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The Knight Volume 15: Issue 12

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Some students may be in contention with the extended walk around the new University Center Construction Fencing, and others complain about sandals soiled by construction dirt. However, not one student can deny the enormous significance of NSU's new University Center. What began as a draft in 1999 is now a physical reality that becomes greater each day.

The footprint of this massive structure is twice that of the library, holding a total of 252,000 square feet of space. The University Center will be three floors tall, and includes a 60-foot rock-climbing wall that scales all three floors. The fitness area alone will be bigger than the Rosenthal Building, with racquetball courts, basketball courts, group exercise rooms, sauna, Jacuzzi, and a pool. The center will also accommodate those seeking to exercise alone, with 24 treadmills and 12 elliptical machines. Impressive locker rooms, where students and faculty have separate facilities, are also part of this complicated plan. Though a great deal of work will be done to complete Phase I of construction, it is just the beginning.

"I anticipate that enrollment, particularly on an undergraduate level, will increase as a result of this facility," Dean of Student Affairs Dr. Brad Williams said. "Knowing what I do about the University Center and what it will mean for the campus, the little bit of extra walking that I do seems like a small price to pay."

As more funding becomes available, Phase II of the project will be initiated. During this time, the bookstore will transition into a dining facility and food court that includes a full-size convenience store. A performing arts wing will also be created, and it will be comprised of rehearsal rooms, dance performance studios, and a black box theatre. Phase II also includes plans for a new campus radio station and a Flight Deck that will be twice its current size. After construction is completed, the University Center will house a 4,000-seating arena that will be used to host both sporting events and concerts.

For more information regarding fencing or the University Center, please e-mail wtaylor@nova.edu.

For more information regarding the construction of the University Center, please see "ALL FENCED IN" on page 15.

The exterior of the University Center. Renderings courtesy of Cannon Designs.
Dear NSU Community,

It's time for finals once again, which means that almost every college student is faced with the bane of students' existence. No, I don't mean the finals themselves: I mean procrastination.

Procrastination is something I'm intimately familiar with; being so busy, I find it very easy to say "I'll do it later." I've got a paper to write, articles to edit, or a project to do. I have to work late, whatever. There are plenty of things that get in the way of studying for me, and I know I'm not the only one who has ever had this experience; I'm sure we all have at one time or another (or perhaps even several times).

I feel obligated to say 'procrastination is bad,' because when I've gotten this far into talking about the subject, it's probably expected of me. And it's not as though I disagree with this sentiment. Quite the contrary: I've gotten myself (not to mention my GPA) into hot water on a few occasions because I put in a late shift at work or a paper for another class in front of re-reading that chapter I'm being tested on the next day.

It all comes down to time management, a skill which I woefully admit to being lacking in. Academic services (with all those brightly colored pages of advice conveniently located on the wall directly outside my anatomy classroom), a number of professors, and even a co-worker or two (thanks, Christie) have tried to beat this skill into me, but somehow I stubbornly refuse.

It's not like I want to have bad study habits; I wish I was a lot better at allotting study time rather than waiting until the very last minute to try and cram a couple of extra facts into an already overly full and over-tired brain. My biggest problem is that after coming home from a full day of classes and several hours at work, I sometimes find my Gameboy, the internet, or a box of colored pencils far more interesting than Chapter 17. It's easy to rationalize, too: "I need a sanity break," "I'm tired - I wouldn't remember it anyway," or "I'll do it in the morning." All very popular phrases at my place - if I'm awake enough to even bother thinking them.

A note to all my professors: I'm not procrastinating for your class. Really. I'm not.

Although it's a bit late in the semester to be telling people not to procrastinate, and even a little too close to finals to make much of a difference, I'm going to say it anyway. Doing things early or at least on time and managing your time so that you can fit everything you need to do or study into your very busy schedule is an important part of gaining maturity and getting through college with sanity intact. Now is the time to begin planning for next semester (even though we'd rather be thinking of holiday shopping, latkes, eggnog, going home, or whatever else comes to mind during the holidays) and the perfect time to start making New Year's Resolutions.

I know what mine's going to be.

Sincerely,

Alisha VanHooze
Up Close and Personal with...  

Dr. Robin Sherman

By Rafia Chodhry  
News Editor

Dr. Robin L. Sherman, Ph.D. is an Assistant Professor and the Interim Assistant Director of the Division of Math, Science & Technology. She has been at NSU for 14 years – first as a student, and now as a professor, Biology Major Chair, and Assistant Director. Currently, she is teaching Biology I and Anatomy and Physiology. Here’s a little one-on-one with Dr. Sherman:

Let us hear a little about your background.

I didn’t go to college when I first graduated from high school. The first 15 years of my working life were spent in advertising and marketing. When I was 36 I decided it was time for a change, so I enrolled here at NSU in January 1991. It was just Nova University at the time. I got my bachelor’s, master’s, and Ph.D. here, and then was lucky enough to be hired to teach here as well.

NSU’s really been my home for the past 14 years.

What is your most memorable work experience?

I think the most exciting thing for me is graduation. I know it sounds corny, but I get a real thrill out of seeing my students graduate.

What is your greatest accomplishment?

Well, certainly getting my Ph.D. is right near the top of that list. It’s something that I had never even considered when I was younger. The funny thing is, though, that the graduation ceremony for my bachelor’s degree was more exciting for me than the one for the Ph.D. I was the first member of my immediate family to finish college, and I did it when I was 40!

What are your hobbies?

Mostly, I work, but I do love to travel, to swim, read, and I’d love to get back into horseback riding. Then, of course, there’s cooking. That’s one of my favorite things to do.

What is your most memorable reading?

Let’s see, I just finished The Rules of Four. We were reading that in an honors reading group that I’m working with. It’s a good book. I recommend it. I’m also reading a great deal of Buddhist philosophy. It’s fascinating.

Do you have a motto?

Not really, but I do have a sort of ‘Pollyanna’ perspective on life. I think we have choices about how we view our lives and the things that happen in them. We can choose to see challenges as opportunities, and I try to do that.

If you won the lottery, what would you do with the money?

Oh, lots of things. I would travel – I love to travel. I would keep teaching as well, but maybe not as much as I’m doing now. I’d like to have the time and resources to do more research. Finally, I would really love to fund a scholarship. I think it’s really important that money not be an issue when someone wants an education.

