NSU Unveils Time Capsule and Wall of History
Tanya Parnes NSU News Editor

NSU unveiled its first ever 50-year time capsule and the new Wall of History during this year's Homecoming 2008. The Wall of History stretches alongside the walls of the atrium on the north side of the UC with the time capsule adjacent to it. The wall outlines the history of NSU beginning with the early years in 1964 when it was known as the Nova University of Advanced Technology up through its total transformation into the Nova Southeastern University it has become today.

"I think that it's great," said Robin Cooper, Graduate Assistant for Spiritual Life. "Just being a part of the committee that helped to put this all together really helped me learn a lot about the history of NSU." Cooper said that this wall has helped to provide a basis for what is happening with NSU today. "One goal of the timeline is to inspire current students to recognize the impact that they can have on campus and upon the history of the school," said Cooper. "I think it's really beautiful."

Stephanie Sultan, a junior and biology major, said that the wall is a great addition to the university. "I think it's nice and it just shows how NSU has grown and the progress that it has made," said Sultan. "It helps to provide a basis for what is happening with NSU today. "One goal of the timeline is to inspire current students to recognize the impact that they can have on campus and upon the history of the school," said Cooper. "I think it's really beautiful."

New Division Presents New Opportunities for NSU Students
Tanya Parnes NSU News Editor

The Farquhar College of Arts and Sciences is creating four new Bachelor of Arts majors within the new Division of Performing and Visual Arts that will be available to students beginning in the fall 2008 semester. These majors, which include Music, Dance, Arts Administration and Visual Arts, will be housed in the Performing and Visual Arts Wing of the University Center, which is set to be completed by August.

"The university is making a marvelous commitment to music and arts," said Don Rosenblum, Ph.D., Dean of the Farquhar College of Arts and Sciences. "Part of that commitment is supporting the development of new majors and the other part is the development of the Performing and Visual Arts Wing." Rosenblum said that several different colleges throughout campus have approached him with an interest in an expansion of the performing and visual arts offerings at NSU. "Performing and visual arts are critical to any undergraduate program," said Rosenblum. "It's very exciting and it is part of hopefully a long-term commitment to increasing the cultural life of the students."

Rosenblum said that these majors were selected because they are the foundation areas of visual arts. "I think that these programs will have a substantial impact upon NSU enrollment," said Rosenblum. The cultural dimension on campus will be broadened with these programs. I think that there are a lot of students both locally and nationally who will become more interested in NSU."

Maria Santis, Ph.D., Director of the Division of Humanities, is especially pleased with the new additions to the university. "I think it's wonderful because the arts are an area that we really needed to develop," said Santis. "Even if students do not want to major in one of these programs, it will really enhance their student lives to have electives available in the arts." Santis said that she believes NSU will attract new students who were hoping to major in the arts, who may have been turned away in the past due to the limited options.
Time Capsule Continued from pg.1

shows all of the buildings and the major events that have taken place. I think it's a pretty accurate portrayal of NSU.”

Bernard Pierre, a sophomore and accounting major, said that he really likes the mixture of colors and the glass panels that they've gone by each generation to see what the school looked like then in comparison to what it looks like today,” said Pierre. “It really helps to tie in all of the information about Nova with the UC. People have gone up to the wall to read about Nova and enjoy the history.” Pierre said that it adds a very new and exciting element to the UC but he thinks that they should alter the layout a bit. “The way that it’s been laid out has not been done with an overall layout or planning. ‘I think it’s a really good placement because not many people see the one in the library,” said Cancio. “They made very good use of the wall.” Cancio said that she also likes the fact that they have left a whole wall open for future students to add to and enjoy. “I think that they did an excellent job with it,” said Deandria Moss, a freshman education major, said that she really likes the overall layout of the wall. “I think it’s only one extra wall for the next ten years, so what are they going to do about the future?”

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previously available to them. "Some of the faculty who
NSU and they have been met with favorable responses," said Santos. "We're pretty confident that the interest is there and so we're hoping for the fall."
Santos believes that these programs will greatly enhance student life at NSU. "There will be increased offerings in music, dance, visual arts and for the first time ever we will have courses in graphic design and drawing," said Santos. "We've had art classes before but we've never had studio classes so that is something we're very excited about. It's going to increase opportunities for students, faculty and staff to enjoy more arts at NSU whether it is a concert, an art show or something else and it will add a rich dimension to the university." Santos hopes that NSU will continue to diversify the course offerings in these majors as these programs grow over time. Santos also expects that the addition of these new programs will subsequently increase the number of concerts and shows offered during the course of the school year. "The faculty has really done a tremendous job in trying to develop these programs," said Santos. "I think it's just really exciting and I'm eager to see what's going to happen."
William Adams, Assistant Professor of Music, is also very happy about these new expansions to the NSU undergraduate curriculum. "One of the incredible things that the visionaries of the university had in mind in trying to create an undergraduate student life on campus, was to bring students together," said Adams. "It's truly the arts that bring people together." Adams noted that a music degree is one of the most traditional programs offered at undergraduate institutions throughout the country. There are three elements to the music major that include applied lessons, music theory and musicology. "We will set the

