Inside

News
Sharks Unite Through Television
Read the continuation of this article.
Page 3

Current Affairs
Making a Big Difference in a Small World
The first annual benefit fashion show, "It's a Small World."
Page 7

Sports
Sharks Beat Barry
Women's rowing competes in the first annual Barry-NSU Dual Race.
Page 12

Opinions
Evidently, Art Has No Value in the U.S.
Protests regarding the price of books Amazon Kindle owners have to pay.
Page 14

Forecast

Tuesday, April 14, 2009

Full Tuition Offered to Bright Futures Scholars

As of March 30, NSU plans to offer full-tuition scholarships to students who qualify for the Bright Futures Florida Academic Scholarship. NSU is the only private not-for-profit university in the state of Florida to offer this initiative.

Previously, the scholarship would honor the amount of tuition that the BFFAS would pay at a public institution, but students had to pay the remainder to fully cover NSU's tuition. With this new initiative, NSU is honoring the BFFAS portion, and also covering the remainder of tuition for the new students who qualify.

Another addition is a $500 Residence Scholarship for all eligible BFFAS students choosing to live in the university residence halls.

"With the economy forcing families to make difficult choices, we want to make sure that a quality education is available and affordable," Laura Starr, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF.

Sharks United Through Television

Sharks United Network Television began transmitting a weekend television show on April 8 through Comcast Channel 96.

The project has been in the making for over a year and it was one of the six proposed actions to unite the campus and make students aware of events and facilities. Other proposals included buying ads in the newspaper, sending more e-mails to the NSU community, and posting more posters and flyers throughout campus.

According to the business plan for the Sharks United Network, the station was picked from the other choices because the cost of it will be minimal to the administration. However, 15 percent of the Undergraduate Student Government Association's budget and 69 percent of the Pain.

Student Government Association budget was used to fund the project.

"I don't know how many people will benefit from it. There are probably better things that

Initiative Named the Blockbuster For Our Troops

Jennifer Bowman-Wilson, a graduate assistant for Civic Engagement, in the Office of Student Leadership and Civic Engagement is hosting a DVD Drive for the Troops Donation Drive, March 30 through May 1. This event is paired with the College of Osteopathic Medicine and in conjunction with the efforts of Dave Womack, a guidance counselor at the University Lower School.

Due to the efforts last year and working with 1st Lt. Dan Nardiello, the U.S. Marine Lt. of the Afghanistan Battalion, the group was donned the name "the Blockbuster of Afghanistan."

"They are over there, so we should still care," quoted Bowman on the underlying purpose and mission of this drive.

Bowman-Wilson further notes that this drive is important because DVDs are the only form of entertainment that the troops have. She went onto further note that the troops are not able to entertain themselves with outdoor sports such as football, as they might become targets.

"I think it is an amazing idea," said Jenny Wong, a senior biology major.

Bowman-Wilson further notes that the troops are not able to entertain themselves with outdoor sports such as football, as they might become targets.

"I commend the Office of Student Leadership and Civic Engagement for trying to add a temporary deviation from the war and add entertainment to their daily lives," said Lesa Phillips, assistant to the Dean of Student Affairs.

Phillips also commented that the

SEE SHARK TV 3

SEE TROOPS 2
TROOPS from 1 office is doing a great service because most of the time the basic needs of the troops are covered, but entertainment is forgotten. This drive is asking the NSU community to drop off new or used DVDs to the Rosenthal Building, Room 202 or to the front desk of the Terry Building in the Health Professions Division.

For more information, please contact Jennifer Bowman-Wilson at (954) 262-7297 or by e-mail at volunteer@nova.edu.

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The Current, formerly known as The Knight, serves Nova Southeastern University from its location in Room 105 of the Athletics and Student Activities (ASA) Building. The Current is NSU's established vehicle for student reporting, opinion and the arts. All community members are invited to contribute anything they desire to The Current.

Editorials, commentaries and advertisements in this publication reflect the opinions of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of The University or its officials. All community members are invited to contribute anything they desire to The Current.

Contributing writers must not be directly involved with their coverage. Coverage by contributing writers must be meaningful and of interest to the NSU community. The Current reserves the right to edit. Contributing writers must not be directly involved with their coverage. Coverage by contributing writers must be meaningful and of interest to the NSU community. The Current reserves the right to edit.
affordable to the best and brightest students in Florida," said NSU President Ray Ferrero, Jr.

"[They] go on to bigger and better things which make all of the degrees more valuable."

- Dave Dawson

"My job is making [the student's] degree more valuable," said Dave Dawson, director of university relations. "When we bring the best and brightest here, they provide a more challenging academic atmosphere which brings more prestige to the school."

Dawson continued in that, "[They] go on to bigger and better things which make all of the degrees more valuable."

"It should be offered to current students as well," said Anna Bakali, a freshman biology major, who has a concern with this initiative. "After one year of debt, the little extra may help pay off my old debts."

"It should be fair to everyone," said Ayesha Cheema, a freshman psychology major. "We are not saying cut it for [the new students], but make it available to everyone."

