Anatomy of the University Center

The Rec-Plex

- 180 pieces StarTrac equipment
- 27' tall rock climbing wall
- Heated Swimming pool
- Exercise studios
- Locker rooms with saunas

The Arena

- 5,000 Seat Arena
- 3 Courts
- Club Box
- Box Office
- Concessions
- Hydroworks Pool
- Physical Therapy Suite

The Flight Deck

- 2 Pool tables
- Foosball table
- 5 Flat screen televisions
- Snacks and bar

The Lobby

- Ticketing office
- "The Pit"
- Campus Card Offices

Rosenthal Dining

- Coming soon: 250' Gay Harvey Mural

NSU Theatre

- Coming Soon: Black box theatre
- 300 seat performance theatre
- Costume rooms
- Rehearsal rooms
- Set workshops

Where the Sharks go to Swim

By Janly Cabezas
Staff Writer

The Rec-Plex, an integral part of the new University Center, has seen plenty of traffic since its opening on August 19.

"No matter what you like to do, it's here," Maria Crespel, a first year graduate, explains as she lifts weights on the second floor. The multi-purpose rooms provide ample space for workouts from courses including pilates, yoga, aerobics, dance, and others.

"There are so many choices of what to do," Freshman Suprana Kolluri.

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- Block Box Theatre
- NSU Theatre

NSU Theatre

- Coming Soon: Black box theatre
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- Rehearsal rooms
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The Fight Club in the University Center including the rock wall, "amazing and awesome" by students

THE RECplex

Amenities at new RecPlex dubbed "amazing and awesome" by students

said, "That's why I come by every day, especially for the treadmill, biking and upper body workouts."

The gym contains all equipment needed for a good workout, but those looking for something more daring and adventurous can check out the 27' high rock wall.

"All the people that help you are certified," said Crystal Oneil, one of the tour guides during welcome week. Oneil also mentioned other activities available. "We have an outdoor pool, indoor courts for badminton and volleyball, not to mention the indoor use racquetball courts."

"You can host your own pool party for free if with a student organization," explained Jesus Molano at the front desk of the RecPlex, adding that it costs a few extra dollars for late nights, ranging from $10 to $13 per hour for a lifeguard. "It can vary because of details and extras such as catering."

Also included in the gym are full indoor basketball courts and a sauna in each locker room.

"[It's] amazing and awesome," James Hickey said of the facility. The gym contains all equipment needed for a good workout, but those are available.

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Also included in the gym are full indoor basketball courts and a sauna in each locker room.

"[It's] amazing and awesome," James Hickey said of the facility. The only complaints refer to the music and a need for more weights. Hickey commented that with his constant use of the RecPlex, he'd appreciate a wider variety of music. "From Duran Duran to techno, it can pump you up for a better and more effective workout, instead of the repetition of Fall Out Boy and the typical." "Please wipe the equipment when you're done. Especially since it's brand new." Oneil emphasized during the tour. Towels are a requirement to use the RecPlex, including the rock wall. Student IDs are also necessary for entrance.

The dress code is also enforced: sneakers without black soles are not allowed.

"It's different for guys: shorts and a T-shirt is fine. Girls, however, can wear a tank top as long as they don't show their midriff," Molano said. "There are small lockers outside the locker room that you can check out for the day for 50 cents. The ones in the lockers are for your use as long as you bring your own lock. And if you're here frequently, you may consider having one all year for 60 dollars (these are all the reserved under the 100,300,500 numbers)," Molano said.

Students can pay $5 dollars to bring a guest. Students' families can buy a membership for $45 per month, while spouses pay $25 per month and friends of students can get a $35 per month membership through the Sponsored Student Affiliates program.

RecPlex Hours
Monday:
6 a.m. - 12 a.m.,
Friday:
8 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Saturday:
10 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Florida Voters Choose Candidates for Upcoming Elections in Primary

By Tanya Parnes
Staff Writer

The primary election for the state of Florida, a precursor to the Nov. 7 election, took place on Sept. 5. A few races in particular garnered much attention from the public, including the race for the Senate and governor.

Republican incumbent Katherine Harris competed against three opponents: LeRoy Collins, Will McBride and Peter Monroe, for the Republican nomination for a U.S. Senate seat. According to an Associated Press article, Harris carried 49 percent of the vote, winning her party's primary.

"It's a great victory because it shows each of us we can overcome adversity to achieve extraordinary victories," Harris said.

Not everyone in her party was as happy about the primary outcome, however.

Major Companies Fall on Hard Times

By Greg Kyriakakis
Nation & World Editor

Two major companies have made substantial overhauls in hopes of adapting to changing market conditions. Ford and Intel, looking to minimize losses while moving toward more efficient business models, have both made considerable employment cuts.

Ford and Intel look to restructure to changing conditions

By Greg Kyriakakis
Nation & World Editor

Two major companies have made substantial overhauls in hopes of adapting to changing market conditions. Ford and Intel, looking to minimize losses while moving toward more efficient business models, have both made considerable employment cuts.

Gas Prices Take a Roller Coaster Ride

By Shenita Ann McLean
Staff Writer

Gas prices have been making dives and jumps as prices steadily increased over the past two years. Numerous factors, including SUVs, OPEC, and hurricanes, play a role in determining the price at the pump.

According to Gasbuddy.com, the average price of gas was $3.06 on Aug. 6, compared to $2.38 a year ago. As of Sept. 6, gas was at $2.73, with a high price of $3.03 at some stations. The recent fluctuations in gas prices have been causing headaches for consumers in the U.S. who purchase about 65 billion gallons of gasoline and diesel fuel a year.

Much of the stress of gas prices in the U.S. stems from the American lifestyle. "Americans have bigger cars," said NSU legal studies professor Stephen Ross Levin. "And we travel greater distances. Generally in Europe people use rapid transportation like bus and train and America has a lot more SUVs on the road."

