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Nova Southeastern University

Features



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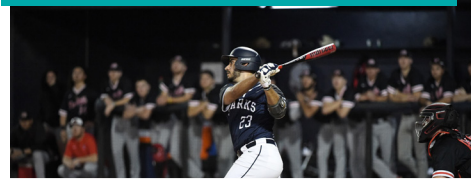
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Senior Showcase: Vantage Point

By: Emma Heineman
Features Editor



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*NSU alum Andres J. Mora
stands with current senior
Treyce Romeus at last
year's showcase.*

NSU's Art and Design program will hold an opening reception for the 2020 Art and Design Senior Exhibition on Feb. 19 from 5-7 p.m. The reception is free and open to the public featuring music and complimentary food and drinks. The exhibition will be located in Gallery 217 on the second floor of the PVA wing of the Don Taft University Center and will be open until March 12. Hours of operation will be posted on the doors of the gallery.

The Senior Showcase is a part of a senior project that students in the Art and Design program must complete as part of their curriculum. Kandy Lopez-Moreno, an associate professor of the Art and Design program, explained that the students are responsible for creating the flyers, layout, design and

promotion of the event. Although the showcase is predominately for seniors in the program, it is open to students who are pursuing minors in art as well. This year, there are 10 graduating seniors who are participating in the showcase, three of whom are art minors.

The name of the exhibition this year is Vantage Point.

Ariella Erin Poon, a senior biology major who is a part of the showcase, said the showcase "shows how much we've evolved as artists throughout our undergraduate careers... One of the first things we did as a group was bring in our portfolios so we had an idea of what everyone's art styles were. We decided on the title of the exhibit because [it's] a way to connect everything... All of our art styles

are different and we all focus on different perspectives."

Gabriel Aikens, a senior art major, explained that nature was another common theme that will be displayed throughout the exhibition. The showcase will also feature a combination of works from courses and personal pieces using different art styles and mediums.

"We ended up [deciding] on Vantage Point, which is kinda dissociated from nature, but if you see in the poster it takes place in a forest-like setting. It has an organic feel to it, even though it is really Illustrator and graphic design oriented. Some of it [will be] school work and a good number of it will be personal work. That makes it feel like not everyone is

doing the same thing. It shows that we are all working outside the confines of what we have to do to get a grade and are trying to build our careers beyond college," said Aikens.

Poon also explained that the Senior Showcase is a way to demonstrate the presence of the artistic community on NSU's campus, demonstrating to students that "it's possible to develop themselves as artists and that there is an artistic presence at NSU."

Follow @Gallery217 on
Instagram and Facebook to
learn more about the senior
showcase Vantage Point

The 2020 SHIELD Conference

By: Cameron Pritchett
Sports Editor

On Feb. 28, celebrating the 29th anniversary of the end of Desert Storm, the Institute for Neuro-Immune Medicine will host the 2020 Sustained Homeostatic Imbalance due to Environmental-exposure Linked to Deployment (SHIELD) Conference in the Rose and Alfred Miniaci Performing Arts Center from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

This free event, open to all Gulf War veterans, aims to inform the community about research that is being conducted regarding neuro-immune disorders including Gulf War illness. Gulf War illness, also known as chronic multisymptom illness, has a variety of

symptoms that are found in veterans deployed in Desert Storm and Desert Shield.

The event will feature keynote speakers Nancy Klimas and Nancy Sullivan, who are both experts in environmental-exposure illnesses. In addition to the keynote speakers, there will be a veteran advocacy panel featuring former veterans who were involved in the Gulf War. The panelists will include Sergeant First Class Jimmy Arocho, non-commissioned officer Bill Watts and Staff Sergeant Anthony Hardie, who all have had experience with Gulf War illness and have participated in some of the research that the institute conducted.

Zena Kirby, the program manager for the Shield Conference, said she hopes that "by having a veterans perspective, we can give [people who want to learn more] a personal outlook on how it is to live with Gulf War illness and what these symptoms are and how research may be a good stepping stone to improve the quality of life [of these individuals] and eventually develop a long term solution for the entire population of veterans living with this condition."

Towards the end of the event, there will also be a networking session to connect veterans with various organizations that

provide resources on a local and national scale, such as the Miami Veteran Center, legal groups that work with veterans and a variety of other programs within NSU's Institute for Neuro-Immune Medicine. Individuals who feel passionately about learning more about the illness and the discoveries being made in the field are also invited to attend.

The event will also be livestreamed and available on the event's website for those who are unable to attend.



global news, courtesy of the current

Baby diagnosed with coronavirus

A baby born on Feb. 2 in Wuhan, China has tested positive for coronavirus, becoming the youngest person to contract the disease. The mother of the child tested positive for the virus, but it is still unclear if the disease was transmitted through the womb or after birth. According to Business Insider, Stephen Morse, an epidemiologist at the Mailman School of Public Health at Columbia University, believes that “the baby picked it up very conventionally — by inhaling virus droplets that came from the mother coughing.” As of Wednesday, the baby is in stable condition and under observation.

Brazil appoints anthropologist to lead agency that protects isolated tribes

On Wednesday, Brazil’s government appointed Ricardo Lopes Dias, an anthropologist and evangelical preacher, to oversee the protection of isolated Indigenous tribes, leading the National Indian Foundation. Brazil’s Indigenous affairs agency has advised in a letter of protest that this decision could cause “irreparable damages” to the tribes because of Dias’ missionary work. Dias has defended his new title stating, “I understand there is a lot of apprehension regarding what the work of missionaries entails. I don’t see this

as a mission or an opportunity to find new converts. I have no interest in going there with a Bible in hand.”

Cruise ship quarantined

Between Wednesday and Thursday of last week, 20 cases of coronavirus were confirmed on board the Diamond Princess cruise ship, causing the ship to be quarantined for the following two weeks. According to The New York Times, “As Japanese health officials continued to screen 273 passengers who were potentially exposed to the virus, they said that 20 of the 102 tested so far had been found to be positive.” The positive cases have included Japanese, American, Canadian, New Zealander and Taiwanese passengers, all of whom were transported to medical facilities on Thursday.

Train in Italy derails

Before dawn on Thursday in northern Italy, a passenger train traveling at over 180 mph derailed and crashed, killing two railroad employees and injuring at least 31 others. Local reports and authorities have said the engine of the train slammed into a railroad building and the railways had a maintenance check done the night before. The cause of the crash is still unknown and is being investigated. Given in 2018 multiple trains derailed, this crash has prompted more concerns in regards to the country’s transportation infrastructure.

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News Anchor

Stay up to date with national events.

Wilmington University pulls piece featuring decapitation of the President

Last Friday, Wilmington University, a private institution located in New Castle, Delaware, had a piece of student artwork removed from an online showcase because the artwork depicted President Donald Trump decapitated. University officials later removed the piece, after approving it a month earlier in a contest for pieces produced by students during class. The University stated that they removed the piece due to it not meeting the school’s values and, while the contest had no specific rules for the show, the piece was removed after individuals in the university expressed concern.

Boston approves first Marijuana shop

Last Thursday, Boston’s first retail marijuana store was approved for business over a year after numerous other stores opened around the state. The store, Pure Oasis, gained approval from the state’s Cannabis Control Commission and was given final license approval to be open for business, making the store the

first minority-owned marijuana business in the state. This approval came after individuals voiced their frustration, both state and nationwide, for the slow pace of approval for businesses owned by minorities, specifically in the cannabis industry. Pure Oasis plans on opening two other retail locations in the Boston area and has been holding job fairs in predominantly minority locations to hire workers.

