Fasting for a Day...

Third Annual Fast-a-Thon shares the traditions of Ramadan

By Caroline Cullen
Knightlife Editor

NSU's Inter Muslim Association (IMAN), Pakistani Student Organization (PAKSA), and Muslim Association of Service and Healthcare (MASH) proudly presented the Third Annual Fast-a-thon on Tuesday, November 9, during which students and faculty were invited to experience the Islamic celebration Ramadan, the month of fasting, firsthand. The event was held at the Carl DeSantis Business School. The three student organizations sponsored a program in which participants pledged to fast; all proceeds will be given to the Hurricane Relief Victims in Haiti. MBA student Gisandre Mardy offered, "We are a nation of diversity, and events such as these encourage students to explore a culture beyond their own."

According to the Institute of Islamic Information and Education, "Ramadan is the ninth month of the Islamic calendar and is known as the month of fasting. During Ramadan, Muslims get up before dawn, that is, two to three hours before sunrise, and eat a pre-dawn meal. There is no eating, drinking, or sexual activity between dawn and sunset. In addition, Muslims must implement the moral code of Islam very strictly; the violation thereof nullifies their fast. During the night, Muslims eat, drink (toxicants are forbidden), and carry on normally."

The evening kicked off with a welcome speech from IMAN President, Fahreen Patveez. The warm welcome was followed by an explanation on the Fast-a-thon concept, provided by second year med student and member of MASH, Hinda Siddiqui. Guest speaker Dr. Imran Siddiqui, an NSU alumnus, enlightened the crowd on the sacred tradition of Ramadan and fasting. After an aza, a call to prayer, and an iftar, the breaking of fast, students were finally

Organizers distribute free food and refreshments to attendees. Photo by Caroline Cullen

View from the top as students and faculty dine on Middle Eastern dishes at the Carl DeSantis Building. Photo by Caroline Cullen

Students socialize at the Ramadan (left to right) Donica Balamut, Cherri Poole, Lorena Contreras, and Emmanuela St. Fleur. Photo by Rafia Chodhry

Please See RAMADAN Page 6
Sometimes it amazes me how the addition of extra stress and drama into our lives tends to impair our ability to think logically.

I was talking to someone recently about an issue he was experiencing that had him so upset he was losing sleep. Listening to his plight, the solution seemed fairly obvious to me, and I was having trouble wrapping my brain around the notion that this course of action had never occurred to him. When I shared the idea, he, too, seemed shocked that he hadn’t thought of it before.

Now, perhaps he was a little too close to the problem to see the solution, or perhaps it was the fact that he was focusing more on the problem itself than the possibility of his solving it. Either way, it was causing him a great deal of undue stress.

When that’s perplexing you or something as simple as thinking of it before, my friend isn’t the only one who does this. I’ve noticed that a lot of us worry a lot more on the problem itself than the possibility of its solving it. 

So if any of you are having issues, whether it be something as simple as a paper that’s perplexing you or something as complicated as relationship troubles, finding an alternate viewpoint may provide you with a solution you hadn’t thought of before.

If you’ve got problems academically or wish to seek some expert help, remember that NSU provides this in the form of Academic Services and Student Counseling. They’re always there to help.

Alisha Vanhoose
The Alvin Sherman Library used to be a haven for me. I studied there, worked on stories for *The Knight*, grabbed a bite to eat at the beautiful Connoisseurs' Café, and once or twice even took a nap while studying.

It was haven until an incident occurred about a month ago. It all started on a carefree weekend when my brother and I decided to head to the library to be productive— for once. We decided it would be best for us to get a study room. We approached the circulation desk and asked for a room. Soon after signing some papers and hanging over my ID, we had a room on the third floor.

The room turned out to be the equivalent of a jail cell. How were we supposed to sit in a cubicle for a couple of hours when 15 minutes were absolute torture? We both went back down to the circulation desk in hopes for a bigger room. When we explained our situation, the NSU employee seemed indifferent. Without commenting, she asked for our key and handed us a key to another room.

I remember thanking her profusely. What a kind individual she was to understand my inability to endure 15 minutes in a jail cell. As we proceeded once again up to the third floor in hopes of a spacious, windowed study room, to our dismay we came upon another jail cell.

She must have handed me the wrong key, I thought. Therefore, once again we strode down stairs to the circulation desk. Again we explained our situation, hoping to get the correct key this time. Unfortunately, our concerns were meaningless. We were given an explanation stating that the library did not give any large window rooms for only two people.

We then explained that there were several larger rooms available and that we noticed several larger rooms with only two people.

Now, it seemed that we had really gotten to the lady’s last nerve. With an attitude, she proceeded to hand us an other key. Even though our third study room wasn’t equipped with windows, at least it wasn’t a jail cell. We decided to stick with the room.

The fact that the librarian had an attitude as though we were playing games the whole time or the fact that she was very rude did not vex me as much as when I found out what she had done the day after the incident.

The next day when I tried to check out a laptop, the technician asked me, “So you like window rooms?” When I looked (un)satisfied, he began lecturing me that it is not worthwhile to argue with a person; it only creates negative feelings, etc.

Apparently, the same woman had placed a message on my card so that anyone who would swipe it would know not to give this patron any windowed study rooms.

After listening to 15 minutes of her lecturing, I was furious and completely embarrassed. This went on for five days. Every time I would check out something from the computer lab I was asked the window question. The only people who didn’t ask me anything were the circulation employees.

Thankfully for me, I have friends who work at the circulation desk and were able to delete that message off my card. So there.

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**A Room with a View**

By Rafla Chodhry

Dr. Joshua Feingold teaches biology and marine biology at NSU. For this issue of *The Knight*, students recommended that we get up close and personal with Dr. Feingold.

Q. Please tell us a little about your background.
A. I was born in Baltimore Maryland. I went to high school in Baltimore, then I went to college in Hartford Connecticut at Trinity College. After graduating from Trinity, I came down to the University of Miami, where I earned my master's degree and doctorate in Marine Biology. I was lucky, because right before I finished the degree I got a job teaching here as an adjunct and that turned into a wonderful career.

