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The Current

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10-30-2024

## The Current - Volume 35 Issue 5

Nova Southeastern University

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# THE CURRENT

NSU's student-run newspaper, housed in the Department of Communication, Media, and the Arts

## NSU Athletics plans tribute to President George L. Hanbury II



COURTESY OF NSU ATHLETICS

NSU President George L. Hanbury II poses with national championship trophies earned during the 2023-2024 athletic season.

By Bella Giaquinto

To honor George L. Hanbury II in his final tenure as president and CEO of Nova Southeastern University, the athletic department will host a tribute to President Hanbury during the first men's basketball home game at 7 p.m. on Nov. 15. The tribute will take place during half-time in the Rick Case

Arena, after the homecoming king and queen are announced.

"It's really important for us to appreciate his legacy and appreciate what he's done for the university and NSU athletics," said John Sung, interim athletic director.

To show appreciation for Hanbury, Sung is making it a goal to fill the stands. All NSU students, staff, faculty

and alumni are encouraged to attend.

"To all the staff, students, faculty, professors, business people, I mean, literally, anyone that's an NSU employee, come out and show your support, not just for our team, but for the person that's helped us get to where we are at right now. Let's give him something that he'll remember forever," Sung said.

Scan here for ticket information:



## Florida Congresswoman helps secure funding for NSU cancer research

By Bryce Johnson

Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman Schultz, U.S. representative for Florida's 25th congressional district, presented a \$963,000 check to the Barry and Judy Silverman College of Pharmacy on Oct. 24. The check, which is funded by the National Institute of Standards and Technology, will be used to support research in detecting breast cancer and other diseases earlier.

"I am beyond thrilled to be able to announce today that I was able to secure \$963,000 in federal funds to

purchase cutting edge instruments for the use of early detection of cancer and other diseases," Wasserman Schultz said.

Michelle Clark, dean of the Barry and Judy Silverman College of Pharmacy, has been at NSU for 23 years. She said the college is grateful to have the funding and plans to put it to good use.

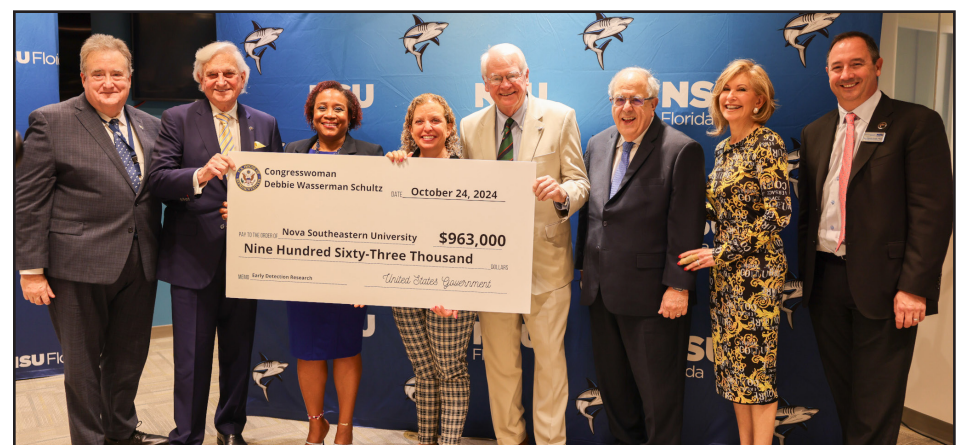


PHOTO BY BRIELLE AGUAYO

Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman Schultz presents a \$963,000 check to NSU leadership.

See CONGRESSWOMAN, page 5



# THE CURRENT

## The Student-Run Newspaper of Nova Southeastern University

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

# Letter from the editor

Dear Readers,

Hello Sharks! I'm Bryce, editor-in-chief of The Current, NSU's student-run newspaper. Thank you for reading the latest issue of our newspaper, where we're covering topics like the 2024 United States elections, World Blindness Awareness Month and NSU President George L. Hanbury II's impact on Athletics.

The U.S. elections are on Nov. 5. If you want to learn more about what's on the Florida ballot, such as Amendments 3 and 4, you can read about them in this issue. Additionally, students can attend a General Election Watch Party on Nov. 5 at 8 p.m. in the Alvin Sherman Library, Research, and Information Technology Center, Room 4024 – the Honors Great Room.

Today, Oct. 30, GSA Sharks and It's On Us are hosting the Halloween Drag Show at 6 p.m. in the Knight Auditorium. Tomorrow is Halloween. I hope you stay safe while you dress up, eat candy and have fun. There are plenty of events at NSU to celebrate the holiday. Also on Oct. 31, the Dr. Pallavi Patel College of Health Care Sciences Student Government Association is hosting a trick or treat event at 11:30 a.m. on the second floor of the Terry Administration Building. It's also hosting a pumpkin carving event at noon in the Health Professions Division Assembly Building II.



Bryce Johnson, editor-in-chief of The Current

The Current is part of Mako Media Network, also home to Mako TV, NSU's student-run newscast, and Mako Radio, NSU's student-run radio station. If you have the time and want to talk with us, our newsroom is in the Don Taft University Center, Room 328. Feel free to stop by during the day.

The Current is made possible thanks to your continued support. Right now, we're finalists for several awards at the ACP/CMA Fall National College Media Convention. We hope to keep bringing you quality stories, photos, comics and games on the back. Keep an eye out for our next issue on Nov. 21.

Happy reading,  
Bryce Johnson

## 2024-2025 SEASON HIGHLIGHTS

ANNE BEING FRANK  
NOVEMBER 12

FREE TO STUDENTS!  
will ferrell  
elf  
NOVEMBER 20

AMERICA'S SWEETHEARTS  
DECEMBER 6

CHRIS MACDONALD'S MEMORIES OF ELVIS ROCKIN' BIRTHDAY BASH  
JANUARY 5

MUTTS GONE NUTS: UNLEASHED!  
JANUARY 17

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# New thinking for safe and peaceful schools



By Cheryl Duckworth

Gun violence and a safe environment to learn in seems to be on everyone's mind, especially students and faculty. In March 2018, just after the horrific murders just north of us at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High, young people led the largest mobilization the U.S. had seen since the Vietnam War Era under the "March for Our Lives" banner. They called for an assault weapons ban, among other demands. The desire for a lasting and

sustainable solution to the pandemic of gun violence in America is clear.

Educational leaders and politicians grapple with the best way to improve public safety. As a professor in conflict resolution, I would call for entirely new thinking. Old approaches to thinking about public safety have failed. We know this because the scourge of gun violence in our schools and communities continues. We need to think about security itself in new ways. What if we thought in terms of human security, rather than traditional approaches to security?

Traditional or hard security involves security measures that we see ramped up in South Florida schools. They include school resource officers (law enforcement) in schools, metal detectors, surveillance, lock down drills, and efforts that might shock the public such as having teachers clear everything out of their closets in case of an active shooter scenario. The closet might be needed for hiding! A growing body of research shows that

lockdown drills in particular may be causing undue anxiety, and the research on if school resource officers increase or decrease school safety is mixed at best.

So what's the best way forward? Along with other conflict resolution scholars and practitioners, I call for human security for our schools and campuses.

What does this mean and why will it keep us safe? Traditional security, again, has failed. It is top down, rather than inclusive. It is punitive, rather than restorative. Perhaps worst, it's reactive rather than preventative.

Human security is quite different. Although it does not do away with all traditional kinds of security completely, it focuses on the security of students, staff and faculty, rather than just the security of the building. A human security approaches to our schools would emphasize participation by all involved and focus on building community.

Human security is based on a

comprehensive understanding of security—considering all kinds of experiences that might make us less secure. This includes poverty, homelessness, and more. Human security works by centering the voices of those on the margins of society, which makes sense because gender, racial, ethnic, sexual and other minorities often are less safe in ways that more privileged people might not even consider. By adopting this more democratic and proactive way of thinking about security, we can save lives and better foster peace and security for our schools and campuses.

*Cheryl Lynn Duckworth teaches peace education and conflict resolution in the Department of Conflict Resolution Studies, Halmos College of Arts and Sciences. She directs the MS in Conflict Resolution program, and is Editor in Chief of the Peace and Conflict Studies Journal.*

## Voting is a right you need to exercise



By Anam Hussain

Voting is a word that might bring out joy, dread or indifference. Some eagerly await Election Day on Nov. 5, and others despise the date. The right to vote is entrenched in American society, and over the years more and more people have fought to gain the right to vote - to gain a voice in the political system that governs them.

