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Students had a lot to say about Jamie Kennedy’s presence at NSU before the show. “It’s great,” said NSU student Shane Johnson, “They started off on the right foot to get everybody to come to and see what NSU is about.”

Cassidy, freshman at NSU said, “It is pretty sweet that such a high profile celebrity is coming to NSU. I hope the show is hilarious.”

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Kennedy, who referred to himself as "Just a Scare for Florida," began his routine by impersonating an Air Japan stewardess before seguing into stand-up comedy.

The show continued with Kennedy’s unique form of entertainment, which included having the audience participate in his routine. He even had a special surprise for one lucky student who was selected to participate in a skit with him.

After the show, Kennedy and his co-rapper Stu Stone signed autographs in the University Center. The event was a huge success and showcased the new University Center in a memorable way.

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Ernesto: Just a Scare for Florida

When South Floridians heard that Tropical Storm Ernesto was likely to impact the region, many had a flashback to last year’s hurricane season. With reports from the U.S. National Hurricane Center claiming that “Ernesto could develop into the first hurricane of the 2006 Atlantic season," many began to panic.

However, as the storm moved further east, its impact on the Sunshine State was reduced. For many, the experience of living through a hurricane provided a sobering reminder of the dangers of the region.

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By Kristine Belizaire

Distribution Manager

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Rain Can’t Stop Sharkapalooza

By Kristine Belizaire

Distribution Manager

After a rainy start, NSU’s first Sharkapalooza was moved to the Rosenhall Cafeteria, instead of its originally planned location outside of the newly built University Center.

Sharkapalooza is a combination of two campus traditions: Got Wood? and Exploration Week. Exploration Week takes place during the first week of school, where students are given passports and the opportunity

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Ernesto: Just a Scare for Florida

By Shenita Ann McLean

Staff Writer

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Deadly Cluster Bombs Remain Scattered Across Lebanon

By Paul Saneaux
Managing Editor

Following the month-long conflict between Israeli military forces and Hezbollah guerrillas in Lebanon, civilians are still suffering casualties resulting from small, unexploded bomblets strewn by Israeli cluster bombs.

In a report released to the Associated Press and Reuters by the U.N., Mine Action Coordination Center in Lebanon, spokeswoman Dalya Farran said that the fist-sized munitions have killed 13 people and injured 48 since the truce created on Aug. 14.

The mounting casualties and the unknown amount of dangerous explosives littered throughout Lebanon have produced criticism aimed against Israel's use of cluster bombs. Jan Egeland, the U.N. undersecretary-general of humanitarian affairs labeled the Israeli force's decision to use a weapon known for collateral damage unnecessary and "cruel."

"What's shocking and I would say, to me, completely immoral is that 90 percent of the cluster bomb strikes occurred in the last 72 hours of the conflict, when we knew there would be a resolution," said Egeland to AP reporters.

Israeli officials defended the military's actions, claiming that cluster bombs were needed in dealing with Hezbollah militants who took control of village streets and found cover in neighborhoods to launch mortars and rockets at Israel.

"Israel does not break any international laws in the type of armaments it uses," government spokeswoman Miri Eisin said. "Their use conforms with international standards."

According to the Associated Press, there are no international laws or regulations that prohibit the use of cluster bombs, but the Geneva Conventions delineate rules designed to protect civilians since cluster bombs usually injure or kill after the conflict ends.

Simon Conway, director of British demining group, Land Mine Action (LMA), told Reuters' reporters in Geneva that LMA "will be clearing unexploded cluster munitions from the rubble of southern Lebanon for another decade."

In an article by Reuters reporter Stephanie Nebehay, an advocacy group against the use of cluster bombs claimed that demining teams are still clearing dangerous explosives from Israel's conflicts in Lebanon that took place in 1978 and 1982.

Conway also said that the situation in Lebanon is worse than that seen in Afghanistan, Kosovo, or Cambodia. Over 900 cluster bomb strikes have been identified in Lebanon; Israeli forces use three delivery systems, designed by the U.S. and Israel, which, according to Conway, each have a failure rate of approximately 40 percent. One cluster bomb can carry dozens or hundreds of grenade-sized bomblets.

"Currently one person per day is being killed and three people per day are being injured by ordnance of all types," David Shearer, U.N. humanitarian coordinator, told reporters.

While Florida may have been spared, Ernesto caused flooding and power outages in four other states

Ernesto formed over the Caribbean on Friday, Aug. 25, and hit Haiti with heavy rain and 75 mile per hour winds. By Sunday, Floridians formed long lines at gas stations even though Ernesto's winds had slowed to 60 mph and was not expected to reach Cuba until Monday morning.

Many believed that Ernesto could end up packing a serious punch since meteorologists predicted that the storm would have Hurricane Irene's 10 to 20 inches of rain and Hurricane Katrina's 74 to 95 mph winds. Preparations were made for a potential hurricane that turned out to be an insubstantial tropical storm that barely slapped South Florida on the wrist.

Ernesto hit Cuba with minor impact and shifted its way toward South Florida at about 13 mph. Soon the storm began to strengthen and the amount of heavy thunderstorms began to widen. As time passed by many noticed that the skies were still blue.

"It seemed everybody was waiting for the tropical storm to come and nothing really happened," said NSU freshman Anna Maria Castello.

"I think it was a complete waste of time and money for people to rush to get gas and supplies. I got up at 3 a.m. just to avoid gas lines for nothing," said Patrick Mentor, a freshman at NSU.

By 2 p.m. on Tuesday, Ernesto began to deteriorate as organized thunderstorms disappeared. The storm quickly passed over South Florida as home owners gave a sigh of relief.

On Wednesday morning, winds were blowing and many, including the NSU community, had the day off. After leaving Florida Ernesto headed toward the Carolinas to make landfall around 11:40 p.m. on Thursday.

According to the Associated Press, its winds reached 74 mph, the threshold to be considered a hurricane.

Four deaths, two in Florida, one in Virginia, and one in North Carolina, were blamed on the storm, and as of press time, approximately 400,000 homes were lacking power across Virginia, the Carolinas and Maryland.

At 11 a.m. on Friday, Ernesto was downgraded to a tropical depression.
Pluto Demoted to "Dwarf Planet" Status

By Greg Kyriakakis
Nation & World Editor

Pluto, the former ninth planet in the solar system, was officially demoted to the status of "dwarf planet" in a recent vote by astronomers and scientists. According to MSNBC.com, a proposed plan to increase the number of planets to 12 was voted down by astronomers during a meeting of the International Astronomical Union on Aug. 23 in Prague.

