

The Observer

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SCW students at their new computer terminals during Computers 1010

A Bit of a Change -- SCW Receives 18 New Computers

By Mindy Berrehi

In an effort to keep in sync with new technology, SCW has acquired 18 new computers.

The new pentium state computers arrived February 3 and are installed in rooms 315 and 318. These computers have greater memory capacity along with faster retrieval and processing than the old 286 model. A new file server (the computer terminal that runs the network) is scheduled to arrive soon as well and will create even faster computer response.

In addition to replacing the computers, SCW also received super VGA color monitors, known for excellent resolution capability.

The new computers are currently used for Intro. to Computers 1010 classes, as well as by other students and faculty members. "The new computers are faster," said Ilana Barber, SCW '95. "They're a pleasure."

Lab reports are now easier for organic chemistry and physiology students who can use new graphic programs.

Computer room supervisor Mrs. Betty Gordon said, "I am impressed; the computer is well equipped and the students should take advantage of it." Gordon is available to help students Monday through Thursday 9:30am to 6pm.

No Building Available Yet said YUVP

By Michele Berman

In the midst of an enrollment explosion at SCW, Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. William Schwartz said that the search for an additional SCW school building is still underway.

"Nothing has been consummated as of yet," said Schwartz.

At a breakfast meeting with about 11 SCW Seniors, Assistant Dean of Students Zeldi Braun and Dean Karen Bacon, Schwartz said that the Search Committee looked at a building on Madison Avenue but said its owner would prefer not to have a school there. Schwartz also said that sites on such avenues as Lexington and Fifth "are under scrutiny at the moment." He stressed, "A number of prospects are on the way." In addition, the B. Altman building is still "pending."

Schwartz also explained, however, the difficult process of finding a suitable building for SCW. He said it is important to examine a building with the question in mind, "What does the square footage do for you?"

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SCW Loses Out on Visiting Professor

By Gita Schachter

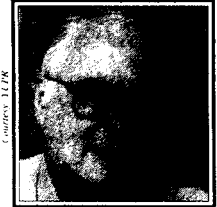
Renowned Holocaust scholar Steven T. Katz recently canceled a scheduled Modern Jewish History SCW course due to his acceptance of the position of executive director of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington D.C.

"Unlike YU, where the schedule is more flexible, at Stern it was tight," said Katz. "So, we had to cancel -- much to my chagrin." Katz accepted an invitation from YU President Dr. Norman Lamm to teach a series of Jewish History courses at YU and SCW for three semesters, beginning this Spring. Katz did not anticipate the offer from the Holocaust Museum last December. He signed a contract with the museum on January 17.

The museum requested that Katz assume his new position immediately but he refused to do so due to his obligation to YU. "I had a commitment to YU which I had to honor," he said. "They had been very kind to me."

YC administrators solved Katz's time conflict with what Katz labelled as "creative time switching." The plan enables Katz to maintain both his museum position and teaching commitment. Katz is currently teaching an accelerated course on the Main Campus, holding an additional two hours of lecture per week until the conclusion of the course on April 1. A similar plan at SCW was impossible because of difficulties in finding a time slot in which a significant number of students were available for extra lectures.

In addition, SCW Dean Karen Bacon was reluctant in allowing an accelerated course. "In a humanities course, the ideas need to develop and grow over time," Bacon



Dr. Steven Katz said, "Had there been a time that worked out for a significant amount of people, we would have dealt with the academic problems. But that was not the case."

Another suggestion was for Katz to teach two thirds of the class and for a substitute to teach the remainder. Chairman of the Rebecca Levy Department of Jewish Studies Rabbi Ephraim Kanarfogel said he felt, however, that this would not be a "good way" to conduct a course. Kanarfogel added, "He [Katz] said he was sorry it happened, and so are we."

The approximately 20 students who registered for the class were greatly disappointed by its cancellation. "I was happy to see that the Jewish studies department had taken the initiative to enhance the courses offered here at SCW," commented Rena May, SCW '96. "Unfortunately, there are not enough advanced and intellectually stimulating Jewish History courses that could supplement Dr. Katz's unexpected absence."

Students were notified immediately about the cancellation of the course. Those who had difficulty rearranging their schedules received additional aid from Rabbi Kanarfogel.

As executive director, Katz will be responsible for the overall

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SCW's Dive into the High Tech Revolution Met with Much Hesitation

By Shira Markowitz

New proposals for advancing and adding the latest technology in multimedia equipment to the seventh floor media room, including tele-video conferencing, have been met with much reservation from SCW faculty, administration and students alike.

Jeffrey Rosengarten, director of supporting services administration, has already ordered units for the controversial tele-video conferencing program, yet there are no concrete plans for their use. Tentative plans for the multimedia room will enable a professor to lecture at YC and project the class via satellite to the Midtown Campus. This would allow SCW students to attend a class without having to travel uptown.

Rosengarten is excited about the possibilities and said, "It's being done nowadays in the business world." Although tele-video conferencing has proven to be effective in business and advanced education classes, there is less information about its effectiveness at

the undergraduate level. Dean Karen Bacon explained that in businesses the participants are completely focused on their goal. However, in education there is more emphasis on approaches to learning and a sharpening of critical thinking skills. In addition, students may become disruptive without a teacher physically present in the classroom. Education may not be served by "long distance" interaction, she said.

While tele-video conferencing may expand the course options at both schools, there are many difficulties which still must be worked out. No definite plans have been made, so the cost of the proposal has not yet been estimated. Bacon said that draw-backs include the need for a technician at both sites operating the equipment, and also a "faculty facilitator" in the teacher-less classroom to prevent a chaotic atmosphere.

Bacon said she is concerned about the implications of the developments and is not pushing the

system. She said, "If the medium does not lend itself effectively to instruction, it is not an option." She further stated that her goal was to improve and deliver education, not just save money.

Some students do not see the technological changes as entirely productive. Ziona Hochbaum, SCW '96, said, "If the system were to be implemented, it should be distributed fairly. Stern women should not always be the ones staring up at the screens."

Other students are concerned that SCW would change its single-gender undergraduate school status because of the anticipated hook-up. Esther Barry, SCW '97, said, "One of the main reasons I'm in Stern is because it's an all-girls school. If I wanted to go to a co-ed school I'd go to Brooklyn College."

As an answer to concerns of whether the tele-video conferencing would turn YU into a co-ed university, Vice President

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Descartes, Kant, Shatz

By Adira Hulkower

Dr. David Shatz, SCW philosophy professor, was recently presented with an award for "teaching excellence" from the American Philosophical Association (APA).

The Association held a reception on December 28 honoring 16 professors from across the country. The candidates for the award were chosen by the APA's Committee on Teaching Philosophy based on previously documented recognition by the professor's university. Shatz has received the "senior professor" award from YU four times. "It is heartening to see that students in many universities take an interest in philosophy," said Shatz.

The students of SCW agree with the APA's choice. "What is so amazing about Dr. Shatz is that he can make the hardest philosophical passage clear and comprehensible," said Toby Rottenstem, SCW '95, who has taken six courses with Shatz. "He also encourages class participation for the students to think along with him and ask questions and make comments."

Many see the APA's award as important being that teaching performance is rarely recognized, yet is perhaps the most vital ingredient for a good education.

Letters to the Editor

Alumna Concerned Over Shabbatless Campus

Dear Editor,

I have just read the January 4 article, "Shabbatless Campus," and was very surprised to hear just how bad the Shabbat atmosphere has become at Stern. As the mother of a current Stern student, Shira Lieberman, and a member of the class of 1969, the school is very dear to me.

I was an out-of-state student who stayed in the dormitory every shabbat that I was not home for vacation. Every single week there was a *minyan* of Yeshiva College students who were housed in a nearby hotel, three meals served in the cafeteria, and a rabbi who came with his family to lead services and give *divrei Torah*. Even my roommates from New York always stayed for Shabbat. The *Zemirot*, davening and benching, and the virtual banquets that were served (all for less than \$5.00 per Shabbat!) are among my most fond memories of my Stern years. For those students who had not come from particularly observant homes, it was often their introduction to the joys of Shabbat and how to conduct it in their own homes.

Certainly some of this beautiful Shabbat atmosphere can be restored at Stern now, at least several weekends a month. It will greatly enhance each Stern student's life away from home.

Sincerely,

Andrea Kaplan Lieberman
SCW '69

A Nearby Synagogue Opens Its Doors to SCW

To the Editor:

Tamarside of the Murray Hill neighborhood in Manhattan. I live a few blocks away from Stern College, and I am the chairperson of the membership committee of the Murray Hill Synagogue, a newly formed Orthodox synagogue situated on 39th Street between 3rd Avenue and Lexington Avenue in the Bnai Zion building.

At our last meeting, one of the attendees read aloud an article written by a Stern College student describing the boring and "unShabbosdik" environment at Stern College on Shabbos. As an active member of the Murray Hill Synagogue, I would like to take it upon myself to invite you to partake in the spirited "shabbosdik" activities which take place weekly in our Shul.

The most important aspect of our Shul is its warmth and friendly atmosphere. It is a place where no one feels unwanted or unwelcome. There is no stranger among us. Our weekly activities are "kiruv" oriented and "hamish."

