat information and when lectures occur. Write down all dates from your syllabus into a calendar the first week of class, so that you know if an exam or assignment is coming up and can start studying early. This can help you get ahead in large projects and exams that usually have a way of sneaking up on you.

Have a consistent workspace

You should use the same device and same location each time you work on assignments for this course. The more similar the environment is each time you study, the easier it is to focus and produce quality work. Make sure this study place has limited distractions, including your cellphone.

Support offices around NSU should still be used for virtual courses when possible. For more information on these offices, visit nova.edu/yoursuccess/forms/nsu-student-success-resources.pdf. Remember, virtual classes provide flexibility in your schedule but require the same amount of effort as an on-campus course. Complete the steps above to maximize your virtual course experience for tangible, positive results.

Halloween for adults

By: **Rachael Hirstein**

@RachaelHirstein

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.

Pumpkin carving party

Hosting a pumpkin carving party gives you and your friends something fun and creative to do for Halloween. You can stray from the traditional path of carving and gather old arts and crafts supplies as to decorate the pumpkin with as well. Get creative and challenge your friends to a friendly pumpkin-decorating competition.

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 cozier 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 yourself, but you can still enjoy reminiscing about the good ole days as you pass out treats to the costumed kids in your neighborhood. Buy the best treats, like name-brand chocolate, and prove your house is the superior one on the block.

Costume Party

Nothing screams Halloween like costumes, so what could be better than a costume party? Throw or go to an awesome Halloween party decked out in your best costume. Enjoy the creepy music and killer apple cider.

Escape room

Are you up for a challenge this Halloween? Lockbox Escape Room is a company located in Davie that creates unique rooms with challenges and puzzles you must solve in order to escape the room. This is a great way to challenge yourself and compete with your friends for the fastest time and highest score. The price is \$29 per person per room, but NSU students will receive a

20 percent discount. For more information or to schedule a time, visit lockboxescaperoom.com or call 954-533-2933.



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The Current’s staff managed to successfully complete an Escape Room with Lockbox Escape Room.

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 brave all horror movies, enjoy lighthearted classics or a combination of the two.

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 ghosts, or really test your baking abilities and make the ultimate edible appendages.

Scary stories

Break out the Edgar Allen Poe poems and dim the lights to set the mood. Have you and your friends take turns 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 ghoulishly fun activities for an exciting, spooky Halloween.

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NFL ratings drop

By: Alyssa Johns

Coming off the 2015 football season, which held a record high for ratings, the 2016 season's ratings have dropped more than 11 percent. The NFL speculates that the presidential election is to blame by taking up primetime television. While the election is a significant factor, there are many other reasons speculated to have caused the drop in ratings.

Neal Pilson, president of Pilson Communications, a sports consulting company, said, "Despite the decline in NFL ratings, it is still the No. 1 entertainment property in all of television."

"More people watch the NFL on any given week than any other property, any other entertainment program, or any other television programming in our culture. While the ratings are down, the proportional impact of the NFL hasn't changed that much because all ratings are down. In fact, the NFL ratings are probably down less than most entertainment properties," Pilson added.

After last season, if the NFL's ratings go anywhere but up, it may be cause for concern. Overall, NFL ratings were down 11 percent, but ESPN's Monday Night Football plummeted by 21 percent in the first month of this season.

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 took to boycotting 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 the games because of the protests. Fifty-two percent said that the protests did not impact their decisions to watch games.

While fans argue that this is the reason for the falling ratings, Pilson said, "That one I can discount. That's not what makes people decide

what to do or what to watch. Nor do parents 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 up 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."

SPORTSSHORTS

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 Opiel 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. Her time of 21:54.21 also earned All-SSC Team honors for the second time in her collegiate career.

Men's golf

The men's golf team finished third overall the Otter Invitational on Oct. 11-12 in Seaside, California. The Sharks finished with a team score of seven strokes over par.

Men's soccer

NSU's men's soccer 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 3-10 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. Myriah 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.

OUT OF THE SHARKZONE

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 Yahoo! Sports, and will face the Cleveland Indians in the World Series.

Adam Vinatieri sets NFL field goal record

Indianapolis Colts kicker Adam Vinatieri set a new NFL record for most consecutive field goals on Oct. 23. 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

A&M 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 unable 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.