When a consumer buys gas, their money is divided between five beneficiaries; taxes take 20%, distribution and marketing departments get 11%, refineries get 10%, and crude oil companies gain a 59% profit. Gas stations generally add 10 cents to the prices after the other four beneficiaries have claimed their percentages.

Several factors influence the frequent changes in prices. The value of gasoline can vary due to proximity:

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Tunneling Robbers Captured in Hole

Tired of robbing banks the traditional way, a Sao Paulo, Brazil, gang entitled First Command of the Capital decided to tunnel into two city banks vaults. Twenty-eight total members were arrested, 22 of which were caught in the process of digging the tunnel, which had grown to 88 yards in length and was nearly the vaults of two banks, according to Reuters. Nearly $10,000 of tunneling equipment was seized in what Justice Minister Marcio Thomaz Bastos called "a very strong setback" for the organization. Some members arrested were allegedly part of a $70 million heist that occurred in 2005.

Garbage Picking Men Get Six Months in Jail

Two hungry men were sentenced to six months in jail after taking discarded fruits and vegetables from a produce store garbage can. An Associated Press article explained that Giles Charle and David Siller took "five cucumbers, four or five apricots, two handfuls of cherries" from a Steamboat Springs, Colo. store. They were charged with felony burglary and misdemeanor theft but received a shorter sentence by pleading guilty to misdemeanor trespass. Despite the store owner's plea to drop the charges, police pursued the case.

Priests Shame Drunk Drivers

Priests in Warsaw, Poland, are being asked by prosecutors to shame drunk-drivers in an effort to reduce vehicular fatalities. A Reuters report stated that priests were instructed to "read out the names of drink-drivers from the pulpits," but it is not known if churches will adopt the plan. A prosecutor said that a plan to list convicted drunk drivers in town hall bulletins has had no impact. A 75 percent increase in drunk-driving cases occurred between 2001 and 2005 in the country.

Phony Sign Entails Real Tickets

Brooklyn residents were recently surprised by the lack of cars on their neighborhood street thanks to a prankster who posted a phony No Parking sign. The Associated Press reported that the sign, which prohibited parking from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., led police to issue tickets and tow cars. David Bourgeois-Mini Cooper fell victim to the prank, as the outraged man paid $205 to retrieve his car from the impound and an additional $60 ticket. Intrepid Department of Transportation officials discovered that no parking restrictions exist in the area and would "try to dismiss" Bourgeois' ticket, as well as take down the sign.

Changes in temperature, whether minuscule or extreme, has shown a significant impact on the migrating habitat of disease-carrying mosquitoes

increased loss of wetlands around the world. This trend is already forcing disease-carrying migrating birds, who ordinarily seek out wetlands as stopping points, to instead land on animal farms where they mingle with domestic poultry, risking the spread of the disease via avian and human-to-human contact.

A Congressionally-mandated assessment of climate change and health conducted in 2001 predicted that global warming will cause or increased incidences of malaria, dengue fever, yellow fever, encephalitis and respiratory diseases throughout the world in coming decades. The assessment also concluded that insect- and rodent-borne diseases would become more prevalent throughout the U.S. and Europe.

The news isn't good for less developed parts of the world either. Researchers have found that more than two-thirds of waterborne disease outbreaks (such as cholera) follow major precipitation events, which are already increasing due to global warming.

CONTACTS:

GOT AN ENVIRONMENTAL QUESTION? Send it to: EarthTalk, c/o E/The Environmental Magazine, P.O. Box 5098, Westport, CT 06881; submit it at: www.emagazine.com/earthtalk/thisweek/, or e-mail: earthtalk@emagazine.com. Read past columns at: www.emagazine.com/earthtalk/archives.php.

News from Around the World
Compiled by Paul Saneaux

North America
Bush: suspected terrorists were held in secret CIA prisons
In a Sept. 6 White House speech, President Bush "acknowledged previously secret CIA prisons around the world and said 14 high-value terrorism suspects believed the massacre of the Sept. 11 attackers—have been transferred from the system to Guantanamo Bay for trials." The list of detainees includes terror suspects believed to be responsible for the 1998 attacks on the U.S. embassies in Kenya and Tanzania and the bombing of the USS Cole in 2000. Bush has begun pushing for approval of legislation that would allow military tribunals to try the suspects as early as 2007 if passed by Congress, said the military's chief prosecutor to AP reporters. "The Department of Defense would have three months after the passage of the legislation to come up with new rules for the tribunals," stated Air Force Colonel Morris Davis. The Supreme Court voted against previous tribunal rules in June. In his speech, Bush affirmed that "the security of our nation and the lives of our citizens depend on our ability to learn what these terrorists know.

For more information, visit www.nbc.msn.com.

North America
Mexican gang reveals human heads after 'revenge killing'
About 20 armed masked men stormed a Mexican bar in the western city of Uruapan on Sept. 6, and "shoved five human heads into the dance floor" in what prosecutors are calling an "apparent revenge killing." Reuters reported that the gunmen barged into the bar shortly after midnight and forced partiers to dance on the dance floor. According to witnesses and the Michoacan state prosecutor's office, the gunmen then "pulled the five male heads out of plastic bags, dumped them on the dance floor along with a handwritten message." The message claimed that the gang did not kill innocent people, that five men deserved to die as part of "divine justice." The local attorney-general's office said the killings could have been in retaliation of the murder of two women, "one of whom was beheaded and had a finger sliced off." Critics say that this incident stresses the challenge of ending drug violence and gang activities facing the newly elected president, Felipe Calderon. Shortly after his election victory, Calderon called out to allies, seeking help in governing the troubled country of Mexico.

For more information, visit www.today.reuters.com.

