

THE OBSERVER

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Dr. David Shatz lecturing parents.

Annual Parents Day Program Initiated At YU

by Shoshana Levine

Monday, February 26, marked the first annual Yeshiva University undergraduate Parents' Day. Various programs took place throughout the entire day in both the midtown and the uptown campuses. The overall agenda was designed to allow the parents of the students the opportunity to meet with the various administration and faculty, to attend lectures given by their children's professors, and to personally experience a typical day in YU. Invitations for this gala event were sent out six weeks in advance. Although over three hundred parents responded affirmatively and made reservations, approximately 175 people actually attended.

The program began at 10 am with all the participants convening uptown, in the Weissberg Commons of Belfer Hall for a welcoming speech and opening reception. Following President Lamm's welcoming speech, information booklets about the university were distributed and the parents were then treated to

partake of a breakfast buffet. Later, coach buses arrived to transport parents of the students in the women's college, to the midtown campus. Arriving at Stern at 11:30, the parents had a choice of attending one of two different mini lectures. Rabbi Reuven Aberman, a visiting Jewish Studies professor at SCW, spoke in the Koch Auditorium on the issue of exile and redemption, while simultaneously, Dr. David Shatz taught about divine providence and human decision making. These self contained lectures lasted a little over an hour. Many parents remained in the room to further ask questions even after the lecture was over. "The format of the lecture was excellent," one enthusiastic parent commented on her way out of the Auditorium. "Instead of simply allowing us to sit in on a regular class, which would have been completely out of context for us and therefore very hard to follow, we were given a mini lecture which enabled us to learn a great deal."

With the completion of the

lectures, parents were escorted down to the cafeteria, where they received complimentary meal tickets and were invited to partake in the caf cuisine. While enjoying their lunch, parents were entertained with background dining music by three talented students. The instrumental ensemble featured Dina Koch, Suzie Magid, and Beth Zuckerman playing Hebrew music on the flute, viola, and guitar respectively. For one father this event marked the highlight of the day. "For me, witnessing the 'Stern Caf Experience' was an important experience, considering that my daughter probably spends the majority of her time there." This parent in addition inquired as to whether the live entertainment is available for the students on a regular basis.

Various academic lectures were presented following lunch. Parents again had the opportunity to choose which sessions they wanted to attend. Dr. Burdowski, a Biology professor at SCW, spoke in Koch Audi-

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Calendar Procedures Defied In Dramatics Societies' Showdown

by Deena Yellin

In an effort to steal the show dates from Stern College's Dramatics Society, YCDS defied the Calendar Committee, SCDS and, depending on whom to believe, Dean of Students Ephram Nulman. This action, which has resulted in the biggest conflict of this school year, seems to be consistent with the history of rivalry between the two societies and the injustice of which SCDS has often been a victim.

According to Darrin Hirt, Yeshiva College Student Council Secretary, who is in charge of the Calendar Committee, "The play dates were reserved first by the Stern College Dramatics Society." He was later informed that YCDS wanted to stage their performance the same week and told them that they could not have it. "I told them to look for another week," he said, "But they went to Dean Nulman over my head to set the date they wanted."

According to Hirt, Nulman informed him that the matter was not in Hirt's hands anymore. Hirt revealed that, "This is the only time that something went above my head." To date, YCDS's play is not yet written on the official school Calendar.

Dean Nulman however, who dictates policy of Calendar Committee procedures, denied that he played any part in the matter. He claimed that, "This is the matter of two student groups of college students and the administration shouldn't be involved." According to Nulman he received a note from YCDS president Kenny Rochlin concerning the reservation of the play date but Nulman informed him that he would not overrule the Calendar Committee.

Concerning the apparent neglect on the part of YCDS to reserve the date, Nulman said, "I won't comment on the propriety of YCDS scheduling their play for that date." But he added that, "We all have to abide by the procedures"- procedures which include reserving dates for events with the Calendar Committee.

According to SCDS President Elana Bank, Rina Elisha,

SCW's play director, informed her early in the year that they would need March 29-April 3 for their play dates. Bank knew this might be a problem since YCDS usually has their play around this time and she called YCDS President Kenny Rochlin, asking him if SCDS could schedule their performance for that time without conflicts with YCDS. "He said they hadn't set anything yet. They were having problems with their new theater and they didn't know about a date at that time," said Bank. She told Rochlin that she had to set a date that week because SCDS had to order the lighting, equipment and scenery.

Furthermore, Bank asked Rochlin to check with YC play director Dr. Anthony Beukas and that if she was not contacted within a week she would set that date for the SCDS play. When she didn't hear from Rochlin, Bank set the date with the Calendar Committee. Rochlin never called her back. However, "The next thing I knew, YCDS had the same play dates as we did and there was nothing I could do about it," said Bank.

Rochlin presented a different story. He claimed that when he spoke with Bank, he informed her that YCDS traditionally runs their production during the week before Pesach. Rochlin said he was unaware that SCW needed to perform at that time and that "in the middle of last semester" he submitted dates to Dean Nulman's secretary for the upcoming play on March 31 to April 4.

Rochlin said that in the beginning of the Spring semester he "went in the date to the Calendar Committee and was informed a month ago" that he could not have that date because SCDS had reserved it. Rochlin said he could not change the date of the YCDS because the tickets had already been printed and, "anyway, it is tradition for YCDS to perform that week."

SCWSC President Cindy Schlanger informed the OBSERVER that when she heard that YCDS wanted the same play dates already set by SCDS she called Hirt. He told her that YCDS had requested

Cont. page 6 col. 1

Dr. Babich And Rabbi Flaum Voted Professors Of The Year



Rabbi Tzvi Flaum

by Nechama Goldman

Seniors recently voted for the "Professors of the Year" in the Secular and Judaic Studies Department. The winners were Rabbi Tzvi Flaum and Dr. Harvey Babich.

Rabbi Tzvi Flaum, Mashgi-

ach Ruchanu of SCW, has once again been voted the Senior Professor of Judaic Studies. After teaching here for almost a decade, Rabbi Flaum has been awarded this honor five times. Rabbi Flaum pointed out that while this is a pleasant acknowledgement of his efforts, he doesn't work for awards. He accepted the honor on behalf of the Judaic Studies faculty. "I don't want to let this go to my head," he joked.

Rabbi Flaum has close interaction with the entire student body through his well attended courses and through his extra-curricular shiurim (lessons). Senior Penina Ginsberg said that she voted for Rabbi Flaum

because "he does so much for the school. He's really there for us and listens to the student body."

Flaum said that he has watched the senior class over the last four years and seen them

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Dr. Harvey Babich.

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Editorial

The Best Of Both Worlds

THE BEST OF BOTH WORLDS

For many years it has been OBSERVER tradition to devote an entire newspaper to the Purim issue. Therefore, it may come as a surprise to some that this publication contains the regular March newspaper with the annual Purim issue as an insert. Some may wonder why the OBSERVER did not come out with two separate March publications; one devoting itself entirely to Purim and the other -the monthly issue- as other Yeshiva University publications have done.

Unfortunately, because of financial constraints, the OBSERVER has had a difficult enough time covering the cost of its monthly issues and could therefore not afford to publish two separate issues. However, to devote the March issue entirely to Purim would be neglecting journalistic responsibility. Thus, the OBSERVER board has combined the best of both worlds.

LIMITING RE-ELECTION

Rabbi Tzvi Flaum, Mashgiach Ruchani and Judaic Studies instructor at Stern College, contributes greatly to the religious experience at SCW. He constantly gives shiurim and makes himself available to the students on a regular basis. Because of this devotion he has been voted Judaic Studies Instructor Award for several consecutive years.

However, it is important that other Judaic Studies instructors who are deserving receive the recognition due to them as well. Therefore, it may be beneficial to impose a limit on the number of times an instructor can win the award. Such a limit would make it possible for others who are deserving of honor to receive it.

Exposing Ourselves To All Perspectives

In response to the editorial "Never Again" published in the March 1990 issue of HAMEVASER, THE OBSERVER wishes to express immoderate disappointment in the close-minded view presented.

The goal of a university is to provide a learning environment, one which allows students of all political denominations to intellectually expose themselves to authentic existing beliefs. A university does and should prepare its students to become well educated and enlightened adults. Once informed, each student may formulate his or her own opinion concerning the present day political situation, particularly in a land as fraught with controversy as Israel.

One cannot ban speakers simply because he or she disagrees with the subject matter presented. Men Kahane wants what all of us want, namely, peace in Israel. The fact that he suggests distasteful methods or unpopular ideas is not reason enough to condemn him. Further, Men Kahane spoke to a packed audience in Rubin Shul last year; the lecture was sponsored by YCSC. There were no protests staged by the men uptown and no editorials written.

We are disappointed by the inappropriateness of HAMEVASER in denouncing the academic and intellectual freedom which we strive for and wonder whether the Governing Board members of HAMEVASER would be as quick to protest a lecture at Yeshiva University by a radical left wing politician.

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CORRECTIONS FOR FEBRUARY ISSUE

The headline of page 5 column 3 should read 10 bishvat seder Not Passed Over

The headline of page 5 column 4 should read Aliva Incentive Fund Formed For YU Graduates

Paragraph 1 of page 11 should have read before paragraph of page 10

Sara Bayme has been Editorial Page Editor for the past 4 issues of the newspaper and deserves special appreciation for her fine work.

THE OBSERVER

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Letters

SCW Student Praises Food Services

To the Editor:

Last semester I wrote to you regarding Food Services here at Stern College. In that article I primarily wrote about the negative aspects of the new Dining Club and the cafeteria. I am happy to now write to you regarding the numerous improvements that have been implemented since that article. Under the leadership of Adam and the addition of Stuart the situation at the cafeteria has changed.

First and foremost, my apologies to Food Services for that mistaken information I commented on regarding an additional \$1.25 for lettuce and tomato. This is not correct, it is free to add lettuce and tomato to any sandwich. This is a great offer since in most restaurants and delis the cost of extra lettuce and tomato is up to a dollar more.