One Friday night a month, we hold a Friday night dinner in the Shul with *Zemirot* and *Divrei Torah*. Every Shabbos morning we enjoy an uplifting davening led by our Chazan and Rabbi, both of whom are young, personable, and talented and recent graduates of YU and RITIS. Following the davening we are treated to a lavish kiddush sponsored by our Kiddush committee, and supplied by Jerusalem Two Pizza. The Rabbi then gives a short Chumash class, followed by Mincha. Finally, in the afternoon, we send a delegation to NYU Medical Center to fulfill the mitzvah of Bikur Cholim.

Please feel free to come and join us any Shabbos during the year, and help us make midtown Manhattan a place of Torah and Judaism. Any questions should be forwarded to the Rabbi at (212) 725-1211 or (212) 686-6280.

The Membership Committee
Murray Hill Synagogue
136 East 39th Street

A Call to Students for Improved Library Conditions

Dear Editor:

Everyone likes to be comfortable when they study. If you are studying at home, you can do what you like when you study. You can eat, watch TV, listen to the radio or your favorite CD, raid the refrigerator, and even lounge in your pajamas. But there are drawbacks. There is no source material, no encyclopedias, no foreign language dictionaries, no indexes, CD-Roms and so forth.

By the same token, studying in the library also has its drawbacks. You can't talk, especially not on the phone. Or have personal conversations. The most comfortable you can get is to possibly take off your shoes or boots. You have to sit up in a chair. And, of course, you can't raid the refrigerator. So you bring your own food despite the signs that say "NO EATING OR DRINKING IN THE LIBRARY." And then you leave the leftovers on the carrels, under the carrels, sometimes even in the garbage cans in the library.

The point I am trying to make is this: the best way to study is to be considerate of others who may be studying with you, near you or even after you in the same place. When you are studying in the library, leave your carrel the same way that you found it. And if you have garbage, which you should not have, take it with you to an area, such as the lounge, where food garbage and such is collected and disposed of more often than in the library where such garbage can attract vermin and make everyone's studying, even ours, unpleasant. It only takes a moment and everyone, even you, will be more comfortable in the library.

Lack of Attendance

Dear Editor:

Often as I walk down the halls of Stern, I overhear students saying how upset they are about certain aspects of the school. I hear the well-known phrase "Oh, this is just Stern, it's not like we are in a real college," which is given as the reason for any inconveniences or academic frustration students may encounter. The problem, however, may not be our school, but the students of our school.

This past Tuesday morning, YU Vice-President for Academic Affairs Dr. William Schwartz came to SCW to meet informally with members of the freshman, sophomore, junior and senior classes; he met with each class individually. A breakfast was served, and he dedicated an hour of his busy schedule to listen to the students and let them voice their opinions. I was shocked and embarrassed to find that only three students from the junior class bothered to attend this meeting. No one from the junior class board or any junior class student council representative was present. The week before, when VP Schwartz met with the senior class, only eleven students attended!! Indifference and apathy such as this seems to be the underlying attitude among the 1994-95 SCW students.

Each department tries hard to bring in guest speakers in order to enhance the curriculum for the students studying those disciplines. Often those lectures are ill-attended. This is yet another example of the detachment the students have with their school. The administration and faculty try very hard to accommodate the students, and the students tend to shrug away all those efforts. It is time for Stern students to stop complaining and start taking advantage of the many possibilities of change that are available in our institution.

Rena May
SCW '96

The Observer

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Holocaust Revisionism — More Subtle Than We Think

Dear Editor:

This letter is regarding your Editor's Corner of January 4th, concerning Holocaust Revisionism.

Revisionism cannot be dismissed as an organization of "psychotic individuals" who print "perverted filth." If this were true, it would not pose a threat. The actual movement is much more subtle and widespread.

A Roper poll conducted last year indicated that almost 10% of Americans think the Holocaust may be a hoax. There are intellectuals as well as the uneducated, students

and adults, who doubt the Holocaust ever occurred. The movement is as much about ignorance as it is about anti-Semitism. The sad truth is, most people don't know much about the Holocaust. With a few well-chosen questions, a revisionist can plant seeds of doubt.

Clever revisionists know they can't wipe out the Holocaust so they reinterpret it. A respected Cologne University scholar, Andreas Hilgruber, depicted the German nation as having been as much a victim as the Jews. Historian Richard Lukas asked that the Poles be recognized as co-victims in a "forgotten Holocaust." Christina Jeffrey, recently appointed as historian of the House of Representatives, was asked to resign after newspapers reported that she had vetoed a Holocaust education syllabus for not presenting the "Nazi point of view." A leading college revisionist organization calls itself the National Coalition Against Censorship. Revisionism is presented as a politically correct movement whom the "Thought Police" have tried to silence. These people, and those who believe them, are not all "individuals whom we might as well call Nazis themselves." This would be reassuring and convenient, but also false. As members of a small and shrinking community who are educated about the Holocaust, we have a responsibility to recognize Revisionism for what it is. We must educate the public. If we let the past be forgotten, we may be doomed to repeat it.

Chani Traube
SCW '95

Dear Observer:

With regard to your elevator problem, I suggest you take a look at *Igros Moshe, Even Ha'ezar*, Volume II, Responsum #14.

You would be wise to exercise caution before making an absurdity of your religion. Avi Shmidman
YC '96

Dear Observer:

In an attempt at humor, *The Observer's* recent "Observer" column poked fun at the recital of a blessing upon exiting the bathroom. The column lamented, "We of this cult, are doomed to an unimaginable existence. In the future, throughout our lives, we will be stared at and alienated as we leave the bathroom. oh, well." Read: We should be ashamed at preserving Jewish rituals; embarrassed at keeping the faith. This is the most horrible message that one can pass on to the readers of *The Observer*, both Jews and non-Jews alike; I believe that it is the message of Reform Judaism.

I understand that the piece was meant to be facetious, but just as I do not find "dead baby" or "dumb black" jokes funny, neither did I find this "doomed Jews" joke amusing.

Toby Rotenstein
SCW '95

Editor's Note:
"The Observer" is always written in a lighthearted and jesting manner. It is meant to be taken that way.

The Observer welcomes all letters to the editor. They can be sent attention to *The Observer*, 245 Lexington Ave., NY, NY 10016 or dropped off in the envelopes either on the door of Brookdale Hall 19A or *The Observer* room. *The Observer* reserves the right to edit all letters for length and clarity.

Editor's Corner

A Cry for Respect

In the wake of a very generous \$10 million donation to YU, and a flood of other benevolent philanthropists who have decided that YU would make the perfect *mikom* for their monies, the University community needs to start seriously rethinking their policies toward funding distribution and allocation.

What better place to donate money to than a University that exemplifies *Torah U'Madda* principles within each and every brick of its institution? It makes sense that such major contributors as Stern, Tannenbaum, Jesselson, Tenzer, Golding, Rudin and countless others would wish to display such altruism within an institution whose primary goal is to educate.

Education has been at the forefront of the Jewish community for generations -- from the shtetl to the Yeshiva Day School. It is only because Jews always felt education was the essential component of Jewish survival that Judaism is as strong as it is today.

Thus, with all of that being said, what I

find so ironic about Yeshiva University is that we do not compensate those who are the backbone of the education process -- our YU professors and teachers. We do not hesitate to underpay our educators for the vital work that they do. Why?

Although many donors stipulate where they want their money to go, there are those who do not designate where and how their funds should be allocated. Such donations should be used to better the bad conditions that faculty are working under. The press release describing the recent \$10 million donation said that some of the money would go toward "faculty enhancement." I sincerely hope that faculty enhancement includes better salaries, improved benefits and more respect from the administration.

The YU faculty deserve more than T-shirts and empty promises. They warrant our utmost respect for the consequential job they are performing each and every day as educators.

Michele Berman
Editor-in-Chief

President's Message

Where to Go

Welcome back to another semester at SCW. I hope everyone had a well-deserved rest and enjoyed themselves over vacation. During winter break, I gave much thought to evaluating all that has been accomplished this past semester and how much still needs to be done.

It would be naive to believe that in one year problems that have been plaguing Stern, since my mother attended SCW, would suddenly disappear. I cannot say that a new dorm will be bought during my tenure as student council president. However, as student council president, the one thing I have seen demonstrated firsthand at YU is the overall willingness of the administration to ameliorate student conditions.

In the past and present semesters, many of the suggestions, problems or complaints that student council has brought to the attention of the administration has been taken care of immediately. This may seem inadequate when faced with the much larger issues at hand such as the lack of living space, library room and study space needed for a college of our size, but it is of great assistance that the problems of lesser magnitude can be resolved with relative ease.

I have encountered an "open door" policy within every office at SCW. From Mrs. Zeldi Braun, assistant dean of students, to Dean Karen Bacon, SCW dean, and Dr.



William Schwartz, vice president of academic affairs. When approached with a concern or a comment, all were receptive to suggestions and eager to reach a solution.

Now comes the part where you, the students, come in. Your student leaders are willing to advocate for your needs. Your school administrators are willing to listen and do all they can. What is missing is your input. Next time you feel something is missing or needs improvement or you think that you have an idea you want to see implemented -- don't hesitate. Get involved. There are established channels that can get things accomplished and improve student life on this campus. We are ready and waiting. Now it is up to you.

Laura Gross
SCWSC President

Letters to the Editor cont...

AIDS Awareness Education Necessary At YU

To the Editor:

I was truly horrified upon learning of Yeshiva University's stance on AIDS awareness education via Ms. Berman's informative article in your December 12th issue. I give kudos to Ms. Berman for her erudite, fair presentation of both viewpoints. Dean Nulman, however, should focus more keenly on the needs of the Yeshiva student body, and G-d willing, their futures.

