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**Scary-oke Scares Up a Crowd**

*By Kristine Belizaire*

*Distribution Manager*

On Oct. 26, NSU students gathered in the Flight Deck for the SUB sponsored Halloween party, Scary-oke, complete with free food, candy, prizes and raffle tickets.

"SUB wanted to do something to celebrate Halloween, so instead of having a normal Halloween party we wanted to have a karaoke party," said Rob Keever, Live Stage Program Manager for the Student Union Board.

Students were greeted at the door with goodie bags, candy and raffle tickets. At the event, prizes were given out for costumes in different categories: scarcest, funniest, most original, sexiest and overall best. Students also received prizes for the best pumpkin carving from Quad Thursday.

For the karaoke portion of the event, students performed on stage, singing songs like "Barbie Girl," "Cry," "Californication" and "Thriller."

Sophomore Willie Wood, who performed on stage said, "I just wanted to get up there and promote the event. I figured that they saw me at NSU Idol, so I decided to give them another taste."

Prizes were given to the contestants for best performance, best try, and the best singing. Prizes included Scary Movie DVDs and gift certificates.

"It's awesome," said sophomore and legal studies major Vivian Martin Del Campo. "There is food, music, games, and face painting and people making fools of themselves in karaoke. It was a great event to bring the NSU community together."

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**Gubernatorial Debates Take Place at NSU**

*By Tanya Parnes*

*Staff Writer*

On Oct 24, NSU hosted the gubernatorial debates at the Miniaci Performing Arts Center. Republican Attorney General Charlie Crist and Democratic Congressman Jim Davis debated the issues face-to-face just two weeks before Election Day on Nov. 7. The candidates discussed education, insurance rates, taxes, healthcare and immigration. During the course of the hour long debate each candidate presented his view of a bigger and better Florida.

Davis wanted to change the current path of education in Florida by putting an end to the FCAT test. "The FCAT is used to punish children, teachers and their schools," he said. He feels that the exam should be used as a learning tool but not as the sole measure for success in that school. Davis also said that he plans to increase teacher salaries and lower the property taxes in school by implementing a one billion dollar tax cut for all property owners next year. Crist disagreed with his education plan, however, and feels that the FCAT should not be thrown out. "It's right to take a measure of what happens in the classroom on behalf of our children," he said. "They don't get a second chance to go to elementary school, middle school or high school." Crist pointed out that the quality of education in Florida's schools has been steadily increasing since 1998 and that the state has surpassed the national trends. He said that he will continue to make sure that the schools are accountable to the parents and that the money is spent in the classroom on the children.

Crist proposed a new plan to stop the soaring interest rates in the state and to lower the property taxes. He wants all of the automobile insurance companies to add home insurance coverage to their plans. He feels that it is unfair that some of these companies are only around for "the good stuff" and he wants them all to partake in providing home insurance to the citizens of Florida. He also said that he will support a constitutional amendment to double the homestead exemption to $50,000 in order to provide relief to the taxpayers. "The goals should be to lower your property taxes," he said. Davis argued that Crist will not take immediate action on these proposals but will instead wait four years to help the people of Florida. "Change is coming depending on who the next governor is," he said. Crist called Davis' insurance plan a "risky scheme" and accused him of planning to raise taxes. He said that Davis planned to reinstate the intangibles tax, which hurts middle class investors saving for retirement as well as seniors, in order to come up with the one billion dollar property tax cut. He accused Davis of trying to bail out these insurance companies on the backs of the taxpayers. "I'll say something to these insurance companies they haven't heard in a long time: No!"

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**Life 101: Still Very Much Alive at NSU**

*By Kristine Belizaire*

*Distribution Manager*

By the middle of the fall semester, NSU usually begins Life 101, a speaker series that brings famous individuals with amazing success stories to speak to the NSU community. Life 101 has been a long standing tradition at NSU with speakers in the past that include Vanessa Williams, Jamie-Lynn DiScala, Michael Phelps, James Earl Jones, DanAbrams, and H. Wayne Huizenga.

According to Katie Bianco, Director of Student Engagement, "Life 101 is still part of the planned activities for the academic year. Bianco said that it has been very difficult to find a speaker that really stands for the mission.

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The Office of Student Affairs hosted its very own NSU Idols and 16th Annual Hollywood Squares event on October 19 and 20, respectively. NSU Idols consisted of 22 acts, in which only six were able to move on to the finals. On October 20, all six finalists returned to perform once more during Hollywood Squares. However, only three went home with cash prizes for their organization. First place: Karla Montenegro (Delta Phi Epsilon; $2,000), second place: Willie Wood and Anthony DeSantis (RSA; $1,000), and third place: Indian Student Association ($500).

"The FCAT is used to punish children, teachers and their schools." - Democratic Congressman Jim Davis

It’s right to take a measure of what happens in the classroom on behalf of our children.

