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Nova Southeastern University

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## BLACK HISTORY MONTH

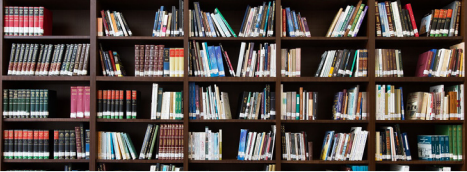
A CELEBRATION SINCE FEBRUARY 1926

### Features



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Here's a list of the reasons why you're celebrating VDay wrong  
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## SharkCards now accepted as payment on off-campus locations

By: Madelyn Rinka  
News Editor

On Monday, Jan. 29, NSU students received an email notifying them that their SharkCards will now be accepted as a form of payment at on-campus Pepsi and Canteen vending machines and two CVS locations near the Fort Lauderdale/Davie campus. However, students are not able to use their declining balance funds for these off-campus purchases; they are only able to add money to their cards with a debit or credit card at SharkFunds.

"Declining balance is reserved for on-campus use only. They can only use it at food service locations," explained Vernol Robinson, director of SharkCard services. "One of the reasons why it was set up that way was because, for food services, that cost allows them to offset their original costs for all the food and preparation — so the declining balance has to stay on campus."

In other words, when students pay for declining balance, those funds go directly to Shark Dining for supplies and labor costs, making it necessary to keep on campus.

Some students, however, still wish there were more options for locations at which they can use their SharkCards and declining balance.

Jessica Williams, a freshman psychology major, expressed that, as someone with food allergies, the simple task of finding food she can eat on campus poses some difficulties.

"I think that there's a good idea behind it, but I don't think they've quite reached where they need to be with that," said Williams. "I understand that the declining balance funds are supposed to go towards our meals. However, they're not providing students with enough options for meals to make it a sustainable amount of money."

Other students expressed similar sentiments.

"I live near West Chester University, and they have the Ram Card. They have a specific allotted amount coming from their tuition that is specifically to be used at outside locations," said Mykella Mitchell, a graduate business student. "They're able to go to the supermarket, Walgreens, Rite Aid, CVS, different things like that for other purposes outside of their school."

Robinson, however, said that this on-campus-only for declining balance policy is not unique to NSU.

"If you look at benchmark any other university that is comparable to NSU, they have similar programs. You do have funds that are restricted for on-campus use only, and then you have other avenues whereabout you can put funds so you can use it for other things."

Robinson also stated that these locations were added due to student interest expressed in past town hall meetings.

According to Robinson, SharkCard services will soon begin working towards adding new locations. He said students can look forward to potentially being able to use their SharkFunds at places like Wendy's, Blaze Pizza, Burger King, Tijuana Taxi and several more, as the office was recently approved to continue to expand the service.

For more information, visit the SharkCard services desk in the one-stop shop in the Horvitz Administration building.

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DAVIE, FL 33314

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DAVIE, FL 33314

## Andy and the Guy Harvey Research Institute go the distance

By: Christina McLaughlin  
Opinions Editor

Razor isn't the only shark representing NSU, have you heard about Andy?

In 2014, "Andy," a tiger shark, was tagged in Bermuda by scientists at NSU's Guy Harvey Research Institute (GHRI). The team was led by Director Mahmood Shivji. Four years later, Andy, who was named after documentary producer Andrew Smith, has become the longest tracked tiger shark on record.

The program started nine years ago in 2009 when the development of tiger shark deaths due to fisheries bycatch and the shark finning industry increased. A 2013 report in the Journal of Marine Policy stated that 100 million sharks are killed by humans every year.

According to the GHRI website, an essential requirement for fisheries management and conservation efforts of this species or conservation of any shark species is to have a clear understanding of its migratory patterns, their use of the environment and by identifying areas of critical habitat. The main goal of the GHRI program is to understand tiger shark movement and behavior in more detail, as well as aid in conservation efforts by using tracking methods which provide researchers with critical data.

Matthew Johnston, author of the GHRI shark tracking website and associate professor in the department of biological sciences, explained the motivations of the research done in GHRI.



PRINTED WITH PERMISSION FROM GEORGE SCHELLENGER/GUY HARVEY OCEAN FOUNDATION  
Here, a GHRI researcher interacts with a tagged tiger shark.

"Sharks are being persecuted and heavily targeted right now with the bycatch and shark finning trade," said Johnston. "Most of these sharks we don't know much about, and this program aims to learn pivotal information about these sharks by tracking their migrations and using that data to follow patterns of where they migrate during the year."

Sharks tagged by GHRI provide a database of information which is used by the researchers to gain more knowledge into the lives of sharks. Andy and other sharks have shown significant data pointing to direct migration routes as it relates to weather patterns.

In the winter, Andy tends to stay near

the islands like Bahamas where the waters are warmer. When the summer months hit, he travels North to follow the warmer temperatures.

Another migration pattern that scientists have discovered through this data is that for a period of time, these sharks tend to stay in the middle of the Atlantic. However, scientists are still trying to understand why.

"This seems to be a pattern, we aren't sure what they are doing [out in the middle of the Atlantic] but it seems to have something to do with food or maybe even breeding," said Johnston.

These battery-powered trackers, donated by sponsors, are placed on the shark's dorsal fin. These transmitters are off underwater and turn on when the shark surfaces. They transmit the signal to a satellite which is when GPS technologies can pinpoint the sharks exact location.

"This shark only surfaces intermittently, so the battery is lasting longer" said Johnston.

This explains why some shark tracking programs can last for a few months or even for years, as in Andy's case.

In the future, the program hopes to add more species by using their tracking techniques to follow migration routes. Currently, they are tracking over 150 sharks of various species like tigers, makos and oceanic whitetips. GHRI also tracks white Marlins, black Marlins and even

sailfish.

The main criteria which researchers are looking for when choosing a species to track is to find one that surfaces frequently to allow for abundant data collection. They also take into account whether the species are targeted by fisheries with bycatch and finning industries. Scientists are looking at other species other than sharks that would benefit from this program.

"We are going to continue tagging sharks and looking into the differences between males and females, juveniles and adults, and how they react to temperature and water features," said Johnston.

These tracking techniques are not only used to track migration habits but hope in the future to understand how climate change and warming oceans can affect species like sharks in the coming years. By collecting data from various different species over a period of time, they hope to analyze these effects on species migration.

"We want to [use these methods to] understand how warming oceans can change the habitat of these animals. Now, we are trying to establish the baselines of their migration habits. That's one area of research they we are trying to go into the future," said Johnston.

Andy's most recent transmission on Jan. 29, placed him 300 miles off the coast of the British Virgin Islands. To follow Andy and the work of the GHRI, visit the shark tracking at

# News Anchor

Stay up to date with international and national events.

## GOP memo released, raises allegations of misconduct

On Feb. 2, President Donald Trump declassified a memo that alleges political biases and abuse of power by the FBI and U.S. Justice Department, according to ABC News. The Justice Department has been overseeing Robert Mueller's investigation on Russian interference with the U.S. election and the Trump administration's involvement with it. Before the release, Trump openly criticized his hand-picked leadership of the FBI and U.S. Justice Department.

## India proposes budget to increase healthcare

According to Quartz, India's government released a budget on Feb. 1 that includes funding health care costs for millions of lower income families. The plan will help families in the developing country who cannot afford medical care pay for it by providing up to \$8,000. The plan still needs to be approved by parliament. In 2016, a similar plan was proposed and denied.

## Fidel Castro's eldest son commits suicide

According to the Associated Press, Fidel Castro Diaz-Balart, Fidel Castro's eldest son, committed suicide on Feb. 1 after struggling with depression and mental illness for years. Castro Diaz-Balart studied nuclear physics in the former Soviet Union and led Cuba's nuclear program. He was 68 years old.

