GOING MAD AT MIDNIGHT

Diversifying Greek Unity Page 5
Women's Volleyball Page 6
"Max Payne" Really Hurts Page 14
Should the United States Implement Stricter Immigration Policies? Page 15
NSU’s Athletic Department played host to its third annual Midnight Madness event on Oct. 18 in the University Center Arena, where the 2006-2007 men’s and women’s Sharks basketball teams were unveiled and unleashed.

Midnight Madness began in 1971 when the University of Maryland’s head basketball coach, Lefty Driesell, came up with the brilliant idea of launching his team to the public and raising the fan base when the University of Maryland’s head coach with the brilliant idea of launching his

The evening kicked off with an unbelievable performance from NSU’s cheerleaders, check full of talented tumbling and dancing from the Sharks.

Is MySpace “Your Space” When it Comes to Employment?

Tiffany Simonitori
Freelance Writer

According to a recent survey of more than 31,000 employers released by CareerBuilder.com, more than one in 10 employers can use to check on potential job candidates.

Theoretically, many people feel that whatever your personal life entails should be kept in contact with former friends from high school, universities and various jobs. These sites easily connect people together through the publication of private information, such as cell phone numbers, email addresses, age, marital status, etc.

The question is are social networking sites private or public? Well, it certainly depends on whom you ask.
Monday
Oct. 27
Hispanic Unity's Job Fair 2008
Hispanic Unity of Florida will host their 2008 Job Fair in the University Center. The fair will begin at 11:30 a.m. For more information, contact Rochelle Clarke at claro Roch@nova.edu.

IVCF Game/Movie Night
Join the InterVarsity Christian Fellowship for an evening filled with fun. The event will also provide attendees with information about the organization. For more information, contact Alissa Lenz at alenz@nova.edu.

Tuesday
Oct. 28
Lucky 13 - Show me the Money
Members of the NSU community are invited to attend this workshop designed to provide attendees with information about the importance of personal finance management. The event will begin at 12 p.m. in Room 3049 of the Carl DeSantis Building. For more information, contact Daisi Dominguez at dalis@nova.edu.

Alternative Spring Break Information Session
The Office of Student Leadership and Civic Engagement will hold this session to provide students with information about ways to get involved during spring break. The sessions will begin at 6:30 p.m. in Room 123 of the Commons Residential Hall. For more information, contact Jennifer Bowman-Wilson at jbowman@nova.edu.

Wednesday
Oct. 29
Musical Theatre 101
William Adams, Ph.D., will speak at the Lifelong Learning Institute for a lecture designed to provide attendees with information about musical theatre. The lecture will begin at 10 a.m. in the Lifelong Learning Institute. The Lifelong Learning Institute is located at 1424 South University Drive in Davie, Florida. For more information, call (954) 262-8471.

Thursday
Oct. 30
"Dessert & Dialogue"
The Office of Student Leadership and Civic Engagement will host this open discussion on political platform issues such as gay rights/marriage and abortion. This event will begin at 6 p.m. in the University Center at The Flight Deck. For more information, contact Cheri James at jcheries@nsu.edu.

Friday
Oct. 31
"Still the River Runs"
Join the Promethean Theatre, NSU's professional theater company in residence, for the premiere of "Still the River Runs" by Stanton Bishop. The performance will run from Oct. 17 to Nov. 2. The performances will take place at 8 p.m. in the Black Box Theatre in the new Performing and Visual Arts Wing in the University Center. Tickets for "Still the River Runs" are $25 for adults, $15 for seniors and $5 for NSU students ($10 for all other students) with a valid ID. Only cash and checks are accepted at the door. For tickets, call (786) 317-7580 or email boxoffice@theprometheantheatre.org.
John Polstein Speaks at NSU

Alexis Irias  
Staff Writer

On Oct. 21, the H. Wayne Huizenga School of Business and Entrepreneurship hosted the Distinguished Lecture Series in the Carl DeSantis Building featuring John Polstein. Polstein is the CEO of Kaplan Test Prep and Admissions, a division of Kaplan, Inc., which is the nation’s oldest and largest provider of test preparation and admissions services. He was appointed CEO in 1998 and has since played a primary management role in the company today. He has grown the company to twice the size of its competitors and it still maintains its growth each year.

