

THE OBSERVER

The Official Newspaper of Stern College for Women • Yeshiva University

December 13, 1990

Volume XXVI, Number 3

Kislev 5751



Koshers Delight: Scene of the incidents.

Increased Crime Raises Concern

by Elizabeth Botterman

A wave of concern has arisen over the security of women at SCW. In three separate incidents over the past month, groups of women were accosted by two men. The suspects threatened to use force unless they were given the girls' money and jewelry. All of the incidents occurred within a four block radius of Koshers Delight and Jerusalem 2.

The first incident occurred on November 4 at approximately 6:30 pm on the corner of 36th Street and Broadway. Three women were on their way to Koshers Delight for dinner, when two men, black and in their mid-20's, approached them and asked for the time. They quickened their pace as they sensed that something was wrong. One of the men yelled, "Don't run from me you b——!" The other suspect then said that they should continue walking and hand over their money because, "my friend has a knife and will use it." As the women ap-

proached Koshers Delight, one of them dropped their wallet, and used it as a diversion to run inside the restaurant. The suspects fled without the wallet.

The second incident occurred on November 8, at 8:30 pm on 36th Street and Broadway. A woman was walking with her male friend when they were suddenly cornered by two youths. The suspects said, "Give us your money and jewelry," while at the same time told them to keep walking. The suspects also threatened to use force if their demands were not met. Furthermore, they made an anti-semitic remark calling the man a "Jewboy," right before they took the money and ran away.

The last incident took place on November 15, at 9 pm on the corner of 38th Street and Broadway. Four women were exiting a cab and were suddenly surrounded by two black men. One of them quickly stretched out his arm and

Continued on p. 12 col. 1

Schedule Change Finalized

by Rachel Schenker

The schedule change proposed at the end of October will be implemented in the spring semester of 1991. This change in scheduling was originally proposed in a faculty meeting held at the end of October. The problems that had to be dealt with included Friday classes, the AB hour, and the D hour. Last week a second faculty meeting on the issue finalized the revised proposal. Ethel Orlan, Assistant Dean of SCW, addressed full-time faculty who teach Mondays and Wednesdays and would be most affected by the proposal. Faculty voted through mail ballots, almost unanimously agreeing to implement the proposed plan.

Friday classes have been eliminated, leaving Fridays "to be used as needed." This suspension of Friday lectures makes it possible to reschedule the A and B hours of Monday and Wednesday mornings. Until now there have been two fifty minute classes that have not been utilized as such. Instead,

they have been combined into the AB hour which starts at 9:30 and runs until 10:45. Under the new schedule, Monday and Wednesday mornings will have the same scheduling as Tuesdays and Thursdays. The combined period has now become two separate periods of the standard hour and fifteen minutes, beginning at 9:00 in the morning. This is beneficial to the Judaic Studies department and teachers because it affords them three straight periods in which to conduct their classes.

The largest schedule problem until now has been the D hour on Monday and Wednesday. Monday has no break in the schedule for lunch. Wednesday has a break scheduled as club hour at 2:40. While many students have a straight day of classes with no break on Monday, the D hour in particular is a problem because it spans the lunch hour and lasts for one hour and forty minutes. Wednesdays have only a fifty

Continued on p. 9 col. 4

NEWSPAPERS UNITE IN A JOINT ISSUE

by Rachel Schenker

Journalists are on a constant quest for innovative slants and new ways of presenting old information. For the first time in the history of Yeshiva University, the Observer and The Commentator have collaborated and joined forces. The product: a feature section presenting the student body with a plethora of information and views about one of the most talked about, thought about issues that touch virtually all Yeshiva University students: THE SOCIAL SCENE. The editorial boards unanimously felt that there were certain social issues in the university, and student demands in regard to social life, that needed to be addressed. Be it dating, school-run functions, or marriage, the differences between YU and any other university campus life, if any at all, have been explored, debated, argued and jointly written up by the feature staff of both undergraduate newspapers.

Aside from the regular, individual newspapers that each college publishes, this month there is an eight page spread that is written jointly by the two schools, dealing with the feature issue of the month. When questioned as to the purpose of this collaboration, both editors-in-chief responded along the same lines.

"Dan Oshinsky and I decided that the coalition between the two schools would be effective," stated Nechama Goldman, editor-in-chief of The Observer. They both felt that although The Observer and The Commentator deal with different issues and can never be combined to form one paper, the issue at hand was a perfect example of one concern shared by both schools. Both editorial boards wanted to address the social issue, and after much deliberation as to

how it could work, decided to join forces to approach this relevant topic together in context of both schools.

At a preliminary meeting, representatives from each paper sat down together to discuss different articles and ways of approaching them. The joint features staff consisted of Jon Adler, Hayyim Angel, Jay Bailey, Nechama Goldman, Ezra Kahn, David Kay, Elisheva Berezin, Shoshana Levine, Dan Oshinsky, and Mindy Spear. Their collective approaches ranged from the practical to the theoretical.

"It was interesting because our differences as men and women came out in our ideas and approaches," commented Goldman. The group finally agreed upon seven articles co-authored by one YC and one SCW reporter. A survey polling students about the frequency of their dating, the pressures with which they contend, and briefly touching upon their social needs, was complemented by articles that expanded on these ideas.

Some complications arose when students found it difficult to reconcile the two different writing styles that were of equal input into these articles. Adler concurred, "There was good cooperation between the two schools but the logistics were difficult... We all have different creative leaps." Levine commented, "It was a great idea in theory; if East and West Germany can get together, why couldn't we?" Although she did feel the overall product was a "major success," difficulties arose because there were simply "too many people and too many opinions in charge."

When questioned about this problem, Goldman responded, "I think that our mistake was in pairing people to work together on each article. What we should have done was alternate writers from

each staff. I think it is important that we work together. First of all, it's fun. Secondly, it gives us all a chance to present two sides to the same story."

The decision was to publish two separate papers as usual, accompanied by a smaller features issue shared by both papers. This project involved many trips uptown because YC students did not have access to either The Observer office or the computer room at Stern on Saturday nights. Security was most accommodating to the SCW students who were forced to remain at the uptown campus late after visiting hours.

Despite the small difficulties that evolved in the course of this production, the entire staff felt that this joint issue was an important idea, and an issue within itself. They wanted to demonstrate that these two newspapers are not in competition, but rather, colleagues who should coalesce when the need arises. "Especially on this issue," commented Adler, "it was important for us to get together because this is about both of us." Bailey added that "a new perspective is always nice."

This venture was important for a second reason, one less obvious to the majority of the student body. "It was important that we worked together," emphasized Berezin, "because it broke all misconceptions on how the 'other side' works."

"It was important to work together," concludes editor-in-chief Oshinsky, "because even though we are two schools, we are, ultimately, one university. I think that The Observer is a fine paper which often receives a bum rap by YC students. As far as The Commentator is concerned, we have complete respect for The Observer and its staff. I think working as closely as we have been with them says it all."



Dr. Lamm meets with YU student leaders. Story on page 6.



Co-operation Appreciated

Recently, due to the Observer/Commentator joint issue, Stern students found it necessary to stay uptown in the computer room after the last official van has left for Brookdale Hall. They were also up there on Saturday night when the computer room is usually inaccessible even to YC students. Thanks to Jeff Socol and security guards uptown, there were no problems regarding our using Belfer Hall. Through the Student Services office, special arrangements were made and student needs were accommodated. Second, special van services were provided for SCW students stuck uptown on Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday nights. We would like to thank all of those who gave us the technical help we needed to put together this issue, specifically Supervisor Brown, and security officers Foster and Noyola.

Wait for the Light

Crossing 34th Street from Brookdale Hall to the Deli across the street is like playing "frogger." Waiting for the light to change or the cars to slow down in order to cross in the middle of the street is thought to be a time saver. Students weave in and out of cars at all times of the day and night. We all do it. No one wants to walk to the corner in order to walk back half a block on the other side of the street.

Crossing the street is not a video game. If you lose, you do not always have the opportunity to start again with a brand new playing piece. In the last few years, several SCW students have been hit by cars outside of Stern while crossing in the middle of the street. It is irrelevant whose fault it is. What is relevant is the emotional and physical damage suffered by the victims and their families.

None of us think that we will be hurt. We all think we are invincible. Unfortunately we are too often reminded that we are not. Traffic in New York City is constant and crazy especially on such a main street as 34th Street. Take the time to walk to the corner. Traffic lights were made to protect people. Better safe than sorry.

An Old Complaint Still Unheeded

The time for students to exercise their options to P/N or withdraw from a course has come and gone. Yet many teachers have still not returned those midterms taken weeks ago, giving students no indication as to their performance in a given class. The purpose of having a P/N system, or the ability to withdraw from a course, only aids the student if she knows for which class she would like to exercise one of these options. When instructors delay in returning exams, students are thrown into turmoil. Given the lack of a specified time period for midterm examinations, it would behoove the professors at SCW to respect the needs of their students by returning exams in a timely fashion. Students deserve to be able to take proper advantage of their privileges by making an informed decision, so as not to be forced to randomly withdraw from, or P/N a class.

For:

- Those who do college teaching;
- Those in college administration;
- Those in college services (publications, academic computing, libraries, etc.);
- Graduate students preparing for careers in academe.
- Must have Masters degree or above;
- The dating service serves these cities and their surrounding areas: NYC, Boston, Philadelphia, Providence, Hartford, and Amherst;
- Owned and operated sensibly and intelligently by people with Ph.D.'s. Detailed questionnaire; no computers.
- Privacy is protected throughout: Information is sent in a plain envelope; your name is not disclosed to a potential match unless you say so.
- Cost is \$80.

For a packet of information, write:
Academic Companions • 8 Bristol Road
Clinton, New York 13323

**Need it typed
Need it fast?
Call Me For Your WP Work!
Steve Shoup 212-410-0255**

THE OBSERVER

245 Lexington Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10016 340-7708. Published by Stern College Student Council. The views expressed in unsigned columns are those of The Observer only and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the student body, the faculty or the administration of Stern College.

Governing Board

Nechama Goldman, *Editor-in-Chief*

Shoshana Levine
Executive Editor

Rachel Mohl
Senior Editor

Chani Hook
Features Editor

Deborah Aharon
News Editor

Ricki Lieber and Rachel Schenker
Associate Features Editors

Sarita Rosenhaus
Associate News Editor

Elisheva Berezin
Research Editor

Jodi Goldman
Photography Editor

Margi Goldberg
Proof/Copy Editor

Deborah Hamburg
Cultural Arts Editor

Leah Brueckheimer/Leah Hoffman
Arts/Graphics Editors

Cindy Tuckman
Layout Editor

Chani Weiss, Tammy Gross
Typists

Rachel Markowitz
Business Manager

Esther Eisenman, Joanna Goldstein,
Sheryl Zaionz, Sandra Lurie
Advertising Editors

Serena Sapoznick
Billing

Quote of the Month
"Publish and Be Damned!"
Duke of Wellington

The Observer does not endorse or vouch for any of the products or restaurants advertised within.

Walk to the Corner

Dear Editor,

My mother always told me to "cross at the green and not in between." I listened when I was younger only to avoid the punishment of being reprimanded by my parents. Never did I think that such an old cliché would turn out to be words to live by.

Brookdale Hall, which is conveniently located across the street from an overpriced food store, is in the middle of 34th street between Park and Madison. In other words, students are quite lax about walking ALL the way to the corner to cross at the light. It has always been hazardous to cross in the middle of the street but, when one of your peers is not careful enough, you realize just how dangerous it is.