Q. What is your most memorable work experience?
A. I have had a lot of moving and exciting work experiences here. I would have to say that the thing that never fails to excite me is to see faces of students as they start to understand concepts in a more fundamental and profound way.

Q. What is your most memorable personal experience?
A. I would say it was memorable, in that it was a very challenging experience for me, finishing my doctorate. Other moments that come to mind are getting married, getting my job here, and recently getting promoted from assistant to associate professor. And publishing articles is always very exciting for me, both personally and professionally.

Q. What do you like most about your job?
A. The thing I like most is teaching the students. In terms of working with them and seeing them get excited about new concepts.

Q. What are you currently reading?
A. I have been so busy that I haven’t been able to read in a while. But the last book I did read was *Memoirs of a Geisha*.

Q. What are some of your favorite foods?
A. Thai food, bananas, chocolate.

Q. Is there something the average person would not know about you?
A. Oh, there are a lot of things the average person does not know about me. Well, here’s something fun. I clean horse stalls every day.

Q. If you could pick someone out of history to have lunch with, who would that person be?
A. Martin Luther King, I admire him greatly; he’s a brave strong man who had a vision we should all follow.

Q. What’s your favorite movie?
A. *Whale Rider*.

Q. What are some of your hobbies?
A. Automobile racing, scuba diving, hiking in the wild and in the Everglades.

Q. What is the best advice you ever received?
A. I have received a lot of really good advice. I think back to something my father told me about marriage, and the way you stay married is you wake up every morning and decide that you are going to be married that day.

Q. What advice would you give to any student?
A. Persistence. Be persistent.
HPD Happenings

By Karen Warmuth
Coordinator for Admissions/Student Affairs

HPD Happenings is a column highlighting the events of the Health Professions Division. The focus will be on student affairs, but other events of interest will be included.

The College of Pharmacy hosted its annual Career Fair on October 26 and 27. On October 26, approximately 20 vendors met with the fourth year students to showcase their corporations. The students had the chance to learn about these companies, and many of them attended job interviews. A golf tournament was held on October 27.

On October 27, the Health Professions Division Student Government Association, in conjunction with Pulse! The Health Law Society of the Shepard Broad Law Center, sponsored a pre-election seminar to discuss Amendments 3, 7, and 8 prior to the Presidential Election. Joanne Charles from the Health Law Society invited Professors Zebresky and Morris, while Dr. Morton Morris and Dr. Ronnie Martin represented the Health Professions Division. Both sides presented their points of view regarding these amendments. A lively question and answer session followed. Feedback from those who attended the seminar was very positive. A second seminar, to be held at the Shepard Broad Law Center, has been proposed for the spring semester.

On November 1, the Health Professions Division Student Government Association held its general meeting in the Chancellor's Dining Room of the Terry Building. Dr. Fred Lippman, Chancellor of the Health Professions Division, sponsored a luncheon and held a question and answer session for the student representatives. Topics discussed ranged from swipe machines in the auditorium to business hours in the coffee kiosk near the HPD Library. Dr. Lippman emphasized his commitment to the students and stated that he would act on their concerns right away.

On November 5 and 6, students in the NAFDA organization of the Audiology Department held a two-day hearing screening fair for the Special Olympics in Bradenton, Florida. Approximately 200 athletes were tested.

The Health Professions Division Office of Admissions and Student Affairs hosted its annual Open House Program on Sunday, November 7. Representatives from each of the HPD programs and the Office of Student Financial Aid held sessions with the Program Directors, Admissions Officers, and students to highlight the opportunities available in the HPD.

Fourth-year Optometry students attended their annual Fourth Year Congress from November 7 - 9. Topics included board exam reviews, graduation information, rotation discussions, and other important information.

The Office of Admissions/Student Affairs hosted a visit by students from New Smyrna Beach High School on Friday, November 12. They spent time with representatives from the Physical Therapy Department, the College of Optometry, the College of Dental Medicine, and the Farquhar College of Arts and Sciences.

The Faculty Council of the College of Dental Medicine hosted a picnic for faculty and staff on Sunday, November 14 at TY Park.

The College of Osteopathic Medicine sponsored a Rotation Luncheon at the Rollings Hills Resort on Sunday, November 14 for third and fourth-year students and alumni to discuss the rotation process. The meeting included a mini-seminar on careers and various topics geared toward helping students with their rotations.

If you would like to add an event to the HPD Happenings column, please contact Karen Warmuth at warmuthk@nsu.nova.edu.

November 5 & 6: NAFDA org of the Audiology Dept. held a 2-day screening fair for special Olympics.
November 7-9: Fourth-year optometry students attend annual Fourth Year Congress.
November 12: Students from New Smyrna Beach High School visit HPD. Students from New Smyrna Beach High School visit HPD. Faculty Council of College of Dental Medicine hosted a picnic for faculty and staff at TY Park.

"Come stop by HPD to see what's going this week."

Building
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News from the Administration

Dean Anthony J. Silvagni, D.O., Pharm.D. of NSU’s College of Osteopathic Medicine was honored November 6 as one of the Leading Men of 2004 by the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. He was also recently elected to the position of Treasurer of the Executive Committee of the Florida Safety Patient Corporation. This newly formed committee was established by the Florida Agency for Health Care Administration to improve patient safety.

NSU’s College of Pharmacy International will be sending a donation of over 200 medical and pharmacy books to the newly-formed Nepal School of Pharmacy in Katmandu. The book drive, which occurred last year, was initiated with the help of the International Student Pharmacy Association. For more information, please contact Director of International Pharmacy Education Dr. Leanne Lai at leanne@nsu.nova.edu.

Dr. Malavè, the New Dean of the College of Pharmacy

By Nicolle Garber
Staff Writer

Andres Malavè R.Ph., Ph.D., M.S., B.S., has been honored with the position as the new dean of the College of Pharmacy. Dr. Malavè is extremely qualified for such a prestigious position, as he served as the College of Pharmacy’s Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Affairs.

