

The Observer

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YU Receives \$2.2 Million Bequest

This Time, Add a Decimal to the 22

By Rachel Felsman

Shortly after the announcement of a \$22 million bequest by Anne Scheiber, YU received an additional donation of \$2.2 million from the Estate of E. Ira Marienhoff, a high school teacher from Teaneck, New Jersey.

The bequest will establish endowed scholarship funds in the benefactor's name at YC, Bernard Revel Graduate School for Jewish Studies and Azrieli Graduate School of Jewish Education and Administration. Outstanding students at YC studying history, political science or philosophy will be eligible for scholarships. At Revel and Azrieli, the scholarships will go to outstanding students pursuing studies in Jewish scholarship and Jewish education and administration.

Reena Rosen, SCW '97, who is enrolled in the joint Stern-Azrieli program which will earn her a B.A. and M.S. in Jewish Education, was enthusiastic about the endowment. "I'm strongly supportive of academically-based scholarships to deserving students," Rosen said. "They add incentives and motivation to study."

Marienhoff, who passed away in 1994, was a teacher of history, political science and economics at Hunter College High School for 28 years. He also taught at the High School for Music and Art, the Machine and Metal Trades High School and George Washington High School. As a young man, Marienhoff resided in Washington Heights, only a few blocks from YU's Main Campus. Like Scheiber, Marienhoff never attended a YU institution.

Dr. Herbert C. Dobrinsky, YU's Vice President for University Affairs, received the \$2.2 million check from David Bashkin, executor of Marienhoff's estate. Dobrinsky described Marienhoff as "a dynamic beloved and legendary teacher and scholar who was committed to imparting the values of learning and the responsibility of citizenship to generations of students."

Marienhoff's endowment was slightly diminished by the publicity surrounding Scheiber's \$22 million donation. Many SCW students were unaware of the more

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SCW Students Tour Schottenstein Hall

By Laurie Gewirtz

One of the most popular complaints coming from SCW students is the lack of housing space to accommodate the increasing student enrollment at YU. The growing numbers in the dormitory buildings result in overcrowding, claustrophobia and the need for many students to live in outside apartments.

SCW administration addressed the students' concerns by choosing to expand SCW's campus with the newly-acquired Schottenstein Residence Hall, located on 29th Street and Lexington Avenue.

For two hours on both January 30 and 31, tours were offered to all students interested in finding out what the inside of the once Salvation Army housing development looked like. Students were guided around in groups of ten by members of the Student Life Committee.

The physical composition of the building is two eight story towers connected by a tunnel on the fifth floor. The main level consists of two huge rooms which will eventually serve as a co-ed, public lounge and a room suitable for



Hannah Shonfield leads a tour of Schottenstein Hall.

dancing and concerts. The lobby walls contain mirrors and lamps, and are painted pink, providing the main floor with a fancier, more hotel-like appearance than Brookdale Hall. At the time of the tours, the rooms were cluttered with furniture and construction dust, but students were assured of complete renovation by next fall.

The elevators are quite small but as tour guide Hannah Shonfield, SCW '98, pointed out, "There are only eight floors, so girls can easily take the stairs."

The residence building is unique in that it houses only approximately 180 people, and allows each student her own cubicle and bathroom, with four rooms interconnecting in a row. Brookdale Hall houses over 500 people with four, or sometimes, five students living together in a room.

Students had mixed feelings about living by themselves. "It would be depressing to have my own room," said Shani Feld, SSSB '97. "Having roommates is part of the college experience. It's nice to come back to a bunch of roommates after a long day of school." Shana Schwartz, SCW '98, disagreed. "Living solo will allow girls to shut their door at night when they want to go to sleep, not having to compromise with four other roommates on what time to turn the lights off," she said.

Students seemed impressed by a sample of the modern, formica furniture which the administration is considering buying for each

dorm room. Each cubicle will have its own bed, a desk, a bookcase, a dresser, a closet and a full-length mirror.

There are a few outdoor verandas and large, airy, carpeted rooms scattered around the upper floors, where the students can watch television or relax. One room with tall windows, columns, and a fireplace was suggested to be utilized as a *beit midrash* or as a study hall.

Overall, students were happy to have had the opportunity to tour the new residence hall, even though it still requires a great deal of work. "It's very hard to judge because the building will be renovated by next year and will look a lot different," said San Slomnicki, SCW '98.

Jeffrey Rosengarten, YU Director of Facilities, Administration, and Personnel, said, "A good deal of space here will be available even to students who do not live in Schottenstein - it will be a resource for student activities, clubs and study halls. We want this building to be another part of the SCW campus."

After Tragic Death, SCW Remembers A Security Guard

By Laurie Gewirtz

Walking along the avenues, most students attending SCW would easily recognize any of the security guards who spend countless hours every day guarding them from the unknown dangers of Manhattan. One guard in particular, Rachel, would be especially easy to recognize because of her unique physical appearance and personality.

Rachel would be noticed for her long and polished fingernails, her short peppery hair, her dark purple lipstick, and her dark sunglasses even in the lobby of Brookdale Hall. She could also be recognized by her cheerful demeanor and ever-present smile. Though this was Rachel's first year as an SCW security guard, she appeared comfortable in her surroundings, wishing every person who passed through the door a good day or good night.

Tragedy struck on the night

of December 28, 1995, in Sim's Food Store on the corner of 34th Street and Park Avenue. At age 32, Rachel collapsed from a heart attack.

The night started off uneventfully, with Rachel at her post for the night shift. All was going smoothly until she began feeling acute pains in her chest. Very concerned, the other guards on duty wanted to call Hatzolah, but Rachel refused, saying that all she needed was a refreshing drink. She proceeded toward the all-night food store. While selecting a drink, she suffered a heart attack and fell to the ground. The clerk at Sim's called an ambulance, but Rachel died en route to the hospital.

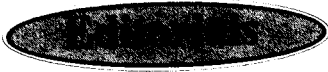
The response from the student body the next day was one of surprise and alarm, especially from those students who had developed a close relationship with Rachel. Na'ama Ben-David, SCW '96,

spent a great deal of time with the guards because of her long series of free periods between classes. "I was drawn to Rachel because of her inviting personality," Ben-David said. "We used to talk a lot about how it's nicer to be around people who are friendly than people who are grouchy all the time."

When Ben-David heard the news, she, along with Carolyn Coach, SCW '96, and Penina Birman, SCW '98, immediately asked the head RA what they could do to help. The security guards' captain suggested gathering money for the funeral expenses since Rachel was not married and had been living with her sister, helping raise her nephew. Ben-David put up a poster in the dorm lobby with a picture of Rachel attached, asking students for donations. In addition to funds, Ben-David also re-

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**Lady Macs
notch first
victory of the
season. See
Sports for
more details.**



RAs Should Get First Aid Training

When Jennifer suddenly collapses, her friend quickly calls an RA who immediately contacts Hatzolah to come to the rescue.

When Rachel lightly cuts her finger, if an RA is called, the RA comforts her and procures a band-aid.

But what happens when Yael has a bad stomachache after eating a big, greasy meal? Is it indigestion? Food poisoning? She calls an RA, but what does the RA do?

Questions like these have been raised because RAs, without medical training, are making decisions about when to call Hatzolah.

Assistant Dean of Students Zelda Braun disagreed with this statement. SCW does not train its RAs in First Aid, and they are not the sole people responsible for evaluating the situation. Although RAs are to be the first people called by a student when she becomes ill, if the RA is unsure (as in the case of Yael), she'll call a Graduate RA (who has a 24-hour beeper number), who may in turn call Alexis Levitt, the Residence Supervisor.

When a student is keeling over in pain, must a half hour of phone calls be made before she gets help?

Certainly not. In practice, the system is much smoother than it first appears. In only a matter of minutes, a decision is made about whether to send Yael to the hospital in a cab, call Hatzolah or have her rest it out.

Real teamwork is involved, both among the staff and students, as well as between parents and students. Students are encouraged to speak to their parents, who may de-

cide together what should be done.

But you may be asking, as we are, if it might be a good idea for our RAs to be trained in First Aid or Emergency Medical Training. And this question bridges two concerns. Although the administration contends that only a few minutes are lost, perhaps these few minutes do make a difference in the care of the student. And on the flip-side, since in many cases the problem is that Hatzolah is called too often, without sufficient cause, the more training RAs had in this area, the better they would be able to judge which medical situations are really quite minor.

