

THE ABSURDER

The Official Newspaper of Yeshiva University

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Student Services Scams Security

Dean Efreim Nulman and Zeldia Braun, directors of student services at Yeshiva University, along with Sergeant Gonzales, head of security, were caught last night in what has become the biggest scandal to rock YU since the Chanukah Dinner - OPERATION ID SHIELDS!

In an uncharacteristic careless splurging of YU funds, administrators decided to ease the enforcing of ID wear by providing all YU students with FREE ID plastic shields to hold their cards and keep them clipped onto clothing.

Lately, though, detectives have been swarming through all campuses of the university, trying to figure out who's been pilfering the shields, and how the operation had taken off quite as smoothly as it did.

The detective work has paid off. The culprits were found and the entire operation was exposed. It seems that Braun and Nulman had conspired together; they had been servicing the students, with the help of Gonzales, by manufacturing and providing fake ID cards for people who do not attend either YC or SCW.

Dr. Sidney Langer, professor of advanced criminology at SCW, became suspicious when he noticed the presence of women in his class who did not have long brown hair and were not wearing short straight skirts with tights. These women could not be "Stern girls," he presumed.

A further clue alluding to foul play was the constant turnover of secretaries in the student services office. It could not be that Braun was that demanding a boss.

The tip-off was confirmed

when one ID card was checked and authorities found that it bore the number "24601". The name on the orange card was "Jean Valjean."

It turns out that Braun and Nulman are but spokes in a complex crime wheel. They are part of an international fake ID ring that spans halfway across the world. The YU Israel office, an important link in the fraud, was apparently having identity crises as well.

When confronted with her grave misdemeanor, Braun defended herself claiming that she was merely carrying out her duties.

"Effy and I are just doing are our jobs," she stated. "We're supposed to make everything as easy as possible for each and every student. Who are we to discriminate against students just because they don't attend YU?"

Gonzales' defense was not much different. "Hey, they look GOOD. Would you turn them away?!"

Nulman, as usual, had no comment himself; he referred all unanswered questions to his female counterpart, claiming that "she is the SCW liaison."

The consequences of the crime are still undecided, but in the interim all further contact between the two student services offices is strictly forbidden.

Dr. Lamm, president of YU, has refused to comment publicly, though PR sources claim that he is sickened by the entire incident.

"Now with this scandal under my belt," PR representative Mike Cohen overheard him telling his wife, "I'll never reach my \$400 million campaign goal."

Operation Torah Cow Demonstration Of Belief

Its name: Operation Torah Cow. Its purpose: to search for a red heifer for the third temple.

In an effort to demonstrate strong belief in the coming of the messiah, students at Yeshiva University in conjunction with YU rebbeim are sending members of the YU community all over the world in search of a *parah adumah*, a red cow.

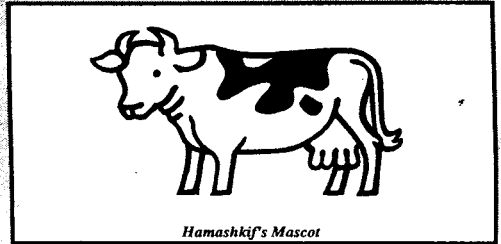
According to Jewish tradition, the third temple cannot be built before a red heifer becomes available. The cow, used to purify those who have become impure, is a "*Beit Hamikdash*" essential. Simply put, the temple cannot be built until one of the rare creatures are produced.

Because of the rarity of this animal, bovine experts have observed that none have been found as of yet in the past 2000 years. One notable renowned Jewish bovinist, Rabbi Bully Ox, was quoted as saying "when the time comes that we need one, eventually, then we'll start looking."

However, for David Borowich, YC senior, this was not sufficient. "We're not going to just sit around idly waiting for it [red heifer] to just fall into our hands", he exclaimed emphatically. "We, as students, have to take initiative - get out there and look for them [red heifers] high and low. Only through our search can we bring *moshiach*!"

With this notion, Borowich proceeded to create and organize the unique program Operation Torah Cow. An anonymous donor from the Lubavitch community agreed to sponsor the financially demanding program which entails sending students to ranches all over the world in search of a cow.

In an exclusive interview, the



donor, who wishes to remain nameless, expressed the importance of this search. "We need to find a red cow," he said, "because we want *moshiach* now."

The first mission was composed of four RIETS students have already embarked on their search. Their first stop is Israel where they'll spend the first night in the Plaza Hotel for minimum charge. They believe the section of the hotel titled "Cow on the Roof," is perhaps an important lead.

"I realize the color of the cow is not specified," Borowich said, "but one can never tell. For all we know we'll get up on the roof and lo and behold, the cow will be red!"

Borowich's sidekick, Andy Goldsmith, who is in charge of PR for the program, expressed disappointment that only 187 news publications internationally were interested in publicizing the event. But Goldsmith is not fazed. "Once one paper or station picks up the story, everyone will follow," he said with confidence.

"This program is momentous," he wrote in an exclusive fax that he sent to every news station in the western hemisphere. "We are asserting to the world that this is not the time to sit back and wait for a red cow. This is the time to go out and hunt one down!"

The program is in high demand and hundreds of students have already signed up.

"It's a challenge," said Reuven Harow, the program's financial co-ordinator. "The search is like a huge treasure hunt with the grand jackpot prize being the *moshiach*!"

The coordinators of Operation Torah Cow, along with Jewish communities worldwide, are anxiously awaiting news about how the first mission is faring. For daily updates on their accomplishments tune in to Channel 7 eyewitness news, airing nightly at 11 p.m. and entitled "Where's the Beef?"

Each program will feature a live coverage of Torah Cow activities followed by a segment of the new ABC sitcom, "The Borowich Family Live At Home."

"I believe in this cause," Borowich said. "It is not something I take lightly. The fact that this program is YU initiated, run and participated is something to be immensely proud of. We are a symbol to the entire Jewish community to find a red cow and in doing so readily bring *moshiach* and the rebuilding of the third *Beit Hamikdash*."

Observer, Commentator & Hamevaser Unite in Joint Issue

For the first time in the documented history of Yeshiva University, the three most popular campus newspapers, The Observer, The Hamevaser and The Commentator (in that order) will band together to create the greatest issue of all times.

By uniting their strengths, the three editorial boards will be able to produce a unique joint effort that encompasses their various perspectives on an issue so intrinsically significant to the student body of Yeshiva University: Judaic approaches to meeting prospective basherts in the modern day.

