The Floating Schoolhouse
With loss of houseboat, OC students look for new student union

Part 1 of 2
By Rafia Chodhry
News Editor

Audrey Germane, a second year graduate student at NSU's Oceanographic Center, remembers her nautical adventures.

More specifically, she recalls the many Friday Happy Hours she and her friends enjoyed on board the 40-year-old, two-story vessel which was demolished earlier this month.

"I still remember the chili cookout, gumbo cookout and the many Halloween parties we had," said Germane, smiling and pausing as the memories slowly came to her. "It was a fun place to hang out. Not many people can say they got drunk on a houseboat."

The houseboat was a 30 by 60 foot floating lab; office, library, classroom building and student union opened in 1966 as the first building for the Oceanographic Center in Dania Beach.

For students taking classes more than 13 miles away from the Flight Deck and student activities of main campus, Happy Hour on the houseboat was an important part of college life for graduate students majoring in marine biology.

"The houseboat brought us all together," said Germane. "You have to understand we don't have stuff like the main campus does. We don't have the Wall of Hate or Quad Thursdays."

But the boat began to deteriorate soon after Hurricane Wilma. The southwest corner was charred in a fire. Soon after, the boat started to take

Please See HOUSE
Page 3

Wiesel Inspires Students to be "Messengers of Hope"
By Alisha VanHoose
Editor-in-Chief

"To humanize destiny" was Elie Wiesel's response when freshman Amrith Ramnarine asked him the purpose of life at the end of the student seminar with the author and Nobel Peace Prize recipient Feb. 23.

Wiesel came to NSU as part of the Distinguished Speakers series put on by the Farquhar College of Arts and Sciences. Meeting with a small group of students in the afternoon, he spoke that evening in front of more than 500 people in the Rose and Alfred Miniaci Center, as well as a few hundred more who viewed the lecture via simulcast from the DeSantis Atium.

"Just trying to imagine the world he lived in blew my mind," said freshman Andrew Ibrahim, one of the few lucky students who were able to interact with Wiesel prior to the evening lecture. "He is someone that people should always listen to. He's seen a lot."

Wiesel touched many times on this year's theme of Good and Evil. "The frontier of good and evil is not geographical," he said. "It is not even political. It goes through the human heart." He went on to discuss the nature of each, asking "is it conceivable that there is good even in evil?"

The lecture encompassed the Holocaust, his experiences afterward, and issues of genocide in the world today, as well as inspirational messages to students. He said that "we must be messengers of hope to each other," and that "the opposite of love is not hate, but indifference," citing indifference as the biggest challenge facing the world today.

Before he said a word, Wiesel was met with a standing ovation. "This is a man that symbolizes so many different things for so many different people," said Don Roenblum, Dean of Farquhar College of Arts and Sciences. "He stood up on stage and 500 people probably applauded for 500 different reasons."

During the question and answer session moderated by Allen Schulman, Ph.D., a question was raised that had been addressed earlier in the student seminar: What about his faith?

"I never lost it," Wiesel said. "But it was wounded." He spoke of the great pity with which he had been raised and added, "I didn't want to become an orphan of God. I wanted to become a victim of God."

The lecture was also a call to action. Wiesel asked that a

Please See WIESEL
Page 10

Life 101 to Introduce Vanessa Williams
By Kristine Belzaint
Distribution Manager

Vanessa L. Williams, the chart-topping singer and actress, will be speaking at Life 101... Personally Speaking, an interview series that brings some of the most fascinating public figures to NSU.

The first black Miss America was chosen to speak at NSU because "she is successful, beautiful and has learned a lot of life lessons. She also appeals to a lot of different people," explained Katie Blanco, Director of Student Engagement.

Alexandra Heron, freshman at NSU, said "I am so excited that an established celebrity is coming to speak to us about her life; it will be interesting to see life through the eyes of a celebrity."

The Life 101 series brings accomplished individuals to share their dedication and achievements with the NSU community. During the event, speakers share their life experiences with attendees through an interview with NSU professor Mark Cavanaugh. Sponsored by the Division of Student Affairs, the program is an attempt to promote success within the university community.

Williams will tell her stories of success to the NSU community at the Roen and Alfred Miniaci Performing Arts Center on Feb. 28 at 7:00 p.m. Following the program, students will have the opportunity to meet Williams.
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Compiled by Greg Kyriakakis

Canned Beans, Now with Free Bird Head
Hungry for a savory can of pinto beans, Luz Marruko of Chicago, Ill., opened her can of La Preferida Inc. goods only to find a bird's head inside. According to the Associated Press, a recall is in effect on a limited number of potentially bird-infested cans of beans. Company officials are looking into the bird head's appearance. Meanwhile, Marruko has insisted that she won't "be eating beans for a long time, unless I make them."

