

The Observer

Volume 12 - No. 13
Tuesday, May 12, 1970

THE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF STERN COLLEGE FOR WOMEN

YU Reacts to National Crisis: Undergrad and Grad Divisions Issue Separate Statements

The graduate and undergraduate schools of Yeshiva University last week joined the ranks of colleges nationwide in protesting the U.S. invasion of Cambodia and the death of four student demonstrators.

At Stern, action began Tuesday, May 5, when a strike meeting was held in the annex. On May 6, some 300 students protested in front of the dormitory on 34th St.

On Wednesday night a vote for continuation of the strike was passed. The following morning teachers spoke at a teach-in. Later students joined a rally and memorial service sponsored by Ferkauf Graduate School of Humanities.

Friday morning after Shacharit, a memorial service was held, addressed by members of the Religious Studies Department.

To permit continued involvement by students, the coordinating committee has proposed a referendum providing four possible allowances in the assignment, of semester grades and the allotment of course credit.

Students may withdraw without penalty from any class. Individual

increased use of repressive acts in dealing of criticism and dissent," and recommended the suspension of classes to engage in discussion towards resolving these critical issues.

At the Belfer Graduate School of Science a meeting was held by the faculty council in response to a student strike resolution. The faculty, in response to the invasion of Cambodia and the resumption of bombing N. Vietnam and the killing of four students by the National Guard felt compelled to strike for 1) the unilateral, immediate and unconditional withdrawal of all forces from S.E. Asia, and 2) That the U.S. end its systematic overt and covert repression of political dissidents. The school has terminated its semester and made its facilities available for anti-war activities.

Faculty Speaks On Involvement In Kent; In Cambodia; In Israel

Since the President's decision to extend the Vietnam War onto Cambodian soil, much discussion and debate has taken place throughout the nation.

Almost every university in America has faced the legal, moral, and political questions stemming from that decision.

The moral questions at Stern arose more from the President's action than from the violence which occurred May 4 on the campus of the State University at Kent, Ohio. At a memorial service held at Stern on May 8, faculty members raised questions for consideration that went far beyond the tragedy of four murders.

Rabbi Avraham Weiss spoke of the meaning of *chamas*, violence. He explained that *chamas* refers to stealing something worth less than a perutah, something appar-



Pickets on 34th St. announce Wednesday's strike.

ently insignificant. It is not a case of dramatic assassination but the slow murder of men, the thou-

sands of minor insults and assaults by which one kills a man's soul little by little, which is the kind of violence that is wrecking America today.

Rabbi Martin Chasid, in a similar vein, spoke of the death of the soul as the result of the "little sins" which accumulate over time.

DEATH BE NOT PROUD

It could have been me. It could have been you.

"When the great Rabbi Israel Baal Shem-Tov saw a misfortune threatening the Jewish people, he would go into a certain part of the forest to meditate. There he would light a fire, say a special prayer, and the miracle would be accomplished and the misfortune averted.

"Later, when his disciple, the celebrated Magid of Mezritch, had occasion, for the same reason, to intercede with heaven, he would go to the same place in the forest and say: 'Master of the Universe, listen, I do not know how to light the fire, but I am still able to say the prayer,' and again the miracle would be accomplished.

"Still later, Rabbi Moshe-Leib of Sasov, in order to have his people once more, would go into the forest and say: 'I do not know how to light the fire, I do not know the prayer, but I know the place and this must be sufficient.' It was sufficient and the miracle was accomplished." (Elie Wiesel, The Gates of the Forest)

Then it fell to Rabbi Israel of Rishyn, as it has to us, to overcome misfortune. Sitting in his armchair, as we are sitting in ours, his head in his hands, our head in our hands, he spoke to G-d... We speak to G-d. "I am unable to light the fire, and I do not know the prayer. I cannot even find the place in the forest. All I can do is to tell the story, and this must be sufficient."

It was just afternoon on Monday, the breeze calmly blowing. And then the shot rang out. First there was one, and then two, and then, very quickly, three, four others.

Within seconds it was over.

Within seconds...

William Schroeder, 19, DEAD. It could have been me.

Allison Krause, 19, DEAD. It could have been you.

Jeffrey Glenn Miller, 40, DEAD. It could have been me.

...and the list goes on...

I mourn — not only for the four. Close your eyes for a moment and imagine ten years from now... Sondra Lee Scheuer, standing near her husband and her children at her side. I mourn for them as well. Not only for the four but for all those who could have been born from them.

I mourn, as it were, for the spilling of blood of the One in whose image man was created.

I mourn for the sickness that prevails in our society.

I mourn for the confusion of priorities. I mourn for the lack of respect — the lack of truth and sincerity existing between man and man.

This is the time to pause and ponder.

It could have been me. It could have been you.

They seem young don't they? But they lived a fuller life than most. For you see, if nothing else they have caused us to pause and ponder. They have caused us to realize that in this mad game of life when the competitive spirit runs so high that men and nations are at each other's throats and threaten to demolish the world and to exterminate the human race, that it is man who should shout and exclaim: Time out — stop this madness! If we truly will it we can.

To pause. To ponder. It could have been me. It could have been you.

Master of the Universe, we are unable to light the fire and we do not know the prayer; we cannot even find a place in the forest. All we can do is to tell the story and this must be sufficient.

[Concluding address given by Rabbi Abraham Weiss at memorial assembly.]

People Parley Petitions On Street

Wrapped up in a world of students seeking information and questioning things the way they are, students easily forget that the establishment has different ideas and reasons for the ways they do things. Stern women who went out to gather signatures for the Hatfield-McGovern Amendment got a taste of these peoples' feelings.

