Ten Years of Vagina
Eve Ensler at The New School

By JUSTINE HARRISON

One of the most admirable aspects of The New School’s student body is our interest in world events such as the November election and the furthering of gay rights. In this vein, The New School and the V-Day Campaign present The Vagina Monologues.

Although the production is an annual event, an interesting aspect of this year’s showings is that the playwright, Eve Ensler, will be visiting The New School on February 4. The event is celebrating the tenth anniversary of The Vagina Monologues. Ensler will speak about ending violence against women worldwide and her work with V-Day.

During the first few years of The Vagina Monologues, Ensler performed it as a one woman production. She also wrote Necessary Targets about the meeting of American and Eastern European women and culture with the backdrop of post-war Bosnia. She compiled the powerful A Memoir, A Monologue, A Rant, and A Prayer, a compilation from the Until the Violence Stops seminar, featuring writings from women and men analyzing the devastating impact of sexism and violence against females worldwide. This play was also performed in conjunction with the February event on February 9 and 10. Her most recent publication is Insecure at Last: A Political Memoir.

The V-Day Campaign complements Ensler’s background and objectives well. The organization has gained momentum within the last few years. Its specific interest is ending violence against women internationally, especially in Africa. It has commitments towards stopping female genital mutilation and the use of rape as a weapon of war and control.

“Last year’s campaign focused on the Democratic Re- public of Congo”

Last year’s campaign focused on preventing aggression towards females in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. All of the proceeds of the presentation of The Vagina Monologues will go to charity, including V-Day.

For a university community, one of the best aspects of producing The Vagina Monologues, aside from spreading its feminist message, is the flexibility of casting. There can be many cast members, because the scenes are self-contained monologues with introductions. Due to the successful turn out for auditions in December, the

continent

Jonathan Veitch, Lang Dean, to Step Down
Neil Gordon, Writing Chair, Takes His Place

By PETER HOSSLIN

For Jonathan Veitch, Dean of Lang, work can be rough. His job, he said, is “75 percent” management. He runs a gauntlet of back-to-back meetings every weekday. He has to “block out scholarly time.” He feels embarrassed that he has to tell his colleagues, “I write memos all day.”

He usually does not leave the office until 9 or 10 p.m. His three kids complain that he does not spend enough time with them. But at the end of June, after six months as Acting Dean and “four years of hard labor,” Veitch will step down from his post. Neil Gordon, Chair of Lang’s Writing Department, will take his place.

“I’ve accomplished what I’ve wanted to accomplish,” Veitch said, during an interview in his office. “It’s a different set of challenges now.”

Thirteen faculty members, all full-time or tenure, were nominated as candidates for Dean, according to e-mails from faculty and staff about the search. Every nominee except Gordon declined the nomination. After meeting

Square Closed
Villagers balk at ‘privatized’ park

By CONNIE BRUNIS

Washington Square Park’s transformation began in December when sawhorses and crowd-control partitions appeared. The once bustling park is now broken into sections by chain-link fences, while bulldozers finish their demolition of Central Plaza, just behind the iconic arch.

The park is undergoing renovation in order to make it more user-friendly and environmentally sound, according to a speech Mayor Michael Bloomberg made last April. The Parks Department is separately shutting down each half of the park for a total of two years minimum, while they level the plaza and walkways, build a four-foot tall fence around the perimeter of the entire park, and renovate the fountain by moving it twenty feet to the east and adding larger water jets.

Despite the Parks Department’s enthusiasm to renovate the park, residents in the Village never saw a need to make such drastic changes. On December 3, Justice Joan A. Madden decided to allow construction to begin on the park

Continued on Page 3

Construction in park will continue for two years

Continued on Page 6

Published by the Eugene Lang College Writing Department

FREE PRESS

Issue 8, Jan 29-Feb 11

Copyright © 2008

The New School for Liberal Arts

Eugene Lang College

Cover of the New School
Letters to the Editor

**Re: Response to Lang Attrition**

I have been interested in the discussion in the New School Free Press about freshman attrition. As the parent of a freshman who has just dropped out after the fall semester, I can add one factor leading to attrition: the lack of work-study jobs.

My daughter was eligible for federal work-study. The financial aid award letter gave a suggested figure of $1000 per semester to come from work-study earnings, and warned that earnings would depend on the hours worked and would not be deducted from the tuition bill. The letter did not specify how many hours she could work, so we believed she would be able to work part-time. However, she had to work full-time in order to pay for food and all living expenses, and as you can imagine, that didn’t go far. I can’t help but think that her experience in New York would have been different if she had even a little more discretionary income.

I urge you to look into the work-study program. If you do not have jobs available, don’t suggest to students that they will have $1000 per semester in earnings. To those of us with tight budgets, that $1000 may make a big difference. At the very least, warn students and parents that jobs are scarce and not guaranteed.

