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Nova Southeastern University
BEWARE: LANDSCAPING ATTACKS STUDENTS

by Dan Ulman
Associate Editor

The following story is fictional:

The eighteen-year-old freshman screamed as the doctors sliced the bandages off his newly-scarred face. Contusions and welts adorned his visage. He looked like he had just walked off of a Hammer horror film set of the 60's.

The unidentified Nova student's face does not tell the tale of a mugging, or brutal assault. His eyes are wrought with fear, and his story is one of astounding evil.

"I was walking on campus like I usually do on Thursday nights. I can unwind better this way. As I walked around the lake behind the Law Center, I heard a noise in the dark. Foolishly, I went to investigate. Then, I saw it." The student squeezed his eyes shut as he was transfixed back to the evening in question.

NSU's new shrubs may be more than they appear. Photos courtesy of Nathan Burgess.
Letters to the Editor

Editor:

The "AIDS educators" featured in your program were amusing, but it was too bad they presented misinformation and wrong information, in addition to omitting several key pieces of information.

The misinformation had to do with the continual reporting of AIDS cases as cumulative cases, which now amount to over 500,000 in the USA since 1981 or so when the condition was first recognized. This cumulative number allowed the comparison to be made to deaths from several wars the USA has been involved in. No other medical conditions are reported as cumulative cases. This method of reporting also creates the illusion that the epidemic is worsening, since the cumulative numbers will always increase.

In fact, the number of annual new AIDS cases has been decreasing in the USA over the last several years (see the CDC's HIV Surveillance Report at http://www.cdc.gov).

Part of this has to do with a change in the definition of "AIDS" that went into effect on January 1, 1993, when thousands of people literally got "AIDS" overnight (since the new definition called for people with CD4 T cells less than 200 being diagnosed as "AIDS" cases, even if they had no other symptoms). But the decreasing number of new cases is now probably reflecting a genuine slowing of the epidemic in the USA (oddly enough, while other sexually transmitted diseases are increasing).

More misinformation comes in the form of references to global statistics on the epidemic. Statistics based on data from third world countries (where most of "AIDS" is supposed to exist) are subject to skepticism for several reasons.

First, the criteria used to diagnose "AIDS" in third world countries, developed by the World Health Organization (WHO), are very different from the criteria used in more developed countries. The symptoms to diagnose "AIDS" are not unique from symptoms seen in many other diseases endemic to Africans, and due to the costs of the antibody tests for HIV, these are seldom performed. Thus, "AIDS" in third world countries is not uniquely distinct from other diseases that have long been rampant in many of these countries (eg, cholera, malaria and tuberculosis).

Second, even if the estimates are accurate (that is, there are millions of infections allegedly transmitted sexually), does this necessarily translate to something that people in more developed countries should worry about? People in third world countries have many health problems, due largely to their living conditions (that those in wealthier countries do not need to be personally concerned about). Third, despite the estimates that say that HIV is spread predominantly heterosexually in third world countries, there is really no evidence that this is the case in the USA (see the CDC's HIV Surveillance report).

This suggests that the estimate of heterosexual transmission in third world countries is either wrong, or that other factors present in these countries that allow transmission to occur this way. In either case, basing public health policy on what is allegedly occurring in third world countries, while ignoring over a decade of statistics from our own country, is questionable.

Two examples of wrong information from the "AIDS educators":

1. An estimate of 1 million was used for the number of HIV positives in the USA. This number has been used for almost 10 years, remaining constant. Two published studies would suggest that this is an overestimate. A study from the National Center for Health Statistics (Journal of AIDS 7(11): 1195, 1994) estimated that there were about 550,000 HIV+ people in the USA "household population". A study from a CDC scientist published last year (American Journal of Public Health 86(5): 642, 1996) estimated that there were 700,000 HIV+ people in the USA. Even NBC Nightly News reported on March 10, 1995, that the government had overestimated this number and that the new estimate was between 600,000 and 1 million (rather than 800,000 to 1.2 million). All in all, the estimate of 1 million is probably too high; 750,000 would be more accurate.

2. Reference was made to the transmission of HIV from mother to child, and the figure of 40% was given for the odds of this happening in an infected mother. This figure is at the high end of the range that is usually reported (between 15% and 40%). In the study to determine if AZT decreased the transmission from mother to child, the mothers who DID NOT receive AZT transmitted HIV only 25% of the time (while those receiving the drug only transmitted 8% of the time). Studies showing higher rates of transmission are often from third world countries, where other factors, once again, may be more important.

Finally, we were led to believe that Joel got his HIV+ status by having unprotected (heterosexual?) sex while he was drunk. If indeed he was infected from a woman, he would represent a group of AIDS cases (heterosexual female to male transmission) that make up less than 3% of the total AIDS cases. For comparison, less than 3% of breast cancer cases occur in men. Should we have a public policy encouraging men to be screened for breast cancer, and should we have men get up and give seminars about how men should all be concerned about breast cancer?

Or, as we do for breast cancer, should we direct our education campaigns towards those most at risk (ie, homosexual men, drug users, and sex partners of drug users)?

Several examples of inaccurate information and misinformation often come from "AIDS educators". People should be aware that there is a fine line between education and alarmism. For the information omitted by the educators, I would strongly urge interested people to visit any of the following web sites on the internet:

http://www.cdc.gov
http://www.crisis.org/golden/knight.html
http://www.cdc.gov
http://www.duesberg.com

PS-note I am not saying safe sex is bad, only that there are plenty of other reasons to practice it, primarily pregnancy and the more common sexually transmitted diseases (that account for over 99% of all cases of STD's).

