

# The Observer

The Official Newspaper of Stern College for Women \* Yeshiva University

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## Mysterious Benefactor Anne Scheiber Bequeaths \$22 Million to YU Directs Her Fortune to the Education of Jewish Women

By Ziona Hochbaum

In the second largest gift in YU history, a 101-year-old amateur investor has bequeathed nearly her entire fortune to fund scholarships and loans for Jewish women.

The benefactor is Anne Scheiber, a retired civil servant and self-made millionaire who lived a plain and private life in midtown Manhattan.

In her will, she expressed her wish that the money be used to fund scholarships and interest-free loans for needy and deserving women attending SCW and Albert Einstein College of Medicine (AECOM) "who have indicated their desire to

assist in the development of humanity and alleviate pain and suffering."

Until last year, no one at YU - including University President Dr. Norman Lamm - had heard of Scheiber. Then, sometime after her death on January 9, 1995, Lamm received a mysterious telephone call from a man named Benjamin Clark requesting a meeting. When they met at the Midtown Campus, Clark, a lawyer, explained that one of his clients had bequeathed a staggering sum of money to YU.

"Although she was not a religiously observant woman, she

picked Stern College to be the major beneficiary of her largesse because it is the only college for women in America that is under Jewish auspices," Clark said.

For SCW, which many believe does not receive its fair share of YU funds, the Scheiber endowment is especially meaningful.

"This is truly a magnificent benefaction," said SCW Dean Karen Bacon. "My only regrets are that we did not know Ms. Scheiber while she was alive and cannot thank her personally, and that she did not get a chance to know and enjoy our students."

Lamm said that Scheiber had chosen the premier place to actualize her goals for Jewish women. "Although we did not know her personally, she obviously knew about us," Lamm said. "She admired and was sufficiently taken by the story of Stern College, of its students and alumnae, and its achievements, and those of the Albert Einstein College of Medicine, to want to remain part of it forever."

The Anne Scheiber Scholarship Fund Awards and the Anne Scheiber Loan Fund Awards will be endowed based on the financial need and academic achievement of women who express intentions to enter health or social service professions.

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### Gore and Viacom's Redstone Speak at YU Chanukah Dinner

By Amira Rubin

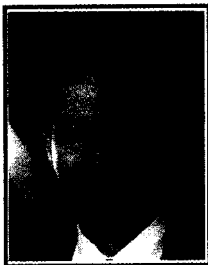
Vice President Albert Gore, Jr. delivered the principal address at the convocation of the 71st Annual YU Chanukah Dinner on Sunday, December 3 at the Waldorf-Astoria. Gore received an honorary Doctor of Laws degree.

Viacom Chairman Sumner Redstone, whose company owns MTV and Nickelodeon and recently

acquired Paramount Communications and Blockbuster Entertainment, was the keynote speaker at the dinner which followed the convocation.

A highlight of the evening was YU Board Chairman David Gottesman's announcement of a \$22 million endowment to SCW and Albert Einstein College of Medicine. The benefactor who in her will left this large sum to YU was Anne Scheiber, a relatively unknown, self-made millionaire who made her fortune investing in the stock market. The money is earmarked for scholarships and loans.

Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degrees were awarded to S. Daniel Abraham, the chairman of Slim Fast Food Company and Honorary Trustee and Benefactor of YU; John D. Cohen, retired senior partner of Tenzer, Greenblatt LLP, Trustee of the Beatrice and Samuel A. Seaver Foundation, and member of AECOM's Board of Over-



U.S. Vice President Al Gore



Viacom Chairman Sumner Redstone; Max Grill, a benefactor who endowed the deanship at Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary in his wife's name; Charles A. Krasne, CEO of Krasdale Foods, Inc. and Benefactor and Overseer of AECOM; and Jack Rudin and Lewis Rudin, chairmen of the Rudin Management Company and YU Benefactors.

The dinner program included

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### Who Was Anne Scheiber? Unraveling an Enigma

By Ziona Hochbaum

Anne Scheiber's \$22 million bequest, which was made public earlier this week, has the YU community astonished for more than its sheer magnitude.

The 101-year-old benefactor was a woman who can only be called a recluse. An unaffiliated Jew who worked as an IRS auditor before retiring in 1943, Scheiber spent the last half-century playing the stockmarket. She was fantastically successful. From an initial investment of \$5000, she amassed a portfolio valued at \$22 million.

But she never spent a penny. She lived plainly in a \$450 a month rent-stabilized midtown Manhattan studio with chipped paint. Her passport has a single stamp from a European vacation she took 60 years ago.

According to her lawyer, Benjamin Clark, Scheiber's only contact with YU was in the 1950s, when she attended a fundraising luncheon at which then University President Samuel Belkin spoke.



The only extant picture of Anne Scheiber is this 1937 passport photo

Clark is YU's only source of information about Scheiber.

Besides a \$100,000 grant to Technion, the Israel Institute of Technology, a smaller donation to the United Jewish Appeal (UJA) several paintings donated to the Jewish Museum, and some personal items left to an estranged niece, Scheiber made YU the primary benefactor of her estate. She had reportedly severed all ties to her family many years ago.

Scheiber was born in Brooklyn in 1893. She was one of nine siblings, all of whom are now deceased. Her father, who managed to amass a small fortune of real estate holdings, subsequently lost his wealth and died young. Her

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### Possibility of Federal Student Loan Cuts Causes Concern at SCW

By Elisheva Wohlgenuth

Among the many issues being debated before the Republican Congress at this time is the future of student aid in the form of direct loan programs. Federal student aid is on the cutting board. According to the U.S. Department of Education, approximately two million college students at more than 1,350 schools nationwide receive direct loans.

Under the direct lending program, students borrow directly from the federal government through their campus financial aid office. At YU, students fill out a special form from the University,

federal forms (including the Free Application For Federal Student Assistance), and tax returns filed by them or by their parents.

"So far the federally-sponsored Pell grant that helps many college students around the country finance their education has not yet gone down for the upcoming year," said Lisa Mata of YU's Department of Student Finance. "And if cuts do happen, it will most probably be from the highest [income] bracket first." Students across the country are concerned that their educations may have to be terminated if the cuts are as extreme as

first reported, and SCW students are no exception. "Usually I tune out on what is going on in Congress, but this time I am keeping a close eye on the issue since it could have direct bearing on my future," said one SCW student who requested anonymity.

According to a statement released by the Education Department on October 10, a new policy of direct lending has been instituted at a group of colleges, in an effort to allow them to tailor the way financial aid is distributed to students, cutting some of the red tape.

Continued on page 5

## Letters to the Editor

### "Torah is Not a Soap Opera" A New Level of Disrespect

On Monday evening, November 13, I attended a drama workshop led by Hefsi Assaf. The program centered around two female Torah personalities, Sarah and her handmaid, Hagar.

Students engaged in mini-skits where they role-played the request by Sarah of Hagar to conceive a child with Avraham.

Students related to Sarah as a jealous wife with a fertility problem, afraid of losing her husband to another woman. Torah is NOT a soap opera. In fact, our Rabbis explain that Sarah, out of great respect and honor for Avraham, advocated the taking of Hagar as a wife, not a concubine. Additionally, we know that Sarah was one of the seven prophetesses. Her actions are to be admired and lauded.

I am not saying that one cannot analyze the emotions of Torah personalities. The Torah does not attempt to hide or cloak the emotions of our ancestors. In fact, in Genesis 37:11 the Torah clearly recognizes the emotion of Joseph's brothers, as it says: "And his brothers were jealous of him."

The problem arises however, when dramatic analysis imposes emotions that are not found in the text. Analysis of Torah personalities does not belong, and is in fact out of place, in a theater workshop.

Emily Amie Witty, SCW '96

On any given night the two *beit midrashim* at Stern are full of activity. While it is frustrating that, as a result, dictionaries fall apart and misshelved books are hard to locate, it is also a positive sign that the *beit midrashim* are serving their purpose as rooms dedicated to Torah learning. Unfortunately, some of the recent wear and tear in the *beit midrash* in the school building has not been due to the overzealousness of people in the midst of a *chavrusa*; last week some *tanachim* were disgracefully vandalized.

In the last issue of the *Observer* a letter was written addressing the overall lack of *derech eretz* around Stern. At this point, measures have to be taken to reverse the hostility, even apathy, that is far too prevalent, especially when it violates the very essence of what we stand for - Torah. There is no excuse that can rationalize the defacement of *sefarim*.

The *beit midrash* requires upkeep - books fall apart, they get misplaced, that is why TAC created a Beit Midrash Committee. However, our efforts to create an atmosphere for learning outside of a library, are useless if others in the school lack the basic respect and understanding for Torah. This behavior and attitude has to be stopped.

The Beit Midrash Committee

## Stealing in the Cafeteria

For quite some time, I have noticed certain acts taking place in the caf that I have found extremely troublesome. Aside from the usual pushing, shoving and line-cutting, what bothers me most is how much the students steal from the caf.

The first type of stealing I have witnessed is when students pick food and munch from the salad bar, as if they are in their own kitchens at home. If they tried picking from the salad bar at any restaurant, they would be asked to leave before they knew what hit them. The cafeteria is just like a restaurant, and Stern women should behave in the caf the same way they would behave when they go out to eat.

Aside from stealing from the salad bar, the most stealing occurs with the frozen yogurt. I cannot even count how many times I have seen students go to the frozen yogurt machine with a spoon in their hand, and take

a heaping spoonful of frozen yogurt. After they devour it and decide they like it, they go back for yet another spoonful. Why can't Stern students just put the frozen yogurt in a cup or bowl and stand in line to pay for it, like most people do?

Of those students who are decent enough to put their frozen yogurt in a cup, many of them eat half of their yogurt while standing in line to pay. Perhaps many students are unaware that unlike soup, chicken or fries, the frozen yogurt is weighed, and so eating any of it before it is weighed is *mamash genaiyah*.

I don't want to appear overly critical of my fellow Stern students, but I do feel this is an important issue that students should be more aware of in the future.

Shani Feld

SSSB '97

## Shomeret Responds

In the last issue of the *Observer*, an MYP student responded to my Shomeret letter. I want to clarify a few ideas which I feel were misinterpreted. This student wrote, "Because some are more stringent on themselves, that doesn't give them the right to confine others to their beliefs." I do not feel that I was imposing my beliefs on them. I was suggesting that they be more cautious in their actions. You really never know who's watching.

Also, while he agreed that this is a "free-sex society," he said that YU is unaffected by it. That is not entirely true. While there are numerous students who spend their time in the library or *beit midrash*, there are also students who are not into learning past 1 p.m. or 3 p.m. in the afternoon. And not everyone who learns in the *beit midrash* till midnight is *shomeret negiah*. They are just more

discreet about it.

The MYP student goes on to say that my comments about people kissing while waiting for the van "portray a faulty logic." I don't understand what is meant by faulty logic. Also, I never implied that there was a competition between couples to prove who loves who more. I know that they are expressing their love for each other, but as I said in my previous letter, there's a time and place for everything. A Jewish atmosphere is neither the time nor the place for physical expression. I wrote, "If you do get the urge to touch your significant other... control that urge until you are alone." I am not anti-non-*shomeret negiah* couples, only anti-P.D.A.

Fondly,

Shomeret

## The Observer

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## Editorial

### Blood Lines

"Can I have your attention for a second?"

A young woman is in need of 7 pints of O+ blood. Anyone interested in donating, please see Grace." A call rang through the cafeteria on a recent Monday morning, and within 3 minutes, 14 Stern Women had surrounded Grace's desk in the Dean's office. "I only need 7 people!" Grace exclaimed. "The rest of you come back next week."

Often, when blood or platelets are needed in a hurry by Jewish patients, hospitals are told to call on SCW. Patients look to religious populations in these situations be-

cause of the low risk of Orthodox Jews carrying STD's. With the blood screening process as imperfect as it is, patients are usually more confident with the safety of the donated blood.

Hospitals also call on SCW for an assured quick response. Within an hour of the request, SCW women are calling back to set up appointments. This is but another demonstration of the community involvement of SCW students.

