

# The Observer

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SCW Students at the Isaiah Wall Holding Up Signs for the MIA's

## SCW Students Rally for Alisa Flatow and MIA's

By Michele Berman

Led by Rabbi Avi Weiss, approximately 30 SCW students came together at the United Nations Isaiah Wall to pray and rally on behalf of Alisa Flatow and those Israeli soldiers still deemed Missing in Action.

"This is a time for real tears," said Rabbi Weiss as he spoke against the Hamas bus bombing last month which killed Flatow and injured two former SCW students as well as Israeli soldiers and civilians.

The rally, which was originally for support of the MIA's and to pray for Flatow, became a plea for action from those who want to see the peace process going on in Israel.

Rabbi Weiss, who called terrorism "a cancer," said, "I saw students at Stern College breaking down in tears because it hit home, it's one of ours."

Sharon Margolin, SCW '95, said, "When I first heard of the bus

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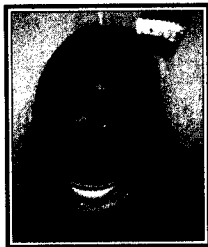
## Marcie Schneider to Be Observer 1995-96 Editor-in-Chief

By Observer Staff

In a recent announcement made by the *Observer* board, it was decided that Associate Features Editor Marcie Schneider will become next year's *Observer* editor-in-chief, taking over where Michele Berman left off.

"Marcie is a very capable, experienced and responsible individual, who has what it takes to be next year's *Observer* editor-in-chief," said Berman. "And she has the humor to take almost anything that comes her way!"

Schneider said she was very excited about the position. "I'm looking forward to a very productive year," she remarked.



Next Year's Editor-in-Chief Marcie Schneider

Schneider, SCW '96, who began her *Observer* career as staff writer for the Fall '93 semester, was promoted to the position of associate features editor in the Spring '94, and has worked as associate features editor since.

Joining Schneider as executive editor, and really her "right-hand man," as Berman described the position, will be Ziona Hochbaum, SCW '96. Schneider said she is looking forward to working closely with Hochbaum since she has worked well with her in the past on a variety of projects.

Both Hochbaum and Schneider are journalism majors, and as the major requires a minor as well, Hochbaum's minor is political science and Schneider's is a business minor.

One of Schneider's goals for the coming year will be upgrading the *Observer's* technical system. "We hope to receive funding for new, sophisticated equipment which will make it easier for the staff to publish *The Observer*," said Schneider.

On a lighter note, Schneider joked, "My favorite book is *Fox in Socks*. Don't be surprised if the paper rhymes next year!"

## SCWSC and SSSB Election Results Announced

By Ilana Adler

Newly-elected SCWSC President Ilana Barber, who is currently nearing the end of the 1994-95 year as Junior Class President, has been elected to head Student Council for the 1995-96 academic year.

While her unopposed victory caused a stir amongst many students who felt that apathy was a big part of the elections, current SCWSC President Laura Gross is confident in Barber's ability to be an effective leader.

Gross added that while it is fun and a great learning experience, a position on Student Council is "not a resume builder. You have to show a genuine concern

for the school."

DV Goldring, SCW '96, ran unopposed for Senior Class President. Goldring shares her responsibilities with Vice President-elect Laurie Lasher, Secretary Estie Lewkowitz and Treasurer Ziona Bersson.

Debbie Bielory, the new Junior Class President, has won in class elections for the third straight year.

Bielory said she looks forward to continuing with her commitment to SCW. "After having worked on five projects this past year, I look forward to having a productive year next year as Junior President," she said.

Bielory is joined by Vice President Emily Shapiro, who worked diligently this past year as

Secretary for the Sophomore class, as well as by newcomers Jessica Weiglus, secretary, and Shani Falik as treasurer.

The position of Sophomore class President was won by current Freshman class President Elissa Gross. She will be working with Tzippe Frankel, vice president and Cheryl Gigger, who currently holds the position of both Sophomore secretary and treasurer.

"Even though we have a small board this year, I think it is very workable," Gross said. "We are planning some exciting programs and are looking for different ways to improve the school."

Barbara Pollak, who won for next year's Sy Syms president, said, "I was impressed with the number of people who ran for po-

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## Benefactor Donates New State-of-the-Art Bio Lab at SCW

By Randi Sorscher

Thanks to the generous contribution of a New York City businesswoman, SCW will soon be home to the Leo and Rachel Sussman Laboratory, a biology laboratory facility boasting state-of-the-art biomedical computer technology and a comfortable lab setting.

"It's wonderful that Stern is finally moving into the twenty-first century and providing its students with the opportunity to work with the most advanced technology" said pre-med students Sharon Kamintzky, SCW '96, and Judith Kelsen, SCW '96.

The lab, which will take the place of the current microbiology and genetics lab, will be equipped with a state-of-the-art temperature control system regulating heat and humidity in addition to a new ventilating system. Not only will this benefit the students working in the lab, but will maintain the effectiveness of experiments.

Deionized water right out of the tap will eliminate having to carry in buckets from another room. In addition, each pair of students will have a computer at their work station which will be connected to the computer at the

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## Rabbi Shlomo Hochberg to Become New Mashgiach Ruchani as Rabbi Tzvi Flaum Takes a Leave

By Rachel Greenberg

It was announced by the Office of Student Services and Rebecca Ivry Department of Jewish Studies that Rabbi Shlomo Hochberg will be the new Mashgiach Ruchani as Rabbi Tzvi Flaum requests a leave for the 1995-96 academic year.

Chairman, Rebecca Ivry Department of Jewish Studies Rabbi Dr. Ephraim Kanarfogel and Assistant Dean of Student Services Zeldia Braun said that they feel that Rabbi Hochberg is especially suited for this position since he "shares our vision of Jewish women's education today" and because he will be able to relate to the wide spectrum of students in SCW.

Rabbi Hochberg, in his capacity as *Mashgiach Ruchani*, will provide personal guidance for students and will work closely with TAC. Furthermore, he will give a weekly *shiur* on Wednesday night. He will also be a member of the Rebecca Ivry Faculty and will teach the laws and customs of marriage. He will have students utilize the CD Rom in order to enrich their material resources.

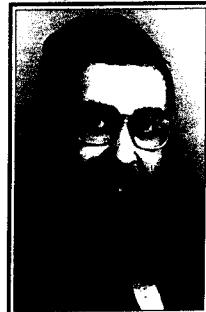
Rabbi Hochberg, currently rabbi of Young Israel of Jamaica Estates, has served the Queens community since April 1990. Rabbi Hochberg received his *semicha* from Rabbi Yitzchak Elchanan Theological Seminary and is a doc-

toral Candidate at Boston University in Special Education Administration. He is also the vice president of the *Vaad HaRabbonim of Queens* and the past president of the *Vaad HaRabbonim of Massachusetts*.

Braun, said what makes us so fortunate to have Rabbi Hochberg as the Mashgiach Ruchani, is that his "gentleness, warmth, and intellect will serve our population wondrously."

Rabbi Hochberg's hours will be Monday 11:30am-5:30pm and Wednesday 2-8:30pm.

Rabbi Flaum will be returning to the Rebecca Ivry Jewish Studies faculty in the Fall 1996.



Rabbi Flaum

# Editorials

## A Lack of True Senior Recognition

Award ceremonies, in theory, are designed to give recognition to those deserving individuals who have proved through their work a dedication, commitment and talent. However, this past week's academic awards ceremony for seniors, and the upcoming Commencement ceremonies, was almost antithetical to the principle behind it.

According to Assistant Dean Ethel Orlan, the process by which academic awards are decided is faculty in each department are given a list of student names who are in that major; if a student is a double major than her name goes to both departments. The faculty then chooses, by checking off, the student he or she thinks should receive that award. All of the faculty's lists are sent to the Dean's Office and whomever has the most "checks" by her name, is chosen to receive the award. If a student has a double major and both departments choose the same student to receive both awards, she will receive both awards because, as Dean Orlan explained, the Dean's Office almost always agrees with the departments' decision, even if that means a student will receive more than one award.

There are many flaws in this system. First of all, there should be a cap put on each student, limiting her awards to only one, so that there is an opportunity for more students to win awards, helping to encourage and recognize those runners-up who may have worked just as hard, but for whatever reason did not get nominated by faculty. If a student is nominated for more than one award then there should be a method for deciding which one she is more deserving of, and the other award should go to the student who came in second place, third place, etc. In this way, more students have an opportunity to be recognized for their achievements in each department. If we constantly complain about apathetic students -- then we should consider that there must be an incentive for them to work hard and achieve. It is absolutely ridiculous that there were students who received two, three, four awards. It is simply not necessary, and other students could have been receiving them instead. One cannot say that one student deserves more than one award. One is enough and anything more is just an embarrassment. In extreme cases, if a student is truly and utterly deserving of two awards so be it, but otherwise it is ridiculous, and leaves those seniors who were neglected feeling bitter on their way out of this University.

The other problem is that professors' choices for which student gets awards is very subjective and if a teacher doesn't like a student, then he or she will not nominate her. In many departments there are only a few professors, even one or two, so that does not give the student much room if she is disliked by a professor. Also, often students aren't remembered by faculty and they become just another name -- because they took such and

such a professor two or three years before the ceremony. It is not fair to penalize students just because their faculty members don't remember them, never mind their achievements in class and their class participation.

The Awards Ceremony itself was the greatest *boosha*. Making it in the middle of the day is disrespectful to those who want to attend. Not all parents, friends can take off from work at 2:30 in the afternoon. This should be a part of graduation ceremonies instead. It is there where the valedictorians should be giving their speeches. It is there where they can be satisfactorily recognized for their achievements.

In addition, the ceremony was called for an hour. Most of that time was taken up by speeches. Though it is necessary for the valedictorians to speak, it is not necessary for the teacher-of-the-year professors to speak. This takes away from the time that can be given to those students who received academic awards.

After the professors spoke, each student was called up to receive their award but there was no personalization, no words marking that person out of the crowd. The audience didn't even know why the student received that award because only names are called. It is ridiculous to give recognition only half-heartedly. The students' names were read off a list as if they didn't even matter, the audience was even told to applaud after all awards were given out and not after each award was announced. What kind of recognition is that?!

