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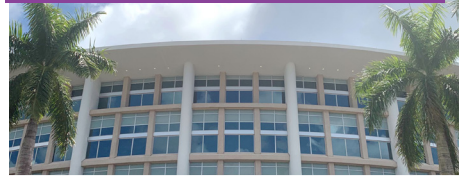
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NSU begins ROTC program Fall 2019

By: Madelyn Rinka
Co-Editor-in-Chief

NSU will begin the Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) program in Fall 2019. Students will have the opportunity to participate in two to four year programs to receive a minor in military science leadership (MSL), complimentary to any other major offered. Scholarships are also available for students who participate in the ROTC. After graduation, students will get a commission in the army, including the army reserve, active duty or the national guard. Across the nation, the Army ROTC has commissioned more than half a million officers and is the largest commissioning source in the American Military.

“The first two years are kind of like getting your foot in the water. Those first four classes you take freshman year are kind of like feeling it out. You would learn basic saluting, a little bit of history behind the military, basic facing movements, some PT (physical training) — but there’s no commitment. If you realize a year or a semester or two years into it that this is not for you there’s no commitment,” said Nick Pascucci, a coordinator for the ROTC program at NSU and director of Razor’s Edge Research.

“Going in to your junior year, if you’re not prior service, you will be required to go to basic camp. Basic camp is where you’ll be taking what you learned in your core curriculum and putting it to the test.”

After basic camp, students will go into the minor to learn more leadership skills. The summer before their senior year, ROTC members will go to a competition camp where they will work to get into the top percentage of cadets in order to get their top choice of missions, units, jobs and more. It comes down to physical fitness, leadership skills and other factors.

“ROTC is our country’s premier leadership program. I don’t think you can get any better leadership experience than through the military. It’s an opportunity for our students at [NSU] that are going to be academically sound and... civically engaged to propel that to the next level,” explained Matt Chenworth, a coordinator for the ROTC program at NSU and director of veteran affairs. “It not only gives them the minor in military science, but during the week they will participate in physical training, during the summer they will participate in military drills,

“The military instills discipline. It teaches you how to be self-disciplined. When you go through something like ROTC, you’re not an individual—you’re a team,”

-Matt Chenworth, a coordinator for the ROTC program at NSU and director of veteran affairs



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Students who are interested in the ROTC program are encouraged to visit the Veterans Resource Center on the second floor of the Rosenthal building.

they get to go to different camps, and they get to actually put the information and curriculum to practice.”

The minor in military science leadership (MSL) includes courses such as leadership in problem solving, officership and United States military history. Before committing to the program, students will take four classes encompassing leadership and teamwork.

“The military instills discipline. It teaches you how to be self-disciplined. When you go through something like ROTC, you’re not an individual—you’re a team,” said Chenworth of the course load and managing time while in the program. “So most of these things, added course work, physical training, you’re not doing this by yourself, you’re in a community.”

Requirements to join the ROTC include being a U.S. citizen between the ages of 17 and 34, having a high school GPA of at least 2.50 and a high school diploma or equivalent, scoring a minimum of 1000 on the SAT (math/verbal sections) or 19 on the ACT (excluding the required writing test scores), meeting physical standards and agreeing to accept a commission

and serve in the Army on Active Duty or in a Reserve Component (Army Reserve or Army National Guard).

If students are unsure about the program, they are encouraged to visit NSU’s veterans resource center on the second floor of the Rosenthal Building. Additionally, they are able to take the first two years of the curriculum without any full commitment.

“We have over 700 students at NSU who have already served, and we have students from the bachelor’s, master’s and Ph.D. programs. They have the opportunity to not only find out about the ROTC from some people who have already served, but they also get to ask questions face to face with other students who are in classes with them,” said Chenworth.

Graduate and undergraduate students who are interested in joining NSU’s ROTC are encouraged to visit nova.edu/veterans/rotc and www.goarmy.com/rotc for more information about the program and to reach out to Pascucci at npascucci@nova.edu to get involved for the Fall 2019 semester as soon as possible.

NSU’s MD program to host a transgender health care panel

By: Christina McLaughlin
Co-Editor-in-Chief

On April 17 from 2 - 4:10 p.m. in the Terry Building’s Morris Auditorium, the Dr. Kiran C. Patel College of Allopathic Medicine will host a panel on transgender issues through the eyes of health care providers and patients to educate students in the field of transgender health care. This event is open to students in the health professions division and will provide exposure to students through key experts on this topic. This event hopes to eliminate the stigmas and bias surrounding transgender people and the issues that they face by talking about these issues in an open forum.

“The idea of providing health care to transgender people both primary health care and transgender-related health care, such as transition surgeries is a growing field that is becoming more and more common as being transgender is becoming more accepted [in society] and people are more comfortable coming out and moving forward with these [medical services]. It’s important because, as clinicians, we have

a duty to be the best advocate for our patients and transgender people have a set of medical considerations that are completely different than anyone else. As much as you can read about it in a textbook or seek it out, it’s not the same as having actual exposure to those people,” said Jacob Oster, M.D. candidate in NSU’s M.D. program and organizer of this event.

There will be five experts featured at this event including a psychologist, a speech and language pathologist and case worker. The panel will be split into two one-hour sessions: the first from 2-3 p.m. and the last from 3:10 to 4:10 p.m. The panel will include a pre-recorded video interview with a gender reassignment surgeon and the panelists who will introduce themselves, their work in this field as a patient or health care provider and misconceptions as well as a general discussion on transgender issues in regards to health care. For the second half of each session, the floor will be open for questions.

“There is a certain way the media portrays

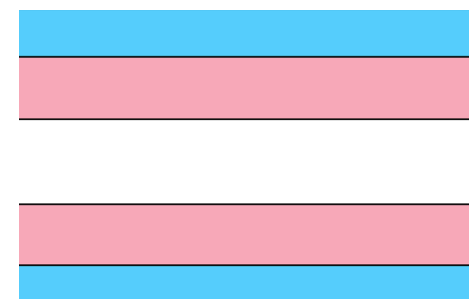
transgender people depending on what you watch. There is a very limited media exposure and when there is it tends to fall into certain stereotypes at least in the mainstream media. In terms of individual bias of people that are different than them, that kind of bias has been around forever and I think that this kind of exposure is important,” said Oster.

According to Oster, this event is a part of the diversity and formation of the curriculum for NSU’s charter M.D. class. Ideally, Oster hopes that this panel would be presented annually to focus on transgender issues, which he believes is a conversation that deserves a permanent setting in the health care community at NSU.

“A lot of people might be nervous to ask questions themselves [about transgender issues] because this topic is often viewed as unapproachable. If people were aware, especially in the health care setting, that your patients— including transgender patients— want you to be knowledgeable on the topic and

understand, then it will be easier to approach people. Transgender patients want to be recognized and for people to understand that it’s not offensive to ask questions about something that you are genuinely curious about, most of the time,” said Oster.

Students interested in learning more about this event or would like to have a question answered at the panel but do not feel comfortable doing so in person are invited to email Oster at jo830@mynsu.nova.edu.



GRAPHIC BY FARHAN SHABAN

LETTER FROM THE EDITORS



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Christina McLaughlin, left, and Madelyn Rinka, right,

Hey Sharks,

Congrats— we've all made it to the end of the school year! Even if you've still got some finals to study for or some papers to write, it's worth giving yourself a pat on the back for getting this far.

When we started out our second year at The Current at the beginning of the Fall semester, we didn't really know what to expect. We weren't Co-Editors-in-Chiefs as we are now, but rather the news and opinions editors, respectively. Most of our staff from the previous semester had graduated or left The Current. By around September, we had an almost full staff, the majority of them new to journalism. We were admittedly nervous—but everyone here at The Current quickly stepped into their new roles with confidence and creativity, bringing new ideas to the table and working with a passion we hadn't anticipated.

We want to thank Emma, Kelsey and Alexander for sticking with it this whole time. Even when things got tough and sticky (or worked on proof on the weekend) you all came back every Monday, ready to face the next issue— feel free to accept both meanings for that. To Skylyr, Kathleen, Mario, Farhan and Doice— without your help every week, including Saturdays and Sundays, the paper

would just be a sad word document that no one would ever get to read. Also, we would like to give a big round of applause to our contributing writers and practicum students, because without all of them, it's fairly likely our editors would've pulled their hair out from the sheer amount of articles we would have to write every week.

