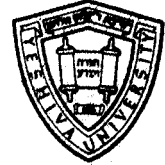


THE OBSERVER

The Official Newspaper of Stern College for Women • Yeshiva University



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Hain Announces Decision to Leave

By Diane Feldman

With somewhat mixed emotions, Rabbi Kenneth Hain has announced his decision to leave his teaching position at Stern College, following five years as a Judaic Studies faculty member. Rabbi Hain will assume the duties of Director of Synagogue Services for YU as of Fall 1983.

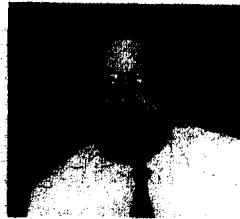
The Department of Synagogue Services helps communities establish new Orthodox synagogues by providing them with *Sifrei Torah*, *Smicha* students as temporary rabbis, programming ideas, and general guidance. Synagogue Services also develops programs for *smicha* and *pre-smicha* students who are interested in learning more about the field.

Rabbi Hain explains, "I feel a special commitment in bringing the message of contemporary Torah Judaism to greater numbers of people." He is presently a pulpit rabbi at Orsch Chaim Synagogue on 94th Street and Lexington Ave, and has previously served as a Rabbi in Houston. "I

was doing this type of thing on the lower levels at Stern... developing a special rapport with students, helping them grow religiously and in their knowledge of Torah," Rabbi Hain says. "I'm not turning away from this commitment, but rather, channeling it in a different direction."

He expressed the hope that Stern remains committed to serving the educational and overall religious needs of students who come from non-observant backgrounds. Rabbi Hain suggests that there be a specific advisor at Stern for students who feel lost coming to a new environment - a person to serve as a role model.

"Students have a lot of questions, but little opportunity to get answers and discuss them with faculty," he says. "It is important for rabbis to be human as well as accessible." He would like to see the development of more of a student-rabbi relationship. "Students can learn more from a rabbi than his academic knowledge. Only in rare situations can they explore



Rabbi Kenneth Hain

the human side of a rabbi." In fact, there is little opportunity for student-faculty interaction other than in the cafeteria. Rabbi Hain suggests informal student-faculty meetings for such interactions.

Rabbi Hain noticed a more serious attitude towards learning on the part of students over the years, and a definite increase in observance. He feels a certain ambivalence about leaving because he has learned as much from students as they have learned from him.

Dr. Raffel, a colleague of Rabbi Hain, sums up his feelings: "We are going to miss this man. We won't be the same."

Council Elections

by Beverly Barr

After an exciting campaign, Stern College Students elected Brenda Time as President of the Student Council for the 1983-84 year.

Brenda, who was Vice-President of the Junior class this past year, has always led an active life in the various schools which she has attended.

Born and raised in Dallas, Texas, she was Student Council President of her dayschool before moving on to spend two years at the Bais Yaakov of Denver. She graduated from high school in Dallas and then went on to spend a year in Israel at Sharfman's.

As Vice-President of the Junior class she helped organize and make possible exciting events such as Chicago City Limits, the ski trip and the highly successful

M*A*S*H Bash which received media coverage.

Brenda is very excited about next year and hopes "to introduce new and exciting committees and activities." She feels she can work well with Jeff Katz, the newly elected Y.C. President, and hopes that this will lead to a very good and innovative year for both schools. She is also impressed with her fellow board members and feels they will all be great assets to the school.

When asked about her plans for the coming year Brenda did not wish to comment. She explained that when she became vice-president "all the other classes announced great plans, but Rosalie (president) and I were quiet. In the end, the Junior class was obviously a success and we proved to ourselves that it's better not to make promises and deliver a lot, then to make a bunch of empty promises."

Active Student Body Member Elected Vaedictorian by Class

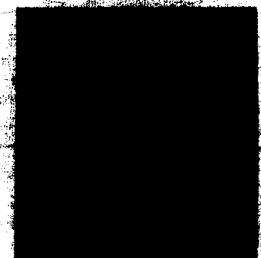
by Beverly Barr

Michale Liberman, an active member of the student body, has been elected Vaedictorian of this year's graduating class.

During her three years at Stern, Michale has led an active life as a member of the Israel Affairs Committee, TAC, and the

Speech Arts Forum. She spent this year as OP-ED Editor of *The Observer* and has in the past contributed to the *Hamashkif*, *The Observer*, *The Absurder* and *Sounding Board*.

Michale is a history major and plans to attend Columbia's Graduate School of Arts and Sciences' Department of History.



Valedictorian Michale Liberman

As a history major, she has had contact with the humanities at Stern and feels that "teachers in the department are few but excellent", however, "there is a lack of interest in the humanities on the part of many students."

She has tried to improve this interest, herself, by serving as President of the History Club 1982-83, and Secretary of the newly formed English Society and by organizing two speech contests.

Michale has also represented Stern College in public forums, such as the Harvard Model U.N. and Israel Programs Night.

Outside of school, she has been active in Bnei Akiva for many years, including two years spent on Hachshara in Israel at Kibbutz Yavneh. During her years in Israel she became a member of Garin Golan-Rayot-Garin to the Kibbutz.

Raffel Receives First Erna Michael Chair



Dr. Charles Raffel

By Miriam Sobolofsky

Dr. Charles Raffel has recently been named as the first recipient of the Erna Sondheimer Michael Chair. This chair was established by the Michael family for the purpose of recognizing and encouraging "a promising young scholar in Judaica." It is in memory of their mother, Erna Sondheimer Michael, a noted philanthropist and co-founder of Albert Einstein College of Medicine and Hebrew University.

Dr. Raffel has been teaching Jewish Philosophy at Stern College since 1980. He previously taught at the Hillel Lehrhaus of Brandeis University, at Boston

University, at Machske Torah Institute of Boston, and at the New England Hebrew Academy. His major field of interest is Medieval Jewish Philosophy, in which he is recognized as an expert.

Dr. Raffel received his B.A. from Wesleyan in 1972 and his M.A. and PhD from Brandeis University. In addition to his recent honor, Dr. Raffel has received numerous awards and fellowships from such organizations as the National Foundation for Jewish Culture at Brandeis University and the religious department of Wesleyan University. He received an official letter from Dr. Lamm announcing his newest recognition.

Dr. Raffel is presently an active member of both the Stern College Faculty Senate and of the Student Life Committee. He is also executive secretary of the Yeshiva University Mellon fund committee. This committee awards grants to faculty members each semester to sponsor undergraduate curriculum revisions.

Editor Appointed



Editor Deena Epstein

by Esther Stiefel

Deena Epstein, a Stern College senior has been appointed Editor-in-Chief of *The Observer* for the 1983-84 school year. Ms. Epstein is an education major with a minor in psychology.

In addition to her work as News Editor and staff writer for *The Observer*, Ms. Epstein also served as Junior Class Senator and Chairman of the Torah

Activities Committee's *Tzedakah* campaign. She has also been named to the Dean's List for all six semesters of her attendance at Stern.

Deena looks forward to a productive year as Editor-in-Chief. She says, "I would like to see *The Observer* be recognized as a legitimate public forum where students can express ideas and have them taken seriously by their peers, the faculty and the administration." Deena's goal for the year is, "to continue the process of upgrading the quality of *The Observer*."

Ms. Epstein is from New Milford, New Jersey and attended the Frisch Yeshiva High School of Northern New Jersey. She is considering attending law school after completing her year as Editor.

THE OBSERVER

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**Mazel Tov to Dr. Aaron Levine,
Professor of Economics,
on becoming a Full Professor.**

The Observer is proud to congratulate its staff members: Michale Liberman, Valedictorian; Simone Rudolor, Remez Award Recipient; Renee Strauss, Lisa Wachtenheim Award.

Excellence At Stern

by Deena Epstein

This past week the National Commission on Excellence in Education came out with a rather bleak report on the nation's educational policies and institutions. *The New York Times* dedicated a series of articles to the commission's report and *Newsweek* magazine's cover story dealt with the issue of "Can the Schools be Saved?" Both discussed the impact of the Commission's report on our educational system and what changes must be instituted to overcome what the commission has called "the tide of mediocrity" in education.

