

Missionary Madness

RACHEL S. SALAMON
Executive Editor

Armed with an extravagant budget of over eleven million dollars, Jews for Jesus is actively marketing their material to Jews with more success than most people think, and they are in the company of almost 900 other such missionary organizations. Although this movement is largely neglected by mainstream Judaism, the gravity of their purpose has begun to alarm Jewish communities around the

Mark Powers has been working for over fifteen years to alert Jews to the threat of the well-funded movement to convert Jews to Christianity. He clarified the role his organization plays in reversing the effects of groups like Jews for Jesus.

"Whenever they talk about their opposition," Powers said, "the only group they mention is Jews for Judaism. They truly hate what we do; obviously, it doesn't bother me."



Jews for Jesus headquarters in Manhattan

world. Now more than ever, Jews for Jesus is involved in a campaign to proselytize to as many Jews as possible before the new millennium.

"There are [missionaries] on the corner of 29th and Lexington, by Schottenstein [Residence Hall], handing out pamphlets," said Elyssa Stein a SCW senior, observing the area around Stern. "I have a friend who, every time he sees one of these missionaries, takes as many pamphlets as they'll give him so that he can throw them out."

A major organization dedicated to countering the efforts of missionaries is Jews for Judaism International. National Director

As the largest full-time counseling and educational counter-missionary organization, Jews for Judaism has assisted over 200,000 Jews to date, with offices all over the United States, Canada, South Africa and Australia functioning as crisis intervention centers.

Although once a Hebrew-Christian for five years, Julius Ciss is now the Director of the Toronto office of Jews for Judaism. He found his way back to Judaism after concluding that there were major discrepancies within Christian texts and deciding that Hebrew-

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Giuliani Speaks on Violence Affecting Jewish Community

NECHAMA MILLER
News Editor

Days after a racially motivated shooting at a Los Angeles Jewish Center, New York City Mayor Rudolph Giuliani met with local Jewish leaders and law enforcement officials to discuss the need for safety precautions in the numerous Jewish centers, shuls and schools in the New York area.

Addressing the standing room only crowd in the City Hall Blue Room, Mayor Giuliani, along with New York City Police Commissioner Howard Safir, reassured the 25 Jewish officials present that he will provide increased security over the next month and especially for the upcoming High Holy Days.

Mayor Giuliani warned that although there are no well known hate organizations situated in the New York City area, that does not mean that New Yorkers are immune to racially motivated attacks.

"We have no evidence, no intelligence suggesting a connection to New York," said Mayor Giuliani. "We do however have the same concern that everyone has about acts of imitation."

As a result, noted Police Commissioner Safir, more cops and law enforcement agents "will

be on the lookout as a just-in-case."

At about 10:49 A.M on Tuesday, August 10, Buford O. Furrow Jr. walked into the North Valley Jewish Center in Granada Hills, California, and fired 70 shots from his Uzi submachine gun, hitting five people, including three children at a day camp.

After turning himself in to law enforcement officials, Furrow, a member of a well-known white supremacist group, said this shooting was meant to be a "wake-up call to kill Jews." Later on Furrow confessed he killed a Filipino-American letter carrier because he was a nonwhite "target of opportunity."

His statements sent a shock wave through Jewish communities around the world, and action was soon taken at shuls, Jewish community centers, and schools - including Yeshiva University and Stern College.

David Pollack, Associate Executive Director of the Jewish Community Relations Council of New York, was present at Giuliani's press conference, and strongly agrees on the need for security at prominent Jewish schools like Yeshiva College.

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Construction Laborer Dies in Fall Off Belfer Hall

Observer Staff

An 18-story fall killed construction worker Marek Soltys, 33, when he tumbled off a scaffolding surrounding Belfer Hall August 18th.

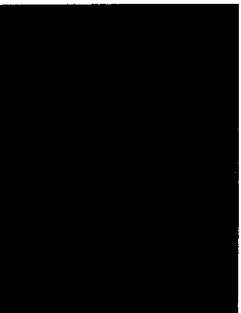
The scaffold collapsed under Soltys, a Brooklyn resident, as he examined bricks for Jerrick Waterproofing, according to the New York Police Department. YU hired the company in order to comply with a New York City ordinance that was created following the falling-brick casualties in Times Square last year.

As Soltys fell, he nearly landed on Leonardo Galvan, 25, an employee for New York Paving.

"When he fell, he fell right was next to me and there was blood everywhere," Galvan told the Daily News.

According to co-workers, Soltys is survived by his wife and daughter.

This accident is the second of its kind in the past two weeks. Soltys' death follows a construction accident in Brooklyn that killed a worker in Bay Ridge, Brooklyn.



courtesy of Dassi Zaidel

Boboli Gardens in Florence

SCW, YC Students Explore Art and Physics in Italy

Study Abroad Made Possible by Honors Program

SARA KOSTANT
News Editor

When we think of Italy, the Leaning Tower of Pisa and lyrical accents come to mind. But for some Yeshiva College and Stern College students, Italy conjured images of a classroom?

Not an actual classroom of course, but an interactive one, where students could view art history and physics in a new light. Thanks to an honors program recently instituted at Yeshiva University, a study abroad program for YC and

SCW students was inaugurated this past summer in Italy.

Several SCW students spent ten days in Florence taking a course called, "Art and the Jewish Culture in Medici Florence" (Art 4932H). The participants received three honors credits for the course, which required readings from relevant texts, daily journal entries, and a paper. The similarities to other SCW art courses ends there. These students did not just look at slides of famous Renaissance

artworks, they had the opportunity to actually see these works. Standing only a few feet away from a sculpture adds a new dimension to an art course which cannot be experienced in the classroom, according to Evelyn Cohen, Professor of Art at SCW.

"A great work of art has to be seen to be experienced completely," said Professor Cohen. "We studied Michaelangelo's David in class...when they [the students]

saw the original they were overwhelmed." Shara Thurm, a SCW senior and participant in the Italy course, agreed. "We saw most things on slides before we actually saw them...when we saw them we were surprised at how big they [the artworks] were."

Many of the students who traveled to Italy were either Art majors or minors. According to Professor Cohen, a background in art history was

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.....News Briefs.....

International:

IRAQ- American planes fired on an Iraqi air defense depot after being bombed by the Iraqi military, according to the U.S. military at the Incirlik airbase in Turkey last week.

RUSSIA - Amid an increase in Anti-Semitism in the area, a new shul was dedicated in Borovichi by Jews in San Francisco to protect Jews in that area of Russia from Neo-Nazi activity. The shul, named Beth Torah, contains a Jewish social club with a library, a welfare organization and a human rights center.

TURKEY- Some rescue teams are beginning to pack up after many are giving up hope for any survivors amid the rubble. Although there have been miraculous discoveries of survivors, many rescue crews want to turn the focus on the estimated 200,000 left homeless by the quake.

Israel:

U.S. Secretary of State Madeline Albright's trip to the Middle East is back on schedule after being postponed earlier this month. The four-day trip, which was pushed off due to Israeli-Palestinian peace talk negotiations, is set for Sept. 1 and will include Israel, Egypt, and Jordan among others.

After the assassination two weeks ago of Ali Dib, a top leader of the Hezbollah terrorist

organization, three Israeli soldiers were killed and five were wounded in what is being called the fiercest fighting in southern Lebanon in months. Although Israel did not claim responsibility for the assassination of Dib, Hezbollah has said that this recent violence in Lebanon was "only the beginning of numerous operations" against Israelis.

Israeli search and rescue crews came numbering 170 to the aid of Turkey to help victims buried under the rubble from last week's earthquake. This natural disaster measured a 7.8 on the Richter scale and has claimed more than 13,000 lives as the death toll rises.

Israeli officials defended a plea agreement they reached on Samuel Sheinbein, a 19-year-old Maryland resident who fled to Israel to take advantage of extradition laws after being accused of murder. He was sentenced to 24 years in prison in exchange for his guilty plea.

The Israeli Supreme Court ruled that giant pieces of electrical equipment must be moved on Shabbat, despite the objections by religious parties. These loads of equipment are delivered on Shabbat in order to prevent traffic jams.

National and Local:

NEW YORK - The New York police department is calling the

arson last month at Temple Beth Chai in Hauppauge, NY, a hate crime. Although there were no injuries, the shul sustains damage. As of yet, the NYPD has found no suspects.

NEW YORK CITY - About \$20 million in two Bank of New York accounts believed to be a major money-laundering operation have been seized by officers with the Russian Organized Crime Task Force, a partnership between the FBI and the NYPD.

WASHINGTON- New York Congressman Charles Schumer has called for stricter gun control and a crackdown on hate organizations after the recent racially motivated shootings at a Los Angeles Jewish center. Schumer, an avid supporter of gun control laws, is urging Congress to investigate Neo-Nazi groups and put them on a list of terrorist organizations, making it harder for them to gain access to weapons.

COLORADO- Swastikas were discovered at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colorado on the first day of school this year. The incident comes not only in the aftermath of the Los Angeles shootings, but after the solemn return of students at Columbine to the site of the April 20 shootings where 12 students and a teacher were gunned down by fellow classmates.

Editorials

Justifiable Neglect?

MIRIAM ELIAS
Editor-in-Chief

It's rather amusing to know that some of the administrators of your own university think you don't matter.

Midtown campus? "Who cares what they do there...they don't matter," said a high level administrator Uptown.

But I think it serves us right for all those SCW students who refuse to take a stand on anything.

For all those clubs with three members.

For all those students who refuse to give their name for a quote in the paper because they are afraid of how they sound or do not want to be too negative.

For all those students who refused to sign last May's petition because they thought it was too demanding. Too demanding? Too demanding to ask your college to live up to its purpose of providing you with a decent learning environment?

If SCW students are too busy whining about being ignored, maybe it is time they stopped whining and looked at the reason why.

Last May, over 100 SCW women verbally requested to keep the dormitories open for the Shavuot holiday. A minimum of 30 were required to sign up in the cafeteria, according to an agreement between the YU administration and the Student Life Committee. Out of the 880 women in SCW last year, only 18 followed through and actually signed up to attend. Why bother to complain in the first place if you don't care enough to do anything?

A senior brunch last year had an attendance under 20. There were hundreds of seniors last year. Every single one received an invitation. Where were they? If students really cared about changing the inadequacies of this institution, they should join the Student Life Committee, speak to the Deans, start a club, or write a letter to this publication as a call to public action. Until we do something, we're like chickens flapping our wings and landing in the dust.

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Paranoia vs. Complacency

RACHEL S. SALAMON
Executive Editor

While the Y2K bug has been avoided in death by the courts, a new millennium was heralded by a series of events that were anything but peaceful.

What the latter fail to recognize is that, indeed, disasters lurk around the turn of the millennium. Just two months ago, when the unusually severe heat caused power in parts of the tri-state area to fail, a number of people who were hit without air conditioning in 100-degree weather ended up dead. Inexpensive businesses and homes that had no air conditioning died. The heat was a harbinger of things to come. Hopefully there will be no reason to hide at the moment while looking for a decent shelter for those who are hit by the bug and radiation, but there is an increase in the awareness of the potential problems.

Only the thoroughly informed and well-heeled can ignore the devastation that may very well come some time later. Consider this: Hundreds of billions of dollars in goods are traded daily with European companies that are expected to be the Y2K compliant at the turn of 2000 and at worst not until 2005. Our country's volatile stock market could very well see its downfall when paranoid investors pull their funds for fear that they might be left penniless when companies fail to pass the thousand test.

But the blackout of '99 is only a microcosm of

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YULIS, the online catalog for the Main and Midtown campus libraries at Yeshiva University, is now available via the web. Link to <http://www.yu.edu> and click on Libraries. You will find a link to YULIS on the bottom bar. Alternatively you may link directly to the catalog: <http://www.yu.edu/libraries/yulis.htm>

Welcoming Message

Lost Opportunities

A Rosh Hashana Message

De ar Students,

I take this opportunity to welcome you as we begin this new academic year and to share with you my enthusiasm for what lies ahead.



This year will mark the greatest change since the 1970's in the physical face of our campus. The new computerized chemistry labs open this fall. The expansion of academic space into 215 Lexington Ave., anticipated for the spring, will give us new classrooms, faculty offices, student lounges and study space. And the eagerly awaited cultural center is scheduled to be operational within the next few months. This is also the year of powerful academic initiatives - a challenging array of new courses, an Honors Program, additional faculty in key areas of student interest, innovative interdisciplinary courses with more planned for the future, a summer 2000 art course in Amsterdam modeled after this summer's successful course in Florence, Italy.

Outside the classroom the college will once again provide cultural enrichment in the form of tickets to plays, concerts, and much more in the best of New York tradition. And we are planning an entire year of events from films to debates to highlight an enormous worldwide challenge - preserv-

ing and enhancing our natural environment.

With so much going on inside and outside the classroom, I am certain that each of you will find at least one area in which to invest yourself beyond the ordinary.

Do you feel strongly about the web as a communication device for students? Come forward to help us develop our web pages. Do you have an interest in architecture and design? Make your voice heard at the Student Life Committee meetings when we discuss the design and utilization of our new facilities. Do you want to share of your Torah knowledge with others? Serve as a volunteer tutor both on and off campus. And, above all, invest yourselves in your classes where each day will bring an examination of what is known and an exploration of what is yet to be discovered.

In this month of Elul, as we consider from whence we have come and to whence we are drawn, I urge you to examine your educational goals as well. Stern College has never been stronger or more alive with opportunities. If you bring to the classroom your academic strengths, your intellectual curiosity and your commitment to the betterment of our community, you will find more than ample reinforcement and reward for your efforts.

May you and your families be blessed with a year of good health, happiness, success and peace.

Sincerely,

Karen Bacon, Dean
Stern College for Women

Shalom U'verakha to all students, old and new, as your faculties and administration welcome you to our undergraduate campuses. We are proud of you, our student body. You have entrusted to us your academic development and Jewish growth, and we have every intention of fulfilling our responsibilities to you. It is to our interest and to the interest of the entire Jewish community that you mature in personality, improve in character, express latent talents, and grow in both Torah and Madda-and in *yirat shamayim*.