Another problem, touched upon briefly, is with Senior commencement. If graduates were not recognized during the award ceremonies then at least graduation should be the time when they are recognized. Why, at graduation, are there no valedictorian speeches, no students called up to receive their diplomas, no personal individuation? This graduation is supposed to be the Seniors' time, not guest speakers and those strangers to YU who will be receiving honorary degrees. Who cares?! The graduates deserve better recognition than that and when you almost miss hearing your name being called off a sheet of paper like an auctioneer reading off prices, what's the point in going to graduation at all?! YU is small enough so that each student can be given the time to walk up to the podium and receive his or her diploma, after his or her name has been called. That is true recognition.

It is very difficult to award one with recognition because it is subjective and can't really be weighed on a scale. But if the YU administration decides that that is what they want to do -- award seniors recognition -- at an awards ceremony and at graduation -- then they should do it to the 100th degree, in the best possible way. With true respect. With true recognition. Otherwise, YU is only hurting her own products. Her students.

# The Observer

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# Letters to the Editor...

## Remembering Aaron Heller

Dear Ms. Berman,

I'd like to commend you for giving Shmule Pineles the opportunity to voice his deep feelings about the very close bond of friendship that he and my son, Aaron Heller Z"l, shared.

The main focus of Aaron's life was his friends. Every time he came home from somewhere it was always, "Did anyone call for me?" His friends made life meaningful for him. Buying someone a card, getting a present for someone's birthday, sharing one of his possessions, a visit with someone who wasn't well or feeling down, or just chatting was how he interacted with his friends. Getting a bunch of friends together for a fun time or just going to a movie with one good friend made his day.

The knowledge and contentment of be-

ing surrounded by so many of his close friends also gave him an inner confidence to not mind being "alone" in a crowd. Aaron learned a lot from his friends, too. He was there for them and they were there for him as really true friends are.

Shmule and Aaron shared many special years and times together in a friendship which many people never experience in a lifetime. They made each other happy as real friends do. Not only Shmule, but the many, many other friends in Aaron's friendship network have many good memories together and should feel good about the happiness they brought to Aaron.

Sincerely,

Shirley Heller-Klausner

**The Observer would like to extend a heartfelt Mazel Tov to News Editor Gita Schachter on her recent engagement to Jay Lisker and her appointment as valedictorian of the class of 1995.**

# Editor's Corner

## Dear Mom,

My final notebook is filled. In three weeks I will be graduating after four difficult, wonderful, growing years here at Stern. And you won't be there.

As I touch upon my exit from YU, I am reminded of my entrance. You lugged up my unnecessary suitcases, you told me to study whatever interested me, you kissed me goodbye and you told me to get involved. And I did.

I took advantage of all the opportunities you allowed me to have by giving me this chance to live and learn, make mistakes and correct them. I gave of myself because you encouraged me to sign my name to the layers of bricks that are the foundation of this University. Who knew that I would eventually see this school as an insider, familiar with its innerworkings, its life? I did my best to make it evident that involvement was the key to opportunity. I banged my head against a wall to prove that there is no better place than SCW for one to find her niche, her place to shine, to be an insider.

At times it was discouraging, frustrating, angering, but it always came out more worthwhile to stick with it, to continue...

Now as my passion to write continues at Columbia Journalism, I will involve myself in a whole new set of walls. However, I will never forget these walls.

I only wish that you could see the bricks I have laid down, the sweat and tears I have donated to a school that made me grow to my fullest potential.

Though your sick eyes only witnessed one year of my life here, the following years were ones of great struggling, struggling to make your tuition money more worthy than any other purchase.

You were the one who gave Stern to me, giftwrapped. And now I'm thanking you for it even though I wish I could extend my thanks in person. But you know. You always did.

I love you,  
Michele

# President's Message

Another year of Stern is coming to a close. I hope everyone has enjoyed the year and has gained from it as much as I have.

I would like to thank the entire student body for allowing me to be your representative over this past year. It was an awesome responsibility that I feel privileged to have undertaken. Being student council president was an experience that I learned much from and I thank you for it.

College is a time for growing both intellectually and personally. I did both in my four years at Stern. Like any other pursuit in life, what you put in is what you get out. I put a lot of effort into my time here. I am graduating with a great education, good friends, and most importantly a firmer understanding of the Torah values by which I will live my life and carry with me in all my future endeavors.

Many students come to Stern, take classes, and graduate without ever giving of themselves. As much as I am taking with me when I graduate, I know I am leaving much of myself behind. I have tried to make a difference. And it is this commitment to trying, to working to make a difference that is necessary of each and every student here. It is because the women of Stern College keep trying, keep giving of their time that Stern has evolved so far from my mother's time here. I can only wonder when my future daughters, G-d Willing, will choose to come here and give of themselves.

For those who are graduating, I wish the best of luck as we pursue our dreams, what-



ever they be. And to those remaining, I implore you to get involved, write for the various publications, participate in the lectures and events being offered. Stern offers so many opportunities that are just waiting to be taken.

Like anywhere else, there are problems, it is up to you, the student to try and solve them. It is reprehensible to shrug off any inconvenience with the attitude, "Oh this doesn't affect me, I'm only here for two more semesters." You are responsible for making these two semesters the best that they can be.

Student Council can only go so far. Next year under the leadership of Ilana Barber, I hope it will build on what was accomplished this year and go even further.

Thank You,  
Laura Gross  
SCWSC President

# Class of '95 Valedictorians Announced

By Marcie Schneider

SCW seniors Gita Schachter and Deborah Yoshor were recently selected as the valedictorians of the 1995 senior class on the basis of their academic achievement.

Schachter, the general studies valedictorian, is a pre-med biology major, and Yoshor, the Judaic Studies class speaker, is a pre-law student with a double-major in Judaic Studies and English literature.

The valedictorians said that even with an abundance of assignments and papers, it was still possible to take challenging courses, get good grades and get some sleep.

"When I register for classes, I choose the ones that are challenging and stimulating," Yoshor said. "I'm not afraid to put work into a class, as long as I know that I'll come out of it with something."

The same can be said for Schachter, whose favorite class at SCW was neurobiology, which she said was "definitely the most challenging and interesting class I took."

By focusing on her work and concentrating intensely, Schachter was able to get

work done quickly. In addition, she did not procrastinate or wait until the last minute.

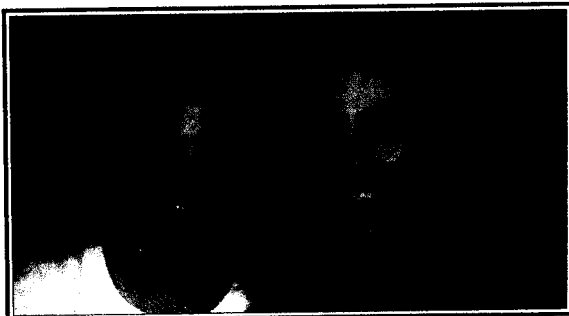
"I get things done when they are assigned. I don't pull all-nighters," Schachter said.

The valedictorians said that one of the distinguishing factors that sets SCW apart from other institutions of higher learning, is its dual curriculum.

"Stern offers tremendous opportunities in higher Jewish learning, an opportunity you won't find anywhere else," Yoshor said. "Every department is filled with exceptional professors who have a lot to offer their students. You really should take advantage of that and take a variety of classes."

Schachter agreed, and added that every student should take both biology and chemistry during their college careers.

"It's important to go through life knowing how you work and how the world around you works," she said. "Those sciences enhance so many aspects of your life."



Valedictorians Gita Schachter and Deborah Yoshor

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# From The News Room...

## Students Protest the Cost and Quality of E-Mail

By Sharona Cohen

In an effort to effect a change in YU e-mail policy, a group of SCW students expressed their discontent by protesting the quality and cost of the system.

To keep up with the new and everchanging information superhighway, YU has provided students with the option of acquiring an e-mail account for the cost of \$50 for their entire career at YU. However, students are unhappy, with many signing a petition to change YU e-mail policy.

The students are arguing that the system seldomly functions properly and is frequently out of order, and they say, they have experienced problems especially with "talk". Chana Charpak, SCW '98, said that "the system has failed numerous times, and as frequently as once a week." She said that the system hangs up on you in the middle of a conversation, and the screen reads "no carrier."

Another student said that aside from the technical problems of the network, the net-

work should be enhanced to include news programs and other information programs that will lead to greater academic success.

In response to the student protest, Computer Room Operator Betty Gordon replied, "The mail is only as good as what students put on it. Our system is abused, people go on it for hours at a time. The students are creating the problem that they are complaining about. Also, SCW just installed four new modems at high speed (28.8)".

In addition to the quality of the system, students are arguing over the \$50 charge, claiming that it is exorbitant and that it should be drastically decreased as other universities provide e-mail accounts free of charge. To this, Gordon responded, "At other universities it is not that they do not charge for e-mail, it is included in their tuition. In addition, when you think about it the students are only paying a dollar a week for e-mail...that is by no means exorbitant."



Rabbi Cohen Teaching Class

## Rabbi Mordechai Cohen Receives Award and Grant

By Dawn Schatz

Rabbi Mordechai Cohen, YU Tanach teacher, who said he works to bring Tanach to life for his YC and SCW classes, has recently been voted "Outstanding Professor" by the YC senior class, and has also been issued a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

The outstanding professor award is meaningful to Rabbi Cohen in many ways. The award was given to him by students who are relatively close to his own age, since Cohen himself only graduated from the Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary and Bernard Revel Graduate School in 1989. Cohen, therefore, "feels close to students," and is "pleasantly surprised" by the award. He said he is pleased to be able to return to YU, what was given to him not so long ago.

Rabbi Cohen will use the NEH grant to research and "hopefully publish" on the

works of the medieval Spanish-Hebrew poet, Moses Ibn Ezra. He said that Ibn Ezra's "innovative view of Tanach based on his own experiences" appeals to him. Ibn Ezra, he explained, uses the imagery of Tanach in a new way. His students said that through his description of the Garden of Eden and the use of Hebrew language, he furthers the grasp of Torah figures.

Cohen said he hopes that the grant he received will encourage students to study subjects outside of their college courses. He would like to be able to apply the Ibn Ezra's technique of making the Tanach seem more pertinent to his own classes. Cohen tries to find common ground between the emotions and conflicts of the great figures in Tanach and those of his students. That, he said, is part of what is meant by the Living Torah.

## SCW Roth Scholars Announced

By Gita Schachter

Four SCW students have been chosen to participate in the Roth Scholars program at Albert Einstein College of Medicine this summer.

The program provides YC and SCW undergraduate students with the opportunity to be involved in research programs from early July through mid August.