Following in the footsteps of a recently published issue of 'Uncommon Observations', this pub-

lication will outdo the brilliant yet comprehensive joint issue of The Observer and The Commentator. It will include untouched realms of this most pertinent concern. To demonstrate, the editorial staff has released a list of topics that will be covered including, 'Uncovering Yaakov's true attraction to Leah' and 'Blind-dating among Rishonei Sephard.'

While these were unanimously agreed upon, the topic of 'Kabbalistic methods of winning over your mate' was an issue of incredible controversy because the Hamevaser staff insisted that these methods were once part of a mystical book buried in the time of Ramban and should therefore not

be divulged.

The Observer staff, however, wished to include it saying that all secrets such as these should not be hidden from the public. "In our day we should make use of every method available to us," stated one staff member.

Since there was no scandal to be found in this controversy, The Commentator chose not to comment.

Other features will be topics as intellectually stimulating as 'The Judaic perspective in vegetarian liver: hidden morality vs. the blatant meat eater' and 'Torah VeAvodah: The scandal behind Bnei Akiva.'

Continued on P.8, Col. 1



NOT IN THIS ISSUE...

Elementary School at YU
Purim Story by Yo Tropper
About Men
but coming soon to a Yeshiva near you

EDITORIALIZING

TRADING PLACES

The observance of the Commentator has been observed by the Observer staff, and the Observer wishes to comment on their observations.

The Commentator expressed interest in male/female integration. What do they want? Co-ed swimming classes perhaps? It may be kind of difficult for you to make use of the new Stern midwife and day care center, but perhaps it's the Lamaze class you're interested in. Keep in mind that Mrs. Safran's "Home and Family" course may not be so appealing to YC students. (Hey- if you guys are so curious, get Dr. Ruth to teach a class up-town!) Similarly, YC wrestling may not appeal to all Stern women. (We wouldn't be caught dead in

those outrageous outfits!)

You want integration? So let's switch campuses. You know, the "48 Hours" switch- like Trading Places- just for one week. Think about it. You guys can shop at Macy's to your hearts' content. You have The Garden practically in your backyard. (That's Madison Square, not Tenzer.) You can take any course you want, like simcha dance or intermediate talmud. We'll even throw in use of our extensive Observer room.

In exchange, we get Furst and Belfer Halls, the Max Stern Athletic Center, (pool included) all of Schottenstein, the Beit Hamedrash and Dr. Lee. We at Stern think it's a fair deal. And we're dying to see how long you guys could last.

GET BACK TO THE BASICS

TAC should give out brooms and sponges with their welcome kits. Here we are, supposed to be groomed to become homemakers, and many Stern women do not even know how to boil water, let alone clean a bathtub.

Although all students are appreciative of the *tzedaka* boxes, washing cups and *siddurim* that include *mincha* davening, more and more women are getting fed up having to live up to their feminist roles and aspirations that others set up for them.

In biology lab, one student mentioned that the married women

in the class should be more adept at skinning a pig than the single women. Even the married women, however, no longer have any culinary skills.

According to one wife, she does not have to skin Empire chicken. Hence, she does not know how to.

It's time to get back to the basics. Let us back into our kitchens and bathrooms. We don't want maids or housekeepers anymore. We want household duties to be our sole responsibility once again. Cut out the computer requirement and make us take Bedmaking 101.

INFORMATION SESSION

Columbia University
Programs in Occupational Therapy

Come talk to our faculty, graduates and students about our Master of Science Degree in Occupational Therapy

- Video of Program
- Tour
- Refreshments
- Reimbursed Parking

TUESDAY, MARCH 12TH - 5:30 TO 7:30 PM

Hammer Health Science Center
Riverview Lounge, 4th floor
168th Street and Ft. Washington Avenue, N.W. corner

RSVP: Programs in Occupational Therapy
Columbia University
630 West 168th Street
New York, NY 10032

212-505-3781

"Columbia University is an affirmative action equal opportunity institution."

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OPINIONATED

Distressed Over Doors

The doors of the dorm rooms at Stern are something of a legend. Everyone knows that the minute an SCW woman enters Brookdale with an engagement ring, an "under construction" sign appears on her door and is quickly followed by sometimes clever, sometimes traditional wedding-style decorations. However, I have noticed something extremely upsetting about this trend. The doors, while lavish and festive, completely clash with the color scheme of their floors!

This gross oversight is especially baffling and distressing, since SCW considers itself an institution of higher learning. I know of no college student who would dare make the elementary mistake of allowing colors nowhere near each other on the color wheel to be next to each other on the dormitory walls. The thought of such flagrant

misuse of the palette would probably send Harvard, Yale, and Princeton's ivy crawling, cause fits of horror in FIT hearts - and we shudder to imagine what YC is saying about Stern now!

I had grown so distraught by the increasing number of clashing doors that I spoke with an art professor at Stern about the issue. The professor insisted upon seeing the doors for herself. I don't think anything I would have said could have sufficiently prepared her for the horrifying sight of oranges negligently paired with pastels such as mint and pale pink, or powder blues set against bright red backgrounds. Right before she fainted, the professor said she agreed that the situation was indeed drastic.

After half an hour the professor had recovered enough to speak. We heard quite an earful: about

SCW not giving permission for Stern students to take FIT courses if these are the kind of shabby results the school can expect; about her failure as a teacher to ingrain in her students any sense of what is aesthetically pleasing about art; about wondering if students apply any of the knowledge they learn in school, and if they don't, the rabbis who teach Jewish law better start worrying about the state of their people in future generations, etc., etc.

I don't know if I agree with everything the professor said - the part about the shaky state of the Jewish people seems somewhat overzealous - but I do agree that the school needs to take some action against this disturbing problem. Perhaps SCW should drop the Speech requirement, and make all students take Crayola 101.

MARCH 6 at 8PM
WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH
PROGRAM
LAURIE JAMES

One - Woman Dramatization
of Charlotte Perkins Gilman's
THE YELLOW WALLPAPER



A Magical Moment

On Monday, Morg Mart and Milners Market merged. This movement was the materialization of a motion proposed at a meeting in May. At this meeting, in the Marriot Marquis in Manhattan, Morg Mart manager Menachem Mendel Mandelbaum and Milners Market manager Miriam Malka Meyerstein met.