A friend of mine uptown was telling me that, many years ago, students would receive jaywalking tickets for not crossing at the light. Eventually, students learned their lessons. (Even though nowadays, YC students can still be seen crossing mid-street.) It would be quite unfortunate if the police in the 34th street area would have to start giving out tickets to Stern women.

It takes approximately 60 seconds to walk to the corner. Bring a friend if you do not want to go alone. Whatever one has to purchase from across the street can not be as important, in any way, shape or form, as one's life.

Less Speculation Please

Dear Editor,

Shoshana Levine's recent piece on Meir Kahane, like most opinion pieces in most newspapers, included some points with which I agreed, and some with which I did not agree.

Certainly, we must mourn the loss of a great Jewish leader. Many of his contributions to the Jewish people were highly commendable, such as his fierce opposition to intermarriage, and his intense desire and success in freeing Soviet Jews. However, Ms. Levine goes too far in attempting to read the minds of "most of us". She writes that "most of us" agree with Rabbi Kahane, but are afraid to voice our opinions.

This is pure speculation. While Ms. Levine herself is certainly entitled to this opinion, while publicly judging others, fairness demands that she supply some form of documentation.

Further, her references to the N'vi'im are outlandish. Any leader can claim to be speaking the word of G-d. Would Ms. Levine compare Louis Farakhan, who faces criticism similar to that which Kahane received, to the N'vi'im?

Rabbi Kahane was an important figure for Judaism and an opinion piece in the Observer is a good medium in which to expound on his virtues. However, writers must keep in mind that they bear a certain amount of responsibility. Exaggerating Rabbi Kahane's greatness

through wild comparisons and calling "most of us" cowards, especially without documentation, cannot bring him back; it can only detract from the writer's credibility.

Etan Koch
YC '91

Query on Tznius

Dear Editor,

I had been looking forward to the November issue of the Observer because I knew the women's basketball team would be featured. As a member of the team, I was pleased to see that our November 7th victory was on the front page. However, I was also surprised to see the accompanying picture. One of our players was depicted as wearing a skirt. When I finished laughing, the import of this alteration struck me.

Apparently, this white block on the photograph was to disguise the fact that she was wearing shorts. Surely the women on the team who wear shorts while playing are not ashamed of that. Why is The Observer? If they don't want to be exposed as an institution that allows such immodest dress, then they should have either used a head shot for the article or simply not allowed the team members to play in shorts.

If the school is truly interested in fostering a tznius environment, it should find a way other than pretending to be something it is not.

Rebecca Steiner
SCW '93

OP-ED:

RESPONSE

Defining Tolerance

Editor's Note: These articles came as letters responding to the last Editor's Note. The Editor of the Observer felt that they were worthy of opinion pieces.

by Doni Goldstein

Words have many levels of interpretation. I do not wish to take issue with the specific content of the last Editor's note. However, the attitudes which motivated the column need to be discussed. I could not help but sense that the Editor's note was an attack on "them", the ultra Orthodox community. "They" are hypocrites. "They" call themselves religious but live with child abuse in their midst. "They" piously look past "us" on the streets. (and not only women, but even modernly dressed men.)

We are preoccupied with definitions. We are constantly defining ourselves and our beliefs in contrast to "them" and their beliefs. The truth is "they" have strengths and "we" have strengths. "We" have a much more open, universal attitude; a "k'lal-yisrael" attitude, if you will. "They" have a much more intense attitude with regard to Talmud Torah and mitzvot in general. Unfortunately, "we" have our weaknesses, as do "they".

We seem to forget that both "we" and "they" have shared beliefs. We all believe in the om-

nipotence of G-d. We all believe in Torah from Sinai. We all believe in the afterlife. Furthermore, we all believe that our purpose is to achieve D'veykus with G-d, and we all hope that our generation will be the one to bring the Messiah. What separates "us" from "them" is the belief that "we" are right and "they" are wrong about those issues were we differ. As long as this attitude is prevalent, the Jewish people will never have inner peace.

Our sages in the end of Tractate Brachoth and in Mishnayoth Sanhedrin, praise G-d for the ability to create each person as an individual. Each and every person has differing capabilities and each and every person views things in a different light.

We think that we are open-minded, however, open-mindedness is not the belief that 'I am right and I respect your freedom to be wrong.' Open-mindedness recognizes that all minds are different, and therefore, all people approach D'veykus in a different way. Rabbi Naphthali Tzvi Yehuda Berlin wrote (in more than one place) that it is a great

fallacy to accuse people of heresy for approaching the service of G-d in a different manner.

I do agree with the editor that child abuse is a very distressing problem that must be dealt with in the Ultra-Orthodox communities. Nevertheless, that problem is not something that we should seize and claim as a point for "us". There is no "us" and there is no "them". We are all individuals. We are all different and we will ultimately be judged as such. There are no 'extra points' in the afterlife for belonging to the 'right team.' The only thing that exists is a collective "we".

Having spent some time with "them," I can attest to the fact that it is quite unpleasant being judged solely on what is on your head and where you have studied. However, a solution will not be found in defining, defending, attacking and re-attacking factional 'party-lines' which we have created. We must realize that we all belong to one faction; that of Jews who love and fear Hashem and want to become close to Him. Perhaps, if we realize this, our other dream will be realized soon and in our days.

An Individual, Not a Community

by Brigitte Safran

A few weeks ago the New York Times reported the arrest of a Chassidic woman in Williamsburg, suspected of beating her child to death. The news was both a tragedy and a chillul HaShem. When I picked up a copy of The Observer, I was astonished at what the Editor-in-Chief, Nechama Goldman, had to say in response to the suspicions.

She said she is "used to reading about child abuse in the paper," but to this tragedy she reacted with "horror, stunned disbelief, and revulsion to the point of nausea." She speaks of "this kind of behavior" as coming from a community that holds itself as the true perpetrators of the Jewish faith, often to the exclusion of all other sectors of Orthodoxy. "Could we be applying a double standard? It is horrific to hear of a child being abused regardless of the religious background of the of the parents. To kill a child is a sign of insanity! Is the guilt greater if the parents are Christians, Hindus, Moslems, secular Jews or right-wing Orthodox? Why does the Editor say that it is "infuriating and painful" to read about child abuse in the paper "when it stems from the Or-

thodox community, especially in the right-wing Jewish community." What is this writer trying to say? That the Orthodox community abused the child? God forbid! When it is suspected that one deranged woman murdered her child, the whole community is held to blame. Of course they were partly responsible, as are all communities in which abused children live, for too many people don't look at what they see in front of them. They often assume the best about the parents because the truth is too terrible to believe. The quotes brought in by Ms. Goldman from Mrs. Riegler's rabbi and neighbor come to show their shock and disbelief at the senseless act of which Mrs. Riegler was accused, rather than to justify her heinous behavior.

Tensions have existed between the modern and right-wing Orthodox communities for many years, and it would be ridiculous to deny the inter-communal resentment, but The Observer is not the place to attack Judaism, in whatever form. Rather, we should be striving to create a bridge between our community and theirs, by recognizing our similar needs. Problems such as child abuse unfortunately

Continued on p. 10 col. 1

TO ALL CANDIDATES
FOR GRADUATION

JAN '91, MAY '91

and those graduating Sept '91 who want to march May 29

Commencement exercises will be held on Wednesday afternoon,
May 29 in Avery Fisher Hall at Lincoln Center

Have you returned your completed graduation kit
to the Office of the Registrar?

If your name is not on the Registrar's computer listing:

- Cap and gown will not be ordered for you
- No tickets and instructions will be issued
- Your name will not be listed in the Commencement program

Since Avery Fisher Hall is printing only as many tickets as there are seats in the hall, all seats are assigned and reserved. Numbered tickets will be distributed *only* to those on the Registrar's list.

Students Visit Their Teachers' School

by Lori Turkel

The median age of the students in SCW dropped drastically on December 5, when about 25 four and five year olds from the Park East Day School came for a visit. The pre-schoolers spent a few hours in the school building sampling food from the cafeteria, listening in on an ongoing lecture, and taking part in two early childhood education student's final projects.

Margi Goldberg and Renee Stelzer are SCW student teachers in the pre-school at Park East Day School. One Wednesday when they got ready to leave their job early in order to return to SCW for classes, the children wanted to know the reason for their departure. After explaining that they had to go to school and have a "special meeting" with their teacher, the preschoolers were very surprised.

"They couldn't believe that their teachers had a teacher and went to school. And they had no idea what 'college' was," explained Mrs. Rivka Behar, supervisor of the student teachers. And so, Mrs. Behar, who also works at the Board of Jewish Education and is in charge of placing all student teachers and fieldworkers in their jobs, decided to arrange for the children to visit SCW.

The first stop in the children's visit to the school was the cafeteria. There they had a small snack before riding up in the elevator to Dr. Sardy's weekly class with the student teachers. As the preschoolers made their way into the class, their surprise was readily apparent. "They were so stunned to see their teachers behind desks," commented Mrs. Behar. The lecture continued with the children politely sitting on the floor, staring at Dr. Sardy in what seemed to be a mixture of confusion and amazement. They could not decide whether or not the instructor was addressing them. When Dr. Sardy mentioned the term, "legal responsibility" to her class, one eager preschooler asked in bewilderment, "what does 'legal responsibility' mean?"

After Dr. Sardy's lecture, children were split into two groups,

and two of the student teachers each began reading a story to one of the groups. Instead of having a final exam, every student is required to prepare an exercise that can be used on children, demonstrating the effectiveness of the principle of emergent literacy. This is the idea that a child can learn how to read or increase his vo-

a number of different educational games. Student teachers and fieldworkers, organized the children's use of math games, home-made board games, a floor game used to teach shapes, and an arts and crafts project in which the children constructed dreidels from tissue paper.

The children seemed to enjoy



Park East children visit SCW.

cabulary by participating in his lessons. If a lesson includes a visual demonstration, a child can actively pick up information on his own, rather than have it told to him. When planning the Park East Day School visit, Mrs. Behar informed her early childhood education class that the students would have the option to do their final literacy experiments "on live children", on the day of the visit, rather than simply present them to the class a week or two later. The stories that were read to the children and the exercises that followed were the final projects of two students opting to take advantage of the children's presence.

After playing a role in these experiments, the children were given the opportunity to play with

their new surroundings, rather than become intimidated by them. The initial amazement that they felt was apparent. "The fact that they came in and were quiet shows that they were in awe", observed Dr. Sardy. Although the children themselves were reluctant to comment, the children's regular teachers, both recent SCW graduates, confirmed that their young student's good behavior during the trip was uncharacteristic of the group and was probably due to the fun that they were having.

As all of the children were finally herded into one of the elevators to begin the trip back to their own school, people wondered: will any of these four year old girls be back here in 15 years to pick up where they left off today?

Elevator Efficiency Evaluated

by Alyssa Herman

On Wednesday, November 28, Stern College representatives met with Elevator Consultant John Martin to discuss the formulation and implementation of a plan to improve the efficiency of elevators in Stern College and Brookdale Hall.

Karen Bacon, Dean of SCW, Zaida Braun, Director of Student Services, Sam Mandelbaum Director of Buildings and Grounds at SCW, Jeff Rosengarten, Director of Supporting Service Administration and Personnel, and student representative Zippy Ellenbogen met with Martin and his team. The meeting served as a forum for exchanging information. Martin provided Stern College represen-

tatives with an outline for his course of action. The Stern College representatives provided Martin with background information applicable to the problem thus enabling him to begin his assessment.

