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The Current

NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY

APRIL 17, 2006

HTTP://WWW.NSUCURRENT.COM

VOLUME 16, ISSUE 27



Volunteers were met with scenes of devastated homes during their trip to New Orleans.

Phi Alpha Delta FlyAway Volunteer Aids in New Orleans Recovery

By Greg Kyriakakis
Current Affairs Editor

The Phi Alpha Delta sponsored FlyAway program Project Katrina allowed both members of the fraternity and other to help with the hurricane recovery efforts in New Orleans. Those from the NSU chapter of the organization and their guests who donated their time on April 1 found a scene of devastation but were able to provide aid to a woman in need.

NSU students on the trip traveled to the lower Ninth Ward to help gut and clean the destroyed home of an elderly woman without insurance.

"It was a wonderful, and humbling experience for us all," said Marilyn Callwood, president

of the PAD chapter at NSU. "They were poor neighborhoods, but neighborhoods nonetheless, and it hurts to drive through the empty silent streets knowing at one time ice cream trucks and laughing kids occupied those same streets."

Though working under harsh conditions was trying for volunteers, the end result was worth the effort. Many personal items were destroyed by the flood waters, but a few belongings were salvaged.

"It was exhausting, but when we spoke to the lady and she told us that her son and husband would help finish the house, it touched home. That was the best part of the whole thing," said Dru Lapierre Pardo, a business student who took part in the effort.



PAD FlyAway volunteers, from left to right: Giselle Gaviria, Samantha Maitland (front), Kristi Kligerman, Jessica Boyd, Marilyn Callwood, Dru Pardo (front), and Amanda Sidari. Photos courtesy Dru Pardo

"I believe I made a difference in this lady's life and that meant the world to me," said Giselle Gaviria, an NSU student and prospective

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UNICCO Workers Call Strike

By Paul Saneaux
Staff Writer

On the corner of Southwest 36 Street and University Drive and under threatening storm clouds, more than 80 UNICCO employees gathered with SEIU union members to show support for the strike initiated on April 10 at 6 p.m.

The decision to strike came after workers signed a petition during the last three weeks. Painting Supervisor Steve McGonigle, and Osvaldo Romero-Pizarro, Lead Orgnaizer



Standing on a box, Lead Organizer Osvaldo Romero-Pizarro (right-center) announces the beginning of the strike to workers and SEIU members. Photo by Paul Saneaux

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SGA REPORT: End of the Line

By Alisha VanHoose
Editor-in-Chief

The last meeting of the year almost didn't happen, as almost ten minutes after it was supposed to start, not enough senators had arrive to fill the attendance quota. A few more individuals trickled in, however, so that the incredibly short meeting could start.

Announcements

VPJ Davia McDonald announced for Treasurer Diane Klein, who was absent due to religious reasons, that there was \$5,734.39 left in the budget. She also announced that the OSB had come to a decision regarding the removal of Jason Peebles as SGA President, and that they upheld the E-board decision, saying that there was nothing unconstitutional about the way that Peebles was removed.

McDonald inquired what the SGA would like to do with the almost \$5,000 left in the account at the end of the meeting. IOC Senator Jessica Boyd suggested that a vote be taken before the banquet

the following week to approve funds for study breaks or similar small events during finals week. Other senators present agreed that this was a good idea so that the extra money wasn't wasted.

Boyd later asked people to be present at the IOC recognition ceremony on April 20, which Adviser Terry Morrow remarked was done in conjunction with SALD to also be a student leader recognition.

Morrow informed of Freshman Senator Andrew Ibrahim's meetings with UM students, UNICCO representatives and university officials to educate himself on the union issue in hopes of educating the student body. She also reminded senators to be sure to get with those who would be taking their places next year to insure proper training.

Old Business

IOC Senator Mirtha Rivera represented the Pre-Pharmacy Society's spring banquet bill again after it was tabled to seek a better

deal for the dinner being served. Pre-Pharmacy requested \$614 to cover food and decorations for their fiesta-themed banquet. The bill was approved after it was established that between 50 and 75 people were expected to attend.

New Business

In the only other bills to be presented during the meeting, the SGA approved \$50 for the completion of the 2005-2006 SGA scrapbook and \$162 for the SGA end of the year banquet.

SGA Budget Allocation

Starting Funds: \$5,734.39

Pre-Pharmacy Spring Banquet
requested: \$614 received: \$614

SGA Scrapbook
requested: \$50 received: \$50

SGA Banquet
requested: \$162 received: \$162

Total Requested: \$826

Total Received: \$862

Ending Funds: \$4908.39

STUDENTS

IMMEDIATE OPENINGS



International Co. established since 1967 looking to fill Entry

*Level Positions. Office locations in Broward, Palm Beach & Dade Counties.
No experience? No problem, WE TRAIN !*

Receive valuable work experience & enhance your resume for future career field. Flexible schedules & great pay.

CALL STUDENT HOTLINE TOLL FREE: (866) 858-6443

Free Massage for Students!!!!

Come and make your own stress ball, rate your stress level and find out helpful ways to manage stress.

Where: Quad Thursday

When: April 20, 11:30am - 1:00pm



www.rec.nova.edu
Campus Recreation X-7301

Bizarre Briefs

Compiled by Greg Kyriakakis

911 Scolds Boy, Lets Mother Die

Five-year-old Robert Turner dialed 911 when his mother, Sherrill, collapsed. Despite his efforts to save his mother's life, helpful operators responded by telling him that "you shouldn't be playing on the phone." The Associated Press reported that the boy made two pleas for help to 911, but was reprimanded: "Now put her on the phone before I send the police out there to knock on the door and you gonna be in trouble," said an operator. Another of Sherrill's children asserted that it took police three hours to arrive at the apartment and officials said authorities arrived at least one hour after the call. By that time, Sherrill was dead.

Police Destroy Bike Claiming to be Pipe Bomb

An Athens, Ohio, student recently had his bike dismantled by authorities after they became concerned by a sticker displayed on it. According to the Associated Press, Patrick Hanlin, a student at Ohio University, proudly adhered a decal for his favorite band, "This Bike is a Pipe Bomb," to his bike, which attracted the attention of authorities. Four buildings on campus were shut down and bomb squad experts took apart the bike in search of explosives. Hanlin was charged with inducing panic for the mayhem the sticker caused, but charges were dropped.

Psychic Judge Fired

A Manila, Philippines, judge claiming to have psychic powers and "dwarf friends" has been terminated. Judge Florentino Floro said his abilities include reading the future and holding "healing sessions." The Supreme Court decided that Floro be relieved of his duty because "his mental problems for now appear to render him unfit with the delicate task of dispensing justice" and "psychic phenomena... have no place in a judiciary duty-bound to apply only positive law." The ex-judge has, however, not been disbarred.

\$218 Phone Bill Baffles Man

Yahaya Wahab of Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, received his father's 806,400,000,000,000.01 ringgits (\$218 trillion) phone bill after his parent's death in January. An Associated Press report said that the bill had to be paid in full within ten days or Wahab would face prosecution. Since his father is dead, it is speculated that the bill was a mistake or the result of illegal telephone use. Wahab said that he is ready to fight the bill and "can't wait to face" the battle.

News from Around the World

Compiled by Paul Saneaux

EUROPE

Court backs U.K. citizenship for Gitmo detainee

According to the Associated Press, the Court of Appeal "unanimously rejected the British government's attempt to stop an Australian terrorist suspect held at Guantanamo Bay from gaining British citizenship." Three judges "dismissed the government's appeal" against a ruling by the High Court that David Hicks should receive a British passport. Government officials have announced that it will now seek action in the highest court of appeal, the House of Lords. Hicks, an Australian Muslim convert, reportedly seeks to "change his nationality to improve his hopes of being freed." He was arrested in December 2001 while "allegedly fighting with the ousted Taliban regime" and has been held at Guantanamo Bay since 2002. The British Home Office previously rejected Hicks citizen application "on grounds of character." Lord Justice Malcolm Pill dismissed the government's decision that claimed "Hick's actions in Afghanistan constituted disloyalty or disaffection to Britain." *For more information visit www.msnbc.com.*

AFRICA

Rebels threaten Chad capital

Chadian Residents and envoys told Reuters on April 12 that government troops and police forces "reinforced the capital N'Djamena" and heightened security at embassies after reports were received that said "rebels were moving closer to the city." An unnamed security source said "a French military aircraft on a surveillance flight had spotted a rebel column" at Massenya, 100 miles southeast of the capital. A statement from the rebels said they "vowed to try to oust President Idriss Deby before the elections next month." The rebels have come so close to the capital through "a succession of hit-and-run attacks from the east." Although the city is in high alert, security sources say that the small rebel army may cause mutiny in the Chadian army, which has been weakened by desertions since last year." France has dedicated approximately 1,200 troops in Chad and France's RFI radio has volunteered to help direct civilians if an evacuation is called. *For more information visit <http://news.yahoo.com>.*