So why do people who have a right that others have fought for simply not

use it?

Some people claim they don't vote because they believe that their vote doesn't matter. However, if voting didn't matter, then why would more and more states be attempting to put restrictions on when or how you can vote?

With consistent voter roll purges and challenges to vote by mail systems, it makes it obvious that those in power don't want you to vote. They try to make it so hard to vote because it really does matter.

But what's much more insidious is those that claim they don't care enough to vote. That whoever gets elected is fine by them. Whether it's because they think both presidential candidates are equally good or bad, or because they just think they won't be affected by who wins.

What people don't seem to see is that voting is important not just because it allows you to select the people who run your country, but because the people

who run the country are more likely to listen to you in particular if you're an active participant in the political system.

Voting is a right that is soaked in precious blood, sweat and tears. African-Americans didn't have the right to vote until 1870, and after that, poll taxes and literacy tests disproportionately targeted marginalized communities. Women didn't have the right to vote until 1920, and even then Native American women were excluded.

By refusing to vote, people may think that they're not making a statement of any kind or that they're protesting because a candidate is not a big proponent of an issue they may favor, but voting is not about finding the perfect candidate. It is about finding the candidate who gets you closest to the world you want.

Change is a slow, painful process. Sometimes that change won't happen in your lifetime. But the only way to get it to start is to take that first step in the

right direction.

The right to vote is a very precious thing that not everyone has, and no one explains it better than Vida Rodriguez, sophomore criminal justice major, whose parents come from Cuba.

"My parents come from a communist country, so they tell me that if you have that right, you should use it. Because in their country, they didn't have that freedom," Rodriguez said.

If you don't take advantage of your right to vote, if you don't fight tooth and nail to make sure you can, then someday you might wake up to find that you just can't. Don't fall into complacency — Vote.

*Anam Hussain, sophomore communication major, is a reporter for The Current.*

## Mourning a stranger: Liam Payne's passing



By Alex Hernández

At 10, One Direction was my comfort, a group of teenagers navigating a world of adults, just like I was trying to

figure out my own. From my decorated 1D bedroom to their music, they were woven into my everyday life. I visited London this past summer, and seeing the telephone box from their "Take Me Home" album cover felt like reconnecting with an old friend. I played their music, reliving the comfort they once gave me.

On Oct. 16, I learned that Liam Payne, my favorite member since childhood, had passed away at 31. It wasn't just his death that hit me. It was the loss of the person I grew up with in a way.

As I scrolled through fans' reactions, it felt surreal, almost like a bad fanfiction. This wasn't just mourning a celebrity. It was coming face to face with the

reality of growing up. This phenomenon of mourning someone you've never physically met isn't new. Parasocial relationships have long existed between fans and public figures, but in today's digital age, they're more prevalent than ever. Social media, interviews and constant access to an artist's life can blur the line between fandom and friendship. It's easy to feel like you know them, like they are part of your life—especially when their work has such a profound emotional impact.

What makes Payne's death even more complicated for fans is the feeling of finality. One Direction meant so much to so many, and there was always a quiet hope that we'd see them reunite someday. With his passing, that hope

is gone. It's a heartbreaking realization for those of us who dreamed of experiencing a reunion tour, of reliving the excitement of seeing all five members together again. Payne's death forced me to reckon with the reality that the idols who shaped us won't be here forever—and neither will the younger versions of the fans who loved them.

*Alex Hernández, senior international studies and national security major, is a music writer for The Current and Mako Radio's station manager.*



# Marijuana and abortion are on the ballot

By Luqman Gbenro and Vanessa Qu

Two of the most contentious pieces of legislation in Florida's upcoming general election are Amendments 3 and 4.

As the Nov. 5 election draws near, many people are sounding off about the two amendments and what they mean for the state's future.

Students like Jordan Hampstead, junior business administration major, feel the issue of abortion is difficult.

"I still feel like it's a life, but it's up to the parent at the end of the day on what they think the circumstance really is," Hampstead said. "I would say it was complicated growing up, but as I've gotten older, I lean more towards pro-life because I just see it as a life."

Amendment 4 would protect the right to abortion before viability or in cases where the patient is at risk.

"Amendment 4 says that women have a right to make decisions regarding their bodies right up until the point of viability, so that means up until usually 23 weeks," said Vicki Toscano, associate professor in the Department of Humanities and Politics.

Toscano's background in abortion law informs her views on the subject. She considers this election to



PHOTO BY LUQMAN GBENRO

Candiss O'Reilly campaigns for Hofit Lottenberg outside the Davie, Cooper City Branch library on Oct. 22.

be a big moment for reproductive rights in Florida.

"If Amendment 4 were to pass, it would be a constitutional amendment, which the legislature can't change. The only people who could change it would be the voters," Toscano said. "It would basically bring things back to where they were before the Dobbs case overturned Roe v. Wade."

Views on marijuana legalization were less polarizing across campus. If passed, Amendment 3 would allow anyone older than the age of

21 to possess no more than three ounces of marijuana. Students generally leaned in favor of the legislation, such as Kaylani Arnold, freshman psychology major, citing its medicinal use as a deciding factor.

"I come from a family, especially on my father's side, he battled a bunch of substance abuse issues with nicotine and alcohol, but seeing him switch over to cannabis actually helped him in a way," Arnold said.

While some students are warm to the idea of marijuana legalization, they are cognizant of the potential

dangers that come with increased access.

"I have one side [of my family] that is medical, so I understand it, and I have one side that is strictly recreational, but it's like chain-smoking recreational, so, at that point, it's kind of not as helpful, because seeing someone spark a blunt every two minutes is concerning," Arnold said.

Some, like Giavanna Vassalluzzo, freshman marine biology major, hold the belief that criminalizing the substance does more harm than good.

"Most weed that is sold in states where it is illegal, people get it off the street or at smoke shops where the source is unreliable, and they have no way of knowing where it came from, leading it to then possibly be laced," Vassalluzzo said.

There is an understanding that the issue of legalization isn't a simple one.

"It's not like having it be illegal means people can't still have access to it. It's a lot easier to get if it's legal, so it could go into the wrong hands, but either way, people are going to find ways to do it, so having it legalized just makes it easier for those who do need it," said Mack, freshman mathematics major.

AMENDMENTS	DESCRIPTION	SPONSERS	VOTING YES	VOTING NO
<b>Amendment 1</b> Partisan School Board Elections	Amendment 1, if passed, would make school board elections partisan. Candidates would have to declare their political affiliation and be nominated to represent their party through a primary election.	The Florida Legislature	Voting yes on Amendment 1 would support making school board elections partisan, beginning with the November 2026 general election.	Voting no on Amendment 1 would oppose making school board elections partisan.
<b>Amendment 2</b> Right to Hunt and Fish	Amendment 2, if passed, would enshrine a constitutional right to hunt and fish in the state of Florida. Hunting and fishing would be forever preserved as a public right and the preferred means of responsibly managing and controlling fish and wildlife.	The Florida Legislature	Voting yes on Amendment 2 would establish a constitutional right to hunt and fish. Current state regulation of hunting and fishing would not be impacted.	Voting no on Amendment 2 opposes establishing the constitutional right to hunt and fish but does not impact current state regulation of hunting and fishing.
<b>Amendment 3</b> Marijuana Legalization Initiative	Amendment 3, if passed, would allow adults 21 years or older to possess, purchase, and use marijuana products and accessories. State-licensed entities would be allowed to acquire, cultivate, and sell. The amendment would establish possession limits.	Smart & Safe Florida	Voting yes on Amendment 3 would support the legalization of non-medicinal marijuana use for adults 21 years and older and the possession up to 3 oz of cannabis.	Voting no on Amendment 3 would oppose legalizing recreational marijuana use for adults above the age of 21.
<b>Amendment 4</b> Right to Abortion Initiative	Amendment 4, if passed, would make it so no law could prohibit, penalize, delay, or restrict abortion before viability or when necessary to protect the patient's health, as determined by the patient's healthcare provider. The amendment would not change the parent/guardian's right to be notified if their child is seeking an abortion.	Floridians Protecting Freedom, Inc.	Voting yes on Amendment 4 would support adding the following language to Florida's constitution: <b>"No law shall prohibit, penalize, delay, or restrict abortion before viability or when necessary to protect the patient's health, as determined by the patient's healthcare provider."</b>	Voting no Amendment 4 would oppose adding the following language to Florida's constitution: <b>"No law shall prohibit, penalize, delay, or restrict abortion before viability or when necessary to protect the patient's health, as determined by the patient's healthcare provider."</b>
<b>Amendment 5</b> Annual Inflation Adjustment for Homestead Property Tax Exemption Value	Amendment 5, if passed, would require a yearly inflation adjustment to the taxable value of property.	The Florida Legislature	Voting yes on Amendment 5 would support an annual adjustment for inflation to the value exempt from property tax.	Voting no on Amendment 5 would oppose an annual adjustment for inflation to the value exempt from property tax.
<b>Amendment 6</b> Repeal of Public Financing for Statewide Campaigns	Amendment 6, if passed, would repeal a provision in the state constitution that provides funding to candidates who agree to campaign spending limits.	The Florida Legislature	Voting yes on Amendment 6 would support repealing the constitutional provision which requires public financing for candidates who agree to campaign spending limits.	Voting no on Amendment 6 would oppose repealing the constitutional provision which requires public financing for candidates who agree to campaign spending limits.



