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Security upgrades in NSU residence halls leave students with questions

By: Gabrielle Thompson
Features Editor

The Office of Facilities Management sent out an email on Sunday, Oct. 29, informing residential students about an upcoming change to locks and keys for the students rooms in the residence halls on campus. The installation of the new lock and key upgrade started on Oct. 30 and will be complete by Nov. 13.

While many residential students are confused as to why the lock changes are taking place so suddenly and in the middle of the semester, NSU administration said there is no need to worry. Vice President for Facilities Management Jessica Brumley explained that there is no threat that has prompted the change in locks and keys.

“This has been a project that has been on our capital plan for some time, but it was something that was recently funded. We wanted to take advantage of the approval and get going with it,” said Brumley.

Executive Director of Facilities Management Alex MacNamara explained that the previous keys had “duplication prohibited” stamped on them to encourage unauthorized services to not allow anybody to make copies, but the new keys take that idea a step further. “Basically what we have now is a patented key that is strictly dedicated to Nova Southeastern University, and no one else can duplicate it without our written consent and approval. It is quite a difference from a security perspective,” said MacNamara.

Director of Residential Life & Housing Aarika Camp also said that the lock and key upgrade will make a difference in safety for residential students. “Students lose keys every day. What this new key system assures us is that no one will be able to duplicate the keys or trace the key, which means that the safety hazard associated with our students losing keys has been greatly reduced,” said Camp.

Camp has noticed the frustration of some residential students, but explained that changing keys is a smooth and quick process. “We tried to make [swapping keys] as fast and painless as possible. I think on average, once a student came to get the key, it took maybe two minutes to give them the new key. It seems as though the majority of our students were understanding and had no real issue,” said Camp.

NSU prides itself on its safety and security, putting forth effort to make sure its students feel comfortable and safe on campus. The upgrade in locks and keys in the residence halls is another way to improve security for its students on campus.

By: Madelyn Rinka
News Editor

The deadline for undergraduate and graduate students to submit their works to “Digressions,” NSU’s literary magazine sponsored by the College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences, is quickly approaching. Students can submit original artwork, photos, short stories, poems and creative essays by Nov. 20 to be considered for publication in the 15th issue, which will launch in April.

Molly Scallon, associate professor in the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences and faculty advisor for “Digressions,” encourages any student, no matter their major, to submit their works.

“It makes them feel vulnerable to put their work out there, but it’s also really important as a creative person to put your work out there to get feedback and responses,” Scallon said.

Logan Stewart, this year’s layout and design manager, also encouraged students outside of the humanities to submit. “I’m an art major, so it’s cool to see my work published, but there’s a lot of people here who aren’t art majors, and that doesn’t mean they don’t want their work to be shown,” said Stewart. “Maybe you’re a biology major but you like to write on the side — it would be cool to have your work published somewhere where other people can read it. It’s just a little something extra.”

“I think everyone has their own personal stress, whatever they have in their head, they can get out,” said Melissa Boneta, managing editor for “Digressions.” “Try submitting, and see what happens. The review staff is very open-minded and we love everything that you guys submit to us.”

Scallon added that graduate students should also send in anything they would like to be considered, as submissions were opened up to all NSU students two years ago, whereas previously only undergraduate submissions were taken.

“Art brings unity, especially if it’s a piece that people can relate to collectively,” explained Boneta. “If people can connect to a message that someone’s trying to say, and you can connect to another person that connects to that, it kind of just brings people together.”

Even if you’re new to the art scene, Stewart encourages anyone to rest their hand — and their mind — to try something new.

“On top of all of the normal school work and stress, it’s showing how you can branch off into other things,” Stewart said.

Interested students can submit their work at nsuworks.nova.edu/digressions. If you have any questions, or are considering joining the “Digressions” team, send an email to editor-in-chief Nicole Chavannes at nch805@mynsu.nova.edu.
NSU to host its first Amazing Race event

NSU’s Office of Campus Life and Student Engagement is hosting their first ever Amazing Race event on Nov. 17. This year’s theme is “Conquer the Continents,” as each of the seven challenges correspond to one of the seven continents to celebrate International Education Week. Student organizations and departments will sponsor the challenges.

“The Amazing Race event is pretty much based on the actual reality show, so it’s teams of two that are completing different challenges,” explained Tamara Lumdên, the graduate assistant for weekend programming under special events and projects.

The stations will be held all over campus, from the Shark Circle to the Pagoda. Each challenge will be somewhat related to the culture of the continent it represents. Challenges can range from physical or mental games, obstacle courses and eating contests.

Lumdên encouraged anyone who has a competitive nature, enjoys physical and mental challenges and is looking for something fun and creative to do to sign up. There will also be prizes for the winners of the event, which is free to participate in.

“My events as weekend programmers are all on campus, and they are all free,” said Lumdên. “We do it just to get our students out of their beds on the weekends.”

The deadline to collaborate as a sponsor has already passed, but interested participants can still sign up by Nov.14. Those interested in creating a team for the event or who want more information can contact Tamara Lumdên at cl1547@nova.edu or call 954-282-7193.

Syrian army reclaims Deir al-Zour

The Syrian government has reclaimed the border province of Deir al-Zour, which has been under Islamic State control since 2014, according to the BBC. This comes at the same time that the Syrian military is making gains against IS. Though IS has lost a considerable amount of ground, there’s still worry across the world regarding the state of Syrian government and US-backed units who hold land in northern Syria. As the BBC said, “while the war against the IS ‘caliphate’ is well on the way to being won, the situation on the ground in Syria is becoming ever more complex.” Meanwhile, 535,000 civilians have been forced to flee the Deir al-Zour area because of fighting.