Todd Miller is a Ph.D. of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology.
SGA Elections Cause Confusion

by Nathan Burgess
Editor in Chief

SGA elections involved voting on March 18th and 19th, between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. in front of the Parker building. This event had been advertised by the Student Government Association and Student Life for weeks. With only one actual race, the stakes were high. In one corner, stood Tim Connelly, Commuter Representative 1996/97, while the other stood Tim Connolly, Commuter Representative 1996/97, and the leader of the ‘Dynamic 6’ ticket.

As anyone who has been at this school for more than a year knows: SGA elections have low turnouts generally, and the winners are announced the next day, usually in fact, later in the day after the polls have closed.

This was hardly the case in the 1996/97 elections. With the new NCSGA constitution in place, this was the first time for the new hand of the Student Government to stretch itself. After the votes had been tallied, 129 in total, a majority was found. Tim Connolly had ‘won’ the election.

But wait, he wasn’t being declared the winner. Why?

A quick scan of the new Constitution finds that there is no set standard that states how much a student must win by.

In an interview with Johnny Blaze, member of the Elections Commission, he explains that prior to the elections, the elections commission had established that the winner of the SGA races will have to win with a two-thirds majority, which in this case would have been 86 students.

Furthermore, Mr. Blaze explained that in addition to the ratio requirement, the office of Student Life had wanted to receive a voter turnout of at least 150 students, and that anything lower would be an insufficient sampling of the population.

“We [Mr. Blaze, and Mrs. Collette Taylor, Assistant Director of Student Life] decided that if we had 150 people to vote, that would be good enough. But we didn’t have that. When we saw that only 129 people had voted, we didn’t feel that enough people voted. So, we decided to stretch the case in the direction that [SGA] ‘the number of cases heard and the number of students seen and the number of conclusions met.’”

In an interview with Dr. Bernard Mulvey, Honor Court Chairperson, and Assistant Professor of Liberal Arts, his reaction was “that is inappropriate.”

Dr. Mulvey goes further to state that the Honor Court reports to the Dean. It’s not a Student Government organization.

“So the Judicial Branch, whatever that is, that has yet to be defined, asks for three numbers [see above]...so if someone writes, 2, 5, and 6 apparently that’s it. That’s ridiculous.”

Reading further into the document, Dr. Mulvey’s confusion mounted, as he inquired, “is this a draft?” only to learn that indeed the document he held in his hands was the one the students had voted on. Dr. Mulvey’s confusion metamorphosed into concern as he continued, “[B]ut it needs to be approved by the Dean. Students can’t make a constitution with rules that bind other members of the university community.”

Further reading brought along further problems, “(reading from the constitution) membership shall consist of three students elected in general elections, then interviewed by the Faculty Honor Court...” no it’s the other way around. Students are interviewed to see if they are eligible nominees, then those, once approved, are then elected.”

Dr. Mulvey did state definitively that, “They [SGA] can say whatever they want to, but this has no authority over me or the Honor Court.”

“I wonder why the Student Government Association took it upon themselves to rewrite the section of the Honor Code concerned with the Honor Court. It is already there, it is already written, it’s already in existence, and it has authority, because this is a committee that is charged by the Dean and the vice president of Student Affairs.”

Dr. Mulvey concluded by saying that, “I applaud the Student Government’s attempt to take control of their Constitution and revise it according to the needs of the moment. Unfortunately, in this particular case, they seem to have overstepped their authority, and secondly have proceeded in a relatively discourteous way in the sense that they’ve ignored the documents and persons who are already constituted to carry out these functions. I’m not sure what purpose that serves. Why would they proceed to rewrite documents that already exist that they have no authority to change? That all troubles me.”

Dean of the Farquhar Center for Undergraduate Studies, Dr. Stuart Horn commented on the issue that “That’s all new to me.” No one had
HIV Doesn’t Cause AIDS

by Kai Thorup
Contributing Writer

Editor’s Note: This article is Part II of IV. The first part of this article appeared in the 12 March 1997.

Many problems exist with the HIV test itself. The test can be wrong over fifty percent of the time because it does not detect the HIV virus. Instead, it detects a reaction to the HIV antibodies from the HIV antibodies will cause the test to be positive. The test can be wrong because there are no real HIV antibodies whatever, that they are all pretend-ers.

Many “pretenders” can cause a false-positive HIV test result. For example, seven out of ten people given flu shots test “positive” for HIV. Seventy-five to eighty percent of malaria patients test “positive.” Human leukogenic antigens and human T-cell antigens from blood transfusions can also cause a false-positive test result. Prior pregnancy, mitochondria antibodies; Lupus; rheumatoid arthritis; hypergamma-globulinemia, which is an excess of gamma globulin in the blood, all will cause the “positive” reaction. Traces of p24 antigens are widely believed to be an indicator of HIV infection and can cause a “positive” test result. Among other diseases, p24 antigens are found in multiple sclerosis, T-cell lymphoma, and generalized warts. The list of “pretenders” goes on to include Hepatitis B vaccinations, once given for free and are recommended to homosexuals as standard policy at AIDS clinics, the ingestion of foreign sperm, semen in the blood from anal intercourse, and heat treating or prolonged storage of the plasma sample.

