



Bedford Square

Volume 3 Issue 1

Coca-Cola creates moral ambiguity at NYU in London

BY MARIA BARNEWITZ

OPINION ***This article is the sole opinion of the writer and does not reflect the views of NYU-London or the Bedford Square News editorial staff.***

Coca-Cola was banned from New York University's main campus in December 2005, but although there is a Coca-Cola machine in the student kitchen in the Academic Center, the question remains whether or not the presence has caused similar controversy at NYU in London. Since NYU-L is technically a UK charity, and is therefore distinct from its American mother institution, can it afford to avoid the

allegations against Coca-Cola?

The New York Times reported on December 31, 2005, "labor activists have said that Coca-Cola, through its Latin American bottlers, has been complicit in the deaths of eight union leaders and in continued harassment of unionized employees."

While the ban at NYU might be lifted as early as summer 2008 according to an article by the *Washington Square News* because Coca-Cola has acquiesced to the demands of union leaders, NYU-L continues to remain ambiguous on the issue.

Here, the issue is not whether or not Coca-Cola poses a threat to human rights, but if NYU's credibility is endangered. As uni-



versities worldwide have joined the campaign, the issue has shown itself to be a global concern which may require NYU's other study abroad sites to follow NYU's New York campus' ban on Coca-Cola. Yet despite the activism of the New York campus, the

level of concern has not been matched by NYU's London site.

While the administration at NYU-L is aware of the stance of the New York campus, Director David Hillel-Ruben is still currently investigating whether or not the ban could be enforced at the London campus. Nonetheless, students should be proactive so NYU-L may maintain a sense of unity with the main campus.

After all, an objection to the practices of a major corporation is undermined when the protest is not unanimous

London is World's Capital—Finds *The Independent* Study

BY DANIEL JEYDEL

On December 22, 2007 London's *The Independent* released to the public what the newspaper deemed to be the most "exhaustive comparison ever compiled of the world's great cities," which placed London above New York, Paris, Tokyo and Beijing as the world's capital. The report compared 60 cities based on criteria ranging from financial stability, strength of public institutions and services, arts and UNESCO world heritage sites to come to its straightforward conclusion.

The study claims that because of London's dual abil-

ity to cherish its past while also being able to embrace modernity, the city is the capital of all capitals.

The Independent defines a Londoner as "a person from somewhere else" meaning that one of London's greatest assets has been its policies that have welcomed immigration and allowed for relative ease in assimilation. By allowing others to influence London's sense of identity, London's character is considered to be the most dynamic.

London Mayor Ken Livingstone attributed the city's ascendancy to cultural multiplicity by asserting, "Londoners are proud of our 'unity in diversity' and re-

gard the multiculturalism of our city as one of its greatest strengths. With over 300 languages spoken here, London is literally the most international city in the world."

In financial terms, upwards of forty percent of all European companies have chosen to be based in London and have benefited from the incredible strength and resilience of the British Pound.

On a cultural level, London asserts superiority with its famed West End for grand theatre and the Fringe for more nuanced performances. The lifting by the government of museum admission charges have

opened London's vast resources to the public

As a testament to Britain's dynamic abilities, London's award of the 2012 Olympic Games re-affirms the international respect afforded to the city. In short, within the Genesis of a century that continues to re-define globalization, it appears that London best understands its place in the world and is well poised to remain at the top of the top.

For more information and to see the complete study head over to <http://www.independent.co.uk/travel/news-and-advice/london-capital-of-the-world-767134.html>

Letter from the Editor-in-Chief



It's not every day that you can witness a new paper's beginning. Sure, one might occasionally encounter a fledgling newsletter or aspiring e-zine, but as for a frank, to-your-face student paper—well, this editor finds the prospect nothing short of exhilarating.

At the initial NYU in London Newspaper meeting, the newfound staff agreed that the BSN's predecessor, *The Moon*, had long eclipsed its welcome: more than a new name, but

a new paper, was due. In minutes, titles ranging from *The Bloomsbury Group* to *The Daily Rubbish* and *The Light Bulb* spiraled across the room. Each connoted a different character, aspiration, and – dare I say – destiny guiding its views.