Birth Control Price Spike
Bibin Mannattuparambil Staff Writer

NSU's pharmacy has spiked prices on prescription contraceptives due to the federal law passed recently, which has ended the practice in which drug companies offered prescription contraceptives to health centers for deeply discounted prices. Due to the Medicaid rebate law, which is part of the Deficit Reduction Act, prices on many of the common brands of birth control pills and other contraceptives have skyrocketed. Most of the name brand companies have more than doubled their prices for their products due to the clause within the bill. The Deficit Reduction Act, which was signed by President Bush last year, aims to decrease federal funding for various programs, such as subsidized student loans and Medicaid, by $39 billion.

Prior to the passing of the bill, pharmaceutical companies were able to offer their products at highly discounted prices. According to an article on MSNBC, one reason the discounts made business sense was because of a formula which allows drug companies to offer low-cost prescription drugs due to rebates the participating states offer them in return. Pharmaceutical companies were also eager to offer discounts because of the long-term student customers which they attract through the universities.

"It's outrageous," said freshman Elizabeth Rodriguez. "A modest increase in price would be understandable, but the fact that prices have doubled and even tripled in many instances is ridiculous. For the many who use these products, this change will require them to find a new means of dealing with the costs.

Many women are forced to now forgo their privacy and take the matter to their parents and go through their parent's insurance company to keep the same prescription. Others now have to settle for the generic version of these products, which will still cost them significantly more than what they were originally paying, and for some this price spike means they will completely discontinue the use of these products.

There are many problems that are posed by changing birth control brands or stopping use completely. Not all birth control pills are the same. The changing of a prescription drug can lead to a chemical imbalance, which could essentially result in discontinuity and new risks for side effects for the women taking them. Completely stopping the prescription could lead to sudden increase in unwanted pregnancies in many college women.

"As tuition costs rise along with all the other costs associated with school, it's sad that women now have to worry about how to pay for their prescriptions," said student, Francis Charlemane.

Is Your Mascara Safe?
NSU speaks out about this disturbing phenomenon.
Tanya Parnes NSU News Editor

The safety of standard beauty care products has fallen under fire now that Minnesota has become the first state to ban mascara products containing any trace of mercury from their store shelves on Jan. 1, 2008, according to a Fox News report.

Current federal laws allow for 65 parts per million of mercury to be present in beauty products, because at those small dosages, it does not pose a severe problem. Mercury is known to cause many neurological disorders and problems and, according to the aforementioned Fox News report, retailers who knowingly sell products containing mercury to their consumers face up to $700 in fines, and manufacturers who fail to put warning labels on their products face up to $10,000 in fines.

"I think it's really crazy that it's in everyday products and can be life threatening," said Julienne Olegario, a senior and nursing student. "I will definitely be looking more closely into the ingredients that I buy now that I know she stores all switch to natural products, because those are much healthier for the skin. "This will affect my decision," said Olegario. "A lot of people don't know what they're buying. They just see what's on the front cover. Everyone should know about it."

Carolina Jaramillo, a junior and marketing major, said she is allergic to all kinds of ingredients, so she uses these Clinique products that are natural. "Jaramillo said that she plans to find out if any of these products are mixed with any mercury by doing research because she is concerned about this recent warning regarding the dangers of mercury in the body. "I know people that go to Walmart and just buy any products that are available, which is really bad," said Jaramillo. "When I go to Walmart, I really read what's in these products and I always try to choose the best products for my face and I now plan to be even more careful about it."

Katie Scheurer, a freshman and psychology major, said that she is really concerned about this issue. "I think it's scary, and as soon as I find out which ones are dangerous, I'm going to switch products," said Scheurer. Scheurer said that she realizes students do not watch the news as much as possible and are therefore most likely unaware of this important issue. Kautili De'ath, a freshman and business professional major, had a very similar take on the issue and was quite frustrated. "How long have they known about this and how long have we been putting this stuff on our skin?" asked De'ath. "Since I'm a marine biology major, I always check what's in the products I use, but this will definitely play a role in the types of mascaras that I purchase in the future."

Sarah Hafeez, a junior communications and pre-law major, said that this whole situation is ridiculous. "I can't believe it," said Hafeez. "I didn't even know it was possible for mercury to be in your mascara, and I think more girls should be aware of that fact." Hafeez said that she does not wear a lot of makeup generally, but when she does, she usually applies a small amount of blush and mascara, which is how long have we been putting this stuff on our skin? asked De'ath. "Since I'm a marine biology major, I always check what's in the products I use, but this will definitely play a role in the types of mascaras that I purchase in the future."