The award originally had a limit, but it has now been expanded to all new students who qualify. Applications are due April 30. For more information on this new scholarship initiative, please go to http://www.nova.edu/financialaid or call (800) 806-3680.

"I think it is fine and it will make the school grow. I don't think the money should have come from SGA money. I think it should have come from the school because it will help the school," said Elizabeth Pastill, a freshman biology major.

The television station will show commercials from different organizations that will allow SGA to increase its budget, full-feature movies, athletic footage and highlights, films about security on campus, art performances, and footage from events around campus.

"This will be a tool that will bring NSU together as one," said Philip Ortiz, a junior finance major and SGA president. "Also, if a guest speaker comes to campus, but people have to work or have class, they can still enjoy the wisdom these guests bring."

Eventually, the station will be completely run by students and those who are communications or broadcasting majors.

"This will be a tool that will bring NSU together as one. Also, if a guest speaker comes to campus, but people have to work or have class, they can still enjoy the wisdom these guests bring."

- Philip Ortiz

students pursuing a career in television to try their field on campus," said Jonathan Da Silva, a junior legal studies major.

NSU's community will be able to watch the 24-hour station around campus on Channel 96 and online on their Web site, which will be up next fall. The producers of the station will also be taking suggestions from students on the programming of the station on their Web site. They can also be found on Facebook under Sharks United Network TV.

"This will be a tool that will bring NSU together as one. Also, if a guest speaker comes to campus, but people have to work or have class, they can still enjoy the wisdom these guests bring."

- Philip Ortiz

News
April 14, 2009

SHARK TV from 1

Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program

BRIGHT FUTURES from 1

courtesy of www.fosteringfinancialsuccess.org
Students Mix, Mingle and Learn How to Network

ALEXIS IRIAS
STAFF WRITER

The Office of Career Development hosted “Mix and Mingle Your Way to a Great Career: A Mocktail Hour” on Wednesday, April 8, in the Alvin Sherman Library.

Students ranged from undergraduate to graduate, with a variety of different concentrations and majors, who all attended to get a couple of tips on how to network and how to use proper etiquette from Rochelle Renee Reese, director of catering/concession, who was also hired to teach etiquette to different social groups.

Reese had a set of rules for students to follow in order to play along with the Mocktail Hour role-play. Refreshments were served along with mock wine and tables were set up with artificial candles reminiscent of a corporate networking cocktail event. Students were randomly placed at different tables to meet and greet new people. Reese showed students how to introduce themselves, how to shake another person’s hand and even how to politely excuse themselves from a conversation.

“You should meet 10 people, but get five business cards from prospective business partners,” said Reese. She emphasized that going to a networking event is not a social event to make friends or to get a date, but to find people who will be beneficial in a person’s career.

Claudio Li, a business management student commented on how he found this event to be extremely beneficial for him.”

“Etiquette plays an important role in the social and business society,” said Li. The Career Development Office provides the skills required to be successful in today’s society.”

Reese discussed how students should take advantage of events offered by the Office of Career Development, such as these “networking mix and mingles.”

“Up to this point in a student’s life, they’ve been graded on what they know versus who they are,” said Reese. “Once you get in the marketplace, it’s about the whole package.”

He also said international students found this event extremely beneficial due to the fact that they know how to network in their own culture, where etiquette and networking techniques are different than in America.

“The Mix and Mingle workshop was extremely helpful and covered everything from what to say, wear, and do in a business networking situation. I’m excited to put my new skills to work,” said Jane Bremner, a senior business administration major.

For more information about the Office of Career Development, please visit their Web site at http://www.nova.edu/career.

Events Calendar

April 14 - 20

Tuesday, April 14

Life and Death in Post-Invasion Iraq:
Tim Dixon, J.D., associate professor in the Farquhar College of Arts and Sciences Division of Humanities, will give a lecture about life and death in post-invasion Iraq. His lecture will center on the lives and deaths of the Iraqi people, as well as the problems that the Iraqi refugees face. He will also lecture on other forces, such as United Nations representatives, non-governmental organizations personnel, journalists and volunteer groups who are currently in Iraq. The event will begin at 12 p.m. in Room 240 of the Parker Building. For more information, please visit www.undergrad.nova.edu/articles/lls.

The Death Penalty—Reflections on the Past, Present and Future of the Ultimate Punishment:
Members of the NSU community are invited to attend this panel discussion featuring several faculty members from the college’s Division of Humanities and Division of Social and Behavioral Sciences. The faculty members will discuss the past and current arguments surrounding the death penalty and offer their opinions on the matter. The event will begin at 12 p.m. in Room 201A of the Parker Building. For more information, please visit www.undergrad.nova.edu/news.

Wednesday, April 15

Biological Forum on Darwin:
Members of the NSU community are invited to attend a biological discussion titled “Life, Death and Darwin: Origins and Extinctions.” This event will feature a panel discussion about the deep impact of Charles Darwin, and will be hosted by several faculty members of the college’s Division of Math, Sciences and Technology. The event will begin at 4 p.m. in Room 1124 of the Carl DeSantis Building. For more information, please visit www.undergrad.nova.edu/news.

