He added that the hotel and first phase of the University Park Plaza. Within the next few years, the university plans to tear down the existing buildings and construct a hotel on that will be market rent for anyone, such as there for the hotel,” said Dr. Hanbury. and the lake. There will be waterfront property for the University Park Center. in the Flight Deck in the Don Taft University Hall meeting of 2019 on Wednesday, Jan. 30 is the oldest and most recognized professional association for public affairs and administration. is the largest chapters in the nation and is comprised of public administrators, university educators, and aspiring students.” It is also among the most active chapters in the nation with a mission to promote the arts and sciences of public administration. The theme of this year’s conference is advocating for renewed pension and commitment to public service. Various sessions will encompass a wide range of topics, to best suit attendees interests. Some of the panels will encompass a wide range of topics, to best suit attendees interests. Some of the panels will include a session on strategic procurement, the benefits of public employment, social media, managing your brand, public relations, work and life balance and climate change resilience. There will also be a student panel, a non profit panel and a law enforcement panel. “There aren’t too many opportunities where you get this many high level department directors, city managers, etc. together. It creates an intimate environment where we encourage the professionals to network with the students and share advice with them. We [also] have a student panel that focuses specifically on making the transition from being a student to a public servant. So with the learning and networking opportunities, it is really a unique opportunity where students can interact with professionals,” said Caraballo. Students interested in attending the conference can register online at http://aspasouthfl.org or on the event’s Eventbrite page. Registration costs $30 for students, $50 for ASPA members and $60 for Non-APSA members. “On-site registration will also be provided, but we do encourage people to register ahead of time so we can plan ahead of time for catering,” said Caraballo. For additional information, students can visit the website listed above to find out more.
Pakistan upholds blasphemy acquittal

At Jan. 29, Pakistan upheld its decision to acquit Christian woman, Asia Bibi, of blasphemy charges of 2010. She was originally charged when she and her coworkers had an argument over drinking from a bucket of water, and they accused her of insulting the Prophet Muhammad. She was sentenced to death but acquitted because the witnesses’ testimonies were contradictory and since her acquittal, she will leave the country. Her clearance has sparked outrage in radical Islamists who have called for her death over the years, and a Punjab governor and Christian minister who publicly supported Bibi were killed. This case has also provoked national attention: Amnesty International has called for reexamination of Pakistan blasphemy laws.

Tensions in Venezuela rising further

Venezuela stands divided as self-proclaimed, U.S.-backed interim president Juan Guaidó challenges the power of official president Nicolás Maduro. On Jan. 30, Venezuelan protesters took to the streets to back the rightfully-elected Guaidó. Their signs pointed out the poor healthcare standards, economic state and living conditions Maduro has maintained in his time heading the country. Maduro has not given in to local protests or international opposition to his power, and in effort to restrict his power, the U.S. has imposed sanctions on Venezuelan oil. Regional countries that have recognized Guaidó’s legitimacy are Brazil, Argentina, Chile, Canada, Peru, Colombia, Paraguay, Ecuador, Guatemala, Costa Rica, Honduras and Panama.

At least 65 dead in southeast Brazil dam collapse

At least 65 people lost their lives and hundreds are still missing after a dam owned by Vale mining company collapsed Jan. 25. The collapse was deemed avoidable, and five people — three Vale employees and two contractors — were arrested. The dam break has had an environmental impact, polluting the Paraopeba River and covering the surrounding area in mud. This is the second dam collapse associated with the Vale company.

Schools close in Thailand because of excessive pollution

Citizens are questioning whether or not this is excessive pollution. Schools have been closing to reduce traffic. In Bangkok due to harmful chemical pollution at air quality index between 160-175. These levels of pollution impact respiratory health and cognitive ability. In an attempt to reduce these levels, driving restrictions have been placed across the city and water cannons are being sprayed to reduce smog. Additionally, schools have been closing to reduce traffic.

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The Current reserves the right to edit. Contributing writers must not be directly involved with their coverage. Coverage by contributing writers must be meaningful and of interest to the NSU community. The Current reserves the right to edit, publish or deny submitted works as it sees fit. The Current shall remain free of associations and activities that may compromise integrity or damage credibility or otherwise create a bias, real or perceived.

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Explore the African diaspora at the NSU Art Museum

By: Kelsey Bruce
Arts & Entertainment Editor

Explore the African diaspora at the NSU Art Museum

From the page:

By that of African-American conceptual artist and adults can make a word art piece inspired by that of African-American artist who grew up in Overtown in Miami when I-95 construction to further explore these artists and see the art as forward-thinking and in a similar vein, Zanela Muholi, a south African photographer who identifies as intersex, uses their photography to challenge the idea of racism on campus. The recycling processes at NSU will be discussed. This will take place in the Alvin Sherman Library, with more information on this to come.

“NSU struggles with recycling, there is a lot of room for improvement. I heard there was a passion for recycling overall and make sure that people understand that just one little thing can make a big difference. Like recycling your plastic bottles, recycling even just your paper when you’re done with it after the semester is over. Just anything makes a big difference on marine pollution and the environment and reducing our carbon footprint overall.”

As for the workshop inspired by Glenn Ligon, the museum displays a neon, glass and paint piece of his work that spells out “I live on my shadow,” which Perez said refers to “the shadow that has been cast over the African-American community and the shadow that has been cast over his life.”

