

THE OBSERVER

The Official Newspaper of Stern College for Women • Yeshiva University

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SCWSC Launches Active New Year

Stern College for Women Student Council held its first meeting of the 1978-79 school year in the orange lounge of the Brookdale Residence Hall at 10 p.m., Monday, September 18th. Sixty-five people were in attendance.

Current issues concerning the student body were discussed. Club leaders gave reports on club activities.

The Student Council welcomed the new director and religious advisor of Brookdale Residence Hall, Rabbi Asher Reichert.

Naomi Miller, president of SCWSC, informed those present that Rabbi Israel Miller, vice president of Student Affairs, requests that energy conservation programs be set up in each Y.U. dormitory.

During the meeting, freshman class officers gave campaign speeches.

Student Council announced that the Student Council calendar will be available shortly. A spokeswoman from the Yeshiva College Dramatic Society informed those present that it is looking for help behind the scenes for its production of "Pippin".

Ms. Miller reported that this year's freshman orientation was a success.

Refreshments followed the meeting.

Freshmen Class Officers

President

Elise Slutsky

Vice-President

Janis Weingarten

Secretary

Lori Bitterman

Treasurer

Ruth Borgen

All students are reminded of the following procedure:

Courses dropped by a student as part of program changes during the period set aside for that purpose at the beginning of each semester will not appear at all on her grade report and permanent record. This semester that period ends October 27. Any courses dropped after this period must appear on the permanent record and transcripts with the mark of W. (Note that W represents withdrawal without academic penalty or prejudice.)
—Office of the Registrar

As this issue of The Observer goes to press, Senate passed the motion to provide students with the B-P/N and C-P/N grading option. The proposal now goes to the faculty for approval.

RESIDENCE HALL DIRECTOR APPOINTED

By Tova Wohl



Rabbi Reichert welcomes the newest addition to his family at Brookdale Hall.

Former Army chaplain Rabbi Asher Reichert has been named the new director of Brookdale Residence Hall. Rabbi Reichert was born in Boston, Massachusetts. He received his high school education at Maimonides Yeshiva Day School, then attended Yeshiva University, where he received a Bachelor of Arts in Jewish Studies. While studying for his Masters in Secondary Jewish Education at Ferkauf, Rabbi Reichert was also studying for his *Smichah* from Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary.

Rabbi Reichert then entered the army as the Jewish chaplain at Fort Hood, Texas. During his stay there he organized the largest kosher kitchen in the United States Army. He, along with his wife, taught Hebrew school for the children on the base, and offered adult education classes including studies in the Bible and in Jewish laws and customs. He also counselled the Jewish soldiers stationed there.

Rabbi Reichert received an Army Commendation Medal as a reward for his successful service. When he left the army, he went to Dallas, Texas, where he taught at the Akiba Academy.

Rabbi Reichert has always communicated well with people and has much experience as a youth leader, being active in Bnai Akiva and Dirshu.

The rabbi and his wife Rashie, an alumna of Stern, have two daughters; Nechama, age two and a half, and Esther Zelda, one month old.

Senate Tackles Academic Problems

by Sharon Sholiton

The opening meeting of the Stern College for Women Senate for the 1978-1979 academic year was held Wednesday afternoon, September 20th during club hour. The meeting was called to order by chairperson Esther Nagel. The open session was attended by students, faculty and administration leaders. Six issues on the agenda were discussed at the meeting.

The first proposal promoted the replacement of the present P/N grading system at Stern with the one now in use at Yeshiva College (YC). At SCW, a student in good standing at or above the sophomore level may register for one non-required course per semester to be graded either P (pass) or N (no credit). She may also specifically request that the course be graded A-P/N, in which case an "A" will appear on her transcript if she earns it, but all other marks will be recorded simply as P or N. However, at YC a student may also request a B-P/N or C-P/N grade report.

As in all SCW grade reporting, any letter grades appearing on the transcript will carry plus or minus designations where applicable. The application deadlines are the same for A-P/N as for P/N. (The deadline for fall semester is the last week of November.)

This question of extending P/N grading to include B-P/N and C-P/N alternatives, as well as the A-P/N option was placed on the agenda for the next senate meeting.

The formation of a student court was the second item discussed on the agenda. Joint sponsorship, involving members of both Senate and Student Council, as well as a faculty advisor, appeared to be the best solution. Ms. Nagel appointed a committee to investigate this issue.

Other issues involving curriculum and registration policies were discussed during the session. An unclear proposal to extend the date until which a student may drop a

course without receiving a "W" on her transcript was tabled until more information could be obtained. The Senate also considered a proposal to change the status of Yiddish language courses so that they would count towards the twenty course Judaic Studies requirement. This matter will be considered at a future date when both the Yiddish instructor and the Acting Divisional Dean of the Judaic Studies Department will be present to participate.

Student complaints about course scheduling were aired and the Senate session closed after an unresolved discussion about the internship opportunities available for SCW students. A vote taken during the session succeeded in placing on the Senate agenda the issue of student evaluations of faculty members.

All academic affairs involving SCW will be discussed at future Senate meetings. Meetings are held during the Wednesday Club Hour.

THE OBSERVER

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Dean for a Day

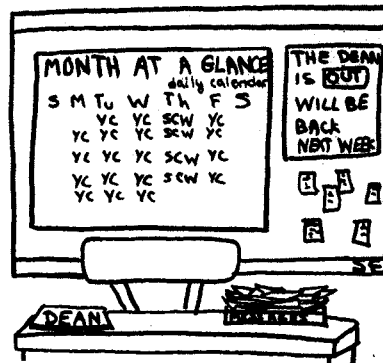
The main campus of Yeshiva University is situated uptown. However, this is not sufficient reason for the deans of this university to spend the bulk of their time uptown, gracing the SCW campus with their presence one or two days per week. The Observer appreciates their effort to have some hours at SCW, but surely an entire college deserves more than a one day a week dean.

Students always feel the need for educational guidance and the elimination of department heads complicates the situation. To whom is one to turn for what? Selection of courses, majors, graduate schools, jobs all require a dean's assistance. A dean is also needed to sign request forms.

When contacted, Dean Bacon's office was a bit vague — each dean's specific hours at Stern were not known. If the Office of the Dean is unsure about these hours, how can a student be expected to know when to contact a dean?

For the record, Dean Ackerman is at SCW on Mondays and Wednesdays, Dean Kurtzer on Mondays, Dean Finkelstein on Thursdays and Dean Rabinowitz on Fridays. However, it is not clear whether or not these deans are accessible on other days should a situation arise which necessitates their advice.

Rabbi Blau, *mashgiach ruchani*, is in the dormitory Monday nights and is in the school building on Thursday afternoons to advise students on religious matters. In the absence of Rabbi Berman, whose office was always open five days a week, Rabbi Blau's time here is not sufficient. The Observer feels that Rabbi Blau is here merely as a token *mashgiach*. We cannot possibly be satisfied with a part time *mashgiach*.



There is a great demand for spiritual and educational guidance at SCW. There is a genuine need to have the deans at SCW more often. There should be a full time *mashgiach ruchani* at SCW, accessible in both the dormitory and school buildings. Stern College is an integral part of Yeshiva University and should be recognized as such. The Observer feels that we, the students of Stern College should not accept this part-time dean policy.