Dr. Nulman asserts that AIDS awareness education is not "useful" for college students; he deems the Wurzeiler program unnecessary for Yeshiva undergraduates, who are "not ignorant, [but] intelligent, well-read ... Our student population has a great sensitivity to [people with diseases] and certainly to those with AIDS." The dean adds that it would be more appropriate for a noted Rav to address the undergraduates due to his *halachic* and medical vantage point.

Perhaps Dean Nulman isn't exactly aware of the heterogeneous student body he is so fervently sheltering. Although most do not engage in sexual intercourse, many students are involved in physical relationships. There are other means than actual intercourse of contracting the AIDS virus. Students must be educated in order to learn ways to pro-

perly protect themselves. It cannot be assumed that they are already informed. Furthermore, students raised in strictly Orthodox circles may be unaware of the subtle intricacies of "catching AIDS." Maybe they do not realize that a hug, a squeeze, a handshake will not infect them. With knowledge, Bikur Cholim could take on an entirely new dimension: the educated human touch.

Lastly, the notion that Wurzeiler students don't "have the experience" to run a program on AIDS disturbs me intensely. Perhaps Dean Nulman did not consider the emotional comfort zone that would naturally present itself in a social work educational programming environment. Many undergraduates would feel far less shy or apprehensive about posing certain questions and comments to a Wurzeiler student than to a noted Rav.

Yeshiva undergraduates should be privy to AIDS awareness educational programming. The time is here and now. It could potentially save their lives and the lives of others.

Laura Gordimer
SCW '92



YESHIVA UNIVERSITY
OFFICE OF PLACEMENT & CAREER SERVICES

ATTENTION ALL SENIORS

THERE IS NO TIME LIKE THE PRESENT!!

On Campus Recruitment has begun and graduate school deadlines are fast approaching. If you have not yet registered with us and submitted your resume, please stop by the Office of Placement & Career Services to do so.

Whether you are seeking a full-time job in business, education, or biomedical research, or you are planning to attend graduate school, or you are taking the year to study/learn abroad, or you have not yet decided on a direction, we would like to meet with you and assist you with achieving your goals.

DON'T WAIT UNTIL IT'S TOO LATE!!!

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From The News Room...

Students Attend Second Annual Yale Model Israeli Knesset

By Sharona Cohen

In an effort to sensitize students to Knesset procedure and give students an opportunity to network with other students from across the country, 24 YU students attended the second annual Yale Model Israeli Knesset at Yale University.

The simulated Knesset allowed students to experience first-hand the actual trials and tribulations of the real Knesset. Students were divided according to party and subsequently given committee assignments. In addition, selective students were given cabinet positions.

YMIK delegates, which consisted of 10 SCW students, were greeted and addressed by Ambassador Colette Avital, Consul General of Israel in New York. Students were then led to the Law School for the first Plenary session. The delegates were seated according to party. The Ministers then introduced their bills to the delegates. The delegates then voted if the bill should be tabled or passed and moved on to committee session.

Once in committee session, delegates broke out in detailed deliberation and debate over each bill that pertained to their committee. The delegates decided if they should table the bill at that point or send it back to plenary session to be further discussed.

The focal point of the Feb. 16-19 YMIK '95 was when all the delegates gathered together to welcome shabbat. Elisheva Wohlgenuth, SCW '96, said, "YU enhanced the shabbat atmosphere by leading *zmirot* and giving *divrei Torah*." Dina Maslow, SCW '96, added, "It was a heartwarming experience for me to see the YU delegates add to the spiritual as well as political aspect of the weekend."

The conference concluded with a final vote on the bills, the singing of the Hatikvah and an award ceremony in which YU received awards for Best Speaker as well as Best Delegate in committee session.

Policy Changes at the Office of the Registrar Meant to Aid Students

By Alysa Frenkel and Michele Berman

To help ease the frustration on the part of students and faculty, the Office of the Registrar and the Office of the Dean are in the midst of instituting a brand new policy change concerning summer session courses.

For those students interested in taking summer sessions to attain credit good at SCW, the new policy will include forms with a pre-approved course section.

The section will list those summer schools most frequently attended by students and the classes being offered this summer that SCW will accept for credit. Specific summer session courses in the various outside schools will be listed in an order where students can see what is comparable to classes offered at SCW and what paragraph or requirement they fulfill. Such classes do not, as in the past, need faculty approval and signatures, thus easing the burden on students to track down department heads for approval. Assistant Registrar Hannah Wolf said, "This way all that [hassle] is eliminated. It's easier for the students and teachers."

The application for approval of summer session courses also includes information on schools. "We won't have all the schools but most schools such as Brooklyn, Queens and some New Jersey schools." Wolf even said possibly some California schools will be pre-approved. However, Wolf called on students who live near accredited schools to bring in their summer course booklets into the Office of the Registrar to speed up the process.

The application also explains the amount of credit, grades, credit toward degree, general and major requirements and filing date procedures. It is then to be signed by the student with her personal information. The student will get a copy of the application, as well.

Wolf called this a "joint venture" between the Office of the Registrar and the Office of the Dean because of past years' "chaotic" scene.

The Office of the Registrar has also displayed additional concern for students, in general, who enter the busy Office. As response to an *Observer* editorial citing the difficulties in the Registrar's Office, Wolf created a flyer entitled, "Most Asked Questions in the Registrar's Office" which was included in the Spring '95 semester registration packet.

Daphne Fishman, SCW '97, said she felt that after "entering college, it was helpful to receive something that answered most of my basic questions." However, Emma Mallin, SCW '95, said that "while it may be helpful to new students, the sheet only addressed questions most students already knew the answer to."

The Most Asked Question sheet, however, was invented as a result of students' most asked questions and therefore served as a response to such redundant inquiries.

Wolf said that if students would like to see other aspects of the college changed, they should not hold their comments back. She said that students need to come to the Registrar's Office with their issues. "I don't mind if they ask these questions," she asserted. "The Registrar's Office is here to help."

Another recent policy change made by the Office of Registrar is the waiver of the \$5 fee for add/drop changes. Wolf said, "I just felt that it would be much easier just not to do it." As a response to students' positive reactions to the new policy, Wolf said, "We're happy, too."

Teaching Talmud Class at Azrieli Canceled

By Jessica Weigus

A course focusing on methods of teaching Talmud, scheduled for Spring '95 at the Azrieli Graduate School of Jewish Education and Administration, was canceled prior to registration. An administration course entitled "Problems and Practices of Jewish Education" was offered in its place.

Many students were disappointed with the differing nature of the replacement course. These students felt that a course on the methods of teaching Talmud was essential, and were extremely anxious to expand their knowledge in this realm. Others said that the administrative course, focusing on teacher supervision, training and other related issues, wouldn't satisfy the needs of masters students.

In response to these claims, Dr. Handel, Dean of Azrieli, stressed that this course is usually targeted to doctoral students. In this circumstance, it would be open to masters students with the appropriate amount of teaching experience, as well. He continued to explain that a certain amount of teaching experience was imperative in order for the course to be beneficial. Although some students were upset with the situation, Dr. Handel emphasized the fact that the course was immediately packed. This full enrollment, he maintained, reflected that this course did meet the needs of a substantial number of students. Handel explained, "There are times you have to do these things

and you can't satisfy everyone." He then added that he received a tremendous "Yasher Koach" (Congratulations) for offering the new administrative course.

For those students that were particularly interested in methodology courses this semester, Handel highlighted the fact that there are three other methods courses offered. Methods of teaching Chumash, Jewish History and Navi are essential courses, as well, he explained. Students wishing to develop skills in this realm were, therefore, not limited.

Handel then admitted that "Teaching Talmud" is a basic course. For those students who were disappointed by the cancellation, he expressed hope that this course would be offered in future semesters.

SCW Loses Katz

Continued from page 1

management of the museum. Katz said, "The job entails the responsibility for everything the museum does, from carpeting, to research, to politics."

Author of the critically-acclaimed *The Holocaust in Historical Context*, Katz is currently on leave from the faculty of Cornell University where he has served as director of the Jewish Studies program and chaired the department of near eastern studies. He has taught at Dartmouth College and Harvard, Hebrew, Yale and Oxford Universities.

YU

Wed. March 1 Science Dept.
Sponsors Astronomy Aides from
quark to quasar. Rm 307, 2:30-3:30

Wed. March 1 Torah U Maddah
lecture Rm 418, 8:30pm

Wed. March 8 Science Dept.
Sponsors Astronomy Aides from
quark to quasar. Rm 307, 2:30-3:30

Wed. March 8 Adonai Babby
Rm 418

Wed. March 15 David Fisher
Hours, March 16, 17, 18, 19
YU

Wed. March 22 Torah U
Maddah lecture Rm 418, 8:30pm



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What's The Scoop on the Frozen Yogurt?

By Faige Zavin

Over the past few months, rumors have been circulating at SCW regarding the supervision and *Kashrut* of the cafeteria, particularly regarding an SCW favorite: frozen yogurt.

Ridgefield's Soft Frozen Yogurt in the SCW Cafeteria bears a small stamp of the controversial *Hashgacha* (Kosher Symbol) of a plain "K". The "K" is a confusing symbol because while many products stamped with a "K," such as cereals, are believed to be reliable, some of the other types of food are not as well supervised during food production.