Man Reunited with Ingested Nail after 35 Years
Thirty-five years ago, Guy "Bud" Hart's lawnmower propelled a stray nail through the air and into the Placeville, Calif. man's throat. KXTV News10.net reported that at the time, Hart believed it to be a bee sting, but the next day he was rushed to the hospital complaining of tremendous pain and suffering from a 105-degree temperature. Doctors decided to forgo major surgery, letting his body heal, and left the object inside of Hart where it rested comfortably for years. But recently, Hart had a tinkle in his throat and "pretty soon, I started coughing. And it plopped right out." The nail now resides in a plastic bag.

Students Buy Way Out of Gym Class
Lazy middle school students in Pensacola, Fla. will have to resume taking gym class after their birchable teacher resigned. For $1 each day, students paid Jerence Braxton to sit out of the strenuous course, reported the Associated Press. But Braxton's scheme came to an end when a concerned parent reported him to the principal and Braxton turned himself in on bribery charges. Doctors decided that he took about $230 from slothful students, school officials believe Braxton was making an extra $100 a day.

Woman has Arm Severed, Still Clutching Cell Phone
A cautionsary omen for those who talk on cell phones while driving, a Kentucky woman had her arm severed in a car crash – complete with cell phone in hand. Jacqueline Dotson, who was driving with her daughter, struck a median, flipping her truck several times until it eventually landed upside down. LEXIS.com reported that an off-duty EMT placed a 9-volt battery on her truck and "drew blood" before police arrived. Although the charges indicate that he took about $230 from slothful students, school officials believe Braxton was making an extra $100 a day.

Insurgents attack major Shiite shrine
According to the Associated Press, insurgents disguised as police attacked "one of Iraq's holiest Shiite shrines" on Feb. 22. Bombs were detonated inside the shrine, "destroying its golden dome and triggering more than 60 reprisal attacks on Sunni mosques," leaving more than 19 people dead. "We are facing a major conspiracy that is targeting Iraq's unity." The attacks on Sunni mosques were reportedly carried out by numerous groups of Shiite militiamen, further increasing the "sectarian violence" that the U.S. military is seeking to eliminate. A top Shiite cleric, Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani, "sent instructions to his followers forbidding attacks on Sunni mosques and called for seven days of mourning."

For more information visit www.news.yahoo.com.

Terrorist Bush vowed to send American help to rebuild the mosques.

For more information visit www.msnbc.com.

House
Continued from page 1

on water and the south end started to sink. Several offices were evacuated.

The boat was declared unsalvageable. For students taking classes so far away from main campus, it meant the loss of their only social hangout spot.

"It's kind of sad because we have to face the happy hour in the front hall now," Germaine said. "Only about three people show up now compared to about 20 when there was the boat."

Germaine said she and other Oceanographic students hope to create a new hang out: a Seminole Indian tiki hut.

The students are in the process of asking NSU's main campus administration for funds for the hut.

At least one professor has endorsed the idea.

"I think this would be a great idea," Professor Charles Messing said. "We have talked on and off about building something, but I think it needs to be on a large enough scale where we can use it for laboratory events also."

"This series concludes next week with "A Stunning History: Cutting edge research, professors lost at sea."

North America

Trapped Mexican miners not in expected location
Mexican officials monitoring the rescue efforts for miners trapped in the Pasta de Conchos mine on Feb. 19 told the Associated Press that "rescuers arrived at the spot where two of 65 miners were believed to be trapped, but found no sign of them."

Assistant Chief Constable Adrian Leppard, the mine administrator, said in a news conference that the rescuers "had advanced" 740 yards inside the mine, more than 110 yards beyond where the two convoy belt operators were believed to be trapped.

He also said there was "no sign of the two workers" and that they may have been buried by debris or have moved to a safer part of the mine. Federal Labor Secretary Francisco Salazar told reporters the concentrations of toxic gases, such as methane, increases as rescue workers ventured deeper into the mine. Officials did not remark on the decreasing the chance of finding survivors due to the poisonous air.

For more information visit www.bbc.co.uk.

Europe

Large British heist foiled
British police arrested two members of a gang that executed "one of Britain's biggest and most audacious robberies" in Tonbridge that yielded up to $87 million, reported the Associated Press on Feb. 23. A 29-year-old man and a 31-year-old woman were arrested the day after the heist that police say resembled a robbery in Northern Ireland in 2004. The two gangs worked with "military precision," said Assistant Chief Constable Adriani Leppard; one gang disguised as police abducted the manager of Securities Cash Management Ltd. 20 miles from the cash depot, tying up the manager and "14 other employees, and then took about an hour to load the cash into the truck," police said. Leppard credited the arrests of the two members to over 400 people offering tips. Other members are still missing as of press time.

For more information visit www.nbsd.com.

Asia

Buried school possibly found in mudslide
Nearly a week after the Feb. 17 earthquake and mudslide that covered the Philippine village of Guinsaugon in up to 100 feet of mud, "aerial photographs spotted what is believed to be the roof of an elementary school." The principal, Roverta Larias, said on Feb. 23 that rescue workers will attempt to enter the building and search for survivors. The roof was reportedly found "far from what was believed to have been its original site."

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For more information visit www.msnbc.com.

