Bomb Scare at NSU?

by Peter Salerno
Campus Life Staff Writer

Was it a bomb? Could it have been a poor “welcome to the millennium joke?” On Tuesday, December 28, 1999, undergraduate science professor Dr. Velko Dragojilovic found a bottle of picric acid while cataloging and categorizing lab supplies and chemicals. Picric acid, a yellow crystalline solid chemical compound used to stain cells for analysis during biological experiments, also acts as an antiseptic and insecticide. Similar to trinitrotoluene or T.N.T, this particular acid has the potential of becoming volatile and highly explosive. The irony of the incident is that the acid is powerful enough to cause an explosion yet safe enough to pour down your bathroom sink. Sources say that the bottle was old bottle of acid. Nearly 100 hundred people working in other buildings around the Parker building had to be evacuated, including the Law Center and Sonken Building. Davie police blocked off Southwest 36th Street, as well as the air space above the campus. Nova Southeastern University’s campus lies in the direct flight path of the Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport, so all the necessary precautions were taken. Fortunately, around 2:25 pm (elapsed time of two hours) the Davie bomb squad was able to successfully detonate the acid in a protective container outside the Parker Building. If an explosion had occurred, it could have affected an area within a quarter-mile of the laboratory site. The local news and radio stations reported the incident as a bomb scare because of all the hysteria of the encroaching millennium. After a free half-day vacation, faculty and staff returned to work on Wednesday, December 29, 1999, to finish out their fiscal year, or more accurately put their fiscal century to an end.

Seemingly “harmless” chemicals can become volatile after a period of years.

—Photo by P. Salerno

William Horvitz, of Horvitz Administration Building fame, passes away

by Alyson M. Dion
Editor-in-Chief

Flags on NSU’s main campus sailed at half-mast on December 10, 1999 in honor of William Horvitz, 73, an NSU trustee and a founding board member. Horvitz died the evening of December 8, 1999, at Columbia Cedars Medical Center in Miami. On December 10, 1999, faculty, staff, students, and community members came to pay their respects to the late Horvitz at a memorial service held in front of the William and Norman Horvitz Administration Building on NSU’s main campus. Hundreds of people, many who had to stand through the hour-long service, came to pay their respects and NSU supporter, died Dec. 8, 1999.

In This Issue

Social Action, Social Awareness (SASA), a new student organization at NSU, explores topics such as bias, discrimination, stereotypes and cultural expectations. See page 9.

Peace in Israel? After years of fighting between the Serbsians and the Israelis, one student ventured to the Golan Heights in Israel to see what the arguments have been about. See page 12.

Marijuana—is it an increasing health hazard? Or, is it harmless to “just smoke pot?” You decide. This is one student’s researched opinion. See page 15.
Evolution and Creationism

by Peter Salerno
Staff Writer and
Joshua Feingold
Faculty Contributing Writer

Who or what created the world that now exists? How did this world begin? On December 9, 1999, yet another interesting topic was discussed as part of the “Blue Tray” series of informal seminars, the controversy between evolution and creationism. Science professors Joshua Feingold and Charles Messing, and Director of the Liberal Arts Department, Ben Mulvey, moderated the talk. Unfortunately, it was held during finals week and not many students attended. There was a lot of student involvement in prior seminars discussing topics ranging from history and mathematics to summer trips to Belize, Peru and Ecuador. Farquhar Center Dean, Norma Goonen, and Associate Dean, Ken Thigpen, developed this series to present exciting topics of discussion among faculty, staff, and students. The discussions typically take place in the Red Room (2nd floor of the Rosenthal Student Center) or in a designated area of the cafeteria.

Dr. Feingold started the talk by presenting that both evolution and creationism are attempts to explain how the diversity of life has come to be on our planet. A fundamental difference is that creationism is based on belief and evolution is based on knowledge gained through observation. Dr. Mulvey followed by noting that religion is primarily based on one’s belief in a higher entity. Thus, when people cannot explain an occurrence in nature, they say that God made it so—this way relinquishes people from having to explain occurrences in nature. Another important difference between creationism and evolution is that creationism is not falsifiable whereas evolution is. That means that the belief in creation persists even if conflicting data is presented. For example, fossil evidence is used to support evolution, and is either ignored or used as a test of faith by creationists.

However, people maintain that religious beliefs passed down by God are more significant than an idea devised by a 19th century biologist named Charles Darwin. Some people think that creationism should be taught in schools alongside evolution as a “competing theory.” This is exemplified by recent decisions in Oklahoma, Kansas and Kentucky to change the way that evolution is taught in their high schools. Last summer, the Kansas Board of Education established new testing standards minimizing the importance of evolution, and last month Kentucky’s Education Department deleted the word “evolution” from its curriculum, replacing it with “change over time.” Recently, the Oklahoma State Textbook Committee has voted to require a disclaimer saying that evolution is a “controversial theory.”

In fact, scientific theories are defined as having a large amount of supporting evidence behind them.

