SGA Budget: An Insider's View

by Kareem Shaker
Contributing Writer
SGA Senator

Early this September the members of the Nova Southeastern Undergraduate Student Government Association sat through two seven-hour meetings. The purpose of the meetings was to fairly allocate the newly decided $100,000 budget appropriately to various clubs and organizations.

In past years, each club was allocated $500 a year to perform various activities and events. With the support of the Dean of Student Affairs, Dr. Brad Williams, a new $100,000 budget was proposed. The money was divided into $60,000 for the fall semester and $40,000 for the winter semester. It was allocated accordingly through the vote of the NSUSGA senate to each club and organization on campus at the beginning of each semester.

A week before each club's budgets were due there were two training sessions that were conducted in order to inform each club about the new budgeting process. Within a week budgets were due and there soon after voted on. Certain guidelines were to be followed by the senators in order to fairly allocate the available money. Some of the guidelines included allocating more money to events that were educational or open to the entire student population instead of a small group of students.

When the budget was released to individual clubs and organizations, a general notion of displeasure was displayed. Both students and clubs' advising faculty spoke with members of the Senate as well as advisors to the senate. Clubs felt that the money was allocated unfairly and were appalled at the fact that they could not see the finalized budget. It became obvious that a change needed to come about.

Since the onset of the new budgeting system, student government has worked diligently to perfect the entire process as a whole. Revisions have been made for the winter semester and steps have been taken to insure that every club organization understands why they received the money they did. At the same time, a lot of clubs and organizations need to be aware that they can lobby a senator to write a bill and present it to the senate any time throughout the semester. Several clubs and organizations have already done this and quite a few of them have received the money they requested or at least a portion of it.

As a senator myself, I have become very aware of the difficulties that arise when a budgeting process is enacted for the first time. Any new process requires time and effort before all the ends are perfected. I ask the student body to be patient as we in NSUSGA work hard for our constituents.

NSU Offers English Major/Minor Beginning Winter 2003

by Jessica Jirani
jirani@nova.edu

Starting next semester (Winter 2003), NSU will offer an English major and minor to its undergraduate students. According to Dr. Marlisa Santos, the Writing Program Coordinator for NSU, efforts to implement and plan this program have been in process already for two years. A committee of English professors and Liberal Arts Director Dr. Ben Mulvey worked together to put together this program and get it approved by the Dean.

NSU's Liberal Arts curriculum already included many courses now required by the new English major. Because many of these classes were already offered, there are no plans as of now to hire new professors. However, some new classes, such as “History and Structure of the English Language”, and “Literary Criticism and Theory”, will be added in the winter semester.

The English program at NSU will require each English student to have an English faculty member act as a mentor, guiding the student through coursework, and providing advice on career options after undergraduate studies are completed.

Students are already responding to this new degree offer. According to Carmen Sosa, Senior Liberal Arts Academic Advisor, 15 students have already enrolled in this program, and more are predicted to enroll within the following year. For more information, visit http://www.undergrad.nova.edu/uc/english.html.
Note from the Editor-in-Chief

People are Strange, Happenings at Nova, and Taking Care of Some Emails

Well, I didn’t have enough material on one subject for a full column, so I decided to turn to the slightly over-used technique of throwing together a bunch of ideas and calling it a story. Just lay off the Andy Rooney jokes, OK?

Well, it appears that the results of a new survey are in: 1 in 12 women under the age of 25 would pose nude on the Internet for $20,000. If you work it out, Bill Gates would have just enough cash on hand to have almost every willing woman in this category in America pose nude for him. Now the question remains, why would someone pay to see a nude picture for $20,000.

A different perspective - a flipped perspective - when they taste Dr. Pepper. Yes, I believe Pepsi already sells a product much like this that is called Mountain Dew. “Beginning next week, consumers in cities throughout the country will begin seeing things from a different perspective - a flipped perspective - when they taste Dr. Pepper.” Yes, maybe they will also realize that when a soda company tries to introduce a “blend of fruit flavors” it often turns out tasting like a “blend of old tires and horse piss.” I hope this one turns out better.

Nova has a new nursing program for RN’s to receive their BSN’s. Go to http://www.nova.edu/bsn/main.html for more information if you are interested. Now let’s see if Nova will get an RN program together as well.

I’ve seen a few new clubs popping up on campus; I suggest you go check them out if you are interested. Perhaps you haven’t been signed for a reason.

To all condom manufacturers in the U.S.: I don’t wish to receive a press release every week about your new study finding that college students like to have sex, or that you want to hear about college students having sex, or that you want to give products away to encourage college students to have more sex, etc. I don’t care anymore, and you are flooding my inbox.

To the man that keeps calling from the Las Vegas Asian Journal: 1. I don’t want to advertise in a paper all the way across the country. 2. Calling me once is enough. 3. Even if I did want to advertise, I can’t understand you anyway.

