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The Voice of the New York Law School Community

# Closing Remarks

Vol. 1, No. 9

May 2000



CRAIG BATTLE



SUSAN HARPER

## 2000 COMMEMORATIVE GRADUATION ISSUE

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# Justice Thomas Returns

Louis J. Russo III  
Features Editor

"They call me a black conservative, but I'm just me." Just like his grandfather, Justice Thomas doesn't really care what the media thinks. What amazes him is how "the media has created ideological and intellectual stereotypes of blacks" and how "anyone who departs from that is somehow a bad person."

"Just by looking at my skin color you should be able to predict what my views are. Don't have to talk to me about M1 or M2 money supply or international monetary policy, all you have to do is talk to me about social policy. Bottom line attitude of the media is I don't fit into their nice little neat package they have set up for blacks and I don't think anyone should, we're individuals."

On March 12<sup>th</sup> The Honorable Clarence Thomas of the US Supreme Court visited New York Law School to serve as a judge for the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Robert F. Wagner National Labor and Employment Law Moot Court Competition, hosted by the NYLS Moot Court Association. After the competition Prof. Nadine Strossen, National President of the American Civil Liberties Union, briefly introduced Justice Thomas and opened the floor to questions.

Judging by their faces, even the more liberal-minded students in the room admired Justice Thomas's candor. What made him most likable to students was his sense

of humor. While commenting on his confirmation, he shared a conversation he had with President George Bush. "He asked me 'Can you and your family get through this confirmation?' Like an idiot, I said yes."

Like an idiot, I said yes."

Once the session began students avoided questions on future advice and pressed hard about issues. One student tried to bait Justice Thomas to comment on when human life begins. Justice Thomas quickly stated, "we denied cert. on that," laughed and continued, "you're not going to get me there." He clarified that it is his job as a Justice to keep things on a constitutional level and not go around discussing his opinions with the public. He also added that the court "simply doesn't have all the answers."

After a few questions, Justice Thomas stopped and addressed how difficult

it is to make these decisions. "It's really, really hard." He talked about how sometimes he would wake up in the morning and wish he didn't have to make the decision.

He went on to say that sometimes you lounge around with the law clerk thinking about the arguments made. "Then you are sitting around at home at three in the morning staring at the wall saying now what am I going to do?" He admits that sometimes the drive to the office is the worst part because "you still are not sure what to do."

He added that

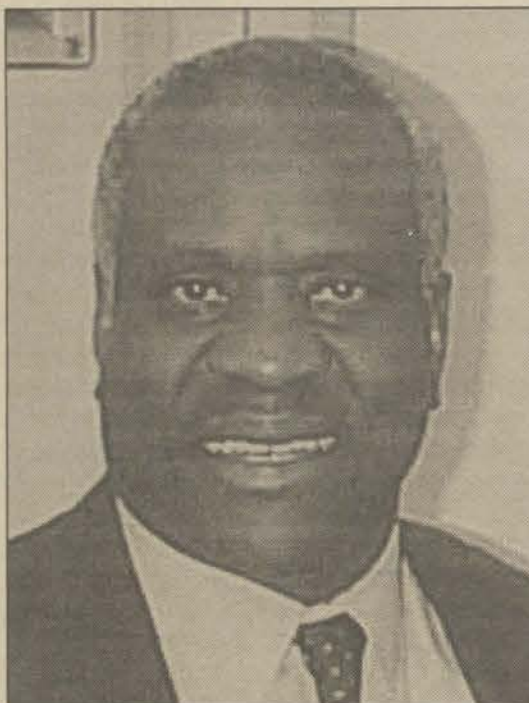
when the Court convenes at the table, the Chief Justice goes first, announces the case, gives his reasons and votes, but sometimes even he passes. "Then it goes around the table until it gets to you. Not everyone can pass, so someone is forced to make a deci-

sion."

Another student asked the Justice for his reaction to the recent verdict in the Diallo case. "I believe the process works, whether it's that I have to accept that with O.J. Simpson, no matter what anyone says, similarly with the Diallo case I've got to accept that." After a brief pause he continued, "one of the things we have to do as lawyers, is to try to slowdown just a minute, even though we might want to react, slowdown a minute and say, just for ten minutes, 'I don't have all the facts.' Let's think now, 'Do I have enough facts to reach a conclusion or do I merely have a reaction.' We all have a reaction; but is the reaction legitimate as a lawyer?"