## University of Pennsylvania murder opens up conversation about 'gap' in legislation

The murder and consequent investigation of University of Pennsylvania student Blaze Bernstein has caused California Sen. Janet Nguyen to propose legislation that adds sexual orientation and gender to the bill for special circumstance murders. According to ABC News, Bernstein was openly gay and Jewish. His alleged killer is considered a deeply religious Christian and investigators say they "haven't ruled out" the possibility of a hate crime. In California, sexuality is not considered a protected condition. Therefore, being murdered for being gay can only be considered a first or second degree murder, which comes with lesser punishments.

# The Current

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## Farquhar Honors College Distinguished Speaker series presents Mary Otto

By: **Madelyn Rinka**  
News Editor

NSU's Farquhar Honors college will host Mary Otto, a former reporter for the Washington Post, as part of their Distinguished Speaker series, on Tuesday, Feb. 13 from 4-5 p.m.

Otto is the author of "Teeth: The Story of Beauty, Inequality, and the Struggle for Oral Health in America." Her book focuses on politics, insurances, the difference between medical and dental care and the positive and negative consequences on dental healthcare.

According to Don Rosenblum, dean of NSU's Farquhar Honors College, Otto is a thought leader in health professions, specifically in dental and oral health.

"It's a fascinating book, a fascinating person, and our hope is that it's very relevant to our students, our faculty and professionals in the community," said Rosenblum. "This is a very strong, close partnership with Dean Linda Niessen [of the College of Dental Medicine]."

The presentation will be a moderated conversation. Attendees will have the



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Mary Otto is an award-winning author and journalist focusing mostly in dental care.

opportunity to ask questions and converse with Otto and Niessen.

"We have a lot of opportunities for student involvement, faculty involvement and, hopefully, community," said Rosenblum. "We've had a few speakers who have been open to this conversation approach, and it's very engaging, and it can spin on a dime."

Dr. Linda Niessen, dean and professor of NSU's College of Dental Medicine, said, "There's a lot of work to be done in the community, so she might inspire students to move into various health professions, to move into public health, to continue writing and journalism careers. I think it's exciting — as the President says, this is an opportunity for students to realize their potential."

Rosenblum encourages everyone to attend, as the scope of the presentation will be broad.

"The primary audience would be people who are thinking about being involved in health professions, whether that's as a health practitioner, someone working in legal issues, or financial issues, or even other social service

issues," said Rosenblum. "The fact that she's an established and award-winning writer, years ago she wrote for the Washington Post, so people who are in journalism may find some insight about how to get a job like that, how to write a book."

The presentation has limited space, and tickets are required. Those interested can get tickets from the honors college in the Hollywood-Mailman building in suite 250. The honors college is also partnering with five student clubs to help showcase student organizations in health professions who will be distributing tickets.

"Seats are reserved for anyone with a ticket," said Vanessa Mezquia, manager of academic programs for the honors college. "After that, [attendees] can come by and will be allowed as long as there are seats available."

For more information, contact honors@nova.edu with any questions.

## News Briefs

### Deadline approaches for submissions for the Undergraduate Student Symposium

The deadline to submit a proposal to the Undergraduate Student Symposium closes on Feb. 9. The symposium is an annual NSU event where students present their findings in research or their film production skills. The event will take place on April 6 and is open to all NSU students. To apply, go to [honors.nova.edu/student-symposium/index.html](http://honors.nova.edu/student-symposium/index.html).

### Hanbury continues town hall meetings

President George Hanbury held the second town hall meeting at the Fort Lauderdale/Davie campus on Jan. 30 in the Flight Deck. This was the final meeting for that campus. However, regional campuses, such as Orlando, Tampa and Palm Beach will host meetings in the coming weeks. To see the upcoming schedule, go to [nova.edu/townhall/students/index.html](http://nova.edu/townhall/students/index.html).

### Ziff Health Care Center houses interfaith room

An interfaith room is now open at Sanford L. Ziff Health Care Center on the first floor

in room 4100B. It's designated as a space for "students of all faiths and religions."

### Writing for the Young at Heart workshops begin

The Alvin Sherman Library will begin a new writing workshop series on Feb. 10 at 2 p.m. called "Writing for the Young at Heart," which will focus on writing young adult novels. A total of three sessions will be led by published authors and members of the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators. To RSVP, visit [lib.nova.edu/authors](http://lib.nova.edu/authors) or call 954-262-5477.

### Office of Career Development hosts resume critiques

The Office of Career Development will host "Will You Be My Resume?" a networking event where industry professionals open their services to critique student resumes. The event will take place on Feb. 13 in the clubroom of the Don Taft University Center from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. To register, go to [app.joinhandshake.com/events/115072](http://app.joinhandshake.com/events/115072).

## Andrea Shaw Nevins presents 'Fantastical Imagery and Elements of Resilience in the Caribbean'

By: **Madelyn Rinka**  
News Editor

NSU's College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences is hosting the latest speaker in their Intellectual Conversations series, based on the former Farquhar College of Arts and Sciences' Faculty Lecture Series. Andrea Shaw Nevins, chair of the department of history and political science and interim assistant dean for academic affairs for the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, will give a speech titled "Fantastical Imagery and Elements of Resilience in the Caribbean" on Feb. 12 from 12-1 p.m. in the DeSantis Building room 2056.

Born in Jamaica, Nevin will focus on the fantastical folklore and art from the Caribbean, fitting in with CAHSS's 2017-2018 theme, "Resistance." From slave revolts to resisting oppression, the presentation will span over the diverse history and rich culture of the region.

One specific artist that will be showcased is Asser Saint Val, an artist from Haiti. Saint Val's featured art focuses on being confronted with racism in the various forms in which it is presented.

"He took it very literally, in terms of trying to understand it," explained Nevins. "Like, melanin is what accounts for you being darker in skin, and so at the heart of it, he has a literal translation, which is that this melanin is somehow causing people to see me differently."

Nevins will show her audience Val's works, which include microscopic images of melanin, as an analysis of race and racism on a cellular level.

According to Stephen Ross Levitt, an associate professor in the department of history and political science, "She [Nevin] has done a lot with the idea of the Caribbean and literature, and connecting it with culture and the resistance against colonization. It's very fascinating, the work that she does."

Nevins said, "The speech is going to be on the fantastical visual art produced by Caribbean artists, or relating to the Caribbean. You should come if you're interested in the fantastic, if you're interested in the Caribbean or if you're interested in the visual arts in general."

Future speeches will include Kandy G. Lopez-Moreno: "The Art of Resistance" on March 15, Bertha Kadenyi Amisi: "The Music of Peace: Sounds of protest, healing and reconciliation" on March 22 and Mance Buttram and Steven P. Kurtz: "Predictors of Resilience among Young Adult Multidrug Users in Miami's Club Scene" on April 12, all beginning at noon. All of these events are free and open to the public. Anyone interested is encouraged to attend.

through their works."

The pieces will be diverse, from their medium to the location they were created, according to Mara Kiffin, director in the division of public relations and marketing communications. Sculptures, tapestries, paintings and fabrics will all be featured at the exhibit.

"There will be works specifically with sculptures, but using fabrics," explained Mbow. "It's interesting to see the ways in which fabric becomes a medium for expression to these artists."

Among the rest of the artwork, paintings from Cuban-American artists who were recently

featured in NSU's downtown art museum will also be on display.

An opening reception will be held in the Don Taft University Center from 6:30-8:30 p.m., which will include entertainment and refreshments. In the past, the activities have ranged from different forms of music, to a show of natural hairstyles, to hair-wrapping. This year, the featured event will be a fashion show that highlights the beauty of African culture and how it appears in both classic and European or contemporary clothing.

"It's going to be fashions through the decades — there's going to be white people

in it, black people, hispanic, everything," said Kiffin. "Some people will be wearing African fashions, different fashions and styles through the decades. It'll be a really fun time."

