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And the Winner Is...

The Real Party

The members of "The Real Party" and some friends pose for a quick picture in the Don Taft University Center Flight Deck.

ANTHONY CAMPENNI
PRESIDENT

"As SGA President I want to bring NSU together and create a sense of unity. One of our main concerns is to build school spirit by having increased campus events and collaboration with clubs and organizations. I want to make SGA the face of NSU."

ALEXIS IRIAS
STAFF WRITER

On April 3, the votes were in and students gathered with anticipation at the Don Taft University Center Flight Deck to hear who would be announced as the future SGA leaders.

All candidates stood nervously to speak their last words before they announced the winners. Candidates mutually agreed that no matter who won or lost they would individually and united still put in their maximum effort to improve NSU and its students' needs.

Director of Student Leadership and Civic Engagement, Terry A. Morrow, said that before announcing who won she wanted to express that this has been, by far, the strongest group of student leaders who have run on this college campus. She then announced that the student body elected the "The Real Party" to become NSU's 2009/2010 SGA representatives.

Japheth Pizarro, a sophomore in criminal justice, who was running for SGA President, commented on his reaction to the elected SGA president and party.

"I just think the student body chose who they thought was the best to lead the student government in the next school year," said Pizarro. "I obviously would have loved to win but not having a title isn't going to stop me from being a leader on this campus, you'll hear from me soon enough."

Students celebrated The Real Party's victory with pizza and cake. Anthony Campenni, who was elected SGA president, commented on how he felt about his victory.

"Everyone showed such great dedication to the campaign and to the future success of the next SGA and I look forward to working with everyone who won in this election next year."

Michele Mestz, campus entertainment director of The Real Party, commented on the future initiatives he hopes will take place in the upcoming year. He has planned to have a "Welcome Back Water Works" event, which will be a foam party in the first week of school.

We also want to improve Sharkapalooza for more incoming students to be encouraged to join clubs and organizations," he said. The SGA meetings will also now be open to all students and they are encouraged to come and present new ideas.

Campenni concluded by adding how grateful he was for the victory and has promised to not let his supporters down. He thanked everyone who supported The Real Party.

"This election wasn't about me, it wasn't about the Action Party and it wasn't about Sharkery... this election was about YOU, the undergraduate students of NSU and you have spoken to let The Real Party represent you next year, to make NSU a more diverse and dynamic campus."
NSU Launches New Web Site

ANNARELY RODRIGUEZ
STAFF WRITER

NSU launched a new home page on March 31, to appeal to a greater number of prospective students. “We were due to have a new site,” said Gabriela Vignolo, director of marketing communications in the Office of University Relations. “We had the old one for over five years and we wanted students to use the Web site more than any other application. We wanted to make it more appealing to navigate,” said Vignolo.

The project was in the making for about a year. During this time, the Office of University Relations conducted research and teamed up with the Office of Information Technologies and Digital Media to design the page. According to Vignolo, the Web site did not cost the university any additional money because it was done by employees.

As part of the research, the office showcased the Web site to prospective high school students from whom they received positive feedback. Many current NSU students, however, are not in agreement with this opinion. Some students, however, have taken a liking to the Web site after exploring it. Alexis Raul Garcia, a senior biology major, did not like it at first but after finding WebCT under the Quick Links tab, he quickly changed his mind about the new look.

“The information is good. It is professional. After figuring out where everything is, you realize that it’s better, more synthesized and straightforward,” said Garcia-Soso. “You get a lot of information about the school at first glance in a short amount of time.”

Not only were students having trouble finding WebCT and WebMail, but also the links for athletics. This was caught by the ‘webmasters two days after the launch and changed to a visible link on the left hand side. Another major change to the Web site was the color. It is no longer the dark blue that identifies NSU.

“We changed the color because our school color was too dark for the web. It was hard to read; a lot of universities do it. I know the university of Florida does it, their colors are bright orange and blue but they tone it down for the Web, and that is what we did, we used a different tone of our school color,” Vignolo commented.

The next addition of the Web site redesign will be each college’s particular page and adding a virtual campus tour to the main homepage. Keep on the look out for these and more changes to come.

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Personally Speaking with Ivanka Trump

LAUREN AURIGEMMA
CHIEF OF VISUAL DESIGN

The NSU community gathered in the Alfred and Rose Miniaci Performing Arts Center on March 31 for the "Life 101: Personally Speaking" series, featuring Ivanka Trump.

Trump joined host Mark Cavanaugh, Ph.D., an associate professor of social and behavioral sciences at the Farquhar College of Arts and Sciences, for an in-depth interview about her life, work and famous father, Donald Trump.

The conversation started off with a brief history about how the Trump family came to be in the real estate business, starting with her great-paternal grandfather. As a child, Trump was passionate about real estate and the family business, but never really discovered it until she was in her late teens.

"As a child, Trump was passionate about the real estate business, and came to be in the real estate business, but never really discovered it until she was in her late teens."

