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The Current

The Student-Run Newspaper of Nova Southeastern University

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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 installment 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.



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NSU plans to improve safety by changing all the locks in the residence halls.

The new key and lock system brings a big upgrade as far as increased safety in the residence halls goes.

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 effort forth 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.

"Digressions" submission deadline to close Nov. 20

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 Scanlon, associate professor in the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences and faculty adviser for "Digressions," encourages any students, 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," Scanlon 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



"Digressions," NSU's literary magazine publishes yearly.

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

story, 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."

Scanlon 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 test their hand — and their mind — to try something new.

"On top of all 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 nc805@mynsu.nova.edu.

News Anchor

Stay up to date with international and national events.

UN releases report saying 741 citizens executed in Mosul

The UN Assistance Mission for Iraq and the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights released a report on Thursday describing the civilian casualties during the nine-month battle over the Iraqi city of Mosul between the Islamic State and Iraqi forces. The report revealed that at least 741 civilians died in execution style killings led by the IS forces. At least 461 civilians died in Iraqi and US-led coalition airstrikes. The BBC reported that the UN is calling for justice against the death of civilians related to war crimes.

Gothamist and DNAinfo suddenly shut down

The popular New York City news websites, along with their Chicago and LA constituents, DNAinfo and The Gothamist were shut down on Thursday by billionaire CEO and founder Joe Ricketts. Although Ricketts said that the closure came because of business reasons, ABC News reported that the closure came a week after New York staff members voted to unionize. Ricketts has publically expressed his disapproval of unions in the past.

North Korea accuses U.S. of preparing for nuclear strike

A flyover of US B-1 bombers and fighter jets from South Korea and Japan sparked harsh criticism from North Korea, according to CNN. The nation's leaders and news stations said that the flyover was preparation for a nuclear strike. This comes before President Trump plans to travel to Asia next week.

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 Iraqi 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 350,000 civilians have been forced to flee the Deir al-Zour area because of fighting.

Cuba denies accusations of attacks on US 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 are 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.

The Current

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NSU to host its first Amazing Race event

By: Madelyn Rinka
News Editor

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 Lumsden, the graduate assistant for weekend programming under special events and projects. "We were invited to be a part of International Education Week. We tried to make our theme based on some type of cultural and international appreciation; that's where we got the conquering the continents part."

The Amazing Race is a popular American reality TV competition, in which the teams travel around the globe to solve clues, navigate foreign lands and complete assorted challenges. While NSU participants may not actually be travelling around the world, Lumsden said they

will be very comfortable with navigating the campus when the event is over.

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.

Lumsden 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 programming are all on campus, and they are all free," said Lumsden. "Everything we do is 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 Lumsden at cl1547@nova.edu or call 954-262-7193.

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LTA to host annual Out of the Darkness walk

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.donordrive.com or in person at 8 a.m. the date 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.

“Since it’s 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 Rip 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@mynsu.nova.edu.

PVA presents ‘A Dog’s House’

By: **Christina McLaughlin**
Opinions Editor

Stage2 Productions, NSU’s student-run theater production team in the Department of Performing and Visual Arts, will perform “A Dog’s House” Nov. 17 and 18 at 7:30 p.m. and Nov. 19 at 2 p.m. This morbid comedy focuses on a hipster couple whose dog kills the next-door neighbor’s poodle. As the play progresses, audiences will interact with the couple as they plot out their next move. Stage2 Productions began last year and is establishing its first year in full production operation this season.

Alexandra Zadak, director of “A Dog’s House,” said that the theater focuses on educating the community and felt that this show would perfectly fit that ideology. This relatable dark-comedy focuses on communication in

relationships.

“Within the show the two main characters use their dog to fight about issues in their relationship. We hope [audiences] leave with a knowledge of maybe communicating with other human beings more,” said Zadak.

Stage2 Productions likes to focus on intimate, interaction-based sets with the audience and this play will be no different.

“[There will be] a lot of quick, good humor. The set is very intimate and I wanted audiences to feel involved. It will be so personal that all of the senses will be a part of this show,” said Zadak.

