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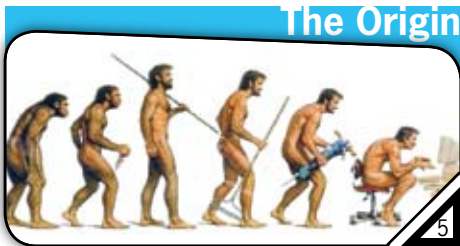
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Hate Crimes on the Rise Throughout the Country

Tanya Parnes Staff Writer

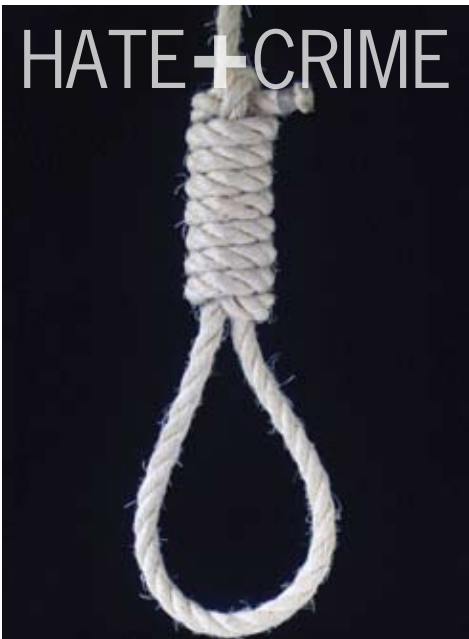
▼ There has been a huge wave of hate crimes committed across the nation in recent months. These offenders have demonstrated their anti-Black and anti-Jewish sentiments through the hanging of nooses and the drawing of swastikas.

In Aug. 2006 in Jena, Louisiana, three white students hung nooses on a tree that stood in the courtyard of Jena High School. This controversy has sparked numerous incidents of hatred. Last week in Long Island, New York, nooses were hung in three different locations including a door hinge at a mall, a public works garage fence and on top of a highway department garage. Nooses have been found in the bags of two black Coast Guard cadets in Connecticut, hanging from a tree on the University of Maryland’s campus, and on a black female professor’s door at Columbia University.

A man walked into the Jewish

Federation in Seattle, Washington, in July and opened fire, killing one and wounding five. There was a swastika drawn on a bathroom wall at Columbia University about three weeks ago. Twenty-two swastikas were scrawled in green chalk on a number of doors and walls in a New York City public school just a few weeks ago with the words “Hitler is back” next to one of them. Last Wednesday, a swastika was drawn on the door of a Jewish female professor at Columbia University and four swastikas, which progressively grew larger in size, were drawn on the door of a Jewish freshman student at George Washington University.

“I just think people are really ignorant sometimes,” said Natalie Solomon, a junior at NSU. “It’s kind of upsetting that people are still in that mindset. Obviously, people are going to have their prejudices, but



Above: Display of hanging nooses on the rise in recent hate crime spree.

they don’t need to come out and act on them.” Solomon said that hate crimes are on the rise because very little is being done to prevent them.

Titina Gist, a junior at NSU, mirrored

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Vampires Versus Slayers Party Takes a Bite out of a Friday Night

Jany Cabezas Staff Writer



Above: Party-goers dance the electric slide.

▼ The University Center Flight Deck was bedecked with cobwebs and other Halloween decorations on Friday, Oct. 26 for the Nightmare on College Avenue Halloween Party, which was hosted by AVACS, (Association for Video Games, Anime, Comic books and Scifi), SUB (Student Union Board) and the SGA (Student Government Association). The party ran from 8 p.m. to 2 a.m, during which time various activities and contests occurred. A Radio X DJ swapped songs near the dance floor, while costumed students competed in the Vampire vs. Slayers *Dance Dance Revolution* contest in the opposite corner. The winners received novelty prizes for their efforts.

At 10 p.m., there was a mummy-wrapping contest in which teams of three competed to see who could

wrap their friends in toilet paper the fastest. Early on in the evening, a face-painter helped out those who had come unprepared for the costume party, and a bit later on, a tarot reader read the cards for a long line of people. The event came to a head with the costume contest at 12 a.m. Winners for the costume contest were Meagan Oswald, Giselle Pincino, and Radnee Anib, who won the “Slayers” title as a group, Josh Wood for his Giseppi the Pizza Man, and Kristine Knoll for her Where’s Waldo? costume. Each winner received a \$20 gift certificate to Hot Topic.

The guests at the party ranged from people in costume to casual walk-ins, and consisted of a very diverse group of people. There was a wide range of reactions to the music being played, which was a mix of

mainstream, 80’s and very alternative unknowns. Sophomore Carla Cabrera, who found out about the party through Facebook, decided to join in the fun with a Good-Girl-Gone-Bad costume, but was disappointed with the outcome of the party. She said, “I think the music is really bad, we need a little bit more variety.”

Some students disagreed and found it all very entertaining. “I think the music is cool. It’s kinda like what you play in the [DDR] games so it’s catchy,” said a psychology major who wanted to remain anonymous. “I think everyone should have dressed up though,” said Richy Pena, who walked into the University Center when he noticed the party going on. Pena said, “I just happened to catch it. I would’ve liked more music you could actually dance to.”

War of the Words

NSU’s Ethics Bowl

Julian Brownlee Staff Writer

▼ On Oct. 27, NSU students and supporters came out to partake in a battle of wits at the Third Annual NSU Ethics Bowl. According to Robin Cooper of the Spiritual Life Department, the Ethics Bowl “is part of a national competition where students analyze social and professional issues from an ethical standpoint.”

