
The Current

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Nova Southeastern University

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Veterans Resource Center Speaker Series

By: Emma Heineman
Features Editor



VETERANS RESOURCE CENTER NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY

Throughout February, with the next event on Feb. 13 and continuing through April, the Office of Veterans Affairs will hold the Veterans Resource Center Speaker Series in the Rosenthal Student Center room 218 from 5-6:30 p.m. The speaker series will feature various speakers from within and outside of the NSU community that will talk about a variety of different topics meant to assist veterans.

Matthew Chenworth, the director of Veterans Affairs at NSU, said, “Winter 2019 was the first time that we brought in speakers during the semester and [tried] to figure out what the needs and interests of our veterans were... This is our first formally planned out speaker series where we have a different guests come in every other week.” He continued, “When our veterans and military-affiliated students are leaving the military and returning to civilian life and entering a college environment, we want to make sure that we are providing all of the resources and services available at the university and the community to them.”

Speakers in the upcoming sessions will include Marilyn Gordon, a registered dietitian and licensed nutritionist at NSU, who will speak about the importance of nutrition, Rick Bannon, a former Green Beret and current business owner, and James Heaton, who is with Legal Aid of Broward County. A full list of the sessions and speakers for this semester’s series can be found through NSU’s Shark Fins weekly newsletter.

Each event is open to the NSU community



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and encourages anyone who is interested to attend.

Chenworth said, “While this is the Veterans Resource Center, I really see it as a space where veterans are able to come and receive direct services... but a big part of that is helping that transition. We want to make sure that they are developing comradery, not just with other veterans, but with their peers, professors and staff members on campus.”

This year, the event will be recorded and made available online in order to serve, not just Davie campus students, but online and regional students as well. The videos will also be posted to a new YouTube channel where students will be able to access an archive of every session held from here on out. The videos will also be available on the Veteran Resource Office Facebook page and will be included in their newsletter.

For more information on the speaker series, contact vrc@nova.edu or (954) 262-FLAG.



global news, courtesy of the current

Coronavirus declared a public health emergency

On Jan. 29, the World Health Organization declared the Coronavirus to be a “public health emergency of international concern,” according to CNN. At least 8,000 individuals have tested positive for the virus and 170 have died in China, where many people are on lockdown. Over 100 cases have been confirmed in regions outside of China, while additional countries are working to evacuate their citizens from Wuhan, where the virus originated.

Greece’s plan to use floating barriers

Greece’s defense ministry released its plan to install a floating barrier in the Aegean Sea in order to stop migrants from traveling over the water, according to the BBC. Migrants frequently travel from Turkey to Greece by boat in order to reach Europe, and this “emergency measure” is expected to restrict this process. The 1.7 mile long barrier had been given a budget of approximately half a million dollars.

Earthquake off of the coast of Jamaica

A magnitude 7.7 earthquake struck approximately 80 miles off of the coast of Jamaica on Jan. 28. The effects of the quake were felt in the Caribbean and even Miami, according to CNN. While several aftershocks were recorded, one of which

peaked at 6.1, citizens were concerned about the potential threat of a tsunami. The National Pacific Weather Service said there was a “very small” possibility of the waves. A tsunami wave of 0.4 feet was reported in the Cayman Islands, although this was the only one observed.

Final approval of Brexit

On Jan. 29, Britain received the final approval for “Brexit” — Britain’s departure from the European Union (EU) — from the European parliament after a vote of 621 to 49, according to Reuters. Britain has been a part of the EU for nearly 50 years, since joining in 1973. The British flags were taken down from the EU and the EU flag was taken down in Britain last week.

Protests and anger in Ethiopia

After a group of students in Ethiopia were abducted and believed to have been taken into the jungle, citizens have expressed anger with their government, according to The New York Times. Most of the students were women belonging to the Amhara ethnic group, who were studying in a region dominated by those of the Oromo group. The two groups have had conflicts in the past. Some citizens have blamed Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed and his administration for being unable to rescue the students.

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News Briefs

get the scoop on events happening on campus

Alvin Sherman Library hosts Harry Potter Book Night

For all students, faculty and staff who have grown up admiring the wizarding world of Harry Potter, NSU’s Alvin Sherman Library is hosting Harry Potter Book Night on Feb. 6 from 6:30-8 p.m. Costumes are encouraged and there will be games and activities available as attendees compete in the Triwizard Tournament. To RSVP, visit lib.nova.edu/HP.

All That Jazz art exhibition opens

Commencing Feb. 6 and running through Mar. 27, NSU presents “All That Jazz,” an art exhibition on the second floor of the Alvin Sherman Library in the Cotilla Gallery curated and organized by the NSU Art Museum of Fort Lauderdale. Celebrating black history, “All That Jazz” features over 20 black and white photographs of prominent jazz musicians, like Louis Armstrong and Billie Holiday, photographed by William P. Gottlieb as well as colorful photographic works that have been featured

on vintage jazz album covers by Pete Turner. To RSVP for the opening night reception, which runs from 6 - 8 p.m., visit lib.nova.edu/jazz or call 954-262-4613.

NSU hosts #MSDStrong Two Years Later

NSU will host #MSDStrong Two Years Later, in collaboration with the College of Psychology and Lessons on the Road to Recovery, on Feb. 8 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. to commemorate the school shooting that occurred two years ago at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School (MSD). The event will feature a panel discussion with students and staff from MSD as well as licensed psychologists. Additionally, there will be a keynote presentation from Scott Poland, a licensed psychologist and internationally recognized expert on school safety, youth suicide, self-injury, bullying, school crisis prevention/intervention, threat assessment and parenting in challenging times. For more

information and to RSVP, visit <https://forms.gle/Vzu9HKRQ9q43wt5T7>.

Nominations open for NSU Wonder Woman

Nominations are now open for NSU’s next Wonder Woman, an undergraduate student who embodies a Wonder Woman through leadership, academic excellence and career focus, community service, integrity and ethics and women’s empowerment. Nominations are open until Tuesday, March 8 at 11:59 p.m. and only current students, faculty and staff can submit nominations. The winning student will be announced at the Wonder Woman Panelist event on March 24 from 5 - 7 p.m., which features a panel of women from different industries considered Wonder Women for their accomplishments. The winning student will also be the recipient of a \$500 scholarship and will receive a picture with the Wonder Women panelists. You can register for the event on Handshake and submit a nomination by visiting <http://www.nova.edu/wonderwomennominations>.

News Anchor

Stay up to date with national events.

Harvard chair charged for producing false statements

Last Tuesday, the chair of Harvard's department of chemistry and chemical biology, Charles Lieber, was charged on the account of making false money statements regarding finances received from a Chinese government-run program. Researchers are legally obligated to disclose all payments to their academic institutions, but according to charging documents, Lieber failed to disclose the \$50,000 per month salary and \$150,000 per year living expenses he received from the Wuhan University of Technology. Lieber's charge was part of a broad F.B.I. effort to root out theft in biomedical research in U.S. laboratories. Lieber was one of three Massachusetts scientists accused on Tuesday. However, Lieber is particularly noteworthy due to his experience at Harvard. In 2017, he was named a University Professor, Harvard's highest faculty rank.

Florida's Brightline is nation's deadliest railroad

In an analysis by the Associated Press last month, the Brightline railroad was found to have the worst death rate per mile of any railroad across the nation. Brightline is a privately owned rail service that operates trains between Miami and West Palm Beach and is currently expanding to Orlando. The trains operate at speeds up to 79 mph for over a 70-mile stretch, which while not considered a high-speed rail is still much faster than many other tracks in the country. Since it launched two years ago, over 40 people have been killed by trains on the tracks, in a car, on a bike or on foot. Brightline has responded with a public education campaign to warn pedestrians to stay off the tracks. The line that Brightline uses has been a part of the Florida East Coast Railway for the past century. It had been used for slower freight trains before Brightline took over.

Dating apps investigated for underage use

Last Thursday, a U.S. House of Representatives subcommittee began investigating popular dating services for allegedly allowing minors and sex offenders to use their service. The major services in question are popular apps such as Tinder, Grindr and Bumble. The U.S. House Oversight and Reform subcommittee on economic and consumer policy sent letters to the companies seeking information on users of their product, such as ages, procedures for verifying ages and complaints about assault, rape or minors' use of the application. While in the U.S the minimum age for using internet services is usually 13 years of age, due to concerns about sexual predators, the majority of dating services require users to be at least 18 years old.