The vote by 424 astronomers on the final day of the conference established three guidelines categorizing solar system objects. Eight planets - Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune - exist in the system; dwarf planets were defined as worlds lacking a cleared "neighborhood around its orbit" and that "are not satellites." Small solar system bodies were named as all other sun-orbiting bodies.

Some disagreed with the outcome of the vote. Alan Stern of NASA's New Horizons mission to Pluto said in a Space.com interview that "this definition stinks, for technical reasons." Contending that other planets including Earth, Mars, Jupiter, and Neptune have objects in their orbits, Stern believes that the logic behind the change is flawed.

He added that he is "embarrassed for astronomy" since "less than five percent of the world's astronomers voted." A petition is circulating that opposes the IAU decision.

A Space.com report stated that other groups are warming up to the decision, with the Division for Planetary Sciences of the American Astronomical Society recognizing "the authority of the IAU to render a decision."

David Simon, professor of physics and astronomy at NSU, said that the changes will have little consequence. "It's just a matter of naming things. It really has no practical effect." Simon added that some may be upset of the downgrade because of emotional ties with the planet - for instance its relation to the Disney character of the same name.

Some students at NSU welcome the guidelines. "I like the change, we are moving toward a simpler solar system," said NSU senior Andre Rodriguez.

An initial proposal would have left Pluto’s planetary status intact while adding Ceres, an asteroid, and Charon, Pluto's moon to the list.
News from Around the World

Compiled by Paul Saneaux

North America

US east missile defense system

American military officials told Agence France Presse reporters on Sept. 2 that "the United States has successfully tested its ballistic missile defense system." The test for the new system carried out nearly two months after North Korea tested several long-range missiles over nearby waters. According to the US Missile Defense Agency (MDA), "an improved ground-based interceptor missile launched from Vandenberg Air Force Base in California hit a dummy armed missile fired from Kodiak, Alaska." MDA Director and Air Force Lieutenant General Henry Obering said the tests flights effectively tested the missiles designed to protect against long-range missile attacks After North Korea launched six dummy missiles into the Sea of Japan, US government intelligence reports estimated that the missiles had the capability of "striking Hawaii, Alaska or even California." Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld expressed his satisfaction with the test results but admitted that more trials are necessary. Of 10 test missiles launched, five successfully found their targets.

For more information, visit www.abc.net.au.

Europe

Discovered bombs intended for World Cup German paper

According to a German newspaper, the Westdeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung, security sources said on Aug. 29 that intercepted suspects in two booby traps originally planned to bomb a World Cup game. The first bomb was found on a train in Dortmund, Germany in July, 2006, where one of the World Cup games was hosted. Reuters obtained excerpts from the German paper that stated the suspects were part of "a new generation of terrorists," who work together in temporary cells. German police told reporters that bombs were "crude devices made of propane tanks" and that they "could have killed many people had they gone off." Other security force officials stated that numerous arrests have been made in Lebanon and Germany. Two of the suspects being held in Beirut will not be extradited to Germany because their Lebanese nationality, stated Lebanese attorney general Said Mizrak. For more information visit www.today.reuters.com.

Middle East

Iranian airplane crash kills 29

On Saturday, Sept. 2, a Russian-built aircraft operated by Iran Air "caught fire after a tire burst on touching down at the southern city of Mashhad," although Iranian television initially claimed 80 of the 148 passengers died in the fire, the civil aviation organization later confirmed that at least 29 people were killed. Local media reports also claimed that many passengers "were pilgrims visiting the tomb of Imam Reza, one of Shia Islam's most revered figures." This last incident has "prompted mounting concern about the country's air safety record," wrote Associated Press reporters. In the last few years, hundreds of people have died in air disasters, many of them involving aged Russian-built aircraft. Iranian Rulers "blame US sanctions prohibiting the sale of Boeing and Airbus Aircraft to Iran." Three crashes in 2002 and 2003 killed over 400 people. For more information visit www.worldnews.com.

Caribbean

Healthier Castro makes television appearance

During a short televised visit on Cuban networks, Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez was seen greeting the oncoming 80-years-old Cuban President Fidel Castro in his hospital bed. According to the Associated press, Chavez visited Castro "three times since the Cuban leader announced on July 31 that he had undergone intestinal surgery" and that he would gradually hand over his powers to his brother and defense minister, Raúl Castro. Although Castro commented on his own condition on several occasions, the exact “specifics of Castro’s ailments” and the nature of his surgery have been treated as a state secret.” Returning from a tour of Asia, Chavez told Castro that people in China, Malaysia, Syria, and Angola were praying for his recovery. For more information visit www.washingtonpost.com.

Bizarre Briefs

Compiled by Greg Kyriakakis

Pump or Bomb?

A 29-year-old man traveling with his mother decided to tell an airport security officer the “security aid” device in his bag was actually a bomb in an effort to avoid embarrassment. According to the Associated Press, Skokie, Ill. resident Madin Aziz Amin’s plan backfired as he now faces a felony disorderly conduct charge, which carries a prison term of three years. Amin’s attorney claims that the man whispered the word “pump” which was misinterpreted by the official as “bomb.” A security guard testified that the “clearly” heard Amin say the word bomb.

Priest Attempts Water Walking, Drowns

A priest in Africa drowned after claiming that he could walk on water. Frank Kabele, an Evangelist preacher, explained to his congregation that a revelation foretold that with enough faith, he could “repeat the same feat Jesus performed in biblical times. As reported in the Daily Record, an eyewitness said “walked into the water, which soon passed over his head and he never came back.”

Robbers’ Van Battery Dies, Santa Arrests

Three would-be robbers almost successfully executed a home invasion, but were foiled when their getaway van failed to start. Neighbors became suspicious when the larcenists began to jump-start the vehicle in front of the house, reported IndyStar.com. Responding to the call was officer Ron Santa, who walked around the house where he spotted “a man tied up in a chair with a sock in his mouth and two guys standing over him with handguns.” Santa called for backup and the suspects were arrested after attempting to evade police.

CopShop.com ID Fails to Fool Police

Stephen M. Kishore, a 20-year-old New York college student, was arrested after showing police a phony Homeland Security ID card and during a traffic stop near Kennedy Airport. The Associated Press reported that despite the credential having the disclaimer "CopShop.com, Collectible Badge. Not for Official Use," printed on the back, Kishore still used it. The man said that he made the card on his computer and had numerous templates for other agencies, as well as printed federal and local police identification. He was charged with criminal impersonation and forgery charges, which could result in seven years in prison.