"Ivanka Trump, the daughter of former president Donald Trump, was surprised by her appearance. "It was very inspiring and hard work," said Amanda Cazacu, a sophomore marketing major, also a member of the development team.

"That was the most important things Trump..." said she has learned from her famous father about being in the industry, was that drive and passion are the most important traits in the professional workplace. "Drive and passion differentiate the good from the great," Trump said. She also said when you find what you love, it can be hard to differentiate between work and play, but it has its advantages, people apply themselves with great tenacity succeed.

Trump also spoke about "The Apprentice" as well as other foundations she is associated with. In addition to all the other projects Trump is currently working on, she is also writing a book. Although no expected date for release was mentioned, she commented that it is going to be about her lessons learned as a woman being in a male-dominated business and discuss experiences on working in a company with family.

After the interview was complete, the audience was given a chance to have a short question-and-answer session with Trump. With questions ranging from dating men to working outside the corporate world, Trump was surprisingly very inspiring and she found what you love, it can be hard to differentiate between work and play, but it has its advantages, people apply themselves with great tenacity succeed.

Although she is known for being Donald Trump's daughter, many were surprised by Trump's appearance. "Ivanka Trump was surprisingly very inspiring and intelligent for being a part of her father's shadow," said Amanda Cazacu, a sophomore business administration major.

After the event, Michelle Al-Zouman, a sophomore marketing major, also commented on Trump's interview by saying, "She was very inspiring and makes you want to find out what you are passionate about and be great at it." For more photos of the event, please log on to www.nosccurrent.com.

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Events Calendar

**Tuesday, April 7**

**Tools for Success**

Tools for Success: Advising CPR: Are you confused about which, classes to enroll in? Not sure how to arrange your academic schedule? Then attend this workshop designed to provide information about the different majors and programs available at NSU! The workshop will begin at 12 p.m. in Room 1013 of Carl DeSantis Building. For more information, please e-mail Katie Gittleman at katiegel@nova.edu.

**Wednesday, April 8**

Crunch Time: The Alvin Sherman Library will host this three-day event from April 6-8 designed to help students as they prepare for final projects. At the event, students will be able to enjoy various services, which include wellness workshops, tutoring and research help and free snacks. The event will run from 3 to 9 p.m. in the Alvin Sherman Library. For more information, please contact the Alvin Sherman Library at (954) 262-4600.

**Thursday, April 9**

Tools for Success Web Based Series: Goal Setting Made Easy: Not sure how to set goals? Not sure what they are? Then attend this workshop that will give information on goal-setting strategies. For more information, please e-mail Katie Gittleman at katiegel@nova.edu.

**Faith Connections Mixer:** Interested in learning about different types of faith practices? Then attend this event designed to provide you with the opportunity to meet other students and learn about their faith. The event will begin at 4 p.m. in the Spiritual Life House on the Bowen Center Building. For more information, please contact Mark De Mello at demello@nova.edu or (954) 262-7283.

**Florida Author Series: Local writer and 2009 NAACP Literary Award Nominee Bonnie Glover will speak about her newest book, "Going Down South," which tells the story of the incomparable love and bond between mothers and daughters. The event will begin at 1 p.m. in Room 1017 of the Alvin Sherman Library. For more information, please contact the Alvin Sherman Library at (954) 262-4600.

**Crunch Time: Please see entry under April 7 for more information.**

**Sunday, April 13**

Easter Sunday

**Monday, April 15**

Bill Maher at the Don Taft University Center: Political-comedian Bill Maher will perform live at the Don Taft University Center Arena. The event will begin at 8 p.m. Tickets are on sale at the NSU Arena Box Office and through www.ticketmaster.com. For more information, please contact Nick SDicco at (954) 262-5562.

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Vice President of PETA Weighs in on Animal Rights

Dan Mathews (right), vice president of PETA, speaks at a room full of NSU law students on April 3 about the maltreatment of animals in the food industry. Mathews noted that after being beaten by fellow classmates and laughed at for then going home and hugging his partner in the same thing, he empathized with the animals and that began his activist career.

LAURA STARR
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

At the Shepard Broad Law Center, on Apr. 2, Dan Mathews, senior vice president of the People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, spoke to students about the cruelty and mistreatment that animals face at the hands of various corporations or organizations.

"Animal rights are much more of a consumer issue rather than a political issue," he said, also stating that PETA is usually "out-gunned" when they attempt to have their voices heard against these corporations or organizations.

Seeing cats and other animals thrown against garage doors, just because people had nothing better to do, personal beatings which he saw a fish that he caught gasping for air, were some of the instances that prompted Mathews on this journey of activism and becoming a vegetarian at the age of 16 years old.

Jesse G. Monteagudo, a legal secretary at NSU, attended this event because Mathews was such an intriguing person.

"He is a dedicated human being and a man on a mission," said Monteagudo.