This suggestion was greeted hesitantly by the administration. Perhaps they fear that a little knowledge can be a dangerous thing. An RA might become too confident in her basic medical training, and try to help medically in a situation which requires more specially trained medics. Better for Hatzolah to step in than for a student become superwoman (or feel that she must be superwoman).

OK, but aren't there certified EMTs on campus? Shouldn't they be called upon?

Braun and Levitt say yes. Trained EMTs should see Braun about serving as advisors during ambiguous medical situations.

Of course, in some cases, student EMTs will not replace Hatzolah.

Naomi Gilbert, a first year student and EMT, cited the need to treat certain ailments

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Is Cheating Wrong?

By Rebecca Rosen

You may be asking yourself why an observant Jewish woman would ask herself such a charged, controversial, or maybe absolutely simple question: "Of course cheating is wrong," you may be exclaiming as loudly as that little conscience in your head is willing to shout. I, too, have grown up hearing that cheating is a serious offense. But now, at the age of 21, I find myself dissatisfied with my utter lack of thought in accepting this presumption. Why can't I cheat?

"You're only cheating yourself, young lady," is the common reproach. This argument assumes that all information is of objective value, and that cheating in this instance will lead me, the cheater, to forsake the potential information gained from studying the material.

But what if I have no interest in this specific subject? Are all subjects taught in school truly worth learning? Perhaps to me the knowledge to be gained is not worth the time lost in committing it to memory. If I don't care about the subject, can we say that it really matters if I remain ignorant of the essentials of aquatic sports?

You might protest that when I cheat off of someone else's test, I am stealing from that person. So, let's play it safe: I've asked permission from my partner-in-crime (assuming that it is a crime). Alternatively, I can eliminate the middle-woman by bringing a cheat-sheet into the test.

But what about the other students in the class, you may rightfully ask. The more tests displaying a high level of comprehension, the worse off the curve will be. I'm stealing an A from a fellow student.

I can solve this problem by enticing the entire class to join me in cheating without

disrupting the curve. More practically (and potentially more ethically, depending upon our conclusion), let's say this is a multiple choice test and the teacher will give a letter grade corresponding exactly to the number grade. We thus remove problems of curve.

You retort: You may not be cheating your peers, but what about your teacher? By cheating, I claim knowledge I do not possess. (Actually, we could say the same thing about other classmates. If they do not all know of my cheating, would they then consider me to be a swimming genius?) I am effectively lying to my teacher (and to my unassuming peers). Clearly, the lying will travel beyond the classroom itself. The Dean will see another A in my G.P.A., and the grad schools will, too.

Ah, here we have come across the ethical dilemma. If cheating amounts to lying, and lying is wrong, then cheating is also wrong. Now, I'm assuming that you will be willing to buy into my system of morality which dictates the value of honesty and the immorality of deceit. However, you could justifiably press me and ask: why is lying wrong?

It is here that I become distressed. For all of my searching and desire for truth (a value in my ethical system), at a certain point, I choose to make a jump. Why do I jump at lying? Could not cheating have been as suitable a diving board?

Although I feel like a cheat for stopping here (and this may be a good time to tell you that my roommate wrote this editorial), I choose lying as my diving board today. Until next time, I hope to see you steadily and honestly improving your academics.

The Observer

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Letters to the Editor

Open Your Eyes to Torah

I am a freshman at SCW from a public high school background. I chose to come to SCW because I wanted to be in a college environment conducive to Torah learning and growth. I am very happy here, and I am delighted and deeply moved that I am able to take classes to strengthen my Jewish background. Coming to SCW was not an easy transition from my high school, but each day I see myself growing, and I am pleased so far with my progress.

However, I am disturbed that many of my classmates take their Torah studies for granted. Unfortunately, some SCW students seem to view the [Jewish Studies] Core requirements as a burden which they try to

relieve by taking the easiest classes available to them. As I struggle to improve my background and learn more, I see girls with an excellent education avoiding challenging Judaic studies classes. These students don't seem to realize that, with their backgrounds and the resources available here, there is so much within their grasp.

In high school I longed for the opportunity to learn Torah. Living in a place devoid of Torah, its brilliance was self-evident to me from the moment I first glimpsed it. It seems that some of my classmates have blinded themselves to the brilliant light of Torah, and I hope they are able to open their eyes while they are still at SCW.

Name withheld upon request

I'm Back

Firstly, I'd like to thank Shomeret for bringing up such a sensitive issue and having such a friendly discourse with me through the medium of the press. The basic problem is that the three articles written thus far haven't really discussed the root of the problem: What exactly is Yeshiva University? Is it a place for only a segment of the Jewish community or for all types of Jews? Unfortunately, the message related by Shomeret is that YU is only a place for the *shomer* segment of the populace. Otherwise, how could she justify saying, "A Jewish atmosphere is neither the time nor the place for physical expression"? Do all types of Jews normally follow the laws of *negiah*? More so, do all of those Orthodox Jews follow those laws? The answer to that is, unfortunately, no! But whether or not people

choose to follow these laws doesn't make them any less of a Jew. So how large and where is this Jewish population she is talking about?? Is it the Jewish atmosphere that she thinks is correct?? Shouldn't other types of Jews be allowed to live in their own 'Jewish atmosphere'?

The topic we are really discussing here is tolerance and living together as ONE people. On the one hand, it's understandable that Shomeret should want fooling around at the van stop to be curbed, but on the other hand, she should also understand that kissing goodbye or other P.D.A. is to be expected and should be tolerated. If both sides give in a little bit, everybody would be happy. So how about it??

Sincerely,
An MYP Student

Message from the SCWSC President

Fellow Students-

Welcome back from a wonderful, WELL-DESERVED vacation! The second semester is in full swing with many exciting programs being run for the student body. Our class boards have so far sponsored two events and the Shabbat Program is well under way. *Tu B'Shvat* was celebrated with students saving the planet (buying trees), making a *shehechivenu* (free food), and attending an innovative *Tu B'Shvat seder* (free food again) sponsored by SAGA and TAC. I hope that students are taking advantage of these programs (by coming to them), and I would urge you to take a look at the Student Council events calendar in the lobby of the school building. It's a great way to keep abreast of what is going on in school.

I would like to thank the Student Life Committee for conducting a student housing survey in their continuing effort to serve the student body. They are hard at work on many student issues around Stern.

The SCWSC/TAC/SSSBSC (whew!) Purim Chagiga was Rosh Chodesh Adar, featuring food (free again), fun, music and,



of course, COSTUMES! I hope you joined us for an evening of unforgettable *ruach* and *shick*. And stay tuned for an upcoming Student Council event as well.

I know that I'll be busy in the coming weeks with all the great events and programs being run. Remember to take a break from your schoolwork and join me. After all, isn't college supposed to be fun? (Yeah, right.)

Best wishes for a successful semester,
Ilana Barber
SCWSC President



RA Training

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with special equipment available in ambulances.

Although EMTs on campus may not replace the SCW medical emergency system which relies heavily on Hatzolah, they may be able to help students until Hatzolah comes, and perhaps even to advise as to whether an ambulance need be called at all.

Braun emphasized SCW's commitment to ensuring the safety of each student, and she would prefer to err on the side of caution. Although she does not advocate misuse of Hatzolah's services, she does support calm, rational decisions

made by a team of knowledgeable people.

The question remains: Should SCW require medical training for RAs?

So far, the school has no plans to do so. But perhaps it should. Our RAs will not necessarily begin to make wild calls as a result of their newly acquired knowledge. As long as the administration ensures that medical training is given following SCW's own guidelines for handling medical emergencies, we can be confident that RAs will generate only more sound judgments.

SCW Gives Special Ed Majors Short Shrift

By Rebecca Strong

I'm an education major planning to pursue a career in special education. And I'm probably not the only one who is disappointed with the limited options available at SCW.

SCW's Education Department allows students to fulfill New York State education requirements and receive a Provisional Teaching Certificate. There are elementary and early childhood tracks for those students who want to teach kindergarten to sixth grade. Both tracks include a semester of student teaching, as well.

Those are the basics.

But what about students like me who want to teach special ed after graduation? That's where my options begin to dwindle. I can't go from SCW into a special ed classroom for one reason: SCW offers only six of the credits required, which number 24 in special ed and 12 in professional teaching courses. These qualifications are found in the New York State Provisional Certificate requirements for a special ed teacher. But SCW offers only two courses in the field of special ed: Education of the Exceptional Child and Psychology of Exceptional Children.

