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Dr. Blank Leaves Yeshiva After Four Years

By Dena Hamburger

Dr. Blanche D. Blank, vice president for academic affairs, has tendered her resignation, which will be effective June 30, 1981. Her primary reason for moving on, she indicated, is "there's a time to come and a time to go."

During her four year tenure, which began in the fall of 1977, Dr. Blank, YU's first woman vice president for academic affairs, was instrumental in easing the transition period, which occurred when a new administrative team was brought in to implement an innovative divisional structure in the University.

As academic vice president, Dr. Blank, who has a doctorate in American government from Columbia University, developed the curriculum, instituting new programs in accounting, nursing, and the psy. D. at Ferkauf Graduate School, in addition to serving as middleman between the administration and the faculty.

Dr. Blank feels that besides all the tangible innovative projects for A students which she introduced, including the Don Program; the Dean's Table discussions; the introduction of politicians and other public figures to undergraduate courses; a closer working relationship between the Midtown and Main campuses; visits to Washington, she "helped the faculty" by fostering co-operation, and encouraging joint involvement. She indicated that the "faculty is much more unified" than when she took office.

In reflecting upon her vice-presidency,



Dr. Blanche Blank



Dr. Egon Brenner

Dr. Blank said that although she didn't achieve all the goals she had set out for herself, she was satisfied with her track record. Dr. Blank said she was convinced that she had made significant headway in the areas of academic programming, faculty relations, and involvement with students. She was particularly satisfied with achieving clarification of tenure ambiguities.

Despite her plan to leave in June, Dr. Blank has indicated that she will continue to work towards finalizing plans for a summer internship program for liberal arts majors with corporations in the city. She is also working on a research internship this summer with a Cardozo Law School professor, which would be granted on the basis of competitive bidding.

Dr. Israel Milller, senior vice president of

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Senate Begins To Discuss Grad Requirements

By Ellen Bart

In a session that may have far-reaching consequences for the future of secular education at Stern College, Senate began discussing a proposal to revise the existing graduation requirements. The proposal, which includes 48 credits of required courses, does not reduce substantially the number of required credits but concentrates instead on a wider choice of courses as well as required study of advanced courses outside a student's major.

The proposal calls for each department to classify, where feasible, its courses as Level I and Level II. Level I courses would be those which the department believes impart fundamental concepts to the students—regardless of the course's present status as 'advanced.'

These courses could be used either to satisfy the basic requirement or to complete a student's major. They would be offered on a rotating basis and would thus offer a greater variety than the present choice of one or two introductory courses.

Level II courses would be those that either require a prerequisite or presume greater sophistication or experience on the part of the student.

The 48 credits would be divided in the following manner:

- **Basic Requirements:** 7 credits
English 1.1 (3 cr.), Health Ed. (1 cr.), one course chosen from Math (1.2 or higher), Speech 1.1, or Information Science (3 cr.).

- **Humanities:** 12 credits
Chosen from English literature, Humanities, Foreign language, Philosophy, Art, and Music with restrictions as to the amount of credits in any one area.

- **Social Sciences:** 9 credits
Chosen from History, Political Science, Economics, Psychology, and Sociology with restrictions as to the amount of credits in certain areas.

- **Natural Sciences:** 6-8 credits
One year of a laboratory science with the possibility of the establishment of a course for non-science majors.

- **Foreign Language and Advanced Electives:** 12 credits
Chosen from Foreign language and/or Level II courses in an area outside a student's major. (i.e. **Biology majors may use Level II Chemistry, History, Psychology—anything except Level II Biology**)

The proposal is the culmination of efforts started last year by the Curriculum Review Committee composed of faculty members, administrators, and student representatives. If the proposal passes Senate, it will be discussed at the next faculty meeting where failure to reject it within 30 days will result in automatic passage.

Flames Break Out in Stern Dorm

By Dena Hamburger

An electrical fire broke out and was brought under control at Stern College's Brookdale Hall residence in apartment 8A, before being extinguished about 12:45 P.M., Tuesday February 3.

According to Mrs. Milner, the supervisor of the residence hall, the fire was started while senior Tammy Appleman was blow-drying her hair. She noticed a spark and went down to inform the guard on duty. A fifteen minute lapse ensued before any action was taken.

After Ms. Appleman returned to report that the room was on fire, Mrs. Milner pulled the alarm which notified firefighters to respond, while warning residents to evacuate the building.

According to Colonel Robert Marmorstein, director of security of YU, the firemen quickly extinguished the fire, which was confined to one corner of the room. A minimal amount of damage was caused, according to Colonel Marmorstein and the three residents, Tammy Appleman, Elyssa Mandel, and Chava Pachino.

The students have moved to the study hall on their floor, 8C, to await the renovation of their apartment. It has not yet been determined how long this may take.

According to the three girls, many personal belongings, including textbooks, *seforim*, clothes, shoes, and art supplies were ruined by smoke and water damage. In addition, one television and a clock radio were gutted. Upon inspection, it is

cont. on p. 5, col. 4

Analysis

Job Action: What Comes Next?

by Rachel Katsman

A revised faculty salary proposal, following last semester's job action, is now pending administrative approval or rejection. The new proposal, submitted by YU's Faculty Welfare Committee, calls for an increase in base salary with a percent raise above that. This increase would become effective as of next September, and faculty would forgo a 7% raise offered by the Administration retroactive of last

September.

The faculty job action—in the form of a "teach-in"—at the end of last semester, was in protest to the 7% salary increase, barely half the inflation rate, which was seen as inadequate. The purpose of the teach-in, in which faculty lamented its position to the students during class, was to publicize the faculty's financial plight and to gain student support in the issue.

Proponents of the job action stated that

if there was no reaction from the Administration, there would be future escalating action taken. So far, the FWC is awaiting a decision on the revised proposal before taking further measures.

The success of the job action, in terms of student support is subjective. Faculty involved in the action feel student support was essentially positive, but in terms of actual protest to the Administration, reaction was minimal. From YC, President Lamm's office received two letters—one letter was signed by three students. From Stern students, who were given postcards to send to administrators, the President's office received 23 cards—two anonymous and six signed with names of non-students.

Senior Vice President Dr. Israel Miller commented that "this is not an overwhelming number considering they were given postcards with postage on them."

Dr. Miller personally responded to all the legitimately signed letters and offered an assurance of continuous cooperation

cont. on p. 8, col. 2



The Phonathon which was held February 10th and 11th was a great success. The Admissions Office was very pleased with the results.

Diary of an Addict

by Deena Greenberg

by Deena Greenberg

I never thought I'd be writing this. It really wasn't my fault. It was my roommates'. Oh, I'd often seen them crouched in the corner getting their daily fixes, but I would always just ignore them, pitying them for their slavish dependence on the stuff. Then, one day, Eve said, "C'mon, Deena, try it, just once. Don't worry, you won't get hooked."

"No, Deena, don't do it!" cried Linda, hunched in the corner, "You'll become addicted, the way I did. I started with just one, and look at me now. I never go to classes, my mind is deteriorating, and I'm always on edge. Save yourself, Deena, before it's too late. Don't do it!"

Exhausted from speaking, she slumped back into the motionless position and blank stare by which we'd all come to know her. Her warning shook me up, but the temptation had become too great for me. There was no stopping me now. I had to try it.

"O.K.," I said through clenched teeth. "Tell me everything—who, what, when, how—"

"You're sure?" Eve asked, looking searchingly into my eyes.

"Yes," I said, looking back into her eyes equally searchingly, "I'm sure."

"All right," she began, taking a deep breath.

"Luke and Laura, who've been seeing each other now for a year, just broke up. And Jeff and Anne, who've been seeing each other for five years, might break up, too, because Jeff's wife, Heather, is still in the insane asylum, and he's afraid that leaving her would worsen her condition. Of course, Heather isn't really insane. Everybody just *thinks* she is because she had a bad trip on the LSD she mistakenly took but had meant to give to Diana, her neighbor, who had unknowingly adopted Heather's son, Steven Lars . . ."

And so, I became a soap-opera addict, or suds-head, as the hardcore soapiacs call it.

At first, I told myself that all I was watching for were Luke and Laura.



Everything else meant nothing to me. Of course, if Jeff ever found out that his son hadn't been sold to the black market or died of pneumonia—but no, I told myself fiercely, I didn't care about that. I wasn't addicted.

Soon, however, I was not only watching General Hospital, I had started trying other shows, like *Ryan's Hope* and *One Life to Live*. I even started experimenting with the hard stuff—*All My Children* and *The Edge of Night*. Still, I said to myself, I wasn't hooked. It was just that these programs were more interesting than the Economics, French, and English classes I was skipping in order to watch them.

However, as is the case with all main-channel suds-heads, I discovered that I couldn't concentrate on anything but my soaps. I became totally preoccupied with such weighty problems as: Would Luke and Laura ever get back together? Would Jeff and Heather ever split up? How did the writers keep track of their story lines, and better yet, why? How come all the doctors and nurses only spoke to each other and not the patients? Did any of Jeff's blow-dried, feathered back hairs ever fall out of place? Did Robert Scorpio's left eyebrow ever fall at all? And how was I going to pass Economics, French, and English with twenty absences in the first two months of school?

