

Brooklyn College Stands Against Anti-Semitism



BC President Anderson speaks at the BC Hillel, reassuring the audience about Brooklyn College's stance against antisemitism and bigotry on campus. PHOTO/ **M.A. Rahman**

BY M.A. RAHMAN

Following the recent tragedy in Pittsburgh that left nearly a dozen Jewish congregants in a synagogue dead by an anti-Semitic gunman, Brooklyn College faculty have taken to reaffirm their commitment to take a stand against hate on campus.

Speaking before a sizable audience at the BC Hillel, several organizers, faculty members and concerned students of the BC community expressed their sympathy to the greater Jewish community over the tragedy offering words of conciliation.

Among the speakers was BC President Michelle Anderson who spoke passionately,

expressing condolences for the tragic lost to the Jewish community, as well as offered solace on tackling another predicament: anti-Semitism on campus.

“We have to come to embrace the reality of who we are, the perspectives of others, different than ours perhaps radically different but equally worthy of our dignity, respect, human rights and equality,” Anderson said stressing importance of peaceful exchanges of thoughts and opinions to continue on and off campus.

Having taken place no more than five days since the tragic attack in Pittsburgh, many of the speakers spoke

before the attendants with little preparation, still visibly shaken by the tragedy.

David Brodsky, BC Chairperson of Judaic Studies, spoke analyzing the tragic event contrasting it with the torment his grandfather faced at the hands of anti-Jewish oppressors in Russia, noting how his neighbors looked on, unwilling to intercede.

“The Jews of the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh would... never again neglect speaking out for neighbors no matter their race, religion, citizenship and they were killed because not despite living by that,” Brodsky said with a

hint of pride in his voice.

As the solemn event went on, it became clear what most speakers agreed or hinted on: anti-Semitism on campus was a problem and somehow curtailed either administratively or by student action.

MJ Romero, a freshman and member of Hillel concurred with this sentiment, stating her own concerns in the rise anti-Semitism nationwide, “It’s one of those things that I have to keep on the back of my mind... but it's not like I think [to myself] everyone's trying to kill you,” she said.

Others looked upon this event, with a less gloomy outlook, pleased by the

turnout of students, faculty, and ordinary persons alike.

“It was inspirational to see our Brooklyn College community gather for an event of remembrance and unity in opposition to bigotry, prejudice and violence,” remarked Nadya Drukker, Executive Director at Tanager Hillel at Brooklyn College.

With vigil candles alit, colorful cards of solidarity filled and ready to be sent to those affected by the tragedy to renew some sense of hope for them, a prayer was sung in Hebrew marking the somber occasion at Hillel as the event concluded but thoughts and emotions could not.

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THE EXCELSIOR

BULLSPIT!

Bullspit! is a weekly satirical column by Brooklyn College comedian Ryan Gleason.

Freedom of Speech?

BY RYAN GLEASON

More controversy fills the halls of Brooklyn College this week as an adjunct professor in the English Department takes over his hour and fifteen-minute class with his outrageous tangents. As students pour into Professor Harkness's 9:30 A.M. class, the 29-year-old professor begins to gargle, whistle and make noises unknown to human ears. He begins the lesson with scribbles on the board and speaking an unrecognizable dialect. When asked why he is speaking gibberish, he responded by saying it is his right as an American to say what he wants, even if it isn't real words. "Bowzawowza woolo-oloo, chachacha waheeeee," said Professor Harkness as I approached him for an interview. He then proceeded to grab his cheeks and pull them outward and in, creating an unsettling smacking sound. He then whistled through his nose and said



What exactly is freedom of speech? PHOTO/ Alamy Stock Photo

“Hey, it’s freedom of speech kid, welcome to America,” and then punched me in the shoulder and winked. He then sauntered off, leaving me confused and with a small bruise. His students aren't complaining. Despite not being able to comprehend their instructor, the students arrive every Monday and Wednesday on time. They have

all decided to play along and just make up sounds to respond to Harkness. His class’s midterm consisted of a 1000 word essay and everyone received a passing mark. The English department claims there is nothing they can do, considering the students are somehow using the assigned readings and doing all work.

