

# The Observer

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## Senior Awards Given More Than Half of Senior Class Votes

By Shira Katz

More than half of the 180-member graduating class voted for senior awards last month, leaving student council members pleasantly surprised.

"I was very impressed with the voter turn-out," said SCWSC President Laura Gross.

Ninety-seven seniors voted for the annual senior awards in preparation for May commencement exercises. The great voter turnout, which was open to January graduates as well, was attributed mostly to location. Student leaders sat in the school building lobby to get

seniors to vote.

SCWSC Vice President Sarah Altman said, "It's wonderful that so many seniors are involved and that they continue their involvement by turning out to vote at elections." Though they are graduating, seniors are encouraged to vote, said Gross.

Parliamentarian Dafna Kalish said, "I was impressed by the high voter turnout despite the unfortunate lack of advertising." Kalish said that she is proud that so many seniors are involved in school activities.

Nominees were selected by a senior awards committee, consisting of 11 SCW/SSSB students, each a senior and a leader of various clubs and/or committees.

The three student awards, as well as two faculty awards, one given to a Judaic studies teacher and one given to a secular studies teacher, are presented to the winners toward the end of the academic year.

The Professor Nathaniel L. Remes Memorial Award, awarded this year to TAC Vice President Elizabeth Jarrett, was created in memory of a faculty member from the chemistry department. According to administrators, Remes was an upstanding, ethics-bound individual, who added much vitality to the school, and in keeping with these qualities, the award is given for character, personality and service rendered.

The Ghity Stern Award, granted to one with outstanding character and commitment to the Jewish community, is awarded to TAC Vice President Rayzel Kinderlehrer. The Stern Award was established by YU in recognition of what SCW represents. Candidates for this award are re-

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The Winners of the Senior Awards: Liz Jarrett, Meira Shatz, Rayzel Kinderlehrer

## Senate Calls for "Scholarship Board"

By Michele Berman

In a move to make scholarship, fellowship and internship information more accessible to SCW students, the Student Senate called for a "Scholarship Board" to be instituted.

"It is important that scholarship, fellowship and internship information be made readily available to all students interested," said Senate Chairman Laurie Katzman, SCW '95, who organized the March 29 meeting.

Because information on scholarships, fellowships and internships is often sent to individual faculty members, there is no one organized method of distributing the information to all students. As a result, only certain select students hear of it.

The Senate called for a "Scholarship Board" to be established in the school building as a board listing in an orderly manner information regarding scholarships, fellowships and internships. Katzman said the scholarship board would be similar to the one that Sy Syms organized on the 9th floor of the school building listing jobs.

One student or guidance person would be made in charge of the

board so that, as Katzman explained, information is collected, arranged and hung up "in an organized fashion."

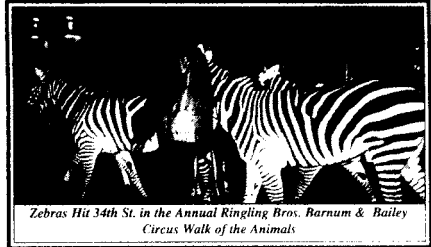
Dean Karen Bacon said she would take the matter "under advisement."

Other topics the Student Senate discussed at the meeting included organizing a chapter of the prestigious Phi Beta Kappa honor's society at SCW. "Having a Phi Beta Kappa chapter would make us competitive with Ivy League schools," said Junior-Senate Member DV Goldring.

Bacon said, though, that this would take years to be approved and that those interested should direct the inquiry to YU President Dr. Norman Lamm, who would have to then begin the application process on behalf of the University.

The Senate also discussed the issue of professors, mainly Judaic Studies professors, who return midterm examinations and papers very late into the semester, making it difficult for students to know what their academic status is in that specific class, as well as ways in which they can improve themselves if necessary.

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Zebras Hit 34th St. in the Annual Ringling Bros. Barnum & Bailey Circus Walk of the Animals

## Apathy a Major Issue Amongst Candidates

By Michele Berman

With eight candidates running unopposed in the upcoming SCW Student Council elections, including SCWSC president, the issue of apathy has become a serious concern amongst candidates.

"I think that the fact that the position for SCWSC president is uncontested shows there is apathy," said Sharona Cohen, SCW '97, who is currently running for SCWSC Vice President.

SCWSC President Laura Gross said that the issue of apathy is a timeless concern for student leaders. "Next year's student council must contend with the issue of apathy as has every student council of the past years," said Gross.

Because only one candidate, Ilana Barber, is running for

SCWSC President, there cannot be a presidential debate like there was last year. Gross said, "I'm very disappointed that there's not going to be a debate. I think students should be given a choice."

Half of the eight candidates running uncontested are from the Sophomore class. Such apathy echoes last year's elections in which seven positions had only one candidate running. "It's very sad. More people should get involved," said Gross. "People are quick to complain about SCW but when it comes to putting their money where their mouth is [and running for a position] they don't get involved," she said. "When it comes to going out on a limb and getting personally

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## SCW Faculty Outraged Over Salaries Faculty Members Speak Out

By Observer Staff

In an exclusive interview with *The Observer*, many SCW faculty members recently voiced frustration and anger over inadequate salaries, calling them "a disgrace."

"We're not asking for six figure salaries," said Music Professor Dr. Edward Levy. "We're asking for salaries that show us that we are respected. And that is what's missing."

According to the *Statistical Abstract of the United States*, the average salary for full professors at private colleges in 1993 was \$68,700. The calculated average salary for professors at YU is a drastically low \$48,000. Statistics Professor Dr. Miriam S. Groszof reported that there are a substantial number of full professors who have been teaching at YU for more than 10 years and who are making less than \$50,000 a year. In addition, full professors at YU make only \$4,000 more on average than associate professors, in contrast with a \$20,000 difference nationwide. In additions according to sources, Visiting Professor Dr.

Steven Katz, receives \$94,000 a year from YU.

The faculty has repeatedly heard claims that there is not enough money to increase their salaries. However, with YU's current endowment of over \$350 million, many teachers feel that the claim is no longer valid.

Amongst the faculty, many are both angered and frustrated with the situation. Publicizing their plight is the faculty's final hope for instigating change. "When we go to conferences and the rest of the academic community hears what our salaries are, it embarrasses Yeshiva University," said Levy. "The Board of Trustees must be made to understand this."

Groszof added, "The students need to know that the faculty are terribly distressed by the perception that they are not valued sufficiently by an institution that claims to value academic goals."

Professor of English Dr. Carol Silver said that students are also victims of the meager salaries. "The students must pay for it," Sil-

ver said. "Many teachers must take other jobs to survive. And, although they try to shield it, after a while, their resentment must show."

Many of the senior faculty, in particular, believe they are not valued by the University. They see new teachers being appointed at market rates while their earnings remain low. One professor said that the administration implies to the senior faculty that if they were any good, they would be teaching somewhere else by now. "That is insulting, among other things," the professor said.

A prevalent feeling among the interviewed faculty is that financial concerns are taking precedence over academic ones at the University. Several faculty members said that they believe the fault lies with Vice President for Business Affairs Sheldon Socol. As an expert on financial matters, some teachers said they felt that Socol has no right to interfere with academic affairs. Levy, on the other

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## Editorials "Paper Clubs"

If one opens to the page in *The Guide* that lists all of the clubs at SCW, she will see a list of about 30. The subsequent question is then: "If there are 30+ clubs, why aren't there ever any activities sponsored by many of those clubs listed?" This is due to "paper clubs," or clubs whose members include either the well-intending but lazy student who is seemingly overworked, or the students who want to build up their resume, and thus use their alleged status as club president or board member to do so.

At the Club Fair in October, many exciting clubs were introduced and many signed the paper that made them a member. Student Council did make rules regarding the number of programs each club must have but unfortunately, this rule was never enforced. Students got away with negligence towards

their new clubs' programming, and some clubs never came into being. Thus, however, did not stop alleged board members from boasting about their "hard work" on behalf of their club on their resumes.

A person who holds a position merely to further her status with no intention of making the most of that club should be ousted from the position and replaced by someone who cares. One is not considered an active member of her school just because it says so on a piece of paper. This is cheating and lying, and unfair to students and SCW.

Now is the time to take action by either motivating pseudo-club presidents to activate their clubs or by using one's own constitutional right to impeach them and take over. Let's put an end to "Paper Clubs."

## Good Senior Voting Turnout a Model for Other Classes

As is traditional of SCW Senior classes of the past years, the Senior Class of 1995 recently held it's voting for Senior Class awards. In the past, voter turnout for these types of elections has been extremely low; however, this Senior Class has made new records with over half of the class voting, despite poor publicity.