Most of the girls received simple yeses or nos from the people

approached about the amendment, which would cut off the funds for military aid in Indochina, but others had something more to say. A middle-aged man replied to the petitioner that he felt it his patriotic responsibility to safeguard his country by supporting the president's decision, whether he liked it or not. On the other hand, an elderly woman of about 85, approached one of the girls and asked for details. Then, with trembling hand and tear-filled

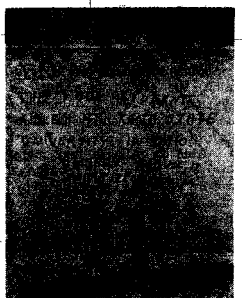
eyes she signed the petition, saying, "All my life I have fought against war."

Passersby stopped long enough to call out "Bum" or "Communist" or "Go home to your mother." After questions like "Why do you have your country," they didn't remain for an answer. One Stern girl was asked why she never bathed.

At Kennedy Airport several persons asked "What war?" One woman said that her niece had

spent a whole afternoon in Allentown, Pa. and gathered only four signatures. Crowds at the 42nd St. library were more receptive, and the girls brought back pages of signatures. More than one person commented that if it was against Nixon, he'd gladly sign. Others said thanks for the opportunity to protest.

Perhaps the most discouraging and often heard remark was, "Sure I support you, but I couldn't put my name on a petition."



ual agreements may be worked out with instructors governing final exams and term papers. An incomplete grade may be requested at any time until the last day of classes with work to be completed by October 31. Finally, students with at least a C in any class may receive a grade of "P" without taking a final. At a meeting tonight, faculty will vote on each of the proposals separately.

At Yeshiva College, teachers will vote on a different resolution, already passed by the student body and the Senate. YC's proposal would make all secular classes optional for students who sign an affidavit testifying to the fact that in all clear conscience they cannot continue to attend classes. Grades will then be given on either the normal four point system or P/F, depending on agreement with the individual instructor. Finals will be optional.

The Ferkauf Graduate School of Humanities and the Wurzel School of Social work issued a statement opposing "United States' involvement in the continuation and expansion of the war in Southeast Asia." They further condemned "the government's in-

A Government Of The People, For The People, By The People?

In its weekly editorial column "The Talk of the Town," *New Yorker Magazine* (May 9, 1970) included a commentary on President Nixon's announcement of the introduction of U.S. troops into Cambodia.

New Yorker claims that Nixon's usurpation of some of Congress' powers was foreshadowed in his letter to Senator Saxby urging confirmation of G. Harold Carswell's nomination to the Supreme Court.

"In the letter, the President described himself as the one person entrusted by the Constitution with the power of appointment of Supreme Court Justices, and asserted that a Senate rejection of the Carswell nomination would put the traditional Constitutional balance in jeopardy. As many observers have pointed out, the Constitution provides that the President shall nominate, and by and with the Advice and Consent of the Senate, shall appoint Ambassadors, other public Ministers and Consuls, Judges of the Supreme Court. . . . The President simply left out the part about the Senate. The reasoning in his letter, which also accused senators of substituting their own subjective judgment for his judgment, was of a piece with the Administration's entire campaign against dissent. The message to the press, to dissenting citizens, and to the Senate has been the same: You may express yourself freely until you begin to disagree with us."

Nixon Notes Dissent

The magazine further cites a passage from President Nixon's April 30 message to the nation, in which he stated, "I realize in this war there are honest, deep differences in this country about whether we should have become involved, that there are differences to how the war should have been conducted. But the decision I announce tonight transcends those differences, for the lives of American men are involved," as evidence of the President's interference with the normal decision making processes in this country.

"Does the President believe that the lives of American men were not involved in the decision to enter the war? Does anyone have to remind the President that be-

cause of that earlier decision more than forty thousand Americans have already died in Vietnam? The President has no monopoly on decisions that involve the lives of Americans — to say nothing of the lives of Vietnamese, Laotians, and the Cambodians. Our legislators and even ordinary citizens also have decisions to make. The President has impugned both the right of our citizens and the right of our senators to question our war policy."

World Freedom

A more basic issue than the rights of Americans is also raised in the editorial.

"One sentence in the President's speech brings up an entirely new theme. His statement that 'any government that chooses to use these actions as a pretext for harming relations with the United States will be doing so on its own responsibility and on its own initiative, and we will draw the appropriate conclusions' can be read as a threat to our allies. And such a threat serves to remind us that behind the issue of the survival of freedom in America there is a still more fundamental issue, and that is the survival of freedom throughout the world.

"We are forced to consider in

a new light the dispersion of millions of American troops in many free countries (and also in a steadily increasing number of countries that are not free), and the deep penetration of America's enormous economic power into the economies of all free nations. We must ask how many democratic governments could withstand economic sanctions by the United States, and how many democratic governments, whose plan for defense are so tightly interwoven with American military power, could withstand withdrawal of our support — never mind an invasion. There would be nowhere for them to turn but to Russia, which is already a totalitarian state.

"If the United States government fails to honor the freedom of its own people, who are protected by the American Constitution, it will not honor the freedom of any people. This is the true relationship between the invasion of Cambodia and the survival of the free institutions that President Nixon mentioned in his speech, and for this reason the invasion of Cambodia and its consequences within America are the urgent concern not only of Americans but of all mankind."

Letters

Unconstitutional or Unavoidable?

To the Editor:

The furor at Stern College, and at colleges all over this country, over the events which occur, and continue to occur, because of President Nixon's war policy has been very loud. One issue, or factor, which has been largely ignored by many Stern students (and wrongly so) is the issue of constitutionality.