After about an hour and a half, Prof. Strossen jumped in and asked what Justice Thomas could give to the students by way of advice or perhaps some wisdom he'd wished he had earlier in his career. Justice Thomas responded by telling the group he wished someone had told him not be so negative. Instead of reading Richard Wright and being so aggressive, he felt he should "do like my grand parents did, you do things in a dignified and a positive way." They always told him, "change things you can change and deal and accept things you can't."

In closing Justice Thomas added that "It is a long hard lonely trip, don't think you've been the only one who had hard times, and try to remain positive and not let anyone steal that positive attitude."



Justice Clarence Thomas

IAN KAPLAN

## NEWS BRIEFS

### Second Circuit Judge to Speak at Graduation



Winter

The Honorable Ralph K. Winter of the US Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit will address the graduating student body at the this year's Commencement Speaker. A former Yale professor, Judge Winter currently serves as the Second Circuit's Chief Judge. The 108<sup>th</sup> Commencement will take place on Monday, June 12<sup>th</sup> at 2 p.m. at Avery Fisher Hall, Lincoln Center.

### Judge Judy Honored

NYLS Board of Trustees and the Alumni Association honored the Honorable Judith Sheindlin at their Annual Dinner Dance on April 18<sup>th</sup> at the Pierre Hotel, NYC. Best known for her hit television program "Judge Judy," Sheindlin gratefully received the Alumni association's Distinguished Alumni Award. Board of Trustees Member Phil Damashek was also honored at the dinner with the Lifetime Achievement Award.



Sheindlin

### Holding at Third Tier

NYLS did not move from Third Tier in this year's *US News and World Report's* law school rankings.

Published on US News' web site ([www.usnews.com](http://www.usnews.com)) on March 31<sup>st</sup>, NYLS was the only NYC area law school in the Third Tier. NYU and Columbia ranked high in the First Tier at fourth and fifth place respectively, and Fordham ranked at 32. Brooklyn, Cardozo, Seton Hall, St. Johns and Rutgers-Newark ranked in the Second Tier, while CUNY, Pace and Touro ended up in the Fourth Tier.

### Professors Promoted to Associate Deanships

In a March 23<sup>rd</sup> memo to the NYLS Community, Incoming Dean Rick Matasar announced that two NYLS professors will assume associate deanship positions.

Prof. Steve Ellmann will be the new Associate Dean for Faculty Development and Prof. Jethro Lieberman will be the next Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, a position held to date by Ellen Ryerson. Both professors will take their positions in the upcoming months.

### On the Cover...

Top: The Staff of the L 2000: (left to right) Ed Maggio, Louis J. Russo III, Julie Goldenberg, Maria Guerra, Eddie Westfield Jr., Susan L. Harper, David F. Resnick (via satellite), Cecilia Blackburn, Mark Demetropoulos, Christopher Ross, Joanne Olson, Lori Quinn (Missing: Allison Berger)

Bottom: Managing Editor David F. Resnick, Class of 2000

If it matters to NYLS, it's in the L.



# Vision Quest

## The Transition Into Bar Exam Territory

The final journey a law student must take redefining him or her from a student of law to a bar examination candidate and, hopefully, an admitted attorney is comparable to a Native American Indian tradition called *Vision Quest*.

A *Vision Quest* is the process of going out into nature, with a clear intention away from all the distractions of everyday life. It is a sacred time of change, a passage into a new and often deeper level of one's self. The "quester" earns the right of passage to a new beginning with a new purpose. Indeed, the search is not to be made easy; however, if you succeed, it is a wondrous gift.

A student should approach bar exam preparation in the same manner one would approach a *Vision Quest*. Like this sacred tradition, the transformation from student to bar candidate to admitted attorney has three stages: Severance—that of separating, detaching, letting go of the old; Threshold—that of transformation, healing, listening with a new beginning and a new purpose in connection with yourself; Incorporation—that of bringing your pur-

pose or vision back to yourself, and then back to your people and community to make the world a better place.