ASIA

Indonesian Muslims attack Playboy office

After the Indonesian version of Playboy went into print and onto the shelves on April 12, "about 300 hard-line Indonesian Muslims vandalized a building housing the office of Playboy magazine." The demonstrators, "clad in white shirts and skull caps," hurled rocks at the front lobby windows of the building in Jakarta and began to tear up copies of the magazine "which, unlike the U.S. original, does not show any nudity." According to Reuters, the protestors are a part of a Muslim group, the Islamic Defenders Front, known to resort to "taking laws into their own hands." Police were present, but no arrests were made. Indonesia already sells its versions of Maxim and FHM magazines, and the first issue of Playboy sold out "thanks to controversy surrounding its publication." South Jakarta Police Chief Wiliardi Wizard told Reuters that "he would question the leader of the group in relation to the incident and detain the perpetrators." *For more information visit www.msnbc.com.*

MIDDLE EAST

Sharon's condition ends tenure

Falling into a coma after a massive stroke on Jan. 4, Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon was "declared permanently incapacitated" by Israel's Cabinet on April 11. Deputy Ehud Olmert assumed the position of "de facto leader" after Sharon suffered the stroke and was soon accepted as the "designated prime minister" when he won the national elections as leader of the Kadima party. According to the Associated Press, the declaration of the end of Sharon's five year tenure came early; with the Jewish Passover beginning the same week, the declaration was moved to Tuesday instead of Friday, April 14. "Under Israeli law, an ailing prime minister can only have a temporary replacement for 100 days" and April 14 was that deadline. In the week prior to the declaration, doctors at the Hadassah Hospital finalized Sharon's eighth surgery since the stroke by replacing "a portion of his skull removed in a previous surgery." Hospital spokesman Ron Krumer labeled Sharon in "serious but stable" condition. Sharon's stroke followed weeks after he pledged to withdraw from parts of the West Bank and redraw Israel's border for 2010. *For more information visit <http://news.yahoo.com>.*

NORTH AMERICA

Migrants crowd U.S. border

The Associated Press reported on April 12 that shelters along the U.S.-Mexico border have been experiencing a large surge in the numbers of migrants seeking passage into the U.S. A shelter manager for 24 years in Nogales, Mexico, Francisco Loureiro told reporters he has "not seen such a rush of migrants since 1986," when 2.6 million illegal residents were granted citizenship. "Every time there is talk in the north of legalizing migrants, people get their hopes up" said Loureiro, referring to a bill in the U.S. Senate that may legalize around 11 million people. The south-central region of Arizona has reported the highest increase in arrests in what is considered the "busiest migrant smuggling area." Other figures point at a nine percent rise in arrests along the entire border. Maria Velencia, spokeswoman for U.S. Customs and Border Protection, said "the rise in detentions did not necessarily mean more people were crossing," but rather that the recent increase in Border Patrols has led to more arrests. *For more information visit www.cnn.com.*



Campus Recreation Introduces...

Meditation in the style of Thich Nhat Hanh

Studies show that mindfulness practitioners have improvements in depression, anxiety, coping style, physical well-being, medical symptoms, sensory pain, physical impairment, and functional quality-of-life.

To determine interest in a new free series of meditation classes, Recreation & Wellness at Nova Southeastern University is offering two introductory meditation sessions.

Mindfulness Awareness Meditation instruction and practice will be offered by Greg Rogers, a student of Thich Nhat Hanh, and a staff member and student at NSU. Although meditation is often thought of as a spiritual as well as a wellness practice, these sessions will focus on the practice of meditation itself, and will not promote or conflict with any religion.

Thursday, April 20, 5:30 – 6:45 pm

Sitting and walking meditation. Alternating sitting and walking for 15 minute periods after a brief orientation. No experience needed, but experienced meditators welcome!

At the RecPlex.



Friday, April 21, 12:00 Noon

Mindfulness walking meditation outside. Hat and/or sunblock recommended.

Meet at the RecPlex



Please note that only these two trial sessions are being offered at this time. Questions? Contact Greg Rogers at: grogers@nova.edu

www.rec.nova.edu

Sport Bytes

Compiled by Alicia Winslett

Women's Golf

April 10 and 11, the women's golf team competed in the Sunshine State Conference in Tampa, Fla. They played at Lake Jovita Country Club, and St. Leo University hosted the tournament. The Sharks came in fifth place overall, shooting (322-332-329). Top-ranked Rollins College won its fourth consecutive SSC title with a team total of 922 (303-305-314). Lina Bjorklund, who finished eighth overall, led the Sharks, shooting a three-round-total of 237 (76-79-82). Jenni Mostrom tied for 14th with a total of 243.

Rowing

On April 8, the women's rowing team competed in the Florida Intercollegiate Rowing Association's Spring Championship Regatta on Friday and Saturday afternoon at the Krome Avenue Quarry in Miami, Fla. The Sharks gathered 50.5 points to finish right behind Division I University of Central Florida and ahead of the University of Miami. NSU's Lightweight 4+ won their event more than a minute ahead of the University of Tampa. The Novice 4+ also won their event with a time of 8:53.6. The Sharks then defeated 10 other crews throughout the day on the road to their victory.

Men's Golf

On April 10 and 11, the men's golf team competed in the Sunshine State Conference Championships hosted by Eckerd College. The men's team finished eighth with a total of 931 (305-314-312) in the 54-hole event on Lake Jovita Country Club with a par-72, 7,202 yardage. Lynn University won the conference title for the second time in three years. They finished 17 strokes ahead of second place Rollins College with a team total of 890. The Sharks were led by senior Michael Wangsness and freshman Constantin Schwierz, who finished tied for 20th individually.

Softball

On April 11, the NSU softball team competed against Florida Gulf Coast. The Sharks dropped both games to Florida Gulf Coast University. The Eagles won the first game 2-1. In the second game, the Eagles were down by one for most of the game, but in the sixth inning, the Eagles had a two-run home run which gave them the win 2-1. The Sharks' pitcher Adrian Tuttle pitched a no-hitter through five innings.

Baseball

On April 10, the NSU baseball team took on Palm Beach Atlantic University. The Sharks were edged 2-1 on the road by Palm Beach in a non-conference game at Palm Beach Community College. Shark first baseman Chris Reynolds now has a hitting streak of 22 games. He went 2-for-5 on the night. Third baseman Cory Clark was the only other Shark to have a multiple hit game. He went 2-for-4.

Women's Rowing Team Competes at FIRA Spring Championships

By Alicia Winslett
Sports Editor

On April 8, the women's rowing team posted a strong second place team finish in the Florida Intercollegiate Rowing Association's Spring Championships. The regatta took place at the From Avenue Quarry in Miami, Fla. NSU scored 50.5 points, which put them right behind Division I University of Central Florida and ahead of University of Miami.

The Sharks Lightweight 4+ had the first win for the team as they beat Sunshine State Conference rival University of Tampa with a time of 10:17.5. They finished more than a minute ahead of Tampa.

NSU's Novice 4+ also won their event, finishing with a time of 8:53.6. The Sharks beat 10 other crew teams during the day en route to their victory including UCF, and Jacksonville University, and SSC rivals Barry University, the University of Tampa, and Rollins College.

"It felt amazing to win the Lightweight 4 event," said Taylor Liput. "It was great to see how we stand against another team. The chemistry in our boat is unreal; I



From left to right: Taylor Liput, Christy Fritch, Jennifer Moos, and Danielle Garcia with determinacy in their faces during a race. Photo courtesy Gary Curreri

can't wait to see what we can do in Tennessee."

The Sharks Varsity 8+ finished in third place for the day behind UCF and the University of Miami with a time of 8:08.0. They were ahead of Florida Tech, Barry University, and DI Jacksonville University.

The Junior Varsity 4+ "A" boat finished in second place behind UCF with a time of 9:36.5 to beat Florida Tech and Barry University. The Sharks Junior Varsity 4+ "B" crew finished in fifth place in the race.

The Varsity 4+ boat ran

into some troubles, which put them in fifth place in their race.

The Sharks 4+ "B" boat finished in second place behind UCF with a time of 9:36.5, and the Varsity 4+ "A" boat finished in fifth place.

Coach Gartin was please with his team's performance. He said, "It was an amazing job done in horrendous conditions. They could have very easily had bad races but didn't, it was good to see how much their focus grew in relation to the challenges that they had."

Monica Henderson -

By Tranell Mesa
Staff Writer

Coming from just about 4 hours north in Orlando, Florida, 19-year old sophomore Monica Henderson, has graced Nova Southeastern University with her athletic ability in assisting the women's rowing team to achieve astounding heights in both their 2005 and 2006 seasons.