Thursday, April 16

Distinguished Lecture Series: The Division of Humanities will host Sister Helen Prejean, C.S.J., author of best-selling book “Dead Man Walking: An Eyewitness Account of the Death Penalty in the United States,” and advocate seeking to abolish the death penalty in the United States. The event will begin at 7 p.m. in Mimack Performing Arts Center. Tickets are in the college’s Office of the Dean, located on the second floor of the Mailman-Hollywood Building, or by calling. For more information, visit www.undergrad.nova.edu/articles/ds/sisterhelen, or call (954) 262-8236.

Friday, April 17

“Dead Man Walking” The Farquhar College of Arts and Sciences Division of Performing and Visual Arts will present an adaptation of “Dead Man Walking,” based on the best-selling book by Sister Helen Prejean, C.S.J. The NSU’s version is directed by Mark Duncan, M.F.A., performing arts coordinator and assistant professor in the college’s Division of Performing and Visual Arts. The play will begin at 7:30 p.m. in the Performance Theatre in the Don Taft University Center. For more information and to reserve seats, please e-mail musetheatre@nova.edu or call (954) 262-8179.

Saturday, April 18

“Dead Man Walking” The Farquhar College of Arts and Sciences Division of Performing and Visual Arts will present an adaptation “Dead Man Walking,” based on the best-selling book by Sister Helen Prejean, C.S.J. The NSU’s version is directed by Mark Duncan, M.F.A., performing arts coordinator and assistant professor in the college’s Division of Performing and Visual Arts. The play will begin at 7:30 p.m. in the Performance Theatre of the Don Taft University Center. For more information and to reserve seats, please e-mail musetheatre@nova.edu or call (954) 262-8179.

Sunday, April 19

“Dead Man Walking” The Farquhar College of Arts and Sciences Division of Performing and Visual Arts will present an adaptation “Dead Man Walking,” based on the best-selling book by Sister Helen Prejean, C.S.J. The NSU’s version is directed by Mark Duncan, M.F.A., performing arts coordinator and assistant professor in the college’s Division of Performing and Visual Arts. The play will begin at 7:30 p.m. in the Performance Theatre of the Don Taft University Center. For more information and to reserve seats, please e-mail musetheatre@nova.edu or call (954) 262-8179.

Monday, April 20

GBSA Power Lunch Series: Members of the NSU community are invited to attend this event designed to provide them with the opportunity to network with other students. Barry Gold, director of human resources, and James Hoganson, director of accounting, will also be present to speak to attendees. The event will begin at 1 p.m. in Room 1040 of the Carl DeSantis Building. For more information, please contact Carla Withrow at (954) 262-5149.
Bach Heard at NSU Concert

ALEXIS IRIAS
STAFF WRITER

Bossa Nova Chorale held its third appearance at NSU on Sunday, April 6, performing songs that ranged from a 14th-century chant to a hip-hop arrangement of music. The program featured the music students and their hard work throughout the semester, performed in the Bossa Nova Chorale. The PVA Chamber Ensemble began the evening by performing a Joseph Haydn trio and a fantastic tango.

The soloists played compositions by Johann Sebastian Bach, Georg Benda and Haydn. These performances were the culmination of a semester of hard work in private lessons with their teachers and an appreciative audience warmly received them.

Donelson explained that the Bossa Nova Chorale performed four diverse pieces, thus showcasing the versatility of the group and their hard work throughout the semester. “The Chorale brings together students from different majors on campus and their performance in the festival was a great learning opportunity,” said Donelson.

“The Chorale brings together students from all different majors on campus and their performance in the festival was a great learning opportunity,” said Donelson.

- Jennifer Donelson

Library Helps Students Relax During “Crunch Time”

ANNARELY RODRIGUEZ
STAFF WRITER

From April 6 through April 8, the Reference Department of the Alvin Sherman Library offered services to help the NSU community relax while preparing for final exams.

There was a “Zen Zone,” where students received free services such as yoga, guided meditation and massages. Other services included tutoring, reference help, resume help and a gaming room.

“I had very interesting appointments today,” said Natalie Candela, coordinator of off-campus tutoring. “Since the event was open to the public, I had an eighth grader come in and we looked at his essay. It was interesting because he was writing at a college level. Then, I helped graduate and undergraduate students also, so it was a whole spectrum of students.”

The purpose of the event was to alert students to the current services offered by the library, while also offering new, innovative services to help students relax.

“We looked at our reference statistics for the past couple of years and now that a couple of weeks before finals our statistics spiked,” said Lori Albritton, a reference and instructional librarian, who also coordinated the event with the help of the department committee. “It’s an outreach with the intention of helping students where they need it, when they need it.”

The idea for the event came from one of the reference librarians, Monica Haddad, who attended the University of Texas in Austin.

“We checked online and contacted them,” said Haddad. “Their event mostly promotes the library’s services. We changed it a little. We added the wellness part of it, the ‘Zen Zone,’” yoga, massages, meditation and snacks.”

