



# The Yeshiva University OBSERVER

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After a series of events described lar's neck," a group of students at have decided to take action and *The YU Kishke*.

"We just felt like nobody was to express ourselves," said Sarah an online-based newspaper whose "to put the Yeshiva in Yeshiva Miss K., along with several other *The Kishke* after a life-altering ex-Halacha" class. "I raised my hand a *bas mitzvah* in Tzfas, but the I said '*bat mitzvah*' and 'Safed,'" knew I had to do something. It Miss K. was further disturbed who walked down to the chuppah to "Raise Your Glass" by the Maccabeats. "Their intentions were l'shem shamayim...but they were misguided," Miss K. pointed out. So, with no other choice, and a lot of elbow grease, *The Kishke* was formed.

*The Kishke* has collaborated with another educational entity to strengthen its readership and content. "We've paired up with some students at a local Bais Yaakov, and they have written some really nice articles for us," noted Miss K. "We know that something like this is not usually done, but there's always room for broadening horizons, yes?"

One of their more recent articles, titled "Let Them Wear Black," discusses the apparent aversion some people have toward black pleated skirts. "Personally, I think they're really comfortable and nice looking...but to many

## These Girls Have Guts: New Student Newspaper Surfaces on Campus

Estee Neff

as "the button that closed the col-Stern College for Women (SCW) form their own college publication:

hearing our voice, and we wanted K., editor-in-chief of *The Kishke*, mission statement is, succinctly, University." friends, first thought of starting perience in her "Jewish Women in to ask if one is permitted to have teacher didn't understand me until related Miss K. "At that moment, I was such *hashgocha*."

when she heard about some friends l'shem shamayim...but they were misguided," Miss K. pointed out. So, with no other choice, and a lot of elbow grease,

## Maccabeats Adopt Bieber Haircut

Tower Lover

This past week, one of the many ethnic barbershops in their native Washington Heights, the Maccabeats *en masse* adopted the Justin Bieber haircut.

For those unfamiliar with America's reigning pre-teen singing sensation, the Justin Bieber haircut is a blond cross between a shi tzu and a Labrador. The haircut features long thick bangs that cut across the forehead, allowing for maximal preening and hair flipping.

According to an anonymous source close to the Maccabeats, the hairstyle change was prompted by several factors. It not only allows the Maccabeats to be even more uniform in concert, but also makes them instantly recognizable.

"Now, nobody will mistake random Jewish men on the street for Maccabeats," said Mick Beet, one of the group's harmony singers. This is especially convenient since Jus-

tin Bieber himself ditched his signature haircut in a recent, much publicized *upsherin*. The Maccabeats are considering licensing the haircut from Bieber's representatives to guarantee exclusivity.

Additionally, with their new haircuts, the Maccabeats are hoping to appeal to a wider range of teenage girls. Previously, their fan base was limited to mostly Jewish fifteen year olds; however,

sporting the

shaggy Bieber cut, the Maccabeats will be able to access areas of the Midwest where no Jewish singing sensation has gone before.

"I think that the Bieber cut makes the Maccabeats more accessible," said an unnamed YU official. "This will allow us to enable and ennoble the entire US through Macca-fever." In fact, YU sponsored the Maccabeats' transformation, even paying for hair dye and extensions for some of the group's members.

In order to debut their new group look, the Maccabeats will be covering a Justin Bieber song in another viral video for Pesach. Rumor has it that they are currently debating between "One Time" or "One Less Lonely Girl", the advantage of the latter being that they won't have to change the chorus. With their new haircuts, the Maccabeats are going to be making a lot of girls a little less lonely.

students they represent a sort of stigma," commented Avigail H., author of the article. "We also found that black tights plus black pleated skirts can be an even bigger issue. In come cases," she added, "boys may refuse to go out with these girls because they are 'too yeshivish.' Just one more thing to keep the shidduch crisis alive!"

Speaking of the shidduch crisis, *The Kishke* staff has all of their personal information on their website, as well as an airbrushed photo and references. PLEASE feel free to contact them by visiting [www.itsinyukishke.com](http://www.itsinyukishke.com). And you can read the articles while you're there, too.