It is illegal to smash windows and destroy property. It may be slanderous and/or libelous to call men in uniform "mother f---ers." The laws of these United States are based upon the Constitution, and all men should be safe from illegal and harmful attacks upon their persons and property. But wrong cannot be fought with more wrong.

The Constitution also provides the Bill of Rights and an Article

(I) stating that only Congress may declare war. Repressive measures which negate or suspend the Bill of Rights are not only ethically unfair, but clearly un-Constitutional. Furthermore, calling this war, or any other, an "undeclared war" does not change its nature. President Nixon did not initially involve us in the war in Vietnam, and we cannot hold Article I of the Constitution against him for it. But we can call him to answer to the Constitution for the invasion of Cambodia.

The Constitution of the United States calls for a division of powers within the government. This is meant to serve as a balancing force. President Nixon has as much as told the Congress that he does not care what it (the people) thinks. Nixon would, understandably, never call himself a dictator. But a man who acts as if he has complete and sole control in a democratic republic is just that. He has, in essence, told the people of the United States that he will run this country as he deems fit, regardless of the desires of those he is supposed to represent. All

this from a man who gave his solemn oath to uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States? Has he rewritten it to suit himself?

If we are to regard ourselves as upstanding citizens of the United States, we must act. Failure to put the President into his rightful place in American government is a crime against the Constitution on our part if we allow President Nixon to suspend the Constitution on domestic issues as well. The precedent will be set. If that happens, our lives will be about as valuable as those of German Jews after 1933. Think about it.

Brauna B. Eisenberg, '70

To the Editor:

The strikes last week at Stern College and across the country confused three separate issues. First is the question of our involvement in Southeast Asia. Second is President Nixon's right to act, and third is the tragedy of the four students killed at Kent State University.

I do not know whether or not we should be in Vietnam. I realize that we may be fighting a losing war, that Americans are being killed, and that the Vietnamese do not want us. But I do not believe we are actually fighting the Vietnamese. It is no secret that the goal of Russia is to spread Communism through world revolution. We cannot help but see this anywhere we look — in South America, Perón and Che Guevara; in the Middle East in Egypt; in Africa in Algeria and many new countries; and in Southeast Asia in Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia. Vietnam is another front of spreading Communism. And on most of the fronts America backs down. Berlin is what it is today because we backed down after World War II. America is backing down now in the Middle East. Not since 1962 has America stood up firmly and made Russia back down. If Kennedy had not taken a firm stance in Cuba, there would now be offensive missiles ninety miles off the American shore. Can we afford to keep backing down? We are becoming a second-rate country to Russia. Of course on the other hand, is it fair to use Vietnam as our battleground with Russia? Perhaps we should just walk out, but can we afford to back down again? A ticklish situation at best.

It is this ticklish situation which faces President Nixon. I do not bear Nixon any great love, but I do credit the man with some brains, and I believe he wants to get out of Vietnam. I do not believe his move into Cambodia will prevent this. Cambodia is not a "new Vietnam"; it is merely an extension — a few miles more. It does not involve escalation. Nixon has promised to attack enemy supply bases and pull back in eight weeks. Militarily this makes a great deal of sense. Israel certainly is not trying to capture Jordan, but she destroys guerrilla bases in Jordan. Isn't the best

(Continued on Page 3, Col. 3)



Candell, Newark News

"Another Sign but No Path!"

The observer

Published by Stern College, an undergraduate division of Yeshiva University

First Class Rating Printed by Cocco Press
Published Every Two Weeks — Subscription \$2.00 per year.

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Staff: Rita Brosbe, ER, Joyce Rothenbaum, Miriam Kohn.

The Construction Workers Protest The Protests Of Student Strikers

As the call for protest resounds through Stern College, very little has been heard of the opposition — those who approve of the President's actions.

Some of the strongest anti-

at the teach-in was to send students out to speak to the workers and learn their views. One need not go further than the adjacent construction site to test this suggestion. The workmen have sev-



Construction crew recommended an end to picketing.

strike opinions are held by construction workers. The crew presently working on the new Stern College building are anxious to express their views, and resented not being invited to the Teach-In.

The construction men are very distressed by the present wave of protests. Students, they feel, are recklessly destroying all that the previous generation spent their lives to create.

Two of the workers were especially critical of the "great ignorance of the students who are being led not as individuals, but as puppets." They cannot understand why the silent majority, as they believe most students are, allow themselves to "get brow beaten into action."

The workers wonder if the students have considered the vast consequences of their "foolish action." "The Communists," one worker remarked, "are waiting for our students to take the country and hand it to them."

The men express a seldom revealed sensitivity to the problems of the administration. One of the workers insists that there is more involved in the Asian crisis than meets the eye. He insists that if "two or three presidents put their careers on the line, the countries involved cannot be meaningless" despite student belief to the contrary.

The workers do not, however, believe that all of President Nixon's decisions are right. They recognize the need for quiet protest. "If students want to react," one worker said, "they can do so in an intellectual way, such as by writing letters to senators and congressmen."

One of the suggestions offered

eral questions they wish to ask students:

1. Why don't the students channel their efforts into doing well and getting an education rather than disrupting learning?
2. Why don't they proclaim Viet Cong atrocities, rather than only those committed by the U.S.?
3. Why don't they view the entire Asian situation from all sides, rather than only from an emotional angle?