A blood drive will be held at SCW on December 21. Keep on giving!

## With Opportunity Comes Responsibility

By Elisheva Wohlgenuth

On November 27, while most students were sound asleep, Marcie Schneider, Ziona Hochbaum and I had the privilege of accompanying Dean Karen Bacon, Art Director Judy Tucker, *Yeshiva Today* Staff Writer/Editor Helen Kuttner, and YU Publication Manager Yvonne Hudson, who also serves as Vice President of New York Women in Communications Student Programming, to the fourth annual New York Women's Agenda (NYWA) Star breakfast at the New York Hilton. NYWA is an umbrella organization made up of many different "good works" non-profit organizations, major corporations and individual NY women in various professions. The organization strives to support women in the workforce and acts as a sounding board for new ideas to ease women's advancement in a still largely male-dominated world. Another goal is to raise

awareness and campaign for action on issues that are ever-present in women's lives, such as breast cancer, domestic violence and sexual harassment.

The room was filled with tables of thousands of powerful NY women - and one particularly powerful Washington lady - who took time out of their hectic Monday morning schedules to gather and salute colleagues who have excelled in their careers and have paved the way for future generations.

I bring to you, without doing justice to them, some of the inspiring and empowering words that aroused me from my slumber in the Grand Ballroom. Hillary Rodham Clinton delivered the keynote address to an audience that included Donna Hanover Giuliani, Gloria Steinem, Queens Borough President Claire Schulman, Manhattan Bor-

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## Following Up . . .

### YU Union Members Receive New Contract

by Esther Barry

Yeshiva University presented the 1199 National Health and Human Service Employees Union workers with their new signed contract on Monday, November 27. The settlement, which was ratified by union members in a vote two weeks before, includes numerous changes which were agreed upon by both sides as a result of the day-long union walkout on November 6.

Some of the more important changes include the \$400 minimum base rate per week and the job security clause. The first change affects mostly senior, full-time employees and guarantees them no lay-offs for the term of their contract. The new contract also gives them a \$750 bonus in December 1995.

Another change pertains mostly to newer workers who had been making under \$400 for a full week's work. Some of the other highlights of the new contract include a 3% raise in salaries and minimums in 1996 and 1997, as well as

changes regarding holiday vacation and aspects of sick leave.

"The new contract is okay," said Ray Algarin, one of the members of the negotiating committee and co-organizer of the November 6 work-stoppage action. "I'm really happy for those workers who were making under \$400 a week."

Clarence Barrett, another negotiator, called the new contract a fair one.

One worker expressed his satisfaction in five simple words: "G-d has answered my prayers."

Not every reaction was so favorable, however. Although no one publicly voiced displeasure, there was an undercurrent of dissatisfaction on the part of some union members, due to changes that were not implemented in the new contract.

The new contract is effective from October 1, 1995 through September 30, 1998.

## Caf Store Ban Repealed

By Aviva Frohlich

The rule barring Stern women from the YC Caf Store during evening hours was rescinded last week. It had been put into effect in an effort to prevent the lower level of Rubin Hall from becoming a lounge.

"I'm really happy that the new rule was removed," said Miriam Safier, SCW '97. "It was totally unfair to us anyway."

The decision for removal was made following a meeting attended by Associate Dean of Students David Himber, Assistant Dean of Students Rabbi Jeffrey Chaitoff, Assistant Dean of Students Zeldia Braun, Residence Halls Director Rabbi Joshua Cheifetz, and Security Director Donald Summer.

"The meeting was very productive. Everyone was very positive in trying to

resolve the situation so the women could appropriately use the Caf Store," said Braun.

The convenience store, which opens at 10:30 p.m. and closes at 1 a.m., will be available to both male and female students during those hours. Students will be permitted downstairs for the sole purpose of shopping in the store. Anyone interested in socializing will be free to do so in the lobby upstairs. Security will be doing periodic "sweeps" of the basement level to clear the area of all those loitering near the store.

"I think the new decision is great," said Elana Isaacs, SCW '97. "We can continue to use the store at night and anyone who wants to hang out can go upstairs. Everyone is happy!"

## YU Chanukah Dinner

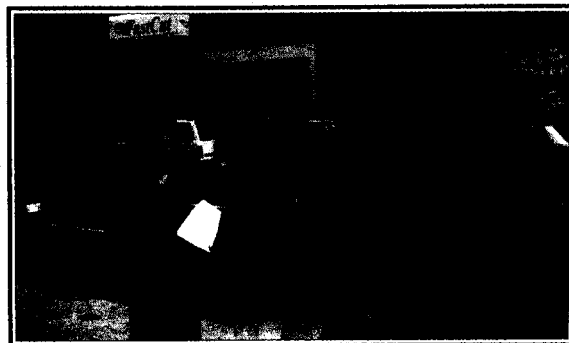
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a special tribute to the Mozes S. Schupf Foundation for its commitment to Jewish education. In 1994, the foundation donated \$10 million to the University to support schools which "work to ensure authentic Jewish continuity."

Lamm learned a passage of the Talmud

which discusses how to light Chanukah candles with the audience.

Board Chair of the YU Museum Erica Jesselson and YU Trustee Robert M. Beren served as dinner chairs. Trustee and Benefactor E. Billi Ivry held the Convocation Chair, and Trustee and Benefactor Ronnie Heyman held the Scroll of Honor Chair.



CNN got reaction from Rachel Hellman, SCW '96, and other SCW students about the Anne Scheiber endowment.

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## Anne Scheiber

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mother was a real estate broker.

At 15, after attending secretarial school, Scheiber found a job as a bookkeeper. At night, she worked toward her high school diploma. After graduation, she used her earnings to enroll in night classes at National University Law School (now George Washington University) in Washington, D.C. Graduated in 1924, she was admitted to the Bar of the District of Columbia Supreme Court in two years and the Bar of the U.S. Supreme Court ten years later.

In the interim, to finance her legal education, she became an auditor for the Internal Revenue Service. It was a career that would span 23 years.

According to Clark, her position with the IRS was "neither financially rewarding nor personally and professionally satisfying." Despite earning excellent performance reviews, Scheiber never received a promotion. She attributed that to her being Jewish and a woman.

Besides perhaps cultivating her Jewish identity, the job introduced Scheiber to the investment world. And so began the avocation that would occupy her until her death.

When she started out in the 1930s, during Hollywood's heyday, Scheiber invested in Paramount and other film studios. At her death last year, her portfolio contained 140 securities including Bristol Myers-Squibb, Coca Cola, PepsiCo and Chrysler.

"She had an uncanny ability in investing," said Bill Fay, her broker at Merrill Lynch for over 30 years. Fay, now retired in

Pennsylvania, said Scheiber picked all her own stocks. "Technically speaking, I was her broker, but she really managed her own affairs," he said, recalling that she visited his office at least three times a week. "She did her own research, spending days in the library." She had an acute interest in financial reports. And she would attend the annual meetings of "her companies" whenever they were held in New York.

Scheiber took every opportunity for frugality; rumor has it that the lunches served at those meetings were her meal for the day.

In a personal letter to her lawyer, Scheiber wrote: "I did all of this on my own, on my own selection and without the advice of anyone."

Unfortunately, there is no such letter to explain her motivation in choosing YU as her beneficiary.

University President Norman Lamm believes that Scheiber's goal was "to ensure that Jewish women are afforded educational and professional opportunities she felt she could not avail herself of as a Jew and as a woman during the early to mid-20th century." Scheiber was a saver with rare, impeccable discipline. When her building went co-op, she did not buy her apartment. And until Clark made a present of a big-screen color television five years ago, she owned only a small black and white set.

Scheiber never cashed in on any of her investments. For years to come, Jewish women will be reaping the dividends.

## Electionalysis

### Pat Buchanan

By Leebie Mallin

There is a great deal of cynicism about the political process deeply ingrained within American political culture. This cynicism has led many Americans to believe that all politicians are basically the same, and that no matter which political party wins a given election, nothing will change. As a result, America has one of the lowest voter turnouts in the free world. But American Jews have only to look at the early stages of the 1996 presidential campaign to see why each vote truly matters. Pat Buchanan, who is currently seeking the Republican presidential nomination, poses a strong threat to American Jewry.

Pat Buchanan began his political career as a speech writer in the Nixon Administration, and then went on to become a nationally syndicated columnist, as well as the co-host of CNN's *Crossfire*. In 1992 he quit his day job and made an unsuccessful bid for the Presidency.

Buchanan was not considered a serious political contender in 1992. But he is becoming a growing force in the 1996 presidential election. If his support continues, he will influence the formulation of the Republican political platform. Buchanan's views are on the far right of the political spectrum. His overriding message is that the American people have lost control over their money, their choices, and above all, their government. Buchanan blames foreign competitors and U.S. free trade for America's economic problems. Thus, he was vehemently opposed to the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA).

Buchanan is very much a representative of the so-called angry white male who has emerged in reaction to decades of federal social programs for the poor and for minorities. Buchanan's views strongly appeal to family values advocates, isolationists, creationists, gun owners and those who supported Ross Perot in 1992.

American Jews are suspicious of Buchanan, many consider him a threat to their religious freedom. He is an adamant supporter of family values, favors prayer in school and does not believe that references to G-d, a moment of silence, or out and out prayer in public schools violates the separation between church and state. On many occasions Buchanan has criticized Supreme Court rulings which restrict the government from getting involved in religious issues. Jews are but a small minority in America and therefore any connection between the government and religion is dangerous.

Foreign aid accounts for only a small percentage of America's budget and promotes American interests abroad, but Buchanan does not recognize this. He is especially vocal in denouncing U.S. aid to Israel.

Buchanan has on many occasions denied the Holocaust. He has stated that Jews have perpetuated the Holocaust myth to gain the world's sympathy.

It is unlikely that Mr. Buchanan will gain the Republican nomination and it is even less likely that he will go on to win the Presidency. Nevertheless, it is disturbing that he has gained as much support as he has. No matter what the odds, as long as Buchanan is a candidate, it behooves all American Jews who are eligible to vote in their state's Republican primary to do so.

## Israel Club Hosts Shabbaton

By Miriam Ben Ezra

The recent occurrences in Israel have been causing Jews everywhere to join together in solidarity. On the *Shabbat* of November 11, *Parshat Chaver Sarah*, the Israel Club held a Shabbaton at SCW. Of the 147 participants who discussed and shared their feelings, 107 were SCW students.

The first speaker was Gerry Gontowik, vice president of the Orthodox Union. Gontowik spoke of the inaccuracy of the general media and of the negative portrayal of Orthodox Jews. He also provided some solutions to these problems. He mentioned that a group of Hillel students from colleges such as Brandeis, MIT and Boston University wrote a collective letter to a Boston newspaper. The letter discussed how abominable the assassination of Yitzchak Rabin was to Torah Jews, and how the Jewish people were shocked and shamed as a community. Gontowik suggested that students at YU, the "largest 'Hillel' in America," should similarly get together and make public statements to newspapers and Congressmen.

### SCW Senate Back in Session

By Racheli Felsman

The Stern College Student Senate held its first meeting of the 1995-1996 academic year on November 2. Senate leader Melanie Arum, SCW '97, welcomed senators from the sophomore, junior and senior classes. "The goal of the Senate is to deal with academic issues on our campus," said Arum. The Senate discusses problems that concern students and proposes changes to faculty and administration.

In past years the Senate has been successful in their meetings with the SCW administration. Senate suggestions have resulted in the development of the career center in the first floor library. Additionally, the Senate has influenced the creation of several new classes in which students have shown interest, such as a Nutrition course now offered by the Biology Department. "It is important for students to know that we are here for them and that we want to hear their input," said Junior Class Senator Nancy Moritz, SCW '97.