Is this freedom of speech or is it an abuse of the very rights we as American hold near and dear to our hearts? Sure, the words said by Harkness are nonsensical gibberish, but does that mean he should get to spew whatever assortment of sounds he creates onto the ears of our student body? You decide.

EVENTS LISTING

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 8

Navigating Global Careers/ Internships

12:15 PM - 2:30 PM

411 - Brooklyn College Library

Shirlanna Alexis Memorial Lecture: Soledad Sosa, Mount Sinai

12:30 PM - 1:30 PM

113 Ingersoll Hall Extension

The Department of Biology will host a special lecture in memory of Shirlanna Alexis, a Biology graduate and long-time researcher in the laboratory of Charlene Forest, who passed away earlier this year following the relapse of an aggressive form of cancer. Soledad Sosa from the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai will present a guest lecture entitled, "Illuminating how tumor cell dormancy works: Relevance to metastasis".

Careers and Internships in Education

4:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Woody Tanger Auditorium

Gain career advice from Principals, Educators, School Counselors/ School Psychologist, Hiring Managers and Speech Language Pathologists about the different careers you may have in education. Open to all majors!

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 9

CUNY Writing Across the Curriculum Fellows Workshop

9:30 AM - 12:30 PM

412-C - Brooklyn College Library

Learn and ask questions to a panel of experts on the intersection of the first amendment and civil rights how they play out on public college campus.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 9 - SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17

UNCLE VANYA by Anton Chekhov, adapted by Annie Baker

7:30 PM - 9:30 PM

412-C - Brooklyn College Library

Taking on the classic play of a bourgeois Russian family trapped by the banalities of their unbearable existences, Annie Baker sought to create "a version that sounds to our contemporary American ears the way the play sounded to Russian ears" during the original production. Thwarted love, failing estate, and gun still apply. Baker is an Obie Award-winning playwright who received an MFA in 2009 from the Playwriting program at Brooklyn College. In 2017, she was awarded a MacArthur Fellowship, also known as the "Genius Grant." Directed by Kevin Hourigan.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 12

So You Want to be a Writer?

12:30 PM - 2:00 PM

TBA

If you've always had a talent for writing but are not sure what kind of career options you have, this event will help give you some clarity.

Visiting Artist Lecture Series: Sally Saul

12:30 PM - 2:00 PM

242 - Brooklyn College Library

Sally Saul will give a one hour lecture of her work, followed by studio visits to the MFA students, providing feedback.

Teach In: The First Amendment and Civil Rights on College Campuses

4:30 PM - 6:00 PM

6th Floor - Student Center

Learn and ask questions to a panel of experts on the intersection of the first amendment and civil rights how they play out on public college campus.

Conservatory Guitar Ensemble

7:30 PM - 8:30 PM

Recital Hall, Room 250

Leonard & Claire Tow Center for the Performing Arts

The opinions expressed in the Opinions Section do not necessarily reflect the views of The Excelsior.

This Is Boom Time

BY MICHAEL CASTANEDA

This is boom time. Do you feel it? Despite recent market volatility, the stock market is at historic highs. The interest rate is at a historic low. Money is awash. Never in the history of the world has there been a country other than the United States to be the richest at the turn of two centuries. The United States is unsurpassed militarily and is once again energy independent. Every student at Brooklyn College should be brimming with hope for the future. Are you?

Ten years ago the economy was tittering on the edge. It seemed very possible that the world was going to enter another Great Depression. Companies had jobs, but they couldn't hire because it wasn't clear if there was going to be a market at the end of the week. What followed was the Great Recession, but with massive government bailouts, Quantities Easing (printing money), stress tests, higher liquidity standards, the economy slowly came back.