As these thoughts ran through my mind, I sometimes wondered, during commercials, if there really weren't something more to life than this. I'd begun getting

cont. on p. 8, col. 2

From the Dorm Parents

The Birds and the Bees Do It

By Sema and Mordechai Reich



by Sema and Mordechai Reich

Dale Carnegie teaches it. Family therapists stress it. Dorm parents hope that students use it. We're talking about effective communication. We're writing about it now because some of you have come down to see us to let us know that "We can't live together anymore. The problems are insurmountable." And the amazing thing is that often, roommates are hearing about these "insurmountable" problems for the first time. There had never been a real discussion of problems or difficulties until now because everyone was afraid of hurting everybody else's feelings.

So let's talk about effective communication.

Effective communication is certainly an important key to successful relationships. Here in the dorm, your experience in living with two to three other people in a room should not be understated. It will probably be your most valuable pre-marital experience in developing communication skills. But 'tachlis! What are some crucial pointers for life in the dorm?

It's very important that you speak up soon after words or actions hurt you. Waiting serves no constructive purpose unless you feel this incident doesn't warrant a possible scene or unless you're aiming to increase the number of ulcers among the college population. Sometimes time heals, but time also distorts and allows hurt feelings to mount up.

Speak to the person that directly offended or hurt you. Randomly complaining to third parties or tens of sympathetic ears tends to distort your perception of what happened, not to mention involving yourself in possible transgressions of *lashon harah*. A direct confrontation with the person who caused you the hurt allows her to clarify any misunderstanding and perhaps apologize. Only she can explain what she meant. Keep in mind the valuable concept of *kaf zechut* or giving the benefit of the doubt. No one is asking you to be naive, but you do owe it

to your friend to listen to her side of the story. Most of us have trouble with the 'how' aspect of confrontation. Honesty is a must, but there is no need to go for the jugular. Say what's bothering you and try to stick with the present problem. Don't do a review of your room history. And listen. Really listen. You may hear things about yourself that aren't pleasant. If you keep an open mind and accept the possibility that you may have to change in certain ways, you'll have real communication going.

This leads to a topic which many religious women have particular trouble with—assertiveness. Many women equate assertiveness with aggressiveness. Assertiveness is a *skil* well worth acquiring. An assertive woman is not a glorification of the pushy, disrespectful person who makes waves wherever she goes. She is a person who knows that what she has to say or do is worthwhile and she can express her needs and ideas even when it is unpopular or 'uncomfortable' to do so. The assertive person remains a *mensch*, a dignified personality despite her forceful presentation.

Summing up, the ingredients for effective communication in the dorm and everywhere are simple (on paper at least!). They include honesty, sensitivity to others, the rendering of *kaf zechut*, a good listening ear, and the ability to assert one's own needs and views. We hope that this recipe works for you in your relationships.

Ticking with TAC

Torah: It's the Real Thing

By Mindy Seiden



The beginning of a new semester . . . new notebooks . . . new textbooks . . . a new dress code . . . a new CORE program. Our student body is experiencing a change in the Judaic studies department with the implementation of new courses, and with the hiring of new faculty. Yet, the question begs to be asked . . . Have we changed our attitudes towards Jewish learning in accordance with the innovations in the Judaic studies department?

In order to answer that question, we must ask ourselves another question. What is Jewish learning taking place in a *yeshiva* as opposed to secular learning transpiring in a university? Contrary to popular belief, there is, and there must be a difference between the two disciplines in their respective settings.

Torah is referred to as *chochmat p'nimit*, essential knowledge, whereas *chochmat hateva*, universal knowledge, is known as *chochmat chitzonit*, superficial knowledge. The sharp contrast between the two terms reflects a fundamental difference of both the disciplines.

The Rabbis teach us that when *HaShem* created the world, He used the *Torah* as a blueprint for the creation. *Teva*, the secular aspect of the creation, stems from *Torah*, for *Torah* is the precursor of *teva*. Consequently, since *Tora* was the blueprint for *teva*, *Torah* can change *teva*. As *HaShem* said: "I created the evil inclination, and I created the *Torah* as a cure for it." Through *Limud HaTorah*, a *midah ra'ah*, a detrimental behavior pattern, can be transformed into a *midah tovah*, a positive mode of behavior. *Torah* is *chochmat p'nimit* because it can mold the innermost part of a person's character. On the other

hand, *chochmat hateva*, which is *chochmat chitzonit*, can only mold the superficial "covering" of a person.

It is precisely during the time that a person learns *Torah* that his intentions should be directed towards furthering his dedication to *Torah* practices and ideals. The daily request of the Jew is "to understand, to become wise, to obey, and to observe."

The notebook and the textbook have become useful media for the transferral of knowledge from the teacher's mouth to the student's mind. Yet, what is the media for the transferral of deeper knowledge and understanding from the teacher's heart to the student's heart? How many of us allow the *Torah* that we are learning to permeate our lives? Are we too concerned about the intellectual breadth without the practical depth of *chochmat HaTorah*?

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Welcome Home

By Abby Fodiman



Recently, hordes of Americans greeted the former hostages from Iran. Among the many ceremonies planned in honor of their return was a greeting by Cardinal Terence Cooke. Newspapers were careful to place a picture of Barry Rosen, former press attache in Iran, with the Cardinal, on the front page of the newspaper. Seeing a picture of a Jew with a leading clergyman of the Catholic Church obviously made many Jews, including myself, feel uncomfortable.

My initial reaction was one of embarrassment because there was not a similar elaborate public greeting by a prominent Rabbi. Rather, after leaving St. Patrick's Cathedral, Rosen called Temple Emanuel himself and asked if he could come to the Temple. He was not greeted with the same ceremonious accord. Instead, he had a quiet meeting with the Rabbi in the sanctuary where he approached the ark and took the *Torah* in his arms.

On the surface, this private moment cannot compare in excitement with the thousands of cheering people on the steps

evaluating the meetings, they can be interpreted differently. The reception by Cardinal Terence Cooke was courteous yet superficial and probably did not leave an eternal lasting effect. The quiet, intimate meeting in Temple Emanuel's sanctuary provided Rosen with the opportunity to identify with his Jewishness.

While a public welcome from the Jewish community would have been in order, it is my hope that the private moment that Mr. Rosen was able to experience will have a greater personal impact than any public display that the Jewish community could have made.

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Middle States Evaluates Yeshiva University in its Final Report

By Eather Stiefel

Yeshiva University recently received the report of the Middle States evaluation committee. The committee examined the University during November 1980 and reported on the reorganization that took place and continues to take place under the auspices of President Lamm. The committee criticized some of the weaker aspects of the University and suggested ways to strengthen and enhance these areas. It commended the University for the improvements that have taken place over the past several years. The report from the evaluation team also included a general overview of what has been happening at YU during the past few years and what is planned for the future.

Significant changes that have taken place during the past year are the continuing restructuring of academic governance and

the introduction of the undergraduate accounting program. Changes that are planned for the current year or next year, include extension centers of the University in New Jersey and Florida offering courses in Judaic studies; a continuing education program; expansion of the gerontology program and the introduction of the psy. D. program.

Most emphasis, however, was placed on the reorganization of the top administrative positions. The purpose of the changes was "to improve administrative efficiency and educational effectiveness." The changes seem to move the University from a "horizontal" to a "vertical" organization. The faculty of arts and sciences is now organized by division rather than by department.

According to the faculty self-study evaluation for the Middle States com-

mittee, the reorganization has been found to be unsatisfactory. The jobs of the various deans are not clearly defined and therefore, the deans tend to be overloaded with work. According to the faculty self-study report, President Lamm is aware of the problem of the ambiguity surrounding the roles of the various deans and mentioned that "perhaps the administration is top heavy." There is already a consensus that the system should be changed and it appears, according to the Middle States evaluation team, that now is the best time for such changes to take place since the various individuals involved would not be adversely affected due to their present personal and professional situations.

The evaluation team suggested that the position of vice president of Academic Affairs should be strengthened and that the ambiguities surrounding that position

should be clarified. In addition, ties must be strengthened between the vice president of Academic Affairs and the deans of YC and Stern. It also suggests the further planning for the two colleges should proceed immediately with strong faculty input into such planning. The committee also advised that the graduate schools of social work and Judaic studies should report to the vice president of Academic Affairs. The committee noted, however, that while a strong relationship between the graduate and undergraduate segments of the University is very important, improvement of the undergraduate administration is the more crucial matter at the moment.

Regarding university finances, the evaluation team commended the University for the steps it has taken to strengthen financial integrity and the future financial stability of YU. The team also noted the work of the academic Vice President in correcting academic deficiencies, arranging for new summer research awards and merit awards, seeking grants, and providing travel funds for faculty members. The committee was impressed by the concern of the faculty regarding the salary situation and recommended that the situation be examined further. It also suggested that the faculty should take part in and be aware of financial decisions made within the University.

The team commented on the Judaic studies program. Some members of the committee observed that it is in much better shape now than it was in 1969. The committee did suggest, however, that there are too many part-time Judaic studies teachers without doctorates or academic orientation. They noted "the undergraduate program appears excellent and students are highly motivated." The Judaic studies faculty is "stable," "well-rooted," and entirely committed to the spread of Jewish knowledge. They also mentioned that student morale seems high despite the strenuous schedule. They attributed this, in part, to the fact that most of the students come from day schools prepared to work long hours as the dual mission of the University necessitates.

Another observation made by the evaluation team was in regard to the liberal arts segment of the University. It claimed that humanities outside of Judaic studies are not strong enough; possibly because of the professional orientation of the students and the lack of resources allocated to humanities. The team was impressed by the extraordinary devotion of the faculty to the University.

