January 31, 1997

Volume XL NUMBER 6

Amid Criticism, Food Services Committee Works to Improve the Cafeteria

By Julie Stampnitzky

Ask any SCW student her opin ion of the food service here, and she will have a ready answer; too greasy too salty, too expensive; they should open earlier, close later, uncrease the variety. But this undercurrent of discontent may not be based in fact. How had is the food? Is it getting better? In an attempt to address students' concerns, The Observer investigated various facets of the Department of Food Services at SCW

Prices may be the student's first complaint, although, like the hours of service, they are determined by the unicersity rather than the Department of Food Services. An informal survey of nearby convenience stores and supermarkets found that the cost of items such as juice, milk and packaged cheeses sold in SCW's cafeterias is generally equal to or cheaper than commercially available products. Prices for prepared foods are more difficult to quantify. The Food Emporium's salad bar costs \$2.49 per pound, compared with \$4 in SCW. Many students said that if they did not already have money on their caf cards, they would cat out more often because for less money one could get a better meal at a local res-

In a recent Observer survey of 75 students, 73 thought that the food is overpriced Only 37% however said that they had too little money in their accounts. Many respondents were annoved by the requirement that every student pay a set amount at the beginning of the year. Towards the end of



The Salad Garden is a popular yet expensive alternative to the often repetitive dishes offered in the caf.

"out-of-towners," who buy meals on Friday and Sunday more often may find that their money has already run out, while more frugal eaters are frustrated to have plemy of money left over, but no hope for a refund. Kayla Pliskin, SCW '99, said, "They should have an optional meal plan where you can choose to pay less per semester."

When it comes to food choices and

quality, students have some hone of making their preferences heard. Both Moshe Singer, head of SCW's Food Services and Sylvia Grundwerg, SCW '97, head of the SCWSC Food Services Committee, took pains to point out that they are eager to hear students' suggestions. A number of changes have been introduced recently in order to meet customer demands, such as vegetarian dinner alter-natives, frozen yogurt, healthy snacks such as Nutri-Grain bars and sugarless gum, and the cappuccino machine--"a very popular item," according to Singer.

The 12 delegates of the Food Ser-

vices Committee hope to implement many other ideas soon. "It's been a positive experience. Any time I've gone to Mr. Singer with suggestions he tries to help," said Grundwerg.

Despite their efforts, students are not satisfied with the food that they cat every day. Of those surceved, 84% had, at least once, bought a meal and then thrown it away after one taste. On some days, 77%, there is nothing that they would want to buy. Several people decried the lack of variety, saying that pasta, fish, or baked potatoo appear every day. According to Food Services more improvements are on the works, such as hot breakfasts and vegetarian dinner options, as the department tries to please hundreds of people who must eat the same

The quality of the food served

Continued on page 5

Inside This Issue....

Concert Raises Money for Charity......4 SCWSC News.....5

Meet the Deans......6-7

Special Interview with Dean Karen Bacon



Student Committees Address Campus Concerns

Over the Fall '96 semester, there has been a resurgence of committee activity among student groups aimed ar addressing specific student needs in both academics as well as the general quality of life on campus. The comintees, which are composed of students, members of the administration and faculty, advocate student issues and are responsible for maintaining student satisfaction. Under the auspices of SCWSC, the committees are healfed by selected students chosen from a pool of applicants. The committees include the Academic Standards Committee The Food Services Committee. The Library Committee, the Shabbat Enhancement Committee and the Student

"It has allowed me to see into

The comquietly behind the scenes, seldominaticed by the mass student body. However, they belo to enfunction effi-Reerently. sources that students so often take for granted, such as a place to study for finals, the TV

Brookdale Hall, or the exercise equip ment, fall under the auspices of the committees. Student complaints and suggestions about SCW facilities, for example, are reviewed by the committees who in turn, represent the student body. Many students are unaware of the existence of committees, and do not know how they may be utilized to rep-

resent their needs.
"SCWSC encourages all students to take advantage of the available out-lets and tools that are at their disposal, said Student Council President Tami Finkelstein, SCW '97, "If you do not now how to direct your concerns, do not hesitate to ask a student leader

representatives serve as a parson to administrators and professors, wh vote on special academic requests and conflicts. The committee is neaded by Sheara Fredman, SCW 197. Chara-Koenigsberg, SCW 198, and Coartney Marks, SCW 197. These student representatives meet with a selection of deans and department heads to discus issues that pertain to students, specific requests. Students submit forms concerning in academy, problem or situation. The committee anonymousis reviews the forms with the deans and professors, and reaches a consensus on what is in the best interest of the stu



Academic Standards Committee meeting

lounge m

Academic Standards Commit-

The Academic Standards Committee deals with both general policies and specific academic situations or conflicts which may arise. The student

it may not always seem that way to students," said Fredman. The committee assures that the deans and profes sors do take into account what students want and are respectful to specific needs

Athletics Committee

The Athletic Committee "serves as both a liaison of the athletics clubs and teams and an advocate for team rights and needs," said Committee Head Rose Eljas, SCW '9". It orgamizes athletic events, raises spirit for SCW, and sponsors games Shabbatonini and other events. The committee has already hosted a Shabbaton with two special guest speakers and has organized an alumnibasketball game during the fall semes ter. The governing body of the department is planning similar athletic

Continued on page 9

Spring '97 Orientation

Ry Ilana Bruger

On Sunday, January 19, SCW welcomed new students for the Spring '97 Semester. The goal of orientation was to create a smooth transition for new students. Twenty our new students were in attendance While most came from seminaries in Israel, others transferred from under graduate colleges. Each student reived an orientation packet containing a student source book, a garment ag, YU gloves and a copy of the The Guide to the Perplexed

The program began at 9 a.m. Sunday morning with residence hall check-in at Brookdale Hall. Coffee and cake were set up for parents and tudents to enjoy as students received their room assignments and keys. "It went smoothly," said Residence Supervisor Alexis Levitt, "The residence office was staffed all day to accommodate the students.

Students had a chance to unpack

and explore their surroundings until 11:15 , when a mandatory session entitled "Life in the Big City, A Security Orientation," was held. At noon, an Orientation Luncheon and Assembly took place in the School Building, where students had the opportunity to meet undergraduate deans and administrators in an informal setting in order to facilitate their smooth adjustment to college life. Rabbi Dr. Ephraim Kanarfogel, Chairman of the Rebecca Ivry Department of Judaic Studies, was available to aid students in choos ic Studies classes in accorda with the students' appropriate Jewish Studies level. Current students who also attended the assembly were available to answer the First Time on Campus Students' questions about majors, classes and

After the new students took the Jew ish studies and Math placement exami-nationa and the English composition evaluation essay, they were able to register for classes. Registration took place between 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. after which optional computer and library orientations were given. At 5:30 p.m., First Time on

Campus Students joined Student Council leaders and upper class students for a dinner buffet, in which they became acquainted with student life on campus. TAC president Emily J. Shapiro, SCW '97, gave a dvar torah and welcomed the new students. The rest of the student leaders introduced themselves and volunteered their

FTOC's appreciated the Spring Orientation. FTOC student Devorah Chasky, SCW '99, felt that "everyone was very welcom ing," and added that she felt comfortable even though she was in a strange environment.

Editorials

SCW Goes High Tech

This semister, SCW has entered the world of high tech like never before. The long awarded installation of Netscape on the SCW computer system is a welcome improvement. Even more evening however, is the "interactive classroom." This refers to a new class being offered at SCW, "The Environment. Health or Feonomics." Two renowned experts in the field of environment and economics, Drs. Davis and Morgenstein, are team-teaching the class. It is unique because of the fact than one of the professors is teaching live from the Main Campus. Video equipment connects SCW with VC, so that students or both campuses can benefit from cach of the experts.

A similar attempt at live sitellite connection wander last year when another couple, experts on American policy, taught at VC. That attempt was an unequivocal failure. It is still too early to tell if the current environment class will succeed where its predecessor did not. After all, even if the technology works, can a video screen really substitute for the human connection between a professor and a student? This is but one of many issues that faculty and students will have to conclud with in the emerging world of high tech. No matter the outcome of this particular class, the administration is to be commended for experienting with into movaries forms of education.

Spring Orientation

As a new semester gets under way, most students are refreshed and ready to pick up where they left off. Even so, it is often difficult for students to reorient themselves to campus life

This will be especially challenging for the 24 new faces whom are embarking on a journey through SCW in the middle of the academic year. They must acclimate themselves to an environment to which every one close is accustomed. Great effort must be exerted in order to ensure that these students experience a smooth transition to SCW. Hite. For this passon the Office of Residents Life and Office of Student Services is to be commended for expanding this year's Spring Orientation.

... Despite the tremendous improvement. Spring orientation is still in no way equivalent to its Fall counterpart. This past orientation was one day, consisting of a few activities, while Fall orientation was a comprehensive three day program, it is true that the number of new students in the Fall vastly outnumbers those in the Spring, yet that is no excuse for not adequately meeting the needs of new students in the Spring. At SCW, students should be treated as individuals and therefore, the Spring First Time On Campus Students deserve as much attention as those entering SCW in the Fall.