Henderson, a crew member of the talented Varsity 8A Boat, previously attended neighboring University High School, where she received numerous awards such as Best All-Around Athlete in both 2001-02 and 2003-04, second team All-County (soccer), and the Principal's Scholar Athlete Award in 2003-04. She participated in the regional competition for the track team all four years, and was voted in as the Student Body Government President in her

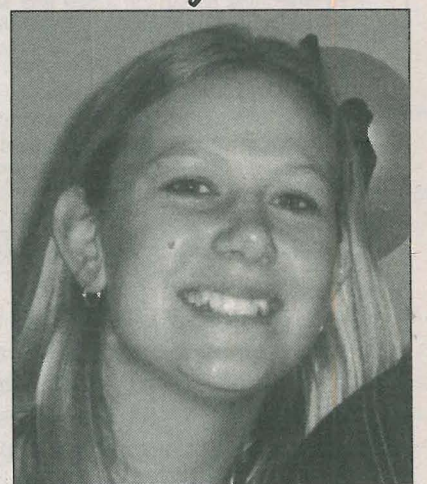
senior year.

"I chose to come to NSU because of the strong athletic training program and so I could get involved with rowing. Plus I love the area, next to the beach!" stated Henderson.

Monica is a student in NSU's athletic training program, where she assists head trainer Tricia DeSouza throughout the men's basketball season. When asked what she hopes to get out of her time at Nova, Monica answered: "A great education, amazing friends, 5am practices, NCAA championships, clinical hours and everything else that makes up my life here is what I hope will teach me to succeed in the world once I graduate."

Monica stands tall and proud at 5 feet 10 inches, but she brings more to the table for her team that just her impressive lean build.

Chemistry is everything



She stated, "Chemistry is a huge part of rowing, we have two practices a day so we spend a lot of time with each other. It's important that we get along, and I love to make them smile! I think my teammates can count on me, they know that I'm pushing myself as hard as they are pushing. I am persistent and

Please See MONICA
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MONICA
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"Chemistry is... rowing, we have [to spend] two practices a day... with each other."

I'm always finding new ways to make myself a better rowing to help the team."

There is more to Monica than just rowing. She has a summer job as a camp counselor for the Florida Citrus Sports Foundation, is the Athletic Training Student Organization's Treasurer as well as maintaining a boyfriend of 3 years.

"Once I graduate from NSU I want to work for a high school as a certified athletic trainer," stated Monica.

Monica looks to her mother as an influential role model.

UPCOMING GAMES

Softball

Day	Date	Time	Opponent	Location
Fri	4/21/06	7:00 PM	Rollins College	Winter Park, FL
Sat	4/22/06	1:00PM	Rollins College	Winter Park, FL
Sat	4/22/06	3:00 PM	Rollins College	Winter Park, FL

Baseball

Day	Date	Time	Opponent	Location
Tue	4/18/06	6:00 PM	Barry University	Home
Sat	4/22/06	12:00 PM	Florida Tech	Melbourne, FL
Sat	4/22/06	3:00 PM	Florida Tech	Melbourne, FL
Sun	4/23/06	1:00 PM	Florida Tech	Melbourne, FL

Major League Baseball
Shaping up for Exciting Season

By Tranell Mesa
Staff Writer

The 2006 Major League Baseball season is just around the corner, and with the massive talent displayed by athletes such as Barry Bonds with the San Francisco Giants and Chipper Jones with the Atlanta Braves, America is bound to see some outstanding baseball this year!

Albert Pujols, STL, is kicking the season off with a big bang of the bat, hitting .500 with 3HR and 6RBIs. Derrek Lee, CHC, is biting at Pujols's heels with 2HR and 5RBIs of his own.

Detroit looks promising this season; they and the National League's Milwaukee Brewers are the only two teams left undefeated in the season thus far.

The much-debated New York Yankees are destined to be successful despite their rocky start. Super stars like pitcher

Randy Johnson, short stop Derek Jeter and the addition of center fielder Johnny Damon are sure to contribute to this team's inevitable triumph for the season.

Although it's early to say much, according to Fox Sports, the top five rankings thus far in the season are as follows: Boston Red Sox at #1, followed by the Oakland Athletics at #2, Saint Louis Cardinals in 3rd, New York Yankees holding strong in 4th and the Chicago White Sox trailing in the 5 spot.

The Atlanta Braves are struggling with their pitching staff, but their offense has stepped it up and put up strong numbers in the homerun column. The team already has 10 homers.

When are you favorite teams playing next? Check out Foxsports.com and track your favorite players!

Men's Golf

1 Lynn University	289	309	292	890	+26
2 Rollins College	300	306	301	907	+43
3 Florida Southern Col	295	314	304	913	+49
4 Eckerd College	303	307	304	914	+50
5 Barry University	299	311	309	919	+55
6 Florida Inst of Tech	299	313	309	921	+57
7 St. Leo University	305	308	313	926	+62
8 Nova Southeastern U.	305	314	312	931	+67
9 Tampa, U. of	318	309	333	960	+96

Women's Golf

1 Rollins College	303	305	314	922	+58
2 Lynn University	325	315	321	961	+97
3 Barry University	321	316	328	965	+101
4 Florida Southern	309	328	329	966	+102
5 Nova Southeastern U.	322	332	329	983	+119
6 Florida Inst of Tech	331	333	340	1004	+140
7 St. Leo University	358	356	370	1084	+220

Baseball

SSC STANDINGS							
	SSC			OVERALL			
	W	L	PCT	W	L	T	PCT
Tampa	11	1	.917	31	5	0	.861
Saint Leo	8	4	.667	28	12	0	.700
Florida Southern	7	5	.583	26	15	0	.634
Lynn	8	7	.533	26	13	0	.667
Barry	6	6	.500	27	13	1	.671
Nova Southeastern	6	6	.500	23	14	0	.622
Florida Tech	6	9	.400	21	18	0	.538
Rollins	5	10	.333	21	17	0	.553
Eckerd	3	12	.200	10	26	0	.273

Women's Tennis

SSC STANDINGS				
	SSC		OVERALL	
	W	L	W	L
Lynn	8	0	16	1
Barry	7	1	14	3
Eckerd	6	2	17	3
Nova Southeastern	5	3	15	5
Rollins	3	4	10	10
Florida Southern	2	4	9	8
Tampa	1	6	6	11
Florida Tech	1	6	3	15
Saint Leo	0	7	5	13

SPORT	RANK		
Team	SSC	REG	NAT
W. Rowing	N/A	1	3
W. Golf	N/A	4	4
W. Tennis	4	4	9
Baseball	6	6	RV
M. Golf	N/A	NR	38
Softball	6	NR	NR
M. Basketball	2	8	NR
W. Basketball	4	NR	NR
M. Soccer	7	NR	NR
W. Soccer	5	NR	NR
W. Cross Country	N/A	NR	NR
M. Cross Country	N/A	NR	NR
Volleyball	9	NR	NR

Softball

SSC STANDINGS							
	SSC			OVERALL			
	W	L	PCT	W	L	T	PCT
Florida Southern	13	2	.867	38	3	0	.927
Barry	12	3	.800	28	7	0	.800
Saint Leo	11	4	.733	30	14	0	.682
Florida Tech	12	6	.667	28	11	0	.718
Rollins	9	9	.500	36	13	0	.735
Nova Southeastern	4	11	.267	18	21	0	.462
Tampa	5	10	.333	18	23	0	.439
Lynn	4	14	.222	20	20	0	.500
Eckerd	2	13	.133	13	32	0	.289

Current Affairs

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Take a Bite Out of This...

Current Events Calendar

April 18

Essay Workshop
12 – 1 p.m. Parker 100
Sponsored by Academic Services

April 19

Intramural Basketball
Championships
7 p.m. University School Gym
Sponsored by Campus Recreation

April 20

Quad Thursdays
11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. Library Quad
Student Activities

Leadership Recognition
Reception
5 – 6:30 p.m. Library 4009
Sponsored by Student Activities

Faculty Lecture Series:

Ancient Greece
12 – 1 p.m. Parker 241
Sponsored by Farquhar College

April 21

HPD Student Government Party
8 p.m. – 12 a.m. John U. Lloyd
Park

Earth Day Celebration
12 p.m. Law Center Lawn
Sponsored by Environmental
Law Society

April 22

Walk for N.A.A.R.
8 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Compiled from the Student Affairs
calendar & NSU Shark Bytes.

SIFE's Marketing Competition Winner Announced

By Michael Bergbauer
Staff Writer

On March 31, Students in Free Enterprise announced the winner of their marketing competition with D-2 Class President Christopher Drennen and the Dental School's class of 2008 taking the \$1500 prize.

The object of the competition was for students to work together with a club or organization to create a product idea and business proposal (the Lance Armstrong Bracelet for example) to benefit the Broward Society for the Homeless.

These marketing plans were to be comprised of four sections: situation analysis, objectives, market summary and marketing strategy. After submission, the plans were judged on the criteria of relevance to the market, practicality, credibility, structure

and impact. Prizes of \$1500, \$1000, \$500 were to have been awarded to first, second, and third place respectively, but Drennen's was the only entry.

Funding for the prize money came from an anonymous donor. "Money is to be donated by the donor to the Broward Society for the Homeless," said Alexander Casco, VP of Communications for SIFE. "After the competition, the proposals are kept for potential projects down the road, but if the proposals are to be utilized, those projects will be geared towards helping that organization."

