

The Observer



The Official Newspaper of Stern College for Women * Yeshiva University

September 5, 1996

Volume XXXX NUMBER 1

21 Elul, 5756

Class of 2000 Moves In



Resident Assistants (l to r) Ela Katsman, Riky Garfinkel and Rochel Butler checking in students at Brookdale Hall.

By Miriam Ben Ezra

Under the direction of Residence Supervisor Alexis Levitt, the move-in process was revamped this year to minimize the chaos caused by the abundance of students entering Brookdale Hall for the first time.

This year, parents and students were asked to form a separate line

outside Brookdale Hall to check in, and to receive their housing assignments and room keys. Only after registering, were students able to receive baggage carts and enter the housing facilities. There was an abundance of luggage carts, which reduced the amount of time students had to wait to bring their be-

longings upstairs.

For the first time ever, the Office of Student Services purchased professionally laminated signs, which were displayed to help direct students to their destinations in an organized fashion.

The Office of Student Services also provided carts containing refreshments, which were placed on 34th Street for the use of students, parents and Orientation staff.

In an attempt to further expedite the day's activities, the Resident Assistants (RAs) participated in a four day training seminar. Accommodations were provided for the RAs at the Bedford Hotel for two days, until they were able to move into Brookdale Hall.

"During that time the RAs got a chance to get to know each other better before the big crush came. The goal was to have everyone working together with positive attitudes in order to have things run as smoothly as possible," said Levitt.

"Our own orientation let us know the nitty-gritties of being an RA. During the school year we will

Continued on page 6

Inside this issue...

- Orientation '96.....6-7
- Guide Debuts Early.....8
- "Rent" Review.....10



In Memoriam: Ramie Joy Kertzner

See articles on page 5

Alumni Association Donates Computer to Student Councils

By Julie Stampulzky

SCWSC, TAC and SSSBSC have recently received a new state-of-the-art computer and laser printer, courtesy of the Stern College Alumnae Association. The Compaq Pentium 133 is fully loaded with Windows 95, Microsoft Word and a CD-ROM disk drive.

The SCAA has regularly supported student activities. They have donated money for student clubs such as the Dramatics Society, and publications such as *Besavim* and *The Observer*. The television set in the Stern lounge and the garment bags in the Orientation kits were also donated by the Alumnae Association.

"This computer really is crucial," said Emily J. Shapiro, SCW '97, President of TAC. "Up until now, SCWSC, TAC and SSSBSC have been using the computer on the third floor of the school building, or their own personal computers, for correspondence and publicity purposes. This computer

designated for Student Council purposes has contributed to the congestion of a computer lab already filled with students writing papers.

Recognizing the problem, the school administration had planned to donate one of the old 286 computers to the councils. However, when the Undergraduate Alumni Association, under the leadership of Toby Weiss, heard about the problem, they offered to underwrite the cost of a new computer and printer.

"They wanted us to get a top-notch computer," said Shapiro. "There's no point in getting a second-rate system which would be insufficient for our needs."

The computer will be available when needed to all student groups and clubs. A training session about its use is being planned for those board members and club presidents who will have access to the system.

Sold Out

266 Women Sign Up for Orientation Shabbaton

By Leslie Ginsparg

A record number of students attended the Orientation Shabbaton, which took place August 30-31. The special guests of the Shabbaton were Rabbi Saul Berman and family and Mrs. Zelda Braun and family. Also attending the shabbaton was Rabbi Yehudah Eisenberg, the new Shabbat Rabbi.

For the first time in the history of Stern College, registration for a Shabbaton was filled to capacity. On Thursday afternoon, the Department of Food Services would no longer allow students to sign up for the weekend. Signs posted in the School Building announced that the Shabbaton was "sold out."

Extra steps were taken to accommodate the large number of students. Six tables were filled at meals, unlike the usual two. Also, extra washing stations were set up around the room to preclude long

lines. To avoid a long delay before the Friday night *seudah*, the Shabbaton staff eliminated the usual practice of collecting meal tickets.

The Shabbat Enhancement Committee has been working to improve Shabbatons. The committee has provided new *Benchers* and 125 *Chumashim* with Shabbat *Davening*. Mailings describing the Shabbat Enhancement Program and encouraging students to attend were sent to students and their parents over the summer.

"It was nice and warm, inviting and welcoming. Even though we were in Manhattan, in the middle of the secular world, we still experienced a great Shabbat together," said new student Caroline Bitton, SCW '99.

Unlike the Orientation Shabbatons of recent years, all *davening* took place in Koch Auditorium. In the past, SCW has had

difficulties arranging a *minyan* for the first Shabbat of the school year.

Rabbi Berman gave *Shurim* both on Friday night and Shabbat afternoon. In addition, *divrei torah* were given during meals by SCWSC President Tami Finklestein, TAC President Emily J. Shapiro and American Marketing Association President Sara Edelblum.

Shabbat Afternoon, students walked to local area hospitals to fulfill the mitzvah of *Bikur Cholim*. "It's a great *Mitzvah*," said Rochel Butler, SCW '98. "It's right here in the City, and you not only give, but come back with a great feeling of satisfaction."

Returning student Peshah Secunda, SCW '98, said, "I expected that Shabbat in school would not be *Shabbasdik*. Surprisingly, it was incredible. The singing, the *ruach*, and the *shurim* were amazing."

Opinion

By Leebie Mallin

On Sunday evening, August 19, while most SCW students were enjoying the last leg of their summer vacation, I opted to be a part of American history. I attended the 1996 Reform Party Convention in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania.

Third Parties are not a common phenomenon in the United States, as they are in Israel, France and Italy.

As I entered the convention hall, I could not help imagining myself back in time at the 1892 Populist Party Convention or the 1912 Bull Moose Party Convention. Please do not misinterpret the comparison. I am perfectly aware that Ross Perot is no Teddy Roosevelt. I decided, however, to look beyond the man, and focus on the party which he created.

It did not take long to realize that the true significance of the Reform Party would not be ascertained from the convention program. All of the speeches were as trite as the ones used at the Republican and Democratic party conventions. I did not want to hear that the Reform party stands for change from politics as usual. I wanted to know why. Why were all these people gathered together in support of a billionaire from Texas and an obscure political party? After all, did any of them actually believe Perot could win? That prospect seems quite far fetched. So then why did people travel from all across the United States to spend a beautiful summer weekend in Valley Forge?

The Reform Party's agenda may give some insight. The issues that were sighted include the need to curb the deficit, create jobs, end free trade, limit immigration and restore public trust in government. These issues are definitely compelling, but are they enough of a reason to abandon the two major parties?

One of the delegates told me that she supported the Reform party because it stands for "real Americanism." When I asked her what that was, her response consisted of clichés that could have been uttered by any politician.

I came to the conclusion that in order to truly understand the phenomenon of the Reform Party, I would have to look back at

American politics. Third parties have historically occurred when people became frustrated with the two major parties.

This was the case with the Populist Party that was strong in the late 19th and early 20th century. It was a party supported mainly by farmers in the South and in the West. Its platform consisted of free coinage of silver, the issuance of large amounts of paper currency, abolishing the national banking system, nationalizing the railroads, instituting a graduated income tax and electing U.S. Senators by direct popular vote. Though it never won a presidential election, it was responsible for the Democratic party nominating William Jennings Bryan, who ran on much of their platform.

The Progressive Party, also known as the Bull Moose Party, was founded by Theodore Roosevelt in 1912 after his wing of the Republican Party lost the presidential nomination to supporters of William Taft. The progressive party favored primary elections, prohibition of child labor, suffrage for women and national social insurance. This third party split the Republican vote and was directly responsible for the election of the Democratic nominee, Woodrow Wilson.