NSU President Ray Ferrero Jr. asserted that Dr. Malavè has a strong research background which was a key element in choosing him; his work has been published in a number of leading scientific journals, including the Journal of Chromatography, Biomedical Applications, Cancer Biochemistry and Biophysics, Life Sciences, European Journal of Pharmacology, Pharmacology and Toxicology, Archives of Pharmacology, and the International Pharmaceutical Abstracts.

Dr. Malavè is also attributed with helping NSU’s successful development of NSU’s Post Baccalaureate Pharm.D. Degree Program in Puerto Rico, stated the Office of Public Affairs.

With an impressive history in the field of pharmacy and such a strong background serving NSU, Dr. Malavè will be “instrumental in helping the university achieve its goals,” according to President Ferrero.

Mark Your Calendar for Life 101...

Guest Speaker Max Weinberg

Life 101 . . . Personally Speaking, hosted by Dr. Mark Cavagnagh of the Farquhar College of Arts & Sciences, will feature Max Weinberg on Monday, December 6 at 7 p.m. at the Rose and Alfred Miniaci Performing Arts Center. Weinberg, who used to be the drummer for Bruce Springsteen’s E-Street Band, leads The Max Weinberg 7 and is the drummer for the E Street Band on Late Night with Conan O’Brien.

Tickets, which are free to students, staff, and faculty with a valid NSU ID, will be available starting November 22 in the Office of Student Affairs, the Law School admissions desk, and the front reception desk of the Terry Building. All tickets are distributed on a first come, first served basis. Contact Kenny Hendrickson at (954) 362-7283 for more information.

Earn a Degree at Home

NSU offers four different online degrees

By Rafi.a Chodhry
News Editor

For many people, online degrees are becoming more and more attractive. What could be more convenient than raising a family while at the same time seeking a master's degree from your community, they can stay at home, go back to school, so that is a very good option for them. They can stay in their communities, they can stay at home, work in their own time on the weekends and at night, and that doesn’t disturb their family life too much.”

The Health Science Department at NSU offers three online courses worldwide and one on-site degree. Health professionals who have graduated from an accredited professional program are eligible to enroll in a Bachelor’s of Health Science, Master’s of Health Science, the doctoral program, or Bachelor’s of Health Science, Sonography.

The Bachelor’s of Health Science program is designed for those who already have their associate degree and would like to earn a bachelor’s. The program is able to “bridge you to the bachelor’s level,” explained Gaillard-Kenny. “We are going to take in account your professional training and give you some core courses online to get you to the bachelor’s credentials.”

The Master’s of Health Science program takes approximately two to three years to complete. All courses are taken online from the interactive WebCT course platform. On top of the courses, an internship, a practicum, and a graduate project are some of the other requirements that need to be fulfilled.

The doctoral program is about 60 credits. It uses the same model as the Master’s of Health Science program, except for the addition of on-campus seminars during the summer.

Bachelor’s of Health Science, Sonography is an entry level program to train students to become sonographers specializing in vascular ultrasound. “There is a huge need for sonographers in general, but particularly vascular sonographers,” stated Terrence Case, Director of the Vascular Sonography Program. The program is under the Bachelor’s of Health Sciences program. Course activity is mainly on campus, but students can accentuate their online course activity by taking online courses as well.

It is possible to achieve any of the four degrees in less than three years. The programs are becoming so popular that HPD plans on adding a couple more in the near future. For more information on the requirements on any of the above programs, students are encouraged to visit www.nova.edu/hs.
Resolution: Running Blind
Sponsored by: Athletic Senators Eric Naples and Danielle Garcia

36th Street is not lit well enough for runners and walkers. There is only one light on the street and it is not working. There have been reports from students of almost being hit by cars while exercising. The combination of the poorly lit road and the pavement unevenness makes the situation quite dangerous. Resolution to state that adequate lighting is necessary for the safety of our athletic students.

Resolution passed unanimously.

Bill: Seize the Grass
Sponsored by: Sorority Senator Ashley Richie

There was not enough money left in the Homecoming Budget to allow food for the event planned by Delta Phi Epsilon.

Bill passed unanimously for $75.

Did the Student Government unfairly disperse the funding during the last budget hearing? Student Andrew Ruffalo, representing Pre-Pharmacy, Pre-Dental Society, and Pre-Medical Society, voiced his opinion at our meeting. Ruffalo utilized the meeting to voice his concerns about the budget guidelines, funding of t-shirts, and debated the allowance of social Greek organizations to be represented in student government.

Planning is underway for Community Fest. Student and Community Fest Organizer Judy Hartwood inquired of student government to help with Community Fest. Community Fest will be held on February 19, 2005 around the Gold Circle Lake, between the Library and Horvitz Administration Building. Community Fest is the time when all student organizations from all the different schools at NSU meet and develop a sense of community. Each undergraduate organization will receive $100 to set up their booth. A possible theme has been suggested: booths that resemble houses. The organizations would write their names, and post pictures of events they have done since their charter. It was hard to tell which was more popular last year, the free food or the laser tag. Many volunteers are still needed. Make sure to sign up your organization at the next IOC meeting, which is on November 22, at 5:15 p.m. in the Goodwin Senior Residence Hall, Classroom A. What a great way to advertise your organization and show NSU what you are about! Please note that if you will be fundraising this year at Community Fest, you will not receive the $100 to set up your booth.

That's a wrap for this week.

Utilize your student government! We are your voice for anything that you feel needs to be addressed. Our meetings are every Monday at 7 p.m. Meetings are located in the Goodwin Senior Residence Hall, classroom A. Please come and voice your opinion on the budget process. Only with your suggestions can we improve the way things are done. We are elected by you to represent you. If you have any questions concerning the SGA Weekly, please email me at pphilip@nova.edu. We'll see you at next Monday's meeting.