Drennen said he developed the winning "Bring Back a Smile" program to supply the homeless with amenities like toothbrushes and floss and to bring additional funding into the Broward Society for the Homeless. "Upon

researching the homeless, I realized that there is a big dilemma that our society is facing today - the lack of dental resources for the homeless and the lack of funding for such resources."

"I am honored to have won this competition and I hope that the "Bring Back a Smile" program can help these individuals gain access to dental care and really bring back a smile to their faces," said Drennen.

SIFE is a student organization whose mission is to provide students the opportunity of applying knowledge outside the classroom in order to make a difference in their community but also to improve their communications, leadership, and teamwork skills. For more information, visit www.sife.org.

Undergraduate Commencement Speaker Stirs Controversy

By Michael Bergbauer
Staff Writer

On May 7 at the Bank Atlantic Center, world renowned author Salman Rushdie will be the keynote speaker at NSU's Undergraduate Commencement, where he will also be awarded with an honorary doctorate of humane letters.

"Rushdie will be our capstone for our theme of 'good and evil' this year," said Don Rosenblum, Dean of Farquhar College of Arts and Sciences. "Many of his works deal with the theme and to get someone of this distinct caliber is a real treat."

The "good and evil" theme has been addressed throughout the year with classroom activities, distinguished

speakers and now concludes at Commencement. As a speaker, Rushdie was also selected on the basis of his advocacy of free expression - a subject important to this university, said Rosenblum.

Although the author of many books and recipient of several literary awards, Rushdie is best known for the controversy caused by his book *The Satanic Verses*, which negatively depicts Islamic religion. As a result, a fatwa death sentence was placed on him by Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini in 1989, causing Rushdie to go into hiding. In 1998 the Iranian government publicly declared that it would not carry out the death sentence against Rushdie. Since then Rushdie, has resumed public

life.

Despite this, some students are concerned about having Rushdie as keynote speaker. "Some students in IMAN who are graduating, as well as our faculty advisor, do have concerns about safety," said IMAN president Sadia Dandia.

"[NSU] is always concerned about safety," said Rosenblum, recounting security at previous speeches at NSU by Presidential Envoy to Iraq Paul Bremer and the Dali Lama. "Risk assessment has been prepared and we have been in consultation with Rushdie's team. Nobody should feel threatened."

For more information regarding Undergraduate Commencement, visit
<http://undergrad.nova.edu/commencement>.

FLYAWAY

continued from page 1

"...it hurts to drive through the empty silent streets knowing..."

member of PAD who went on the trip.

Despite their efforts, volunteers realize that much more work needs to be done in the area. "Of course, it was only one house we fixed and there are thousands of others," said Pardo.

He expressed frustration that many, months after Hurricane Katrina, are still awaiting help from the federal government.

"Imagine the whole town of Davie shut down. Houses were gone," explained Pardo. "Some people were still staying in those houses because FEMA doesn't have anywhere to put them."

Gaviria expressed similar concerns. She believes that the media "does not show the true devastation" and thinks that more involvement in the recovery effort is required. "It has been more than six months and there has barely been anyone there to help clean up."

Callwood agreed. "The devastation is much worse than portrayed on TV. The Lower Ninth

Ward is like a ghost town." Rather than just giving the city money, she thinks that people need to take action. Thus, Callwood said that she plans on returning to the region this summer and hopes that others will get involved.

Timothy Dixon, PAD faculty advisor and NSU professor said that the trip was "a wonderful thing for them to do" and praised Callwood for her effort. Building on the work PAD did this year in New Orleans, he suggested that the fraternity aid those locally in the event of storm damage in the coming hurricane season.

According to a press release, the FlyAway program usually provides a "fun weekend trip" to fraternity members. But this year, on the recommendation of Stephen J. Sawa, President of the New York City Alumni Chapter, and PAD leaders, the decision to volunteer in New Orleans was made. Over 40 volunteers nationwide traveled to New Orleans, seven of which came from NSU.

Undergraduate Student Symposium Winners

By Michael Bergbauer
Staff Writer

On April 7 the Undergraduate Student Symposium went underway, featuring various research projects from students of NSU's undergraduate program.

At the end of the event, the most exceptional projects were recognized at an award ceremony. Winners are invited to attend a luncheon on April 25 where the symposium's "Best in Show" will be announced. This year's winners are:

Oral Performance:

1st place: Marissa Dass

Creative Writing:

1st place: Louis D'Lando

2nd place: Lisa Marie DiStefano

Humanities Research:

1st place: Greg Kyriakakes

2nd place: Deborah Greenbaum

Science Research:

1st place: Maria Farrell

2nd place: Deirdre Foisy

Poster Presentations:

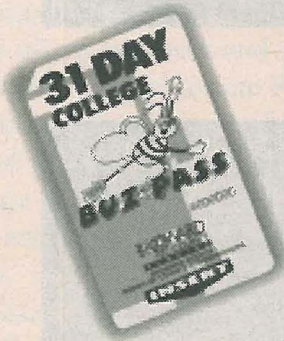
1st place: Viviana Sumi Lee/Shweta Shah/Rafia Chodhry:
Adhesion of Transferrin to FDA Group II Contact Lenses

2nd place: Kamaljit Kaur/Farheen Parvez:
Induction of Apoptosis by Resveratrol...

3rd place: Lauren Stephens/Melissa Dieppa:
Erickson's Model of Psychosocial Development...

3rd place: Leda Castrillo:
Polygamy – Is Having Multiple Spouses Inappropriate?

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*Reduced Fare College Bus Pass pilot program ends December 31, 2006

NSU On The Scene:

"How did you spend this holiday weekend?"



Jenece Wallace
Nassau, Bahamas
Psychology

"Chill in the dorms with my boyfriend, oh...and praising God of course."



Kristian Quintand
Miami, FL
Orthodontist
Junior

"Friday [went] to see my close friends, Saturday band practice with my band, [went] to see an industrial metal show at the Culture Room, Sunday-with family."



Adriana Gutierrez
Miami, FL
Biology, Pre-Med
Sophomore

"Easter egg hunting, and took pictures with the Easter bunny."



Kevin Johnson
Brooklyn, NY
Sport and Recreation Management
Junior

"Spend time with family."



Vivian Martin Del Campo
San Bernardino, California
Legal Studies
Sophomore

"With my grandmother. I [went] to church with her and ate a nice Easter dinner."



Mike Sims
Huston, TX
Marine Biology
Sophomore

"I [spent] Easter with my friend Kevin and his family."



Tiffany Bacon
Huston, TX
Psychology
Sophomore

"An Island adventure and working on my karate skills."



Rico Hernan
Freshman
Legal Studies
Palm Beach Gardens, FL

"I [spent] it at the beach with my fraternity brothers."

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Baseball With Napoleon, Joe Dirt, and the Gigolo

By Paul Saneaux
Staff Writer

Rating: \$3.00

What can you say about a 90-minute movie that tries to push out its comedy in three scenes involving vomit, several containing flatulence or potty humor, a few featuring homophobic references, and many based on childish slapstick? Not much that hasn't been said before. What if you were to throw in a ridiculous plot of three older rejects playing baseball against various little league teams to win a bet for a stadium and prove that nerds aren't completely useless in sports? It's hard to pinpoint where *The Benchwarmers* went wrong, but only because it did in so many places. The movie is not entirely useless, however.

I was confused or torn, rather, as to what to think of this film by the time the credits rolled; I laughed plenty, even painfully at times, but the movie was *so* terrible. It definitely was not an intelligent movie. It is what would be expected of a mixture between Spade and



Richie (David Spade), Clark (Jon Heder), and Gus (Rob Schneider) celebrate their big game victory... over 11-year-olds.

Schneider movies, producing by Adam Sandler, and Heder's *Napoleon Dynamite*: a whole lot of cheap laughs.

Simply put, *The Benchwarmers* will mainly have two effects: fans of named influences will enjoy it and see it for what it is, mindless entertainment, and enemies will despise for the same reason. Some,

like me, will be trapped in the middle, only temporarily turning off that part of our brains that seeks clever comedies to laugh at something stupid for a change.

The starring actors all have consistent reputations

Please See BENCH
Page 10

Playing in the Past:

Timesplitters: Future Perfect

Michael Bergbauer
Staff Writer

If you find yourself bored or disappointed with new or upcoming releases, it may be time for you take a step back and play a few oldies. "Playing in the Past" will reminisce on some of the games of yore, covering titles that may have passed you by and are usually worth a look.

I'm sure that most readers have heard of the Timesplitters series. Created by developers who worked on *GoldenEye 007*, the series' main claim to fame is its emphasis on sometimes staggering variety and fast paced action. This third installment in the series stays true to these aspects to make a solid game, despite a few shortcomings.

Story has never been Timesplitters' strong suit, but *Future Perfect* makes a good effort with a compelling and funny tale with memorable characters. The year is 2401. You play as Sgt. Cortez, who, after collecting the time crystals in the previous game, must use them to travel through various points in time to try and stop mankind's losing battle with

creatures called Timesplitters. Oftentimes you must interact with your future (or past) self to be successful. Sometimes your future self will pass you a key, or you must provide cover fire for your past self so eventually, he gets to become you. These plays on time paradox are pretty funny and add to the story and other humor throughout the game. Story mode features a solid co-op mode as well.