In order to accomplish that, we have provided you with improved facilities, experienced counseling and, above all, an outstanding faculty in both the academic and Torah spheres. Yeshiva University has been recognized throughout the country, and beyond, as a first-rate institution of higher education and as a Torah institution of the highest caliber. And this year, for the first time



officially, we offer a superb Honors Program that will be available to both Yeshiva College and Stern College for Women students.

This means that you have before you unparalleled opportunities to grow in all facets of your life, to learn at the feet of masters, to elevate your aspirations, to find meaning in your existence. It would be tragic if you allowed yourselves to be distracted from such lofty goals by wasting time or indulging in non-productive conduct that is the mark of lingering immaturity.

Someone once asked the Gerer Rebbe - the great Hasidic teacher known by his *halakhic* work, the "*Hiddushet ha-Rim*" - why it is that the

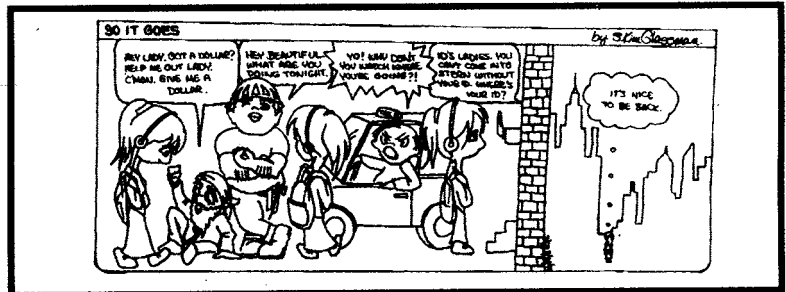
one point in the Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur service that proves most emotional, that more than any other prayer evokes tears from the serious worshiper, is the paragraph that begins with "*Adam yesodo mei'afar ve'sofo le'afar.*" man's origin is dust and his end is dust." Since we leave as we came, we have lost nothing; so why cry? His wise answer was: True, man's origin is dust, but he was endowed by his Creator with the capacity to elevate that dust to Heaven, to break out of the inexorable biological cycle and achieve spiritual eminence. Failure to avail yourself of this priceless opportunity is something to weep and wail about!

So, *carpe diem*, seize the opportunities that Yeshiva offers you. Exploit them for your own benefit and the greater glory of Torah, *Am Yisrael*, and all humanity.

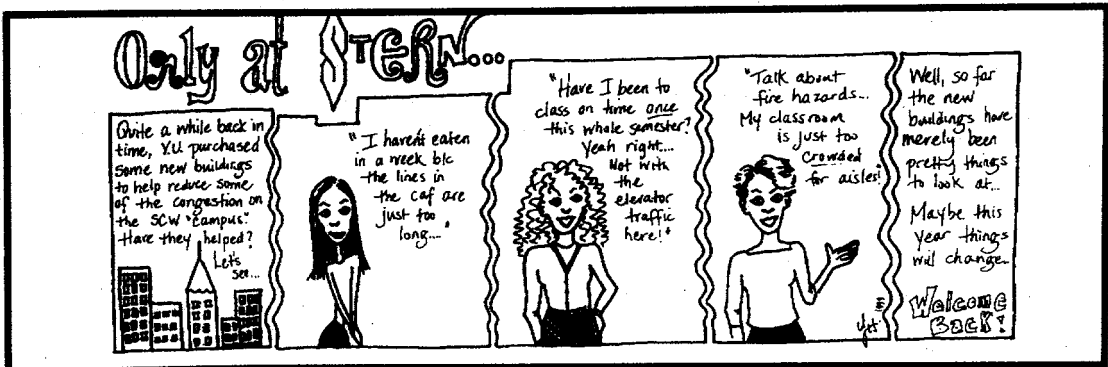
You have my best wishes for a *ketivah ve'hatimah tovah*.

Norman Lamm, President
Yeshiva University

Orientation Schedule of Events



Wednesday September 1	Thursday September 2	Friday September 3	Shabbat September 3-4	Saturday Night September 4	Sunday September 5
<p>Orientation - Big Apple Bus Tour of City - Great Adventure</p> <p style="text-align: right;">10:00 am</p>					



Petition Pressures Administration to Hasten Renovations

SARA KOSTANT
News Editor

When an innocent faculty-student discussion group last May turned into an examination of the SCW midtown properties and the lack of progress thereof, students decided to take action. Yehudit Robinson, SCW '99, and several other students to compose a petition directed to Dr. Norman Lamm, President of Yeshiva University regarding the lack of information available about the construction of the new midtown properties and the seemingly endless delays.

The letter re-emphasized the problem of overcrowding at SCW, and also expressed the students' frustration at being kept in the dark about problems with the renovations. (The text of this letter is accompanies this article.) Simply writing a letter of complaint was not enough, though. The authors wanted Dr. Lamm to know that the rest of the student body shared their sentiments. During finals week several authors circulated the forms and school buildings collecting signatures from SCW students. The signatures were attached to the letter that was sent to Dr. Lamm.

At the discussion group last May students asked SCW Dean Karen Bacon when the renovations of the news properties would be complete. Yeshiva University had purchased the buildings on 205-215 Lexington Avenue, as well as additional space at 150 East 35th Street and 239 East 34th Street, in order to provide a new theater and sorely needed classroom space for the burgeoning SCW student body.

Yet Dean Bacon could not reassure them that the renovations were going smoothly. "The students were asking when the theater would be ready," Dean Bacon remarked. "I said that yes, there were delays, and I wasn't sure when it would be open. I couldn't tell them when the Lexington building was going to be available."

Dean Bacon understands the students' frustration. "Stern College and Sy Syms School of Business have been suffering from a shortage of space for many years," she said. "The University has been aggressively trying to find more space. Now that something is available, the same aggressiveness that was applied to finding space should be used to make the space usable."

Robinson, one of the only authors of the letter who could be reached for this article, explained that she was not the sole leader of this petition. "Several of us composed the letter and assisted in its editing. Some friends among the leadership of this institution also saw drafts," she said. "However, I wish to emphasize that we, the students, were the impetus and creators of this letter, and we, the students, assume full responsibility for all statements therein."

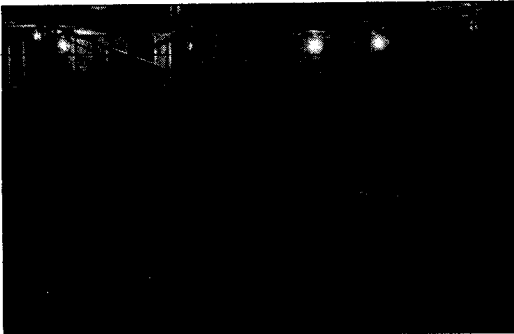
Since the authors believed that

the letter should be "a student initiative," they did not ask faculty members to sign the petition, explained Robinson. "We did not want anyone to question its authorship," she said. "Those [faculty members] who were shown the letter, however, were quite impressed. One told me, 'this is brilliant.'"

The student response to the petition was generally positive. Some volunteered to

"Students will now be more actively involved in discussions of the progress of the projects."
Dean Bacon

collect signatures, even though doing so would take time away from studying for finals. According to Robinson, the students who signed the petition were asked to read the letter carefully to ensure that they fully supported the initiative. Students also suggested other ways to



New SCW theater construction underway

improve the quality of student life at SCW. "Many students offered additional gripes, such as the absence of a pool. Our goal, though, was to complete existing purchases, not advocate for additional ones."

Jenny Breitbart, a SCW senior, signed the petition because she feels that the school is too overcrowded. She said that extracurricular activities, such as the

drama program, also suffer from the lack of space and the delay in the theater renovation. Breitbart, however, did not sign the letter in anger for she believes that the University is doing all it can to push construction to its end.

Another student praised the letter. "I think that it was important that a

letter be written...something had to be done." This student added that some people might have been reluctant to sign the petition because they were approached while studying for finals or were nervous about getting involved in what they perceived as an "uprising."

Robinson noted that there were students who refused to sign the petition. "A few said they did not feel comfortable signing their name. Some declined to sign because they disagreed, either with the existence of a problem, or with our method of trying to resolve it."

The students who were collecting signatures also received some amusing responses, such as "What space problem?" and "Who's Rabbi Lamm?" According to Robinson, however, student involvement was successful. By the time the letter was forwarded to Dr. Lamm, over four hundred signatures had been collected, representing nearly half of the student body at SCW.

April Simon, a SCW senior and SCWSC President, was one of the students who helped edit the text of the letter. "She [Yehudit] came to me with the idea and said something had to be done...She kept showing me the draft of the letter, and I made some suggestions...I personally signed it and supported it." Simon added that she had spoken to an administration member who confirmed that the administration had read the letter.

Dean Bacon agreed that the letter succeeded in making an impact. "Dr. Nulman [Efrim Nulman, University Dean of Students] is involving students in more of the planning...students will now be more actively involved in discussions of the progress of the projects." According to Dean Bacon, the Student Life committee, will be the conduit between the students and the administration for information regarding the renovations.

Though Robinson graduated last year, she continues to urge students to carry on the momentum she and a few others began. She believes that students should involve themselves in whatever plans the administration has to include them in the renovation process. She also mentioned that she found the entire petition experience rewarding. "Soliciting signatures enabled me to meet many members of the student body. It is always fascinating to rediscover what unites us: A strong love for this institution, and a refusal to tolerate those stumbling blocks to our progress... If together, in writing this letter, we were able to contribute to the catalyst of making Stern a better place, I will be extremely satisfied that my time spent on my final contribution to Stern College...was especially meaningful."

May 13, 1999

Rabbi Dr. Norman Lamm
Yeshiva University
500 W. 185th Street
New York, NY 10033

Dear Rabbi Dr. Lamm:

We are the students of Stern College for Women. Overall, we are satisfied with the education we receive, the professors with whom we interact, and the extra-curricular activities with which we are involved. We additionally are excited about the recent upgrades in the chemistry and physics labs.

Despite our overall satisfaction, we currently experience an extreme shortage of space. Deans Bacon and Orlian waste hours ensuring that there are enough classrooms in which to hold each semester's classes. Professors have difficulty arranging private sessions and independent studies with students since the other three to five professors with whom they share their offices often interrupt conversations. 245 Lexington Avenue no longer has the space to accommodate the range of students' desired extracurricular activities. Increasing enrollment over the past five years has only added to the tension students experience vying for coveted elevator spots, computer consoles, and seats in classrooms designed to hold far fewer students.

Over the past two years, Stern College for Women and Yeshiva University purchased three new buildings, 150 East 35th Street, a theater at 239 East 34th Street, and much of the office space at 205-215 Lexington Avenue. Written and verbal promises about the actual timetable for these renovations have not been kept. For example, the theater was promised to be ready first in Fall '98, then Spring '99, and now Fall '99. Of greater concern, the renovations to 205-215 Lexington, originally promised in part as early as Fall '99, have been indefinitely postponed.

We urge you to implement Stern College's visionary plan for the use of 205-215 Lexington. Recent architectural plans discussed with students project viable plans for much needed space for additional classrooms, faculty offices, and study lounges. 245 Lexington would be redesigned to hold additional science, psychology and computer labs, an expanded beit midrash and library, and space to hold intercampus publications meetings and student events.

Any institution committed to academic exploration needs to provide more than the standard collegiate curriculum. Aesthetically pleasing surroundings conducive to such intellectual inquiry are just as important to the eager student as an able professor or a challenging class. The present situation found at 245 Lexington does not provide the Stern student with the necessary infrastructure needed to foster an appropriate collegiate atmosphere. The lack of sufficient space in which to study, plan activities, and relax, has adversely affected student satisfaction rates. While we recognize the commitment to our institutional growth these purchased buildings represent, the current space problem has limited our ability to achieve our full academic potential.

The increased physical and psychological space these new buildings can provide will increase student satisfaction, academic success, and recognition from the greater Jewish community. In addition, these new spaces will enable Stern to become more competitive with other prestigious American colleges and universities. We would like Stern College for Women to become every Orthodox woman's first choice when choosing a college.

Our college experiences, both in

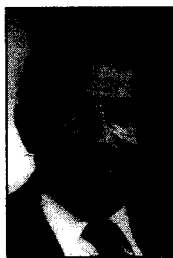
and out of the classroom, will establish our career and life foundations. The following 550 students, whose signatures are attached, are committed to seeing Stern College for Women enter the 21st century fully equipped to be the center of learning it is and has pledged to be. We have been led to believe that the theater renovations can be completed by Fall '99, and the 205-215 Lexington renovations by Fall '00. We request a timetable which will be made public to the student population stating the projected completion dates for the renovations.

Stern College for Women does not need these buildings in ten years: we need them today.

Respectfully,

The Students of Stern College for Women

Dr. Lamm Responds



Dr. Norman Lamm

To the Observer:

I am writing in response to the questions you raised in a letter that you sent to me dated 7/21/99. My absence from the city is responsible for the lateness of this response.

My initial reaction to the letter and petition from the student body concerning our recent purchase of property and renovations at the Midtown Center was one of sadness. After all, Yeshiva has invested heavily in the Midtown Center in recent years, as evidenced by the new Schottenstein Residence Hall, the upgrading of our current facilities, and the purchasing of new sites for classroom instruction, office space and cultural activities. Surely, these efforts represent our genuine interest in the continued growth of academic programs and quality of life for undergraduate women at our Midtown Center. To hear that you were frustrated by the time it has taken to complete our work disturbs me, because I am personally ensuring a timely and positive outcome of our expansion efforts.

For the future, especially as regards the timetable and student input in this building process, I am again instructing my administration to include you all aspects of our planning in a relevant manner. This should take place through your Student Life Committee and should include both YU administrators and outside consultants.

Finally, by means of this letter I am asking Dean Nulman to keep me informed not only of the progress in planning, but also of your participation in and reaction to the process. We intend to move forward together in a constructive and expeditious manner. You are free to share this response to your letter/petition with the entire student body.

Please convey my best wishes for a healthy, productive, and creative New Year to the entire student body and their families.