EARTH

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their cars than just the daily commute and gassing up takes minutes whereas re-charging takes hours—so sufficient demand never materialized. Hybrids, though they do use gasoline, are as versatile as conventional cars—and the coming "plug-in-hybrids" promise to substantially increase efficiency, to perhaps 100 miles per gallon or more, by using the electric motor exclusively for short runs and commutes and the gas engine only for long trips. Even though all-electric vehicles are not currently in regular innovative engineers are busy working to improve them. Technological advances in battery life and engine efficiency mean that electric vehicles may be able to roam farther than ever before. According to EVWorld.com, drivers looking to go electric will soon have a few options. California-based Tesla Motors will soon be accepting deposits on orders for its plug-in Roadster, and plans its first deliveries for 2007. Tesla claims its car can go 250 miles on a charge, which can even be extended further through its "regenerative braking" technology, similar to that which is employed in the hybrids. In Spokane, Washington's Commuter Car Corporation is taking orders for its Tango 600 (a kit you have to assemble) and its Tango 100 and 200 models (fully assembled), with plans to deliver by 2007. Acting George Clooney was Commuter Car's first customer. The Tango can only go 60-80 miles on a charge, but boasts of its ability to go zero to 60 in four seconds and attain a top speed of 150 miles per hour. Elsewhere, California-based AC Propulsion is working with Toyota on a Scion electric conversion, and Cleanova, based in France, is developing an electric Renault Kangoo, a popular European car.

One consideration to keep in mind about electric vehicles is that, if your utility is a dirty coal-fired plant, tapping that power could mean creating more pollution than driving a gasoline powered car. But progress in renewable energies may well solve that problem and help usher in a new era for electric vehicles.

Career Services Reaches Out to All Students

By Michael Bergbauer
Staff Writer

Career Services is expanding and connecting to all NSU students this year with new event series, including the new Lunch and Learn Series, Career Cafe and the Fall Career Fair.

In the earliest of these events, Career Services has partnered with the H. Wayne Huizenga School of Business and Entrepreneurship to hold the Lunch and Learn Series. A three part series, Lunch and Learn invites students to attend a career skills workshop featuring a guest speaker and a free lunch. The first workshop takes place on September 12 from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. in the Carl DeSantis building and will cover resume development skills.

The featured guest speaker will be Jay Bryant, Senior Director of Global Recruitment at Thunderbird University. Subsequent Lunch and Learn will include self-marketing, networking, and image seminars and applying for internship workshops and will occur on October 5 and November 13, respectively. All workshops take place in room 1047 of the Carl DeSantis building.

The first Career Cafe will be held on September 21 from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. During this event, an employer will be invited to speak and to give an inside perspective of the industry and attendees will be encouraged to practice networking skills. Refreshments will be provided during the event.

On October 18, the Fall Career Fair will be held from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. in both the Alvin Sherman Library and the Carl DeSantis building. All NSU students are invited to attend and network with all invited employers.

Career Services’ aim this year is to encourage all NSU students to attend these events. "Many freshman and sophomore students don’t realize that Career Services can really help prepare them for when the time comes to find a job, internship or co-op," says Assistant Director of Operations and Campus Relations, Imani Fredericks-Lowman.

"I’ve never been to Career Services," said NSU student Shane Johnson, "but I am definitely interested in the Lunch and Learn Series." For more information about Career Services, call 954-262-1721 or email career@nova.edu. Career Services is located on the fourth floor of the Alvin Sherman Library.

GREEK Recruitment 2006

By Tanya Parnes
Staff Writer

Greeks at NSU have started recruitment once again.

These organizations are involved in many different activities and events throughout the course of the school year. There are several different organizations for both male and female students who are interested in becoming a part of the Greek system at Nova Southeastern University.

There are two social sorority organizations on campus, Delta Phi Epsilon and Phi Sigma Sigma, who are both participating in the week-long Panhel postponed Sorority Formal Recruitment process. An interested female students will attend four different events hosted by each sorority throughout the course of the week beginning August 29, 2006. The first night is an informational night, the second is a theme night, the third is the philanthropy night and the fourth is the preferential night. Upon completion of the week’s events several girls will receive bid cards inviting them to join one of the two sororities.

Kirsten Kirk, the former Vice President of Phi Sigma Sigma sorority, says, "I like Recruitment because it’s really a chance to show off your sorority and meet new people." Kirk is a senior this year but still remains very active in her sorority, which participates in five national philanthropies every year including Breast Cancer Awareness, The Rock-A-Thon, the September 11th Foundation, Engelman’s Syndrome and the Phi Sigma Sigma Foundation. She says she has met some really nice people and is very happy that she joined.

"They’re not just friends that will last through college, but for a lifetime.”

Several other girls made similar remarks, including Angela Moya, the Sisterhood Coordinator and Philanthropy Community Service Chair of Delta Phi Epsilon sorority.

"The sorority was one of the main things I was looking for when I joined," Moya said. "I love everything that we do." Moya too, is a senior this year.

The newest sorority to start a chapter on NSU’s campus this year is Sigma Delta Tau. This organization is still new on campus, so its formal recruitment will take place September 14-17, 2006. Students who are interested in joining can attend the events and interview with the chapter members.

Carley Kramer, the Chapter Consultant, is looking forward to establishing her sorority at NSU. "We’re really excited; it’s once in a lifetime opportunity," she said. "There will only be one founding class of the Delta Iota chapter. It’s a really special experience.” Kramer is hoping to recruit fifty new members, which is the maximum number of students that are allowed to join each sorority every year.

There are also two service sorority organizations on campus, Alpha Kappa Alpha and Lambda Theta Alpha. Alpha Kappa Alpha is one of the oldest sororities in the country. The sorority focuses on volunteer services and encourages women to maintain high moral and ethical standards. AKA hosted three service projects last year that were open to all NSU students, including the Etiquette Workshop, the Dress-For-Success Workshop and the Financial Management Workshop.

The members of this sorority remain active for lifetime. Alicia Jackson, Esq., a professor at the Shepard Broad Law School, still participates in the campus events. She says that she joined the sorority because she loves, "the camaraderie, the sisterhood and the service that we provide to all mankind.” Recruitment applications can be picked up at the law school office in room 184 and are due Sept. 9.

Lambda Theta Alpha is the other service sorority on campus.

Please See GREEK
"Recruitment [is] really a chance to show off your sorority and meet new people."