The Reform Party is similar to both the Populist and the Progressive parties. It has forced the two major parties to deal with issues of substance, like the deficit, just as the Populist Party did. Many believe that just as the election of 1912 was decided by the Progressive Party, the election of 1992 was decided by Ross Perot, who by taking support away from George Bush, insured a Clinton presidency.

The significance and the great service rendered by third parties suddenly became clear. Thanks to the Reform Party's very existence, the Republican and Democratic parties will have to pay heed to the issues during the '96 presidential campaign.

The people at the Reform Party Convention would not be wasting their vote by supporting Perot, as I first believed. They would be casting the most significant vote of all, a vote for the continuance of the American democracy.

The Observer

245 Lexington Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10016 340-7794. Fax (212) 725-9473. Published tri-weekly during the academic year by Stern College Student Council. The views expressed in signed columns are those of the writers only and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of The Observer, the student body, the faculty or the administration of Yeshiva University. We do not endorse any products or services advertised on these pages.

Governing Board

Rachel Felsman
Editor-in-Chief

Andrea Snyder
Executive Editor

Laurie Gewirtz
Julie Stampnitzky
News Editors

Gila Blazer
Business Editor

Deanna Schwartzman
Layout Editor

Jessica Weilgus
Features Editor

Debbie Platnick
Photography Editor

Leebie Mallin
Editorial Editor

Dina Bogner
Cultural Arts Editor

Sheara Fredman
Sports Editor

Associate Editors

Leisel Ginsparg-News

Susan Jacobs and Bracha Rutner-Features

Aviva Hanfling-Cultural Arts

Lisa Irom-Business

Terror Hits Home

The start of a new academic year is usually a bitter sweet affair. Though they may be saddened by the end of vacation, students are rested, refreshed and ready to embark upon a year of intellectual growth and fun.

This year is not typical, however, because the summer was marked with tragedy. The downing of TWA Flight 800 and the explosion at the Atlanta Olympic Games will be what history remembers of the summer of '96. Even though there is not yet any conclusive evidence about who was responsible for either event, it certainly looks ominous. Flight 800 and the explosion at the Olympics were in all likelihood the latest examples of terrorism.

In a year in which there were a record number of terrorist acts in Israel, the summer events add to our horror. We have long been accustomed to hearing about bus bombings in Israel and are quite familiar with the security measures that dominate every day life there. But terrorism was always something that happened in Israel or Europe, not

in America, the world's safe haven. The events of this past summer, like the 1995 Oklahoma City Bombing, indicate that this is no longer the case.

How can we go on with the trivialities of life, while life as we know it is being threatened?

More so than any other warfare, terrorism creates a strong feeling of helplessness. This stems from the fact that there are no easy answers to the question of how to curb terrorism.

We may not be able to wage war against it in the physical sense, but in other ways we are very powerful. The purpose of terrorism is to exert influence by perpetrating violence against civilians. By simply going on with our lives, not heeding the terrorists' call, we are in effect combating terrorism.

So as the '96-'97 academic year gets underway, get involved in more activities, enjoy yourself and keep in mind that you are doing so on behalf of those whose lives were cut short by terrorism.

Internet Access Denied

There are many reasons that students look forward to returning to SCW. Friends, professors, classes and dorm life are all important, but let's face it, many SCW students are really looking forward to using their e-mail. For those without email access during the summer, there is no greater delight than returning to school and logging on. This year, SCW students were denied that pleasure. The computers were not available the first week of school because of extensive wiring of SCW's new computers.

It is wonderful that Stern has finally en-

tered the '90s and is updating its computer system, but why is it being done at the expense of students? Why could it not have been done during the three months of summer vacation? The point of the new computer system is to better serve SCW students, so it seems ludicrous to inconvenience them in the process. The administration should have had enough foresight to recognize that a problem would arise. One can only hope that the new computers will be worth the tremendous nuisance that the delay has generated.

The Torah Activities Council

extends a great

YASHAR KOACH

to the students of

Stern College

for their participation

in our

TZEDAKAH

and

CLOTHING DRIVES

Clothing was donated to BEIS EZRA
and PETACH TIKVA.

Tzedakah collected from T.A.C. pushkas was donated to
the Diskin Orphanage in Jerusalem.

A Message from the SCWSC President

Dear Fellow Students,

Welcome to an exciting and fun-filled new year! Stern College for Women Student Council (SCWSC) offers multiple clubs and societies to service your needs. In addition, SCWSC provides many committees and student liaisons to assist you and make campus and academic life easier and more enjoyable.

I'd like to encourage you to take advantage of these opportunities and get involved. You can do so by reading *The Observer* and *In Motion* (the new Student Council Information Bulletin), joining clubs and attending events.

Club Fair is being held in Koch Auditorium on Tuesday Night, September 10, at 8:00 p.m. and Wednesday, September 11, during Club Hour. It will provide you with an introduction to the endless possibilities of extracurricular life and activities at Stern.

Your year and college career will be



what you make of it! I wish you a challenging and rewarding year.

Feedback and suggestions are always welcome.

Tami Finkelstein
SCWSC President

A Message from the SSSBSC President



Dear Fellow Students,

Welcome new students and welcome back upper classmen! We are getting ready for another exciting year at the Sy Syms School of Business.

Last year we saw the start of the American Marketing Association, as well as the founding of *The Exchange*, our business

newspaper. We anticipate an equally eventful and fun filled year. The wheels are turning to start an MIS club, pending student interest. This will be an excellent opportunity for those of you interested in pursuing a career in the computer industry. We encourage students from all majors to participate in this club, regardless of past computer experience.

Coming up during the week of September 9, we will be holding our annual SSSB reception at the Main Campus. It promises to be a great evening with tons of information about SSSB programming and organizations. The reception is a must for SSSB majors. Come and meet your SSSB peers and also get a surprise SSSB gift!

Stay tuned for more information.
Sincerely,
Michelle Stein
President SSSBSC

From the Editor's Desk

By Racheli Felsman



By now you've probably read dozens of welcome letters from student leaders and administration, welcoming new and old to SCW. You've heard all about the "fun and exciting" changes that make this year different from other years. Whether you are a returning student, who thinks she's coming back to the same old thing, or new on campus, and doubtful of everything SCW has to offer, it may be easy to shrug off these optimistic proclamations as being simply optimistic.

If you'll look a little more carefully, you may discover that these statements are not all said in vain. Even after taking off the rose colored glasses, it is easy to see that a lot has changed.

In my past two years at SCW, I've walked into the elevator at Brookdale Hall hundreds of times, and more often than not I've heard the same old complaints, which I do not need to reiterate here. This year, however, I was greeted by an abun-

dance of positive feelings when I heard exclamations like, "Wow! This is really great."

But much more importantly, the present changes are deeper than a new elevator or updated computers. For the first time this decade, Orientation Shabbaton was sold out, and there were barely enough seats in the caf to accommodate the students who wished to stay in for Shabbat. Student Council events are being attended by record numbers, and there is an unidentifiable excitement lingering in the air.

Maybe the cup is half full after all. Let's try to fill it all the way to the top.

From the Executive Editor

Dear Fellow Students,

It is unbelievable to me that I have just embarked upon my senior year of college. It feels like just yesterday I was waiting on line to move into Brookdale Hall. My mind races with memories and thoughts about how I have spent my time at Stern.

While sitting in a class during the first week of school, the word apathy came up in a discussion. Someone in the class remarked that this was a word that is quite familiar to SCW students. When I heard this comment many thoughts began racing through my mind. Was I one of the apathetic students that was being referred to? Have I done all that I could have for my school?

