Construction Continues at 133 MacDougal Street

By Andrew Kloster ’10

Staff Writer

"[It is this] hallowed ground in the region of Washington Square ... that we must look for the real birthplace of the American drama," noted theater critic William Archer in 1921. Archer was referring to the Provincetown Playhouse, 133-139 MacDougal Street, and the site of current construction to expand the law school. The historic theater was conceived by amateur writers and actors, including Anne Bancroft, Julie Harris and Nobel Prize-winning Eugene O’Neill, and its first performance took place 91 years ago, three days after the performance took place. Eugene O'Neill, and its first performance took place 91 years ago, three days after the performance took place.

Despite this constant change, the building has always been used as a theater. The groups that held the lease produced Savoy operas, plays by Samuel Beckett, and Edward Albee’s first play in New York City.

In the early nineties, the Playhouse hit its high point. The groups that held the lease produced Savoy operas, plays by Samuel Beckett, and Edward Albee’s first play in New York City.

The new building is the product of a compromise between the local community and NYU. It took nearly three years of back-and-forth discussions before construction started a year and a half ago. When the doors opened in the summer of 2010, the building will house the law school’s numerous centers and institutes, most of which are currently housed in Furman Hall and the second floor of D’Agostino Hall.

In addition, however, 133-139 MacDougal will house a reconstructed Provincetown Playhouse that will be rented to the NYU Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development. Steinhardt had used the location since 1998 as a part of its Educational Theater program, presenting a series of events that included musical performances and classes.

The groups that held the lease produced Savoy operas, plays by Samuel Beckett, and Edward Albee’s first play in New York City.

The line stretched up the stairs, through the vestibule, out the doors of D’Agostino Hall and down 3rd Street. NYU students are used to long lines for things like food during finals, but this line was a little different. Students were queuing up for the swine-flu vaccine. Last Monday, NYU Law School of Law did its best to mitigate the spread of the disease, otherwise known as H1N1, between its students by distributing 250 free H1N1 vaccines at D’Agostino Commons.

H1N1 differs from the seasonal flu virus, most pointedly in that most people have not built up any antibodies yet, given the newness of the disease. In addition, the virus is very contagious, transmitted person-to-person by sneezing, coughing or touching. Students are especially susceptible because they maintain consistent close contact with others. Symptoms of H1N1 include high fever, cough, chills and headaches. Various groups that held the lease produced Savoy operas, plays by Samuel Beckett, and Edward Albee’s first play in New York City.

The seasonal flu vaccine continues to be available. Those infected with H1N1 are contagious beginning five to seven days after. The vaccine is not without controversy, however. It may cause an allergic reaction, especially in those who are allergic to eggs. Furthermore, some have reported mild problems including runny noses, nasal congestion, sore throat, a severe cough, chills and headaches. Various groups that held the lease produced Savoy operas, plays by Samuel Beckett, and Edward Albee’s first play in New York City.

For the second issue in a row, we have a restaurant review with a painfully obvious pun in the title.

Yes Fall Ball did actually happen. And we have a collage of pictures to prove it.

NYU Gives H1N1 Vaccine to Students

By Michael Mix ’11

Editor-in-Chief

The vaccine that was distributed on Monday is live but in attenuated form, and is sprayed into the nose, as opposed to the traditional flu vaccine, which is given as an arm injection. The Center for Disease Control (CDC) recommends that the vaccine should be given to pregnant women, people who care for young children, health-care and emergency-service personnel, and persons between 2-24 years of age.

The vaccine is not without controversy, however. It may cause an allergic reaction, especially in those who are allergic to eggs. Furthermore, some have reported mild problems including runny noses, nasal congestion, sore throat, a severe cough, chills and headaches. Various groups that held the lease produced Savoy operas, plays by Samuel Beckett, and Edward Albee’s first play in New York City.

Students eagerly await both the seasonal and the H1N1 vaccine last Monday at D’Agostino Hall. The school distributed 250 doses.

I was really sick during finals my first semester of law school and do not want that experience again,” said Daniele Escontias ’11.

The NYU Student Health Center is currently out of vaccinations, but expects to receive more in the coming weeks for those who did not receive the vaccine on Monday. The seasonal flu vaccine continues to be available. Those infected with H1N1 are contagious beginning the day before experiencing symptoms until five to seven days after.