We need to give an enormous show of gratitude to our advisors, mentors and lifesavers, Dr. Michelle Manley, Dr. Megan Fitzgerald-Dunn, Jarrod Bailey and Crystal Knuth. Thank you for answering our late-night frantic texts, helping us get the inside scoops, reading through proofs at the worst hours in the morning and just being there for us when we needed to talk.

Finally, we need to say one last thank you: to you! Without all of our readers, The Current wouldn't be around. Knowing that you pick up our paper every week or visit our website, helps us hit the keyboard on Mondays. You're the driving force behind all of our hard work— we do it for you, but we also couldn't do it without you.

See you next year!

Christina & Madelyn

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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.



global news, courtesy of
the current

Coup in Sudan

Last Thursday, the President of Uganda, Sudan Omar al-Bashir was removed from power through popular protest. According to the New York Times, anti-government sentiment had started to intensify in December of 2018 due to protests targeting high food costs. However, soon the protests began to target the authoritative regime led by former President al-Bashir. The plan to overthrow al-Bashir influenced the majority of the young people in the country, despite having to resist police and military brutality under al-Bashir control. The youth are still protesting, with the hopes that a coup d'etat will lead to a civil democracy in Sudan. As of now, the Constitution has been suspended, the government has been dissolved and a curfew was set for 10 p.m.

Australia Tech Legislation

Last week, the Australian government passed federal legislation that, according to the New York Times, "criminalized disturbing behavior" in social media platforms. This legislation was created as a result of the massacre in Christchurch, New Zealand, led by an Australian white nationalist active in social media and technological platforms. The failure of social media and tech platforms to take down "disturbing violent material" will cause the government to take away 10 percent of the

company's annual income. There is an increasing backlash regarding the legislation because some tech companies have claimed such measures would not decrease hate speech, but rather limit freedom of speech. Other controversial points of the legislation is that there is not a specific definition for "disturbing violent material" and there is not a clear way to enforce the legislation for big international companies such as Google and Facebook.

South Korea Abolishing Anti-Abortion Law

Last Thursday, South Korea has passed a law criminalizing abortions as unconstitutional. The abortion law punished women and doctors involved in abortion to two years of prison and a fine around \$1,700. Although the abortion ban was not enforced in the 70s and 80s due to overpopulation, regulations have increased due to low birth rates. The government's views on the practice of abortion have also shifted. According to the New York Times, the South Korean government sees abortion as "unpatriotic." Meanwhile, the rise of women's rights movements has been resistant to the law despite the backlash. The South Korean Parliament has until 2020 to decide to revise the law, otherwise, the abortion law will be void.

Negotiating your salary with the AAUW

By: **Madelyn Rinka**
Co-Editor-in-Chief

NSU's branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) and the Career Development Office will host a salary negotiation workshop on April 24 from 12 - 2 p.m. in the DeSantis Building, room 1047.

The workshop is open to all students as several other factors come into play with wage inequities, such as race. Students will learn about salary negotiation, how to compose value statements, find out salary ranges for particular positions and how to set the range while negotiating.

"Research indicates that only 30 percent of women negotiate their salaries. And when they do negotiate, they're often penalized for their negotiation efforts. By learning the skills and the vocabulary that you can use during negotiation, you increase your chances of success and help [encourage] the equity in wages that continues to exist even though we've been fighting for pay equity since the 1960s," said Randi Sims, professor of management in

the H. Wayne Huizenga College of Business and Entrepreneurship.

If students are unable to attend the salary negotiation workshop at NSU, they are encouraged to visit salary.aauw.org to complete the free online version. The AAUW aims to train at least 100,000 people by this coming August. The workshop, whether completed online or in person, can be beneficial to persons at any point in their career, in any field.

"Salary inequities persist from recent graduates all the way through a women's career. It only gets worse. A woman [starting out at her first job] may be offered 90 percent of what a man is offered, but by the time she is engrossed in her career, the gap just widens" said Sims. "The average losses for American women over the course of her career is between \$400,000 and one million dollars."

For more information about NSU's branch of the AAUW, visit aauw-fl.aauw.net/branches/nova.

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Students walked a mile for sexual assault awareness

By: **Christina McLaughlin**
Co-Editor-in-Chief



See the complete photo story online at nsucurrent.nova.edu

News Briefs

RecPlex Golf Lessons

The registration deadline for NSU's RecPlex golf lessons is April 19. There will be two sessions available. One full game clinic at 10 a.m. for intermediate and advanced golfers and one at 12:15 p.m. for beginners. Both will be held at the Plantation Preserve Golf Course. If students are interested, they can register by calling (954) 262-7304 or emailing tomv@nova.edu.

NSU to host 21st STUEY awards

The Student Life Achievement Awards, also known as the STUEYs, will be held on Tuesday, April 16 in the Rose and Alfred Miniaci Performing Arts Center at 6 p.m.

Starting at 5 p.m. in the Carl DeSantis Atrium, there will be a pre-reception where appetizers will be served, guests can take pictures with President Hanbury and mingle with the finalists. Award categories will include undergraduate organization of the year, corporate partner of the year, athletic team of the year, graduate organization of the year, professor of the year, student of the year and more.

NSU's Palm Beach campus to host teacher appreciation expo

On Saturday, May 4 from 9 a.m. - noon, NSU's Palm Beach campus will host the Teacher Appreciation Expo. The event is open to local educators to celebrate and

thank those who educate and prepare youth for the future. There will be a light breakfast, raffle prizes, goodie bags, chair massages and more. Educators interested in attending can sign up at nova.edu/palmbeacheducation.

Title IX Human Resources to host NSU jeopardy: the "I ask" edition

Title IX-Human Resources and Title IX Peer Educators will host an "I ask" edition jeopardy game on April 18 at 6:30 p.m. in Rosenthal room 200. The game will explore understanding of consent and healthy relationships.

Chabad at NSU to host

Passover Seders

NSU students are invited to an interactive Passover Seder with Chabad at NSU on Friday, April 19 at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday, April 20 at 8 p.m. The Seder will be held in English, with no Hebrew proficiency required. Those in attendance will enjoy a brisket dinner (with vegan options) and handmade Matzot. To reserve your space for Passover or for more information about Chabad at NSU, visit jewishnsu.com/passover.

News Anchor

Stay up to date with national events.

New Hampshire considers ending capital punishment

The State Senate of New Hampshire will vote to repeal the death penalty. Currently, New Hampshire only has one inmate on death row. New Hampshire is the last state in New England to have the death penalty. According to the New York Times, "If approved, New Hampshire would become the 21st state to get rid of the death penalty, continuing a national trend toward fewer executions. Bills to limit the application of the death penalty or to repeal it have also been introduced in at least 18 states this year."

Measles cases reach new high

During the first week in April, there were 78 cases of measles nationwide. This year, there has been 465 confirmed cases, making this outbreak the second largest since 2000. The Director of the Institute for Vaccine Safety at Johns Hopkins University,

Daniel Salmon, told the New York Times, "Maybe it's getting worse," he said, but he emphasized that measles vaccination coverage is strong at the national and state levels—more than 90 percent of children are immunized."

Astronomers create first image of a black hole

Last Wednesday, astronomers unveiled the first image of a black hole. An international team of over 200 researchers worked on this project. According to CNN, "The effort wouldn't have been possible without Katie Bouman, who developed a crucial algorithm that helped devise imaging methods." The Event Horizon Telescope was used to capture the image of the black hole at the heart of the Messier 87 galaxy.

Is Food Your Drug of Choice?

Milestones Can Help You Break Your Addiction

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That Time I... Wrote A Play

By: **Qaas Shoukat**
Contributing Writer

These past two semesters at NSU have made up my final year as an undergraduate student. The three years leading up to my senior year were filled with science classes and labs, leaving me little time to invest in creative projects of my own. Medical school is my destination after I graduate, but before I got there, I wanted to write a play that I had been thinking about for a long time. After applications were finished and I had taken the MCAT and major classes, I finally had more time to myself, so I thought, why not?