# Low-vision clinic helps its patients during World Blindness Awareness Month

By Bryce Johnson

Jacqueline Hinckley, director of the Bachelor of Science program in speech-language and communication disorders, became legally blind in 2021. Since then, she's had a white cane, which people use when they're visually impaired to be aware of their surroundings.

"In the United States, people use a white cane when they meet the criteria for being legally blind, which is not necessarily total blindness," Hinckley said.

With October being World Blindness Awareness Month, Isa Prude, primary care resident with an emphasis in low vision in the College of Optometry, said it's important for visually impaired people to live happy, independent lives.

"When we have more awareness about the different accessibility options

for people who have lost their vision, it allows those people to be connected to those sources sooner, so that they're able to come to terms and start to do the things that they've always wanted to do when their vision has been lost," Prude said.

The Eye Care Institute at NSU Health has several resources to help visually impaired people, like the low vision rehabilitation service.

"The low vision rehabilitation service is open to any patients who are having a reduction in vision that no longer gets corrected with glasses or contacts, medications or surgeries," Prude said. "We do full low-vision evaluations, in which we assess the visual acuities of the patient, as well as talking about their functional needs and goals that they might be having difficulties with."

Prude said the clinic assesses different devices that the patients can use, including magnification, telescopes,

reading glasses or technology like Optical Character Recognition that reads audio. The Eye Care Institute also works with Lighthouse of Broward, a non-profit organization that helps people with vision impairment.

"I have been super impressed with the low vision clinic at NSU," Hinckley said. "I've only been at NSU for six years, so I've been at lots of other eye clinics and I think it's great. They evaluate your vision, but they're the ones that got me to Lighthouse, got me to my mobility training, my white cane and some other trainings, too," Hinckley said.

Hinckley said around 10 to 15% of visually impaired people are totally blind.

"Most people who have vision problems and may be using a white cane can see a little bit," Hinckley said. "I think we have to be more understanding of how disabilities of all kinds have

ranges and gradations."

While NSU has many resources, Prude said some things can be improved, such as having more automatic doors on campus, adding the signs on campus bright letters and giving automated voices to the crosswalks.

"Making sure that it has the talking sound that says the actual number that's going down, saying when it's available to walk. I think that can be one that's helpful," Prude said.

Hinckley also suggested adding tread to the stairs on campus, such as at the Carl DeSantis Building. With the tread, people with low vision would be able to see the stairs better.

"With a white cane, of course I can feel the steps with the cane, but people with low vision might have trouble seeing steps that don't have those markers," Hinckley said.

FROM THE FRONT

## CONGRESSWOMAN



PHOTO BY BRIELLE AGUAYO

Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman Schultz talks about her experience as a breast cancer survivor.

"The instruments to be purchased from this federally funded NIST award will allow for genetic and other analysis, to study how genetic differences among people at the cellular level may contribute to their likelihood of developing cancer, as well as other diseases," Clark said.

George L. Hanbury II, NSU president and CEO, is also appreciative of Wasserman Schultz's funding. He remembers when she helped fund the NSU Guy Harvey Oceanographic Research Center with \$15 million.

"Any time NSU gets more money, it is a wonderful occasion. And Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman Schultz has shepherded a lot of money to come here," Hanbury said. "Thank God the citizens of her district keep electing her over and over and over."

Wasserman Schultz, who is a breast

cancer survivor, was diagnosed when she was 41. She said because she is an Ashkenazi Jewish woman, she was more likely to carry a BRCA mutation, which can lead to breast cancer.

Wasserman Schultz was able to take a genetic test, which analyzed her DNA, and she was positive for a BRCA2 gene mutation.

"One day I was the picture of health, and the next day I was a cancer patient," Wasserman Schultz said. "The research that was done leading up to my diagnosis enabled me to be standing in front of you today. It likely helped save my life and the life of millions of others."

Wasserman Schultz has worked with NSU since it was originally Nova University. She previously hosted the Cancer Survivorship Summit in October 2023 at NSU, featuring a keynote

speech from First Lady Jill Biden. She also presented \$3.8 million to NSU to fund coral reef research in February 2023.

"Nova, from the very beginning, was a forerunner, and a visionary educational institution," Wasserman Schultz said.

Earlier on Oct. 24, Hanbury read an article in the South Florida Sun Sentinel newspaper about a 28-year-old breast cancer survivor. The patient received genetic testing, which analyzed her DNA and found she had a rare gene mutation.

"All of our researchers in the Barry and Judy Silverman College of Pharmacy will be able to use this genetic testing for multiple cancers," Hanbury said.

Dr. Harry K. Moon, NSU president-elect, executive vice president

and COO, said as we age, our genes become unstable, which can make us more susceptible to mutations and cancer.

"These funds, these revenues, will help us at our ultimate cause in improving the health and wellbeing of our country, of society," Dr. Moon said. "And we are committed as a university to fulfilling those dreams."

Wasserman Schultz said that a second Cancer Survivorship Summit is planned for 2025 at NSU, to coincide with National Cancer Survivors Month.

"We look forward to Dr. Moon hosting us again next June," Wasserman Schultz said.



# The NSU Cares Fund aids the NSU community after natural disasters



COURTESY OF AALIYYAH "AD" DYANI  
Hurricane Milton's damage in Tampa, Florida, where Aaliyyah "AD" Dyani lives.

By Bryce Johnson

Aaliyyah "AD" Dyani, graduate admissions counselor at NSU's Tampa Bay Regional Campus, was heavily impacted by Hurricane Milton.

"I live on the first floor, so pretty much everything flooded for me. Water was coming through the floors, through the doors, every

direction. It happened so fast," Dyani said. "Being without electricity for over a week, our food spoiled, we threw a lot of food away. Also with not having electricity or any constant airflow, some of our furniture molded."

Dyani also got a new car a month ago, which is now flooded.

The NSU Cares Fund, a relief fund that gives aid to people affected by disasters, helps people like Dyani.

Kristen Anti, director of annual engagement in University Advancement Services, said the NSU Cares Fund started with the Annual Giving office.

"It's 100% done by donations from the community and NSU community," Anti said. "We provide as much relief fund as possible."

People can apply to the NSU Cares Fund on [www.nova.edu/nsu-cares](http://www.nova.edu/nsu-cares). Applicants have to be from NSU, their individual gross salary must be under \$100,000, they must live in a declared disaster zone, and they must apply within one year of the

disaster. They can list how much money they need.

Yuli Dorado, graduate student and admission services representative at the Tampa Bay Regional Campus, was also affected by the hurricanes. Dirt and water came into her house, damaging the walls and furniture.

"I did lose a lot of my childhood memories, unfortunately. Especially some stuff I had in high school that I had in a bottom drawer. I just lost it all," Dorado said.

Aside from the NSU Cares Fund, other organizations may offer aid, like the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Disaster Assistance Improvement Program.

When looking for resources, Dyani said to beware of scams.

"A lot of people have been creating different things because they know folks are in crisis. Just have more diligence as you are in a panic, trying to get your life back on track," Dyani said.

Originally from Kansas City, Mo., Dyani experienced her first major

hurricane with Hurricane Milton. Dyani advises people to over prepare for future hurricanes. Although it damaged her home, she appreciates how the community came together.