Many months have passed since May, but "we've made the most of them in every manner," remarked Mandelbaum. Meyerstein added, "We meet every Monday to mull over the Milners-Morg Mart amalgamation." Associate manager of Milners, Michale Masha Maselman, made a comment: "Miriam Malka and Menachem Mendel see each other every minute; they mention Morg Mart and Milners only on Mondays."

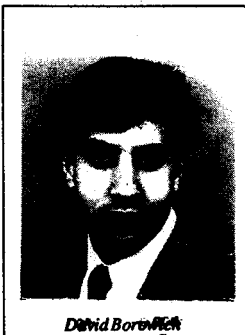
The majority of marketing majors, who man the counters of Morg Mart and Milners Market, urged for the merge mainly because it would make more money, said associate manager of Morg Mart, Mordechai Moshe

Maimonberg.

Many from midtown maintained that Milners Market should maintain and not magnify its minute size, in a monumental effort to eliminate messiness. (They were not in the mood to mop.) The men, on the other mien, wanted more Mario Bros. machines. Moreover, the administration meant to move Morg Mart to midtown Manhattan to make room for the new modern movie theater in Morgenstern.

After much commotion, the merger materialized, as will the marriage of the markets' managers. The magic of the moment of the meeting in May in the Marriot Marquis in Manhattan is manifest in the multiple merge. The actual move of Morg Mart and its milkshake machines, meatball makers, melon mashers and milchig and meat microwaves will take place in mid-March, and when Menachem Mendel turns 21 in May, the managers will merge in matrimony. Mazel Tov!

COUP COLLAPSES



David Borowich

David Borowich, renowned organizer, speech giver and publicity genius has finally met his match. In a recent coup attempt against Yeshiva University's Board of Trustees, Borowich was outnumbered and outsmarted by President Norman Lamm and his undercover henchmen.

According to a reliable source,

Borowich, a YC senior majoring in law, science and engineering, recruited a group of Seminarians to carry out the coup.

Armed with life size pictures of Borowich and a copy of his ever growing resume, the groupies felt confident of their victory.

The women, known as Borowites, were instructed to burst into a board meeting singing "David Melech Yisrael." Borowich thought that Rabbi Lamm would resign because of the overwhelming aura of Borowich power, but this was not the case. Students of the Belz School of Music were called in to chant "Hell No! Norm Won't Go!!" to counter the feeble attempt by the Stern women (never mind the questionable Kol Isha).

Mr. Borowich, humiliated and defeated, was heard saying, "this wasn't really my idea. Steve Felsenthal, our distinguished president, thought of the idea. I was just the one who got the publicity."

Mr. Rogers Visits Our Neighborhood

Mr. Fred Rogers, star of the PBS smash hit "Mister Rogers' Neighborhood," received an honorary degree at YU's Purim dinner on Wednesday night, February 27, 1991. The gala event, held in the majestic RIETS Beit Hamidrash, opened with the show's familiar theme song, "It's a Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood," in honor of the ideal YC setting of Washington Heights. Before the melody ended, Mr. Rogers had removed his jacket, bow tie, and black patent leather shoes in order to don a knitted red sweater, unbutton his collar, and slip on white, canvas sneakers.

Standing at the lectern, Rabbi Dr. Norman Lamm introduced the evening's esteemed personality. "Although Yeshiva University has never honored a minister before, in the spirit of Torah U'Madda I thought it would be appropriate to begin now." Facing the dais, he continued, "Mr. Rogers, I presume?" The latter immediately rose to answer, "Correct as usual, King - I mean - Rabbi - I mean - Dr. Lamm." Joining past honored

guests of this prestigious affair such as Imelda Marcos, Gary Larson, Miami Boys Choir, and Golda Meir's housekeeper, Mr. Rogers began his speech with a philosophically metaphysical survey on the ontological existence of man. "It's such a good feeling to know you're alive," he exclaimed. "It's such a happy feeling - you're growing inside." Then he addressed the audience. "I am so proud to be here. I feel really special. Do you ever feel special, ladies and gentlemen?"

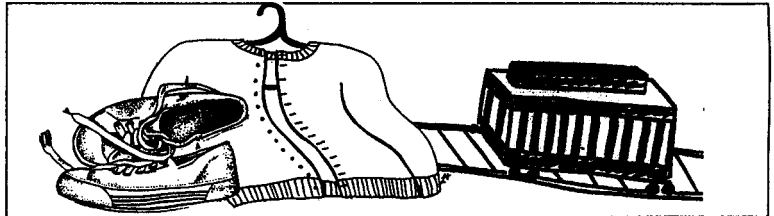
Since one of the goals of YU's fund raising campaign includes expanding and improving facilities, Mr. Rogers suggested replacing the van service as the students' chief mode of transportation and recommended installing the simpler trolley system. "That way you can move from place to place with the flick of a hidden switch!" he declared. This proposal received considerable support from YU's security guards who were on duty during the ceremony. "I certainly hope the administration considers this suggestion," the YC

van driver who brought Mr. Rogers to the event confessed.

After his brief but emotionally stirring speech, Rogers accepted a Doctor of Humane Alphabet Letters Degree. With tears in his eyes, Mr. Rogers turned to the audience to make a thought provoking request. "Won't you please -" he supplicated. "Won't you please? Please won't you be my neighbor?" In response, the audience stood up and applauded.

One oddly dressed woman dabbed at her eyes with a lace hanky and murmured, "Meow, meow, meow, beautiful, meow, meow." Her other comments were unintelligible due to her sobs, but her escort, who insisted his name was X, comforted her under his protective wing.

Dinner commenced after the speeches. The menu consisted of the four major food groups essential for growing bodies. Unfortunately, during the meal, Mr. Rogers received a special delivery requiring him to make an early exit to feed his fish.



