9-13-2004

The Knight Volume 15: Issue 1

Nova Southeastern University

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The children of presidential running mates John Kerry and John Edwards have embarked on a new journey across the country to encourage young voters to voice their opinions and take a stand. They are out to encourage college students to vote.

During a roundtable discussion on the afternoon of Sunday, August 29, six university reporters and the politicians' children discussed the political views and campaign prospects offered by Kerry and Edwards. More so, not only were their prospects and ideals discussed, but the actual incentive to increase youth participation. Stated Vanessa Kerry, "Forty-eight million young voters, ages [ranging] between 18 [and] 30, can change the course of these elections. They must be heard...our lives, futures, jobs, our energy, activism can be heard."

The politicians' children are not out there to "promote" their father's campaign; they just want the participation of all the young voters. According to Andre, John Kerry's oldest son, last term's election was decided by just "537 votes. We must get the student population, which is predominantly not interested in slime, dirt, mud, discourse, or judgments. Part of [the reason] is the younger voters are disappointed and disillusioned." He clearly mentioned that the "Kerry Edwards Platform" is the "most far reaching and progressive. It speaks out for our generation; though I still consider myself this generation," he said, laughing heartily.

"Economy is going at a reasonable pace. We must stay realistic. Things reflect the lifestyle," Vanessa Kerry stated seriously. Youth wants "understanding and caring politicians. That's what brings you to the polls. You bring people to the polls. We can promote, but the election is in your hands." When asked what is at stake and what to do about the nation, they all agreed to pay off the national debt, lower the raised health insurance, increase dropped wages, and lower the increasing tuitions. "It all starts with organized vocal, active voting," Vanessa Kerry said.

"Early voting starts in Florida on Oct. 18 to Nov. 1," said Kate Edwards, daughter of Senator Edwards. The Kerrys and Edwards stopped in Senator Edward's home state just after their visit to South Florida. The projected areas for their voting recruitment campaign goes from Miami, Fla. to Orlando, Fla. to North Carolina, to Virginia, and then to West Virginia.

For more information on the candidates for President of the United States, go to (www.johnkerry.com or www.georgebush.com.)
Editor’s Note

Amanda Brown
Editor-in-Chief

Dear Readers of The Knight:

I am thrilled to introduce you to the first issue of the 2004 school year. The new and returning staff members have been working hard, even through Hurricane Frances, to put this issue together. The staff now has twelve staff members, and we are looking to hire a new Staff Writer, Business Manager, and Webmaster.

Thus far, working for the newspaper has been an incredible learning experience. The staff has meshed well, and their enthusiasm and work ethic seem to be contagious in the newsroom. I am pleased to see everyone working together as a unit, sharing ideas and knowledge.

Our goal, as your student newspaper, is to provide the NSU Community with informative, objective, and correct information, as well as opinion editorials and other miscellaneous writing and art. We aim to not only inform our readers, but to entertain them and provide them with a voice through newsprint.

We have been working hard at improving our specific skills through workshops and training, and we will continue to improve with the help from various sources, such as The Herald and the Society for Professional Journalists.

We now have what we call Knightwriters. These writers regularly contribute articles and are paid for each article. If you would like to contribute articles, to develop a portfolio, develop your social and writing skills, or just for fun, send me an email to nsunews@nova.edu. Let us know, and we’ll add you to the growing list.

If you haven’t heard yet, The Knight is now publishing weekly. This is the first issue of the fall due to Hurricane Frances. Look for The Knight on stands every Monday except during or directly after holidays. Please see the deadline/distribution dates on page [insert page number]. Also, our newsroom has relocated to the Athletics and Student Affairs (ASA) Building in room 105.

Amanda Brown
Editor-in-Chief

Corrections

On page 2 of the orientation edition, the name of the Farquhar College of Arts and Sciences was misspelled in the headline of the Dean’s message. It is “Farquhar,” not “Farquar.”

The “Meet Your Orientation Leaders” page of the orientation edition ran the wrong picture for Mary Nochimson. Here is the real Mary Nochimson:

On the “Meet Your Orientation Leaders” page of the orientation edition, the name of a fraternity was misspelled under the profile of Fahad Islam. It is “Lambda Theta Phi,” not “Lambda Theta Psi.”

On page 22 of the orientation edition, the wrong last name was given to one of the Radio X members. Her name is “Gina Napolitano,” not “Gina Shure.”

We regrets these errors.
On the Cutting Edge
New Student Center to be Erected on Campus

Center could be "viewed as the final piece of the puzzle as offering the complete educational experience"

By Javeshnev Aimee Rivera-Azua
News Editor

Everyone is excited about the new University Center. It will be a "Cutting-edge, state-of-the-art facility," stated Barbara Gonzalez, Associate Director of Public Affairs, enthusiastically as she bobbed her head up and down with vigor. "We’ll offer new services, such as 5,500 retrackable seats, push back ceiling, the latest and best equipment, and there's even a rock climbing wall," said Gonzalez. Gonzalez is charged with the responsibility of communicating externally with the media about the project. On April 21, 2004, the ceremonial "Breaking Ground" was performed, although the actual breaking of ground did not occur till later on in the subsequent months. It is speculated that perhaps this occurred to meet construction regulations or district codes. The delay prior to the physical breaking of ground was not put off any construction, but to allow enough time to apply all guidelines and precautions to the construction. Faculty and staff anxiously await the completion of the new building, for this multi-purpose facility will help integrate community and student life.

"The institute will accommodate more than 5,000 people at 260,000 square feet, and will be used for athletics, speakers, conventions, socializing," etc., stated Dave Dawson, the Executive Director of University Relations. The multi-convendional facility will offer an arena, full service fitness/health club, a student union resource center, food and beverage, and a performing arts facility. Dawson stated that it could be "viewed as the final piece of the puzzle as offering the complete educational experience from book learning to applications and the socialization process."

"The new facility will cost anywhere from 55 to 85 million dollars. According to Tom Dietz, the Executive Director of Development, 30 million of it must be acquired through fundraisers, philanthropic organizations, etc., which will occur when the "capital campaign" manages to raise the money effectively. There is an ongoing collaboration between organizations at this very moment to enhance the outcome and completion of this institution, for not only does it benefit student life in general, according to Barbara Gonzalez, it gives the community "one of the largest open facilities" for them to "work out or play."

"I think it’s a good, good thing," she said.

Background photo: Concept Image for student center. Photo courtesy EDSA

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Provisional Dental Care for Underprivileged and Disabled

By Javeshnev Aimee Rivera-Azua
News Editor

Nova Southeastern University just opened its doors to its New Institute for Special Needs Dentistry at their College of Dental Medicine. They provide care for the underprivileged, as well as for developmental and acquired disabilities. Long-standing patients who have become too frail or ill to take part in normal dental hygiene receive assistance in this new innovative program. The Institute will assist the dentists in caring for physically and mentally-ill patients. The program offers transportation for those who qualify. The institution welcomes referrals from within the community, and not only does it offer care, it excels in comfort.

The Institution has acquired new innovative equipment to assist them in better serving the community. A wheelchair lift, a popsose board "for those with such illnesses as Parkinson's Disease" (which causes involuntary movements), wheelchair headrests for those who must stay confined to their own chair, and support pillows, etc.

"It's a wonderful service to the community, to make sure that everyone has appropriate dental care. It will improve quality of life dramatically," Barbara Gonzalez, Associate Director of Public Affairs, stated with excitement.

Dr. John Tabar, Chair of the Department of Community Dentistry, and Dr. Diane Ede Nichols (elected as a fellow by the Hedvig van Amerigen, Executive Leadership in Academic Medicine), are appointed to oversee the Institute. They both are renowned leaders in their field; both have vast experience with dentistry, and an extensive knowledge through years of experience.

The dedication is exemplified not only in the extremely qualified dentists that oversee the institution, but in the prestige brought to the University and its affiliates for the endeavours and philanthropic actions by their esteemed faculty.

For any inquiries or information, contact (954) 262-7387, or send an email to pubaffs@nova.edu.

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Get Out and Vote

A tight race at elections four years ago proves that every vote counts: One student's opinion

By Rafia Chodhry
Staff Writer

The 2000 Presidential Election was a tight race between George W. Bush and Al Gore. In the end, after the absentee ballots were tallied, Bush led by a little over 500 votes and therefore defeated Gore. As the 2004 elections approach closer day by day, the necessity for people to go out and vote cannot be stressed enough. After knowing that Gore lost by approximately 500 votes, it makes one wonder what would have happened if he had won. Would there be a war in Iraq today? Would billions of dollars be wasted to supply weapons in Iraq? Would innocent lives be taken everyday?