Alba Ramirez, a longtime member of the organization who is completing her master's degree in guidance counseling, said, "We're very selective. You have to maintain a certain GPA, uphold certain values and fit our ladylike expectations." The sorority focuses on professional development and helps to guide its members throughout their college careers. Interested students must first join the interest group associated with this sorority. Once they have attended several meetings and meet with several chapter members they can decide if this organization is the right one for them to join.

There are also three Greek fraternities on campus, including Beta Theta Pi, Kappa Sigma and Lambda Theta Phi. The recruitment process for the fraternities is much different than that of the sororities. They have a continuous recruitment process in which students are allowed to join at different times throughout the course of the semester.

Alex Chamberlain, President of Beta Theta Pi fraternity said, "I'm very pleased with the growth of the campus." He feels that recruitment is going well so far, and hopes to bring in several new members to his organization. Beta hosts an annual philanthropy called Beta's Dodging for Dollars, which is a large dodgeball tournament that raises money for one of the local charity organizations in the community. He is happy that he has joined his fraternity and feels that, "It's a resume building opportunity."

Kappa Sigma fraternity also has a continuous recruitment process. Rico Hernandez, the Grand Scribe (secretary) for the organization, said that many people have shown a great interest in joining the fraternity this year. "He, too, is happy that he chose to be a part of the Greek system," Hernandez said. "I always have a brother there when I need him," said Hernandez. "There is always somebody there if I need to get in contact with them." Kappa Sigma also hosts an annual poker tournament which raises money for the Muscular Dystrophy foundation.

The third fraternity on campus, Lambda Theta Phi also participates in an annual philanthropy called Jail Time for Kids, which raises money for the Boys and Girls Club. They too, like the others, continuously recruit throughout the year. Students who are interested in finding out more information about the Greek system can check out the website at http://www.nova.edu/greeks/ and request further information.

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**NSU’s Anesthesiologist Assistant Program: A new option for students**

By Tanya Barnes
Staff Writer

Nova Southeastern University's Health Professions Division has just become the first one in the state of Florida to offer a Master of Health Science degree with a specialization as an Anesthesiologist Assistant. This 27-month long program involves extensive clinical education and training that will help these students become allied health professionals who will work directly under the supervision of the physician anesthesiologist.

The university has recruited Robert Wagner RRT, MMS, AA-C, to serve as the new Program Director and Assistant Professor for Nova Southeastern University’s AA program. Wagner was the past President of the American Academy of Anesthesiologist Assistants, as well as the Chief Anesthetist at Saint Joseph’s Hospital in Atlanta, Georgia, where he has worked for the past fourteen years.

Wagner says he is very excited about NSU’s new program. "We’re the fourth program in the country to have the Anesthesiologist Assistant program," he said. The program is limited to thirty-four students, but is also one of the larger ones in the United States. He says that NSU has to maintain quality control because each student must be in the operating room. "It’s a very intensive and extensive program. It’s very challenging academically and clinically."

The program requires each student to complete a minimum of 2500 clinical hours that will cover all of the aspects of anesthesia care, including a senior year consisting of full time clinical rotations that are specifically focused on all of the specialty areas in anesthesia, including general surgery, pediatrics, obstetrics and gynecology, otorhinolaryngology, orthopedics, neurosurgery, ophthalmology, genitor-urinary surgery, vascular surgery, cardiac surgery, thoracic surgery, transplantation and trauma.

"From day one the students are studying anesthesia."

*Please See ANESTHESIOLOGY*
Farquhar Convocation to Celebrate the Beginning of New Academic Year

By Kristine Belizaire
Distribution Manager

The Annual Convocation, hosted by the Farquhar College of Arts and Sciences, is an event that brings NSU students and faculty together with returning students and faculty members to introduce the new school year. This year, the Farquhar College will introduce Mark Nerenhausen, President and CEO of the Broward Center for the Performing Arts as the keynote speaker for the event. Mark Nerenhausen will be the first guest of the Farquhar College's Distinguished Speakers Series.

Nerenhausen has a Bachelors degree in science in Russian Studies and a Masters degree in arts administration. Over 600 performances each year, the Broward Center has a nationally renowned education program and research center, the Center for the Performing Arts as the first guest of the Farquhar College's Distinguished Speakers Series.

The Annual Convocation will be held in Miniaci Performing Arts Center on Sept. 5 at 4 p.m. and will be followed by a reception held in the Desantis Building Atrium. For additional information contact the Farquhar College of Arts and Sciences Office of the Dean at (954) 262-8068.

ANESTHESIOLOGY continued from page 6

Wagner says, "They are being trained in probably the most state-of-the-art facility in the country so far.

This program is designed to prepare the student for the Certifying Examination for Anesthesiologist Assistants. The certification process also involves registering for medical education credits every two years and completing the Examination for Continued Demonstration of Qualifications every six years.

Wagner highly recommends this program to students because they are in a very rewarding profession. It allows students to enter the medical field in well respected positions where they have the chance to work closely with surgical patients. The demand for AAs is so great throughout the country that students are guaranteed a position after graduating from the program. There are many benefits to choosing this profession, including flexible hours that allow the individual to have a life and starting salaries around $100,000 a year, according to the American Medical Association website.

The program is very intense, however, and Wagner says, "You have to want to be able to deal with acute ill patients in the hospital setting, specifically in the operating room, and have a specific medical curriculum of anesthesiology. It is a specialty, so you have to want to devote your self to the study of anesthesiology.

Tim Miller, a first year graduate student at Nova Southeastern University, is very happy with his decision to enroll in the AA program with its brand new mock operating room and Meti Man, a machine that resembles a life-sized man that is used to teach students how to respond to medical emergencies. Miller feels that this program is the "pinnacle of critical care.

"You will be part of the anesthesia care team," said Miller. He chose to pursue this course of study instead of medical school because he feels that it is an incredible program. "The support staff that we have, the professors, the administrators and the program are like a family." This program is available to students who have obtained a baccalaureate degree from an accredited university. They meet the minimum grade point average requirements and have a heavy premedical background including courses in English, General Biology, General Chemistry with a lab, Organic Chemistry with a lab, Biochemistry, General Physics with a lab and Calculus. Students seeking admission into the program must also submit official scores from either the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) or the Medical College Admissions Test (MCAT) as well as complete several other requirements as listed on the AA website at http://www.nova.edu/mhs/anesthesiology/requirements.html. Students who have further questions can contact Robert Wagner, Program Director at (954) 262-1166 or via email at rwagner@nsu.nova.edu.