It has long been recognized that both Stern College and Brookdale Hall lack a sufficient number of elevators to accommodate the volume of its users. Five years ago a plan to periodically evaluate the vertical transportation problem was initiated. The basic occupancy of both facilities has increased over the past few years, further aggravating the existent problem. Long waits, overcrowding, and malfunctions are characteristic of the problems with the elevators. "Students and faculty often com-

plain that they have no choice but to be late to class because the elevators take so long," commented Ellenbogen on behalf of her peers. Prompted by feedback from the Deans' and Students Services offices, Rosengarten hired Martin to improve the elevators' operation.

Martin's evaluation of the elevator problem will consist of a two step process. He will first evaluate the mechanical operations of the elevators and assess the efficiency of their maintenance. Martin will then correlate this information to the results of a traffic study that he will conduct. This traffic study will mathematically assess the factors that create the

Cont. to p.6 col 4.

YU Joins In Model UN

by Ricki Lieber

On November 15-18, Yeshiva University joined seventy-five other universities at the University of Pennsylvania for the twenty-fourth annual Model United Nations Conference. The ten delegates from Yeshiva College and Stern College attended the event under the sponsorship of the J.P. Dunner Political Science Society.

Students arrived at the Hershey Hotel on the afternoon of Thursday, November 15. After registration and an opening meeting, the first committee session was held. Throughout the four day program, a total of six committee sessions convened, as well as several meetings for head delegates and faculty advisors.

The purpose of the committee sessions was to discuss the chosen issues in a formal setting according to the methodology and format of the United Nations. Instructions were given to explain the proper rules of the procedure, as well as the appropriate introductory phrases, including both preamble and operative clauses. According to Chani Penstein, an SCW delegate, "The committees were all held with the proper motions and procedures."

Each university was chosen to represent a different country, and to present the views of that coun-

try on specific issues. Yeshiva University represented Hungary. Penstein stated, "This was an opportunity to develop oratory and diplomatic skills, and to see things objectively. We were forced to support views that were not necessarily our own."

Deena Cohen, head delegate for SCW, claimed that in addition to the learning experience, Yeshiva University students added a different dimension to the conference. Several meetings were held on Shabbat, and members of the YU delegation "proudly declined" from attending them. Cohen commented, "It was a real Kiddush Hashem. Other students saw that we did not participate on Shabbat, and asked us questions. That was a wonderful aspect of the program for us."

Members of the Yeshiva University contingent included: Deena Cohen, Chani Penstein, Robin Reingold, Lori Kunin, Joy Weinstein, Eric Melzer, J.J. Hornbliss, Steven Usdan, Donny Bendheim, and Charles Schechter. Next semester, the bi-annual conference is scheduled to be held at Harvard University. Also on the agenda for next semester is a high school model U.N., run by Yeshiva University, and headed by Shamshi Frolich.

President's Circle Donates Computers

The Stern College Observer recently acquired a new computer system. Money for this system came from the President's Circle. The President's Circle has about twenty five members, the majority of whom were student leaders at some point in their YU careers. The money comes from young alumni who want to give back to Yeshiva. These are alumni who have started their own businesses or are lawyers and doctors. "No one here is rich," said Shalom Lamm, the member of the Circle who worked with the Observer to buy the computers, "we have committed \$5000 a year and this is a lot for us and we love it. We don't do it flippantly. We do it because we want to give back to Yeshiva."

Lamm said that last year the President's Circle met with students and discussed different financial obstacles that were impinging on their productivity. Deena Yellin, editor of The Observer 1989-1990 suggested computers for the Observer room at Brookdale Hall. At the time, there was only one computer with a broken printer in the room and after midnight, when the school building closed, there was no where to go to finish editing and typing. Everything had to be printed out at midnight, edited in the Observer room and typed in the next morning. This meant a lot of extra work and longer hours. Students often stayed up until four in the morning, waiting on line to

type in articles on the lone computer.

Late October, Lamm and Nechama Goldman, editor of the Observer, went computer shopping. They picked a local store in mid-town Manhattan and spent one afternoon picking out a system. "It was great, it was fun, and we left the decision as to what to buy up to the Observer," said Lamm. After deliberating, Goldman decided on two computers and a printer along with several software packages. "Our hope is to one day expand our system to a point where we can do layout on the computer but right now our immediate concern was the computers. We desperately needed computers," said Goldman.

The staff has been overwhelmingly positive regarding the new computers. "It makes a big difference," said Chani Weiss. "When I need to type articles, I can go downstairs instead of to the school building." Debbie Aharon, news editor, asserted, "Now we can work three times as efficiently. Maybe I'll be able to sleep more at night." The new system works more quickly than the system in school and the students marvelled at its efficiency. "Checking spelling takes less than half of the time that it does in the school building. These computers are new and that makes working with them a lot of fun," said Rachel Schenker, Associate Features Editor.

President meets with Students

Student leaders met with Dr. Lamm to discuss relevant issues at the University. The meeting took place at Dr. Lamm's apartment on Central Park West on December 4. Present also were Dean Efrem Nulman and Zeldia Braun from the Office of Student Services and Dr. Israel Miller, Vice President of Yeshiva University.

In order to alleviate the pressing question on students' minds, Dr. Lamm clarified that his neighbor was indeed Harrison Ford. The meeting then began with an introduction by Dr. Miller explaining the history and purpose for the event. In the past, student leaders from the university met with Dr. Lamm to bring up concerns and complaints of the student body. The idea is to better acquaint Dr. Lamm with a first hand student account about what is going on in the institution.

The men of YCSC had met prior to the meeting at Dr. Lamm's to discuss the issues they wanted to raise. Lawrence Burian, president of S.O.Y., brought up problems in the M.Y.P. program. He began by pointing out that YU is unique because it is a yeshiva and a university but the most important factor is its role as a yeshiva. Most of the students at YC are in the YP program but Burian felt that only half were benefitting. He mentioned that there was a whole group of students who learn a little, do not go to night seder and basically attend a "sleep program."

In contrast, his second complaint was that the Beit Midrash is packed. There is no room for people to learn and it is not an environment that is a pleasure to learn in. YU's shiur is a secondary job. There should be more rebbe-talmud interaction in order to foster a yeshiva environment. Burian concluded that the leadership of the YP program is horribly out of touch with what is happening and that it is running on its own from years past with very little new input.

Dr. Lamm responded that while Burian had some valid points, to say that YP has done nothing innovative in the last few years is untrue. He did not deny that there are problems and he admitted that he had talked to the rebbeim about fostering a closer relationship but to expect them to invite students home for meals or shabbat is almost impossible when they have shiurim of 50 or more students. He pointed out that if he tightened up requirements and mandated attendance at shiurim and night seder, he would be attacked as in the past, for interfering with the university aspect of YU and student rights.

Dr. Miller then called on Lisa Horowitz, president of SCWSC. Horowitz addressed the immediate and critical issue of the Stern College dormitory. She pointed out that there is no room in the dorm and even if SCW chooses not to expand beyond the current number of students, five students living in one room with bunkbeds is unacceptable. Further, the dormitory is

Continued on p. 7 col. 4

Curtain Calls For "Tartuffe"

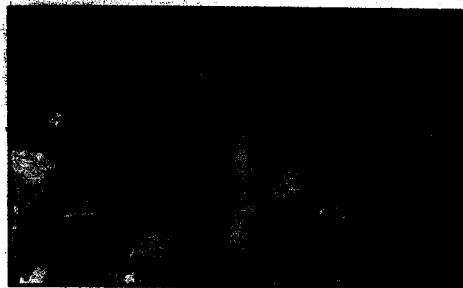
by Elisheva Wohlgelemer

With much anticipation, I entered Koch auditorium which had been transformed into Stern College Dramatics Society's Theater, to see the opening performance of *Tartuffe* by Moliere. I was immediately impressed by the stage. The room was a perfect rendition of 17th century France. A plush burgundy velvet curtain draped the frame of the stage, pink satin ottomans and golden chairs flanked both sides. The golden torchiers (candelabra) and the marble floors gave an exact impression of Louis XIV style drawing room. The music used during specific points in the play served to contribute to this mood.

When the whole company appeared on stage, I was dazzled by the elaborate and authentic costumes. Particularly noteworthy were the wigs. Orgon, a main character, wore a wig that was long, curly and orange while Valere's was short, black, and curly with a mustache. The wigs gave immediate character to the actresses and defined their personalities. The women wore dresses with tight bodices which had built in corsets and crinoline under their skirts. The materials of the costumes were richly textured, made out of a variety of material from satin and lace on the young Mariane to blue taffeta and white apron on Mariane's maid. The men's outfits were even more elaborate than the women's with their frilly jackets, wide-knickers and lace. "We succeeded in show-

ing the French men as the peacocks they were," said Debbie Potash. The cast worked out the many small details that enhanced the effect; the makeup was so well applied that many of the actresses were unrecognizable. When the physical appearance of the char-

acter is so authentically put together, it immediately helps to transform the audience into the world of the actresses.



The Cast of Tartuffe in costume.

acters is so authentically put together, it immediately helps to transform the audience into the world of the actresses.

The plot of Moliere is straightforward. Tartuffe, a religious scoundrel has persuaded Orgon to believe in him. Orgon is taken in so far as to betroth his daughter Mariane to Tartuffe, to break her previous engagement to Valere and give Tartuffe the deed to his house. Cleante, Orgon's brother, tries to convince him of his mistake. Dorine the wise and witty maid with a sharp tongue along with Elmire, Orgon's wife, and Damis, Orgon's son, devise a plan to show

although not contemporary, it is relevant even today.

Moliere's use of rhyme was retained in the translation by Richard Wilbur. This added an extra difficulty to the cast because they had to avoid a sing-song rendition in order to sound believable. Under Rina Elisha's direction the cast's articulation and meter flowed.

Debbie Potash's Mme. Pernelle was a perfect introductory character. Her cranky, old woman kept her arrogant demeanor and bitter scowl throughout the play. Debbie also used her cane and fan to show authority.

Angelica Fernandez's portrayal of Dorine was excellent. She had control of the stage and was comfortable with that. She emphasized all of the punchlines and brought out humor in Moliere's words. Amanda Weiner gave Orgon his lovability.

Although taken for a fool, he has a good heart which we come to respect. Wiener transformed herself quite successfully into this man in words, eye expressions, gestures and walk. Her motions reflected Orgon's emotions very well. Jacki Ginsparg, who played Damis, was born to do comedy. Her struggle with his large sword, long blood hair and his conviction to do what's right was effective. His boyish nature with his "heroic" personality and his stamping of feet made him believable and hysterical.

Judy Stangen reached the height of all her past performances with SCDS in her portrayal of Tartuffe. She was utterly convincing as a "holy" man and rogue and with the desires that go with his sex and status. Once Tartuffe entered the play, it was difficult not to laugh with his stringy black wig and glasses and constant grimaces and smirks. Kayla Kaplan, who played Elmire, the subject of Tartuffe's love, worked well in the scenes with Tartuffe. Kaplan and Stangen gave great performances. Elmire's sarcastic tone taken with Orgon for not stopping Tartuffe earlier was particularly well done. Valere played by Judy Goodman, and Mariane played by Elianna Marcus, worked well together while playing their

Continued on p.12 col. 4

Learning Self-Defense

by Yael Bloom

On December 4, the karate self defense club at SCW held their first event. Fifteen SCW students joined together to learn about self defense techniques they can use in the event of an attack. Sara Devora Cohen, a SCW alumna who has a brown belt in karate, conducted the session with help from a few advanced students. "You should always be aware of your surroundings, and you should avoid places and situations which make you uncomfortable and may be dangerous," she stated. Prime targets are people who look as if they are easy to pick on. She also recommended never to initiate a fight, but attempt to get out of one.