- Republican Attorney General Charlie Crist

of the Florida taxpayers, Davis argued that Crist had been the attorney general for six years and had not stood up to these insurance companies. He said that Crist had done nothing about them. "If we don’t lower our insurance then our state will not be a place to continue living," he said. "I won’t just show up, I will stand up." Crist told Davis that it was too little, too late. "You didn’t just have an empty chair, you have the second worst attendance record in the United States Congress," he said. "I’ve been in my chair, I’ve turned up for office, I’ve shown up." He criticized Davis for being absent for most of his term in office and pointed out that he had only passed five bills over the course of his ten years in Congress. "I got back eight million dollars for Floridians," he said in regards to a lawsuit he filed against the insurance companies. "But I guess he wasn’t in his chair the day that happened."

The candidates then argued about healthcare as the debates grew in intensity. Davis said that he wanted to make sure that more families and more seniors would be able to get the drugs that they needed. "Charlie had a chance to stand up and do something and he didn’t," he said. "I will fight these drug companies to lower prescription drug prices." Crist said that he wanted to lift the ban on the importation of drugs from Canada because they were cheaper. He also praised the new discount cards that have been introduced into Wal-mart, Target and several other retail stores across the nation. He advocated issuing discount cards to all Floridians who were in need of cheaper medications from the drug stores. He said that he would work and fight for the people at all times. "I want to be the people’s governor," he said. "Jim Davis wants to be the government’s governor."

Crist and Davis debated several other topics and then had the chance to ask one another different questions about the issues at hand. As the hour drew to a close they were each given a chance to give their final statements. Davis ended by saying “Charlie sounds a lot like Ronald Reagan, but he wants to govern like George Bush. We live in a wonderful state and I just think that we can do much better.” He was followed by Crist who said “Government needs to live within its means. My opponent wants to protect government. I want to protect the people...If you vote for Charlie Crist you’ll get positive change for a better future.”

NSU Idols and Hollywood Squares

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A New Strategy for Iraq?

By Tanya Parnes
Staff Writer

President Bush's strategy on Iraq has been fairly consistent throughout the war. He has repeatedly told the American people that the U.S. troops will continue to "stay the course" until the job is done and the terrorists have been defeated. However, in light of the increasingly large number of fatalities in Iraq during the month of October, many have called for a change of policy, or at least, a change in the course itself.

Bush has been attacked by several members of the Republican Party about his current policies in Iraq. According to a CNN report, Senator Arlen Specter, R-Penn., said he did not "believe that a shift in tactics ought to wait until after the election." He added that "there are too many casualties there."

Senator Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., also shared his thoughts on the current state of the war. He told the Associated Press "we're on the verge of chaos, and the current plan is not working." Graham said that troop levels in Baghdad are too low and that an increased military is needed to win the war. Setting a timeline in Iraq, Graham said, is a death wish.

Prominent Democrats have also criticized Bush's plan and called for an end to the war. Senator John Kerry, D-Mass., said that the administration conventionally changed its course just in time for the mid-term elections, but is still fighting a war that cannot be won.

"It is time to get tough with the Iraqis...We can't wait a year for a political solution in Iraq," Kerry told the Associated Press. The senator wants U.S. troops to place pressure on the Iraqi government to take control over their country.

Senator Joe Biden, D-Del., said that he too was skeptical of Bush's new course of action. "We tried to get them to accept benchmarks a year and a half ago and the president called it cutting and running. Now the president is setting benchmarks," he told Fox News.

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FEMA Invests $4 Million Dollars Into Hurricane Preparedness Plan

By Shenita Ann McLean
Staff Writer

FEMA announced on Oct. 23 that they will be investing $4 million over the next two years into developing more reliable flood maps and improved post hurricane response and recovery measures. FEMA's plan will begin in South Florida as the "model" for hurricane preparedness.

First on FEMA's priority list is the Lake Okeechobee region. Plans will then expand to include coastal regions and areas of South Florida from the Keys to Palm Beach County. According to the Sun Sentinel, the two possible scenarios are a breach of the Herbert Hoover Dike and a catastrophic storm striking the greater Miami-Dade area.

"Florida serves as a model for the nation in the area of hurricane preparedness," said FEMA Director David Paulison during a press conference at the National Hurricane Center in Miami-Dade County. "We're going to use this plan as a model across the rest of this country."

FEMA plans to have technicians update the flooding dangers surrounding the Lake Okeechobee region. According to the Palm Beach Post, technicians will be using the high resolution light detection and ranging technology (LIDAR) to get the job done.

"The Sun Sentinel reported that the technicians will map our elevations to determine potential flooding areas, how rapidly water will flow and which areas might be swamped if the Herbert Hoover Dike is breached. Officials believe that such planning will greatly improve the evacuation plan."

Craig Fugate, director of the Florida Division of Emergency Management, said that he expects the new mapping will affect the charts that insurance companies use to determine which homeowners are required to have flood insurance.