"If the 2000 Presidential Election taught Americans anything, it's that every vote counts," said Naina Jinnah, a freshman at NSU. "We need to understand what is going on when it is time for elections," said Jinnah. "Our main goal is to get Bush out!"
Entering into the 21st century, Alvin Sherman Library is certainly a step into the future. Many students fail to realize that the library is a mecca for knowledge and resources.

"I think this is a state-of-the-art library," said Pamela Beegle, reference librarian at the Alvin Sherman Library. "We have so many resources for students, it's hard to keep track of all of them."

Beegle is not the only one who agrees about the library's usefulness. Jessica Bello, a transferred sophomore from Florida International University, says books are a lot easier to find here and the staff are extremely helpful. "I especially like the fact that there are always two open labs in the library, unlike at PFI where there was only one and you had to wait for someone to leave to gain access."

Contrary to other universities, Beegle is not the only one who Study rooms and conference rooms are available to the NSU body and outside organizations. Students can obtain study rooms through the circulation desk.

The reference desk is located on the second floor. Librarians are available to assist students with research, finding books or with NovaCat, NSU's online catalog. "We are very friendly and eager to help -- just ask us," said Beegle. There are several methods available for students to get in touch with librarians. Students can visit them in person, call, email or chat with them. Students doing research projects can also receive individual and class-based library training in person or by phone.

The Public Library Service is located right in the center of the first floor. Music CDs, popular books, children's books, DVD's, and videos are available. For those interested in checking out DVD's or best selling books, the public library service is the place to be.

A maxium of 30 bestsellers, children's books, DVD's, and videos in the library. Regular books, audio books or music are available for check out not only to NSU's students but also the general public. Students who need specific information for the health field, law, or business of others.

The reference librarian at the Alvin Sherman Library, says books are a lot easier to find here compared to other institutions. "We have all the resources students need. In addition, there is a tech available if students encounter any technical problems. Students should also know that they can print 750 free copies from the computers using their NSU card. There are a total of seven labs located on NSU's campus. Books can also be placed on reserve by professors for use by students in their classes.

Students interested in receiving career counseling or job search assistance can visit career services on the 4th floor.

The Connections Cafe is located on the first floor of the library. It offers specialty coffees, bagels, soups, salads, cold and hot sandwiches, and pastries.

Books would like to be escorted back to their dorms can gain help from Public Safety. Their desk is located at the entrance of the library with guards always on duty, as well as a contact point for lost and found items in the library.

Students are also encouraged to visit NovaCat, NSU's online catalog, to search for books and other materials.

Students who need specific information for the health field, law, or science, NSU has specific libraries for each field.

Lethal Mammograms

By Javeshnev Aimee Rivera-Azua

New Editor

75% to 90% of mammograms give effective readings, depending on quality of equipment and training," states The American College of Physicians yet, in Hialeah, FL., Turned Health Group has been fined for one million dollars, due to a pending complaint by one of their prior patients. The Food and Drug Administration has barred the institution from screening anymore mammograms. Since January 2001, they have been screening without legal license until they reapplied this May. They had been turned down for not having the proper equipment or proper screening methods. The institution failed to notify the FDA that they continued to perform screenings without a license, in which time they have screened more than 1,100 patients at their office in 687 E. Ninth St., center.

The associate director of the FDA's division of mammography and radiation programs, Dr. Charles Finder, explicitly stated in The Herald and the Sun-Sentinel, "There is cause for concern, but not for panic. We do want the patients to take action." Take action: yes, that's right -- get up and go to your nearest hospital and get re-screened. If you were at any given time screened at this facility, then to sit idly while your life may be hanging in the balance is unwise. You must take a definite course and establish that your health is not in peril.

Women over the age of 30 have to get tested once every year, those 40-49 every one to two years, and under 40 it isn't a necessity but a precaution. Such figures are given by the American Cancer Society, the American College of Radiology, and the American College of Obstetrics/Gynecology. All women should be cautious enough to ensure that their health is not put in danger by the carelessness of others.

Women of any age -- not just those over 40 -- are exposed to the threat of breast cancer, and it's not just women, but men as well. At any age, you can run the risk of breast cancer, and once acquired, the treatments are worse than the trouble of getting a mammogram. Why take the risk? No matter how young you are, or how healthy you perceive yourself to be, breast cancer can develop at any time. For your own self-preservation, and the preservation of those close to you, get screened when you can, and as soon as you can, for to linger can cause a fatality which could have been prevented. The FDA offers services and agencies willing to cooperate and collaborate with each individual in ensuring that no fatality occurs from this illegal activity performed by health professionals. It's not to put the blame upon them, yet, if you know the readings are not thorough and you know the lives of people are on the line, don't turn your face and ignore the situation.

Those affected patients who seek free or low-cost screenings can acquire a mammogram in nearby facilities by calling the National Cancer Institute at 1-800-422-6237.
Teaching Excellence at Nova Southeastern University

Award winning Dr. William Hammack:
"Teaching is the reason for existence."

By Luis Nicola Aguilar

"Each spring, the Farquhar College of Arts and Sciences recognizes faculty teaching excellence through an award for a full-time faculty member and for a part-time (adjunct) faculty member," explains our Dean, Dr. Don Rosenblum, "Awards are based on input from faculty, students, and academic directors."

"This year, the Full Time Faculty Excellence in Teaching Award was given to Dr. William Hammack. But who is Professor Hammack?"

"This peculiar lecturer, who declares himself to be "arrogant and vain," doesn't hesitate to honor other professors, such as Suzanne Ferriss, who - while they were not nominated - were in the top five educators of our school. You cannot truly understand the essence of who he is until you are equipped to know him. Although he spends most of his time teaching and playing with computers, he has a "wild" past. Untamed by his bushy beard, and bright mind, you find a passionate Oregonian, a lover of mountains and "general mountaineering." He taught math and science during the last years of the apartheid in Swaziland, a small country in South Africa. "There was no running water where I lived," he tells. "Once a week, I would go to the stream to wash around; I would see that none of my students were around, and I would sink into the stream myself!"

Amanda Brown, a former student of Hammack, says, "Dr. Hammack has been a great help to me in school and especially out of school. He is one of those professors that have a life-long impact on certain students. He is one of the most caring, generous, and intelligent people I have ever met."

Dean Rosenblum, as well, tells how Hammack "is a genuinely committed member of the faculty. He is dedicated to student success, often spending hours into the evenings and weekends assisting students with questions about math and statistics." Additionally, Rosenblum says, "Professor Hammack's commitments extend to his work with co-curricular clubs and organizations."

"To have an idea of his playful personality and his brightness, a glance at his web page would be of great help. "Although a gambler by training (my Ph.D. is in probability), he opens, "I mainly teach about how to lie (in other words, statistics), although sometimes I also teach about coping with changes (in other words, calculus)."

"He continues mentioning his active participation at clubs and organizations on campus such as IMAN (International Muslim Association at NSU), SASA (Social Action/ Social Awareness), and the GSSA (Gay/ Straight Student Alliance). In addition, he shows pictures of his "adventures" in mountains, glaciers, and the far Swaziland, among others."

"He possesses a Bachelor in Statistics and Computer Programming (University of Georgia), a Master in Mathematics (Portland State University), and a Ph.D. in Probability (University of Illinois)."

"Dr. Hammack might fool you with his look, yet his experiences and his involvement in our campus show a sensitive man, ready to help students achieve their goals and to spark social awareness. His teaching excellence truly goes beyond the classroom: on Saturday afternoon, Dr. Hammack was in his office, patiently waiting for students; the math department, other than his office, was desolated. No other words could clarify how kind Professor Hammack is, but his own: "Teaching is the reason of existence."

A Point of Light

Dr. "Angie" Su receives award for her humanitarian efforts teaching math skills to those in need

By Nicole Jewell Garber

Mathematics is a difficult and complex field. Non-terminating numbers, terminating numbers, decimals, fractions, logistics, multiplying, subtracting - all very comprehensible for some, but mind-numbing for many. Yet, not to Dr. "Angie" Su, who holds an Ed.D in the well-respected field of Mathematics. She is a distinguished professor at NSU's Fischler School of Education and Human Services (PSEHS), a prominent Graduate school providing education in many areas of study, from teaching to Human Development to communication sciences to instructional technology. Yet, besides being a notable math instructor on many different levels, she is a humanitarian, a lady of knowledge who has taken the time to teach algebra to - no, not students with laptops - but homeless women with past histories of physical and substance abuse.