The editorial board of the Observer would like to extend sincere condolences to the family of Dr. Joseph Dunner. May you be comforted among the mourners of Zion.

Lost in the Translation

The Judaic Studies department has come a long way in its efforts to offer stimulating and challenging courses at each level, elementary, intermediate and advanced. Unfortunately, the advanced level is still lacking in a fundamental necessity — Judaic Studies courses taught in Hebrew.

Learning *Ivrit b'Ivrit* is incomparable to that which is dependent on translations. The *Torah* retains its original form and understanding is heightened. Commentaries can be read and discussed in the original. Most of all, the feeling of learning *Torah* in Hebrew is a rewarding one and cannot be aptly described in Hebrew or in English.

Many students come to Stern from high schools where all Hebrew subjects are taught in Hebrew. Others work their way up from the elementary or intermediate levels. It is not fair to penalize any of these students and tell them that they have reached the height of learning at Stern College when *Ivrit b'Ivrit* has not even been explored.

There are some courses which are sup-

posed to be taught in Hebrew. A minority of the teachers confine themselves to this rule. However, with the majority the initial attempt fails. Instead, these courses first become half Hebrew and half English until everything is soon being said in English.

With this caliber of advanced level courses it is not any wonder that students from Stern College experience language difficulties in Israel. Many find themselves significantly behind upon attending Israeli *yeshivot*. The Hebrew language cannot be learned unless it is the only language spoken in the classroom. Until now students from our school have been forced to discover this the hard way.

Granted, not every student has the language proficiency necessary for *Ivrit b'Ivrit* courses. The Observer would like to see the language stressed more on every level. "Advanced Level" should imply that the course is taught only in Hebrew. Anything less than *Ivrit b'Ivrit* cannot and should not be called an advanced level.

What's Ticking with TAC

By Marsha Wolkowicz & Robin Klein

Stern College is a unique institution where a student can learn about Judaism while experiencing it. The Torah Activities Committee (TAC) plays an integral part in fulfilling this function. Through its various activities TAC works to develop a sensitivity to true *Torah* Judaism within each student.

Plans for the current academic year are well underway. The TAC lecture series provides the Yeshiva community with the opportunity to enhance its knowledge of relevant Jewish-related topics. In addition, this knowledge of *halachah* (Jewish law) is supplemented through student prepared sourcebooks, a *mezuzah* drive and a *kashrut* committee. The purpose of TAC is to sharpen your Jewish consciousness and in that way you will bring benefit to yourselves and others.

However, in order to function at all TAC needs the willingness and the enthusiasm of all the students. Only through a joint effort can anything substantial be accomplished.

May the New Year bring much happiness and fulfillment to you and your families. Please contact Marsha (14F) or Robin (11F) in the dormitory or through our student mail boxes, to find out what you can do for TAC.

Letter to the Editor: Stealing Must Stop

THEFT must be stopped in the Stern dorms. Year after year this annoying, frustrating, disheartening series of events hit many of us and it is a darn shame that it has to happen in a religious environment such as Stern. The items that are ripped off range from simple things such as cosmetics to money and more expensive objects such as coats. I am sick and tired of hearing members of the upper echelons of Yeshiva University telling us to leave all unnecessary valuables at home. Are items such as laundry stolen right out of the washing machine "unnecessary"? How are we to exist in these bare four walls of Brookdale Hall?!

Yes! It is indeed a wise precaution to lock all doors when leaving a vacant room for any period of time. Yet how are we to defend ourselves from the thief who has

gotten hold of a skeleton or master key, enabling him to enter so very easily?

It seems (from hearsay) that the weekend is the perfect time for the thief to have his **heyday**, since many of us vacate the dorms to clear our heads from the constant hubbub of the week. I am not hinting that we must all sit guard against the villain, however some action must be taken by the administration and ourselves to put an end to these events. Who can say, if something is not done, worse may happen! These incidents create a sour suspicious feeling amongst us. Also I must add these incidents contribute to the attrition rate. Are we to tolerate being victimized by this phantom? NO WAY!!!!

Signed,
Burt

The Observer would like to extend a heartfelt thanks and a *Yasher Koach* to the following people who made Freshman Orientation a success:

Linda Kuhl and Jill Stampler, co-chairwomen of Orientation; Naomi Miller, President of S.C.W. Student Council; Sally Roth, Assistant to the Dean of Admissions; Paul Glasser, Associate Director of Admissions, for arranging the Saturday night program; Dean Karen Bacon; Mrs. Esther Zuroff of Student Services; Rabbi Asher Reichert, Director of Brookdale Residence Hall; Peninah Segal, head dormitory counselor and Mrs. Milner, maintenance supervisor of Brookdale Hall.

Special thanks are also in order for the big sisters, registration aides and two hundred enthusiastic freshmen for their contribution to the successful orientation. The Observer wishes to commend all the aforementioned people on a job well done. *Kol HaKavod* to the hard workers, and welcome to the class of '82.

BIO DEPT UNDERGOES TURNOVER

Dr. Grant No Longer Teaching at Stern

by Sharon Frager

When classes resumed on September 11 at SCW those registered for Dr. Jessica Grant's biology courses were informed that Dr. Grant's Biology 1 courses would be taught by a new faculty member and that her Embryology and Genetics courses would be cancelled. Dr. Jessica Grant was no longer teaching at SCW.

Having taught at SCW for nearly 13 years, Dr. Grant applied for tenure prior to this academic year and was rejected. Although reviewed and supported by a tenure procedure committee, Dr. Blanche Blank, Vice-President Academic Affairs, recommended that Dr. Grant be denied tenure.

Dr. Blank's decision was based upon a review of Dr. Grant's research by an outside review committee. The review committee found Dr. Grant's research to be insufficient for tenure. It is Dr. Blank's goal, Dr. Blank says, to upgrade the university's standards for tenure. By so doing, she hopes to upgrade the academic

level of the college and make SCW a highly regarded women's college.

Though the university denied Dr. Grant tenure, the administration gave her the option of remaining at SCW as an adjunct faculty member subject to annual review. Dr. Grant opted for a 3 year contract instead which guaranteed her position at SCW for a more extended period of time. Dr. Blank explained that this proposal was denied on the basis that it was unprecedented and would not be fair to other faculty members. A compromise 2 year proposal was offered instead. Of these 2 years, Dr. Grant requested that the second be designated for a sabbatical in order to enable her to complete her research and meet the university's demands for tenure.

Dr. Blank explained that it was not within her power to award Dr. Grant a sabbatical as requested. Such a decision rests with the sabbatical committee. Of the 140 university faculty members only one will be able to receive a sabbatical in the next year because of the university's precarious financial situation. The choice of that one faculty member depends on a special faculty committee which considers relative status within the university. Dr. Blank did say that Dr. Grant's request would be seriously considered, and she encouraged her to remain optimistic. This information was related to Dr. Grant in a university letter dated August 27, 1978. Dr. Blank insists that all last minute deliberations concerning Dr. Grant were made to "accommodate students" and to keep Dr. Grant's option to stay with the university open as long as possible. However, this final offer of a 2 year contract including an uncertain sabbatical was refused by Dr. Grant.