The government printed \$3.6 trillion between 2008 and 2015. Unemployment peaked at 10% between



America came back from the Great Recession and the Great Depression. Can we keep it up? PHOTO/ Getty Images

2009 and 2010. By end of the Obama administration the unemployment rate was at 5%. Today the unemployment rate is at 3.7% (Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics).

As a Brooklyn College graduate, the median income after two years of graduating is \$30,500 and \$43,500 after 6 years from graduation. Herein lays the rub.

Doing a tax calculation for 2018 for Residents of New York City, if you earned \$40,000, your take home pay would be \$2,667.73 whilst an average studio apartment in Brooklyn is \$2,350 (Dec 2017). So, after four long hard years of school and 6

hard years of work, you are pushing 30 years old and you still can't afford rent.

We live in the richest country on earth but most of us feel poor.

Companies have money. According to a PriceWaterhouseCoopers™ study from March 31, 2018, the top 10 biggest companies by Market Capitalization are all American. Apple™ alone is worth 1 Trillion dollars.

However, if you look at political discourse, it would seem like the country is on the edge of existence. Social programs need to be cut, because there isn't enough money. Salaries have barely

risen. One common theme I hear in racist diatribes that make the news is that people feel there are not enough resources to accommodate people different from them. The idea is, "you can't come in here and use our precious resources when I don't have enough." These are usually directed towards blacks and Hispanics even though the group who are the highest recipients of public assistants are white.

An interesting phenomena here is that many people receiving public assistance are actually working, which suggests that wages are so low or costs are so high that

working people can still not have enough money to live.

So where is the money? According to Thomas Piketty's Capital in the Twenty-First Century, we run the risk of having a few hundred people that are so rich that they can live just on interest alone. Would this be a good things? Former Fed Chairman Paul Volcker said in a New York Times interview (10/23/2018) that: "We've got an enormous number of enormously rich people that have convinced themselves that they're rich because they're smart and constructive. And they don't like government, and they don't like to pay taxes."

What scares me is that we have political discourse of scarcity and we see acts of violence against from people who feel like they are dispossessed at time of record wealth in this country. How bad will things be when there is another downturn? A special report from the October 13th issue of the Economist was titled, "Another economic downturn is just a matter of time," and they are not only ones reporting this. It's coming.

Do you have a
#MeToo story from
your experiences
at Brooklyn
College to share?
Please email
editor@bcexcelsior.com. If
you prefer,
you may remain anonymous.

Last week, The Excelsior published an exclusive about Christine DeLisser, a former Brooklyn College student who was sexually assaulted at the Residence Hall. The following articles include three letters The Excelsior received in response to our exclusive, as well as an op-ed by former Brooklyn College professor Dr. Gail Horowitz.

A Letter To The Editor From The Management of The Residence Hall at Brooklyn College

BY EITAN MADMON

The dormitory management and any of its employees strongly and decisively condemn any conduct that is sexually inappropriate in any way. Neither the dormitory management nor any of its employees have ever received any complaint regarding a possible harassment. Furthermore, no such complaint has ever been received from the day the dormitories were put into operation by any of the tenants or by any other person. Therefore, we have at this time no ability to relate to the claim made in the article. We have noted that Ms. Christine DeLisser never claims in the article that any complaint was made by her to RHBC management.



RHBC management responds to a story we published last week. PHOTO/ **Residence Hall @ Brooklyn College**

It should be emphasized that there is 24/7 security in the dormitory. In addition, there are resident’s assistants (RA’s), whose job is to provide a 24/7 solution

to any problem that arises in the building. The RA’s are students themselves. We are certain that if such a complaint has been put forward it would have received

a quick, immediate and uncompromising response. With regard to the physical conditions in the dormitories – The dormitories are very clean and very well

maintained. Those who are interested are invited to the dormitory building to be impressed by the level of maintenance and high cleanliness. It is important to emphasize that we are private entrepreneurs. We invested and continue to invest \$50 millions in the RHBC building. This is done in order to build and manage a decent and a valuable dormitory for Brooklyn College and its students. We served many thousands of students over the years. We strongly reject all claims raised in the article. RHBC is a very safe place to live in, as well as very well maintained and clean