Due to the ambiguity of "the yogurt dilemma," many women have abstained from eating the yogurt. Dina Tallor, SCW '95, said "at least a sign stating the *Hashgacha* and supervising Rabbi should be put on the machine and the girls would have the prerogative whether to eat it or not."

The matter was reviewed by the Food Services Committee in mid-December, and discussed with Associate Director of Food Services Jacob Lieberman. Lieberman referred kosher questions to Rabbi Reiss, the *Kashrut* supervisor of YU. Yet because of the numerous student inquiries concerning the yogurt, Lieberman said he would explore the concept of changing the brand of yogurt.

Mashgiach Ruchani Rabbi Tzvi Flaum remarked that Rabbi Reiss, associate rabbinic director of the OU for 25 years, supervises the cafeteria and students should accept his authority.

Arielle Elbaz, SCW '95, said, "I really trust the school. That's why I came here, so I could feel comfortable and not have to deal with problems such as checking the food. Yeshiva University would not ruin their reputation over a box of frozen yogurt."

Many SCW students felt it was unfair of the cafeteria to serve yogurt with a "K" on it because not every SCW student accepts it as a proper *Hashgacha*. Generally, the reliability of the "K" depends on the rabbi who authorizes the symbol. Rabbi Reiss said that the frozen yogurt is under the supervision of Rabbi Balbag. "There is nothing halachically wrong with Ridgefield's. There are no ingredients that are questionable. Seventy five percent of the ingredients are under the OU, and 25% are under the OK."

However, the question that many students are asking is "Why aren't all food products in Stern College certified with the standardly accepted OU, OK, or Chaf-K?"

The frozen yogurt is not the only recent cause of inquiries. Many students were curious about the appearance of signs naming the companies which produce each fruit drink. Manager of SCW Food Services Moshe Singer said that labels have been added to the drinks "to make things clearer." Hi-C Punch has been known in the Orthodox community to be improperly supervised in terms of *Kashrut*, yet the fruit punch is offered to SCW students and faculty every day. This leaves students perplexed. While SCW students do agree with YU's Jewish Law standards, there seems to be a few discrepancies. Amira Rubin, SCW '95, said "I never even thought about checking the food labels in the caf before."

Rabbi Reiss said that he checks the SCW cafeteria periodically. He said he sees "no reason for students to stop eating the yogurt" or question the accuracy of the *Kashrut* of the cafeteria. He explained that "the cafeteria is closely supervised and Halachically acceptable according to Yeshiva University standards."

Vice President Meets With Students

Continued from page 1

He also noted that whether the University would buy or rent would have to be in close proximity of the [SCW] building.

Schwartz added that "the leasing of the appropriate building... once we find 'What is the best thing to move?' The vice president said that "one of the most pressing physical needs is when you walk into the [SCW school] building." He discussed the possibility of moving the Office of the Registrar or the Office of the Dean, both located on the first floor of the school building. Illustrating the overwhelming congestion which occurs within and around the two Offices, Schwartz said, the two Offices "become a horror to prospective students."

The vice president listed the "pros and cons" of separating the Office of Registrar from the Office of the Dean, saying that it may not be "desirable" to separate the two Offices because of the close "interaction" that goes on between the two.

Some students, however, voiced their concerns that the dorm needs would be overlooked. SSSB President Judith Schlusell said, "What's foremost in the students' minds is the dorming problem." Schwartz said, "[As great as the] pressure of the dorm needs are, the classroom, office needs are even more dramatic... We're cognizant of the dorm [problem], too." Schwartz said that because of the off-campus residence in Lexington and Windsor Court, the dorm needs are not as pressing as the school building needs.

MOVING THE HEDI STEINBERG LIBRARY

Schwartz also suggested moving the Hedi Steinberg Library. He said, "Those are the sort of evaluations that have to be made."

Technology within the library was another topic at the Feb. 7 breakfast meeting between the vice president and students. He mentioned technology and computers as important components of the library. He said, "If you're building for the future you have to take technology into effect."

Schwartz elucidated the inconvenience of the two separate libraries, the Mendel

Gottlieb main library, on the Main Campus, and the Hedi Steinberg Library, on the Midtown Campus, as pertaining to the financial burden the University has to compete for because of the allocation to always having a program of book. He said "That's a built-in problem. The availability of computerization of books will help alleviate that problem."

DEFICIENCIES WITH THE SCW COMPUTERS

At the meeting, Schwartz acknowledged the deficiencies in the YU computer labs. "We're engaging a full-time person as a resource person to help [faculty and students]," said Schwartz. Parliamentarian Dafna Kalish voiced her concern over the issue of "outdated software." For example, she said, YU should be teaching WordPerfect 6.0 rather than 5.1. "We're at a disadvantage for our computer knowledge," said Kalish. Schwartz answered Kalish by saying that the computer resource person would help by acting as a "lighting rod" to help "identify" and "rectify" problems, Schwartz said, "I'm seeing computers as a reactive and proactive" source for classroom instruction.

Schwartz pointed to the future. "Ultimately, what we would like to see is every student have a computer in her dorm," said Schwartz, who added that CD-ROM "is our next step."

POSSIBLE DAYTIME VANS FOR STUDENTS

One senior at the breakfast meeting inquired about daytime vans for students, which could run between the two campuses. Bacon said that the idea had already been discussed between her and Director of Supporting Services Administration Jeffrey Rosengarten. Bacon said Rosengarten felt "[the daytime van service is] not that economical" but was open for discussion of the idea. However, Bacon said she would post signs offering van service between the two campuses on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 12:00pm and 1:30pm, though, there still would be no return van until 6:00pm.

Who's Who Among Stern Students

By Gita Schachter

Sixty-nine students from YU have been selected to be included in the 1995 edition of Who's Who Among American Students in American Universities and Colleges.

Who's Who is an honor given out in more than 1,000 schools across the country. Each college is assigned a quota of nominees to allow for a well-rounded representation of students. Nominees are chosen based on academic standing, community service and leadership ability.

The students who received the award at SCW were chosen by Dean Karen Bacon and Assistant Dean of Students Zelda Braun. Some stood out for their academic achievement, others for their unusual amount of community service, and still for excellence in both areas. "We did not select a uniform group," Bacon said.

Former Who's Who recipients include Tom Brokaw, Ross Perot, Elizabeth Dole and Bo Jackson.

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The Observatory Arts, Entertainment & Culture

An Amazing Alternative to Movie and Dinner

By Michele Bernan

Sick of taking him or her to the movies and dinner? Dinner and the Marriot Marquis? Hitters, Hackers and Hoops and dinner? Ice skating and dinner? Bowling and dinner? Well, here's a novel idea that will surely win him or her over! Pottery and dinner (the dinner part just continues the dinner theme but is unnecessary)!

Pull Cart is a unique drop-in store where people can decorate ceramic dinnerware and other tabletop and houseware items with their own designs and imagination. It is a ready-to-decorate ceramic housewares company and the process is so simple.

All you do is select shapes from rows of clean, white, unglazed ceramicware and transform them into bright and colorful

housewares after reading a simple instruction sheet. The finished product usually can be picked up within 2-4 days after Pull Cart has glazed it with a clear, food-safe glaze.

There are over 250 items, including dishes, teapots, picture frames, vases and candlesticks, and 75 colors to choose from, and the options are endless. Their shapes are functional and will last forever because they are made out of ceramics.

The spacious store has a clean and beautiful wooden aura about it with about five tables for painting purposes. In addition, there are a variety of utensils for making your piece totally distinctive to fit your tastes, such as toothbrushes, sponges and stencils.

Plus, you don't have to be an artist to

bring home a beautiful piece of work because there are dozens of all-ready designed and glazed pieces set around the store to help you think of ideas to design *your* creation.

Pull Cart has been written up in many newspapers and magazines. *New York Magazine* wrote, "Pull Cart has the busy mind of a farmhouse kitchen". *China, Glass, and Tableware* wrote, "It's such a great idea... A quick fix for non-artists and artists alike." *New York Newsday* wrote, "If your date is a disaster, at least you'll get a pot out of it."

Beware: Pull Cart is not cheap. Prices are \$6 per person per hour and the price of the item you are painting (which can range anywhere from \$13-\$45 and up). However,

it is a unique idea and a great alternative to your standard movie and dinner.

Pull Cart is located on 31 West 21st Street (between 5th and 6th) on the 7th floor. For more info, call (212) 727-7089. The owner's name is Emily Goodman, the manager's name is Temple (we're not sure if that's a last name or a first name) and the dog's name is Sophie (don't worry she he doesn't do more than sniff you). Their hours are Mon-Fri 12-9, and Sat-Sun 10-6.

P.S. You can also take your roommate, friend, little/big sister/brother, a we're-just-platonic-friends-but-really-headed-in-that-serious-direction, or just yourself (make friends there).

It's a Hit, Literally!

By Rinah Cohen

As one sits in the small, somewhat run-down Astor Place theater, he or she is likely to wonder why those seated in the first five rows are wearing rain ponchos. About fifteen minutes later the reason becomes clear as paint splashes into the audience.

Audience "involvement" is only one of the many unique features of "Blue Man Group, Tubes," a fascinating and unusual off-broadway show. The show has no theme,

plot or setting and its only characters are three blue men and a band, which provides the background music.

The "blue men," who have been played by the creators of the show, Matt Goldman, Phil Stanton and Chris Wink, engage in a series of strange activities which involve a witty and yet absurd humor that leaves the audience in hysterical laughter.