The issues raised in this Senate meeting included scholarship opportunities, examination procedures and conditions, and academic guidance. Senior Class Senator Devra Rosenfeld, SCW '96, spoke of students' complaints of last-minute midterm announcements and professors' failure to give students a syllabus at the start of the semester. Senior Class Senator Daphna Frankel, SCW '96, was especially concerned with the lack of proper academic counseling. "Many students feel that the faculty is not utilized to its fullest capabilities in offering aid and guidance," Frankel said.

Moritz, who is enrolled in a shaped major for occupational therapy, noted that students face problems in many shaped majors and joint programs. "There is a high interest in physical therapy and occupational therapy, and students have voiced a demand for a set Bachelor's degree in these programs," she said.

In the Senate's next meeting, these issues will be discussed with members of the administration and faculty. That meeting will try to resolve some of the academic problems facing SCW students. "We hope to provide better student-faculty communication through which students can voice suggestions and complaints," she said.

Gontowik then asked the participants to break up into discussion groups and to come up with feasible suggestions of ways that students can help the Jewish people. One of the programs that has already been initiated is the weekly Israel Newsletter.

A new idea raised was to initiate a chapter of the Committee for Accuracy in Middle Eastern Reporting in America (CAMERA) in YC and SCW. CAMERA would hold workshops and lectures on how to recognize inaccuracies in the media and what to do about that misrepresentation. CAMERA would also submit and encourage the writing of group letters to the editors of major newspapers. Other new ideas resulted from this brainstorming session.

"More importantly," said Arie Pelta,

President of the YC-Israel Club, "it got people talking to each other."

Another speaker at the Shabbaton was Colonel Moshe Leshem, who has been in the Israeli Army since 1960, and has participated in every war since that time. When speaking about Yitzchak Rabin, he mentioned many of Rabin's successes as a leader, as well as his failures. He does not consider Oslo II to be a peace process, but rather a sell-out of land.

Leshem explained how the committee in charge of deliberating the Oslo II agreement before it was signed came to a decision in three hours as opposed to what a disinterested lawyer he spoke to estimated would take at least ten days to discuss and decide. There are "witch hunts" going on in Israel now.

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## YU Represents Egypt At Model United Nations



Members of the YU Model UN delegation which represented Egypt at the competition.

By Chaviva Schoffman

Elishava Wohlgenuth SCW '96, and Meir Zeitchik YC '96, led eight SCW and eight YC students to the 1995 University of Pennsylvania Model United Nations. YU represented Egypt, which has a place on eight UN committees: the Legal Committee, Restructuring the UN, the Social Cultural Humanitarian Committee, the Middle East Summit, the Special Political Committee, the Commission on Human Rights, Nuclear Disarmament and the Commission on the Status of Women.

The delegates worked hard to get their ideas heard and their resolutions passed, on subjects ranging from the structure of the United Nations to human rights, from literacy to nuclear disarmament.

Despite the disadvantage of missing sessions on Shabbat, the Yeshiva Delegation was able to lobby for their beliefs, co-author resolutions and pass legislation aimed

at bettering the world. This was done through fraternization with other delegates and the forming of coalitions with countries with similar objectives. "The Model UN gave me a thorough knowledge of the workings of international diplomacy," said delegate Leebie Mallin SCW '98. "More importantly, though, representing Egypt enabled me to look beyond my own political and religious biases to better understand the needs and wants of other countries throughout the world."

Despite Iranian protests, the Social Cultural Humanitarian Committee took time out of its busy schedule for a moment of silence, proposed by the Egyptian delegates, in memory of their Semitic brother, Yitzchak Rabin.

At the closing ceremonies, YU delegates Yosef Rothstein and Elizabeth Renna, of the Commission on the Status of Women, were awarded an Honorable Mention.

## \$22 Million

*Continued from page 1*

Clark, Scheiber's lawyer for 40 years, said he informally communicated with a YU official sometime in the late 1960s. As a courtesy, lawyers sometimes contact an organization to which their clients have chosen to bequeath a large sum of money in their wills. To guard their privacy and protect their right to change their wills, the names of the prospective donors are never released. At the time Scheiber made her will, neither her lawyer nor the University knew her gift would be so historic. Scheiber's fortune then was about \$1 million.

The \$22 million gift is the third eight-figure estate endowment to YU in the past two years.

In 1993, YU received its largest bequest ever from the estate of Rachel Golding to support scholarships and fellowships, enhancements in Jewish studies and science education, and the founding of institutes of

genetics and developmental biology at AECOM.

Last year, the Mozes S. Schupf Foundation endowed \$10 million to the University directed primarily toward scholarships and fellowships, and faculty enhancement at YC, Bernard Revel Graduate School for Jewish Studies, David J. Azrieli Graduate School for Jewish Education and Rabbi Isaac Elchonon Theological Seminary.

"The common thread that unites these three extraordinary benefactions is the concern of the donors for the future well-being of the Jewish people," Lamm said. He added that although Scheiber never married and had no children, she has, through her gift to YU, "given life to young people for generations to come - indeed, forever. She has embodied in practical terms the Talmudic dictum, 'He who teaches his neighbor's child is as if he had given birth to him.'"

# Storytime for the Stressed-Out

## Rabbi Hanoch Teller Inspires Students Muddling through Midterms

By Susan Jacobs

SCW students took a break from the tension of mid term examinations to be inspired and spiritually awakened by Rabbi Hanoch Teller on Tuesday night, November 15. Room 518 of the school building was packed with students eager to gain some spiritual insights at a stressful time or to be reminded of pleasant memories of Israel.

Teller, who regularly speaks at different seminars in Israel and has written several inspiring books about Jews making connections to Judaism, was visiting the U.S. to work on a film about miracles. Even though he often makes speaking tours of the U.S., his engagement at Stern was his only speaking appearance for this trip.

The emphasis of his lecture was to remind students to be theocentric - even in the midst of stressful times (such as mid terms); it is important to remind oneself of *Hashem*. With his characteristic magic, he captivated the audience with stories revolving around that theme.

His blue eyes illuminated with emotion, he related that in *Parshat Vayeshev*, when Yaakov is informed that his beloved son Yosef is dead, *Rashi* comments that, despite his grief, Yaakov is unable to completely accept that fact. Teller related this feeling of disbelief to the emotion Jews still feel about the *Beit HaMikdash*; even though we know intellectually that it has been destroyed, we still cling to the belief that it is not really



Rabbi Hanoch Teller

dead. Just as Yosef was really alive, so too, the *Beit HaMikdash* is also still alive, waiting for our return and renewal.

Teller also discussed the importance of reaching out to those who are alienated from Judaism, emphasizing that small actions sometimes have great consequences. He gave the example of *Moshe Rabbeinu*, who through the minimal exertion of noticing the burning bush, later became our greatest leader. In one of his accounts, a young man searching for meaning in a Tibetan monastery was encouraged by the head monk to attend *Yeshivat Aish HaTorah*. The monk knew of the yeshivah because of a newspaper clipping his Jewish mother had sent him. The young student took the monk's advice and eventually became Torah observant.

"If we don't think about G-d, then who will?" Teller asked. He sympathized with the

tension of midterms, remembering his days as a student in YC, but reminded his listeners of their important role as representatives of Torah. Though his message was serious, his stories were warm and witty. His remarks were intentionally brief, to allow students to return to their studies as soon as possible.

"It was a great lecture," said Devorah Roth, SCW '98. "I thought the theme was very inspiring."

For many, the lecture recalled the experience of being in Israel.

"It made me want to get on a plane and go to Israel this second," said Shoshana Greenberg, SCW '98. Cindy Rosenblum, SCW '97, said, "It re-inspired me. It gave me a taste of Israel that I missed."

The event was as meaningful for Teller as it was for his listeners. "It means a lot to me to come here," said Teller, who made special arrangements to speak at SCW. He was pleased with the good turn-out for the event, despite the midterm timing. After he spoke, he spent several minutes speaking individually to students whom he has taught in previous years. Reluctantly, students returned to their studies after the brief lecture.

"He was one of my teachers in Israel, so it was nice to be in a classroom with him again," said Esther Barry, SCW '96. In the middle of worrying about exams, "he helped us keep everything in perspective," she said.

## Federal Loans

Continued from page 1

This plan will eliminate the seemingly endless paperwork that accompanies a financial aid application, and will provide the schools and students with greater overall flexibility.

So far there has been no official financial aid policy change at YU.

The new plan will excuse the schools from certain statutory and regulatory requirements and permit them to use innovative strategies designed to better meet their particular students' needs. Some of the flexibility will be in informing students about student loan repayment obligations, making more loan funds available to students, exemptions from mandatory multiple disbursement for single term loans, and mandatory 30-day delayed disbursement for first-time borrowers. The schools will also focus on calculating student cost of attendance and helping students arrange pay for their education and related costs, making exemptions to allow crediting of Title IV aid to institutional charges without individual written authorizations from students, and allowing the credit of Title IV aid to prior term charges.

"Much of my scholarship is in the form of federal loans and the thought of cuts resulting in the abandonment of my college career is frightening," said one concerned SCW junior.

Mata said she wants to reassure the students that no matter what plan goes into effect, if there are cuts, "we will try to compensate for the loss in federal aid any way we can."



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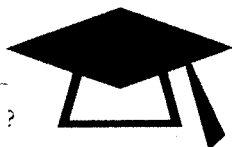
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## Beyond the Front Page: News You May Have Missed

By Richard Robinson and  
Andrew Baynes

### Anti-Terrorism Device

Security measures in Britain's airports just got tighter. The country recently announced the introduction of a new complex computer-controlled passport reading device. In an attempt to curb international terrorism, the system is complete with a database on suspected terrorists. The equipment will be implemented in all of Britain's air and sea ports.

### Protection for Battered Women

Thanks to a pilot program launched by Mayor Rudolph Giuliani, some battered women in New York City will now feel more protected. The program will provide 10 women with cellular phones and alarm systems to ensure their safety at home. Several city companies are participating in this program by donating the safety equipment. If this pilot program proves to be successful, it will be introduced in other areas.

### Voting Discount

There is a new incentive to vote in San Ramon, California. Local businesses are rewarding discounts to residents who turn in their ballot stubs. State officials said that these types of incentives are illegal in federal elections, but are permitted on the state level. The offer is open to all voters.

### Free Access

The AT&T Corporation is developing a program to enable free internet services to public and private elementary and secondary schools. Although only 3% of America's classrooms will be able to take advantage of the AT&T Learning Network, the company hopes to provide more internet services and bring classrooms into the information age.

### Cartoon Stamps

Something funny is coming in the mail. The U.S. Postal Service is now selling stamps honoring comic strips that originated between 1895 and 1945. Sure to become collector's items, the stamps are based on original cartoon panels. Blondie, Dick Tracy and Popeye are among the featured honorees.

# The Quebec Vote

## After the Referendum, Still a Deeply Divided Province

By Joanna Raby

Although not everyone heard it, to the 14 Montrealers studying at SCW and YC, the sigh was audible. Quebec had avoided separation from Canada by a narrow margin of 1.2%, and everyone was relieved. On October 31, Quebec held a referendum to decide whether or not the province would secede from the rest of Canada to become its own independent country. The October referendum, Quebec's second in 15 years, was the closest the province has ever come to separation.

In the months leading up to the referendum, rhetoric on both sides had escalated. Every available public space in Montreal was covered in posters from the two camps. From the Yes side (those in favor of separation), the signs implied that a vote for separation was a vote for the economy, peace, and the only vote for any "true Quebecer." From the No side came clear warnings that separation would mean economic disaster and the demise of a great country.

Many people have asked, "Why would the French even want to separate?" The answer, according to those in favor of separation,

goes something like this: Quebecers are a distinct people with their own language and culture. As a minority living within Canada, that culture has not been protected, and only an independent Quebec would afford French Quebecers full rights. It is the natural progression of events that a people whose culture distinguishes them from their host country, and who desire independence, should stake a claim to independence. Quebecers have waited too long for their independence, and now the time has finally come to make that dream a reality. Such is the logical and passionate explanation given by those who desire separation.