During this event, there were six student teams that were vying for the opportunity to call themselves the Ethics Bowl Champion: the School of Humanities and Social Sciences (SHSS) Team, the Physical Therapy Department Team, the Department of Conflict Analysis and Resolutions (DCAR) Team, the Spiritual and Legal Team, the Leadership Development Team, and the Student Government Association Team. The judges for the event --Terry Hudgins (Fischler School of Education -- FGSE), Ben Mulvey (Farquhar College of Arts and Sciences -- FCAS), David Shapiro (Center for Psychological Studies), Roxanne Bamond (SHSS), Gary Gershman (FCAS), Terry Morrow (Division of Student Affairs – DOSA) and Bini Litwin (Health Professions Division – HPD) --scored the rounds based on intelligibility (Does the position or defense on the issue make logical sense?), depth (Was the stance on the issue well thought through?), focus (Is it relevant?) and judgment (consideration for both sides of the argument before making a decision on the position). After a series of preliminary rounds, two finalists competed for the title of Ethics Bowl Champion.

During the preliminary rounds, some of the issues that the students discussed were whether to have churches as polling places, interest rates on payday loans and revisionist history. In between rounds, teams had the opportunity to

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Hate Crimes... Continued from pg. 1

rored Solomon's feelings on this issue. "I don't like hatred. It's pointless," said Titina. "I know that we have freedom of speech, but people need to take their negative energy and do something good with it." Titina, who is one of the Resident Advisors at NSU, said that she has only had positive experiences at the university. "Our school is very diverse and I haven't seen any cases of hate crimes," said Titina. "I think our school is respectful to every culture."

NSU has not had any listed hate crimes for the past four years. Bronson Bias, Executive Director of Protective Services, said that there is a specific procedure in place at NSU in the instance that a hate crime does occur. "If there is a report of any kind of hate crime, whether it's by mail, email, telephone, voice data or personal contact, we immediately respond with the police department," said Bias. "We work with the victims to ensure that they are safe not only throughout the investigation but afterwards as well. As far as the criminal process goes, we assist in any way."

There are three enabling codes, or rules and procedures, that must be followed in the case of a hate crime. The first is the government, which includes the town of Davie as well as the state and federal statute law. The second is the Student Handbook. The third is employee policy procedures.

Public Safety will investigate the hate crime report in order to retain as much information as possible about the incident. They take photographs and use video cameras in order to gather together all of the informa-

tion for their reports. "We record it and investigate it in a comprehensive manner," said Bias. They will report their findings to the Office of the Dean of Student Affairs and the local law enforcement officials. Public Safety will complete an internal investigation for the university. The Davie police will conduct a criminal investigation. The Office of the Dean of Students and law enforcement officials will use statute law as they work together with the Office of the State Attorney to investigate the crime.

NSU works with the Office of the Dean of Student Affairs, local law enforcement and the FBI if necessary in some cases. "As far as the threat of violence, there was one about thirteen years ago," said Bias. "The FBI came in and investigated and found that it was unfounded. The FBI will come here and investigate any report of violence or threat of violence to anyone if it were considered a bias-motivated crime."

Bias pointed out that many crimes such as defacing property by spray-painting racial slurs on the walls of a building are considered criminal mischief and not hate crimes. "There has to be a victim for the crime to be listed," said Bias. "Because of the rules and the policies of the university, however, even though there isn't a strict law, the university can still take disciplinary action." NSU will punish the students involved through the use of disciplinary action that can include expulsion.

NSU has also created a Wall of Hate that is constructed on the lawn in front of the Alvin Sherman Library during Unity Week each year. The wall is constructed out of cement blocks that are lined up next

to one another, so that students can paint their messages on top of each of them. This wall signifies the hate and racism that students have experienced during the course of their lives. Once the wall has been completely painted it is torn down as a symbol of the students' desires to end all of this hatred.

Japheth Pizarro, a freshman at NSU, said that he doesn't like the racial slurs, jokes, and assumptions about people or put downs meant to limit these individuals. "I don't understand how people dislike others because of the way they look and the views that they have," said Pizarro. "If anyone is to blame for the increase in hate crimes, it's the people involved in their upbringing who don't teach them tolerance for other races, religions and differences." Pizarro said that students who joke around with one another in general conversations every day don't realize that many take offense to what they are saying.

Pizarro said that a Hispanic girl on NSU's campus was subjected to racial slurs delivered to her cell phone from an unknown caller on Tuesday, Oct. 30. Public Safety was called and the incident is currently under investigation. "I just think that people need to realize that even though racism is illegal, it is still alive and well, and it hurts," said Pizarro. "It hurts as much now as it did before."

7 die in Beach House Fire in North Carolina Is NSU safe from this same catastrophe?

Tanya Parnes Staff Writer

▼ Seven students perished after a fire broke out in their Ocean Isle Beach vacation house in North Carolina on Monday Oct. 29, while six others narrowly escaped the blaze with injuries. Six of the victims were students at the University of South Carolina and the seventh was a student at Clemson University. The fire was believed to have been accidental and began in the back of the house towards the deck. Most of the victims were found in their bedrooms. The local police and the State Bureau of Investigation are currently working on the case to try to uncover all of the details surrounding this deadly inferno. Although this fire took place off campus, it has raised concerns for many universities across the nation with regard to their own fire/safety codes and standards.

NSU has six residential halls on its 300-acre campus. Founders, Farquhar and Vettel Halls are the oldest residential halls, built around the late 1970's. The Cultural Learning Center, one of the graduate halls

Beach Fire... Continued on pg. 3



3301 College Avenue
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Interim Editor-in-Chief	Michael Bergbauer	bergbaue@nsu.nova.edu
Managing Editor	Chana Dukes	dchana@nsu.nova.edu
Current Affairs Editor	Kristine Belizaire	kbelizai@nsu.nova.edu
Sports Editor	Tranell Mesa	tranell@nsu.nova.edu
Variety Editor	Racquel Fagon	fagon@nsu.nova.edu
Staff Writer	Stefani Rubino	stefani@nsu.nova.edu
Staff Writer	Jany Cabezas	jany@nsu.nova.edu
Staff Writer	Tanya Parnes	tparnes@nsu.nova.edu
Staff Writer	Tim Coenraad	coenraad@nsu.nova.edu
Staff Writer	Julian Brownlee	jbrownlee@nsu.nova.edu
Visual Design Chief	Craig Stewart	craistew@nsu.nova.edu
Visual Design Assistant	Lienanh Nguyen	lienanh@nsu.nova.edu
Staff Photographer	Alexandra Paroulek	paroulek@nsu.nova.edu
Distribution Manager	Christopher Bergbauer	cbergbau@nsu.nova.edu
Business Manager	Akshat Bhargava	knightad@nsu.nova.edu
Staff Advisor	Lori Albrizio	albrizio@nsu.nova.edu
Staff Advisor	Eddie Jitpraphai	jitpraph@nsu.nova.edu

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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NSUNews

Current Affairs



Left: Beach house in North Carolina where seven students lost their lives.