Kiffin said she encourages everyone to attend the ceremony and fashion show, regardless of age or culture. "It's going to be a fun experience. It's going to be educational and informative. I hope it's stimulating," said Kiffin. "I hope it stimulates [those in attendance] to learn more about a different decade."

The reception is free and open to the public, but space is limited. To RSVP or for more information about the event, call 954-262-5357.

## Feeling Anxious About Food? You have options. We can help.

Milestones in Recovery, located in Cooper City, has been helping both men and women recover from their issues with food addiction, bulimia, anorexia and binge eating, for over 18 years.

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## NSU to host 15th annual African Art Exhibit

By: **Madelyn Rinka**  
News Editor

NSU will host its 15th annual African Art exhibit from Feb. 8 to March 12 in the Alvin Sherman Library Cotilla Gallery in celebration of Black History Month. The exhibit will be unveiled at 8 p.m. on the opening day.

This year's theme will be "Back to Black," a celebration of African diaspora influence on art and culture.

"We are attempting to explore the notion and concept of blackness, and what it means to be black at a time when the notion of race and ethnicity are being questioned again," said Babacar Mbow, curator of the Back to Black exhibit. "We wanted to explore how these black artists provide answers to these questions

## Personality Profile: Vanessa Franco

By: **Diego Galvez**  
Sports Editor

There's a lot of planning when it comes to creating a club, an event or activity at NSU. Vanessa Franco is the person who advises and supports the more than 100 organizations at NSU. She joined the Shark family in July and since then, she has helped NSU through leadership development, professional development, clarifications on how to engage and retain members on campus and, most importantly to her, making sure that everyone is involved in some way on campus.

"Being a part of an organization is being part of a group that you want to be able to gain that common interest [with]," Franco said.

She also helps oversee NSU's Students Events and Activities Board in order to promote culture and diversity through day-time programs and night-time events. She has overseen some of the many student-run events like Weeks of Welcome, Sharkalooza, Homecoming and Fin Fest. Additionally, her office oversees all of the events that organizations put on around campus, and Franco attends those events whenever she can.

Franco received her bachelor's in



**PRINTED WITH PERMISSION FROM V. FRANCO**  
Vanessa Franco, assistant director of campus life and student engagement, enjoys managing campus activities at NSU.

psychology from Florida International University in 2013. However, she also realized that she also enjoyed learning about leadership development and how to be a proper leader, which she got a certificate for. Throughout her four years of study, she was a very active

member of her university.

"I did a very typical kind of student involvement. I did orientation at one point, and I was a member of a sorority [Alpha Omicron Pi] as an undergraduate student, so I had a lot of leadership opportunity," said Franco.

"I also played sports; playing soccer is one of my favorite things to do ... It was a really great experience," Franco said. "I was very proud of where I did undergrad and I relate to those who want to get involved on campus."

Franco also graduated from the University of Central Florida with a master's in educational leadership, specifically with the student personnel track. There, she prepared for leadership positions relating to student personnel administration in higher education and education-related fields.

"I did my masters in Orlando and stayed there for two years ... but I really wanted to come back down to South Florida just because it's kind of where you call home," Franco said.

When she saw a position open at NSU for the assistant director of campus life and student engagement, she realized that a lot of it

correlated with her passions and who she wanted to be.

"Every kind of thing that aligned with the position, aligned with what I wanted to instill in others," she said. "I want to help students and [make them proud] of where they ... help them get involved knowing that involvement leads to a lot of great connections, networking with others, leadership with students and more."

Franco was born in the United States, but her parents are originally from Colombia. For her, "it's nice to see the diverse communities that are at NSU and that I can relate to." She believes her background has made her more enthusiastic in creating a more diverse community.

"I really think that learning about what makes up a person, whether it's their culture or whether is knowing what can they bring to society, is important," said Franco. "Seeing the different types of cultures that make up what NSU has kind of brings everybody together ... and knowing that we are a diverse supported community."



## STAYING AFLOAT with Tutoring & Testing



## Navigating your online courses

By: **Jessica McDonald**  
Contributing Writer

*Jessica is a doctoral student in the Clinical Psychology Program at NSU. She works as an academic success coach at the Tutoring and Testing Center.*

One of the most common things that I hear as an academic success coach at the Tutoring and Testing Center is that students who are new to online classes feel like they can't grasp the information unless someone is lecturing them in the traditional sense. Though I know it can seem daunting at first, it isn't impossible to get the hang of. Here are a couple of themes that I've noticed from speaking with new online learners that, if addressed, can alleviate some of the challenges and stressors associated with online classes.

### Learn to navigate the webpages

When first starting out, I recommend clicking every button you can to figure out what information is placed where on the site. This will also help you figure out how to turn in your assignments, how to take tests and how



**PRINTED WITH PERMISSION FROM J. McDONALD**  
McDonald shares some tried and true recommendations for students who are taking online courses.

to contact your professor or classmates via blackboard. Exploring the web pages should be a relatively quick process which will ultimately help you get acquainted much more readily with

the materials that have been posted.

### Become one with your syllabus

Once you know where all the information is placed, take a look at your syllabus. Online classes can be little bit more challenging than traditional courses which are taken in-person because the professors will likely not be providing weekly reminders about what is due each week. Make sure that you are familiar with what is due and when, because it is really easy to forget that you have assignments when you're not sitting in class talking about them three times a week.

### Prepare to do a lot of reading

Understand clearly that you'll need to read your textbook quite often. You should probably be reading for your traditional setting classes anyway, but if you're the type to forego the book, you might have a particularly difficult time in an online class. Yes, reading can be tedious. Yes, it is not always the most exciting material in the world. But, I promise you that

reading the textbook will help you feel like you have a handle on the information from your class that you otherwise might not have been so comfortable with. Online classes are particularly effective for the students who do not wait to be told which section of which chapter to read. If you read it all, the posted PowerPoints or lecture slides should be a supplement to the information you've already learned.

### Perfect your time management skills

It is important to be organized with your time and your assignments. Just because you aren't asked to sit in a classroom for three hours a week doesn't mean that you shouldn't be putting in roughly the same amount of time to your online course. Make sure you have allotted enough time to learning the material, and moreover, that you have allotted time in your schedule to work on assignments. Keep on top — and even ahead — of the due dates, and I'm certain you won't feel as overwhelmed as you otherwise might have.

## How Portfolium can boost your career and spark connections

By: **Madelyn Rinka**  
News Editor

Portfolium is a "digital portfolio" that provides students with the opportunity to build their next-generation resume in a more interactive way. The platform allows for a variety of customizations that help showcase individual talents and abilities, rather than just presenting them as bullet points on a generic resume.

"It's a great way to market yourself whether you're looking for an internship, or applying to graduate schools or full-time positions," said Maggie Morrissey, an experiential learning career advisor at NSU.

Portfolium is a service provided by NSU's Office of Career Development to help students improve their self-marketing and assist in their quest to succeed in their field. These tips and

recommendations from Morrissey can help you streamline your unique portfolio experience.

### How to use Portfolium

Login using the link that was sent to you via your student email to create an account. If you've lost the link, reach out to a career advisor for assistance.

Populate your profile with traits and skills. Portfolium offers you a variety of ways to not only list these qualities, but to prove to future employers that you have proficiency in these areas.

Do a quick search for peers or mentors to boost your network and job opportunity results.

When your account is up and running,

follow the steps on the sidebar to improve your experience. Consider adding projects you've worked on, affiliations, your resume and even a simple profile picture.

### Features and opportunities

- Upload images, video clips or links to projects or internships that you've completed. This way, potential employers and business partners can see your diverse range of experiences, rather than just reading them off of a resume.
- View NSU classmates that have already registered for Portfolium. There is a widget under your profile called "classmates you may know" which gives you a list of peers

within your major to connect with.