Cuba denies accusations of attacks on diplomats

Cuban Foreign Minister Bruno Rodríguez Parrilla denied that there were any attacks on US personnel at the Cuban Embassy, according to ABC News. This comes weeks after 24 Americans were impacted by mysterious attacks that caused dizziness, cognitive issues and mild traumatic brain injuries. Since then, the U.S. has shrunk its personnel at the embassy by 60 percent and advised Americans not to travel to the island.

Catalonia protests continue after ministers were jailed

Thousands of Catalans protested Thursday after the arrest and detention of Catalan ministers by Spain’s government. According to the BBC, these ministers are being accused of rebellion, sedition and misuse of public funds. Tensions are rising in the country since the region voted to become independent from Spain and the government issued a referendum calling it illegal on Oct. 1.
By: Christina McLaughlin
Opinions Editor

Lambda Theta Alpha Latin Sorority, Inc. and the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention have teamed up for the annual Out of the Darkness Community Walk from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Nov. 12. Registration is free, open to the public and can be done online at afsp.donateonline.net or in person at 8 a.m. the day of the event.

The first Out of the Darkness Walk took place in 2009 because an LTA sister was passionate about spreading the word about suicide on campus.

“She is a topic not a lot of people talk about, since it’s known as something taboo, we really wanted to get [the message] out there,” said Roma Robinson, treasurer of the Gamma Delta Chapter of LTA at NSU. “This event stemmed from personal experiences as well. It’s become a safe place for people to walk for family, friends or even for yourself.”

Once the walk is completed, the activity portion of the event will commence. Members and organizations from the NSU community, like the Big Tides and Open Expressions, will perform. Numerous organizations and other resources will be tabling, offering “freebies” and providing valuable information about suicide prevention.

“It’s an emotional time, but it’s an opportunity to raise awareness [about suicide], have fun and bring an educational aspect [to the community],” said Robinson.

Beaded necklaces will be handed out to participants at this event. Each colored necklace corresponds to a different meaning involving suicide.

“One bead [color] might represent losing someone to suicide, while another could mean you know of a veteran who committed suicide,” said Robinson. There will also be a release of butterflies to signify the lives of those that have been lost to suicide.

Last year, LTA surpassed its goal of raising $55,000 and raised over $60,000 dollars with about 2,000 total walkers. They are aiming to raise another $60,000 this year. Students looking to get involved or looking for more information can contact Roma Robinson at rr1440@my.nsuss.edu.

RecWell to host Wellness Workshop

On Nov. 8, from noon to 1 p.m., RecWell will partner with registered dietician and nutritionist Marilyn Gorden to host a wellness workshop. For more information, email wellness@nova.edu.

Miami-Dade Public Schools submit recruitment call for education students

Junior and senior students who are majoring in education are invited to attend a recruitment meeting hosted by Miami-Dade Public Schools on Nov. 10 in room 1042 of the Carl DeSantis Building. For more information, call 954-262-7201, email career@nova.edu or visit sharkfins.nova.edu/miami-dade-public-schools-recruiting-education-students-eev-16.

Dance Around the World with NSU

The Office of Recreational and Wellness invites students to participate in a week of events in celebration of International Education Week from Nov. 13 to Nov. 17. The events are free and open to the public and will feature sessions led by NSU’s MAASIT and NISA. For additional information, visit sharkfins.nova.edu/dance-around-the-world-2017 or email s12516@my.nsu.edu.

NSU’s Shark Dining to present Multicultural Appreciation Tasting

As part of International Education Week, NSU’s Shark Dining will be hosting a multicultural tasting event on Nov. 14. Students are invited to attend the event which will be held in the PPD Cafe to learn more about other cultures through the sampling of different cuisines. For more information, visit www.dineoncampus.com/nova/events.

Circle of Friends to host second annual "Mystery in the Library"

The NSU community is invited to join the Circle of Friends on Nov. 11 for their second annual “Mystery in the Library” event to raise funds for the Albin Sherman Library. The event will begin at 7:30 p.m. with the serving of drinks and food. Beginning at 8 p.m., participants will search for clues through a game of “whodunit.” Tickets cost $75 per person. For more information, visit sherman.library.nova.edu/circleoffriends/

NSU to host annual Thanksgiving dinner

On Nov. 21 from 12:30 to 3:00 p.m., faculty, staff, commuter and residential students, both undergraduate and graduate, are invited to celebrate Thanksgiving in the Fishbowl Deck Pub. At the event, guests will be served a holiday meal and will have the option to participate in various activities.
How to keep a level head

By: Katy Popplewell
Contributing Writer

Katy Popplewell is pursuing a master’s degree in Student Affairs. She received her Bachelor of Arts in Communication and her master’s certificate in Marketing from the University of Cincinnati. She works in the Career Development office as a graduate assistant and career adviser.

Adapting to college-life is one of the most stressful moments you go through, but it can also be one of the happiest times of your life. Juggling an 18-credit-hour course load, working a part-time job and joining organizations can be quite overwhelming. You may be thinking to yourself, “how can I stay sane with all this craziness at once?” Here are some techniques to deal with your stresses and help you maneuver your daily routine.

Use diet and exercise to your advantage

Exercise, exercise, exercise. Take up a hot yoga or pilates class. This will help keep your peace of mind and enrich your body and soul. You will feel like a million bucks after. Along with exercise, choose healthy foods that will help give you the energy necessary to perform well academically.

Confide in those close to you

Talking to friends and family about everything you are experiencing can help alleviate your stress. Just talking about it has shown to be beneficial when it comes to de-stressing. Always having someone to reach out to and knowing that your voice is being heard is what matters.