I must be honest, I blanked out in class for a good couple of minutes thinking about the answers to my questions. As minds often tend to do, mine continued to wander even further. I thought about the death of one of my fellow students, Ramie Kertzner.

I can only remember being in one class with Ramie. I am saddened to say that I did not know her so well. I did see what a fun and vivacious person she was. She definitely added excitement to our Biology lab.

What am I to do with these thoughts? I truly believe that the apathy problem that was brought up in class is well on its way to being solved. Stern is booming with excitement this year. Next time that I hear someone make a comment which includes SCW and apathy in the same sentence, I will be the first to refute them. How can someone say that SCW students are not involved when



every event scheduled this semester has had incredible attendance?

As for Ramie. Her death has taught me to make the most out of relationships. When I see someone in class who I do not know, I should make the effort to get to know them. I do not want to regret not knowing another SCW student.

As *Rosh Hashana* approaches, we as students need take time out to decide what we want to make of our time in Stern. Take advantage of all that is offered here and do not let a minute slip by. Time is so precious and none of us want to look back and wonder if we could have done more.

Best wishes for a *chasiva v'chasima tova*.

Andrea Snyder
Executive Editor

A Message from the TAC President

Dear Students,

Bruchot Habaot! This year has already gotten off to an incredible start! Orientation was a tremendous success. The "Orient"ation Chagiga, complete with fortune cookies and Chinese lanterns, rocked Koch Auditorium. For the first time at Orientation we held an interactive peer *Parsha Shiur* in the *Beit Midrash*. Our notebook sale raised a ton of *Tzedakah* and the new TAC logo was plastered on new notepads and folders. On the first day of school, both Rabbi Hochberg's *shiur* and the *Parsha Shiur* were standing room only! And, a Stern College first - the Orientation Shabbaton was SOLD OUT!

The rest of the school year promises even bigger and better activities and programs. The twenty four TAC committees are hard at work at increasing Torah and *Chesed* throughout Stern College and the entire community. There are opportunities for everyone in some way to benefit from and contribute to the Torah Activities Council. In addition to the wonderful committees that have become traditions at Stern, we are always trying to integrate creative and innovative programs into Stern. We have already begun a new daily *Tefilla* program which includes a *dvar halacha* and *tehillim* for *cholim*. This is an exciting chance to improve our individual *kavanah* and the



overall atmosphere at *Shacharit*. There are also many other special projects which are in the works!

All of the TAC committees and projects depend on YOU to guarantee their continued success. The list of ways to get involved goes on and on. Just flip through the new TAC committees booklet and get involved! My entire board and I are always available for any questions or suggestions that you may have. We look forward to a productive, inspirational, and exciting year!

Shana Tova,
Emily J. Shapiro
TAC President

Yeshiva University

Office of the Dean of Students

Dear Students,

On behalf of the Office of the Dean of Students, we would like to take this opportunity to welcome our returning and new students for the Fall, 1996 semester.

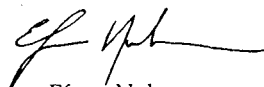
Adjusting to college life can be both exciting and challenging. The staff of the Department of Student Services is committed to helping you through these challenging times. Whether you require assistance through the complexities of registration and academic life; guidance or advice regarding career opportunities, graduate and professional schools; or development of job search techniques, TAKE ADVANTAGE OF OUR EXPERTISE. If you are in need of counseling or even a reassuring hand, we encourage you to meet with our caring staff to discuss your needs and concerns.

The University established an Academic Advisement Center which offers a variety of advisement services to our students at the Midtown Center. We are pleased that the Center's services were widely used. Drop in soon and meet with the Advisers.

DO NOT WAIT UNTIL YOU FEEL FRUSTRATED AND OVERWHELMED. We encourage you to take full advantage of these services so that your college years can be most productive and rewarding.

As a new semester begins, we wish you continued success in your endeavors.

Hatzlachah Rabbah,



Efreim Nulman
University Dean of Students
F428
(212) 960-5330



Zeldia Braun
Assistant Dean of Students
MID 114
(212) 340-7715



David Himber
Associate Dean of Students
F427
(212) 960-5480

Ms. Beth Hait

Coordinator of Student Services
(Guidance and Student Activities)
MID 133

Dr. Michael Hecht

Associate Dean, YC
(Pre-Law Advisement)
MID 1020

Rabbi Shlomo Hochberg

(General Guidance)
MID 104

Prof. Ira Jaskoll

Assistant Dean, SSSB
(Career Services Director)
MID 905

Ms. Naomi Kapp

(Career Services)
MID 923

Ms. Alexis Levitt

Residence Supervisor
(Housing Concerns/
Dormitory Living Issues)
BRH 1G

Mrs. Marga Marx

(International Student
Advisement)
MID 104

Mrs. Lillian Newton, RN

(Medical Services)
BRH 2B

Mrs. Ethel Orlian

Assistant Dean, SCW
(Academic Advisement)
MID 102

Ms. Marjorie Rubins

(Career Placement)
MID 923

Dr. Eli Sar, M.D.

(Medical Services)
BRH 2B

Dr. David Weisbrot

(Pre-Health Advisement)
MID 110

Ms. Adrienne Wolff

(Career Placement)
MID 923

Academic Advisement Center

MID 108

Mrs. Rachayl Davis

Mrs. Susan Ostreicher

SCW Deals With Loss

By Susan Jacobs

Students of SCW who had not necessarily known Ramie during her life were saddened by the news of her death. While she was at SCW, she was another face among the several hundred who passed through the halls, waited for the elevator and ate lunch in the cafeteria every day. She was not a person who called attention to herself, and amidst the often chaotic atmosphere of SCW, she was simply one of us. She was a person solid and ambitious; a young woman with hopes of a long, happy life; a student no one expected so soon to be missing.

After Pesach, when news of Ramie's illness reached the Midtown Campus, students began saying *tehillim* for her recovery. As her condition worsened there was great concern, but the possibility of death did not seem real to students still so young. Yael Schor, SCW '98, had seen peers with similar conditions become very sick, but after people had *davened* for them and said *tehillim* they had recovered. She said, "I never believed that anyone could not get better. This was a big *nisayon*."

Leebie Mallin, SCW '98, was also saddened by her death. "She was just like any of us. I felt like I knew her," said Mallin. Many students who did not know Ramie can identify with her as a fellow student. There is a message that is clear and haunting: Ramie was one of us, and now she's gone; Ramie could have been any of us.

Unlike the tragic deaths of young Jews in the past months due to terrorism or political injustice, Ramie's death can not be blamed on human vice, and perhaps that is the hardest fact to accept. Ora Shinnar, SCW '98, said, "There are so many people who were friends of friends [of mine] who died, and there were always rallies to go to and people to protest against, but now there's no one to be angry with. I feel helpless. She was an awesome person. It's very scary, it happened so quickly."

Nechama Goldfinger, SCW '98, related that at the time of Ramie's death she was a participant of a *loshon hara shmira*; the following week Ramie's name would be said by the *shmira*, just one week too late. "Was there anything I could have done to make a difference? Whenever something happens like this we should all examine ourselves. We should take action," said Goldfinger.

While the entire Jewish community can learn from Ramie's life and death, the students of SCW have a special relationship with her because she was, and will always be, one of us. We can all identify with Ramie on some level. Hearing of Ramie's death her first week at SCW, Nikki Paley, SCW '99, said, "As a hesitant new student, the tragedy helped me to fully understand the kind of young women who attend Stern. Now I know the reputation we have to live up to."