Sincerely,
Susan Shock
Baltimore, MD

**Re: Response to Student Health Services**

Although in the last issue I was grossly misquoted by the newspaper staff (I suggest the usage of an ellipse to signify when you are removing a large portion of a quotation), I have decided rather than try to elaborate on my previous discussion in the New School Free Press, we’ve worked closely with him over the years, and can’t think of anyone better suited to this position.

In the classroom, Gordon is known for his intelligence, and for pushing his students to excel. He cares intensely about the educational experience at Lang, and the Free Press thinks that can only mean good things for the future of this strange, cool and no-longer-tiny college.

Lang was lucky to have Veitch, and when he returns from sabatical, we look forward to his graceful classroom sclloquizing. Gordon has a hard act to follow, but we’re confident he’ll do a great job, and get really stressed out in the process.

Changer Leadership at Lang’s Helm

At the end of June, Lang Dean Jonathan Veitch will go and we will be sad to bid him farewell. Veitch accomplished a great deal in his four and a half years at Lang’s helm. He helped build Lang’s advising office and oversaw the hiring of around forty full-time faculty, among other things. Part of his success was his ability to collaborate closely with faculty and staff to cut through the University’s disorganized and financially starved bureaucracy in order to get fledgling projects off the ground. But what really set Veitch apart was his ability to articulate a vision of a more rigorous and yet more inclusive college.

Simply put, he transformed this place from a small, ad-hoc operation into a competitive college with a wide range of unique programs, and kept its soul intact.

There were some rocky moments, however, like the time a mob of angry students protested the school’s lack of public space at a Dean’s Forum early in his tenure. But the fact is, the tallest administrator at Lang was the nicest, as well—able to navigate irate students and stingy administrators with the cool and kind demeanor we wish all administrators had.

Lang, of course, is a work in progress. We love that Neil Gordon, the Dean-apparent, is a successful novelist and screenwriter, got his doctorate in French literature and drinks espresso with Robert Redford. But next year, he may be too busy guiding Lang on the path to academic righteousness to keep all of us in our places.

In Gordon ready and willing to throw down as Lang’s top administrator? We think so. As editors and writers of the New School Free Press, we’ve worked closely with him over the years, and can’t think of anyone better suited to this position.

In the classroom, Gordon is known for his intelligence, and for pushing his students to excel. He cares intensely about the educational experience at Lang, and the Free Press thinks that can only mean good things for the future of this strange, cool and no-longer-tiny college.

Lang was lucky to have Veitch, and when he returns from sabatical, we look forward to his graceful classroom sclloquizing. Gordon has a hard act to follow, but we’re confident he’ll do a great job, and get really stressed out in the process.

**Editorials & Letters**

**The New School Free Press**

Published by the Eugene Lang College Writing Department

Eugene Lang College, The New School For Liberal Arts

Room 070, 65 West 11th St.

New York, NY 10011

212-229-2250

freepress@newschool.edu

**Staff**

Editor in Chief: Hannah Rappeleye

Managing Editor: Linh Tran

Production Chief: Kayley Hoffman

Production Deputies: Cosette Bruhns, Gabrielle Tigan

Photography Editor: Sam Lewis

Photography Deputy: Kate Witke

News Editor: Kevin Dugan

News Deputy: Amelia Granger

Arts and Culture Editor: Amber Sutherland

Arts Deputy: Joe Veix

Opinions Editor: Elisabeth Garber-Paul

Opinions Deputy: Julia Schweizer

Copy Chief: Josh Karp

Staff Writers: Courtney Nichols, Lauren Taylor, Adam Solomon

Reporters:

Liz Adams, Erika Allen, Wendy Biddlecombe, Doug Briggs, Helen Buxnisk, Elisa Bynum, Emily Cacciatore, Lindsey Galoob, Jika Gonzalez, Kate Hanselman, Justine Harrison, Helaina Houzé, Jordan Katz, Katherine Kims, Rachel Knopfler, Pat Korte, Yuki-Jennifer Kurumi, Elizabeth Machinides, Rob Buchanan, Sean Elder, Adam Nichols, Lauren Taylor, Adam Solomon

Except for 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 censored for length and clarity. The New School Free Press is not responsible for unsigned letters or submissions.

**Letters to the Editor**

**Re: Response to Lang Attrition**

I have been interested in the discussion in the New School Free Press about freshman attrition. As the parent of a freshman who has just dropped out after the fall semester, I can add one factor leading to attrition: the lack of work-study jobs.

My daughter was eligible for federal work-study. The financial aid award letter gave a suggested figure of $1000 per semester to come from work-study earnings, and warned that earnings would depend on the hours worked and would not be deducted from the tuition bill. The letter did not specify how many hours she could work, so we believed she would be able to work part-time. However, she had to work full-time in order to pay for food and all living expenses, and as you can imagine, that didn’t go far. I can’t help but think that her experience in New York would have been different if she had even a little more discretionary income.