Crime charges filed for El Paso shooting

Patrick Crusius, the man responsible for the El Paso mass shooting that took place last summer, was indicted by a federal grand jury on Friday. Crusius, a 21-year-old former student, was charged with 22 counts of hate crimes resulting in death, 23 counts of hate crimes involving attempted murder and 45 counts of discharging a firearm in the commission of a hate crime. After announcing the charges, the Justice Department and FBI stated that the gunman attacked the victims because of their national origin. Crusius was already facing state charges on capital murder in connection to the

shooting last September, an act punishable by death or life in prison without parole in Texas.

New York court rules fantasy sports contests illegal

Last Thursday, the New York state appellate court ruled that fantasy sports contests constitute gambling and are, in turn, prohibited in the state of New York. In August of 2016, a law signed by Governor Andrew Cuomo declared that fantasy sports did not constitute gambling and allowed for consumer safeguards ensuring its legality. However, that law was challenged in a case that began in October of 2016 by four New York residents, claiming harm from fantasy sports gambling. The case outlined that the law by Cuomo was an illegal expansion to the state constitution on gambling, which forbids the practice besides a few exceptions such as a number of horse tracks and casinos in the state. The attorney representing the four New Yorkers stated after the decision that the law was unconstitutional and therefore due to penal law fantasy sports contests are prohibited.

Jazzing up the night: NSU's African Presence - 17th annual art exhibition

By: Madelyn Rinka
Co-Editor-in-Chief

NSU's African Presence 17th annual art exhibition, "All That Jazz," celebrated with a vibrant and electrifying opening reception on Feb. 6, featuring Troy Anderson and The Wonderful World Band. The exhibit features photography by renowned photographers William P. Gottlieb and Pete Turner with informative wall panels about jazz and its history.

Gottlieb's work highlights jazz icons of the 30s and 40s, showcasing the performers' passion and energy while on stage and behind the scenes. Turner's photography was used on numerous artists' album covers in the 60s and 70s, several decades later. In addition to the

photographs and album covers, the exhibit tells the tales of the history of jazz, as well as the musicians themselves — showcasing Billie Holiday, Ella Fitzgerald, Louis Armstrong and many more.

"So many of these artists had really humble beginnings — and they became legends," said Charles Ross, curatorial assistant and exhibition designer. "I think that it's important to know that no matter where or how you're born, you can achieve great things."

The exhibit is free and open to the public. "All That Jazz" will be in the Alvin Sherman Library's Cotilla Gallery on the second floor until March 27.

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(From clockwise) Top right: President Hanbury addresses the audience.

Bottom right: "All That Jazz" opened with a rendition of various covers of jazz icons.

Bottom left: Visitors were able to flip through jazz photography at the exhibition.



Check out nsucurrent.nova.edu for more photos of the opening ceremony and exhibit.



News Briefs

get the scoop on events happening on campus

Celebration ArtSage: Grace Bumbry

On Feb. 13, the Venetian Arts Society will host the Lift Every Voice and Sing Concert Celebration at the Rose Alfred Miniaci Performing Arts Center. The event will feature Grace Bumbry as well as NSU's Black Student Union and Black American Forum. Tickets are free for NSU students, but general admission for the public can be purchased for \$35. Doors for the event open at 7:30 p.m. For more information, visit venetianartsociety.org/events/lift-every-voice-and-sing/.

Volunteers needed for 5K run

Volunteers are needed for the Childhood Cancer Charity 5K Run/Walk and Family Fun Day that will take place on Feb. 29. Volunteer opportunities range from pre-race to helping the day

of. Students who volunteer at the event will help set up, register and greet participants, disperse water, man food stations and more. The race, which will begin at 8:30 a.m., will be held on NSU's campus and students are encouraged to volunteer to receive service hours. To sign up as a volunteer, students can fill out the online form, which can be found on NSU's website.

Service in the City opportunities

Service in the City opportunities hosted through the Office of Student Leadership and Civic Engagement will be held on Feb. 18, March 24 and April 7. The service events will be held from 5 to 8 p.m., all at HOPE South Florida, where students will have the opportunity to serve the local homeless population. Registration for the event is required and can be found on the SLCE Office Sharkhub page.

Give kids a smile day

On Saturday, Feb. 15, NSU will host Give Kids A Smile Day from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. The event is a way to provide children without insurance between the ages of 2 and 18 free dental evaluations and treatments. In addition to dental treatment, the event will also focus on dental hygiene education. Face painting, Disney characters, a live DJ and the mascot, "Timmy the Tooth," will make the event a fun atmosphere for the children in attendance. The children must be accompanied by parents or legal guardians on the day of the event. Registration before the event is advised in order to ensure an appointment time. The last appointment will be taken at 1 p.m. For more information, contact the NSU Give Kids a Smile (GKAS) team at (954) 262-1868.

That Time I.... Fell in love with the NSU Shark Shuttles

By: **Linh Tran**
Contributing Writer

NSU students somehow tend to have negative impressions of the university's shuttles. "You live in Rolling Hills? It must be painful to take the shuttle back and forth every day," is the most common comment I receive when people find out what dorm building I live in. I usually respond with a smile, saying "It is not that bad," but what my mind wants to shout out is, "It is not at all bad. It actually makes my day." I decided, for this Valentine's Day issue, to devote my love language to these beloved "friends," contributing a different perspective to a conversation that seems to be extreme.

I did not live in Rolling Hills at first. The idea of living blocks away from campus and taking shuttles to classes initially frightened me. I was, undoubtedly, late for my class on the

first day I used the shuttle. This urged me to pay more attention to the NextBus on the iShark app, to memorize each shuttle's name and their distinct routes and to get used to the sense of time as a bus rider — just how we all need to learn about a person in order to find him or her more lovable.

And I did - I found myself in love with the shuttles on such unexpected occasions. It was the several times when I took the wrong shuttles, leading me to the wrong destinations, that gave me an opportunity to truly capture the beauty of the entire university in my eyes and in my heart. I got to see what I had heard of, but had never seen. From the Terry building and the UPP to the Oceanographic campus — the university was bigger and more worth-

discovering than I thought. I see myself so little in front of the university. I see myself stuck on some late nights when the shuttle takes me home and the scene through the window takes my mind away. The look of the campus under the lambent moonlight, in the still of the night, has a lingering exquisiteness. I remember asking myself, "What if eyes could take pictures?"

Stories about our bus drivers are another thing I take pleasure from. It took solely one ride for Mrs. Cassandra (we call her Cassie), my bus driver, to first realize that I had just moved to Rolling Hills and to recognize me and ask about my day. Everyone on the bus is her friend, indeed; she knows what is going on in their lives, she makes jokes and she laughs. She just couldn't hide the love she has nourished for

the students and for her job. She has been on that seat for 12 years and so have some other drivers, which, to them, is not nearly enough. I don't know how much money they make from driving the buses for eight to 10 hours a day — some start at 5 a.m., some end at 11 p.m. — but throughout the years, they must have known that driving those buses was more than a job. Just like how I have realized they are more than just a means of transportation.

When a person who is not even an NSU student could love the shuttles that deeply and devotedly, I find no reason why we, as Sharks, should not. Love always comes from such simpleness.

Benefits of journaling

By: **Emma Heineman**
Features Editor

For many people, keeping a diary is a hallmark of their adolescence complete with embarrassing entries from their childhood and TMI stories about everything from crushes and heartbreaks to a day by day recount of 2005. While many people seem to outgrow the need to pour their feelings, aspirations and dreams to a diary, the benefits of journaling actually extend far into adulthood. In fact, journaling daily can yield mental, emotional and even physical benefits. Continue reading to learn why journaling could be right for you.

Practice mindfulness

One of the biggest advantages to journaling is the ability it gives you to practice mindfulness. Whether you want to be more mindful of your emotions, cognizant of your stress levels, present in relationships or more aware of personal growth, writing in a journal is a great first step towards keeping yourself on track emotionally. According to Intermountain Care, "research shows that expressive writing can help you develop more structured, adaptive and integrated schemes about yourself, others and the world." By allowing yourself to engage in right-brain creativity, more brain capacity can also be accessed.