While much of the Commission's findings deal with elementary and secondary school education, there are some major points which affect us as college students and Yeshiva University as a whole.

The Commission reports that Universities are becoming less selective that they have been in the past, and that "maintaining enrollments is of greater day-to-day concern than maintaining rigorous academic standards." Being a private institution, Yeshiva University's financial problems are difficult as rising tuition costs can attest to. An increase in student enrollment is of course necessary to overcome these financial difficulties but that does not mean that the University should allow high academic standards to fall by the way side. Students who are admitted should be required to meet tough academic standards. The Stern Scholars program is proof that the University does indeed seek excellence and is making a valient effort to recruit bright

individuals to enhance the educational atmosphere at Stern. The findings also conclude that the quality of teachers is inadequate and in light of this the University must realize that teachers who give and demand excellence must not be denied tenure despite the financial burden this may impose.

The Commission also reports that on the secondary level students are taking a greater number of elective courses and are staying away from the basic academic courses. While many of us loathe the idea of having to take a year of science or a semester of English Composition, the requirement system at Stern insures that we do indeed receive a basic liberal arts education. While it is possible within the requirement system to opt for less demanding courses, we are only doing ourselves a disservice if we do so. No matter what is required of us academically, we are each ultimately responsible for how much we get, or do not get, out of our education. In this growing technological age we must recognize the necessity to be "computer literate" but at the same time take those basic liberal arts and Judaic studies courses which contribute to our growth as socially moral and responsible individuals.

In commenting on the Commission's findings, I cannot conclude without a word on the Education department at Stern. The Commission reports on the decline of the quality of teachers on all levels and calls for more rigorous teacher training programs and higher academic standards for teaching candidates. While it may be true that teacher training programs across the country are less demanding than other courses of study, the one at Stern College must be labeled an exception. As an Education major I will probably be considered biased, but nevertheless I feel that the Education major at Stern must be given the reputation it deserves. The Department requires hard work from its majors and does not tolerate a lackadaisical and unprofessional attitude. Perhaps it is because the professors do not wish to contribute to the mediocre trend in education that they require so much of their students.

And in a more general vein, perhaps it is because Yeshiva University as an institution does not want to contribute to the trend of mediocrity, that it does indeed make the effort to overcome any difficulties which may lie in its way and give its students the opportunity to learn and grow in an environment committed to *Torah U'Mada*, in a word, excellence.

New Policy

Adjustment to any new situation is difficult, but adapting to college life is particularly difficult as it involves many drastic changes. It is for this reason that this adjustment should be called for only once. Having classes which commenced in September for a few scattered days, were interrupted, and then recommenced several weeks later, imposed unnecessary emotional strain on incoming freshmen. Furthermore, this policy was costly for out of town and foreign students who wished to spend the *chagim* with their parents: they had to commute to New York for the opening of school only to return home a short time later. Thus, the university should be commended for its wise decision to begin school in October and for sparing many students emotional and economic hardships.

Letters To The Editor

Salaries

To the Editor

This letter concerns a subject that not only administrators, but also students, are disinclined to approach sympathetically. Nevertheless, I am compelled once again to introduce the pressing question of faculty salaries and the grandiose, but hollow promises that have been offered to the faculty in lieu of money. The President himself has publicly decried the inadequacy of the salary scales of the faculties of the undergraduate colleges, pledging a vaunted "quantum leap," but that, too, now seems to have been no more than an expedient rhetorical device. The plain truth is that paying the faculty a living wage is not an important consideration to the administration.

There is money available for

partitioning offices in the Science Building; money for a glossy, self-congratulatory annual report lauding the achievement of the University in meeting its debt, a report so visibly expensive to produce that it stands as an emblem of fiscal solvency and stability. There is talk of videotaping activities throughout

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Library

To the Editor:

I am writing in response to the article "Increased Space Needed For Overcrowded Library." Shortly after reading the column, I had a meeting with Professor Lubetsky where we discussed many aspects of the library, including this article. We were very pleased with it and felt our response was called for.

The overcrowdedness in the library is an issue that the library is hitting face on. We feel

renovation is seriously needed; that the library should be expanded into another floor.

With an extra floor we can designate special closed off areas. We need a closed off photo-copy and circulation area so that the noise of the machines and the voices of interaction at the circulation desk will no longer disturb students. An audio visual room is also greatly yearned for in our library. We would also like to have a room such as a Beit Medrash where students can learn together inside the school.

This additional space could also give us room for more expansion such as book space and study space. Extra components such as carpeting, to muffle foot steps, and cushioned chairs where one can relax while studying would also be nice.

The library has undergone some changes this year, such as longer hours, additional photo copy machines and a change machine. At the front desk there

is a slip of paper where students can record their suggestions on what books they would like the library to acquire.

Professor Lubetsky and I do not want the improvements to stop here. We realize it will take time and money to increase, but with your help things could happen quickly. Student feedback is a necessity. Please address your views to me in room 7H or box 63, or to Professor Lubetsky. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Paula Kaplan
Chairman — Library Committee

Efficiency Is Needed

To the Editor:

In reference to the previous issue's article on increased space needed in the library, I feel that it is not necessarily additional space that we are in dire need of, but rather, efficiency.

The library is now as cramped as ever with the addition of several bookcases. However, if you will notice, there are many shelves on the bookcases along the wall which do not house a single volume!

Much of the space that is occupied houses books with antiquated information, or books that drop three years (or more) of accumulated dust on your lap as they are opened. There is no reason for these books to take up valuable space.

I also find it extremely hard to believe that a college library has one mass card catalog! The need for the three conventional types of card catalogs is obvious. I'm not all complaints, however. I must commend the library on the acquisition of some new modern catalog drawers.

Another step in the right direction would be for the library to hold on reserve each textbook which has been assigned for the

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Dean Bacon Profile

(Editors Note: This article is reprinted from the April 1 issue of The Jewish Week & The American Examiner, Inc, which profiled Stern College's dean, Dr. Karen Bacon.)

"I believe a lot more in the humanities than I knew I did," said microbiologist Karen Kermaier Bacon on completing five years as dean of Stern College for Women of Yeshiva University in Manhattan.

"Studying the humanities in college will enrich students now and later in their lives," she said. "Women, successful in their careers, will have time and money. They will travel, and they will value their knowledge of art, history and other cultures."

Some students, Bacon said, "get so caught up in careerism that they graduate without an inner life of the mind. What prevents that here is our Jewish studies, which focus on ethics, on personal conduct, on relationships with and responsibilities to others."

At Stern, all students take a dual program, which combines courses in liberal arts and sciences with Jewish studies.

Bacon was born in Brooklyn and grew up in Los Angeles, where she attended Rambam Academy. As a student at Stern, she majored in biology, graduating summa cum laude and valedictorian in 1964.

She continued her studies at UCLA, where she earned a doctorate in microbiology. Named assistant professor of

biology at Yeshiva College in 1975, she was the first Stern graduate to hold a full-time teaching appointment at a branch of Yeshiva University.

While teaching biology, Bacon said, she had "little interaction with other members of the faculty. Coming from the lab, I had few personal relationships in my work."

But since becoming dean in 1977, she said, "I have learned a lot about what a college, a curriculum, an education, a faculty represent, and about how things get done in a university without losing sight of goals."

Bacon continues to cherish classroom work, and this year she has been teaching a biology course.

In 1980 she was awarded a fellowship in academic administration by the American Council on Education, and she participates actively in that organization's work.

Discussing the expanded possibilities for women today, Bacon said, "Women have options. They don't feel quite so driven to measure achievement by salary, as many men do. They still feel comfortable, for example, as teachers."

Thinking about the future of the College, Bacon said, "I have high hopes for Stern College for Women. I'd like more to be going on here, more outside speakers and events. I want Stern to be a place where dynamic, interesting and important things happen for both the students and



Dean Karen Bacon

the entire community we serve."

She would also like to see more students "try to exercise leadership skills. Not enough of them are doing that. Our women are the recipients of a unique education, and I'd like to help them see this kind of experience as a priority."

Bacon and her husband, a clinical psychologist, and their three children live in Fair Lawn, N.J.