Cool. I wanted to write a play. I'd been thinking about the overall plot, characters and different themes I wanted to include and the subjects I wanted to deal with. By late August, I had a professor to mentor and supervise me. She gave me all the support I needed, and everything was set. I knew I wanted to have the play ready to stage for a reading by the end of the academic year, so that meant I had eight months. Sounded like plenty of time—all I had to do was write. How hard could it be?

Very hard. How could I pull characters

with lives, dialogue, moods, actions, attitudes and relationships out of thin air and put them onto paper? I had to really think deeply about every word I wrote, had to re-read each scene multiple times, had to make sure every stroke of the keyboard was perfect because, much to my own frustration, I couldn't produce a rough draft and then edit later. For me, it has to be exactly how I want it, or else I can't move on. So that's what I did. It took me five to seven hours to write a 10 page scene and even more for longer ones. Every week I met up with my professor and showed her my work, and I would take her suggestions, go back and clean up the scene or start the next one.

By February of this year, my play, titled *Apna*, was complete. I had to hold auditions for the staged reading, cast characters for all the roles and schedule rehearsals. This entire experience has been unbelievable. I managed to create a play, construct an entire world and a reality with unique characters, put that all into words on a page and then get together a group of people to bring the play to life. It has been

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Q. SHOUKAT



amazing, and nothing has been more satisfying to me than seeing my characters realized before my eyes.

I chose to write a play because I love theatre and feel that it's the best way to tell a story. Films are great, but to see the action in front of you, to see the stage and the actors and

all the elements of the plot in the same room, gives you a much more intimate connection to what is being presented. You are seeing the story unfold right in front of your eyes in a way that involves you. You're a part of the show; you are there while it all happens.

Autism Awareness Month: what you should know

By: **Kelsey Bruce**
Arts & Entertainment Editor

Most people have heard of autism spectrum disorder, but many have limited or inaccurate knowledge about people with autism.

Sue Kabot, executive director of the Autism Institute at NSU's Mailman Segal Center, mentioned that common characteristics of autism are disordered social-communication skills and less flexible, more concrete thinking. Sometimes, this alternative style of thinking leads to people with autism having extreme interests or skills that the individual prioritizes above all else. Other common behaviors include routine-oriented living and inconsistent responses to sensory stimulation.

People with autism are much more than the qualities or behavioral patterns associated with disorders. They have a wide array of interests and talents, and are often capable of much more than stereotypes warrant. Kabot said that stereotypes often imply, directly or indirectly, that people with autism are unintelligent. In reality, "Disability: A Diversity Model Approach

in Human Service Practice" states that people with autism simply have differently developed intelligence, high in some areas and low in others.

Additionally Kabot said, "People expect everybody with autism to have a lot of unusual mannerisms like rocking or twiddling their fingers in front of their eyes, and most people with autism don't engage in those stereotypical behaviors."

Related to both intrinsic and extrinsic factors, people with autism often face a brigade of barriers. Kabot explained that, because they often have difficulty in the social realm, people with autism may avoid social interaction, which impacts their ability to effectively function in both academia and the workforce, realms both based on communication. On a more personal level, this social difficulty may also impact personal relationships. People may not want to engage with people with autism because they reject those differences, and people that do

engage might be unaware of how to do so in way that does not upset the subject.

For anyone unsure about how to interact with someone with autism, Kabot suggested, "Approach them a little more gently or slowly. They may take a little longer to process the language that you're using when you're talking to them. You have to be patient and recognize that their conversational skills are not going be necessarily the same as other people you've interacted with."

In regards to stereotypes and stigma of autism, the Interactive Autism Network (IAN), recognizes efforts to both change language surrounding autism and to acknowledge the many similarities people with autism have to people without it. Some professionals have suggested changing "disorder" to "condition," reinforcing the idea that autism is a variation rather than deficit.

Similarly, Kabot said it's important to recognize people with autism all have different

strengths and weaknesses, just like anyone else, and we should celebrate those strengths. Just as anyone else we encounter, it's crucial that we judge every person with autism as an individual and do not allow preconceptions to influence our perspective of a person.

As for future prospects for people with autism, it's crucial to recognize that there is no "cure," nor should there be any need to conceive of one. Further, people with autism are currently underemployed and pushed into dependent roles, even if they are capable of more.

In response to this issue, Kabot said, "I think we really have to work very hard to develop a range of options to support people with autism as they grow up and teach them to be independent. [We should] give them options for affordable houses and for different levels of support and assistance if they need it."

Impeachment: When a Public Official is Put on Trial

By: **Janay Joseph**
Contributing Writer

After President Trump made the controversial decision to fire former FBI Director James Comey in 2016, representative Ted Deutch's (D-FL) post on Twitter said, "Asking FBI to drop an investigation is obstruction of justice. Obstruction of justice is an impeachable offense." For the first two years of President Trump's presidency, impeachment has continued to be the hot topic of debate among political analysts. But what happens when a politician commits a crime? Or a judge accepts a bribe, or if the President gets in the way of a criminal investigation?

To understand this debate, one must understand what impeachment is. An impeachment occurs when a public official is charged with a crime. After charges have been laid out against the official, they are convicted, similar to a criminal indictment. The official is not removed from office, but they can be banned from running for future office. Impeachment proceedings are not only limited to the United States but also exist in other countries like Ireland, India and South Korea.

According to the U.S. Office of the Historian, the act of impeachment goes back to the 14th Century in British constitutional law. This was an effort to have British officials be held liable for their actions. Centuries later, the process was further explained in Federalist Paper 65, written by Alexander Hamilton, who described impeachment as the ruling on "Misconduct of public men, or in other words from the abuse or violation of some public trust." The founding fathers always held accountability of their elected leaders in high regard and saw impeachment as a formality to keep government officials in check.

But who can get impeached other than the president? In the U.S., local representatives, senators, governors, mayors and even judges can be impeached by a trial of their peers. The crimes that are lauded against these officials can range from interfering with a criminal investigation, violating ethics codes, racketeering, bribery and perjury. However, depending on local laws, impeachment does not guarantee a removal from office or even a ban on running for re-election.

For the President, in Article II, Section 4 the U.S. Constitution states, "The President, Vice President and all Civil Officers of the United States, shall be removed from Office on Impeachment for, and Conviction of, Treason, Bribery or other high Crimes and Misdemeanors." There has been historical debate about what qualifies as "high crimes and misdemeanors." Since the ratification of the Constitution. As Professor of Law Education at Georgia State University Neil J. Kinkopf wrote, "The framers debated this phrase and settled on this formulation precisely to prohibit Congress from impeaching officers for any reason at all." In the past, only two U.S. presidents have faced impeachment but neither were convicted: Andrew Johnson in 1868 and Bill Clinton in 1998. Facing impeachment in 1974, Richard Nixon resigned and never went through proceedings.

To impeach a President or member of Congress, first the members of the House of Representatives vote on one or several articles of impeachment against the public official.

Once the articles pass in the House, the Senate Judiciary Committee runs the trial led by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court while other Senators serve as the jury. If convicted by a 2/3 supermajority vote by the Senate, the body will move on or start the process of removing the public official from office depending on the severity of the crime.

Although not all public officials are removed from office once convicted, an impeachment on their record does serious damage to their political power and clout. Out of the nineteen U.S. federal officials impeached, only seven of them were acquitted. This shows that even with the debate surrounding the meaning of "High crimes and misdemeanors," impeachment is intended for the most serious of offenses.

Sexual Assault Awareness Month: rapists aren't always strangers

By: **Kelsey Bruce**
Arts & Entertainment Editor

When people think of rape, they often imagine a woman walking down a dark alley in a bad part of town with a dead phone and broken shoes. But that scenario is much less common than people believe it to be. In fact, rapists are more often people the victim knows than a violent stranger, and, according to the Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network (RAINN), 80.5 percent of rape is committed by someone who knew the victim. These perpetrators may be acquaintances, significant others, coworkers or relatives.

According to prevention organization Campus Clarity, rapists partake in “identifiable behavior patterns when they are grooming a target for assault.” Colloquially, we surmise this process as “grooming.” Desmond Daniels, Title IX assistant coordinator at NSU, described the process as a grouping of behaviors ultimately used to develop trust, which the perpetrator subsequently uses to take advantage of the target.