Sharpen memory

By writing down the details of your day, you can help to improve your memory capacity and comprehension. Having a log of daily occurrences can also help to hold you accountable and set clear goals for the future.

Reduce Stress

After a stressful day, journaling can be a

great way to wind down and evaluate the causes of stress in your life. A recent study showed that expressive writing for 15 to 20 minutes a day, three to five times over the course of four months, can effectively decrease blood pressure. In addition to lowering blood pressure, writing about the causes of stress can help you to manage your stressors in a healthy and beneficial way.

Manage mental health

While this may seem obvious, finding a healthy way to express yourself — like journaling — can be a great way to manage overwhelming emotions. Journaling can help with managing anxiety, coping with depression and improving your mood by tracking your symptoms, triggers and devising healthy ways to better identify and control them. Journaling also provides an opportunity to practice positive self-talk, which can also help improve your mood.

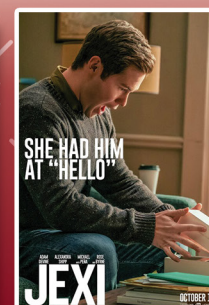
Getting Started

If you've never journaled before, the thought of starting can be intimidating, but just remember that there is no right or wrong way to do it. The journaling experience is as unique as each individual who journals, and its flexibility is one of its main draws. Journaling is most effective if you develop it as a habit and write for a set amount of time every day. As for apprehensions about what to write about, when to write and more, the best way to figure out what works best for you is to sit down and write. So grab a pen or a pencil, a notebook, journal or piece of paper and start your journey towards mental, emotional and physical well being.



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Make it a cost-effective V-Day

By: Christina McLaughlin
Co-Editor-in-Chief

It's three days before Valentine's Day, and if you haven't bought your sweetheart something yet, what are you waiting for? Okay — I don't have to be that dramatic — but it's no secret that Valentine's Day is a holiday that can really make a dent in your bank account. According to the National Retail Federation, Valentine's Day spending is expected to total \$27.4 billion this year with an average spending of just under \$200. For college students who are short on cash, that is a lot to shell out for a holiday to express your love for people. With that in mind, here is a guide on how to be a great partner or friend on Valentine's Day without going broke or crazy.

Keep it simple

With this holiday, it is easy to get wrapped up in the craziness of it all — the gifts, a fancy

dinner reservation and a day full of expensive sugary treats. As great as all those things are, it is important to remember what your partner or friends truly enjoy doing or receiving. Is your date really craving some Chick-Fil-a? Get them some and shape the nuggets into a heart. Do they really like playing video games? Make it a night-in with some snacks and some one-on-one time. Don't go crazy giving your valentine something you feel you are expected to give them. Give them a night tailored to their interests to show them you care.

Make it homemade

When the holiday first caught on in the U.S., it was customary to create handmade cards to send your beloved friends and family. This was before the candy and flowers. Nowadays, it is easy to run over to Hallmark or Target and

pick up a card, but maybe try something from the heart this year. They say that a picture can say a thousand words, so why not write or create a sentimental card that paints the picture of how you feel about the other person.

Go old-fashioned

Why is it always a bad thing to think about the good-old days? I don't know about you, but to me, the 1950s era really exemplified a romantic era in terms of relationships and high-quality dates. You see it in magazines, videos and movies that surrounded that time in America. Why not get inspired from the likes of "Grease" and go to a drive-in movie, go on a picnic in a local park or get milkshakes at a diner. If you really want to commit to the bit, you can dress up and act like a true 1950s-era couple — clothes and conversation to boot.

Have fun and make the holiday all your own with some classic Americana flair.

Celebrate on Feb. 15

It may seem odd, but is it really important to celebrate this holiday on Valentine's Day? There will be cover charges at restaurants and expensive candy and gifts at all the shops, especially if you waited until the last minute. Take your valentine out for a special day after Valentine's Day. It saves money since most of the non-purchased goods from the actual day are half-off and there aren't insane cover charges or packed and over-decorated restaurants. Plus, celebrating a holiday after the fact proves the point that it is important to appreciate your valentine year round, not just on a day that you are expected to.

Love yourself in five languages

By: Barbara Hernandez
Contributing Writer

With life moving so fast, sometimes we forget to love and take care of ourselves and put others' happinesses in front of our own. While taking care of the people around us is always good, we have to make sure that we are also taking care of ourselves. One of the easiest ways to make sure you are taking good care of yourself is to make yourself a checklist with the five love languages. These languages include physical touch, words of affirmation, quality time, gifts and acts of service. If you incorporate these five things into your self-care regimen, you will feel a lot better about yourself and find yourself happier than ever.

If you are not sure how to incorporate these five love languages into your self-care regimen, I am here to help you out with that today. While these are commonly used on other people to show love and affection, there are also ways we can use them to show ourselves some appreciation.

Physical touch

You are probably wondering how physical

touch can be incorporated into your self-care regimen and that's easy. For example, massage and spa days are big ones in this category. When you are stressed out and have had a long day, who does not want to go out and have a massage or attend a full-out spa? Now, if a spa day or a massage is not in your budget, there are other ways to incorporate physical touch into your self-care routine without breaking the bank. These include getting a waterfall showerhead, comfy and clean bedding, taking a hot bath, skincare and stretching.

Acts of service

Now that we have got past the physical touch aspect of self-care, we can go ahead and move onto how we can incorporate acts of service into our self-care routine. Acts of service for our self-care include cleaning (who doesn't love a clean house?), donating items that you do not use anymore, getting a planner and writing things down (it will save you from a lot of stress), starting to cook more often and drinking more water. These are things that we overlook

daily and don't realize how much actually help us feel better about ourselves. I have realized that when I finish cleaning my room, I am more motivated to do things because everything feels so much more organized and homey.

Gifts

For my favorite love language, we have gifts. I have caught myself buying things for friends and family with no problem, but as soon as I want to purchase something for myself, I feel stuck and overthink on whether I want to buy it for myself or not. However, when you are working hard and you want something, sometimes it's okay to go out and buy it for yourself. It will motivate you to go out there and work harder because you are seeing the rewards of it. Some examples of gifts that you can get for yourself are trips, items that you are interested in and new clothes or shoes. Feel free to indulge in a coffee or a sweet treat every once in a while. This area of self-care is so broad. Everyone has different interests so whatever you want, go out and get it and you will find yourself more

motivated to work hard so you can continue treating yourself.

Quality time

Ideas of quality time that you could add to your routine would be taking yourself out, writing your feelings (it is always good to have a journal and reflect on your emotions, it helps a lot) or meditating. Meditation is overlooked very often, but taking a breath and just relaxing can be good for your mental health.

Words of affirmation

And last, but not least, for words of affirmation, make sure that you are talking about yourself in a positive way. Never look down on yourself. Always believe in yourself and follow these five languages. You will find yourself to be a lot happier and a lot healthier too.

Follow the Current on twitter for a link to a love language quiz!

Packing tips and tricks

By: Bella Ameiorsano
Contributing Writer



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With spring break approaching, many students may be making plans to travel home or go on vacation. When traveling, it is helpful to optimize space in your luggage and pack your belongings in the most efficient manner. There are obvious tips you may be familiar with, like resisting packing excess items and solely taking the items you need — not want — to bring or

packing a pair of shoes that can go with all of your outfits. However, here are some packing tips and tricks that are unique and proficient in saving space in your luggage.