Dr. Lea Blau, Chairperson of the SCW Chemistry Department, said, "Research is becoming increasingly important. Students can take what they learned in a classroom and apply it to a real research project."

The students will work in a laboratory five days a week and receive a \$2,000 stipend.

Lauren Insel, SCW '96, is one of the four students selected. Insel is a biology major and plans to begin medical school in the Fall of 1997. Insel spent last summer researching in the cardiology department at Long Island Jewish Hospital. The research that she took part in was published in the *North American Society for Pacing and Electrophysiology (NASPE)*.

In addition, Insel came in second in SCW's research poster contest this Fall. She went to Boston last week where her supervisor, whom she worked with last summer, will presented his findings.

"I really enjoyed the research that I did last summer," Insel said. "I am very excited about doing more this summer."

SCWSC President-elect, Ilana Barber, is a biology major, and is planning to begin

medical school in the Fall of 1996. Barber is currently doing research in SCW under the direction of Dr. Harvey Babich. "I did research this semester and I really enjoyed," she said. "So I am really looking forward to doing it in a large project this summer."

Barber's fields of interest for this summer's project are cell biology and genetics. "I took micro and genetics here at Stern, and I am eager to experience what I learned about in class," she said.

Azita Simoni, SCW '96, is also a biology major, who is planning to begin medical school in the Fall of 1996. Azita, who was raised in Iran, came to the U.S. after high school and has since become fluent in English. Last summer, Simoni worked in Einstein's neurobiology department. "I found that very fascinating, and that is why I want to do it again," Simoni said. This summer, however, she would like to work in a department other than neurobiology. "I don't want to limit myself to only one thing."

Caren Gottlieb, SCW '96, is a chemistry major, who is considering a career in either patent law or chemistry research. "I've never had any real research experience," Caren said. "So I would like to try it out for a summer and see if that is what I want to do with my life."

Gottlieb has requested to work in a pathology lab, to study the effects of different chemicals in the environment on the body. "The chemicals that we use in industry are

## Political Science Shabbaton A Success

By Alysa Frenkel

The second AIPAC, Club Canada, JP Dunner Political Society Shabbaton sparked the interest of students in improving student morale.

The guests of honor included guest speaker Onat Yanashevsky-Yacoby, a representative of the Israeli consulate who provides information for Israelite, and SCW professor Dr. Ruth Bevin, head of the political science department.

"It was an opportune time to have the politically active clubs sponsor a shabbaton," Political Society President Elishava Wohlgenuth, SCW '96, said. "SCWSC and class election results were out and we felt the shabbaton was a good opportunity for Yeshiva University students to discuss the Yeshiva's political arena and other student body concerns." These issues were discussed in informal groups with Bevin and Political Science Professor Dr. R. Zucker.

"We really had a chance to discuss all the important issues that were bothering us, specifically the apathy of the student body. I especially enjoyed the opportunity to have

an informal chat with Dr. Bevin," said Tikva Schachter, SCW '97, an active member of the Political Science Society.

Sharona Cohen, vice president of both the Political Science Society and AIPAC, felt that the discussions enabled people to "share their viewpoints and through discussion get students to mobilize by recruiting new members to their organization."

AIPAC President Leah Sharabi added that Yanashevsky-Yacoby was impressed with the questions the YU students raised and sensed that the students feel an emotional stake in the politics of Israel.

Wohlgenuth added, "She made the peace with Jordan sound sensible and worthwhile; it was an eye opener."

The club's presidents were disappointed that only 40-60 attended the Shabbaton and blamed the turnout on the upcoming *Pesach* holiday.

Yet, Sharona Cohen said, "There were enough people to spread the message about the necessity of student involvement. I consider it a very successful Shabbaton."

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## Graffiti Strikes SCW

By Rina Weinstein

When Sara Rosman, SCW '95, entered the Art lab on the fifth floor of SCW at the beginning of this semester, she was horrified to find that her sculpture now bore the insignia of a cross on its forehead.

Rosman, an art major, spent over two months last semester sculpting almost 60 pounds of clay into a likeness of her face. Expecting her work to be safe within the confines of a Jewish institution, she decided to store her massive creation in the lab for the remainder of the year. Surprisingly, she instead found herself "looking at my own face with a cross on it."

Although students and faculty are appalled by the disrespect shown towards another's arduous work and private property, this is not the first instance of such vandalism. Julia Frohlich, SCW '94, was similarly victimized last year when someone added permanent tears to her penciled sketch.

Though such destruction does not occur often, it is always, say students, painful and frustrating. It is like "a part of you being destroyed" said Tanya Strick, SCW '96, an art student.

Students are especially disturbed by these instances of vandalism because YU is a religious institution. Cheryl Dubinsky, SCW '95, maintains that one would "expect a higher level of sensitivity and morality."

One security guard, alerted by Rosman after her discovery, noted that the fifth floor art lab is a highly congested area, and valuable work, despite the enormity of its weight, should not be left there unprotected.

Many said they feel, however, that the critical issue remains, as Rosman stated in a letter to the editor in the April 10 edition of *The Observer*, "... that such an event could occur within a Torah institution."

## Rabbi Lamm Shabbaton a Success Despite Poor Showing

By Devra Rosenfeld

Despite the small number of students who participated in last month's shabbaton with guest, YU President Rabbi Dr. Norman Lamm, there was a feeling of success among those who attended.

"The smaller amount of participants made the shabbaton feel more informal," noted TAC Treasurer Rena May, SCW '96.

Hosted by SSSB, SCWSC, TAC and two of TAC's subcommittees, the Keshet and Russian Clubs, the committee heads had hoped to draw in more students than usually-attended shabbatons. Yet only approximately 50 students attended from both SCW and YC, 30 women and only 20 men.

SSSB President Judith Schlusel attributed the poor turnout to the fact that because there is no campus environment, students prefer going elsewhere on the weekends. She also attributed the poor showing to a general air of apathy amongst the students of SCW.

Schlusel said, Student leaders urged students to attend but unfortunately there wasn't a large turnout."

However, many students felt that, in fact, the small amount of people helped to create a more comfortable and relaxed shabbat atmosphere which was needed after midterms.

Because Rabbi Lamm's office is located uptown SCW women rarely have the opportunity to meet with their university's President. "It was a privilege to have been able to spend shabbat with such a well renowned rabbi and speaker," commented Jordana Schaffel, SCW '96, and co-chair of TAC's Keshet Club.

Rabbi Lamm, who spoke Friday night at the March 31 shabbaton, gave a shiur on "Man, Woman and Creativity."

## TAC Elections - Presidential Tie Proves Student Involvement

By Laurie Gottesman

While SCWSC elections seemed to have had a run of apathy on them, the recent election for the 1995-96 TAC position for president resulted in a tie. The 400 student votes were split between Juniors Rena May and Lami Finkelstein, a situation unprecedented at SCW, yet only May will take the position of president.

"I think this shows a very nice side of Stern that people want to be involved in TAC and help the student body," TAC president Dassi Billet-Jacobson said. "Everyone was talking about student apathy and these elections disproved this talk."

It was decided by May, Finkelstein and Billet that due to prior obligations to be a resident assistant for the coming year, Finkelstein will not be president, but will take up a position on the board. The position, Vice President for Public Affairs, is a temporary one, explained May, and never before been implemented.

May explained that there was no re-vote because, she said, there probably wouldn't be as many voters as there was at the last election, and because there were only two candidates running to begin with (as opposed to 3 or 4), "it would not have been fair" to have another vote.

May said she looks forward to the coming year. "I'm excited for next year. We have a strong and active TAC board and hopefully the students will become as active as they were this year," she said. "It was a strong year. I hope that TAC can continue being a strong force among the students of Stern College."

May attributed the successful voter



TAC President elect Rena May

turnout to location, voting took place in the school lobby, publicity, there were many signs up prior to the election, and the extended hours of voting, voting was opened passed 3pm, much later than SCWSC elections.

May added that there was not only a great voter-turnout, but a great number of students running for positions. Seven people ran for vice president, and five people ran for treasurer.

Emily Amie Witty and Brocha Klein won the positions of vice-president. Klein said, "I look forward to doing exciting stuff next year." Witty urged students to get active, and instead of complaining, to contact anyone on any of the boards with their complaints.

Emily Shapiro was surprised to find out that she had won the position of secretary. "I assumed during all of Pesach vacation that I had lost because I never heard otherwise," she said. "I am very excited to be part of the TAC Board. It is such an important part of Stern. As a Jewish institution, we should have Torah activities on campus."

## Harvard Philosopher Addresses YU on Issues of Rationality

By Esther Barry

Discussing the nature of rationality, based on his book by the same name, Harvard University philosopher Dr. Robert Nozick recently addressed YU students.

The annual Hillel Rogoff Memorial Lecture, Nozick discussed such questions as: How can we produce an all-star baseball team? and How can society produce a perfect jury?

Among the issues addressed at the May 1 lecture, which was held in Koch Auditorium, were rational belief, truth as a goal and measuring the credibility of a statement.

Many SCW students, as well as other academic scholars, attended the evening.

"I thought he was brilliant," said Sara Wolinsky, SCW '96. "He made things so clear. I really enjoyed it."

Nozick is a member of the board of directors of Philosophy and Public Affairs, and is the author of the award-winning books *Anarchy, State and Utopia* and *Philosophical Explanations*. Nozick will also participate in YU's Gottesman Program for Aca-



Dr. Robert Nozick Lecturing on Rationality during Excellence in the 1995-96 school year.

The Rogoff Lecture series, established in memory of Hillel Rogoff, an early alumnus of YU and editor of *The Jewish Daily Forum*, was started by the late YU English professor Dr. David Mirsky in 1971.

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## Nachshon Wachsman's Mother, Esther Wachsman, To Speak At 1995 Commencement Ceremony

By Elisheva Wohlgenuth

Mrs. Esther Wachsman, whose son Nachshon was tragically murdered by the Hamas Islamic fundamentalists group last October, will be addressing graduates at the 1995 commencement exercises.

Mrs. Wachsman will be receiving an honorary degree from the University. YU President Norman Lamm said in a recent letter that Wachsman is a "heroine" and "inspirational to all students and alumni of Yeshiva University and its affiliates, to the people of her adopted homeland of Israel and Jews and non-Jews around the world."