Africa

Nigerian Christians attack Muslims
In the Nigerian city of Onitsha on Feb. 23, Christian mobs seeking revenge for the murder of Christians in the northern regions began to "attack Muslims with machetes, set fire to them, destroyed their houses and torched mosques."

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For more information visit www.reuters.com.

News from Around the World

Compiled by Paul Saneaux

Middle East

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Baseball Team 1-1 in Double-Header Against Carson-Newman College

By Alicia Winslett

"The team is off to a pretty good start, but we are far from playing our best baseball," said head Coach Mike Mominey. "We have a stretch of home games coming and I would expect that this would be the time to put it all together."

The baseball team competed on Feb. 17 in Jefferson City, Tennessee, splitting a doubleheader versus Carson-Newman. Carson-Newman stole the first game 9-7, and then the Sharks came back to win the second game 12-2.

The Sharks outfielder Franklin Martinez and third baseman Cory Clark each got multiple hits in the second game. Martinez was 2-for-4 and Clark was 2-for-5 with two RBIs.

In the second game, pitcher Lou Leo improved to 2-1 on the mound, completing the game with six hits, five strikeouts, and two unearned runs The Sharks pulled out 16 hits against six different pitchers in game two.

In both games, the Sharks first baseman Chris Reynolds went 7-for-9, with two RBIs, three runs and a stolen base. Second baseman Sean McFadden went 4-for-7 with three RBIs and two runs scored, and a stolen base, while Jimmy Sposa went 3-for-8, and hit the first homerun of his career. He also had three RBIs and scored two runs. Greg Burrows went 2-for-6 with four runs scored in the combined games.

"Our seniors have really provided the leadership we were looking for in the early stages of the season," commented Mominey. "[Being ranked 16th in the nation] is a tremendous accomplishment early in the season, but we all know that this is just the opinion of the people voting on the poll," said assistant coach Ryan Romero. "We need not worry about what others think of us, we just need to concentrate on getting better each day in practice and playing each game one at a time."

Softball Team Compete in West Georgia Tournament, Come Back 2-1

By Alicia Winslett

Over the weekend of February 17-19, the women's softball team competed in games in Carrollton, Ga. They finished the first day of tournament action 2-1, beating Lincoln Memorial University 3-2 and Delta State University 8-7, but losing to host University of West Georgia 7-5 in an eight-inning thriller.

The first game against Lincoln Memorial was close after no score in the first four innings. Lincoln scored first in the top of the fifth, then again in the top of the sixth. In the bottom of the fifth, freshman Valen Eberhard hit a double to left field which brought home Katie Pepper with 3 RBIs. Nick Achberger was 2-for-4 with two RBIs.

In the first game, Carson-Newman was led by pitcher Adam Keefauver, who went 1-for-3 with 3 RBIs. Nick Achberger was 2-for-4 with 3 RBIs, which helped Carson –Newman win the first game.

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The Sharks Overpower St. Leo 94-75

By Tranzell Mesa

The Sharks (16-9, 10-4 SSC) overpowered conference rivals St. Leo 94-75 at home while putting up their second largest scoring performance of the season. Freshman forward Tim Coenraad contributed 20 points to the Sharks' victory, while senior guard Luis Gurrieces recorded his first ever career double with 10 rebounds and 10 points.

"I love cheering and dancing up in the stands with my teammates to support fellow athletes," said freshman fan Michelle Litke. "Especially since our basketball team always puts on such a great show." Headed to Tampa with confidence, the Sharks took on the Spartans after overpowering them earlier in the season, 71-44. Despite the men's self-assurance, they fell to Tampa 66-50 on Feb. 18.

"I think we underestimated them because of the way we beat them back at the Tank. Their talent is just as good as any of the other teams in our conference," said senior forward CJ Jenkins. "We couldn't afford to half step against them so we got what we deserved."
### Men’s Basketball

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### Women’s Basketball

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### Women’s Tennis

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### UPCOMING GAMES

- **Women’s Basketball**
  - Wed 03/01/06 TBA Sunshine State Conference Tournament
  - Sat 03/04/06 TBA Saint Leo, Fla.

- **Men’s Basketball**
  - Wed 03/01/06 TBA Sunshine State Conference Tournament
  - Sat 03/04/06 TBA Saint Leo, Fla.

- **Baseball**
  - Mon 02/27/06 6:00 PM Mercyhurst College
  - Fri 03/03/06 7:00 PM Lewis University
  - Sat 03/04/06 1:00 PM Dominican College
  - Sun 03/05/06 1:00 PM Dominican College

- **Women’s Rowing**
  - Sat 03/04/06 TBA Stetson Invitational

- **Softball**
  - Fri 03/04/06 5:00 PM Barry University
  - Sat 03/04/06 7:00 PM Barry University

- **Women’s Tennis**
  - Sat 03/04/06 11:00 AM University of Tampa

- **Women’s Golf**
  - Sun 02/26/06 TBA AASU/Southbridge Pirate Invitational

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WHERE: NSU's Main Campus
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Knight Auditorium
RSVP: 954-262-5016
or
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Huizenga School Marketing Guru’s:

Art Weinstein, Ph.D., Professor of Marketing
Dr. Weinstein is an internationally known expert in market definition, segmentation, and customer value. He has consulted for leading corporations, firms, agencies, and manufacturers including Bayer Diagnostics, Centry Systems, Intel, Novartis, Novenics, and Motorola. He also worked in the marketing research industry for A.C. Nielsen and Pro-Mark Services.