Take some time for yourself

Do something you enjoy: listen to music or watch one of your favorite movies or TV shows. You have to take a little time for yourself, as self-care is a must. When you’re feeling especially stressed, take some deep breaths. This can help reduce your heart rate when you have a lot going on at once.

Work ahead

Do a little every day, whether it’s cleaning your apartment or working on an assignment. This way you won’t feel overwhelmed or feel cramming when a due date is coming up. You can also start working on a short and long-term goal list. This way you feel more accomplished once you have completed a task. Always celebrate completing a task as this will show that you are making progress.

Get your rest

This might sound a little silly, but take a nap. Sometimes your brain needs to recharge. Be sure to get plenty of sleep. We all need to catch some z’s in order to function properly.

Think positively

Change the way you think or view different situations. Research has shown that thinking positively may improve physical well-being and produce lower feelings of depression and stress.

Prepare yourself

Make sure you are taking the necessary time to study for upcoming tests or quizzes. Studying the night before a final isn’t ideal. Also try to take advantage of campus resources, such as the Tutoring and Testing Center, if you find yourself struggling with a subject. This will make you feel a lot better and less stressed.

Making the most out of your winter break

By: Suvina Daryanani
Contributing Writer

We’ve made it to that time of the year again where it is acceptable to lounge on the couch for hours, re-watch television shows and seek out new levels of your online games. Yet, winter break is an ideal time to get up and indulge in activities or get a head start on future planning.

During the holiday season, we must be thankful for the time that we are guaranteed. The amount of time we get during winter break is a blessing for students, and we should be wise with how we use it. While watching a new episode of Riverdale is definitely important, consider using the opportunity to fulfill some of your goals, too. If you’re interested in getting more out of your break, read on.

Start doing some life planning

Although this sounds slightly frightening, taking some time out of your day to plan for your future will result in less stress later on. Search for an internship, look for a summer job or get a headstart on your upcoming semester. All of these things can help you get ahead.

Work on your resume

You may have been told growing up that you should never go to a friend’s house empty handed. This lesson applies in the real world in the case of interviews. Never go to an interview without a sample of your work, your portfolio, resume or a great supplementary document that relates to you and your academic career experience.

Volunteering, joining a club or even starting a club can help you build your resume in a non-academic way. Plus, getting involved helps improve not only your knowledge and experience, but also your social life.

Bianca Galan, a communication major, said she stays productive during winter break by, “volunteering and doing different nationwide services, such as working for an international charity organization.”

Keep up with current events

Even though you may not necessarily have a bucket list for winter break like you might for summer, there are many ways to spend the upcoming four weeks in a productive and memorable way. Many people don’t even know what day of the month it is when they are on vacation, and being out of touch with the world and what’s going on is not something you should strive for. Reading the newspaper every morning and keeping up with news outlets like BBC.com can keep you informed during your break.

So, when you are buying that popcorn and stepping into the movie theater during winter break, just remember that you could be drafting a plan of action for your future instead. Which is more important, the movie or your future? Being on break provides students with ample time to become more well-rounded individuals. Spend your winter break wisely and make personal improvements like looking for different scholarship opportunities your campus has to offer or by learning a new skill.
When you don’t get to go home for the holidays

By: Aldana Foigel
Contributing Writer

After stressing over finals in December, it will finally be time for the holidays including Christmas and New Year’s celebrations. However, not everyone is able to go home on winter break, especially since it is only four weeks long.

Here at NSU, we have students from 106 different countries, and sometimes going home for winter break is not possible. However, there are plenty of activities around the NSU area to make the winter break fun.

Admire your natural surroundings

If you enjoy nature and sightseeing, you could consider visiting the Everglades. Located about an hour and 15 minutes from NSU, Everglades National Park provides habitats for multiple rare and endangered species. The park is also considered a World Heritage Site and a Wetland of International Importance.

Get your head in the game

Do you enjoy watching sports? The NSU Basketball team will be playing plenty of games throughout December and January, so you can come out and show your Shark spirit. The Miami Heat are also scheduled to play several games in December. With the American Airlines Arena being only 45 minutes away from NSU’s Davie/ Fort Lauderdale campus, December is a great time for basketball lovers to watch their favorite sport.

Take the educational approach

If you enjoy history, art or science, museums might be the place for you to go. Consider visiting the Young at Art Museum in Davie to activate your imagination. The museum’s website offers a photo sphere on Google where you can explore the inside of the building, which might help you decide if you would like to go.

The Museum of Discovery & Science is less than 10 miles away from NSU. This museum offers interactive activities such as taking a ride on the Everglades Airboat Adventures, experiencing hurricane force winds and much more. Finally, the History Miami Museum is your place. Discover Miami’s history, as well as many different exhibitions. Most exhibitions are temporarily available and then replaced with new ones. From photography to archeology collections, this museum has it all.

Although going home might be a great feeling, there is no reason to be down if you are not able to visit your family and friends. If you happen to stay at NSU during winter break, plan activities ahead of time to keep yourself busy. Visit museums, parks, go to the beach or maybe just watch Netflix or read a book in your room. The holidays are the perfect time to relax, take a break after finals week and celebrate the start of the new year.

Martin Galvez is a freshman biology major from Quito, Ecuador. He is the sports editor at The Current.

In my sophomore and junior years of high school, my class and I were able to volunteer at a low-income middle school close to my high school. We were separated into groups, and each group was given a class. Our main goal was to teach the students about their rights and responsibilities they had as citizens. At first, we were a little puzzled about how we would teach them in a way that they would find fun and learn as much as they could. We found this difficult because we were only able to go once every two weeks. Our first topic was about the values the students should apply in their everyday lives. We had two and a half hours where we played icebreakers and then taught them a game in which the main goal was to learn about gender equality.

