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THE OBSERVER

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Dean Kurtzer Resigns

by Cheryl Ruben

After two years as dean of Yeshiva College, Dr. Daniel Kurtzer has resigned "to pursue professional interests other than higher education."

Dean Kurtzer stated that he would

ponents exist, other problems move centerstage. For example, some courses failed because "not enough ground work was done." But the college is not doing "too badly", and now "these problems must be addressed."

Dean Kurtzer said he will most likely work for the State Department, although his destination is not yet definite.

Dr. Michael Hecht has been appointed acting dean of Yeshiva College in the interim. He is currently a teacher of Jewish studies and American law, and is a pre-law advisor at Yeshiva College and Stern.



1979-1980 newly elected Student Council Executive Board Members: Top row, from left to right, Julie Beyer — Vice-President; Estey Moudaheln — President; Cheryl Ruben — Secretary. Bottom row, Elise Slutsky — Corresponding Secretary; Rochelle Nussim — Treasurer. All Student Council officers will be installed at the Installation Dinner held May 16 at 7:00.



Dean Daniel Kurtzer

like to believe that Yeshiva College is in better shape now than when his deanship began. "The quality of education...is still sound, the student body is sound and the faculty is sound as ever."

He noted that when these three com-

New Editor-in-Chief Appointed

by Heidi Tenzer

The 1978-79 Editorial Board of *The Observer* announces the appointment of former News Editor Annie Tennenberg to the position of Editor-in-Chief of the 1979-80 *Observer*.

A resident of Cherry Hill, New

Jersey, Ms. Tennenberg brings a wide variety of talents and capabilities to her new post. A Dean's List student, she has always been an active member of SCW Student Council and *The Observer* staff. She has previously held the position of Recording Secretary for the 1977-78 board of the

Student Council, in addition to having been chairperson of the Jogging Club in her freshman year.

Ms. Tennenberg is a senior majoring in English/Communication, and has gained much experience in the field of journalism through her internships. She has worked for *The World Over* arranged by Dr. Fred Hahn of the English Department. Currently, Ms. Tennenberg is interning at the *North Brooklyn News* and *The Jewish World of Long Island*.

When asked about her goals for the coming year, Ms. Tennenberg says that, "Only recently has *The Observer* been covering university news as well as school functions. I plan on continuing this policy and expanding it more on the university end."

Ms. Tennenberg emphasized that she would like to see the newspaper become even more of an active forum for the student's voice. "*The Observer* is the administration and faculty's only link with students' problems and opinions. They cannot be heard unless they are communicated." She continued by saying, "We want to know what the students are interested in reading about before the paper is printed instead of criticism after it is printed."

Ms. Tennenberg was recently Yeshiva University's only student representative at the convention of the Commission of Independent Colleges in Albany, New York. She claims that "By speaking with student leaders of other universities, I was surprised to learn that student participation is the main problem in all colleges and not just here at Yeshiva. Student input is an important factor in making any activity a success."

Her final comments on future policies of *The Observer* are that, "We will not only report on how this affects us as students — but also as Jews. The two should not be separate." She adds that culture and arts will also be expanded.

While editorial positions have already been filled, staff positions are still available. Students who are interested should contact board members.

Analysis

The Final Word on WYUR

by Rachel Katsman

Stern College President Naomi Miller is upset. WYUR Station Manager Steve Cohen is apologetic. It's not exactly Watergate, but it could be considered a slight financial scandal.

Last year, Stern College Student Council paid its \$1100 balance to WYUR to bring SCWSC's payments up to date for the 1977-78 academic year. The three checks totalling \$1100 were given to Yeshiva College Student Council to be turned over to the radio station.

However, the money never got to the station. But the cancelled checks, endorsed by YCSC, then under the presidency of Harry Skydell, were returned to SCWSC, indicating that YCSC did indeed receive Stern's funds.

Because WYUR never received the funds, Stern has been harassed many times for the money, even though Naomi Miller said she explained numerous times that Stern gave the money to YCSC last year.

Despite Ms. Miller's statements, Steve Cohen, who desperately needed the funds to pay last year's station deficit, approached YCSC to put pressure on Stern to pay up. At the meeting that was broadcast over WYUR several months ago, it was announced that Stern owed \$1100 to WYUR.

At this, Ms. Miller became furious and sent copies of the cancelled checks to YCSC and to Steve Cohen.

"We are tired of being condemned for being remiss in payments when, as

of this date, we are in perfectly good standing with WYUR for 1977-78 and 78-79 academic years," commented President Miller.

Although Stern is officially cleared, YCSC as yet has not paid the \$1100 to WYUR. Ms. Miller feels that there is a double standard in the treatment of the two student councils. YCSC hasn't paid up, but there has been no public issue made of it. When it was thought by some that Stern owed money (with conclusive evidence to the contrary), the accusation was broadcast over the radio.

Marc Schneider, 1978-79 YCSC Secretary-Treasurer and President-elect for the coming year, said that the actual story of what happened to the money has not yet been answered. Apparently, \$500 was not accounted for in the YCSC account, despite the fact that Stern received the cancelled check for the amount.

Mr. Schneider explained that the reason YCSC pressured Stern despite Naomi Miller's statements that Stern was cleared, was that, "It was not a question of doubting Naomi's credibility, but we had no proof until she finally showed us the checks. The incident happened before she was president, and the fact is that it's easy to believe everything you're told when you're not in office."

The president-elect hopes that the money will be going out to WYUR within the next few weeks, and said that if YCSC had the money, it would have

been paid immediately when the organization was made aware of its debt. He emphasized that the 1977-78 council left this year's board with an \$11,000 deficit, and that YCSC has other priorities aside from WYUR.

Ms. Miller feels that the accusation is not an isolated incident. She said the station hassles SCWSC every month for its allotted \$200, although Stern is always up-to-date in payments, while YCSC still has \$1100 outstanding.

"YCSC gets hassled twice as much as Stern," explained Steve Cohen. "But it (YCSC) is notorious for not paying its bills. YC is having a lot of budget problems and though they said they'd pay, I'm a bit wary."

SCWSC gives the radio station \$200 a month, which includes the cost of the tie lines from the station to Brookdale Hall and transportation for Stern disc-jockeys to go uptown. YCSC pays everything else, such as equipment costs, etc.

"I have to badger SCWSC to an extent because its working with a limited budget and I want a cut of the pie. It's not really my choice. I'm just trying to keep the station alive," Mr. Cohen commented.

Mr. Cohen conceded that perhaps SCWSC was treated a bit unjustly, and offered his apologies for any problems caused.

"Stern is one of our biggest assets," Mr. Cohen remarked. "We don't want to do anything to jeopardize that relationship."

THE OBSERVER

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All opinions expressed in THE OBSERVER are solely those of the Executive Board and do not necessarily represent Yeshiva University or the Stern College student body.

Dress Code Debate

The possibility of reviving the dress code at Stern College has recently been discussed among students and administration. The issue of a dress code is a sensitive one, especially at a women's college such as Stern, in that the suggestion that the women revise their mode of dress is accompanied by the distinct impression that our male counterparts are not asked to do the same. This need not be the case — standards of appearance apply both to men and women — the Jewish opinion on dress does not confine itself to the situation of women. At any rate, widely differing opinions as to the propriety of a dress code at a university can be heard, and it is for this reason that *The Observer* presents "The Dress Code — Pro and Con."

PRO

When a Jewish student contemplates continuing his education, one has the option of either attending a secular university or Yeshiva University. If the student makes the choice of blending the university and *yeshiva* aspects of one's education, certain concessions for the type of life style it implies must be assumed. An effort must be made on the part of the individual to evaluate one's priorities and conform to the guidelines set forth by the *yeshiva*. For example, Stern's curriculum requires that in addition to a secular course load, twenty courses in areas of Judaic Studies must be mastered. This is what must be substituted in place of furthering the student's secular education. The *yeshiva* student therefore assumes the responsibility of a dual program.

In assuming the rigors of the dual program at Stern, the student is also expected to be strengthening her commitment to the *yeshiva* way of life,

cont. on p. 5 col. 1

CON

The name of this institution is Stern College for Women, not Stern College for Girls. The term women, generally implies that the students of this college

cont. on p. 5 col. 1

Letters to the Editor

Dean's Office

To the Editor:

I was upset when I read the letter in the last issue that dealt with problems in the Office of the Dean. I think that the writer missed her own point. She said that in another school's office she was handled quickly and courteously by office workers who were mostly students. But those workers have no authority to deal with matters which only a Dean or Assistant Dean can handle. If a student wanted a transcript from Stern College, she merely need enter the registrar's office and hand over the appropriate check. Students who come to see the Dean, however, come with more complex problems which previously established procedures sometimes cannot handle.

I would like to know if the Dean of Barnard College is even half as accessible to the students as Dean Bacon is. Ironi-

cally, this kind of availability is what makes appointment scheduling difficult.

The demands on the Dean's time are enormous, and the office staff is under constant pressure from the students, faculty, and administration. I do not remember the last time either the Dean or an office staffer was able to eat lunch uninterrupted, and I do not think they deserve the kind of criticism that is aimed at them.

Sincerely,
Work-Study
Student of the
Office of the
Dean

J.S. Courses

To the Editor:

I am currently a junior at Stern College and I am majoring in Judaic Studies. I am writing concerning the problems I face in obtaining an adequate education here.

After attending *Yeshiva* in Israel, with previous advanced Jewish Studies

Modified J.S. Block

The Judaic Studies department's recent announcement of changes to take place has met with decidedly mixed feelings. While the decision to institute a more individualized placement system through the addition of a "beginner's" level as well as two "intermediate" levels seems to be in accordance with student demand, the same cannot be said for the proposed "modified-block" scheduling system. As its name indicates, the program involves the scheduling of most Judaic Studies in one block of time on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. While such a schedule would, at first glance, seem advantageous, many considerations could make this plan ultimately unworkable.

