TheObserver

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YU delegates to Yale Model Knesset in between sessions.

Students Debate and Legislate at Yale Model Knesset

By Sharona Cohen

In an effort to sensitize students to Knesset procedure and give them an opportunity to network with other politically inclined students from across the country. 28 YU students, 10 of them from SCW, attended the third annual Yale University Model Israeli Knesset.

The simulated Knesset allowed students to experience firsthand the actual trials and tribulations encountered by the real Knesset. Each student was assigned a party and committee in which debate took place. In addition, selected students were given Ministry positions. YU held the majority of these with three SCW and four YC positions. SCW heid positions in the Ministries of the Advancement of Women, Environment, and Labor and Welfare.

At the opening ceremony YMIK delegates were addressed by Gad Yacobi, Israeli Ambassador to the United Nations. Students Continued on page 4

Theft Strikes SCW

By Miriam BenEzr

At the beginning of the school year, incoming students attended many orientation workshops which dealt with various topics such as time allotment, career opportunities and personal security. The security workshop taught students the proper way to interact with people outside on the streets of Manhattan and also explained the importance of security even inside the school buildings. The workshop leaders strongly encouraged students to keep their empty dorm rooms locked at all times.

In a school where the beit midrash door is left unlocked as long as the school building is open, the students of SCW found it hard to remember the necessity of locking their doors in a building full of Jewish people. Most people found it hard to believe that theft could occur at all.

All that may change since a rash of thefts has struck the SCW campus. A brand new leather brief-case was stolen recently from the unlocked office of Betty Gordon, a computer supervisor at SCW, while she was teaching a class right next door.

"A new lock was placed on my

door and I was folio to keep injo de friee door focked, but I 'm back and forth from my office and the classrooms all day," Gordon said. "I'd his day I can't understand how someone could just take my briefcase full of work papers right off my chair." Gordon also reports disks being constantly stolen from the computer rooms.

Three weeks ago on a Monday morning. Laurie Gewirtz, SCW '98, a Brookdale Hall resident, returned from a weekend away and found a space on her desk where her phone used to be. At first she did not believe that a theft had occurred, but eventually she went down to the lobby where a security guard filed a police report.

Her roommates said the theft had probably happened on a Sunday night while they were visiting friends in other rooms. The door was left unlocked because they had only expected to be gone for a short while, but the thief had complete access to the room.

"After my roommates and I heard about that theft, we started

double locking our doors," said Elana Siderer, SCW '98. "I never thought in my wildest dreams that I would have to be doing this in a Jewish college. It's really very said."

Unfortunately, not even locks deep round of the therves who have been faunting SCW. During the winter intercession, a camcorder disappeared from a locked library-closet. Both the Research Wing and the Circulation Desk of the Hedi Steinberg Library were open, but because the closet door had a lock on it and was closed to the public, no one thought to check on the camcorder on a regular basis.

"I'm very disturbed about the

theft," said SCW Head Librarian Edith Lubetski "The camcorder definitely was on the premises before vacation began. We're taking extra precautions so that it won't happen again." Now, there is an additional lock on the door to the closet and the VCR is chained to library shelving. "We hope that security will find the source of this theft and eliminate it," she said.

Lecture Raises Breast Cancer Awareness

By Laurie Gewirtz

Alpha Epsilon Delta, SCW's pre-med and pre-dentistry student club, sponsored a recent lecture aimed at increasing students' awareness of breast cancer and the importance of breast self-examination (BSE) on a regular monthly basis. Over 40,000 women die of breast cancer every year in the United States, and it ranks as the most common cancer among women and the most common cause of death among women ages 35 to 55.

Golda Fried, a registered nurse who regularly conducts seminars on breast cancer awareness, and Joan Schuster, a breast cancer survivor, addressed the approximately 30 students in attendance.

The specific causes of breast cancer are not known, but it appears to be a disease that depends on an interrelationship among a number of factors, such as age, genetics, diet, hormonal balance drugs and radiation. Until there is a cure for breast cancer, the greatest hope for its containment is awareness, early detection, diagnosis and treatment.

Fried said that what she found in common among all the students was the fear associated with breast cancer. "The fear of having it, which leads to examination anxiety and often becomes a stumbling block for early detection," she said. Women need to be reassured that if they do have a problem, and it is detected at an early stage, treatment can be life-saving. The vast majority of women who are tested, at least nine out of 10, will end up with the comforting knowledge that all is fine.

Fried strongly encouraged every woman in the room to perform breast self-examinations once a month, and she handed out pamphlets to give to mothers, sisters and friends. About 90 percent of breast cancer symptoms are discovered by women themselves, and Fried stressed that the college years are the perfect time to start performing self-exams. Through a short video and by slowly and carefully explaining the procedure step by step, she informed the students on how BSEs should be performed. She also explained how to recognize abnormalities or changes which should be followed up by further examination.

"Breast cancer is an important disease for people to be aware of," said AED President Elana Milstein, SCW '97. "It's a phobia, something that's not spoken about."