Indeed, what may seem as solely a tragic situation can be transformed into a hopeful event. Ramie Joy Kertzner lived a very short life, but she was an extraordinary person, and she was one of us. Students at SCW should examine the way in which she lived her life and endeavor to make their own as meaningful and productive as hers. Perhaps that is how she would want to be remembered.

Ramie Joy Kertzner 1974-1996

By Susan Jacobs

While SCW students embarked on their summer vacations, a few were left behind to mourn the loss of a dear friend. On May 25, 1996, the second day of Shavuot, Ramie Joy Kertzner, a 21-year-old senior at SCW, passed away. She passed quietly away, not evoking loud proclamations, but merely shock and despair from those who knew her well. A letter from her closest friends would give the details of her short life and sudden death to students and alumni of SCW, but questions would persist. Who was Ramie?

An advertising major at SCW, Ramie grew up in Hollywood, Florida and attended the Hebrew Academy of Miami. Although she was not raised in a *Shomer Shabbat* home, during her senior year in high school she went on the March of the Living and was inspired to become more observant. Following high school, she attended Shayara, a Torah education program in Israel where she met many of the young women who would become her closest friends.

Before Pesach of this year, Ramie began to exhibit flu-like symptoms, but remained at SCW for two weeks. When she did not show signs of improvement she went to her grandparents' home where she hoped to recover. After two weeks at her grandparents, she was admitted to

Maimonides Hospital with respiratory distress. She was diagnosed with advanced T-cell lymphoma. The seriousness of her illness was a shock, and her death even more shocking.

Susan Kirshner, SCW '97, a friend of Ramie, said, "Ramie often was ill or tired. She ran her self down, but I was shocked that she was so ill." Before the lymphoma was diagnosed, there were a few weeks when the cause of Ramie's condition was unknown. "It was very scary," said Kirshner.

Cheryl Reinhard Borenstein, Ramie's best friend and classmate from first grade through SCW, said that it was difficult to comprehend the seriousness of Ramie's illness. "We knew it was serious," she said, "but we didn't want to believe it. It was a complete shock that she died."

In the wake of Ramie's death, her friends have tried to concentrate on the positive aspects of her life. Borenstein remembered Ramie's devotion to chesed in high school. While their school made regular visits on Sunday mornings to a local soup kitchen, Ramie showed unique dedication. Borenstein said, "We had to be there at 7:30 a.m. on Sunday mornings, and she had a thirty-minute drive from Hollywood to Miami, but, while some of us were too lazy to get up and go, she went regularly."

Kirshner, who met Ramie at Shayara,

said that, "She was the type of person you noticed if she was there or not." Kirshner also noted the importance of friends to Ramie. When her roommate Jessica Pancer Gertel recently married, Ramie took time out of her busy schedule to make wedding arrangements. She attended the ceremony, but left early to attend her brother's wedding which was the next day. Borenstein, who roomed with Ramie at SCW, said, "Her friends were like family to her. She would do anything for them." In the three months since her death she has been sorely missed. "I heard from her every night and I would see her once a week," said Borenstein.

Yael Tilajef was a roommate of Ramie's for three years. She said, "[Ramie] was a true friend in the true sense of the term. She went out of her way even if it was inconvenient."

While Ramie was not necessarily known to all her peers at SCW, she was very central to the friends who knew her best. Her devotion to others is an example to all of SCW, and she will be remembered fondly. Ramie Kertzner only lived for 21 years, but in that time she touched countless lives. There is much to be learned from her life and her death.

Award Established in Ramie's Memory

By Rebecca Feinberg and
Susan Jacobs

In life, Ramie dedicated herself to *mitzvot* and *chesed*. In order to preserve her memory in consonance with her life, the Ramie Kertzner Memorial Award has been established.

The award will be given to a graduating SCW senior who exemplifies Ramie's virtues. Like Ramie, the recipient will be a student dedicated to *Yiddishkeit*. Although the nature of the award has not yet been decided, the award itself will reflect Ramie's ambitions and goals. The creators of the award intend to bestow it upon a student as dedicated to her peers and community as Ramie.

The great number of donations that have been received thus far are a testament to Ramie's life of *chesed*. In addition to the donations from SCW alumni, contri-



butions from current students were also received. Although these students did not necessarily know Ramie personally, they

knew that in both her life and death she had a tremendous effect on her community. Zelda Braun, Assistant Dean of Students, remarked that many touching letters have been received along with the donations. "We have received contributions from students who have given their summer *maiser* money," said Braun.

Through this award, Ramie's memory will live on and help to inspire young women like herself to live life with *yiras shamayim*.

Anyone who wishes to contribute to the Ramie Kertzner Memorial Fund should make a check payable to Yeshiva University Ramie Kertzner Memorial Fund and mail it to: Ramie Kertzner Memorial Fund, Office of Student Services, Stern College for Women, 245 Lexington Avenue, New York, New York 10016.

Students Lose Themselves in NYC Again

By Courtney Marks

On Thursday, August 29, 226 SCW and YC students met at Jerusalem II Pizza for the second version of "Lost in New York." The scavenger hunt, sponsored by SCWSC and YCSC's senior class, was based on the popular event organized by the same class two years ago.

After free pizza and soda, students arranged themselves in groups of eight and received a bag with candy and clues. There were a total of 125 clues which led the participants on a search around Midtown Manhattan. Clues included questions such as "What speed does a view rotate?" and "Who was playing Beast in tonight's performance?" Students were led to popular attractions in Midtown Manhattan such as Rockefeller Center through clues like "head for the rink and tell us which countries surround Zait."

Participants were also asked to obtain certain items such as a ticket stub from a

show that took place that night and Rosie's favorite Sesame Street character.

"It was a tremendous success," said SCW Senior Class President Debbie Bielory, SCW '97.

Attendants were asked to meet in Brookdale Hall at 11:30 p.m. to determine who the winners would be. All participants received a YU flashlight keychain.

The winning group was led by Penny Joel, SCW '97, Rachel Milner, SCW '98, Adina Sacknovitz, SCW '97 and Emily B. Shapiro, SCW '97. The group also included Jessica Grossman, SCW '97, Aliza Kravetz, SCW '97 and Emily J. Shapiro, SCW '97.

"We got a lot of help from an Officer Johnston who was standing on the corner of 41st and Broadway," said Emily B. Shapiro. "Instead of eating the candy in our bags, we gave it out to the people who helped us."

The prize for the winning team has yet to be determined.

Something to Sing About

By Sharon Cohen

On Sunday August 25, in Koch Auditorium, incoming students had the opportunity to relax and socialize with each other and with orientation staff after a long first day on campus. For this year's Peer Advisor and New Student get-together event, the Orientation Committee sponsored Karaoke as part of the evening's events.

Two deejays from Upbeat Productions, Inc. came to SCW and encouraged students to go on stage and sing a variety of popular songs, such as "That's What Friends Are For" and "I'm All Out of Love." Yaël Berger, SCW '98, called Karaoke night, "the

highlight of orientation."

Sophomore Class Vice President, Elizabeth Renna, SCW '99, said Karaoke night was "a huge success. Both Peer Advisors and first time students looked like they were really having fun."

The evening allowed students to become better acquainted with each other and with school administrators. The audience was addressed by Orientation Committee chairs, who presented Zeldia Braun, Assistant Dean of Students, with flowers in honor of her 10 years of supervising and guiding the Orientation Committee.

Class of 2000

Continued from page 1

be supporting students, but we will also be supporting each other," said Sherilee Eilam, a Graduate Assistant at Brookdale Hall. "It was a great way to begin to work as a team."