One problem which immediately becomes obvious is that of those students who are involved in internships or other school-related activities — such students will find themselves severely limited by such a restrictive schedule, and may in fact be required to give up the internships or other activities in order to fulfill their Judaic Studies requirements. In addition, most students will probably be forced to choose between two or more Judaic Studies

courses schedule for the same hour because the number of hours available for the scheduling of courses will have been cut.

In answer to the contention that Yeshiva College men have a schedule similar to that proposed for Stern, it can only be said that such a comment is irrelevant. Stern is not Yeshiva College. The dual program at Stern is differentiated from the double program at Yeshiva College by its very designation. The title "dual program" indicates an integrated program in Judaic and secular studies, not two separate courses of study.

It is also troublesome to note that student opinion regarding such an important decision has largely been neglected. While it is true that a few student leaders were consulted regarding the proposed modified-block

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The Observer joins the Yeshiva University community in mourning the loss of Professor Angoff z"l. May his family be comforted among the mourners of Zion.

Support Your Local Shabbat

Shabbat means one thing to many Stern students — hibernation. They stay in their rooms for twenty-five hours, remaining in the same clothes they wore to greet the *Shabbat* — their bathrobes.

Surely *Shabbat* is a "day of rest," but the inactivity of some students has affected the *Shabbat* atmosphere at Stern. Due to lack of interest, *Shabbat* programs have been cancelled and the cafeteria had closed. *Minyanim* in the school building are non-existent. This is unfortunate for those students who do not go home or away for *Shabbat* and still wish to participate in a satisfactory *Shabbat* atmosphere.

The cafeteria needs twenty people (not including guests and Yeshiva College students) signed up for meals by Thursday night in order to remain open.

This is a relatively small number, considering there are several hundred students in the dorm. While not all stay for *Shabbat*, it would be a gross underestimation to say that less than twenty stay for *Shabbat*.

Obviously students cannot be dragged out of bed and forced to eat in the cafeteria. But is it worth the extra trouble and sometimes expense to buy food for two or three meals, prepare them, and clean up after them? One could just as well buy a meal ticket and be served hot food and not have the responsibility of cleaning up.

The Observer feels that students should support the *Shabbat* programs and make arrangements to eat in the cafeteria on *Shabbat*. Their participation would certainly enhance the *Shabbat* atmosphere at Stern.

background I consequently chose to attend Stern College with the intention of continuing my education in this area. My experiences to date have proven that the courses that achieve a high level are few and far between. The majority of the Jewish Studies courses offer the student little challenge. Students are merely asked to record the views reflected by the teachers rather than develop their own.

When one finally finds a course that rids itself of the above problems it becomes obvious that even if the course in question is administered by a teacher possessing the qualities essential to make it a worthwhile

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The Observer wishes head librarian, Mrs. Lubitzky a mazel tov upon the birth of her baby daughter.

The Observer wishes Professor Richard Cantor of the art department good luck in all his future endeavors.

REMINISCING

From the Editor's Desk

Looking Back, Looking Ahead

by Sharon Efrogmson



Last year at this time, I put together my first issue. As columns came in from the Student Council President, TAC, graduating seniors, and the Glassers who were then bidding us all adieu, I noticed with dismay that most were entitled something along the lines of "Looking Forward, Looking Back." An occasional "Looking Back, and Looking Ahead" broke the singleminded similarity of the titles. I envisioned the monotony of two pages of columnheads evoking the same Janus-like posture. I think in the end we decided to call the whole page: "Looking Back, and Looking Ahead."

Now that the time has come to write my own farewell column, I am looking back to an editorial printed in the January 11, 1977 issue of *The Observer* (circa pre-first-semester finals of my freshman year) and am remembering the atmosphere here that fostered that editorial.

The editorial entitled "Paranoia," describes the stifled atmosphere at Stern at the time. "Students, and faculty members as well, are paranoid about offering constructive criticism and expressing their opinions

on controversial issues... Faculty members, when concurring the views of students on certain issues are apprehensive about vocalizing their support, and will conclude by saying, "Don't quote me on this."

As I recall my freshman year, the editorial describes the atmosphere at the time. Rumors wafted slowly down from on high, drifting through the halls and setting in muttering retreats where faculty members met in clandestine conference with students. Many valuable student ideas reached the grey walls of the dorm rather than the grey matter of administrators. My

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The Miller's Tale

Goodbye

by Naomi Miller



As the 1978-1979 academic year draws to a close, I look back upon my year as Stern College Council President with a sense of accomplishment on the one hand and frustration on the other. One sets out to achieve many things and as each goal is attained, an even greater task remains to be accomplished. It is these seemingly unattainable goals that inspires one to achieve more and more.

Yes, we were an active Student Council this year in all areas: we sold notebooks, pens, posters, bagels, t-shirts, bubblegum, pickles, cookies, candy, *Aman-tashin*, crocheting thread, stationery, theatre tickets, basketball and hockey game tickets — all as a means of helping to raise more funds for classes, clubs, the yearbook, *The Observer*, and charitable organizations.

Our guest lecturers this year dealt with a vast range of subject matter, from TAC lectures about *Roah Hashana*, *Yom Kippur*, *Charnukah*, *Purim*, and *Pesach* to club hour speakers who touched upon sociology, psychology, theatre, accounting, journalism, special education, dieting

and nutrition, childbirth, physical stress, and biology research...

A stagnant Senate turned dynamite this year and vital issues such as A/PN, student court, and some form of recognition for Judaic studies courses were resolved. Even the most controversial issue of the year — namely "WYUR vs. Stern College" had a happy ending, and I am pleased to say that in my four years at Stern College this was, in my opinion, the most successful year at the station.

The Yeshiva College and Stern College Student Councils worked closely in planning numerous social activities that drew large numbers of students. These

cont. on p. 11 col. 1

ANTICIPATING

From the Editor's Desk

Unexcusable

by Annie Tennenberg



With the end of the semester approaching rapidly, I am reminded of study days, finals, graduation, and a particular problem that recurs constantly — that of cheating. Unfortunately, the gravity of this problem necessitates comment.

One would think that at a school such as ours, students would, through the study of *Torah*, have higher morals, and that cheating would not exist. But this is not true — cheating does occur — on tests, midterms, and finals. College is not the place to begin integrating ethics and actions — a moral sense is something that should already be instilled within us and, evidently, this is not the case with many of our fellow students. These cheating students lack a sense of honor, self-respect, and consideration. I am not using my column as a pulpit or soap box from which to preach to these students against cheating. Their actions, the result of academic pressures, can be understood, but never condoned.

I implore the administration to institute measures in an attempt to prevent cheating, thereby securing the rights of the non-cheating students. I am referring to simple, sensible standards which presently are neglected. For example, a teacher should not leave a classroom of students to take an exam on their honor or to allow individual students to take a make-up exam in the library or in other unproctored rooms. It is admirable to think that cheating would not occur under such circumstances, but cheating does occur. Students should not be permitted to keep class notes under their desks since too often there is an unavoidable temptation to use them during the test. Teachers, proctoring any exam, should not remain in the front of the room, reading or talking among themselves, but should walk through the aisles during the

course of the test. I would prefer their watchful pacing, which can prevent cheating, rather than their disruptive talking. The mere presence of a proctor is ineffective.

Students are not totally free from guilt either. I do not propose an honor code whereby students inform on each other, but I do suggest that non-cheaters shirk their apathetic stance to exert peer pressure. Why not approach a proctor if you notice cheating going on, and diplomatically enlighten the proctor without naming names? You can voice your disapproval to the cheating students yourself; Do not feel pressured to remain silent. Supplying information is as much cheating as taking answers. Do not feel that you must help your fellow students if you do not want to; Take a stand and refuse. Cheating is not the accepted mode and you should not feel embarrassed or in the wrong.

The University should not allow the situation at Stern College to reach the heights achieved at Yeshiva College. Preventive medicine is needed before the illness grows and it needs a cure. The cheating at Stern College should not be overlooked.

If non-cheating students, faculty, and administration bear their responsibilities properly, cheating will be eliminated from Stern College.

From the President's Desk

Serving the Student Body

by Betsy Mondshein



The end of the school year offers us a unique opportunity to consider the future as well the past. Each one of us will experience conflicting emotions. On one hand, the accomplishments and the achievements of the past year are recounted with pride. On the other hand, the promises and the opportunities of the coming year are viewed with anticipation and apprehension. It is only proper that the privilege of reviewing the successes of this year's Student Council is accorded to Naomi Miller while the awesome task of looking forward to the new year falls to me.

To be in the position that I am is both exciting and frightening. Endless possibilities lay before me as I begin preparations to accept the responsibilities of Student Council president. It is exciting to be given the honor of representing and leading the student body while it is frightening to realize the immense task that awaits me.

My apprehensions are somewhat alleviated when I realize that, though a great deal depends upon the leadership of the president and the executive council, Student Council's real strength lies in the support and involvement of the student body.

Involvement is not merely being an officer or club chairman, it is participation in school activities and concern for success of each club's activity as well. The purpose of student council is to satisfy the students' needs and interests but that cannot be done if the students do not express themselves. No matter how hard it may try, the executive board cannot do the amount of work that five-hundred students are capable of doing. My sole aim in running for office was to serve the student body of Stern College. I can only do that with your active participation and support in student affairs.

With a very special thanks to Naomi Miller for her understanding, support, and greatly valued friendship this past year, I wish you all a happy and fulfilling summer.

Attention Students & Faculty!