Asia
Lead poisoning strikes poor regions in China
According to the Associated Press, Chinese officials reported that "hundreds of people in northeastern China have been hospitalized with lead poisoning" believed to be caused by pollution from a smelter. Over 879 people have been treated for lead poisoning in two poverty-stricken villages of the Gansu province, claimed officials and doctors. The Beijing Daily Messenger first reported signs of lead poisoning on Aug. 18 when 10 people from the villages of Xinsu and Mahexi were found to have unsafe levels of lead in their blood. An anonymous health official told AP reporters that "children started feeling ill and their parents brought them to a local hospital" and suspected that the people "were sickened by pollution caused by a lead smelter nearby that discharged waste into the air."
The smelter is planted for relocation and the Chinese government is paying for hospital bills. The smelter was ordered to close by the government, and the local government has raised more concerns regarding the country's environmental regulations. Though lawmakers plan to increase penalties against polluting industries, the government said "all of China's major rivers are dangerously polluted.

For more information, visit www.cn.com.

Europe
Blair may reveal plans to resign
A Reuters report stated on Sept. 7 that British Prime Minister Tony Blair "looked set to bow to intense pressure from disgruntled loyalists and lay out a timetable for his departure within a year." In the wake of Blair's "growing unpopularity" among his own Labor Party, a junior minister and several government aides have stepped down and have asked Blair to follow. According to Reuters and British media, Blair faces "one of the toughest crises in his nine years of power," and was generally expected to concede to the "demands from rebels and outline his departure plan in much more detail." Opinion polls have shown that Blair's reputation has suffered after "government scandals over sleaze and mismanagement" in addition to controversy over the Iraq war and the terrorists in Iraq and Lebanon. Colin J Lyons, a professor of political analysis at the University of Birmingham, told reporters that the prime minister "will be remembered for his stance on foreign policy and he will be remembered negatively for that and it really, really pains him." Finance minister Gordon Brown, who helped the Labor Party win three consecutive elections, is expected to succeed Blair.

For more information, visit www.wiredtoday.reuters.com.
Confessed Murderer Dismissed After DNA Test

By Tanya Barnes
Staff Writer

John Mark Carr, the 41-year-old former teacher who confessed to killing six-year-old JonBenet Ramsey in the basement of her house, has been dismissed as a possible suspect in the murder case.

According to the Associated Press, Carr admitted an obsession with JonBenet, gave detailed information about her murder to the authorities and told the police officers that he was the one who committed the crime.

DNA evidence collected from Carr proved otherwise however, since it did not match the DNA that was found on the girl's underwear.

A CNN report stated that the prosecutors decided to drop the case against him because the claim that he was sexually involved with the child and accidentally killed her was found not to be true.

The Associated Press cited the prosecutor's motion in the case: "no evidence has developed, other than his own repeated admissions, to place Mr. Carr at the scene of the crime."

"There are circumstances that exist in any case that mandate an arrest before an investigation is complete," said Boulder District Attorney Mary Lacy.

Lacy suggested that the search for JonBenet's killer will continue, but Carr has ultimately been ruled out as a suspect.

GAS continued from page 3

Stress and the American lifestyle come hand in hand when it comes to buying gas in the U.S.

to refineries. Taxes also vary by state. Storm damage, which was severe enough during Hurricane Katrina to destroy oceanic oil rigs in the Gulf Coast, can also cause prices to climb.

The Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries is the beneficiary of the substantial 59% profits from the sale of crude oil. OPEC is an international company and has member countries from around the world, including Algeria, Iran, Saudi Arabia, and Venezuela.

The U.S. purchases crude oil from OPEC, and even though the organization is financially sound, they can continue to raise their profits by raising prices. As of July 2006, crude oil barrels averaged around $72 a piece. There is no international law prohibiting OPEC's actions or decisions concerning their share of the oil profits.

Some relief may be in store for consumers. Fred Rossell of the Oil Price Information Service told USA Today that "by Thanksgiving, people will be paying close to $2 for regular unleaded gasoline."

News about relief in gas prices continues as a recently discovered oil field in the Gulf of Mexico could reduce prices in coming years. According to Clifford Krauss of the New York Times, "the new oil field could produce billions of barrels of crude in a few years." The drilling is estimated to take over a year to confirm the actual value of the field.

PRIMARY continued from page 3

"It's a great victory because it shows each of us we can overcome adversity to achieve extraordinary victories"

the Senate. Nonetheless, she will face Democratic incumbent William Nelson in November.

Republican candidates Charlie Crist and Tom Gallagher competed for the Republican governor nomination, while Red Smith and Jim Davis battled for the Democratic nomination.

Crist carried 64 percent of the vote, according to a report by MSNBC. "All I want to be is the people's governor, and they should rest assured that if they elect me in November, no one will fight harder for the people," said Crist.

MSNBC also reported that Davis won 47 percent of the votes in the primary election. He had questioned Smith during the course of the election about his involvement with the big sugar companies who were running attack ads against his campaign. "With all the talk of sugar in the news, let me say, how sweet it is," Davis mused after his victory.

The chosen candidates will face one another in November's election, which will decide who stands in office. For questions, contact information about registering to vote, visit http://www.firstgov.gov/Citizen/Topics/Voting.shtml or call (800) 333-4636.

Steve Irwin (right) and his wife Terri pose together with a tortoise.

Steve Irwin Killed by Stingray

By Michael Bergbauer
Staff Writer

On Sept. 4 Steve Irwin - The Crocodile Hunter - died when he was stung through the heart by a bull stingray while filming a documentary in the Great Barrier Reef.

According to the video containing Irwin's death, he was swimming approximately three feet from the stingray when it became spooked and flung its tail in Irwin's direction - a move, scientists say, that would have been too quick and forceful for Irwin to avoid.

Moments after being stung, Irwin removed the venomous barb from his chest before losing consciousness. As of yet, the video of Irwin's death has not been released to the public, but Queensland state police have taken possession of a copy for a coroner's investigation.

The incident is considered by many scientists to be a "freak accident."

Irwin's death "was shocking, because stingrays are not aggressive animals and fatalities from stingray spines are extremely rare," said marine biologist and NSU professor Mahmod Shivji. "My students and I have worked with hundreds of stingrays as part of our research on stingray biology. Although we have had a couple of incidences of 'jabs' by the spines in the hands, these wounds have been relatively minor and in no way life threatening."