To the CEO of the Residence Hall

BY CHRIS OMAR

Dear CEO of the Residence Hall @ Brooklyn College, Condemnations only go so far when the company you manage is responsible for gross negligence in regards to the sexual misconduct committed by your own employees. It’s not only ridiculous but sheer ignorance to think that a victim of sexual assault would report their situation to the predatory staff that harasses them verbally and sexually on a daily basis. It also shows the true morals of your company to deny allegations of sexual violence going on in your building rather than conducting an internal investigation. If that investigation were to ever happen, you would learn that some of the “24/7 security,” Residence Assistants, and maintenance staff were predators, targeting young women just trying to live through the abhorrent conditions they were contractually incarcerated in.



Following The Excelsior’s exclusive last week, Chris Omar has received three sexual assault stories from former RHBC residents. PHOTO/ **Chris Omar**

It’s also asinine to claim that Christine never went to RHBC management as she personally met with Matt and Sefi on Monday, February 5th, 2018. She told them that she had gone through a traumatic experience. They didn’t care to ask more questions about the incident, only what they could do to “make her happy.” She simply wanted out of the dorm and to stop being harassed by

the Resident Assistants who were sending condescending and rude emails to her. My biggest problem is that Christine brought her case to Brooklyn College’s Title IX office to be told that Title IX has no jurisdiction over the employees of private companies. However, that is an issue I am taking up with the school and not you. Since I put out my initial video on YouTube (the

one you requested me to take down), I have received 11 survey submissions from past residents with “Title IX - Sexual Assault/Harassment” checked off as one of the issues experienced while staying there. Following the release of Christine’s story, I have also received three more sexual assault survival stories from courageous, former residents, all perpetrated by RHBC employees.

Lastly, on cleanliness, regardless if the dorms have been renovated this year, the article summed up MY experience at the dorm in 2016, plus the thousands of others who dealt with even worse conditions prior to this year. It’s clear the apparent \$50 million invested into the building was only to be used as a selling point, and now, damage control for the advertising contract that is expiring in two years between your company and Brooklyn College. I have plenty of evidence, and if the school isn’t going to advocate for the students, I will. My filmmaking will continue to be a vessel of truth for everyone that has been victimized and exploited staying in your scam of an establishment. Best, Chris Omar Filmmaker & Concerned Brooklyn College Student

You Won't Silence Us

BY EYTAN GALANTER,
CLAS PRESIDENT

Calling the Residence Hall at Brooklyn College unethical is a major understatement. As the President of the CLAS Student Government here at Brooklyn College, the concerns I have encountered from over 50 students about the Residence Hall range from upsetting to horrifying, and yet the response to them by the management of the RHBC has been the same throughout. The response has been one of inaction. A nonresponse is compliance. Students have reported issues that range from sexual harassment to moldy kitchens, and pipes bursting leading to an inch of sewage settling over their bedrooms; yet, the management has turned a blind eye.

Our campus has continued to advertise for the RHBC. We have giant banners with smiling faces hanging on our gates. Our office for Student Affairs sent out



Brooklyn College continues to advertise RHBC on its campus. PHOTO/ Chris Omar

consistent emails as recently as October 2nd, informing people about our “state of the art” residence hall.

We are in a contract for two more years. For two more years, vulnerable students are going to be told by our campus to live in a place that can victimize them at any time. A place that has Brooklyn College’s name proudly displayed

on its front door, but lacks any of the Brooklyn College values. Title IX and the CUNY Sexual Misconduct Policies that protect all students from harassment do not extend there.

“Only two more years” is not an acceptable excuse. A college career can be as short as four years. Half that time is signed over to the RHBC

which consistently hurts out more vulnerable people. Students that want safety and security in their day to day lives are met with the harsh reality that while Brooklyn College can advertise for RHBC it cannot enforce punitive measures. Once your name is on the lease, you’ve signed yourself away to them.