It is unreasonable to expect religion classes to teach evolution alongside creation, so why do some people want to force religion into the science classroom?

Greater Hollywood YMCA, the University of Pennsylvania (his alma mater), Boys and Girls Clubs of Broward, the Salvation Army, Florida Philharmonic Orchestra, the Jewish Federation of Broward County where he was a board member, and the Easter Seal Society.

Horvitz was the former owner of Hollywood, Inc., a company that developed much of Hollywood, including Hollywood Hills, Emerald Hills, Hollywood Mall, the Venture Corporate Center, South Florida Industrial Park as well as many other commercial and residential areas.

Horvitz is survived by his wife Norma, his son David of Fort Lauderdale, his son Wayne Gregory of Charleston, SC, and daughter Linda Roth of West Hartford, CN. He had seven grandchildren.
Campus Sports and Recreation Update
by Tom Vitucci
Director of Campus Sports and Recreation

Campus Sports and Recreation kicks off the new millennium with several fun and exciting activities for the month of January. Intramural Basketball leads the way. We have more than 30 teams participating in this 4-on-4 league. Play is conducted Monday through Thursday evenings at the RecPlex.

The CSR Instructional Class Series is also in action. Sign up now to learn or improve your skills in the areas of Golf, Tennis, Swimming, and Martial Arts! Cost for golf, tennis, and swimming are just $25-$30 for 6 weeks of lessons. Martial Arts classes meet 2-3 times per week. Cost is $10-$20 per month.

We will also be sponsoring our second Deep-Sea Fishing Trip. Come aboard the Flamingo on Saturday, January 22nd. Cost is $21 for the 4-hour tour! Transportation is provided and required.

Call CSR at 262-7301 for more details and the latest information!

National Italian American Foundation Awards Scholarship to Nova Student

For this new fall term, Nova Southeastern University student Richard Riccardelli received a scholarship from the National Italian American Foundation (NIAF). In 1999, 110 students received NIAF scholarships totaling an estimated $500,000 while 30 research projects were funded with $150,000 in grant money.

The NIAF scholarship program was established 23 years ago. It has grown from four scholarships of $250 each to scholarships that range from $2,000 to $10,000 each in the humanities, medicine, engineering, business, music, Italian language and other specialized fields.

The NIAF scholarships are based on financial need, academic merit and community service. Nearly 39 percent of the applicants are from families that earn less than $50,000 a year and 63 percent attain a grade point average of 3.5 and above.

To apply for a 2000-2001 NIAF scholarship, visit www.niaf.org. The application deadline is April 15, 2000.

Nova Gives Back to the Community
by Keith Fousek
Contributing Writer

On Sunday, December 19, 1999, at the Fashion Mall in Plantation, Nova Southeastern University joined the University Middle School of Coral Springs and the University High School to give back to the community. Members of the Phi Alpha Delta Pre-Law Fraternity joined with students and teachers from different schools to collect toys for underprivileged children. Volunteers staffed the booth for the Salvation Army's Angel Tree Program.

The Angel Tree Program, a wonderful program that the volunteers were all proud to be part of, allowed community members to pick a gift off the "Angel Tree" and purchase it for an underprivileged child. The gift on the card was the request of a particular child and that purchased gift would be delivered to that same child on or before Christmas.

Other toy programs, like Toys For Tots, gathers toys and distributes them according to gender. Kids in the Angel Tree program, however, have the opportunity to ask for a specific toy. In this way, the participants in this program had to select and purchase the child's specified dream gift. Moreover, the givers had to put a little more effort, thought and love into the gift. The people purchasing the gifts varied from the average person to NFL players.

The students and teachers from our school manned the tables where gift cards were selected and the gifts returned. Across the mall, the University High School students and teachers manned the information desk and wrapped presents for shoppers. Phi Alpha Delta provided members on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. This program has been supported by the three schools for the last few years. There are many ways to volunteer for the community, but nothing compares to helping children's wishes come true at Christmas.
The Flight Deck Hosts Poet Nick Carbo: Quite an Interesting Reading

by Piper Griff
Layout Designer

Just before winter break, the Flight Deck welcomed poet Nick Carbo to the stage. After a brief introduction from Richard Ryal, a board member of Hannah Kahn Poetry Foundation, Carbo hesitantly approached the stage. At first sight, Carbo looked like a shy and rather simple Philippine-American. Surprisingly, Carbo's poetry was intriguing and quite sexual.

In one particular poem, Carbo spoke politically about the exploited treatment of Philippine laborers. One of Carbo's poems questioned the interpretations of dreams and possible psychological meaning of objects. For example, if one dreams of a subway, he or she is dreaming of intercourse, and dreaming of baby corn is the desire of attention from little people. With giggles throughout the Flight Deck, and a few interesting stares, the audience enjoyed a short but sweet reading from this incredible writer.