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.

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 like 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 as the season goes on everybody gets better. 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 dad is very health-minded, and 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?

"Not in particular. I mean yes, and no. I don't really have an idol."

How did you end up at NSU?

"My cousin ran here. She went here like four years ago, and they tried to get my older sister to come here. My older sister told me to contact the coach. So, I contacted the coach like a long time ago and he contacted me over the summer. I wasn't even planning on coming here. I had no plan, really. Then the coach called me and gave me a scholarship, and so here I am."

Do you have any personal goals for yourself or your team?

"Yeah, of course. Here we are, we're literally about to go to conference today. We're going to regionals. I just want to do good. I want to have a good last couple of races, you know. Because we worked so hard, I want everyone, even if we don't get to Nationals, I just want everyone to end on a good note."



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Personal improvement is among one of the many reasons that Allison Porter loves running cross country.

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 weirdest most 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."

Do you have any pre-run rituals?

"Yeah, like I stretch. Sometimes, I close my eyes and then I take a deep breath and lift my arms up. It helps relax me. I get really stressed out before races."

If there was one thing you could change about cross country, what would it be?

"Practices on the weekends. I hate that. I hate practices on the weekends. Nothing is worse. There's no changing it [cross country], running is what it is. There's no "rules" that need to be changed. I would never have practice on Sundays though, or Saturdays."

What is the hardest part about cross country?

"Cross country is so mental. Getting up that early in the morning is one thing, but going and running eight miles after that and coming back and doing core and then weights after that, that's just hard in general. Practices are nothing compared to the races. The races are literally like being tortured while you're running. You're in so much pain. You can't breathe. You're in the most pain ever. You have to finish hard. Everything about it is hard."

What are your greatest strengths as an athlete?

"I feel like mentally I can talk myself into a lot of things. Mentally I'm like, 'You're not going to stop; you have to keep going.' So, I feel like, mentally, I can put myself through a lot of pain."



On the Bench:

Athletes should be heroes inside and outside the sports world

By: **Aldana Foigel**

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.

Being a successful and world-famous athlete comes with many responsibilities and opportunities, and one of them is being part of charity events or organizations. Many athletes are involved in their communities and help people worldwide. Also, plenty of professional and amateur events are for charity.

Tennis player and former World No. 1 Serena Williams, according to looktothestars.org, supports 12 charities and foundations, including UNICEF and the Serena Williams Fund. Soccer player David Beckham, is also a UNICEF ambassador and owns a charity called Victoria and David Beckham Charitable Trust which focuses on helping children.

While athletes like Da Silva are willing to help, other athletes aren't. Lamar Odom was involved in a scandal with his charity three years ago, which ESPN reported. Odom's charity was called Cathy's Kids in honor of his mother who died of cancer. It was supposed to fund cancer research, but according to ESPN, after raising around \$2.2 million no money was donated toward the cause. Athletes should use their popularity to do good for the world, not to scam people who donate to their charity.

Although not all athletes are like Da Silva, the majority of them are very committed to charity organizations and foundations. The fact that such important athletes, like Serena Williams and David Beckham, support these causes is very important, since they are helping people from all over the world. Famous athletes contributing to and helping people in need is what makes them heroes.

ON DECK

WOMEN'S SOCCER

vs. Saint Leo
Saint Leo, Fla.
Oct. 25 | 7 p.m.

vs. Lynn
Boca Raton, Fla.
Oct. 28 | 6 p.m.

Sunshine State Conference Tournament
TBA
Nov. 1 - 6

WOMEN'S SWIMMING

vs. Lynn
NSU Aquatic Complex
Oct. 28 | 3 p.m.

MEN'S SOCCER

vs. Saint Leo
NSU Soccer Complex
Oct. 26 | 7 p.m.

vs. Florida National
NSU Soccer Complex
Oct. 28 | 7 p.m.

Sunshine State Conference Tournament
TBA
Nov. 1 - 6

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL

vs. Lynn
NSU Arena
Oct. 25 | 7 p.m.

vs. Eckerd
St. Petersburg, Fla.
Oct. 28 | 7 p.m.

vs. Florida Southern
Lakeland, Fla.
Oct. 29 | 4 p.m.