If the administration keeps this fact in mind, surely the trend of an improved Spring orientation will continue.

Opinion

Keep Loyalty to Israel Strong

By Leebie Mallin

The recent Hebron agreement between Israel and the Palestinian Authority has shocked, outraged and truly devastated a large segment of the American Orthodox community. Under the terms of the agreement, Israel must withdraw troops from Hebron, leaving only a small unit of soldiers to protect the 400 Jewish settlers there. The agreement also requires Israel to withdraw from much of the West Bank by the middle of 1998. As a result of this agree ment Prime Minister Netanyahu has agreed in principle to what he and his Likud party have long rejected, the land-for-peace formula. In taking this step Netanyahu has also violated the spirit, if not the letter, of his campaign pledges. It is thus not surprising that many of those with strong ties to Israel feel betrayed and angry We live in truly troubled times, when the Israeli government is giving away land; let alone one of the holiest cities in Eretz Yisrael, the very land where our forefathers and mothers

Despite the current situation, this is not a time for the American Jewish community to abandon Israel. For American Jews to speak out publicly against Israel is wrong. In writing these words, however, I am in no way endorsing Netanyahou or his policies. American Jews

should formulate informed opinions on Israeli policy and privately express these views to the Israeli government. We, however, have no right to publicly speak out against the Israeli government. American Jews must accept the fact that until we are privileged to be Israeli citizens, our job is to stand behind Israel, no matter what.

Many argue that every Jew has a right to criticize Israel since it is the eternal homeland of all Jews. It is further maintained that the current "peace process" is so detrimental to the security of Israel that Jews must protest in every arena possible. These arguments however, ignore the much more important obligation that American Jews have to support Israel, and its democratically elected leaders. I can think of no greater Chilul HashemAthan American Jews protesting against Israel's policies to American elected officials. Unfortunately I have witnessed such lobbying and read letters which have done just that.

It is very easy to lend support to a country when one agrees with its leaders and policies. The true test of loyalty-is when one supports a country, no matter how much one disagrees with its policies. American Jewry owes

The Observer

245 Lexington Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10016 340-7794. Fax (212) 340-7788. Published triweekly 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

Gila Blazer Business Editor Leslie Ginsparg
Julie Stampnitzky
News Editors

Deanna Schwartzman

Layout Editor

Susan Jacobs Features Editor

Cultural Arts Editor

Debbie Platnick

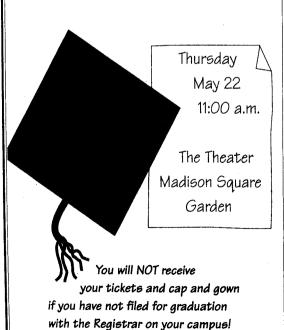
Leebie Mallin

Dina Bogner

Cheryl Younger Sports Editor

Associate Editors
Lisa Irom-Business
Bracha Rutner-Features
Dina Herbst-Layout
Sheara Fredman-Sports

COMMENCEMENT



From the Executive Editor

In a recent journalism class, we discussed editorials and writing opeds for the newspaper. As we were reading the oped section, my professor noted that writing a column is not an easy thing and that getting their own column is what many promadists stricts for

At that moment, I thought about my opportunity this year to write a column to each issue of The Observer, Now Khow I am no William Safire or even Dave Berry, but I feel that I have honestly enjoyed having this forum in which to express my ideas every three weeks to the SCW student body.

It is a nice feeling to know people are reading what you write and that maybe something I have said will make someone stop and think about the subject being addressed.

After all of that introspection, I have just realized that what I write now has to be something which will live up to the expectations I have just set for myself. (The pressure is mounting)

There are few things in the world that can bring a person to ultimate relaxation. In my humble opinion, winter vacation is one of them. This year for winter vacation, I had the incredible opportunity to go to Israel. Now, I know that most of the SCW/YC student body also went to Israel, but still, it has such a special meaning to me. Going to the Holy Land is not something that I take lightly. It is an incredible experience for me.

Unfortunately I think that a lot of people our age take going to Israel for granted. There are people who don't even think twice when you ask them what they are doing for vacation. They automatically answer with, "I am going to Israel."

When I think about how many times the average YU student has gone to Israel it boggles my mind. It truly is an incredible thing that one institution could have such a special place in their heart for a country thousands of miles away. When was the last time that you heard that the students of NYU. Columbia or any other university in the world flocked to another country for winter vacation? If I did not know better, I would think that YU opened a new campus in Versushalavim for the month of January.

As students of this institution, we owe a



tremendous amount of *Hacaras Hator* to those who have instilled this love of Israel in us. We should be going to Israel for our vacations because we can, yet we should never forget what a luxury it is to be able to go.

Now, getting back to my trip. There is an incredible feeling one gets when they go to the Kotel for the first time after not being there for a while. There is an even better feeling when one realizes that at any given time of the day or night, they can go to the Kotel. It did not dawn on me until after I left that I had that opportunity, and now it is gone. Luckily, I feel that I did take advantage of my opportunity. The relaxation that I felt by just sitting there was something I had never felt before. Each previous time I was in Israel, I was in the situation where I was "living" there, whether it was for seminary or a summer program. This time, I was just hanging out, and hanging out for me means going to the Kotel whenever I want. That is pure relaxation.

For any student who is new, just wait untiped first vacation comes around, and you will fully understand the need to escape from the trials and tribulations of college life. A trip to Israel comes highly recommended, as long as you don't begin to take it for granted each time vacation comes around.

So as I end yet another column. I hope that my words did make you stop and think. My opportunities to fulfill a journalist's dream are being fulfilled, yet I have not even entered into their field.

Andrea Snyder

The Observer Staff
would like to wish a
Mazel Tov to our
Editor-in-Chief
Racheli Felsman on
her engagement to
David Mitnick

A Message from the SCWSC President

Dear Leffrey Student

Hi, Welcome back! Ye, the shood year is almost over and lor some object that is the end of our college career. However, we need not be latalistic, there is still time to accomplish, and most hat can be done. SCWSC, LWC, and SSSB plan on has me, another fundified semester, with real tiples laws and Chib sponsored events and action ties so at mined and PARLB IPATE (by are for your Hithere is something that you would like to contribute or see happen, let us know. Soon is our chance.

In this issue you will find a current bit of SCWSC clubs and publications which you can get involved in and a his O SCWSC leaders to talk to about ANYTHING! In addition, there is an article depicting existing SCWSC committees which will hopefully answer all of your questions. These committees act as haisons between faculty members and students. Yes, they exist for YOU. The committees are a vehicle for you to voice your complaints and suggestions on academic issues, food issues, and areas of student life. Read, find out about them, and use them!

This year we are having another Club Fair on Monday, February 10th between 8:30-10:00



 p.m. for new and old students. Watch out to signs!

Have a fun and enriching semester! Suggestions and feedback are always welcome

> Sincerely. Turni Finkelstein SCWSC President

A Message from the TAC President

Dear students.

Bruchot Habaot to new and returning students! The Fall semester was a very exciting and productive one. TAC successfully launched many new activities while maintaining and improving all of our committees. We closed off the semester with a jam-packed Channukah and a beautiful Yachad Shabbaton.

. This semester promises to continue right where we left off. In February alone, TAC has arranged for ten guest speakers including David Silber, Malka Bina, and Paysach Krohn. We will be faunching a new Rosh Chodesh chavura led by Stem College Alumni on Thursday, February oth. The first Mother-Daughter breakfast shiur will be held on Sunday, February 9th with Smadar Rosensweig. Finally, on Tuesday, February 18th, Rabbi Alfred Cohen and Rabbi Simcha Krauss will both be speaking on the topic of women's megillah reading.

TAC will also be hosting two Shabbatons this semester with Rabbi Moshe Kahn and Rabbi Mordechai Cohen. All of the TAC committees, from Shivim Panim to Bikur Cholim and from Chagigot to Study Buddy, welcome your participation and support. Club Fair, which will be held on February 10th, is your chance to see all of the great opportunities available to get involved in



your school community and the community at

Please feel free to contact me or any of the TAC board members with your questions or suggestions. Good Luck!

Sincerely, Emily J. Shapiro TAC President

MY FAMILY AND I GRATEFULLY
ACKNOWLEDGE ALL YOUR
HEARTFELT EXPRESSIONS OF
CONDOLENCE UPON THE DEATH OF
OUR FATHER AND GRANDFATHER.
YOUR WARMTH AND CONCERN HAS
CERTAINLY EASED OUR MOURNING.

MRS. ZELDA BRAUN AND FAMILY

Tu B'shvat Concert Raises Funds for Yad Ezra

Features Belles and Beat'achon

Popular a capella group Beat'achon

performing at the Tu B'shvat concert.

By Miriam C. Grossman

On Wednesday evening, January 22, 170 SCW students gathered in Koch Auditorium to emoy Stern's first-ever Tu B' Shvat concert, which featured two a capella groups. The Belles and Beat'achon. In addition to celebrating the Jewish new year for trees, the concert raised funds and wareness for Yad Fzra, an Israel-based charity.