"One of my neighbors gave us a grill. We grilled food for multiple people. We were helping each other out," Dyani said. "I really saw the community come together in spite of it being almost a disaster to be honest."

The NSU Cares Fund is part of One NSU, a fundraising campaign.

For more information:

Scan here to donate to and apply for the NSU Cares Fund



## Shark Pantry announces it's running low on donations

By Bryce Johnson

Shark Pantry is running out of funds and is asking for donations.

The Shark Pantry, located on the second floor of the Don Taft University Center, is a resource for students to get free food, such as bread and cereal. The Shark Pantry also offers toiletries like toothbrushes. It is open on Tuesdays from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., and Fridays from noon to 4 p.m.

"The Shark Pantry is facing a funding shortage as we rely on donations to continue supporting our students," it recently posted on its Instagram account on Oct. 22.

Cayla Hansen, sophomore double major in exercise and sport science and child development, is a student coordinator at the Shark Pantry. Hansen said the Shark Pantry is heavily donation-based and also relies on grants.

"Our students want fresh food like eggs, bread and milk. We used to have that, but now we can't. We don't have any money for it. And so now, obviously, it breaks our heart to open the pantry and to have nothing in there," Hansen said.

Opened in 2021, Katie Gittleman, director of STEM Initiatives and Outreach, runs the Shark Pantry and helped start it with Meline Kevorkian, dean of the College of Computing and Engineering, associate provost and vice president of Academic Quality, Assessment, and Accreditation. Gittleman said different organizations usually collect items for the Shark Pantry. In November, the Shepard Broad College of Law will collect cans to donate to the pantry. Enrollment Management, Student



PHOTO BY BRYCE JOHNSON

From left to right: Nikole Valladares, junior public health major and a student ambassador, Joshua Ganues, sophomore psychology major and a student ambassador, and Cayla Hansen, a student coordinator and sophomore double major in exercise and sport science and child development, work in the Shark Pantry.

Affairs and Athletics is also running a food drive this month for the pantry.

Nikole Valladares, junior public health major and a student ambassador, said the pantry recently had a donation from Feeding South Florida. However, the resources from the donation are running low.

"We still have some of those left over, but we are running lower and lower every day on those," Valladares said. "We are just basically waiting to receive more funds so we can provide more resources for our students."

Gittleman said at the end of the academic year, students can donate any remaining declining balance to

the Shark Pantry.

"Usually around the last week of March, we start promoting it to let students know if you have extra money, you can donate it to the Shark Pantry," Gittleman said.

Hansen said the Shark Pantry will continue because of the need to provide resources for students.

"We love to see students, we love to hear that it works. We love getting feedback from all of our students and hearing how awesome it is, how it helps with food insecurities, how it helps them feel more confident," Hansen said.

If people want to donate to the pantry, they can give money to its campaign on [www.givecampus.com](http://www.givecampus.com). They can also donate food, such as canned fruits, cereal boxes or peanut butter, in the marked Shark Pantry bins, which can be found across campus.

com. They can also donate food, such as canned fruits, cereal boxes or peanut butter, in the marked Shark Pantry bins, which can be found across campus.

For more information:

Scan here to donate to the Shark Pantry





# General Election Watch Party to take place in Honors Great Room

By Antonio Miguel Escorzon

The General Election Watch Party is covering the presidential election results at 8 p.m. on Nov. 5 in the Alvin Sherman Library, Research, and Information Technology Center, Room 4024 – the Honors Great Room. Pi Sigma Alpha, National Political Science Honor Society, is hosting the event.

The election watch party is coordinated by Nelson Bass, chair of the Department of Humanities and Politics, and Ransford Edwards Jr., assistant professor in the Department of Humanities and Politics.

2019 NSU alumna and Pi Sigma Alpha charter president Tal Lubarsky proposed the idea to Edwards, who was faculty adviser for Pi Sigma Alpha. Edwards endorsed the idea, and in 2018, the first watch party was hosted for students.

“After planning the event, we advertised the midterm election watch party to students in Pi Sigma Alpha and for students in the political science major,” Edwards said.

The watch parties are hosted every two years and follow the results for the midterm elections and general elections. Until 2022, the watch parties were hosted in the former Don Taft University Center Flight Deck.

“We moved from the Flight Deck to the Honors Great Room to have more control over the venue. There are more screens in the Great Room, too,” Edwards said.

The watch parties benefit from having different TV screens on during the spectator event. Each

screen displays a different media outlet covering the election results.

Edwards said at the watch parties, he tunes to mainstream media and entertainment, such as CNN, FOX News, MSNBC and ABC.

Bass explained why attendees view multiple media channels during the watch parties.

“As professors, we have to give enough information, so our students are informed,” Bass said. “We make sure to offer different viewpoints and have variety.”

This method allows students with all political viewpoints to join the watch party, watch the media they most prefer and compare how other outlets cover the election results.

Bass said anyone can attend the watch party because, for students, it pays to be informed about candidates’ platforms.

“Being apathetic about voting does not pay off,” Bass said. “The watch parties engender student interest at the campus.”

Faculty from the Department of Humanities and Politics attend alongside students to answer any questions they may have. The watch party is a casual gathering where students can see and experience the significance of elections and voting. Students and faculty find themselves in this exciting environment.

“The watch party environment is fun,” Edwards added. “Through media, politics now has the element of being like a horse race, as watching all these coverages, we will not know what happens on election night.”

COURTESY OF RANSFORD EDWARDS

## Sharks Speak: As an international student, how do you feel about the U.S. elections?



“Well, for me personally, I am from Switzerland, and I feel like it is a little bit out of my hand since I can’t vote anyway. So, in that case it is out of my power, and I don’t really have a strong opinion on it,” said Max Dridi, senior management major.



“I think the elections should matter to everyone because either way, it is going to affect you somehow. So, for the next two years I’m still going to be in college, and it’s going to affect me. I don’t want anything bad to happen to the country,” said Yasmin De Andrade Rodrigues, sophomore communication major and Mako Media Network’s assistant social media manager.



“Well, I do not know much about the topic, but I just see what is happening around. I am from Colombia, so I cannot vote or do much. So I just see what is going on,” said Laura Gutierrez, senior marketing major.



“Compared to my country, it is definitely a more fair election. Like, I feel safer when it comes to the results, but it does seem a little more divided. It reminds me like it was in my country Ecuador, and that is kind of scary because I don’t want to see any bad stuff happening. But, I think whoever comes out victorious should do good thing to the country,” said Julian Cordova, freshman business major.

BY MARTINA VALDOVINOS



# USchool visits Mako Media Network

By Francesca Abarca

On Friday, Oct. 18, first-graders from NSU University School came to Mako Media Network in the Department of Communication, Media, and the Arts for their annual field trip. They enjoyed experiential learning activities at the newspaper, tv studio and radio station.



Marlee Card, junior communication major, and music editor and DJ for Mako Radio, teaches a student how to DJ.



USchool students do a fins-up pose at Mako TV's studio during their field trip.



Matthew McCall, junior communication major, teaches a student how to handle video equipment.



Saul Sztam, associate vice president for financial aid and academic records, helps his daughter Brielle Sztam create her own newspaper with other students.



Carey Courson, communication major and arts host on Mako TV and Mako Radio, teaches first-graders how to make a newspaper in the newsroom.



Olivia Zolk, junior communication major, shows students the monitor that displays the green screen backdrop.

PHOTOS BY BRIELLE AGUAYO



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## FOOD

## Crack the shell on the Crabhouse's history



PHOTO BY BRIELLE AGUAYO

Jean Valer, one of the head cooks, prepares a pot of crabs during the dinner rush.



PHOTO BY BRIELLE AGUAYO

Lorimet Lazare, line cook, stirs pasta in their famous sauce, which is from a dish called Loraine's Famous Linguine.

By Francesca Abarca

Tom and Natalie McCall, married Daytona Beach residents, first walked into Rustic Inn Crabhouse on Oct. 19. They were only in town for the Taylor Swift concert that night in Miami Gardens and heard about the “best seafood restaurant in South Florida” through a bookstore owner.

Rustic Inn Crabhouse is a traditional seafood restaurant that specializes in garlic crab.

“We wanted to sit outside because we like the boats and the scenery of the water and everything, but from the second we walked in, we smelled the ‘famous’ garlic crabs that everyone talks about,” Tom McCall said.