The second half of the evening consisted of a presentation by Schuster, a breast cancer survivor who recounted her personal experiences. She discovered the cancer during a monthly BSE. She caught the cancer in its early stages, and was able to begin chemotherapy and radiation treatment almost immediately afterward. Schuster spoke to the students about her initial feelings of shock, helplessness and pessimism after her diagnosis.

and pessimism an enter usaginosis. Shuster is living proof that performing BSEs on a regular basis can be life-saving. She has made many public appearances, speaking about her personal ordeal with breast cancer in order to increase the practice of BSEs. Genetically, the odds were against her, because she had close relatives who died from breast cancer at an early age.

Even though the turnout wasn't overwhelming, Students who attended appreciated the lectures, which ended with a long question and answer session.

To obtain more information or BSE pamphlets, please see Elana Milstein.

Party Time with Adopt-a-Bubby Chagiga... Zaidies, Too!

By Susan Jacobs

It could have been 1936 in a shul on the Lower East Side, or 1896 in a small European shtetl. The sound of "Haveinu Shalom Aleichem" reverberating in the laughing, dancing crowd. The mournful tune of a viola, evoking memories from a Jewish past, both uncient and modern. If an observer had closed her eyes, she could easily forget that the music and dancing were taking place in an SCW classroom in 1996.

During Club Hour on Wednesday, February 28, 15 senior citizens from Project Ezra, an organization on the Lower East Side came to SCW for a Purim chagiga sponsored by TAC's Adopt-a-Bubby club.

Many elderly Jews on the Lower East Side of Manhattan, which was once the center of Jew-ish life in New York, today find themselves isolated. Project Ezra strying to build - or revitalize - a community among these Jews. Project Ezra provides its members with housekeeping and personal care services and organizes group get-togethers so the seniors can meet each other.

For years, SCW students have been volunteering for Project Ezra, and a few years ago. Continued on page 5





The Added Pain of Inaction

When I heard that a bomb had exploded on a bus in Jerusalem Sunday, February 25, killing 25 people, I felt a stab of pain for a moment, then continued on my way. Why did I let it pass over me as if it were nothing? Why did I not delve into that jolt and allow it to burst forth into a more profound loss?

When Rabin was assassinated. I searched for a path to lead me to action. None magically appeared - no guardian angel approached to rell me what to do. Left with a pain cutting deep inside of me. I turned off the feeling, pretended everything was fine and moved on.

Thus, I've done nothing. And would have continued on this path of denial were it not for that person who heard about the February 25th bombing and cried.

I saw my friend cry, and I realized that by closing myself off to pain I was not effectively resolving my irking sense of confusion and disbelief.

How could I shut myself off to the angush of the Jewish people?

But the question which I had faced on the day of Rabin's death greeted me once again. How do I cry for hopelessness? If I let myself start crying when I can do nothing, when I have no direction, no course of action to make it okay, then how will I ever stop?

l, like so many others, still feel paralyzed. But, we can not deny our pain.

We need to channel our anger, frustra tion, and rage into action.

COURSE

So what do we do when fellow Jews are killed? Saying Tehillim is an appropriate response, but I don't want to stop there. I can't go to the beit midrash the day after the bombing, say Tehillim, and then take no further action.

What have I done in the past? Joined with others to learn and listened to speakers. Sure, that works for the few weeks of learning and the night of commemoration, but what do we do the next day? Do we forget because it's too painful to hold onto those thoughts without being able to do anything about them? Do we become apathetic and stagnant?

How do we keep Israel, every bomb that explodes, every person who is killed on our minds, when no action seems appropriate and the pain is too wretched to bear?

I want to do something definitive. I don't want to let it slide by anymore. I don't want to continue the conversation which the news just interrupted, continue my work, and move on with my life.

Isn't there a meaningful action to be taken in this situation?

I am writing this without any concluding words of wisdom. I have no prescription; have no advice. I do know that feeling nothing is not the right answer; curling up into our own shells only creates more pain. I am writing this to reach out to all of you in recognition that each of us must stop waiting for our guardian angel to direct us. Even as each one of us chooses her own expression of anguish, the effort must be joined.

INSTRUCTOR SCHNATTER W

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SUMMER SESSIONS

CREDIT HOUR & DAY

SUMMER SESSION 1 - (MAY 28, JULY 2, 1996)