Steve Irwin (right) and his wife Terri pose together with a tortoise.

"We have lost an extraordinarily popular figure who showed an amazing enthusiasm for dangerous animals," said NSU Professor Charles Messing. "He went to great efforts toward getting the public to understand and protect them."

After his death, the Australia Zoo, started by Irwin's father, Robert Irwin, then massively expanded by Steve, was flooded with mourners. Hundreds of people left flowers, candles, and Khaki shirts - Irwin's trademark fashion choice - signed with messages of grief. One shirt read "Mate, you made the world a better place," another said "I thought you were immortal. How I wish that was true."

Parliament's normal business was temporarily suspended to eulogize Irwin. "He was a genuine, one-off, remarkable Australian individual and I am distressed at his death," Prime Minister John Howard said.

Robert Irwin turned down Australia's offer for a state funeral, saying "he's an ordinary guy, and he wants to be remembered as an ordinary bloke."

It has been announced that Irwin will be having a private funeral within a week's time for family and close friends and a public memorial service held within two weeks. Irwin's wife, Terri, has not yet released any statements to the press.

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to find out how YOU can freelance for The Current!
Bill Ford steps down as CEO of Ford Motors Co. following plans to move to a more efficient business model

produce 9 percent fewer vehicles than last year. The Associated Press reported that at the time, then-CEO Bill Ford said he realized the decline would impact employees and suppliers, but that cuts were "the right call for our customers, our dealers and our long-term future."

In addition to guzzling gas, some trucks and SUVs simply serve no practical purpose. "I'm buying a new car this month and I wouldn't consider buying an SUV," said Richie Pena, a junior at NSU. "It serves no purpose unless you're in the business of moving things everyday."

The problems facing Ford and other automakers reflect a possible shift in American culture as gas prices influence purchases and amount of travel. NSU psychology professor Brad Palermo believes that as the public becomes more conscious of driving habits, "people may restrict their driving habits to save money and therefore their social culture...

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New Flight Deck Receives Warm Welcome

Grand Opening entices students with food, fun, and football

By Paul Saneaux
Managing Editor

“I like this place better because it’s more open-air; it’s more festive,” said cheerful senior Cassandra Voltaire after passing under a balloon arch leading to the new Flight Deck at the University Center. She came in with several friends to join other NSU students enjoying free food and drinks, raffle prizes, and the first Miami Dolphins game of the season on live flat screen televisions.

The Student Union Board hosted the grand opening of the new Flight Deck in the University Center on Sept. 7 at 7 p.m. with the NFL draft pick and the Miami Dolphins game setting the theme. The event drew a large crowd of students, some of which recently finished an exercise session in the nearby Rec Plex.

The new location was generally greeted with positive reviews.

Voltaire agreed “we are just moving to bigger and better things; this place [the new Flight Deck] doesn’t really have the feel of the old one but I think people will get used to it.”

“I definitely like this place better,” said junior Betsy Jacob, glancing at the crowd seated at the televisions. “The other Flight Deck was small, dimly lit, and depressing. This Flight Deck is much livelier.”

Other students, who asked to remain anonymous, claimed there is lack of space around the billiards tables and that the Flight Deck is smaller than at its former location. One student was disappointed with the missing ping pong table.

Though the Rosenthal building, the first facility built on campus, has been the home of the Flight Deck for decades, Marisa Mingus, graduate assistant for SUB, assured that the new location will retain the name Flight Deck.

“With everything else new, it will take a while for people to get used to the new location,” Mingus said, acknowledging some patrons may not appreciate the move. “Planes still fly over this area, so we don’t want to change the name.”

Mingus explained that the new features of the UC Flight Deck will allow for a “bigger programming area.” All of the furniture is removable and can be rearranged in various ways to accommodate all types of events. The Flight Deck now also includes an external seating area and the pit at the main entrance of the University Center.

Thursday, Sept. 14 will make use of these features as Jamie Kennedy’s opening act, Nery Saenz, and band Final Impression will return to entertain students at 9 p.m., in what Mingus called “our first live night series.”

Investigative Journalist Edwin Black to Speak

Lectures and signings for new book – “Internal Combustion”

By Michael Bergbauer
Staff Writer

On Sept. 11 and 12, investigative journalist and best-selling author Edwin Black will be having several lectures and signings for his latest book, Internal Combustion, which details the sordid history of how the world became dependent on oil and how society can break its addiction.

Black is no stranger to the NSU campus, as he has given lectures and signings here before on his previous books, Banking on Baghdad and IBM and the Holocaust. Also, the Alvin Sherman Library has played a major part in Black’s research for his latest book. “It’s a real compliment to our staff and our library,” said Executive Director of University Relations Dave Dawson.

Black will be speaking four times on campus. On Sept. 11, Black will be giving two lectures and book signings in the Knight Auditorium in the Carl DeSantis building. The first will be at 10 a.m. and the second at 6:30 p.m. On Sept. 12, Black will give a discussion, book club presentation and signing at 4:30 p.m. in the Alvin Sherman Library. Afterward will be the inaugural speaking event and signing at 7 p.m., also in the library.

“Edwin’s book presents many perspectives, from law, history, and science,” said Dawson. “The world is not divided into English majors and History majors and so on. It’s important for students to see different perspectives at work on one issue.”

Dawson also went to say that the subject of Black’s book is “something we’ll all have to deal with someday,” and that it is important to “understand where it came from.”

“Edwin Black is very fascinating and engaging speaker,” says NSU professor Gary Gershman. “I would without a doubt recommend students to go see him.”

For more information about Edwin Black’s events, contact Public Affairs at 954-262-5353.
Player Profile:
“Leadership on and off the field, but a medical degree is still up for grabs”
Shurell Burton

By Nelly Mesa
Staff Writer

Coming straight out of Palm Bay, Fla., is a 19-year-old sophomore forward Shurell Burton, who has impressed the NSU women’s soccer team with her outstanding athletic skills, exceptional work ethic, and leadership on and off the field.