U.S. life expectancy increases after downward trend

A report released last Thursday by the CDC's National Center for Health Statistics found that the life expectancy in the U.S. is at an increase for the first time in four years. The report used numbers and factors from 2018, finding that while the expectancy is an increase, it is still considerably small, raised only by a month. For children born in 2018, the males are expected to live for 76 years and 2 months while women sit at 81 years and 1 month. For decades before 2014, U.S. life expectancy was rising a few months almost every year, but from 2014 to 2017, expectancy either fell or held steady. The downward trend was largely blamed on the rise of overdoses and suicides.

NIAS to present Issues in International Arbitration

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

On Thursday, Feb. 6 from 5-7 p.m. at the NSU Shepard Broad College of Law, NSU's International Arbitration Society will host an "Issues in International Arbitration" presentation. The focus will be tailored towards issues in international and state arbitration with topics such as the nationality of claims and state responsibility for acts of agents of the state. This presentation will feature a guest speaker, Srilal M. Perera, a retired professor of law from Washington College of Law of the American University, who served as legal counsel at the Iran-United States Claims Tribunal in the Hague, Netherlands from 1986 to 1989 and was a legal counselor for the President of the Tribunal from 1998-1989.

The event will be broken down into four main activities: a networking opportunity, a welcome from Davy Karkason, president of the NSU Law International Arbitration and organizer of the event, the main program discussion presented by Perera followed by a

question and answer portion with the speakers in attendance.

According to Karkason, the purpose of the event is to invite undergraduate students to experience what it feels like to be in law school, as well as the opportunity to network with law students, professors and international lawyers. Karkason explained that, while this event may be technical, it is an opportunity for all students to develop a general understanding of international law and subject matter versus personal jurisdiction.

"This is quite a contemporary field... which has a lot of area to grow. The law surrounding international arbitration has evolved over the years. The law, therefore, has not been stabilized, if you will. This is a very dynamic field that young professionals can get into precisely because the principles are evolving and they so much depend on the relevant issues that have been discussed by arbitral tribunals. The rich jurisprudence that

has evolved on these various issues are not strictly applicable because varying arguments and varying decisions have been made," said Perera.

Other than the opportunity to speak with and learn from Perera's personal experiences in the field, students will also have the opportunity to network with law firms that will be in attendance. This networking opportunity can help students specialize their interests and learn what it would be like to be a part of litigating cross-border issues or find experiences in these matters.

According to Perera's experience from working for the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA) of the World Bank Group, it is critical for young lawyers and interested students to understand how modern-day transactions occur and what they can lead to.

Perera explained that there is a large scope for advocacy and application of academic

knowledge as well as practical knowledge or work experience in this field, which is why he feels he holds a unique position in providing his perspective on how to look at current issues in international arbitration.

"I really want to generate interest in this next generation of lawyers to look at some of these issues because they can be looked at and they are so involving. There is so much scope to look in different ways, to have more intellectual rigor and have a very successful practice if someone gets into this field," said Perera.

This event is free and open to all NSU students, faculty and staff to attend. Those interested in this event are encouraged to RSVP prior to the event online at <http://www.cvent.com/events/nsu-law-issues-in-international-arbitration-cle/event-summary-6b20ebab23a547898648956732af60ae.aspx>. Students are encouraged to ask any questions to Perera as well as the NIAS society.

Countdown to NSU's 17th Annual CommunityFest

By: **Linh Tran**
Contributing Writer

On Saturday, Feb. 8, NSU's 17th annual CommunityFest will be held around Gold Circle Lake at NSU's Davie/Fort Lauderdale campus from noon to 4 p.m. This carnival-inspired festival is a celebration of NSU family, pride and spirit that connects students, families and staff with local businesses and organizations. Attracting more than 5,000 participants each year, CommunityFest has served as one of the school's featured traditions since 2003 when it was first initiated by Michelle Manley, an NSU alumna and now assistant dean of Student Development.

"[CommunityFest] is a great way to bring together all different entities, both the internal and external communities of the university, and to showcase all great departments, student

organizations and services NSU offers," said Christina Rajkumar-Castillo, associate director of Campus Life and Student Engagement.

The festival offers numerous ways for involvement, including volunteer opportunities for students, activity booths hosted by NSU student organizations, donation and sponsorship opportunities for NSU departments and colleges and more. Not only does this enable students and their families to socialize in a festive atmosphere, but it also provides community partners a chance to promote their products and services.

"There are several shifts throughout the day for student and staff volunteers to sign up for, [from] helping with check-in or queue management [to] maintaining and managing

the entire event," explained Rajkumar.

Students who volunteer, in return, will earn service hours and Project Serve Points as individuals or it can count towards IOC (Inter-Organizational Council) service requirements if they are a member of an undergraduate registered student organization. Fin Points will be also awarded to all student organizations that participate in tabling.

Through involvement opportunities and entertainment services such as music, face painting, a petting zoo and bounce houses, CommunityFest is intended to evoke the spiritual values embedded within the university's traditions and awaken a sense of pride in students.

"[It's about] us all coming together as

a family to put on this event that shows the community how we are one NSU and how we do have such a strong bond," stated Rajkumar, eagerly sharing her pride. "My favorite part is always the actual execution of the event through which we can see the excitement of everyone and receive positive feedback from them."

More information including a full-list of available opportunities, participation forms, and cancellation contracts can be found online at <https://www.nova.edu/campuslife/communityfest/index.html>.

Running — for fun?

By: Emma Heineman
Features Editor

One of the biggest myths about races like 5Ks, fun runs, marathons and triathlons is that only athletes can or should participate. As someone who is less than fond of running, the apprehension about participating in these types of events is relatable, but as springtime in South Florida gets closer, so too does the season for 5K's, fun runs, triathlons and the opportunity to get out and try something new. Whether you're an expert runner or someone just starting out, you are bound to find a race that's a good fit for you. From narrowing down the runs you want to do, navigating through the registration process and prepping to run — or walk — your heart out, here are some tips and tricks to making this season the best yet.

Consider your options

Often the most stressful part of any

decision making process is weighing in all of your options. Choosing what type of race works best for you is no different. Races vary in type, length and competitiveness and finding the right one for you is crucial to making the most of your opportunities. Luckily for all of us in South Florida, without having to worry about snow and other winter weather, races of all kinds happen all throughout the year. From competitive marathons and triathlons to costume runs, charity runs and obstacle courses, Florida has something to offer everyone. A simple Google search for races in the South Florida area brings up a plethora of different options. Some upcoming races include the Miami Marathon, the annual Coconut 5K Run and Walk, the Rugged Maniac 5K Obstacle Race, the Color Run and the Bubble Run — just to name a few. If none of those strike your

fancy, there are tons of great websites like Running USA and Active.com that you can use to narrow down your options based on region, date and more.

Consider price

Like most things in life, running in any type of race most likely requires you to pay some type of fee. Registration fees for local 5Ks and fun runs can range anywhere from \$15 to \$50 while you might have to dish out a little more — up to \$200-300 — for some large scale marathons and triathlons. Knowing the cost upfront can make it easier to narrow down your options and choose the race that's right for you.

Getting ready

When many people think of participating in any type of race, they picture toned athletes

with high-grade athletic gear and a fierce sense of competitiveness, and while races can be a great way to test your athletic abilities, — if that's what you want — you don't have to be an Olympic level athlete to participate. Consider the level of the race before signing up. Some advertise as family friendly while others specifically put the word "walk" in their title to let everyone know that running is not required.

No matter what race you choose, make sure to know your limits and push yourself only as far as is safe. Bring lots of water and make sure you don't compete on an empty stomach. Above all, make sure to have fun! Sign up with your friends and family and use the opportunity to build bonds, challenge yourself and have a great time.

An evolution for college athletes

By: Cameron Pritchett
Sports Editor

On Monday, Sept. 30, the sports world experienced a paradigm shift in which an act to allow college athletes to profit off of their name, image and likeness, formally known as the Fair Pay to Play Act, was approved by California Governor Gavin Newsome. As you can probably assume, the bill received praise from countless athletes; among these athletes was LeBron James of the Los Angeles Lakers, who was with Newsome when he approved the bill. While it won't officially be enacted until Jan. 1, 2023, it represents a massive step forward for college athletes and many states have begun to follow suit.

