

THE OBSERVER

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Voting for Valedictorian is Out Memorial Service Held

by Sarah Fineberg

In the past years at Yeshiva University, the senior students played a major role in the decision of who was to be selected as the valedictorian - the student having the highest rank in a graduating class, who delivers the farewell address at the commencement exercises. This year the decision will be made by the administration, without the input of the senior class.

The process of selecting the valedictorian originally began in the registrar's office, which would calculate the three highest grade point averages (GPA). Afterwards, the senior class would be presented with

the three possible candidates for valedictorian, and a vote would take place. The candidate receiving the largest amount of votes from their peers would be named the valedictorian.

According to Dean Karen Bacon, the change of policy regarding the selection of valedictorian took place for several reasons. Last year, the Jewish Studies Department was named the Rebecca Ivy Department. The administration felt that with the establishment of the new department, there should be a valedictorian in Judaic studies as well as in academic studies.

The second reason is that a large number of students felt

that students voting for their choice of valedictorian was unfair. This would make the receiving of the honorary status seem nothing more than winning a popularity contest.

Several students took action by voicing their complaints to the Academic Standard Committee. They turned the problem over to the school Senate. Under the guidance of Yoninah Segal, the Senate President, the Senate came up with a proposal. There will be a valedictorian selected among those who major in Judaic studies. It will be determined by the major with the highest GPA in Judaic studies. There will also be a valedictorian selected with the highest GPA overall.

According to Dr. Miriam Grosf, a previous advisor of the Senate, this situation of valedictorian selection is "a tempest in a tea bag." Students should have a say in who becomes valedictorian, for the valedictorian is selected to represent the graduating class.

In other colleges it is particularly important that the valedictorian possess excellent oratory skills as well as the highest grade point average. For example, at Harvard University, auditions are held for the honor of giving the valedictory speech.

In retaliation to this, Dena Penn, a Senate officer, suggests that the valedictory award should be considered purely an academic one. The school offers other various service awards. As of now, the valedictorian honor is solely determined by numbers, for it was a unanimous vote among Senate members that this be the true basis of the award.

For Dr. Julian Roberts

by Sharon Feder

"The mark of a good teacher and college is the joy he takes in his students and colleagues' accomplishments." According to Dr. Judith Kaufman and 15 other prominent speakers at a packed memorial service held in Koch Auditorium, the pleasure Dr. Julian Roberts took in other people's successes was immeasurable.

Dr. Roberts, who passed away a month ago, touched the lives of many individuals both as doctoral advisor in the Ferkauf graduate program and as the chairman of the education department in SCW. Dr. Miriam Grosf, a professional at SCW, opened the evening with recollections of the



Dr. Julian Roberts

enthusiasm and energy with which Dr. Roberts "threw himself into Stern College." His doctoral advisees recalled a similar enthusiasm with which Dr. Roberts showed in their work and personal lives. He dealt with everyone sincerely and tenderly, guiding his students through the "horrors of teaching in inner-city ghetto schools." Without him, they all agreed, many would not have completed their dissertations.

Annie Richter, an SCW senior majoring in education, described the care and concern Dr. Roberts always showed the education majors. He would regularly greet former students in the hall and show a concern so genuine that one could not help but respond. Dr. Bevan, a political science professor said that not only was he concerned about the welfare of the education majors, but in sharing an office with her, he "adopted many of the political science students as well."

Dr. Roberts was instrumental in the development of the growing early childhood education department, and of the writing center. He wanted everything to be arranged perfectly, according to Dr. Robertson, "because he cared about the students who were going to be helped by it." Dr. Azrieli, director of Azrieli graduate school, described him as an individual who loved to give "of his time, his energy, his expertise and most importantly, of himself." He never spoke badly about others, and never wearied others with his personal sorrows.

Adjectives such as warm, caring, generous, supportive, dependable, gentle, and trusting, were just a few of the many

Lack of Dorm Space Impacts Resident Assistant Selection

by Rachel Mandel

50 women applied, and 16 received positions. The competition for this job is particularly keen and so, the selection process must be particularly demanding.

The job of a resident assistant has in the past been defined as an advisory role. Students are encouraged to approach their resident assistants with personal as well as scholastic problems, and expect to receive a mature and understanding shoulder to lean on, or cry on, as the case may be. As part of the selection and elimination process, the applicant fills out a standard application listing previous job experience, scholastic and service honors. They must also submit 3 letters of recommendation, preferably from employers. The crucial part of the selection process

is a 30 minute interview conducted by any two of Zeldia Braun, Director of Student Services, Ilene Kupferman, Dormitory Supervisor, and Dr. Regina Green, the newest member of Stern College's counseling staff.

The various questions asked of the graduating seniors, and juniors entering their senior years, were indeed serious, thought-provoking questions. Especially at issue was the student's ability to handle and act on religious questions (e.g. dealing with Sabbath observance (or lack thereof) in the dormitory), knowledge of violations of shmirat negiah, questions on kashruth. Of particular importance, explained Mrs. Braun, was the manner in which the student would handle the revealed

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FIRE!

by Joan P. Weiner

A fire which severely burned the building adjacent to Stern College over the recent Passover vacation, has caused much damage to the school building.

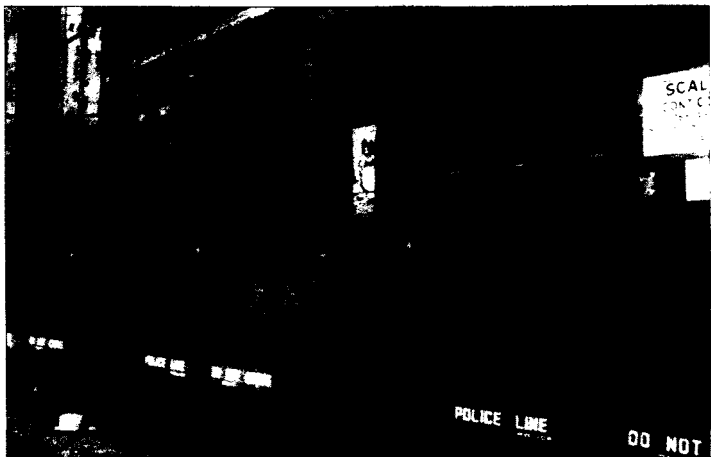
The heat generated by the fire melted the tar off the roof of the burning building, which lies directly below Stern's third floor. The noxious odor left by the fumes of the melted tar still lingers throughout the school building.

The most extensive damage done by the fire was to Stern's new computer lab on the third floor. The lab, which contained nine newly purchased IBM pc's and one printer, was left covered in a thick layer of soot and dirt. Although no permanent damage was done to the machines, it took six men days to completely clean them. Each computer was opened and compressed air blown in to remove every particle of dust and soot. According to Lenny Brandwein, Director of Laboratories at Yeshiva University, "It was a major or minor miracle that they only needed cleaning."

The heat generated by the fire was hot enough to melt a vinyl seatcover in a nearby classroom and a styrofoam cup in the computer lab. Such high temperatures could have been potentially very harmful to the very heat sensitive computers. No students reported lost work due to the temporary loss of the computers.

The irritating odor of the melted tar affected rooms from the basement to the fourth

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Burned-out buildings on the corner of 34th and Lex are the cause of odor-filled hallways and classrooms in the Stern College building.

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Editorial

No Voting for Valedictorian

By a vote of the Stern College Senate, seniors are no longer eligible to vote or have any say in whom their valedictorian will be. In the past, the students with the top three GPAs were put on a ballot and voted upon by the senior class. However, this has been construed as turning an academic honor into a popularity contest - and for that, there are separate awards. The valedictorian, however, is someone who, in addition to his/her academic excellence, represents his/her graduating class, and addresses his/her fellow graduates at senior dinner. For this reason, the seniors should have a right to choose whom they would like to represent them.

When it boils down to a difference of a fraction of a decimal point, all three top contenders are deserving of honor. It is a question of who the students feel is most representative of themselves. In the past, voted-upon valedictorians have indeed been representative, and not chosen simply for their popularity. They were not chosen without thought.

Is there so little faith in the students of the senior class?

If That's What it's All About-I'm Moving Out

We have to be out by 12:00 noon, Friday, June 3. With finals over on June 1, it doesn't leave much time for packing. For graduating seniors, their dinner immediately follows their last exams, with graduation taking place early Thursday morning, running at least until Noon. It takes much longer than half of a day to pack up a year's worth of accumulated belongings. It is a major inconvenience to spend reading week cleaning and packing rather than studying for exams.

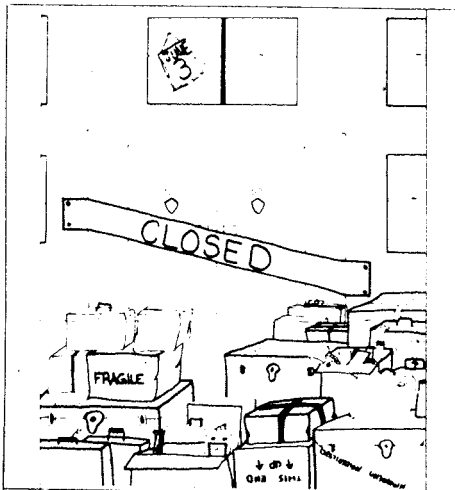
The decision to close the dorm on Friday rather than waiting until after the weekend was made by "a committee" which consisted of people who represented student affairs, security, facilities management, etc. with Dr. Efreim Nulman, dean of students, chairing. According to the Office of Facilities Management, it was simply "advised" of this decision and had no say in the matter.