Not many students used the “Crunch Time” services on the first day they were offered, but attendance picked up on the second and third days when students requested all of the services.

On Tuesday, however, the meditation instructor could not make it to his session. “I usually come everyday to study but I wanted to try the meditation and find out where I can go to practice it on a regular basis,” said Laura De Peta who works as a dental assistant in the College of Dental Medicine. “I tried to do it alone but it is not the same, like when you have someone personally helping you.”

The most popular service of the event was the massage session.

Molly McLane, a third-year law student commented on her massage saying, “It was great. This is the first time I used the school services, because I’m going to start studying for exams and I’m going to be very stressed out.”

“I think it is a good way to de-stress, since we have final exams and the Bar is coming up. I feel ready to get back to printing now,” said Michelle Javid, a third-year law student.

This was the first semester the library offered these services, but the coordinators are hoping to make it a semi-annual event.

Is your club or organization getting enough attention? Do you want to receive more recognition?

Place an advertisement in The Current and let students know when your next meeting is taking place, or even the types of activities your club or organization offers.

For more more information regarding prices and deadlines for submission, please contact our business manager, Christopher Bergbauer.

You may reach him at (954) 262-8461 or knightad@nova.edu.
A Life of Trials and Tribulations Creates an Author

KRISTINE BELIZAIRE
CURRENT AFFAIRS EDITOR

Members of the NSU community gathered on March 7, in the Alvin Sherman Library, for a lecture featuring author Bonnie Glover, on behalf of the efforts of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Glover received her law degree from Stetson University and currently resides in Davie, Fla. Her book, "Going Down South," was recently nominated for the 2009 NAACP Image Award for outstanding literary work of fiction. In 2006, her first book, "The Middle Sister" was nominated for the International IMPAC Award.

She began the lecture by speaking about her experience at the NAACP Image Awards, where she had a chance to see actors such as Tracey Ellis Ross, Blair Underwood and Will Smith. Though she did not win the award, she was honored to be nominated, saying that she almost fell off her seat when she found out that she was nominated.

She wrote her first book, "The Middle Sister," 13 years ago after the birth of her second son, and finished it in the middle of moving down to Florida. It was a very dramatic time of her life. She had undergone 80 blood transfusions, three emergency surgeries and the doctor had told her family that she would not survive the birth.

A few months after she got better and learned how to walk again, her husband gave her a laptop. She began to write all the time and visited a Web site called Zoetrope: That is where she met Eugene Data, an aspiring writer who lived in India. When he received a fellowship to come to the U.S., he got an agent and recommended her. That agent was Elizabeth Sheinkman, who agreed to represent her.

When her book was nominated for the International IMPAC Award, Glover was shocked. "You have no expectations," she said.

She went on to speak about her most recent book, "Going Down South," which looks at the relationship between mothers and daughters. This book was also written during a tumultuous time of her life, as her best friend and mother-in-law both died.

Glover ended the lecture by reading a passage from both of her books. Her reading was met with applause, and some patrons stayed to ask her questions and purchased her books.

Kimberly Kidd, an adult services programming librarian for the Alvin Sherman Library, enjoyed the event, "I thought it was good... We hope to continue to advise and encourage patrons to read and enjoy good books."

"Advising CPR" Teaches Students How to Plan Their Academic Careers

ALEXIS TRIAS
STAFF WRITER

On Tuesday, April 8, Title V hosted "Advising CPR," the sixth session in the Tools for Success seminar series. The session featured Suzette Siviter, senior academic advisor from the Farquhar College of Arts and Sciences, who gave advice to students on how to plan out a successful four years.

A range of undergraduate, graduate and even doctoral students attended the workshop. Siviter advised them to take advantage of all the resources NSU has to offer students. She emphasized taking the time to meet with academic advisors, at least once every six months.

"Students don't use their advisors enough. [Students need to] make sure they know what's going on with their academic progress," said Siviter. "Students should learn everything they can learn through the Web and we are here for any questions they may have."

Siviter discussed the importance of maintaining a strong GPA throughout college. "The time to strengthen and build your GPA is your first year," she said.

Although NSU offers students a forgiveness policy, which allows students to retake any class they may fail and replace their previous grade with the better one, students must be advised that although this improves their GPA, the previous grade still appears on their transcript.

Instead, she advises students to take a load they can handle and strengthen their GPA through the years. "Don't overdo yourself; pace yourself," said Siviter.

"I thought it was interesting. I learned so much, especially on how to plan my academic career and take advantage of my advisor," said Francisco De Jesus, a sophomore in business administration.

Another student commented on how beneficial she found the online resources. Siviter showed students how to look at their curriculum and handed out a sheet that would help them plan out their four years academically.

"I learned more about how to use online resources to keep up with my academic courses. This was a very informational session; I advise students to attend them," said Shannon MacDonald, a freshman in business administration. "I feel more organized now, and they also had great food!"
Making a Big Difference in a Small World

ANNARELY RODRIGUEZ  
STAFF WRITER

The International Muslim Association at NSU hosted its first annual benefit fashion show, "It's a Small World," on April 9 in the Don Taft University Center. People from all over NSU and the outside community gathered on the second floor of the UC to see the different fashions that people who practice Hinduism and Islam usually wear.

