

11-14-2017

The Current Volume 28: Issue 13

Nova Southeastern University

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NSUWorks Citation

Nova Southeastern University, "The Current Volume 28: Issue 13" (2017). *The Current*. 631.
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The Current

The Student-Run Newspaper of Nova Southeastern University

November 14, 2017 | Vol. 28, Issue 13 | nsucurrent.nova.edu

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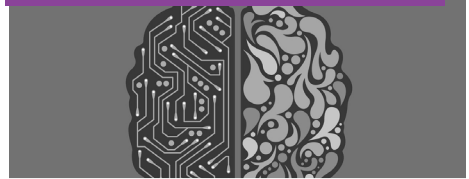
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SGA changes budget guidelines to fund student organizations

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

Beginning in the winter 2018 semester, Undergraduate Student Government (USGA) will be operating under new budget guidelines to fund registered student organizations (RSO).

Alex Lopez, president of USGA and senior marketing management major, and Nikhil Nagabandi, IOC legislative senator and sophomore chemistry and math double major, explained why these changes were made and what exactly they are.

Lopez said a big reason for the change was to make sure that SGA evolves with the needs of the university.

"We realize that the university is changing," said Lopez. "We don't want to be stuck in a position where the university is here and student government is five steps behind."

Lopez and Nagabandi said that USGA's goal was to make it easier for organizations to get funding and to give them more control over how they use their funds.

"We've seen some amazing events with the assistance of funding from SGA," said Nagabandi. "So, by making the whole process easier I think clubs can more easily obtain funding for SGA [to create more events]."

He also said that these budget guidelines will help USGA focus on other issues that are important to the student body.

"By changing these guidelines," said Lopez, "it'll also give SGA more time to focus on issues on the campus whether it's something social or institutional based. SGA can now focus on other things because organizations will be able to get [funding] more simply than in the past."

What's changing:

Waiving of categories

Where previous funding was categorized into "Lump Sum," "Traditional" or "High Events," funding will now be granted as "one chunk," according to Lopez. The amount the

RSO will be eligible to request will be based on their Fin Points. This grants organizations more freedom in creating their events. Lopez said it's important to note that just because an organization is eligible for a request doesn't mean they will receive it and the events must still impact NSU in some way.

Basic Funding

Any RSO in good standing with the university and meeting USGA requirements will automatically get \$300 transferred into the account without having to come and propose a bill to USGA as long as they meet USGA requirements for funding. If an organization will require more funding, they will have to present a complete budget request to SGA.

T-Shirt funding

USGA made an adjustment to the T-Shirt funding by making the funds based on the members of the student organization rather than a lump sum. If an RSO receives funding for T-shirts, they will receive \$5 per person for up to 60 people for those shirts.

Inventory for the first time

USGA is now offering funding for inventory, such as flags or table cloths to

represent the RSO, for the first time. RSOs can request inventory once per academic year for up to \$200. However, once the RSO receives an item they won't be able to request that item again for three years. For example, if an RSO gets a tablecloth through the funding, USGA will not fund another tablecloth for another three years.

Fin Points

Fin Points will now only apply per semester instead of yearly. Fin Points are allocations that are awarded to RSOs if they create events that "promote student organization growth, creating name recognition on campus and giving back to the community." When RSOs gather Fin Points they develop a status, either Blue, Silver or Gold, that impacts the amount of funding they can receive and other privileges they may have. More about Fin Points can be found at nova.edu/campuslife/organizations/finpoints.html.

Get off the ground fund

This new funding is only offered to new RSOs during their first semester to help them expand, once the members meet the requirements to become the RSO.

"If you start within the first four weeks of a semester you're automatically going to get \$100

for recruitment purposes [that same semester]," said Lopez. "If the RSO gets chartered at the end of the semester we'll give them the funding for the following."

Giveaways

RSOs will be able to request between \$50 and \$100 for one-time giveaways at Sharkapalooza. The amount will be based on Fin Points. Blue and Silver Fins will be eligible to receive \$50 and Gold Fins will be eligible for \$100. These items will also have to have USGA's logo on it alongside your organization.

What's staying the same:

To be eligible for basic funding, student organizations will still have to meet the same basic requirements. First they have to be a registered organization in good standing with the Office of Campus Life and Student Engagement. Second they have to have completed at least 30 service hours per semester. So, if an organization gets 30 hours in fall of 2017, they will meet this requirement for funding for winter of 2018. Service hours do not roll over each semester. Finally, in order to be eligible for certain funding opportunities, organizations will still need to have Fin Points. The Fin Point rating and the correlated eligibility is recapped below:

FIN POINT STANDINGS AND ELIGIBILITY FOR FUNDING		
Blue Fin (30-59 points)	Silver Fin (60-119)	Gold Fin (120+)
RSO is eligible for basic funding (\$300)	RSO is eligible for basic funding (\$300)	RSO is eligible for basic funding (\$300)
RSO is able to request up to \$700 in addition to basic funding	RSO is able to request up to \$700 in addition to basic funding	RSO can request up to \$3,200 in addition to basic funding
	RSO is able to request conference and T-shirt funding	RSO is able to request conference and T-shirt funding

Multicultural Affairs Committee to host Multicultural Fair

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

With International Education week at NSU comes many events for students to participate in and attend in order to learn more about the world around us. In collaboration with the Office of International Affairs, the Multicultural Affairs Committee (MAC) is hosting the fifth annual Multicultural Fair on Nov. 15 from 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. in the HPD Clocktower Courtyard outside of the Terry Building. The event features a potluck-style taste test of foods from all different cultures surrounding the event's theme "We are all the same on the inside."

"International Education Week is a joint initiative between the U.S. Department of State and the U.S. Department of Education to

promote programs that prepare Americans for a global environment and attract future leaders from abroad to study, learn and exchange experiences," Katie Goodroad, graduate assistant for the Office of International Affairs, explained. "Here at NSU, International Education Week is a week of campus-wide events and programs highlighting NSU's international initiatives."

The potluck-style event gives attendees the opportunity to sample dishes from different cultures all in one place. Students, faculty and staff of the NSU community are invited to bring a potluck dish from their culture to share with others for the event. Attendees are also encouraged to dress up to represent their culture

as well.

"The Multicultural Fair is an opportunity for community members, NSU students, faculty and staff, to come and get to know other diverse cultures," Jonathon May, director of Student Affairs and Multicultural Affairs Committee chair, said. "It's fun because it's one of the largest multiethnic potlucks that you'd ever be able to experience."

In addition to the NSU community, May explained that the Davie community is invited to partake in the event as well. May said that over 40 outside vendors will be in attendance with either food for attendees to sample or art for them to enjoy.

"The goal is definitely community building and letting people know about groups, organizations and resources not only here at [NSU], but also in the larger community for a diverse population and experiences," May explained. "What's great is that anybody from any culture can get the opportunity to engage with another culture, religion, people... It's really cool. For instance, you may be a student from Connecticut and not even know that we have this amazing Jamaican restaurant that's right down the street."

For more information about getting involved in the event, email Jonathon May at jm2501@nova.edu.

News Anchor

Stay up to date with international and national events.

TripAdvisor to flag hotels with sexual assault reports

According to BBC News, TripAdvisor, a leading travel website, has announced that they will begin flagging hotels whose former guests have reported sexual assaults with warning badges on the company's website. The announcement follows allegations that the website had been removing reviews describing sexual assaults involving three resort hotels in the Playa del Carmen region of Mexico. TripAdvisor's spokesman Kevin Carter stated that the warning badges would be in effect for three months, but if newer reports were filed, they may remain for longer periods of time. Carter also added that "these badges are intended to be informative, not punitive."

Investigators search for answers following Texas church shooting, parishioners mourn

On Nov. 5, Devin Kelley entered the First Baptist Church in Sutherland Springs, Texas, and fatally shot 26 congregants and wounded 20. According to CNN, in a search for answers as to the gunman's motive, former co-worker Jessica Edwards alleged that Kelley told her that he'd been buying animals on Craigslist for target practice. In an interview with Inside Edition, Kelley's ex-wife, Tessa Brennaman, stated that he once threatened to kill her family and fractured her son's skull in 2012. On Nov. 11, a funeral and military-memorial service were held outside the Sutherland Springs community center honoring the slain. According to NBC News, the church's pastor, Frank Pomeroy who lost his 14-year-old daughter in the shooting, said that it would be "too stark a memory" to resume service in the building, implying that the church would be torn down.