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., Australia and New Zealand, millions of people downloaded the app, which was likely the reason that I and many players like me experienced server overloads. According to CNET, 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 hit No. 1 in the app store, such as Flappy Bird and Trivia Crack, Pokémon GO was almost destined to become Pokémon NO. CNBC

reported that Pokémon GO became the most popular mobile game ever with 21 million daily users. However, data from Apptopia, a mobile app market intelligence company whose data has been featured in mainstream news agencies such as Forbes and Fortune, shows that Pokémon GO peaked at approximately 43.75 million users. Despite its popularity, Pokémon GO failed. The decline of Pokémon GO is likely due to four main reasons: lack of media coverage, repetitiveness, the requirement of physical activity and under-developed gameplay.

U.S. media giants like CNN, FOX and NBC have mastered the skill of keeping up with the country's short attention span for news stories. When Pokémon GO was released, popular media outlets reported on the interesting stories surrounding it – such as muggings, traffic accidents and people finding dead bodies – helping the app gain popularity. However, once the Rio Olympics began, Pokémon GO reports took a back seat in media. After the Olympics ended and the U.S. presidential election reached full steam, interest in Pokémon GO evaporated. Since free advertisement for the game dwindled, so did daily users.

Repetition within the game itself pushed

users away. For rural and even suburban areas, only four or five Pokémon were common, like Pidgey and Rattata, with the rest only appearing every so often. Rarer Pokémon were almost non-existent. It is understandable for rarer Pokémon to appear less often, but if players wanted to “Catch ‘Em All” as the Pokémon slogan goes, they would have to go a big city for more than the few constantly-recurring Pokémon to appear. After a while, catching the same Pokémon every time becomes boring, as evident by frustrated posts by multiple users on Twitter.

When Pokémon GO came out, it was hailed by the media, such as Business Insider and the Washington Post, as a ground-breaking way to encourage kids to go outside and exercise. The game succeeded for a while, with a study conducted by a Stanford University Ph.D. candidate and two Microsoft researchers finding that American Pokémon GO users walked 1,473 more steps a day than the average person. As promising as it was, the amount of physical activity needed to stay active in the game likely deterred some users from playing the game. Once some players realized they couldn't play the game from their couch, they probably moved on to another game. Furthermore, according

to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, this past July was the hottest on record, which probably further deterred people from wanting to go outside to play the game.

Pokémon GO was not without more than its fair share of speed bumps. The servers would constantly crash within the first few weeks of the release, and they still occasionally do. Many players became discouraged over the fact they couldn't even play the wildly popular game, and some elected to stop playing altogether. On top of that, even when the servers don't crash, in-app glitches take away from gameplay. Pokémon randomly disappearing, avatars not registering location and Pokéballs freezing mid-catch are among the annoyances users have reported. Even if the server loads and the app doesn't glitch, Pokémon GO users deal with multiple game crashes, with the app force-closing at random moments, causing some users to lose Pokémon they were in the middle of catching.

The Pokémon GO app had a lot of potential, and still does. However, it is unlikely the app will see the same user numbers it once did, even if its multiple issues are sorted out. It seems that Pokémon GO is yet another fad that's “blasting off again.”

Staff Picks: Halloween Movies

By: **The Current Staff**

Jacque Lytle, co-editor-in-chief, said, “Halloweentown.”

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 encompasses the spirit of Halloween. It reminds me of my childhood, shoving my face full of candy while I indulged in Freeform's, formerly ABC Family's, 13 Nights of Halloween lineup.

Rachael Hirstein, 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 Lindsey 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, with just enough spook to qualify for October viewing.

Jenna Kopec, features editor, said, “The Scream Team.”

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 Scream Team” was my everything. It's a Disney Channel Original Movie 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 teens head into the woods only 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 probably be “Insidious.” It has just enough of a creep factor to keep me interested, and it isn't overly cheesy.

Morgan Thorn, 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, “Killer Klowns from Outer Space.”

“Killer Klowns from Outer Space” is my go-to movie for Halloween. It's an incredibly cheesy 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 steer clear of the circus for the next few months.