At least eight people have died in the Midwest as the deadly Polar Vortex continues, according to the Federal Bureau of Land Management. The recent storm has brought storms in New Mexico, Nevada and Great Lakes. Hospitals are also treating the influx of patients with frostbite. The Midwest and Great Lakes have experienced wind-chill temperatures as low as -62 degrees. At least a half of U.S. adults have cardiovascular disease. According to the American Heart Association, nearly half of all adults in the U.S. have a condition such as coronary heart disease, heart failure, stroke or high blood pressure, as reported by CNN. Approximately 121.5 million adults, or 48 percent, have cardiovascular disease, but if high blood pressure were excluded, the prevalence of disease is 12.5 percent in 2015.

Meanwhile, state officials are trying to bring back as far as 1860 and continue in to the mid 20th century. During this time, western artists such as Picasso and Matisse began to appropriate African art: Perez said these artists saw the abstractness of the art as forward-thinking and in theory, nearly half of all adults in the U.S. have a condition such as coronary heart disease, heart failure, stroke or high blood pressure, as reported by CNN. Approximately 121.5 million adults, or 48 percent, have cardiovascular disease, but if high blood pressure were excluded, the prevalence of disease is 12.5 percent in 2015.

The NSU Art Museum will celebrate Black History Month on Feb. 7 with free admission from 4 - 8 p.m. and drop-in art workshops based on art of the African Diaspora in its “Remember to React” exhibit. The free admission is a monthly occurrence under the art museum’s “NSU struggles with recycling, there is a lot of room for improvement. I heard there was a passion for recycling overall and make sure that people understand that just one little thing can make a big difference. Like recycling your plastic bottles, recycling even just your paper when you’re done with it after the semester is over. Just anything makes a big difference on marine pollution and the environment and reducing our carbon footprint overall.”

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The Year of the Periodic Table

By: Alexandra Herlihy
Sports Editor

Features

Unofficial national holidays seem to happen every day. For example, did you know that February 24 is National Tortilla Chip day? One of the newer unofficial national holidays is Periodic Table Day on February 7.

Periodic Table day was founded on February 7, 2016 to promote the challenges that scientists had to overcome to develop the periodic table that we all know and love today. It was founded by author, inventor and chemistry teacher from the Jefferson County Public School District in Kentucky, David T. Steinkeker. He chose February 7 because it is the anniversary of when John Newlands published the very first periodic table of the elements back in 1863.

According to Dimitrios Giarikos, a chemistry professor and assistant director of lab operations for Halmos College of Natural Sciences and Oceanography said, "...the first time the periodic table was put together was by a Russian called Mendeleev, Dmitry Mendeleev, and at the time they didn't know every single element so they started organizing some of the elements depending on atomic weight...".

Giarikos also said that over time that system didn't really work, so they organized the table in the number of protons. As science got more advanced and more discoveries were made, the periodic table kept expanding. New elements were discovered and made, making more and more tables published. Now, the periodic table has 118 elements, split into different categories like metals, non-metals and metalloids. Some elements are naturally found in nature, like carbon and oxygen, while others are all man made.

If you forgot to celebrate Periodic Table Day, don't worry. According to an article on chemistryworld.com, the United Nations designated 2019 to be the international year of the periodic table of elements. 2019 is the 150 year anniversary of the table's conception by Dmitry Mendeleev, along with the 350 year anniversary of the discovery of phosphorus and the 190 year anniversary of the law of triads by Johann Wöhlfahrt Döbereiner. The decision was announced by the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry to raise awareness of chemistry and how the periodic table is "central to linking cultural, economic and political aspects of the global society through a common language."

Why should we care about the periodic table or about elements in general? According to professor Giarikos, the elements on the table make up everything in nature. From the smallest grain of sand to the tallest building on earth, everything is made up of these elements. Understanding the periodic table, even at a basic level, helps mankind understand more about the world he lives in.

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Tipping 101

By: Ethan Lozano
Contributing Writer

Do you ever get stuck in a situation where you don't know how much you should tip? If you do, then don't worry because we got some tips on how to tip.

Underpaid Workers

Before we jump into the logistics, first we need to understand the reason for tipping. Tipping etiquette is very situational to location and type of service. In America, tipping is almost seen as a mandatory act. While in some European countries, tipping is optional and is not automatically expected. This is simply because service workers in America are paid very little for their work, and many rely on the tips to make a reasonable income. European countries typically pay their service workers higher salaries that don't require reliance on tips to make a reasonable income.

Reflection of Service

The mental conversation of "how much should I tip?" happens almost every time you go out to eat. Usually, your friends start whispering "how much are you tipping?" and "does anyone have change for a $20?" The amount you tip is important to your waiter for numerous reasons. Management looks at tips and uses them to evaluate how well the staff is doing. If you tip poorly for no reason, it may put your waiter's job at risk. Choosing the amount to tip allows you to rate your experience. If you believe the waiter did a good job, then it is quite simple. You should tip around 20%. But, if you believe the service the was bad, then you should tip around 10%. Again, you should only tip low if the quality of service was truly poor. Lastly, if you tip with cash, don't write out the tip amount on the receipt. If you do, the amount will come off your card.

Fast Food and Delivery

Another situation that does come up often is the option to tip for pizza or ice cream. This situation can be tricky, and everyone handles it differently. The reason why it can be complex is because these are foods that are picked up. For example, you don't tip when you go through the drive-through at Chick-Fil-A or Taco Bell or tend to just tip $1 or $2. But, if food is delivered to your door, you should tip higher. Usually, on your order, it will say the delivery charge does not count as the tip.