Polstein gave an overview of Kaplan and how it expanded nationwide through the 1970’s. Today, Kaplan is the leading global educational services provider, and was acknowledged as the widest and fastest growing company, according to The Washington Post.

Throughout Polstein’s lecture, he explained how he got to the position he is in today and the lessons that he has learned along the way.

“Become a student of business even after you graduate,” he advised students and individuals. He went on to say that one should constantly be informed about what is going on in the business world.

Polstein had some advice to give for individuals in the business environment. “Start very, very paranoid. Recognize that everything you have can disappear in a moment,” said Polstein.

Senior Philip Kroemer, president of the Finance and Economics Association, commented on the event.

“Mr. Polstein delivered an inspirational speech that once again proved how important it is to step out of your own comfort zone to successfully manage growth within an entity.” Kroemer, who was responsible for bringing Polstein to campus on behalf of the Finance Club, felt that he left his audience with a better perspective of business as well as key elements for future success.

“Since you could truly see how students absorbed his ‘lessons learned,’ the Distinguished Lecture Series should be a mandatory event for all NSU students in the future,” stated Kroemer.

Author Margaret Ahnert Speaks at NSU

Kristine Belizaire  
Current Affairs Editor

Members of the NSU community gathered on Oct. 16 on the second floor gallery of the Alvin Sherman Library for the 2008 author series, featuring Margaret Ahnert, author of “The Knock at the Door: A Journey through the Darkness of the Armenian Genocide.” Ahnert was born in New York City and has a Master of Fine Arts from Goucher College and a bachelor’s degree from Goddard College.

Her memoir started out as her master’s thesis and was published in April 2007.

In this memoir, Ahnert tells the story of her mother, Esther, and the experiences she faced as she fought to survive as a young girl during the Armenian genocide. Ahnert went on to speak about the life of her mother, Esther, who was 15 when the genocide began. She was happy as a young girl, and grew up in a proper household. In March of 1915, word spread that bad things had happened. Esther had a brother in the Turkish army, and he told her family to leave. Her family refused to believe him until they received a knock on their door and were told to leave.

Her book was awarded the Best Book of 2007 by USA News in the World History category. It was also honored by the New York Book Festival Award Committee as Best Historical Memoir.

While her book has received critical acclaim, Ahnert said that the Turks are not happy about it. When she was speaking in New York, five Turks jumped up from the audience and accused her of being a liar. This protest was featured in the New York Times and Turkish newspapers. According to Ahnert, this coverage is what officially launched her book.

Ahnert said that her book was just about relaying the brutality that her mother faced. The book is also a mother-daughter story, and the conversations that she had with her mother led to the story. She said that her mother was a funny person who was never mad or remorseful.

Ahnert wrote this book because she needed reconciliation and peace. She explained that the Armenian Genocide is a genocide that was unrecognized and forgotten. She went on to say that there are people who say that it never occurred, when it was actually the first genocide of the 20th century.

Ahnert’s goal is to tell the truth and to educate people who are unfamiliar with what the Armenians faced during the genocide. “The Armenians know this story,” she said “I’m not here to preach to the choir.”

NSU Students Learn How to Become Resourceful

Annarely Rodriguez  
Freelance Writer

On Oct. 21, students gathered for another Lucky 13 lecture entitled “What 2 Wear 2 Drink and Drive,” which provided information regarding the effects of alcohol on women, men, athletes and people of different ages.

Throughout the lecture, students learned about the effects of alcohol on the body. They were informed that drinking can limit the ability to think abstractly. Alcohol also affects the liver and can kill brain cells. Students were also informed on the effects of binge drinking, which are alcohol poisoning and even death.

The lecture cleared up some myths about alcohol use. One myth about alcohol is that it is thought to be a stimulant because it can reduce inhibitions. In reality alcohol is a depressant because it slows down the central nervous system.

KC Collins, a graduate psychology student who spoke at the event, believed that it was beneficial for students to learn about the effects of alcohol.

“We did not do this presentation to say ‘don’t do this’ or ‘always do that.’ We did it to educate you, to give you guidelines on how to be better informed on this issue that is often a part of being an undergraduate student,” said Collins.