The cafeteria now has a complete salad bar. Food Services has been quite generous with the variety of vegetables available even in winter. There has also been the addition of pasta and fruit salads on the salad bar cart. The salad dressing is now free. Along with the new salad bar the cat has two yogurt machines. The flavors are changed quite frequently. Also available is a variety of toppings.

In the past, SCW students have been victims of pasta entrees each and everyday. Today the hot lunch entrees at school vary each day. Quiches, souffles, stuffed potatoes and many more hot varieties now grace the cafeteria. Furthermore, everyday the cafeteria offers falafel and pizza. And of course, there is always a large selection of cold sandwiches.

Along with the lunch menu both breakfast and dinner have also been improved. Now for breakfast students have the usual choice of muffins, juices and fruit. They also have waffles, pancakes, and buttermilk biscuits. The cafeteria is now open from 5 to 7 p.m. in the evenings, offering meat dinners

ranging from broiled chicken to deli sandwiches.

The cafeteria has also expanded to snack and fast food items for students catching a bit between classes. There is the snack food center which offers a wide selection of natural food snacks. There is also the new added soda refrigerators carrying cold bottles of soda including coke, diet Coke, as well as, Dr. Brown's and others.

Furthermore, the cafeteria has resumed its Friday take out for students not wanting to eat in the caf. As to our past suggestions the cafeteria has indeed placed a microwave downstairs and has provided variety.

On a different note I think the new personnel in the cafeteria are a refreshing and friendly group who are a pleasure to talk to. Hence as a graduating senior who has been a SCW for almost three years, the differences are a joy. My congratulations to Stern College Food Services on a job well done.

Cheryl Sokol
Class of '91

Comment On "Rebbe" Article

To the Editor:

I want to commend Sarah Abitbol for her informative article about HaRav Hagaon Rav Menachem Schneerson, Shlita (2/6/90). However, for the sake of correctness, I wish to point out two minor discrepancies in the piece.

Firstly, the Ba'al HaTanya, Rav Shneur Zalman of Liadi, Zil, was not the author of the Shulchan Aruch. The Shulchan Aruch was written by Rav Yosef Caro Zil, otherwise known as the Bet Yosef, Mehaber, or Keset Mishneh. He lived in the 15th and 16th centuries. The "sefer" to which Ms. Abitbol was undoubtedly referring was the Shulchan Aruch HaRav, which was indeed penned by the orig-

inal Lubavitcher Rebbe. Interestingly enough, the Shulchan Aruch HaRav constitutes one of the few (if not the only) subsequent codifications of halacha which follow Rav Caro's style.

Secondly, Chabad's motto was cited as "you shall spread forth to the North and the South"; its source was listed as Bereishit 8:14. Actually, Bereishit 8:14 tells us when the land dried out after the Mabul, or Great Flood-the 27th day of the second month. The pasuk which Lubavitch utilizes is from Bereishit 28:14, in which Hashem tells Yaakov, "And your offspring shall be as the dust of the earth, and you will spread westward, eastward, northward, and southward..."

Please continue reporting about Gedolei-Torah in the future, and keep up the good work.

Kenny (Shlomo) Schwartz
YC '93, RIETS '96

Dr. Grosf Negates Book Store Idea

To the Editor:

The recent editorial "Book Smart" (February 1990) deserves comment. First, instructors must place book orders in July for Fall semester courses and in mid-December at the latest for the Spring semester to ensure timely delivery at bookstores. Figures provided by the Registrar so far in advance cannot be used predictively. My own strategy is to double the numbers. Second, Barnes and Noble does not order very popular texts on a course-by-course basis but maintains a supply, and if an instructor at, say, Baruch or NYU chooses the same text but fails to notify B & N then 100 extra students are competing for the same books. In addition, the 18th Street store is known to have lower prices than many College bookstores; the latter often "run out" and direct purchases to the main location. Finally, most bookstores find that publishers' shipping schedules can be mad-

(cont. on page 3 col. 5)

Opinion Editor's Note

by Deena Yellin

Despite all the other problems that we have been grappling with for many years, Stern College's biggest problem may be her self image or rather, the self image Yeshiva University has forced upon her.

The controversy concerning the dates of the SCW Dramatics Society and the YCDS is particularly disturbing because it has a history behind it. Since the inception of SCDS several years ago, there has been rivalry between the two societies. The debate over the timing of the plays is not new to the two groups. In several cases in which there was a similar conflict, SCDS compromised and changed their play date.

It is significant to note that SCDS has gotten the raw end of the deal in more ways than the issue of timing. SCDS is responsible for assembling their own stage, scenery, set and lighting. This does not take place in an auditorium delegated for the dramatic production but in Koch Auditorium where most other major lectures and events of SCW are held.

Precedence is not given to the actresses who exert much of their time on the one performance their limited annual budget allows them. It is not necessary to mention that YCDS has always had a special heater for their use for their bi-

annual performances.

The tension between YC and SCW societies is not limited to the stage. The CLARION, the joint political science journal of SCW and YC has also been a sore spot between the two campuses. In the beginning of the year, the SCW students on the staff did not feel they were getting equal representation. More recently, tension has been building due to funding problems. In a recent article in another undergraduate newspaper on the topic of the CLARION, the writer neglected to acknowledge SCW's role. While a YC student Editor was mentioned, the SCW Editor-in-Chief was noticeably absent.

Throughout the year, SCW has not been treated with respect or equality. The SCWSC President was not informed of the Zionist Retreat by YCSC earlier in the year, nor of the Abraham Fried sweatshirts, nor of several new clubs formed at YC, including the Finance Club and the Israel Club.

These problems are not entities unto themselves but are reflections of a larger problem. Women at SCW are victims of injustice. If there was a system judging the quality of the better society or the more successful club which subsequently received superior facilities and funding it would be fair. Presently, the advantages are not

necessarily thrust upon our counterparts uptown because they are superior but because they are at YC and we are at SCW. However, the main problem is not in the lack of facilities, though this issue should not be trivialized, rather, the real problem is in image.

Although intellectually and academically the differences between the two may not be significantly different their respective images are vastly diverse. Unfortunately, it seems more acceptable for an intelligent Jewish male to choose YC than for an intelligent female to choose SCW. When male friends of mine turned down Ivy League colleges for YC their decisions were met with enthusiasm. However, when a SCW student reveals that she made a similar choice she is met with a response like "Why would anyone go to Stern when they could go somewhere really good?" or, worse yet, "You must be after an MRS degree."

This negative attitude exists at YU where the advantages of being in the University's framework should be clear and not subject to scrutiny. To me, these attitudes are merely a microcosm of the real problem; Women's learning is not taken as seriously as men's. In a past issue of this newspaper, an article discussed the importance of women's learning not being

considered as important as it should be. She was met with much criticism and controversy... by male students.

This is antithetical to what SCW strives for. The ideal of SCW is to promote Jewish education for women on a high level. It is disappointing that SCW is looked down upon while colleges which don't offer high level Jewish studies courses are respected.

It is also disconcerting when faculty of YU participate in the YU bashing rituals. Dr. Beukas has been said to insult his cast when their acting is not up to par by saying, "You're acting like the girls at Stern." While Beukas is entitled to his personal opinions, by using this particular metaphor he is conveying a negative attitude about the talent and seriousness of SCW students which carries over in the interactions between the two campuses. The students of SCW and YC should be working together, not against each other. Mutual respect and consideration should be the hallmarks of their relationships. This can then facilitate the clubs and societies to accomplish more by working with one another.

Most importantly, SCW women have to respect themselves. Despite the signals we receive from external environment we have to take pride in the choice we've made as well as in our abilities. It is absurd to go through college having to defend one's decisions and actions.

And even when we don't receive external support and encouragement, we must provide it for ourselves. If we respect ourselves and recognize our abilities in a serious manner then that respect and recognition will come from others.

Disagreement Over Soviet Jewry Activism

To the Editor:

I was pleased to read the editorial in the previous issue of THE OBSERVER entitled "Let History Repeat Itself." It indicates a maturity of ideas and a realization of the true nature of the problems facing Soviet Jewry. This is something that most, if not all, Jewish leaders and advocacy groups lack. It is much to the discredit of these otherwise generally worthy groups that they feel threatened by a situation that is accomplishing their own goals, yet is completely independent of them. I applaud THE OBSERVER for its insight and courage in addressing this issue, however indirectly.

That being said, however, I must express my chagrin at the fact that the editorial did not expound upon its success. By describing the Soviet government as being in a state of "chaos" where "it is not clear who is in charge," THE OBSERVER shows that it is not entirely up to date on the current situation in that nation. The Soviet Union in fact has currently the most stable government of any Eastern Bloc country and is in no immediate danger of capsizing.

Moreover, by encouraging its readers to petition the State Department to lift quotas on Soviet immigrants, THE OBSERVER forgets the original intent of these restrictions. The 50,000 immigrant cap was placed under considerable Israeli pressure in order to redirect Jewish immigration to Israel instead of the United States. If Jewish activists are foolish enough to write such letters, it would only result in a loss of prestige for Israel and the already hurting Soviet Jewry advocacy groups.

Steven Stadtmayer
YC 91

Editor's Comment, the title of the article was "Let History Repeat Itself". Secondly, with the present confusion in the Eastern Bloc, even astute politicians cannot be sure of the Soviet government's stability. Furthermore, the original intention of the quota did not consider the sudden eruption of anti-semitism in the Soviet Union. Now that most of the world recognizes the state of emergency, that real lives are at stake, one cannot waste time arguing over the direction in which to send them but to get them out. The original intention of the quota is irrelevant. The OBSERVER stands by its editorial.

Cont. from page 2 col. 5

deningly erratic, especially for texts in low demand.