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Places You May Not Expect

Also, don't forget tipping is not only customary in restaurants. When you get a haircut, a tip is usually expected. Additionally, tips are usually requested if you get your vehicle cleaned or detailed and when you get your nails done and even when you valet your car.

Being a college student can be difficult financially. So, giving a good tip can be difficult to do, but you should always leave a decent tip. If you can't leave at least a 15% tip, then maybe opt out for a restaurant where a tip is not expected. Maybe go get some fast food, because that will be easier on your wallet. Ultimately, the biggest tip of all is to always treat your waiter or service workers with respect.

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What you should know about personality disorders

By: Kelsey Bruce
Arts & Entertainment Editor

Levy says the first step of improving is becoming aware of disruptive behavioral patterns and then practicing better approaches to situations that spark those patterns.

Borderline personality disorder

Borderline personality disorder is marked by unstable personal relationships, impulsive tendencies, heated emotional reactions and by unstable personal relationships, impulsive and a few are described below based on APA

Ten particular types of personality disorders, one emotionally responds to stimuli, how one thinks about oneself and other people, how a minimum of two of four areas including how personality disorders affect pattern.” According to the American Psychiatric Association (APA), personality disorders affect even jobs. This is further supported by NSU and maintaining healthy relationships or may cause them difficulty when establishing and when establishing and maintaining healthy relationships or even jobs. This is further supported by NSU postdoctoral resident Morgan Levy, Ph.D., who said, “[personality issue] becomes a disorder when it’s really impacting lives and becomes a pattern.” According to the American Psychiatric Association (APA), personality disorders affect a minimum of two of four areas including how one thinks about oneself and other people, how one emotionally responds to stimuli, how one relates to other people and how one monitors and controls one’s own behavior. There are ten particular types of personality disorders, and a few are described below based on APA resources.

Borderline personality disorder (BPD)

Borderline personality disorder is marked by unstable personal relationships, impulsive tendencies, heated emotional reactions and tumultuous sense of self. Those affected by this disorder are more prone to suicidal ideation and tendencies, heated emotional reactions and extraneous sense of self-importance and a need for supple admiration and attention from others. Typically, people with this disorder are particularly sensitive to criticism and exploitative of others. They are focused on gaining power, idealistic love, beauty and more, to a point where their desire impedes upon regular life.

Obsessive-compulsive personality disorder (OCPD)

People with obsessive-compulsive personality disorder are preoccupied with organization and perfectionism to the point where other aspects of their lives are negatively affected. This unhealthy focus can be on schedules or details and may impair time leftover for friendship or new hobbies.

Antisocial personality disorder

To be diagnosed with antisocial personality disorder, one must be 18 years old. These people display an explicit pattern of disregarding others’ rights, repetitively lie and partake in impulsive action. These people may be described as: apathetic, irresponsible, manipulative and remorseless. Often, they recurrently encounter trouble with the law, so they may have colorful criminal records.

Before you jump to any conclusions about yourself or someone close to you based on these descriptors, know that Levy said, “we tend to overpathologize, and if we really look at ourselves, we all have different traits of the different personality disorders — Nobody is perfect.”

For those that are affected by these disorders, Levy encourages them and those around them to recognize “a personality disorder just means that you learned this way of interacting and this way of being when you were a child, and it was reinforced throughout your entire life,” so assuming that a personality disorder means you or someone else is only seeking attention or is damaged, lesser or beyond help is inaccurate. Moreover, treatment is entirely possible although long-term. Levy said the first step of improving is becoming aware of disruptive behavioral patterns and then practicing better approaches to situations that spark those patterns.

But even when the road to betterment is long, a diagnosis does not determine one’s fate. Levy said there may be a stigma that personality disorders determine how one acts forever, but it’s more effective to think of them as an indicator of the problems a person can begin to work with.

La Mexicana Tapas & Taqueria

By: Emma Heineman
Features Editor

La Mexicana Tapas & Taqueria 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.

Tucked away from the usual hustle and bustle of Fort Lauderdale, La Mexicana Tapas & Taqueria is the perfect spot to relax and enjoy some delicious Mexican cuisine. The quaint restaurant is located in an area complete with local art vendors, vibrant flowers, lots of outdoor seating and plenty of Instagram-worthy photo spots. Exploring the area near the restaurant, patrons can find a vintage van and some wooden chairs that provide the perfect backdrop for an artsy photo opt. Also, make sure to save some time to walk around and explore the various stands across from the restaurant which sell local produce and crafts daily.

The restaurant takes advantage of the beautiful Florida climate by providing plenty of comfortable outdoor seating ranging from couches and lounge seating to intimate tables and benches for large groups. For days when sitting outside is less ideal or for those who prefer the comforts of the indoors, seating is also available inside the air conditioned interior of the tastefully and colorfully decorated building.

I decided to try out this cute little spot a few weeks ago with a friend and will definitely make some follow up visits. When we went, the midday heat of the afternoon had already passed leaving the temperature outside perfect for sipping a cool lemonade and chatting. We enjoyed the patio, complete with a babbling fountain, hanging light fixtures and plenty of plants and flowers. Possibly even better than the atmosphere, was the food.