Mathews' larger mission began in 1985, when he took a receptionist position joining the PETA team. Staying true to the cause, Mathews worked his way up in the organization and has been responsible for influencing many aspects of animal rights and even enticing celebrities such as Pink and Pamela Anderson to join the cause.

"Our motto at PETA is that it is better to go too far, rather than not far enough," Mathews said. He stays true to this motto, as he is notorious for campaigns such as the "Rather Go Naked Than Wear Fur" initiative, in which he paraded down public streets naked with a sign and a message.

The stunts, he noted, are to make sure he gets the public's attention, but PETA's truest and most important initiatives are the undercover investigations for the mistreatment and abuse of animals. Andrea Macatangay, a second-year law student attended this event for this exact reason.

"This event is really personal to me," she said, mentioning that she recently became interested in animal rights after adopting a sick animal. "I [adopted] a pet...and paid over $5,000 to save his life. It's just not right."

For more information on PETA and vegetarianism, please visit www.peta.org.

Symposium Honors Art and Research

ANNARELY RODRIGUEZ
STAFF WRITER

Undergraduate students got an opportunity to display their research at the eighth annual Undergraduate Student Symposium on April 3 in the Alvin Sherman Library.

Students partnered with one or more faculty members to work on a research project. Topics ranged from science to art and were judged by Faqauqer College of Arts and Sciences faculty members.

Participants stood alongside their posters in the first floor of the Alvin Sherman Library, while professors and other students asked questions about their work.

"I am not nervous. I did what I had to do. I'm confident because I know what I'm talking about and because I worked hard," said Melissa Paschke, a senior marine biology major, whose project analyzed manatee migration to the Everglades over a period of seven years.

Don Rosenblum, Ph.D., dean of the Faqauqer College of Arts and Sciences commenced the awards ceremony by commending students for their hard work and encouraging them to continue to be involved scholastically.

When it was time to announce the winners, Allan Schulman, Ph.D., recognized the winners of the best submissions to the literary magazine, "Digressions," and then moved on to the symposium's winners. The first winner of the night was Alexandra Paroulek, a senior biology major, who won an award given by the African American College Women for Excellence for her paper titled "Go Naked Than Wear Fur!"

For his film "Lament," Paroulek, who worked on her paper for two years, decided to join the cause.

"The symposium included medical research, films by students, and experimental products, as well as literary interpretation."

The symposium is mostly all about science, so I wanted to bring something different," said Michelle Mi-Le Kim, a junior biology major, who entered two analytical posters, one analyzing the music of a composer, the other on finding natural extracts that block ultra-violet light.

"A lot of people think you can't analyze music, but I had to read books for research with this project just as I did with the other one."

The studied intermolecular forces in Chemistry II Honors. We looked at the ways they interact and looked for a way to strengthen intermolecular forces in detergent," said Ivara Agula, a freshman biology major who worked on the project with three other students. "This is all theoretical,[and] we have not tested it yet, but according to the data it should work."

The winners of the symposium will reunite for an awards luncheon later in April. To listen to Michelle Mi-Le Kim interpret the song she analyzed or to view a gallery of some of the student art, log on to www.nsucurrent.com.
NSU Student Leaders are Thermostats vs. Thermometers

Assistant Dean of Student Development Bill Faulkner addressed various student leaders about the three simple steps to positive and effective leadership. These are total investment: the first 30 days a new student is on campus, continuous focus on the club or organization and school spirit.

LAURA STARR
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Encouraging student leaders to be thermostats instead of thermometers was by being proactive and creating a positive climate on campus, continuous focus on the club or organization and school spirit.

Thermostats vs. Thermometers

Assistant Dean Bill Faulkner's speech in the Carl DeSantis Building, on April 4, which opened the Spring Leadership Conference at Nova Southeastern University.

Faulkner spoke about thermostats in that they “reflect the climate” that surrounds them. To this, he encouraged current student leaders to be thermostats, because they are able to “set” the climate of NSU by being proactive and creating a positive campus spirit with their endeavors.

After Faulkner’s closing remarks, students were then privy to attend three different break-out sessions, which included “ Cliques,” “So, I’m on an Exec Board—Now What?” and “Show me the money: Preparing your organization’s budget for the SGA budget hearing.”

“I appreciated the combination of both common sense and academia, such as a brief introduction to “Situational Leadership,” by Hersey & Blanchard,” said Philip Kromer, president of the Rotaract Club, in reference to the opportunity for directors to impart knowledge in small gatherings outside of the lectures.

“[To get involved...meet people, learn different cultures and to get informed]’ commented Michael Orozco, a biology major and new student orientation leader in the Office of First Year and Transitional Programs, stating the reasons that conferences such as these and the services that NSU has to offer are important for students to look into.

For more information on how to become more involved on campus, please visit the Student Affairs home page at www.nova.edu/cws/studentaffairs.