- Use your personalized Portfolium link to send your ePortfolio to friends, family, employers or anyone else who you'd like to share your portfolio with.
- Continue personalizing your account. You'll really want to showcase your talents and abilities to potential employers.
- Reach out to the Office of Career Development for more help if you'd like individualized advice on how to make Portfolium work best for you. Find a Career Development office on the first floor of the DeSantis or Horvitz buildings, or contact them by calling 954-262-7201.



## M&H Cafe

By: **Siena Berardi**  
Contributing Writer

NSU is a unique and lively campus, but that doesn't mean that Sharks can't band together and take an afternoon to explore the South Florida area — even if that just means finding a quaint place to study.

A couple of summers ago, I discovered a hidden gem conveniently located across the street from NSU's main campus, and only a quick drive from my house. M&H Café has been a common destination for me since, supplying me and my friends with refreshing smoothies after hot beach days, grueling study sessions and even spontaneous dinner dates. Growing up as a South Florida native with a taste for quality eats, I tend to appreciate places that offer great food at affordable prices, which this "Gill Out" spot just happens to be.

As soon as you walk into the café, you find yourself surrounded by brightly adorned walls — painted by NSU alumna Annie Nguyen — and artwork displaying the smoothie of the month. The interior invites visitors to relax in a laid-back setting while listening to a range of

current and "throwback" jams. With its nearby location to campus, it surprises me when fellow students tell me they've never sipped one of their signature smoothies.

We are still at a point in the New Year where people are trying to fulfill healthy-eating resolutions; luckily, M&H Café offers healthy alternatives to the usual fast food options in the area. M&H Café has a variety of menu items, from paninis to wraps and salads, that are sure to satisfy any hungry customer.

The café is best known for its vast array of fruit smoothies and bubble teas. You have the option to choose from a range in smoothie flavors including avocado, blueberry, spice chai, red bean, taro and peanut butter. Or, you can try one of their signature flavors like the "Exotic Bliss," made with passion fruit, banana and papayas.

If you're feeling adventurous, you also have the option of adding popping bubbles to your drink. They come in several flavors, including lychee jelly, and can add that extra boost to any smoothie.



PRINTED WITH PERMISSION FROM S. BERARDI  
M&H Cafe's delicious avocado swiss panini is served with chips and salsa.

One of my favorite combinations is the grilled chicken caesar wrap paired with their signature Tropical Dream smoothie made with mango, papaya and pineapple. Whatever you're in the mood for, you're sure to find it on the menu.

M&H is the perfect place for a hungry college student because it's budget-friendly. For example, every day from 4 to 6 p.m. the café has a happy hour where all smoothies are only \$3.99. Also, if you show your server your NSU ID, you'll receive 10 percent off your order. Finally, to receive even more discounts, you have the option to sign up for their reward points system, redeeming offers the more points you accumulate.

With all M&H has to offer, I'm surprised I haven't applied for a job there yet. If you ever drop in to try out their smoothies or grub, look out for me. I'll probably be sitting at one of the high booths drinking a Tropical Dream and rocking out to the day's playlist.

### M&H Café

2875 S. University Drive,  
Davie, FL 33328

Hours: Monday - Saturday: 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Sunday: 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Price range: \$12 - \$18

## An alumna update: Dr. Hayley Oligane

By: **Jenna Kopec**  
Co-Editor-in-Chief

Hayley Oligane came to NSU somewhat by accident. After recovering from an injury and becoming a last-minute soccer recruit with a full scholarship offer, she found herself in South Florida majoring in biology. Her successful undergraduate career ended with her winning the James Farquhar Award, which acknowledges one graduating student for their excellence in scholarship, leadership and service, as well as an NCAA Woman of the Year nomination.

After, Oligane decided to continue her career as a Shark as a graduate student at the college of osteopathic medicine, which is also when she began her mission trips with other NSU students to Bangladesh, and with an organization called Mountain Fund to Nepal. Oligane also was featured online by NSU's alumni association.

Now, Oligane has earned her medical degree and is in her fifth year of residency in radiology at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, a concentration she chose because of its versatility.

"In radiology you have to know a lot about every single specialty," she said. "I really liked how it was all-encompassing and it applied to everything I had learned in medical school."

Throughout her residency, she's



PRINTED WITH PERMISSION FROM H. OLIGANE  
Oligane received a number of awards as an undergraduate at NSU, including a nomination for the NCAA's Woman of the Year award.

participated in research and found herself in various leadership positions. Her research focuses on liver cancer, minimally invasive oncology treatments and breast cancer.

"Two fields of radiology that I've been interested in were interventional radiology and women's imaging because you interact with patients," Oligane explained. "These research opportunities allow me to interact and be more hands-on with patients."

Oligane is the chief of radiology resident,

an elected position; part of her responsibilities include mentoring younger students through the program. She said that leadership positions aren't necessarily roles that she seeks out, rather ones that she often finds herself in. Part of that might be because of a leadership style that involves hard work and empathy.

"I kind of lead by a good example and I end up getting voted into these positions," she said. "And I really like it."

But with these responsibilities, Oligane said it's harder to travel abroad for mission trips. In the next year, she plans to take her first trip since Nepal with her sister to El Salvador. Still, she hasn't stopped finding ways to help her community. During her years of residency, Oligane has taken to lobbying on Capitol Hill, urging lawmakers to pass legislation for preventative screening for early detection of cancers.

"It all revolves around [the fact] that patients tend not to get screening tests done when their insurance companies won't cover the costs and it's important that our government holds our insurance companies responsible for providing those screening tools to our patients," said Oligane.

Oligane is looking into fellowship programs



PRINTED WITH PERMISSION FROM H. OLIGANE  
Oligane took a mission trip to Nepal with the organization Mountain Fund.

and planning the next steps in her career. For undergraduate or graduate students who may be doing the same, she had the following advice:

"Follow [your] instincts. Do what [you're] passionate about," said Oligane. Don't follow money or any type of influence, just do what you're passionate about, because when you do what you're passionate about you're going to be good at it."

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## Here's why 'The Shape of Water' has 13 Academy Award nominations

By: Jenna Kopec  
Co-Editor-in-Chief

If you've yet to see Guillermo Del Toro's latest creation, a fable and love story called "The Shape of Water," I've got to tell you you're missing out. I know that those of you who are familiar with del Toro's work might be hesitant to believe this, as the filmmaker has a reputation for being a bit eccentric and his films like "Hellboy" or "Pan's Labyrinth" aren't everyone's cup of tea. See this film anyway.

From a sheer storytelling standpoint, "The Shape of Water" weaves an incredibly complex storyline into an easy-to-understand format. What I appreciated most was how many layers there were to each scene: on the surface you have the central plot but just beneath there's bubbling historical references and social commentary. While the story, as most stories do,

definitely follows an arc, it isn't one that's often told and certainly in not so complex a format. Forgive me for being "that person," but for all of the eccentricities of del Toro's films, it's so refreshing to view a story uniquely it's own rather than the retelling of a horror, comedy or romance that's been done so many times.

What's perhaps most interesting about the story is that we know more about its supporting characters rather than the protagonist — a mute maid named Iliza. Yet, while there's little exposition about her character's past, Sally Hawkins somehow makes Iliza so human that it feels like the audience knows her. Hawkins' performance is so authentic that for a large part of the movie, it didn't occur to me that we hadn't heard her voice. Iliza's counterpart, the

centerpiece to the film, is a fantastical creature that we can presume to be mermaid, or merman, rather.

This creature can't speak either — perhaps a symbolic allusion to its destiny with Iliza — and acts like a wild animal throughout several scenes, yet maintains a human-like quality nonetheless. Though clearly created with makeup and post-production effects, the creature looks real, which is a hard feat to accomplish.