Born of Chinese parents in Taiwan, and later moving to New York, Dr. Su studied the inquisitive art of mathematics at Brooklyn College, then at Texas A&M, where she received her Ed.D. Finally, because of her husband's work, she moved all the way from Texas to NSU, where she furthered and completed her studies. She teaches classes on the number theory, the elementary number theory, applied research in mathematics, and last year, she taught four classes - probability and statistics, geometry, and a computer class involving principles of math. During this time, Dr. Su was simultaneously handling her own revolutionary project, W.I.N. - Woman in Need - a project assisting homeless women by teaching them basic knowledge skills in math.

"[Approximately] 70% of the women were college educated," Dr. Su said, but unfortunate circumstances - mostly substance and physical abuse - taught them to become parents in less, inevitably to the shelter for help. Sometimes trauma affects, or impeded, [a person's] ability to do math. They were so surprised, [declaring that if they had this type of math, they wouldn't have ended up here," Dr. Su revealed.

"The program was so successful that it is still in action today at the Broward Outreach Center. The Basic goal was to "help them to focus on how to problem solve in different ways," she said, thus utilizing problem solving techniques in real life to help them get back on track. She is hoping to take this program worldwide, to turn it into a program available to all who need help. The good doctor has also developed another program, a project called "Nutrition in Numeracy Education" (N.I.N.E), which embraces health problems developing in young children. Dr. Su hopes, in the next four years, to help children and their families. Although a professor, she has "always wanted to help in some way," always "possessing a passion for helping." It is "a gratifying feeling" for her. The only obstacle hindering the full growth of this incredible project is funding. "Money matters," she states, a hint of desperation in her voice; more funding is needed to pursue this dream.

September seventh, her birthday, will arrive, while the next day, the eighth, she will be continuing her research with a controlled experiment at the Broward Outreach program facility; there, she hopes to advance her studies. Dr. Su received the prestigious Governor's Points of Light Award for her W.I.N program, which places hope upon the shoulders of her persistence. Hopefully, as her quest continues, more benevolence and philanthropy will fund her expedition to aid millions all over America. Her compassion and diligence has paid off so far, and her extraordinary altruism is anything but mediocre. This equation to help the unfortunate is a hard one to solve, but Dr. Su's determination will balance out this inequality.
Bombs Away

Bomb scare forces evacuation of Goodwin dorms

By Nicolle Garber and Greg Kyriakakis
Staff Writers

During the twilight hours of August, 29, 2004, a bomb scare forced students and staff out of the Goodwin dorms and into the surrounding parking lot. With lightning flashes illuminating the darkening sky, police K-9 units along with a parade of police cars infiltrated the salmon-colored dorms where many undergrads at NSU reside. At approximately 7:40 p.m., students exited their rooms and were commanded to stand behind the yellow tape perimeter Novaalert and the police established. Sophomore Arpit Patel was one of many told to evacuate. “I were evacuating the building.” Around 8:08 p.m., students exited the hall at 8:24 p.m.; having found no threat, everyone was allowed to reenter. Both staff at the dorms and Novaalert were unable to provide comment about this false alarm.

Many complained about how the police wouldn’t let them leave. “My car is blocked during this nonsense and I don’t even live here,” says Mintu Joshi, a commuter visiting the dorms. Others were frustrated that their study and relaxation time was being interrupted. Minor intrusions aside, it was important for the police to investigate what could have been a dangerous situation. For a college campus, or any school in general, a bomb scare is a serious matter and proper action was taken to handle the situation.

Away from Home?

You Can Still Cast Your Vote

By Greg Kyriakakis
Staff Writer

Leaving home to attend college in another state brings a host of new responsibilities for students. Unfortunately, some of the most important – such as registering to vote and being sure to request an absentee ballot – are most likely forgotten in the chaos of moving, parties, and classes. College students, like all Americans of voting age, have a great opportunity to participate in the way this country is run by participating in the voting process.

As seen in the 2000 presidential election, it’s extremely important that everyone capable of voting does so. For example, according to MSNBC.com, Al Gore led in Florida by about 350 votes when polls closed, yet after all absentee ballots were counted, George W. Bush came out with a 500 vote lead.

These ballots potentially have a huge impact on any election, not only presidential, which is why anyone away from home should make every effort to obtain them. Thankfully, the process of registering and receiving a ballot has become incredibly easy due to a new website campaign. Helping to make the pre-voting process simple, Declareyourself.org is a website and ad campaign organized and run by the non-partisan Declare Yourself group. It features celebrities such as Ben Affleck and Kevin Smith to get the message out to vote. The website features numerous resources, including information on political events, how to get involved, and – best of all – an easy-to-use drop-down menu providing details on how to register in your state. Once registered, Declareyourself.org allows users to either apply online for an absentee ballot or print a form to mail-in, depending on how technologically advanced your state is. If you want to go about getting your ballot the old-fashioned way, contacting your state’s division of elections directly will ensure you receive your ballot.

Deadlines are key in the election process, which is why it’s important to get started right away. The deadline for registering to vote is typically about 30 days before the election is held, although it varies by state, as does the deadline for receiving absentee ballots, which can be anywhere from 10 days before the election to the close of the polls. It’s also important to note that some states also require a witness or notary for absentee ballots. With The Washington Times reporting that 29% of absentee ballots went uncounted because they missed the deadline, observing dates is crucial.

At NSU, reaction to absentee voting is mixed, with some students well prepared to cast their vote while others have not given it a thought. Shaughn Harrod says, “I haven’t really thought about voting or getting an absentee ballot.” It is a sentiment echoed by far too many others. On the other hand, involved student Rachel Poe says she has “taken care of the paperwork for requesting a ballot” and simply must wait for it to arrive.

Elizabeth Harbaugh, Vice President of the Young Democrats of Nova Southeastern University, knows the importance of casting your vote however possible. “Half of 18-25 year-olds in this country didn’t vote in the last election,” Harbaugh explains. “Voting by absentee ballot, if you are not registered in Florida, is incredibly important. Just remember that every vote makes a difference, and every one of us has a voice!” No matter where your political allegiances lie, don’t miss out on your opportunity to be heard during one of the most divisive and significant elections of our lifetime.
Olympics Unite for the Good of Everyone

Alicia Winslett
Sports Editor

The 2004 Olympics were held this year in Athens, where it originated from. Thanks to Frenchman Pierre de Coubertin, Dimitrios Vikelas, and other contributors, the first Modern Olympic games were held in the Greek capital, Athens, in 1896. After that, the Olympics has traveled to other countries to embrace other cultures and people. The 2004 Olympic Games attracted approximately 10,500 athletes, with 5,000 team officials. With 202 countries on board at the Olympic games, you can see how much this event brings different cultures together. The dream of many athletes is to compete in the Olympics has traveled to other countries as well. Women's events were added to the list, and 10 new events were added to the list. 37 sports are included in the Olympic games. Women's fencing was just added to the list of games. There are all the games that were in high school - swimming, basketball, softball, football (soccer), hockey, tennis, volleyball, and wrestling. As a golfer on the women's golf team here at NSU, I've often wondered why golf hasn't been added to the list. I believe more, if not all sports should be added to the list. The people who decide which sports should be added and remain is the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

If you have ever wanted to enter the Olympics, this is how you would do it. In the National Federation of a specific sport has to select the team that will take part in the games. You have to contact the National Federation of the specific sport you are interested in, and in what country you are. They will send you information regarding the eligibility for participation and tryouts. The first ancient Olympics date all the way back to 776 B.C. When they were started, it was basically a performance for the gods. It was also linked to excellence and creativity, now they are to show phenomenal achievements in sports. Women weren't even allowed to compete in these games. On top of that, married women would have been killed if they tried to enter. Plato's laws said that athletes improved military skill. So whether boys wanted to be in the Olympics or not, they were forced to go to wrestling school.