On a national and broader scale than California, Ohio representative Anthony Gonzalez has proposed a national law that would allow college athletes to have the opportunity to make endorsement money. This comes as no surprise to anyone, being that Gonzalez was a former stand out college athlete who would have been given the opportunity to profit off of his talents had he been in college today. Colorado is working on a state law that would allow student athletes to hire agents and accept endorsement deals. The bill has been welcomed and Senator Owen Hill of the Republican party, as well as Democrat Jeff

Bridges, are "all in" on the bill. A key clause of the law that differentiates it from many other similar ones is that it would allow said athletes to sue the NCAA, should it choose to retaliate. Bringing it home to Florida, Representative Kionne McGhee filed McGhee's House Bill 251, going into effect July 1. Similar to the other enactments, image, likeness and name would allow the athlete to profit.

These states are just a few that have made monumental strides in the world of college sports to get student athletes the rewards that they deserve for their hard work. However, there are at least seven other states who are

hopping on the wagon as well. What does this mean for the NCAA? Simply put, it means they are no longer able to control what their athletes do. This was the stigma up until this point and many find it fair to allow these young men and women the opportunity to profit when their names are so well known. For some who won't move onto the next level, it means the only opportunity they may have to earn money playing their sport. They're putting in as much work as other students are on their part time jobs; why shouldn't they be allowed to profit?



Career Corner



5 reasons to join a student organization

By: Kassi Cher-Aime
Career Development



South Florida in May 2016 with a bachelors in mass communications with a concentration in public relations. She is currently pursuing a Master of Science in college student affairs here at Nova Southeastern University.

Interested in environmental sustainability? Want to volunteer with animals in shelters? Do you value self-care? If you answered yes to any of these questions, then I have great news: there's a club for that. Not only are student organizations a great way to get more involved with the things you love, they can also help prepare you for the workplace. Even when applying for internships, you need to be able to put some kind of experience on your resume, and student organizations are a great way to start. So here are a few ways that joining a student organization can help you stand out to employers.

Learning to work with a team

In most workplaces, there is a very low chance that you will be working alone with little interaction with your colleagues. By joining a student organization, you have the opportunity to experience working with a diverse group of people to achieve a common goal. When planning events, general body meetings and even community service projects, you have to work with a committee or an executive board to iron out the details and ensure that things

run as smoothly as possible. In the workplace, there may be disagreements and conflict with colleagues, but student organizations give you the opportunity to learn how to professionally navigate conflict without negatively impacting the overall goal of the team.

Building your network

Whether you are joining a pre-professional organization, a cultural organization or one based on your hobbies, one of the biggest perks that a student organization provides are networking opportunities. You get the opportunity to meet new people, build a network and form relationships that will help you with your job search now and in the future. Some organizations,

like fraternities, sororities and pre-professional organizations, are nationwide, which allows you to network with members at NSU and across the country.

Building on your soft skills

Soft skills are skills that cannot be proven through tangible evidence, such as attention to detail, communication and time management. Student organizations allow you to build on these skills. Balancing student organizational commitments, course work and maybe a job or internship shows time management. Leading general body meetings, sending emails to other members or reaching out to guest

speakers shows communication. Participating in recruitment activities shows that you are a people person. Being able to build on these soft skills and explain how you have used them will help you stand out in the applicant pool.

Showcasing your leadership

Employers want to see that you have leadership experience because this shows that you will be able to take on projects and lead a team without the need for constant supervision. You can showcase your leadership abilities through student organizations by heading committees and joining an executive board. When writing a resume, if you lack work experience, a "leadership" section can allow you to showcase the transferable skills and relevant work you did as a student leader.

Gaining insight into your field.

Organizations, like the Accounting and Business Students Association (ABSA), American Marketing Association (AMA), Florida Engineering Society Student Chapter at NSU (FES) and the Public Relations Society of America (PRSSA), allow you to get more insight into your fields. These organizations host events, like ABSA's "A Day In The Life of a CPA," which allows you to gain a better understanding of your industry by interacting with an industry professional.

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CAREER DEVELOPMENT

Kassi Cher-Aime joined the Office of Career Development in July 2019 as a graduate assistant Career Advisor. She was born in St. Marc, Haiti and grew up in Nassau, Bahamas as well as several cities in south and central Florida. She graduated from the University of



Clovermint Cafe & Market

Clovermint Cafe
3433 Griffin Rd, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33312
Tuesday - Sunday: 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.
\$\$\$\$\$

By: Madelyn Rinka
Co-Editor-in-Chief



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This Shrimp Po' Boy is vegan based and contains no shellfish.

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

Not every vegan wants to eat salads and drink green juices every day — and if you're looking for a place to get some flavorful and exciting plant-based food, Clovermint Cafe & Market is just the spot. This “comfort vegan” restaurant serves up rich and delicious food without making you feel obligated to eat your greens — because even vegans need some comfort food.

This cafe is neatly tucked in a small plaza just off of Griffin Road, just a short drive from campus (and on the way to the Oceanographic Campus, if you have classes there). Upon entering the market & cafe, it gives off the vibe of a lot of other vegan eateries: design-oriented, laid-back and earthy. However, the actual menu is almost more reminiscent of a classic American diner. They feature tempting dishes such as Buffalo Chik'n Mac N Cheese, Meatball Marinara Hoagie, Seitan Philly Cheesesteak, the Beyond Impossible Patty Melt and a Seitan Gyro — all served with a choice of fries or side salad — just to name a few. They also offer drinks like lattes, macchiatos and cappuccinos, with either soy or almond milk.

Unfortunately, when I visited, I went alone,

which I don't recommend — you'll want to try everything on the menu and share food with friends. All of the options sounded great, but with the mid-range prices and large portion sizes that could very likely leave you with leftovers, it wasn't realistic for me to order multiple items. I settled on the plant-based Shrimp Po' Boy, mostly because I used to like them before I went vegetarian and later vegan. However, after not eating meat for about a third of my life, I was kind of shocked at how realistic it seemed. I'm not normally a fan of plant-based meats, but I didn't dislike this one. However, when I revisit (and I plan to), I might try to branch out to something else on the menu.

While the meat-alternatives might not be every herbivore's first pick, these dishes might bring some meat-eaters to the vegetarian side — even if just for a day. With options like the believable Impossible and Beyond burgers, even non-vegans will be sure to find something reliable and delicious.

Whether you're a long-time vegan or a devoted omnivore, next time you're looking for a place to Gill Out, head on over to Clovermint.



The international experience

By: Rick Esner
News Editor

A vast majority of students who go on to attend higher education usually pick an institution within the country they live in. According to the Institute of International Education, just over one million of the 20 million higher education students in the U.S. are international students. NSU is no different, with its fair share of international students.

According to the Office of International Affairs, as of 2018, NSU had a total of 1,213 international students spread throughout its undergraduate, graduate and doctoral programs. Every student has a different reason as to why they left their home country for higher education in the U.S., whether it be to experience the culture or learn something that may not be offered in their own country.

It is overtly apparent that NSU prides itself on being an international university, whether it be through the international events held on campus or simply the diverse student body. Even though NSU has a relatively large population of international students, the students are still considered a minority in the student population and thus have an entirely unique experience when compared to those who were born in the U.S.

Chantal Murrell, a freshman speech-language and communication disorders major, and an international student from Trinidad and Tobago, was able to share her experience as an international student and about her transition into higher education.

“I don't have the typical experience that everyone else has. Most people are familiar with the culture, norms and traditions,” said Murrell.



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Chantal Murrell holds Trinidad and Tobago's flag as part of a cultural celebration.

“Being from Trinidad and Tobago and being put into a culture and environment that I am not familiar with makes me nontraditional.”

Murrell mentioned that, as an international

student, she had a more challenging time compared to a national student. On top of all the normal responsibilities of a regular student, an international student uniquely has to put work

forward to understand and connect with a potentially brand new environment.

“For me, it was mostly just the adjustment; that was the part that was a little bit challenging because you don't feel as connected as you want to feel. Sometimes you feel like an outsider. You have to go out of your way to become more submerged in the culture and accustomed to it,” said Murrell.

While adjusting to life in a different country may be difficult for international students, there are support systems in place to assist at NSU. The Office of International Affairs collaborates with faculty and staff to provide support and advisory to any international student that may need it. The office also assists in holding International Education Week at NSU, a series of events allowing both national and international students to embrace their home country and the cultures around them.

There are also less formal systems in place to help international students feel comfortable. For instance, Murrell credits the Razor's Edge Shark Teach program she is in.

“My Razors' Edge program did a very good job in making me feel welcomed because we have lots of bonding events... When I came to this school, it was almost like I had a family waiting for me already,” said Murrell.

NSU embraces the differences held by students of diverse cultures, providing a support system to all the students in this circumstance. Next time you meet an international student, get to know them and learn about their unique experience at NSU.

