Kerrey Mulls Senate Bid

By Kevin Dugan

New School President Bob Kerrey met with top Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee members in Washington last week after Nebraska Senator Chuck Hagel announced that he will not seek a third term. The meeting invited further speculation about his intentions to leave the University to resume his political career. Kerrey’s office declined to comment on his potential bid for the senate seat that Hagel will vacate.

As of press time, he had not disclosed when he plans to reveal his intentions.

Kerrey entered politics as Governor of Nebraska, his home state, in 1982 and later served as senator from 1988 to 2001. He was an extremely popular candidate, winning elections by clear majorities in a traditionally “red” state. With a Democratic majority both in the House and Senate, a Kerrey victory in 2008 could solidify the Democrats’ grip on Congress.

“Kerrey was an immensely popular senator and governor, and his role on the 9/11 Commission strengthened his bipartisan bona fides and his adeptness on intelligence and security issues,” said...

Continued on Page 3

A Fight for Democracy

By Peter House

A year ago, Dr. Berhanu Nega wrote Ye Nextset Gohe Sekede—Amharic for The Dawn of Freedom—in a jail in Ethiopia, smuggling it out a few pages at a time. Now it is a hot commodity in this East African nation of 70-million, but carrying around a copy is dangerous. The Ethiopian government never officially banned the book. But in September 2006, in the capital city of Addis Ababa, a foreign journalist based there told Free Press that soldiers and police placed roadblocks around the city. They searched cars and people, looking for The Dawn of Freedom, beating, arresting, even killing those found with the book.

In May 2009, after a democratic election went awry, the government imprisoned Berhanu Nega, mayor-elect of Addis Ababa, a member of the Coalition for Unity and Democracy and an alumnus of The New School for Social Research. The arrests sparked an international controversy—student protesters, members of the European Union, Amnesty International and U.S. Congressmen called for the prisoners’ release. This July, the Ethiopian government finally freed Berhanu and 37 other prominent CUD members.

Now on a month-long visit of Ethiopian communities in the United States, Berhanu and other CUD members plan to reexamine the CUD’s goals and continue the fight for democracy. Taking on a government known for human rights violations, though, many Ethiopians expect a protracted...

Continued on Page 3

The Other Hsu Drops

By Kevin Dugan

Norman Hsu, New School board member and major Democratic funds-raiser, was arrested in Colorado by the FBI last week after failing to appear in a California courtroom, where he faced charges of unlawful flight to avoid perjury and perjury. He had been a fugitive for 15 years.

Amtrak conductors found Hsu, 56, aboard a train headed to Chicago. Passengers reported seeing a disoriented man lying half-naked in fetal position inside his cabin. There was “lots and lots of medication in that room,” said fellow passenger Joanne Segal, according to The Wall Street Journal. “I could see pills on the floor and rolling around.” Segal alerted train workers to Hsu’s condition. It took three conductors to pry open the cabin door with a crowbar; Hsu had locked himself in.

Hsu is currently under guard at St. Mary’s Hospital in Grand Junction, Colorado, where he is recovering from an undiagnosed illness. As of Sunday, his condition was upgraded to “good,” according to the LA Times. When he completes his treatment, the hospital will release him to Colorado authorities, who will likely extradite him back to California.

Hsu’s legal troubles began in 1992 when he pleaded no contest to defrauding investors of $1-million to buy latex gloves; his business was seen as a front by Colorado authorities, who will likely extradite him back to California. Hsu’s legal troubles began in 1992 when he pleaded no contest to defrauding investors of $1-million to buy latex gloves; his business was seen as a front by Colorado authorities, who will likely extradite him back to California. Hsu’s legal troubles began in 1992 when he pleaded no contest to defrauding investors of $1-million to buy latex gloves; his business was seen as a front by Colorado authorities, who will likely extradite him back to California. Hsu’s legal troubles began in 1992 when he pleaded no contest to defrauding investors of $1-million to buy latex gloves; his business was seen as a front by Colorado authorities, who will likely extradite him back to California. Hsu’s legal troubles began in 1992 when he pleaded no contest to defrauding investors of $1-million to buy latex gloves; his business was seen as a front by Colorado authorities, who will likely extradite him back to California. Hsu’s legal troubles began in 1992 when he pleaded no contest to defrauding investors of $1-million to buy latex gloves; his business was seen as a front by Colorado authorities, who will likely extradite him back to California. Hsu’s legal troubles began in 1992 when he pleaded no contest to defrauding investors of $1-million to buy latex gloves; his business was seen as a front by Colorado authorities, who will likely extradite him back to California.

Students practice their routines during class.

Improv Classes Outside of NSU

By Erik Hollenbach

With so many different schools of improvisational comedy, it’s hard to tell which improv theater is going to teach the correct “Second City” long-form style. The three main improv schools, The Peoples Improv Theater (PI), The Magnet, and the Upright Citizens Brigade (UCB), each make an effort.

The PIT is the smallest of the three, and the most first-timer friendly. Any student can perform in their Tuesday open mic improv show, “Improdomo,” and they have two other shows each week for students to perform in. New York Magazine called the five levels of long-form improv training at the PIT, “the best improv lessons in New York.” They also have other fun classes like Writing for SNL, and Writing for The Daily Show, each taught by that show’s writers. Perhaps the most impressive class the PIT offers is Comedy Screenwriting, taught by Michael Showalter (The State, Wet Hot American Summer).