In celebration of Tu B'shvat, refreshments included dried fruits and

The concert opened with SUW's own a capella group, the Belles, now in their second year, under the leadership of Randi Sorscher. The Belles' repertoire in Hebrew and English included both new songs and favorites from previous performances. A humor

ous skit about the difficulty of finding a place to study added comedy to their performance. Their appearance concluded with rousing applause from the audience and requests for encores.

The second half of the concert featured Beat achon, a male a capella group whose members are Chaun Buman, Jordan B. Gorfinkel, Mou Lieberman, David Matkowsky, Rafi Rosencrantz and Avy Schreiber. Their performance featured Hebrew songs in both traditional and unnovative ways, such "Adon Olam" set to the time of "Under the Boardwalk." They also added humorous touches to their performance with sunglasses, toy trumpets and dance moves.

Proceeds from the \$8 tickets sold for the

concert will benefit Yad Ezra. Prima Birman, SCW '99, told the audience about the nature of the work that Yad Ezra spensors in Israel, which includes two homes for the mentally and emotionally disabled. low-cost daycare, housing for the poor, supermarkets that provide food for the needy at low prices and low-cost dental care.

"Last year, Rabbi

Waldman introduced us to Yad Ezra, and he initiated a project to raise enough money for one oom in Yad Ezra's Maon Tzxia, a post-natal convalescent center for mothers and newboms. This year, Yad Ezra will be conducting another raffle around Pessach time to help complete that goal."

can contact Birman or Avelet Golowa

Progress Being Made as New Dorm Prepares to Open in Fall '97

By Rena Krakowski

"After hving with four other girls in extremely cramped quarters, the prospect of having my own room in a new dorm is appealing," said Yedidah Goldman, SCW '99, "I just can't wait until the Schottenstein dorm opens."

The new eight-story Schottenstein Residence Hall, named after the Schottenstein family of Columbus, Ohio, who made the purchase possible, will house roughly 170 students. The building, which stands on 121 East 29th Street, consists of single-occupancy rooms, which are attached by a bathroom, as well as larger rooms which share a communal bathroom.

In the Schottenstein dorm, there are several large, multi-purpose rooms. Student groups have proposed to use one such room located on the ground floor, used by the previous institution as a dining hall, as a lounge where male guests may visit. This room could also function as a dining area for special occasions. The area has been designated as the major lounge, explained Jeffrey Rosengarten, director of Supporting Service Administration, because it is closest to the front of the building and the YU security personnel. Another large room on the ground floor will be furnished as a more formal space for occasional lectures and special functions. This room could also be used as a synagogue for Shabbatonim, as well as a Beit Midrash and study area. The room will be set up to allow for flexibility while retaining a formal atmosphere. In addition, on the second floor there is a stately, elegant sitting room which will be used as a lounge for females only. A sun room located on the eighth floor could be used either as a library or study space, or for leisure and relaxation.

The basement of the building includes a laundry room, another lounge equipped with a television, and a space that may be used as an exercise room. Currently, the potential exercise room remains as a "donor project" that has not yet been sponsored. According to Rosengarten, however, there is a "reasonable chance" that the room will be established as an exercise facility.

Initially, there were hopes that the new dormiry building would be open in time for the present 1996-1997 academic year. But as it was discovered that the internal structure of the building did not meet the standards required by the city codes, more construction was deemed necessary before the building could be occupied.

The majority of the construction was safety related. Asbestos was removed from various arcas in the building and a new fire command system was installed, including sprinklers in many locations. The electrical system in the building has also been updated to cater towards the unique demands of a femple dormitory. In addition, there will also be one handicap-accessible entrance to the building.

According to Rosengarten, the construction is progressing as expected and is perhaps even ahead of the anticipated schedule. He stated that "there is every reason to believe [the Schottenstein dorm] will open" for the fall 1997 semester. The time consuming work, such as the removal of abestos, has been completed. All that remains to be done is "fairly straightforward" cosmetic work.

Office of the Dean of Students Welcomes Dr. Stefan Bosworth to the Office of Pre-Health Advisement.

DR. STEFAN BOSWORTH

Monday	12:00 noon	- 8:30 p.m.	F419	Main Campus
Tuesday	9:00 a.m.	- 5:30 p.m.	SCW 110	Midtown Campus
Wednesday	2:00 p.m.	- 10:30 p.m.	SCW 110	Midtown Campus
Thursday	9:00 a.m.	- 5:30 p.m.	F419	Main Campus
Friday	9:00 a.m.	- 2:30 p.m.	F419	Main Campus

DR. DAVID WEISBROT

 Monday
 1:00 p.m.
 - 5:00 p.m.
 SCW 110
 Midtown Campus

 Tuesday
 9:00 a.m.
 - 5:30 p.m.
 F419
 Main Campus

SCWSC NEWS AND EVENTS



Elizabeth Renna, SCW '99, joined actors from Bravo Entertainment during Murder Mystery Night, sponsored by the SCWSC Senior Class.

Stern College for Women Student Council

American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) Belles (A capella Group)

Besamim Chemistry

Choir Computer Science Society

Education

Fine Arts Society Israel

J.P. Dunner Political Science Occupational Therapy

Pre-Law Psychology

Russian Sephardic Speech Pathology and Audiology

Steen College Dramatics Society (SCDS) Student Alliance for Global Awareness (SAGA) WYUR (YU Radio Station)

Zachor (Holocaust)

Alpha Epsilon Delta (Pre-Medical/Pre-Dental)

Psi Chi (National Psychology Honor Society) Sigma Delta Rho (Pre-Health Honor Society)

Besamim (Journal of the Arts) larion (Political Science Journal) Education Society Newsletter Guide to the Perplexed (Student Directory) In Motion (Student Council Newsletter)

Kochavia (Senior Yearbook) Nefesh (Medical Journal) Observer (Campus Newspaper)
Perspectives in Psychology (Psychology Journal)
Sigma Delta Rho (Pre-Health Journal)

Sounding Board (English Honor Society) Speech Pathology and Audiology Journal Zachor Journal (Holocaust)

Committees Academic Standards Athletic

Food Services Library Senate Shabbat Enhancement

On Campus Services

Blood Drive Bone Marrow Testing Cecil (Refrigerator Leasing) CPR Courses

Orientation Tay Sachs Testing (Joint with TAC) NY Times

SCWSC Executive Board

Tami Finkelstein President Emily B. Shapiro Chana Katz Vice President Treasurer Recording Sec

Laurie Gewirtz Rachel Milner Corresponding Sec *Parliamentarian, Hannah Shonfield, oversees

SCWSC Class Boards

Senior Class

President Vice President Junior Class President Vice President

Treasurer

Secretary Sophomore Class Vice President

Secretary President

Vice President Secretary

Debbie Bielor Courtney Marks Ilana Bruger

Shana Leibtag Mira Goldis Penina Savitsky

Jennifer Weiss Elizabeth Renna Ecti Miller Marina Klochan

April Simon Heather Goldstein Amy Gelb

SAGA: Making the Environment **Everyone's Concern**

Taking as their motto, "Don't Just Plant a Tree- Save a Tree!", this Tu B'shvat SCWSC Student Alliance for Global Awareness not only sold trees in Israel for the Jewish National Fund. but also informed students how to protect the environment and keep more trees from being

On Wednesday, January 22, SAGA organized a Tu B'sheat seder for students. The event included reading, singing, Divrei Torah and eating a variety of the fruits of Israel. The event had a strong turnout, prompting SAGA's co-president, Ora Shinnar, SCW '98, to comment, "I think the renewed celebration of this holiday is a reflection of the growing recognition that we need to have a connection with nature and the envi-

SAGA, which places a special emphasis on the religious obligation to safeguard our environment, plans a range of activities throughout the year. Last semester students at SCW were educated about the disastrous effects of industrialization by way of popular movies, such as the annested film been Carlls

Several activities are in the works for this iming semester, including a Shabbaton scheduled for March and a recycling drive. Nonrecyclable magazines will be collected and distributed to an appropriate organization while batteries will be gathered for proper disposal-

In congruence with their emphasis on the religious aspects of environmental concern SAGA will be co-hosting a BUDS study session "I think the religious Jewish community needs to show concern for their environment and needs to encourage environmental action in their community," said Shinnar.

For information about SAGA's activities, check out their bulletin board on the fifth floor and watch for posters advertising upcoming events. Students wishing to get involved should contact the Club Presidents, Nechama Mahler and

Inside the Cafeteria

Continued from page 1

was a volatile issue for those polled. Many respondents complained that the food was too greasy, and in general fattening and unhealthy. In response, Singer pointed out that the fried "vegetable scallops" and french fries are the most popular dishes, even for health-conscious SCW students. Some students seemed to overlook the fact that fat-free frozen yogurt and muffins are hardly calorie-free when full of sugar.

One student, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said that when she was a waitress for a Shabbaton, "We had a pet named Mickey Mouse in the kitchen

One o'clock to one-fifteen is consistently the most crowded time as students grab lunch between classes. The Food Services Committee hopes to get a third cashier for this time slot. The problem might be alleviated if more students ate lunch at the International Cafe located in Koch Auditorium. On a typical day, it was found that between 12 p.m. and 1:15 p.m., 370 people bought meals in the cafeteria and only 63 in the International Cafe. Although the delays can be annoying, several students commented on how courteous and friendly the food servers are.