To all struggling bands that send out press releases proclaiming how great you are and the injustices of it all: perhaps you haven’t been signed for a reason. If even a small label doesn’t want you, there is definitely a reason. (Hint: You stink).

Yes, I know the headline was wrong; wasn’t my fault. At least I know people read the paper.

People: please only press the send button once.

One last thing: Lyndon LaRouche, you are completely and utterly insane. Not only will I not vote for you, but I will also destroy anyone who thinks seriously about voting for you. The human race will be better for it.

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Scholarships for Campus Leaders

Students from colleges throughout Florida will vie for nearly $60,000 in scholarships and prizes in the prestigious 16th annual Florida College Student of the Year Award sponsored by Florida Leader magazine, SunTrust, and Office Depot. Winners will be featured in a TV show on Sunshine Network.

Applications must be postmarked by Feb. 1, 2003. Students don’t have to be nominated by their college to win! Download applications at www.floridaleader.com/soty, or send a self-addressed, 9” x 12” envelope with $1 postage to Florida College Student of the Year Award, c/o Florida Leader magazine, P.O. Box 14081, Gainesville, FL 32604-2081.

Co-sponsored by Sunshine Network, Jansport/Eastpak, and Gulfstream International Airlines

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The Knight serves Nova Southeastern University’s Center for Undergraduate Studies from its location in the Parker Building.

The Knight is NSU’s established vehicle for the transmission of student reporting, opinion, and arts. All community members are invited to contribute anything they desire to The Knight.

The Knight is readily available at several sites around the main campus.

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Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I just kind of wanted to comment on a news story telling of Robert Flores, a Gulf War vet who killed two of his college professors and then himself. He apparently was flunking his nursing classes at the University of Arizona and couldn't handle the pressure. [By the way, this may be a good one to re-publish in a news brief section]. The most important part of this story to me was the fact that this guy was an ex-Gulf War soldier. Hmmm, sounds just like the D.C. mass murderer (who is NOT a "sniper" because all of his shots were within 1000 meters and real snipers are trained to shoot up to 5000 meters). This pattern is somewhat disturbing to me. I realize that war is a traumatic experience, but for all the money that the government spends on war machines, can't they spend a little more on mental health care for "America's finest?" A little anger management classes, psychological screening, and Prozac never hurt anyone. I acknowledge that these guys were probably messed up to begin with, and their military experiences only fed their homicidal tendencies; however, the military leaders need to start taking notice of what kind of people they are sending back out to us "civilians." We are practically creating our own terrorists.

-Anonymous

International News

by Somy Ali
member of SASA
Production Asst., Radio X

Young Americans cannot afford to ignore the rest of the world. The tragic events of September 11 have shown us that the issues and conflicts that exist outside our borders impact us both directly and indirectly. SASA, Social Action/Social Awareness, is a student organization whose mission is to make the campus community aware of political and social justice issues. Therefore, in response to the M.A.'s letter to the editor in the last issue of the Nova Knight calling for "a column about news around the world" members of SASA will contribute a regular column for just this purpose.

ITEMONE:
India and Pakistan have been fighting over Kashmir since they achieved independence from Great Britain in 1947. Kashmiri’s ruler initially had trouble deciding which country he wanted to be a part of. The situation grew so tense when Pakistan tried to secede from India in 1948. This invasion led to the Indian Parliament, killing dozens of people. India responded with outrage and moved its troops to the border with Pakistan. Pakistan responded in kind. This frightened the world leaders, fearful that it might lead to nuclear war. On October 25th, 1992, India finally began pulling its troops back. Pakistan is doing the same. However, though tensions seem to be calming down, the Prime Minister of India is still addressing Pakistan as a "demon." Future conflict, and the potential for millions of deaths, remains possible.

ITEMTWO:
Since the fall of the Taliban, Afghanistan has seen progress, but there is still much suffering and the possibility of the return of the extremist rule by the Taliban. Early this month, in the northern part of Afghanistan, extremist burnings Down two schools simply because the students were female. Outside of the capital of Kabul, wars are raging with brutality, the same brutality that allowed the Taliban to take control 20 years ago. Health care is in a horrible condition, especially for the women, who suffer from complications from pregnancy and instances of child abuse by priests. But the same problem is occurring in the Church throughout the world. In July, the Catholic Church in the Philippines issued an apology for the abuses that have occurred in the last twenty years. This week in Ireland and in Chile, the Catholic Church had to issue similar apologies. Meanwhile, the Vatican has opposed the American Bishops’ plans to deal with pedophilia in the Church, claiming that it does not protect the rights of priests nor the Church.

PASA members will be performing for the step team that is preparing for PASA's Third Annual Talent Show on November 22 at the Performing Arts Theater in the Library of Research and Technology.