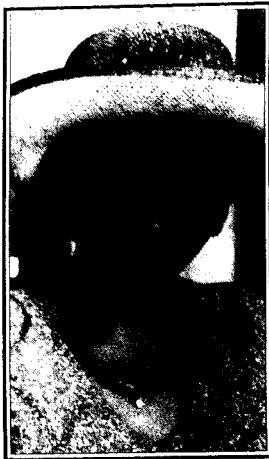
Lauree Katzman, SCW '95, agreed. "Mrs. Wachsman is a model of the dedication and courage of the Jewish people," she said.

Brocha Frankel, SCW '95, added, "She has an incredible awareness and deep connection to Israel, it is great that she can address us and make us feel connected to what is occurring in Israel today."

Some students questioned the selection of Mrs. Wachsman, saying that she had no integral tie to the graduating student body. Wachsman, however, is connected to YU since she is a YU HS graduate.

Media Relations Director Bruce Bobbins said, "The exact topic of Mrs.

Wachsman's speech is still unknown but it will surely be inspirational."



Mrs. Esther Wachsman

## SCW Elections Prove Competence

Continued from page 1

sitions." Her plans for next year include a Shabbaton with the theme of business ethics, as well as more hands-on learning through trips and guest lecturers.

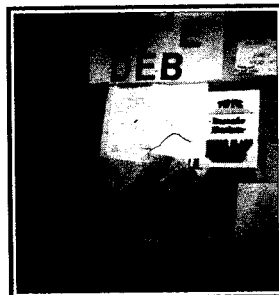
Sarritte Mitgang, incoming '95-'96 SSSB vice president, was very excited about the plans for next year. "Barbara and I work well together," she said. "I look forward to a very productive year." The two other positions on SSSBSC went to Sarra Zackai, treasurer, and Lea Muth, secretary.

Other election winners included the '95-'96 Accounting Society board: President Nicole Cohen, Vice President Leah Shulman, Secretary Naomi Hain and Treasurer Carley Nathanson, as well as the new members of the Joint Business Society including: President Iris Ofer, Vice President Sara Elshes, Secretary Bruria Gil and Treasurer Nurit Furer.

Three hundred and forty students voted in the SCWSC and SSSB elections. The voter turnout was "not bad," according to current SCWSC Vice President Sarah Altman. "I do wish, however, that more people would have voted and taken an active role in choosing their representatives."



SCW Students Voting in Koch



A Plethora of Signs Covered the Walls of SCW During Elections

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# Students Rally for Alisa Flatow

Continued from page 1

bombing I was very upset and when I heard that Chavie Levine was there and another [SCW graduate], I felt bad even though I didn't know her personally...It was really scary."

Margolin, who read the prayers for the soldiers at the rally said, "I wanted to go in support of getting rid of the peace process because it is not helping and more and more people keep getting killed. And we wanted to show [Alisa's] friends and family that we really care. It could have been any of us."

SCWSC President Laura Gross called it a "senseless tragedy" and echoed Margolin's feeling. Gross said, "She will be missed. It personalized everything that's going on...You realize it can happen to anyone."

Though Gross didn't know her well, she said she was a person "who would do anything for anyone." Flatow, who was studying in Nishmat, was a junior at Brandeis

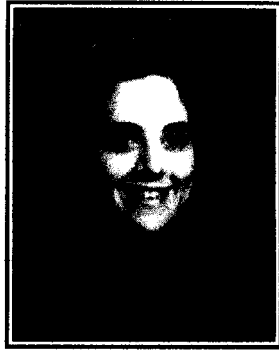
University in Waltham, Massachusetts, and was on a semester abroad in Israel.

IAC President Dava Billet, who was Levine's roommate, said she attended the rally because, "It's important to see that Jewish blood is not *hefker*. Jewish blood is not cheap."

Billet said, "There's no difference between me and Chavie [Levine]. Nachshon Wachsmann, or anyone on that bus, it could happen to anyone." She added that, "It's important that the world sees that we still support Israel."

Rabbi Menachem Meier, Frisch High School principal, spoke about Flatow. "She brought life and love in her 20 years on this earth. There was always a sparkle in her eye," he said.

In the theme of the upcoming holiday of Pesach, Rabbi Weiss remarked, "*Davena* -- we say to terrorists, it's enough!"



Alisa Flatow in Her Frisch Yearbook Picture

## Survival: Two SCW Alumnae Reflect on Hamas Bombing

By Meira Shatz

Chavie Levine and Kesari Ruza, two of last year's SCW graduates, remarkably escaped the fate that befell their friend Alisa Flatow during a Hamas bus bombing last month.

"Everyone remembers where they were when they heard about it," said Levine. "In America, you usually do not have to consider that terrorism will so directly affect you."

"As Americans, we have sadly become hardened to the frequent tragedies that befall Israeli citizens," said Laurie Katzman, SCW '95, former roommate and close friend of Levine. "Now that my friend was a victim of a terrorist bombing, I've become more attuned to the feelings of Israelis whose friends and relatives have been victims as well."

Levine and Ruza were students who were known at SCW, among various other things, for their intensive work within the Jewish community. The horror caused by Hamas, unfortunately, exacted from them their greatest communal sacrifice.

"Chavie and Kesari are two people so willing to do anything and travel anywhere for the benefit of their fellow Jews," an SCW student said. "When you see a group of people, like Hamas, whose dedication to each other is so devoid of positive values and regard for the sanctity of life that they try to take innocent lives, you wonder how they can have such a distorted view of what makes a community."

For Levine and Ruza, who returned to America the day after the bombing, the past

month has been a time when they have felt an immeasurable appreciation for family and friends.

Ruza said, "With so many people there you get a real sense of the closeness you have with your friends."

"It was a time when I truly realized how supportive my friends and family are," Levine added. "You always imagine your friends will be there for the little things. It's wonderful to see that in a real crisis they're right there behind you."

It was that same sense of community, which bonded friends and family of Levine and Ruza, that brought over 300 Jews to an *Azzara*, a memorial service, in Israel last Wednesday in memory of Alisa Flatow. Flatow's funeral, on April 12, was attended by those who knew her well and others who did not know her at all.

"A united community is something that will always stand out in the public mind," said Levine. "It makes things really hit home."

The passengers aboard the bus, though strangers while boarding, suddenly became "united."

"There I was, just a silly American, with *chayalim* who were headed for major army duties," Levine said. "I felt foolish saying I was on vacation. Then, suddenly, we were all equally vulnerable. We all shared a common fate."

Last Thursday, a *Daily News* reporter reunited Levine with 20-year-old Baruch Frohlich, the *chayal* who had been sitting next to her on the bus. "My memory of him

## Friends Remember Alisa Flatow

By Observer Staff

When tragedy strikes close to home the impact is of a drastically different nature. It is no longer merely an unfortunate story heard on the news, or someone else's devastating loss. It has entered into the thoughts, memories and insights of all those affected. One begins to attach greater value to memories and moments more intensely of their consequences and implications. Regardless of how one attempts to comprehend the event on a spiritual and personal level, one thing is clear: the tragedy is internalized.

The passing of Alisa Flatow has undoubtedly occupied the minds of members of the Jewish community. Students reminisce about their own exciting and developmental experiences in Israel. Parents recall both the happiness and anxiety they felt when sending their children to their homeland to explore their ancestry, and expand their realms of knowledge. These are emotions that many can identify with.

When former classmates and neighbors of Alisa spoke about her untimely passing this sense of identification was apparent. Whether they were memories of sitting together in math class or playing together in the backyard, these clear, fond memories heightened the sense of sadness within those who held them.

Chanie Weiser, SCW '96, a neighbor of Alisa's, recalled writing book reports and, "the little clubs we used to have in each other's backyards." She expressed the ambivalence she felt celebrating a neighbor's engagement almost simultaneously with mourning the death of a friend. Two events at the extreme opposite ends of the human emotional spectrum, occurring at the same time provoked many questioning thoughts. Weiser explained that when confronted with such difficult situations, "one can not possibly understand...it is a lie to think you understand."

This supreme level of faith, which was inspired largely by Alisa's family's courageous response, seemed to have been triggered in many of Alisa's friends. Karen Milch, Alisa's high school classmate, expressed similar conclusions. In reflecting on her former classmate, Milch said, "Alisa was

was of a man covered in blood. I wanted to see him again -- alive."

Frohlich, who wanted to ensure that succeeding generations would know of the challenges Jews faced in the fight to preserve their land, saved the piece of shrapnel that was surgically removed from his knee.

To have such concerns for the future and to ponder philosophical issues is inevitable after tragedy. "At a time like this the most comforting thing is religion -- belief in G-d," Levine said. "You ask so many philosophical questions. It's faith that lets you know Alisa's death was not senseless. Even though it is hard now, it's good to realize that there is a being above our comprehension who is looking out for us."

"This *Yom Kippur* will be a different experience," added Ruza. "We say prayers about who will live and die and by what form of death. Talking about life should be very meaningful. It's not something to be taken for granted."

Ruza also said that she does not feel people should focus on how "lucky" she and Levine are for surviving. "It's not the right way to say it. It seems almost selfish," she said. "G-d didn't save someone else. I was all right and that brought a sense of relief to my parents and friends and it's hard. But you know deep down it's really someone else's

such a *Neshama Tehora* (pure soul); there is no other way to describe her fittingly. She brought the values of *Torah* to those around her in a simple way. She did not advocate under the banner of any organization or cause, rather than her own simple way of life. "When such a 'paradigm of loving kindness' was taken from us at the peak of her life, one can not rationalize or find the answers," she said. "One must just realize that God works in ways that are beyond the realm of human comprehension. This is the lesson and conclusion that Mitch and many of Alisa's friends have come to."

In her high school yearbook, under Alisa's picture it says she "is the best friend anyone can have." As two other members of the Frisch class of 1992 spoke about Alisa they remarked on her "constantly pleasant disposition and her great dimples that appeared every time she smiled." As Sharon Kammetzky, SCW '96, and Judith Kelsen, SCW '96, thought about the aspirations of all their former high school classmates, reality struck them once again. Kammetzky and Kelsen said, "as we were flipping through our high school yearbook recently we thought of our friends who were going on to Medical School, Law school, getting married etc. It especially struck us at that moment that one of our classmates would not have these opportunities." It is at this pivotal point in the life of college students that everyone is concerned with their future and their Jewish identity. "Alisa was at her peak of this search," said Mitch. The passing of someone who was on this future-oriented search, just as most college students are, was a bitter twist of the sequenced life cycle that we are accustomed to.