Aside from teaching them all sorts of skills, we were also able to do their homework during the breaks where we could see how they interacted with each other. At first, my peers and I were intimidated by the kids, and vice versa. We didn’t know how to approach each other and socialize in a friendly way. With this being said, the first few weeks were really difficult because they didn’t realize that we were essentially their teachers and they needed to respect us. We ended up talking to them and had a discussion in which they told us that they were like that to their own teachers. We realized that we needed to address that problem and the next time we saw them, we did another activity to teach them the importance of listening and being respectful when others were talking or doing a presentation. Because of this, their teacher told us that they saw an improvement in their behavior, and for the first time, they were paying attention in class and were interested in learning. As time went by, we started becoming more and more attached to our sixth graders, and during our break periods we started to play with them and they started to open up to us. That’s when my life, and my friends’ lives, changed. Since most of the students that studied in that middle school came from poor families, many of them didn’t have a good family environment and a safe space for them to relax and talk about their problems.

There was a little girl in our class who was very shy and didn’t talk to anyone. At first, we thought that was her personality and how she felt most comfortable. However, as we got closer to her and she started opening up to us, we discovered that she lived with a toxic family. Her mother didn’t care for her, and in school the young girl was often bullied. We couldn’t believe what happened to her, so we talked to our supervisor and told her that we were going to try and do something for the girl since she looked very unhappy. However, though our supervisor was just as concerned as we were, she told us that we couldn’t do anything to help her. We weren’t able to improve the girl’s life.

But, we didn’t give up. Even though we weren’t able to help her with her family issues, we decided that we were going to improve her school life. We started to hang out with her whenever we could. We made a presentation about bullying and how the children could prevent and avoid it. Whenever one of us saw her being bullied, we would intervene and stop it immediately. She got very attached to us and every time we left or came back she would give us a hug. Her whole behavior changed. We knew that we weren’t able to be with her much longer since our time was almost up at the middle school, so we started to help her make friends with her classmates, and later with other kids in her school.

By the time we finished our two-year volunteer program, she was a completely different person. She was no longer shy, but extroverted. She had friends not only in her class, but also from other classes. Most importantly, she was happy and she found a safe space to enjoy her time as a kid.

Being able to volunteer in this middle school was a pleasure, and it made me realize how lucky I am. There are so many kids that may be close by and have hard lives, and we could change their lives, even in a small way. This experience made me learn so much about the way of living for so many people and children. If I could, I would do it again. The values I gained from it were unparalleled, and the fact that I was able to make a difference, even just to one person, made it worth it.

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**Arts & Entertainment**

**By: Adam DelRoss**

Contribution Writer

November 8, 2017 | nsucurrent.nova.edu

**“Colors” by Beck**

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Beck Hansen, often referred to just as Beck, is a storied and accomplished alternative multi-instrumentalist and singer with a long list of collaborators under his belt. Since 1993, Hansen has released a whopping 13 studio albums, all of which have varied greatly from one another. Hansen has dipped his toes into a variety of genres over his career including traditional folk, modern rock, blues, and even hip-hop. It was just a matter of time before he attempted to branch out into the world of pop music, and that is exactly what his most recent album “Colors,” released on Oct. 13, aims to do.

The main draw of pop music is that it is catchy, but unfortunately for Hansen, “Colors” does not consistently deliver that catchiness. What it does deliver is a mediocre 44-minute pop record that sounds repetitive.

While the record is generally watered down and unimaginative, some of the tracks shine through and make it a little more bearable, including the first two lead singles for the record.

The first, “Dreams,” released in June 2015, features an energetic and jazzy guitar lead with some nice piano and mixing effects. The vocal performance from Hansen carries its usual folky charm and delivery. The songwriting on the other hand is a little less impressive, especially when it comes to the chorus. “Dreams, dreams, she’s making me high” over and over again doesn’t come off as catchy or interesting, and with no variation in any of the chorus breaks along with the interestingly repetitious guitar leads and percussion, the song just becomes annoying halfway through.

Unfortunately, weak songwriting, with weak chorus in particular, is a concern throughout this album. Hansen seems to go with rap-inspired vocals on this track where the lyrics make absolutely no sense, reminiscent of his 1994 classic “Loser.” However, while “Loser” was funny, catchy and overall entertaining, Hansen comes off as almost bored and tilted on “Wow.” It’s almost as if he thinks that replicating “Loser” will work for him without any effort. Not to mention the hook sounds like it was written by a 3-year-old: “It’s like wow, it’s like right now, it’s like wow, it’s like right right now.”

The only other track worth mentioning on the record is the intro track “Colors.” It puts forth a vibrant array of hooks, percussive guitar fills, harps and a delightfully rhythmic flute. While the songwriting here is still weak, Hansen’s vocal performance is much more energetic and attentive than the other cuts and it marks a good starting point for the record.

Unfortunately, what follows is almost 44 minutes of mostly similar low-effort instrumentation and lyrical projects.

Beck Hansen is no stranger to the music scene, which is why “Colors” comes as such a surprise and disappointment. Beck’s foray into modern pop music seems too halting and misinformed to even be relevant among today’s newest releases. Whether Hansen will continue to experiment with this new pop sound on future projects or revert to his roots is uncertain. One sure thing, however, is that “Colors” fails to provide the vibrant radiant record its name suggests and instead resembles a shade of dull gray.