*The Observer* is, however, not surprised at the high turnout, for this class has traditionally had higher than average participation in school clubs and councils. One just needs to look around at the leaders of the

school and note that a great percentage of our actively-involved students are seniors. Many seniors have given of themselves freely to improve the quality of campus community life.

The other classes should look towards the senior class and note that when people speak of apathy, the senior class is not a part of such bad spiritedness.

Good luck to the future senior classes of SCW in having the success of the class of 1995 and congratulations to those individual students who have effectively made SCW a better place.

## What's Your Sign?

Does anyone know what is the next Student Council event? Isn't there a lecture during club hour? What room is it in? To find the answers to such questions, an SCW student usually has to look no further than the closest wall.

Signs are what the Student Council depends on to send messages across to the student body. In the past, there has always been guidelines as to the location and duration of sign placement. Recently, problems have occurred regarding this issue.

Due to the negligence on the part of the student government, signs were not taken down after the event being advertised had past. Scotch tape, rather than masking tape, was being used, which caused the paint in the hallway to chip adding to Housekeeping's aggravation. The deluge of signs being left up, one hung over the other, was a source of tension. After a meeting with the head of Housekeeping, SCWSC President Laura Gross made it her personal responsibility to remove signs after an event and gave permission for any sign not bearing the SCWSC stamp of approval to be removed immediately. In return, Housekeeping agreed for a trial basis, to not tear down signs indiscriminately every Friday regardless of when the event was to take place. The problem should have ended there.

This meeting was a direct result of SCWSC's frustration over signs for the circus that had been taken down by Housekeeping Friday for an event for the following Thursday. Sophomore Class President Debbie Bielory was very annoyed by this situation. "As class president, my free time is limited, it is very frustrating to take the time to make signs and hang them up only to have them taken down a day later. I resent being made to have to go spend more time and money on a new sign," she said.

Lack of publicity affects the number of students who attend events. The consensus

among all student leaders was that if the sign has the proper stamp, why can't the date be checked before signs are torn down?

After a meeting with Housekeeping, it seemed that everything was resolved. But then came elections week. It is SCW custom to allow campaigning only in designated areas. There is a maximum size and amount candidates may spend on their campaign. There is also a regulation forbidding candidates to handout trinkets or objects to win votes. Due to these rules, flyers are the main source of campaigning. There are also strict restrictions as to where flyers may be hung. The major locations for publicity are the Brookdale Hall elevators, and from Sunday to Wednesday prior to elections the elevators are a colorful, crowded array of names, positions and promises.

However, Monday night Head of Facilities Management, by chance, got a glance at the inside of the elevator. He ordered security to tear down all signs not tacked on to the designated bulletin boards in the elevators. This led to the majority of flyers and signs to be destroyed and thrown out. The candidates were quite irate. One perturbed, anonymous candidate complained on the injustice of the situation. She said, "When Laura Gross explained the elections, she laid strict guidelines as to where campaigning can be done. All candidates followed these parameters. Loss of posters took time to create and still counted as part of our cost."

Head of Facilities/Management and Maintenance should be made aware that those signs are very temporary. Student Council has made a commitment to be responsible for the removal of all signs after the event has past. Student government is a crucial part of any college campus. Choosing which students to appoint as representatives is a difficult decision. Students must be allowed to make informative choices that can only be done through knowledge of the candidates.

# The Observer

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## Letters to the Editor DeFaced

Dear Editor,

Students are known to often do assignments and papers last minute, but every once in a while some spend a lot of time and energy on a given project, carefully perfecting their work.

It's disillusioning, therefore, when that effort becomes futile and a half semester's work is ruined.

Last semester, I spent nine weeks working on a sculpture of a female head. I was rather surprised when I entered the sculpture "studio" on the fifth floor a few days ago and found the sculpture's forehead marred with an engraved cross. And I was even more surprised to learn this was not the first case at Stern College. Two years ago, another art major spent even longer on a similar project

only to find similar consequences.

A paper can be reprinted, a pencil mark erased. But a completed artwork can never be reproduced when blemished.

At a university which focuses on the preservation of the ways of Torah, which encompasses within its realm a particular set of moral and ethical values, such actions are not understandable or acceptable.

Torah also commands that we judge people for their benefit, *l'caf'zehut*. I therefore do not place blame on any specific individual(s). Rather, I believe that the fact that such an event could occur within a Torah institution demands attention.

Sincerely,  
Sara Rosman  
SCW '95

## Remembering Auschwitz

Dear Editor,

Kol Hakavod to Rayzel Kinderlehrer on her sensitive article, "Remembering Auschwitz" (27 Adar I issue). Two points need to be made: 1) Rabbi Avi Weiss, a Stern College assistant professor, was not merely "present" at the 50th anniversary commemoration of Auschwitz's liberation, but led a series of high-profile actions to focus on the continuing presence of strong Christian symbolism at the death camp, though over 90% of those who died at Auschwitz/Birkenau were Jews. 2) The photo accompanying the

article is of the infamous train watchtower entrance to Birkenau (Auschwitz II), not Auschwitz I. Both were death camps, not "labor" camps as captioned.

Sincerely Yours,  
Glenn Richter  
Media Liaison  
Coalition for Jewish Concerns - AMCHA

*The Observer apologizes for the inadvertent mistake.*

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## Editor's Corner

### Coming Home to YU

Tomorrow my younger brother returns home to his family from the Holy Land. He has finished up his Shana Bet (second) year at Yeshivat HaKotel and has decided to come back to become a YU student. Though, I don't know if Livingston, New Jersey can compare to the Old City, he is back to learn -- University style.

Before he decided to stay the first half of Shana Bet, and then decided to stay the second half, I had many dreams of having lunch with him, catching a movie and just hanging out in the City. I envisioned him taking the van downtown to come see his big sister. However, because of his strong desires to become more Gemora literate, I never got to have such dreams fulfilled. As happy as I am that he stayed in Israel, I am also sad that I cannot be a true part of his years at YU -- sharing a University with him. When he enters YU in the Fall, as I did four years ago, I will be gone and out in the world -- YU a part of my past. For him -- it will be a part of his present and future.

As many Israel returnees enter YU, many leave it. Each impression is drastically different -- one enters a University for the first time, many times reluctantly simply because it's not Israel, while the other leaves a University he or she can no longer contribute to, no longer be a part of in the student sense.

Such Israel returnees are in a sort of culture shock when they enter YU. Most want to be back in their Jerusalem Beit Medrash (or whatever Israeli city they have

chosen) learning about their homeland while actually being there. They are very doubtful of a new place of learning -- one in which secular subjects are studied as well. They are unsure of their (or their parents') decision to become a student. They are sad. They want to go Home -- back to Eretz Yisrael.

We, as current YU students, are obligated to provide a Home for them here at YU. We must show them all that can be offered in their University. We must be their tour guides in their new foreign land, offering them a place in their new Home.

As YU President Rabbi Norman Lamm said in his Dvar Torah (see page 3), Chol and Moed, Yeshiva and University, are able to be combined even though they are distinct, almost antithetical ideas. We must prove to those Israel returnees that the learning they have accomplished in Eretz Yisrael can be continued in YU, in addition to other types of learning, which include philosophy, English literature, biology and political science. For this is a unique opportunity for them to savor. It is a venture they can use either as a stepping stone to enrich their lives, as University should be, or as an exit door, to be finished and done with as quickly as possible.

Let us show our Israel returnees that we are proud of our multi-faceted University, and that they should be proud of it, too. In the meantime, I just have two words for my brother -- Welcome Home!

Michele Berman  
Editor-in-Chief

## Chol Hamoed --Tension and Balance:

### A Message from our Rosh Yeshiva Rabbi Dr. Norman Lamm

I have always been intrigued by the phenomenon of *Chol Hamoed*. For here, in both the name and by substance of the intermediate days between *Yom Tov Rishon* and *Yom Tov Acharon* of Pesach and Sukkot, we find a reflection of our lives and *Weltanschauung*.

Consider the very term: *Chol*= profane; and *Moed*= festival, sacred. And the halakhot of these days continue the same theme: part *Yom Tov*, part weekday. Most forms of *melakchah* are prohibited, yet those involved in the preparation of food are permitted. Also, those which are forbidden are sometimes tolerated in certain cases of dire need. And even then we must dress in a manner befitting a holy day.

Indeed, it seems that what the Talmud (*Pes. 68b* and *Betzah 15b*) says about *Yom Tov* itself applies even more abruptly to *Chol Hamoed*: "Half for you, half for G-d," i.e., the study of Torah. It is a mixture of both the human and the divine, a hybrid of the holy and the profane.