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Truth and Power Behind Commercial Whaling

Kristine Belizaire, Current Affairs Editor

This year's academic theme for the Farquhar College of Arts and Sciences is Truth and Power. In this year's Faculty Lecture Series, professors explore this theme through various subjects, such as "Truth and Power in Modern China" or "The Propriety Of Relationships." As part of the Faculty Lecture Series, NSU Professor Edward O. Keith presented a lecture titled "Stacking the Deck: Japan, the International Whaling Commission, and the Resumption of Commercial Whaling." In this lecture, "Power" is represented by Japan and the "Truth" is what they are trying to do with the resumption of commercial whaling.

Keith began the lecture with the history and origin of whaling. According to Keith, whaling has been going on for centuries. The first people to kill whales were the Basques, a tribe that originated in Northern Spain. The whales that were targeted were the Blue, Fin, and Right whales. The whales were used for commercial products, such as oil and meat. Lack of technology limited the number of whales that could be killed until the invention of harpoon guns and steam-powered ships led to the expansion of whaling.

When the whale population began to decline, the International Whaling Commission was created to regulate and oversee research. Instead of ending whaling, the primary goal of the commission was to find ways to continue whaling at a rate that would never fully deplete the whale population. This concept was known as the Maximum Sustainable Yield.

According to Keith, the composition of the commission began to change in the mid-1970's with the growth of the environmental movement. At this time, Japan began accusing the US of "stacking the deck" against whaling. The IWC claimed that whaling would only be allowed under three general exemptions: aboriginal whaling, scientific permits, and whaling under objecting. Norway and Russia continued whaling under objection, meaning that they objected to the rules set by the IWC. Japan also continued whaling, claiming that they were doing it for scientific research. The scientific programs set by Japan were widely criticized because it started as a feasibility study but never stopped. Japan also claimed that they needed the whale meat to feed their growing population, but a survey found that most Japanese did not consume whale meat.

Keith went on to talk about the ways that Japan has tried to resume whaling. Japan has admitted to giving foreign aid to countries in the Caribbean in order for these countries to vote in favor of commercial whaling. Keith concluded the lecture by saying that "stacking the deck" is not in the best interest of Japan, as it creates an atmosphere of distrust and anger.

Distinguished Speakers Series: Eric Kandel, M.D.

Christopher Talabac Staff Writer

Excitement was building at the entrance of the Minneci Center for Performing Arts on Feb. 23, as crowds of interested students and faculty members from NSU awaited the much anticipated lecture from Nobel Prize laureate, Eric Kandel, M.D. Kandel is the third distinguished speaker of the 2007-08 lecture series, and high expectations surrounded the evening's event. Kandel's lecture addressed "The Molecular Biology of Memory Storage and the Biological Basis of Individuality" in accordance with the Farquhar College of Art and Sciences' 2007-08 theme of "Truth and Power." The doors to the theater had to be closed early due to the underestimated turnout for the lecture.

Kandel is a professor of the College of Physicians and Surgeons at Columbia University and was the recipient of the Nobel Prize in Medicine or Physiology in 2000. Kandel's lecture focused mainly on an in-depth analysis of short-term and long-term memory retention and loss, as well as the associated connections of synapses in the brains of humans, mice, snails and flies. Much of the lecture was from an in-depth biological perspective dealing with various synaptic and membrane passageways, though expressed in a manner which made it possible for everyone in attendance to understand -- scientific background or not.

Dr. Kandel's lecture lasted one hour, however, extensive question following for nearly another hour. Kandel's research was truly mind-expanding and extremely intriguing to all in attendance. It was remarkable that nearly the entire audience remained for the prolonged question and answer period -- a sign of how captivating Kandel truly was. No question was unanswered, regardless of the degree of difficulty; Kandel was more than happy to answer.

The Conners Assessment System: Penny Koepsel, Ph.D.

For NSU Students:

If you are interested in learning more about the different business programs offered at NSU's business school? Then attend the all-day open house located in the Hazenga School. For more information, contact Karen Goldberg at karen@nova.edu.

Mathematics (STEM) majors, interested in learning more about the different business programs offered at NSU's business school? Then attend the all-day open house located in the Hazenga School. For more information, contact Karen Goldberg at karen@nova.edu.

Exercise Screening:

A metabolic syndrome screening will take place in the University Center at 8 a.m. For $10, attendees can test their blood glucose, blood pressure, cholesterol, and waist circumference measurement. For more information, contact Marcela Pagano at praceela@nova.edu.