i CHE	1045L	General Chemistry Lao I.	4	1:00- 3:00 MEDID-M-60	GOKOMITY'O:
	1031R	Intro Physics Lec. I	4	9:00-12:00 Mon-Th	CWILICH,G.
}				1:00- 1:50 Mos-Th	
PHY	1031L	Intro Physics Lab I ^a	1	2:00- 4:00 Mon-Wed	SIBGFRIED,B.
				1	May 28, - June 27, 1996
BUB	4201	Texts of Destruction	2	1:20- 3:00 Mon-Wed	BERNSTEIN, M.
		& Redemption*			CARMY, S.
BCO	1221	Money & Banking	3	1:00- 3:15 Mon-Th	MARKOWITZ,A.
					May 28 - June 26, 19%
ACC	1002	Prin. of Accounting II	3	9:30-12:10 Mon-Th	SNOW, C.
INF	1020	Management Info. System		1:00- 3:40 Mon-Th	ZAKHEIM,C.
MAN	1020	Principles of Managemen	t 3	9:30-12:10 Mon-Th	GROSSMAN,R.
		ESSION II	COMPAN		GUST 8, 1996
DE		URSE	CREDIT		INSTRUCTOR
	1046R	General Chemistry Lec. 1	П 3	9:00-12:00 Mon-Th	SCHNATTER, W.
CHE		General Chemistry Lab I	1 2	1:00- 5:00 Mon-Wed	HOROWITZ,G.
PETY	1032R	General Physics Lec. II	4	9:00-12:00 Mon-Th	CWILICH,G.
No.	10001	Occurs Manager Lab III		1:00- 1:50 Mon-Th	omorphum n
PHY	1032L	General Physics Lab II	1	2:00- 4:00 Mon-Wed	SIEGFRIED, B.
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OPINCE OF THE DEAN			OFFICE OF THE	DEAN	OFFICE OF THE DEAN



Wanted: More Payphones

Between classes, during club hour, and all day long, exasperated students are asking: Is there a phone in the house? The phone squeeze in the SCW school building - a daily educational center for over 900 SCW, Azrieli and Wurzweiler students, plus faculty and visitors - has prompted complaints about the insufficient number of payphones. Payphones currently available for use include two in the lobby, and one on each of the fourth, sixth and eighth floors. Yes, folks, you added correctly: That's 5 phones.

There's plenty of room on the third, fifth and ninth floors for additional pay phones. At one time, there were more phones in the school, but the phone company removed them for insufficient usage. The school has grown by leaps and bounds since then, and

clearly there is more than enough potential business for two or three new phones. Students often need privacy when making their calls, and it would be helpful if some new glass-enclosed phone booths would be installed. There is now only one phone booth in the school building, located on the 8th floor. Most of the day, a line of up to five students can be found standing outside, alternating their glances from their watches to the student inside the phone booth.

NYNEX requires approximately 200 phone calls per day to make installation and up-keep of a pay phone worthwhile. With Azrieli and Wurzweiler students abounding in the evening and the abundance of SCW students, faculty and visitors all day long, two new phones will certainly fulfill that requirement.

The administration has been generally amenable to the idea. But if there could be any doubts as to the merits of installing additional payphones, the rewards of a calmer student body should be enough to twist their arms. And, as an added incentive, NYNEX would give SCW a commission of their profits from the phones. Plus, the phone company would install and maintain the phones free of charge.

The issue is expected to be presented by the Student Life Committee in the near future, and this crazed phone search will hopefully be at least somewhat abated, if not completely solved. Until then, keep bringing your reading material when you go to make that important phone call - you'll need something to do while you wait on line.



Leis Steal the Show at TAC Purim Chagiga

By Andrea Snyder and Mira Hochberg

The annual TAC Purim chagiga took place in Koch Auditorium early this year, on the heels of Rosh Chodesh Adar. On Wednesday, February 21, students sang and danced while enjoying music and refreshments. Many sported hats, ribbons and leis of many colors. Each student was greeted at the door with a plastic lei, courtesy of TAC. Koch Auditorium was also dressed for the occasion in festive Purim masks and colorful helium balloons. Guest appearances were made by cowboys, Indians, a church lady and clowns of all shapes and sizes.



Daphna Fishman, SCW '97, poses with that familiar-looking clown.

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There was even a clown walking around who bore an uncanny resemblance to Assistant Dean of Students Zelda Braun.

Various costumes, hats and masks were donated for use at the chagiga by Professor Joseph Danto.

Tova Kaplan, SCW '97, who dressed up as a "weird lady," thought that the chaoion came at a great

time. "School is so tense, we needed a party," she said.

The entertainment came after a lively fixed tance set. A performance by SCW's inshouse a cappella group, The Belles, made this year's chagiga different from chagigas past. Other students exhibited their talents in gymnastics and rope-jumping. The evening's d'var Torah was given by TAC Vice President for Publicity. Tami Finkelstein, SCW '97. The evening concluded with another dance set.

TAC Vice President Emily Amie Witty, SCW '96, said that many people were re-

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SCW students sporting leis.

sponsible for making the *chagiga* happen. "It takes a lot of people to put together an event like this," Witty said. "It is all about working together."

This year's chagiga was held a week earlier than last year's for logistic reasons. "Stern was going to hold their own gala chagiga, and the SCW women were going to run the show," said TAC President Rena May, SCW '96, "but since Purim falls out near a weekend this year, and many students [were planning to] return home, we decided to save the SCW Purim night chagiga for another year."

Siamese Twins Separated as SCW Students Look On

By Courtney Marks

On Monday, February 19, SCW students were given the opportunity to view a video of an operation separating Stamese twins.

Sponsored by lab technician Susan Price, the recording was part of a series of videos concerning medical issues. "In an attempt to prevent the biology students from losing touch with the beauty and the essence of biology due to the many stresses they are undergoing, these videos will hopefully remind them of what it is they are working so hard for." Price said.