Remember reading, in the name of the great Gerer Rebbe, the *Chiddushei HaRim*, that the ability to embrace both, to comprehend the *Chol* and the *Moed* simultaneously, is an *avodah kashah* -- a most difficult task -- and that is why Onkelos, in translating the verse "And Moses spoke (va-yedabber) the festival of the Lord to the Children of Israel," used the word *va'alpinim*, and he taught them." Why was it necessary for Moses to teach the Festival instead of just enumerating them? Because of the inherent challenge of combining both the sacred and the secular. It is not unusual to aspire to complete devotion to wither one of the two -- all sacred or all profane -- but the Almighty asks more of us. There are indeed times when we must concentrate all our energies and talents and interests in one direction, but the major part of life must be an application of *Chol Hamoed*, of the two in consonance and synergistic cooperation with each other.

Moses, who was *Ish haElokim*, one who combined both the manly and G-dly, was ideally suited to teach the lesson of *Chol Hamoed* to his people. *Adon hanevium* and *melakh*, military leader and *kohen gadol*--he was the right one not only to relay the commandment to observe the *moadim*, but also to act as a role model in teaching Israel their meaning.

We of Yeshiva University hold that ideal aloft; indeed, our very name is apposite to "Chol Hamoed," as is our mission of Torah Umadda. Those who aspire to this ideal and who labor to realize it in their lives and their careers, can testify to the fact that it is unquestionably an *avodah kashah*, a difficult question, wearying challenge. The task is not only physically trying -- the dual program was not meant for the lazy and the weak -- but it is also intellectually demanding. A cartoon I saw not too long ago shows a little boy returning home from school with a frown on his face and, when his mother asks him what went wrong, replies, "We learned how to think today. It hurt!" Trying, demanding, challenging, wearying, sometimes hurting -- but it is worth the prize!

I know that we are under sustained criticism from a number of sources, all of whom tell us that it can't be done, that Torah and Mada, Yeshiva and University, cannot coexist without compromising each other. But an awareness of history arms us against arguments that have long been buried for want of proof, only to be disinterred and revived. Take note: it was always thus! At the very cradle of our institution, long before any of us was born, this new experiment in Jewish education was declared doomed. The Yiddish press sanctimo-

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## President's Message

As I sit down to write what will be one of my last messages, I am overcome with a feeling of melancholy and ambivalence. On the one hand, I honestly believe that I have been a part of an experience of development and growth in SCW and YU. On the other hand, I feel sad that I was ineffective in combatting what I feel has been an intrinsic problem in our school since its inception. The problem that I speak of is APATHY.

Since the beginning of this semester there have been a number of Student Council-sponsored events that have had few students in attendance. These events, including a movie at the Sony Imax 3-D theater and a Nets basketball game at the Meadowlands, were designed for the undergraduate students of YU, and not for the handful of student leaders who feel an obligation to attend. Class boards spend a lot of time and effort to organize events only to discover that their work is met with resistance and sometimes even hostility.

I, personally, have witnessed and been on the receiving end of complaints directed towards the lack of activities here at SCW. I have heard that events are boring and that "nobody is going." I have spent the better part of my tenure as President wrestling with this issue. What more can be done? Events are well publicized, class boards go door to door at night in the dorm advertising, and a variety of activities are chosen to appeal to a broad range of students.

Student Council events are meant to be fun activities that bring people together. Our purpose is to provide an answer to the weekly question of what to do in this big, exciting city on a free night. We attempt to get dis-

cussed to places that you would never have even thought of to go to. My goal was for a student to say to her friends, "I've never been to the circus, and Student Council has group rate tickets. Let's go," and not the more common, "the circus is a good idea, but let's go another night, not when everyone else is going."

What's the problem with going as a group? The more students who join us, the more fun everyone will have. Why do the students want to isolate themselves from each other? How did our events get such a reputation of being pathetic and ones that should be avoided at all costs? More importantly, how can we rectify the situation?

This past weekend, Student Council was fortunate enough to host Rabbi and Mrs. Lamm for Shabbos. Even for the President of our University, there was a sparse showing. What an embarrassment that between the approximately 1600 undergraduates, Rabbi Lamm gave his shiur Friday night to a half filled Koch Auditorium holding about 65 students!! What a shame that so many missed out on the opportunity to speak to and learn from Rabbi Lamm.

As I graduate, I would like to think that I have made a difference. I believe that greater strides have to be made to draw in student involvement. SCW is not a part time school, I think the time has come to stop treating it as such. I only wish that my involvement has built on the work of my predecessors and whomever follows me next year and the years after that will continue to work diligently in this vein.

Laura Gross  
SCWSC President

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# From The News Room...



SCW Student Candice Levy and Judge Judy Kluger

## NYC Judge Addresses Students

By Sharon Cohen

A criminal judge recently addressed SCW students on the place of Jewish women in the legal profession.

Judge Judy Kluger, an Orthodox Jewish judge in New York City, discussed the history of women in law and explained that despite the 1873 Illinois statute that women can practice law, it was not until recently that women were treated as equals in the legal profession. Kluger optimistically remarked that she has noticed "an erosion" of the stereotype of women in law and that women are gaining respect among their male colleagues.

In addition, Kluger discussed the challenges of being an Orthodox Jewish judge. Kluger explained that she refrains from involvement in politics or in cases in which she is familiar with the litigant. As a criminal judge, Kluger said she believes it is important to educate children on the importance of higher education. She said children should

be educated before they start engaging in criminal activity. Once entering the life of crime there is "a revolving door effect" in which the criminal comes in and out of court for repeated offenses and cannot be rehabilitated into the mainstream of society.

"Judge Kluger's remarks were insightful and encouraging for women considering to enter the legal profession," said Political Science Society President Elisheva Wohlgenuth, SCW '96, who arranged the lecture.

Tikvah Shachter, SCW '97, said, "It was a good opportunity for women interested in law to explore and find out their options."

Kluger, an Orthodox mother of three, was appointed by former Mayor Ed Koch as a Criminal Court Judge at the Midtown Community Court in 1988 for a 10-year tenure. The court, located on West 54th Street between 8th and 9th Avenues, is one of the first computerized and paperless courts in New York City.

## YU Students Attend Racial/Ethnic Harmony Seminar

By Chaviva Schoffman

A Racial Harmony Forum was held in City College to give high school and college students the opportunity to meet and discuss their opinions on issues including racial/ethnic stereotypes, religion, affirmative action and media influences. The March 8 seminar was attended by students from SCW, YC, City College, Taft High School and Bronx Science High School.

The seminar began with an introductory speech by Dean Terrell of City College and a keynote address by YU's Statistics Professor Dr. Marilyn Schneider.

Schneider, who grew up on the Lower East Side, graduated with a bachelors from City College and went on to attain anthropology, psychology and sociology degrees in various universities, told of her childhood. As a child she was subject to the racial and ethnic tension that develops in a mixed society.

One thing that Schneider said she realized quickly in her studies of tension is that there is a stricter level on the intermingling of religions than on the that of races. From a scientific standpoint words such as race, nation, etc., have no bearing. It is things like blood type and genetic traits, she said, that separate individuals into different categories.

In college Schneider began a round table discussion with people of other origins to discuss their differences and similarities. They found out four major points at this round table. Firstly, every nation, or people

has their belief as to why people suffer. Secondly, feelings are more meaningful and true when you search out your own feeling for yourself. Thirdly, the way to learn and to grow is to talk to others, thereby comparing and contrasting your similarities and differences. Finally, everyone has some arrogance contained within them. She said that each group of people believes that they are superior to all others.

After the speeches, the seminar broke up into four discussion groups. The group on Racial Ethnic Stereotypes, chaired by YC student Sandor Bak, discussed "what is prejudice and from where does it stem?" The group on Religion, chaired by YC student David Price, found that by comparing and contrasting different religions one may find that many similarities occur. They concluded that each diverse group should help one another and not just stick up for themselves.

The Affirmative Action Committee group discussed such topics as to whom should Affirmative Action apply; the theory of the practice versus the reality of it; the need for its reevaluation; the concept of reverse discrimination and has it fulfilled its goals and is it still doing so. The group on Media Influences discussed the negative influences that the media has on people. They discussed how the media serves to create misconceptions about certain groups of people and fosters prejudice.

The one resolution that all discussion

Continued on pg. 5

## ID PLEASE!!! Students Frustrated by ID Policy

By Amira Rubin

Many SCW students are frustrated by an again-off again security identification checks.