The CDC recommends that those infected should stay home until 24 hours after the fever subsides.
The Fall Classic Between the Yankees and Phillies Was Certainly Not Must-See TV for Spiteful and Angry New York Mets Fans

By Michael Mix ‘11
Editor-in-Chief

Yankees vs. Phillies, New York vs. Philadelphia, Jet vs. Rollins. My worst nightmare. I am sure that many New York Mets fans around the country were angry or annoyed when the Yankees and Phillies clinched their respective league championship series, setting up a matchup that I lovingly dubbed “The Nightmare Series.” But for me, it goes beyond anger, instead, I have a deep-seated hatred for both teams.

I knew from an early age that I hated the Yankees. Even before I was officially a Mets fan, I knew the club never stood a chance against the eventual World Champions. I didn’t even like the team names, New York Yankees. Talk about pretentious, I can almost hear George Steinbrenner saying, “Yes, the great Yanks are here!”

I embarked on a long and tumultuous relationship with the Yankees. In 1996, the Yankees won their first World Series since 1978. I remember how growing up in Western Pennsylvania, my entire school got Yankee fever during that postseason except for me. I fell asleep during the clutching Game 6, but my Dad woke me up for the conclusion.

I will never forget watching Charles Hayes catch that final pop-up, dredging up the game I had to face the glaze of my classmates the next morning. 1996 was tough enough, but of course the Yankees had to go on and become a dynasty. In 1998, I was at my breaking point. I had to suffer through three more championships.

By that time, pretty much my entire school rooted for the pinstriped team, so I had to suffer alone. 2000 was the worst, the Yankees beat my beloved Mets in the World Series. I was convinced that the Mets had a chance to win the 2000 team was the worst Yankee squad of the dynasty, and the Mets were red hot after dispatching the Cardinals in five games in the National League Championship Series. But of course Timo Perez made a huge base-running mistake in Game 1, then Armando Benitez blew the save, and that was all she wrote.

Everything about the Yankees annoyed me. I didn’t like their payroll. I didn’t like the fact that I couldn’t hate Derek Jeter because he blustered and played the game the right way. I hated how they found players like Tino Martinez and Paul O’Neill who were so clutch in the playoffs. The Yankees were like the little runt in the division; you knew they had talent, but they never would amount to anything.

Then, when the Mets began to get better, 2006, the Phillies did as well. The Braves were at the end of their run, and it became clear that the Mets and the Phillies were the class of the division, starting in 2006. And soon after, I began to hate them with a passion I only reserved for the Yankees. They had players like Jimmy Rollins who ran his mouth. Their fans quickly became obnoxious. Their players would get into wars of words with Carlos Beltran. And worst of all, they beat the Mets for the division crown in 2007 and 2008. Similarly, I had several friends in college who were huge Phillies fans, contributing to my hatred. When the Phillies somehow won the World Series last year, it was hard to even watch games.

So when the Yankees and Phillies took the field for the World Series, I knew that I couldn’t watch. It was like watching Sarah Palin and Rush Limbaugh get together, and then follow me around for a week, constantly chirping in my ear. I watched bits and pieces, but I couldn’t bear knowing what was going on because I despised both teams. Now that it’s over, I can at least take solace in the fact that at least the Phillies lost, and some of my friends are really upset.

And when I encounter Yankee fans, I can always go back to my familiar refrain of “you bought the World Series.” As for my Mets, there’s always next year.

Go Public With Your Relationship, Literally

By Honey Reider

If I ever get hit it will be a miracle. It’s not that my qualifications are necessarily lacking in any significant way. Rather, it is this annoying urge I get to book in public places that I fear sooner or later lead to a citation/arrest for public indecency. And while some people may get off on tying the bar examiners during that whole character and fitness lot, I cannot subscribe to that particular brand of adventure. What I can get behind, though, is taking in the sweet sights, sounds, and smells of nature. While in the act.

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Both Democrats and Republicans Claim Victory in 2009 Elections, Maine Repeals Previous Legalization of Same-Sex Marriage

By Dennis Chaney '11 Staff Writer

Political junkies nationwide were generously granted one more quick fix by way of the 2009 elections last Tuesday, Nov. 3. Gubernatorial elections in New Jersey and Virginia, a special congressional election in New York's 23rd district and a vote on Maine's Marriage Equity Law were the contests drawing the most national attention. The results were as follows.