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Message from TAC President

Welcome Back!!

The halls are now filled with both new and old faces. To the old students, I welcome you back and assure you that TAC will be just as active this semester as it was last. To those new faces I want to take the opportunity to introduce myself informally and get you involved with TAC.

The TAC bulletin board on the sixth floor of the school building is kept up-to-date with all the events that are coming up. Keep an eye out for the new fliers that pop up at least once a week. For any specific questions, please contact myself or any other board member.

I have heard over and over again that students are frustrated this year because they feel so uninvolved in the student councils. While some of the TAC committee heads have contacted students directly, one need not wait to be called. The formula for getting involved is easy. Simply open up the "Guide", look for the respective committee head and contact her yourself. They will be more than happy to speak with you and are eager to hear your new ideas. IT'S REALLY EASY - trust me!!

TAC is planning some really great events for this semester. Watch out for a great chagiga - if you enjoyed the Chanukah one (which I am sure you did), then Purim



will be even better. We are planning an in-depth forum on the prenuptial agreement which I encourage all of our students to attend. Education in this area is vital, so look out for the information that will be coming to you shortly. TAC is also planning a great Shabbaton at the end of the semester. If you like YACHAD (or at least heard about how great it was), then you will love this weekend.

Finally, elections for next year are right around the corner. Think about running for a position on the TAC board or as head of a committee.

If you have any questions, my door is always open (BH 4B).

Rena May
TAC President

Learn from Louisiana

By Leebie Mallin

February 6, the day that will forever live in infamy?

Most followers of politics mistakenly believe that the Presidential primary season begins with the Iowa Caucus and the New Hampshire Primary. There was, however, a less publicized caucus that recently took place in Louisiana. Since its date was moved up, the Louisiana caucus is now the official start of the Presidential campaign season.

The Louisiana caucus was dismissed as basically meaningless. This is evident from the fact that only three candidates even chose to run in it. This caucus is only now noteworthy because of its outcome. Patrick J.

Buchanan pulled off a stunning victory over the expected winner, Phil Gramm. Buchanan won 13 delegates for the National Republican Convention, while Gramm won eight, and the virtually unknown Alan Keyes won no delegates.

Most political watchers view this caucus as significant because it may come to represent the beginning of the end of Gramm's campaign. They argue that if he could not win in Louisiana, not too far from his native Texas, then he probably cannot win anywhere.

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Message from SSSB President

Hi! I would like to take this opportunity to welcome all new students to Stern College and to Sy Syms School of Business. I hope everyone enjoyed their winter break, that is if they were able to leave the snow-infested city! The SSSB tutoring and Big Sister Programs will continue to be available this semester for anyone interested. The Contemporary Problems in Business course led by Professor Palumbo has begun, featuring various CEOs who will address the students enrolled. The course is expected to be as interesting and as noteworthy as it's been in past semesters.

Planning is in the works for the annual SSSB dinner that will be held later in the semester. The dinner is always found to be an enjoyable evening and a good opportu-



nity for networking, which is key in the business world. Stay tuned for more information regarding the dinner. Have a great semester and happy Purim!

Barbara Poljak
SSSBSC President

This letter, written by Gila Hirth on behalf of the American Sign Language (ASL) class, was originally presented to the members of the Academic Curriculum Committee concerning a proposal that ASL be considered a language.

"Since I could not be at the meeting today to present my ideas to you in person, I decided to write to you a summary of how I felt about this matter. I chose to take American Sign Language because it was so different from the other courses offered at Stern. Since I am majoring in Psychology/OT, most of my courses have been Psychology or Biology oriented and so I was very excited, and surprised, to see that Stern College offered a course in ASL.

I was equally surprised to find out that Stern did not consider ASL to be a language. After learning ASL for six months I can tell

you it's not just a bunch of "charade like" motions. ASL has a grammar and syntax all its own. Plus ASL focuses on body language and facial expression, and both of these seemingly innate abilities are extremely hard to master.

ASL should fall into the same category as French or Spanish. I believe it is not a lingo like that used in the computer world or in reference to the sciences or even sports. Language is a means of communicating between people, a means which defines them as a separate group. French people who do not speak another language cannot communicate in any other language besides their own. So to deaf or hearing impaired people cannot use spoken language to communicate and need ASL to do so.

It was further made clear to me that even

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BAR-ILAN UNIVERSITY

will visit Stern College on

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1996

Meet Robert Katz, Director of Academic Affairs

during Club Hour, 2:30 pm

Room 301

to discuss

KAYITZ BAR-ILAN

(INTRODUCTION TO CHEMISTRY 1 & 2, WITH LAB

ORGANIC CHEMISTRY 1 & 2, WITH LAB),

THE JUNIOR YEAR OF JEWISH HERITAGE PROGRAM,

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OTHER BAR-ILAN PROGRAMS

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Pre-Law Students Get a Briefing from Attorneys

By Racheli Fetsman and
Melissa Weinberger

On January 31, SCW's Pre-Law Society sponsored a forum of Orthodox women in the field of law. The event, entitled "Women in Law: Options and Opportunities," gave students the opportunity to hear three prominent women speak of their experiences.

The speakers, two attorneys and a judge, discussed the opportunities, as well as the hardships, facing women in the law profession. They highlighted the dual role that professional Orthodox women play in balancing a career and a family. "They proved that there is a way for women to succeed in law," said Sharona Cohen, SCW '97.

The first speaker was Sharon Fogel, a General Practice attorney at Herzfeld and Rubin, a Wall Street firm. A graduate of Cardozo Law School, Fogel is the mother of two young children. She emphasized that her role as a mother always comes first, but "important clients have my home phone number."

Next to speak was Muriel Kessler, who

currently has a practice specializing in trusts, estates, and elder law. Kessler is a past president of the Metropolitan Women's Bar Association and is a former Chair of the General Practice Section, as well as co-founder of the Elder Law Section. Kessler, a graduate of Cornell Law School, expounded upon the discrimination she experienced as one of two women in a class of 77. Although women attorneys are still not getting as much respect as they deserve, "in the last few years, things have been different," she said.

Finally, Judge Lee First addressed the audience of SCW students. A former *Bais Yaakov* student, First served as a Chief Judge in New York. She was also president of the Metropolitan Women's Bar Association and authored a book entitled *Justice is Blind*, which she sold to SCW students at half price. First characterized law school as a "fabulous experience" and urged SCW women to enter the field. Through humor and personal anecdotes, First illustrated that there

Recent Graduate Returns as Head RA

By Rachel Leiser

You may have seen her packed into one of the dorm elevators or patiently waiting in line at the cafeteria, but this smiling brunette is not your average SCW student. In fact, she actually graduated from YU with a major in Psychology this January. So why is she still to be found in her alma mater? She is Bracha Press, the new Graduate Head RA. Press's new responsibilities include making sure that everything runs smoothly in Brookdale Hall.

Press was hired after Dina Tallér, the previous Head RA, became engaged and left the dorm. Press does not feel as though her job has been made more difficult by coming in the middle of the year. On the contrary, she maintains, her adjustment to the job has been easier because everything has already been running smoothly for months.

Although she is happy to have the po-

sition and feels that this will definitely be "a learning experience," Press has already had her first brush with "a major catastrophe"—the water main break in early February.

Press, originally from Philadelphia, plans to enroll in an occupational therapy program next year in either Baltimore or New York.



Palestinians Elect a Government. Now What?

By Itia Shmidman

January 20, 1996 marked a historical date in world politics, especially in the minds of Palestinians and Israelis. The first elections for a Palestinian Council (PC) served to determine the major Palestinian leaders as well as to delineate a comprehensive and democratic system of government for the Palestinian people. However, the role that this internationally recognized leadership will play in the future and within the Middle Eastern community is not as clearly defined.

There were over 700 candidates for the 88-seat legislative assembly, seven of which were reserved for members of the Christian and Samaritan communities. The body, which will govern from Gaza, serves as the legislature for all Palestinian self-rule and is required to subject its laws to joint review with Israel. The PC will oversee all government policy set by its executive branch, the Palestinian Interim Self Government. The elected president of this government is PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, who received 88.1% of the vote. His only challenger was 72-year-old social worker

Samia Khalil. She received 9.3% of the vote. All others votes were deemed invalid.