I urge you to look into the work-study program. If you do not have jobs available, don’t suggest to students that they will have $1000 per semester in earnings. To those of us with tight budgets, that $1000 may make a big difference. At the very least, warn students and parents that jobs are scarce and not guaranteed.

Sincerely,
Susan Shock
Baltimore, MD

**Re: Response to Student Health Services**

Although in the last issue I was grossly misquoted by the newspaper staff (I suggest the usage of an ellipse to signify when you are removing a large portion of a quotation), I have decided rather than try to elaborate on my previous quote to urge the staff to take up a subject which I find more pressing and urgent than the “liberal” level of Lang.

Student Medical Services is a sham. If The New School wants to be respected as a university, it has to move its medical services out of the closet in Loeb and place it in a centralized building and NOT in a room, with adequate space to accommodate MORE students. It is absolutely inappropriate and irresponsible to operate Student Medical Services and Counseling Services in the way they are operated now. Both spaces deserve private waiting rooms and more space in order to account for the necessary privacy required to run both services appropriately.

As a student, I have been turned away by Medical Services in the midst of a health crisis because they told me they had to prioritize appointments and that mine was not a top priority; there are literally dozens of stories like this that I have heard from fellow classmates. This is appalling. Whether it is because of a lack of space or competence, Medical Services or some branch of this university needs to take responsibility for its students. If you cannot accommodate the medical emergencies of students, then you should not be an accredited university. The tuition is outrageously expensive for the shoddy medical care that we students receive. It is a travesty to be paying so much money for so little.

As a student who enjoyed their experiences with classes and teachers at Lang, I am sad to say that the inefficiency of the university has motivated me to transfer and I will no longer be a student here next semester. Also, I believe that Counseling Services has an amazing staff but suffers from the same malady as Health Services: its appallingly inappropriate placement in a student residence hall. Although I am leaving, I still sincerely hope for the sake of other students that we demand the care and attention we deserve and that we have paid for.

Sincerely,
Gretchen Van Dyck
Lang Sophomore
Veitch leaves, Gordon rises

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

with faculty and reading Gordon’s mission statement, New School President Bob Kropf’s assistant, Ben Lee decided to appoint him as Dean.

“Neil is a gifted intellectual, a superb teacher and a natural leader and manager,” Kerrey said. “He also loves the college, has a great vision for its future, and has deep connections with New York City.”

Gordon, a journalist and novelist who has taught at Lang for six years and has served as the Writing Department chair for four, is still working out the terms of his contract. He declined to be interviewed for this article, but he said that he will sign his contract on February 6, according to Kerrey, Gordon will begin serving as Dean on July 1.

Veitch entered his tenure as Acting Dean in Spring 2004, after the former Dean, Mary Rawlinson, suddenly quit—too overwhelmed, according to Kerrey, to continue.

“Veitch” pushes back when he thinks he’s right and I’m wrong,” Kerrey said. “He’s very smart, very tenacious and cares deeply about the success of the college.”

Veitch was a mandatory assistant to hire more staff and full-time faculty, connect with the city’s “cultural institutions,” start “civic engagement” programs and boost the college’s international focus. Since 2004, the college has hired 43 full-time faculty members, according to Assistant Dean Amos Himmelstein, and an adviser for every student class.

The school has created partnerships with major museums in the city. There are numerous study-abroad options. The college also started the I Have a Dream (IHAD) program, which holds act- ing workshops at an elementary school near a low-income housing project in Chelsea.

“Jonathan had the vision to reconnect Lang to what was always part of the school’s original mission, and that was service and education,” Cecilia Rubinho, who teaches acting classes at Lang and helps run IHAD workshops, wrote in an e-mail referring to IHAD.

“There is a new ‘civic engagement’ director, Joseph Heathcott, who has $100,000 a year for the next five years, Veitch said, to develop programs that address prison reform, homelessness and immigration.”

When the semester ends, Veitch will take a year-long sabatical to work on his second book, about how once-pivotal American sites like Howland- burg are memorial- ized, remembered and often forgotten. Then he will return to Lang and teach.

Veitch, a strikingly tall man of 48, with a calm voice and calculating manner, was born into a family of actors and grew up in Los Ange- les. After he graduated from Stan- ford as an undergraduate, he said, he embarked on a quest to see America from the “inside-out.” He worked on a dairy farm in Nebraska. He unloaded fish onto docks in Massachusetts. For two- month stints, he labored aboard a tugboat plying the Mississippi.