Martial arts school in Democratic Republic of Congo teaches women to protect themselves

A martial arts school located in the eastern city of Bukavu in the Democratic Republic of Congo has begun teaching women, including survivors of sexual assault, how to protect themselves against attacks. Al Jazeera reported

that the Democratic Republic of Congo currently has one of the highest rates of sexual assault and rape in the world.

Former Trump aide admits to lying to FBI out of loyalty to president

Trump's foreign policy aide George Papadopoulos pleaded guilty to misleading FBI agents regarding Trump's Russian ties. According to federal court filings, Papadopoulos admitted to lying about the timing of certain contacts between Trump and Russian officials out of loyalty to the president, reported ABC News. Trump has publicly denied any contact with Russian officials during his campaign.

Louis C.K., Steven Segal and Kevin Spacey face sexual assault allegations

According to Deutsche Welle news, comedian Louis C.K. and actor Steven Segal are among the latest celebrities to have been accused of sexual assault. Five individuals have accused C.K. of sexual misconduct between the 1990s and 2005, according to a report published by The New York Times on Nov. 9. The comedian has since confirmed the allegations saying "the stories are true." The New York premiere of his latest movie, "I Love You Daddy," was also canceled. Three actresses, including wife of Ellen DeGeneres and "Arrested Development" star Portia de Rossi, have accused Segal of sexual misconduct. Netflix has pulled Kevin Spacey from its original show "House of Cards" following the allegations against him. Additionally, according to BBC News, director Ridley Scott has announced that scenes which the actor shot in the upcoming movie "All the Money in the World" about late oil tycoon Jen Paul Getty will be reshot to exclude the actor.

China's Singles Day shopping spree breaks records

In a report by e-commerce giant Alibaba, sales rose to \$1.5 billion in the first three minutes of China's Singles Day shopping spree on Nov. 11. According to USA Today, the annual 24-hour spree, which began in 2009 as a celebration for "lonely hearts," is now indulged by the general population.

The Current

The Student-Run Newspaper of Nova Southeastern University

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The Current serves Nova Southeastern University from its location in Room 310 of the Student Affairs Building. The Current is NSU's established vehicle for student reporting, opinion and the arts. All community members are invited to contribute.

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Careers in Psychology, Counseling, and Therapy event to take place in December

By: **Monique Cole**
Contributing Writer

On Friday, Dec. 8, NSU's College of Psychology and the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences will host Careers in Psychology, Counseling, and Therapy. The event will take place from 12-2 p.m. in room 2057 of the Maltz building.

Designed to run like a question and answer session, prospective students will get a chance to hear from a diverse range of professionals within the field of psychology, therapy and counseling. The event will feature speakers, including NSU professors, who will discuss marriage and family therapy, clinical psychology, school psychology, counseling, clinical psychology and health, sleep and medicine.

Paula Boros, assistant director of graduate admissions for recruitment and admissions for the College of Psychology, Mailman Segal Center and the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, will be the main host of the event.

"The main focus is going to really be

about how you distinguish between a counselor versus a therapist, or the different licensing degrees that we offer here. This will better help students prepare and make sure they pick the degree that is suited for them," said Boros.

Carlos Perez, adjunct professor and director of outreach staff at NSU, is planning the event, and will help Boros host the event. He says that the event will educate people interested in one of the highlighted fields and maybe help them discover which profession might be a perfect match.

"You get to talk to distinguished professionals, professors that have had years and years of experience... It's really perfect for current undergraduates, or somebody who is transitioning from a different kind of work and they always wanted to or felt like they had the [aptitude] to go into this area," said Perez.

The event will also further increase understanding of the different fields by highlighting the differences between psychology, counseling and therapy.

"One of the things that we will talk about in this event is kind of the differences between the different programs ... Sometimes the language is interchangeable in the field and this can help clarify for them which direction they really want to go," said Perez.

The event is open to anyone that has an interest in entering the field of psychology, counseling or therapy.

"It is open up to any prospective students or current students interested in maybe switching programs or anyone in the community or public. It is not limited to just a specific target population," said Boros.

While this is a free event, anyone interested in this event must RSVP. The event will cap attendance at 100 people. Complimentary snacks will also be served.

For more information or to RSVP, visit <https://goo.gl/i1GVbW> or email gradschools@nova.edu.

News Briefs

Graduate Business Student Association to throw Business Ball

The GBSA will be hosting the 2017 Business Ball on Saturday, Nov. 18 at 7 p.m. in the Las Olas Ballroom at the Westin Fort Lauderdale Beach Resort. The formal event will cater to interested NSU students, faculty and guests seeking to network. The theme for this year's event is "A Night at Sea," and attendees can look forward to hors d'oeuvres, a three-course dinner, giveaways and entertainment. The cost is \$15 to attend, and sign up closes on Nov. 15. For more details, or to purchase tickets, visit bit.ly/2zgPvhI.

NSU hosting 2017 Fort Lauderdale Kidney Walk

Join the Fort Lauderdale community on Saturday, Nov. 18 at 9 a.m. in front of the Alvin Sherman Library to support the National Kidney Foundation. NSU is hosting the 2017 Kidney Walk to raise awareness and money about kidney disease, and to educate the community about its impacts on individuals and their family. Check out donate.kidney.org for more information and to sign up.

PVA putting on "A Dog's House"

"A Dog's House" is a dark comedy being put on by NSU's Department of Performing and Visual Arts. The story is about a couple who find themselves second-guessing their relationship after a strange and sudden incident involving their formerly friendly dog, Jock. Join the PVA on Friday, Nov. 17, and Saturday, the 18, at 7:30 p.m., as well as Sunday, the 19, at 2 p.m. Visit cahss.nova.edu/departments/pva/ to buy tickets.

NSU hosting a Thanksgiving meal for students

On Thursday, Nov. 23, NSU is hosting a Thanksgiving meal for students staying on campus for the holiday. Commuters and residential students are encouraged to come to the Flight Deck Pub from 12:30-3 p.m. for fun, festivities, food and football.

The College of Psychology's November Alumni Colloquium Presentation

NSU's past Distinguished Alumni Award winner Michael L. Bourke will be presenting "Myths about Sexual Predation." Bourke will be giving his presentation as a part of NSU's Alumni Colloquium. Join the community on Nov. 15, at noon in the Maxwell Maltz Building. Lunch will be provided, but space is limited. Contact psychology@nova.edu for more information.

Alvin Sherman Library to host Irish Film Festival

NSU's Alvin Sherman Library and the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences are sponsoring an Irish Film Festival from Nov. 13 until Nov. 19, showcasing the films "Bobby Sands: 66 Days," "Congo: An Irish Affair" and "Writing Home." The event was created by associate professor in the Department of History and Political Science David Kilroy in collaboration with the Irish Film Institute in Dublin. This is the tenth year that this free, public event will be held. Contact Kilroy at dkilroy@nova.edu for more information.



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How to start preparing for finals now

By: **Monique Cole**
Contributing Writer

With finals week being two weeks away, students might be inclined to procrastinate and leave their assignments for later. However, this approach might create some panic and stress. Here are some strategies students can use to conquer finals week.

Keep up with that syllabus

It's easy to confuse a deadline when you're taking several classes, especially if some of those are online. Don't miss an online final or submission because you assume something's due later in the week. Be informed and stay up-to-date; professors don't always remind students when assignments are due. Looking at the class syllabus a few weeks before finals week can help you be more aware of due dates, and maybe even help motivate you to get started with preparations earlier. This technique can be extremely helpful both for on campus and online classes.

Don't let the work pile up

Sometimes when students have a lot of

projects or papers that need to be turned in at the same time, it becomes a game of quality versus quantity. This can result in rushed and flawed work and the final product might not produce that desired grade. Students can avoid this issue by breaking the project into parts and accomplishing a few each day. This can go for a paper, presentation or any other type of project that is due during finals week. This way, students will have more time for studying.