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**How to celebrate Christmas in South Florida**

**By: Martini Bennett**

Contributing Writer

Winterfest Boat Parade

Relax upon a rooftop balcony or lounge on the Intracoastal Waterway as decorative boats pass by you. Invite friends to watch this magical ceremony take place, as it is more enjoyable to share the parade’s hex with someone else. Boats pass along the Intracoastal from Fort Lauderdale to Pompano Beach on Dec. 9, so make sure you are in accessible range to view the ceremony. If you would like a more stimulating experience, visit Hard Rock’s website in order to attend the parade by sea, participating in the event yourself.

Buy a Christmas tree

Just because there isn’t snow on the ground doesn’t mean that’s an excuse to skip out on buying a Christmas tree. South Florida has a myriad of Christmas trees in all different shapes and sizes. Invest in a real beauty, or settle for my personal favorite, “The Charlie Brown Tree.” Buy some tinsel, ornaments and lights to decorate your festive tree. Most importantly, don’t forget about the presents underneath.

Bayfront Park Christmas Tree Lighting

A 50-foot tree lighting ceremony takes place in Bayfront Park on Dec. 4. Watch it sparkle as festive lights surround the perimeter of this humongous tree, and listen to the holiday music playing in the background. Though the event is free, there is limited parking at Bayfront Park, so be sure to make parking arrangements prior to arriving, or park next door at the Bayside Marketplace if spots are available.

Throw or attend a Christmas Party

Whether you dress up as the “Mean Girl” during your jingle bell rock routine or as Jack or Sally from “A Nightmare Before Christmas,” the holidays will be much more enjoyable if celebrated in spirit. Wear your costume to a Christmas party or throw a party of your own, creating more holiday laughs and memories. Don’t forget to bake and decorate cookies for Santa!

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**An interview with Sean Thompson of “Love Never Dies”**

**By: Jewelliana Register**

Arts & Entertainment Editor

Set ten years after the end of “The Phantom of the Opera,” Andrew Lloyd Webber’s “Love Never Dies” tells the story of what happened in musical theatre, they are a little more surface involvement. It’s just been a real gift to work with people who have so much passion for a project.”

“Colors” is quite a let-down from the previous works of Beck. Unfortunately, what follows is almost 44 minutes of mostly similar low-effort instrumentation and lyrical projects.

Beck Hansen is no stranger to the music scene, which is why “Colors” comes as such a surprise and disappointment. Beck’s foray into modern pop music seems too halting and misinformed to even be relevant among today’s newest releases. Whether Hansen will continue to experiment with this new pop sound on future projects or revert to his roots is uncertain. One sure thing, however, is that “Colors” fails to provide the vibrant radiant record its name suggests and instead resembles a shade of dull gray.

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“Dreams” by Beck

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“Ten years later, after ‘The Phantom of the Opera’, Christine has become a giant opera star in New York. However, despite our year-round summer, we might not have snow or cold weather, but we all have the Christmas spirit. Below are a few special ideas on how to spend the holidays in South Florida, and how to make it worthwhile despite our year-round summer.

Visit Santa’s Enchanted Forest

A “forest” of glowing lights awaits you at Santa’s Enchanted Forest, the world’s largest holiday theme park. Arrive at Tropical Park in Miami for this special event that occurs only during the holiday season. With over 100 rides, games and attractions, you can either hop onto a ride or stand under the mistletoe with a loved one. This park has a multitude of exciting options to explore.

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**What is your favorite part of being a part of the cast?**

“I would say it’s making a likable character out of someone who on paper is just not very likable. That’s my job, to bring to life this human being who has flaws just like every other human being. It’s not that he’s just a bad guy. Also, it’s how to pay homage to the original and show who this guy was that everyone knows and no one is a villain, no one is a hero. Everyone is sort of in the middle, just like real life. No one is in life one or the other. I think it shows a deeper understanding of these characters as real people.”

For more information on showtimes and tickets, visit browardcenterfort Lauderdale.com.
“Being human totally sucks most of the time. Video games are the only thing that make life bearable.”

- Ernest Cline, “Ready Player One.”

Dimensions Dance Theatre co-founder Jennifer Kronenberg talks performance at NSU

By: Jewelliana Register

Jennifer Kronenberg is the co-founding artistic director of Dimensions Dance Theatre based out of Miami. Kronenberg and her husband Carlos Guerra founded the company in 2016, and since the launch, the company has found success in the South Florida ballet scene. Kronenberg explained her excitement that Dimensions Dance is scheduled to perform at the NSU Rose and Alfred Miartic Performing Arts Center on Nov. 12.

Can you tell us a little bit about Dimensions Dance?

“We started Dimensions Dance Theatre last year. We had our inaugural performance Nov. 20. We really just sort of took off since then. My husband and I were longtime principal dancers with Miami City Ballet, and upon leaving the company in the spring, we weren’t quite sure what our next steps were going to be professionally. We knew that we wanted to stay in Miami and continue contributing to the arts community here. It just seemed like the natural transition to create something of our own, and we were going back and forth between a school or a company, and we knew eventually that we wanted to work with professionals, so we thought ‘no time like the present, let’s just try and see what happens.’

“So, we started the company out not really knowing what the audience is going to see and the stylistic differences between the works that are being performed. We have that educational component to it. It’s ranging from traditional classical all the way to contemporary ballet pieces that you see now in the 21st century. We’re starting by showing how partnering work and Pas de Deux itself has evolved over the years. I think it’s a really interesting mix of different works. I think they’ll be really pleasantly surprised at how far ballet has come. I think they’re going to see how stereotypes are really being broken. It’s going to be a nice show, I’m excited for it.”

What can students attending the show expect? What will the performance be like?