Once the students started to arrive early on Sunday, August 25, approximately 30 Peer Advisors, wearing Orientation '96 T-shirts and buttons bearing the slogan "I am a creative problem solver" were available to assist incoming students.

The RAs used their own experiences and difficulties from their first move-in day to help them relate to the new residents of Brookdale Hall. "When I first moved in as a sophomore, I remember that move-in day

was crazy. I was confused, not knowing what to do or where to go. This year everything went more smoothly. The RAs tried to help the parents and students as much as possible,

answering all their questions," said RA Miriam Arano'ff, SCW '97.

The changes in the move-in system and the efforts of the

Housing staff helped to reduce the tension and confusion associated with moving in. "The RAs were very efficient and friendly.

"At first I was nervous because I came from out of town, but the warm atmosphere really helped make the difference," said new student Sara Samber, SCW '99.



New Students await their turn to check-in to Brookdale Hall.

Orientation '96

By Leslie Ginsparg

New York is not known to be a friendly city. Someone who is not used to the bustle of Midtown Manhattan could find it very imposing. Similarly, the transition from high school or from study in Israel to college is not known to be an easy transition. College life is different than what students experience in High School or in Israel.

It is the job of Ilana Adler, SCW '97, Melanie Arum, SCW '97, Gila Blazer, SSSB '98, and Hannah Shonfield, SCW '98, the chairs of Orientation '96, which took place Sunday, August 25 through Tuesday, August 27, to make sure that every student adjusts to life in New York City and SCW smoothly and easily. "The goal of Orientation '96 is to ease first time on campus students into all aspects of college life, social and academic, as well as help Stern women adjust to living in New York City," said Adler.

To accomplish this goal, three days filled with activities, workshops and meetings were planned.

New students began to arrive early Sunday morning for Residence Hall Check-in. In past years, this has been a very tedious process that involved waiting in lines for long periods of time. While there were lines at certain points of the day, students who were present at check-in both last year and this year agreed that the process ran smoother and that the waits were much shorter than in the past. Resident Assistant Rochel Butler, SCW '98, said, "Move-in ran much more smoothly than last year. Alexis Levitt [Residence Supervisor] did a wonderful job organizing the move-in and the RAs carried out their jobs with a smile."

Students were helped by RAs, who endeavored to make them feel as comfortable as possible. "When I first came, I was very overwhelmed. There were a lot of people running around and a lot of things that I had to take care of. But then the girl giving out the room numbers told me that she was the RA for my floor. She made me feel welcome right away," said first year student Tova Rosenberg, SCW '98.

On Sunday afternoon, the SCW Torah Activities Council (TAC) Orientation took place. Students were given a folder with the new TAC logo that contained TAC committee information. In addition to written information, the TAC board presented a slide show. "In an attempt to orient new students with all the committees TAC has to offer in a new and creative fashion, we arranged a slide show with pictures from TAC events and activities. We received positive feedback from the presentation, and we anticipate enthusiasm and participation throughout the school year," said TAC President, Emily J. Shapiro, SCW '97.

On Sunday night, new students had the chance to speak with Peer Advisors, relax, and have fun, as Koch Auditorium was transformed into a Karaoke studio for the Peer Advisor and New Student Get-Together. Risha Rosenberg SCW 2000, a first time on campus student who attended the event said, "Before I went

to Karaoke, I planned to just sit back and laugh at my friends. But once I got there, and one of my friends conned me into going up and singing, I had a great time." Like Rosenberg, most students were hesitant to participate at first, but by the end of the evening, almost every student was in some way involved.

After the Peer Advisor and New Student Get-Together, the incoming students were given Orientation Kits. As in past years, the kits contained an Orientation T-shirt, a copy of the Torah U-Madda Journal, a pocket *Minchal Maariv* and a Yeshiva University folder. The folder was filled with important information about SCW and New York City, including Dr. Norman Lamm's introduction to YU, entitled "What's in a Name." The kit also included information on upcoming activities and school services, as

opportunity for students to meet each other and have fun through the TAC and SCWSC sponsored Orientation Chagiga. An Oriental theme was planned for the chagiga, playing on the "Orient" part of the term Orientation. Fortune cookies, Oriental fans, and chopsticks were distributed.

Throughout the three days, there were academic orientations, workshops and tours. Different academic orientations were planned to cater to every type of new student, including SSSB students, international students, students who studied in Israel for a year, and students coming straight from high school. In addition to these sessions for students just beginning college, there was a special academic orientation for those students who transferred from other institutions. Orientation chair Hannah Shonfield knows firsthand how complicated transferring

the Office of the Dean of Students, cost \$15, substantially less than they would otherwise cost.

Classes began on Wednesday, August 28, but Orientation activities continued throughout the week. On Thursday night, SCWSC and YCSC's Senior class co-sponsored a scavenger hunt entitled "Lost in New York II." 226 students scurried around Midtown Manhattan searching for 125 different clues. "This is the largest turnout that I have ever seen at an event," said Senior Class President Debbie Bielory, SCW '97.

The Scavenger hunt was not the only event with a tremendous turnout. Approximately 260 students attended the orientation Shabbat, the first shabbat in the history of Stern College to be sold out. The special guests of the Shabbat were Rabbi Saul Berman and family and Mrs. Zeldia Braun and family.

After Shabbat, students were invited to see the sights of New York City with Big Apple Tours. Two double decker tour busses picked up the students at Brookdale Hall. Students sang as they were driven around Manhattan and shown many tourist attractions, including Wall Street, China Town, the Fashion District, South Street Seaport, Time Square, the Statue of Liberty, the Brooklyn Bridge, Greenwich Village, Soho and the Lower East Side. "It was a sick awesome bus ride. But watch out for those traffic lights, we almost lost our heads," said Michal Werblowsky SCW '97.

On Sunday, SCWSC and YCSC, in conjunction with the Office of Student Services, sponsored a trip to Six Flags Great Adventure Amusement Park. The price for the event, including transportation, was \$15, less than half of the regular \$33 ticket price. The trip was partially subsidized by the Office of Student Services and the Office of the Dean of Students.

When asked if they felt if the goal of Orientation, to acclimate students to Stern College and to New York City, was fulfilled, new students had different responses. "It depends on the person. It was good to acquaint yourself with new people and new surroundings before you dive into your classes. But on the same token, there's only so much Stern can do to get us oriented. Each person had to put her best foot forward," said Aviva Goldish SCW '99. Elishava Garber, SCW '99, said she felt, "they accomplished their goal. As an out-of-towner, I needed these three days to adjust to living in a new city, and to catch a glimpse of college life. The Orientation programs gave me the opportunity to meet with faculty, guidance counselors and peer advisors. I also had the chance to get to know the campus and the surrounding areas."

Upon reflecting on the events of the past week, the Orientation chairs had good feelings about the program. "All the preparation was really worthwhile to see a very successful orientation and to see FTOCs [first time on campus students] feel adjusted, comfortable, and looking forward to the '96-'97 school year," said Arum and Blazer.



Orientation '96 Chairs Melanie Arum and Ilana Adler at the information desk in the school building.

well as maps of NYC. Unique to this year's Orientation Kit was a garment bag, which was donated to students by the Alumni Associations of Yeshiva University. The *Minchal Maariv*s were paid for by the Office of Student Services and the Office of the Dean of Students.