Logistics Committee for the American Heart Association

By Chip Turner
Coordinator for Student Affairs, Orlando

As a way of reaching out to the Central Florida community, NSU Orlando's SGA and Student Affairs have joined the Logistics Committee for the American Heart Association. This year's Heart Walk at Loch Haven Park in Orlando, which will take place on Saturday, Sept. 30, 2006.

The NSU Orlando team serves as Co-Chairs for the Route Chair and Parking Chair positions, which are both integral to the success of the 2006 Heart Walk. The team will be responsible for implementing the locations for entertainment, decorations, and water stations along the Walk route, as well as the organization of the parking on the day of the Walk. Serving on the committee allows the students and staff members the opportunity to enhance their leadership skills while reaching out to their local community as a representation for NSU.

The Logistics Committee will meet one day each month prior to the Walk in September in order to implement ideas and finalize details. In addition, the NSU team will utilize the time to promote the Walk and garner volunteers that are interested in assisting the day of the event.

This year's Heart Walk will have three main focuses: Hope, Inspire, and Celebrate. Anyone interested in volunteering for the 2006 Heart Walk in Orlando at Loch Haven can contact Chip Turner, Coordinator for Student Affairs at NSU Orlando, at sgaorlando@nova.edu.

NSU Orlando Summer Cookout

By Keith Drosehn
Contributing Writer, NSU Orlando

On Saturday, June 24, 2006, NSU Orlando's Student Educational Center held a cookout for students, faculty, and other staff members who attended the Student Educational Center that day.

The event was sponsored by the Student Government Association and Student Affairs. Many of the students that attend class on the weekends do not have the opportunity to connect with the officers of the SGA as much as the weekday students, and Chip Turner, Coordinator of Student Affairs at NSU Orlando, hopes to change that. This was a great way to give the SGA officers a chance to introduce themselves to the weekend students and faculty.

"I am very excited to see the SGA so involved in their academic community as well as taking the role of student leadership so important," said Turner. "They have a lot of great ideas and I look forward to seeing many of these ideas implemented during their tenure."

SGA Orlando has many plans in store for the future in terms of student development and social offerings for NSU Orlando students.

For more information regarding NSU Orlando's Student Government Association, please contact Chip Turner at sgaorlando@nova.edu or visit him during Student Affairs office hours which are posted in the student lounge.

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Photo courtesy JANETTE BAKER
Above: The Asian Students Association challenged students to fish ping pong balls from bowls of water for a prize, using only a pair of chopsticks.

Hyundai Tiburon. The grand prize winner was Kimberly Vardeman, who chose the Honda Civic.

“Prizes are an incentive for students to learn about the campus,” said Terry Morrow, Assistant Director of Student Activities. She said that the event will help to bring the university’s community together. "Sharkapalooza will get students to learn about campus resources, which will help to make them better students."

Clubs participating in the event included the Asian Student Association, The Nature Club, Intervarsity Christian Fellowship, Catholic Student Association, The Diversity Ambassadors, the Caribbean Student Association, and the Pre-Pharmacy Society. Greek life representatives included members of the Beta Beta Beta Fraternity, Delta Phi Epsilon Sorority, and the Kappa Sigma Fraternity. The Undergraduate Student Government Association was also present to hang with students.

Students had mixed opinions about the event. “I though it was good,” said sophomore Titina Gist. "Even though it rained and the outcome was different, it still went well.”

Sophomore Afroza Khan said, "I though that it could have been better if it had not rained. I think that last year's Got Wood? was better and more fun and that they should have had a better back-up plan in case of rain."

KEDNEDY
continued from page 1

UC Arena “devirginizer” inoculates crowd with “Cootie Shot”

as the "devirginizer" of the new center, drew laughter from the crowd with his jokes ranging in subjects from Ashton Kutcher, Shrek, flying with Air Japan, and British pornography. He also gave the audience a taste of his upcoming music album, and had the crowd moving with his song “Cootie Shot.”

“I thought it was great”, said Marcy Prieso, an attendee at the event. “I loved the music and I love Jamie Kennedy,” Elizabeth Hauberg, Special Events Assistant at NSU said "I thought it was a great inaugural event. We [Office of Student Engagement] worked really hard to have this event and I think the students really enjoyed it.”

With additional reporting by Shenita McLean.
**Occasionally, a place where special games of yore; covering titles that have passed you by.**

By Michael Bergbauer

*Staff Writer*

Step back and play a few oldies.

Disappointed with new or upcoming titles, fans of the series will find something to love here. From traditional role playing game to card-battle, fans of the series will find KH1. This can be a bit disappointing as there are hardly any new worlds to explore for KH1 players. The worlds in the game are simple and made up of small series of connected rooms which are opened using map cards you win by battling enemies.

Kingdom Hearts: Chain of Memories

As the title suggests, the game's emphasis is on memory as opposed to progression in the story, memory, the castle represents a piece of Sora's beginings of KH2. This can be a bit disappointing as there are hardly any new worlds to explore for KH1 players. The worlds in the game are simple and made up of small series of connected rooms which are opened using map cards you win by battling enemies.

Combat in the game is both action and card-battle oriented. When entering a battle, you are transported to a set arena where you can run, jump, and roll to dodge about the field. However, attacking is governed by the deck of cards that you organize outside of battle. Different cards are used for melee attacks, magic attacks, items, summoning characters, and enemy cards with lasting, wide field effects.

Typically, you play cards one at a time, but you can stock up to three cards together for powerful combo attacks called sleights. Enemies will also attack with cards and all cards are numbered zero to nine. Cards with higher numbers beat out cards with lower numbers and zero cards can counter or be countered by anything. Gameplay can be easy if you have enough high-number cards, but things get more technical when you battle a friend, as many cards and sleights work specifically towards multiplayer. Also, some of the bosses near the end of the game can reach extreme difficulty.

Graphically, this game is spectacular. Three-dimensional cinematic cut-scenes look as if they were ripped right from the Playstation 2. The in-game sprites are big and beautiful with several animations and the worlds, albeit repetitive from room to room, are well done.

The soundtrack from the game is made up of tunes from the first KH, and they are transitioned very well.

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**Playing in the Past:**

Kingdom Hearts: Chain of Memories

By Lucas Mireles

The Daily Cougar

08/29/2006

(U-WIRE) HOUSTON - Occasionally, movies come along that are so powerful in conveying a message they can change viewers' perspectives on their lives.

Snakes on a Plane certainly will change your perspective, but not necessarily on your life.