Cordially yours,

NORMAN LAMM
President

Cc: Dean Efreim Nulman
Dean Karen Bacon

WYUR: Your Sound, Your Station

MICHELLE FOGEL
Staff Writer

A renewed surge of interest in the communications field on both campuses has prompted Yeshiva University's official radio station, WYUR, to be put back on the air just in time for the new school year. This exclusively student-run radio station whose slogan reads "WYUR: Your Sound, Your Station" is now reinstated after a three-year lapse in programming, due to poor wiring and lack of student interest.

YC and SC will run the radio station together, although the broadcasting will be confined to the Uptown radio station headquarters in the Schottenstein Student Center. A wide range of both YC and SC students interested in taking a role in

and YC will have smaller associate boards to assist and complement in the duties of the primary governing board.

DeeDee explained the purpose of having these smaller boards is twofold: the main governing board will not have as heavy responsibilities, and more students will be encouraged to get involved in the radio station if the responsibility is not overwhelming.

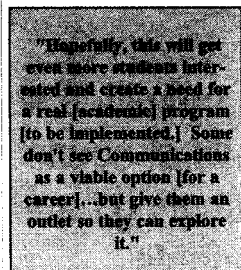
"I feel this will unify Stern and YC a lot," she continued. "There are not a lot of activities that both schools get to work on together."

The radio station is slated to broadcast four nights a week, starting during orientation week. The radio programs will be from 8p.m.-2a.m., Monday through Thursday. Although final decisions for the programs and their content have yet to be made, program ideas ranging from celebrity interviews to student improvisation are still under discussion.

YC Station Manager Eli Gurock '00 explained that students will have the freedom to do whatever they want with the station, within reason. "We want to service them," he said.

Additionally, Eli feels that a YU radio station will allow students to think more seriously about jobs in the communication field. "People have gone into these jobs from YU before," he said. "Hopefully, this will get even more students interested and create a need for a real [academic] program [to be implemented.] Some don't see communications as a viable option [for a career]...but give them an outlet so they can explore it."

WYUR is set to air beginning July 30 on frequency 530AM. Students are free to call the station's phone line- (212)-923-2471- for requests or suggestions.



the radio station's rebirth and development have filled positions ranging from music programming to business management and engineering.

"A lot of students have never had a chance to get involved in extracurricular activities, especially in the communications field," said DeeDee Lax, an SCW sophomore and WYUR Liaison. "The responsibility alone [of working on the radio station] will attract students to WYUR and the communications field."

A joint governing board under the auspices and funding of the YC and SC Student Councils will run WYUR. Additionally, both SC

CHA CHING! It Pays to Be an SCW Student

RAIZEL KLEYMAN
Staff Writer

The Stern ID card is more than just a pretty picture; it's your ticket to extra money in your pockets. Stern women represent a significant consumer base for merchants located in the midtown area; with this fact in mind, many businesses reward the patronage of SCW students by offering them discounts on a variety of goods and services.

These discounts apply to everything from meals to books to dry cleaning. It's easier to use your SCW student status to save money- all you have to do is walk into a local business, ask for the Stern discount, and present your ID card.

Students enjoy taking advantage of all these great deals. "It would depend on how much," said T. Dorit Ben-Haim, an SSSB junior. "If it's 10% off a \$3 pizza bill, then I just won't bother. But I think it's groovy that they consider us preferred customers," said Ben-Haim.

Cafe Roma

Some of these discounts can be found within blocks of the Midtown Center. Both Cafe Roma, located on the corner of 31st and Park, and Cafe 123, on Park between 32nd and 33rd, offer 10% student discounts. You will come away with some food and a little extra pocket change for those vending machines in the lounge.

Giuliani continued from p.1

YU Security

Pollack and the JCRC have been in constant contact with Don Sommers, head of YU security, and were satisfied at the precautions being taken on campus.

"Yeshiva University is very aware and are doing everything they can to ensure security," said Pollack. "I don't think they have to take any more extraordinary steps for safety."

With security guards at every entrance and exit of YU and Stern buildings, many students already feel protected from any Buford Furrow types coming into the building or residence halls.

"When you have

Bonne Cleaners, situated directly next to Brookdale Hall, offers 10% off dry cleaning, a great discount for those of us who can't bring our dirty laundry home every weekend. It's conveniently located to serve all of our dry cleaning needs, especially for those Kodak moments when you spill something messy all over your favorite Hawaiian shirt.

Barnes and Noble

Two other great discounts take care of both your scholastic and cosmetic needs. Barnes and Noble on 18th and Fifth Avenue does not charge tax on textbooks for students with a valid ID. This is the way to go for those of you who cannot buy used textbooks through other students at the dorm.

Jean Louis David

After you lug those heavy books back from Barnes and Noble, you can stroll over to Jean Louis David on Broadway and 38th Street, and treat yourself to a haircut at 20% off. You'll come out looking like a million bucks, without having spent a fortune- provided you remember to ask for the student discount.

These are just a sampling of the many places around the city that offer student discounts: Just keep your eyes wide open, and your Stern ID handy.

security guards who see you everyday...[that already] know you go to Stern College [and] still ask to see your ID, it is very encouraging," said Orah Weberman, an SSSB senior.

Although the statistical probability of a Buford Furrow type incident in New York City is small, if by any chance a student or the school feels threatened by an Anti-Semite or an Anti-Semitic group, it should not be ignored, according to Pollack.

"The Jewish Community Relations Council has advised all Jewish schools to take prudent steps for safety. If Stern is concerned about the situation then more steps should be taken," said Pollack.

Students interested in joining the Observer staff should contact

Office of the University Dean of Students

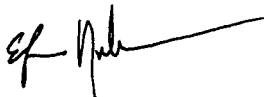
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on campus

Newly Offered Arabic Class Closes Out

LISA YOUNGER
Staff Writer

For students who decided that Arabic was the missing course in their schedules, good and bad news waits. The good news is that after a two-year absence from the SCW course schedule, Arabic is included this year. The unfortunate news is that it was one of the first classes to fill up, occupied by mostly upperclassman whose last names remain somewhere in the beginning of the alphabet.

The effort to revitalize Arabic was led by Avital Silber, a SCW senior, joined by fellow seniors Celia Sporer, Simone Rosensweig, Esther Donath and Rebecca Leicht. Once offered, people rushed to register for it. Initially, the class was set for 10 students. But when Silber, the very student who initiated the course, was closed out, SCW administration quickly extended the limit to 18.

Sarah Henna Polen, a SCW junior, was closed out of the course and sought to be signed in by the SCW administration. "I have always like foreign languages," Polen commented. "I figured that Arabic would be useful since I hope to move to Israel." Polen was later admitted to the course.

Once notified of the request for the class, Dean Orlan, Assistant

Dean of Stern College, called the former professor of Arabic at Stern College, Dr. Sokolow, to teach the course. He declined the position because of his duties related to administrative work in education at YU, which pulled him away from teaching the course after 1996. He recommended Dr. Richard White, who accepted the position for fall '99. Dr. White, a professor of Arabic at Yeshiva College, earned his undergraduate diploma from Leads and a Ph.D. from Oxford.

Dr. White intends to teach the basics of reading and writing literary Arabic. He commented that there would be "no stress on culture, because the culture associated with it is a religious culture." The class will be taught using Arabic newspapers that lack religious undertones.

Dr. White contends that this course will be useful for students who intend to move to Israel. "This course will not help the students function in an Arabic shuk [market]," explained White, "but it will provide them with the tools to understand printed Arabic... There is a big difference between spoken Arabic and written Arabic - spoken Arabic differs from country to country," he said.

Full and Part Time Psychologists Added to SCW Staff

SARA KOSTANT
News Editor

Dr. Shanie Nissel and Dr. Rochelle Ausabel, both clinical psychologists, will be joining the faculty of Stern College this fall.

Dr. Nissel previously served as a psychologist at the Samuel Wang High School for Girls, and received her doctorate from the Ferkauf School of Graduate Studies at Yeshiva University. Dr. Ausabel received her Ph.D. from the City

University of New York, and has worked in the Department of Neurology at Albert Einstein College of Medicine. She also served as a consultant for the Ramaz high school and SAR, and worked for the Learning Center at the Jewish Board of Family Services.

According to Dr. Efrim Nulman, University Dean of

Students, the appointment of full and part time psychologists is not a new idea. "We have been talking about this for a year and a half," he said.

He cited the growth in student population as the reason for hiring more counselors.

Dr. Nissel plans to maintain a high profile at SCW, so students can see her often and approach her during school hours for appointments. Although Dr. Ausabel will be keeping a part time schedule, she will also become a familiar figure to the SCW student body by leading workshops and conducting individual counseling. Both psychologists can be reached for appointment by calling (212) 340-7715.

Dean Nulman stressed that student input is imperative to the success of the counseling services at SCW. "Life is not easy for young people today...if there are things you think we should be doing, tell us."

"Life is not easy for young people today...if there are things you think we should be doing, tell us."

Dean Nulman

The current counseling staff is very overburdened, explained Dean Nulman. Beth Hait, Coordinator of Student Services, Zeld Braum, Assistant Dean of Students, Rabbi Shlomo Hochberg, Mashgiach Ruchani, and Marga Marx, International Student Advisor, have filled the counseling staff positions up until

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SCW Prepares for Millennium Bug

ELEANOR SCUTS
Web Page Editor

The YU computer department is not immune from the infamous "Millennium Bug," also known as Y2K, a time-based computer bug expected to affect all sizable organizations, companies and institutions with the coming of the year 2000. The bug will continue to pester the world well into the year 2000 and on, leaving YU with no choice but to take active measures against Y2K.

Mrs. Betty Gordon, supervisor of the Stern MIS department, commented on the extent of the department's efforts. "Everything has to be looked at. We are not taking any chances- but there is no need to panic about the year 2000," she said.

Over the summer, the MIS department made all of Stern's computer applications Y2K-compliant in time for the fall semester. According to Gordon, all software in the computer lab was checked for Y2K compliance. Payroll and student records took top priority since those programs are date dependent. Programmers were required to check the computer code in order for the programs function on January 1st 2000. Software that was not Y2K compliant was replaced with a higher version or a service pack that fixes the current software application.

The Y2K problem began in the sixties and seventies when programmers wanted to conserve hard drive space. Saving space seemed to be a wise choice at the time, considering that memory was often the most expensive part of the machine. Programmers began writing dates in shorthand. Whenever years were written into software code, they were shortened to the last two digits. "1974" became a condensed "74." When the year 2000 arrives, computers will incorrectly assume that "00" refers to the year 1900.

The solution to the Y2K bug is simple on the surface. Programmers must sift through the program's code and add "19" to all of the shortened dates. The only catch is that it is extremely time-consuming and expensive. Companies nationwide have spent billions of dollars fixing the Y2K bug by using programmers or software packages just so that business will run as usual after January 1st.

Without human intervention to solve this widespread problem, computers would remain unable to handle the data entered and would simply crash.

According to Gordon, YU has taken the necessary measures to assure the safety of SCW computers.



Betty Gordon,
Computer Lab Manager

Orientation '99

DEE DEE LAX
Staff Writer

As the new millennium approaches, Orientation '99 is starting off with a bang. Only three weekdays remain in the heavily packed Orientation schedule that began with registration on Aug 29, leading up to an activity-packed Shabbaton this weekend. "We want it to be successful," explained Grossman, one of five Orientation Chairs who helped design activities.

Orientation '99 proves to be a more personalized program than ever before through the initiation of the Big Sister Little Sister program. Students were assigned their "sisters," formerly known as Peer Advisors, during the summer. The program began with an introduction at Sunday night's "Meet and Greet" event, which included karayoke and dessert.

"It makes it easier when the school helps you meet people rather than when you go out yourself," said Samantha Lynn, SCW incoming freshman.

The students also

enjoyed a Monday morning breakfast with speaker Dean Nulman, followed by a "Dine and Dialogue" session with Dr. Fried and a TAC sponsored chagiga with a live band and refreshments.

"I think the Orientation Chairs worked hard all summer long to provide exciting and interesting events, so I have no doubt that it will be successful," said April Simon, SCWSC President.

Other events designed to draw widespread participation by both newcomers and old-timers include the popular Thursday night off-Broadway show Stomp.

An anticipated 300 students are expected to attend the annual Orientation Shabbaton, sponsored by the Shabbat Enhancement Program. Special guests include Dr. Ephraim Kanarfogel, Chairman, Rebecca Ivry

Department of Jewish Studies, and Dr. Isaac and Mrs. Shoshana Schechter. "The shabbaton is for everyone," said Grossman, explaining that the mass of students will fill two floors of the Stern College school building.

Following the shabbaton, a Saturday night tour bus will take the students throughout New York City, guiding the students around the hotspots and various landmarks.

The final Orientation activity on Sunday, Sept. 5, includes a trip to Six Flags Great Adventure theme park.

"It makes it easier when the school helps you meet people rather than you go out yourself."

-Samantha Lynn,
SCW incoming freshman.

Orientation Chairs Grossman, Zoya Mardak-hayev, Moische Schmerler, and Avi Wiesen and Grossman decided to include the annual cruise.

"It sounds like it should be a good experience that will probably make my transition easier," said Lynn, after hearing about Wednesday night's New York Yankees vs. Oakland game.

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TAC Raffle

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WHY: For Ohel Family and Children's Services.
WHEN: Wednesday, Oct. 6
WHERE: At the annual TAC club fair
HOW MUCH: One ticket for \$1, three for \$2

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- 3rd Prize: Pizza Cave gift certificate
- 4th Prize: Candy jar filled with goodies
- 5th Prize: Crabtree and Evelyn gift basket

Presidential Messages

Talk about perfect timing. I am here, you are here, and so is one of the most exciting times in the history of Stern College for Women. A new century, a new millennium is upon us and it is brimming with potential. It is a time when we are capping off the accomplishments of those before us and making "new waves" of our own. We will use what who preceded us left behind and together carry our college into the future. It is a responsibility that has been given only to us- the Stern students of the 1999-2000 academic year. Let us make this year one suited for the history books.