Starting in nine games as a freshman, Burton proved herself as an asset to the women’s soccer team while scoring the team’s high of 11 goals in the 2005 season, as well as leading the Lady Sharks with 24 points overall. Burton was named to the Second Team All-Sunshine State Conference in addition to being the SSC Offensive Player of the Week in September 2005 along with the SSC Commissioners List of Outstanding Achievement.

“I love working with my feet and helping my team out with my speed, but if it wasn’t for my teammates I wouldn’t be as passionate or successful,” said Burton.

Although Burton is not positive, she is leaning toward choosing biology as her major.

“I intend to get as much of an education as possible while I’m here at NSU,” Burton exclaimed. She also hopes to develop her knowledge in the medical field and to one day become a pediatrician.

Burton’s all time favorite athlete is Thierry Henry; however, her role model is her father.

“My dad has always given me the space to do what I want and allowed me to try new things, and he’s never too far away when I need him. I admire him because he is so intelligent; I call him my personal “Google” because if I need a question answered I can call him and he always has the answer.”

Burton is not just an athlete. In addition to her talent on the soccer field, she loves to watch movies and go shopping with her close friends and work with computers. Family plays a key role in Burton’s life as well.

“My family and soccer go hand-in-hand. They came out to all of my high school games and come to see me play at college as often as they can.”

When the Burton family is not sitting in the stands cheering for their daughter and the rest of the team, they are at home listening to the game online.

“What inspires me the most is my little sister Desiree. I had the honor of playing with her for three years in high school. She is a very hard worker and never gives up and when I play I think of her and she makes me want to do better.”

Men’s and Women’s Cross Country Team Finishes Strong At First Shark Invitational

By Nelly Mesa
Staff Writer

Saturday, Sept. 1 saw the Men and Women’s Cross Country teams host the first of only two home meets in store for the Sharks this season, at Markham Park in Sunrise, Florida.

This particular meet was chock full of intense competition as Division I teams such as the University of Miami, Florida International University and Florida Atlantic University were in attendance. Conference rivals, St. Leo along with Florida Tech, joined the Sharks out on the field as well as Florida Gulf Coast, Palm Beach Atlantic and Johnson & Wales University.

It was a grueling 5k race in which the Sharks entered with confidence, and not without reason as the Men’s team finished third overall with a combined score of 80 points. More importantly, NSU was able to defeat conference opponents, Florida Tech and St. Leo.

Sophomore Abdalla Eskender finished seventh with a time of 16:57.50. In 13th place with a time of 17:37.24 was junior Aaron Kohlerjohn.

“As a men’s team, I think we placed well and it is a good starting point for us to build on our season. I hope that there will be a bigger crowd out there in the park cheering us on for the conference meet in October,” stated junior Chad Turnipseed.

Sophomore Bethany Breenkus of the women’s team finished 11th at 21:2800 and junior Heather Sternau come from not very far behind in 18th place with a time of 21:50.00. The Women’s team finished fourth with 104 overall points, placing ahead of the conference rivals as well.

By hosting such a large meet that featured 110 men and women runners, the Shark are showing how far they have come since they first became a part of the NCAA Division II program. The next time NSU will see their Sharks at home it will be an important event as NSU will be hosting the 2006 Sunshine State Conference Cross Country Championships on Oct. 21.

Men’s Soccer Team Takes First Win of Season Against Thomas University

By Nelly Mesa
Staff Writer

Following a lengthy rain delay, the NSU men’s soccer team (1-1-0) came out on top Friday, Sept. 1 as they worked together to conquer Thomas University 3-1 for the Sharks first win of this 2006 season.

With the help of a crucial assist made by sophomore Adam Majorie in the 25th minute of the game, freshman Anton Siedlitzki scored the first goal of the game, off of a header.

Siedlitzki said, “I’m thrilled that I was able to score, but what is most important is that the team played well together and we won.”

NSU was able to maintain the lead throughout the entire game. In the second half, senior Loran Cronin added a trick to the Sharks tally as he scored a goal in the 68th minute, Cronin’s first goal of the season thus far. Less than 10 minutes later Siedlitzki added some insurance for NSU by scoring his second goal of the game.

“I joined the team with the goal of giving my best to help the team be successful. I think we have a great team and I’m proud to be a part of it,” stated Siedlitzki.

The NSU Sharks are hitting the road to Huntsville, Alabama to face more competition for their first road trip of the season.
### Women's Soccer

#### SSC WOMEN'S SOCCER STANDINGS

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### Men's Soccer

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### Women's Volleyball

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### Upcoming Games

**Women's Soccer**
- **Mon**, 09/11/06, 2:00 PM: Ouachita Baptist University vs. Arkadelphia, Ark.
- **Fri**, 09/15/06, 7:00 PM: University of New Haven vs. Home

**Men's Soccer**
- **Wed**, 09/13/06, 7:00 PM: Eckerd College vs. Home
- **Sat**, 09/16/06, 7:00 PM: Flagler College vs. Home

**Women's Volleyball**
- **Tue**, 09/12/06, 7:00 PM: Florida Gulf Coast University vs. Home
- **Fri**, 09/15/06, 7:00 PM: Florida Southern College vs. Lakeland, Fla.
- **Sat**, 09/16/06, 7:00 PM: Rollins College vs. Winter Park, Fla.

**Men's Cross Country**
- **Sat**, 09/16/06, 7:45 AM: Gator Invitational vs. UF Golf Course - Gainesville, Fla.
- **Women's Cross Country**
- **Sat**, 09/16/06, 7:45 AM: Gator Invitational vs. UF Golf Course - Gainesville, Fla.
College students, buy a superfast, Office-running, video-chatting, crash-resistant, podcasting Mac & get a free iPod nano:

That's right, a free iPod nano after mail-in rebate. Plus, use your education discount to save even more.

Visit the online Apple Store or the nearest retail Apple Store, call 800-MY-APPLE, or visit www.apple.com/go/educationoffer for details.

Finance$ not adding up?

500 plasma donors needed now!