Cohen's first defense tactic was to tire the offender. "Try to wear him out, break his concentration, and then run." Running to a public place is advisable. Her next tip suggested using objects that are available at the time. A girl might be carrying items with her that can be converted to weapons in emergency situations. Keys, combs, bangles, and crochet hooks can all be used to scratch the attacker across the face. The

advantage of scarring his face is to make him identifiable to police.

Chani Hersh, a SCW sophomore who studied karate for four years, commented, "When you get into a fight there's a 50 percent chance you're going to get out of it. Knowing how to defend yourself increases the odds of coming out of it, although it can't help every situation and should only be used as a last resort." She emphasized that every precaution should be taken to ensure that a person doesn't get into a dangerous situation. For instance, if someone is afraid of subways, she should avoid them. Hersh also demonstrated how to smash an attacker with an elbow if he comes up from behind.

Noting some of the attire of those present at the event, Cohen added, "If you're wearing a straight jean skirt - politely lift it up and kick him." All those involved in the presentation, however, stressed that students should avoid situations which could lead to personal danger. While knowledge of self defense is important, all acknowledged that they would prefer not to put that knowledge to practical use.

Student Senate: Power of the Students

by Adeeva Laya Graubard

On Wednesday, November 28, the SCW Student Senate met for the first time this academic year. The meeting served primarily as an orientation for the new Senate. It outlined the Senate's role within the student body and its responsibilities.

The Senate is currently comprised of Dean Bacon, Mrs. Braun, Director of Student Services, six faculty members Dr. Babich, Professor Cohen, Dr. DeSantis, Dr. Horowitz, Dr. Neaman and Dr. Sykes, and six students. The student representatives are Seniors Tamar Gribetz and Jodi Lumerman, Juniors Gabrielle Fisch and Michelle Lerman, Sophomore Ruchie Sasnowitz and Freshman Melissa Gabel. Appointed to the positions of chairman and secretary were Cohen and Sasnowitz respectively. The chairman and secretary hold the official officer positions on the Senate. They are comprised of one student and one faculty member who alternate positions annually. An Agenda Committee with two members, Fisch and Lumerman, was created. Its purpose is to collect from the different Senators the different

issues that will be addressed at meetings.

The Senate was originally established to let the students have input in academic and curricular decisions at Stern. Issues such as the school calendar and faculty evaluations are discussed. Several years ago, it was the SCW Student Senate that passed a motion requiring the faculty to return midterm exams "in a timely fashion...before reading week." However, this motion has not really been enforced. Students continue to complain about faculty returning midterms well into December. Lumerman commented that they are still trying to figure out how to enforce the midterm policy, "it's very difficult because you can't penalize a teacher. There is only so much you can do."

Another issue that had been raised in the past was the creation of a bookstore at SCW. Although students were, and increasingly are, in favor of an on campus bookstore, the idea was vetoed in the past, based on cost and inefficiency.

"Unfortunately," said Sasnowitz, "over the past few years the Senate has not been as active as it should be." While its constitution mandates that it should meet a minimum of four times per semester

Continued on p. 8 col. 4

CULTURAL ARTS

Discovering Mexico In New York

by Deborah Hamburg with
Deborah Glick

This fall season, Mexico has taken the spotlight at over forty cultural institutions in New York City. "Mexico: A Work of Art," is a four - month long festival of Mexican performing and visual arts. George W. Laruder, president of the Americas Society in Manhattan, which is sponsoring the festival, says Mexico, "[in an effort to improve its image abroad,...] want[s] to portray not the fellow in the sombrero sleeping under a tree, but an avant - garde culture that is extraordinarily innovative in its arts."

That goal has been achieved successfully. For example, one can attend recitals by Mexican soloists at Lincoln Center, view modern Mexican art at the IBM Gallery of Science and Art and at the National Academy of Design, and experience Mexican dance at City Center.

The main attraction is a monumental exhibit at the Metropolitan Museum of Art entitled "Mexico: Splendors of Thirty Centuries." The New York Times calls the exhibit "the most comprehensive survey of Mexican art in New York in fifty years." According to Philippe de Montebello, the museum's director, "It's one of the

half-dozen biggest exhibitions ever mounted by the Met..." The close to 500 works, including stone sculptures, painted wood carvings and jewelry, on display are on loan from archeological sites, churches, museums and private collections from Mexico and from collections in Europe, and the U.S.

The exhibit begins with art from the PreColumbian era (1000 B.C.E.-1519 C.E.) and continues chronologically through the post-conquest period to the twentieth century. One can see the evolution of Mexican art from the indigenous Indian cultures to the Christian and European influence brought by the Spanish to the emergence of a "national" style in the seventeenth century.

Mexican art was heavily influenced by European art and started to break away from the traditional Indian/Mexican style of painting geometric patterns, scenes of everyday life and Mexican landscapes. Yet just as there were movements to incorporate foreign artistic styles, there were counter-movements to "return" to traditional Mexican art.

Of the approximately twenty-five galleries utilized to present the exhibit, one that is particularly memorable contains neither paintings nor sculptures. Rather, the

room is filled with carved wooden choir chairs, which are representative of the Counter-Reformation period (sixteenth century).

Walking further into the galleries of twentieth century art, one notices the shift back to painting more about Mexican heritage and daily life. Spiritual and religious paintings do not have as much of an influence as they did in the 16th and 17th centuries. There are many more paintings by individual artists.

Towards the end of the exhibit, there are rooms devoted just to one artist's work, such as one containing the many paintings by Frida Kahlo. While the size and range of this exhibit may be overwhelming, it is definitely worth one's while to see it - at least to learn about a different culture. A few words of recommendation: if you don't have an entire afternoon to spare, try seeing the PreColumbian and Viceregal parts of the exhibit and returning later to see the nineteenth and twentieth century paintings. The exhibit runs until January 13, 1991.

With such a broad offering of Mexican cultural art this season, those who experience any part of it are certain to look at Mexico in a different light.

Elevator Evaluations

Cont. from p.4 col3.

elevator usage patterns including "rush hours," class hour schedules, and attendance.

Martin will then use the information he gathers to formulate a proposal to cut down time inefficiency. Elevator time is measured in seconds, for as Rosengarten states, "seconds add up to significant time." Martin will thus try to reduce wasted time in a productive fashion.

Based upon his findings Martin will make two types of recommendations. The first recommendation will relate to physical adjustments. The weight threshold of any given elevator can be adjusted within certain parameters. Beyond the threshold set, the elevator shuts down. Utilizing the information obtained in the traffic study, Martin can regulate the threshold in accordance to the people flow, thus preventing the Stern College elevator from shutting down too

early. Martin will also provide a plan to efficiently maintain elevators so that they run optimally.

The second recommendation that Martin will make is people oriented. He will formulate a plan to change the way people use the system. Limiting elevator usage through a 'skip stop' system may be implemented. For example, the elevator would not stop in the basement during rush hour periods.

A further alley that Martin will explore is revamping the old elevators in the original Stern College building that are presently unfit for mainstream usage. While theoretically this could help alleviate traffic, its location makes it practically ineffective.

Martin will complete his physical evaluation by the end of December and will then come back with a proposal based on his findings.

KOSHER VEGETARIAN

New York's Best
Soups, Muffins, Slim Shakes

GREAT AMERICAN HEALTH BAR

20% DISCOUNT FOR YU STUDENTS

2 Park Avenue (bet. 32nd & 33rd Street)
East 44th Street (bet. 5th & Madison Avenues)

The Pride of Herzog

by Yael Zeiger

Four thousand Jews gave Chaim Herzog, President of Israel, a standing ovation when he concluded his speech at the New York Hilton on November 20. The event at the Hilton was advertised as a solidarity rally for Israel and sponsored by various Jewish organizations including, UJA, JCRC, and Israel Bonds. President Herzog was the featured speaker.

Before Herzog addressed the audience, several leaders of the Jewish and overall New York community spoke. Pat Moynihan, New York Democratic Senator, and a known friend and supporter of Israel was the first to speak. He praised Herzog's accomplishments and called him "that great Irishman." He emphasized that with the end of the cold war, the need to revoke Resolution 3379 is crucial. Resolution 3379 states that Zionism is racism and was implemented in the UN by the Arab states with the support of the Soviet Union. When the resolution was introduced in 1975, Pat Moynihan, as a representative of the USA, vehemently rejected it saying, "We do not acknowledge, we do not abide by, we will never acquiesce to this, ... the terrible lie will have terrible consequences."

Senator Moynihan concluded to thunderous applause with a strong statement against Iraq, "If Iraq takes one hostile step against Israel" he asserted, "we will destroy that government."

Following Senator Moynihan, Meir Roseanne, chief executive officer of the State of Israel Bonds and a former Ambassador of Israel to the USA and France, spoke briefly about the Jewish state. "The Jewish people," emphasized Roseanne, "has only one monument, a very living monument, and that is the state of Israel...there is a Jewish state today because Jewish boys and girls fought for a Jewish state."

President of JCRC, Seymour Reich, introduced President

Herzog. "He is the embodiment of the purpose, vision and nobility of the spirit of our people," declared Reich. "He is a man of 1000 achievements, both on the battlefields and off." President Herzog, the son of the former chief Rabbi of Ireland and first chief Rabbi of Israel, was commander in chief of the Israel Defense Forces in 1948. In 1975, as ambassador to the UN, President Herzog declared to the world that Zionism is the liberation



Chaim Herzog.

of the Jewish people. as he ripped up resolution 3379 in front of the General Assembly.

President Herzog opened his speech by noting the strength of the American Jewish community in their support of Israel manifested by the overwhelming attendance at the rally. He briefly explored the present political situation, asserting that these difficult times are in fact a vindication of Israel's position. At a time that Arafat and Hussein publicly embrace, and Iraq shows its true colors with its diabolical use of human hostages, President Herzog suggested that Israel's bombing of the Iraqi nuclear reactor was retroactively justified. At the time, Israel was condemned by the UN. "Today, who will not admit that Israel saved the Middle East and the world from a terrible danger?" President Herzog rhetorically queried.

torically queried.

Addressing the incident on Har Habayit (The Temple Mount), President Herzog stated that he deeply regretted the bloodshed but was outraged at world reaction. The week of the Har Habayit bloodshed, the world also witnessed the killing of 200 Muslims by Hindus intent on destroying a Muslim mosque in India, and the Syrian bombing of the presidential palace in Beirut which resulted in 1000 innocent deaths. Neither killings were condemned by the world. President Herzog stressed that this was "nothing more and nothing less than pure and unadulterated, old fashioned anti-Semitism." He then urged Jews, especially American Jews, not to submit to the media war against Israel. "This is a time for unity and determined action," asserted President Herzog.

Shifting his attention to the recent wake of Soviet immigration, President Herzog called it "one of the greatest miracles to happen to Israel. It is a miracle that will transform Israeli society." At a time that Israeli citizens are feeling the economic strain of absorbing one quarter of its population, a figure comparable to the USA absorbing France, President Herzog claimed that no sacrifice is too great to be able to facilitate this great miracle. He recalled the era when Jewish refugees had nowhere to go to escape from the Nazi murderers. "Don't let it be said, that we forgot our past and did not rise adequately to the challenge," said President Herzog. "We cannot betray Jewish history for we shall never be forgiven."