Roll your clothes

Roll your clothes instead of folding them. This may sound peculiar, but tightly rolling

clothing pieces can make them more compact, allowing you to fit more from edge to edge in your luggage. Additionally, it prevents the possibility of creases or wrinkles, as it is found that when clothes are folded, creases and wrinkles will appear where the item is folded. Who wants creases or wrinkles in their clothes? To prevent wrinkles and save space, roll and don't fold.

Pack with dryer sheets

Another tip is to stick dryer sheets in your luggage. This can be useful for both traveling to your destination or traveling back. Luggages may have an odd smell, dirty laundry may become overpowering or shoe odors may spread to other items. However, simply place a couple dryer sheets in between your clothes — or inside your shoes — and your luggage will be smelling nice and fresh.

Organize chargers

This next tip is beneficial for those who struggle to find small items or wires, such as chargers, in their luggage. Instead of creating a mess and emptying your entire luggage just to find one charger, take a case for glasses and place your chargers in there. That way, it will be easier to access them when you need to. Almost all glasses cases contain a strong magnetic closure, so no need to worry about your charger

possibly falling out. Your chargers will be safely secured and still easily accessible.

Packing cubes

This final tip will ensure very neat and organized luggage: packing cubes. Packing cubes can be found at various retailers — Amazon, Target and Nordstrom, for example — and come in a variety of colors. Organize your clothes by putting them in different colored cubes. For example, when you know you need a pair of jeans, you know to grab the blue cube because you placed all of your jeans in the blue cube — a bright and colorful way to neatly organize and access your belongings.

There you have it — four packing tips and tricks that you may have not heard or thought of before, but will greatly assist you in taking your luggage space to its full ability while maintaining organization throughout. Before leaving to get on the plane, don't just "wing" it and throw all your items together last minute, take advantage of these tips and tricks and pack as soon as possible so your luggage can be as stress free as your vacation.

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5 promising indie games coming to the Nintendo Switch in 2020

By: Sofia Gallus
Arts & Entertainment Editor

The Nintendo Switch was released in 2017 and since then, many fans have enjoyed playing the hundreds of games available on the console. However, the price tag on mainstream Nintendo Switch games are pretty high — a whopping \$60. Therefore, people are often on the hunt for cheaper, lesser-known games that may be just as good. They can be hard to find, as games by more popular developers have the resources to promote their games, while indie developers often have to rely on the whims of social media and word of mouth. However, just because they aren't advertised as much, doesn't mean they aren't just as good as the latest big-name Nintendo games! Check out these five promising games from indie developers coming to the Nintendo Switch this year.

“Later Alligator” by Pillow Fight Studio & SmallBü Animations

Nintendo Switch release date:
2020, specific date TBD

In 2019, SmallBü Animations created “Later Alligator,” the story of Pat, an alligator who lives in Alligator New York City. Pat is caught up in a huge conspiracy theory, and it is up to the player to help save Pat before time runs out. The game plays as a point-and-click mystery, while also giving the player access to minigames that enhance the storyline. While the game was released in 2019 on PC, SmallBü Animations announced the game would be coming to the Nintendo Switch in 2020. I'll admit, I have been personally following this game even before its release and am anxiously awaiting to pick it up.

“Eclipse: Edge of Light” by

White Elk LLC Nintendo Switch release date: Jan. 30, 2020

“Eclipse: Edge of Light” truly encompasses almost all platforms. It is a virtual reality game that is available on the PS4, Nintendo Switch, PC and even mobile phones. It is a first-person exploration game that sends the player to a mysterious planet with a murky past. While on the planet, the player discovers an artifact that allows them to control elements of the planet and collect information on its history. The in-game world is a dreamy yet peculiar place that drives the curiosity of the player to discover more.

“Spiritfarer” by Thunder Lotus Games

Nintendo Switch release date:
2020, specific date TBD

In “Spiritfarer,” the player plays as Stella, a ferry-master for the deceased. The player is able to build their own boat, explore the magical world in the game and befriend the spirits on board before taking them to the afterlife. The game also includes a multiplayer mode where another person is able to join you on board, playing as Stella's cat. While the game mechanics seem relatively simple, it was the lesson of dealing with loss behind the game and the beautiful animations that garnered much excitement about “Spiritfarer” after its initial announcement.

“Röki” by Polygon Treehouse & CI Games

Nintendo Switch release date:
Winter 2020

“Röki” is an adventure game with a dark twist. The player plays as Tove, a girl that is on a



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journey to save her family and discovers strange, fantastical and horrific different creatures along the way. Game mechanics include different puzzles and third-person exploration. The storyline is also inspired by Scandinavian folklore. How cool is that?

“SkateBIRD” by Glass Bottom Games

Nintendo Switch release date:
2020, specific date TBD

“SkateBIRD” is a game that is sure to bring joy to anyone looking for a simple and fun game to play. As Glass Bottom Games puts it, “it's a game about trying your best.” The player plays as a little bird with a skateboard who simply skateboards around! The more you skateboard, the more reputation your bird gets and the more rewards you can earn! Sit back, relax and just enjoy being a little skateboarding bird with no other cares in the world.

Best restaurants for Valentine's Day

By: Gabriela Collana
Contributing Writer

It's that time of year where love blossoms and feelings of romance drift in the air. A day that urges people to express love towards their partners and lovers, but also their family and friends. Are you on the hunt for a special treat this Valentine's Day? Here are three recommended restaurants that vary in prices and cuisine, a perfect fit for anyone.

Ceviche 595 1910 S University Dr, Davie, FL 33324 Price range: \$\$\$

If you want to stay local, Davie is home to a restaurant located about a mile and a half north of NSU's main campus. Ceviche 595 is a Peruvian restaurant that's best known for its attentive service and rustic atmosphere. Open until 11 p., it's the perfect place for a late-night romantic dinner. They specialize in ceviche, a seafood dish originating in Peru, typically made from fresh raw fish cured in citrus juices and spices, but make other types of dishes if seafood isn't your cup of tea. “Tallarín verde con lomo,” a green pasta with stir-fry beef, is one of their

best non-seafood dishes. If you're hungry for a sweet treat, the restaurant also offers a traditional Peruvian dessert called “Picarones,” which are fried dough, usually made of squash or sweet potato puree, drenched in syrup. If you enjoy treating your lovebird like a king or queen, this is the place to make you and your stomach feel like royalty.

Little Venice 909 N Broadwalk, Hollywood, FL 33019 Price range: \$

If you and your date are into scenic views and the romantic sounds of the sea, then Hollywood Beach has a fantastic Italian restaurant called Little Venice. Sometimes, it's better to go basic in terms of food and embrace your surroundings. A Jumbo 19” pizza with a huge pitcher of Coke is something we can all enjoy. It's those little moments that make the date not only special, but affordable. If you want to turn it up a notch, there are different entrees like pasta, ribs and even a few vegan options. The price won't break the bank and you'll get to soak in the romantic vibes

on the beach as a bonus! Of course, you'll be getting time with your loved one(s) as well.

Mizumi 3207 NE 163th St, North Miami Beach, FL 33160 Price range: \$\$

Straying further from Davie, North Miami Beach has a buffet suitable for those with never-ending appetites. Featuring Japanese cuisine, Mizumi has a massive variety of food. With an assortment of tempura veggies, regular vegetables, meats and even soups, Mizumi is definitely worth the trip. They've got a whole line dedicated to a variety of seafood, especially sushi. If you're really in the mood for desserts, this buffet has you covered. Satisfy your sweet tooth cravings with a little corner dedicated to different flavored ice creams, creme brûlée, tiramisu and fruits. While this location tends to be more casual than elegant, it certainly gives you plenty of options if you nor your date can decide what to get.