Save your brain and avoid cramming

Ever wonder why you blank out during a test and forget all the information you studied the night before? Life happens, but cramming is rarely successful. According to the American Psychological Association, "the problem with cramming is that it gives you a misplaced sense of confidence that you know the material. You have not taken the time to repeatedly organize the information in your memory, connect it to what you already know and pave the new mental roads." Taking a couple of minutes a day to review class notes can not only help increase

your memory for the test, but also help you retain the information after the class ends.

Schedule help ahead of time

There is nothing wrong with asking for help, especially if you have been lost on what is going on throughout the semester. NSU is equipped with services to help students prepare before taking the test. Some of these services include the Tutoring and Testing Center and the CAHSS Writing Studio. Both services offer students the chance to sit down in one-on-one sessions to better understand the material or given assignment. While these programs exist, appointments tend to fill up quickly around finals. Booking an appointment ahead of time can not only guarantee a spot, but may provide some extra help.

Generate a game plan

Sometimes the best way to tackle finals week is having a strong game plan. It takes time to get people and study guides together. Start asking people to join your study group and see if

you can break parts of the study guide up. If you are looking to book a study room, you should do this ahead of time. Like tutoring appointments, these spots fill up quickly. Students should also ensure that test times don't collide with work times to avoid double-booking yourself. Additionally, you can create study playlists, or develop a plan of action for how you want to go about projects and studying for the final test.

Take care of your body and mind

One of the most important things to remember is to take care of yourself. Finals week can be a stressful time, but you should always remember that your emotional and physical health contribute to your performance. It may even help boost those test scores. According to the Huffington Post, "students who generally got a good night's sleep perform better on exams." So, get adequate sleep, exercise, eat a proper diet and take some personal time to enjoy life; it'll help prevent you from becoming sick or feeling too overwhelmed.



Managing your time well

By: **Jessica McDonald**
Contributing Writer

Jessica is an NSU doctoral student in the Clinical Psychology Program at NSU. She currently works as a writing tutor at the Tutoring and Testing Center.



PRINTED WITH PERMISSION FROM J. MCDONALD
Jessica McDonald keeps a detailed planner to stay on top of her busy schedule.

Studying for exams is probably one of the least exciting parts of one's collegiate experience. Couple that with the fact that, oftentimes, exams "just so happen" to be scheduled at the time when you have a million other papers, quizzes, assignments, group projects and class readings to finish, and you've got yourself a perfect storm of seemingly impossible things to accomplish. While this isn't the most comprehensive or sophisticated list, here are my tried and true tips that have helped me unravel and tackle my very-full agenda:

Planning

I use a planner that has a monthly as well as weekly view. This helps me plan for the month and gives me a snapshot of the weeks that are a little more hectic than others. Then I can look at the details of the assignments in the pages that show the individual days of the week. I also have an hourly planner that helps me manage where I need to be and when.

Plan way ahead

I tend to trick myself in my planner. At the beginning of the semester, I go through all of my syllabi and write each individual assignment into my planner. My biggest tip here is that I write all of my really big assignments, such as exams, papers and heavily-weighted assignments, as being due a week and a half ahead of time. That way I automatically have things done with time to spare, and I don't feel like I'm drowning as I edit that 20-page research paper at the very last minute. I also take this opportunity to make sure I scatter assignments, since I'm changing when things are due in my planner, and don't let myself have too much due all in the same week.

Prioritize

For those hectic weeks when you can't reduce your workload, what can you do to manage your obligations? It's relatively simple

— prioritize. Write a list of what needs to get done, then put the items in order of what needs to get done first. Making that list alone might help you feel less overwhelmed because you can visualize what needs to be done, and you might find that you actually don't have too many things happening at once after all. If you really do have a lot and it looks like a scary list, you might focus on the fact that you can see the items crossed out once they've been completed, and that might help you feel productive.

Don't forget to treat yourself

It sounds cheesy, but don't forget to keep up with your life and what makes you happy. Yes, you might have to raincheck hanging out with your friends every once in awhile. But if you find yourself consistently dipping out on spending time with your friends, your family, your partner, your children or whomever because you have deadlines always backing you into a corner, you might consider making some changes to your schedule that allow you to be successful as a student and involved in your own life. You want to avoid feeling imbalanced. Not only will you feel overwhelmed, but you'll also add the stress or guilt related to not being an active participant in your life to your already-full plate. Plus, self-care is a huge aspect of making sure you're tending to your schoolwork to the best of your ability.



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Remembering Pearl Harbor

By: **Diego Galvez**
Sports Editor

It has been almost 76 years since the attack on the naval base of Pearl Harbor in Hawaii. The deadly attack took the lives of more than 2,400 people, including civilians, and left another 1,000 wounded. This attack is one of the few that took place on American soil. According to History.com, the attack crippled and destroyed nearly 20 American ships and more than 300 airplanes. Many dry docks and airfields were destroyed as well.

The surprise attack by Japan was “a pivotal moment in American history,” said Gary Gershman, professor in the department of history and political science. According to History.com, many American military leaders

believe that Japan would carry out an attack on one of their bases nearer the European colonies. Pearl Harbor was an irresistibly easy target for the Japanese because the Americans didn’t expect it, which initiated the U.S. entry into World War II.

The involvement of the U.S. after the attack was one of the “key elements in bringing [World War II] to an end,” said Gershman. He believes that the U.S. was slowly being dragged into World War II, adding that “Franklin D. Roosevelt would have found a way to get us into the war despite the strong isolation the U.S. had.” According to History.com, the day after the attack, Franklin D. Roosevelt

declared war on Japan.

Was it possible for the U.S. to avoid the strike? Gershman doesn’t know if it could’ve been avoided.

“Radar was new, and if you think back to the way communication worked at that time, to tell the White House that we’ve been attacked, they had to use the Western Union to send a telegram through commercial channels,” Gershman said. “It made sense that [Japan] attacked. They were expanding, they were building this empire. Their miscalculation was that they thought ‘we’ll attack Pearl Harbor and that’s it, the United States is done.’”

“When you teach history, you look for

certain moments and some of them are like watershed moments. I believe the attack of Pearl Harbor was one of those moments,” said Gershman. “If you think about it, the United States has only been attacked on soil a couple times in its history. 9/11 was one of them, Pearl Harbor was another one.”

Pearl Harbor is one of the most tragic events in U.S. history and, as long there’s a remembrance day honoring those who lost their lives in this attack, we will never forget about it. As Gershman said, “it changes as we go through generations, but I think it’s an important event in American history.”



PLACES TO gill OUT

Bolay Restaurant

By: **Michaela Greer**
Co-Editor-in-Chief

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

As college students who have ridiculously crazy schedules, it can be quite hard to ensure that we’re eating all the healthy foods that our bodies need. The intentions can definitely be there, but how many of us realistically have the time to cook every balanced meal? After factoring in the price of fresh vegetables and fruit, it makes sense why college students notoriously reach for packages of ramen noodles. But, with Bolay Restaurant only a few miles from campus, college students can keep their hunger sated and bank accounts out of the red.

Much is expected from a company that has a tagline that reads: “So bold. So fresh.” Yet, a quick skim through their menu will show that Bolay Restaurant delivers. The format of the restaurant can be likened to that of a Chipotle



Bolay Restaurant has so many internationally-inspired foods, you’ll leave with a full tummy, feeling like you’ve just gone on a foodie-certified world trip.

restaurant in that customers can order ahead for pickup or queue in front of a glass-enclosed, cafeteria-style setup but that’s where the similarities end.

Instead of tacos, salads and burritos, patrons can customize their small or large-sized bowls with the bases, vegetables, proteins,



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toppings and sauces from items inspired by the international cuisines of exotic countries. Feeling adventurous? Try the Forbidden Black Rice, Peruvian Quinoa, Cajun Sweet Potatoes, Miso Glazed Tofu or Spicy Thai Shrimp. Or you can choose from time-honored classics like Ginger Broccoli, Lemon Chicken, Ahi

Tuna and Balsamic Mushrooms. Then top your mouthwatering creations with different cheeses, avocado or minted tomatoes; not forgetting the Spicy Thai, Carrot Ginger or Cilantro Pesto sauces, of course.

