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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: scariest, funniest, most original, sexiest and overall best. Students also received prizes for the best pumpkin carving from Quad Thursday.

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 of 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 dollars next year. He said that he plans to fight the special interest groups in Tallahassee that are not paying their share of taxes in the state. "I'll say something to these insurance companies they haven't heard in a long time. No!"

For the karaoke portion of the event, students performed on stage, singing songs like "Barbie Girl," "Cry," "Californiafornication" 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. "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."
DEBATE continued from page 1

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

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).


ABOVE: Host B’RAD poses questions to the contestants of Hollywood Squares. BELOW: Phi Sigma Sigma all spice and nothing nice.

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

- Republican Attorney General Charlie Crist

"The FCAT is used to punish children, teachers and their schools."

- Democratic Congressman Jim Davis

LEFT: Jesse Aron sings Fiona Apple’s Criminal.

RIGHT: Camille Wright and Kaye Fenelus of Radio X.

Photos by Jany Cabezas and Portia Jones
A New Strategy for Iraq?

By Tonya 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 more specifically, 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 a CNN report," 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 half-a-year 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 counties and areas of South Florida from the Keys to Palm Beach County. According to 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 danger surrounding the Lake Okeechobee region. According to the Palm Beach Post, technicians will be using the high resolution light detection and rangeing 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 plans.

Harry T. Lai Reid, executive director of the Florida National Weather Service, 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 residents 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 likely to be the freshman seven or eight and that the real weight gain starts sooner than year.

According to staff.co.nz, a public university in the Midwest performed a study in which 967 of the students showed that during their first year, males and females gained an average of 7.8 pounds. Others gained ten to fifteen 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.

Physicians fear that this weight gain will put students at risk of obesity in the future. One concern physicians have is that obesity epidemic among children in the U.S. may cause the infamous "freshman 15" to endanger students earlier.

Doctors reported finding a meeting of the Obesity Society in Boston. The studies are two of the largest and longest ever done of college students' weight gain. Researchers will continue to perform studies to find out why college students are gaining weight.

NSU students had a bit to say about the recent findings.

"According to the study's findings," asked Jordan Davis, "I am going to weigh about 180 pounds."

"The freshman 15 stinks," said freshman Sharetta El-Tourky.

NSU students tempted by the unhealthy foods should be reminded by the new findings that eating properly is a serious concern. Staying in contact with the folks at home may also help to reduce stress.

White House Press Secretary Tony Snow said that the phrase "stay the course" was a misleading one used to describe the president's policy in the Middle East. He said that the President is not using the phrase any longer because it misled people into believing that the army would never adjust its strategies in Iraq, which was not the case.

Bush reiterated Snow's statements. "Stay the course is a quarter right...My attitude is don't do what you're doing if it's not working—change," Bush said in an Associated Press release.

During an Oct. 23 press conference, Bush explained that "we're taking new steps to help secure Baghdad and are constantly changing our strategy in Iraq." Bush said that the plan for Iraq is not using the phrase any longer because it misled people into believing that the army would never adjust its strategies in Iraq, which was not the case.

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EARTH TALK

Dear EarthTalk: What are so-called "debt-for-nature swaps" and how do they work?

- Howard W., via e-mail

A debt-for-nature swap is an agreement by which a wealthy, developed nation like the United States forgives debt owed to it by a developing country in exchange for a promise to use some or all of the money instead to preserve critical environmental areas. Typically, such deals are brokered by international non-profit organizations like The Nature Conservancy or Conservation International, which sometimes contribute additional funds to provide the grants and community organizers participating in the projects.

One of the largest debt-for-nature swaps to date occurred just recently, in October 2006, when the U.S. agreed to forgive $23.4 million in debts from Guatemala to free up the money for use in forest conservation efforts there. The Nature Conservancy and Conservation International were instrumental in getting that deal together, and each committed $1 million toward Guatemalan conservation initiatives. A similar deal was signed in Botswana to repurpose $8.3 million in debt payments owed to the U.S. for conservation and restoration of its tropical forests in the Okavango Delta and Chobe National Park regions.

To date, the U.S. has arranged a dozen debt-for-nature swaps (one under President Clinton and the rest under George W. Bush), adding up to $135 million worth of loans for conserving wildlife from not only Guatemala and Botswana, but also Bangladesh, Belize, Colombia, El Salvador, Jamaica, Panama, Paraguay, the Philippines and Peru. Under the terms of the Tropical Forest Conservation Act, enacted in 1998, developing countries with a tropical forest of global or regional significance, a democratically elected government and plans for economic reform are eligible for debt forgiveness from the U.S. as long as they are willing to undertake conservation efforts accordingly. They also must cooperate with the U.S. on international narcotics control measures while neither supporting terrorism nor violating human rights.