An alternative is The Magnet Theatre, headed by veteran performer/instructor Armando Diaz. Diaz says, “Magnet has designed a more comprehensive program that gives our students more opportunities to get on stage and perform more than those other schools.” The Magnet Theatre sets students on a clear track toward placement on a regular show. Unlike the UCB, the Magnet advertise student shows on their website. They also have fewer students than the UCB or PIT, and are able to devote more time and care in selecting their regular performers.

Continued on Page 6

The Other Hsu Drops

By Kevin Dugan

Norman Hsu, New School board member and major Democratic funds-raiser, was arrested in Colorado by the FBI last week after failing to appear in a California courtroom, where he faced charg-
New School Loves Kerrey More Than Nebraska

New School President Bob Kerrey went to Washington, D.C. last week to meet with Democratic Senato-
rial Campaign Committee Chairman Chuck Schumer (D-NY). Presum-
ably, the purpose of the meeting was to weigh his options in consideration of another run for the Nebraska sena-
tor position. After weeks spent toy-
ing with a return to politics, he needs to make his decision now.

Kerrey has been an able leader at New School’s helm, but bounced
around politics like a blind bat; he certainly is not Osama bin Laden, as Bob Kerrey said in an inter-
view. But he is a crook, and that doesn’t make us look very good.
—Kevin Dugan

I’m not sure how many of you have been paying attention to the political firestorm surrounding Norman Hsu, former New School trustee and heavyweight democratic donor for Hillary Clinton. But, after getting bust recently for defrauding investors and running away from a prison sentence in 1992, Hsu slipped past the fuzz again last week only to be discovered shirtless, bare-
foot and reportedly delirious on a train in Colorado.

Though Hsu’s cracked-out mug shot in-
spired sympathy from anyone who has fought the law and lost, it is unfortunate that his fall from grace occurred while he served as a trustee at The New School and a member of Eugene Lang College’s Board of Governors.

The moral of the story is this: if The New School wants to be regarded as a serious in-
stitution, it needs to take its responsibilities seriously—including that of appointing its trustees. After all, trustees do not just give us their money; they also have a hand in decision-making at The New School.

How hard would it have been to run a background check on Norman Hsu? Since his legal troubles are public record, a little research might have revealed his outstand-

Attention all theatre buffs!
The Lang Theatre Collective: Call For Submissions
Please send us your One Act play
From 5 to 20 pages in length
Send your play to
Langtheatrecollective@gmail.com

Something on your mind? Letters to the Editor will be printed each issue on this page. Rant, rave or, you just send us your love at nsfreepress@gmail.com
Ethiopia works to reform a police state

By JULIA DAVIDSON

The New School started charging students for printing on all university computers this semester in an effort to cut down on university costs and control excessive paper usage.

"The university gives each student $70 in printing credits, except Parsons students, who are allotted $50. Singer-songwriter beside $20, and all double-sided printing costs $0.15. Color printing between $8.50 and $10, depending on the page’s size and the amount of ink used. If students use up their credits, they can purchase additional printing credits in $20 increments.

The new system mostly affects Lang students enrolled in writing seminars that require printing, but the administration said other students would see the same benefits. "To control costs and ensure the school remains profitable, the administration has taken a different approach," said senior Brian Rutty, who is a writing-concentrator. "On the other hand, I think this will help us focus on what we do best— our writing courses." 

Students and faculty printed something black and white pages in the 2006-2007 academic year, nearly twice as much as the year before. According to Erika Gredler, Assistant Manager of Academic Technology. "Some Lang students reported a $90 balance. Keal was unaware of this mix-up. "That’s the first I’ve heard of that," he said. "I don’t think it will change."

I would say that $90 is okay, but $90 definitely wouldn’t be enough," said Anthony Giordano, Lang curator and writing-concentrator. Additional reporting by Kevin Dugan

"Makes Rwanda look like child-play"
New School alum still imprisoned
By Amelie Granger

Former New School professor Kian Tajbakhsh appeared on Iranian state-run television this July. Like the British sailors captured last spring, footage showed Tajbakhsh, along with four other jailed intellectuals, confessing to crimes against Iran. A BBC report described him as "gaunt and pale" and his voice as hesitating and filled with exhaustion.

"I am charged with endangering national security and spying for the United States," Tajbakhsh said. Along with the recently released scholar Haleh Esfandiari, Iran claims Tajbakhsh was plotting to overthrow the Iranian government by inciting a revolution. He is currently detained and awaiting trial in Tehran’s notorious Evin Prison, and has been since May 11, 2007.

Tajbakhsh gave up a tenured track at the New School in 2001 and moved to Tehran to work on consulting projects with organizations such as the George Soros Open Policy Institute and the World Bank.

Tajbakhsh is an Iranian-American expert on urban planning. He was an assistant professor at the Milano Graduate School of Management and Urban Policy for more than seven years, and taught Urban Studies courses at Eugene Lang College. Scholars and politicians decry his detention, along with those of four other Iranian-American scholars, as groundless.

"The very idea that they were fomenting what is called a ‘velvet revolution’ is absurd," Tajbakhsh’s former Milano colleague, Alex Schwartz, in an interview, referred to the type of non-violent, student-led rebellion Iran claims the intellectuals wanted to bring about. "Kian was definitively interested in improving local conditions, but never in national politics."