Dean Karen Bacon expressed her concern over the "Dr. Grant" issue. Dean Bacon explained that in such a deadlock situation one "can expect concessions but not a free ride." Understandably, Dr. Grant did not want 2 more years in a dead end position, Dean Bacon explained. Though the university found a professor for Embryology, the Genetics course will remain cancelled for the time being.

Dr. Grant, herself a SCW graduate, voiced her dismay at the university's treatment of her situation. She would have loved to continue teaching at SCW and is extremely disappointed that she must leave her students and the university under such strained conditions. Those students familiar with Dr. Grant as both teacher and friend are bitterly upset. One Stern student, proclaiming that Dr. Grant is herself an institution, said that the university owes more than just an indefinite future to Dr. Grant. Another Stern student, a senior, explained that Dr. Grant is unique in that she is both an accomplished geneticist and professor and a religious mother of three. Many Stern women have referred to Dr. Grant as the ideal role model for other Stern students to emulate. But, the university is aware of Dr. Grant's undoubted value, acknowledged Dr. Blank, and it did its utmost to keep her. Objectively, it is an unfortunate set of circumstances that have terminated Dr. Grant's employment and involvement with Yeshiva University.

From the Editor's Desk



On September 20, I was one of a few women representing Stern who heard Menachem Begin speak to the conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations. It was odd to be totally removed from the school environment and thrown amongst a well-dressed mass of Jewish leaders from all over the country. Yet though I was far from college, I still felt myself to be the student; a student in history class analyzing an historical occasion.

The occasion began with 2000 voices joining to sing *Hatikvah* and the American national anthem. Singing both national anthems was so symbolic of the dual allegiance held by most Jews in that room. The synthesis of those allegiances had come under such strain recently as the United States pressured Israel into coming to grips with Egypt. What would happen, every Zionist wondered, if the Camp David encounter failed and no peace agreement could be achieved — would Begin be blamed for his intransigence, and would the U.S. turn against Israel? But a "comprehensive framework for peace" as Carter continually terms it, was effected and the members of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations could stand up and sing the American National Anthem right after *Hatikvah* without really feeling that they were contradicting themselves.

The mood in the room was one of rollicking optimism. I overheard a channel 11 news reporter interviewing a representative from a Reform Zionist Organization. "Does American Jewry support Menachem Begin's decision?" she inquired. The representative replied with a resounding, "Yes, and we're glad to see that there will be peace at last." Begin reflected this enthusiasm in his opening remarks but tempered it with a reminder that the success of the peace agreement depended upon whether or not Is-

raelis left their settlements. That decision would be left up to the *kinnesset*.

It was then that I really understood how the democratic system of checks and balances really can stymie the process of change. As Begin himself aptly put it, "I am the servant of the *kinnesset*, not its ruler. I am part of a free democratic state under a parliamentary regime."

It is because of this issue that the whole peace agreement could collapse. Some have doubts that peace can really be achieved. Cynics listen to the proceedings and flatly state that it will never work. However, most are optimistic and pray that the whole deal will go through.

Begin concluded by saying that in this general spirit of optimism and American support for Israel, Americans may be able to get the United States to recognize the united Jerusalem as the capital of Israel and move the U.S. embassy to Jerusalem. "It would be more convenient," Begin quipped, "Why should the United States Ambassador to Israel have to travel an hour and 15 minutes to see me?" Begin called for Jewish leaders to organize groups of Jews and non-Jews to pressure the White House into recognition of Jerusalem as "the eternal capital of the Jewish people".

Israel could only stand to gain from such recognition, for it would lessen the chance of Israel having to withdraw to the '67 borders in Jerusalem, which would leave Israel without the *Kotel*. So much is possible if the peace agreement really comes through. Peace in Israel has been a dream since the establishment of Israel and would indeed be sweet. Yet, if the framework collapses, so much stands to be lost.

Time will tell. As Begin said, "We are at the crossroads."

A Miller's Tale



By Naomi Miller

A famous writer once said that "to be absolutely certain about something, one must know everything or nothing about it." I find this quotation quite controversial; although I do know "something" about Stern College for Women, but not "everything." I am "absolutely certain" that this year can be a most productive and enjoyable one for students and faculty alike. The crucial element that the author did not take into consideration — an element which I am relying upon so fully, is of course faith. We must believe in our ability, and in ourselves to act upon this justifiable faith in order to produce concrete results and benefits for ourselves and for those students who will follow our paths here at Stern College.

This type of pillar-like faith is also an important part of Judaism, where along with a partial understanding of our religion, we must rely on faith to unleash the complete potential of our religion — something that rational knowledge alone cannot provide. Undaunted by lack of understanding or logical reasons for our beliefs, we continue to act as religious Jews because of our underlying faith. Indeed, were it possible for a rational reason to be advanced for all of our *mitzvot*, Judaism would no longer be based on

faith and could no longer be correctly termed a religion. It is only in light of the problems and perplexities that science poses to the religious Jew that the value of faith can be properly appreciated.

Our sages tell us that "*im resh shatah chamimah, koolo shata chamimah*" — if we are warm during the days of the New Year, we will be warm during the entire year. *Chazal* were not revealing to us a climactic maxim, but rather were pointing out a psychological truism — that one's initial reaction to a given situation will have strong ramifications in future encounters with that situation. In short, first impressions last! Knowing this then we should endeavor to approach the New Year with the proper attitude — with faith in G-d, trust in ourselves and assistance from our fellow students and teachers. In this manner, we will be casting the die for the rest of the year encompassing religious, scholastic and social activities.

Let us approach the New Year with a mature understanding of the task that lies ahead of us, incorporated with a positive outlook that all we want and hope for ourselves and friends can be attained.

SENATE: Insures Academic Rights

by Emma Bursztyn

The sign says "Senate Meeting Today." Everyone has heard about it. But what is it? Senate deals with any academic issue pertaining to the student body. It is the political arm of Student Council. Senate at SCW was first established in 1971. The most considerable accomplishments have been the establishment of a Jewish Studies Major, and the designation of three school days prior to finals for uninterrupted study. Senate consists of six elected students, six elected faculty members, Dean Karen Bacon, one alumnus representative, and Mrs. Zuroff, Director of Student Services. Of the student body representatives, Esther Nagel and Felice Grossman represent the senior class, Gitta Stern and Ellen Kaufman are the junior

class delegates, and Bayla Friedman serves for the sophomore class. One proposal for the 1978-79 academic term is to enable a student to take a pass/fail course, and subsequently choose whether or not she wants the deserved letter grade on her records. Another goal is to obtain Yiddish as a foreign language credit. Esther Nagel, chairperson of Senate, urges all students to get involved in the organization. Meetings are open to everyone, and Esther feels that, "Part of the learning experience at a college is maturing in a way that isn't possible in high school. This maturing process involves taking an active interest not in only one's studies, but in one's college politics and issues as well."

S.A.F. Sponsors First Theater Party

by Eileen Heinig

S.C.W.S.C. Speech Arts Forum plans to sponsor the first theatre event of the season right after vacation, on Wednesday, November 1 at 8:00 P.M. The activity will be a trip to Circle in the Square's 28th season opener: Gogol's *The Inspector General*.