So, whether you're a fan of the director and filmmaker or not, it's easy to appreciate his latest work and the work the cast put into bringing it to life. After seeing this movie, the audience is left with a lot to discuss, questions to ask and thoughts to think, which is really what all good stories do.

### ACADEMY AWARD NOMINATIONS FOR "THE SHAPE OF WATER"

Best Picture	Best Film Editing
Best Director	Best Cinematography
Best Original Screenplay	Best Production Design
Best Actress	Best Costume Design
Best Supporting Actor	Best Sound Mixing
Best Supporting Actress	Best Sound Editing
Best Film Editing	Best Makeup and Hairstyling
	Best Original Score



## 'The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks'

By: Michaela Greer  
Co-Editor-in-Chief

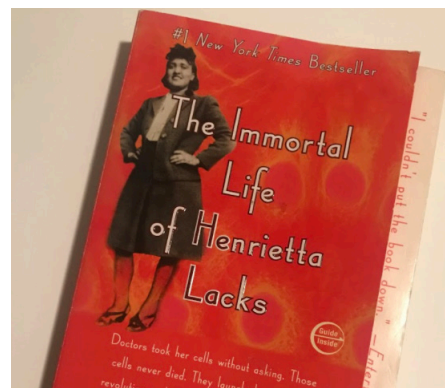
"Henrietta's cells have now been living outside her body far longer than they ever lived inside it ... She's simply called HeLa, the code name given to the world's first immortal human cells — her cells, cut from her cervix just months before she died."

On Jan. 29, 1951, with nowhere else to turn to seek treatment for his wife's pains, David Lacks drove his wife, Henrietta, to John Hopkins Hospital; the only institution in their area that would treat a poor, black, tobacco farmer. Nine months later, Lacks' family lost her to a fight with cancer, while the world of medicine continued to grow her cells by the thousands. The real hitch? Her family wouldn't learn about this for more than 20 years afterward.

In the New York Times Bestseller, author Rebecca Skloot recounts the events leading up to Henrietta's death. As you flip the pages, it's almost as if that motion turns back the hands of time. Instead of a pristine hospital room filled with beeping monitors and motorized

equipment, you land in a cold room, in the colored ward, with a terrified Henrietta who's about to learn that she has cervical cancer — a concept the mother of five will never truly understand. The only thing that Lacks knows is that she has a painful "knot in her womb." So, when the doctors suggest that she be treated with the use of radium tube inserts, she agreed, even though the practice, which was shown to reduce the size of tumors, also proved to have caused cancer in the first place.

At that time, it was customary for doctors to experiment on their patients of color, especially if they had limited means to pay for their treatments. It was during this period that two samples of Lacks' cells were extracted from her cervix and given to George Otto Gey, a cancer researcher at the hospital. Gey and his team then began the routine task of labeling and conducting tests on the samples. Though, unlike every other batch that died after multiplying for a set number of times, Lacks' cells continued to



PRINTED WITH PERMISSION FROM M. GREER  
If you're on the hunt for the next book that you won't be able to put down, read "The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks" by Rebecca Skloot.

grow, producing the first naturally "immortal" cell line known as HeLa after the first letters of her full name.

Since then, Lacks' cells have been sold to researchers around the world helping to find cures for numerous diseases like AIDS and polio, and forge advancements in the areas of

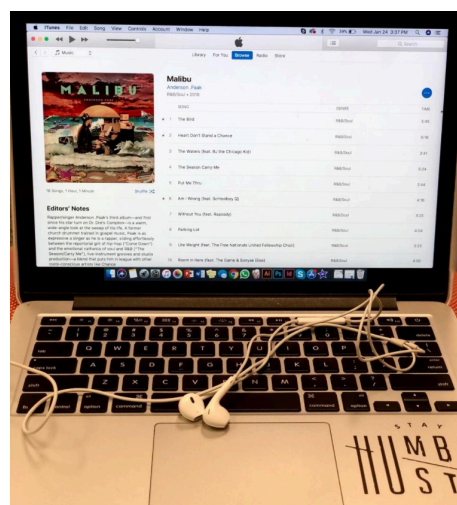
gene mapping, cloning and radiation. Lacks' cells have revolutionized the world of science, though most don't know her name or her story. What's more, Lacks' family has never been compensated for their loss or received any money from the proceeds of the sale of her cells. Sadly enough, Skloot documents that Lacks' kin can't even afford health insurance more than 50 years later.

Though you will experience moments of joy, laughter and discovery while reading this book, it won't leave you with a heartwarming feeling. Instead, you're likely to have a burning desire to share Lacks' story, a goal which Skloot seems to share with Lacks' family. Lacks' legacy lives on — literally. Isn't it time we know her for the woman that she was, instead of a collection of impersonalized HeLa cells? Pick up a copy of "The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks" and meet a mother, wife, sister and a woman, who through unimaginable pain, birthed the reality that we have the honor of living today.

## SOUNDBITE

### "Malibu" by Anderson Paak

By: Bianca Galan  
Contributing Writer



PRINTED WITH PERMISSION FROM B. GALAN  
If you haven't listened to "Malibu" yet, you should give it a look for its one year anniversary.

struggles including the absence of his father and his mom's gambling problems. He also talks about how after what he has gone through he will overcome it and still reach the top through righteousness. In "Heart Don't Stand a Chance"

he tells a story about how he met a woman and fell in love with her; he tells a story from beginning, middle to end. The conclusion is that they don't end up together because of different challenges. The song "Am I Wrong" features ScHoolboy Q; this song is mostly about life, enjoying it and taking advantage of it. In a description of the song, Paak stated, "This is about carpe diem— seizing the day, being appreciative of the time you have, and knowing that your time is very valuable. Please don't waste my time. Time is one of the most valuable things I have. I have to take advantage of it. I have to know my worth and the value of my time. I can't just give it to anybody."

Anderson Paak has had the opportunity to meet and work with many different artists like Mac Miller and Domo Genesis, and he is still rising to the top. Paak song "Come Down" is also part of Netflix's original series soundtrack "Iron Fist." Paak truly is going through the right path and will hopefully do great this 2018. Listen to Anderson Paak and be enjoy how beautiful and amazing his music can be.

## OFF SHORE CALENDAR

**South Florida Symphony: And the Tony Goes To**  
Feb. 6 | 7:30 p.m.  
@Broward Center for the Performing Arts

**Kid Rock**  
Feb. 7 | 8 p.m.  
@Hard Rock Live

**Disaster!**  
Feb. 9 | 7:30 p.m.  
@Broward Center for the Performing Arts

**ArtsPark Movie Night**  
Feb. 9 | 8 p.m.  
@ArtsPark in Young Circle

**Fort Laudi Gras**  
Feb. 10 | 4 p.m.  
@America's Backyard

**Seminole Tribal Fair and Pow Wow**  
Feb. 9-11 | various times  
@Hard Rock Live

Brandon Paak Anderson, better known as Anderson Paak, is a singer, songwriter, drummer and rapper. He was born and raised in Oxnard, California and he is half African-American and half-Korean. His music career began in high school when he attended Foothill Technology High School and started practicing drumming. He worked as a drummer in a church and also as a music teacher. He debuted his first album in 2012 which is when his career truly began.

His latest album is called "Malibu" and it was released in January 2017; even if it isn't recent, it's worth listening to. In this album, Paak had 16 songs, which The Guardian described as, "a warm and hazy blend of styles — funk, jazz, New York house, reggae, trap, blaxploitation-era soul, a hint of psych-rock — anchored in R&B and hip-hop." Out of the 16 songs, he has three well-known songs that are called "The Bird," "Heart Don't Stand a Chance" and "Am I Wrong" featuring ScHoolboy Q. He also has a total of seven songs featuring other lesser-known artists.