OFF SHORE CALENDAR

Jewish Film Festival: Denial
Feb. 5 | 8 p.m.
@David Posnack Jewish
Community Center | Davie, FL

The New Shanghai Circus
Feb. 7 | 8 p.m.
@Miniaci Performing Arts
Center | Davie, FL

*2020 South Florida Folk
Festival*
Feb. 8-9 | all day
@Bergeron Rodeo Grounds |
Davie, FL

Luminosa: A Festival of Light
Until Feb. 9 | various times
@Jungle Island | Miami, FL

*21st Annual South Florida
Garlic Fest*
Feb. 9 | 11 a.m. - 6 p.m.
@John Prince Park | Lake
Worth, FL

*2nd Annual Plant-Based
Festival*
Feb. 9 | all day
@Gulfstream Park Racing and
Casino | Hallandale Beach, FL

Impractical Jokers
Feb. 9 | 7 p.m.
@BB&T Center | Sunrise, FL

Gay8 Festival 2020
Feb. 16 | 11 a.m. - 10 p.m.
@Little Havana | Miami, FL

SOUNDBITE

“For the Muses” by Luna Scar

By: **Gabriela Collana**
Contributing Writer



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Released as her third EP, “For the Muses” is composed of four enchanting love songs by Puerto Rican artist Luna Scar. Based in Miami, her carefully crafted extended play illustrates a dark glitch pop sound with her euphonic voice and her array of orchestric samples. Each song goes through a process completely original to Scar.

The first track, “Vice,” feels almost like a lullaby, but with dark undertones. The chorus has you longing for more of her harmonious voice. It’s truly a delight to listen to, and quickly became my favorite track in the EP. The flutes flow very well with her unique voice and the beat of the song. “Take me in, let it course through your organs, don’t be scared if it causes commotion” was one of the lines

that stood out the most, matching her take on the darker side of pop.

Luna’s second song, “Con Calma,” which translates to “With Calmness,” is a Spanish track that reflects her Puerto Rican roots. It’s definitely a delight for bilingual listeners. It is a song that talks about the tranquil ride before a full relationship. Her reassurance is sure to make listeners feel safe within her realm of sound, thus making this short track a sweet taste of what else Scar can offer.

“Endgame” is a four minute song that gradually gets better throughout. It is a catchy song that you’d want to hear if you’re in need of one final dance before leaving a party. I caught myself almost swaying to the beat with lyrics that envelope you into her own story.

“We are magnets that shake at the touch of twin poles” are lyrics that would overcome two lovebirds that can’t come up with words to describe their infatuation for one another.

Completing her EP with “Slow Dance,” she makes a powerful statement in an impressive two minutes. It is a mellow vibe, relatable to singer Selena Quintanilla, that mingles with the modern alternative music scene. Scar provides patience for love, very well explained in the title. A slow dance, crafted cautiously and composed of two people pairing together to create an unforgettable experience. Her parting lyrics, “I love you more than you know,” cradles listeners into a peaceful state of mind and ties together the EP as one exquisite love letter.



Write for the Current

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

Join SUTV



Attend a meeting:
SUTV STUDIO
FRIDAYS AT NOON

Overwatch's Lunar New Year Event

By: Craig Sippin
Contributing Writer

“Overwatch” is a game that was assembled from the scraps of the never-released massive multiplayer online role-playing game “Titan” by Blizzard Entertainment, known simply as Blizzard, “Overwatch” is a game with gravity. The online first-person team shooter has yet to lose its fan-favorite status, and since its release four years ago, Blizzard has continued feeding it, nourishing and fluffing its feathers, resulting in something a little larger than a game. The game now has a massive fan following who look forward to each of its annual in-game events, one of which is going on right now!

Blizzard has launched the “Overwatch” Lunar New Year 2020 event, an in-game online event that offers a large number of new skins that are unlockable by completing challenges. The Lunar New Year 2020 event went live on Jan. 16 and will be available through Feb. 6. The game is celebrating the Year of the Rat

with a new game mode called “Capture the Flag Blitz,” which is a special version of the regular capture-the-flag mode. The goal of the game mode is to run past the enemy lines, grab their flag and bring it back to your own base without being eliminated by the enemy team. The Lunar New Year event also has different “skins,” which are different outfits for the playable heroes, that are based on the holiday, as well as different player icons and other in-game rewards.

During this time, players will also get access to challenges which are split up into three weeks. Each challenge results in a different exclusive prize for those who complete it. The first week prize offers up the “Monk Doomfist” skin, the second week’s reward is the “Ancient Bronze Winston” skin and the third week gives the “Paper Cutting Wrecking Ball” skin.

Other unlockable rewards include a

“Jingang Doomfist” player icon which is given for winning three games, and the “Focus Doomfist” spray which is given for winning 6 games. There are other goodies that are rewarded during the second and third weeks as well, all for winning three, six and nine games.

The event will also include Lunar Loot Boxes, a special type of reward box using Last year’s Lunar New Year rewards are also being offered for discounted in-game token prices and other skins are available to unlock by completing challenges in Arcade mode, Quick Play and Competitive Play modes.

“Overwatch” was released in 2016 and has remained a popular game in the years since, with the second iteration of the title recently revealed for the PlayStation 4, Xbox One, Nintendo Switch, and PC. Through updates and continued work on the game over the years, Blizzard has allowed “Overwatch” to remain

relevant even when new games are released each month. Online games often change dramatically from their launch-day versions, and “Overwatch” has done just that. In 2016, “Overwatch” had 21 playable characters, called heroes in-game. Today, it has 31 playable heroes, each with their own special abilities and personalities. When the game launched, a team of six players could all choose the turret hero Bastion, choose one place to stay for the entire game, easily eliminate other players and troll their hearts out. Today, “Overwatch” mandates both a single-hero limit and specific team composition balance to ensure that everyone has an equal opportunity to have fun and have a chance at winning. The changes made to “Overwatch” have not only enhanced the base game but enhanced the annual events like Lunar New Year as well.

DIY Valentine's Day Crafts

By: Bella Ameiorsano
Contributing Writer

Valentine’s Day is rapidly approaching and it may be difficult to decide what to get for that special someone. Many college students may not have money lying around that they can spend on extravagant Valentine’s Day gifts, but there are plenty of DIY Valentine’s Day crafts that make the perfect sentimental gifts. Even if you don’t have someone to make a gift for, these crafts certainly make adorable decorations for someone’s living space.

Arrow Art

This first craft is great for those who want to stick to a low budget and may not have the most time on their hands. For those who are working in a timely manner and still want a meaningful gift, “Arrow Art” is the way to

go! This craft can be completed in a matter of minutes as it solely requires a paint pen and board of your choice. All there is to do is take a paint pen and draw three cupid-like arrows, leaving room at the bottom for a sweet message. The message written at the bottom is where there is freedom to add personalization. It could be made personal about the relationship, or just include a simple phrase such as “be mine” or “I love you.”

Bouquet of Sweetness

The next craft is one that can be used as either a gift or for decorative purposes, and can be put together in minutes. The “Bouquet of Sweetness” transforms an average bouquet of flowers into a bouquet of pure sweetness.

The materials needed for this craft are a glass or plastic jar, candy hearts, some ribbon and flowers. Simply place the flowers in the jar and then fill the rest of the jar with candy hearts until there is no space left in the jar. Take the ribbon and tie it into a bow around the jar and that’s all there is to it — how sweet.

My World Globe

This last DIY craft is the most time consuming of all the crafts, but it definitely makes a “universal” statement! The “My World” globe makes a thoughtful gift. In order to complete this craft, the required materials are a globe, letter stickers and heart stickers. With the letters, plan a message which will be put on the globe, such as “You mean the world to me”

or “You are my world.” Once the message is stuck onto the globe, use the surrounding space to stick on some heart stickers to add an extra cute flair!

◆
These three DIY Valentine’s Day crafts can make the perfect decoration or gift for that special someone! Instead of spending loads of money, why not spend less money and give a gift that comes from the heart? All of these ideas help bring the Valentine’s Day spirit and hold much greater sentimental value than a simple box of chocolates or giant stuffed animal. It’s time to get crafty.

Satisfy your sweet tooth

By: Flor Ana Mireles
Copy Editor

If you’re like me, you love to indulge in all types of sweets — cookies, cakes, ice creams and shakes, donuts and chocolates. Around NSU, there are a variety of different places to satisfy your sweet tooth.

We all scream for ice cream

If ice cream is your sugary concoction of choice, there are a few different places near campus to indulge that will keep you coming back.