Max Mayfield, director of the National Hurricane Center, noted that only a year ago South Florida residents were making preparations for Hurricane Wilma. He stressed the importance of South Florida students having a hurricane plan before a hurricane comes. The planning is expected to be finished by next hurricane season.

College Students Pack On the Pounds

Shenita Ann McLean
Staff Writer

Recent studies show that college students seem to be packing on pounds past the "freshman 15." It is now believed that the freshman 15 is more like the freshman seven or eight and that the real weight gain starts sophomore year.

According to stuff.co.nz, a public university in the Midwest performed a study in which 907 of the students showed that during their first year, males and females gained an average of 7.8 pounds. Males gained ten pounds in the first semester.

Researchers are pointing fingers at academic stress, lack of direct family support, alcohol, and easy access to greasy and fatty foods. The results also show that males are gaining more weight than females.

"One concern is that this weight gain will ultimately continue as the student's college career progresses," said a public university student.

Researchers reported their findings at a meeting of the Obesity Society in Boston. The studies are two of the largest and longest ever done of college students.
News from Around the World

Compiled by Paul Saneaux

North America
Arson suspected in Calif. brush fires
According to Reuters, "a deadly arson fire in rugged mountains near Palm Springs, Calif., burned out of control for a second day on Friday, Oct. 27, forcing dozens more people to flee their homes to escape a 15-mile wall of flames." Local media sources reported that more than 28,000 acres have been scorched and at least two firefighters have been killed and one seriously injured and was admitted to a hospital in critical condition. Though state officials have not explained why they are fighting the fire as arson and the deaths as murder" the Los Angeles Times cited several people who said they saw teenagers smoking marijuana around midnight on Oct. 26, "where the fire is thought to have started." The firefighters have forced over 800 people to abandon their homes, many in the middle of the night, and have told reporters that at least 10 buildings have been destroyed. An additional 400 to 1000 people "spent a tense night ripped by smoke and flames in a recreational park in the San Jacinto mountains." The fire is expected to burn for several more days before it is controlled. A reward for information regarding any suspects was recently increased to $200,000.

For more information, visit www.reuters.com.

Middle East
NATO bombing mishap kills Afghan civilians
Local Afghan leaders told Reuters reporters that North Atlantic Treaty Organization aircraft mistakenly killed at least 50 civilians, "mostly women and children," in a bombing run in southern Afghanistan on Oct. 26. The bombing took place on Oct. 24 during the Eid al- Fitr festival that marked the end of the Muslim fasting month in the Panjwai province. NATO officials said that several hundred insurgents had been killed in that area during the last aftershock. The alliance has claimed that it has killed insurgents in the eastern province of Kandahar, but also said that "credible reports" of civilian deaths have also been received. President Hamid Karzai has appointed the defense ministry and "a special team of local elders" to investigate the incident and reports. Provincial assembly member Agha Lalai said "it was late at night—that might be the reason they didn't know where to bomb." Another tribal elder, Nabi Mohammad, said that reports of slain civilians conflicted: in a visit to a hospital, Mohammad counted 60 casualties from the five hour bombing. The United Nations mission in Afghanistan, UNAMA, has called for a complete investigation. "The safety and welfare of civilians must always come first and any civilian casualties are unacceptable, without exception," said UNAMA officials.

For more information, visit www.reuters.com.

Europe
Soldiers suspended for skull photos
Germany's defense minister told Associated Press reporters that "Germany's military has suspended two soldiers from duty in connection with photos of troops posing with a skull in Afghanistan." A German newspaper, Bild, published the photos of several soldiers holding up a human skull had "provoked widespread expressions of disgust." Many have called for a review of training procedures for soldiers deployed in foreign countries. Military officials also fear that "militants in Afghanistan and elsewhere could seize on the pictures to justify attacks on German soldiers or facilities." Defense Minister Franz Josef Jung said at a news conference that the defense "is interested in getting clarity as soon as possible." Jung said that the defense ministry would like to obtain answers before any of the 2,750 German troops in Afghanistan are endangered. State prosecutors and military committees are also investigating the photos.

For more information, visit www.mnhc.com.

New America
Haitian warlord in U.S. ordered to pay damages
U.S. District Judge Sidney Stein ordered Emmanuel "Tozi" Constant to pay $19 million to three women who say they were raped and had their breasts slashed by him when he ran an anti-government paramilitary group in Haiti in 1993. Constant, who fled Haiti in 1994 after President Jean-Bertrand Aristide returned from exile, moved to New York City's Queens borough and became a real estate agent. Many immigrants in New York City were said to have recognized Constant at bars and nightclubs and he was arrested in July after he was charged for $19 million in damages. Prosecutors said the Constant lived in Manhattan and claimed that he authorized his men to torture and rape them. "Constant's conduct was clearly malicious," Stein said. "His organization was dedicated principally toward terrorizing and torturing political opponents of the military regime." Although the case against Constant is strong, Jennifer Green, a senior attorney at the Center for Constitutional Rights said "it is not known if the women will ever receive any of the money.