The following essay awards for excellence in writing are open to all undergraduates:

THE LAWRENCE P. FISCHER MEMORIAL AWARD

-awarded to the best paper submitted on some aspect of Jewish History
-cash award of about \$250

THE EDWARD A. ROTHMAN MEMORIAL AWARD

-awarded to the best paper on the theme of "Issues in Orthodox Judaism in Practice"

-cash award of about \$200

THE FANNIE AND ASHER SCHARFSTEIN MEMORIAL AWARD

-awarded to the best paper on the topic of Gemilut Hesed
-cash award of about \$100

THE MORRIS AND CHAYA ZUCKERMAN MEMORIAL AWARD

-awarded to the best research paper in Jewish History
-cash award of about \$75

THE DEAN DAVID MIRSKY MEMORIAL AWARD

-may be in any subject
-awarded to graduating SCW senior
-cash award of about \$200

THE PROFESSOR LAUREL HATVARY AWARD

-award for creative writing
-open to all SCW students; preference to seniors
-cash award of about \$50

All awards are subject to certain procedures. Submissions should be made to the deans.

NOT NECESSARILY THE NEWS



BEFORE

AFTER

Rebbe Rivals Rothstein

In an unparalleled phenomenon in the history of Stern College, the Lubavitcher Rebbe has joined the Stern faculty for the upcoming fall semester. He is scheduled to teach only one course - Intermediate Talmud.

His decision to teach Talmud stemmed from a momentous statement that he wrote in a document in March, 1990 in which he permitted the learning of *gemara* for women.

Immediately following publication of the document containing the rather unconventional *heter*, rabbinical leaders throughout the world responded vehemently. Ironically, the majority of the opposition came from *rebbeim* at Yeshiva College.

In a letter sent to the Rebbe two days after the emergence of the notorious *l'shuv*, a *rosh yeshiva* at RIETS wrote, "I was appalled by the statement you, the Rebbe, made about the permissibility of women learning Talmud. Here we are attempting to instill proper halachic values in our *talmidim* by shunning them from girls who learn, and then you, the Rebbe, come out with a statement that the most basic *issur* in Jewish tradition has conformed to modernity and has become permissible. It is because of you, the Rebbe, that one of our top *talmidim* has applied to teach a *gemara shiur* at Stern College in the fall!"

The letter was accompanied by a letter bomb.

After responding to all the verbal abuse and threats he received upon the publication of his statement, and hiring a 24 hour bodyguard for protection, the Rebbe began his investigation of the SCW Judaic Studies curriculum.

"We began corresponding in November," Rabbi Ephraim Kanarfogel, chairman of Stern's

Judaic Studies Department, said. "The Rebbe visited Stern on several occasions, donning plain clothes so as not to be identified. I gave him an inter-office mail envelope when I sent him to classes, so students thought he was Rabbi Metzger collecting *zedaka*."

Apparently, the Rebbe was appalled by the existing Intermediate Talmud *shiur*. In a translated version of the Yiddish letter he sent to Rabbi Kanarfogel, the Rebbe stressed his disappointment - not in the subject being taught, but in the "other details of the surrounding class."

"I said learning Talmud is okay for women," he wrote, "but learning from a single, yeshiva *bochur* is reprehensible and completely unacceptable."

Using Pinchas as his role model the Rebbe sent out his henchmen to eliminate Rabbi Rothstein immediately. Rabbi Metzger, one of the henchmen, convinced the Rebbe to avoid such drastic action and instead, simply put him in *cherem*.

Upon Gidon's dismissal, the Rebbe approached Rabbi Kanarfogel directly and asked to take over the *rebbe-less shiur*.

"He saw all these bright ambitious women so discouraged (many for personal reasons) that Rabbi Rothstein left," Rabbi Kanarfogel said. "He did not want to let them down."

In preparation for the course, the Rebbe has been seen sitting in on Rabbi Kahn's Advanced Talmud *shiur* to "just watch and take note how women learn."

The course, which fills a "JUD" requirement, will be given the same time, on Monday and Wednesday mornings, from 10:25 to 11:40 a.m. Rabbi Metzger will serve as simultaneous translator from the Yiddish, and boys from YC are not permitted to register.



Rabbi Rothstein's recruits.

Intergration Innovations

The spring semester of 1991 has seen the introduction of many new classes at both the uptown and midtown campuses of YU.

One of the new, and more popular, classes being given at YC is Home and Family, a complete and thorough course on the Jewish laws concerning family and marital relationships.

The class is taught by renowned marital expert, Dr. Ruth Westheimer, back from her recent lecture tour in Israel. It is held on Monday nights, from 8-9:30 p.m. in Furst Hall and will count as two credits toward the Judaic studies or social science requirements.

The course curriculum includes a comprehensive study of the various parts of the marriage ceremony and discussions on topics, such as *shalom bayit* (peace in the house), divorce and the increasingly popular issue of covering

one's thinning hair.

Also, as part of the course, the class will take a field trip to the Tannenbaum *mikvah* (ritual bathhouse), conveniently located on the uptown campus.

"I've always wanted to take this class," said one YC senior who wished to remain anonymous for obvious reasons. "I've always heard the girls, I mean women, from Stern say what a fantastic class it is. When I found out that they were offering the class here as well, I signed up for it immediately."

He was not the only one to register for Home and Family. The class was closed out within 30 minutes, a record for any YU class. "But," assured Efreim Nulman, Director of Student Services, "students shouldn't despair. We see how popular the class is and plan to offer two or more sections of it next year."

SCW's Manhattan Project



Over the past several years Stern College for Women has been steadily increasing its enrollment and expanding its multi-faceted curriculum. Unfortunately, the school is still faced with the age-old problem of lack of space.

Under the guidance of Dean Karen Bacon, the SCW Board of Trustees is embarking on a new venture to scout out every building in New York City in search of a dormitory for Stern. This newly implemented venture is titled "The Manhattan Project."

The idea sparked up only after all previous endeavors bombed. One month ago, Stern came within immediate range of a purchasing a dynamic building, but the entire deal blew up without warning.

"We were so shocked that the deal fell through," Bacon said. "But

mostly we were disappointed."

It was then that Julius and Ethel Rosenberg, long term SCW Board members, dropped the bomb.

"Let's buy Madison Square Garden," they said in unison. "This will solve our special problems and eliminate SCW resentment of the uptown campus."

After investigating the options, the president's circle of YU placed a bid on the complex. The deal is currently being negotiated.

"If this Manhattan Project succeeds," Bacon said, "we at Stern can have more dorm space, more classrooms, and most importantly, a pool and gym. And maybe we can even plant a Tenzer Garden II inside."

"The Manhattan Project is a great idea," said one SCW freshman. "If it works out, it'll be a blast!"