The Magic Cow (\$)
4298 S University Dr | Davie,
FL 33328

As previously mentioned in a Gill Out article, The Magic Cow, located across Walmart on South University Drive, is the perfect ice cream shop for ice cream connoisseurs and picky treat-lovers alike. With over 50 flavors to choose from and a variety of toppings that alternate daily, every time you visit The Magic Cow, your tastebuds will be in for a magical ride. The Magic Cow also offers ice cream cakes, sundaes and shakes, with dairy-free vanilla ice cream as an alternative to dairy-based.

Frostbite Nitrogen Ice Cream (\$\$)
2125 S University Dr | Davie, FL
33328

B&B Plaza located on South University Drive holds Frostbite Nitrogen Ice Cream, a family-owned and operated ice cream shop that not only makes smooth and decadent ice cream from scratch using liquid nitrogen, but are open late, perfect for satisfying any late night

cravings. Frostbite Nitrogen Ice Cream is also the world’s first steampunk nitrogen ice cream factory and has something for everyone. They not only offer vegan, vegetarian and dairy-free ice cream options, they have “Monster Donuts,” milkshakes, brownies, cookies, vegan chocolate chip cookies and alcohol-infused ice cream for those 21 and older to choose from as well.

For the smart cookies

Personally, cookies are my go-to dessert and nothing beats gourmet cookies fresh out of the oven with a tall glass of cold milk.

Midnight Cookies (\$\$)
4134 Davie Rd | Davie, FL 33314

A little further off campus on Davie Road, Midnight Cookies, also known as Midnight Cookies and Cream, specializes in gourmet cookies, sweet shot cookies, ice cream sandwiches and custom milkshakes. Some of the gourmet cookie options include Cinnamon Toast, Cookies & Cream, Nutella Stuffed, Red Velvet, Creme Brulee — and my personal favorite — Guava Maria, which is a guava cookie dough mixed with white chocolate chips topped with maria cookie crumbles and guava and cream cheese drizzle.

Batch, The Cookie Company (\$\$)
917 NE 5th Ave | Fort
Lauderdale, FL 33304

If you’re up for the drive and an adventure, near East Sunrise Blvd in the MASS District, is Batch, The Cookie Company. Simply known as Batch, this cookie spot typically has sugar



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You too can satisfy your sweet tooth by having a donut from Parlour Vegan Bakery.

fanatics lined up out the door waiting to get their hands on some of their decadent cookies. They not only offer classic cookies like Chocolate Chip, Double Chocolate and Funfruity (a sugar cookie with sprinkles), but have a cookie I’d never heard of before: Apples+Oats, a spiced oat dough with caramelized apple filling topped with golden raisins and glazed cranberries — sounds seriously delicious.

Plant and animal friendly only

There’s no reason why you can’t satisfy your sweet tooth and save the planet at the same time.

Parlour Vegan (\$\$)
1487 S University Dr |
Plantation, FL 33324

If you go north on South University Drive, you’re bound to run into your next sugary home away from home: Parlour Vegan. This bakery is by far one of the most delicious vegan bakeries I’ve gone to and the answer is in their cupcakes.

While they also offer cakes, donuts, cookies, empanadas and cinnamon rolls, — all vegan, plant-based, allergen friendly and delicious — Parlour Vegan’s cupcakes melt in your mouth and are the perfect proportion of cake and frosting. I recommend the Passion Fruit, Guava and Strawberry Cosmo cupcakes, for sure.

Sweet Love Pastry (\$\$\$)
6678 Stirling Rd | Hollywood,
FL 33024

In the Rickell Say’s Plaza on Stirling Road is Sweet Love Pastry, a bakery that not only creates gluten-free, dairy-free, kosher, vegan and soy-free specialty pastries, but also specialize in waffles, perfect for those who enjoy breakfast at any point in the day. Their menu features cupcakes of all sizes, dipped donuts, lady fingers, cookies, pound cakes and pies, even homemade breads. With so many different options to choose from, at least you won’t feel as guilty splurging since no animals were harmed in the making.

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK:

Cassie Wright

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

Cassandra Wright is a junior business management major on NSU's women's swimming team. Wright is from Christchurch, New Zealand and transferred to NSU this year from the University of Sioux Falls in South Dakota. In 2019, she was honored as the USF swimmer of the year and on Jan. 18, Wright won the 100 backstroke in a meet against the Keiser Seahawks posting an NCAA B-Cut time of 56.48.

When did you first get involved with swimming?

"I'm from New Zealand, which is a water-locked country, so you are around water all the time. My parents put me into lessons early on to make sure I would be safe near the water and I loved it. I started competing when I was 7, so it's been a number of years. I literally started at 6 months old in those baby classes."

Who would you say is your inspiration?

"My coaches; I've had so many coaches over the years and as long as the coach that I'm working with are supportive of me and understands me and especially if I have respect for them, I feel that makes me work a lot harder. It really encourages me to push forward and work harder towards my goals in swimming, no matter who my coach is."



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What is a misconception about swimming?

"I think the biggest [misconception about swimming] is that we do practice a lot. We do nine swims a week and then we add on weights, dry land workouts and all the meets and competitions. We work really hard all for a 30-second race or a five minute race, depending on the event. We do work really hard for the short amount of time that we compete."

What is something that you really enjoy about swimming?

"I really like how individual it is. Before coming to the U.S. for college, it was much more individualized back home. You would cheer on your teammates, but there wasn't much of a team atmosphere. Coming to NSU, I've learned so much. Everyone is so supportive of everyone else and the team atmosphere is so much bigger and better here. It was an adjustment because I'm so

used to worrying about myself and making sure my times were good, but now, swimming is just an automatic family."

What makes the NSU swim team a family to you?

"The fact that there are so many of us, almost 50, [makes the swim team a family to me]. I'm always guaranteed to have someone in my classes so I never feel alone. There is always something going on or people doing things, like going to Walmart and willing to take you. We go to the beach as a whole team and we have pasta nights before meets."

What does your downtime look like?

"A lot of it is napping. I will get up early in the morning and go to class. Then I'll nap, go to practice and study. So during the week, it's a lot of napping, but during the weekend, it's the beach. I go to the beach or lay out by the pool as much as possible. It helps me relax and allows me to not worry about all the other stressors in my life. I also watch a lot of Netflix, I'm a big 'Gossip Girl' and 'Stranger Things' fan."

Thank you, Kobe

By: **Cameron Pritchett**
Sports Editor

Kobe. Mamba. Bean. One of the classiest, most hardworking and talented individuals in the history of sports, Kobe Bryant defined work ethic, whether it be through his 4 a.m. workouts, his relentless desire to continue to improve or his unimpressed and unsatisfied nature with anything but winning. This translated directly into his game, as he is known almost unanimously, as the best offensive player in the history of the NBA. This succeed-at-all-costs mentality allowed Bryant to build a hefty resume, winning five championships to go along with two Finals MVP awards, one regular season MVP award, 18 All-Star appearances, 11 All-NBA First Team inductions and ending up as number four on the all-time scoring list.

I don't want to make this article all about his game and accomplishments on the court. Bryant wouldn't have wanted that. He is quoted

as saying, "The most important thing is to try and inspire people so that they can be great in whatever they want to," and he did just that with people all across the globe.

Bryant was a loving father, husband and teammate. He was married to his wife, Vanessa, for 18 years and together they had four children. Tragically, their 13 year old daughter Gianna, "GiGi," was also on board the helicopter, which crashed early Jan. 26 on the way to Mamba Sports Academy for two basketball games, taking the lives of seven others. Bryant always spoke highly of his daughter; he is quoted as saying she was even better than him when he was her age, that she would continue his legacy, how he didn't need a son to do it and how the family name was in good hands because of her. I find it an ironic, yet beautiful, tragedy that their last moments were together, on their way to do something they

both loved so profusely. Bryant loved coaching GiGi and GiGi loved learning from him.

The impact Bryant has had on current players in the NBA has been seen in dramatic fashion over the last couple of days. Young star Luka Doncic honored all nine victims of the crash by writing their names on his "Kobe" basketball shoes in their game against the Oklahoma City Thunder on Jan. 27. Teams have been starting off their games by running out the 24 second shot clock, an obvious tribute to the legacy of #24, Bryant's jersey number. Emotions have been pouring out of many players that many fans called for a delay of games on that Sunday evening. LeBron James, who had just passed Bryant in scoring that Saturday, was seen on video footage crying and giving hugs to those in the Lakers organization. To speak to Bryant's character, his final tweet was a tribute to James, tweeting, "Continuing to move

the game forward @KingJames. Much respect my brother #33,644," a reference to LeBron hitting 33,644 career points. Put simply, Bryant inspired a new generation of players and had an effect on almost every single player in the NBA.