Professor Cantor has proposed that Art 1.1 (History of Art), now two credits, be expanded to three credits, in order to permit better coverage of the material. I am inviting comment on this suggestion from faculty and students, especially those who have taken or are now taking the course. I would prefer that comments be written (I'm at Beifer 1206), but would be happy to speak in person or on the phone (Main Center Ext. 382) with those too busy to write. Should the change be made, it would not go into effect until September 1979.

Robert Ackerman
Dean of Humanities

A Speech and Drama Major for Stern College will be available to all students, starting in September of 1979. The department will offer 15 credits of electives next year. A meeting for all interested women will be held during club hour on Wednesday, May 16, in room 505. Anyone interested should see Dr. Keating or Mrs. Schram.

Dean Rabinowitz Speaks on the J.S. Dept.

by Rachel Katzman

According to Rabbi Jacob Rabinowitz, dean of Undergraduate Judaic Studies department, Stern College's Jewish Studies department will undergo slight changes.

Dean Rabinowitz, in an *Observer* interview discussed his feelings about the Judaic Studies department and talked about the changes that will be made next fall.



Dean Jacob Rabinowitz

SEMI-BLOCK

Perhaps the biggest difference in next fall's curriculum will be the implementation of the semi-block program for Judaic Studies. This means that students will schedule these classes three mornings a week, with most courses offered in the A, B, C, and D hours. The only secular classes offered in these time slots will be multiple section courses, a system which the dean hopes will essentially eliminate scheduling conflicts between secular and Judaic courses.

Another advantage would be an improvement in atmosphere and attitude. Students would view their Judaic classes as a cohesive unit, and they would take on

but only through knowledge."

The dean explained that optimally he would like to see girls dress in what is considered an orthodox manner, but stressed that the girl must do this of her own volition.

Although the dean is against a legislated dress code, he feels that it is important for proper dress to be advocated in the teaching mode. In order for this to be accomplished effectively, the instructor must identify with the students and take into account different individual backgrounds.

There also must be sensitivity on the part of the Stern community as to what exactly the college represents. Because it is an orthodox college, the dean feels it should be reflected as such, especially through the behavior of its students. Still, this is not a matter for legislation, but a feeling that must come from within the students themselves.

JEWISH STUDIES MINOR

Several months ago, Senate was discussing the possibility of a Judaic Studies minor, following completion of the 20-course requirement. According to Dean Rabinowitz, who discussed his position with Senate, it is unfair to declare an automatic minor in Judaic Studies if it only represents required courses.

"A minor," he explained, "reflects a choice — that the student, of her own volition, involves herself in such and such a field of study."

The number of courses for a minor beyond the requirement are not many, and the dean said that there is talk of even lowering this number. To acknowledge the completion of the 20 courses, Senate did draft a proposal that students receive a certificate for this accomplishment.

LEVELS AND CREDITS

The beginning and intermediate

take more than the 18% allowed credits.

There have been requests to take BJC out of this block program, but the dean said that at least for next year, it will most probably remain as two credits.

A problem which affects most of the student body but primarily beginning and intermediate students is the policy of closing courses in the JS department when they are full.

This is problematic in lower level *Chumash* classes since the learning of an individual can effectively be halted from a semester up to a whole year, depending upon whether the course can be picked up mid-year or whether it is continuous.

Dean Rabinowitz recognizes this problem but advocates the present policy because although individuals here and there may suffer, he feels that this procedure is better for the majority of students. If a class becomes too large, two essential factors suffer: the opportunity for student-teacher exchange, and the effectiveness of the instructor on his students.

"Since we are dealing with a large number of students, we must weigh and consider the importance of the individual case as opposed to the welfare of the students as a whole," the dean remarked.

He commented that by priority regist-

ration, and the option of equivalent instructors, this problem may be somewhat alleviated.

HASHKAFKA — OUTLOOK

It is a problem for some and a blessing for others, that Stern as an institution does not extend one specific *Hashkafa*, or outlook on Judaism.

It is important to present the full spectrum of views in order to give an honest presentation of Judaism. Stern students come from a variety of backgrounds that must be treated individually.

"Ideally, each course should have a relationship to the person's own life. Dean Rabinowitz is confident that "Stern has competent, religious instructors from which the girls can get the religious guidance they need."

"If a student doesn't get any spirituality out of her courses, perhaps it is her own fault. If a girl is looking, she can find it here, but there must be input on her side. The student isn't spoon-fed here, but be it a lecture class or a *bet medrash* class, she can get what she's looking for."

This year, Dean Rabinowitz has office hours every Friday at Stern, and invites students to make appointments with him to discuss problems regarding the Jewish Studies department.

From the Editor's Desk Looking Back, Looking Ahead cont.

cont. from p. 3 col. 2

beat as a freshman reporter was covering Senate, and I remember being amazed at the way students hesitated to voice their opinions for fear of the consequences. This predicament was reflected in the '77 editorial "Upperclassmen in particular are apprehensive about (expressing their opinions) for fear of jeopardizing potential letters of recommendation and being denied the proper assistance."

This past year I have seen a great improvement in atmosphere. Dark insinuations along the lines of "wait and see if you graduate" are still to be heard, but are attributable to morbid student humor rather than actual paranoia. The attitude is developing that it is better to have issues out in the open than hushed. The administration has helped greatly to create this change in atmosphere; while *Observer* reporters get an occasional "don't quote me," most of the time they hear, "I think the

students have a right to know." Furthermore, administrators are inclining a receptive ear to student voice before cementing policy into the new structure.

I am happy to see that the pattern of evolution is set and hope that Stern will continue in this trend. As editor, I saw the paper as a means to develop increased openness and communication. The change had to be made gradually, for if done too quickly and without sensitivity the openness could turn to brutal candor. I have full faith in Ann Tenenberg, the next editor, and am sure she will continue in this trend.

I would like to extend a special thank-you to everyone who has helped with the paper this year. A special note of thanks goes to Dr. Blank, Dean Bacon, Rabbi Blau, Rabbi Rabinowitz, and Mrs. Zuroff for their efforts to keep *The Observer* staff informed of new developments. And of course we could never have had a paper without the warm, cohesive, hardworking editorial board that we had this year, and all *The Observer* reporters and production staff. I am grateful for the opportunity I had to get to know all of you, and hope the experience you gained by working on the paper will help you in the future.

Mazal Tov to the Class of '79!

The Observer congratulates newly elected Senators:

Lisa Geduld
Gitta Stern
Bayla Friedman
Aliza Twersky
Emma Burstyn

"Stern has competent, religious instructors from which the girls can get the religious guidance they need."

special significance beyond ordinary college courses.

"We want to avoid the feeling, however, that we're trying to segregate Judaic Studies from the rest of the college, because that is not what we're out to accomplish," explained Dean Rabinowitz, who has been instrumental in instituting the block.

One of the biggest gripes students have against this program is that their extracurricular activities will be limited because they won't have as much option in scheduling their classes.

But Dean Rabinowitz commented that, "It would be very nice to see every student schedule her program first and then worry about outside activities. It is a disappointment that students compose their schedules as second priority."

DRESS CODE

An issue which is on the minds of many students is the possibility of a dress code at Stern next year. Although Dean Rabinowitz is not involved in this decision, he offered some of his sentiments on the subject.

"Our first approach must be educational," he commented. "We cannot create a change in lifestyle through legislation,

Judaic Studies levels will be more clearly delineated next fall. What is now the elementary level will be subdivided into a beginner level — for students with no background, and an elementary level — for those who have been exposed to Judaism. The present intermediate level will be differentiated into upper and lower levels.

The issue of whether Basic Jewish Concepts should be given three credits rather than two has been discussed by both students and faculty. Students feel that although BJC is a Judaic Studies class and all classes codified as "JS" are two credits, this class entails much more work than standard JS classes.

Dean Rabinowitz explained that as of next year, all beginning and elementary students will be required to take beginning Hebrew (extended to four credits), *Chumash* (3 credits), and BJC (2 credits). This means that Jewish Studies will take up nine credits, or half, of a normal 18-credit semester.

If BJC were increased to three credits, Jewish Studies would take up 10 credits, or more than half a course load. He said he is a bit leery of this because it might cause a student to request permission to

Do you need advice?
The Jewish Studies Department can help!
For academic problems, see Dr. Appel:
Monday and Wednesday 2:15-4:30
Friday 12:00-1:15
For questions on other matters, see Dr. Orenstein:
Tuesday 9-12
Wednesday 12-5
Thursday 2-5
Rabbi Rabinowitz:
Friday 9:30-1:30
Rabbi Blau:
Monday night — in the dorm (2nd floor)
Thursday afternoon — first floor school building.

In My Opinion

Inauspicious Intentions

by Esther Gross

Four years cannot be dismissed simply by the turning of a tassel on Graduation Day. In the interest of maintaining my own sanity, as well as leaving a few possible brilliant insights to posterity, I have searched for the common denominator of my four years at YU, three here in New York and one in Jerusalem.

The answer appears to be obvious. The bulk of my time, when I was not busy filling out request forms, was taken up by endless discussions as to why I chose to attend Stern College. These group sessions were held with fellow students who were soon to contribute to the attrition rate: roomates, Israelis, and most of all with myself. Somehow while I was able to provide plausible answers to others, after four years I am still asking myself, why YU?

A superior liberal arts education can be found elsewhere. It is possible to obtain a Jewish Studies degree at a school other than at the oldest and largest university under Jewish auspices. When dissected into separate parts, Yeshiva University does not constitute anything very remarkable. Indeed it is lacking in many areas. But somehow, as a whole, the University contains a special feeling of community not found elsewhere. And I truly believe that any student who does not appreciate this sense of community will not remain at YU.

Sentiment should be confined to valedictory addresses. I feel obligated to express my feelings about the University only because its uniqueness is being threatened. Yeshiva University is a Jewish community which seems intent on destroying itself.