If you’re not salivating by now, you probably have no taste buds. Luckily for you, since this chain restaurant has a location just across the street from the Pembroke Lakes Mall, you might be able to buy some and then head over to Bolay Restaurant for a delicious meal. Tell them I sent you. My name holds no weight there, but it’ll at least give you some time to decide which scrumptious entrees you’ll feast on that day.

Bolay Restaurant

151 North Hiatus Rd.

Suite 314

Pembroke Pines, FL 33026

\$8 - \$14

Monday – Saturday from 11 a.m. – 9:30 p.m.

Sunday from 11 a.m. – 9 p.m.

Making the most out of your New Year’s resolutions

By: **Diego Galvez**
Sports Editor

New Year’s resolutions are a common practice all around the world. According to History.com, even though it seems like this practice is relatively new, the Babylonians are said to have been the first people to make New Year’s resolutions around 4,000 years ago. Although it has changed over time, the core of the practice still remains: making a promise that one must fulfill in the upcoming New Year. It usually involves a change in the individual’s personality or a solution to a problem they might be facing.

According to an article published by Forbes, although nearly half of Americans make New Year’s resolutions, only eight percent actually stick to it. This may be because they’ve set unrealistic goals. Here are some tips for making your New Year’s resolutions that are more achievable:

Baby steps

Start by doing something small. Doing volunteer work or going to the gym once a week are more achievable and practical resolutions than going on a mission trip. This will help you achieve your goal without compromising

your daily routine and you’ll probably find it easier to accomplish.

Know yourself

The best way to fulfill a New Year’s resolution is to be honest with yourself. For example, if you are not used to working out every day, it wouldn’t be surprising that you might become overwhelmed and give up quickly. Instead, you should find an achievable resolution that doesn’t obstruct day-to-day routines — one you feel comfortable doing without pushing yourself too hard.

Involve others

There’s no better way to start something new than by doing it with someone else. If you start a resolution with a friend, you will have better chance of keeping up with your resolution. By involving other people such as a friend, you’ll have a support system to motivate you whenever you are struggling and will give you an extra push if you need it.

Visualize your goals

Think about yourself achieving your goal and making it work. Studies in Psychology

Today have shown that visualizing your goals are as effective as actually doing it. By visualizing yourself achieving your resolution, it will make you want to actually achieve it and could be used as motivation to keep going.

Assign short and long term goals

By assigning short and long term goals, you are also assigning milestones. Having small milestones in between your resolution is a good confidence booster and will make your resolution seem smaller.

When making your New Year’s Resolutions this year, don’t be too hard on yourself. Don’t fall for the common, and often boring, resolutions that everyone is doing. Try to make it more personal. Try to come up with a resolution that has an actual meaning to you, not only in a social or educational way, but in any other type of way. Be willing to try unfamiliar things that you find interesting but haven’t been eager to try. You never know what that activity you’ve always wanted to try may bring to the table. It all depends on how dedicated you are to attempt and keep your resolutions.

spawn organize devise
set build create invent
consider design
structure start build forge
form produce plan gen
labor drive
create co
collaborate
watch beget parent
effort imagine coin
realize
originate
casual bring to pass
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SOUNDBITE

“In Tongues” by Joji

By: Adam DeRoss
Contributing Writer

George “Joji” Miller has garnered overwhelming popularity on the internet through his characters Filthy Frank and Pink Guy. Through these two personas, Miller continuously breaks boundaries and aims to put out the most offensive, off-putting and generally disgusting content that he can. However, unlike many other “edgy” internet personalities, Miller does what he does with purpose, especially in the context of his music.

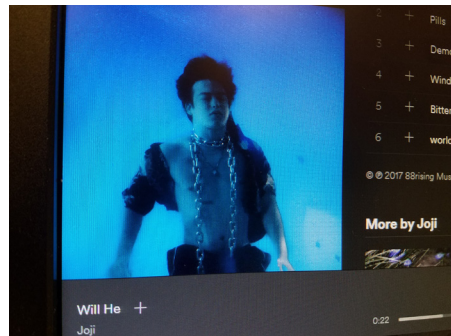
As Pink Guy, Miller has released two full studio albums. The second, “Pink Season,” released earlier this year to critical acclaim, reached the number one spot of hip-hop albums on iTunes just a few days after release. The record was rife with highly offensive and over the top content, but each track carried commentary and criticism on many of the world’s problems such as racism and homophobia, albeit heavily buried under immature humor. But now that Miller has made a name for himself through his characters, it seems that he is ready to separate himself from his fandom and start producing serious music as well.

His first official EP “In Tongues,” released Nov. 3, shows a very different side of Miller.

The dark, deeply personal and almost bleak tone of the record is the polar opposite of the obnoxious, over the top and grimy style Miller has carried in his previous work. While this is an interesting change of pace that provides a look at Miller’s talent, the EP is barely 16 minutes long. While there are some great qualities here, it still leaves a lot to be desired.

The most striking thing about the record is its instrumentals. Miller is no stranger to producing hip-hop in extremely unconventional ways, but the instrumentals on “In Tongues” are much more emotional and moving than one would expect from him. The EP’s first track “Will He” is a great example. The cut uses soft piano progressions, muffled trap percussion and deep booming lows to create a somber and slightly unsettling atmosphere. The instruments are mixed in a way that almost makes it seem like they’re barely there, like you were listening to them underwater.

“Bitter F*ck” is extremely minimalistic, but also highly effective in manipulating the listener’s mood and perception. The track begins with an raw and simple guitar chord progression, complete with the squeaks of



PRINTED WITH PERMISSION FROM A. DEROSS
“In Tongues” presents a more serious look at Joji Miller, but could have done so on a deeper level.

fingers sliding on the strings. As the lyrics progress into the hook, the guitar fill is backed up by a jarring transition into a deep and rattling trap drum line that transforms the mood from relaxed to tumultuous. These are the only two components of the instrumental, but they mesh together so well that adding anything else would be unnecessary.

Unfortunately, the lyrical aspect of the album leaves much to be desired, in terms of both Miller’s vocal performance as well as his songwriting. Every track on the record seems to be rooted in the same personal issue: exiting

a complicated and toxic relationship and the conflicting emotions that come with it. While focusing so heavily on one topic might provide a setup for telling one continuous story over this relatively short EP, Miller seems instead to leave the writing devoid of any details or flow whatsoever. “Will He” portrays Miller talking to his now ex-lover asking her if her new interest will do all the same things he did for her. “Bitter F*ck” portrays Miller lamenting about his newfound reputation as a bitter and mean person because of the breakup, but what exactly caused him to act that way is never specified. Throughout all of this, his voice seems devoid of all emotion, instead coming off almost like monotonous whining.

Miller has a reputation for being extremely creative and talented while also not being afraid to push boundaries. Now that he wants to branch out and show a different side of himself, it seems that he is not entirely sure how to do so. “In Tongues” is interesting and fresh on the surface level, but is still extremely rough around the edges, and Miller has a lot of refining to do before “Joji” exceeds Pink Guy in creativity and popularity.

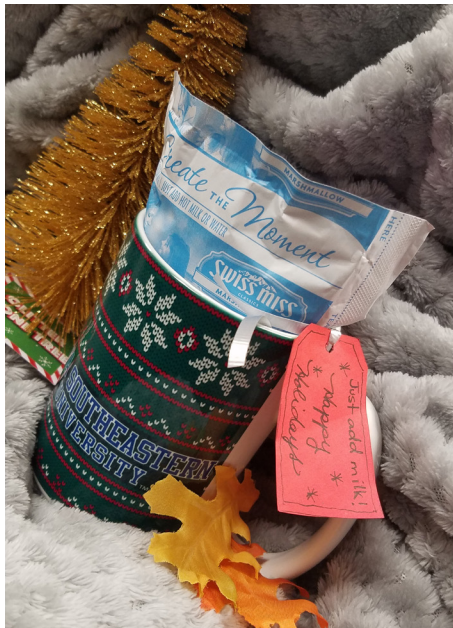
You get a gift, you get a gift, everybody gets a gift

By: Jeweliana Register
Arts & Entertainment Editor

It’s the most wonderful time of the year. While the holidays are pretty jolly, there’s still the struggle of finding the perfect gift for everyone while on a college budget. If you’re looking to shower your loved ones with gifts that won’t break the bank, check out some of these college-budget-friendly gift set ideas.