New donors earn $75* this week! Qualified Specialty Plasma Donors can earn up to $300* a month!

*Payment amounts depending upon donation frequency & program

Must have valid ID along with proof of SS# and local residency. Walk-ins welcome. No appointment necessary.

2301 N. University Dr, Suite #103 Pembroke Pines 954-987-6240 NABI BIOPHARMACEUTICALS
Local indie comic Zoom Suit hits a nationwide home run with clever storytelling and pop culture flair

By Alisha VanHoose
Editor-in-Chief

For a comic book that doesn't take itself too seriously, Zoom Suit is packing up some serious business. "I'm still really shocked over it," said Broward resident John Taddeo, creator and writer of the wildly successful indie comic. "I really just wanted to see if I could do it."

The story starts out simple enough: as one kid points out on Halloween, main character Myles, starts off with no father, no costume, and no friends. That's nothing compared to the issues he's got after mistaking an alien suit in an alley for a costume: now he's got the government wanting to pick his brain (literally), and worse, rogue NSA agent Simon Bane after both him and the suit. Oh yeah, and did I mention Bane is a meta-human, made super-strong and invincible by alien blood transfusions? While still packing plenty of punch, Zoom Suit offers up more than just action. Snappy dialogue, visual puns, hidden jokes, and internet interactivity make this more than your standard comic. And then there are the oxymorons.

"I was thinking to myself how annoying it would be to have a bad guy who was not only after you, but had this crazy speech thing," Taddeo said. He explaining how Bane's speaking mostly in oxymorons was inspired by his a friend he had that tended to spatter his speech with large words that were out of context. A "devout atheist" with "diminished confidence" in the alien suit due to some "unfortunate luck," Bane has trouble with some "no-good do-gooders" after the suit is "found missing." "Crazy speech thing," accomplished.

While the story is fun and a little bit quirky, it's the extras that really make Zoom Suit stand out. The first animated short, which has been in some 150 film festivals and has won numerous prizes, can be easily found on the company website (where it's been downloaded over a million times), but the second one has to be found by completing an online scavenger hunt. The hunt starts by calling 1-888-6VOODOO toll free (although at first fans had to decode the phone number hiding in the first issue), and continues through websites with cleverly hidden hyperlinks leading to movies that provide other websites to continue the search. Inside jokes also abound, with characters talking to the artist, hidden (and not-so-hidden) pop culture references, and plenty of things to keep the reader busy when they return to the comic over and over.

Zoom Suit doesn't stop with making fans happy. Proceeds from an auction to have the winners' names mentioned during a football play in one comic went to a local no-kill animal shelter, while money made on certain special editions goes to the Humane Society. Taddeo also sent copies of the first two issues of the series to soldiers serving in Iraq.

The Zoom Suit bandwagon also includes the Charter High School of the Arts - Multimedia and

Please see ZOOM Page 12

Bob Dylan: A Modern Classic

Real, raw, and lovelorn, *Modern Times* takes listener on a journey

Bob Dylan made his name with, "Thunder on the Mountain" is a very pre-rock and roll, fast-paced journey through Bob Dylan's heart and mind. He sings about everything from Alicia Keys to his love life to helping people and gathering enough courage to go out and help people. The song concludes just as it started—big opening, huge finish with every bit as satisfying along the way.

Listening to the album, it's hard not notice that he's thrown the whole idea of genre and popular music behind him. *Love and Theft*, Dylan's last album, he tried to do something that just wasn't him and it showed. He threw away every preconceived notion for something completely real and raw, and that's just what *Modern Times* is. Probably one of the most forceful and lovelorn of the songs on the album is "Rollins' and Tumbling". This song gives us a deep look into his somebody else's love life that's taken a turn for the worse." This woman, she's been drivin' me to tears! This woman's so crazy, I swear I won't touch another one for years!" is just one of the many lines that proves the statement. This is a long journey that takes listeners deep into Dylan's heart and spins him back out again.

My personal favorite is "Ain't Talkin'." This song is destined to become just as much a classic as "Like a Rolling Stone" or "Times, They Are a-Changin'". This is the most poetic song of the whole album, with barely any rhyming lyrics or use of complicated words that some of the other songs have. Here, he's singing about faith and walking the road of life that leads to what may lie at the end. He's all alone in this song and is looking for a little "heavenly guidance" from above. It seems like this song was written almost like a prayer but turned into a song instead.

The album is filled with the same thing that made Dylan popular in the sixties—truth, lots of it, with no regard for what people will say or think. They may not be truths about everyone's lives, but certainly about his own. He's stepped up to the plate and made something new that's worth listening to and talking about. The lyrics, the hooks, and the change of genres from song to song will have you talking about this album for weeks. It's taking you on a journey; just let go and follow.

All-in-all, one of the best albums of Fall 2006.

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ZOOM continued from page 11

Charitable donations and a new face as a high school mascot make Zoom more than your average comic book character

Performing in Sherwood Oaks, Calif., which adopted Zoom as their official mascot.

"I thought it was very progressive of them to choose a mascot that was a brand new character," said Taddeo of the adoption. "They end up with a character that has to do with what the kids will actually be doing in a year or two."

So what's next for Zoom Suit? October of 2007 will be seeing the release of the second limited series, where the bad guys introduced during epilogues in issue 3 get some serious screen time and all the confusing stuff about Simon Bane gets cleared up. While it's too early to spill all the details, the next few issues may have fans actually rooting for bad-guy Bane.

"(Simon's) obsession with the suit goes beyond just greed," Taddeo explained. "Simon literally wants the suit to change his life, almost from day one."

A third series is set to follow, with animated trailers and, eventually, perhaps even a television series.

All in all, *Zoom Suit* is a must-see for any fan of comics or pop culture, or even anyone just looking for a fun read. While the layouts and switching mid-page of art styles can be occasionally distracting, the humor and re-read value more than make up for it. All four issues of the first limited series are out, and while many shops are sold out of them, Tate's Comics on University Drive seems to have gotten the lion's share of the local stock. You can get your comics there, or read the first issue online at www.superverse.com.