For those who oppose the idea of separation, however, the impassioned call for independence by the separatists was not at all moving - it was frightening. Many people fear that separation would threaten their Canadian identity. "I'm proud to be a Canadian citizen," said Nechama Wohl, SCW '96. "Canadian culture is a very important part of my identity." In addition to sentimental dedication to a unified Canada, many Canadians also had practical interests in mind. Namely, without the strength of Canada, a Quebec economy would likely crumble; likewise, without Quebec, the Canadian economy too would suffer.

Led by Daniel Johnson, head of the Liberal Party and former Premier of Quebec, the No side was supported not only by English-speakers, but by many Francophone Quebecers as well. Support for the No side went far beyond the geographic limits of the province of Quebec. The most outspoken of all the No supporters was, in fact, the Prime Minister of Canada, Jean Chretien. Chretien, himself a Quebecer and dedicated federalist, rallied the support of all Canadians and sent a clear message to Quebecers that he did not want to see them separate from their country. Just two days before the vote, Chretien led a rally in downtown Montreal which gathered together 150,000 Canadians from across the country in support of a Unified Canada.

The potential implications of the referendum were significant enough to have mobilized voters to register in unprecedented numbers. With voter registration at 92%, the Quebec referendum elicited the greatest response to an election in history, with the exception of South Africa's first free election after Apartheid.

In the days leading up to the referendum, tensions had reached an all-time high. The polls indicated that the vote was too close to call - one day the Yes vote was in the lead, the next day the No side had tipped the scales. For many Quebecers, it was the tension of those last few days which brought the true severity of the situation to their attention for the first time. "Separation would be disaster for the economy, and many families would really suffer as a result," said Sharon Dalfen, SCW '97.

For those Montrealers studying at SCW, the stress of those few days was confounded by being so far from home. A sense of imminent disaster was transmitted through the

*Continued on page 13*

## YU Alumni, Soon-to-be Psychologists, Offer Insights

By Shira Fiedler

In order to help students organize their futures, the Psychology Club held a night for SCW and YC psychology majors to hear from YU alumni pursuing careers in the field. The event was held Tuesday, October 31 at the Midtown Center.

Choosing a major and deciding on a future occupation can be difficult and frustrating. Students must investigate graduate programs and specify their area of concentration in the field. Psychology, a field with many professional applications, is the most popular major at SCW, with 139 students currently enrolled.

"I got the basic facts about what to expect out of the application process which will be extremely helpful," said Leah Twersky, SCW '96, treasurer of the Psychology Club.

The featured speakers were Aliza Dworkin, studying at Queens College for her Master's in School Psychology; Naomi Weiner-Gross, attending Rutgers for her Psy.D. in Clinical Psychology; Steven Glicksman, a student at YU's Ferkauf for his Ph.D. in Developmental Psychology; and Ilana Breslau, at Fairleigh Dickinson for her Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology.

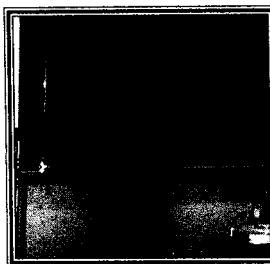
They spoke about their personal experiences at YU, and the advantages and disadvantages of the different graduate programs they entered. Dean Karen Bacon and Career and Placement Office Director Naomi Kapp also spoke.

The speakers talked about the application process, interviews, concurrently working and going to school, the different aspects of the field of psychology and the importance of internships.

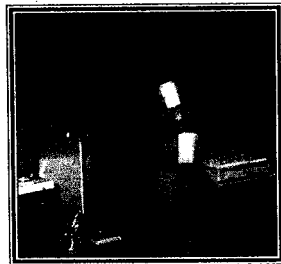
"The evening was extremely helpful to underclassmen," said Shula Frankel, SCW '97, secretary of the Psychology Club. "because we were finding out a

*Continued on page 12*

## Students Make Chem Magic



Caren Gottlieb



Mira Hellman

By Observer Staff

Club hour on November 8 was pure magic for some science majors at SCW. The Chemistry Club held its annual magic show as part of a nationwide celebration of National Chemistry Week.

Under the guidance of Professors Cecily Dobin and Firuzeh Victory, students from the General Chemistry and Biochemistry classes put on a dazzling display.

The performance emphasized the fun aspects of chemistry - the mystifying changes that result from chemical reactions. Presentations included an indecisive reaction in which a sample turned back and forth from

blue to yellow, as well as a dollar bill which was set on fire yet did not burn. A mixture of two colorless solutions produced a luminescent blue glow.

"I was really impressed in how people prepared and presented the magic show," said Caren Gottlieb, SCW '96, president of the Chemistry Club. The goal of the show was to demonstrate that nature is not immutable. Through understanding chemistry, scientists can manipulate the forces that form and change matter - with seemingly magical results.

## Assistant Dean of Columbia's School of International and Public Affairs to Speak at SCW

On December 13 during Club Hour, the Political Science Department will be hosting Marjean Knokey, Assistant Dean and Director of Admissions at Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs. The address will inform students about the programs Columbia has to offer in the fields of public administration, policy and international diplomacy, and will provide general information about careers in public policy.

## Biblical Roleplaying SCW's First-Ever Theater Workshop

By Emily Amie Witty

Hagar... Sarah... These are just some of the figures who were developed and explored during a drama workshop with Heftsi Assaf on November 13, sponsored by SCDS.

Hailing from San Francisco, originally from Ashdod, Israel, Assaf is a psychotherapist and drama therapist. She facilitated participants' taking the different emotional perspectives of Biblical figures Sarah and Hagar.

One of the issues explored in the two-hour presentation, which included monologue, doubling and mini-skits, was the helplessness that Sarah must have experienced as a result of her barrenness.

Both students and faculty were encouraged to pinpoint a personal desire they could not attain yet long for deeply, in an attempt to relate to Sarah. The audience was also challenged to explore the emotional state of Hagar after being banished from Sarah's and Abraham's home. "It was a meaningful experience to explore the minds and feelings of Biblical characters through drama," said Dina Maslow, vice president of SCDS.

Assaf, who works with various groups including Alzheimer's patients, uses drama to allow her patients freedom to explore their

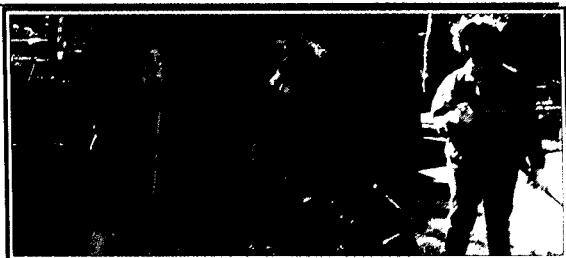


Heftsi Assaf, (right), demonstrates roleplaying techniques to Rina Weinstein, SCW '97.

emotions in a safe environment. She said that the stimulus provided during a session with her Alzheimer's patients slows the effects of dementia.

Assaf selected the topic of Sarah and Hagar because the *Parshat Hashavua* was *Chayei Sarah*. She also believes that the emotions they confronted parallel feelings to which many at SCW can relate.

"It was an interesting angle in the field of drama, and it exposed the student body to a new experience," said Avital Amini, SCW '96. "We should have more workshops in the future."



SCW students at the Madison Square Park - doing their part.

## SAGA's First Event a Success, Despite Poor Attendance

By Nechama R. Maler

Student Alliance for Global Awareness, SCW's environmental club, teamed up with YC's Earth Club for its first event a few weeks ago - a cleanup at Madison Square Park.

The event, well-publicized with fliers posted all around both the Midtown and Uptown campuses, still only drew a small crowd of about ten students. The only males to show up were the two officers of YC's Earth Club, despite their door-to-door soliciting campaign. Moussa Sweid-Halabi, President of the Earth Club at YC, was not pleased with the turnout from the student body. "We expected more YC guys to come," he said. "We were disappointed with the low attendance - especially after the marketing methods we used."

Nancy Moritz, vice president of SAGA, attributed the poor turnout to the timing of the event - Sunday morning near midterm time and *seeder* for the YC students. "But the event had to be choreographed with the Parks Department during that time, and we did ac-

complish our purpose of cleaning up the park," she said.

Students spent the morning raking leaves in the park. Afterwards they returned to the Stern lobby for a bagel brunch.

"The group worked really hard and we hope they come back again," said Mannie Izaguirre, the city parks worker who supervised the cleanup.

"It really felt like we were helping to contribute to our neighborhood," said Orin Naor, SCW '96.

Elisheva Wohlgenuth, president of SAGA, said, "Each person has a responsibility to clean up after themselves and contribute to those around them - that is a lesson clearly taught to us as Jews. I am glad that we were able to help give back to the neighborhood that we constantly take from and make a good name for our people, especially since our event coincided with the death of Rabin."

The next SAGA event is being planned for December.



Assaf (right) transformed an SCW classroom into a Biblical backdrop.

## In Aftermath of Club Fair, Students Who Signed Up Voice Disappointment

By Shira Fiedler

Flashback: Signs were posted everywhere: "Come to the club fair! Join, one and all! Get involved!" Students said, "Wow, I would love to do more and help out with campus activities," or "Hey, that would look great on my resume!" On the night of the event, Koch Auditorium filled up with enthusiastic students ready to take the first step toward involvement. Each SCWSC and TAC club was represented by its new leaders. Students added their names to many lists, and hoped that they would be called upon for the services they had offered. Club involvement promised an opportunity for a valuable way of spending free time.

As the semester progresses, many students have expressed a common disappointment. Many of the clubs they signed up for never called them or contacted them in any way. Some students wonder if they wasted their time attending the fair. Although there were students that were contacted, many felt cheated and annoyed that they were not.

What factors could possibly have contributed to such a situation? Was it that the sign-up lists were too long? Was it that the chairpersons of the clubs felt that students were just signing up without the full intent to volunteer? Was it that people were not keeping their eyes open for follow up signs about the clubs? Whatever the case may be, the profound disappointment of students indicates that some change must occur.

Aviva Roseman, SCW '98, attended the fair where she eagerly joined the Israel Club

and the Self Defense Club. She was let down when she did not hear anything from them. "I am more than willing to give of my time, but if I am not contacted, I have no way of helping out," Roseman said.

Many chairpeople said that the majority of students sign up just to have their name on a list, and not to get involved. Saritte Mitgang, SCW '97, chairperson of the Blood Drive said, "Seventy students signed up at the fair, and I personally sent out 72 letters, telling them about a mandatory meeting, and only 30 people attended."

Student leaders believe that at future fairs, students should be told that if they sign up, it is the first step to a commitment of participation. If such a commitment cannot be guaranteed, perhaps one should think twice before she signs her name.

Besides the commitment and the responsibility of the students, disappointed students said the presidents of the clubs must make it their duty to follow through as well. "I signed up for the Chagigah Committee, and I was contacted. They left a message, I called them back, and they never returned my phone call," said Devora Cenko, SCW '99.

But Chaya Strasberg, SCW '97, president of the Israel Club, said the students should not spend the semester waiting to be contacted. "If a club has a really significant number of members, it is impossible to contact each and every one. The students have a responsibility as well to keep their eyes open and watch for signs."

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## Prospective Students Visit SCW

By Laurie Gewirtz and Alyssa Shulman

On Sunday, November 19, prospective SCW students and their families headed to Lexington Ave. and 34th St. for SCW's annual Open House.

The day began with a Continental breakfast in Koch Auditorium. A series of speakers gave the crowd insights into what SCW is all about. Dr. William Schwartz, Vice President of Academic Affairs, greeted the guests and spoke about Stern's role within the university world. Rabbi Dr. Ephraim Kanarfogel, Chairman of the Rebecca Ivy Department of Jewish Studies, explained the nature of the Jewish Department and spoke of the diversity of educational opportunities within the realm of Jewish studies. Dean Karen Bacon spoke about the importance of a small women's college in giving women opportunities to excel in different areas, such as the liberal arts and sciences.

"The activities went really well," said Lisa Slansky, Assistant Director of Admissions for SCW. "Everyone was interested in the level of our programs in both Jewish and General Studies."