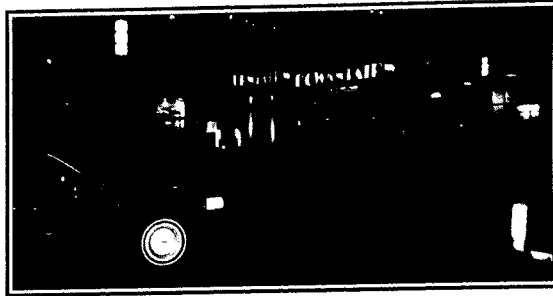
Paint is not the only object which

"touches" the audience. Some audience members have been hit by flying marshmallows and pieces of Captain Crunch cereal that are both thrown and spit at the audience. One has to see the show to understand how such behavior can be so captivating.

Audience members are not only "victims" of the events on stage, but can participate in the show by volunteering to be in stunts involving unplanned and unrehearsed

action. The carefree, spontaneous audience member can have a real Broadway debut.

"Blue Man Group Tubes" comes highly recommended for an enjoyable and relaxing evening. It is currently playing at the Astor Place Theater at 434 Lafayette. The show runs Monday-Thursday at 8pm, Friday and Saturday at 7pm and 10pm, and Sunday at 5pm. Starting March 5, the show will run on Sundays at 4pm and 7pm. Box Office number is 254-4370.



Use Your Appetite at Upstairs Downstairs

Restaurant on the Rise

By Gila Reinitz

Surprisingly enough, Midtown's newest kosher restaurant, Upstairs Downstairs, remains unknown to a relatively large number of people who reside in the area.

Located on W. 45th Street between Broadway and Sixth Avenues, Upstairs Downstairs has been in existence only since November, 1994 and offers a similar menu to that of its parent establishment, My Most Favorite Dessert Company.

The menu has undergone some changes very recently, to the surprise of some loyal patrons. General manager Micah Moldovan said, however, that the changes are only temporary for the in-between seasons.

The new menu includes more appetizers than it originally did; among them a baked brie with tomato, chutney and garlic. Main course options include items such as pan-seared peppered salmon, grilled New York Tuna Steak and hand-made

ravioles with sweet potatoes, fennel and sage. Moldovan added that there will be three pasta specials offered daily. Dessert is a difficult decision but customer favorites include a chocolate layer cheesecake and fresh strawberries dipped in a hot, dark or white chocolate.

The advantage of Upstairs Downstairs is not only its convenient location and exciting menu but its relaxing atmosphere. The decor is friendly and warm while decorations combine the stark whites and grays of the nineties with wall hangings reminiscent of the Thirties and Forties.

The restaurant opens on Sunday for brunch at 11:30. Dinner hours are 5:30pm-10. Monday through Thursday, Upstairs Downstairs remains open until 11pm and Saturday night hours are 8:45pm-1:15am. Another plus: there's a bar. For reservations, call (212)997-5130.



Exhibition: *The Italian Metamorphosis, 1943-1968*
Dates: October 7, 1994 - January 22, 1995
Artist: Salvatore Ferragamo
Title: Sandal designed for Anna Magnani
Date: 1950-52
Medium: Tassanella lace upper with sequins, vinylite lining, and satin-covered wood heel
Salvatore Ferragamo S.p.A., Florence
Guggenheim Museum

The Fashion Box

By Rosa Hollander

Although it is still 40 degrees outside, fashion is ready to spring forward. This season designers picture you in shapely, fitted suits with narrow belts and shiny Mary Janes.

The fashion world consulted with our rabbis and all agreed, knee length is the stylish and halachically appropriate proportion to be displayed over knees this Spring.

There's a wide variety of skirt styles ranging from A-line, pencil and suit, flared versions. These designs are highly flattering to most people and look best when topped off with a crisp shirt or a long, shapely

sweater.

Simple, elegant shift dresses with matching coats and lady-like dresses all look new again, again. Sugary, pastel colors such as lilac, pink and powder blue worn with black or from head to toe look especially in vogue.

Taking the place of last summer's fad - the apron dress, is vinyl clothing. Unless you are a rock star or a table cloth, vinyl should not enter your closet. This is a great season to shine whether in patent leather shoes or carrying a bright leather bag.



Blue Man Group making a splash Off-Broadway

A Retrospect of 25 Years in Italian Modern Art

By Gila Reinitz

The Solomon Guggenheim Museum recently held an exhibit featuring Italian art produced in Italy following the fall of fascism in the early twentieth century. The exhibit, which spans 1925-1950 pieces, reflects the shift to free expression as a result of political change.

A special feature of the exhibit included a huge room filled with mannequins clad in original designs of couturieres. There were evening dresses by Balenciaga, Valentino and Fontana, one being a Valentino in white silk with sheer black sleeves trimmed in

black box leathers which hung to the floor. The prints of Emilio Pucci which were made popular again in the sixties and later in the early nineties, were represented in daytime dresses and suits. In addition, the exhibit featured shoes and jewelry of middle twentieth century Milan, Rome and Florence.

Unfortunately, the exhibit ended, but students should look forward to future exhibits at the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, 1071 Fifth Avenue at 89th St. Hours are 10-8 and the fee is \$2.50 with student ID. For more information call 423-3555.



Exhibition: *The Italian Metamorphosis, 1943-1968*
Dates: October 7, 1994 - January 22, 1995
Artist: Valentino
Title: Evening Gown
Date: Spring/Summer 1963 "Ottimista" Collection
Medium: Failla and organza
Formerly collection of Gaea Pallavicini
Museo Fortuny, Venice
Guggenheim Museum

Alumnae Corner

By Sandy Maza Gross
SCW '72

I was very happy when my oldest daughter, Laura, chose to attend my Alma Mater. It is very difficult to describe my emotions on that first day of her freshman year when Laura moved into the dorm. It was as if the intervening 20 years had fallen away and all the memories came flooding back in vivid clarity -- sitting up all night to study for finals, going down to the machines for a late-night snack, waiting for a "blind, fix-up" date in the Orange Lounge (Wonderful boy, great personality! Good looking? Like I said, great personality), signing "in" and "out." Yes, there was a curfew!

On that day, as I waited in the lounge for Laura to walk in, I experienced an unbearably strong sensation of déjà vu. For a brief moment, I truly felt as if I were 18 years old again, and my sisters, roommates and friends would spill out of the always-overcrowded elevators laughing, shouting, groaning about the workload, but always smiling and full of spirit.

Laura is graduating this year and I have been very fortunate to have been able to vicariously relive my college days. I have observed many similarities between our college experiences at Stern. I, too, received an excellent secular and Jewish education. In fact, many of the professors presently at Stern, were just embarking on their teaching careers when I was a student there. I also appreciate that both Laura and I were able to spend four formative years of our lives in an environment that nurtured Jewish values and extolled the long-term benefits of living a lifestyle of Torah, *Middot* and *Emunah*. I also made lasting and wonderful friendships in those years and have always felt a strong connection with a large network of Stern Alumnae.

However, I cannot help but notice that certain problems, which existed in my years at Stern, are still present in my daughter's years in school. The housing situation has yet to be dealt with in a satisfactory manner to accommodate the growing enrollment. The college physical plant must also be enlarged and enhanced to meet the intellectual demands of a serious and motivated student population. And, I still sense that in the Yeshiva University community, as a whole, Stern is still the step-child vis a vis Yeshiva College and its professional and graduate schools when it comes to the allocation of funds and physical improvements.

Over 20 years have past since my graduation from Stern. Many of us of the Class of '72 have gone on to attain much success and personal achievement. However, I am certain, that one of the proudest moments of my life will be when Laura receives her Stern diploma. Looking back on my own college experience, I am confident, that Laura's four years at Stern have prepared her and her classmates to meet the demands and challenges that Jewish women will face as we enter the new century.

Featuring...

Nobody Does It Like Sara Lee!

By Marcie Trex Schneider

Reporting live on the scene of a break in story or covering events that will have worldwide impact are just two examples of a standard day in the life of a broadcast journalist. Sara Lee Kessler, an Emmy award winning journalist, is currently an adjunct professor in the English departments at both SCW and YU. She teaches Broadcast Journalism, which focuses on radio and television newswriting.

Kessler worked for WWOR Channel 9 for over 17 years, holding the record for the longest running TV anchorwoman in the New York market at any one station. In 1994, Kessler won an Emmy Award for "Outstanding Coverage of an Instant Breaking News Story" for her five-hour live coverage of the World Trade Center Explosion on February 26, 1993.

Kessler said she believes that broadcast journalism is a fascinating career choice. "It's intellectual, it's stimulating. You'll never have the same day twice," Kessler explained.

She pointed out that observant Jews can be a part of the quick-paced action of bringing the news into the lives of millions of viewers. "You can bring a unique background to reporting the news, because there are so few observant people in the news business, particularly in broadcasting."

Although problems may arise for Orthodox Jews in broadcast journalism, they are usually not insurmountable. "News doesn't stop as the Sabbath approaches. News is seven days a week, 24 hours a day. But, it's possible to work out a Sunday through Thursday schedule with a news department that would allow you to obtain a full-time staff position."

Kessler explained that an observant Jew who is interested in broadcast journalism can volunteer to work on days that nobody else is interested in working on, such as Sundays, Christmas, New Year's, Thanksgiving, July Fourth, Labor Day and Memorial Day. She said, "All those holidays everyone else wants off, you just volunteer right up front. Instead of looking at observance as a negative, you can turn it into a positive. You go in with a real positive, upbeat attitude."