For more information, visit www.worldnews.com.
Scientists have discovered that women with a mutated version of the BRIP1 gene have a higher risk of developing breast cancer. According to research at the Cancer Research in the UK of the National Cancer Research Institute, women with the mutated version of BRIP1 have twice the normal risk of developing breast cancer. According to Emaxhealth, 1/100 women with breast cancer who also had a family history of the disease.

The Guardian reported that the faulty gene accounts for about 100 cases of breast cancer a year. According to the research, the deficiencies in the gene can increase the risk of breast cancer in women with a family history of the disease from one in 12 to one in six by the time they are 70 years old.

Researchers said that some women can be born with the mutated version of the gene but it does not mean that they will ultimately develop breast cancer; it just places them at a double the normal risk factor. They performed gene tests and found that 1 in 100 women with a family history of breast cancer had a BRIP1 mutation. Among women without such a history, only 1 in 1,000 had the mutation.

Researchers say that identifying the mutant versions of BRIP1 can help let women know what they need to do to avoid breast cancer development. "This would not alter what most women do," said Nazneen Rahman, the genetics researcher who led the study.

Though there are many other genes that are also responsible for causing the development of breast cancer, the founding research concerning the BRIP1 gene is an important move toward early detection of breast cancer and the treatment. According to Newsday.com, the discovery of the gene's role in breast cancer is not likely to cause doctors to start screening women for the mutation or affect how they are treated if they have it.

The mutant gene's discovery is helping oncologists and physicians know what to look for genetically as well as the physical symptoms that are in some cases obvious by helping to narrow down causes of cancer.
When Democracy Fails America Loses

Tanya Parnes
Staff Writer

On Oct 18, Charles Zelden, PhD, history professor in the Panphar College of Arts and Sciences, gave a lecture entitled “When 1 + 1 Doesn’t Always Equal 2: The 2000 Presidential Election Crisis and Why It Still Matters Today,” which discussed the problems that occurred during the 2000 election cycle and the resulting effect that they had on the voting process as a whole. “The process matters more than the outcome,” said Zelden.

He began by pointing out the fact that the nation was using voting machines at the time that had an error margin between 0.5 and 10 percent, which meant that 0.5 percent of the votes that were cast were not going to be counted. “Two people show up to the voting place,” said Zelden, “But only one has their vote counted.” He said the number of votes was never accurate during the election because there was too much room for error. However, it never really had an impact on any single election unless that race was exceptionally close. The final results in Florida were so close that they had no choice but to recount them and that is where the problem began, said Zelden. There were very few experts at that time who understood the process of recounting the votes. The country had ballot machines that did not work properly and no means to fix those problems during an important election that would decide the fate of that nation for the next four years. The courts refused to reverse the ballots, though it was suspected the election was flawed. “We had antiquated procedures. It’s all being run by partisan individuals,” said Zelden.

Putting all partisan politics aside however, Zelden felt that the biggest loser in this election was democracy itself. The issue was not whether George Bush or Al Gore won the election, but rather why these problems occurred in the first place. He said that it does not matter whether or not the outcome is favorable because the process matters more than the end result. He is worried about the upcoming election because there are several close races and he does not want the same issues to arise again. Zelden added that the will of the people ought to be expressed in their ability to choose their own leaders, and there should not be anything standing in their way. “Democracy is having the votes matter,” said Zelden. “To the extent that people feel they can’t win so they won’t bother voting, democracy is dead.”

Sex Talk Part 2: Nature vs Nurture

By Kristine Belfaire
Distribution Manager

On Oct. 23, students gathered in the Alvin Sherman Library to listen to the lecture, Nature vs Nurture, the second in a series of lectures about sexual identity. Panel members included NSU Professors Kate Waites, who gave the introduction to the lecture, Joshua Feingold, who spoke about the biological aspect of “nature” of gender and sexual identity, and Eileen Smith-Cavos, who spoke about the impact of society on sexual identity, or the “nurture” side.

Feingold spoke about chromosomes and reproduction and explained the biology of man, and what makes someone female or male. He described a male as an individual that produces sperm and female as an individual that produces eggs.

Smith talked about society’s role and the social implications relating to sexuality. She spoke about kissing, and asked the audience if they think kissing is natural just because humans enjoy the activity. She also mentioned that there are other societies who consider kissing to be appealing, and she said that as a society often think of ourselves as reproductive roles, and that a lot of people in the American society cannot understand sexuality and bisexuality.

Smith then showed a video about people with ambiguous genitalia. One of the girls in the video was born with a long clitoris that resembled a small penis and not realizing that she was different until she observed her friends private body parts. Regardless, she had gone on to live a happy life. The video also portrayed other women with ambiguous genitalia who had surgery at a young age and later their lives experienced physical complications, like not being able to achieve an orgasm. By looking at these cases, the video posed a question to the audience, “is it ethical to determine sex for ambiguous sex babies?”