Even a simple infection can lead to a “positive” test result. Finally, Michelle Cochran, who has studied AIDS in Uganda and Kenya on a research scholarship, claims “it is also possible someone will test ‘positive’ for HIV, but have HIV-2 instead of HIV-1, which is not considered to be the cause of AIDS.”

To give another example of the gross inaccuracies of the HIV test, the World Health Organization conducted a study testing fifty million people in the former Soviet Union for HIV over a two year period. Fifty thousand “positive” results were found. When the researchers went back to confirm these results, they discovered only three hundred. That is one hundred-sixty-five false positives to every one true positive. The Lancet stated the actual AIDS cases numbered in two-digit figures, somewhere between ten and ninety-nine.

Christine Johnson, a supporter of the Group for the Scientific Reappraisal of the HIV Hypothesis, in an interview by Ed Lieb for the Matthew Grace New York City cable television show, warned that “the test should be outlawed. It should be banned. Nobody should be allowed to give the test.” She continued, suggesting that “if (your) insurance company wants (you) tested, or if (you) wanted to travel and they say (you have) to test, perhaps you should register a written legal protest…”

Dr. Duesberg, along with many of his colleagues, believes there are many inconsistencies between AIDS and infectious disease. There has never been one documented case where a person acquired AIDS from HIV or sex. In fact, HIV is present in semen from only one out of twenty-five antibody-positive men. According to Dr. Casper Schmidt, a psychiatrist who published his first AIDS dissenting paper in 1984, the “figures put out by the CDC in February, 1993, show that of nearly thirteen-thousand people who (have) got a significant amount of blood in their bodies (to infect them with HIV through needle-stick injuries over the last twelve years),” and “who then became HIV-positive amounts to a total of 0.013 percent…” He concludes that “on the basis of this evidence, there is no way that AIDS can be an infectious disease.” Dr. Roger Cunningham, an immunologist, microbiologist, and the director of the Ernst Witsky Center for see ALTERNATIVE on page 12
HIV Does Cause AIDS

by Tim Connelly
Contributing Writer

Before the discovery of human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), the virus that causes AIDS, epidemiological studies of AIDS patients' sex partners and AIDS cases occurring in blood transfusion recipients before 1985 clearly showed that the underlying cause of AIDS was an infectious agent. Infection with HIV has been the only common factor.

One important question to answer is why some people exposed to HIV become infected and others do not. Scientists believe it is most likely because of how infectious the other person is and how they are exposed. Approximately 30% of children born to HIV-positive mothers are infected with the virus. A very few people in high-risk groups such as homosexuals, spouses of HIV-positive hemophiliacs, and African Prostitutes seem to be completely resistant to infection by HIV.

More than 90% of persons who were exposed through an HIV-infected unit of blood became infected. So we know that persons who were exposed through an HIV-infected unit of blood became infected. So we know that blood-to-blood contact is a very efficient way that HIV is spread, according to the Center for Disease Control in Atlanta, Georgia.

Some people argue, despite overwhelming evidence, that HIV does not cause AIDS. Some say that because HIV is a retrovirus, (subspecies Lentivirus), it should not cause disease. Defined in the Random House College Dictionary, the prefix “RETRO” refers to “backwards.” This is interpreted by some scientists to be a healing virus. Because they conceive all other viruses to be harmful, it seems logical that a backward virus would be healing. Molecular Biology does support some evidence for the possibility for using some viruses in the family of Retrovirus for correcting genetically-linked disorders.

Using these viruses as a vector, it is possible to introduce functioning genes into cells that would not normally be functioning correctly. Ironically, the name Retrovirus is derived from the words Reverse Transcrasipase, which is a description of the molecular processes that the virus uses to infect host cells. The word has nothing to do with the meaning in the dictionary that has to do with “backward.”

Among RNA viruses, only the oncoviruses (cancer causing viruses) in the family Retroviridae cause Cancer. Retroviruses are known to cause adult T cell leukemia and lymphoma in humans. The ability of retroviruses to induce tumors is related to their molecular process of reverse transcription. Michael Bishop and Harold E. Varmus of the USA received the 1989 Nobel Prize in Medicine for proving that cancer-inducing genes can be carried by viruses.

Besides the argument that some people present that retroviruses do not cause illness, they also argue that HIV can not be proven to cause AIDS because it does not grow on an artificial medium. This is far from true. It is possible to grow HIV in white blood cells on an artificial medium, however it has to be grown in large amounts. These amounts are far more than would be naturally occurring. This fact involves the data collected from these studies to different interpretations.

However, few viruses can be effectively grown in an artificial environment because they multiply only within the cell. Treponema pallidum is known cause syphilis, but virulent strains have never been cultured on artificial media. Several other pathogens cannot be grown in an artificial environment. However, overwhelming evidence from infected individuals that test positive for an infective agent that corresponds to their illness, gives us the scientific basis for diagnosing the causative agent of the disease.

There is also a question raised by some people as to why a number of people test negative for HIV just before they die of complications due to AIDS. How is this possible if HIV causes AIDS? There is a very logical answer to this question. AIDS is a Lentivirus, which is, as discussed earlier, a subspecies of a retrovirus. These types of viruses are “dump viruses,” in that they kill the hosts they infect, thus eventually killing themselves.