The men are intensely patriotic, and are offended by the "slander" of their country. They have worked hard for the U.S., and are gratified that the country has in turn worked hard for them. They look with contempt upon the new wing of radical students who have erroneously convinced themselves that they are "powerful thinkers." They resent being looked down upon by the "irresponsible pseudo-intellectuals." But, as one worker was quick to add, "If to love America means to be narrow minded and ignorant, then I am both of these things."

(Continued from Page 1, Col. 5) "provoke" police by shouting "pigs." But when Nixon calls students bums, this is not considered a provocation. A picture showing naked bodies of victims of the My Lai massacre is condemned as obscene, but who calls the massacre itself obscene?

On the subject of stopping the Communist threat, Dr. Greenstein linked the situation to that of a policeman chasing a naked man.

Nat'l Economic Boycott

Student groups are now proposing a new protest tactic — a national economic boycott.

The intention of such a boycott would be to interrupt the war economy in order to demonstrate to big business and to the President the seriousness of the opposition to the war.

"Although such a boycott could reduce the present inflation, it would also reduce sales," said a committee from the State University of New York State. "Large corporations like General Motors, General Electric, and Pan Am would be responsive to reduced sales and profits. If we can apply enough economic pressure to

these industries they will force the government to yield to the demands of the American people. And remember, we don't need their products as much as they need our money. We have the power."

It is realized that such a boycott would mean unemployment of workers before its desired effect could be achieved. On the other hand the workers would profit greatly by ending the war, the committee suggests. It is their boys who are sent in disproportionate numbers to Vietnam. Also, monies directed to sustaining the war could be used to create jobs in a peacetime economy.

To A National Guardsman — It's Kent

(Continued from Page 2, Col. 5)

offense a good defense? Perhaps clearing out enemy bases in Cambodia will give Americans a breather — more time to train the Vietnamese. I am willing to trust Nixon for eight weeks. As an American citizen I can do no less. Nixon is the elected head of our country. It is no joke that "the buck stops here." So for G-d's sake, give the man room to work.

The third point is the death of the four students at Kent State University. I am sorry they died, as sorry as I am that people die each day. I do not wish to sound cold, but I cannot cry for every person that dies every minute of every hour. I am tired of hearing "it could have been me." I can also get killed crossing 34th Street. I am most sorry the four were killed because they were made into martyrs, and they do not deserve it. Most people have been saying, "Yes, the students burned down an ROTC building, threw rocks, and shouted obscenities, but that doesn't merit killing." Well, you cannot add and subtract feelings in an equation: fire + rocks = shooting. The National Guardsmen were people — scared people. They did not stop to write an equation to justify shooting. They have been trained in the arts of defense and when they thought their lives to be in danger, they defended themselves. If a Guardsman had been killed by a thrown stone, would we hold a memorial service for him?

One final comment on the actions of last week concerns the attitude at Stern College. Like many other colleges in the United States, Stern held meetings, teach-ins, and memorial services and class strikes. However, I question how many people actually thought out their actions and how many followed the popular movement. On Monday, the four students were killed at Kent. At a meeting on Tuesday night, we were told that three more students had died. The New York Times on Wednesday and Thursday spoke of the four killed. Stern girls on Wednesday and Thursday spoke of the seven killed. What a frightening

thought! Within one day a completely erroneous rumor had taken root. What else have the leaders been telling us? Are we sure there are troops in Cambodia?

How can you make up your mind if you do not know the facts? Of necessity the leaders of the movement present only their side. The most vocal and eloquent professors supported the strike. With all due respect, the professors are not G-d. Each one of us must know the facts, read the newspapers, listen to different people, hear every side, and search his own soul before acting. The freedom to dissent is one of America's greatest rights. Let us not abuse it.

Glenda R. Friedman '73

To the Editor:

The whole nation was shocked to learn of the death of the four Kent State University students. Some responded sympathetically to Nixon's statement that "when dissent turns to violence, it invites tragedy." Most of us reacted with horror outrage, and blistering criticism for the National Guardsmen who gunned down four innocent students. Most of us who condemned the murder were content to place the blame on the individual guardsmen involved, charging them with gross irresponsibility, inability to handle riot situations, and lax training.

Superficially, it looks as though the former group, Nixon's, is diametrically opposed to the latter group. Nixon viewed the tragedy as inevitable, while the latter group viewed it as avoidable. However, if we look a bit closer, we realize that not only can both groups be reconciled to the same position, but they are, in fact, based on the same erroneous assumption.

That assumption is twofold. 1) A riot such as the one witnessed at Kent is a lawless and hysterical mob of people who have lost all powers of reason and who are beyond the pale of rational discourse. Since the mob is incapable of reasoned dialogue, it behooves the police or national guardsmen to use any means necessary to

control the impassioned crowd. This is not to imply that the authorities have been given a carte blanche to mow down demonstrators, nor has it been interpreted as such by police. The fact remains, however, that given this characterization of a group of demonstrators as being impassioned and irrational, the option of wanton murder on the part of the police is always a viable albeit undesirable alternative. The corollary to the lawless mob theory of riot is that, 2) although the police do have the option in the name of law and order of murdering participants in a demonstration they will not do so, rather they will find more acceptable means of controlling the crowd. Therefore, any officers who do get trigger-happy and pick off some of the demonstrators can be safely dismissed as embarrassing aberrations, exceptions to the general rule.

Clearly, defining a violent demonstration as a mob of savages is as self-serving as it is inaccurate. This definition allows us to dismiss the incident without appreciating that rather than being an irrational, passionate response to a situation, it is instead a legitimate and supremely reasonable answer to that situation. Those in positions of leadership would like to write off demonstrators as an irresponsible segment of the population who would do anything for publicity, rather than admitting that people in the streets are just taking what has long been denied them — the right to a voice.