As the only observant television or radio anchor in the country, Kessler has "had to make some philosophical decisions." She explained, "...I haven't worked in years on Shabbat because I want to set a good example for my children. I'm sending them to a Jewish day school, and I don't want to say to them 'Do as Mommy says, not as Mommy does.' I need to be a role model." Kessler said she made the decision not to work on Friday nights when her now nine-year-old daughter, Rebecca, was three. When she told the television station of her decision, she said, "It was difficult for them to get used to it at first that they couldn't call me in, to even sub, on a Friday night, but they, in due time, got used to the idea because they understood."

Kessler, who, was not raised in an observant Jewish home, said, "I have become increasingly committed and observant because of the children." She explained that she became more traditional when she married her husband, who is a *Baal Teshuva* also.

Kessler devotes much of her spare time to family activities. She and her husband, Robert Miller, YC '72 (JSS), have been married nearly 12 years. Their daughter, Rebecca, and five-year-old son, Jonathan,



Sara Lee Kessler

attend the Moriah School of Englewood, New Jersey.

"I'm very involved in the school. I'm the class mother for Jonathan's kindergarten class. I just lectured to Rebecca's fourth grade class for two hours about how to put a news story together for a newspaper."

However, Kessler's school involvement stems beyond her children's elementary school. She has been on the SCW Board of Directors for three years, after being honored by SCW for outstanding service to the Jewish community. "I am here now, so I have a deep commitment to the Jewish community in being a role model."

An Air of Business at SSSB

By Rinah Cohen

In the past, Friday mornings have been a pretty sorry spectacle. A few people make it to the caf to get some food for shabbat, and some really diligent students can be found studying in the library. But last week there was a certain buzz around the school on Friday morning. There was business in the air.

In an attempt to find someone particularly interesting for the annual Spring semester Kukin Distinguished Visiting Professorship series at the Sy Syms School of Business, Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. William Schwartz, Dean of SSSB Dr. Harold Nierenburg, and Professor Fred Polumbo, came up with an incredibly unique idea. They invited some of the top CEO's and chairmen from the business world to give a class called Contemporary Problems in Business.

The course, which is held at the Midtown Campus in Koch Auditorium, is packed with 70 students, male and female, who are required to dress for class in business attire. Rebecca Goldman, SSSB '96, explained, "It gives off an aura of professionalism."

The students are required to do numerous readings which prepare them for each guest speaker. After a 45-minute presentation by the speaker, the remaining hour and 15 minutes is spent on questions and answers. Polumbo explained that this gives the students "first hand experience...in asking

Kessler's career began 22 years ago in Austin, Texas. "I got my start in newspapers. I wrote for a daily called *The Daily Texan*." Kessler's broadcasting career began upon graduating from the University of Texas in 1972. She joined K11-BI Radio, as well as its TV affiliate, K11BC, in Austin.

After working in San Antonio and Washington, D.C., Kessler came to New York as a reporter for WCBS Channel 2. In 1976, she joined Channel 9 as an anchor and political reporter. She anchored the hour-long noon news from 1976 through the summer of 1993.

In addition to her current teaching position at YU, Kessler has been an adjunct professor at Montclair State University since 1992. She does free-lance anchoring on WCBS-AM News-Radio 88, and fills-in as a TV talk show host on NewsTalk Television, a national cable network that debuted in October. Presently, Kessler is writing a book about the broadcast news business, and has even started her own company, Kessler Communications. She does media consulting, public relations, speaker's training, video projects and voice-over work.

Not only is Kessler successful in both radio and TV, but she has even made it to the "Big Screen" with cameo roles in such full-length feature films as "Turk 182" and "Without a Trace."

really tough questions."

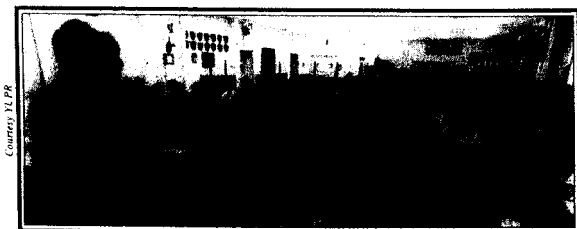
The lecturers are from a wide range of businesses and include such leaders as: Chairman of Sy Syms Corporation Sy Syms; CEO of Toys "R" Us Michael Goldstein; and Chairman of Viacom Sumner Redstone. Vered Dror, SSSB '96, remarked, "The fact that we hear from a variety of business leaders allows us to get different points of view about their rise to success."

The first speaker to address the class was Alan "Ace" Greenberg, Chairman and CEO of Bear Stearns. He impressed the students immensely with his knowledge and his character. "He is so full of personality. You can tell when he means business...but he also had a very laid back side to him," said SSSB President Judith Schlusel.

Phyllis Roth, SSSB '95, said she is taking the class, "to get a feel of what the business world is all about and how someone can succeed...it should give us a broad view."

Faculty and students alike have high expectations for the rare course. The class, usually given only at the graduate level, involves "critical thinking, interaction, and communication with heads of industries," said Polumbo.

As the business leaders of America make their way through the doors of SCW, one thing is for sure, Friday mornings will never be the same.



New SSSB Business Class

Observations

The Lazy Virus

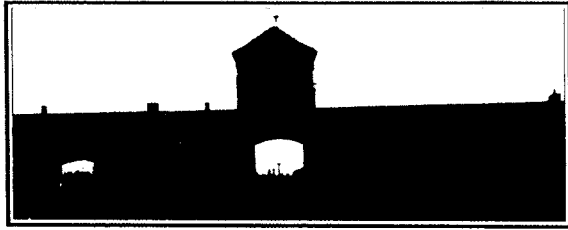
By Elisheva Wohlgenuth

During the last weeks of the Fall semester, the computer room was packed with stressed students struggling to meet paper deadlines. The printers were overburdened and a virus made its way into YU's computers hard drive. Though I have been reassured by SCW Computer Supervisor Dr. E.M. Martin that the viruses have been eliminated from the SCW computer room, I am skeptical whether this and other viruses will stay out of the computers system.

My skepticism lies within the student body who, for the most part, lack a fundamental knowledge of computers. While sitting at a nearby computer typing my own papers, I have often helped numerous students print their papers as well as use basic WordPerfect functions. Even worse, students are not aware that viruses exist and therefore never scan their disks to ensure they will not infect the system.

Two measures can be taken to prevent the further spread of the computer room epidemic. First, an automatic virus scan should be entered into the computers system so that the hard drive is scanned each time the computer is used. In addition, a guideline sheet on how one can check for viruses and clean any viruses found on disks should be available in the computers room. As a precautionary measure, every student should make sure their disks from last semester are scanned before placing them in any computer.

There is a very simple procedure to eliminate the tragedy that occurred on the last Thursday of last semester when people lost papers they had worked on for days and when others could not print. The virus can easily be stopped from spreading.



Entrance to Auschwitz, I Labor Camp

Remembering Auschwitz

By Rayzel Kinderlehrer

January 27, 1995. Where were you? If you are a student at YU, then you were probably relaxing and enjoying one day of a relatively short winter break. However, several hundred others were gathered on this same day with an entirely different purpose. They gathered at Auschwitz to mark the 50th anniversary of the liberation of the death camp.

In 1945, the Soviet Red Army liberated the camp after most surviving inmates had already been moved elsewhere. In total, estimates for the number of people murdered range between 1.5-2.5 million. At first Auschwitz was intended mainly to hold political prisoners but was later enlarged with the addition of the Birkenau facility (commonly referred to today as Auschwitz II). After the year 1942, the population of the combined camps mainly consisted of Jews, primarily for the purpose of extermination on a large scale. Most Jews were gassed.

Jewish groups organized a ceremony separate and distinct from the official proceedings planned by the Polish government, because they felt that the official program did not adequately commemorate the Jewish presence and suffering at the camp.

The 50th anniversary was widely recognized in the press both in major magazines and newspapers in addition to a large num-

ber of smaller Jewish publications. Most of those who participated were survivors of Auschwitz, along with many Holocaust historians and Jewish leaders. Also present were Dr. Stephen Katz, the newly-appointed executive director of Washington DC's Holocaust Memorial Museum, and visiting professor at the Main Campus of YU, and Rabbi Avi Weiss, activist and teacher at SCW.

Events like this ceremony of remembrance are crucial for insuring that the events of the Holocaust remain alive even as the last survivors of the time period fade away. Precisely because so many survivors are getting older and will not be around with their sheer presence to keep the memory of these events alive, different organizations have developed programming, events and trips to combat this problem.

Barbara Pollak, SCW '96, worked this past summer in Poland and Israel as a counselor on JOLT I, an NCSY summer tour for high school youth. The students spend 10 days in Poland and about three and a half weeks in Israel. Pollak explained that the itinerary in Poland consisted of visits to old shulns, ghettos and concentration camps. The tour on a whole "was intense, difficult and exhausting. We all really needed to have a good wrap-up session every night." Pollak

expressed the feeling that the force of the tour was "that we were able to see everything that we had heard and read about come to life." She added, "My grandmother was in Auschwitz, and being there makes it seem much more real, more personalized."

While Pollak recognized the value of the experience, she also added that she would "never go back, unless, maybe, to take my own children." Pollak said she felt that one important reason to go to Poland and view the places of history in person is so that "you're able to see Poles hate Jews to this day. Swastikas, yelling Heil Hitler, they do it all. You don't see any remorse in Poland. People lied to us and said no Jews ever lived in a house that had a space for a *mezuzah* in the doorway."

