



A Pre-Packed Afternoon

Arts & Culture.....7

Summerize Yourself

Sports.....9

Neil Gordon Speaks!!

Opinions.....10

New Committee Scours NS Space

News.....4



NEW SCHOOL FREE PRESS

Issue 14, April 27—September 7, 2009

ALL THE NEWS YOU NEED TODAY, FOR THE NEXT FOUR MONTHS

Copyright © 2009

Is Protest Committee Useless? Students Ask

ERIC KILLELEA SPORTS EDITOR
ALEXANDRA SHARRY STAFF WRITER

On April 10, when students occupied the 65 Fifth Avenue building, Doris Suarez declined to convene the Standing Advisory Committee on Speech Activities and Expression.

At 9:10 a.m. that morning, Suarez, the Vice President Secretary of the committee, sent an e-mail to the committee saying that they would not convene. “At this time I see no need to convene the committee since the matter is more or less now out of the university’s hands and the guidelines have clearly been violated,” said the e-mail. Suarez’s decision has since been scrutinized by students and faculty alike who now question the purpose and efficacy of such committees.

The committee, according to its list of guidelines posted on The New School website, was designed to meet in the event of a demonstration on campus in order “to ensure that the rights of all parts of the community—including those of demonstrators—are respected.”

In late February, President Bob Kerrey appointed the committee to revise the school’s policy on demonstrations in university facilities. It consists of three New School students, two faculty members, two administrators, and two people from the public.

The guidelines state that the rights of the school’s community include “protecting health and safety of all members of the university community, preventing damage or risk of damage to university property, [and] preserving the underlying conditions for free expression.”

Lang sophomore and committee member Agnes Karoluk said that Kerrey “acted on impulse,” and that “calling the NYPD was a horrible decision.”

Suarez said that calling the police was an appropriate response. “You would call the police if it was your own house,” said Suarez. “Who could have known they were students? They had masks and black paint all over their faces.” She said the occupation in December was different because “we knew everyone in that building was a student.”

Karoluk said that Suarez had told her, prior to April 10, that the committee would convene “when an action or a protest or an occupation was taking place for more

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

Axed Adjuncts Acuse Admins of “Union-Busting”



Marie Dormuth, New School Unit Chairperson of the UAW, at the April 22 rally on 12th street: ‘We make the money around here!’

SAM LEWIS

Part-time faculty joined by supporters

ELISA DELJANIN BUSINESS MANAGER

It was the most festive protest of the semester. No participants were arrested, and there was even a live jazz band.

At 12 p.m. on Thursday, April 23, about 75 students, faculty, and members of various unions gathered in front of 66 W. 12th Street to rally in support of the Parsons Fine Arts Faculty as well as the ACT-UAW Local 7902, the adjunct faculty union for The New School and New York University.

Participants called for the reinstatement of the nine Fine Arts faculty members who received notice by e-mail on March 10 that

their contracts would not be renewed. By 12:15 p.m., police had set up barricades lining the sidewalk, keeping the participants from marching in circles.

Nonetheless, protesters were undaunted. Chants of “Union busting’s got to go!” went on for five minutes before the crowd quieted down to allow Marie Dormuth, The New School Unit Chairperson of the UAW, to speak.

“We make the money around here,” Dormuth said. “And the students pay the money!”

On April 22, Interim Provost Tim Marshall wrote in a press release that the nine faculty members “will be offered alternate

teaching assignments appropriate their expertise” instead of being let go. This is what is known as a “look-around” where the Parsons administration will perform a search for the professors within the school, giving them spots to teach.

“This intention was not made clear in the original memo that was sent out, which followed a more standardized protocol,” Marshall said in the press release issued by The New School. Even though most of the participants in the protest had seen the release, they still claimed the university was engaged in union-busting.

“Curricular changes had to be

submitted early last Fall, so the pattern of opacity has been consistent from top to bottom at least since then,” said Peter Drake who was let go after a career of teaching in Fine Arts for 22 years, about the lack of communication. Among New School faculty, the top-down model has remained a primary point of contention with the administration since late last year.

“Adjunct faculty is entrusted with the prime objectives of this university,” said Shelley Silver, an adjunct professor in the MFA Program of Photography and Related Media at Parsons. “They are the university.”

Parsons Student Finds Fashion Success

Daring clothing finds an audience

LILLY O'DONNELL REPORTER

Twenty-year-old Parsons design student Mia Lindquist is already more successful than most art school graduates will ever be. Last November her homemade website, www.peeps.org, was featured in the Teen Vogue blog and more recently in the AOL Style Blog. “Some pretty important people,” such as the editor of *Daily Candy*, have been contacting her about featuring her designs.

Mia designed and sold purses in L.A. when she was in the third grade, starting her website even though “online shopping wasn’t really big back then [in the mid-’90s].” Her art dealer stepfather and painter/art teacher mother were supportive of their daughter’s growing talent. They bought her a dress form when she was still in elementary school with which

she taught herself to make clothing, beginning with home-made Halloween costumes, her favorite of which was the butterfly that diverged from the traditional wire-framed wings and included a cape instead.

Designing became more than a hobby for Mia in tenth grade, when she learned to update the website herself and began receiving orders for her designs. Her business is currently a one-woman operation but she is going to expand after the end of this semester by having her clothing factory-made so that she can take more orders. “After school I would just like to become more known, probably show at fashion week,” she said.

Her current designs retain the license of the costumes that she started on, but most are restrained enough to be worn every day, with the exception of a few that seem to be more about art than wearability. The “bat wing romper” is a huge



Parsons Sophomore Mia Lindquist wearing shirt of her own design in Washington Square

LILLY O'DONNELL

drape of brightly colored fabric with a graphic print, and the piece is topped off with a ruffled collar in case the volume and boldness don’t make enough of an impact. The bat wing romper is definitely wild but since the bottom is a

short and simple shape (short shorts attached to the swooping sleeves) the piece as a whole manages to be “playful and fun but also feminine.”

NEW SCHOOL FREE PRESS

Published by the
Eugene Lang College Literary
Studies Department

Eugene Lang College The New
School for Liberal Arts
65 W. 11th St. Room, 070 New
York, NY 10011

PRESS

EDITOR IN CHIEF:
Elisabeth Garber-Paul
Kate Hanselman

MANAGING EDITOR:
Josh Kurp
Cosette Bruhns

BUSINESS MANAGER:
Elisa Deljanin

ART DIRECTOR:
Cynthia Laplaige

DESIGN EDITOR:
Tiara Hines

NEWS EDITOR:
Kevin Dugan
Aidan Gardiner

NEWS DEPUTY:
Elisa Deljanin

ARTS & CULTURE EDITOR:
Joe Veix
Kristina Monllos

ARTS & CULTURE DEPUTY:
Kyle McGovern
Josh Anderson

OPINIONS EDITOR:
Robb Maynard
Sam Denlinger

SPORTS EDITOR:
Eric Killelea

WEB EDITOR:
Rachel Whelan

PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR:
Jika Gonzalez, Garret Hurley

PHOTOGRAPHERS:
Sam Lewis, Tyler Magyar

DISTRIBUTION MANAGER:
Justine Harrison

COPY EDITORS:
Kate Hanselman, Max Waterman

STAFF WRITERS:
Claudia Acevedo, Helen Buyniski,
Samantha Paul, Alexandra Sharry,
Ashley Wanamaker

REPORTERS:
Berlice Bassas, Misha Beiser,
Bianca Brady, Tarnisha Carter,
Jasmine Johnson, Jordan Katz,
Noah Klein, Charlie Leveridge, Ty-
ler Magyar, Lazaro Medina, Corey
Mullee, Ryan O’Connell, Lilly
O’Donnell, Max Quinn, Carly Roye,
Stephen Tompkins, Max Waterman

FACULTY ADVISORS:
Rob Buchanan, Heather Chaplin,
Sean Elder, Andrew Meier, Sarah
Saffian

The Opinions expressed herein are those
of individual writers and not of the New
School Free Press. Please send any letters
and submissions to freepress@newschool.
edu. The New School Free Press does
not publish unsigned letters. Letters &
submissions will be edited for length and
clarity. The New School Free Press is not
responsible for unpublished letters or
submissions.

The Business of Academia

When it comes to growing pains in the new millennium, The New School has certainly had its share. The words and actions of certain members of the student and faculty bodies raised many questions, but there has been one clear theme: what will be the future of The New School?

On one hand, we have a socially radical legacy that must be respected. It’s the reason many of us came here in the first place, and to lose our status as a welcoming entity for persecuted and marginalized intellec-
tuals would mean losing the spirit on which we were founded. To cut funding for traditional programs such as art history and social re-
search seems to undermine their importance in our education.

However, to pretend that we can function on the same model that our founders established is ludicrous. Picture Greenwich Vil-
lage in 1919, when John Dewey first started a school for continuing education, or the Village in 1939 when the University in Exile rescued independently thinking scholars from their fate at the hands of the Nazis. The neighborhood—and the world—was an entirely different place.

Today, at this turning point in our history, we should consider the legacy of our generation of New Schoolers. How will the New School

Community of 2059 see us? Will we be remembered as activists fight-
ing to protect the ideals of our institution, or instigators unable to come to terms with impending change?

We should all also remember that the reason for direct action is to bring about dialogue, and that, when the opportunity arises for less drastic tactics—and potential progress—we must embrace it. When 19 students broke into 65 5th Ave. on April 10, it was an ungracious way to start dialogue, but let’s face it, that’s what it got us. Now let’s move forward.

The administration needs to be open minded to the concerns of the stu-
dents and faculty. Now we the students must be open to the concerns of the ad-
ministration. We have different visions, but are they mutually exclusive? Business cannot super-
sede academia, but neither can academia supersede business. The two must work in tandem to reach our common goal. It doesn’t help when President Bob Kerrey equates his own students with the 9/11 hijack-
ers, nor does it help when students call Kerrey a fascist. Let’s stop the grandstanding and do something really brave: take a deep breath, look each other in the eye and negotiate for this school’s future.

Will we be remembered as idealistic activists or stubborn instigators?

LETTER TO THE EDITOR:

Re: Protest Aesthetics

On April 10, when we stopped capitalizing on our time and learned to live, or when we wasted our time walking a few blocks in the opposite direction to get to school, there was an air of apathy from the students at Parsons. While an army of police tossed students into paddy wagons and the news reported directly beneath us, Parsons students in the library had little interest in looking up from their work. There are a lot of reasons for this but I can only attribute a lack of interest from Parsons specifically to an element so important yet lacking in The New School in Exile and their counterparts in the Radical Student Union’s cause: an interesting, well thought out, and engaging use of design.

An example of how a cohesive design campaign can help a cause, whether political or not, is the design of the Obama campaign. These student groups would probably not be able to enlist the services of Sol Sender, the designer of the Obama “O,” or the two Chicago design firms who collaborated in the process, but at least they could try to learn a few lessons about the impact of good design.

The typeface Gotham, the font of the Obama administration, designed by Hoefler and Frere-

Jones, provides a great example of the way to use the implicit mes-
sages within typography. The lettering found above the entrance to Port Authority Bus Terminal, liquor store signs, and other un-
assuming and typically New York signage inspired the design of Gotham. Professionals with an education in typography or the fine arts did not make these signs, hard working blue-collar American craftsmen did, and for these reasons Gotham is arguably the typeface for the common man. Ironically, the font was originally commissioned for use in the most recent redesign of GQ magazine. Yet the combination of contemporary men’s fashion and the spirit of hardworking Americans could definitely describe Barack Obama in a nutshell. What typeface would be fitting for The New School in Exile or the Radical Student Union?

Maybe if these angry situation-
ists had a more attractive and stronger image, Parsons students, like myself, would pay more attention. With any successful design campaign, there has to be an equally clear and concise message. Unfortunately, all I hear and see from my fellow students is a lot of noise.