Students were encouraged to ask questions regarding the subject throughout the lecture or after it was complete. They were also informed about the availability of the “Healthy Life-Styles Guided Medication Change Clinic” in the Maltz Psychology building for a more personal and always confidential conversation, on this and other issues that might be concerning them.

“This is the second lecture I’ve attended and although I knew some of these things, it is good to have something to remind and reinforce that knowledge. It makes you more aware,” stated freshman Angelique Marcelli.

The next Lucky 13 lecture will be held on Oct. 28 in Room 3049 of the Carl DeSantis Building at 12 p.m. and is entitled “Show Me the Money!” For more information, contact Dalis Dominguez, Ph.D., at (954) 262-8485.
Diversifying Greek Unity

Anarely Rodriguez
Freelance Writer

One of the biggest events on campus happened on Oct. 17 as Lambda Theta Phi hosted its second annual “Brown and White Jump Off” in the University Center Arena. The event also included the vocal styling of NSU’s Vocal Ensemble and the step team, Chicks On Point.

The event was held to foster more creative events on campus. The “Jump Off” featured a step competition between fraternities and sororities from stations all over Florida. The winners (one sorority and one fraternity winner) would take home a $100 prize and a custom made paddle from FSU graduate who was part of Theta Nu Xi’s Grad Chapter step team.

The night started with hip hop Prospect and master of ceremonies Jack Da Rippa playing music to warm up the crowd that occupied the arena. After thanking the students for coming and for their presence on campus, as far as minorities were concerned, that excited people so we were concerned, that excited people so Rippa playing music to warm up the crowd that occupied the arena. After thanking the students for coming and for their presence on campus, as far as minorities were concerned, that excited people so we were concerned, that excited people so Rippa playing music to warm up the crowd that occupied the arena. After thanking the students for coming and for their presence on campus, as far as minorities were concerned, that excited people so we were concerned, that excited people so Rippa playing music to warm up the crowd.

“We noticed there wasn’t a notable presence on campus, as far as minorities were concerned, that excited people so we were concerned, that excited people so Rippa playing music to warm up the crowd that occupied the arena. After thanking the students for coming and for their presence on campus, as far as minorities were concerned, that excited people so we were concerned, that excited people so Rippa playing music to warm up the crowd. The winners for the night were the FIU Theta Alpha and NSU’s own sorority Alpha Kappa Alpha. Lambda Theta Phi will spend their $500 on their ministry which will hold a Thanksgiving dinner for students with disabilities at FIU. The girls plan to save their $500 in the bank since their chapter is new and they want to spend their money wisely as they grow.

Lambda Theta Phi’s next event will be “Jail Time for Kids” which will be held on Oct. 29 from 10 a.m. to 1 a.m. in front of the Parker Building. Attendees will be able to pay to keep their teachers in a “jail” for up to 15 minutes. For more information on this and other Lambda Theta Phi events, contact Rafael De La Rosa at rdelaros@nova.edu.

Kathleen Waites, Ph.D. Gives “Last Lecture”

Kristine Belzire
Current Affairs Editor

Members of the NSU community gathered in Room 2053 of the Asen Whitman Library for the Last Lecture Series, featuring Kathleen Waites, Ph.D., and professor at NSU. The Last Lecture Series is a semi-annual event where student-selected faculty members speak as though they were giving the last lecture of their career. This lecture deals with the question, “If you only had 30 minutes left, what would you say?”

During the lecture, Waites expressed her thoughts and ideas as she considered the finiteness of her life. Truthfully, if it was her last 30 minutes, she said that she would invite the audience to join her for a run in Treetops Park or a sandlot baseball game with her kids and grands. If she were immobilized, she would be at home cheering for the Philadelphia Phillies in the World Series with one raised fist, while holding the hand of her beloved with the other hand.

Waites went on to say that it is ironic that we devote ourselves to the affirmation of life by nurturing relationships, pursuing personal goals, and doing the things that bring us happiness. Yet the single lesson that we must learn is to let go of all the things that bring us happiness. Waites believes that the search for truth speaks to the mind and the soul, and has engaged in a lifelong search for truth and meaning during this life-march to death that we are all on.