While the U.S. has been the leader in encouraging debt-for-nature swaps, other developed countries are starting to get on the act as well. Belgium has one in place with the Republic of Equatorial Guinea. Peru has an agreement with the Philippines and Bolivia for the benefit of the environment. And just last week France joined the fray by forgiving $25 million to the government of Cameroon in the name of protecting pristine stretches of the Congo.

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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 24,000 acres have been scorched and at least four firefighters have been killed and one was injured and was admitted to a hospital in critical condition. Though state officials have not explained "why they are treating 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 trapped 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 Afghans leaders told Reuters' reporters that NATO 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 have been killed in that area during the last offensive. The alliance has claimed that soldiers have killed more than 400 insurgents in the nearby province of Kandahar, but also said that "credible reports" of civilian deaths have also been received. President Hamid Karzai has appointed the defense minister and a "special team of local elders" to investigate the incident and report. 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, Naik Mohammad, said that reports of slain civilians confirmed; 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 troops holding up a human skull and published 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 department's "interest is 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.msnbc.com.

North America

Haitian warlord in U.S. ordered to pay damages

U.S. District Judge Sidney Stein ordered Emmanuel "Toto" Constant to pay $1 million to three women who say they "were raped and had their breasts slashed by his men" when he ran an anti-government paramilitary group in Haiti in 1993. Constant, who led Haiti's 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 a $1 million mortgage fraud scheme. The three women sued Constant last year 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, senior attorney at the Center for Constitutional Rights said "it is not known if the women will ever see any of the money."

For more information, visit www.worldnews.com.
Scientists have discovered that women with a mutated version of the BREPI 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 BREPI have twice the normal risk of developing breast cancer. According to Emaxhealth.com, scientists closely studied the BREPI gene in 1,212 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 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 BREPI mutation. Among women without such a history, only 1 in 1,000 had the mutation. 

Researchers say that identifying the mutant version of BREPI can help 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 BREPI 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 physically symptoms that are in some cases obvious by helping to narrow down causes of cancer.

IRAQ continued from page 3

"It is time to get tough... We can't wait a year for a political solution..." 

flexible and it will adjust to the current state of the government there in order to win this war. 

The plan is to encourage the Iraqis to take more control over their own people more quickly; Iraqi government officials have agreed to develop a series of benchmarks by the end of this year that would help to stabilize the country and reduce the amount of violence there over the next 12 to 18 months. 

Bush assured that the military is changing its training strategy for the Iraqi troops, increasing the number of coalition advisors and changing the force structure for better response. The president also plans to disarm the illegal death squads, share oil revenues and amend the constitution.

Though Bush said that U.S. troops can return home as soon as the Iraqis are able to protect themselves, the administration has not set specific dates for these benchmarks and has no plans to penalize the government officials if they are unable to fulfill their commitments by the end of next year.

EARTH continued from page 3

River Basin, the world's second largest tropical forest after the Amazon.

Debt-for-nature deals have not all taken place without some controversy. According to the Uruguay-based World Rainforest Movement (WRM), last September Canada forgave $680,000 in debt from Honduras in exchange for the country's establishment of tree planting and forest conservation programs. Arranged primarily within a debt-for-nature framework, Canada will actually get credit in the deal toward the greenhouse gas emissions reductions it promised under the international Kyoto Protocol. Says WRM, "The powerful hand of industry is behind this project... this allows a major carbon dioxide-producing country... to be able to avoid implementing real measures to either reduce carbon emissions at their source or to implement the conservation of its own forests."
When Democracy Fails America Loses

By Kristine Belizaire

On Oct. 23, students gathered in the Alvin Sherman Library for a lecture on Nature vs. Nurture, the second in a series of lectures about sexual identity. Panel members included NSU Professors Kate Waines, who gave the introduction to the lecture, Joshua Feingold, who spoke about the biological aspect of "nature" of gender and sexual identity, and Edlen Smith-Cavazos 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 thought kissing is natural just because humans enjoy the activity. She also mentioned that there are other societies who consider kissing to be appalling.