Nick Castaldo, M.B.A., Lecturer of Marketing
Mr. Castaldo’s career spans over 25 years in consumer products and service businesses. His experience includes serving as President of the popular chain restaurant, Pollo Tropical. He has also worked in the banking, health, and beauty aids, and retailing industries.

James Barry, D.B.A., Professor of Marketing
Dr. Barry is a 25-year veteran of the corporate world with experience in industrial, government, and commercial marketing. While at GE, BP Goodrich, DuPont and AT&T, Dr. Barry spearheaded a number of business planning efforts and acquisitions aimed at transforming corporate market focus.

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APO Mardi Gras Party to Celebrate Spirit of New Orleans

By Greg Krykaisakis
Current Affairs Editor

Alpha Phi Omega will be hosting a "Spirit of Mardi Gras" celebration to commemorate the end of midterms and finals before NSU undergrads begin spring break, all while helping Gulf Coast businesses.

The festivities are especially significant given the recent destruction to New Orleans, according to Kandi Osman, president of the Alpha Delta Tau Chapter of APO.

"It is intended to take a moment and provide remembrance for those affected by Hurricane Katrina in the Gulf Coast region. That is why our party is labeled a 'Spirit of Mardi Gras' celebration." All supplies, except for some decorations, were purchased directly from New Orleans or from companies based in the devastated city.

Osman said that the party, to be held at 8 p.m. at the Flight Deck on March 3, will feature the trimmings of a typical Mardi Gras celebration. "We will have music, beads, masks, and of course, King's Cake," she said. Radio X will be providing music at the event.

The free event is hoped to max out the Flight Deck’s 200 patron capacity, explained Osman. She calculated that "with all the people that come and go, we are estimating for 350 to 400 people to at least come and check out this party."

On March 2, fraternity members will be present at Quad Thursday, where they will distribute beads and inform students about their event.

The shark slide towered above the event grounds as the NSU community walked through the many campus organization booths. Photo by Greg Krykaisakis

NSU Community Gathers at Shark-Themed CommunityFest

By Greg Krykaisakis
Current Affairs Editor

Thousands assembled at the Gold Circle Lake for "NSU CommunityFest," the third-annual campus celebration featuring food, entertainment, and informational booths hosted by NSU groups.

Terrell Reid, event chair, estimated that roughly 3,500 attendees enjoyed the Feb. 18 event. Despite some "minor problems," Reid and her "awesome CommunityFest team" put on an event of which she is proud.

"From the beginning, our goal was to make CommunityFest a day where we can all come together and have fun, and indeed we did," she said.

Students and community members took part in activities such as the giant shark slide, paddle boat rides, and rock climbing wall. NSU’s Chicks on Point presented a step routine, the Fushu Daiko drummers performed, and the NSU Vocal Ensemble sang. Between acts, prizes ranging from round-trip airfare to a digital camera were raffled away. A number of vendors, such as Firehouse Subs and Pizza Loft, provided food and refreshments.

NSU students in attendance enjoyed the event. "I’m having a blast," said Diana Hoffman, a junior at NSU, as she perused one of the over 30 booths. "CommunityFest is my favorite event that Nova hosts."

"The rock climbing wall is my favorite activity at CommunityFest," commented Commuter Senator Besty Jacob. He added that "the MiniMelt ice cream was amazing."

Surf Club Raffles Surfboard

By Michael Bergbauer
Staff Writer

NSU’s Surf Club is holding a fundraising raffle in which the grand-prize winner will receive a surfboard.

According to the club’s president Taylor Liput, the surfboard, made by 7S, is 6 feet 10 inches long and comes with a leash and wax bars. Its estimated value is $300.

The Surf Club is holding the raffle "to help fund our end-of-the-year event, where we reward the most committed members of the Surf Club and NSU community with a free weekend surf trip to Cocoa Beach from April 21-23," said Liput. "With this money, and hopefully the support of GSA, we will purchase hotel rooms for 2 nights and surfboard rentals for those who do not know how to surf, or are not in the club."

Proceeds from the raffle will also help "to purchase NSU Surf Club gear. We are currently looking into purchasing zip-up sweaters with the club’s logo," said Liput.

Those interested in entering the raffle should contact Liput via email at rey22surf@gmail.com. Tickets cost five dollars and the deadline to purchase is Wed., March 14. The final drawing will be held on March 16 during Quad Thursday.

Got a Question for Student Counseling?

Q: When I was an undergraduate, I presented a lot in class and never had too much of a problem with anxiety. When I started my graduate program, I expected that I’d get more confident, but the opposite has happened. No matter how much I prepare in advance for a class presentation, I have trouble sleeping the night before, and when I get up to talk, my hands shake, I sweat and get cotton mouth, and my heart pounds like crazy. How do I get my body to realize that I’m becoming an expert and so shouldn’t be nervous?