When a patient has a very low T-cell count, such as those patients in the last stages of AIDS, there are also very few viral HIV particles. This is because there is nowhere else...
Psych Club Aids Kids in Distress

by Nicole Shiber
Psychology Club Member

On March 1, 1997, the NSU Psychology Club visited Kids in Distress for a volunteerism project. We met in front of the Parker building and decorated our club t-shirts with colorful teddy bear name tags. We drove over and met the clown that the executive board of the club had arranged to entertain the children.

For an added treat President Joanie Cooper put together stacks of juice and cookies from each of the Psychology Club Member

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For an added treat President Joanie Cooper put together stacks of juice and cookies from each of the children to enjoy after the performance. There were approximately thirty children ranging in age from toddlers to twelve year old kids ready to watch magic tricks.

The club members interacted with the children and helped out handing out their treats while the clown made a balloon animal to each child's color and shape specifications. We all were happy to see the children enjoy themselves and be so receptive to a little bit of generosity on the club's part.

After the children reconvened in their cottages to prepare for lunch, the club members discussed their experiences. The general feeling was surprise. We were so happy to see these not-always-fortunate children be cheerful. Another feeling was that what we did provided a great time for everyone, but that more could be done. The house parents told us that they hoped we would come back. Perhaps other organizations around campus could take turns visiting and planning events for the different age groups of kids there. As Alvin, a member's husband and great volunteer, stated, "A child needs a childhood."

Sometimes organizations like these are overlooked for funding, but more importantly, they are overlooked by people. The director told us that most people only help around the December holidays and that it was refreshing to have someone plan an event in the Spring. A lot of the children seemed to be more impressed with having kind human interaction than receiving hand-outs.

We left with a warm feeling, but the reality began to sink in that these children need constant love and support. Overall, this is an organization that the Psychology Club would like to visit again. The kids had a good time, confirmed by another house parent's statement: "This is wonderful. Thank you so much for all that you've done. The kids really liked this event!" It took only a little of our time and effort and anyone could spare some time for these great kids.

Join the SCO

by Mary Matos
Business Manager

Ever wondered what the Student Communication Organization is? I know, it's right up there with the meaning of life. The official newspaper (The Knight) and radio station (WNSU 92.9FM) of Nova Southeastern University along with their business department are the three components of the SCO.

Perhaps the most unique aspect of this campus organization is that it is almost entirely student run except for the three faculty advisers that oversee each department (Dr. Chris Jackson, Dr. Lynn Wolf, and Professor James Dean). There are a number of paid student positions in all three departments. However, the organization also relies on a large number of volunteers to operate efficiently (writers, cartoonists, distributors, DJs etc.).

The SCO functions under the Dean's office. This, for the most part, means that its operating budget comes primarily from that source (as opposed to relying on student activity fees). In addition, the newspaper and the radio station strive to someday become self-sufficient by bringing in advertising revenue.

Nova Southeastern University—in its tradition to offer students hands on experience in various fields—once again allows students to take an active role in the media industry. Students contribute to present the finished product for both the newspaper and the radio station by writing stories, laying out the paper (all on computers), selling ads for the paper and the radio station, programming music for the various radio shifts, making sure the papers are distributed all over campus, hooking up cable splitters in dorm rooms, and a number of other exciting ways.

Being a member of the SCO comes with a lot of responsibility (not printing libelous articles, not broadcasting profane lyrics, etc.)—talk about preparation for "the real

See STUDENT on page 16

Hunger and Homelessness Week

by Christina Gay
Campus Life Editor

In April of every year, the National Student Campaign Against Hunger and Homelessness (NSCHH) promotes Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week, a slew of activities dedicated to increasing awareness among students and community members of these problems. The week culminates in the Hunger Clean-Up, a day of community-sponsored community service.

This year, S.C.O.R.E. and Alpha Phi Omega have taken on the responsibility of organizing the week's events. It is fine that we have done this, but it is you, the student leaders, who can make this event work.

The week of April 7-12 kicks off on Monday from 12:00-2:00 p.m. in the lobby of the Parker Building with a canned food drive that will hopefully continue throughout the month.

On Wednesday, a community service project with Love Thy Neighbor, a community organization that targets the homeless in South Florida, providing food at regular intervals from 12:00-2:00 p.m., also in the Parker lobby. We will be making sandwiches for these members of our community and (for those who chose to do so), will also serve them at Ft. Lauderdale beach from 4:30-7:00 p.m.

Saturday is the Hunger Clean-Up, a community service effort intended to raise money for charity. This is done by students getting sponsorship or donations from friends, family and community organizations, churches, businesses, etc. in support of their service hours. The funds raised are then disbursed: 50% goes to the NSCHH, the other 50% to a local charity.

See NSU on page 16
Health Fair Offers Free Massage and More

by Jennifer Lenz
Contributing Writer

Last year, the Wellness Center and the Health Professions Division were approached by Dr. Smith, the Associate Dean of Student Affairs to help coordinate the first-annual Health Fair. The event turned out to be a huge success and once again, the Wellness Center is sponsoring their annual Health Fair. The event will take place on Friday, April 18 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the Rosenthal Dining Hall.

The Wellness Center and Student Heath Advocates of Peer Education have been responsible for coordinating tables and contacting different agencies to participate.

A few of the many agencies that participated in last year’s Health Fair included: the NSU Community Clinic, the Sugar Free Market Place, the Massage Institute, Planned Parenthood, U.S. Total Fitness, the American Red Cross and many others. Many of the same organizations will participate again this year. The Supplement Warehouse was contacted and is very eager to attend the event for the first time.