Laura Bennett, Title IX coordinator, said these behaviors are often pretty explicit, both in informal and formal capacities. She mentioned incidences of fraternities teaching new pledges how to lure woman in. In particular, Georgia Tech’s chapter of Phi Kappa Tau sent out a letter in 2013 that criticised members for not “succeeding” at parties and gave instructions on how to get women into a vulnerable state using alcohol and sexually aggressive dancing. Towards the end, the letter advised, “if anything ever fails, go get more alcohol.” Unfortunately, this culture is not confined to one letter. It’s prominent amongst different perpetrators in an assortment of communities. In recent media, a good example is the Brett Kavanaugh case.

Bennett mentioned that perpetrators often pursue freshman or other people they perceive as more naive and easier to exploit, and they prey on their target’s insecurities by flattering the target and creating a sense of social inclusion. Whether the rapist gains trust through alcohol or other forms of grooming, Campus Clarity said the perpetrator eventually desensitizes the target to intrusive actions through premeditated methods, whether over the course of one night or several years. Then, the perpetrator isolates the victim based on the trust they have gained.

For anyone who has experienced rape at the hands of an acquaintance, friend, romantic or intimate partner, dealing with the aftermath can often be difficult. Survivors often experience self-blame stemming from doubts about their own reaction during the assault such as freezing up and cultural attitudes towards rape in general. Further, Bennett mentioned that mutual friends of the survivor and assaulter will often choose the assaulter’s side because they don’t believe the perpetrator would rape someone.

In the time after the assault, Daniels recommends seeking attention for physical health, using campus resources and potentially making a police report. The Nancy J. Cotterman Center in downtown Ft. Lauderdale offers rape kits without any obligation to file a police report and counseling services.

As for anyone friends with a victim, Daniels said, “Being a resource is the best thing a friend can do.” It’s important to educate yourself on sexual assault, the culture around it and the trauma that accompanies it. Be there for your friend, but never pressure a victim to do more than they are willing or betray trust in any fashion.

Keep your mind sharp this summer

By: **Flor Ana Mireles**
Contributing Writer

With summer just a few short weeks away, it may be tempting to rest, relax and do absolutely nothing as you unwind from school. There are, however, some fun ways to keep your brain awake in the summer months without causing any stress. Here are some tips and tricks to keep your brain active this summer.

Read a book

To quote Richard Steele, an Irish writer and playwright, “Reading is to the mind what exercise is to the body.” Although we do lots of required reading for our classes, it is a good idea to continue to read books throughout the summer to keep our minds active.

Accordingly to Maryanne Wolf, director of the Center for Reading and Language Research at Tufts University, “Typically, when you read, you have more time to think. Reading gives you a unique pause button for comprehension and insight.” Reading also keeps your memory sharp, not to mention, it can be quite entertaining.

Go camping

Going camping is a great way to learn or refresh your survival skills and get in touch with nature. In South Florida, many large parks offer campgrounds such as the Everglades National Park as well as C. B. Smith Park. Exercising your survival skills is a great way to keep your mind sharp because you are using all of your senses to stay aware of your surroundings. David Strayer of the University of Utah also

states that “spending short amounts of time in nature without technology does calm the brain and helps it to remember better.”

Write a summer bucket list

Writing a bucket list is a great way to keep your mind and body active as well. It helps you to get in touch with your values and remember your goals. As you check items off your list, you participate in being productive, regardless of what your bucket list entails. Having a written bucket list, perhaps in a poster or journal format, also helps you to be creative and dabble in drawing, calligraphy or painting. Forbes Magazine further explains that “[hand] writing is good for keeping one’s [brain] sharp and may even influence how we think.” A study at Indiana University also showed that “the mere action of writing by hand unleashes creativity not easily accessed in any other way.”

Take up a new hobby

It’s often difficult to find time for hobbies during the school year, but summer is the perfect time to try something new and see if it sticks. Hobbies protect our brain. T. F. Hughes and colleagues conducted a study that results in evidence that proved “that engaging in hobbies for one or more hours every day may protect against dementia later in life.” Not to mention, hobbies can be fun and are a great way to keep your mind active and entertained.

For more online exclusive features articles, head to nsucurrent.nova.edu

Shark Cage Spotlight: Paul Wiecki

By: **Emma Heineman**
Features Editor

The Razor’s Edge Shark Cage Scholars Program is a combined bachelor’s and master’s program for first-time college students interested in becoming entrepreneurs. According to NSU’s website, the program provides meaningful learning experiences inside the classroom as well as outside the classroom through curriculum created by real-world professionals. It even allows students to start and run their own businesses.

Paul Wiecki is a junior pursuing a degree in finance with minors in property management and entrepreneurship. He is also the president of the Shark Cage program.

What interested you in the Shark Cage program and why did you apply?

[NSU] was the only school south of Pennsylvania that I applied to. I got a free application for [NSU], came to interview for the Presidential Premiere scholarship and, in the process, met Dr. Williams who was advocating for the Shark Cage program. After speaking with him, he told me I might be a good match. I ended up having a skype interview with Mrs. Babcock, our advisor, and from there I fell in love with

the program. I am from an entrepreneurial background. My father owned his own company, and I have been working there ever since I could walk and talk. When I found a program that was willing to let me open my own business on campus, I thought it was a great opportunity.

What are some of the advantages of being a Shark Cage student?

One of the advantages is all the networking possibilities the program provides for us. We are paired with mentors in the South Florida business community as guides for our four years here. I was actually invited to the entrepreneurial hall of fame dinner, and I wouldn’t be able to be a part of that without the Shark Cage program. It [also] prepares you [for] public speaking and teaches you how to sell yourself in the most efficient way possible. Being able to speak publicly in front of large group of people, especially important people, has been very nice.

What are your future aspirations?

After undergraduate I would love to pursue my masters degree. From there, my goal is to find a financial firm in the South Florida area.

While there, I would love to work for wealth management and find a banking firm, create a little bit of capital and start my own investment portfolio to diversify my own assets. Once I get enough capital and equity, I want to move into real estate and property management to flip, sell and rent homes.

What is the most important thing you have learned through the program?

I think the most important thing I have learned is endurance and how just because one door has closed or one chain has told me that this can’t happen for this reason, it doesn’t mean it won’t happen at all. In the last three years we have made headway every semester. So, it has definitely taught me persistence, and if one thing doesn’t work, just find another way to make it work.

What advice do you have for students applying or in their first year of the program?

I would make sure you are a very committed individual. This program is not a joke and demands a lot of work. But because

it demands so much of you, you are rewarded for everything you put into it. You just have to be hungry. You have to want it. You have to be willing to put in the effort for it.

What inspired your business plan?

The business I am currently operating is my third business that I have attempted to start here. I [decided on] a tea business. I saw that Starbucks has complete market control of the coffee and tea industry on campus. I found a business that is low overhead to start, high profit margins and it was an easy thing to try to compete with starbucks because I could find good if not better product, and I was able to sell it at a much more reasonable price. I will not be running a businesses next year but I am still the president of the program, so I will likely be overseeing the operations and helping plan day to day operations with the sophomore students who will be running their businesses next year.



INTO MOVIES?

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SOUNDBITE

The 1975

By: **Lena “Gabby” Holmes**
Contributing Writer

“You try and mask your pain in the most postmodern way/You lack substance when you say/Something like, “Oh, what a shame,” sang lead singer Matty Healy in the 1975’s song called “Sincerity Is Scary.” There are certain artists who are able to keep their sound and relay a meaningful message while still managing to keep up with more mainstream artists. The 1975 is one of those bands.

Coming from Manchester, England, the band consists of guitarist and lead singer Matthew Healy, lead guitarist Adam Hann, bassist Ross MacDonald and drummer George Daniel. The band formed in 2002, performing cover songs prior to writing their own, as Healy said, “eventually writing a song.” After getting rejected by tons of labels who felt that the band did not know “who they wanted to be,” the band eventually signed to Polydor Records.

With hits like “Chocolate,” “Sex” and “The City,” their first album entitled “The 1975,” released in 2013, topped the UK Charts and sold over 300,000 copies in the US. During this time, the band toured with Bastille, Muse and The Neighborhood, performing songs from the new album and off of the four previously released EPs. The band’s second album called “I Like It When You Sleep, for You Are So Beautiful yet

So Unaware of It” was also met with positive critiques. With songs like “UGH!,” “Love Me” and the band’s highest charting single “The Sound,” the album topped countless charts in the UK, US, Scotland, Japan and more.