More Pick-ups At YU

The Yeshiva University shuttle service has recently expanded its facilities to incorporate the entire New York Metropolitan area. In addition to the usual trips between Brookdale Hall and the Joel Jablonsky campus, the SCW school building, FIT, the apartments and various other locations in the vicinity, the van now transports students to and from virtually anywhere in New York, New Jersey and Connecticut.

Most SCW students are pleased with the new service, which also accompanies students upon request to the 24-hour kiosk across the street from Brookdale. Senior Vashai Gashmi comments, "It takes a half hour longer to go around the block and stop at all the traffic lights, but I'd lose my head if I had to go out in the cold night."

The majority of SCW students, who attend FIT, seem delighted at the expansion, which includes a new van schedule instituted for direct trips between FIT and YC.

Not everyone, however, is completely satisfied with the van's expanded services. Junior Zeresh Winer complained about the fact that the van would not take a group of students to Killington, Vermont, for a skiing weekend - I mean, Shabbaton. Winer stated that she felt the vans should have provided this service, because "these skiing weekends - sorry, I mean Shabbatons - are essential to an SCW student's social life - I mean, personal fulfillment."

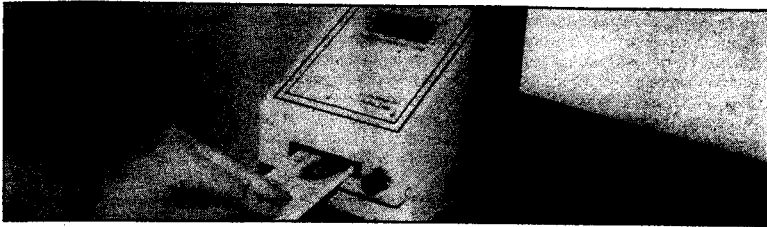
Since this unfortunate incident, the shuttle service has agreed to take four students to a Kiruv Shabbaton in Maryland. Sergeant Gonzales even reports that action is being taken to implement a permanent service picking up students at national and international locations. He claims that the Shuttle Drivers Association is currently convening to discuss the creation of YU shuttle boats and planes, and most significantly, thirty or forty limousines for special engagements. The charge of these services are minimal with a valid YU ID, and may be purchased with the new Dining Club Gold Card.

THE REGULAR RIDER MILES PROGRAM

If you are a **regular rider** on the SCW shuttle service, make sure you know about the new benefits to which YOU are entitled:

- * Free danish/muffin and coffee at any Dining Services location
- * One non-local pick-up or drop-off once a month
- * One night per month when you and your date do not have to stand in between the two entrance doors, because it is past 1:00 AM, and he has been kicked out of the lobby
- OR SAVE YOUR MILES AND... * RIDE FREE this summer when the van service goes cross country on its first summer tour ever!

AROUND OUR CAMPUS



\$25,000 Food Card Initiated at YU

As a direct result of last year's "successful" meal plan, Yeshiva University announced that it is instituting a new updated version of the meal plan for the coming fall semester.

The new plan entitled "YU credit, membership has its privileges", will cost incoming freshmen and new faculty members \$25,000 for the year. The Office of Student Finances has said that two easy installments of \$12,500 can be made during the fall and spring semesters.

The new meal plan will feature credit cards in three varieties: platinum for seniors and faculty, gold for juniors, and pewter for lower classmen. Students can use their cards to purchase foods, goods and services, and will automatically have the amount deducted from their account.

According to Mr. Jeff "Garden of Eatin'", Rosegarden, the new plan will "be beneficial to both students and faculty, and it will finally bring Yeshiva University into the 90's."

When questioned about the dramatic increase in the price of the meal plan, Rosegarden cited the many benefits that cardholders would now receive. In a press

conference held at The New Gottesman Pool, Dr. Lamm unveiled the credit cards to the public. Lamm praised the credit card as "the brainchild of a group of special fundraisers, who desired to see Yeshiva University finally get out of the red."

Some of the many benefits available to students is that they can use their cards to change their programs in the registrar's office. They no longer have to rely only on cash or checks; they can simply whip out their credit cards and have the \$5 fee charged to their account.

Students also have the option of charging part of their tuition bill on the card, which would not incur any financial penalties for late payments. They can also be used in the new copy machine located in the Orange Lounge, and of course faithful students can still use their cards in Milners Mart. The uses of the new credit card appear to be endless.

Rosegarden has also developed a plan by which the YU card is part of a vast network of other computer systems. The YU card now has access to the NYCE banking systems, and is being accepted at all major department stores throughout the area. Furthermore, in a dramatic

turn-around, Duane Reade has agreed to give students who use the YU card a 35% discount of all goods totaling \$50 or more.

And in a joint effort with El Al, TWA, and Northwest airlines, students who purchase tickets before Pesach will be entitled to receive 5,000 mileage bonus points, good toward any destination between Brookdale Hall and Kennedy airport. (No blackout dates allowed.)

Engaged students will reap extra benefit, since their fiancées will automatically receive extra charge cards at no fee. They have the option of opening a joint meal plan account, or keeping separate ones. Other benefits include special rates for wedding halls such as Marina Del Ray and Temple Beth El. Director of Food Services, Mr. Jacob Lolly is currently trying to strike a deal with a diamond dealer on 47th street for those anticipating engagement. "We sell carrots at the salad bar, why not other carrots as well?!"

Student reactions to the new YU card have ranged from anger at the exorbitant price to happiness that students won't have to use their cards only for food in the cafeteria.

Koch Corners Kids

In a decision directly related to the new appointment of a midwife to the Stern College faculty, the SCW administration has transformed Koch auditorium into a 9 to 5 day care center in an effort to respond to the needs of the majority of the SCW student body.

The new "Garden of Eatin'", which was initially planning to take over Koch, has joined forces with the day care center to benefit all parties involved.

The new joint program has proven invaluable to all. The student mothers (that's students who are mothers) have reliable sitters supervising their young children while they attend classes.

SCW students comprise the day care staff. These sitters get three directed study credits per child they care for. It is part of the OT/PT (On-Time Parental Training)

shaped major, for those studying toward the extended, five year MRS.BABY degree.

The soon-to-be mothers have food available in case they get hungry between contractions. The newborns have food like they've never tasted before at their disposal immediately upon entering this world, and the food services have been selling record quantities of pickles, ice cream and baby formula.

Stuart Reichman, assistant director of food services, is extremely positive about his new venture. "I think it's a great idea," he said. "I just hope that the kids don't stick their hands in the food."