Other creative liberties have been taken as well. The dog is one of the main roles of this

show, bringing a new and creative artistic edge.

This play can be described in five words: dark, current, smart, funny and messy. In Zadak’s own words, “This hipster couple compares themselves to another couple, which is common to do nowadays. They met on Match.com so it’s very current.”

For Zadak, this production has become a teaching and bonding experience for members of the cast and crew. Audiences should expect the unexpected and fully embrace this show.

“This show has a lot of twists and turns and it gets darker and darker as the show [progresses],” said Zadak. General Admission is \$12 and \$7 with NSU ID.

LETTER FROM THE EDITORS

On Oct. 24, The Current ran a story about the tamper-proof pill technology that Dr. Hossein Omidian, who has a doctorate in polymer science, and his research team have developed. In the article, we spoke to Dr. Scott Kjelson, who has a doctorate in pharmacy, about the opioid epidemic and the work that he does as a public health advocate.

Unbeknownst to our staff, a part of Dr. Kjelson’s interview that he believed was off-the-record was included in the article and misrepresentative. After an investigation, The Current would like to clarify that Dr. Kjelson had expressed that he felt the tamper-proof technology was beneficial in the fight against opioid addiction and that it might be beneficial for the FDA to mandate its use in the future. He was speaking in his own opinion and did not, in any way, mean to insinuate that the FDA was not smart.

The article has since been modified on our website to exclude this misinformation.

The Current is dedicated to providing you the most accurate information about NSU and its community, therefore, we find it paramount to correct ourselves whenever a mistake is made. Our deepest apologies go out to Dr. Kjelson, Dr. Omidian and their colleagues. We appreciate the work that you put forth for the university and the millions of Americans who are impacted by the opioid epidemic.

Sincerely,
Jenna, Michaela and The Current staff

News Briefs

RecWell to host Wellness Workshop

On Nov. 8 from noon to 1 p.m., RecWell will partner with registered dietician and nutritionist Marilyn Gordon 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. 16 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-nov-16.

Dance Around the World with NSU

The Office of Recreation 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 MAASTI and NISA. For additional information, visit sharkfins.nova.edu/dance-around-the-world-2017 or email sf1251@mynsu.nova.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 HPD Café 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 Alvin 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/sites/friends/.

NSU to host annual thanksgiving dinner

On Nov. 23 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 Flight Deck Pub. At the event, guests will be served a holiday meal and will have the option to participate in various activities.

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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



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Katy Popplewell is a graduate assistant and career adviser at the Career Development office.

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 crammed 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.



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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 photosphere 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 Adventure, 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.

that time i... VOLUNTEERED AT A LOW-INCOME PRIMARY SCHOOL

By: **Diego Galvez**
Sports Editor

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 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 with them during their 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



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Diego Galvez found great joy in teaching and helping underprivileged children in his home country of Ecuador.

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 an 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 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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COME TO OUR MEETINGS EVERY TUESDAY FROM NOON TO 1 P.M. IN THE CAREER DEVELOPMENT OFFICE IN THE HORVITZ BUILDING TO LEARN MORE ABOUT WRITING WITH US!



By: **Adam DeRoss**
Contributing Writer

"Colors" by Beck

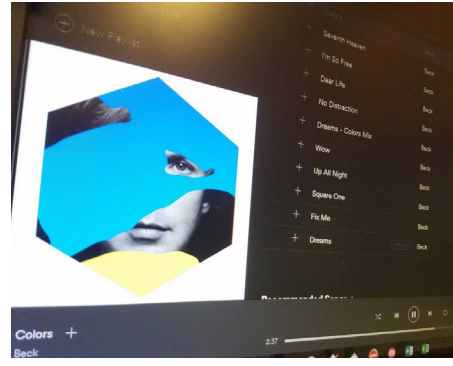
Beck Hansen, often referred to just as Beck, is a storied and accomplished alternative multi-instrumentalist and singer with a long list of quality releases under his belt. Since 1993, Hansen has released a whopping 13 studio albums, all of which have varied greatly from one another. Hansen has dipped 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 uninteresting, some cuts do 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 jagged guitar lead with some nice panning and mixing effects. The vocal

performance from Hansen carries its usual folksy 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 initially interesting but incessantly repetitive guitar leads and percussion, the song just becomes annoying halfway through.