Beach Fire... Continued from pg. 2

on campus, was built in 1984. Leo Goodwin Senior Residence Hall, which is reserved exclusively for freshman, was built in 1992. The Commons Residence Hall, which is the most recent edition to the university, was completed in 2007.

“All of the halls are up to date as far as fire/safety protocols are concerned,” said Anthony DeSantis, Director of Housing. “NSU does an amazing job of keeping their buildings up to date. Safety is their primary focus.” All of the residence halls are equipped with a hardwired fire alarm system. If there was smoke in any of the buildings the alarm system would immediately alert public safety.

“We do harm and safety inspections of the buildings twice a year,” said DeSantis. The Resident Advisors pair up in sets of two and go through each room in their buildings during the fall semester in order to ensure that everything is up to date. DeSantis, along with the Area Director for the building, the Assistant Director of Housing, Public Safety and a member of Facilities Management, also go through every room and every location within these residence halls during the spring semester. They inspect each of these rooms thoroughly in order to ensure that everything is working properly and that nothing needs to be repaired.

Michelle Cancio, a sophomore student living in The Commons, is not completely satisfied with residence hall safety. “I think that the only thing they’re missing is that you can’t open the windows, so if you’re in your room you can’t escape,” said Cancio. Cancio is concerned with the fact that the windows are sealed shut, leaving students no other option than to go out into the halls and take the staircases.

Rafael De La Rosa, a sophomore student living in The Commons, is also dissatisfied with the halls. “There is no way for you to open the windows and the stairs are located in inconvenient spaces,” said De La Rosa. “If you live in the middle you have to go all the way over to the other side.” De La Rosa also said that students are required to use their keys in order to unlock the doors leading to the staircase, which would pose a real problem in the case of an emergency. “I think there would be some people stuck in the building in the case of a fire with no way to get out,” said De

La Rosa.

Students living in these residence halls are required to complete a fire safety training course during the first two weeks of the school year. There are eight sessions offered in total. Those who miss the classes are able to watch them on WebCT and must complete a two-page paper afterwards demonstrating their understanding of this safety training. “Our staff goes through an hour and a half training course,” said DeSantis. DeSantis said that his staff is fully prepared to deal with any issues surrounding fire safety.

Nina Shah, a freshman student living in the Leo Goodwin Residence Hall, said that she attended the meeting about fire safety but is concerned about her limited understanding of NSU’s evacuation procedures. “I really think that if we did have a fire, I wouldn’t know specifically what to do, because we haven’t had any fire drills,” said Shah. “I think I’d be lost if there was a real fire.” Shah said that she would have liked to have been given the specifics on what to do and where to go in instance of an actual fire. “My things are replaceable but my friends are not,” said Shah. “Even though we were briefed on it, I think there would be complete chaos in the case of a fire.”

DeSantis has been with NSU for six years and he has not witnessed any incidents involving serious fires. “Most of the stuff that we see are things like a student who has burnt something,” said DeSantis. When students are in violation of the fire safety codes NSU holds a judicial hearing. Most of the time these are more educational than anything else because most of these cases involve accidents such as burnt toast. If there are multiple violations, however, the student is subject to expulsion. DeSantis said, “You can prepare as much as possible and you are responsible for the student and their safety, but so are they.”

Derek Sham, a senior student and a Resident Advisor in the Farquhar Hall, is very satisfied with the fire safety training and procedures that are in place at NSU. “Residential Life and Housing has definitely taken precautions to prevent certain things, such as halogen lights, and every resident has to watch the fire safety video,” said Sham. “I definitely think that there are enough fire hydrants, sprinklers and safety equipment around. All the Residential Halls are safe.”

Current Affairs Calendar

Kristine Belizaire Current Affairs Editor

Monday

Monday Night Football: The Flight Deck will be hosting “Monday Night Football.” Come out to the Flight Deck for free food and the chance to watch the Baltimore Ravens take on the Pittsburgh Steelers. For more information call the Flight Deck at 954-262-7260.

Tuesday

Tournament Tuesdays: FIFA Soccer Video Game Tournament: Come earn your bragging rights as the winner of the World Cup! For more information, call the Recplex at 954-262-7042.

Terrorism Debate: The Farquhar College of Arts and Sciences’ Division of Humanities will host an exhibition debate at 4:30 in the second floor gallery of the Alvin Sherman Library. The debate will feature two NSU undergraduates and two members of the British National Debating Team who will debate on how to negotiate with terrorists. For more information, contact Jennifer Reem at reemj@nova.edu.

Wednesday

Feed The Sharks: Come join the Commuter Student Organization for pizza in front of the Parker Building from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. For more information, contact Jennifer Joseph at josephje@nova.edu.

Thursday

Environmental Science Program Presents “Uruguay: The Hidden Adventure: Members of the NSU community are invited to visit the photographic display of “Uruguay: The Hidden Adventure” in the Alvin Sherman Gallery located on the second floor. An opening reception will also be held at 5:30 pm in the gallery. For more information, contact Alyssa Rothman at rothmana@nova.edu

Lunch and Learn Series: Come join the Office of Career Development for the Lunch and Learn Series titled Job Search: Your Way to the Top”. This event will take place in room 1048/1049 of the Carl Desantis Building. For more information, contact the Office of Career Development at 954-262-7201.