The Inspector General, an amusing and brilliant satire, is truly one of the landmarks of modern theatre. Featured in the leading roles are: Theodore Bikel, Bob

Balaban, Helen Burns, Arnold Soboloff and Max Wright in the title role.

The show's director Liviu Ciulei is regarded as one of the great contemporary stage directors. *The Inspector General* marks his directional debut on Broadway.

Tickets are on sale now for only \$7.00 for \$12.00 seats! Remember: all money must be in by October 5th.

For more information, see S.A.F. chairperson, Sharron Perrin in 11E.

T.A.C. Sponsors Lecture on Tshuva

By Adina Sullum

On Tuesday night, September 12, Rabbi Fulda, member of the Stern College for Women faculty, gave the opening *shiur* of the Torah Activities Committee's lecture series. Robin Klein, co-chairwoman of T.A.C., introduced Rabbi Fulda, who spoke on *Hilchot Teshuvah*, the Laws of Repentance.

One of the central prayers of *Rosh Hashana* is *Unesaneh Tokef*, and the source of this prayer is found in a *Gemarah* in *Rosh Hashana*, (Page 16 side 2). According to *Rav Yochanan* three books are open before *Hashem*. The first book lists the *tzaddikim* who are inscribed for life, the second book lists the *resha'im* who are inscribed for death, and the third book has the list of the *benonei'im*, the in-betweens, whose fate will be inscribed by *Yom Kippur*.

The question then arises: What constitutes these categories? *Rashi*, *Tosafot*, and others say that a person is a *tzaddik g'mor* if he has more *mitzvot* than *averot* (sins). A *resha g'mor* has more *averot* than *mitzvot*, and a *benonei'im* has exactly the same number of *mitzvot* and *averot*.

There is an evident question on the above interpretation. Why is it that some *tzaddikim* die early and some *resha'im* live longer lives? The simple answer of *Tosafot* is that the *Gemarah* is speaking about life and death in *Olam Habah* (the world to come). According to the *Raavad*, *The Gemarah* is talking about this world. He bases his interpretation upon a *posuk* (sentence) in *Parshat Mishpatim* (23:26) "I will fill the number of your days." *The Tzaddik* will live his apportioned number of days to which more may be added, while

the *resha* will not live through out his allotted years. *Rambam* says that the *Gemarah* is speaking about this world, but the weighing of *mitzvot* and *averot* is not quantitative but is qualitative. One *mitzvah* can outweigh countless *averot*. Only *Hashem* can evaluate *mitzvot* and therefore no one should judge another person and denigrate him as a *resha* or *tzaddik*. Everyone should therefore consider himself a *benonei'im*, who will possess the optimistic philosophy that he can rise to a higher *madraygah* (level).

Teshuvah does not only mean "to return", but also "trying to return our soul to its pure state." The first step is recognition of the sin. A sin means we missed our aim in life, and we must be objective and try to figure out why we missed our goal. *Tefillah*, which means introspection and self-judgement along with a desperate desire for mercy from *Hashem*, is also needed. In addition we must do *mitzvot* to become closer to *Hashem*. The second step, *Vidui*, confession, is needed as concrete action which leaves a deep imprint. The third step must be a firm resolution that the person will not repeat the sin.

How does one begin the process of *Teshuvah*? One needs a change of direction — namely one act which will improve oneself. Rabbi Fulda emphasized that "we can change our fate and the fate of all Jews."

Rabbi Fulda ended the lecture with a story. A *Chasid* came to his *Rav* and asked him for the secret of the world. *The Rav* replied, "Always think that you are the only Jew in the world, that you have only one day to live, and that you are the only one that can do a *mitzvah*."

In the mass confusion of the first few weeks of school numerous adjustments must be made. With new classes, adding or dropping courses, dorm room changes, telephones and refrigerators to be acquired, and various miscellaneous problems to take care of, a very important aspect of Stern College is often overlooked. That is getting involved in Student Council activities and clubs.

One of the most active clubs in school is the Speech Arts Forum. This club sponsors symposiums, talent shows, theater parties, and oral interpretations. The highlight of the year is the annual school play. Sharron Perin, a Sociology major from Teaneck, New Jersey, is chairwoman. She and Peninnah Schram, the faculty advisor, both feel that student participation is the key to the Speech Arts Forum's past and future success.

The Torah Activities Committee (TAC), chaired by Robin Klein and Marsha Wolkowitz, is in charge of most of the religious activities that go on at school. Among the many activities they have planned are special Shabbat programs for every week, with guest speakers and Rabbi Reichert's weekly *shiur*. TAC also includes a *Tzedakah* Committee, a lecture series with many speakers from around the city, a weekly *parshah* review, a home hospitality service, a *seforim* sale, and special lectures on the holidays. TAC, obviously, is one of the most important clubs in the school.

Adjustment in college is often difficult, and there are often many problems to be faced, of an academic, social, religious or financial nature. Fortunately, help is available to the informed student. The following is a list of sources of aid:

Office of the Registrar

Some of the duties of the Registrar's office are:
1. To provide transcripts for students. Any student desiring a transcript to be sent to any other institution, or a prospective employer should request it in the Office of the Registrar.
2. Transcript evaluation — in order to have her transcript from another school evaluated the student must remember to have both the transcript and a catalog with course descriptions submitted by the school previously attended.
3. Information and registration for tests — a calendar will be posted listing the dates on which exemption and various graduate school entrance exams will be administered.

The Office of the Registrar wishes to stress that testing services often will not allow a Sabbath observer to take a test on an alternate date unless her certification has been provided by the Yeshiva University Registrar.

Certification of attendance is often requested by prospective employers, or for loan applications and may be requested in this office.

The English club is one of the various specialty clubs for majors. Chaired by Lexa N. Rosean, it organizes several functions including a literary magazine, "Solus," once a year, sponsors a lecture series, and has many informative functions.

If one is interested in Israel and *Aliyah* then the *Chug Aliyah* is the club to join. *Chug Aliyah* is a group comprised of students who are committed to Israel and are potential *olim*. Its purpose is to provide a chance for these people to come together for discussions on programs to Israel, job opportunities, commitment to Israel and other aspects of *Aliyah* and Israel. They host programs, *shabbatonim*, and lectures on Israel.

Naomi Mark and Julie Beyer are co-chairpersons of the Committee For World Jewry. The committee concentrates mainly on the problems of Soviet Jewry, keeping students informed on current issues regarding the conditions of Soviet Jews, running letter-writing campaigns to the Soviet Union, and organizing protest marches.

All these clubs and committees are under the jurisdiction of the Student Council of Stern College. Student Council also sponsors many activities on its own. Some of the many things planned for this year are the bookstore, and the selling of gym shorts, T shirts, and notebooks. They are also sponsoring joint programs with Yeshiva College, such as a coffee house in November and the annual *shabbaton* in December.

Extracurricular Activities

By Joy Gris

Naomi Miller is this year's Student Council President. Originally from St. Paul, Minnesota, she is majoring in Biology and hopes for a job in public health or medicine. It was Naomi Miller and Sally Roth, in the Admissions Office, who planned the Freshman Orientation, including the Freshman Tea, an outing to Radio City Music Hall, the Freshman *Mesibah*, and all the various aspects of the week.