The demonstrators are not a rather primitive way of expressing opinion, but when a government effectively seals off all other traditional means of expression — the vote, the petition, the peaceful demonstration — people will improvise new ways. That these ways fall outside the pale of officially sanctioned activities does not make them any less rational nor any less legitimate.

The second assumption, that the tragedy at Kent State was an aberration, is patent nonsense. It has happened too many times to be considered an exception to the rule. As uncomfortable as it might make us, we all must face the fact that the blatant repression practiced at Kent State is directly linked to the repression used against people in the ghetto for the last five to ten years, and to the repression being used now to silence the Black Panthers, as unacceptable as their political ideology might seem to us.

We cannot naively hope that while the government might use violent means to silence the Panthers, it will leave us free from dangers. It should be clear by now that the theory is wrong. Kent State is graphic proof that it is wrong. A government that would physically exterminate blacks who challenge the status quo will use the same means to eliminate white opposition.

We therefore must not be dissuaded from joining in the demonstration for fear of being characterized as irrational. We can no longer even accept that characterization, nor can we be placated with the government assurance that what happened at Kent State was somehow a gruesome accident. What has happened at Kent State, what has happened in the ghetto, and what has happened to the Panthers continues and will continue until the people scream out and demand their rightful and just voice in running the country.

Sherry Fyman '71

Faculty Comments On Cambodia

(Continued from Page 1, Col. 5) "provoke" police by shouting "pigs." But when Nixon calls students bums, this is not considered a provocation. A picture showing naked bodies of victims of the My Lai massacre is condemned as obscene, but who calls the massacre itself obscene?

On the subject of stopping the Communist threat, Dr. Greenstein linked the situation to that of a policeman chasing a naked man.

As the officer runs, he sheds his clothes to enable himself to run faster. Finally one naked man arrests another for being naked. If the U.S. wants to stop the spread of Communism, it cannot do so by shedding the democratic principles on which it was founded.

Many of the speakers at Stern and Yeshiva expressed concern for the possible effects anti-war demonstrations might have on U.S. policy toward Israel.

"The very survival of Israel is at stake" claimed Rabbi Louis Bernstein (YC, May 6) an alumnus of Yeshiva College.

We must work, continued Rabbi Bernstein, to make this a better America, but we must avoid political polarization at all costs. Above all, we must think first as Jews in any action we take.

Rabbi Raphael Weinberg (SCW, May 7), on the other hand, stated flatly that the U.S. involvement in Cambodia is immoral and we must therefore protest.

It has been traditional for Jews to react as moral beings, Dr. Ernest Simon commented. The YU administration must be convinced to take a stand on this issue. Dr. Belkin should be asked to join other university presidents in voicing opposition. Dr. Simon recom-



Rabbi Gordon at memorial.

mended.

The method of voicing this dissent was debated often during the teach-ins held last week.

Concerned with the possibility of the early dismissal of Yeshiva College, Dr. Moses Tendler pointed out that closing Yeshiva and halting Torah education is against the very grain of Judaism.

Most concrete suggestions for action recommended political pressure on government officials. Mr. Michael Weinberg issued a call for action, urging students to take the issues out to the streets, to inform the public and encourage response.

Chinn and Zweig Vie For SCSC Presidency

Change In Requirements Promotes Better Religious, Secular Studies

Grading, Credit Allotment Reforms Needed

By GINA ZWEIF

"Due to lack of interest, tomorrow has been cancelled." This sarcastic quip on apathy has often been the model of Stern College involvement in the past. However, as was evident in the enthusiastic response to the Cambodian crisis, the image of Stern is changing. No longer is an isolationist, non-involvement attitude the prevalent tone. Instead, most students are aware of existing circumstances, and attempt to upraise standard conditions in the Yeshiva University community and in the general community.

Unfortunately, although apathy does not appear to be a threat in the future, another problem just as malific prevails within our school. Stern College has become polarized into two distinct factions. No formal recognition has been given to this schism, but its existence was evident in the debate on a dress code. Each person knew with whom was her alliance, and if she deviated, she was considered to have "crossed lines." Fortunately, this problem is not acute at this time. Since preventative measures are the best cure against a disease, now is the time to terminate this segmentation of the student body.

The two groups of girls consist of those who take a more conservative approach to halacha and those who do not. Visual evidence, such as the length of one's skirt, exists and facilitates this division. In many discussions of future school policy, animosity between the two groups arises. The irony occurs when a student realizes that individually there is no division and no antagonism. Each girl is friendly with both conservative and non-conservative students. Only in a group discussion and formation of policy does this fragmentation arise.

In the plans for revision of the Religious Studies Department, this problem is evident. The future student council president will not have the power to change the department's outline as of now. However, she will be able to suggest amendments to those aspects that do not appear workable. A nine to twelve credit religious studies program concentrated into the morning hours has been proposed. Some science students who spend large periods of time in the lab feel that this will be burdensome.

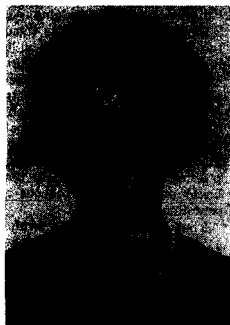
An increase in the amount of time allocated to religious studies is an excellent idea. However, along with this revision, other revisions must be considered in order to make this plan workable. The science majors do have a legitimate objection. Therefore, now is the time to re-evaluate the courses required to be completed before graduation.