The Tradition of Kente Cloth

In honor of Black History Month, Cyril Blaso, Ph.D., will speak on the origins of Kente, and will discuss the traditions related to it. The lecture will take place at 2:30 p.m. in the Lifelong Learning Institute. For more information, contact Heike Dare at 954-262-8471.

The Conners Assessment System: Penny Koepsel, Ph.D., will discuss the Conners Assessment System, an attempt to assess the behaviors and emotions of children and teenagers. The event will feature a workshop that will teach the participants how to recognize children who might need special education services. The workshop will take place at 9 a.m. in the Maltz Psychology building. For more information, email epinfo@nova.edu.

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Is a graduate or professional degree in your future? Take advantage of this opportunity to meet with

Graduate School Planning Day

Tuesday, March 11, 2008
Representatives will be available from 10:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
University Center

Raffle and Prizes will be given out! Including gift cards for the NSU bookstore!

Students at all levels are encouraged to drop by and start planning ahead for their graduate school education. Pre-medical and pre-dental students will be able to pick up their pre-health package at the event.

For more information, contact the Office of Academic Advising, at (954) 262-7990 or advising@nsu.nova.edu, or visit www.undergrad.nova.edu/currentstudents/gsp.
Shark Show

Continued from pg. 1

many other voices in his treasure chest of impersonations. There was a general feel of approval from the audience as they giggled, chuckled and guffawed throughout his forty minute performance.

NSU student Jimmy Dean closed the show with what he called his “superfly dance moves.”

“It was a good event. It was cool because it started with a performance and ended with a comedian, who was funny and kept us entertained,” said Maria Lopez, a junior from Florida International University.

NSU student Jimmy Dean closed the show with what he called his “superfly dance moves.”

Flight Deck Follies

Bibin Mannattuparampil
Staff Writer

Flight Deck Follies is a beauty pageant with a twist which NSU’s Phi Sigma Sigma sorority hosts yearly at the University Center Flight Deck. However, the contestants taking part in this event are not what they appear to be. Flight Deck Follies is a women’s beauty pageant consisting of men. Confused yet? Essentially, Flight Deck Follies is a drag show in which men dress up as women to fight for first place by competing in three different pageant categories. The pageant categories include a talent section, a question and answer session, and an eveningwear show.

The show proved to be very entertaining as contestants took the stage for the talent portion of the evening. Some of the more interesting performances included a Britney Spears inspired dance routine performed by Rico Hernandez and a performance of the song “Live on the Hotline” by NSU sophomore Robert Vogel who was accompanied by NSU sophomore Kosta Lagis for this performance. There were a total of five contestants that participated in the event.

As the night came to a close, it was time to choose the winner for the evening. The audience was allowed to participate in the task of choosing the event’s winner. After the results were tallied, Vogel was crowned Miss Congeniality for winning the crowd favorite vote with a substantial win over the contestants.

The judges agreed with the crowd’s decision. However, Vogel was not allowed to win both Miss Congeniality and first place for the event. When asked to comment on the judges’ decision not to award him first prize, Miss Congeniality said, “I want my crown! This is a conspiracy!” Vogel later said, “I’m happy that I can represent Phi Sigma Sigma in helping them gain points in winning the homecoming race.”

First place was therefore awarded to Chris Giello, aka Big Beatrice, with Hernandez coming in as runner up.
NSU Raft Race

Bibin Mannattuparampil, Staff Writer

NSU’s Annual Raft Race took place at the Gold Circle Lake on Feb. 21 at 4 p.m. Teams created rafts out of a variety of unconventional materials in an effort to create seaworthy vessels to carry them to victory. If the viewers didn’t all admire the creativity that went into each raft, the stayed afloat, they still had a good laugh at each of the teams, who struggled to keep their rafts from capsizing or outright falling apart.

The event was sponsored by NSUSGA as part of the Homecoming Week festivities. Prizes included homecoming dance tickets and Hellogoodbye concert tickets, a funded party from SGA and a “boatload” of SGA schwag. The Kappa Sigma team took first place, and the Flight Deck team came in a close second, with the NSU Conservatives team trailing in at third.
March 12, 2008  Time: 12pm – 8pm

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NSU Health Care Center
1750 N.E. 167th Street
N. Miami Beach, FL 33162
(954) 262-4200
Men’s Basketball Snatches Double Overtime Victory Against Rollins College, 95-94

Tranell Mesa Sports Editor

NSU’s men’s basketball team (10-14, 5-8) overcame a five-game losing streak to defeat the #15 Rollins College Tars, 95-94, on Feb. 20 in a double overtime match, which kept the crowd on the edge of their seats up until the clock hit the zero marker for the third and final time.

After struggling throughout the month of February, the Sharks sent a statement to their rivals throughout the SSC, saying that they will not lie down and die, as they brought home a win from one of the best teams in the conference, as well as seizing their first victory over a nationally ranked team.