The tapas style of the restaurant is ideal for large and small groups and allows the small plates to be shared over a drink and a good conversation. The Mexican inspired menu was comprehensive and offered options for all types of eaters. I ordered veggie quesadillas and was thoroughly impressed. Both the taste and presentation of the food implied the staff’s dedication to a pleasant culinary experience. I also ordered a strawberry lemonade which came in a mason jar, topped with fresh strawberries and lemons. It was the perfect combination of sweet and sour and left me wanting more.

Whether you want a quick bite or a relaxing meal, La Mexicana Tapas & Taqueria is just the spot you are looking for. Allow the music, great atmosphere, and delicious food distract you from the daily stress of classes and life.

La Mexicana Tapas & Taqueria
2430 NE 13th Ave
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33305

Hours:
- Tuesday: 11:30 a.m.–11p.m.
- Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday: 11:30 a.m.–8 p.m.
- Saturday/Sunday: 11:30 a.m.–5 p.m.

Price Range: $10-20

PLACES TO G O OUT

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Tapas or tacos? How about both! La Mexicana offers a variety of traditional (and new) dishes.

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Tapas or tacos? How about both! La Mexicana offers a variety of traditional (and new) dishes.
Unique gifts for your valentine

By: Alexandra Herlihy
Sports Editor

When you think of Valentine’s Day gifts, what are the first two things that come to mind? Probably chocolates, jewelry, flowers and giant teddy bears. These gifts are so played out, you’re already envisioning a night of being single. Not only will they want to take artsy pictures with their new gift, they’re going to show it off to all their friends. These gifts provide a refreshing take on Valentine’s Day.

Mason Jar Herb Garden
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If you've never heard of a bullet journal, it's basically an all-in-one calendar, planner, diary and doodle notebook. The journal has become increasingly popular over the years. People have made many videos on how to bullet journal, and some YouTubers even make "plan with me" videos that lay out that month's bullet journal design. Not to mention, the original bullet journal video has amassed over ten million views. Not only are there YouTube videos about bullet journaling, but Ryder Carroll, the bullet journal’s creator, has published a book entitled “The Bullet Journal Method,” which was voted #1 in the New York Times bestseller on the Graphic Design Pen & Ink category. Carroll's personal bullet journal design sells for $24.99.

Ryder Carroll, a product designer and author from Brooklyn, NYC, created bullet journaling to help him stay focused and organized while combating his ADD, which often made him unfocused. On the bullet journaling official website, Carroll states that the bullet journal is really all about learning and focusing on the "art of intentional living." Part of bullet journaling’s purpose is to make sure that journalists' intentional lives are "productive and meaningful."

Bullet journaling officially launched in 2013 and has since gained thousands and thousands of followers. With the success of the journal, its design and aesthetic have become prettier and fancier. However, Carroll's original methods and system are still used. One simple reason explains why this type of journal is such a hit: it is completely customizable. It's entirely up to the creator how the journal looks and what its layout is. The journal typically includes an index or a table of contents, a log for upcoming events or tasks and daily and monthly calendars for a more broken down layout. However, these features don't absolutely have to be included in the journal. Carroll created the journal to be useful for every part of project management: brainstorming, how it gets done and what you want the outcome to be. Writing a mission statement or an objective at the top of your collection page is a great reminder of your main goal. The journal ensures an organized and helpful way to stay on track and maintain and achieve.

Overall, the bullet journal is a great way to stay organized if you find that traditional ways don't help you or if you just want something pretty to be part of planning out your month.

Culture Shock Miami
By: Alexander Martinie
Opinions Editor

Culture Shock Miami was started by the Miami Dade Department of Cultural Affairs. It's a program intended to encourage interests in culture, the arts and museums in teens and young adults of the Miami Dade County area. This program offers teens and young adults ages 13 to 22 tickers to events for only $5. Culture Shock Miami offers tickers to concerts, museums, plays and much more. According to the Miami Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs, "there are all kinds of amazing shows, museums and attractions to check out in Miami-Dade County! From dance, music and theatre to modern art and history museums and everything in between."

Gerry Lodreth, the project administrator at the Miami Dade County department of Cultural Affairs who helped to develop the Culture Shock Miami told the Miami Herald, “Arts organizations have been feeling the ill effects of aging audiences for some time. With shrinking budgets, their primary focus has become maintaining an audience as opposed to cultivating new ones. Culture Shock Miami helps reach a younger market in ways that a typical organization cannot.”

According to Mary-Margaret Dale, a program director at Culture Shock Miami, Culture Shock Miami “was formed of the need to provide accessible affordable to the arts for teen and young adults. For families, especially, it's very hard for the entire family to experience the arts together in an affordable way.” The Miami-Dade Department of Cultural Affairs founded this program based on research that suggests that individuals start to form their appreciation for culture and the arts at a young age.

Some featured events include "The Little Mermaid Jr.,” presented by the Anna Stage Company and #CelloLove presented by Thomas Mesa and Frost Music Live. "The Little Mermaid Jr.,” is the Anna Stage Company’s retelling of the Broadway musical “The Little Mermaid.” Frost Music Live present #CelloLove with Thomas Meo and the Frost Cello Ensemble. This event takes place at the Gusman Concert Hall on Feb. 10. Thomas Mesa is an award-winning concert cellist, who performs compositions by Beethoven, Schumann, Rachmaninoff and Debussy.

You can find a list of the events on the Culture Shock Miami website, www.cultureshockmiami.com. Tickets are also included on the website and can be purchased two at a time. After purchasing tickets, print out your email confirmation and grab your SharkCard before going to the venue to immerse yourself in the arts.