Afterwards, prospective students headed upstairs to explore career opportunities as they met with the department heads and the students who came to represent each major.

Much of the Open House program was run by current SCW students.

Volunteers guided anxious and interested participants on tours of the campus, including a visit to Brookdale Hall.

Five Jacobs, mother of a prospective student and an SCW alumna, came with her

daughter from New Haven, Connecticut. The program was "very informative" and everyone was "very friendly," she said.

Assistant Dean Ethel Orlian said the feedback she received was positive. "I drove home an alumna who accompanied her niece today and she was very impressed with what she saw. The alumna said that if she had a college-aged daughter at the present time, there would be no hesitation in sending her to Stern College."

This year's Open House was an improvement over last year's event. "The number of people at this year's Open House was more manageable than last year's, which enabled people to receive individual attention and provided for a smoother flow of traffic," Orlian said.

But not everyone favors the new arrangement which had representatives of the various departments stationed in different classrooms. "When we were all together in the gym, it was noisy and overcrowded," said English Professor Laurel Hatvany, "but that provided a sense of energy and enthusiasm which is lacking when the disciplines are separated."

Volunteer Va'erie Susskind, SCW '96, said getting students upstairs and to the right rooms for the second part of the program was difficult. "But once they got there, it was fine," Susskind said. "Girls were very interested. They asked a lot of questions."

Rina Schwartz, a senior at Bruria High School, agreed. "The career advisors were helpful and informative. On a whole I am very excited about Stern college... especially after seeing the dorm life!"

## SSSB Job Placement Rate Too Good to Be True

By Leebe Mallin

As midterms wind down and term paper deadlines and finals approach, rest assured that all the hard work is to some avail. According to a recent poll, 66% of the universities surveyed reported an increase in the number of graduates who have received jobs. This poll, conducted by the National Association of Colleges and Employers, surveyed 136 campus career offices regarding the 1994-95 academic year.

YU's job placement rate appears to be consistent with these numbers. Ira Jaskoll the Assistant Dean/Director of Recruitment of Sy Syms School of Business said that YU's undergraduate career placement has been consistently high. The overall rate for placement of YU undergraduates in the 1994-95 academic year was 98% and the record for Sy Syms was 99%. The dean believes that current indications show that the 1995-96 academic year should be just as positive. Jaskoll made it clear that the Office of Career Counseling and Placement will continue to strive for 100% success.

It is not surprising that SCW and SSSB students responded most favorably to the career placement statistics. When Sarah Friedman, SCW '98, heard about the excellent record, she exclaimed, "It's great: I'll go tomorrow for some career counseling." Shira Stieglitz, SSSB '98, was thrilled, but not surprised to hear of the Sy Syms statistics. She explained that one of the factors in her decision to attend Sy Syms over other business schools was it's excellent placement record.

While the numbers appear to be quite

impressive, it is important to realize when analyzing statistics, that though facts do not lie, they can be deceptive. Jaskoll was careful to point out that the 98 and 99 percent age rates are for career placement only. That is, that they do not reflect the acceptance rates of the many students who apply to graduate schools. It must also be emphasized that the statistics only reflect those students who sought guidance from the office of career placement. These favorable percentages show how many students gained jobs, but does not reflect the quality or prestige of those jobs. It can be argued that a 60% success rate is better than a 90% one, if the jobs obtained by the former group are better than the ones of the latter group. This skepticism was summed up by computer science major Adena Saltzman, SCW '98, who said that "in today's competitive work force there are no assurances."

The statistics seem just too good to be true. After all, if Sy Syms has a 99 percent age rate for career placement, what sorts of numbers do more acclaimed business schools have? Out of the 691 members of the class of '95 at the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School of Business, 368 let the school know of their immediate plans. Upon graduation of the 368 students, 297 received full-time employment, 35 entered graduate school, 2 were self-employed, 2 entered the military, one was listed as other, and a surprising 35 were still seeking employment. This means that only 71% of those students who responded to the survey received full-time jobs. Columbia School of

## Can Anencephalic Newborns Be Organ Donors?

### A Summary of Rabbi Flaum's Lecture

By Tami Finkelstein

Rabbi Tzvi Flaum, a member of the SCW Judaic Studies faculty and former *mashgiach ruchani*, as well as new rabbi of Knesset Yisroel in Far Rockaway, returned to his old classroom on Wednesday, October 25. Flaum, who is currently on Sabbatical, taught a medical ethics course at SCW and is a renowned expert in the field. He addressed former *talmidim* on "The Use of Anencephalic Neonates as Organ Donors, According to *Halacha*." The following is a summary of his lecture.

There is a difference between us and every other creature G-d created. *Hashem* endowed us with the unique ability to articulate and express our thoughts. Our brain is what enables us to accomplish this.

Anencephalitis is a developmental abnormality of the central nervous system that results in the absence of the major portions of the brain and skull. Anencephalic neonates (ANNs) are newborns who tragically lack integral portions of their brains, areas that are highly functional. This results in the external appearance of a flat head. Such children are never able to experience any degree of consciousness, thought, emotion, feeling, memory or pain. They are weak in social interaction and seem to have no purposeful action. ANNs are, however, able to maintain automatic body use - function of the heart, lungs and kidneys. They are sensitive to outside stimuli, have the ability to perform sucking action and are capable of making facial expressions. Besides their flat heads, these children appear to be normal. However, they are unaware of their existence and environment. These children do not live long.

Some die within a few hours of their birth. Some last one day. There are those who are able to last a week. There have been a few cases of ANN babies who, with the help of modern technology, were able to reach the age of two and a half years.

Pediatric transplants of the heart, kidneys and liver are common in the U.S. There are over 500 cases in each one of these transplant categories. In addition, in order for such a transplant to be successful, there must be a pediatric donor. Therefore, if we know that the ANNs will not be able to survive, would we medically and *halachically* be able to take their organs and transplant them in order to save hundreds of children who do have the potential to survive?

According to medicine and *halacha*, there are two possible criteria for death. There is either cardiac arrest or brain death. Cardiac arrest occurs when the heart, respiratory system and lungs no longer function. Brain death occurs when the brain ceases to function.

Ironically, in the neonate, the brain stem is the only reason the child is able to live. Would this still pose an obstacle to the transplant?

#### The Secular Medical Viewpoint

ANN organ donation is a violation of the Dead Donor Rule. The rule, established with the intention of transplants to ensure the preservation of life, states that a person is required to be legally dead before organs are taken from his or her body. A donor must be declared legally dead based on either aforementioned definition. "One person's

*Continued on page 10*

Business claims a 95-97% career placement rate for its students, within three months of graduation.

It does not take a mathematician to realize that Sy Syms' statistics are better. It seems that either Sy Syms is the best-kept secret in the academic community or that something is altogether misleading about Sy Syms' numbers. An SCW senior who wished to remain anonymous has strong doubts about the statistics that the Office of Career Services and Placement claims. She explained that it is well known among students that Sy Syms is not as successful as its num-

bers appear to be. "I know someone who recently graduated Sy Syms without a job and I'm not the only one who does," she said.

Even if the SCW SSSB high career placement rates are completely accurate - which is by no means a certainty, they are definitely not a guarantee for a job. The impressive numbers though, are a very positive aspect of YU. So for all those who seek employment after receiving an undergraduate degree, visit the Office of Career Placement. After all, in order to claim 98 and 99% success rates, the office of career counseling must be doing something right.

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# F • e • a • t

## Talking With... Psychologist and Rabbi Dr. Aharon Fried

by Mira Hochberg

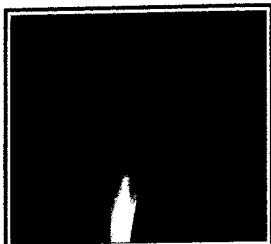
Rabbi Dr. Aharon Fried, a professor of Psychology and Education at SCW, has recently accepted a full-time position here. Fried was on the SCW faculty previously as an adjunct professor for the '89-'90 school year. He returned to SCW last semester. In addition, he has taught in city colleges, including Hunter College and John Jay College. This semester Fried is teaching in both the Education and Psychology departments at SCW. He teaches a psychology course at Azrieli Graduate School as well.

Raised in Montreal, Fried now lives in Boro Park, Brooklyn. He came to New York to attend yeshiva in the *Beis Midrash Elvov* in Monsey, and then continued on to obtain a Ph.D. in Experimental Psychology from the New School for Social Research in Manhattan. "I was interested in locking myself in an ivory tower and doing research. I had no wish to do anything practical," Fried said.

Fried was soon presented with an opportunity he could not refuse. In 1976 he became involved in founding a school for special children in Brooklyn, which became known as The Jewish Center for Special Education, popularly known as Chush. "I agreed to stay for one year, and I ended up staying for seven. While I was there I was approached by parents whose kids were kicked out of school, and they didn't know what to do with them. So I became involved in setting up programs for kids who didn't have anything," he said. "The situation was there; I didn't go looking for it, but I couldn't walk away from it."

Several years later, in 1979, Dr. Fried founded a sister school in Jerusalem called Limudei Hashem, based on the *pasuk* "I chol banayich limudei Hashem."

Ever since then Fried has been involved in helping establish special education programs all across the globe. He has had input in programs in Canada, America, England, Belgium and Australia. Fried is currently involved in establishing a program in Zurich.



Rabbi Dr. Aharon Fried

Switzerland. "All over the world the problems are very similar, but every solution is unique," Fried said. "Different places require different solutions."

Despite the fact that "everywhere in the world people think that [in their country] people are less honest, open and accepting, as soon as people hear there's a possibility of helping their child, they are very willing and quite open to help," Fried said.

In his travels, Fried has become fascinated by intelligence testing. "It made me aware of the role of linguistics in teaching."

Teaching in city college also made an impression on Fried. He found that "many of the students had no barometer for values." He attributes this to the faults in the educational system.

Fried once ran a program entitled "The General Problem of Earth and Its Earthlings," and received a lot of positive feedback. "The students wished they could have more programs like it," he said.

In contrast to most city college students, "Stern College students are very fortunate to have a system of values - one that incorporates Torah and its values into the curriculum," Fried said.

Fried has never found a conflict between the Torah and the *Madah* that he teaches. "Maybe in graduate school I grappled with

Continued on page 15

## Anencephalic Neonates in Halacha

Continued from page 9

life will not be sacrificed to save another."

However, groups of secular medical ethicists today wonder if ANNs fall into this category. They try to manipulate the rule to make it inapplicable to ANNS. They say that an ANN has no interest in living and never had an interest. He has no thoughts, memories, sensations - no ability to communicate. He has no awareness of others. They conclude that he has no vested interest in his life. The only interest is external, usually displayed by the parents. Therefore, parents of ANNs do in fact have every right to make the decision to terminate the life of their ANN child to save another, without feeling any moral guilt.

Yet, because there is dispute, even in the non-Jewish society, the same medical ethicists who formulated the later logic also came up with the following five objections:

1) The donation violates the Dead Donor Rule according to purists. If the brain functions, which it does, then the child is still considered to be alive.

2) Not every anencephalic child has such a severe case. A child missing any part of the cerebrum is characterized as being an ANN.

3) Permitting the donation of ANN organs might open up doors for the organs of anyone with a dysfunctional cerebrum to be used as a donor. Where will we go from there?

4) Since the ANN was born with congenital defects, other parts of the child might also be diseased. One would not know until the child is killed whether or not this is the case.

5) Allowing donations of ANN organs will undermine confidence in the whole organ transplant system.

There continues to be debate in the arena of secular medicine. Is the ANN transplant any exception, or does the Dead Donor rule apply across the board?

### The Torah Viewpoint

There are three major principles in *halachah* that relate to *chazal's* sensitivity toward human life:

1) There is a case in Gemara tractate Yoma which depicts a situation in which a person is stuck under a collapsed building. Even if someone knows that the trapped

person will die, an attempt to save him must be made. *Chayei sha'ah*, momentary life, has importance. Every second of a person's life has value.