In the 1980s, Stern College programs reflect the needs of women being educated to meet the challenging demands of contemporary life.

The 275 students in the class of 1985 can choose from a greatly expanded program of more than 20 established majors and areas of study, plus an improved, intensive Jewish studies curriculum. In addition, a woman with specific career goals may develop her own course of study under faculty guidance, drawing upon the resources of Yeshiva University programs and those of other area schools.

Stern College for Women was established in 1954 through a major gift by the late Max Stern, prominent community leader and honorary chairman of the University's board of trustees, in memory of his parents, Emanuel and Caroline Stern.

Simone Rudoler Honored With N.L. Remes Memorial Award

This year's Nathaniel L. Remes Memorial Award will be presented to Simone Rudoler, an English major from Cherry Hill, New Jersey. The Remes award is presented each year to a senior chosen by her classmates for character, personality and special service rendered to the school.

Simone has been active in many school and outside activities and has received many honors in recognition of her unique personality and outstanding talents. She is presently Layout Editor of *The Observer*, Vice President of the Senior Class, Chairman of the Senior Dinner and Dorm Counselor. In past years she also par-

ticipated in many school functions. Simone served as a Big Sister, she was active on the Student Admissions Council and she played on the SCW basketball team. In addition, Simone was Layout editor of *The Observer* last year and worked on the layout staff for two years prior. She was also elected treasurer of the class in her sophomore year and participated in the Torah Activities Committee *Tzedakah* Campaign as a freshman.

In addition to all of her work within Stern College, Simone has also participated in several community activities. She is a member of USY (United Syn-

agogue Youth) and has acted as a counselor on USY tours to Israel for the past two summers. Simone was also a representative of YU's Commission of Jewish Leadership.

While occupied with all of these activities, Simone has been a Dean's List student throughout her four years at Stern. She was also named to Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges and to Stern College's Aishel Honor Society.

Simone attended Cherry Hill High School West. She hopes to pursue a Masters degree in teaching English as a second language.

Athletic Programs Introduced

by Joyce Grill

The athletic programs at Stern and Yeshiva College are designed to accommodate students' expressed interests. "Not only is quality education important, but people find physical activity relaxing, wholesome, and character - building," says Professor Tauber, head of the Physical Education Department at Stern. Dr. Jeff Gurock, Assistant

Professor of Jewish History and an avid basketball fan, has expressed an interest in coaching the Stern basketball team. He is presently the assistant coach at Yeshiva, and is willing to leave his post in order to assist the Stern team. Practices will be planned for Monday and Wednesday nights, and a regulation sized gymnasium on 33rd St. rented. In addition, teachers in the

Physical Education Department are concerned with those students who are not interested in playing on a team, but do wish to participate in sports activities. To accommodate these students, intermural games in tennis and fencing are also being planned.

Students who have questions pertaining to the basketball team and other scheduled sports events, should contact Professor Tauber or Dr. Jeff Gurock.

Dorm-Ez View A Silver Lining

by Mordechai and Sema Reich



It was only a little blurb in the *Times*. A Midwesterner had come into a bank with a bundle of old silver dollars and assorted coins. He explained that his wife was to have an operation the next day, he owed the doctor a few hundred dollars, and had a strong need to pay his debt before the operation. (He probably thought, the surgeon would do a better job if he had the money in his pocket.) The bank clerk pointed out that the coins were probably worth more than their face value and that it would be a shame to lose out on all the extra money. "No time for that," the man replied. "Just cash them in." He took his money and left.

Later that week, the man received a call from a bank officer. "I've taken the liberty to have your coins appraised," he explained. "They are worth approximately \$15,000. I'm deducting the few hundred dollars you exchanged them for and I'm sending you the rest by check."

Now that is a story worth printing on a front page. It's heartwarming, it's human, and it restores your faith in people. It

doesn't sell newspapers though. Murder, rape, tragedy, and Hitler's diaries do a better job at that. And yet in a world which emphasizes the negative, at a time when we can't even buy a candy at a newsstand without being exposed to lewdness, pornography, and headlines like "Father Shoots Son" we must accentuate and emphasize the positive, the healthy, and the spiritual elements which surround us.

The period of *Sefirat Ha'Omer* is a lesson to all of us that each day is an opportunity to seize that which is healthful and beneficial, and grow and expand in our spiritual development. As each day passes we create a broader base of *kedusha* until, finally we are worthy of G-d's presence among us.

Our best wishes to you, particularly in the summer months ahead when you will have the opportunity to enjoy a change of pace from the school year, for consistent growth as you reach for all that is good in the world which G-d has granted us, *Uvacharia Bachayim*—choose life.

Senior Honored

by Deena Epstein

Renee Strauss, a senior from Syracuse, N.Y., has been named the first recipient of the annual Lisa Wachtenheim Memorial Award. Renee was chosen to receive this honor based on her fine *middot* and exemplary character.

Renee is an English major and has been included on the Dean's list. She has participated in many extra-curricular activities both in school and in other organizations.

Renee has been on the staff of *The Observer* for three years. She has been on the layout staff and this past year has served as distribution editor.

Aside from her activities in Stern, Renee has dedicated her time to various causes outside the University. She has been doing



Renee Strauss

patterning with a young child who has cerebral palsy. She has also been active in the National Conference of Synagogue Youth, and it was through this organization that her love and commitment to Judaism developed.

Renee attended Brown University for a semester and is returning there in the fall to be a dorm counselor. Her plans for the future include making Aliyah and she hopes that this dream will someday become a reality.

IDF Volunteers

To the Students of Stern College who kindly volunteered their time and effort for the Shirutom last Sunday, April 24, 1983 at the Israel Consulate in New York, for the benefit of our soldiers in the Israel Defense Forces (IDF)

Dear Students:

On behalf of the soldiers in the IDF who do not only fight and risk their lives for the security of their homeland but also for the dignity of Jews everywhere, in their name and in mine, I wish to express my sincere appreciation

for your time and effort during our Shirutom.

I would have liked to thank each one of you individually but did not have your names and addresses. Therefore, I am writing you collectively. Please accept my apology for the anonymity of my thanks. Perhaps you will send me the list of names and addresses for future action.

Best wishes and again, thank you.

Yours for Israel,
Brig. General Haim Granit
North American Representative

A Time Of Change

by Esther Stiefel



As I reflect back over my four years at Stern, I am struck with the realization that I am graduating from an institution that is actually quite different from the one I entered as a freshman. Many major changes have taken place during the past four years that have altered the face of the college.

The institution of the Core Program in Jewish Studies is such a change. The restrictions imposed by the Core requirements virtually force the students to take a minimum of courses in specific areas of Judaica.

In addition, the newly instituted dress code has imposed restrictions on what is considered "acceptable" attire for students to wear to class.

Another major change that has taken place during my stay at Stern is the curriculum reform. A new set of secular requirements was established to replace the old requirements which were in effect when I entered Stern College.

Also, during the past four years, we witnessed the first computerized registration at Yeshiva University. Until this new system was developed we depended on an inefficient manual system.

The changes, though, do not end there. This year marked the first time that the SCW senior class was required to pass an exit exam in order to graduate. This is also the first time that we have been able to benefit from a full-fledged career guidance program at Stern.

Some of these changes were viewed favorably by the students while others were not. We were thrilled with the luxury of registering by computer but we were distressed with the many Core requirements. We were grateful for the interest in career guidance but we were infuriated by the requirement of an exit exam.

While we did not appreciate all of these changes when they took place, presumably, they were made with the intention of improving the education and atmosphere at Stern.

The administration of Stern College should be praised for taking the initiative to make all

of these modifications. Major changes are always difficult to make but the fact that the college has put forth the effort to effect these recent changes indicates that they are truly concerned with the well-being of the students at Stern.

While some of the changes may turn out to be unsuccessful, the willingness to experiment with new ideas is essential to the continued development of any educational institution. It is reassuring to see that Stern College will not be satisfied with status quo.

I would like to express my sincerest thanks to the entire 1982-83 *Observer* staff. (You all did a superb job!) Through everyone's cooperation and hard work we were able to take advantage of the unique talents and abilities of each member of the staff and integrate them to produce a fine newspaper.