Varsity
By: Jenny Nguyen
Contributing Writer

Varsity is an American indie rock band from Chicago, IL that formed in 2013. The band is comprised of five members: Stephanie Smith, lead vocals and synths; Dyland Weschler, guitar and backing vocals; Patrick Stanton, guitar; and Stine brothers Jake and Paul who play the drums and bass guitar. Their music style is very upbeat with exciting rhythm and guitar melodies. The lead singer’s melodic voice complements the lively sounds, adding in a mixture of the sadness. This type of music might appeal to an audience who also enjoys similar artists such as Rex Orange County, Vampire Weekend or The XX.

Their recent album "Parallel Person" came out in 2018 and included 10 songs. With this new album, they hoped to bring their music to new depths that express themes of the uphill battle of artistic frustration, isolation and popularity that they often experience. In the previous years, they released a 9-song album called "Varsity," just like the band's name, and other singles. Their singles are often released with two complimentary songs, like “Cult of Personality/Sox, So Sad" (2015). Compared to the 2018 album, “Varsity” was more relaxed as they did not incorporate as much of their usual style as they did in "Parallel Person.”

The new release reflects on how the band felt at the time they were creating it. We can hear the stress and overwhelmed quality that has not been present before. Mainstream music isn’t something I enjoy listening to because it feels too generic, and it isn’t something I can connect to easily. Exploring indie rock, I was able to find music with a sense of originality — something I’m not able to find on most radio stations these days.

My first impression while listening this genre was that it felt authentic: the music style and lyrics sounded genuine and unique. Unlike the popular mainstream songs; this type of music does not sound like it was copied from another artist. That's why Varsity, one of the indie bands I discovered, best represents indie music. Their use of creativity and authenticity help create great music to connect to their audience, even if it’s a small one.

In an interview with Tidal Magazine, the band mentioned that there were ups and downs that they experienced as a group. When they were just starting up as a new indie rock band, they felt lost and clueless when things didn’t go their way. However, they were able to overcome this struggle when they realized that every band must go through a similar process to become who they are in today’s music industry. Now, they are more concerned regarding their working processes, knowing it’s not always easy but still hoping to bring the best to their fans.

Varsity is still a growing band with millions of plays on Youtube and Spotify. Follow and support the band on Instagram at @varsitytunes, or check out their website www.varsitytunes.com to see more of their released works and live shows.
## OUT OF THE SHARKZONE

**NFL focusing on minority coaching opportunities**

NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell told the Associated Press that “the league will keep focusing on opportunities to create a deeper pool of minority coaching candidates.” The Associated Press found that of the 2018 season staff for coaching, there were only four minority stepping-stone positions, far offensive coordinator and quarterback coaches. According to the Associated Press, “the lack of minority coaches in the pipeline helped contribute to the NFL’s sharpest-ever one-year drop in minority head coaches.”

**Wife of detained refugee soccer player pleads to Thai prime minister**

Christen Prasse, at left, is focused as she works through a play, so they attended events at NSU and they told me “This school is beautiful, we’ve never heard of it.” And I was looking to transfer from my original school, Saint Louis University, because basketball didn’t work out there. I was like “Yeah, why not?” I’ll go to Florida and just start over.” Then I came and didn’t play basketball—I was a normal student for a year and a half. In my junior year, I reached out to the coaches and said “I think I want to play again.”

How is playing basketball here different than in Naperville, Illinois?

“The competitiveness—I’m very competitive as a person. In practices we’re constantly doing drills and if you don’t do any drill on my own [they would tell you] that I hate losing drills and I will do anything to win.”

**Athlete of the week:** Christen Prasse

By: Samantha November  
Contributing Writer

Prasse, at left, is focused as she works through a play, so they attended events at NSU and they told me “This school is beautiful, we’ve never heard of it.” And I was looking to transfer from my original school, Saint Louis University, because basketball didn’t work out there. I was like “Yeah, why not?” I’ll go to Florida and just start over.” Then I came and didn’t play basketball—I was a normal student for a year and a half. In my junior year, I reached out to the coaches and said “I think I want to play again.”

How is playing basketball here different than in Naperville, Illinois?

“Literally every team we play in our conference seems like our biggest rival. That’s kind of the nature of [the conference]. I feel like this conference is just crazy talented across all of the sports. At home, we had one main rival and the rest [of the teams], we didn’t really care about—there wasn’t any history. I think here, the rivalries within the Sunshine State Conference are definitely more intense, which makes [playing] more fun.”

What are your goals for basketball in the future?

“I have two and a half months left. After that, I’ll be done with basketball forever. I just want to win conference. I want to go far in the NCAA tournament and I think we’re peaking at the right time and everything is falling into place at the right time. I want to end my basketball career on a high note and do everything that I’m capable of doing.”

Do you have any pre-game rituals?

“A lot of people are superstitious on my team, but I’m pretty relaxed. This year, I started drinking coffee before I play, and I never used to do that aside from studying or focusing. If I don’t have my coffee, I kind of make a big deal out of it. So I guess getting a coffee, getting energized, and feeling off the energy from the team.”

Do you have any hobbies?

“I really like working out on my own or doing a class, like spin class or yoga class. In season, I don’t have time [to do work out or take classes]. I also like traveling. Nothing crazy hobby-wise.”

Who do you consider your biggest role model?