Haleh Esfandiari, another detained scholar shown confessing in the same program that Tajbakhsh was released on bail on September 4 after more than 90 days imprisonment. She was allowed to leave the country pending a future trial.

According to an article in the International Herald Tribune, an Iranian judge recently promised Kian Tajbakhsh’s wife, Behzad Malek, that her husband will be released on bail in time to see the upcoming final months of Malek’s pregnancy. The BBC Persian service also recently reported Tajbakhsh would be released on bail, but he remains incarcerated as of press time.

Tajbakhsh’s fellow New School scholar, Berhanu Nega, was also imprisoned in Ethiopia on based charges. Nega recently returned to New York after his release. Tajbakhsh’s friends and colleagues have created the group Free Kian (www.freekian.org) to spread awareness of his detention. Search for “Kian Tajbakhsh” on the internet leads to the Iranian people, to efforts to make Iran the most successful country it could be," said Irina Katzenelson, Columbia professor and former Dean of the Graduate Faculty at The New School, in a video interview posted on the site. "He was very much aware of the risks he was running," Schwartz said of Tajbakhsh’s decision to live as a dual American citizen in Iran. "But it was a risk he was willing to take. He was extremely dedicated to his work."

Kian Tajbakhsh has currently been detained for over 120 days. Statements of support on his behalf have been made by numerous organizations and individuals, including Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, Senators Hillary Clinton and Barbara Mikulski, PEN American Center, and The New School. "Berhanu Nega and Kian Tajbakhsh demonstrate the kind of commitment that does not yield to dictatorial oppression," said Bob Kerry in his invitation address this year. "[They] have accepted the call to go where safety can no longer be guaranteed."


dr. tajbakhsh speaks at an unknown event.

Free Doctor T.

By Amelie Granger

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Around the Courtyard

By Joa Kwon

If Bob Kerrey leaves, who would you want as the new President of The New School?

Nate VZ, Grad Student

"Britney Spears, so you don't have to wear your unders." 

Sue White, Grad Student

"Harry Potter, because he's the ultimate President. Disciplines and academics "ain't" would be lax, but you'd gain the important knowledge that you would need to live a good life."
**Ghost Weddings**

**But how will you consume?**

By LAUREN CUSCUNA

Ghost marriages, the marrying of two dead people, has recently reemerged as a trend in rural areas of China and South-East Asia as Communion influence has diminished and traditional mysticism has gained popularity. The practice originated from fear of unhappy dead who haunt the living.

Those who wed corpses normally exhume the bodies from their graves. Higher demand for female bodies has driven the price of quality corpses up to $5,000.

With such a lucrative business opportunity, some have turned to more grisly methods. Song Tiantang has strangled six and five students, respectively. Short of a foreign language requirement, said Lang Dean Jonathan Veitch, there is little else the college can do to encourage registration.

Since hopes to study abroad often motivate students to study a foreign language, Virani plans to initiate exchange programs in Morocco, Lebanon and Egypt. However, she points out, a massive Arabic population in New York also gives students the chance to visit Middle Eastern cultural institutions and mosques where Arabic is heard firsthand.

American students learn Modern Standard Arabic, which is a homogenous language used in academic circles and major media networks. But since Lang's language programs include proficiency in contemporary vernacular, even students completing the introductory level will be introduced to dialects from Egypt and North Africa. With the widespread availability of Arabic media, especially Egyptian cinema, the output of which is third only to Hollywood and Bollywood, Western students have an increasing access to Arabic media and cultural studies.

If students aren't over-sailing into Arabic I yet, it isn't because demand in the academic and professional environments is lacking. Universities nationwide have boosted their Arabic and Islamic studies programs after 9/11. The U.S. State Department offers subsidized summer language programs abroad to students of all levels mastering "critical need foreign languages" including Arabic, Russian and Chinese. Undergraduate students proficient in less commonly taught languages enter the job market or graduate schools with a unique advantage. Departments will see you as well-rounded and interested," said Vi-rani who, at her previous post at Washington University, watched Arabic language students receive substantial financial aid packages. But learning a foreign language is "not just another skill you put on your resume—it's a life-changing experience," said Rodrigues.

**Foreign Language Department Finally Expands**

By DARYA MARCHENKOVA

The New School plans to expand Lang's foreign language department by improving Arabic and other less commonly taught language programs.

Linda Rodrigues, Chair of the Foreign Languages Department, has spent 15 years championing a supply and demand issue—the more sections will open up. At press time, the sole sections of undergraduate Arabic and Russian held six and five students, respectively. Short of a foreign language requirement, said Lang Dean Jonathan Veitch, there is little else the college can do to encourage registration.

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An International Dancing Cactus in NYC

Translations Lost and Found

By Yuki-Jennifer Kurmi

Twelve p.m. at 2003’s Freshman Orientation BBQ, I furiously skimmed through the International Students’ Guide to American Society, passing over the U.S. college experience I was about to embark upon. Nervously striking my first conversation with a fellow student, I followed the guide’s advice: “Americans are loud and easily offended. Begin a conversation either about the weather or sports.” I turned around to the girl behind me and said, “So, you like rugby?” I used to play as a hooker.” She never spoke to me again.

Silence seemed like a better option. Starting fresh in the intense new world of college and trying to memorize the language barrier is not the only factor international students have to face. In retrospect, I wonder what my battles would have been simpler if I’d looked beyond the guidebook to learn more about the students around me.