I do not speak for my colleagues, but I can assure you that students' annoyance on this issue is easily matched by my own frustration at being unable to start the work of my courses. Sincerely
Professor Miriam S. Groszof

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Around The Campus

Kahane Speaks At SCW — Spurs Student Controversy

by Sharona Cunin

Close to one hundred people filled a classroom at Stern College, on Wednesday, February 28 to hear Rabbi Meir Kahane give a speech titled "Ol Malchut Shomayim." Rabbi Kahane, the well-known and critically acclaimed founder and leader of the Kach party in Israel, was recently ordered to leave the Knesset. This lecture was attended by SCW and YC students, and by many people from other communities.

Rabbi Kahane's opening statement was that politics is not a Jewish concept. Rather, everything is really a matter of Halacha, be it regarding Shabbat, the status of a Jew or the Arab nations. "I am a Rabbi," he said, "who unfortunately is in politics." Kahane proceeded to bring many different sources from the Torah as proof to support his position [namely, to have the Jews firmly and completely control all land that rightfully belongs to Israel according to Halacha]. For example, the Ramban (Nachmanides) asked in Parshat Shemot why G-d didn't just punish the Egyptians with the Ten Plagues, and leave the Jews in Goshen (where they lived prior to and during their enslavement). The answer given is that G-d knew that the Jews could not properly do the Mitzvot (commandments) in lands where they are ruled over by other nations. This relates to the verse that describes the Jews as a nation that lives alone. Kahane expanded this on this point by saying that we definitely should

love and respect people. However, we are still commanded to be separate as a nation. Therefore, it is not a Torah concept to have complete integration of both Jews and non-Jews in a Jewish state.

The main focus of Kahane's speech dealt with the status of the Arabs according to the Torah, and what their power should be a Jewish state. Kahane quoted a Rashi in Parshat Shoftim which stated that in any war, both obligatory and optional, the Jews should first ask the other nation for peace. If peace is agreed upon, then the other nation must accept certain obligations of taxation and servitude to the Jews. The Sifrei in this Rashi even says that if the nation only agrees to one of these conditions, the Jews should not accept the offer. Kahane added that the Rambam (Maimonides) states in Hilchot Milochim that servitude means being lowly, and

never being appointed to any position among the Jews, including the lowest position of water carrier. Kahane then pointed out how contradictory to Halacha, and absurd it is to give citizenship to Arabs in Israel, and to allow them in the Knesset. Kahane emphatically stated that the Arabs unquestionably believe that all of Israel is their land. The strong national pride that they feel for the land, Kahane explained, cannot be "bought" by electricity and running water. It does not make sense to say "look how much we did for them [the Arabs], why aren't they happy just to sit quietly?" The Arabs are working towards eventually taking away Israel from the Jews, said Kahane. In general, the Arab birthrate is four times higher than the Jewish birthrate. In the Galil, for example, the majority of residents are Arab.

Cont. on page 19 col. 3



Rabbi Meir Kahane.

Blood Test Drives Held At YU

Allison Atlas Visits SCW Testing Site

by Sarah Fineberg

Allison Atlas is probably the most well-known name throughout New York college campuses. Her status, however, is one that we all hope never to achieve. Allison is a twenty year old young woman who used to attend New York University. She is presently suffering from a rare form of leukemia and is in desperate need of a bone-marrow transplant.

Shockingly, doctors say that only one out of 20,000 people have her bone marrow type. There is a greater chance however, for finding her a match with someone of Jewish Lithuanian descent. Some of the many universities that have shown their sympathy toward Allison Atlas by holding blood test drives in an attempt to find a match are New York University, Columbia University and Yeshiva University (including Einstein, SCW and YC).

Many causes such as this have arisen before and yet few have been taken up as sincerely or as overwhelmingly as Allison's. When asked what made this cause take hold of the public the

way it did, a Stern College student said, "It is so easy just to give a few tubes of your blood. And yet it could make the difference between life and death. It is frightening that she is our age and yet going through so much trauma."

Yeshiva College held its blood test drive on January 8 in the Morgenstern dormitory. It was arranged by Jeff Chaitoff, Assistant Dean of Students, and was run by two YC students, Michael Raskas and Josh Thomas. Yeshiva University became involved in the cause when Chaitoff received a phone call from Sy Atlas, Allison's cousin, and requested that a blood test drive be held at YU. The response to Atlas's request was immediate. Approximately 200 students were tested but no matches were found. Josh Thomas, a senior at Yeshiva College, felt that although YC had one of the highest numbers of students tested, "We should do better because we are a Jewish school." He admits though, that there were several factors which prevented the numbers from being higher. On

the first day of testing, they had to turn down at least twenty people from being tested because they ran out of test tubes. In addition, the drive was held during finals which prevented some students from being tested. Thomas felt that this was no excuse. He said, "Everybody has to have some time to give for a worthwhile cause such as this."

Stern College held its blood test drive on March 6. It was headed by Tova Jacobowitz, Michelle Lerman and Judith Mandelbaum. The response to the drive was immediate. In order for a testing site to be established there has to be at least 100 participants. Within a day and a half after the request had been posted, well over 100 SCW students signed up, enabling a testing site to be established.

Mrs. Zeldia Braun, Director of Student Services at SCW, feels that the enthusiastic response to Allison's plight is due to the element of Pikuach Nefesh (saving a life) involved. There is a tractate in the Talmud which

Cont. on page 15 col. 4

Mandatory Food Plan On The Horizon

by Ricki Lieber

A mandatory food plan is becoming a serious possibility for the fall semester. The proposed plan would require residence hall students at Stern and Yeshiva Colleges to pay an estimated cost of \$1200 to join a dining plan for the year.

At a meeting on March 2, YU Food Services met with SCW's Food Services Committee led by Elizabeth Botterman and Esther Strauss. Jeffrey Rosengarten, Director of Supporting Services, claimed that the food plan would help alleviate the increasing deficit in the cafeteria. Furthermore, if the food plan is not implemented, the Executive Council (composed of various deans and administrators) informed Rosengarten that general school funds would have to be used in order to alleviate the debt. In truth, the funds will only help the cafeteria to break-even. "Their whole approach was 'this is what is good for us financially.' Their last concern was the about us," said an irate student who attended the meeting.

John Birchfield, the hired food consultant who originally suggested the plan, was not present at the March 2 meeting. However, Rosengarten advocated the need for the plan. "Every student spends money on food," said Rosengarten. Esther Strauss, Co-chairperson of the Stern College Food Service Committee, agreed with the need for a meal plan but objected to the proposed fee of \$1200. "I think \$1200 is too much to ask of the students. There is little chance of anyone eating that much food. However there is still a need for some kind of mandatory meal plan if the cafeteria is going to break even."

Students said that the financial burden of another large

lump sum to be paid at the beginning of the year was difficult to conceive. At the meeting it was pointed out that many students pay for their own dorm bills. "How can these students afford to pay another \$1200?" one student commented. "That's one more loan I can't afford to take out," said SCW Sophomore Amanda Weiner.

Further, it seems ridiculous to students that in midtown Manhattan where the variety of kosher eating places is vast, there should be an limitation as to where students can eat. "Personally, I prefer Great American food and pizza to eating in the cafeteria especially for dinner. I need to get out of the school building at the end of the day and I do not want to be forced to eat all of my meals there," said one SCW Junior. Forcing students to invest in a meal plan means that most will not be able to eat elsewhere. Debby Aharon commented strongly that "I don't want to feel limited when it comes to where I eat. If I were on the mandatory food plan I would have no choice but to eat in the caf."

Presently, students on the voluntary cafeteria plan are desperate to use up the money on their cards, which is non-refundable. "I paid \$600 in September and have over \$200 left right now. I will probably have money left at the end of the year and with the new plan I'd have twice that amount leftover, which could definitely be put to better use" said Chana Rosenthal.

According to Rosengarten no final decisions about the meal plan will be made until student opinion has been surveyed. As of now, the Executive Committee has recommended the plan

Cont. on page 19 col. 4

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Wachtenheim and Remes Awards Bestowed On Active Seniors

Support Urged By Nudel and Mendelovich

by Elisheva Berezin

Two members of the class of 1990 were awarded honors by their fellow seniors last week. The two honors, the Lisa Wachtenheim Memorial Award and the Professor Nathaniel L. Remes Memorial Award, were received by Heather Rush and Dina Friedman, respectively. The voting took place on Feb. 27 and 28 and was conducted by secret ballot.

The Lisa Wachtenheim Memorial Award was established by the family of Lisa Wachtenheim, a student at Stern College who passed away in 1982. It is awarded to a senior chosen by her peers for "character, midot and service to Stern College." Dean Karen Bacon reminisced about Ms. Wachtenheim as "a student who represented everything we believe in: tremendous dedication to Torah, enormous caring for her parents and friends, and a very brave human being who didn't use medical problems as an excuse. She reached for the highest that she could achieve."

The award was given to Heather Rush, Vice President of SCWSC and head dorm counselor. In addition to her positions in SCWSC and the dormitory, Ms. Rush is currently the President of the Chemistry Club. Her past leadership positions include: Recording Secretary of the Executive Board of SCWSC in 1988-89, Chairperson of the Annual Chairing Drive, Secretary of the Freshman Class, President of the Sophomore Class, Chairper-

son of the Anti-Cult and Missionary Club, and member of Project Sages. Ms. Rush, a biology major, will be attending medical school next year.

The Professor Nathaniel L. Remes Memorial Award was established by the class of 1978 and is awarded to a senior chosen for "character, personality and service to the school." Professor Remes taught chemistry for many years at SCW and according to Dean Bacon, "he exhibited an incredible loyalty to the students and to this college, and when I came to the college he transferred that loyalty to me because he supported the institution. I could count on him for advice and honest assessment. He had tremendous respect for people."

Dina Friedman, President of Sy Sym Student Council and captain of the Lady Macs Basketball Team, received this honor. She expressed her appreciation by saying, "I was so excited when I found out that I won this award. Winning this award just tops off the great experience I've had here at Stern College." Ms. Friedman was treasurer of SCDS last year, Secretary of the Junior Class and a member of the tennis team. Ms. Friedman, an Accounting Major, will be working next year at DeLoitte and Touche, a major accounting firm.