This isn’t acceptable.

Christine isn’t the only victim of RHBC; she’s just brave enough to talk about it. No amount of threats or inaction from either our own college or from the RHBC will stop students that won’t stand for assault. That’s a promise.

My #MeToo at Brooklyn College

BY DR. GAIL HOROWITZ

This is Professor Gail Horowitz, formerly of the Chemistry Department of Brooklyn College.

I was a cced (tenured) faculty member at Brooklyn College and taught in the Chemistry department from Spring 2010 to Spring 2018.

While at Brooklyn College, I experienced years of abusive treatment. During 2017, a number of horribly cruel and abusive actions were inflicted on me and these were the final straw. I concluded that I could no longer remain in my department. At that point, I requested that the college relocate me to another department where I could continue to serve the college and the students, both of whom I loved dearly. Unfortunately, my requests were denied. Therefore, after my sabbatical (from fall 2017 - spring 2018) ended, I resigned my position at Brooklyn College, effective September 4, 2018.

Although I am no longer



Dr. Gail Horowitz hopes that one day there will be a #MeToo movement for people like her. PHOTO/ Wikimedia Commons

at BC, I am still recovering and often still feel traumatized by what was done to me.

But I write because I have learned the hard way that

people who need to abuse their power often do so in ways that are NOT sexual, and that often it is very difficult to get them to stop.

For example, bullying in the workplace is NOT illegal. I hope one day there were be a #MeToo movement for people like me.

Sincerely,
Dr. Gail Horowitz

"The Haunting of Hill House" Review

By CARMEN SAFFIOTI

The Haunting of Hill House is the Netflix series adaptation of Shirley Jackson’s horror novel of the same name. The series centers around five siblings and their various traumas after living in a “haunted” house and coping with their mother’s death. If you’re expecting to be scared by this series, prepared to be disappointed— you’ll likely be pretty depressed instead. This is because, although the series has a backdrop of horror, at its core it is a family drama. The lore surrounding the house is pretty underdeveloped and disappointing at times, but what the show lacks in these areas it makes up for in intense character development. Each member of the Crain family gets their own episode, and important plot points are revisited from a different perspective, giving more depth to the story each time it is revisited. The show is definitely binge-worthy as you’ll get sucked into the characters’ lives and their traumas.

The Crains are (or were) a family of seven who during one summer stayed in a gothic mansion in order to renovate and flip the property for profit. However, things start to go eerily wrong when some of the children and the mother, Olivia (Carla Gugino), begin to see ghosts. Then suddenly, in the middle of the night, the children are taken away from the house by their father, Hugh



"The Haunting of Hill House" is framed as a horror series, but it's truly a family drama. PHOTO/ Netflix

(Henry Thomas/Timothy Hutton). The show switches back and forth between the present day and the summer that the Crains lived in Hill House. What’s interesting is that as the present continues, our ideas of the past are totally changed. The most jaw dropping example of this being (Major Spoiler) that Nelly (Victoria Pedretti) is “The Bent-Neck Lady.” This twist in particular is gut wrenching due to the nature of Nelly’s untimely death and the untimely death of her husband. In order to defeat their ghosts, the Crains must confront their past – both in a metaphorical and a literal sense - and again visit Hill House.

A thought that is planted in the heads of the viewers and the characters is that perhaps the events of Hill House and thereafter are a result of mental illness. This is emphasized when a character like Luke (Oliver Jackson-Cohen) admits that he uses heroin to cope with the visions of ghosts he sees. It comes to be revealed however that both are correct. The characters are truly being haunted by supernatural presences, but their mental illnesses are still just as real and as terrifying.