Stepping into NYC on a strictly solo basis can cause visa-holders to second-guess how they’ll fit into the already-oversaturated social sphere. New artists are vital for any creative industry. A note to Rose: complexity is not synonymous with pretty much every situation. The “hilarious” twist is that the mother of the family applies to host a foreign student so that the Tolchucks can find time to have a friend. The “uprooting” twist is the foreign student is Pakistani. This show is not a complete bomb, but it’s certainly not going to be a hit.

The Shallow End of the Pool

Fishing for talent in the New School Aquarium

By Kevin Dulan

Thank God for capitalism.

New artists are vital for any creative field, but finding fresh talent among the inept masses can be vexing. This is why talent scouts for the bourgeoning frat-rock scene. Talent sounds like Kelly Clarkson. When someone is talking. By New Year’s your family will probably be laughing at the new American accent you’ve brought home as a souvenir along with those Statue of Liberty chocolates. If you have not yet attended the Interna-

tional Guidebook as your bocce chum let’s me, I sure need not advise you about the tiny white 94-card the immigration officer will hand you after a back in line with ESL students. Even though English may be your first language, New Yorkers have their own mini-dialects essentially imitated by an accent from their native country. In retrospect, I wonder what my battles would have been simpler if I’d looked beyond the guidebook to learn more about the students around me. As a Freshman, it’s a gift from the creator Josh Schwartz. Chuck is a gift from the TV gods for OC fans who miss the show’s witty dialogue, but don’t miss all of the teen angst that went along with it. In the first episode, Chuck Bartowski (Zachary Levi) accidentally downloads all of the government’s secrets into his brain and quickly becomes a tender computer salesman to being one of the U.S. Government’s top secret agents. This show is exciting and funny, the cast is excellent and the writing is razor sharp.

Aliens in America (The CW): Premieres Mon. Oct. 1st at 8:30 p.m.

Aliens in America is a new sitcom on the CW that follows the Tolchuck family of Wisconsin. The Tolchucks are an average, white family in the tradition of pretty much every sitcom on television history. The “hilarious” twist is that the mother of the family applies to host a foreign student so that the Tolchucks can have a friend. The “uprooting” twist is the foreign student is Pakistani. This show is not a complete bomb, but it’s certainly not going to be a hit.

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Chuck (NBC): Premieres Wed. Oct. 3rd at 8 p.m.

Chuck is one of two new shows this Fall TV Preview

By Charlie Leveridge

It’s that marvelous time of year again when you get to reunite with old friends and also find new ones. No, I’m not talking about the start of a new school year, but rather something much more rewarding than another semester of high school or a pa-

Killing of Pretty much every higher education: the new TV season! There are some really ex-

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No Country Music for Young Men

By Ben Kelly

The Russian was losing his shit. At six-and-a-half-feet and 265 pounds, he was dressed like a dock worker, had a Cyrillic tattoo that he claimed spelled "USA" (though I bet it was "KGB") on his left arm and was dancing the jerk, the sway—weirdly, because he was getting up to "Come Alive," not "Daydream Believer.

Still, it fit right in. Hell, his influences had nothing on most of the crowd of redneck-wannabes affecting hillbilly accents and attitudes—sweet (for the ladies) and rowdy (for the fellows)—who all came out to Park Slope's Butter-milk to kick off the 4th Annual Brooklyn Country Music Festival.

I talked to Joe Choina, a forty-eight-year-old divorcee from Canada. Not a lifelong country fan, Choina picked up a guitar as a way to get out of the house during rocky periods of his marriage. Now, eight years later, he plays double bass for the Y'All Stars, the night's featured act.

"I'm too old, but—couple weeks ago, I had this chick—married chick—we were in the bathroom stall...

He described the Senator Craig-esque assignation: "Forty-five minutes I was in there, people knocking on the door... I'd tell them I 'FUCKING busy.' When I came out... he raised his arms high over his head.

After the Y'All Stars, the stage opened up to a sprawling band—a couple guitars, double bass, mandolin, banjo, fiddle, lap-steel guitar and audience members taking the rhythm, "there's no drummer..." He went on to crane his neck to his head as he slapped an invisibility shield and popping his eyes out of the socket. "I'm the producer and to take the stage. The Counting Crows played five songs, includ-

"I actually felt a little twinge of sadness."
Arts and Culture

Featured Reviews: Fashion

Click Chic
Fashion photography inches towards legitimacy

By LAUREN TAYLOR

It’s about time fashion photographers other than the Mario’s of the world (Testino and Sorrenti to name a couple) get some recognition. “Click: The Fine Art of Fashion Photography” exhibit, curated by Dan Halm, is now on display at the School of Visual Arts.

“Click” showcases the works of six New York-based fashion photographers and aims to disassociate the photographs from the magazine world. Striving to acknowledge commercial photography as a legitimate and essential form of art, there is no indication of where the works were first published. The work of Sarah Silver and Guy Aroch stand out, instantly recognizable for their commercial appeal, but beautiful enough to forgive their conspicuousness. If this genre of photography is generally understood as a purely commercial pursuit, Silver and Aroch stick beautifully within the bounds. Herein lies the crux of the exhibit.