Ms. Miller's executive board this year includes Betsy Mondshein, Vice-President, Adina Kalisch, Corresponding Secretary, Beth Hoch, Recording Secretary, and Sharon Zanger, Treasurer. If any one wishes to get involved in one of the above activities, contact the chairperson in charge.

Club Chairpeople

<i>Bet Midrash</i>		
Menucha Quint	8H	
<i>Bikur Cholim</i>		
Judy Braur	14D	
Blood Drive		
Judy Moseson	5H	
<i>Chug Aliyah</i>		
Toby Ehrman	4E	
Dina Bilus	12A	
Club Hour		
Betsy Mondshein	12F	
Economics		
Rochelle Nashofer	3B	
Elections		
Lisa Geduld	8F	
English Club		
Lexa Rosean		
Floor Chairwoman		
Adriane Stein	6A	
Karate Club		
N.Y. Times		
Shira Kramer	3E	
Observer		
Sharon Efrogymson	20A	
Publicity Committee		
Charni Sruulowitz	5E	
Science Club		
Erica Smith	6E	
Sociology Club		
Annette Lebowicz	6H	
Speech Arts Forum		
Sharon Perin	11E	
Sports Club		
Sharon Markowitz	5F	
TAC		
Robin Klein	11F	
Marsha Wolkowitz	14F	
UJA		
Mindy Heller	19B	
World Jewry		
Naomi Mark	3G	
Julie Beyer	7E	
WYUR		
Vicki Garfinkle	7E	
Yavneh		
Rochelle Nashofer	3B	
Yearbook		
Rebecca Subin	11E	
Student Admission Com.		
Debbie Schondorf	4D	



Gesher foundation works here and in Israel to promote better understanding within the Jewish community.

SCWSC Aims to Improve Student Life

By Dassy Goodman

Student Council is the official voice of all the students at Stern College and is responsible for all the various committees and clubs, such as the Observer and the Torah Activities Committee, that play an important role in our college life.

Student Council plays a significant role in religious, social, and academic matters at Stern College. In a recent interview Student Council President, Naomi Miller, discussed some improvements she would like to see brought about in these areas through Student Council efforts.

In the religious area, Student Council hopes to work closely with TAC in its varied activities, such as the *Seforim* Drive and the TAC Lecture Series. TAC has already sponsored its first lecture, attended by over 75 students who braved the rain to hear Rabbi M. Fulda discuss "Teshuva — An Analytical Approach."

Along with the help of Rabbi Asher Reichert, the Residence Hall Director, Student Council hopes to further strengthen *Shabbat* programs by having interesting programs and stimulating speakers.

Socially speaking, Student Council hopes to steer away from "Mesibot" and instead sponsor informal social gatherings, such as coffeehouses, together with Yeshiva College.

In the academic department, Ms. Miller hopes that Senate will be more active than it has been in the past. She is confident that with Esther Nagel as chairperson, Senate will serve the student body to its potential.

Last year new carpets were installed in the dormitory. This year Student Council hopes to further enhance the appearance of the dormitory, by plastering walls that "look atrocious," for example.

Regarding the Student Council treasury, Ms. Miller promises that there will be more control over monies spent for Student Council activities. Buses will not be rented for activities unless enough students sign up to pay for the cost of renting them. No checks will be written out without the authorization of the Student Council Treasurer and President.

It is important that all students attend Student Council meetings. Stern is a small school and therefore students can and do play a significant role in every Student Council decision.

According to Ms. Miller, suggestions are "listened to closely and taken to heart." She believes that students who have complaints or suggestions on any matter should come and voice their opinion at Student Council meetings. "Unless they come and give their opinion, they won't be heard and therefore have no right to complain."

Along with Naomi Miller as Student Council President, the other Student Council Board members include Betsy Mondshein as Vice President, Adina Kalisch as Corresponding Secretary, and Sharon Zanger as Treasurer.

Student Council meetings are held every other Monday at 10:00 P.M. in the orange lounge.

Guiding the Perplexed

By Barbara Michael

Questions may also be directed to the Divisional Deans of Y.U.:
Dr. Morton Berger, Dean of Social Sciences 115-481 (especially on questions concerning the Economics, Accounting and Business majors).
Dr. Robert Ackerman, Dean of Humanities 116-332
Dr. David Finkelstein, Dean of Natural Sciences and Mathematics 116-217

Questions concerning Judaic Studies should be directed to Dr. Walter Orenstein and Dr. Gersion Appel. In general, Dr. Appel handles academic matters such as program changes, problems of Judaic Studies majors, opening closed courses, cancellations of courses, and suggestions for new courses. Dr. Orenstein, on the other hand, has charge of Judaic Studies placement, TAC activities and guidance and counseling of a religious and personal nature. Dr. Orenstein promises that his door will be open to all students.

Other services offered by this office are:

Home hospitality — a student wishing to be placed in a home for *Shabbat* should see Mrs. Zuroff by Tuesday preceding that *Shabbat*.
Tutoring — Tutors for several different subjects are available.

Residence Hall
The Residence Hall Director, Rabbi Asher Reichert has great hopes for the coming year. He urges students to drop into his office on the first floor of the dormitory (he hopes in the future to establish official hours) to discuss religious, social, and personal problems. Rabbi Reichert draws his experience in counseling from his days as a chaplain, and stresses that the fact that he is removed from the academic system represents an advantage in counseling.

Rabbi Reichert expresses great interest in the opportunities for learning in the dormitory. He hopes to establish *shiurim* during the school year.

Mrs. Aidel Buchwald, social worker and personal counselor, will be available 9:00 to 5:00 on Mondays, and 9:30 to 2:30 on Tuesdays.

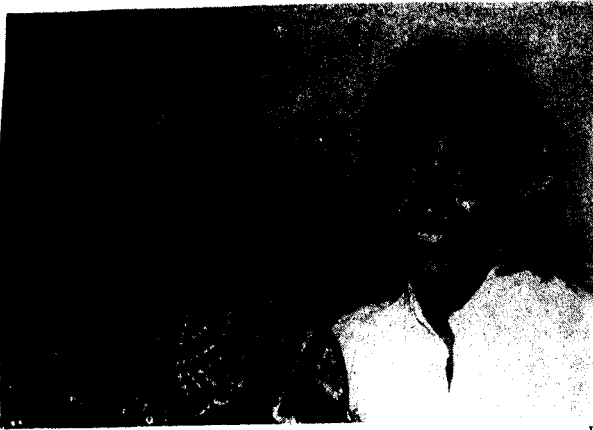
Dorm Counselors

Saving Energy

by Judith Borden

Because of rising electricity costs, Rabbi Miller has requested that electricity usage in the dormitory be cut down. The most obvious way to save electricity is by turning off the lights when they're not being used. To be more ambitious, instead of having four radios blaring at once in the same room, just use one radio placed centrally so that everyone can hear it. The same idea can be used for alarm clocks. If everyone has to wake up at the same time in the room every day, only one alarm clock needs to be used. Those people who are weight conscious can save watts and lose weight by not opening their refrigerators. By following these guidelines we may be able to stave off rising tuition costs.