Bryant got me into basketball; my earliest memory of sports is watching the 2010 NBA Finals and seeing Mamba absolutely dog the Celtics. Bryant was the player that truly created my passion for sports and for that, I am forever indebted to him. Rest in peace, Mamba. Rest in peace Gigi. And rest in peace to the victims from the Altobelli, Mauser and Chester families, as they should not be overlooked in this time of grief. Kobe Bryant, thank you for helping me find my passion. Your name will always live on.

SPORTS SHORTS

Women's Basketball

On Jan. 22, the Sharks secured a win in a close 70-66 game against the Barry University Buccaneers. The game was held at the Health & Sports Center in Miami Shores and the Sharks made their first points only eighteen seconds into the game. However, their lead did not last long as the Buccaneers managed to score 11 points, giving them a seven-point lead. The two teams struggled against each other, and by the end of the first quarter, the Buccaneers held only a one-point lead. During the second quarter, the Sharks played amazing defense and held the lead by six points at the end of the quarter. During the third quarter,

however, the Buccaneers cleared the lead and tied the game in the first three minutes. From that point on, the two teams continued to gain the lead, tie and repeat, tied at 52-52. In the fourth quarter, the two teams struggled to maintain the lead against each other. However, in the last minute of the game, the Sharks took the lead and secured their fourth-straight victory.

On Jan. 25, the Sharks' winning streak was cut off, and despite making an awesome comeback in the fourth quarter, they were unable to secure the win against the Tampa Spartans. In the first quarter, the Sharks struggled to keep up with the Spartans, and while at one time they were only down by

a single point, by the end of the quarter, the Spartans held a nine-point lead. During the second quarter the Sharks fell even further behind. While they boosted their score from 10 points in the first quarter to 33 points, the Spartans still maintained and expanded their lead by 13 points. In the third quarter, the Sharks continued to trail behind by 17 points, but suddenly, they were able to score eight points followed by a layup within the last three minutes of the quarter. The fourth quarter is where things really heated up. In the first seven minutes, the Sharks scored 16 of the previous 18 points of the quarter, and at just under four minutes left, the Spartans only held a one-point lead. The Spartans

managed to score a three-pointer with only 2:29 left, and while those were the last points the Spartans would score, the Sharks were unable to make a full comeback, ultimately losing the game by only one point. While it was a heart-racing fourth quarter for both teams, the game ended 67-66, in favor of Tampa.

Read the rest of
Sport Shorts online at
nsucurrent.nova.edu



THIS WEEK IN SPORTS HISTORY



By: **Emma Heineman**
Features Editor

Jackie Robinson becomes the first African American TV executive

In addition to Jackie Robinson's historic contributions to the sport of baseball on the field, including breaking the color barrier in Major League Baseball in 1947, the baseball star also made history off the field. On Feb. 4, 1952, Robinson was hired as the Director of Community Activities for WNBC and WNBT, major radio and television networks. Upon being hired, he became the first African American executive of a major TV station, another first in African American history.

Fred Newman sets blind free throw record

On Feb. 5, 1978, Fred Newman, an All-Conference football, basketball, baseball and soccer player at Caltech, made a record 88 consecutive basketball free throws blindfolded. According to the LA Times, "For no apparent

reason other than to chase obscure records and perhaps test his own limits, the one time computer programmer has dedicated nearly half his life to free throws." Despite garnering nothing more than a few TV appearances, Newman continued his commitment to perfecting his free throws, throwing a record 20,371 shots in a 24-hour period.

Civil court finds O.J. Simpson liable

On Feb. 5, 1997, a civil court in California found former NFL running back, O.J. Simpson, liable in the deaths of Ron Goldman and Nicole Simpson in a civil court action. The decision stood in sharp contrast to the acquittal of O.J. on accounts of murder by a criminal court in October 1995. Despite avoiding prison time in 1994, O.J. was charged with armed robbery and kidnapping in 2007 and was sentenced to 33 years in prison. In 2017, he was granted parole and was released.

William C. Morgan invents volleyball

On Feb. 9, 1895, William G. Morgan, the director of the YMCA in Holyoke, MA, invented the game of volleyball. First called mintonette, the game began as an effort to devise a game that was less physically strenuous and better suited for older participants.

Spitballs outlawed by Major League Baseball

On Feb. 9, 1920, Major League Baseball outlawed the practice of defacing or applying foreign substances to baseballs to affect pitches. The ban included using resin, talcum powder, paraffin and the shine and emery ball. Pitchers who frequently used these tactics, commonly referred to as "spitball pitchers," were permitted to continue their tactics for the remainder of the 1920 season under a grandfather clause of the new rule, but after the season ended, the use of such methods was effectively banned.

On The Bench:

Golf might be played on the green, but it is far from being a green sport

By: **Alexander Martinie**
Opinions Editor

Overall, I really do not like sports, but there is a sport that I detest more than the rest. Golf [insert menacing and ominous music playing in the background here]. Golf is a waste of time and money. Not only is this sport just a waste, but the courses that it is played on are horrible for the environment and its surrounding ecosystem.

Rutgers University's Professional Golf Turf Management School claims that golf courses "can provide wildlife sanctuaries, preserve natural areas in urban environments, support native plants and wildlife, protect water resources, rehabilitate degraded landscapes and promote environmentally-positive management to the public." To be honest, the major of what they claimed was completely false. The construction and management of golf courses most certainly do not provide wildlife sanctuaries or support native plants and wildlife.

If anything, these areas tremendously decrease the biodiversity in the surrounding environment. The destruction of natural landscapes to build golf courses that are covered in Bermuda grass makes total sense right? Yeah, no. It does not. Bermuda grass is a high maintenance plant that somehow still outcompetes with the native plants in the area. Bermuda grass does not have a high tolerance for insects, and thus requires a heavy dosage of pesticides to make up for that. With Florida's weather being as wonderful and rainy as it is, the pesticides that are sprayed runoff into canals and other sources of water contaminating and polluting them. Combine that with all the water used for irrigation, and you have a perfect example of how golf courses are not protecting water resources. I am not kidding, they are horrible for waterways, but going back to Bermuda grass, as mentioned previously, even

though it is a very high maintenance plant, it still manages to outcompete native plants. Bermuda grass can easily uproot flowers and other decorative landscaping and can also overtake into nearby lawns, taking resources away from the native species of grass.

Aside from plants, golf courses also take away habitats from animals. Burrows are plowed over and filled in, bird nests fall just like the trees that they are in, felled to clear room for the construction of the course. Golf courses are horrible for the environment and the surrounding ecosystems and though they might try to claim otherwise, it still cannot distract from the damage they cause. Do the people that use these courses really care about the environment? Obviously not.

OUT OF THE SHARKZONE

caution: your sports news is now leaving NSU

Houston Astros replace manager

Last Thursday, Dusty Baker was announced as the new manager of the Houston Astros baseball team. Baker has replaced AJ Hinch, who was the manager during the recent cheating scandal. At 70 years old, Baker is the oldest manager in the major league and a three-time National League Manager of the Year with a record of 1,863-1,626 during his 10-year career with the Giants. The team is looking to move away from the cheating scandal with Baker's help.

Kenin reaches Australian Open finals

After beating Ash Barty, Sofia Kenin has reached the final matches of the Australian

Open. This is not the first time that Barty and Kenin have competed against each other. At the French Open last June, Kenin lost to Barty, who won the trophy. This is Kenin's first time in the final of a major tournament. In order to win, Kenin will have to beat the former champion, Garbine Murguruza. With one more win, Kenin would be a Grand Slam Champion.

Vanessa Bryant makes first public statement

Since the death of her husband and daughter on Jan. 26, Vanessa Bryant made her first public statement last Wednesday. Bryant posted a picture of her family on Instagram and thanked everyone for their "support and love during this horrific time." As of Thursday, no funeral or memorial plans

have been announced and Bryant asked for people to respect her family's privacy at this time. On Tuesday, Jan. 28, the Lakers were scheduled to play a game against the Clippers, but was postponed.

Sowers to be first female coach at Super Bowl

Katie Sowers will make history this year as the first female and openly gay coach to work at the Super Bowl. Sowers is the offensive assistant coach for the San Francisco 49ers, and prior to working for the 49ers, was a part-time coach for youth basketball in Kansas City. Sowers also played a part in the Women's Football Alliance.