Student Government Association Weekly

The Knight is currently looking for staff writers!

If you have creative writing skills, like doing investigative reporting, or enjoy the exciting world of journalism...

Stop by The Knight newsroom in the Athletics and Student Affairs (ASA) Building, Room 105 to fill out an application.

Student Government Association
NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY - FARQUHAR COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES

http://insusga.nova.edu/

Ramadan continued from page 1

"Ramadan is the ninth month of the Islamic calendar and is known as the month of fasting."

led into prayer. At sunset, over 200 people feasted inside of the Carl DeSantis Building, indulging in a variety of Middle Eastern dishes. Those in attendance were provided with over a dozen tables and chairs decorated with colorful table cloths and balloons. "Everybody just sat down at any table with an empty seat, seeing new faces and appreciating this unique culture," said Senior Nimima Lakhani. Exotic sounds filled the room as everyone relaxed and opened their minds to the celebration of Ramadan.

Attendance Roster

President Tommy Gillette - Present
VPL Dane Johnson - Present
VPL Laura Guevara - Absent
Public Relations Mary Nochimson - Present
CED Vanessa Mezquita - Present
Executive Secretary Steve Hernandez - Absent
NPC Senator Ashley Richie - Present
IFC Senator Neil Mayer - Present
Commuter Senator Andrew Barry - Absent
Commuter Senator Davia McDonald - Present
Commuter Senator Julie Testa - Absent
Minority Senator Fahad Islam - Present
Minority Senator Giselle Gaviria - Present
NonTraditional Senator Jason Peebles - Present
IOC Senator Liz Harbaugh - Present
Residential Senator Lisa Soave - Present
Athletic Senator Eric Naples - Present
Athletic Senator Danielle Garcia - Absent
Freshman Senator Brittine Tribble - Present
Freshman Senator Furmanski - Absent
Senate Secretary GC Espinoza - Present
Nature Club Movie Night Promotes Awareness
Lolita: Slave to Entertainment brings animal abuse to the forefront

By Jennifer Ortiz
Knightwriter

NATURE'S latest endeavor to educate the NSU community in animal welfare involved publicizing the mistreatment of animals in entertainment. To do this, the club held a movie night, featuring the film Lolita: Slave to Entertainment, a documentary that focuses on the exploitation of the killer whale, Lolita. Accompanying the film screening was a discussion with the film's co-producer, Valerie Silidker, in which she entertained questions on Lolita's captivity.

The film screening had an audience of about 20 people. The crowd's response to the documentary was very positive as they discussed how Lolita's suffering could be stopped. Silidker agreed that education about the hazards of animal exploitation is a good first step to ending the abuse.

Lolita: Slave to Entertainment exposes the horrors of captivity at the Miami Seaquarium. Taken from her family at the age of 6, Lolita has now been in captivity for 33 years. Throughout her captivity, Lolita has entertained audiences at the Miami Seaquarium twice a day, every day. The conditions that Lolita lives in are not ideal for an animal of her size. Instead of getting the exercise that she should, she is trapped in a tank that does not provide her with enough room to swim. The Seaquarium's defensive argument about keeping Lolita like this is that she serves an educational purpose.

This film provides the counter argument to the Seaquarium's defense. For its message, the film has won wide acclaim, attending 12 festivals and winning four awards. The film appeared on the main campus November 4, 5, and 11. To get involved on campus with NATURE, contact Shelly Haines at shaines@nova.edu.


This movie does not only expose Lolita's plight, but all other marine mammals that have been taken out of the wild to make the marine park industry a profit.

- Lolita: Slave to Entertainment

Shallow, egocentric, conforming... not! When was the last time you looked beyond a scar, deformity, disability, or a wandering eye? I am not talking about in a friendship. I am suggesting in dating. Most of us consider ourselves open‐mind, empathetic and "real," but are we?

I've seen many different looking people in my lifetime, and I just always figured that there was someone for everybody. I came to ponder this topic and tried to step out of myself for a moment. What if I was a victim of some freak accident and a physical attribute of mine was rearranged? Although I would continue to be myself inside, my outside would be different. I wonder how it would feel to be treated differently. I think it is the people without the deformsities that feel most uncomfortable.

If I was in a car accident or a house fire and looked different than others, how would I handle it? How does a young man/woman in their twenties, dreaming of falling in love, continue to believe in these dreams? It is one thing to know someone who has gone through a transformation and stick by their side, another to be single and attempting to meet somebody new. Is it necessary to look for someone who is just like you physically?

Do little people have to look for other little people? If I am confined to a wheelchair do I have a chance with a man who has two strong legs? These days it's hard enough to be socially acceptable with a few extra pounds, heaven forbid an obvious flaw or disfigurement.

Are we truly this superficial? Is the outside what is really important? I hope that I can be honest with myself when I say that these things do not matter to me. I know that we are all destined to shrivel up and get old. What is truly important is what is inside. I know that it sounds cliché, but maybe we can really open our eyes and try to relate to others - imagine if it were you, your child, or a sibling. Would you want to be treated differently than others? Would you want your brother or sister to feel unattractive or ostracized? I have decided to make a promise to myself that I will always try to look beyond these trivial aspects of one's physical self and go deeper. It is only skin, and I am a leader, not a follower. I don't care what other people think about me, I have nothing to prove. I will not let my choices of building a high-quality relationship with a beautiful person get past me.
On the Scene
How do you feel about the military?

Coelina Jones
Freshman
Biology
Miami, FL

Personally, I don't believe in the war. However, we need to support the troops because they are trying to help. We do not need them to come home to another Vietnam.

Brandon Shannon
Junior
Business
Atlanta, GA

They are over there fighting a war they don't need to be fighting. A lot of them don't want to be there, therefore we need to be supportive of them.

David Evans
Junior
Legal Studies
Jamaica

They are a representation of us, so they need to know we have their backs. You may not agree with the war, but you must be there for them.