OFF SHORE CALENDAR

Hamilton
Jan. 28-Feb. 16 | Various
times
@Kravis Center | West Palm
Beach, FL

Art Wynwood - Art Fair
Feb. 13-17 | Various times
@Art Wynwood | Miami, FL

Food in Motion
Feb. 14 | 5 p.m.
@Peter Feldman Park | Fort
Lauderdale, FL

Annual Greek Festival
Feb. 14-16 | 12-10 p.m.
@Festival Grounds | West
Palm Beach, FL

Deerfield Beach Pioneer Days
Feb. 14-16 | 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
@Main Beach Parking Lot |
Deerfield Beach, FL

Vintage Fair
Feb. 15 | 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
@Festival Marketplace |
Pompano Beach, FL

Coconut Grove Arts Festival
Feb. 15-17 | 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
@Along McFarlane Road
and South Bayshore Drive |
Coconut Grove, FL

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The Current

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SOUNDBITE

“A Different Kind of Human” by AURORA

By: Flor Ana Mireles
Copy Editor

I stumbled upon AURORA my junior year of high school with the song, “Running with the Wolves.” To this day, the song is a power anthem for me with its message of freedom and nature.

Aurora Aksnes, known mononymously as AURORA, is a Norwegian singer-songwriter and record producer, who — like the title of her latest album — is a different kind of human. Her ethereal style and angelic voice will definitely have you feeling you can achieve anything if you set your mind to it.

Released last year, “A Different Kind of Human” is a continuation of AURORA’s 2018 album, “Infections of a Different Kind,” and is a true symbol of human empowerment. It reminds us that we’re all warriors, different yet the same. AURORA’s music can be described as electropop and “A Different Kind of Human” does not fall short of being a different kind of album. Each song is beautifully crafted with intricate harmonies and idiosyncrasies, which set it apart from anything else in the mainstream.

The song that introduced me to the album was track 10: “The Seed.” It’s first verse is a cry for growth with lyrics like, “Just like the seed/I don’t know where to go/Through dirt and shadow, I grow/I’m reaching light through the struggle.” With thundering drums and soaring vocals, “The



Seed” also has a powerful message in its chorus: “When the last tree has fallen/And the rivers are poisoned/You cannot eat money,” which is in reference to an old proverb, “When the last tree has been cut down, the last fish caught, the last river poisoned, only then will we realize that one cannot eat money,” said to have been a prophecy of the Cree Indians. AURORA warns us that we are depleting the earth of its resources with our greed, reminding us that all we need are the bare

necessities: love, nature and ourselves.

“The River” is the first track on the album and while it has a calmer sound than “The Seed,” it does not fall short of being empowering. “The River” is a song meant to break the stigma of vulnerability. It’s a song about letting out all your emotions and knowing that letting them out is a symbol of strength and not of weakness. With lyrics like “Don’t forget who you are even though you’re in need/Like a bird in the night,

your emotions deserve to be freed/You can cry, drinking your eyes,” we’re reminded of just how liberating crying is. When the song was released, AURORA even took to Twitter saying, “Crying can be a happy experience especially afterwards when you feel a bit lighter. That’s what The River is about!”

In an interview with Live in Limbo, while talking about the title track, “A Different Kind of Human,” AURORA stated that it was “the most important song [she’d] ever written” and features many beautiful harmonies, some autotuned and some angelic. She explained that this song is about her take on the afterlife, assuring listeners that they are special and that they shouldn’t worry about feeling out of place. “Apple Tree” is another track empowering us to all save the world together. Straddling hip-hop and pop, this song is one of AURORA’s most diverse songs, which she describes as “very alive” and with a “bad-ass groove.”

AURORA’s music is unique in the sense that it is rooted in humanity and etherealness. It’s the kind of music that empowers us to become the best versions of ourselves and care for each other. With one listen of any song on the album, you’ll be feeling ready to take on the world.



STAFF PICKS:

What animal do you find strangely cute, and what is it about them that makes them cute?

By: The Current Staff

Madelyn Rinka, Co-Editor-in-Chief

“I don’t know if this counts as ‘strangely cute,’ but I’ve always really loved bats. Maybe it’s just because I appreciate them from an environmental standpoint, but I just find them really interesting to learn about. With the benefits they can bring to an ecosystem, it’s easy to overlook how funny some of them look.”

Christina McLaughlin, Co-Editor-in-Chief

“Ever since I learned about them in a scientific documentary on Animal Planet, I have been obsessed with the Dumbo Octopus, a deep sea umbrella octopus known for its striking resemblance to the Disney character Dumbo. These typically small octopus species have flaps on their mantles, similar to the baby elephant in the Disney story, which really ups their cute factor. Along with their adorable ‘ear flaps,’ they have a very charismatic personality. There are plenty of videos online of these adorable buddies hiding in their tentacles or seemingly waving to the camera.”

Mario Lorrimer, Business manager

“I am a big fan of fluffy things with big ears. These are generally seen as cute traits by the public, so I had to do some digging and soul searching to find the right balance that I feel not everyone might agree with. I would like to share with you the amazingness that is the Long-eared Gobi Jerboa, a tiny little floofster that calls the Gobi Desert its home. This ‘absolute bean’ has long ears and the right fluff to body ratio. It has long hind limbs, which when it leaps could be something seen in nightmares. Regardless of its long hind limbs, it is very cute and I appreciate it. Apparently, you can purchase one for \$17 on

the Internet. How reliable and safe is it? I have no idea. Will I buy at least five of them to keep as pets to love and stare at when I’m sad? Probably not, but I would like to. They belong in their desert paradise, where they are free to eat tiny food with their tiny face and enjoy their tiny life. Be free tiny floofsters, I shall admire you from afar.”

Flor Ana Mireles, Copy Editor

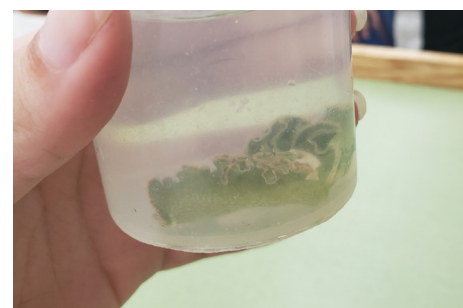
“Australia is home to a lot of unique creatures. Arguably, Australia’s most iconic and strangest creature is the platypus, which I find ‘strangely cute.’ First, platypuses are extremely interesting. They’re all cute and furry, but the females lay eggs and produce milk without nipples — and I’ll save you the Google search — they release milk through the pores of their skin. Meanwhile, male platypuses produce venom, which they try to inject into rival male platypuses during breeding season and is currently being researched as a treatment for diabetes. These cute and deadly semi aquatic creatures are basically a hodgepodge of creatures we already know and love: ducks, beavers and otters — all of which are themselves strangely cute. Platypuses are also no longer on the endangered species list, so that’s one small step for species longevity and one giant webbed-foot leap for platypus-kind.”

Rick Esner, News Editor

“I love raccoons. People give them a bad reputation because of the whole rabies thing, but pshh, who cares! They are a perfect, chubby mix of a cat and a dog with working hands. How could you not love them? These cute, little (or not so little; the chubbier the better) trash pandas are all I need in life. Whenever I see them run across campus at night I cannot help but pspss at them like they are cats. I have yet to see one respond. My hopes are high though!”

Emma Heineman, Features Editor

“I am IN LOVE with every giant sea slug I have ever seen — which isn’t very many, but that isn’t the point. After I went to Sea Camp in San Diego, CA at the end of my eighth grade year, I have been casually obsessed with how precious these special little creatures are. For one thing, they have no form when you take them out of the water, which makes them a squishy, slimy blob when you hold them in your hands. Furthermore, their sheer size is both disconcerting and adorable. For those of you who have no idea what I’m talking about, just picture a land slug, 20 times bigger and living in the ocean. Admit it — it’s ‘strangely cute.’”