Arafat, having gained a tremendous amount of legitimacy among Palestinian and world populations alike, now has the responsibility of appointing an 88-member cabinet to form the Interim Self Government which he will lead. The members can be chosen from in or out of the Council and are charged with the tasks of setting policy and taking charge of all foreign affair issues that fall under the self-rule agreements. Additionally, the Interim Self Government appoints civil servants to various ministries. The PC votes on the Self Government's budget and can dissolve it at any time with a no-confidence motion. Arafat's legally designated successor would then be the appointed chairperson of the PC. The Self Government will remain temporary until an agreement concerning its final status is reached with Israel. The deadline for these agreements is May, 1999.

The elections were viewed by Palestinian leaders and by the Israeli government as a success, with an estimated 70% turnout at

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left to right: Muriel Kessler, Judge Lee First, Sharon Fogel

are a growing number of options for women in law.

All three speakers emphasized that whether or not one chooses to actually practice law, the law school experience is an invaluable one. "The women showed the positive aspects of attending law school and gave us something to look forward to," said

Dodiva Grant, SCW '96, vice president of the Pre-Law Society.

Anne Littwin, SCW '96, president of the Pre-Law Society, called the event a tremendous success. "It was informative, and we were very appreciative to have a chance to learn more about being an Orthodox woman in the legal field," she said.

F • E • A • T •

Kiruv Opportunity KJ's Beit Midrash Program

By Aviva Frohlich

The Kehillat Jeshurun Beginner's Beit Midrash Program is one of the unique outreach programs in which SCW students play a vital role. The program, sponsored by TAC, is attended by about 20 YC and SCW students. This *beit midrash* atmosphere is created on a weekly basis at the *shul*, located on East 85th Street.

The participants are recruited through the Beginner Service of KJ, which takes place every Shabbat. There is a large population of unaffiliated Jews in Manhattan who are responsive to this program.

The program pairs up a YL student with an adult or young professional, and allows them to take part in *chavruta*-style learning. The KJ participants cover a wide spectrum of age, style and observance. According to one program coordinator, Emily Shapiro,

SCW '96, "Each '*shidduch*' was really thought out, and most really clicked."

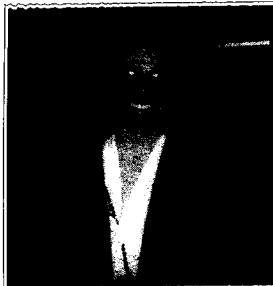
The atmosphere is one of group learning as well. These groups are essential because the participants are in different stages of beginner observance. "Some of them can't read Hebrew, while others want to learn Kabbalah," said Shira Sukenik, SCW '96, another program coordinator.

Since the program is geared for adults, the approach is more of an intellectual one. The participants are searching for their Jewish identity, and hope that learning will enable them to make a conscious decision to return to Judaism. "There is a real sense of excitement in the air," Shapiro said.

Many *chavrutot* choose to use the

Continued on page 9

Two New History Professors Have Dual Interests



Dr. Berlow



Dr. Kaplan

By Mira Hochberg

The SCW History Department recently gained two new professors, Dr. Nira Kaplan and Dr. Rosalind Berlow.

Kaplan, who resides in Manhattan, also has an interest in English literature, and originally intended to pursue a career in journalism. While doing research, she discovered a new interest. "I liked digging for material," she said. Her interest in research led her to Columbia University where she taught 18th century French and American Political Culture. Kaplan is currently finishing a doctorate in French History. This semester, she is teaching Western Civilization at SCW. She enjoys teaching here, and finds that SCW students "are much more enthusiastic" than their Columbia counterparts.

Berlow, a resident of Manhattan's East Side, earned her Ph.D. in Medieval History from City University. A teacher for 12 years, she has taught at Hunter, FIT and Touro. Berlow developed a love of history while living in France. She "felt surrounded by the medieval ages and found it to be aestheti-

cally appealing." She also studied under great professors of Jewish Medieval History. Berlow currently teaches Medieval History at SCW.

Like Kaplan, Berlow has another great interest. Her law practice occupies much of her time. She deals mainly with real estate and matrimony cases. She is also interested in mediation, the branch of law in which the lawyer acts as the neutral agent between the two disputing parties. Berlow decided to begin a law career while teaching in Touro, when the college opened its own law school. As a faculty member, she was permitted to attend without cost, and she took advantage of the opportunity. She has been practicing law for ten years.

Berlow enjoys teaching in Stern and said she prefers teaching rather than law. Although she finds mediation satisfying, Berlow said she finds the courts frustrating. Additionally, she doesn't feel that one can make "the world a better place" by practicing law. "In that respect, teaching is more rewarding," she said.

A Volunteer Opportunity: Project Ore

By Rachel Butler and Suri Taller

As the homeless man walked into the dining area of Congregation Emunat Israel, Jewish volunteers at the kosher soup kitchen turned and stared in awe. The man, who had been a "regular" in the program, had cut his long, straggly hair and shaved off his goatee. But his clean-cut appearance was not as shocking as the *tzitzit* falling from under his shirt. He informed the volunteers that he had joined a detoxification program and was now off tranquilizers. As his life was changing physically, he felt the need to change spiritually as well. He decided to have the Bar Mitzvah he had never had.

This story is one of many that volunteers of Project Ore have to tell. Project Ore, associated with the Educational Alliance of the UJA, is a program that offers food and social services to Jews who are

homeless or estranged by their families.

Volunteers serve lunch Monday through Thursday between 12 and 1:30 p.m. There is also a special pre-Shabbat meal on Fridays between 12:15 p.m. and 1:30 p.m. Social services for those who are willing to be helped include job information and psychological counseling.

Shira Sukenik, SCW '96, is an SCW volunteer at Project Ore. She considers this program to be a "remarkable experience." She remembers one man who came into the kitchen and said quietly, "It's so nice you come. We really appreciate it."

Sukenik and other volunteers, highly recommend this program and encourage SCW students to get involved. Project Ore is based in Congregation Emunat Israel on 23rd Street between 7th and 8th Avenues. Students who wish to volunteer should call Laura at (212) 645-9726.

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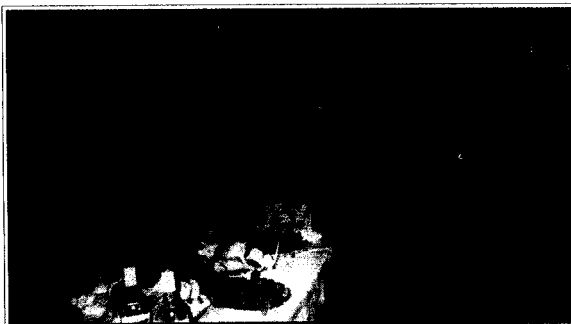
U • R • E • S

In Bulgaria, YU Professor Discovers Community of Survivors

By Tikvah Schachter

Many stories are told of heroic gentiles who risked their lives to save Jews during the Holocaust. But more than in any other European country, the fate of the Jews of Bulgaria was remarkable. During WWII, not one single Bulgarian Jew was deported to the camps. This was in total defiance of Eichmann's harsh orders. In 1943 there were 50,000 Jews in Bulgaria; in 1948 there were 50,000 Jews in Bulgaria, a Balkan state bordering Russia and Turkey.

Dr. Ruth Bevan, head of the SCW and YC Political Science Departments, was intrigued by this historical data. Seeking to understand how Bulgarian Jews were saved, she spent the fall semester in Bulgaria, collecting research and personal information. Her research was sponsored by a grant from IREX, the International Research Exchange. Bevan spent most of her time in the two largest Bulgarian Jewish communities, Sofia and Plovdiv. Bulgaria is known as a peripheral state; it is a nation that has managed to "es-



Dr. Bevan, fourth from right, joins in a sukkah party with the Jews of Plovdiv.

cape the horrors in Bosnia and has managed to construct a culture of tolerance," Bevan said.

How did Bulgarian Jews manage to escape deportation? Bevan said that according to the Jews who still live there, it was due to the aid of their non-Jewish neighbors that Bulgarian Jews survived. Bulgaria has never been attacked by social anti-Semitism. Non-Jews spend time with Jews in Jewish areas. According to the Jews that Bevan interviewed, Jews and non-Jews were equally oppressed by past governments. Thus, the two groups helped each other out financially. Fear on either side seldom existed. Bulgarian Jews were not passive ghetto residents, as were Jews in other Nazi-occupied territories. In addition, explained Bevan, Jews had come to Bulgaria before the first year of the Common Era. The presence of the Jews preceded the Bulgarian presence. The mentality of the "invasion of the Jew" is therefore not prevalent.