At a time when nearly 1.9 million US Weekly magazines are being circulated weekly, how easily are we impressed or moved by portraits of beautiful people? More interesting than the exhibit itself is Halm’s concern with fashion photography, raising the point that owing to widespread publication, “fashion photographs are often considered disposable.” Chiium Kii Shih and Maki Kawakita are responsible for the more interpretive, often very dark, pieces in the show. Referencing modern dance and Japanese Kabuki Theater, these are the kind of explicitly artful photographs one may not even at first realize are a part of a fashion layout. While perhaps they aren’t as traditionally beautiful as the Aroch portraits, it is easier to justify Halm’s vision, that they are “exceptional images that hold their own as works of art.”

The exhibit does not overlook the clothing or the obvious implications of modeling and its relationship to the integrity of fashion photography. Take his Roderick Angel’s black and white portrait of a model wrapped in cellophane with a grain of salt. The allusion of the model as a living product is tried.

September 6 - October 6, 2007
Visual Arts Museum
209 E. 23rd St.
(212) 592-2145

High Rolling at Fashion Week
Our VIP separates the fab from the flops

By COURTNEY NICHOLS

Set amongst Upper East Side royalty dawning in rubies and pearls, and foreign glitterati ushering their American partners, Fashion Week was a feast for the eyes and the ears. In general, high-waisted items harking back to Katherine Hepburn were the trend most recognizable in the 2007 collections, especially in the Nicole Miller runway show. Gwen Stefani, however, took the prize for designer of the year.

Reggae track remixes set the stage as bountiful sequined dresses in all shades of the rainbow pranced down the runway. Mod miniskirts and 1940’s navy bathings suits only hinted at the vibrant and exotic looks LAMB produced this season. At Gwen walked onto the stage and reached for her newborn baby from her husband, Gavin Rossdale, it was apparent that her fashion line was designed by Gwen for Gwen. Instead of plastering the logo on all the clothing articles, as she has done in past seasons, the looks this year were comparable to any Marc Jacobs fashion spread. Unlike many celebrity fashion designers, Gwen is one of the few that has a leading role in the creation of each season... and truly the lineup had Gwen written all over it.

On the other stage, Nicole Miller debuted her new season. Distant from the scene, Nicole Miller was famous for her Barbie prints in the early 1990’s, but was as soon forgotten as she was discovered. Luckily, it is obvious that Nicole Miller has not lost her edge and though her pieces were no longer colorful and animated, the line was classic, neutral and retro. Additionally, though LAMB had celebrity guests such as P. Diddy, Nicole Miller featured Ivana Trump and Bai Ling. You can’t beat Bai Ling.

However, fashion week was not only exhibited within the Bryant Park tents. On Wednesday night, the infamous reality star Keith Michael debuted his line at Cain. Known for being the first ever contestant to be kicked off Project Runway, hopes for the line were not high. Ultimately items in the show were not unique and the khaki colored pencil skirts har- kened any Gap ad. Still, the clothes were tailored extraordinarily and a few select pieces heightened a woman’s femininity. Plus, who could go wrong with Melrose from America’s Next Top Model strutting down the runway?

If nothing else, I learned that the real Fashion Week is best featured with a VIP pass, and not within a press pass. The styles were expected and the trends were predictable, yet celebrity guests overshadowed the runway models. Thankfully the trend of low cut jeans and skin tight tops have made way for a more elegant look featured by every designer at this year’s Fashion Week. However, any event in which Elizabeth Hasselbeck designs an outfit for Snooky In Fashion proves that style has a long way to go. Or maybe this is the beginning of the end.

The Sunshine Theatre

The Sunshine Cinema building, on East Houston in the Lower East Side, was built in 1905 and was origi- nally called the Houston Hippodrome motion picture theater. As well as a movie theater it was a Yiddish vaudeville house. For over 50 years, however, the building has been shut down and used as a hardware warehouse. In December of 2001, the Landmark, the company that owns the theater, had the Sunshine re- stored, and it is once again a fully functioning, state- of-the-art movie theater. The theater has five screens and is dedicated to showing the first runs of independ- ent and foreign films in addition to nontraditional studio programming.

The restoration included adding stadium seating to the theaters, a Japanese rock garden and a viewing bridge that offers a view of the city from the third story glass annex. Additionally, each of the five theaters has a different architectural design.

TEXT BY LINH TRAN
PHOTOS BY SAM LEWIS

A photograph featured in the exhibit.
**Film**

**Shoot 'Em Up**

Dir. Michael Davis.

Starring Clive Owen, Paul Giamatti, Donna Quintano

Michal Davis’ Shoot ‘Em Up seems like a combination of Die Hard and American History X without a plot. But if you like dark humor, guns, action, babies and don’t need a storyline to be thrilled, Shoot ‘Em Up is for you.

The film features some unique elements, including the use of unconventional weaponry and numerous comical death scenes. Beyond that, however, Shoot is shot after shot of nonsensical sequences. Character development is noticeably absent and there are several obvious plot holes. The is noticeably absent and there are several obvious plot holes. The

**When:**

Continually shows at the Nederlander Theatre Thursdays through Tuesdays: Pascal and Rapp, however, will be the production only until October 7.

**Play For:**

Rapp, however, will be with the New Line Cinema production only until October 7.