Jeremy Chin
Graduate Student
MBA
San Francisco, CA

Terrorism is a really big issue in this country. I support our troops 100 percent and I think its very noble. Our country owes them great gratitude for what they have done. We are very fortunate that they are willing to lay down their lives for us.

Janelle Layne
Freshman
Biology
Trinidad

They are out there fighting for us. They are doing something that the average American doesn't do, so it is important to support every aspect.

Naine Jinnah
Freshman
Business & Psychology
Miami, FL

It is important just to give support, because they are carrying out such a big task for America. We need to get out of there soon, so all we can do is pray.
Eye-on NSU’s Performing Arts Program

By Alaina Siminovsky
Arts & Entertainment Editor

There is no doubt that few people come to NSU to study the arts. However, this will be changing because we have an emerging Performing Arts major in the Division of Humanities within the Farquhar College of Arts & Sciences. In addition, artistic thirsts can be quenched here in many ways. Student Affairs (ASA) Building, located in the Athletics and Student Affairs (ASA) Building, offers private lessons for voice, piano, guitar, flute, saxophone, and clarinet. It also offers group classes for hip hop, ballet, and salsa dancing, as well as acting.

There is an “array of teachers,” said Graduate Assistant of Performing Arts Phyllis Jones. She went on to tell them, saying that Karen Nagy has a Broadway, classical style, Steve Wildy is more blues and jazz, and Dennis Pitasi is theatrical and jazzy. These teachers come from various backgrounds to offer the NSU community their talents.

Karen Nagy is a vocal teacher. She is also the director of Knight Sounds. Nagy offers students at NSU and Miami-Dade Community College knowledge from her many years on Broadway. She performs locally in many Broward County productions and can be seen playing at the performances of Memopause, which will be taking place later this month at the Miniaci Theatre.

Dennis Pitasi is the new piano teacher for the Performing Arts department. He, like Nagy, is also a teacher at Miami-Dade Community College. Pitasi is a jazz musician.

Steve Wildy teaches guitar for NSU. He is a multitalented musician who plays the bass guitar, drums, and lead and acoustic guitars. Wildy has a CD out and is currently working on another. He can be seen performing with his band at local venues such as the Chocolate Moose Music Café.

Ken Benjamin is one of the directors of U.S. Drag, the NSU winter production. He is a dancer and director with a contemporary, innovative style. Benjamin teaches at the University Center.

Phyllis Jones, who has a Bachelor of the Arts in pop music, is at NSU finishing her interdisciplinary degree. Jones has more than 25 years of experience as a professional musician. She has performed at the Apollo and with famed singers Bobby McFarin and Harry Belafonte.

For those well-rounded students who have a passion for the arts, the Performing Arts program offers a lot. With their winter production coming up on December 10 and 11, there is still a chance to get involved as a pre-show performer. To get involved with performing arts, contact Phyllis Jones at (954) 262-7285 or NSUPerformingArts@hotmail.com.

Too Young for Menopause?

By Alaina Siminovsky
Arts & Entertainment Editor

Conventional college students do not usually worry about the change. Instead, they are preoccupied with class, work, and parties. But a good way to break out of this routine would be to get out and see a show. South Florida offers a wide selection of things to do — from visiting Broadway and off-Broadway shows to the opera. You name it, you can find it here. NSU offers a convenient opportunity to view such shows here on campus in the Miniaci Theatre.

The newest show visiting NSU’s main campus is Menopause, The Musical. A facetious comedy written by Jeanie Linders, Menopause has become a nation-wide phenomenon playing in a number of cities across the country. In its return to South Florida, Menopause will be playing for most of the months of November and December after opening at the Miniaci Theatre on November 10.

Menopause follows the interconnected lives of a motley crew of women who are connected only by the change. Music throughout the play features popular songs with new lyrics that incorporate topics of the change, including “Puff, My God I’m Dragging,” “Change, Change, Change,” and “Staying’ Awake, Staying’ Awake,” according to the movement’s website www.menopausethemusical.com.

This show would certainly offer a night of enjoyment for a group of girls or even a couple who like to enjoy the more humorous side of life’s processes. You may also think of an evening at the theatre as a nice holiday gift for a mother or grandmother. The show is running throughout the holiday season. To find out more information about the show, check out the website www.menopausethemusical.com or www.nsuevents.com. Tickets and student discounts are available by calling (954) 462-0222.
Movie Review

Ray Captures the Spirit of the Legendary Singer

By Greg Kyriakakis
Staff Writer

Legendary singer Ray Charles, who passed away this year, is honored in the film Ray. Those who are unfamiliar with the singer's past will likely be surprised by the lifestyle he lived, but regardless of the scandals, Charles would change the face of American music.

The film begins with a young Ray Charles Robinson (Jamie Foxx) leaving his Florida home to travel to a gig in Washington. At this young age, Ray uses his wits to persuade the racist bus driver, who is reluctant to take a blind man cross country, to take him on board.

Slowly, Ray starts making a name for himself; he changes his last name to his middle name, Charles, and experiences problems with crooked managers who give him an unfair deal. They do not expect the blind musician to leave them and venture out on his own, but Ray does, signing a record deal and joining a new band.

On the road with his new group of musicians, Charles begins using heroine to help him deal with his painful memories. Ray does an excellent job at incorporating flashbacks of his childhood into the narrative. These moments, like the traumatic early drowning death of his younger brother and the gradual loss of his sight at age seven, help show why Charles had turned to drug use to ease his pain.

Charles experiences incredible success and signs an impressive record deal with Atlantic Records. This earns him many opportunities, including meeting his wife (Kerry Washington) and starting a family. However, his success is also part of his moral downfall. Charles has affairs with many women while on tour, all while continuing his now excessive drug use, which lands him in trouble with the law. As an expert performer, Ray never lets these issues affect his career, but internally he is breaking down and losing his grip on his family.

Charles also achieves more than just musical success. One of his key accomplishments was a refusal to play a segregated show in Georgia, which caused him to be banned from the state. It was a small price to pay for an important moment in the fight for civil rights.