How you may ask? Well, that is really up to you. There are so many different ways of making a contribution that you can decide on your own. Attending events, supporting our clubs and committees, being creative and open to new ideas are just some of the possibilities. It is of course, never too early to start. By reading this Stern College for Women Student Council (SCWSC) newspaper, a publication for students by students published throughout the year, you have just begun. But there is so much more. Everyday this week there will be exciting Orientation events, open to all students- tonight a Yankee Game, the off-Broadway show Stomp on Thursday night, the Orientation Shabbaton, Motzei Shabbos Bus Tour of NYC ending with a pizza party at Stern, and a trip to Great Adventure on Sunday. The Yeshiva University Student Council's very own Radio Station, WYUR at 530 AM on your dial, serves as "the voice of the students" so be sure to stay

tuned in. Within the first few weeks of the semester, the Student Council Club Fair will also be held where you can have an enjoyable time learning about all Student Council can offer you and how you can contribute to it. Don't be left out of anything!

There is an eager Student Council just waiting to meet you. Your club, class, and committee leaders are busy planning events and programs for you to attend and are interested in your concerns as well. You can find them at the Orientation events and at Club Fair. In addition, the Executive Board of Student

Council is looking forward to serving you and making sure the year runs smoothly. The Board consists of myself as President, Bari Rothstein as Vice President, Deedee Lax as Corresponding Secretary, Chani Schubert as Recording Secretary, and Shani Spiro as Treasurer. We are here for you and are relying upon your input to carry out our responsibilities. Please do not hesitate to contact us. We can be reached at SCWSC@aol.com, and will have a suggestion box as well as office hours at the 6th Floor Student Council Office in the Stern Building, and at our respective dorm rooms once Part II of The Guide is distributed.

Keep your eyes peeled and your ears open for upcoming events. Take advantage of all the magic that the year 1999/2000 contains. Don't let it pass you by. Ready? Here we go...

April Simon, President
Stern College for Women
Student Council



APRIL SIMON
SCWSC President

Welcome back to school. I hope that you all had an enjoyable summer and are ready to start a new and exciting academic year! There is much to do at Sy Syms School of Business (SSSB); we have many student council events planned as well as many student-organized clubs. I encourage everyone to get involved in these various activities right from the start. One of the events that I am particularly excited about is the new Mentoring Program. Along with Alumni, Student Council

is starting this new program which will enable students to "hook up" with alumni in their field of interest. I am also looking forward to our new resume system that will serve all Sy Syms students who are interested in finding jobs.

I hope this year proves to be a successful one for all of you, and if you need any help or have any suggestions, please feel free to come talk to me.

Carla Shron, President
Sy Syms School of Business
Student Council



CARLA SHRON
SSSBSC President

Welcome! I'm Shlomit Zauderer, this year's Torah Activities Council President. On behalf of TAC, I'd like to welcome you to Stern College for Women. Whether you are early admissions, a freshman, an Israel returnee, or a weathered veteran, there is a place for you in TAC.

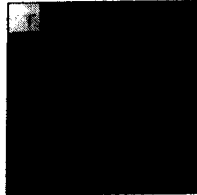
TAC has served the religious and social action aspects of Stern since we were founded in the 50's. Each year it reinvents itself to fit the needs of the students and I hope this year will be no different. We have both consolidated and expanded over the last few years. The present system includes an executive board with Dvasha Allen and Bethany Bleier as Vice Presidents, Elana Naider as Secretary, Gila Loike as Treasurer. The board governs the eight committees that are each headed by three women. The various committee heads are responsible for the different clubs and activities that function throughout Stern.

For example, the Learning Committee supervises Chavrusa learning programs, the different Beit Midrash programs, Shiurim, and Shmirat Haloshen

meetings. The Chesed Committee coordinates such things as B'kuir Cholim, and Adopt-a-Bubbie programs. There are more committees such as Tzadaka, Kiruv, Chagim and Chagigahs as well as different publications written by people like yourself. Now where

endless! Sound good? Ok, Shlomit what's the catch? All right, you got me! What we need is YOU to get involved. Whether it be attending a shiur, collecting clothes for the needy, or calling a Jewish shut-in to wish them a Good Shabbos, there is always something to do. Check out the TAC Guide on your bed for more information! There are still numerous clubs and committees that don't have heads! Come to the TAC orientation and our Club fair to be held in two weeks for more ways to get involved. If not, all you need to do is take the time and read the flyers, check out the web page, and talk to people. Word of mouth is vital to making the transition from last year's experience, to life in Stern College for Women. Rise up and accept the challenge. I look forward to having a very successful year and I hope you do to. Track me down in the halls, caf or Schottenstein. Good luck and I'll see you in class!


Shlomit Zauderer, President
Torah Activities Council



SHLOMIT ZAUDERER
TAC President

do you come in?

TAC is just getting started. We are developing a Web page that will have a calendar of events, links to other Torah sights, and *divrei Torah* on-line. We are planning a children's book drive, and a new brochure committee so you know what to say when you're in the cafeteria. A wedding *shtick g'mach* is also in the works, as are various shabbos programs in and out of the Stern community. The possibilities are



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WE'VE FIRST TREATMENT

A Closer Look at College Tuition in New York City

EILEEN CHUDOW
Feature Editor

Few would argue with the value of a college education -- but few can afford to pay for it. This year SCW tuition and fees, dorm and dining club fees total \$21,180, up from 19,950 last year. This number breaks the \$20,000 mark for the first time.

"At today's prices, college is simultaneously a great deal and a huge rip off," wrote Matthew Miller in a June 13 *New York Times Magazine* article. He claims a college education is worthwhile because "the earnings boost from a college degree has risen nearly twice as fast as tuition. In 1980, for example, the typical 25- to 34-year-old male graduate earned 19 percent more than his high-school counterpart; by 1995, the gap had widened to 52 percent."

Before the economic benefits of a college degree are evident through higher incomes, the cost of attending college presents many families with an economic hardship. Fortunately, financial aid goes a long way toward helping students pay for their education.

Dr. John B. Fisher, YU Director of Enrollment Management, believes that financial considerations are not of great significance for many students considering YU. He explained that students take many factors into account when choosing a college, but the availability of scholarships and other financial assistance is not the most important.

Financial aid

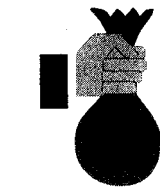
"Financial aid is secondary," he said. First, students determine where they're most likely to fit in by weighing academic and social factors, such as which schools their friends plan to attend.

Once students decide upon their school of preference, they determine whether they are able to afford that option. At this point the financial aid packages offered by the various schools to which they were accepted become important to them.

"My experience is that we're very typical," said Fisher, regarding the amount of aid that YU offers students. "Financial aid helps make the school affordable for those who want to come."

He explained that each university uses a standard formula to determine financial need. "Our families have more kids that they're paying tuition for-- on average it's higher for us. It determines eligibility for Federal programs. We have solid middle, upper-middle, and wealthy students. They're less eligible for aid."

Although the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) does not ask whether a student's family pays high school or elementary school tuition, it is considered non-discretionary income, which univer-



As SCW tuition hits \$20K, students increasingly rely on financial aid

sities are supposed to take into account when distributing aid.

Both Fisher and Acting Director of Student Aid Neal Harris characterized YU financial aid offerings as generous and compared YU to other institutions: "Per capita aid is similar to other schools," Fisher said. "Our tuition is relatively low compared to the quality of education we offer. It is a lower tuition compared to other private schools ranked in the top tier, as we are, but it's more expensive than public institutions."

Barnard, the women's college of Columbia University, which placed tenth in last year's U.S. News and World Report's rankings along with Brown, Dartmouth and Northwestern Universities, costs significantly more than SCW, which ranked 42. Barnard's 1999 tuition and fees total \$22,316. All financial aid at Barnard is need-based, as no merit or athletic scholarships are offered. Approximately 80% of Barnard students are dependent upon loans.

Eighty percent of U.S. students choose to attend the significantly less expensive four-year public universities, where tuition averages \$3,200.

At the City University of New York at Queens, tuition is \$3,400 per semester for out-of-state residents. Director of Financial Aid Rena Kiawu stated that 30% of Queens' combined 18,000 undergraduate and graduate students receive financial aid. "Their tuition is totally covered in most cases," she said. About 2,300 students apply for loans, and the average loan amount is \$4,000 per year. Queens also offers academic scholarships. Approximately 800 freshman received merit scholarships last year due to the institution of a new city council scholarship.

Fisher pointed out that Ivy League schools particularly Barnard and Columbia, have recently increased their efforts to

accommodate and welcome Orthodox applicants. "Students have more options than they had five or ten years ago," he said, explaining that it is easier in practical ways to attend colleges other than YU. "During their senior year and in Israel, students are thinking about a variety of

Fisher explained that certain undergraduates at SCW, SSSB and YC receive money based exclusively on need (grants) while others receive money based exclusively on academic achievement (scholarships), neither of which requires repayment. Other students receive money based on both factors.

Scholarships

During the 1997-8 academic year, a total of 67% of YU undergraduates received scholar-

of NYS. TAP awards are determined by the amount of parents' net taxable NYS income. Students from families with a net taxable income up to \$50,500 are eligible. Net taxable income is reduced if more than one family member is attending college.

Many students take out loans to supplement their scholarships and grants, mainly from the YU and federal loan programs.

Loans

In 1998-9, the Federal Perkins Loan Program loaned 591 students a total of \$838,670. YU administers this program, which provides low-cost education loans toward undergraduate educational expenses. The federal government gives YU money, which, based on federal regulations regarding eligibility, distributes it in student loans. Students may borrow up to \$15,000 during their undergraduate years.

The Federal Stafford Loan Program is the largest of the three loan programs. This loan is taken from a bank, with YU merely certifying the student is enrolled in the university and eligible for Federal aid. In

1998, YU students withdrew approximately \$15 million in loans through this program. Students may borrow a maximum of \$23,000 during their undergraduate years.

That same year, the YU Loan Program, endowed by YU, loaned 1,026 undergraduates an average loan of \$1,775. This program is patterned after the Perkins Loan Program and is designed to supplement the federal loan programs.

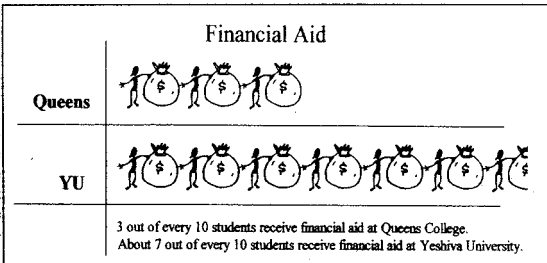
According to Fisher there are two factors for YU's ability to offer generous financial aid packages: YU's strong endowment and growing enrollment.

Endowments

"Yeshiva University has a very large, strong, growing endowment," Fisher said. "Our endowment per student is very large compared to other universities. We've been around for a long time--we're over a hundred years old. Alumni are very supportive of the institution." YU is not alone in having a growing endowment, as many universities' endowments have tripled in the past decade due to the stock-market boom.

"For ten years the institution has been growing," Fisher said. "There's more money to work with in an institution that's growing."

"Things are cyclical," he said. "In the sixties, the University was doing well, similarly to now. When enrollment is declining, money's tight. The university is using its current strength very wisely. In the future it may go through a hard time, enrollment may decline for a while. By building academics and quality, the university will be in a good position for that time."



Designed by Aviva Presby

schools. Many come to YU, but many prefer to go elsewhere."

He added that during this period YU has also become more competitive in attracting students. "There is more competition, but YU has become more competitive, with better tools to attract students," he said. These tools include the continued strengthening of the academic programs, the faculty, and especially the SCW honors program.

"The percentage of students accepted, especially at Stern, has decreased but not dramatically," Fisher said. "It's becoming more selective. Acceptance has decreased by

ships, grants or both; an average of \$7,588 per student. Scholarships, which are direct gifts from YU to students, range from \$500 per year and up, depending on the student's need and eligibility for other aid.

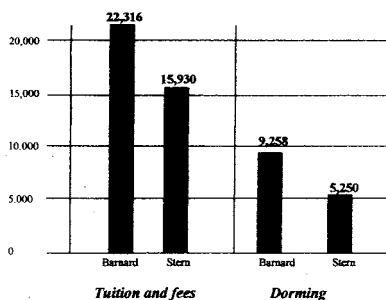
Approximately 150 academic scholarships are awarded each year in amounts of \$3,000, \$5,000 an \$10,000 per year, and are awarded to exceptionally gifted undergraduate students who demonstrate high academic achievement and a commitment to Jewish studies.

Outside donors or specific scholarship funds pay for most of these awards. Recipients of the \$10,000 Distinguished Scholars Award are required to enroll in the Freshman Honors Seminar, the honors section of the YU introductory English course, and to write a 'thoughtful letter of thanks' to their scholarship donor.

In 1998, ten female and seven male entering undergraduates received Distinguished Scholars Awards. According to Fisher, this scholarship is offered to top students, regardless of gender. "Roughly the same numbers of men and women get it over the years," he said, "but 1998 was a good year for the women."

In addition to YU grants, the New York State Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) provides grants of up to \$4,125 per year for students whose parents are legal residents

How does Stern measure up?



Designed by Aviva Presby

only a few percentage points; it's a slow and gradual change. Dean Bacon would like to see this trend continue."

Enrollment

Despite decreasing acceptance rates, enrollment is projected to continue rising. "It's been going up steadily for ten years," Fisher said. "Stern College enrollment will go up the most. It's always been popular, and it's especially popular this year."

A mustached man sat at a corner cafe, holding a cigarette, staring at the few hundred people gathered a few feet in front of him. Those few hundred men watched as Israeli and Palestinian soldiers worked together digging through the rubble of a collapsed building to find the one man they thought was buried alive underneath.

For most of the day they worked together in the shade that the standing walls provided. On the street, ambulances from Al Bireh (next to Ramallah) and Beit El stood next to each other as Israeli soldiers sat sweating in army Jeeps from the ninety-degree heat.

I was working at the *Jerusalem Post* for the summer and I was sent to Al Bireh with the *Post's* Palestinian correspondent to watch and hopefully interview a few people myself.

It was my second time in Palestinian Authority controlled territory on a story for the *Post*, but it was the first time I was one of the only women and one of the only English speakers in the middle of a city routinely featured in the news for violence.