Unfortunately, weak songwriting, with weak choruses in particular, is a consistent problem across the entire album. "Wow," the album's second lead single released in June 2016, is arguably the best and most interesting cut on the record in terms of its instrumentation. It's the only cut on the record that really sounds like a Beck track. It uses some interesting sound combinations including high-pitched whistles, animal roars, string fills and some modern trap-flavored percussion. Towards the end of the cut, the instrumentation does a complete 180 and melds into an upbeat piano melody with some clapping in the background before layering on the percussion again and riding it



PRINTED WITH PERMISSION FROM A. DEROSS
"Colors" is quite a let-down from the previous works of Beck.

out to the end of the track. Unfortunately, the songwriting and vocals still present a problem. 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 tired 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 funky percussion, jazzy 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 half-baked 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 layered record its name suggests and instead resembles a shade of dull gray.

By: **Marti Bennett**
Contributing Writer

How to celebrate Christmas in South Florida

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 from Nov. 2 – Jan. 7. 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.

Winterfest Boat Parade

Relax upon a rooftop balcony or lounge on the Intracoastal Waterway as decorative boats pass you by. 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 Girls" during their 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!

An interview with Sean Thompson of "Love Never Dies"

By: **Jeweliana 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 next. The characters are back and better than ever in this sequel to the original. Sean Thompson, who plays Raoul in the musical, expressed his excitement to bring the show to the Broward Center of the Performing Arts Nov. 7 -Nov. 19.

Can you set the stage for us?

"Ten years later, after 'The Phantom of the Opera,' Christine has become a giant opera star in New York, and Raoul has become a gambler and lost a lot of the family's money and because of that, has become a heavy drinker. So, not a great husband and also not a great father to their son who is 10 years old. Christine and Raoul decide to go over to America so that Christine can take this really great gig at an opera house in Manhattan. When she gets there, though, she is lured down to Coney Island, which is the bustling, seaside resort in Brooklyn in 1907, at the turn of the century when Coney Island was a playground for New Yorkers to go to. She's lured down there by this mysterious guy who is paying her double what she was going to get

paid to open at the opera house in Manhattan to sing just one song at his place in Coney Island. Of course, we come to find that this is the Phantom, luring Christine and Raoul to Coney Island. When they get there, they discover that Madame Giry from the original show is there running the sideshow for the Phantom, and her daughter, Meg Giry, who is in the ballet core in the original show is now the star singer and dancer at the Phantom's place in Coney Island. Of course, mayhem ensues because the Phantom is obsessed with Christine, and well... That's as much as I can say without giving too much away."

What has been the most challenging part of stepping into this role?

"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 from the original and everyone fell in love with in the original because he's this knight in

shining armor, and the hero of the story who saves Christine from the Phantom. So, how to retain that Raoul while also accepting the given circumstances of 'Love Never Dies' which is that he has become less of a knight in shining armor."

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

"This cast and this company in general, including the tech crew and the creative team and the stage management, are all amazing people to be completely honest. It's an amazing group of people who are very passionate about their work and we all share that in common. Sometimes it can be just a job for people, but there is a very keen sense that this is a special moment and a special opportunity for everyone involved. It's just been a real gift to work with people who have so much passion for a project."

What do you feel makes this storyline so unique?

"For a musical, these are pretty well drawn out, deepened characters. A lot of times in musical theatre, they are a little more surface

characters and a little more typical... What makes this unique is the considerable amount of human understanding that has gone into drafting characters as real people. You see more real life in them."

What do you hope people take away after seeing this performance?

"I hope they feel really touched by the gorgeous and romantic music; it's some of Andrew Webber's most luscious music for sure. I hope they leave with a deeper understanding of these characters. In 'The Phantom of the Opera' they were sort of archetypal kind of characters. You had the hero, you had the damsel in distress, then you had the villain, and that's all well and good, but what 'Love Never Dies' does is it deepens them as humans. No one is a villain and no one is a hero. Everyone is sort of in the middle, just like real life. No one in life is 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 broward.centerfortlauderdale.com.