Friday

NSU Blues Festival: Get ready for a weekend of Blues! From Friday, Nov. 9 to Sunday, Nov. 11, NSU will host a Blues Festival on the main campus. The festival will begin at 5 p.m. For more information, contact Robert Sellani at 954-262-5012.

NSU Theatre presents The Women of Lockerbie: The NSU Theatre will open its third season with *The Women of Lockerbie*, a story about a mother from New Jersey who roams the hills of Lockerbie, Scotland, looking for her son’s remains which were lost in a fatal plane crash. On her journey, she meets the women of Lockerbie, who try to change hate acts to acts of love by washing the clothes of the dead and returning them to the victim’s families. The play will take place at 7:30 p.m. in the University Arts Center Black Box Theatre. For more information, contact the NSU Theatre at call 954 262-8179.

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Current Affairs

The Origin and Evolution of Life

How did we get here?

Racquel Fagon Variety Editor

▼ Students and faculty members of the Farquhar College of Arts and Sciences, Division of Math, Science and Technology explicated the Origin and Evolution of Life on Monday, Oct. 29, in the DeSantis Building's Knight Auditorium. The two-hour discussion was propelled by three main topics: the development of complex organs, DNA as the "blue-print" for life and the emergence of living beings.

Six student panelists, David Hernandez, Nikita Maniar, Liyipsy Ramirez, Nick Rocco, Nitin Wadhwa and Bruce Wilkens, were split into two groups to present arguments on the two existing theories of the emergence of life: Intelligent Design and Evolution.

The evolutionary advocates commenced the discussion on the development of a complex organ, the human eye, stating that the eye could have evolved through the similar process as the earth, over a period of many years. Their arguments expostulated on the involvement of Intelligent Design by arguing that the human eye is imperfect due to the fact that it has a blind spot. The evolutionary advocates deduced that no designer would create an imperfect structure. They went further into their discussion of the dominance of evolution by citing the similarities between humans and chimpanzees. Humans and chimps have a 90% similarity in their genomic structure. If a chimp was given a typewriter or computer, it would bash away at the keyboard and given enough time could recreate Shakespeare's work. Even if what the monkey had typed was gibberish, as humans recreate and reorganize language, the results of the monkey's typing could mean something. The evolutionary advocates added another layer to their argument by stating that DNA can be made from fusing and culturing gases, as is theorized to be the case with the Big Bang Theory.

Ethics Bowl... Continued from pg. 1

refresh their brains by reviewing issues they thought might be discussed in future rounds. After the preliminary rounds, the Physical Therapy Department Team and the SGA Team were the top scoring teams that headed to the final round.

After lunch, the two finalist teams went into an intense verbal clash. The topics were Iraqi translators and drug companies funding Food and Drug Administration (FDA) research. After about an hour of "verbal counters," the Physical Therapy Team prevailed over the SGA Team by a narrow two-point margin.

The purpose of the NSU Ethics Bowl is to decide which team will be representing our university at the Intercollegiate Ethics Bowl (IEB), which is an annual national competition. The IEB consists of two rounds: Ten regional Ethics Bowls, in which the top teams from institutions all over the region will compete, and the IEB itself, in which the top scoring 32 teams will compete on Feb. 21, 2008 in San Antonio, Texas at the Seventeenth Annual Meeting of the Association for Practical and Professional Ethics (APPE).

The IEB is strictly an undergraduate competition, however. Because the Physical Therapy Team consisted of graduate students, it is the second-place SGA Team who will be representing NSU at the regional Intercollegiate Ethics Bowl, which will be held in St. Petersburg, Fla., on Nov. 17. Their win was not a loss, however. All the members of the Physical Therapy Team received \$25 gift certificates to Barnes and Noble.

For more information about the Ethics Bowl or any other events that the Spiritual Life Council will be holding, please contact Robin Cooper at robicoop@nova.edu or call (954)262-7253.

The Intelligent Design advocates countered these arguments with one word: thermodynamics. The laws of thermodynamics dictate that something cannot come from nothing. Ergo, the Big Bang Theory is simply not logical according to the laws of thermodynamics. The Intelligent Design advocates used an analogy to deflate the argument of the chimpanzee presented by the Evolutionists. If one took a perfectly good Swiss watch, smashed it, took out all of its pieces, placed them in a bag, and shook it mercilessly for six million years, would the Swiss watch come together again? Their point was that time and chance do not equal design, or in the case of the chimps, a Shakespearean sonnet. There must be a designer to give an artistic touch to creation and symmetry to organisms.

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Program Coordinators Joshua Loomis and Jason Rosenzweig, who are Assistant Professors of Biology, in the Division of Math, Science and Technology, were commended by Dean Rosenblum for organizing such a thought-provoking discussion. Dean Rosenblum hopes that this discussion will launch more of its kind.

Erin Brockovich Speaks on Truth and Power

Kristine Belizaire Current Affairs Editor

▼ Members of the NSU community gathered in the Rose and Alfred Miniaci Center on Nov. 1, for the Distinguished Lecture Series featuring Erin Brockovich, president of Brockovich Research and Consulting.

Opening remarks were given by Don Rosenblum, Dean of the Farquhar College of Arts and Sciences, who welcomed the audience on behalf of NSU's president, Ray Ferrero, and the Farquhar College faculty in the divisions of Humanities, Social Behavioral Sciences, and Math Science and Technology. Rosenblum went on to explain the concept of the Farquhar College academic theme, "Truth and Power." According to Rosenblum, the theme of "Truth and Power" is an exploration of the different versions and perceptions of truth. Through this theme, students are encouraged to think about their duty to use their power to promote truth as they see it. Various student and faculty interactions, such as unique classes, lectures and student panels, are put into place to give students the opportunity to explore the relationship between truth and power.