3F	Peninah Segal (Head)
4F	Chaya Kleinerman
5F	Betty Sisovic
6F	Na-ami Kraus
7F	Irene Weinrib
8E	Naomi Miller
9E	Adina Sullum
10F	Sandy Riesenber
11F	Robin Klein
12F	Rivkie Stern
14F	Marsha Wolkowitz
15F	Naomi Reich
16F	Aimee Kintzer
17	Susan Hyman
18F	
19	Sharon Efrogymson
20A	



E.L.

Stern attracts students from near and far — Irith Gubbay (left) and Joni Feller (right) are members of the new freshman class.

Not All Stern Women Are From Fernwood

By Raizie Friedman

What does a girl from Honolulu, Hawaii have in common with a girl from Bombay, India? They're both members of Stern's class of '82, that's what.

Irith Gubbay is a third generation Indian-born Jewess. Her grandparents originally came from Iraq and she is used to spicy Indian and Sephardic cuisine; that is why she finds American foods so "blah." Otherwise, she seems to be adapting well. English is her native tongue, but Irith also speaks Hindi and several other Indian dialects. In India she attended the Cathedral and John Cannon Schools, two of India's finest schools.

Irith had never experienced a real *Shabbat* before arriving at Stern. However, her family has always had guests for traditional Friday night meals. Travelers from all over the world somehow make their way to her family's apartment.

Irith is rapidly adjusting to her life at Stern. She says that she really likes her teachers and enjoys her classes. Despite

the fast pace of New York living, she still says, "I love New York because of the crazy people."

Joni Feller's Hawaiian name is Makamalamalamaokalani: Brightest Eyes of the Heaven. Her ancestors are originally from Spain, and more recent generations are from New York. She went to a Catholic high school, speaks Japanese, and came to Stern College for the Jewish atmosphere. In Honolulu, there are only five kosher families and a Young Judea group which Joni helped start.

An award-winning surfer, Joni is not looking forward to the Northeastern winter. But she loves Stern College, her roommates, and the *ruach*. Joni is also enjoying her classes and the *bikur cholim* visits to Rusk Institute. She plans to volunteer at a local hospital on a regular basis.

We wish both girls much success and happiness at Stern College, and in Joni's words, ALOHA AND MUCH MAHALO (goodbye and much thanks)!

Early to Bed, Early to Rise Makes a Commuter Tired

By Abby Klein

Who wakes up early, runs for buses and trains, never takes evening courses, and is a neglected minority at Stern College? The commuter.

Increasingly, life at Stern is centered around the dormitory. Social events, lectures, student council meetings, and fundraising events take place at night, in Brookdale Hall. Why then do slightly over 40 Stern students opt to live at home and either miss out on these events or make complicated arrangements in order to attend them?

Aside from the slight economic advantage, many commuting students have jobs near their homes that they would rather not give up. Others do not have classes five days a week and find it more practical to spend their days off at home instead of in the dorm. Married students also travel to

school. For others, it gives them the chance to experience "the best of both worlds," taking advantage of the unique Stern program while at the same time enjoying home cooking, a little more privacy, and the company of old friends from high school who also commute to college.

Sometimes it is annoying to be the last to find out school news, although lately mailboxes have included notices marked "For Commuters" which is a big help. Sometimes it is frustrating not to be able to have those late-night discussions with friends in the dorm. Sometimes it is harrowing to be caught on a delayed train and walk into class fifteen minutes late. However, commuters learn to accept these problems patiently (or not so patiently) and enjoy the benefits commuting gives. Most are happy with the choice

What Ever Happened to the Class of '78?

By Linda Ostrow

There were 113 graduates in the Stern College for Women class of 1978. Each of these women has taken her place in today's society or is presently furthering her education in her chosen field.

Of the class' 113 graduates, 14 were biology majors and 2 chemistry majors. Two of these women, Norma Sandow and Beney Cohen, are presently in nursing school. Esther Bramson and Betsy Weinrib will be training as therapists.

There were 5 women from the class who received BA/MSW's (Bachelors and Masters degrees in social work) in 5 years. Those women are: Hope Salmonsohn Bloom, Dale Eichenbaum Panko, Joanne Mirsky, Roxanne Rachael Schein, and Ivy Kaufman Possick, who it is interesting to note, is now a *rebbitzin* in Columbus, Ohio, and just had a baby girl. There were also two women who received their BA/MS in psychology through the same 5-year program; they are Share Kenner and Aviva Brojges Miskin.

In the field of Jewish Studies, Ruthie Marine, Miriam Levite, Katherine Perles, and Nancy Beth Schwartz earned their BA/MA's in Jewish Education from the Ferkauf graduate school. A Hebrew Teacher's Diploma was awarded to Rose Ann Etkin, and 9 women received Jewish Studies Certificates along with their BA's.

The rest of the class was comprised of 24 Judaic Studies majors, 16 Sociology, 15

shaped majors with F.I.T. (Fashion Institute of Technology), 13 Psychology majors, 5 History, 1 Math, and 1 Philosophy major.

Some women of the class have gone to Israel to study for the year; many have found or are presently looking for their place in the working world of today. Some have been married and some made *aliyah*. Although there are many Stern women who do get married rather early in their college years or right after graduation, the trend seems to be veering away from these early marriages. According to Mrs. Esther Zuroff, Director of student Services. "I find there is not as much pressure on women to get married today as there was 20 years ago... and I've been here 21 years," she says.

The '78' class had 5 political science majors who along with one of the Jewish Studies majors are currently attending law schools such as Yeshiva University, Boston U. and Columbia.

One thing in which the school takes pride is that all nine education majors found teaching positions this year.

A new faculty member and one of the class of '78's 8 English majors is Sally Roth. She was formerly president of the SCW Student Council and is now Assistant to the Dean of Admissions at Yeshiva University.

Dr. Orenstein Selected for J.S. Post

by Alice Cohen

Dr. Walter Orenstein has recently been appointed Assistant Chairman of the Judaic Studies Department.

As Assistant Chairman, he has expressed two goals that he would like to see achieved in Stern College this year. He would like to "promote an open dialogue" between himself and the students and he also would like the image of the Stern College woman to be clarified.

Dr. Orenstein wants students to feel free to come and talk with him. Dr. Orenstein is in charge of nonacademic affairs and is available to give guidance on religious and personal matters. He is also the person to see about matters concerning Judaic Studies Placement.

Dr. Orenstein stressed that the Stern woman's image should be obvious from her appearance as well as her actions. She should reflect the philosophy of the school. He suggests that Student Council call a session in which students, faculty and administration work together to clarify and establish the Stern woman's image.

Dr. Orenstein has been with the Y.U. community for quite some time. He received his B.A. from Yeshiva College in Jewish Education, and his M.A. and Ph.D. in Hebrew Literature from Bernard Revel Graduate School. He has taught at J.S.S. and is presently teaching at T.I.W. He will be working with the Torah Activities Committee and is interested in solving student's problems. He feels that freshmen



E.L.

Dr. Walter Orenstein is the person to see for religious guidance.

who now find themselves in a new environment will especially benefit from his guidance. Those wishing to see Dr. Orenstein can do so in Room 404 Tuesdays from 9-12, Wednesdays 12-2, 2-5 (Rm. 405) and Thursdays from 2-5.

The Observer will feature other department heads in subsequent issues.