Bulgarian Jews did suffer some degree of maltreatment under the Nazi regime. The men were sent to work camps, all Jews were stripped of their rights and forced to wear the yellow star. But social anti-Semitism did

not exist. The attitude of the average Bulgarian citizen was diametrically opposed to average German and Polish attitudes. The socialists fought against the state, thus hampering its implementation of Nazi policies.

The Eastern Orthodox Church also fought for the Jews. The Church was adamant about its anti-Nazi stance. According to Bevan, this feeling was largely due to the Eastern Orthodox Church's rejection of the decide story, marking a divergence from the Roman Catholic theology. Bulgaria's King Boris negotiated with the Nazis, claiming he needed the Jews for work projects. But the Jews Bevan spoke to said that the King was not the main source of protection for Jews during the war. Instead, it was their neighbors, their non-Jewish friends, who kept the Jews from the crematoria.

Though Bulgarian Jews were quite close with their non-Jewish neighbors, Bevan noted that remarkably, assimilation and massive intermarriage did not occur. Of the 50,000 Jews in Bulgaria in 1943, over 90% made *aliyah*, a percentage that would not have existed had there been massive intermarriage.

Bevan also learned much about the social and cultural life of Bulgarian Jews. They are *Sephardic*, and very hospitable. They were "very sharing," Bevan said. The community is small since many Jews have made *aliyah*. But recently there has been a return of Jews to live in Bulgaria. The Joint Distribution Committee is active there, and Israel, a relatively close neighbor, sends cantors and rabbis for the holidays. Jews there are in need of financial assistance. They are currently in the process of rebuilding a *shul*, one of the largest *Sephardic shuls* in Europe. Despite their financial hardships, Bulgarian Jews are very giving people, Bevan said. They gave her gifts in the form of food as well as in the form of friendships.

Public awareness of why and how Bulgarian Jews were saved during the Holocaust is very limited, Bevan believes, as Jews there told her, that besides the fact that Bulgaria is a small country about which most people know little, the Holocaust in generally viewed as an *Askenazi* event that didn't affect *Sephardim*.



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An Address to the Undergraduate Men
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Admission free with valid Yeshiva I.D. Transportation provided from the Midtown Center. Sign up at the office of Student Services, SCW-114, by Monday, March 18, 1996
Buses leaving from Brookdale Hall at 7:00 P.M.

Sign Language

Continued from page 3

if ASL were to be considered a language, it would never be considered a humanity. To the best of my knowledge, languages such as French or Spanish are considered humanities because they focus not only on the language but also on the culture of those who speak the language. My ASL teacher places great emphasis on learning about deaf culture. We have received many articles on the deaf culture and their obstacles of daily living. Our class recently made a trip to a meeting for hearing parents of deaf children and hearing impaired children. The purpose of the meeting was to educate the parents about the means of communicating used by the deaf community as well as the experience of growing up deaf and becoming a part of

the deaf culture. Our teacher has also distributed to us a calendar of events such as deaf theater workshops and museum tours. A friend of mine is currently taking a course in Spanish and when I asked her if she had learned about the culture of the Spanish people, she answered "no" without hesitation.

Given the above arguments it should be clear that ASL is a language as legitimate as any other. There are several million deaf and hearing impaired people in America, many of whom depend on ASL to communicate and therefore consider it a language. Why shouldn't Stern College consider it a language as well?"

Louisiana

Continued from page 3

For American Jews, the Louisiana caucus is very important - not because of Gramm's defeat, but rather because of Buchanan's victory. It is true that Louisiana is by no means an indicator of feelings of Republicans nationwide. After all, it was only a few years ago that Louisiana came very close to electing David Duke, a former Ku Klux Klan member, as governor. One can also rationalize that Buchanan's victory is not very significant since very few Republicans, even within Louisiana, were aware that the Louisiana caucus took place.

No matter what the circumstances surrounding the caucus were, the fact that it was a great victory for Buchanan cannot be taken lightly. This caucus was a great boost for

Buchanan's quest to establish himself as a viable candidate. As a result of this caucus, many Republicans who were previously only toying with the idea of supporting Buchanan, may very well give him their allegiance.

So what can we do about this very ominous sign? It is important to keep in mind that fewer than 30,000 of the 500,000 registered Louisiana Republicans participated in the caucus. This makes it clear how vital it is to vote. Every Jew who is a registered Republican has an obligation, on behalf of the Jewish people and of all minorities, to vote in his or her respective state primary or caucus. Failure to do so is tantamount to supporting a candidate like Buchanan.

What do you think of First Lady Hillary Clinton's being questioned before a grand jury?

Hadassah Levinbrown, SCW '97:

Hillary Clinton is a citizen of the United States just like everyone else and, therefore, should be treated as such. This is why I feel it is appropriate to question her now as opposed to postponing this until the end of her service as the First Lady. However, I do commend her on her ability to maintain composure under such trying circumstances.



Sharona Cohen, SCW '97:

I don't think it's necessary for the First Lady to testify before a grand jury. She has time and time again maintained that she expressed her concern about the operation of the travel office staff, but that she was in no way, shape or form involved in the firing of the travel office staff, and it is ludicrous for her to testify in front of a grand jury in order to convey the same point. The American people should have enough trust in the First Lady to believe her statements. If they don't, there is a problem.

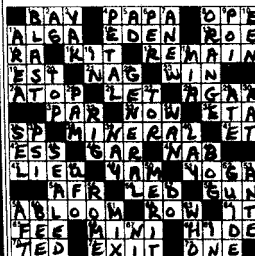


Ruchama Greenberg, SCW '97:

As a woman in politics, Hillary Clinton has an obligation to testify before a grand jury. She should not accept any special treatment because of her status as a First Lady. She should testify before a grand jury as any citizen should.



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The Tu B'Shvat Seder Explained

By Nancy Moritz, Vice President of Student Alliance for Global Awareness (SAGA)

On Monday, February 5, a modest group of SCW students participated in a special Tu B'Shvat Seder. There were many questions, no doubt, in the forefront of their minds as they took their seats in preparation for the event. Many, like me, were probably wondering: "What is a Tu B'Shvat Seder?"

Well, we poured the first cup of grape juice and ate the first olive, as Emily Shapiro addressed us with a *Mishna* which says, "There are four New Years: the New Year for kings, which is also the New Year for festivals; the New Year for the title of animals; the New Year for trees." We quickly began to understand the significance of the commemorative exercise in which we were participating.

Tu B'Shvat is important in many ways. Designating a New Year for trees emphasizes the significance of the laws concern-

ing trees, such as *terumah*, the allotting of a portion of one's produce each year to the *kohanim*. Additionally, particularly in our time, it is important to recognize the value of trees and their great contribution to our lives. The seder encompassed all of these ideas, as the participants learned through experience and ceremony the multifarious significance of the day.

It has become a custom since the time of the *Mishna* to eat the special fruits of Israel on Tu B'Shvat. Participants in the seder shared these fruits, which include almonds, olives, dates, grapes, figs, apples and pomegranates.

The event was coordinated by TAC and the Student Alliance for Global Awareness. The joint effort with TAC was wonderful, and the whole Tu B'Shvat incident just reveals that environmentalism is not a new concept to the Torah.

Soon YU Can Say "We're All Connected"

By Lisa Meyers

The fact that many of the integral YU offices are located on the Uptown Campus often makes it difficult for SCW students to access records and other pertinent data they need immediately. The "Banner System," a new database system coming soon to YU, is about to change all that.

Until now, whenever employees in the Registrar's Office had a financial question about a student, they had to call the Financial Office uptown. Due to the complexity of the college's bureaucracy, a response often required a number of phone calls over an extended period of time, often leaving students banned from registration, or other unfortunate circumstances. The new "Banner System" will synthesize registration, finance and admission records into one easily accessible computer system. At any time, at any terminal in the system, every student's information needs can be met.

The benefits of the new system are numerous. According to one administrative official, it will allow the administration to

immediately obtain medical information in case of a student emergency. It will also assist the Registrar's Office in ascertaining a student's financial status without being exposed to a wealth of private financial information they neither need nor want to know. The storage and protection of confidential data on these interconnected systems should improve the lives of students, staff and administrators. Transcript requests for graduate school applications will no longer be held up. "This program will allow the Registrar's Office to issue transcripts to students without the bother of calling the Office of Student Finances for financial clearance," said SCW Assistant Registrar Hannah Wolf.