If a child has circulatory activity, respiratory activity and animation, then according to *halachah*, the child is alive, regardless of whether or not he or she is conscious. Rav Shlomo Zalman Auerbach and Rav Zilberstein both concede that one is allowed to be *m'chalei shabbat* to save the life of an ANN.

2) Chazal discuss whether or not there is such a thing as ownership rights. In America there is patient autonomy. But this concept is antithetical to the *halachic* perspective. According to *halachah*, the body and soul are *kinyanim*, objects, of G-d. *Rambam* says that we are the *shomrim*, guards, of G-d's objects.

Therefore, if we don't have personal autonomy over our own bodies, how could we possibly decide the fate of others?

3) There is a prohibition of *retzichah* - murder. According to *halachah*, one of the most heinous crimes is *retzichah*. *Chazal* say that when one kills a human being, he is killing *tzem elokeinu*. The only time that the Torah allows someone to be killed is in military conflict, in capital punishment and in extreme cases of self defense. *Rambam* says that there is no difference whether one kills someone who is perfectly healthy or someone who is about to die.

In a *teshuvah*, the *Pitchei Halachah* says that it is forbidden for any human being to kill this type of child. Taking an organ from this child is active euthanasia. It is an important concept not to say "that one person's blood is redder than another's."

However, in utero, an abortion can be performed. How could this be? *Rambam* in *Hilchot Issurei Biah*, 10:11, says that a baby with a major congenital defect is considered to be a *nevala* in the mother's body. There is no potentiality for the child to live. Therefore, the baby is as though dead. The child's status of having no potentiality for life only applies in utero, because a fetus is only declared to have "humanhood" once it is out of the body.

## A Volunteering Opportunity

By Rachel Butler and Suri Taller

Despite their heavy load of classes and outside activities, SCW students often feel a desire to volunteer and devote time to helping others. There are countless opportunities around midtown Manhattan to channel this need. One exceptional program is at the Penn South Homebound Enrichment Center.

The senior citizens of Penn South have quite a history. Most of them began renting apartments at the co-ops between 24th and 28th Streets and 8th and 9th Avenues. At that time, these people were in their 30s and 40s. As time progressed, the Board of Directors of the complex realized that their tenants were having problems paying their bills. After 40 years at Penn South, 5,000 of the 6,200 renters were senior citizens. In response, the board organized a Senior Center with the help of the Self-Help Community Services Inc., an established organization serving senior citizens.

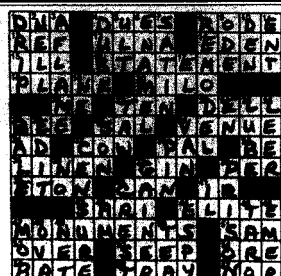
Faye Glazer, who has been the coordi-

nator of the group services for Penn South for three and a half years, explains that the goal of Penn South is to keep the seniors in their own homes and to supply them with the proper help, such as nurses, social workers and personal live-in aides. The group services include courses ranging from Art History to Yoga. Since 95% of the residents are Jewish, many activities are arranged and centered around the Jewish holidays.

SCW students have been volunteering at Penn South for the past two years. SCW has involved the Penn South seniors in their "Adopt a Bubby" program. "The seniors love to be with young people," said Glazer, who pairs each Stern student with one senior citizen. Both the volunteer and the resident gain from the experience, she said.

The "Adopt a Bubby" program is headed by Kari Rybak, Ilana Bruger and Tova Kaplan. To volunteer, contact one of these students or call Faye Glazer directly at (212) 243-3670.

## Answers to Crossword



# u • r • e • s

## Vegetarianism Grows at SCW

By Susan Kirshner

"Is this fat free?" "How many calories does this have?" "Will this lower my chances of getting heart disease?" Now more than ever, Americans are concerned with health. Every magazine is stocked with ways to stay fit and healthy, and yet still be satisfied.

Almost every day a new study is released about meat, and how it can be detrimental or beneficial to one's health. There is one group of people who avoid these reports altogether. Some of this group eat chicken or fish, but none of them eat meat. They are vegetarians.

"Personally, I don't feel comfortable eating dead flesh," said Carolyn Koch, SCW '97. She has felt this way for about a year and a half. Tanya Elk, SCW '97, said that she stopped eating fish after she witnessed fish being cleaned and gutted on a fishing trip she went on when she was four. Elk said she gave up meat a few years later because, "it's the same concept."

There are also many health benefits to cutting meat and poultry out of one's diet. "Adhering to a vegetarian diet is often recommended for heart attack victims," said Elk. For Koch, one personal benefit has been

weight loss.

There is a halakic approach to vegetarianism. The late Rav Avraham Kook wrote that by not eating meat, one elevates himself to almost the same level as Adam before the sin. According to Rav Kook, before his banishment from Eden, Adam was on the highest spiritual level, and never desired meat. Once he had sinned, he fell low enough to be comfortable eating meat.

With the increase in the number of natural foods markets carrying "veggie" products and "mainstream" foods using soy and tofu as main ingredients, has SCW caught on to this up-and-coming trend? The answer seems to be no.

"The International Cafe, SCW's dairy cafeteria, is only open until 6:30 p.m., and I get out of class at 7:10 p.m.," Koch said. "It's therefore very unlikely for me to get [vegetarian] protein in my supper."

Another difficulty Koch pointed out is the food selection at Shabbatonim. She suggested that there be a box to check off on the sign up sheets for vegetarian meals on *Shabbat*.

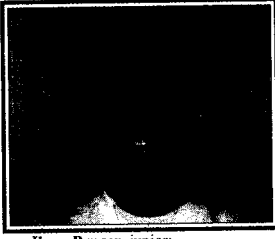
## What do you do to relax when you are stressed out?

By Shira Zupnik



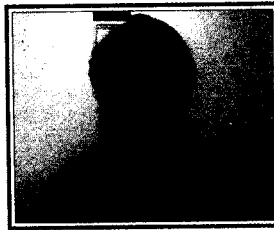
Shira Dubin, freshman:

When I get stressed out, I can't study anymore. I go crazy and dance to 50's music. I force my roommates to join me and get into it. If all else fails, I just scream.



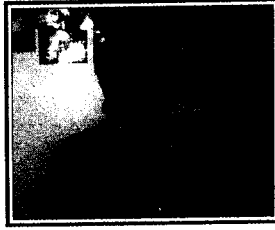
Ilana Bruger, junior:

When I get stressed out I act like a crazy lunatic. I listen to my walkman and scream a lot. It usually annoys my roommate, but it helps me relax.



Gila Sandhaus, senior:

I'm generally relaxed until the night before, then I freak. When I freak I blast music, eat, stuff my head in a pillow, scream and develop insomnia. But otherwise I am very normal.



Shani Falik, junior:

When I get stressed out, I express myself through art in order to relax. My roommate Debbie comes to the rescue. She supplies me with stamp markers, oaktag, glitter crayons, a Looney Tunes coloring book and watercolor paints. I even made a *teddab* box out of an empty Pringles can.

## Night Watch

### Grad Students Fill Our Seats After Hours

By Ahava Aaron

They pay for the caf food with real money. They watch "Friends" with us at 8 p.m. on Thursday nights. Who are these people who occupy our building every week night?

Because SCW is an affiliate of YU, it houses some of the University's graduate programs at its Midtown Campus Monday through Thursday nights. Two such programs are Azrieli, YU's Graduate School for Jewish Education, and Wurzeiler, the YU Graduate School for Social Work.

Karen Milch, SCW '96, is a student on the joint Stern-Azrieli program pursuing her Master's in Secondary Jewish Education. Her program includes classes in understanding the Jewish community, sociology, and psychology, as well as pedagogy classes. Milch explained that the classes at Azrieli entail an extremely demanding workload, but are very enjoyable and interesting. Through the joint program, she will receive her M.A. and will be eligible for her Ph.D. after five years of classroom experience.

One of her favorite teachers is Dr. Alvin Schiff. Milch, describing a class in which students take turns teaching and critiquing each other's methods, calls Schiff "the master of all teachers."

Ruby Spolter, a third year *smicha* student at RIETS cites Dr. David Hach

as one of his favorite teachers. Spolter is also pursuing his Master's in Secondary Jewish Education, and said that the two-year program is teaching him the "practical skills that one needs to succeed in today's classroom."

"The program is really valuable educationally as well as vocationally," he said. Spolter added that although it would be more convenient if the classes were offered at YC, the van service is a great convenience.

Brian Glazer, a University of Massachusetts at Amherst graduate, came to Wurzeiler to get his Master's in Social Work because he knew older professionals who spoke highly of the program. Glazer explained that the two-year program offers three days a week of fieldwork, and classes on Wednesday and Thursday. Most classes are given uptown, but the classes in Jewish Communal Service are offered only at the Midtown campus at night.

Glazer says that coming to SCW is convenient for him because he lives right around the corner, and frequently uses the library to study in at night. "I like dealing with people," he said, listing the rewards of being a social worker. "There's a satisfaction in liking what you do." He likes coming to Stern because it "is different than anything I've ever known before."

## The Late, Late, Late Show

By Rosa Hollander

Kinko's is not the only place that is busy all night. Walking around the dorm at 3 a.m., one is bound to see students studying, chatting or simply trying to overcome insomnia. Sleep deprivation is an art form for some, while for others it is unavoidable, especially the night before exams.

Many students juggle a demanding schedule and keep crazy hours in order to keep up with schoolwork. Many are secret Dionne Warwick *Psychic Friends* Network fans who insist, "She is really fascinating - can you pass the coffee please?" One student admitted that while she is tired and could drop into bed easily, she is fearful that "something exciting will happen once I fall asleep."

Naema Heiney, SSSB '96, said "I procrastinate and leave studying until the last minute and am forced to pull all-nighters to compensate." Heiney recommended the wonder drug that keeps her

up: Tradition soups.

Known as the "vampire" by her roommates, Rebecca Goldman, SCW '96, is the woman for whom coffee was invented. Goldman suggests a possible source for her ability to function without sleep. "It is possible that I inherited the uncanny ability to get by with little sleep from my mother who was the same way at my age." Goldman enjoys watching television at all hours of the night and cites "Three's Company," "The Dick van Dyke Show" and "Northern Exposure" as favorite late-night reruns. She treasures the time late at night to organize her room and to spend quality time with herself.

Due to her unusual schedule, Goldman is quite choosy about her friends. "I do not accept phone calls before 12 a.m., so I cannot be friends with anyone who goes to sleep before then." That takes Cinderella out of the running.

# F • e • a • t

## Research on the Side

### Student-Teacher Projects "We're a team!"

By Aviva Frohlich

SCW offers a wide variety of clubs, functions and extracurricular activities that are popular among students. But many students are not aware of an unofficial program also available at SCW. Students who are interested in a hands-on experience in their field of study can be a part of a student-teacher research team.

This program allows students to benefit from the knowledge and expertise of their professors, while gaining valuable experience in their specialized areas.

Joanna Raby, SCW '96, is a psychology major working alongside Dr. Joshua Bacon on a psychology experiment. She began working with Bacon on a project dealing with motion perception last January. They hope to have the results completed by the end of the year. "It's an excellent experience for me. Out-of-school internships often only involve you in data recording and other such minimal tasks. Here, I'm involved in all levels of the process," Raby said.

Raby takes part in every aspect of the experimental process, from recruiting subjects to tabulating results. Sound difficult? Don't worry, she said, "Dr. Bacon is always there to help me."

Rena May, SCW '96, is getting double the experience. She is part of two student-teacher research teams. In the Judaic studies department, she assists Dr.

Ephraim Kanarfogel in the writing of a book he is working on. May teamed up with Kanarfogel because he needed someone who knew enough about the material to be of help to him. Her duties include editing, checking footnotes, proofreading manuscripts and suggesting ideas.

May also assists Dr. Harvey Babich in his laboratory. As with all science labs, students must first learn to use the technical laboratory equipment before beginning the actual research. Once equipped with all the necessary skills, the student begins to work on a specific project which will display her name if published.

May is currently involved in genetic research involving DNA as well as research in the field of toxicology. "Working with your professor is an excellent opportunity that Stern offers you," said May.