That night, we left the matter undecided. One week later, we had to choose, and – by an overwhelming majority – we founded *The Bedford Square News*.

Kristof Goeser, the BSN staff member who suggested the name, explained his desire to mirror the *Washington Square News*, and so provide a distinctive parallel between the two.

NYU in London provides a precarious experiment in parallels. On one hand, we are the first-hand witnesses of a foreign culture. On the other, we reflect the campus awaiting us back home. However, as study-abroad stu-

dents, perhaps we possess an even greater obligation to voice our views.

We tend to forget that somehow – especially here, among these London lights. Surrounded by strangers' statues, skyscrapers, and construction crews, we are tempted to forget that each generation has its impending elections, ongoing war, and civilly disobedient views. Indeed, one could claim that each era also has its respective daily rubbish, Bloomsbury Group, and – now – its *Bedford Square News*.

BSN's aim, therefore, is not to provide an echo, but a microphone, for a generation has yet to learn the full strength of its voice.

We are the witnesses, and we're ready. Are you?

Sincerely,
Olivia C. Webb

10 Tips on How to Be a Better Roommate

BY IMAN AHMED

Two people living in a room the size of a closet is never easy, but here are ten easy ways to make dorm life a little more painless.

10. Be conscious of the noise you generate in the room especially when your roommate is trying to study or sleep. No one wants to wake up to blasting hairdryers, banging pans or whining 90s boy bands. This does not mean however that the room should be a funeral parlor 100% of the time. Just ask your roommate before you decide to rock out to some Bon Jovi. They will appreciate it, and might even rock out with you, giving you the chance to bond over some bad 80s music.

9. Everyone enjoys time alone. Why not swap schedules at the beginning of the semester, so you are not always in the room at the same time. This is especially helpful when you want to invite friends over without annoying your roommate.

8. Room smelling kind of funky because your roommate has yet to throw out the garbage and you are

tired of heading down to the freaky deaky basement alone every night? Instead of being passive aggressive, initiate a schedule where you alternate chores such as throwing out the garbage and buying toilet paper.

7. Love in any city is always amazing. And while we are all happy you met the current love of your life here in London, try not to be in love in your room all the time. The rooms are cramped and uncomfortable with two people, but a third person, especially a boyfriend or a girlfriend can make it unbearable. Why not explore London together instead of hanging out in the room?

6. Have an open mind. Your roommate may be coming from a different background whether it is religious, racial, or regional. You don't have to agree with their perspectives, but you do have to respect them.

5. If you had the good fortune/ earlier flight to get the desk with a shelf, why not offer to share. This will build relations, instead of fostering the inevitable hostility that will come when she has to stack her textbooks on the dusty floor.

4. Everyone needs about 8 hours of sleep a day, preferably when the sun is down. Just because your next class is at 6pm the following day doesn't mean you should keep your roommate awake, typing at 3 am, especially if s/he has a 9 am class. There are numerous study lounges with WIFI all over NIDO. Use them!

3. Don't wait until every single dish and utensil you own piles up in the sink before doing the dishes.

2. Don't touch your roommate's stuff without asking. Just don't do it. He/she will find out and be infuriated, creating more animosity between you.

1. Don't wait until your roommate has done about 30 different things to piss you off before blowing up. Instead try to politely mention that it is her/his turn to throw out the trash, or ask that s/he turn down the volume in the moment instead of fuming in the corner and badmouthing her/him to all your friends.

Remember you don't have to be best friends, but you do need to respect each other.

The Fifty-First State

BY LEMONIA STROUBOS

I am going to take a giant leap here and assume that all you thought as I did: study abroad means an experience parallel to *Eurotrip*, with two days squeezed in a week for classes and no time left to follow current events – let alone American politics. I believed I would condemn myself to four months of isolation in London.