On Monday night, students were invited to eat dinner and participate in a discussion with faculty, at an event entitled "Dine and Dialogue." Students sat around a big table and ate a family style dinner. After dinner, a discussion was led by Dr. Moshe Sokolow. The purpose of the discussion was to "demonstrate to students that Jewish studies and learning is not just theoretical," said Sokolow. "It has practical and immediate applications to all kinds of problems, questions and issues which arise not only in Jewish life but in general life as well." Sokolow took the current issue of welfare vs. workfare, and showed how it can be seen in the Jewish concept of *tzedakah*. Sara Samber, SCW '99, a new student who attended the session said, "It was interesting. A new way of looking at Tzedakah that I had never thought of before. It will make my preparation for Yom Kippur different."

On Monday night, there was another

schools can be: "As a former transfer student, I know how important it is to get transferred students adjusted to a new college system and a new college campus," said Shonfield. Workshops were also given on security in New York, choosing a major, time management, academic planning, and computer resources. A special workshop was given by Computer Center Supervisor Betty Gordon, on the Internet System. There were also two learning sessions, a shiur given by Dr. Ephraim Kanarfogel, Chairman, Rebecca Ivory Department of Judaic Studies, and a Parsha shiur given by Emily Shapiro in the Beit Midrash. Students were also invited to tour the library and learn about its available resources.

On Tuesday night, SCWSC and YCSC co-sponsored a night at the theater. Students attended "Stomp," a show where the performers created music from common objects such as garbage cans, brooms, and newspapers. 87 Stern students attended the event. "I loved how the performers communicated with the audience without saying a word, and got the audience to participate in the show. Stomp was awesome," said Dorah Fine SCW '2000. The tickets, which were partially subsidized by the Office of Student Services and

A Touch of the Orient

By Sharon Cohen

Following an "Orientation '96 theme, Koch Auditorium was transformed into an image from the Far East on Monday, August 26. The annual event was organized by

FTOC student to speak at an Orientation Chagiga, made a correlation between the *parsha* of the week and Orientation. She emphasized that new students should take



Preparing for the Orientation Chagiga (l to r) Leslie Ginsparg, Aliza Kravetz, Emily J. Shapiro

TAC's Chagiga Committee, headed by Leslie Ginsparg, SCW '98, Penny Joel, SCW '97, and Aliza Kravetz, SCW '97.

The chagiga was well attended by FTOCs as well as returning students and Peer Advisors. Through live music and dancing, students both new and old were able to interact in a stress-free environment. "I was able to see my friends who I have not seen all summer. A lot of Stern spirit was going on," said Joelle Tollinsky, SCW '97.

After the first dance set, a *D'var Torah* was given by new student Amanda Sussman, SCW 2000. Sussman, who was the first

advantage of every opportunity offered to them at SCW.

Students attending the Chagiga were greeted at the door with a table full of fortune cookies. The decor included Oriental fans, paper lanterns and chopsticks. The theme was further brought to life through the Oriental costumes worn by the chagiga organizers.

"The creative theme added a unique twist to the evening," said Kravetz. "We can only hope that this excitement will carry on throughout the year."

SCWSC Forms Public Relations Committee

Orientation Events Well Publicized

By Laurie Gewirtz

At the beginning of almost every school year a variety of new SCWSC clubs, societies and committees are added to those which SCW already offers its students. The latest addition is the Public Relations Committee, under the leadership of Chairperson Debbie Bielory, SCW '97.

"The goal of the Public Relations Committee is to make students more aware of upcoming campus activities and to introduce them to their student leaders," said SCWSC President Tami Finkelstein, SCW '97.

The committee members have already put their ideas into action. Bulletin boards in the lobbies of the school building and Brookdale Hall are set aside solely for advertising upcoming Student Council events. Message boards with the SCWSC insignia were bought and hung up outside of every dormitory room in Brookdale Hall. Lollipops were given out to students in the school lobby on their first day of classes. In addition,

a variety of SCW paraphernalia, including denim shirts, sweatshirts, night shirts, T-shirts and baseball caps, were sold at Orientation. These actions served to make the Student Council's presence felt.

"Last year only 20 people showed up for the scavenger hunt and this year 200 people signed up—I guess this means the committee is doing its job," said Bielory.

The committee's largest contribution is a new bimonthly publication entitled *In Motion, In Motion* serves as an authoritative guide to all extra-curricular happenings at SCW.

"Student involvement in activities is not always what it should be," said Leebie Mallin, SCW '98, the Editor in Chief of *In Motion*. "The most obvious reason is the fact that many simply are not aware of the activities that the student council runs. We aim to make this excuse obsolete."

Going Up

By Ilana Bruger

This year, sufficient time and money were available for the Supporting Services Administration to pursue long-desired improvements to the elevators in Brookdale Hall. Jeffrey Socol, Associate Director of Facilities Management, felt it was time to provide the women of Stern College with safe, dependable elevator service, while keeping up with modern technology.

The improvement has been long awaited by SCW students. "I have been here for three years, and all I can say is that it's about time," said Debbie Bielory, SCW '97.

Construction on the elevators began at the end of July and was completed just one week before the start of the academic year. Socol told *The Observer* of the difficulties this caused for the maintenance and housekeeping staffs. Mattresses, furniture and cans of paint had to be carried up the stairs throughout the summer, in order to complete construction before Orientation and move-in day.

"These electronically controlled elevators will provide the residents of Brookdale Hall with faster service," said Socol. The new elevators operate through dispatching equipment which prevents frequent failures and useless distress. The previous elevators utilized a motor generator and had contacts on every floor, causing the elevators to breakdown unnecessarily. The new elevators have no contacts, thereby providing better speed and shortening the wait for a ride down to the lobby.

When asked by a student why the elevators were not enlarged, Socol replied that, "The reason we couldn't make the elevators bigger is because we needed to use the existing shafts."

New features that should be reassuring to students are a button to call for help in case of fire or other emergency and an intercom to communicate with the guards in the lobby until help arrives. In case of a fire, the doors have heat sensors that prevent their opening on a floor in which there is fire.

Due to the lack of a bulletin board in the new elevators, many students are wondering where engagement signs will be displayed. In response to this, Socol answered that there is no room in the car for a bulletin board and to have one is against New York City fire regulations.

Guide to the Perplexed Makes Early Debut

By Laurie Gewirtz

The editors of this year's *Guide to the Perplexed*, Mor Reis and Hesby Willig, presented the 1996-1997 student information source during Orientation, quite a few weeks earlier than when it usually surfaces. The *Guide* contains On Campus information, as well as sections on The Big City, Dining and Shopping and Things to Know. The Student Directory will be distributed later this semester.

A new student from upstate New York, Yael Berger, SCW '98, said, "I was highly impressed by the *Guide* because it contains so much useful information for people who come from outside the Manhattan area."

The *Guide*, which is sponsored by both the SCW and YC Student Councils, features many new attractions and additions to last year's *Guide*. The entertainment section now boasts reviews of Broadway shows which are currently playing. The expanded sports section includes information for students interested in tennis, paint ball and horseback riding, as well as schedules of New York's professional sports teams. The dining guide is now organized by an index and includes the addresses and phone numbers of 14 *kashrus* supervisions in the tri-state area.

Ronnet Wolf, SCW '97, one of the stu-

dents who manned the *Guide* distribution desk at Orientation, said, "I had parents asking me where a restaurant was and I was able to hand them the *Guide*. I received many comments from people saying how beautiful the cover was and how timely the guide came out."

In order to expedite the distribution of the student directory, students were asked to fill out a personal information form as they

checked into their dorm. An additional form for dormitory phone numbers and e-mail addresses will be distributed shortly, depending on when students' phone lines are connected.

"Our dedicated staff worked hard all summer which resulted in getting the *Guide* out during Orientation. I hope the students make good use of the information provided for them in the *Guide*," said Reis.