The band’s latest album titled “A Brief Inquiry to Online Relationships” produced by Healy and Daniel was released on Nov. 30. The album discusses our experiences, and it delves into the internet and human relationships. As far as lyrics in the song “Sincerity Is Scary,” Healy describes how humans tend to put up a facade and pretend like everything is alright, which “breeds confusion and conflict in a relationship with others.” Healy further mentioned that if we stop pretending and instead expose ourselves and be vulnerable, we will be better off — not only physically, but emotionally. This is visible, especially in lines that say, “I’m assuming you’ll balloon when you remove the dirty spoon/and start consuming like a human, that’s what I am assuming.” Every song on this album takes the listener through a different facet of living in a postmodern world. With their song “TOOTIMETOOTIMETOOTIME,” the band muses upon how living in the digital age has changed what people view as being unfaithful in relationships. “Love It If We Made It” has been

described as a “social anthem” because it talks about all the explosive parts of today’s society — everything from drugs to the death and life of rappers and police brutality, even achieving a subtle jab at Donald Trump. Instead of making a song only about the horrible parts of life, the songs end by giving the listeners hope for better times. The album further explores topics such as hookups and cheating, America, and human relationships on the Internet.

The songs on this album put you through any emotion that a human can experience. In fact, in an interview with Genius, Healy said, “There’s anger in ‘A Brief Inquiry...’, but there’s everything in there. It needs to be hopeful; it needs to be fearful. It needs to be everything I am: Insecure, cocky, fragile.” Lastly, the album spans across genres, even managing a swing jazz feel in their song “Mine.”

This album is a must-listen, just like any The 1975 music. The band is currently on tour, will perform at Coachella and are set to debut their new album “Notes on A Conditional Form” in May.

OFF SHORE CALENDAR

Ft. Lauderdale Pirate Festival
April 20 | 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.
@Ft. Lauderdale Riverwalk

Anastasia
April 23- May 5 | 8 p.m.
@Broward Center for the
Performing Arts | Ft. Lauderdale

Art & Music Show
April 25 | 6 - 11 p.m.
@Revolution Live | Ft. Lauderdale

Sun Sentinel Career Fair
April 25 | 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
@Fort Lauderdale Marriott
North | Ft. Lauderdale

Ft. Lauderdale Artwalk
April 27 | 6 - 11 p.m.
@MASS District | Ft. Lauderdale

FKJ
May 4 | 7 p.m.
@Revolution Live | Ft. Lauderdale

Ft. Lauderdale Air Show
May 4-5 | All day
@Ft. Lauderdale beach

Paraguayan Music Festival
May 18 | 7:30 - 9:30 p.m.
@NSU Art Museum
Ft. Lauderdale

10 Movies to Help De-Stress During Finals Week

By: **Janay Joseph**
Contributing Writer

Winding down after exams? Trying not to watch “The Office” or “Friends” for the millionth time? Here are some films to help de-stress before the summer.

“Air Bud” (Dir. Charles Martin Smith) — 1997

The grandfather of talking dog movies — in which the dog doesn’t talk, “Air Bud” follows a boy and a stray dog as the dog becomes the next basketball champion. Whether you laugh at the cheesiness of the premise or just love watching dogs, this film is for you.

“The Lego Movie” (Dir. Phil Lord and Chris Miller) — 2014

This film takes the popular “chosen one” trope and flips it on its head in this story about a regular construction man named Emmett and his journey to retrieve the Piece of Resistance. From the writer/ director duo of “21 Jump Street” and “Spider-Man: Into the Spideverse,” this film will have you laughing at the outrageous humor and creativity that comes from playing with legos.

“Monty Python and the Holy Grail” (Dir. Terry Gilliam and Terry Jones) — 1975

Directed by Terry Gilliam and Terry Jones, this wacky comedy is a spoof on the medieval period that features a large lead cast. With cheap costumes and surprising humor, “Holy Grail” is a true classic with jokes that leave you unprepared and fly off the screen, one after the other.

“Empire Records” (Dir Allan Moyle) — 1995

“Empire Records,” starring Anthony LaPaglia and Rory Cochrane, is just a mid-90s high school comedy about bunch of teenagers working at a record store. When their jobs are threatened by a larger business, they use the rest of the day to take matters into their own hands to

protect it while arguing about music selections along the way. What more could you ask for?

“Before Sunrise” (Dir Richard Linklater) — 1995

Ethan Hawke and Julie Delpie star as a man and a woman who meet on a train heading to Europe. This slow-burn film is reminiscent of late night conversations as these two strangers slowly fall in love with each other, knowing that it won’t last forever.

“Lemonade Mouth” (Dir. Patricia Rigen) — 2011

Joining the ranks of “High School Musical” and “Camp Rock,” “Lemonade Mouth” stars Bridgit Mendler, Adam Hicks and Hayley Kiyoko as a group of misfits who meet in detention, bond over a lemonade vending machine and start a band.

“The Princess Bride” (Dir Rob Reiner) — 1987

With great quotes like “Inconceivable” and “Have fun storming the castle!” and of course “Hello. My name is Inigo Montoya. You killed my father. Prepare to die,” this cult classic follows a farm boy-turned-pirate as he saves the princess and takes back the kingdom through dry wit and deadpan comedy performances.

“What We Do in the Shadows” (Dir Jemaine Clement and Taika Waititi) — 2014

Waititi and Clement direct, write and co-star in this mockumentary about a gang of vampires who live with each other in a flat in modern-day New Zealand. They share their experiences of being immortal in the present day, roommate problems, fighting with werewolves and question the ethics of feeding off of other humans through dark humor and horror elements.

Online thrifting

By: **Kelsey Bruce**
Arts & Entertainment Editor

Every now and again, we all find ourselves in a mood to squander our savings and do a little shopping therapy, and using online sites makes us even more susceptible to temptation. Fortunately, there are several apps that are essentially equivalent to online thrifting, which might mean that you’ll get a great deal on a contemporary piece or at the very least, find unique vintage pieces you didn’t know you needed.

Apps to use

Depop

Described as a social shopping app, Depop is a platform where users can buy and sell vintage or used clothing, accessories, art, homegoods, books and magazines. Users might be described as “Depop famous,” meaning their shops are heavily frequented, and they may even maintain their accounts as a part-time vocation or full-time careers. Still, anyone can sell on the app for a charge of 10 percent profit, so if you want to clear out your closet, this is an excellent way to make some pocket change doing so. Additionally, the app occasionally offers giveaways for both buyers and sellers, meaning you might actually be rewarded for your online shopping habits.

Etsy

Etsy focus on vintage and handmade merchandise, so it’s a great place to support independent artists or soothe any late-night knick-knack cravings. Merchandise ranges from hand-blown glass works; to carefully concocted perfumes, bath products and makeup; to decades of vintage clothing; and much more. You can list

on Etsy for a fee of \$0.20, and the app charges a transaction and processing fee once the listing is sold. As a customer, you can take advantage of occasional sale prices set by users or the app itself.

Mercari

Similar to Depop, Mercari is an app to buy and sell used goods, but there’s less of a focus on vintage or style and more of one on practicality. There’s no use in letting your possessions sit around and collect dust, so Mercari allows you to make spring cleaning a real catharsis for a fee of 10 percent profit. You can also shop the app for great deals on anything ranging from hiking gear to makeup palettes, and if you want to pay less than is listed, the app allows you to make an offer.

Letgo

Letgo is an app for buying and selling used goods based on location. Users offer up items such as furniture or kitchenware and can message amongst each other to negotiate pricing and arrange pickup locations. While Letgo offers great deals, users should be sure to take precautions regarding potential scams and meet up in public, well-lit locations.

Ebay

Let’s not forget, if none of those apps fit your fancy, you can always bid on a range of merchandise on Ebay. If it’s been a few years since you checked it out, there’s deals that might surprise you, plus it’s great to return to the thrill of getting to be the highest bidder.

Since you’re feeling “app-y,”

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STAFF PICKS: what is your favorite article from this school year?