In fact, American politics remains very relevant. International media coverage on the increasingly volatile 2008 Presidential Election in the United States has an overall admirable tone, because – for the first time in history – there will be a delayed, but refreshing, change from the American presidential candidate stereotype of a rich, white male. Certain op-ed pieces even picked up on the entertainment value of the race, parodying each political candidate and his or her stances in the way only a removed third party can. On a serious note, there remains an underlying cautiousness which questions whether electing either Democratic candidate as an American president will really signify any-

thing revolutionary in American foreign policy.

Another misconception: those at the NYU in London program are not the only Americans in London. As much as we enjoy being the token Americans, the Republicans Abroad website page claims “more than six million Americans live abroad.”

These Americans cast their ballots in a separate election for Democrats Abroad, an organization officially recognized by the Democratic Party.

Functioning as the “51st state”, the Democratic National Committee’s Global Presidential Primary (held from February 5th to the 12th) affects the Presidential Election in 2008 through allowing ballots by Internet, fax and post.

This is not the case, however, with the Republicans Abroad organization. It is not officially recognized by the Republican National Committee, as specified on the aforementioned website. While Republicans living abroad are not represented at the committee, they are allowed to raise funds from foreign investors without the responsibility of reporting its finances. Questionable, yes, but realistically it is unlikely to significantly influence

the Republican nomination.

What exactly is the effect of such a process imitating a state primary? According to the Democrats Abroad website, “the worldwide election results will determine the 14 delegates who will join eight DNC members in Democrats Abroad’s delegation of 22 to the Democratic National Convention.”

Nearly three weeks after the election, Democrats Abroad announced Barack Obama the winner, with Obama taking 6 delegates, and Clinton taking 3 delegates. As the race between Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton reaches deadlock status, these delegates can make or break their nominations.

Should the interests of expatriates even be considered in the party election? To avoid the danger of making a general assumption about the interests of expatriates, let’s look at the facts as found on the Democrats Abroad website: the 2008 primary reveals a much higher turn-out than the 2004 primary. You can blame it on the increased media attention, or even the allure of making history.

Perhaps you could also say, as I am inclined to think, that anti-Americanism drives us to be weary of our arrogant image abroad.

10 Second Sound Bite: 2008 Presidential Election

BY MICHELLE LO

The 2008 U.S. presidential election has proven every journalist’s dream come true. Hot issues like the War in Iraq and the current state of the economy set the stage for a monumental race. More compelling, however, is the cast of characters, which currently consists of Barack Obama, Hillary Clinton, John McCain, and Mike Huckabee – in other words, a black man, a woman, a Vietnam POW, and a former preacher. Even Hollywood couldn’t script it better than that.

No matter how exciting the race, media outlets, determined to capture attention and viewers, have sensationalized it further, sometimes fabricating stories altogether. Last January, Fox News released a breaking story, which claimed that Barack Obama attended an Islamic medrassa, or radical Islamic school. According to CNN, the Clinton camp leaked this information – all of which has proven false. Still, the

story made rounds on numerous networks before anyone bothered to stop and check the rumor’s veracity.

Despite retractions and formal apologies, the story was already out and the idea planted. The damage was done.

Even more glaring is the media’s treatment of candidates they deem marginal, including – but not limited to – former Democratic candidates Chris Dodd, Bill Richardson, and Joe Biden. They remain all but ignored. While Clinton touts herself as the candidate of experience, it has been generally overlooked that Dodd, Richardson, and Biden each have years more.

On the Republican side, Ron Paul has been consistently left out. Literally. This January, an Associated Press report revealed that the candidate was denied attendance at a debate held by Fox News due to an arbitrary rule about poll numbers.

Paul has therefore, slipped through the cracks, receiving no coverage – even after raising more money than any other Republican candidate last

quarter, and outlasting supposed “frontrunners,” like Mitt Romney and Rudy Giuliani. So what is the effect of all of this? Well, obviously, Dodd, Richardson, and Biden are out of the race, and Paul’s candidacy remains a pipe dream.

It really begs the question: are these candidates lacking coverage because they had no chance to begin with or because the media’s inattention destroyed their chances?