However, it doesn't last, as you will probably be able to beat the story mode in around six hours on medium difficulty. Additionally, it feels stripped down at times as most of the levels follow straightforward, basic designs.

Despite a flawed story mode, *Future Perfect* still offers a plethora of other things to do. There's a Challenge mode, in which you must complete tasks, like monkey curling or racing robotic cats (yes, you read right), to earn medals and unlock other game features. Arcade League is similar, but the tasks are more like multi-player with objectives like scoring more points than the other team and such.



Developer Free Radical delivers a shooter with a classic feel.

The majority of unlockable content from the aforementioned modes goes towards multiplayer mode - *Future Perfect*'s strongest suit. There are a whopping 150 characters to choose from in multiplayer. In accordance with Timesplitters humor, some notable characters are a ninja monkey, a giant sock puppet and a gingerbread man. All characters have their own stats like speed and stamina, but you can turn these off for evenly matched fights. Likewise, all aspects of

Please See TIME
Page 11

Showbiz Bits

By Marines Alvarez
A&E Editor

She Fixed it Worse

There was a lot of tabloid fodder about what Gwyneth Paltrow would name her kid. I wrote about it being Mortimer. I was wrong, but I don't feel too ashamed because she "fixed" it by naming her child Moses Martin. Moses and Apple. Apple and Moses. Moses is not a *bad* name, per se. It's like naming your child Jesus or Nebacudnezzar. It could all be prophetic, and Moses could grow up and lead Gwyneth out of the land of Stupidity into a desert where she will wander without making a movie or naming a child for 40 years. Sounds good to me. And remember, Moses, thou shalt honor thy mother and father even if they name you Moses. Oh and, thou shalt not murder said mother and father. Yes, and, thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's normal name, like Andrew or Michael. Amen.

Ebay: Every Man's Revenge

Nicolette Sheridan's ex, Niklas Soderblom, is taking his enmity to the world wide web by putting her engagement ring on Ebay. The ring started with a \$20,000 bid. According to People Magazine, Soderblom said, "Why do I want to keep it? I don't need that thing. It's a nice way to finish off something nasty with something nasty." Holy cow, can we say "spiteful?" But seriously, how jealous can this guy be? Nicolette is now dating Michael Bolton. Man, if you're Soderblow, you shouldn't have to even try to hard because karma is definitely on your side. Michael. Stinking. Bolton. The man spent the better part of his life with a frizzy mullet. That's all I have to say.

Were You Dropped On Your Head As a Kid?

Well, actually I was; My name is Sean Preston Spears. The Department of Children and Family Services visited Mrs. Spears after an official complaint was filed regarding the fractured skull of one Sean Preston. I can imagine Britney saying (note: the following is not a real quote and must be read with a fake southern accent. That's the only way it works), "I dunno what happened. The nanny was feeding him in his high chair and he kinda - plopp- fell over or something. I thought, well, that's okay. Momma said that happened to me a few times, and I'm rich and can dance. But then, a few days later Sean was all teary and he wanted to sleep all the time. The doctor said his skull was frac... franc...fruc... broken." Someone save this kid before Britney eats him or K-Fed features him on the album. The horror, the horror.

I Poop in Gold

Apparently Oprah was giving a speech in Baltimore for some fundraising event for some school, and decided she would talk about how rich she is and how no poor person can make her feel bad about it. "I was coming back from Africa on one of my trips. I had taken one of my wealthy friends with me. She said, 'Don't you just feel guilty?' I said, 'No, I don't. I do not know how me being destitute is going to help them.' That's right Oprah. Rub it in poor people's faces. God made me insanely rich so I can visit Africa once a year and give speeches about my Manolo Blahniks and my toilet made of solid gold. Yep. Life is fair.

This Week in Arts & Entertainment

Movie Openings

April 21

Silent Hill

Starring: Radha Mitchell, Sean Bean, Laurie Holden

Director: Christophe Gans

Genre: Horror

MPAA Rating: R

A woman named Rose, desperate to find her child Sharon, finds herself trapped in an alternate dimension as she searches for her daughter in a world of decay inhabited by strange beings. Over the protests of her husband, she flees with her child, heading for an abandoned town to which the child seems drawn. Sharon disappears in the town, and Rose follows what she thinks is her daughter's silhouette into what seems like an alternate reality. It's soon clear this place is not like anywhere she's ever been.



American Dreamz

Starring: Hugh Grant, Dennis Quaid, Mandy Moore

Director: Paul Weitz

Genre: Comedy

MPAA Rating: PG-13

On the morning of his re-election, the President decides to read the newspaper for the first time in four years. This starts him down a slippery slope. He begins reading obsessively, holing up in his bedroom. His Chief of Staff pushes him back into the spotlight, booking him as a guest judge on the weekly talent show American Dreamz, hosted by self-loathing Martin Tweed. His latest crop of hopefuls includes Sally, a conniving steel magnolia and Omer, a recent Southern Californian immigrant. When both Sally and Omer make it to the final round of Dreamz, the stage is set for a show the nation will never forget.

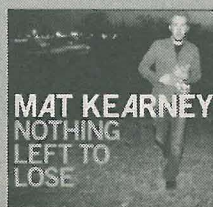
Album Releases

Available April 18

Nothing Left to Lose by Matt Kearney

Live From Dakota by Stereophonics

Yes Virginia by Dresden Dolls



Book Releases

April 17

Blue Shoes and Happiness by Alexander McCall Smith

In this installment in the bestselling No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency saga, "traditionally built" Botswana detective Precious Ramotswe must deal with some weighty issues -- namely her own; but first she and her assistant detective, Grace Makutsi, must handle a series of exceedingly delicate personal and professional dilemmas.

The appearance of a giant cobra underneath Makutsi's desk is just a portent of things to come for the women at the No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency. A cook hires the agency to unravel a blackmailing scheme involving her dishonest boss; a nurse suspects an unethical doctor of falsifying diagnoses; and Ramotswe investigates a nearby village possibly under the influence of witchcraft. The most frustrating problems, however, are personal in nature: Makutsi's fiancé gets cold feet when he suspects his future wife of being a feminist, and Ramotswe struggles with being a "fuller-figured" woman. But Ramotswe's unconventional philosophy for coming up with solutions to life's complicated problems pays off when she and her fashionable, shoe-loving assistant take time out to reflect -- and go shopping.

DVD Releases

Available April 18

Judi Dench in *Mrs. Henderson Presents*

Jay Hernandez in *Hostel*

Entertainment

April 19

Chicago the Musical at the Broward Center for the Performing Arts in Ft. Lauderdale

April 21

Broward Symphony Band at Bailey Hall in Davie

Cirque De Soleil: Delirium at the BankAtlantic Center in Sunrise

Movie synopsis and photos courtesy of www.movies.yahoo.com

Book synopsis courtesy of www.barnesandnoble.com

Compiled by Marines Alvarez

Play Review

Night of the Assassins

By Tranell Mesa

Staff Writer

The curtain rose once more for Nova Southeastern University's theatre program on the weekend of April 7 with the performance of *The Night of the Assassins*. Audience members filed into the Mailman Auditorium to see the show, which was originally created in 1964 by Cuban playwright Jose Triana.

The *Night of the Assassins* has an unusual storyline. It is based on and follows three main characters, Lalo, Baba and Guca, who are plotting

a grand murder. To add a unique twist, each actor used simple props throughout the play to portray a variety of characters with different personalities.

"I was a bit confused all through the play; I didn't know who was who and wasn't quite sure what was going on, but the actors presented themselves with so much energy it kept me interested," said freshman Katie Pepper, who watched the second

Please See NIGHT

Page 11

BENCH

continued from page 9

in the movie industry which does not lead to much variety in *The Benchwarmers*. David Spade, playing the sarcastic moron, Richie, pretty much plays himself. Though Richie delivers a good share of amusing lines at times, they are not much different from Spade's characters in *Dickie Roberts*, *Tommy Boy*, or *Black Sheep*. If you have seen his other movies you have essentially seen Richie.

And of course, Jon Heder plays a spin-off of the infamous Napoleon Dynamite, yet his character, Clark, is (if you can believe it) more awkward and idiotic. In several scenes he picks his nose and in most scenes he has very unoriginal dialogue. What the writers basically did with Clark is transplant lines (the usual "Sweet!" or "Awesome!") from his first movie. The opening scene when Clark meets Gus (Schneider) during his paper route has a clear *Napoleon Dynamite*-esque feel; Clark even sounds like his alter ego. The problem with Heder, a problem that will follow him for a long time, is that he is known for *Napoleon Dynamite* and it will be hard for Heder to stray from that origin. Even if he decides to take on a different character, he will be pulled back to what pop culture and the public demands, which happens to be that tall, geeky teen with a faux apathetic attitude and moon boots.