With the score locked at 75-72 in favor of the Tars, 12 seconds remaining in the game and the Sharks’ hopes dwindling, junior Tim Coenraad attempted a 3-pointer which was fouled and Coenraad was sent to the line to take three shots. Coenraad remained calm, cool and collected as he knocked down one shot at a time, sending the Sharks into overtime, 75-all.

After a rally in the first set of overtime and 25 seconds left on the clock, the Sharks faced a 3-point deficit. Senior Jason DelCalvo kept his composure as he fed the ball to Coenraad, who sank a 3-point shot, tying the game up once again and jetting both teams into double overtime.

Senior Oresti Nitsios came to the Sharks’ rescue, converting on a 4-point play, nailing a 3-pointer and swooshing a single foul shot to put the Sharks on top, 91-90, where they maintained the lead.

Senior Kevin Chester continued to excel as he ranked in an astonishing 39 points, tying the NSU all-time single game points record while still managing to capture 11 rebounds, block three shots and steal two Tar balls.

Coenraad tallied up 24 points, eight rebounds and a career high of 13 assists, just two rebounds away from a triple-double.
NSU Women's Basketball is Virtually Unstoppable
Tim Coenraad Staff Writer

The NSU women's basketball team (18-6; 12-2 SSC) has maintained their grip on the top spot in the SSC with two thrilling wins, the first over the Saint Leo Lions 69-67 and an overtime victory against the Rollins College Tars 67-64.

The 96 regionally ranked Sharks came out of the gates firing against the Saint Leo Lions, opening up with a 17-6 lead kicked up by senior Amber Bishko. However, NSU would find themselves on the lower end of a 29-27 score going into the half.

With help from fellow teammates freshman Abbie Tepe and junior Eliza Allen, who provided six and seven assists respectively, sophomore Stephanie Sarosi played the hero of the game, registering a team high of 27 points while snatching 12 rebounds and swatting five Lion shots.

On Feb. 20, the Sharks were up against the Tars of Rollins College in an exciting game in which both teams refused to lie down, battling it out into overtime for one of the most thrilling matches of the 2007-08 season.

While Sarosi provided 23 points and 11 rebounds for the 45 minutes match, senior Amber Bishko fed off her adrenaline to tack six points into the SSSt with two thrilling °

Victory against the Rollins College teams refused to lie down, battling respectively, sophomore Stephanie eight assists, just two away from and 11 rebounds for the 45 minutes match, senior Amber Bishko fed with a 17-6 lead kicked up by and 11 rebounds for the 45 minutes match, senior Amber Bishko fed off her adrenaline to tack six points into the SSSt with two thrilling °

Tars 67-64 . ·- it out into overtime for one of the v

Freshman Abbie Tepe protects the ball as she drives towards the basket.

NSU Baseball, 1-2 Versus #17 Columbus State
Tim Coenraad Staff Writer

The NSU baseball team (5-5) matched up against the Cougars of Columbus State University in three games, taking the victory in the first game on Feb. 15 but dropping both games on Feb. 16.

Facing the #17 team in the nation, NSU brought a combination of great hitting and quality pitching to the first match, defeating the Cougars with a score of 6-2.

Senior Rudy Garcia set the tone early, pitching for six innings and giving up just four hits. The lead enabled the Sharks to strike first in the top of the second inning as senior Jimmy Sposa hit an RBI single into centerfield for the 1-0 lead.

The Sharks struck again in the top of the third with a runner on third. Sophomore J.D. Martinez flew out to centerfield, enabling the runner to tag up and bring in NSU's second run of the game.

The Cougars found their first run in the same fashion, as a fly ball to right field allowed the runner on third to score, making the score 2-1.

NSU found themselves two runs up when junior Dale Alberto brought in another RBI of a single down the leftfield line, scoring Martinez on third.

After another Columbus State scoreless inning, senior Matt Mindick stepped up to the plate at top of the sixth and smashed a two-run homer to left center, pushing the Sharks' lead to 5-1.

The Cougars found their final run of the match off an error by the Sharks' defense, but NSU added one final run off an RBI single by freshman Nikko Echevarria, two RBI triples by freshman J.D. Martinez and senior Cory Clark, and another RBI single by Alberto, all which came in the second and third innings.

The Cougars turned the game around in the bottom of the third, stringing together eight runs off of six hits, putting themselves back on top by a score of 10-7.

Four runs were scored over the course of the next six innings with two belonging to Columbus State and two from NSU off a Mindick two-run homer, his second shot in as many games.

However, the Sharks fell in a high scoring affair with a final score of 12-9.

In the second match of the Sharks' doubleheader, the Cougars struck first, taking three runs in the top of the first inning.