They have now fallen in love with fresh seafood and will return to the restaurant whenever they are in Fort Lauderdale.

“I would say that it's just a relaxing, chill atmosphere. I'd say an old Florida feel-good, local historic place. You can hang out and have fun and just be casual, so we will definitely be back here,” Natalie McCall said.

On Dec. 15, 1955, it opened its doors for the first time on Anglers Avenue in Fort Lauderdale.

Rose Martel, manager for 35 years, said that the main attraction of the restaurant is the interesting and comical history behind the now-famous seafood restaurant.

“It used to be a pizza restaurant by an Italian lady named Gina, where her main attraction was her beer-drinking giant pigs. When Gina finally wanted to sell her place to return to Italy, the original owner tried to buy it to convert it into a bar that had some freshly caught crabs from the canal,” Martel said.

The grandson of the original owner and assistant general manager, Gary Oreal, got into the food business because of his grandmother.

Oreal grandmother's recipes were the original inspiration for the crab house that would come to be.

“I grew up eating my grandmother's crabs. She would make them with the oil, the garlic and the spices. She would make them in pasta sauce with tomatoes and make crab sauce. It was her recipes that inspired me to join the family business to share her recipes with the world,” Oreal said.

The menu offers five different kinds of crab, including the blue crab and the Dungeness crab, which is the most expensive item on the menu. They also have other seafood items, including lobster and shrimp. For customers who are not big fans of seafood, the menu also includes

steak and pasta.

Miramar resident, Karen Aguayo, who grew up coming to this restaurant, still visits with her daughter, Brielle Aguayo, who is the art director and photographer for The Current.

“I grew up coming here with my grandparents. My grandma was a big blue crab eater and, back in the day, it was all-you-can-eat for one price, so we would come and just get trays of crab. It's such a historical place, and being that I got to share that with my grandparents is just so special to me and now I get to share with my family,” Karen Aguayo said.

Martel said that the decor takes one through the journey of the restaurant's history that contributes to the family friendly environment that can be felt.

“The pictures allow you to be transported back to 1955 and see how much has changed since then. I love walking around and reminiscing,” Martel said.

The restaurant staff prides themselves on their family values and fresh-tasting food every day.

“We used to catch all the food locally in the canal but we still try to provide the freshest tasting food there can be,” Oreal said.

Customers like Tom McCall enjoy going to the restaurant for the food, as well as the history.

“All mom-and-pop seafood restaurants have the best food and are the most fun. We love learning more about local businesses,” McCall said.



PHOTO BY MADISON KASPER

Customers enjoy their meals on the waterfront during dinner at the Rustic Inn Crabhouse on Oct. 19.

#### For more information:

**Location:** 4331 Anglers Ave.,  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33312

**Phone:** 954-842-2804

Visit [rusticinn.com](http://rusticinn.com)

#### Hours:

Monday - Saturday,  
11:30 a.m. to 10 p.m.  
Sunday  
12 to 9 p.m.



# Students dealing with election stress

By Adam Sadik and Sneha Subhash

With the presidential election on Nov. 5, students may find themselves overwhelmed with the pressure to stay informed about the current political environment. This stress can present itself as uneasiness about the future or difficulty

concentrating on studies, leaving students feeling drained and uncertain about their own beliefs and choices.

Daniel Johnson, sophomore medical humanities and neuroscience major, knows that students can feel stressed with the pressure of voting.

“I also do believe that my vote

counts and it counts towards something, and that helps with not making it stressful. We, the people, have a voice, it’s not up to one person,” Johnson said.

Leanne Boucher Gill, professor in the College of Psychology, said the stress students get from elections is a form of chronic stress.

“Chronic stress is just not good

for you,” Boucher Gill said. “It is the feeling that it does not only affect you but also the entire world. That is what makes it different. The stress of the unknown, and if you think the stakes are so high if your side does not win, all of that can affect a student.”

Boucher Gill said there are ways for students to avoid stress they may feel during the election period.

“This is hard because you want to disengage, but you also want to stay engaged politically. You can read the news if you want to stay engaged as opposed to watching it,” Boucher Gill said. “Social media also is a problem, as it is hard to get away from political content. Just like anything for stress, exercise, being with your friends and sleep, will help people cope with it.”

Even though the stress is apparent, students are optimistic about the outlook for the future.

“I know that whatever that result is, even if it is not who I want to win, we can just work towards a better country. Whoever is in office, their responsibility is to make decisions, but also it is our constitutional right to use our voice,” Johnson said.



PHOTO BY ROSE JEAN PIERRE

Eve Jones, freshman biology major, works out on the elliptical at the RecPlex.

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# Gallery 217 features DCMA faculty in the 11th Annual Art Exhibition

By Francesca Abarca

The 11th Annual Faculty Art Exhibition will have its opening reception on Nov. 14 from 5 to 7 p.m. in Gallery 217. The exhibition will include paintings, sculptures, drawings and videos from professors in the Department of Communication, Media, and the Arts.

"The inspiration for the art that is usually generated and that appears from one year to the next is always different. And so, it's sort of like thinking about what's on the artist's mind that's inspiring their artwork," said Mario D'Agostino, interim Art + Design program director for DCMA.

Many of the faculty pull

inspiration for their pieces from their own experiences and different backgrounds. They focus on different elements of art, like ceramics, studio art, and graphic design.

Faculty like Kolos Schumy, assistant professor of graphic design, aim to submit pieces every year that catch people's eyes for the exhibition.

"Professor Kolos Schumy teaches a virtual reality, an extended reality course. So a lot of his work is really wild to view and to see because there's always a lot of multimedia that has to come with it to be able to set up the virtual reality stuff that he does that the general public are really interested in," D'Agostino said.

The exhibition is seen as a giant puzzle because of the way the pieces fit together and all of their elements.

L'Nique Noel is the Gallery 217 manager and exhibition curator.

"It is my first time curating the show, which is really exciting and special for me. This event helps spread the word about NSU's art program and the incredible work our professors are doing," Noel said.

The exhibition is free to the community and will remain open for people to attend until Jan. 31.



## NSU's dance program hosts 150 high school students on campus



PHOTO BY BRIELLE AGUAYO

Madison Cantor, senior dance major, leads jazz funk class to NSU and high school students on Oct. 16.



PHOTO BY BRIELLE AGUAYO

Mika Santo, co director of STYX, far left, teaches contemporary choreography to students on Oct. 16.

By Francesca Abarca

Alonzo Williams, adjunct professor in the dance program, taught a hip-hop class during this year's Dance Awareness Day on Oct. 16. He said dance can be a universal skill.

"Dance is a musical tool to help you navigate through life," Williams said.

Dance Awareness Day is an annual event hosted by the Department of Communication, Media, and the Arts dance program. The classes were taught by NSU faculty, guest faculty from Miami City Ballet, and STYX The Company, a professional dance company.

The event ran from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. in several venues, so each class could take place simultaneously in the Performance Theatre, University Center dance studio 233, the Black Box Theatre, the RecPlex and the Rose and Alfred Miniaci Performing Arts Center.

The NSU dance program

celebrated Dance Awareness Day by hosting classes for college and high school students. Throughout the day, there were 14 different dance classes in styles like improv, contemporary dance, jazz funk, hip-hop and African dance. One of the classes was taught by Madison Cantor, senior dance major.

"Dance Awareness Day is an event that our dance team hosts, and it's mainly just to get people inspired to take class and move their bodies and enjoy themselves in this type of artistic format. It's a way to get NSU students to see what we have to offer here in the dance program. But we also invite high schools to come, so that they see NSU, they see our dance program and they can get inspired to come here," Cantor said.

This year had the largest number of high school students with over 150 students coming to participate in the event.

Elana Lanczi, dance program director of dance, said it's a good

opportunity to have a variety of classes.

"Dance Awareness Day, it's just a fun opportunity to bring in guest artists, to get our dance majors an opportunity to lead a class," Lanczi said.

Many students who are not in the dance program, such as Kiyah Bowen, freshman pre-nursing major, joined the classes to get in touch with their creative side, even if it was their first time dancing.

"I heard about this event through some friends, but I have always been drawn to hip-hop. You can add your own style and taste to it. I think hip-hop is one of those styles where you can personalize it yourself. So it's not super technical," Bowen said.

Mika Santo, co-director of STYX, came to teach a class on contemporary dance in the Performance Theatre at 11 a.m.