In addition to a new line of Gerber food products available for the day care center (and for any students on the meal card who may be interested), Reichman has be-

gun selling diapers and dipey wipes, but only on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

"You just have to give birth on the right days," he quipped. "It's all a matter of luck."

Reichman has also implemented a new "Birthday Meal Deal" available to children under the age of five. Instead of having to spend \$25,000 annually on food, these special card holders need to spend only half of that amount.

"Special monthly specials" have also become available for the "minors" (the babies-not the mothers). "When you use your dining card in February, for example," Reichman explained, "you receive a free pacifier with the YU insignia beautifully embossed on the side."

PREGNANCY PROMPTS PROFESSIONAL MIDWIFE

Students at SCW returned from winter vacation and discovered that many of their classmates had grown considerably fatter over vacation. This obesity was not caused by an over indulgence of food; rather, these women are pregnant.

In response to the increase of pregnant women on campus, SCW has hired Maya Ledote as the college midwife, who will be perpetually on call to deliver a student's baby, if such an emergency should arise. Students can run to give birth between classes or during club hour.

Procedure for such an event would call for the student to go to the president's suite on the seventh floor of the school building and lie down on one of the newly implemented birthing cots while a classmate would quickly run to the

attempt to figure out who it is-the possibilities are simply too vast) "that if my water breaks during class and I start having contractions, all I have to do is run up to the seventh floor and have my baby."

A senior who is in her fifth month of pregnancy (this category has even greater possibilities) concurred. "The last time I was pregnant, I went into labor in the cafeteria. By the time the ambulance got here to take me to the hospital, my son had already been delivered by the registrar in the back room of the office!" she exclaimed.

"I first thought of the idea," explained Nulman, "when I visited Stern and saw the women waddling around. When I was told why they were indeed so fat (and the reason wasn't the great cafeteria food), I realized the need for a midwife on



dorm to tack up a birth announcement in both elevators.

The decision to hire a midwife was made by Dean Karen Bacon, after consulting with the Dr. Eli Sar, supervisor of the YU undergraduate medical staff, along with Dean Efreim Nulman and Mrs. Zelda Braun, from the Office of Student Services. "With the growing number of pregnant students on the premises," Bacon explained with emphasis on the word growing, "we felt that it would be greatly advantageous to hire a midwife. Now with her appointment, students won't have to miss classes to give birth."

Ledote graduated summa cum laude from SCW with a degree in biology in 1977. She received her midwife certificate from the Shifra and Puah School of Midwifery in 1981, after dropping out of AECOM, during her second semester there. Her past experience includes working at Maimonides Hospital in Brooklyn and a private practice in her neighborhood of Boro Park, which kept her busy all hours of the day.

The addition of a midwife to the SCW staff was greeted favorably. "I'm very relieved to know," remarked an SCW sophomore who wishes to remain anonymous and is seven months pregnant, (Don't even

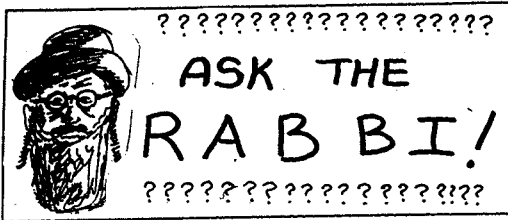
campus. There is aspirin and Tylenol available for students with headaches. Why not a midwife for special emergencies?")

When asked why a midwife, and not an obstetrician, was hired to fill the post, Braun replied, "Giving birth is such a beautiful and natural experience. There is no reason to ruin this specialness by introducing the coldness of a regular medical doctor, especially if he's male, and hospital. Giving birth, with the aid of a midwife, in a homey and intimate environment such as Stern is the best way to do it."

Ledote is enthusiastic about her new job. "I'm really looking forward to working here," she said. "The Stern women, really girls-the majority of them have not yet turned twenty, seem very open and accepting of this method of childbirth. Plus, it's great to be part of the YU family again."

When not attending "patients", Ledote will be teaching a section of Home and Family, assisting in a biology lab and teaching the new lamaze class, which fills a phys-ed requirement and was the first class this semester to be closed out.

She is quick to point out that she is available for anyone who has any questions related to childbirth. "I really want to get to know the students here, and not see them for the first time on one of the cots."



SUN SHIELD L' SHEM SHAMAYIM

In times of crises, the world needs events that change the face of mankind. Events that while sparing of the pocketbook are endless in impact. We did it once when YCSC and SCWSC, with a little help from a unanimous sponsor, brought you Operation Torah Shield. Now times have demanded another shocker - OPERATION SUN SHIELD. We have decided that school is not the ideal environment for a YU student at times like these. So TAC and SOY have decided to charter a plane to Florida. General Manuel Noriega is scheduled to speak at the Greeting Ceremony. Dr. Norman Lamm will then charge the students with a message of hope stressing the importance of a good tan. The issue of proper skin care will also be raised.

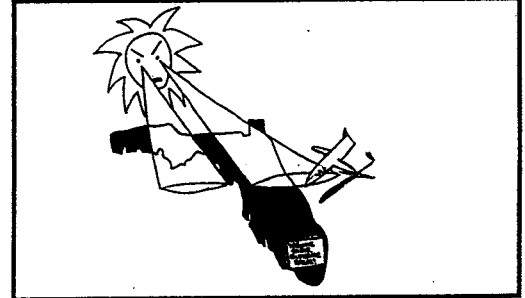
Since you'll miss early registration, you'll save \$35 on all the schedule changes you would have had made leaving the actual cost of this historical event \$14.95 which is still cheaper than dinner for one at the YU cafeteria. Dinner is served on the plane thus making your investment a net sum of \$0.

However the age old dispute has had its secondary effect on present day Judaism. Rabeinu Tam clearly agrees with the Tanna, Rays Lakish, who clarifies the matter of reward and punishment regarding the use of a sun shield.

Originally, the trip was scheduled to take place in Baghdad.