Every university must undergo periods of reassessment and change. During my four years at YU I have been witness to two different university presidents, two deans and acting associate dean of Stern

College, and three different faculties at Brookdale Hall. Much is to be forgiven due to the period of flux in which YU now finds itself. But, to put it bluntly, I do not approve of the direction in which this university is headed.

Because of the small size of the student body at Stern College, students and faculty once maintained a close relationship. But when tenured teachers are fired to be replaced by part-time graduate students, this closeness is lost. Department chairmen once served as guidance counselors. Today Stern College is without both department chairmen and guidance counselors. No dean for a day can hope to fill these roles.

And as for faculty/administration relations, their case is to be heard by the United States Supreme Court. The student body should not take sides in this dispute but it can clearly be seen that today, Yeshiva University's sense of Jewish community is practically nil.

I spent four years justifying my decision to attend Stern College because I feel Yeshiva University is fundamentally a superior institution; it is worth defending. And I criticize only because I feel YU to be capable of so much more. There are dedicated members of the faculty and administration at YU.

I sincerely hope that they will be able to counteract the divisive forces within the University.

Modified J.S.

system, most of the students, whose opinions on the subject might have affected the decision, were never even informed that the plan was under consideration. To return to an old and familiar refrain, Stern's size is not always an advantage, but in this case, a small student body can be a blessing. Surely it is not too great a task to poll a representative sampling of the student body in order to gauge opinion on such important

issues... of the public... improve the quality... of Stern... "modified J.S."

What is Gesher?

by Sheon Karol

One of the most exciting ventures of the Yeshiva University scene is a new journal which was, until its recent demise three years ago, a monthly body. This magazine, *Gesher*, although edited and staffed solely by undergraduate students, has met with critical approbation throughout America and is rapidly establishing an international reputation.

The task of revitalizing *Gesher* appeared daunting but two students, Jordan Cherrick and Shelly Senders, recognizing the void left at Yeshiva University by the absence of such a journal, succeeded in 1976 in publishing the first volume in seven years. Joined by Aaron Stiefel, as co-editors-in-chief for the 1977-78 edition, the three were able, within the short span of two years, to establish a successful journal to which my co-editor, Pesach Lichtenberg, and I were appointed for the 1979 volume.

The rapid development of the journal is understandable only when one considers its raison d'être. *Gesher* represents the scholarship that is unique to Yeshiva University: the interplay between Judaic and

...of our... articles cover a... Jewish thought today. In the 1977-78 issue, for example, there were articles on *Darkei Shalom*, on *The Ethics of Gene Manipulation*, in the 1978 issue, on *Orthodox Judaism and the Holocaust*.

Gesher also plays a vital role in the intellectual life of the university by involving students and faculty members in the rigorous pursuit of academic achievement. Students of the undergraduate and graduate schools of YU enjoy the unique privilege of having their articles published in a journal to which both established figures in the Jewish world (such as J.D. Bleich in the 1978 edition) and leading young scholars (of whom Rabbi Shalom Carmy, in the 1979 edition, is an outstanding example) contribute.

In addition, every edition features a guest contributor: George W. Schwab, child, (chairman of the Judaic Studies Department at Washington University) wrote for the 1977-78 edition, and the 1979 edition is honored by Eliezer Berkovits (formerly chairman of the Department of Philosophy at the Hebrew Theological College who has contributed an article on "The Miracle: Problem and Rationale." The presence of such articles enriches our journal and reveals growing esteem in which *Gesher* is held by leading scholars.

Already *Gesher* is Yeshiva University's major research journal and a magazine that is requested by the leading university libraries throughout America. Past issues of the journal have met with critical acclaim, and this year's issue, which will be coming out in mid-May will be read in such widely diverse places such as Europe, Israel, South Africa, and Australia, as well as throughout North and South America. Although my co-editor and I are graduating, we hope that Stern students will participate in future issues of *Gesher*. Logistically Stern representation in all facets of our work may prove difficult, but the newly appointed editors, David Koppel (MS22) and Mark Fenster (MS11; tel. 781-5142) would be delighted to receive articles and suggestions from the students of your college. We look forward to greater Stern participation in the journal, and we are sure that such information will benefit both *Gesher* and Stern College.

Dress Code Debate

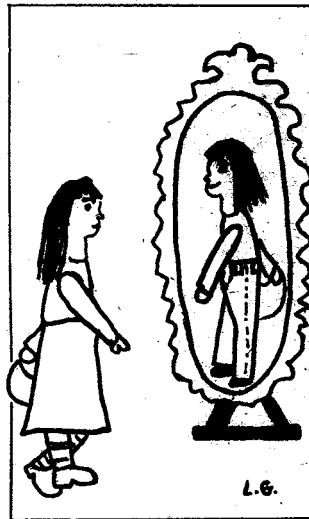
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thereby reaching yet another level in Judaism, and making the atmosphere at Stern more like that of a *yeshiva*.

It has been said that the clothing a person wears reflects one's beliefs. An adherent of the laws of *tzniut* indicates that he or she has accepted certain responsibilities, both personal and social. One whose clothing marks one as an observant Jew is more likely to maintain a certain level of conduct at all times, both because ones clothing serves as a reminder to oneself and because one is less likely to bring shame upon oneself and the Jewish community at large.

Yeshiva University is clearly not like every other school. Many of our academic requirements differ from those at secular institutions — it does not seem much to ask that a certain mode of dress and behavior be required of us as well. Thus a revision of the current dress code would certainly be in keeping with the atmosphere that a Torah-committed institution such as Yeshiva University would like to convey.



L.G.

tain guidelines based on *halacha*, such as observance of *shabbat* and *kashrut*. However, where there is room for valid differences of opinion as to what is right and wrong, the University should not have the authority to act as a *posek*.

One of these questionable areas concerns mode of dress. While it is clearly forbidden by the Torah to wear "that which pertaineth to a man," in today's society pants are not only a male's form of attire. Pants specifically

designed for women in no way pertain to a man. Although there may be other opinions, the point is that there is room for interpretation, and that the wearing of pants is by no means clearly taboo.

If *tzniut*, modesty, is to be cited as the reason for a dress code, then forbidding pants would only be a very meager start. We would have to adhere to regulations involving length of skirts, length of sleeves, types of fabrics, and types of head coverings for married students. Even then, the possibility of provocative dress would not be eradicated. Furthermore, by what authority would we set up these restrictions?

If our public image is the concern, it is worth considering that our current "closed-minded" reputations would only be worsened if a dress code were instituted. Certainly many prospective students — especially those interested in becoming more religious — would be repelled by such an edict. Turning away young Jews who need encouragement to embrace an orthodox way of life would be antithetical to the purpose of this institution.

If we are to be looked upon as women, a choice so personal and individual as mode of dress simply cannot be allowed to be made for us. It is our responsibility as orthodox Jewish women to decide this matter as each of us sees fit. If we allow our administration to subject us to regulations worthy of a high school, then we deserve to be called *Stern girls*.

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are mature, adult females, who have the ability — and indeed the right — to make their own decisions.

This is also Yeshiva University. In synthesizing adults into an orthodox Jewish environment, there must be cer-

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Magazine Literary Magazine Literary Magazine Lit

Wax Roses Last Forever

by Allyson Cahn

The Thirty-Fourth Street wind blew strongly through her lustrous hair, but the biting cold that was chilling the bones of all the other shoppers seemed to avoid her. It parted in front like a cloud of joy, of serenity, but by no means passivity. The same holiday spirit that, through hours of painstaking labor, emanated from the Fifth Avenue windows, emanated from her too, only naturally. The air around her was alive; not moving, but bubbling happily, like a glass of champagne.

She was not beautiful, though she had been called that many times. Her features were simple, and her shoulder length hair, though shiny, was a nondescript shade of brown. It was her aura of joy that people mistook for beauty.

She knew that her mood was obvious and also a great enhancement to her "beauty". She inwardly smiled at the men who looked at her as she passed, enjoying the aroma of perfume. Although she knew she should have been scared or disgusted, she secretly enjoyed this awkward form of flattery.

She didn't care much for shopping. The crowded stores, the noise, and the stuffiness all kept her away as long as she could avoid it. But a few weeks ago she had seen the sweater in the department store window. She fell in love with it at once and knew she would have it for tonight and would buy it as soon as the money was saved.

It was expensive, "a frivolous waste of money," her mother would have said. The job at the employment agency was a necessary evil, and she had worked long hours to

"Her attention had been caught by a lovely bunch of red roses... she was surprised to find out they were wax — their life-like appearance had deceived her."

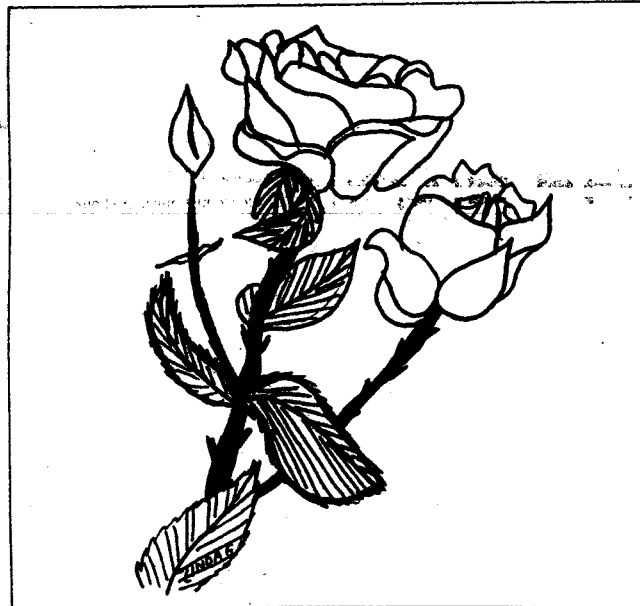
save the needed money. Enough money for this "bauble", another word her mother might have used. It never ceased to amaze her that something so useful as money, that contained the ability to buy beautiful things, was earned from such distasteful things as her job.