Best wishes to the new staff. I am sure that under the able leadership of Deena and the rest of the Executive Board, *The Observer* will continue to improve and serve as a valid means of communication for the entire university.

Peace in the Middle East

by Sharon Gottesman

May 4—Ambassador Yehuda Z. Blum, Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations, discussed Israel's current struggles in the United Nations before 200 students, faculty and guests at Yeshiva University. His address was third in a series of lectures entitled "Peace in the Middle East—A Three Dimensional Perspective" presented by the Israel Affairs Committee of Yeshiva University.

Ambassador Blum has been Israel's Permanent Representative to the United Nations since 1978. Prior to this service, he participated in the Israeli Delegation to the 36th session of the United Nations General Assembly. In 1962, he was appointed Senior Assistant in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and he has also served in the Ministries of Defense and Justice.

The Ambassador addressed himself to Israel's recent diplomatic problems in the United Nations. He noted the excessive attention devoted to the Arab-Israel conflict and offered his own theory behind this conflict.

"We've been on the firing line in the United Nations all these years." Citing last year's figures,

the Ambassador said that 55% of the meetings held by the Security Council dealt with some aspect of the Arab-Israel conflict. He stressed that other issues such as the situations in Afghanistan and Cambodia and the crisis in Poland have existed relatively unnoticed.

He maintained that "this perversion of the United Nations finds its expression . . . in the terminology employed at the United Nations. Israel's conflict is at the United Nations (and consequently, the media) as the "Middle East Crisis"; however, according to a recent count taken by the Minister of State of Egypt, 31 out of 32 conflicts that comprise the Middle East Crisis have no connection to the State of Israel. "Some of (these conflicts)," the Ambassador said, "constitute a far greater threat to international peace and security than the Arab-Israel conflict." Examples include the Iraqi-Iranian war, already two and a half years old, and the five year old war between Ethiopia and Samaria.

These comments led him to his discussion of one cause of Israel's troubles with the Arabs, namely, that she is a scapegoat. Noting the "incredible" gap between the wealthy and the poor in the Arab nations, he said, "there is a deep seeded frustration pervading the Arab world, and they have been airing their frustrations by using the Arab-Israel Conflict as a kind of outlet."

Ambassador Blum emphasized that "everything we have witnessed since 1948 . . . flows from the unwillingness or inability . . . of the Arab World . . . to come to terms with Israel's existence . . . irrespective of territories and boundaries."

The Ambassador proceeded to explain the attitude of the Arabs that the Middle East is really the "Arab East," even though the majority of the Middle East population is Moslem. "Consequently," he continued, "anybody who is not a Moslem or not an Arab is in trouble." Because of the connection between the Arab movement and the Islamic movement, even the Turks (who are Moslem but not Arab) and the Christians of Lebanon (who are Arabs but not Moslem) are "in trouble." "Can you imagine the situation of the Israeli Jews who are neither Arab nor Moslem?" he commented wryly.

"This is really the root cause of the Arab-Israel conflict all these years," the Ambassador said, "and the rest is subterfuge." One example of this "subterfuge" is the "myth" of the "allegedly homeless and stateless Palestinian-Arab People."

Ambassador Blum provided several arguments to prove that this claim was merely a political weapon the Arabs have been using since Israel's victory in the

Six Day War in 1967. "Prior to 1967, . . . at a time when Judea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip were not under Israeli control (but under the occupation of Jordan and Egypt, respectively), there was no demand for the establishment of the so-called Palestinian State." This demand had arisen only after 1967, "for the explicit purpose of depriving Israel of the fruits of the Six Day War."

Nevertheless, this "myth" was disseminated at the United Nations "to the point," the Ambassador said, "where it has become an uphill battle for us to set the record straight."

Ambassador Blum also analyzed the Camp David Treaty of 1978 and explained why Israel cannot accept any proposal for peace, such as the Reagan Peace Plan, which deviates from the Treaty. He also discussed an Arab proposal called the Fareed Peace Plan, and demonstrated how "radical" Arab countries are unable to accept Israel's existence, and that virtually all the "moderate" nations offer no opposition to this attitude.

"Despite this very clear position," he continued, "we are still being told by the outside world and by some of our friends that there has been a very . . . significant breakthrough in the Arab position and they are now willing to recognize Israel."

"What's the solution?" he asked. "You can't dictate peace. You have to negotiate peace." He stressed the importance of negotiations without prior conditions. "A plan that will 'lay down the conditions for an ultimatum to Israel cannot succeed.'"

The Ambassador concluded with a passage from Israel's Declaration of Independence and said, "The State of Israel is prepared to do its share in the common effort for the advancement of . . . peace."

Following Ambassador Blum's lecture the floor was opened to questions. In his response to a question about Israel's security, he said, "Virtually every Israeli would like to take reasonable risks for the sake of peace." But he reassured his audience, "We agreed to dismantle Yamit. That doesn't mean we will ever agree to dismantle Kiryat Arba." The

Continued on p. 7 col. 2

Student Council New Potential

by Brenda Time

I have been very fortunate this past year. As Junior Class Vice President, I had the opportunity to work closely with Mona Allen, President of the Stern College Student Council. Working with Mona has taught me a great deal about Stern College. Her spirit has affected my attitudes; her leadership has affected my abilities; and her determination has inspired my goals.

I am proud to say that our college has valuable potential, which, with Mona's guidance, it has most admirably demonstrated throughout this year. This year's election campaign was more exciting than ever. The girls generated creativity, interest, and enthusiasm in their student government.

The results have been encouraging. We are looking forward to our best year as yet and we have a great group to work with. Our new Vice

President, Karen Siegel, is a very special girl with determination and devotion. We are also fortunate to have on the Stern College for Women Student Council Linda Senders as recording secretary, Malka Schneider as corresponding secretary and Laura Eschwege as treasurer. The new class officers and senate members are dynamic too. It will be a pleasure to work with the Yeshiva College Student Council President, Jeff Katz, and his board as well. It is important for student body representatives to possess energy and wit, two qualities which are present in our newly elected boards.

We have so much going for us. Stern College is unique in its foundation, in its essence, and in its ambition. Just as I, in my educational background reflect on a fusion of the Yeshiva and secular world, so too are my ideas for Stern College.

My door is open to your ideas, opinions and suggestions. Please feel free to stop by. Good Luck to all of the newly elected officers.

Special thank-yous to Evelyn, Debbie, Shari, Tova, Deena and Rosalie whose patience and friendship never leave my side.

We are all excited about this coming year. Let's make it one to remember.

Interested in Working for the 1984 Yearbook?

see
Judy Hecht
12E

The Observer needs layout, proof & writing staff!

see
Deena - 18G

Blood Drive Results: Spring '83 91 Donors 66 pints

Max Stern Scholarships

by Jordanna Jakubovic

The Max Stern Scholarship was recently established in memory of Mr. Max Stern, founder of Stern College for Women, in hopes of adding intellectual vibrancy to Yeshiva University.

The objective of the scholarship is to upgrade the scholastic standing of both Yeshiva College and Stern College as well as to extend the University's prestige.

Five men and five women, chosen from competent students throughout the United States, were newly awarded with this honorary scholarship. According to Dr. Michael Hecht, Associate Dean of Yeshiva College and chairman of the Max Stern scholars selection committee, "The winners are extraordinarily good in many ways." Among the qualities Dr. Hecht cited were: high academic standing, (the awardees are from the nation's top two percentile in academics), strong commitment towards Judaic studies, and leadership characteristics.

The students were also asked to write three essays that espouse

their Jewish ideals in relation to the University and Jewish community at large.

Amy Rubin, a high school student at the Hebrew Academy of Cleveland and a recipient of the Max Stern Scholarship, chose as a topic for one of her essays, "The importance of teenagers going to Israel whether religious or not."

One of the things that the selection committee, which was made up of faculty members, was looking for, was "the values that these students expressed" says Mr. Myron Chaitovsky of admissions. Dr. Hecht adds that the committee was looking for an unwavering commitment on the part of these students to learning and *Klal Yisrael*. Moreover, the committee was looking for "a genuine and sincere commitment to Jewish education and an intangible quality of leadership." This Dr. Hecht emphasized as he expects that the recipients of the scholarships will be among the Jewish community's most outstanding leaders.