In her last weeks, Waites’s mother was confined to a chair and her bed. As she lifted her mother in and out of bed, she could feel the life force seeping from her pores. Waites said that she is closer to the reality of death. In her mother’s broken aging body, she saw her own.

Waites spoke about her experience as a professor. Teaching has always been a vocation because she fell in love with the opportunity to work with young people. She is inspired by their curiosity and eagerness to learn, and is humbled by the way that the look at her for knowledge. In her students, she recognized herself.

“Lead with your heart, open your heart to the stories of people and the world around you,” said Waites, “but guide your actions with your mind, a mind that is ever curious and cultivated through education and examination.” Until her last breath, she plans to consume and reflect in the life stories of others or create life stories of her own. She prays for the gift to surrender graciously and not fly in the face of God.
Men's Soccer
Tim Coenraad
Staff Writer

NSU's men's soccer team (10-5-1, 3-2-0 SSC) surged forward on three game winning streak as they defeated Eckerd College on Oct. 22, by a score of 2-0 at the Sharks' Soccer Complex after beating Rollins College, 3-0, earlier in the week. Freshman Alvin Quaye put the Sharks on the scoreboard early on in the match, making history for himself as he registered his first collegiate goal which ended up being the game winner for NSU vs. Eckerd. Standout goal keeper, sophomore Juan Vizcarrondo, had another top notch performance as he tallied together seven saves, keeping his team's outscoring opponent streak alive at 12 goals to none. With two more Sunshine State Conference wins under their belt, the Sharks move up to the No. 5 spot in the Conference rankings. This also pushes them across the .500 mark in conference play.

NSU Sports
October 27, 2008

Women's Volleyball
Tim Coenraad
Staff Writer

The NSU women's volleyball team (17-6; 6-2 SSC) faced off against conference and rival Barry Buccaneers on Oct. 21, as well as a non-conference match-up when the Sharks traveled to Flagler College to take on the Saints on Oct. 24.

As NSU celebrated their "Think Pink" night, an effort to raise breast cancer awareness, the match against the Buccaneers would go all the way down to the wire. NSU was able to take the first set 25-23 on the back of 14 assists by senior setter Valantina Petrova (8) and four kills from freshman Molly Sigerich (5). The Bucs rallied to tie the game up at one set a piece as they out-hit NSU .278 to .209 for a 25-16 win in the second set.

In another closely contested set, it would be the Sharks seniors that answered the call as Gorman (16) and Chubb (7) led the team with four and three kills, taking NSU to a 15-12 win in the final set to take the match. Yony (11) would set a new career high with 31 digs, as Gorman and Ruiz led the attack with 12 and 11 kills on the night with Petrova coming away with an impressive 51 assists.

Barry would once again rebound from the loss and take the match into a fifth set stealing the fourth set 26-24, even with sophomore Kathleen Yony (11) tallying seven digs for the third consecutive set.

In the fifth and final set, it would be the Sharks seniors that answered the call as Gorman (16) and Chubb (7) led the team with four and three kills, taking NSU to a 15-12 win in the final set to take the match. Yony (11) would set a new career high with 31 digs, as Gorman and Ruiz led the attack with 12 and 11 kills on the night with Petrova coming away with an impressive 51 assists.

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The Sharks' first goal came in the 12th minute when a cross from sophomore Elyssa Freund (19) took a fortunate bounce off of senior Shurell Burton (18) and found its way into the back of the net to put NSU up 1-0. Goal number two for the Sharks came just before the break, at half time from Freund who received a beautiful back heel pass from sophomore Alexis Hernandez. The Tritons reduced NSU's lead in the 60th minute after Eckerd's Bonnie Wessler struck the Sharks' goal, heading in a Triton corner kick.

NSU provided outstanding offensive pressure, which provided a 30-8 shot count in favor of the Sharks. In the 78th minute, Hernandez (13) received the ball from a Triton defender and struck a one-time shot past the Eckerd goal keeper to give the Sharks a 2-0 win.