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Sofia Gallus, Arts & Entertainment Editor

“One animal that I find to be ‘strangely cute’ is an animal I actually just discovered this year while snorkeling: the Elysia crispata or lettuce sea slug. These little guys seriously look like little bunches of lettuce, but as a slug. They’re brightly colored and aquatic. They feed on algae and even incorporate chlorophyll from the algae they eat into their own tissues! I just think they’re so cool and super cute in their own way. I just want to give them little gentle pats on their little squishy heads.”

Cameron Pritchett, Sports Editor

“Perhaps it was because it was one of the first animals I remember seeing in the zoo with my family so it brings back warm memories, but I’ve always thought gorillas were cute. I just want to go and give one a hug, you know what I mean? Now, I am not advocating for someone to do this, because, you know, there are certain risks that come with that. However, they are still strangely adorable to me.”

Alexander Martinie, Opinions Editor

“Tardigrades are not only the cutest thing I have ever seen, but they are also hardy little buggers. These microscopic organisms, affectionately called water-bears or moss piglets, are arguably indestructible. These extremophiles are able to live in pretty much any environment. They can be found in tropical rainforests, frozen deserts and even in the vacuum of space. Tardigrades also help to develop ecosystems for other large organisms, which helps with biodiversity.”

Want to know more about the Current staff? Go to

nsucurrent.nova.edu




Adan Fernandez swings, while at the plate.



Eddie Puisis led the recent game with 20 points.



Celio Montero Estevan lobs a ball.

ALL PHOTOGRAPHS ARE PRINTED WITH PERMISSION FROM NSU ATHLETICS

Baseball

Baseball's season opener on Jan. 31 was an absolute explosion on offense, racking up 14 hits against No. 7 ranked North Greenville. Despite this feat, they lost the game by a score of 15-9, with 10 runners left stranded throughout the game. While it wasn't the win they wanted, the Sharks can keep their heads high knowing they got off to a quick start and had five players with multiple hits throughout the game.

The Sharks, now ranked No. 16 after their loss to North Greenville on Feb. 1, were able to knock off Tusculum by a count of 5-4 for new head coach Laz Gutierrez' first win with the program. Tusculum started off hot, bringing in two runs in the first inning, followed by two more runs through the fifth inning; the Sharks quickly shut them down, as they did not score the rest of the game. It was tied 4-4 until the bottom of the ninth inning when Bryan Diaz hit a walk-off single to propel the Sharks to victory, 5-4.

Softball

After the weather delayed their original game on Jan. 31, softball opened up the season against Lee on Feb. 1, dropping the game 2-1. Despite the loss, the Sharks were able to rack up

six hits with no errors. Sophomore pitcher Emily Hess had an impressive game, pitching all seven innings and only allowing two runs scored. Later that day, they took on No. 4 ranked West Florida, dominating the game by a final score of 8-1. This victory represented NSU's first win over a top-10 opponent since March of 2018. Junior pitcher Savannah Foster had five strikeouts, helping to lead the Sharks to victory.

In their third game of the season, the Sharks were able to ride the momentum of the W in their second game to another W, defeating Delta State 6-2. After two scoreless innings, junior Juliana Speranza was able to get NSU on the board with an RBI single right up the gut between second and shortstop. Juniors Sam Sisco and Anina Fernandez helped to increase the lead in the bottom of the fifth with two more runs brought in. The game was secured in the bottom of the sixth inning, with junior Mya Maddox bringing in three more runs.

Basketball

On Feb. 1, men's basketball found themselves in a familiar position, routing Saint Leo 97-84, sweeping the season series against the Lions. The Sharks had a first half explosion, scoring 61 of their 97 points, highlighted by a 22-0 run. Junior Eddie Puisis

led all scorers with 20 points off the bench, helping to guide the Sharks to their seventh consecutive W. Their record now stands at 16-2, and 44-7 at home under head coach Jim Crutchfield.

On Feb. 1, women's basketball took on Saint Leo, narrowly losing 82-72. Saint Leo had a very productive first half, shooting an absurd 75% while scoring 11 points off of turnovers from the Sharks. It was 42-29 at the end of the first half; the Sharks had a smart minded and defensive second half, however it proved for not as they ultimately dropped the game. They will look to bounce back from this loss in their upcoming games.

Women's Tennis

In the season opener against No. 13 Flagler, NSU put in a strong effort that earned them a 5-2 victory at home. The Sharks were able to sweep the doubles series, led by No. 1 doubles tandem of sophomore Natalie Espinal and senior Sarah Wardenburg who earned a 6-3 victory over their opponents. The match lasted almost three and a half hours, but the Sharks were ultimately able to dominate in the singles matches as well. The future of the season looks bright, and they will look to ride the momentum against Georgia College on Saturday, Feb. 8.

OUT OF THE SHARKZONE

caution: your sports news is now leaving NSU

Lamar Jackson wins MVP unanimously

Last Monday, Lamar Jackson, quarterback for the Baltimore Ravens, earned the Associated Press NFL Most Valuable Player Award for the 100th season of the NFL. Jackson won this award unanimously, an accomplishment that has only been reached once before by New England Patriots quarterback, Tom Brady, in 2010. Jackson received all 50 votes from a nationwide panel of media members who regularly cover the NFL.

College football coach resigns after comment made in interview

Morris Berger, the ex-offensive coordinator for Grand Valley State, resigned after stating he would dine with Adolf Hitler in an interview. Late last month, Berger had an interview with the Grand Valley Lanthorn, the college's student-run newspaper, in which he was asked the question, "If you could have dinner with three

historical figures, living or dead, who would they be?" Berger responded with Adolf Hitler and stated in the interview that "it was obviously very sad and he had bad motives, but the way he was able to lead was second-to-none." Three days following the interview, Berger was suspended on behalf of the school, and last Thursday, Berger announced his resignation. Berger was hired as the offensive coordinator on Jan. 20 after serving as a tight end coach at Texas State.

Vaporfly shoe permitted for Olympics

On Jan. 31, the world governing body for track and field announced that Nike's Vaporfly shoe, the preferred footwear for many marathoners, will be permitted for the 2020 Tokyo Olympics despite the backlash over performance enhancing effects. The performance enhancing effects in question were in regards to the shoes being constructed with extra-thick soles and spring-like carbon fiber shanks that spring the runner forward. Despite the advantage, the governing body did not ban

the shoe wear, but instead issued rule modifications. The modification stated that after April 30, elite runners cannot perform in prototype shoes and can only use products that have been on the open market for at least four months. The rule modifications have no effect on the Olympic Trials Marathon due to it taking place on Feb. 29.

New Houston Astros manager

On Jan. 29, the Houston Astros announced that Dusty Baker will become the club's new manager on a one-year deal with a club option for a second year. Earlier last month the Astros fired manager A.J. Hinch and general manager Jeff Luhnow for a scandal in which the team devised a system to illegally steal signs throughout its 2017 World Series championship season. The Astros were further fined \$5 million, the maximum fine under the MLB's constitution. Baker was chosen among nine other candidates to help the team through this tumultuous period.



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.

February 11

Boston Bicycle Club is formed

Because Boston was a central hub of commerce and trade during the "bike boom" of the late 19th century, the city played a major role in the development of cycling as a sport. On Feb. 11, 1878, The Boston Bicycle Club was formed as the first sports club in the U.S. dedicated to the bicycle.

John Lennon pays £1,344 fines for students

On Feb. 11, 1970, English singer-songwriter and peace activist John Lennon paid £1,344 in fines for 96 students who were arrested after protesting the South African team playing in Edinburgh, Scotland. Protesters of the game claimed that the South African team was a symbol of the apathetic government

and hundreds of students were arrested for their protest of the government's actions. In 1970, the anti-apartheid movement met any South African team touring throughout Europe with criticism and protest.