The program was officially initiated into the University with

the Max Stern Scholarship dinner held on the night of May 11. Among the guests were those students who were selected to receive the scholarships, some of whom could not attend as they are now learning in Israel and guest speakers who included Dr. Norman Lamm, President of Yeshiva University and Dr. David Shatz, a Y.U. graduate and new member of the faculty.

Dr. Shatz will assume a much larger role in this affair as he will be the "mentor of the Max Stern scholars" as Dr. Hecht calls him. "He will have a close personal relationship with them" and he will be responsible for coordinating "various enrichment programs for these students." This will include different symposia and special cultural events.

The University presupposes that these students will show "satisfactory performance commensurate with the scholarship," qualifies Dr. Hecht. Though he concedes that the "exact criteria have not been selected" each student will have to maintain a grade point average that will entitle them to the \$5,000

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Nurse's Notes

A Program's Demise

by: Molly S. Winterman R.N.

As my term as president of the Student Nurse's Organization comes to a close, I look back and marvel at the progress that we have made. We sponsored a cake sale at the beginning of the year which was followed by seminars on "nursing—what's it all about," stress reduction, and self-breast examination. Sessions on first-aid and emergency care were instituted for our dorm counselors and instruction in the Heimlich maneuver will be given at the next faculty meeting on May 25th. Quite a full calendar for our first year I must say.

Unfortunately, the nursing program at Stern has not fared quite so well. By an administrative decision, the nursing program will be phasing out within the next two years and will then close its doors permanently. I feel that I must express my feelings to students concerning this great injustice. I am sure that I speak for my fellow classmates concerning this issue as well.

I have worked closely with

Mrs. Alice Hirsh, Director of the Nursing Program, for the past year and have a rare insight into the workings of this very talented woman. I have experienced the methods of various nursing instructors, deans, and directors, and am astounded at the energy and abilities that Mrs. Hirsh displays. I fail to understand, nor do I believe that Yeshiva University would pass up the chance to have such a director plan and carry through their nursing program.

I have spoken to a great number of "frum" high school juniors and seniors who desire to make nursing their profession. How unfair that Jewish educators can supply their religious population with such a multitude of majors at Jewish institutions but cannot provide them with a sound baccalaureate nursing program!

I cannot help but be saddened by the demise of the nursing program; this is a grave error on

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Letters To The Editor

Israel Is Next Step

To the Editor:

I felt compelled to put the following thoughts on paper recently, as I glanced at the calendar and realized that it has been nearly a year since I graduated Stern and subsequently "took the plunge" into Israel. And I didn't drown nor even bump the bottom of the pool.

Several of you are graduating imminently, and most are beginning to plan for "life after college." This is just a reminder that Israel is here, waiting for you in the next stage of your life.

Israel is calling out to you — are you heeding the call? Or are you planning on spending the rest of your life carving out a semblance of Jewish identity in a society in which, in effect, you will always be a stranger and which does not necessarily want to feel your Jewish presence?

Come home! It really can be done! Is it the grad school plans that are stopping you? Do it here! You certainly won't be the first to attempt such a feat, but you certainly will find an extensive support group of those like yourselves who can facilitate your integration. And a more practical advantage — school here is cheap.

Afraid of the bureaucracy? So am I, actually. (To tell you the truth, I'm still on an unrenewed 3-month tourist visa for which I'm sure to get yelled at when I try to leave the country.)

Does the lifestyle here not suit your taste? Jay Shapiro, a popular former Shaliach Aliyah and the author of "Lies My Shaliach told Me," once said that choosing to fulfill or not to fulfill one's Jewish obligation of living or not living in Israel for reasons of comfort and the like, is taking a question of belief and changing it into a question of taste. And that is the ultimate in bad taste. You and I — we are the future of our Jewish existence, and we have a privilege that no generation in 2000 years has had — to insure that existence in our home. It is our challenge, and you, my former classmates, can and must meet that challenge. Nu, so when are you coming home? Looking forward to seeing you soon,

Rachel Katsman, Jerusalem
Observer Editor, 1981-82

Salaries

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The University as part of a lavish public relations campaign, and it would seem that the Admissions Office has a budget so large that they cannot spend it. But there is no money for the faculty under any circumstances, even though low faculty salaries and consequent battered faculty morale were among the reasons the University was denied a chapter by Phi Beta Kappa, whose (visiting) Team was at the same time, struck by the remarkable loyalty shown by the faculty to this institution. The Evaluation Team of the Middle States Association was also impressed

by the degree of faculty concern for the University and in their Interim Report recommend "that the salary question be examined, in depth and in careful manner, as the financial problems of the University are resolved."

What do we as faculty do for you, the student-body? Consider the case of the SCW English Department, which I chair. This example is by no means unique since many disciplines in the University are understaffed, and all faculty members perform comparable functions. Our department has two full-time members, whereas it once had five and six. Between us, over the years, we have prepared and taught some forty-five individual courses, including English, American, European, and Classical literature. We revise our course offerings yearly to meet the changing needs of our students, as well as to provide that breadth and flexibility which the new SCW General Education Core Requirement affords. We counsel and advise students in almost every area and write innumerable letters of recommendation. (There is no secretarial assistance available, although most of us, in other institutions, were provided with such help when we were mere Graduate Assistants.) Along with our colleagues, we serve on diverse school, divisional, and university committees. Among our particular committee responsibilities, we chair the SCW Academic Standards and Curriculum Committees. Let me tell you from personal experience exactly what

this means. It took three years of meetings to produce the new Stern General Education Core. Almost all of the meetings of the third and only fruitful year were held at night after every Committee member had put in a full day's work. These hours were our gift to you, and they were a generous gift when you consider that the faculty members of this Committee receive salaries that are frequently less and often not very much more than sanitation workers in the City of New York. Indeed, some salaries are so low that you, as new graduates, would disdain them even for your first, entry-level positions.

It has long been obvious that the administration holds the faculty in contempt because of our deep commitment to you, and perhaps we are mad to do what we do. But if we should regain our sanity, what would it mean to you, our students: few new courses; examinations that are easier to grade but do not challenge your analytical, critical, or verbal powers; fewer papers; I know that some of you would applaud this, but you would only be cheating yourselves; less counseling; less guidance; less general participation in school activities; limited service on those committees which serve your interests. Ultimately, it must mean a less devoted faculty whose members are driven to seek supplementary employment to provide even a modest standard of living for themselves and their families. I am only

sorry that in the end the loss will be yours.

Sincerely,

Laurel Treacher Hatvany
SCW, Dept. of English

Improve The Old Facilities

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semester. This would be a great help to students who find that they must wait two to three weeks for textbooks that are presently out of stock at the bookstore. They could also be used by students studying in the library who need to refer to a book which is in the dorm.

Another improvement would be the installation of a now-common library computer system that checks books through the use of universal product code bars placed inside book covers and on the back of I.D. cards. This system would not only hasten check out, but would also save the librarians paperwork.

Now that we've made our library function efficiently, why not improve its appearance? If the wall shelves are used to capacity, we could rid ourselves of most of the center bookcases. We could then put in some easy chairs to relax in while we do our reading. And if we accomplish all this, I suggest that the library floor be stripped of its wax. There are so many layers of wax that it crinkles and crumbles under your feet.

The library is an essential part of any university. It's about time that ours was brought up to date!

Lauren Greenbaum
SCW '86

Atzeres Slumber

The following is a reprint from *Art Scroll's Seasons of the Soul*. It was written by the Lubavitcher Rebbe, Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneerson and adapted for publication by Rabbi Alier Ben-Zion Metzger. Rabbi Metzger teaches a course on Chasidut at Stern College.

The Midrash relates that the Jewish people slept the entire night prior to the receiving of the Torah "for the slumber of Atzeres is pleasant and the night is short," and even a biting insect did not disturb them. When the Almighty was ready in the early morning to give the Torah and found Israel asleep, it was necessary for Him to arouse them, and this is the meaning of what the Almighty declares:

Wherefore, when I came was there no man?