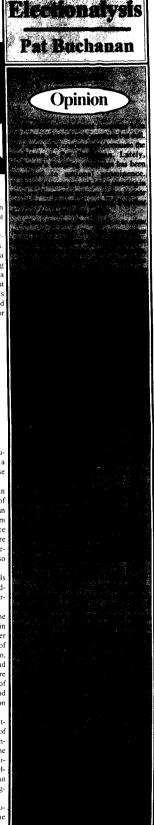
In the video, three-year-old twin girls Dau and Dwen shared a leg, kidney, bladder and pelvis. After over 14 hours of surgery, they were successfully separated.

A main focus in the movie was the mynad of ethical dilemmas that surface in such surgeries, such as whether the weaker twin should be sacrificed to save the life of the stronger. Dwen, the stronger of the two, was elected to be given the shared leg and the larger portion of the organs which were divided. Dau, having a smaller chance of survival, also came through the surgery, and after several days of intensive care was on the road to recovery.

In addition to showing the surgery itself, the video discussed the aftermath of the separation. The twins displayed an immediate reaction after discovering for the first time in their lives that they were individuals. They initially exhibited hostile feelings toward each other, but after being put in the same bed, they "rejoined" by hugging.

ging.
"It was interesting to see both the biological and psychological effects of the separation of Siamese twins," said Michelle Segall, SCW '97.

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As Some SCW Students Already Know, Kiruv Opportunities Abound

By Susan Kirshne

Array, bringing Jews closer to Judaism, is a popular activity among SCW students. Throughout the year, myriad fluorescent signs can be seen in the elevators or on bulletin boards, notifying students about the many Array opportunities available on and off, cammis

FAC sponsors the Kesher Club, the Russian Club and the Russian Carnival. Kesher Club President Michal Rothblat, SCW '97, said that the purpose of the club is "to allow for the socialization of foreign students and American students. Unfortunately, there is an unnecessary barrier between the two groups." Events are held during the year to try to remedy this problem. The club is now planning a Shabbaton with the Lubavitch Chasidim in Crown Heights. Recently, the Kesher Club and the Russian Club launched a joint publication called Kesher L'Gesher, which translates divrei Torah into Russian. The Russian Club was designed to "keep our Russian roots," said Anna Levin, SCW '97

VP of Academic Affairs Comes to SCW

By Racheli Felsman

Students and faculty members were given the opportunity to meet with Dr. William Schwartz, YU's Vice President of Academic Affairs, during Club Hour on Wednesday, February 28.

Schwartz said the informal meeting was called to enable him to "hear the concerns of students." The gathering was open to all students, although certain student leaders received special invitation by mail.

Schwartz discussed some of the current special academic programs and discussed plans for next year, which include guest fecturers in economics, environmentalism and biology, as well as the Authors in Residence Program scheduled for next semester.

Both students and faculty were given the opportunity to ask questions and make suggestions. "I don't know of an institution that is more responsive." Schwartz said of YU. "Students should feel free to articulate concerns. We will respond to accommodate the interests of students."

Model Knesset

Continued from page 1

then began debate at the first plenary session followed by six other sessions of committee and plenary meetings held throughout the weekend. The delegates played the role appropriate for their parties, which included not just sitting with other MKs of similar ideology, but at times screaming at other delegates, banging on tables and attempting to stage a no-confidence cote.

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

The focal point of YMIK '96 took place on Shabbat when YU enhanced the atmosphere by singing z miror and sitting together with Jewish students from all different backgrounds. The conference concluded with the singing of Hatikvah and an award ceremony.

The YU delegation did not win any

She explained how the two clubs complement each other. "The club helps us keep a connection with other Russian students. The Kesher club helps us integrate into American mentality and culture." For example, the Russian Club—sponsored a bus tour around New York City to help students learn the city streets and see its—historical and cultural spofits.

Another popular program which takes place twice a year is Torah Tours. Students travel all around the United States hoping to bring life to shuls that are no longer thriving with congregants. Meredith Gaisin, SCW [97], described her Torah Tours Simehat Torah in White Plains as "an amazing experience." she said. "The community we went to was hospitable, open and glad to host us. I think just having six enthusiastic college students among them for the chag made a difference. I think I can speak for my whole group when I say that our Simchat Torah this year was a very meaningful experience." Torah Tours runs programs on Simchat Torah and Shayuri.

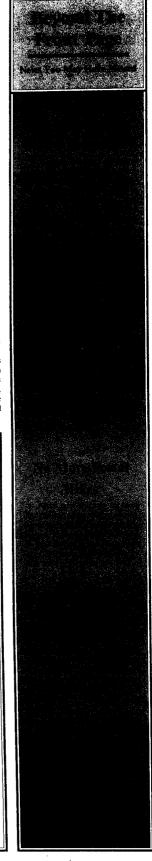
Kiruy work does not stop when the school year ends. YUSSR, a popular out-reach program among YU students, runs two camps - one in Minsk and one in Simferople. Dina Maslow, SCW '96, participated in this program last summer. "I spent the summer '95 in the Minsk camp," she said. "It was one of the greatest experiences of my life." Follow-up work for Maslow included the Russian Club's Chanukah and Purim carnivals.