What are some of your favorite foods?

At the moment, I’m really into far eastern foods: Thai, Chinese, Japanese, Vietnamese. I’m starting to try some Indian food, as well; I like curries, but I’m new to that. Of course, Italian food is never far behind.

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What is the best advice you ever received?

That’s tough. I think it was that it is up to us how we live our lives. It’s about the choices that we make. We can choose a positive path/perspective, or not. I think that the motivation is that positive attitude produces positive outcomes. Now, that doesn’t mean that it’s always easy, just that motivation counts.

The Slaying of The Knight

Opening of the University Center brings a new image for NSU

By Greg Kyriakakis  
Staff Writer

The reign of the Knight, NSU’s chivalric mascot, may soon come to an end. In an effort to promote university spirit, this January and February NSU will be holding a contest to select a new mascot.

The decision to change the image of the university follows a task force recently commissioned by NSU President Ray Ferrero to investigate NSU students’ lack of spirit, and how to get them more involved. According to Dr. Brad Williams, Dean of Student Affairs, 40.5 percent of recently polled students were unaware that the Knight is NSU’s mascot. Williams feels that the early 2006 opening of the new University Center offers a “once in a lifetime” opportunity to change the image of the university.

NSU students will be able to easily submit their ideas for a new mascot. Aiding in this process, a variety of venues will accept proposals, from athletic and university events to a special website. Prizes will be awarded for the best mascots, and the winner’s design will be unveilled during the opening of the University Center. Of course, an outcry to keep the Knight as mascot is a possibility.

With NSU becoming a “very different place, and a very exciting place,” Dean Williams hopes that encouraging a stronger connection of students to the university will be beneficial to everyone. He is optimistic about the increasing role of NSU’s community, and introducing a new mascot, in addition to the changes around campus, will hopefully “make us all part of the same university.”
The Health Professions Division Student Government Association will be hosting Bagel Breaks on Tuesday and Wednesday, December 14 and 15 at 8:00 p.m. in the atrium between the Hull Auditorium and the HPD Library. These breaks are geared at providing some refreshment for students while they study for final exams. A smaller Bagel Break was held on Thursday, December 9 for those students whose exam schedule began last week.

The Board of Directors of the Florida Patient Safety Corporation will be meeting on Thursday, December 16. Practitioners from throughout the state will hear a report on Evidence Based Medicine.

The first year Physician Assistant students will be hosting a week-long bake sale from December 13 - 16 in the atrium near the library from 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

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The Winter Movie Season Heats Up

By Greg Kyriakakis
Staff Writer

Winter, as usual, brings more than just holiday cheer, as a number of high profile movies will be soon opened in theaters. 

*Blade: Trinity* sees the return of Wesley Snipes in the title role as a vampire hunter in the third and final installment of the popular series. In a remote desert, a group of vampires have resurrected Dracula, their leader and the only vampire that can survive the daylight. They launch a smear attack on Blade, and the FBI is now on his trail. With his long-time partner Whistler (Kris Kristofferson), Blade will take on the his ultimate enemy: Dracula. New Line Cinema’s *Blade: Trinity*, directed by David S. Goyer, opens December 8 and is rated R.

Wes Andelson, director of the acclaimed films *Rashmore* and *The Royal Tenenbaums*, returns to theaters with *The Life Aquatic with Steve Zissou*. Bill Murray plays Zissou, a famous oceanographer on an expedition to hunt down the jaguar shark responsible for killing his partner during the filming of a documentary. The oceanographer is joined by an airline pilot who may be his son (Owen Wilson), a journalist (Cate Blanchett) assigned to write a profile of Zissou, and Eleanor (Anjelica Huston), Zissou’s estranged wife and co-producer. Touchstone Pictures’ *The Life Aquatic* opens nationwide on December 25 and is rated R.

The *Aviator*, the latest film from acclaimed director Martin Scorsese, tells the story of aviation pioneer Howard Hughes. Leonardo DiCaprio assumes the role of the eccentric industrialist and Hollywood mogul. The film chronicles the period of Hughes’ life from the 1920s through the 1940s, while he was directing movies and test-flying aircrafts he designed and created. The *Aviator*, from Miramax Studios, opens nationwide on December 25 and is rated PG-13.

In a change of pace from his standard low-brow humor, Adam Sandler stars as a Los Angeles man in *Spanglish*, the story of a Mexican woman (Paz Vega) who becomes his family’s housekeeper. The film deals with the meshing of cultures and the impact of the immigrant housekeeper being integrated into her employer’s family life. James L. Brooks, creator of *The Simpsons* and the Academy Award winning *As Good As It Gets*, directs this Sony Pictures’ film, which opens December 17 and is rated PG-13.

The Buzz on Buzz Bake Sale 2004

By Danielle Garcia
Knightriter

On Saturday, December 4, hundreds of alternative rock fans packed into Sound Advice Amphitheatre to mosh, rock, and party while a star-studded line-up took to the stage for the annual Buzz Bake Sale. Headliners like KORN, New Found Glory, The Used, Lost Prophets, and Taking Back Sunday rocked the amphitheatre from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.

103.1 The Buzz, Florida’s New Rock Alternative, gathered both local and national bands and paraded them all day between two stages. Fans began arriving as early as 9 a.m. to start their partying in the parking lot as tailgate gates opened at 10 a.m. for fans to browse the many tents before the concert, which began at 11 a.m.

Inside, the energy was evident as mosh pits and bonfires sprung up sporadically. Fans didn’t seem to mind the blazing heat, flying dust, and occasional shoe. The majority of the mosh pits and bonfires occurred near the second stage because of the set of stage one.

NSU student Greg Kagan said of the concert, “It was crazy having that many awesome bands; everyone went nuts. I didn’t expect to have such an awesome time.”

For information on upcoming concerts, check out ticketmaster.com. But keep heads up for Hooobastank with Three Days Grace at Pompano Beach Amphitheatre on December 17 at 8 p.m., hosted by 94.9 ZETA. Also check out Jimmy Eat World at Revolution on January 7 at 6:30 p.m. Listen to Radio X for free tickets.

Tickets started as low as $10 for the lawn and rose as high as $35 at the box office for seats. Luckily for fans who didn’t get tickets ahead of time, ticket scalpers were on the prowl in the parking lots to sell tickets just above box office prices.