When I called, was there none to answer? (Isaiah 50:2)

For this reason it is customary to stay awake the entire night of *Shavuot* engaged in the study of Torah — to undo the slumber of the Jewish nation on the night prior to the giving of the Torah.

Every Torah narrative provides guidance for us in our own spiritual endeavors. Particularly one such — this — the Torah normally goes to great lengths to avoid disparaging or derogatory comment — must assuredly include an inherently significant moral precept, which made it necessary to record these events.

Though there is an obvious implication — the need to undo Israel's having slept on that momentous night — the account of their sleeping would have been sufficient. The enumeration of the various details — that "The slumber of Atzeres is pleasant, and the night is short," and that the insects did not bite them — indicates that even these matters have applications to man's spiritual conduct.

When the Jewish people heard that after their departure from Egypt they would be given the Torah, a great longing to receive

"the Torah normally goes to great lengths to avoid disparaging or derogatory comment"

the Torah was evoked, and they began to count the days until the anticipated time. For this reason we count the days of the *Omer*. If at the onset of the seven weeks they were impatient to receive the Torah, it is self-evident how great the degree of their yearning was at the time immediately prior to the event. How then was it possible that they slept the night before the giving of the Torah?

It should also be borne in mind that their counting was also a means of preparation for the receiving of the Torah. During

these forty-nine days, the Jewish people underwent progressive spiritual purification till they were worthy of being the recipients of the Torah. Every day they evoked within themselves the revelation of another of the Gates of Understanding; when they had concluded the evocation of all the forty-nine gates (the maximum degree achievable by human effort), then the Almighty, at the time of giving the Torah, endowed them with the fiftieth gate.

If immediately after the departure from Egypt — delivered from the forty-nine gates of impurity — they longed to receive the Torah, how infinitely greater was their yearning for the Torah after having achieved the lofty degree of the "Forty-ninth Gate of Understanding," after

"How, then, did they permit themselves to slumber?"

the great spiritual ascent of the forty-nine days, as they became progressively more worthy of receiving the Torah. How, then, did they permit themselves to slumber?

We must consequently assume that their sleep is not to be understood in a normal manner, but was rather in itself a manner of preparation for the receiving of the Torah. Further proof that their sleep was a form of preparation is that the insects did not bite them. If their sleep was but a lapse of consciousness and a distraction from their preoccupation with receiving the Torah, then the Almighty would not have caused a miracle that they should not be disturbed during their tranquil slumber.

The *Alter Rebbe* (Rabbi Shneur Zalman of Liadi) notes that the loftiest degree of comprehension and closeness to G-dliness achieved during human existence (when the soul is garbed in human form) is still incomparable to the exalted level of closeness achieved by the soul prior to its descent into the human body. This is so because the physical body cannot cope with so high a degree of closeness (*Tanya* 37).

During sleep, the soul divests itself of the body and ascends to its source; there remains within the body "but a small measure of life" from the soul. Therefore, at the time of slumber, the soul can sometimes achieve lofty conceptions than during the time of wakefulness while vested in the physical garb of its body.

It is known that those who preoccupy themselves with Torah with great dedication and zeal during their waking hours achieve in the course of their sleep even further revelation in



The Lubavitcher Rebbe

matters of Torah — to such a degree, at times, that problems they struggled to clarify while awake which remained unanswered are resolved upon their awakening from a period of sleep, because of the soul's apprehension above.

Therefore, after the Jewish people had achieved all that is possible for the soul in bodily garb to achieve i.e. — the forty-nine gates of understanding — they wished to slumber prior to receiving the Torah, for they desired that the soul divest itself from its bodily garb and ascend above to apprehend lofty conceptions. They felt that the exalted concepts they would achieve would be the most appropriate — the culmination of their preparation for the revelation from above at the time of the giving of the Torah.

Therefore the Midrash states — "The slumber of Atzeres is pleasant and the night is short" — the more a person strives and refines himself while awake, when the soul is in its bodily garb, to that extent does the soul ascend and achieve loftier conceptions during the period of sleep. At the conclusion of the spiritual labor of counting *sefirah* continued on p. 8 col. 1

A Fond Farewell

by Diane Feldman

Every year, as seniors vote for valedictorian, student council, and class officers, they are faced with the additional task of choosing senior professor—one teacher who has served as their role model throughout college. This year, the seniors have selected Dr. Walter Orenstein, a member of the Judaic Studies faculty, and a Yeshiva University teacher for 13 years.

When asked what it meant to receive such an honor, Dr. Orenstein replied, "It is a vote of confidence on the part of the students. A person in education receives very few satisfactions on the monetary level; therefore, those received on the spiritual level are that much more satisfying. Awards given from students are not tainted by personal interest or prejudices—that's what makes them more loving."

Dr. Orenstein commented that the seniors—to be very careful in choosing friends and professions. "And remember," he said, "that one's integrity and good name in the end is the only thing that counts."

Dr. Orenstein commented that his most important goal in teaching has always been to make the Scripture come alive and relevant to every situation and time. He hopes that students will apply the basic methods he used in class when continuing their

study of Jewish literature. "Those who plan to go into Jewish Education, remember that you're dealing with the most precious, volatile, and impressionable product—the human mind," he said. "Handle with care."

He felt that his own career in Jewish Education has been exceedingly rewarding in terms of personal satisfaction—in the one



Senior Professor - Dr. Orenstein

to one relationships as well as the teacher-class relationships. An open door and a friendly, listening ear have long been his trademarks, according to his past and present students. "The relationship between student and teacher is moving further away from lecturer-student and closer to *rebbe-talmida*," said Dr. Orenstein.

Dr. Orenstein has announced that he will not be returning to Stern in the fall. "This is one *rebbe* that will be greatly missed at Stern College, as is evident by his being chosen student professor," said one senior.

Memorials: What Price?

by Avraham Weiss

The following article is reprinted from a publication of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency.

The Israeli Knesset has designated the twenty-seventh day of Nissan (which this year fell on April 10) as the annual day to remember the six million Jews murdered during WWII. In recent years, Holocaust memorial programs have significantly increased, precipitating a greater awareness and understanding of that tragic era among Jews as well as non-Jews.

While Holocaust programs can appropriately memorialize those who died and honor the courageous victims and survivors of Hitler's ugly plan, they can be easily misdirected. The Hebrew term for Holocaust is *sho-ah*. Those who write and speak about the Holocaust are periodically reminded of the oft repeated quip "there's no business like sho-ah business."

As example of "sho-ah business" is the U.S. Holocaust Commission. Circumstances surrounding the announcement of its formation focus on how the sho-ah can be politicized and abused.

In May 1978, President Carter

was vigorously lobbying for Congress to agree to his proposed sale of F-15 fighter planes to Saudi Arabia. Those concerned with the welfare of Israel, were distressed with the President's plan of selling sophisticated weapons to a country whose avowed aim was and is the dismantling of the Jewish State. Three weeks prior to the approval of the sale the Carter administration invited one thousand Jewish leaders to the White House to celebrate Israel's thirtieth anniversary together with the President and Prime Minister Begin.

During his prepared remarks, the President dramatically said: "Many nations have memorials to the Holocaust victims. There is no such formal memorial in the United States. To insure that we in the United States never forget, I will appoint a Presidential Commission to report to me within six months on an appropriate memorial in this country to the six million who were killed in the Holocaust." Many of those who were gathered at the White House that afternoon felt that the creation of the Commission was a kind of deal in which the

Jewish community was being given the 'Holocaust' at the expense of the State of Israel.

More recently we have seen another interesting political juxtaposition of these two vital Jewish concerns. Regarding the State of Israel the President said that the promised sales of F-15's would be held up until Israel withdraws from Lebanon. This statement was made on Friday, April 1, less than two weeks prior to his appearance on April 11, before the American Gathering of Jewish Holocaust Survivors in Washington, D.C. Like President Carter, Mr. Reagan lends his support to a Holocaust memorial, while seriously eroding and compromising the well-being of the State of Israel.