Republicans swept both Gubernatorial contests by wider than expected margins. Bob McDonnell (R) trounced Creigh Deeds (D), 59 percent to 41 percent to become governor of Virginia, while Chris Christie (R) defeated incumbent John Corzine (D), 49 percent to 45 percent in New Jersey. Highlight: in a moment of political high-strangeness, Christie voters could be heard chanting "Yes We Can" at the victory rally.

In New York's 23rd district, Bill Owens (D) defeated Conservative Party candidate Doug Hoffman, 49 percent to 46 percent, becoming the first Democrat to take the seat since 1857. Coincidently enough, Owens was also the first Democratic candidate since 1857 without a Republican opponent. To much surprise and the faint sound of erie laughter emanating from Wasilla, Alaska, the Republican candidate, Dede Scozzafava, had dropped out of the race the weekend before election day, ultimately backing Owens for the seat and proving that even a self-destructive, non-existent Republican party can garner 6 percent of the electorate.

In Maine, voters repealed the state's law legalizing gay marriage by the narrowest of margins, 51 percent to 48 percent. That very night, Maine voters also chose to expand a 10-year-old law allowing for non-profit medical Marijuana dispensaries, sending a clear message: if you're sick, smoke whatever you want, but don't love whoever you want, because that's just sick.

Both parties were quick to capitalize on the election results. Nancy Pelosi exclaimed "We won!" while Michael Steele proclaimed the elections "a blow" to the Democratic party and agenda. Both seemed oblivious to the fact that their party had, in fact, lost an election or two to their "socialist" or "tea bagging" opponents. Also, depending on whether you believe Robert Gibbs "Master of Nuance" or Robert Gibbs "The Walking Smug Storm," Obama, who campaigned in both Virginia and New Jersey, was either watching the Chicago Bulls or an HBO documentary about himself instead of election coverage. No doubt, a display of apathy that will resound with a majority of Americans.

The Republican party has proven the elections a "referendum on Obama" talk. The economy is awful and Democratic incumbents controlled both governorships before Tuesday. The Democratic party pulled out a notable win in the only national race of the year, but should probably admit for the first time since 2008 that there's still an elephant in the room. Owens didn't defeat the GOP as much as he stood by and watched his opponents fracture. McDonnell and Christie ran elections focused squarely on their own states, making little mention of the sitting president.

For all of Michael Steele's talk of a 2010 sweep and Pelosi's talk of a crumbling GOP, perhaps voters on Nov. 3 were not thinking nationally. In fact, the only real use of a United States president in the Gubernatorial elections might have been incumbent Corzine's television ads attacking Christie for once supporting and even (gasp) raising money for President Bush. Maybe voters were trying to say, "Republicans: it's too soon to win elections by bashing B.H. Obama. Democrats: it's too late to win elections bashing G.W. Bush." I think that's fair, don't you?

Residents of the NYU dorms voted last Tuesday at the Children's Aid Society on Sullivan Street.

Comment

Full of Sound and Fury

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The Public Option is Key to Health Care Reform

BY DOUG MARTIN ’11 CONTRIBUTING WRITER

I recently read about a woman I’ll call Danielle Pickard; her story is one of the many reasons why the public option is a key component of health care reform. Danielle Pickard was struggling with vertigo-like symptoms. The visit to the ER over the weekend with these symptoms came out to over $8000. Yes we have insurance, but we do not have an infinitely, or even extremely, generous insurance package. But many say that the costs don’t even the worst of it. In every area that government to run for a kidney stone—indestructible pain and no choice but to go—without insurance, my bill (for another brief comparison of x-rays) came out to over $8000. The second time, I went to the ER for 3 hours ... the bill this time was over $9000 because I couldn’t drive and had to call an ambulance. While America has a great system of government, wonderful people, guaranteed free education, and the strongest military in the world, behind such notable nations, and the strongest military in the world, behind such notable nations, including Oman, Saudi Arabia, Colombia, the United Arab Emirates and all of Northern and Western Europe. By another measure, we’re ranked 72nd in the world. According to our own CIA’s information, we rank 50th in the world for life expectancy. This is just embarrassing. This is supposed to be AMERICA. We strive to be the biggest and best at everything. So far, at least, we’re winning (or losing, I guess) the obesity race, taking first place for obesity rates. But many people don’t think numbers tell the whole story. Well, then, let’s put a face on it. I read a post recently by a man named James Stroman, a public administrator in Texas. He is the post, unedited, in its entirety:

Texas. Here is the post, unedited, in its entirety:

The same thing happened to me in college, twice. The first time, I went to the ER for a kidney stone--indestructible pain and no choice but to go—without insurance, my bill (for another brief comparison of x-rays) came out to over $8000. The second time, I went to the ER for 3 hours ... the bill this time was over $9000 because I couldn’t drive and had to call an ambulance. What is a 22-year-old college student who is paying her own way through college supposed to do with almost $20,000 in hospital bills, just because she can’t afford health insurance even though she’s working two jobs and taking out loans to live on every year? There has to be some support for people who need it.

While America has a great system of government, wonderful people, guaranteed free education, and the strongest military in the world, behind such notable nations, including Oman, Saudi Arabia, Colombia, the United Arab Emirates and all of Northern and Western Europe. By another measure, we’re ranked 72nd in the world. According to our own CIA’s information, we rank 50th in the world for life expectancy. This is just embarrassing. This is supposed to be AMERICA. We strive to be the biggest and best at everything. So far, at least, we’re winning (or losing, I guess) the obesity race, taking first place for obesity rates. But many people don’t think numbers tell the whole story. Well, then, let’s put a face on it. I read a post recently by a man named James Stroman, a public administrator in Texas. He is the post, unedited, in its entirety:

Texas. Here is the post, unedited, in its entirety: 
Maass fell upon oil, and, more broadly, the effects that were at the root of global conflict. Maass, whose previous book, Losing Ground, was an account of human rights abuses against farmers in the Amazon, is one of the key theorists in the field of international human rights law. He has been active in many cases, including the landmark Chevron case in Ecuador, which he describes as a "symbolic victory" for human rights. Maass argues that the international legal system is not adequately addressing the human rights abuses that are occurring in the extractive industries, and that lawyers and activists must do more to hold these companies accountable.

Maass is a leading advocate for the use of extrajudicial methods in human rights cases, and he believes that these methods are necessary to address the systemic failures of the international legal system. He cites the example of the Chevron case in Ecuador, where a group of farmers and indigenous peoples filed a lawsuit against the company for polluting their land. Despite the fact that the company was solid in Ecuador, Maass argues that the case was dismissed due to a lack of jurisdiction. Maass believes that extrajudicial methods, such as boycotts, divestment, and litigation, are necessary to achieve justice in cases like these.

Maass is a strong critic of the extractive industries, and he believes that they are using their wealth and influence to manipulate the international legal system. He argues that the companies are able to "shred" cases, and that the international legal system is "passepartout" and "completely ineffective." Maass believes that the international legal system is not adequately addressing the human rights abuses that are occurring in the extractive industries, and that lawyers and activists must do more to hold these companies accountable.

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Counter Runs Counter to Typical Vegetarian Stereotypes

By Marjia Peckan LLM ’07
Staff Writer

One could be forgiven for looking startled upon stepping out of a building on looking Fifth Avenue only to discover a room brimming with young women, dressed clad, as nothing but socks and short, nonchalantly walking around carrying platters of mouth-watering miniature cakes. Indeed, neither a conservative dress code nor conventional dining etiquette is welcome here. Instead, the ladies use their bare hands to feed those who are brave — or hungry — enough to design to ask for some cake.

No one could accuse the event of lacking原创ity. The artists, known for their incessant attempts to push boundaries and explore alternate avenues of artistic expression, had come together, endeavoring to collectively test the audience’s response to creativity in sugary, edible form. In stark contrast to Thomas’ playfully salacious feeding-couch encounter, Erlich’s installation consisted of a seemingly mundane scene featuring an elderly lady reading a book while sitting in a room with nothing except an unmade bed. There was much for a minimalist brown-leather couch. However, the apparent normalcy of the scene was shattered when a woman in sultry French maid attire approached the reading lady, leaning over to hand her a piece of cake.