When asked about the importance of knowing your sexual identity, Smith said “I think that what is really important is being comfortable with who you are instead of allowing society to define you. I never deny what you. I never deny what you want to do.”
of Life 101, which is to bring models of success, dedication, perseverance, and achievement to share their perspectives and experiences with the NSU community. She has been looking at a number of different speakers for the event which include Bill Clinton, Conan O'Brien, Louis Black, Colin Powell, Anderson Cooper and Miami Heat players Alonzo Mourning, Dwayne Wade, and Shaquille O'Neal. Unfortunately, these speakers had conflicting schedules due to prior engagements. She said that they are looking at Dwayne Johnson "The Rock" as a speaker to come to NSU sometime in November or in the winter semester.

When some students were asked about who they would like to see speak at the Life 101 series, sophomore and nursing major Kristen Ramy suggested "The Rock, because he is so dreamy," Biology major Nicole Koenig said, "I would like to see Paris Hilton because I am interested in what she would have to say," and sophomore Nativeha Cross added, "Denzel Washington; have you seen the man?"

Students have the opportunity to recommend their own speakers, and are encouraged to do so. To suggest a potential speaker, students can go to http://www.nova.edu/life101/suggest.html and fill out a suggestion form.

CONTROVERSY continued from page 6

"I think it belittles students to pretend that you don't have opinions in politics," said Alison Brimmer, a journalism professor at NSU. She explained that every professor has an agenda and that it is common practice for them to teach their own points of view in the classroom. "I also think it belittles students to think that you have the power to ram your opinions down their throats and that they don't have the ability to think for themselves." Brimmer said it is important to be honest with students and to encourage critical thinking.

Professor Ben Mulvey feels that universities are places for examining different kinds of ideas in order to arrive at the best possible decisions. "It seems to me that the burden of proof is on the people who seek to disclude him instead of including him."

Mulvey said Barrett has a right to his own opinions regardless of how unconventional they may seem, and that his political views were irrelevant as long as he was fulfilling his basic duties as a teacher. "To single people out that have controversial views or to make sure that they pass some extra test is egregious and has a chilling effect," he said.

Tim Dixon, professor of history and legal studies, feels that the Barrett issue has generated a tremendous amount of attention because this particular conspiracy theory is so far out in the fringe. "I think that he is a kook," said Dixon. "The conspiracy theorists are so far out there that they are not rational about things." Dixon does not take issue with the fact that Barrett has been hired to teach at the university or with the fact that he is spreading these ideas. However, he does question the professor's ability to discuss the structure of the jets used in the attack since he does not have a background in engineering.

However, Gary Gershman, a history professor, feels that this professor may not be the best choice for the university. He does not object to the university's decision to hire Barrett and he respects his point of view.

Yet, he feels that Barrett is going to have a tough time being open-minded about this issue in his classroom. "We all have agendas," he said. "But I think that if you teach with a purpose of indoctrinating your students with your opinions then you have a problem." Gershman thinks it is very dangerous to present these theories as anything more than just that because the truth often gets lost along the way.

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To RSVP and for location information, contact 954.262.5028 or openhouse@huizenga.nova.edu

www.huizenga.nova.edu
Movie Review

Much like a magic trick, The Prestige is an illusion

By Stefani Rubino

According to Christopher Nolan’s Batman Begins, Memento) new movie, there are three pairs to a magic trick or illusion: the pledge (where the magician shows you something ordinary), the turn (where he or she makes the ordinary do something extraordinary), and the prestige (where he or she shows you something you’ve never seen before). With that, Nolan titled his film appropriately, as it unlike any film I’ve ever seen before and much like the illusions showcased in the film, it is sure to shock and amaze.

The story begins in turn-of-the-century London where Robert Angier and Alfred Borden are two rival magicians, who are constantly, dangerously, and carelessly trying to outdo each other in any way possible. However, there is one very big difference between the two, one is a fairly good magician, but the other is great and truly an illusionist. And while the movie is about their rivalry, it is also an in-depth and detailed character study of two men on the verge of “making it or breaking it” and what ambition can do a person (or people, in this case).

Hugh Jackman (X-Men trilogy, Van Helsing) stars as Robert, the lesser magician whose wife was accidentally killed by Alfred during a performance when the two were underestimates (this is what sparks the rivalry in the first place). Jackman is perfectly cast in the role because his intense personality and presence on screen helped give the character that obsessive, conniving, and at times evil attitude that I think Nolan was looking for. Besides Wolverine, I think this is the best role I have ever seen him in and his acting was extremely convincing, almost scary at times.

Alfred, the better magician, is played by Christian Bale (American Psycho, Batman Begins), who’s gentleness and shy personality makes him seem like the more innocent one of the competition. As the film mostly focuses on Jackman’s character’s emotions, there aren’t too many scenes where Bale’s abilities are brought out completely, like they were in some of the other films he’s in, especially not like they were in American Psycho. As the same time though, he did do a really great job with what was shown and made it really easy for the audience to almost feel bad for him.