"I think we should just wear ID cards on our foreheads. It would make life much easier," suggested Emily Beth Shapiro, SCW '97.

Because sometimes guards ask students to show their student identification before entering both the school building as well as the dorm, and other times they do not, students are questioning the inconsistent policies behind the displaying of IDs.

One guard told a student that she would have to get out her ID because "the boss is here."

SCW and YC building policies have not always included showing your identification upon entrance. Chief of Security for YU Donald Summers said that the policy has only been around for five years. The ID policy is in effect for the entire University, including dormitories and school buildings.

"This is how we control who has access to the buildings," Summers said. In 1990, even the Student Council agreed that this identification policy was an acceptable procedure.

But many students no longer feel that way. "It's good to some extent," said Faye Berman, SCW '98. "In the beginning they have to know who goes into the buildings

and who doesn't, but now we're in second semester and unless it's a new guard they should recognize us."

Security Officer Noble said, "It's good for security purposes definitely to show ID. You wouldn't want anyone coming in here who's not supposed to be." Another security guard added that this policy is effect in many buildings throughout New York City.

Some students said they think the ID checking is good because it is safer. Elisheva Wohlgenuth, SCW '96, said she believes it is important to show ID. "Anyone could walk up. It'd be so simple for a terrorist to get into the building," Ilanit Benjamin, SCW '97, said. "I remember with the whole Baruch Goldstein incident they were meticulous with checking IDs and no one complained. I think the buildings are just doing their jobs."

One senior complained that the same guard asks her for ID day after day but then laughs at her as she fumbles through her bags to locate it. "I realize that's his job but he does this to me every day when I enter the dorm. Why is he having fun at my expense?"

Shapiro explained her interpretation of the ID policy as part of Murphy's Law. "When you have your ID out, they're not going to ask for it, but when it's in your bag under all your books and you have to take off your gloves to locate it, that's when they're going to ask."



Blood Drive Organizer Nicole Hamburger Thanking SCW Participants

## A Pint a Day... Over 70 Students Donate Blood

By Emily J. Shapiro

More than 70 students donated blood at the second SCW blood drive of the 1994-95 academic year, and in recognition of its increased participation, SCW will soon be presented with an award from the New York Blood Services.

The event was organized by Nicole Hamburger, SCW '95, in conjunction with New York Blood Services. Hamburger, who has been coordinating the drives for the past three years, said that over 90 students volunteered to donate blood, and over 70 SCW students were accepted at the February 23 drive.

As publicity and awareness of the cause has risen, the number of donors has increased with each additional drive. SCW is particularly appreciated as an important and reliable supplier due to the availability of "good clean blood," according to NY Blood Services, which can be rare at many secular universities.

Hamburger was inspired to run the program because of her grandfather's illness and need for blood. "This past blood drive was the best turn out we've had in a long time

but the more people that give, the better," said Hamburger.

Many students were proud of the turnout at the blood drive. "It was a real Kiddush Hashem for so many girls to donate," Jordana Schaffel, SCW '96, said.

Some, however, were disappointed by what they considered a low turnout. "People need to be better educated about the blood drive," Mimi Feigenbaum, SCW '96 said. They don't realize what it really is; they're incredibly ignorant. It's just a little prick."

Some of the reasons students did not donate blood were because of illness, low weight and fear. Dana Schwartz, SCW '97, empathized with fearful students but said that, "When we're dealing with people's lives, you should overcome it."

Although not every student was able or willing to donate at the blood drive, the flyers, buttons and "Be nice to me - I gave blood" stickers made everyone aware and conscious of the importance of the drive. "It's the easiest mitzvah. Why not do it?" Michelle Lefkowitz, SCW '96, said. Esther Yuter, SCW '96, agreed, saying, "In just 10 minutes, one pint can save five lives!"

## Chol & Moed

Continued from page 3

nously opted that a "real" yeshiva was incompatible with a college. The secular Anglo-Jewish press smugly ridiculed the idea of Torah students excelling in the liberal arts and sciences.

Since those days, when Yeshiva was moving from the Lower East Side to Washington Heights (then considered the gentrified suburbs), we have educated, reared, and trained many generations of Torah Umadda personalities. And Yeshiva alumni, imbued with the ultimate and proven compatibility of Chol and Moed, have risen in the ranks of American Jewish leadership and were *marbitz Torah be'yabbin* both here and in Israel, all--without being strangers in the world of Madda and without suffering any insult to their spiritual integrity.

In a word, we have made Chol Hamoed come alive in the very texture of our lives. As long as the emphasis is on Torah -- the

Yom Tov after -- and as long as the integration of all our values take place in the larger context of *kedushah*, Chol Hamoed remains the choice period to emulate for the bulk of our lives.

Yes, Chol and Moed sometimes clash, there is often tension between them, that is an existential as well as a halakic fact. But more memorable than the tension is the sense of balance, and more enduring than the conflict is the resulting spiritual enrichment. It is the balance and enrichment which happily accompany us through life.

As we welcome Pesach, bear in mind that as *talmidim* of Yeshiva University we face the daunting *avodah kashah* of embracing in each of our personalities the distinctive dynamism of Chol Hamoed -- that which can sanctify our Chol and strengthen our Moed. And difficult as it may sometimes be, remember what we learned in *Avot* -- *le'yum tzaara agra*, the reward is commensurate with the pain!

*Moadim le'simcha* to all of you!

## Racial Harmony Discussed

Continued from page 4

groups seemed to find to be the best course of action was education. Each group felt that it was imperative that children be taught tolerance from a young age, in both school and at in the home. Another suggestion was establishing boycotts on a personal or public basis when one finds racism or prejudice rampant in a certain corporation.

In the future, the four schools intend to join together in a campaign to reduce racial and ethnic prejudice including trips to different schools as well as racial/ethnic harmony programs.

## Senate Debates Return of Midterms

Continued from page 1

Senior Senate Member Sara Rosman said that there should be a deadline set by the administration to make sure that all midterms are returned by then.

Chairman of the Rebecca Ivy Department of Judaic Studies Rabbi Ephraim Kamarfogel said that there is no way of implementing such a policy because "there is no way to enforce teachers to adhere to this."

Besides returning exams and papers in a timely fashion, the Senate discussed the returning of exams and papers in a private manner. The Senate agenda stated, "Most students do not appreciate that the rest of their class has rummaged through all the papers after the professor has simply left the papers in his/her office." Many Literature professors were noted as leaving papers in a shopping bag on the door of their office for students to retrieve. Thus, all the grades are made visible. Bacon said that the papers should be "coded" with students' social security numbers to ensure privacy.

The concluding issue discussed with

administrators at the Senate meeting was ceasing to use the gym as a location for taking finals due to the "poor lighting and noise from the lights."

Bacon responded to this complaint by saying that she would "discuss it with the Director of Examinations." However, Katzman said that she was very positive about effecting this change.

Members of the Senate were elected from each class. Freshman Senate member is Rachel Greenberg; Sophomore members are Melanie Arum and Sharon Cohen; Junior members are Goldring and Sharon Kaminetsky; and Senior members are Katzman and Rosman.

The next Senate meeting has not yet been decided.

## Seniors are Awarded

Continued from page 1

viewed by the Dean and the chairman of the Judaic Studies Department.

The Observer Executive Editor Metra Shatz is the recipient of the Lisa Wachtenheim Memorial Award for character and service. This award is given in memory of an SCW student who suffered a tragic and untimely death. It was established by the Wachtenheim family, faculty and students, to recognize an outstanding senior. One administrator recalled Lisa as a vibrant member of the student body with a strong commitment to Judaism and SCW.

The Senior Class Professor Awards are being given to Bible and Navi Professor Rabbi Pesach Oratz, and to Psychology Professor Dr. Joshua Bacon, in recognition of their devotion to the education of SCW students.



Rabbi Oratz: Winner of the Senior Class Judaic Studies Professor Award

**Rabbi Yehoshua Berman**  
Director of Admissions, Nishmat

will deliver a shiur on  
Wednesday, April 5  
at 2:30 (room to be announced):

### "The Politics of Charoset"

and will bring information on

## Nishmat Summer Programs 1995

**Yarchei Kallah**  
Sunday July 2-Thursday July 20

An intense immersion in Jewish learning: inspiring classes in Chumash, Nach, Talmud, Jewish Thought and law are conducted by Nishmat's faculty of outstanding scholars and teachers. Classes meet five days a week, 9am-5pm, plus occasional evening lectures, a sabbaton, picnic and concert.