A letter was sent from President Lamm to the chairman of the Middle States evaluation team in response to its report. He mentioned areas that he intends to work on in the near future, including a restructuring of the presently "over-structured" university; a redefinition of the function of major offices; a balance between Judaic studies and liberal arts in the undergraduate programs and a restatement of the University's mission and responsibility to the Jewish community at large.

Of Concern: Dean Bacon Discusses Proposed Curriculum

Stern College Senate began discussions on a new proposal for graduation requirements. The Observer asked Dean Karen Bacon to share her views on the proposal and its impact.

Observer: What problems do you see with the current set of requirements that this proposal addresses?

Dean Bacon: The first problem area is that almost every single credit the students take towards graduation is prescribed in one manner or another. That is almost inevitable because of the unique mission of the university which requires our students to invest a large percentage of their academic program in Jewish Studies, another large percentage in, what is called typically across the United States, a liberal arts education, and then finally the major which is something they need for their own sense of direction and career aspirations.

The new proposal addresses this in a very modest way. I would be less than honest if I said that the credits are now not prescribed; they are still highly prescribed, but there is also something called an elective group which allows students a greater variety in choosing courses that they feel will meet both their career goals as well as our goals for a liberal arts education. This notion of electives did not exist before.

Another important area that this proposal addresses is a certain sense of lack of enthusiasm that the students feel, and perhaps some of the faculty even feel, in that year in and year out there are only a few courses that are available to the students to meet graduation requirements in the liberal arts. I think the students and faculty would both like to move into some new areas—allow a larger variety of courses to count towards the requirements.

That I think, will add excitement to the classroom, and it will have another fallout, which I think is vital, and that is that more courses (those on level I in the proposal) will now be available both to students who are using the courses to fulfill general liberal arts requirements as well as students who are taking these courses for their majors. It means that we will have a greater mix of students in any particular course—students who are there because this is their field of interest and they are passionately involved in the material, students who want to understand something about the field, and students who have just wandered in there to fulfill their elective requirement. In the past it was not atypical to find in elective courses a very small group of students—only those who were majoring in that field and no others.

Observer: Do you feel that any department will benefit particularly or suffer particularly from this proposal?

Dean: In our current set of requirements there is a list of courses which are prescribed. That means that as an administrator it is very simple for me to set up a program. I know I have to list certain courses because every student must take them during her tenure at Stern. For faculty, that means that they are guaranteed an audience in those courses.

There are very few courses in the new proposal that fit into that category: only English composition which is seen as a basic skill for college education as well as life thereafter, and health education. Every other course is available to the students by virtue of their choice. This, of course, means that there are some courses which we give now which may have smaller enrollments and some larger enrollments.

It is hard to predict. It puts the curriculum in the free market so to speak. Faculty will decide which courses are appropriate to

fulfill requirements, and within that category, students will choose those they are most excited about, appeal to them the most, and, I think even in a trivial way, those that fit best into their schedules. If we go into this program, the first year or two will be a little up in the air until we see which direction the students choose.

Observer: What was the rationale for the reduction in the language department?

Dean: I think it is unfair in a sense to talk of reduction. Language study is available in the new proposal to meet graduation requirements for a total of three years of study which in some ways is greater than what is available now.

What has happened in the new proposal is that language per se is not required in the same way that history or English literature per se are not required. It really leaves up to the student's choice in which areas she would like to invest her efforts in order to construct a liberal arts education.

Observer: How do you view the "elective group" requirement in relation to the rest of the proposal?



Dean: The kind of thing that I hope will happen will be Political Science majors taking history; They might see that as preparing themselves for schools of foreign relations, for example, but I would say they are becoming better educated as liberal arts students. The same might be said for students of English who are interested in communications and would take advanced psychology courses.

I think that it is important to note that the committee made no effort to allow a larger portion of the students' credits to be invested in the major itself. It is a legitimate goal for majors to become more substantial—broader, deeper, but in our particular environment, the committee felt strongly that we cannot sacrifice the liberal arts by putting more into the major. I think they are right because those of our students who are majoring in areas where graduate studies are required are already well served by their current majors. But what really would be most valuable to them on the college level is a liberal arts education, and that is what is called for in this proposal.

Observer: How do you personally feel about the proposal? Are there parts you would like to change?

Dean: I'll never say that I am completely satisfied with it because that would preclude the next round of curriculum reform which I look forward to in a few years. There are always things that need to be improved and changed, but this proposal has many advantages, particularly for the elective courses.

I think that it is important for there to be serious discussion and input from all parts of the college: faculty, administration, and students. That way we can really move forward.

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Blank Svatkova: A Story of Courage

By Tina Senders

The brown eyed, dark haired girl sitting across from me looked and acted like any other Stern girl, but 18 year old Blanka Svatkova had a story to tell that was absolutely terrifying.

Blanka is a Czechoslovakian Jew. She comes from Prague, a city with a dying Jewish community made up mostly of elderly people, who have survived the Holocaust. The Communist government tolerates Jews; that is, as long as they do not practice their faith. But for Blanka and the handful of other Orthodox Jews still remaining in Prague, life is not so easy. The government absolutely forbids the practice of Judaism. Those who are caught entering a *shul* or learning *Torah* are arrested and imprisoned. It is practically impossible to obtain kosher meat. Blanka described how her high school teachers even called her "a dirty Jew" in the middle of class. One would have thought that this type of life disappeared from Eastern Europe after the Holocaust. But for Blanka, it was a horrifying reality of the present.

How did Blanka handle this anti-Semitism? "I had to live a lie. I had to practice my faith in secret," she commented. This situation would have continued indefinitely, but in the summer of 1979, the secret police discovered that she was friendly with a member of Charta 77, an anti-Communist group. She received an "invitation" in the mail, requesting her presence at police headquarters. Her appointment was on *Rosh Hashana*. Blanka had no choice but to comply with the request, for she knew she would be severely punished if she did not. At headquarters she was confronted by an official who demanded that she inform on her dissident friend. When she refused to even acknowledge that she knew him, the official tried to frighten her into an admission by slapping her. When this ploy failed to work, he threatened her with expulsion from the university where she was a freshman. When Blanka still refused to cooperate, the police official had no choice but to let her go, since he had no real proof of her political ties.

He did not forget her, however. Unbeknownst to Blanka, from that day on, the secret police watched and followed her every move. Several months later she received a second "invitation." This time, though, the official produced proof of Blanka's acquaintance with the young dissident: a photograph that had been taken of the two of them walking together. Despite this, Blanka refused to give them any information which might incriminate her friend. The official, realizing the uselessness of further questioning, reluctantly let her go. But Blanka knew that next time she would not be so lucky.

With this in mind, Blanka decided to escape to America. As Blanka explained, "I was tired of living a lie, having to hide my Jewishness. I wanted to live my life differently and know more about *Yiddishkeit*." Her decision to leave her country was not an easy one to make, for it meant leaving her parents and younger brother, no knowing when she would see them again. Furthermore, Blanka had no relatives in the States who would help her adjust to a new life. And, of course, any escape from a Communist country always involves tremendous risks.

But, on September 16 of this year, three days after *Rosh Hashana*, Blanka left Czechoslovakia, on the pretense of going



on a tour of Yugoslavia, a neighboring country. During the tour, Blanka took advantage of a five minute break to slip away to the nearby station. After a ride of several hours she arrived in the city which housed the Austrian Consulate, where she obtained a visa. This was only the first step. Blanka still had to cross the border into Austria, where she would have to go through customs and run the risk of being caught.

"As I sat on the train and got closer and closer to the border, I began to shake uncontrollably," Blanka recalled. "When the train official came along to inspect my passport, I nearly collapsed from fear that I'd be caught. The officer looked at my visa and from the look in his eyes, obviously realized my situation. I expected him to run and call the police. Instead, all he did was stare at me and say 'Welcome to the West—to Freedom.' I couldn't believe it. I was home free!"

Blanka's relief however, turned out to be short-lived. When she arrived in Vienna, she approached JOINT, the Jewish agency, for assistance in reaching America. Before they would help her, though, she had to prove to them that she was, indeed, Jewish. Her knowledge of the Hebrew language and Jewish customs failed to convince them. Until her Jewish identity could be confirmed, she placed her in a hotel, where

she remained for two weeks with only fifteen dollars provided her for food.

Finally, JOINT agreed to help Blanka. They sent her, along with a group of Russian defectors, to Rome to wait for American visas. There, they were placed in a hotel and given only four dollars in spending money. The conditions were terrible. The hotel only served non-kosher food, so Blanka was restricted to eating fruits and vegetables. Furthermore, Blanka found her Russian companions to be dirty, unkempt, and, above all, selfish. She explained, "They have to be, in order to survive in Russia." The only thing that helped Blanka cope was her conviction that she would soon reach America. But two weeks had passed since she had arrived in Rome, and her visa still had not come through. JOINT could no longer afford to pay for her hotel room, and she knew she would have to find another place to stay. By a stroke of luck, Blanka met a *Lubavitcher* in *shul* one Shabbat who found a family who offered to house her. During this seemingly endless waiting period, Blanka occupied herself by teaching English to the Russians. Finally after two months of waiting and hoping, Blanka was put on a plane to New York.