She walked into the enormous department store, pausing to survey the massive numbers of scarves and hats lining the glass encased shelves. The jewelry counters came next, and then the cosmetics,

which held the delicious perfumes and enticing men's colognes, including, of course, the cologne he wore. She stopped at each counter, intentionally increasing her anxiety about the purchase she would soon make.

She took the escalator to the second floor where she had to walk through gifts to get to her department. Before her stood a table, and she stopped, remembering. On the table was a vase, containing a beautiful dozen red wax roses. She recalled the last time she had seen wax roses, in the apartment of a friend of his.

They had walked in together, he making the introductions. Her attention had been caught by a lovely bunch of red roses on the table and immediately admired them verbally, exclaiming over their perfection



and beauty. She had been surprised to find out they were wax — their life-like appearance had deceived her. At one moment when both host and hostess had left the room, he had turned to her.

"Don't you realize," he had said, "that that's exactly what is wrong with these roses? Sure they look great from the outside, but their perfection is phony. Like a phony person. On the outside, he looks great and everyone wants to know him. But once they've seen through him, who wants to even speak to him? I like real things." She had been grateful for his insight.

The next day, one perfect red rose was delivered to her by the florist. Attached was a card. "I like real things," it repeated, "like perfect real red roses and you." Standing in the gift department, she was enveloped by soft lights and sweet memories.

Now she entered into a wild jungle of mirrors, strategically hung racks of cloth-

ing, busy, rushing shoppers, and a surprising number of young people, hired as extra help for the holiday rush (with qualifications that consist of the ability to maintain a perpetual smile and to utter the words, "Can I help you?"). She walked by them all with a sense of purpose so as not to be stopped by one of the eager-to-help salespeople. Over the past four years that she'd been living and shopping in the city, she'd learned that any item advertised in a store window was almost invariably placed in the most obvious spot in the department. Sure enough, in the middle of the floor, was a set of lucite boxes containing the sweater, in every color imaginable. She lingered over the creams and apricots, even though she knew the black would be her choice, since he loved black, especially on her.

once for her birthday. With great imagination, she pictured them both, him and her, the last time they'd been together. In the distortion of the small bead of oil, they appeared to her as they had been exactly a year ago tonight. He had come to her apartment for a candlelit dinner that included soft music and red wine, and of course, the perfect red rose he had sent her. It sat in

"With great imagination she pictured them both, him and her, the last time they'd been together."

the vase in the center of the small table, and they had laughed and talked and enjoyed. She sat back and watched the beads slowly melt away into the bath water, leaving only their sweet smelling memory behind to soften and perfume her skin.

She dried her hair carefully until it fell in soft waves that framed her face. Her bubble of excitement had now dulled to a soft glow. The makeup was applied with light strokes, serving only as shadows to enhance her natural "beauty."

She pulled the sweater over her head, losing herself in the incomparable feeling of cashmere. The sweater was just as perfect as she had imagined. The tie at her throat was soft, and the lightly ruffled collar framed her face beautifully. Black was a very becoming color for her, despite her love for the apricots and creams that looked fabulous on the blondes that modeled them. She knew her beauty was different from theirs, as he had known from the beginning and didn't hesitate to point out to her. "Most flattering," would have been his comment on her new "bauble."

It was just seven-thirty, and normally he was about five minutes late. The stereo was playing some soft music, so filled with memories that they could have taken up a seat at the table. She walked slowly around the apartment dimming all the lights and lighting the year-old set of candles on the table. She watched them for a second to be sure they had ignited and then put the matches away.

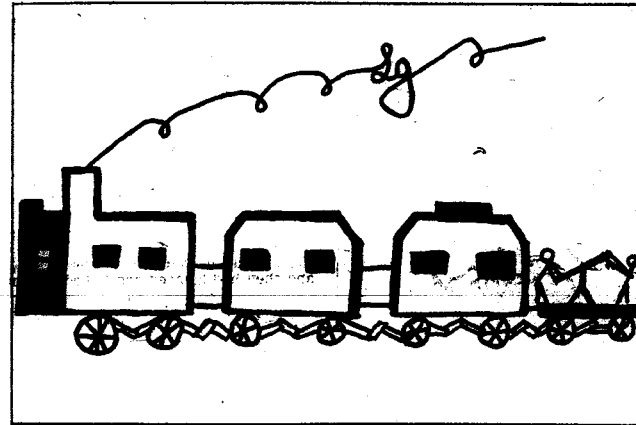
Out of an envelope she carefully took a small, fragile, dried rose. It was impossible to tell the color it had been since aging had dulled it to a withered brown, except for one small reddish spot at the tip of the petals. Carefully she put it in the vase, straining so as not to lose any of the withered petals. She, and the memories sitting next to her, looked at it, as she sipped her red wine. He had neglected to tell her that real roses don't last forever.

I've Been Working On The Railroad

by Abby Klein

She yawns sleepily and shifts her books to her other arm for the third time, afraid to glance at her watch in the process. The news that it is now 9:30 and that she has been here on the train platform since 9:05 (to be in time to catch the 9:10) would not do her half-conscious nervous system any good. She tries playing little games with her smoky breath, and finds it's not as much fun as it was in the fourth grade. Somebody on the platform curses,

and says, "Good morning, everyone! Tickets, please!" He starts punching tickets, and a few passengers express the desire to start punching the conductor. But after all, it's not his fault. They get out their tickets. The conductor, who would be a good candidate for a liquid protein diet ad, tries to squeeze by the standees. In the process he kicks her English lit book under the right-hand bench and steps on that poor man's dirty Oxford. They both say it's okay. She bends to retrieve her book — no



and gives the shattering news: it is now 9:35. She starts to chart out a course of action for when she finally reaches Grand Central. It's either run like mad, dodging the rush hour crowds, and walk into class late, or take it easy and cut class altogether. She shifts her books again and half-heartedly looks up the tracks. You would think this was a train station in the middle of Transylvania at 2:00 in the morning. A man carrying an inflated briefcase spits into the tracks. "I swear I'll never take this train again," he says vehemently. That's what he said yesterday morning. He'll probably say it tomorrow, too.

At 9:40, the sound of a train approaching brings sighs of relief from the assemblage on the platform. They've sent one of those old trains that always smell like bubble gum and bathroom disinfectant. At least it's a train. It screeches to a halt and they all pile in. No seats. She puts her books on the floor and braces herself between two benches. The train starts with a lurch, and she is thrown backwards, stepping on the newly-polished Oxford belonging to the man behind her. She utters her first words of the morning: "Ooh, I'm sorry." He says it's okay, and says he's sorry to the lady behind him, whose hand he has just inadvertently crushed. She says it's okay, too.

The car is 85 degrees, and her scarf starts to feel like a neck brace in a sauna. She loosens it and wishes there were some place to put her things. There isn't. The conductor appears at the head of the car

Poetry Corner

For her outstanding poetry, Janet Greenhut was chosen as winner of The Observer 1978-1979 Literary Contest.

Reading Week

by Janet Greenhut

I'm tired of words with no meanings, of Barnes and Noble's future antiques with more pages than minutes before the exam of empty coffee pots and Vaseline bottles that don't really take the red out and tired of setting alarms for three hours and no sweet dreams later and sick of begging my brain please just one more hour and scared and wondering why the hell I begged Daddy to pay twenty thousand hours of his life to send me to this place.



Childhood Goodbye

by Janet Greenhut

With my trembling hands I reach out for time—
Time eludes me, being so much stronger;
Soon my fairy tales will cease to rhyme,
My simple dreams will come true no longer.
Childhood's story is in a short book,
And as I rapidly near the last page
I become too afraid to stay in bed.
At my fantasies, disenchanted by age,
So I look in the mirror to try to find
The special magic grown-ups always lack,
While silently I scream out in my mind
For my slipping childhood to come back—
For in the mirror, no child's face I see,
It's a woman's face and it frightens me.

I Remember.....

by Bat Sheva Vegh Pava

I sit here on this rainy Sunday afternoon and ponder how the world has changed since the passing of my professor, Dr. N. Remes.

I can see where I am without him. There are no more Monday afternoons over hot coffee and no Wednesday mornings over soda. A year ago this time I spent half my hours in school in Dr. Remes' office. It was only natural. You see, I would bring the text and paper and Dr. Remes would supply the coffee. I would then point out every imaginable way to do an equilibrium problem and then convince Dr. Remes that although the answer book disagreed — well the answer book was mistaken!

I remember the special afternoon... I had brought a problem that was a real doozy. I displayed my innovative methodology to Dr. Remes... It was so convincing that Dr. Remes took out his pen and began to write the authors. The funniest thing was when we both realized that I had added wrong. OK, so I stopped fending with the text for a while.

Dr. Remes was always busy and yet I always knew where I could find him. For example, last year I had spent so many afternoons in the orgo lab that some of the

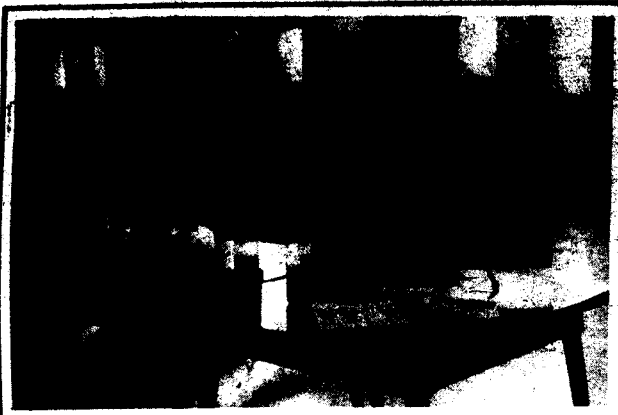
students weren't sure if I was in general chem or orgo. I remember (I wish I could say very vividly) that all I had to do was to whip out "my paper and problem and Dr. Remes would supply the inspiration...