Even though Jackman and Bale are the stars of the film, I can’t forget about the performances of Michael Caine as Cutter, who is almost like an agent for magicians and who books performance spaces for Jackman; and Scarlett Johansson as Olivia, who starts out as the assistant and girlfriend of Jackman’s character. They both did a fantastic job backing up the two main characters and their performances were just a good. They were essential to the story and Caine and Johansson play the characters as if they were.

The setting was wonderful, also. If you can imagine how Genghis of New York looked in the background, The Prestige looked better. It’s as if you were actually in London at the turn of the century, it was dark, cold, and the streets were made of cobblestone. Not to mention the wardrobe, which was incredibly 19th century; the men were debonair and the women were very sophisticated. This helped draw the audience into the story even more; it was a dark setting for a very dark subject matter.

My favorite part of the film, however, would have to be the appearance of David Bowie as Tesla, very intelligent French scientist and, what seems like, wizard. As a big fan of his work, I’d have to say this was a nice treat. He actually did a really good job playing Tesla: he was distanced and apathetic but still emotional and depressed. It’s too bad they opted not to put his music on the soundtrack.

With the impeccable acting, great

Game Review

Why the Fuss?

“Bully” Videogame Stirs Controversy

By Greg Kryvalakos

Adult content in videogames has always been a hot topic. Starting with the now relatively tame violence of Mortal Kombat in 1992, politicians and parents have used games as scapegoats for troubled children.

The controversy surrounding Rockstar’s PlayStation 2 game “Bully” is nothing new for the company. As the maker of the wildly popular “Grand Theft Auto” series, where shooting everything and everyone in a fast game, the mention of a new product scoured speculation of just how violent it would be.

When the game, which takes place at a school where the player must transcend 1990s Bullworth, received a “T for Teen” rating from the Entertainment Software Ratings Board, many were outraged, despite having actually played it.

Ferocious and compassionate Florida Attorney Janice Tappan filed suit in hopes of keeping the
By Stefani Rubino
Art Editor

When I heard that Grammy-winner Sofia Coppola's (Virgin Suicides, Lost in Translation) new film received an overwhelming amount of "boos" at the Cannes film festival, I was curious to know why. After watching the film, I have nothing but respect for the fact the Coppola had the courage to show it at the festival, which has an almost completely French audience. Coppola's take on one of the most revered of French royalty is both edgy and, well, a bit controversial.

The film takes us from Marie Antoinette's arranged engagement to Louis XVI at the age of fourteen to the beginning of her reign as queen at age nineteen to the beginning of the French Revolution. Coppola also puts special emphasis on how long it took the teenage couple to consummate their marriage, have children, and how partying and spending money was more important to them than running a country (not to mention their uncasing decadence).

With an eclectic blend of characters comes Coppola's very eclectic casting for these roles. Coppola has been quoted as saying that Versailles must have been a very eclectic (and eccentric) place, so that is how she chose her cast of characters. I don't know how right she is about Versailles, but I do know that the movie would have been completely different (and probably more boring) without the amount of different personalities in these roles. Each actor and actress brought their own little "something" to their parts, which made the characters interesting and fun.

Kirsten Dunst (Virgin Suicides, Spider-Man 1 and 2) stars as the iconic queen, whose girlish looks and bubbly personality bring to life Coppola's version of Marie so well that it's no wonder she was cast for the role. She was sweet, likeable, and, with the help of a magnificent wardrobe, looked like a panty the whole time (after all, Marie did coin the phrase "let them eat cake"). Also, when the time came, she was perfectly emotional, even crying on cue, and very alluring, as well. I mean, who said queens can't be attractive and sexy?

While I was surprised to see Dunst cast as Marie, I was even more shocked that Coppola cast her cousin, Jason Schwartzman, as Louis XVI. As big of a Schwartzman fan as I am, I just couldn't see him in the role. Well, I was wrong and he did a fantastic job playing the legendary teen king. He plays a very reserved and unbelievable unattractive version of Louis, and Schwartzman's somewhat passive personality definitely aided in the role he was playing. However, Schwartzman fans won't be disappointed; he still got to use his charming sacasm and quips, but with a little bit and I wouldn't be surprised if those lines were his idea.

Besides the flawless casting, the best things about the film are the look of it and the sounds. Shot on location in France, the scenery is beautiful and so is the setting. The architecture and horse-drawn carriages really gives this period film its identity. Also, the wardrobe is very eighteenth century, with the huge dresses and big, overdone hairstyles. In one scene, a character says to another that Marie has a "somewhat artistic temperament." That couldn't be truer when it comes to Coppola, with the classical scenery and dress she still manages to keep it modern with the soundtrack and teenage slang secretly shoved into almost every piece of dialogue.