Jessica Garcia-Brown, an assistant professor in the college, gave some historical information about Brockovich. According to Garcia-Brown, Brockovich changed the landscape on the issue of how big businesses handle toxic waste. While working as a file clerk in the law firm of Masry and Vititoe, Brockovich discovered that the Pacific Gas and Electric Company were dumping chemicals, specifically chromium six, into the water system, causing extensive physical damage to over 600 residents in Hinkley, California. She and a few of her colleagues brought a direct action lawsuit against the company, which led to the largest legal settlement in U.S. history, with the sum of \$333 million in damages awarded to the residents of Hinkley. Garcia-Brown introduced Brockovich as a tenacious, persistent and inspirational person.

Brockovich then took the stage, and described herself as a simple girl from the Midwest whose life was changed by a series of events.

The lessons of the film *Erin Brockovich*, according to Brockovich, are that even when you lose a battle, you can still win the war, and that it's what is inside of us that truly makes a difference. But most importantly, the movie showed that morality is invincible, and that a true player is always a team player.

Brockovich felt that the real purpose of the movie was to tell the audience that they all have the right to pursue their dreams. "The pursuit of happiness comes in many forms, but the right to pursue is what I am really about," said Brockovich.

In high school, Brockovich described herself as a "cute, classic underachiever." She failed in high school because she had dyslexia, and was voted as the girl least likely to succeed. It took her a long time to realize that the views that others had imposed on her were their own limitations.

Brockovich went on to give her own account about what happened when she worked in the law firm of Masry and Vititoe. According to Brockovich, her intent was not to destroy the industries or businesses. Her goal was to obtain justice for the people of Hinkley, who had the right to drink a clean glass of water. She knew in her heart that something was wrong and that someone was lying, which angered her. Brockovich does not see herself as a lone ranger, and said that the justice that came out from that settlement is also due to the lawyers, judges, the residents of Hinkley and her trusted boss Ed Masry, of Masry and Vititoe.

Brockovich believes that lying is a big problem, and that if our nation does not get back to our belief system, we will all collapse like a deck of cards. She compared herself to Dorothy from *The Wizard of Oz*, saying that Oz is a state of mind. Dorothy's journey to Oz is one of self-discovery, where Dorothy finds out that the wizard is just another person who used intimidation to call the shots. According to Brockovich, we all take a journey down the yellow brick road in search of money, power, fame and answers. "We all search for someone to give us all the answers, but we already have the answer. The problem is not what you don't have. It's what you don't know you have that's the problem," said Brockovich.

In closing, Brockovich implored the audience to get involved in the search for truth and justice by reacting to other's injustices and letting them know that what they are doing is wrong. "Choose to become a humanist and do something to change the world. Leave this world a better place than when you came, and give our children that instead of a memory," said Brockovich.

Brockovich was given a glass plaque on behalf of the Farquhar College of Arts and Sciences as a token of appreciation at the event.



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NSUSports



Above: Junior, Christina Chubb.

Volleyball Splits Games for the Week

Tim Coenraad Staff Writer

▼ The NSU women’s volleyball team (22-8; 8-4 SSC) won and lost their last two matches. They overcame Lynn University on Oct. 26, but fell to the University of Tampa on Oct. 27.

A dominant performance by junior Melinda Gorman allowed the Sharks to erase a two game deficit, resulting in the defeat of Lynn’s Fighting Knights by a score of three games to two. Gorman racked up 17 kills along with seven blocks, followed by sophomore Aley Tallman and juniors Emily Carle and Andrea Irarrazabal with 12, 11 and 10 kills respectively. Chipping in on the defensive side was freshman libero Kathleen Yony who registered a stellar 22 digs for the match. Tallman and junior Valia Petrova added three

blocks a piece, Petrova also tacking on 44 assists.

On Oct. 27, the Sharks faced the number one team in the nation, The University of Tampa Spartans. The Spartans remain undefeated in SSC play. The Sharks battled it out valiantly with the Spartans but were unable to come up with the win. Juniors Emily Carle and Melissa Gorman totaled nine and seven kills apiece, leading NSU, while Petrova massed 27 assists for the match.

SAAC Halloween Event

Nelly Mesa Sports Editor

▼ To the Shark community, SAAC has been known for putting together fun-filled events as well as collaborating with others to raise money for charities like the Make-A-Wish Foundation. This Halloween season SAAC arranged a thrilling trick-or-treating event for the community which took place during both the women’s volleyball game as well as at the women’s soccer game on Saturday, Oct. 27.

The Halloween event was made appealing to children through its incorporation of games, a bounce house, pumpkin decorating contests and much more.

SAAC is an organization put together by NSU’s Department of Intercollegiate Athletics in unity with NCAA guidelines. This club is made up of student-athletes who have been selectively chosen to represent their respective teams, as well as the Coordinator of Athletic

Academic Services, Chaunte Baldwin.

The association’s main goal is to encourage efficient communication among student-athletes and their Athletic Department to ensure that needs and desires are being met to the best of each party’s ability. In addition to this, SAAC wishes to promote further connection between NSU’s student-athletes and the campus community by putting together events. Upon doing so, SAAC hopes to increase a wide-range of awareness, the advertisement of good health, responsibility and social skills as well as striving for academic excellence.