Soon after we arrived we were separated, and I was left alone. I was terrified to move from the spot where I was standing, and after looking almost frantically for a familiar face. I finally found another English speaking reporter. He told me that with over a hundred Israeli soldiers in a one-block area I had no reason to be scared. I spent the next hour talking to the spectators and trying to find a common language in which we could converse.

"I hope that the world sees this on TV and that we want a true peace," said the mustached man, a Palestinian businessman, in Hebrew. Later when speaking in Arabic to another reporter he contradicted himself. I also found out that he learned Hebrew in an

Israeli prison where he spent time for making Molotov cocktails to use against the Israeli army in 1983.

This was not the first time Israeli soldiers were called in to help with a collapsed building in Palestinian-controlled territory. Two months earlier another building in Al Bireh fell, and Israeli soldiers helped there too.

"If we can help in Kosovo, we can't help in Al Bireh next door?" questioned Kobi Selah, an Israeli settler who works for a radio station and lives in a neighboring Jewish settlement.

I went around from group to group asking if anyone spoke English. The Director General of Occupational Health and Safety for the Ministry of Labor in the Palestinian Authority stepped forward and then told me how cooperation between Palestinian and Israeli soldiers is normal in such events because the Israelis own more developed tools and instruments.

We left toward late afternoon, and the soldiers were still digging. That evening the soldiers uncovered nothing but rubble and we heard from another man at the news desk that the man they thought was trapped had walked to a nearby hospital to treat his wounds. The next day headlines told the story of two armies working side by side.

From the comments of the people directly involved and after watching the rescue effort, the story of cooperation didn't seem to be so unusual and would most probably be forgotten by the next day.

But I will never forget standing on a street in the middle of a Palestinian city, surrounded by hundreds of men traditionally at odds working together for a common goal.

I never realized just how much is behind making this city work. To be completely honest, I probably never gave it much thought. We live day to day with public services, watching the city buzz around us, and never wonder what keeps it all going. My experience this summer as a Mayor Office Summer Intern (MOSI) at the New York City Economic Development Corporation (EDC) revealed to me an enormously complex and intricate structure of city government. MOSI's educational program of seminars, trips and city officials as guest speakers at monthly intern meetings made me realize what it takes to keep the city running smoothly.

My job at EDC afforded me the opportunity to see first hand how the government works to ensure the economic health of the city through increasing private sector business activity.

Perhaps the most interesting part was realizing that people and their ideas are behind every initiative or action to improve and upkeep the city. This is difficult to understand when all one sees are agencies without faces that "have" the resources to carry out those ideas. Although I was placed in the Economic and Energy Analysis (EEA) department, the projects I worked on sent me all over EDC and other city agencies.

EDC's main purpose is to facilitate the recruitment, retention and growth of business within the five boroughs of New York City. I participated in the marketing of a special power rate to industrial companies looking to expand or relocate within NYC, and I learned all about the different industries in the City, the energy programs available to them, and how these programs assist the economic development of the City. One of the industries NYC is looking to develop is New Media industry. By helping with the research

and documentation of New Media in the City, as well as the incentive programs available through NYC compared with other cities and states, I participated in the development of New Media in NYC.

In the context of this project, I attended a City Council hearing at City Hall about this issue, and saw how representatives from New Media companies in the City were able to express the problems they face in choosing to keep their business in the City.

Fortune magazine



comes out with a special issue every fall titled: "The Best Cities for Business." They send out surveys with a specific theme to different cities in the US, and questionnaires to the top employers in their city, in order to evaluate the cities. EDC takes on the task of answering this survey and sending out the CEO surveys to the top employers of NYC. Working on that project was fun, exciting and educational, and I look forward to finding out if NYC won.

MOSI conducted monthly meetings (three for the entire summer and an orientation at the beginning of June) where we met city officials such as the Deputy Mayor for Education and the chief of the police department, heard their biographies, and were able to present them with questions about their careers and their views on how to improve the City. We also had a weekly trip to agencies and various New York City Departments to get a taste for what goes on in these agencies and departments. One experience I will not forget was our visit to the prisons of Riker's Island. We walked around inside the jails, among the prisoners, with barely any

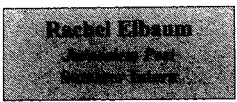
space between us. I was struck by how human they are, and the experience made me wonder what ever possessed them to commit the horrendous crimes for which they are incarcerated.

We visited Central Booking, part of the Police Department (PD), and learned about community programs directed at reducing crime, the process of an arrest, and the court system. We also had the opportunity to watch a court case.

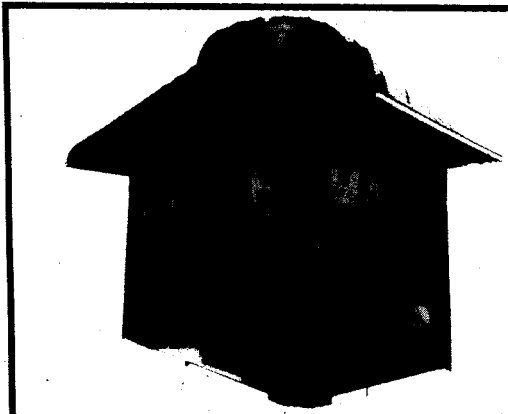
At the Police and Fire Departments (FD) training facilities we not only learned about the rigorous training that officers go through but were also given the chance to try out some of the equipment at the FD, and watch some of the training at the PD.

The trip that impressed me the most was to the Mayor's Office of Emergency Management. I could not believe how high-tech the Mayor's Bunker actually is—it looked like a movie set or a computer game rather than an actual emergency center equipped to deal with real emergencies in the City such as hurricanes, terrorists and even blackouts due to heat waves, like the one Washington Heights suffered this summer.

At the end of the summer, all of the City interns were invited to a bar-b-cue at Gracie Mansion where Mayor Giuliani thanked us all for our service to the City. I began the summer with an interest in learning about economics, but I am walking away with far more than I expected. This is a worthwhile experience for anyone, not only someone interested in government. It is important to understand the system whether or not one chooses to take a job in public service. This summer has definitely been not only an enjoyable experience, but also an educational one, and I would strongly recommend it.



Rachel Elbaum
Jerusalem Post
New York Bureau



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One more Monica joke and I'm going to scream. I don't think I've ever heard so many people make the same joke in such a short period of time. I guess that's what you get when you take an internship in Washington D.C. for the summer.

Fortunately, the experience was well worth the incessant barrage of jokes.

I left for Washington D.C., the world of policy-making, in early

June. Along with 43 other college students from around the country, I set off for the nation's capital as part of the Orthodox Union's Institute for Public Affairs internship program. I was assigned to work in Senator Moynihan's office, the senior Senator from New York, and shortly afterwards began working at the national office of the National Conference of Soviet Jewry as well. Other interns worked in their respective congressional offices or in the national offices of major Jewish organizations.

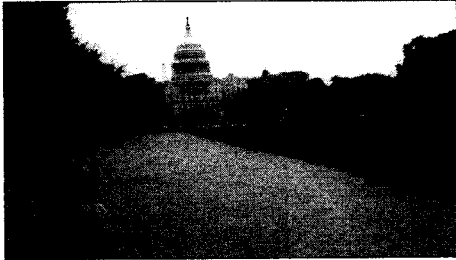
Life in D.C. is unlike life anywhere else. You feel as if you are in a world wholly apart from the world of the regular

folk. Throughout my stay, I remember constantly pointing out to friends how I felt so separated from the rest of the country. Although it may seem odd, it was a good feeling. I felt like I was part of an elite group to whom the rest of the country looked for hope and guidance.

Fear not, though—actually, being on The Hill served to remind me of how I could be so significant and yet insignificant at the same time.

On Capital Hill, the hierarchy is real and so strongly felt it's almost tangible. An incident that always serves to remind me of the hierarchy occurred when I was sent to deliver a package from Senator Moynihan to a senate colleague. The Senate buildings have elevators situated all over to accommodate staffers and Senators wherever they may be. However, some of the elevators are reserved for Senators alone and have signs beside and/or above them reading, "Members Only." That particular day, not realizing what I was doing, I began walking towards

the specially designated elevator. Fortunately, I recognized my error just before I entered and quickly stepped away from the elevator, ashamed of my faux pas. A Senator, stepping into the elevator as I was backing away, motioned to me and asked,



courtesy of Chana Rosenblatt

Rosenblatt in front of the capitol

"Going up?" I replied in the affirmative and thanked him, not knowing who he was. Several minutes later I discovered that my hero was Bob Smith of New Hampshire, Senator and presidential candidate.

But not every day was as stimulating and exciting as I had thought would be the case. There were days when I left the office disappointed with the lack of assignments and opportunities. On the other hand, there were many days when I left the Russell Senate Office Building too excited with what I had done to sit still. Each day was filled with different tasks and activities.

Among the things I can now list on my resume (for real) are: attending Congressional hearings and summarizing them for the Legislative Assistants and Correspondents; attending the switchboard, organizing and responding to constituent mail and requests;

researching current legislative issues; sitting in for the assistant to the Chief of Staff, preparing and distributing press clips for the staff and summarizing briefs; and always being ready and able to accept the more mundane and tedious tasks of running errands, making photocopies, putting things in order; and just being available for the staffer (staff member, for all you non-'D.C.ers') who might suddenly need you.

I recall attending the Independent Counsel Act hearing the witnesses argue for an extension of the act that was due to expire at the end of June, while the Judiciary committee members grilled the witnesses on the wisdom of doing so. There was arguing back and forth on the prudence of affording people like

Kenneth Starr the liberties he took during his investigation of the President. One of the witnesses at that hearing was former Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole. I felt awed to be in his presence. He's much more likeable in person.

Later, I followed up on that issue by attending a press conference where Senators Joe Lieberman (the only Orthodox Senator in the country), Arlen Specter and Susan Collins offered their thoughts on extending the act that was soon due to expire. I was also able to attend committee hearings on issues that more directly affected me.

On Wednesday, June 23, the Joint Economic Committee heard a hearing regarding religious freedom. There, committee members heard from leaders of Jewish, Catholic and Christian



groups, as well as from the Home Schooling community and the NAACP. At these hearings I felt that I was part of the American legislative system. I was witnessing our government work firsthand and watching public policy drafted and put into law.

In a different vein, my work at the National Conference on Soviet Jewry allowed me to take an active part in trying to influence members of Congress by lobbying them to vote on a bill that was scheduled to be brought to the floor. Every Monday Friday, I would take part in lobbying meetings where members from many different Jewish organizations argued the benefits of passing bills.

Attending these meetings not only forced me to learn the issues, it also gave me access to professional lobbyists arguing for a cause they believed in, while watching the other side react to the presentation and offer a response.

As an aside, I also learned a lot about the current situation in the Former Soviet Union (FSU), and contrary to popular opinion, there are still many problems facing the Jews there. Anti-Semitism is rampant in these republics, and is even sanctioned by the Russian government. There is still much to do for our fellow Jews in the FSU and we must do our share to help them.

Now that I've given my "pitch," I can tell you about the time I was on television. I was on

my way to Senator Schumer's (NY-D) office with a fellow intern when we noticed (I cannot tell a lie, I had no idea who it was, my friend recognized him.) Senator Frist of Tennessee.

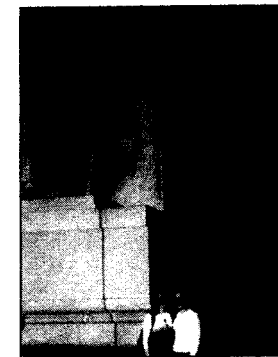
As we were getting into the underground train taking us from the Russell building to the Hart building, we saw that the Senator was being videotaped. He then came into our car and started talking to us and asked us to introduce ourselves. We spoke with him until we reached our destination, at which point he shook our hands and we all stepped out. Amazingly enough, we were on Senator Frist's cable TV show in Tennessee. On the downside, I don't think anyone was actually watching us.

During the summer months, there are many organizations that offer college students and young professionals the opportunity to hear interesting speakers and meet with members of Congress. As a result of organizations like AIPAC, Middle East Insight, the National Jewish

Democratic Council and others, I was able to hear Majority Leader Trent Lott, Senators Wyden, Feingold and

Cleland, and Dr. Aaron Miller of the State Department. I also had the opportunity to hear from the ambassadors of Egypt, Jordan, and Lebanon what their views are on the Middle East peace process. Needless to say, it was quite an eye-opening experience and I found the speeches fascinating.

It is not too difficult to get caught up in all the excitement that is characteristic of



Courtesy of Chana Rosenblatt

Rosenblatt and Hena Eisenstein at the Lincoln Memorial

Washington. Unfortunately, that means that setting aside time for one's Judaism requires additional effort. The Orthodox Union made that aspect of our lives much easier by providing us with weekly Thursday night shiurim and, of course, deli dinners in the Rayburn House Office Building. We heard from various rabbis

including Rabbi Bieler of the Kemp Mill Shul and Rabbi Freundel of Keshet Israel, which is the only Orthodox shul in Washington D.C. We also heard speakers on Mondays during our lunch break, sponsored by the OU. Some of the most interesting speakers included Jacob Lew, Director of the Office of Management and Budget, Dow Zakheim from the Department of Defense, and a member of the Hebrew section in the Library of Congress. It was incredible to learn about budget issues from the man actually drawing up the budget proposals and submitting them to the President.

An integral part of the Washington interning experience is making the most of your spare time by taking advantage of what the city has to offer. The monuments are beautiful at night, and so I took occasional walks there with friends. I made a point to visit most of the museums. The White House is a must see, and the Library of Congress is a bit intimidating. Camden Yards is a great ballpark, especially with friends and crazy Mets fans sitting all around you. The OU took us to the Holocaust Museum on Tisha B'Av, and it evoked in me the kind of emotion that one suppose I should feel on a national day of mourning.

And last but certainly not least, the Fourth of July celebration by the Mall was terrific. The fireworks were beautiful and the patriotism was palpable. I highly recommend visiting Washington for Independence Day. I miss Washington, my office, the "sights," the hospitality of Georgetown's Jewish community, and of course, the friends that I made.