There are approximately 150-200 students expected to attend in addition to the expected 10,000 community members. The Health Fair is not for profit. Its sole purpose is to provide people in the community with information about different organizations in our area to better our health. There will be health screens, physical therapy massages, massage therapy, eye screening, and much more. Last year, Lighthouse donated keychains and brochures and Hospice Care of Broward County brought candy for the kids, pamphlets, and an easy-to-carry medical information insert for wallets.

The Health Fair is something that everyone can benefit from. I encourage each and every one of you to attend this year and find out what these organizations are all about. Not only will it be fun, but I am sure that the information they will provide will prove to be very beneficial to you or someone you care about in the future.

For more information on the Health Fair, or on volunteer opportunities, please call The Wellness Center at (954) 262-6401.

The Health Fair will be located in the RSC Dining Hall on April 18 from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. There will be a workshop on April 25 from 7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. about stress, nutrition, and exercise.
Greek Life

Sammy’s 1997 Conclave

by Ray Black
Contribution Writer

In the lobby of the Rolling Hills Resort Hotel, two brothers, although complete strangers, greet each other with a handshake and a smile. Two brothers, who have never met. How could this be? Is this a remake of the movie Parent Trap, upon which two twins were separated at birth? Or perhaps the relationship of two step-brothers in a real-life version of the TV sitcom Step by Step?

While both of these two examples seem logical and maybe even widespread in today’s film society, this isn’t a Hollywood Feature Film. In fact, these two brothers share no legal or blood relationship. Instead, these two men are members of the International fraternity Sigma Alpha Mu and participants in The 1997 Conclave.

This year, NSU’s brothers of Sigma Alpha Mu hosted their fraternity’s annual Conclave, a three day conference and exchange of fraternity ideals.

All in all, over fifty brothers of the Southern region came for this year’s Conclave, which was held from Feb. 14 - 17.

In addition, members from Sigma Delta Tau, Sigma Alpha Mu’s Sister Sorority, attended and contributed to the conference discussions. NSU, Louisiana’s Tulane University, Stephen F. Austin State University of Texas, Florida Atlantic University, Florida International University, and University of Miami are just some of the Universities that took part in this event.

This three-day Conclave offered workshops on various topics and provided an exchange of ideas between members from different schools. There were discussions on Scholarship, Male-Female Relationships, Leadership, Alcohol & Sex, and several other topics.

There Brothers were encouraged to openly discuss these topics with the Sisters of Sigma Delta Tau, and vice-versa. This allowed for impartial and accurate answers to both fraternity and sorority members.

The sessions closed with a semi-formal banquet with guest speaker Dr. Martin Parks.

Dr. Parks, a professor at NSU, gave an excellent speech on the changing face of the leader in the 90’s. His insight illuminated the discussions of that morning, providing a medium for the Conclave participants to reflect upon.

Furthermore, each of the organization’s Presidents expounded upon the topics discussed, and the extraordinary value of membership in a fraternity or sorority.

Conclave was a success.

Stereotypes of Greek Organizations

by Andrea Solheim
Greek Life Editor

“Why do you want to buy friends when you can have friends for free?” This is a question all Greek organizations are asked almost on a daily basis. Many times, the “brother” or “sister” feel as if they have to defend themselves, but in reality, it all comes down to education.

To be involved in any organization, funds are a necessity to be successful. For the organization to grow and become united, time spent together is required, whether it be attending a speech, going on a ropes course for team building, or simply just hanging out.

The difference between sororities and fraternities from any group of friends, is that the events they do are organized in advance. The money required for the event is then paid previously. In return, the individual doesn’t have to worry about costs later. This is where the money, the supposed “paying for your friends” goes to.

Fraternities and sororities also have been stereotyped as the Animal House type. Although socials do occur, there is more to being Greek than the parties.

In fact, Greek organizations are required to complete community service projects, fund raise for philanthropies, and attend retreats which involve intense trust with “brothers” and “sisters.” For example, Delta Phi Epsilon attended a retreat in the Keys for the transition of officers on the executive board.

During this retreat, the in-going and out-going E-board learned how to sail. This takes extreme team work, trust, and communication skills to be successful. Learning how to depend on a “sister” or “brother” takes quality time and growth through experiences such as sailing.

Through all of the experiences, hard work is involved as well. The amount of time and dedication involved is incredible. As for Beta Theta Pi, their members have been working for their Charter for three years.

Now, after showing their dedication to community service events, and fund-raising, as well as involvement on campus-life, increasing the amount of brothers, and constantly working to earn the recognition from Nationals as a well-rounded group of men, they will be receiving their Charter this year.

This is proof of true leadership skills, team-work, trust, and the ability to succeed that every person in a sorority or fraternity has the opportunity to experience.

Therefore, “buying your friends” may seem to be the situation to an uneducated individual, but as you can see, it is an honor to be a part of a Greek organization. We are “Friends by chance, but sisters/ brothers by choice.”
Offended by the Bursar's Office

by Nathan Burgess
Editor in Chief

Last week, I became more offended than I had ever been here at NSU. Realizing I had time in my schedule, I decided that it would be advantageous to my program to take an additional course.

After going through the usual process of finding a class that will fill a requirement, that is being offered at the same times that I am available, and having one of my advisor's sign the necessary forms, I went to the Bursar's office for the required paperwork, before the Registrar's office would register me.

I, as have many other students, have been in the Bursar's office more than I'd like to think about.

A few things to notice about the Bursar's office next time you visit: First, the outer office where students sit is much darker than the area behind the window.