I remember the day I told Dr. Remes of my engagement. It was like telling my parents (all over again). Dr. Remes wanted me to make it clear to my *chateau* that I was going to be a scientist.

I remember finals of fall 1977. Dr. Remes was one of the few professors who remained in school throughout study days. Again I remember bringing my text and tylenol and Dr. Remes the coffee and kind words. Finally after a very gruesome study period, Dr. Remes led me to the door and said, "Bat-Sheva, you know too much. You're too tense. Bat-Sheva if you were a guy I'd tell you to have a beer." I smiled and thought to myself, "I hate beer."

It is now a year since Dr. Remes has left our realm. There are no more Monday afternoons of chemistry. And I rarely drink hot coffee anymore. All I can say is that I remember Dr. Remes...

In memory of Dr. Nathaniel Remes, z"l, chemistry professor at Stern College, who passed away April 2, 1978 — 24 of Adar 2, 5758.



by Dena Bilus and Toby Urman
In commemoration of *Yom Hashoah*, a photographic exhibit of the Holocaust was presented during the first week of May. The exhibit was sponsored by *Chug Aliyah* in conjunction with the Administration.

The display, entitled "The Holocaust and Resistance," represented a pictorial history of the *Shoah* spanning

the years 1933-1945. These included photographs during Hitler's ascent to power, the deportation of the Jews to the death camps, and the Jewish resistance throughout the war.

This memorial exhibit served as a reminder of the Nazi horrors during World War II to all those exposed to it, broadening their awareness of the Holocaust.

Dr. Havazelet edits *Kovetz Massad*

by Abigail Klein

Massad Aleph and *Bet* are unique summer camps where campers become totally immersed in the Hebrew language. Dr. Meir Havazelet, who just edited an anthology of literature tracing *Massad's* 38 years of existence, entitled *Kovetz Massad* says, campers at *Massad* must "think in Hebrew."

Kovetz Massad contains forty essays and letters, some of which are written by former *Massad* campers. Many of these people are now prominent in the American Jewish Community and in Israel. One of the entries is a letter from David Ben Gurion, praising the first "Hebrew Zionist" camp, which was founded by Dr. Shlomo Shulsinger in 1941. Also included are articles about later Hebrew camps, *Morasha* and *Ramah*. Dr. Havazelet comments, "This is the first book which gives the objective story of Jewish camps in America."

Massad, and its way of life, have become such an institution that Dr. Shulsinger put out a dictionary of *Massad*-coined Hebrew, with words such as *kaddur-basis*, which means "baseball."

Anyone who went to one of the *Massad* camps, or is interested in finding out

about the people who "graduate" from its unique curriculum, should read *Kovetz Massad*. The book, like the camp, is in Hebrew. It will be available soon in American and Israeli libraries.

"Nyet" on "Da"

by Lisa Bryant

Perhaps it is unfair to review a play after walking out at intermission or perhaps that is enough of a review in itself.

Hoping to enjoy an evening at the theater, I was thoroughly disappointed by the highly acclaimed "Da".

"Da" opens in May 1968, at the time of Da's death. "Da", incidentally, is the Irish word for "daddy".

Charlie, Da's son, is sitting in the kitchen going through his father's personal effects as he begins a review of their relationship through a series of flashbacks. What becomes immediately obvious is that in Ireland the Jewish mother syndrome is man-

ifested in the Irish father. Da comes off, as overbearing as Alex Portnoy's mother, Sophie.

One light moment occurs when Young Charlie, played by Charlie Lang, in the full bloom of adolescent naivete, has his opportunity for sexual adventure with Mary Tate, played by Mia Dillon. Da comes along and interrupts just as Charlie is beginning to make progress. Worse than that, in a conversation with Mary, Da discovers that she is the daughter of old friends, thereby establishing Mary as a real person, rather than just an object and dissipating Charlie's amorous interest. Da departs, leaving the audience just about sure that he is quite aware of what he has just done.

seem out of place, such as the following exposition; "sometime in the late summer or early fall the heat breaks suddenly, quite suddenly, in southern Mesopotamia. A cool moist breeze blows down from the far off mountains. The dry smell of dead earth vanished from the air."

Another questionable aspect of Potok's writing becomes all too evident in some areas of his book. This reader feels that Potok's religious waverings could be presented in a less cynical and more objective manner. Many people may be offended by his description of the exodus from Egypt: "I have seen Bardawil and watched the narrow strip of earth that separates the lake from the sea vanish as east winds sent the Mediterranean rolling across it...Reeds grow near both lakes. To have been saved in this manner from those chariots would have been a most extraordinary event indeed in the eyes of the terrified people running for their lives on a narrow sand bar between two bodies of water." Descriptions like those quoted, and Potok's constant reference to G-d as the "Bible writer" are comments belonging in scholarly Biblical criticism, not in a historical account.

Potok's condensed survey of Jewish history is beautifully illustrated. Unfortunately, the illustrations all too often depict pagan gods and Greek and Moslem art, rather than items of Jewish significance.

Potok concludes that this wandering nation has not settled in its land. Israel is the new spring after the "chill of a winter of death." The Jews have paid heavily for this land but it is only Israel that holds new dreams for the next one thousand years of history.

The scenery used was dull and unchanging. Considering the importance of dialogue, the performances for the most part were poor. Bernard Hughes, whom you may remember as the grandfather on the short-lived "Tony Randall Show", worked so hard at creating an Irish accent befitting a "Da", that his words were virtually unintelligible. Charlie, now played by David Leary, is as uninteresting as the entire play.

Let other critics give "Da" all the praise and awards they want to. I suggest you go see something good instead.

"Da", written by Hugh Leonard and directed by Melvin Bernhardt, is currently playing at the Morosco Theater.

Around Town

• These exciting dance presentations will be shown on Channel 13:
The Feld Ballet—May 16
New York City Ballet—May 23
Martha Graham Dance Co.—May 30
San Francisco Ballet—June 6
All programs air at 9:00 p.m.

• "PURIM: The Face and the Mask" is at the YU Museum through June. Hours are:

Sunday 12-6
Tuesday-Thursday 11-5

• The Museum of Contemporary Crafts at 29 W. 53rd Street, is opening on

May 3rd with an exhibit of handmade furniture. The museum is open from 10-5 Tuesday-Friday, and 11-5 on Sunday. Admission with student I. D. is 50¢.

• "Michelangelo and His World" is on exhibit at the Pierpont Morgan Library at 29 E. 36th St. Hours are 10:30-5:00 on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday, 10:30-8:30 on Thursday, and 1-5 on Sunday.

• "Israel the Dream" will be on exhibit at Bloomingdales (on 59th St. and Lexington Ave.) until May 19th. Many items of Judaica are on display.

Bookends

For study days and finals week, the library's expanded hours are as follows:
Wed. May 23 9:00 a.m.-10:45 p.m.
Thu. May 24 9:00 a.m.-10:45 p.m.
Fri. May 25 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
Sun. May 27 12:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.
Mon. May 28 9:00 a.m.-10:45 p.m.
Tue. May 29 9:00 a.m.-10:45 p.m.
Wed. May 30 9:00 a.m.-10:45 p.m.
Thu. May 31 9:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Fri. June 1 CLOSED
Sun. June 3 3:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.
Mon. June 4 9:00 a.m.-10:45 p.m.
Tue. June 5 9:00 a.m.-10:45 p.m.

• An invaluable machine has been installed in the library for students and instructors throughout the university system who have difficulty reading conventional print.

• The closed-circuit television reading and writing system enlarges text to a readable size. The machine is easy to operate, and can also be useful in reading long passages of Rashi or other hard to read scripts.

The Observer and Speech Arts Forum Present:

Women in the Creative Arts Symposium

by Abigail Klein

The creative arts were the focus of the March 27th Symposium at Stern, the fourth in a series of symposia. The symposia are sponsored by a grant from the Danforth Foundation. The student coordinators for this symposium were Sharron Perin, Sharon Efraymson, Sandi Biller, and Marla Silver. Ms. Penninah Schram, the faculty advisor to the symposium series, served as moderator.

The first speaker, Marilyn Kahn, is an orthodox Jew. Her parents disapproved of her decision to attend Pratt Institute. Nevertheless, Ms. Kahn pursued her lifelong interest in dressmaking and design, and she graduated in 1968 from Pratt.

After holding many different jobs, Ms. Kahn described dress design as a "fickle business." New ideas and changing styles put great demands on a worker in the garment district, and one must be willing to "start all over" at any given time. Ms. Kahn worked first as a sample-hand, sewing dresses that others had designed. She emphasized that with a good background, such as one that FIT offers, it is not necessary to start with such a job.

Ms. Kahn went on to work as a sketcher, then an assistant designer, and finally, a designer. For four years she alone

handled all aspects of the work in a design room, including "draping," making a pattern on a figure, which is then sent to a pattern manufacturer to be graded into different sizes. She moved on from this position to a fully-staffed design room, and from there to design rooms at manufacturers such as Nancy Greer and Sue Brett. For ten years she worked for Patricia Fair, the nation's largest manufacturer of petite dresses. Her reputation became such that she would often receive phone calls offering her new positions. She stressed that competition is fierce in the heavily Jewish garment district, and that stealing designs is a very real threat; Offices are carefully locked each night, and no work is left out.

After leaving the field for three years to have a child, Ms. Kahn found it difficult to "get back into things." However, she eventually found her present job at "The Works," where she designs junior clothes. She describes her job as "hectic, erratic, and exciting," and she does everything from modeling clothes to buying buttons. Lunch hours are spent reading trade magazines and looking in stores to check the current market.