According to Dr. Nulman, the dorm has always closed on Friday, with the exception of last year when a petition with 250 signatures was submitted. The petition, however, "did not reflect reality," said Dr. Nulman, because only a handful of women actually remained over the weekend. When asked why the dorm couldn't be re-opened after the weekend, so the women could collect their belongings, Dr. Nulman responded that a major "plant operations overhaul" was being planned and it would commence on Sunday. This major overhaul couldn't wait one day due to scheduling reasons.

Long distance travel on Friday poses a major problem for students, especially seniors who cannot leave before then. There are students who will not take a chance of missing a connecting flight or cancellation of a flight in fear of violating Shabbat. They must, with all their belongings, find somewhere to spend Shabbat in New York.

Dr. Nulman maintains that "there is no reason that people can't pack before - it doesn't have to be left for the last day." In addition, the university does not want to "maintain full services" in the dorm after graduation, and does not want to take responsibility for students after graduation.

The decision to close the dorm on June 3 was obviously well-thought out selfishly to benefit "the committee." Why can't they think of the convenience of the students for once? How about a graduation present of a free weekend at Brookdale Hall?



THE OBSERVER

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Letters

I Want to Vote!

To the Editor:

Maybe I was sleeping. No, I must've been in class. Let me ask you - did you vote for valedictorian for the graduating class of 1988? Don't even bother answering because the answer is no!

In the past, the choice of valedictorians has been left to the senior class to vote on. Seniors would choose from two or three students with the highest GPAs who they thought would be most deserving of this great honor. This year, however, the valedictorian was chosen by "the Authorities" and the seniors had absolutely no say in the matter.

Wendy Zierler, the chosen one, is absolutely deserving of the honor, and I am not

questioning her personally, but the method. Firstly, Wendy is a January '88 graduate and has been in Israel since then. Would it be too logical to think that a valedictorian should be graduating in June with the class she represents? Not only is our valedictorian not a student in Stern this semester, but she may not even attend our graduation because she is somewhere, someplace in Israel and nobody seems to know if she will be able to attend graduation. Isn't the valedictorian the representative of the graduating class and speaks at senior dinner? Are we going to have a stand-in to represent us?

One last point: Last year, Wendy was presented with a senior award for creative writing as part of the graduating class of 1987. Does graduating in January make you eligible twice? Is this something like having a double curriculum?? When the question was brought up, why the award was given when Wendy wasn't even a candidate for graduation, the answer from "the Authorities" was that it was a "mistake".

After hearing this I wonder to myself, how many other "mistakes" are made in this institution. Maybe I shouldn't even ask.

Senior '88

Name Withheld upon Request

Crowded Dorm—
Here We Go Again

To the Editor:

The year in which I entered SCW as a sophomore, I came into a room with four other girls; I shared a bunk bed with one. All physical cramping aside, my concerns were more for the emotional ramifications of five girls living together who essentially did not know each other. The relationships which evolved entailed not only friendships, but jealousies, misunderstandings, and eventually moving out. A room which is subdued by the pressures of tense moments is no pleasure to sleep in, much less study or live in.

As the tensions relaxed and the rooms became less crowded, my subsequent years at Stern enabled me to appreciate the comfort and security of living with people who are essentially at the same stage in life as I am.

This year, the dorm is again expected to be crowded. SCW is letting itself into a potentially awkward situation. I would hate to see the atmosphere spoiled by the tensions and incompatibility which can arise

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Nowhere to
Go on June 3

To the Editor:

I have recently been informed of the closing date of the dorm and let me tell you that it does not make me very happy. Not only do I have to be out of the dorm one day after graduation which immediately follows senior dinner which immediately follows the last day of finals, but that day is Friday, Erev Shabbos. Even if I find some way to get all my things together by noon on June 3, where am I supposed to go with it? Not only am I expected to pick up my life and move it in one day but it's got to be done before sundown. I guess I can be a bag lady for the weekend or be "mechalel shabbos." What a choice, huh? I guess I could probably stay at a friend's house for shabbos. Anybody out there have room for me? And my two trunks?

Oh sure - I've been given reasons for the dorm closing on June 3rd. There won't be dorm counselors, it'll cost too much, and nobody stayed for that weekend last year. Well, first off, I was here for that weekend last year. And there was a number of other students who were there as well - that's

continued on p. 11, col. 4.

Observations on SAGES

To the Editor:

I enjoyed reading the informative article on "Project SAGES" by Jessica Goldsmith, that appeared in the last issue of *The Observer*. As a participant in "Project SAGES," I would like to add some of my personal observations about this program.

Every week I visit a blind, elderly widow who lives on the Lower East Side. We discuss different topics, from politics to social events. Despite her loneliness she has a positive

attitude toward life, saying "I'll accept whatever Hashem has to give me." It is inspiring to me to share thoughts with this courageous woman. I have grown both spiritually and emotionally through my participation in this program.

I would like to encourage the students of Stern College who are interested in "chesed" activities to contact Prof. Ivan Tille.

Judy Pianko
SCW '89

OPINION

The Final Testimony of the 1988 Senior

by Ariella Schreiber

Farewell, Farewell! a word that must be, and hath been. a sound which makes us linger-yet, farewell!

Lord Byron

The last official issue of *The Observer* 1987-88 is the appropriate place for the final testimony of the 1988 Senior. The word "graduation" to those anxiously and not so anxiously awaiting that fateful day in June, evokes a series of feelings and memories. Inevitably, the questioned Senior sighs and then responds, "Well its been a good four years, but it's time to move on..."

SO WHAT WAS IT LIKE WHEN...

The consensus among the interviewed graduates was that from the aesthetics to the academics, Stern College has been in flux during the last four years. "When we first came," says one senior, "there was uproar over the painting of the Stern College library pink and burgundy. The classic comment was whether or not they painted the uptown campus blue. Now, the school building has become (in response?) a painter's palette."

As far as lounging goes...

Stern seniors remember when the Orange Lounge was the nice lounge...and when the wicker chairs and grey carpeting first arrived in the Front Lounge, making it the new place to be. Another notable addition to the University is the student lounge in the school building. Perfect for in between class naps or catching the Oprah Winfrey show, the lounge has managed to keep in pace with the times since it is now open hours parallel to those of the Stern Library.

Speaking of the library... Seniors have followed the ongoing literary dispute to its (almost, but not quite yet) fruition. Many of them having assiduously followed *The Observer* refrain of "the boys are getting a swimming pool and a gym SO WHERE IS OUR LIBRARY." Of course, we did get the vending caf (where is it, anyway?) which

is now to be sacrificed for the aforementioned cause.

A library subtopic has been the growing Stern Dormitory Beis Medrash, equipped with everything from morning minyan to Tehillim sessions. In the spirit of expansion, there has been talk of a room swap between the "don't open that window" First Floor Study Hall (conveniently located next door to Milner's Market) and the Beis Medrash. Since a Stern College creed is "a sound mind in a sound body," the exercise room must be mentioned. Enough said.

TRANSPORTATION

The Senior remembers the proliferation of vans between the uptown and downtown campuses, as well as the threatened cancellation of the service. Even more fondly recalled, is the Stern Library Van which ran rain or shine, full or empty, from Stern College to Brookdale Hall. Two minutes walking - ten minutes by car. Recently, subsidized transportation has expanded to include trips abroad. From trips to behind the Iron Curtain, to summer tours of Italy, Stern students are on the move.

ACADEMICS

Everyone interviewed agreed that the academic opportunities offered to the Stern student have increased and improved in the last four years. Credit was unanimously attributed to pressure exerted by both students and faculty. The history, philosophy, biology and computer departments were cited by a majority of students as being among those departments most improved. Deserving of an honorable mention is the addition of a new computer room, which has brought Stern into the computer/word processor age. (A suggested technological innovation for the dormitory has been an answering machine for each dorm room.) Another, deservedly praised academic institution, is the visiting professors who have added diversity to the Stern curriculum.

THEMES

No 1988 graduate could ignore certain themes propelling the College's recent history. We were privileged to be present for the inauguration of the Sy Syms Business School, which made us all more "educated consumers." As undergraduates, we were barraged by Centennial paper plates, napkins and the eternally present Centennial tray. As recently as last year, Stern students were taught to think in a "tank" and the infinite ways of best synthesizing Torah and Madah.

Changing times means the changing of the guards...from Mrs. Zuroff to Mrs. Braun; from the Reichs' to the Kupfermans'; from Professors on and off Sabbaticals; and others who will be sorely missed...

AND OF COURSE THE GRADUATES...

"As Seniors we have moved," says one graduate, "from being undecided to mostly decided. Seriously, we should be proud of our peers who are taking interesting and diverse steps towards their future." For some graduates, the next several years will be spent in professional schools of law, business or medicine. Others are pursuing doctoral degrees in philosophy, English, psychology...in Universities ranging from Brandeis to Princeton to Ferkauf. Then there are the Stern Women entering the work force in marketing, accounting and teaching positions.

EXCERPTED QUOTES FROM THE GRADUATE

So how do we feel right now... Elated, bittersweet. Reassured that some things will never change, like crowded elevators and bran muffins for breakfast. These last four years have been frustrating and enriching. Four years? You mean two and a half. I'll miss not being able to talk in the library. Actually, right now all I'm thinking about is trying to find a summer job. Four years is a long time to be in one place - but its been a relatively good long time...

AU REVOIR Stern College, its been a true experience.

Terrorism: No Stranger to the State of Israel

by Yaffa Weiss

It is a great tragedy when we find ourselves defending our enemies.