STYX also had an informal contemporary performance to end the day and finish celebrating Dance

Awareness Day.

"Watching Mika teach [contemporary] is always such a blessing because she has such sharp movements while keeping a cool flow together," Williams said.

Lanczi said that she sees Dance Awareness Day as a community outreach opportunity, which ties into the planning process.

"One of the things that has been very helpful is that I've been able to establish some relationships with high schools in the area that have been coming more regularly," Lanczi said.

"People are already reaching out to me in the summer to make this happen. I also reach out to my dance students to see who wants to teach a class."



**MUSIC** BY ALEX HERNÁNDEZ AND MARLEE CARD

# Sirena's Aux - Midnight Memories



Looking for Rebellious Nostalgia? Then This is for You.

"Midnight Memories" isn't just another One Direction album—it's a standout moment in the band's history where Liam Payne's

contributions took center stage. Released in 2013, this album marks a transition from their pop beginnings to a more mature, rock sound. While it's not the last album where all five members participated (that would be Four in 2014),

Midnight Memories was pivotal because Liam helped write most of its songs, shaping its distinct tone.

Liam's influence can be felt across the album, particularly in tracks like "Story of My Life" and my personal favorite, "Diana." Both songs display a deeper, more reflective approach to songwriting, signaling a shift toward more personal themes. Midnight Memories captures One Direction at a turning point, where they started exploring more complex sounds and lyrics, and Liam's creative touch played a huge part in that evolution. His songwriting gave the album an emotional resonance that sets it apart from their earlier, more care-free records.

For fans still grappling with the

heartbreaking news of Liam Payne's passing, revisiting this album offers a reminder of his immense talent and contribution to the group's success.

For those who haven't heard One Direction or are missing the band after Liam's passing, Midnight Memories is the perfect place to start. It strikes a balance between their youthful energy and the more mature sound that they would continue to explore in later releases. Whether you're here for the nostalgia or discovering them for the first time, Midnight Memories encapsulates the essence of what made One Direction—and Liam Payne—so special.

## The Chart Buzz

The NACC Chart reflects the most popular music and artists that are gaining traction on college and community radio stations across North America. They offer insights into the ever-evolving taste of younger, experimental listeners who gravitate towards authentic and fresh sounds. This issue's top five artists are from last week, which highlights the emerging talents and represents a blend of themes and genres that resonate with many college-age students.

### 1. MJ Lenderman

This week MJ Lenderman continues to hold the number one spot on the charts, and it's expected that his album will remain on the top charts for a few more weeks. As he began making music at 20 years old with the band "Wednesday," he and his bandmates enjoyed the freedom of songwriting music along with the witty and comical lyrics he was able to create. His sound is a combination indie rock/alternative country with raw, authentic, and at times funny lyrics. Fans of indie rock or country will find his most recent album "Manning Fireworks" especially interesting as many of these songs featured on the album represent themes college students will feel for, relate to, and even laugh with. Yet Lenderman's emotional storytelling songs in this recent album creates a space for listeners to feel seen in their own struggles.

### 2. Ginger Root- SHINBANGUMI

Remaining on the Top Five, Ginger Roots' SHINBANGUMI, features fun, funky sounds providing a retro feel that took inspiration from Japanese city pop, American disco, and funk. The artist behind Ginger Root, Cameron Lew, refers to the album's genre as "aggressive elevator soul," highlighting

his unconventional musical style with the small amounts of witty lyricism. If music with interesting instrumentals and sounds is something that you enjoy, "There Was A Time" or "All Night" shows the album's carefree energy and groovy beats. The '80s retro vibe and lighthearted vibe makes it a perfect playlist to listen to if college students are looking for something upbeat but with substance.

### 3. Suki Waterhouse - A Memoir of a Sparklemuffin

Suki Waterhouse's "A Memoir of a Sparklemuffin," stays steady at third place by pulling in listeners with eclectic '90s indie-pop sound while diving into her experiences as an artist, model, and songwriter. The album's name, Sparklemuffin, was inspired by a recently discovered spider in Australia with a vibrant, funky-colored body. Waterhouse explained in an interview with Sub Pop Records, "It's a metaphor for the dance of life we're all in. The title felt hilarious, ridiculous, and wonderful to me." Throughout the production of this album, she was pregnant with her first child, making the title especially fitting as it reflects the transformative journey she was experiencing. This playful yet profound title embodies both the album and her own evolution during this significant stage in her life. The album blends acoustic and electric guitar riffs with powerful vocals, exploring themes of heartbreak, reclaiming one's story, and living with no fear. Tracks like "OMG" showcase her growth as a songwriter, a vocalist, and in her story of fame. Her authenticity and ability to capture feelings many young adults face in a catchy, relatable way makes the album appealing to those who enjoy introspective music with emotional depth.

### 4. The Linda Lindas - No Obligation

The Linda Lindas truly rose to the top of the charts this week with its second full-length release, a blend of post-punk and garage rock. The young, female-lead group and its newest album "No Obligation" captures the raw energy reminiscent of early punk bands and are defying traditional music norms for girls and women. Songs like "Too Many Things," or "Nothing would Change" showcase its fierce attitude and catchy sounds, which set it apart in the current music scene. Its sound resonates with bands similar to the "Descendents" and "All Time Low," while highlighting female empowerment and resonating with fans across diverse backgrounds. These women stand as an example in the music industry that encourages young adults to break boundaries and embrace their individuality.

### 5. beabadoobee - This Is How Tomorrow Moves

As she remains on the NACC Chart for just about a month, Beatrice Kristi Laus, known as beabadoobee, and her newest album, "This Is How Tomorrow Moves," focuses on her journey into womanhood and personal accountability, offering an introspective take and highlighting growth and self-awareness. Her bedroom pop album and songs like "Everything I Want" holds themes that resonate deeply within college students, who are similarly navigating their journey into adulthood and challenges around identity, responsibility and self-awareness.

*The Chart Buzz was written from last week, which highlights the emerging talents and represents a blend of themes and genres that resonate with many college-age students.*

## MAKO RADIO DJ SCHEDULE

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Noon - 1 p.m. DJ Ray: '90s - 2000s Rock	12:30 - 1:30 p.m. That's News to Us (Nov. 5)	12:30 - 1:30 p.m. OFF-AIR	12:30 - 1:30 p.m. DJ Naty: Latin Music (Oct. 31) DJ Lyric: Indie/Pop (Nov. 7)	Noon - 1 p.m. Off the Record (Nov. 1 and 8) The B-Side (Nov. 15)
6 - 9 p.m. DJ Neptune and DJ Onyx: New Wave/Alternative	6 - 9 p.m. DJ shuffle (DJs change weekly)	6 - 9 p.m. DJ Mojo and DJ Romi: EDM/House	6 - 9 p.m. DJ Ray and DJ Rupee: Rock Alternative	6 - 9 p.m. DJ Vibe and DJ G: International RNB (Nov. 1) DJ Ant and DJ Venus: Indie/Jazz (Nov. 8)



# NSU welcomes dynamic duo: The Cloonan twins

By Isabella Fernandez De Cueto

Madison and Michaela Cloonan, twin sisters on NSU's women's basketball team and graduate business administration students, are ready to compete together as Sharks.

The Kirtland, Ohio, natives both began playing basketball at 8, and have played together since.

"Our older sister and brother both played basketball, so I think just being around it got us into it, and since then we've been playing together on the same team," Madison Cloonan said.

After they graduated from high school, the Cloonan sisters played at Ursuline College in Pepper Pike, Ohio, from 2020-2024. They both saw success at Ursuline, most notably in their senior year, when Michaela Cloonan led the team in points and Madison Cloonan led the team in rebounds and assists. Although they valued their time there, they knew they wanted something new for their last season.

"I think we really wanted a fresh change," Michaela Cloonan said. "We had a great four years at Ursuline, but we wanted to go further away and find new experiences and opportunities for success."

They eventually chose to come to NSU after seeing the women's basketball team's recent success. The Sharks are coming off a historic 25-6 season, where they set a program record with 20 consecutive wins.

"Looking at what the NSU team has been able to achieve in the past few years, we wanted to be part of a winning culture," Madison Cloonan said. "Even looking at other sports teams on campus, winning is the standard here, so we love that and wanted to be a part of this environment."