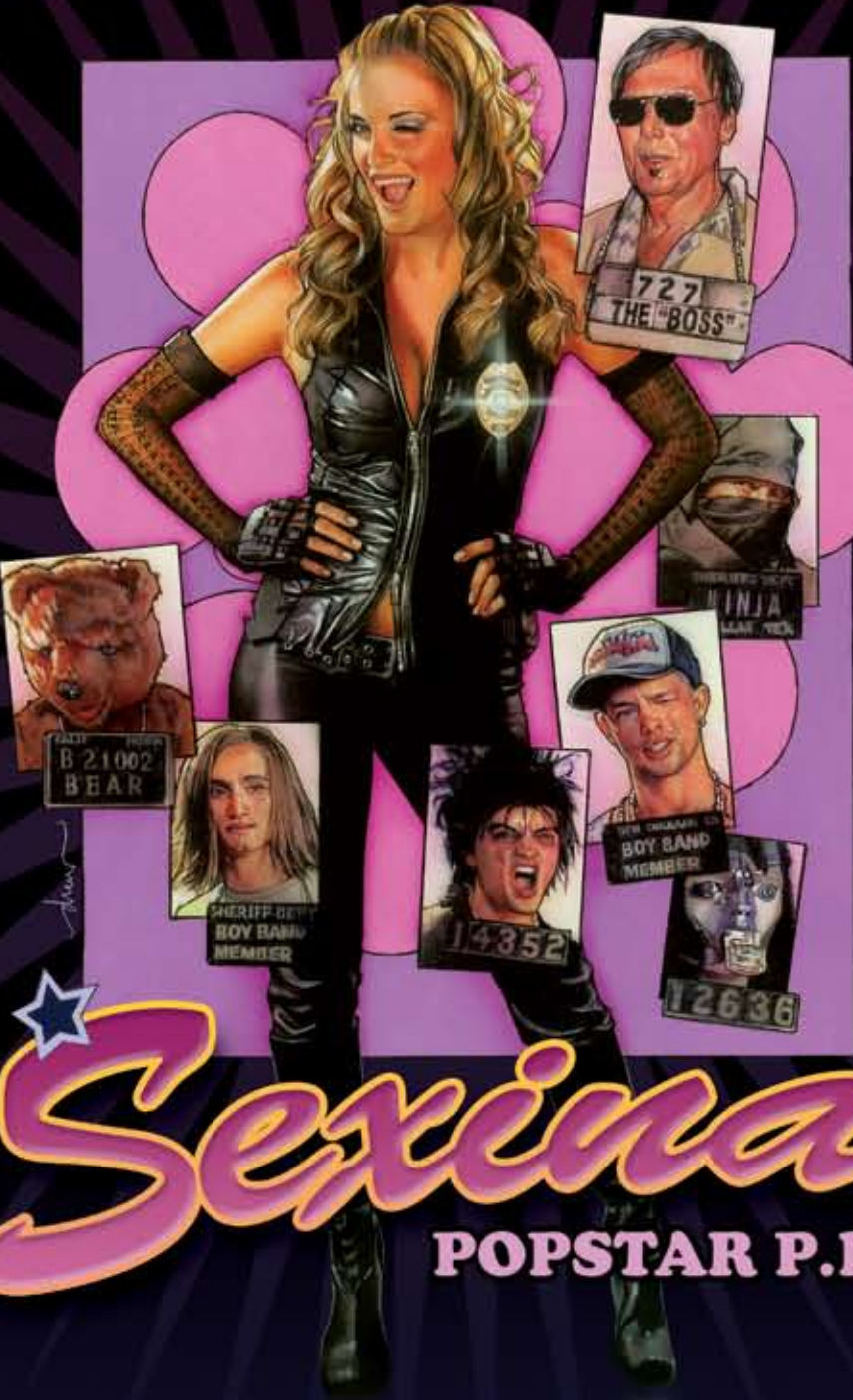
SAAC encourages all students, faculty and staff to keep their eyes open for the next upcoming event so that they are able to come out and show support.

The goal of the NSU-SAAC is to allow student-athletes an opportunity to get to know one another and to bond.

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before the film by Luxlife.

Sexina is also screening Wednesday 11/7 at the
Rose and Alfred Miniaci Performing Arts Center at 1pm.
Tickets available online at www.FLIFF.com
and at the Box Office.

NSUSports

Good Rankings Predicted for

NSU Basketball

Nelly Mesa Sports Editor

▼ NSU's men's and women's basketball teams were voted upon by the respective Sunshine State Conference league head coaches and sports information directors in order to establish a pre-season ranking for each team within the SSC.

The women's team is expected to finish in the 5th place slot amongst the pack with 94 points, just behind Barry University. The University of Tampa was picked to finish 1st in the SSC, with Rollins College in at 2nd, defending SSC Champs of Florida Tech in at 3rd and Barry's Buccaneers figured to be 4th. Expect to see the Sharks in the University Center for their first home game of the season on Nov. 16 at 7 p.m. where they will take on Barry University.

Men's basketball is expected to do great things this 2007-2008 season as they have been chosen to finish 3rd within the SSC according to the pre-season poll just behind Rollins College in at 1st and Eckerd College in 2nd. The Sharks will take the court for their first home game of the regular season on Nov. 27 at 7:30 p.m. versus Florida Memorial College.

NSU Golf Team Braves

Frozen Course

Nelly Mesa Sports Editor

▼ NSU's men's and women's golf teams concluded their fall season of competition on a strong note. At the Rollins College Invitational, the men's team finished in 2nd, while the women's team took home 4th place in the Ross Resorts Invitational.

Junior Constantin Schwierz from the men's team led the Sharks in the 10th place slot going with a score of 217 while senior Greg O'Mahony followed close behind at 218 in 13th place.

While in North Carolina, sophomore Maria Garcia-Austt from the women's team said, "It was really windy and cold on the course. We were postponed because the grass was frozen, and so were we!"

However, Garcia-Austt did not allow the weather to affect her play as she led the Sharks by tying for 6th place at a score of 230.

Men's Soccer Ends Season With New School Record

Tim Coenraad Staff Writer

▼ NSU's men's and women's soccer teams have concluded their regular seasons on extremely successful terms. With both teams achieving national rankings at various points of their respective seasons, each team is now battling it out for the SSC Championship Title.

The women's soccer team finished the fall regular season with an overall record of 10-2-2; 5-1-2 SSC and are heading into the SSC Tournament coming off a draw in double overtime to Florida Southern, 0-0, on Oct. 27. The Sharks currently hold a national ranking of 19th and look to earn their spot in the NCAA Tournament. Leading the Sharks' attack this year were freshman forward Lauren Prow and junior forward Shurell Burton with nine and seven goals for the season. As the season went on, SSC Player of the Week honors were distributed to senior defenders Jahmila Williams and Jennifer Turner. Turner is a two-time 2007 SSC Defensive Player of the Week, having now earned the honor for the week of Oct. 29 as well.