The bar examination experience can be one of the most profound experiences you will have to put all your inner strengths, study skills, organizational skills, priorities, and all the legal knowledge that you have absorbed in the last three or four years to work.

The bar exam journey extends itself into a vision quest with a life of its own, one you have to face on your own. This is your race, your journey, not one to be undertaken as a group effort.

Beware: stay away from comparing how much your classmate studied, how many questions the candidate sitting next to you did last night, or how many questions your friend got correct. It is only you who will be graded by the bar examiners on your own performance that big day.

Additionally, this process is more physical than one might think. Sometimes your mind and body will be fighting back at you all at once. Because you are constantly battling with yourself and sitting in

the same position for what seems to be an endless amount of time, there is always an element of fatigue. You must take breaks, stretch, and/or do some form of physical exercise to get your blood flowing. Listen carefully to what your body is telling you, you need to remain strong and agile throughout this intense process.

Panic will set in, but it is up to you to control it. From day one until that final day, this will be the ultimate test of self-control. You must diligently maintain a balance spreading your energies in the right direction forging slowly ahead. Do not get frustrated by looking at the big picture, make each day a separate challenge, not a continuation from the night before otherwise it will all blend together and you will lose focus.

Here's a checklist to follow: Remain flexible to change relative to your individualized development; Fine tune your study and organizational skills to fit the chore; Each week, you must mindfully and realistically create a schedule and conscientiously stick to it; Always keep a tight grip on the material; Pay attention to detail but do not get lost in it; Remember quality will win over quantity every time; Create a checklist of the major topic areas you will

be responsible for; Stick to one major topic area at a time; Categorize major topic areas into sub topics; Once you have left one sub topic to move onto the next but consistently return to it because the law flies out of your brain as quickly as it is inserted; Attempt to create some of your own personalized succinct study aids;

Each day, forge ahead by studying one more sub topic, completing a few more questions, and memorizing a few more rules of law; Keep in touch with a support system of experienced professors and/or a recent bar exam taker who will be sensitive to your plight; Be careful not to over do it or your brain will shut down on you.

You cannot do this by rote. You must remain active constantly switching gears and deliberating on your every move. Because you will become tired, frustrated, and discouraged, it will be all too easy and tempting to subconsciously avoid the task at hand and become detached from what you are doing. Fight it—if you do, you will win in the end, your brain will succumb to your training. The name of the game: *control, discipline, study, memorize, repeat.*

L

## The Sinkhole

# The Year in Review

Louis J. Russo III  
Features Editor

As the school year comes to an end, I think it's time to look back and reflect. My editor has asked me to tone down my final article because this is a graduation issue. Maybe she thinks I am a little angry or cynical. Maybe I should write about the nice pretty flag the schools hangs from the building. Maybe I should tell the students how happy and impressed I am with the way the school is putting information on the television in the cafeteria. Simply put, that just wouldn't be me.

The school should be doing all these things. This is why you pay tuition. Why should we just allow the administration to take

our money and spend it as they see fit without being held accountable. Let's not let the new Dean feel he can sit in his nice chair, smoke a cigar and put his feet up. It's time that the administration be held accountable for their actions. On that note, let's just quickly recap the school year and some of the things the administration has done.

After a successful campaign as Dean, Harry Wellington will be stepping down and stay on as a Professor. He will be taking Associate Dean Ryerson with him. Has anyone ever seen her? Does she even exist? The bar rate plummeted, but we had a pep rally. "Come on everyone you can do it." I still think that the tuition should be dropped by twelve percent to match the decline on the

bar results.

The writing department is continuing its effort to groom all the first year students. They are listening to student's problems and addressing their concerns. Doesn't the letter P and S make you feel like a success? We had a great school closing policy last semester. After a big panic because of hurricane Floyd, the powers-that-be thought the world was coming to an end and decided to close the school. The day came and went with a mild storm. Fast forward a month when New York actually had a storm resulting in treacherous roads and dangerous conditions. What does the school do? It stayed open because the New York public schools were open. It is common knowledge that the New York Public Schools

never close because there state funding is determined by how many days schools are open.