Considering the often negative outlook of students surveyed, it was encouraging that 61% agreed that the hours that the cafeteria is open

are convenient for them. The most common complaint dealt with the period between 3 p.m. and 4:30 p.m., when both cafeterias are closed. Said Miniam Ben-Fara, SCW '98, "When you've tust finished classes [at 3 p.m.] and the caf closes on you it's a really depressing feeling. Some students only have that hour and a half free between

While the Department of Food Services must struggle to come up with one meal that 800 people will eat, the small size of SCW makes it unlikely that YU will follow the lead of universities such as Yale and Columbia, which are changing from traditional cafeteria-style food service to food courts which serve many types of food at once. And as long as students who dorm are required to pay for meals at the beginning of the semester. the cafeteria will have no competitive incentive to change the food service.

Meanwhile, the students and the committee are brimming with ideas; buying the main dish without the sides, using the cuf card at the vending machines, nutrition labels on food, spaghetti and meatballs, V8 and Snapple in the cafeteria.

All students are urged to direct their suggestions to Sylvia Grundwerg and the Food Services

Update: Brookdale Elevators

The December 30 edition of The Observer reported student concerns regarding the expired elevator certificates in Brookdale Hall. The Elevator Division of the New York Department of Buildings assured that the elevators were in safe running condition and that the temporary certificate, regardless of the expiration date, was valid for a full year.

The Brookdale Hall elevators were reinspected on January 7, 1997, and granted another temporary certificate, with an expiration date of February 7, 1997. According to Jeffrey Socol, Associate Director of Facilities Managment, the elevators were not given permanent certification as there is still minor work to be completed by the elevator company. Socol stated that the incompleted work does not effect the safe operation of the elevators.

A date for a third inspection has not yet been

This certification should reassure students wary of the elevators due to several problems which aroused in the weeks preceeding the intersession. Batsheva Elbaz, SCW '99, was in the elevator when one such incident occured. According to Elbaz, the elevator fell from the 8th floor to the basement without stopping on any of the floors pushed. The elevator doors were then stuck After appoximately 15 minutes the doors were opened and the students climbed out of the elevator, which had stopped about a foot below the basement floor.

"It was very scary. It was good that it was only from the 8th floor. Had it been any higher, it could've been dangerous," said Elbaz.

The Graduate School of Business Administration at Bar-Han University of Israel announces its new



TERNATION

• International Students & Faculty

Taught in English

• 4 semesters comprising 14 months

Bogins- October 1997

For more information, please contact:

Barden University 1-888-BNU-YEAR (212) 337-1286 or teblu@village.lcs.com

Dean Ethel Orlian



By Flanit Linstein

It has been a busy week at SCW. Thousands of stulents flooded the registrar's office, waiting in long lines to conster for classes. The faculty too, was busy, beloing students return to school, and preparing themselves for the new

Dean Ethol Orlian, Assistant Dean of SCW, spent the week making sure students were registered for their classes and sorting out problems that arose to ensure that the up ming semester runs smoothly. I had a chance to meet with Dean Orlian and talk to her about her responsibilities a

Orlian has been the Assistant Dean at SCW since the spring of 1979. She is a graduate of SCW and earned a B.A. n chemistry and a Bachelors of Religious Education. Afr graduating from SCW, Orlian conducted research at the NYU Medical Center. Shortly afterwards, she began teaching chemistry at SUW regularly, and occasionally taught date Studies classes. Eventually, Orlian was asked to asst Dean Bacon, and assumed the position she holds today

Originally, the position was supposed to be part-time, mly about 15 to 20 hours a week. However, Orlian, dedicated to her work, often stayed late or ended up taking home work. After some time, she took it on full-time. Since then, her responsibilities have grown.

"I view my role as helping [Dean Bacon] in whatever can do to alleviate the pressure on her," said Dean Orlian, tho spends a large part of her day dealing with students. She also said that as Dean, she has to deal with all the other offices, the registrar, the admissions office and orientation If I had to summarize it up," Dean Orlian said referring to her job, "it's being the central link between students, faculty and the other offices which service the students and

But summarizing Dean Orlian's job is not an easy thing to do. So much more is involved, including having input in the final semester schedule, reviewing summer school forms, administering exit exams and training student advisors. According to the Assistant Dean, the most time-consuming aspect of the job is the individual attention given to the students. "As a small school we pride ourselves on personal attention and I do believe that we give it," said Dean Orlian.

Orlian hopes to bring more to her position, "I always feel that once things are running smoothly, I would love to turn to more innovative and creative aspects that I think need to be addressed," she said, "Very often we don't get to ddress them simply because we are so bogged down with the day-to-day operations and there is so much that needs to be done. But there are many new areas that I think need to be embarked on and we're trying to address them." One area Dean Orlian would like to address is nutrition. She is also looking into a new program which would link all the offices of the registrar, admissions, dean and finance on one computer. BANNER, as the system is called, will help SCW offices better service the students.

Dean Orlian hopes SCW students take full advantage of all that is offered to them. She would like to see the students take challenging courses that stimulate their minds lowever, she acknowledges that women in modern times do not have it that easy. As a wife and mother of four boysall YU graduates--Dean Orlian understands the difficulty of balancing career and family. She values education, and hopes SCW can not only challenge each person to reach her potential, but will also give students a solid education o that they can make informed decisions applicable to real-

MEET THE DEANS

Up Close and Personal With Dean Karen Bacon

This fall marked the twentieth anniversary of Dean Karen Bacon's position as Dean of SCW. In 1977 she became the first Dean of SCW to also be an alumna, and since then has led the school in its triumphs and struggles as a Jewish women's liberal arts college

Che Observe

After graduating from SCW in 1964, Bacon went, on to earn a doctorate in microbiology from the University of California at I os Angeles in 1968. She was a National Institute of Health Postdoctoral Fellow (1966-68) and T.S. Public Health Service Postdoctoral Trainee at UCLA (1968-70). From 1972-75 she was a research associate of microbiology at Indiana University before becoming an assistant professor of biology at YC from

Just a year after becoming Dean of SCW, Bacon was appointed University Dean of Natural Sciences and Mathematics, a position she held concurrently with Dean of SCW until the latter position was discontinued. When she took that position in 1978, Rabbi Dr. Norman Lamm, President of VIII said "Dr. Bacon has the distinction of being the first woman and the first alumna of Stern College, and a former member of the YC science faculty to be appointed administrative head of the undergraduate unit. . She is an exceptional representa-

has served so well." In 1980. Bacon became a Fellow in Academic Administration with the American Council on Education and was recently involved in a Management Development Program with the Harvard Institute for Higher Education. She has received the Orthodox Union's National Education Award and n 1996 she became the first recipient of the Anne Schreiber Woman of Distinction Award

tive of the Stern College student body, which she

Despite her intrinsic role at SCW, many students are unaware of who Dean Bacon really is and the role she plays at SCW. A recent interviewrevealed her views about significant issues related to the school. What follows is a transcript of that

SJ: An article about your arrival at SCW in 1977 quoted the famous adage that all beginnings are difficult. Was it difficult for you when you became dean of SCW in 1977?

KB: In many ways it was actually made easy by virtue of the fact that the faculty gave me a lot of support. I wasn't a stranger to them and that eased the transition enormously. So I felt that I had the emotional and academic support that made this simpler. On the other hand, it was an enormous transition for me because I had never done any administrative work in my life. I had been a student and a research scientist, so the job itself was completely

SJ: Normally one would not think of a professor of science as the most likely candidate for dean of a college.

What made you interested in being the dean of SCW? KB: I never thought I would do anything like this. What I was interested in was Stern College and that's what I'm still interested in. When Dr. Lamm asked me to do this I thought less about what administrative work was like because I really didn't know, but I thought a lot about the fact that this school was very dear to my heart and I believe in its mission, and he envisioned that the school had a long ways to go to achieve its potential and he felt that I could help achieve that potential, and that was important to me. So I said sure, I want to do this.

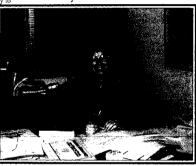
SJ: What have been the most significant changes at

SCW in the years since you've been here? KB: Well, the size of the student body has been a significant change because that does have an impact on all of our services and our curriculum and we have enlarged our student body considerably. In terms of curricular issues it enables us to have more courses and more diverse offerings because we have a larger group of students to service. It also has an impact on the facilities and that has become a major preoccupation of mine. How do the facilities keep pace with the size of the student body and the demands of the student body? But aside from those things I think our curriculum has changed in response to the way in which higher education has to service the world com munity. The liberal arts tradition is still alive and well and people believe in it and our faculty has been very carefully monitoring what the work place desires in graduates and has responded by developing programs that are based on liberal arts tradition but are clearly career oriented and that's changed dramatically. Way back in time we were exclusively a liberal arts college, and still are fundamentally a

bloral arts college but we also have career tracks and that's a major difference. And with that comes an emphasis on things hke internships and research projects and summer experiences that are something other than classroom experiences and all of that has made the institution very exciting and very much in keeping with the times. The other change of course is technology, that's not unique to us, all institutions are putting more and more technology into the classroom and we've been experimenting with it. Right now we have our first course that's being conducted using the tele-video link from Uptown and we're trying interesting new things

SJ: Is SCW the institution it's supposed to be? Do we live up to being both a yeshiva and a university and are there conflicts there, and how do you resolve those conflicts?