A: It makes sense that you want your body to listen to reason and to behave accordingly. If only it could respect your developing expertise and translate that into increased confidence! But your body will never do what you decide it should: it is too smart for that.

You’re interpreting your body’s reaction as a kind of betrayal, but you could also interpret it as a wise source of information. Your knowledge and status have certainly increased, and so have your and others’ expectations. As the stakes have gotten higher, your anxiety has gotten more intense.

So what to do? Can you find a way to lower the stakes? Any chance of your caring less about what your peers and professors think? If not, you then have the challenge (and wonderful opportunity) of, instead, unhooking the direct correspondence between pressure and anxiety.

Try tuning into, rather than trying to control, the physiological changes that tell you that you’re anxious. If you don’t get anxious about not being able to control your anxiety, then the sweating and shaking may make a brief appearance, but they won’t escalate. Need some help putting this into action? Come by and work with one of our counselors—in a couple of sessions, we can help you turn this around. Call for an appointment at 954-262-7050.

Have a question you’d like answered in this space? Fire away: Call us (954-262-7050), send us an email (studentcounseling@nsu.nova.edu), or drop by our office (Suite 150, Parker).
Inside Digressions Magazine

By Michael Bergbau
Staff Writer

Digressions, the literary magazine released every year at NSU since 2004, will be coming out again this April. A lot of hard work and dedicated students make the magazine possible, and here, the process and origins will be revealed.

The idea for the magazine was first envisioned by student Liz Harbaugh. Garnering support from Dr. Suzanne Ferris and Dr. Marlisa Santos, the publication became sponsored by NSU's Division of Humanities. Now the magazine exists to "expose the talent and creativity of NSU students," says Digressions Visual Design Editor, Omar Alejandro Lopez.

The material for the magazine comes from students who submit poetry, prose, short stories and other artistic works to the magazine. "We will also be accepting essays, depending on the content and the volume of other submissions," said Digressions Editor in Chief Liz Harbaugh.

Not all entries submitted to Digressions make it. "All the students' submissions go straight to Alaina Siminovsky, our managing editor," said Lopez. "Alaina separates the submissions into two categories (art and print), blinds the name of the author (to avoid any bias or conflict of interests), and finally directs the submissions to the appropriate staff member. All the submissions go to a staff member in charge of evaluating the material."

"After ranking the submissions in a scale from one to five, the works are given a final approval by Liz Harbaugh," says Lopez. "So all the works with the highest ranking make it and those with the lowest do not, but there could be some exceptions." Then the magazine is ready for print.

So, as the motto goes, Digressions will "imagine, create and inspire" students on campus once again this year. After so many serious classes and papers, perhaps the student body would benefit from a digression.

WIESEL

Continued from page 1

petition asking the government to aid those persecuted by genocides be signed by each NSU student and sent to the President, the Governor, and our Senators, guaranteeing that with so many signatures, there would be a response.

The audience, applauding throughout the lecture and rising twice more for standing ovations, was moved by Wiesel's words. Those visiting Auschwitz, Kosovo, and other areas during spring break as part of Gary Gershman's study abroad class were particularly affected.

"Speaking with [Mr. Wiesel] and seeing him and listening to him puts more of a perspective on [the trip] than reading a book and listening to lecture and then going," said senior Joycelyn McLaughlin.

Tajira Omphrey felt similarly. "I'm more excited now," she said. "It seems more real now that we're going to see where these things occurred."

Rosenblum said that he was "pleased and thrilled with the event and having Mr. Wiesel on campus," adding that Wiesel was "a champion of change" and the college strived to "expose [the students] to the people who have shaped our world."

Wiesel has not only shaped our world, but challenges others to do so as well. "There is tremendous hope and tremendous despair," he said. "The choice is ours."
Movie Review

Date Movie

Not a Great Movie

Rating: $2.00

Marines Alvarez
A&E Editor

Date Movie is a horrible excuse for a film and in no way should be considered a parody. The film's claim to fame is being written and directed by Jason Friedberg and Aaron Seltzer, "two of the six writers of Scary Movie." In other words, take Scary Movie and back out two-thirds of the entertainment value.

The story begins with Julia Jones (Alyson Hannigan, American Pie), looking to step out of her humdrum existence and find true love. She thinks the best way to do this is to dance around her neighborhood to the tune of Kelis's "Milkshake." The bad news is that Hannigan is not fat, so the opening scenes called for Hollywood's favorite joke-in-a-minute, the fat suit. Because obesity is a barrel of laughs. The worse news is that this scene was actually one of the best in the movie.

Julia meets the man of her dreams, Grant Honkramer (Honkramer-dude... get it?) while waiting tables in her family's Greek diner, Greek Diner. No, I didn't accidentally press the paste button back on. The writers are so witty that they named the diner "Greek Diner."

Desperate and determined to nab her man, Julia consults date doctor Hitch. Now the writers get so witty that they don't even try and change Hitch's name. But they do hire Tony Cox (Bad Santa) to play him, which is supposed to make us laugh because he is a little person.