BOOK SHELF

By: **Diego Galvez**
Sports Editor

“Ready Player One” by Ernest Cline

“Being human totally sucks most of the time. Video games are the only thing that make life bearable.”

- **Ernest Cline, “Ready Player One.”**

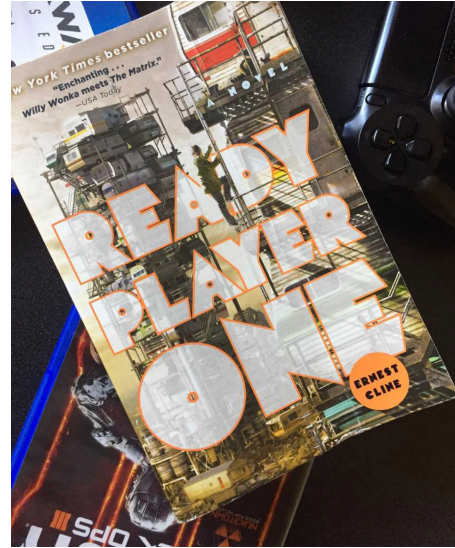
Author Ernest Cline used the concept of video games when he wrote the New York Times bestselling novel “Ready Player One.” The book is set in a dystopian future where one video game, The OASIS, has taken over the way of life of the entire population. People use this simulator for their everyday chores. They go to school and work, and the economy of the entire world relies on this video game.

Wade Watts is one of many teenagers used to this type of life, and he enjoys it because that’s the way he and the rest of the world can ignore real-life problems like world hunger, overpopulation and severe weather conditions.

He, like many kids his age, is after the grand prize that James Halliday, the creator of OASIS, left in the game before he passed away. After a series of events, Wade begins his quest in which he will develop new friendships, enemies and knowledge in order to reach his goal.

Some readers think that the book has every cliché possible, while others consider it a masterpiece full of ‘80s nostalgia. I think “Ready Player One” is an excellent book that has multiple perspectives to it and everyone can enjoy at some level. However, those who are into ‘80s pop and geek culture will enjoy this book even more. It’s full of references, from Star Wars and Atari to John Hughes’ movies and “Monty Python and the Holy Grail.” Every time I read it, I find new references, or “Easter eggs,” regarding a show, movie or video game.

USA Today said, “in its charming odd manner, this is ‘Willy Wonka’ meets ‘The Matrix,’” which is an accurate description. Throughout the story, there are relatable situations that most teenagers have encountered once or twice, and other less relatable situations that put the lives of our protagonists in danger.



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Ernest Cline’s “Ready Player One” is the perfect read for anyone who loves ‘80s culture and video games.

The characters are relatable which makes it difficult not to become attached to them, as you see them grow and mature throughout the novel.

“Ready Player One” is currently my favorite book and I don’t think there will be a

book that outdoes it. The storyline is interesting and it goes in a well-placed rhythm that will keep people interested and wanting more. On the other hand, the ending fulfills the plot lines but isn’t as satisfying as it could be. It’s a bittersweet ending.

A movie of the same name is set to release next year with a trailer already out. But as always, it seems that they’ll change some parts of the plotline and some of the characters that were crucial, not only for the story, but to discuss social inequalities that people face when they log onto the internet.

Overall, “Ready Player One” is an amazing book that honors and glorifies ‘80s culture in a way that only Ernest Cline could. Once you finish the book, you’ll want to have an ‘80s marathon of movies, music shows and probably video games. I would totally recommend this book to anyone who wants to read something interesting and unconventional, yet familiar. It’s easy to follow and doesn’t require too much concentration, which makes it perfect for students who want to relax and take a break from their responsibilities.

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

By: **Jeweliana Register**
Arts & Entertainment Editor

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 Miniaci 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 as a company but more as a group who was planning on working on a project by project basis. That inaugural performance was our first project. We didn’t know what would come from that. We had four weeks of work and that’s all we contracted the dancers for, and it was like ‘to be continued, maybe.’ We ended up having a lot of success with that first performance and everything took off from there.