I realize that my contribution to the government was small, but I know that without all the interns who volunteer their time and energy, more than just thousands of college kids would be missing. I believe that it's the excitement and idealism of the young people that enable our country to continue to be the great place that it is. We certainly benefit greatly from firsthand experience in the government, but the government has a lot to learn from us too. This opportunity taught me that there is so much to accomplish and that there are countless worthy causes out there. It's up to us to make the difference.

city life

Current Museum Attractions

SARAH CAH
Cultural Arts Editor

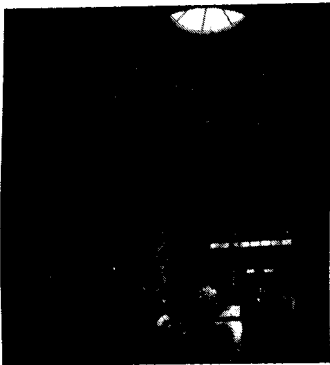
THE METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART:

Ammi Phillips. The museum is open every day, except Mondays.

The Metropolitan Museum of Art, usually referred to as the Met by socially correct Manhattanites, is probably the most famous museum in New York City. It is the largest museum in the Western Hemisphere, with the finest collection of American art in the world. The Met also offers multiple rotating exhibits. The greatly anticipated American Picasso exhibit will be coming to the Met in fall.

The museum's art collection ranges from early Mesopotamian and Egyptian art-like the Temple of Dendur, to the late 20th century, Andy Warhol. From reconstructed colonial dining rooms to works by the European masters, the Met has a huge range of art. The museum itself is a work of art. Located on Fifth Avenue at 82nd Street, the building emulates a classic Greek structure, complete with Corinthian columns and decorated pediment. Inside, an expansive main staircase is flanked on either side by huge galleries, housing the Egyptian art to the left and the recently remodeled Greek galleries to the right. The second floor houses the European Masters galleries as well as the sculpture garden, the 20th century art, and some visiting exhibits.

The level below the main floor typically showcases clothing through the centuries. These exhibits are valuable tools for fashion and design majors, as the collections typically vary from the 17th century to the late 20th century.



courtesy of the Metropolitan Museum of Art

The Great Hall

until 5:15 p.m. The suggested admission price is \$5.00 for stu-



courtesy of the Metropolitan Museum of Art

Temple of Dendur in the Sackler Wing

dents, though students may pay what they wish.



courtesy of the Metropolitan Museum of Art

Pierrot bodice, ca.1785, France. Found in the Costume Institute on the ground floor.

On exhibit through September 5th is "American Folk Paintings and Drawings." This exhibit includes 18th and 19th century drawings and portrait miniature, by Rufus Hathaway, Edward Hicks, Joshua Johnson and

THE FRICK COLLECTION:

The Frick Collection is located at East 70th Street and Fifth Avenue. The French Neoclassical building that houses the collection was actually the residence of Henry Clay

Frick and includes his furnishings and art collection. Most of the pictures are still in the select spots that Frick originally placed them, which is an unusual arrangement for a museum where objects are ordinarily arranged by time period. The collection includes works by Bellini, El Greco, Vermeer, Van Gogh, Boucher, Goya, Van Dyck, Renoir and Holbein. The complete cycles of wall paneling painted by Fragonard and Boucher are world renown.

In addition, the Frick hosts visiting exhibits, such as the Watteau exhibit, beginning in mid-September. Admission is \$5.00 for students, and the museum is open every day except Monday, until 6:00 PM.

THE WHITNEY MUSEUM OF AMERICAN ART:

The Whitney Museum

of American Art was founded by Gertrude Vanderbilt Whitney in 1931 and has held many different homes throughout the years. As is now housed permanently in Marcel Breuer's Brutalist building. It is the world's foremost collection of 20th century American Art its works include those by artists such as Hopper, Stella, de Kooning, Rothk, and O'Keeffe. It also features visiting shows by contemporary artists such as Charles Ray.

Beginning in September, the Whitney will feature the second half of its 20th Century retrospective, "The American Century." This exhibit will focus on the art of 1950-1999 and is much anticipated by art critics in New York.

Located at 945 Madison Avenue, at 77th Street, the Whitney is open every day, except Monday, from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., and Fridays through Sundays until 8:00 p.m. Admission is \$7.00 for students.



SURREALISM AT THE GUGGENHEIM:

Now on exhibit at the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum through September 12, 1999, is "Surrealism: Two Private Eyes," an astonishing conglomeration of over 700 paintings, objects, works

on paper, photographs, and books. The exhibit joins the private collections of publisher Daniel Filipacchi and record producer Nesuhi Ertegun, who both assembled their collections over the span of four decades. The exhibit represents the most extensive collections of Surrealist art held in private hands today.

These two collectors met in New York in 1957, while Filipacchi was visiting from Paris. Filipacchi knew of Ertegun from their shared passion for jazz. The two soon found that their love for jazz was only one of their many shared interests. Together, their enthusiasm for surrealism led them to visit Salvador Dali, Max Ernst, Frida Kahlo and Dorothea Tanning. They eventually acquired works by Joan Miro, Rene Magritte, Man Ray, Dali, Ernst and Yves Tanguy, all Paris based artists. They also purchased works by Jindrich Heiasler, Jindrich Styrsky, Kahlo, Kay Sage and Kurt Seligmann.

Surrealism originally began as a literary movement, founded by the French poet and writer Andre Breton, who defined the term surrealism in 1924 in his Manifeste du surrealisme, as "pure psychic automatism by which one intends to express verbally, in writing or any other method, the real functioning of the mind. Dictation by thought, in the absence of any

control exercised by reason, and beyond any aesthetic or moral pre-occupation." The definition spurred a debate among his followers on whether a painting could indeed be included in the category of Surrealism. The debate ended in 1928 when Breton wrote that a painting which exhibited the ideals



courtesy of the Guggenheim Museum

Salvador Dali, Enigmatic Elements in a Landscape, 1934.

of automatism and dream imagery would be legitimately Surrealist.

The exhibit includes many prints and books, as this is how the Surrealism movement began. The books contain detailed drawings and sketches. Following the book area are the paintings; the distorted shapes found in the paintings of Yves Tanguy contrast the focus on details found the work of Salvador Dali. Since Surrealist painters were exploring all forms of expression, the exhibit reflects the diversity of their endeavors.

The Guggenheim Museum is located at 1071 Fifth Avenue, at 89th Street. It is open Sunday- Wednesday, 9:00 a.m to 6:00p.m., and Fridays, 9:00a.m. to 8:00 p.m. For further information, call (212) 423-3500. Admission is \$7.00 for students with a valid student ID card.

Orientation Shabbaton

All SOJ students are invited

to attend this orientation

city life

At The Cinema

SARA CATE
Cultural Arts Editor

An Ideal Husband

From the very first appearance of Rupert Everett, as the turn of the century leading role of Lord Goring, in the film *An Ideal Husband*, he steals the show. Through a series of witty comments and brilliantly delivered lines, he establishes himself as Lord Goring, 36-year old socialite, (although he only admits to 32, as he admonishes his father), who is resisting his father's demands for an immediate marriage. The role allows Everett to display his characteristic suave manner and humor. His superb acting is only detracted by the embarrassingly amateur performance of Minnie Driver. Driver, whose prior film credits include *Circle of Friends*, *Good Will Hunting*, and most recently, *Tarzan*, disgraces herself in her performance as Lord Chiltern's sister. The character is already forgettable, but Driver takes the character to an even lower level. In a film that is filled with subtle humor and excellent acting, Driver inserts a very unwanted element of brashness and poor acting.

Jeremy Northam and Cate Blanchett play a wealthy couple, Lord and Lady Chiltern. Northam is a representative to Parliament, who came by his wealth through somewhat shady means. Blanchett plays his adoring wife, to whom morality is tantamount to life. Northam, who currently stars in David Mamet's film *The Winslow Boy*, is fabulous as Lord Chiltern. His performance is in character with his past performances. Blanchett also shines as Lady Chiltern. Their relationship is warmly romantic, admired by their friends and envied by their enemies. Julianne Moore is one of the latter and with her knowledge

of Northam's past, threatens to ruin his career as well as his marriage. Moore delivers a biting vengeful performance, and her nerve complements Everett's assumed ennui. The film owes its success mainly to Rupert Everett and is well worth seeing simply for his performance.

The Blair Witch Project

"In October of 1994, three student filmmakers disappeared into the woods around Burkettsville, Maryland. Their

years ago. Then from November 1940 to May 1941, seven children were killed by a local man, Rustin Parr, who said that he did it for "an old ghost woman." His method of killing was unique in one aspect: he always made one victim stand in the corner of the room with his back to other victims, and then he would kill the one in the center of the room. The children were never discovered.

Sanchez, the duo sold the film to a distributor for one million dollars, and last weekend alone, the film took in more than \$20 million. The *Blair Witch Project* is a thrill ride of tension-filled moments from beginning to end.

Runaway Bride

Richard Gere and Julia Roberts are reunited on screen once again, not as a prostitute and a lawyer, but this time as a writer and a hardware store manager. Richard Gere plays Ike Graham, an *USA Today* columnist, and Julia Roberts plays Maggie, a rural beauty who has taken over her father's hardware store. Ike Graham hears about Maggie in a local bar. She is a woman who lives in rural Maryland and is rumored to dump men at the altar. Gere takes to the idea, as his deadline is hours away, and writes a column about Maggie, comparing her to goddesses in ancient Greece who devoured men for the sheer joy of it and insects who do the same to their mates. Unfortunately, he invents some facts about Maggie, and enraged, she writes a scathing letter to his editor, who is also Graham's ex-wife. Graham travels to Maggie's hometown of Hale, Maryland, where he follows her around in order to discover the truth about her. He finds that there is more to her than her reputation for leaving fiancées at the altar.

Although the film is one of those "feel-good" movies, it still charms even the most hardened moviegoer. Roberts delivers a flawless performance, endearing herself once more to America's movie lovers. Gere even overcomes his usual

approach to acting, "I am playing myself, the wonderful Richard Gere," and he fully assumes the role of the brash columnist Ike Graham. The two have perfect on screen chemistry, complete with humor and verve.

The supporting cast, lead by Joan Cusack, is hilarious and fully rounds out the leading cast. From the hysterical and kooky three ex-fiancées to Maggie's grandmother, they supply some of the best lines of the film. Joan Cusack is of course wonderful, as Maggie's best friend since high school. All in all, the film is well worth seeing and makes you believe in second chances. (All right, fourth chances.)

The Haunting

If I had to say two words about this film, these would be it: Skip it. *The Haunting* is one big melee of special effects, clichéd lines and terrible acting from start to finish. Based on a novel by Shirley Jackson, *The Haunting* is the story of a doctor who takes an experimental group of three individuals up to a mansion in the Berkshires for a weekend of analysis. The subjects of his research are actually unaware of his real intentions, which are to study their physiological responses to frightening events. The subjects are under the impression that they are there to cure their insomnia. They range from a lonely single young woman, to a flamboyant bisexual played by Catherine Zeta Jones.

Liam Neeson completes the cast as the eccentric doctor. The film is poorly acted, and does not even fulfill its promises of scariness. *The Haunting* is one of the summer's biggest flops.

An Ideal Husband	PG	★★★★★
Blair Witch Project	R	★★★★★
Runaway Bride	PG13	★★★★★
The Haunting	R	★

footage was found a year later." You've all seen the commercials with this quote on the screen of your television. So what is the *Blair Witch Project* all about? It is the story of three students who decide to investigate the legend of a witch who inhabited the Burkettsville woods by filming a documentary about her.

Burkettsville used to be known as Blair, and one weekend the three students set out to discover if the Blair witch really existed. Through a process of interviews with local townspeople, they discover that a local woman named Eily Kedward caused half of the children in Blair to disappear more than 200

but gravestones were erected in their memory. Now, many years later, the townspeople seldom venture into the woods for fear of the witch.

The film is fascinating from a cinematographic point of view because it is shot as a home video. The dialogue is incredibly natural, and because of the low budget nature of the film, there are few special effects, all of which makes the film much more frightening than a typical horror movie because it seems so very real. The acting, all done by unknowns, is fabulous, and the film is rumored to be the highest grossing independent film of all time. Written, directed and edited by Daniel Myrick and Eduardo

Central Park: Our Backyard

SARA CATE
Cultural Arts Editor

Central Park, which stretches from 59th Street to 110th Street and from fifth Avenue to Central Park West, contains 840 acres in total. From Wollman Rink to the Delacorte Theatre, the Park has many attractions for tourists as well as residents of the city. Below is a run down of the major attractions found in Central Park.

The Central Park Wildlife Center features three separate geographical zones: the Tropic Zone sports a 20-foot waterfall, Colobus monkeys, tamarins and a piranha; the Temperate Territory centers around a sea lion pool, as well as the Red Panda Pavilion, the Polar Circle, includes polar bears, puffins, penguins and arctic foxes.

The Zoo is open from 10:00AM to 5:00 PM on weekdays, and 10:30AM to 5:30 PM on weekends. It is located at 64th Street and 5th Avenue, and admission is \$3.50 for adults.

Belvedere Castle is located on Vista rock, the highest point in the Park, at 79th Street. Calvert Vaux and Jacob Wrey Mould designed the Castle in 1865. In addition to housing the New Henry Nature Observatory, with reproductions of birds and tree, the castle is also a United States Weather Service Station. The castle looks as though it has been directly imported from a King Arthur tale and

is open Tuesdays through Sundays, from 10:00AM to 4:00 PM.

The Bethesda Fountain has long been considered the center of the Park. The Angel of Waters sculpture that comprises the center of the fountain was designed by Emma Stebbins in 1873. The fountain is an excellent place to watch the boats on the lake as well as the daredevil skaters, who skate on the steps of the terrace and below it.

The original Carousel opened in 1871 and was powered by a blind mule and horse that walked on a treadmill in an underground pit. In 1908, this was replaced by an electrically powered carousel built by Stein and Goldstein. This carousel was brought from Coney Island and features some of the largest hand-carved horses in the United States.