"President Herzog concluded by asserting that when he stood in front of the UN as an Israeli and a Jew he felt he had every reason to be proud, "I felt pride to belong to such a people, to represent such a nation, to be the head of such a country. I was proud, very proud to be a Jew, very proud to be a Zionist. In this spirit of pride we must go forward fortified by what we have done."

Dr. Lamm Hears Student Concerns

Continued from p. 5 col. 1

not conducive to an academic environment. It is impossible to do work in rooms that house five students, numerous phones and no privacy. The school building is inaccessible after midnight and students have nowhere to go when they need to continue studying after the library closes.

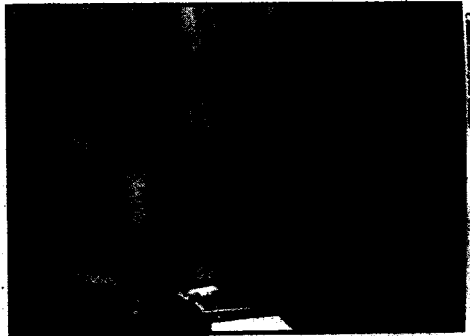
In response, Dr. Lamm acknowledged the difficulty of the current living situation. He fully sympathized and mentioned that the Stern Board is actively looking for space and that it is almost impossible to expand in Murray Hill. Dr. Lamm fully admitted that the studying situation is impossible. Unfortunately, said Dr. Lamm, finding more housing in midtown Manhattan only adds costs to the University which are not met by tuition. Even if the student body is expanded, housing will still operate at a deficit if more space is rented in Murray Hill. Even more difficult is the knowledge that "we're the only game in town," said Dr. Lamm, which makes it difficult to turn down Jewish women applying for admission.

Miki Jona, president of SSSB, interjected and said that Stern is not yet of a size that it should consider limiting her student body. Jona continued, "the school is not yet so large that each individual is not needed." In answer to Jona and Horowitz, Dr. Lamm turned to Nulman and said, "Dean Nulman, let's work on this."

President of YCSC, Steven Felsenthal, expanded on what Burian had earlier addressed. He discussed the lack of warmth in

problem that people both in and out of the University have in regarding Stern College as a second rate institution. Especially in regard to the intensive learning at SCW, Goldman pointed that there are still elements of the University that do not support some of it and this can cause tension in the student body. She mentioned that people still tend to regard SCW as a "marriage factory" which detracts from its being taken seriously as an academic institution. Levine brought up the need of a new Beit Midrash to accommodate the new and growing numbers of women who are seriously learning Torah and Gemara and have night seder. Presently the Beit Midrash at Stern is in Brookdale Hall and can hold no more than ten or twelve women. The room is also used for the recital of Tehillim and weekly shiurim so that access at night for students who want to learn is limited. Sharon Fisher, vice president of T.A.C. confirmed Levine's argument and expanded on it.

Dr. Lamm agreed that the intellectual ferment in Stern College is greater than it has ever been and that "one of the things that make us different from other institutions is that we believe in women's learning." That is why the University is so reluctant to cut off admission. Although SCW may be seen as a marriage factory, Dr. Lamm admitted that this is one of the positive factors of SCW. Students do come from out of town to meet eligible Jewish men and rather than being something negative, Dr. Lamm felt that it was something positive. He concluded



Dr. Lamm and Dr. Miller with students.

the Jewish program and its need. Felsenthal also brought up problems in the JSS program, specifically that men in JSS tend to feel isolated from the students in YP and IBC. Since JSS class hours are very long, "students fall through the cracks," said Felsenthal, and do not take the program seriously. Hirsch Serman, president of JSS continued to discuss the problems that Felsenthal had brought up.

In response to Felsenthal and Serman, Dr. Lamm agreed that there were problems in both IBC and JSS and said that "he was determined to change things."

Another topic covered was touched on by both Shoshana Levine, executive editor of the Observer and Nechama Goldman, editor-in-chief of the Observer. Goldman mentioned the attitude

by saying that as frustrating as the situation is right now, eventually, "the impression will catch up with the reality."

The meeting concluded with students agreeing that their experiences at YU were positive overall and that their interest and love for the University had led them to seek out positions of leadership. "Most of us would say, if we had to do it all over again, we'd do it again," said Dr. Miller. Dr. Lamm told students that he was pleased with their complaints. He called them "fabulous complaints" and promised to look into the issues raised to search for solutions.

Students were invited into the Lamm's dining room for refreshments prepared by Mrs. Lamm. They were then able to talk to Dr. Lamm on an informal and individual basis.

MAZEL TOV LA KASBAH

4TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

FREE BOTTLE OF WINE

Must bring this ad. Party of 2 or more. Exp. 1/31/91

Original Moroccan Mediterranean Cuisine

70 West 71st St. (Off Columbus Ave.)

Reduced Prices on Early Bird Dinner 5-6 PM & Sunday Brunch 1-3 PM

Wine, Patio Garden

Hours: Sunday 1-11 • Mon.-Thur. 5-11 • Saturday Night till 1:00 AM

WE CATER FOR PARTIES & BUSINESS LUNCHEONS

(212) 769-1690/93

ELECTROLYSIS

BARBARA LEIBOWITZ

50 West 34th Street (Room 16A6)

The McAlpin House

across from Macy's, New York N.Y. 10001

239-0783

member

AMERICAN ELECTROLOGY ASSOCIATION NEW YORK ELECTROLYSIS ASSOCIATION

also

INTERNATIONAL GUILD OF PROFESSIONAL ELECTROLOGISTS

strict sterilization procedures observed safe-comfortable-permanent results
computerized multiple galvanic method referred by physicians
specializing in both problem and cosmetic cases

**SPECIAL OFFER 1/2 PRICE OFF FIRST 1/2 HOUR TREATMENT
REG. \$35.00**

Kurzweil Links Lineage

Stern Secures Shuttle Service

by Dvora Lauer

On Tuesday, December 3, the Speech Arts Forum hosted a lecture by Arthur Kurzweil, who is considered by many to be America's foremost expert in the field of Jewish genealogy and family history. An audience composed of nearly fifty students and other interested parties braved the pouring rain to hear Kurzweil speak on the topic "From Generation to Generation: How to Trace Your Jewish Genealogy and Personal History."

Kurzweil discussed his own quest to discover his family history and the significance of his findings to his Jewish life and identity. Sparked by a curiosity to discover if the small town in Poland which his father claimed as his birthplace really existed, Kurzweil became interested in Jewish genealogical research. After discovering an entire book devoted to the town's history, he embarked on a fifteen year odyssey to uncover his lineage. To date, he has charted his roots as far back as the year 1500.

By citing several means to trace one's ancestry, Kurzweil dispelled the notion that various obstacles such as name changes and lost records hamper the success of a Jew finding his roots. A name or a

place is sufficient to enable further research. Useful sources of information include the New York Public Library, the International Tracing Service, and the Department of Immigration and Naturalization Services. Tracing one's genealogy is important in that it enables "one to understand himself in the context of his ancestry," and to realize that "one is a result of Jewish history," Kurzweil claimed. Once one has that sense, he continued, one must decide what to do with this new-found knowledge. One must ask, "Will I throw it out or will I realize that I am another link in the chain that I will not break?"

The organizers of the event, Chani Hook and Arielle Spilky of the Speech Arts Forum, felt that Kurzweil's credentials made him the perfect speaker for their opening program of the year. Kurzweil is recipient of the Distinguished Humanitarian Award from the Melton Center for Jewish Studies "for his unique contribution to Jewish education." He is also vice president of Jason Aronson Publishing, Inc. and president of Jewish Book News, as well as author of two books on Jewish genealogical research. Hook said that in choosing the speaker for the lec-

ture, she and Spilky, as well as Angelica Fernandez, president of the group, were looking for someone who displayed an interest common to the audience while maintaining a link with Jewish heritage. Spilky maintained that Kurzweil possessed these characteristics, making the evening an enjoyable one for all those who attended.

Kurzweil was, indeed, well received by the audience. Junior Cheryl Litman said that Kurzweil "brought up a topic I would never have thought about, but it really sparked a new interest." Chani Hook left the lecture with new source material and ambitions to delve further into her family history.

This seems to be precisely the result Kurzweil was attempting to achieve. Although he realizes that most students cannot pursue the study of their genealogy with the same intensity that he possesses, he hopes students will become more sensitive to the stories of their respective families and apply these lessons to their own lives. "The best way to go forward," he concluded, "is to look backward, so when you do move ahead, you can go with a sense of direction."

by Miriam Granstein

Beginning November 20, Yeshiva University's Department of Safety and Security instituted a new shuttle service available to Stern College students. The shuttle van operates upon demand between the hours of 5:45 p.m. and 1:00 a.m. When the library is open until 1:45 a.m. during finals week, the van service will extend its hours. Stern College students are able to utilize this service for local transportation in the midtown area.

The van's primary destinations include the Fashion Institute of Technology, where a number of Stern students attend evening classes; Stern's off-campus housing on Lexington Avenue and transportation between Brookdale Hall and Stern College. In addition, a Stern student can request the shuttle service for transportation anywhere within the immediate vicinity, like Penn Station and Port Authority.

Jeff Socol, Director of Facilities Management, says that the off-campus housing made the administration aware that there was a

greater need for a full time van service between certain times. The amount of students using the van service between the school and the dormitories is greater than ever. More students are in the F.I.T. program. Socol points out that students wanted to be dropped off as well as picked up from F.I.T. Thirdly, in light of some of the incidents involving SCW students, the school wanted to upgrade security.

Simma Krames, a junior participating in the Stern-F.I.T. joint program, comments that "the new shuttle service is great! I used to take taxis after my night classes. Now, I take the shuttle and not only is it safe and convenient, it also saves me a significant amount of money."

According to Donald Sommers, Chief Security Supervisor at Yeshiva University, "Students seem to be enthusiastic about the new service. Especially now that the weather has gotten colder, students are taking full advantage of the shuttle."

The shuttle service adds to the



Stern Shuttle.

walking service established last year, which provided students with a security guard escort to and from the College building upon request. The previous service was only in effect between 9:00 p.m. and 12 midnight and did not extend beyond the area between Brookdale Hall and Stern College. Now that the weather is colder, the van service has primarily replaced the walking service; however, the school has added an extra guard to be on duty between 4:00-12:00 p.m. and 12:00-8:00 a.m. This way there is always someone available to escort students to the school building or to off-campus housing, especially when the van is no longer available.

Currently, the figures reveal

that an average of 120 students are using the van each evening. After the winter, the situation will be re-evaluated to see if the need has been met. Socol emphasizes that this van is not to take students to Macy's or the movies. "If we use it for that, it will not be around for other students who need it to get to the school building or F.I.T.," says Socol.

Shayna Greenstone, a Stern College junior, remarks, "The new shuttle service is an excellent idea which allows Stern students, like myself, to take advantage of the area without worrying about the danger and cost involved in getting where we want to go. It's comforting to know that the security staff is looking out for us."

Student Senate

Continued from p. 5 col. 4

ter, last year's Senate convened only once. As a result, many thought that being a Senator was a title without a job. In fact, one of the Senate's goals this year is to have monthly meetings, more if necessary. The Senators are also trying to heighten student awareness of their existence. All meetings, unless specified otherwise, are open to the student body.

In two weeks the Agenda Committee is meeting with the chairman and secretary to see if there are enough items on the agenda to warrant a meeting. Fisch and Lumerman have to circulate within the student body and find out what is upsetting students and

bring the information back to the Senate officers.