By: The Current Staff

Madelyn Rinka, co-editor-in-chief

“Out of everything from Volume 29, I think my favorite article was ‘One year later: Remembering Marjory Stoneman Douglas.’ What struck me while writing it is everything that has happened in the year since the tragedy. I was just getting comfortable as editor last year when the shooting occurred, and I remember everything that happened so vividly that day and weeks after. It didn’t seem like a year ago I was covering the vigil NSU held and writing a timeline of the events. I guess I’m just thankful NSU is still coming together to make sure no one forgets MSD.”

Christina McLaughlin, co-editor-in-chief

“This year I could safely say that I wrote so many great articles that it was hard to really choose which one was my favorite. I would say however, in a weird way, ‘Shark Shuttle up in Flames’ was definitely the most memorable. The news story broke on a late Friday evening, which meant that this piece was investigated entirely over the weekend to be ready for print. I enjoyed tracking down the stories and getting eyewitness accounts and really trying to get to the bottom of what happened. A lot of students were interested to find out what happened and I really liked the idea that The Current had the inside scoop and encouraged students to read my article and figure out for themselves what happened. I’ve had a lot of experiences at The Current and the on-the-fly news reporting of this event was definitely a highlight.

Kathleen Crapson, chief of visual design

“My favorite article (in terms of what

I have written) would have to be my ‘Water your thoughts: I’ll have the first laugh.’ In the article, I detail my journey through adolescence to acceptance of my last name. It’s something that I feel like I needed to address as my name is printed in this paper on a weekly basis. Scrutiny and derision may be attached to my name, but at least now I can confidently say that I’ve been laughing for a much longer time.”

Mario Lorrimer, business manager

“My favorite article from Volume 29, would have to be ‘Dark thoughts and tater thoughts.’ The article was a review about the movie Venom. I chose this article because I love how serious the writer was. He covered all the areas that needed covering and said what everyone else had on their mind. I don’t think anyone else would have been able to describe that artistic masterpiece so well.”

Kelsey Bruce, arts and entertainment editor

“My favorite article from Volume 29 was one I wrote last semester that was not published until a couple months ago, ‘Sexual violence: revictimization’. I picked this one because it was the most difficult for me to write. The research was emotionally taxing, but the real strain came when I had to respond to critiques on it. In the end, I even indirectly went through the Broward government to get an interview. Through that process, I learned that there’s always other important perspectives that will help expand that reach of what I have to say and that the most difficult things are often the most worthwhile.”

Emma Heineman, features editor

“My favorite article I’ve written this year is



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From left: Alexander Martinie, opinions editor; Aaron Banyard, previously copy editor; Mario Lorrimer, business manager; Kathleen Crapson, chief of visual design; Farhan Shaban, IT and socials manager; Christina McLaughlin, co-editor-in-chief; Emma Heineman, features editor; Kelsey Bruce, arts & entertainment editor. Missing from photo: Madelyn Rinka, co-editor-in-chief; Skylr Vanderveer, multimedia manager.

the first article I wrote after being hired. It was an athlete of the week article, and while it certainly wasn’t the most demanding article I’ve written, it was the first time I stepped out of my comfort zone to interview a student on campus. I was nervous since I had never interviewed anyone, but the interviewee was so understanding and easy to talk to. Since then, I have had the opportunity to speak with faculty and students, and my job has played a huge part in finding my place on campus.”

Alexander Martinie, opinions editor

“Since I have started working at The Current, I have written many articles on topics that I care deeply about. Whether that be

politics, science or anything else that I have written about, I enjoyed writing for and working at The Current. But my absolute favorite article would have to be ‘Treat the Person, Treat the Stigma: Suicide and Mental Health Awareness at NSU’ in Issue 7. It was on a topic that is near and dear to my heart, it was the first time that I did an interview for an article and it was a great experience.”

Head to nsucurrent.nova.edu to read the articles mentioned in this week’s Staff Picks!

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This Week in Sports History



By: **Emma Heineman**
Features Editor

From the original Ancient Grecian olympics to last year's Super Bowl, sports have been around for millenia. Today's public, however, often don'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.

April 16

Tim Ford becomes youngest winner in Boston Marathon history

On April 16, 1906, 18-year-old Timothy Ford took first place in the Boston Marathon with a time of 2:45:45. His record still stands as the youngest individual to win the race. The Boston Marathon is an long distance running event held in Massachusetts that attracts thousands of runner from across the US every year. It was first held on April 19, 1897 and occurs annually on the third monday of April. It has since become the world's oldest annual marathon.

April 18

Sam Jethroe becomes 1st African-American to play for Boston Braves

Samuel Jethroe was born to a farming family in Old Zion, Mississippi in 1917. He grew up playing semi pro ball, both for the East St. Louis Colts and St. Louis Giants. Early in 1945 Jethroe, along with two other African-American players Marvin Williams and Jackie Robinson, attended tryouts at Fenway Park in Boston, Mass. Despite impressing the coach, color barrier still prevented all three men from playing professional baseball. Robinson went on to break the major-league color barrier in 1947, but Jethroe became the first African-American to play major-league baseball in Boston on April 18, 1950, when he played for the Boston Braves.

Bill Russell becomes first African-American coach in NBA history

Another major step in breaking the color barrier occured on April 18, 1966 when Bill Russell, an African-American man, was named the coach of the Boston Celtics basketball team. According to Clarion Ledger, he was the first African-American head coach in the post-Depression era of any major American sport. For his actions as a civil rights pioneer on and off the court, he was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2011. There is a statue of him outside Boston City Hall. Today, African-Americans are still a minority among NBA coaches, coaching only six of 30 teams in the 2018 season.

April 22

Women allowed to compete in Little 500 bicycle race

The Little 500, or "Little Five," cycling race was started by Howard S. Wilcox Jr., the director of the Indiana University Foundation in 1951. This event was created as a way to bring students together but originally only allowed male students to participate. In 1988, the significant interest of women in competing lead Phyllis Klotman, the dean of women's affairs, to suggest a women's version of the cycling race. On April 22, 1988, the first Little 500 was held with 30 all-women teams competing in a 100 lap race. The event was also opened to men but will eventually be replaced in 2022 by the Little 50, a relay running race.

ON DECK

MEN'S BASEBALL

April 14 | 12 p.m.
@ Lynn University
Boca Raton FL.

April 16 | 6 p.m.
v.s. Keiser University
NSU Baseball complex

April 18 | 6 p.m.
@ Eckerd University
St. Petersburg, FL.

April 19 | 12 p.m.
@ Eckerd University
St. Petersburg, FL.

April 19 | 3 p.m.
@ Eckerd University
St. Petersburg, FL.

WOMEN'S SOFTBALL

April 18 | 6 p.m.
v.s Rollins University
AD Griffin Sports Complex

April 19 | 1 p.m.
v.s Rollins University
AD Griffin Sports Complex

April 19 | 3 p.m.
v.s Rollins University
AD Griffin Sports Complex

TRACK AND FIELD

April 18-20 | TBA
@ Peach Belt Conference
Championships
Daytona Beach, FL.

On The Bench:

The MLB should be able to sign Cuban players

By: **Christina McLaughlin**
Co-Editor-in-Chief

On April 9, the Trump administration cancelled a Dec. deal between Cuba and the U.S. that allowed the MLB to sign Cuban baseball players. The administration argued that the Cuban Baseball Federation is part of the Cuban government, which means that this deal was illegal due to the trade ban with Cuba.

The United States has every right to issue sanctions against Cuba, especially with trade and anything else that could negatively affect the U.S. economy or other protections. However, I wouldn't exactly consider this a part of the trade ban. Immigration maybe, but I wouldn't say this is trade unless you mean in terms of teams the player belongs to. Yes, the player is trading it's team but I wouldn't say a person falls under the classification of an agricultural good or medical and chemical product which were a part of the top export categories before the ban according to Office of the U.S. Trade Representative.