## Teaneck Girl Stays In for Shabbos, Roommates Baffled

Strn Luvr

In a startling twist, Sarah Long, a Stern student from Teaneck, NJ is staying in school for Shabbat. Any student who can take the Subway, LIRR, New Jersey Transit, or Goodyear blimp home on Thursday afternoon- usually does. So the decision of the student from "just over the bridge" to remain in her cramped dorm room was naturally met with confusion.

"I'm freaking out!" yelled Sarah, oblivious to everyone staring. "I haven't done this since Israel!"

When questioned what she has not done since Israel, Sarah said "Everything! Anything! I don't know, leave me alone!"

Sarah's roommates report that she ran across the street to D'Agostino's and bought out the whole supermarket. Cashier Shaniqua recalls seeing "some crazy white chick yelling around the whole store that she was gonna starve this *shubbis* or something. Either way, we have to close down until more food gets here!"

Sarah's roommate Mushkie, an in-towner, fears for Sarah's safety.

"It will totally mess her up. She's never been in the city over a Friday or Saturday night before. I'm worried she won't be able to handle the *meshugas* of New York at night."

When asked how Sarah might handle Shabbos day, Mushie had no answer. "Listen, I don't think she'll leave her room, maybe even her bed, all Shabbos. So does it really matter what happens on Shabbos day? No, I guess not so much."

Other Teaneck girls also feared for Sarah. They were nervous she wouldn't be



BeiberBeats

T-Rex Claw

OP UN-ED

My Hat it Has Three Corners

From the Ginevra (Potter) Weasley, Edamame 'n' Cheese

Welcome to the Observer- UN-CENSORED. Here at the Observer, we have finally decided to let down our hair and publish the unpublishable. Within these pages you will find so much inappropriate content that it is sure to get an R rating. If it was a movie. Which it is not.

In honor of the Observer finally becoming uncensored, I feel that it is my morally superior obligation to share a *shlickle torah* with you all. The question that I would like to focus my discussion around is: what is the significance of the three-cornered hamentaschen?

Some of the answers previously given to this weighty question included "because Haman wore a three-cornered hat" and "the three corners symbolize the three *avot*". However, as a student of Stern College for Knowledge, I understand the weighty, mystical significance that my food has, and I refused to be satisfied with such a simple answer.

I started my quest for truth by emailing several rabbis. However, I found that my YUMS email account malfunctioned whenever I emailed a rabbi not affiliated with Centrist Orthodoxy. I tried to meet some of these experts for lunch, but our plans were stymied due to rodent infestations at Shalom Bombay and Rosa's Pizza.

Realizing that anything that can be sent as an Sstud, should be sent

as an sstud, I quickly threw together an email and sent it off to both the ystud and sstud mailing lists. I quickly received a response from the YC AEPI chapter, who informed me that the resemblance of the triangular cookie to the Greek letter Alpha cannot be ignored—clearly, Greek life on campus was biblically sanctioned.

The editors of the Beacon informed me that just as it is a travesty that Stern women are unaware of the Beacon, so too it is a travesty that the *hamentaschen* has only three corners. The fourth corner has been historically oppressed and prevented from expressing its opinions. They recommended that I begin spreading awareness of the fourth corner and give it a forum

to actualize its square potential. Several Stern women informed me that the three pointed hamentaschen symbolized the three years maximum that every *frum* Stern girl spends on campus. Others explained that the three corners correspond to the three viable majors on campus; psychology, biology and English. One Five Towns resident explained to me that the *hamentaschen* is a symbol for the three Five Towns: Cedarhurst, Lawrence, and Woodmere.

At the end of this academic deliberation, I am forced to conclude that the origins of the *hamentaschen's* three-cornered-ness are as mysterious as the other elevators in 215 Lexington. Have a happy Purim!