Do you remember the Transit strike and the school policy implemented? NYLS proposed moving the finals to the first week of January. I thought it was a joke at first. But when a fellow classmate informed me that he had to cancel his plans to Florida or take the exam next year, I nearly fell over. Thankfully, the Transit Authority settled.

The administration has changed the Principles of Legal Analysis so as to be more open and honest with the students. Actually, they can not comment on the course until they allegedly talk with their attorneys. Lastly, I was impressed at the new Student Bar Association student forums cre-

ated in February. The idea was that you send in questions to the SBA, the SBA then gives them to the administration for a response. This was to be done monthly. As of today, I haven't seen one response from the administration.

Overall I had fun this year. I failed in my bid for SBA President, another set of students graduated and law school has continued to be a supervised self study session. For some of us summer school is on the way and for others the Bar Exam. Good Luck to those taking the Bar Exam. Hopefully next year will be a better one, hopefully the tuition will only rise three percent and in the end hopefully we can fill the "Sinkhole." See you in the fall!

POMP, CIRCUMSTANCE... AND EVERYTHING IN BETWEEN





# Editorial

## What I've Learned

**David F. Resnick**  
Managing Editor

I have been through four years of college and now three years of law school. As the final weeks of my scholastic life have passed, I have been thinking about what I've learned.

Recently I realized on a train traveling from Manhattan to Jersey City, as I made my way through the mass of people who were taking the trip with me, that my two college majors, English and Philosophy, could be reduced to two important lessons in life.

I learned from my English major, mostly from the novels that I read, that people are complicated. A priest could have little or no feeling for a man that he is eulogizing, and a brutal murderer could cry at the sight of a drowning puppy. And that is just the way that people are. I think that within almost every human being there is something beautiful—something worthy of nurturing and treating with respect, and we should never lose sight of that.

As far as my second lesson in life, I'm not sure whether I learned it from sitting in Professor Glihck's *Introduction to Philosophy* class, or whether I learned it from getting my heart broken by the girl with the amazing blue eyes, who

was studying to be an environmental activist. But either way, it was a difficult lesson. I learned that people can have lofty goals and commit themselves to changing the world for the better and that is moral and that is altruistic, but that true morality, true altruism can exist in the world only if it exists between you and the person right next to you—perhaps even the person standing next to you on a train traveling from Manhattan to Jersey City. Altruism should come from the need to help others and not some amorphous need to join a movement or to make a name for yourself.

I cannot tell you which of the two lessons is more important to me, or even if I should attempt to place a value on either of them, but those are the lessons in life that I brought with me when I came to law school, and those are the lessons that I will take with me when I leave in May.

What did I learn in the last three years? I started this editorial a month ago, and since then, I've been waiting for another epiphany on a train that never seems to arrive. Then one day as I waited at the station, I realized that the very act making my trip day after day is what I learned. In the law, I've found an occupation that I love. With that discovery, I have learned what I am capable of achieving and that tenacity and grit can get you a long way.



The Senior Editorial Staff 1999-2000: (left to right) David F. Resnick, Susan L. Harper and Eddie Westfield Jr.

To our entire staff: Thank you for your hard work and valiant efforts.

To our valued readers: Thank you for your continuing support.

We look forward to seeing you next year.

—eds.

# Have a Great Summer!



Back to Basics

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The views expressed herein are not necessarily those of the L, any of its editors or staff members, or the students, faculty, or staff of New York Law School.