This year, the closing ceremony was held on August 29, 2004. This gathering is called the "Greatest Celebration of Humanity," which is true because it unites many different cultures and people. The ceremony was held in the Athens Olympic Stadium under a full moon. The event was full of songs and dance, with an athletic party in the stadium. There were over 72,000 people that came. In the ceremony, there were 3,001 volunteer performers from 15 countries, and 2,200 support volunteers from 32 countries. Finally, the torch was passed to Beijing, the host of the 2008 Olympics.

The U.S. came out of the Olympics in 1st place with 35 gold medals, 39 silver, and 29 bronze. Russia came in 2nd with 27 gold medals, 27 silver, and 34 bronze. Finally, China came in 3rd with 32 gold medals, 17 silver, and 14 bronze.

I think that competing in the Olympics would be a priceless experience, because it brings many different cultures with a variety of people together to compete in a variety of sports.

Sophie Friis and Amanda Brown Earn All-American Scholar Athlete Award

Brown gains honor for second consecutive year

By Alicia Winslett
Sports Editor

In Division I, II, and III, only 318 collegiate golfers got named All-American Scholar Athletes, and here at Nova Southeastern University, two golfers were named just that. Amanda Brown, a junior from Tampa, FL, and Sophie Friis, a sophomore from Denmark, were named scholar athletes by the National Golf Coaches Association. This is Amanda's second consecutive year earning this award. Sophie earned this prestigious award as a freshman. To earn this award, the athlete has to have a minimum GPA of 3.5 and have played in 66 percent of the regularly scheduled tournaments.

Both of these athletes led the Lady Knights Golf team to their second consecutive appearance in the NCAA Division II South Regionals. The women's golf team finished ranked #10 in the nation. The Lady Knights got up to fifth in the nation poll according to Golfstar NCAA Head-to-Head rankings.

Sophie Friis won her first collegiate title in Greenville, SC, at the Fore Golf Magazine Intercollegiate. She finished the season posting four top-10 finishes. She's a sophomore working on her bachelor's degree in Business Administration. When she found out that she won the award, she was "very happy to earn such a prestigious award." "It's such a great honor," Friis said.

Participating in any sport in college can be very difficult, especially with homework and tests while traveling. Friis was excellent at both of these tasks; "I did my homework and managed to squeeze in a lot of time to study even with all of our practices. I also did papers while we were gone on tournaments and sent them through the internet to the teachers."

The requirement is only to play in 66 percent of the tournaments, but Friis and Brown played in 100 percent of them. "It was rough when we were only home 2 days in the week. I would always do work before I went to tournaments and did quizzes and tests before we left. You have to be responsible while you're gone for tournaments," said Friis. She's played golf since the age of 14 and has aspirations of playing in the LPGA after college.

Brown not only plays for the NSU golf team, but she's also the Editor-in-Chief for The Knight newspaper. She's a leader for the golf team and the newspaper staff. She won her second career individual title at the Lady Falcon Invitational. She set the program record for the lowest 36 hole score of 147 and lowest 18-hole score of 71.

"I am very excited for both of these girls, especially because they are my number one and number two players," Head Coach Duke Donahue said. "Having both of these girls recognized says a lot about the state of our program. Both are very deserving of their awards and it's a true testament to their hard work and dedication to our women's golf program here at NSU!"

To Earn the All-American Scholar Award the athlete must have a minimum GPA of 3.5 and have played in 66% of the regularly scheduled tournaments.

I also did papers while we were gone on tournaments and sent them through the internet to the teachers.

- Sophie Friis
Women's Rowing Team 5th in Nation After Inaugural Season
Phenomenal 1st Season has the bar set high for this year

By Alicia Winslett
Sports Editor

The women's rowing team finished a phenomenal year after ending their inaugural season ranked 5th in the nation. The team finished their regular season at the Dad Vails Regatta in Philadelphia, PA. The Knights finished 3rd in the varsity eight Division II and III race and the varsity two race. The women awaited an invitation to the nationals and were then selected to compete in the 2004 NCAA Division II Women's Rowing Championships. The Regatta was held May 28-30 in Sacramento, California at the CSUS Aquatic Center. In the last day of nationals, the women's rowing team edged Barry University by three-tenths of a second to win the varsity 8+ Petite Final. This remarkable finish put the girls at fifth in the National Championships. "Being this successful was surprising, but we set achievable goals," said Coach Gartin. "This was remarkable for us," says Coach Gartin. The team goal from the beginning of the year was to go to nationals. When a program is successful, they set their bars very high. "We had focused individuals, and were very lucky," said Coach Gartin. They had a couple of good races in the spring to energize the team.

The girls are conditioning now and will be able to get on the water September 8, 2004 for the new season. The team picked up five new women, three of them being freshmen. One of the freshmen has never rowed before, but has a soccer background, and is an exceptional athlete. Coach Gartin hopes to go out on campus and get more women with an athletic background, which he thinks would be good for rowing. He wants to build the team until it gets bigger and bigger. "Rowing in high school is good, but still hasn't met the needs of college," said Coach Gartin. "We want to target our training starting in September so we'll be ready in April and May. This year will be even harder, and we set a high standard last year," said Coach Gartin.

Women's Basketball's Newest Star

By Greg Kyriakakis
Staff Writer

Athletes are an integral part of the NSU community, providing spirit, unity, and a sense of competition. Among the new additions to the women's basketball team is freshman Christine Haber, a player dedicated to her sport and helping her team reach their goals. She was born October 23, 1986 in Libertyville, Illinois, a town thirty minutes outside Chicago, where she attended Libertyville High School. Before focusing her attention exclusively on basketball, Christine detoured from the sport and spent some time playing volleyball and participating in the high jump and hurdles. Currently an undecided major, Christine plans to strive for a degree in Elementary Education so that she can work with children.

Christine became interested in NSU during spring break of last year after she contacted the basketball team coach and decided to visit the campus so that she could make her final decision on where to attend college. Given NSU's great campus and warm temperatures, she chose to attend. Given NSU's great campus and warm temperatures, she chose to attend NSU. Christine notes, "Of course I like the weather, being from Chicago."

Training for Christine and the team so far has been going to open gyms for scrimmages. When the team does start conditioning and practice, it will entail early mornings of alternating between running and weight lifting. In addition, three times a week each member has an individual workout, with the team as a whole scrumming an additional three times a week. Thankfully, a generous coach allowed the team a week to adjust to college life, and free time during the season should be in abundance.

Even though she started playing basketball in the second grade, Christine really got into the competitive spirit once she moved to Illinois -- a spirit that has stayed with her ever since. It's good to know that with only three returning players to the women's basketball team this year, dedicated athletes like 6'2" Center Christine Haber will accept the challenge of leading The Knights to victory.
Perpetuating Pre-Feminist Ideals

Reviving the old fairy tale keeps young girls searching for the approval of men

by Alaina Siminovsky

Arts & Entertainment Editor

From birth, young girls are constantly bombarded with tales of the beautiful girl who has it all. Cinderella's beauty captivates the prince. Sleeping Beauty, whose real name is Aurora, truly remains nameless to most of the fairy tale's readers. Maternal figures in these tales are suppressed or portrayed as evil; for example, Cinderella's stepmother, who is evil, and Sleeping Beauty's mother, who is barely even shown throughout the film. What does this reinforce for the young girl? The value of men.

Girls are left to look for a man to make them whole. There's prince charming, who will come along and sweep her off of her feet. There's also the father figure, who material wealth or moo personality stays the same the entire time. She only gains confidence through the love of her grandmother and a new sense of self. What do the girls see? A transformation, a haircut, new clothes, and the popular boy who likes her. But in the movie's reality, she rejects him. Why aren't young girls getting this message?

A conversation I had with Professor Kate Waites, Ph.D. elucidates many of the observations that I've been making. We discussed movies like What a Girl Wants, where the impetus of the

The Price of Fame

by Alaina Siminovsky

Arts & Entertainment Editor

CLICK. CLICK. CLICK. Cameras make the slightest sound. Our untrained ear won't catch the subtle production of sound waves. However, those in Hollywood's collection of actors hear it, and the sound is deafening.

Stars often complain about invasion of privacy. Audiences feast on the pictures produced by the paparazzi, saying that the invasion of privacy is part of the cost of fame. Is it?