Four Die in U. of Ariz. Shooting
by ARTHUR H. ROTSTEIN
Associated Press Writer

TUCSON, Ariz. (AP) - A student flunking out of nursing school opened fire in class at the University of Arizona on Monday, killing two professors and a third person before apparently taking his own life, officials said. The attacker sent scores of students rushing toward the doors, many of them screaming as they fled. Police went room to room looking for more victims and later called in the bomb squad to search the building. Senior Julie Raymond said she was taking an exam when the gunman came in. "We just thought that he was late for the test," Raymond said. "Then he started talking to instructors and fired shots. All of us cowered under the desks and then ran out of the room. At first, I thought it was a joke and realized it wasn't when I heard the shots." The gunman was identified by university Vice Provost Eliza-tha Irvin as Robert S. Flores, who had failed a pediatric nursing class and was struggling in a critical care class. He apparently killed himself, Police Chief Richard Miranda said. A university spokeswoman said the victims in-cluded two female professors. Police did not identify the victims, say how they died or de-scribe their relationship to Flores. The gun-man walked to the front of the classroom and shot the first victim several times, assistant Chief Robert Lehner said. He then walked to the back of the room and killed the second victim, before telling students to leave. The third victim was found by police later in an other part of the building. Bomb squad mem-bers were called in after a backpack or pack-age was found underneath the gunman's body. The suspect had threatened to blow up the building, though it was unclear when the threat was made, Miranda said. The college and nearby buildings were evacuated. More than six hours later, authorities were still check­ing for explosives. Flores, a Gulf War veteran, worked at the Southern Arizona Veterans Adminis-tration Health Care System as a licensed practical nurse, and was studying to become a registered nurse, officials said.

Lori Schenkel, who was in the building during the shootings, said two students banded on her classroom door and told everyone to get out. "We ran out of the building and there were police telling us to run away," Schenkel said. She said she had several classes with Flores and he told classmates about a year ago that he had gotten a concealed weapon permit. "He was just a very agitated student, a rude, obnoxious type of person," she said. "He came across as very aggressive and mean, and seemed to have a lot of issues with being angry." Anu Nigam, a 29-year-old graduate student, said she and her husband were outside waiting for a shuttle bus when a woman came out of the building with a cell phone, trying to dial and screaming that there was a man with a gun in the building. Police were at the scene within seconds.

"A group of people were crying and running desperately to get out of the building," Nigam said. "They were crying, tripping over one another, falling down." Nigam's husband, Vishwas Sheshadri, 27, said they saw 50 to 60 people scramble to get out of the building.

University President Peter Likins said there were no immediate plans to change security procedures at the 34,000-student university, which includes the 380-student nursing school. "I don't believe there's any reason to imply a deficiency of security either in that building or on this campus," he said.

Farquhar Center for Undergraduate Studies Gets a New Name

As of January 2nd 2003, the Farquhar Center for Undergraduate Studies will be known as the Farquhar College of Arts and Sciences. This name change was brought about partly because of suggestions that students at Nova Southeastern University should be attending a college instead of a center, and partly because the administration felt that the new name "...more accurately reflects the mission of the college."
Breast Cancer
Continued from Front Page

challenge. My story had to do with Judith.
My adventure started with an e-mail message from the friend of a friend, asking if I was interested in completing a 3-day, 60-mile walk to raise money for breast cancer. Shelley had decided to do the walk in memory of our friend Judith, who had lost her battle with breast cancer in 1993. I fancy myself a runner, friend Judith, who had lost her battle with cancer in 1993. I fancy myself a runner, so walking as an endurance activity had never much appealed to me. It seemed boring and tedious compared to more challenging aerobic activities. This walk consisted of 60 miles over a 3-day period, though, and I had to admit that the challenge had merit. I had completed a marathon some years before, and just last year hiked 85 miles in the Alps. How difficult could it be to walk 60 miles? (Oh, how little I knew!) The fundraising aspect that would require me to collect donations in the amount of $1,900.00 struck me as more daunting than having to walk 60 miles in 3 days in the South Florida heat. Asking people to give money on my behalf to the Avon Breast Cancer Crusade, even if I agreed to earn it with my legs, feet, and sweat, was not my cup of tea. I wavered.

But then there was Judith. At 41 and in the prime of her life and career, Judith was diagnosed with breast cancer. A professor of anthropology, Judith brought a contagious earnestness and enthusiasm to her work and her teaching. Judith also carried her belief in the importance of community into the classroom with her students at Nova Southeastern University, and shared it with her co-workers and friends. In fact, her insistence on the divinity of community defined her, and it engaged us—friends, colleagues, and students alike. It challenged us. It changed us. And I think we all felt that we were a little better as a result. During Judith’s protracted battle with the disease, she submitted herself to the usual panoply of mainstream treatments that took her hair and, for brief periods, her hopeful energy and spirit. But she wore her bald head like a fashion statement and she never surrendered to despair. As we took turns driving her to chemotherapy and teaching her classes, she investigated alternative treatments and practiced positive imaging and hypnosis. Then there was the brief remission when we all dared to breathe and hope that maybe, just maybe, she wouldn’t leave us so soon after all.