When offered the role of Gus Matthews, Schneider saw it as an opportunity to play a "normal" guy. Well, Gus is a normal guy: he's not extraordinary in any sense, except his ability to play baseball. He is not foolish or awkward like his two comrades and does not significantly

add to the comedic barrage. Out of all the characters, he is the only one with a wife, Liz, who coincidentally is supermodel Molly Sims. Gus is more like the reality check or reality relief to the absurd situations the trio find themselves in. This "serious" comedic role would have worked well if the plot took the same route. For some theater aficionados, it may be refreshing to see Schneider try something new, and it probably is, but it is not refreshing in the context of the film. A normal character does not blend well with a ridiculous plot.

The "Best Actor in the Worst Movie" award would go to Jon Lovitz in his portrayal of the stereotypical, eccentric billionaire, Mel. More than the other characters, Mel had the subtle lines that were truly funny. Although Lovitz pretty much played himself (but without the billions of dollars), he was the most enjoyable to see on screen. That could be because his face hasn't been publicized as much as his co-stars over the last few years. It was disappointing that Lovitz wasn't allowed more screen time, however. Lovitz has a way of going about his scenes in which he behaves as though the situation, no matter how absurd, is completely normal. That dramatic irony is what brings the laughter. Sadly, because Lovitz is not a house-hold name, his role is limited.

The Benchwarmers stretches its PG-13 rating to the limit with its questionable humor and the plot is worthless, but surprisingly there are just enough incredibly funny scenes, just barely enough, to recommend it... with caution, obviously.

Starring: Jon Heder,

David Spade, Rob

Schneider, Jon Lovitz,

Craig Kilborn, Nick

Swardson

Writers: Allen Covert,

Nick Swardson

Director: Dennis Dugan

Rated: PG-13



MOVIE REVIEWS



\$6- BRAVE THE LINES OPENING NIGHT!

\$5- SEE IT NEXT WEEK.

\$4- BORED? AFTERNOON MATINEE.

\$3- NO HURRY. RENT IT.

\$2- ACCIDENTLY CATCH IT ON HBO.

\$1- WALMART DVD BARGAIN BIN.

TIME

continued from page 9

multiplayer are customizable, right down to the weapon selection and music that plays for the match. There are also tons of match variants such as Vampire, Thief and Virus, and many different maps to play on. If you ever get tired of the maps provided, the game also features a multifaceted yet simple map-maker so that you can build your own maps for multiplayer, or even adjust them to have story mode style objectives.

Also, matches can hold up 16 players, for some party-worthy free-for-all action. If you ever find yourself short on players, the game features

computer controlled bots to play with. They are not very good at anything besides shooting, although they can flip and cartwheel to try and get an edge over you. In the end though, you're better off playing with people. It's this kind of impressive variety along with fast paced action that keeps *Future Perfect* fun for hours on end.

Years overdue, *Future Perfect* is the first Timesplitters to feature online play. Xbox supports two to 16 players online, with scoreboards, friends' lists, voice chat and the ability to download custom made maps from other players. PS2 has online play as well, but with only eight people, while the Gamecube, naturally, has no online play.

Sound effects in *Future Perfect* are good. All the voice acting is top-notch, especially for the lovable main character Cortez, which is good, because you hear a lot from him. Additionally, all 150 characters do a short intro when you select them, and their voices are also done well. Various other sound effects are alright, except that most of the explosions and gunfire sound kind of subdued. There is a lot of music in *Future Perfect*, but it mostly features light techno tunes that go well with the style of the game.

Future Perfect is graphically pleasing, with vibrant colors and a very animated look throughout. Keeping with a theme of variation, the game keeps things interesting with settings from haunted houses to disco dance floors to futuristic locales.

When it comes down to it, *Future Perfect* is an FPS with a classic feel to it. That may make it feel dated or bare-bones at times, but that's not always a bad thing if it's what you're looking for. Its vast variety of things to do and addicting multiplayer should be enough to keep you busy for hours on end. I give *Timesplitters: Future Perfect* 7 lost hours of sleep out of 8.

Platform(s): Xbox, Playstation 2, Gamecube

Genre: Sci-Fi, First-Person Shooter

Original Release Date: 3/21/05

Rating: 7/8

GAME REVIEWS

Lost hours of sleep

- Z - You'll probably play it through class, come morning. (8)
- ZZ - Great game. Make sure you have coffee for the day. (7)
- ZZZ - It's pretty good, but you won't lose much sleep. (6)
- ZZZZ - An average game. Don't bother with it during finals week. (5)
- ZZZZZ - Not that great. Those with particular taste may find something here. (4)
- ZZZZZZ - Overall, disappointing, but with redeeming qualities. (3)
- ZZZZZZZ - Bad. This has been brought to your attention to save you sleep. (2)
- ZZZZZZZZ - The hour is actually lost from nightmares about the game. (1)

NIGHT

continued from page 10

performance of the production on Saturday evening.

The play was done extremely well. All the actors proved to be exceptionally dimensional in their acting skills through the unique technique of taking on multiple roles. The dialogue called for loud and aggressive shouting, exaggerated emotion, and vulgar language; therefore, it was a necessity that the characters maintain professional conduct.

While portraying a courtroom judge in a particular scene, one actor scrambled up her words. She was able to give the audience a mild chuckle and still recover without getting discouraged or fazing the rest of the cast. Although this was an error in the play, it showed extreme professionalism and maturity on the actor's part.

Although I did not quite follow the story line at first, I found it to be a unique experience. *The Night of the Assassins* was definitely worth making; it allowed the actors to take on a different type of performance. Despite the fact that the play was a bit complicated for those who are not familiar with it, it kept the audience on their toes in wonderment. The ending was a definite shock, though, and it helped to link everything together.

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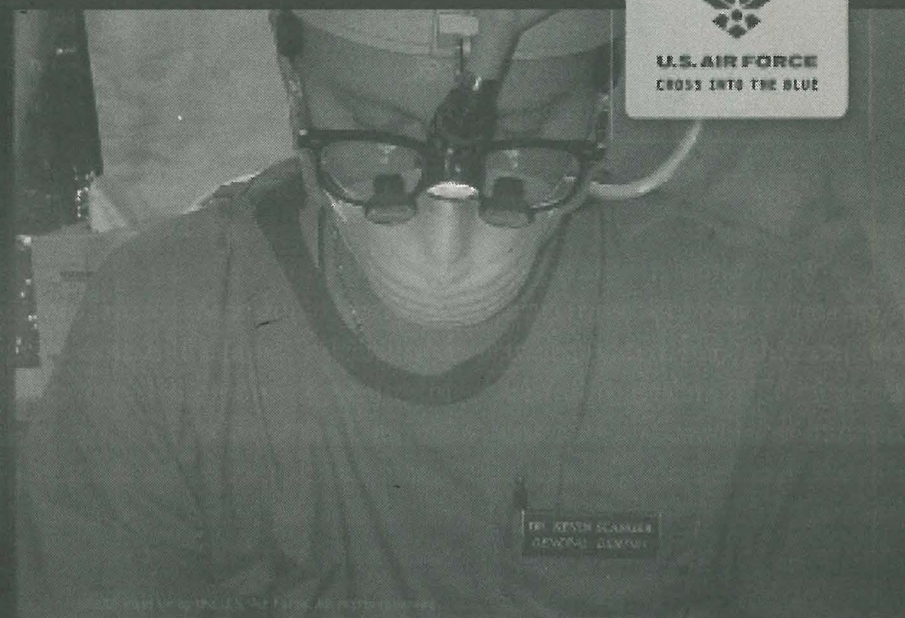
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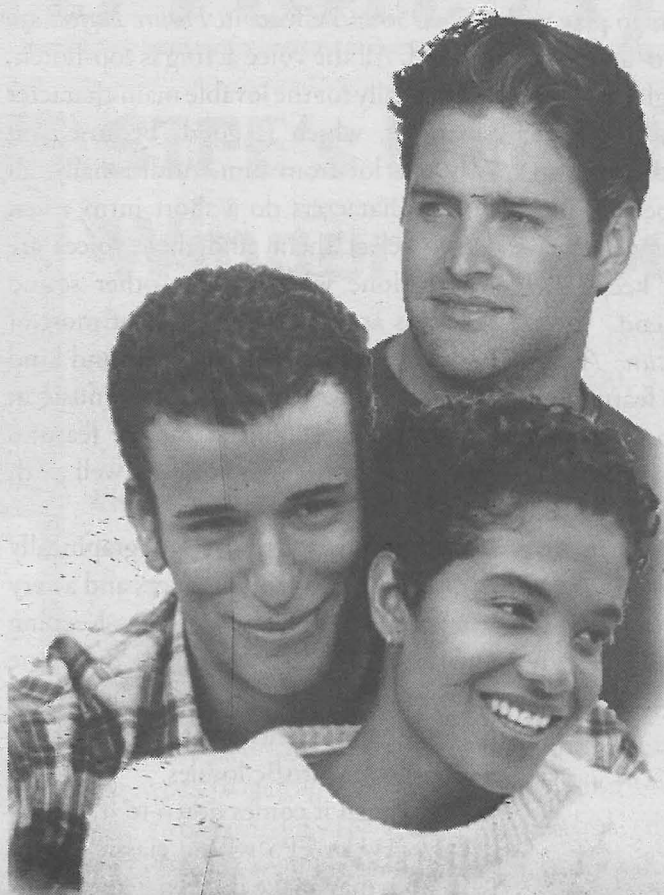


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Alisha VanHoose
Editor-in-Chief

Dear NSU Community,

I happened to get a chance to check out the King Tut exhibit in Ft. Lauderdale last weekend. I don't really know what I expected, but I supposed I expected to be a lot more impressed than I was.