She said that we as a society often think of ourselves as reproductive roles, and that a lot of people in the American society cannot understand asexuality 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 in their lives experienced physical complications, like not being able to achieve an orgasm. By looking at those 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 an important role society plays but we are lucky because we as a people can change society if we don't like it."
LIFELESS
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of Life 101, which is to bring models perspectives and experiences with the NSU community. She has been Bill Clinton, Conan O'Brien, Louis schedules due to prior engagements. and Shaquille O'Neal. Unfortunately, November or in the winter semester.

CONTROVERSY
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"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 disprove 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 simple people out there who have controversial views or to make sure that they pass some extra test is egregious and has a chilling effect," he said.

Tino 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.

Q: My ex-wife and I have been divorced for 2 years, and we have a 3 year-old daughter. Our divorce was messy, and we're not on the best of terms. Even though we only speak when we have to (usually about our daughter), it usually leads to a fight. I don't want our daughter to suffer from our mistakes, but it seems impossible for us to get along with so much bad blood between us. Any ideas?

A: Parenting is hard enough when you're sharing the difficulties and responsibilities with someone you love, trust, and can communicate with. But, as you've found out, it becomes excruciatingly difficult when you have to figure everything out with someone you don't live with, you don't like, you don't trust, and you'd rather never see or talk to again.

You've got your head and your heart in exactly the right place, though: You don't want your daughter to suffer. With this as your guiding principle, you'll be able to make choices and find ways to work things out that you never thought possible. Time will also help—you've got a good 15 years ahead of you to figure out ways to make things better for her.

Are you doing as difficult as you are for most others? In normal circumstances, face-to-face meetings can make it easier to settle disagreements, but in divorce situations, the opposite is usually true. You might do best not to try to bring up or resolve anything while you're dropping off or picking up your daughter. And you'd certainly want to steer clear of trying to negotiate anything at jointly attended events—music recitals, parent-teacher conferences, etc.

Have you found a way of communicating that's less charged? E-mail? Voice mail? Letters? In general, 'time-awayed' is usually the best time to settle disagreements, but in divorce situations, the opposite is usually true. You might do best not to try to bring up or resolve anything while you're dropping off or picking up your daughter. And you'd certainly want to steer clear of trying to negotiate anything at jointly attended events—music recitals, parent-teacher conferences, etc.

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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 parts 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 big".

There is nothing worse than a misleading trailer, which comedy has a head on collision with a thriller/drama. The causalities? The audience.

Not what you'd expect. Period.

The actual movie can top the trailer's look in a way you can imagine how Gangs of New York looked better. It's as if you were actually in London at the turn of the century, 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. At 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 as 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 Gangs of New York harked in the background, The Prestige hooked 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 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 great job playing Tesla: he was distant and apathetic but still emotional and depressed. It's too bad they opted not to put his music on the soundtrack.

**Game Review**

**Why the Fuss?**

By Greg Kyriakakis

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 is fair game, the mention of a new product stirred speculation of just how violent it would be.

When the game, which takes place at a school where the player must oust or join with bullies, received a "T for Teen" rating from the Entertainment Software Ratings Board, some were outraged; despite having actually played it.

Infamous and outspoken Florida Attorney Jack Thompson filed suit in hopes of keeping the
Antoinette's arranged engagement to 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 unceasing 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 that.

Schwartzman's somewhat passive nature as Louis was quite a nice surprise, even as he said 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 subtly 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 to reign and how fun the 18th century may have been (if you were royalty, that is).

MAN continued from page 9

"There is nothing worse than a misleading commercial and/or... well maybe the actual movie..."

decent threads of humor from it. It is most misleading because it doesn't even hint at the subplots within the film. After the first 20 minutes, most humor trails off into the spontaneous fragments of flashing neon lights. As for the remaining (and drawn out) time, a subplot takes over the main story; a romantic-thriller story engulfed the already low dose of laughter and ruined the satirical moments of the movie. The romantic-thriller is instantaneous with almost no development. Williams attempts to provide "comic relief" within the dramatic scenes only to fail and make the scenes more choppy and confusing for the audience.

If anything, you'll want to leave the theater before the unclear climax takes place. I spent more time looking at my watch than laughing. Too bad such a good satirical idea (at least in hindsight) went to waste; two hours and ten minutes of waste to be precise.

Even if bored out of your mind, don't consider watching it — unless you eliminate any thread of classic plays, "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. And 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 McInti Performing Arts Center located at the Alvin Sherman Library on the main campus. Admission is free, but reservations are required. For reservations, please email NsuTheatre@nova.edu or call 954.262.8179. For more information about NSU Theatre and upcoming events, visit http://www.undergrad.nova.edu/ nsuTheatre.