Guide Editor-in-Chief Mor Reis and Senior Class President Debbie Bielory display a copy of the new Guide to the Perplexed during Orientation

Clued In

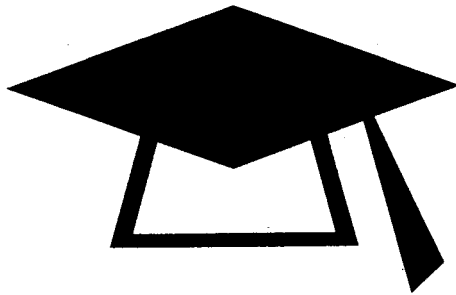
- ACROSS
- 1 Part of Indonesia
- 3 Celebrity
- 5 Celebrity
- 18 Slander
- 19 Sacked
- 18 Ken or Lave
- 19 Hood's band
- 21 Porcini
- 22 Spanglo
- 23 Parakeet
- 24 Car wash
- 25 Gassanora
- 26 Duet
- 27 on setting
- 28 Car wash
- 30 Border on
- 31 Ring out
- 32 Puerto
- 33 writer's
- 34 Puerto
- 35 ending for "taught"
- 36 Fast
- 37 Nicolas's
- 38 Sargone's
- 39 the last
- 40 Time to
- 41 ender?
- 47 Makes
- 48 Checker
- 49 Across
- 51 Waiting and
- 54 He song for
- 102
- 103
- 104
- 105
- 106
- 107
- 108
- 109
- 110
- 111
- 112
- 113
- 114
- 115
- 116
- 117
- 118
- 119
- 120
- 121
- 122
- 123
- 124
- 125
- 126
- 127
- 128
- 129
- 130
- 131
- 132
- 133
- 134
- 135
- 136
- 137
- 138
- 139
- 140
- 141
- 142
- 143
- 144
- 145
- 146
- 147
- 148
- 149
- 150
- 151
- 152
- 153
- 154
- 155
- 156
- 157
- 158
- 159
- 160
- 161
- 162
- 163
- 164
- 165
- 166
- 167
- 168
- 169
- 170
- 171
- 172
- 173
- 174
- 175
- 176
- 177
- 178
- 179
- 180
- 181
- 182
- 183
- 184
- 185
- 186
- 187
- 188
- 189
- 190
- 191
- 192
- 193
- 194
- 195
- 196
- 197
- 198
- 199
- 200

102 103 104 105 106 107 108 109 110 111 112 113 114 115 116 117 118 119 120 121 122 123 124 125 126 127 128 129 130 131 132 133 134 135 136 137 138 139 140 141 142 143 144 145 146 147 148 149 150 151 152 153 154 155 156 157 158 159 160 161 162 163 164 165 166 167 168 169 170 171 172 173 174 175 176 177 178 179 180 181 182 183 184 185 186 187 188 189 190 191 192 193 194 195 196 197 198 199 200

COMMENCEMENT 1997

THURSDAY, MAY 22, 11:00 AM

**THE THEATER
MADISON SQUARE GARDEN**



**SENIORS, HAVE YOU
FILED FOR GRADUATION
WITH THE OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR?**

**IF NOT, PICK UP KIT FROM THE
REGISTRAR ON YOUR CAMPUS**

Ten Things Every New Student Should Know

By Laverne and Shirley

10. You must iron your dollar bills before trying to use them in the vending machines.
9. You're not really going to take a tray--are you!?!
8. If you are not married, do not wear a hat to school.
7. There is always room for one more in the elevators.
6. If you buy a long skirt from the Gap, do not expect to get an award for originality.
5. Sophomores who get engaged may be subject to punishment by angry Seniors. Freshmen--don't even think about it.
4. If you are meeting someone in the lobby, and plan to take the dorm elevators, leave 20 minutes in advance.
3. Seats for Thursday night Must See T.V. (Friends, ER, etc.) are more difficult to get than seats for the Superbowl.
2. If you buy salad everyday, you WILL run out of money on your caf card by March. A tomato can run you about \$3.
1. Hoard Snapple labels! You never know when you might need them.

WANTED:

Creative and motivated SCW students who would like to become more active in their school.

The Observer is looking for writers, photographers and layout editors for the '96-'97 school year.

Anyone interested should contact Racheli-Felsman or Andrea Snyder.

"Rent" Rocks The Theater World

By Dina Bogner

Back in May, I read an article in which the author proclaimed herself to be the last writer to hail the new Tony and Pulitzer Prize winning Broadway musical "Rent." "all that and a Big Mac." Well, let me say that I may possibly be the last person to write an article about "Rent," but my enthusiasm for the piece cannot be expressed in words, anyway, so never mind. I have a sneaking suspicion that most of our devoted readers have not heard of "Rent," or if they have, they are not sure exactly what it is all about. So I shall attempt to do this brilliant, practically perfect piece some sort of justice.

"Rent" is a rock musical by the late Jonathan Larson, who died of a heart aneurism the night before his play's first preview. Cynics will say that the show's amazing success is due to the untimely death of its writer, but it is obvious to anyone who has actually seen the show that this is not the case. "Rent" is a breath of fresh air in the stuffy Broadway atmosphere. It is based on Puccini's opera "La Boheme," but rather than depicting struggling artists in Paris during the age of tuberculosis, "Rent" tells the story of seven young people in New York's East Village, struggling to find meaning and love in the age of AIDS. Some have AIDS, some do not, some are straight, some are gay. Some are from poor homes, others attended Ivy League schools: Yet they all manage to come together and form an alternative family as they face what may be their last year on earth.

While this may not seem like the most uplifting subject matter, "Rent"'s glorious, exhilarating music and absolutely amazing cast make it an experience that cannot be equaled. This is not "Phantom" and its not "Les Mis." "Rent" cannot even be described in similar terms. What Jonathan Larson did in writing "Rent" was revolutionary. He

wrote a beautiful story, set to contemporary music, about real people, dealing with real life problems. While you may not necessarily relate to, or even comprehend, the problems the characters in "Rent" deal with, many of its themes are universal. The bohemians of "Rent" are looking for love and family in today's often alienating world. Who among us cannot relate to that? You will feel for these characters. You will become part of their lives for the two plus hours of the show, and you will care about what happens to them. It is impossible not to. The characters are perfectly played by the show's outstanding cast. These actors find an incredible amount of enthusiasm and energy that they infuse into every performance. I would highly recommend seeing the show with its original cast. It is the most talented ensemble I have ever seen perform.

As "Rent" is the "hottest ticket in town," it is also the hardest one to get a hold of. The show is currently sold out until November, but the producers of the show did not want its audience to be limited to the privileged few who have the money to buy its \$70 tickets. Therefore, every day seats in the first two rows are sold two hours before show time for \$20. THIS IS THE MOST INCREDIBLE BARGAIN IN NEW YORK. Granted, the line often starts at the crack of dawn, and each member of the line is limited to two of the 34 tickets available, but IT IS WORTH IT. "Rent" has many, many devoted fans who have seen the show numerous times, and waited on line every time. The front row seats allow you to really connect with the cast, and experience the show on an intimate level. The wait will fly by, but the experience of "Rent" will stay with you for a long, long time. Anyone who lives in New York City today must see "Rent." Be a part of the history it is making.

SCWSC, TAC and SSSBSC would like to extend their appreciation to Jan Schechter and the Stern College Alumnae Association for their generous donation.