I guess my main thought was "shouldn't they put all this stuff back into the tombs where it belongs?" If I had my liver mummified and put in a special jar, I think I'd be pretty mad if someone kicked my liver out and made off with the jar to put it on display. Then again, I have no intention of mummifying any part of myself, and that's not what this column is about this week.

What I really wanted to talk about is a little something called 'advertising.' Yeah, you're all familiar with it.

I saw the exhibit with a couple of friends, and a few rooms before the end, one of them said "I'm going to be mad if I don't get to see the death mask."

I suppose nobody ever told her that it's not allowed to leave Egypt.

When I told her that it wasn't there (someone else I knew had already been to the exhibit, and she too was disappointed that the mask wasn't there), she was genuinely angry. I don't really blame her, as neither the mask nor the sarcophagus were part of the exhibit, but were used in all of the advertising posters.

Here's where I get to the advertising part.

I don't care how recognizable an icon is, (ahem, the mask and sarcophagus), it shouldn't be used to promote something when it won't actually be a part of whatever is being promoted. No, I'm not talking about not finding a talking cartoon bee in your Honey Nut Cheerios, I'm talking about things that most people could reasonably expect to see.

While I know that these things are never going to leave Cairo, and apparently some other people do too, because we were talking about it in the office, it's obviously not common knowledge. So what we essentially have here is false advertising.

That's what my friend was grumping about, anyway.

One would think that something like the museum would know better, or at least have marketing and PR people to point these things out for them. I know people who went to see the exhibit just because of the sarcophagus or the mask or some other item that wasn't actually there, and at \$25 a pop minimum (add \$7 if you want the audio tour), I just don't think it was fair for all of the advertisements to tease people with something it couldn't offer.

A bit of a trivial rant, I know, but still ... shame on you, Museum of Art, Ft. Lauderdale!

Sincerely,

Alisha VanHoose

Graduating Together, Yet Graduating Alone...

By Farheen F. Parvez
Contributing Writer

What do four years mean? To most senior students, it means graduation. To me, it is a time to celebrate my four years of hard work and dedication. It is a time to celebrate my accomplishments with my fellow classmates, whom I study with, whom I attend NSU's campus activities with, whom I talk to everyday, whom I go to lunch with, etc. Graduation is a time when my class, the class of 2006, looks forward to completing our four years of undergraduate studies here at Nova Southeastern University.

There is a reason why each one of my classmates chose this particular university over the countless universities and colleges nationwide. I chose NSU because it is what I was looking for all along. Four years ago when I came to NSU for a tour, I did not just look at the curriculum or count the buildings. I looked at my surroundings. The students, the faculty, the people that work in the cafeteria, the cafés, the library, the bookstore, and elsewhere on campus seemed to be

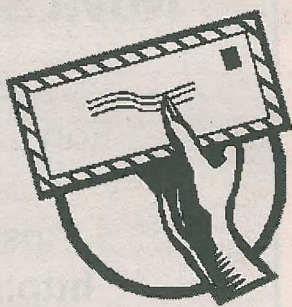
genuinely nice and welcoming. I felt that this university is one that is respectful, peaceful, and considerate of anyone who is on its grounds, whether it is the Dean or the janitor. This university has allowed me to learn not only about biology or chemistry, but about myself. It encouraged me to explore my talents and my strengths. NSU was my motivation to go on with college; it was my motivation to study hard, to help others, to become a student leader, to be considerate of everyone around me, to give more and to receive less.

These past four years made me realize that "failure" was not a word in NSU's dictionary because at NSU, anything is possible if you work hard, believe in yourself, and give it your best shot. This has been my impression of Nova Southeastern University. I have countless memories of NSU and it is this particular university, which had the biggest impact in shaping me into the individual I am today. It has transformed me from a shy little freshman to a brave young senior. NSU is no longer just a

university I chose to attend; it is a family I chose to become a part of.

Today, while my fellow classmates have bought their caps and gowns, are sending out invitations to their commencement, and are anxiously awaiting for the moment they walk on stage to receive their diplomas, I am both happy and sad. I am happy because they worked hard to get to where they are today. I am sad because I will not be sitting with them at our graduation, I will not be clapping for them when they get their diplomas, and they will not see me walk on stage to get mine. The students and faculty at NSU have been one big family for as long as I can remember. Even with campus activities such as picnics, Community Fest, Hillel's Shabbat dinners, IMAN's Fast-A-Thon, interfaith dialogues, ISA's food fests, movie nights, and every other event, whether big or small, the students have been supportive.

Please See ALONE
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To all uninformed students,

Graduation is upon us, and many of you are still completely unaware of the potential danger we could face at our commencement. Many of you know that we are having a guest speaker, Salman Rushdie, at our commencement ceremony. What many of you do not know is that he wrote a book entitled *Satanic Versus* which has caused controversy world wide. This book dismissed many religious figures, and labeled the prophet Mohammed as satanic in nature.

You may ask, "How does this jeopardize my safety at our graduation ceremony?" The reason is very simple my friends. Salman Rushdie has a \$3,000,000 dollar bounty on his head. In addition to this bounty, a high ranking religious ruler (Ayatollah

Letter from a Reader Our Lives in Jeopardy at Graduation?

Ruhollah Khomeini) of the Islamic faith ordered all Muslims to seek-out and kill him.

This is something to take into serious consideration. Who is to say that there is not someone who is willing to try and kill him while inflicting harm to everyone else at the ceremony? Considering that the University of California at Berkeley was firebombed for stocking his book back in the late eighties, this is a very realistic situation. Rushdie's Japanese translator was also stabbed to death at the University that he taught in Tokyo, Japan. These are only two of the many incidents of violence that have taken place because of this man.

Our deans, faculty, and president have all been enlightened to this situation, but nothing is being done to change the speaker. There is a list of over fifty speakers to choose from; however, our University decided to choose Rushdie. This is an incredible mistake. This is an insult to the Muslim students, a jeopardy to our

safety, and a hindrance of campus unity.

I am calling on all students and faculty alike to take a stand on this issue. Please get involved. Send letters to our deans, faculty, and president. Show them your disapproval as I have. Without unity on this issue, nothing will be done. I ask all of you to involve your friends, family, and community to make certain that this political target does not turn us all into one. If Osama bin Laden can convince people to blow up the twin towers without reward, can't a \$3 million bounty convince some wacko to try to kill him along with everyone else at the ceremony?

Long or short, send your letters. Every word makes a difference. I will be looking into contacting the media and having a rally against this. If you are interested in taking a stand, please contact me: rrodrigu@nova.edu

Sincerely,
Randy Rodriguez-Torres

In T.V. Land

Eat Sugar, Grow a Unibrow

By Marines Alvarez
A&E Editor

Does anyone still watch TLC? Well, I do. There was a time when I guess TLC was boring and, you know, educational, but now-a-days it's all about makeovers, babies, weddings, and people who are their own twins. Because what could be more educational than a tumor with teeth that you discover is actually your twin? Dun, dun, dun...

The latest TLC offerings (that I found out about because I love "What Not to Wear" and would not be at all offended if someone nominated me for the show) come in the form of "Shalom in the Home" and "Honey, We're Killing the Kids." I'm not sure what "Shalom" is and all I can really say is that it involves a rabbi and peace...in the home. Perceptive, I know.

On the other hand, I caught "Honey, We're Killing the Kids," last week at a ridiculous hour of the night (the best time to watch TLC). The basic concept is that a professional nutritionist, Dr. Lisa, uses some super-smart computer technology to show parents what

their children will look like at age 40 if they continue their bad eating habits. Dr. Lisa works with the family for three weeks, giving them different rules to follow and assignments to complete. At the end of the three weeks, they re-work the computer aged pictures to show their projected aging if they follow their new healthy rules.

It's an interesting concept, because, let's be honest, kids are getting fatter. Three-year-olds across America would rather play Dora the Explorer online that go to the backyard and run around. I think kids are born knowing the McDonalds menu, and I know a four year old that uses fast food restaurants as landmarks. Obviously it's a growing problem, and I thought it would be interesting to see this show tackling it.