Ryan Quigley
Senior, Parsons



NSFP CROSSWORD

By Kate Hanselman

ACROSS

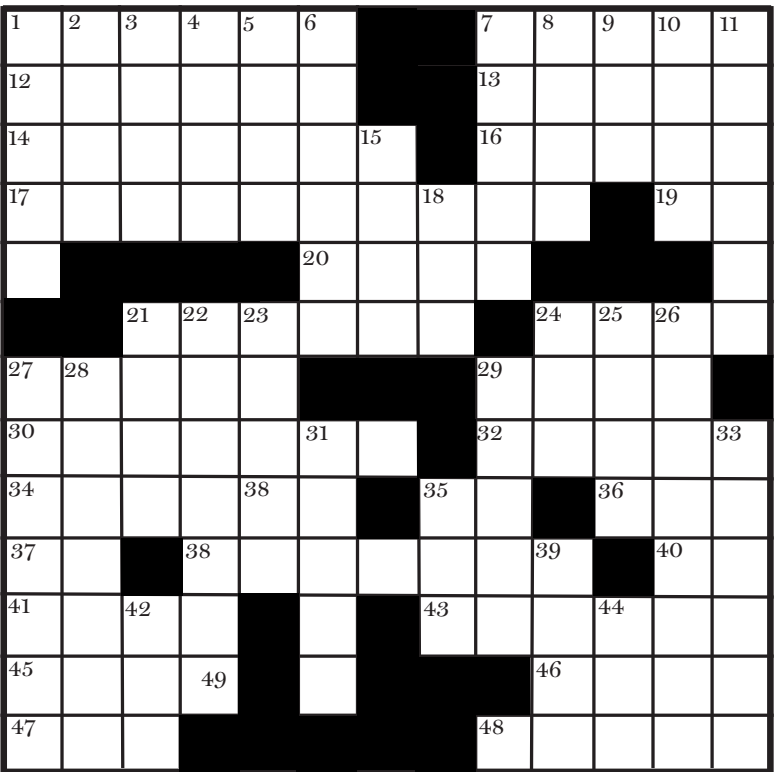
- 1. Rainy season
- 7. Aster family flower
- 12. Fancy
- 13. ___ and repeat
- 14. "___ old Smoky"
- 16. French anarchists
- 17. Lunar pull?
- 19. "___ sick of this!"
- 20. Do ___ others...
- 21. Personal film?
- 24. Skinny
- 27. Info slang
- 29. Pillow covering
- 30. Metal basin
- 32. Manhattan fighting tournament
- 34. German for substitute
- 35. Latin diphthong
- 36. Axis nation, abbr.
- 37. Spanish "in"
- 38. Shoeless kid’s father
- 40. New York and ___

- 41. Sixth Greek letter
- 43. Romp or play
- 45. Egyptian goddess
- 46. TV website
- 47. Business abbr.
- 48. "___ Johnny!"

DOWN

- 1. Put one’s foot down
- 2. Hawaiian for “righteousness”
- 3. ___ Rooter
- 4. “Bring ___!”
- 5. “No way!”
- 6. Make a mistake
- 7. Rowling villain
- 8. Incorrect contraction
- 9. “...who lived ___ shoe”
- 10. Antidepressant, abbr.
- 11. Positive guy
- 15. German fire dept.

- 18. And so on, abbr.
- 21. Truman’s wife
- 22. Odysseus’ birthplace, multiplied
- 23. Convert ___ .PST
- 24. “...___ name is woman!”
- 25. Meteorite collector Robert
- 26. Dolt, idiot
- 27. Zappa’s kid
- 28. Important way to be?
- 29. Raise one’s lip in disgust
- 31. Turkic-speaking person
- 33. A spring flower
- 35. Gordon Shumway
- 39. German architect van der ___
- 42. Perscription abbr.
- 44. Wind instrument





On April 16 roughly 150 students marched from Bob Kerrey's house to 65 Fifth Ave. as part of a demonstration

TYLER MAGYAR

Seeking Facts Following Occupation

Uncovering what happened on April 10

AIDAN GARDINER NEWS EDITOR
ELISA DELJANIN BUSINESS MANAGER

It remains unclear what happened on April 10. Debates have begun throughout The New School community as to whether the occupation was a legitimate protest or a criminal break-in, and whether the administration's response was appropriate or a gross overstep. At the USS forum on April 22, Interim Provost Tim Marshall avoided offering any opinions, but said that he is helping to facilitate a process to sift through and weigh conflicting accounts of the day's events.

"There's actually two inquiries which we are now trying to bring together," said Marshall. "One inquiry is being launched by the Faculty Senate and the other one now, by the Board of Trustees."

Marshall said that the inquiry is key to determining what steps the university will take next and whether it will condemn the ac-

tions by New School President Bob Kerrey, the students, or both. "We'll be in a better position to respond and maybe even apologize once we have that inquiry," said Marshall.

In a statement released to the New School community on April 11, the administration claimed that the occupiers carried "crowbars" and "mace," among other things. However, according to the Manhattan District Attorney's office, two hammers and a hook were confiscated from Micah Murphy, New School for Social Research student and occupier, but no other tools or substances, including crowbars or mace, were recovered from any of the occupiers.

In a later interview on April 22, when asked if the occupiers had mace or crowbars, Kerrey admitted that, "It's possible they didn't."

Kerrey said that the initial list of merchandise the occupiers brought into the building was relayed to him by the Assistant Director of Security, Tim Sikorski,

and not the arresting officers who confiscated the property from the protesters. "There's been a number of modifications of facts since then," he added.

At the April 22 forum, Miller said that Kerrey has begun revising his account of April 10. "Some of [the disputed facts] have actually been taken off the table because Bob Kerrey met with faculty last Friday and changed his story yet again."

On April 14, the Economics Stu-



JIKA GONZALEZ

Dean Neil Gordon and executive faculty discuss the events of April 10

Suspensions for 19 Protesters Lifted

Admins vie for student trust

MISHA BEISER REPORTER

With the sit-ins and protests of recent months, Linda Reimer, Senior Vice President for Student Services, feels she's been put in an awkward position. She says that she's been diligent in following the policies of the Student Code of Conduct and the Nonacademic Student Disciplinary Procedures, but says, "I don't enjoy taking disciplinary action and feel it only needs to be done for educational reasons and to protect the community's health and well-being."

"It's painful to hear that students don't have trust in me or Student Services because I *am* a strong advocate for them," she said.

The students who occupied 65 5th Ave. on April 10 were initially suspended, but, according to Interim Provost Tim Marshall, Reimer played a crucial role in lifting the suspensions and allowing the students to complete their academic work for the spring semester.

New School President Bob Kerrey expressed confidence in Reimer's ability to advocate on behalf of the students. "She's a very forceful and effective advocate and encouraged me to modify the



PROVIDED BY LINDA REIMER

suspension of the students who recently protested," Kerrey said. "She's been the lead person to deal with the Student Senate, who has become a vital voice in terms of the administration's policy," he added.

An employee of the New School for 19 years, Reimer has introduced many of the offices and programs that enable students to function in and out of New School classrooms. When she was promoted to Assistant Provost in 1994, she introduced the Student Health Services Office. In 2000, when she was promoted to Vice President of Student Affairs and Services, she introduced an Office of Disability Services.

"These promotions all reflected the university's recognition that

we needed more resources for the students," Reimer said.

Reimer sought to emphasize that the Office of Student Services addresses much more than the issue of protests. "When Parsons became part of the New School in about 1970, there was a shift to traditional undergraduate-aged students that demanded services the university didn't originally offer," she said. "My role was to create a robust out-of-the-classroom experience for these students." From health services to activities and student organizations, she wants students to know they can turn to her for anything to enhance their life at the New School.

Reimer said that any student, or group of students, should feel comfortable in voicing their concerns to her directly. "I encourage them all to seek me out and give me a chance to hear and understand their concerns," she said.

She hopes the remainder of the academic year will be peaceful, and is confident that the university will unite and remain strong. "I think the faculty, staff, and students of the New School are all terrific," Reimer said. "We will get through this moment and thrive despite this unpleasant moment."

dent Union of the New School for Social Research posted a statement in reaction to April 10 on the occupiers' blog, The New School

"Oh my god, pepper spray! You could do more damage to yourself with Right Guard."

Reoccupied. "We protest against the President's calling in of the New York City Police Department in response to a peaceful demonstration," reads the statement, "his escalation of the situation, and his refusal to negotiate directly with the occupiers."

Kerrey said that he had called police initially according to routine security protocol. "We have a very close relationship with the police," he said. "They provide, probably, half the security at The New School."

"They come for routine security," he added. "But, they will not move to remove individuals from any building we have unless the university is the complainant."

Kerrey said that he asked the NYPD to remove the occupiers because he had no intention of negotiating for terms. "They had declared their purpose was to get me to resign and I had no intent of doing so," he said. "It seemed to me the appropriate thing to do was be

the complainant in this case."

Kerrey also said that allegations of police brutality are overblown. "I'm going to tell Ray Kelly, I think they should take pepper spray out of their arsenal," he said. "It's one of the most ineffective and provocative tools. 'Oh my god, pepper spray! You could do more damage to yourself with Right Guard.'"

On April 23, Marshall said he hoped the Faculty Senate and Board of Trustees could reach an agreement on the process of a joint inquiry by the following week. He was unable to say what that process might look like. "Everything's up in the air at this point," he said.

Marshall reiterated that until the inquiry is complete, it would be difficult to judge anyone's behavior on April 10. "Without that information, it's very hard to put yourself in the shoes of the president or anyone else making that call without actually knowing what information was flying," he said.

However, Marshall did say the police response was excessive. "The police response looked incredible to me," he said. "It seemed utterly excessive. I still don't get that."

On April 16, roughly 150 students marched from 55 W. 13th Street to Kerrey's residence as part of a demonstration against what they saw as police brutality on April 10. At Kerrey's, protesters chanted, "Bob Kerrey's got to go!"

Kerrey has said, however, that he has no intention of resigning unless the board of trustees votes for him to do so. "[The board was] explicit in what they wanted me to get done and I've been working on it since," said Kerrey. "I have the confidence in the board to proceed. The day that confidence ends, that's the day I'm gone."

"I would say [the board's confidence has] not faltered," added Kerrey. "My enthusiasm for the mission has faltered from time to time."

For full transcripts of the Kerrey and Marshall interviews visit www.newschoolfreepress.com

University Selects Senators

RYAN O'CONNELL REPORTER

Between April 19 and 26, the New School University Student Senate held online elections, during which students elected senators to represent their divisions for the 2009-2010 session. Thirty four candidates ran for 17 open seats. Although polls closed on April 26, the results will be announced on April 28.

The election comes at a crucial moment in the New School's history. With the recent upheaval stemming from changes in the administrative policy, the community may be more divided than ever. "The fact that there is so much unrest on campus is emblematic of the systemic and structural inefficiencies that our school needs to change," wrote current USS Vice President, and Senate candidate for Eugene Lang College, Dan Schulman in an e-mail.

With thirty four candidates on the ballot, students will be able to dramatically shift the Senate in a new direction. USS President Peter Ian Cummings wrote in an e-mail, "One really could not ask for a broader range of candidates, so I feel that voters have a solid choice. Due to the obvious contrast between candidates, whoever wins these elections really does have policy support from the voters."

The diversity of the candidates is exemplified by their biographies on the USS website. Pat Korte, found-

er of the Radical Student Union, writes, "For me, to be 'radical' is to 'go to the root' of a problem. Indeed, if elected I will ensure that the USS find solutions that go to the roots of the problems our university currently faces." Other candidates include Chris Crews, from the New School for Social Research; Kyle Reaves, from Lang; and Yotam Marom, from the New School for General Studies. If elected, this slate could recreate the USS as a forum for student activism.

It is unclear, however, whether radical politics will bring a fractured university together or tear it further apart. Although they are the most publicized, the student activists of the New School do not represent the opinions of the entire student body. Many students are left unrepresented and feel disconnected from the radical politics that are sweeping the school. Schulman wrote in a e-mail: "We are never going to gain legitimacy if we ignore those whose voices are silenced because they are too afraid to speak out against the progressive nature of another group of students."

Unfortunately, as of April 23, the USS reported that only 30% of the student body had voted. "We have been bombarding people with emails, putting up lots of signs, and going to lecture classes to encourage people to vote," said Cummings. "Hopefully that will get people out [to vote]."



Tom McDonald was recently appointed Assistant Vice President for Student and Campus Life

Student Services Restaffed McDonald replaces Ward

BERLICE BASSAS REPORTER

Tom McDonald was appointed Assistant Vice President for Student and Campus Life by Linda Reimer, Senior Vice President for Student Services, on April 1st. Mc-

Donald took over for Roger Ward, who announced his departure from The New School on February 5.