Carbo's appearance was made possible through a partnership of Hannah Kahn Poetry Foundation and NSU. Hopefully, other events similar to this one will be held at the Flight Deck in the near future. Richard Ryal, an employee at NSU and board member of Hannah Kahn, is working to have more poetry readings with published writers and also people within the NSU community. He has been looking into the possibility of open-mic poetry readings. With the Flight Deck's continual support and amelioration, Ryal is hopeful the NSU community will welcome more events.
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Distinguished students from the various schools were briefly recognized at this event. Later in the year, these students will participate in a separate ceremony. The Distinguished Student Achievement Award Winners for 1999 were: Shazia Akhtarullah (School of Social and Systemic Studies), Michelle Baker (College of Allied Health), Larry Beerkircher (Oceanographic Center), Christopher Brown (Shepard Broad Law Center), Alyson Dion (Farquhar Center for Undergraduate Studies), Cheryl Luu (Center for Psychological Studies), Naomi Massave (University School), Robert Rhodes (College of Optometry), Setareh Seyedkazemi (College of Pharmacy), Zarina Staller (College of Dental Medicine), and Norissa Tworkowski (Wayne Huizenga Graduate School of Business and Entrepreneurship).

The event concluded with an interaction between the video and Lisa Davis, Director of Alumni Relations and Special Events. After a brief interlude between the screening and Davis, Messing "magically" appeared from a puff of smoke with celebration cake and champagne for the guests. The place then glowed as sparklers in the center of some tables seemingly lit themselves in celebration and conclusion of the event. Hopefully by next year, the buildings of the "future" will be the edifices of the past with new dreams ahead.

### Nova Nuggets

At the Celebration of Excellence, ushers distributed Nova information sheets to guests. The following is from the "Facts of Interest" information sheet.

In 1967, Nova Southeastern University served an entire student body of 17 from one building. Today, with a fall term (1998) enrollment of 16,921, the 232-acre campus encompasses 40 permanent buildings.

NSU is the largest independent institution of higher education in the Southeast, and among the 20 largest independent institutions in the nation.

NSU has more than 58,000 alumni residing in all 50 states and in 50 foreign countries. Increasingly, these individuals are to be found in the top echelons of business, industry, medicine, government, and education.

Based on a 1997 study of the National Research Council, NSU ranked first among 396 doctorate-granting institutions nationwide in the number of doctoral degrees awarded to African American Students and 14th in the number of doctoral degrees awarded to Hispanic students.

NSU ranked 13th among 396 doctorate-granting institutions nationwide in the total number of doctoral degrees conferred.

NSU awarded two-thirds as many doctoral degrees and more than one half as many first professional degrees to minority students as Florida's entire state university system during 1997-1998 fiscal year.

The answers to these questions and many more career-related issues can be answered at the Career Resource Center. No matter where you are in your academic program, the Career Resource Center has something useful for you. Keep in mind, it is never too early or too late to begin your career plan. Our services include part-time and full-time job listings, career counseling and job search assistance, career assessments, special events including the annual Career Expo, graduate school information, a career library and MORE!

This column will highlight career planning and job search tips, provide event information, new additions to the library, hot web sites for the job seeker, internship/co-op education and other employment opportunities.

The Career Resource Center is open Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. and is located in Modular 1. Visit the CRC’s website http://www.nova.edu/cwis/crc and stop by to speak with a Career Advisor and get registered. The key to career success is a well thought out career plan. Let the CRC help you get on the right career track.

### The First Annual S.C.O. Speak Out Awards...

The key to career success is a well thought out career plan.
The Millennium New Year

by Angel Ali
Staff Writer

The world is still in one piece. There have been no massive catastrophes, no computer meltdowns, no acts of terrorism, and no disasters of global proportions. Could it be that all the hype about 2000 was just that, hype stemming from feelings of expectation and uncertainty? Whatever the case, the world has successfully made it into the next century and it is finally here...the MILLENNIUM.

All the attention this New Year received definitely did not go unnoticed. To say that most people had some contact with all the publicity is an understatement. It was virtually inescapable since it was evident nearly everywhere. There were Millennium cups, Millennium bumper stickers, Millennium stuffed animals, even Millennium clothing. News of the New Year ran rampant on TV with headlines to the effect of: "What You Need to Know About Y2K" or "How You Can Prepare For 2000." Therefore, in the months leading up to the big 2000 there were a flood of feelings and emotions centered on this historic occasion. And Nova students were no exception.

Some students felt as though such publicity was unnecessary. "I feel that the whole Y2K issue was over-exaggerated and exploited," said Zakiya Hosein. For some, it was anticipation. These were the individuals for whom the Millennium might very well have been spelled P-A-R-T-Y! For them it was a time to celebrate, to travel, to be with friends and family, to greet the New Year with a new outlook.

Rick Gadh traveled to New York, where the famous Times Square celebration took place. He said, "Being in New York for the New Year's festivities was an absolutely incredible experience." Other students partied closer to home. Noelle Barerra, who attended a block party to celebrate, declared, "I danced my butt off!"