It's more likely to affect your thoughts about flying with angry, poisonous snakes that want to kill everyone. One might scratch his head in wonderment contemplating the relevance of this premise to anything at all. Snakes is the closest thing to on-screen retardation that viewers will see this summer, but the reality is, it's the coolest movie of the year.

The writing is cheesy, there are obnoxious acts of product placement and the director himself took some pointers on what to put in the film from its Internet fan base. To make a long story short, you probably won't see this one mentioned at this year's Academy Awards. But that's why this movie is so great. It knows it's bad, and it wants everyone to laugh at it.

So what about the snakes? Well, they're on a plane, they bite passengers and it's hilarious.

Imagine your body. Now think of every place you would not want a snake to bite. Consider those parts bitten.

Just waiting to see what body part the snakes would go after next is one of the most entertaining things about the movie. It's worth noting the snakes look incredibly unrealistic. The majority of them are traveling when they stumble upon a place called Castle Oblivion - a place where special cards dominate most actions. Sora and the gang search the castle for King Mickey and Riku while being guided by shifty members of "The Organization" who seem to have dark plans for Sora. The events in this story culminate into the beginnings of KH2.

The soundtrack from the game is made up of tunes from the first KH, and they are transitioned very well.

Please See HEARTS

Page 10
By Meg Charlton

'THE HOURS' (GEOGRAPHY)

WASHINGTON - Aug. 27, many college students were probably not watching television. But in choosing to take a night off from living vicariously through dramas and sitcoms, they missed the biggest night of the TV year - the Emmys. And with undedog upsets, broken curses and enough voting controversy to put "American Idol" to shame, this was not the year to skip.

Among the many unexpected turns of the night was a Grey's Anatomy" shot. Nominated for Outstanding (Dramatic Series and twice for Outstanding Supporting Actress in a Dram (both Sandra Oh and Chandra Levy got the nod), the fan favorite could not manage to parlay its ratings success into a win.

Worse...passed over the sexy does of Seattle Grace and instead recognized the more serious ratings powerhouse "24." Jack Bauer and gang took home the top award for dramatic series and Kiefer Sutherland himself grabbed an Outstanding Actor trophy. The action-packed anti-terrorism show did join "Grey's" on the loser's end in the Supporting Actress category.

HEARTS

The forgotten (of the Kingdom) Hearts, KH:CoM places more emphasis on memory than heart.

Even "Simple and Clean" is included in its entirety: sounding as crisp as ever. Aside from that song, the game doesn't feature any real voice acting, but all of Sora and the gang's battle quotes and sounds effects are back from KH1, again, transitioned very well.

KH:CoM modestly caters to existing fans of the Kingdom Hearts series by filling in the story gaps and rounding it all out. If you are a fan, the least, I recommend picking this up. If you are not a fan, the gameplay is still interesting enough, but you will have to look beyond the multi-layered story.

Platform: Gameboy Advance
Genre: Role-Playing
Original Release Date: 12/07/04
Rating: 8

GAME REVIEWS
Lost hours of sleep

7. You'll probably play it through class, come morning. (8)

8. Great game. Make sure you have coffee for the day. (7)

9. It's pretty good, but you won't lose much sleep. (6)

10. An average game. Don't bother with it during finals week. (5)

11. Not that great. Those with particular taste may find something here. (4)

12. Overall, disappointing, but with redeeming qualities. (3)

13. Bad. This has been brought to your attention to save you (2)

14. The hour is actually lost from nightmares about the game. (1)

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Sports

Football’s Back
By Michael Erler
The Daily Aztec (San Diego State U.)
08/31/2006

(U-WIRE) SAN DIEGO - We all know the bad news: Summer vacation is officially over and, here at San Diego State we must subject ourselves again to the monotonous drudgery of lectures, term papers and an almost cruel number of pop quizzes.

But, the good news is that football season is right around the corner.

Many people merely like football. Intelligent, rational people love football. I need football. Forget college, without NFL Sundays to help me decomp and take the edge off after the workweek, I would have dropped out of high school.

At the very least, I'd be a much less pleasurable person.

There are hundreds of reasons why football is the perfect sport and is worthy of such glory, far too many to list on this page, but here's a countdown of the top seven -- a touchdown's worth.

7) Gambling
The game wouldn't be nearly as popular without the betting. Don't kid yourself, not only is the NFL aware that most fans bet on games, but it encourages the action with point spreads and injury reports in every newspaper's sports section. When money's on the line, people tune in.

6) Fantasy Football
Being in a fantasy league these days is as common as owning a shirt. Football is the ideal fantasy sport because the games are only on once a week, and you don't have to waste time constantly fiddling with your team. My friend was in a fantasy baseball league, and he had to work his rear end off for 200 days to win 50 bucks. That comes to a quarter-per-day payoff.

5) Playoffs
Most other sports have a drawn-out, best-of-seven series to decide which team moves on. In football, it's one-and-done, meaning every playoff game is crucial for both teams, and the drama is intense -- with or go home.

4) Weekend Warriors
In many other sports, the endless number of daily games can make it nearly impossible to keep up with a favorite team. Fans have things to do and places to be and they don't have time to be sports freaks 24/7. A football team plays once per week, and usually on the weekend when you have time to play your butt on the couch for a couple of hours. You can follow the sport passionately and still have a life.

3) Gridiron Warriors
Another reason I'm so drawn to this game is because of the brave and talented men who play it. For football players, the phrase "do or die" is nearly literal. Let's face it, the sport is brutal. A single play can feature dozens of full-speed collisions. The physical toll it takes on the body guarantees that even if the athletes can be financially secure after retirement, their lives will be anything but comfortable. We're talking arthritis, artificial knees and hips -- the works. The sacrifice these men make to play the game is noble, and our attraction to the violence is primal, reminiscent of the days of gladiators at the Coliseum. I won't make the mistake of calling football "televised war," but it's not for the faint of heart either.

2) Teamwork
There's a substantial amount of war terminology associated with the game. Bombs, blitzes and plays "in the trenches." This all makes sense because, much like organized battle, football demands a tremendous amount of cooperation and teamwork. In spite of what Terrell Owens would have you believe. Many other sports are a series of one-on-one clashes with a loosely structured concept of a team. For example, Barry Bonds hits home runs against opposing pitchers, regardless of what his teammates do. But Brett Favre can't throw all those touchdown passes without linemen to block for him and receivers to catch his passes. If just one person out of 11 screws up their task, a play is doomed. Watching the organized chaos of a typical game is the biggest thrill a fan can have. Well, maybe it's the second biggest thrill, right behind the best reason -- the extra point ...