When asked about the recipients of the awards, Dean Bacon responded, "I have great confidence on student choices. The students always choose well."

by Deborah Hamburg

Former prisoners of Conscience Ida Nudel and Yosef Mendelovich spoke on behalf of their fellow Jews who remain in the Soviet Union at Koch Auditorium of Stern College on March 5. Activist and Judaic Studies instructor Rabbi Avi Weiss brought Nudel and Mendelovich to speak at SCW.

The lectures concerned the Jews remaining in the USSR who are in grave danger due to the rising anti-Semitism. PAMYAT, the anti-Semitic nationalist group, has delegated May 5th as the date for a pogrom and is planning more in the future. The Soviet government has not shown signs of restraining PAMYAT.

While Soviet Jews are given permission to leave, they presently cannot because direct flights between the Soviet Union and Israel have been discontinued and flights to other countries are booked until 1991. Weiss explained "It is no longer a matter of saying to Gorbachev 'Let my people go but rather 'Let my people leave!'"

As the lives of the Jews remaining in the Soviet Union are threatened, Nudel and Mendelovich stressed the urgency of the situation and the need for American Jewry to show their concern and support for their Soviet brethren. The audience was urged to join the rest of Yeshiva University in Washington D.C. on March 8 in order to rally on behalf of Soviet Jewry. The desired outcome, according to Mendelovich, would be for the U.S. to pressure for the reinstatement of direct flights between Israel and the Soviet Union.

Through their addresses, Nudel, Mendelovich and Weiss expressed concern that American Jews of today, unlike the silent majority of American Jews during World War II, take action and responsibility for their brethren in the Soviet Union by attending the Washington rally and others in the future.

Cont. from page 1 col. 3

apply science to their lives no matter what careers they choose to follow. "Students have to find careers and activities that make them unique," said Dr. Babich.

He feels that SCW students have to develop more self-confidence in themselves. According to Babich, Stern students haven't interacted with enough different types of people and they worry about their abilities compared to others. "Staying in one little world doesn't build confidence. Stern students need to realize that they have a good education behind them and shouldn't worry that they won't perform well in graduate schools." Science students should do research in off campus laboratories because this would enable them to see what they can handle. Senior Seema Fixler, who voted for Dr. Babich, said that he has been constantly available to advise

her in all her prospective career decisions and has been very supportive. "Dr. Babich won't let me give up on myself. He is always there to listen to my problems and tell me that I can accomplish anything that I want to."

Dr. Babich emphasized that it is important to put things in perspective, "while it is good to aim for everything, it is important to realize that it is impossible to have it all." He has worked in labs where women brought in playpens in order to work and watch their children. When he was in Washington everyone sat on the floor

"because the head of the lab had a kid and they all sat in the middle of the floor to watch the kid." Students - and people in general - have to make tradeoffs they're going to be happy with. "Everyone needs to find their own niche in the world." People have to be satisfied with what they do in order to make the most of it. "It's good to get up in the morning and like what you're doing."

Dr. Babich graduated Yeshiva University as a Biology major. He received his M.S. from Long Island University and his Ph.D. from New York University Graduate School.

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Professor Awards

grow closer together, raising the school both academically and spiritually. He stated that today, students at Stern College take their Judaism more seriously than they did when he first arrived. Most significantly, Stern graduates want to continue learning even after they marry, start a family and have a career. Rabbi Flaum said that the most fulfilling part of his job is seeing students put to practical use the knowledge he and colleagues impart in and out of the classroom. Many of his students rely on him as their Rav and call him up with their halachic questions years after they graduate. Said senior Rina Rubin, "I voted for Rabbi Flaum because he has taught me so much over the years."

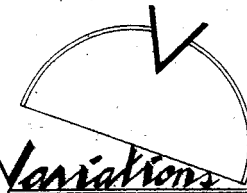
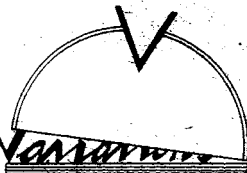
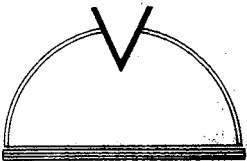
Rabbi Flaum graduated YC as a Judaic Studies major. He received his Masters degree in Jewish History from Bernard Revel Graduate School of Jud-

aic Studies and Yadin Yadin S'micha from RIETS. He learned in the YU Kollel and taught in various day schools and yeshivas before coming to the James Striar School of Jewish Studies and Stern College. He is the Rabbi of the Torah Center of Hillcrest, in addition to being the Mashgiach Ruchani of Stern College.

In his third year of teaching at Stern College, Dr. Babich attributes his award of Senior Professor of Secular Studies to teaching the largest class in the school. He teaches 70 students in his Biology Essentials course and around another 20 Biology majors who pass through his Level II Biology courses.

Dr. Babich said that "it is challenging to teach at Stern." The women are "extremely sharp" and he has to use a lot of books to prepare for his classes. He enjoys showing non-majors that they can handle and

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Largest SCW delegation Attends Model UN

by Chani Penstein

Each year, a delegation of Stern women embark on a three and a half hour "voyage" to Boston Massachusetts to represent Stern College at the annual Model United Nations. This year, eight SCW students went - the largest delegation ever sent by SCW.

The selection process for choosing delegates began last semester. An application and essay were required of each candidate. This year's delegation consisted of students majoring in areas ranging from Political Science to French. In past years SCW has chosen primarily Poli-Sci majors, but with the emergence of economic concerns in the United Nations at least one delegate is a business oriented student. The SCW delegates knowledgeable in both political and global affairs included: Deena Cohen, Debbie Hamburg, Patricia Heiden, Chani Penstein, Robin Reigold, Malka Raul and Claudine Sokol.

The Harvard Model U.N. is a mini model of the United Nations based in New York City. This year over 1800 students from more than 100 uni-

versities across the continent came to Harvard to participate in this major event. Each school represented are country with 140 countries represented in total. Delegates arrived in Boston having researched well in advance and were ready to represent their country.

This year, Yeshiva University represented Belgium. The major changes happening in Europe made it very interesting to represent a European country that is directly affected by these changes. The SCW delegates were also fortunate that Belgium is a member of the Western Bloc which is responsible for the majority of the resolutions passed in the U.N.

At the model U.N. the delegates were divided into the 18 different committees normally on the agenda of the United Nations such as: disarmament, social humanitarian, economic, drug trafficking, status of women and terrorism. Each representative had to use diplomatic skill and the art of persuasion and debating during sessions. In accordance with official U.N. procedure each delegate promotes his/her coun-

try's policy hoping it would pass resolutions that would further peace and tranquility in the world.

The model U.N. in Boston was an incredible opportunity to meet other students from all over North America. Students found it to be an atmosphere that wasn't just socially enjoyable but moreover, intellectually broadening of each student's awareness of global matters. The delegates were privileged to hear keynote speaker such as U.S. United Nations Ambassador Jonathan Moore and Dr. Stephen Zabin. All the speakers lectured on relevant issues that the delegates themselves were in the midst of debating. Every student was able to profit from the great political knowledge and experience that the speakers had to offer.

Although the SCW and YC delegates were unable to actively participate in the sessions held on Shabbat, their presence was still felt at the U.N. Marc Sabatini the General Secretary of the Harvard National Model United Nations Conference noted, "Once Again, YU has done outstandingly."

Parent's Day

Cont. from page 1 col. 3

torium on the topic of "Pharmacology and Aging", The History Department's Dr. Schrecker spoke about "Blacklisted Entertainers in the 1950's." Dr. Honigwachs of SSSB discussed "Ethics in the Business Program at the Sy Syms School of Business."

The finale of the full day program consisted of a student showcase, in which talented students, representing their extra-curricular clubs entertained the guests. Two musical interludes were performed. One featured Suzie Magid on the viola, and the second Miriam Frank on the piano. Nechama Goldman presented a poetry reading from Stern's literary publication, Besamim, and Chayala Gottesman representing the Drama Society at SCW, performed the dramatic reading of an excerpt from one of the previous plays performed by SCDC. The day concluded with a mincha service after which the parents boarded the buses for the uptown campus from where they would be departing.

Feedback regarding Parent's Day began when Parents called in their comments and overall opinions about the day upon arriving home. Mostly positive, the feedback included constructive criticism and helpful suggestions about strengthening this newly implemented program. The Sheffels felt completely satisfied at the end of the day, and summarized their feelings by calling the entire day a

"wonderful and stimulating experience." Many parents having been exposed to the drama, art and literary talent at Stern, responded positively to the diversity of the students' talents, having been exposed to the drama, art, and literary talent at Stern. Student Council President Cindy Schlanger's parents emerged from the day enthusiasm about the programs offered at Stern. Cindy felt that though the program was an overall success, there was room for further involvement and improvement. "Student involvement was majorly lacking," she said. "If there had been notices up and basic PR about the program, there might have been a larger turnout. Many students didn't know anything about the program, and these students, if they had been aware of it, could have encouraged their parents to attend." Surprisingly, over half of the guests had arrived from out of town. In contrast many local parents failed to participate.

Mrs. Zelda Braun, one of the coordinators of the program felt that the program was successful in portraying both the academic and student life at Yeshiva University. "This type of program is offered in other universities, and it is about time that we had one here. It was a very positive, fulfilling, and worthwhile day, and I just hope that in upcoming years we will have an even more successful turnout."

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YCDS/SCDS Conflict

Cont. from page 1 col. 5

the dates already set by SCDS and he told them that they need to schedule a different time. They did not reschedule.

Schlanger added that she did not understand how YCDS could circumvent the Calendar Committee. "We set up the Committee to avoid problems like this and now we're caught in the biggest conflict of the year. There's no reason this should happen." Schlanger is concerned because she feels that people will not be willing to go to two plays in one week. "It might damage the turnout for both plays. Most importantly," she added, "It creates animosity."