The Delacorte Theatre is an outdoor theater, probably best known for the performances of "Shakespeare in the Park" that take place there every summer. The Theatre is located in the center of the park at 79th Street. It overlooks Turtle Pond and has a fantastic view of Belvedere Castle.

Loeb Boathouse features a restaurant with a

spectacular view of the Central Park Lake. Alas, the food is not kosher, but you can still enjoy the boating on the lake, which costs \$10.00 an hour. The boats fit four people, and it is a highly enjoyable activity. Just make sure you know how to row well because it is a feat to maneuver around others and to avoid the bridge. The Loeb Boathouse is located at 74th Street on the east side of the Park.

Wollman Rink is located at the southeast corner of the Central Park Lake. Unlike most skating rinks, where the admission price is for a specific session, at Wollman the price is for the whole day. The rink offers skate rentals as well as classes. Admission price is \$7.00 for adults, and skate rental costs \$3.50. The rink is open Mondays from 10:00AM to 4:00 PM, Tuesdays through Thursdays from 10:00AM to 9:30 PM, Fridays and Saturdays from 10:00 AM to 11:00 PM, and Sundays from 10:00 to 9:00 PM. Further information can be obtained by calling (212) 396-1010.

city life

Book Review: "We Are Our Mother's Daughters" by Cokie Roberts

SIMON ROSENZWEIG
Cultural Arts Editor

The majority of college educated women today are degree-holders who have to make the difficult choice of obtaining a job outside the home. Whether they decide to have an outside career or not, women will always remain sisters, daughters, wives and mothers. Cokie Roberts' book, "We are Our Mother's Daughters," discusses the various positions that women fill both inside and outside the home. Each chapter describes another role, be it that of politician, wife or soldier. Roberts describes experiences from her own life and those of women who have played various roles throughout the years.

One of Roberts' life-sketches is of Jeannette Rankin who served in Congress before women were given national suffrage. Roberts also writes about women who served as soldiers and consumer advocates before it became "politically correct" or even feasible to do so.

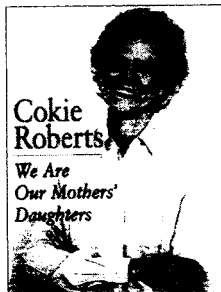
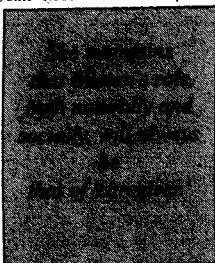
These stories of historical figures, both well-known and obscure, are tempered with stories about Roberts' own family. Roberts relates how her own mother, a woman born long

before the women's rights movement, became active in Congress. She began as an aide to her husband, Representative H. Boggs. When he died in a plane crash, she replaced him in Congress. Despite her active role in first her husband's campaign, and then her own political career, Mrs. Boggs continued to be a dedicated wife, mother and grandmother. Cokie Roberts recalls that when Cokie and her siblings were sick, their mother would stay home from the office to take care of them.

This balance is one of the beauties of Roberts' book. She lauds outside-the-home careers without denigrating stay-at-home mothers. Roberts praises the many new opportunities that have become available to women in the past few decades. However, she maintains that woman's role, both naturally and socially will always be that of "care-giver." The way in which a woman balances her responsibilities is a personal choice that each woman must make for herself. If a woman feels that she will best serve herself and/or her family by remaining home that choice is just as valid as the woman who feels her

needs will best be served through an external career.

For the most part the book is clear and well-written but there are occasional lapses here and there. At times the book fragments into unrelated pieces. More importantly, readers may tire of hearing about Cokie Roberts and her family of super-women. Anyone that Roberts is related to seems able to fill all of the roles described in the book. However, these glowing family portraits also comprise one of the books' strengths. Roberts is speaking from personal as well as historical experiences and her advice to



the young women of today is based upon her own experiences as a wife, mother, mother-in-law, reporter and daughter.

SARAH CATE
Cultural Arts Editor

So you are looking for a restaurant like Provi Provi but not as expensive and on the East Side? Look no further, because Diamante Cafe is the answer to your dilemma. Located on 48th Street between Fifth and Madison Avenues, Diamante offers a variety of Italian foods, from fettuccine to homemade pizza. Prices on the dinner menu range from \$6.95 for an appetizer to \$19.95 for an entree.

grilled red peppers, zucchini, and a red tomato sauce. The crust tasted like whole wheat flour was incorporated at some point, and the vegetables were grilled to perfection, without too much oil.

Desserts are also delicious at Diamante cafe. The restaurant features cake of the day, and at the suggestion of the hostess, we tried the Rocky Road Cake. It was as good as promised, with a creamy ganache between the layer of vanilla cake, and a frosting of chocolate and mini-marshmallows.

Diamante Cafe is under the supervision of the OK, and features both indoor and outdoor seating. The service is wonderful, with the waiters neither pestering you, nor ignoring you. Overall, I would give it four out of five stars. A special thank you to Kirsten for all of her help.

The pasta entree Fettuccine ai Funghi was delicious, consisting of homemade fettuccine and two varieties of mushrooms, with olive oil. The pasta was lightly drizzled with olive oil and garnished with a subtly flavored mushroom sauce. The portion was huge, and even though I shared it with a friend, I could not finish it. I also sampled the ten-inch individual pizzas, which were fabulous. The Diamante pizza features



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YU Places in Top Tier of Nation's Colleges

Observer Staff

For the fourth consecutive year, Yeshiva University has been ranked as one of the top 50 national universities in America in the annual *US News and World Report* survey. Published August 20, the survey ranked YU as 44th, where it was tied with four other universities - Tulane, University of California-Santa Barbara, University of Texas-Austin, and the University of Washington.

The *US News* rankings began in 1983 as a survey solely of the reputations of colleges and universities but now includes a variety of quantitative and qualitative criteria, including faculty resources, graduation rates and retention. The survey divides colleges and universities in America into four categories - national universities, national liberal arts colleges, regional universities and regional liberal arts colleges. Graduate and professional programs are rated in separate surveys.

YU is included within the

national university category along with 227 other schools. These schools, in turn, are divided into tiers based on their overall quality scores. Yeshiva University's rank of 44th places it among the top 50 schools that comprise "tier one" in the survey. Other schools in tier one include: Harvard, Princeton, Yale, Columbia and NYU.

"We are pleased that *US News* has again rated Yeshiva University as a top tier university," President Norman Lamm said. "We have an outstanding faculty and a dedicated group of deans and administrators. Their hard work is reflected in this continuing recognition of the excellence of our academic programs. The rating also reflects enhancements we have made and scholarships we are able to provide, thanks to the strong support we continue to receive from so many alumni and friends."

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(TOP TIER FIRM LIST 02)

Summer Courses in Florence *continued from page 1*

essential for students who wanted to participate in the trip. The participants would not have been able to appreciate the artwork on a higher level had they not learned its history beforehand.

Esther Bronstein, an SCW senior, also agreed. "I feel that it [the class at the Midtown campus] reinforced everything, because without the class, I wouldn't have gotten as much out of Florence."

Planning the trip

Most of the participants found out about the trip during a meeting of one of Professor Cohen's classes. Fifteenth Century Art. Cohen explained that the enrollment was kept at a minimum to ensure a higher quality learning experience, explaining that seven students signed up for the trip.

Professor Cohen had thought of the trip as a means to expose SCW students to a continent she feels they seldom see.

"I had been frustrated," she said. "Students never took advantage of stopovers [to and from Israel] and they experience less of European culture than students from other schools I have taught at."

She envisioned the summer program in Italy as a chance for students to encounter Europe and also complete an in-depth course on European art and culture.

Honors Program

Professor Cohen remarked that the Honors program recently established at Yeshiva University enabled her to organize the ten-day course in Florence. Besides financial support, the Honors program "gave

us a chance to think creatively, develop interdisciplinary courses, and gave me an easy way to develop a course for them."

Although the Florence trip represented SCW's first attempt at establishing a foreign summer program, organizational glitches were absent. "Everything went smoothly," said Professor Cohen, describing the planning phase and the actual touring portion of the course. The student participants agreed; all of those interviewed for this story complimented the organization of the trip, as well as the experience of studying Renaissance art at its source.

Favorite Florentine sites

Rhonda Forest, who graduated SCW in May, said that her favorite site on the trip was the Duomo, a dome designed by

course. Professor Cohen once lived in Florence, so she has many friends in the Jewish com-



Boboli garden at Pitti Palace

courtesy of Esther Bronstein

munity of Florence and contacts within the museums there as well. The students enjoyed lectures from prominent members of the Jewish community in Florence,

enrich their knowledge of Renaissance art.

YC Physics course

While the SCW students focused on art, the YC participants studied another facet of Renaissance Italy: Science, specifically physics and its history. Unlike the SCW trip, the YC course in Italy was open to any student, regardless of major. The students were accompanied on the trip by Dr. Gabriel Cwillich, Professor of Physics and Chairman of the Physics Department, as well as Professor Evelyn Cohen.

Ben Young, a YC senior, and participant on the trip, found out about the summer session from a schoolwide email forward. Young, who is pursuing a double major in philosophy and psychology, said that this physics course was designed for humanities majors. "It was advanced...it cov-

according to Dr. Cwillich.

The students continued to study physics in Italy, but they also began to learn about Galileo Galilei and the environment that influenced his ideas. They visited the Museum of Science and viewed some of Galileo's actual instruments, and also toured the European Laboratory of Non-Linear Spectroscopy, one of the leading physics laboratories in the world. Modern and Renaissance

Jewish life was also a focus of the trip; YC students heard lectures from members of the Jewish community and also visited the synagogues of the various towns that they visited.

Young said that the Florence portion of the course provided an invaluable perspective on Galileo. "When you are in the culture of that person, you understand better where they came from and what inspired them," he explained. "You can look at stars from the hills of Florence, and see the stars that Galileo looked at...you're in awe."

Dr. Cwillich agreed that studying physics in Italy is a unique experience, because "...it's science put in a cultural and social framework."

The purpose of these trips was also to "...show them [the students] a different cultural experience...to broaden their horizons," said Dr. Cwillich. Although the SCW and YC trips



One of the many courtyards in Florence

courtesy of Esther Bronstein

Brunelleschi which sits atop a church in Florence. The dome is made of shells with space between them, and visitors to the dome can walk between the shells and view parts of the dome which are usually unseen by the human eye. Dassi Zeidel, who also graduated in May, enjoyed the Pitti Palace, a museum with "spectacular artwork and beautifully appointed rooms," including paintings by Ruben and other famous Italian artists. Another popular stop was the Uffizi, a museum which Sharona Thurm called a "concentrated city of art."

The Florentine Jewish Community

Professor Cohen's ties to the city made Florence an ideal destination for the SCW art

including Yohanna Margulies Pick, the niece of Rabbi Samuel Zvi Margulies, a former Chief Rabbi of Florence. Dora Liscia Bemporad, a Jewish art historian and president of the Florence Jewish community, gave the students a tour of the Jewish museum. Professor Cohen said that although the main focus of the trip was the history of Renaissance art, she wanted the students to also experience Jewish

life in Florence. "It's important that students learn about European Jewry as long as they are in Europe," she said. "The experience of Jews in Europe is different than the experience in New York. Life is different in a Catholic country." Professor Cohen emphasized that the enthusiasm of the students laid the foundation for the successful trip. Even before the itinerary was

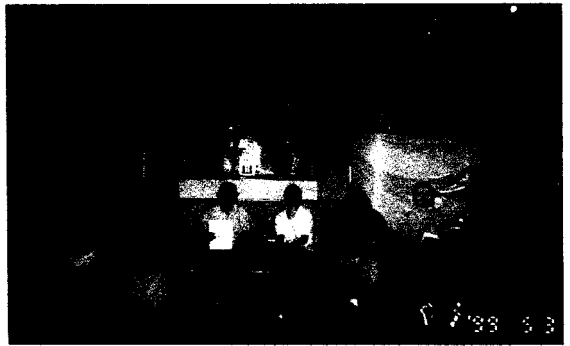
ered material that you would not get in a physics class for non-majors."

Dr. Cwillich explained that this course in Italy was designed to expose humanities majors to a higher level of science than they would normally experience. He emphasized the need to teach physics to a wider audience. "We should try to teach science not just to the science students," he said.

The YC course contained two components: Class sessions held on the Main campus from June 14 to July 2, and lectures and tours in Florence from July 12 to July 25. While in New York, the students took classes on the mechanics of physics, complete with labs,

to Italy diverged in their course of study, the participants from both trips interviewed for this story said that they came back to United States with a greater appreciation of Europe.

Ben Young summed up his compliments of the course by saying, "Two weeks of Italy is the most wondrous experience...it's just beautiful."



Cenacolo Di Sant'Apollonia

courtesy of Esther Bronstein



Tova Katz and Dassi Zeidel in front of Siena view

courtesy of Esther Bronstein



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WASHINGTON INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

**The Orthodox Union's
Institute for Public Affairs'
Internship Program is seeking
to place Orthodox Jewish
college students in
Washington, DC offices
in the summer of 2000.**

The Internship program involves outstanding young adults in the political process and provides a link between our nation's Capitol and the Jewish community. Students will serve in Congressional and Senatorial offices and in Jewish political organizations.

Applications for the summer of 2000 are now available. Applicants must be sophomores or juniors in college and are required to submit letters of recommendation from academic advisors and to outline work done for Israel and the Jewish community. Stipends are available.

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF
APPLICATIONS IS FEBRUARY 15, 2000.**

For application and further details,
write the Institute for Public Affairs, Orthodox Union
1640 Rhode Island Avenue, N.W., 5th Floor, Washington, DC 20036
or call (202) 857-2770.



www.ou.org

Job Openings

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AVAILABLE TO ALL UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS AT YESHIVA UNIVERSITY: A SAMPLING OF PART TIME JOBS AND INTERNSHIPS FOR FALL 1999

For information regarding the contact person and follow-up course of action, please stop by the Office of Placement & Career Services at the Midtown Center Room 920 & 923 to look in the appropriate job/ internship book. An approved resume must be secured with the Office before students can apply for the positions.