“Our mission is to really engage the community and delve into the community and be representative of it. I would say 99 percent of our dancers are local to the South Florida area. We try to present choreography that is representative of the different cultures found in the community. They’re definitely ballets, but



PROVIDED BY DIMENSIONS DANCE, J. KRONENBERG
Jennifer Kronenberg and her husband Carlos Guerra founded Dimensions Dance in 2016.

for instance, in the first program, we had a work called “Juanita y Alicia” that was ballet but it was danced to Cuban boleros. We had a salsa band on stage playing with us... Now, on this upcoming program here in Miami we will have a tango quartet on stage with us. There’s always something that we try and engage with other than the dance itself.”

Can you tell us a little bit about “The Pointe of Pas de Deux: A Dance Dialogue”?

For the Minanci program up in Broward, we were thinking about how it is our first performance in this theatre. The theatre is on a university campus, so wouldn’t it be nice to engage that community by presenting a sort of educational program, not just general run of the mill performance, but the performance with an educational side? We have a narrator who is going to be speaking and explaining a bit about what the audience is going to see and the stylistic

differences between the works that are being danced with a little history and background so that we have that educational component to it. We thought that would be really nice to bring to that university environment.

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 Miniaci 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/miniaci/index.html. To receive the NSU student discount, simply enter the promo code “NSU” at checkout.



Peter & The Starcatcher

Nov. 9 | 7:30 p.m.
@Broward Center for the Performing Arts

Shaggy

Nov. 9 | 7:30 p.m.
@Revolution Live

Small Press Fair

Nov. 11 | 12 p.m.
@FATVillage

Enrique Iglesias and Pitbull Live!

Nov. 11 | 7:30 p.m.
@American Airlines Arena

Frank Stella: Experiment and Change

Nov. 11 | 6 p.m.
@NSU Art Museum Fort Lauderdale

Jay Z 4:44 Tour

Nov. 12 | 8 p.m.
@American Airlines Arena

athlete OF THE week

By: **Jeweliana Register**
Arts & Entertainment Editor

Samantha Loriot

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 and 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



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Caption

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 friends here and it can be hard to make friends in school. So it's good to have that already built in. Everyone on the team is like my sister. It's great."

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. Everyone meshes 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."

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 coxswain 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."

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 I guess, and I would love to do rowing once I graduate. I'm not sure how that is going to work though because there are not any rowing clubs by me which really stinks. But, I'll probably just start teaching 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."

OUT OF THE shark zone

BBC 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. The increase will be reflected on the BBC sport website as well as through the corporation's internet streaming service, BBC iPlayer. Tony Hall, the director general, said that this change will be a major shakeup in the company's output strategy, but necessary since live sports watching viewership 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 blames NFL protests for lost revenue; DiGiorno mocks company starting a pizza war

According to Forbes, John Schnatter, Papa John's CEO, told investors of his company that he blamed the NFL protests for a \$70 million drop in revenue.

In the meeting held on Nov. 1, Schnatter not only blamed the protesters, but the NFL organization's "poor leadership" during the "take a knee" controversy. According to USA Today, later that day on Twitter, DiGiorno, a company who makes most of their revenue from the sale of pre-made, frozen pizzas, posted a tweet that implied that while Papa John's sales have fallen, DiGiorno's has risen. In reply to their own tweet, the pizza company mocked Papa John's tagline stating "Better Pizza. Better Sales." On Nov. 2, Pizza Hut's CEO Gregg Creed also added to the fray when he told investors that their net sales had not been affected by the protests. As of Nov. 3, Papa John's had not retaliated, but DiGiorno updated their Twitter bio to read: "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 Abdullah Sport City in Jeddah, and Prince Mohammed Bin Fahd Stadium in Dammam, have begun to make adjustments in preparation for the change.

