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Breaking News: SCW Copes With Terror

World Trade Center Collapse Shakes SCW

Students React to the Country in Crisis

By: Miriam Colton

At about 9 yesterday morning, Michelle Ross woke up to a loud bang outside her Windsor apartment on the 27th floor. Looking out her window she saw the skyline of lower Manhattan illuminated by a ball of fire. Minutes later, she was on the phone with her mother in Canada as she and her roommates watched the building from their window. "Suddenly my roommate shrieked and the building just collapsed in front of our eyes," related Ross, visibly shaken from the experience.

Students at the midtown campus reacted in various ways to the catastrophe at the World Trade Center only two miles away. While some stayed in their rooms to recite passages of tehillim, others filed into the streets watching the billowing smoke cloud, with radios playing from parked vans.

Many stu-

dents responded with a strong desire to help with the crisis. But lack of organization by the university to keep students up to date on the blood collections effort, led to some confusion as to whether it was useful for students to donate blood. Different student leaders stood up in the cafeteria throughout the afternoon with conflicting announcements. "It was disorienting because students kept getting up to make announcements about going or not going, sometimes only within a few minutes of each other," said Abby Calm, SCW junior.

Following these instructions by student leaders, some students walked from hospital to hospital around the city, often to be turned away. "Right away they told us they were only taking type O blood and that we should either come back later or tomorrow," said Sara Roer, who walked over to the NYU Medical

Center on 30th street and 1st Avenue. We then went over to the emergency room to try to help out, but they only wanted bilingual volunteers to stay."

Meanwhile, at the uptown campus, in response to students' organizing efforts to walk down to Columbia Presbyterian to give blood, university officials adamantly urged them not to donate. "We ran around as the arm of various university facilities, telling students it's a real concern [to walk down to the hospital] and to stay on campus," said Yaakov Green, YC junior class president who was active in yesterday's events uptown.

Lou Shapp, YCSC President, felt that, "Student's shouldn't risk their lives and jeopardize their safety to give blood, when there are plenty of other people giving blood."

Nevertheless, about two dozen uptown students dis-

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Classes in Session Create Controversy Among Students *SCW and YC Remain Open While SSSB classes are cancelled*

By: Adina Levine

The first students to hear sirens during Dr. Perlman's 9am Psychology class may have dismissed them as inconsequential. After all, it was New York City and the wails of ambulances disturbed class all the time. The second siren may have gotten a raised eyebrow, but the class still paid attention to their professor. Still, when a wave of ambulances flew down 34th street, Dr. Perlman dismissed the class to go watch the news.

But the psychology class was one of the only classes that would be dismissed that morning. While the entire world sat transfixed and immobile during a national crisis,

most SCW classes continued as scheduled to the dismay of many students.

"Class should have been cancelled," commented Sara Roer, SCW sophomore. "We were right near the bomb."

Consistent with this philosophy, the entire SSSB shut down for the day, as did Azrieli School of Education and Wurzweiler School of Social Work. Columbia and Barnard also cancelled their classes, among other NY area universities. However, although numerous teachers cancelled their individual classes, SCW and YC remained officially open.

Students were enraged

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Israel Stands by America Through Attack; Will America Stand by Israel?

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By: **Michal Leah Kanovsky**

As America utilizes all its resources to recover from terrorist attacks, Israel firmly declares its support. Familiar with fighting terrorism, Israel is lending its expertise to the U.S. in all areas. Israel has announced that it will send anti-terrorism experts to the United States to take part in the investigation of the attack. Defense Minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer has also approved the dispatch of IDF rescue units to the US if requested. In response to the call for blood donations, Magen

provide any assistance at any time," said Prime Minister Ariel Sharon.

Sharon has declared that Israel and the U.S. are now united as targets for terrorist action, but does America wish to be united with Israel in such brutal circumstances? One pressing issue that concerns SCW students is the ramifications this terrorist act will have on American policy with regard to Israel. Although speculative at this point, there are a number of predictions about the future of American-Israeli relations in the wake of this horror.