“A full range of styles. So, all the pieces that we are going to be dancing are ballet, but it’s ranging from traditional classical all the way to the most contemporary ballet pieces that you see now in the 21st century. We’re starting by showing how partnering work and Pas de Deux itself has evolved over the years. I think it’s a really interesting mix of different works. I think they’ll be really pleasantly surprised at how far ballet has come. I think they’re going to see how stereotypes are really being broken. It’s going to be a nice show, I’m excited for it.”

What do you hope those attending the show gain from the experience?

“I hope that they gain a little bit of a different perspective on ballet itself. Somehow there’s always this old-fashioned stereotype that goes along with the word ‘ballet.’ People always think of the white tutus and swans, and this elitist sort of environment, so we’re hoping to break down that barrier a little bit and show them that there’s so much more to the world of ballet.”

The performance of “The Pointe of Pas de Deux: A Dance Dialogue?” will take place on Sunday, Nov. 12, at 2 p.m. in the Rose and Alfred Miartic Performing Arts Center. A question and answer session will take place directly after the performance. For more information about Dimensions Dance and for ticket pricing, visit dimensionsdancemia.com or nova.edu/miartic/index.html. To receive the NSU student discount, simply enter the promo code “NSU” at checkout.
By: Jewelliana Register

Samantha Loriot is a junior elementary education major from Somerville, New Jersey. Loriot joined the women’s rowing team during her freshman year in 2015. She recalls that she fell in love with the sport during that first semester of practice. Loriot mentions that she loves how rowing requires no previous experience to be great, it’s just about how hard you are willing to work in order to achieve your goals.

What made you decide to come to NSU?
“I originally was a marine bio major, so I came here for that, but then I took my first bio class and realized I hated it. So then I had to find something else that I really cared about, which was teaching. I actually was going to leave NSU after that because they are mainly known for sciences, but I actually stayed because of rowing.”

Why did you decide on elementary education?
“Little kids are the most amazing things they have so much untapped potential. Being someone who can influence them in their lives is just great.”

What is your favorite part of being on the rowing team?
“The rowing team actually brought me two of my closest friends; they’re my best friends and I can’t imagine life without them now. It’s really nice to have that support no matter what you’re doing. If you say to the team ‘hey, I’m struggling and I need help with this subject,’ someone who has taken the class will be there to help you. Or even if you just need a ride to the airport, there’s always going to be someone who can offer it to you. That’s just really nice because a lot of people come to school and they are worried since they don’t have a lot of people who can offer it to you. That’s just really nice.”

What socks are you currently using?
“I have a pair of shark socks, so a lot of people are very particular about their socks, so a lot of people have specific socks that they wear because you don’t have that time when everyone warms up together. Really just the socks, though. A lot of people have specific socks that they wear because you don’t wear shoes in the boat, just socks, so a lot of people are very particular about what socks they wear.

What are your plans after graduation?
“That’s kind of a loaded question. I don’t really know where I’m going to go. Quite honestly, I will probably go back home for a while until I get my footing and guess, and I would love to do rowing once I graduate. I’m not sure that is going to work though because there are not any rowing clubs by me which really stinks. But, I’ll probably just start back home, and then find somewhere to live on my own ideally. I feel like you don’t really know that, though, until you’re done and just sort of thrown into it. Everyone has plans for what they want to do once they graduate, but a lot of times it just doesn’t really work out how you want it to.”

How would you describe the team dynamic?
“We’re really close and we’re really good at pushing each other without explicitly saying so. If you see someone else going fast, it just makes you want to go faster. We’re very internally competitive, but not to the point where it’s a bad thing. It’s a good thing because the team pushes itself. Everyonemeshes pretty well together. The team itself is kind of like a well-oiled machine. It’s really nice because there is always someone to push you no matter what. You may be the fastest on the erg, but there may be someone deadlifting more than you. As everyone else gets stronger, you also get stronger.”

How did you get started with rowing?
“I actually never rowed before college. I was a three-sport athlete in high school; I did basketball, softball and cheerleading. I told myself that when I came to school I was not going to do a sport, and I thought it was going to be awesome because I had never not played a sport in my life. I was going to have so much time on my hands, but then I got here and I was bored out of my mind. I had someone from the rowing team approach me at orientation and they said something along the lines of ‘you have really thick thighs, have you ever thought about rowing?’ because of the leg power involved in rowing. So, I got here and the meeting was a few weeks into school and I decided to go with a couple of friends. My friends ended up dropping, but I loved it and I have stayed with it.”

BBQ to increase live sports coverage by 1,000 hours
According to The Guardian, BBC has promised to increase live sport coverage by 1,000 hours per year. This increase will be reflected on the BBC sport website as well as through the corporation’s internet streaming service, BBC Player. Tony Hall, the director general, said that this change will be a major shakeup in the company’s output strategy, but necessary due to lost sales when switching to closed captioning. Hall said this decision has dwindled dramatically over the past years.

Texans quarterback Dashaun Watson benched for a year
The NFL Network announced on Nov. 2, that after Texans rookie quarterback Dashaun Watson sustained a torn anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) during the team’s usual practice, Watson, who took over as quarterback for Tom Savage mid-season, will miss the remaining games of the season. The team has signed Matt McGloin who will serve as quarterback until Watson is able to return to the game.

Papa John’s CEO bemoans NFL protests for lost revenue
According to Forbes, John Schnatter, Papa John’s CEO, told investors of his company that he blamed NFL protests for lost revenue. “It’s Not Delivery. It’s DiGiorno. And It’s Kinda Petty.”