Columbus State added two more runs in the fourth before Mindick once again breathed some life into the Sharks' offense with another two-run homer to left field.

NSU found another run in the top of the sixth when Martinez scored from third base in the midst of a Cougar double play, making the score 5-3.

Another run in the bottom of the sixth gave Columbus State a 6-3 advantage which would be the deciding margin in the seven-inning game.

J. Martinez, Clark and Alberto led the Sharks' offense with six hits off eight at bats between them throughout the three-game series.
Shark Tennis Defeats Florida Southern, 6-3
Tranell Mesa Sports Editor

The Sharks dominated the doubles competition, taking all three games of the match. Not only did doubles partners senior Alex Konorkevich and junior Uli Talalenko win their game 8-4, but partner Adrienne Duenas saw victory, 9-7. Southern took six wins of nine total competition, taking all three games of seniors Tsippy Waterman along with senior Alexa Korotkevich and junior Sophomore Mary Crider and senior Edita Talalenko took a victory in the singles competition, Duenas won her singles competition, while #13 Kulichova dictated her game over Florida rivalry as well, 6-4 and 6-1. In addition, The Sharks will be back in action on their home court on Feb. 24 to take on Tampa University at 12 p.m.

SSC Men's Golfer of the Week, Constantin Schwierz
Tim Coenraad Staff Writer

Junior Constantin Schwierz from the SSC men's golf team has been named the Sunshine State Conference's Golfer of the Week for his outstanding play for the week ending on Feb. 18. While competing in the Matlock Collegiate Classic, Schwierz finished second out of a field of 75 golfers, leading NSU to a fifth-place finish over the three day tournament in a field that consisted of 15 solid teams, including seven teams from the SSC. Schwierz shot an impressive 74 in the first round, a 70 in the second and finished with a 69, concluding his three rounds with a total of 213. The NSU men's golf team will be back in action on March 2, when they travel to South Carolina for the Charleston Southern Spring Kick-off.

NSU Softball Dominates Salem International, 12-0
Tranell Mesa Sports Editor

NSU Softball (6-5) ruled Salem International on Feb. 18 in just five short but exciting innings with an overwhelming score of 12-0. This win helped them regain their confidence after falling to Palm Beach Atlantic for two straight games, 4-5 and 1-7, respectively. The Sharks got into a rhythm right off the bat, starting with a 3-0 lead in the second inning. Junior Britney Lamb got the Shark's offense off to a great start courtesy of a RBI single, followed up with a heads-up base running, which allowed her to steal home during the commotion raised over sophomore Noemi Luciani's single.

The Sharks came out charging in the bottom of the fourth inning, batting around the run line up and tacking another nine runs onto NSU's score. Junior Katie Pepper broke her bat loose, racking in two RBIs, as well as junior April Donachie and Lamb assisting with two RBIs of their own. With solid defense backing up all three Shark pitchers, senior Ashley Baker, sophomore Dani Caron and freshman Lexi Serradet, NSU was able to close the game up in the top of the fifth inning, taking the victory.
Fool’s Gold is a Perfect Romantic Comedy
Kristine Belzaire
Current Affairs Editor

If you are a hopeless romantic just looking for some humor and a warm feeling in your heart, then Fool’s Gold is the perfect movie for you.

Fool’s Gold tells the story of Finn (Matthew McConaughey), a handsome beach bum obsessed with finding a sunken treasure, especially the “Queen’s Dowry” which contains about 40 chests of treasure that was lost at sea in the early 1700’s. Finn is also facing a divorce from his wife Tess (Kate Hudson) who thinks that he is immature and is too obsessed with the sea to be committed to his marriage. However, Finn is still madly in love with his wife and is not even sure why she wants to leave him. Even while she claims that she cannot stand him, they come together for one last chance to find treasure. Other supporting cast members include Donald Sutherland, who plays a rich man who just wants his daughter to love him after he left her mother. Sutherland gives Tess a job on his yacht, where his daughter, who wants his daughter to love him after he

Fool’s Gold is_incredibly Funny
Stefani Rubino Staff Writer

Most filmmakers in the United States know Colin Farrell (Alexander, Miami Vice) simply as an action-hero or bad guy or an actor who only does big-budget blockbuster films. However, he has surprised his audience with indie-action flick In Bruges, which came out last week starting the surprisingly versatile Farrell.

Written and directed by popular playwright Martin McDonagh, In Bruges (pronounced “Booridges”) focuses on Ray (Farrell) and Ken (Brendan Gleeson), two hit men who are sent to the titular sleepy Belgium town to relax after a surprisingly difficult mission. They are blackmailed into working aboard the yacht. Therefore, they must live their lives as tourists while awaiting a phone call from their boss Harry (Ralph Fiennes). However, instead of keeping to themselves and laying low as they were told, they really, especially Ray, get into all sorts of trouble with other tourists, townspeople, Dutch prostitutes, an American dwarf, and potential love-interest for Ray; Chloe (Clemence Poésy).