KB: There's no question that there are conflicts because although I believe strongly that our base is Torah and that the liberal arts can enrich our appreciation and growth as Forah personalities, there is absolutely no question that there are conflicts between the two because they are not identical and they are not equal. Immediately we know there are going to be conflicts. I am relatively happy with the way our



faculty and our students are dealing with these conflicts. In the sense that they're struggling intellectually and trying to internalize things emotionally but they are also being extremely rational and reasonable and recognizing that not every question has an answer, but every question is appropriate to ask. I think when people become stubbornly committed to every question has to have an answer right now that the conflict and the tension between the Torah and Madda parts of our university become in a sense a burden rather than a creative force. Our students have not taken that position, but there's no question that there's a long way for us to go. Our Judaic Studies Department has become stronger; it's become deeper in the sense that women are doing more in-depth study than they've ever done before, and I think it's becoming more creative. Women are feeling that they can be initiators in dealing with text and aren't entirely dependent on having secondary sources to interpret for them, all of which is very positive. I think that also more women are seeing that they have a contribution to make post-college in sharing their Torah education with their communities and some of our best and brightest are going into chinuch which is extraordinary. They have any number of choices and many of them to the outside word look a lot more prestigious choices than chinuch and that's not an issue for them. They're choosing what they think is the way in which they can make a contribution, and even beyond the ones who are interested in chinuch as a career. there are women just getting involved in adult education and informal education so that's very very exciting. In terms of the college itself, well of course we haven't reached our potential. I think we can grow again in depth and in breadth. I think our limitation is there's only so many hours in the day and college students' life is first and foremost learning, but it's not exclusively learning. There are things outside of the classroom that should be done and must be done that really enhance the individual's growth. And then there's an end to the day; there's a just limit to how much you can do. I think our mission is much greater than what any person can fulfill, but in some ways that's the way to live one's life. That you should see that there's a goal out there that is further than you can reach, but that shouldn't stop you from keep on driving towards it and trying to reach it. So no, we haven't fulfilled ourselves. I hope that the students individually can possibly fulfill themselves; I think they're doing a terrific job, and I think the institution is on track

SJ: I wanted to ask you about student accessibility Obviously, there is a whole staff of people at SCW to consulif students have concerns, but how much interaction do you — family," and that, in a sense is also a type of compromis do you hope to have? And if you'd like to have more, what - dress these issues facing students? can be done on the students' nart'

wasn't as highly developed, and a whole side of the institution called the Dean of Students Office. I had a lot more involvement with the students and interaction with the students. As we grew larger and the institution as a whole grew larger, there has been a greater investment in the Office of Student Services and students have begun to see that that's a choice, and it's a good choice. I think what I was the place they go to shmooze, to ask questions; anything other than strictly academics. I find that students have begun to come to this office, the Dean's Office, exclusively for academic issues, where in the past they came for broader isues, or even just to sit and talk. Personally I find it's a loss that I don't have the same overall contact that I had with students before. On the other hand I think the students are getting the responses and the attention they need. Recently the student council suggested we put back into place something we had years ago and that fell into disuse, and that's that I would meet periodically, but on a regular basis not just randomly, so that we'd know it's scheduled, at break fast meetings with students. Open to anyone, but there would be a core of student leaders who would be expected to come. and we could discuss all sorts of issues. I think that's terrific; I enjoy it. My work as Dean of the college extends beyond just the institution's walls. I have to do work with the development office too in trying to help the outside world become supporters of this institution. The more I know about our students--their aspirations, their strengths, their needs, their hopes, their dreams--the more I can inspire people on the outside to support us. So I certainly welcome the contact with the students. I need them to tell me what they're thinking, what they need and what they're hoping, and even what their fears and concerns are because all of that makes if possible for me to help them to reach answers. So sure, I want more contact with the students. There has been this kind of dichotomy which I think has been helpful because students do get a response in a timely fashion, but I would certainly hope students would continue to come to me and work with this kind of structure in place, these breakfast meetings, which may help give a form.

SJ: You are the first graduate of SCW to become its Dean, as well as the first female Dean. How has this affected your outlook?

KB: I think all of us know that when you write about something you write most powerfully about the things you know best and you have a feeling for. In administration, I sense that that's probably the same, and that I can feel most passionate about this institution because I was here. I lived with it, it affected and shaped the way I am, the way I think. I also have been a parent of students who went to this institution, so I have second connection to the institution. Do I think that people who don't have that background can have the same kind of passion and fire and insight? It's hard to say, you know, I think you have to be in somebody's shoes before you can say, but there's no question that when I came to this college in the sixties, I was coming from out of town from Los Angeles, far away. At that point Los Angeles was a very modest Jewish community and that's probably simi lar to communities outside of New York to this day, and had I stayed there I would have been deprived of this education and I think my life would have been very different. So I experienced what Stern College is and I think that does affect it. The other thing is that we all know a lot has been done in terms of women developing in the last twenty to thirty years. A woman's experience is not the same as a man's experience. It's hard for me to speak for men because I know I have not lived their experience. In the same way think it's hard for men to completely represent women be cause they also haven't had that experience and there are very different needs and attitudes and concerns and views and styles. The literature is full of this; it doesn't have to do with Stern College it has to do with different style. There's a different way of looking at the world, and it's a good way, and the men's way is a good way. And I think when they complement each other we have a whole, but a woman's voice should not in any way be attenuated by a man's voice. and I think that women have a unique experience

SJ: In the 1977 article about your arrival at SCW, Eva Grussgot wrote, "The Dean believes that a woman who enters Stern and wants to pursue a post graduate career 'cannot start out by saying I'll make a compromise because that is striving for less than excellence-which is unaccentable." Many students when they enter SCW say to themselves, "I'm interested in a certain field, but I would also like to have a

actually have with the students and how much interaction. Can you explain your original statement and could you ad-

KB. Well, I guess one thing is that I don't really like KB. Back in time when the Office of Student Services - the word 'compromise.' I like the word 'choice' Because when you say 'compromise,' and this nery not be what one intends, but there's almost the value judgment that one is lesser by virtue of having made a choice. And woman who choose to put family and community first are not in my mind using on anything, they're fulfilling themselves, and probably referring to at that time is that people shouldn't make automatic assumptions; it can't be done. These decisions, they should be for men too, but there's a whole his tory of men really not putting a lot of thought and effort into making choices. They make assumptions, not choices. My concern at that time was that women would make an assumption that they couldn't do certain things. Our history here has shown that women who are committed to certain career paths and really believe in it, and also have the ability to fulfill those career paths can equally be committed to home and family and pull both of them off. Of course doing this requires lots of different choices. But we have models, and I always say to students today who say to me 'I'm interested in career X, but I'm not sure if I can put that together with my first concern which is Y.' And I say to them, if you want me to give you names of people you could call to talk it over: people who've done it, and maybe people who decided not to do it, and it will belo you make an informed decision. But there's no question that it is doable to put together a very substantial creative career with a family and maybe it's because there are more supports in the community for this so that there's a kind of emotional intellectual support for it It's also true that we've been blessed, Boruch Hashem, by living in a more affluent society so that we have a lot o conveniences that make just daily life easier. There are a lot of things that make things possible today that were impossible thirty or forty years ago and students shouldn't live thirty or forty years ago, they should live today and take advantage of what they can and contribute what they can

SJ: As the President of YU, Rabbi Dr. Norman Lamm is also the spokesman for the university, and he's writter and spoken about our philosophy. Do you feel that SCW has its own philosophy, and if so, do you feel you represent it?

KB: I think we are part of the Torah-U-Madda philosophy of this university and my role is to somehow carry it on, but I don't think my role is to initiate a new philosophy for the college. We are definitely committed to the Torah-U-Madda philosophy. I think what Dr. Lamm expects of me, and what we're trying is to make it a reality for women. And the way in which women live this philosophy may be different from the way in which men live the philosophy, but this way of life is one that we're committed to intellectually and the Jewish Studies faculty are and they're the ones who interpret the Torah for the students in the classroom, and the rest of the liberal arts faculty help to interpret the Madda, and the students have to internalize the two and somehow make sense of this for their own lives

SJ: How do you feel SCW fits into the whole YU com-

ity, besides being the female aspect? KB: I think we're the crown. I think we have some times been overlooked because this institution started out as a male institution and certainly initially was dominated by that perspective because we were very small. At this point l think consciousness has been raised and the university is very much aware of Stern College and its concerns and its needs I think the university is looking to Stern College to have a very bright future built on a very impressive past. I think we're right there in the center at this point and that's good

SJ: You've said in the past that academics at SCW are comparable with academics at YC in both Judaic and secular studies. Do you still feel this way?