The film Paparazzi fictionalizes the role of the paparazzi in Hollywood, taking it to an extreme in the case of Bo Laramie and his family. Originally from Montana, Bo works hard, moves out to Hollywood, and finally lands a big hit. As a result, he arrives in the public eye, becoming a target of the paparazzi. These "photographers" stray off the red carpet and terrorize his family. They are followed to soccer games and to their home, in which cameras are placed, making them prisoners of the paparazzi in even this sacred space.

Politely at first, this "all-American guy" (Cole Hauser, the actor who brings Bo to life) asks one of the paparazzo, Rex (Tom Sizemore) to leave his son alone. This is something he simply "cannot" do, having created a personal quest to ruin the life of this new Hollywood hero. After another run-in with Rex, Laramie accepts this fate as the price of fame — until Rex and his team go too far.

Robin Tunney plays Abby Laramie, Bo's beautiful wife who falls prey as an innocent victim to the paparazzi. She notes that "part of what comes with fame is a certain responsibility, but also the understanding that you might lose a little bit of privacy in return. It's something they don't teach you in acting class." She addresses the problem of constantly being followed; she notes that, while this may be frustrating, it is hardly deadly. Sometimes, however, the paparazzi go too far and place their targets at risk.

MTV's Newswave: Nick and Jessica showcased an episode when the paparazzi followed her into stores, bounding her every move. We regard this as the price of fame. When they almost run her off of the road, we stop to think that maybe these "fortune scavengers" are going too far. The same happens in Paparazzi.

Bo's family experiences extreme tragedy at the hands of Rex and his team. It seems like none of the authorities can help protect them. What does someone in turmoil do in this situation? How do you protect your family when they are being attacked from all sides? See Paparazzi to find out how this man protects his family.

Movie Review

Shyamalan's Summer Blockbuster
Can you answer its questions before the end?

By Alaina Siminovsky
Arts & Entertainment Editor

While cooped up in classrooms across the country and right here in South Florida, most students long for summer. Sure, some stay and take summer classes, but even for these students, the call of freedom gets louder as May approaches.

What could be better than a little time off? Complete freedom, an all-access pass to your friends, and possibly access to your parents' money. This is exactly what movie companies are thinking when they place their ads for upcoming summer blockbusters. If they do this well, we are sucked right in, planning our outings by the days that summer movies come out. June 6th, Harry Potter. July 30th, The Village. August 13th, Aliens vs. Predator.

This summer played host to some highly anticipated movies, especially that of The Village. M. Night Shyamalan's public waited on baited breath for the release of another spectacular movie. The trailer shows an Amish-like society in the heart of a great wood. From this minute on into the movie, we are left to wonder: is this a tale of the supernatural like The Sixth Sense, or of science fiction like Signs? What if the answer is neither?

The Village almost flawlessly keeps the audience in suspense about where in time this society lies. Costumes and jargon keep us from securely placing this aggregation in any time period; we are only sure that it is not our own... But is it? Shyamalan directs his cast skillfully in this film of secrets—secret lives and secret fears.

Stars like Sigourney Weaver, William Hurt, Adrien Brody, and Joaquin Phoenix lend their experience to newcomer Bryce Dallas Howard who lights up the screen. Ivy Walker (Howard), Noah Percy (Brody), and Lucius Hunt (Phoenix) are a few of the young adults of this group, counseled by the "Elders." Phoenix's character, Hunt, becomes aware of the limitations their community holds in the areas of medicine when a young boy dies as a result of the lack of medical technology. It is he who first asks to leave the safety of their beloved settlement. It is he who sees that secrets govern the lives of these people who live in harmony with the creatures who live beyond. Hunt comments to his mother, played by Sigourney Weaver, "There are secrets in every corner of this village. Do you not feel it? Do you not see it?" He is unable to answer these questions as the film takes a turn and he is left in dire need of help.

To the rescue in a horrifying tale of secrets and unknown monsters comes the beautiful, yet blind, Ivy Walker. She has taken an interest in Hunt, and so when he needs help; of course she rises to the occasion. Ivy asks the Elders the same question that plagued Hunt—can she leave the confines of their settlement with aims to help a friend? She fears the creatures beyond, but will not let that stop her. What will she find when she travels beyond? Will she be safe? Will she return with enough time to save her love? What is the nature of these creatures? See the movie, and M. Night Shyamalan's clever direction provides you with clues enough to answer the questions. One question remains: can you find the answers before the movie ends?

The Village, a Touchstone Pictures production, is in theatres now. Genre: Drama, suspense/horror. Rating: PG-13 Running time: 2 hours.

The Village
Director: M. Night Shyamalan
Producers: Scott Rudin Sam Mercer
Studio: Twentieth Century Fox
Rating: PG-13

Top: Ivy Walker (Bryce Dallas Howard) takes steps towards the forbidden wood. Above: Noah Percy (Adrien Brody, left) rushes in to see Lucius Hunt (Joaquin Phoenix).

Photo Credits: Frank Mari, SMPSP
Book Review: The Dante Club, Matthew Pearl

Ft. Lauderdale Author Joins the New York Times Best Seller List

By Alaina Siminovksy
Arts & Entertainment Editor

When thinking of new literary marvels, it is not often that the American author is highlighted for his success. Don't count the American author out; locally grown Matthew Pearl, whose book The Dante Club has recently been featured on the New York Times best seller list, is the perfect example of the nouveau American author.

Pearl generates part of his novel by reviving a work of Dante Alighieri for modern readers. In addition to using the Inferno as a point of reference, Pearl brings past geniuses James Russell Lowell, Oliver Wendell Holmes, George Washington Greene, J.T. Fields, and Henry Wadsworth Longfellow to life as characters. A question emerges: where is innovation if Pearl relies on historical figures and another's literary genius to carry out his plot? Pearl treats these men as characters whose lives are developed within the novel. To Dante, the utmost honor is paid; Pearl breathes new life into the Inferno, a text usually unknown to the mass public.

Other than the interesting plot that is enriched by Dante and the literary figures, Pearl's novel is a masterpiece of period research. Brining 19th century Boston to life, he pays attention to the political climate as well as the relations between people. While his attention to detail creates a world that is from the past, his creativity is the motivating force of the novel's action.

In Pearl's world, mystery surrounds the translation of Dante's masterpiece, the Inferno, into English in 19th century Boston. Identifiable forces act against the protagonists in ways only truly elucidated in the novel's final chapters, but another agent plagues these peace-loving citizens — murder. Sweeping through Boston are murders that seem strangely familiar to the members of the Dante Club, a literary group of those who gather to translate the Inferno. The placement of the bodies, and the ways in which the murders were carried out, all seem to mimic punishments of Dante's Hell. With the text existing only in foreign languages, the suspect list is short... Or is it? The members of the Dante Club — older, esteemed gentlemen — must rush through Boston to catch the killer. If they do not succeed, they risk being targeted as the murderers or objects of murder themselves.

Whether you are a Dante enthusiast or know nothing of his works, this book provides an interesting labyrinth for your mind to travel down. I warn you, do not be caught up in how things seem, for 19th Century Boston is a dangerous place.

The Dante Club, published by Random House, can be found at most book stores. For more information visit www.thedanteclub.com

IDEALS

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"In the end we see that she has gained... 'the ultimate prize.' She gets the guy."

action is that the girl, Daphne, feels she must find her father to find herself. In this particular movie, the young girl does eventually reject the chains of life she must bear in order to be in her father's life, and she returns home to her mother. It is he who changes, coming to claim his role in her life by discarding his current endeavors. While this somehow changes the myth of the passive, static female character, what do people see? Dr. Waites believes that there is a much greater emphasis on how the young girl changes, making the father the metamorphosis secondary. In the end we see that she has gained what Dr. Waites calls "the ultimate prize." She gets the guy.

The "girl" character in these movies is somewhat changed from that of the past. She has unique will, a unique persona. She commands attention. This "new" female character has also caused the stereotypical male character to change. He is more flexible, having to make concessions to this new "powerful" woman.

Take for instance Elle, Reese Witherspoon's character in Legally Blonde. She undertakes a major change for a man — the desire to go to Harvard. On the road, she realizes that this has to be about her. In the end, she emerges as somewhat smart or at least witty. As Dr. Waites points out, there is no context for this new view of Elle. Typically in the context of the movie, she is viewed in conjunction with other, less-intelligent females, and so she stands out like an anomaly. We, the audience, therefore view Elle as some sort of trick. In addition, Elle's stereotypic rise at the end of the film is due to her unique knowledge of hair care. If this factoid is what cemented her accomplishment of intellect, a question enters our minds: is the bar for females to be intelligent lower than that of males? Certainly a male in the same position who employs a factoid about construction would not automatically be seen as the epitome of intellect.