Unfortunately, it seems that animosity is not new to the two Dramatics Societies which have a history of rivalry since the inception of SCDS. For Dina Najman, 1988 SCDS president, this year's conflict involving the two Dramatics Societies is all too familiar. According to Najman, the date for the production

of THE PHYSICIAN IN SPITE OF HIMSELF, in Spring of 1988, had been reserved early in the year when the YCDS president informed her that he needed the same date. "Dr. Beukas told them they had to get those dates," said Najman. The YC students were persistent. Dean Nulman got involved in the matter and came down to SCW to ask Najman and then Vice President Elana Bank to reconsider. They refused.

Najman made it clear that had YCDS set their performance date with the Calendar Committee before SCDS, the dates would have been theirs without conflict. However, SCDS set the dates earlier in the year and were guaranteed those dates. According to the Najman, the amount of work that must go into building the SCDS set from scratch (because of the lack of theater facilities) should have reflected in the attitude of the administration. Instead, they suggested that SCDS forego their production the week before Pesach.

Apparently, the YCDS's

were very concerned because Beukas had threatened to quit if they did not get him the play dates he wanted. The two boards sat down and negotiated. At that point the YCDSers were desperate and tried to bribe SCDS to change their date. YCDS had a sizeable bank account while SCDS has always had financial problems. SCDS accepted the offer and agreed to change their play date.

Dr. Beukas told the OBSERVER that, "There's no conflict. For 25 years I have had the same play dates. I run a consistent program which Stern College has not. I have no plan of changing my program around them." When informed that there had been a mixup with the Calendar he commented that he was not interested in knowing what the conflict was. "They've been abrasive and know nothing outside of being nasty," Beukas said of SCDS.

Beukas suggested that SCW change their dates. "SCW does one show a year. There's no reason why they can't schedule



Miriam Frank playing the piano at Parent's Day.

in the beginning of the second semester." When told that the Director of SCDS needed those dates in particular, Beukas stated that "she does not have her act together" and that he should not have to suffer because of that. "The girls want what they want and when they want it" he said.

When told that SCDS had reserved before YCDS, Beukas claimed that YCDS had reserved a year in advance. Then he admitted that "Even if SCDS had reserved before YCDS it wouldn't make a difference" to him since, "We always have the same opening night," and "I won't change my program for anybody." Beukas also claimed that YCDS had reserved the play dates with Dr. Nulman's office although Nulman denied this. Beukas was not concerned with the prospect of his turnout

suffering because of the conflict but feels that SCDS should have done something about it if they were concerned that their turnout would suffer.

However, Bank emphasized that because Koch auditorium is used for so many other events, SCDS's play could not have been scheduled any other time, even if they could have changed it. "We were unable to schedule the production for any time but March 29-April 3 because we're working around everyone's schedule as it is." The Elie Weisel lecture is scheduled for March 20 and despite the fact that SCDS will have to build an entire set from scratch, (including the lighting), there cannot be so much as a piece of tape on the floor at the lecture-nine days before the opening night of SCW's production.

About Women

Cont. from page 18 col. 5

women didn't know halacha. As a Tosafot in Berachot 33 revealed, women were considered to be less intelligent than Bors (simpletons). It was assumed that simpletons would know lashon hakodesh even if unable to understand the content of the benching, and so could be yotzei other men. A woman was assumed to not know or understand lashon hakodesh which is why she could not be yotzei other men, rather she had to bench to herself in whatever language was easiest for her. However, in 1990 it is inexcusable that women, who achieve professional status in every field possible, should not be able to open a Mishna Brura and check for themselves whether she it is permissible to add water to a cholent on Shabbat.

Revealingly, many men took my article as an attack and defended defensively. A man in my community came over to me and said, "Nechama, write whatever you want but realize that men do not have the luxury to choose whether they want to learn or not. Learning for you is a luxury, not an obligation." I was somewhat taken aback. I had not tried to equate women and men's learning. However, I feel that the importance of each is essential in the inherent religious nature of the home and family.

I was somewhat amazed at the defensive way men reacted to my article. This phenomenon in the male psyche was clarified somewhat when I received a letter from a Rav of mine from Michlala. He has four boys and five girls from age four to twenty-two and has experience teaching men and women. He read my article and wrote me a letter in response:

"About Women: A very provocative article, stating the problem well. Nechama, the problem is real and can create a very real problem in shalom bayit-believe it or not, agree with the psychology involved it or not. Some things in life just have to be lived in order to bring understanding. Given (i.e. there is no room for argument or misunderstanding of the significance of the statistics): Some males, many males (most males?) will not tolerate their wives "competing" with them on an intellectual or even economic basis. Complementing (supplementing) their knowledge with the Ramban and Tanach, some men will take as a virtue in their wives: asking an intelligent question (that he knows the answer to will help the situation) is beseder (ok). Being an equal in Talmudic and halachic prowess, in many relationships can bring on trouble, real trouble. There are certain basics in psyche that do not allow tampering with; again take this as a given. Some men will find intellectual virtue a source of

pride and joy in their spouses, others will not. This is the situation, take it or leave it. This may be a bit shocking, but some men (many men? most men?) see a definite threat in a situation where their wives outshine them. This psychology is perhaps deeper than 20th century hashkafot."

Although he may have a point, I am not sure that this is reason to concede to men's psychological needs when it comes to women's intelligence. While I am not going to change the male psyche with my articles, I think it is important that men be aware that a problem exists within their emotional makeup. Now that women are trying to overcome certain stereotypes that they have allowed themselves to fall into, men have to try to overcome their inherent prejudices and insecurities that have encouraged these stereotypes. This article is not coming to tear apart men, rather to force them to re-evaluate a way of thinking that has perhaps mistakenly existed for thousands of years and to encourage women to pursue intellectual and spiritual growth essential to their personal needs as Jewish women. A bad habit is not an excuse, it is only a rationalization. The issue at stake is worth thinking out carefully so that men and women can meet on common ground in the Beit Midrash and work together to strengthen and perpetuate Judaism.



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Bone Marrow Testing

states, "Whoever saves one life, it is as if he has saved an entire world." Mrs. Braun stated, "Women at Stern College care. They feel the need to respond."

Jacobowitz has been in contact with Allison's sister, Robin, who is flying to Israel in order to organize testing centers there. She reported that Allison is weak, but in good spirits. According to Jacobowitz, the Atlas family said that the only thing which keeps Allison going "is seeing everyone trying to help." They added that "she is also giving us inspiration by what she is doing with her strength."

The blood tests are done by Roche Laboratories in connection with Life-Savers Foundation of America. Even if one does not match with Allison Atlas, his/her name and blood type are entered into a computer

bank in the event that perhaps a match will be made with someone else in need of a bone marrow transplant or blood transfusion. Donations are also sorely needed since each blood test analysis costs \$75.

On March 6, 236 people showed up to SCW to be tested to see if they would be a possible match for a bone marrow transplant. Over half of those who came for the blood testing were SCW students. Among those who showed up was Allison Atlas herself. She came in from Maryland and spoke to many of the volunteers and friends of hers who were present. Jacobowitz said that she spoke with her and that she "seemed very touched with the efforts and the unity. The only thing keeping her going is seeing such a turnout from the college students."



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Learning In Israel — A

MICHLALA—Pick Your Own Hashkafa

MICHLELET OROT—Torah and Zionism

by Nechama Goldman

Intimidated by stories of Rabbanit Cooperman and regimented room checks, I was sure that I was going to prison for a year but Michlala had the reputation of being a serious learning institution and after a year of fun in college, it was serious learning that I wanted. The program consisted of 105 students from all over America, England, Austria and even Venezuela.

Upon our arrival, we were given keys to our dirot with a smile from the Rabbanit who told us to regard her as Imma but we had strict orders as to how we were to keep the apartments. The Rabbanit's aim was to turn us all into haalabustas by the end of the year. Although she failed in regard to teaching me "sponga" techniques and I don't think I stripped my bed more than once during year, I emerged with a strong grasp of the skills I needed to pursue serious Torah learning.

Over the first few weeks, the Machal (the name for the American program) students were divided into four groups based on who wanted to work towards a teaching certificate and who didn't. I was not in the Pedagogical group. We were given a schedule of the required courses our group would attend daily, which consisted of a mix in Tanach, Halacha, History and

Philosophy courses. A list of elective courses was also handed out and students could go about adding the rest of their fifteen or so courses as they desired. The courses I chose were balanced and provided me with the chance to acquire a background in Mishna B'rura, Jewish History, and Biblical texts. I took a course in Aramaic to help me in the chavruta I had in Gemara, one in Midrash Agadda because I had (and have) problems with Midrash, not to mention Rambam's Mishna Torah, Shmuel, Ramban, Israel-the land, etc. There was a point when I thought that I was becoming part of the fungus on the library rug! Michlala didn't believe in overworking their students—we only attended about 15 courses Sunday-Thursday, with papers and exams in each course.

The school's plan was that we should be living in the library, preparing for courses and inhaling the holy atmosphere of Jerusalem, not hanging out at the bus stop with BMT boys who, we were informed, were well below our standards as Michlala students. Somehow, we found time for class, volunteer work with troubled children and swimming (not one man has ever stepped foot inside the Michlala pool) Michlala's end-of-year during the week was 11:00 pm. However, the last bus came back at midnight and there were

many nights that we would have to beg the guard to let us into the campus without writing our names in the Rabbanit's black book. Michlala's ideology however was not all work and no play. Tuesday afternoon's were not only days that we were served potato borekas at lunch, (our one hot meals), they were the days we went on tiyulim. Over the course of the year we saw most of Israel. We took several week long tiyulim with plenty of food provided by the school to stave off starvation.