YU Buys Out Liquor Store, Extends Brookdale Lounge

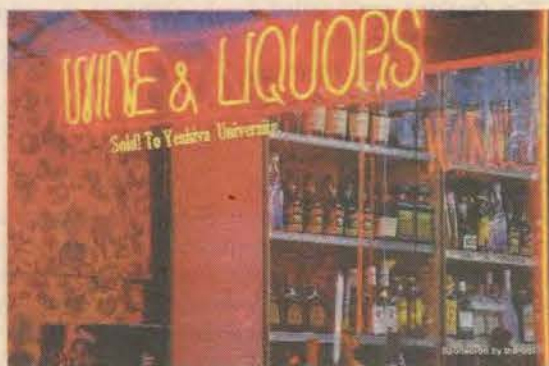
Roger Tsien

In a stunning real-estate coup, the YU administration leapt on an unexpected opportunity to purchase prime Midtown real estate next to the Brookdale Residence Hall. As of April 1<sup>st</sup>, the space previously occupied by J.L. Wine and Liquor belongs to YU. The administration also took advantage of the opportunity to purchase, for a basement-low price, the contents of the liquor store itself.

Although plans have not yet been finalized, rumors have it that the space will be turned into an extension of the Brookdale lounge. This decision was prompted by recent complaints from students that the Brookdale lounge was becoming uncomfortably crowded.

"I mean," says Malka Stern (SCW '10), "Its impossible to hang out

with my boyfriend without at least thirty people noticing! Hopefully, a larger Brookdale lounge will give us a little more privacy." Her boy-



T-Rex Claw, Julia Siegel

friend, Justin (YC '10) concurred, adding that "the alcoholic beverages will make the long shuttle ride back uptown a little more palatable."

The administration's plans for the space, to be known as Brookdale 2.0, include a bar and a

Dance Dance Revolution machine. The space will be jointly managed by the CJF, who hopes to use the revenues from these amenities to fund future experiential learning initiatives to Timbuktu and the North Pole.

Additionally, the CJF plans to staff Brookdale 2.0 with QUEST fellows. "Through this work," explains Sara Stern, CJF Programming Director, "our QUEST fellows will gain many important leadership skills. Personally, I have found mixing the proper martini to be key in successful Jewish leadership."

Security at Brookdale 2.0 will be handled by the current Brookdale security staff. "I think that working at Brookdale was great training for being a bouncer," says John, a current security guard. "I mean, my job description is basically to get people to give me their I.D.'s. I don't see this as being that different."

The Yeshiva University  
OBSERVER

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The Observer is published monthly...oh, come on guys, do you seriously ever read this part where we blabber on about intellectual property?  
I mean, do you even think of the Observer as intellectual property, or is it just another way to pad out your weekly Recyclemania bags? I doubt that you've ever even considered reprinting an Observer article, or suing the school for something we said.  
Still, though, its our job, and we have to say it:  
All Observer content is copyrighted and may not be reprinted without permission. And don't blame the university for anything we said, it's not up to them.

## NEWS

## YU Lands Corporate Sponsorship

Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds

For the past two years, YU under the excellent leadership of President Joel has been searching for a way to replenish the coffers that were so deplorably depleted in the Madoff scandal. Although little revenue has resulted from the YU merchandise sold in the Le Bistro caf, the financial woes of the school ended on Friday with the signing of a corporate sponsorship deal with Proctor and Gamble's Charmin toilet paper company.

According to those familiar with the terms of the deal, the negotiations were "soft and strong", with Charmin representatives firmly holding to their terms of the deal. These included the inauguration of a Charmin Beit Midrash and the renaming of the Maccabees and Lady Macs as the "Bare Bottomed Bears".

Additionally, President Joel is to replace his catchphrase "enabled and ennobled" with "leaves fewer pieces behind" and "best for bear bottoms". The Presidential Fellows have been tasked with figuring out how to relate these slogans to YU, and the fellow to come up with the best suggestion will win a year's supply of toilet paper.