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Putting the Pieces Together for Autism

LAURA STARR
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

This event was put on in conjunction with the Office of Student Disability Services. At tables throughout the event, NSU members could decorate puzzle pieces to offer their support and assist in creating awareness to the cause. The event involved many participants of the NSU community, including various clubs and organizations and academic departments.

Heidi Colston, administrative assistant in the Office of Student Disability Services and committee member of this initiative, had this to say about her reasons for assisting in creating such awareness: "My family has been personally affected by autism," she said. "When my daughter was 3 years old, a health care professional told me my daughter would never be normal." Colston went on to state that, although this was a painful statement to hear, it prompted her to get involved and assist in creating such awareness. "My best friend's cousin has autism and that it breaks her heart," she said.

Attendee Rosey Velez, a history major and Psi Chi member, noted that her best friend's family has been personally affected by autism, and the event made her even more happy to have been a part of it, and she hopes more people will get involved. "Every year I say the magazine is the best one ever, but every year it is true. The quality of the work is better," said Suzanne Fertiss, Ph.D., faculty adviser of "Digressions." "This has been our most competitive year. Out of the 37 students who submitted, the work of 22 students was included." "It was very interesting, I got to read a lot of different pieces," said Brittany Luce, a sophomore marine biology major who worked on the layout of the magazine. "My favorite part was looking at all the art work, and since it is in color this year, it pops a lot more."

"It's still sinking in," said Negress Talen, a sophomore biology major who has three paintings featured in the magazine. "It's pretty cool [to see my work published]." said Mona Shah, a sophomore biology major, whose poem entitled "Fallen" was included in the magazine. "It is about an angel who falls from grace. I have always liked mythology, and it was fun to tie into my poem."

The 41 published works were judged by a panel of 10 professors selected from all the divisions in the Farquhar College of Arts and Sciences. The judging was done based on three categories: poetry, short fiction and visual arts. "The criteria were different for each category. In terms of short fiction, I was looking for something really moving on a human level, I thought there were a lot of pieces that did that, and had good, rich imagery," said Lynn Wolf, Ph.D., assistant professor in the Division of Humanities and one of the judges.

"It was hard for me, but I really enjoyed it, especially enjoyed that some of the writers were students of mine. It was especially nice to see their work outside of the classroom," Wolf continued.

There were two winners in each category, and they were all recognized in the Undergraduate Student Symposium on Friday, April 3.

In the poetry category, the first-place winner was Bred Sta's "Mute," who received a copy of the book "Discovery of Poetry." Daniel King's "Song of the Wolves," won second place.

The first-place winner of the short fiction category and the recipient of the book, "Best American Short Stories 2009," was Ashley Allen for her story "The Awe of Trumpets," followed by runner-up Edward Marks for his story "Another Family's Loss." Finally, in the visual arts category, Grace Cox's "Figure Study" was awarded first place, while Charles Cavallito was second place for his drawing "Savannah, Georgia by the Pier."

"The best part of the magazine is that they never cease. We get to choose the work based on originality and quality not because it fits a theme," said Stephanie Robinson, professor in the Division of Humanities and Editor-in-Chief of "Digressions.

"I am impressed with the student editors and writers; they did an outstanding job," said Don Rosenbaum, dean of the Farquhar College of Arts and Sciences. "I am glad that "Digressions" provides students with the opportunity to write and express themselves. It is a great learning experience outside the classroom."
Rocking Out for the Children

ANNARELY RODRIGUEZ
STAFF WRITER

The ladies of Sigma Delta Tau hosted their second annual benefit concert on April 4, in the Don Taft University Center Flight Deck, to raise awareness about child abuse as part of Prevent Child Abuse Month.

The girls invited four bands from throughout the state of Florida, to participate in the "Do It For The Kids" concert in hopes of surpassing the approximately $250 collected last year.

The lineup included "A Cover Story," from Orlando, "Ex Norwegian" and "Madelyn," from Ft. Lauderdale and "And Then There Was You," from Miami.

"We love doing benefit concerts," said Eddie Castillo, from "And Then There Was You," a pop-punk band. "It feels good to be part of something that raises awareness about something that people need to be aware of."

Although only a small crowd gathered outside the flight deck, those who came enjoyed the concert and the free food.

"It is nice that they have good music. I like to listen to good local bands," said Mark Egian, a freshman accounting and finance major, who also commented on the cause. "I heard them mention it and it sounded like a good cause."

In between acts the girls read facts about child abuse throughout the country.

After "A Cover Story" finished their set, Nikki Bigmami, a freshman marketing major, told the crowd that over 905,000 children are abused and neglected every year and that eight out of 10 of these children are under the age of four. This last fact was symbolized by the popping of eight balloons.

The event also included a bracelet sale and a raffle for a gift certificate to Toobay's and a custom-made chocolate box. All the proceeds will go to their national philanthropy, "Prevent Child Abuse America."