WYUR, 820 on your AM dial is now broadcasting in Brookdale Hall and in YC's dormitories. Prizes are given away — you can call 568-4700 and win! Eleven Stern students have won records so far. So tune in and hear your favorite music with your own YC-SCW DJ's.

New York City Cures Sunday Afternoon Blues

by Abby Klein

There is no reason for any Stern College student to be bored on Sunday. New York is full of exciting things to do and places to go, although not everything in New York is open on Sunday. Here are some suggestions, many of which can be done inexpensively.

In the vicinity of the dormitory, for example, is the Empire State Building, right down 34th Street at 5th Avenue. It is a good place to go to see a beautiful panorama of New York from 102 stories high. Tickets are \$1.70. Also housed in the building is the Guinness Museum of World Records. Admission is \$1.50 and you will see displays and photographs of world records, in addition to video tapes of actual events. The museum is located on the lower level, next to the observatory ticket counter.

Gimbels at 34th Street has exciting fashion shows in its large auditorium. Celebrities sometimes appear there, too. Watch for announcements in the *New York Times*. Admission is free.

Anyone interested in seeing fascinating, original manuscripts such as the Gutenberg Bible and original Chopin compositions, can see them for free in the Pierpont Morgan Library at 29 East 36th Street and 5th Avenue. The library also exhibits painting and sculpture.

Japan House, at 333 East 47th Street and 2nd Avenue, features Japanese art, films, and lectures. Admission is free.

Information about the many other museums in the area can be obtained either from the AAA New York Tour Book or from the Tourists Bureau on 42nd Street, just opposite Grand Central Station. Before going to any museum, call to find out about rates and hours.

For theater-goers, the TKTS booth at 47th Street and Broadway features half-price tickets to many Broadway shows and some on Off-Broadway. Many shows have 3:00 matinees on Sundays, and all theaters are located within the immediate area. Just get there an hour or so before the show, to purchase your ticket. Student discount tickets for Broadway shows are also available in Stern College. See Mrs. Winter.

While the weather is still warm, take a picnic lunch and go to Battery Park by taking the 1 train from 34th Street and 7th Avenue to South Ferry. Eat your lunch in the park and then take the ferry to the Statue of Liberty. The fare is \$1.50 and boats leave every hour. From there for a small additional fee, there are ferries to Ellis Island, where immigrants used to land.

The 1 train will also take you to the World Trade Center (two stops before South Ferry). Here, for \$1.70, you can get a breath-taking view from 110 stories up. Within the Center are many interesting shops.

If you enjoy natural foods, plants, and the arts, take the F train from 34th Street and Broadway to West 4th Street and walk around the West Village. Here you can also have a picnic lunch in Washington Square Park, and you can see New York University. Some Off-Broadway theaters are located in this area. Greenwich Village is also a great place to buy unusual T-shirts.

Going back uptown, the Temple Emanu-El synagogue at 5th Avenue and 65th Street is a striking architectural sight.

The tour is free. Unless you are a good walker, take the bus up Madison Avenue.

The AA train will take you to the Museum of Natural History and the Hayden Planetarium at 81st Street and Central Park West. With student I.D., admission is \$1.35.

The Metropolitan Museum of Art, at 5th Avenue and 82nd Street, may be reached by taking the number 3 or 4 bus from Madison Avenue and 34th Street. Ad-

mission is on a donation basis. Seven blocks up, at 89th Street, is the Guggenheim Museum, designed by Frank Lloyd Wright. Admission is free. In this area, there are also many small art galleries to look at.

At 5th Avenue and 92nd Street is the Jewish Museum. Admission is \$1.50. If this interests you, be sure to see our Yeshiva University Museum at the Main Center. With student I.D. admission is 50¢. Again, check times and rates by phone.

Finally, the UN Plaza at 1st Avenue between 42nd and 48th Street offers guided tours every 10 minutes. With student I.D. admission is \$1.50. You may also purchase tickets for General Assembly meetings.

These are only a few suggestions. Take advantage of what New York City offers on Sundays. Enjoy yourself. Welcome to the Big Apple!

Lunch with Lexa

by Lexa Rosean

Wed. 4:20 p.m.

My mind is still on William Shakespeare. My stomach growls and I am reminded of the Observer deadline. What to write, what to write? I try to avoid religion and politics. Well...THE NEWSPAPERS ARE ON STRIKE. What will New Yorkers do on the subway? Look at each other? And the poor movers must be frantic with cries of "What do I wrap the Waterford IN?" or "How do I line the linen closet?" House trained pet-owners find themselves performing the humiliating ordeal they thought to escape: scooping up Fido's 'fooh', in public yet! The Times is sorely missed. I haven't seen a movie since Vincent Canby stopped reviewing.

The Channel 11 news said we may have the *New York Times* back by the December pagan holidays. That is quite a while to be out of print, but surely, their reputation can stand up to Santa Claus! Some people say the teamsters are behind the strike. Others claim it is this Sun-Moon character. I personally think it's Richard Nixon, but let's not get into politics. That's what the strike is though, one big political game! Well, then, I refuse to write about it.

My stomach is still growling and the deadline is hanging over my head. In situations like this, one must pause; then seriously consider one's responsibilities; the consequences which may arise if one fails to meet up to these responsibilities; one must

pause again; and then, one must eat. Time to check the stash.

olive oil
lemon
wine vinegar
salt, pepper
an egg
raw spinach
Kosher bacon bits
onion
Grated Cheddar cheese

An odd assortment, perhaps not? If Shakespeare wrote about Caesar, why can't I? What could possibly be political about a salad? The Observer could use some "Hints From Heloise". If this goes over well, I could try something along the "Ann Landers" line. I am finally inspired!

Inspiration however requires a large wooden bowl and a pestle.

Take your anchovies and grind 'em like they were that teacher who failed you last semester. When you get them down fine add in a half a garlic and a clove, slowly. Now think about your ex-boyfriend whom you hate even more. Now that it's very fine and you're fuming, cool down with 6-7 drops of tabasco sauce, ½ tablespoon of mustard, and a few drops (use your discretion) of 'whas dis here' sauce. Now you are ready for the wet stuff. Line the bowl with olive oil, a hard squeeze of lemon, and just a dash of wine vinegar. This should be done with one hand slowly rotating the bowl, while gazing wistfully at the oil coating the wood. It is helpful to sing "Go down Moses, way down to Egypt land, and tell old Pharaoh to let my people go," during this procedure. On the second chorus, stop rotating and start a slow grind, Sprinkle salt, pepper, seasoned salt and chopped onions. Sing in a deep voice.

Add cheddar cheese, KOSHER bacon bits, throw in the olives, crack an egg. Don't... don't put it in yet. Strain out that disgusting and vile white stuff. Take the yolk and cradle it in its shell. (I am terribly prejudiced against egg-whites.) Look at its perfect yellow form. Remember that it could have been a chicken if not for your salad. Check for blood spots, then throw it in, stir, and declare "voila!" No, it's not finished. If you are still singing, STOP. This last step is crucial.