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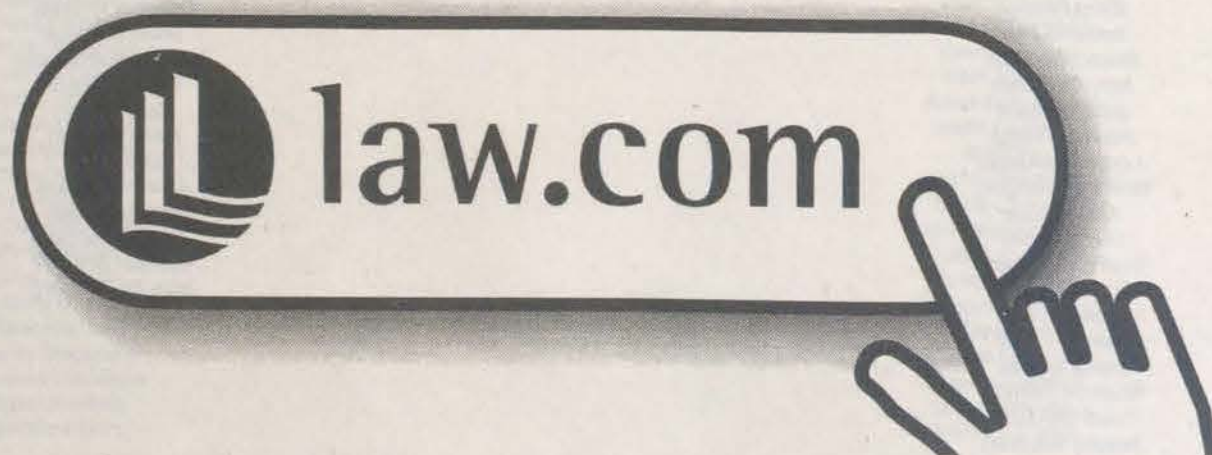
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# Recasting Hillary's Image

## One Observer's View

Stephen Williamson

Hillary Clinton leads Rudy Giuliani in the polls for the first time this year. The Mayor's insensitive reaction to the killing by police of Patrick Dorismond, an unarmed black man, is the probable cause for the turnaround. But, Mr. Dorismond's tragic death will be largely forgotten by November and the polls favorable to the First Lady will surely reverse before election day. Absent another major stumble at City Hall, Mr. Giuliani should pull ahead again without too much trouble. However, it's not the Mayor's attractiveness as a candidate that makes this likely, but rather the enormous personal enmity many New Yorkers feel for his opponent.

In New York, Mrs. Clinton swims tough political waters. Beyond the carpet-bagger issue, scores of mainstream, moderate New Yorkers are openly disdainful of her. A *New York Times* survey called the feeling "intense animosity and suspicion." Among the haters, one group has surprised pollsters: white women, particularly suburban mothers, are generally unsupportive of the First Lady's Senate aspirations. "I don't like her... I just don't!" goes the typical response. A March 2<sup>nd</sup> Quinnipiac College poll shows Hillary winning the overall female vote but trailing the Mayor with white women. In a tight race with most voters already decided and only a small swing margin—roughly 9%—still in play, the so-called soccer moms are a crucial demographic.

Indeed, most political professionals and pundits believe suburban moms hold the key to this year's Presidential election. As recently as April 9, *The New York Times Magazine* called female suburbanites "the quintessential swing voter." While these women largely supported Bill Clinton in '92 and '96, George W. Bush's "compassionate conservatism," boyish good looks, and boomer appeal may change that. In the

California primaries, Gore's large minority support helped him win more overall female votes than Bush, but among white women, the Texan bested the Vice-President 33% to 29%. A strikingly similar breakdown is evident in New York's Senate polls. In a national election year where straight party-line voting is common, Hillary, who has more trouble than Gore in suburbia, must increase her popularity among soccer moms. Otherwise, she's dead.

National opinion polls indicate the breadth of the problem. Some show that roughly one third of the electorate deeply dislikes and distrusts the Clintons. For years, pollsters from both parties haven't differed in their descriptions of anti-Clinton sentiment. The hatred, they say, is "visceral." Hillary, for one, struggles against a public perception that is distorted by various stereotypes: eight years of scrutiny, scandal, allegations and innuendo have created a giant wall of negativity between her and the voter. The image is of a dishonest, slick yuppie who has radical political ideas and questionable morality, and of a spoiled princess who's out-of-touch with the concerns of average people.

Scandal fatigue aside, at bottom the negativity generated by the Clintons is rooted in 30 years of political and class conflict. For baby boomers especially, the draft-dodging, pot smoking, Ivy League Clintons are living symbols of a culture war left unfinished. The first couple cause so much personal scorn because they represent so much that is personal—they are iconic figures for the generation that brought us immense social change. The disdain felt for Hillary by suburban moms is part of this. To decrease their resistance, she must recreate her image by linking her pre-White House record to traditional values and local issues. Recast for middle-class suburbia, the First Lady may be strong enough to prevail come November.