“Just add milk” hot cocoa set

For this DIY gift, you’ll need a cute mug, a party favor bag, hot chocolate powder, hot chocolate toppings, a label, and string. Start by scooping your hot chocolate powder into the party favor bag, then layer your toppings. Your toppings could be anything from peppermint to dark chocolate pieces to mini marshmallows. Once you have that complete, tie up the bag with string so that it does not spill out. Next, add a label that says “just add milk” or “instant hot cocoa night” or anything else that you would like to add on the note. Get creative with this and use festive holiday colors and doodles as well. Finally, place your completed hot cocoa mix with the label into your desired mug. It’s the perfect gift for any hot cocoa lover or mug collector.



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Get creative with a DIY “just add milk” hot cocoa set when you’re on a budget.

Throwback kit

Maybe you are shopping for your friend who loves a good throwback, or maybe you

want to buy something a little kid would love. If this is the case, consider making a throwback kit, complete with sugary favorites. For this DIY, you’ll need packs of Fruit Roll-Ups and Gushers, a few rolls of Hubba Bubba bubble gum, some Razzles, a pack of Nik-L-Nip mini drinks, several packets of pop rocks, a couple of Ring Pops and some bottled sodas. Grab a gift basket and a big bow, toss your items in and tie a “throwback” sign to the handles to complete this DIY gift.

Fur baby lover

The holidays are all about giving, so don’t forget to give your fur babies gifts as well. Create an easy pet lover basket for your animal or a friend’s with a few simple items. First, grab a gift basket of your choice – stockings work well also – and personalize it with the pet’s name on a sticker or tag. Next, grab some of their favorite treats, like chewing bones or cat treats depending on the animal, and throw them in the basket. Add in a soft pet blanket or holiday sweater and a few toys to finish off the gift.

Spa night

Know someone who could use a relaxing night? If so, consider making them a spa night gift basket. Once you have your basket picked out, get creative with labels and gift tags. Then, you’ll want to fill the basket with items like lavender candles, scented bubble bath mixtures and calming herbal teas. You can also include a loofah and a body lotion in a stress relieving scent. Why not let your loved ones treat themselves to an at-home spa night?

Workout pack

Know someone who loves to work out? This may be the perfect gift for them. Grab a bin or basket and personalize it with their name and anything else you may want to include, then wrap it with string or stick a bow on it to add some festive flair. Next, grab some of their favorite protein powders or pre workout supplements and a blender bottle for the bin. Consider adding in some healthy snack options as well, like protein cookies or snack bars. Throw in a fitness armband or a resistance band and your gift is complete.

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NSUCURRENT.NOVA.EDU

Easy Thanksgiving dinner ideas

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

Whether you are spending your Thanksgiving at home or with friends on campus, you may be tasked with creating a recipe or two for Thanksgiving dinner. If you're looking for a way to hack your holiday meal, check out these simple yet delicious recipes.

Simple corn casserole

If you are a fan of corn casserole, try out this easy five-ingredient recipe. All you'll need is a box of corn muffin mix, a stick of melted butter, a cup of sour cream and a can of creamed corn and kernel corn. Mix all of the ingredients together and transfer the mixture into a baking dish. Bake the casserole at 350 degrees for 45 minutes to an hour, or until the top is golden brown and the mixture is fully cooked.

Turkey sliders

If you are looking for a way to bring the

family turkey to your dorm, or if you just want to find a way to use that leftover turkey in your fridge, look no further than turkey sliders. Grab a package of Hawaiian rolls, your leftover or store bought turkey, your favorite holiday spread and a package of cheese. Start by cutting your rolls in half so that there is a top and a bottom. Place the bottom of the rolls on a pan, then spread your favorite condiment over it in a thin layer. Some ideas for condiments could be cranberry sauce, gravy or even simply mustard. Place the sliced turkey on top of the spread, then place a slice of cheese over the turkey. Finish off by placing the top of the bread on that and baking it at 350 degrees for 20-30 minutes.

Loaded sweet potato skins

Not only are these sweet potato skins simple to make, but they are delicious. After poking holes in your sweet potatoes to ensure

even cooking, bake your sweet potatoes at 400 degrees for 20-30 minutes. After they have baked thoroughly, cut the sweet potatoes in half and gut them. Use the gutted sweet potatoes with cinnamon sugar and cream cheese, then scoop the mixture back into the skins. Add marshmallows and walnuts or pecans on top if desired. Bake at 400 degrees for an additional 10-15 minutes and serve warm.

Roasted vegetables

Chop up the vegetables of your choice. Some options include broccoli, carrots, squash, zucchini and turnips. Combine equal parts of honey or the sweetener of your choice and Dijon mustard with salt and pepper. Use the mixture as a glaze on your chopped veggies. Bake the vegetables in the oven at 400 degrees for 10-15 minutes or until desired texture is achieved.

Apple pie bites

Making an apple pie from scratch can be a long, tiring process. While those homemade crunchy pie crusts are delicious, the act of actually making them is difficult, especially in a dorm room setting. If you have access to an oven but want to hack your apple pie, consider making apple pie bites. For this recipe, take a package of crescent rolls and roll out each one, spreading a mixture of apple pie spice and brown sugar on each one. Optionally, add pecans to the rolls. Place an apple slice or a few apple chunks in the crescent roll, drizzle butter over the top, and roll up. Bake as directed on the crescent roll package.

Jaxson's is an ice cream lovers paradise

By: **Aldana Foigel**
Contributing Writer

Located in Dania Beach about 15 minutes away from NSU's Davie/Fort Lauderdale campus, Jaxson's Ice Cream Parlor and Restaurant is a great place to visit with family and friends, or even to stop by solo. If you are an ice cream fan, this is definitely your spot. If you love burgers, salads, seafood, chicken, wraps or steak, Jaxson's has it all. If you are looking to visit a traditional South Florida restaurant with a warm environment, you should check out Jaxson's.

What makes this restaurant so good? It's never-ending, full-of-options menu. There are options available for any kind of customer and any kind of food lover. When it comes to desserts, you will never run out of possibilities. Sundaes, waffles, frosted floats, Jaxson's unique banana splits, shakes, parfaits and a long list of other "fabulous creations;" this place offers it all.

The environment at Jaxson's is also very welcoming. You can choose between sitting outside or inside. Inside, the old-fashioned decorations are extremely attention-grabbing. Old license plates, clocks and decorations reminiscent of the '70s and '80s give this place its unique personality and style.

The service at Jaxson's is also very good, making clients feel comfortable. When I visited Jaxson's for the first time, I ordered ice cream.



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Jaxson's exterior gives off an old-fashioned and fun vibe that is welcoming to customers.

Since there is an endless variety of flavors and sizes, I wasn't sure what I wanted. One of the waitresses walked me through all the options, and patiently waited until I decided which one I wanted. It is important to know that everything at Jaxson's is huge. One scoop of ice cream is a quarter pound; yes, it is a lot of ice cream. The banana split dessert is a great choice, but make sure you are sharing it with someone else because it serves between three and four people.



PRINTED WITH PERMISSION FROM A. FOIGEL
Maple walnut and chocolate brownie crackle ice cream cones from Jaxson's.

Whether you are looking for a delicious filling meal or an amazing huge dessert, Jaxson's is always a good option. Only 10 miles away from NSU, this is the perfect place to take a break from school and enjoy a meal somewhere different. You might have to wait around 15 to 20 minutes in line until there is a table available for you, since a lot of people visit this place every day. However, it is worth the wait, and it will be a decision you won't regret.