As a Machal group we were too large to be close as a whole but we all found niches in which we were comfortable in. For



BROVENDER'S—Talmud Study An Integral Part Of Curriculum

by Rachel Mohl

Michlelet Bruria, now called Midreshet Lindenbaum, is a unique institution for women's Torah learning. Started twenty years ago by Rav Chaim Brovender the school provides its students with the opportunity to gain skills required for approaching Jewish texts independently.

Since 1985, when Rabbi Shlomo Riskin joined the staff as co-Dean, the school has grown tremendously. There are currently three tracks for women studying at "Brovender's." Recent high school graduates attend MABAT, while university and graduate school students are in a separate program. A concurrent program for Israeli women who have completed Sherut Leumi (national service) or the army is run on the same campus.

Courses at Brovender's are given on three different levels. The lower two are taught in English and the advanced shiurim (lessons) are in Hebrew. Students are encouraged to place themselves and may choose from a wide variety of classes.

"Brovender's" is the only women's institution where the

by Tziona Yisraeli

Out of all the women's yeshivot in Israel, Michlelet Orot undoubtedly offers the most Zionist experience. The Michlala is located in Elkana, a settlement in the Shomron. The new campus is beautiful, and offers many facilities. The students have close associations with the settlers in Elkana, each of whom adopts one student for the year.

The American program (called Bat Zion—reflecting the attitude of the Michlala) at Orot is small, usually ranging from 18-26 students. This is very advantageous, promoting close friendships among the Americans as well as the Israelis, who comprise the majority of the school and often invite the "Bat Zioners" for Shabbat—a fine opportunity to improve one's Hebrew! Elana Simon, an SCW Junior who recently returned from a year of learning at Orot commented that "The overall atmosphere at Orot is unique since you're in classes with Israelis and learning is all in Hebrew." Many prospective students, perceiving the location of Orot as a disadvantage, complain that it is too far from Jerusalem (about an hour and a half ride by bus). This is, in fact, an advantage. Students are more likely to see what living in Israel is really like when they are not living in Jerusalem, a

very American environment. Furthermore, it is easier to be motivated to learn when you are not in the center of Jerusalem where all the pizza and falafel hangouts are. Vera Sacharow, a SCW Junior who attended Orot last year, felt that "For aliyah-minded, people Orot is great because you can see what it's really like to live in Israel."

The school is affiliated with Bnei Akiva, which must be differentiated from Bnei Akiva in America. The courses offered include a range of different aspects of Chumash, Rambam, Rav Kook, and Zionism. Many of the courses are taught with the philosophies of Zionism and Rav Kook in mind. Although some may find this to be propagandist, the perspective is refreshing for those who attended schools which did not discuss, let alone promote, Zionism. Part of the program includes volunteer work once a week, in a school, hospital or development town. This helps the student form relationships with Israelis and see what life in Israel is really like. In addition, the students feel that they are contributing personally to the country.

Trips and hikes (tiyulim) are an essential part of anyone's year in Israel. Realizing this, Orot offers many tiyulim throughout the year. Students are asked to

(Cont. on page 19 col. 1)

WITS—Women's Kollel Thrives In Jerusalem

by Tikvah Ben Zvi

In the south Jerusalem area of Talpriet lies a phenomenon of the twentieth century: a women's Kollel. Women's Institute of Torah Study (WITS), a yeshiva for women run by Rebbeitzin Maika Bina, offers women the opportunity to learn on a full time or part time basis.

The age of the women who attend WITS varies from college level students to college graduates. The amount of background each woman at WITS has also varies. Some women have little to no yeshiva background, while other women have attended yeshiva all or most of their lives.

Topics of study differ depending on the program one chooses in the yeshiva. If one is a Matmid, full time learner, she can choose to be in a beginning, medium or advanced track of Talmudic instruction. A Matmid can expect a small stipend to take care of expenses. On the other hand, if one is a part time learner, one selects courses from an array of interesting classes

There are Gemara, Chumash, Nach, Philosophy and Halacha courses from which to choose.

There is no doubt that each of the courses is stimulating and educational, for the teaching staff at WITS is exemplary. Rebbeitzin Bina herself, who taught at Michlala and Brovender's, teaches at the yeshiva, and Danny Wolf of Yeshivat Gush Etzion also contributes his dynamic presence to the faculty.

In addition to the excellent course selection and staff that WITS has to recommend it, there are also Stern College graduates presently learning in the yeshiva who will sing the school's praises. Two women attending WITS as Matmidim find it extremely satisfying and enjoying.

WITS is certainly a new kind of experience for the Jewish woman learner. Modern Jewish society has allowed such a unique school to exist. It is up to the individuals to recognize that uniqueness and take advantage of it.

study of Talmud is an integral part of the curriculum. Three mornings a week are devoted to Gemara. A great emphasis is placed on chavruta (independent pair) learning. The chavruta system is also used prior to courses in Chumash, Nach, Halacha, Jewish History and Philosophy. Three nights a week, women can be found in the Beit Midrash, twice for a night seder and once for a lecture on various topics. A new optional program of Gemara Bleit has been instituted for two other evenings.

Women from America, England, South Africa and Australia learn together in an intellectual atmosphere. Students strike up friendships quickly and easily. The close living quarters strengthen the relationships. Classes are conducted in one apartment building, and other apartments, which are used as dormitories, are rented in a second building nearby.

Brovender's is located at 39 Rechov Herzog on the outskirts of the Rechavia section of Jerusalem. The location is optimal for the independent living arrangements that the school establishes. A lunch plan is available but students are

responsible for preparing two meals daily. With a supermarket down the block and mercat ha'ir (the center of town) only a 20 minute walk away, this situation does not present a problem.

Students enjoy a real taste of Israeli life since they need to shop for themselves. The Israeli students are very helpful and serve as great sources of information on daily life. The school espouses a fervent Zionist philosophy. All holidays, including Yom Haatzmaut, are celebrated with special techniot (programs) planned jointly by students and administration. Tiyulim (trips) to different places increase the students' connection to the country.

Two Shabbatot a month are spent together, one in school and one away. The other two weekends are free. Teachers and Israeli students open their houses to the women whenever necessary.

Brovender's is the perfect place for a self-motivated student. Background in any of the areas of study is not required. The desire to learn not only material, but also certain skills, is far more important for a successful year.

Survey Of The Women's Yeshivot

MACHON GOLD—Combining Work And Play

by Tamar Gribetz

Machon Gold, located on Rechov Haturim in Jerusalem, Israel, is a one year Judaic Studies program, geared toward high school graduates. The courses offered are mainly in areas of Chumash, Navi, Mishnah, Dinim and Jewish Philosophy. There are History, Hebrew and Political Science classes as well, something most other schools do not offer.

There are three levels of classes in the following order: Beit Midrash, Luni Aleph and Luni Beit. In addition, there is a teachers program through which you can receive a teachers certificate. Some of the classes are strictly in Hebrew or English, others are a combination of both.

A Machon student is required to take Halacha (Kashrut and Shabbat), Jewish Philosophy, Hebrew, Jewish Women and Law, Bible, Navi, Issues in Contemporary Israel, Shoah (Holocaust), and to have a Chavrutza (study partner). In addition, she must also take four or five electives ranging from Mishna to Arts and Crafts to the Arab-Israeli Conflict. "The workload can really pile up. Classes run from nine to six and you can have several papers and exams all due in the same time period," remarked Suzie Silverstein, an SCW sophomore.

There is a diverse group of

students that attend Machon; Americans, Australians, Canadians, South Americans and South Africans which makes the learning experience more interesting. According to a former Machon student, "It was interesting to learn about each other's cultures, an opportunity rarely afforded when studying in one's native country."

Machon Gold offers a unique program that further contributes to the student's experience. Once a week, the school takes its students on a full day trip to different areas of the country. In addition, on Chanukah and Passover there are special four to five day trips offered. By the end of the year, a student has seen the entire country. Caroline Katz, a recent Machon alumna, feels that "By going on tiyulum (trips), I was able to see the Israel that I had been learning about. This made my year there all the more special." The students are expected to participate in the volunteer program at Machon Gold. Once a week, students must visit either the elderly, retarded children or orphanages. They also have an option to participate in a Big Sister program with children from troubled homes.

One thing that Machon is renown (or infamous) for is its meal plan. Three meals a day are served, in addition to two snacks! There is a set curfew of

12 am and technically, skirts must extend below the knees and sleeves below the elbows. Students must dress according to the dress code wherever they go in Israel. Another requirement is that students participate in all Shabbat programs held by the school, including a week long stay on a kibbutz, only one or two tiyulum may be missed throughout the year.

A major difference between Machon and other yeshivot in Israel is its supervision. Ms. Silverstein said "You are independent yet cared for. Although other schools did not have as much supervision as we did and though we had rules to follow, I never felt stifled by them."

Amy Sosencher, Machon student, emphasizes that "Machon offered an Israel. It let us learn about the country, explore the country and be a part of the country. I really don't think that any other school could have given me what Machon did."

I had reservations about attending Machon Gold because I had heard that it was strict and unchallenging. I ended up learning so much over the year probably because I read a lot on my own and travelled at every opportunity. It's important to take advantage of that since a lot can be learned outside the classroom.



MIDRESHET MORIAH—Torah Learning At Shaare Zedek

by Tikvah Ben Zvi

You are sitting on a number six Egged bus, enduring the bumps and bruising that Israeli bus drivers are notorious for giving. When the bus comes to a stomach-lurching halt in front of Shaare Zedek hospital. The building does not only house medical facilities, however. In the educational wing of the hospital, on the fifth and ninth floors, are the classrooms and dormitory of Midreshet Moriah, which offers a one year program of Judaic studies for the high school graduate.

As with most yeshivot in Israel, Midreshet provides a range of Torah studies courses. Wandering through the halls, you can hear a Gemara class (introductory or advanced), a course on the teachings of Rambam or Ramban, a lecture on the works of Rav Kook or Rav Soloveitchik, or a lesson on the halachic perspective of medicine, marriage, Yishuv Ha'aretz or a kosher home. You can peek into the library and see students learning in pairs or by themselves from books that run the gamut from the Yechaveh Da'at or the Mishnah Brura to the Torah Temimah or Contemporary Halachic Problems.