Publicity generates momentum and public favor, which in turn generates funds. Without funds, a campaign is dead in the water, and without sufficient media coverage, any candidate would be hard-pressed to carry on.

We live in the age of the ten-second sound bite, and while this simplifies the information gathering process, it is not always a reliable method. Consider the context, and consider the source. Do the research and evaluate for yourself. Is Obama really too inexperienced? Clinton too mechanical? McCain not conservative enough?

It’s your vote. Don’t let someone else decide for you.

Realizing Rugby

BY JEFFREY ZOHN

As an American football fan, I came into Saturday, February 16th's rugby match between Harlequins and Worcester excited to see some football-style action. I have been deprived of football since the Super Bowl in early February, and had high hopes for this game. Harlequins v. Worcester did not disappoint.

Rugby is a fast paced combination of American football and soccer. Each team tries to advance the ball across the field by carrying, passing laterally, and kicking the ball, and scores are made by either grounding the ball in the end zone or kicking the ball between the goal posts. The defending team tries to tackle the ball carrier and scoop up the loose ball to gain possession.

Just like American football, rugby games consist of slow drives downfield and quick, exciting breakaways that lead to scores. Saturday's game had its fair share of both. Will Skinner of the Harlequins scored the first try of the game after an uneventful twelve opening minutes. He broke away from the crowd and collapsed on a loose ball in the goal area, making it 5-0 Harlequins. The home crowd came to its feet for the first



Photo by Alice Cheng



Photo by Danush Parvaneh

time in the game, and Adrian Jarvis kicked the conversion to make it 7-0.

The remainder of the first half produced one try for each team, and a penalty kick for Worcester. Both teams had scoring opportunities, including two missed penalty kicks by Harlequin, but solid tackling held the score to 12-8 Harlequins at halftime.

Worcester seemed to be in control in the beginning of the second half. They held the ball deep in the Harlequins' territory for most of the first ten minutes, but were still unable to get any points. Eighteen minutes in, Harlequin scored on a penalty kick

and then scored two consecutive tries to pull ahead. James Brown made a great play for Worcester by blocking a punt and returning it himself for a try with two minutes remaining, but it was far too late for a comeback. The Harlequins scored once more, making the final score 36-15.

I saw some great plays and enjoyed the experience. Any fan of American football will appreciate both the physicality of the game and the energy of the crowd. Now that our football league is gone for seven months, I encourage NFL fans to go out and see a rugby game.

NYU Students Join ULU Fencing

BY IMAN AHMED

The two masked warriors respectfully saluted each other by holding their blades up parallel to their noses and then flicking them out to the side. After the command of "EN GARDE!" the fast paced armed lunges began as each dueler poised to gain an advantage over the other, making the final decisive strike.

Although this may sound like a scene out of an action movie, these two duelers are NYU students who joined University of London Union's Fencing Club. For 20 pounds per semester, and 3 pounds each session, seven NYU students get to

put on full fencing gear of a form fitting jacket, an under arm protector, mask and a plastic chest protector for female fencers.

Most of these students who joined this semester have had no experience fencing. Ivan Gilkes always had an interest in the sport, but never had an opportunity to learn about it. During his first few weeks in London, he wanted to find a motivating and social workout. He signed up for the fencing club after hearing a friend rave about the fencing club. Now, every Tuesday evening in Upper Hall, he attacks his opponents with his favorite move of a circular parry and pulse.

In addition to being grueling exercise, the club also has an engaging social scene. After every two hour long session of instruction by the fencing coach, Peter Verdon, the members heads downstairs to the Duck and Dive, ULU's resident pub. Additionally, the club arranges group outings to relevant fencing sites. On February 9, 2008, the fencing coach gave a tour of London's famous dueling sites.

Beginner Daniel DaVeiga, who went on the tour, described the fencing club as a "cheap, fun and a great way to meet English people."

Introducing the Beer of the Month

BY DANIEL DAVEIGA

What do I like best about London? The drinking age. Please, don't get me wrong – the people are friendly, and the fish and chips are excellent. Being close to the rest of Europe is also a huge plus.