A pruning of requirements offers advantages of a three-fold nature. First of all, an analysis of the existing secular curriculum can only be of a beneficial nature. Secondly, a reconstruction of the secular requirements could provide more time for a concentration of religious requirements. A removal of outmoded courses and

a replacement with courses relating to Judaism cannot be objectionable to any student. If a student comes to Stern, she comes aware of the fact that she will be taking Jewish courses. Presently, a controversy exists due to the fact that students do not want to be burdened with additional requirements. The dissenting students are not against additional religious studies. If this re-evaluation is successful, the dissention will dissipate. Thirdly, this will lessen the friction between the present existing factions and will tend to ameliorate this problem also.

Consequently, next year, the Student Council President should work against the secularization of Stern from a dynamic framework. Not only must efforts be expended in order to prevent secularization, but along with this prevention, there must be constant change. The Religious Studies Department must not remain stagnant. Quantity is not enough. Quality must exist in juxtaposition with an increased amount of time.

My platform does not only con-



Gina Zweig

sist of a non-secularization of the school. Merely to stop something is not enough. Instead we must go forward to an improved Religious Studies Department. One can never go back. This year, changes were initiated. We must continue changing and improving conditions. To do less would be to go backward. The duty of the Student Council President is to utilize the problems of this year for the betterment of next year.

By NAOMI CHINN

In light of recent events in Southeast Asia and Kent State, the more parochial problems facing Stern College appear to be of little import. Of what significance is the credit allotment for courses such as speech and hygiene when viewed against the larger issues affecting the destiny of America and the world? While I appreciate the importance of committing oneself to work for peace, I feel, nevertheless, that we cannot afford to overlook those issues which concern us directly as Stern College students. In order to function effectively as a member college of the intellectual community, we must organize effectively within ourselves. Improving the University will benefit not only us as students, but also the society in which we live.

The Student Council President of such a college should function not only as a transcendental thinker, but as a translational mechanism as well. She must be the ear as well as the voice of the students. In the past years, our voices have been heard in the administrative offices, however, we have been faced with a different type of communication gap: that of a breakdown in communications between Student Council and student body. Student Council policy must be adjusted to be receptive to the needs of all its members.

She must also bridge the literal communication gap which exists at Stern. An inter-college calendar committee should be set up so that events at Y.U. are included in the Stern College calendar as well. A large monthly calendar, posted in the new school building would serve as an added reminder. The shameful communication gap between commuter and resident students has been disheartening to say the least, to the commuter who is left out of the many stimulating and worthwhile events because of lack of notification.

I feel that the President must also work to restore a student's faith in the administration and close the credibility gap now existing between administration and student. Coming to any college automatically assumes that a student places a certain amount of faith in the school's administration. During the past years this trust has been broken time and

time again. As a both offensive and defensive action, we must safeguard and enlarge the legal channels we have of influencing Y.U. administrative policy. I would like to reactivate Student Court into a legally powerful judiciary branch of student gov-

3) An inter-office library service. Now that we will be in our new "modern and spacious" library, we can easily make it more modern and more spacious by adding a catalogue of the Gottesman Library and ordering and returning up town books by inter-office mail.

4) Part time guidance counselors in terms of regular senior advisory by either alumni or regular guidance counselors. A free vocational testing program (already in effect uptown).

5) Credit should be allotted for all required courses. Thought should be given to awarding one credit in drama for those who participate in the annual school play (already done uptown).

6) Re-evaluation of requirements — this is an old issue which has never been solved because the committee has never been able to make binding decisions.

Chami Chinn

ernment. When an issue arises, such as the BRE affair, Student Court should be empowered to hold it in abeyance until the administration can prove the validity of its moves. In this area it is also important to enlarge the powers of the present student-faculty committee similar to the Senate of Yeshiva College. Our present committee still makes recommendations and its decisions are not binding. A faculty-student-administrative board, with a rotating chairman, elected student-representatives, and the power of making binding decisions, would expedite discussion and subsequent change of certain academic requirements. I would like to see the following reforms passed:

- 1) Pass — no entry courses, whereby a student could take, for example, a course in Chinese Pottery (yes, Stern will have that some day, too). In case of a failure, this course will appear nowhere on her records or transcripts.
- 2) Finals and grade policy to be left to the instructor's discretion, and possibly no finals for seniors.

There is a unique purpose to Stern — it is not a seminary nor is it a purely secular college; nor is its direction towards either of these as a goal. A Stern College student is committed to her heritage as a moral and thinking individual. She believes in the value of a certain brand of education which is specially flavored with Jewish concepts. "Synthesis" is not the proper term, for it assumes that there is a thesis and an anti-thesis; that secular and Torah studies are in opposition to each other. This is not true; they are integral parts of each other. Rather than "synthesis," Stern College should stand for "fusion," and a Stern College graduate should be an alloy, fused so finely, that she appears to be a pure product of her unique college program.

The governing board wishes Marlene Glassman, dorm counselor and former senior editor of *The Observer* a *refuah shleima*. May she be granted a speedy recovery and good health in the future.

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SUKENIC RUNS FOR COR. SEC'Y; LOOKS AHEAD

By DEANNE SUKENIC

To complement our new school building, next year's Student Council must initiate new programs to awaken school spirit and pride. We must develop greater channels of communication between students, faculty, administration, and Student Council. We must eliminate apathy and revitalize the Stern image. This job needs the effort of every girl that attends Stern. This is our school and it is a function of each of us.

Being corresponding secretary of Student Council includes official duties such as letter writing for Student Council programs. Apart from those duties I will also represent my fellow students by serving on the executive board of Student Council. In fulfilling this role, I intend to work together with the student body and in turn they must cooperate with me to make next year and future years at Stern relevant and satisfying.