As memorials for Alisa take place in New Jersey, Brandeis and throughout the universal Jewish community, the community of YU must play a role in this memorial as well. One must listen to the sensitivity reflected in the words of her friends, and strive to reach this level of sensitivity whenever the Jewish community is challenged with tragedy. It is perhaps a reaction of this caliber that will have the power to bring about peace in our day.

[Flatow's] parents who have the more difficult issue."

The bombing did not deter Levine and Ruza from returning to Israel shortly after Passover. "I feel more solidarity for Israelis now," Ruza said.

YU President Rabbi Dr. Lamm told Ruza's parents that he is impressed to see that she and Levine did not hesitate from "continuing G-d's work."

Levine is currently continuing her studies at Matan Institute in Jerusalem and plans to attend a joint law and philosophy program at NYU graduate school next year. Ruza is studying for a masters in Jewish history at Hebrew University.

"I spoke to a war veteran who told me you have to just continue doing what you were doing the day before," said Ruza. "You can't mourn all the time. You have to go on at some point."

**Good Luck on Finals!!**

# A Year in Review: the Accomplishments of 1994-95

## The True Clubs

By Amira Rubin

Are the student clubs at SCW fulfilling their obligations? Many students claim that club presidents are difficult to pin down. They also complain that some clubs neglected to run any programs this past academic year. Though SCWSC delineated rules for club presidents, such as sponsoring at least one shabbaton and making at least two programs for the entire year, many clubs neglected their responsibilities and never got anything done.

The Observer chased after the leaders of 25 general clubs, 18 TAC clubs and four class boards, and actually found that quite a bit was accomplished this year -- while some clubs were more lax in their program running. Some club presidents were never to be found or refused to provide information. Here's what The Observer did find (in alphabetical order).

### GENERAL

• **Alpha Epsilon Delta** is a national honors society of pre-med, pre-dentistry and pre-optometry students. They sponsored a speaker, the Assistant Dean of Albert Einstein School of Medicine, and got a turnout of 25 students.

• **Besamim** sponsored a week-long literary and art exhibit with two speakers, a literary symposium and produced their annual literary journal.

• **Blood Drive** held three drives.

• **The Education Society** reimbursed student teachers' transportation and threw a party for the first semester graduates as well as a farewell party for Dr. Susan Sardy, professor of education.

• **The European Club** sponsored a speaker who spoke about his experiences during the Holocaust.

• **The Fine Arts Society** sponsored the orientation trip to "Guys and Dolls."

• **The Food Service Committee** has instituted oil screens in the pans to make the food less oily and has added gum to the list of items available in the cafeteria.

• **The Guide and The Guide II** were published.

• **J.P. Dunner Political Science Society** has co-sponsored two Shabbatons this year. The club also organized a trip to the Model UN at the University of Pennsylvania in November, the Yale Model Knesset with nine SCW participants and a visit to the UN. The Poli Sci club also co-sponsored a meeting uptown with prominent political figures: Dr. Ludkins, senior assistant to Senator Moynihan, Ms. Suri Kasirer, special assistant for Jewish Affairs and Mr. Bruce Teitelbaum, Department Chief of Staff to NYC Mayor Giuliani. The club also sponsored Judge Judy Kluger's lecture on the challenges of being a female Orthodox Jew and a Judge.

• **Kochavia**, the Yearbook, is in the process of being made.

• **The Observer** produced eight newspaper issues.

• **The Philosophy Club** will soon be publishing a philosophy journal.

• **The Psychology Club** had two SCW graduates run group forums.

• **SAGA**, the environmental club, co-sponsored a shabbaton and is currently planning a picnic and clean-up in the park.

• **The Sephardic Club** has co-sponsored a Shabbaton with the **Israel Club** for approximately 150 people. They also sponsored a Shabbaton on their own.

• **The Sociology Club** sponsored its first Shabbaton ever.

• **The Speech Arts Forum (SAF)** produced *Sounding Board*, a literary and arts journal. SAF also co-sponsored Bess Welden's one-woman show.

• **The Speech Pathology and Audiology Club** sponsored a speaker who integrated Speech Pathology and Torah. They also have a speaker scheduled to talk about the more clinical aspects of the occupation.

• **The Stern College Dramatics Society (SCDS)** produced two performances, "Little Shop of Horrors" and "Ladyhouse Blues." The club members organized the props of the college and even amended the school constitution. SCDS also plans to make videos of this year's productions to be available, and recently held a closing ceremony awards night. The Society also co-sponsored Bess Welden to produce a one-woman show. The club continues its membership in the national drama society, Alpha Psi Omega.

### TAC

• **Adopt-a-Bubbie** held a Chanukah and Purim party this year. It also paired students with elderly women on the Lower East Side whom they visited often.

• **The Beit Midrash Club** organized the color-coded binding of *sefarim* for easy reference. A Beit Midrash dedication club was all set to place dedications inside the seforim but no one contacted them.

• **The Bikur Cholim Club** sponsors vans to the Beth Israel Hospital every Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. SCW receives a list of Jewish patients and students split up and visit them. Anywhere between four and 16 people went every night.

• **Bina Yeteira** is a weekly journal on the weekly Torah portion. There were also special Holiday issues. Six or seven writers participated each week.

• **BUDs** has three presidents and is a weekly Wednesday night chavruta learning program, which takes place from 7:30pm to 9:30pm. "The student turn-out has really been good," said Leah Safran, SCW '96, one of the coordinators. Students involved in BUDs are presented with sources in both Hebrew and English on a variety of topics.

• **The Kesher Club** sponsored a Chanukah and a Purim party as well as an

Continued on page 9

SCW Faculty Outraged Over Salaries: Faculty Members Speak Out

Apathy a Major Issue Amongst Candidates

No Building Available As of Yet Said VP

Little Shop of Horrors is a Scream



Suspicion of Ballot Stuffing Leads to Invalidation of Freshman Class Elections

The Search for Academic Space Continues

SCW Loses Out on Visiting Professor Dr. Steven Katz

Flood Welcomes Students Back

Charging for The Guide: Finances Differ Between Student Councils

Record Enrollment at SCW: 766 Women Register for Fall '94

## The True Clubs cont.

Continued from page 8

ice skating event. The club also co-sponsored a shabbaton.

• **Parsha Shiur**, which takes place at 10pm on Wednesday nights, allows students the chance to give *shiurim* to a room filled with anywhere from 10 to 30 students in the Dorm Beit Midrash. This year's shiurim have been especially interesting, such as "If you prepare it, they will come," and the wedding announcement of "Parsha Shiur to Dorom Ben Medrash" which got a response from many students.

• **The Publicity Committee** placed signs around the dorm and school, notifying students of upcoming TAC events, such as the Chaggigot and elections.

• **Shivim Panim**, an annual Torah Journal, is a collection of student-written scholarly articles on various Jewish studies topics. It is currently at the printer.

• **The tutoring** provided assistance to students who wanted extra help in Judaic Studies classes. Some tutors met with students twice a week while others just met during midterms and finals. About 50 students were involved.

• **The Tzedakah Committee** raised charity through the Chanukah sales of channukiah, candles and wicks. There were also Pesach fundraisers and the sale of notebooks, as well as the Tzedakah boxes which are placed in each room. The money raised goes to several places every year, including scholarships for SCW students.

• **WHO (We Help Others)** is the emergency Chessed response team at SCW. Anytime someone needs people to sit with them in the hospital, even all night, SCW students respond immediately. In an extreme case students helped out a woman who needed 24-hour volunteers for 10 days.

• **Young Israel's Chavruta Program** involved SCW students learning one-on-one with women at Young Israel of 5th Avenue, one hour each week.

### CLASS BOARDS (by class status)

• **The Senior Class Board** organized a trip to Sportsworld, a program for seniors to meet with alumni and co-sponsored trips to the circus and a Nets game. The board also sponsored a Shabbaton and is currently planning the senior dinner.

• **The Junior Class Board** sponsored a trip for 120 people to Chicago City Limits. Eighty students attended the class shabbaton.

• **The Sophomore Class Board** sponsored a scavenger hunt and co-sponsored a *mishloach manot* program, a trip to the circus and a trip to a Nets game.

• **The Freshman Class Board** co-sponsored the *mishloach manot* program. And the rest of the clubs, well...

## Senior Reflections

By Rinah Cohen

After spending two, three and even four years at SCW, about 180 seniors are nearing graduation. At this new juncture in their lives, these students took out some time to reflect on their college careers -- what they loved at SCW and what they felt could have been better.

Here's what they said:

### THE CONS:

**The Facilities:** The most popular complaints were about school facilities, or the lack they found thereof. Comments included:

- "The Library needs more room and more hours."
- "What's with the cat?!" The prices went up, the food went down, and out-of-townners can't eat on a Sunday morning."
- "I can never get an exercise machine."
- "What about a pool?!"
- "The computer room needs to be updated. We also need another laser printer."
- "It's unbelievable that we don't have a theater." (Members of SCDS felt strongly about this one. They said they found that "being a theater group without a theater is difficult.")

### THE PROS:

#### The Atmosphere:

Seniors said they enjoyed the atmosphere at SCW. They felt comfortable walking down the hallway and greeting the people they know and don't know. "I love the friends I made, lifelong friends," one senior said.

#### The Dean's Offices:

All students asked said they felt comfortable going to the deans with any questions.

### MINED REVIEWS:

#### Dress Code

Students who were asked about this chose either not to answer or wanted a guarantee of anonymity. The two basic opinions were: a dress code is unnecessary and a dress code should be better enforced.

#### Guidance:

While some students felt that career guidance and placement rate was high, others said they hoped for more, particularly in the area of mental health. One student said, "Bulimia and anorexia are big problems in this school; they need to find someone who can help."

#### Courses:

One student summed this subject up saying, "One teacher, one class, given at one time." While seniors felt there were not enough choices of faculty and courses for their major, others were quite satisfied and felt they had a solid background to continue in a job and/or graduate school.

Aaron Heller Remembered

Nachshon Wachsmann Remembered



After the Parade Join Thousands at the 2nd Annual

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Sponsored by the Israel Concert-in-the-Park Committee in association with the National Council of Young Israel

\* members of



Mrs. Rachel Sussman

## Generous Donation Will Go For New Technological Lab

Continued from page 1

instructor's desk, enabling students and teachers to view each other's work. Overhead monitors will enable the class to see images from the instructor's microscope while seated at their own desks. Students will be able to recall information and images stored on CD-ROM and compare these to their own.