After seeing how his behavior is hurting his family, Charles realizes he has to change his ways, and he checks into a drug rehabilitation center. During his time there, a dream sequence is skillfully used to reunite Charles with his mother and deceased brother, both of whom forgive him and urge the singer not to be crippled by his drug use. This moment is a turning point for him, and he returns to his musical career with the support of his family.

Ray goes to tremendous lengths to examine the singer's life in detail. His incredible strengths, as well as many weaknesses, make his story a compelling and inspiring tale of overcoming adversity. The music of Charles is also skillfully fused into the film, which fans will appreciate. Jamie Foxx captures the singer's mannerisms perfectly, creating a believable and moving portrayal. If Ray does have a fault, it would be the long 152-minute run time, which sometimes drags. However, any less would be doing an injustice to Charles's story, given the huge amount of ground the film covers.

Ray, presented by Universal Studios, is written by Taylor Hackford and James L. White, and is directed by James Hackford. It is rated PG-13.
**November 15, 2004**

**The Knight**

**Arts & Entertainment Calendar of Events**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11/15</td>
<td>Destiny’s Child “Destiny Fulfilled” Night Out! 50 cent Mondays at Oxygen</td>
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<tr>
<td>11/16</td>
<td>LRITC Lecture: “IB Singer, Pinanker the Poet and Me.” 2:30 - 4 p.m. PLS Program Room A discussion of the man known as I.B. Singer by noted Singer scholar, Dr. Sanford Pinanker, of Franklin and Marshall University in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. Reception sponsored by Marshall University in Lancaster, Pennsylvania.</td>
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<tr>
<td>11/18</td>
<td>LRITC Books Over Biscotti, Enemies - A Love Story, IB Singer 7 - 9 p.m., YA Room An Evening with Faith Prince, Tony Award Winning Broadway Star Night Out! Radio X1(1) DJ Sootin spins at Lush, Agua at Oxygen</td>
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<tr>
<td>11/19</td>
<td>LRITC Open Mic Night with host Dr. Marlisa Santos, 7 - 9 p.m. Connections Café Night Out: National Treasure The SpongeBob SquarePants Movie Live Music: Chris Whitley, Bamboo Room, 9:30 p.m. Night Out!: Deck Fridays at Lush, Vive Fridays at Oxygen</td>
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<tr>
<td>11/20</td>
<td>AA Vincente Fernandez in Concert, 8 p.m. Night Out: Escape at Oxygen, Deep Dish Featuring Sharam &amp; Ali at Club Space</td>
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**Alvin Sherman Library:**

**Lecture:** “IB Singer, Pinanker the Poet and Me.”

November 16, 2:30 - 4 p.m. PLS Program Room

A discussion of the man known as I.B. Singer by noted Singer scholar, Dr. Sanford Pinanker, of Franklin and Marshall University in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. Reception sponsored by Broward Region Hadassah follows. Part of the Isaac Bashevis Singer Centennial Celebration.

**Movie Openings:**

**National Treasure** opens to audiences nationwide on November 19. Distributor: Walt Disney Pictures. Director: John Turtletaub. Producer: Jerry Bruckheimer, Jon Turtletaub; Christina Steindberg. Rating: PG Cast: Nicholas Cage, Diane Kruger, Justin Bartha, Sean Bean. Synopsis: All his life, Benjamin Franklin Gates (Nicolas Cage) has been a most elusive treasure hunter who is obsessed with finding the legendary National Treasure: the greatest treasure the world has ever known. He was hidden by our Founding Fathers, who left clues to the treasure's location right before our eyes... from our nation's birthplace, to the nation's capitol, to clues buried within the symbols on the dollar bill. In a race against time, Gates must elude the FBI, stay one step ahead of his ruthless adversary (Sean Bean), decipher the remaining clues, and unlock the 2000 year-old mystery behind our greatest national treasure.

**The SpongeBob SquarePants Movie** opens to audiences nationwide on November 19. Distributor: Paramount Pictures. Director: Stephen Hillenburg. Producer: Stephen Hillenburg, Albie Hecht, Julia Pistor. Rating: PG Cast: Tom Kenny, Rodger Bumpass, Alec Baldwin, Bill Fagerbakke, Carolyn Lawrence. Synopsis: SpongeBob SquarePants is an optimistic, free-spirited sponge that lives in a pineapple under the sea. It's like a kitchen sponge. Living at the bottom of the sea in a pineapple in the community of Bikini Bottom, SpongeBob works as a fry cook at the Krusty Krab Diner, where his friends include Squidward the squid and Patrick the starfish.

**Local Clubs:**

**Bamboo Room, 25 South J St., Lake Worth, FL**

**Chocolate Moose Music Café, 9118 SR 84, Davie, FL 33324-4416, (954) 474-5040**

**Eden, 2101 S. University Drive Davie, Davie, FL 33324, (954) 423-0009**

**Lush Lounge, 3074 NE 33rd Ave, Ft. Lauderdale, FL, (954) 556-6950, www.lushsouthflorida.com**

**Oxygen Lounge & Sushi Bar, 2911 Grand Ave, Subterranean Level, Streets of Mayfair Coconut Grove, FL 33133, (954) 476-0201, www.oxygenlounge.biz**

**Space, 34 NE 11 St, Downtown Miami, FL 33132**

**Stacy’s Bar, 4831 SW 148th Ave, Davie, FL, (954) 434-8032**

**CD Releases**

**Movie Openings**

**Alvin Sherman Library**

All programs are held in Public Library Services, First Floor, unless otherwise indicated. For more information call (954) 262-5477.

**Office Depot Center**

For ticketing or more information contact www.officedepotcenter.com 954-835-8499 or www.ticketmaster.com

**American Airlines Arena**

For ticketing or more information contact the American Airlines Arena at www.aarena.com (760)777-1250 or for tickets contact Ticket Master at www.ticketmaster.com

**Broward Center**

For ticketing or more information contact the Broward Center at www.browardcenter.org or Autonation Box Office at 800-564-9539.