Left: "The Holy Grail of Zoom Suit," the Film Festival Edition was given out to friends and family, and currently sells for $100 to raise funds for the Humane Society of Florida. If you like the cover image but can't shell out that kind of dough, it also appears on the Zoom Edition and one of the fan editions sold in comic book stores. Check out the website to see other cover images and special editions available. Image courtesy www.superverse.com.
CRANK: Not everyone's pick of poison

By Kristine Belizaire
Distribution Manager

Crank, borrowing its plot from the 1950 film D.O.A., is about a retired hit man Chev Chelios (Jason Statham), who has made a lot of dangerous people in Los Angeles very angry. One morning he receives a wake-up call from a plane. Chelios decides to jump out of a plane without a parachute. Unless he keeps his heart pounding, the poison will freeze his heart and kill him. Enraged, he races through Los Angeles to get even with the people responsible for injecting him. In order to keep from dying, Chelios does a range of different things up a life of crime to please his girlfriend. He delivers a very convincing performance.

If you're looking for a movie with meaningful dialogue, Crank is not the movie for you. However, it is a movie that will definitely appeal to those who appreciate action, gore, sexiness, and high adrenaline.

Gridiron Gang Locks in Audience

By Kristine Belizaire
Distribution Manager

There are times when a great movie comes along and leaves the audience captivated and in awe. Gridiron Gang happens to be one of them. Based on a true story, Gridiron takes place in Camp Kilpatrick and tells the story of Coach Sean Porter (The Rock) who decides to turn a group of juvenile delinquents and gang members into a championship football team. While the plot may seem cliché, the raw emotion and the real, hard hitting football will have the audience thinking otherwise.

Even though the story is mainly focused on the game of football, it is unlike any football movie that you will ever see. The movie talks about love, trust, loss, and forgiveness. It gives hope to those who want to make something of themselves and makes the rest of us think about how lucky we are.

The Rock gave an outstanding performance as a strict, but caring coach, and Xzibit was as funny as always. The young actors playing the troubled teenagers also gave good performances, showing fear and rage in the beginning and turning it into something positive. The cinematography was outstanding and the story is heartwarming. This movie is definitely worth seeing.

Gridiron Gang will hit theaters everywhere on Friday, Sept. 15.
**Group Fitness Master Schedule: August 21-December 15**

**Class Descriptions Online:** [www.rec.nova.edu/fitness](http://www.rec.nova.edu/fitness)

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**Please Note:** To Enter The RecPlex You Must Have Your NSU ID And A Workout Towel.

**Participation Policy:** 3 or more participants are required to conduct a class. Schedule is subject to change based on participation.

**SPINNING Reservations:** To take a SPIN class, you must sign up 15 minutes before the class starts. Go to [www.rec.nova.edu/fitness](http://www.rec.nova.edu/fitness) for the SPIN reservation rules and requirements.

**Dress Code:** Workout attire must fully cover the mid-section. Please review RecPlex Policies & Procedures Section D regarding appropriate workout attire by clicking on the Recreation Complex button off the main rec.nova.edu site.

**University Holidays:** The RecPlex and Group Fitness classes will be revised on University closings and holidays. Please check online for specific holiday hours and class schedules as the schedule progresses.
A Fly on the Wall:
Square One, or Status Quo

By Paul Saneaux
Managing Editor

Once in a while there are issues that arise on the senate floor that require my complete attention. These issues are usually so pressing, so crucial, so demanding, that I must utilize the entire space I am allowed and all my writing abilities to dissect the topic at hand. I just never would have guessed an issue of epic proportions would arise so early in the year.

Of course, I am just exaggerating. The issue I speak of simply seemed life-threatening because the SGA only spent a few years short of an eternity to half-way resolve the matter.

The lengthy discussion was concerning a resolution entitled “Give Worthy Senators Another Chance” presented by International Senator Akshat Bhattarva. As the title implies, the resolution’s purpose was to persuade the Executive Board to reconsider its decision to outright expel all senators that did not attend a mandatory SGA retreat during the summer. The crux of the resolution briefly outlined that expelled senators who showed their dedication and commitment to the SGA should be allowed to reapply. The shady portion of the resolution was the “list of requirements” that qualified an ex-senator for reapplication.

And so Public Relations Director Sean Burque asked the first vital question: “Who should outline the list of requirements?” Residential Senator Etta Mills smiled and responded, saying she assumed the Organizational Standards Board would write the rules of the resolution. I guess she smiled because of the irony: as all the senators know, there is no one currently holding position in the OSB. A reminder that a good portion of the SGA is missing.

The discussion soon became hectic after several senate and Executive Board members made the suggestion to increase the requirements in the list for qualification to include more than what is already expected of senators presently under contract. A few even recommended reducing the compensation (pay) for those who regained their positions. What? That seems more like punishment or retribution than a solution.

SGA Advisor Gary Gershman,
Please see FLY
Page 16

Space for Reflection

“What are Friends for?”

Look into the window of a restaurant on Las Olas Boulevard late on a Saturday night, and you may see four women sitting as a corner table, bent double in laughter, wiping tears from their eyes. That would be me and three of my closest friends, relating another of life’s most embarrassing moments. Another time you might notice that the tears are flowing, but nobody’s laughing. No doubt one of us is sharing some deep hurt or fear, knowing that the listening ears, supportive words, and comforting hugs we need will be provided by the other women at the table.

A recent study by a Duke sociologist called Social Isolation in America includes the sad information that one-fourth of Americans say they have nobody to talk to about “important matters.” An equal number of Americans have just one friend to turn to. The study’s author, Lynn Smith-Lovin, reports that over the past two decades, the number of people with nobody to talk to has doubled. Is this due to the use of technology replacing face-to-face interaction? Or are we so consumed with work and activities that little time is left for simply being with the people we love? All I know is, I need my friends.