ON DECK



WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

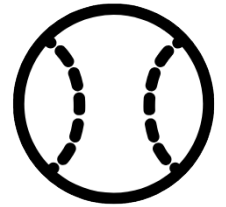
@Rollins
Feb. 5 | 5:30 p.m.
Winter Park, FL

@Eckerd
Feb. 8 | 2 p.m.
St. Petersburg, FL

MEN'S BASKETBALL

@Rollins
Feb. 5 | 7:30 p.m.
Winter Park, FL

@Eckerd
Feb. 8 | 4 p.m.
St. Petersburg, FL



MEN'S BASEBALL

vs. Colorado Mesa
Feb. 6 | 6 p.m.
NSU Baseball Complex

vs. Colorado Mesa
Feb. 7 | 6 p.m.
NSU Baseball Complex

vs. Colorado Mesa
Feb. 8 | 1 p.m.
NSU Baseball Complex

WOMEN'S SOFTBALL

vs. Georgian Court (DH)
Feb. 7 | 5 p.m.
AD Griffin Sports Complex

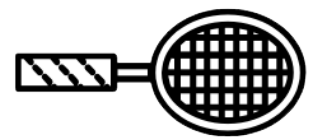
vs. Georgian Court (DH)
Feb. 7 | 7 p.m.
AD Griffin Sports Complex

vs. Washburn (DH)
Feb. 8 | 1 p.m.
AD Griffin Sports Complex

vs. Washburn (DH)
Feb. 8 | 3 p.m.
AD Griffin Sports Complex

vs. East Stroudsburg (DH)
Feb. 9 | 1 p.m.
AD Griffin Sports Complex

vs. East Stroudsburg (DH)
Feb. 9 | 3 p.m.
AD Griffin Sports Complex



WOMEN'S TENNIS

vs. Georgia College
Feb. 8 | 10 a.m.
Valdosta, GA

@Valdosta State
Feb. 9 | 1 p.m.
Valdosta, GA

water YOUR thoughts

To study or to copy?

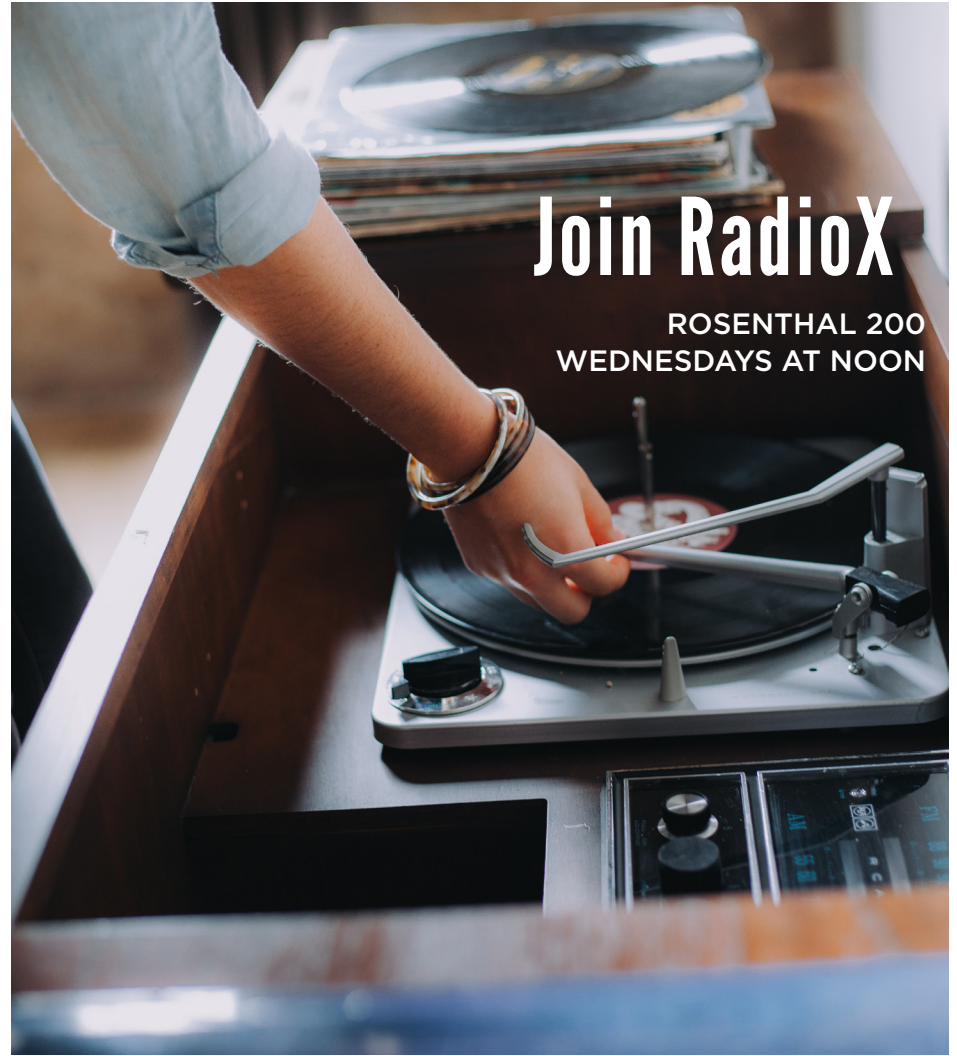
By: Cameron Pritchett
Sports Editor

We all make a promise at the beginning of every single class to be academically honest by signing up for the course. As we come to find out throughout our experience in school, not many of us follow this policy. I am only in my second semester as a college student, but I've learned this quickly. I have always taken pride in my work; being proud of what I do is a value I hold near and dear to myself.

For these purposes, whenever I get people asking me for my homework, whether that be in a picture format or simply copying my work, I say no. I don't understand why it has become normalized to, ultimately, skip over doing what you're supposed to be doing

and copy others work. I have had people I don't even know ask me for pictures of my notes, to send them pictures of answers on problems and even do the work for them. For me, I find it not only disrespectful to me, but anti-beneficial for them.

We've all heard the phrase, "cheaters never win." This might solve a temporary problem, but in the long run, you don't absorb the material and comes back to bite you. It's my humble opinion that once you cheat once, it becomes a lot easier to cheat again. Just do your stuff. You're paying a whole lot of money for your education, so take advantage of it.



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ROSENTHAL 200
WEDNESDAYS AT NOON

Hey professors, please make it clear

By: Christina McLaughlin
Co-Editor-in-Chief

We are about a month into the winter semester, which means we've already been assigned at least a few assignments for most classes and are aware of the course material. Something I have noticed more than ever is a disconnect between professors and their ability to clarify and explain what is expected from students in terms of assignments. I know that sounds odd and confusing, but let me clarify — irony intended.

Over my past three years here, through my major and minor course work, I have noticed a trend. Some professors are on top of their game and tend to over-explain what is expected from the course and assignments through emails, in-person class discussions and so on. Yet with some professors — even those you've taken a class with before — expectations, deadlines and assignments are unclear even with a seemingly

understandable and reliable syllabus. This is especially prevalent in online classes with adjunct professors who don't have office hours or in-person meeting opportunities for students to discuss course work or to address difficulties.

Now I understand that college is about being independent and that professors aren't going to hand-hold to make sure you get assignments done or good grades, but that isn't the point I'm trying to make. If I have a syllabus for an online class, I expect it to be a reliable outline of assignments, deadlines and homework assignments because that really is my only frame of reference. When professors stray from the syllabus by adding and dropping other assignments without much notice to the students, how is it possible for us to succeed without that knowledge?

The subsequent problem alongside this

clarity issue is the tried and true, "just email me if you have any problems" response. I get it. If I really have a problem that a quick email can solve, I can send a quick email for clarification and problem solved, but if I am entirely confused about what assignment is due or when it is due and even what the assignment has to be about, that is kind of hard to explain in an email. Not to say I haven't tried — I have — but the messages I send tend to be misconstrued, which is even more apparent in the responses I get back. That could be my fault or both our faults since it is hard to get your point across through text. Yet if after I've sent my fifth email asking for clarification about another assignment, I start feeling like a bother to that professor and start to feel like I'm getting on their bad side just for asking questions to understand what is required of me. I feel like

I'm not trying hard enough and I start to get discouraged on top of my general frustration and disappointment for not being able to figure it out. I want to have my own independence as a student to complete assignments without guidance and with confidence that I did a good job. Not having that clarity affects that.

I'm not trying to bash our professors. I can't imagine what it must be like to have a full course load teaching over 100 students each semester, but on the other hand, I'm also not a mind reader. If I can't figure out through the syllabus — the college student's holy grail — what is required from me or there aren't any notifications or announcements to changes, then how could I successfully complete assignments to the best of my ability? I want to do the best I can in my classes and this clarity issue is just leaving me feeling clouded.