The Haunting of Hill House is definitely entertaining, but there are some areas where it is lacking. Personally, I was expecting vil-

lains with just as much depth and intrigue as main characters; instead, the main antagonists are two-dimensional and pretty corny. Poppy, a 1920s flapper, lures Olivia with the logic that her children cannot die if she instead kills them herself. This logic drives Olivia to try and kill Luke and Nelly with rat poison. Although this is horrifying, my ability to take Poppy seriously was hindered by her catchphrases like “screaming meanies” and other ridiculous 20s-esque jargon. It’s hard to find a character scary at all when she is written like a cartoon character.

The acting was okay for a Netflix show (some characters were more believable

than others), but considering the heavy roles these actors had to carry, it was what you would expect. The child actors were probably the worst, but that’s not surprising. My biggest complaint is that the actors had to deliver long monologues about the various themes of the show. Not only were they awkward but I felt as though I was being beat over the head with the message of the show. This was unnecessary as the themes were pretty well incorporated and did not need to be explained through boring soliloquies.

LOOKING FOR

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AND SPORTS

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WWE Faces Backlash Over Show in Saudi Arabia

BY AUSTIN SANTIAGO

World Wrestling Entertainment (WWE) is considered one of the most far reaching sports brands in the world today. Currently available in 180 different Countries, and reaching 800 million homes each week in 25 different languages, pro-wrestling has truly become a cultural phenomenon. However, in light of recent political turmoil between The United States and Saudi Arabia, many sports fans, and Americans alike, are beginning to feel that WWE has reached too far with their latest Pay Per View venture, “WWE: Crown Jewel” live from Saudi Arabia.

The sold out event was the WWE’s second show in Saudi Arabia in less than eight months, and is part of a 10-year strategic partnership between the WWE and the Saudi General Sports Authority. The partnership comes as a result of the “Saudi Vision 2030,” a development program put forward by the Saudi government to reduce their dependence on oil, and diversify the economy by means such as recreation and tourism. Of course,



Despite controversy surrounding Jamal Khashoggi's disappearance, the WWE still held its show in Saudi Arabia. PHOTO/ **Wrestling News**

WWE would also benefit greatly from this partnership, it’s first event in Saudi Arabia “WWE: Greatest Royal Rumble” generated roughly \$40-50 million for the pro wrestling juggernaut, making the call for a second event in Saudi a no-brainer.

And it was an easy decision, until October 19, when reports came out stating that journalist Jamal Khashoggi, a critic of the Saudi Government and writer for The

Washington Post entered the Saudi Consulate in Istanbul, and never came out. Following days of speculation and scrutiny from the President, the Saudi government confirmed that Khashoggi was killed upon entering the consulate, dismembered, and then dissolved. What followed was a massive outcry for the United States to cut off all ties with the Saudi government, as this tragedy seemed to greatly dam-

age what little trust the U.S. has with the Saudi nation.

However, in spite of all the anti-Saudi sentiment that has taken over U.S. news feeds, WWE’s plans of performing in front of a sold out crowd in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia did not change. To the anger of many, the WWE did not cancel the Saudi Arabia show in light of the newly unbalanced political landscape. Despite going forward with the event,

WWE tried its best to mute Saudi Arabia in the buildup to the show, the announcers stopped referring to Saudi Arabia on television and live events, and wrestlers began refereeing to the show as only “Crown Jewel” with no indication of the shows’ location.

The event took place on Friday November 2, and the backlash was fierce. WWE saw its stock price fall two points, while many wrestling fans unsubscribed from the WWE Network, the company’s monthly streaming service. On social media, “#CancelCrownJewel” became a worldwide trend and many wrestling fans posted pictures of their newly unsubscribed WWE Network accounts. The decision to follow through with the event created strife within WWE as well, as John Cena and Daniel Bryan decided not to travel with the company to Saudi Arabia. As considering they are two of the biggest stars the WWE has to offer, their decision not to compete in Saudi Arabia shows that those who work for the WWE are not totally on board with these recent events.

However, some of the wrestlers for the WWE have stated they have no tentativeness towards performing in Saudi Arabia, WWE’s Randy Orton told TMZ: “I’ve got 5 kids. I gotta go make that dollar. If they want me in Saudi, I’m going to Saudi.” While it may just be business to the WWE and its wrestlers, for many, the show in Saudi Arabia is simply unforgivable.