Pollak expressed the importance of visiting and remembering. In particular it was important to see Auschwitz. "Auschwitz was very commercialized, with very little mention of Jews. Most people who visit don't go to Birkenau, the death camp, they go to the gift shop. We went to Birkenau. We remembered."

Tami Buckman, SCW '96, will be going to Poland and Israel at the end of this Spring semester as one of the leaders of the

Continued on pg.12

The Goings On of a Political Science Society -- Past and Future

By Elisheva Wohlgenuth

In just one semester, the J.P. Dunner Political Science Society, under the leadership of Beth Posner, SCW '95, and in conjunction with YC's society, organized a number of successful activities during the Fall semester.

A meeting was held at the beginning of the academic year to introduce the student population to the political science department, orienting new and old students to the professors and explaining the requirements of the political science major at SCW and YC. Another meeting was held with the Associate Dean of Admissions of Columbia's Graduate School of International Affairs. In November, YU's Political Science Society sent a delegation to University of Pennsylvania, who sponsored the Model United Nations.

On December 28, The Office of Placement and Career Services and Political Science Societies of YC and SCW co-sponsored a symposium featuring three political figures, two of them YU alumni, with The Political Awareness Club and The Committee on Jewish Affairs. The speakers included Dr. David Luchins, senior assistant to Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan, Suri Kasirer, special assistant for Jewish Affairs to Governor Mario M. Cuomo and Bruce Teitelbaum, deputy chief of staff to Mayor Rudolph W.

Giuliani. Though each was a Jewish representative from a different governmental level, all agreed that there are certain guidelines a Jewish politician must follow. Ethical behavior and personality should be the guiding factors for the Jewish politician.

Following the symposium, December 30-31 was the Political Science Shabbaton co-sponsored with the Sociology Club and Students Alliance for Global Awareness, SCW's environmental club. Weekend debates included Friday night's student run debate on whether rain forest deterioration in Latin America is a result of economic conditions. Debate coordinators included Deborah Zarsky, president of SAGA, Aaron Blumenthal, Gila Greenspan, Norman Schwabb and Eli Borger.

This semester the Political Science Society at SCW will be under the leadership of Elisheva Wohlgenuth, who is acting as president because Posner graduated. Sharona Cohen and Susan Goldstein are vice presidents. Other board members include Chaviva Schoffman, Yedida Wolfe and Candice Levy.

Programs already under way include: Yale Model Israeli Knesset, more debates, another shabbaton, a trip to the United Nations and various speakers. In addition, there will be letter writing campaigns to members of Congress and voting registration.

COMMENCEMENT

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SCW Newbriefs

By Michele Berman

SCW Welcomes VP for Shabbat...

In the wake of an SCW Shabbaton drought, approximately 30 students attended the first shabbaton of the Spring semester which welcomed Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. William Schwartz.

SCWSC, TAC and SSSSB sponsored the shabbaton, which received Schwartz and his wife for Shabbat dinner. After dinner, Schwartz spoke on "The Relevance of Jewish Law to Contemporary Ethical Dilem-

mas," citing several examples of how U.S. legal decisions have often echoed *halacha*, and where *halacha* can come into play in the future. Schwartz referred to many famous cases such as Roe vs. Wade.

The shabbaton, which was publicized with signs that read "May the Schwartz be with you," included *Dvrei Torah* that were given by SCWSC President Laura Gross, SSSSB President Judith Schluskel and Shifra Greengart, SCW '95.

Wednesday Night Live Program Helps Form Social Ties...

In an effort to bond new students with old students and acclimate such new students to their foreign surroundings, one SCW student spearheaded a Wednesday Night Live program.

Approximately 20 students came to the game and skit-filled night created by Rebecca Rosen, SCW '96, to "get [new students] involved."

Rosen said that when she came to SCW last January, she had felt very lonely and "what I needed was someone to take me by

the hand to meet new people" because starting college was "a very hard experience."

An impromptu play of "Cinderella Wore Combat Boots" was also performed by such student leaders as SCWSC President Laura Gross.

Rosen added, "I was really impressed that the student leaders came [to the Feb. 15 event]." Other leaders included SSSSB President Judith Schluskel and TAC Secretary Tami Buckman.

Student Life Committee Members Announced...

SCWSC President Laura Gross announced last week the names of the new members of the Student Life Committee, which consist of students from each class and other leaders.

Seniors on the Committee include Sima Singer, SCW '95, and Naomi Liebowitz, SCW '95; Juniors include Jodi Comet, SCW '96, and Laurie Lasher, SCW '96; Sophomores include Lauri Karben, SCW '97, and Joelle Tollinsky, SCW '96, and Freshman Rashed Nouranifar, SCW '98. Other mem-

bers include SCWSC President Laura Gross, TAC President Dassi Billet, SSSSB President Judith Schluskel, Editor-in-Chief of *The Observer* Michele Berman and Parliamentarian Dafna Kalish.

The Student Life Committee will meet with administration members Friday March 10 to discuss issues that are of student concern. Any students interested in voicing issues are greatly urged to direct them to Gross.

The Media World Comes to SCW

By Rochelle Teitelbaum
and Michele Berman

As a response to a request to hear from those professionals in the media world, the YU Office of Placement and Career Services presented its first ever panel presentation and discussion with speakers from the advertising, publishing, journalism and public relations world.

The "Careers in Media" forum consisted of five speakers from the various media who spoke about their particular careers and then offered advice to students interested in pursuing careers in the media.

Suzy Schwartz, a SCW alumna and vice president, accounts supervisor at BBDO Advertising, offered great insight into the competitive world of advertising. She explained to the more than 50 YC and SCW students the four aspects of advertising including account management, creative, media and market research. Schwartz, who has been at BBDO for 10 years, told students, "Be intelligent about the field you're interested in." She urged students to get industry knowledge and to look at trade publications. She said, "Internships are wonderful."

About being religious, Schwartz said to do the best you can. "When people see that you're serious, sincere about your religion... they'll respect you for it." She told students who want to maintain a religious life as well as a successful career to work Sundays and take work home. She said advertising takes "commitment, drive and a lot of confidence."

Elisheva Urbas, managing editor at the prestigious Farrar, Straus, and Giroux publishing house, spoke to students about the fascinating publishing world, which, she said, is not editing for grammar (those are copyeditors). She listed the three main things an editor does. Firstly, he or she scouts out

books and looks at every manuscript sent. She said she turns down 98% of the manuscripts. Then there are negotiations between agents and editors when she finds a manuscript the publishing group wants to buy. Secondly, she said, once the rights to the book are bought, the author must edit and rewrite. This is called "broad brush editing." Thirdly, once the manuscript is ready or "clean," the editor must walk the author through the marketing process.

Urbas also discussed the importance of entry level positions such as the job of the editorial assistant, who types, files, opens mail and reads manuscripts the editor tells him or her to read. She said that when she was an editorial assistant she once counted about 900 manuscripts that she had read in a month's time. The editorial assistant cannot move up for 2-3 years, however, as it is a "very slow track." She said, "I'm really glad I did stick it out."

Urbas urged students to read *The New York Times Book Review* in addition to books not related to coursework. She told students not to despair because "jobs do open up" and all it takes is "money, time and patience."

Ruth A. Seligman, journalist and editor of *Tower Air Magazine*, told students about the different types of jobs she has had in the field of journalism. She has worked for many different newspapers and a wire agency. She also discussed her work in a small town, where she spoke to the mayor and townspeople; she said here she "really made a difference." Seligman also praised Columbia Graduate School of Journalism, for the many ties she made there.

Charlotte Tomic, Vice President for Student Affairs New York Women in Communications, spoke on behalf of her organiza-

Tele-Video Conferencing at SCW

Continued from page 1

for Academic Affairs Dr. William Schwartz said at a breakfast meeting with Seniors that this doesn't mean co-ed classes would become the norm at YU. He said, "We have to maximize the opportunities."

Despite the possible drawbacks, Rosengarten remains optimistic about the changes being implemented. "There is potential for something exciting and good...and [a creation of] an enhanced program."

The seventh floor of the Midtown Campus was equipped with the latest multimedia equipment recently. The changes progressed rapidly, and only after the equipment was purchased did the faculty meet to decide how the students would best be served by the new facilities. The question remains whether anything good can result from a program where the main participants, the students and the faculty, were uninvolved until after it was developed.

However, tele-video conferencing between YC and SCW is very possible for the present, possibly becoming functional in a month. Schwartz called the interactive tele-video conference "viable tomorrow if there's a need for it." Rosengarten has already initiated much of the technological changes in room 718 because he wanted to ensure that the University was moving with "instruction that relied more and more on teaching devices...by equipping at least a pilot room at each campus."

Schwartz said that because of the distinguished faculty for next year, such video conferencing would help "logistically." As an answer to those students worried about the preference of faculty being physically

present in the Main Campus, rather than the Midtown Campus, he said, "Don't assume the professors wouldn't teach down here. Many would prefer to teach here [the Midtown Campus]."

Lisa Schwartz, SCW '95, stated her concerns that the tele-video conferencing would lose the "personalness" of a regular classroom atmosphere. Schwartz said, "This would be for special events...I'm not suggesting that this would usurp regular classrooms."