However, Midreshet provides more than textbook learning. If you would visit on certain afternoons, you would see the

students piling into buses to explore yet another historical site of their precious homeland. Whether it is the Negev, Hebron, Gush Etzion, Jerusalem, Jericho or the Galil and Golan, the students are able to see the land of their forefathers, and while enjoying themselves, gain a better understanding of the Tanach they study in the classroom.

In addition to the tiyulum (trips), Midreshet provides another off campus program. One afternoon a week, the students are responsible for becoming involved in some form of chesed. They can choose from a variety of programs such as helping physically or emotionally disabled children, tutoring children in English, visiting the sick in the hospital or helping Russian or Ethiopian immigrants adjust to Israel.

Choosing a school in Israel that will suit your needs is unquestionably a difficult decision. If you are looking for a school that provides intellectual stimulation, as well as a comfortable, warm atmosphere, and continuously stresses the importance of settling the Land, then Midreshet Moriah is the yeshiva you want. And if you have tired of those nauseating bus rides, then tell the cab driver, "Shaare Zedek, bevakasha."

SHARFMAN'S—Home Away From Home

by Faith Haber

B'not Torah Institute, affectionately known as Sharfman's, should not even be called a school for it is structured more like a family than like an academic institution and that is what makes it so special.

Students leave Sharfman's knowing a great deal of halachah and having gained an extended interest in learning. The goal of Sharfman's is to teach every student to "move in a positive direction." If a student remains stagnant, then she is on her way down. Sharfman's stresses the philosophy of there being a large quantity of knowledge in this world and everyone should try to grasp as much of it as possible.

In the beginning of the year, Rabbi Sharfman, the Rosh Yeshiva, gives each student her own key to the Beit Midrash. Although most students think that they will never use it, they soon find out that there is a great deal of work to do. Constant preparation for classes is necessary and there are weekly quizzes on Parsha, Hilchot Shabbat and Hilchot yomit.

The teachers of Sharfman's play a large role in the students' lives. The relationships between the teachers and the students do not end in the classrooms. The teachers invite the students to their homes for the shabbatot,

enabling them to experience life in an Israeli home.

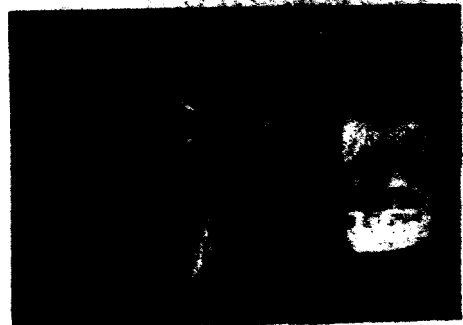
Rabbi Sharfman is a very special man whose uniqueness carries over into the school nicknamed after him. He belongs to the music group "Dveykus" and often plays the guitar and teaches songs to the students. While teaching the laws of heating food on Shabbat, he brought in a small toy oven and miniature pots and pans to demonstrate the concepts.

Sharfman's is located in Sanhedria Murchevet, a charedi-Israeli community, and this has a strong effect on the students' spiritual growth. The students have extended conver-

sations with Hillel, the Makolet man, and the fruit seller who trusts the students to the point that they are constantly owing him money. Many of the students develop close relationships with the people in the community and even help them prepare for Shabbos. Thus, while students sit in the classroom from 8:00 am to 7:00 pm (with a two hour break), their learning experience continues throughout the day.

Sharfman's is known for the independence that it gives its students. There is no curfew and no meals are provided for the students, except on Shabbat. This causes very interesting

Cont. on page 20 col. 3



American students volunteer with Ethiopian children.

About Women



by Nechama Goldman

Recently I had a conversation with my cousin about an article I had written for the About Women column of the Observer (December 1990) discussing women learning Torah. I had come out rather strongly in favor of women's learning and I was interested in hearing his point of view since we have grown up with similar backgrounds. He was a little hesitant about opening up to me, having a not unfounded fear that the conversation would end up in my next column. After a few preliminary remarks, he pointed out that when discussing things with women they tend to nag while men don't. For instance, if you have a male chavrusa and you disagree on an interpretation of Tosafot, you argue the point strongly while in the Beis Medresh but when the shiur is over you can go to the cafeteria and discuss the halacha. In contrast, a woman would never let up on a point until she was convinced that the other person knew she was right or he had thoroughly convinced her that his argument made sense. Coming home at the end of a day of work to a relentless woman determined to learn, would be a nightmare. If you have a couple equally established in the academic or medical world, they can leave their work behind when they come home or discuss it without engaging in verbal swordplay. However, if a woman has equal footing in learning, there would be no peace for the weary. She would

constantly bother him about following halacha to the letter of the law as she had learned it. For example, if she would figure out the right z'man for tefilah, there would be no chance for a man to sleep late. She would be bustling him out the door as soon as the alarm went off, making sure his soul was properly performing its spiritual duties. He concluded that basically too much Torah knowledge would be a dangerous thing for a woman.

I was amused at the image Michael seemed to have of "intellectual" women although I conceded that he wasn't so off target. Women who take their learning seriously tend to want to discuss it intellectually with others equally knowledgeable. I also know that I can get carried away when launching into halachic discourses. My fear of losing a social life after writing an article which condemned myself as a strong minded, outspoken woman was not unfounded. My friend Josh is always telling me that I come off sounding more extreme than I really am. A case in point occurred on a recent shabbat when a couple from YU was put up in my house for a neighborhood Bar-Mitzva. When the couple returned to our house after dinner Friday night, we sat around talking. Eventually it emerged that I had been the infamous writer of the About Women column. Upon hearing this, the woman turned to me and said "but you're so low key!" She had assumed that the author

of the article would be an overbearing individual spouting her philosophies on life constantly. Despite the fact that two YC students wanted to marry me on the spot, the majority of people probably see me as that woman initially did. A proof of this was a phone call from a friend of mine who nervously apologized to me for being "motzei shem rah" (possibly damaging my reputation) by quoting me in a heated argument over women's rights in Judaism. He had used me as an example of an Orthodox woman having radical opinions and wanted to make sure that I was aware of the potential reputation I might acquire as a result.

I have been asked many times in the last two months why I wrote this particular article, what purpose it served or what point I hoped to make in writing it. I acknowledge that I asked for trouble when I wrote "nothing turns me on like a good d'var torah." The offer I received of a 24 hour hotline for divrei torah was deserved and taken in humor but that was not my thesis statement. Second, I did not envision a mass exodus from the YC Beis Medresh to Stern College in search of chavrutas. Basically, I wrote the article because it was an issue that interested me and that I believed in. Being that this is a topic of discussion among many students at SCW, I felt compelled as a writer to explore an idea my audience would personally relate to.

Interestingly, not one SCW

student at SCW complained to me or the OBSERVER staff about the impropriety of my ideas. Careful to leave out specific allusions to Talmud, I had written about learning in such a way that any woman would feel comfortable relating to it. Many women thanked me for expressing a point about which they felt strongly. Women from Breur's Seminary and Harvard came over to me to tell me that they had read my article and enjoyed its style and content. Fellow students and friends cheered the public stand I had taken. I was beginning to feel like a celebrity.

Uptown however, the reactions were very mixed. I walked into Rubin Hall a few days after the paper came out and was greeted with "Here comes the radical feminist." This didn't bother me since I was impressed that people had read my article. However, this was only the beginning of the comments my friends and I received. Some YC students were upset with my seemingly equal approach to women and men learning. How could I equate a man and woman's learning? I was messing with the Jewish family structure by advocating that women take intellectual and spiritual roles that are traditionally male. A friend at Ner Israel was afraid that my article would push women to paskin their own halachic questions. To me this seemed a somewhat odd interpretation since men cannot paskin their own halachic problems unless they have s'micha.

My image of "women rushing to embrace Mishna Torahs" was simply too illustrate the necessity of their knowing the vast areas of halacha that concern them.

When asked if I thought I was leading a movement to promote women's learning, I answered that I hadn't really thought about it. My opinion stands that it is necessary to the structure of today's Jewish family that every woman learn. I don't recall advocating the rabbinate for women or promoting female kollels although such institutions do exist for Orthodox women. I do feel however, that there is no excuse for women not to thoroughly know Tanach in addition to the halachot that pertain to them. Men trust their wives and mothers with the kashrut of their homes, shabbat preparation and the laws of family purity. These are pretty important branches of halacha and I, for one, would not want to be responsible for screwing up in any of these areas due the incredible complications that would ensue. Imagine the horror that would ensue if men found out that due to ignorance, women had been treifing up their kitchens or going to the mikvehs on the wrong day. Essentially there has to be a trust between religious men and woman stemming from an assumption that there is a basic knowledge of halacha on both sides.

In the time of chazal it might have been understandable that

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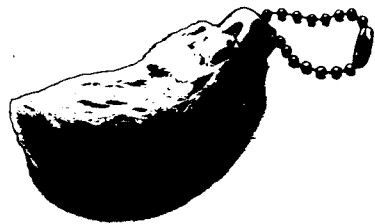
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Culture Calendar

by Naomi Leiser

Spring semester is well underway and midterms and papers have been assigned with a passion. If you let it, school work could occupy your entire life. Don't let it. Remember, sanity is more important than grades. Here are several ways for you to spend a few interesting and relaxing hours this month.

ISRAELI FILM FESTIVAL

The Lens on Israel Film Festival, which opened Sunday, March 4, at the 92nd Street Y, will feature four current Israeli films on subsequent Sunday nights. Each film begins at 7:30 pm with an admission fee of \$8. The first film was "Streets Of Yesterday", the second, on March 11, will be "Peeping Toms", on March 18 will be "The Big Dig" and on April 1, "That's Not Me". Each film will be moderated by Eric Goldman, a specialist on Jewish films and videos.