How did she feel when she first arrived in "the land of the free?" "I was excited, but also scared!" In New York, Blanka got in touch with Debby Schondorf, a Stern College graduate, whom she had met in Prague the year before. Debby suggested that Blanka come to Stern and then offered to make arrangements for her. Now, almost six months after Blanka's harrowing train ride, she is learning at Stern and living in the dorm. It is hard for her. She misses her family and does not know when she will get to see them again. She does know that she can never go back to Czechoslovakia, for she has been sentenced by the government to three years imprisonment.

Does Blanka have any regrets? "No! I'm happy and I like it here, because I'm free to be Jewish. I'm glad I came!"

Fire Blazes

cont. from p. 1, col. 4

clear that the room sustained only some smoke damage, while the apartment directly below sustained a minimum of water damage. The residents of 7A did not have to move out.

While Colonel Marmorstein, who sent an assistant to the scene, emphasized that no one was at fault, he suggested that students "must at all times check wiring or personal belongings," and their proximity to beds.

Ms. Appleman maintains that her yeshiva-supplied lamp, which had recently been repeatedly "repaired" by Maintenance, had faulty wiring and was the cause of the flare-up. She insists that her blowdryer was not at fault, saying "in fact it still works."

Colonel Marmorstein has indicated that YU will not sue the student since she "got panicky," and it was not an incident using an illegal appliance, or one with malicious intent.

Marmorstein explained that Stern's \$5,000 deductible insurance cannot cover the cost of damages since the cost was much less. Hence, students' insurance must pay.

Colonel Marmorstein insists that Stern was not at fault, which is upheld by the fact that the firemen permitted re-entry into the building after 40 minutes of evacuation, and that they issued no summons. This is a clear indication that Stern was observant of all codes.

Colonel Marmorstein also explained that the building has been designated as fireproof, and is inspected once a year. As a further precautionary measure, descriptive pamphlets are distributed in the dorm at the beginning of the year instructing students on courses of action in the event of all kinds of fires. Stern also maintains a safety code which prohibits the use of all heating appliances which have an exposed heating apparatus. It is a much violated code, according to Col. Marmorstein and Mrs. Milner.

Stern Senate to Make Revisions in its Constitution

By Kim Shulman

In an attempt to strengthen the structure and functional value of the Stern College Senate, various revisions of its constitution have been proposed. These amendments were submitted by Ellen Bart, Junior Class representative, at the meeting which convened February 11.

The first proposal issued the election of faculty representatives for the next academic year at least three weeks prior to the last day of classes of the spring semester. This eliminates any delays in the fall Senate sessions as well as its agenda. Therefore, the representatives have more time to plan and prepare for the fall and they can commence as soon as the semester begins.

The second proposal stated that of the six faculty representatives, there shall be one member from each of the major divisions of the college. These include humanities, natural sciences and mathematics, social sciences, and Jewish studies. The remaining two representatives may come from any division but not from the same division. This amendment allows for equal representation of all the academic

departments.

The third of the revisions states that the newly elected Senate assemble before the last day of classes of the spring semester. This meeting will be called by the Office of the Dean. Its primary focus is the election of Senate officers for the following academic year. The value of such a meeting is one of a "time" factor. The newly appointed chairperson as well as the other representatives would have additional time prior to the fall semester to begin planning ahead.

The final proposal, described by Ellen Bart, is one which will maintain "a working together atmosphere" between the student and faculty representatives. This particular revision has an alternative modification. One plan provides for the office of chairman to be held alternately on a yearly basis by a student representative and a representative of either the faculty or the administration. However, in the second proposition an additional condition exists. It states that the office of secretary cannot be held by a representative of the same group as the chairperson. It is believed that this final proposal will guarantee a more valuable and successful working relation-

ship between administration, faculty and student representatives. Aliza Twersky, Senate chairperson, noted that this "system of alternating" works well at Yeshiva College and has led to greater faculty involvement.

The requirements for the passage of these four amendments include a favorable vote of 2/3 of the Senate, 2/3 of the faculty, and 2/3 of the student body at a Student Council meeting.



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A Forgotten Era

By Marla Silver

I've been on *The Observer* staff for 2½ years, and although I'm known to be outspoken I've never written a column. There have been several times when I was tempted, but for some reason I never quite had the motivation. A few weeks ago during one of Stern's weekly *Shabbat* programs I had the honor of meeting three unique individuals who gave me the incentive to write this article. Their names are Lenore, Glenn, and Talya Rachel Richter. I observed two important characteristics in these people, immense love and devotion to others. Whether it's a specific cause or person the Richters are amongst the most caring individuals I've ever met.

Let me give you some background about the Richter family. Glenn Richter heads the *Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry*. This group is concerned with the betterment of conditions for Soviet Jews. Lenore Richter graduated from Stern College during the sixties when she was an active member of the student body. Their daughter, Talya Rachel, is a beautiful blonde 1½ year-old who has been severely brain damaged and blind since birth. Both are dedicated parents who spend eight hours daily with volunteers "patterning" Talya Rachel in order to strengthen her motivation and circulation. With all of their responsibilities the Richters still find time to concern themselves with other parents of disabled children. They are indeed a special

family. I was astonished by their inner strength and loyalty to others.

During their stay here I had the honor of talking with them. As an alumna Lenore was interested in the present life here at Stern. Being an involved member of the college I explained that I was disappointed with the lack of concern and motivation by other students to improve the conditions here. I'd heard the stories about the historical student rallies and other organized events which were successful. Yet, it seemed so long ago that there were these feelings, and I was confused as to why they no longer existed.

Lenore gave me an answer which I unfortunately believe to be true. During the sixties everyone was concerned with mankind, equality and justice for all. We've grown out of the sixties, seventies, and we're now into the eighties. It is an era of concern for me, myself and I. For this reason students have stopped reaching out

cont. on p. 8, col. 3



Emma Bursztyn, Evelyn Havasi, Abby Fodiman and Annie Charlop are the 1981 Stern delegates at the annual Harvard Model United Nations from Feb. 26- March 1.

Bookends

Due to staff shortage, the periodical room will be open sporadically. Service will continue on an "on call" basis. Anyone needing service should call on the telephone opposite the periodical room or make a request at the circulation desk.

The library is seeking a new or used record player if anyone is interested in

donating or knows someone who would.

Syllabi that were received by the library are at the circulation desk. Items on reserve are marked on the syllabi.

Each week in the library, a new book of particular interest is featured on the library's bulletin board.

The student library committee for this semester has been appointed.

Student Council Prepares for Elections

Although it seems as if this semester just began, officers must be elected for next year's Student Council. The following is a brief description of the various positions.

President

According to the constitution of the Student Council of Stern College, the duties and powers of the President are as follows: 1) to preside over all Student Council meetings, 2) to represent Student Council when necessary, 3) to present the agenda of the next Student Council meeting to the Recording Secretary 3 days prior to the meeting, 4) to sign all checks drawn on Student Council funds in conjunction with the Treasurer, and 5) has the option to call a special meeting. In actuality this list greatly minimizes the duties and powers required of the presidential office.

The President not only presides over Student Council meetings, she is the chief supervisor of all extra-curricular activities sponsored by the various clubs and committees that comprise Student Council. She is charged with the responsibility of insuring that events are organized



and initiated throughout the school year.

Although it has never been written down, the President should also take it upon herself to try to introduce something new into Stern—trigger its potential—and maintain it with the assistance of her board. In this way Student Council will be contributing to the development of the school.

An elaboration of the second

responsibility listed will complete the picture. Representation is a large part of the President's job. She is the liaison between the student body and the administration and, therefore, must be prepared to represent them whenever it is felt necessary by her and/or the students. Oh, just one more thing. The President deals with people of all shapes, sizes and dispositions, so a person must be equipped with nerves of steel, a listening ear, a diplomatic manner and a good friend.

Vice President

As vice president of Student Council, I am Julie Beyer's right hand man. It is my responsibility to make sure that the various school clubs and classes sponsor at least one *shabbaton* a year and are scheduling monthly activities. In



order to schedule a speaker or a meeting during club hour the chairperson must clear the date with me first. I am always ready to take charge of a Student Council meeting or task if Julie is unavailable. The job requires commitment, a willingness to take on responsibility, and the ability to organize.

Corresponding Sec.

Corresponding Secretary of Stern College Student Council is a unique position. It entails correspondence within the College itself, as well as between Y.C. and Stern. In addition, the Corresponding Secretary is responsible for all correspondence

between Stern and outside institutions.

During this past year I have written letters to the administration in behalf of the student body and Student Council, I have sent out correspondence to order merchandise for the School Store, and have also sent out thank-you notes



on behalf of the College.

At this time, we are in the process of establishing a home hospitality program, in the local area, for our *Shabbat* programs. The Corresponding Secretary will have an active part in this program. Another project being worked on is a student directory which will contain the names and home addresses of Stern students.

The most important function of the Corresponding Secretary, however, is her active participation as a board member of the Stern College Student Council. You must be willing and able to work in conjunction with the rest of the board members, as well as the student body and the administration.

If you want to hold a position of responsibility, and like to write and receive letters—you should run for Corresponding Secretary.

Recording Sec.

If you enjoy typing, writing quickly, and owning your own private key to the bulletin board, this job is for you. You'll be making decisions in Student Council, running around helping other committees, and perhaps even

hanging up their posters. The secretary is aware of everything that goes on in school, since she takes the



minutes at the meetings, and is in charge of updating the signs downstairs. If this is appealing to you, then this position is your "type."