On the day that she learned that the cancer had reappeared in her liver, she came to my house for a pre-planned gathering with what my daughter always referred to as the “party professors.” She sat on my futon in the living room, drinking beer and listening to bluesy Bonnie Rait tunes. She played with the giddy balloons being banded about overhead. She laughed and talked and lived, despite the fact that just hours before she had been delivered a death sentence. One month later her dad and my dad died on the same day, and we mourned the loss of our fathers together. Three months later, Judith died, and I was doubly grieved.

So yes, I assured myself, I could continue on...
Rising Cost of College Tuition
by Asma Qureshi
Contributing Writer

"Over the past twenty years, tuition has more than doubled at both public and private schools," said Senator Joseph Lieberman on the rising cost of college tuition. A study released Monday says that declining tax revenues and the overall silence in the economy caused college tuition and fees to increase an average of more than five percent for both two and four year institutions this year. The increase in tuition was accompanied by a hike in room-and-board charges, raising the average cost of attending a four-year public university for students who live on campus by almost $700, which is more than last fall.

The increase in tuition at public schools outpaced those at the nation's almost 2,000 private four-year colleges and universities, where tuition went up slightly this fall to 5.8 percent, to an average of $18,273, over 5.5 percent from last fall. Room and board charges, at private colleges, also increased to 4.7 percent to an average of $6,479. The highest increase in a decade was in the price increase at four-year public colleges because of the consequence of a slow economy that has declining tax revenues, which makes state officials obligated to raise the tuition. "The College Board's new report on tuition and student aid confirms what we know too well: that the poor performance of the economy has had a substantial and negative impact on tax revenue and the endowments, and consequently college tuitions," said David Ward, president of the American Council on Education, which represents 1,800 colleges and universities.

A report by the American Council on Education found that seventy-one percent of Americans believe that "a four-year college education is not affordable for most Americans," while sixty-five percent list cost of a college education as a top concern, ranking it ahead of violent crimes against children, children's healthcare, and quality of public schools.

More than sixty percent of full time students receive some type of financial aid at public four-year colleges and universities, as do more than seventy five percent of full-time students attending private four-year colleges and universities. But most of that aid usually comes from loans, which can and does leave students burdened by debts for years after graduation. Although, $90 billion in financial aid was available to students in fall of 2002, loans accounted for fifty-four percent of that amount and grants for just thirty-nine percent of the total.

Thus, the question that still remains unanswered is, "why is college tuition so high?" Schools have said that they are providing an expensive but highly valuable product—an education that will mean thousands of dollars more in future earning power for graduates.

Parents and students are urged to weigh the cost of a college education against the value it will bring over the lifetime. College graduates can still expect to make an average of $1 million more over their professional lives than their high school graduates.

Is Financial Aid For You?

Is it difficult to concentrate on your academics due to financial stress? You may be able to relieve some of that stress by applying for financial aid. It is not too late to apply for the 2002-2003 academic year. Financial aid includes grants (undergraduate students), loans, student employment and scholarships.

The best way to apply is through FAFSA on the Web at www.fafsa.ed.gov. By applying online, the process is fast, and there are edit checks to reduce errors. Students who do not have their Department of Education Personal Identification Number (PIN) should request one from www.pin.ed.gov to eliminate sending a signature page. Parents of dependent students can also request a PIN. By including your email address, you will receive an email with a link to your Student Aid Report on the Web in no more than five days.

Undergraduate students are required to complete the NSU State Aid Application. This is not required by graduate students. For other information regarding financial aid and scholarships, check the NSU financial aid Web site at www.nova.edu/cwis/finaid.

What's the Newest Step on Financial Aid?

It is not always easy to keep up with the changes in financial aid. However, as changes occur it is the responsibility of the Office of Student Financial Services and Registration to keep students informed. There are several changes that have occurred within the last few weeks that effect financial aid students.

Loans

Due to the expiration of Section 428O(a)(3) and (b)(1) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 exceptions, all schools are now required to implement new procedures in their loan processes. The new provision becomes effective for loans guaranteed on or after October 1, 2002. In the past, institutions such as Nova Southeastern University, who had a low default rate were exempt from these provisions. However, the Department of Education has mandated that all schools must now adhere to these provisions. This will affect students regarding the delivery of loan funds as follows:

For students who borrow loan funds for a loan period that is only one term in length, the loan must now be disbursed in two equal disbursements. This means that instead of receiving the full disbursement at the beginning of the term, two loans will be disbursed: one at the beginning of the term and the other at the mid-point of the term. For example, if the loan period is for the winter or spring term, which begins January 2, 2003 and ends May 3, 2003, the first disbursement will occur in approximately the end of December/beginning of January and the second disbursement at the midpoint of the term (approximately March).

This only affects students whose loans are awarded for one term. In most cases, students are awarded for two terms.