People become involved in kiruv for many reasons. One motivating factor is the

satisfaction achieved from helping others to feel that they belong. Explicating topics and customs in Judaip in is one way to accomplish this goal. "I've never before felt as fulfilled as I was when I was teaching these kids, and showing them the beauty of Judaism." Maslow said.

The National Conference of Synagogye Youth, more commonly known as NCSY, is perhaps the most active kirav group on the East Coast. There are numerous regions in the New York/New Jersey area. "I like instilling a feeling of Judaism in the participants," said Zahava Kahan, SCW '98. "It is very important in today's society that children are aware and proud of their religion." These Shabbatonim typically start on Friday, and an activity-packed weekend continues through Sunday.

Bnei Akiva has become a worldwide name among Jews of all ages. To die-hard Bnei Akiva followers, membership starts in elementary school as a chanich, and continues on through a madrich. The motto of the organization is Torah, Avodah, V'Aliya. In addition to educating others about Judaism, an equal emphasis is placed on Israel and the importance of having a Jewish state. Activities for younger members include Shabbatonim, ice skating and pizza parties, Summer is when Bnei Akiva activity is at its peak. Members have their choice of which Machane Moshava to attend. Campgrounds are located in Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, California, and Canada, and campers are treated to a summer of sports, learning and friendship



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Adopt-a-Bubby (and Zaidy) Purim Chagiga

SCW graduate Tammy Steinmetz realized that her "Bubby," Fanny Shreiber, and other bubbies and zaidies might like to visit SCW According to Jayne Skoff, co-director of Project Ezra, that is how the current Adopta-Bubby club formed. Currently, several SCW students frequent the Lower East Side every two weeks, and the seniors make the trip to SCW twice a year for chagigot at Chanukah and Purim. According to Skoff, There is a natural connection here. We're only about 30 blocks away."

For this year's chagiga, Tova Kaplan, SCW '96, played viola and Kari Rybak, SCW '96, accompanied her on the piano, playing a medley of songs. SCW students led circle dances with the bubbies, and a few fun-loving zaidies managed to make their way into the center of the circle. Students were surprised by the vitality of the elderly women as they took turns dancing with students and vying for attention.

After dancing with the bubbies, Tehilla Wohlgelernter, SCW '99, said the event was "very special. One lady told me that this is the best time she's had in 50 years."

Dozens of SCW students dropped by during the event to shmooze with the Bubbies and Zaidies, enjoy the music and dancing and sample the hamentashen. This year's Chanukah chagiga was canceled because of a snowstorm, so the Purim event was the first opportunity in a year for the seniors to visit SCW.

Kari Rybak, Tova Kaplan and Ilana Bruger are the Adopt-a-Bubby coordinators. Kari Rybak, SCW' 96, had the pleasure of celebrating the chagiga with her own grandmother. "I thank Stern College and my granddaughter for doing this," Rose Rybak said. "We're all very happy." Her granddaughter agreed. "I think it's beautiful. Every year it's more beautiful. It's nice to see new faces and also to see the same faces again over the years," she said.

After the music and dancing, Goldy Kaplan, SCW '98, delivered a d'var Torah about Purim. Milton Greif, one of the zaidies, then stole the spotlight with a medley of nursery rhymes translated into Yiddish.



Sharon Kaminetsky, SCW '96, introduces herself to bubby Evelyn Siegal.

Starting with The Old Woman Who Lived in a Shoe and including an excerpt from the Gettysburg Address, he had the crowd roaring with laughter. SCW students are "out of this world," Greif said.

While the chagiga was just a pleasant event for some, for others it evoked memories and deep emotions. Lillian Greenbaum remembered her youth on the Lower East Side. One Purim, when she was six or seven years old, she remembers being chosen by the rebbetzin of her shul to be Oucen Esther in a Purim shpiel. "I felt important," she said. "All the parents came." Greenbaum also recounted her struggles to remain an observant Jew while working to support a family. "I worked, but I left at one o'clock on Fridays." she recalled proudly. Greenbaum still maintains her Jewish observance.

Goldie Brown was deeply moved by her visit to SCW. "It seems like we're worlds away from New York City. [It's wonderful] to see wholesome girls so involved in creating a holiday spirit for seniors who are greeted with unpleasant sights whenever they go out," Brown said. "It's really very inspiring to be in this environment."

Catering our specialty

Midtown Bd of Kashrutt

Shatnez Testing A Rare Mitzvah in Brookdale Hall



A volunteer checking for shatnez.

By Elisheva Wohlgemuth

The Blue Lounge of Brookdale Hall recently served yet another function for the students of SCW. Shatnez testing of all garments was done on the spot by two yeshiva students from Brooklyn. The testing was done as the result of complaints voiced to one of the students' family members. SCW students did not want to have to make the trip to Brooklyn to get their clothes tested. "Since it is a very simple procedure and we conduct tests anyway, we thought we would help out," one of the volunteers said.