Student reaction has been overwhelmingly positive. "It's about time they centralized things," said Adah Hirschfeld, SCW '96. "Too bad I won't be around to enjoy it."

Seminars to teach administrative officials how to use the new system are ongoing.

Kiruv

Continued from page 6

parshat hashvua as a springboard to more discussion. Other groups can be found practicing Hebrew, understanding *tefillot* and learning about Shabbat observance. *Gemarah*, *halacha* and *hashkafa* are popular subjects as well. "All of the SCW students are really happy with the progress of the program," Shapiro said.

Alison Crane, SCW '97, has served in the program and really enjoyed spending time with her *chavruta*. "My *chavruta* was excited to ask me all the questions she was too embarrassed to ask at her Hebrew school."

The program has been so successful that it has expanded from last year's ten YU participants to a record of over 20 pairs participating this year. This year's YU volunteers consist of 15 Stern women and six men from YC. But KJ always has room for more. Anyone interested in joining this successful Kiruv Program can catch the van to KJ at Brookdale Hall every Thursday at 7:45 p.m.

The Student Senate is available to address academic issues that concern SCW students. We welcome any suggestions and comments. Please call Devra at 532-7257.

TAC would like to thank all those who donated clothing to the Clothing Drive. All clothing will be distributed to those in need by the Metropolitan Council on Jewish Poverty. Tizku l'mitzvot!

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Mixed Memories

Blizzarded-In Students Make the Most of Being Stranded

By Susan Jacobs

New York is referred to as the city that never sleeps, but after the bombardment of the Blizzard of '96, the buzzing metropolis was slumbering peacefully. Streets were covered with as much as two feet of snow, while New York City Public School students were delighted to have their first snow day since 1978, the atmosphere at Brookdale Hall was slightly less joyous.

After suffering through the tedium of finals, SCW students were ready to hop board airplanes and trains to find their way home across the expanse of the United States. However, torrents of snow stranded large student population in the dormitories and apartments. Even local students had trouble getting home. With buses and subways canceled, students from exotic locations like Flatbush and Flushing were every bit as stranded as their classmates from Atlanta and Los Angeles.

After overcoming the shock and disappointment of not returning home for the already short intercession, students joined together and made the most of their situation.

Graduate Head RA Ilana Katz, along with the entire RA staff, organized board games and movies for stranded students, while a sign that read: "If you can't beat 'em, join 'em!" announced a snow ball fight. "The snowball fight was cold, wet, and a lot of fun," Katz said.

For those willing to brave the treacherous block and a half to the school building, the cafeteria remained open to feed hungry students.

Between movies, students saw glimpses of pitiful weather forecasters on the Weather Channel risking frost-bite to provide viewers with the latest updates on the snowfall. Major airlines provided tiresome recordings of elevator music while aggravated students stayed on hold for as long as an hour to change their reservations, inevitably to have their new flights canceled.

"We didn't want the student body to feel extra-depressed," Katz said. "They had just finished finals and here they were, snowed in. We just made the best of the situation and it was fun, too."

Meira Schneider, SCW '98, was one of

those stranded in the snow. "I really shouldn't complain because I only live an hour away by car," said the Monsey resident. "I watched movies with everybody, and I got bored out of my wits." Despite her boredom, Schneider applauded the efforts of the dormitory advisors in keeping things lively. "They made sure that we had everything we needed, and that we were okay, and not too bored."

Debbie Goldman, SCW '99, wasn't as fortunate. "I was supposed to go home on Sunday night, but I didn't get there until 1 a.m. Wednesday morning." Along the way she negotiated six ticket changes with her airline, and even made an attempt to catch a train from Penn Station. "My friend and I trekked through two feet of snow to Penn Station, it took us 45 minutes to get there. By the time we got there, they had canceled the train."

Pnina Birman, SCW '99, found a creative form of entertainment. "My sister, a friend and I were stranded, so we made a backgammon set out of cardboard and played with it," she said.

*Snowball
fight on
34th
Street.*

Administration's Handling of Finals' Rescheduling Criticized

By Leebie Mallin

The Blizzard of '96 that hit the East Coast with record-breaking snowfalls wreaked great havoc throughout New York City. Schools, businesses, subways, buses and taxis all ceased functioning for a day, even mail carriers took the day off. But while most New Yorkers were concerned with these closings, SCW students had other matters on their minds, namely, their final examinations.

Usually, students feel carefree and relieved after finals week. But knowing that a makeup test would be awaiting them upon their return, most SCW students who had finals delayed because of the blizzard did not experience any such feelings during their vacation.

Those students who had finals scheduled for the Sunday or Monday of the blizzard were given an opportunity to make their own decision. If they could make their way to school, they would be able to take their finals as scheduled. Otherwise, they could take their finals after vacation.

Although the walk from Brookdale

Hall, Windsor Court and the Lexington apartments was definitely trying in over 22 inches of snow, it was manageable and most students were able to take their finals on time. But those who couldn't, reported frustration about the way they were treated by the administration.

Meredith Gaisin, SCW '97, who was in the dorm building during the blizzard, remarked that even the short walk from Brookdale to the school building was hazardous.

It was an entirely different situation for those students who commute to school every day and for those who had gone home for that Shabbat. Since most modes of transportation were not functioning, students were unable to travel to school. They had no choice but to extend their finals week and take their remaining finals after vacation.

Many students expressed frustration and anger about the way administrators handled matters during the blizzard. Some complained that the office was understaffed. Students had to phone many times before finding out what the official decision was regard-

ing finals. Even after students got through, many claimed that the office staff could not give them a definite date about when finals could be made up.

Sara Elshits, SCW '97, was upset with the way that the administration dealt with the rescheduling. Home in Brooklyn for Shabbat, she was unable to take her final because all subways in the Flatbush area were out of commission. When she returned to school after vacation, she discovered that she would be taking the final she had missed that coming Friday. "Had I been notified of the makeup date during vacation, I would have been more prepared for my final," Elshits said.

Livia Turkel, SCW Dean's Office Manager, said that the office was understaffed on Monday because the administration, like the students, had no means of transportation. But she said that by Tuesday, the day after the tests were canceled, the finals had been rescheduled and that anyone who called after Tuesday was informed of the makeup date.

A Jewish Storytelling Celebration: Journey to Jerusalem

On Sunday, May 5, Stern College will host the fourth Jewish Storytelling Celebration. The plans for the festival, which will focus on Jerusalem, include keynote speakers, a program of Jerusalem experience stories told by SCW students, as well as workshops and performances presented by professional storytellers.

Co-Director Professor Peninnah Schram is looking for interesting Jerusalem/personal experience stories for this day-long event. If you would like to share such a story, of something that happened to you or that you observed on one of your journeys to Jerusalem, please send a written/taped copy of the story to Professor Schram through the Dean's Office.

In April, the co-Directors will hold auditions for those students who submit a story so that some of these stories can be told at a special program at the festival on May 5. In addition, they plan to publish these stories in a pamphlet to be distributed at the festival.

So start thinking "Jerusalem" and start telling stories. Tape them and transcribe or just write them down. Then send copies to Professor Schram no later than Wednesday, March 29.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Professor Schram at (914) 962-9387.

"Gypsies of the Footlights" Comes to Stern College!

SCW's Women's History Month Program will take place on Monday, March 11, at 7:30 p.m. in room 718, and will feature a talk by Professor Joyce Antler of Brandeis University. The program is free and open to the public.

Antler has written extensively about the lives of American Jewish women, and her talk, entitled, "Gypsies of the Footlights: The Personal and Professional Odysseys of Sophie Tucker, Fannie Brice, Gertrude Berg and Barbra Streisand," will be an enjoyable and enlightening introduction to the lives of some of America's most famous Jewish entertainers.

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Rabbi Shlomo Hochberg

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7:30 PM

ROOM 718

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Students and Alumni of SCW

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• Cultural Arts •

Theater Review

Moon Over Buffalo

By Ilana Bruger

Carol Burnett has returned to the New York stage for the first time since her debut on Broadway in 1959. She is now starring in Ken Ludwig's latest comedy, "Moon Over Buffalo," which recalls the world of the mid-1950's live theater. Burnett's witty humor shines through in this production, reminding us of her scintillating personality that beamed into our living rooms 20 years ago.