Farrell’s performance was, by far, the best in the entire film. He was witty, dramatic, and still had some of that tough-guy sort of flair. The character of Ray actually turned out to be pretty complex and Farrell took it on like a professional, like someone who had been playing these types of characters for years. Farrell’s timing is perfect and every joke, every line, or smart-ass response comes in at the best time possible, showing that he is more than just a meathead who only plays characters that kick ass or kill people.

Gleeson’s (Brevity, Kingdom of Heaven) and Fiennes’s (The Constant Gardener, Harry Potter series) performances are startlingly great as well. Gleeson mostly always plays sidekicks, and sometimes very awkward on screen, which is what makes his performances so interesting to watch. In Bruges is a testament to that fact. Fiennes plays the boss of a group of hit men, which viewers would expect to be elusive and weird. Fiennes does a great job, as he normally does, and turns Harry into a powerful character, even though he is only a side-character.

The best thing about this film, though, is not just the acting, but how hilarious and witty the writing is. The dialogue in the film is smart, and even though there are points with high-action, the script takes the show. Viewers will be laughing before the movie even really gets moving, and the most memorable scenes turn out to be the ones with the most jokes, not the most action.

For me, In Bruges is the perfect type of action movie, one where the action falls in the background and reveals a more humane element to the people doing the killing. Ray and Ken’s troubles through Bruges prove to be more entertaining than the gun battles at different parts throughout the film. All-in-all, In Bruges is a movie for anybody and everybody who is looking for a smart, entertaining film without all of the emotional baggage that comes along with it.
Strange Wilderness: Not Strange, Just Terrible

Stefani Rubino Staff Writer

Strange Wilderness, which was produced by Adam Sandler's Happy Madison Productions. However, unlike other "stoner-classics," such as Half Baked and Dazed and Confused, Strange Wilderness is missing one seemingly important element: comedy.

The story begins with the death of the host of television's most beloved animal show, "Strange Wilderness." However, as soon as Peter and his band are all wrong, as Miss Deschanel

Ward, are releasing their collaboration album, Volume One, in the beginning of March. According to Merge Records, they first met and collaborated when they covered Richard and Linda Thompson's "When I Get to the Border" for a movie soundtrack. Eventually they started dating, and decided to release an album together, recording under the name She & Him. The news of their collaboration has been buzzing since the end of 2007, and now, the album has inevitably been leaked all over the internet. Some were extremely skeptical about what this album might sound like, and most of all, about how Deschanel would sound compared to Ward's incredibly soft and gentle vocals. Surprisingly, her singing does not pale in comparison and the album is actually quite good. However, there is one thing listeners should be aware of. Volume One is not a showcase of Ward's talent, but more so of Deschanel's. Ward simply plays the instruments and produced the record, which he does well, of course.

Of the original tracks on the album, the ones that stand out the most are "Why Do You Let Me Stay Here?", "I Thought I Saw Your Face Today," and "Change is Hard." The first starts out with a very Beatles-like piano solo by Ward and then Deschanel's Dusty Springfield-like vocals come in and take the entire song home. Her singing is almost unbelievable, and brought back memories of listening to my mother's records like piano solo by Ward and then Deschanel does well, of course.

As I said, the album is surprisingly good, and Ward and Deschanel both did a great job on the writing, recording, and composing of the entire album. It is beautifully done and when you reach the end of the last song, you'll want to hear more from these two. Volume One is due out in stores March 18th, and if I were you, I would be running, not walking, to get this album.

M. Ward and Zooey Deschanel Make Beautiful Music Together

Stefani Rubino Staff Writer

Some time ago, Zooey Deschanel (Bridge to Terabithia, Winter Passing) co-starred alongside Will Ferrell in his holiday-themed, kid-friendly flick Elf, where she is featured reluctantly singing "Jingle Bells" to save Santa. I'm sure that anybody who has seen the film never expected anything to come out of the fairly beautiful singing recorded in the movie. However, it seems as if we were all wrong, as Miss Deschanel and her boyfriend, indie-superstar M. Ward, are releasing their collaboration album, Volume One.

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The district was located in a valley, about two hundred miles down from the peaks of the Mocho Mountains which surrounded it. The valley was the womb of the mountains. It nurtured and protected the four fresh water springs, two rivers, and innumerable fruit blossoms and seeds that the mountains naturally produced. The livestock pleasantly decorated the landscape, and crisp green, ripe vegetables and fruits populated most of the land. The houses scattered around the valley were boxy and neat, made with a solid concrete frame and painted bone white. The roofs added color to the structure, as did the open windows and unconditonal giving to each other. The craft, but those who did garnered a fearful unmovable belief in the power of magic. No fences separated the houses. The houses all had told her she could do more with the chicken coop don't have any flowers, only leaf, and the biggest flower was boxy and neat, made with a solid concrete frame and painted bone white.