Lil' Hitch takes Julia to be "pimped" a la MTV's show "Pimp My Ride." After the required back wax, pedicure and industrial liposuction, Julia emerges slim and sexy and I still didn't care. Or laugh.

Free from that pesky fat suit, Julia signs up for "The Bachelor: Desperate Edition," and of course the bachelor turns out to be that name other than Grant. Julia is the last woman standing after an elimination round that involves guns, and she wins a date with Grant at a restaurant, A Restaurant. Again, it's not a sticky paste button, just the shining wit brought to you by the writers.

The only reason the writers so obviously struck in a scene at a restaurant was to rip off the famous orgasm scene from When Harry Met Sally. And just to show that they really saw the movie, Julia responds with, "I'll have what he's having."

The rest of the movie focuses on the pair's trials, including meeting each other's parents and planning a wedding. Although this may sound like a plot to you, don't be fooled- this movie had no such thing. In fact, to call it a parody of any sort would be a misnomer. It's obvious that the writers were content with just referencing every movie in their DVD collection, including but by no means limited to, Napoleon Dynamite, My Big Fat Greek Wedding, Hitch, Sweet Home Alabama, Legally Blonde, My Best Friend's Wedding, Along Came Polly, Kill Bill, The Lord of the Rings, Star Wars Episode III: Revenge of the Sith, When Harry Met Sally, Say Anything, The Wedding Planner, Pretty Woman, Meet the Parents/Meet the Fockers, King Kong. Mr. Dynamite.

Please See DATE Page 12

Oscars and Dresses and Guesses, Oh My

By Marines Alvarez
A&E Editor

The smell of hairspray and self-tanner is filling the air, and the Oscar glint is nearly blinding me. It's about that time for winners-to-be to start preparing their speeches, though they must beware the mighty Oscar band that will cut them short if their blathering takes too long. Start taking out your scorecards, viewers at home, and if I were to condone gambling, I'd say start placing your bets. In the great words of Johnny Carson, get ready to have "two hours of sparkling entertainment spread out over four hours." Prepare yourselves for at least 5 different pre-shows, one of which may or may not feature Isaac Mizrahi's misfire of celebrities (again...). Yes, it's true. There is nothing quite like the Oscars. And though it may seem as if this year will be painfully predictable, that doesn't mean we can't enjoy the little things. For example, did you know that a song with the word "pimp" in it is nominated for "Best Original Song?" Did you know that an award goes out to the category of "Sound Editing" and "Sound Mixing" even though they are quite possibly the same thing? Plus, I can almost guarantee that some celebrity will cry their eyes out and give a nonsensical speech. If that isn't enough to rein you in, I don't know what is.

All jokes and fake admiration aside, there were truly some worthy performances given this past year. Despite what the Academy says, I (who am obviously more important) will let you know who will and who should win:

Best Actor:
Will Win: Philip Seymour Hoffman, Capote

Holy Heath Ledger, Brokeback Mountain

It's no secret that the Academy loves when celebrities gain or lose weight and don an accent.

Please See OSCARS Page 12

Showbiz Bits

When Your Godfather Has Kissed Your Daddy

It's no secret that Nick Lachey was the brains in the Lachey/Simpson marriage. Not that it was too grand a feat, but nevertheless, he knows the difference between fish and chicken. He also knows the meaning of the words "spousal support." That's right ladies and gentlemen, don't feel too bad for Mr. Lachey, for he is making sure that he gets what he deserves. According to Yahoo!, in court papers filed in response to Simpson's divorce filing, Lachey asks for "jewelry and other personal effects, his earnings and accumulations from and after the date of separation and other, to be determined assets." Never mind that he makes no money of his own and that his music (I use the term loosely) is worse than his ex-wife's. He had to put up with "fish or chicken" and "buffalo wings" and that horrid singing. Pay the man I say. Pay the man.

The Scariest Sex Tape Ever

One name: Kid Rock. Now, if that isn't enough to scare the crap out of you, add the words "sex tape" and you've got yourself the most disgusting notion ever. According to Yahoo!, Kid Rock is suing a California company in an attempt to stop the release of said video, which also features ex-rocker Scott Stapp and four random women. You know? I'm going to sue the company too because the last thing we need is a video of a naked Kid Rock. And here is a note to you, Mr. Rock and to all you starlets who dread the release of your sexual exploits on tape: don't tape yourselves. Now, I know that concept may be a bit too real for you to grasp. But for the love of humanity, try and learn.

Double the Pleasure, Double the Fun

What's the best way for an aspiring "Idol" contestant to secure some votes? Have Maxim online post sexy photos of you, of course. Okay, so maybe contestant Becky D'ODonohue didn't plan it that way, but that's the way it happened. Maxim Online is featuring a series of photos that feature Becky and her twin sister Jessee in typical Maxim poses. The photos were reportedly taken before D'ODonohue landed on "Idol," when she was a contestant. "Becky and her twin sister in typical Maxim poses. The photos were reportedly taken before D'ODonohue landed on "Idol," when she was a contestant. According to Yahoo!, the great people at FOX had no comment. Well, Becky, the only way you can mess this up is if you sing like crap.