In "The Bird" he talks about his childhood

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## ON DECK

### MEN'S BASKETBALL

@Saint Leo  
Feb. 7 | 7:30 p.m.  
St. Leo, Fla.

@Eckerd  
Feb. 10 | 4 p.m.  
St. Petersburg, Fla.

### WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

@Saint Leo  
Feb. 7 | 5:30 p.m.  
St. Leo, Fla.

@Eckerd  
Feb. 10 | 2 p.m.  
St. Petersburg, Fla.

### MEN'S BASEBALL

@North Alabama  
Feb. 9 | 5 p.m.  
Florence, Ala.

@North Alabama  
Feb. 10 | 1 p.m.  
Florence, Ala.

@North Alabama  
Feb. 10 | 4 p.m.  
Florence, Ala.

### WOMEN'S SOFTBALL

vs. West Florida  
Feb. 9 | 5 p.m.  
AD Griffin

vs. West Florida  
Feb. 9 | 7 p.m.  
AD Griffin

vs. Pittsburg State  
Feb. 10 | 1 p.m.  
AD Griffin

vs. Pittsburg State  
Feb. 10 | 3 p.m.  
AD Griffin

### MEN'S GOLF

vs. Matlock Invitational  
Feb. 11- 13  
Lone Palm Golf Club,

### WOMEN'S TENNIS

vs. Southeastern University  
Feb. 8 | 2 p.m.  
NSU Tennis Complex

## OUT OF THE SHARKZONE

### 'Grid Girls' won't appear in this season of Formula One

According to CNN, Formula One announced on Wednesday that their tradition of the "grid girls" will end with the first race of the 2018 World Championship happening in March. The 'grid girls' were used to help promote brands and sponsorship deals as well as during the presentation of trophies on the podium. Sean Bratches, the managing director of F1, said that the "custom does not resonate with our brand values." The decision comes four days after the Professional Darts Corporation also announced it won't be using "walk-on girls" to accompany men onto the stage. The 2018 season of F1 starts March 25.

### Vladimir Putin admits to Russian athlete doping allegations

According to CNN, Russian President Vladimir Putin admitted that there have been "instances of doping use in Russia" but that the problem is all over the world, not just in Russia. On a conference on Jan. 31, Putin said that the doping use was real but only in certain cases, adding, "I want the audience to know this and the whole country to know this." However, the Kremlin leader later added that "there are many such examples around the world, but no one is making a big show of it."

### Baseball superstar Oscar Gamble dies at 68

Oscar Gamble, best known as the man with baseball's best hair, died on Wednesday morning at the age of 68, according to USA Today. Over his 17-year career, he played for seven teams including the Rangers, the

Yankees and the White Sox. He became a cult baseball hero for his large afro, which reached eight inches tall and could barely be confined by a baseball cap or helmet. His cause of death was not immediately reported.

### Cleveland Indians to change their logo next year.

The Cleveland Indians announced that they will stop using the Chief Wahoo logo on their uniforms beginning in 2019, according to the New York Times. The team announced the change was because they believe that the popular symbol is no longer appropriate for use on the field. Phillip Yenyo, the executive director of the American Indian movement of Ohio, commented that the decision is "another step in the right direction" but wished that the move wasn't being put off for a year.

### Federer wins his 20th Grand Slam title

According to CNN, Roger Federer won his 20th Grand Slam on Jan. 28 against Marin Cilic in the Australian Open final by 152 over 128. The match lasted three hours and three minutes before Federer was named the champion of the 2019 Australian Open. Federer said he was happy about the outcome, trying really hard to keep his emotions in check, stating, "I'm happy it's over, but winning is just an absolute dream come true. The fairytale continues for me. After the great year I had last year, it's incredible."

## SPORTS SHORTS

### Baseball

The baseball team won both of their games on Feb. 1 and 2 against Catawba and Tusculum, respectively. Sophomore Devin Conn made his debut in the Feb. 1 match, building on a 1-0 lead created by freshman Bryan Diaz and junior Ian Acevedo. Conn's 13 strikeouts scored by a Shark since 2009 by World Series Champion Mike Fiers.

### Men's basketball

On Feb. 24, the Sharks lost their match against Lynn with a final score of 86-90. However, on Feb. 27, the men's basketball team bounced back winning their game against Tampa. The game marked the team's first season sweep against Tampa since 2015.

### Men's and women's swimming

The Sharks brought home a win on Feb. 27 in their meet against Keiser. Freshman Emma Sundstedt earned the first win of the day in the 1000m freestyle with an NCAA B-Cut time of 10:00.49. Senior Franco Lupoli also garnered an NCAA B-Cut time in the 500m freestyle, with a time of

4:38.93. Senior Thomas Rutherford won first place three times with the 200m fly, 200m breaststroke and 200m individual medley.

### Women's basketball

The women's basketball team lost their games against Lynn on Jan. 24 and Tampa on Jan. 27. Senior Christen Prasse scored 14 and 11 points in both games, respectively. In their Jan. 27 match, the Sharks did not miss a free-throw until the last 20 seconds of the game.

### Softball

On Feb. 2, the Sharks lost both of their matches against Lee and West Florida. Senior Dana Edmundson drew two walks in the Sharks' first time against the Flames. Neither team scored until the fifth inning of the game.

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## On The Bench: WWE wrestlers are actors, not athletes

By: **Christina McLaughlin**

Opinions Editor

It's an open secret that anything that happens in the ring on Monday Night Raw is scripted and strategically planned. But fans still fill the stadiums in states across the nation for every single event. WWE, or World Wrestling Entertainment, is an entertainment platform that has taken an unexpected turn. Who would have imagined that a staged sport would make \$730 million in revenue annually?

Professional wrestling, as it is called, involves these larger than life personas and massive events like SummerSlam, Wrestlemania, Royal Rumble and TLC (tables, ladders and chairs). These personas include celebrities like Hulk Hogan, The Undertaker, The Miz, John Cena and Roman Reigns who are known by their big personality types and general characteristics — which are heavily exaggerated for entertainment purposes. Shows like Monday Night Raw are mainly about talking points and disputes on the mic with short bursts of actual fighting. But a few actual fights in the ring and a few members of staff portraying officials does not mean it should be considered a legitimate

sporting event.

These personalities are strictly enforced for these individuals to keep up with, including in the ring, in the locker room, in interviews and in the media. If they are found doing something negative which affects their image in the ring, they could lose their job. Quartz, a digital news outlet, addressed one instance of breaking persona. In the late 80s The Iron Sheik and Hacksaw were found hanging out and engaged in illegal drug use. Vince McMahon, the CEO of WWE seemed to be more insulted that these two employees, who were enemies in the ring, were hanging out in a public setting as friends. The CEO furiously ordered mandatory drug testing and remaining “faces and heels,” as they call it, to shun each other in public.

This wasn't the only time that WWE wrestlers broke this code. In 2016, Hulk Hogan, or Terry Bollea, sued Gawker media for a sex tape of him they released on their website. Bollea stated in his testimony, “Terry Bollea's a normal person. Wrestling is my job, it's what Terry Bollea does for a living... It gives you artistic liberty when you're Hulk Hogan to be

a character.”

If Hulk Hogan is this extreme personality in and out of the ring and Hogan would be fine with a sex tape in the ring, why isn't Bollea okay with the tape out of the ring? At least, that's what the prosecutor and the public thought. Bollea tried to draw the line between him and the persona that he plays, but does that distinction lessen his authenticity as an “athlete”? Would someone who plays another sport claim that their actions were only related to their public persona?

The WWE stars are known to use weapons like tables and sledgehammers, other than their bodies against their opponents in a match. If you look carefully, it's no secret that these tables are not exactly up to code. These tables, especially announcer tables, are mainly made of thin plywood which could be broken easily with enough force. You can't deny that these stars feel the force of the break, but its still what Hollywood calls a “break-away.” These are items made to be broken easily for special effects. With the right camera angle, and proper training and skill these tables could be broken by anyone.