ONdeck

MEN'S BASKETBALL

vs. Florida National
Nov. 10 | 7 p.m.
Rick Case Arena

MEN'S SWIMMING

vs. Indian River State College
Nov. 10 | 12 p.m.
NSU Aquatic Complex

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

vs. Delta State
Nov. 10 | 5 p.m.
Jackson, Tenn.

@Union
Nov. 11 | 4 p.m.
Jackson, Tenn.

WOMEN'S SOCCER

vs. 2017 NCAA Tournament
Nov. 10 - Dec. 2
TBA

WOMEN'S SWIMMING

vs. Indian River State College
Nov. 10 | 12 p.m.
NSU Aquatic Complex

WOMEN'S TENNIS

vs. Fit Invite
Nov. 10 - Nov. 12
Melbourne, Fla.

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL

@Rollins
Nov. 10 | 7p.m.
Winter Park, Fla.

@Palm Beach State
Nov. 11 | 4 p.m.
West Palm Beach, Fla.



When will Messi and Ronaldo leave room for the others?

By: **Diego Galvez**
Sports Editor

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?

SPORTS SHORTS

Women's volleyball

The women's volleyball team broke their 12-game losing streak on Oct. 28 in their game against Embry-Riddle. Junior Denvyr Tyler-Palmer beat Sydney Cook for fifth place in all-time kills.

Women's rowing

The Sharks completed the fall season in the Hatter Invitational, where Boat A finished third in the eights division and Boat B finished third in the fours division. Coach Fay commented that the team showed significant improvement compared to their performance in Miami a few weeks prior.

Women's golf

The women's golf team ended their fall season with their third tournament win at the South Region Preview that ended on Oct. 31. Senior Michelle Ruiz was runner-up and Sophie Madden and Jamie Freedman finished among top-five on the field.

Men's golf

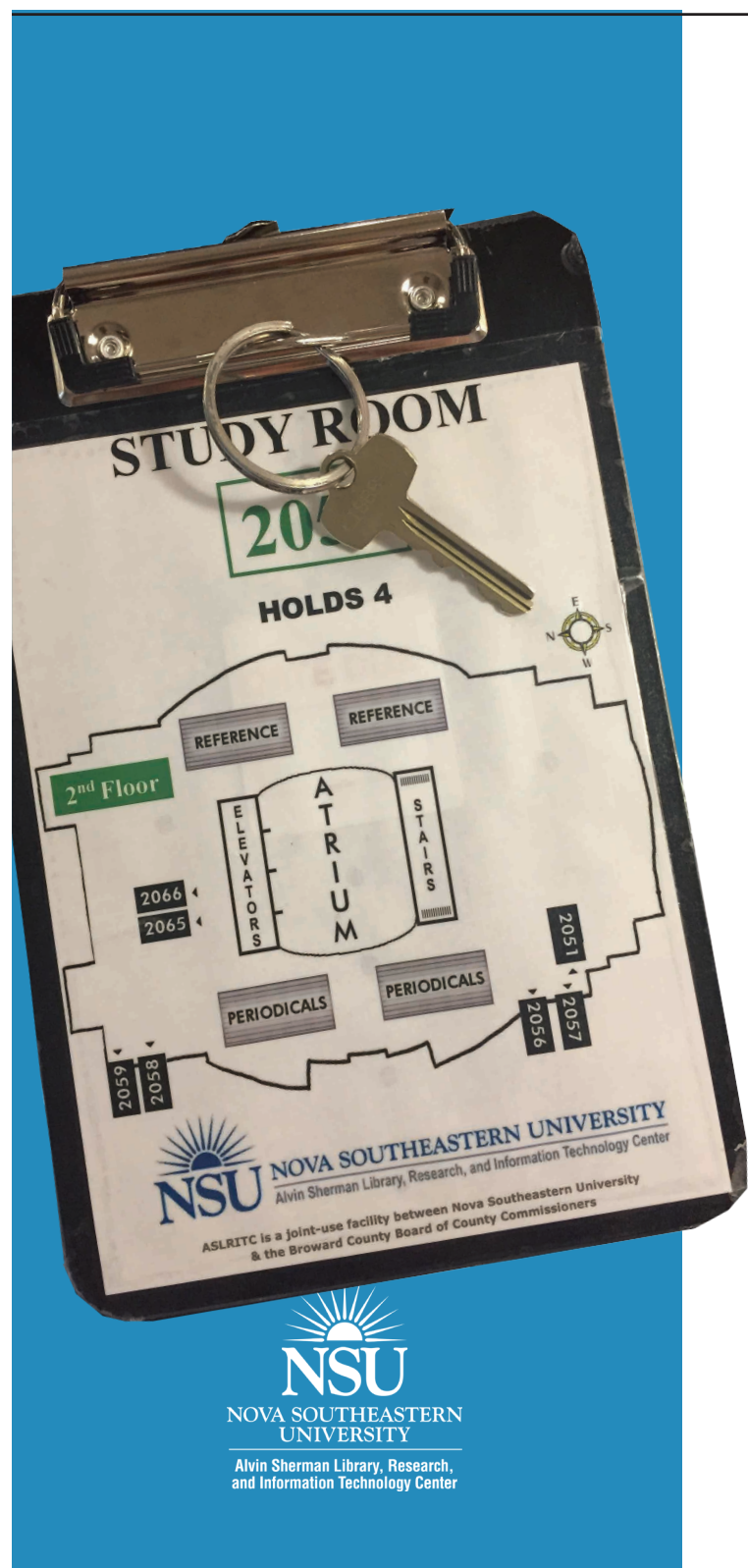
The men's golf team finished the fall season with a third place finish at the Miami Intercollegiate on Oct. 30-31. Junior Juan Jose Guerra finished third as an individual player.