When McDonald came to The New School in 2001, he immediately began fighting for underrepresented students, helping to create a student disability service. “I’ve

always had a strong desire to help people,” McDonald said. “My first job out of college was being a special education teacher. I love working with students and people, and helping someone come from a place of confusion and pain into a place of clarity and hope.”

Only two weeks into McDonald’s tenure, students occupied 65 5th Avenue. McDonald sees the division between students and administration as destructive to community. “I think the main issue is [that] there is currently an ‘us verses them’ outlook. I would like to alternate that view into something involving more communication,” he said. “I want to see more of a community.”

As an undergraduate at the University of Texas, McDonald fought for gay rights and hopes to continue his earlier work at The New School. “I believe students have a right to voice out their opinions, and I’m glad that they’re taking action. However, I don’t like people getting hurt.”

Overall, McDonald seems especially excited to work with students. “Nothing is more satisfying to me

than to meet a student who has a problem, isn’t sure how to solve that problem, but then leaves my office feeling they have the knowledge and tools to figure out how to solve that problem.”

Some of McDonald’s major goals in his new position include improving career opportunities, developing civility and conflict resolution programs, and expanding awareness of the Student Affairs office throughout the university. “We’re here to help and do good things and survey students as to what they want from Student Affairs and the different offices,” he said.

Although McDonald took office during a turbulent time, he appears to be prepared for the future. “I saw a slide show on students from Parsons who converted an old rooftop in the Bronx into a garden paradise as part of their education,” he said. “That’s amazing! Do something to help your fellow humans, learn in the process, and get credit. I guarantee all of those students are going to take the spirit of that experience into the larger world when they graduate. That’s what The New School is to me.”

“I believe
students have a
right to voice out
their opinions”

USS Forum Unable to Quell Student Anger

COREY MULLEE REPORTER

On April 23, roughly 100 students and administrators gathered at Wollman Hall in 65 W. 11th Street to discuss the state of the University Student Senate and the New School at an all-campus forum organized by the University Student Senate and led by USS President Peter Ian Cummings, Interim Provost Tim Marshall, and Co-Chair of the Faculty Senate Jim Miller.

Planned before the April occupation, the forum was intended as a discussion of the USS agenda. The students who gathered were anxious to discuss the consequences of the occupation and were frustrated by the USS’ lack of movement.

In an informal vote, Cummings asked all students who supported the removal of New School President Bob Kerrey to raise their hands. The vote was unanimously against Kerrey. Most of the students in attendance were angry, not only with Kerrey and the administration, but also with the lack of a clear direction to proceed.

Yotam Marom, a General Studies USS candidate, expressed a general concern. “People had proposed

that there be a formal decision-making, resolution-passing forum for all students to have a referendum,” Marom said. “This appears not to be that.”

Miller expressed frustration with the administration while remaining critical of the April occupation, standing by his previous assessment of the action as “undemocratic” and “fascistic.”

“A movement that started out to be non-hierarchical and run by consensus has ended up disabling itself from being able to make moral distinctions between the actions of a vast majority of its members and a small minority,” Miller said.

He also criticized Kerrey’s ongoing stance towards the occupation and accused the university President of circulating statements through Announce Announce, The New School’s e-mail system, that were “very misleading and even false.” Miller said that statements in the original April 11 Announce Announce had “already been retracted” by Kerrey at a meeting between the President and the Faculty Senate.

Marshall then introduced himself to the audience and said that he is committed to providing a student voice in the administra-

tion. “I came into this job to refocus the actual mission of the university which is embodied as in the students and the faculty,” he said.

When Cummings turned the microphone over to the students, Marom proposed a mass student general assembly, “to get as many students as possible in one room where they can pass formal resolutions, basically giving an official student voice.” Marom also proposed “that the faculty attend [the assembly] and pass those resolutions together, binding faculty and student resolutions to present to the Board of Trustees.”

One student pointed out the logistical problems of convening a school-wide assembly and suggested renting a venue large enough or even holding the assembly outdoors.

After the event, Marom spoke with Cummings and USS Vice President Dan Schulman and discussed the proposed general assembly.

Schulman seemed enthusiastic about Marom’s proposal. “We’ll make it happen,” he said.



SAM LEWIS

Tim Marshall and Jim Miller field questions from students regarding April 10

Panel Debates Immigration Policy

KRISTINA MONILLOS ARTS & CULTURE EDITOR

On April 23, a panel called “Intelligent Immigration Reform: A Real World Legislative Approach” was held in Tishman Auditorium. The panel hosted Michael Aytes, Acting Deputy Director of the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services in the Department of Homeland Security; Marshall Fitz, Director of Advocacy of the American Immigration Lawyers Association; Tamar Jacoby, President and CEO of ImmigrationWorks USA; Jeffery Passel, Senior Demographer of the Pew Hispanic Center; and Alec Gershberg, Associate Professor at Milano, who co-moderated with New School President Bob Kerrey.

Mark Krikorian, Executive Director at the Center for Immigration Studies, was set to participate in the panel but could not attend due to health concerns.

As he opened up the night, President Kerrey explained that the panel was meant to provide the audience with facts and figures to help make informed decisions about immigration reform. The discussion of the night was centered on the creation of an open dialogue with more informed Americans, rather than solving the particular problems within the legislation. While the panelists did not agree on all issues, they did agree that “the current law is inadequate.”

Jeffery Passel said that there are currently 11.9 million illegal immi-

grants in the United States. It was also made clear that the distribution of illegal immigrants within the U.S. tended to reflect the current economic state of the nation. Where the jobs are, the people are.

Tamar Jacoby posed the question, “What should our immigration policy be?” She later said that the “problem [with the current immigration policy] isn’t the immigrants; the problem is the law.” Marshall Fitz said that, “An overhaul of the current legislation is necessary.” Jacoby then said that although Mark Krikorian could not attend, he would have argued that the problem of what to do about the vast number of illegal immigrants does not lie in the current legislation but the enforcement of it. She

then countered that argument by explaining that the current legislation is not realistic with 11.9 million illegal immigrants in the country, a good majority of which are families. While she does call for better enforcement, she explained that it would be enforcement of realistic law.

In Krikorian’s absence Jacoby raised the question of whether or not illegal immigrants steal American jobs. Jacoby refuted the question, saying that the presence of illegal immigrants actually complements American workers. She explained this with an example: within the restaurant environment it is necessary to have a busboy and to have a chef.

Itty Bitty Space Committee

STEPHEN TOMPKINS REPORTER

Earlier this term, Executive Vice President Jim Murtha and Interim Provost Tim Marshall announced that the New School would be establishing a campus-wide Space Planning Committee. The committee will include deans, faculty, three students, and members of the administration. Although originally intended to meet on April 23, it will now do so following the University Student Senate elections, which end on April 26.

The SPC’s role, said Murtha in an interview, “will be to advise on space planning for the university, including the new building, but more generally on the types of spaces we need and how they can best be designed to serve our needs.”

Marshall added that the SPC will be an influential voice in the space allocation process at the New School. “I understand the cynicism that exists around what I’ve said on this committee, that committee, or another committee that never changed anything,” he said. “I hope we’re in a different place now and we can actually start to have these committees have an impact. I’m confident that they will. I also realize that people are going to want to see that before they have complete trust in it.”

The development of the SPC requires a diverse group of students with knowledge in construction and space. USS President and New School for General Studies student Peter Ian Cummings said, “the Student Senate met last week and we talked about the space planning committee and we decided that we would ask the architecture department for some nominees.” The architecture students understand the technical side of building space, and therefore will be an important addition to the SPC.

Student input will play an important role in creating a campus that will better suit student needs. “It’s a really good thing [that] there is going to be a committee, because those decisions in the past have been made by Jim Murtha and Lia Gartner,” Cummings said.

The SPC has not yet clearly defined their agenda. However, according to Cummings, the USS is brainstorming ideas such as an improved library, room reservations, student space, and a student center.

Any additions or dramatic improvements to the sorely limited space on campus are not likely to be immediate. Summer projects, however, do show promise, says Marshall. Marshall points to the presence of architect David Lewis on the SPC as a hopeful sign.

Marshall said that Lewis “will be working with the Senate graduate students in architecture to build an interactive three-dimensional map of the whole campus, which enables us to look at the spaces.” Marshall said that the model will help the committee determine how to best use available space. It’s unclear to what extent such a model is any different than existing blueprints of the university.

The USS will serve as the liaison between the student body and the SPC, letting others participate in the process. “I think I need to work with the USS more, the ideal would be that [student] groups somehow brought their issues through the USS,” Marshall said.

Star Philosophy Prof. Declines Tenure

Gabriel, 28, leaves The New School

CLAUDIA ACEVEDO STAFF WRITER

Markus Gabriel grew up among philosophers. The dean at his high school studied under Jean-Paul Sartre at the Ecole Normale in Paris. He said his professors encouraged him at a young age to explore the depths of philosophical thought, beginning with the works of the German pessimist Arthur Schopenhauer. Most of the faculty at the Gymnasium were philosophers themselves and provided Gabriel a broad philosophical background at an early age. Gabriel said that he began his philosophical career studying Arthur Schopenhauer.

“From Schopenhauer I learned to appreciate the metaphysical distinction between being, as will, and representation/illusion/appearance which I still defend (in a hopefully more sophisticated form though...),” Gabriel said in an e-mail.

Gabriel began teaching at The New School in the fall of 2008. At 28 years of age, he is one of the two youngest people to be offered tenure at The New School along with Vittorio Hösle, who was offered tenure at the university in 1988 at the age of 28. Gabriel declined the tenured position and will return to Germany before the next school year because the University of Bonn gave him a better counter offer. He currently teaches a seminar on the “History of Modern Philosophy” at Lang and a “Descartes and His Critics” course at The New School for Social Research.

Gabriel said that the Bonn counter offer guarantees the professor more financial security and room for additional intellectual endeavors. “The University of Bonn has offered me a chair (Lehrstuhl) in epistemology, modern and contem-

porary philosophy,” wrote Gabriel. “This is the highest rank in the German Academic position and it actually corresponds to an endowed chair.” Gabriel said that apart from a decent salary and benefits, The University of Bonn offered him an impressive research fund. According to the professor, the benefits of the German system guarantee retirement money and first class health care.

The position matches an American full professor salary and rank. “Unfortunately, The New School could not directly promote me to the rank of a full professor so that they could not fully outmatch the Bonn offer,” he said.

Gabriel attended both the University of Bonn for two semesters and then the University of Heidelberg, where he got his Ph.D. and habilitation. “A second Ph.D. is required in Germany in order to be eligible for tenure,” he explained.

After attaining his degrees, he approached The New School for Social Research. “I was always interested in The New School because it is *the* very place where you can do what is called continental philosophy in America in a very interesting and original way,” he said. According to Gabriel, continental philosophy is a specific form of critical project in which philosophy is applied to the wider framework of culture and the possibilities of political action. “That is something which characterizes continental philosophy in the United States,” he said.

Gabriel said that he enjoys teach-



CLAUDIA ACEVEDO

At the age of 28, Gabriel is the other youngest professor to be offered tenure at The New School. He has declined and will be leaving by the next semester

ing people close to his own age. “It’s good that I’m on the same level as the students in some respects, like reality-wise,” he said. According to him, professors are very old in Germany, something that does not necessarily warrant a real life connection between instructors and students, yet is very common at The New School.

He will be teaching at the University of Bonn starting in the fall of 2009. He will teach courses there including a lecture on contemporary epistemology, an introduction to Hegel, and a graduate seminar on the nature of thoughts, all of which closely resemble those which he currently teaches at The New School. He also has a book coming out soon, which he co-wrote with the philosopher Slavoj Žižek, and will be titled *Mythology, Madness and Laughter: Subjectivity in German Idealism*.

Gabriel has nothing but good things to say about his short, one-year stay at our school. “Let them know that I really liked the place. I wish I could have stayed,” he said.

Inside the Occupation

Maintenance worker shares his story

ELISA DELJANIN BUSINESS MANAGER
CLAUDIA ACEVEDO STAFF WRITER

New School custodial employee Carlos Rodriguez is the man, it seems, whom everyone at the university has been talking about for three weeks. Until now, Rodriguez had been nameless. At approximately 5:30 a.m. on the morning of April 10, when at least 19 students entered the university building at 65 5th Avenue, Rodriguez, a 65-year-old Ecuadorian immigrant who has worked at the university for 19 years, was the only person inside.