The second change to regulations only applies to first-time, first-year undergraduate student borrowers. Students who meet this condition will have a 30-day delay in their first disbursement.

Again, these changes are due to federal regulations and are beyond the control of Nova Southeastern University. Students are urged to contact their congressional delegates in order to assure that this revision is changed for low default rate schools, as it has been done in the past. However, there is a possibility that these provisions will be changed again. We will keep students abreast of any changes to these provisions when they occur.

Online Master Promissory Notes

In order to receive a disbursement from Federal Stafford Loans students must complete the Master Promissory Note (MPN). Once a student is awarded a loan through the Office of Student Financial Assistance and the loan is guaranteed by the lender, the student must complete the MPN. Notification that the student has been guaranteed by the lender and that an MPN is required will be sent to the student either through the mail or via the student's NSU email account. Students are only required to complete the MPN once every ten years, unless they change lenders. It is now possible to complete the MPN online through the NSU financial aid Web site at http://www.nova.edu/cwis/finaid/aidyear02-03/loans.html.

Remember, the MPN is a legal document requiring you to repay the loan. Please read the...
How Should Immigration In This Country Be Improved For The Better?

by Nicolette J. Fontaine
Contributing Writer

Immigration in this country should be improved in order for the United States to move toward a more culturally integrated and advanced society. Immigration should not be eliminated; solutions can be reached in order to improve our immigration policies. We must all remember that immigrants created our country, and although choices about who could enter have been introduced in the past, people who decide to enter the United States can and will form and enhance our future. According to Julian Simon, Professor of Business at the University of Maryland, "Increased immigration to the United States would contribute to the country's technological advancement, help provide for the nation's labor needs, increase tax revenues, and improve U.S. competitiveness in the world economy. To boost the nation's productivity, the U.S. should improve the immigration policies to favored skilled workers." We can launch technological advancements in our country through improving our immigration policies. To improve these policies, we need to focus initially on the inflow of highly intellectual people with great productivity potentials and technical abilities, and concentrate on economic features rather than family associations. As indicated by Scott Barbour in his book Immigration Policy, increasing immigration of educated foreign students will enable our universities to elevate their rates and therefore enhance their productivity potentials and technical abilities.

Because of its strong economy, wealth and opportunity, the United States is a popular destination for immigrants. Tricia Andryszewski in her book Immigration states that with the increasing number of retirees in our population, we will need young immigrant workers to take the place of their jobs. Foreign workers will integrate their cultural ideas into our country, which in turn will introduce new areas of exploration, technology, economic productivity, and new lifestyles. According to Peter Francese, President of American Demographics Magazine, "Almost all the states in the Northeast and Midwest are expected to have growth rates below the sparse average, and the areas with no growth population will experience severe labor shortages, therefore lowering production of the U.S." This statement is a definite reason for us to raise the immigration in this country.

Most immigrants come here in search of jobs, to escape tragic wars, to reside permanently in a new land, and to explore what this country has to offer and then return to their homelands. Long ago, the first immigrants expressed a courageous and positive attitude by coming to an unknown country with hopes of establishing a new lifestyle and seeking ownership of land. According to Gerald Leinwand in his book American Immigration, Norwegian immigrants in 1845 had no expectation of gaining riches, but had the desire to reside in a productive country with a liberal and democratic government, where freedom and equality played a primary role in religious and civil matters, and where each of them had the liberty to earn a living. Immigrants should be granted the opportunity to flourish into a diverse and cultural society. Immigration in this country has led to problems such as illegal undocumented aliens. As indicated by Nicolaus Mills in his book Arguing Immigration, aliens in the United States often forged social security cards and used them to apply for jobs and to gain other benefits. Consequently, they were able to evade paying taxes, while acquiring job opportunities with reasonable wages, more than they earned in their homelands. Authors Burns, Peltason, Cronin and Magleby of the book Government by the People state that the Immigration and Naturalization Service cannot afford to provide a patrol system on all borders of the United States, and in order to track down and expel undocumented aliens in this country, the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986 was formed. This Act increases the cost of social services for aliens, and illegal aliens are excluded from admissions to colleges, welfare programs and health care benefits. Economic correspondent, Robert Ruttner, suggested a solution to this problem of illegal immigration. Ruttner's suggestion was to establish a single national ID card. If an employee is asked to see the card and if it was a counterfeit copy, the alien would be criminally penalized.

Although the United States should impose strict penalties for illegal immigration, immigrants should be granted the opportunity to become legal citizens, respect the law of this country, learn the English language, and then be able to establish their lives on American soil. What are the methods to obtain citizenship in our country? According to Authors Burns, Peltason, Cronin and Magleby, the rights of citizenship have naturalization requirements such as these: one must be over 18 years of age; must be lawfully residing in the United States for at least five years time; must file application; must be able to read, write, and speak English; must possess good moral character; must know U.S. principles; must demonstrate favor towards the wellness of the country; and must have no opposition to the U.S. Government.