"Last year the turnout was pretty good. A lot of people showed up and were generous with their money. This year we did it on a bigger scale; the girls put their all into this," said Melissa Austria, a senior nursing major and former president of Sigma Delta Tau. They were able to raise $450 for the cause.

A Cover Story performs as part of the lineup in Sigma Delta Tau's benefit concert. The band came from Orlando to help raise money for the organization's philanthropy.
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Baseball Drops Conference Series

Senior infielder Dale Alberto hits deep into right field against Florida Tech.

TIM COENRAAD
STAFF WRITER

The NSU baseball team (26-8; 3-6 SSC) took on the Panthers of Florida Tech last week in a Sunshine State conference three game series on March 27 and 28. The Sharks took a 1-0 lead early in the first game when senior Pete Simon (34) singled through the right side for an RBI. The Panthers were quick to respond as they tied the game back up in the third inning, erupting with a six-run inning, and after the 8-1 deficit seemed insurmountable for the Sharks, Simon (34) took on the Panthers of Florida Tech the bottom of the eighth inning on March 28 taking game one against the Tars. Junior Lauren Lopez (15) was the hero of the day, as she smashed a walk-off RBI double to right center field giving NSU the 1-0 win. Sophomore pitcher Lexi Sarradet (6) pitched a standout game as she pitched all eight innings giving up only three hits, no runs and providing 11 strikeouts.

NSU's double-header with Rollins got underway a day late, as unplayable weather forced them to push the game to March 30. In the opening game of the double-header, the Sharks were not able to get going offensively, coming up with only four hits as a team and no runs. The Tar capitalized on the Sharks' slow offensive game, tagging on five runs, four coming from RBIs, as Rollins took game one of the double-header and squared the series at 1-1.

NSU came out like a completely different team in the second game of the double-header, wasting no time offensively by scoring four runs off two hits in the first inning with RBIs coming from Lopez and junior April Donachie (8). After a scoreless second inning, the Sharks extended their lead to 7-0 in the third inning when Donachie supplied even more offense by crushing a three-run homerun to left centerfield asserting the Sharks’ dominance in the game. A two RBI homerun in the sixth inning was not enough, as Sarradet closed out the series win after another fine pitching performance making the score 7-2.

Donachie was the difference in the final game going two-for-two with five clutch RBIs and a run, sparking the Sharks to a pivotal conference win.

Softball Downs No. 24 Rollins College

Junior infielder Brittany Lamb swings against Rollins.

TIM COENRAAD
STAFF WRITER

The NSU softball team (37-10; 10-5 SSC) has knocked off another ranked-conference opponent, as they defeated the No. 24 Rollins College Taras in a three-game Sunshine State Conference series two games to one.

In a game heavily dominated by defense, the Sharks were able to pull out a victory in the bottom of the eighth inning on March 28 taking game one against the Tars. Junior Lauren Lopez (15) was the hero of the day, as she smashed a walk-off RBI double to right center field giving NSU the 1-0 win. Sophomore pitcher Lexi Sarradet (6) pitched a standout game as she pitched all eight innings giving up only three hits, no runs and providing 11 strikeouts.

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Women's Golf Takes First in Five of Its Last Six Tournaments

Junior Maria Garcia-Austen route to its victory over fifteen competing institutions, while participating in the Hoy Invitational on March 29-31.

NSU's women's golf team was led by junior Marta Garcia-Austen receiving a No. 25 national ranking for her incredible ability on the court, improving each year to the No. 1 spot in the Southeast Region in singles play. Talalenko, along with doubles partners Alexa Kotsikich, made history during her freshman season as they formed an ITA All-American duo for the first time in program history.

As a sophomore, Talalenko was named to the All-SSC first team for both singles and doubles play. In her junior year, Talalenko earned All-SSC first team singles recognition once again, while obtaining the SSC Player of the Week acknowledgement, as well as improving her national ranking from No. 6 and 13 among singles and doubles players, respectively.

Fellow teammates and Head Coach Michael Coleman will sorely miss Kulichova and Talalenko, both on and off the court.

NSU Women's Tennis Says Goodbye to Two Seniors

Takes First

TRANEL MESA
SPORTS EDITOR

NSU’s Shark tennis team (18-3 and 16-7 in singles and doubles) closed out the month of March on a high note as they defeated Palm Beach Atlantic, conference rivals Barry University on April 2 for senior day, where six alumni partners Alexa Kotsikich, and Ulia Talalenko. The Sharks collected the No. 12 position in the Sunshine State Conference Tournament on April 19, at Winter Haven, Fla.

Talalenko has been with NSU since her freshman year in 2005, immediately receiving a No. 25 national ranking for her incredible ability on the court, improving each year to the No. 1 spot in the Southeast Region in singles play. Talalenko, along with doubles partners Alexa Kotsikich, made history during her freshman season as they formed an ITA All-American duo for the first time in program history.