Treasurer

Tonight I handled \$767 in cold hard cash! Not many other Stern women could make a claim like that, that is, not unless they are treasurer of Student Council. Being Student Council treasurer is a very rewarding job—not to mention the



temptations which could prove to be even more rewarding—financially. The treasurer handles all financial affairs, such as balancing the books, posting checks in the general ledger, controlling the outlay of cash and making sure that ample funds are available when needed. The job requires precision and accuracy, and most importantly, an awareness of the value of money. The treasurer must handle Student Council money with as much scrutiny as she would her own.

If interested in any of the above positions contact Julie Beyer Rm 8E

SAF To Sponsor Love and Marriage Festival

By Amy Schwartz

"Love Is in the Air . . . in every Sight and Every Sound." That's what the song says, but is it really there? Come explore "Mazel Tov! A Celebration of Love and Marriage: An Arts Festival and Symposium" to be co-sponsored by the Stern College for Women Speech Arts Forum and American Mizrahi Women. The event will take place Sunday, March 1, 1981 from 1:30 to 5:00 p.m. in Koch Auditorium. A full afternoon of exhibits of *ketubot*, artworks, crafts and literature is planned, plus a song and drama presentation highlighted by a symposium. Panelists will be Dr. Norman Lamm, president of Yeshiva University, Rabbi

Saul Berman, Judaic studies department chairman of Stern College, and Mrs. Blu Greenberg, a noted author and lecturer. The moderator of the symposium is Rabbi Kenneth Hain, an instructor of Judaic studies at Stern.

Rabbi Lamm, author of a book on marriage titled *A Hedge of Roses* will discuss "Great Expectations and communicating in married life."

Rabbi Berman will speak on dating ethics, courtship, love and things to consider during a relationship.

Mrs. Greenberg, well known for her many books and lectures about Jewish women and Jewish communities, will talk on the topic of "Sexuality and the Mikvah."

The song and drama portion of the program will be presented by students of Yeshiva College and Stern. With a script compiled by Professor Peninnah Schram of the Stern speech department, Marsha Lustig, SCW junior will direct the students portraying various Jewish characters from such author as Sholom Aleichem. Participating students include Phyllis Dubinsky, Sandy Kahn, Bracha Kopmar, Marcia Greenbaum, Linda Ostrow, Lynn Stram, Adam Charnoff, Eddie Schauder, Brad Scher, Eugene Weisberg, and students in Prof. Gella Fishman's Yiddish class. Musicians accompanying the actors and singers are Sandy Franovitz, Sarah Frager, Helen Maryles, Alice Silverstein, and Debbie Seiden. Coordinators of the song and drama portion are Tina Senders, Mindy Silverman, and Iris Kaplan.

Students submitting exhibits are Linda Green, SCW '80, Felice Kamlet, SCW Sophomore, and alumnae Ita Aber, Mindy Ganz Ribner, and Cara Goldberg Marks.

Other students involved in organizing this event are Phyllis Dubinsky, Chairperson of Speech Arts Forum; Amy Schwartz and Joyce Grill, Publicity Committee; Marla Silver, Bulletin Board promotions; and Naomi Schulman, refreshments.

In promoting the event, Amy Schwartz

Around Town

Sunday, March 8, an all day conference on "Creating a Yiddish Community" will be held in Earl Hall, Columbia University, Broadway and 116th Street. The event is sponsored by Yugenruf-Youth for Yiddish—and will explore through intensive workshops, lectures, and discussion groups several questions and issues concerning the Yiddish community. There will also be workshops in Yiddish song, creative writing, language, and literature. General registration for the conference is \$15.00 for students and a kosher lunch will be served. For more information or an application contact Linda in 14E.

Thursday evening, March 12, at 8:00 p.m. the Emanuel-EI Midtown YM/YWHA 344 E. 14th Street will present five poets reading from their Jewish theme work, featuring a reading by Isaac Mozeson of his newly published book of poetry, *The Watcher*. *The Watcher* is an epic journal poem of American Jewish Life and Death, based on the author's experience as a ritual watcher of the dead. Refreshments will be served at the reading, and a \$2.00 contribution is suggested. For more information call (212) 260-4314.

February 19—May 17 at the Jewish Museum is a major exhibition of 20th-century Israeli art entitled "Artists of Israel: 1920-1980." The exhibition includes 124 paintings, drawings and sculptures by 36 outstanding Israeli artists and will be open to the public Mondays thru Thursdays from 12:00 P.M.—5:00 p.m., and on Sundays from 11:00 a.m.—6:00 p.m. The museum is located at Fifth Avenue and 92nd Street. Student admission is \$1.00 with I.D. card.

The Manhattan Art & Antiques Center, located on 1050 Second Avenue at 56th Street houses 85 unusual shops and galleries with the most impressive selections of rare and beautiful collectibles and works of art. It is a year-round art and antiques show where you are free to browse and buy.

To see Broadway shows for half the price get "2fers" from Mrs. Winter in the Registrar's office. The following shows are currently available: *To Grandmother's House We Go*, *Scrambled Feet*, *The Elephant Man*, *A Lesson From Atoes*, *Really Rosie*, *An evening with Joan Crawford*, *Trixie True*, *Ain't Misbehavin'*, *Gemini*, and *They're Playing our Song*. Student discount tickets to Madison Square Garden are also available.

Speak Your Mind

The release of the 52 American hostages from Iran has stirred up a tremendous amount of public ceremony, more than the country has seen in many years. What do you think of all the fanfare being made over the hostages? We ask you to **SPEAK YOUR MIND!**

RHONDA REININGER, soph.—Certainly a warm welcome for the hostages was in order. However, I feel that the celebration over the 52 (53) Americans became too commercialized. It seems to me that all of the glorious fanfare over the heroes was so overdone that as a result much of the welcoming lacked true sincerity.



GAYLE PLISKIN, jr.—In a way I think it's good that America has made a big deal over them because it helps them get over their guilt, and makes them feel like national heroes. On the other hand, for some it may actually increase their feeling of helplessness. Also, why are they making such a big deal over this and why didn't they make a big deal over the Vietnam veterans—that was a much bigger event and which lasted much longer. Additionally, I think that they should have just had the immediate family and friends meet them.

NATALIE JACOBS, soph.—It's exactly what each and every hostage is in need of right now. They will find comfort in their hearts knowing that during the year of isolation, they were never forgotten by the American public.



SANDY ERANKOVITZ, jr.—It's nice to honor the hostages, but I think that the celebrations should be put in perspective to service to the country. There are veterans from Vietnam and Korea who sacrificed much more than 444 days of their lives as prisoners of war—they lost limbs, they were tortured, they went through the trauma of watching their friends die. What did the vets receive when they came home? Nothing as far as celebration is concerned. They were expected to return to the lives that they had before going to war, but that wasn't easy. For those who were crippled, there were no jobs. The story of the hostages can't even be compared to that of the POW's, yet the hostages were the ones receiving all the fanfare. I understand that the American people were happy to see them freed, but a simple "Welcome Home" would have been enough.

NANCY ISREAL, soph.—The hostages definitely deserve most of the attention and festivities being given to them. The ticker tape parade was a fantastic idea. However, don't you think it was a bit much in proportion to what we do for our POW's and those disabled in war?

and Prof. Peninnah Schram were featured on The Ruth Jacobs "Jewish Home Show" heard daily on WEVD AM and FM radio.

They were interviewed by Mrs. Jacobs who asked about the reasons for organizing the program. The show was aired Wednesday, February 11, 1981 from 1:00-1:15 p.m.

At the conclusion of the festival, the Stern College cafeteria will be open for dinner. Admission to the festival is free for all college students and one dollar for the general public. For more information, see Phyllis in Room 10B

Bulletin Board

Yeshiva University annually makes two awards for the best essays submitted by undergraduates in two fields of Jewish Studies:

The Murray Baumel Award in the amount of \$300 will be given for the best essay submitted by a student at any of Yeshiva University's undergraduate schools on some aspect of Jewish Ethics.

The Edward A. Rothman Memorial Award in the amount of \$100 will be given for the best essay submitted by any undergraduate on the topic "Application of Orthodox Judaism to Modern Times."

Procedure: Essays should be written (preferably typed) in English and should be between 2000 and 3000 words in length, and must be submitted to Dean Rosenfeld's office at the Main Center or Dean Bacon's office at the Midtown Center no later than April 17, 1981.

To insure complete objectivity, please follow these instructions: The title page should list a pseudonym. Attached should be a sealed envelope carrying the same pseudonym as the title page and containing the author's true name, school, and class.

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exciting Summer Job, the 1981 Summer Employment Directory of the United States has a listing of 50,000 jobs with descriptions and "fringe benefits" information. The book is published by Writers Digest Boks and is available in paperback (\$6.95) and cloth (\$10.95) at almost any bookstore. A similar book also published by Writers Digest is *1981 Internships* which lists over 15,000 short-term job opportunities in almost every career field. This book is also available in paper (\$7.95) or cloth (\$11.95).

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Letters Union Buster?

cont. from p. 2, col. 4

role of a student newspaper to gather all the facts from all available sources. Crucial to the entire issue is Yeshiva's financial position and its version of what was offered when. The university's student newspapers can make an important contribution to the university and to the Jewish community by determining these facts for themselves.

Cordially,
Rabbi Louis Bernstein

Responsibility

Friday, Feb. 13, 1981:

Soviet Jewish prisoner Iosef Mendelevich is reported missing.