In a personal account sent to the *Free Press* via Caroline Oyama, Director of Communications and External Affairs, Rodriguez recalled the jarring events of the morning of April 10. A security guard was injured in an entirely separate incident that morning.

“I was startled by [a] noise,” Rodriguez said in his account, which was translated from Spanish. “When I turned, I was cornered in the cafeteria by what looked like 20 or 30 people wearing black masks and hoods.”

In a separate interview on April 22, which was also conducted in Spanish, Rodriguez told the *Free Press* that the people who entered the building had carried “chains, ropes, and tents.”

“The people did not identify themselves,” Rodriguez wrote in the account. “They were very organized, and it went so fast. They immediately chained the doors.”

Following the initial encounter, the occupiers instructed the

custodian to leave the building so that they could “take charge of it.” At least two occupiers walked Rodriguez to the 13th Street exit. One of their number saw removed Rodriguez’s walkie-talkie, taking it from his belt without a struggle.

Once Rodriguez exited the building, he called another maintenance worker, at 72 5th Avenue, on his cell phone. “[I] told him to come to where I was, because there was an emergency,” he said to the *Free Press*. “Between the both of us we called [New School] security, and then security called the police.”

Even though Rodriguez said that he was “never pushed, attacked, or insulted,” and was only told to leave the building, there were psychological repercussions.

“Later that night, I was supposed to go with my family to Boston,” he said in the personal account. “But we were in the car, it was raining, and I began to shake and I couldn’t go on. We had to turn back. I was overwhelmed and got angry with my family for no reason at all.” Rodriguez reports that his wife and three children continue to be concerned about his health and welfare.

As a result of the April 10 incident, Rodriguez must undergo psychological therapy, a service paid for by the university. The *Free Press* confirmed in an interview with Rodriguez that he had not felt the need for therapy prior to the incident.

“I feel depressed every time I go into that building,” Rodriguez added. “It happens to me all over again. They scared me.”

Committee Questions Cancellation

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

than an hour.” The occupation lasted seven hours.

Karoluk said that, if the committee had been convened, they would not have obstructed the President.

vented because Friday’s events were deemed ‘police issue,” DeGray added. “I feel equally shamed by the use of force exhibited by the police and the images of violence inflicted upon the university community.”

DeGray believes that the com-

“I think it is vital for this standing committee to be involved in some capacity, rather than be circumvented because Friday’s events were deemed ‘police issue’”

“I think that honestly the committee would not have intervened that much,” said Karoluk. “Kerry called the NYPD right away. I doubt the committee would have been on top of this at 5:30 in the morning.”

In an e-mail sent out on April 14 to fellow members on the committee, NSSR student Sara DeGray wrote, “I am disappointed in my fellow students for the drastic behavior they exhibited on Friday and the fact that there is little acknowledgment or willingness on the part of my peers to admit that their actions violated policies of the school, as well as the law.”

“I think it is vital for this standing committee to be involved in some capacity, rather than be circum-

mittee should act as a liaison between administration, faculty, and students. “We as a committee do not only want to serve the president in an advisory capacity, but be an interlocutor between various interests (students, faculty, staff, community) at the university,” said DeGray in a later e-mail.

Suarez said she thinks the committee has a purpose. She said the committee wants to become more involved. “We are revising our guidelines of our group and our roles, and we are very open to suggestions and changes. We are also very, very committed to being a service to the student body and the faculty.”



HELEN BUYNISKI

Wayne Barrett of the Voice agrees that Bloomberg is a “political neophyte with a lot of money”

Media Mulls Mayor’s Future

HELEN BUYNISKI STAFF WRITER

On April 22, a panel of prominent journalists gathered in the Theresa Lang Center to discuss changing perceptions of Mayor Michael Bloomberg at the close of his second term. Entitled “The Media and the Mayor: Michael Bloomberg’s Transformation,” the panel was moderated by Dominic Carter, a NY1 news anchor. Panelists included Wayne Barrett of the *Village Voice*; Errol Louis of the *New York Daily News*; Joyce Purnick, formerly of *The New York Times*, who is currently writing a biography of Bloomberg; Alberto Vourvoulias-Bush of *El Diario* and *La Prensa*; and Robert A. George of *The New York Post*.

Carter began by asking the panelists if Bloomberg today was indeed a “different” leader and politician than the Bloomberg of eight years ago. Louis, Purnick, and George agreed that the mayor has not changed, but that the public per-

ception of Bloomberg has discernibly shifted. Vourvoulias-Bush was not so quick to agree, calling the Bloomberg of 2001 a “political neophyte with a lot of money” in contrast to 2009 Bloomberg’s “political boss skills.”

Panelists shared contradictory opinions on the Bloomberg administration, unable to discount the mayor’s achievements despite his shortcomings. Louis was the first to criticize Bloomberg openly, citing his inaction on serious problems in the city’s housing authority and the segregation that plagues the Fire Department. This inaction is sure to continue, Louis argued, “if he is reelected, which in fact is my great fear.” Still, he called Bloomberg’s 20-year plan “visionary,” even while condemning the mayor’s methods in abolishing term limits.

The general consensus was that even if Bloomberg’s first election was a “fluke”—as a political unknown, he slipped into office by a two percent margin amid the fear and uncertainty of post-9/11

New York—a third term was probable. When Carter asked if anyone thought Bloomberg could be defeated, Only Louis seemed to believe anyone else had a chance. Louis expressed faith in William Thompson—first, to win the Democratic nomination, and finally to challenge Bloomberg in the mayoral race—based on a speech that Thompson gave at a recent meeting of the Local 237 Union. Though the other panelists lacked Louis’s conviction, George cautiously posited that if Thompson could forcefully highlight how Bloomberg has neglected the troubles facing working-class New Yorkers, he might stand a chance against the incumbent.

Vourvoulias-Bush, frustrated at the mayor’s ability to “skate over the biggest bubble” in the history of the city’s economy, expressed hope that the challenger would point out Bloomberg’s complicity in creating that bubble. “Any incumbent who is living through a time like Bloomberg’s living through, like the city’s living through, has to be vulnerable to some extent,” said Vourvoulias-Bush. “It’s up to the Democrats to make that happen.”

Closing the panel, Carter asked why panelists thought Bloomberg wanted to stay in office. George mentioned the mayor’s failed presidential efforts and the economic collapse. “He decided there was still a challenge for him to keep the city stable,” said George. Purnick agreed, adding that Bloomberg’s love of attention has helped to keep him in the public arena. Barrett ended the discussion by suggesting that the mayor hasn’t “given up on the dream” of becoming president. President Barack Obama, he said, “ought to be looking over his shoulder.”



KATIE BACHMAN

Lang Strikes New Ground with Multimedia Collaboration

Students put arts in context

GARRET HURLEY PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

The fifth floor of Wollman Hall in 65 W. 11th Street will soon resemble a bustling 19th-century cabaret brimming with artists. Not a culinary nightmare, “Too Many Cooks” is an evening event featuring the visual art and performance-based efforts of 20 Lang seniors from across the arts concentrations. Actors, dancers, musicians, painters, sculptors, and many more cooks in the kitchen will whip up their craft for two entertaining nights on May 7 and 8, at 7 p.m. The students are currently rehearsing and building the set while “bracing for their rapidly

approaching performance,” says Rhett Wheeler, one of the production managers.

The two-night event will break new ground at Lang. “Too Many Cooks” is a first for the Arts Department—the only multi-media production put on by a Senior Seminar class. Seminar students proposed a performance that would highlight the diverse artistic talents among the class. On the advice of Royd Climenhaga and Rebecca Stern, students sought adequate space for a performance. Granted two nights at Wollman Hall, and with no time to waste in the kitchen, the class began putting the project into motion—without a fixed budget. “We are sort of the guinea pigs of this new

process,” says senior theater concentrator Adam Rejwan. “It has never been done before.”

The senior seminar project has taken a form “somewhere between an educational simulation and guerrilla fundraising,” says senior Cynthia Laplaige. The students have taken their own initiative in the marketing, management, and production of “Too Many Cooks.”

The event offers an inspired pastiche of diverse artistic media. “It’s crazy to think how many artists we have,” says Adam Rejwan. “The ideas seem to be pouring in from everywhere.” The night will be split into two parts, one visual and one performance-based, that will take place on a stage designed and built by the students. The visual

half of the evening will feature video, photography, sculpture, painting, a charcoal on paper animation installation, and more.

will be free to New School students and faculty, with a suggested donation of \$5. Join your fellow students at the fifth floor of Woll-

“Too Many Cooks” is the only multi-media production by a Senior Seminar Class

The performance portion will include musical acts, singing, dance, and theatrical features that include the one-act plays “New World Order” by Harold Pinter, and “English Made Simple” by David Ives, both highly-acclaimed playwrights. “Too Many Cooks”

man Hall, May 7 and 8 at 7 p.m. for a spectacular evening. The evening, says Wheeler, is dedicated to “exploring the talents and creativity of the Arts in Context seniors as we rise to achieve an event never before attempted at Lang.”

Of Fairies and Riveters

Overlooked master preps new book

JOSH ANDERSON
ARTS & CULTURE DEPUTY

John Crowley, author of *Little, Big*, is one of the greatest living American novelists. He’s also one of the least appreciated. He’s the Philip K. Dick of our time; like Dick, Crowley is a genre writer bound for a larger audience than he currently has—it might just

take some time.

Crowley began his career writing science fiction novels, before turning to fantasy in his haunting fairytale of a family saga, *Little, Big*, published in 1981. Having completed his *Aegypt* tetralogy, a long fantasy 20 years in the making, Crowley is publishing *Four Freedoms* on May 26. *Four Freedoms* is a novel set in an airplane factory during WWII.

“I’m drawn, as a writer, to a time just before I can remember anything,” Crowley said. The book details the experiences of a disabled artist, Prosper, who Crowley connects to his own experience with his daughter, who uses a wheelchair. “That got me interested in the history of people with disabilities—trying to get work, get jobs, and make a living. Suddenly [during the war], everybody had to get a job, everybody had to help out with the war effort.”

He claims that even in his historical novels there’s a sense of the fantastical. “In this current novel about these people building a bomber, I decided I didn’t want to be constrained by an actual bomber, an actual plant—I made up my own.”

Though the novel is set during WWII, it is more engaged in what Crowley calls “irreality”: a world without the boundaries of realism or fantasy, where anything can happen. “Fantasy has now be-

come completely corrupted by fantasy novels—you can only think of it as somehow related to Tolkien. There’s no way to keep it from having those kinds of associations.”

For Crowley, though, fantasy and realism aren’t so far apart. “I don’t think there’s very much difference,” said Crowley. “Sometimes you feel restrained by what’s possible within our shared universe, so to speak, as opposed to fantasy where anything can happen, but less than you might suppose.”

Though he doesn’t read much of what’s in the science fiction/fantasy section of the bookstore now, Crowley is enthralled by the general acceptance of the fantasti-

cal. “Whether it’s fantasy or not is irrelevant. I love it, that this is now bursting in the world and that you can write anyway you want and nobody minds.”



JOSH ANDERSON

John Crowley, author of Little Big

Fantastic Fantasies for Spring

1

Novelties & Souvenirs by John Crowley
A perfect introduction to a master fabulist

2

Magic for Beginners by Kelly Link
Get lost in Link’s stylish, fantastical worlds

3

The Wind in the Willows by Kenneth Grahame
It’s never too late for childhood wonder

4

Cloud Atlas by David Mitchell
Genre-bending at its very best

5

The Left Hand of Darkness by Ursula K. Le Guin
Interplanetary sex politics make this novel a feminist SF classic

Spanning the Decades

100 years of Parsons inadequately honored

ALEX VADUKUL STAFF WRITER

“Spanning the Decades,” an exhibit documenting a century of Parsons art, is anticlimactic. Located in the Gimbel Art Library on the second floor of the Fifth Avenue Parsons building, the exhibit stands in five glass display cases that occupy a single corner.

At first glance the show may appear dull and unremarkable, but the cases reveal a chronological progression of student work reaching from the early 1900s to today. The collection of homework, assignments, notes, and class exercises tell an engaging story about the history of modern art and the University.

The oldest item on display is a primitive paper color wheel from 1906. Its arcane numeric notations and outdated designs make it look like a ragged sheet of medieval alchemy equations. The second oldest item is a student’s notebook

from 1915. The style of the times is evident here: it is a thin, prim journal; it looks an original Molskine, and the script inside is an elegant cursive.