September 11th revealed to the United States that there are foundational flaws and deficiencies in our immigration laws, and as a result, it has placed a threat on our national security. After the tragedy of September 11th, the American government and people are working hard to ensure public safety, by obstructing potential terrorists from entering the country. There is a clear and present danger of terrorist attacks on our country, but we must not forget to improve immigration policies in the midst of the nation's state of high alert. Congress will begin to pass stringent immigration laws to protect the interests of the American people. Despite the recent apprehension towards immigration in the United States, immigrants will continue to benefit the country by helping to advance technologically, increase competition with foreign countries, and boost our nation's productivity. Immigration has existed since our land was first discovered, and has resulted in a cultural melting pot that has made the United States a leader in world power today. With the help of immigrants, we will continue to strive toward competition and trade with distant foreign lands, as well as prosper towards a more cultural, educated and diverse society.

If you would like more information about the works cited in this article, please contact the Broadly Speaking Newspaper at NSU Law Center.
"Life 101: Personally Speaking" presents LL Cool J

by Myriam Georges
gmyriamnova.edu

On November 7, 2002 hip hop star LL Cool J will be guest to NSU's very own Life 101: Personally Speaking. The format of the event is a formal interview hosted by Professor Mark Cavaghan, Ph.D. The series, which has already featured former Attorney General Janet Reno and children's advocate John Walsh, is sponsored by Student Life.

The rap veteran whose name has been known for more than a decade is inspirational in both life and career. At 33 years old, LL Cool J is a recipient of two Grammy Awards, has penned his autobiography, I Make My Own Rules, and is the first rap artist to amass six consecutive platinum-plus selling albums and six gold singles.

Born James Todd Smith, Ladies Love Cool James (LL Cool J) began rapping at the age of nine but started his career at 16 in Queens, N.Y. LL began recording tapes in his home after his grandfather bought him a mixing table.

"Rap was empowering, it gave me the opportunity to experience power 'cause I was helpless living in an abusive home. Rap provided an escape; it was the first time I heard people articulating things I could relate to, and that I wanted to say," he said in a 1997 interview.

In 17 years LL Cool J has become a veteran rap star, an actor, and writer all by the age of 33 years old. In October he released his tenth album entitled 10. Its first week the album sold more than 154,000 copies.

Sending his tapes to various record labels, he finally caught the attention of Def Jam Productions. His first single, "I Need A Beat," was released in 1984. Selling more than 100,000 copies; the single established LL Cool J in the rap industry.

LL Cool J has become a successful veteran in the industry in a fashion that many before and after him have been unable to duplicate. Tracks such as his 1987 "I Need Love" and 1990 "Mama Said Knock You Out" manifest LL Cool J's ability to mix rap and pop effectively. This makes him a trademark and a master in the rap game. Although, LL's ability to intuitively combine rap and pop is his strong point, at the same time it has cost him the respect of many rap fans who claimed he has sold out. Yet, this hasn't stopped LL Cool J from pursuing his career.

The image of LL Cool J began to transcend the music industry in the mid 1990's as he ventured into movies, television sitcom and fashion. In September, he released his first children's book, entitled And the Winner Is. His latest album, 10, sold more than 154,000 copies in its first week in stores. "With 10, LL Cool J is still relevant, because he has been able to transcend time periods. Throughout his career he has reinvented himself, while still staying true to who he is. When he raps he is still thinking about the girls who have his picture on the wall and the cats that know he has been through it all. He's not trying to be who he's not and he is what he is," said Def Jam President Kevin Liles in a Def Jam interview.

Tickets for the event ran out just a few short hours after they became available. "Life 101" has also brought Janet Reno and John Walsh to campus, but L. L. Cool J's talk set a new record for the speed with which tickets vanished. The NSU campus community really wants to hear from the singer, actor, and writer! The next issue of The Knight will feature highlights of the talk.
Gay Straight Student Alliance
www.nova.edu/GSSA

What:
An organization for all students who wish to be actively involved in supporting diversity on campus.

Who:
General membership is open to all students who attend Nova Southeastern University.

When:
Meetings are every 2nd & 4th Tuesday of the month at 4:30 P.M.

Where:
Rosenthal Building, Red Room

"Embrace Diversity"

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Where sisterhood only begins in undergrad...

The year two thousand and two has brought new experiences to the Gamma Delta Chapter of Lambda Theta Alpha. Founded at NSU in the spring of 2001, Gamma Delta chapter has participated in many community service events such as Big Brother/Big Sister, beach clean ups, and LEAF donations.

Their next community service venture is cooking for the residents at the Ronald McDonald House at Jackson memorial Hospital in Miami. For those of you who do not know, the Ronald McDonald house is place designed specifically to give support to families of critically ill children receiving medical care at area hospitals. This November, the sisters of LTA, Gamma Delta chapter will be providing dinner for these families on two separate dates. Also planned for the month of December is their annual “Ritmo y Pasion” event. The “Ritmo y Pasion” event is an open mic, poetry, and coffee house night.