“Definitely my mom. She bonds over backward to make sure her family is in order. She works a full-time job, helps her kids, helps my dad, helps her parents. She shows us what love and unselfishness are every day, so she’s definitely my number.”

What advice would you give to other student-athletes?

“Put in all the extra work in that you can because, over time, that’s just going to make you that much better. Remember you’re a student first and then an athlete. Make sure you handle what’s on your plant. Enjoy it, have fun and don’t take any moment for granted because it goes by really fast.”
The NFL needs to send a clear message to the media

By: Christina McLaughlin
Co-Editor-in-Chief

On Super Bowl LIII’s Opening Night on Monday, Rob Gronkowski, right-end of the New England Patriots, was up to his usual antics, dancing and joking around with reporters. But one of his responses during this press conference stirred quite a bit of controversy. When reporters asked Gronkowski what the chances are of him retiring from the league, he responded, “You guys know my favorite number. You know what I’m talking about. She knows what number I’m talking about. Ask her [pointing to a female reporter who was amused by his response]. That’s the answer.”

He went on to explain his favorite number he was referring to with a math problem of “6 times 9 plus 6 plus 9”. The number in question he was referring to with a math problem of “6 plus 9”, is as a number usually referenced in a sexual context. A live broadcasted family-member was a reporter who was amused by his response.

“The number in question he was referring to with a math problem of “6 plus 9” is 69”, is as a number usually referenced in a sexual context.

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## This Week in Sports History

From the original Ancient Grecian Olympics to last year’s Super Bowl, sports have been around for millennia. Today’s public, however, often doesn’t know the history of some of the nation’s favorite sports. Here you can find some relevant, monumental and inspiring games that have changed the future of sports forever.

**February 6: NFL rule requires completing a college degree (1988)**

The NCAA altered an NFL rule, allowing students to be drafted only after they had finished undergraduate education at a college or university. According to Raymond Schmidt, the author of Shaping College Football, the NCAA Resolution of 1925 explained that the growing popularity of football was negatively affecting the chief education purposes of universities for students pursuing an education while playing sports. The rule still stands today as a way of bolstering the importance of obtaining a college degree, even if being drafted to the NFL is on the horizon.

First person to hit a golf ball on the moon (1971)

February 6, 1971 marks the momentous day in history when Alan Shepard became the first and only person to hit a golf ball on the moon. According to an article from PGA, Shepard had planned his actions month in advance of the lunar trip aboard Apollo 14. He contacted a local club pro in Houston and had the head of a six-iron attached to the shaft of a piece of rock collecting equipment, which he covered with a sock to avoid being discovered. When Apollo 14 landed on the surface of the moon, he unveiled his makeshift club along with two golf balls and proceeded to shoot the ball over 200 ft. The original club is kept in the USGA Museum, and a replica is in the Smithsonian in Washington, D.C.

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February 7: First MLB player to make $100,000 (1949)

Joe DiMaggio became the first Major League baseball player to make an annual salary of $100,000. Today the MLB has grown extensively and is made up of 30 teams and 750 total players. While $100,000 may have been a large amount in 1949, according to the Houston Chronicle, the average salary of an MLB player today is 4.65 Million dollars per year, with some players earning up to 20 million for a single season.

February 8: Invention of volleyball (1891)

Following the invention of basketball in 1891, William G. Morgan, a graduate of the Springfield College of the YMCA, designed a game in Massachusetts that we now know as volleyball. It was originally called “mintonette” and was made to be a combination of basketball, baseball, tennis and handball. The original net, borrowed from the concept of tennis, was six and a half ft. tall. The offensive movements setting and spiking were created in the Philippines in 1916, leading to a clear establishment of rules and gameplay by the USVBA (United States Volleyball Association), formed in 1928.

## Men’s Basketball

On Jan 10, the Sharks beat Barry 90-85 in Miami Shores, Fl. Junior Mark Matthews finished with a game-high of 26 points and 10 rebounds, including the decisive buzzer-beater to give the Sharks the win. Matthews, above, is caught in the middle of a fast break.

Men’s Basketball

On Jan 10, the Sharks beat Barry 90-85 in Miami Shores, Fl. Junior Mark Matthews finished with a game-high of 26 points and 10 rebounds, including the decisive buzzer-beater to give the Sharks the win. Matthews, above, is caught in the middle of a fast break.

PRINTED WITH PERMISSION FROM M. MATTHEWS

Matthews, above, is caught in the middle of a fast break.

PRINTED WITH PERMISSION FROM M. STAMBAUGH

Senior Brock Minch pitches for this past Saturday’s game.

Men’s Baseball

The season opener of the men’s baseball team started off strong with a 17-5 win against Tusculum. Senior right-hand pitcher Gil Torres stepped in for starter Matt Omea to keep the Tusculum Pioneers down to setup the Sharks for the win.

Women’s Basketball

On Wednesday night the Sharks marked their fifth straight win with a 70-49 win over Barry University. Christmas Praise led the Sharks scoring a season high 22 points, junior fully scarred N.S.U’s final score of the night to place the Sharks on top.

Women’s Softball

The Sharks suffered losses to the Montevallo Falcons and the Shorter Hawks 0-9 and 2-0 respectively, on Friday of the DII Gulf Shores Invitational. The Sharks have two new players in the starting lineup for this season. Starting pitcher Lexie Storrer took the loss after a 3:11 inning and junior Erica Winter finished the last 1.2 innings while striking out two of the five batters.