The rewards, she emphasized, are great. Going to shows in London and Paris is exciting, but seeing someone wearing one of "her" dresses on the street is the best reward of all.

As a young girl, Nancy Ford decided to enter the musical business after her father brought her records from "South Pacific." She had no role models, but her talent for playing piano and for organization had always been part of her life. Her parents were always supportive of her efforts, and by the time she entered DePauw University in Indiana, she was sure the musical-comedy field was for her. In college, she met Gretchen Cryer, and together they started writing musicals. They have gone on to collaborate on many shows for the past 25 years, including the current Off-Broadway hit, "I'm Getting My Act Together..."

Ms. Ford and Ms. Cryer both found jobs in Broadway plays whenever they could, and Ms. Ford met her present husband while working as the pianist for "The Fantastiks." Her husband plays Ralph Mitchell on "As the World Turns," and Ms. Ford writes dialogue for that show in addition to working on a new musical about the life of Eleanor Roosevelt.

When a show is not successful, she stressed, it is a blow to the ego. "It takes ten good reviews to make up for one bad one. You have to be able to take criticism." But the rewards, she said, are in watching an audience's reaction to the show, and in the "natural high" she gets from hearing her music being performed.

The Ford-Cryer team has recorded some of their music, but Ms. Ford cautioned song-writing hopefuls. Although some publishers will listen to your composition, the chances of it getting sold are slim. As for theater, make contacts with people in shows, and ask their advice. The key to producing a show is in finding backers for your venture. Courses in orchestration and conduction are also helpful. The basic ingredients for a musical? "Mystery, romance, color, and song."

Judith Applebaum, co-author of *How to Get Happily Published*, majored in history at Vassar College. Many women are in the publishing field, she stated, but the "top" people are mostly male. She applied for her first job as a first reader at Doubleday, reading unsolicited manuscripts, and she was denied the job simply because she was female. Although this would probably not occur today, females still have progress to make in the publishing industry.

The best opportunity is in editing, Ms. Applebaum advised. However, if you can get a job in any department of a publishing firm, such as advertising or copy editing, it will still be valuable as a "foot in the door." Room for advancement is excellent in this field, and new positions are constantly opening up.

Although on-the-job training is best, good contacts can be made by taking courses in publishing. Many courses are available — Stern is offering one this semester. Internships can also provide experience.

If you are interested in getting your work published, never send an unsolicited manuscript to an editor. Always query the

editor first to see if he or she is interested in your work. There are over 40,000 new manuscripts out every year, 20,000 of which are reviewed in the "Forecast" column of "Publisher's Weekly." However, the picture is not totally bleak. Publishers are always looking for good writers and new ideas, although Ms. Applebaum admits there are "serious flaws" in getting the two together.

New York is not the only place where there are opportunities in publishing. There are "tens of thousands of magazine and publishing houses," Ms. Applebaum stressed. Many of these are listed in her book. A good place to check the current market possibilities is *Publisher's Weekly*, or the *Publisher's Trade List Annuals* which is a collection of catalogs available in bookstores. "Be endlessly curious," and you can be successful.

Cara Goldberg Marks, a native of Toronto who now lives in Washington Heights, is an illustrator and calligrapher. After one year at Stern College she transferred to Pratt, where she started drawing for the first time. She now concentrates in Judaica, but while at Pratt she found a job illustrating greeting cards by going door-to-door in Midtown Manhattan. Ms. Marks believes in "being aggressive." Look for clients in the yellow pages, scan office building directories, and always give out business cards. There are thousands in the field, but the ability to work fast is often more helpful in getting a job than talent or a certificate from the best school.

Like Ms. Applebaum, Ms. Marks advises not sending unsolicited material, query first. If you do get an interview, dress well and be brief. Have a working portfolio that contains twelve to twenty of your best samples, varying in subject and medium. Be aware of the market in whatever area you are specializing.

Ms. Marks suggests taking courses in all areas of art, regardless of your specialty. Be familiar with photography, cartooning, painting, lettering, and media, and practice constantly. You must love art, she stresses. "Live and breathe art."

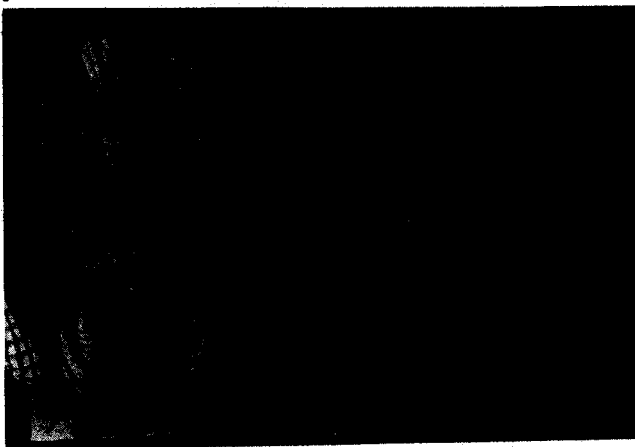
Ms. Marks feels an apprenticeship is important, and two years is a reasonable time to spend at it. If you take a job and stay with it for only a short time, word will get around that you are unreliable.

Ms. Marks now freelances, and finds her work demands a "100 percent commitment." Her seven-month-old son, Dov, is taken along to appointments, and her husband helps out too. They are currently working on a Passover *Haggadah*. Because of the great demands her profession brings, she says she values *Shabbat* as a time to be with her family and relax before starting again *Motzei Shabbat*.

Ms. Marks suggested various books to help out the starting artist: *Artist's Handbook of Materials* by Ralph Mayer, *Commercial Artist's Handbook* by John Snyder, and *Legal Guide for the Visual Artist* by Tad Crawford.

Some of Ms. Marks works are now on display in the Yeshiva University Museum.

Judaic Artist Displays Works



by Marla Silver

On Wednesday night, April 25, the Speech Arts Forum sponsored a follow-up program on the "Women in the Creative Arts" symposium. The event was entitled, "Spotlight On Ita Aber". The Speech Arts Forum is under the supervision of Penninah Schram, assistant professor of speech at Stern College.

Mrs. Aber, a well known artist, is versatile in many different areas of the arts. She has worked as a textile designer, museum curator, art historian, and embroiderer. Mrs. Aber adds a personal angle to all of her creations by relating her art-

work to Judaica. Among her creations are several *Torah* mantels, *matzah* covers, and *kipot*.

Slides of ancient art pieces as well as modern works were shown. A display of her original artwork was also at hand. Mrs. Aber explained that a true Judaic artist is the individual who understands the meaning behind the symbolism. Mrs. Aber feels that since Stern students are learning about their Jewish heritage, they have that extra step towards understanding and possibly creating their own Judaic artwork.

"Art is a very difficult field to break into, and Ita Aber seems to have found her niche," said one student who attended.

J.A.C.Y. Provides Social Work Experience

by Raizi Freidman

Students interested in education and social work gain "on the job" experience through the Jewish Association for College Youth (J.A.C.Y.)

One of the participating students, Ilene Rosen, is a junior at Stern and a member of project GUESS. (Graduates and Undergraduates in Education and Social Services.) Her placement is at a food co-op at the Bronx Y.M.H.A. Once a week she helps out with the sale of kosher products to senior citizens, and she is also involved in putting together a cookbook with her clients. Ilene feels that she is appreciated, that the elderly "like to know that the young are concerned with them, and they need the extra hands." It can be trying, she admits, but most rewarding — for Ilene is learning interaction, the needs of senior citizens and how to form groups.

Sherri Susman, another student involved in the program, has had two placements already. The first was at a senior citizens' center, where she led a discussion group on Israel and other Jewish topics. The second placement, Sherri's current position, is working with elderly holocaust survivors on the Upper West Side.

Work has not always been easy, she said, "one of the holocaust survivors threw me out, saying since I was young I could not understand what she had been through." Sherri feels she is learning about different aspects of social work and problems the elderly face.

The Jewish Association for College Youth (JACY) which sponsored these projects, is an organization which provides services to legal, educational, and social service facilities throughout the five boroughs, while offering college students invaluable training and "on the job" experience.

JACY, after less than a decade in existence, sponsors two projects: GUESS, Graduates and Undergraduates in Education and Social Service, which consists of placements in after school and Sunday educational and recreational programs, outreach work to the elderly, senior centers and a food co-op in the Bronx; and SLAP, Student Lay Advocacy Program, which consists of placements in senior centers and legal service offices providing information and referral service to those for whom such

services would otherwise not be readily accessible.

Each project currently has about 25 volunteers servicing the Bronx, Washington Heights, the West Side of Manhattan, Brooklyn, and Queens.

This year's placements began with an all expense-paid training weekend at the Torah Institute in Cold Spring, New York. The weekend was made up of a slide-show, group sessions, *Shabbat* meals, *davening*, numerous role plays, *slichos*, midnight rowing on a foggy lake, a raid on the camp refrigerator, unseasonable cold, high spirits and a lot of learning. It gave volunteers from different placements an opportunity to meet, exchange ideas, and develop a sense of being part of a team. The weekend prepared volunteers for their placements and modified their expectations of what they would be facing.

During the course of the year, there are half-a-dozen follow-up seminars and periodic consultations with graduate social work students from the Wurtzweiler School of Social Work. Although one's placement may be quite taxing at times, it is nevertheless rewarding. One always walks away having learned something about oneself or others, and how to approach difficult situations.

Debra Laks, the social service coordinator of the Jewish Vista Corps (a JACY subsidiary) emphasizes what a worthwhile project J.A.C.Y. is and encourages all students interested in volunteering this semester or next year to contact her at 688-0908.

Blood Drive



Thirty-one donors participated in the semi-annual blood drive which was held on May 7th, sponsored by the Blood Drive Club in conjunction with the Greater New York Blood Program. Anyone who was unable to donate and wishes to should contact chairperson Judy Moseason in 5H.