February 13

1st Black pro basketball team is formed

After making a deal with William Roach, the owner of the Renaissance Ballroom and Casino, the first all-black professional African-American owned basketball team, the New York Rens, changed their name to the New York Renaissance in order to promote the dance hall. The team went on to beat many all white national champion basketball teams including the Original Celtics, the Philadelphia SPHAS and the Oshkosh All Stars, all of which did not allow African American players to join their teams.

February 14

Georgia senate approves bill for barring blacks

On Feb. 14, 1957 following a push by a Georgia state senator to stand up against the

destruction of the intuition of segregation in the U.S., the Georgia senate approved a bill barring blacks from playing baseball with whites. The bill came 10 years after the integration of sports.

February 15

Giant slalom event debuts

On Feb. 15, 1952, the giant slalom event debuted at the Winter Olympic Games in Oslo, Norway. The event, which was only open to men, was won by Stein Erikson of Norway. Christian Pravda and Toni Spiss of Austria followed closely, winning the silver and bronze medals.

Feb. 17

49 fans trampled at soccer match

On Feb. 17, 1974, 49 people were killed and 47 were injured by a stampede for seats at a soccer match in Egypt. By the time the fans broke through the gates of the stadium, there were already over 80,000 people in the arena, which was built to only hold 45,000. The highly anticipated match between the National All-Star team and visiting Dukla of Prague was cancelled.



The championship road is not always clear

By: **Craig Sippin**
Contributing Writer

Patrick Mahomes almost didn't make it to the NFL, let alone the Super Bowl LIV. The universe nearly steered him to Major League Baseball instead — just like his father. Though he built his name as a high school and college football star in Texas, the Chiefs' quarterback grew up in a baseball household. His father, Pat Mahomes, carved out an 11-year career as a pitcher for six different Major League Baseball clubs.

Naturally, Mahomes' first taste of sports stardom didn't come on the football field. His first experience in front of a world championship crowd was back when he was shagging fly balls during batting practice at the 2000 World Series. The first time he graced an ESPN broadcast wasn't as a rising quarterback at Texas Tech. It was as a run-creating shortstop in the Junior League World Series.

Mahomes Sr. was a three-sport star at Texas' Lindale High School, a non-powerhouse approximately 90 minutes east of Dallas. He signed with the Minnesota Twins after being

a sixth-round pick in the 1988 MLB Amateur Draft. By the time he was 21 years old, he'd been promoted to Minnesota's starting rotation.

He was a solid prospect, but he was unable to turn that potential into production as a starter. He spent more than four seasons with the Twins and recorded an ERA of less than five only once. His WHIP (walks and hits per inning pitched) was a clunky 1.62 over that span. Even in an era when offense ruled, these were not good numbers. Mahomes Sr. still found a way to remain valuable as an inning-absorbing middle reliever and put together a decade-plus in the majors.

On the mound, Mahomes Jr. was a hard-throwing righty whose fastball topped 90 mph. He wasn't just a pitcher in high school, however. He played every position on the field except catcher and showed off a smooth swing that suggests he could have been a two-way player in college, had he chosen the diamond over the gridiron. His biggest moment came in the state playoffs where he twirled a 16-strikeout no-

hitter to outduel current White Sox top prospect Michael Kopech back in 2014.

That game was only the first of a playoff doubleheader. Mahomes Jr. returned for the nightcap in the field and put together a 3-for-4 performance that fell a triple shy of the cycle. That showcase would have left MLB scouts salivating had he not already committed to playing quarterback at Texas Tech. Mahomes Jr. made a cameo with the Red Raiders baseball team in college, going 0-for-2 at the plate and an ERA of infinity after a three-run, zero-out showing in his lone NCAA mound appearance. He left the sport behind shortly thereafter to focus on football.

The moral of the story is, wherever your interests may lie, it's important to pursue your passion and continue moving forward. There may be certain obstacles along the way, but if you follow your heart you'll be destined for greatness.

ON DECK

WOMEN'S GOLF

World Golf Invitational
@ World Golf Village
Feb. 11 | all day
St. Augustine, FL



Lady Moc Classic
@ Grasslands Golf & Country Club
Feb. 17 | all day
Lakeland, FL

MEN'S GOLF

Matlock Collegiate Classic
@ Lone Palm Golf Club
Feb. 11 | all day
Lakeland, FL



WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

vs. Lynn
Feb. 12 | 5:30 p.m.
Rick Case Arena

vs. Florida Southern
Feb. 15 | 2 p.m.
Rick Case Arena

MEN'S BASKETBALL

vs. Lynn
Feb. 12 | 7:30 p.m.
Rick Case Arena

vs. No. 7 Florida Southern
Feb. 15 | 4 p.m.
Rick Case Arena

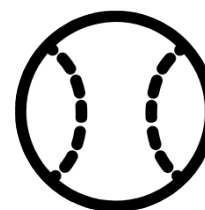
MEN'S SWIMMING

Sunshine State Conference
Championship
Feb. 13 - 16 | all day
Clearwater, FL



WOMEN'S SWIMMING

Sunshine State Conference
Championship
Feb. 13 - 16 | all day
Clearwater, FL



SOFTBALL

vs. Rollins
Feb. 14 | 6 p.m.
Winter Park, FL

vs. Rollins (DH)
Feb. 15 | 1:00p.m., 3 p.m.
Winter Park, FL

BASEBALL

vs. Newberry
Feb. 14 | 6 p.m.
Fort Lauderdale, FL

vs. Newberry
Feb. 15 | noon, 3:30 p.m.
Fort Lauderdale

Want to join Student Media? Attend a meeting to learn more!

For the writers
and designers:

The Current:
Tuesdays at 12:30pm
Rosenthal 200

For the music critics
and aspiring DJs:

Radio X:
Wednesdays at noon
Rosenthal 200

For the film junkies
and script writers:

SUTV:
Fridays at noon
SAB, third floor



Don't cry over spilled milk

By: **Flor Ana Mireles**
Copy Editor

Despite living in a modern and digitized era, we have yet discover a method of time travel to go into the past and fix our mistakes. Despite the regret, guilt and wretchedness that can come with realizing our wrongs and not being able to fix them, the best thing to do is simply accept what happened, learn from it and let it go.

Feb. 11 marks National Don't Cry Over Spilled Milk Day, which — although sounds a little funny — actually speaks a lot of truth. It is a day meant to be spent thinking positively as we remind ourselves that life is too short to let little things bother us. Instead, we should look on the bright side and try our best to carry that mentality with us every day.

In its oldest form, the proverb goes,

“No weeping for shed milk,” and was said by James Howell in 1659. Just like how the saying has evolved over time, we are to evolve over time as well. We are constantly changing and growing. Therefore, we should be there for ourselves every step of the way.

Crying over spilled milk won't solve anything, but the spilled milk can remind us that, in life, unexpected things can happen. It's true. Sometimes, life will throw us off balance and we wouldn't have seen it coming, but it's not about what threw us off; it's about how we reacted and perceived it. We have the power to shape our own realities and control how we react. With a positive mindset, life's surprises will be bountiful of love and grace. It's all a matter of reminding yourself of your power.



Write for the Current

Attend a meeting:
ROSENTHAL 200
TUESDAYS AT 12:30pm

Why do we have to suffer?

By: **Rick Esner**
News Editor

If you have ever been on NSU's campus during the weekend, then you would know the chaos that ensues. If you have not been lucky enough to experience it, then allow me to explain. All throughout Saturday morning and into the evening, NSU hosts cheer competitions for the state and beyond. The events in themselves are not horrible. The problem arises with the side effects of these competitions. It is utterly ridiculous that any student who stays on campus during the weekend has to put up with these competitions and the plethora of people who come to the campus.