PRINTED WITH PERMISSION FROM M. MATTHEWS

Matthews, above, is caught in the middle of a fast break.

PRINTED WITH PERMISSION FROM M. STAMBAUGH

Senior Brock Minch pitches for this past Saturday’s game.
Opinions

You don’t have all the time in the world

By: Kelsey Bruce
Arts & Entertainment Editor

NSU students are opinionated about all kinds of things, from universal social issues to NSU-specific concerns. Sometimes, however, we Sharks just need to rant about the smaller things in life to let off some steam. In this column, The Current asks: water your thoughts?

Billy Joel and I have a bone to pick: in his 1997 hit “Vienna”, he croons on “slow down, you crazy child, you’re so ambitious down, you crazy child, you’re so ambitious...” Not all professors are guilty of this but we should understand this. Not all professors do this.

Professors should know what not to say

By: Christina McLauglin
Features Editor

It seems like professors are always trying to find new ways to joke around with students or make the classroom environment more inviting, but crossing these inappropriate lines is not the way to do it. As students, when we walk into a classroom we want an engaging experience where we feel comfortable to express ourselves, ask questions and learn from our professors. But if a professors says something inappropriate, even to another student, it makes everyone uncomfortable and we feel less motivated to engage in that class. To an extent, it’s bullying and discrimination, since we are being told that we are not good enough.

When taking a class here, it’s more like they can take a sledgehammer to buy a few for classes that really require them, potentially saving you hundreds of dollars. However, even though we’ve got a textbook on Amazon to see the prices. Looking at biology that is no small amount in any case. And, to top money we’re already paying to attend this private college, I’ve got understanding that some things used to be harmless jokes get worse. It eventually evolves the professor, that is when these seemingly awkward jokes and, as students, we just suck it before I’m 25, “How much did you spend on that again? It’s more or talk over them during class. The classroom environment, even in college, is meant to be a two-way street with both sides agreeing to mutual respect. But when there isn’t respect for the students, or the students don’t respect the professor, that is when these seemingly harmless jokes get worse. It eventually evolves to the point that it distracts from classwork or students don’t want to go to class out of fear of these critiques. This isn’t to say all professors do this. Not all professors are guilty of this but we are human and we make mistakes. Sometimes a professor just makes a joke in poor taste but it should be addressed before we brush it off. However, there are those professors who are known to make these blanket statements or awkward jokes and, as students, we just suck it off. We make excuses for it and just brush it off as them not being “politically correct” or from a different generation but I don’t think professors should get that pass just to say anything they feel like saying. Yes, most professors are from a time before “political correctness” and were raised under the idea that something used to be okay to say. But times change, progress is made and with that, so has our understanding other cultures and a more inclusive version of mutual respect.

Textbook and homework costs

By: Laurel Gallaudet
Contributing Writer

Here at NSU, we’re relatively lucky when it comes to textbook costs. Ask anyone who’s been here longer than a semester, and they’ll be able to tell you that, when taking a class here, it’s always best to wait until after the first class to tell you whether or not you really need to buy it, potentially saving you hundreds of dollars. However, even though we’ve got a fairly good draw and often don’t even have to buy textbooks, many of us still inevitably have to buy a few for classes that really require them, and when I say buy, they can break the bank, it’s more like they can take a sledgehammer right at our bank accounts. For reasons I don’t completely understand, these textbook can be so expensive I expect them to come with a Gucci bookmark. Do I really need to be spending this much?

According to The Atlantic, there’s been an almost 612 percent rise in textbook costs since 1978 Outrageous! I looked up some textbooks in 1812 and describes what today is known as the manipulation of a district’s border in the state, allowing for an equal distribution of power. The term gerrymandering was coined in response to Governor Elbridge Gerry’s redrawing of the electoral districts in 1812 and describes what today is known as the manipulation of a district’s border in the state, allowing for an equal distribution of power among the people, but because of gerrymandering manipulating districts has the opposite effect. The political party in control is tasked with redrawing districts, allowing them to employ devised tactics to maximize their number of votes in the electoral college and minimize the impact of the minority party. Especially in today’s political culture of hyper-partisanship, this amount of power in the hands of self-interested political parties is a danger to the very fabrics of democracy. The tactics of racial and partisan gerrymandering endanger the will of the people and the take power of the vote from the state’s constituents.

Many efforts have been made to remedy this grievance, including some states voting for independent redistricting commissions to take control of the process, but we still have a long way to go. Voting power should lie with the people and be protected against the power grabs, which are all too common in modern politics. By establishing independent, nonpartisan commissions and democrators to redraw district lines, the unhardness of the voting system could be alleviated. The Constitution says “We, the People” not “We, the Politicians,” so it’s time we speak out against this overstepping of political power.
Opinions

Face Off: Family Obligations

By: Samantha November and Rachel Larson
Contributing Writers

People often depend on their family for support, but our relationships with them may become strained. What should we do if these relationships take a toll on our mental health or our lives in general?

Cut ties - Samantha November

Nobody should be allowed to take advantage of you and your vulnerabilities, make you feel less than or attack you as a person. If a family member treats you like water, you aren’t obligated to treat them like blood. A rule of thumb that I use to decide whether or not someone should be in my life is whether they lift me up or put me down. At the same time, cutting off family isn’t always permanent because people can make amends if they really want to, but it is a big decision that shouldn’t be taken lightly. Getting in a fight over something petty or even something important at the time isn’t a valid reason for cutting ties. People disagree and everyone has their own ways of handling conflict, whether it’s right or wrong. Usually, family resolves these issues with a simple “I’m sorry” or even just move on as if they never happened. As someone who has decided to cut ties with a part of my family, I am much happier and liberated because of it.