KB: Sure, except in some areas I think we're better e said that before, and I'll say it again. I also think that if you look one course at a time we are comparable to some of the best universities in the country. Our entire package is different from any other university because no one else has the richness in Jewish studies plus the other. If we go course by course. I think you can find real gems of courses here that are comparable to those you find any place. We're certainly equal academically to Yeshiva Coflege, and in some areas we're stronger. I admit in some areas they're stronger, but certainly we are in some areas stronger

SJ: Do you have any specific hopes for the next twenty years of SCW?

Continued on page 11

The Judaic Studies Dimension of the Dean's Office: Rabbi Dr. **Ephraim Kanarfogel**



By Kayla Pliskin and Avelet Grun

Rabbi Dr. Ephraim Kanarfogel teaches Jewish His tory and a whole lot more. As Dean of the Rebecca Ivry Department of Judaic Studies, Kanarfogel plans the detailed ins and outs concerning every Judaic Studies class taught in SCW

As a graduate of YC's first early admissions class in 1972. Kanarfogel continued his education at YU, receiving his B.A. from the first BRGS graduating class in 1976 and his Master's the following year. After attending YU's kollel and receiving smicha, he took additional classes in Columbia University and CUNY to obtain a doctorate in Medieval Jewish History from BRGS

Kanarfogel began teaching in IBC at the Main Campus in 1978 and started teaching in SCW part-time a year later. In 1981, after he completed all the courses required for his doctorate, he became a full-time faculty member of SCW. In 1984, Kanarfogel took over for Rabbi Saul Berman as chairman of the Jewish Studies Department in SCW. Last year, Kanarfogel became a full professor of Jewish History at the Rebecca Ivry Department of SCW

Kanarfogel enjoys teaching in SCW. He admits that he is fortunate to teach in his field of expertise. "One o the nice things," Kanarfogel expressed, "is that even as I administrate, I still teach, research and am an active academic and faculty member.

Kanarfogel stressed the importance for SCW students to receive a background in Judaic Studies. The emphasis on researching texts in addition to the lectures in class prepares and encourages students to further their inter ests in Judaic subjects. Kanarfogel noted that "it is always a treat" to hear how impressed other people are with the solid foundation SCW students receive in Judaic studies

Since the expansion of the CORE program in 1980 81, the Judgic studies denartment at SCW has added new programs and courses to meet student demand. The "tre mendous growth on the students' end" enables the de partment to develop further. Kanarfogel hopes that "as enrollment grows" the number of opportunities available through the Judaic studies department will expand as well. He noted the new Beit Midrash program and a class on the philosophy of Ray Kook as the faculty's response to student requests.

"We have open doors," Kanarfogel stated. If there is enough interest in a particular topic, and the possibility is feasible and "within reason," the Judaic studies department will meet student demand. Currently, Kanarfogel noted, the Judaic studies department has added and is hoping to add more selections of lower level Judaic classes for students who need to improve their skills.

Faculty members have integrated ideas of their own into the Rebecca Ivry Department of Judaic Studies, Bringing guests from Israel for Shabbat at SCW was an idea originated by the department. Another innovation of the artment is that students majoring in Judaic Studies will be allowed to write a paper rather than take a test to complete the major.

In addition to all the contributions he has made to SCW. Kanarfogel has done a substantial amount of work on his own. He is "pleased that through all the work teaching and administering" he can still research and publish In 1992, Kanarfogel published an expanded version of his dissertation in a book entitled Jewish Education and crety in the High Middle Ages. He won the National Jewish Book Award for this work in 1993.

Continued on page 11

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 Spring, 1997 semester.

Adjusting to college life can be both exciting and challenging. The staff of the Office 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,

Efrem Nulman

Etrem Nulman
University Dean of Students

F416

Belda Brau

Zelda Braun
Assistant Dean of Students
MID 114

David Himber

Associate Dean of Students

Dr. Stefan Bosworth

(Pre-Health Advisement) MID 110

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
Associate Dean, SSSB
(Career Services Director)

Ms. Naomi Kapp (Career Services) MID 923

MID 905

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

Assistant Dean, SCW (Academic Advisement) MID 102

Ms. Marjorie Rubins (Career Placement) MID 923 Dr. Eli Sar, M.D. (Medical Services)

Dr. David Weisbrot (Pre-Health Advisement) MID 110

Ms. Adrienne Wolff (Career Placement) MID 923



Student Committees

Continued from page 1

events for the spring semester

Another aim of the Athletics Committee is to publicize team sports and to encourage attendance during intercollegiate competitions.

Food Services Committee

The Food Services Committee, headed by Sylvia Grandwerg, SCW '97, is composed of student delegates who work together with the Department of Food Services to assure quality in cafeteria meals and vending machine selections. The delegates give suggestions and recommendations for the menu and for general improvements.

Developments in the past semester include the addition of a new toaster, vegetarian substitutes for dinner, cut grapefruit in the morning, and additional variety in all meals. New vending machines have also been placed both in the School Building and in Brookdale Hall, offering more selections.

Library Committee

The Library Committee acts as the batson between students and the library staff. They primarily deal with study space and scheduling of library hours, especially during exams and reading week. In the past, the committee has been instrumental in the establishment of the new single-study area on the bottom floor of the North Wing library and in the installment of new computers in the library.

Shabbat Enhancement Committee

A year ago, if a student was asked about staying in for Shabbat, the typical answer would be that the dorm did not really provide much of a Shabbat environment. Thanks to the efforts of the Shabbat Enhancement Committee, Shabbat this year is a completely different experience. With the guidance of Student Services Coordinator Beth Hait, the leaders of this committee have ensured that almost every Shabbat of the year has a sponsored Shabbaton. The committee is headed by SCWSC representative Sheila Wainberg, SCW '98, TAC Representative Rivki Garfinkel, SCW '97, and Chana Charpak, SCW '98.

The committee's purpose is to make staying in SCW for Shabbat a unique experience. The committee's activities range from ensuring food and publicity to hosting special guest speakers. Most Shabbatonim, usually sponsored by an SCWSC club or TAC committee, include a Friday night oneg, shiurim by Scholars in Residence or guest speakers, and arrangements for bikurcholim at local hospitals. A minyan on campus is available during almost every Shabbat.

Highlights of the fall semester include the reod-breaking Orientation Shabbat and the Yachad Shabbaton. Scheduled spring semester Shabbatopim include ones sponsored by Syms, the Israel Club, SAGA, SCDS and WYUR, among many others.

Student Life Committee

The Student Life committee represents the student body opinion by voicing student ideas, concerns and suggestions for improvements regarding non-academic related issues. Student representatives need with key administrators to address important issues concerning student life. The committee is headed by Hannah Shonfield, SCW '98.

Last semester, the committee addressed several areas related to student life on campus. For example, funding for the acquisition of new equipment and supplements for the exercise room, including more treadmills, free weights and recumbent bikes has been implemented through the Student Life Committee. Project approval and allocation of money has taken place for a menticah check in the near future. The installment of new computers in the computer room and improvements on the e-mail system are additional achievement of this committee.

Currently, the committee is working on several pressing issues. The new Shottenstein dormitory, expected to open next fall, is of utmost concern. The committee organized tours of the facility, collected surveys concerning the dorm, and made suggestions as to sample furniture and the layout of the dorm rooms.

Other issues being discussed by the Student Life Committee include installing warning bells for the five second time limit of the Shabbat clevators, providing swimming facilities for SCW students, acquiring additional bulletin boards for publicity purposes to be posted near the Brookdale elevators and in the school stainwells, and renovating the lounges in Brookdale, which would include the purchase of a new large screen television set, expanding van service to the Main Campus, renovating the Beit Midrash in Brookdale Hall to provide more space and an atmosphere conducive to learning, and installing portable mirrors in the gym and emergency teleponers/banic buttons in the fitness rooms.

All of the committees are overseen by Shonfield under her duties as Parliamentarian. "I want people to know not to be so negative, but that things can and are being done. The fact that these committees exist show that the administration is not only concerned with surface care, but they are actually listening to us." said Shonfield. "The more people who know about these committees, the more people will come to us with suggestions of improvements, the more we could better represent the student body." The committees are there for students to take advantage of. The improvements and accomplishments demonstrated by these committees is proof of how students can implement change by speaking out and working together.

Guaranteed Credit Cards With Credit Limits Up To \$10,000 Within Days! In the Credit Cards and Assauring Benefit! The Credit bad credit no income? Two Of The Most Widely Used Credit Cards in The World Today! Want VISA & Massier Card Credit Cards?

20 Years Ago in The Observer:

A front page article reported an Israeli move towards a free market economy by allowing the pound "to float."

An article discussed programs at YU for studying Gerontology to combat problems of the elderly.

An article titled, "Where Have All the Children Gone?" warned of the dangers of cults which could draw teenagers and college students away from Judaism.

Students were urged to get to know the newly appointed Dean Karen Bacon.

"Golda," a play about Golda Meir starring Anne Bancroft, was playing on Broadway.

CAN'T AFFORD A HOME? OUTGROWING YOUR APARTMENT?

WE WANT YOU TO JOIN OUR COMMUNITY!