In order to commemorate the deal, the Maccabees will be filming a music video with the Charmin Bears and President Joel. The video will feature the Maccabees chasing the Charmin Bears through Fort Tryon Park in spacesuits to the tune of Matisyahu's "Miracle".

YU has grand plans for the Charmin cash. First on their list is to give President Joel a much-deserved raise, bumping him up from the 10<sup>th</sup> most well-compensated school president to the 3<sup>rd</sup>. They also plan to reinstate security guards in the Stanton Hall elevators and to provide transportation to the Metropolitan Experience events.

Students are divided as to their opinions on this new development. One YC senior, David, expressed delight at the fact that "better quality toilet paper will now be sold in the Caf store". His friend, Moshe agreed, adding that "it would be really nice if they started giving out T-shirts at orientation again."

However, one Stern sophomore was skeptical, stating that "I hope they permit women in the Charmin Beit Midrash." Another expressed concern at the idea that "bears are not kosher animals, and according to the *Lubavitcher minhag* its *asur* to have them in your home."

With the many upcoming changes in YU undergraduate life, Stern women might do well to "remember to flush twice."

## Beren Unites Around Pizza

Rosa Barbarino

Le Bistro, Sy Sims School of Business's choice eatery, underwent several transformational changes during intersession. First, the addition of what appears to be a rocketship landing pad, though it's actually a grilled-cheese sandwich-maker. Second, all salmon is priced equally, not by weight. However, the most monumental change is the introduction of rotating pizza racks.

Pizza, at Stern?

Based on the findings of four different focus groups and one university-wide poll, Food Services developed a method for students to meet their pizza needs without leaving campus. They discovered that 72% of the student body craved pizza to a degree unsatisfied by pizza snaps or microwaved-American-cheese-on-a-bagel that have, until now, been our only recourse. 84% of students polled said they were likely or somewhat likely to buy pizza from the cafeteria more than once per month, while 47% said they were likely to buy cafeteria pizza more than

once per week.

Students, largely, are enthusiastic about the caf's new addition. "Sometimes you're just really in the mood [for pizza]," explained Shayna Russel, a freshman with a nose ring.

Michali Benhamou, a sophomore studying Biology, describes a stronger attachment. "[Pizza's] my comfort food," she cheerfully responded. "It's like cuddling in my seminary sweatshirt."

"Pizza is the best dinner for a Thursday night," said Stephanie Meyerson, a senior wearing jeans and majoring in Marketing.

When reminded that Le Bistro is not open on Thursday night, Meyerson shrugged. "It must be Rosa's I'm thinking of," she concluded.

Though it would seem that pizza is a uniting factor across Beren Campus, the 28% of students opposed to pizza are adamant in their position.

For one thing, commercial pizza is an unhealthy option. "I make pizza at home with natural ingredients," said Channa Bittman, a

Philosophy major with green highlights. "Whole-wheat dough from scratch, homemade tomato sauce, and low-fat cheese. I don't eat Sy Sims pizza."

Another pizza objection stems from the Jewish fear of eating bread. "If I don't feel like washing, I'm not going to buy pizza," said senior Sylvia Katz, a Chemistry major. "One slice is never enough." This Jewish phenomenon is related to the fear of being fleishig.

For some students, their objection to pizza is a matter of taste. "No, I don't buy pizza often," said junior Malka Schachar who plans to work in Occupational Therapy. "I prefer sushi." Shira Bastien, a French student majoring in Psychology, agrees. "La pizza aux Etats-Unis est terrible. J'aime manger la délicieuse pizza du ma patrie," she said.

Yet Food Services's study revealed that anti-pizza students are in the minority. Le Bistro now provides another opportunity for Stern women to unite: their common love of pizza.

## The Observer to be Distributed in Ultra-Orthodox Communities

Frum Editor

While *The Observer's* alleged close-mindedness has been the cause of uproar amongst members of the Stern student body, and while it has even been the impetus for the creation of another, non-exclusive newspaper on campus, some communities in the area are embracing this trend in Modern Orthodox reporting.