Distance yourself - Rachel Larson

Throughout various stages of our lives, we gain new people and unfortunately, we lose some as well. How often does someone have the same friends in their twenties that they did when they were in preschool? Sometimes people change or grow, and the connection dissolves. Sometimes a relationship with a certain person is unhealthy for us; those who we let get the closest to us turn out to be our vices. I believe that if any type of relationship with someone is unhealthy for me, it is perfectly acceptable to cut ties. It’s true that some families are dysfunctional and not a support system for its members. But despite all of this, they’re still flesh and blood relatives, and blood is thicker than water. Cutting ties and refusing to communicate does not exorcise the familial relations, it does not destroy the shared DNA; they will always be your relatives no matter what. I think it is better to keep contact with family members, even if the relationship itself doesn’t add value to your life. Separating yourself from your family may place a lot of weight on your shoulders in the long-term because it may make you feel alone. I do think that there are extreme cases with very toxic people that make it difficult to keep them in your life without causing harm to yourself, and in that case, you may not have a choice but to cut ties. But you don’t have to ignore them completely. By loving these family members from a distance, it might allow you closure without complete eviction. It is okay to step back from destructive family, but to cut them off completely and attempt to live a life separate is unrealistic. Ignoring the past doesn’t destroy its existence, and keeping a distant relationship is more beneficial than expelling family completely. Maintaining some form of relationship with your family is much better than nothing at all.

Do you ever feel like you take one side of a story? Or you just want to be part of a face off? Come join the Current in DeSantis 1048 on Tuesdays from 12 - 1 p.m. and learn how to write for opinions!

How do you celebrate your culture while at NSU?

“Cutting ties and refusing to communicate does not eviscerate the support system for its members. But despite all of this, they’re still flesh and blood relatives, and blood is thicker than water. Cutting ties and refusing to communicate does not exorcise the familial relations, it does not destroy the shared DNA; they will always be your relatives no matter what. I think it is better to keep contact with family members, even if the relationship itself doesn’t add value to your life. Separating yourself from your family may place a lot of weight on your shoulders in the long-term because it may make you feel alone. I do think that there are extreme cases with very toxic people that make it difficult to keep them in your life without causing harm to yourself, and in that case, you may not have a choice but to cut ties. But you don’t have to ignore them completely. By loving these family members from a distance, it might allow you closure without complete eviction. It is okay to step back from destructive family, but to cut them off completely and attempt to live a life separate is unrealistic. Ignoring the past doesn’t destroy its existence, and keeping a distant relationship is more beneficial than expelling family completely. Maintaining some form of relationship with your family is much better than nothing at all.
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- Janet Fernandez Insurance Agency: Business Risk Management Coordinator
- Audrey Morris Cosmetics International/AMMD Hygienic Lab: Aiding Intern
- IBM: Level 1 Tech Support

RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES

- Dental Medicine Research
  - Student Participation: College of Engineering and Computing interested in helping create a virtual patient that will be used as a teaching tool for future students.
  - Time Commitment: 5-10 hours per week; summer hours may be available.
  - Minimum GPA & Major: 3.0 GPA/College of Engineering/Computing
  - Skills/Experience: Candidates for this project are ideally creative, great problem solvers and able to code the program we will be creating.

- Marine Biology Research
  - Student Participation: We are looking for undergraduate students interested in assisting with the collection of scientific papers and journal articles pertaining to the 30+ non-native species of fish found in Florida marine waters.
  - Time Commitment: 10 hours per week; summer hours may be available.
  - Minimum GPA & Major: 3.0 GPA/Any STEM major
  - Skills/Experience: Biology and Marine Biology

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- Finance Internship
  - Student Participation: We are looking for graduates interested in assisting with the collection of scientific papers and journal articles pertaining to the 30+ non-native species of fish found in Florida marine waters.
  - Time Commitment: 10 hours per week; summer hours may be available.
  - Minimum GPA & Major: 3.0 GPA/Any STEM major
  - Skills/Experience: Biology and Marine Biology

- Business Risk Management Promoter
  - Student Participation: We are looking for graduates interested in assisting with the collection of scientific papers and journal articles pertaining to the 30+ non-native species of fish found in Florida marine waters.
  - Time Commitment: 10 hours per week; summer hours may be available.
  - Minimum GPA & Major: 3.0 GPA/Any STEM major
  - Skills/Experience: Biology and Marine Biology

- Accounting Internship
  - Student Participation: We are looking for graduates interested in assisting with the collection of scientific papers and journal articles pertaining to the 30+ non-native species of fish found in Florida marine waters.
  - Time Commitment: 10 hours per week; summer hours may be available.
  - Minimum GPA & Major: 3.0 GPA/Any STEM major
  - Skills/Experience: Biology and Marine Biology

- Level 1 Tech Support

- Level 1 Tech Support

All events, internships and job opportunities can be found at nova.joinhandshake.com

NSU Career Development  954-262-7201
Locations: Horvitz Office (1st Floor of the Horvitz Building, Room 152) DeSantis Office (Carl DeSantis Building, Room 1042)