FINANCIAL INCENTIVE AVAILABLE

Situated in the beautiful Sunnyside section of Linden, NJ, Congregation Anshe Chesed is looking for young Modern Orthodox families interested in purchasing a home. Our community offers:

- Easy commute to Manhattan and Brooklyn
- Eruv
- Ouiet neighborhood
- Moderately priced houses
- Beautiful shul building including gym and pool
- Near kosher restaurants, mikveh and day schools

COME SPEND A SHABBOS WITH US, AND EXPERIENCE THE WARMTH OF ANSHE CHESED FIRST-HAND.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT: REUVEN SPOLTER, AT 908-486-8616

Anshe Chesed

*financial assistance available to a limited number of applicants

CULTURAL ARTS

Three Sisters Brings Magic To Broadway

The Roundabout Theater Company is cut rently presenting Chekov's Trace Asserts, directed by Scott Elliott, who has also directed the version of these of time hier now running on Broadway Trecently saw Three Sesters in previous, and it was one of the most engrossing, moving plays I have ever seen

The all-star east, which included Amy Irving, Jerry Stiller, Fric Stoltz, Lili Laylor and Jeanne Empplehorn, was absolutely sensational Every actor in this play gave a stunning performance Calista Flockhart, who played the fianeee in The Birdcage, was particularly good--she was both enchanting and frightening as Natalya. the woman who marries the sisters' brother. Irving. Taylor and Tripplehorn were marvelous as the sisters. I am in utter awe of their respective talent. Eric Stoltz was adorably befuddled and sweet as the Baron, and Jerry Stiller made the manie velling he employs so often as George's father on Seinfeld a perfect part of the loving doctor Chebutykin. Also, anyone who sees Billy Crudup's excellent performance as the lovesick and slightly crazy Solyony will understand why he is becoming one of today's most sought after actors, having been in Sleepers and Everyone Says Love You. Their movie roles do not do any of these actors justice. The theater allows them to truly flex their actine mascles and show what they are capable of, I cannot imagine this play presented more clearly, or better acted

In this version, Chekov's play was completely understandable, and more than that, it seemed modern and relevant. The actors brought

the Russian characters to life. They were with charming, moving and trapic. To see such heavy drama played so seemlessly was inspiring, it reminded me of how wonderful classic plays can be if they are staged and acted in new, exerting ways. The play is long--around three hours--and vet it so encompassed my thoughts and emotions that time seemed to fly by. I really cannot say enough about how thoroughly I enjoyed this play It was an absolute pleasure to look at. The set was beautiful, though properly sparse at times, and the costumes were lovely. Yet I must again return to the performances. They really were what separated this production from all the other classic plays that I have seen in the past. The company made the story so real, and vet its weighty moral was strikingly apparent. Three Sisters is a perfectly mind blowing theater experience. I trust I have made my point.

The only thing more that I can say is that you must go see this play. It is rare that anything on Broadway is done so altogether beautifully. This production should not be missed by anyone. To see this cast assembled together on one stage is a unique opportunity that would be tragic to miss. The play's run is limited, however, and the theater is small, so I urge to see it as soon as you can. The Roundabout, located at Broadway and 45th Street, does offer student tickets at half price to those with a valid I.D. a half-hour before the show, if seats are left. For our sake I hope that they will be available. It is definitely worth trying to see this pure theater magic.

Evita and Everyone Says I Love You: The Musical is Back

The on-screen musical. It's the latest rage This winter, two directors have brought the enchantment of Broadway to movie-goers around the world. Woody Allen's Everyone Says I Love You and Alan Parker's adaptation of the Broadway musical Evita, charm the flickering big screen with song and dance reminiscent of the earliest "moving pictures" ever made.

In Everyone Says I Love You, everyone sings

and dances, including the frail looking, bespectacled director himself. His high pitched, tonedeaf approach is a bit harsh on the ears, but we can overlook it because he's, well, he's Woody Allen. The concept of the film is revolutionary it is a musical specifically east with non-singers. The all star members of the cast use their own voices, except for Drew Barrymore, who (perhaps petulantly, perhaps wisely) demanded to be dubbed. Goldie Hawn, playing the clueless but spirited human rights activist and mom, can, surprisingly, hold a note. But Julia Roberts' weak, hesitant wail--while possibly befitting of the confused, therapy addicted character she plays--is quite pathetic.

For the most part, the way the characters break into earnest song at the emotional high point of any given scene is hysterical. A crude, ciopathic ex-con woos a high-class blonde half his age with an earnest ballad. A hospital hallway filled with a wheelchair bound man, several broken boned people, and a few women in labor suddenly springs to life--nurses jitterbug with men in plaster casts, a guy in a straight jacket break-dances, an old man does a number with his IV pole--all while the unlikely ensemble sings in perfect harmony. The movie is crammed with the unexpected, and it is enchanting.

Also a musical, but on a completely different scale, the much hyped film about the rise of a small-town girl to that of a controversial, national personality hit the New York screens in late December Evita, the stunning result of composer Andrew Lloyd Webber and lyricist Tim Rice's collaboration, is as passionate, beautiful and stir-ring as a film can get. With this performance, Madonna blots out her past movie flops, proving herself as a commanding actor and a powerful

The film documents the steadfast rise of Eva Duarte from illegitimate, destitute child to prostitute to movie luminary. She marries Argentina's ruler Juan Perón (played by Jonathan Pryce) and becomes the glamorous symbol of hope for her country's working class. Madonna's Eva is tough and dogged from the start, and in her relentless drive to make it to the top, she soars with some of her finest singing ever.

As the wittily ubiquitous Ché, the film's cynical parrator. Antonio Banderas is extraordinary. Banderas moves and sings with such an intensity, he can make you blush. Emotions crash into his face like waves on a craggy shore--anger, love, passion, fear, sorrow--he does not hold back. and if his voice at any time lacks the power necessary for an emotional scene, his acting makes up for it tenfold.

With these two very different, but equally wonderful films, the fate of the movie musical seems to be in good hands. If the powers that be in movie-land continue to produce such fresh. exciting work, the public will hopefully embrace the musical once again and make it a popular genre of film. Make room, because the musical has returned, and it has done so beautifully.

Love Letters That Disturb

By Dina Bogner

On February 4, Love Letters to Adolf Hitler opened Off-Broadway at The Jewish Theater of New York, to much controversy. The play was written/compiled by Tuvia Tennenbaum from actual letters written by German women who were in love with Hitler and wrote him letters expressing their most intimate thoughts. Jewish groups threatened to bomb the theater and wrote letters and faxes threatening all those involved with the production. Neo-Nazi groups sent letters congratulating the theater on its fine contribution to New York theater. Larry King wrote about the show in his column and attended opening night along with his friend Al Pacino, I too, attended the show's opening night, and therefore am quite thankful that none of the Jewish groups carried out their threats. While I may agree that portraying Hitler as a beloved man is not necessarily a positive contribution to Jewish Theater, I must say that I most assuredly and vehemently disagree with Jews threatening to bomb other Jews in protest of a play. A 'why can't we all just get along' type of statement seems almost superfluous here

Love Letters weaves together letters from German women from different walks of life. The characters are a young, well-off schoolgirl; a poor, depressed, married woman; and a single, committed Nazi government worker. There was also German-speaking sort of iconic character, and a women who sang periodically throughout the show. I will not pretend to have understood their purposes in the show. The play was acted well and presented on a beautiful set. The letters were powerful, strange, sad and disturbing. I was very moved by what was occurring on the stage throughout the play. Yet, when the play ended, I was not quite sure what its point was. FortunatelyI was able to hear Tennenbaum speak after the play. He explained that in presenting these letters as a play, he wanted to show that the Germans who participated in the Holocaust were not monsters, and that if we dismiss them as such we are letting them off the hook. Saying that they were not human is like saying that no other group of people at another point in time could perpetrate the crimes they committed. Tennenbaum feels that doing this would make us overly secure in our present situation. His point in presenting this play, he said, was to show that the Gerans who were involved in the Holocaust were capable of the most human emotions, including love, and therefore were quite human in their emotional makeup. He therefore feels that any group of people are capable, in the proper setting and situation, and with the requisite amount of brainwashing, of becoming Nazis. Love Letters, according to Tennenbaum, should be a warning to those who see it that a Holocaust could happen again, and that we must therefore never feel so comfortable that we lessen our efforts to prevent

Having said that, I feel that The Jewish Theater of New York could have spent their effort, time and money on a project whose message is more clearly evident. I am far from the first person to shy away from controversy and I hardly feel that the only worthwhile Jewish plays are The Diary of Anne Frank or Kindertransport. I admire the work that the JTNY has done in the past, as alternative as they have always been. Yet I feel that the message of Love Letters to Adolf Hitler was too shrouded to have been effective, and without a point, the play was just plain disturbing. Then again, maybe that was the point.

CHECK IT OUT!!!

YOUNG LEADERSHIP - BEIT MIDRASH -TORAH STUDY PROGRAM

Monday Evenings 7:15PM - 8:15PM Eight Sessions February 3, 1997 - March 24, 1997

We look forward to welcoming singles and young marrieds who live in our community. Open To Men And Women Of All Ages Please Join Us Free-of-Charge!

