

THE OBSERVER

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Dorm Sags While School Gets Face-Lift

by Carol Stamler

In the Dec. 7, 1983 issue of *The Observer*, Dr. Israel Miller, Senior Vice President of YU, claimed that the complete painting of Brookdale Hall was scheduled for the following summer. He said, "Painting with the dorm occupied would be difficult and inconvenient for students." However, students returned to school this fall to discover that only one of the twenty floors had been painted. Now the dorm is scheduled for an overall paint job after the holiday break.

Dr. Miller said that unfortunately students will be inconvenienced by the paint job. "Students had every right to expect what had been promised, but, regretfully, conditions intervened. . . . We had to replace several roofs and this was the rehabilitation we could do over the summer."

As promised, new mattresses were delivered this summer. 75 of the 475 mattresses that came with the purchase of Brookdale Hall 20 years ago were replaced. Sema Reich, Director of Brookdale Hall, says, "75 mattresses represent a partial victory. It's a beginning. But there are still a lot to be replaced."

Dr. Sheldon Socol, Vice President of Business Affairs, stated, however, that he is not aware of a need for additional beds, nor are there plans at the moment for additional mattresses. The 75 mattresses, according to Socol, were part of a replacement program in which an examination was made of immediate needs.

Past renovations in the Stern dorm included the downstairs



A typical dorm room (left); the redecorated school lobby (right)

lobby, financed by Student Council; a study hall, financed by Yeshiva University's Alumni Association; a Beit Midrash and a study hall, financed by funds raised by Sema Reich. The University provided 75 mattresses, plants, and will fund the paint job as well as waterproofing, roofing and scaffolding on the building. There are also plans for the Women's League to finance an exercise room in the dorm.

Dr. Socol explained that public places are attended to before individual needs in an attempt to balance benefit to few with benefit to many. Visitors, students and faculty all pass through the new lobby."

When asked if there is any truth to the speculation that the Stern residence is one of the most neglected parts of Yeshiva University because no one influential sees its interior, Rabbi

Miller replied, "That's true. The men don't go above the first floor."

Miller conceded that the University owes each student a proper bed, painted walls, and bathroom fixtures that are in working order. "We're trying. I hope to make school as pleasant as possible." He added that he hopes that students will maintain the freshly painted walls and won't deface them, which has been a problem in the past.

Sema Reich says that while we should appreciate what is being done for the dorm, there is still major work to be done until the "basics" are taken care of. Reich also complained that the student body is too passive and too accepting of substandard conditions. "Maybe if the student body were more vocal they'd be heard. I look forward to the students becoming more involved."

by Sharon Halevy

This fall the lobby of the Midtown Center building underwent a face-lift.

The entire left wall was painted "roselind pink," and the right wall, "antique white." The doors, including those of the elevators, were painted burgundy, which the decorator describes as "boisemberry," and the door frames were painted a contrasting "mulberry" purple. The decorator called the carpet "frosted mint," but is could more accurately be described as "faded eggplant."

Dean Bacon remarked that the improvements were made because the former condition of the lobby was "shabby." She mentioned that

the lobby has not been refurbished since the building was built.

Funding for the redecoration of the lobby was provided by Yeshiva University's Centennial Improvement Fund. Dean Bacon expressed the hope that the whole building will undergo improvement. The first move in this direction was the painting of the classrooms; other areas that will receive the decorator's touch are the offices and the cafeteria. In the planning stage is a student lounge, a facility presently unavailable.

The colors were chosen by decorator Bob Abate. When asked why he chose those particular colors, he replied that he "liked them." He continued that initially only carpeting was laid, and then it was decided that the walls would be painted. Thus the colors had to be co-ordinated with the carpet. The job took four days to complete.

The decorator mentioned that the Uptown Center has an area painted in the same colors, quelling the notion that the colors were chosen for their "femininity."

Also installed in the lobby was a brownish-burgundy counter serving as a guard station and a bench of the same color facing the elevators.

Leon the guard remarks, "It's bright, so it wakes up the girls in the morning. It's lively." Students react to the new colors with dis-

approval, "it's a fresh change" to absolute enthusiasm. "It's entirely unexpected for the Stern lobby... the colors are beautiful!"