**Music**

**Hip-Hopera**

R. Kelly, Trapped in the Closet, Parts 13-22

There is Truffaut and then there is R. Kelly. After the Grammy-nominated Trapped in the Closet: Chapters 1-12, I did not see how Kelly could top himself. But after uttering “you are craziest than a fish with titties” as his friend rolled a joint, it was obvious that he had created an epic. Songs that include “Oh Shit,” “fierce waitresses screaming “I take Tai Bo clauses” dubbed by R. Kelly, and a pregnant woman with an eye switch are only a few highlights that prove the brilliance of Trapped in the Closet: Chapters 13-22.

A perverted ride through the homosexually-driven and pedophilic mind of R. Kelly. Trapped in the Closet is a clear reflection on our generation... a generation riddled with crude gas and midget sex jokes. Oh, and, by the way, the album includes a character named Pimp Lucious—and they say the new Anthony Hopkins movie is a masterpiece. Touché.

Recommended

- Curtis Nichols

**Film**

**Halloween**

Dir. Rob Zombie, Starring Malcolm McDowell, Brad Dourif, Tyler Mane

With the Anglo-FILE American horror movie trend winding down, there seems to be another, equally sinister phenomenon occurring in Hollywood: the classic horror movie remake. Rob Zombie’s remake, or “re-imagine,” of Halloween does nothing but brand it with the trademark runniness found in Zombie’s other films, House of 1000 Corpses and The Devil’s Rejects. He fails to reproduce any bit of suspense, mystery, or horror from the original. Zombie’s film leaves the viewer with a queasy unease and pity for the main character...you know, the serial murdering main character.

To Zombie’s credit, he does come off with a fairly unsettling history of iconic horror movie figure, Michael Myers. This new back story however, of a disturbed young boy with an unstable home life, who kills his pets and a classmate who harasses him, is nowhere near as horrifying as John Carpenter’s tale of a normal little boy from a loving family who decides to murder his sister with a butcher knife.

Carpenter’s original remains a classic because of its suspense and subtlety. Carpenter’s “boogey-man” is seen in glimpses, around corners, in shadows. The sole murder shown teasingly through the eyes of a Halloween mask that began the original is turned into three ultra-violent, no-holds-barred murders in the remake. Zombie does not pass up on an opportunity for gore. Fortunately, Zombie doesn’t try to reproduce all of the iconic images of Carpenter’s Halloween.

Unfortunately, there’s not one scene with a tenth of the suspense of that moment in Zombie’s version. This new Halloween is just what all the other movies in the rash of remakes have been: paltry copies of the original. Perhaps the worst part is that if Zombie had used some of the ideas from this film for something completely new, it might not have been half-bad.

- Pamela DiFrancesco

**Theatre**

**Rent**

Nederlander Theatre, 208 W. 41st St.

Got “five hundred twenty-five thousand six hundred minutes” to spare? Check out the Nederlander Theatre’s production of Rent. Currenty starring Adam Pascal and Anthony Rapp (both have reprised their lead roles from the original 1996 run of the play) along with former American Idol contestant Tamrya Gray.

What: One does not have to be a “Rent-head” to enjoy this La Boheme-inspired musical about dealing with AIDS, love and life in the East Village.

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Don’t Belive Your Ears: What’s Really Happening in Brazil?

By LAUREN CUSCUNA

Falling only behind Mexico and the U.S., Brazil has become one of the leading countries in plastic surgery with particular expertise in the ear reconstruction department. But this is only because the market calls for it: Due to rampant poverty and political corruption, the most lucrative industry for Brazil’s working class is kidnapping the rich, with almost one kidnapping per day. The most effective way to get the victim’s families scared and paying is to slice off the victim’s ear—quick and non-lethal.

Brazil has been plagued by poverty and political corruption since the Portuguese arrived there in 1500. It was not until the 1960s when real money was to be made in the informal economy. The favelas, or shanty towns, outside of big cities like Rio de Janeiro and Sao Paulo had access to hard drugs, and when AK-47s and street politics got involved, gangs formed, violence reigned, and the favelas became like a soviet. The drug trade came into the favelas, or shanty towns, outside the informal economy. The counterproductive investment in infrastructure is highly correlated with long-term investment in infrastructure is poorly coordinated, rather than welfare. This is an argument for liberalization, rather than welfare. The people of the favelas, on the other hand, have to pay private security guards to keep drug traffickers away from [businesses].