However, time is running out. I only have two more years before responsibility drags me into the depths of the workforce; that said, why shouldn't I spend my weekends praising Bacchus? I can experience the culture through my beer goggles just fine. Besides, livers regenerate. I'm only worried about the photos that might end up on *Facebook*.

By the way, my name is Dan and my goal is to try 100 new beers this semester. So far I'm at 36 beers and 6 ciders. At this rate I'll try over 150 new beers before leaving.

Taste of the London Theatre Scene

BY JILLIAN KARGER

At the start of my NYU career, I had many romanticized ideas about life in the city. I was sure living in New York; I'd get to see all the gems Broadway had to offer. Sadly, once school started, my theater attendance was appalling—I'd only seen a handful of plays since my arrival in the city.

Upon my decision to study abroad in London, I decided that I would have to get out and see more plays. I signed up for the class, *Modern Drama in Performance*, which includes weekly visits to the theater. This way, I would be forced to become cultured, and avoid becoming completely broke in the process.

In *Modern Drama* so far, I have seen and discussed three very interesting plays. I'm wishing more than ever that I had taken more advantage of theater in New York.

The Homecoming

The Homecoming starts by introducing Max, Sam, Lenny, and Joey—respectively a father, uncle, and two grown sons who live under one roof. One other son, Teddy, is away

With introductions out of the way, I'll cut straight to the honorable mentions. The best cider I've had so far is Brother's Strawberry Pear Cider. The most interesting beer I've had is Banana Bread Beer. It tastes a lot like banana bread and the more you drink, the more it tastes like banana bread – amazing! You can buy a bottle of Banana Bread Beer from the Sainsbury in Angel.

Now for the main event! The beer of the month is: Chimay Blue. Brewed by Trappist Monks in Belgium, this beer has a whopping 9% alcohol content. I'd describe the taste to you, but it wouldn't do this holy brew any justice. You can get a bottle at the Euston Flyer; it's expensive, but well worth it.

Well that's all for this issue. I urge you all to Experience London: Get a Pint! [And Always Drink Responsibly, too.]

teaching in America. Teddy comes home to this male-dominated atmosphere and brings his wife, Ruth (Jenny Jules) with him. Teddy has never told his family about Ruth, though the two have been married for nine years. The play gets off to a slightly normal start, but once the feminine presence of Ruth arrives, the play kicks into madness. One absurd happening after another ensues, leaving the audience wondering what could happen next.

The Homecoming has a wonderful cast, the roles of Lenny (Nigel Lindsay) and Ruth especially well-filled. The play is also extremely entertaining, though it is hard to say why. It is a play that if seen, shouldn't be questioned: it just has to be accepted for its insanity, and if it is, watching it can be a pretty fun ride.

The Homecoming
Directed by Michael Attenborough
Almeida Theatre
Times: Mon-Sat 7:30pm, Sat Mats:
3:00pm
Booking #: 020 7359 4404
Ends March 22
More reviews by Jillian Karger in the upcoming April issue.

How to Watch TV in London

BY KEVIN FALLON

Trapped in your NIDO cube, it can be hard to stay entertained. For television junkies and channel surfing addicts, it's been hard to go without TV cold turkey. But just because you have no TV set or can't afford the licensing fee doesn't mean you have to completely do without. There are several sneaky ways that students can catch their favorite programs using the Internet.

The most traditional (and legal) way to watch many top shows is to download them off iTunes. The upside of this is that the download is yours to keep. But the \$1.99 price tag per episode can be a bit of strain on the purse string.

Websites including alluc.org, fanpop.com, and veoh.com have large databases of television episodes available for free. Alluc.org links you to online versions of the latest episodes of hits like "LOST" and "Project Runway" as well as classic favorites including "Seinfeld" and "Sex and the City."

The site also links to a large film collection. Fanpop.com and veoh.com allow you to search for specific episodes of many shows as well.

While in London, you may want to try viewing some top British programs. Some students have discovered the comedy "Peep Show" and the late night, racy soap opera "Skins."