It is very true that this all exists in the context of Hollywood pop culture. However, just because we know that it is not real doesn't mean that girls are not holding themselves up to the standards set forth by these movies. These films are like any other that one sees in hope of escaping reality for even a moment. During this escape, movie goes hardly engage the subject matter. They therefore do not raise the questions that I have raised here. We let these meanings wash over us, and from them we glean out the stereotypes: women should be pretty, a man will make her happy, etc.

The problem is that we are not engaging this content with objectivity. No one says, "Hey, she was beautiful all the time." No one notes that in The Princess Diaries Mia rejects the popular kid's attempts to bring her down. Her personality is maintained. Her friendships are maintained. She is the architect of her desires, her confidence, and her life. This should empower us.

Maybe the materialism is just a way to communicate empowering messages. The fact is, enough people are getting the message. Women are strong without men, without being a certain size, without certain clothes and make up. Women are strong on their own. We architect our own destinies independent of men, dependent only on what it is that we desire. That is empowering.
Movie Review

Garden State livens up dull movie season

By Greg Kyrkakakis
Staff Writer

In a summer movie season filled with sequels and mind-numbing blockbusters, it's refreshing to see a movie like Garden State defy conventions. Zach Braff, best known for his role of J.D. on NBC's Scrubs, writes, directs, and stars in this dramatic departure from his sitcom roots. Thankfully, Braff is able to translate his comedic elements to the big screen; Garden State is easily one of the funniest films of the year, which is high praise when compared to hits like Anchorman and Dodgeball. Unlike these films, Garden State's subtle humor is mixed with large doses of humanity. This aspect makes the film a much more relevant experience for the audience.

Andrew "Large" Langeman (Braff) hasn't been home in 9 years; he was sent to boarding school as a result of an accident left his mother a paraplegic. His father (Ian Holm) holds Large responsible for the incident and, acting as his psychiatrist, places him on a regiment of pills he most likely does not need. In his altered state, Large, now trying to make it as an actor in Los Angeles, is so numb to the world he can't answer the phone when his father calls to inform him that his mother drowned in the bathtub due to the injuries he inflicted. He returns home for the funeral, gathers with old friends, and during a checkup at a neurologist meets his antithesis, the two are joined by Lafge's good friend Milk (Pierce Brosnan). Large undergoes as he quits taking his medication and opens himself up to the real world yet is content with his life. By interacting with these vastly different characters, Large is able to finally see what he has been missing.

Movies like Garden State are a rarity, given Hollywood's desire to cash in on franchises and event films. The characters are given plenty of time to develop and discover something about themselves. A film like this doesn't need an overly complex plot to sustain itself; it's more of a series of moments in these people's lives, which is fitting given the theme that life is happening now and should not pass us by unnoticed. It questions what home is, how we relate to friends and family, and how our lives unfold through numerous surreal moments that are both interesting to watch and undeniably funny.

Garden State, which is a Fox Searchlight Pictures and Miramax Films presentation, opened in a few select cities. Due to its success, the film has been brought to over 600 screens, but even so it can still be tough to find. Locally, it's screening at Muvico Paradise 24 Theater on 15601 Sheridan Street, and Sunrise Cinemas: The Gateway Cinema 4 on 1830 East Sunrise Boulevard; it may also open in more theaters. In an interesting advertising campaign, Braff himself regularly updates a blog which those interested should check out at http://gardenstate.typepad.com/zach_braffs_garden_state/.

Upcoming Events in the A&E world

By Alaina Siminovsky

MTV VMAs: The star-studded event was held Sunday, August 29th in Miami. Check out the re-runs on MTV. They will be playing all month. The event has been known to showcase new fashion trends, fantastic performances, and outlandish speeches from your favorite stars.

New Movies:

Vanity Fair: Travel back in time with this sensual drama/romance starring Reese Witherspoon, Rhys Ifans, and Bob Hoskins. September 1, 2004 is your chance to see Reese in a more serious role. But is it really any different from the high powered female roles we're used to seeing her in? Check out the movie - the story of a woman's quest to change her life. Rating: PG-13. Running Time: 2 hr 20 min.


Wicker Park: Josh Hartnett, Matthew Lillard, and Rose Byrne star in this drama, suspense/horror film about the quest of a young man to find his love interest, who suddenly disappeared. But is this just a test of his love? See this movie opening September 3, 2004. Rating: PG-13.


Music: What's out now? What's coming soon?

LL Cool J: Definition
Ray Charles: Contact Loves Company
Green Day: American Idiot (Single)
Jimmy Buffet: License to Chill
Ashlee Simpson: Autobiography
Tim McGraw: Live Like You Were Dying
Ryan Cabrera: Take It All Away
R. Kelly: Happy People / U Saved Me
Mase: Welcome Back
The Roots: Tipping Point 
Green Day: American Idiot

Concerts:
Crossfade, Shinedown and Silvervite: The Culture Room, 9/14. Contact Ticketmaster or 954.929.9375 for tickets. Tickets are $14.99, doors open at 7:30 p.m.

Gloria Estefan: American Airlines Arena, 9/25. This is Her FINAL tour. For more information, contact the hotline 786-777-1240

Soulzy: The Culture Room, 9/26

InciBar: Office Depot Center, 9/28

Phil Collins: Office Depot Center, 9/30

Contact Information:
American Airlines Arena
601 Biscayne Blvd
Miami, FL 33132
786-777-1250

The Culture Room
3645 N Federal Hwy
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33306
954-564-1074

Office Depot Center
2555 Panther Pkwy
Sunrise, FL 33323
954-835-8000

For tickets, you can contact Ticketmaster at www.ticketmaster.com

Garden State
Director: Zach Braff
Producers: Gary Gilbert, Dan Halsted, Pamela Abdy, Richard Klubeck
Studio: Fox Searchlight
Miramax
Rating: R

Museums:
Headwaters: Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge, 9/12. Contact Information: 718-378-4686

Room, 9/14. Contact Ticketmaster or 94. 9zeta.com for tickets. Tickets are $14.99; doors open at 7:30 p.m.
Let's talk about sex baby...

Role number one: never share sexstats with your partner(s). This will almost always blow up in your face. Unless you are involved in a serious monogamous relationship (and compelled to share all), the number of times you've bumped is none of their business!

It could be argued that it is the consensual adult's right to inquire and expect an honest response to such information, especially with all the STDS spreading like wildfire. There are two problems with this invasive technique. First of all, what is the guarantee that this person will tell you the truth? Unfortunately, our sexist society has often stereotyped women with a "healthy" sexual appetite as sluts, whores, whores, whores. Etc. Now why would a woman, who has passed from her fingers and moved on to her toes when counting sex partners, feel free from judgment and reveal the honest numbers? On the other hand, what guy is going to blow his chances with a hostrit, and portray himself as a "dog" or a "player"?

Now, let's assume that the two participants are honest in tallying up those bootie calls does quantity really make a difference? Well, of course you want a "clean" partner, not a trothsl that has been around the block a few times.

What a joke! Wake up and smell the daikon, boys and girls! It only takes one time to catch cunts, you know, gonorrhea, herpes, AIDS, etc. (See fact is, there are no questions or answers that can keep you safe. Only being sexually wise and smart will protect you. Make conscious decisions, do it because you want it, wear a condom, and enjoy.

Revealing every detail of your past experiences is not necessary! It is a personal decision to share these intimate details, not a requirement. 333333

Agree? Disagree? Send any thoughts, questions or comments to mumews@nova.edu

Pennsylvania State Association

Founder Ali Humera: "We are peaceful, genuine and sincere individuals."

By Melanie Denny

Distribution Manager

On Monday, Aug. 23, 2004, the Inter-Organizational Council met for the first time of the semester in the Goodwin classroom. As Humera Ali, Saima Rafiq, and Kiran Sheikh stood up, they announced their request to have the Pakistani Student Association become an officially chartered club on NSU's campus. After their presentation, it was unanimously voted by the existing organizations' representatives in attendance that the Pakistani Student Association would be added to the list of chartered clubs and organizations on campus. With Humera Ali as president and Saima Rafiq by her side, NSU's student body is sure to learn all about the Pakistani culture and the true nature of Pakistani people.