When Holocaust survivors assembled in Washington, they relived the pain of the past in order to declare that what happened once will not happen again. No Holocaust memorial should be accepted at the cost of Israel's security. The best tribute to the six million is not a Holocaust commission or a museum, but an enduring commitment to a strong and viable State of Israel.

"Run Jacob Run" Worth The Time

by Mattie Rubenstein

For many, the word "mime" only conjures up images of the "Running against the Wind" sketch of Marcel Marceau or the humorous antics of the robot-like characters portrayed by Shields and Yarnell. Most people think of mime as a medium that is used only to portray comic situations. This is unfortunate, as this art form can encompass so much more. The play "Run Jacob Run" written, directed and acted by Zwi Kanar, a world famous mime, is a prime example of the great versatility of the art of mime.

"Run Jacob Run" based on Kanar's own life, is a full-length mime drama about a young Jewish boy named Jacob growing up in pre-war Poland.

The first act of the play deals with Jacob's childhood in a small Polish *Shtetl* during the 1930's. This act is filled with warm and funny reminiscences of childhood life. *Cheder* experiences are recounted, (watch for an hysterically funny mime rendition of the *Aleph-Bet*), as well as mischievous episodes in the market-place and embarrassing moments in public school. The act ends on a note of terror as the war begins and the Nazis invade the village.

In the second act, Jacob is alone, running away from the Nazis after his family has been killed. During his flight, an encounter with a crucifix leads to a most moving and dramatic scene involving an indictment of Christian anti-semitism. (It is interesting to note that the European title for this play—it was first produced in Belgium—was "Christ and Me".)

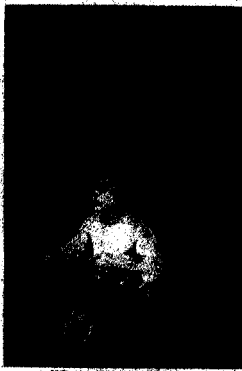
Written by Kanar after an unpleasant encounter with a somewhat pro-Nazi colleague, the play premiered in Belgium in 1975. This drama was unique, as it was the first time that a Holocaust experience had been portrayed through the use of mime. The production was also unique as it combined both mime and acting; a narrator who would also play various characters in the drama, was involved. Even Kanar himself spoke at various points during the show. In 1978, the play premiered in Boston at Northeastern University in its English-language version.

It is now being staged at the Dramatis Personae Theatre in Greenwich Village. In this production Ted Davis plays the

narrator, as he did in Boston when it first premiered. Together, Kanar and Davis give an exceptional and touching performance.

The technical skill of Kanar is amazing, he can seem to be anyone or anything: Jacob as a new born baby, the snake in the Garden of Eden (as Jacob studies *Beresith* in *Cheder*), a Polish soldier-wordsman, a letter in the Hebrew alphabet, and much more. In the second act, Kanar gives a shattering performance as Jacob alone—confused, scared and angry. It seems that what Elie Wiesel did in his book *Night* through written word, Kanar does with mime. Both Wiesel and Kanar give a very poignant account of an almost idyllic *Shtetl* childhood shattered by Nazi terror.

Zwi Kanar was born in 1931, into a *chassidische* family living in a *shtetl* near Cracow, Poland. Already as a child he showed an inclination towards acting and mime. He would imitate family



"Run Jacob Run"

members and others; he also loved to sing, dance and tell stories.

During the war Zwi spent time in six different concentration camps and survived the Death March. After the war Zwi finally arrived in Israel after being detained by British in Cyprus as an "illegal" immigrant. In the 1950's Zwi began to study theatre in Israel, and after going to Paris and seeing Marcel Marceau perform, he decided to become a mime. He later studied with Marceau and Decroux, other famous mimes. Recently Zwi has taught mime in Belgium and has been an artist in residence at various colleges in the United States (including Northeastern University where "Run Jacob Run" had its US Premiere).

"Run Jacob Run" is now playing at the Dramatis Personae Theatre (25 E. 4th Street) until June 26th. There are evening performances at 10 p.m. Friday and Saturday nights and Sunday matinees at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$4.00 for students and senior citizens. For reservations call (212) 947-0159.

Although the school year is almost over and finals and vacation are coming up, please make an effort to see this excellent play before leaving the dorm and New York City for the summer.

It is playing very close to Stern College—just take the Downtown number 6 train to Astor Place, walk down Lafayette Street to East 4th and turn left on East 4th.

Cultural Centers

by Sima Bernstein

One of the prime advantages of living in midtown Manhattan is the proximity of a wealth of cultural activities. However, students are often inhibited from taking advantage of this availability because of lack of time and money. As for the latter, insufficient funds need not restrict cultural edification. There are many cultural centers which provide discounts for students.

The price reductions vary in amounts and may not allow much time for planning a night out, but the benefits and pleasures of being a connoisseur of the fine arts -- at student rates, far outweigh the inconveniences. The following is a list of major cultural centers where student discounts are offered. Instructions, if a procedure is involved, are also included:

Museums

The Frick Collection
1 East 70th Street.
Opened Tuesday-Saturday
10am-6pm; Sun 1pm-6pm
Student price 50 cents.

Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum
5th avenue at 89th Street.
Wednesday, Sunday and Holidays
11am-5pm; Tues 11am-8pm
Student price \$1.50
regular price \$2.50.

The Jewish Museum
5th Avenue and 92nd Street.
Monday-Thursday
12pm-5pm; Sunday 11-6.
Student price \$1.00,
regular price \$2.00.

Museum of Broadcasting
1 East 53rd Street.
Tuesday-Saturday 12pm-5pm#
Student price \$2.00,
regular price \$3.00.

Whitney Museum of American Art
Madison Avenue and 75th Street.
Wednesday-Saturday 11am-6pm;
Tuesday 11am-8pm;
Sun. and Holidays 12-6.
Student price free,
regular price \$2.50.

For those who wish to gain culturally without losing out monetarily, it should be noted that on Tuesday evenings the Cooper-Hewitt, The Guggenheim, and the Whitney museums allow free admission. The midtown branch of the Whitney Museum is located at the Philip Morris headquarters at Park Avenue and 42nd Street (only a short walk from Stern College). It is open Monday through Friday 11am-6pm; Thursday 11 am-8pm. Admission is free.

Music

Carnegie Hall, at 154 West 57th Street, offers student discounts on unsold tickets for events sponsored by Carnegie Hall (as opposed to events for which the hall is rented out privately). The discount is available via a process called student rush, which allows student price reductions only on the evening of the concert. The order of procedure in utilizing the student rush option is as follows:

1. Check a Carnegie Hall calendar or the newspaper for the date of a Carnegie hall event.
2. If it is not specified that this event is sold out, phone Carnegie Hall's box office at about four o'clock and inquire about ticket availability.
3. If tickets are available, proceed to Carnegie Hall between 6pm-6:30pm and get a voucher to purchase tickets at reduced rates. Tickets usually cost approximately three to four dollars.

Lincoln Center

Lincoln Center periodically has student rush in the New York State Theatre, Avery Fisher Hall, and Alice Tully Hall. Newspapers may indicate when student rush is available, if not, a phone call to Lincoln Center will provide the necessary information. When student rush is available, students should go down one half hour before curtain time to purchase unsold tickets at the discount rate. Producers of the event determine the prices, so they may vary.

Light Opera of Manhattan

The Light Opera of Manhattan offers students discounted seats for all performances. The cost for students is \$6.50.

Free Music

Citicorp Center, at Lexington Avenue and 53rd Street, provides frequent free concerts in its atrium. Schedules are available in the center.

An option open to both students and nonstudents for reduced prices in all branches of the arts is membership in the Theatre Development Fund. (TDF). To apply for membership, send a self-addressed,

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Ambassador Gives Lecture

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listeners showed their appreciation with their applause.

The students and guests received the Ambassador with warmth and enthusiasm throughout the evening. As Rabbi Miller commented before the singing of *Hatikvah*, "(Ambassador Blum) doesn't have so many experiences speaking to a friendly audience... I know that this was a refreshing experience for him."