For others, the upcoming New Year caused great concern: Armageddon, the dreaded Y2K bug. Arif Ifitkhar remarked, "I was concerned about the Y2K problem because even though major organizations such as banks and airlines were taking care of the matter, they were still not certain and there was still doubt due to its unpredictable nature."

Yet for others, it was greeted with aloofness: just another year, no big deal. "I knew that on the morning of January first the sun would still rise and there would still be plenty of oxygen to breathe," Andrew Soares said.

Soares's comment remains true and the entrance into the millennium has proved to be a smooth transition. It remains a great event in the history of our lives; it is an occasion we will be sure to tell future generations about in the time ahead.
The NSUSGA is Fired Up and Ready For the Millennium

by Jessica Rivera
NSUSGA Public Relations Director

As the Semester starts, the NSU Student Government Association is still kicking and ready to keep up the good work!

On Jan. 8-9, 2000, the members of the NSUSGA attended a leadership retreat to work on issues such as Team Building Skills and Time Management Skills. How to set an operational objective and the steps required to accomplish said objective, and also the steps required to write and implement legislation once passed. The NSUSGA also established three goals for this new semester: Communication, Service, and Awareness in order to serve the students better. Some of the workshops were presented by Cleveland Ferguson III and Brad Williams. Dean Norma Goonen and Assistant Dean Don Rosenblum were invited to speak. They listened to students' concerns, questions and ideas, and they also provided useful and important information.

The retreat took place in American Maritime Offices, Dania Beach. The facilities and food were provided by one of the NSUSGA members, OSB Justice Dave Merriken.

The retreat went from 10:30 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. both days.

During the retreat, the NSUSGA held its first closed Senate meeting of the semester. During the meeting, new members were sworn in by Brad Williams. The new members are German Coppola, International Senator; Nicole Robinson, International Senator; Marcy Ochacher, Non-traditional Senator; and Kelsey Shinn, Residential Senator.

The new members had the opportunity to formally meet and work as a team with the other members, and apparently everyone enjoyed it. International Senator Coppola said, "I learned a lot from this retreat and the attitude of the group makes work more energetic. Once again I am thrilled to be part of the NSUSGA, and I am here to help in any way I can ..."

Not only the new members enjoyed it, but also the old members were very pleased. Commuter Senator Cohen said, "The retreat brought me closer to the people I work with on the NSUSGA and allowed me to become better friends with them. It helped the entire NSUSGA to prepare for and get excited about the upcoming semester. We are all on the same page now and working for the same things."

President Gilchrist, VPJ Saadeh, and VPI Dean did a great job organizing this retreat and making it possible. They found a way to keep everyone entertained with different workshops, meetings, and games. Senator Ochacher said, "The retreat was a lot of fun, yet educational." IOC Senator, Rabia Halim said, "The SGA retreat was very informative. I became a Senator later in the fall term, so I didn’t know how to write legislation or what SGA’s realm of responsibility is. I also got to know my fellow SGA members better. I am glad I attended."

The retreat was a big success, and hopefully all this positivism will stay within the members of the NSUSGA throughout the term. As VPJ Saadeh said, "...[T]he retreat was very beneficial not only for SGA, but for the entire University because SGA has begun to work on many new projects to benefit the undergraduate students."
SASA: Social Action, Social Awareness
A New Organization at NSU

by Alison Balkan
Contributing Writer

A new student organization is coming to Nova Southeastern University: SASA, which stands for Social Action, Social Awareness. This group will explore contemporary social issues that confront college men and women across America. This organization is for everyone who is concerned about or affected by bias, discrimination, harmful stereotypes, or cultural expectations. Cultural values affect our public lives as well as our private lives, and influences the way we think about ourselves, and act as a measure of our own self-worth.

Formed by Alison Balkan and Becky Bible, SASA's faculty advisor is Dr. Kate Waites, a Professor in the Liberal Arts Department, co-ordinator of the Gender Studies Minor, and founder of NSU's Women's Resource Institute. SASA plans to have monthly meetings with possible sub-groups that can meet more often and focus on particular issues that interest them. Times and dates of the meetings can be changed or rearranged depending on when group members can meet. SASA will focus on raising awareness and organizing actions related to social and gender issues. Using articles and books, and by conducting various events, SASA's goal is to help students and young adults learn to examine social problems and how they are affected by them. Not only will SASA assess modern society, but it will also draw on past theories and ideas about human development, such as Foucault and other philosophers.

As SASA's first contribution to Nova Southeastern, it is honored to present speaker Marsha Flood from the Renfru Center for Eating Disorders. Eating disorders plague young women and men due to societal pressures. SASA hopes to have other speakers come to Nova and speak on various issues as well. All who can attend are welcome and encouraged to listen to Marsha Flood on January 19th, Wednesday, from 7pm-9pm at the Flight Deck Theatre in Rosenthal. She will begin with a film and then speak about eating disorders followed by discussion.

For additional information, please contact Kate Waites at 262-8216 waitesk@polaris.nova.edu, or Alison Balkan at 262-6352 ali_call@hotmail.com.