WOMAN'S HISTORY MONTH

March is Woman's History Month and a number of special programs will be held around the city to celebrate it. The Museum of Broadcasting, which will be featuring a number of films having to do with Women, will only be one of a number of Museums and Libraries in the New York area commemorating the event. There will be programs addressing issues from "Women in Dance" (Brooklyn Academy of Music) to the

"Mommy Track" (Brooklyn Public Library) and "Women in Politics" (John Jay College). For more information look in the New York Times Weekend section which appears every Friday, or write to the New York City Commission on the Status of Women, 52 Chambers St., Suite 207.

Much has been happening in Eastern Europe to shock and interest the world. Not least of these events was the election of once dissident playwright Jasek Havel to presidency. Havel's recent visit to the US just missed coinciding with the opening of the Brooklyn Museum of Art's "Czech Modernism: 1900-1945". According to Michael Kimmelman of the New York Times, the exhibit, which opened last week, provides a much needed re-evaluation of the Czech contribution to modern art. The exhibit should prove interesting to all.

CAMILLE CLAUDEL

Camille Claudel, famous for being the mistress of French sculptor Rodin and also for her own contributions to nineteenth century sculpture, is the subject of this brilliant French film. The film, which is in French with English sub-titles, deals with two complex issues: artistic genius and obsession. The film is unusual in that it is both emotionally moving and intellectually stimulating. The photography is breathtaking and the acting superb.

Orot

bring along a Tanach and at certain points in the journey look up a particular pasuk (verse) in the Tanach that is relevant to the place. This is an inspirational learning device which cannot be used anywhere except in Israel. However, prospective students must be warned that the hikes and tours are not for wimps. On many occasions the students were made to climb steep mountains and walk for many miles through places such as Wadi Kelt and Nachal Arugot. The tziyulim were a particularly

enjoyable learning experience since the sites visited did not only include the typical tourist spots such as Massada and Eilat but also the obscure places that the average tourist would shy away from.

This is merely a reflection of the overall attitude of Orot-to experience Israel from the point of view of the settler rather than the tourist. Ms. Simon expressed it well, "My experience at Orot, living in Elkana, and dorming with Israelis really helped me to acclimate to and feel a part of Israeli society."

Kahane

Cont. from page 4 col. 3

and the city of Acco is presently one-third Arab.

Another point that Kahane emphasized was the lack of faith among people today. "People who used to believe in the Burning Bush now believe in George Bush," Kahane exclaimed. "We have lost faith and now believe that we need America, and can't do anything to annoy them." Kahane gave an example of how after World War II, the Poles and Czechs expelled 12 million ethnic Germans from their lands because of a possible safety threat. They apparently did not care what America would say. "So why," he said, "should we care what the U.S. thinks?"

Kahane concluded with something said by the Gerer Rebbe. The Rebbe once asked "If the purpose of G-d giving the Torah on Mount Sinai was because it was a low mountain and He wanted to teach the Jews humility, why didn't He give it in a place that was even lower, such as a valley? The answer, Kahane explained, is that G-d really wanted to teach the Jews two things: the importance of being humble and the importance of not being too humble.

The lecture was sponsored by the Israel Affairs Committee, which is under the Torah Activities Council (TAC). Students on the of HAMEVASER felt that it was inappropriate for TAC to sponsor Kahane as a speaker. In their March editorial they wrote that "A man who distorts Torah to spread his message of hatred and violence does not deserve a platform at our institution." The editorial also blamed SCW students for not protesting the event. Others argue that Kahane simply represents one view of the Israeli situation and though this view is not necessarily advocated by TAC or SCW it is a perspective that students are interested in hearing.

Michlala

example, on Purim, those of us from out of town got together and put on a skit called "Revenge of the Nerds" about out of towners vs. the cool New Yorkers. We felt that it was important that we make it clear that we had status even if we weren't from "the city" and had never attended Morasha.

Over the year I became very close to several of my teachers and went to them for Shabbat. In fact, one Friday I missed the last bus out of Michlala and had to tearfully knock at the Cooperman's door because I had no food and nowhere to go. Rabbi and Mrs. Cooperman welcomed me warmly. The Rabbanit worried about my eating just like a Bubic and piled me with food. When I was rushed to the hospital several days later with appendicitis, she and all of my teachers were concerned and either called or visited me in the hospital.

Most specifically, Rabbi Slaw, my group's personal mechanech (supervisor) and I became very close. He was constantly opening his home to his students for

Cont. from page 16 col. 3

chagigas and shabbat yom tovs. When I was in Israel this past summer I practically moved into his house in the Old City. We wrote to each other often and he is most forcefully pushing for my aliyah. Rabbi Aberman, who is a visiting professor at Stern this year, taught me something during my year in Michlala that became a philosophy to me, "don't be a frum Jew, be a halachic Jew." When I first came home from Israel I drove everyone crazy by quoting this constantly.

What I most enjoyed about Michlala was their lack of hashkafa. For example, when I was in Israel, it was the year after Shmitta and there was an issue about using heter ha-mechira. Instead of telling us what to do, we were taught in class both sides of the coin and the reasons to use and not use the heter. Basically, although every school likes to do a little propaganda pushing, Michlala was liberal in that they allowed their students to pick the brainwashing they felt most suitable to their personal lives.

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Ms. Marcy Syms speaking to SCW in an SSSB event.

to tell us, on the student food committee, what they want because if they only come crying to us afterwards, it will be too late.

Student involvement is crucial in settling the issue amicably according to all parties involved. To this end an open forum between students and Food Committee Members took place on March 6. Students unanimously voiced a strong objection to any form of mandatory meal plan. However, when it was explained that was not feasible, most students agreed that \$1000 for incoming freshmen and \$400 for all other dorming students was a reasonable amount.

The rationale behind this difference was that while current students are set in their eating habits, new students will automatically eat all their meals in the cafeteria. The following year the fee would be \$1000 for freshmen and sophomores until everyone is paying the same price. Although this is not the final decision, this will be recommended to the administration by the SCW Food Services Committee on behalf of the students of SCW.

Food Plan

Cont. from page 4 col. 4

be implemented slowly. At first it will only be mandatory for the freshmen and sophomores with an option for upperclassman to make their own decisions, a policy upheld in many universities. However, eventually they aim to see all resident hall students on a required meal plan.

Dr. Efreim Nulman, Dean of Students, expressed, "I want to know what the students suggest," added that the cafeteria could serve whatever restaurant food appeals to students. Strauss also stressed that "it's very important for the students



SPORTS TRIVIA

by Esti Weber

Answers to the quiz should be submitted as soon as possible to Esti Weber room 17F. The first Stern College student to correctly answer the quiz will receive a prize and will be mentioned in the next issue of **The Observer**.

1. What university won last year's NCAA basketball championship?
2. What U.S. senator played for the New York Knicks?
3. Who won the 1990 NBA three-point shoot-out contest?
4. Who is the current boxing heavyweight champion of the world?
5. Name the highest paid baseball player in the Major Leagues?
6. This year marks the tenth year anniversary of what great miracle on ice?
7. Name the well known jockey who recently retired from horse-racing.
8. Who was runner-up in the Slaw-Durk competition at this year's All Star Break?
9. The newly acquired New York Knick Maurice Cheeks wears what number?

Sharfman's

Cont. from page 17 col. 5

diets that often consist entirely of bread, Bissli, popcorn and leftovers from "Off the Square," a restaurant in Jerusalem. However, by the time the students leave Sharfman's they are able to fend for themselves.

Since there are only fifty students in the school, the students become a close knit group. Rabbi Sharfman is known for his talent in arranging rooms that consist of students whom he feels are compatible and will eventually form a bond. Having a warm and comfortable apartment adds to the positive effects of the year.

Sharfman's is not like any other yeshiva in Israel. There is not a great deal of academic pressure, yet every student leaves the school feeling that she has acquired a great deal of knowledge.

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Since Avery Fisher Hall is printing only as many tickets as there are seats in the hall, there will be no extras as in the past. Numbered tickets will be distributed by mail only to those on the Registrar's lists.



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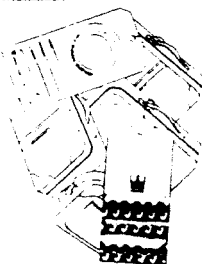
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New Program Clarifies SCW Values

by Paula Needleman

Student Services has instituted a new program entitled "Values Clarifications". The first one of these sessions occurred in Brookdale Hall on the night of March fifth.

According to Dr. Nancy Block, a clinical psychologist at SCW, the goal of the program is to have a forum where the students can discuss the "grey areas" where a specific value system is difficult to pin down as with cheating, borrowing money or clothing and honesty with parents and roommates.

Rather than present the students with a standard outline of ways to react in sticky situations, the forum allows the participants to voice their individual opinions and concerns. In this way, after hearing the various sides to the story, the students should have better focus in sorting out, defining and re-evaluating the problems they are facing.

The general forum has three different modes consisting of scruple games, trigger films, and role playing, each of which allow for depiction of certain ethical dilemmas. Following each of these presentations, the participants can discuss how effectively the person involved reacted, and how they might

have handled the situation.

The opening program included discussions about cheating, copying notes, competition for grades, looks, and money. Block would throw out a question to the students such as, "If you're in Macy's with your roommate and you have no money, do you borrow money from your roommate?" Each topic brought much participation and involvement from those present. Dara Kanefsky, head dorm counselor, attended the forum with her floor residents. She said that the forum itself is a great idea because it allows the students to state their opinions on issues. "The sessions could be very thought provoking and informative," said Kanefsky. She felt however that the questions should have been more powerful and focused. "Although the students really participated, the questions they were asked were silly." The program will be conducted for individual floors throughout the semester. This setup enables small enough discussions so as to facilitate open discussion and comfortable ambience.

This newly established workshop is just one of the many workshops that the Office of Student Services provides for the women at Stern College.

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