One possibility is that the attack will raise American awareness to the horrors of terrorist subjugation. A new sympathy toward Israel may emerge in both the media and the American public. On the radio today many analysts commented on the fact that the American policy toward terrorism has to change in response to this attack. America must be more wary of suspicious individuals and more vigilant in fighting attacks. The American media's criticism toward Israel's "excessive force" in fighting terror, may be less condemning now that America has had a taste of the effects of terrorism.

Another consequence of this event could be further American hostility toward Israel. Osama bin Laden, presumed responsible for the strike, threatened such an attack three weeks ago due to the American support of Israel. The US public may blame the Israelis for provoking this violence. Ra'anah Giss, a

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Michal Leah Kanovsky
Special Edition Editor

The Observer is published monthly during the academic year by the Stern College for Women Student Council. The staff of the Observer retains the right to choose newspaper content and to determine the priority of stories. While unsigned editorials represent the views of the Observer's editorial board, all opinions expressed in signed editorials, columns, letters and cartoons are the opinions of the writers or artists and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Observer, Stern College for Women, its student body, faculty or administration.

Student Response

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obeyed official university policy and walked down to the hospital, but were unable to donate due to hospital congestion. Plans are currently being made to enable students to donate blood, either by having shuttles running to the hospital or bringing blood mobiles to campus.

At the midtown campus a handful of students criticized the university's lack of organized concern for students suffering emotional trauma. Although two tehillim gatherings were held in the early afternoon, one in the gym and one in the cafeteria, no administrators addressed the students. "You do not want to be alone wandering around," said Devorah Lipkind. "They definitely should have had an assembly."

When asked to explain this lack of responsibility on the part of student leaders, Elana Soleimani, SCWSC president refused comment.

Despite the student leaders' and administrators lack of a large scale response to the emergency

situation, there were heroes in the crisis. The residence staff and Bum's security were pillars of strength throughout the day.

"The RA's were very mature," said Masha Igel, SCW sophomore. "They made a real effort to help the students, even ones not from their floors."

"Rachel Kraut came around to all the rooms in Windsor," said Ross. "She left a note on our door making sure we were all okay."

Late last evening, signs were posted in the Brookdale halls advising students to speak to a counselor who will be available in 215 Lexington today.

Security, which was increased in all SCW buildings, took precautionary measures with non-SCW students and were duly cautious in receiving parcels throughout the day. "They were more careful than usual and acted calmly," explained Igel. "I felt safe in the building."



Magen Dovid Adom prepares to send blood to America

David Adom has begun collecting type O blood, which will be shipped to the U.S. to help the victims.

Further showing empathy for the tragedy, a day of mourning has been declared today in Israel. "On behalf of the people of Israel, I wish to send our deepest condolences and heartfelt sympathy to the American people, President Bush, and the entire US government following the terror attacks against the US and our common values. At this most difficult hour all Israelis stand as one with the America people. Our hearts are with you, and we are ready to

School Remains Open

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at this apparent double standard that concluded it was too dangerous for their contemporaries in the business school to attend class, while they were required to do so.

"It's inconsistent that the school acts as if only the business students were affected [by the terrorist attack]," commented Michelle Ross. Other students pointed out that SCW students living on the same campus as SSSB students and within the same proximity to the danger should be subject to the same safety precautions, i.e. no class.

Many students didn't even show up to their classes, expecting them to be cancelled. Students also felt that the classes in session at SCW and YC were somewhat of a joke.

"Class wasn't that much of a serious thing," reflected J.J. Klein, YC senior. "I understand why they [kept the school open] – to keep students occupied – but my experience was that class was a waste of time."

YCSC President Lou Shapp expressed a similar opinion. "Most students could not feel that they could learn under these circumstances," said Shapp.

"When I walked out of class, there was chaos," reflected Faige Glaser, SCW senior. "I asked 'What happened? What happened?' [When someone told me,] I started shaking. I skipped class and went home immediately."