Sasnowitz hopes that students who have complaints in regard to school policy will bring it to a Senator. The Senator will raise the issue at the next meeting. If the motion is passed there, it will have to be passed at a faculty assembly and then by Yeshiva University president, Dr. Lamm, in order for the movement to be enforced.

Student participation is eagerly awaited. "I'm encouraging people to step forward," emphasized Sasnowitz, "to go to the government that is there to work with them and for them."

CATERING 7 PARTIES

We cater to all social and business occasions Catering throughout the Metropolitan area including Long Island, Westchester, New Jersey and Connecticut.

PRIVATE ROOMS AVAILABLE

MEDICAL ETHICS AND POST-HOLOCAUST HALAKHA

by Nechama Goldman

Rabbi Saul Berman addressed "Jewish Medical Ethics as Paradigm for Post-Holocaust Halakha" on December 5, in the first Torah U'Madda lecture given at SCW this semester.

Berman proposed two possibilities for the evolution of halakha post-Holocaust, specifically in the world of medical ethics. He suggested that the extreme caution seen in the Orthodox community in regard to decisions concerning life and death and the push towards objective halakha in subjective individual cases is a direct result of the Holocaust.

Three points in medical halakha were developed by Berman in the course of the lecture. The first was abortion and the ensuing debate over the circumstances when abortion is or is not halakhically permissible within a particular set of parameters. Berman questioned the legal status of the fetus in the realm of halakha.

Two dominant responses emerged post-Rambam. One approach was of Rav Chaim Brisker. Rav Chaim said that the fetus is permitted to full protection unless and only if it threatens the life of its mother. In contrast, the RiTrani took a radically different stance. He proposed that the fetus is like the limb of its mother and can be destroyed if posing greater bodily damage (even if not life threatening). While fetus cannot be disposed of at the will of the mother, there are a number of circumstances which allow for its disposal.

The parameters of that debate, Berman noted, exclude the two contemporary positions held today in regard to abortion. The "Right to Life" position says that the fetus is a legal person with full rights to

life, equal to its mother. This is a throwback to any position in halakha, surpassing even Rav Chaim who agreed that if the mother's life were in danger, there is an injunction to destroy the fetus to save her.

Second, the "Pro-Choice" position is also not found in halakha. That the woman's body is hers, to do with it what she desires, is certainly antithetical to the concept that the body belongs to God and only in unique cases can it be destroyed.

Prior to the 1940's, the contradictory positions of Rambam, Rav Chaim and RiTrani were normative, and therefore could be documented in halakhic literature. With the exception of Rav Waldenberg's position, the view of the RiTrani is blatantly absent in post-Holocaust literature. This imbalance in halakha is emphasized, said Berman, by the lack of response to the Agudah's extreme position which is unfounded anywhere in halakha. The whole issue of abortion has become very one sided.

The second point Berman discussed was euthanasia. A fundamental distinction arose in Jewish law regarding the prolongation of life which is a duty as opposed to prolongation of death which is not a duty and may in fact be forbidden.

In contemporary halakha the struggle has disappeared. Rabbi Waldenberg and Rabbi Bleich and the vast majority of poskim have made a remarkable transformation in which the assumption is not to discontinue treatment under any circumstance. This is the culmination, said Berman, of a pattern that has evolved gradually over 45 years. "Modern day poskim seem to have forgotten the balance between prolonging life and never allowing someone to die," Berman emphasized.

Lastly, Berman discussed the

definition of death. The halakhic tradition regarding death was cessation of bodily movement, namely breathing although heartbeat is also considered by some as a criterion. Today, a huge argument has arisen among poskim. One position maintains that death is the cessation of brain stem movement. A second position maintains that until the heart stops beating, even if it is being maintained artificially on a machine, the person is not considered to be dead.

Berman pointed out that suddenly everyone wants halakha to uniformly fall across a united spectrum. For example, contraception in the past was something subjective and warranted a personal investigation of the couple involved and their situation. "What happened to the subjective drive for objectivity?" he asked. "Suddenly, everyone wants dispensations. There is no awareness of standards of halakha in regard to individual and subjective circumstances. Why are we dispensationalists?"

He continued that this is the first era that a teshuva was published about the size of a kippah and it is the first era to pass out plastic cards with exact measurements and weight for the matza eaten on Pesach.

Why this narrowing of parameters in abortion and euthanasia? Why this distrust of the subjective in abortion and contraception? "There is a modern predilection for chumrah, but these are not manifestations of it," said Berman.

What then are the reasons for the evolution of halakha today? Berman pointed out that every national disaster throughout history has had unique dimensions. Each disaster has left a distinct mark on the body and soul of the Jewish people. While lacerations and am-

putations of the corpus of Jewish people can be seen, data on the soul damages cannot be counted. Nevertheless, it leaves its mark on that and all future generations of Jews. "The Holocaust has left its mark on both the body and soul of the Jewish people."

One way to see into the soul of the Jewish people is the evolution of halakha. Hitler and his followers assigned to themselves absolute powers over life and death. The response to this has been the withdrawal from the exercise of power over life and death. The critical issue is not chumrah. Rather, the

whether a nation is "wrong," the gentiles asked, "It is their (Germany's) subjective right to say what is good and evil." There was and is an overall distrust of human judgement after seeing how low human judgement could take mankind.

The response to this has been that there is a bankruptcy of human subjectivity. There is an attempt to move to objective criteria for what is necessary and not necessary for what is good and evil. "Those of us concerned with halakha live in a different era," said Berman. "We live in a transition era of enormous



Rabbi Saul Berman.

dominant position is, do not act as the human determinant of life and death, "you see what happened when humans assumed that for themselves." There seems to be a deep welling up of need to withdraw from such powers.

Second, the failure of righteous people to rescue the Jewish people has led to a certain withdrawal in the Jewish community. Eighty-eight percent of Righteous Christians stood by silently and in part due to the modern notion of subjectivity. "Who are we to say

uncertainty and vibrancy. The continued power of serving God can be seen even in response to tragedy. What we may be seeing, increased objectivity, may not be long lasting features or response to contemporary tragedy. There is no way to know if this will be permanent. We have to trust that our soul in its depths of commitment has been transformed and will hopefully emerge as pleasing to God and mankind, enough to live out our lives in dedication to God," he concluded.

Schedule Changed

Continued from p. 1 col. 2

minute D hour which most instructors feel is too short a time to cover specific ground.

Another factor that needed to be taken into account was the capacity of the cafeteria if a lunch break was implemented. The lunch break on Tuesday and Thursday is known to crowd the cafeteria beyond capacity. Currently, on Monday and Wednesday, there is no lunch break. The break between the C and D periods is for ten minutes. At this time, much of the student body runs to the cafeteria to buy something to eat during class. They end up in long lines which results in students arriving late for class.

The solution has taken all these

problems into consideration. On Mondays, the D hour will be broken into two segments. D1 will have lecture from 1:15-2:30, with a break until 3:10 when the E hour begins. D2 will start after a forty minute break following the C hour and will last from 1:45-3:00. This staggering of the periods is an experiment. If this helps to alleviate the cafeteria's overcrowding, it may be implemented on Tuesday and Thursday.

According to Karen Bacon, Dean of SCW, "we're not trapped in this. If this doesn't improve things, we'll try something else." As Bacon pointed out, the school's objective with this new schedule is to, "enhance education, not destroy it."

by Lisa Lasher

It seems to me that people have forgotten how Yaacov and Rochel met. It was not through a "Shidduch", as Yaacov's parents met, but rather at a well, not exactly a pool hall, but a common meeting place nonetheless. Perhaps the Torah is presenting two different equally acceptable means of meeting one's "Bashert".

However, our generation of young Orthodox Jews at Yeshiva University, have subtly created a situation in which only shidduch or blind dating are acceptable means to meeting members of the opposite sex. Yeshiva University undergraduate social events sponsored by the student councils are shunned since socializing is "stigmatizing". As a member of SCWSC and co-chairperson of the annual SCWSC-YCSC Chanukah concert, (one of the "more acceptable" better attended semi-social events), I have struggled to understand why SCWSC-YCSC social events have such low attendance rates. The reality is that there are

many students on both campuses that find it difficult to meet members of the opposite sex. Yet many of these same students choose to spend a Thursday night at home or in their rooms rather than at an event at which they have a greater chance of meeting someone. When asked to explain this phenomenon many students respond by saying, "I personally would go if my friends would, and besides, the kind of person I would want meet wouldn't go to a SCWSC-YCSC social event". It makes one wonder whether we have created a self perpetuating vicious cycle.

Many students are afraid of looking desperate or jeopardizing their reputation as being "frum". It is difficult for me to understand why waiting for someone to set you up is less desperate than attending a SCWSC-YCSC event. Furthermore, I fail to see why dating a complete stranger based solely on what someone has said about him/her is anymore "frum" than meeting them in a comfortable relaxed atmosphere.

To be fair, some students are morally and religiously opposed to social events. I can respect this opinion. However, I wonder what percentage of students do not attend these events because they are religiously or morally opposed to them, and what percentage avoid these events because of the stigma that might be attached to them. I would also like to point out a fact that too few students realize, SCWSC-YCSC events are carefully screened and must meet specific Halachik guidelines.

Now what about those students who do attend the events? For the most part, they are quality people with the insight to realize the artificial quality about the internal pressures we have worked into our "social system". I urge the rest of the student body to join these brave souls and see for yourselves the nature of the events and the people that choose to participate. Who knows, the day might come when I won't have to explain to my friends why I attend a SCWSC-YCSC event.

Try Something Different at

Lou's Exchange

By one of our fabulous new dishes

... ..

(212) 967-2233

LOU'S EXCHANGE

289 W. 38th St., near 7th Ave., N.Y.C.

"The Royal Reach"

by Malka Raul and Esther Eisenmann

On November 27, 1990 Sy Syms School of Business sponsored the semester's first Dean's Forum with guest speaker Mr. Zalman C. Bernstein in a lecture entitled "The Royal Reach." Bernstein, a graduate of New York University and Harvard Business School, and an Orthodox Jew, is the chairman of Sanford C. Bernstein and Company. His title for the lecture was taken from the title of Rabbi Lamm's book, published in 1970, of the same name.

Bernstein developed the idea of extraordinary individuals who possess the common denominator of "a majestic craving for nearly unattainable goals and sublime ends far beyond the petty, daily ambitions that plague us all." The idea of the "royal reach" is coming from a wish to reach for the stars.

Quoting the poet Robert Browning who said, "A man's reach must exceed his grasp," Bernstein proposed that Browning had possessed the "royal reach." He also spoke of the professional football coach Vince Lombardi, who was known to have created an environment on his team where each player was an active member; each player was to feel that it was within him to strengthen and better the other players. Lombardi

Bernstein went on to discuss the present economic situation in regard to his company. Sanford C. Bernstein and Company has outperformed the market and has been in the top quartile for more than two-thirds of the time period from 1974 to the present. However, so far this year, the firm has experienced very sub-par equity performance. In spite of this, Bernstein has faith in his firm, stating, "I think we are going to win (this current recession); I think we know what we are doing." He attributes this to his firm's ambition and drive which he feels extend beyond the norm.

At the conclusion of his speech, Bernstein fielded questions from both students and professors. One student asked Bernstein how he relates to the Jewish concept of *yishuv shel ha'olam*, the settlement and amelioration of the world, in a profession that "plays with the market." Bernstein responded, "The way I treat people every day... I keep my kippah and tzitzit on - I find that very helpful... we've hired (Jewish) kids... creating and sharing wealth is a mitzva in the Torah... making a living and helping others make a living is a great feeling."