One wouldn't expect it, especially after the countless horrors which we have experienced; numerous terrorist incidents which make our blood boil just to think of them. Just a few short weeks ago, we rallied when we heard of the meaningless deaths of two women, both mothers, and a widowed father, killed in cold blood on a bus in Dimona. We seethed when we read in *The Jerusalem Post* that because of the incident, people from Beerseba find themselves afraid to travel the roads of the Negev. "I'm truly scared," said a Beerseba businessman. "Last night I slept with a handgun under my pillow."

Terrorism is no stranger to the State of Israel; people have adjusted easily to the routine searches for bombs on public buses and the signs warning passers-by to beware of suspicious objects. Yet despite the regularity, after each incident the hurt still remains. It is not just the hurt of loved ones perishing for no reason, it is the hurt of feeling unwelcome in your own home.

It is the hurt of being reminded that even though Israel is a Jewish state, Israelis still suffer from anti-semitism.

It comes as a surprise, therefore, that a recent article in *The Commentator* has gone so far as to protest the recent murder of top PLO official Khalil Al-Wazir, who was better known as Abu Jihad, Yasir Arafat's right-hand man. The author of the article made the conclusion, as many have done,

that Israel was responsible for the murder. He commented that Palestinian might argue that Abu Jihad's death is comparable to attacks on Israeli citizens, who all serve in the army. He further stated that we, as Jews, have to live as moral and ethical examples to the world.

There is a vast difference between the murder of innocent women and children, who do not serve in the army, and the assassination of a known PLO commander. While I agree that we as Jews, and Israel as a Jewish State, should be a "light to all nations," I am of the opinion that in order to do so, we must survive.

To suggest that Israel deal with terrorists as she would deal with any other criminal is unrealistic. I believe that if there would have been a feasible way in which to put Abu Jihad on trial, Israel would have attempted to do so. Yet I am willing to wager that had Israel even succeeded in capturing the PLO commander, numerous Jews would have been held hostage and subsequently murdered in the name of his release.

I am not attempting to define what our moral or halachic codes should be. Nobody is saying that we should have a party in honor of Abu's death. Yet to actually come to his defense, to say that Abu Jihad should be allowed to carry out further terrorist attacks because of our ideas about moral issues, is nothing more than a warped way of thinking.

And if you don't agree with me, try talking to the Dimona victims' families...

Junior/Senior Class Shabbaton May 13-14
(last Shabbat before reading week!)

It will be a Shabbat To Remember!

ATTENTION SENIORS!

***Hand in Senior Dinner response cards as soon as possible to ensure seating preferences- To Hana Kopmar, 19B**

***Bring in raffle money to Rames in 11E or Stacy in 5E.**

Office of Student Services
Stern College for Women

Record of Participation
in Extra-Curricular Activities Year Ending June 19

THIS REPORTING THE COLLEGE REQUIRES REPORTS FOR INFORMATION ABOUT STUDENT'S ACTIVITY IN THE AREA OF LEISURE, RECREATION, AND SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY. THIS INFORMATION IS USED FOR THE PURPOSES OF THE COLLEGE AND IS NOT TO BE USED FOR ANY OTHER PURPOSE. THE COLLEGE DOES NOT GUARANTEE THE ACCURACY OF THE INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE STUDENT. THE COLLEGE DOES NOT ASSUME ANY LIABILITY FOR THE LOSS OF OR DAMAGE TO ANY INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE STUDENT.

NAME _____ ID NO _____

SCW Class (circle) _____ Date _____

TYPE OF ACTIVITY	EXTENT OF PARTICIPATION (Positions held, etc.)
I. CLUBS	
1. _____	_____
2. _____	_____
3. _____	_____
4. _____	_____
5. _____	_____
II. STUDENT GOVERNMENT	
1. Student Council (specify which)	_____
2. Office of Class	_____
3. Committee	_____
4. Other	_____
III. PUBLICATIONS	
1. Observer	_____
2. EchoStar	_____
3. FAC Publications	_____
4. SCW Literary Publications	_____
IV. TEAMS	
1. _____	_____
2. _____	_____
3. _____	_____
V. OTHER PERTINENT INFORMATION	
1. _____	_____
2. _____	_____
3. _____	_____

Date _____

Pick this form up in Room 110 and complete by May 5th to be eligible for service awards!!

Mehler Elected Editor

by Rachel Mandel

By a unanimous vote of the governing board, Amy Mehler, a 21 year-old English Communications major, has been elected the editor-in-chief of the 1988-89 *Observer*.

Hailing from Baltimore, Md, Ms. Mehler became involved with the newspaper in her sophomore year. In September of her junior year, she accepted the position of assistant editor.

Involved with the paper for one year, Ms. Mehler states that in the beginning, she "never thought of being editor-in-chief." However, as the year progressed she realized working on the paper was what she wanted and was most happy doing. "I made it my business to be as involved as I could be. I plunged into every aspect of the paper."

The most rewarding part of working on the paper, states Ms. Mehler, is watching an idea formulate and take shape. She looks forward to each issue with new excitement. "It's like giving birth every month." Working together with people towards a joint and mutual goal is another aspect of the paper that Ms. Mehler enjoys. "A special bond of friendship and trust develops," says Ms. Mehler, when a project of importance equal in importance to all people is worked on together.

As a whole, Ms. Mehler believes that there is not enough student interest in the newspaper. It is her hope that this attitude will change. "If the newspaper should be the heartbeat of the school," she

says. She plans to heighten student awareness and involvement by enlarging the governing staff, which will help the paper reach a greater audience. People read the paper when someone they know is involved, or if their name is mentioned, explained Ms. Mehler.

Ms. Mehler was encouraged by the comparatively large amount of applicants vying for positions on the 1988-89 board. She feels that this interest is due to *The Observer's* success this past year, specifically regarding the types of issues covered.

As a writer and an editor, Ms. Mehler "takes pride in the school." Covering events, career forums, lectures, professorial and student achievements, etc., "reflects a resurgence of ambition among the students." She also adds that "if you can't be there, then at least you can read about it and appreciate what Stern has to offer."

Plans for next year include enlarging the editorial staff to include associate positions, reviving the cultural arts section, adding advertising staff to bring in additional revenue and broaden the reach of the newspaper. She also plans to conduct mandatory writing seminars and word-processing training.

In the past, Ms. Mehler has served an editorial internship at *PARENTGUIDE* Magazine, is currently employed at Frank Promotions, a public relations firm and serves on the literary staff of *Besamim*, the literary arts journal of Stern College. *continued on p. 12, col. 4.*

Freedom Day Rally Held Despite Rumors of Cancellation

by Yaffa Weiss

"We are gathered here today to tell the President that words aren't enough! We want deeds! We want action!"

So spoke Rabbi Avi Weiss while addressing approximately 2000 people who came to the Freedom Day for Soviet Jews, which took place on May 1 in front of the Soviet Mission. The rally featured speakers such as former Soviet refuseniks Joseph and Nechama Begun, Congressman Ted Weiss, Congressman Bill Green, and various noted clergy members as well. The message of the demonstration, freedom for Soviet Jewry, was expressed through chants, speeches, singing, marching, and a variety of different banners proclaiming anything from "Let my people go!" to "Kiss my glasnost!"

According to Glenn Richter, director of the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry, the rally was scheduled specifically at this time in order to voice protest before the May 29th Moscow summit. Richter noted that for the past seventeen years, the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry combined forces with the Coalition to Free Soviet

Jews to sponsor the annual Solidarity Sunday protest, a much more expensive and publicized rally. When asked why Solidarity Sunday was cancelled this year, Richter attributed the change to a "bad tactical error." He claims that the Coalition to Free Soviet Jews denied that the cancellation came as a result of pressure from Washington, Israel, or the Soviets, and was not, as many have theorized, on account of fear that too few would come to the protest after the December Washington rally which drew 200,000. Rather, Richter admitted that he "still can't figure out why" Solidarity Sunday was cancelled.

Despite the lower budget, however, Richter says that the Freedom Day for Soviet Jewry Rally was still successful in delivering its message to the public. Richter notes that the event made a statement to the U.S. government, to the presidential candidates, and even to Soviets, whom officials reported were spotted videotaping the protest.

The event was attended by students and parents alike and leaflets, signs, and postcards

Pesach Seder at an Israeli Army Base

by Deena Yellin

The Seder night is a night different from all other nights. But for the Lader family of Neve Aliza, this year's Seder was different from all other Seders.

Louise Lader, an olah to Israel lives with her family in a small yishuv called Neve Aliza. It is located in the Shomron, referred to by some as the West Bank. The chief Rabbinate of Israel sends people to conduct Passover Seders at army bases for soldiers who are on duty during the holiday, she explained, "We heard that in Azun they didn't have anyone...so we volunteered." Although Pesach night is one in which we are enjoined to have many guests, few families went to the lengths that the Laders did. Thus, on Seder night while other families prepared the festive meal in their dining room, Chaim and Louise Lader, along with their seven children, ventured out to the city of Azun in which some 5000 Arabs reside, to conduct a Seder for Israeli soldiers.

Until recently, there was no army base in Azun, an Arab city which is situated on the Qualkiya-Shechem road. However, due to some violent acts by Arab residents, about one hundred soldiers were brought to it. According to Sharon Weingarten, a local resident, "In the past year there have been increased acts of violence in the area, including incidents in Azun such as rock throwing and tire bombs..." Furthermore, there was a need to bring in more defence forces

were distributed with names of Soviet refuseniks printed on them. While the crowd was mainly Jewish, Sister Dr. Rose Thering made a point in her speech to show Catholic support for Soviet Jewry's release. "I want a Christian and Catholic voice to be heard when Jews are suffering cultural genocide," she claimed. The rally was primarily a peaceful one, with only one reported incident of a group blocking traffic in protest.