Women Soccer's First Conference Victory
Tim Coenraad
Staff Writer

The NSU women's soccer team (7-4-3, 1-4-2 SSC) has collected their first conference win over Eckerd College at the NSU Soccer Complex on Oct. 21, defeating the Tritons by a score of three goals to one.

In the Sharks second match-up, NSU would come up short as the Saints of Flagler College took the match three sets to one 16-25, 25-15, 23-25 and 19-25. Carle (2) and Segirich (5) powered the Sharks offense with 12 and nine kills while Petrova massed 31 assists in the upset loss.

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November 6, 1988
Intramural Sports Fin Cup Challenge 2008 Standings

<table>
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<th>Team Name</th>
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<td>Co Rec</td>
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<td>El Levators</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eyeballiers</td>
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<td>Raging Unicorns</td>
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<td>7th Heaven</td>
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TOTAL POINTS EARNED

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SPORTS CORNER WORD FIND

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DVADIMSHPIROE
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HEYGSUFKLOIETU
CROLYATMMTKRTE
KJESKEQDORNUR
LISSETTEOALACT
THUIPATVRQBQY
BBOBYBODEESEQAS

UP/DOWN

I am a member of the men’s golf team. I am a business management major who aspires to one day join the PGA Tour. I consider my best asset to the team is my friendliness.

I am a member of the women’s golf team. I am a psychology major from England. I one day dream of becoming a LPGA player. I believe my best asset to the team is my enthusiasm.

I am a member of the men’s soccer team. I am a sports and recreation major from Russia. You will see me on the field wearing the No. 15.

I am a member of the men’s golf team. I am a sports management major from England, I one day hope to become a PGA or European golfer. I believe my best asset is my commitment and hard work.

Answers to Previous Week’s Word Find

UP/DOWN:
I am a member of the men’s soccer team. You will see me on the field wearing the No. 22. I am a biology major and I love the Dave Matthews Band.

ANSWER: Senior, Nate Durber

ACROSS:
I am a member of the volleyball team. You will see me on the court wearing the No. 9. I am a biology major and I aspire to one day become a dentist. I also love to play “Rock Band” in my free time.

ANSWER: Senior, Andrea Irarrazabal

I am a member of the women’s golf team. I am a sports management major and I one day dream of becoming a professional golfer.

ANSWER: Sophomore, Taylor Collins

I am the assistant head coach for the women’s soccer team. I played soccer for SSC rivals University of Tampa prior to coming to NSU. I also played professional soccer in Iceland.

ANSWER: Coach, Sam Robinson
CONGRATULATIONS!

The Smart Sharks triumphed and successfully conquered in NSU’s Annual Ethics Bowl on Friday, October 3, 2008. They will attend the Southeast Regional Ethics Bowl in St. Petersburg, Florida on November 15th.

The Office of Student Leadership and Civic Engagement would like to recognize and thank the following people who volunteered and supported the Ethics Bowl:

Dr. Gary Gershman
Dr. Ben Hulvey
Dr. Tambi Braun
Dr. Terry Hudgins
Team SLCE

Lastly, and most importantly, we would like to thank all teams who graciously participated their time and hard work to have an intense exchange of viewpoints among their peers!

Neena Chandrasekaran
Robbie Joseph
Melanie Rudey
Anita Patel
Jason Jennings
Caryssa Ogman
Jose Jaurez
Selene DeRosa
Philip Ortiz
Mike Bignami
Zach Conway
Antony Campers

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Reference librarians are coming to a location near you on the following dates:

The Commons Lobby
Sunday, October 26, 2008: 7 - 9 p.m.
Monday, October 27, 2008 through Thursday, October 30, 2008: 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

The Parker Building Lobby
Sunday, November 2, 2008: 7 - 9 p.m.
Monday, October 27, 2008 through Thursday, October 30, 2008: 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
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- Eat lunch on us in the cafeteria.

**RSVP:** [www.fau.edu/graduate](http://www.fau.edu/graduate)

Questions? Call (561) 297-3624.

See you there!
Intramural Softball Men's Division
League Standings

### Mako Shark Division

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Wins</th>
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### Bull Shark Division

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If you have any questions about intramural softball, please contact Jason Aloise at (954) 262-7303.