Bring University Together

In serving on the executive board, I hope to complement its other officers with my service and also my imagination. After one year at Stern, I have found that the biggest problem among students of the University is the lack of communication. Some proposals that I feel would help alleviate the problem are the following: In order to keep students informed of all the activities offered to them, I would like to help set up an information bureau in the school building. This would also serve to keep students informed on recent university and world affairs. To bring other divisions of Y.U. to Stern and also to improve our calendar of events, I suggest a weekly Saturday Night activity at Stern. It could be sponsored by alternating clubs and classes and could include such activities as a speaker, a campfire, a movie, a bowling party, or even a coffee house. Since we are a division of Y.U., we should be readily accessible to the University's services and facilities. There is an interlibrary loan service between Gottesman and Stern Libraries. Therefore we must have a complete cataloging of Gottesman's volumes at Stern. The expansion of the library service should also include a small reference library in the dorm. Finally, I would like to see a shuttle bus service initiated between the Y.U. and Stern campuses especially for planned activities between the two campuses.

Vice Presidential Candidates Speak Out

Becker Calls For Quality

By LEAH BECKER

Proud to be an active participant in a student body which has strived so determinedly for academic improvements and for our restored status as a sectarian institution with a long-awaited religious studies department, I eagerly look forward to the implementation of these changes into the new eleven story physical structure for which we all fought so ardently.

But we cannot stop now. Along with further time dedicated to religious studies we must have improvement of the quality of the Bible, Halacha, and Hebrew language classes. Furthermore, the elimination of many of the excessive science requirements for non-science majors and language requirements for science majors would make school more profitable as students could concentrate on the fields of study in which they are most interested. For example, there is, as I see it, little purpose in an English or history major's spending hours every night memorizing the classification of



Leah Becker

insects or the reproductive system of the spirogyra.

In general, I hope to work for close lines of communication between students so that all can work together with a "ruach" which will bring Stern closer to its great potential. I personally am highly unimpressed by the term "oldest and largest." I would rather see Stern the "newest and closest."

Greater Communication Stressed By Rosenbaum

By JOYCE ROSENBAUM

The duties of the Vice President, while less clearly defined than those of the other officers, offer more room for creative implementation of new traditions at Stern.

The Vice President's job, as I see it, consists primarily of assisting the President in coordinating the efforts of the various student council activities, and in assuming a position of leadership in communication with students and faculty to achieve a sense of unity at Stern College.

During the past year, the student body has been divided on many issues. As varied as the issues were, however, they all possessed one common denominator that turned disagreement into discord. This central factor, the lack of communication on all levels created a tension that characterized the entire '69-'70 school year.

The student council president, who serves on at least three permanent committees besides SCSJ, is often unable to spend adequate time communicating results of

these committee meetings to the student body. As vice president, my primary concern would be as a "communications specialist" to assure that the voices of all the students is heard, and that the wild unfounded rumors that needlessly incite the student body are dispelled by helping to disseminate accurate, up to the minute reports on all issues as they arise.

In this way, I would help to create a unified student body capable of achieving all the goals it sets for itself. For only if we conquer our internal divisiveness, will Stern College be able to accept its rightful position of leadership in the community.

To Gina Zweig, executive editor, and Larry Gelb, honorary governing board member, *The Observer* extends a belated Mazel Tov on their engagement.



Joyce Rosenbaum

Two Compete For Sec'y

By SHARI ROSSOFF

The official duty of a recording secretary is to keep accurate minutes and see that they are posted for all students to see, and to send out all notices for student council meetings. However, I feel that the office requires much more. The recording secretary has to be a "jack of all trades" — helping the president and other officers with anything and everything, taking care of emergency tasks and running the ditto machine.

As a member of the executive board, it would be my duty to listen to all opinions and ideas of the student body and to bring them to the attention of the student council. I would go out and ask students what they thought, as I feel that if students were sought out and asked their opinions, it might alleviate some of the complaining and apathy here at Stern.

As Stern chairman of Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry, I have often come into contact with Stern apathy. But I have found that by going out and knocking on doors and talking to students in classes, and by pushing them a little, I

was able to get some results. I intend to try to influence people in this way to become interested and active in the school. I think the results of this past week have shown that this method will work.

I feel that my past activities qualify me for the job. I have previously served as recording secretary of my NCSY region for two years, so I know the mechanics of the office. This year, in addition to SSSJ, I organized a telegram campaign during the Israeli crisis, worked on the ad hoc terrorist committee, ran a button sale for tzedakah and worked on many other committees. I feel that my activities this past year show that I am a hard worker. Next year, I want to work very hard as recording secretary of Student Council.

Rec. Secretary's Role

By JUDY GREENFIELD

Stern students have seen the fulfillment of many achievements over this past year. Our growing building and the renovation of the old building have given substance to our hopes of attending classes in a new building next year.

The secularization of Y.U. resulted in meetings and protests against the removal of the BRE and BHL degrees and action in favor of a separate religious division at Stern. We hope our efforts will be successful so there will be new and meaningful classes on all religious levels at Stern next year.

Stern students and Student Council have been confronted with many important issues this year. If I am elected, I will aid the other officers on the executive board in making the decisions that will face us. Next year I will re-

cord the minutes of the meetings and publicize them to keep students informed of "what's going on."

I hope Stern will be unified next year as an active part of the university. I have a deep interest in Stern and hope you give me the chance to manifest that interest and serve as recording secretary of Student Council.