Memorial Service

continued on p. 1 col. 5. words which the speakers repeatedly used in describing Dr. Roberts, Prof. Schram and Dr. Perlman recalled his ability to see both sides of a fight, "to take the role of separating two snarling dogs even though he would be bitten by both and thanked by none." It was easy to take his friendship for granted. "I didn't have to do anything to be his friend. I simply was."

Dean Bacon described him as a humble man who always treated people with respect. He was one who could always be depended on by those who

attended the Seder were from observant homes. Some, had never been to a Seder before. But the Laders perceived this as an important opportunity to instill Jewish values and create a positive Jewish experience. "They are all Jews and have the light the shined through during the Seder." Said Mrs. Lader. A success story was when one soldier admitted to them "I have never participated in a Seder like this before, when I go home I want to do this also."

The Seder took place under the stars in a courtyard of the army base. Chaim Lader explained that "The atmosphere was emotionally charged and the active participation of the soldiers created a Holiday atmosphere which has not been seen since the Kingdom of Judea." The blend of different backgrounds, both Ashkenazik and Sefardik, enriched the evening. The Laders did their utmost to encourage active participation and soldiers who knew different customs were enjoined to share them with the others. Surprisingly enough, Chaim Lader and one of the soldiers had the same custom of placing the Seder plate over the head, the origins of which is Moroccan. Because of the size of the Seder not everyone knew the same tunes, Mrs. Lader admitted, but everyone joined in and sang anyway.

Although not all the soldiers were able to be present at the Seder (some were on duty) they were able to feel a part of it. One group of soldiers who were on patrol and initially felt left out because they could not join in the festivities told the Lader family they had been listening the entire time and were able to feel a part of the Holiday spirit.

On Seder night there is a juxtaposition of emotions. We remember the bitterness of servitude and are thus unhappy but we also celebrate our freedom and are happy. So too at the Laders Seder there were mixed emotions. The bitterness was created by the plight of the Israelis against the Arabs, and thus the need for defence forces in the Shomron, and the happiness was what was generated by the Seder itself. One soldier expressed his mixed feelings with a particularly poignant comment, "I know my mother has been crying at home because I can not be with her for the Seder. But tonight with you now, I am singing and am happy."

Chaim Lader pointed out that not all the soldiers who

needed him. Phyllis Silver added that, "his graciousness even filtered down to the registrar's office. It was a pleasure to work with him and for him."

Dr Roberts' primary belief was that "education is a tool for helping people." He devoted his life to helping humanity and accomplished his task by touching the lives of a whole new generation of teachers. Carl Rogers wrote, "I must be genuinely myself, not acting a part." Dr. Roberts never pretended to be what he wasn't. It is for what he was that he will be sorely missed.

attended the Seder were from observant homes. Some, had never been to a Seder before. But the Laders perceived this as an important opportunity to instill Jewish values and create a positive Jewish experience. "They are all Jews and have the light the shined through during the Seder." Said Mrs. Lader. A success story was when one soldier admitted to them "I have never participated in a Seder like this before, when I go home I want to do this also."

The Laders emphasized that the Jewish settlers are not intimidated by Arab violence. "We live here and we don't consider it dangerous. Some Israelis perceive the residents of Judea and Samaria as disobedient." But the Laders hope they were able to dispel such notions at the Seder. Mrs. Lader contended that one message she feels she was able to get across to some of the soldiers was that "The people of the Shomron are good people after all...and perhaps all of Israel is to be defended." The people of Neve Aliza contributed to the Laders Seder in their own way, giving cakes and chocolates for the soldiers. Said Mrs. Lader "They feel a part of it and really care."

One might wonder how the soldiers felt about their Seder experience and what they told others about it. Several days later, the Laders knew the answer. "We met a fellow who hadn't been at the base for the Seder," said Mrs. Lader, he explained that he was sorry he had missed the Seder at the army base because he kept hearing about how a family came in to Azun to conduct the Seder and made it a magnificent experience.

Letters

Crowded Dorm

continued from p. 2 col. 3.

in cramped quarters. I have heard that dorm counselors are being chosen from the 1989 Senior Class, as opposed to alumnae, in order to conserve space. I have found during the course of the past three years, that there is a certain amount of experience which only a graduate can bring to the aforementioned position.

To refrain from obtaining additional property due to financial reasons is understandable; to sacrifice the quality of dorm life is not. One would hope that SCW would be so ecstatic over its growing population as to provide them with the best possible accommodations. Having enjoyed my years at Stern, I wish this college continued success and continued expansion.

Sara Silberman
SCW '88

Dean of Ferkauf Graduate School Tragically Killed

Dr. Morton Berger, dean of the Ferkauf Graduate School of Psychology (FGS) at Yeshiva University, was killed on April 14, 1988 in a car accident on the New York State Thruway as he drove to his home in Albany, NY. He was 53 years old.

According to Sergeant Martin Hansen of the State Police in Tarrytown, NY, Dr. Berger died instantly at 10:20 p.m. when his car, entering a north-bound entrance lane to the Thruway in the town of Ramapo, was struck head-on by a vehicle which had mistakenly entered the same lane and proceeded south.

The driver of the other car, Greg Dykstra, sustained minor injuries and will be arraigned on charges of driving while intoxicated and vehicular manslaughter.

Prior to his appointment in 1977, Dr. Berger has served since 1971 as executive secretary of the New York State Board for Psychology and as an official of the New York State Department of Education.

Prior to his post at the State Education Department, Dr. Berger was chief psychologist, Albany County Mental Health Services; chief psychologist, Outpatient Department, Albany V.A. Hospital; and staff psychologist, Albany V.A. Hospital.

Dr. Berger held a number of part-time positions and consultancies in the Albany and Upstate area since the mid-1960s. Since 1963, he was a clinical instructor in psychiatry (psychology) at Albany Medical College, and since 1971 was a psychological consultant at Russel Sage College, Student Health Service, Troy, and at the Albany County Mental Health Clinic.

Dr. Berger also served a

psychological consultant to the Schenectady Council on Alcoholism and consultant at Albany County Youthful Drug Abuse Clinic in Albany.

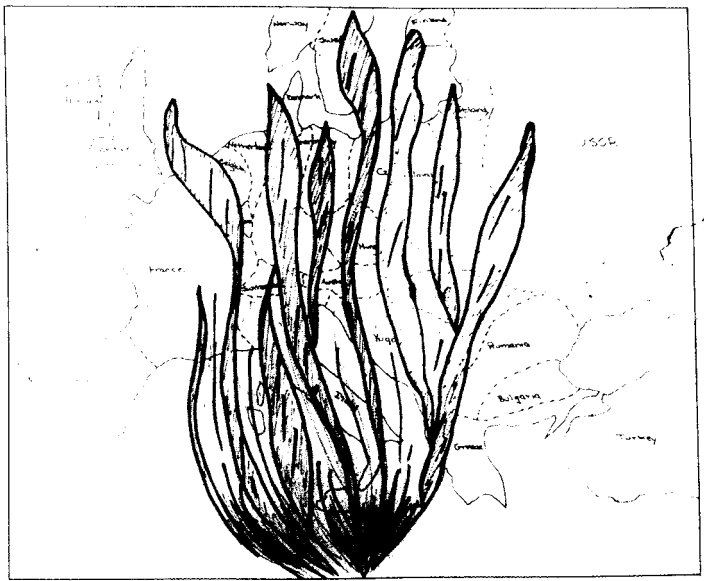
Dr. Berger was a member at large of Executive Committee, American Association of State Psychology Boards; chairman, Committee on Education and Credentialing, American Association of State Psychology Boards; and member, Steering Committee, American Psychological Association-sponsored conference on Education and Credentialing in Psychology.

Dr. Berger served as chief administrative officer of FGS, which offers the Master of Arts in general psychology; Doctor of Psychology in clinical and school psychology; and Doctor of Philosophy degree in clinical and developmental-experimental psychology (with a concentration in developmental psychology/bilingual education), in school psychology, and in experimental psychology (with a concentration in health psychology and neuropsychology).

In addition to his Deanship at the Ferkauf Graduate School, Dr. Berger had served as University Dean for the Behavioral and Social Sciences from 1977-1980 and was charged with the responsibility for all behavioral and social science education and research on the undergraduate and graduate level at the university.

Dr. Berger earned a diploma in Jewish education at Yeshiva University's Teachers Institute (now Isaac Breuer College of Hebraic Studies) in 1955; the bachelor's degree the following year at Yeshiva College, and the M.S. in 1962 and Ph.D. in clinical psychology in 1963 from the University of Massachusetts.

Dr. Berger is survived by his wife, three children and a brother.



District Attorney Elizabeth Holtzman Speaks at Yom HaShoah Program

by Sara Silberman

"If the flame of justice dies, can the flame of remembrance still burn?" This was the sentiment which prevailed at the Yom Hashoah program, held in Rubin Shul on April 13. The abovementioned question was posed by District Attorney Elizabeth Holtzman, the keynote speaker. The program began with a statement by Stephen Glicksman, who planned the event together with the help of Rabbi Marc Mandel. Mr. Glicksman dedicated the program to the memory of Raoul Wallenberg, a Swedish

diplomat and saviour of 100,000 Jews during World War II. Wallenberg disappeared in January of 1945, when the Russians took him into protective custody.

Ms. Holtzman, as well, praised the efforts of the righteous gentiles, such as Wallenberg. She also dealt with the courage which was exhibited during the Holocaust, and the justice which needs to be done now. She cited the armed resistance of Jews in Warsaw, Vilna, the death camps, and forests — as well as the "resistance of love" in the face of a horrible future. She honored those whose families managed to stay together, and those individuals who managed to survive the war.