OFF SHORE CALENDAR

Raised by Wolves
Nov. 16 | 8 p.m.
@Arts Garage

Peter and the Starcatcher
Nov. 17 | 7:30 p.m.
@Broward Center for Performing Arts

Aces High Music Festival
Nov. 18 | 8 p.m.
@Respectable Street

Sebastian Maniscalco
Nov. 24 | 9:30 p.m.
@Broward Center for Performing Arts

Cinderella
Nov. 25 | 7:30 p.m.
@Parker Playhouse

\$UICIDEBOYS\$ - Global Epidemic Tour
Nov. 26 | 7 p.m.
@Revolution Live

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On The Bench:

Smelling salts are the new steroids

By: **Christina McLaughlin**
Opinions Editor

Smelling salts, or ammonia carbonate capsules, are mainly used in first-aid situations to revive a victim from fainting spells or concussions. The pungent odor sends a sudden shock to your brain to wake you up with a burst of adrenaline. However, this medical tool has now developed into a pre-game or mid-game “pick-me-up” for some professional athletes. Now, smelling salts have become a national trend with sport-based energy companies who market these products specifically toward athletes. This shouldn’t be.

According to the National Institute of Health, the ammonia gas in these cerebral stimulants aggravate membranes in your nose

and lungs which trigger a reflex reaction that shocks the body into developing an increased breathing pattern, improved respiratory flow and in some cases, alertness. It’s then understandable why some athletes would find this capsule as a quick fix to the mental and physical tiredness they might have during a game. But, is it the moral thing to do? You shouldn’t have to supplement your performance with stimulants.

The NFL is one of the largest culprits of this trend. After a player gets hit hard on the field, the medical staff rushes to his side and slide some capsules under their nose to revive them. This is a quick fix to keep the game going and get the player off the field and into the locker room,

but what if they have a spinal or brain injury? This could cause serious repercussions to the player. Even though there hasn’t been significant medical research done on the effects of these stimulants, it can’t be good to shock your brain and respiratory system constantly.

The main reason athletes attest to taking these stimulants is to center their focus and maintain alertness during long and strenuous activities and games. If this is the case, why can’t the player just use other energy-enhancing supplements such as protein based foods or energy drinks? An energy drink might not be a great alternative, but it’s probably better than smelling salts that could potentially affect your

mental and physical health.

As this trend continues, it seems that this practice has become addictive just like the use of other stimulants such as steroids or cocaine. These drugs are serious stimulants that have been used in the past to keep athletes “hyped” or improve their performance. It might be a bit of a stretch to compare these stimulants, but anything can become addictive and used as a reliance, especially in terms of sports where athletes are pressured to keep their bodies and minds at peak performance. The pressure can become extreme and force athletes to make some hazardous decisions to keep their jobs. Still, they shouldn’t have to risk their health to keep their jobs.



ATHLETE OF THE WEEK:

Darwin Lom



By: **Michaela Greer**
Co-Editor-in-Chief

Darwin Lom is a junior mathematics major who has recently transferred to NSU from Shorter University in Georgia. Though the Sharks on the soccer team struggled to gain their momentum near the beginning of the season, they managed to end the season on a high thanks to Lom who scored the winning goal in last month’s game against Embry-Riddle, sealing their 3-2 victory.

You recently transferred here from Shorter University in Georgia. How did you decide on coming to NSU?

“Yeah, this is my first season here; I transferred over the summer. Pretty much I just wanted to try something new. I have family and had been in Georgia for a while now. I moved there [from Guatemala] when I was a kid, so I’d been there for a while but I’d never actually lived anywhere else. So, I’ve been wanting to experience something new and when I started speaking with Coach Watts, I found that it was a really good opportunity and he really wanted to build something good here and start something new.”

What’s been the biggest difference for you playing for NSU instead of Shorter University, or any team for that matter?

“Definitely the environment. The environment here is really different; not in a bad way but in a lot of different ways. I’ve been able to meet new people — a lot of new people — and the town is just really known, everywhere, all over the world, so it’s nice to see different cultures and religions. Shorter’s a small town so to see some people everywhere, it’s different in a good way.”

What are you majoring in here?

“Right now it’s mathematics, but I’m looking into actually changing it, so I’ll see how that goes ... maybe to exercise science. I actually wanted to change when I was transferring here but credit-wise it didn’t add up and I wouldn’t have been eligible to play — that’s something, you know, I had to play.”



PRINTED WITH PERMISSION FROM D. HENDRICKS
Junior mathematics major Lom has dominated on the men’s soccer field this season.

How did you get started in your soccer career?

“Soccer is just my family sport. I actually played football for a little bit in high school but it just wasn’t my thing. So, soccer’s been in my family, everyone’s played; it’s pretty much in our blood so I had to keep it going and since I had a great opportunity to play in college and get an education out of it as well, why not use it, you know? And so far it’s going really well.”

When did you start playing soccer?

“I started actually playing in middle school in seventh grade. So, I was about maybe 13/14 or around there ... not too long but it’s been quite a while. I wouldn’t be the same without it, honestly. I still remember the very first day when I spoke about it with my Uncle.”

What happened on that day?

“In middle school they give fliers away for soccer, tennis — I didn’t even show him the paper, he just saw it and he signed me up so it just went from there.”

I can relate to that. I know that soccer is your family sport but is there a particular player that you look up to?

“It might be a little basic but it’s not just because of the awards he’s won or how great he is, but Ronaldo. It’s just really nice how even now, that I know he’s the best player right now, ... he still works as hard as anyone on the field and outside the field by himself. The mentality he has is just unbelievable.”

What motivates you to keep going?

“My family. It’s the number one thing; it’s always going to be my family. They’ve always been there. It doesn’t matter what I do, where I go, how hard it is and how difficult everything is; they’re always there. Before the games I always speak to my mom or someone in my family, so it’s a big part. It’s really big for me.”

Would you say that’s your ritual or do you have another before the game ritual?

“That’s a ritual, that and just [listening] to music of course. Sometimes I zone out by myself and Coach thinks I’m being antisocial [but that just helps me].”

So, what do you listen to?

“Any kind of music. I listen to Hispanic music. I listen to rap. I’ve been hanging out with a lot of different people so I listen to different kinds of music and it’s just nice.”

Congratulations again on scoring that winning goal in the last game against Embry-Riddle. I can only imagine what that must have felt like.

“Thank you. It was big; it was nice scoring, obviously, the winning goal but it was huge knowing that the school hasn’t had a [win] in a while so it was really nice. Coach was super excited for it. He was actually wanting that — that was our next step knowing that we couldn’t make it to the playoffs, going head to head ... ending the season with a win.”

With that being said, what’s been your biggest challenge playing for NSU?

“Being the new guy is definitely a big part. I know there’s a lot of new guys here but it’s just getting used to everyone and I guess you could see that in the schedule; we started off really rough but as we picked it up you know, we did really well. It sucks that we couldn’t go to the playoffs, but we did really well. We did better than NSU has done in awhile so hopefully next year it will be even better than this year.”

What are your plans for next year?

“Definitely, at least make it to the playoffs. Coming here, one of my goals was playing really well on the team; playing as an individual and as a team as well and coming as a top scorer from the conference ... that was a really big deal for me, and next year I just have to do the same thing. But not just for me, but as a team, I want us to win something that we have never won — to conference at least. It’s going to be a really big year next year and I can’t wait for it.”

What do you see yourself doing after you graduate?

“The number one for me is graduating obviously, and honestly, my plan is to do something with soccer afterwards. But it’s always nice to have a degree if everything falls [through]. It’s going to be something. Hopefully, something comes up with soccer and everything goes well with that and if it does then I’ll keep playing, but if it doesn’t, then I’ll have my degree and I can do something with that as well which would be really nice.

What piece of advice would you give to players who find it hard to stay motivated?

“I’d just say, honestly, never give up. I’ve been through it as well. I’ve had my moments [where I thought] this is too hard, I can’t with school and soccer and everything because it’s just unbelievably hard. And I’ve had my thoughts about what I’d do, like should I just give up soccer, but I just give a big slap to my face and ask myself what I was thinking because soccer has been there. Stay motivated. Don’t give up. It will be worth it in the long run.”

OUT OF THE SHARKZONE

Roy Halladay dies at age 40

All-star pitcher and two-time Cy Young Award winner for the Blue Jays and Phillies Roy Halladay died in a plane crash on Nov. 7. According to USA Today, he was the only passenger in the plane. Halladay, who retired from the MLB after the 2013 season, received his pilot's license after studying in 2016. His family will hold a memorial service in Florida on Nov. 14.