Sunday, Feb. 15, 1981:

Israeli Knesset meets concerning Mendelevich and demands world support on his behalf.

Tuesday, Feb. 17, 1981:

Jews protest, at Soviet Embassies worldwide, Mendelevich's situation. One hundred twenty-five demonstrators rallied at the Soviet Mission in Manhattan. Of them, 20 were Stern College students.

Sunday, Feb. 22, 1981:

Much publicized event: rally at the Soviet Mission on behalf of remaining Soviet Jews and Soviet emigration policies. Here, seven Stern students attended.

We are shocked at the gross apathy displayed by the majority of the Stern student body. Stern College is recognized as a Torah institution exemplifying Torah ideals. We learn that every Jew is responsible for the life of another Jew and that "Pikuach Nefesh Docheh Hakol"—that a life in danger takes priority over everything. In this kind of urgent situation every student should have felt an instinctive responsibility to act on Mendelevich's behalf.

Ironically, there is much time spent on self-centered needs. How much time do most Stern students waste watching television or chatting on the phone?

This Wednesday there was a nation-wide student lobby for Soviet Jewry in Washington. Once more, Yeshiva University was embarrassingly underrepresented. The time has come when people should direct their energies to values that are inherently Jewish, not the accepted values of today such as obsessive sales-searching at Saks or the melodramatic problems of Rick and Monica. More than once history has taught us that complacency in times of crisis leads to disastrous results.

Just remember that it is easier to help a Soviet Jew (or any Jew in trouble) than to be one!

Sincerely,
Dena Bilus
Yael Schachter

Job Action: What Comes Next

cont. from p. 1, col. 3

with the faculty to reach an equitable agreement.

A forum was held at YC at the beginning of this semester, in which administrators justified their position on the issue. Dr. Miller said he would be happy to hold a similar forum at SCW if he would receive student requests, as he did uptown.

Dr. Edward Levy, Music Department chairman and head of the FWC, said that the faculty has offered a "legitimate compromise proposal," which comes to terms with the Administrative stand that the university has no additional funds at this time, but will have in the future. YU's budget is projected to be balanced within the next two years, in order to settle a \$65 million debt with the Bowery Bank. The accounting firm of Peat, Marwick, and Mitchell have worked out a plan to achieve this by 1983. Until then, the Administration contends that anything over a 7% salary increase is unfeasible, but President Lamm has assured that when the budget is balanced, there will be a quantum leap in faculty salaries.

With the FWC's new proposal, faculty will not be receiving any increase for this year, but will receive more substantial increases in the future. According to the FWC, this proposal fits in to the university's budgeting plans and deals with the Administration on its own ground.

Addict's Diary

cont. from p. 3, col. 2

tracks on my brain, and was increasingly running the risk of developing the "dry eye syndrome", which is a result of keeping one's eyes open for too long a period of time without blinking. When the fire broke out at Stern and I refused to leave until the station break, I vaguely suspected that I'd carried this thing too far. But on the day that I finally came to Economics [that was when the hostages came back—General Hospital was cancelled] and my instructor, explaining that it was too late to enter classes, refused to let me in, I realized that I had to do something about my situation.

It's been three months now, and I'm happy to say that I've been going to all of my classes and haven't even touched a television set during the day, let alone watch it. You see, I bought a video-tape machine. So, while I'm in classes, it tapes all of my favorite shows. Then, at one o'clock in the morning, when everyone else is asleep, I sit in my closet with my video-tape machine and watch all of my soaps. It's wonderful. I have no interruptions, no guilty conscience about skipping classes, and now, all of my teachers know me. I'm the one who sleeps during Economics, French and English.

The new proposal was submitted to the Administration January 19, but no decision has yet been reached. Tuesday of this week, faculty members met with administrators in what was hoped to be some sort of decision on the proposal, but what turned out to be just a status report, based on computer projections, as to the financial feasibility of the proposal over the next few years. Administration negotiations on the proposal have taken over a month so far. Dr. Miller claims this is due to the complexity of the issue, although there is speculation that no decision will be made until Dr. Egon Brenner, replacing Dr. Blanche Blank as Vice President of Academic Affairs, takes his post this week.

According to Dr. Miller, the essential snag delaying the decision is that, because the proposal calls for a graduated annual percentage increase, the demanded increase for the second year is out of bounds of

what the Peat, Marwick, and Mitchell plan can afford. However, the demand for the first year is affordable under this plan. For the first year at least, the new proposal will not cost the university any more than the Administration's previous offer.

The crux of the issue is a tremendous imbalance of faculty salaries. There is full-time faculty making as little as \$11,000-\$15,000 per year, but there are some tenured full professors who are making above \$30,000.

According to Dr. Miller, the Administration had initially offered to give sizeable increases to faculty with sub-standard salaries to bring their salaries up to par, but in negotiations over the past year, faculty voted down such a policy and supported only across-the-board increases. The Administration contends that across-the-board increase are not within the scope of affordability at this time, and here is where the controversy begins.

A Forgotten Era

cont. from p. 6 col. 2

for others, and started looking out for themselves.

Before you categorize this statement as being too harsh consider the facts for a moment. How many times have we looked at our own problems, and felt that no one was worse off than ourselves? How many times have we disregarded misfortunes of others, and concerned ourselves with our own needs? When are we going to realize

the importance of our surroundings and the control we have over it? When are we going to speak up and do something? Why aren't we shaking up the establishment?

I know that we as Stern College students are not meek and quiet girls when we are exasperated. I know we have more to us than sugar and spice. I know we have it in us to improve and help this university. Where did the conscientiousness of the students go?

Blank Resigns

cont. from p. 1, col. 2

YU, commented that although Dr. Blank came at a very difficult period, she handled herself very well. "She engendered a feeling of co-operation. . . . People related to her in a positive way. She was a source of warmth and ability." Dr. Miller's impression was that the faculty liked her.

Dr. Blank reiterated that "working as vice president was a very rewarding experience," but "teaching is more gratifying." She plans to participate in a teaching program at Yeshiva College and Stern, following her resignation.

Her successor, Egon Brenner, will function as executive vice president, and will therefore assume a more diversified role with additional duties. He is presently the deputy chancellor of City University, and previously served as provost, vice president of academic affairs, and dean of the engineering school at C.U.N.Y.

Dr. Brenner will be working closely with Dr. Blank from the end of February until he assumes his responsibilities in June.

FYI

As has been previously explained to students on the core program of Jewish studies, the individual courses taken on the program, and their grades, are recorded on a separate permanent record. On the Stern College record, the core program is listed as a composite grade for the number of credits the student has chosen to transfer, under the heading of Hebrew Language and Literature.

When a student requests that a transcript of her record at Stern College be sent to another institution, she must specify whether or not she wants a copy of the core program record sent also. While there is no extra charge for a core transcript, it will *not* be sent unless the student specifically requests it. The student should carefully consider whether it is in her best interests to send such a transcript. Students may discuss the matter with Mrs. Reich or Mrs. Orlian. Generally speaking, it will be to the student's advantage to send such a transcript to another undergraduate school;

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Purim 5741

Page A

A Blank To Fill

By Leah Sanders

Dr. Blankety-Blank, Vice President for Buying and Merchandising at Yeshiva University, has resigned as of June 30, 1981. Her primary reason for leaving is, "There's a time to come and a time to go." Unfortunately, since Dr. Blankety-Blank chose to come to work everyday wearing a different designer outfit, complete with matching shoes and contrasting silk scarf,



her salary could not accommodate her fashionable tastes. Therefore, Dr. Blankety-Blank, who has a degree in American Women's Wear, decided that it was, indeed, time for her to go.

Fashion Flair Hits Uptown Campus

By Leah Sanders

Last Monday evening, at the Uptown Campus, the Yeshiva College Student Council announced that they were appalled at the lack of attention given by the administration in reference to the present Yeshiva College attire worn by students to their classes. Snobbert Miles Funkfried, president of YCSC, announced his outrage concerning the absence of a proper dress code applying to men uptown. Mr. Funkfried acknowledged that the Jewish Community has been swinging "towards

the right," and thus it is Yeshiva University's moral imperative to make the necessary adjustments regarding a proper Yeshiva standard of dress. He added that in order to maintain equilibrium within Yeshiva College and Stern College there was a definite need to institute a dress code uptown as well.

Pishy Sweatshirts, Sec./Treas. of YCSC found Snobbert's suggestion favorable, and suggested that in keeping with the dress code the obvious role models epitomizing

Torah Tots Crawl Into Stern

In a revolutionary experiment in higher juvenile education, Academic Vice President Blankety Blank has announced the "Torah Tots" program to be initiated at Stern College next fall.

According to Dr. Blank, the program is a logical extension of the popular Coop, REAP, LEAP, and CREAP setups whereby high school students are given the opportunity to get a head start in college. "We already have the perfect immature environment at Stern," explained Dr.

Blank, "so the administration felt that a program for three and four-year-olds would be fitting." Dr. Blank, who will be leaving Y.U. in June, was late for her interview with the Absurder due to some confusion as to where Stern was located.

Dean Karen Half-Baked is enthusiastic about the concept. "We will accommodate approximately 15 preschoolers," she told the Absurder. "They will attend a core of classes including Jewish History, Taharat Hamishpacha and two Revel courses. In

the afternoon, the students will have open play in the gym, for which they will receive three credits."