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**Cost or Thought?**

Cost or thought, what is more important when purchasing holiday gifts? When faced with this question, the obvious answer to most is thought, however, if you stop and think about it some more, you just may realize that some people actually feel differently, especially on the day that gifts are opened. I gave this issue much more thought after listening to many people call in to a local radio station on the day that gifts were opened because of what they received.

In actuality, if after opening a gift, you totally hate it and can tell not much thought went into it, you feel awkward. Why is this the case? If we perceive the value a friend places on the relationship based on how much money or thought goes into a gift, then maybe the offense taken after a bad gift may be deserved – however ridiculous it seems.

The radio personality offered another situation that can make us feel awkward during the holidays. Sometimes, friends will set a limit on what they can spend on the other. If what happens when one of them breaks the limit, getting the other a substantial gift? Is it all right to simply say, “You broke the limit, that’s your choice,” or is the other friend to reciprocate in some way?

One caller offered an interesting approach – shop smart and shop early. She was not talking about starting the holiday shopping in November, rather, she saw the process as an ongoing task that could be done throughout the year. Basically, by taking this route, shoppers could put thought and thrift into their gifts. If you see something for a friend, pick it up and store it for the holiday season or their birthday. Often, these items will go on sale soon after you see them and that clearly would save you money. Another bonus of this method is the fact that by shopping this way you can spread out the amount of money that you would usually spend in bulk during the holiday season. However, this technique does have its flaws; for example, if the gifts you purchase are not liked by the receiver, they can’t be returned because of how long they have been on the shelf. It has been so long since the gift was purchased.

I know that many of you are probably dismayed by this outlook on holiday gifts. I, myself, am dismayed by the fact that the holiday season has, over the years, been turned into just a gift-giving bonanza.

While many families still have some sort of tradition associated with the holidays, many people have forgotten that the point of these traditions is togetherness – not the gifts you receive. So, I ask again: cost or thought? Is it really simple to think that thought is more important? However, when you consider that, for many, the getting-together is simply a ruse for gifts, it may come to light that the gift itself is more important than the family, and so may be the price as opposed to the thought.
Holiday Shopping Guide

Stumped as to what to get for a special someone? Don't even know what to get for your family? Here are some tips to help you get through the holiday season.

For Her:
1. Candles
   - Illuminations
   - Yankee Candle
   - Target
2. Cashmere Throw
   - Neiman Marcus
   - Linens and Things
3. Tea Pot
4. Garden Tools
   - Crabtree and Evelyn $39.99
5. Earrings
6. Watch
7. Card Case
   - Burdines-Macy's $25
8. Sleep ware/Slippers
   - Victoria's Secret $25

For Him:
1. Electric Shaver $80
   - Sharper Image
2. Watch
3. Poker Set
   - Brookstone $125

Misc Gifts:
1. Apple Ipad $300-$400 or Ipad Mini $250
2. Digital Cameras Range in Price
   - Radio Shack Best Buy
3. Coffee or Espresso Maker
   - Bed Bath and Beyond, Macy's $25
4. Gift Cards: To the Mall, To Restaurants
5. SPA Packages
6. Bath Products Gift Set

Looking for some cool DVD's or the latest video games? These titles make good stocking stuffers.

Recently Released DVDs:
1. Seinfeld
2. Harry Potter 3
3. Spider Man 2
4. Hero
5. Terminal
6. Chronicles of Riddick
7. The Golden Girls

Video Games:
1. Halo 2
2. Tekken 5
3. Ghost in the Shell
4. Metal Gear Solid 3
5. Madden 2004

Compiled by Alaina Siminovsky
Try Something New over the Winter Break
Compiled by Alaina Simonovskiy

Can't wait to relax over break? Are you all ready for a few weeks of simple relaxation? Relaxation is great, but can often get boring. For those of you who aren't planning to go away over break, here are some ideas of things that can occupy your time.

Restaurants and Dessert Locations to Check Out:

Café Tu Tu Tango, 3015 Grand Ave, Ste 250, Coconut Grove, FL: In a Spanish artist's loft setting you can enjoy the innovative food designs of master chefs. Great for special occasions or just a night out with friends, Café Tu Tu Tango offers an atmosphere unlike any other. Piece together your own meal from an array of appetizer-like selections - pass plates around and get friendly. For more information, call (305) 529-2222.

Melting Pot, Coral Springs: 10372 W. Sample Road, (954) 755-6368, Ft. Lauderdale: 1135 North Federal Highway, (813) 881-0055. For a more demure dining experience, head over to the Melting Pot and enjoy fondue creations at a private table. Dip fresh breads and vegetables in a cheese of your choice followed by an entree and finally dessert: a chocolate of your choice served with fresh fruits and cakes.

Coldstone Creamery, 819 N. Nob Hill Rd, Plantation: (954) 476-5747. When you want an alternative to the normal ice cream experience, head over to Coldstone, where ice creams will be made based on your whims. Basic flavors come alive when you mix in anything that you want, from fruit to candy to baked goods like brownies.

Activities:

Plaster Carousel, Dish it Up, Amore Beads: If you feel like getting in touch with your artistic side, check out one of these havens for the artistic soul. At Plaster Carousel and Dish it Up you can paint your own dishes or plaster statuettes, and at Amore Beads you can create your own jewelry. Plaster Carousel, 9865 W. Sample Rd, Coral Springs (954) 753-5354. Dish It Up 6504 N. State Rd 7, Coconut Creek, (954) 725-3800. Amore Beads 4691 N. University Drive, Coral Springs (954) 227-1115.

Rifle, Pistol, and Skeet Shooting: If you're in for something more extreme over break, or if you need to let some steam off after exams, head to Markham Park, 16001 W. SR 84, Sunrise. At the park, you will find an outdoor target range for pistols, rifles, and skeet shooting. Admission: $15 ages 6 and older on weekends and holidays; $5 per person or van (up to nine people); $15 per bus.

Beach: When heading out to the beach, make sure you choose the location based on the group you're going with; some people cannot sit out in the sun all day, so choose a location closer to some shops such as Beach Place, which is an outdoor shopping complex on the beach. If you're planning to stay all day, that's great, because as soon as the sun goes down the beach party starts up. Beach Place is located at 17 South Ft. Lauderdale Beach Blvd. in Ft. Lauderdale and can be reached by phone at (954) 760-9570.