Those who attended found the lecture beneficial. Lauryn Schnack, Vice President of

AWARD WINNING HISTORIAN SPEAKS AT SCW

by Nomi Dworkin

On Tuesday night, November 4, the Morris Epstein Forum on the Arts hosted the award-winning historian, Professor Kenneth Jackson of Columbia University. Over fifty Yeshiva and Stern College students attended the lecture in the SCW building, chaired by Dr. Ellen Schrecker, titled "Gentlemen's Agreement: Race, Poverty, and Public Policy in Metropolitan America."

Dr. Jackson came enthusiastically recommended by both Dr. J. Gurock and Dr. E. Schrecker as a well-known and noted speaker and teacher. He is the Jacques Barzun Professor of History and Social Sciences as well as the vice-chairman of the History Department at Columbia University. He has been a visiting professor in the most prestigious universities in the country and has lectured at hundreds of others. Dr. Jackson has also written various books including his best known publication, *Crabgrass Frontier: The Suburbanization of the US*. He is also editor-in-chief of the *Encyclopedia of New York City*.

Dr. Jackson began the lecture by explaining that he has been working on his thesis for over twenty-two years and has yet to finish all his research. He has been trying to establish and define the connection between race, poverty and public policy through studying the histories and present day situations of such cities as Newark, New Jersey, White Plains, New York, and New Canaan, Connecticut. These cities are symbolic of three types of communities in the US, poor, middle/upper class with retail, and corporations and exclusive "family money" communities.

Dr. Jackson pointed out to his audience many of the social, ecological, health, and crime problems of today, such as large deficits, drug abuse, and acid rain. He then explained to the audience that there was a problem, "much more serious and threatening than any of these, namely poverty." The most obvious evidence of poverty is homelessness. Professor Jackson brought examples from Grand Central Station, Pennsylvania Station, and even park benches.

Dr. Jackson traced the history of homelessness and shelters. He



Kenneth Jackson.

claims that the problem of homelessness and poverty was once America's "dirty little secret" but that this situation has undergone "quantum change" in the last decade and the problem has come to a head in most major cities.

An essential part of this problem of poverty and its unfortunate side effects is the very wide gap between the rich and the poor in today's day and age. "Rich people live in one place and most poor people live in another." Most cities have an invisible wall splitting them. "Sure, we welcome everyone to our shores, but we privatize them once they get here."

In order to solve this problem of poverty, we must study past decisions and history for not only "do they inform the present but they inform the future as well." One must realize the importance of studying suburban areas as well as concentrating on the large, central cities. Americans should recognize the role that race plays on society and in status. "Not all Afro-Americans are poor and not all poor are black; we have to work at breaking this association." Lastly, we must understand the primacy of housing policy. "Is it discriminatory," asked Jackson.

Dr. Jackson emphasized the effect of local public policy in the direction of any given city. Our social services, such as public housing, are paid for on a local level. Therefore, local politicians don't want poor people around "who can't pay their way." They don't want to encourage poor families to move into low-income housing in their neighborhoods. This leads to court cases similar to the ones in Yonkers which are fought because of the opposition to these projects.

Dr. Jackson stressed that these

problems of housing, homelessness, and poverty will have to be solved in our lifetime. The question is, is it public policy, gentlemen's agreement, or both? What will govern our actions? Dr. Jackson posited that the gentlemen's agreement may work for the US as a whole. He has proposed that in order to solve race/poverty problems and all that comes with them, the federal government will have to take active steps and put up housing that is affordable for all ranges of people. This will then lead to integrated neighborhoods, less homelessness and a happier America.

Students and faculty alike felt that the lecture's topic was an important and informative one. Dr. Jackson himself expressed his delight in lecturing at YU and asked the students for advice and help in solving this problem. Dr. David Schatz, mentor of the Max Stern program and a member of the philosophy department, felt that Dr. Jackson was an excellent speaker who provided a forum in which Yeshiva College and Stern students had an opportunity to think and express themselves about a rarely discussed topic. Naomi Weiner, a sophomore in SCW and Shani Feiner, a freshman in SCW, both expressed their positive feelings and said that the lecturer was "excellent" and "comprehensive." "He made people conscious of a problem that is not often thought about. It is a topic that needs to be developed further."

The Morris Epstein Forum of the Arts was named for the former professor and chairman of the English department at Stern College, Dr. Morris Epstein. The Forum sponsors annual lectures and speakers of interest to the student body.



Sanford Bernstein.

tried to convince each of his players to be a winner and exercise what Bernstein called the power of the "royal reach" to propel them beyond ordinary boundaries of achievement. This type of ambition and confidence along with the characteristic of being a "mensch" are two of the main criterion by which the firm evaluates potential employees. Bernstein asserted that this drive for excellence is one of the keys to his firm's success.

SSSBSC, said she "was very impressed with how Mr. Bernstein responded in extensive detail to the varied questions posed to him." Sherry Aronson, president of Joint Business Society, commented that "Mr. Bernstein's general outlook and attitude identifies him as an outstanding example of an Orthodox Jew in the vast and often competitive business world." SSSB plans to run at least one such forum each semester.

Responsa

Continued from p. 3 col. 5

exist in every community; that does not, however, void the importance of the performance of other mitzvot. One cannot imply from here that the observance of Torah impairs human compassion. If the courts find that this woman is guilty of this insanity, it proves just that: the woman was insane, her community did not beat the child, neither did they order nor condone the act. I recently overheard a girl in the SCW elevator

say to her friend, "She may frown at the length of my skirt, but she is no better than I am, with her wig, when she beats her son." We should recognize that what her community stands for and what crime she may have committed have no connection. She acted on her own behalf without the consent of the community. The fact that she did live in that community should not be used as an excuse to strengthen our existing prejudices.

KOHN INSTITUTE SCHOLARSHIPS

Honors Program in Biomedical Research
at
Albert Einstein College of Medicine

An honors research program for the summer of 1991 is available to Stern College for Women and Yeshiva College students with career interest in biomedical sciences including Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science, Physics, Psychology and Prehealth majors.

Students accepted to the program will conduct basic research at AECOM full-time for ten weeks of the summer, will receive a stipend of \$2000 and will be eligible for two credits of Honors Research after completion of all the requirements. These credits do not satisfy requirements in the major field of study.

Application forms are available at the Office of the Dean and the Office of the Pre-Health Advisor.

Students completing their junior year (or in exceptional cases their sophomore year) with the appropriate grade point average are welcome to apply. Graduating seniors are not eligible.

Applications should be submitted by December 26, 1990 to Dr. Lea Blau, Department of Chemistry, Stern College for Women.

To my Deane, Teachers and Friends,
I cannot begin to express how much your phone calls meant to me. I am mending now and will never forget you.

Leorah Zeman

SPORTS

Meet The Lady Macs

by Yehudit Moskowitz

SCW has very few organized sports. Therefore, it is important that students recognize who is representing them in the sports arena. In light of the Lady Macs recent victory, it seemed appropriate to give a brief biography of each team member and her basketball background.

Michelle Berezin, a senior, is returning for her third consecutive season on the basketball team. She has been a starter since her first year. This year, Berezin is the captain of the Lady Macs. She feels that the new members of the team have potential but notes, "If we would practice more, we'd be more competitive."

Bonnie Bienenstock is a junior and is playing for the second year on the Lady Macs. Both years she has been a starter. Bienenstock played basketball for four years, as a starter, in Bruria High School.

Aviva Rosenstein is a sophomore and is returning to play for her second consecutive year. This is her first time playing as a starter. Rosenstein feels that the team overall is stronger than last year because "there are better subs when the starters need fill ins."

Ora Nusbacher, one of the five starters, has played basketball in HAFTR from her freshman year through her senior year. During her senior year she was captain. She has also played on the Morasha Staff Team during the summer.

Naomi Weiner played basketball for the Yeshiva of Flatbush for four years. She was captain her senior year of high school. Her position on the Stern team is point guard.

Sylvia Haber is from Australia. She played basketball in Australia her sophomore and junior years of high school. She also played state basketball for AJAX (the Australian Jewish Organization).

Rebecca Steiner, a sophomore, has never played basketball before, but she joined the team because it

was good for "workout." When asked if she was bothered by Stern's prior losing streak she stated, "I didn't plan on turning the team around just yet...maybe in a few years."

Lisa Rosen has been playing basketball since she ninth grade at Central High School. Rosen became captain in the eleventh grade and then went to Stern as an early admissions student. She joined the Stern basketball team in her freshman year. After spending a year in Israel, Rosen has now rejoined the Stern team, playing as guard.

Sandy Lurie is making her debut on the Stern team. She always had the desire to play on her public high school team, but due to their games being played on Saturday, she was unable to join the team.

Ilona Spar is another new member on the team who has never played team basketball before but she "just felt like trying out." She feels that if given sufficient playing time, she will improve her skills.

Ruth Samuels, a freshman at SCW, played on the JCC basketball team in Memphis throughout high school. During this time, her team was number one in women's high school basketball in the city of Memphis. She is not one of the starters on the Lady Mac's and is having a difficult time adjusting to this. She was a starter throughout her high school years.

Blair Rush has been playing basketball for many years. She played for the Yeshiva High School of Atlanta in grades eight and nine. She also played for Beth Tefilah of Baltimore in tenth and eleventh grades. She was captain both years. She has joined the team for the exercise and enjoyment.

It appears that this year's Stern College Basketball Team is prepared and ready for action. They are a unified and ambitious team looking forward to making the 1990-91 season the best ever.

HUMOUR

How We Spend The Days Of Our Lives

by Tikvah Ben Zvi

A hushed but excited murmur travelled around the room. I entered the classroom and headed towards an empty desk, dropping my books on the floor and wondering what all the commotion was about. Suddenly, a fellow classmate clutched my arm and asked, "Did you hear? Did you HEAR!!?"

"What?!" I questioned, truly alarmed. Had Saddam Hussein finally gotten his hands on some nuclear bombs? Had the Russians changed their minds about letting Jews out of the Soviet Union? My classmate jolted me out of my terrified thoughts.

"Lawrence raped Jennifer," the girl declared, stressing each word carefully to make certain I understood.

It was even worse than I thought. I sat down, shocked and horrified. "What happened?" I asked. And my classmate leaned forward and whispered through attendance everything that had occurred on *Days of Our Lives* that day.

There's a new way to identify a Stern girl. No longer does it mean jeans skirts, Champion sweatshirts and hair clips. The latest Stern characteristic is an obsession with *Days of Our Lives*.

And we want to know why. Why is the school lounge standing room only from 1:00PM - 2:00PM, the hour during which *Days* is aired? Why was one girl practically stoned for accidentally removing the television plug during

the soap opera? And why DID Jennifer let Lawrence have his evil way with her?

Twenty-year-old, psychology major, Lynn Goldberg, offered an explanation, saying that *Days of Our Lives* is not a simple television show, but, rather, much more. To Goldberg, the show is a guideline on how to cope with the many problems that commonly occur in life - being betrayed by one's husband and best friend, being blackmailed, having amnesia, and most importantly, having to choose a mascara that will not run when one cries at the loss of her beloved.

Twenty-one-year old Tracy Kurtz*, a marketing major, said she watched *Days* because she felt such a strong connection with the characters. Like *Days* heroine, Jennifer Horton, Kurtz pretended to be her best friend and ended up engaged to an evil man who only wanted revenge on her and her family and friends. Fortunately, Kurtz was rescued BEFORE she had to marry the monster, but she said that she "absolutely empathized with what poor Jennifer had to experience."