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The time has come again to RUSH Phi Alpha Delta Pre-law Fraternity. This is an organization that accepts all majors and is aimed at helping its members meet the right people for law school and beyond. We will be recruiting new members for our rush period, which is 1/17-2/5. We only meet once a month and we coordinate our meetings with legally relevant events. If you are interested, please contact pswank@hotmail.com

Help us help you and others become the most well-rounded potential law student possible.
Entertainment

Sleepy Hollow Will Tickle Your Macabre Tastebuds
by Deana Daneau
Staff Writer

Most of us fondly remember the animated Walt Disney feature "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow"—a must see for any child. Dark and scary for some, but dreamlike and full of intrigue for others. I'd venture to bet that director Tim Burton fell into the latter category. Just take a look at some of the artist's prior projects (Beetlejuice, Edward Scissorhands, and Ed Wood) and you'll know that he can take the bizarre and run with it—creating eccentric visual effects and showcasing even more unusual characters. Of typical Disney tradition he is not (albeit he did work for Walt Disney) and neither is his Sleepy Hollow that oozes his signature macabre elegance.

Constable Ichabod Crane (portrayed by Burton favorite Johnny Depp) is an outspoken young detective, confident that he can personally update the legal system's investigative practices for the new millennium—1800. With courtroom rantings resulting only in the irritation of the judge, Crane is sent away to the New York hamlet of Sleepy Hollow to investigate a serial killer who seems to be ridding town folk of there heads! No doubt, the Judge As far as appeal to audience, that style. On the other hand, Moore at—

Another Teen in the Music Scene: Mandy Moore
by Angel Ali
Staff Writer

There is yet another female teen artist who has emerged in the music industry and become an overnight craze for teen music lovers everywhere—Britney Spears you say? Guess again. Nope, it's not Christina Aguilera either. Try Mandy Moore, although they are similar in that they are both young and unique, that is where the similarities between the two end. Mandy Moore is good at it is using her youthfulness for her advantage. Aside from her singing is nothing all that exceptional comes with being a teenager.

Moore, now fifteen, is living a life few teenagers could fathom. With the December 7th release of her debut album "So Real," her own website at www.mandymoore.com, and a concert tour with the Backstreet Boys on the way, Mandy Moore is flying high. Just how long her fame will last depends. It depends partly on her talent and partly on her appeal to her audience. Although her singing is nothing all that exceptional, that small detail has become obscure to a teen crazed music industry that has become much more concerned with inciting immediate results than with producing longstanding singing careers.

As far as appeal to audience, that is one thing that Moore has plenty of. If there is one thing that Mandy Moore's new CD is filled with songs to reflect her age and in which the social aspects of being a teenager are the predominant theme. The popular Candy, for instance, alludes to the stage of boy-craziness that young girls often go through. The music video for Candy depicts Moore with a group of girl friends and her eye on a particular guy only serves to prove this. Walk Me Home is another such song that describes the longing of a girl to have the boy she is fond of walk her home. There is even a brief interlude in her new CD entitled Telephone which has Moore's voice on an answering machine with a friend leaving her a message, and what is associated more with teenagers than the phone? Still other songs like Not Too Young and Love Shot convey the self-confident attitude and sassiness that comes with being a teenager.

Whereas the content of her music is relatively constant, Moore's musical style varies from song to song. Songs such as So Real and Lock Me In Your Heart as well as Candy have an upbeat, rock-like style. On the other hand, Moore attempts a more plaintive approach in songs such as Walk Me Home, and it's no doubt that his directorial style and enthusiasm play a large part in evoking strong characters from his talented cast members. Johnny Depp becomes Ichabod Crane—astute and perhaps a bit persnickety with detail, brimming with confidence and yet waning at the sight of gore. Crane is no longer the lanky, bumbling Disney image, but rather a very human, ambitious man worthy of the audience's empathy (this is a honed talent—he did the same as Ed Wood.) Depp's idiosyncratic facial see BURTON on next page
Talented Mr. Ripley?

by Caleb Kennedy
Contributing Writer

The Talented Mr. Ripley is the film about a young man named Tom Ripley (played by Matt Damon) from the United States who cons a wealthy industrialist into believing that he knows their wayward son, Dickie Greenleaf (played by Jude Law). The deal is that Mr. Greenleaf will pay Tom $1000 dollars if he can convince Dickie to return from Italy. Tom finds Dickie and tells him that they both attended Princeton. In an important scene, Tom explains to Dickie that his three talents are being able to forge any signature, impersonating almost anyone, and telling lies. Tom is soon welcomed into Dickie’s world and agrees to help Dickie spoil his father’s plans. Dickie is tired of Tom, whom he considers a freeloader, and his mysterious background. Tom kills Dickie assumes his identity and manages to evade being caught by blaming all of his actions, on Dickie. Tom fools everyone but Dickie’s girlfriend Marge (played by Gwyneth Paltrow).