Holiday Festivities: Stuck in South Florida for the holidays? Here are some places to check out holiday decorations or festivities.

The Holiday Fantasy of Lights runs through January 2, 6-10 p.m. daily at Trywinds Park, 3600 W. Sample Road, coconut Creek. The park is transformed into a magic winter wonderland with millions of twinkling lights and larger-than-lifelimized and animated displays. Visitors drive their own vehicles along a route lined with trees aglow with colorful lights and more than 65 festive displays. All ages. Mondays-Thursdays, 6 p.m. vehicle; Fridays-Sundays and holidays, $9. For more information, call (954) 968-3880.

Plantation Historical Museum's Annual Winter Wonderland, opened December 2 at 511 N. Fig Tree Lane, Plantation. View over 30 Christmas trees from a few inches to 13 feet, including an upside-down tree. Also on display are Victorian doll house, miniature porcelain village and train, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa and other cultural holiday displays, and thousands of "snowflakes." Enjoy the Thursday evening open houses, 6:30-8:30 p.m., on December 2, 9, and 16. Saturdays are children's days with Santa, December 4 and 11, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., with costumed volunteers, light refreshments, and entertainment. Santa's elves will wrap children's purchases free of charge at Saturday open houses. Free admission. Regular hours are Tuesday through Saturday from 9-12 and 1-4 p.m. For more information, call (954) 797-2722.
with "Radio X" featuring

DJ Dani

Name: Danielle Garcia “DJ Dani”

Position: Sports Director/Alternative DJ

Radio Show: The Final Stretch, Sports Show, Mondays 7:00-7:30 p.m. and Jam Sessions, Mondays 7:30-11:00 p.m.

Favorite Genres of Music: Alternative, Indie Rock, Emo, Punk and Rock

Favorite Bands: Fuel, Better Than Ezra, Dave Matthews Band, The Used, Lifehouse, Oasis, Sublime, New Found Glory- the list goes on!

Radio X 88.9 FM, Request line (954) 262-8457 or visit Radio X on the web at http://radiox.nova.edu

What's in your personal CD player right now? Fuel, Something Like Heaven, and a song off of this album called "Bad Day"- especially during finals week.

What recommendations do you have for CD buying? The Used's "Victory" is a CD that you need to own. If you are a fan of emo rock, this is the CD to own.

What new artist do you recommend and why? Maria Mena and Reeve Oliver both have great new CDs. Maria Mena is soft chick rock; Reeve Oliver has a great voice, and her tunes are catchy, especially "Fragile." Reeve Oliver is another alternative band that reminds me of Weezer. The station that received their CD about two weeks ago and listeners seem to enjoy them; when I'm on the air, I get a lot of calls requesting their songs.

Why did you become a DJ? I became a DJ because I love music. The day that I walked into the station, there was so much life. I knew I would enjoy going to work in that type of environment everyday. Being a DJ at Radio X lets me engage more than just music; for example, after I was hired as the Sports Director, I was able to merge my two favorite pastimes, sports and music, into virtually one job.

What can you tell aspiring DJs? Groups? Go for it. When you work with music, you have so much creative freedom and experience. You also make new friends.

Personal Information: I grew up listening to Bon Jovi, Lynard Skynyrd, the Counting Crows, and Lou Reed because my father listened to them. He definitely influenced my musical taste. My dad would call in to Daytime Hocus Pocus Monday nights telling me to make sure that his call was on the air. This is my favorite one way that I feel connected to my past; also enjoying my music continued to be a passion for my listeners.

**THE NEW RADIO X GET WITH THE PROGRAM!**
Keeping the Light of Hope Alive
World AIDS Day Candlelight Vigil

By Caroline Cullen
Knightlife Editor

On the eve of World AIDS Day 2004, NSU joined communities across the country and around the globe to commemorate those lives touched by HIV and AIDS. NSU’s Gay/ Straight Student Alliance (GSSA), Student Life, Student Counseling, and the Office of Recreation and Wellness hosted a candlelight vigil to celebrate the development made in the battle against the epidemic and bring into focus the remaining challenges ahead. Students, parents, faculty, and members of the community gathered under a tent located outside of Leo Goodwin Sr. Residence Hall to listen to keynote speakers, share experiences with the disease at an open microphone, get informed, and finally honor those affected by the virus in a closing candlelight vigil. 

NSU’s GSSA made a $400 donation to the Names Project to have a section of the AIDS quilt shipped to NSU’s Fort Lauderdale campus. According to the Names Project Foundation, “AIDS Memorial Quilt is a poignant memorial, a powerful tool for use in preventing new HIV infections, and it’s the largest ongoing community arts project in the world. Each of the more than 44,000 colorful panels that make up the Quilt memorializes the life of a person lost to AIDS.” NSU’s clubs and organizations contributed their own customized 12‘x12’ panels to create an AIDS quilt on campus.

Participants had access to various forms of literature on HIV and AIDS, including pamphlets, statistics, testing centers, treatments, and available counseling. Dr. Maria Maniscalco, Pharm.D, from the HPD College of Pharmacy informed attendees on the facts of HIV and AIDS and encouraged all to get tested. “It is scary to get tested, but it is possible to achieve a long happy life with the proper medications if diagnosed,” said Dr. Maniscalco. Guest speaker Dr. Andonia Zapantis from HPD’s College of Pharmacy and Broward General Children’s Hospital urged the crowd to “keep the light of hope alive,” and related her own moving encounter with the virus.

Keynote speakers also stressed that women are the fastest growing at-risk population. According to UNAIDS, a Joint United Nations Program on HIV/AIDS, approximately 37.8 million people around the world are living with HIV. Out of the 35.7 million adults infected, 17 million are women.

Students, parents, faculty, and members of the community bravely stepped up to the open microphone and shared their heartfelt experience with the virus to all in attendance. Those who spoke urged society not to ostracize those infected and to be supportive of their circumstances. Speakers also reminded the crowd that this is not a “homosexual” disease and that no one is immune.

The evening ended appropriately as the crowd lit their candles and formed in the shape of a ribbon; the Red Ribbon is the global symbol of solidarity with those who are HIV positive and people living with AIDS, and it unites the people in the common fight against this disease.