- 1) If a stained glass *mechitza* (divider) would be placed in the center of the YC pool, would there be a halachic problem of mixed swimming?
- 2) If you chew on your pen cap after eating meat, must you immerse your pen in boiling water before drinking milk? And if so, would this actually work on plastic?
- 3) When you hold the candle up during *havdala*, will your future husband be as tall as the wick or the top of the flame?
- 4) Is it *assur* [forbidden] to read the Commentator?
- 5) If you wear tights, does it matter if your skirt is shorter than your sweater?
- 6) Can we chew Coke flavored Bazooka gum? Does a Kashrut

- problem exist?
- 7) If you leave the dorm before *Shabbat*, are you allowed to walk back in wearing ID cards? Since our YU ID tags have evolved into a huge fashion statement, would it be *mutar* [permitted] to wear them on *Shabbat*?
- 8) We know the opinion exists that one woman and ten men may constitute a *yichud* problem. Is it problematic for an SCW rebbe to use the Stern elevator?
- 9) We know that it is not required to make a blessing over food that is not fit for consumption. Do blessings have to be made over the tuna fish in SCW's cafeteria?
- 10) Have you fulfilled the *mitzva* of "*ad d'lo yada*" on Purim if you can still distinguish between a Stern Girl and a Stern Woman?



Stipulations do apply- at least one of the six weeks in Florida must be spent taking in the rays. This campaign, as it were, comes at a most crucial period. The sun being in the first stages of its dermal equinox yields its maximum tanability potential. The trip is referred to by many Rishonim as

However, due to current concerns about environmental damage and global warnings, the decision was made to support the electromagnetic radioactive one. It is missions such as this one which will bring the Moshiach Bimhera Beyamenu Amen.

Congratulations to the lucky winners of the first Stern (to become) annual Most Eligible Bachelor Contest. **YOU KNOW WHO YOU ARE.**

NOT ABOUT WOMEN

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Of Megillahs And Menorahs

And it was in the days of Dr. Rabbi Lamm. Who? Oh - that's right: Rabbi Dr. Lamm. And he presided over all the YU schools - from Ferkauf to Cordoza, nearly 127 in total (according to the *gematriah ketana*). And he made a grand party around Chanukah time, inviting guests from all over the country and esteemed honorees, from all his major universities. And as his guest of honor, he invited Imelda Marcos. She, however, refused to appear due to lack of shoes to wear. He had no other choice but to invite as the guest of honor Mayor Teddy Kollek of Jerusalem. And all had a merry time.

During Rabbi Dr. Lamm's reign, a member of the Amalakit nation dared to stand up against the Jews ruling not only in his kingdom, but in the world over. And it was on that fateful day in *Nissan* when he decided that he would pick lots for a good date for destruction. "January fifteenth," he said - just right.

Meanwhile, he monopolized the oil market in the Middle East, preventing the Jews from using oil to light their *menorahs* and bake their *hamantashen*. In an effort to appease his Arab allies, he promised that they would receive the land and possessions of the Jews.

He was aware that Jews had already started returning to the Land of Israel on a mass "American *aliyah*" after the destruction of the Temple. Yet, in his mind it was not the land of Israel, but rather the land of the Philistines (a.k.a. Pal-

estine), his long time ally.

In an effort to capture the entire domain of Alexander the Great, Saddam crossed through Israel - hub of Middle-Eastern trading, and center of attraction. His initial plan was to invade Kuwait, because Persia was already in his domain. Lamm didn't have much to say, so Bush brushed the situation aside for a little while, trying to appease Ha (the) Man - Saddam, by giving him his ring and permission to threaten the Jewish people.

Lo and Behold the Macs (short for Maccabim, of course) came to the rescue. Miko Danan went back to serve in the Israeli army, and David Borowich shouted "Mi Elai?" only to have his phone number changed.

Hashem acts in ways unbeknownst to us. For in exile all is hidden from our understanding. As His messenger, he sent the "modest masked man" - we'll call him Mordechai for short, to instill hope in His nation - religious and secular alike. Distressed with the number of Jews leaving Israel and with the depression of his fellow Jews, "Mordechai" came to the rescue by sponsoring a mass Operation Torah Shield - the greatest learning program since Yavneh.

Students up till now, though aware of the crisis at hand, were enjoying *golus*. Engagement parties were well-attended and cafeterias were packed (then again, maybe they weren't enjoying *golus* too much). After much self-inspection, however, they realized

that the Hellenism within themselves had to be removed.

Thus, students approached Lamm in his private suite on the seventh floor, with trepidation and hope. Lamm approved wholeheartedly and even decided to "play along." Thus, for three days of prayer and bombs, and a 24-hour learning program, Jews worldwide waited in terror as Saddam plotted his plot.

Clandestine meetings were held in dorm rooms as Saddam's spies reported on the Torah learning ever so active in YU's Beit Midrash. "How could a bunch of students combat my Scuds and arrows?" he thought. And so he gathered many Arab nations to fight his longtime enemy. But when he questioned students learning in YU why they were not afraid, they answered:

Saddam finally realized that God was not on his side despite his pretending to pray five times a day. Thus, he declared a jihad - a holy war against all the Jews. Yet, as urged by community leaders in the YU district, charity, learning, and recital of Psalms saved the day.

And on that fateful January fifteenth, when over two hundred students were present in the Holy Land, Saddam remained quiet. People had somehow forgotten that according to the story, cities with surrounding walls were not attacked until a day later. And sure enough on the sixteenth of January, a Scud missile was launched on the busy district of Shushan - Tel-Aviv. He was trying for Jerusalem but his general's head was hang-

ing over the Western Wall (you know, the one Yehudit bat Yochanan chopped off - it's still there according to legend). Kindly King Lamm, however, with the assistance of his superior, George

the roof of the American embassy. As a reward and token of gratitude for the YU mission and efforts on behalf of the Jewish nation and support for the country, Bush presented Lamm with Saddam's



Bush, sent special Patriot missiles to combat this event.

In memorandum, Jews worldwide declared the day a day of happiness, "masechoi gas," and "raashanim" - air-raid sirens. Menorahs and flashlights were placed by every sealed window. They sent care packages one to the other containing potato latkes and Saddamtaschen, and gave money to the Jewish Fund, organized by David Borowich, and to the Stern raffle for missile damage in Israel.

Rumors were spreading concerning the fate of Saddam. Some say Arab rebels decided to assassinate him and hang him on a tree in Baghdad (wonder where they got the idea from). Others say an Asian elephant was somehow involved in his demise. One Iranian newspaper claimed that he joined his daughter in the garbage dump after throwing himself from

elaborate bunker - all accessories included. When asked what will become with the new addition to YU, Lamm commented that it was the perfect site for a new Stern dorm. Trump Shuttle service was more than willing to comply with transportation - but only to the Gruss kollel in Israel.