This makes the person behind the window almost seem to glow with a halo. A very powerful effect, indeed.

Second, and possibly most important, is the height of the seats. The chairs in which students sit are much lower than those of the employees, and are even disproportionately low for the countertop provided for the student to write upon. This has the same effect as whenever one is forced to literally look up at someone. It makes the Bursar's office employee seem very powerful, and makes the student seem and feel small in comparison.

This is a very good technique to cut down on possible confrontations.

Yet another factor to take into account is the windows in the Bursar's office. Due to the strong air conditioning on the inside of the window, a constant stream of cold air exits from the holes in the window, located near the hands and the face.

This dries out the eyes of anyone sitting on the outside, which causes much blinking, and eye watering. This is a condition some would find very aversive.

All of these factors give the Bursar's office the psychological advantage over the student from the minute he/she walks in the door.

But I digress. After sitting down and handing in my paperwork, I was told that payment was needed up front for this class since it was an 'add' in the middle of the term. While I had been hearing about this policy for years, I had never seen it in action, even when adding other classes during a term.

Not wanting to jump to conclusions, I inquired why there was suddenly such a problem with merely 'billing' my account. After all, I've been a student at NSU for the past two years. I've paid all my other bills on time, I live and work on campus, and my permanent address is less than an hour's drive away. As a lawyer would put it, I pose no 'flight risk.' Nonetheless, I needed to pay then. It was "policy."

Asking if a supervisor could break the rules, I was told, "possibly," and so I asked to speak to a supervisor.

So I waited again in the conditions previously described.

Since not many students carry a spare $975 in their wallet, and students, males especially, rarely carry around their checkbook, my only way out would have been my Check Card, which was a last resort. The absurdity of this rule was beyond me. I was convinced that the supervisor would see that I live on campus, work here as well, and that I'm not going to register and skip town, leaving NSU with a grandiose bill.

After all, even alleged criminals get out of having to pay bail if they don't pose a flight risk.

In actuality, the supervisor's response to my concerns made me wonder how she got the job. The responses sounded more canned out of this 'supervisor' than out of the student worker, who at least seemed genuinely upset. 'Policy' was the word of the day as I chuckled over my Check Card, muttering the comment, "You'll hear about this."

All the while, I gently commented to myself, "Yah, you'll write an editorial, a letter to the Bursar, and get a rubber stamped response, reiterating the 'Policy.'"

What else can be expected when apathy is rampant on a campus such as ours? When no one is satisfied with everything, and no one is willing to try to change anything?

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Theodore Witcher Puts Romantic Love at the Heart of *love jones*

by Kelvin Vidale
Entertainment Editor

Do men and women understand each other? Writer-director Theodore Witcher revisits this question in one of the season’s most anticipated films, *love jones*. This film centers on a group of Black friends that want to understand how one’s gender impacts a relationship. Full of attractive faces and devoid of soap opera dialogue, *love jones* guarantees to please any audience.

Witcher’s story presents several young and college-educated Black characters who share an appreciation for relationship-oriented conversation and poetry. Nina Long (Nina Mosley) stars as a woman who tucks away her emotions only to learn that her strategy has little discouraging effect on the focused scope of Larenz Tate’s hungry eyes (Darius Lovehall).

Nina earns a living as a photographer and jot down her most intimate thoughts in her esoteric world of poetry while Darius plans to survive as a novelist. (He has a poetic mind of his own, too.)

Their favorite pastime leads them to a poetry club called the Sanctuary. On their first encounter, Darius sends erotic vibes to Nina. His performance of “Blues for Nina” touches not only her pleasure spots but caresses the audience’s sensitive zones as well. After they have a man-to-woman twist in Nina’s apartment, things get complicated.

One would think that with all the talk they have on relationships that a love life based on any terms would come easy to them. Unfortunately both characters must deal with emotional maturity. Their roles hardly make matters easier.

Darius’s pal, Sevan (Isaiah Washington), has a more companionhip but when he separates from his wife and courts a young female acquaintance, Darius loses some confidence in long-term commitment.

What makes matters worse is that his other buddy, Hollywood (Bill Bellamy), attempts to make him jealous by dating Nina.

Other characters decorate the screen with their handsome looks (check out the lips on Leonard Rober-
Psychology Club Readies for Stretch Run

Press Release

Wednesday April 9, 1997
Parker 241
Coordinator: Nicole Shiber

Disabled or challenged? What is politically correct? Are these important issues in the field of psychology? You bet they are. Some of our members face these issues on a daily basis.

Come and hear their personal stories about what it is like living, working, and studying without the sense of sight. Be prepared to be transformed and inspired by fellow students! This is one meeting that can't be missed — it's that important.

Wednesday April 23, 1997
Rosenthal Dining Room
Coordinator: Club Officers

It's time to celebrate a very successful year with the Psychology Club. Officers and members will be awarded for their outstanding efforts and contributors to our school and community. Best presenter, Most Outstanding member, and volunteerism appreciation certificates will be awarded.

Also, 1997/98 officers will be inducted. A full service dinner banquet will be provided at no cost to members. Share good cheer with Psychology department professors and fellow Psychology majors. Please RSVP by April 9, 1997 at (954) 921-6844 (Joanie Cooper) to reserve your seat.