One day, a tugboat captain told Veitch about Mark Twain’s Life On the Mississippi. “If you’ve got enough time to read, you’ve got enough time to clean the bathroom,” Veitch said. “He could tell that I had a college education, that I didn’t need this job. So he kinda rode me most of the time. And when I got off, he handed me the book back. And this is a guy, I’m sure, who had never finished high school, had never heard of Mark Twain, if you can imagine that,” he continued. “He said, ‘You know, this guy Mark Twain really knows what he’s talking about.’ Wow, that’s high praise—from a riverboat captain.”

After touring the United States for fifteen months, Veitch pur- sued a PhD in American Studies at Harvard. He moved on to teach in that field at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

During faculty meetings at Mad- ison, Veitch got a taste of what university administrators were like: “They sounded kind of weird to me,” he said. “Full of clichés.”

When I became Dean, I was told that my job is to find arful ways to say ‘No’ to people, so you don’t alienate them,” he said. “The hap- py circumstance of this last four or five years is that I’ve been able to say ‘Yes’ a lot.”

Kerrey Comments on Obama Draw Fire

Reporter “got it wrong,” Kerrey says

By SAM DENLINGER

New School President Bob Ker- rey recently drew criticism from numerous newspapers and blogs when he was asked for his opinion of Ill- inois senator and presidential candidate Barack Obama. His response was criticized for drawing on Sunday. Denlinger says it potentially unsettling attention to the can- didate’s Muslim roots.

On December 16, a reporter for the Obama World Herald asked Kerrey whether or not he thought Obama is quali- fied to be president. Kerrey said that he thought Obama was, but further comments led to accusa- tions that Kerrey was playing on Americans’ Islamophobia. Kerrey has endorsed and campaigned for Obama’s chief Democratic rival, New York Senator Hillary Clinton.

“An appeal that appeals to him, but I like the fact that his name is Barack Hussein Obama, and that his father was a Muslim and that his paternal grandmother is a Muslim. There’s a billion people on the planet that are Muslims, and I think that ex- perience is a big deal,” Kerrey said.

“Since the beginning of the presidential race, rumors have circulated around Obama’s back- ground. One chain e-mail makes the false claim that while living in Indonesia, Obama attended a Wahabi madrassa, a school that teaches children an extreme, and violent, form of Islam. The e-mail says that Obama learned the same “radical teaching that is fol- lowed by the Muslim terrorists who are now waging Jihad against the western world.”

Kerrey is trying to “publicly push the Muslims smears against Obama, and he is also ratcheting up the rhetoric,” said Ari Melber in the Huffington Post.

But Kerrey insists that his com- ments were not fairly interpreted. “An appeal that appeals to him, but I like the fact that his name is Barack Hussein Obama.”

Following the incident, Ker- rey sent Obama a personal let- ter of apology, and has publicly expressed admiration for the senator on multiple occasions, calling him both likable and well- qualified. “You are exceptionally qualified by experience and judgment to be president of the United States,” Kerrey said to Obama in his letter. “You inspire my highest hopes for that office’s potential. That it be used as a force for good in America and the world.”

Kerrey recognizes that, after en- dorsing Senator Clinton, anything he says about Obama is open to political interpretation. “So, I should have merely answered ‘yes’ and left it at that,” he said.

Park Construction

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

street level, shrinking the area by 25 percent. The repair plans and subse- quent relocation of the fountain has come under fire from the start of the construction planning. Ac- cording to the American Institute of Architecture, who are not in- volved with the park’s renovation, but asked to complete a second evaluation of the construction plans by city councilmember Alan Gerson, the proposed construc- tion on the fountain comes with several plumbing and foundation concerns. Critics of the city’s plans, like Jonathan Greenberg, who is a plaintiff in a lawsuit against the renovation plans, also claim that the city will spend $800,000 more than if the fountain were left in its place.

The Parks’ Department is only contributing $87 million to the park’s reconstruction, which is expected to last 15 years, ac- cording to the Village Voice. The rest of the money is expected from the city and outside funders, like the Tisch fam- ily, who are planning to contribute $25 million to the construction, according to a ruling by Judge Emily Jane Goodman. The ruling also states that in return, the Tisch family will get a plaque on either side of the fountain, and the fountain is to be renamed Tisch fountain.

Many outraged community members say that this will privi- lige the park. One West Village resident, who asked to be iden- tified as K., said “Putting a fence around the park is like get- ting a name on the fountain: It’s a ‘Keep Out’ sign.”

Teach-in On Global Warming

On Thursday, January 31, The New School will hold a day-long conference on climate change in Tishman Audito- rium. The effort, in conjunction with over 1,000 other colleges across the country, has been coordinated by Focus the Nation, an environmental non-profit organization, to stimulate discussion with the presidential candidates, scholars and world leaders on global warming.