The lecture series "Peace in the Middle East—A Three Dimensional Perspective" provided the students with an opportunity to hear about the Arab-Israel issue from three different points of view. The Israel Affairs Committee engaged Ambassador Amre Moussa, representative of Egypt, and Mr. Carl Gershan, Senior assistant to the Honorable Jean Kirkpatrick, representative of the United States as well as Ambassador Blum.

SENIORS

- 1) Give name and address to Sora Rivka (18G) for your yearbook to be mailed to you.
- 2) Be sure to pay for your Senior Dinner and hand in your seating requests at the same time.



Observer Board '83-'84: Row 1, l-r: Mattie Rubenstein, Eden Wolfsey; Row 2, l-r: Nomi Veroba, Beverly Barr, Deena Epstein, Diane Feldman, Suzy Weiss; Row 3, l-r: Sima Bernstein, Surl Miller, Amy Soled, Michelle Listhaus, Ilana Ofer.

**DORM
CLOSES
SUNDAY
JUNE 12 -
4 PM**

A Slumbering Israel Before Mattan Torah

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for forty-nine days, they had already achieved the spiritual preparation for *Atzeres*. And, "The Night" [the spiritual darkness and 'concealment' of the world] is short; there remained but a small degree of concealment, for the entire labor had been completed and in a very short while there would occur the revelation of *Mattan Torah* — at such a time the slumber is "pleasant," for by means of sleep, one can achieve the loftiest spirituality.

The great ascent of the Jewish people at the time of their sleep affected even the surrounding world and nature to the extent that not even an insect disturbed them from their slumber.

To Serve With the Body

Nevertheless, the Almighty was not content with Israel's slumber prior to receiving the Torah, for this was not the appropriate preparation. The preparation for receiving the Torah must be on an entirely different nature.

The purpose of all ascent is essentially spiritual endeavor using the physical human body. It is by this means that the relationship with the essence of G-dliness can be truly achieved. So significant is the importance of laboring with the physical body, that the Heavenly Court above recognizes the judicial decisions rendered by the Torah scholars on earth. Though their opinion be at variance with the Heavenly decision, the Almighty declares, "My sons have triumphed," for the Torah "is not in Heaven."

Since the singular importance of the giving of the Torah was the endowment of exalted significance to the soul's labor within the body, the preparation for the giving of the Torah had to be in a similar manner. Not to recline in slumber, not the soul's separation from the physical

body, but to labor and serve with the body.

How does this apply to our spiritual endeavor? There are those who argue: Why should I concern myself with physical matters? Far better to shut myself off from the world, to labor in Torah and prayer in seclusion. I have expended great effort in the learning of Torah and the fulfillment of *mitzvos*; I have already achieved the level of *Atzeres* and — "the night is short" — the darkness within me is greatly diminished; by isolating myself from the world, I will achieve even loftier spirituality.

We are therefore told that even prior to the receiving of the Torah (but on the very day it was given), such conduct was not in accordance with the will of G-d, and there remains constantly the necessity to undo the slumber of the past. Most assuredly, subsequent to the giving of the Torah, our spiritual labor must be in a manner of "descent below" — the spiritual descending — concerning itself with the physical; preoccupying ourselves with a fellow Jew of lesser degree. Specifically by such means will the scholar succeed in achieving ascent — "and from my students have I derived more than from others" (*Taanis 7a*)

This is the reason for our custom of not sleeping during the night of *Shavuos*. The preparation for receiving the Torah is not in slumber, but in the soul's ascent and departure from the physical, to achieve the apprehension of lofty conceptions. The primary endeavor for each individual is to labor with the human body, with his baser nature and his share in the material world, and thus to prepare for the receiving of the Torah with inward joy — for the entire year.



Photo: NY Post

On May 13, crowds gathered in protest across from the N.Y. Hilton, where U.S. Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger was speaking. At the rally, Rabbi Avi Weiss, of Stern College, spoke out against Weinberger for designing Reagan's "anti-Israeli policies."

"New Beginnings"

by Sara Kosowsky

Thursday night, May 12, at 7:00, Koch Auditorium was graced with "An Evening of Poetry," as the Speech Arts Forum advertised it. The theme of the evening was "A springtime and New Beginnings" and different interpretations of this theme were presented throughout the evening. The program began with a welcome from professor Peninah Schram, who then proceeded to introduce the guests.

Mrs. Lila Zeiger, a poet, started off the evening by revealing some biographical information about herself which led to a better understanding of her poetry. She explained how being the youngest of six children growing up on the Lower East Side influenced her writing. The

culmination of her presentation was the reading of excerpts from her book, *The Way to Castle Garden*.

After Mrs. Zeiger, two students delivered dramatic readings of poetry. Shelley Frier, a senior at SCW performed two works, "Fern Hill" by Dylan Thomas and "The Cancer Match" by James Dickey. Despite what might have been to others some unerving technical difficulties, Ms. Frier retained her composure and delivered a fine presentation. Adam Charnoff, a senior at YU presented an excerpt from "A Midrash" by David Meltzer. Though Mr. Charnoff is more accustomed to drama than poetry, his performance was excellent.

Following these two performers, two professional oral performers took the stage. Judith Heineman and Jean Reynolds, former members of the Sunday Brunch Company performed "Poems of the Sun, Childhood and Growth." Watching these two women combine phonetics, music, rhythm and body motion was indeed a treat. One could actually see the poetry come alive on stage. Following their superb performance there was a reception where the audience and performers could meet.

This event was cosponsored by the Speech Arts Forum and CAPS—Creative Arts Public Service.

Phased Out

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the part of this institution. My classmates and I can only be thankful that we were able to benefit from our present nurse-educators. We express our gratitude to you Mrs. Hirsh, Mrs. Klemmons, and Miss Matula for the knowledge you instilled in us, the guidance you showed us, and the support you maintained for us throughout the program.

Student Discount

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stamped envelope to Theatre Development Fund, 1501 Broadway and request an application. Membership is free. The criteria for acceptance is noted on the application.

If the cultural thirst within you is still not quenched, a quick trip

to The New York Convention and Visitors Bureau Inc., at 2 Columbus Circle, will provide armfuls of calendars from various cultural centers. Additionally, priceless handouts such as "Visitors Shopping Guide to N.Y." and "Twenty Free Things to do in New York City," are distributed there.

Election Results

Executive Board

President: Brenda Time;
Vice President: Karen Sigel;
Corresponding Sec'y: Malka Schneider; *Recording Sec'y:* Linda Senders; *Treasurer:* Laura Eschwege

Senior Class

President: Judy Hecht; *Vice President:* Shari Chaitoff; *Secretary:* Debbie Sonnenblich; *Treasurer:* Karen Leifer; *Senators:* Daphne Dubin, Jan Jerimias

Junior Class

President: Michelle Brander; *Vice President:* Shauna Singer; *Secretary:* Sharon Greenberg; *Treasurer:* Dalya Hertzberg; *Senators:* Cindy Listhaus, Dawn Posner

Sophomore Class

President: Ilana Unger; *Vice President:* Lauren Greenbaum; *Secretary:* Rochelle Block; *Treasurer:* Chaya Gross; *Senator:* Lenore Davis

Stern Scholars

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scholarship each year.

Dr. Hecht observes that "the response has been overwhelming." He says that the "quality exceeded the expectations of Yeshiva University" and he is "very excited with the people who were selected." He notes that these students are "the

cream of the crop."

Dr. Hecht foresees that these students will have a "positive effect on both colleges as a whole." He expects that these students will "create a different kind of academic climate" and will generally "elevate the level of discussion in the classroom." Overall, he believes that the program will be very beneficial.

Watch for new Student Council committee listings booklet.
Deadlines for committee head applications: Wednesday, June 1
See Brenda, 17F

Nuevas clases en... espanol!!

Las clases son para todas las personas que comprenden espanol.

Las clases son:

1. *The Golden Age in Spain*
2. *An Introduction to Spanish Literature*
3. *Spanish-American Literature*

Es necesario que hablen con la Dra Cahen (Knopka) Ella esta en la clase (507) los martes y jueves (10:25-3:00) Durante la hora del almuerzo ella esta en 914 (1:20-1:45)

Por favor, escriban su nombre y numero de telefono:
Nombre telefono

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