The biggest success in the program is Bolsa Familia, which gives money to poor families providing their children remain in school and have regular medical attention. However, the government cannot receive all the credit. What is most interesting about this change is that the growth is mostly coming from the market. Lula’s plans are mostly write-ups, but not necessarily sustainable or motivating. The people of the favelas, on the other hand, have taken the initiative to start small businesses, cooperate with the government and, due to continuing violence in the slums, “some residents have clubbed together to pay private security guards to protect residents. Lula’s plans are mostly write-ups, but not necessarily sustainable or motivating. The people of the favelas, on the other hand, have taken the initiative to start small businesses, cooperate with the government and, due to continuing violence in the slums, some residents have clubbed together to pay private security guards to protect themselves and their families. They’ve hired ex-gang members to serve as guards and now they can go about their daily lives. However, this is not perfect as sewage lines the streets and the houses look as if they could blow over with a small wind. But most of Brazil’s poor funds end up in the hands of Banco do Brasil, which offers subsidies to the middle class. Between 2000 and 2005, the lower-middle class has doubled, while the working class has drastically reduced. This change is partly due to the fact that the government intervention. Luiz Inacio Lula de Silva, the standing president, is the first to bleed his heart to the people of the favelas. After trying to turn a forgiveness vote-as-cash scandal that he was vindicated from, most Brazilians seem happy with his work because he has kept his promises in helping the poor. Longer systems and electricity are almost commonplace in shantytowns. He has also developed a program, Fome Zero (Zero Hunger), which offers subsidies to the very poor, aids agriculture, fights child labor and provides utilities. The biggest success in the program is Bolsa Familia, which gives money to poor families providing their children remain in school and have regular medical attention. However, the government cannot receive all the credit. What is most interesting about this change is that the growth is mostly coming from the market. Lula’s plans are mostly write-ups, but not necessarily sustainable or motivating. The people of the favelas, on the other hand, have taken the initiative to start small businesses, cooperate with the government and, due to continuing violence in the slums, some residents have clubbed together to pay private security guards to protect themselves and their families. They’ve hired ex-gang members to serve as guards and now they can go about their daily lives. However, this is not perfect as sewage lines the streets and the houses look as if they could blow over with a small wind. But most of Brazil’s poor funds end up in the hands of Banco do Brasil, which offers subsidies to the middle class. Between 2000 and 2005, the lower-middle class has doubled, while the working class has drastically reduced. This change is partly due to the fact that the government intervention. Luiz Inacio Lula de Silva, the standing president, is the first to bleed his heart to the people of the favelas. After trying to turn a forgiveness vote-as-cash scandal that he was vindicated from, most Brazilians seem happy with his work because he has kept his promises in helping the poor. Longer systems and electricity are almost commonplace in shantytowns. He has also developed a program, Fome Zero (Zero Hunger), which offers subsidies to the very poor, aids agriculture, fights child labor and provides utilities.

In God We Rust

This summer, a group of 120 Continental passengers revolted after sitting on a plane waiting to depart Baltimore airport for 5 hours without food, water, or clean airplane bathrooms. After clapping and chanting in protest, with some vandalism of the plane, the passengers were escorted off by the police.

A friend of mine found himself in a similar situation on what should have been a short flight to Miami. He fell asleep before takeoff and woke up to find the plane still on the tarmac. He’d been missed because the plane was flying to the first place.

Then there’s my most recent flight from JFK to Portland. After putting up with security lines for well over an hour, I finally reached the concourse to find that not only had my gate been changed but my flight had been pushed back an hour. Big surprise.

According to the US Department of Transportation, 90% of all airline flights are delayed, up from 89% just ten years ago. Maybe I’m biased, but it seems like even more than a third to me, and that is unacceptable.

So what happens when the FAA’s outdated air traffic control system is partially to blame. The current radar system in use is antiquated and requires flights to be further apart than they’d need to be if satellite systems (like the ones in Australia, Belgium and China) were used. Planes flying closer together would allow for a higher volume of traffic to satisfy America’s increasing number of air travelers, now an astounding 700 million per year.

Another problem is a simple lack of tarmac. Take, for example, New York’s three major airports: LaGuardia, JFK and Newark. Many words have flown about adding a fourth to accommodate more fliers, but the discussion always falls at our city’s lack of undeveloped space. Basically, a new airport will never be built if there’s no place to build it; therefore, New Yorkers’ beloved airports will become increasingly over-crowded and infuriating.

The irony is that even though we’ve got the capability to fly anywhere in the country in less than 2 hours, our flights are increasingly marred by delays and cancellations. We’ve got a air travel system that could be convenient if it were maintained with updated technological and physical infrastructure to support its users. But the government seems to have little to no interest in developing a way of the wise to good ol’ Uncle Sam: investment in infrastructure is highly correlated with long-term growth and prosperity, so forget about all these costly “imminent threats” and invest in our own damn citizens’ daily life!

As for my flight to Portland, once all of our luggage finally cleared security, I told the gate agent, after waiting over an hour, that I had no intention of waiting any longer due to the escorted flight.

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Party photography may seem like the "new grunge." While out in her signature style—a style created with the repeated flash of camera and a smart, creative show that tests an individual's character, intelligence; it tests their will to survive both physically and mentally. Each contestant is trapped inside a house filled to the brim with cameras, recording every move, every conversation, every breath. Contestants are left with no privacy, driving some to the brink of insanity. In season 7 of the program, Janelle, the back door and staircase, a typical reality show, lost her temper (and her sanity) when she nearly came to fists with fellow contestants. But she doesn't handle the small space or the constant barrage of cameras and, in a sense, loses her mind. This show accurately depicts how bad things can get when one loses grip on reality. And I don't know about you, but many people that I've spoken with enjoy doing this show. A ridiculous show that continues to come back, come season after season, just because it has a "feasible bud-

With the advent of reality television, have you noticed how the programs have pretty much all of us would like to come out in front of the television and watch American Idol. It's a good show, it requires two things: a lack of intelligence and a lot of a beer. Of course, not all reality programs adhere to such high standards. Shows like The Flavor of Love, Rock of Love, and Next - where to go on those nights that you've just want to dance. There are some "vapid shows" that are fun, smart and exciting. And some are fun, smart and exciting. And I have to ask myself: what's wrong with that?