Brookdale Hall: No Vacancies

by Debbie Fisch and Rochel Gross

The potential overcrowding problem in Brookdale Hall has become a reality. Students were temporarily housed in the infirmary and guest rooms. The 20th floor storage area was converted into living quarters. The 6 study halls serving 475 students have also been considered for dorm rooms.

When asked about the reason for this problem, Sema Reich, director of the dormitory, replied, "We simply have more students living here than in the previous years. Fewer freshmen, yes, but more sophomores, i.e., students returning from Israel."

Reich said admissions predicted 40 fewer freshmen, but neglected to take into account students returning from Israel. There are actually more students in the dorm than before. "Now, admissions knows to count all first-time-on-campus people, not just freshmen," explained Reich.

Judy Paikin, director of admissions, agreed to Reich's assessment of the situation. She added that the conditions are aggravated by absence of a cut-off date for acceptances and the inability to obtain a final student tally until the last permissible day to enter classes.

Students neglecting to notify the school of their withdrawal com-

plicate matters. "Not enough people have the courtesy to pick up the phone to cancel their dorm and academic registrations. Even if they do call the school, it takes 1-2 business days before I am notified. Communication between all offices needs improvement," explained Reich.

Paikin stated that admissions maintains daily contact with the dorm. However, it is not the admission office's responsibility to know the number of available beds. Admissions is only provided with the names of entering students and those coming from Israel—only a small percentage of the student population. They have no involvement with upper classmen. There is no admission quota based on dorm space, and later acceptances are not guaranteed beds.

Reich and Paikin offered similar proposals for the alleviation of future overcrowding. They suggested that nonrefundable registration fees paid by upper classmen should be substantially increased to deter last minute withdrawals. This increase would be considered as part of the tuition payment. Furthermore, students in the N.Y./Metropolitan area, and possibly REAP students, should be put on waiting lists as a matter of policy. In addition, any empty beds should be reported immediately.

Closer estimates of the number of students in the dorm are essential.

When asked how to achieve the latter, Paikin admitted, "Truthfully, I am not sure." She called the overcrowding "an unfortunate situation, but a healthy sign."

Phone System

by Sylvia Rosenberg

A new computerized ROLM phone system was installed in Stern College this summer, replacing the costly and inefficient system rented from New York Telephone.

Extensions have been placed in administrative and faculty offices, computer rooms, and the dormitory (for use by Mrs. Reich, Mrs. Milner, and the guard). In addition, the dormitory switchboard system being rented from NYT and costing approximately \$25,000 annually, may be replaced by a new system owned by the University. Visitors would be able to phone upstairs at the expense of the University and without an operator's assistance.

The new phones have many complicated, new features. There have been service training sessions for faculty members, and there will be more.

by Diane Feldman

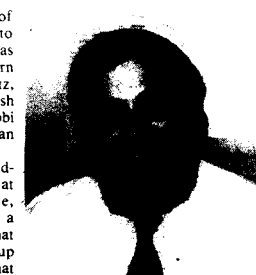
Faced with the prospect of school starting and nobody to replace Rabbi Saul Berman as chairman of Jewish Studies at Stern College, Rabbi Jacob Rabinowitz, Dean of Undergraduate Jewish Studies at YU, has named Rabbi Ephraim Kanarfogel vice-chairman of Judaic Studies faculty.

When Berman left his administrative post for a pulpit at Lincoln Square Synagogue, Rabinowitz began searching for a replacement. He explained that Kanarfogel's name came up frequently in his search and that people had only good things to say about Kanarfogel. Thus, Kanarfogel was chosen. Dean Rabinowitz will conduct all dealings with J.S. faculty and Kanarfogel's duties will include student placement and academic advisement.

Kanarfogel graduated from Yeshiva College in 1976. He received his MA from YU's Bernard Revel Graduate School in 1977. He received *semicha* in 1979. Rabbi Kanarfogel began teaching full time at Stern in 1981. He is currently finishing his doctorate from Revel in Medieval Jewish History.

Kanarfogel remembers a time before CORE, when not many Judaic Studies courses were offered, and each course counted credit per credit. "I think CORE is absolutely beneficial. It brought

Kanarfogel Assumes Judaic Studies Post



Rabbi Ephraim Kanarfogel

Stern from being just OK in Judaic Studies to something special." He adds, "If you demand excellence you get it; we did and we got it."

When asked about Stern's strong points, Kanarfogel replied, "The basic educational philosophy is sound—the idea of trying to offer top rate general and Judaic studies. However, we have to not be so insecure about not being like a Barnard or an NYU. Stern should not change what it stands for to imitate other universities."