This movie had high points, but overall it was stagnant as if the director was reluctant to cut out any scene. Matt Damon did well portraying an evolving dark and evil man who is also introspective, but it was not enough to carry the movie, which seemed to drag on interminably. The movie strongly reminded me of The Picture of Dorian Grey by Oscar Wilde, a story about an amoral rich young man whose corruption and age are trapped in a portrait. In the movie, the same hedonistic and secretive actions of Dorian are mirrored by Tom, the only major differences would be the time period and that Tom had to scheme to get his money. The movie was so long. I am still trying to get my brother’s girlfriend to pay for my ticket with little success. I wrote this article to prevent any other broke college students from wasting good beer money on this movie.

Burton Keeps the Legend Alive . . .

from previous page

expressions along with the character’s blatant fears allow for great comic relief and a nerve of satire to be revealed. The cast is of many—to many to all be named. However, with a range from Christina Ricci (Adams Family, Buffalo 66) to a strangely un billed Christopher Walken (The Prophecy, The Dead Zone), it need not be said that each greatly contributes to the film’s ethereal diegesis. With the directing, visual design, talented actors, and riveting special effects, there’s truly no force that can keep this film from galloping to the top of the charts. And though it might be exciting, fascinating, even spellbinding, I suggest you not lose your head over it; the legend will live on... videotape.

A Review of John Updike’s Rabbit Run

by Michael Citron
Associate Editor

Well, here it is, another novel that will open your eyes to reality. Being students, we sometimes do not realize until it is too late what life has in store for us after our collegiate careers. John Updike, the author of Rabbit, Run, certainly provides this perspective in his novel.

Harry Angstrom, a former star basketball player in high school nicknamed Rabbit, is in his mid 20s. His work has become unfulfilling, his marriage is sickening, and he attempts to find happiness with another woman. But unlike his success as the town basketball hero, this achievement becomes much more elusive than a medal. Angstrom runs from everything in his life: his wife, his job, and even from himself. He reaches the end of the road and has to turn back and try to put the pieces back together.

For Angstrom, Life is no longer as simple as putting the basketball through a hoop. He struggles throughout his life trying to become a strong individual by doing the right things. But, he encounters difficulty in communicating, and as a result, is misunderstood. This makes him constantly frustrated and, as a result, is misunderstood. It is no wonder that his actions and expectations of others. Rabbit, Run asks many questions about the responsibility individuals have to society and about growing up in America.

see UPDIKE on page 15
Peace in Israel in the Near Future

by Kyle B. Washburn
Staff Writer

Recently talks between the Syrians and the Israelis have begun in Sheppardstown, West Virginia. The main area for argument is the Golan Heights located in the far northeast section of the current Israeli border, a small area of land, 485 square miles. This land has been the cause for debate since it was acquired in 1967 after the Six Day War. Recently, I visited this revered land and the area in question.

During my journey, the landscape quickly changed from a dessert to the plush flowing landscape of the mountains. I learned that it was the Jordan River that provided irrigation for the fields and they feed an entire nation. Not only does the Jordan provide irrigation for the fields, but also provides 30% of Israel's water source. Any arrangement with Syria must include access to this resource, or southern Israel will wither and die. The present day border assures a water supply for Israel.

This land is also a mountainous region giving it a natural military outpost for Israel to watch its neighbors. While in the area, I took a jeep tour through these mountains and viewed the land first-hand. My guide cautiously pointed out the old Syrian bunkers that looked over the now Israeli occupied settlements. There are 33 communities and 18,000 residents in this area. Giving this area up would truly be giving up a major military position. All around me were remnants of mine fields, still alive. Many have been cleared for farming, while others still pose a threat from the past. If Israel were to keep the Golan Heights, eventually all these mine fields would be cleared making more room for agriculture.

Talking with many Israeli soldiers about how they felt about this land they were protecting, I asked if they would be willing to give up the Golan Heights for peace. The responses were vastly different. One soldier said that he would do anything for peace. Another soldier responded by saying, “if we give up the Golan, where do we stop giving?”

Talking with many Israeli soldiers about how they felt about this land they were protecting, I asked if they would be willing to give up the Golan Heights for peace. The responses were vastly different. One soldier said that he would do anything for peace. Another soldier responded by saying, “if we give up the Golan, where do we stop giving?”

Logos Institute International Club
of Nova Southeastern University
Presents:

- Weekly Prayer Meetings and Bible Studies at NSU campus on Thursday nights at 9:00pm. in Rosenthal Center, 2nd floor of the Flight Deck, Room #208.
- Seminars on topics such as HIV/AIDS, Preventive Health, Social Work, Civil Law Justice & Government, Christian Education, and Training in Leadership and Education from a biblical perspective
- Biblical Education on the Creation, Redemptive, and Cultural Mandate of Jesus Christ

We invite every student, faculty, and staff of NSU to join us in the above events. For more information please contact Kayla at 262-6603 or email us at kyriakik@cps.nova.edu
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Laderman resigns as Nova SID

Press Release

Mike Laderman has resigned as Nova Southeastern University’s sports information director, his last day being slated for January 8, 2000. He has accepted an offer to become the University’s associate director of public affairs, effective the 10th of January.