Women's soccer

The women's soccer team won the school's first Sunshine State Conference regular season title. Senior Bailey Corbin was named SSC Defensive Player of the Week.

Men's Soccer

The men's soccer team ended their season with a 3-2 win against Embry-Riddle. The win made the team's record for the season 8-7 overall, which is the Shark's first winning record since 2010.



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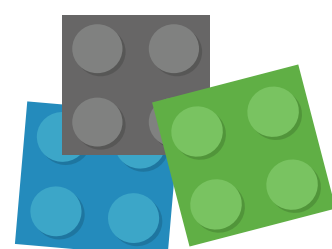
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Confederacy, to the museums

By: **Diego Galvez**
Sports Editor

History is better appreciated and valued in museums; this is especially 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 and 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 untouched and protected from being abolished in the future. People who support the confederacy base their opinions on

misinformation that may have passed from one generation to another. Furthermore, 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 on the wrong side of history and for values that couldn't possibly be imagined in this century. So, why should we commemorate generals 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 reservations about slavery during 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 counsel 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 as 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 retarding, instead of accelerating its accomplishment; [and] of continuing, if not adding to, the difficulties under which the Southern people labour." In short, he said erecting a monument would be detrimental to their pride and ultimate goal. I can totally agree with his own words regarding this issue. As of now, the fate of this confederate statue, among others, is in legal disputes.

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.



Miracle rings saving turtles everywhere

By: **Madelyn Rinka**
News Editor

Jon Shell, a ceramics major at Tortuga State University for the Arts in Landlodge, Wyoming may be the next great inventor to go down in history. For his sophomore biology midterm, Shell fashioned a new kind of plastic soda ring, which won't get stuck around turtle's necks.

"I didn't even expect to get an 'A' on this project, and here I am saving lives. I've never even been to the ocean," he said about the subject in an interview with a local radio station. "I just thought, like, everyone likes turtles. How can I save the turtles?"

And Shell's creation was born. His six-pack rings have a thin portion that is weak enough for turtle's necks and flippers to break through, so that they can't become entangled in the first place. The rest is made from traditional plastic. Shell already has partnerships with five well-known soda companies who have promised to utilize this new technology with their products.

"It's amazing what the youths of America are bringing to the table nowadays," said Brock Pop Jr., CEO of Pop America. "We care so much

about turtles here at Pop America, and we're willing to support anyone who holds those same values."

Somehow, these miracle rings are still getting backlash. Anna Verde, an environmental science professor at Pescado College in California argues that the rings will do more harm than good.