Intramural CoRec. Softball
League Standings

### Hammerhead Shark Division

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Marnie Stern’s “This Is It...” is Better Than Expected

Stefani Rubino  
Opinions Editor

These days, it’s pretty clear that the faces of independent rock music are changing and evolving constantly and consistently. Obviously, New York City has taken a lead in this, becoming the most fertile breeding ground for some of the most original and interesting artists in different formula, showing that “Prime” has taken a lead in this, becoming the one to bring the song to an explosive finish.

The title of her new album, “This Is It and I Am It” and You Are It and So Is That and He Is It and She Is It and It Is It and That Is That,” shows exactly why Stern is and what she hopes to prove. The title is jerky, confusing, carefree and playful, just like her swirling guitar, and Zach Hill’s, (M.I.A.’s) fratic drumbeats. She shows us who she is through her music. She’s defenseless and emotional, but she’s an artist, and knows how to use these feelings. She’s inviting you in, and you better take the offer before you regret it.

I cannot remember the last time I heard a female playing guitar the way Stern does. Not since the hey-days of bands like Sleater-Kinney, and other nineties, noisy female punk bands has a female made the guitar part of her heartfelt song-narrative. She doesn’t use finger tapping to show-off like some hair-metal wannabes; she uses it to produce an incredibly original sound that is poignant and personal. We might not all be able to play like Stern, but she’s going to make sure that we can relate to her struggles and triumphs through lyrics and composition.

“This,” the first track on the album, begins with Stern exclaiming some of those emotive lyrics, over raw hand-clapping. Eventually, her unrehearsed guitar shredding and Hill’s frenzied drums come in to bring the song to an explosive finish. However, the rest of the album follows a different formula, showing that “Prime” is just a warm-up for what’s to come.

The tracks on the record “The Crippled Jazzer,” “The Package is Wrapped,” and “The Devil in the Details” showcase Stern’s ability to tell her stories through her inventive guitar playing. “The Crippled Jazzer” begins immediately with her dizzy guitar playing, and Hill’s full-on attack of her drum kit. This song really shows Stern’s and Hill’s chemistry, and truly showcases the amazing musicians they are. From start to finish, the lyrics to the instrumental, “The Crippled Jazzer” is the most coherent song on the album.

“One more thing,” the last song is supposed to be a perfect ending to “This is It...” and “This is It and You” is Wrapped,” and it is. It is proof of what Stern deserves recognition, regardless of what genre of music she chooses to express herself through.

Poor Production and Bad Dialogue Destroy “Body of Lies”

Stefani Rubino  
Opinions Editor

With the increasing popularity of films like “Syriana” and “Traitor,” Hollywood is bound to have a miss or two. In the case of “Body of Lies,” they missed the mark all together, bringing some great performances down with it.

The film, an adaptation of the 2007 novel of the same name by Washington Post columnist David Ignatius, follows CIA operative Ferris (Leonardo DiCaprio). After he discovers a lead on a major terrorist cell working out of Jordan, led by Islamist leader Al-Saleem (Alon Abutbul), he must work on the project with Ferris, Ferris seeks the help of Han Sallam (Mark Strong). However, moral and cultural differences cause Ferris to wonder whether or not he can really trust Sallam.

Fresh off a 2007 Oscar nomination for “Blood Diamond,” which was one of the most important movies of its time, Mark Strong is the only soon-to-be heard in the role of the leader. His seemingly life-like suspicion and involvement in the project with Ferris, Ferris seeks the help of Han Sallam (Mark Strong). However, moral and cultural differences cause Ferris to wonder whether or not he can really trust Sallam.

One more thing,” the last song is supposed to be a perfect ending to “This is It...” and “This is It and You” is Wrapped,” and it is. It is proof of what Stern deserves recognition, regardless of what genre of music she chooses to express herself through.

“Body of Lies” is a whole cow. She has no idea what is going to happen in the film, and she is amazed by it. She has no idea what is going to happen in the film, and she is amazed by it.