A resident of south Florida for more than two decades, Laderman, 51, has been with NSU’s department of athletics since August, 1995. In his five years as sports information director, he has twice been named the Florida Sun Conference’s Male Administrator of the Year (1998, 1999), and was honored with the same award by the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) Southeast Region in 1998. His media guides have also caught the attention of the national office, taking eighth place among combined basketball brochures in 1999, and seventh place in the 1998 multi-sport brochure category.

Laderman came to the Knights after a nine-year career as a local sportswriter, penning stories for such tabloids as the Community News, Sun-Sentinel, Miami Herald, and South Florida SportsNews. In just six years of eligibility with the Community News, he captured nine Florida Press Association awards, including the 1995 Sally Latham Memorial Award for Florida’s top serious editorial column among weekly newspapers. Laderman has also been on the local television and radio airwaves, hosting “NSU SportsBeat” on four Broward County cable systems from 1995-98, calling play-by-play for Comcast Communications (1994-95), and handling color commentary for Sunshine Network’s broadcast of the 1998 Florida Sun Conference men’s basketball championship game.

“Leaving NSU’s department of athletics was not an easy decision to make,” Laderman said. “I’ve gotten the chance to work alongside some fantastic people, and have had the opportunity to share the lives of many incredible student-athletes. I will definitely miss it here.”

Laderman will remain in his role as the Florida Sun Conference’s and NAIA Region XIV’s sports information director through the end of the 1999-2000 intercollegiate season. He resides in Weston with his wife, Kim.

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Marijuana: An Increasing Health Hazard

by Nicole Robinson
Contributing Writer

"Just smoking pot.' That’s a phrase often heard these days. Just smoking pot. After all, almost everyone knows that heroin or acid or crack or inhalants is 'worse' than smoking pot. But that doesn’t make smoking pot good. Cancer, after all, might be worse than a broken leg, but who wants either?" says Walden Pransky.

Pot, or marijuana, has become an increasing problem among American teenagers. According to Judy Monroe, lucidations and delusions, and paranoia. Barbara Ravage stated that, one joint, or marijuana cigarette, is as harmful to the lungs as five regular tobacco cigarettes. Just imagine smoking five cigarettes at one time. At least cigarettes have a filter; marijuana cigarettes do not.

When pot is first inhaled into the body, changes immediately begin to occur and a certain "high" can be obtained. Judy Monroe explained the symptoms of a "high" well when she said, "The immediate effects of marijuana use can include: problems with short-term memory and learning; distorted perceptions of sights, sounds, time, and touch; trouble with thinking and problem solving; loss of coordination and balance; an increased risk of anxiety and panic attacks; and a higher risk of engaging in unsafe behaviors, which can result in car crashes and other serious problems.

Mood changes similar to mental illnesses can also occur. These may involve a loss of the sense of self, rigorous anxiety and panic attacks, hallucinations and delusions, and paranoia. Those are only the short-term effects. Imagine what will happen if marijuana is smoked on a regular basis.

Heavy smokers of marijuana create long term effects in the body, especially psychologically. Marijuana is classified as a psychoactive, which is a "mind-altering drug," because it

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Updike's Rabbit Run
from page 11

Rabbit never can make up his mind. He runs and runs always looking for the easy road, which never comes his way. Rabbit, by not accepting responsibility for his family and himself, becomes less than human.

Rabbit's high school basketball coach and the town preacher try to lead him in the proper direction. Rabbit is reluctant to change and remains in his world of delusion. Similarly in my last review of Saul Bellow's Seize the Day, both characters are faced with life choices that if incorrectly made will cause not only their own failure, but also their family's demise. Will Rabbit have a breakthrough in the end like Tommy did, or will he keep on running until he cannot run anymore?

Angstrom, like many Americans, has to go through trials and tribulations to achieve happiness and success. Without hard work and persistence, this becomes impossible and may lead to ultimate failure. Will Rabbit try to regroup and become a man or will he keep running from reality? This book is certainly worth picking up for any person, especially college students. Rabbit is in his mid 20s, and his life is already about to crash. This proves how even at a young age, many unforeseen problems may arise.

If you have any suggestions for future book reviews or want to comment on one of my reviews, please email me at citronmi@polaris.nova.edu. I would love to hear some feedback.
Giving Back During the Holidays
by Michael L. Citron
Associate Editor

Despite the mass commercialism that appears during the holiday season, there are ways to exhibit real acts of kindness. This year like in the previous three years, I donated a large number of Ty stuffed animals to the Joe DiMaggio Children’s Hospital as get well presents. I was able to get many of the local merchants to donate nearly one thousand dollars worth of toys to this cause.