"It was a lot of variety. It was not just fashion, but there was also a comedian and rappers," said Lamesa Evans, a first-year-graduate-business student and Kappa Alpha Psi brother. "My favorite part though was the rapping. It was not dirty; it was classic and it had meaning behind the words."

"It was nerve-wrecking, but also a wonderful experience," said Yasemin Kamar, a sophomore biology major and one of the models in the event. "My favorite part was getting ready with the girls. I mean, this is what we usually wear in Islamic fashion in South Asia. Before every walk, the students of NSU's Indian Student Association explained the culture and traditional clothing they were about to model."

"It's a Small World" fashion show was held to raise awareness on the different religious organizations around NSU," said Afroz Khan, a senior biology major and production manager of "It's a Small World." "The event was a huge success, and IMAN did an amazing job putting the entire show together. It was definitely one of the highlights this year."

Inspired by the 2007 event "Faith Through Fashion," the event brought in so many people to the second floor of the UC that the seats set up around the catwalk were all full and people were standing and leaning against walls to enjoy the show.

"We love finding new friends, especially when they come out of the blue, like they did. We rely on the support of our friends and neighbors to inform others about foster care and support our kids."

- Vicki Walter

Two of the models wear the traditional Hindu clothing and dance as part of the show. The song playing, "Jai Ho," was in the movie "Slumdog Millionaire" soundtrack.

Two students from IMAN model traditional Hindu clothing for women. The students from IMAN partnered with the Indian Student Association to show the audience a little bit about both cultures.

The students who participated as models in the show pose for a picture backstage before the event starts. Students modeled both Hindu and Islam clothing throughout the night; others also performed during the event.

The cause was SOS Children's Village, an orphanage for kids in Broward County. Although they have been an international organization since the 1980s, the first one in the United States was opened in 1993 in Coconut Creek and it is now home to 69 children.

"We love finding new friends, especially when they come out of the blue, like they did," said Vicki Walter, community relations manager for SOS Children's Village in Coconut Creek. "We rely on the support of our friends and neighbors to inform others about foster care and support our kids."

"It was a lot of work, but seeing it put together makes us realize that it was worthwhile," said Shaika Noor, a junior accounting and business major and president of IMAN. "It is a different show for NSU to see. Hopefully it will bring diversity to NSU, but it is for a good cause and a good way to end the year."

Through the selling of refreshments and raffle tickets, as well as donations, the members of IMAN collected a total of $800 for SOS. To find out more about SOS Children's Villages please log onto www.sosflorida.com. To find out more about IMAN visit www.nova.edu/IMAN.
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Baseball Comes Back to Defeat St. Thomas University

The Sharks' 1-0 win over SSe dropped a series, 1-2, to Sunshine State Conference rivals Rollins College the weekend of April 3 and 4, bringing them to seventh in the SSC and eighth in the South Region. However, the Sharks were able to pick themselves back up and defeat St. Thomas University, 12-8, in a non-regional series.

The Sharks fought back in the third inning to put the Bobcats' lead, until they saw the lead for the first time all season. Senior J.D. Martinez scored on the scoreboard, 9-8.

Sharks Beat Barry

The Sharks will now compete against Barry University. Despite the loss, the Sharks were able to hold onto their No. 20 national ranking, while maintaining the seventh spot in the South Region and fourth in the SSC.

Tom COENRAAD
SPORTS EDITOR

Back to Defeat

Men's Golf Takes Third at Buccaneer Invitational

The men's golf team

Tim COENRAAD
STAFF WRITER

Men's Golf Takes Third at Buccaneer Invitational

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Tim COENRAAD
SPORTS EDITOR

Men's Golf Takes Third at Buccaneer Invitational

NSU's men's golf team put an end to the 2009 regular season, placing third amongst 14 competitors at the Buccaneer Invitational on April 5, shooting a team total of 285-293-296-874. Junior Byron White, alongside freshman teammate Ben Vertz took charge in leading the Sharks, as they entered the top ten, tying for 10th place individually. Sophomore Bobby Bode came up close behind, claiming the 13th spot individually as he shot a 72 in round three.

The Sharks will now compete in the Sunshine State Conference Championship in Winter Haven, where Rollins College will be hosting, on April 20.

Tennis Concludes Regular Season, 5-3 SSC

Tranell MESA
SPORTS EDITOR

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Tennis Concludes Regular Season, 5-3 SSC

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SPORTS EDITOR

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Craig Adler, an NSU graduate student studying human resources, was out supporting the Sharks’ softball team for their 8-0 win against Eckerd on April 4. Adler is enjoying his first semester here at NSU and claims he has the most “Shark Spirit” on campus. Outside of class and sporting events, Adler enjoys watching T.V. and working out at the Don Taft University Center. His favorite T.V. shows include “King of Queens,” “The Bachelor,” “American Idol” and “Dancing with the Stars.” He hopes to one day be on “Dancing with the Stars!” Congratulations Craig Adler on being NSU’s “FAN OF THE WEEK!”