Candice Price, SCW '97, is a biology student who just started working in Dr. Babich's laboratory. "Stern has really gone out of the way to place me on the research team," said Price. She plans to dedicate two hours, twice a week to the lab. She realizes that the experiments may require more of her time.

According to Dr. Babich, "The student has to really want this. It requires extra effort and extra time on their part. We're a team!"

## SCW Student Presents Scientific Research

By Chana Katz

During the summer, YC Dean Norman Adler organized a research group consisting of students from both Stern and Yeshiva Colleges. Some members of the group have already done their own research projects; others are interested in pursuing research. The group now meets periodically for members to either present their research or to discuss related topics.

Rachel Kahn, SCW '97, presented her research on November 15 at the group's third meeting. Over the summer, Kahn did research under her mentor, Dr. Sircar, at Albert Einstein College of Medicine in the Psychiatry and Neuroscience Departments. The laboratory is currently researching methods to control unwanted seizures. Kahn's research included experimentation of new drugs that could prevent seizures on laboratory rats. "I hope to do more research in this subject area in the future," Kahn said.

Kahn's work was an example to others. "I was very impressed with Rachel's presentation and the extent of her research," said Caren Gottlieb, SCW '96.

Susan Price, an SCW laboratory technician said she believes that the project was a very good experience for Rachel. "The most important lesson I think she learned was that once one has done research in one area to answer a question, suddenly many more questions become unanswered and more research will need to be done," Price said.

After the presentation, there was a brief discussion of ethical problems that arise in the field of research. No date has yet been set for further member presentations.

Students who have done research and would like to join the group should contact Dean Adler.

## Eastern European Exchange SCW International Students

By Leslie Ginsparg

They cross continents, oceans, and deserts. SCW's international students hail from a whole host of countries. This year SCW welcomed new students from Poland, Austria and many other countries.

Julia Durkot, SCW '99 came to New York from Warsaw, where she had lived since she was twelve years old. Before that, her family resided in the Ukraine. Two years ago, during a visit to the United States, Julia became acquainted with SCW. After a year of studying at Warsaw University, she decided to attend SCW.

In Poland, Durkot had many personal confrontations with anti-Semitism. She values the Jewish environment here tremendously, in contrast to her experience at Warsaw University. "I am very happy to be here among people who like me and respect my way of life," she said with enthusiasm.

Durkot acknowledged that her lack of a formal Jewish education has created a major void in her life. She feels that now, through the Judaic Studies classes at SCW, she has taken back a part of herself. When asked to sum up her feelings about school thus far, she responded simply, "It's my place."

This semester, another Eastern European has joined the SCW student body. Malka Skiba left her family in the small town of Sochaczew, near Warsaw, Poland, to pursue an education in America several years ago. After graduating from Frisch High school, she decided to remain in the U.S. to attend SCW. One of Skiba's favorite things about SCW is the feeling that "despite the great diversity among students, there exists a potential for everyone to be friends."

Skiba's also is also enjoying living in Manhattan. In contrast to Warsaw, the city most familiar to her, Skiba describes New York as "a city that is always busy, and where something is always going on."

Gila Liska was born and raised in

### Psych Club

Continued from page 6

tion before our final year at SCW, so that when we become seniors, we will not be overwhelmed."

Students were urged to extend their options and apply to programs out of state, because only so many undergraduates from SCW are accepted to the local graduate programs.

"They addressed a lot of burning questions that only someone in each of their specific programs could answer," said Shulamit Juni, SCW '96, after the question-and-answer session.

Most seniors, busy with applying to graduate schools, concentrated on getting the information dealing with being accepted into the various programs.

The Psychology Club hopes to hold many more events in the future in order to give as much guidance as possible to SCW students.

"I now realize the importance of being in contact with the teachers for constant advisement," Frankel said.



Gila Liska hails from Vienna, Austria.

Vienna, Austria where she attended the local Jewish high school. Upon graduating, she spent a year abroad studying in the Israeli program at Michlalah.

Because she wanted the experience of a well-rounded liberal arts education, Liska chose to pursue her college career in the U.S. Programs in the U.S. allow for a broader education, while universities in Europe or Israel require students to concentrate solely in the field of their major. Liska chose New York because "it houses the largest, most diverse Jewish community." Although she was accepted at both Barnard and Columbia, Liska decided to attend SCW because she wanted to be in a Jewish environment.

How does New York compare to Vienna? Liska described her home town as "very conservative" in comparison to New York, which she called "a very open city." "You can walk around virtually unclothed here and no one would turn around," she joked. Despite the slight culture-shock, Liska is definitely happy with her decision to come to New York. "I love New York. I think it's a great city. You have so many opportunities like museums and opera. You can never be bored in New York."

## Shabbaton

Continued from page 4

Leshem said. He told his audience that the argument that the opinions of Jews not living in Israel are irrelevant is invalid, because Israel belongs to all Jews.

"Even if people didn't agree with him, he brought up some good, valid points," said Chaya Strasberg, SCW '97, president of SCW Israel Club.

Many students thought the Shabbaton was a success. "The large number of students who participated in the Shabbaton added to the Shabbat atmosphere," said Naomi Max, SCW '97. "The large turnout showed the great severity of the issues at hand."

The Shabbaton occurred at a very opportune time. "I think the Shabbaton was very much needed in light of the times we are in now," said Devra Rosenfeld, SCW '96, "to show support for Israel." But some students said they felt intimidated by the group discussions initiated by Gontownik.

Pelta said that the Shabbaton was so successful that the Hillels of Queens College, Brooklyn College and Columbia University are eager to get involved with YU, and to work in conjunction with the Israel Club.

# u • r • e • s

## Listening In... Sign Language Instructor George Garcia

By Esther Barry

George Garcia's class is probably one of the only classes in SCW where taking notes is not only unnecessary, but is actually viewed with disdain. Garcia is deaf from birth, and the class he teaches is sign language.

Garcia, who also teaches in New York University, St. John's University, LaGuardia College, New York Tech, and Edward R. Murrow High School, learned sign language while studying at Lexington School for the Deaf, in Jackson Heights, Queens.

"I grew up in a time of lipreading," said Garcia, through an interpreter. "Sign language was frowned upon, so I learned it in secret, in about three months."

Garcia received a B.A. from Gallaudet University, a school for the deaf, in 1978, where he majored in history and fine arts. In 1982, he got an M.A. in Deaf Rehabilitation and Sign Language from N.Y.U. Garcia later took additional courses in deaf education at Hunter College to supplement his knowledge of teaching sign language.

Sign language is not only for the deaf. Because the deaf are taught visually, many of the methods used to teach deaf people how to pronounce sounds can also be used for hearing children with speech problems. Sign language techniques sometimes help psychologists in interpreting body language of patients.



Sign Language Instructor George Garcia

Garcia uses a combination of body language and lip reading to communicate with his students.

"I can tell by looking at someone's face if they will be receptive to me or not," said Garcia. "It's really all in the attitude."

Garcia classifies his students into four major groups: auditory learners, visual learners, kinesthetic learners and tactile learners. The first category is the hardest to teach sign language, since those students are not used to communicating with their eyes or hands, but rather only with their mouth and ears.

Garcia enjoys teaching in Stern, and calls it a "Jewish Radcliffe," since the students are all so bright.

"Stern is a very special place," Garcia

said, referring to the dual religious and academic program. "It's the women who pass the spirituality on to the next generation."

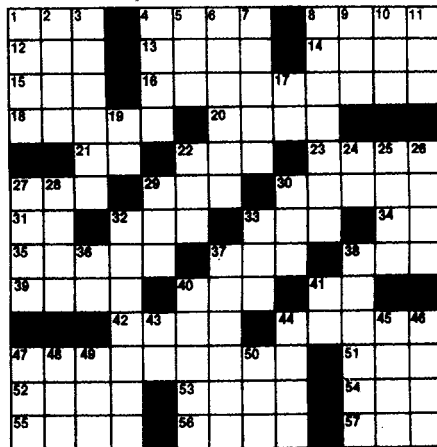
"The only problem is that no one knows sign language," he said. "I'd like to communicate with other teachers and students, but it's not practical to always have an interpreter following me around." Garcia suggested that SCW offer a greater variety of deaf sign lan-

guage courses, so he could communicate with other people in the school.

"Sign language is important for all people to know," Garcia said. "I wish that more people would learn it."

*The Observer would like to thank Emily Anne Witty for her assistance in interpreting the interview for this article.*

## Clued In



### ACROSS

1. Determine heredity characteristics (abbr.)
4. Fox
8. Ride (p.l.)
12. Referee (abbr.)
13. Arm bone
14. Paradise
15. Sick
16. Comment
18. Thick lumber cut
20. Early-growing grain
21. Myself
22. "Perfect" number
23. Wooded valley
27. Stinging insect
29. My Gal
30. Locality of crime
31. Paid notice
32. Female cattle
33. Friend
34. Am
35. Cloth
37. Alcoholic beverage
38. Each
39. Short jacket
40. Able
41. Internal Revenue (abbr.)
42. India garment
44. Upper crust
47. Gravestones
51. Sound
52. Above
53. Ooze
55. Lesser force of
56. Receptacle for holding items
57. And not

### DOWN

1. Drop
2. Woman's name
3. On fire
4. Sunset
5. Ultimate (abbr.)
6. Protective covering
7. Smooth silk fabric
8. Remake
9. Poem
10. Lair
11. Suffix used to form adjectives
17. Elevated train
19. Mid-West state (abbr.)
22. Marble
24. Suffix used to form verbs from adjectives
25. Old car
26. Eye suggestively
27. Packaged hay
28. Blue pencil
29. Male offspring
30. Covered truck
32. Criticize
33. Comes after hair or safety
34. Negative word
37. Type of dive
38. Precedentary
40. Helmet decoration
41. Mid-West state (abbr.)
43. Be
44. Glimpse
45. Tropical plant
46. Emergency (abbr.)
47. Disorderly crowd
48. Eggs
49. Butterfly catcher
50. Brewed drink

## Quebec Referendum

Continued from page 6

worried voices of their parents over the telephone. "The economic problems and the anti-Semitism would have been very damaging to the Jewish Community," Dalfen said. In fact, many Quebecers would have suffered severe economic losses had the referendum gone through. Citizens faced the possibility of losing their Federal Pension Plans, Canadian citizenship, and in many cases, their businesses. Outside of the Jewish community, many other Quebecers were also wary of the fanatic tone of the separatists.

These concerns are not without foundation. Jacques Parizeau, the Premier of Quebec and head of the Separatist Party, and his party as a whole, are known for their racist tendencies. The separatist notion of an independent Quebec involves a vision of white, French-speaking, pure-bred Quebecers. Their rhetoric is elitist, purist and racially charged. There is little room in their vision for the non-white, non-French speaking, and immigrant populations of Quebec.

Although these worries have been temporarily laid to rest by the results of the vote, there is justification for lingering concern. Just minutes after the results were announced, Parizeau conceded defeat in a speech filled with fanatic language and racially charged statements. Taking out his frustration on those groups who were known to have voted against separation, he blamed

the failure of the referendum on the "rich and the ethnics." The following morning, as a result of negative reactions to this statement, Parizeau resigned from his position as Premier of Quebec. While this move was good news to many Quebecers who feared Parizeau's extremism, whether or not his successor will be any better remains to be seen. "I'm relieved that we don't have to deal with this now, and that our parents don't have to move and lose their money," said Itia Shmidman, SCW '98. "But nationalism is still on the rise, so chances are we'll have to deal with this sooner or later."

Indeed, the result of the referendum has brought relief to many Quebecers. The narrow margin by which separation failed, however, indicates that nearly half of the population is not satisfied with its outcome. In their efforts throughout the campaign to prevent separation, many federalist leaders spoke out about the importance of a unified Canada and of the important role which Quebec plays in the country. As tension remains high among the 49.4% of Quebecers who voted to separate, people on both sides of the issue realize that dialogue is necessary. In the months and years to come, it will be up to those federalist leaders to negotiate with Quebec and to arrive at a viable compromise which recognizes both the unique needs of the French province as well as the benefits of being part of Canada.