The prospect of attending class with youngsters leaves many Stern students skeptical, however. Sophomore Tzippy Weinglass, 13, feels that adherence to the dress code will undoubtedly suffer. "Everyone knows that little girls wear very short dresses, and many wear overalls," she said. "How can Rabbi Sermon let them come here?"

When questioned, Rabbi Saul Sermon merely sighed. "The decision was out of my hands," he said. "Had I known about it in advance, I would certainly have called a student meeting to discuss the proposal for a full five minutes before giving it my stamp of approval."

The Absurder attempted to question a group of Coop students about the new program, but they were unable to stop giggling long enough to respond.

More Crime at YU

by Frank Shoebart

Feb. 29, 1981—(YME)—It was reported earlier today that the Belfer Science Building was stolen despite the heavy guard placed on YU buildings. When asked about the theft, Col. Robot Mummystein said, "The reason for the security is to guard the students, not the buildings. If the buildings are attacked, they are expected to fend for themselves." The guards on duty had seen the thieves, but had chosen not to stop them. "Yes, we realize we made a mistake, but we were only following our orders."

Col. Mummystein remarked, "What I would like to know is where the thieves are hiding the building."

The administration of the university has not made any plans as to how to fill the space left by the missing building, but it has been rumored that a new student union building will be built while the present student union building will be used to study the phenomenon of rain falling in a closed building.



the proper manner of attire are the men attending the RIETS program. He drew up the new proposal as follows:

- 1) Students involved in all three schools of Yeshiva College must, as of April 1, 1981, wear only light blue polyester leisure suits with contrasting white stitching, and center seam. The suit must have cuffed sleeves and wide lapels.
- 2) Pants must be worn at a length midway between the knee and ankle.
- 3) White crew socks are a definite must along with black polyurethane tie up shoes.
- 4) A short sleeved white quiana shirt and wide tie must be worn at all times.
- 5) For Physical Education matching blue polyester bermuda shorts may be worn along with the aforementioned tie, shirt, and jacket.

Showem Ham violently protested Pishy's proposal stating that the Y.P. (Yeshiva Prep) students planned their monthly pilgrimage to Brooks Brothers for April 29, 1981, and that there would be no way to acquire the sky blue suits in any material by April 1st. When Pishy then re-iterated that polyester would be the only accepted material, Showem replied, "How Gouche!"

Representatives from JSS (Jeans and Silk Shirts) were appalled at the proposal. Defending the dress code were many REITS (Rabbis In Elevator Tie-Up Shoes.) students who were very excited about the suggested policy. A vote was then taken, and the Yeshiva College dress code was passed \$5,000.00 for, and 1,200 students against.

Native NY'er to Fill Editor Post

Jello Slammer announced at a recent Absurder board meeting that she has filled the position of Editor-in-Chief for the Absurder's 1981-82 school year. The candidate is Antonia Marzetti. Ms. Marzetti is well informed about the University," stated Ms. Slammer. "She grew up in the same neighborhood as Yeshiva College, and maintains close relations with many of its students."

Ms. Marzetti's talents were discovered as she wrote away diligently on the walls of the 181st Street stop. Ms. Slammer is especially pleased with the fact that Antonia is creative, bilingual, and liberal. All other positions remain unfilled at present for the 1981-82 Absurder Board. Anyone who is interested in working for the paper is asked to see Jello in the Cafeteria.

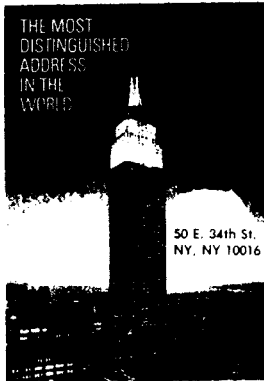


New Executive V.P. Egon Brenner meets with Fidel Castro to pick up pointers on how to keep faculty members under control.

THE ABSURDER

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Dorm Counselors Don't Take Crap!

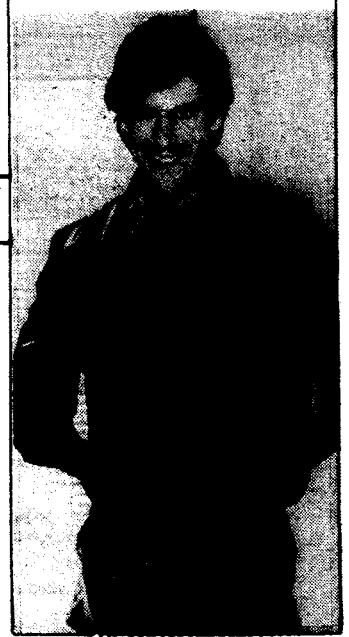
After years of debate and deliberation, Yeshiva University has decided to yield to the dorm counselors of SCW, who have been requesting a pay hike. The lobbyists fought hard and we would like to commend them for their perseverance. Rabbi Miller who had addressed the distraught dorm counselors three years ago had claimed that it was not that the University does not have the funds. He said that if the dorm counselors come up with an idea concerning where the money could come from, he would be glad to explore it. At that time it was suggested that YU stop supplying the women's dorm with toilet tissue. This would save thousands of dollars a year, which could be divided among the dorm counselors. He said he would look into it. After three years of waiting, action was finally taken by the counselors. A strike was threatened and in order to avert bedlam in the dorm, YU agreed to raise the salaries of the dorm counselors. The dorm counselors will now receive two rolls of toilet tissue per week instead of one.

Ticking with TACS

TACS—Truly Active Committee for Shidduchim—announces the arrival of a new publication called *Praygirl*, a magazine to give readers tips on how to find the man of their choice.

The centerfold of the first issue shows the immensely desirable *Hesder* guy standing next to his tank with a *Gemara* in one hand and an *Uzzi* in the other. Other articles include: "A Brisk Look at Black Yeshivot;" and "Your Bashert's Mirror Image." Next month look for: "I Spent a Month in Ponovich as an Undercover Agent," by the author of "Black Like Me;" and "The ABC's of Yeshivot from BMT to KBY."

PRAY GIRL



Letters to the Editor

Integration of Stern

To the Editor:

While reviewing the many applications for the various colleges in the metropolitan area I noticed a name that caught my eye. There, lying demurely under my scholarship forms from Harvard and Yale, was an application from Stern College. Apparently there had been an error in the admissions office and I had been placed on the application list. I laughed as I considered the prospect of attending this famous all girls school. Soon after, I forgot the whole incident. However, as the time for choosing the college I planned to attend neared, thoughts of Stern College crept back into my mind. Before long I had myself convinced that Stern was the one for me. This could be great fun, I thought to myself, as I filled out my application. I made sure that it would be in the next day's mail.

Three weeks later I received a letter from Stern notifying me of my acceptance. Apparently my application had been processed by computer. It was at that point that I realized that I, Gary Stadtmuer, would be the first male ever to attend Stern College. I appeared on the prescribed date for my interview and counseling session to aid me in the selection of my courses. (I had considered dressing up as a girl to get in (Deja Vu) but thoughts of my last encounter with feigned femininity discouraged me. Besides, I decided that if I am to get into Stern, then I would do it justly—on my own merits and appearance!)

I entered the interview room feeling tense and excited. I received the strangest looks from the other interviewees. As my turn approached, I felt the tension build. Time flew and before I knew what was happening, I was being yelled at by the ad-

ministrators of the college accusing me of chicanery in the worst form. I calmly showed them my application and letter of acceptance. They grabbed it and tore it into shreds. I reacted with utter grace and told them that it was OK since I had made copies of the papers. The furious administrators gritted their teeth and said that I would never be allowed entrance into Stern. Once again, I calmly replied that I would see them in court.

The day approached quickly and before I knew it, I was on the stand in court reciting the traditional "swear to tell the truth . . ." Stern presented its case but the testimony was weak and after three hours of deliberation, the college was found guilty of sex discrimination.

My next move was to take up residence in the Stern dorm—my next domain to conquer. As I attempted to enter the elevator, a six foot five inch, three hundred pound bouncer picked me up and threw me out of the building. I thought to myself, "I've gone too far to give up now." So once again I filed suit in court on the grounds of "assault and battery" and sex discrimination. Once again the ruling was in my favor.

These landmark decisions opened the door for other males as well and soon Stern was 50% male.

The next year Leroy Willie Mays and Jose Figueroa, both good friends of mine, enrolled in Stern and were accepted. However, once the interviewers saw the applicants, they refused to interview them. Upon my advice they sued for admission on the grounds of discrimination and won the case. Furthermore, the judge decreed that Stern must accept all applicants regardless of race, creed, sex, age or color. It was also declared that Stern must have at least a 30% minority enrollment. Within a year, 70% of Stern was male, 42% of which consisted of minorities, 17% Jewish, and all in all 6% of the Stern college enrollment was religious, Jewish girls, most of whom lived in the co-ed dorms.