In the second case, we see a written announcement from 1924 by Frank Alvah Parsons, the teacher and later director for whom the school was named. An undated black and white photograph (presumably from the 1940s) presents an average class at the time: graphic students are hard at work and the class is noticeably diverse. Three nuns sit side-by-side in the front row, with several young staid women behind them, as well as minorities, intellectual types, and clean-cut college boys, all working away.

As the 1950s arrived, a sense of romanticism seemed to pervade the school. Students eagerly travelled to Paris to continue their studies. One display case features a sketch of a student’s view of the apartments across the street from his classroom at the Place Des Vosges. In another student’s class exercise from 1951

(back in the U.S.), he was presented the problem of combining the old styles with the new. In a large marbled living room, resembling a room in a Gatsbyesque-mansion, he drew chairs and boudoirs on one side, but in front of the fireplace on the other, placed a funky white fur rug with a vibrant yellow couch on top of it.

In the works from the 1960s, you can see the emergence of the counter culture. A political work entitled “Nixon Agnew Dance team 1970 by Nancy Stewart,” depicts Spiro and Agnew as totem-like demons, their red eyes glaring and mouths breathing out steam. For the first time in a sketch in this show, we see a cigarette coolly hanging out of the mouth of a model.

The last case is the most modern, reflecting the last three decades of

student artwork from the school. There is a croquis, a sketch of a model, by Parsons’ most famous alum, Marc Jacobs, created when he was a student in 1984. The drawing, although simple, evinces talent. It is of two tall, slender, handsome men wearing long, dashing coats. Next to it hangs a sheet on which Jacobs tallied the expenses for designing such coats. You can see how the future fashion star fastidiously scribbled and crossed out equations to end up with a Final sum of \$522.

“Spanning the Decades” unfortunate location and modest appearance may well limit its audience, but the exhibit is a rare oppourtunity and a chance to take in a wealth of knowledge not found anywhere else.

“The collection of homework, assignments, notes, and class exercises tell an engaging story”



ELISABETH GARBER-PAUL
EDITOR IN CHIEF

With the temperature up and the economy down, we alcohol admirers have to figure out how to survive the long summer nights, and impromptu house parties are the choice of the season. A few weeks ago, on the first day of spring, my roommate and I decided to invite our friends to the roof of our building for a little warm-weather celebration.

But throwing a successful last-minute party is a delicate art. First, by its nature it must be unplanned, so inviting guests can be difficult. The wrong selection of mass-text-message invitees can leave you with a mismatched group of guests, or, worse yet, none at all. Facebook is always an option, but beware, it will inevitably end in a rager.

While the invitations may be difficult, the drinks are easy to come by. Sangria is top on this lush’s list and for balmy nights, white wine

Punch can be a cheap, though grueling, mode of suicide

makes a refreshing option. Unlike punch, there’s no vodka mixed in—the cheap liquor and high sugar content of vodka and wine will often result in broken furniture at the hands of rowdy guests, and guarantees a painful morning. Punch can be a cheap, though grueling, mode of suicide. Instead, stick to the Spanish specialty and you’ll survive the next morning.

Take four bottles of your favorite cheap wine (I recommend Trader Joe’s \$3 Sauvignon Blanc, house blend) and a bottle of triple sec, a generic orange liqueur. Normally, it takes something with a higher alcohol rate to get me tight enough to have a dance party of two, but there’s something about the triple sec that makes me act...well, like I’m drunk on triple sec. Pour in a cup to a cup and a half of the sweet liqueur and two sliced apples, oranges, and limes, along with a handful of grapes. Stir it up and let it chill in the fridge.

This has been the recipe for many a foolish night, though it can sometimes go awry. You see, last time we forgot to wait for the guests to arrive before we got started; Sangria is deceptively potent. By the time we realized that no one was coming, we were too drunk to notice. But who cares if this wasn’t an utter success? There’ll be plenty of time all summer for impromptu parties.

Film Culture Invades

HELEN BUYNISKI STAFF WRITER

For the eighth year in a row, the Tribeca Film Festival brings its expertly curated film selections to New York City. This year, the festival features 150 films, from big-name dramas to local documentaries, as well as an extensive program of related free events in the community.

The festival opened on April 22 with the premiere of Woody Allen’s latest film, *Whatever Works*. A return to form for Allen, this film stars Larry David as an “eccentric New Yorker” caught up in a series of romantic entanglements. Other big-name premieres this year include Steven Soderbergh’s *Girlfriend Experience*, which follows five days in the life of a high-priced call girl played by adult film star Sasha Grey, and Spike Lee’s *Passing Strange* in its first New York showing. *Passing Strange* brings to film one of the performances of the wildly successful Broadway show, which netted a Tony for Best Book of a Musical). The Film Festival also features lesser-known documentaries, foreign imports, and indie festival darlings that haven’t yet hit New York theaters.

Though the program includes 50 fewer films than last year’s event, the Tribeca Film Festival has nonetheless remained healthy despite the economic catastro-

phes of the last 12 months. The festival continues to grow in other ways: free events, including a street fair, and three free nights of “drive-in” style screenings. Throughout the two-week run of screenings, film professionals of all kinds will speak to the public at free panels in and around the neighborhood, in addition to the traditional post-film discussions inside the theater. “Meet the Filmmaker” events will take place at the Apple Store in SoHo and include appearances by Spike Lee, Natalie Portman, and Gael Garcia Bernal. Screenwriters will discuss their craft at the Union Square Barnes & Noble during the “Pen to Paper” panel series.

The Tribeca Film Festival runs until May 3, with films showing at several downtown locations, including the Third Avenue AMC Theater and Chelsea’s SVA theater. Complete listings for films and events can be found on the festival’s website at *Tribecafilm.com*.

The Tribeca Film Festival began in 2002, the brainchild of Robert De Niro, film producer Jane Rosenthal, and philanthropist Craig Hatkoff. Their intent was to rescue Lower Manhattan from the economic fallout of the 9/11 attacks and revive the Tribeca neighborhood. A near-instant success financially and artistically, the festival now attracts as much attention from some in the film industry as more established film festivals like Cannes and Sundance.

On the Road Again...

LAZARO MEDINA REPORTER

So, you’re going on tour this summer? Fantastic. Here are some of the lessons learned by Chubby Behemoth, The New School for Jazz alumni who toured across the country last summer.

When drinking at a sheriff’s local especially the one in “Fargo county,” don’t make a mess of yourself before you get to the bathroom. If he’s present, do not insist on leaving with his 10-gallon hat. He will not be amused.

If you get Whiskey-Dick whilst trying to perform with some cutie from Virginia in the back of the tour van, do *not* tell your band mates. They will call you “Soft-Serve” for the rest of the tour.

When you’re broke, you can afford eating out by eating off not-yet-bussed plates at nice restaurants.

Avoid skate-parks, like the one in Austin, TX, unless you want an ankle so swollen you can only describe it as “horse-cock-sized-ankle” from landing a nollie incorrectly. Especially avoid the park if you managed, as in the case of “horse-cock-size-ankle”-boy, to score a date with one of the cute waitresses from Freddie’s BBQ, also in Austin. Note: the waitstaff there will let you pick them up if you’re in a band and let them know it.

If no one puts you up for the night, resort to motels only as a last alternative. Prostitutes, truckers, and methamphetamine occupy most roadside motels in America. Avoid them. Try karaoke bars (seriously) for easy-to-pick-up groups of girls and guys to you all home for the night.

It should be noted that legendary venue The Smell in Los Angeles, employs homeless bums from downtown as security. Beware the wino poet as well as the guy giving roses to ladies.

Pay attention to advice that toothless, handle-bar-stachioed bartenders give. They have much wisdom from their years of hard living.

Never promise a one-night stand a spot on your tour-vehicle. Never ever promise anyone a spot without first getting written permission from every band member, in triplicate.

Designate one person and one person only to be that asshole that reads every single sign that you pass on the road out load in a Big Bird voice. Beat/berate them accordingly.

Follow these suggestions and you’ll have a memorable, and hopefully safe and productive summer. With luck, you wont burn any bridges and will be able to repeat the tour next year. Enjoy that freewheelin’ summer, folks!

Katz’ Perfect Picnic Guide

JORDAN KATZ REPORTER

Picnicking has long been a tradition of springtime. What classier way to get drunk in public than with a \$6 bottle of Andre Champagne. If you want the sophistication and clout of saying, “I picnicked this past weekend,” there are a few simple guidelines to make sure your outing is a success.

Depending on how you wish to be viewed by your fellow picnickers, the location is essential. Central Park is a schlep and farmer’s market goers usually invade Union Square, so I suggest Tompkins Square Park. It has a long

history of picnickers, but setting up a tent isn’t necessarily going to make your excursion special. Note that the only grassy area is blocked off since Spring hasn’t officially been declared yet.

Ladies, be advised to wear bloomers (no thongs) underneath your party frock to prevent any embarrassing mishaps when climbing over the fence. It is highly recommended to bring a First Aid kit because fence hopping can be treacherous and no one wants to see a gaping, gashed knee while munching on scones with clotted cream and jam.

Since you’re most likely too busy to take the time to cut perfectly rectangular finger sandwiches, Tea

and Sympathy (108 Greenwich Ave.) can deliver straight to your house. The cucumber and cream cheese on whole grain is my personal favorite. Because the park is notorious for harboring untalented guitar singer/songwriters who end up sounding like the bastard child of Jewel and Tori Amos, an iPod and speakers is a great way to drone out the noise and create the perfect ambiance. Play something classy like Etta James or Carla Bruni to accompany all of the heated political conversations you and your guests will be having.

Remember to set up a Facebook event announcement to get the word out that a picnic will be commencing in the not-so-distant fu-



JORDAN KATZ
Students picnic in Tompkins

ture. You don’t want to be all alone on your red and white gingham blanket, because that would just be pathetic.

Courtney Love,
Nobody's Daughter



Courtney Love has shocked the world once again. This time it's not because she was seen wasted in public or accusing people of stealing her money. No, she has truly done the unthinkable: she's actually made a new record!

After five years of "hard work," *Nobody's Daughter* is finally set to be released this June. Save the applause, however, because the results are a mixed bag. The record is meant to be Courtney's stab at redemption, a chance for her to reclaim her punk throne. Unfortunately, *Nobody's Daughter* stumbles in its mission. It's an album bogged down with soggy ballads, effectively killing the punk-rock Love we all knew and once, well... loved.

The record opens up with the country-tinged slow-burner, "Pacific Coast Highway." Courtney declares, "She's overwhelmed and undersexed" over a solemn guitar riff that eventually climaxes into a cacophony of pianos, guitars, and drums. The song is sweet, albeit a strange way to begin what I thought would be a rock 'n' roll record. Little did I know that I would be subjected to several more similar-sounding, down-tempo, self-indulgent songs.

The monotony gets broken up by tracks like "Stand Up Motherfucker" and "Loser Dust." Both songs show glimmers of Courtney's old energy and serve as a welcome reprieve to the Debbie Downer attitude that permeates the record. "Dirty Girls" sounds like it could have been a great rock anthem, but

it never really takes off. It builds a suspense of a killer climax, of raw guitars, and thrashing drums, but it never comes.

Perhaps working on the record for five years has made Love overthink things. The record feels deliberately serious, as if Love wants us to believe that she has grown up. But who ever asked her to?

-Ryan O'Connell

Love Potion,
Ejaculator

Just looking at this record makes me feel like I need to take a shower: The cover of Love Potion's *Ejaculator* EP displays a Norman Rockwell-esque depiction of a pre-pubescent kid in a straw hat, grinning mischievously as he happily chows down on a soup can, full to the brim with what appears to be male ejaculate (hence the title), some of which is pouring out of his ears.

Messed up, right? Well, if the cover alone makes your stomach churn a little, try actually listening to it. This record is a full-on, raw punk assault on your fragile, otherwise innocent ears. Hailing from K-town (Copenhagen), Denmark, Love Potion's amphibious, peerless style can shift between D-beats, mosh breakdowns, thrashing speed, and full-on black metal aesthetics at the drop of a hat. It's an explosive combo of incredibly tight music, and tastefully done production that's still punk, but does the music justice.

The vocals are growling, rough, and slightly overdriven; just enough megaphone-effect to scare the shit out of animals and small children. The guitar tone is huge—like having your face right up to a Marshall stack—and not afraid to noodle on the high notes at the right times. The bass and drums are tighter than spandex on an art school chick, with machine gun fills and licks that, for some listeners, may be equally arousing.