COURTESY: WALSH AP/DIGITALLY ENHANCED BY EDDIE WESTFIELD



SUSAN HARPER

"Yeah... I read the L too."

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## Liquid Bar Review

## The Complete Post-Commencement Drinking Guide

## Ed Maggio

As a courtesy to the graduating students, and for those wishing to escape TriBeCa after their last final, here is a drinking guide to some bars on the Upper West Side (near Lincoln Center). You can express jubilation with your friends and family, or just go on a drinking crusade yourself.

## P&amp;G

*Btw 73<sup>rd</sup> & 74<sup>th</sup> and Amsterdam*

If you can make it past the construction near Verdi Square, look for the colorful lights to this place on the corner, and go inside. The jukebox is kicking out old rock and roll, and sipping drinks in wooden booths seems to be the norm. They have a large beer selection, and if the place isn't crowded, you can enjoy looking at the diverse wall paintings or all the stickers on the wall. If you are looking for a crowd, just wait. As soon as a work shift or a movie/play ends, the crowd rushes in. Make sure not to leave your seat unattended!

## Westside Brewery Company

*Btw 76<sup>th</sup> & 77<sup>th</sup> and Amsterdam*

If you are wearing a suit or dress, you will fit at this place. Most of the clientele in the evenings look like the first class passengers in Titanic; unfortunately I was dressed like the Italian guy who got killed when the ship's funnel landed on him. Despite the ritzy business and theater going crowd, this place features a lot of indoor and outdoor space, and their bar is very spacious with a fancy metal shine. They only feature about 4 beers on tap, so you are limited to bottles and mixed drinks. Beer and drinks run between four and five dollars, so be careful with your wallet. If you are however looking for a place to shout you are "King of the World," it is definitely worth a visit.

## Amsterdam Billiards

*77<sup>th</sup> and Amsterdam*

If you are looking for a huge bar, a lot of space for your crowd, and the opportunity to play pool, this is the place. Here fancy pants businessmen and rough-

neck pool sharks mix together. The size of the bar, and giant TV, allows couples dressed up for the opera or teams from the pool league to find their own niche and drink. The size of this spacious pool hall definitely gives it an advantage. If you want to play pool for hours on hours, you can easily make arrangements. No matter how good you were at pool in your fraternity, I wouldn't try to challenge one of the pros to a game, unless you want a lesson in humility.

## Blondie's Sport's Bar

*77<sup>th</sup> and Broadway*

For a place this clean, you would never think it was a sport's bar. You can drink on one side, or eat from a menu of American food on white table clothes. 10 beers are on tap, and the loud and outgoing bartenders will help you decide which beer to drink if you are undecided. Monday features all you can eat wings for \$9.50

## McAleer's Pub

*Btw 81<sup>st</sup> & 82<sup>nd</sup> and Amsterdam*

A decent Irish bar that is a nice place to visit on a lazy sunny day. For a drinking establishment they feature a huge classy menu of Irish food for all your breakfast, lunch, brunch, and dinner needs. If you are on a budget for food, try the \$4.95 lunch menu. I suggest trying the Shepherd's Pie! They have a big screen TV so you can keep up with sports, and enjoy outdoor seating. As they suggest, grab a pint of Killian's and go outside for a seat in the sun.

## The Snug

*Btw 81<sup>st</sup> & 82<sup>nd</sup> and Amsterdam*

They should have called this place "The Small." It is a less than average size Irish bar frequented by the locals. Despite the mini-me favorable size of this place, you are able to squeeze in for a drink when all the other bars in the neighborhood get crowded. The crowd is outgoing and the bar stuff friendly and quick with your drinks. My suggestion, grab a bottle of "Harp" and hang out or sing along with the crowd.