NSU women's basketball head

coach LeAnn Freeland-Curry is excited about what the sisters will bring to the team this season.

"They have a lot of toughness and fight in them, and they really want to win," Freeland-Curry said. "They work extremely hard and have a fiery enthusiasm for the game, so I'm looking forward to seeing them in action this season."

The Cloonan sisters have witnessed each other's growth simultaneously, resulting in strong chemistry on the court.

"Over time we've really learned how to play off each other's strengths and gotten used to each other's playing style," Madison Cloonan said. "We always know where the other is on the court and we use that to our advantage."

Their shared experiences on the basketball court have created a bond that extends beyond the game.

"There are challenges and adversities that come with being a college basketball player, so being able to face those and go through them together has been helpful and has made our bond and relationship stronger," Michaela Cloonan said.

Living through this basketball journey together has also affected the sisters' passion for the sport itself.

"We love basketball so much already, so being able to play with my sister and closest person to me has elevated that love even more," Michaela Cloonan said. "Playing with my sister has made the sport so much more fun."

After graduating from NSU, the Cloonan sisters plan to continue their basketball career, though they may not be able to stay on the same team.

"We do want to play professional basketball overseas at some point, that would be really cool," Michaela



COURTESY MICHAELA CLOONAN

Madison and Michaela Cloonan play together at Ursuline College during the 2023-2024 season.

Cloonan said. "We would probably have to separate though, it is unlikely that there would be two spots on the same team for both of us."

The Cloonan sisters reflect on their unique circumstances and experiences as they prepare for what may be their last season playing basketball together.

"We feel so blessed to be able to do this. A lot of people don't have this privilege and opportunity, so it's really cool to be able to look back

at what we've been through together and be grateful for all of it while also excited for what's to come," Madison Cloonan said.

## For more information:

To keep up with NSU women's basketball, follow them on Instagram and X @nsu\_wbasketball.

## Sport Shorts

### Women's cross-country, Oct. 25

The women's cross-country team finished in first place at the Sunshine State Conference Championships, making this its first conference title in program history. Jillian Thorning, who was also named 2024 SSC Runner of the Year, finished in first place with a time of 21:45.2. Leena Saidi finished in second place with a time of 21:58.9 and Eden Toal finished in fourth place with a time of 22:14.9.

### Men's cross-country, Oct. 25

The men's cross-country team finished in sixth place at the Sunshine State Conference Championships. Jaime Blazquez was the first Shark to cross the finish line in 21st place with a time of 26:03.3.

### Women's soccer, Oct. 23

The women's soccer team fell 3-1 to the University of Tampa in conference play. Mariela Dolan scored the lone goal for the Sharks, while Sofia Suarez recorded three shots and goalkeeper Emilie Schroder made four saves.

### Men's soccer, Oct. 23

The men's soccer team tied the University of Tampa 1-1 on the road in conference play. Ade Olumyiwa scored the Sharks' lone goal assisted by Kevin Rubaszewski, and goalkeeper Nikolas Ricardo made six saves.

### Women's volleyball, Oct. 22

The women's volleyball team fell 3-1 to the Florida Institute of Technology on the road in conference play. Taylor Stockman led the Sharks with 17 kills, six blocks, and three aces, and Kate Mihacevich tallied 12 kills and two blocks.

### Men's golf, Oct. 21-22

The men's golf team (-8/279/281/284) finished in third place at the Milton Makeup. The Sharks were led by two top-10 finishes by Bruno Marques (6th/66/74/69) and Elias Mardeni (10th/71/70/70).

### Women's golf, Oct. 21-22

The women's golf team (+31/304/298/293) finished in eighth place at the Saint Leo Invitational. Haruka Muta (+5/70/75/76) led the Sharks tied for 18th place and Mei Chan (+7/79/71/73) tied for 22nd place.

### Men's soccer, Oct. 21

The men's soccer team defeated Eckerd College 2-1 in thrilling fashion. Kevin Rubaszewski and Furkan Artar led the Sharks with two second-half goals in the last 15 minutes of the game to secure the win.

### Women's volleyball, Oct. 19

The women's volleyball team defeated Eckerd College 3-0 in conference play. Kate Mihacevich led the team with a season-high 17 kills and Gabrielle Spankus tallied 33 assists.

### Women's volleyball, Oct. 18

The women's volleyball team defeated Saint Leo University 3-0 in conference play. Brittany Landrum had two blocks, making her the program's all-time leader in blocks. The Sharks were also led by Olivia Aniol, who recorded 11 kills.



# Can NSU men's basketball keep the streak alive?

By Bella Giaquinto

Fresh off three consecutive championship-level seasons, the NSU men's basketball team is eager to add to its winning reputation.

The Sharks dominated the past three seasons, compiling a remarkable 99-4 record. They swept the Sunshine State Conference regular season and tournament titles, the NCAA South Region tournaments, and clinched the 2023 NCAA Division II National Championship. Despite falling short in the national championship game last season, losing to Minnesota State University, Mankato 88-85 at the buzzer, they're using that defeat as motivation.

"The guys in the locker room last year definitely have a bitter taste in their mouths," said MJ Iraldi, a graduate student who appeared in all 35 games last season. "It's fueling our desire for revenge this season."

With the 2024-2025 season tipping off on Nov. 2, head men's basketball coach Jim Crutchfield has been preparing the team to carry over the same winning mentality that fueled its previous success.

"We're doing what we always do here, trying to promote a style of basketball that's aggressive and intense and hopefully the result is a lot of points on the board and a lot of W's," Crutchfield said.

Crutchfield will begin his ninth year and eighth season as head coach for the men's basketball program, accompanied by Nick Smith, who enters his second year as head assistant men's basketball coach. As the assistant coach and former member of the basketball team, Smith echoes Crutchfield's commitment to the team's winning philosophy.

"As an assistant, your coaching philosophy is the exact same as the head coach," Smith said.

"All I'm trying to do is take coach's



COURTESY OF NSU ATHLETICS

Men's basketball team sit on the sidelines during the 2023-2024 season.

[Crutchfield] vision and emulate it and reiterate it as much as I can and he's obviously had an unbelievable amount of success, so I know what he wants by now."

So far this offseason, Crutchfield is pleased with the team's progress and emphasizes the importance of its playing style.

"I'll be honest, I really am happy with the overall intensity and the chemistry," Crutchfield said. "I'm kind of looking for perfection so my goals are more about style of play, and I know that if I'm happy with the style of play we're probably gonna win."

Despite facing a near-complete roster turnover last season, the Sharks have welcomed five new players this year, including the return of Dallas Graziani

from Samford University. While this could have disrupted team chemistry, Crutchfield attributes their seamless integration to their recruiting process.

"You know when you recruit the right kind of guys, the chemistry as far as how they get along off the court and with each other personally, it takes care of itself," Crutchfield said.

As for building team chemistry this season, Iraldi confirms Crutchfield's assessment.

"I think the culture here is really good so building chemistry was never a problem," Iraldi said. "Even last year we had 10 new guys and everybody kind of gelled right away."

From an assistant coach perspective, Smith highlights the team's

strong bond as one of his favorite aspects, explaining its off-court extension.

"I think the best thing about our guys is that they're together for weightlifting, for open gyms, and I think as soon as they leave practice, they hang out with each other too so the bonding stuff not only comes on the court, but off as well," Smith said.

Crutchfield emphasizes the importance of fans experiencing firsthand the team's dedication and strong relationships, often overlooked behind the scenes.

"I like to have a team that if you walk in the gym and you didn't know either one of the teams you would cheer for our team because of the way the guys play together," Crutchfield said. "They play this exciting fun up-and-down tempo, we got the type of team you would cheer for."

The Sharks officially kick off their season at the Small College Basketball Hall of Fame Classic in Lakeland on Nov. 2 and 3, facing Gannon University and St. Thomas Aquinas College. The following weekend, they will travel to Montevallo, Ala., for the SSC/GSC Crossover Tournament against University of Alabama in Huntsville and University of Montevallo.

The home opener for the Sharks is on Nov. 15 against Walsh (OH).



COURTESY OF NSU ATHLETICS

MJ Iraldi runs down the court during the 2023-2024 season.

## For more information:

To keep up with NSU's men's basketball team, follow them on Instagram and X at [nsu\\_mbasketball](#).