The men's soccer team (11-5-1; 4-3-1 SSC) is entering the SSC Tournament with confidence, coming off two wins for the week of Oct. 23-26. The Sharks now prepare for their upcoming SSC Tournament campaign. The Sharks brought about a number of surprises this 2007 season, but none greater than sophomore forward Romain Onteniente, who massed 18 goals and five assists for the season, and has been named Offensive Player of the Week three times, including the week of Oct. 29. Freshman standout Aly Hassan tallied 11 goals for the season while assisting on five occasions as well, gaining SSC recognition as a one-time Co-Offensive Player of the Week. In his last year as a Shark, senior goal keeper Jarod Rennick tallied an impressive 86 saves. The NSU soccer team, captained by sophomore midfielder Craig Heenighan, was ranked 2nd in the nation once this season thus capping their highest-ever ranking in program history, along with registering their longest undefeated streak at 9 games.



Left: Freshman, Ali Hassan.

NSU's Eskender Abdalla Named SSC Male Runner of the Year

Nelly Mesa Sports Editor

▼ NSU's junior male cross country phenomenon, Eskender Abdalla, has been named the Sunshine State Conference's Male Runner of the Year for the 2007 regular season.

Abdalla finished in the top ten in 5 of the 6 races this season as well as being named SSC Male Runner of the Week four times and being voted onto the All-SSC Cross Country Team. Upon acquiring these achievements, Abdalla has made a name for himself amongst NSU athletics as being the first Shark runner to be named Runner of the Year.

Eskender will be joining his team in Alabama on Friday, Nov. 3 at 10 a.m. where the Sharks will compete in the NCAA South Region Championships.

Softball Team Takes Lead in Shark Challenge

Nelly Mesa Sports Editor

▼ NSU's women's softball team, defending CHAMPS/Life Skills Shark Challenge Champions of 2006-07, have taken the lead within the competition with a total of 538 overall point thus far in the year. Women's soccer has tallied up 416 points placing them second and in third is men's baseball with 328 points.

"Our Coaches [Head Coach Bonee and Assistant Coach Atkinson] really stress the team's participation and attendance in as many sporting events around campus as possible, so we've really racked up the points," said senior softball player Megan Burke. "I think we would go regardless though. We enjoy getting together to root for our fellow Sharks, and hopefully by showing our support we will encourage more people to come out to our games as well."

In order for team's to acquire more points as the Shark Challenge continues, log on to NSU's athletic webpage and search for upcoming CHAMPS/Life Skills programs and events so that your team too can become the biggest part of the Shark tradition.

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Variety

The Fest 6 Invades Gainesville

Stefani Rubino Staff Writer

RIGHT: PAUL BARIBEAU

▼ When October starts to set in, everyone in Gainesville knows it's time for The Fest. Running for six years now, The Fest is No Idea Records' annual music festival held in Gainesville at the end of October which has been running for six years now. This year, The Fest 6 was held on Oct. 26, 27 and 28, and featured over 180 bands at twelve different venues all over Gainesville.

On Thursday, the day before The Fest, there was already a buzz in the air all over town. Over two hundred crusty punks and scene kids descended on Gainesville to attend The Fest, and more kept coming all throughout the weekend. The Fest 6 kicked it off with a show at Gainesville's community-run info-shop, Wayward Council, with a performance by Los Gatos Negros (The Black Cats). Much like their name, the band itself was elusive, and no one seemed to know who was actually in the band. However, their combination of hardcore punk and eccentricity started the weekend off perfectly.

A few notable bands performed on Friday. "Naked Raygun," one of the first American post-punk bands, began their reunion tour with a show at Downtown Gainesville's The Venue. Youth Brigade, the legendary Los Angeles punk band, also played at The Venue. The most interesting band to play that night was Bomb the Music Industry, a "collective" (not a band) that features different members now and then. They did not charge for their performance and they did not sell any merchandise.

Saturday was The Fest 6's biggest day. That night the hardcore-punk band Circle Takes the Square and thrash-metal band Municipal Waste performed at Downtown's Common Grounds. The line at Common Grounds was literally down past the end of the block and even people with three-day Fest 6 passes were not able to get in. There were other performances elsewhere for those who couldn't get in to the big show, such as Plan-It-X Records' Madeline, who played that night at The Atlantic. Madeline mostly played songs

from her first solo release *Kissing & Dancing*. Madeline's best performances were that of "Dumpster Dive Mother," one of the best songs on that album, and "Betty Page," during which she encouraged the audience to sing along.

The best day of The Fest 6 was Sunday, which was Plan-It-X Records Day at Second Street Bakery. The quaint coffee shop featured a large parking lot area where many of Plan-It-X Records' bands performed, among them Matty Pop Chart, Paul Baribeau, Andrew Jackson Jihad, Erin Tobey, Ghost Mice, Defiance Ohio, This Bike is a Pipe Bomb, and non-Plan-It-X'ers Matt & Kim.

Even though the entire day was incredible, certain performances stuck out more than others. Paul Baribeau helped start the day off right with songs from his self-titled album. His enthusiasm and sincerity made the songs feel like stories about his life. "Strawberry" was the

best performance of his entire set, which he sang with emotion and tenderness. Andrew Jackson Jihad's peculiar lyrics and funny faces helped put a smile on everyone's face, while Erin Tobey's sweet little voice and sarcasm brightened up the overcast day a bit.

Defiance, Ohio and This Bike is a Pipe Bomb were probably the best performances of the day. Defiance, Ohio's fusion of punk, Americana and bluegrass got everybody's blood pumping and hearts racing. Their best performance was of "This Time, This Year" from *Share What Ya Got* during which almost every person in the audience was screaming right along with them. This Bike is a Pipe Bomb, much like Defiance, Ohio, blended punk with folk and some country "twang" and had the most enthusiastic stage presence out of



all the bands on Sunday. Their entire performance was packed with sing-alongs and lots of head bobbing. The audience was so engaged that afterward, everyone had to spread out and take a little breather.