Russell Crowe’s (“American Gangster” and “A Good Year”) performance is less impressive than DiCaprio’s, but he does prove to be almost perfect in a veteran government agent role. His scenes opposite DiCaprio’s call for some significant tension, and he seems to have pulled them off fairly well. The same goes for Mark Strong (“Babyloyn A.D.” and “RocknRolla”), whose performance, while not particularly memorable, is still decent and fitting for this type of film. In the scenes between Strong and DiCaprio, the tension and distrusting attitudes are so pronounced you can almost feel it.

Other than the incredible performances, there is not much in this film that is worth the trip to the movie theater. The direction is stoddy, the production looks like it needs to be taken back to the cutting room, and most of dialogue is forgettable. “Body of Lies” is billed as a thriller, but there is nothing thrilling or surprising about it. This is just another film about what is happening in the Middle East with depressing dialogue and poor production.
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Cine Argentino Film Series for Hispanic Heritage Month

Racquel Fagon
Variety Editor

As part of the celebrations for Hispanic Heritage Month, the Alvin Sherman Library South Regional BC Library and the Argentinian Consulate in Miami present Cine Argentino, an Argentinean film series held here at NSU. The film series that started on Sunday, Oct. 5 has screenings at 2 p.m. each Sunday in October, in the Knight Auditorium of the Carl DeSantis Building.

"Camilas," starring Hector Alterio and directed by Manuel Antin, is the first film to launch the series. This film depicts the true story of a young woman who falls in love with a Jesuit priest and begins a torrid affair. The two then elope to a secluded village, where they assume new identities and begin running a children's school. Ultimately, their true identities are discovered, and they are apprehended by the authorities and imprisoned for sacrilege. Set in the 19th century, the film embodies the social and religious culture of the period, all the while highlighting the timeless theme of fatalistic love.

Though the film has sub-titles, Argentinean actress and journalist Adriana Bianco attended the first screening and provided additional commentary for the film.

The second film in the series, "Juan Manuel De Rosas," is a biopic of Juan Manuel de Rosas, a conservative Argentine politician who ruled Argentina from 1829 to 1852. Rosas was one of the first famous caudillos in Latin America who achieved a semblance of national unity that set the groundwork for Argentina's future nationalism. The film stars Rodolfo Reban and is directed by Manuel Antin.

The two remaining films within the series are "Made in Argentina," starring Luis Brandolini, Martha Bianchi, and directed by Jean Jose Jusid and "Darse Cuentas," (Becoming AWARE) starring Beto Brandolini, Uruguayan actress Chino Zorti, and directed by Alejandro Doria, will be shown on Oct. 19 and 26 respectively. The films are free and open to the public.

Popular Halloween Costumes

1. Batman
2. Barney
3. Cheerleader
4. Clown
5. Death
6. Dracula
7. Drag Queen
8. House Bunny
9. Hulk
10. McCain
11. Nurse
12. Pirate
13. Princess
14. Pumpkin
15. Pussy Cat
16. Spiderman
17. Superman
18. Tinker Bell
19. Witch
20. Wonder Woman

Say Boo! WORD-O-GRAM

Place the five words in the diagram, one word for each line across, so that one of the rows reading down will spell out a six-letter word that is connected to the other.

Courage
Don Knotts
Ernest
Scooby-Doo
Shaggy

Variety
I am the first to admit that the fantasy genre for films is not my ideal choice for movie entertainment. I see myself more as a "true-to-life" kind of consumer. I prefer to watch things that have a chance of happening in real life. However, now and again I am adequately entertained by fanciful, yet thought-stimulating films, such as the intensely provocative, "The Dark Knight" and the greatly revered "The Matrix." "Max Payne" gets no appreciative adjectives from me, as a "true-to-life" kind of consumer. I prefer to watch things that have a chance of coming true, as "The Matrix" did for me in the 1990s and "Nixon" was for me in the 1980s. Sadly, "W." doesn't even come close.

"W" takes us through the life of a semi-fictional character named George W. Bush. The movie goes through his college years, his ever-changing careers: from oilman to baseball team owner, to President; his conversion to born-again Christian, his relationships with his wife Laura, his family, and his father, George H. Bush.

The movie brings us through every miserable and heartbreaking failure, each of them proving in its own way that this man is not cut out to govern the free world. However, he persists, proving to his father and everyone who doubts him that he can make it to the top, which he does, but proceeds to fail from there on in.