Tuition: \$495 Dorm: \$235

**Tanach Institute**  
Sunday July 30-Thursday August 3

Week-long morning-only program in Hebrew, this year's theme is *The Wisdom of Mishlei*, within the dimensions of pshat, midrash and parshanut.

Tuition: \$150 Dorm: \$95

For further information on the shiur, Nishmat Summer Programs, or full-time study, contact Yocheved Azar, the American Friends of Nishmat, Tel. 212-781-3088



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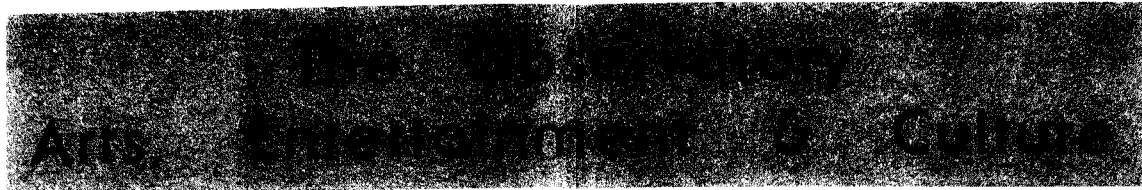
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### The Printed Page

**By Dina Bogner**  
Just two blocks from Stern is a place one can go to spend time steeped in the captivating Renaissance culture.

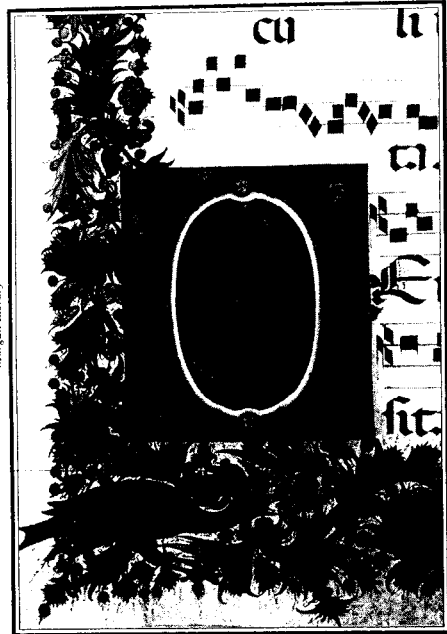
The Pierpont Morgan Museum, located at thirty-sixth street and Madison Avenue, houses important historical manuscripts, including handwritten Mozart symphonies, prints by Rembrandt and a first printing of the American Declaration Of Independence.

The museum's current exhibit, entitled **THE PRINTED PAGE: Italian Renaissance Book Illumination, 1450-1550**, features illuminated manuscripts from the Renaissance period. Illuminated manuscript was one of the few forms of art to survive the Dark Ages.

The exhibit features manuscript pages with biblical, historic and classical themes. Most of the pages are from family bibles and contain New Testament Art. The books of the pre-printing press era are two to three feet tall! These books were a very valuable part of the wealthy family's art collection.

Wealthy people, in the medieval period, would commission art work for their family books. The works were done on prepared animal skins. Liquid metals and the very expensive Lapis Lazuli served as ink. These tools guarantee the survival of a work over hundreds of years.

The "Painted Page" exhibit is open until May 7 and is definitely worth seeing. Museum hours are Tues.-Fri., 10:30 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sunday, noon-6 p.m.



Morgan Library

Liberale Da Verona (1445-1526) - Corale miniato: Lettera iniziale fiorita

### Kandinsky's Compositions On Display

**By Suzanne Baran**

One might assume that a painter famed for his many works would have pursued his love of art from an early age. This is not so of early twentieth century artist Vasily Kandinsky. Kandinsky was actually a law student and only became inspired to be an artist after moving to Munich and falling in love with a painting by Claude Monet.

The Museum of Modern Art now has an exhibit that displays a broad variety of Kandinsky's works. Kandinsky's most prominent series, **The Ten Compositions**, is a mixture of spiritual and philosophical

ideas. The first three of his **Compositions** are very abstract, and the next few are progressively more concrete. The color schemes in some of the works are drab showing shapes in olives, browns and grays. Other members of the series involve bold, vivid, primary colors evoking a sense of striking power in graphics used to convey subjects as torrential rainstorms and boats in turbulent waters.

**Compositions Nine and Ten** were completed toward the end of Kandinsky's life, during World War II. These paintings con-

tain more definition and brighter colors and follow somewhat the surrealist emphasis in the art work of the period.

Also on display at the Museum of Modern Art is **Semblances**, a collection of about 30 portraits of celebrities combined with the philosophical ideas of the artists who rendered these portraits.

The Kandinsky paintings are on display at the Museum of Modern Art until April 25th. **Semblances** is on display until May 6th. The Museum of Modern Art is located at 11 West 53rd Street.

### An Unfavorable Review: The Kosher Tea Room

**By Gila Reintz**

For those lucky restaurant-goers who have already tired of Medici, Tivere and My Most Favorite Dessert Company, a new overpriced restaurant has entered the picture. The Kosher Tea Room recently opened for business on Second Avenue and Twelfth Street, offering meat dishes for indulgent Village-goers. Unfortunately, for the prices being asked (pastas from \$16 and up, and meat dishes in the \$20-25 range), the food

itself is not particularly interesting in taste and is even more mundane in presentation.

Angel hair pasta with sauteed vegetables lacked any kind of sauce or spices for flavor and the dumplings filled with skewered lamb and garlic turned out to be a \$20 plate of Kreplach. The food was certainly not inedible, but for that money, it would be wiser to stick to old favorites where you know what you're getting and it's worth the extra bucks.

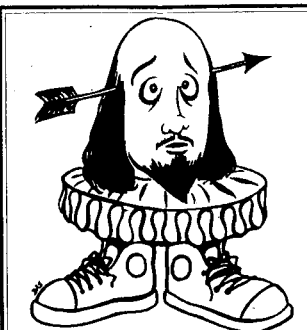
### No Cliff Notes Needed

### The Compleat Works of Wilm Shkspr (abridged):

**By Rachel Yunger**

"Get thee to a nunnery!" Does this sound familiar to you? What about "Romeo, Romeo, wherefore art thou Romeo?" You've probably studied these famous lines at some point in your life, but I can assure you that you've never heard them as they are presented in "The Compleat Works of Wilm Shkspr" (abridged). This is Shakespeare like you've never seen him before.

As theater-goers sit back and relax to a night of off-Broadway entertainment, three zany, energetic, super-spirited (and might I add, extremely talented) thespians do everything in their power to amuse their audience. In a combination of Marx Brothers madness and Monty Python mania, it's the Bard like you've never seen him before. In under two hours, right before your eyes, you will witness the hilarious deconstruction of ALL of Shakespeare's



**The Compleat Works of Wilm Shkspr**  
**ABRIDGED**

All the Plays! All the Sonnets!  
All in 100 hysterical minutes!

Westside Theatre  
407 West 43rd Street  
New York, NY 10036  
located between Ninth & Tenth Avenues

works (sonnets included). The entire Cannon is brilliantly trashed with generous helpings of slapstick, buffoonery and laugh-out-loud humor; it is a true theatrical roller coaster ride.

No Cliff notes in the world can narrate the tale of *Othello* in rap form or relay the histories of *Henry IV-VIII* as if they were a football game. What does Titus Andronicus have in common with Julia Child? I refuse to divulge the answer or you may be foolish enough not to see it for yourself. Fun, Fun, Fun is all I have left to say about this brilliant show. I didn't stop laughing from start to finish. Whether you're an English major or you haven't taken a single Lit course throughout your entire college life (like me), you're equally guaranteed to love this show. So, get thee to the Westside Theater (407 West 43rd St) or call (212) 307-4100 for tickets - now!!



Cast of Ladyhouse Blues: Elisheva Septimus, Ilana Adler, Sarah Altman, Dafna Kalish and Daphna Frankel

### SCDS Does It Again: This Time a Drama!

**By Dina Bogner**

The Stern College Dramatics Society's recent production of *Ladyhouse Blues* far surpassed "success." It powerfully illustrated the potent strength of women and family.

*Ladyhouse Blues*, written by Kevin O'Morrison, tells the story of a mother, Liz Madden, and her four daughters, as they cope with a changing society in St. Louis in 1919 during the end of War World I.

Dafna Kalish, SCW '95, in her final SCDS performance, was superb as the unfaltering mother, Liz, who strives to keep her family together and her pride intact. Kalish, who has played in four productions prior to this one, said, "The experience of portraying a 42-year-old woman and mother of five, was one that provided me with a great dramatic challenge. The rehearsals as well as the performance left me emotionally exhausted yet internally invigorated." Kalish's past performances include Lane in *The Importance of Being Earnest*, the Dybuk in *The Dybuk*, Nanki Poo in *The Mikado* and Audrey in *Little Shop of Horrors*.