I gave the animals to the young patients as they finished their radiation treatment. You cannot imagine how I felt when I was able to see for myself how these gifts took away some of the pain that the children experienced during their treatments.

Each year I will try to continue this holiday tradition of mine, as I believe this is the true meaning of holiday spirit.

When I delivered the gifts, Doris Sipos CFRE, executive director of the Memorial Foundation-Joe DiMaggio Children’s Hospital Foundation, made me feel like a million dollars. She could not have been any nicer if I was a celebrity. Ms. Sipos told me that each and every gift was very important, and that both she and the rest of the staff fully appreciated any and all donations. She even took a picture of the two of us with some of the toys for the Memorial newspaper.

This was not a hard job at all! It took very little effort, and the time spent was extremely rewarding. Ms. Sipos told me that all new toy animals are always appreciated. I would like to thank Gifts of Nature and Marie’s Hallmark for their help and generosity.

The Holidays: Cheer or Fear?
by Alison Balkan
Contributing Writer

With the coming of each holiday season and the New Year (this time the new millennium) lurking right behind it, the health club and fitness industry has developed an ingenious marketing scheme. You have all seen those health club advertisements where scantily clad men and women prance across our television screens flexing their taut muscles and sleek physiques. These people are perfect—they are society’s ideal population—they are society’s definition of beauty. The health club experience is now a place where your self-esteem is measured by your body fat. Diet and exercise no longer go with attractiveness. How do they do it? Simple—by equating holiday cheer with working hard enough on that stair climber.

In one particularly outrageous commercial, Bally Total Fitness poses the question: “So, what are the holiday’s giving you this year?” Then middle-aged men and women are shown opening Christmas gifts and exclaiming, “I got a double chin!” or “All right—a big butt!” To be frank, I am disgusted by this commercial and so should you. They are taking a wonderful time of year and using it to instill a fear of food and celebration in the American population. It is bad enough that our society judges us based on our physical appearances instead of our hearts or our minds, but through the pressing influence of the media we are being forced to focus on our physical appearances even more. We are spiraling downward into a shallow society in which success and wealth are judged according to clothing size.

The bottom line is that these commercials play on our own concepts of self-perception. They make us feel bad about our bodies and wish that we could be fitter and more attractive. How do they do it? Simple—by equating holiday cheer with...
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changes the way the brain works. Physical problems can occur as well. A new study just proved that smoking marijuana could be physically addictive. Scientists did not realize this until this preliminary study was conducted at the University of Virginia. Marijuana smokers experience breathing problems, such as coughing and wheezing. They can develop damage in the heart and lungs, disrupted motor coordination, and lethargy. Continued use can also lead to damaged or destroyed lung tissue and a greater risk of developing cancer of the tongue, larynx, and lung. The smoke can also damage the immune system by destroying cells and tissues that protect the body from disease.

Reproduction problems can also occur with continual marijuana use. Marijuana users can receive low sperm counts in men and an interference with menstrual periods, owing to a disruption of eggs from the ovaries in women. Males may also experience delayed puberty. Not only will marijuana disrupt your mental abilities; it will also interfere with the body's ability to function normally.

Smoking marijuana will only lead to trouble in the end. Children lower than high school ages have even started to light up a joint and join the trend. Marijuana is thought to be a pathway drug that leads to other drugs. "The marijuana of today isn't often the same as the 'weed' of 20 years ago. Forget that image of happy flower children wandering around full of peace and love. Today's reefer is much more potent and much more damaging. The latest research is revealing more clearly than ever before the negative impact of smoking dope" says Pransky. Many teenagers who smoke marijuana try to think of it as being natural. It is only natural when it is planted in the ground, not when it is being wrapped up and smoked into the body for mere pleasure.

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Resolutions Lost?
by Althaea Mease
Contributing Writer

With all the hype about the New Millennium, it seems that a lot of people forgot that it is a new year, as well. It is definitely more exci ting to think about all the things that could be different in the next thousand years, such as medicine, computers, and society in general. But what about you? Couldn’t you use some changes, since it is a new year, and a new beginning. Making a resolution is important, even if you don’t keep it. We all need hope that our lives can change for the better.

Maybe you didn’t forget. Maybe you have simply lost the hope. You know you won’t keep the resolution throughout the year, so why make one? Because it helps to think seriously about what aspects of your life you aren’t happy with. It may be easiest to push your faults to the back of your mind, but that is not the healthiest thing to do.

Then again, maybe you did make a resolution. It is probably something relatively easy to accomplish. Or, something that everyone tries to do, but no one succeeds at, so you don’t need to worry if you can’t succeed at it, either. You want to lose twenty pounds by next year. So do most people. But most people can’t, so it’s okay for you to fail.

Challenge yourself. Life never gets better unless you do. Stand up for what you believe in. Take risks for what you know is right. Don’t count on always taking the easy way out of situations, because that doesn’t help us grow as human beings.

“The secret of the greatest fruitfulness and the greatest enjoyment of life is to live dangerously.”-Nietzsche.

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