The event begins at 10:00 a.m., and features nearly 30 speakers. At 10:15, Joel Towers on Food and Energy, will speak at 12:30 on Climate Change. Nevin Cohen speaks at 1:00, Alex Gershberg will speak on Carbon Taxes. Alex Shwartz speaks at 4:00 on Housing Policy and Climate Change. Zishan Ugurlu will speak at 4:00 on Chekov and Climate. At 6:00, there will be a Round-Table Discussion on Environmental Justice.

For more information, visit www.focusthenation.org

News & Features

3
All You Can Eat
Dining, conspicuous consumption style

By YUKI-JENNIFER KURUMI

Affordable. All-You-Can-Eat (AYCE) restaurants and buffets in a place as pricey as New York City raise doubts in the hearts and stomachs of New Yorkers. After all, the very idea of such establishments conjures confusing and frightening images: mysterious bits of unidentified meat, sauces bubbling with heavy ground cumin, a mass of MSQ overdoes. Besides, who wants to start worrying about how much the waiter’s been sitting out in the buffet?

But there is hope for Manhattanites. The following quality establishments have loyal customers returning for fine AYCE experiences worth more than what they pay for, for lunch and dinner. The AYCE option is a blessing—certainly for hungry students. Prices at these NSPICK puts start at $14 for unlimited sushi and top-quality, flavorful and filling meal with several different entrees.

Todai (6 E 32nd St, at Fifth Ave.; B/D/F/V/N/R/W Trains, 34th St. stop) Todai’s huge upscale buffet features raw seafood, barbecue, Japanese and Korean cuisines. The modern, two-floor restaurant with a bar spanning nearly a city block makes group seating possible even on busy weekends.

The AYCE buffet price ranges from $23.50 (weekend lunch) to $27.05 (weekend dinner). This is a wholesome experience to indulge in over 21 hot entrees (such as Chicken Teriyaki), 13 kinds of Sushi, 27 varieties of Sea Bass, Beef Rib with Korean (Galbi Sauce), 25 salads, 4 soups and there is even a Hibiachi hotplate island where cooks can prepare meats and fries in front of you. And lastly, there are forty types of desserts.

The exhibit will be open until Feb. 3. The Whitney

Virtual Village
Faking it in MTV’s LES

By JOE VENK

“Niece bear,”
He walked up close to me. If it was real life, I’d have seen pock-

“It may be time to worry about how much the waiter’s been sitting out in the buffet.”

he left saying, “Yall som3 wak azz nerds.” During another visit, I walked by Katt’s Deli and the familiar halo
glow of the nearby American Apparel, but could not enter neither. While MTV hasn’t implemented e-commerce as of publication, a cause in their user agreement suggests it’s a possibility. On near
ey every visit, LES.was a ghost town. I wandered the streets look-

ing for other users, while stop-
lights changed for nonexistent cars. LES looks like the Lower East Side without cars, people or condos. It’s creepy.

Ignoring MTV’s embarrassing at-
ttempts to market to a demographic of i8 and over kids who have a thirst for subversive music and an a
eration to natural light, there are flaws with their program at a base level. The survival of networking websites hinges on gathering as massive a user base as possible. The site must be easily accessible, often sacrificing features and aes-
thetics.

MTV’s bet will pay off, and millions of pre-teens with exces-
sive amounts of free time will join the network by lying about their age (users must be at least 18). At the moment, the LES website looks like late-90s dot com opti-
mism, and we all know how that turned out.

Social Research’s board member Edith Kurzweil pub-
lished her book Full Circle: A Memoir, chronicling her youth in

For years, Lee has received the role after the lead

He received the role after the lead

positioning in the city as the number one

small and unsatisfac-
ying. Yuka’s AYCE deal ($79.95) has been around since the early 1980s, serving customers a genera-

mal variety of real Japanese sushi.

Popular choices are the salmon, special rolls and spicy tuna. The
cour have offers for fresh ingredients. They price for.
seasonal special sushi, popular but pricey, and the aver-
age serving is small and unsat-

yukas

The sushi chef prepares orders at brisk

speed, to keep sushi fresh and

delicious.

The only downside to the deal is that later
can be shuddering, the hanging origami
cranes and retro high-colored wallpaper provide a comfy atmo-
sphere.

Okay. A recent conversation with a

and Japanese sushi.

Popular choices are the salmon, special rolls and spicy tuna. The
cour have offers for fresh ingredients. They price for.
seasonal special sushi, popular but pricey, and the aver-
age serving is small and unsat-

yukas

The sushi chef prepares orders at brisk

speed, to keep sushi fresh and

delicious.

The only downside to the deal is that later
can be shuddering, the hanging origami
cranes and retro high-colored wallpaper provide a comfy atmo-
sphere.

Okay. A recent conversation with a

and Japanese sushi.

Popular choices are the salmon, special rolls and spicy tuna. The
cour have offers for fresh ingredients. They price for.
seasonal special sushi, popular but pricey, and the aver-
age serving is small and unsat-

yukas

The sushi chef prepares orders at brisk

speed, to keep sushi fresh and

delicious.