Calendar compiled by Alaina Siminovsky

Calendar graphics by Alisha VanHoose
November is National Novel Writing Month

By Christie Bailey
Managing Editor

Ever had the desire to try your hand at creating a literary masterpiece, but never had the motivation? Then why not participate in National Novel Writing Month?

The point of National Novel Writing Month, or NaNoWriMo is not quality—it is quantity. Participants are challenged to write a 50,000-word novel in 30 days. It dares people to throw out the rules, gag their internal editors, and just write.

National Novel Writing Month was founded six years ago in 1999 by Chris Baty, author of The Return of South Florida's Premier Flower Festival

The Return of South Florida's Premier Flower Festival

By Moshe Rasier
Contributing Writer

Kabbalah has always been a mind-bending, superbly complex, and mysterious tradition, accessible to scholars who have devoted a lifetime to Torah study—so mysterious it should come with a warning. And yet, pop stars and celebrities have embraced a new version of the wisdom of Jewish mystics as a lifestyle, an energy booster, an ego-dimmer, a self-improvement tool, and a key to unlocking the secrets of the universe. Hollywood stars believe that the Kabbalah red string will defend them from their enemies and help them to reach their goals.

Recently, more and more celebrities have started wearing the traditional Kabbalah red string. The Kabbalah says that the red string protects whoever wears it from the influences of the Evil Eye. The Evil Eye is a very powerful negative force referring to the "unfriendly stare and unkind glances we sometimes get from people around us." Envious eyes and looks of ill will affect people, stopping them from realizing their full potential in every area of our lives.

Many celebrities wear the Kabbalah red string. Madonna wears a red string around her wrist as a symbol of her Kabbalistic connections. If it wards off the Evil Eye, Madonna definitely should have been wearing the red string when she kissed Britney Spears on the MTV Awards, drawing untold millions of unfriendly glares from viewers at home. Perhaps she did have on the red string under her black glove. Britney Spears was wearing one for a while and was photographed with Hebrew letters tattooed on the back of her neck. Demi Moore, Ashton Kutcher, Paris Hilton, David Beckham, and his wife, former Spice Girl Victoria, wear them although none of them are Jewish.

Some rabbis believe that only Jews can study the Kabbalah. Some of them believe that only Jewish males can study it. On the other hand, there are some rabbis who believe that everybody can study it.

This form of Jewish mysticism, based on the Five Books of Moses, has been dated back to the Twelfth Century. Some maintain that it goes all the way back to Moses' time. However, rather than being shrouded in darkness and mystery, today Kabbalah has its own Web site (www.kabbalah.com) where one can purchase such things as books about Kabbalah, candles, incense, "dynamic living water," and - rather important - the red string.

I think that sometimes when a person has everything and they still do not feel fulfilled, they think, "Okay, there must be something more to this." Kabbalah offers answers, and people do not even have to go to a class to gain spiritual knowledge. They can just read a book—it is not an all-or-nothing proposition.

Mind-bending, superbly complex and mysterious as it is, Kabbalah qualifies as one of the religions of choice among celebrities these days.

For those with creative talents, NSU now publishes an annual literary magazine, Digressions, at the end of every winter semester. The magazine accepts such submissions as poems, short fiction, and black and white artwork and photography. Visit www.undergrad.nova.edu/uv/digressions.cfm for more information.

Celebrities Search for Kabbalah

The magazine accepts such submissions as poems, short fiction, and black and white artwork and photography.
In SSC Tournament Final, Men Fall 2-1
Two goals by Lynn University’s Carl Wallace give them the SSC title

By Alicia Winslett

The men’s soccer team has had a phenomenal season, being 15-4-1 on the year. They competed in Winter Park, FL on November 7 against Lynn University in the Sunshine State Conference Tournament final.

The two goals that Lynn attained were by Carl Wallace, one in the first half, and another goal in the second half. After receiving a cross from Hiroshi Ando, Wallace scored his first goal in the third minute of the game.

The only goal NSU acquired was by David Been of Lynn University. Adam Ludden put Benn under a lot of pressure, and he accidentally headed the ball into his own goal.

Two minutes into the second half, Benn scored again for Lynn University. After that goal, Lynn held on and NSU did not score again.

For the SSC All-Tournament Team, NSU had four players that were named: goalkeeper Jarod Rennick, midfielders Rasmus Jepsersen and Chance Routch, and forward Lorcan Cronin.

Three teams from the South Region will be selected to the NCAA Tournament, so NSU awaits those selections. Play will begin next week.

Stephen Conrad Snags Second Career Victory at The Rollins College Intercollegiate

He claims his second victory of the fall season with a 54-Hole-9-Under-Par

By Alicia Winslett

Sophomore Stephen Conrad has set high standards this fall season for the men’s golf team. He is the first NSU golfer to win multiple events at the NCAA level. Just in the fall season, he has had four consecutive top-10s, and this victory at Rollins is his third top-5 finish. At the Forest Lake Gold Club in Oconee, FL, he shot 9-under-par to claim his second career victory.

He took the title by four strokes, shooting 68, 71, 68 on the par 72 golf course. Finishing behind him was Darren Lundgren from Rollins and Brian Hurtak of Valdosta State.

"Stephen is leading the team and setting the standards high, which makes the rest of the team play better golf. He is playing outstanding golf, very smart, and confident," said Assistant Coach Diego Conrad also won Please See CONRAD
CONRAD  
continued from page 13

"Stephen is leading the team and setting the standards high, which makes the rest of the team play better golf."

the Spartan Invitational earlier this fall, scoring 9-under-par.

Rollins took the team title with a total of 857. The team scored seven-under-par, (287-284-286). NSU finished ninth with a team total of 877 (296-293-288).

"The guys have had seven-under-par, (287-284-286). NSU finished ninth with a team total of 877 (296-293-288)."