Helen, the eldest daughter, is suffering

from Tuberculosis while struggling to hold onto a past which has vanished. Helen was played by Elisheva Septimus, SCW '95, whose success as Katisha in last year's *The Mikado* remains unforgettable.

Making her debut with SCDS, Ilana Adler, SCW '97, portrayed the second daughter, Dot. She is a sophisticated New Yorker who, while visiting her family, discovers some of her mother's simple wisdom. Terry, the third daughter, played by Sarah Altman, SCW '96, is active in the women's union movement. Altman served as director of last semester's *Little Shop of Horrors* and last year's *The Mikado*. "Of all the characters, this was the most like me and I enjoyed the excitement of the character," said Altman, who called the change from directing to acting "a very different experience." She said, "It's very nice to be out there in front of the audience rather than directing."

Daphna Frankel, SCW '96, was the cheerful and optimistic youngest daughter, Eylie, in her premiere performance with SCDS.

Audience members were overwhelmingly impressed by the production, which ran from March 26-29. "It's amazing... fabulous acting... a lot of laughs mixed in with a lot of emotion," said Sabina Kritch, SCW '97.

Rebecca Rosen, SCW '96, said, "I felt like I was seeing the world through the eyes of one of the character's eyes."

The play, which was directed by Speech and Drama Professor Mark McGovern, was put on in the transformed Koch Auditorium.

President of SCDS Rachel Yunger commented that the personalities portrayed in *Ladyhouse Blues* are timeless. "I'm sure every woman in the audience saw a little part of herself in the characters on stage," she said.

Yunger also commented that "Ladyhouse Blues is about real life." She explained, "As creative and enjoyable as it was to produce *The Mikado* and *Little Shop of Horrors*, SCDS could not overlook the importance of a substantial piece of drama."

### Camille Pissarro: Impressionist Innovator

**By Shoshana Gordon**

No matter how sunny it is outside, the streets of Manhattan appear to be drab and gray. But The Jewish Museum offers a possible cure in its currently-running Camille Pissarro exhibit. It is an infusion of color, a prelude to spring. The exhibit includes over 100 pieces from every stage of Pissarro's development as a late nineteenth century artist.

Pissarro's work cannot be solidly categorized as impressionist, as he experimented at various points in his life with pointalism and portraits, rural and urban landscapes using mediums such as charcoal and oil paint.

The exhibit portrays Pissarro not only as a passionate artist, but a political activist as well. He was a Jew and an anarchist who went so far as to alienate his artistic peers, Degas, Renoir and Cezanne in 1897 for sympathizing with Dreyfuss in anti-Semitic France.

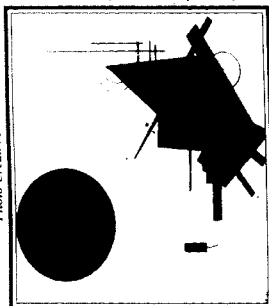
The exhibit is a stunning, comprehensive collection of Camille Pissarro's paintings and sketches. It remains on view until July 16, 1995 at the Jewish Museum, 1109 5th Avenue at 92nd Street. For more information, call 423-3230.



Pissarro's painting, "Peasant Women Planting Stakes"



Christopher Duva, Jon Patrick Walker, and Peter Jacobson are the stars of "The Compleat Works of Wilm Shkspr (abridged)"



Vasily Kandinsky's Black Relationship

Photo Credit: MOMA

Photo Credit: Peter Cummings

# Featuring...

## Getting Out:

### A Shocking Look at Spousal Abuse in the Jewish Community

By Michele Berman

The business card reads in large, blue, indelible letters, "We're ready ... when you are." But what the card cannot read are the years of bitter pain, agonizing traumatic torment and emotional, verbal and physical violation. Shockingly, it is an abuse that exists within our Jewish community.

When active Lawrence resident and SCW alumna Mrs. Sarah Bergman was approached two years ago regarding the plight of the abused Jewish woman, she couldn't believe that such an issue actually existed in the Jewish community, until she met one of the abused.

"It was shocking to me when I first became aware of the whole problem," Bergman said. "Unfortunately, these things do exist."

Bergman became involved in the Shalom Task Force, a volunteer organization created to serve the particular needs of victims of domestic abuse in the Jewish community. Shalom Task Force services families who live in the New York City metropolitan area and focuses on providing crisis intervention for individuals and families in need. Those who need such services know that they are not alone and that help is available.

The Task Force provides a hotline, which is printed up on easily accessible business cards and is being distributed throughout the Jewish community. The confidential hotline is staffed by trained individuals to provide a listening ear, an opportunity to explore options and referrals for support services. Bergman urged all those in need of help to contact the hotline. "It's not shameful, it's not terrible to ... call a hotline number."

The Task Force also has a housing/shelter available for families in immediate danger. Referrals are also made available by the Task Force for Halakic consultations in rabbinic law and legal consultations in civil law.

Other services that the Task Force provides are referrals to resources for material support and psychological counseling. The Task Force also provides programs for high school students that heightens awareness of interpersonal relationships and communica-

tion skills, as well as provides public speakers for groups and organizations.

About 15 SCW students came March 29 to hear Bergman speak about spousal abuse in the Jewish community and what the Shalom Task Force is doing to help those in need.

Bergman told the students about bringing the whole abuse issue into the open. She said, "No one wants to admit [that in the frum community] it exists. Everyone believes in shalom baysis [keeping a peaceful home]."

Bergman said that abusive relationships are present "across the board" including every Jewish category, from the most religious to the least religious. "There's no way to say it's only a certain kind of people," Bergman explained.

Domestic abuse is defined as emotional, verbal or physical abuse of one spouse by another; in 95% of the cases, it is the wife who is abused by the husband. The problem occurs in 15-20% of any population. In a non-Jewish relationship, a woman will go for help after 5-7 years. A frum woman will stay in that relationship for 9-17 years.

Bergman defined abuse as not necessarily battering or beating, but when one partner tries to control the other. She said it may seem to start as a very loving and caring thing, "but sooner or later she's cut off from everyone. This happens." Bergman also explained that it's not just "crazy" men who abuse but many are highly intelligent or very involved in the community. She said, "On the outside no one would suspect a thing. But on the inside -- that's where it comes out."

Bergman said that no one would put up with such abusive behavior on the outside (eg. on the job) but a wife may be more apologetic and willing to try harder.

"An abuser is not like that all the time," Bergman said. "Something will just set it off and then he'll just explode." There is what, Bergman and professionals call, a "honeymoon cycle," where there will be a cycle of violence, which includes a period where everything is fine and then he lashes out. This is followed by a time period where the spouse may feel bad for what he has done

*Continued on pg. 9*



Kinah Cohen and Sabina Krich Act Out a Scene in Art of the Actor

## Class Spotlight: The Art of the Actor

By Marcie Schneider

Believe it or not, there is actually a class at SCW that involves no written homework. That is not to say, though, that students do not spend hours preparing.

In the two-and-a-half hour Art of the Actor class, Professor Mark McGovern teaches students the craft of acting. Class usually begins with breathing exercises and relaxation techniques.

"We do various acting exercises, both physical and memory," McGovern said.

Students work on individual monologues and group scenes. During class, the scenes are critiqued in an effort to make them more effective.

"We take scenes, analyze them and work them through any number of times," McGovern said. "We're looking for different values."

"We ask questions about the characters," Avital Amini, SCW '96, said. "We have to get in touch with the characters and determine what they're feeling. We also learn to interpret things."

The relaxed atmosphere of the class allows students to express themselves freely. "It's a performance course, not overly acad-

emic. It has a looser environment with the discipline of work," McGovern said. "I'm very serious about that."

Sabina Krich, SCW '97, said, "We learn how to feel, how to think and how to become the character."

Groups consisting of two or three students have already selected the scene they will perform at the close of the semester's "Tuesday Night Melange" program open to the public. Scenes from *Three Tall Women*, *Suecel Magnolias* and *Sisters Rosenzweig* are just some of the scripts to be used. Students must memorize their lines and portray characters accurately. Props will also be used.

The Art of the Actor is not only for speech and drama majors. The class attracts students with an interest in theater as well.

"I took the class because I love to act, but I'd never get a chance when I enter the real world part of my life," Krich said.