No. 23 Softball Takes Another SSC Series

TIM COENRAAD
STAFF WRITER

With the softball season nearing its end, the No. 23 nationally ranked NSU softball team (39-11; 12-6 SSC) is making its charge to secure a post-season appearance. The Sharks took care of the Eckerd College Tritons on April 3 and 4, with a 2-1 Sunshine State Conference series win. The Sharks’ first win was made easier by another spectacular pitching performance from sophomore Lexi Sarradet (6), as she pitched all seven innings conceding only three hits, no runs and accumulating eight strikeouts.

On the offensive end junior Dana Bergner (11) opened NSU’s account in the second inning, with an RBI single to left field. In the ensuing inning, NSU put the game on ice with a five-run inning with RBIs coming from junior Jessica Hernandez (2) and senior April Donachie (8), who hit two RBI singles to left field. With the rest of the game remaining scoreless, the Sharks took the win 6-0.

The first game of the next day’s double-header saw much of the same from the first as NSU pitcher junior Daru Carros (16), who provided the Sharks with their second shut out in a row, gave up just two hits in five innings of play.

The NSU offense remained potent with junior Britney Lamb (23) leading the charge going two-for-three at the plate, with three RBIs and two runs. Lamb was followed by fellow junior Lauren Lopez (15), who went two-for-two, with two RBIs and a run with Bergner along with senior Katie Pepper (9), adding an RBI each as the Sharks took game two, sealing the series with a 8-0 win.

Determined to avoid the sweep, the Tritons took a 2-0 lead in the second inning of game three off of two RBIs and held on to take the final game of the SSC series. Despite seven hits from the Sharks’ offense, NSU was not able to mount a comeback as Eckerd went on to take the game 2-0.

FAN POLL

TIM COENRAAD
STAFF WRITER

Who do you think should be NSU’s Coach of the Year? (100 NSU students were polled)

Volleyball Head Coach, Stephen Wilcosky: 48%
Rowing Head Coach, John Gartin: 29%
Women’s Golf Head Coach, Kevin Marsh: 23%
Bill Maher Brings Political Humor to NSU

STEFANI RUBINO MANAGING/OPINIONS EDITOR

On April 11, NSU hosted comedian and talk-show host Bill Maher at the Don Taft University Center Arena. The arena was packed from the floor to the upper level seats, as people waited patiently for Maher to walk onto the stage.

At around 8:30 p.m., Maher finally made his way onto center stage, wondering about the recession. “Decisions about healthcare are not made by patients or doctors or government bureaucrats; they are made by insurance companies. And like that paper gown, chances are your ass isn’t covered.”

“Where am I? Is this some kind of gym? I’ve never done my act in a gym before. This should be interesting,” he said laughing.

Quickly after that, he dived straight into the comedy. Like Maher’s show, “Real Time with Bill Maher,” most of the jokes revolved around American politics, the Obama and McCain campaigns, the ridiculousness of Republicans and religion and why the U.S. is in the situation it is currently. He started the show with a few jokes about the recession.

“I was in Orlando last night. You can really see how hard they’re being hit by the recession. The food court is selling something called ‘Korean Barbeque’ now.”

The crowd was a little hasty to laugh at the “Korean Barbeque” joke, but Maher swiftly snapped back explaining that the night would only get worse from there, and that the audience should get used to it.

His act moved onto talk about how much things have changed since Obama has been in office, even going so far as to call Obama “Chocolate Thunder” because “he has achieved a lot in a short amount of time.” He told the audience about how many reporters have been calling him asking him to explain his comedy is going to keep now that Bush is no longer the president.

“I joked, “Look, Obama is not some isolationist Jesus, that’s bay West you’re thinking of. Of course, the comedy isn’t going to stop. Obama is human; He’s bound to make mistakes.”

Maher’s comedy has an incredibly unique effect. While he is extremely funny, he is not infallible. He made a joke about the flaming Mexicans not trying to use the emergency fence, just pounding, or in the elevator, while exploring different Indian melodies and special scales pretty much unheard of from Callahan; his compositional skills are showcased more than ever.

Some of the tracks have up-tempo beats, but in the lyrics there lies a more disheartened, depressed Callahan that is reminiscent of his earlier albums under the pseudonym “Smog.” Sometimes... also shows a tremendous amount of growth in not only Callahan’s composition, but also in his personality as well.

The album opens up with “Jim Cain,” a slow and steady, almost monotonous track that seems like it wasucked straight out of Callahan’s earlier days. Truthfully, the track is not all that impressive, but it does serve as a decent enough beginning to an incredibly deep album.

The album really gets moving on the second track, which also happens to be my favorite track; “Eid Ma Clack Shaw.” The song starts out with the lyrics “Last night I felt your touch/ gently and warm/ the hair stood on my arm/ How, how, how/! Oh, show me the way, show me the way, show me the way, to shake a memory.”