On the other hand, the administration apparently had its reasons for keeping its building open. Some students suggested that an unforeseen closing would mandate adding an extra class day for the already overburdened college calendar. Further, there were administrative concerns that cancelling school would

cause the students to wander aimlessly around New York. Refuting this concern, Roer contended, "It's not the school's responsibility what students do."

Finally, some students applauded the administrative decision to schedule classes. "There was no reason not to keep the school open," commented Chana Szyf. "Or else people would just be sitting and frantically worrying that the world is coming to an end. You're more in panic when there's

What to Expect

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today. Closer to home, the Empire State Building will be closed again today.

As far as traveling, the New York City transit has service on all trains except the 3, C, and the Q Express. All stations in Manhattan from Canal Street and south of Canal Street will be bypassed. The

Terminal will be open. NJ Transit anticipates last minute changes in its service schedule though, so stay tuned to broadcast reports for the latest information and expect limited service into and out of New York. Both the LIRR and MetroNorth have resumed regular services.

Students who plan on flying home for Rosh Hashanna should prepare for possible delays. Right now all airports around the country are closed. Flights out of New York by American Airlines and United Airlines will not resume until noon today at the earliest. Due to the back up of flights scheduled for Tuesday, people with flights scheduled for Wednesday or Thursday should not expect their flight to take place as planned. American Airlines has said that, once flights resume, the company will reaccommodate customers on AA, TWA and Eagle without penalty. Make sure to double check your rescheduled flight so that you don't end up on a plane traveling on

shabbat!

If you want to help, as of now the city is only asking for volunteers with medical experience. If you are Red Cross certified in CPR and/or first-aid, you could be of help, call 212-875-2067. Civilians are being asked to donate blood at various centers throughout the city. The NYU Medical Center on 1st avenue and 30th street is accepting donations from people with O+ and O-blood. Other blood type donors could go to 310 E. 67th Street (between 1st and 2nd avenues), 150 Amsterdam Avenue (66th and 67th Streets), 53rd Street at Lexington Ave, 170 W. 12th Street (7th Avenue), 180 Fort Washington Ave, 525 East 68th Street (1st Avenue), or 1 Madison Ave (24th street & Madison Ave). Potential blood donors should bring valid ID with them as well as a blood donor card (if they have one). For further information relating to blood donations, call 1-800-933-BLOOD.

President Bush Addresses Nation



absolutely nothing to do."

The university expects to hold classes again today. Responding to whether a regular class schedule would be followed, Dean David Himer predicted, "As of now, the answer is yes, but I'm sure the deans are communicating with Dr. Lowengrub and that may be changed." Himer was uncertain whether students who would be unable to attend class – either commuters or students afraid to be in the city – would be penalized for their absence.

buses are running in Manhattan above Houston and the four other boroughs of New York. NJ TRANSIT will adjust some of its bus and rail service to New York today to coincide with service being operated by PATH and Amtrak, and depending on whether the Hudson River tunnels, George Washington Bridge and the Port Authority Bus

Israeli Support

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senior aide to Ariel Sharon, was asked if he were concerned that yesterday's events could backfire on Israel. Gissin replied that he

believes that the battle will be viewed as one "between civilizations, between good and bad, between the civilized and uncivilized." He is hoping that Israel will not be blamed.

Of particular interest to SCW students is the effect that the World Trade Center's

collapsing will have on the solidarity rally planned for September 23. The rally was meant to show national support for Israel in this time of crisis. Although not cancelled as of yet, the organizers of the rally will be discussing the situation sometime soon.

Midtown and Main Campus Differ Radically in Student Response

Main Campus Hosts Rally; Midtown Hosts Movie Night

By: Adina Levine with Miriam Colton

In the wake of what some speculate to be the most major American catastrophe since Pearl Harbor, Yeshiva University students stepped up to voice their opinions and share their emotions, but the extent of their responses varied remarkably between the uptown and midtown campuses. While YC leadership evidenced itself through a massive mincha rally, SCW students recited four perakim of Tehillim during the allotted lunchtime. And while the day of



Students feel movie shown at Schottenstein last night displayed lack of sensitivity

turmoil ended at YC with a kumsitz, SCW went to sleep with the memory of movie night.