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Shark Bites
By Alicia Winslett
Sports Editor

Women's Golf
On Oct. 24, the women's golf team competed in the Flagler Fall Slam in St. Augustine, Fla. They played at the World Golf Village, and the course was a par 72, 5,987 yards. The Sharks finished in second place with a two-day team total of 614. They were only one shot behind the University of West Florida who won the tournament with a two-day total of 613 in the 36 hole tournament.

Marcia Garcia Austin lead the Sharks team as she finished in a tie for third place with a total of 75. Sophie Frits tied for sixth place with a two-day total of 154, and Lisa Bjorklund tied for eighth, shooting 77-78.

Volleyball
On Oct. 22, the University of Tampa Spartans took down the Sharks in three games on the road in Tampa, Fla. The scores were 30-17, 30-20, and 30-24. The Sharks are now 10-17 overall and 2-10 in the SSC. The Spartans improved to 25-1 and 11-1 in the SSC. Melinda Gorman had 11 kills for the Sharks, while Christita Chubb had nine kills and Izza Miranda had a match high of 17 digs.

Women's Soccer
On Oct. 25, the women's soccer team won 2-1 against Lynn University to advance to the Sunshine State Conference tournament semifinals. Carolyn Del Moral for the Sharks, scored in the 51st minute from 10 yards outside the penalty area. Then Kelly Diershow went into the penalty area unblocked and took a shot headed toward the lower right corner of the goal. One of the Lynn defenders tried to block it, but it went in the goal, giving the Sharks a score of 2-1.

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 an excellent 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 chipped 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

Men's Soccer Team Downs Northwood University 3-2, Draws Even 2-2 Against Florida Tech
By Nelly Mesa
Staff Writer

NSU men's soccer team (8-5-3, 3-2-3 SSC) came out on top 3-2 while rallying with NAIA's Northwood University; as well as finishing in a draw 2-2 against conference rivals from Florida Tech.

Freshman Romans O'Connor opened the game up for the Sharks after capitalizing on a penalty kick. However, well into the second half Northwood took action as well.

Please See NORTHWOOD Page 13

NSU Volleyball Wins 1, Loses 2
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 SOCCER Page 13
WOMEN - 6K
1. Jaoc Knoch, FSC (22:29.00)
2. Caroline Kwambai, FSC (23:08.00)
3. Rachel Anderson, FSC (23:19.00)
4. Paige Williams, UT (23:24.00)
5. Alysha Duffy, UT (23:40.00)
6. Kristina Aronson, RC (24:12.00)
7. Bethany Bronkus, NSU (24:14.00)
8. Jessica Forrester, UT (24:16.00)
9. Stefi Cevallos, NSU (25:14.00)
10. Danielle Shimer, FSC (25:18.00)

MEN - 8K
1. Eric Walker, FSC (25:10.00)
2. Evander Jones, FSC (25:18.00)
3. Lief Thomason, FSC (25:53.00)
4. Scotti Mackley, FSC (25:56.00)
5. Tony Nicolosi, UT (26:07.00)
6. Trevor Steg, FSC (26:31.00)
7. J eremy Lautzenheiser, UT (26:38.00)
8. David Forry, UT (26:49.00)
9. Eskeker Abdalla, NSU (26:58.00)
10. Jon Alter, FSC (27:10.00)

TOP TEN FINISHERS

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

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Volleyball

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WOMEN’S SPORTS STATS OF THE WEEK

Polls

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<td>Baseball</td>
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<td>W. Basketball</td>
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<td>Volleyball</td>
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Women’s Soccer

SSC WOMEN’S SOCCER STANDINGS

Volleyball

SSC VOLLEYBALL STANDINGS

Individuals

1. Victoria Jackson W. Florida 71 77 148 +4
2. Sarah Nicholson W. Florida 72 77 149 +5
3. Daniela Vargas Shorter 75 76 151 +7
4. Daniela Davis AASU 74 77 151 +7
5. Maria Garcia Austin NSU 75 76 151 +7
6. Anne-Sophie Fries NSU 75 79 154 +10
7. Daniela Jacobelli FL Tech 79 75 154 +10
8. Anna Haller Embry-Riddle FL 76 79 155 +11
9. Lisa Bjorklund NSU 77 78 155 +11
10. Lorena Fernandez W. Florida 79 76 155 +11
11. Elizabeth Bond NSU 75 81 156 +12
12. Tara Allen Embry-Riddle FL 77 79 156 +12
13. Andrea Maldonado NSU 78 79 157 +13

Upcoming Games - Oct. 30 thru Nov. 5

Women’s Basketball
- Saturday, Nov. 4th - Home game against Florida International University at 5 p.m.