Moving on from this, the point of this deal was to try and limit or stop human trafficking to

the United States in hopes that this ban would encourage Cuban baseball players to take the legal route to play in the United States. In the past, players would take risks to escape Cuba and pay smugglers to get them to the United States and revoke their Cuban citizenship. According to the Washington Post, this deal proposed that the U.S. baseball clubs would pay a fee to the Cuban Baseball Federation to release them from their contract and take them to the United States to play for the U.S clubs legally instead of the dangerous ways as before. But the administration argues that these payments are illegal under U.S. sanctions since the federation is part of the Cuban government. I think this is all just a little too political and clouding a lot of sound judgement that should be made in this deal. Yes, the U.S. has imposed sanctions on Cuba, that is clear. But these sanctions including trade don't exactly count when it comes to people leaving that country when they are willing to be released from their contracts with the CBF to play in the

U.S. If administration really sees this as a trade then as with international law, the U.S. should compensate the CBF as a business entity of the Cuban government if it is seen as that way. That is exactly what these MLB teams were doing. They were releasing these players from these contracts while compensating the CBF for the "taking of its property".

I feel this deal could have done a lot of good in possibly eliminating avenues of human trafficking which this administration claims to be against, and also provided a way for the MLB to gain new and talented players into the league while also helping Cuban players to realize their dreams of playing in the United States Major League Baseball. This is a complicated issue to say the least with a lot of political opinions really pushing the issue of the legality of sports interfering with sanctions. Overall, I feel it should be looked at on a case by case basis and in this case, the good ways out the harm in this deal.

Are you an avid NSU sports fan?

Do you like sports writing?

Or are you interested in sports photography?

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ATHLETE OF THE WEEK:

Jessica Cavalier

By: **Samantha November**
Contributing Writer



Jessica Cavalier rows again, as seen above.

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Jessica Cavalier is junior on the rowing team. She is a psychology major and a sociology and art minor. She started the FIRA Championship with a second place finish in the junior varsity eight boat (7:22.30) then went on to place second and third in the novice four (8:19.60 and 8:17.30). Jessica was a member of the exhibition four that claimed first place at the Sunshine State Conference Championship with a time of 8:01.62, beating Florida Tech by 21 seconds.

How and why did you get into rowing?

“In 2012, I started rowing in my freshman

year of high school. My mom tried out for the rowing team when she was in high school and she was told that she couldn’t be on the team because she was a woman. They didn’t have a women’s rowing team at her high school, which was the case for my high school as well. I tried [rowing], I loved it, and [everything] just clicked.”

What is your favorite thing to do after a big race?

“Go get food, maybe take a nap. It depends on what day the race is. If it’s a more than one day race, the team and I would go and hang out at someone’s house for a movie night. If it’s a

several day regatta, then I normally just crash afterwards.”

Do you have any pre-race rituals?

“Before each race, after our warmup, we always grabs each other’s hands and ‘pass the squeeze.’ I’ve been doing that since my first year of rowing in high school and I brought it to NSU. We also say good luck to each other.”

Do you have any hobbies?

“I’m an art minor—I like painting, anything that involves hands-on art.”

Who do you consider your biggest role model?

“My mom. She’s always been my biggest role model. We fought a Title IX case when I was in high school, fighting for equal rights with the men’s rowing team. Ever since then, she’s always told me to be myself, be independent, be powerful all the time and to always speak up for yourself.”

What advice would you give to other student athletes?

“Learn ahead of time, manage early on.”

How have you managed to balance sports and academics?

“Personally, I think that having a busy schedule makes me more productive. If I have a day where I don’t have anything planned and I just have something to do for homework, I won’t do it. If I have rowing in the morning at 5 a.m., then class and a gap hour, I do my homework in that gap hour and I’ll get everything else done. If I’m not on schedule, everything’s all over the place.”

What has been your favorite moment of the season so far?

“Our season hasn’t started yet, but I think being able to have a race on the Intercoastal was nice because we had parents and other people come to spectate. Since I’ve been here, we’ve never really had any home races where we got to practice. Every Meter Matters, our fundraiser, was also super fun. We got to show everybody what rowing is, what our boat looks like and we got to raise a lot of money towards curing kids’ cancer.”

What are some of your goals as an athlete?

“I’ve succeeded as an athlete in a collegiate sport if I’ve inspired someone else to join a sport or to get better and improve themselves.”

How has rowing helped you adjust to college life?

“[Rowing] gave me a family to start out with. Coming into any new environment is a big change, especially coming from a different state and always being sheltered from your family. Back in freshman year, instead of having to go look for new friends—which I did too—it was easy to just walk across the hall and say ‘hey.’”

Have you ever considered playing another sport?

“In high school, I played [a lot] of other sports and I loved them all dearly. I would say that my mentality towards rowing has improved and it pushes me to do everything better, so I’d stick with rowing.”

OUT OF THE SHARKZONE

Astros sued for injury caused by T-shirt cannon

Jennifer Harugty filed a lawsuit against the Houston Astros after being injured last July by a T-shirt cannon. Harugty is seeking \$1 million in damages for “compensation for mental anguish, loss of opportunity and loss of enjoyment of life,” according to ABC News. Harugty filed the suit on April 8. “Harugty was at a Houston Astros game with her family in July 2018 when she severely injured her left index finger after it was hit by a T-shirt fired from a cannon,” according to ABC News.

Rugby Australia to terminate Israel Folau after anti-gay comment

Fullback Israel Folau will be terminated by Rugby Australia after posting anti-gay comments on his social media. According to the Associated Press, “RA chief executive Raelene Castle said in a statement that she and NSW Rugby Union head Andrew Hore made “repeated attempts” to contact Folau directly and via his representatives on Thursday, but that he failed to communicate with them.”

US women’s hockey team advances to semifinals in world championship

The U.S. women’s hockey team beat Japan 4-0 last Thursday and advanced to the semifinals of the women’s world championship. According to the Associated Press, “Japan reached the knockout round for the first time since it was instituted in 2011, while the U.S. was playing in their first quarterfinal after a change in the format meant that the top finisher in the preliminary rounds no longer receives a bye to the semifinals. The Americans, who finished with 53 shots, took 22 of them in the first period and broke through when Knight scored on the rebound of Shelly Picard’s shot with 3:12 remaining.”

Magic Johnson quits as L.A. Lakers’ president

Last Tuesday, Magic Johnson resigned as the president for the Los Angeles Lakers, abruptly. According to the Associated Press, “Johnson didn’t tell owner Jeanie Buss or general manager Rob Pelinka about his decision before he announced it in front of reporters about 90 minutes before the final game of the Lakers’ sixth consecutive losing season.”

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Stop polluting the ocean

By: **Alexander Martinic**
Opinions Editor

With the majority of Earth being covered by the ocean, you would think that people would go the extra mile to protect marine organisms and to keep the oceans clean. But no, why would anyone ever do anything to help the ocean when it would be easier for them to just keep polluting the ocean and make it dirtier with each passing day?

Recently, a whale was found on the coast of Italy with more than 48 pounds of plastic in its stomach. According to the New York Times,

“This was the latest in a grim international collection of whale carcasses burdened by dozens of pounds of plastic trash. Last month, a whale was found dead on a Philippine beach with 88 pounds of plastic in its body. More than 1,000 assorted pieces of plastic were discovered inside a decomposing whale in Indonesia in November. A sperm whale died in Spain last year after being unable to digest more than 60 pounds of plastic trash.”

Plastic waste in the ocean poses a

major threat to marine organisms. The European Union voted on measures to ban single use plastics, but these measures will not be implemented until 2021. If things are to get better for the environment then changes to how we use plastics need to be made and implemented quickly. While NSU tried to “skip the straw” and make efforts to protect marine life, more still needs to be done on both a local and international level to work towards making and maintaining a clean and healthy environment.

English isn't our official language: Let's stop acting like it is

By: **Emma Heineman**
Features Editor

When I travelled to Europe for the first time, I was shocked when I learned that so many people I met overseas spoke more than one, two or even three languages. In the U.S., I was accustomed to the handful of Spanish speaking people and the occasional individual who could speak French, German or some other language, but it was astonishing to meet people who could speak four languages fluently and were learning another. The experience made me question my relationship with foreign languages in the U.S. and wonder why Americans are so much less exposed to culture and language than in Europe.

Statistically, the numbers back up what I had experienced. According to the 2010 U.S. census, approximately 20 percent of U.S. residents speak a language other than English at

home. In Europe, the percentage is significantly higher with an average of 60 percent of citizens who can speak two or more languages with some countries with up to 96 percent of residents who are bilingual.