Bestselling author Tom Rath takes up this subject in his new book, Vital Friends. “The People You Can’t Afford to Live Without.” He writes, “Friendships are among the most fundamental of human needs.” In spite of this, he points out, many people fail to cultivate friendships. Well, the college years provide a great opportunity for friend-cultivation. This is also a time to learn how to be a true friend.

Rath describes eight roles that friends can play: builder (motivator), champion (sing your praises), collaborator (has similar interests). Passions), companion (always there for you), connector (introduces you to others, widens your circle), energizer (always gives you a boost, makes you laugh), mind opener (expand your horizons, embrace new ideas), and navigator (helps you make decisions). It’s worth reflecting: Who helps us in these ways, and have we thanked them lately? Do we provide these forms of support to our friends? As much support and joy as friends give, sometimes our friendships are the source of drama and grief. I think the key to having enriching rather than draining friendships involves making the move from what I call the “junior high” mentality to spiritual maturity. The junior high mentality believes it’s okay to pass along secrets, as long as we maintain that the information is a secret. The spiritually-mature approach is to be loyal and actually keep information confidential. The junior high mentality avoids the friend who can’t keep a secret, while we can trust those who have had more miles than we have.

Some people make the best friends of their lives at college. What do you think it takes to be a true friend? Let me know!

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

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FLY

continued from page 15

“Resolutions only gauge interest, so it is really back to square one”

as he always does (thank goodness), tried to put the situation in a more comfortable perspective by asking whether this resolution was meant to be specific or general. In other words, was it meant to pertain to all ex-senators or the only one (Amrish Ramnarine) who attended the last meeting and asked for a chance to reapply? Gershman related the resolution to bills in the U.S. that concern only one individual; specific bills are easier to enforce, he said. Very true, indeed.

This issue would have been a whole lot easier to resolve if Ramnarine strictly kept his word of showing his commitment by helping the SGA at Sharkapalooza. According to several members of the Executive Board, Ramnarine arrived at the event late and only helped by bringing a few people (who may or may not have been interested in senator-ship) to the SGA booth. To make matters worse, Ramnarine was not present to defend himself at the meeting. Ouch. That was not a wise move. President Andrew Ibrahim made it very clear to the senate that Ramnarine’s absence did not sit well with him or his chance to reapply.

In the vast remainder of discussion that followed, the amendment to include a list of requirements was shot down. As Gershman pointed out, the suggested requirements did not even entail completion of the same goals for the SGA retreat. Closing the discussion, Bhargava reminded the SGA that the resolution was simply to allow ex-senators a chance to reapply and that was all. It was unfortunate that the SGA ran off with what was supposed to be a simple resolution and turned it into a 40 minute-long beast of a discussion. Ultimately, the un-amended resolution was approved unanimously. The Executive Board will reconsider their decision and possibly let the ex-senators reapply. All that discussion only showed the Executive Board that the senate wants them to reconsider their decision; reapplication may not even occur. Resolutions only gauge interest, so it is really back to square one unless the Executive Board decides otherwise, of course. In the words of the wise (and original) Willy Wonka, “You get nothing. You lose. Good day, sir!”

Additional Notes

Apparently several students have emailed the SGA or submitted applications for senate and OSB positions; the SGA may grow in time even if above said resolution does not pan out.

Today (this being Sept. 11) is the last day for clubs and organizations to submit their receipts for reimbursement for Sharkapalooza. If you are a treasurer of a club and have not yet done so, get your rear into gear and turn in your receipts.

Alina Tawil has been appointed as the sorority senator and will be replacing Jodie Okun, who gave up the position because of health issues.

A resolution to increase compensation for SGA members was tabled for this week’s meeting.

Residential Senator Eta Mills was confirmed as the Pro-Temp.

The budget hearing was moved to Sept. 16.

The Current, formerly known as The Knight, serves Nova Southeastern University from its location in room 105 of the Athletics and Student Activities (ASA) Building. The Current is NSU’s established vehicle for student reporting, opinion and the arts. All community members are invited to contribute anything they desire to The Current.

Editorials, commentaries and advertisements in this publication reflect the opinions of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the University or its officials, The Current staff, or other advertisers. The Current will not publish unsigned letters except under special circumstances at the discretion of the Editor-in-Chief.
### MONDAY

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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>5th Year Commemoration Candlelight Vigil</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IOC Meeting</td>
<td>5:15 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday Night Football</td>
<td>8:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### TUESDAY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lunch &amp; Learn Series: Resume Development</td>
<td>12 p.m. - 1 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carl DeSantis 1047</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ping Pong Tournament</td>
<td>8 p.m. Flight Deck</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### WEDNESDAY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Transportation Day</td>
<td>11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SGA Meeting</td>
<td>4 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Leader Meet and Greet</td>
<td>6 p.m. - 8 p.m.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### THURSDAY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&quot;I'm a Slur&quot;</td>
<td>4 p.m. UC Pit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nery Saenz</td>
<td>9 p.m. Flight Deck</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Impressions</td>
<td>10 p.m. Flight Deck</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### FRIDAY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Fintastic (formerly Mr. Nova Knight)</td>
<td>7 p.m. - 10 p.m. Flight Deck</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### SATURDAY/SUNDAY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dolphin vs. Bills Football Trip</td>
<td>Sunday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Day for Children</td>
<td>Sunday, 12 p.m. - 4 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NFL Sunday Ticket</td>
<td>Sunday, 1 p.m. Flight Deck</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Price and Participation

*Price and participation may vary.*

---

**Dollar Menu**

*Pretty much the same price as mooching your roommate’s food.*

*i’m lovin’ it*
Zach Braff
Jacinda Barrett
Casey Affleck
Rachel Bilson
with Blythe Danner
and Tom Wilkinson
The Last Kiss
We all make choices.
What's yours?

From the writer of
"Million Dollar Baby"
and co-writer of "Crash"

From the writer of "Million Dollar Baby"
and co-writer of "Crash"

We all make choices.
What's yours?
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- Ample Closets
*On select units.

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- Fitness Center
- Tropical Landscaping

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