I am willing to bet that every student who signed up to go to school here knew that it was a small university, but the fact that it feels as if there are more people on campus during these competitions than a regular school day is crazy. There is no reason for students to feel claustrophobic because hundreds of little kids are running around a university they do not plan to attend or pay to attend.

It would not be nearly as bad if the cheer population stayed in the Rick Case Arena, where

the competition is taking place. However, they do not. There are parents, kids and numerous other visitors walking around the campus, so you can expect to confront a visitor anywhere from just beyond the exit of the dorms all the way to the UC.

These competitions come with hunger from their large population, causing lines out the door from both Razors Reef in the UC and even more so in Starbucks. NSU, however, thought of a way to combat these lines for students by creating fast pass lines for anyone with a Shark ID card and they work great — in theory. The Starbucks fast pass line does not actually exist. If a student wants to use this “line,” they literally have to cut in front of everyone and just walk right up to the counter; a true anxiety nightmare for plenty of students.

However, worst of all, the use of the fast pass line comes the dirty looks and unnecessary comments from adults and children alike. Friends and peers of mine have been verbally insulted and called out by these visitors simply because they want to eat breakfast on their own

campus. Why should any student have to suffer verbal abuse for dining on their own campus?

With this plethora of children also comes solicitation. The fact that I cannot sit outside without hearing a parent scream at the top of their lungs for a half an hour straight, “Girl Scout Cookies, \$15 a box” — which is horribly overpriced and frankly a rip-off — is insane. Am I owed no piece of mind here? NSU has a strict no-solicitation policy, so students on campus shouldn't be pressured into buying cookies because someone's child is unable to sell them on their own.

While this may be a little harder to control, NSU is very clearly a non-smoking campus. The fact that some parents think they are entitled to a “smoke break” when there are clear signs all around campus that say it is a smoke-free campus is dangerous to everyone. There is no reason why we have to physically suffer from real long-term consequences because of someone else and their bad habit. Plus, is it really right to be smoking next to any children at all?

Yes, I know that I could always call public safety regarding any of these situations, but it shouldn't now be my responsibility to keep these visitors in check. I should not be under any sort of obligation to call public safety every Saturday when I hear an unruly mother, a soliciting child or a smoking father. It is simply not fair for the students who pay tuition to attend NSU.

These competitions would not be half as bad if they were solely one weekend, but the fact that they've been here almost every weekend for the last two months of the prior semester and have been here for at least two weekends of this semester is exhausting.

All I am saying is all of these problems could be avoided if NSU simply did not rent out the arena for these competitions — or at least control the visitors when they come on campus. There would be no rudeness, no violations and no problems.

The importance of activism in the modern age

By: **Alexander Martinie**
Opinions Editor

Feb. 15 is unofficially known as Susan B. Anthony Day. It was proposed to the U.S. Congress as a federal holiday to celebrate the work of famous suffragette and voting rights activist, Susan B. Anthony, but was shot down in 2011. Activism is a crucial aspect of society and it is something we should all be grateful for. However, the work of activists are largely looked down upon by governments and large corporations, making the legwork very unappealing to most people.

Throughout history, activists have pushed for real change in the world and real change

is exactly what we need at this point in time. Our planet is dying and society is arguably in shambles. Change is something we desperately need. Change, however, is hard work and most people are not willing to go the lengths that are needed to establish the necessary changes.

With that being said, activism has changed greatly over the decades. Activism today is not just letter-writing campaigns and sit-ins. There are many ways to spread awareness about the causes that are near and dear to our hearts. With the age of the Internet (typing out that phrase made me feel old, wow), social media

and other communication platforms are great ways to raise awareness about issues and to educate people about problems in society. In many cases, change takes money in being able to lobby for legislation to fix problems, and obviously, most people are not going to be able to lobby on their own. For this, the Internet is a great way to crowdsource funds to bring about change.

Activism is very important to our society and if all of us could do just a little bit to help, we'd make a real change in the world. Education and teaching others about issues in

the world is a great way to spread information. The more that information about an issue is spread, the more people get involved in helping with it. The more support that the movement gets, then the more likely that the change that is being advocated for will happen. Community service is also a great way for individuals to get involved with activism. Whether it is picking up trash on a beach or at a park or volunteering at a shelter to feed the homeless, volunteering is a great way to get started on the road to change. Every little bit that each of us do to help a cause we care about brings us closer to a better world.

We have to question NSU's sustainability

By: Christina McLaughlin
Co-Editor-in-Chief

Even though NSU is in the Sunshine State and has a majority science major based student body, as a university, we still fall short when it comes to being sustainable and environmentally conscious. I feel like I have sung this song a few times already in The Current, but I believe it's worth my persistence.

Now, I've done some research and have looked into NSU's sustainable practices and what I've found fell short of impressive given my understanding of what and how we can improve. Take reusable water bottles and the straw debate. I commend NSU for changing to paper-based straws and filling up students' reusable bottles. However, there are only two water bottle fill stations near water fountains on the main campus. That's not to say that I couldn't struggle for the extra minute to guide the fountain stream into the bottle — I do — but I notice that in general, if things aren't clearly accessible to students, they won't be used.

Let's talk about the Shark Shuttles. The main population of students who use the Shark Shuttles as they run currently are residents in Rolling Hills and students who have classes at the OC. Considering that we just finished building a large residential parking structure near the Mako Hall, this is not a significant amount of the population. Studies have shown that communities with reliable mass transportation can cut down on fossil fuels. As NSU is a commuter and residential university, there is no reason for those on campus to feel they need to drive to class every day if reliable transit is available.

Now to NSU and its relationship with recycling. I think a lot of the pitfalls that come with NSU's failures in recycling efficiently are in education and availability. For the most part, this generation of students has grown up knowing about the importance of recycling. However, there still may be confusion as to what things can be recycled on campus and how it can be recycled. Hopefully, the plans of this year's RecycleMania pan out and promote a change and educate students, but in the slim chance it doesn't, NSU should step in and help. Signage, a quick video, really anything at this point would be helpful.

The other large issue I noticed with recycling on campus is that the proper receptacles are all over the place — and not in a good way. After I cleaned up a classroom from an event and tried to recycle clean cardboard, the only recycling bin on the entire floor was in the small printing room. Yet, in some classrooms, there is no garbage bin at all. Some classrooms just have recycling bins, which means that food waste, gum and other items are ending up in the wrong spot just because there isn't a proper receptacle. Every class should be equipped with both, even if it is a small container.

I'm not trying to say that it is all bad news.

At least NSU is trying to be sustainable, but there are things — pretty simple things, I might add — that can boost our campus sustainability and it would be a shame if we didn't at least step up to the plate and try.



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SHARK SPEAK

What can NSU do to promote culture and diversity on campus?



"Maybe parties or get-togethers. I feel like our clubs need to be more active in trying to get [different] cultures and students to go to the events."

- Tania Stephen, sophomore biology major



"You know how they do all those things inside the UC with all the clubs? I think we could have [food] celebrating each country. We used to have [a day like] that in high school [where] people from the same country would get together and have food and cultural things from their country. We have Waterworks; we can have events like that for Black History Month or clubs."

- Isabella Lanz, senior psychology major



"I think we should have more clubs to bring more awareness of different student cultures at NSU. Encourage more events."

-Sarah Akel first-year pharmacy graduate student



"I think by asking the students that have certain religions to give ideas as to how they can practice like Hinduism or all sorts of [other religions on campus]. Working alongside clubs to [inform students]."

-Shivam Bhavsar, freshman biology major



"Holding events that cultures have. I know a lot of cultures have specific events. NSU can utilize that on campus. They [could] have food trucks on campus that promote other diverse cultures. I know they have a Mexican [food] stand. If they had Indian food, that would be good."

-Raj Patel, freshman biology major

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