"Most existing rings are made from a photo-degradable plastic, which take somewhere around 90 days to break down," she explained, "whereas these new, 'turtle-friendly' ones are made up of the same kind of plastic in water bottles. They could take hundreds of years to decompose, and the microbeads will kill marine life and contaminate fish that humans consume. People could die. Seriously."

But Shell isn't letting these complaints stop him. "Pop America is pretty smart, and if they think my soda rings are good, then they're good," he said "All I've ever done is care for turtles. 90 days is long enough to hurt a turtle. We need a quick fix, right now. It's one step at a

time. We can't solve everything at once. Maybe I'll save fish next semester or something."

Pop can't help but agree. Despite the current backlash, his company is set to implement Shell's rings beginning this December.

"Listen," said Pop, exasperated, "People think turtles are cute. No one cares about fish. Who even eats fish anymore? We gotta make our move. Our current rings are bad for publicity. If one more Pop America ring is pictured around a turtle, we're done for."

On top of saving turtles, Shell's rings are almost half the production price of the average, photo-degradable rings. Not only are they saving the turtles, but they're also helping the economy.

"Saving our image — I mean the turtles — and saving money, what more could I ever want?" said Pop. "Please don't add that image part in there."

What can't Shell do? Be sure to check out new Pop America products with turtle-lovin' rings at a grocery store near you in December.

The residence hall washing machines ruin my clothes

By: **Christina McLaughlin**
Opinions 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 for some reason, this stereotype is true. When most residence hall students head to the laundry rooms they might run into issues of crowded dryers and washers and mountains of clothes with the occasional sock on the floor. It may seem like chaos but it is 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 by a pretty sizeable fishing hook. It created holes in a few of my t-shirts and forced me to have to rewash the entire load because the stains 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 cut by 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 softener. 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 grease 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 investigate the washer thoroughly and hope that it doesn't get ruined.

College is stressful enough, and I shouldn't have to worry that my clothes might get ruined in the machines provided by the school. Not many students can afford to replace their destroyed items or have enough time or experience with laundry systems to know what to do to fix this issue. We can always go to a coin-laundry chain off-campus but why would I pay for my laundry when I should be able to do it for free with the appliances provided by the university?

Support our troops – all of them

By: Jenna Kopec

Co-Editor-in-Chief

For a country that touts supporting our troops with what seems like every waking breath, we sure do a piss-poor job at it. That's right, I said it.

You see, "supporting our troops" takes more than just speeches saying that they have the hardest job in the world; it takes more than songs that make us remember their sacrifice; and it takes more than thinking about those who have fallen. Supporting our troops also means supporting the men and women in our military even when we don't agree with their choices; it means supporting the men and women in our military when they tell us there are flaws in the military system; and it means supporting the men and women in our military when they come home to a country that ultimately doesn't seem to care about them out of uniform.

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 military men and women still face discriminatory

policies. 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 in preventing 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 Gilibrand 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 transitions veterans have to make when they return home.

News flash: Voting is important

By: Gabrielle Thompson

Features Editor

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.



WHAT DOES HOMECOMING
AT NSU MEAN TO YOU?

SHARK
SPEAK



"I feel like Homecoming is a place where different people from different years come together in one event and get their stresses [out] from college and just have fun and live their life for a little bit. To get away from all the studying and stress and just distract our minds from realistic problems and have fun together."

- Hands Khan, junior
biology major

"It's a time to relax, show your school spirit during Homecoming week and have fun with friends after [the stress of] midterms."

- Stephanie Lemoine,
freshman elementary
education major

"It means the integration of people, professors and alumni and a time for everyone to celebrate the progress they have done in this semester."

- Neira Algazzaz,
freshman biology major

"I think Homecoming at NSU is a time for people to express their Shark Pride and get hyped about what NSU has to offer and what we are able to do together on campus."

- Dylan Ramey, freshman
marine biology major

"The whole of students and faculty coming together for a week to celebrate our school."

- Susel Terrero, freshman
psychology major

"It's a period of celebration where the entire school comes together and just gets along for a week."

- Taylor Harris, freshman
biology major



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