The only downside to the deal is that later
can be shuddering, the hanging origami
cranes and retro high-colored wallpaper provide a comfy atmo-
sphere.

Okay. A recent conversation with a

and Japanese sushi.

Popular choices are the salmon, special rolls and spicy tuna. The
cour have offers for fresh ingredients. They price for.
seasonal special sushi, popular but pricey, and the aver-
age serving is small and unsat-

yukas

The sushi chef prepares orders at brisk

speed, to keep sushi fresh and

delicious.

The only downside to the deal is that later
can be shuddering, the hanging origami
cranes and retro high-colored wallpaper provide a comfy atmo-
sphere.

Okay. A recent conversation with a

and Japanese sushi.

Popular choices are the salmon, special rolls and spicy tuna. The
cour have offers for fresh ingredients. They price for.
seasonal special sushi, popular but pricey, and the aver-
age serving is small and unsat-

yukas

The sushi chef prepares orders at brisk

speed, to keep sushi fresh and

delicious.

The only downside to the deal is that later
can be shuddering, the hanging origami
cranes and retro high-colored wallpaper provide a comfy atmo-
sphere.

Okay. A recent conversation with a

and Japanese sushi.

Popular choices are the salmon, special rolls and spicy tuna. The
cour have offers for fresh ingredients. They price for.
seasonal special sushi, popular but pricey, and the aver-
age serving is small and unsat-

yukas

The sushi chef prepares orders at brisk

speed, to keep sushi fresh and

delicious.

The only downside to the deal is that later
can be shuddering, the hanging origami
cranes and retro high-colored wallpaper provide a comfy atmo-
sphere.

Okay. A recent conversation with a

and Japanese sushi.

Popular choices are the salmon, special rolls and spicy tuna. The
cour have offers for fresh ingredients. They price for.
seasonal special sushi, popular but pricey, and the aver-
age serving is small and unsat-

yukas

The sushi chef prepares orders at brisk

speed, to keep sushi fresh and

delicious.

The only downside to the deal is that later
can be shuddering, the hanging origami
cranes and retro high-colored wallpaper provide a comfy atmo-
sphere.

Okay. A recent conversation with a

and Japanese sushi.

Popular choices are the salmon, special rolls and spicy tuna. The
cour have offers for fresh ingredients. They price for.
seasonal special sushi, popular but pricey, and the aver-
age serving is small and unsat-

yukas

The sushi chef prepares orders at brisk

speed, to keep sushi fresh and

delicious.

The only downside to the deal is that later
can be shuddering, the hanging origami
cranes and retro high-colored wallpaper provide a comfy atmo-
sphere.

Okay. A recent conversation with a

and Japanese sushi.

Popular choices are the salmon, special rolls and spicy tuna. The
cour have offers for fresh ingredients. They price for.
seasonal special sushi, popular but pricey, and the aver-
age serving is small and unsat-

yukas

The sushi chef prepares orders at brisk

speed, to keep sushi fresh and

delicious.

The only downside to the deal is that later
can be shuddering, the hanging origami
cranes and retro high-colored wallpaper provide a comfy atmo-
sphere.

Okay. A recent conversation with a

and Japanese sushi.

Popular choices are the salmon, special rolls and spicy tuna. The
cour have offers for fresh ingredients. They price for.
seasonal special sushi, popular but pricey, and the aver-
age serving is small and unsat-

yukas

The sushi chef prepares orders at brisk

speed, to keep sushi fresh and

delicious.

The only downside to the deal is that later
can be shuddering, the hanging origami
cranes and retro high-colored wallpaper provide a comfy atmo-
sphere.
The Lang Theatre Collective is going digital for the Spring 2008 semester. As part of an effort to diversify, the LTC will announce a call for submissions of short films. Headed by Michael Lincoln and Jared, the theatre is looking for innovative video makers to present at the upcoming 6th Avenue Theatre on the afternoon of December 1st. The call for submissions is open to the public and will run until February 1st.

As part of its effort to bring together artists from different fields, the Theatre Collective is considering hosting a series of gallery events in the building. These events would be open to all artists and would provide a platform for them to present their work. The Theatre Collective is committed to promoting the work of artists and is looking for ways to support this goal.

The Theatre Collective is interested in exploring new ways to engage its audience and is open to suggestions for future events. If you have ideas or would like to get involved, please contact the Theatre Collective at theatercollective@lang.edu.
V-Day Celebrates

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

cast consists of about 25 women. About five of the seven schools are represented by cast members. Some staff are involved, including Gene Puno-Deleon, Alisa McGee and Rosalie Siler.

The production is directed by student Lucas Brooks, co-directed by Matt Klein, and stage managed by Elaine Fan. The dates and times of The Vagina Monologues are Thursday, February 14 and Friday, February 15 at 8 p.m.