"Ah, when great Caesar fell, all of Rome fell." So watch out for the lettuce, Ladies! Romain lettuce must be washed very carefully, but it must be dried with just as much devotion: It is imperative that the lettuce be very dry, or else your salad will FALL and the *N.Y. Times* will never come back! I suggest towel drying and rolling each piece for the best results. I do not suggest hairdryers, this is a tossed salad, not a toast salad. Put the lettuce in (follow the same procedure for spinach) and toss, toss, toss! Toss in the croutons. Toss up a chair, (Don't toss up your feet!) and eat.

Gesher Bridges Gap Between Religious and Non-Religious Israelis.

By Jill Stamler

Some years ago, a well-intentioned individual said, "First Israel must achieve peace and security, then we can worry about the internal problems of intolerance and the lack of Jewish identity." Those of the Gesher Foundation feel the opposite to be true. They believe that a strong Jewish nation is best equipped to insure its security when there is a united and healthy society within.

While Begin, Carter and Sadat are in the headlines capturing the public eye, Gesher continues quietly but firmly to strengthen Israeli society. In America, Gesher strives to make the Jewish community aware of the internal problems facing Israeli society.

Gesher, Hebrew for "bridge," is a fitting name for this apolitical, non-affiliated organization. Gesher's program is geared to bridge the gap between two types of Israelis: religious Jews and non-religious (secular) Jews who are for the most part completely alienated from each other. The non-religious community, although not necessarily unresponsive to spiritual ideas, does not see the religious community as inherently meaningful or morally significant. They view it as a self-seeking, politically ambitious group, trying to impose their ancient values and ideology on the whole country.

On the other hand, the religious community feels threatened by the secular community, fearing the complete abandonment of traditional values. Using political

means, they try to guarantee a way of life which protects tradition and religious law.

Unfortunately, the gap between the two groups has been widening, mainly because of lack of communication between them. The only basis for unity, according to Gesher, is a common identification with the Jewish heritage. Israel without Judaism would be like any other country. But presently many Israelis are indifferent to their Jewish heritage and question the value of Israeli nationality with all its hardships and problems. Their commitment to staying in a country besieged by war, economic difficulties and an overwhelming bureaucracy has been weakened. And if the rate of emigration continues to increase (especially among the youth), exceeding the rate of Aliyah, there may be no need for any other organizations.

For the State of Israel to survive external pressures, it must achieve internal unity and strength. Both religious and non-religious Israelis must gain fuller appreciation of their Jewish heritage and identity if the schism within the country is ever to be bridged.

Gesher was founded ten years ago by a group of idealistic young Americans concerned about the deteriorating condition in Israel. They wanted to bring together all parts of the society in order to better understand their roots and common bond. As a spokesperson for Gesher said: "We want

Continued on page 8

Gesher Bridges Gap

Continued from page 7
to sensitize participants to their roots and strengthen their identification with their Homeland."

The founder of Gesher, Dr. Daniel Tropper, a Ph.D. graduate of Yeshiva University and its Smicha program, made Aliyah with his family in 1969 to establish the organization. He felt that in order for the State of Israel to survive, people could no longer afford to talk about social problems; something had to be done in order to bring about the change that was needed.

At first, Dr. Tropper was met with skepticism. The religious were shocked at his desire to bring their children together with non-religious Jews; the non-religious feared that he was just another missionary.

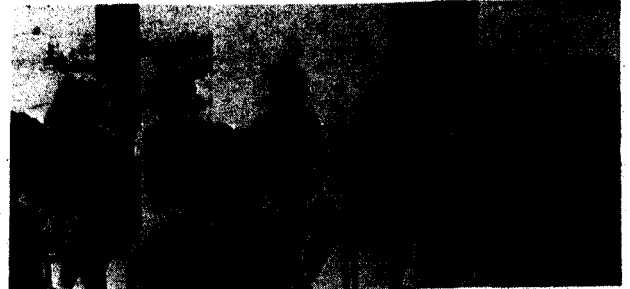
However, after a series of successful seminars and lectures, Gesher was well established and enthusiastically received.

Dr. Tropper had allayed all suspicions by his sincerity, creativity, frankness and respect for both the religious and non-religious.

Today, ten years later, Gesher's programs are vast. These programs usually consist of an equal number of religious and non-religious teens under the leadership of well trained advisors. (Gesher also sponsors the David Schoen Institute for Creative Jewish Education.)

The Seminar program, theoretically based on those sponsored by Yeshiva University, brings together religious and non-religious high school students in a five to seven day learning experience. Through dialogue and shared activities, antagonism and misunderstanding give way to tolerance and mutual respect.

Another technique used is the Judaic Study Days in which Gesher lecturers go



As the year gets going, Student Council actively gets underway. E.L. into the high schools and lead discussions among the students. Coffee Houses provide an informal meeting place for the youth, where discussions and brief lectures led by Gesher advisors are mixed with cultural programming.

Gesher, a non-profit organization, depends on its volunteers and funds from the American Jewish Community. Denise Baker, Executive Director, and Debbie Kamioner, Administrative Assistant (also

a graduate of Stern College), are constantly seeking help with educational mailings, fundraising, etc. Currently their efforts are being directed to their main fundraiser, the Annual Dinner, this year honoring Mr. and Mrs. William Goldberg on November fifth. Their office is located at 3 West 16 Street (929-7776).

If Israel is to survive, Israelis must find unity in their Jewish Heritage. That is the goal for which Gesher strives.

Seniors Sink Juniors

by Amy Schwartz

The first intramural basketball game for the fall '78 semester took place Tuesday night, September 19th in the Stern College gym.

At the end of the first half, the seniors were winning 26 to 21. High scorers were Ilene Lehman and Adriane Stein with four baskets each. The single scorer for the juniors was Nina Feld.

The second half started with 3 baskets by the seniors followed by a basket by junior Esther Isaacs. Quick on the rebound, senior Rebecca Subin came racing down the court to score 4 baskets in the second half. The juniors came alive by a basket by Lori Herman followed by three baskets from junior Ellen Kaufman.

Basketball Intramural Coordinator Sharon Markowitz was quite tired near the end of the second half. She scored a total of five baskets in the game.

Many more intramurals are scheduled throughout the semester.

JUS NUS NUS NUS

DAVE MASON — Oct. 7th at the PAL-LADIUM (14th St. bet. 3rd and 4th Ave.)

SEIJI OZAWA AND THE BOSTON SYMPHONY — Oct. 18/19 at Carnegie Hall

DIANA ROSS IN CONCERT AT RADIO CITY HALL — Oct. 5-Oct. 11

Dance Umbrella Oct. 13-Nov. 12 at The ENTERMEDIA Theatre (12th St. at 2nd Ave.)

BeatleMania — At The WINTER GARDEN THEATRE

JACK LEMMON IN TRIBUTE — AT KINSON THEATRE

Heaven Can Wait is an endearing comedy, starring Warren Beatty as a quarterback about to enter the Superbowl. Mistakenly, he is snatched up to Heaven by a novice messenger, seconds before a supposed fatal accident is to occur. Unfortunately, Beatty is not scheduled to die for another 50 years, and by the time the mistake becomes known, his body has been cremated. Naturally Heaven operates fairly, and he is offered another body. In the body of a rich businessman he helps an attractive woman (Julie Christie) in distress. Beatty and Christie are supported by a fine cast — Jack Warden, Buck Henry and James Mason all provide admirable performances.

Heaven Can Wait is rated PG.

by Beth Schutzman

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