McGovern has been teaching at SCW for four years. He directed this year's SCW play, *Ladyhouse Blues*. In addition to his teaching Art of the Actor and Speech 1010, McGovern teaches Speech at Baruch College and history at a Brooklyn high school.

## The New Prenuptial Trend: A Halakic Solution to an Age Old Problem

By Ilana Barber

"Mazel Tov! \_\_\_\_\_ is engaged to \_\_\_\_\_! Dancing will be in the Orange lounge tonight at 11:00 p.m." Sound familiar? Like most SCW women who get engaged while still in school, this is what a typical announcement of their engagement looks like. But after all the excitement dies down, there are hundreds of plans to be made as the young couple set a date, get a hall, hire a caterer, find a photographer and of course buy a beautiful ring.

Beyond these more enjoyable aspects are understanding the intricate laws in a halakic marriage; *tenaim*, the *ketubah*, etc. There are also the realities of Jewish marriages. As Mrs. Fayge Safran, who teaches a Home and Family course at SCW, noted, "Approximately one girl in each class that I teach will get divorced." Due to this grim statistic, a new document is gaining popularity in the Jewish community -- the Prenuptial Agreement.

Because there are many cases where the divorce is complicated, the result is an *agunah* situation, where the woman may be separated from her husband civilly but does not have a Jewish divorce, and thus cannot remarry until she has a *get*.

Many young couples, upon suggestion of signing a prenuptial agreement, are quick to deem such a contract unromantic and anticlimactic. It is crucial for couples to closely examine the nature of such an agreement before making a final decision.

Recently, at the Rabbinic Alumni Con-

vention, a prenuptial agreement written by YU's Rabbi Mordechai Willig, was endorsed. The list of endorsements included many well known rabbis such as the Rosh Beth Din of the Beth Din of America, Rabbi Gedalia Dov Schwartz.

The prenuptial agreement accepted, consists of two main documents: the arbitration agreement between husband and wife, and the husband's assumption of obligation. The first document is an agreement by both parties to abide by a chosen *Bais Din* in matters concerning the marriage in the event that problems arise, while the second is an agreement by the husband to provide his wife with a certain amount of money per day if the couple separates and another household is set up. The money is paid regardless of whether the woman holds a job.

Safran urges students to sign the document and claims that more and more do so each semester goes by. Safran explained that those who claim that it is unromantic should understand that the *ketubah* is also a form of prenuptial agreement and yet no one objects to it. Some even go as far as to have them illuminated and hung on their walls! Secondly, the signing of such an agreement is not a display of doubt in the relationship but rather a guarantee that the husband is providing his wife with a security blanket. Furthermore, she said, couples should not view the prenuptial agreement as applying to their particular relationship, but should

*Continued on pg. 12*

## Broadcast Students Visit CBS

By Esther Barry

How many SCW women can you fit into a newsroom? The 20 students in Sara Lee Kessler's Broadcast Journalism class found out on their recent field trip to the small midtown studio where CBS News Radio 88 broadcasts 24 hours a day.

Students observed the everyday workings of the radio newsroom, located at W. 52nd St. and 5th Ave. Kessler, who anchors at CBS, gave the hour and a half guided tour around the offices and studio, where students had the opportunity to meet key people in the newsroom, including assistant news director Lou Gisserman. For many, the highlight of the trip was meeting the newscasters in person and watching them work.

"It was cool to see the faces behind the voices," said Kim Ohayon, SCW '97. "Now when I listen to the news, I have faces to match the voices."

Jennifer Reves, SCW '96, was especially impressed with Reporter Darlene Pomales, who took the time to show the students what she was doing, and actually put together a story in front of them. "I thought

she was a good role model and very inspirational," Reves said.

Elana Weisfogel, SCW '96, enjoyed being in the studio while anchors Wayne and Harley broadcasted live on the radio. "It was fun to watch them ad-lib on the air. They were very personable and gave us a real feel for what it's like to work in a news studio."

Students also had the opportunity to meet one of the few Orthodox people in the news business -- CBS News Radio producer Meyer Fertig. He told students of his experience at the station and encouraged them to go into broadcast journalism.

"There aren't many 'frum' people in this business, especially from women, but it's not as hard as it used to be to be Orthodox in this business," Fertig said. "It really is a great field."

Students enjoyed the trip and some are seriously considering going into broadcast journalism.

"It was a good learning experience and practical," said Weisfogel. "It was a very worthwhile trip."



## Domestic Abuse

*Continued from page 8*

and tries to make it up to his wife with loving behavior -- this is the "honeymoon phase," Bergman said, "You don't know how long the cycle will last."

Bergman explained that it is unwise for the couple to go for help together because she may be reluctant to give details if he is present, or if she does, he may reprimand her for it later.

Bergman pointed to the O.J. Simpson case as the cause for recently bringing domestic abuse to the surface. She said, however, that it is still a source of extreme embarrassment and shame for an abused Jewish woman to admit that she is being abused. Bergman said, "Because we live in such small, tight [communities], everyone knows everything. It's a problem for a woman to come forward. It's embarrassing." Bergman said women should be able to go to their Rav to get help. She said that Rebbeim are being spoken to about how to better deal with this issue. "Many rabbis are very open."

Why are Jewish women staying in these abusive relationships for 9-17 years? Bergman explained that they may stay for the children -- sometimes until the children are grown up. But, she said, "children are astute" and it is usually worse for the couple to stay together because the children may grow to be abusers or abused.

Bergman advises women not to discuss it with their parents because many times parents will advise their daughters to go back to their abusive husbands for shalom bayis sake and to "try harder."

Bergman also discussed warning signs for dating. Because it is difficult to see if a potential husband is going to be abusive

when he gets married, one should look closely at how he acts on the date. How does he treat the waitress? Does he insist on eating at the restaurant he chooses? Does he take into consideration your thoughts and feelings? She said, "These are things that you have to be alert to."

SSSB President Judith Schluskel, who attended the seminar, said, "I think that one of the problems, especially in our community, is that you don't date for a long enough time to find out [if the potential husband is abusive]." Bergman advised checking thoroughly into his background.

Bracha Klein, SCW '96, asked, "Many religious women stay because of the children. Is that a valid point?" Bergman replied, "You're continuing a cycle." She said, "It's not easy ... the shame of it, to admit it to yourself, to admit it to your friend." Bergman emphasized, "I give the women who get out of [the abusive relationship] a lot of credit." Ironically, she said, it's a lot easier to stay in a battered relationship than to leave it. She asked rhetorically, "You're going to [then] show up in shul?!"

Bergman said, "We have to sensitize people to be more understanding."

Coordinator of the event Rebecca Rosen, SCW '96, asked, "What can we do?" Bergman replied, "You're the future. You need to talk about it, to become aware about it."

Bergman said, "No matter what you do, nothing warrants, nothing gives a husband permission to batter ... Women should not have to put up with this ... It's something that's not acceptable."

The confidential hotline number is (718) 337-3700.

## Spotlight on Jewish Philosophy: Rabbi Feldman

By Suzanne Felsenthal

The 1994-95 academic year marked the addition of a new faculty member in SCW's Jewish Philosophy department.

Rabbi Jonathan Feldman, an expert on Medieval Jewish Philosophy, teaches students about philosophical issues that they encounter in their own lives.

Rabbi Feldman wishes to "provide students with the ability to think and express their own thoughts on the issues at hand ... Moreover, students must know that they are allowed to question certain concepts such as *hashgachah* and reward and punishment."

Students consider such queries as: Is there an absolute standard of right and wrong? Why do good things happen to bad people? and other morality issues.

"I have always been drawn to think about these issues," he said.

Rabbi Feldman also integrates the study

of kabbalistic tradition in medieval Jewish philosophy in dealing with these concerns.

Rabbi Feldman deviates from a solely lecture format to encourage class interaction. "Students have plenty of ideas but need to learn how to formulate and present them," he said.

Next year, Rabbi Feldman plans to add more textual work to his courses. "People have textual skills," he said. "However, these skills will become rusty, unless they are practiced both day in and day out."

Aside from teaching at SCW, Rabbi Feldman also teaches adult education on Medieval Jewish Philosophy. He received his masters from the Bernard Revel Graduate School, and is currently earning a PhD in Medieval Jewish Philosophy at NYU.

Rabbi Feldman has enjoyed his first year at SCW and has found students to be very responsive and sensitive to important issues.



Student Services' Mrs. Zeldi Braun and Mrs. Ilene Himer Dress Up at the SCW Purim Chagigah



Rabbi Feldman

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## Faculty Speaks Out

Continued from page 1

hand, blamed President Norman Lamm. "Socol couldn't do anything if Lamm objected," Levy said. "Consequently, I believe the President is directly at fault." Levy said he believes it should be the quality of a teacher's work, and not the labor supply, that determines his salary. "Dr. Lamm's job is to make sure that the faculty is doing its job and is respected," he continued. "He is not doing his job." Both Dr. Lamm and Socol refused to comment.