Right: Eve Ensler, writer of the Vagina Monologues

Writers’ Strike Famine

The Reality Television Diet

By CHARLIE LEVERIDGE

With the Writers strike still in full force, the scripted options for TV addicts like myself are few and far between. What is a poor TV junkie to do? One option is to watch old scripted favorites on DVD (I plan on rewatching Veronica Mars and Strangers With Candy for the millenium time). For those who’d prefer to watch first-run shows, the only choice is the new batch of Reality TV shows and the current seasons of returning favorites. Here are my picks for the most interesting reality programs to tide you over until this thoroughly inconvenient strike finally ends.

• Rock of Love season 2 on VH1:

Everyone’s favorite house-soaked, white-trash, hard rock dating show is back! This season Bret’s potential lovers look even trashier than last year’s. My early favorite is Angelique, a lovely, collagen-enhanced young French woman who may or may not have been born a man.

• Celebrity Rehab with Dr. Drew on VH1:

In this new VH “Celebrality” program, a group of sub-lebrities undergo serious medical and emotional treatments to overcome various addictions. Celebrity Rehab features the always amazing Brigitte Nielsen and Chyna Doll from VH’s Surreal Life as well as former porn star/California Governor candidate Mary Carey and the dude who played Kenickie in Grease. The show is alternately hilarious and terribly sad, but most of all it is embarrassing for the cast and for the viewers. A less embarrassing and much more serious reality program about addiction is the documentary-style series Intervention on A&E.

• True Life on MTV:

Each episode of True Life is a different mini-doc on a group of 15 to 30 year olds dealing with a specific social issue. This is the only show on MTV with any redeeming qualities. It is not, however the only show on MTV that I enjoy.

• Project Runway on Bravo:

PR is every New School student’s favorite reality show. It’s how we explain which college we attend to people. The fourth season of the show has all the elements that made the show a success, but nothing particularly new or interesting. To make things worse, this season features the most obnoxious designer in the show’s history, the whiny cockatoo-haired Christian Siriano. Since watching the show is the closest anyone at our school comes to having school spirit, we might as well keep tuning in, but with the knowledge that Runway has definitely jumped the shark.

New York is

OPPORTUNITY

THE NEW SCHOOL

is New York

Thinking about graduate school? Think about The New School. You’re already a part of New York City and our community. Take the opportunity to continue your studies here with our distinguished faculty—in the capital of media, design, culture, activism, urban policy, and just about everything else.

GRADUATE PROGRAMS AT THE NEW SCHOOL

Design
MArch Architecture
MArch/MFA (dual degree) in Architecture and Lighting Design
MA in Design and Technology
MA in Fine Arts
MA in the History of Decorative Arts and Design
MA in Lighting Design
MA in Photography

Interdisciplinary Studies
MA in Historical Studies
MA in Liberal Studies
MA in Media Studies
MA in TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages)
MA/MS in International Affairs
MS in Global Finance
MA in Creative Writing
Management and Policy
MS in Health Services Management and Policy
MS in Nonprofit Management
MS in Organizational Change Management
MS in Urban Policy Analysis and Management

Drama
MA in Acting
MA in Directing
MA in Playwriting

Music
MM and Graduate Diplomas offered in Classical Guitar
Collaborative Piano: Vocal
Composition
Harpischord
Orchstral Conducting
Orchstral Instruments
Piano
Theory
Voice

Social Sciences
MA/PhD in Anthropology
MA/PhD in Economics
MA/PhD in Philosophy
MA/PhD in Political Science
MA/PhD in Psychology
MA/PhD in Clinical Psychology
MA/PhD in Sociology

Find out more at www.newschool.edu/graduateprograms

Have Any Thoughts?

Want to submit your work?

Let us know!

freepress@newschool.edu
Opinions

Revolution From Within
By Adam Solomon

America needs to “escape from the shadow of recession” and “move on.” Or at least that’s what an article in the January issue of The Economist said.

One comment that should be stirring to most New School students is this statement from the article: “America has changed greatly since 1968. Students are concerned about getting good jobs rather than changing the system. The anti-war demonstrations are insignificant compared with the draft-fueled marches of the 1960s.” This perception of apathy is not entirely unfounded. People seem to be fully entrenched in the system.

The New York Times concedes that “the Bush administration has told reporters that he gets ad- diction news is a joke. The medium now will be harder to get, they told me, because banks will be more conservative with their lending practices. Where all you needed to used was proof of income, now you’ll need an excellent credit score. No more impromptu shopping sprees—open a credit card without a count instead.” Planning on how fast to start thinking about building up your credit soon, or you’ll find out what paycheck-to-paycheck really means.

Many students in the article were complaining that the neoliberal mentality and expressed the need for a political outlet beyond the Demo- cratic Party. The US economy will not be derailed by a group of student protesters, no matter how large. The same goes for the two-party system.