New Dates for Minnelli

Press Release

Liza Minnelli's two concert dates have been rescheduled for Sunday, March 30 and Monday, March 31 at the Broward Center for the Performing Arts

Patrons who purchased tickets through the Broward Center Box Office or TicketMaster for the February shows can use those same tickets for the new dates in March. Tickets for the Sunday, Feb. 23 show will be honored on Sunday, March 30; tickets for the Monday, Feb. 24 show will be honored on Monday, March 31.

Ticket holders who need more information can call the Broward Center's Box Office at (954) 462-0222 or any TicketMaster outlet at (954) 523-3309 in Broward, (305) 358-5885 in Dade and (561) 966-3309 in Palm Beach.

Both shows will begin at 8 p.m. in the Broward Center's majestic Au-Rene Theater. The Broward Center for the Performing Arts is located at 201 S.W. Fifth Avenue in Fort Lauderdale.

Residential Life Rates for 1997-98

Press Release

Housing Rates:
1997-1998 Academic Year
Undergraduate Housing (Leo Goodwin Hall)
Single $2607/Semester
Double $1686/Semester
Graduate Housing (Apartments)
Single $2740/Semester (1 Bedroom Apartment: 1 Student)

Rates are Subject to Change
Immunology at the State of New York in Buffalo explains, "you should be able to transmit the agent that is (causing) the infectious disease" by "removing the agent from the animal which has been infected, put it to another animal and transmit the disease (in) this fashion. This "has never been done with the agent we call HIV."

Duesberg believes that HIV or AIDS cannot be spread through sexual contact.

Since 1987, AIDS has "claimed only 0.03% per year from a reservoir of over 100 million susceptible, sexually active Americans, although conventional venereal diseases are increasing in the U.S. and there is no anti-HIV vaccine" to impede the spread of the virus. Christine Johnson states that "many different studies have been done of prostitutes which show that they don't have anymore HIV antibodies than anyone else."

In an interview for New Age Journal by Stuart Timmons, Peter Duesberg claims "if AIDS is not caused by HIV (and) is not infectious, as I maintain, then safe-sex is going to protect you against AIDS the way a gas mask protects you against a machine gun.... Safe-sex is good for preventing pregnancy and venereal disease" not HIV and AIDS.

The way HIV is spread is from mother to child at an efficiency of about fifty percent.

The information presented in this article should in no way suggest dis-continuing safe-sex practices. It is the author's opinion that the use of a condom to protect from a disease that is drug induced is irrelevant. However, a condom will protect from unwanted pregnancies as well as numerous genuinely sexually transmitted diseases.

As always, abstinence is the only way to truly be safe.

To Be Continued in the Next Issue
CDC Evidence Refutes HEAL's Theories

for them live. Because of this it is sometimes possible for patients in the final stages of AIDS to test negative for HIV.

Finally there are arguments that doctors are misdiagnosing AIDS in individuals who are ill and fall into the "high risk" category. At one point, there may have been an argument for this.

However, today's medicine demands comprehensive medical examination before the diagnosis of almost any disease no matter how obvious the symptoms. Before someone is diagnosed as having HIV or AIDS, he/she usually undergoes at first an ELISA (enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay) test.

If this test is positive, it is often that the patient's sample's referred to another lab for reanalysis. If these test results come out positive for the antibodies that the human body produces when exposed to HIV, the patient can then be tested for the virus itself using a Polymerase Chain Reaction test (PCR).

This test is fairly new and can show the presence of HIV as early as two weeks after initial infection. In our society of "sue happy" individuals, physicians must be very careful not to incorrectly diagnose someone with a disease or virus that in almost all cases eventually leads to death.

This article concludes with several important points. I firmly believe that science should be constantly questioned. It is often what we now believe to be scientific facts were discovered well before its time and was ignored for many years.

This fact in itself is a shame. However, to speculate that HIV does not cause AIDS without providing even a scientific hypotheses as to what does, is ethically, morally, and professionally wrong.

Even more detrimental to the general well being of our society is to make these claims without stressing that AIDS is a sexually transmitted disease that will eventually lead to death by opportunistic infection.

By using effective lying techniques and giving sociologically based answers to scientific questions, organizations that argue that HIV doesn't cause AIDS must learn to live with the fact that people who believe them, and don't take the necessary steps prevent the contraction of HIV will, in most cases, eventually die of complications due to AIDS. Don't let yourself be one of them!

For more information on HIV and AIDS, feel free to contact the following:

CDC National AIDS Hotline 1-800-342-2437
The NSU Wellness Center 262-6401 or Type "AIDS" or "HIV" on any search engine on the World Wide Web.
Protect Your Fertility and Your Future

Press Release

The American Social Health Association emphasizes that sexually active young people must protect themselves against sexually transmitted diseases and be routinely tested for these infections to help ensure their fertility later in life. ASHA is sponsoring National STD Awareness Month in April with the theme, “Protect Your Fertility and Your Future.”

At least fifteen percent of all infertility cases in American women are caused by pelvic inflammatory disease (PID), a complication of untreated STDs, according to the Institute of medicine’s recent report, “The Hidden Epidemic.”

PID occurs when an infection in the genital tract - usually chlamydia or gonorrhea, which rank first and second among the most commonly reported infections - spreads from the cervix up into the uterus, fallopian tubes, and ovaries. The infection can cause scarring in the fallopian tubes, making it difficult or impossible for a woman to become pregnant. PIDS can also cause chronic pain and ectopic, or tubal, pregnancies, in which the mother’s life is threatened and the fetus cannot develop.