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Fellow teammates and Head Coach Michael Coleman will sorely miss Kulichova and Talalenko, both on and off the court.
Patrick Coggi, a sophomore biology major and dance minor, was out giving his support for NSU’s softball team at their 1-0 extra-inning victory over Rollins on March 28. Coggi was ecstatic over the win and commented that softball is his favorite sport to watch. In his free time outside of class and sporting events, Coggi commented that he enjoys going dancing on South Beach and listening to house music, his favorite artist being Anjani Van Buren.

NSU athletics appreciates your support and congratulates you, Coggi, on being NSU’s, “FAN OF THE WEEK!”

---

**UP/DOWN**

1. I am a sophomore infielder/shortstop wearing the No. 13 for the NSU baseball team. I am majoring in history and love to head out to the gun range in my free time.

2. I am a freshman wearing the No. 38 on the NSU baseball team. I am majoring in graphic design and love to go spear fishing in my spare time.

3. I am a 6-foot freshman on the NSU baseball team wearing the No. 41. I am majoring in biology with dual admission into the optometry program. I would love to play baseball at the next level, as well as become a doctor.

4. I am a freshman pitched on the NSU baseball team. I am majoring in athletic training and would love to become a physician assistant following graduation.

---

**ACROSS**

1. Jessica James
2. Katie Pepper
3. Lemar Dyer

**UP/DOWN**

1. Mike Fiers
"The Haunting in Connecticut" Follows the Rules

Sara (Virginia Madsen) and her son Matt (Kyle Gallner) after one of his nightmarish episodes.

RAQUEL FAGON VARIETY EDITOR

The horror genre has been on a down­hill ride since the past couple of horror film releases. With all the Asian horror film remakes that American filmmakers have attempted, finally having an acclaimed "true story" horror film should have been a golden opportunity for first-time director Peter Cornwell.

"The Haunting in Connecticut" is as generic as other horror movies dealing with possession. However, in Cornwell's defense, audiences' appetites for horror films have changed drastically over the past few years.

It is not about being truly scared anymore that one may actually fear the possibility of the same freakish, traumatic things happening in his or her life. It is more about being grossed out by hackings and internal parts spewing like a blender gushing like a busted fire hydrant and fake blood like movie stars. 

After reasoning that it would be better to just move closer to where Matt gets his treatment, Sara and her husband Peter (Martin Donovan) rent an old house in the area. The family is unaware of the history of the house, but Sara is skeptical after stating there must be a catch when such a grand, Victorian house is rented at such a low price. Sara's preconceptions are not misplaced because as soon as they move in, Matt is plagued by the restless spirits in the house. They eventually turn to a local priest (Elias Koteas), who was once plagued by similar spirits (he also has terminal cancer) to exorcise the demons in the house.

What is particularly confusing in the film is the reason behind the spirits communicating with Matt. At one point, it seems like it is because his health is declining, so he is on the border of the real and spiritual world. Another reason, similar to the idea in "The Sixth Sense," is that dead people seem to gravitate to young boys. Unfortunately, neither concept is fully explored, which gives the film an incomplete feel. Again, in Cornwell's defense, in today's horror films, audiences don't seem to want an analysis of events; they simply want the scenes that jump out and scare them every 15 minutes.

The acting in the film is believable for the most part. Koteas gives a solid performance. Embodifying this character is a challenging role, as he has to say and perform some questionable things, but Koteas sells the character well. Madsen's character is not readily liked, as it seems she makes the worst decisions a mother could make. This consequently shows how well Madsen portrays the character. Gallner also plays his part well, as a tortured, dying soul.

"The Haunting in Connecticut" is relatively decent, as it follows all the rules of today's horror films. It does not necessarily leave the audience with the probability of nightmares, but it pleases for the hour-and-a-half run for adults looking for a good laugh.

Amy Adams and Emily Blunt Shine in "Sunshine Cleaning"

Rose (Amy Adams, left) and Norah (Emily Blunt) tackling their first crime scene cleanup.

STEFANI RUBINO MANAGING/OPINIONS EDITOR

Obviously, not every film coming out of Hollywood will be profound or unique, and I certainly do not expect every one of them to be. However, sometimes, seemingly unimpressive films just feel good, and manage to stick with you. "Sunshine Cleaning" is one of these films and there is absolutely nothing wrong with that, at least in this case.

"Sunshine Cleaning," tells the story of the Lorkowski family, a somewhat monetarily-challenged group of "outsiders" who are struggling their way through life in Albuquerque, N.M. Rose (Amy Adams) is the young mother of Oscar (Jason Spevack), whose behavior has gotten him kicked out of all the public schools in the area. Rose's job, as a cleaning lady, does not provide her with enough cash to send Oscar to private school, so she is forced to find another source of income.

One night, Mac (Steve Zahn), the man Rose dated in high school and is now having an affair with, tells Rose that cleaning up crime scenes is an incredibly profitable business. Enlisting the help of her sister, Norah (Emily Blunt), Rose opens her own business: Sunshine Cleaning Crime Scene Cleanup. Rose thought the business would change her life completely, but a series of disappointing events proves that business is just another problem in her turbulent life.