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Editor's Note
Michael Bergbauer
Editor in Chief
nsunews@nova.edu

Well, NSU; we have reached the end of the first half of this semester. Normally, it would be a passing thought, but in the minds of seniors like me, it marks an important point in time. Most people that I have talked to want to continue their education by attending graduate school. But in the minds of seniors like me, it marks an important point in time.

When one dwells on it long enough, it has rather intimidating prospects. For the past 16 years, I've been going to school and doing homework. That change of pace itself is unnerving. Then there is the student life. The connections I have within this microcosm that is "campus" will be severed. Currently, I walk down the street and people say, "Hey, you're the editor! Love your articles, man!" All of that will be gone. But this negative thinking will never do. There's still over two months to go in the school year. For other seniors who find themselves in my position, consider what our elders most often reminisce about. "Back in my college days," they say. It is a time to be cherished. With this in mind, I urge students to make the most of their time here. Attend events and get involved on campus.

In other news, with spring break coming up, you won't be seeing The Current for the next two weeks. It's going to be rough having that kind of disconnect in the NSU community, but don't worry; we'll be back on the racks come March 17. Until then, enjoy your spring break.

Letter to the Editor

I read the article "NSU's Thoughts on SGA" dated Feb 11, 2008 and as a President for the Student Government, I want to provide correct information to any of our constituents and readers of the newspaper. As undergraduate students, we have worked very hard and our numerous achievements this year speak for themselves. Having the newspaper write an article about SGA only tells us that we have made at least enough positive impact for students to care about SGA. One of the attitudes we wanted to develop at NSU was for students to feel a connection with their SGA. After reading the article, I think we have been very successful. Some students liked us and some expressed concerns, but the best part was that everyone cared, as opposed to previous SGA senates when students didn't seem to care.

I want to thank the students who have shown support for SGA and are happy with our performance. Students' satisfaction is the motivation that drives us as student government. We have taken great pride and honor in serving students and we are glad to see that the students have taken notice of things we have done for them.

However, some students expressed concerns and I would like to address them. First, I would like to point out that all three students who interviewed and had expressed concerns were a part of SGA during the last academic year (2006-07) and that two of them resigned in the middle of the year - showing their level of commitment and leaving the already incompetent SGA in 06-07 completely shattered. This year's SGA (2007-2008) has had to rebuild and restructure it. We have made SGA student-oriented, collaborative, accountable, professional and the voice of the students.

One of the concerns raised was that I, or the SGA itself, has not been tactful in dealing with administration. In fact, due to our working with the administration this year, SGA has been successful in opening up 700-plus parking spots for commuter students, placing fax machines in the residential halls, introducing printing stations to the Parker Building and arranging for Dean Rosenblum to speak to students in SGA meetings. These are just a few of our successes working with administration this year.

A second concern raised by students was the allocation of conference funds. SGA has funded conferences this year according to the guidelines, and the organization Beta Theta Pi mentioned in the article did not follow the correct procedure, even though the information was sent out months in advance by the treasurer. Would giving an organization that did not follow procedure money be fair to other clubs and organizations that turned in their budgets on time?

A third concern was brought up by the former SGA president about this year's SGA not following up on the State of the University Address and the attitude of SGA members. This year's SGA is committed, passionate and dedicated to serving the students and we cannot take the former SGA's trademark of incompetence, self-serving attitude and ineffective communication. We are here to serve our students and create a more dynamic and diverse campus. We love to collaborate for the interests of students, but sometimes, if we have to be a little pushy with respect to the administration to work on the needs of the students, we are willing to do that instead of giving up or not trying at all like former SGA's on campus. Also, the State of the University Address to the board is something decided on PANSGA, the entire university's student government. We would like the other 12 SGA's to be part of this process as well and give all of the schools equal opportunity by rotating it.

SGA has worked day and night to serve our students, and has transformed internally and externally, providing results for everyone to see and enjoy. We have made it our top priority to communicate effectively with concerned groups and behave in the utmost professional manner, making us a very effective, interactive and successful SGA. I hope this letter will clarify some of the misinformation printed in the article and will give students a better understanding of SGA. Also, if you want to make a difference, SGA elections are coming this March, and information sessions will be held the week of Feb 25. If you are interested or need more information, please contact us at nsu@nova.edu. Should you have any concerns or suggestions about SGA, please feel free to contact me at bhargava@nova.edu.

Sincerely,
Aakshat Bhargava
President, Undergraduate Student Government Association
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