Ms. Holtzman expressed rage at those countries who witnessed the Holocaust indifferently: The British who could have opened the gates to Palestine; the Canadians who

said, "One Jew is One Jew too many;" and the Allies who could have bombed the railroad tracks which led to the death camps.

This indifference, she said, is evident, even today, in the lack of prosecution against Nazi war criminals. Ms. Holtzman cited the examples of Kurt Waldheim and Klaus Barbie, who were temporarily protected from judgement of their war crimes by the United Nations and United States, respectively. Further apathy is shown by the existence of the Aryan Brotherhood; the United Nation's vote of Zionism as Racism; and President Ronald Reagan's placing of a wreath at the grave of an S.S. soldier in Bittburg, Germany.

Ms. Holtzman emphasized the need for Jews everywhere to honor the victims of the Holocaust by dispelling this apathy. "We must bring to justice those who escaped through repeated indifference." She has been instrumental in American efforts to prosecute war criminals, which have resulted in 19 deportations and 26 trials. "We are here because we have the power to make the difference. Raoul Wallenberg teaches us that."

The service concluded with a rendition of Av Harachamim, sung by Ira Rhodes.



Rabbi Adin Steinsaltz, world famous scholar and author of the Steinsaltz Babylonian and Jerusalem Talmud, gave a lecture April 18 to a packed audience in YU's Lampport Auditorium. Rabbi Steinsaltz spoke about the ideology of Torah U'Mada in modern times.

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HARVEST
 Our people are working the black soil.
 Their arms reap the gold sheaves.
 And now when the last ear its stalk leaves
 Our faces glitter as with gilded oil...

Celebrating Yovel at 40

IBCSC/YCSC Concert Celebrates Yovel at 40 Controversy

by Miriam Silber
 Yom Ha'atzmaut was celebrated this year with two consecutive spectacular events at Yeshiva's uptown campus. The 40th anniversary of Israel's independence was commemorated with the SOY Chagiga and the IBCSC/YCSC Concert.

Although many shunned the concert, claiming it was not "docheh s'fira," leaving Lamport Auditorium with empty seats, Rav Aharon Soloveitchek had approved of the event, along with Rabbi Yosef Blau, the Mashgiach Ruchani of Yeshiva University. The hundreds of students who did attend found most of the

evening's programming to be in full Israeli spirit. According to Gary Berger, the director of IBCSC and organizer of the concert, approximately 1,000 people attended the event. The night's entertainment was subsidized by SOY and YCSC. The amount of money used for the event was not disclosed.

As an enjoyable money was used from funds left over from other events. Extra money was used on "extras" for the concert such as free pins, boppers, and Israeli flags.

The concert opened with David Ben Gurion's speech declaring Palestine as the State

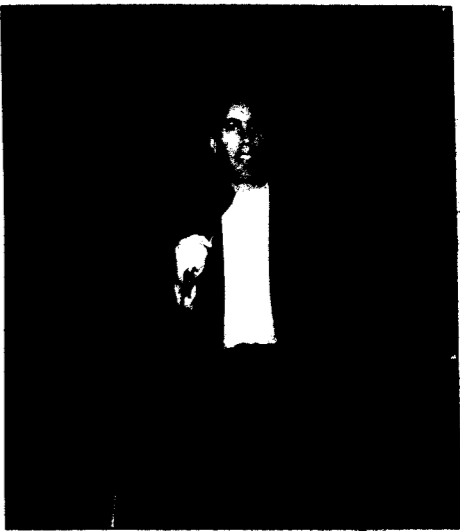
of Israel. The first act to come on stage was "The Shema Yisroel Orchestra." The band was particularly unusual as they

did not have a Jewish soloist. The orchestra chose Jewish songs which were particularly unusual as they

television many times. Yoel Sharabi was, for many, the highlight of the evening. Despite sound difficulties, Yoel's exciting year past performances were reported to be better from SOY and YCSC. The amount of money used for the event was not disclosed.

The evening ended with the audience joining Yoel in a moving Hatikva.

"From a technical standpoint," said Gary Berger, "the concert was a complete success. Other than sound difficulties, the show was flawless. It is unfortunate, though, that so many people who would have enjoyed the concert missed it due to a lack of understanding of our particular program and of certain halachic questions that had previously been paskined by Yeshiva rabbeim in years past. In the end, most everyone found the program to be in good taste in enhancing the spirit of simchat yom tov."



Jerry Seinfeld

... From where comes the new light and voice.
 From where the resounding song at hand?
 From where the fighting spirit and new faith?
 From you, fertile Emeck, from you, my land.

by Hannah Senesh

Parade Attracts All Factions

by Shira Spolter
 One might expect to learn about Entebbe and the Holocaust by reading a history book, or Israel's Egged bus system and the Jerusalem Philharmonic Orchestra by reviewing a tourist magazine. This Sunday thousands of people learned about Israeli life and Jewish culture on Fifth Avenue.

In celebration of Israel's 40th birthday, Jews from various movements, organizations, schools and synagogues gathered together for the Israeli Day Parade. They displayed and observed different aspects of their culture, religion and country.

Although standing in the Big Apple, onlookers were able to get a taste of Israel's unique culture. Israeli artists such as

Yaakov Agam were displayed on the banners of Hebrew Union College. Girls from an Orthodox high school demonstrated the art of Israeli dance as they danced in colorful Israeli costumes to Hebrew music. Bank Hapoalim featured Israeli singer Yoel Sharabi, who sang his popular songs aboard their moving float.

Spectators also learned about the Israeli Kibbutz and irrigation systems, as a Reform youth group marched in green costume, holding giant sized pipes. Another Orthodox high school chose Israeli educational institutes as their theme, with banners ranging from the Weizmann Institute to the Hesder Yeshivot. Other groups directed onlookers around

Israel with maps, and posters containing names of Israeli streets.

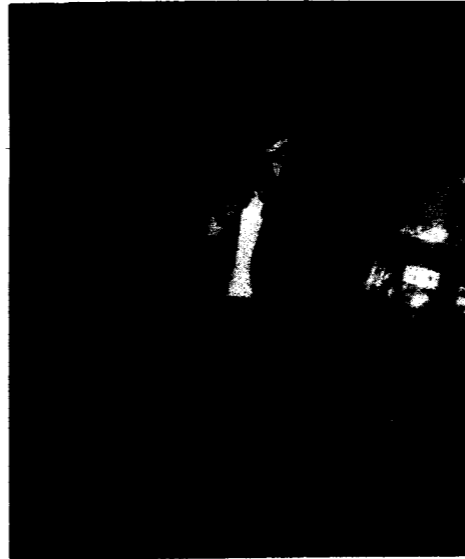
Politics, a dominant part of Jewish and Israeli life, was also evident throughout the parade. Presidential hopefuls Michael Dukakis and Al Gore appeared to emphasize their support of Israel before the important New York primary. Members of KACH, an organization run by Meir Kahane, loudly voiced their political opinions by shouting to the audience, "We support the destruction of our enemies." Children also demonstrated their political awareness in connection to the plight of Soviet Jewry. One group of elementary school students marched carrying posters of Soviet prisoners of conscience.

Some marchers chose to emphasize the religious aspects of Jewish life. The students of Mogen Dovid High School of Brooklyn shared their religious knowledge in the form of trivia questions. The first banner asked the question, what are the five books of the Torah? The next group of students followed with answering banners containing the names of the five books. Yeshiva High School of Queens marched down the avenue singing Hebrew songs and carrying posters of various Talmudic commentators.

Each group of marchers prompted a different reaction from the wide spectrum of onlookers. While one spectator shouted, "Nice t-shirts" to one

group, a young boy a few feet over was jumping in excitement to see his sister marching by. At the same time an elderly woman, responding to the following group's Holocaust theme, turned to the woman next to her and said, "It's really a shame that most of Polish Jewry was lost."

Another spectator said, "I love watching the different groups marching in the parade because it really makes me appreciate the richness of Jewish and Israeli life. But the most thrilling thing," she added, "is that all these groups with their different ideological and religious views can gather together peacefully to support something that is important to us all."



Yoel Sharabi

Maariv Correspondent Shares His Ideas with U.S. Students

by Tammy Berkower
 A briefing of college students was held concerning the present situation in Israel, led by Avi Noam Bar Yosef, a correspondent for Maariv newspaper in Israel. He was invited by the United States State Department to attend meetings in Washington. Mr. Bar Yosef is also a consultant for NBC in Israel.

Mr. Bar Yosef attributes Israel's main problem to be a demographic one. In Israel, not including the West Bank and Gaza, there are 800,000 Arabs who make up 17% of the population. By the year 2,000, this number should increase to 27%. These Arabs are citizens of Israel and have full political rights which means the present 17% can affect the results of an election even now.

The Palestinian movement

is committed to fulfilling their patriotic feelings to the West-Haifa, Jaffa and the rest of Israel. In other words, they will not be satisfied with the West Bank and Gaza. This would not be large enough for a state. They want the entire land of Israel, which they call Palestine.

According to Mr. Bar Yosef, Jordan is the Palestinian state. Its population is 70% Palestinian. They do not speak over because of King Hussein's tight control over them. "A Palestinian state will only be possible," says Mr. Bar Yosef, "when the Palestinians take control of Jordan and the Arabs become the majority in Israel. The West Bank and Gaza belongs to the Jewish people as long as we are the majority. If the Arabs gain a majority,

we'll have to give the territories back. Otherwise Israel will become a fascist state."