Schreiner Contests Marks

by SUSAN SCHREINER

I am a candidate for the position of Treasurer of the Student Council. I believe that I am qualified for the position, since I have been rather active within Stern College. Within the past few months, the most important realm of my activities has been directed toward a special ad hoc Israel Committee; and, as many of you are already aware, I have aided in revising the antiquated constitution of this Student Council. Imagine discovering that the present student council as well as others for the past few years have been illegal!

Aside from a sincere concern for various activities within Stern College, I also have had experience concerning the practicalities of finance. For the past few years I have been employed as a bookkeeper. Therefore handling money is definitely nothing new to me.

Among the many plans and aspirations that I would have for the office of Treasurer would be to continue to maintain sound financial records; I would like to attempt to put some order regarding the expenditures of money for clubs and other extra-curricular activities; I would also like to see that all the duties prescribed in the Constitution were properly executed, etc.

The role of Treasurer is extremely important, not only within the context of the Executive Board, but also as a member of the student body. If we would all work together, each and every one of you would benefit from a successful year.

By SHARON MARKS

As treasurer of the Stern Student Council, I realize I will hold a position of great responsibility. Money transactions will have to be carried out continuously and promptly. While helping with the talent show, I saw the confusion when it came time to pay bills. Council needs a tighter check on its budget; the treasurer must be aware at all times where the money is going.

With money constantly being spent, little seems to be coming in. We must begin thinking now about increasing funds for next year, either from the administration or special projects.

Being on the executive board demands increased communication with all members of the student body. The Student Council must be reflective of student needs or it is a failure. If elected I would be open at all times to suggestions for the betterment of Stern.

I am particularly aware of the need to reform the present overload of secular requirements. As a science major I feel this most sharply. With fewer requirements religious studies courses appear less burdensome and Stern will be closer to realization of its goals. At Stern we need quality, not quantity.

Having successfully handled Beit Olot funds this past year I feel competent in my ability to fill the office of Treasurer of Student Council. I am willing to work as much as necessary to fulfill my obligation to the student body and fellow officers.

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R.S. Curriculum In Final Evaluation

Conclusive recommendations concerning the structure of the newly found Judaic Studies curriculum were voiced by the members of the Evaluation Committee on Monday, May 4. A final report, including all recommendations and diverging opinions, will be drafted by Dr. Gersion Appel, chairman of the R.S. evaluation committee. After review by the committee members, the report will be presented to Dr. Belkin for approval.

The changes mentioned in the report represent a consensus of opinions expressed by the committee members. Students with Yeshiva background would have a nine hour minimum of Judaic Studies, while students without a

Yeshiva background would have a twelve hour requirement. Programs on the lower levels would include a basic foundations course to enable students to enter the higher track. The new regulations would be binding on incoming freshmen. Other students may choose to take advantage of the new rulings.

All Judaic Studies would be in a separate division headed by a director appointed by Dr. Belkin. The director's powers would include admission and rejection of students and the structuring of course content in the curriculum.

Suggestions were also made concerning the establishment of Judaic and Hebraic studies majors.

Committee Notes

Coalition Vigilant On Unresolved Issues

By PHYLLIS GORDON

Monday, May 20 — Dr. Belkin met with the Concerned Students' Coalition Negotiating Committee. At this meeting, he flatly refused to discuss substantive matters with students and instead appointed a vice-presidents committee, made up of Rabbi Israel Miller, Dr. A. Leo Lévin and Rabbi Emanuel Rackman, to deal with the students' demands. However, this committee was not delegated authority to bind the University with its decision — it has no negotiating powers.

Great efforts were made during Pesach vacation to arrange another meeting with Dr. Belkin, in

order to express to him directly the problems at hand. But he refused and continued to refuse to talk with students.

Thursday, April 30 — Dr. Belkin met with Rav Soloveitchik and a committee of RIETS Roshei Hayeshiva and announced policy decisions covering the following areas:

1. Religious division Faculty — No decision concerning formulating REITS policy, admissions, curriculum, discipline and Semicha requirements will henceforth be made without the recommendations of the faculty of Roshei Hayeshiva. Also, a council consisting of Assistant to the President of Student Affairs and faculty members selected by and representing REITS, JSS, and EMC is being established to deal with common issues in religious, moral and disciplinary areas.

2. Hashgacha — Dr. Belkin and Rav Soloveitchik will begin to interview candidates for the coming year for the position of religious advisor for the three religious divisions.

3. Stern College — Dr. Belkin stated that he is recommending to the Dean and faculty of Stern College that a separate division for Torah Studies be organized. He also stated that students will henceforth be given a fuller pro-

gram of Torah studies ranging from a minimum of six to a maximum of twelve hours a week.

4. A team of distinguished lawyers, to whom all University files and records are accessible has been selected by Rav Soloveitchik and Dr. Belkin to evaluate the present charter situation and its potential impact upon Yeshiva's traditional character.

While pleased to see that our work has begun to meet with meaningful success, the Coalition shall remain vigilant to assure that all issues be resolved satisfactorily.

Rings 'n Things

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Gail Aronoff '70, to Lenny Presbey
Therney Bronner '72, to Bernie Mondere
Sharon Cohen '72, to Avi Bornstein
Carol Duchan '73, to Joseph Percecman
Rochelle Fogel '71, to Steve Sonogoy
Lee Fridman '70, to Elie Hamaoui
Peggy Friedman '73, to Robert Insel
Linda Ginn, to Joel Zaks
Ellen Ungar '72, to Myron Goldberg
Netty Wachtenheim '72, to Mel Hoffman
Sarah Warsawick '72, to Ronald Goetli

Married

Rosalyn Klemberg '70 to Yigal Tavel
Rose Greenwald '71, to Morton Landowne
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