## Brother Jimmy's

*Btw 81<sup>st</sup> & 82<sup>nd</sup> and Amsterdam*

If you love the South or just a fan of Elvis and Porky Pig, this place is for you. From red and white decorated tables and other features of Southern Décor, the cast of the Dukes of Hazard would be proud to be here. The Southern menu of food features all sorts of delicious goodies from southern ribs, barbecued chicken, sweet potato fries, and much more. Wednesday is Southern appreciation day and 25% discount on food for fellow Southerners. Their Happy Hour features dollar drafts on certain beers and 6 taps to choose from and a well stocked bar. If you are with a group, try one of the group drinks like the "Trash Can Punch" and then go pass out in the

"The Hog Room."

## Bourbon St.

*Btw 79<sup>th</sup> & 80<sup>th</sup> and Amsterdam*

For those missing the French Quarter, and those dive bars on Royal or Bourbon St., your prayers are answered. For a short time you can pretend you are bar at Mardi Gras, drink a little, and dance badly. Their drinking specials include discount ice buckets of beer, \$2 kamikaze shots, and \$5 hurricane frozen drinks like those you get in the French Quarter.

Wednesday is ladies night with additional specials, and Tuesday is Karaoke day. A fine place to pretend you are on the Bayou and drink like you are at a parade.

## Raccoon Lodge

*Btw 82<sup>nd</sup> and 83<sup>rd</sup> and Amsterdam*

A neighborhood haunt that is definitely different from the local establishments, especially when you have a twelve-foot-high standing horse outside. The decorator of this place had a fun time hanging up license plates, stuffed game animals, raccoons, and a moose. The old arcade machines, fireplace, pool table, and juke box from the 60's gives it a nice touch. The bar stuff is friendly, and the large bar and well stocked supply of alcohol guarantees a good time. Try a "Tequila Rose" but don't have too many. Too many drinks can result in you acting like one of visitors, who tried to kiss the moose, and then attempted to make out with the horse outside. I am not sure what is worse in that situation, the fact he tried to kiss the horse, or that he was shouting that the horse was prettier than his ex girlfriend.

## Jake's Dilemma and The Gin Mill

*Btw 80<sup>th</sup> & 81<sup>st</sup> and 81<sup>st</sup> & 82<sup>nd</sup> and Amsterdam*

I mention these together because the same company owns them, and pretty much resemble each other. If you have ever been to Down the Hatch or Off the Wagon in the Village, this place will be no surprise. During Happy Hour or late evenings, if you are in the neighborhood you have to stop in for a drink. No matter what day of the week, either place features daily drink specials and crowd to keep things jumping.

Happy Hour for Jake's 5-8, The Gin Mill 4-7 Private Party rooms are available at either place in case you need to plan an event

For those with a pizza crave, I suggest dropping by Famous and Original Ray's Pizza for a coke and a slice. Want a bar reviewed, interested in the latest hot spot, or want to give a suggestion, send it at [beerforyouandme@hotmail.com](mailto:beerforyouandme@hotmail.com). Till the next review, let your life be like a Margarita, colorful, pleasant, and full of alcohol.

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## Coffee House Diaries

# What's Brewing on the Upper West Side

Ed Maggio

As the weather gets warm, romance blooms in the city. Despite the temperatures rising, a cup of coffee and a good conversation still are ideal if you want to spend time with a special someone or impress someone you hope will fill that role.

## Café Lalo

83rd btw Amsterdam & B'way

A European café on the Upper West Side that features a large collection of coffee and gourmet food choices to keep you staring at the menu for awhile. I started to realize this place look familiar, when a quick inquiry led me to find out this was the coffee shop featured in "You've Got Mail." The crowd here features a lot of theatergoers, some tourists, and a lot of evening daters holding hands. The coffee is quite good, even if you order something to say easier than their popular Double

Decaffeinated Mocha Cappuccino. The gourmet deserts are a little pricey, but that can work to your advantage. I noticed most people order a single slice of pie or cake, thus if you are on a date or with your special someone, intimate sharing of food with one another is a necessity. But if you are alone, and feeling blue, listening to the classical music and ordering a slice of Heath Bar Cheesecake will put you in a better mood.