The soundtrack itself is full of '80s new wave and some 21st century hits (like the Strokes). As a huge new wave fan, I think this was a great addition to the movie. Featuring tracks from 'New Order, Gang of Four, and Bow Wow Wow, the soundtrack gives what could have been a boring history lesson a fresh and interesting feel. Who knew Siouxsie and the Banshees could go so well with 18th Century dance moves? Although I was pretty much satisfied at the end, the film moves pretty slow and I'm sure most people won't have the patience for it. I liked it a lot and while it's probably not the best film of the year, it's definitely notable and worth trying. Coppola's take on the teenage king and queen shows viewers how youth can damage the ability so reign and how fun the 18th century may have been (if you're royal, that is).

NSU Theater to Present A Midsummer Night's Dream

By Kristine Bilaire
Distribution Manager

NSU's Theatre will be putting on their first play for the semester, A Midsummer Night's Dream, a classic comedy by William Shakespeare. A Midsummer Night's Dream tells the story of several sets of lovers who go through a series of hilarious events and eventually return to each other. The play features magic, transformation, fairies, and plenty of humor. "NSU Theatre chose to put on this play because they like to perform classic plays," said Stage Manager Liz Harbaugh. "A Midsummer Night's Dream is Shakespeare's most accessible comedy. For our second season, we wanted to do one of Shakespeare's plays, and Mark Duncan thought this would be a show everyone would enjoy - both the actors and the audience." "Students should come see A Midsummer Night's Dream for several reasons," said Harbaugh. "First, it's always great to see everything NSU has to offer, from the arts to athletics, as part of experiencing the diverse opportunities on campus. Second, watching fellow students and professors onstage is always an enjoyable experience. Third, well, A Midsummer Night's Dream is just funny. It's a really funny show and I really think the audiences will enjoy it".

A Midsummer Night's Dream will run from Nov. 2 to 4 at 8 p.m. and Nov. 5 at 2 p.m. in the Miniaci Performing Arts Center attached to the Alvin Sherman Library on the main campus. Admission is free, but reservations are required. For reservations, please email nstheatre@nova.edu or call 954.262.8179. For more information about NSU Theatre and upcoming events, visit http://www.undergrad.nova.edu/nstheatre.
NSU Women’s Soccer Team Ties 2-2 with Florida Tech and Draws Even with Rollins College After Double OT

By Nelly Mesa
Staff Writer

NSU women’s soccer team (10-2-2; 4-2-2 SSC) underwent a frustrating weekend of soccer as they hit the road on the Oct. 17 to play Rollins College and after double overtime, still coming home with a 2-2 draw; along with their home game on the Oct. 21 resulting in a 2-2 draw against Florida Tech University.

Sophomore Hayley Oligane got things started for the Sharks while playing the Tars by assisting freshman Kelly Diershow with the first goal of the game. Despite the draw, NSU did a great job of never giving up their lead throughout the game. The Sharks maintained the lead up until the 75th minute when a Tars midfielder evened the score; even then it took less than two minutes for NSU’s freshman Alexis Hernandez and sophomore Shurell Burton to work together and answer the call, with Hernandez registering the goal to score, making it 2-1.

“Working together and learning from our mistakes has helped us get back into our rhythm,” said Oligane.

While at home Saturday, Oct. 21 to take on the Panthers of Florida Tech, NSU got off to a difficult start as the Panthers jumped on them in the first 30 seconds of the game, 1-0. After 23 minutes of playing time, Burton toughened up to tie the score 1-1 off a penalty kick. After Florida Tech scored again off a penalty kick of their own, Diershow stepped it up once again to

Please See SOCCER
Page 13

Stephanie Quinones with the ball down the field. Photo courtesy NSU Sports Information

Men’s Soccer Team Downs Northwood University 3-2, Draws Even 2-2 Against Florida Tech

By Nelly Mesa
Staff Writer

NSU’s volleyball team (10-17; 2-10 SSC) had a busy weekend as they took on two conference rivals as well as the Rio Piedras, who came all the way from Puerto Rico. Unfortunately for them, they were sent back home with a loss.

On Oct. 19 the Sharks got off to a shaky start as they lost the first game of the match against Puerto Rico. However, they didn’t get down on themselves and came back to take the next sending games, sending the Rio Piedras home after four. Freshman Kaitlyn McNeil has been key for the Sharks’ success in the past few games as she had a career high of 11 blocks as well as registering nine kills.

Senior Night took place on Oct. 21 for the Sharks and after winning the first game of the match, the girls suffered a loss to Eckerd College. It was an emotional night as NSU honored their beloved seniors, Megan Johansen, Karla Ortiz, and Jenny Fitch.

NSU faced the number two ranked Tampa Spartans on Oct. 22 and lost in three games. Sophomore Melinda Gorman had 11 kills to help the Sharks as well as her fellow teammate, sophomore Christina Chubb who contributed 9 kills of her own.