Kanarfogel concludes that his most memorable moments are when students tell him there is a difference either in their personal and/or academic lives, after the grades are in. "It is most gratifying to have enhanced a student's time spent at Stern College."

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A Moving Experience

by Diane Feldman

I hate two days of the school year—moving-in day and moving-out day.

This year, all upperclassmen, not just big sisters, were permitted to start moving in September 2 at 10 am. And you guessed it, everybody tried to move in September 2 at 10 am. It was more chaotic than a sale at K-Mart. There was some attempt at order from various dorm counselors, but it failed.

Students signed in, and when names were called, picked up keys, and moved in. Sounds easy? I was #52 on the list at 10 am. After waiting 45 minutes, my name was called, but I could not dig my way through the mountains of luggage to enter the room where my key awaited. Finally, I received my key (It was free this year. Usually we pay a mysterious *mezuzah* fee and receive no new *mezuzahs*; this year rooms had new *mezuzahs* and no fee was charged.) and was faced with a line out the door waiting for empty elevators. I ended up carrying my 9-piece entourage up six flights of stairs. I grumbled to myself that there must be an easier way. A visiting friend said she thought her moves into Ohio State University and Boston University were hectic, but this was absurd! I said, "No, it's just Stern."

Must we be subjected to such a "moving experience?" A number of suggestions might ease the burden.

Students can move in by grade. Seniors can move in for a few hours, followed by juniors, followed by sophomores. Or, it can be done by alphabetical order in much the same fashion. But with 500 girls living in the dorm, letting 400 move in one day, and 100 freshmen the next, is not an even breakdown.

Also, students should be made to line up single file outside of the dorm. This is common sense. As one girl is admitted inside, she should be given her key, given an elevator, and the waiting line would diminish faster than with five girls at a time trying to cram a year's worth of belongings into one elevator. Everybody loses that way.

Little things can also make those first few weeks fly by. Mail in one big box in the lobby is virtually impossible to sort through. During the year, guards or work study girls sort mail. Why can't they do so the first week? Granted, some girls do not find out until later if they will be receiving financial aid, but many people do know and should be assigned to the switchboard as well as the mailroom. A working switchboard would cut down on the overcrowded elevators.

Likewise, the boxes put in storage should be available to students before school starts. Students who need certain books, school supplies, linens, and other items found it necessary to purchase some again, knowing that they could not get theirs

out of storage in time.

Am I grumbling over Stern College traditions? Maybe, but these problems have been ignored for too long. Somebody has to pay more attention to student comfort during these first weeks. Otherwise, people will take a long look at that line of weary students waiting to move in and say, "If that's moving up then I'm moving out."

Close Quarters

Overcrowded dormitories is a problem common to many universities. Boston University was forced to temporarily house students in a downtown hotel due to a lack of available rooms in the dormitories.

By comparison, Stern College students were surprised to discover that they were placed in the infirmary, guest rooms, and unfurnished study halls because of a shortage of space in Brookdale Hall.

The overcrowded conditions can be attributed in part to a lack of communication between the office of admissions and the directors of the dormitory. There is no cut-off date for the acceptance of new students; some students were admitted as late as the day before the first day of classes. Apparently, admissions officers were unaware of Brookdale Hall's limited number of available beds, and continued accepting students long after the last bed was filled. As a result, a number of students found themselves with no place to go. Incidents such as this are not conducive to favorable first impressions.

Confusion over the number of available beds arises because returning students are only required to deposit twenty dollars to secure a spot for the following year. Therefore, there is no real penalty when they choose to simply not show up in the fall. If students were required to pay a larger deposit, they would think twice about not notifying the school of their withdrawal.

In addition, adhering to a definite cut-off date for accepting students would allow the Reichs to prepare for a large number of incoming students. That way, the Reichs have ample time to notify students living within an hour's traveling time that they cannot be accommodated in the residence hall.

Finally, improved communication between various offices within the University is essential. Incoming freshmen have enough problems with orientation, registering for classes, and adjusting to the college experience without worrying about having (or not having) a place to live.

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Guidance Staff Expands

by Debbie Fish

Rabbi Tzvi Flaum has been appointed as Stern College's first full-time Religious Guidance Counselor. Rabbi Yosef Blau recently served in this capacity on a part-time basis.