The disappointing part of reading the article on SDS was that there was no mention from members of an immediate desire to achieve some common goal, or to help anyone. Their goal seems to be to radically re-define the economy and politics of the US, and start from scratch. There are problems with the system, as there always will be, but there is also great possibility to change it. There are elections every year, and young people can enter most of them. We need not worry about health care, wealth and our role of international problems before trying to change the system. If we want to change the percep- tion of our generation, we have to do it without parents built. Young people need to present an identity to our generation, we will have the freedom to choose not to have one they cannot be.

We can assume the majority of the students will vote demo- crater in the upcoming presidential election. The democratic candi- date will be neither Barack Obama or Hillary Clinton. This is a choice between generations: Hillary Clinton, Barack Obama, or George W. Bush, or being to respond about 1961 and 70's poli- tics that “there’s no such thing as change.”

The current administration does not listen to the public and Bush has told reporters that he gets ad- diction from Idi. To affect the politi- cal system we need to enter the system, but with fresh ideas and hope, as Barack Obama has.

Networks do not even mention that “there’s no such thing as change.”

For the past decade, banks have been giving out subprime loans. These are the ones that begin be- low the prime rate and increase their interest over the time of the loan. Banks were generous with their money, giving it to “anyone with a pulse,” according to one Wall Street exec- utive who asked not to be named. As a result, many were given loans that they couldn’t afford, and now there are a record num- bers of foreclosures in the United States. Banks are losing money because of defaulted loans—Citi- group recently announced an $8 billion write-down, announcing the adjusted value as $20 billion.

Although politicians have been...
Due to the fact that I’m Jewish and between the ages of 18-26, I was able to go on a Birthright trip—along with thousands of other people each year. Birthright’s goal is to create more of a Jewish identity, and they do this by providing a free trip to Israel.

I spent eleven days in Israel, and had all my airfare board and most of my meals paid for. You could do the whole trip for around 200 shekels, or about $50.

We spent most of our time in Jerusalem—the largest city in the country—where we met our traveling companions: a group of eight Israeli soldiers who stayed with us for five days.

Spending time with the soldiers provided interesting insight into being a 20-year-old Israeli. When a citizen turns 18, they join the Israel Defense Force and are there until they turn either 20 for women or 21 for men. I tried asking a few questions about settlements and what life in the military is like, but it seemed that the military was the last thing the soldiers wanted to talk about. The conversation soon switched to asking Omer, the soldier who stayed with my roommate Matt and me, how to say “that’s what she said” in Hebrew.

Oh, and it’s “Ze Ma She Hi Amra.”

There are two things on the trip I’ll never forget: going to the Western Wall and being in the Dead Sea. One religious, one fun, but both were once-in-a-lifetime experiences.

I don’t consider myself to be religious, but even I, the most secular of all the group members, could feel something when I pressed my hand against the Wall. We went during Shabbat, a day of inactivity in the Jewish religion to honor when God took a day off from creating the universe. It goes from Friday sundown to Saturday sundown, and during the most holy time of the week, we went to the most holy of sites for a Jew. After waiting a few minutes to inch my way up to the Wall, I closed my eyes, put my hand up to it, said a quick something under my breath, and walked back to the group’s meeting point, being careful to walk backwards so as not to put my back to the Wall.

I looked around and saw hundreds of rabbis and other believers swaying and chanting, and I felt a strange mixture of respect for them believing in something so much and pity because they did believe in something that much. It was my very first religious crisis!

The Dead Sea is fun for only about ten minutes, and then you realize how much it stings. After walking down a mile-long road from the pits where my friends and I slathered ourselves in mud because it’s supposedly good for your skin, we got to the beach, and with a Maccabee Beer in hand, I laid on the water as if I was sitting on a therapist’s sofa and just floated. Of course, I scraped my hand pretty badly on the jagged, salty floor and accidentally drank the water. But other than that, it was great.

On my flight back to Newark from Tel Aviv, in between reading The Unbearable Lightness of Being and not being able to sleep, I thought about everything that happened over the past 11 days, and was left amazed that I had actually gone to Israel, my “homeland.” Whether the trip changed me or not, I have no idea, but I am left knowing that I do have a better understanding of what being Jewish is about and with a desire to go back. And maybe even have another religious crisis, if I’m lucky.

Clockwise from top: The Israeli flag; A group tour guide, Meisha, praying with one of the Birthright participants at Masada, an ancient site overlook- ing the Dead Sea; The Western Wall from a rooftop in the Old City of Jeru- salem. The Dome of the Rock, a site where Muslims pray, can be seen in the back left; A young boy eating Shawarma, which consists of lamb, lettuce, onion, hummus and tomato, at a restaurant in the town of Tsfat; A child picking himself up during a game with friends.