The first track, "Overdose," hits



you with such wall-of-sound guitar tone and stomping beats that you'll be fist-pumping and thrash-kicking in place in front of your turntable. "Time To Die" has an insane, screeching metal take on the "My Sharona" riff, and song titles like "Stabbed in the Face" give you a hint as to what kind of aural violence is being unleashed on this disc. Any fans of raw, fast Scandinavian punk have no choice but to hear this shit.

-Max Quinn

Grizzly Bear,
Veckatimest

The Brooklyn based pop-folk band Grizzly Bear is coming out of hibernation with their third full-length album, *Veckatimest*, named after an uninhabited island in Massachusetts. It's set to release May 26 on Warp Records.

Nearly two years have past since the release of the critically acclaimed *Friend* EP, meaning there's a lot of buzz surrounding *Veckatimest* over the past few weeks. I've heard everyone saying how jovial and upbeat it's supposed to be in comparison to their previous releases, and at brief times, it can be. "Two Weeks," featuring Victoria Legrand of Beach House on backing vocals, is perhaps the most poppy song Grizzly Bear has written to date (think *Rubber Soul*). But for the most part, *Veckatimest* is just as full of haunting folk ballads, if not more so, than 2004's *Horn of Plenty* and 2007's *Yellow House*.

Reviews

Veckatimest has all the staples you'd expect from Grizzly Bear, from the hypnotic dream-like sounds of the album opener "Southern Point," which really gets going when a killer computerized-sounding riff kicks in, to the dueling-layering vocal patterns of guitarist Ed Droste and bassist Chris Taylor over hollow church choir-esque background noise in "Cheerleader."

"All We Ask" comes fully-equipped with delicate harmonies and hand claps, while "Fine for Now" experiments with echoing vocal harmonies over lo-fi etherized acoustic guitar and tight and loosened snare drum.

For the most part, "Ready, Able" is a droned out down-tempo Joy Division knock-off song that I wouldn't imagine making the album, if it weren't for the kick ass organ riff fit for an appearance on a 13th Floor Elevators album, that chimes in at 1:47.

The live recording of "While You Wait for the Others," which can be heard on Grizzly Bear's MySpace, is far better than the over-produced version that made the album and was what really had me excited for *Veckatimest* in the first place. On the album's version, the guitars are so subdued that at times, it feels like an A capella song, worthy of appearing on the album because of an intense chorus build-up and full-fledged release.

Grizzly Bear picked a great time to emerge from the cave, as *Veckatimest* will likely serve as a haunting soundtrack to around-the-fire-parties all summer long.

-Stephen Tompkins



Gripes and
Snipes

BIANCA BRADY REPORTER

We all love to party. Who doesn't love the painstaking process of finding the perfect outfit? Who doesn't look forward to sore feet and blisters after a long night of dancing? We work for the weekend. So here's my question: why does the party always have to start so late? Most people don't even show up until 10 or 11 p.m., if not later. In order to maximize our partying potential, we must party harder earlier. I call out to my fellow fun lovers in an attempt to reform our party politics. We want YOU!

It's Friday night. I'm finished with my dinner and I'm looking great. The time is 8:45 p.m. and I'm ready to go to the party. Showing up at 9 makes me look weird and overzealous, but what am I going to do with myself between dinner and the acceptable time to show up to the party? Nothing. I'm just going to wait. I'm going to get cranky and tired and hungry again. I might even go to Taco Bell for a "fourth meal." Then comes the inevitable food coma that suddenly makes my bed more appealing than any dance floor.

Why should we live in fear of being the first one at the party? It takes balls to be the first one to have fun so consider yourself a party pioneer. When everyone decides that they're going to be "fashionably late," the party's start time gets delayed even more. If this social trend persists, we run the risk of the party never starting at all. Let's rally to raise our fun quotient. Make the decision to show up earlier. Let's get the bulk of our partying done before midnight!

Wait, before you write me off, let me explain why this would be bad.

Taking the train home late at night sucks. This is a fact that cannot be contested. It takes longer to come and oftentimes it's not running express. Furthermore, the later you're on the train, the more likely you are to encounter all that horrible New York City stuff that your mom is so nervous about, i.e. pukers and flashers. Furthermore, exhausted and half-drunk kids look silly at brunch. I don't know about you, but I want to be able to enjoy my morning coffee while it's still morning. And let's be real, I have shit to do on Saturday.

Join the NSFP

The New School Free Press is looking for reporters, photographers, and designers for the fall 2009 semester.

Log onto www.newschool.edu/lang/courses for more information.

CRN: 4643
Day/Time: MW 4-5:40
Credits: 2

The Sensibility Scale

JOSH KURP MANAGING EDITOR
KYLE MCGOVERN ARTS & CULTURE DEPUTY

» The *Minotaur* box set

» This fall, Jack Bauer coming to New York City
Eight years too late, buddy

» Oasis going on a five-year hiatus
Someday we will find them, caught beneath the landslide

» Twenty-five years of the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
More like Middle-Aged Mutant Ninja Turtles!

» Given all of the good buzz, *Star Trek* franchise sure to live long and prosper

» Killers douche saying, "Kurt Cobain and grunge took the fun out of rock and roll"

» Zodiac Killer *still* not found

» Season five of *Weeds*
We need more Milf Weed

» *Clueless II?* As if!

» The cover of *The Simpsons* Season 12 on DVD
It was the best of times, it was the BLURST of times?!

» *Pushing Daisies* comic will feature 1,000 zombies

» Lando Calrissian to appear on *General Hospital*, plug Colt 45
"Why, you slimy, double-crossing, no-good swindler. You've got a lot of guts comin' here, after what you pulled"

» *The Warriors* comic 30 years overdue

DESIGNED BY RYAN QUIGLEY

MSG Hosts Jordan Brand Classic

Ballers get a taste of NBA lifestyle

JASMINE JOHNSON STAFF WRITER

On April 18, the Jordan Brand Classic was held in Madison Square Garden. At 7:30 p.m., the court was surrounded by ESPN2 broadcasters. The celebrity spectators included Michael Jordan, Spike Lee, singer Akon, rapper Fat Joe, and record producer and label-owner Irv Gotti.

For competitive high school athletes, being recognized and praised is the ultimate goal. One of the best ways to be acknowledged for their talent is to obtain an invitation to play at the JBC, which began seven years ago by Nike to highlight the best high school basketball players from around the world. The Regional Round focuses on the best from NYC; the International Game on the best from Europe, Asia, and Africa; and the National Game, the most anticipated of them all with the top players from the U.S. The participants can guarantee a crowd, whether college coaches or NBA scouts. Notable JBC participants in the past include top-scoring NBA leaders of today such as LeBron James (2003), Chris Paul (2003), Carmelo Anthony (2006), and Thaddeus Young (2006).

The two basketball teams, Black and White, consisted of the top 24 players from around the country. On the Black team were Kenny Boynton, Avery Bradley, Domi-

nic Cheek, Derrick Favors (*USA Today's* National Player), Abdul Gaddy, Jordan Hamilton, John Henson (third top-ranked), Lamont Jones, Ryan Kelly, DeMarcus Cousins (fourth-top ranked), Alex Oriakhi, and Durand Scott. The White team consisted of Keith Gallon, Wally Judge, Tommy Mason-Griffin, Daniel Orton, Xavier Henry (ESPN's top recruit), Mason Plumlee, Renardo Sidney, John Wall, Royce White, Marcus Jordan (Michael Jordan's son, but sadly not the golden child), Jamil Wilson, and Mouphtau Yarou.

The Most Valuable Players of the night were Renardo Sidney, Jr. (White) of Fairfax and Derrick Favors (Black) of South Atlanta. Power forward Renardo Sidney, standing at 6-foot-9, is headed to USC in the fall. He scored 13 points after halftime, with seven rebounds and two assists. But the White team was unable to bring themselves to a victory.

The final score was 110-103, victory for the Black team. The Black team's MVP, Favors, also a 6-foot-9 forward, is advancing to Georgia-Tech in the fall. He achieved MVP just a month before in the McDonald's All-American Game. Now he leaves a legacy with several National Player of the Year honors (from *USA Today*, the number one high school basketball website, MaxPreps and McDonald's) as well as a team trophy for Geor-



JASMINE JOHNSON

MVP Derrick Favors shoots a foul shot

gia's Class 3A state championship in March.

Although Favors lead the game with 21 points, it was his teammates, "the dynamic duo," whose teamwork helped to build a 52-42 lead before half-time. Durand Scott and Lamar Jones, both starters, provided their team with the ball advantage that led to their triumph.

"Dynamic Duo" was coined during their freshman and sophomore

years. They were star players on their basketball team at Rice H.S. (NY) before Jones transferred. Scott went on to lead his team at Rice to victory and attained the claim to MVP, as Jones led his team to the top five national ranking, ending his senior year at Oak Hill Academy (Virginia).

All of the players received the gratification they longed for. Kids yelled their names, begged for head bands, and screamed for au-

tographs; all talked with Michael Jordan, while half of the players engaged in interviews. They received a glimpse of professional life. Win or lose, it was a win-win situation. "There were great players on both teams, but they had the better team tonight," said Renardo Sidney at the end of it all.

A Smoker's Worst Nightmare

Hiking Mt. Tammany with the Recreation Department

ELISA DELJANIN BUSINESS MANAGER

On Saturday, April 18, I was one of 10 New School students who went hiking near the Delaware Water Gap on Mt. Tammany with Michael McQuarrie and a staff member from the Recreation Department. The semester is coming to a close, and after all the nights I spent stressing over papers, I've taken up smoking cigarettes. The hiking trip made me realize it was the worst decision I have ever made.

By the time we got out of the van

and had a mini-hike to the other side of the parking lot (which was over a big hill via a steep, make-shift staircase), I was panting. The hike hadn't even officially started and I wanted to get back in the car.

We started on a small, sloped hill and gradually, the path quickly became a mess of branches and boulders. We crossed a small stream once we got to a flatter piece of land, and before the group was a deathly hill. The steepest slope must have been 60 degrees, A smoker's worst nightmare. By the time we were at the top of the hill, or what I thought was the top (we had another 55 degree slope to

go), I already made up my mind. Screw smoking.

Behind me, the other students were happily chatting about past hiking trips in Scandinavia, The New School for Jazz, and traveling around Asia. I was thinking about smoking in the courtyard.

Up ahead, McQuarrie was climbing like a trained marine. Every time we got to a steeper slope, he would turn around and smile, and we would sigh collectively. I felt like my lungs were going to collapse.

We finally got to the flat top of the mountain. There were no leaves on the trees, but it made the view of New Jersey and Pennsylvania mountains more visible. Relief flooded my body as I followed McQuarrie to the spot with the better view on the flat ground.

It was breathtaking. Not the second mini-hike, but the view. Cigarettes were no longer important at this point. Before us was Mt. Minsi, and underneath, the Delaware Water Gap curled around its base. Beyond that, there was thousands of miles of land and sky.

It was time to hike again.

The game plan was to trek three more miles to Sunfish Pond and then hike back to the car. I had the choice to do that, or go back to the car early with the student worker. I went insane at some point along the hike and joined the group of six other students with the marine.

The last part of the hike wasn't so hilly (with the exception of the absence of fresh water), but the views made me feel like the hike was worth it. It also made me realize that it was time to quit that winter-smoking-habit and get back into the great outdoors. So if you really want to stop smoking, start hiking.



ELISA DELJANIN

New School students enjoy the views overlooking a bend in the Delaware Water Gap in New Jersey

New York's Great Outdoors

SAM PAUL STAFF WRITER

Much of what summer has to offer—long strolls on the beach, hiking, horseback riding, etc.—usually requires a trip outside of New York City. Yet, New York summers are full of opportunities to take advantage of the warm weather. There are street fairs and festivals, free movies, concerts, and plays, picnics in the park, bike rides, and walks across the bridges. Summer camp fantasies can be realized within the city's limits.

Once the temperature begins to soar, a good way to cool off is a trip to the pool. There are 54 public outdoor pools in New York City, all of which are free to visit and most have adult swimming hours. Hamilton Fish Park Pool on Pitt Street and East Houston has both wading and Olympic-sized pools. One of the largest and most well known pools is located at Astoria Park, at 21st Street Hoyt Avenue and Ditmars Boulevard. You can find a pool in your neighborhood through the NYC Parks Website at Nycgovparks.org/facilities/pools. Be prepared to wait in line on the

hottest days and bring a lock to secure your belongings.