Mr. Bar Yosef's solution is to redirect the Arab's commitment to the West (Israel), towards the East (Jordan), where the Palestinians have a majority. Jordan is the Palestinian State and not Israel.

Mr. Bar Yosef stressed the importance of Aliyah. Israel needs more Jews. It is a simple fact. Every year the Arabs are increasing in numbers. They are aware of their growing strength. Mr. Bar Yosef urges college students not to be the next generation of Jewish leaders in the Diaspora, but to make Aliyah. This influx of immigrants is vital to the future existence of the State of Israel.



Fourteen YU Undergraduates Participate in Mission to D.C.

by Laya Glazer

Fourteen YU undergraduates participated in the Orthodox Jewish Political Coalition Mission to Washington, on Wednesday, April 20. The Mission was sponsored by the Orthodox Union and several other organizations, including Poale Agudah and the Religious Zionists of America. The purpose of the mission was to present an intense, pro-Israel lobby from the Orthodox point of view.

The group arrived in Washington in time for the AIPAC briefings on current legislative issues of concern to the pro-Israel lobby, and on upcoming elections which may affect the Israel lobby. A luncheon sponsored by Senator Daniel P. Moynihan followed. During the luncheon, a number of senators were invited to address the group. The main message was one of reassurance that those who are friends of Israel will remain friends of Israel, and that Soviet Jewry will remain a topic in all relations between the U.S. and the Soviet Union. Several of the senators who spoke emphasized Israel's importance to U.S. security in the Middle East, and spoke hopefully about defense contracting between the two countries.

The next item on the agenda was a schedule of briefings with individual senators and congressmen. Each delegate was assigned to a group of four or five people, to meet with

a particular senator or congressman and remind them of our interests in the Middle East and of how they can help. These meetings were considered by many of us to be the most interesting and significant accomplishment of the day.

Last of the day's events was a White House briefing by Senator Howard Baker, White House Chief of Staff, and by Ambassador Robert Oakley, Special Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs. These briefings emphasized and reiterated the record of the Reagan administration regarding Israel, and pledged continued support of Israel as the only true democracy in the Middle East.

"The Mission was clearly an educational experience for all of the participants, and we hope that it helped AIPAC make their message a little stronger," was the reaction of Atara Pasternak, an SCW freshman who participated in the Mission. Even those students who did not participate can do their part by writing to their senators and representatives in support of Israel, especially during the current crisis. We would like to thank the Orthodox Union, for making it possible for YU students to participate in this Mission to Washington. We also thank Josh Annenberg and Rachael Singer for publicizing and organizing the delegation.

Career Forum Held for Early Childhood Education

by Tammy Berkower

A program on Early Childhood Education was held on Wednesday, April 20. Heading the program was Mrs. Behar, who is currently on the Board of Jewish Education, as well as a teacher at Stern College. First and foremost, she emphasized the need for additional programs such as this one, to make students aware of career opportunities. She said, "Most students come into early childhood education in their junior year or after graduation. This is simply because they do not know about it!" This applies to many other fields that students do not go into at Stern, merely because they are unaware that they exist.

The program featured three speakers: Susan Frid, Elaine Bloom, and Harriet Ingber. Each gave the students insight into their personal experiences and expressed their enjoyment and fulfillment from working in the field.

Susan Frid is the director of Childhood Education in

Deal, New Jersey. She was previously the director at the Park East Synagogue. She felt, "Childhood education courses help one understand how the human mind works." She has applied what she has learned to understanding human nature. She feels that because no two children are alike, there is a "constant growth." Between offering parents advice, and her daily work with the children, she finds her career very challenging.

Elaine Bloom related a different aspect of the field. She told the students what the essential ingredients are for a good childhood educator. "The most important," said Bloom, "are love and instinct. Professional training is merely the finishing touch." Mrs. Bloom attended a city college and the Jewish Theological Seminary. She integrated her Jewish and secular backgrounds and found many job opportunities because she had the Jewish background in addition to a degree in education.

continued p.11, col.3.

The Entrepreneurs of Brookdale Hall

by Rochelle Newman

When you hear the word entrepreneur what is the first thing that comes to mind? Stern? I highly doubt it, but believe it or not, Stern is full of budding entrepreneurs. One of the most popular of entrepreneurs at Stern is L'via Sieradski. L'via sells hats, berets, and hair accessories. She has a clientele composed of the engaged women of Stern College.

Her business began one winter day when she sewed some rhinestones onto a beret and wore it to school. Her friends admired the creative touch and requested she sew things onto their berets as well. After a while she started receiving orders and she had a business made. L'via made connections with Whittall and Shorr and numerous other companies which specialize in hats and berets. She goes to accessory shows on a regular basis to get new ideas and keep up with the latest trends. She custom designs her berets by adding ribbons, rhinestones, and paints to them. If a customer provides her with material L'via can match hats to a specific outfit. Her prices range from eight dollars to sixty dollars.

L'via feels she is providing a service to religious women, because her prices are much lower than department stores, and her designs are original, as well as made-to-order. Her goal is to be able to open

her own boutique someday. Her motto is to "Make all my customers happy," and from the overwhelming business she has done this year, one can certainly say that she is succeeding.

Another entrepreneur at Stern is Blair Muss, who cuts hair at the low price of \$5.00. Blair learned her craft by watching beauticians at work, and then began to cut her friends' hair. Since coming to Stern, Blair has built up a clientele of customers who come to her on a regular basis. Due to Sefira and the prohibition against haircutting, Blair is presently less busy than usual. However, she expects a lot of customers on Lag Baomer. Blair is a speech pathology major, but would like to do haircutting on the side while in graduate school. She hopes to acquire a license in the next few years. She aspires to someday own a chain of beauty salons called "Hair by Blair." Blair believes that "If you have a talent with hair and you work well with people, haircutting is a job worth pursuing." Anyone interested in a haircut should stop by room 3D for an appointment.

The entrepreneurship in room 3D is not limited to Blair. Her roommate Wendy Horvitz is also a business woman. Wendy's mother previously ran a skin care center in Pittsburgh, but after she closed the center, the store was left with excess makeup. So, Wendy decided

to go into business. She has been selling makeup at Stern for the past few years.

Wendy does not perceive herself as an entrepreneur because she doesn't put forth the effort entrepreneurship demands. Wendy is a psychology major and has no plans of getting into the cosmetic field after she graduates. Wendy contends, "When you put your all into it, your business will be a success."

If you want to live up to a wedding, engagement party or Bar or Bat Mitzvah, Sheri Nathanson is the person to speak with. Sheri is the contact person at Stern for "Shtick with Us, Inc." Sheri sells "shtick" ranging from \$.50 to \$6.00. Sheri enjoys selling shtick because it helps to make parties and weddings more exciting. Since her customers buy shtick for happy occasions, Sheri feels that her business helps add to a simcha. Every day in Tefillah we say "These are the precepts, the fruit of which man enjoys in this world, while the principal reward is preserved for him in the world to come, they are...participating in making a wedding...." Everyone can participate and make a wedding more enjoyable by bringing shtick along with them, so next time you're invited to a simcha, stop by Sheri's room, 12H.

Being an entrepreneur isn't all fun, although it may seem like it. It entails much work, commitment and dedication to make a business a success.

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Draw Strength from Positive Environments

by Yael Spiegler

There is a well known saying in Pirkei Avot "al tifrosch min hatzibur" — do not separate yourself from the community. We are all probably familiar with this concept and its implications. It is a legitimate requirement to share in the tzibur's sorrows as well as the joys, for a community is an extension of oneself. But it is not enough for an individual to be part of the community; he must find a proper place within the grandiose social structure. A series of essays that appears in *Michivav Me-Eliyahu* by Rabbi Eliyahu E. Dessler, deals with the topic of one's environment. He develops a number of themes from which we, as students who have made a significant choice about our environment, can draw a great deal of chizuk.

His first essay, entitled "The Power of the Environment," stresses the important effects and strong influence the environment has upon a person. Not even the greatest of people are free from these effects, as we learn from Moshe Rabbeinu. Chazal tell us that Yitro

would consent to giving Tzipora to Moshe as a wife, if Moshe would make an oath that the first born son would be given to idol worship. Applying the Maharal's idea that certain facts are necessarily implied by a situation, we can try to understand why Moshe would take such an oath. By agreeing to live with Yitro who, at that time, had not yet completely accepted Hashem, he essentially committed himself to the ramifications of such a decision. In fact, Moshe literally suffered for putting himself in this negative environment. Targum Yonaton says that Yitro imprisoned him in a dungeon for ten years, and his oldest son, Gershom, became an idolatrous priest in northern Eretz Yisrael (Shoftim 18:30 Rashi). We can derive from this that subjecting oneself to a weaker environment, means automatically accepting some aspects of it. Consequently, putting oneself in a strong environment will incur the most beneficial consequences.

To further emphasize "the danger of a bad environment,"

we are directed to Datan and Aviram — two rebels despite the fact that they bore witness to Hashem's greatness. Moshe commanded Bnei Yisrael not to touch anything that belonged to these two men "lest you be destroyed because of their sins." Ibn Ezra explains this command to mean that the negative impact of merely touching their possessions could potentially cause spiritual decline and destruction. To take it a step further, Lot's wife was turned into a pillar of salt not for touching, but simply for looking at the evil and destruction of Sodom. The slightest contact with evil, therefore, threatens the whole spiritual development of a person and one must go to great lengths to avoid it.