Men’s and Women’s Cross Country
- Saturday, Nov. 3 and 4 - NCAA South Regional at Shelby Farms in Memphis, Tennessee at 7:45 a.m.

Volleyball
- Wednesday, Nov. 1 - Game against Lynn University in Boca Raton, FL at 7 p.m.
- Saturday, Nov. 4 - Home game against Barry University at 1 p.m.

Men’s Basketball
- Wednesday, Nov. 1 - Home exhibition game against Broward Community College
The Sharks Men’s and Women’s Cross Country Teams Finish 3rd at SSC Cross Country Championships

By Alicia Winslett

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 alumna 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 and a third place finish. Bethany Brenkus led the Sharks as she finished the 6k race in 25:14. Stefi Cevallos finished in ninth place with a time of 26:30.

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 25:14. Stefi Cevallos finished in ninth place 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, and maybe it’s the idea that I outgrew trick-or-treating a long time ago. Or Valentine’s Day, it’s more that I’ve lost interest in the holiday, while others are excited about the holiday, while yet another way to celebrate the end of the semester.

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 little 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 I’ve discovered that both pumpkins and chili are unsuited to the Florida climate, I’m no longer as excited about building those costumes (besides, half the fun was getting to wear Mom’s stuff).

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. I hope you’re all having a ton of fun. Even though it’s no longer my bag, I’m glad to see that not everyone else has grown out of the fun.

Sincerely,

Alisha VanHoose

A Fly on the Wall: Meandering

By Paul Saneaux

Managing Editor

My wish has come true! Not one controversial or even semi-controversial issue was brought to attention at last week’s SGA meeting, meaning that, by some extreme freak accumulation of luck, I have really nothing to write about. Though some could argue, by their own indifference to the matters of the Fly on the Wall and the affairs of the SGA, that I actually write about “nothing” to begin with anyway, it is hard to believe that I do lack actual material for contemplation.

The obvious course then is to do a simple run-down of what happened and hope I can shine in an opinion or two. Also, I guess I will further explain my stance on the SGA’s decision to reject Res. Life’s bill for the Goodwin Haunted Halls, since a few people seemed to have misunderstood my point. Um... Okay, here I go. Right now. Now.

Uh... President Andrew Ibrahim mentioned during his report that his task of getting a student representative in the board of the trustees is going well and that he will soon be presenting research that examines 25 of the nation’s universities that have such a student in the board. When this goal is accomplished, I assume the difficult part will entail and whether or not they serve to inform the SGA as to what the board is up to and what issues they may handle, what kind of influence, if any, would that person have over the board of trustees? Just a little thought.

In Treasurer Alex Mitran’s report, he revealed the total amount allocated by the SGA to date: $30,944.37, to be exact. Now, this total was disclosed at the beginning and did not include the amount allocated that very day. Considering that there is roughly one-and-a-half months left in the semester, 30 thousand-something dollars allocated is quite a lot. Considering that clubs that are re-earning their charters after completing their “mandatory volunteer hours” may return to ask for funding, there isn’t quite a lot left. Considering that the NSUSGA Compensation Bill hasn’t had its quirks worked out and about $18,000 (the amount requested) is still yet to be put aside to pay the SGA, there isn’t quite a lot left. Maybe that explains why the SGA is slowly becoming more close-fisted with its wallet.

Another interesting piece of news from Mitranes is that the Finance Committee is creating guidelines for fundraising done by clubs and organizations. Although I am not sure at what the proposed guidelines would entail and whether or not they would even be beneficial, I am 100 percent sure that the clubs and organizations would not make more guidelines: no more than free, official SGA root canals, at least. Go Sharks!

During Open Forum, the SGA discussed Sharkapalooza and how much the SGA was willing to fund past t-shirts and booth scaffolding for the clubs. Yes, that’s right. Sharkapalooza took place last August and the issue still isn’t resolved. Uh... that was a huge, lengthy discussion that I am sure will continue this week, so, I will recap that later.

That’s all. Good day or night. Sorry for the brouhahas.
Players must ouwit 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 trickering 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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The Current
Nova Southeastern University
3301 College Avenue
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33314-7796
(954) 262-8455
nsunews@nsu.nova.edu
http://www.NSUCurrent.com

Advertising Information:
(954) 262-8461
Fax (954) 262-3456
knightad@nsu.nova.edu

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