Saudi Arabia stadiums to allow women entry
Beginning in early 2018, stadiums in Saudi Arabia will begin to allow women entry to six of the country’s arenas, according to a statement released by the country’s governing body for sports, the General Sport Authority. Former male-only venues such as the King Fahd Stadium in Riyadh, King Abdul Aziz Sports City in Jeddah, and Prince Mohammed Bin Fahd Stadium in Dammam, have begun to make adjustments in preparation for the change.

Do you have any specific training methods or rituals that you do before you compete?
“A lot of people have something specific that they wear during a race, like we have a crossword who would wear a panda pin on her hat as her lucky charm. I have a pair of shark racing socks that I always wear during a race. That’s pretty much it. When you’re racing, it’s kind of different from any other sport in that not everyone competes at the same time and you might be going from one boat right to another, so you don’t have that time when everyone warms up together. Really just the socks, though. A lot of people have specific socks that they wear because you don’t wear shoes in the boat, just socks, so a lot of people are very particular about what socks they wear.

Printed with permission from D. Hendricks
It has been almost a decade since the world of soccer has been represented primarily by two players: Lionel Messi and Cristiano Ronaldo. Messi has won the FIFA Ballon d’Or five times, while Ronaldo has won it four times. Additionally, Cristiano Ronaldo was also awarded with two “The Best FIFA Men’s Player” in 2016 and 2017, leaving Messi second both years.

Both of them are now in their early 30’s, which is usually an indication that a player’s best times are ending and younger generations are starting to make headlines and win some awards. However, that’s not the case for Ronaldo and Messi, as they are still the top players in the world. That doesn’t seem likely to change any time soon, since neither of these world-class players shows signs of deterioration, and their stats, like goals and assists, are incomparable.

Everyone has their own opinion regarding who’s the best, but it’s difficult to compare these two players since both of them are so different — from the positions they play to their actual playing style. Messi enjoys having the ball on his control (classic for a number 10), while Ronaldo is the team’s killer; the one who usually scores when his team needs it and helps them finish their moves.

Furthermore, with Ronaldo we see how working hard and training your body regularly can make you one of the best athletes in the world. With Messi, there’s nothing but pure talent. His passion for playing and his ability to use his skills in his favor are unique. Both have made and broken individual and team records and we are truly fortunate to be able to see them play at the same time. But we have to ask, when will the new Messi or Ronaldo appear?
Confederacy, to the museums

By: Diego Galvez
Sports Editor

History is better appreciated and valued in museums that are actually true for confederate history. Confederacy, and the U.S. Civil War itself, was a tragic period of time that people have many different opinions about. Some people have acknowledged that side of U.S. history that have learned from it, while others prefer to ignore that side of history in order to see only the good side of the U.S. However, in a study conducted in 2011 by The Pew Research Center, they found that 48 percent of Americans think that the main cause of the civil war was primarily about states’ rights and only 38 percent think it was mainly about slavery.

That’s where ignorance and misinformation starts. Many people aren’t aware of the whole story and the actual facts about the Civil War and that it was about keeping laws regarding slavery unachieved and protected from being abolished in the future. People who support the confederate base their opinions on misinformation that may have passed from one generation to another generation, many people have relatives who fought in the Civil War, specifically for the confederate side, and even though personal motivations may have varied from person to person at that time, they fought for the whole idea of states and for values that couldn’t possibly be imagined in this century. So, why should we commemorate individuals or high-ranking individuals that fought for the oppression of others?

Statues and memorials named after a person are one of the most respectful ways one can remember influential figures. Those who have a statue or a memorial named after them usually accomplished something that’s worth remembering. People like Abraham Lincoln, George Washington or Amelia Earhart are a few of the many important figures in U.S. history that are worth remembering for all the courage and their contributions to history. Many would argue that Washington owned slaves, and in fact he did. However, he expressed regret about slavery and his career. He’s remembered for being the first president of the U.S. and commander-in-chief of the colonial armies during the American Revolution. With this perspective, I can name many people who deserve a statue rather than a confederate general.

One of the most controversial statues that has sparked public interest in recent months is Robert E. Lee’s statue located in Charlottesville, Va. When the city’s council decided to remove the statue, many Alt-right people organized the famous “Unite the Right” as a way to protect the monument from being taken down. Regarding this statue, there are several factors worth considering about the controversial decision of removing it. Robert E. Lee himself said in a proposal that “…the erection of such a monument is, contemplated, my conviction is, that however grateful it would be to the feelings of the South, the attempt in the present condition of the Country, would have the effect of stirring, instead of accelerating its accomplishment; and of continuing, if not adding to, the difficulties under which the Southern people laboured.”

In the end, statues should be built and exposed in public view for those that had a positive impact in history. The remaining confederate statues should all be displayed in an exhibition about the confederacy. That way the value these monuments hold and what they represent could be better appreciated and seen as a teaching tool to learn from our past in every way possible.

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The residence hall washing machines ruin my clothes

By: Christina McLaughlin
Opinion Editor

In college, jokes about college student’s not being able to do their own laundry are rampant. But, as I’ve started my college career here at NSU I’ve discovered that there is more to this stereotype than true. When most residence hall students head to the laundry rooms they might run into issues of crowded dryers and washers and machines with clothes left in the washers, or broken machines on the floor. It may seem like chaos but it’s an organized chaos of sorts. But the state of the room isn’t the issue, it’s the state of the washers and dryers themselves that’s the problem.

When a washer is empty, the next user of the washer can run into a few problems. The inner lip of the commercial washers can be pulled back to reveal a sea of lost socks, broken pens, loose change etc. I always find myself cleaning out this pile of oddities and to my amazement, not many other users are aware they need to follow this step. Before I learned this crucial step, one load of my mixed colors were stuck together in a pretty sizeable fishing hole. It created holes in a few of my t-shirts and forced me to have to rewash the entire load because the statistics didn’t get cleaned properly.