Stephen's performance this fall has been fantastic and I honestly believe he is just scratching the surface. His win at Rollins over one of the best fields we will ever face justifies my belief that he is one of the best players in the country, regardless of division," said Head Coach Duke Domahue.

Here are the other scores from the rest of the team:

Josh Green tied for twenty-fourth  
– 220 (75-71-74)
Brian Macho tied for thirty-sixth  
– 224 (76-74-74)
Collin Burich tied for fifty-eighth  
– 228 (77-79-72)
Martin Styf tied for sixty-second  
– 232 (80-77-77)

Women's Cross Country  
The Knights ran in the NCAA Division II South Regional for the first time in program history this past weekend. NSU finished nineteenth out of 31 teams, as the Knights tallied 502 team points. Freshman Heather Surrana (Freshburg, Ill) led the Knights, as she finished eightyninth with a time of 25:50 on the 6K course at Shelby Farms in Memphis, Tenn.  

Men's Golf  
Nova Southeastern University men's golfer Stephen Conrad (Sr., Syracuse, Ind.) earned individual medalist honors at the Rollins College Intercollegiate last week. The sophomore carded a 54-hole score of 207 (9-under-par) for the second tournament in a row to claim his second career individual win, and his second win of the 2004 fall season. The sophomore completed the fall season with four consecutive top-10s and his third top-5.

Classified Ads

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Ask for Elisha at 954-464-8757 to schedule an interview.

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Letter from a Reader

Dear Editor:

I write regarding your story NSU's Theatrical Debut Begins with "U.S. DRAG" in the November 1 edition of The Knight. I believe the headline misleads readers into believing this is the first time theatre has been produced on the NSU campus; Student Activities has been producing performing arts on the NSU campus for a number of years.

Additionally, I notice you indicate Phyllis Boyd can be contacted for ticket information. However, Phyllis Jones is the Graduate Assistant for Performing Arts whose contact information you have listed. Finally, the headline could also lead readers to believe this production is the kick-off to the Parquah College of Arts and Sciences Division of Humanities new academic Theatre Program.

We in the Division of Humanities are hard at work recruiting students and planning our future academic and production wing; we do not yet have a theatrical season in place for 2004-2005. We eagerly anticipate the debut of the theatre season in conjunction with our new Academic Program. While I applaud the artistic and cultural opportunities being provided by Student Activities and other NSU organizations, and your willingness to cover such events, I think it is the responsibility of the paper to relay the facts in a clear, accurate, and concise manner.

Mark Duncan
Assistant Professor of Theatre
Farquhar College of Arts and Sciences

Brief Interpretation of the November 2004 Elections in America

By Jacques Koko
Contributing Writer

The November 2 elections resulted in a victory for the Republican Party with 51 percent of the votes for President Bush against 48 percent for his challenger, Democrat John Kerry. This outcome shows a great divide in the American electorate. Many Americans are depressed and unhappy with the results of the elections, while many others are relieved and happy to celebrate the Republican victory. The following lines draw a possible interpretation of the elections, building on the great divide, focusing on the ABC of Bush’s strategy for victory, and launching a reconciliation mission for President Bush’s second term.

The outcomes of the last elections in the United States show that 51 percent of the American voters supported President Bush reelection. In other words, they share or relate to his ideas, policies, and actions inside and outside the United States. Bush’s ideas, policies, and actions are depicted in his strategy for victory on November 2. Indeed, the Bush campaign worked hard to win, playing real politics over three strategic factors, namely the war against terrorism, the tradition of family values, and the improvement of the economy. The campaign built strongly on each of these factors to make the victory Republican.

Aware that September 11 has changed the landscape of American politics, the Republican Party used it massively to touch the feelings of the voters and remind them they should not allow such tragedy any more in America. The Republican convention overstated the September 11 scenario by making it a critical theme of the 2004 convention.

In the three presidential debates in September and October 2004, President Bush backed his war arguments with mention of the terrible attack of September 11. During his last weeks on the campaign trail, he fed the American people with the same scenario of terror in America with the promise that it will not happen any more under his watch.

In this context, Bush is presented as the strong leader capable of dealing effectively with terrorism. Strength here means features of personality that indicate the physical and psychological ability to play the politics of toughness and offensiveness in terms of decision making on foreign policy in this era of terrorism. With this logic, strength might not integrate wisdom as Senator John Kerry would prefer. The assumption in the Bush camp is that one should not use wisdom with terrorists. According to Bush, you do not negotiate with terrorists because they are not reasonable, and because the only language they understand is violence. Is he right or wrong? That is real politics! Bush’s actions on terror against the Taliban in Afghanistan testify to his favor and make him speak the violent language of terrorists. Even though he is still not able to find Osama Bin Laden, Bush keeps his hope strong that he will get Osama one day, perhaps the same way he got Saddam Hussein from a hole. His administration depicts Saddam Hussein as a great threat, an evil man that supports and finances Al Qaeda and related terrorist networks. They actively spread the belief that the world is safer with Saddam sitting in a jail cell.

Regarding faith and family-based values, Bush portrays himself as a champion in faith, a God fearing man, a defender of marriage between man and woman, and an advocate of life against abortion. By overtly sharing these values, he has captured the voters’ attention and admiration. Months before the elections, he got strategically close to Christians, sympathized with them, and courted them no matter their denomination. He visited and attended masses in Catholic churches for their votes. He signed abortion and gay-marriage bans to prove his determination against practices the conservatives consider abnormal.

Concerning the economy, Bush cleverly used the improvement of the economy in the last months to defend his case, and demonstrate his willingness and efforts to work for a better and stronger American economy. 51 percent of the American voters spoke on November 2, showing that they think Bush is the right guy, doing the right thing. They voted to mandate Bush to defeat terrorism aggressively for the next four years; they voted to mandate him to defend their faith and family values; they voted to mandate him to strengthen the country’s economy.

However, since America is not made of only 51 percent of the vot-
Second Annual Blocking Painting Party