Burnett co-stars with Philip Bosco, heading a cast of brilliant actors who literally make magic before the audience's eyes. Each player adds a certain spice that makes the show all the

more enjoyable.

Burnett and Bosco play George and Charlotte Hay, a pair of aging stage actors who tour small towns performing repertory productions of "Cyrano de Bergerac" and "Private Lives". They are short on cash, and their troupe of actors is threatening to leave. Their dreams of starring in the new Frank Capra film seem more plausible when Ronald Coleman breaks his leg during a filming of "The Scarlet Pimpernel," and Frank Capra plans to descend on Buffalo to cast George in Coleman's place. With knowledge

of his impending visit,

pandemonium ensues, as does mistaken identity, marital rift and drunken chaos. All this takes place during a mid-morning in June 1953, and occurs in two acts, onstage and backstage at the Erlanger Theater in Buffalo, NY.

Most of the play transpires backstage, where timing becomes imperative in generating the audience's laughter. Bosco plays most of the second act in a drunken stupor and every second step of his is an attempt to right his first. This new Broadway farce is full of misunderstandings between family, lovers and, mainly, strangers. The many different stories that take place onstage intertwine and produce a most unforgettable ending.

"Moon Over Buffalo" gives all lovers of "The Carol Burnett Show" a chance to see, in person, the comedienne's special trademark. She tugs on her ear at curtain call, the same way she did at the end of each episode of her show. For more information on this spectacular production call The Martin Beck Theater at (212) 398-8383.

Carol Burnett will be starring in the show through March 3.

Fashion Preview

Cool Chic Makes Way for Cool Geek

By Dina Bogner

It may be cold outside, but if you happen to be walking by the window of your favorite clothing store, you would think the sun was shining and that it was at least 70 degrees outside. In the eyes of every major retailer in this city, spring has arrived.

Never mind the icicles, the runny noses, the frozen extremities. According to Bloomin's, Saks, Bergdorf and even the GAP, now is the perfect time to invest in that perfect linen blazer, that floaty chiffon skirt, that teeny-tiny tee. The spring fashion shows in Bryant Park are months past, and the clothes are in the stores. Every major fashion magazine has done its stories, and the verdict is in. This season, the way to look, the way to dress, the way to be, is geeky. Yep, Geek Chic is back. Polyester is huge, clashing is cool, and every hot model is searching for a way to make herself look perfectly putrid.

Case in point: Prada, the ever-so-sophisticated Italian clothing and accessory company, has been the label to have the past couple of years. Miuccia Prada's designs have been sleek, modern and, most definitely, trend setting. It was Prada who brought nylon into the limelight. Prada who initiated the return of knee-length skirts and classy dress/coat ensembles. Now Prada has launched a brand new advertising campaign, featuring the very beautiful new model, Carolyn Murphy. The clothing in these ads may follow the lines of Prada's previous collections - knee length skirts and dresses, close fitting tops - but the fabric choices are appalling. There is one ensemble done in a pea green and purple box design, with a coordinating floral dress. I do not ever recall Prada doing a print before, let alone an outfit in which two prints clash.

Now, while this news may not be earth-shattering to most, to fashion insiders it is positively revolutionary. Versace's Versus line showed polyester plaid pants and clashing striped polos. Chanel, who once repre-

sented the very epitome of class, featured terry cloth jumpsuits and teeny pasties with the classic Chanel logo. Designers seem to be gaining inspiration from trailer parks and Baywatch. Trash is the talk of the town. Orange and green are the hottest colors around. Even make-up has been trashed. Make-up artists sent models down the runways in bright blue and green eyeshadow, and at Chanel, whose Vamp created an uproar last year, models all wore the same shade of silver nail polish down the runway.

To be sure, Isaac Mizrahi has turned out some perfectly beautiful suits and ball dresses this season, and Calvin Klein's icy pastel jersey dresses could hardly be called shocking. But Isaac sent girls down the runways sporting beehives and Calvin used... color! Yes, a revolution has taken hold.

Many say fashion is merely now catching up with what has been a trend among teens and twenty-somethings for some time now. Tacky 70's print shirts and polyester flare-legged pants have been flying out of trendy downtown store like Smylonylon and Patricia Field for ages. New Yorkers, who were raised in a sea of understated black and gray, love the shock of purple tights under hot pink shorts. They love the darkness of the new "cool" shoes: Hush Puppies, Pappagallos flats, J.P. Todds' driving moccasins.

We are now in the era of contradictions. It is new to look old, cool to look like a geek. It may not make much sense to the older generation, but to us, well, it just fits.

Clothes are not as pretty as they were last year, but they do seem fresher and more modern. So invest in a polyester blouse in green and purple and hot pink. Buy a knee-length, A-line, double knit orange-striped skirt. Go wild, be daring. Believe me, there's nothing like bringing home that perfect, short-sleeved shirt in the dead of winter to make you feel like spring is just around the corner.

Security Guard

Continued from page 1

quested that the students submit personal anecdotes or positive experiences they had with Rachel, in hope of compiling a book to present to Rachel's family.

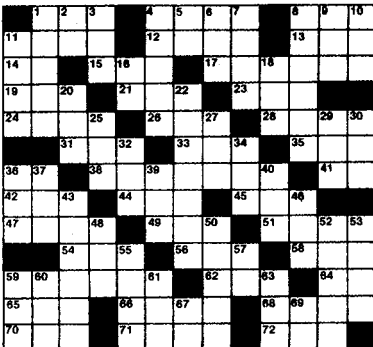
One student related that when a student from SCW got mugged, Rachel sensitively calmed her down as a mother would have done. Rachel also took care of all of the tedious police reports which needed to be filled out at the time.

"Ilana Cohen and I used to talk with Rachel all the time," said Zahava Kahan. SCW '98. Kahan and Cohen had been planning to take Rachel to the Empire State Building, which she had never been to, on the Monday after she died. "Rachel was one of our friends," Kahan said.

All of Rachel's co-workers were saddened by the unexpected loss. A security guard, who wished to remain anonymous, said, "She was always cracking jokes... She was nice to work with."

Since funeral services for Rachel were held on a Saturday morning, no one from SCW was able to attend.

Clued In



ACROSS

1. Partly rationed body of water
4. Father (slang)
8. Open (poetic)
11. Sawed
12. Paradise
13. Fish eggs
14. Sea god (Egyptian)
15. Tool container
17. Stay
19. Time zone (abbr.)
21. Complaint
22. Victory
24. Above
26. Allow
28. Marine preparation
31. Equal
33. At the present time
35. 7th Gr. letter
36. Spanish (abbr.)
38. Gold or silver
41. Extraterrestrial (abbr.)
42. Worm
44. Long-necked fish
45. Crab
47. Instead of
49. Sweet potato
51. Hindu discipline
54. Africa (abbr.)
56. Leaf (p.l.)
58. Woman
59. Flowering
62. One's best
64. Indefinite pronoun
65. Fixed charge
66. Small (slang)
68. Secrete
70. Now used
71. Door leading out
72. Unit

DOWN

1. Explode
2. Silver symbol
3. Bovine mammal
4. Flower part
5. Notice in newspaper (informal)
6. Each
7. Again
8. Fruit
9. Hawaiian food
10. Even (poetic)
11. Site
16. Not outside
18. Missing in action (abbr.)
20. Apex
22. Army tank
25. Girl's nickname
27. Rocks at top of hill
29. Unwed
30. Rodent
32. Provide with harness
34. Pale
36. Selected (abbr.)
37. 2nd Gr. letter
39. Negative vote
40. Put
43. Stamped
46. Swamp
48. Alien spaceship (abbr.)
50. Ears
52. Load
53. Bet
55. Italian city
57. Perform
59. Boat's stern
60. Stinging bug
61. Site
63. Interrogative pronoun
67. Nickel symbol

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Coming to America

Israeli Basketball Players Find Niche on UConn Team

By Rachel Hellman

Many SCW students spend their first year of college studying in Israel. But they may not be aware that an increasing number of Israeli college students come to the U.S. to study.

In recent years, several Israelis have come to the U.S. in order to play basketball while attending college. The program at the University of Connecticut (UConn) has benefitted the most from Israeli players. Nadav Henefeld and Doron Sheffer are the two most well-known Israeli UConn Huskies; Uri Cohen-Mintz is playing his first season for the Huskies; and lesser-known Gilad Katz also played for the team.

Henefeld had the job of selling himself to collegiate coaches. He began by writing letters to universities about his talents and included his recent statistics. Unfortunately, he didn't find interest from the coaches.