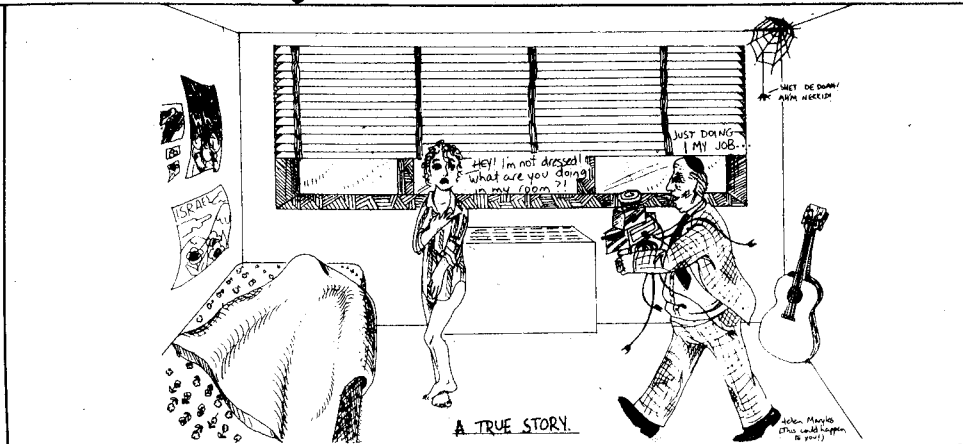
After all these court cases, it appeared that everyone was included in these anti-discrimination acts. However, one minority was left out of these rulings and the "Shopping Bag Ladies Union" filed suit for discrimination on the grounds that since they were foul smelling derelicts they had been refused admission because of their scent and appearance. The judge agreed and hurriedly handed down a guilty verdict against Stern (mainly so that the malodorous denizens of the street would leave his courtroom).

Anyway, after this decision by the courts, around 200 aspiring shopping bag ladies enrolled in Stern. At this point the college was truly integrated, and I, Gary Stadtmuer, was hailed as the greatest civil rights leader since Martin Luther King!!!!

Gary Stadtmuer

SKIN-FOR-PROBLEMS
featuring
31
additional language requirements
Lexington Avenue
Between 34th & 35th Streets
WITH THIS COUPON -
1 FREE SEMESTER OF OER (PROGRAM)

The Trinity Invades Stern Dorm



Ex-Stern woman Melen Hairyless-Jones attests to receiving three visitations from three different spirits last semester in her room at Brookdale Residence Hall.

"It was turrrible!" The newlywed asserted. "The first guy was fat, and he was wearing Bermuda shorts and cleaning his ears out with his pinky. I was just getting up at the crack of noon and I see this hefty fella going through my underwear drawer! So I says to him, I says, 'What are you doing here?' And he says menacingly, 'I'm checking to see that you fold your underwear correctly.' So I says, 'What! I'm twenty years old and you're keeping tabs on my Maidenforms?' Then the fat guy, he sez, 'when you decided to dorm here you signed an agreement that allows us to enter at anytime to check if your undergarments have a good crease in them. If they aren't better next time, I'll have to confiscate your underwear.' Then he disappeared!"

This reporter asked Ms. Hairyless-Jones how she reacted to this invasion.

"I just slapped on my jeanskirt and went to class. But the next morning at my regular wake-up time (the crack of noon) I got another visitation. This time it was a wizened little old lady. She made a real

racket coming in and headed straight for the bathroom. I was quaking in my sheets. 'Why are you haunting me?' I yell. She comes drifting over to my bed and cackles, 'I'm checking to see if you squeeze your toothpaste tube from the bottom!' Then she points this shaky, gnarled finger at me and warns, 'This building is not insured for toothpaste that's not been squeezed from the bottom. I'm going to have to confiscate this. You can get it back at the end of the year.' Then she clattered out, waving toilet paper behind her."

Ms. Hairyless Jones was asked if she at any time tried to change rooms. She replied that she asked the dorm mother for a switch, but was told that there were no immediate openings except for 8A.

"The clincher came at 3:00 a.m. that morning. At 3:00 I hear a crash, so I jump ten feet in the air and give a holler. There's Spirit No. 3 standing guiltily over one of my drawers lying on the floor. He's tall, big-boned and ponderous. 'Three in the morning!' I yell. 'Isn't this a little ridiculous?"

"'Look,' says Spirit No. 3. 'When you moved in here you signed an agreement stating that we could come in here anytime we found it necessary.' 'Gimme a break!"

I groan and slaps my forehead. 'I can't get a decent night's sleep in this place! What are you here for?"

"I'm here to attach tiny magnetic beeper devices to all your jeans as a way of maintaining the dress code. If you walk into the school wearing jeans, it will set off one of our sensitive Frumamatic Detecting Things placed strategically around the building. Also, if you try to remove one of these beepers it will set off an alarm in the Registrar's Office, Rabbi Berman's office and 770 Eastern Parkway as well as Gracie Mansion."

"'Look,' I says, 'are you doing this to all the girls or is it just me?' I'm pretty P.O.'d by now, you know. So Spirit No. 3 leans over and confides in me.

"'Well,' he says conspiratorially, 'we're testing it out on a select flagrant few, but if it works well, we'll broaden our scope to encompass the entirety of Stern College for Women. Then we'll start working on the boys at Y.C.' I watch the spirit's eyes glow red in the dark, and I see his white, sausage-like fingers clutch and unclutch. 'Today, Yeshiva University. Tomorrow ...'"

Melen Hairyless-Jones subsequently moved back to Omaha and married a farmer.

Bulletin Bored

•The World Jewrly Club will meet on the main floor of B. Altman's at 4:00 Monday afternoon. The presentation will feature a collection of valuable JAPANESE pieces.

•The Speech Arts Boredom will present a symposium entitled "Women in Fairy Tales" on Wednesday, March 25. Featured speakers will be Cinderella, Thumbelina and Sleeping Beauty. Poison apples will be served immediately following the program.

•This week's TACKY lecture will focus on "The Disappearance of Kosher World." The audience will be treated to pizza from the new Italian restaurant now occupying the premises.

ACTUNG

Alles studenten und udders. Vee can help mit de reekviorment in de langvedge. Vee are experen und vee can maket you experen tu.

If you can read that you are on your way to passing the new F.A.L.S.E. exams (Faking Advanced Language Study Easily). Stop worrying that you'll get trapped into a 2 year language requirement. FALSE preparation can be done during your free time, in the comfort of your dorm room, and for a nominal fee, we'll fly in a cute native to answer your questions. Come in, see us, and lift a 12 credit load off your shoulders.



But Rabbi Sernon—Knickers are in style!

VERITALL

Hi. I'm Mordechai Reich, and this is my lovely wife Sema. Sema's a good ol' girl. She's always on the go, or busy maintaining the dormitory, yet Sema still finds time to take care of our precocious child Betzalel. With another one on the way, why she's always on the go. In fact, we all are. That's why we all get plenty of rest, eat well-balanced meals, and take VERITALL once a day. For big, strong, healthy bodies, and breeding oversized children, take VERITALL once a day. You'll be glad you did.



Attention Stern Students: Puppetteers with expressive voice needed to play the lead

in YCDS's Spring production of *Romeo and Juliet*.

You heard of Yad Belkin and Leg of Lamm? Now Stern College announces the construction of its own 1 million dollar memorial: **SIDE OF BACON.**

Is today's society too permissive? come and find out at

THE BLAME

Tuesday, April 23rd, 8 p.m. Room 2F

Free Spiritual Refreshments

Students are taken for a ride

by Everest Regel

In an effort to help alleviate YU's financial crisis, students have elected to wear long white robes, black army boots and white turbans and ride the MTA subway system asking fellow passengers for donations. I. Emma Schnorer, organizer of the student movement, commented that "since the robe and turban getup worked for the Black Muslims frequently seen on the subways, it could very well work for YU." The students have run into some problems, though. One YU student, Frank Lee Broke, when asking an elderly lady to donate to this worthy cause, was asked to stop by a Guardian Angel. Broke reached for his YU identification. The Angel, thinking that the student was reaching for a concealed weapon, proceeded to beat him up. Upon realizing

that Broke did not have a weapon, the Angel apologized and donated \$5.00 to YU.

As of March 19, 1981, the total amount collected by the turbaned YU subway riders was \$5.00, which went toward Broke's hospital expenses.



Help rebuild Jewish Hebron
Send a brick to Israel

To the Tune of Billy Joel's "Only the Good Die Young"

Slow down, Devorah, why don't we wait
You want to get married but I just want to date
It's not that I don't love you—I think that you're great
And one day I will be the one
But only the frum wed young!

Slow down, Devorah, where did you read
At 18 you have to multiply your seed?
At this rate you're gonna have 10 mouths to feed
Before you turn twenty-one
But only the frum wed young!

You want a white dress and to send out invitations
Oh, you want a diamond ring
But right now I can't afford a thing
Oh, oh, oh, oh

We went out once and then again
And pretty soon you were asking when
But I've got four more years of college, and after then
Rabbi Yitzchak Elchanon
'Cause only the frum wed young!



- Afraid of getting that plastic look from your sheitl?
- Worried that you'll no longer be attractive to your local diamond dealer?
- Try our new, naturally-permed frizzed and braided afro-styled sheitls.

Once again you can go to your favorite Boro Park disco and hold your head up high.

FREDERICK'S OF HOLLYWOOD SHEITLS
"The best in artificial tsniut."

To the Beach Boys' "Wish They All Could Be California Girls"

Well, the Touro girls are frum I really love to watch them pray
And the Barnard girls are smart but they always study night and day
Stern girls are the perfect blend they'll talk to you all night
And when you take them out to David's Harp
Well, they'll make you feel all right
I wish they all could be Stern College girls—

Mingles

center for
advances made while haircutting

1 1/2 hour haircut done
by an unexperienced but
well bred englishman with
one earring

ONLY \$5.00

to cover cost of alcoholic
beverages supplied to haircutters
while on the job

IN THE NEXT ISSUE

WATER SHORTAGE:

Students would be up in arms but are afraid to lift them.