Chlamydia and gonorrhea, which can also cause sterility in men, are often present without noticeable symptoms. Chlamydia is symptomless in 85 percent of cases in women and 40 percent of cases in men. ASHA encourages people who have sex to use condoms consistently and correctly as the best protection against STDs, and to get regularly tested for STDs even if no symptoms are present. Reliable tests are available for both chlamydia and gonorrhea, and both can be cured with antibiotics if they are detected. Chlamydia and gonorrhea were the most commonly reported infections of any kind in 1995 (the latest year for which figures are available), according to the centers for Disease Control and Prevention. While 477,638 gonorrhea cases were reported that year, the CDC estimates the actual number of new infections at 4 million cases of chlamydia and 800,000 cases of gonorrhea annually.

Young people are especially high risk for STDs, with two-thirds of the 12 million new STD infections each year occurring in people under 25. Teen and young adults who have unprotected sex may contract a disease that can impair their fertility later in life.

The IOM report urges systemized, publicly funded screening for STDs so these infections can be treated before they cause permanent damage or are transmitted to partners.

The report also advocates comprehensive STD prevention programs in public schools. Founded in 1914, ASHA is dedicated to stopping STDs. It operates the National AIDS Hotline (800) 342-2437, National STD Hotline (800) 227-8922, National Herpes Hotline (919) 361-8488 and other programs related to STD prevention.

Along with information about STDs, these hotlines provide referrals to local clinics for free testing.
The five thousand dollar question for this issue's readers is... What is six feet tall, native to Florida, and has a current batting average of .309? Give up? Well, folks, it's not a what, but a who, and I was just kidding about the five thousand dollars. The answer is: freshman sensation, Charlie Vaughn.

March 12 gave Vaughn an opportunity to show the opposition what he was capable of. The Nova Knights baseball squad now holds a record of 15-8 after a win against Montclair State University that Wednesday afternoon.

The Knights trailed 7-3 until Raul Decastro set the pace with a walk. A walk to Shaugn Nichols eventually loaded the bases and brought Mickey Cuadro to bat. Cuadro brought DeCastro home while keeping the bases loaded. Consecutive walks to Charles Cerrato and Brian Gerity doubled the Knights score of 3, leading to what would be Charlie Vaughn's hit of the day. Vaughn approached the plate in the bottom of the eighth inning ready to perform, and that is just what he did. Sending the ball soaring into left field, Vaughn brought Cerrato and Mark Groenveld home increasing the score to 8-7...Nova.

Also contributing to the Knights' victory was John Hassel. In the ninth inning, Hassel, struck out three of Montclair's four final batters.

Speaking of baseball comebacks on a professional level... Has anyone checked out the Florida Marlins' spring record? If you haven't, you should! Spring training, while generally unimportant, does provide encouragement for fans and players alike, and sets the stage for the season to come.

Last year, the Marlins started off losing their first ten games in spring training. That's not a very positive way to get the proverbial "ball rolling," if you ask me (no pun intended). Presently, the Marlins are 11-0 with victories over the New York Mets (5-4) and the Cleveland Indians (4-1). Not to mention that with one-third of the spring schedule at a close, season tickets are selling like never before, already exceeding last year's $12,500.

As for Wayne Huizenga, he certainly knows how to make the most lucrative decisions pay off, doesn't he? First, it was bunch of video stores, and now, $95 million dollars later, Huizenga's off-season investments include a new manager, Jim Leyland, who is ready to bring the new team and coaching staff together for a winning season.

Now I ask you: What do Bobby Bonilla, Alex Fernandez, Moises Alou, Jim Eisenreich, John Cangelosi, and Dennis Cook have in common? Well... they are the six free agents new to the Florida Marlins, and the other half of Wayne Huizenga's investment. With the balance of the long time veterans, new established players, and rookies in sync, this season looks to bring exciting and prosperous results to the Florida Marlins baseball team.
Profanity Policy Change Welcome

by Nathan Burgess
Editor in Chief

A few months ago, the issue of printing profanity in The Knight was brought up. The Knight, is distributed to on-campus locations, as well as off. Especially since the opening of the Flight Deck, students from the University School have been more present on the main campus, and The Knight felt a responsibility to limit a minor’s access to profanity.

The solution arrived at was: Put any profane material on the World Wide Web, at a site outside of the NSU systems, with a disclaimer that the material may be offensive, and leave it at that.

This seemed, on paper, to be an ideal solution.

There was one problem, however. No one liked it. No one on staff liked the solution, and a few members of the community voiced their opinions. I personally thought it was a little too much trouble to read the materials to have to load up at a browser. Also, we were at this institution to learn, not just from the classroom, but from other people as well.

So instead, The Knight has decided to use the method employed by other news agencies in some parts of the country. Henceforth we will print the first letter(s) of a “profane” word, and then hyphenate every following letter. To start with, we shall be using the list of the “Seven Deadly Words” employed by WNSU, our SCO Radio Counterpart, to decide which words to hyphenate.

We decided on this as an ideal method for reasons similar to those of the Web solution. Those who can figure out the word from one letter and a series of hyphens are worldly enough to know what the word is.

Those who are still innocent and naive (for example, the children who wander with adults, over from the lower school and preschool to the Rosenthal Building), will not know what the word is.

If they so desire, the children can inquire of the adult what the word is and what it means.

This solution should provide enough room for eloquent word surgeons, for the pen is mightier than the sword, while providing a cushion for those worried about their children to fall back on.