Nevertheless, Henefeld traveled to the U.S. to look at colleges, visiting St. John's and UConn. It was love at first sight with UConn. Jim Calhoun, UConn's coach, watched Henefeld play in the Maccabi games that summer and decided to offer him a scholarship for the 1989-90 season.

Henefeld made a tremendous impact on the team. He started nearly all the Huskies games during his rookie season. He helped them reach the elite eight in the NCAA tournament. The university was enveloped with Huskymania, in part due to Henefeld and the success he helped the team achieve. Thus began a love affair between a player and a community that was to end with a broken heart.

Originally, Henefeld planned on playing three years for the Huskies and earning a degree in business. Usually, college players have four years of play eligibility, but because Henefeld had served in the Israeli army and played for the Israeli national team, he only had three years remaining. During the summer following the 1989-90 school year, Henefeld came under intense pressure to return home. He was offered a contract from the Tel-Aviv professional

team, the most prestigious of Israeli professional teams. He accepted the offer and returned to Israel. After all the triumph he had helped bring UConn in his rookie season, he would not be back to lead the Huskies on the court again.

Sheffer, unlike Henefeld, had American college coaches visiting him in Israel. Sheffer, who competed in European tournaments as part of the Israeli national team, was rated one of the top guards in Europe. He also played for free for Galea Elyon, a professional club, while serving in the army. In fact, Sheffer led the team to its first title and was named M.V.P. in the process.

Sheffer and his father read information about each college basketball program and made a list of five possible schools. Then they came to America and took a first-hand look at the schools on their list. The list was narrowed down to two, Kentucky and UConn. In the end, UConn won out. During the 1993-94 basketball season, Sheffer began his collegiate career as a Husky.

One factor that influenced Sheffer's decision was the Israeli-UConn connection. UConn's players and its coach knew about Israel from Henefeld. Henefeld had already paved the way for Sheffer's arrival.

Sheffer, now a senior, is finishing his third season for the Huskies. He started all 35 games his first year at UConn. He led the team in steals and three-pointers. With stats like these, it is easy to see why he was chosen Big East Rookie of the Year.

While both Henefeld and Sheffer were achieving much success in America, the response in Israel was overwhelming. UConn games were broadcast live in Israel, which often meant they were shown at 2 a.m. Often the games were repeated during prime time hours for the benefit of those who did not rise in the middle of the night to watch the games.

Yediot Achronot, *Ma'ariv*, and other Israeli papers have columns about UConn. In fact, some of the Israeli papers applied to last year's Big East conference tournament in order to receive press credentials to cover

UConn in person.

Both Henefeld and Sheffer made a trip back to Israel during UConn's basketball season. When Sheffer returned to Israel, he was given a hero's welcome. The reason for their trip was to play for the Israeli national team in a European qualifying tournament. Clearly, neither had forgotten his homeland.

Both Henefeld and Sheffer dream of playing for the NBA. Henefeld spent last pre-season in the Boston Celtics rookie training camp. Unfortunately, he did not make the team. Most observers feel his early departure from UConn damaged his chances of making the NBA.

But Sheffer, finishing his last season for the Huskies, could still make it to the NBA. One thing is certain, there is an unofficial exchange program between American colleges and Israeli basketball players, and UConn is reaping the benefits.

Thanks to Katie Clark for sending articles and other materials about the Israeli players UConn has had over the past few years.

Four New Lady Macs

By Cheryl Younger

Four women have joined the Lady Macs basketball team this semester. They are Shani Feld, SCW '97; Karen Framin, SCW '99; Rachel Neugroschl, SCW '96; and Stella Greenberg, SCW '96. The new players were added in the hopes of improving the team's record.

This year, the Lady Macs have made a conscious attempt to foster teamwork to help their game. "This is one of the friendliest basketball teams I've ever been a part of," Neugroschl said. "I didn't feel at all uncomfortable joining the team in the middle of the semester." Greenberg, a former Lady Mac player, also expressed her enthusiasm about this year's team. "This year I am really enjoying playing for the Lady Macs," she said. "Everyone here is so friendly."

So far, the new arrivals seem to be an asset to the team. With the added energy, the Lady Macs won their first game.

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SCW SPORTS

Lady Macs Secure First 'W' of the Season

By Rachel Hellman and Marcie Schneider

On Sunday, February 4, the Lady Macs beat Maritime, 35-16, in their first victory of the season. They were led by high scorers Judith Kelsen, SCW '96, 10 points, and Michelle Lefkowitz, SCW '96, 6 points.

One of the highlights of the game was seeing the Lady Macs make two consecutive three pointers. With 9:15 left in the first half, Kelsen made the first three. On the subsequent offensive series, Stephanie Turetsky, SCW '99, connected for the second three.

Coach Steve Young was pleased with the Lady Macs' performance. "For the first time all year they took control of the game from the beginning. The passing was good, as well as their outside shooting and inside game," he said.

Assistant Coach Karen Green agreed, saying that the team is finally "coming together." Evidence of this is their offensive series when they pass inside and are able to score.

This first victory gave the team some much needed confidence. "Everyone is really motivated and enthusiastic for upcoming games," Kelsen said. The Lady Macs' newfound confidence helped them defeat the



Stephanie Turetsky at the foul line.

College of New Rochelle by a score of 45-43 two days later. The team was led by high scorers Stephanie Turetsky, SCW '99, 13 points, and Sharon Kaminetzky, SCW '96, 11 points.

Once again the Lady Macs set the pace from the start. Shana May, SCW '98, scored the first two baskets of the game.

Ultimately, it was the defense of the Lady Macs that won the game for them. With seven seconds remaining, New Rochelle had the ball and was down by two points. A New Rochelle player went up for a three-pointer which would have given them the victory. However, Kelsen stuffed her and preserved the victory.

Kelsen Hot, Lady Macs Not

By Rachel Hellman

On Thursday, January 25, the Lady Macs lost to St. Joseph's by a score of 60-50. The Lady Macs were led by high scorers Shana May, SCW '98, 16 points, and Judith Kelsen, SCW '96, 14 points.

However, the score does not tell the entire story. At the end of the first half, the Lady Macs were down by nine. They slowly came alive and narrowed the gap in the second half.

With seven minutes left to play, the team was down by one basket, 47-45. Captain Judith Kelsen, had a lot to do with narrowing the margin. She made two key blocks and was on fire from the floor, making numerous jump shots. "Judith played unbelievably. She was hitting all of her shots," said Coach Steve Young.

But as was evident in the closing minutes of the game, the team is young and lacks experience. The guards had trouble bringing up the ball and this resulted in some key turnovers. Also, the team had trouble making foul shots. The Lady Macs shot 8 of 21 from the line. Two minutes later, with five minutes left, the gap had widened and the team was down by eight.

Another problem was the lack of fan support. "It's hard to play at home and have the visiting team have more fans than us," said Sharon Kaminetzky, SCW '96. Many Stern students find it inconvenient to travel to Queens to watch the Lady Macs play on their home court. It is harder still on the players themselves who, as a result of having their home court in another borough, practice in the city to save travel time.

But the team continues to improve. "The team is coming together and is able to play as a unit," said Chana Holczer, SCW '96.

Lady Macs' Winning Streak Halted At 2

By Rachel Hellman

On Wednesday, February 7, the Lady Macs lost to Brooklyn College by a score of 57-50. The team was led by high scorers Shana May, SCW '98, 16 points, and Stephanie Turetsky, SCW '99, 15 points.

The Lady Macs started out strong. They scored on the first two possessions. Both times they worked the ball into the middle, which produced easy baskets for May.

The main obstacle for the team was the fast pace Brooklyn seemed to favor. They

ran the break and scored many points off of it. The first half ended with the Lady Macs trailing by 19.

The Lady Macs turned things around in the second half. Once again, they came on strong and scored the first two baskets of the half. The Lady Macs went on an 8-2 run which moved them to within 13 points.

Halfway through the second half, the Lady Macs were down by only 6 points, as a result of their teamwork. They are comfortable passing to each other and working to-

gether to find the open player.

Judith Kelsen, SCW '96, made a few key jump shots. The gap was narrowed to a 44-40 Brooklyn advantage with 9:16 left in regulation.

Unfortunately, the Lady Macs could not escape with a victory. Their valiant second-half effort was like a shot that rolled around the rim of the basket only to fall out at the last moment.

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