Carli Lutz, chief of visual design, said, “The Little Vampire.”

My favorite movie to watch on Halloween is “The Little Vampire.” 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 Little Vampire” is a cute 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

and Christmas movie. Jack Skellington the Pumpkin King searches for new ways to make Halloween scarier before stumbling onto a portal to Christmas Town, and the rest is brilliant musical madness featured on ABC Family, now Freeform, every year.

Danielle Pucillo, 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 but still maintains a certain fancy, a trademark of its legendary director Tim Burton. Christopher Walkens'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.

HALLOWEEN 2016

MON., OCT. 17 Zombie Tutorial with PVA Don Taft University Center, Theatre Dressing Rooms 4:00–5:00 p.m.	TUES., OCT. 25 Chartwells Legacy Event: Fright Fest w/ Enigma Haunt Don Taft University Center, Pit 6:00–8:00 p.m.	Halloween Party NSU Flight Deck Pub 9:00 p.m.–Midnight
MON., OCT. 24 Carnival of Horror NSU Flight Deck Pub, Backyard 7:30–9:30 p.m.	Dance Jam: Halloweek Edition RecPlex Basketball Courts 8:00–9:00 p.m.	FRI., OCT. 28 Zombie Tag Registration 6:45–7:00 p.m. Event Start at 7:00–9:00 p.m. Alvin Sherman Library Quad
	THURS., OCT. 27 Commons Haunted House Commons Residential Hall 7:00–9:00 p.m.	MON., OCT. 31 Trick or Trunk NSU Shark Fountain 6:00–8:00 p.m.

For more information, contact Bernadette St. Sauveur at (954) 668-9988 or bs1116@nova.edu or Shannon Booker at (954) 262-7286 or sbooker@nova.edu.

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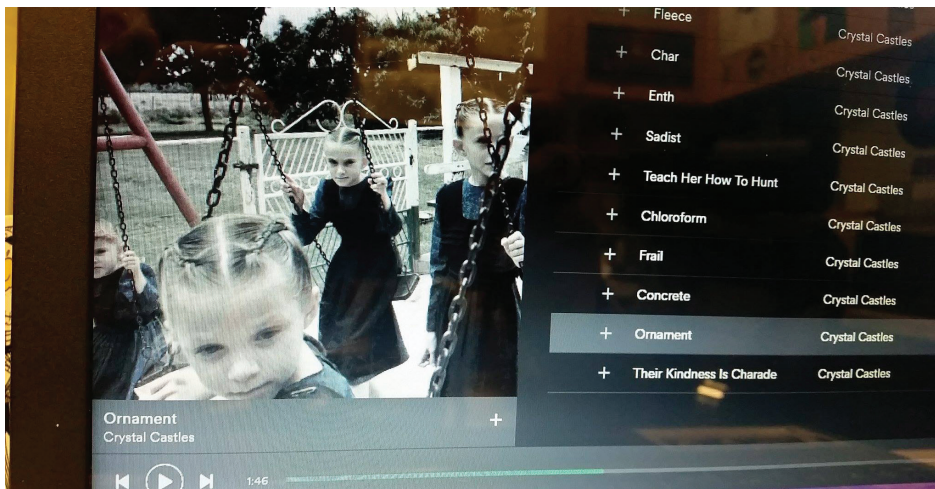
"Amnesty (I)" by Crystal Castles

By: Adam DeRoss

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



"Amnesty (I)" is available on iTunes and Spotify.

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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 after 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.

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a satire column

Why Halloween should be a federal holiday

By: **Ben Underhill**
@ActualBenU

It's that time of year again: cotton spider webs, pumpkins and gourds, 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 early. We need to do everything we would do for equally important holidays like Columbus Day and Thanksgiving.

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," 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 so well in a business sense because many non-retail businesses give their employees a four-day

weekend for Thanksgiving.

Alexandra 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 employees 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 is it socially acceptable to dress your baby and dog in a silly costume? The costumes on Halloween allow people 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. Clowns are overrated.

The festivity of Halloween wouldn't be complete without an out-of-the-way trip to a farm to pick out the perfect pumpkin 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 too important of a holiday to be overlooked by our federal government. The best course of action is to recognize the huge cultural impact Halloween has so that we can better respect the holiday. Let's make this year fantastic: make Halloween a federal holiday.