Though the story seems more unique than most of the films coming out these days, the film overall is mediocre, but the acting definitely is not lacking. Adams, who was nominated for an Oscar this year, has an uncanny ability to blend wit and sarcasm with a sort of sadness or depression. This heartbreaking comic performance is aided by Alan Arkin's performance as Rose's father, Joe, whose cynicism and quickness brought their scenes together to life.

The greatest performances, however, came from Emily Blunt and Jason Spevack. Really, I did not expect much from Blunt, as I had only seen her in "The Devil Wears Prada" and the performance did not prove anything about her acting abilities. In "Sunshine Cleaning," Blunt is clever, intelligent (in her own way) and demands attention throughout the entire film. Her performance is truly a pleasure to watch.

Spevack is officially my favorite child actor of the 21st century so far. Being surrounded by strong actors and actresses could not have been easy for such a young kid, but he pulled through to bring us an extremely heart-warming and memorable character.

Some critics have compared "Sunshine Cleaning" to "Little Miss Sunshine," and I think it is a dark comedy. Though I do not completely agree with that comparison, "Sunshine Cleaning" is definitely a nice break from all of the dramas that have been coming out in the last couple of months. As I said, the film overall is mediocre, but I was more than happy to pay the money for it.

Get Into Sudoku

Get Into Sudoku

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from one to nine inclusively.

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Photo:KAR

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“Monsters vs. Aliens” is Very Entertaining

KRISTINE BELZIAZE CURRENT AFFAIRS EDITOR

I must have been the only adult in the movie theater who was unaccompanied by children who giggled every time the monsters and aliens spoke. I went into the movie expecting the typical 3D animated film chock full of clichés. That said, I have to admit that I was very pleased with its content.

The story begins in Modesto, California where Susan (Reese Witherspoon) is about to marry local TV weatherman Derek (Paul Rudd). On her wedding day, she is struck by a quantum-filled meteor, which causes her to grow until she is almost 50 feet tall.

The government decides to intervene and detain Susan, now called Ginormica in a covert military unit led by General W.R. Monger (Kiefer Sutherland). There Ginormica finds out that the government has been hiding monsters.

These lovely monsters are B.O.B., a one-eyed, brainless light blue blob of Jell-o (Seeth Rogien); Dr. Cockroach Ph.D., a pint-sized half-man, half cockroach (Hugh Laurie); the Missing Link (Will Arnett) a black lagoon-style monster who is the missing link from human and animal evolution; and Insectosaurus, a giant moth-like creature who doesn’t speak. To secure their freedom, the general tells them that they will have to defeat Calahari (Rainn Wilson), a six-legged alien who is hell-bent on destroying the world.

The actors did a very good job in depicting the characters. Kudos to Witherspoon as her voice was in sync with Ginormica’s emotions. My favorite characters were B.O.B and Dr. Cockroach, who kept me laughing the entire film. It is pretty obvious that Rogien and Laurie really enjoyed the script and put all of their effort into making the movie a success. My only disappointment is that the president (Stephen Colbert) did not get enough movie time. We only get a glimpse of his character, but I am sure that he would have been hilarious if he played a bigger role in the movie.

The movie was also impressive from a visual point of view. Even without 3D glasses, I was able to clearly see the definition of the characters and felt as if I was almost in the movie.

“Monsters!” was a very clever cartoon and poked fun at the government, politicians and past movies, such as “Mars Attacks.” While the kids will miss some of these satrian points, in the movie it is ideal for adults who are looking for a good laugh.

Easter Fun

Place the seven words in the diagram, one word for each across line, so that one of the rows reading down will spell out a seven-letter word that is connected to the others.

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Children
Easter
Energy
Garden
Painted
Sunday
Hidden

Anonymous

I always imagined that when I died, there would be nothing: just darkness and silence. But I can see, nothing is different. I am still invisible to her, to everyone. For Christ’s sake, I burned down your house, with your sons in it; you have to be pissed about that! They won’t even waste a bad emotion on me—I am that unimportant to them. We, if they think I will remain dead and unseen—oh-ho—they have another think coming.

But I can’t move. I’m laying on my back, encased in a black—thing. I can’t move my legs or my arms. I can’t even wiggle my toes or fingers. I can’t feel anything. It’s like I’m paralyzed. First thing I have to do is get out of this damn black hole. Why am I dead if I can still see everything living—kinda stupid, don’t you think? Who am I even talking to?

“Is anybody there?”

Of course not—silence is golden in the after life.

Look at that . . . I can see Mom moving into her new house. Was, did she get a dog? She’s using a dog to replace her dead sons? What am I seeing these things through anyway? It’s like a gloopy, crystalline surface in a well; it’s so bright, but there is no light coming from it. It’s still dark as hell in here . . .