With new windows, colorboard with colorchart, and furniture, the laboratory is expected to be an attractive and aesthetically pleasing environment in which to work. The floors will be of a new material, and countertops made of corian can be sanded down to get rid of scratches. An icemaker, refrigerator, cold room, where experiments can be done, and fume hood, to prevent pollution, will also make this lab a more convenient place to work.

Lockers with benches located outside the room will make it easy for students to store their things. SCW Dean Karen Bacon said she feels that "not only will this lab provide the best educationally, but it will serve as a model for what can be done with the rest of the labs when money becomes available."

Bacon added that people were sent to observe labs in universities such as University of California at Berkeley, Boston University and Brandeis to get a feel for what's currently being done. She said she feels that we are now on par with these universities, if not ahead of the game.

The benefactor of the lab, Mrs. Rachel Sussman, is the president of Renette Foundations, a leading manufacturer of ladies' undergarments. She emigrated to the United States from Poland, unfortunately not being

able to fulfill her dream of becoming a doctor.

Sussman has also donated an annuity trust fund benefiting students at Yeshiva University's Albert Einstein College of Medicine which will support the latest in computer programs now available while they are on rotations at Beth Israel Medical Center.

Sussman said she feels that these gifts are "my connection, my compensation for not being able to realize my dream." She wants to give those students who have the capability and the drive to study medicine the means to do so. "This is my reward," she said.

YU President Norman Lamm said that through this endowment, Sussman has given the students at YU the opportunity to save lives, a principle that the Talmud teaches is equivalent to saving an entire world.

Bacon, who is also a scientist specializing in microbiology, added that in order for students to "absorb the sweeping breakthroughs in the sciences...they must have access to the newest technologies and equipment in which to conduct research." Sussman has now afforded the students at SCW this necessary equipment, she said.

Students are pleased with the new equipment. Shira Katz, SCW '96, a pre-med student, said, "It's a much-needed investment that will open up a larger arena for the study of biology in an otherwise limited department." As Rachel Mae Wernick, SCW '95, said, "It's about time!"

## Observations of 50 Years Ago

Continued from page 15

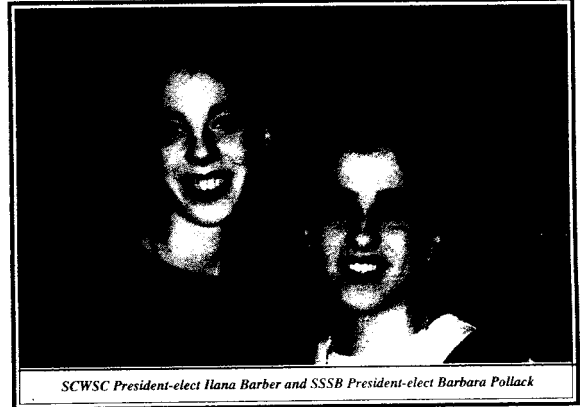
grandfather who, I thank G-d, is still with me, was something not to be taken for granted. I couldn't let the experience end in the pages of my journal, they had to be carried further.

Several of the survivors noticed that I was constantly scribbling in my notebook and they questioned me. Upon finding out that I was documenting all that I could, their eyes lit up and all at once they began to tell me stories of their individual escapes.

One woman, Irene Kate, had made the trip with her sister and when she asked if I would send her a copy of my writings I understood the significance of my presence in Germany with all of these people. I realized the awesome responsibility which faces me and my generation as I looked up at her tired green eyes with their lines and dark circles. Time is not standing still and if history is not documented NOW through primary sources, it will never be recorded accurately. Within the next 50 years there will be no one left to ask and this is a fact which can not be taken lightly.

My grandfather and I both lost something this year. My mother, his oldest child, passed away in recent months and so, in our family, the responsibility to pass down the truth falls on my shoulders. I am grateful to G-d who allowed me to have this time with my Zaidy and grateful to my Xeat for asking me to do something which I should have done without having to be asked.

To remember is not enough. We must ask over and over and then, as clearly as possible, and without alteration, we must TELL over and over.



SCWSC President-elect Ilana Barber and SSSB President-elect Barbara Pollack

## Rav Soloveitchik Shiur

Continued from page 14

as himself is a "klai gadol." Mr. Merkin followed, emphasizing to all those in attendance that Torah is not only to be learned "lil mod u l'lamed," rather it must be acted upon, "la'asot." He continued by quoting the *pasuk* in *Parshat Acharei Mot* "Va'chai bahem" explaining that one must live life according to the precepts of the Torah.

The *shiur*, which took place on April 30, 1995, was held in the Harry Fischel Beit Midrash.

**The Observer wants to extend a heartfelt Mazal Tov to Sports Editor Sarah Altman on her recent engagement to Yehuda Stark**



SCW Students Participate in Yom HaZikaron and Yom HaAtzmaut Programs at the Main Campus

# Arts, Entertainment & Culture

## Three Tall Women

By Dina Bogner

Edward Albee's Pulitzer Prize winning play, "Three Tall Women" is in reality about one woman through three stages in her life.

"Three Tall Women" presents a dying woman who recalls her life as memories of events are triggered within her by her young attorney and middle-aged care taker. The three characters, known only as A, B and C, speak about the innocence of youth, the cynicism of middle-age and the bitterness of old age.

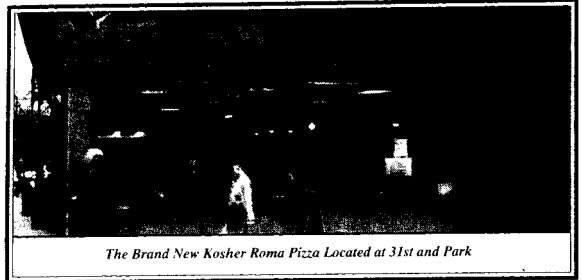
Myra Carter's portrayal of the old lady is vigorous and very, very funny. The old lady vacillates between hysterical laughter at her memory loss to uncontrollable weeping at her incontinence. Although "Three Tall Women" is an off-Broadway play, it has all the qualities it takes to make it on Broadway.

"Three Tall Women" is performed at Manhattan's Promenade Theater on Tuesdays through Saturdays at 8 p.m. with matinees Wednesdays at 2:30 p.m., Saturdays and Sundays at 3 p.m. Ticket prices range from \$40-\$45 and can be reserved by calling the Promenade box office at 212-580-1313.



Jordan Baker, Myra Carter and Marian Seldes in *Three Tall Women*

Photo credit: Carol Roxeg



The Brand New Kosher Roma Pizza Located at 31st and Park

## Martin Page Breaks the Monotony

By Gila Reinitz

Pop music tends to have such recurring themes as love and pain but once in a while, there is a break in this monotony. A recent example is illustrated in Martin Page's hit album entitled "In the House of Stone and Light," which deals with political and societal issues.

All ten tracks of "In the House of Stone and Light" contain beautiful instrumentals combined with lyrics that deal with political and societal difficulties in Europe, includ-

ing child abuse. Track ten, called "The Door," is a song about the Holocaust. It tells the story of Hannah, a mother being held in Treblinka who takes a personal vow to live so she can perpetuate the memories of the children she was forced to watch die. She does survive and remembers the children as she watches her grandchildren play in the sunset.

Page's incorporation of sophisticated music with meaningful lyrics has made his album a big success.



The CD cover of *In the House of Stone and Light*

## A Personal Experience at the 52nd Anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising

By Suzzann Felsenthal

It is not every day that a person has the opportunity to be at a historical event of a lifetime. On April 30th, I had that opportunity. My grandparents and I were able to attend the 52nd Anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising at the Paramount theater. It was a privilege and an honor to be present among 6,000 Holocaust survivors on such a momentous and emotional occasion.

The ceremony began with opening remarks by Benjamin Meed, President of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising Resistance Organization. Following the opening remarks, Rabbi Israel Meir Lau, the Chief Rabbi of the State of Israel spoke about his experiences as a survivor of the Holocaust. Several candle lighting ceremonies took place, as well as singing and a moment of silence.

Perhaps the most unexpected part of the

commemoration was when President Clinton, Governor Pataki, Mayor Guiliani and Shimon Peres each took the opportunity to speak. Pataki and Guiliani proclaimed that April 30th would become an official Holocaust remembrance day, an announcement loaded with implications of what the Jewish community has achieved in 50 years.

The entire experience has taught me to value my heritage, and to safeguard it. I feel like a representative of my father's parents who were death camp survivors, but passed away years ago. Moreover, the world had a chance to see on TV, the Jewish people as a unified nation who survived the greatest massacre in history. The underlying message of the commemoration is that we are all survivors. At the conclusion of the ceremony my grandfather turned to me and said, "This is an occasion you will remember for the rest of your life." And so I shall.



## SUMMER AT SY SYMS

SUMMER SESSION I-A - (JUNE 6, JUNE 28, 1995)

| DEPT.    | COURSE                      | CREDIT/HOUR      | INSTRUCTOR        |
|----------|-----------------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| ACC 1002 | PRINCIPLES OF ACCOUNTING II | (3) / 9:30-12:10 | DR. J. HOCHMAN    |
| FIN 1001 | PRINCIPLES OF FINANCE       | (3) / 1:00-3:40  | DR. J. KRAUSZ     |
| FIN 140B | CORPORATE FINANCE           | (3) / 9:30-12:10 | DR. J. KRAUSZ     |
| INF 1020 | MANAGEMENT INFO. SYSTEMS    | (3) / 9:30-12:10 | DR. A. ZILBERT    |
| MAN 1020 | PRINCIPLES OF MANAGEMENT    | (3) / 1:00-3:40  | PROF. R. WILLIAMS |
| MAR 1001 | PRINCIPLES OF MARKETING     | (3) / 9:30-12:10 | PROF. M. PAVA     |

SUMMER SESSION I-B - (JUNE 6, JULY 6, 1995)

| DEPT.    | COURSE                    | CREDIT/HOUR      | INSTRUCTOR  |
|----------|---------------------------|------------------|-------------|
| ACC 1101 | INTERMEDIATE ACCOUNTING I | (3) / 9:50-12:00 | DR. M. PAVA |
| ACC 2403 | MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTING     | (4) / 1:00-4:00  | DR. C. SNOW |

SUMMER SESSION II - (JULY 10, AUGUST 9, 1995)

| DEPT.    | COURSE                     | CREDIT/HOUR      | INSTRUCTOR  |
|----------|----------------------------|------------------|-------------|
| ACC 1102 | INTERMEDIATE ACCOUNTING II | (3) / 9:50-12:00 | DR. M. PAVA |

For additional information and to register, contact the Office of the Dean, Sy Syms School of Business, (212) 960-0845, Belfer Hall Room 412 or (212) 340-7781, Stern Room 904.