If you are interested in more information about Lambda Theta Alpha Latin Sorority, Inc. please visit the national website at www.lambdalady.org or email us at lambdalady_3@yahoo.com
**Hungry for Some Hannibal?**

**Hannibal Lecter is back in Red Dragon**

By Dennis Heard
SpyboyXXXaol.com

Anthony Hopkins returns as Hannibal in Red Dragon. The latest movie featuring the Dr. Lecter is the prequel in the Hannibal series.

Anthony Hopkins returns as Hannibal Lecter in Red Dragon. The latest movie featuring the Dr. Lecter is the prequel in the Hannibal series.

**Jackass Lives up to its Name, Thankfully**

By Dennis Heard
SpyboyXXXaol.com

What's worse: getting shot by a twelve gauge shotgun loaded with a beanbag, an alligator biting your nipple, or maybe a toy car being submerged in an uncomfortable spot, and I am not talking about the back seat of a Volkswagen? Human logic alone cannot answer this timeless question; thsly, experimentation was the only solution. I recently sprained my ankle so I couldn't perform the above stunts. Luckily, the gentlemen from "Jackass: The Movie" were so kind as to gracefully lighten us.

"Jackass: The Movie" isn't about anything. It's just a comedy of nine and a half long, commercial free, big screen stimulation, golf carts, and pain galore was still hilarious and I enjoyed all of it.

This movie receives a nine out of ten "wasabi-snooters" rating for unparalleled for shocking hilarity and will be a kick in the pants for mainstream America. I love this country, but sometimes things are just taken too seriously or completely the wrong way. Steve-O, one of the more infamous members of the Jackass posse, was sued and incarcerated for the "emotional trauma" he supposedly caused in one viewer via a live performance of stapling his scrotum to his leg. The positive merits of this act are minimal at best, but it is this individual's choice of art-his freedom of expression. It doesn't take a genius to figure out that "Jackass" or the "Don't Try This at Home Tour" will never contain the most socially accepted of acts; hence let's use our brains America or lighten up at least. (Wow, two social commentaries in two articles, I need to calm down).
Unity in Diversity: The Baha'i Unity Club

NSU's Baha'i Unity Club wants to promote unity among the various religions and racial groups on campus.

by Myriam Georges
mgmyrianinova.edu

The aim of several of Nova Southeastern University's clubs and organizations is to be unified in the face of diversity, and in this tradition, a new religious club aims to be unified in diversity.

According to President Nura Mowzoon, the purpose of the Baha'i Unity Club is to bring people of various races and religions together, to help promote spirituality on campus among people of all faiths, and to be a resource for learning more about the Baha'i faith. "[We stand] as an example to the rest of the world's religions represent one changeless reality of religion, race, or social class, are one.

Founded in the mid 1800s by a Persian nobleman, known today as Baha'u'llah, the Baha'i's believe that there is one God, that all the world's religions represent one changeless reality, religious background, ethnic group and all humanity is one race destined to live in peace and harmony.

Last month the members of the club celebrated Baha'i Awareness Week during the week of October 21st. A Peace Pole was dedicated to the University. The club is open to Baha'is and non-Baha'is. Meetings are held every Thursday at 5:30 pm at the Rosenthal Flight Deck. Keep your ears open for more Baha'i events this year. For more information email mmowzoon@hotmail.com

During Baha'i Awareness Week a Peace Pole was dedicated to the University. The peace pole is a 6-sided pole that states "May peace prevail on earth" in 12 different languages.

Room 208 at the Flight Deck. Class topics will include "The Eternal Covenant of God" and "The Greatness of This Day".

The club is open to Baha'is and non-Baha'is. Meetings are held every Thursday at 5:30 pm at the Rosenthal Flight Deck. Keep your ears open for more Baha'i events this year. For more information email mmowzoon@hotmail.com

Breast Cancer

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were flagging a bit at the three or so miles that were left. I saw her heels first, as I tried to catch up with the only other walker in view. She was a forty-something Black woman who walked jauntily and with purpose. She, too, was a breast cancer survivor of several years, and although she had completed many walks and runs for breast cancer, this was her first—but not last, she assured me—60-miler. Grateful for every day of life, she spends much of her time these days coaching other cancer survivors and working on behalf of raising awareness. Suddenly, those last miles in that 24-mile day didn’t seem quite so bad.