Choose from one of four classes being offered simultaneously:

Talmud Group

Tractate Berachot. Come experience the excitement of critical thinking and logical reasoning that our people have engaged in for centuries. This small group is perfect for those who have had little opportunity to enrich themselves with Talmud study. General Topic: Laws of Prayer. Introduction to Talmud

Journey back 2000 years into the World of Hille! & Shamai, Rabbi Akiva, Rabbi Yehuda HaNasi, Ravina & Rav Ashi, Abaye & Rava, Rav & Shmuel. Learn who they were? What they did? And Why they did it? How does the Talmud affect us today? And How we continue the chain connecting the glorious past to our

Weekly Torah Portion. This popular class offers an exciting week by week analysis of the Parshah. The class will seek to uncover the mysteries of our Torah by drawing from classic biblical commentaries to enlighten the understanding of the text.

Introduction to Judaism How do we know that G-d exists? Do our prayers have meaning? What is our role as Jews in this World? Why does the Torah play such a central role in our lives? If these and other questions are bothering you here is your opportunity to debate and discuss these central issues to the Jewish faith

If you would like to sponsor an evening's learning In Memory of a relative, In Honor of a friend or to Commemorate a family Simcha hindly contact the Synagogue office.

Congregation Falmud Torah Adereth I I

Top Ten Improvements That Should've Been Made Over

By Laverne and Shirley

- 10. Repaint the 11th floor. No more puke green.
- 9. Create a dating page on the Official YU website.
- 8. Every Caf cold cut sandwich should come with two
- 7. Why is one of our walls doing its own thing? Please let us have four white walls!
- 6. No more 9 a.m. classes.
- 5. No more dumb names for food on the Caf menu. We know there's no difference between Maryland chicken and Southern chicken.
- 4. Please stop stuffing our mailboxes with fliers that are already on every wall and staircase, and were already stuffed in our mailboxes vesterday.
- 3. Why can't we smush a 15th person into the van?
- Using the Stern Library xerox machine should not cost more than a kidney transplant.
- 1. Every hour should be club hour.

Dean Bacon

Continued from page 7

KB: Well, I hope we will continue to grow. because I do believe there are many, many Jewish women out there who can benefit from this education and who can contribute to this education. Although I'm very pleased that we've grown as large as we are, if we look at the whole American Jewish Community we are minuscule compare to all the Jewish women out there of college age, most of whom will have no Jewish education. So I hope we can grow, and grow in the sense that there will be more women out there who are looking at themselves and saying. I need to grow Jewishly, and the only way to do that is to learn Torah.' Thinking about it and feeling good is not the same as growing Jewishly and learning Torah. So I hope we'll grow. The other thing I hope for us is that our graduates will take even greater interest in the future of this college than they have so far. It's been difficult because our graduates go on and they work on their careers and their families and their children and this consumes them enormously and it's hard to fit a place into that kind of the for Stern College. On the other hand I think the future of this institution is very much dependent on the vision of our graduates. They have to help us plan for the future by telling us what they see for Jewish women in the next century. So I hope that the graduates of this college will become more involved with us than they have in the past. Those who are in a position to support us financially, that would be certainly very valuable, but even beyond that just their own sense of where Jewish women should be in the next century. We need their vision.

SJ: Do you have any messages for the student body?

KB: I've said it in many other contexts, I'll KB: I've said it in many other contexts, I'll work product of our student body for having chosen to come here. Iknow that many of them had other choices, tantalizing choices, and I'm proud that they made this choice, and I know they made the right one.

Rabbi Kanarfogel

Continued from page 7

Currently, Kanarfogel is in the midst of finishing his latest book: "Peering Through the Lattices: Mystical, Magical and Pietistic Dimensions in the Tosafist Period."

Kanarfogel has lectured in various universities, including Hebrew University and Ben Gurion University in Israel. As a scholar-in-residence at the University of Pennsylvania last year. Kanarfogel participated in bi-weekly "think-tank" conferences. Although he teaches exclusively at SCW, Kanarfogel regularly attends and delivers papers at other academic conferences.

Kanarfogel considers his research and outside lecturing as a way to both improve his teaching in SCW and bring attention to the Rebecculary Department of Judaic Studies, as well as conveying the successes of SCW to otherthroughout the world

The Stern College Dramatics Society proudly presents



For tickets contact the office of student services or:

Ilana Bruger 951-4864 Devorah Cenker 481-1306 Rachel Galitzer 779-0816 Susan Shapiro 545-0159 Rina Weinstein 725-2701 Starring
Ilana Adler
Dina Bogner
Joelle Bollag
Chani Krich
Sabina Krich
Rachel Sadres

SCW Student Counci

SCW SPORTS

Fitness Flash

Post-Vacation Blues

By Michal Greenwald

Vacation has quickly passed and a new senester has begun. Unfortunately, vacation sometimes means a break from sensible eating and exercise. It is perfectly fine to take a break once in a while as long as you don't fall into the lazy rut so many of us fall into.

We tend to forger how great a beathier lifestyle made us feel back when we were on a mission to get trim for Florida, Israel, the Bahamas or any other warm climate vacation spot. But do not give in to the post-vacation slump. Get out of the dorms and exercise! Take the stairs as often as you can. Join a gym or use the school gym. If you don't have time then take a walk during lunch. Read

inspiring articles on health. Be persistent and dedicated because aren't you worth it?

Commit once again to fitness and health. If you think two weeks have set you back, imagine five months or two years. Don't let it get that far. It's a new year and a new semester, which is a new opportunity to become a stronger, healthier, more confident individual. Don't get depressed if you feel completely out of shape after two weeks of eating, sleeping and relaxing. Our body and minds need a break once in a while. Just do not give up and get over the post-wacation hinse.

The SCWFencing Team: On the Cutting Edge

By Cheryl Younger

The yonen's fencing team experienced their first conflection of the year as they bouled City College on Monday, January 27. According to Rose Flyas, captain of the foilist squad. "The women's fencing team is off to a smashing start." In fact, for a team that began just one year ago, they performed admirably, and won one quarter of their matches.

Coached by Joste Fusco and managed by Read Sadres, this year's fencing team includes foilists Fijas. It in Shmidman and Lisa Kaplan and epec members Candice Levy, Cheryl Younger and captain of the epec squad. Abigail Shapiro. This past competition included substitutes Sara Golpariani and Nazanine Kohan.

Fencing is a jousting sport in which the object is to obtain the greatest number of touches on one's opponent. During a bout, a fencer is connected to an electronic sensor which helps the

director tie. referee) determine who has been touched. The sport can be performed with one of three weapons: epec, foil, or sabre. Each weapon introduces a slightly different game. The epec is a long blade with which any part of their opponent's body is fair game for obtaining a touch. However, the foilist is restricted to the torso, and uses a shorter blade. The sabre is the sharpest and most swordlike of the weapons. Based on the weapon, one employs different techniques and strategies. Therefore, most fencers are trained in one specific area.

SCW's fencing team jousts only with the epee and foil, due to the added danger involved in the sabre.

The fencing team is open to new members. If interested, please contact Josie Fusco at 340-7726 or come to the 11th floor gym on Tuesday nights at 7 p.m.

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

Latest News From the Basketball Court

By Sheara Fredman

Many of us enjoyed a relaving two week interession, worry free. But for a small group of dauntless young women, the relaving vacation provided ample time to divulge into their athletic skills on their own, as well as a team. The SCW basketball team utilized the past vacation from studies to focus on their athletic improvement and ability.

The reason the players felt such a strong need to examine playing routine is because in their last game before final exams on December 17, they were sorely beat by the Mount Saint Vincent team. The main skill the team has spent much time improvings their shooting skill. The team continues to work different drills to better their shooting percentage. They have also been diligently working on perfecting their offense.

This week it became evident that all their hard work paid off. On Sunday, January 26, the Lady Macs played the team from the College of New Rochelle, whom they proceeded to dominate from the start of the game. The team played with phenomenal defense and were able to shut down the best player from the opposing team.

The Lady Macs came out very strong at the beginning of the game. They were able to create such a large lead that they could slide a little in the second half and still come ahead with a 49-45 victory.

The game marked two very significant occasions. First, Gila Blazer, SSSB '98, scored a career high eight points during one game. Second, this game marked the 100th win for coach Steve Young. The team congratulated him on his excellent coaching skills which have brought him to this momentous time.

"Steve young is a very patient coach. We greatly appreciate his dedication to our team and we hope to bring many more wins home in the future," said Blazer.

Lady Macs February Schedule

Sun	2	St. Joseph's (LI)	2:00 p.m.	Away
Tue	4	SUNY-Maritime	8:00 p.m.	Away
Thu	6	Stevens Tech	7:30 p.m.	Away
Thu	11	Brooklyn College	8:00 p.m.	Home
Wed	12	Lehman College	8:00 p.m.	Home
Tue	18	SUNY Maritime	8:00 p.m.	Home
Thu	20	St. Joseph's (LI)	8:00 p.m.	Home
Sun	23	IAC Tournament	TBA	
Wed	26	IAC Tournament	TBA	

The Observer 245 Lexington Avenue New York, New York 10016