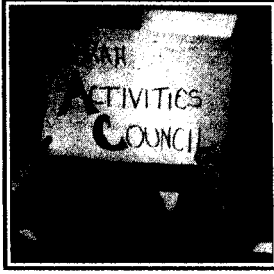
Revised April 1995

## Message From the Torah Activities Council

It's been a great year. Torah activities on the SCW campus have grown by leaps and bounds. We have witnessed special things this year in SCW in the realms of Torah study and communal service. Students have given their time to visit the sick in neighborhood hospitals on an almost daily basis. Elderly people, adopted "bubbies and zaidies," came to SCW for several holiday parties, and SCW students brought brightness to their days through holiday songs and shared Torah thoughts. SCW women learned with private learning partners at a nearby Young Israel, eagerly spreading the abundance of Torah at SCW.

On campus, we saw the Beit Midrash fill up through the successful BUDS chevruta program. In times of tragedy for Am Yisrael, we witnessed the emergency gatherings in the auditorium and the Beit Midrash to pray on behalf of our people; hundreds of women took part each time. Following the most recent tragedy in Israel, one SCW woman organized the complete recitation of Tehillim, pulling together 150 women to successfully complete the sefer.

*Bina Yeteira*, our weekly parsha publication, came out nearly every week. Women had the opportunity to express their Torah thoughts freely, in a forum that was enjoyed throughout the university community. Next week, the third annual *Shivim Panim Torah Journal* is coming out; Torah scholarship at



SCW is blooming.

These are just a few of the goings on at SCW which TAC has been responsible for this year. On behalf of the student body, we welcome the new TAC board and wish them a successful and productive year. The raw materials at SCW, dedicated students who are excited to work to better themselves and the Jewish community, are rich and plentiful. May these raw materials continue to be utilized to build the future of the Jewish people.

With Respect and Admiration,

Dassi Billet, President; Liz Jarrett, Vice President; Rayzel Kinderlehrer, Vice President; Elana Flaumenhaft, Treasurer Emeritus; Rena May, Treasurer; Tami Buckman, Secretary.

## Message from the Sy Syms President

Dear Students,

As we embark upon the close of a school year, and my personal undergraduate college career, I know not whether to jump for joy or pull out a box of Kleenex (courtesy of the hundreds of dollars I have remaining on my cal card). It has been a very full year for all of us, and the uncertainty of the upcoming year leaves many of us nervous, worried and bewildered. For four (or three, or two or one and a half) years, we have clung to the security of Yeshiva and looked to our professors and deans for knowledge and security.

On May 31st I will be leaving the guidance of my professors, and the security of the company of my peers. On June 1st I will be entering "the real world".

The question now is whether we will be able to survive? However, I believe Yeshiva University students only know how to survive. Recently, a professor of SSSB heard me complaining about my continuing job search, the search for suitable living quarters and the pursuit of my exit paper. Suddenly it seems to me lifelong decisions lie in my hands. The professor's only reaction was not one of sympathy, but an alert that I had encountered a reality check that was long overdue.

So as we graduate on May 31st I hand



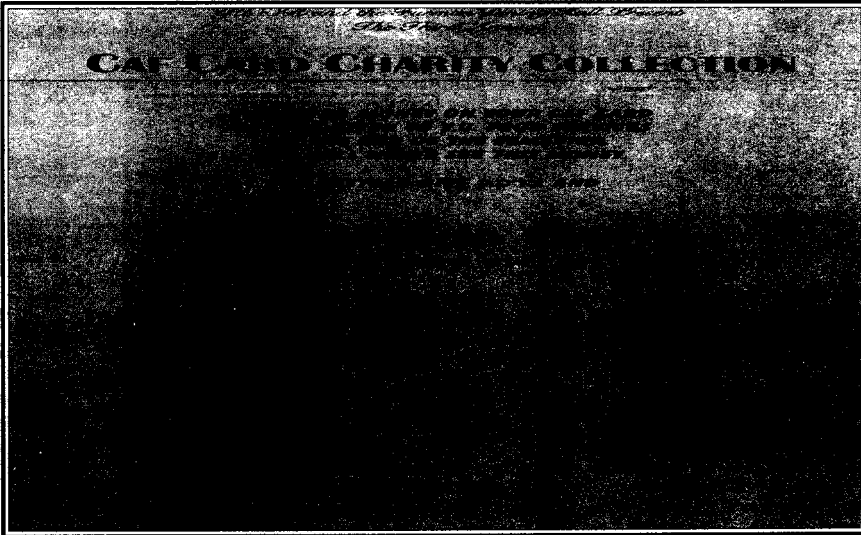
my position over to Barbara Pollack and her entire board. I also leave this campus (or whatever you call our two buildings) with the hope that what I have gained from SSSB will help me to survive.

Sincerely,

Judith Schlusel  
President SSSBSC

P.S. I'd like to thank my entire board for all of their help this past year.

P.P.S. I'd also like to extend a special thank you to Vered Dror, Joshua Halickman, Jay Kofsky and Amy Rosenberg for organizing the SSSB dinner. It was a beautiful evening that was a great success.



**THE  
OBSERVER  
WOULD LIKE  
TO  
CONGRADUATE  
THE CLASS  
OF '95**

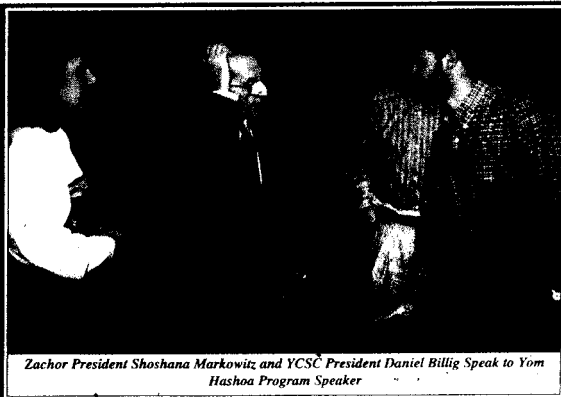
**Roth Scholars  
Will Be  
Involved in  
Laboratory  
Research**

*Continued from page 4*

very dangerous," she said. "Chemistry is an incredible science because it gives you a power over the world -- it allows you to manipulate Nature. That is what really fascinates me about chemistry -- you learn the underlying structure of the universe, so you can take it apart and put it back together again."

The program will run from June 6 until August 11.

**The Speech  
Arts Forum  
would like to  
thank Student  
Council for all  
their help with  
*The Sounding  
Board***



Zachor President Shoshana Markowitz, and YCSC President Daniel Billig Speak to Yom Hashoa Program Speaker

# Featuring...

## Over 400 Attended Rabbi Joseph B. Soloveitchik Memorial Shiur

By Devra Rosenfeld

Over 400 attended the second annual Rabbi Joseph B. Soloveitchik Memorial Shiur.

The *shiur* is modeled after Rav Soloveitchik's annual *yahrzeit* shiur, which drew crowds of rabbis, students and other Jewish communal members to hear the Rav's brilliant, applicable Torah wisdom. Rav Soloveitchik z"l passed away on the second day of *Chol Hamoed Pesach* 5753.

Rabbi Meir Twersky, a relative of the Rav and a Rosh Yeshiva at YU, was invested as Chairholder of the Leib Merkin Distinguished Chair in Talmud, prior to his delivery of the Memorial Shiur. Leib Merkin z"l's son, Hermann Merkin, explained that the chair, which had been established in memory and honor of his father, was last held by R. Joseph B. Soloveitchik z"l beginning in December 1977.

Rabbi Twersky elaborated on the concept of *tashlumin* in prayer, and thus arrived at a theory of the duality of *tefillah*; it being equated to *avodah*, the *korbanot*, while also having the characteristic of *rachumim*. It is for this reason that one may repeat the evening prayer, *ma'ariv*, "in place" of the afternoon *mincha* if it was not recited during the day, despite the fact that *ma'ariv* marks the beginning of a new day.

Concerning the *avodah* of *kedushim*, the concept that night precedes day, is reversed, night comes after the day. In *Ius Sefer Hamitzvot*, Maimonides maintains that Torah also constitutes fulfillment of *avoda* and can therefore also adopt the definition of *korbanot* that night follows day.

Rabbi Twersky compared *tefilla* and Torah to light, which has the power to illuminate the darkness of *olam hazeh*, this world. He explained that during the darkness of modernity, the Rav's Torah and personality "clarified confusion and dispersed darkness." Night was penetrated by the light of day. He concluded the memorial shiur with the well-known prophetic promise, "The Lord shall be King over all the earth, on that day the Lord shall be One and His name One. May this glorious time come speedily in our days."

*Divrei Torah* by both President of YU Rabbi Norman Lamm and Hermann Merkin preceded the shiur. Rabbi Lamm expounded upon the statement of Rabbi Akiva, "V'ahuvia l'ra'acha komocha, zeh klal gadol ba Torah"; explaining "ba Torah" to mean "by means of Torah." It is because of Torah that the principle of loving one's neighbor

Continued on page 11



Rabbi Meir Twersky Giving Rabbi Soloveitchik Shiur

## A Danish Rabbi Expresses Gratitude to His Mother Country

By Chayah Sarah Cantor and Susie Shepper

Rabbi Nathan Bamberger recently addressed the European Club after he and his family revisited Denmark, the country that saved the lives of 7,000 Jews during the Holocaust.

Rabbi Bamberger said that he lectures regularly not only to educate a new generation about the Holocaust, but to express gratitude to the nation that saved his life.

Denmark had a special status as a "protectorate" of Germany in the World War II period, ensuring better treatment of its population than elsewhere. Until late in the war, the Danes, including the Jews, enjoyed relative freedom and autonomy.

Then came August 1943. In the growth of the Danish underground and acts of sabotage, the Nazis announced their plan to transport the Danish Jews to the death camps. But a German shipping agent, Georg Duckwith, alerted the Danes, who in turn, contacted the underground.

When the synagogue members arrived for High-Holiday Services that year, the acting rabbi, Melechior, announced the postponement of the services. Sensing there was a serious difficulty, the Bambergers locked up their home and stayed by a Christian friend in another part of Copenhagen for six days.