After this experience, I’ve become a scavenger of the forgotten inner flap and have found multiple broken pens, markers and other oddities which could have permanently ruined my loads by washing my clothes with ink directly from the pens tossed in the last load. Or I may find something like a pin or another sharp object which can cause my clothes to become slashed or can be someone else’s property left from a previous load.

The washers also become a problem to those who use pod-based laundry detergent. This is a common practice in college since they are easier to use as there are no measurements to abide by or need to carry and purchase large amounts of liquid detergent and softerner. However, the settings on the washers tend to run on 30-minute cycles and most of these pods are built for 60-minute cycles. Users of the pods or packs find issues with the pods not dissolving fully or even sticking to the clothes and melting onto clothes, leaving blue and green stains behind.

As someone who doesn’t use pods, I still find stains on my clothes from leftover liquids from unused pods left in the drums of the machines. I also find greasy stains on my clothes after I wash them. I’m still unsure where this is coming from, possibly from the drum of the machine and the overuse of them, but it has become a real annoyance when I’m trying to wash a shirt or dress for an interview and have to rewash the entire load because of the machine and the overuse of them, but it has become a real annoyance when I’m trying to wash a shirt or dress for an interview and have to rewash the entire load because of the
Support your trans troops

For 17 years, “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” prevented openly gay or lesbian individuals from serving in the military. Though the policy has recently been reversed, transgender men and women still face discriminatory treatment. In July, President Trump unexpectedly tweeted that transgender men and women would be barred from joining the military.

Then, according to The New York Times, a lower-level judge has blocked a policy that would have begun in 2018 to prevent trans people from enlisting or reenlisting. Despite this, Trump and many of the people who support this policy say having openly transgender members of the military hurts our defense budget, despite evidence by the RAND study that transgender military members who decide to transition would cost less than a tenth of a percent of the military’s health budget. According to The Washington Post, we already spend five times that on Viagra alone. Clearly the U.S. doesn’t mind spending money on medical costs, as long as certain people approve.

Supporting our military means supporting trans military, too.

Support your female troops

If nothing else, you would think that there would be a concerted effort to protect women who enter the military from things like sexual harassment, assault and rape. Yet, 6,172 cases of sexual assault were reported in the military in 2016 alone. Though you could argue that the increased number of reports indicate a stronger sense of trust between military servicemen and women and military officials, that doesn’t change the fact that sexual assault in the military, as Senator Kristen Gillibrand put it, is still the status quo.

The proof? In 2013, Trump tweeted that the thousands of unreported sexual assault incidents in the military were to be expected when you put men and women together. That very tweet had over 20,000 retweets and 14,000 likes. In 2016, Trump defended those same comments.

Supporting our military means making sure that female members don’t have to worry about being attacked by members of their own team.

Support your homeless veterans

According to the National Coalition for Homeless Veterans (NCHV), the adult homeless population is made up of about 11 percent veterans, many of whom are black or Hispanic. That means that on any given night, 40,000 men and women that served our country have no place to call home. Yet, society stigmatizes homelessness and in recent years even passed anti-homeless legislation. For example, according to the National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty, 18 percent of U.S. cities have laws that prohibit sleeping in public.

While organizations like the NCHV and the Department of Veteran Affairs (VA) has some programs to protect military veterans and keep them out of the streets, clearly something is not working. Veterans come home to face mental illness like PTSD, which can often lead to substance abuse, unemployment, depression and attempted suicide. The NCHV is one of many organizations saying that veterans need programs to help them transition back into civilian life when they lack the social structures and support within their communities.

Supporting the troops means supporting the veterans that have to make when they return home.

Opinions

News flash: Voting is important

I’m sure you have encountered numerous people walking around campus with clipboards, a smile on their face and the question of, “are you registered to vote?” Yes, it can be annoying to be approached when you’re just trying to get to class on time for once, but what these people are doing is actually a good thing—and you should want to be a registered voter, even if it’s not for the state of Florida.

It seems like college students care a lot about politics and what happens in the elections, but it doesn’t seem like all that many are actually voting. According to NPR, millennials have the lowest voter turnout of any generation at only 46 percent. If we care so much about who’s elected, then why aren’t we voting?

Look, I understand. Going out to some random polling station nearby and waiting in a line to state your opinion can seem inconvenient and unnecessary. Maybe you think that your vote doesn’t matter anyway. I’m sure that those thoughts go through most college students’ heads; even I tend to feel the same way. But the truth is, if you want any sort of change or are looking forward to a specific politician winning the election, you have to vote. Taking an extra half hour out of your day to try to make a difference is not a waste of time.

The national elections aren’t the only important ones either. Your state and local elections can make all the difference in your hometown. After all, it’s probably a lot easier to spark change in a small town than in an entire country. If your opinions and ideas align with a certain politician, show it. If you just don’t like the politicians currently in charge of your city or state, vote for somebody else.

Your vote can evoke change, believe it or not. You don’t have to stand outside of city hall with a picket sign and a megaphone, but you also don’t have to be a part of the silent majority. Utilize your power to vote. And hey, if it doesn’t go your way, at least you can say you tried … and you can blame the negative effects on other people.

By: Gabielle Thompson
Features Editor

Features Editor

By: Jenna Kopeck
Co-Editor-in-Chief

By: Gabrielle Thompson
Features Editor

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By: Gabielle Thompson
Features Editor

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WALK TO FIGHT SUICIDE

Broward County Walk OUT OF THE DARKNESS Community Walk

Sunday, November 12, 2017
Nova Southeastern University

Register today at afsp.org/Broward