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# • Cultural Arts •

## Music Review

### The New "Grind" on Alice in Chains

By Suzanne Baran

The long awaited, self-titled album by Alice in Chains was released on November 7. This marks the arrival of the band's fourth album, which features an array of new music and eclectic artwork.

On the cover of the album is the image of a three-legged dog, and on the back is a three-legged man. Sean Kinney, the band's drummer, designed the art displayed on the inside of the album. Sketched images of fairies, abnormal animals, a man on his death bed, an animal skeleton with a stake through its rib cage, and a pig whose legs are severed decorate the interior of the album. These drawings each correspond to the songs featured on the same page. The CD and cassette holder are done in neon green and deep purple.

In addition to the use of psychedelic colors and vivid artwork, there is the beauty of the music itself. The first track on the album, "Grind," is a song about depression and death - recurring themes throughout the album and throughout most of the band's previous work. The intermingling of drums, harmonica, bass, guitar and Layne Staley's vocals distinguish Alice in Chains from any other alternative or hard rock band. Staley's voice has a calming and morose effect which enhances the music's intoxicating quality.

I was so enthralled by the music in this album that my CD player has not had any respite. Lyrics such as "So Lord, I see you grinnin', must be grand always winning, how proud are you being able to gather faith from fable," exemplify the depth of the album's music. Alice in Chains is not your average band; their music breaks the mold of repetitious themes present in adult contemporary music. Anyone interested in delving deeper into the human psych, and sinking her senses into something new would enjoy this amazing album.

There was standing room only at the Belles first a capella performance in the Orange Lounge.



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8:45-9:45	<b>Mayhem</b> alternative music	<b>Let's Be L.A.M.E.</b> music/talk	<b>More Than Just Music</b>	<b>Cousins</b> Jewish music
9:45-10:45	<b>Blue In The Face</b> talk	<b>Electric Banana</b> music	<b>Seminal-demi-Quavers</b> classical music	<b>S-Alive</b> variety
10:45-11:45	<b>Strive For Truth</b> talk	<b>The Players</b> YCBS Entertainment Hour	<b>Sportsnite</b> sports	<b>Soul Sisters</b> Jewish music
11:45-1:00	<b>The Right Stuff</b> talk	<b>Israel Club Hour</b>	<b>Shook Radio</b> sports/talk	<b>The Big Mac</b> variety talk/music
1:00-2:00	<b>Y.U. Why Me?</b> talk	<b>Pinky and the Brain</b> variety	<b>O &amp; Me</b> variety/talk	<b>Cookin' Eats</b> variety

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## Restaurant Review

### Provi Provi - Good, Good!

By Dina Bogner

There are quite a few kosher Italian restaurants in Manhattan - some posh and decadent, others plain and simple. The new addition to the list, **Provi Provi**, is neither overly pretentious, nor by any means degreiguer kosher dining. Located on what is becoming "Restaurant Mile," West 72nd St., Provi Provi offers a charming atmosphere and, more importantly, plenty of room for diners. There is a glass-enclosed front where diners can look out onto the sidewalk, a busy main floor room, and an intimate room upstairs for those who want privacy. The restaurant was opened fairly recently by Rami Kiddushim and David Deri, the latter of whom spent time in Verona, where he learned and mastered his craft.

On the menu is an excellent and comprehensive choice of salads, antipasti, pasta and fish dishes. The antipasti include the delicate Asparagi alla Parmigiana (asparagus with roasted peppers and parmesan), and the full-flavored Portobello alla Griglia (grilled portobello mushrooms with spinach in four cheese sauce). Pasta dishes include the creamy, satisfying Tagliatelle con Salmone (homemade fettuccini with smoked salmon and asparagus), and the Salmon in Dijon Mustard sauce is absolutely delicious.

The fact Provi Provi serves up generous portions of wonderful food should be reason enough to give them a try. But not to be overlooked is the outstanding service offered by the restaurant's staff. The waiters, manager and owners are all friendly and personable, checking in on their customers from time to time, making sure their every need is met. The atmosphere is warm and convivial, and a meal there is an altogether pleasant experience.

Provi Provi is located at 228 West 72nd Street. Call (212) 875-9020 for hours and reservations.

## Power Breakfast

Continued from page 2

ough President Ruth Messinger, Israel Consul General Colette Avital, and TV journalists Carol Jenkins and Lesley Stahl.

We were entertained, humbled and awed by the accomplishments and the eloquence of the award recipients and those who introduced them. The recurring theme was a message of thanks to the women who, in the early part of this century, campaigned and won us the right to vote in the passage of the 19th Amendment.

Donna Hanover Giuliani spoke about the open doors that now exist in her career of communications, because of the fight women had endured in order to open the door a crack not so long ago.

I feel that we as young, educated women, who thank G-d have never experienced a time when our liberties were denied because we were Jewish or female, have a certain responsibility to our society. The talk about the suffragists and about how important voting is in this country reminded me that it is a task that is often neglected by our student body. I think that we have opportu-

nities for success that we never had before and that we should take advantage of them or even just appreciate them instead of dismissing them as just a "given."

One woman, who received a Star Award for her role as vice president of a large corporation started her thought-provoking speech by mentioning an event that occurred 45 years ago. I could not imagine what had happened at that time that might have affected her life in such a way except perhaps that she was referring to the year she it was born. Well, I wasn't that far off; she was referring to another birth process - that of the civil rights movement. She began her speech by thanking the woman who would not move to the back of a bus - Rosa Parks - who she said paved the way for her success in her field today.

Another award winner who was recognized for her work as an educator was Isaura Santiago, Ph.D., president of Eugenio Maria de Hostos Community College of City University of New York, located in the South Bronx. Her speech about her students was

the most poignant. Our problems pale in comparison to the problems that her students face every day. She told of students who meet outside the buildings before classes and trade books because they can't afford their own. About 60% of the female students also hold jobs and are single mothers. The students searching and working to rise above the crime and poverty that surrounds their lives face the constant ridicule of their peers who think that college is a waste of time and the fear of abandonment by their significant other because of their attempt at self improvement.

We at SCW take for granted the opportunities and advantages we have, and it is time for us to take a more active role in society. Whether it be voting in elections and encouraging others to join us, feeding the homeless, volunteering in a nursing home, etc., it is up to us to take advantage of the freedom provided by women in previous generations as well as in our own generations. We have the extra responsibility to continue the struggle our ancestors began

## Fried

Continued from page 10

some ideas. However, most - if not all - conflicts are only apparent conflicts. If I felt there was a conflict, it would be hard to remain a Jew. *Hashem* looked at the Torah to create the world; how could the world contradict its own blueprints? Anyone who sees *apikorsus*, either doesn't understand the course or doesn't understand the Torah."

Practically, Fried said, "as Jews we have to learn to differentiate between the data of science and the theories which interpret that data. I think that is what *Chazal* meant when they said 'There is *Chuchma* among the *goyim*; believe it. There is Torah among the *goyim*; don't believe it.' *Chuchma* refers to data, and Torah, from *hora'ah*, refers to how we interpret that data."

Fried said he enjoys teaching in Stern, and that his is a "great bunch" of students, when they came to this country, fighting for opportunities as Jews. No matter whether you seek to become the next CEO of IBM, President of the United States or a famous artist, we are responsible for paving the future and the sky's the limit.

SCW

## In Final Season, Lady Macs Captains Reflect on Four Years

By Rachel Hellman

This season will mark the final year that Sharon Kaminetzky, SCW '96, and Judith Kelsen, SCW '96, don their Lady Mac uniforms. Now captains of the basketball team, both have played all of their four years at SCW.

During the past few years, the team has taken on a new, more formidable image. Kelsen explained that "in the last few seasons, opponents know we will give them a tough game." Evidence of this was the Lady Macs' invitation to last year's Cardinal Classic tournament in Boston, from which they came home winners. Last year also marked the first time in Lady Mac history that the team completed back-to-back winning seasons.

Despite all of the team's accomplishments, both Kelsen and Kaminetzky feel SCW students don't give the Lady Macs the respect they deserve. Most home games draw more fans for the competition than for the Lady Macs. Kaminetzky remarked that possibly with "more positive school spirit" SCW attendance would increase.

Perhaps SCW students will follow the general trend in America of women's sports gaining more popularity. For the first time in athletic shoe history, Nike has unveiled a shoe designed by Sheryl Swoopes, a well-known member of Team USA basketball. There is also much discussion about forming a professional women's basketball league in America which would debut after the 1996 Olympic games.

Kaminetzky feels that these events show that people are "taking women's athletics seriously." Kelsen added that it is just as exciting to watch women as it is to watch men. Young girls will also gain a great deal from the formation of a women's league, which would provide professional female players for them to watch and learn from, Kelsen said.

However, basketball is more than just a game. Both Kelsen and Kaminetzky have incorporated various character traits into their



Sharon Kaminetzky



Judith Kelsen

lives that they originally learned on the court. Kelsen sets goals for herself and strives for them even if they appear unattainable at first. Kaminetzky stresses the importance of team work and of never giving up.

In this, their final season, both have set personal and team goals which they aspire to accomplish. They would like to deliver a record-breaking third consecutive winning season, which they hope will be the best of their careers. Just as important as a winning record and scoring many points, both want to develop close friendships with the members of their team. One lesson both Kelsen and Kaminetzky have learned while playing for the Lady Macs is that a basketball eventually deflates, but friendships can last a lifetime.

## Sports - Necessity or Nonsense?

By Sheara Fredman and Cheryl Younger

There is a conscious struggle in universities as to whether Physical Education (PE) should be included as part of the core curriculum. In light of the fact that Fitness/Exercise was ranked as the second most popular activity in America by *People* magazine, one would expect a proliferation of sports activities at many universities. But this does not appear to be the case. In many universities, the number of gym credits required is being reduced and even eliminated in order to ease the rigorous schedules of college students today.

It seems that both students and faculty are asking themselves why exactly PE is a necessary requirement. The way one perceives the purpose of PE will determine one's opinion as to its necessity.

If one believes that the purpose of PE is to become physically fit, then it would seem that should be the choice of the students, but need not be a requirement. In fact, in most universities, gym is one to three hours a week. This is, by most standards, not nearly enough time in which to accomplish the goal of physical fitness. Students can make the decision to join a health club or make use of the facilities the school has to offer. Many SCW students who regularly work out in the school health club or in a private gym be-

lieve that it is unnecessary for them to be required to participate in a regular gym class since they already devote much time to exercise and health.

However, some people believe PE helps not only the students' body, but the student mind. Through organized sports, student morale increases, and students become more attached to their school. Physical education, within a school environment, also encourages teamwork. Furthermore, many believe that PE provides a specific time where one is able to relax and relieve the normal stress that students feel. Even though the requirement is short, it still acts as a stress reliever, which is something that every college student can use.

SCW requires two semesters of physical education. A large group of women oppose this prerequisite because they view it as a fruitless addition to their hectic schedule. On the other hand, there is a significant group of women who appreciate the benefits of physical education, including being able to get a flavor for such dynamic activities as yoga, fencing and folk dancing. "Since physical education is required at SCW, I have tried to perform at my peak while fulfilling my gym credits," said Shani Feld SCW '97, "and have gained numerous rewards because of it."

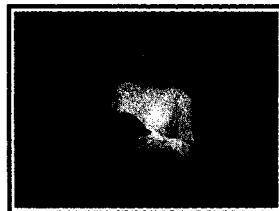
## New Assistant Basketball Coach

By Rachel Hellman

On November 6, Karen Green was officially appointed assistant Lady Macs basketball coach. Green will help Steve Young guide the team this year.

In the past, Green was a high school basketball coach. She currently teaches SCW's basketball gym class.

Lady Mac Captain Judith Kelsen, SCW '96, described Green as a "knowledgeable individual who will be able to add much to the team."



New Assistant Basketball Coach  
Karen Green.

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