Unfortunately, the laughter started to die down a little bit when he began making jokes about religion. Although I was a bit surprised and felt a little embarrassed that only about a fifth of the crowd was laughing at that point, he said that’s why he waits until the end of the show to talk about it, because “a lot of the time, people just walk out, even though it’s obvious I’m going to talk about it,” he said.

He laughed as he said, “I think it’s my job in life to show people how religion is hurting people. For example, Obama comes into office and we get to have stem cell research again.”

He continued to talk about how conservatives do not believe in evolution. He said, “Now there’s this ‘super bug’ going around that’s antibiotic resistant, cannot be cured with anything and literally eats your flesh. It’s because we’ve been eating this garbage with [antibiotics] all our lives and this thing has had time to adapt and change to protect itself against our drugs. So, Republicans, you may not believe in evolution, but it believes in you.”

Maher started getting more laughs when he was concluding the show with comments on popular culture and how sex is portrayed in films.

“I feel old when I watch these movies with young people just having sex everywhere and anywhere,” he said, and then began gyrating his hips in a bumbling motion, “you see these scenes where he’s just got her up against a chain linked fence, just pounding, or in the elevator, or stumbling into the house and throwing things off of the kitchen counter making way for them to [have sex] on it.”

At this point, Maher had the entire audience laughing so hard from his movements, but he ended the show with, “If someone were pushing things off of my kitchen table to [have sex] on it, me, I’d be like ‘No, no, wait! My mother gave me that!’”

Even though Maher struck out a few times during the show, the audience seemed to forgive him by the end. As I said, I am sure he has made some of these jokes on his show or during other performances, but he presents them in a way that feels like a fresh and flawless way.

Political comedian Bill Maher talks about politics, the economy, assorted American food and religion, to a crowd of hundreds on April 11, 2009 in the Don Taft University Center Arena.

Bill Callahan

STEFANI RUBINO MANAGING/OPINIONS EDITOR

Though the title of the album, “Sometimes I Wish We Were an Eagle,” sounds like some kind of a joke, Bill Callahan’s new album, due out April 14, has very little comedy in it. Unlike his last release, “Woke on a Whaleheart,” which was lively and lighthearted, “Sometimes...” explores the darker side of Callahan’s soul.

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Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from one to nine inclusively.
“Adventureland” is a Delightful Retro Ride

By RACOUEL FAGON

Since I have no first-hand account of the happenings of the “awesome” ’80s, for me, “Adventureland” is more of an informative feature of the winsome uncertainties of that era that consequently are not much different from today’s qualms. The film does stay true to the usual “underdog story,” where the quiet, unsung boys find himself through young love and quirky friends. “Adventureland” takes on this classic theme and is predominantly propelled by the charismatic cast in the movie.

Recent college graduate, James Brennan (Jesse Eisenberg), has to change his plans of touring Europe and settling into the real world. With a kaleidoscopic-like cast and a phenomenal script, “Adventureland” glorifies the youthful enthusiasm of the ’80s, while making it relevant today.

Brennan then gets two job opportunities at the park, so either be in games or rides. Since he is not cool enough to be working with rides (and since Bobby already had the “Games” T-shirt out), he is placed in the games area.

While working at this “Mecca” of humiliation evolving into self-realization, Brennan gets close to “super nerd” Joel (Martin Starr), “lost in translation” adolescent Tommy (Matt Bush), and half musician, half maintenance man Connell (Ryan Reynolds). However, the defining part of Brennan’s coming-of-age story is his love interest Em (Kristen Stewart), who is trying to find herself as well, in spite of her tumultuous past.

The film has a transcendental quality, as it gives a personal account of an ordinary story that can be used as a blue print for self-discovery and universal truth.

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April 14, 2009
Opinions

Evidently, Art Has No Value in the U.S.

STEFANI RUBINO
MANAGING/OPINIONS EDITOR

In a Wall Street Journal article about a protest at the Author’s Guild by the National Federation of the Blind and the American Association of People with Disabilities, the writer went on to talk about other protests regarding the price of books Amazon Kindle owners have to pay to download them.

The article talks about groups of Kindle users who have organized protests and boycotts, on the Web and off, regarding the prices (usually set at about $9.99) of e-books. Shocked and discerned by this, I immediately thought, what is art really worth in our society and why are their frustrations aimed at authors, who make a considerably less amount of money than musicians and filmmakers?

According to Amazon, it is the publishers who suggest the price for the e-books they produce. In this case, a measly $10 is nothing compared to the $30 or more people pay for Blu-ray Discs and television show box sets. To be honest, I was completely appalled by this reaction to the service Amazon and the publishers are providing.

Sure, the Kindle, priced at about $350, is incredibly expensive, but the Kindle itself benefits Amazon, not writers. The money publishers charge for e-books, however, directly affect the amount of money writers make, which is not much compared to how much money different types of artists (i.e. musicians, actors and actresses, filmmakers, Web designers, etc) make.