And when Jews returned to the sites of missile damage, a few days after special YU ceremonies, all contributed in cleaning up the debris. The military victory was enhanced with special candle-lighting ceremonies and reading of the YU Torah U'Madda Journal in public. There was a debate concerning whether to salute the Israeli flag and say Hallel or not, but feelings of brotherhood were present throughout the land.

*"We believe in God and Norm."

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The Observer Staff wishes all YU students & faculty a very freliche (happy) Purim
 (THIS IS A FILLER)

Did You Ever Wonder...??

- why the Stern elevators make that small bump UP when too many people are on them, supposedly weighing them DOWN?
- what we would do if the Orange Lounge were painted blue?
- which lobby would get decorated if a Brookdale guard and Morg guard got engaged?
- what SCW would do if the market across the street weren't open 24 hours?
- what SCW would do if Milner's was?
- what those drivers in the cars parked across the street from Brookdale do all day - and night?
- how it would feel to have an SCW bookstore and not have to bribe people to go to Barnes and Noble for you?
- how one scoop of tuna costs the same as a tuna sandwich that includes tuna, bread, lettuce and tomato?
- what soap ABC broadcasts from 1:00 to 2:00 PM?
- if Koch Auditorium was named for the past mayor of NYC?
- who puts all those flyers on every one of our dorm room doors?
- how many people can really fit in a Stern elevator at one time? (Does anyone want to submit a record-breaking number? See the Ed.)
- who really cares if we're called Stern girls - or SCW women?
- what did NOT make it into this Purim issue?

PURIM TORAH (UMADDA)

- 1) - What is the national book of England?
- 2) - What was the name of the Maharik's son?
- 3) - What camp did Rav Moshe Iserliss attend?
- 4) - What did the "Ri" call Rabbeinu Tam's house?
- 5) - What was the Sefer Yeraim's favorite baseball team?
- 6) - What influential Acharon was found mostly in L.A.?
- 7) - What animal is known to be the biggest moneylender?
- 8) - What kind of people study Jewish/Christian polemics?

FOR ANSWERS PLEASE FLIP PAGE

Answers to Purim Torah
 1)Stern Colon.
 2)Stern Colon.
 3)Camp Ramath.
 4)Uncle Tom's Cabin.
 5)The Metz.
 6)The Frog (it says "ribbit, ribbit").
 7)The Frog (it says "ribbit, ribbit").
 8)Koch "Almah".

Harrison Ford: Closest To The Heart Of YU

Only a select number of people can claim to experience the unique privilege of being so close to the heart of Yeshiva University. Harrison Ford is one such man, for he has the unique honor of residing next door to the esteemed Rabbi Dr. Norman Lamm.

Ford asserted that he sought to fulfill *chapel's* principle of dwelling next to a good neighbor when he chose his place of residence. He maintained that Dr. Lamm has had a profound influence upon his life.

Reflecting upon his unique relationship with Dr. Lamm, Ford stated that "under the tutelage of Rabbi Dr. Lamm - or is that Dr. Rabbi Lamm? I never get it right - I myself have become a *Torah U'Madda* man." He firmly believes that the two components complement each other.

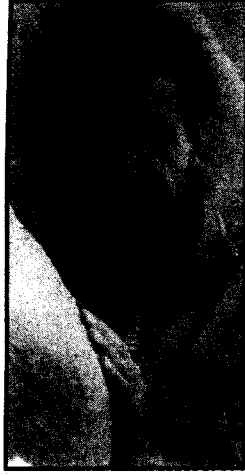
Ford has demonstrated his

ideological stance by carefully selecting acting roles that have a significant impact on him. In the past he has starred as a bank robber in "The Frisco Kid" which enabled him to develop the Torah aspect of his life.

He was disappointed when he began working on the movie "Witness" only to discover the movie was not a documentary about Satmar Chassidim, but rather, the Amish.

"Hey - they look exactly alike. How was I supposed to know?" Ford said. "It's too bad Dr. Lamm enlightened me only after I was already halfway into the film."

In order to fulfill his yearning for *Madda*, Ford pursues astronomy and archaeology in his free time. In his lead role in the hit movie "Raiders of the Lost Ark," Ford was fortunate enough to be



able to forge a unique synthesis between Torah and *Madda* when he searched for the *aron ha'brit* (Holy Ark).

He noted that Dr. Lamm was particularly helpful in the building of the model ark used in the movie and acted as religious consultant to the film.

Besides the spiritual and hashkafic benefits that Ford receives by living in such close proximity to Dr. Lamm, he is also able to partake in all of the excitement that surrounds the Lamm household. He added that he was quite upset when prior obligations prevented him from attending the reception that Lamm hosted for YU student leaders.

Somewhat sheepishly, Ford admits that he is constantly tempted to place his ear to the wall that he shares with the Lamms, for

he never wants to miss out on any possible action or excitement.

Ford related that every time someone visits his apartment, they ask him, "Is it true? Does Rabbi Dr. Lamm really live next door to you?" He says that he usually laughs them off and says "Don't be silly!"

"But," he adds, "I allow my really close friends to go next door and ask for an autographed *Torah U'Madda* book."

Looking back on his college years, Ford said he felt that undergraduate school was a waste of time. "If I could do it again," he admitted, "I would undoubtedly go to YU — but only if I could take over Dr. Beukas' job of YCDS director and take courses at Stern!"

NEWSPAPERS UNITE Continued from P. 1, Col. 5

Some other fascinating articles included, "A synopsis of the nourishing role of The Tosafists on the ecological aspects of environment in Medieval Spain." "I just can't narrow down the sources to three or four," someone complained. "It seems that everyone is obsessed with Spanish Jewry these days and further, they insist on publishing their findings!"

The women's page, which was instituted because of the feminists on the Commentator staff, will feature an article entitled "Technological advances in the kitchen: women's role in Judaism in the

wake of the washing machine and food processor."

"The entire procedure was out of control," exclaimed one member of the Commentator editorial board. "There were too many editors with too many different opinions."

Most felt that the joining of the three papers was successful overall. "The unique combination of Hamevaser's intellectuality, the Observer's sensitivity and thorough analysis, and the Commentator's...uh, desktop publishing was what made the paper such a success."

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