When asked about the need for a full-time Religious Guidance Counselor, Flaum remarked that since the College has doubled in size over the past few years, a part-time counselor cannot possibly meet the needs of the student body. Students now need more of Blau's attention, 90% of which is spent uptown.

In response to the same question, Dean Jacob Rabinowitz, Y.C.'s Dean of Undergraduate Jewish Studies, expressed, "There is always a need to expand guidance at Stern." He feels that the current administrative shift in Stern College's Judaic Studies Department, adequate funding, and the availability of the "right person," made the institution of this new position all the more timely.

The Religious Guidance Counselor will serve as faculty advisor for the Torah Activities Committee (TAC), liaison between the students, faculty, and ad-



Rabbi Tzvi Flaum

ministrations, personal religious counselor, group program planner, and family counselor.

The proposed goals of this position include helping students adjust to the religious life-style and demands of a double program, fostering school spirit and pride, inspiring religious awareness and commitment, serving as a halachic resource center, and sensitizing the student body to the philosophies of Dr. Norman Lamm and Harav Hagoon Joseph B. Soveichik.

Flaum proposes to meet the special needs of groups which otherwise fall to the wayside. He will be involved in mainstreaming foreign students; students returning from Israel; out-of-town freshmen;

through special lectures, a more active Big Sisters/Little Sisters with a *Kiruv* function; and staff home hospitality.

Other goals will be implemented through daily scheduled guidance hours, guidance staff meetings designed to get a feeling for the prevailing spirit in the school and to discuss specific problem students, and discussions during freshman orientation and follow-up private interviews with incoming students.

Flaum sees himself in the role of troubleshooter in the area of such sensitive issues as dress code—one of the lecture topics during freshman orientation—and Shabbos atmosphere in the dorm. He emphasizes the need for a fine-tuning of coordination between guidance groups, hoping to establish an atmosphere in which referrals are readily made.

The Religious Guidance Counselor presently has no specific hours in the dorm, but will work closely with the Reich's, and visit the dorm from time to time. Flaum will continue to teach three of the four courses he usually teaches at Stern.

Speak Your Mind First Impression

by Amy Rubin

Students arriving at the dorms for the first time ever were asked, "What is the difference between what you expected before walking into your dorm room, and what you actually found?"

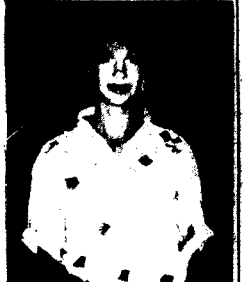
Joni Davis, 8D: "When I walked into my room I expected a room with plenty of space to move around and running water. Much to my surprise I had neither. It took 5 days to get running water, and the problem of sufficient room cannot be resolved in the near future."



Liz Hodes, 16G: "I expected to find a nicely kept room with normally painted walls and a nice size kitchen. Instead I found a very small kitchen with uninvited guests: cockroaches. This deeply disturbed me, especially when I opened my cabinet and a few cockroaches crawled out. It really disgusted me."



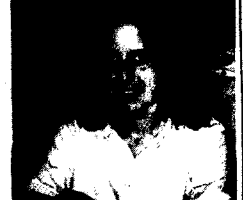
Sitvanti Welner, 16H: "I didn't expect anything because I had never visited the dorm before, or heard about them, but I was surprised that my room was so big. I was a little disappointed when I got here to find that they did not assign me a room, but that matter was immediately settled after I spoke to a friend of mine."



Jodi Rutman, 9C: "I was expecting decent beds and at least enough room for 4 girls to live comfortably. Instead I found the room to be quite small and damaged. There is a chunk missing from one wall and the sinks do not work properly. However, I do have enough room for my clothes and books, so I'm not totally disappointed."



Shira Berezin, 10A: "I really expected worse. I had visited the dorms before and found the rooms overcrowded. I have a bigger room than most freshmen, and sufficient space."



Dorm-Ez View

Two Stories

by Mordechai and Sema Reich

It's Elul now, and soon, G-d willing, we will all be in *shul* together praying for a happy, healthy, and productive year. There's a special hustle and bustle that accompanies Elul at SCW. Much talk about who's teaching what, the rush for books at Barnes and Noble, and more than one glance at the trees which are intimating that fall is almost here and winter is soon to come.