1) Cheerleaders.
In what other sport do you have the privilege of watching a couple dozen of the nation's most beautiful women entertain you between plays?

Women’s Volleyball Team Starts off Season at the University Center
By Nelly Mesa
Staff Writer

The Sharks Volleyball team kicked off the 2006 season on Aug. 25 and 26, stepping onto the main court for the first time as NSU hosted the premier intercollegiate athletic sporting event, the Shark Classic, in the new University Center. The tournament begins what will become an annual event at the UC.

Senior Karla Ortiz said, "The new facility is amazing compared to BCC where the Sharks played in the past, and it's great to finally have a beautiful gym we can now call home and represent our school in."

The tournament encompassed high-quality competition considering three of the nation's top 20 Division II teams, Florida Gulf Coast, Truman State, and Concordia College, were in attendance.

NSU (1-3) got off to a rocky start as they were defeated by their first three opponents. However, the

Please See VOLLEYBALL

Women's Soccer Team Takes Down Webber International
By Nelly Mesa
Staff Writer

Nova Southeastern University's Women's Soccer Team (2-0-0) took home their second victory on Monday, Aug. 28, with a score of 5-0 against the Webber International University's Warriors.

Due to flooding on the Sharks' home field, NSU was forced to play on their practice field, but that did not have any effect on the women's performance. This was seen in sophomore forward Sharetta Burton ability to put up the Sharks' first goal in the first 29 seconds of the game.

Despite how early it is in the 2006 soccer season, Burton is already averaging one goal for every three shots taken.

Burton states, "I think confidence can make or break you. You can be so confident you get too relaxed, or it can make you by driving you to have bigger and better goals, which is the approach I'm striving for."

Alongside freshman Kelly Dietshow and freshman Alexia Hernandez, who each tacked single goals onto the Sharks' score, sophomore Stephanie Quinones had an outstanding outing as well. Quinones was able to snatch one goal as well as the assist to goal number five made by SO Lauren Huffman from 25 yards.

At 5 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 1, the Lady Sharks will be taking on Thomas University, followed by the men's game.
Despite their game getting off to a rocky start, Senior Karla Ortiz is thrilled that she can represent NSU in the newly built University Center gym.

Sharks were able to get it together while challenging the University of Central Oklahoma on Saturday, Aug. 26, and in a five game match, NSU's Sharks took home their first win of the season.

"Our team has set very high goals for ourselves that I'm sure we are going to reach because we have worked too hard to fall short of anything but that," states Ortiz.

Sophomore Christina Chubb put up exceptional numbers with 18 kills and seven digs while Ortiz tallied up 17 blocks. Senior setter Megan Johansen showed leadership on the court as she had a total of 60 assists to aid the Sharks to victory. Senior libero Itza Miranda seemed unstoppable as she had 35 digs of her own.

Sophomore Melinda Gorman dominated on the Sharks' new court as she brought in a total of 52 kills for the tournament.
Dear NSU Community,

Ah, the first issue of the year, and we already get to talk about hurricanes (or tropical storms aspiring to be hurricanes, as the case may be). Lucky us!

After last year’s record 27 named storms, it’s understandable that people might be a bit jumpy. The empty shelves at Publix where water and cans of tuna used to be named storms, it’s understandable storm following the threat of a tropical area. Fortunately, it certainly attest to that.

all those who were Florida’s half-hearted preparations we’ve taken the lesson to heart. our first brush with storm winds Category 1 storm left us less than rest of storm season though; that be aware of what’s going on and do anything else in your life as,

No that I blame anyone. The Boy Scout motto is something we should all keep in mind, if not abide by (“Be Prepared,” for all those who were never inclined towards scouthood). This might be especially obvious after South Florida’s half-hearted preparations for what we thought would be a Category 1 storm left us less than ready when Wilma walloped the area. Fortunately, it looks like we’ve taken the lesson to heart.

So for now, even thought our first brush with storm winds was less than climactic, we should stay on our toes. I wouldn’t suggest totally freaking out about it for the rest of storm season though; that kind of badly focused stress can get really exhausting after awhile. Just be aware of what’s going on and do what you have to do stay safe.

That’s something you can apply not only to preparing for hurricanes, but to just about anything else in your life as well.

Sincerely,

Alisha VanHoose
Editor-in-Chief

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**A Fly on the Wall:**

Senators Retreat

By Paul Seneaux
Managing Editor

After a grueling summer of temporary, seasonal employment elsewhere, I can sincerely say it is good to be back in the college routine (even if it is just a routine). With new people to meet, new classes to survive, and a shiny new University Center to enjoy, who can say it is not good to be back?

Summer vacation and all that free time becomes somewhat of a bore after a while, you admit. Anyway, for those of you who do not know, I began this column last year as a sort of public service for anyone who would read the newspaper. What I do is basically sit in during the Undergraduate SGA senate meetings (every Wednesday at 4 p.m. in the Goodwin classroom) and share the pain and suffering with the senators — of course I am kidding. Somewhat, I think. In truth, I relay news concerning the SGA and its affairs to the NSU community. The catch is that I throw in a refreshing little opinion here and there, like a ray of sunshine during a cloudy day or a breath of fresh air on a congested New York subway.

Last week’s meeting was effectively killed by that wimp Tropical Storm Ernesto, so I will regress another week to the first senate meeting of the year on Aug. 23. I was expecting to have nothing to rant about for the first meeting because there was no legislation, but some issue always seems to arise. But first, I have to get through the normal order of business.

President Andrew Ibrahim gave an interesting report to start off the festivities: most interesting of all was news that he would be working with SGA Advisor Gary Gershman to prepare a letter promoting the placement of a student representative in the university’s Board of Trustees. This was a notion thought up last semester under the reign of former President Jason Peebles, but now only with Ibrahim in thehot seat has the idea been acted upon. Ibrahim also stated that he will be in close contact with the Pan-SGA throughout the year. Good: proper networking between other SGA’s was a feature that the previous SGA somewhat lacked.

Remember the problem with last year’s Commencement ceremony’s guest speaker Salman Rushdie and how some people boycotted the event because they hated him? Well, Ibrahim also said he would create a forum for student feedback concerning the issue. I do not want to sound mean (although it probably cannot be avoided) but this executive board has set some pretty impressive goals compared to the previous board—and that was only the first meeting.