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Hillel Shares the Meaning of Chanukah

By Andrea Fass
President of Hillel

Shalom! Happy holidays from Hillel!

On December 7 at sundown, Chanukah began. Chanukah is a special holiday for the Jewish people because it is a holiday of miracles, which is known as the miracle of lights.

The history of Chanukah tells of the Maccabees driving the Syrians out of Jerusalem and rededicating the temple on the twenty-fifth of Kislev, which is on the Hebrew calendar. When they were in this process of rededicating the synagogue, they wanted to light the menorah. Unfortunately, they only had enough oil to last for one day. Luckily, the oil lasted for eight days, which is why Chanukah is celebrated for eight days.

A menorah is a candelabrum that holds nine candles. Eight candles are for each day, and the ninth candle is the Shamash, which is used to light the other candles. On this holiday, it is customary to give and receive gifts, as well as eat foods such as potato latkes (potato pancakes) and Chanukah gelt (chocolate coins). Children also traditionally play games with a dreidel, which is a spinning top.

Chanukah is a wonderful holiday that embraces family and friends. From Hillel, we wish you a very happy holiday season.

Tis the Season to Give

Culturally, the holidays have been a time of excessive spending, stress, and overwhelming. Some people are too busy to enjoy the winter spirit, and others enjoy holiday festivities and the egging a little too much. However, it always seems as though our true cares are lost November 24 through January 2.

I have always admired those who are willing to take a hectic holiday moment to help those around them. Whether it is serving a meal or visiting with a nursing home resident, the effect ripples into humanity. Small efforts of selflessness help those in need to remember that they are not forgotten.

As I attempt to retain composure this season, I think of people throughout the year who have truly made a difference in the lives of those around them. These are men and women who have abandoned all of human nature’s eccentricities to foster joy in others. One such person stands out in my mind.

Recently, British hostage and charity worker Margaret Hassan was killed in Iraq after almost a month of captivity. Her captors demanded that British troops withdraw from Iraq. Thousands of Iraq citizens who were taken by Hassan’s work came out in protest and begged for her safe return. Serial abductor and terror aficionado Mohammed Al-Zarqawi even called for Hassan’s release and condemned her execution.

At the time of her death, Hassan had lived in Iraq for over 30 years. She served as the Iraqi director of Care International, and held Iraqi citizenship. Her husband is Iraqi; her children are Iranian, she is Iraqi.

The woman lost her life while fighting the most devastating war ever waged on a seer of poverty. Hassan used her sense of compassion and dedication to lift the hands of famine. Thousands of Iraqis hold hope in their hearts as a result of her touch.

Though Hassan’s great life illustrated the epitome of selflessness, you need not go to extreme lengths to make a difference. Cleansing out your closet for Goodwill clothing donations could give much needed confidence to a homeless woman. Taking twenty minutes to donate blood will save the lives of three people that you have never met.

Any simple act of kindness is a prayer for humanity. Giving builds character, and helps you realize just how much you have.

*Tis the season to give, and the time to act is now.
NSU student clubs and organizations make their own AIDS Day panels and quilts.

**Some facts about AIDS:**
Approximately 37.8 million people around the world are living with AIDS.

Out of 35.7 million adults, 17 million are women.

-UNAIDS
NSU Faculty, Students, Staff, and Organizations Join to Promote HIV Prevention and Awareness

Several student organizations and communities displayed their AIDS awareness quilts and posters on World AIDS day 2004.

Hit it, boys!

By Caroline Cullen
Knightlife Editor

On December 6, Nova Southeastern University welcomed Max Weinberg to speak as part of the Life 101...Personally Speaking series. The informal questions-and-answers interview was held in the Rose and Alfred Miniaci Performing Arts Center on the main campus and was hosted by NSU Dr. Mark Cavanaugh. Max Weinberg is currently known as musical director and sidekick to the host of NBC's "Late Night with Conan O'Brien," and has been coined as "The best band in late night," by Tom Shales from the Washington Post.

Weinberg's remarkable musical career took off when he joined Bruce Springsteen and the E Street Band as their drummer in 1974; for the next 15 years, Weinberg performed for millions of people around the world and helped sell over 60 million records with the E Street band. The band just recently headlined the Vote for Change Tour with R.E.M in a series of benefit concerts for "America Coming Together" in the 2004 Presidential Elections. Weinberg has performed at two Presidential Inauguration Galas, at the Grammy Awards, at the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, and on Broadway.

Please see MAX
By Taylor Anne Williams
Graduate Assistant for Marketing & Student Media

Q. Please list your full name, hometown, academic classification, major, and preferred future career.
A. Shelly Rheanne Haines
I was born in Arkansas and moved to Puerto Rico, where I graduated high school.

Undergraduate Senior Psychology Major
To work for or with animals to protect their welfare.

Q. What is your current involvement at NSU?
A. This is my second year in NATURE Club, Psi Chi Honor Society, Feminist Alliance of Networking and Support (FANS), and my fourth year as an employee of NSU. Right now, I am president of NATURE and hold a position in the Center for Psychology Studies in the Office of the Dean.

Q. What organizations/projects have you been involved with in the past?
A. As a junior, one of the most significant projects was as a member of the Psychology Club when I established the club’s first ever Teach-In. This was for Unity Week back in January of 2004 and it was “Homophobia and its effects on individuals and society.” Also, in early 2004 I helped set up voter registration drives, coastal clean-ups, NATURE’s First Annual Environmental Teach-In, and an Annual Earth Day Celebration.

Q. Why do you feel that it is important to be involved at NSU? What benefits have you received as a result of your involvement?
A. If you’re not involved at NSU, then you miss out on the endless opportunities to meet new people and learn what’s important to them. Organizations, clubs, and departments all have a different mission here at NSU. They all have different missions, and this creates a unique and diverse community. The ultimate benefit I get from being involved at NSU is the chance to empower others and to educate students on important issues they may not be aware of.

Q. What about involvement has challenged you both socially and academically?
A. As President of NATURE, I have to work with others that do not share or respect our concern for the environment and animals. It’s been a challenge at times, but there will always be someone with a different point of view. I welcome challenges, though – it helps increase my tolerance level and improves my ability to communicate with those that have a different opinion. Academically, it’s been very challenging, as I have had to learn how to juggle several projects at a time and set priorities.