Two brief stories:

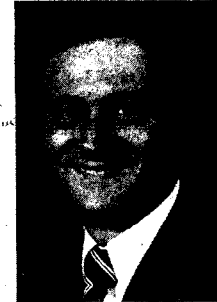
Three girls move into a room. There are three telephone jacks available. What luck. The connecting charge is minimal. A fourth roommate arrives. Too bad. You came last. There's no jack for you. Don't worry, though, the telephone company can wire you for service for just over one hundred dollars. All of us share the cost? It never



entered our minds. We came first. Sec. Three of us, and three telephone jacks. Four girls live in a room. It's not working out wonderfully, but they can manage. Like a game of Othello or Dominoes. If two of these girls would leave their comfortable beds, pack up their stuff, and move to a high floor, other girls could then switch their rooms, and be happier than they are now. But it's not so simple. Moving to a higher floor means a long wait for elevators every morning. Even worse, these two students don't use a Shabbat elevator and they're being asked to move above the 15th floor. And what about giving up the alcove? They decided that the needs of the many were greater than the needs of the few. They moved.

Two Elul stories from a dormitory on 34th Street.

Dean of Students



Dr. Irving Levitz

by Diane Feldman

Dr. Irving Levitz, the Carl and Dorothy Bennett Professor of Pastoral Counseling at the Wurzelweil School of Social Work, has been named dean of students at Yeshiva University.

Levitz will be in charge of organizing, developing, and directing campus student life, as well as coordinating academic and career counseling services, religious guidance, and residence hall supportive services.

According to Dr. Israel Miller, Senior Vice President of Yeshiva University, Levitz's appointment is part of a new administrative structure to oversee student life and activities at Stern and Yeshiva Colleges. The new structure will bring new organization to the students' development in social, cultural, and spiritual affairs.

Levitz earned his Ph.D. in psychology from Y.U. in 1974. He was ordained in 1963 at Yeshiva University's Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary. He also earned an M.A. in psychology from the New School for Social Research in 1969 and a Master of Hebrew Literature degree from Yeshiva University's Bernard Revel Graduate School in 1963. He received his B.A. from YU in 1959.

In 1979, Levitz was appointed director of the Master of Social Work for Clergy program at Wurzelweil. He will continue to teach there as well as fulfill his new responsibilities.

The Big Apple

by Rochel Gross

A long time ago (but not quite in a galaxy far, far away), I entered the hallowed halls of Stern for the first time. Among all sorts of nifty-dandy information included in the orientation kit, I remember, was a little booklet entitled "East Side-West Side. All around the town"—a neat little guide to the city.

I don't know if they still do that. I sure hope so, for the sake of people like me—strangers in a strange land who are affectionately (and sometimes not so affectionately) called "out-of-towners." (Would you believe that even in Israel, where everyone qualifies as an "out-of-towner," the label still sticks?) At any rate, the place definitely takes getting used to—the crowds, the subways, the whole "New York mentality."

For some obscure reason (I once knew but forgot), New York is known as the "Big Apple." Some people also refer to it as "The

World's Largest Neon Sign," which I think is much nicer. You don't want to imply that everyone who lives here must be a real fruit, right? (By the way, I suppose I should state right away that this article is *not* supposed to contain an anti-New Yorker slant. I have a friend who is a rabid anti-New Yorker, but I'm much more open-minded. Too many of my friends and roommates were born here for me to risk making the natives restless.)

But "Neon Sign" insults no one and is infinitely more appropriate. As darkness falls each evening, one by one the glittering words and pictures take on a life of their own and the city is transformed. Nature lovers, beware: there are no stars in the New York City skyline. That unearthly glow beating down on you as you walk down 34th Street is the Empire State Building's nightly assortment of colored lights. Ironically, it is from the top of this

continued on p. 4 col. 4

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Independence To Eliminate Free Checking

by Amy Rubin

Independence Bank has notified its bankers that it will no longer offer free checking after October 1. All regular checking accounts will automatically become N.O.W. accounts. The bank will exact a service charge of \$5.00 a month unless an average balance of \$500 a month is kept in the bank. 5.25% interest will be paid on any amount of \$500 and over.