One last point that Rav Dessler expounds upon is the basic idea found in shema — that one must "serve Hashem with all your heart." This is traditionally understood to mean that we must enlist both our evil and good inclinations to serve our Creator. If we turn our attention to Eisav and Ovadia, we can understand better how to serve Hashem with the yetzer hara. These two men have one thing in common — they both had adverse reactions to their environments. Eisav was raised by Yitzchak and Rivka, yet he grew to despise goodness, truth and any spiritual purpose to the world. Ovadia, on the other extreme, lived at the time of Achav and Izevel. He not only maintained his holiness, but grew to detest falsehood and

continued on p.12 col. 5.

Memorable Dinner Planned for Seniors

by Ruthie Toplan

"It's the last night of being an undergraduate before we go out into the real world," said Senior dinner co-chairperson and SCW senior class president, Annie Richter. "We want it to be an incredible night...it's the last time as college students we'll be spending together," said Senior dinner co-chairperson and YC senior class president, Bruce Cohen. With less than twelve hours until graduation, the class of 1988 will spend one last evening together at the Marriott Marquis Astor Ballroom, for their senior dinner. Both chairpeople have been working on this project for almost a full calendar year and are extremely excited about this dinner, which will take place on June 1, 1988 at 8:00 p.m.

"We have made every attempt in our power to limit the amount of time each speaker will be given, because listening to the speakers doesn't allow us time to spend with each other," said both Richter and Cohen. The awards that will be given by the deans and the senior class will still be an important part of this event, but they will be having a slide show and video presentation, also.

Cohen said that the hope is to create a sentimental atmosphere through this audio-visual yearbook. Richter added that they want this to be a dinner for the seniors. "Sixty dollars is a lot of money if you're going

to be bored, we don't want that," said Cohen. Richter emphasized that they want all the seniors to be able to attend, so seniors will have the option of selling raffles, to help reduce the costs. The more raffles a senior sells, the less his or her personal cost will be.

Mrs. Zelda Braun, director of student services also said that there is a special fund available for seniors who are having financial difficulty, and because of that reason will not be able to attend. She hopes that these seniors will approach her and not miss out on their senior dinner.

Memories is what this dinner is all about. After June 2, 1988 everything will be different.

This graduating class will be moving on, and the chairpeople believe that after all the planning and the aggravation — they will miss being here.

"This is our night to recapture some of that," said Cohen. Richter added that they couldn't have done it without everyone's help, but it isn't too late to be involved. The success of this event is strictly a group effort, according to Bruce Cohen.

He continued, "Right now you want to get out — to get done with this paper and that exam, but I'll miss it..." Richter also added, "This dinner will be a special memory for all the seniors...a last chance to say good-bye."

Resident Advisor Selection

continued from p.1 col. 2.

information. One would expect then, that the student chosen for this job would be able to deal with these kinds of crises with a great deal of maturity and intelligence.

When the final applicants were notified of their acceptances and/or denials, many were surprised to find that only five out of the 16 assistants selected were students who would be graduated in June. When asked, Mrs. Braun stated that the group was selected from "a large pool of equally qualified women regardless of class standing." The issue of available space in the dormitory impacted on the final decisions. There were simply "more qualified people than slots." Space must be maintained for as many incoming students as possible. Mrs. Braun also added that the office of student services is currently in the process of "redefining the role of the resident assistant," and that there is a "need for change a move in a different direction." The counseling will be left in

the hands of the growing professional counseling staff who will have late office hours in Brookdale Hall.

Students have approached dorm counselors in the past with their personal problems, specifically because the dorm counselors were closer to the students' own ages and were in the category of "a friend" rather than a professional counselor. Seniors who are dorm counselors are sometimes not as capable of performing their jobs as well as graduates. Having previously confided in her dorm counselor, one student revealed that sitting in class with her had proven uncomfortable and inhibited this student from further confidences. She further added that "I hope the school realizes the importance of the dorm counselor's role and will not sacrifice it." Other students added that the school has been aware of the lack of dormitory space for several years and should work on finding a solution to that problem first.

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Videotape in Final Stages of Production

by Amy Mehler

A new video tape depicting the academic and social life of the students, faculty, and administration of Stern College is currently in its final stages of production. For one week, a four-person film crew, under the supervision of Susan Ascher, an alumna of Stern College and member of the new board of directors, have been filming everything from classrooms to dorm rooms in order to capture the essence of life at Stern College. According to Mrs. Ascher, it was a feeling she wanted the film to convey: "a feeling of friendship and atmosphere of warmth that is in the school."

It was because of this special feeling Mrs. Ascher still felt for Stern that this project got underway. At a board meeting

that took place a little over a month ago, the idea of a new video solely concentrating on college life at Stern was discussed, but was initially rejected because of its prohibitive cost. It was then that Mrs. Ascher, president of her own advertising agency, volunteered the services of a film crew she had worked with before on several projects. Her generosity stemmed from a desire to do something lasting for the school and said that, "simply, the school needs it."

Camera-man Peter Terezakis, lighting director Leighton Miller, producer Claudia Soifer, and copy editor Bob McGowan, all agreed to undertake this project at a non-profit rate, and have essentially volunteered their time and expertise. When approached

to share some of their own impressions and reactions concerning their subjects, Miller admitted that he, "didn't realize so much culture went on in one place." He was especially impressed by the seriousness of the students by the way they were not distracted by everything going on around them. Instead, Miller observed, "the girls appeared embedded in their books." Terezakis enjoyed listening to the interviews he was shooting, and was surprised at the closeness among the alumni who agreed to come back and participate in the making of the video.

Following a carefully mapped-out schedule, the filming began with an interview of foreign students who gathered together in the front lounge of Brookdale Hall. Next

on the agenda was the chemistry lab, where Rivkie Penstein was shot while conducting an experiment. The crew moved on to the art studio and gym where students were filmed painting and sculpting, sparring and playing basket-ball. Professor Kra's French class, Dr. Bevan's political science class, and Rabbi Berman's women in halacha class, were all taped and the professors interviewed. Other shots included the library, SCW's chamber music orchestra, and Judith Otten's choral ensemble.

Pia Ascher, a senior at Ramaz High School and a 1988 incoming freshman, said that after helping her mother and the crew for a week she, "had lots to look forward to, and nothing to be afraid of."

FIRE

continued from p. 1, col. 4.

floors, including the cafeteria and the library. Head Librarian, Professor E. Lubetski said the smell in the library "was absolutely horrible, we still can't get rid of it." Although library attendance has not been noticeably reduced, according to Prof. Lubetski, there has been an almost endless stream of complaints about the odor and it has made work more difficult.

Extra maintenance has been required to repair the damage caused by the fire, in addition to the work on the computers. Upon entering the building, the firemen broke every lock on the south side which had to be replaced. The eastern wall of the computer room had to be repaired and the window replaced.

Room 407, used by Dr. Edward Levy for his music classes, was left with a gaping hole. Dr. Levy suggested that this might imply that there was only one wall between that building and ours, or that Stern didn't have its own wall. Dr. Levy said this has not adversely affected the quality of his classes. "It's a lot of fun, if nobody gets hurt."

Stern Women To Entertain at Board Dinner

by Amy Mehler

A faculty member, a recent alumna, and a sophomore, have been chosen to be the sole feature entertainment at the inaugural dinner which will be given by the Board of Directors of Stern College on May 16, at the Pierre Hotel in New York City.










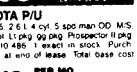

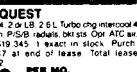

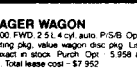

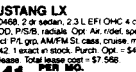









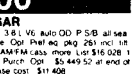

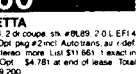
This trio consists of Peninnah Schram, Associate Professor of Speech and Drama at Stern College, Amy Gordon, a 1986 SCW graduate, now a member of the actor's equity association, and Seema Fixler, a new-comer to Stern College majoring in pre-health sciences.

Under the direction of Mrs. Schram, their program, which includes dramatic readings of prose and poetry, is entitled, "Joy in the Land: A Celebration of Oral Tradition." Together, they will explore the themes of women, Israel, and Shavuot through a series of poems translated by Danny Siegel.

Selections include, "A Song of Jerusalem," by David Ben Gurion Chassin Chazak Bar Aharon, a Moroccan Jew, and two other poems composed by Danny Siegel entitled, "Tzefat, and the Legacy of the Aleph-bet Teachers.

Peninnah Schram called Amy Gordon, "the most talented actress we've ever had here at Stern," and praised Seema, "for the way she uses her voice, and for her amazing vitality and sparkle."

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Fragonard Collection Exhibited at the Met

by Amy Mehler

The first full-scale retrospective of the work of Jean Honore Fragonard (1732-1806), the last great Rococo painter of the 18th century, can still be seen at the Metropolitan Museum of Art through May 8. This comprehensive exhibition of more than 200 paintings drawn from both private and public collections, was assembled by the Met in partnership with the Louvre in Paris. It displays the artist's prodigious output encompassing historical and mythological subjects in drawings, portraits, and landscapes.

Much of Fragonard's work reflects the over-indulgence of the aristocracy of the late 1700's, and intimates that this pleasure-seeking element of society will eventually meet with disaster. This is best depicted by the popular recurring theme of sun-kissed nymphs cradled in fluffy clouds, who hover over lovers strolling underneath dark foreboding skies. Fat rosy babies squashed together on a mound of clouds, peach-skinned girls luxuriating in foamy water or in rumpled night dresses, and grown-ups playing games of blind man's bluff, reveal the artist's mastery of sensual delights, as well as his expertise in the manipulation of light and dark.

As the prize pupil of Boucher (1703-1770), a painter famous for his allegorical arcadian scenes of shepherds and shepherdesses, Fragonard was mainly regarded as a frivolous painter of erotic boudoir scenes. He was, in fact, a complex and intuitive artist, far surpassing

his masters as a first-rate colorist. He showed remarkable expertise with the use of pastels, a popular medium with the French Romantic painters.