Saudi Arabian journalist Jamal Khashoggi vanished after entering the Saudi Consulate in Istanbul. PHOTO/ **Getty Images**

A Giant Quick Fix

BY JOE LEO

New York is a city that doesn't accept mediocrity. This decade however, New York sports have been exactly that. The only championship that the city of New York has seen is the 2012 New York Giants 21-17 Super Bowl victory over Tom Brady and the New England Patriots. Let me ask you this though, doesn't 2012 seem like an eternity? When the Lombardi Trophy was handed to Eli Manning, the top song on the Billboard charts was Adele's "Set Fire to the Rain," the average price of gas was \$3.43, and Barack Obama just started his second term in office. Those NY Football Giants were spelling "elite" with E-L-I, and talking about a possible dynasty. Oh, how the times have changed.

Currently sitting at 1-7 this season and coming off a bye against an injury laden 49ers team, the Giants look to continue the rebuild they have committed to. Following their 23-20 loss on Monday Night Football in Atlanta, the Giants front office got busy. Eli Apple and Damon Harrison were traded, as everyone in the Giants organization had the realization that this team is not a Super Bowl contending team—but rather a team that is competing for the first overall pick this coming April.

As those memories of success drift farther and farther into the past, many Giant fans must now wonder if those Super Bowl's



Rough times are ahead for the New York Giants as the team rebuilds for the next possible dynasty. PHOTO/ USA TODAY

doomed the Giants for the rest of the decade. With the front office people looking at the overwhelming glow of two Super Bowl victories, they failed to acknowledge the looming Quarterback problem they have now. Consider the New Orleans Saints; they traded for Teddy Bridgewater earlier this year with Drew Brees still under center. New Orleans

straightened out the quarterback position when they didn't have too. The Saints took care of Brees' successor before Brees, 39, has showed signs of declining. The Saints did what the Giants should have done following the 2012 Super Bowl. If that happened, said new Giants quarterback would be in his sixth season this year and the Giants would only owe him

a five-year rookie contract and his rookie option for six. Instead, Dave Gettleman is sitting in his office trying to figure out how to patch up this squad and rebuild for the next possible dynasty.

The first step in doing that is may not be agreed upon by Odell Beckham Jr, but the Giants must lose. The more losing means the better the draft pick in April 2019 will be. That draft pick will be Gettleman's first test in determining if he is the man to do the rebuilding. If the Giants continue to lose the better their chances are at getting the opportunity to pick the quarterback that will secede Eli Manning. With that, whoever the quarterback will be, will have a year plus of tutelage from one of the best to ever play quarterback. You can now let Manning give every last drop he has as the next quarterback waits in the wing being ready at the end of a year or two. Second, draft offensive line help. Over the past two years, the Giant offensive line has been mocked in every way—the just haven't been good. Not having an offensive line has aided Eli Manning's regression, but not having an offensive line for a

rookie quarterback is worse.

Next, rehabilitate the defense. Landon Collins, Olivier Vernon, and B.W. Webb are all free agents, and with an already suspect pass rush, the G-Men will have to re-tool with young free agents on defense and allowing both Beckham Jr and Saquon Barkley to continue to grow. Finally, allow Pat Shurmur to gain the trust of the locker room. This year has not been the ideal first season for a first-time head coach, but it is only a year. That is not long enough to evaluate the system that Shurmur is trying to put in place. Give Shurmur some slack to work with and develop a system to see if he is indeed the head coach that can lead a team to a long playoff run and a Super Bowl. This process will not take a year, it will go well into the next decade; so give all your patience to Dave Gettleman and Pat Shurmur so they can go to work and earn a Super Bowl win.

Until then, endure the rough times because they will hopefully lead to a time where the Lombardi Trophy is back in title town and satisfying the success hungry New York sports fans.



PHOTO/ USA TODAY