Q. What are your personal hopes for NSU’s future?
A. In the future, I hope NSU will be a strong supporter for environmental protection by placing it on their platform along with social and cultural issues. By supporting a diverse range of issues, I feel the university will become environmentally-friendly, open-minded, and a more compassionate community.

Q. What are your plans after graduation from NSU?
A. I actually graduate in a couple of weeks, so I’m thinking about this question often! My plans are to apply for a position at two top animal protection organizations. Depending on the results, I may search here for a position in education, animal behavior or protection. Whichever field I land a job in will decide which graduate program I will apply to. It will either be an M.Ed. in Humane Education or an M.S. in Behavior Analysis with a specialization in animal training.

Q. What do you like to do in your free time?
A. I am a regular volunteer at the Wildlife Care Center and the Humane Society of Broward County. I volunteer mostly in the education and behavior department. I’m always working to protect animals and the environment and I consider myself an activist for both. But of course, I can’t forget my own dog! I like to take Rosy to the park or beach.

Q. What is your favorite book/CD?
A. Current favorite book is Jane Goodall and Marc Beckoff, The Ten Trains.

My current favorite CD is the New Linkin Park and Jay-Z Collision Course.

Q. Do you feel that there is anything that I have not asked you any information that you feel is necessary for the readership?
A. On a personal note, I am very excited to graduate, but also sad to leave NSU and NATURE – they are an amazing group of people. I wish them nothing but the best for all future endeavors! If I am still with NSU, I will always give them guidance and support.

"hope NSU will be a strong supporter for environmental protection... By supporting a diverse range of issues, I feel the university will become environmentally-friendly, open-minded, and a more compassionate community.

- Shelly Haines"
Max Weinberg is also the author of "The Big Beat: Conversations with Rocks Greatest Drummers." In his book, Max Weinberg speaks to fourteen pioneers of rock drumming including Ringo Starr, Bernard Purdie, and DJ Fontana.

Max Weinberg participated in a one-on-one interview with The Knight:

The Knight: When did you first learn how to drum, and why did it appeal to you?

Weinberg: I first wanted to be a drummer after seeing Elvis Presley and his drummer DJ Fontana on the Milton Burrell show when I was 5 years old.

The Knight: A quote written by an anonymous author states: "Max's style is an art form within itself. He doesn't play the drums, he is the drums." Do you agree?

Weinberg: Oh, that's very nice. Well, I am when I play the drums. When I am playing, I'm not thinking about anything else, I am really in the moment. It took me a long time to learn how to be in the moment, a) to know what the moment was and b) how to get there.

The Knight: What does your work as Musical Director for "Late Night with Conan O'Brien" involve?

Weinberg: As Musical Director of a network television show, you are responsible for all the music that is played on the show, whether it is pre-recorded music or guest bands. It really is an administrative job.

The Knight: What was your experience with the recent Vote for Change tour?

Weinberg: The Vote for Change tour was a wonderful experience for all involved in it, although we would have preferred a different outcome to the election. In our own musical way, we raised some important issues. I was very impressed with the level of interest among the college campuses where we went.

The Knight: What insight can you give us twenty something's that you wish you had at our age?

Weinberg: That is a good question... one thing that I believed when I was in my 20s that I lost sight of in my late 30s and regained in my early 40s was that it is extremely important and necessary to be passionate about what you do in life. Not to just simply settle for a job, but to really love what you are going to do.

The Knight: How has being a drummer and a celebrity affected your family life?

Weinberg: It has actually been great for my family life being on TV and being in the E Street band. It has enabled me to take my children around the world several times and with being on TV I am home at night by 8:30 p.m.

The Knight: In your experience, what do you think is the most important thing in life?

Weinberg: I certainly think family is definitely the most important thing in life. On a professional level, my father stressed something that has always been very important to me: "If you say that you are going to do something, do it." Your word is the only thing that you have in the end.

The Knight: Where do you see yourself in ten years?

Weinberg: I'd like to just continue drumming. When I stopped drumming for a couple of years in the early 90's it made me very unhappy. I have a great job where I am able to drum at the end of the day and I just hope to continue doing that.

Max Weinberg during one-on-one interview with The Knight. Photo by Earl Tinsley

Defining Spirituality and Religion
Are they one and the same?

By April Eldemire
Graduate Assistant for Multicultural and Spiritual Development

The topics of religion and spirituality are often discussed, and people have different opinions of the two. Questions about whether these topics are synonymous or separate have been to invade the academic arena.

When asked if religion and spirituality are one-in-the same, NSU freshman Matthew Gunter, replied that, "Spirituality means individuality and religion is uniform. I believe in myself, therefore I am spiritual but not religious." Research has shown that religion and spirituality have overlapping qualities, as well as being distinctly different from each other.

Religion, according to the Random House Dictionary, includes the idea of the existence of a single being, a group of beings, an eternal principle, or transcendental spiritual entity that has created the world, that governs it, that controls its destinies, or that intervenes occasionally in the natural course of its history. Spirituality is a more personal experience. It concerns

"Spirituality means individuality and religion is uniform. I believe in myself, therefore I am spiritual but not religious."

—NSU freshman, Matthew Gunter
All Fenced In
Construction fences create new campus walking route

By Taylor Anne Williams
Graduate Assistant for Student Media and Marketing

When students return from winter break, they will be getting a lot more than just new textbooks and class schedules. Nova Southeastern University is making way for its state-of-the-art University Center, which will open in January of 2006. Until then, students must pardon the dust and fight their South Florida instinct to cruise.

The new fencing will be installed on December 17, after many students have left for winter break. This fencing is being installed in the “cooler” South Florida weather in an attempt to avoid the overheating and alleviate some of the tension of NSU’s pedestrians. Those most affected by the transition are those that work or live in the following buildings: Founders Hall, Farquhar Hall, Vette1 Hall, the Athletics/Student Affairs (ASA) Annex, the Alvin Sherman Library, the Bookstore, and the Rosenthal Building.

The following three examples are descriptions of the regular routes that students will take to travel on-campus.