PART-TIME JOBS

The Individual Investor Group has a number of paid internships for students interested in Equity Research, Editorial/Journalism, and Web Development. Excellent opportunity for majors in finance, computers, information systems, computers, and English.

Leshkowitz & Co., an accounting firm has a paid part time position 15-20 hours a week for an accounting student must have excellent firm and experience for the right student.

Mount Sinai Medical Center is looking for a pre-med/healthcare major (preferably) with previous medical office experience a plus to assist in specialty faculty practice. Candidates must have bulk time available on Monday-Friday between 9-4. Position may be shared by two students.

Consulting firm looking for research administrative assistant to handle phones, computer needs, and general office work. Hours: 20 hours per week.

President of Personnel Co. Needs part time administrative assistant to handle client companies, candidates, maintain database and office support. Must be organized, quick, articulate, and responsible. Prior office work experience required; GPA 3.0 or better. Salary commensurate with experience.

Independent record label company has paid internship for a communications major. Responsibilities include: contacting possible performance venues, radio shows, and media outlets for review, web research, and press kit compilation.

Medical assistant needed for Dr's office on the East Side. Must have experience, be good with patients, organized, and dependable.

A university-based **neuroimaging laboratory** in Manhattan is looking for a talented technical part time staff person interested in developing scientific computer software for brain imaging research. Must have two years of Computer Science courses in college completed and experience with UNIX and C++. Must be able to work independently, take initiative and possess strong communication skills.

A **large public agency** seeks part time computer consultants to teach children and adolescents basic computers skills at locations throughout the five boroughs. Program operates during after school and evening hours. Proficiency in Windows, Microsoft Office, Microsoft Publisher, and Web Page Design required. \$25.00/hr.

The National Kidney Foundations has an opening for a public relations assistant. Needed a creative thinker, who is self motivated, organized, and knows WordPerfect. The position involves advertising and editorial media outreach, telephone interviewing, writing, and administrative support. Salary \$10.00 an hour.

Midtown company has an opening for a college student who knows Web page and catalog design. \$10.00/hr.

Library Assistant for NYC investment banking firm needed to organize publications, annual reports, newsletters and magazines; handle invoices; and assist in cross referencing files. Must be available to work 20 hrs. a week.

International Language Services, Inc. is currently hiring Hebrew translators and interpreters. Interested candidates must speak and read Hebrew and translate into English. Knowledge of Word or WordPerfect also needed. Various shifts available.

Part-Time job openings as **Group Leaders and Recreation Specialists** in enrichment, literacy, art, performing arts, photography, cooking, and other activity groups available in an after school program in an Upper East Side community based organization dedicated to meeting the educational and developmental needs of inner city children & adolescents. Depending on experience \$7.50-\$15.00 an hour.

Assistant teacher needed for toddler playgroup Tuesdays and/or Thursday mornings: Sept-Dec. 1999. Group meets in Jewish synagogue. \$12.00 an hour.

Kedma, a resource for Orthodox college campus communities and an educational and programmatic resource for the general Jewish campus community is looking for an intern to assist the National

Director in coordinating different programs and projects for campuses nationwide. Person must be open minded, motivated, understanding, and tolerant of different types of communities. Must have basic computer and Internet skills. Hours flexible for right candidate. Salary \$6.50-\$10.00 an hour based on experience.

Part-time positions available to work with young adults with various disabilities on a one-to-one basis in an employment setting. Previous experience or exposure to special needs population required. Flexible hours; \$10.00 an hour.

Can you inspire others?? A local Manhattan based **Bikur Cholim** is seeking an energetic college student to join a professional staff and supervise teens in this teen Bikur Cholim program. Must have some previous experience working with teens in a social service/community based project. Attractive salary.

National Council of Young Israel is recruiting Youth Directors for a number of shuls in the New York area for the upcoming year. Jobs entail mostly Shabbat groups and some Saturday night and Sunday programming. Salaries depend on size of shul and experience of candidate.

Various **Talmud Torah schools** looking for part time teachers for a variety of grades. Stop by Office of Placement & Career Services for names and locations.

INTERNSHIPS

United Broadcasting, Inc. has an internship to assist with props, press archives, production, research, and post production activities. Position available in Midtown. Students must be able to receive college credit.

Rainbow Media Holdings who has created alternate media channels including Bravo, American Movie Classics, News 12, Independent Film Channel, MSG Metro Guide and others is offering an internship program to give students a practical hands on experience in sales, marketing, on-air promotions, ENG and studio production, programming, public relations, and computer graphics. Students must receive college credit for this unpaid position. Duties vary as due time commitments.

Ralph Lauren Childrenswear has a non paid internship in merchandising. Assist various team members of department with projects and tasks. Must be well spoken, able to assume responsibility, and have good organizational skills.

Unpaid internship available working in the photo archives and in post production for a studio

located in the Village.

ICON magazine has two internship positions available for Fall 1999, one in the business department and one in the editorial department. Great opportunity for anyone interested in a career in magazine publishing.

Love children?? Love Television?? Do you have two free days a week to devote to an internship? If the answer is yes to all three questions then you are the perfect candidate for a production internship at The Children's Television Workshop. Must make 3 month commitment.

Midtown public relations firm has openings for Interns to work on a variety of accounts. Research and compile media lists, write press releases, phone pitch, assemble press clips, and help with administrative work. Looking for outgoing, conscientious, organized, and multi task individual.

EL AL has an internship in their Advertising and Public Relations Department. While there is no pay the intern will receive a free ticket on EL AL for one semester of work.

Henry Holt & Co., a leading book publisher, has an unpaid internship to assist Creative Director with various administrative tasks. Candidate should possess excellent verbal and organizational skills with a desire to learn about the creative aspects of book publishing.

A number of internships are available at **Thieme**, a scientific journal, in the accounting, editorial, production, and marketing departments. A stipend is available.

A **hedge fund** in New York is looking for an intern with strong computer skills and interpersonal skills to work with professional.

Paine Webber, a major Wall Street firm, is looking for 3-4 individuals for unpaid internships for the Fall. Must have good analytic and interpersonal skills as well as a keen eye for detail. Although a financial background is not a requirement, one should possess some interest in the financial services industry.

Assist senior producing team of brokers at world headquarters office of **Merrill Lynch**. Must be ambitious, goal oriented, and have high energy.

Financial Advisor internship available at **Prudential Securities**. Candidates with marketing or business administration majors a plus but not a requirement.

Interested in tax, financial analysis and research?? Then **KPMG LLP's State Tax Minimization Practice** wants you. They are

looking for enthusiastic individuals with excellent writing, communications, and research skills to join their SALI staff as an intern. Ideal candidates should be pursuing a BA in accounting, finance, or business. Minimum of 20 hours a week required.

WNET/Channel Thirteen is looking for interns in their New Media Group. HTML work, Internet research, and technical and administrative production assistance needed. Must be familiar with Mac computers, be working toward a BA in Communications or related field, and have strong communication and interpersonal skills.

The New York Transit Authority has many internships open to college undergraduates interested in gaining practical experience in computers and information systems, graphics, architecture, urban planning, business, finance, law, marketing, public relations, journalism, human resources, public administration, and social work. Stop by the Placement Office for more details.

The Jewish Museum has a Fall internship to assist in the department of the Senior Curator with exhibition research and daily museum business. Art history majors preferred but not required.

Internships available at the **Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany, Inc.** Interns will assist directors of Communications, Service, and Allocation Departments.

The Legal Aid Society, Juvenile Rights Division, has internships in Child Advocacy, Public Interest Law, and Paralegal. Hours are flexible and requirements and duties vary from position to position.

A number of internship opportunities exist in the Volunteer departments of local area hospitals including Lenox Hill Hospital, Mt. Sinai Hospital, NYU, Beth Israel Medical Center to name a few. Come by our offices for more information.

FEGS, the Jewish Board of Family & Children's Services, UJA Federation, Lenox Hill Neighborhood House, and Sunnyside Community Services has internships for students interested in social work or public administration. In addition, Volunteers in Action produces a handbook on volunteer opportunities in New York City which the Placement Office has. Come and look at it.

We Welcome Your Comments

observer@mail.yu.edu

Missionaries continued from page 1

Christianity was invalid. He has since dedicated his life to undoing the work of missionaries.

"You have an opportunity to have an impact on the world. [Jews] have an obligation to know how to answer an apostate or an assimilated Jew," Ciss said. In addition, the Hebrew-Christian movement is more prevalent than many realize. "When Jews for Judaism conducts programs in the United States," he explained, "an average of 25% of every audience knows of someone who is Jewish and believes in 'Jesus'."

Powers offered an explanation for the success of missionaries like Jews for "Jesus," commenting on the types of Jews that accept the preaching of missionaries: "Most are ignorant of what it means to be Jewish," he said. Many grew up in homes that were assimilated or otherwise devoid of spirituality. Ciss agreed that the majority of Jews who become Hebrew-Christians are looking for spirituality in all the wrong places, and they are attracted to such branches of Christianity "because of a warm and caring Christian or a program on TV or the radio," he said. "Most never examined it from a Jewish perspective on who 'Jesus' was, in order to make an informed decision."

Why Jews for "Jesus" succeeds

Although Jews for "Jesus" does not publish specific figures related to its success rate, it is certainly the largest organization in its class, stationed in places from New York to Moscow to Australia with over 150 full-time employees, not to mention part-time employees and volunteers. They are well-funded

enough to advertise in publications such as Newsweek, TV Guide and the New York Times, as well as the popular Internet site, Lycos.com. But their most effective coercion is accomplished through a more personal, one-on-one basis.

According to Powers, a number of years ago Jews for "Jesus" conducted a survey, asking about 8,000 "converted" Jews how they came to be Hebrew-Christians, or the latest sect, Messianic Jews. More than 90% attributed their decision to convert to the efforts of a friend or a business associate. "A neighbor is more effective than a missionary," said Powers. "It is most effective [for missionaries] to train other people to approach [Jews] and then bring in a professional missionary to close the deal."

Reverend Martin Rosen, who prefers to be known as Moïshe, founded Jews for "Jesus" in 1973. "[Rosen] was never interested in using his Hebrew name," Ciss noted, "except for the purpose of making himself more attractive to evangelize Jews."

A former salesman, Rosen grew up in a Conservative Jewish home, and missionaries preached to him about Christianity when he was just a teenager. Since he knows that most Jews are highly literate, Rosen realized that it was neces-

sary to devise a plan to produce quality literature, packed with humor and cleverly misleading information. He began by coordinating volunteers who distributed 50,000 pamphlets per month wherever they found crowds - at shopping areas, on college campuses and in theater districts.

Stein, who is a Resident Assistant at Brookdale Residence Hall, attended a public high school that had a Jews for

to spread the word about "Jesus", especially to the Jews.

Marketing their mission

Powers pointed out that since the Spanish Inquisition and centuries of pogroms did not have the desired effect of massive Jewish conversion to Christianity, missionaries have opted to soften their approach. "About forty-five or fifty years ago," Powers explained, "Evangelical leaders got together and identified the fact that they have baggage - all those pogroms and the Inquisition - so they didn't have long lines of Jews waiting to get into church. If you became Christian, you left the Jewish community; it was not something that [Jews] were really excited about doing."

As a result, individuals like Reverend Rosen decided it would be advantageous to add to Judaism by bringing in basic tenets of Christian faith. Rosen claimed that for many years before he started his organization, Jews have sought to set up their own separate Jewish communities that believed in Christian doctrine. But Powers remarked: "That is absolutely, patently untrue. When [Jews] joined those communities, they became part of those communities... There is no such thing as Jews for 'Jesus' - that is an oxymoron."

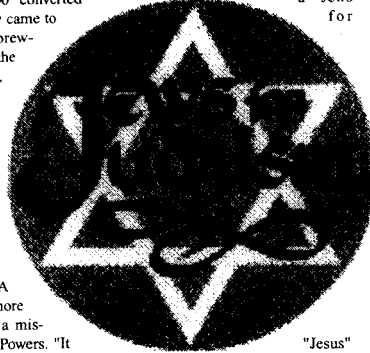
Furthermore, Powers explained how Evangelism has tempted Jews away from the traditional doctrine of Judaism. "Their answer is, don't change who you are; complete your Jewishness. Become Hebrew-Christian, or a Messianic Jew." That is precisely the genius of Rosen's idea. According to his mistaken view, there is no contra-

dition if a person is a Jew and also a "Jesus"-believer. "The missionaries make the Christian religion look very Jewish - like kosher pork," explained Ciss. "[W]hen I walked into the 'Messianic Synagogue' I was misled; the people used Hebrew names and Hebrew terminology, sang Hebrew songs, and wore yarmulkes and tallitot... You won't be baptized - you'll have a mikveh-bris."

With a modest budget of \$400,000, Jews for Judaism works tirelessly to help vulnerable Jews. "The Jewish community does not perceive the Hebrew-Christian movement as a problem that they might need to address," Powers lamented. "It is tragic for the thousands of families that have lost members because people are unwilling to respond."

"The Jewish Response to Missionaries" is a 32-page booklet published by Jews for Judaism, which can be ordered for free by emailing a request to jfciss@interlog.com. Or, send a request, specifying the desired publication and affixing a 42-cent stamp (to reach Canada), to their Toronto office: 2795 Bathurst Street, POB 41032, Toronto, Ontario M6B 4J6, Canada.

Next summer, Jews for Judaism plans to have a counter-missionary campaign, including hundreds of people handing out leaflets, in order to impede the success of missionaries from Jews for "Jesus" as well as other Evangelical groups. They are looking for volunteers to help in their efforts to protect and bring back Jews locally and all over the world. For information or to contact Jews for Judaism, please visit their website at www.jewsforjudaism.org.



"Jesus"

center right across the street. "They set up shop there because it's a Jewish neighborhood, but the people aren't religious... In Philadelphia, they have shuls, or churches, that are Jews for "Jesus" places. You are liable to see someone walking around with a yarmulke and tzitzit that isn't Jewish."

Rosen admitted that Jews for "Jesus" is indeed a Christian missionary organization. "It is an independent faith mission which is part of the mainstream Evangelical movement," he explained via email. "G-d sent us to witness to everybody," he continued, referring to the New Testament, in which it says that Christians are obligated

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