# EVENTS CALENDAR

## OCTOBER

<b>WEDNESDAY</b> <b>30</b>	<p><b>Trick or Tree A Spooktacular Forest Fest!</b> 5 p.m. Alvin Sherman Library Quad</p> <p><b>Halloween Drag Show Charity</b> 6 p.m. Knight Auditorium</p>
<b>THURSDAY</b> <b>31</b>	<p><b>Trick or Treat</b> 11:30 a.m. Terry Administration Building</p> <p><b>Pumpkin Carving</b> 12 p.m. HPD Clocktower Patio</p> <p><b>Trunk or Treat</b> 5 - 7 p.m. Alvin Sherman Library Quad</p> <p><b>Palmas and Pumpkins: Halloween Party</b> 6 p.m. Flight Deck Multipurpose Room</p>

<b>SATURDAY</b> <b>9</b>	<p><b>Sensory Saturday</b> 9:30 - 10:30 a.m. NSU Art Museum Fort Lauderdale</p> <p><b>Shrek the Musical</b> 7 p.m. The Rose &amp; Alfred Miniaci Performing Arts Center</p>
<b>SUNDAY</b> <b>10</b>	<p><b>Shrek the Musical</b> 2 p.m. Rose and Alfred Miniaci Performing Arts Center</p> <p><b>One Spectacular Night Firework Show</b> 6:30 p.m. Alvin Sherman Library Quad</p>
<b>MONDAY</b> <b>11</b>	<p><b>Bleed Shark Blue Pep Rally</b> 6 p.m. Rick Case Arena</p> <p><b>CoCo &amp; Clair Clair: Girl Tour 2024</b> 7 p.m. Revolution Live</p>

## NOVEMBER

<b>FRIDAY</b> <b>1</b>	<p><b>Shark Pride Friday</b> 12 p.m. Don Taft University Center Spine</p> <p><b>Ornament Decorating Social</b> 12 p.m. DeSantis Room 2060</p> <p><b>Dia de los Muertos</b> 3 p.m. Flight Deck Backyard</p>
<b>SATURDAY</b> <b>2</b>	<p><b>Veteran's Family Day Saturday of Service</b> 9 a.m. Reverend Samuel Delevoe Memorial Park</p> <p><b>5k walk/run for Special Olympics</b> 9 a.m. Alvin Sherman Library Quad</p>
<b>SUNDAY</b> <b>3</b>	<p><b>COIN with Aidan Bissett</b> 7 p.m. Revolution Live</p> <p><b>Weston Estate with Souly Had</b> 7 p.m. Culture Room</p>
<b>MONDAY</b> <b>4</b>	<p><b>Chat and Chew - Why we vote?</b> 12 p.m. Flight Deck Multipurpose Room</p>
<b>TUESDAY</b> <b>5</b>	<p><b>Election Night Watch Party</b> 8 p.m. Don Taft University Center Pit Dining Area</p>
<b>WEDNESDAY</b> <b>6</b>	<p><b>Joyful</b> 10 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Library Quad</p>
<b>THURSDAY</b> <b>7</b>	<p><b>Shrek the Musical</b> 7 p.m. Rose and Alfred Miniaci Performing Arts Center</p>
<b>FRIDAY</b> <b>8</b>	<p><b>Celebrate Diwali!</b> 12 p.m. Flighdeck Backyard</p> <p><b>Fin Films Movie Night</b> 6 p.m. DeSantis Room 2065</p> <p><b>Shrek the Musical</b> 7 p.m. The Rose &amp; Alfred Miniaci Performing Arts Center</p>

<b>TUESDAY</b> <b>12</b>	<p><b>33rd Annual "Anything that Floats" Raft Race</b> 4 p.m. Gold Circle Lake</p> <p><b>Local Natives with Krooked Kings</b> 7 p.m. Revolution Live</p>
<b>WEDNESDAY</b> <b>13</b>	<p><b>Homecoming Fraternity and Sorority Life Stroll Off</b> 7 p.m. Rick Case Arena</p>
<b>THURSDAY</b> <b>14</b>	<p><b>Shark Bites International Food Festival</b> 4 p.m. Don Taft University Center Shark Fountain</p> <p><b>11th Faculty Art Exhibition Opening Reception</b> 5 - 7 p.m. Gallery 217</p> <p><b>HCAS - Movie Night, The Reel: Barbie</b> 7 p.m. Mailman Hollywood Auditorium</p>
<b>FRIDAY</b> <b>15</b>	<p><b>Homecoming Parade</b> 3 p.m. Don Taft University Center Shark Fountain</p> <p><b>Homecoming Tailgate</b> 4 p.m. Mailman Hollywood Parking Lot</p> <p><b>Men's Homecoming Basketball Game vs. Walsh University and Royalty Crowning</b> 7 p.m. Rick Case Arena</p>
<b>SATURDAY</b> <b>16</b>	<p><b>DanceWorks</b> 7:30 p.m. Rose and Alfred Miniaci Performing Arts Center</p> <p><b>Homecoming Bash: Yacht Edition</b> 7:30 p.m. Hollywood, FL</p>
<b>SUNDAY</b> <b>17</b>	<p><b>Sharks in The Garden Brunch</b> 12 p.m. Flight Deck Backyard</p> <p><b>DanceWorks</b> 2 p.m. Rose and Alfred Miniaci Performing Arts Center</p>
<b>MONDAY</b> <b>18</b>	<p><b>Worldwide Yuletide</b> 11:45 a.m. Don Taft University Center Spine</p>
<b>TUESDAY</b> <b>19</b>	<p><b>Nursing: A Global Profession</b> 12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. Alvin Sherman Library 2nd floor Cotilla Gallery</p>
<b>WEDNESDAY</b> <b>20</b>	<p><b>Elf Movie</b> 7 p.m. Rose and Alfred Miniaci Performing Arts Center</p> <p><b>Joyful</b> 10 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Library Quad</p>



# WORD SEARCH

H	I	Y	F	A	U	I	A	E	U	E	B	U	S	P
S	U	N	V	I	S	I	O	N	Y	F	Z	V	T	A
R	G	R	T	M	O	V	O	B	X	E	H	H	R	R
V	F	U	R	E	G	R	S	T	R	E	S	S	E	T
O	U	G	R	I	R	A	G	O	V	H	O	Q	A	Y
T	N	J	H	W	C	N	L	T	H	E	A	R	K	D
E	D	E	V	A	H	A	A	L	M	Q	C	H	Z	L
R	C	O	S	E	Z	F	N	T	E	R	N	J	Z	Y
S	M	O	B	Z	H	R	F	E	I	R	J	I	S	T
Q	E	L	E	C	T	I	O	N	S	O	Y	Q	J	X
J	V	T	W	I	N	S	J	N	F	R	N	Q	L	R
K	V	E	D	O	N	A	T	I	O	N	B	A	F	L
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INTERNATIONAL  
HURRICANES  
STRESS  
STREAK  
FUND

AMENDMENTS  
ELECTION  
DONATION  
TWINS  
LIAM

BASKETBALL  
GALLERY  
VISION  
PARTY  
VOTE

# MATH CORNER

Please send your answer (no need to send any additional scratch work or justification) to Dr. Jason Gershman, chair of the Department of Mathematics, at [jgershma@nova.edu](mailto:jgershma@nova.edu) no later than 5 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 20. The correct answer to this question will appear in the next issue of The Current.

All members of the NSU community are invited to submit their answer and participate. Every member of the NSU community who submits at least one answer during the 2024-2025 school year will be invited to attend a celebration in April as part of Mathematics and Statistics Awareness Month.

The undergraduate student who submits the most correct answers during the contest year will receive the grand prize of a \$50 gift card courtesy of the Department of Mathematics. If, at the end of the contest year, multiple students are tied for the contest champion, a tiebreaker question to determine the grand prize winner will take place where the fastest person to answer correctly wins the grand prize.

While Pi Day Occurs every year on March 14th, United Nations World Statistics Day only occurs once every five years on October 20th. It last occurred on October 20th 2020 and will next occur on Monday October 20th 2025 and you're all invited to the party. The next World Statistics Day after that is on October 20th 2030, a date which can be written as 10/20/30. After October 20th 2030, what is the next date which can be written as two digit month, two digit day, and two digit year such that all three numbers are multiples of 10 and all are in an arithmetic sequence.

Answer to prior issue: The probability is 1/125.

# THE CURRENT'S COMIC



VOTE FOR MAKO

BY NICOLE GOMEZ