## The Drip

Btw 82nd & 83rd and Amsterdam

After a few requests from people to check this place out, I walked into a world of single people checking each other out, and students focused so hard on books that they wouldn't notice the world exploding. The crayon colored walls, and over abundant number of comfy sofas makes the place quite relaxing. I was delighted to get a strong and hot cup of coffee even at 2 in

the afternoon. Coffee sizes come in small, medium, and huge ass sizes. Baked deserts include gourmet fat free deserts, traditional favorites such as brownies, and old classics like Smores or Rice Krispie Treats. They have a stocked selection of beer in case you feel the need for some hops in your system. This coffee bar features folders of singles looking to meet that special someone, and they offer an online dating service. It appeared to me the single crowd was more towards the front, while the hardcore students were concentrated in the back of this place. Whether you need to get reading done, or you want to meet some new people, you can accomplish that task here with ease. Make sure not to hit the disco ball with your head on your way out.

## Popover Plum's

86th and Amsterdam

Walking in you feel like you are back on Cape Cod for the summer, and once the

smell of the food hits you are hooked. This place serves as a busy restaurant and a fancy coffee bar in one. The food here is a little expensive, but worth it you want to impress someone or just drive some of your taste buds crazy. If you are looking for a cup of coffee, sit by the coffee bar. Otherwise you will be in the restaurant section of the establishment, where it can be a little noisy. They feature a gift shop in case you need to bus your girlfriend something special, or bring some cute item home to Mom.

In the hustle and bustle of work and school, nothing drops your blood pressure or removes a headache better than sitting with a cup of coffee or tea and clearing your head. You never know, it can be the best thing you do for yourself this season.

L

# Inside a Taping of "The Daily Show"

Ed Maggio

With all the big talk shows on TV such as Rosie or Oprah, nobody realizes that you can visit an evening taping of a nationally broadcast show for free that often does not get a full crowd to fill the audience.

Recently, I attended a taping of Comedy Central "The Daily Show" hosted by comedian Jon Stewart. The show's goal is to keep people up to date on world news and issues, from a humorous standpoint.

The first thing you notice as you enter the studio is how small the studio it is. It is about half of the size of any of our school's large lecture rooms. As you wait for them to setup, a DJ spins the

latest alternative and dance songs. Technicians show you how they use camera tricks and how they make the room look huge on TV. The small room works out to your advantage, because you get personal attention with the cast of the show.

Before a taping, the comedic writers of the show and Jon Stewart come out and talk to the audience to get them relaxed and in a laughing in frenzy. They inform you on how some of the taping process works and they get to know the members of the audience. This can get a little wild depending on the attitudes and political beliefs of the audience.

One guy from Texas discussed his status as a southern protestant. One staff writer came

out and asked him if he ever saw an Italian and reminded him he was in NYC. Stewart, responding to the Texan, asked "Do you know I am a Hebrew? Hope it doesn't get you in trouble."

Two guys wearing bright orange Princeton outfits, shouting their love for their school, prompted the staff to inform them to stop acting like losers. A recent drop out from MIT, who was obnoxiously bragging to Stewart of her intelligence and acceptance to Columbia, prompted a response "Why don't you go to DeVry and fix refrigerators?"

Despite all the antics, politics is the major focus of the show. The taping began, and the news of the day was discussed in an outrageously funny manner. That

evening Wolf Blitzer from CNN was live via Satellite, discussing politics. He informed us how Moscow on their ballots is using "none of the above" box providing citizens to voice their lack of enthusiasm over the choice of candidates. Stewart responded, "If the US had that, things would go crazy in this country."

They also discussed yesterday's guest Bob Dole who was a riot according to the staff. If his humor was related to the Viagra, none were aware.

Comedian and political correspondent Louis Black adds a twist into the show. He acts calm before his segment of the show, and then erupts into a fireball of humorous dissent and pokes fun at many things from our country's

political structure to a man in Romania who smokes 2000 cigarettes at one time.

If you are ever free in the weeks to come, check out the show first on TV at 11:00 p.m. nightly on Comedy Central, and then make a reservation to be an audience member at 212-586-2477. Doors open for tapings at 5:45 p.m.

My friend Steve and I asked Stewart if he wanted to go for a beer and scope out the ladies, and he said it sounds good as long he didn't have to pay more than 3 bucks for a drink, and if we wouldn't mind if George Bush tagged along.



# Good Luck on Finals!



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