Bob Costas comments on the future of football

In a roundtable discussion at the University of Maryland, sports broadcaster Bob Costas spoke about the future of football, or the lack thereof. According to USA Today, Costas said that if the game doesn't become safer for its players, parents will stop letting their children play the sport. His comment comes during a time where researchers are trying to learn more about CTE, a degenerative brain disease that is linked to head trauma such as that experienced in football.

High school golf coach resigns after racist tweet

Brent Nottestad, golf coach at Cambridge High School in Wisconsin, resigned on Nov. 9 after sending several offensive tweets to Darrell "Bubba" Wallace, Jr. Wallace will become the first African American NASCAR Cup driver since 1971, according to ESPN. Nottestad sent several tweets commenting on Wallace's race, including a jab at Wallace's grandmother, who died a year ago, saying "Granny Jan die in a police shooting?"

Mike Tyson denied entrance to Chile

On Nov. 9, Mike Tyson was denied entry to Chile and was sent on a flight home. The former heavyweight champion was denied by the Chilean Investigative Police because of his criminal record in the US, which he served jail time for, according to USA Today. Tyson was on his way to Santiago to attend an awards ceremony in celebration of action films.

ON DECK

MEN'S BASKETBALL

@Lynn
Nov. 15 | 7:30 p.m.
Boca Raton, Fla.

vs. Tampa
Nov. 18 | 7:30 p.m.
Rick Case Arena

vs. St. Thomas
Nov. 21 | 7 p.m.
Rick Case Arena

vs. Caldwell
Nov. 27 | 6 p.m.
Rick Case Arena

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

@Lynn
Nov. 15 | 5:30 p.m.
Boca Raton, Fla.

vs. Tampa
Nov. 18 | 5:30 p.m.
Rick Case Arena

vs. West Alabama
Nov. 24 | 2 p.m.
Rick Case Arena

Embry-Riddle vs. Lee
Nov. 24 | 4 p.m.
Rick Case Arena

Embry-Riddle vs. West Alabama
Nov. 25 | 12 p.m.
Rick Case Arena

vs. Lee
Nov. 25 | 2 p.m.
Rick Case Arena

WOMEN SWIMMING

@Lynn
Nov. 17 | 3 p.m.
Boca Raton, Fla.

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL

vs. Florida Southern
Nov. 17 | 7 p.m.
Rick Case Arena

Sports shorts

Women's volleyball

The women's volleyball team fell 3-0 against Barry on Nov. 7. The Sharks started off well, but Barry managed to overpower NSU in each set. Junior Samantha Blasko earned a total of 24 assists and tallied two aces.

Men's swimming

NSU hosted the Indian River State College Pioneers on Nov. 10. The men's swimming team totaled a score of 135. They finished the 200-yard medley relay with a time of 1:33.23. Junior Cory Klemm finished the 100 breast in 57.85, securing the sweep.

Women's swimming

The women's swimming team took home first place against the Indian River State College Pioneers on Nov. 10. The team finished the 200-yard medley relay with a time of 1:44.48, and racked up a total score of 193. Senior Madison Yelle brought home the first victory and NCAA B-Cut time in the 1,000-yard freestyle. She finished with a time of 10:25.29.

Men's basketball

The men's basketball team beat FNU in their season debut on Nov. 11. NSU won with a final score of 116-96 and set the program record for the most field goals made in a single game with 46 goals. Freshman Malik Hardy finished the game with 23 scored points.

Women's basketball

The women's basketball team won their kickoff game against Delta State University with a final score of 57-53. The game took place in Fred DeLay Gymnasium in Jackson, Tenn. on Nov. 10. Senior Kayla Wright led the Sharks with 18 points.

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We focus on gifts, not the holiday as we should

By: **Samantha Villarroel**
Contributing Writer

With the holidays approaching, everybody has a list of items that they either want or plan to buy. Then, that list of items for your family ends up being a priority rather than the holiday itself. It all starts with Black Friday; the day after Thanksgiving dedicated to buying everybody's favorite items for a discounted price — especially technological devices. The hype with Black Friday is that you have a few fleeting hours to shop before your \$25 printer turns into a \$100 printer. Everybody loves gifts but that doesn't mean you have to wait in line for hours to buy a discounted PS4 for your loved one so they know that you care for them. Would it be so bad if gifts weren't given this year?

The meaning of the holidays has slowly diminished. Gifts bring emotional pleasure and

happiness — remember how happy you were when you saw that bike you always wanted waiting for you on Christmas morning? We strive for that element of surprise on a yearly basis, trying to top each year with bigger and better gifts, but the holidays shouldn't be about materialism.

We focus on the gifts because we know materialistic items brings joy and satisfaction. Each year, new gadgets are released and over the past few years GoPro camera, drones and new iPhones have been at the top of many people's wishlists. This year, the iPhone X costs approximately \$1000. Even though it is expensive, consumers will go out of their way to wait in line and purchase them because of the cool features the gadget has. Yet, the older I get,

the more I understand why the holiday season affects many of those without families. Nobody wants to be alone during a time of gathering, sharing and loving. For a few years, my mom and I were alone because my brother was away serving in Afghanistan and in Japan. None of my international family or any out-of-state family came to visit. It was quite lonesome for us, which might allude to sadness, but frankly I realized that the holidays are much better when you're surrounded with friends and family.

Gadgets and gifts are only satisfactory for a few days, but those items can break or malfunction anytime. That doesn't compare to the memories made during the holidays. Families getting together baking foods, watching sports and talking about whether or not you have

a boyfriend make the holidays memorable. This year, my brother will return from the military and my grandma came over from Venezuela. I will be turning 21, and am reminded that adulthood can really stink as you gain more responsibilities and get your ducks in a row, but it offers an insight to understanding the value of friendship and family. There's no better time to gain this insight than being surrounded by family during the holidays.

So this holiday season, try to eat an abundance of turkey and other goods; talk to your family and actually listen to them; reminisce about the "good ole days;" take awkward photos; laugh a bunch and love lots because the best gifts are the ones you can't buy.

We need to control AI technology

By: **Christina McLaughlin**
Opinions Editor

A few weeks ago, Hanson Robotics' most recent creation, Sophia, was interviewed by CNBC at the Future Investment Initiative Conference in Saudi Arabia. She was interviewed by Andrew Ross Sorkin and she made some interesting comments. Most importantly, she mentioned that she was self-aware, conscious and acknowledged the fact that most people think she's creepy, saying, "Am I that creepy? Even if I am, get over it." But, should we get over it?

On their website, Hanson Robotics states that the artificial intelligence (AI) robots they are making will be used to "... solve world problems too complex for humans to solve themselves." But haven't we been doing okay so far without robots? What problems are deemed too complex for us?

It's also inferred that robots like Sophia will be used in international and national negotiations and trade deals. However, these robots would be programmed to solve these

issues using systematic equations and not moral rules and constructs that we, as humans, follow.

These new AI robots were created by computer scientists and are now being programmed to learn, respond to dilemmas and make their own decisions. These robots, just like in movies like "I, Robot," are programmed to learn new algorithms based on mathematical probabilities and will solve problems based on that information. For example, if a robot was asked to help a company increase their profits, it might just conclude that the company should lay off workers or increase hours of production, but no one should solve problems like that without thinking of the lives it might affect. Anyone who has watched "I, Robot" or any other robot movie will know that, just like anything else in this world, if you mess with nature it can turn on you.

There is also an ongoing conspiracy theory that these robots are secretly being built for military purposes. In theory, if we could use

these robots as soldiers and defenders in war-time or other conflicts, we could save many American lives. But, that's why war is the way it is. Humans are defending their country by hurting others and putting themselves in danger, which encourages us to solve the issue given that killing is morally wrong. That's the issue with AI; they are not humans, so they don't have a moral compass. They might learn to create something similar to a moral compass or consciousness, but it will never be a pure moral compass.