Should IDs be worn around campus?

By: Dexter Mitchell
Contributing Writer

When I first received my acceptance letter from NSU, I decided to drive to campus and take a personal tour of the school I would most likely be attending. I live just down the street so it was a quick drive. When I got on campus, I started walking around to familiarize myself with the area. The first thing I noticed was how easily I was able to walk into buildings. No one asked me if I was lost or if I needed help finding my class. I could have been on the FBI's top 10 most wanted list and I don't think anyone would have noticed.

NSU may be a private institution, but it's still open to the public. Meaning anyone and everyone is capable of walking onto campus. This is exactly what happened last year when a

man by the name Mostafa A. Hussaini walked into the Rose and Alfred Miniaci Performing Arts Center, the Alvin Sherman Library and the Carl Desantis building to videotape himself ranting racial slurs. 24 year old Hussaini was arrested outside of the Shell gas station across the street from NSU on Dec. 13. Thankfully, hateful messages were the only plans Hussaini had when he walked onto campus with no guest or student ID.

As a student, when I'm on campus, my only focus is school. Safety and security aren't things that usually cross my mind. I don't walk to and from classes wondering if the people walking around me are here for the same reason as me, but I should. In a perfect world, nothing

bad happens at universities. We are working to build that perfect world, but it doesn't exist yet. Unfortunately, this means we must be more vigilant about our safety and not make assumptions. I don't mean to be suspicious of everyone you encounter, but rather take notice of your surroundings.

I think wearing your ID around campus could be a good way to eliminate the guesswork of who is who. Assumptions can be critical when it comes to the safety of the people who work at and attend this university; however, I would not like to see NSU turned into a university that is constantly harassing its own students by questioning their purpose for being on campus, nor would I want to see the

students wearing their IDs for fear of a tragic event that may never happen. No one should be forced to provide identification, but how are we supposed to know who are faculty, staff, guests, parents, or students? The only time my student ID card is ever visible is when I'm entering the library, printing in the library or paying for food in the UC. So, what are some solutions? Maybe there is a situation that you can think of when someone who shouldn't have been on campus was on campus. I understand ID cards are not bulletproof, but should student ID cards or ID cards that clearly state our purpose on campus be visible at all times?

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To love or hate Valentine's Day

By: **Barbara Hernandez**
Contributing Writer

Valentine's Day is celebrated across nations on Feb. 14. As soon as the winter holiday decorations come off the shelves, we begin to see chocolates, teddy bears and roses line up in every aisle. When the majority of people think of Valentine's Day, they think of love and romance and showing their significant other how much they love and appreciate them. But we also have the other half of individuals who believe Valentine's day is just another holiday for stores to make more money off of people.

Valentine's day has definitely been one of the most controversial holidays celebrated in the U.S. because of the fact that if you are in a relationship, you should be showing your

significant other how much you love and appreciate them no matter what time of the year it is. Why is it that one day out of the whole year was chosen to be the day where we surprise our significant others with chocolates, roses, teddy bears and materialistic items? While I believe Valentine's Day is fun and can be celebrated with not only a boyfriend or girlfriend, but also with friends and family, there are many people who find it to be one big scam. According to the National Retail Federation, records show that U.S. citizens spend \$20.7 billion combined during the Valentine's Day season.

Now, there is no doubt about it that this holiday was created to get us to spend more money, but many people have already made it a

tradition to celebrate it in their homes and it has become a special day for many. For example, many people get engaged on Valentine's Day or even go on big trips to celebrate the relationship. There are many other ways to celebrate Valentine's Day without having to be in a committed relationship. Friends and family could be given back to during this holiday and many people — believe it or not — have "Anti-Valentines Day" parties where all Valentine's Day haters gather together and celebrate their hatred towards Valentine's Day together.

Although many people see it as a holiday to hate, there is a lot of ways to make it fun and just deal with it since it will always be a thing. Valentine's Day is not just hated by people

who are single, there are people who are in relationships and see it to be ridiculous to show each other how much they love and appreciate each other just on this one day of the year. So if you hate Valentine's Day, do not think you are alone because you are far from it. Gather with your friends and throw an "Anti-Valentine's Day" party or celebrate "Galentine's Day," a day to give back to your friends and show them how much you love and appreciate them. And if you have reached the end of all this and still choose to not want to celebrate Valentine's Day in some way, then know that Feb. 15 is discounted chocolate and candy day so go out there and buy yourself a treat for getting through the barren of Valentine's Day.

Lesser-known holidays that deserve love

By: **Alexander Martinie**
Opinions Editor

Everyone loves a good celebration and holidays are the perfect excuse to celebrate. We're aware of popular holidays— like Hanukkah, Christmas, Valentine's Day and, most importantly of all, Halloween— but what about those holidays that don't get as much love? Here are some lesser-known or not as popular holidays that you should definitely celebrate.

Groundhog Day (Feb. 2)

Groundhog Day, a truly amazing holiday. While this is a somewhat well-known holiday, it is still pretty underrated. Groundhog Day is a sacred day in which we puny mortals pay tribute

to the all-knowing groundhog, Punxsutawney Phil — amongst other all-knowing groundhogs — who can predict if we will have to suffer through an even longer winter. Not that we really have to worry about winter here in South Florida, but it is fun to watch a groundhog leave his hole to either play around or just go back to sleep. Using a groundhog to gather information about the weather for the next six weeks might not be the most accurate form of meteorology, but it is still a cute midwinter tradition.

National Food Days (Varies)

One of the best things about the holidays is that you can just gorge yourself on a variety of

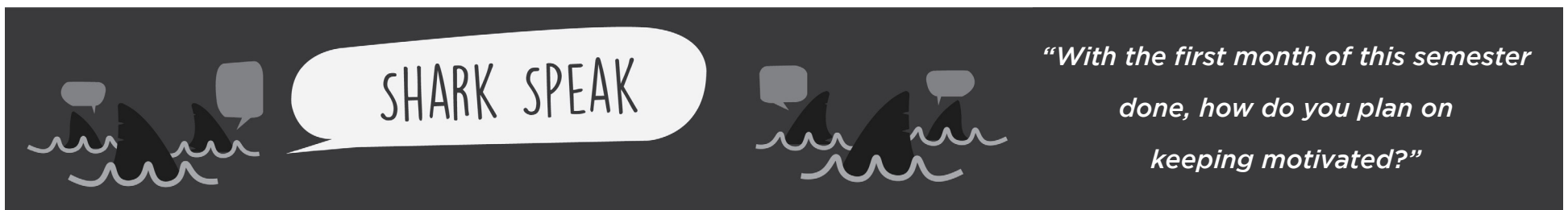
foods without anyone judging you, and national food days are a great excuse to eat shamelessly without having to wait for the holidays to roll around. Whatever your favorite food is, there is probably a day for it.

Limerick Day (May 12)

If you like writing or limericks, this is definitely a holiday that you should celebrate. Limerick Day is May 12 and is celebrated in honor of Edward Lear, who popularized limericks in 1846. Limericks are fun, short poems, usually about nonsense, that are easy and entertaining to write and read.

International Talk Like a Pirate Day (Sept. 19)

Well matey, if ye like the appeal of a pirate's life, then this be the holiday for ye. Ahem, I apologize, the spirit of the holiday took over me for a second. International Talk Like a Pirate Day is celebrated on Sept. 19. This holiday is not only fun, but offers a few good deals. At Krispy Kreme, some locations will give you a free glazed doughnut if you talk like a pirate. If you dress like a pirate, you can get a fish and fry for free at some Long John Silvers'. If you find yourself at a loss for words with this holiday, try using a pirate speak translator online.



"I'm going to stay motivated by working hard because I know at the end of the four years, I still have to get into grad school so I need good grades."

- **Katie Napolitano, freshman speech-language and communication disorders major.**

"Keeping in mind what is important and my future goals are what keep me motivated,"

- **Emily Vegas, freshman biology major**

"My friends telling me to do my work and my academic advisor keep me motivated,"

- **Cassy Fellows, freshman exercise and sports science major**

"I guess keeping a schedule and reminders to stay on top of things. I mean, it's my last semester here so that's motivation enough,"

- **Rachel Sheppard, senior psychology major**

"Remembering what my end goal is. I really want to go to law school, so just remembering that this is temporary and my career will last a lot longer than this [keeps me motivated]."

- **Taylor Margarita, sophomore political science major**

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