On-Campus resident route to class, library, cafeteria: Students will walk from Goodwin/Founders/Farquhar/Vette1/CLC to the fencing route that leads them to Mary McCall Drive. Next, students will continue to follow that fencing route, leading them to the pedestrian sidewalk near the Mailman Building. Students must then pass between the ASA Building and the Mailman Building, and continue forward until they reach the lake. While walking toward the library, students will follow the fencing path past the ASA Building, through the current roundabout, and up to the Rosenthal’s front entrance.

University Center Construction
How much longer is your walk?

(A timed walk from the Residence Halls to Rosenthal on new route)

Fast Pace: 6 minutes
Standard Pace: 8 minutes
Slow Pace: 10 minutes

CLASSIFIED

University High School is looking for assistant baseball coaches for all levels, Varsity, JV, and Middle for the upcoming season. If you are interested, please contact Donnie Preston at (954) 262-4454.
ATTENTION ALL WRITERS!

Want to become a staff writer for The Knight?

The Knight is looking for some staff writers to join our team.

Make your resume stand out.
Gain valuable work experience.

Stop by the ASA building, Room 105 to fill out an application.
The Women's Basketball team traveled to Islamorada, Florida on Thursday, December 2, to compete in the Second Annual Holiday Isle Classic with high hopes and tough competition ahead. Competing in the tournament with the Lady Knights were West Florida's Argonauts, Concordia-St. Paul's Golden Bears, and Drury's Lady Panthers.

At 5:00 p.m. December 5, the Lady Knights took on West Florida for a spot in the final on Saturday. NSU kicked off the scoring when in the second minute, freshman Christine Haber (# 32) scored two points on a lay-up. But soon after, West Florida took control of the game, only allowing NSU to tie the score once at 13-13 five minutes later. The Argonauts slowly pulled away from the Knights and led by 19, going into the locker room with a score of 39-20.

After halftime, the Knights came out playing better defense, but their offense still showed signs of immaturity. NSU's young team had a few miscommunications which, unfortunately, led to twenty-five turnovers in the game. During the second half, West Florida had stretched their lead to as many as 34 points, but the Knights fought back. The Knights began to play as a team in the last seven minutes, but it was too late. The Knights lost to West Florida 84-60 and would go on to face Concordia-St. Paul in a consolation game.

NSU's offense was led by junior forward Katie Cloud who scored 12 points, followed by Staci Gaeth and Jennifer Havens with 11 points each. Also a job well done for the Lady Knights' bench squad who helped the team with 12 points in the first half and 25 in the second half, outscoring West Florida's bench 35 to 31. But the scoring of points did not overshadow the high number of turnovers from the Knights due to miscommunication which, hopefully, can be ironed out with some more practice. The squad is young and they need to get some experience playing together on the court, but they faced the number 10 team in the nation in the consolation.

After a day of regrouping, the Knights returned to Coral Shores High School Gym to take on the #10 team in Division II, Concordia-St. Paul. The Knights again kicked off, scoring when junior transfer Staci Gaeth put two points on the board with a lay-up. For the first half the Knights battled strong, staying at pace with Concordia's Golden Bears. Near the end of the first half, the Knights brought the score to 31-32 in favor of Concordia but let the Golden Bears take a run of 8 to 3. Going into halftime, the NSU's Lady Knights trailed 40-34.

When the Knights returned from half-time, they began to see why Concordia is ranked #10 when the Golden Bears held the Knights scoreless for four minutes with a run of 12 points. The second half was clearly different as the Knights were pushed around by Concordia-St. Paul, which led to second-guessing and turnovers. The game concluded with a score of 86-54, a rather disappointing game for the Knights. But again Junior Staci Gaeth led NSU offensively with 12 points and 8 rebounds. This also landed Gaeth a spot on the All-Tournament Team for the second consecutive weekend in a row.

The tournament concluded with the National Runners-up from last year, Drury University, winning all with a nice victory over West Florida. The young women that were chosen to be on the All-Tournament Team were Staci Gaeth (Guard) from Nova Southeastern University, Carly Christensen (Forward) from Concordia-St. Paul, Erin Vierling (Guard) from West Florida, Michelle Gibson (Guard) from West Florida and Amanda Newton (Forward) from Drury. MVP of the tournament went to Drury University's center Eafton Hill for her efforts.

The question I ask is: when do you think athletes’ egos get in the way of their performance? I’m mostly talking about professional athletes, because I think the money can get in the way of their performance. I bring this question up mainly because of the incident on November 19 when Ron Artest, along with other NBA players, went into the stands and fought fans after a cup was batted at him. Now, I'm not saying it's right for fans to instigate anything, but there comes a point where you have to have self-control, not to go beat someone up just because a cup was thrown at you. Sometimes, players think they have to "prove" something to someone or the American society, so they go out of their way to prove they’re better than anyone else.

There have been a lot of fights in and out of professional sports and it’s really brought the image of athletes down in general. When all these athletes start swinging at each other just to show who’s better, it really doesn’t make much sense to me. Why would you need to try to prove something to someone?

Some say that it’s a human reaction to strike back when your ego has been attacked, and it’s human reaction to get revenge when someone hurts you. Sometimes I think that every teammate were to question a player’s ability, they’d probably swing at them for trying to “make” their self-confidence.

I also believe if you get as high as professional athletics, or even college athletics, you have to have some sort of self-confidence or ego, because that’s what a lot of athletes feed off of to play. You need to feel that you’re better than your opponent (or at least just as good) to be in the right psychological frame of mind for success. It’s solely OK to have some sort of ego, but there’s a point where you have to put it behind you, and not swing at someone for no reason.

How many kids do you know who look up to their favorite athletes? Well, mine was Michael Jordan when I was a kid. I always locked him up when I was growing up. What if he would have started fights on the court? I don’t know what I would have thought of him after that. Society needs heroes, and kids look for them in the media when they’re young. When we create these heroes, we give them some sort of fame, build their egos, become devoted to them, and even become devoted to the game they play. All I’m asking is for athletes to put down their fun and let go of their egos for a minute when engaged into a fight because there are young eyes watching, and those young eyes take in everything you show them. Show them there’s more to sports than just fighting in the games — that it’s all about teamwork and sportsmanship.