You can rent rowboats for \$12 an hour all summer at the Loeb Boathouse in Central Park at the Lake off East Drive at 74th Street. Kayaks are available free of charge at various locations on the Hudson River including Pier 40 (West Houston Street) and Pier 96 (55th Street).

On dry land, you can find tennis, volleyball, and basketball courts at many NYC parks. There are 30 tennis courts available in Central Park at 93rd Street, and 12 at East River Park at Broome Street. Lessons are provided at both parks, as well as many other locations throughout the five boroughs. There are volleyball courts at Augustus Saint-Gaudens on 2nd Avenue and 19th Street and all over the city. Augustus Saint-Gaudens also has basketball courts, as do many of the city's parks and playgrounds. You can find courts in your area at the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation website: Nycgovparks.org.

There are quite a few sports you'd

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

The New School Indoor Soccer League 2009				
	W	L	T	Win %
Joga Borrito	5	1	1	0.79
Red Herrings	4	1	1	0.75
Boozy Thinkers FC	3	2	2	0.57
Teame D	2	2	2	0.50
Team E	3	3	0	0.50
Boots and Balls	2	2	3	0.50
Team F	3	3	0	0.50
Renew Team	1	3	2	0.33
Team C	2	3	1	0.42
MJ United	0	5	2	0.14
Championship: WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29 7:30-9:30pm at the YMCA located on 7th Avenue and 14th Street				
JOGA BORRITO VS. RED HERRINGS				
BOOZYTHINKERS FC VS. TEAME D				



Underbelly Overkill

No wonder this city never sleeps

HELEN BUYNISKI STAFF WRITER

As subways go dark, businesses wink out of existence along formerly busy streets, and ATM receipts from empty accounts blow across the streets like bankrupt tumbleweeds, New Yorkers are getting nervous. We no longer strut through desolate neighborhoods singing along with optimistic songs on our iPods; we hesitate to flash expensive gadgets on the subway, and we avoid dark alleys even if it means a few extra blocks’ walk. All the signs seem to point to a “return” to the 1970s—New York’s dark ages—and the elephant in the room is Crime. Sure,

Bloomberg may *say* we’re living in the safest city in the world, but someone with that much money *has* to be out of touch with reality. While the crime statistics released to the public are not deliberately confusing, there is no clear NYPD stamp of approval affixed to neighborhoods deemed safe for habitation; that role has long been relegated to luxury condos and chain stores. With the recession, however, the once-limitless well of cash required to construct these indicators of neighborhood cuddliness is drying up. The last bumper crop of condos still stands half-empty—or half-constructed, in cases of extremely ill-informed investment such as Greenpoint’s Viridian con-

dos—and new ones are not forthcoming. Vacant lots once slated for construction are now breeding rats, trash, and angry neighbors. The resulting confusion—are neighborhoods only safe under the watch- f u l phallic eye of high - r i s e residential towers? — has some New Yorkers stockpiling pepper spray and lining up baseball bats next to their doors. Curtis Sliwa, “Guardian Angel” and self-proclaimed crime-fighting

hero, has capitalized on this unease, clamoring for relevance by offering “Underbelly” tours of the Bronx at undisclosed rates that speculators say approach \$5,000. Coming from a man who admitted to staging subway muggings and other crimes in an attempt to garner flattering media coverage for the Angels, this “Underbelly” is sure to have a silver lining. Common sense should remind us that the closure of the neighborhood Starbucks does not signal a criminal apocalypse. But with the nation’s economic equivalent of the terrorist warning level set to a permanent orange, street corners without familiar faces are taking on a threatening aspect. Suddenly, we remember the guns, knives, and gangs from all the scary movies we’ve seen featuring 1970s New York; is Bed-Stuy “Do or Die” once again? Common sense has never been the domain of those who seek their thrills secondhand, anyway. We go to galleries to see graffiti, but if someone tags our apartment door, we’re supposed to consider moving out. Incidentally, the tags on my door are renewed about once a month, providing me with a handy reminder that the rent is due and giving visitors to

stories, they don’t hang out outside my door. Despite recession-related fears that city crime is on the rise, statistics show otherwise. So far, compared to last year, the NYPD’s city-wide CompStat shows a 26 percent drop in murders, 15 percent drop in robberies, and 5 percent drop in felony assaults. These are not isolated declines, either—comparing 2009 to 2001, the drops are even more significant: 41, 34, and 23 percents, respectively. Of course, these percentages still translate to actual numbers; even if 2009 has been a banner year for felony assaults, for example, there have still been more than 3,900 of them since January 1. But these are citywide numbers, and spread out over the five boroughs, they translate to much sparser crime than scared residents might expect. “Police blotter” sections of local newspapers may be easier to process than unwieldy numbers sheets, but their sensationalistic reporting is meant to sell newspapers, not soothe readers.

New York may not be Disneyland, but compared to other cities and its own history, it’s still ridiculously safe. People commit crimes in Disneyland too. Calling a car service to escort you ten blocks in Brooklyn might seem like a good idea now, but remember the econ-

Common sense should remind us that the closure of the neighborhood Starbucks does not signal a criminal apocalypse

my apartment a reason to ask if the one-block walk to the subway is “safe.” Although machete-wielding gangs are popular bogeymen in southside Williamsburg horror

omy—and think how many lattes you could buy with that cash.

Re-Thinking Dissent

Learning from the mistakes of the ‘60s

NEIL GORDON GUEST CONTRIBUTOR

The 1968 Chicago Democratic Convention was a seminal moment in the history of the American Left, but we tend to forget the actual party politics behind the protest. Eugene McCarthy had galvanized anti-War Americans against the Democratic establishment that had so committed us to Vietnam and represented, to many, real opportunity for change. But Humphrey won the nomination and Nixon the election. SDS would be destroyed the following year by the tiny radical minority of Weatherman, whose intransigent politics proceeded to turn, perhaps permanently, the ideals of the 60s counterculture into the stuff of which right wing parodies are made. The war in Vietnam continued for five more years. And the question of how we fight for political change remains unanswered to this day. Lately it feels to me that we’re at the 1968 of New School history. The comparisons are fun to play with. Tim Marshall as Gene McCarthy? The deans would be the activists who had cut their hair and put on suits to get, as they said in the day, “Clean for Gene.” SDS? Faculty and Student Senate. And then there’s Weatherman. Okay—let’s not go too far with that joke. My support for the right to dissent is radical and unconditional. But somehow, I no longer recognize ourselves in debate about the New School Crisis. The problems we know and have

been grappling with—centralization of the university, corporatization of American education, lack of space—are real. But where in the manifestos and pamphlets is our Lang program for inmates at Arthur Kill Correctional Facility? Where is our Institute for Urban Education, our students’ work in Cambodian orphanages, or New Orleans? Is there any mention of the classes we offer throughout our university by full—and part-time faculty—whether economists, scientists, artists, or writers—which approach our disciplines by way of activist, politically astute, anti-sexist and anti-racist analyses? I name only a few examples. Lang, the division I know best, is many things. It is a young institution growing in its understanding of how to deliver a transformative, rigorous education. It is a citizen in the New School community of divisions struggling to achieve academic identity and self determination. It is an administration that gets many things wrong and some things right, but in which the former shrink as the latter grow. And Lang is a college where thousands of students have found refuge from childhoods that were oppressive to their difference and professors whose dedication and expertise can not be called anything other than galvanizing, enlightened, and radical. Little of this complexity is reflected in our current debate about the crisis in the New School. Well, perhaps my anxiety is a question of age. The international hope of my parents’ generation was defeated by Stalinism,

and this disappointment became ingrained in me from early on. Vietnam was massive, for people like me, and the ensuing forty years of watching angry, self-righteous American leftists who, even though they were right, still destroyed the chance to organize for change while the conservative machine—unified, disciplined, in control of its message —rolled right over us: those decades take their toll. Now, when our country enjoys the greatest possibility in decades for progressive change, is The New School, instead of getting involved, repeating this sad history of leftist failure? I hope not. There’s no reason to. The students, faculty, deans, and provost of this university have made unprecedented progress in realizing, since last December, the conditions in which we can attain the reforms of our institution which we all know to be necessary. We stand on the verge of real opportunity to take on the work of moving into the next stage of a beautiful narrative that is much longer than the present crisis. But 1968 and its aftermath showed us that it is easier for a radical moment to sabotage the fragile possibility of a progressive movement than for it to join in the hard work of effecting change. A few student activists have made one choice. I wonder if we’ll hear from those who are making another. -Neil Gordon, a novelist, is professor of writing and Dean at Eugene Lang College

Change Comes to Iran

TARNISHA CARTER REPORTER



During his campaign, then-Senator Barack Obama made a promise to meet with representatives from Iran, a decision that Bush had shied away from during his presidency. Now, President Obama has decided to step up to the plate and play the game right when it comes to dealing with Iran. He has opted to reach out to Iran in an attempt to halt the nation’s development of nuclear weapons. Many officials are applauding him for his commendable effort. Former Clinton administration official, David J. Rothkopf, said at a Council on Foreign Relations panel, “the Obama administration has an approach towards foreign policy which is very different from the Bush administration, very oriented towards engagement.” In the past few weeks, Obama has offered peace between the U.S. and Iran. The Obama administration has invited Iran to several meetings addressing issues of mutual interest regarding Afghanistan. Obama himself has said, “We will support Iran’s right to peaceful nuclear energy with rigorous inspections.” The Iranian people are accepting of President Obama’s open arms. The responses from spiritual leader Ayatollah Khamanei and President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad come across as vague, but do show that they are flirting with the ideas of U.S. cooperation and opening their door to diplomacy. The Obama administration and its European allies have prepared proposals that would alter strategy toward Iran. The proposals would pressure Tehran to open its

nuclear program to wide-ranging inspection. However, they would also allow Iran to persist at enriching uranium for a period of time during the talks. Although Obama isn’t completely keeping his promise, made during the presidential campaign, to open negotiations with Iran “without preconditions,” he is playing the game smart by trying to rebuild a bridge that was burned years ago, after the 1979 revolution. However, conservative critics, including Republican lawmakers, believe Obama is making it too easy for Iran, and is aiding Ahmadinejad’s bid for re-election. In his defense, Obama’s insistence on diplomacy rather than war - unlike Bush, who chose violence in dealing with Iran’s neighbors, Iraq and Afghanistan, a few years prior - shows that he is prepared to resolve Bush’s wrongdoings. While we have yet to see the effect of Obama’s peace offering, we know what Bush’s method accomplished: nothing. The “hope for change” President Obama has instilled in Iran has led many to believe Obama’s plan has potential, unlike the former Bush administration’s constant bullying. In Iran’s case, change is good.

¡VIVA OBAMA!

LAZARO MEDINA REPORTER

In his 2004 senatorial race, Barack Obama said he supported ending the embargo against Cuba. Now he's more or less making good on that promise. The problem is that Obama isn't doing enough to stop the embargo; he's only barely begun to ameliorate the United States' embargo policies against Cuba. What amounts to baby-steps towards ending the embargo completely is nevertheless a major reversal of policy toward the Caribbean nation.

While some radical conservatives may think this is proof of Obama's secret socialist agenda, most of us realize that inherent in Obama's actions is the passive request that Cuba modernize via democratization.

Raul Castro responded to Obama's invitation to converse about immigration, drug policy, and practically anything else, essentially agreeing with Obama that perhaps Cuba needs to fulfill minimum "democratic" reform; in other words, begin the switch to a social-democracy that nevertheless fits in with a capitalist business model.

One is forced to wonder whether Fidel, were he still at full faculties, would have been as receptive as his brother was to Obama's invitation. Regardless, thank you Obama, -Gracias coño-, for taking the first steps to make it legal for me to visit Cuba without having to travel through Mexico or Canada.

I've always wanted to visit Cuba; I've got many reasons to, but only one matters. It's not that I was a



red-diaper baby, that my parents were ready to head to Cuba to work for the party when I was born, that they were obsessed with the revolution and Socialismo Cubano. No, the reason is this—I want to see what it really looks like—what a functioning socialist republic looks like up close. I want to see the country that the gusanos— anti-communist conservative Cuban émigrés (like those that invaded Cuba during the Bay of Pigs) fled from after the people's revolution. These conservatives represent the majority of Republican-voting Latinos, or rather, *Hispanic* (what an awful term), as they usually prefer to be called; they also represent the primary source for other Lázaro Medinas in the United States. If it weren't for them I would have a truly unique name.