While seeing Pakistani student associations at other colleges and universities, eighteen-year-old Humera Ali wondered why NSU lacked such an organization. Taking note of the considerable number of Pakistani-American students on campus, Humera felt the undeniable need to start an organization through which these students could unite. With enough help and support, the idea came to life. As Humera puts it, "One thing led to another and PAKSA was born."

When asked the purpose of their organization, Ali, the founder and president of PAKSA, replied, "Our main objective is to unite all the Pakistanis, as well as give those who are not Pakistanis a better understanding of the country and its population's culture, traditions, ethics, and morals." With the help of Vice President Saima Rafiq, secretary Kiran Sheikh, Public Relations Director, Fahad Islam, treasurer Zarmina Amin; historian Shargima Hoque, and Dr. William Hammack, their faculty advisor, they are well on their way to making a difference on NSU's campus. PAKSA's goal is to encourage students to open themselves up to an unknown culture by learning more about and achieving a better understanding of their society.

Humera hopes to teach about the culture of the Pakistani nation to change the negative light in which the media has portrayed Pakistanis. The effects of the September 11th attacks on the United States definitely impacted the lives of many Middle Eastern countries. Members of this organization will serve as a force to unite the Pakistani student body and to show that, as Humera says, "We are peaceful, genuine and sincere individuals." She hopes that by educating people, views and misconceptions of Pakistanis will change for the better.

To succeed in their goals of educating the student body, PAKSA has many events planned for the first semester. Their first meeting was held on September 8. The club plans to get started on such events as a Pakistani fashion show, a mock Pakistani wedding, and cultural movie showings. PAKSA has plenty in store, and would like to co-sponsor with other cultural organizations on campus, such as the Organization of Arab-American Students Instituting Solidarity (OASIS) and the Indian Student Association (ISA). Fahad Islam, P.R. Director, urges anyone who is interested in co-sponsoring an event to contact him via e-mail at fahad@nova.edu to help unite the Pakistani and non-Pakistani students on NSU's campus. Opening one's mind to different cultures on campus will ultimately make time here at NSU a true learning experience.

In visions of the future, founder and president Humera Ali proclaims, "I hope to open many individuals up to our country's culture and traditions. Hopefully, the club will maintain an active membership base, and accomplish the goals that PAKSA was founded on." NSU's brand new Pakistani Student Association is open to memberships by all nationalities and will always welcome anyone and everyone who desires to learn more about the Pakistani culture.

PAKSA E-Board

President: Humera Ali
Vice-President: Saima Rafiq
Secretary: Kiran Sheikh
Public Relations: Fahad Islam
Treasurer: Zarmina Amin
Historian: Shargima Hoque
Faculty Advisor: Dr. William Hammack

Photo courtesy Ali Humera

PAKSA President Ali Humera

Photo courtesy Kiran Sheikh

PAKSA Secretary Kiran Sheikh

Photo courtesy Kiran Sheikh

PAKSA President Ali Humera

Photo courtesy Ali Humera
On the target:

Academic Services

By Luis Nicola "Nico" Aguilar
Knight Intern

Ever wonder where those "student service" charges tacked onto your student account are applied? How do students benefit from these additional charges? One of the services at the disposal of the undergraduate student body is the office of Academic Services. Located on the first floor of the Parker Building, this department offers a variety of utilities of which students should be aware, including tutoring, disability assistance, and a testing center. The Academic Service center offers quiet study areas for students, which are especially useful for last-minute cramming before a test. The on-site computer lab is complete with both math and writing software for those who need a "tune up" in specific areas.

According to Sue Mills, Assistant Director of Academic Services, "The goal of tutoring is to foster self-improvement, detect repetition of problems, and work on specific issues." A variety of tutoring subjects include business, education, humanities, social/behavioral sciences, writing, and mathematics. The assistance given ranges from organization skills to research techniques. In the mathematical field, tutoring covers from MATH 1000 (Essential Mathematics) to MATH 3020 (Statistics). Computer technology assistance and specific science tutoring in biology, chemistry, and physics is also available. Sessions on writing improvement are led by experienced English majors for every level, from remedial to advanced writing. Director of Academic Services, Ken Gattis states, "Academic Services is a student's support for success, study skills, and academic excellence."

One of the most useful services offered at the Academic Service department, as far as equity and social support, is the disabilities department. Sue Mills, the Assistant Director of Academic Services, explained, "Qualifying as a student with disabilities is a long process." Surprisingly enough, most students' Learning Disabilities (LD) are not visible, yet they have a handicap that doesn't allow them to use their skills efficiently. Academic excellence has to be guaranteed to the whole student body, and dozens of students at Farquhar College are diagnosed with functional limitations. You don't have to have a learning disability to get involved; the Academic Service department is always recruiting new volunteers to assist in their learning programs.

Last, but not least, the testing department offers a full range of standardized tests. Courses you can test, at cost, are available for DANTES and CLEP, ranging from humanities to math. So, if you think you know it all, and can test out of an eight or sixteen week course, stop by the testing center and give it a shot. Many of the tests offered are nationally recognized. The testing center is often a resource for professors as well as students. Many professors use the testing center as a vehicle for make-up tests and quizzes.

Whether you need tutoring or testing, or even if you want some useful handouts with studying and writing tips, check out the Academic Service department. It is located inside Parker building. Studying is one of the greatest investments of your life; academic excellence is another. Don't waste your time and your money; ask for help — that's a sign of strength. For appointments and information call 954-262-8350.

NSU Open for Business

Nova Southeastern greets new students with open arms during Welcome Week

By Taylor Anne Williams
Graduate Assistant for Student Media and Marketing

Nova Southeastern University rolled out the red carpet for the incoming Freshman class and transfer students with parties, informational sessions, service projects, and off-campus trips during its first annual Welcome Week. In hopes of connecting new students to both the university community and other new students, Welcome Week offered a wide variety of events and activities to keep newcomers involved and entertained. All facets of both Student Affairs and NSU at large made special preparations to welcome new students in style.

Welcome Week festivities officially began with Residential Life's Move-in day. Parents, students, and friends paraded with heavy boxes into the residence halls to establish the newfound Knights on August 15. Though Leo Goodwin, Sr. Hall was strewn with boxes rather than streamers, many freshmen found reason to celebrate.

"It was easier for me this year," second-year student Shwet Shah said. "You get to know more people by living in the dorm, and you get to hear about more of the activities around." One such activity was the "Welcome Back" party hosted the following night at The Flight Deck. The improvisational group Separate Checks treated new students to free food, games, music, and a performance. Students enjoyed socializing with their fellow new Knights, and challenging each other to torrid games of pool.

"I am glad to get away from it with my parents and to see my friends," sophomore Falguni Patel remarked at the party.

The Office of Volunteerism hosted "Into the Streets" on August 17, an event designed to instantly connect students with like-minded interests. Two NSU vans transported students and staff to donate time to the local community. Some students rationed pasta and regulated the grooming line at the Cooperative Feeding Program, while others read and colored with the toddlers of Meadowbrook Academy. All had a positive experience, and gained a vital service connection.

"Freshmen are scared and nervous about being in a new environment," Director of Student Development and Special Events Kenny Hendrickson said. "By doing an activity like this, they can feel good about the work they accomplished and see the fruits of their labor first hand."

Later that day, NSU's annual "Got Wood?" brought 300 students for food, music, games, and a chance to find a club or organization to be involved with this year. Theta Delta Xi gave students the chance to shoot paintballs at Osam Bin Laden, while the Nature Club distributed plants for adoption. The event was a pleasure for everyone who attended, and the possibility of bringing a popular performer for next year's "Got Wood?" is currently being explored.

The Student Union hosted an off-campus trip to the beach on Wednesday, August 18 that gave students the opportunity to see South Florida life outside of NSU. Students enjoyed the sand, a cookout, and each other's company before getting ready for their first day of class. So, summer ended in style for these primed and enthusiastic Knights. Please contact muneews.com with thoughts, questions, or comments.
NSU Gives Peace More Than a Fighting Chance

New Residential Mediation program and SHSS's Community Resolution program promise support to NSU residents and community

By Taylor Anne Williams
Graduate Assistant for Student Media and Marketing

The rooms of Leo Goodwin, Sr. residence hall will see a multitude of students and a variety of characteristics over the course of the next year. Some students are athletes, many are biology majors, but all will face the challenge of conflict within the confines of their new living space. That is why Nova Southeastern University's Residential Life Staff has teamed up with the School of Humanities and Social Sciences (SHSS) Conflict Resolution students to create its new Residential Mediation program.