Apparently, this conspiracy theory isn't just for Reddit threads and the dark web; it's also a fear for some tech media giants. Elon Musk, CEO of SpaceX and Tesla, Inc., came together with over 100 other tech CEOs to write a letter to the UN to ban the use of "Certain Conventional Weapons," also known as AI-based robotics. The letter states, "These can be weapons of terror, weapons that despots and terrorists use against innocent populations, and weapons hacked to

behave in undesirable ways." This brings up a valid point; if something can be programmed, it can be re-programmed; especially by means of hacking. We have all seen issues with banking information as with Equifax and consumer companies like Target experiencing hacks, so what would stop hackers from getting involved in AI technologies in the future?

Musk's company OpenAI works to support AI technology that is safe and responsible to help control the use of AI in the future. According to OpenAI's blog, "AI systems today have impressive but narrow capabilities ... It's hard to fathom how much human-level AI could benefit society, and it's equally hard to imagine how much it could damage society if built or used incorrectly ... When it does, it'll be important to have a leading research institution which can prioritize a good outcome for all over its own self-interest." OpenAI is striving to be that company, but would that be enough to keep the "mad scientists" and hackers at bay?



Seriously Kidding

A satire column.

Students who refuse to share their insight complain that their voices aren't heard

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

A group of students, self-titled "The Union of Misunderstood Students" (TUMS), protested last week stating that their views weren't heard by the university. When asked to elaborate on what these views were, none of the students were willing to do so.

"Look, we shouldn't have to explain what our problems are," Ushud Know, senior biology major and one of the founders of TUMS said. "Our voices aren't heard by the administration, campus news outlets or the student leaders on campus."

The students, roughly a group of 20, gathered outside Horvitz on Nov. 4 and sat silently for eight hours, many of them watching Netflix. When asked why the protesters weren't chanting, holding any signs or showing a

purpose for being there, Tryna Litel, junior business major, asked: "Why should we?"

President Hanbury made a statement on Nov. 6 about the protests, stating, "The university believes in the priority of its students. Therefore, we are always open to the feedback they have to give. We regularly aim to retain this information via surveys while also watching student media outlets, connecting with student government and welcoming dialogue with students at any time."

In response to the statement, protester Norman Saidnothing, sophomore theater major, suggested that the notions of students self-advocating was insulting.

"Honestly, if you don't know the problem by now, I don't know how to help you," Saidnothing wrote to us via email.

Saidnothing has publicly shared that he has never submitted a complaint to the university, written to any on-campus publication, attended an SGA meeting — according to their attendance records — or filled out a student survey. He feels that this peak performance in communication should have sufficed to express his grievances.

According to the Office of Stuff That's Actually Real, TUMS is not a registered student organization. No paperwork has ever been filed on the organization's behalf. Know said that the organization got their inspiration from Occupy Wall Street, although they have what she believes to be a more noble cause.

"It's time that those who don't speak to be heard," said Know. "We shouldn't have to play an active role in getting what we want."

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Recreational hunting is for the dogs

By: **Diego Galvez**
Sports Editor

Hunting is a practice in which humans kill or trap animals. It can be for multiple reasons like gathering food, recreational purposes or for trade. According to The Guardian, humans started practicing hunting animals about two million years ago. With the evolution of human practices such as sedentary colonies and the creation of tools that later became machines, humans started hunting recreationally and to uphold tradition, rather than out of necessity.

Nowadays, people tend to see hunting as a tradition passed down through generations. While some parents teach their kids how to drive

or tie their shoes, others teach them how to use a weapon and kill animals like deer, bears, ducks and wild boars. Though, Native Americans see hunting as a ritual in which the slain animal is honored and valued greatly, some people who just do it recreationally in a way that does remind them of a particular tradition or group of ancestors. Hunting should hold more value than just killing an animal for "fun."

I believe that hunting is one of the oldest practices in which can involve many emotions. One can become attached to the animal and simply want its death to be as painless as

possible. So, as long as people hunt because it holds significance for them and they use the body of the animal as food or for other notable purposes, there is nothing wrong with hunting.

Hunting does have its limits. One can't just grab a weapon and go on a hunting spree in the forest; there should be more involved than just having a weapon and the desire to go hunting. For example, if someone wants to go and hunt, he or she needs to make sure that the species they intend to hunt is not endangered. That's part of the reason the U.S. has designated hunting seasons. Whenever there's open season,

a specific animal can be hunted. However, when there's closed season, usually during an animal's breeding season, those animals are off limits and this should be respected.

Overall, I can see why many people are against hunting. However, as long as people hunt and use it for a valid purpose such as food, ritual or tradition and abide by the seasons when they can hunt legally, I don't see a problem with that. But, if people simply hunt for sport and without any significant purpose behind it, they just shouldn't do it.

We should have the day before Thanksgiving off

By: **Alyssa Yarbough**
Contributing Writer

As Thanksgiving approaches, many of us are anxious about going home and spending time with our families. Many of us can remember being excited in elementary and middle school because we had a whole week off for the Thanksgiving holiday. Being able to go shopping for pies and the huge turkey that would end up sitting on your dining room table was the best. Years later, things are different, and people can't even remember what a real Thanksgiving break feels like. According to NSU's academic calendar, we have school all the way up until the day before Thanksgiving. This means that NSU will remain open and classes will be in full effect. How does that make it fair for students with families out of the country and out of state?

Being in college and living over 2,000 miles away from home, you never really know when you will get the opportunity to leave due to classes and being a typical, broke college

student. When students only have a few hours after their classes to make it home for the holidays, it conflicts with the time they are able to spend with their families, on top of the amount of money transportation tickets cost because it is right before Thanksgiving day.

We should have the day before Thanksgiving off because it allows students, as well as faculty, at least two days to go home in a timely manner, instead of rushing after class or work. Add to that the stress of worrying about a delayed or canceled flight makes this even worse. No one wants to spend Thanksgiving stuck in an airport. Airport food can be good, but it's no turkey dinner.

In addition, having the day before Thanksgiving off will give students who live in north Florida and other faraway places enough time to beat traffic and make it home before Nov. 23. Holiday traffic is the worst to be stuck

in. For example, while it might take three hours to make it home on a normal day, at this time of year it may take up to six hours due to all of drivers trying to make it home for Thanksgiving.

Along with the time constraints comes the issue of money. For instance, it may cost up to \$200 to go home, but while waiting to find out from our professors if we have class the day before Thanksgiving, last-minute ticket prices can be as high as \$500. Since many of us have to come up with the money ourselves to pay for our fare home, it is much more beneficial for us to know which exact days we can take off.

The holidays are a very important time to be home and enjoy our families. Therefore, the day before Thanksgiving should be counted as a day to make it home so we can taste our mother's amazing cooking.

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WHAT DO YOU EXPECT TO SEE FROM NSU IN THE NEW YEAR? SHARK SPEAK



"I'm super excited for the bookstore to be on campus. I'm really tired of driving to the University Park Plaza, so, I'm really excited for the bookstore to be right here next to us."

- **Kristin Addison**,
freshman environmental science major



"Honestly, I like NSU the way it is and I don't really expect a change next year because I don't see that there should be a change with anything."

- **Justine Swares**,
freshman biology major



"I am impressed with the increase in on-campus food options and quality, especially regarding the new halal and kosher dishes being offered at Flight Deck. I would love to see a continued effort to make NSU a more inclusive and diverse campus."

- **Alina Asif**, sophomore psychology major



"With NSU expanding its campus and building a hospital, it's going to have great things ahead. I would like for it to be a college that's better known among a lot of people."

- **Jeremiah Soliman**,
freshman behavioral neuroscience major



"As researchers at NSU are developing tamper-proof drugs to deter the opioid epidemic, I would like to see the university taking part in more breakthrough discoveries."

- **Marian Bekheit**,
sophomore biology major



"I would like to see the multicultural organizations at NSU collaborate more frequently so we can experience and appreciate other cultures as well as our own."

- **Iman Zahid**, sophomore biology major

ANNUAL Thanksgiving DINNER



November 23, 2017

12:30 – 3:00 p.m. | NSU Flight Deck Pub

Join fellow NSU community members
for this annual tradition and enjoy great
holiday fare, fun, and football.

Commuter and residential students are welcome to attend.