Museum Provides Interesting Exhibits

by Abigail Klein

Are you interested in exhibits such as "Archaeology and the Bible," "Jerusalem — City of Mankind," and "Jewish Experience in the Art of the Twentieth Century"?

If so, you ought to visit the Jewish Museum at 92nd St. and 5th Ave. In addition to the above exhibits, the museum houses a multitude of fascinating permanent and changing exhibits. Objects of Judaica from throughout the ages include a *Torah* breast plate from the 17th century,

an African *menorah* from the 18th century, and a 19th century silver German spice box.

"Out of Egypt", a collection of Jewish artifacts dating back to the Egypt of the middle ages, contains a beautiful array of objects such as a wooden *geniza* ark and Damascene bowls inlaid with precious metals. A number of rare manuscripts are also on display.

The sculpture Court, which may be viewed through the end of this season, features modern architecture sculpted in a

traditional theme.

Exhibits on the works of various modern Jewish artists are shown on a rotating basis. Some of these artists are Ben Shahn, Chaim Gross, and Brauer.

The Jewish Museum is open on Sunday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., and on Monday-Thursday from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. If you have a student I.D. card, admission is \$1.00. You can get to the museum by taking the Lexington Ave. Subway to 86th St. or the Madison Ave. 3 or 4 bus.

Visiting the Sick

by Judy Brauer

The *mitzvah* of *bikur cholim*, visiting the sick, in order to aid and relieve their suffering is one of the many social and moral obligations of a Jew. *Gemarah Nedarim* (396-40a) states that "whoever visits the sick removes one sixtieth of his suffering, while one who does not visit hastens the death of the ailing person."

The *Bikur cholim* committee extends its services to many organizations. Among these is the Division of Volunteer Services, where students visit the Jewish homebound, and nearby nursing homes. The *Bikur cholim* committee also visits the Rusk Rehabilitation Center every *Shabbat* afternoon. There are all age groups making with which one feels most comfortable.

One participant in the *Bikur Cholim*

club described a memorable experience as follows: "One *Shabbat* afternoon when the committee went to Rusk Institute, we were greeted by Taisha, a seven-year-old girl who was sitting listlessly in her wheel chair. When Taisha saw her visitors she extended her arms to all of us shouting: "Wow we can play Simon Says." We stayed there for a half an hour. During the time we were with Taisha, we found it entertaining to watch her try to outsmart us as we played the game. Then, it was time to leave and the expression on her face changed dramatically. As we walked out of the door she shouted "Hey, next time you're back we can play again, o.k.?"

Anyone with programming ideas or who would like to participate in *Bikur Cholim* can contact Judy Brauer in the dormitory.

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BRING THIS AD

Thousands Rally on Solidarity Sunday

by Naomi Mark

The one-hundred thousand participants in Solidarity Sunday 1979 were privileged to witness a historic event in modern Jewish history.

On April 27, 1979, just two days prior to the eighth annual solidarity march sponsored by the Greater New York Conference on Soviet Jewry, five dissidents, among them two leading Soviet Jewish prisoners of conscience were released, as a result of a prisoner exchange between the United States and the Kremlin.

Edward Kuznetsov and Mark Dymshits were imprisoned nine years ago after attempting to hijack an airplane to Israel. They addressed their supporters at Dag Hammarskjold Plaza across from the United Nations. The atmosphere was one of euphoria, as the crowd applauded, waved banners, and sang, "Hevenu Shalom Alechem."

"Just two days ago we were in a Soviet labor camp, and I couldn't imagine that I would be standing here and thanking all of you on behalf of Soviet Jews," exclaimed Kuznetsov. Both Kuznetsov and Dymshits emphasized the importance of continuing to struggle for the freedom of the many

other Soviet refuseniks and prisoners of conscience.

Leading political figures, such as Senators Henry M. Jackson (Washington), Jacob K. Javits (New York), Daniel F. Moynihan (New York), and Governor Carey of New York marched in the procession down 5th Avenue from 87th Street to 47th Street and across town to Dag Hammarskjold Plaza.

The theme of the year's Solidarity Sunday was initially to focus on the plight of Anatoly Sharansky, who was sentenced last year to 13 years in prison on charges of treason and espionage. But due to the unexpected release of the dissidents, the program was changed to welcome them.

"Seeing some of the leading Soviet Jewish activists being freed," concluded a Stern student, "gives us strength to continue struggling for the release of our other Soviet brothers and sisters who are still imprisoned."

Imagine — Kuznetsov and Dymshits who were once sentenced to death, are now free and reunited with their families. This is due to the efforts of concerned American Jews; Our efforts have not been in vain. Miracles can happen.

The Miller's Tale

cont. from p. 2 col. 4

events included theatre parties, coffee houses, ice skating and bowling parties, a ski trip, a talent night, old-time movie night, *Boah Chadesh, Chamukah, Purim*, and *Yom Ha-atzmaut chagigot*, and two *Shabbatonim*...and who can forget the exciting speech forum Spring production "Night of January 16th" as well as the brilliant YCDS productions of "Pippin" and "Streamers".

Much commendation must go to each and every class officer and club chairwoman who took upon the task of planning these events as well as the weekly *Shabbat* programs, whose guest speakers were interesting and dynamic, thus creating a warm and inviting atmosphere. Of course there were many disappointments this year that the next year's Student Council must try to overcome: student apathy ranks highest. No Student Council can function effectively without the participation of the majority of its students. Not a week passed without some Student Council sponsored activity — be it a lecture, sport activity, or social gathering. I grow weary of hearing students talk about the lack of things "going on" at Stern College, when in fact, if students would reach out and take advantage of what is offered, they would find that there is something there for everyone.

When viewing the total picture, however, I am pleased with our accomplishments, and remain hopeful that in those areas where we were weak, the 1979-1980 Student Council will gain strength. Goodbye is a difficult word to say, but only when the bonds of mutual friendship and respect have grown so strong, as mine have become this year with so many people. My executive board, who included Betsy Mondshein, Adena Kalish, Beth Hoch and Sharon Zanger were a constant source of help to me, as well as Zev Golumbek, Marc Schneider, and Richie Horowitz from Yeshiva College. Dean Bacon, Rabbi Blau, Rabbi Reichert, Rabbi Schoenfeld, Mrs. Zuroff and Mrs. Winter provided the en-

couragement, and the friendship and love from S.P., J.G., D.S., L.G., S.R., W.K., G.K., E.G., R.S., A.S., M.H., and of course M.K.! It has been an honor and a pleasure to serve as your Student Council President this year, and it is a memory that I shall carry with me always.

J.S. Courses

cont. from p. 2 col. 4

course, the student finds herself with little or no chance for follow-up courses. This can be attributed to the repetitious cycle of scheduled courses whereby the same courses are being offered semester after semester by various teachers. Moreover the problem is compounded by understaffed departments. This is reflected most clearly in the Jewish Studies departments, where one teacher teaches numerous courses.

The frustration mounts when the student walks into the examination room and finds the exam to be of little or no challenge to her intellectual capacities. Recently, the Bernard Revel Graduate School of Judaic Studies has begun to offer courses here at Stern. Unfortunately due to lack of student enrollment a course which was to be administered by a top level professor was cancelled. The graduate faculty has been cut by 40 percent since the initiation of the Revel courses.

As a major, I find that there are not an adequate number of courses to keep one stimulated through one's four year interim. It seems that on the elementary level one has the opportunity to grow and advance in one's educational experience; While the student with the more advanced background must be content with mediocrity and consequently be forced to enroll in courses below one's intellectual capacities.

When one enrolls in Yeshiva University a strong religious as well as financial investment is being made. Don't we owe it to ourselves to insure that our investment be a profitable one?

Sincerely,
Suri Kastner

Sharon Markowitz, Phys Ed major and intramural coordinator, receives award from Professor Tauber, Director of Athletics.

Women Receive Athletic Awards

by Amy Schwartz

Stern College athletes received recognition for their participation in intramural and varsity sports. At the Yeshiva University Athletic Dinner on May 3, at Belfer Commons, the women made history.

Dean Karen Bacon of SCW presented the awards to the women's varsity basketball, volleyball, tennis, and bowling teams. Awards were also presented to the intramural participants.

Dean Bacon thanked Professor Tauber for his support of intramural sports at Stern College. She commented that she felt out of place at the athletic banquet because when she attended Stern she did

not participate in athletics. Although she regretted not having been involved then, she was honored to present the awards that evening.

Professor Tauber praised Sharon Markowitz for the leadership she exhibited by being the first woman major in physical education at Stern. He presented her with an award for outstanding excellence in physical education at Stern College.

Ms. Markowitz is a member of the Yeshiva University Athletic Association in appreciation for her efforts in initiating a sports intramural program at Stern. She was granted a W.U.I.A. award for active intramural participation.

Thanks to all the girls from the intramurals for their lovely presence. It was

fun working with you.

Sharon Markowitz

Tennis Tournament Results:

Stern vs Pratt

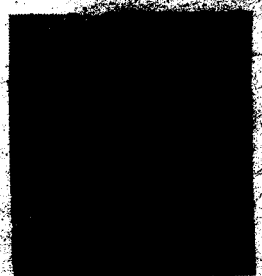
The following are the score results from the Tennis match against Pratt University which took place Wednesday, April 25:

Sharon Markowitz	—	4-6	0-6	
Esther Isaacs	—	7-5	1-6	7-6
Hinda Stein & Ruth Peyser	—	3-6	1-6	
Felice Grossman & Sharon Zanger	—	1-6	1-6	
Dina Seiger	—	0-6	0-6	

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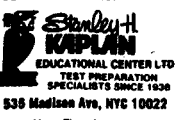
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