Much like last year, The Fest 6 was a complete success, even selling out of three day wristbands, and it was not hard to see why. This year's line-up was so great, it is going to

be a challenge to top it next year. No Idea Records and the rest of the sponsors did a wonderful job with The Fest this year and there is no question whether The Fest will gain popularity, as it is already huge. No Idea Records' The Fest was a blast for anyone and everyone, and it is going to be exciting to see what The Fest 7 has in store.

Paul Baribeau, Defiance Ohio and others play at Second Street Bakery on Sunday, the third day of the festival.

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Autumn-Fest

Racquel Fagon Variety Editor

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Answers to last weeks Unscramble: Depressed girl, Mock community, Haunted attic, Disrespectful ghost, Black and white, Michael Keaton, Scarefest, Married Couple.

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THE _____

Autumn Fest Word Maze

Find the quote by connecting the words in the diagram. No letter is used more than once. The first letter of the next word is adjacent to the last letter of the previous word. The first word has been selected for you.

Great Web Sites for College Students

Christopher Bergbauer Distribution Manager

▼ The Internet is a major part of any college student’s life. There are millions of places to go when surfing the Web. This is a small list of some great Web sites that are both useful and interesting for the college student.

For pure entertainment, try collegehumor.com. Its video stash is updated daily with the best viral videos on the Net, as well as pictures and funny articles which are just as good as the videos.

Digital Frontier Plus has a great Web site for those who are interested in video games, anime or music. The site offers news, pictures of anime conventions and it even has a store where you can buy anime figures. DFP radio also hosts its own online radio show that plays music from various video games and anime. The hosts talk about interesting topics in the world of anime and video games, and record interviews at anime and video game conventions with otaku and game developers. Check them out at Dfpradio.com.

Being in college is quite a life experience, and photos are an important part of recording and sharing that experience. Visit flickr.com for great ways to store and organize photos. Sharing is very easy too, and the site even offers a digital map where people can place their photos to show others where they were taken. With flickr.com your photos are also safe, as the site offers several different privacy options.

Surfing the Net isn’t all entertainment, however. There are other sites geared towards helping college students with their daily tasks. Citationmachine.net is a nifty site that provides students with MLA, APA, Chicago and Turabian style citations. First, click a style, then the type of source (a book, for instance), then input the requested information. The site will put it all together, and then spit out the proper citation.

Sparknotes.com is a great place to get a little extra help with class. The site is full of many free guides and overviews for literature, math, history, psychology, biology, and chemistry, just to name a few. This site is nifty for boning up on material or getting information in plain English.

Lastly, being informed about global and local issues is an important part of being in college. Nytimes.com, sun-sentinel.com, yahoo.com and msn.com are all great places to stay informed. Digg.com is a site that will be of particular interest to some students. It is a news site which deals mostly with technology. On digg.com, anyone who joins can vote if a news story is worthy to stay on the front page or if it should get bumped down. This Web site shows a large list of important and relevant stories without the reader having to dig around, and the ability to vote adds some fun to the site. Being able to relate real world occurrences to what is learned in class is important and tends to pay off. Professors are impressed by this type of knowledge, and may hand out class participation points to informed and interested students.

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Opinion

On The Scene

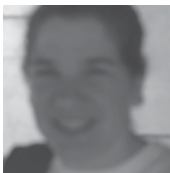
Kristine Belizaire Current Affairs Editor

WHO IS YOUR FAVORITE NSU PROFESSOR?



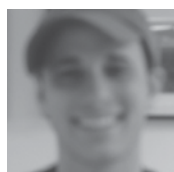
Vivian Martin Del Campo, legal studies, senior
"Professor Dixon. He is challenging and he makes you want to learn more about the law."

Rosemary Lucas, marine biology, senior
"Dr Feingold, marine biology teacher. I like the way he teaches; he always makes things relevant."



Tien Nguyen, biology, junior
"Dr. Giarikos, chemistry professor. He is such a good teacher, and he is very involved with his students."

Sharein El-Tourky, marine biology, sophomore
"I love all my professors, but the two greatest who impacted my education are Dr. Brimmer, composition teacher, and Dr. Feingold, marine biology professor."



Gregga Martin, senior psychology
"Dr Cuc, psychology teacher, He was the only guy that I would really get along with."

Fidel A. Maceda, biology, senior
"Dr Castano, physics teacher. He makes physics interesting and easy to understand. He also puts a lot of energy in class instead of just reading out of a book or looking at a power point."



Editor's Note

Michael Bergauer Interim Editor-in-Chief

▼ I've noticed a lot of harried students on campus this week, including myself. It seems that perhaps all classes on campus had a paper or quiz due this week. Really, it's just a part of the "college experience." You will, at some point, stress out. It happens, and it has made me a bit philosophical lately.

As I mentioned, this week I was one of those harried students. You come into the week feeling fine, but then the tension starts to build. "Hmm? That paper is due by the end of the week? Okay. Wait, what kind of topic is this? That's going to be tricky, but then there's that other paper due Wednesday. What do you mean a quiz on Thursday? I have to read that chapter. Dang, I promised to pick my friend up. This 80-page chapter is due for class! I can't sleep, what am I going to do?!"

Here's a helpful tip: Stop for a minute. Just calm down for a second. In my personal experience, putting a halt on yourself can be quite helpful. After all, if you don't keep your mind grounded, then you're more likely



to lose it. Stop, review what needs to be done, prioritize, consider your options and come to a conclusion as to how to get it done or get through it. Deadlines will be getting closer, but you'll have a plan that you just need to implement one step at a time. If you have planned extensively, you'll be able to come up with contingency plans as well.

Just Chill Out™. That's what works for me at least. That children's show, *Blue's Clues*, really has an excellent philosophy on it. "Sit on down, and figure it out..." 'Cause you're so smart." Otherwise, you probably wouldn't be here in the first place, now, would you?

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