For the television starved, these online viewing options are nothing short of miraculous.

Travel

Bangkok: A City for Everyone

BY VIVIENNE WATGANAI

Anyone who's looking for a cost-effective trip: look no further – Bangkok offers just that. As the capital city of the Kingdom of Thailand, it has become one of the most popular travel destinations in Asia. Its popular tourist locations as well as its vibrant nightlife will give any traveller something to look forward to.

Daytime activities are limitless; not only does Bangkok offer a metropolitan taste of Thailand, it offers a rustic one, too. Tourists have the option of visiting Bangkok's department stores,

including the Central World Plaza, the largest shopping mall in South East Asia.

But wait, there's more. Anyone who is looking for a more 'Thai' shopping experience should definitely explore Chatuchak, a flea market which sells everything from food to clothes and local handicrafts.

Shopping aside, other popular destinations that divulge more of Bangkok and Thailand's history include the Grand Palace, a former royal residence, and the Emerald Buddha, which remains one of the country's most important historical artefacts.

If you prefer to hit the town after dusk – Bangkok is what you're looking for. Many districts of the city are prime nightlife locations, which include RCA, Silom, and Sukhumvit. These vibrant locales will offer any traveller a real, local urban experience.

If you're travelling on a budget, \$20 is more than enough to get around for one day. Travel is made cheap and easy with the recently erected Sky Train as well as the underground, and street vendors selling authentic Thai food around every corner make this city very likeable. Bangkok will definitely not disappoint.

A Brief Look into Valencia, One of Spain's Lesser-Known Cities

BY KRISTOF GOESER

From the nightlife of Barcelona and Ibiza to the arts and architecture of Madrid, there is something for everyone to discover in Spain, a country rich with culture and history.

If you are planning a trip through Spain for spring break or simply looking into a weekend trip, Valencia, located only four hours south of Barcelona, is an excellent destination to experience what Spain is about.

Valencia is an easily walkable city, with the majority of the landmarks concentrated in the central, older section such as the Seu, a large cathedral offering magnificent panoramic views of the city, and the Plaza de Toros, the bullfighting arena.

The city is a mass of windy roads where you can find great medieval architecture, fountains, statues, and trees filled with genuine Valencian oranges.

Those looking into the beach should take public transportation as the walk is a bit long and not very picturesque. If it is too cold to go for a swim, you should go to the beach and visit the Malvarosa area for some *paella*, a delicious Valencian rice dish typically made with seafood.

Also, the City of Arts and Sciences is a monumental establishment well-worth a look as well. If you are not interested in paying the



Reflection City of Art and Sciences



City Hall

entrance fee into any of the museums, the architecture is enough to amaze. Valencia also has plenty of nightlife to occupy you to the early morning hours.

To sum it up, Valencia is a great way to experience the spirit of Spain while at

the same time avoiding the congestion of tourists which often plague many other great Spanish cities. All you need is one or two days for the experience, and it is well worth the time.

Staff Interviews

BY MICHELLE LO

You may have seen them on one of our day trips. Travel up the spiraling staircase of the Academic Centre at 6 Bedford Square, and you just may catch a glimpse of one of them in the Student Life Centre. Who are they? What do they do? And most importantly, what is their favorite colo(u)r?

Alice Coltofeanu, Student Life Assistant

What did you want to be when you were growing up?

I think I might have wanted to be a nurse, and at some point I wanted to be a scientist, but then I discovered I was rubbish at science. And then I wanted to be a forensic pathologist like on *CSI*.

Favorite movie?

The Godfather... I'm going to say trilogy. And an animated movie I watch every Christmas Eve called *Snowman*. It's just music and pictures and it's about this little boy who builds a snowman and it comes alive and it takes him to the North Pole to see Father Christmas, and they go flying. It's awesome.

Favorite color?

I have three, depending on my mood – blue, green, purple.

If you could have any superpower, what would it be?

Flying or being able to go underwater. Or invisibility. I'll have all three.