The room in SCW was originally designed exclusively as a boardroom. According to Bacon, the original plan was to hold meetings in the room. As a result, the academic administration of SCW was excluded from deciding what equipment should be placed in there. They were not consulted as to what equipment might best serve the students' and faculty's needs. Instead, a consultant was hired to design the room.

Because of the new facilities in 718, it was necessary to use the boardroom as a classroom. Last semester's "Theater of Law" class, taught by Professor Cheryl Lubin, involved film viewing and so it was necessary to hold that class in the media room. Emmy-award winning broadcast journalist Sara Lee Kessler, who currently teaches "Broadcast Journalism" at SCW, utilizes the room for that class because of the course's heavy usage of multi-media equipment. Other classes use the equipment as needed.

There are drawbacks with using the room as a classroom because the cumbersome tables, which are attached to each other, take up much of the room's space. However, students appreciate the facilities in the media room. Dafna Kalish, SCW '95, who attended the course "Theater of Law," said that there "were not many technical problems. Once in a while -- a glitch."

Presently, a professor must reserve the room in advance and then wait at the time of the class for a security guard to unlock the room, thus delaying the start of classes. In addition, faculty members need access to the room to use the equipment during off-hours and do not have the time to seek out security guards. According to Bacon, one proposal is to give each teacher a key to the room despite the risks because, "Anytime you are working with technology there is risk involved."

Another problematic issue relates to the equipment in the room. Since the equipment was installed without consulting teachers, adjustments must be made. Some highly specialized equipment required for the biology and psychology departments should be added to the room.

Schwartz, along with SCW and other undergraduate and graduate faculty and student members, make up the Education and Technology Committee. The Committee's purpose is to "develop a program involving interactive video communication between multimedia rooms at Stern and Yeshiva College." The SCW representatives include Bacon, Dr. Allen Burdowski, Dr. Joshua Bacon and SCWSC President Laura Gross. Rosengarten, who is not officially on the committee, attends meetings because he was instrumental in the purchasing of the equipment. The committee has met two times and will, according to Gross, "decide if the University is growing with modern sophistication."

Correction: Emily Amie Witty's name was inadvertently misspelled and her class status was incorrect. She is graduating in '96, not '95.

OBSERVER QUESTIONNAIRE

The *Observer* staff is very concerned with students', faculty's, administration's and alumnae's opinions, concerns and suggestions regarding *The Observer*. Therefore, the following is a questionnaire to be filled out by the reader in an effort to improve *The Observer*. We greatly appreciate the reader taking out the time to fill out these questions. This questionnaire was created to enable us to best serve you, our readership, thus, your honesty is greatly appreciated. Please have your questions reflect this year's *Observers* only. Answers can be mailed to: *The Observer* 245 Lexington Ave, NY, NY 10016 or dropped in the Student Services Office in *The Observer* box on the wall (top box). Thank you.

1. Are you a current SCW/SSSB student? _____ Do you dorm? _____ What is your class status? _____ What is your major? _____
 2. If you are not a student, how did you receive *The Observer*? _____
 3. What compels you to pick up an *Observer*? (Eg. boredom, interest, concern for SCW) _____
 4. Overall, are you pleased, satisfied, unsatisfied, hate, (or anything in between) *The Observer*? _____
 5. As compared to last year's *Observer*, do you think this year's *Observer* improved, worsened or stayed the same? _____
 6. For current students: Do you think there is enough publicity for the *Observer* (Eg. signs)? _____ Why or why not? _____
Are the signs interesting, humorous, boring? _____
 7. On a scale from 1-10 (1 being lowest), how do you rate the following *Observer* sections and why? News _____
Features _____
Editorials _____ Letters to the Editor _____
Observatory (cultural arts), _____ Observations (student opinions) _____
photography _____, art _____, sports _____
editor's corner _____, message from the president _____
layout _____, front page _____
 8. What is your favorite and least favorite section and why? _____
 9. What do you turn to first? _____
 10. What article/issue/section do you feel was the best and why? _____ and worst and why? _____
 11. Do you feel *The Observer* is informative enough? _____
 12. How do you feel about *The Observer* photos? _____
 13. Do you read *The Observer* from cover to cover: rarely, sometimes, always? _____
 14. How can *The Observer* improve its paper? _____
 15. How can *The Observer* best reach out to its students and alumnae? _____
- Please feel free to add paper if necessary.

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The Observer welcomes all submissions for its upcoming Purim issue. Content can include everything fit to print...The only requirement is it has to be funny and on disk (WP 5.1). Deadline Mon. March 6. For more info. call Michele Berman at 696-0140 P.S. If we print it, you become famous. P.P.S. Dara says hi.

Condolences to Dr. Shatz and his family on the passing of his mother, Lillian. Hamakom Yenachem Etchem Betch Shear Aveyley Tzion Vi Yerushalayim

SCW SPORTS

Protect Yourself

By Elisheva Wohlgenuth

Every year, 39,300 rape offenses are reported in New York City, according to the 1995 Almanac and that is only the number of cases that are reported. Statistics also reveal that most victims know their attackers.

To protect the safety of SCW women, as they walk down the streets of Manhattan, a self-defense course was initiated last semester by the Self-Defense Clubs Co-Presidents Rebecca Rosen, SCW '96, and Chame Weiser, SCW '96.

The seven-week course met on Monday evenings under the instruction of Sarah Devorah Cohen, an SCW alumna and karate teacher, who holds a brown belt from Tori Dojo, and Devorah Zarsky, SCW '95, who has a black belt from Tori Dojo.

Under their guidance, the handful of participants learned various techniques and movements to be performed on an attacker. Cohen said, "One of the most important aspects of self-defense is an awareness of what's going on around you."

One session was devoted to teaching

students how to turn ordinary objects, such as keys, into lethal weapons. "This course was both educational and fun and though I hope I never have to use any of the information I was taught, I am confident to walk on the streets because at least I am aware," one participant said.

Rosen added, "I found myself and others doing stupid things like walking alone at midnight or wearing flashy jewelry, and [I] realized that we are easy targets."

In order for other SCW students to become knowledgeable, the course will be offered again this semester. "The techniques we learned are basic, simple moves that anyone can do. Everyone should learn how to protect themselves," said Chaya Strasberg, SCW '96, one of the participants.

Zarsky added, "It is important for everyone to learn self-defense but it is especially important for women living in New York City."

For more information, contact Rosen or Weiser.



Lady Macs Defeat Steven's Tech

The Lady Macs Do It Again!!!!

By Phyllis Roth

Defeating Steven's Tech, by a score of 71-46, the Lady Macs played their highest scoring game ever.

"It was a great game!" exclaimed Lady Macs Rebecca Bienenstock, SCW '96.

Playing a great game, the Lady Macs held a strong defense and kept the turnovers to a minimum. They were really confident about their game.

By halftime, the Lady Macs were leading 41-25. This score was very similar to the game the Lady Macs played against Steven's back in the beginning of the season, where the final score was 40-27. However, this game was quite different. Here, everyone had a piece of the action. The main concern of the team was how they were going to take

on Steven's largest and best player, their center, otherwise known as number "5". This player has been with Steven's for quite a number of years. The Lady Macs were able to overcome her by carefully planning out their strategy of how to win the game.

The February 15 game against Steven's was the Lady Macs last home game of the season.

Bienenstock had made 27 points including a 3 pointer. Batsheva Lazar had 16 and Jessica Panzer had 8. The Lady Macs are now 10-6, as the season comes to an end.

The last game is on Tuesday, February 21 at College of New Rochelle. Following that, the Lady Macs will be playing in the IAC Tournament February 23-26.

50 Years Ago

Continued from page 9

Bnei Akiva of North America's AMI tour to Poland. AMI, which stands for "Am Ma'atar Yakum - A nation arises from the dust," takes a select group of Bnei Akiva high school youth, deemed to be potential leaders, on an extensive tour of Poland and Israel. Buckman asserted that "we do not simply visit the camps and places of death. We aim to give over a feeling of history, and a deeper understanding of our roots. To that end we visit Gur, Kotsk, Warsaw and many other significant places of Jewish history."

Buckman, who went to Poland as a junior in high school, said that "deciding to go as a leader was a very hard decision to make. As an ed. major, I have learned that the best way to learn is through experience. Going on a trip like this is much more powerful than a history book -- you need to see it."

Lady Macs Defense Stops Lehman

Lehman

By Rachel Hellman

The Lady Macs defeated Lehman 64-50. The Lady Macs (9-6) were led by high scorers Rebecca Bienenstock, 24, and Batsheva Lazar, 18.

The Lady Macs were behind for most of the game, but midway through the second half, the team came alive. Sparked by tenacious defense, the Lady Macs narrowed the gap.

With six minutes left to play, Bienenstock scored on a lay up to pull the team within one. Pressure on the in bounds pass led to a turnover and another Bienenstock lay up. From that point the Lady Macs never looked back.

They continued to pressure the other team, which led to several easy points. When Lehman was able to set up on offense, the Lady Macs prevented them from any inside baskets. The Lady Macs defense was too much for Lehman to overcome.

This come from behind victory showed the character of the Lady Macs. This February 13 win will give them momentum for the final regular season games and the post season tournament.

The Observer
245 Lexington Avenue
New York, New York 10016

November 15, 1945

"I lived a little at first, but later I stopped. When I saw the red and blood of Jews, I was happy." Abdel Kalam Sultan, on his brother, Avatan, a suicide bomber from the 1945 Holy War against the British, in a group of Jews of Israel.

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