The Chronicle of Higher Education reported that 69 percent of 2004's entering college students have never shared bedroom space before. Goodwin currently provides accommodations for 100 doubled rooms, 34 tripled rooms, and six single rooms. Move-in day marked the beginning of a crash course in conflict resolution. Some conflicts are at a low level this year, but the value of working through conflict is a win-win situation to give DCAR students hands-on mediation experience, while providing a neutral trained outsider to assist with conflict in the hall.

Community Resolution Service is the largest SHSS practicum site for NSUPhi Sigs. This pilot program began when Volunteer Program Coordinator Bob Hosea was brainstorming with Department Chair Dr. Judith McKay, J.D. said, "It is a true partnership between the Community Resolution Service, the School of Humanities and Social Sciences, and Student Affairs."

Roommate and family mediation is not the only service that these mediation programs make available to NSU. Conflict coaching can also be a valuable tool in resolving conflict personally. This instruction will help students to constructively deal with future conflict, and—in turn—alleviate some tension from their lives.

Robert Hasea.

"Conflict is a part of the world, change and growth," Hosea said. "If it is handled productively and positively, it can be a great experience."

Hosea also serves as Residential Life's Graduate Assistant for Off-Campus Housing, so a connection between the two entities was quickly made. Director of Residential Life Luz Hancock, a Conflict Resolution Masters degree recipient in 1999, was delighted to hear about the possibility of a residential mediation program. Though roommate conflicts are at a low level this year, Hancock knows the value of working through conflict.

"Part of the reason we are implementing this pilot project is to better address and track conflict in the halls," Hancock said. "It is a win-win situation to give DCAR students hands-on mediation experience, while providing a neutral trained outsider to assist with conflict in the hall."

Through the Residential Mediation program at NSU, DCAR has long provided opportunities for students and the surrounding community to utilize the information of this up and coming field. The Community Resolution Service is the largest SHSS practicum site for DCAR students, and offers free conflict resolution services to the outlying community. Therefore, the tie between these programs was only natural.

"We are delighted because this fills in the undergraduate piece of the puzzle," DCAR Department Chair Dr. Judith McKay, J.D. said. "It is a true partnership between the Community Resolution Service, the School of Humanities and Social Sciences, and Student Affairs."

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The educational component has more significance than the mediation itself," Hosea said. "Whatever students learn, they take out into the world with them.

Students interested in using these free services can find information about the Residential Mediation Program at www.nova.edu/reslife under the residential resources link. Those looking for more information about the Community Resolution Services can visit the SHSS page at www.shss.nova.edu/ExperTrainCommServ/ ccs.htm. Please e-mail nsunews@nova.edu with any questions or comments.

Conflict is a part of the world, change and growth.

-Robert Hosea

Phi Sigma Sigma Wins Five at Convention

Phi Sig takes home honors from Washington, D.C.

By Taylor Anne Williams
Graduate Assistant for Student Media and Marketing

Nova Southeastern University's largest sorority took home a handful of awards from Phi Sigma Sigma's 43rd annual national convention in Washington, D.C. President Mary Suppa and Vice President Maria Ternes knew the reward of hard work when Phi Sig became NSU's only sorority to reach a total of 50 sisters last year. Starting Rush with 36 sisters, the onslaught of success has NSU wondering if they can sustain their well-earned title.

The sorority's national convention, "Hooray for Phi Sigma Sigma," kicked off on July 29 with four days of workshops, awards, and celebratory banquets. NSU's Phi Sig delegates also took part in Plenary, which focuses on amendments to their national constitution. However, the most anticipated event was the traditional Sphinx closing banquet. It was here that NSU's Phi Sigs received Best Chapter Excellence Portfolio, the Quota and Total award, the Scholarship award, recognition from the Phi Sigma Sigma foundation, and Outstanding Alumni Advisor of the Year.

Best Chapter Excellence Portfolio is an award that recognizes superior work within campus and philanthropic events as compiled into a portfolio. Quota and Total awards were no surprise, as NSU's Phi Sigs worked hard to ensure those numbers. Donna Demarco was awarded Outstanding Alumni Advisor of the Year for her work with the NSU Phi Sigs.

Though NSU delegates received five awards at their national convention, the most rewarding part of the experience came from Phi Sigma Sigma's charity efforts. During three days of the conference, Phi Sigma Sigma raised $22,000 for the National Kidney Foundation. The joy was amplified when an NKF representative thanked Phi Sig for raising the desperately needed money.

"The woman that shared her story with us had been diagnosed with kidney disease as a toddler, and had received a couple of kidney transplants," Phi Sig President Mary Suppa said. "It was cool to actually see someone benefit from what you do. It brought the work full circle."

NSU's Phi Sigs are ready for another year of excellence with a wide array of events. Their biggest philanthropic focus will be their Rock-a-thon, which takes place during homecoming this year. Phi Sig will also host a car and bike show in October, amongst many other events.

Founded nationally in 1913, Phi Sigma Sigma describes itself as a philanthropic social sorority. This sorority prides itself on diversity and independence with an open communication network. NSU's chapter continues to exemplify these qualities, and will work hard to uphold its award-winning reputation.

Though fall Rush has ended, anyone interested in more information should contact Pr. at Mary Suppa at suppa@nova.edu.
Hurricane Frances: The Aftermath

by Nicolle Jewell Garber
Staff Writer

Hurricanes are quite common in Florida -- South Florida more of an easy target. Frances, out of all the hurricanes that have hit upon this sunny peninsula in the past couple of decades was the slowest, most tedious and exasperating hurricane this nation has seen in a while. As big as the state of Texas and with the winds of a category four hurricane, the infamous Frances gained ground as it inched its way towards Florida. It slowly degraded into a category two, yet in its slow pace, unruly winds caused layer upon layer of destruction. The only options were to cover windows with steel or wood, buy as much supplies as needed, and wait. The "wait" lingered on and progressed into the Labor Day weekend. Sadly, the eastern part of Florida, which was mangled by Charley, would have to endure another beating. Hurricane Frances made a box-office hit with approximately 29 billion dollars plus in damages. Charley alone made a box-office hit with approximately 220 million dollars. Frances and Charley presented a massive blow to the tourist industry in Florida. Massive sinkholes on the sides of roads. Millions of homes left without power or electricity for days, possibly weeks. The Bahamas were mangled by the then category 4 winds, while sailing over the Greater Antilles.

The NSU Main Campus suffered only a few, small casualties -- uprooted trees that are still lying on their sides along the sidewalks. Part of the NSU Oceanographic center was damaged, including the Mellon Building's overhang and the NSU oceanographic House Boat that got a lick from Frances's slow rage.

Some places didn't suffer any damages or power loss, while neighboring cities had to be evacuated because homes were severely damaged by Frances's feeder bands. Northern parts of Florida suffered the most of Frances's fury. People are still without power and many have run out of food. Rescue teams and volunteers were deployed to hand out ice and food for lines and rows of angry, tired, and hungry people. President Bush has declared Florida a disaster area, and legislation has voted "yee" on funding to repair the damages. The damage from Frances was scattered all around Florida, and certain degrees of destruction ranged from minor power outages to major devastation, as many homes in the Palm Beach area now have sunroofs instead of ceilings. Trees were pulled up and rivers ran through the streets, roads were demolished and homes were crushed. Frances was large, and its enormity was substituted for its lack of force. Beaches were pummeled and surfers were in temporary ecstasy until the cops doused their fun -- rarely does South Florida achieve waves bigger than toaster.

Over the past years, weather has become more drastic and exaggerated -- torrential flooding one year and a substantial droughts the next. Tropical storms have now become massive hurricanes. And it can only get worse. Hurricanes are the effect of imbalances in the natural weather pattern. They are created to reestablish equilibrium in the natural weather patterns that have been disturbed -- mostly in part by humans. As long as there is an imbalance, more turbulent hurricanes are expected.

Surprisingly, Frances had enough power to cross into other states, but by then it had weakened severely. Good Riddance to Frances; but keep those shutters up, Ivan the Terrible has Florida on his hit list.

Hurricane Frances may have caused total destruction in other areas of Florida, but the NSU campus only suffered a few uprooted trees. Photos by Nicolle Garber