YC Dean of Academic Affairs Dr. Norman Adler responded sympathetically to the faculty's claims. "We have a faculty that is as dedicated and hard working as any, and they should be rewarded," Adler said. Adler also said that one of his first priorities as new dean of YC is to obtain a raise for the teachers. "You can't have a first rate faculty without rewarding them," he explained. Adler stated that there is a lot currently being done to raise the salaries, and that he is very optimistic. However, he could not give any further details.

The teachers asserted that any leverage and bargaining power they may have had has disappeared since "The Yeshiva Decision." In the early 1970's, the faculties of the graduate and undergraduate schools of arts and sciences said that the administration was not sufficiently honoring its commitments for salary, work conditions and general areas of respect. Many believed that unionization was required to obtain results. Others felt, however, that it was inappropriate for a religious institution to form an in house union. When Dr. Lamm became president, he promised to improve conditions to the point where a union would not be necessary. The faculty, however, did not feel that there was any improvement. In October of 1974, the Yeshiva University Faculty Association then filed a representation petition with the National Labor Relations Board, seeking certification as bargaining agent for the full-time faculty members. The administration chal-

lenged the petition saying that its faculty members were managerial -- and therefore not entitled to the protection of the NLRB.

The case went to the Supreme Court, and on February 20, 1980, the court ruled 5 to 4 in favor of the administration. The Court was persuaded by the administration that all fundamental decisions were shared with the faculty, who were therefore managerial. The Court stated that, "Their (the faculty) authority in academic affairs is absolute. They decide what courses will be offered, when they will be scheduled, and to whom they will be taught. They debate and determine teaching methods, grading policies, and matriculation standards. They effectively decide which students will be admitted, retained, and graduated. On occasion their views have determined the size of the student body, the tuition to be charged, and the location of a school. When one considers the function of a university, it is difficult to imagine decisions more managerial than these." *National Labor Relations Board v. Yeshiva University*, 404 U.S. 675 (February 20, 1980).

Many faculty members believed, however, that the facts presented to the Supreme Court did not conform with reality. Since then, the faculty has claimed that their role in government has been so undermined, that there is no longer any area in which the faculty has managerial responsibility.

Some have questioned why faculty members remain at YU regardless of alleged frustration and dissatisfaction. One reason is the extremely poor current job market. An even more important factor seems to be the students. "There is a teaching situation here that can't be gotten elsewhere," said Grosf. "When people find a good fit with their teaching style, and feel that they can make a difference, they stay. That is why people go into teaching in the first place, as opposed to doing other things with their expertise." Despite all the difficulties, Levy said, "Our students are what save our lives. You have no idea just how good you really are."

## Candidates Focus on Apathy

Continued from page 1

and actively involved -- it's rare."

Cohen said she thinks students should become more involved in SCW because "everyone has some unique quality they can give to the school. They just have to come out and do it."

Cohen added that there are enough clubs available in SCW where students can find their "niche." Though she was very excited that 10 new clubs were formed at SCW, Cohen said that people ignore signs publicizing club activities and say to themselves, "I'm too busy." Cohen said students have to "take things to heart."

Cohen, who publicized her campaign with signs that read, "Vote Sharona Cohen - I still believe in a place called Stern," said she would like to "play up" club fair and encourage incoming students during orientation next year. She said she wants to "make this place as good as it can be for everyone."

Sophomore Class President Debbie Bielory, who is currently running for Junior Class President, said that she has personally witnessed student apathy while organizing and publicizing many of the Sophomore class programs such as the Scavenger Hunt, the Nets game and the circus. She said students have said to her face, "I am very apathetic. I can't stand anything the school does." Bielory explained that the core of the problem is that "people aren't shy about it - they bad mouth an event and tell their friends not to go to it." She said, "Because people are so vocally apathetic, a lot of other people that normally would have given it a

shot - would not because it's not the cool thing to do." She added that when she was organizing *The Guide II*, apathy was very apparent with many students acting like, "I'm doing you a favor by letting you put me in *The Guide*." Bielory said, "It's an overall attitude."

DV Goldring, who is running unopposed for the position of Senior Class President, said, "The fact that no one's running is indicative of the apathy at SCW, considering SCWSC president is running unopposed." She said, "Considering the small size of our school, I'm surprised by the overwhelming apathy and indifference. I hope that the new student council and class boards will work together to come up with new and exciting programs and events to unite the student body and create a warm school spirit."

President of the Political Science Society Elisheva Wohlgenuth, who is currently running for Senior Class Vice President, said she sees a lot of apathy on campus. "Most people don't care for anything besides their self-interests," Wohlgenuth explained. She also recommended having more activities geared toward student interests. "I think it has to be dealt with by student leaders. Students have to open their eyes and play an active role in their school. It's very easy to get involved here," she said.

Cohen said she personally got a lot out of SCW, which came from "my involvement from day one."

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## Lady Macs Complete Back to Back Winning Seasons

By Rachel Hellman

The Lady Macs ended this season with a 13-7 record. This is the first time in school history that the Lady Macs have finished above .500 for two consecutive seasons.

The Lady Macs were led by high scorer Rebecca Bienenstock with over 400 points. This is remarkable considering Bienenstock injured her ankle during the season. Unfortunately, for the team Bienenstock will be graduating this summer, thus, ending her illustrious career with the Lady Macs. The

team will also be losing their shot blocker, Stella Grinberg, who will be graduating this year.

The season included many memorable events. For the first time in team history the Lady Macs won a tournament in Boston. Team general manager Laura Gottlieb, SCW '95, summed up the season in the following way. "It was a terrific season thanks to a terrific team."



Lady Macs on the Court

## Solution for the Agunah Problem

Continued from page 8

sign it for the purpose of the goal of ultimate communal acceptance. While the young couple is secure in the knowledge that their relationship will last, they may save another less fortunate young woman from being in the terrible position of an *agunah*.

Safran said that unfortunately divorces "have become a means of unlawful extortion." She said, "Hopefully communal acceptance of this document could help prevent such cases."

Sary (Langner) Hager, SCW '95, who recently got married and signed a prenuptial agreement, said, "If just one person is saved from any kind of trauma at all then ... it's worth it for me and everyone else to sign it."

Hager said many friends have asked her: if she signed an agreement and thus she hopes her signing will lead others to also sign. "It's that important to me that maybe someone else will be saved from this kind of trouble," she explained.

Hager said that she didn't think that if she signed an agreement it meant that her husband would do this to her. Rather, she said, "... it's a halachic deal. You might as well protect yourself halachically."

Every couple should be counselled by both a rabbi and/or an attorney before signing such a document so that they fully understand the implications of such an agreement.

## Volleyball Intramurals - What Happened?

By Phyllis Roth

A little over a month ago there were signs in the elevator announcing volleyball intramurals. Over 40 women signed up, and everyone seemed quite excited. Nancy Moritz, SCW '96, had come up with this great idea.

About two weeks later work began on getting the intramural underway. The students were divided into six teams. A "trial evening" was scheduled in order to see how the teams were. About half the women that signed up, showed up. Okay, so it wasn't a great start but maybe people were busy that particular night. That evening rules were established and trial games were played. Everyone seemed to have a great time.

The next night, new teams were made up, and the teams and the schedule were posted in the gym. There was one technicality that the women had. They all had problems playing intramural more than once a week and they did not play more than one game an evening. Is this the way to play intramurals?

Moritz and I did our best to "accommodate" the women's needs in overcoming the fact that there are better things to do than play volleyball intramurals more than once a week for 20 minutes.

Now that new teams were made up, with only seven players per team, as well as a schedule that allowed for each team to only play once a week, everyone involved seemed satisfied.

The first game went well considering only five out of the seven from each team showed. After that, it was all down hill!! During the next game, only a total of five players came to the gym at the scheduled time. The game was delayed a half hour, due to a gym class, but that should not have prevented everyone from not coming. Even the referees were not in attendance. During the next game, only four students were present. In one game only two people showed, one player and a referee.

What happened? There was a definite interest, and some students attended their team's scheduled games as well as other games in order to participate. A lot of time and effort went into something the women of SCW seemed to want, yet there still seemed to be a lack of continuing through with a commitment.

We are very sorry for all those that gave their energy to making this work, even as a study break. We hope that there will be better attendance and commitment next year.

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