Some students were disappointed that the testing was conducted on only one day for a short three-hour period, but most appreciated the service. "I know in Chicago, where I live, you have to leave your items overnight," said Leslie Ginsparg, SCW '98. "and this was both fast and convenient. They should do it more often."

The yeshiva students found only one garment that contained shatnez, a mixture of wool and linen forbidden by the Torah.

A minimal fee was collected for the procedure, but all proceeds went to tzedakah.

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FYI.

A Jewish Storytelling Celebration: Journey to Jerusalem

On Sunday, May 5, Stern College ill host the fourth Jewish Storytelling Celebration. The plans for the festival, hich will focus on Jerusalem, include keynote speakers, a program of Jerusalem experience stories told by SCW students. s 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 writen typed 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 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 trancribe or just write them down. Then send copies to Professor Schram no later than Wednesday, March 29.

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

Menorahs in April

Rite Lite Ltd./ Rosenthal Judaica Collection is sponsoring a Menorah Deign Contest. Winning entries will be produced by Rite Lite Ltd., a leading Judaica manufacturer, and a prize of \$250 will be awarded. More than one prize may be warded

The design style can be modern, traditional or playful. The medium of the menorah must be specified, i.e., metal, glass, ceramic or wood. All drawings (two-dimensional), must be submitted on a standard 8 1/2 x 11 paper. Limit three ntries per person

For more details, call (718) 439-6900, and ask for Sarah. Applications may be picked up at Professor Gardner's of-

All contest drawings must be submited to Professor Gardner. The contes eadline is April 18, 1996.

Review

Steel Magnolias, Stellar Performances

By Suzanne Baran

Sweel Magnolias was the first SCDS production I had ever attended, and I was skeptical. I had seen the movie not too long ago, and I did not believe that SCW students could personify upper and lower class Southern women of varied personalities and occupations. But on the stage of Koch Auditorium, Truvy, Ms. Clairce, M'Lynn, Shelby, Annelle and Ouiser were played as if by Dolly Parton, Olympia Dukakis, Sally Field, Julia Roberts, Darryl Hannah and Shirley McClaine themselves.

Steel Magnolias, written by Robert Harling, is about six Southern women who frequent a local beauty salon and develop great friendships over the years. Each of the women changes in small but profound ways, as an impenetrable bond forms between them. These female characters themselves constitute the humor, suspense, drama and tragedy of the play. Their roles are diverse, yet they mesh together beautifully and flawlessly on stage.

All of the actresses in the SCDS production worked long, hard hours and made their acting seem unconstrained and effortless. Avital Amini was Dolly Parton in every way but her brown hair; Sabina Krich flawlessly captured the character of M'Lynn through Sally Field's genteel gestures and poise; Ilana Adler's performance made me feel as though she were going through the very turmoil that M' Lynn's daughter Shelby, played by Julia Roberts, had suffered; Dina Bogner was a dynamic and vivacious Ouiser no one could have played the part better; Annelle, played by Rachel Galitzer, was the character who undergoes the most change

Joseph **Cancelled Due** to Lack of Time

By Elisheva Wohlgemuth

The Stern College Dramatic Society's scheduled spring play of "Joseph and the Technicolor Dreamcoat" was cancelled said Aliza Rabin SCW'96, President of SCDS, "due to lack of preparation time." Some members of the cast are disappointed, especially the seniors who will not have another opportunity like this again. Dina Maslow, SCW '96, vice president of SCDS said, "Not only was this my final responsibility as vice president, but it was my last chance to perform, which is something I love to do. I will really miss the camaraderie and fun we have when putting a show together.

Last semester's scheduled performance of "Steel Magnolias" was pushed to the beginning of this semester, said Aliza Rabin, SCW '96, "due to circumstances that arose like cast changes. It was the earliest time we could do it." Rumors surfaced that the delayed performance was due to copyright laws regarding the play's rights, however Rabin said, "The rights didn't play a role, other factors did." According to Maslow who said, 'although 'Steel Magnolias' was a success, we are sorry that the musical suffered because of the delay."

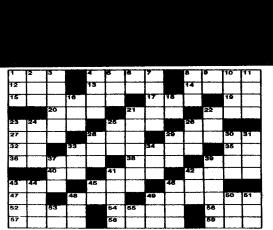


(L to R): Rachel Galitzer, Avital Amini Bottom row (L to R): Dina Bogner, Emily Witty, Sabina Krich, Ilana Adler

over the course of the story, and Rachel adapted to the metamorphosis of her character with ease; finally, Emily Witty lived up to her last name in her droll and impeccable incarnation as Ms. Clairee.