Of course, much of the discrepancy in the number between the U.S. and Europe is due to the increased exposure Europeans have to cultures and language because of the smaller geographic sizes of the countries and their proximities to each other. In terms of size, it would be like if each of the 50 states had their own language and moving from state to state meant an increased necessity to communicate with others through language. In the EU, the open border agreements among most of the nations also facilitates the hassle-free movement

of people from one country to the next, making it easier to spread languages across borders. While in Europe, I felt entitled because almost everyone I came into contact with spoke English, even if it was their third or fourth language. As an American, I wanted to stop assuming that everybody understood my language. I wanted to be immersed in a new culture where everything, including the language was foreign to me, but everywhere I looked, someone spoke English.

In the American school system, most high schools require some form of foreign language study, but there is a plethora of benefits to learning and speaking a foreign language that extend far beyond the reaches of the classroom.

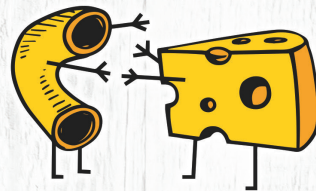
As a student, learning a new language can boost brain power, improve memory, enhance

decision making skills and even improve other areas of academic performance, according to the Eton Institute. Additionally, knowing one or more foreign languages is a great way to set oneself apart on resumes, applications and in the professional or career field. With the expansion of the global business community, the ability to communicate in multiple languages is becoming more and more important.

Many people assume that English is the official language of the U.S., but it is, in fact, not. Though street signs, advertisements, menus, ballots and more are most commonly printed in English, America needs to get off their high horse and branch out to learn and communicate with others.

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STEAM

STEM versus STEAM: Do the arts belong in STEM?



STEM

By: **Kathleen Crapson and Alexander Martinie**

Chief of Visual Design and Opinions Editor

STEAM

Kathleen Crapson

As culture evolves, there has been a wave of contention towards the arts that swells against the thought that the arts are vital to humanity as a whole, and in our modern age, to the workforce. With job specialization segmenting careers into necessary knowledge, there seems to be a division between the “STEM majors” and the “creatives.” And that’s where STEAM comes into play. STEAM, or “science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics,” is the newest iteration of STEM. With the inclusion of the arts, it gives recognition to the intersection of the arts into various other fields.

With the advancement of STEAM, more schools are integrating it into their curriculum. Critics fear that the “arts” are a mere distraction, while proponents are enthused by the possibility of a new “hands-on” curriculum.

Throughout my life, as someone who enjoyed my humanities courses more than my STEM courses, I can understand the hesitation if

someone were to burst into my English class and demand that we start creating “word problems” for math, and abandon our creative writing narrative. Those who are accustomed to STEM have a similar mindset. However, STEAM is not a drastic change to the modern division of courses. STEAM is merely acknowledging that life itself is three-dimensional, and that specialization leads to rigid boundaries.

As a graphic designer by trade, my career lies at the intersection of arts and technology. While many argue that my career is essentially art in new media, the technological aspects change everything about my job. On top of knowing two dimensional artistic principles by heart, I now have to interpret crash report diagnostics and software intricacies. Understanding technology will ultimately make me a stronger, more experienced designer.

While some might be narrow-minded, and prefer to stick to their specialized careers, the spirit of the arts is in the ingenuity of embracing creativity and innovation. So while it may make

sense not to break the repetition of the scientific method, the world definitely needs more transformative thinking.

STEM

Alexander Martinie

Don’t get me wrong the arts are very important, but not everyone needs to study them. As a STEM major, I don’t feel the need for taking arts and humanities classes that have no connection to my major, when I could spend more time trying to figure out the processes that affect the evolution of animals overtime or crying from the stress of chemistry, you know important parts of being a STEM major. Not everyone is hard-wired for studying the arts and that is okay.

I became a STEM major because I love science, but I didn’t realize that the university thinks that arts are such a major component of STEM. In one of my classes this semester, the discussion if STEM should include the arts, and while some arguments for it make sense, but

only in specific cases. It was brought up several times that medical drawings are important, and to me, they aren’t really that important. I don’t know the last time I looked a diagram in one of my textbooks that showed an artist’s rendering on a concept. With advancements in screening and imaging software, drawings of concepts are becoming seemingly obsolete. As Kathleen mentioned, the arts interact with various fields, but so do STEM fields. If you really want to have an acronym that includes all of the connection that STEM has, then that name would be longer than the titin protein.

Even when I brought up the idea for an article on if the arts belong in STEM at The Current’s weekly contributing writers meetings several of my colleagues may or may not have wanted to fight me on this. But, again, the arts are very important, but students shouldn’t be forced to study them if they don’t want to.

Are final exams worth it?

By: **Christina McLaughlin**

Co-Editor-in-Chief

It’s that time of year again where students across campus will be studying for their final exams in their classes. Each class is expected to have this final exam, unless you are one of the lucky few whose professors don’t require these exams to be part of their grading system. Students may find themselves scrambling to memorize all information from the course and trying to prioritize which chapters they should study. This is a gamble, most students essentially end up reasoning they need to know everything instead of prioritizing some concepts to ensure a good final grade. This isn’t a sound strategy but it’s what many students do to prepare themselves for these exams.

Most of the stress from these exams stem

from the finality and the last-ditch effort of it all to save or improve on your overall grade. It is the last chance students with “bad grades” have, to improve their grade. The importance placed on this exam means one of two things: either a student will rise above the stress and do well or fail before they reach the starting line. In all these cases, a question is brought up: should a final exam be a part of the education system? In college, we are taking these classes to retain the information taught to us and apply it to our daily lives, but does that happen if a student is cramming for a better grade? We need to ask what is important. Do you want students to do well on the course and forget almost all the information two weeks later, or retain the

information and maybe do just as well in the course in a difference system? Most professors that I have met would prefer the latter. They want their information to be retained and to actually teach the students, not just teach students how to be good test-takers and that’s what final exams do. It just teaches us how to cram an abundance of information into our heads for a short amount of time. If you ask me to take another test on a course’s material a month after the course completion, 80 percent of the time I would fail. I don’t want that to be the case.

I understand that in college we need to be tested as a measure of how we are doing in the class, but I always feel that is more effective in weekly quizzes or even tests which cover

smaller sections of the material instead of an overall view. In this way, if you do fail one or two assessments, you have a chance to bounce back and professors can get an idea of how the material is being retained. In any other way, all the feedback given to the professor is assumed and students value a grade over the information they are learning. If you ask a student how about their class experience, they will almost always talk about what grades they got, if the material was hard to memorize or if the course work was difficult, but rarely do they respond with what they learned in the class. That is a major problem in our education system today that must be fixed. In the meantime, in a sense of brutal irony, I will be studying for my final exams.

SHARK SPEAK

As the semester begins wrapping up, what do you do to not let stress get in the way of your academic and personal life?



“I always try to study as much as I can, but whenever the stress does come, I always take a break and do whatever I can to make sure that I feel relaxed.”

-**Tanha Rahman** sophomore, **business and biology major**



“I tend not to [be stressed] too often. I usually hang out with friends—friends are a big part of not being stressed [for me]. I try to have breathing room by getting my work done on time and I especially try to get my work done ahead of time.”

-**Erik Yang**, freshman **biology major**



“As soon as I leave campus, because I am a commuter, I try to leave all of my stressors [at school]. Whatever studying I need to do, I make sure I get it done before I leave. Also, I make sure that I have an hour each day for doing something that I enjoy, even if I’m super stressed out and have a bunch of things going on.”

-**Uzma Jamil**, junior **political science major**



“To be honest, I box a lot and I go to the gym. I pretty much take all my stress out at the gym so that way I have at least one hour where I’m not focusing on anything else.”

-**Jefferson Cristovao**, junior **management major**



“Sometimes I just push through and know that I need to get things done—I suck it up. I also like to go to the gym, hang out with my friends, and cry.”

-**Jayani Seegulam**, sophomore, **biology and behavioral neuroscience major**

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- **Skills/Experience:** Candidates for this project are ideally creative, great problem solvers and able to code the program we will be creating.

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- **Skills/Experience:** Biology and Marine Biology

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