The uptown rally, held on the lawn in front of the Max Stern Athletic Center, began with a mass mincha and Tehillim. YCSC President Lou Shapp began the proceedings by calling for a unified response on this "date which will live in infamy." Rabbi Lamm then spoke his words of inspiration, followed by Director of Development Jeffrey Rosengarten asserting that the situation was under control. "Basically, it was a well spoken, very well delivered peptalk that could have easily

been placed in shul on shabbos as a wonderful drasha," commented Josh Klarfeld, YC senior, referring to Rabbi Lamm's speech "It's difficult to keep sense of normalcy when everything around is blowing up."

YC students applauded the successful organization of the rally by the student leaders. "The rally was very meaningful," remarked David Baghdadi. "You got to hand it to those guys who organized it. They're people caring for each other - Jews, non-Jews, it doesn't matter- it shows that we care."

"There were a lot of people," reflected J.J. Klein, YC senior. "I've never seen so many students gathered together for a YU event, not even for the Tehillim rally last year. Everyone came together."

The hectic day was capped off uptown by a kumsitz in Rubin lounge. "Music always has been a way to channel emotion, especially during a time of tragedy," said Shapp.

The main campus's unified and prompt response to a national crisis marked a striking contrast with the midtown reaction. Upon being informed that all intercampus van service would be suspended - cancelling the scheduled Rabbi Weinberger shiur - SCWSC sought to create an alternative for restless SCW students. The answer was movie night, featuring nosh and the movie *Nell* in Schottenstein Residence Hall. Although attended by a few students, movie night enraged others. "We were very aggravated that they had a movie night," exclaimed SCW Senior Julie Pianko. "People around the city were riveted to their television sets watching the news while students at

Stern were participating in what was advertised as 'Food, Fun and Friends'."

On the other hand, some students believed that the movie night was a positive response. "I think it was a wonderful idea," said Elisheva Douglas, SCW sophomore. "There is only so much news one can watch."

Assessing the diverse reactions of the different campuses, Dean of Students Services David Himer commented on the relative apathy of the midtown campus. "Each campus reacts in their own way," commented Himer. "I did not have any request from

midtown campus [to have an assembly]."

On the other hand, some YC students did not feel that the main campus reaction was optimal. "The reaction was too slow," remarked Yaakov Green, YC senior. One wonders what Green's response would have been had he been situated at the midtown campus.

UPDATE

- *Tentative Meeting at 10 this morning with university officials
- *Tehillim gatherings throughout the day

When Tomorrow Comes *How the World Trade Center collapse will affect us over the next few days*

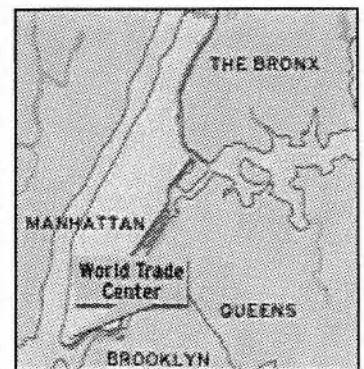
By: Michal Leah Kanovsky

You know that something is wrong in New York when you walk outside at 7:30 PM and the streets are empty. Just a week before Rosh Hashanna, the World Trade Center bombings have jumped started our new year. How should the students of SCW be reacting to this tragedy and what can we expect for the next few days?

Officially, SCW will remain open, including food services, libraries and local van services (although intercampus shuttle service is cancelled for today). Classes will be running, but students should check to see if their professor is coming in. Campus security will be proceeding cautiously due to the situation with more pedestrian security and patrols. Students are advised by security to use their common sense and not to try to go down to the bombing

sites, despite its close proximity to our campus.

Those who like to walk around the city can expect to encounter some detours. Mayor Guliani has declared that an area of Lower



Manhattan around the collapse-site (until 14th street) will be off-limits to civilians until Thursday. All businesses below 14th Street in Manhattan will be closed

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