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DATE
Continued from page 11

& Mrs. Smith, Wedding Crashers, Dodgeball, Bridget Jones's Diary, and What Women Want.

In stead of focusing on a few films or delving into the world of general romantic comedy clichés, the writers were clearly following the spaghetti method of writing: that is, throw it all against the wall and one is bound to stick.

Besides that, there is something fundamentally wrong with parodying comedies. Napoleon Dynamite, Dodgeball and Meet the Parents are already social satires, meaning that the moments skewed during this movie were funny the first time around. And no, Jason Friedberg and Aaron Seltzer, second time is not a charm. It's the equivalent of that friend you have that insists on re-telling every one of his favorite comedian's jokes. Not funny.

Despite the less than humorous material, Date Movie finds grace in its leading actress. It's a little sad that this is Alyson Hannigan's first leading role. Ironically, Hannigan plays Julia Jones with the innocence, down-to-earth, likable quality that could carry a real romantic comedy. Jennifer Coolidge and Fred Willard were spot on in their roles as Bernie and Roz Funkyloveder, a spoof on Meet the Fuckers, but their talent was mostly wasted in this horridness.

Date Movie, in all, left me a little sad. With such ripe material offered by the romance genre, there was so much more the writers could've done. A little word of advice to the writers: rerent Airplane! or Blazing Saddles, or even Scary Movie, which was awful, but still better than your movie. Once you've learned a little something, get back to us. Until then, please don't ask us to waste any money on your seventh grade pony humor.

A little word of advice to moviegoers: You'd be better off watching the movies Date Movie tries to spoof. Clitché and silliness as they may be, they are actually hold some entertainment value. Or better yet, go find the trailer for Date Movie online and enjoy the three laughs I paid $9 and waited 80 minutes to have. Trust me when I say that any moment left out of the trailer is not worth seeing at all.

**OSCARS**
Continued from page 11

Hoffman did both! Beyond that, Hoffman gave a solid performance and completely transformed into Capote, carrying the film with his great portrayal. Besides, the other nominees: David Strathairn (who? Yeah, exactly), Terrence Howard and Joaquin "Doesn't deserve it" Phoenix. I can't rule Heath Ledger out completely because Brokeback Mountain is... Brokeback Mountain. Enough said.

**Best Actress:**
Will Win: Renee Witherspoon, Walk the Line
Some Hope: Felicity Huffman, Transamerica

An actress who starred in a biopic about a legend and sang her own songs equals a shoe-in. Again, the Academy loves that stuff. It does help that she is a much-loved A-lister and she gave a terrific performance as the charismatic June Carter. Her competition comes in all the weight in three days. Someone with the innocent, down-to-earth, likable quality that could carry a real romantic comedy. Jennifer Coolidge and Fred Willard were spot on in their roles as Bernie and Roz Funkyloveder, a spoof on Meet the Fuckers, but their talent was mostly wasted in this horridness.

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**OSCARS**
Continued from page 11

Hoffman did both! Beyond that, Hoffman gave a solid performance and completely transformed into Capote, carrying the film with his great portrayal. Besides, the other nominees: David Strathairn (who? Yeah, exactly), Terrence Howard and Joaquin "Doesn't deserve it" Phoenix. I can't rule Heath Ledger out completely because Brokeback Mountain is... Brokeback Mountain. Enough said.

**Best Actress:**
Will Win: Renee Witherspoon, Walk the Line
Some Hope: Felicity Huffman, Transamerica

An actress who starred in a biopic about a legend and sang her own songs equals a shoe-in. Again, the Academy loves that stuff. It does help that she is a much-loved A-lister and she gave a terrific performance as the charismatic June Carter. Her competition comes in all the weight in three days. Someone with the innocent, down-to-earth, likable quality that could carry a real romantic comedy. Jennifer Coolidge and Fred Willard were spot on in their roles as Bernie and Roz Funkyloveder, a spoof on Meet the Fuckers, but their talent was mostly wasted in this horridness.

Date Movie, in all, left me a little sad. With such ripe material offered by the romance genre, there was so much more the writers could've done. A little word of advice to the writers: rerent Airplane! or Blazing Saddles, or even Scary Movie, which was awful, but still better than your movie. Once you've learned a little something, get back to us. Until then, please don't ask us to waste any money on your seventh grade pony humor.

A little word of advice to moviegoers: You'd be better off watching the movies Date Movie tries to spoof. Clitché and silliness as they may be, they are actually hold some entertainment value. Or better yet, go find the trailer for Date Movie online and enjoy the three laughs I paid $9 and waited 80 minutes to have. Trust me when I say that any moment left out of the trailer is not worth seeing at all.