What is one thing you wish students knew about London?

That there are other *great* bars and pubs other than *The Rocket*. For example, there is a bar called *The Medicine Bar* which is just up the road in Angel. Students just have to be prepared to go a little bit further and explore a little more.

Paul Glynn, Student Life Administrator

What did you want to be when you were growing up?

When I was seven or so, I wanted to be a doctor. But then as I was growing up, I did drama, so I guess I wanted to do something with that, be on stage. But now that's shifting again. Hopefully, I end up in broadcast media.

What do you do in your free time?

I try and study as much as possible, even

though that's proving difficult. I do Kung Fu... I like watching films, going to the cinema. Food, particular passion of mine. And drinking, of course – in moderation.

Favorite movie?

Apocalypse Now. I love *The Godfather* as well.

If you could have any superpower, what would it be?

Fly. I always loved Superman as a kid. I always had dreams of flying.

Any advice for the students?

Get involved. I hear it all the time – “I wish I'd done this, I wish I'd done that.” So don't hesitate, and get involved.

Robert Pinkerton, Student Life Administrator for Freshman Programmes

What did you want to be when you were growing up?

I wanted to be a car designer as a kid. I'd always be drawing cars.

Where is your favorite place in the world to visit?

My favorite city in the world is Rome. There's just so much depth to the culture there. My favorite non-city location or countryside would be Switzerland. If you go this time of year, it's just gorgeous. It's got waterfalls, lush green meadows, and these huge snow-peaked mountains rising above it.

Where is one place you haven't been to that you'd like to go?

I'd love to go to New Zealand, definitely. Vietnam, as well. I want to just backpack around Asia. I've seen the cities in Asia, but I've never really been out of the cities.

You lived in Canada – why?

I took a year out after university before I started working. You can do a year actually living out there [in Canada]. I heard lots of good things about Vancouver, so I went over there... Snowboarding in Whistler was fantastic.

Favorite movie?

Back to the Future. I want to own a DeLorean at some point... one of the proudest moments of my life – I got a photo by the DeLorean [at Universal Studios].

If you could have any superpower, what would it be?

Time-travel.

Babyshambles Drives Crowd Wild at Brixton Academy

BY ALISON BENSIMON

Babyshambles, an alternative and punk band, tore it up at the Brixton Academy on Monday, February 22. Lead singer Pete Doherty – wearing suspenders, suit pants, a white button shirt and his signature fedora hat – along with his band members, made the crowd go crazy.

In a pool of young teenage girls and boys screaming “PETE” over and over, the adrenaline, sweat, and passion felt almost palpable. Decorated with trees in each corner, the indoor amphitheatre tricked you in thinking you were outside. Although crowd surfing was prohibited, some couldn't resist – even if that meant losing a shoe or two.

Babyshambles closed the gig with their famous song “Fuck Forever” from their “Down in Albion” album, after leaving the crowd pleading them to come back for an encore. On the way out, the crowd sang “OH OH OH OH,” the tune from “Killamangiro” at the top of its lungs, and carried it out to the tube station.

After the girls got their last glimpse of Pete, and the band left the stage for good, all that was left were covering the floor.

Pete Doherty amazed the crowd – after canceling many previous shows, leaving his fans in disappointment. On Monday February 11th, Babyshambles proved every critic wrong.



Alice Coltofeanu
Student Life Assistant

Photo by Kristof Goeser

London Liaisons

BY BRITTANY SHARKEY

So I'm going to be quite honest: I suck at life. Well maybe not life per se, okay let me rephrase that. I suck at romantic life.

At 19, I have become a spinster. But I always keep the optimistic hope alive that it will someday happen for me. When dating didn't happen in high school, I figured it would happen in college. When I got to NYU and it didn't happen, I figured it would happen when I studied abroad.

I've always had a particular obsession with the men from the UK and figured that my semester in London

would be my big chance. I can safely say that I've been here for almost a month, and I still have yet to meet my Clive Owen/Colin Firth/James McAvoy. Where are they hiding? I've seen *Love, Actually* and *Bridget Jones' Diary*. According to all British movies that are popular in America, the single, attractive British men are positively everywhere.