15 Min's of Fame: Hipsters Make Headlines

By SARA GARTMAN

It's 3 a.m. Wednesday morning and the party has just begun for Internet celebrity, Cory Kennedy. As she trapes around L.A. arm-in-arm with Hollywood's more partied out in recent weekends, one might wonder who she is. She's young enough to be in high school, but instead with gay men wanting to meet a potential mate, stay away. At times, the bouncer tosses drink tickets to the next morning your purse will be empty. If I wanted a memorable night, Chelsea's answer to The Ugh 9th Street's Lounge, cheap margaritas and suit ridden executives make it no surprise that bid- ding in back tables are the taken gods from past seasons of The Real World (Willie being my favorite). You probably know that G Lounge and other such Chelsea nightspots would make up for the fact that there is Silver Room. The club is set aside the Uptown Gay Bars. With the advent of reality television, have you noticed how the programs have pretty much all of us would like to come out in front of the television and watch American Idol. It's a good show, it requires two things: a lack of intelligence and a lot of a beer. Of course, not all reality programs adhere to such high standards. Shows like The Flavor of Love, Rock of Love, and Next-

By JAKE WEINGARTEN

Let's focus on the average person for just one second. Arriving home, he grabs a sandwich and hopes that the couch has never looked more inviting. And what's even better than that leather seat of love? American Idol is on.

Reality television may be considered a modern, borderline insulting, form of entertainment—but those with any semblance of humor will posit the argument that it is a funda-

mental enjoyable form of tele- vision. And, to touch on the argu-
ment of fact, not all of its premises are erroneous or ridiculous.

Just before the new millen-

RITY TELEVISION: Point Counterpoint

Television's Hottest Epidemic

It's Not All Just Dreck

BY MATTHEW KENNEY

You see it everywhere, even if you don't watch it. Billboards on every corner exclaim titles and themes about the latest brand of semi-successful chefs on Top Chef cook their way to fame and gl amended. Fashion? Witness rapid models on America's Next Top Model with the mental capacities of children. And television, their faceless expressions less of what appears to be will to be live in the moment. How can you show of your dreams? Certainly something that one features interests in the new world of New York City, how can one not?

Reality television has become a reason for kids to pay no atten-

tion to world news anymore. The few shows that started the craze, such as Candid Camera or The Price is Right, have gradually morphed into new shows and turned the genre into an industry. All reality TV needs is an idea how to make people look stupid on camera. In the old days, Casting is never an issue—there are millions just wait-
ing to get bit. What is needed about a casting call for MTV's hottest new reality TV show? Eat, Drink, and Score. (laughs out sequences.) Whomever thinks up these titles is clearly a sa-
di—such a tale, in America seduce all.

But reality television wasn't always so obvious. It was once cen-
tered on abusing people. It started in 1948 with shows like Candid Camera; the program was about harmless pranking people—making them believe their credit card had been cancelled or that their car had been towed. Lately, however, people can't get enough. The modern Candid Camera is MTV's Punk'd, in which unknown celebrities are pranked with set pieces like a giant penguin in a hostage situation in a bakery, or somewhere running over a pedes-
trian (laughs out sequences). People aren't interested in the subtle and witty anymore—they crave the extreme. A joke about someone not knowing who you, but when you hear that news, anyone who has seen the show just adds, "Oh well, it's just fake news anyway." I think of some trite, pathetic blonde of the show, lost her hoops and her crown to the brink of insanity. In season 2 of the program, Janelle, the back door and staircase, a typical reality show, lost her temper (and her sanity) when she nearly came to fists with fellow contestants. But she doesn't handle the small space or the constant barrage of cameras and, in a sense, loses her mind. This show accurately depicts how bad things can get when one loses grip on reality. And I don't know about you, but many people that I've spoken with enjoy doing this show. A ridiculous show that continues to come back, come season after season, just because it has a "feasible bud-

Fruity Fly Life

BY COURTNEY NICHOLS

On Avenue A, there is a corner bar called Boysroom. Bluntly gay, and even more bluntly shady, this place is not for the faint of heart. It is the place where women have the chance to dance on tables to their favorite Pink hit. If not, maybe you were just drunk enough.

As a fruity fly, I have encoun-
tered many situations where I was sure that the drag queen would jump on my sexy. I have peed in door-less bathroom stalls in front of hoards of horned men—yes, I have left waiting outside behind metal bars as my male friends drink and giggle. Another real-ity show I have been grasped by the collar for acci-
dentally wearing an outfit some people would consider ungodly. It was divine. Yet, such drama can be avoided if, as a fruity fly, you know where and when to go. But you still do not have to excuse the sanctity codes violated at this East Side dive. Luckily, The Cock is set aside the Uptown Gay Bars. My neighborhood bar of choice, The Urge gives women the chance to meet and mingle with new people not looking for a quick hookup, but instead with gay men caring to exchange movie reviews or a bit of gossip. Or, ask for the go-dance Enzo—he will definitely give you a good time.

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11 Opinions

"Fruit Fly Life"

Girl Friendly Gay Bars"
Although Prospect Park is a relatively unimpressive green speck on the MTA map, it actually rivals the almighty Central Park in size and appeal. The beautiful Prospect Park not only has a 60-acre lake with paddle boats to rent, but it’s also home to the Prospect Park Zoo, Botanical Garden, rolling green meadows (who knew?), a carousel and more hidden musical festivals and drum circles than you could guess. And to top it off, you’ll find more locals there than tourists!