October 13
8 p.m.
Louis Koch Auditorium
Midtown Center

... Pacific News Service
... PBS commentator,

Cynthia Ozick, award-winning poet,
essayist, and novelist on Jewish and
feminist themes

... educator and author

Faye and Jonathan Kellerman,
award-winning, *New York Times*
best-selling authors

... of Iowa
... of a Pulitzer
... Book Critic Award

December 11
8 p.m.
Louis Koch Auditorium
Midtown Center

William Friedkin, film and television director
whose 1971 film *The French Connection*
won the Academy Award

As always, Yeshiva University has the "write stuff"

As part of its Gottesman Program for Excellence in Undergraduate Education, YU is pleased to present "Authors in Residence." Starting September 9, the series will bring to our campuses a Pulitzer Prize winner, an acclaimed writer on Jewish themes, an Academy Award-winning film director and screenwriter, a popular husband-wife team of novelists, and other prominent writers. Each will conduct classes for undergraduates and offer a public lecture. (See dates at left.)

For more information, call 212-960-5217

Update on Schottenstein Hall Computer Facilities Improve

By Lisa Meyers

The opening of the Jerome and Gerry Schottenstein Residence Hall, the second SCW dormitory, initially projected to open this semester, will not be ready for occupancy until Fall, 1997. According to Dr. Efreim Nulman, University Dean of Students, the renovation of the building is an ongoing process. He explained that the University wishes to meet students' projected goals and desires for the dorm, such as an exercise room and a lounge.

The delay is also due to problems with the infrastructure of the building. At the present time, the building is not ready for student occupancy.

As Schottenstein Hall would alleviate the Brookdale Hall overflow and eliminate the need for Independent Housing,



Jerome and Gerry Schottenstein Residence Hall

there has been a mixed student response to the delay. Rachel Cohen, SCW '97, a resident of Lexington Plaza stated that she is glad that the new dormitory is not open for her last year because "the apartments offer kitchen facilities, more living space and are closer to the school building than Schottenstein."

Septideh Niknam, SCW '99, notes that if given a choice between the two residence halls next year, she would pick Schottenstein because of the increase of privacy in single and two-person rooms.

The SCW Student Life Committee is in close contact with University Administration in an effort to input student opinion into the renovations of the new residence facility.

By Elizabeth Renna

Starting this semester, SCW students will have access to updated computer resources. Dozens of Gateway 2000 computers have been installed in the computer laboratory. Although the new facilities are not yet available to students, they will be equipped with state-of-the-art hardware and have the popular user-friendly system, Windows 95.

"Last year there were quite a few problems with the computers, especially when term papers were due. I'm looking forward to the new ones," said Joy Basewicz, SCW '99.

Computers with access to the Internet have also been installed in the libraries. The new computers have IBM "Dial Up" service. This service will be available to students at a cost of \$25 per year. Previously, students have been able to have e-mail connections for a one-time fee of \$50. The new service will offer students more access to the Internet. "I think it's good that they offered Internet access. E-mail will help me keep in touch with friends in Israel," said Allison Witty, SCW 2000.

In order to assist students in attaining a personal computer, a representative from PC University came to SCW during Orientation to offer students the option of buying or leasing

a PC. PC University, a company started by YU graduates, aims to serve the college student. The company provides students with several different computer models, depending on her needs and interests. PC University computers come with either regular key locks or new hard drive safety locks. Leases start at \$50 a month.

Answers to Crossword

JAVIA	FACIT	TWIG	MOTET
OLVIN	ALIAS	BOIDE	ABOVIE
TRICK	RIFFAPE	SEYER	DESMON
STEAM	MOSES	ADULT	YIKO
TRICIO	DEADLINE	BER	
TRIATHLON	YALCE	LAISER	
EDON	AGEIS	ELIA	BORREI
TWILLIGHT	ITILME	BEIV	GILLA
ESTIES	SARAN	EXEIO	FTIX
SHIES	ACOT	NEIME	OLE
ODIT	ERTAPE	THANTIRUM	CAO
RUR	ARTES	MSH	MEEN
RIYA	RITTA	SAYAN	NIEEDIA
SEIVE	EEK	TURKISH	TOWER
PRINIP	SMY	ELIHA	ERE
STING	ELIS	SAUIERNE	
APPT	OGAMIRE	PLUDU	
RUR	USSB	SALAD	TESLIA
ERICIA	RANT	YONAM	WHER
ASTIN	EVRA	SENSE	GLIST
DEIARY	TEAM	DAHL	SPICE

SCW SPORTS

Fitness Flash

By Sheara Fredman and Cheryl Younger

1. To prevent fatigue during an hour plus workout, try this recipe from Nancy Clark's *The New York City Manhattan Cookbook*:

In a glass, mix one tablespoon of orange juice or two tablespoons of lemon juice. Fill with 7.5 ounces of ice water.

2. In the past, TV addiction has been blamed for the fattening of America. Former U.S. Surgeon General C. Everett Koop, has linked the computer craze as an equally insidious waistline expander, increasing the fat intake of Americans to a new level.

3. Walking is becoming more and more popular because it allows you to achieve fitness by slowing down, and it won't stress your joints. The body burns fat most efficiently during slow forms of exercise. By exaggerating your arm swing, you can raise your metabolism and burn more calories.

4. Basketball provides a well-rounded workout, burning as many as 150 calories in a half of an hour, while building muscle tone.

All About Sports

By Sheara Fredman and Cheryl Younger

The Stern College Women are ready for another year filled with intense competition and fun in their basketball, tennis and fencing team sports. Tennis tryouts took place last week, and the results should be posted shortly. If you are interested in joining the basketball team, tryouts will be held on Monday, September 9th at St. Hilda's and St. Hugh's School, 619 West 114th Street, starting 7:30 p.m. until 10:00 p.m. Fencing team tryouts have yet to be scheduled. Contact the Office of Registrar for further details.

The Lady Macs will be coached this year by Steve Young and Assistant Coach Karen Green. The first game, which is sched-

uled for 8:15 p.m. on Saturday, September 23, will be played against Communications Classic.

On the tennis courts, Evan Goldstein will be the head coach for a second year. The first of four matches is quickly approaching, and is scheduled for Tuesday, September 17th at 4:00 p.m.

The fencing team, coached by Josephine Fusco, is ready to bout through a second year, and will begin with a fierce competition on Sunday, December 8th against Haverford. "This year's team promises to be a strong contender in the fencing league, and I look forward to the meets," remarked foilist Rose Eljas, SCW '98.

Women's Basketball

November

Sat 23	Communications Classic	8:15p.m.	Away
Sun 24	@Emerson College	TBA	Away
Tue 26	BARD COLLEGE	7:30p.m.	HOME
Wed 27	York College	7:30p.m.	Away

December

Mon 2	College of New Rochelle	7:30p.m.	Away
Wed 4	ST. JOSEPH'S(BROOKLYN)	8:00p.m.	Home
Sun 8	EMERSON COLLEGE	1:00p.m.	Home
Wed 11	Brooklyn College	7:30p.m.	Away
Tue 17	MT. ST. VINCENT	8:00p.m.	Home

Women's Fencing

December

Sun 8	Haverford	TBA	Away
-------	-----------	-----	------

Women's Tennis

September

Tue 17	Brooklyn College	4:00p.m.	Away
--------	------------------	----------	------

October

Sun 13	St. Joseph's (LI)	2:00p.m.	Away
Sun 20	New Jersey Tech	3:00p.m.	Away
Sun 27	STEVENS TECH	2:00p.m.	HOME

BONNE CLEANERS, LTD.

Since 1965

56 East 34th Street

Between Park & Madison Avenues

New York, N.Y. 10016

10% discount with YU ID
phone: 689-3629

The Observer
245 Lexington Avenue
New York, New York 10016