Everyone is aware of why people watch soap operas. Soaps give one a chance to escape from the worries of life and concentrate on OTHER people's troubles. In Stern, it is no different. School-work and extra-curricular demands, family and male-female conflicts all combine to create a somewhat tense SCW woman. Soaps provide a way to ease that tension. Goldberg stated that it is

a relaxation to watch *Days of Our Lives*, because "for one hour - including commercials," she is distracted from her anxieties and can focus on someone else's.

However, at SCW, soaps have become much more than just escape mechanisms. The hour of 1:00PM - 2:00PM has become a time for bonding and camaraderie. Crammed together in the school's student lounge are countless *Days* fans, screaming out instructions to the main characters, such as "Victor, get a real voice," or "Carly, speak up. All that whispering can't be good for you." Heated discussions are started - "Shane and Kayla FOR SURE." "Are you kidding? There's no way he could be!" "I'm voting in favor of plot twist number 3." Marcus and Kayla will be together, then Steve will come back from the dead and be insanely jealous and angry. "That's so stupid. Besides, it happened on *General* already." The show would not be half as much fun to watch if most of the school was not addicted to it also.

In fact, one teacher walked into the lounge one day, saw the hordes gathered to watch, and asked, "Do you need to register for this course?" But the true *Days* fans do not mind the ridicule, for they cherish the fun, relaxation and camaraderie that watching the show provides, and they smirk in response to questions such as the ones posed by the teacher, for they all know that this is one "course" no one ever ditched.

Woman VS. Man VS. Copy Machine

by Banji D. Latkin

As a future "wannabe" journalist, I was in favor of a tour of the New York Times' building. As part of a media class in which I am enrolled, our teacher took us on a class trip. Instead of a big yellow bus, we took two taxis to the Times' building on 45th Street between Broadway and Seventh Avenues.

Once inside the building, I tried to absorb as much of the atmosphere as possible. I admirably gazed at the men I assumed to be top reporters. I leafed through papers on the desks that we passed. I held on to every word that our tour guide was saying.

Being part of an all female class, it was quite appropriate that one of the questions we asked was "what is the percentage of women that work at the Times?" When our leader responded with, "thirty percent," I thought to myself, "pretty good." We were then able

to see the media page editor in her chambers. It was exciting to be in the same room as a successful female reporter. Here was a woman who had men working for her. I wondered if these men had a complex about working for a woman.

As the tour proceeded, we discussed how one, miraculously, gets a job at the Times. Current events were brought up and questions on the "moral fibers" of reporting were answered. I was having a wonderful time. After about half of the tour was over, a Jewish looking gentleman walked by our group. Our tour guide informed us that he was Max Frankel, Executive Editor for the New York Times. This was the man I wanted to see. Here was the head honcho. The man before whom reporters tremble with fear.

My eyes followed this man as he walked across the room to the copy machine. My mind was going crazy thinking of things I could

say to him if I went over. "Hi, I'm Banji, can I have a job?" That would never work. "Hi, I'm from The Observer, the official student newspaper of Stern College for Women?" I did not think that would work either. So there I stood, watching this short, grey haired man stand by the copy machine.

But why was he just standing there? Why was he not copying anything? Wait, what could it be? Could the editor of one of the most powerful newspapers in the world be having trouble working the copy machine?? I could not believe my eyes. Should I help him? My imagination went wild painting headlines, "Banji D. Latkin Saves the Times by helping Max Frankel Work the Copy Machine."

While I was daydreaming, Mr. Frankel's female secretary fixed the machine. Once again, a woman had saved the day. But now, how am I going to get a job?

Dr. Ruth Bevan-Role Model, Teacher and Friend

by Chani Hook

Dr. Ruth Bevan, a now well known political science professor at Stern College, began teaching at Yeshiva College in 1965 as a visiting lecturer. Her first course was entitled "Public Administration and American Politics." In 1978, Dr. Bevan began teaching at Stern College. Yeshiva University wanted to unify both undergraduate colleges and the Dean asked her to develop the political science department.

A previous negative experience caused Dr. Bevan's initial reaction to working at Stern to be hesitant. She believed that a women's college was not a serious academic institution. Dr. Bevan, however, decided to try it. She was one of the first women to teach at Yeshiva College in the social sciences and felt the need to have female companionship. "I was hibernating up there," she said. Thanks to Professor Michael Hecht, Dr. Blanche Blank and Dr. Bevan, three full time faculty members, a political science department was organized at SCW. It was structured so that Stern would have the same courses and requirements as the YC department.

"The superlative student body at Stern has far exceeded Dr. Bevan's expectations. The number of political science majors has grown tremendously. Most of the students are outstanding." There are two Stern College women finishing PhD's in political science, with distinction, both of whom were students of Dr. Bevan. One is

studying at Cornell, and the other is at Columbia. There are numerous women from Stern who have gone into the field of law, the business world and into journalism, through political science.

The chairperson of the political science department has heard many faculty members say that they would just as soon teach at Stern or YC, because the atmosphere is very congenial. Dr. Bevan recalled a talk by Dr. Lamm, where he commented that one of the traits of Stern women is "chesed" (kindness) and she thought how true that was. "There is competition at Stern, but it is tempered with cooperation."

Dr. Bevan's experiences at SCW have been very enriching. She has acquired former Stern students as friends and maintained contact with them. She has watched the evolution of Stern women who didn't expect much of themselves, into women who are their own people, and are so much more capable of being a full marriage partner. Dr. Bevan believes this change is impacting on the YC men, "most of whom wouldn't dream of marrying an intelligent woman with professional interests."

During her tenure at SCW, Dr. Bevan has pursued many outside interests. She has taken various leaves at the Hoover Institute at Stanford University. From 1976 through 1977, Dr. Bevan worked on a project regarding contemporary political culture in Western democracies, and problems with

nationalism. She is currently working on revisions and hopes the paper will be published in the near future. Dr. Bevan also received a summer grant at Vanderbilt University in Nashville in 1981. The program participants explored the theoretical implications of political science. During the summer of 1989, Dr. Bevan attended the N.E.H. program in Paris in order to study French politics. Last summer she was included in a program run by the Japanese gov-



Dr. Ruth Bevan

ernment. She was part of a group of twenty academics who were financed to study Japanese politics in San Francisco.

Dr. Bevan has done much lecturing during her career, especially on the topic of Soviet Jewry. At Lincoln Square Synagogue, Bevan lectured about "The Israel and Arab World - Prospects for Peace" and "American Jews and American Political Issues." One of Dr. Bevan's most recent lectures was

in November of 1989, on the 50th anniversary of Kristalnacht. Dr. Bevan was asked by Mt. Holyoke College to deliver a lecture about the Holocaust. She had previously given the memorial lecture at the Riverdale Jewish Center, but at Holyoke about 99.9% of the audience was not Jewish. Two things impressed Dr. Bevan during the course of her presentation. Firstly, she saw people emotionally break down, and secondly, she didn't return home until hours after the lecture because of the questions of the people in the audience. "This showed me that the Holocaust shouldn't be defined in self-contained terms. As Jews we have a responsibility to go out and discuss the Holocaust." Dr. Bevan herself has German heritage and had many questions about it. She therefore travelled to Germany to find out as much about the culture as she could. "It was an eye-opening experience."

In 1987, Dr. Bevan had the opportunity to travel to Rumania with a good friend who was an immigration lawyer and was involved in Soviet Jewry. They visited refusniks and brought them food, books, medicine, and other supplies. They found that many of the refusniks were in dire situations. They had heard stories about the KGB and security but never had a problem. The night before the trip, Dr. Bevan called a rabbi and received permission to wear tzitzit into the USSR, to escape confis-

cation. They ended up leaving the tzitzit on the entire ten days. They like to think they were thereby given "an extra edge."

Dr. Bevan was born in Brockton, Massachusetts and grew up in the Berkshires. Her family later moved to Chicago. She attended a midwestern liberal arts college, called Grinnell, in Iowa. "I was shocked by the environment. We were surrounded by cornfields. The male dorms were on one side of the campus and the female dorms, on the other side. It was an adjustment." Bevan was a political science major. "As a child, I was always interested in other cultures and peoples." She combined political science with a heavy philosophy background.

Dr. Bevan became homesick for New England, so she attended the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, where she received a fellowship from the German government. This was her opportunity to find out about her German heritage. This was when Germany was in a state of reconstruction after WWII. Dr. Bevan returned to America in late 1964, where her doctoral work was taken over by Dr. Sidney Hook.

Dr. Bevan has written a book on Burke and Marx, and various articles on Western European politics and contemporary ideologies. Bevan is presently working on an article about Mitterand in France entitled "Modern Western Democracies and Political Cultures."

INCIDENTS.

Continued from p. 1 col. 2

pulled off the gold chain that one woman was wearing and fled.

All of the women have filed reports with the police. The police are working on the case but they told one of the victims that there was not much that could be done. According to the officer, "These crimes happen every day, and the New York Police Department just doesn't have the manpower to keep a police presence in the area 24 hours a day."

According to the same officer, a striking pattern has emerged in all the cases. "They all occur at night, involve two black youths in their mid-20's, and occur in the vicinity of two very popular Kosher restaurants." One victim felt that the suspects were actually staking out the area, looking for victims. "They know that's where a lot of the women go to eat. "Besides,"

she added, "they always strike on Thursday or Saturday nights. Two very popular nights for going out!"

One of the victims said she was pleased to see how fast Y.U. Security reacted to the muggings. She cites the fact that the new van service which takes students almost anywhere in the vicinity of midtown began service right after the third attack. According to Mrs. Zelda Braun of the Office of Student Services, however, the new shuttle service was in the works long before these incidents occurred.

Mr. Frank Morris of YU Security stressed the importance of notifying Security of incidents as soon as possible. He also noted that no one came forward after the first incidents which might have encouraged other attacks. "If they get away with it once, they'll do it

again." Morris said that the security is in constant contact with the police department, and that one student was called in to identify the suspect. Morris added that he felt certain that there was a connection in at least two of the three incidents. According to him, there has been an increase of crime in the neighborhood because many of the criminals have moved away from 42nd Street due to "beefed up security by the police department in that area."

Women have been advised to take advantage of the new van service. They have also been advised to walk with their "guard up" and with others. Another important tip that security advises is that women should not wear any flashy jewelry, or carry a lot of cash on them at one time.

CURTAINS

Continued from p. 5 col. 5

roles as lovers. The struggle between the stubbornness of their pride and their love was especially entertaining.

The camaraderie spoken about in the last issue of The Observer was felt. The actresses were enjoying themselves while entertaining us. They overcame great difficulties and yet retained professionalism.

Goodman commended the audience as being an integral part of the success of the production. "During rehearsals we didn't know what they considered funny; when we heard them laughing we knew we did our job and it is appreci-

ated." "The feedback was positive and encouraging," said another cast member. Weiner stated "it is so gratifying when the audience recognizes the effort that goes into such a production. It makes it all worthwhile."

To quote a former president of SCDS, Penina Blazer: "It just gets better and better." After three years of acting with SCDS, I was speechless. It was a totally different experience being in the audience for a change. I can't agree with Blazer more, and I might add, they, rather our society, did us proud.

Phone MU 9-3629
Bonne Cleaners, Ltd.

For Quality & Service
56 East 34th Street
Bet. Park & Madison Aves.
New York, N.Y. 10018

OBSERVER
STERN COLLEGE
245 Lexington Avenue
New York, N.Y. 10016