The audience's laughter was continuous, and I even saw some tears falling. But the performances were not the only highlights worth mentioning about the play. Each character's costumes were suited to her personality, and the set was impressively constructed - it really felt like a 70s beauty salon. The props enhanced the retro atmosphere of the play. I especially enjoyed hearing the voice of the disk jockey from the local

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SCW Senior Gets an Inside Look at the White House

By Bracha Rutner

Internships are a popular way for college students to gain experience and establish connections in their fields of interest. Sharona Cohen, SCW '96, benefitted from a unique internship opportunity. Cohen spent the fall semester working for Lorrie McHugh, director of Media Affairs at the White House. Cohen's responsibilities were numerous and varied, ranging from compiling weekly budget outreach reports to transcribing radio actualities (sound bites) from the Presidential Radio Address on Tobacco. Through these duties Cohen had the occasion to meet different staff members with diverse backgrounds. "It was an excellent networking opportunity," she said.

Cohen worked full, twelve-hour days while in Washington. She was part of a structured internship program which included a weekly lecture series featuring various White House staff members. The interns did not feel that the experience consisted only of work. Organized tours around Washington to the FBI and other sites of interest were included in the program. In addition, there was an intern hotline to let the students know about upcoming social events and dis-

Cohen plans to pursue a career in politics, and eventually run for office. Considering these aspirations, she felt her time in Washington really helped her gain appropriate experience. "It provided me with practical political knowledge," Cohen said. She



learned how to function in a political environment and deal with political figures

Living in the nation's capital during the government shutdown brought on by the budget deadlock strongly impacted Cohen's understanding of government. Cohen described the day when "a White House staff member came in and told everyone to erase their messages, shut off the computers and go home because the government was closing down." It struck her profoundly that the U.S. government, such a strong entity, could simply shut down. But Cohen said mostly what she saw was government at work. "I was honored to assist in the preservation of the White House tradition in various capacities," said Cohen.

SCW Student Honored in Science Competition

By Alison Farbman and Susan Jacobs

This year, an SCW student had the distinguished honor of being a winner in the Congress of the American Association for the Advancement of Science Annual Student Poster Award Competition. Lauren Insel, SCW '96, entered the competition by presenting research she conducted last summer. Competing against other undergraduate and graduate students, she tied for third place in the competition.

Insel saw an announcement about the competition in the Association's Journal, Science, and decided to present information she had collected over the summer as a Roth Scholar at Albert Einstein Medical School, Insel, whose research at AECOM focused on breast cancer, was uncertain about her prospects. "I thought they'd reject my abstract but Dr. [Harvey] Babich [SCW Biology professor] helped me a lot," she said. "He encouraged me to apply, and was fantastic support. He took the time out of his busy schedule to review my data.

Insel is a pre-health major with a minor in biology. She hopes to attend medical school and concentrate on research. "Since I was ten years old I always wanted to go to medical school. I would walk into hospitals and want to be there serving as a doctor. she said.

As a Roth scholar, Insel studied the growth of breast cancer cells to try to determine why breast cancer spreads so rapidly. She found out about the competition last October, and in December she began compiling her information with the help of Babich and her uncle. She then submitted her abstract for entry in the competition, and succeeded through a very selective screening process to be officially admitted.

Over a period of several weeks, including many late nights, she completed the

Steel Continued from page 8 Magnolias

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radio station. However, the radio in the salon was the nicest touch of all. It was this radio which Shelby frequently turned on to listen to music. The radio came to symbolize the profound effect Shelby's death had had on the characters by the conclusion of the play, when M'Lynn repeatedly tried to hit the radio so it would play music again.

Sabina Krich's monologue about Shelby's death was the most touching moment of the play. The audience was absolutely riveted because she did not overact.

Rachel Milner, SCW '98, spoke from experience, saying, "My mother is Southern and it takes a lot for accents to convince me: some of them were pretty authentic

In Krich's monologue as M'Lynn, she remarked, "Men are supposed to be made of steel or something." Judging from their performances, the cast members of Steel Magnolias are, like the characters they portrayed. "made of steel."

tables and diagrams for her display, which measured eight feet by four feet "I can't count the hours of work I put into this project or the hours of the people who helped me," Insel said.

After her weeks of preparation, Insel headed to the competition which ran from February 9 to 11. There were 23 participants. only nine of whom were undergraduates. Insel's opponents were from schools around the United States, and there was one participant from London. "My competition intimidated me very much," she said. "I was up against men and women from Yale, Johns Hopkins and Virginia Tech." Despite being opponents, the contestants were friendly "One student from Teikvo University made me feel so comfortable. After each judge would come by, we'd compare questions to prepare each other for the judges.

The competition gave Insel the rare opportunity to share ideas with renowned doctors, "All these doctors were discussing this research with me as a colleague. It was an incredible experience to have an opportunity to present research at a national conference where there were Ph.D.s discussing my research," she said.

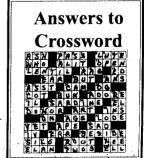
Insel is proud of her third-place honor (which really placed her first among the undergraduates), but she is most grateful for the experience of the conference. "The entire conference was exhilarating. [It] was where all the major players from the research world were presenting their work. It was an incredible honor to be there.

Insel believes the experience has belned further her research skills and her ability to compete and present on a professional level. "That is nothing you can learn in a classroom," she said

Lady Macs

steals were converted into layups and two others resulted in foul shots.