It's not that I don't go out – I do. And all I've got to show for this massive effort is a minor man-handling in the streets of Angel and the phone number of a guy who thought it would be a good idea to belch right before giving me his number.

But I am however, the eternal optimist and while the crying friend is still a disheartening experience, I have yet to give up. I know my Clive Owen is somewhere out there, sitting in a bar just waiting for me to walk through the door.

So join me here, on The Daily Rubbish page of every issue where I'll continue to chronicle my attempts to find him and the hopefully hilarious accounts of my failures to do so. So come back next issue for the continuation of this awkwardly amazing saga of the search for love in London.

***Love here means, well, actual love, a relationship or someone simply to take me out on dates. I'm really very flexible with the semantics.

you!' Oh God she is so beautiful! So Beautiful! You should have been. You should have been."

He couldn't stop smiling. Just in January, while walking down Oxford Street to class with his Nido Backpack and brown North Face jacket, Jordan also saw Eva Longoria sporting a complete black ensemble.

Running over to the celebrity, surrounded by clicking paparazzi, he told her that he was French, and- after a pause- she still continued her pace, so he told her that her husband Tony Parker was also French. He probably thought he had a shot at becoming Notting Hill's Anna Scott's William Thacker.

Unlike the skies outside the city, where stars are bountiful in the sky, only in the city of London will you see – and only see – a star without tilting back. They come in a flash and leave in an instant, but similar to galactic gazing, you have to alertly observe.

Star Gazing in London

BY CHRISTINE HSU

Looking up to the sky in London, don't expect to see any celestial wonders. However, in the misty, dark and dreary London weather, a star or a galaxy will sometimes appear, heading towards *Top Shop* on Oxford Street, coming out of a club in Covent Garden, or strolling about Kensington to be accompanied by hundreds of people trailing, pointing, and clicking their cameras away.

Whether on purpose or coincidence, several students from the NYU in London Program have beheld the presence of these glamorous beings: celebrities

Just yesterday, February 16, 2008, Suneela Kirloskar, a Stern-bound freshman in the NYU London Program, was taking a last drag from her cigarette by Bungalo 8 when she stumbled across the up-and-rising platinum blonde model Sophie.

"The night was not at all

exceptional," Suneela recalled, "but seeing her made my night a little better."

Another occasion last semester of star spotting, this time out of intention, a group of students went to the premier of "Things We Lost in the Fire" to go crazy for Halle Berry.

Indeed they did, toiling in 20 degree weather with a constant drizzle of rain, being shoved to and fro by all the other faithful Halle fanatics trying to get to the front-just lingering in an aching two hour long wait. All were there to just get a glimpse of the 007 Bond girl.

This semester, Jordan Goldnadel, another Stern-bound NYU freshman, stood outside the center for London British Academy of Film and Television Arts Awards.

The next day, he said, "I was so excited when I finally saw MARION COTILLARD, I said to her in French, 'Go Marion!! Go Marion!! Go get them! You're going to win! I love

Horoscopes

BY BRITTANY SHARKEY

Aquarius:

This week's going to be hectic, but don't worry, it's the kind of environment you thrive in. Find out more about that cutie towards the end of the week, there may be more there than meets the eye.

Sagittarius:

Everything you've ever wanted is yours on a silver platter this week, on one condition: follow the golden rule. Love your world and it will love you right back.

Scorpio:

You want to run everything this week and sometimes that's just not possible; the secret of all great leaders is delegation. Trust your instincts and everything will work out just fine.

Libra:

Dream big this week and your natural compassion will create a connection that may help you with those dreams. And break out your hottest outfit this weekend because the force is definitely with you.

Virgo:

You're going to be a little off after the weekend, but don't let that get you down because this may be one of your best weeks to make a new connection with a special someone.

Aries:

You've got so much positive energy this week, people won't know what to do with you. Use it to make improvements everywhere in your life and see what *doesn't* happen this weekend!