Through his mother's contacts, a stranger came to the door and silently led the family into a waiting car, which drove them out of Copenhagen and onto the Danish countryside. A farmer led them to a barn, filled with over 200 equally dazed Jews. From there they were taken, in the back of a haywagon, to the Oresund, the strait dividing the North Sea from the Baltic where a fleet of fishing boats awaited them.

The Danish crew and fisherman risked their lives by committing the crime of saving Jews. Above deck, the fishermen frequently anchored and whipped out their nets to fool the German patrols. When the boats finally reached Swedish waters, the Jews were transferred to Swedish torpedo boats and taken ashore.

The Bambergers arrived in Ramlosa, Sweden on erev Yom Kippur. After the holiday, they transferred to Malmö, a city further south, where they spent the remaining months of the war.

Even after the rescue, the Danes extended themselves to those unfortunate Jews who were caught by the Germans during the Rosh Hashanah round-up and sent to Theresienstadt (Terezin), in Czechoslovakia.

The Danish Red Cross regularly visited them and supplied them with food and medicine. A Danish official assured the prisoners they remained under the personal protection of the Danish government.

After the war, the Danes retaliated against the Germans. As the Wehrmacht, Germany soldiers, exchanged their rations and valuables for Danish bicycles, with which to pedal to the border, they were stopped by Danish guards, who seized the bicycles and told the Germans to walk back to their country.

In their recent return, the Bambergers found that not only did the Danes warmly welcome them back, but during their absence, they had taken care of all the Jewish property. Even the Rosh Hashanah table remained set with fine china, candles and silverware.

Rabbi Bamberger explained what may have motivated such benevolent behavior on the part of the Danes. The leadership was one reason. Rabbi Bamberger enthusiastically praised the late Danish king, Christian X, whom he says was a righteous gentile. The king himself treated the Germans with contempt. On the Christian X's 75th birthday, Hitler y"l had sent the king a telegram congratulating him and wishing that the two nations would some day merge as one. "What a wonderful idea," the monarch replied. "But frankly, I'm too old to rule over Germany."

"A Dane will never turn on you," Rabbi Bamberger said. "As long as you are his friend, he will remain your friend for life. He will do anything to help you."

Rabbi Bamberger explained that the Danes no longer care to talk about these events. To them, this event was an obligation of kindness from one human to another.

Rabbi Bamberger concluded with a brief summary of his life after the war. After trying to enter Palestine, but being turned away by the British, he made his home in the United States, at the Ner Israel yeshiva in Baltimore. He later received *semichah* and a doctorate at YU. He is the author of *The Viking Jews: A History of the Jews of Denmark* and *Torah Aimely Twinkles*. He is also the rabbi of the Kingsbridge Heights Jewish center, in the Bronx, and a member of the O-U kashrut division.

Rabbi Bamberger is the first of many speakers planned for the European club, which is designed to introduce students to European Jews and their culture. For any information about membership or future activities, please call Susie Shepper at (718) 796-4567.

### EVERYONE'S TALKING ABOUT THIS EXCITING NEW VIDEO

"I received A TASTE OF SHABBOS as a gift. It was the most inspiring experience making challah for the first time with my 16 year old sons. You couldn't pick a better present."  
Faina Brenkler, Brooklyn, N.Y.

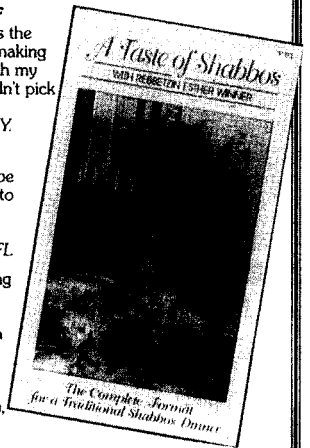
"If I had to describe this video in one word it would be elegant. From the recipes to the rituals, it's a pleasure to watch."  
Fraydee Lozenik, Miami, FL

"I thought I knew everything there was to know about preparing Shabbos dinner, but I learned how to make a delicious Salmon a la Sea Breeze by watching A TASTE OF SHABBOS."  
Celia, Sacharou, Long Beach, N.Y.

"This video is an hour long and I really feel you get your money's worth. It has something for the entire family. My kids and I have watched it over and over again."

Tova Shoenfeld, Brooklyn, N.Y.

A TASTE OF SHABBOS is waiting for you at your local Jewish Bookstore or call 1-800-71-TASTE



# Observations: Returning to Germany- 50 Years Later

By Gila Reinitz

I grew up hearing about the seemingly impossible and inhumane perpetrations of the Nazis. I'd seen the movies, "Escape from Sobibor" and "Schindler's List". I'd read the books and I'd seen the pictures. I was told to remember, that I must never forget. Remember what?, I thought. I was not there. In fact, I did not care much to go, as the countless times that were pounded into my head year after year bred a certain immunity which bordered on indifference.

My grandfather is a Holocaust survivor. Of all the stories he told me about the war, the one he tells most fervently, and the only one he tells with an ironic yet proud smile, is the one of his escape from a "death march", as the inmates dubbed the 45-mile walk, just days before the American troops entered and liberated him with those who'd survived. My grandfather asked me several months ago if I would accompany him on a trip to Germany. A small tour of survivors had organized themselves and had decided to partake in the ceremony at Flossenberg, a concentration camp in Germany, to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the liberation which finally occurred on April 23, 1945.

Upon arriving in Munich, I could not help but notice what a beautiful place this particular part of Germany seemed to me. One survivor remarked that it had been American dollars which beautified the Munich airport after the war. The woman who told me this spoke with contempt.

The tour consisted of approximately 35 survivors, 10 first-generation representatives, and myself, the only second-generation person present aside from a young yeshiva student who had come with his father. This was a lot to absorb. As we started our tour of Flossenberg, the first place we visited, I was struck with the overwhelming realization that I was surrounded by true greatness. The people who were walking ahead of and next to me had survived brutalities that I cannot, try as I may, imagine.

We said Kaddish by each memorial stone in the camp and after each ceremony, several survivors shared their thoughts, feelings and stories with other members of the group as well as with the German camera-man who was filming a documentary to be shown later on Berlin television. To see the places where abominable events took place is horrifying, to hear the stories told of those who'd survived is humbling and gut-wrenching, but to have these same people tell their stories and point to the exact scenes of where they took place is an

entirely different experience altogether.

Mila Bachner, a woman who'd been liberated at Flossenberg, was the most vocal of our group. She constantly had a comment to make about each part of the camp we'd arrive at and perhaps the most emotional moment for her, ephemeral as it was, was captured in a photograph of her taken by her husband as she climbed to the top of an SS watch tower and shouted, "Look at me!" For me it was merely a moment of wonder at her strength; for her it was a substantial symbol of her freedom which finally arrived after 50 years.

As we walked along a well-groomed and flowery path to what had been the crematorium, I looked over to my right, having realized that my grandfather had not uttered a word since we'd arrived at Flossenberg.

"Zaidy," I asked, "are you alright? What are you thinking?"

I barely felt I had the right to ask this question, much less a right to be there with the toughest and bravest people I'd ever come across. After all, I had not seen Flossenberg while it was a functioning slaughtering grounds; I was experiencing a much lower level of terror for the first time. My grandfather was flooded with memories he'd thought he'd banished from the recesses of his mind 50 years earlier.

"It's just so unbelievable that 50 years have gone by, that I was here," he answered after several more moments of silence.

His eyes were glazed, he looked bewildered and said he had a headache.

"From remembering things that I thought I'd forgotten. It's making my head hurt," he explained.

Wherever I walked, I carried with me my journal and recorded what I could of what I saw and what the survivors said. One woman told us of how she'd slept among the animals before she was captured and sent to a camp. She said the four-legged animals did not harm her. It was the two-legged ones she'd feared.

The more time I spent with these people, the more I felt a connection with the events of 50 years ago which had heretofore been overshadowed by tragedies in my own life. I did not have the broad vision to transcend the pain of the present and feel that of the past which had affected my very own ancestors. I realized, quickly, that I had more on my shoulders than an obligation to remember. Seeing the actual sites of the stories I'd grown up with, being fortunate enough to see them with my

*Continued on page 11*

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Rabbi Y. Freilich, Dean

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THAT YOU CAN PICK UP YOUR  
CAP AND GOWN**

**NO ATTIRE WILL BE GIVEN OUT  
AT THE PARAMOUNT**



*Gila and Her Grandfather in a Shul Recently Built in Flossenberg*

## Engard! Inaugural Fencing Season Set for Next Year

By Rachel Hellman

Next year will mark the first season for the SCW fencing club. The club will be coached by Josie Fusco, led by Captain Na'ama Ben-David, SCW '96, and consisting of 14 members.

Fencing has three different types of weapons, but women's competitive fencing consists of only two weapons, the foil and epee. The foil is a four-sided blade. For a hit to be legal with the foil, it must touch a specific area on the body. The epee is a three-sided blade. Here, the fencer tries to draw out her opponent. Anywhere on the body is considered a legal hit.

For competition, each weapon requires

three players and one back up. Fencers train exclusively with one weapon, and do not switch weapons in the middle of a competition.

Ben-David thinks of fencing as a "living chess game." She has seen many aspects of fencing, such as patiently waiting for an opponent to be drawn into an attacking mode.

Fusco is the present fencing teacher for the gym class. She is also a successful competitive fencer. She has coached two girls who placed high in Junior Olympics.

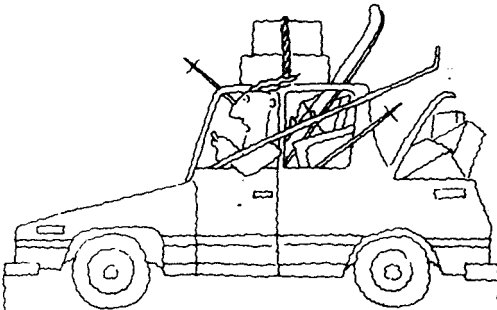
The team as a whole is lacking experience; they will begin practicing in the Fall.

Matches will start in January and five meets have already been scheduled.

Due to NCAA Division III rules, none of the teams at SCW can be officially listed as teams. A school needs three competing sports clubs to apply to the governing body and become official teams. If the fencing club successfully establishes itself as a club, Athletic Director Steve Young said that he would apply to the governing board of division III schools with the request to officially approve SCW's athletic teams.

If anyone is interested in joining, please speak to Ben-David.

Please contact  
Marcie  
Schneider or  
Ziona Hochbaum  
if you are  
interested in  
writing for *The  
Observer* next  
year.



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