Although there was no official legislation to present last week, the

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**Take Care of Yourself**

I wonder how many NSU students bear these words—or some variation on them—from a parent or a friend as they headed back to school over the past two weeks. Or maybe it was at the end of a phone call since arriving at school, “Take care of yourself.” It’s such a simple message, but it says so much. For one thing, it shows that the person saying it cares about you, wants you to be safe and well.

For the college student, there are certain given: exam stress, late nights, lots of pizza, unfamiliar social situations. So when we hear the message to take care of ourselves, we don’t need it spelled out that this means such things as going to sleep, eating healthy, exercise, practice safe sex, don’t drink and drive. We just understand that these ways of being careful and wise are implied by the message.

Each of us may have more or less success at following this advice. (After all, pizza just always tastes good!) But at least, somewhere in the far recesses of consciousness, we are aware of this advice and we realize these things are important. What we may not realize is that there is another facet of taking care of ourselves that is equally important. I think of it as “taking care of your spirit.” The familiar phrase “mind, body, spirit” represent the three elements of wellness. We’ve got the intellectual stimulation of our classes and the fantastic new RePlEx at the UC to address the first two elements — mind and body. But how do we take care of our spirit?

There are likely as many answers to that question as there are students at NSU. Each of us has different ways of chilling out, finding inspiration, filling up with joy. For some, it may mean writing in a journal or talking with a close friend from home in order to find expression in words for all the thoughts and feelings they’re having. Others may want to connect with nature for peace and inspiration by going for a walk on the beach or just sitting in a pretty place on campus. For so many of us, music is a powerful source of joy and energy, whether we’re laying alone in a dark room listening to our favorite mellow music or dancing wildly at a party.

Students who find strength and community in their religion may want to take care of their spirit in part by connecting with Hillel, IMAN or JVFCT—the Jewish, Muslim, and Christian organizations on campus. And the Interfaith Council welcomes anyone interested in spiritual issues, whether or not you consider yourself particularly religious.

Whatever it is that feeds you spiritually, just don’t forget to include it as part of taking care of yourself. No matter how fit your body and how impressive your GPA, if your spirit is troubled or depleted, it’ll be hard to have a happy, successful year. So be sure to take care of your spirit. Pray, reflect, commune with nature—whatever it is that takes care of that third essential element of wellness: spirit. And please let me know how you take care of your spirit. I’d love to hear some of the different approaches used among NSU students. You can reach me at the phone number or email listed below!

Robin Cooper
G.A. for Multicultural and Spiritual Affairs
robincooper@nova.edu
954-262-7253

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**Space for Reflection**

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issue that pervaded a majority of the meeting was the expulsion of several senators from their positions and denial of opportunity to reapply because they missed a mandatory SGA retreat. The getaway was not a vacation, but a chance for the entire SGA to get together, discuss goals, define responsibilities, and review other leadership-related matters.

So, what does that mean? Well, the room was quite empty; six senators lost their seats. Some constituents have no representation whatsoever. There are no Interorganizational Council senators, no minority senators, no freshman senators, no Interfraternity Council senators. I could go on. My point is that the SGA is not functioning at full power.

The Executive Board made an official decision by official vote that any senator that missed the retreat would be expelled. Vice President of Judicial Affairs Laxmi Lalwani outlined most of the executive board's when she said that they could not back out a decision because there was at least one exception: former International Senator Amrish Bhargava, rebutted the executive decision by saying that exceptions could be made. Though Ibrahim implied that exceptions could not be made because it weakened the decision and allowed room for other exceptions, I have to agree that there was at least one exception: former International Senator Anirsh Rammarine attended the meeting and spoke with the SGA during open forum, saying he was willing to prove his commitment to the senate for a chance to reapply. Gershman brought up a good point saying, "This is not ancient Egypt, the rules are not written in stone."

This prompted Ibrahim to suggest the senators put together a resolution proposing that the Executive Board reconsider their decision. Consider is the key word: even if all the senators support the resolution, it does not mean that the Board must overturn its decision. A resolution only gauges the support for the action it promotes. More support only means the Board will give better consideration. They might look at a resolution with strong support and still decide that their decision stands.

Here is my take on this: I know that the SGA is going for tougher guidelines and regulations this year (in fact, one of the Impact party's goals was to enforce responsibilities), but the expulsion of so many senators seems like self-destruction. Like the SGA is feeding its own legs to the sharks... Um, I mean wolves. I am all for holding people to their responsibilities, especially when it comes to people with power, but is it really helping the SGA at the moment? I do not think so.

Additional Notes:
- Campus Entertainment Director Vanessa Merzquia resigned for personal reasons. (I think most of us are used to resignations by now.) This position and many others are now open.
- Public Relations Director Sean Burke has put up a website for the NSUSGA that contains all the calendars of events you will ever need. So, use it! http://nsusga.nova.edu
- Residential Senator Etra Mills was nominated for Senate Pro-Temp and voting will take place at this week's meeting.
No More Planet, Brand New Books

By Alisha VanHoose
Editor-in-Chief

The recent demotion of Pluto was a shock to some (I was certainly surprised), and not so much of a shock to others. A friend of mine just thought it was funny and called up everyone he knew to tell them (every single one of them had already heard).

A lot of people talk about how they're either unaffected by the change, they think it's weird, they think it won't matter, or they think too small a voting pool was used. Sure, Pluto becoming a dwarf planet will have limited impact on astronomy, but what about the impact on other areas?

My friends, I am talking about the publishing business. The printers of the world are probably the last people under consideration when changing the parameters of what is or is not a planet, but they're also likely to be the group most affected.

Think about it: textbooks will have to be republished. Dictionaries. Encyclopedias. Books on astronomy will have to be revised, as well as countless children's books on the solar system or on Pluto itself. Then there are classroom materials, like science workbooks and solar system posters. They could have at least had the decency to make the change at the beginning of the summer so that some of this stuff could have been made available for the new school year.

And what about "My Very Extraordinary Mother Just Served Us Nine Pizzas"? Okay, so it's not actually something in print and maybe not everyone learned this mnemonic device for remembering all the planets in order, but to most kids, a mother who has "Just Served Us Noodles" isn't the same "Very Extraordinary Mother" who has "Nine Pizzas" to offer. Maybe someone else will think of something extraordinary to eat that starts with "N", but I'm out of ideas.

Personally, I find the decision to demote Pluto a bit hasty (not to mention a tad unnecessary), but even though I'm not supporting it, I'm not actually condemning it either. I just feel that when scientists are deciding to change something that doesn't really need to be changed (demoting Pluto is not exactly progressive and it's certainly no new discovery), they should keep in mind all the little people that their actions will affect.

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