The play that epitomized Wainberg's personality was the steal she made with 15 seconds left. The Lady Macs were up by 12. They didn't need to score any more points. Nonetheless, Wainberg still went after the ball as if the game were on the line. To her, the game isn't over until she hears the final



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Lady Macs Win in Opening Round Of IACT

By Rachel Hellman

On Thursday, February 22, the Lady Macs beat Maritime in the opening round of the LAC fournament by the score of 47-35. This is the first time in school history that the Lady Macs have won a game in tournament play. The team was led by high scorers. Sherfa, Wainberg, SCW '98, and Stephanie Turetsky, SCW '99, both with L3 points.

The game started off with location problems. Upon arrival at Wang High School, the team learned of a leak in the ceiling. The refs and coaches of both teams believed it was unsafe to play there, so the game was moved to Maritime.

For the opening 5:60 of the game no one second. However, when the first basket of the game was made. Maritime broke the scoreless affair. Unfortunately for the Lady Maes, their shots just weren't falling. With 11:34 left, Shana May, SCW '98, scored on a rebound from a teammate's missed shot.

Ultimately, it was the play of one person in particular who ignited the team offensively. Halfway through the first half, guard Sheila Wainberg entered the game. She used her speed to go coast-to-coast and score easy layups. After an early lead by Maritime, the half ended with the score tied at 15.

A large group of Maritime fans were impressed with Wainberg's play. They began cheering for Number Ten (Wainberg's number) whenever she was on the court. Eventually, they asked the Lady Macs' fans what Number Ten's name was, and then began shouting "Sheila" whenever she touched the ball.

At the start of the second half, Maritime took what looked to be a commanding lead. With 10 minutes left, the Lady Macs were down by nine.

At this point, Coach Steve Young imple-

mented a full court press which he later described as "one of the keys" to turning around the momentum. The press confused Maritime and lead to errant passes and turnovers. The Lady Maes were beginning to shut down Maritime's offense.

With 5.25 left in regulation, Sharon Kammetzky, SCW '96, hit a three-pointer. This was followed by a basker from Judith Kelsen, SCW '96, and another three by Kaminetzky, The Lady Macs were now only down by three.

The Lady Macs began to take control of the game. They aggressively drove to the basket and drew some fouls. Both Turetsky and Wainberg each made one of two foul shots to narrow the gap to one with a little over two minutes left.

At 1:48 to go in the game, Wainberg scored a layup to give the team a one-point advantage. However, Maritime would not go down without a fight. Twenty seconds later, Maritime scored a basket and was fouled. After they successfully completed the three-point play, the Lady Macs were down by one basket.

With 30 seconds left, Wainberg stole the ball and went the distance. She tied the score with a layup. The Lady Macs had a chance to win the game in regulation. Once again, Wainberg was driving down the court. She released her shot just a fraction of a second too late. The refs blew off the basket and the game was sent into overtime.

The Lady Macs dominated in the five minute overtime. They outscored their opponent 14-2. Turetsky started things off for the Lady Macs by making a three-pointer. Kaminetzky scored her third three-pointer of the game.

Once again, Wainberg's plays stood out during OT. She had five steals. Two of her

Continued on page 7

How Bout That! SCW Foils Bard College

By Cheryl Younger

In their first official season as a team, the Stern College fencing team has given "touching" performances, showing true grace and dexterity as they bouted against Baruch, Steven's Tech, Columbia and Bard.

The team is divided into two groups, based upon their weapons. The epee squad consists of Abbi Shapiro, SCW '97; Laura Genet, SCW '99; Susie Shepper, SCW '96;

and Cheryl Younger, SCW '98. The foil squad consists of Captain Na'ama Ben-David, SCW '96; Dina Azulay, SCW '97; Rose Eljas, SCW'98; and Itia Shmidman, SCW '98.

Both squads were praised by directors (fencing umpires), coaches and fencers of the opposing team. "These girls are unbelievable," said Coach Volkheimer of Steven's Tech. "We expected to beat them with ease, but they really surprised us. They did an incredible job, especially for a first year team."

The epee team, in their first and only official match, beat Bard College by a score



SCW fencers sharpening their skills.

of, 9-7. The final bout of the match placed Shapiro against Christine Foster. Both players were undefeated for the day. The score was tied at 4: whoever got the next touch would win the bout and the series. Then, the director called a double touch, meaning the score was tied at five and the bout was going into overtime.

Coach Jose Fusco said that at that point she "was so nervous. My heart was beating so fast... I really wanted to win."

Shapiro remained "focused on fencing and was completely calm." She won from the retreat position, and the team took the

At the other end of the gym, the foil squad bravely battled Bard's best. Though not as dramatic as the epee team, the foilists managed to impress their opponents with their spirited fighting. Director Tim Kane was excited at the prospect of having "another force to reckon with in women's competitive foil." He went on to praise the skills of the foilists, noting that the team improved tremendously throughout the day as they became more comfortable competing.



Fencing team members (L to R): Dina Azulay, Na'a Ben-David, Rose Eljas, Coach Jose Fusco, AbbiShapiro, Laura Genet, Cheryl Younger

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