We need kitchens in Commons

By: **Janai Sinclair-bell and Jacqueline Lytle**

Imagine settling into your Commons suite after a long day. You're probably starving, but you're not worried because you have all the ingredients to make your favorite home-cooked meal. There's only one problem: you don't have a kitchen. With only a microwave and mini-fridge in your dorm, you can't boil those potatoes before you mash them. You can't bake the lasagna you just prepared. Not unless you ask your RA to use his or her stove and oven, because there are no other kitchens in the Commons residence hall. Why? We couldn't tell you, but it sure would be nifty.

Kitchens in Commons suites, or at least in each floor's common room, would make sense, as other halls on campus include this amenity. One would assume that upperclassmen, the majority in the Commons, would be more likely to have a kitchen in their living quarters, but that isn't the case at NSU. The Goodwin residence hall, a hall housing only freshmen, has a first floor kitchen with a full-size fridge, stove, microwave and oven.

Transitioning from home-cooked meals to average, on-campus dining options can be frustrating for students.

NSU requires students to select a meal plan at the start of each semester, costing \$1,450, as stated in NSU's 2015-2016 On-Campus Living Catalog.

According to a College Board survey, the average price of a meal with a college meal plan is anywhere from \$7-\$11. While there are various options to choose from, who says we want to spend a whopping \$7-\$11 on a burger and fries, soup and salad or smoothie and wrap up to three times a day? What about the students who need to eat more? What happens when the meal plan funds run dry? Isn't our next viable option to purchase groceries in an effort to save money?

With no place to cook our groceries, we're forced to eat on or off campus. As college students, we are very cautious about how we

spend our money, and eating on campus, or off, can get expensive. Fifty dollars on groceries can produce a lot more meals than the four to five we would be able to get from campus dining or outside restaurants.

If we could bake our own chicken and cook our own burgers, we would save quite a bit of money, not to mention our taste buds. Even though residential students receive a meal plan, the options on campus, when eaten consistently, can become repetitive, boring and quite unhealthy.

A study conducted in 2012 by Auburn University "followed 131 students over four years of college and found that a whopping 70 percent of them packed on pounds by graduation," gaining an average of 12 pounds a year.

The study emphasizes that "students need to make healthy choices and also that the institutions need to take steps to facilitate these decisions." NSU can help students by placing kitchens in the Commons residence hall.

When choosing which university we want to attend, we often search for a place that can provide comfort. Part of being comfortable is being able to bond with those we share a dorm or suite with. With kitchens, students would be able to make meals with their roommates or suitemates. With no kitchens, Commons residents don't have the opportunity to converse and get to know one another while baking a cake or preparing a homemade meal.

NSU is supposed to serve as a student's home away from home. A kitchen makes a place a home in a lot of ways. It gives students healthier options, in addition to saving money and enhancing relationships. So, should there be kitchens in the Commons residence hall? We say yes.

Harambe shouldn't be a meme

By: **Jenna Kopec**
@Jen_Kopec

It amazes me that society can remember a name, 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 about whether humans are too quick to end the life of another, particularly a life in our care. I thought Harambe's death would make people acknowledge that we are too quick to make life-or-death decisions. I didn't agree with those who were blaming the child's mother, but I was impressed that it seemed like our society was in agreement that a life lost was just that — a loss.

But now, if I hear Harambe's name mentioned one more time, I might scream. I don't know how it happened but somehow, society has managed to take this tragedy and turn it into a meme. It's suddenly become funny to Photoshop your face onto Harambe's body while affectionately saying, "Dicks out for Harambe."

Our society laughs at something that isn't

funny.

George Orwell wrote a story titled "Shooting an Elephant." In it, the main character fatally shoots an elephant after it kills a man in Burma. He does not approach the elephant to see if it is violent, because he is afraid of looking foolish. So he shoots the elephant multiple times. Its death is painful and slow. Orwell wrote the story to demonstrate power and insecurity, but it ties back to the Harambe situation well.