“That was a bad pun.”

People always seem to use that one when they get in here,” a female voice said.

What? Who said that?” I asked, rotating my eyes like a lizard to see where the voice came from—

“Are you comfortable, Jay?” she asked again.

“Are you serious with that question?” I asked, still trying to point my line of sight in the right direction.

“You chose to be here, Jay. We didn’t request or require your presence at all.”

“So why did you make me come then? You couldn’t have just left me, or sent me back or something.”

“That wasn’t an option,” she said.

“What options do I have now?”

“No. You must face the consequences of your actions, and you will die permanently,” she said.

What is she talking about? I am facing the consequences of my actions; I’m dead, remember? How much worse can this possibly get?

“You have no idea what you’re in for, Jay. You can hear my thoughts?

“Who are you?”

I don’t have the negative moral acts or thoughts that are cruel, unjust or selfish. We are the things you have nightmares of. We are the things you fear when you imagine. We are the things that myths and legends are made of. We are the recipe of war and genocide. We are the end-products of your life, Jay.

My eyes suddenly rolled over and pushed back, as if they were being pulled out from the back of my head. Inside my head burned like hydrogen peroxide was being poured in my eye sockets, and leaking into other parts of my head. Out of nowhere, bitter, acidic bile rose from somewhere in my stomach, up through my chest and gushed out of my mouth like a geysir. All my muscles that I couldn’t feel a second ago, now felt like they were being pulled out a fiber at a time with a handful of needles.

“What is happening to me? What are you doing to me?”

“This is only a fraction of some of the pain you caused, when you were alive before. You will experience more, but in the meantime there is work for you to do. Please, stop the pain—it’s killing me—please stop!”

“Look through the window, Jay. What do you see?”

I can’t see anything. I can’t even open my eyes, my mouth . . .

“Look!”

Immediately, the back of my head opened like a bunted melon, with my eyes protruding like two golf balls in a deep, black hole. I could see the crystalline wall, but I didn’t understand how, it should be on the other side.

It was 5 years ago. I saw Thomas and Dad playing football in the backyard, while Mom sat on the porch cheering them on. Mike was fooling around with the dog, and I was sitting in my room, looking down at them through the window, praying I had the power to send several bolts of lightning to kill them all.
Why Does NSU Condemn Free Speech?

STEFANI RUBINO
MANAGING/OPINIONS EDITOR

Last week, The Current printed an article about a mock protest on campus that NOVALERT and the Davie Police tried to dismantle. As the article stated, the protest was a class assignment and the students organized the fake protest with their teacher. Regardless, the students were still harassed by NOVALERT and police officers.

Since the story was printed, I have been a part of or have heard conversations relating to this matter. A comment on our Web site also brought up some important points about free speech here at NSU. Furthermore, a student and NSU staff member, who wishes to remain anonymous, informed me about some possible initiatives the school is exploring regarding the creation of “Free Speech Zones” on campus.

I immediately thought, an entire university campus is supposed to be a “Free Speech Zone,” is it not?

As far as I know, protesting, challenging opinions and authority and forming our own opinions about the world are all a part of a great college experience. The protest these students took part in wasn’t even real; it was a class project, but what if it was? What if there was no teacher there to talk to NOVALERT and the police?

I am sure these students would have been escorted off campus, if not charged with “disturbing the peace.”

The fact that students were harassed for vocalizing their opinions, legally-yes! without hurting others, is disturbing and disgraceful. The days of “sit-ins” and “love-ins” are long gone, and college students have made it fairly clear over the past 10 to 15 years that they are not that interested in protesting, but this does not mean that the select group of students who choose protesting as a form of expression should be persecuted for it.

So, why is NSU trying to take away such an important right from students? I am wondering if it is because there is a serious lack of action on this campus. Of course, I am guilty of it; we all are. We have all been completely apathetic to the things the school is doing, so it is natural for them to figure we would not care if some students were harassed for protesting or if they created these “Free Speech Zones.”

Other universities in Florida have set regulations and “Free Speech Zones,” sure, but that does not make it right. University administrations should expect some kind of “disturbance of the peace” from their students, because that is really what college is all about. If we are learning to challenge almost everything we have ever learned, we should be able to challenge what happens on our campus.

Psoriasis often strikes between the ages of 15 and 25.

American Consumers Ignore Another Salmonella Outbreak

Write a Letter to the Editor

Want to say something about what you have read? Do you have an idea that you think would be great in The Current? Then send a Letter to the Editor at nsunews@nova.edu. You can also visit our Web site at www.nsucurrent.com.

While you are on our Web site, take a look at the changes we have made, comment on articles, view videos and go through our archives.

Issue 24 Correction

Last week’s issue stated that the career office of the Student Affairs Division was entitled “Career Services.” The correct name of this office is the Office of Career Development, located on the fourth floor in the Alvin Sherman Library.
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