The painting entitled, "The Love Letter," exemplifies Fragonard's feeling for color as demonstrated through the effects of light which are executed with extraordinary technical ability. The girl sitting at her writing desk staring wistfully at the letter, is wearing a blue dress and an intricately laced cap which is painted with great attention to detail and fashion.

Unlike many of his contemporaries, Fragonard refused royal commissions, preferring to paint decorative sensual landscapes and bedroom scenes for rich private collectors. Of all the erotic images, few are as enticing as the young woman on a swing. She is shown kicking off a dainty shoe in mid-air while her suitor, crouched in the bushes below, stares up at her billowing skirts. The satirical twist of "Les Debuts du Modele" in which a mother uncovers her daughter's charms before a lustful artist, is a perfect example of what Fragonard aimed for in his paintings.

In "La Fete Saint Cloud," where the viewer is transported to a balmy day in the park, Fragonard seems to put into paint his idea of the perfect utopia. Passers-by stop to watch a marionette show or play a game, and parents and children walk and talk together in this magical ephemeral world.

Commencement Exercises to be Held at Avery Fischer Hall

by Joan P. Weiner

This year's senior graduation ceremony will take place in Lincoln Center's Avery Fischer Hall on June 2, 1988.

Until this year, commencement exercises were held on the uptown campus of Yeshiva University. The main reason cited by Mr. Sam Hartstein, Director of Public Relations for Y.U., was the threat of rain. According to Hartstein, Y.U.'s campus was no longer

accommodating.

The committee considered every hall large enough to hold graduation exercises. Many halls were visited by members of the committee and a report was submitted to President Norman Lamm.

Avery Fischer Hall was selected because it is compacted and centrally located, among other reasons, according to Hartstein.

Each graduating senior will be mailed a personal entrance ticket, as well as three additional tickets for family and friends.

Mr. Hartstein does not foresee there being a spacing problem. There are 2,700 seats in Avery Fischer Hall, well above the average attendance to graduation. Many students send back their extra tickets or give the extra to another student.

Early Childhood Education Forum

continued from p. 8, col. 2.

Harriet Ingber, a teacher at Park East, pointed out some of the advantages of her job. She enjoys her summers off and the fact that she can work part time. She loves working with children and parents. "The added advantage," said Mrs. Ingber, "of going into early childhood education today is the fact it is regarded as an 'in' profession." Therefore, there has been a raise in salaries — a definite incentive!

Stern students can get on-the-job-training with Stern's joint program with Park East. What is learned in the classrooms at Stern can be directly

applied first hand. Certain education courses can count as Jewish studies electives. Students should check with Rabbi Kanarfogel for further information.

Graduates of Stern at the program expressed their enjoyment of the field. Wendy, a Stern graduate with a B.A. in Art History, returned to Stern and took early childhood education classes. Her roommate was in the program at Park East, and she used to substitute teach. She was offered a position as an assistant teacher. What she loves about art, personal expression and no rules, fits into her job as

an early childhood educator. Another Stern graduate said, "I found it refreshing to work with 5 year-olds. I can now look at the world from a different perspective." Susan Frid added, "Children are our purest commodity. To be around them, makes one feel so refreshed. Making a breakthrough with a child is very rewarding."

For further information regarding careers in early childhood education, see Rivka Behar in room 523 on Wednesday from 2:00-3:00. She can also be reached at the Board of Jewish Education Early Childhood Center. Her number is 245-8200.

Students Crowd Orange Lounge To Hear Rabbi Hanoch Teller

by Gila Iskowitz

In the Orange Lounge, Tuesday night, close to one-hundred Stern college women were treated to a lecture by Rabbi Hanoch Teller from Jerusalem. Rabbi Teller, as is implicit in his name, is a master story-teller and speaker, as well as author of the three-volume "Soul" series, Sunset, a book about the great sages of our day, and numerous tapes of his stories. He is also a devoted teacher in many Yeshivot and Seminaries and, as one of his former students puts it, "His is more than a teacher; he is a friend and when in Israel, we always feel welcome in his home." His Particular situation, of teaching both men and women, also lends itself to Shadchanut, and countless couples owe their happiness to him.

His topic was to be "The End of the School Year," but he asked his forgiving audience to judge him favorably, because the topic he chose, was "Judging People Favorably," the topic of his recently published book, Courtrooms of the Mind. The audience appeared captivated by his unique, energetic style, and he charmed them with his usual, and unusual, anecdotes.

At many points of the speech he had the entire audience shaking with laughter, but he successfully drove his message

home. "Since we all have a different perspective on everything life throws at us, we find it very difficult to put ourselves in someone else's shoes. However, it is crucial that we regard our neighbors favorably, because in the manner that we judge our fellow man, G-d judges our own actions." Rabbi Teller combines his lessons with

his often engrossing, and entertaining stories, but his stories are never as farfetched ("English word voted most Yiddish-sounding") as he claims. "Quite the contrary," declares another former student, "His stories are always most appropriate. I always feel like he is speaking directly to me."

Keep the Dorm Open

continued from p. 2, col. 5.

a big nobody, right? Even if it was only ten of us (which it wasn't) — would Y.U. like to put up those ten people who need to stay that weekend in a hotel and also spring for storage for their things? Which comes to the second reason — money. Can Yeshiva University actually not afford to keep the dorm open for 2 or 3 extra days? I think they can come up with something better than that. And as for the fact that there won't be any dorm counselors — I think the guard could handle anything that might come up. We're not two-year-olds who can't stay without Mommy for one weekend. Hey, I'd even offer to sign a release stating that I'm responsible for myself for the weekend.

Maybe much of the problem stems from the fact that, until 11 p.m. on Tuesday, May 3rd we were not officially informed

about the dorm's closing. Had we been informed earlier in the year, or at least earlier in the semester, plane reservations or other traveling arrangements could have been changed. Maybe finals should have been pushed up so that students could have some time to pack and feasibly get out of the dorm by noon on Friday. But as the situation stands now, the fact remains that there is a need for the dorm to stay open over the weekend of June 3. I feel the need and I know that many other students do, too, only a fraction of whom have expressed this need to the Office of Student Services. I only hope that all students who feel the same about this will also go to Student Services and that the proper "committee" will rethink their decision. Otherwise, somebody save me a bench in Central Park!!

—Nowhere to go.

Amy Gordon to Perform Hannah Senash

The Women's Organization of Yeshiva University, in conjunction with the Stern College Dramatics Society (SCDS) and Student Council, will present 1986 alumna Amy Gordon, starring in Hannah Senash, a play written by Daniel Shechter based on the life and diaries of Hannah Senash, on Wednesday, May 12, in Koch Auditorium at 8:00 p.m.

Ms. Gordon is a member of the Actor's Equity Association and is currently studying with Uta Hagen. She graduated in 1986 with a theatre major, and is a former president of SCDS. While at SCW, Ms. Gordon starred in "The Zoo Story," and "The Effect of Gamma Rays on Man-in-the-Moon Marigolds." She has since directed "A Lovely Sunday for Creve Coeur" by Tennessee Williams and "Vanities."

Admission to the performance is free but reservations are a must. For tickets call (212) 724-1925.



Fencing Team Faces Difficulties

by Ora Ruttner

On Monday, April 11, Stern College's fencing team engaged in a meet at the 23rd street YMYWHA, despite the numerous equipment problems which have arisen.

SCW's team consists of eight members and is coached by Josie Fusco. According to Coach Fusco, the team fenced well, considering the fact that this was the first real meet for most of them.

Among the handicaps which this team has had to overcome, are the lack of funds provided by the school to purchase equipment, the loan of equipment to the Yeshiva coach and its subsequent disappearance till mid-April, and the danger of the available equipment. The blades are old and fatigued, the masks are not proper, and there is not enough of either.

Coach Fusco feels that the girls have potential; they are able to adjust well. She feels that student interest will permit the fencing team to continue next year. "Fencing is an old tradition for Yeshiva University, going back to Professor A. Tauber. It should not be allowed to dissipate."

*Congratulations to
Wendy Zierler,
upon being chosen Valedictorian of the
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and to
Yonina Segal
upon being chosen Valedictorian of
Judaic Studies, 1988.*

*The 1987-88 Governing Board of
The Observer
wishes the entire student body,
faculty, and administration
a happy and relaxing
summer vacation.*

Editor Elected

continued from p. 4, col. 2.

She hopes to be working this summer in the field of Journalism.

Her long-range future plans include graduate school for journalism, freelance writing and Aliyah.

As for the present, Ms. Mehler expresses her hopes that she'll "continue to maintain the high standards employed this year, and make *The Observer* make a difference for the lives of Stern College's students."

Positive Environment

continued from p. 9, col. 5.

pursue truth. Tanach is dotted with other examples of tzaddikim who reached their lofty potentials as a reaction to the deprived, alien environment to which they were subjected: Moshe in Pharo's palace, the Jews in Egypt, Ruth in Moav, etc. This is not to say that a person searching for spiritual improvement should look to put himself in a detrimental surrounding, but rather this serves as a meaningful perspective of the evil with which we inevitably must come in contact.

It goes without saying that a person can not shut himself away from others on a lower madrega - spiritual level. The tzibur is comprised of Jews of all parts of the spectrum, and we are not excused from loving them and bringing them close to Torah. By drawing strength from the positive environments we put ourselves in, we can stand up to the challenges posed by the negative environments. The step we have taken in choosing a yeshiva environment for the duration of our university years, is without question a positive one. We can not forget that to truly be a part of the community we must not separate from any level that comprises our people.

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