Right: Christina Chubb setting up the ball. Photo courtesy NSU Sports Information

Please See NORTHWOOD
Page 13

Stephanie Quinones with the ball down the field. Photo courtesy NSU Sports Information
Polls

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Men's Soccer

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Men's and Women's Cross Country 2006 SSC CHAMPIONSHIPS - TEAM RESULTS

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the lead in just four minutes, quickly putting the score into their favor, 2-1. In a game lead by Shark freshmen, NSU came back with authority as freshman Michael Collins registered the goal to tie the game up, and with the help of fellow sophomore teammates Rich Bodek and Corey Sheriff, Collins made the game winner with just three minutes remaining.

While playing their Senior Night game against Florida Tech, the Sharks were able to tie the score up after a shot on goal was made by Onteniente, making the score 1-1 after an assist from senior Joseph Clancy. Upon the Panthers putting one past NSU goalkeeper, junior Jarod Rennick, the score was put into Fl. Tech's favor, 2-1.

Later, Clancy and Onteniente worked together once again; however, this time the goal would be registered by Clancy, finalizing the score at 2-2. Fortunately, the draw was enough to confirm an appearance into the post season for the Sharks as they will

NSU finished off their regular season in the number three slot in the SSC women's soccer standings.

By Alicia Winslett
Sports Editor
On Saturday, Oct. 21, NSU hosted the 2006 SSC Cross Country Championships. McCrea said "Saturday's race at Markham Park went off without a hitch." He added that "the other teams really liked the course and our race day organization team excelled." He went on to thank NSU alumnus Islande Dillon, the race director.

Both the men's and women's team claimed third place at the SSC Championships. The men's team accumulated 79 points as a team. Eskender Abdalla finished in ninth place individually with a time of 26:58 in the 8k race. Robert Maughan finished in 11th place with a time of 27:13 and Brandon Petersen came in 17th with a time of 28:11.

Florida Southern College won the team titles for both the men and women. For the FSC men, this was their 10th consecutive SSC Championship and the 11th in the last 12 years. For the FSC women, this was their first SSC title since 2001.

The NSU women's team earned 79 points and a third place finish. Bethany Brenkus led the Sharks as she finished the 6k race in 24:14. Stefi Cevallos finished in ninth place with a time of 25:14 and Tara Haddock placed 19th individually with a time of 26:30.

McCrea was very happy with the way both of his teams performed over the weekend at the SSC Championships. He said the teams' "goal at the start of the season was not to be any worse than third, so that is mission accomplished."

During the week of Nov. 3, both teams will travel to Memphis for the NCAA South Regional. "We're looking forward to some cooler weather and also to try improving on last year's placing," said McCrea.
Dear NSU Community,

As the calendar and the slough of themed events on campus indicates, Halloween is just around the corner.

Many of the people I've spoken to are excited about the holiday, while others, like myself, are somewhat more apathetic.

It isn't that I dislike Halloween (let alone hate it with a passion, as I do Valentine's Day), it's more that I've lost interest in the past few years. Maybe it's that I'm just not a party sort of person, or maybe it's the idea that I outgrew trick-or-treating a long time ago. Or maybe it's that pumpkins in Florida are just too expensive to carve up just to set them outside for a day or so before they begin to gather mold in the excessive heat.

I think some of the things that make a holiday fun and special are the traditions a person grows up with for that holiday. My Halloweens as a kid always involved carving pumpkins and cobbling together costumes from whatever we had laying around the house the day before (we never bought costumes, although we did occasionally buy some cheap makeup sticks), then going out trick-or-treating while Mom made us homemade chili with cornbread for when we returned. Now that I've outgrown trick-or-treating and moved out of the house, I miss that.

Then again, some of the things that make holidays fun are the new traditions (or maybe the lack thereof). The Scaryoke that SUB put on last week seemed like a fun twist, and karaoke is about a thousand times better than bobbing for apples (have you ever tried bobbing for apples? Not pretty.) And maybe if I had a little kid on hand to take trick-or-treating, the holiday would be more amusing.

But hey, to each his own. Hopefully, most of those reading this are still at least a little enchanted with the holiday, and to all of you: have fun. Even though it's not everyone else has grown out of it.

Sincerely,

Alisha VanHoose
Players must outwit or join bullies

Thompson also took offense to the scene, writing to the ESRB president, Patricia Vance. "We just found gay sexual content in Bully, as [main character] Jimmy Hopkins makes out with another male student. Good luck with your 'Teen' rating now." The ESRB said "that content was considered in the assignment of the rating."

The videogame blog Destructoid.com featured a video of a special hearing requested by the game's publisher that questioned why Thompson was not held in contempt of court for his remarks about the judge. Friedman said that "the statements made to this court about this court by Mr. Thompson, I find inappropriate for a member of the Florida bar, unprofessional, and contemptible," and said that he filed a complaint with the Florida bar.

Despite the bickering and trials, Bully shipped for the PS2 on Oct. 17 and has received favorable reviews from a number of gaming publications.
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