There was a “New York State Wine Flight” ($12), which was just ok. The Pinot Noir was actually awful, but the manager was very apologetic and replaced it with a full glass of something else. The dishes overall were good, but of course the focus of the restaurant is on the food. The menu is organized into small plates (think tapas), flatbreads and large plates. The emphasis in the small plates, we decided to order several small plates, and one flatbread. The Sweet Potato Gnocchi ($10) was the best dish of the evening, with a superb contrast between the sweetness of the gnocchi and the brown butter. The Mushroom Martini ($9) did the pasta being too chewy and the spiced cream sauce not really add anything to the flavors of the dish, other than to mute them. The Grilled Eggplant ($7) caught us off guard, because it was served room temperature. Our first taste of it, therefore, was skewed. However, after getting over our surprise, we really appreciated the balance of flavors and the textural contrast between the eggplant, the cream and the whole pomegranate seeds. The Spaghetti Squash Spaghetti ($8) was one of the weakest dishes, with the taste of it not really doing anything to the flavors of the dish. On the other hand, the Roasted Beet & Nectar Squash Ravioli ($8) was the best dish of the evening, with a superb contrast between the sweetness of the gnocchi and the brown butter. The Mushroom Martini ($9) did

In Performance Art Exhibition, You Can Have Your Cake and Eat It Too

By Marjia Peckan LLM ’07
Staff Writer

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This Is It Skips the Tabloid Drama, Puts a Smile on Your Face

By Brian Byrnnell '10
Staff Writer

Recently, our Contracts professor looked around the classroom and stated, “one of you here will be a judge someday.” Guaranteed. As I have looked around and listened closely, it has become clear to me that there is also a probability that one of us will be disbarred or censured. For those who would seek to avoid this or celebrate it, the new television series Community brings this situation to sitcom life every Thursday evening on NBC.

The complexities of Michael Jackson’s public persona and private orientation are most probably debated and scrutinized for many generations to come. This apparent duality stems from the fact that, for much of his life, the media portrayed Jackson as something akin to a cartoon character. Highlighed were his marriage to Elvish daughter, the episode in which he dangled a baby from a balcony and the time he showed up in court wearing a pinstriped suit. Tabloids scoffed at his impending bankruptcy, while broadsheets discussed allegations of child molestation. The artistic process of Michael Jackson has long been overshadowed by the intra-mural unfolding of his personal drama. It gives me great pleasure, therefore, to announce that This Is It does not attempt in any way to broach those issues. The Pandorax’s box of eccentricity remains firmly sealed. Instead, the sole focus is on the preparation for Jackson’s epic finale concerts that were due to be staged in London under the same name; This Is It.

The movie opens with a series of brief, affecting messages from the show’s dancers, and immediately by an emotional, understated tone that note, I should mention the new footage shot exclusively for the live show. However, the substance is instantly warm and charming. It feels like this footage may never have been seen but for the unusually death of Jackson, and this film is a testament to his career. If you are a fan of Jackson’s music or simply enjoy cutting-edge documentaries, you will not want to miss this opportunity to see his final performances on screen.

The result is a heartfelt sitcom full of wittily written episodes that demonstrate a sweet humanity that never falls into sentimentalization. The laughs come quick but, most importantly, they are smart. It is not a perfect show by any means; it still has to find its footing in terms of caliber and awe. This is abundantly evident from this its directness and crispness. It is not only eradicates that awareness, but the bland archetype it could easily become. Nevertheless, This Is It is a masterpiece of a documentary, and the end result is a full season of Community which should allow ample time for the show to find itself, and perhaps some of us to find a laugh during a much-needed study-break.

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Michael Jackson, the undisputed King of Pop, strikes a pose in this new tribute film. The production value of the footage is a little surprising. Do not expect polished sitcom cliches employed, or adding droll cultural references. Community creator Dan Harmon has clearly found the perfect vehicle to adapt traditional sitcoms by offeringing the comforts of predictable characters and plot without being indecent.

This Is It is not only endearing, it is delicious. Jackson is in his prime, charming, magnetic and his music is only one more bullet in his portfolio. An underprivileged financial strategy this may be, particularly in the modern era of rampant piracy, but it does not lend itself to the parenting preparation and lavish exhibition witnessed in this documentary. On the contrary, the full season of Community which should allow ample time for the show to find itself, and perhaps some of us to find a laugh during a much-needed study-break.

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