I'm curious to see socialism in action. I want to bask in the rich cultural history of the Caribbean. I want to wear Guayabera shirts and

ride in pre-revolution American-built cars that still function (thanks to good ole Socialist know-how). I want to drink mojitos and the daiquiris that Hemingway drank (rum, lime, dash of sugar).

I plan on visiting Cuba as soon as Obama let's me. I'll be able to visit the spot where José Martí fell, where the Granma landed in 1956; I want to see money with Ernesto Guevara's visage staring back at me with his revolutionary glare ("An American," I'd imagine his face telling me from a bill, "You live in the belly of the beast").

Thanks Obama! I won't have to join some special organization to visit Cuba on the pretext of building housing or studying synagogues and the history of Cuban Sephardim. No, instead I'll have a visa stamped New York-Habana bookmarking the page with the glorious stamp that says "República de Cuba" in my Passport. Thanks again, coño!

Ridiculous Radicals

ALEXANDER RICHEY GUEST CONTRIBUTOR

I'm sure that anyone bothered enough to read this article has heard about the protest carried out last weekend by members of the unofficial student group, New School in Exile, and the subsequent arrests of the protesters. Now that some of the dust has settled, it seems time to assess what happened.

On the discussion board of the New York Times article regarding last weekend's events, many of the commenters lauding the protest cited civil disobedience. Opposing commenters countered that notion as a practical contradiction of terms, arguing that the NSIE's actions had nothing to do with civil society, and that the NSIE had broken the policy to which its members voluntarily agreed.

After listening to several students, it seems that only a small minority support the actions of the NSIE. One student said of the protesters, "they're a bunch of rich, white kids without enough homework." It was apparent, especially in the New School's other divisions (e.g. Parson's, Jazz), that the NSIE's actions had caused embarrassment.

My first reaction to the protest was, "if you don't like it here, why not transfer?" If the school that you attend does not meet your standards — whether those standards involve the reputations of the individuals in the administration, faculty, or simply the standings of the university as a whole — you should transfer. The notion that NSIE is somehow fighting for what's "right" is nonsensical, given that there are

thousands of universities across the country which meet the moral and infrastructural standards of the NSIE.

In arguing against the NSIE's protest, I don't mean to disparage the idea of protest in general. I consider protest to be a valuable tool; my only stipulation is that it be used appropriately. Protest is effective in expressing dissatisfaction with the state because one can be subject to the laws of only one state; one cannot simply switch citizenships. The New School is not the state; students can choose the university to which they want to pay over \$40,000 a year. My quarrel with the NSIE is over the manner with which they tried to achieve their goals. Dissent must be dignified, not embarrassing.

In addition, their goals seem to be off the mark. The New School certainly has problems. The campus needs renovation, professors are not happy, and neither are students. I don't understand why the NSIE keeps calling Kerrey a "war-criminal" when they should be calling him what he is: a bad university president. His decision to call the police, for example, was unwarranted, and the police response was excessive. The protesters probably could have been subdued more easily with the threat of expulsion.

But as far as students are concerned, the New School needs a more progressive activist organization than NSIE, one that can cooperate with the administration to help solve the school's problems. What the New School doesn't need is a bunch of angry Quixotes who are unwilling to compromise.

Sinful Unions

SAM DENLINGER OPINIONS EDITOR

Call me old-fashioned, but when it comes to modern-day legal and ethical arguments, I try to rely on Bronze-Age mythology as much as possible. In *The Bible* (copyright unknown), we are taught that author and protagonist God created "Adam and Eve, not Adam and Steve" (Platitudes 2:17).

David Patterson has introduced a bill to the New York State Senate that would allow gay people to get married. *To each other*. I always thought this type of fruity nonsense was reserved for hippy-dippy states like Iowa, but apparently not. If we aren't vigilant, this trend could spread nationwide, from Alabama to Alaska, San Francisco to the Twin Cities. Well, I got another pair of "twin cities" for you, America: Sodom and Gomorrah.

According to the Bible, the Bible is the Word of God. With such fool-proof assurance, why the sudden obsession with gay marriage? The answer is beyond me. I've never understood why people choose to be gay in the first place. Why are perfectly straight men and women forgoing relations with those they find sexually attractive and opting instead to sleep with those whose reproductive organs disgust them? Color me baffled.

But I guess that's the fashion these days. "Say, if people like Elton John and Rosie O'Donnell are doing it, I guess it must be cool!" Trust me, there's nothing "cool" or "fun" about mutually satisfying sexual relationships. Maybe I'm just not hip enough. Still, something tells me this whole gay trend will vanish along with bell-bottoms, hula hoops, and germ theory.

Unlike the homosexuality fad, het-



erosexual (or "opposite") marriage has a long and established tradition which has been going strong for centuries. Take my wife Debbie and me: it might sound cheesy, but we opted for a big, old-fashioned wedding: my parents (landowners, natch) and Deb's parents arranged our union as part of an inter-family political and financial contract, which also included several head of cattle and a generous amount of silver.

There are many risks associated with gay marriage. For one, it undermines heterosexual marriage in several clear and important ways which I will describe at some later point. And doesn't it logically follow that allowing two adult humans to wed others of the same gender means we'd also have to allow them to marry farm animals, inanimate objects, or even fictional characters? Isn't that perfectly logical? Of course it is.

Look, I know my opinions aren't necessarily "politically correct." I guess nowadays "tradition" and "official governmental discrimination" are "bad words." Maybe I just wasn't meant for these times. But this isn't about me. It's about us. Most of all, it's about the society we're leaving behind; for your children, and their children, and the children Debbie and I will start having once she's in high school.

A Bard-Won Battle

What our hipsters could learn from their hippies

COREY MULLEE REPORTER

New School isn't the only university where students knock heads with administrators. I remember a close friend of mine, who attends Bard College, telling me about an administration that forced students into a meal plan that cheated students out of money. What interested me was that Bard students successfully overturned the meal plan and achieved their demands — without crowbars, masks, arrests, or hundreds of police officers.

I wanted to know how they were able to affect concrete change in their university and how they were able to avoid excessive drama and student arrests. I headed upstate aboard Metro-North determined to find out.

Life is different upstate. From the Poughkeepsie stop Bard is just a 40-minute ride north, deep into the heart of the woods. When the trees give way to reveal the campus it feels like you've arrived in another universe. I was met by bright and beautiful strangers whose only concerns seemed to be drug related chemistry projects, electronic music and Ultimate Frisbee. Hidden in the woods without society as a reference, students dress in bright pants and headbands like children playing psychedelic Indians. That weekend the campus held its collective breath in anticipation of 4/20, rolling blunts late into the night. I was overcome by these people's innocence. For me it was a welcome escape from student protest rallies and weekend

Bail parties.

Like students all over the country, Bard students are well aware of the New School occupations since their unfolding in December. In fact, Bard created its own Radical Student Union the following February in response. I spoke with the Bard RSU's co-founder and spokesman Patrick C. Offenheiser.

"We were very proud of the New School and that their demands got met the first time," Patrick told me. During the formative stages of Bard's RSU, co-founders kept in contact with New School RSU members. However, Bard's RSU maintains its autonomy from the practices at New School's RSU.

"My biggest goal for this group is for it not to become a clubhouse. Because it's supposed to be a union, it's not supposed to be a secret society." The group is much more concerned with community outreach (in the form of reading groups, film screenings, and word of mouth) and seems less concerned with secret plans of university upheaval.

It was Bard's University Student Senate, not the RSU that was responsible for the defeat of the meal plan. I decided to ask Enrico Purita, Speaker of Bard's USS about the previous meal plan and what had proved to be so effective.

"Protests aren't needed here because talking seems to be really effective. There's a lot that the student government does just by talking to the administration. The original meal plan was gypping Bard kids. We had this thing called "Bard Bucks." For every twelve dollars we would get one Bard Buck.

Student government got on that."

In the previous system, the only way for students to opt out of the meal plan was by exchanging their Bard Bucks for real money at the ridiculous exchange rate of 12 to 1. Enrico pointed out that the overturning of the meal plan wasn't made overnight. The overturning of the old meal plan has had ongoing ramifications on the infrastructure of the school.

"They've had to make staff adjustments. There are a lot of logistics that a lot of people don't understand. You can't just broadly advocate for change. You can't act like some spoiled rich kids and say I want this now. You have to talk to people, see what it's going to take logistically. Student government did that. A couple people talked to the head of Chartwells [the private meal provider], they talked to administration. They had a student forum. We came up with a solution. It takes compromise. Obviously you're not going to get everything that you want. You have to remember that whatever your views are, a university operates as a business."

While New School students seem barely aware of the operations of their University Student Senate, Enrico told me that more than half of the Bard student population voted in the last on-line election. In contrast with the New School, located in the heart of Manhattan, Bard exists in a bubble. The bubble gives the student body of 1800 a unity that New School lacks.

"New School doesn't need protests," said Enrico. "It needs community."



SUMMERTIME IN THE CITY

Issue 14, April 27—September 7, 2009

FUN WHEN THE LIVING'S EASY

See more at: www.nsfreepress.com



WILLIAM BOWERS



WILLIAM BOWERS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

never expect to find in New York, but there are places to golf, climb, perform on the flying trapeze, and hike. Chelsea Pier 59 at 23rd Street has a golf course complete with lessons, and computer simulator play. Club rentals start at \$4 and 90 balls cost \$25 during peak hours (weekdays from 4-10 p.m., Saturdays from 9 a.m.-9 p.m. and Sunday 9 a.m.-6 p.m.). During off peak hours, the same price will get you 147 balls. Also for \$25, ExtraV-ertical Climbing Center at 62nd Street and Broadway has an outdoor rock climbing wall and offers training for new climbers. New

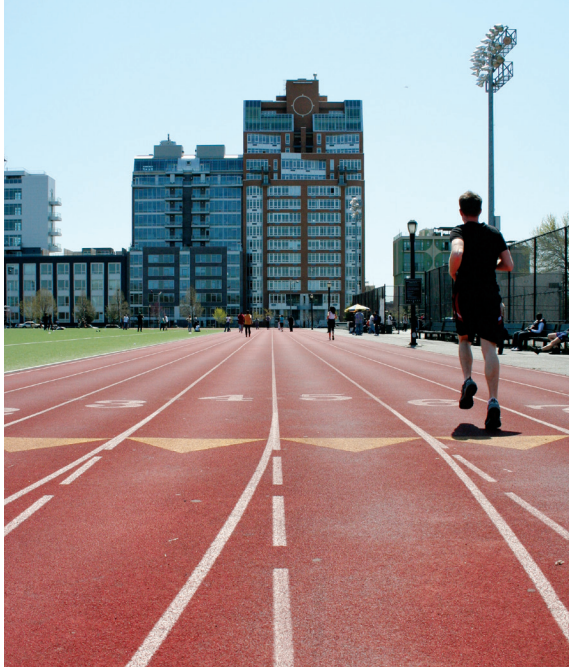
York Trapeze School gives classes on their outdoor rig on West Street at Houston for \$65-70. The school also offers trampoline classes, silks and ropes performance, and a workout aimed at aerial conditioning. Kensington Stables in Prospect Park (51 Caton Pl.) gives horseback riding lessons for around \$50, depending on the size of the riding group, and offers trail rides for \$37. Prospect Park also has four hiking trails with scenic views, trail guides, and cafes. The trails begin at the Lincoln Road and Ocean Avenue entrance and are near the Prospect Park Audubon Center.

There's no need to go down to

the Jersey shore or to Long Island to find sand and sun. There are plenty of beaches in NYC. Rockaway Beach is a well-known surfing spot and though, like the Ramones' song, you can hitch a ride, it's probably easier to take the A train to Broad Channel and transfer to a shuttle bus. Even though Astroland is closed, Coney Island's beach remains and some attractions such as the Cyclone are still operating. Both Coney Island and the quieter Brighton Beach are on the D, F, N, and Q lines. Ocean Parkway includes a long stretch of separated bike path Brighton. There's no better way to coax yourself into the cool ocean water.



JIKA GONZALEZ



GARRET HURLEY



GARRET HURLEY



GARRET HURLEY



JIKA GONZALEZ