After nearly twenty-four miles of walking on that first day, we trudged into Lockhart Stadium, located on the track that held our goal, collected our tent, and found our pre-assigned place on the grassy turf. I couldn’t remember ever feeling so tired or grimy. Home for the time being consisted of little two-man tents that were spread across the center of the field and surrounded by rows and rows of port-a-potties. During the day we walked. In the late afternoon and evening we walked some more, and then we stood in one line after the next to tend to our most basic needs. Once settled in our tents, we headed about a half-mile in one direction to reach the portable showers and sinks. A half-mile in the other direction took us to a huge tent, equipped with mobile kitchens, serving stations, and lines of rectangular tables and metal chairs, which served as our moveable "feast." Although the organizers had prepared an evening of live music and entertainment under the big top, most of us were in our tents and fast asleep by 9:00 PM.

Strangers connected by a common will and a shared sense of purpose, for three days we walked, stood in line, and lived together like a nomadic tribe. We shared meals, expressed words of encouragement, woke up in the dark, and carried the weight of our stories through the heat of the long miles.

Throughout the next three days, from seven in the morning until late evening when the last stragglers made it in to camp, several times over and at various intersections we would be sure to see the volunteer crossing guards. One was a plump, late-middle-aged woman who wore a long gray braid and a

Dead Ann Landers
fake letters and advice from beyond the grave

So I have this problem... The girl I've been dating is really hot, and lots of fun, and we have a great relationship. You'd think I have it made, right? Well, the problem is that her roommate is even hotter and I find her irresistible. We flirt and party together—but nothing has really ever come of it. There have been those "moments" where something could have, and we both smiled and backed away slowly. I really want her roommate—but I don't want to ruin things with my girlfriend. How do I get both of them?

You, my friend, represent the very reason guys are called pigs. Ever heard of the expression "You can't have your cake, and eat it too?" Or are you delusional and think that you should be able to get whoever you want, whenever you want? Just forget about the roommate. Sure, it's natural to think about other people sometimes—but if you care about your girlfriend at all, you'll leave it at that just—thinking.

This guy on my hall is one of my classes and always comes to me to copy my homework. I don't want to say no, but I am sick of doing all the work. So what should I do?

No one can take advantage of you unless you let him. Why are you letting this guy walk all over you? If you don't want this kid copying your homework, you need to state that. And if you're scared of losing a "friend" or acceptance—just remember that this guy probably wasn't the best person for advice. e-mail nsunews@aol.com

Breast Cancer continued on Page 14

NSU's very own Professor Kathy Waites and Shelly Green.

hearty grin underneath her pink motorcycle helmet. She drove a Harley-Davidson that was all decked out in pink ribbons. She spent her day traveling from busy intersection to busy intersection along our walking route, waving hello and smiling at us while holding back the traffic and ensuring that we crossed safely. Another was a man, also a motorcyclist. He cheerleaded, rather than crossed,

Breast Cancer continued on Page 14
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"BE A HERO RIDE THE BUS!"
Breast Cancer
Continued from Page 12

walkers through those manic intersections, sometimes passing to hug or high-five some­one. He had graying hair and a weather-beaten face, and I wasn’t surprised to find out that he was volunteering in memory of the wife he had lost to breast cancer.

Everybody had a story.

On Day Two, I met Jim, a burly man in his early thirties. He was walking for his mom, he confided to me, whom he had lost eleven years before to breast cancer. His sister planned on lost to breast cancer. Confided to me, whom he had lost eleven years memory of their mom whom they refused to couple, had committed themselves to their sec­ond Avon 60-miler, having completed the walk for Jean’s sister, a breast cancer survi­vors congregated at Bayfront Park for the closing ceremonies, and they wore their joyful­ful spirit like a banner for the many thousands of cheering family members and friends to see. Again, we formed a circle, and we remembered the casualties and celebrated the survivors. In the three days of our walk, the speaker and representative of Palotta Team Works announced over the loud-speaker, approximately two hundred and forty people had died from breast cancer. We were also reminded that breast cancer is a treatable disease, but it takes research and money, as well as a concerted effort to raise awareness and insure early de­tection. Armed with our individual stories, we had walked 60 miles for just this reason, and as a result we had raised nearly two million dol­lars for the breast cancer crusade. In the process we also created a collective story that told of the power of community, just as Judith had always taught me. As we held hands and raised our arms in celebration of our accom­plishment and our shared triumph, our tear­stained faces looked around to find the proud faces of our loved ones. With their love and support, we had walked for our partners, our mothers, our sisters, our friends, and our daughters. We had all come with a personal story, and that story became part of a larger story, which we now shared. Judith

Shelly Greene and walking team.

The spirit of the 3-day event prev­ailed, in the final miles as in the early ones. After the last, heroic stragglers finally made it to the finish line, walkers, volunteers, and sur­vivors congregated at Bayfront Park for the closing ceremonies, and they wore their joyful­ful spirit like a banner for the many thousands of cheering family members and friends to see. Again, we formed a circle, and we remembered the casualties and celebrated the survivors. In the three days of our walk, the speaker and representative of Palotta Team Works announced over the loud-speaker, approximately two hundred and forty people had died from breast cancer. We were also reminded that breast cancer is a treatable disease, but it takes research and money, as well as a concerted

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