When asked why Independence Bank decided to start charging for providing checking services, the assistant manager answered, "All the banks charge for checking. We were the only bank that did not." She suggests to students who are unable to keep a balance of \$500 in their accounts and who do not wish to pay a service charge that they open savings accounts instead of checking accounts. She explains, "When students come in I try to convince them to place their money in savings accounts. They can keep any amount of money in a savings account without paying a penalty, and if they keep \$250 or more in the account their money earns 5.5% interest. Most students only need I check a month to send to the phone

company, so they can buy a money order for one dollar." Although students with savings accounts do not have a bank card to access the 24-hour money machine, the bank is open from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., so students have sufficient time to visit the bank.

More than 500 Stern College students have accounts at Independence, of which more than 200 were opened during the first week of school alone. In response to a request that the bank provide free checking for Stern students, the assistant manager replied, "There are no exceptions to the checking service charge." Despite the charge, Independence Bank does have some attractive features. Students with checking accounts can use the 24 hour money machine to deposit or withdraw money. Moreover, students can get their checks authorized by the manager so that they can be deposited as cash and accessed without waiting for the check to be cleared.

For those who wish to "comparison shop" for a new bank, here is some information about a few local banks:

Bank	Minimum Balance	Service Charge	Check Charge
Apple Bank	free		
Atlantic Bank		\$1/monthly statement	20¢
Bankers Trust	\$2500		15¢
Chase Manhattan	0-999 1000-1999 2000 +	\$6 \$4 no fee	free
Chemical Bank	\$1000 no minimum	\$4; 8; 10 \$4/mo.	depends on balance 40¢
Citibank	\$500 or below \$500-899 \$900-1499 \$1500 + \$1500	\$4/transaction \$4/transaction \$2/transaction free minimum-in regular check or in combination with savings acct.	25¢ free free
Irving Trust	\$2000-10,000 \$4000 (N.O.W. acct.) \$10,000 (Super acct.)	free \$4 \$15/mo.	free 40¢ 30¢
Manhattan Savings Manufacturers Hanover	\$500 in savings acct. in order to get checking acct. \$1500 in one acct./or combo. of 2 accts.		50¢
		\$10/mo charge	
Independence Bank	\$500-401 \$400-301 \$300-201 \$200-100 \$100-Or below	\$1 \$2 \$3 \$4 \$5	free

President's Column

The New Fall Lineup

by Judith S. Urbach

Although just a few weeks of the fall semester have gone by, so much has already happened. Orientation Week at Stern College was an enormous success. Through the combined efforts of Office of Student Services, Admissions, the Jewish Studies Department, Dean Bacon and our Executive Board, we were able to sponsor many events, among which included: a theater party to "My One and Only," a Bar-B-Q, a viewing of "Chapter Two," *Shurim*, a faculty-student luncheon, workshops, a walking tour of N.Y. guided by Dr. Jeffrey Gurock, an Orientation shabbaton, a walk to the U.N. gardens, and an entertaining evening at Chicago City Limits. Registration ran smoothly with Mrs. Reich reassuring transfer students, Mr. Friedenberg handing out lollipops and Ms. Marlene Goldstein, our new Assistant Registrar, making a seemingly complicated system understandable. Both Mrs. Orlian and Dean Bacon pitched in with helping to arrange schedules.

Susan Mandelbaum spent much of her summer matching up Big Sisters with incoming students, and Shulamit Glaubach and Jan Pion worked endlessly organizing orientation—everything from preparing kits to arranging our schedule, Sena and Mordechai Reich and the dormitory counselors and staff put forth their best efforts in helping us settle in. I know that our successful week is a positive indication of the coming year.

In the few weeks until the *Yomim Tovim* begin, so much will be happening. Freshman elections are scheduled for September 24th, as well as Senate elections for the Sophomore Class. Suri Davis has organized a Student Book Exchange, Bowling Intramurals have begun, the Accounting Society has organized a movie night and party, and the Sophomore and Senior Classes have organized sales. WYUR has held staff interviews and Susie Ostry and her committee have begun working on our student directory—a joint project with Yeshiva College. We hope to have it prepared by the end of our *Succor* recess. TAC has already made itself

well known, with their own orientation, *sefarim* sale, and shabbaton. Milner's Market has been opened. We hope to restock soon with various supplies from Yeshiva College Student Council Book Store.

There is more planned for the future. Arrangements are being made to organize a Goods And Services Auction, a day at Great Adventure, and dorm movie nights. Mr. Stephen Singer has again graciously donated the use of a van this year, starting after *Succor*. Mr. Stephen Saunders has wasted no time in providing us with shuttle service to and from Yeshiva University's uptown campus. Our video games will be arriving after the *Yomim Tovim* and efforts are being made now to order a functioning Xerox machine for the dormitory.