Although there were some worthwhile performances in "W," the film on a whole was a catastrophe. They did not start filming until May of this year, which meant, they would have finished sometime in early-August, so that Oliver Stone could have it out before Nov. 4. The film suffered immensely from this because it felt rushed and unenthusiastic. The final product seemed more like a facade or rehearsal of what "W" could and should have been.

With such a limited time to film, Stone and his crew must have felt like they had to keep a narrow scope on the film, and they did, thus contributing to its downfall. The scope is so narrow that we barely even get to see the really big mistakes Bush made while in office; such as, responding to the events of Sept. 11, winning the Presidency again in 2004, responding to Katrina, and the situation in New Orleans and responding to what is going on with Russia now. "W." feels like "Mr. Smith Goes to Washington" combined with "Field of Dreams." All I see for two hours is a man trying to please his father and then failing every single time, even as President.

This may be a silly analogy, but "W" is kind of like ordering a hamburger and just getting the bun, tomato and lettuce—there's no meat. That's what "W" is really missing, the tough, heavy, messy circumstances and events that occur while George W. Bush is in office. For the most part, Stone is fair and somewhat sympathetic, which is a good thing, but it is this exact sentiment that ultimately leads to the destruction of what could have been his next great feature.
Immigration policies in the United States have been the center of controversy for decades, which is ironic since this country was built on the generosity and hard work of immigrants. With over 33 million immigrants (legal and illegal) living in the U.S., it is no wonder that stricter laws are being implemented to curtail the influx.

Many will argue that immigrants are the necessary life-vests that keep the U.S. economy afloat. Immigrants, who sometimes are compensated for less than the minimum wage, embrace many of the jobs that citizens refuse to take.

But why is it the responsibility of the citizens of the U.S. to “take care” of these less fortunate individuals? Most of the people who will come to the U.S. leave excellent jobs, homes, environments and privileges that are offered in their countries in order to go to measure hunting in the land of equal opportunity.

This is a more of a state of mind than actual circumstances that allow many individuals to believe that their lives will be better in the U.S. So, when they get here, and things do not come as easily as they would have believed, they venture into unseemly practices that create awful stereotypes for many groups. It would make sense for the U.S. to implement firmer policies to safeguard the good, hardworking name of many immigrants who went through the appropriate channels to get here.

Even the New York Times article that reports California’s Friendship Park will be closed to reduce border crossing and the violence of a necessary evil that will eventually make every tax-paying citizen’s life easier. When the government does not have to allocate extra funds to combat and alleviate the suffering that comes along with it.

As a native-born Floridian, this whole idea of fences and separation really prompted me to think about what it must be like to be one of those families that meets at that fence every weekend. Is it fair that these people be punished further with an even bigger fence even though what they’re doing is totally legal by United States law? More than that, I understood it, the U.S.’s immigration policies are so stringent right now that people trying to get into this country are practically forced to come here illegally.

In many ways, this country has benefited from the diversity, talents and endurance immigrants bring with them from wherever they’re coming from. In the early 1900s, Italian families, like mine, fled here for better opportunities for their families. In the early 1940s, families, like my roommate’s, fled here to flee German oppression. In the 1960s and ’70s, Cuban families came to Florida to escape Castro’s warped vision of a Communist state. Each of these ethnic groups brought with them a vast catalog of traditions and rich culture that continues to enhance the American experience to this day.

To stop immigration, legal and illegal, now would be like saying “OK, that’s it.” We took them in but we can’t take you with you. That is like tempting yourself with something you know you can’t have or at least not at that moment.

Even though we are all bogged down with life’s activities, it is important to find at least one minute in our busy day to go to the candidates’ Web sites and find a candidate’s platform with which we agree. This small amount of information may not quell all anxieties, but it can offer a little more confidence when making a choice at the polls.

Don’t be intimidated by the polling place policies and media hype. If you have any questions regarding the rules for voting or if you want to report questionable or improper activity on Election Day, call the voter assistance hotline at (866) OUR-VOTE (687-8683). If you have questions about a candidate, visit his Web site.

Remember how great this country is and can be, so exercise your right to vote!
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