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Dear NSU Community,

Yesterday I, along with a few hundred other people, got the chance to listen to one of the most inspirational and influential speakers of our time. Each of us had our reasons to appreciate and listen to one of the most inspirational and influential speakers of our time. His words and his message; perhaps because we respect his being a survivor of the Holocaust, because we admired his work as an author, perhaps because we respect his hypothetical Observer represent people who were operating lastly is just a guise to me, however. Underneath the surface lies a chaotic interior. Let me explain, kind sir. (Note: Mr. Hypothetical Observer represents me.)

Yes, the SGA has changed but I think it has done so for the wrong reasons. I have mentioned that thought in a previous installment of this column, but I didn’t completely explain the reasons for thinking so.

Several senators, such as IOC Senator Jessica Boyd and President Jason Peabees, agreed at the end of the last meeting that it progressed more with unity and cooperation. In my opinion, that is only because former Vice President Liz Harbaugh and former Commuter Senator Alaina Siminovsky are not part of the Senate anymore. People may complain that the meetings were slower and stricter when they were present, but that is because they know Constitution is entitled to their interpretations. Some senators are still working on bills and other legislation.

There is $25,114.95 in the Senate Reserve Fund. The Spring Fling Bill by the SGA and SUB requested $15,975 to fund a dance with an 80’s themed party with a band called The Breakfast Club and Mario Lopez, better known as A.C. Slater from TV’s “Saved by the Bell.” Some senators disagreed on whether Lopez was worth the extra $14,000 required for his appearance when they should have been worrying about what their constituents wanted. Freshmen Senators Steven Reddy and Andrew Iribarn said the constituents wanted a large concert event and that the SGA should give it to them. I agree. However, the bill was tabled due to its high cost.

The SGA's Mock Trial Bill was denied because they needed to go through the Leadership Development Committee, a standing committee of the SGA.

[The letter text continues with various points and examples related to student government activities and current events at NSU.]
In TV Land

Talking to Strangers is A-Okay

By Marina Alvarez

Art Editor

I’m not sure how many of you can remember a time when MTV actually featured— I don’t know— music. It seems that now-a-days, though, they are completely content with filling their hours with television crack. Now, I’ve never actually done drugs, but I think the experience might be dangerously close to the highs and lows one experiences while watching the crap MTV comes up with. Really? That makes me sad. It’s one solution handling you child off for dates! So the person your kid is dating is high maintenance or a little uncouth. Hello? The person you’re setting them up with, the one you talked to for all of five minutes, could possibly be a sex offender. Or even a murderer. Or could have halitosis or a chronic gas problem. Good going, mom and dad.

I want to know where the heck MTV comes up with. I’m sure most are familiar with MTV’s classic trash, shows like “The Real World,” “Road Rules,” and the “Real World/Road Rules Challenge,” but the powers that be have been superseding their own levels of garbage with a slew of competitive reality shows like “Room Raiders,” “My Own,” “Next” and one of their newest additions, “Parental Control.”

Like most of the previously mentioned shows, “Parental Control” focuses on the exciting world of dating. Basically, it deals with parents who hate their child’s boyfriend or girlfriend and decide it’d be better to bump said child out to complete strangers. The parents “interview” a handful of prospective dates and ask them pertinent questions like, “If you had a mating call, what would it be?” After the interviews, each parent gets to choose their favorite contestant, who will then go on a date with their kid.

The twist is that the parents get to watch the date along with the current boyfriend or girlfriend. At the end of the day, a choice has to be made to either stay with their boyfriend or girlfriend or choose to start dating one of the contestants. Riveting, isn’t it?

I have a few problems with “Parental Control,” and it starts with the parents. I can understand not liking a boyfriend or girlfriend, but is the bestsolution handling you child off for dates? So the person your kid is dating is high maintenance or a little uncouth. Hello? The person you’re setting them up with, the one you talked to for all of five minutes, could possibly be a sex offender. Or even a murderer. Or could have halitosis or a chronic gas problem. Good going, mom and dad.

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2006 NSUSGA ELECTIONS

It takes big fins...

NSU to be a leader!

Informational Meetings
Tuesday, February 28, 12:00 - 1:00pm
Wednesday, March 1, 5:00 - 6:00 pm
Thursday, March 2, 12:00 -1:00pm  
(flight deck)

**Applications are due to the Office of Student Affairs (Rosenthal 204)
by Wednesday, March 15, 2006 @ noon.

Voting
Monday, March 27 -- Thursday, March 30 (online)

Victory Party
Friday, March 31 @ 4pm in the Flight Deck

For more information, contact
Davia McDonald at 954-562-1352 or davia@nova.edu
Be an Orientation Leader!
Summer 2006

Shark Discoveries

Applications are available at the following locations:

Office of New Student Programs and Orientation, Parker 131
Farquhar College of Arts and Sciences, Office of the Dean, Mailman, Second Floor
Division of Student Affairs, Rosenthal 100
Office of Student Activities and Leadership Development, Rosenthal 204
Residential Life and Housing, Goodwin Residence Hall, First Floor Lobby
Academic Division Offices

Applications are due to New Student Programs and Orientation (Parker, Room 131) by Friday, March 3, 2006 at 5:00 P.M.

For more information, contact New Student Programs and Orientation at 954-262-8050