Many of you have commented on the many improvements visible at our uptown campus. Many of you have reasonably suggested improvements for Stern College. Already we have seen the University stand by its commitment on academic changes. These things take time. They require the dedicated efforts already apparent by the administration, faculty, student services and the student body. The recent appointment of Dr. Irving Levitz, Dean of Students, is a positive step. Our Student Council will work hard to provide what you want and what you need. Some of these include:

1. Dormitory renovations (specifically painting)—Dr. Socol and Dr. Miller promised we would have newly painted rooms. I know this promise will be fulfilled. Electricity problems have been reported to the proper authorities.
2. Switchboard—Some kind of interbuilding communication must be installed.
3. Library—Renovation is necessary in order to create a proper study atmosphere and ensure security.
4. *Siddurim* and *bencher*s are a must for our school.
5. Smoke detectors—This safety necessity has already been reported.
6. Cafeteria—There are obvious

changes that need to take place.

These and other improvements and changes will be met.

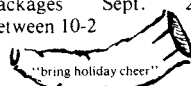
It has been the feeling of many here at Stern College, that because of our physical separation from our other undergraduate campus, our needs are neglected. This is not so. More and more the importance of Stern College for Women is being realized. We must continue to be optimistic and have confidence in our ability to create change. At the same time, we all must work hard in helping those "uptown" understand why and what we want changed.

I hope that in this first column, by expressing Student Council's optimism, determination and confidence, I have been able to instill all of these in you.

"To accomplish great things, we must not only act, but also dream not only plan, but also believe." Anatole France.

DOROT

Share an hour with an older person to usher in the New Year, deliver Rosh Hashanah food packages Sept. 23 between 10-2



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I Love New York

continued from p. 3, col. 5

very same building that bedazzled eyes (doubtless from the panoramic view of New Jersey) have reportedly seen one or two faint spots of light which are convinced are real stars. Repeated observations, however, have proven this false.

By day the city leaves you with a different impression altogether, which one suburban dweller some years ago defined as "the feeling that you're in prison." Granted, all those tall buildings surrounding you can every side can give you a panicky, closed-in feeling. But what about the masses of people surging around you? It's enough to give anyone a good case of xenophobia. (Maybe that's why New Yorkers are the way they are.) A few weeks ago I walked through the streets of Manhattan for the first time after an absence of nearly a year. But, like riding a bicycle, once you learn to get through the mixed multitude and other representatives of society that densely populate every square foot of every block, you never forget how it's done: firm grip on purse, eyes straight ahead, and never stop for anything at the risk of being trampled.

The "character" of the city is one of hustle and bustle, and to me, also restrained fear. Not mine, of course, but my parents'. Three years ago my mother used to call me every time she knew I'd been on a subway, just to make sure I was o.k. She has since learned to relax, or at least to keep her worries to herself. But a certain amount of caution is necessary. The subways are, after all, a world unto themselves. The first time I got on one after coming back from Israel,

I felt as though I'd stepped onto a different planet. Fifty pairs of eyes looked me over, as the train resumed its thunderous, breakneck speed through the bowels of the earth. My uppermost thought was one I'm sure many people have had at various times, "What am I doing here?!"

Yes, parts of the "Big Apple" can be overwhelming, but you just have to take care not to bite off more than you can chew. It's not really such a bad place. It was good enough to be immortalized in songs such as the fittingly named "New York, New York" which accurately calls our beloved town "the city that never sleeps." That line always brings to mind the 3 a.m. garbage pickup ("top of the heap?") and how the traffic on 34th Street never stops or even slows down. (Well, these are facets of everyday life you "get to be a part of" when you have a front room in the dorm. In back rooms you can take advantage of the early morning sock.)

New York is chock full of culture. Just look at what we've got: Broadway, Lord & Taylor, the Met, museums, the 42nd Street library, 42nd Street, subway graffiti, the *New York Post* . . . The list is endless and there's something for everyone.

I don't know if I can honestly say, "I love NY," but after so long, the place tends to grow on you. I could never become a true New Yorker. However, I guess I've come a long way since Freshman Year when someone asked what I thought of the city and I replied, "It's a nice place to visit, but I wouldn't want to go to school there."