Harambe was put into the care of humans and we were supposed to protect him. We had complete power over his life: where he stayed, what he ate and who saw him. There's a lot of speculation that he didn't want to hurt the child who fell into the enclosure, and an expert at ABC News said the video shows that Harambe was more frightened than anything else. Many say he should have been tranquilized, but a spokesperson for the Cincinnati Zoo said they had no other choice and that they had to protect the child. I don't know if that's true and I don't know if it isn't.

What I do know is that an intelligent

creature was put in a no-win situation. He was scared, powerless and given the worst outcome. When you make light of a situation like that, you're basically saying it's OK. Harambe was an intelligent creature whose life was cut short and it's not funny under any circumstances.

There will always be a few individuals who take a horrible situation and make it worse. It started with people saying that Harambe was "just a gorilla" and we needed to get over it. Next, a Facebook post reading "RIP Adam Goodes" under a picture of Harambe was leaked. Adam Goodes is a former Australian athlete who was once called a gorilla because of his indigenous heritage. After that, Harambe was continually used by some as a racial slur. Even though both of these examples are obviously horrible, they're not commonplace. It seemed that most people understood that devaluing a life because he wasn't human and using Harambe as a mechanism of hate is wrong.

That's why it's so hard for me to understand why it isn't universally understood that making fun of Harambe and claiming that it's out of

love is just as bad. I've seen everything from Harambe Halloween costumes to Photoshopped faces onto his body and odd lyric changes to "tribute" him. What I don't see is a lot of pushback condemning making a joke out of a tragedy from the general public. Instead, I see people laughing and sharing links on Facebook and Twitter.

Yet, still whenever I bring up how tasteless these things are, I'm met with a response along the lines of "I love Harambe and he didn't deserve to die." That's exactly the point.

With social media, society could have opened up a discussion about how we treat other creatures, how we approach situations and how we can avoid future tragedies. I truly thought that was the discussion that was going to be had initially and it just wasn't. When a tragedy strikes, it's horrible to make a joke about it no matter how much time has passed. No life deserves to be cut short and when it is, society should have a mature conversation rather instead of joking at a dead soul's expense.

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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.

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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 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."

- Mark Ibrahim, graduate law student and commuter student



"It's getting really packed. I spent 20 minutes looking for a parking spot today in the UC parking lot. That's really unnecessary, 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."

- Simona Zigmond, junior biology 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



"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 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 residential 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

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25-Oct	Friday The 13Th (2009)	Tim Burton'S Corpse Bride	The Cabin In The Woods	Trick 'R Treat	Ma Ma	The Ones Below	The Ring	Neighbors 2: Sorority Rising	The Nice Guys	Monster House	Me Before You
26-Oct	Trick 'R Treat	Insidious: Chapter 3	Tim Burton'S Corpse Bride	Warm Bodies	Warcraft	The Purge: Anarchy	Now You See Me 2	Marauders	The Conjuring 2	De Palma	World War Z
27-Oct	Warm Bodies	The Ones Below	Insidious: Chapter 3	Neighbors 2: Sorority Rising	Me Before You	Monster House	The Nice Guys	The Cabin In The Woods	World War Z	Friday The 13Th (2009)	Ma Ma
28-Oct	Neighbors 2: Sorority Rising	The Purge: Anarchy	The Ones Below	Marauders	Now You See Me 2	De Palma	The Conjuring 2	Tim Burton'S Corpse Bride	The Ring	Trick 'R Treat	Warcraft
29-Oct	Marauders	Monster House	The Purge: Anarchy	The Cabin In The Woods	World War Z	Friday The 13Th (2009)	Warcraft	Insidious: Chapter 3	Now You See Me 2	Warm Bodies	The Nice Guys
30-Oct	The Cabin In The Woods	De Palma	Monster House	Tim Burton'S Corpse Bride	The Nice Guys	Trick 'R Treat	Me Before You	The Ones Below	Ma Ma	Neighbors 2: Sorority Rising	The Conjuring 2
31-Oct	Tim Burton'S Corpse Bride	Friday The 13Th (2009)	De Palma	Insidious: Chapter 3	Warcraft	Warm Bodies	Now You See Me 2	The Purge: Anarchy	The Conjuring 2	Marauders	The Ring



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