Besides that, Americans have made it clear that they have no interest in supporting the people who entertain them. Music piracy is at an all-time high and has been rising since the creation and death of Napster. Now, movies and television shows are being ripped off as well. Where does this leave the artists?

There was a brief time in the U.S.’s past when writers could actually make a living from what they create. Obviously, times have changed and people who want to write professionally have to make sure they have another job or something like it on the side, so that they can afford to pay the rent. In this economy and society especially, artists are expected to live their dreams, but have a hard time making money doing it. Not only that, but when the iPod first came out, it was heavy and bulky, and cost upward of 300 bucks. After some time passed and the iPod gained interest, the prices went down and continue to go down. The Kindle itself will lead the same life, but the prices for the e-books are completely reasonable.

In the society we live in, anything enlightening or entertaining has to have a monetary value, because the person behind the creation is depending on it for sustenance. If we continue to cheat writers out of money they clearly deserve, how can we expect any artists to release their work to the masses?

Psoriasis often strikes between the ages of 15 and 25.
Democracy Prevails as Gay Rights Movement Pushes Forward

STEFANI RUBINO
MANAGING/OPINIONS EDITOR

Last month, Iowa’s Supreme Court ruled that a ban on gay marriage is unconstitutional. Last week, Vermont’s State Legislature overrode the veto of a bill that would allow gay people to marry, making it the first state to go through legislative action, instead of a Supreme Court ruling. Now, nine other state legislatures, including New York, New Jersey, Maine and New Hampshire, are considering similar measures.

Most people do not understand how important it is for states to be taking this issue on, instead of regular people filing suit against the states they live in for their rights. Not only does this show how this movement is gaining momentum, these initiatives also show democracy at its best.

Though the struggle for gay rights does not exactly compare to other human rights struggles of the past, the road towards gay marriage bills and gay parenting bills has been difficult and completely unjustified.

The most interesting thing about is that Americans set aside racial discrimination to elect an African-American as president, but cannot set aside discrimination based on sexual orientation to allow homosexuals the right to adopt children, visit each other in the hospital or have their relationship recognized by the government.

However, it does seem as if Obama’s election is what opened the door for these initiatives. Finally, state governments realize how important their rights are and are taking the necessary measures to ensure their people are granted the proper rights, as well.

Just as this is a victory for the gay community and gay rights activists, this is a victory for all states taking the initiative to grant homosexuals these rights. More than anything, these initiatives prove that the power of state governments can be just as significant as the power of the federal government. Hopefully, this movement will continue gaining more momentum and states will continue to realize their importance in the infrastructure of the U.S.

Editor’s Note

LAURA STARR
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

As you have read earlier in this issue, NSU is offering to pick up the remainder of the tuition, when it comes to students who qualify for the Bright Futures Florida Academic Scholarship. To this, I had to write a note to express the upside of this initiative and the one main concern that some current students have.

This is an amazing initiative because it offers more options to students in the state of Florida, who may have discounted NSU when considering the cost of attendance. Also, some of the brightest students may have only considered UF or UM for medical or other prestigious degrees.

The initiative helps put NSU right in contention with these other more established schools, which could really increase enrollment and foster a fuller campus experience and “Shark pride.”

Many current students are not as pleased with this initiative as the grant does not apply to them. This does seem a little unfair as freshmen, who are only finishing up their first year, are still not close enough to the new student mark, to be applicable for the grant. While I realize that the school is helping new students attend college, particularly in these tough economic times, it may be wise to help out current students fiscally, for retention purposes.

Overall, in this economy, I appreciate NSU for creating such initiatives, regardless of the stipulations and requirements, because it helps NSU be in contention with the other universities that surround us and possibly those that are out of state.

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 nsuncsw@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 25 Correction

The article “Art and Science Symposium” stated that Alexandra Parulek was recognized by the AAUW, African American College Women. The organization that in fact rewarded her was the AAUW, American Association of University Women.

On The Scene

KRISTINE BELIZARE
CURRENT AFFAIRS EDITOR

What do you think about the new NSU Web site?

“I don’t think that the Web site serves NSU justice. The colors are baby blue and white and our school color is dark blue. It’s also kind of difficult to find information.”
Karla Jean, a nursing and psychology major.

“I don’t like it. It is more complicated than the other one.”
Nikita Maniar, a pre-med major.

“At first I didn’t really care for it. But I’ve gotten used to it and it’s not too bad.”
Nina Shah, a sophomore biology major.

“I think it’s definitely a little more modern, but I’ve had trouble finding some of the old links.”
Norberto Mancera, a sophomore biology major.

“I like it. It is very different from the other one and I like the video in the beginning.”
Luis Tascon, a master’s in business administration and finance major.

“I think it’s good. It was a little bit confusing at first.”
Michael Radliff, a senior biology major.

“I think it would have been [alright] to launch it in the summer. At the end of the semester, it’s kind of inconvenient to get used to the new Web site.”
Kaitlyn Reddy, a junior psychology major.

“I think it’s easier to navigate a bit. I don’t think it was designed well. It honesty looks like a teenager did it.”
Colin Morgan, a senior theatre major.
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