The Women's Basketball team played hard ball in the second annual Holiday Isle Classic.
### Women's Basketball Standings

#### FREE THROW PERCENTAGES

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### Men's Basketball Standings

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#### SSC STANDINGS

**Men's Basketball**

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### Games This Week

#### Men's Basketball

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Opponent</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Division</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>12/18/04</td>
<td>7:30 PM</td>
<td>University of West Florida</td>
<td>Boca Raton, Fla.</td>
<td>NCAA II</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>12/20/04</td>
<td>8:00 PM</td>
<td>Lake Superior State University</td>
<td>Boca Raton, Fla.</td>
<td>NCAA II</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat</td>
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<td>8:00 PM</td>
<td>Fayetteville State University</td>
<td>Boca Raton, Fla.</td>
<td>NCAA II</td>
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#### Women's Basketball

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<tr>
<th>Day</th>
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<th>Time</th>
<th>Opponent</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Division</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>6:00 PM</td>
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<td>NCAA II</td>
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<td>12/18/04</td>
<td>6:00 PM</td>
<td>Greensboro College</td>
<td>Home</td>
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Thank You Carlos Prats

By Judith Periel
Academic Advisor, MIT

On November 18, I walked out to my car in the Parker parking garage to go to lunch, and after driving from the second floor to the first floor, I knew something was not right. I parked near the entrance to the garage and found my left front tire was flat. Since I am the only person left on the planet without a cell phone, I saw Amy Lan outside the Parker Building and she kindly let me use her phone. (Thanks, Amy.) I called AAA and they said someone would be out within 90 minutes.

I returned to my car, and a few minutes later one of my students from Math, Science & Technology, Carlos Prats, was about to drive out of the garage. He stopped and asked me what I was doing and I explained I was waiting for AAA to come and fix my flat tire. He couldn’t believe I had called AAA for that, and said he could fix it for me. I told him he needed to delay his departure and that the repair service would be arriving shortly. He insisted and said it would not be a problem.

He made a U-turn and parked next to my car, after I removed 50 lbs. of assorted junk from the trunk (what a mess.) Carlos was able to access my spare tire, which was flat. Before I knew it, he had loaded the space into his car, and while I waited with my car, he drove to Goodyear and filled the space tire.

He returned and removed several lug nuts and everything else got to the flat tire. He pulled off and replated it with the newly inflated spare. While he was doing these messy, strenuous tasks, I was thanking him profusely for taking the time to help me out. He acted like what he was doing was nothing at all (as the sweat dripped from his forehead) but that is not true. He went out of his way to help me, and he didn’t have to do this. I asked him what he was doing for Christmas, but he said he would refine any gifts I might get him. I was trying to let him know how much I appreciated his actions. A few other cars passed me as they were leaving and asked if I needed any help as well. This incident was a refreshing reminder that I am part of a community where there are people willing to help out when the need arises.

And that is why I am writing this article. It is my way of letting everyone know that random acts of kindness are appreciated. Thanks a lot, Carlos — you really made an uncomfortable situation a lot easier to take.

The Christmas Bandit: When curiosity really ruins everything

By Nicolle Garber
Staff Writer

I am a pro at re-wrapping my presents as though no one had ever laid a single finger upon them, and I am excellent at finding out what I am getting for Christmas before Christmas actually arrives. That’s right, I have a horrible, horrid habit: I am driven by some unseen entity to open my Christmas presents before Christmas Day.

I can’t help it! I can’t take the anticipation. I am weak and pitiful, and when I tell you that I have no control over this matter, I am being very, very honest. It all started one Christmas when I was about eight years old. I wasn’t stupid; I knew where my parents had the gifts, unwrapped and stuffed in their bedroom closet. No one was home, the coast was clear; I silently crept into the room and slid open the closet — lo and behold! Boxes and bundles of toys and gifts and dolls and videogames and candy! Oh my! “Gary!” I yelled in excitement. My younger brother Gary came over and I showed him the yellow gameboy my parents had bought him. But his face stood icy cold and angry. “Nicolle! I hate you! I’m telling on you! Why did you ruin it for me?” he shrieked. “Uh-oh,” I thought. I was in deep doo-doo now. He obviously wasn’t as surprised as I was.

He told my wrathful parents, so as punishment my mom hated me that Christmas morning, wrapped all my presents in clear cellophane, and hugged my brother, telling him that “your sister ruined Christmas.” Yep... that Christmas definitely sucked big time.

Many Christmases after this catastrophe, I still continued to unwrap my gifts, but without showing my younger brother. It’s been about 10 years, and I haven’t ruined any more Christmases, but I still retain my penchant for unwrapping gifts before I should.

The Knight wishes everyone a safe and happy holiday.

The Knight has printed its final issue for the semester and will return on January 18 of 2005.
SPIRITUALITY
(continued from page 14)

As more and more students are searching for the meaning of life through an organized religion or an inner-spirituality, it is important for college students to feel that they belong in the grand scheme of life.

a person’s beliefs, values and behavior, states Spilka, Plante & Sherman.

Religion and spirituality share the idea of searching for purpose, whether in oneself or in a higher being. These ideologies have the potential to inspire some of the noblest human characteristics, such as selfless love and caring for others, as well as the basest human traits, according to Pargament.

They also have extreme differences. Religion can be seen as more of a membership and participation between people who believe in a similar theology. It is a specific fundamental set of beliefs that is believed to be created by a single spiritual being. An individual who is spiritual has a deeper sense of inner connectedness. Spirituality involves an exploration of oneself and a search for meaning and purpose in life. According to Robert C. Fuller, “spirituality exists wherever we struggle with the issue of how our lives fit into the greater cosmic scheme of things.”

College students are looking toward a movement of greater altruism and humanitarianism. The tolerance of social, political, and racial issues is evident. Each of these changes can be said to have a sense of spirituality. “You don’t have to be religious or be involved in a religion to be spiritual,” says NSU freshman Megan County.

“Personally, I believe in a higher being, God, but I don’t practice my religion.”

As more and more students are searching for the meaning of life through an organized religion or an inner-spirituality, it is important for college students to feel that they belong in the grand scheme of life.

If you would like more information on these topics, contact the graduate assistant for Multicultural and Spiritual Development, April Eldemire, at eldemire@nsu.nova.edu.

“Religion and spirituality share the idea of searching for purpose, whether in oneself or in a higher being”

--April Eldemire GA for Multicultural and Spiritual Development

board meeting

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