In 2014, a Monday Night Raw script was actually leaked into the media to sources like Deadspin. This third draft script outlines the entrances, exits, some dialogue and even proves that these matches are actually choreographed. One sentence reads “Big Show [Paul Donald Wight] KOs Sandow [Aaron Haddad].” That means that way before it even happened, they planned out the match and knew who would be knocked out. It looks like the stars have freedom to trash talk and add in their own lines but they need to stick to this general outline. Which is probably the “artistic liberty” that Bollea was referring to.

That's why it's common to see people in WWE move into Hollywood; they've been taking these artistic liberties so long it's easy to become an actor. It was just in a different medium. It's hard to remember that, especially with the way that WWE is filmed. It's supposed to seem realistic and be executed in such a way to be believable to a majority of audiences. But it's not only the fighting that's fake, it's important to remember that the “fighters” aren't...well, fighters. They're actors.

## Inside the ballpen of NSU baseball

By: **Christina McLaughlin**

Opinions Editor

During their preseason, the men's baseball team earned some impressive accolades with rankings like No. 12 by Collegiate Baseball and No. 18 by Perfect Game in the preseason polls. With a 2016 National Championship title and the these additional rankings, expectations for this program are at an all-time high. Greg Brown, head coach of the baseball team, said these preseason rankings are great indicators of where the program is.

“These accolades represent our reputation and our talent and once it reaches a certain level, people expect more,” said Brown.

The training for this season has been intense, especially with the turnover of students graduating and new recruits entering the program. This year, 23 new players have entered the program, which gave the team an opportunity to add some new talent to the already skilled roster. Individualized training programs, for players to meet their own goals and team goals, led to a few standout players this training season.

According to Brown, players like freshman Andrew Labosky, junior Jake Anchia and senior Andrew Liberty have had an outstanding training camp and can all contribute to a fantastic season.

“Anchia is our highest prospect catcher, he's a dynamic player. Liberty has been a staple in this program and Labosky can be a real impact player for us this year. All of our players have had the best training this season, [better] than we've ever had,” said Brown.

A big contributor to this successful training season is the team's culture. If a team can work productively together on and off the field, then it could make a great season overall, and Mike Momeiny, director of athletics, agreed.

“From what I've seen, this is a group who likes to have fun. Even though there are a lot of new faces, it seems like they've known each other a long time, which is a good sign. It will create earlier team chemistry and camaraderie which will hopefully result in wins,” said Momeiny.

Over the past eight years under Brown's leadership, the program has created a culture and work ethic that this team can take pride in. He believes in impacting young men and giving them the ability to reach their potential. He said not only did these players meet his expectations, but they exceeded them.



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Players stand for the National Anthem prior to the season opener.

During opening weekend, the team has faced some top competitors like No. 15 Catawba, Tusculum, and No. 1 Delta State. Facing these competitors so early in the season has raised the stakes as well as expectations for the team. But for them, it's more about the experience than the logistics.

“The challenge of having strong opponents early creates an ebb and flow which offers a lot of growth opportunities. I'm more interested in how we develop rather than who we are playing,” said Brown.

The team hopes that approaching the season with an open attitude will raise the bar for potential skills they can acquire.

“I believe results are byproducts of how you do things, whether that's in practice or building your character. The wins and losses are an end result of what you do when no one's looking,” said Momeiny.

By learning new skills and harmonizing as a team, Momeiny and Brown hope the NSU community will engage with their program as well.

“I think our games provide great entertainment and we would like to see the students take pride and be a part of the brand of NSU on the field. We are furthering that connection with events like Baseball Bonanza on Feb. 16 to engage the student body in our program,” said Brown

The next game for the Sharks is in Alabama on Feb. 9 against the North Alabama Lions. The team encourages fans to follow them in the stands or on twitter @NSU\_Baseball for live updates and other exclusive content.

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PIANIST

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## Pope Francis steps up

By: **Christina McLaughlin**

Opinions Editor

When Pope Francis, head of the Roman Catholic Church, was appointed in March of 2013, it marked a lot of firsts. He's the first pope representing the Americas; first to refuse the bullet-proof limousine; first to refuse living in the Apostolic Place and he is the first pope to ever use the word "gay" rather than homosexual or similar terms. Pope Francis has expressed his plans to reform the church and change the way that the Catholic Church is viewed and operated.

Francis hopes to open the gates and welcome new followers into the Catholic Church. National Catholic Publishing recently said, "Pope Francis allows open discussion and debate in the church. He is not scandalized by disagreements, even over doctrine." So if that is true, and he is open to debates and discussion, why did he dismiss sex abuse survivors accusing Bishop Juan Barros of covering up the cases

against Rev Fernando Karadima?

On his recent visit to Chile, Francis stated on Jan. 18 that these allegations were all "calumny," or slanderous statements. But this left Chileans and most others following the case utterly confused since the Vatican sentenced Karadima to a life of "penance and prayer" in 2011 for his crimes. Therefore, they noted, even then, that the accusations were credible enough to order an appropriate penalty.

An article by The Guardian said, "a Chilean judge found the victims to be credible, saying that while [the judge] had to drop criminal charges against Karadima because of time passed, proof of his crimes was not lacking." So Pope Francis went back to the old Catholic staple of ignoring these serious problems and trying to sweep it right under the rug, but this time that wasn't possible. The public was paying

attention and there was no way to avoid it.

This sudden backlash the pope was facing was the first time he's been seen negatively in a while. Americans were especially shocked by this statement because of the recent allegations of sexual misconduct in the U.S. in Hollywood and the workplace. It's shocking that as these events were happening in the U.S., the pope made a public statement discrediting many people. Yet, he never responded to this backlash and sat back while this outrage went on.

After five days of silence from The Vatican, Pope Francis decided to send Maltese Bishop Charles Scicluna, a sex crimes expert, to investigate Bishop Juan Barros' case. Scicluna was sent to also gather testimony from the victims and analyze all parts of the case. Whether this was done to cover the reputation of the church or out of the recognition of his

wrongdoings, we might never know, but at least the action took place.

So far, Pope Francis has tried to change the Catholic Church and its image. This case is a major setback, but with some public outcry Pope Francis did take action, which the Vatican doesn't have a history of doing. It's common to see people of this caliber make blanket statements and never own up to their actions, but at least this pope is trying to fix his mistake. It might be a long time before we see a real change in the Vatican, but by these small actions, that are relatively big changes in the eyes of the church, we can start to see a real barrier breaking. By breaking these barriers, Pope Francis might have a shot of achieving his goal of being a pope for the people, but he needs to be truly open to debate, no matter how touchy the subject might be, even if it reflects badly on the church.

## Five reasons why Valentine's Day should be skipped in favor of year-round gestures

By: **Janai Sinclair-Bell**

Contributing Writer

Valentine's Day is only a few days away, and if you have a valentine you're probably hectically trying to plan an overly romantic perfect day. You're likely spending lots of money on presents that your significant other may not use every day, or wondering if your significant other will appreciate your day's worth of effort enough to make a sappy post on social media.

Over the years, Valentine's Day has become a symbol of "social status." For some weird reason, we allow this one day to characterize how strong and healthy our relationships really are. In my opinion, a single affection-filled day on this beloved earth can determine how much someone really loves you. In fact, here are five reasons why Valentine's Day should be skipped and love be celebrated year-round.

### More is more

You and your significant other don't need a national holiday to show your true affection for one another. Sharing your affection year-round is better because it's fun and important to surprise the person you truly care for every once in a while. Quality time spent with one another over a prolonged period of time is much more meaningful than an over-the-top extravaganza done at one time.