I thought somewhat wrong. Can we say, heavy handed TLC? Apparently not. First off, the poor kids are made to take every sweet thing out of their kitchen and put them in bins that stay right in the middle of the house, staring at them. Okay, I get the concept; they must resist the

temptation, but hello? They're 7 year olds! I can't resist the temptation. The poor kids were probably hungry since they were throwing up all the tofu the parents force-fed them. Is tofu seriously the only way to eat healthy? And they yell when the little kid stole some chocolate chip muffins from the forbidden bins of sugar. He's starving! Keep it up and you really will kill the kid.

I also had a problem with Dr. Lisa. Did I miss the part where they explain that she is really a robot and cannot show any emotion? I must have. It doesn't matter anyways, because she only shows up to yell at the family and then she disappears.

It's obvious the whole clincher here is the great computer aged photographs, but they are ridiculous. Apparently, if you don't eat healthy, when you grow up you will also "develop" mullets, unibrows, bad facial hair, and bad orthodontia. Here's the message kiddies; overweight people have bad hygiene. Might as well have put the computer aged pictures in orange jumpsuits or hobo gear, because apparently sugar will make you a dirty bum.

The funniest part? In the premier episode, the aged photos made the kids look just like their father. Ha! Way to let them down gently. "I'm sorry guys, but you don't know how to feed your kids and your bad genes will eventually kill them in the future!"

Just so everyone is clear, I ate sweets as a kid and I thought the backyard was hell. I always wore pretty pink dresses and never got dirty. My mom would put Twinkies in my lunch. It happened. Maybe it wasn't the best lifestyle, but TLC, I'm not dead yet and more importantly, I don't have a mullet.

I'm not against the concept. There just should something a little more educational and helpful and a lot less stereotypical and – dare I say it – FOX-esque. I am thoroughly disappointed. I think I need some chips, soda and a brownie. Hey, on that note, maybe their next endeavor should be "I'm a College Student Paying Ridiculous Amounts of Money for Tuition So I Can't Afford to Feed Myself Properly and I May Really Be Dying – Help!" Just a thought.

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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*.

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ALONE

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Four years is more than just the light at the end of the tunnel

We help and support one another whether it is sharing ideas, advising incoming freshmen which classes to take, or helping organizations host events. I believe that we, the students at NSU, are open-minded and respectful.

Throughout these past four years, I have never, I repeat, never, not even jokingly, heard anyone say or do anything to hurt someone's feelings. Instead, we learn about one another, our cultures and our beliefs, so we can better understand each other. This kind of unity is difficult to find, especially in today's society. This bond that we have, the bond to support one another, to stick together through the good times and bad, is being jeopardized by NSU's selection of one of the most controversial speakers of this era, Salman Rushdie.

A few weeks ago, I was very much looking forward to my graduation, as every senior would. When I found out that Rushdie, the writer of *The Satanic Verses*, who insulted my beliefs and my values, which I hold dear to my heart, under the veil of "freedom of speech" will be the keynote speaker at my commencement, I was appalled. Rushdie is the reason I am not attending my own graduation. It is because of him that my family, relatives, and friends will not be taking off from work or school to celebrate my accomplishments. Rushdie is why the class of 2006 will not see me in my cap and gown on May 7, 2006 at the Bank Atlantic Center.

At this point, you are probably wondering why the choice of a commencement speaker is forcing me not to attend my own graduation. It is true that Rushdie caused chaos worldwide when his book was published and it is also true that there was a fatwa placed on him for writing such a book. However, Rushdie's presence at my commencement as the keynote speaker and his book are much deeper than NSU inviting him to express freedom of expression and granting him an honorary doctorate of humane letters. It goes beyond "freedom of speech."

Over the past two weeks, I have been reading about Rushdie and the controversy. I went to NSU's library and checked out books on the writer and his literary work. I read the history, the politics, the criticisms, and looked at it from an unbiased point of view. I asked myself, as you too, may be asking: Why did *The Satanic Verses* offend Muslims?

In order to understand why it offended Muslims, one must understand what Muslims hold dear to their heart. In his book, Rushdie offered another version of the birth of a world religion, Islam. However, this version is not accurate, because it is, after all, fiction. Rushdie used dreams to discuss and present Islam. Six of the nine chapters in the book dealt with Islam. He really hit home when he scorned and dishonored Prophet Muhammed (peace be upon him), for whom Muslims hold the utmost respect.

Furthermore, Rushdie made no attempt to disguise the names of the great personalities of Islam. Instead, he used profanity and showed utter disrespect for them. He referred to them as a "bunch of riff-raff", "goons" and "f**king clowns." Figures that command deep respect in the hearts of Muslims, who are mentioned countless times in canonical Islamic texts are ridiculed. Rushdie's representation of the Prophet (peace be upon him) and his family were the main factors that

caused real offense and anger in the Muslim community worldwide.

In one of the chapters, Rushdie created a brothel named *Hijab* - The Curtain. *Hijab* is the act of covering the hair practiced by Muslim women. It is a sign of modesty. Rushdie used the word *Hijab* to refer to the brothel. To call a brothel "*Hijab*" is already an insult. However, Rushdie did not stop there. Within the brothel, he placed twelve whores, who took the names and fit the descriptions of the wives of the Prophet (peace be upon him). The wives of the Prophet (peace be upon him) are known by Muslims as the *Ummal Momineen* - Mothers of the Believers. Rushdie portrayed them in such an indecent way that it clearly offended, and continues to offend Muslims greatly. Furthermore, the brothel is paralleled to the Ka'ba, the first Mosque of Islam, and the direction to which Muslims perform their five daily prayers. During the pilgrimage to Mecca, the *Hajj*, Muslims perform *Tawwaf* - they circle the Ka'ba. In the brothel, a similar action is performed by its waiting clients. If this does not show Rushdie's utter disrespect towards Islamic beliefs, then I do not know what constitutes as disrespect.

Muslims do understand the conventions of literature and appreciate that the dream sequences are fictional. However, it is not the criticism of Islam that they protest against, since such criticism took place even within the Prophet's (peace be upon him) lifetime. Rather, Muslims protested, back when Rushdie's novel was published in 1988, and continue to protest today, against the use of obscene, profane language and imagery when dealing with figures and personalities that every believing Muslim holds dear to his or her heart. Rushdie can argue that the characters that share names and qualities with figures in Islamic history are not intended to actually represent them, and Muslims do understand this. However, this does not change the fact that he has used names, images and institutions that are undeniably from Islam. This is mainly why I, along with millions of Muslims, am deeply hurt and offended.

The point is not that Rushdie wrote whatever he did as a fictional work of art or that he wrote it to express "freedom of speech." The point is that he failed to show *respect*, one of NSU's core virtues.

Rushdie's topic at the 2006 commencement is "Good and Evil." What would such a writer have anything to say about goodness or respect? Can one go about insulting beliefs and values people hold dear to their heart simply because one has the "right" to express oneself? Is this the definition of "freedom of speech"? Does this mean that my class, the class of 2006, will be forced to listen to such writer because the committee decided that because Rushdie expressed independence of thought and speech, he is the best speaker to invite, although there was a list of numerous speakers the committee could have chosen from? If the students do not approve of Rushdie as their keynote speaker, will NSU be adamant to have him speak anyway? If so, why? Is there really a lack of speakers at our commencement? Shouldn't the students and the faculty have any say in who they would like to listen to? Whose graduation is it anyway? Salman Rushdie's, or the class of 2006?

UNICCO

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for SEIU, estimated "over 215 employees" have signed the petition and joined the strike.

McGonigle, representing the workers, said that although a large number of employees signed the petition to strike, "not all are participating."

Director of Physical Plant Tony Todaro could not be contacted concerning the percentage of employees on strike. However, in an open letter to the NSU community, President Ray Ferrero Jr. stated "about two thirds of the UNICCO hourly workers that service NSU have reported for their regular duties."

Several UNICCO workers cited President Ray Ferrero's neutral stance and inaction as a reason for striking.

Jose Peinda, demonstrating with a second group at the Physical Plant employee entrance, said he was upset by the lack of initiative from NSU officials. "The University is just trying to avoid problems, but at the same time they are showing they don't care," he said.

"NSU is definitely involved because they have a contract with UNICCO," asserted William Alvarez, a painter at NSU for almost two years. "Just because the President thinks the problem is between us and UNICCO, doesn't mean there isn't a problem."

Lauren Breck, a student activist from FAU, expressed her anger chanting with the crowd. "It's very simple," she said. "The university doesn't want to accept responsibility for their contractual decisions."

In the open letter to the NSU community, Ferrero summarized the University's position by saying that "as a private, not-for-profit university, NSU has an obligation to support the educational pursuits of tens of thousands of students."

Ferrero also referred to reports that "SEIU organizers have repeatedly called or visited the homes of some UNICCO employees for the express purpose of coercion and intimidation."

On April 11, demonstrators also attempted to enter the Signature Grand and protest during the annual "Entrepreneur Hall of Fame" induction ceremony, but were turned away by Davie Police Department officers.

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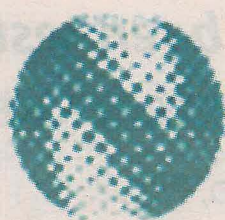
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