### Spend time, not money

Valentine's Day is just another regular day that's been upgraded for no apparent reason. You don't have to spend money on presents like overpriced roses, candy hearts and ridiculously oversized teddy bears that are usually \$20 but

all of a sudden become \$50 a week before Valentine's Day. The strength of relationships shouldn't be based on how much money you spend. Spend more time with one another, not more money on one another.

### Avoid the crowds


How about that traffic? Avoid all the heavy traffic areas and overly-crowded restaurants. Celebrating Valentine's Day means there will be a lot of people out and about at the same exact time. There's nothing less romantic than being surrounded by so many people that you can't even hear your significant other during a conversation.

### Don't cover up the real issues

Sometimes couples use Valentine's Day as a way to cover up certain issues in their relationships. Valentine's Day shouldn't be used as a day for making up for the mistakes that have been made for the past year. Forced romance doesn't work, and gift buying shouldn't be a way to fix or improve disconnected relationships.

### Take the time to love yourself

Everything about Valentine's Day makes it seem that in order to be successful and happy, you have to have another person to love and accept you. It's important that people in relationships find the time for themselves and methodize self-love.



**Water your thoughts: Running out of patience**

By: **Sydney Stoneback**  
Visual Design Assistant

Running is my daily stress relief. Nothing quite beats the therapeutic drumming of feet on pavement. However, there is nothing more irritating than something breaking my zen. As a collegiate long-distance runner, my teammates and I are always running, especially around campus and the general Davie area. My least favorite part about running in the SoFlo area isn't the brutally-hot Florida weather or the lack of dirt trails, but rather the constant honking, staring and catcalling that my teammates and I have to endure. Every. Single. Day.

On the team, we run around 30 plus miles a week. When I'm running down the

street, I'm really just trying to finish my run, so that I can get back to campus and eat dinner. Trust me when I tell you that I am not running in a sports bra so that you can break your neck to get a good look at me while I run by. It's Florida and it's hot, so I'm sorry if you can't control yourself when you see a stomach. Even if you think that you are being "supportive" by honking, there is no possible way for us to know that, so we'll just group you with the creeps. So, here's a tip: The next time you see a group of girls running down Davie Road during rush hour, and decide that it's a good idea to honk or catcall, don't.



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# Reality dating shows are ridiculous

By: **Samantha Villarroel**  
Contributing Writer

It is safe to say that we all want to find “the one;” a companion to spend the rest of our lives with. So why wouldn’t you try to do it on a dating show? Answer: Because that isn’t how you find love. You will find lust, publicity and maybe even mono, but certainly not love.

These dating shows gather up large groups of women and men to be judged by one person. That one person determines by the end of season who gets their heart, the last rose or a ring. The goal is to be the last person standing; to withstand the obstacles each week in agony as other strangers get their turn of dating the bachelor or bachelorette.

Dating shows can be compared to game shows. Each week there’s a new task or activity, then after that activity the match chooses who gets to have quality time with them, and then eliminates those who failed to impress. These contestants go through a series of dates all to win the prize of “love.”

Sure, the producers really do try their best to make it seem like people are falling in love naturally, as anyone would with cameras three feet away from their face recording their every move. The production aspect of these dating shows is precisely a business based on ratings. It’s completely scripted, but they try to mimic real relationships so it can seem “natural.” But there’s nothing natural about 29 people kissing the same person over a month of filming.

Throughout these dating shows, there’s a

crazy amount of shadiness going on, including people talking behind the backs of others, as well as accusations of jealousy and unfaithfulness. Then, how crazy is it that the bachelor or bachelorette rewards their “date” with affection? In essence they become the Oprah Winfrey of kisses; a kiss for you and a kiss for you, everyone gets kisses. Twenty-nine kisses later and the host ends up not choosing anyone, much like Brad Womack did in season 11 of the Bachelor; all that turmoil for nothing.

Still, there are some shows that pair people based of their astrology signs, social interest or phones, like in a new Snapchat segment “Phone Swap.” This ridiculous show pairs two strangers, forces them to swap phones, snoop through the phone and at the end decide if they will go out with with the person they were paired with, solely based on the content in their phone. Perhaps I’m the only who doesn’t think that starting a relationship with the invasion of my partner’s privacy is a dream come true.

Reality dating shows are fake. They do not embody love, honesty or communication; which happen to be a few important elements needed in any real relationship. So, my advice is to stick to getting to know someone one-on-one. Go on food dates. Watch a movie. Watch a show. Talk about your interests and goals. Make jokes. Watch vines. And lastly, date one person at a time, instead of 29.



# Seriously Kidding

A satire column.

## Students deny gender inequity because it ‘doesn’t impact’ them

By: **Jenna Kopec**  
Co-Editor-in-Chief

In an effort to learn what NSU can do to better serve its community and join the fight against gender inequity both locally and nationally, President George Hanbury sent a survey to the student body on Jan. 1. To his surprise, the responses he received showed little interest in a need for social change.

According to the results, which Hanbury released in order to paint a picture of students’ attitudes, 80 percent of students on campus said that gender inequity “didn’t have a significant impact on [them]” and 75 percent said that there was “no national campaign or action that [they want to participate in as a university] they think they’d want to join.”

“I think we live in a society where like, both men and women are totally being heard,” said Amber Mispoint, a junior biology major. “I mean look how much traction things like the #MeToo campaign is receiving? We did it ya’ll.”

Mispoint wasn’t exactly sure what “it” was, but did repeatedly say that women had accomplished “it.”

While Mispoint doesn’t see the need for action because she feels like we’ve done “it,” others feel like there was nothing to accomplish

in the first place.

“I mean personally, we can vote now so I don’t see what the big deal is. No one is threatening your rights, you know?” said Wanda B. Mann, senior business administration major. “If you want to make it in the world sometimes you’re gonna have to flirt a little. I don’t see what the big deal is.”

Mann said that she is often interrupted by her male classmates, though she did not think that was indicative a problem.

“One time my professor even defended me, and I was like ‘bro chill, it’s no big deal,’” Mann explained.

Even male students, like sophomore sports management major Paul Oleman, don’t feel like there’s a disconnect.

“This whole ‘men can be emotional’ thing is crazy. I’m a man, I hate to cry. No, thanks,” said Oleman.

Despite the lack of response from students, Hanbury plans to launch a campaign to help students learn about gender inequity and how it may impact their daily lives without them realizing it.



“I get the “outer aspect;” like making people on the outside think we are looking really awesome. On the “inside aspect,” I am a LA [lab assistant] for Gen Chem and I see there is a lot of equipment that we need and more money for us to buy more equipment so if we had more updated labs, it would be more prestigious.”

- Murielle Cayemitte, junior biology major



“They have added a lot of programs over the past couple years but maybe like some more on this campus because I know I am interested in the oceanographic center but that is so far away and not having a car it is hard to do that. Maybe if they had more [programs] closer that would be great.”

- Katarina Lee, freshman environmental science major



“I would like to see NSU improve the community aspect because they could play a bigger role in the community ... they have such a big opportunity to host more events here to get NSU’s brand out there ... I see NSU as being one of the top 50 schools very, very soon because they have so many innovative programs. So if they initiate the community into [those] programs like Razor’s Edge and others like that, they would further that goal more. Also, more distinguished faculty, the faculty is good but they have done such a nice job with the infrastructure like buildings and stuff, why not improve the curriculum infrastructure? Why not seek more distinguished faculty and more people like that? Other than that I am very pleased with school.”

- Mason Petrosky, freshman paralegal studies



“I think that NSU should work on keeping their facilities open for longer hours so that students can study and work on their success.”

- Josh Robertson, freshman accounting major



“I think NSU should establish more parking lots because the population is growing so we need more spots.”

- Kirtana Palreddy, freshman biology major

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