"That article about the *kallah* dresses! That was a real gem!" Chaya Bluma Faigel Meiser, 51, of Burrow Park remarks. Like Meiser, members of the Burrow Park community as well as residents of Crown Heights and Monsey, have recently acquired the privilege of reading *The Observer* in hard-copy. When news of the "frum" nature of *The Observer's* content reached the neighboring Orthodox Jewish communities, requests for printed versions of the college newspaper came in high demands. "What's

this *New York Times*? Not only do they write about events that take place outside of New York, they even use the "a" word!" Mordechai Jew-Frankel, 47, of Monsey comments. Though he would not mention to which "a" word he was referring, one can only assume it is, a-l-c-o-h-o-l, a word prohibited from *The Observer's* publication.

"What's this bird, this beak, newspaper?" asks Esther BlumenYid of Crown Heights, an avid reader of *The Observer*. "Who'd want to start another paper when Stern's got one that's so good?" she ponders. BlumenYid is referring to *The Beacon*, a new joint Stern and Yeshiva College online newspaper that aims to portray the most liberal events of the world. Upon hearing that this newspaper is a joint effort, BlumenYid was shocked. "What? You mean, the boys and girls talk to each other?"

says BlumenYid, amazed.

In truth, readers of *The Observer* may be unaware that any collaboration between Yeshiva University's two undergraduate campuses even exists. Most non-students, who read *The Observer*, believe that such collaborations are rare entities within the modern-Orthodox institution. This is not, however, part of an underlying motive of the editorial staff. Pompous Editor, who has worked on *The Observer* for four semesters comments, "we are just trying to keep everything Kosher. We work with the material that our writers give to us, and we publish articles that are in line with our University's standards."

Perhaps the continued distribution of *The Observer* will expand its readership and create more room for "Kosher" discussion in the Orthodox world.

## Teaneck Girl Stays In for Shabbos, Roommates Baffled

HUH?!? from page 1

able to make it through the Shabbos without her father or mother. Thought she successfully executes such a feat during the week, Shabbos is different.

"It's just not the same," says another Teaneck resident, Malkie. "The reason we make it through the week is because of Shabbos. We need that recharge from our

parents to make it through."

Indeed, the administration is puzzled as well.

"It's a mystery to us," said one senior administrator. "It is an open secret that no students from New York or New Jersey stay here for Shabbat. It's something we wish wasn't true, so we work to correct it. Maybe this is the first students

in a future trend."

"Not likely", say most of the student body polled for this article.

One anonymous student wrote in the comments section of the poll, "the likelihood of an 'intowner' staying in for Shabbat is the same as students following the dress code: slim to none."

## SCDS Put In Cherem: Hamlet Deemed "Non-Kosher"

Stella D'Oro

The Stern College Dramatics Society has had to struggle with, amongst other things, apathetic audiences, a lack of funding, and the administrations continued refusal to allow them to put on coed plays. Now added to their list of woes is the fact that several prominent YU rabbanim have put them in *cherem* for choosing Hamlet as their spring play.

As Rav Polonius, main drafter of the *cherem* document, explained "We realized that Hamlet was *treif* as soon as we saw the phrase 'ham' in the title." Although he admitted to never having read the seminal Shakespearean work, Polonius firmly believes that "any play which starts on such a negative note cannot bode well for the Centrist Orthodox community." When questioned as to what exactly he meant by Centrist Orthodoxy, Polonius cryptically replied "to thine own self be true" and excused himself to make *tikkun chatzos*.

Investigation into past SCDS plays reveals that many of them may have had serious *halachic* problems as well. For example, in "Once Upon a Mattress", it is unclear whether the mattress in question contained *shaatnez* or not. And the trial in "Sandbag Stage Left" was, as one Stern girl put it, "definitely not conducted according to *din torah*."

As awareness of SCDS' *halachic* status spreads through the campus, past actresses are beginning to regret their dramatic participation. A distraught Shaindy Shlemiel was found frantically dialing her LOR (Local Orthodox Rabbi) to ask whether participation in "Into the Woods" caused her to violate *tchum shabbos* as her character spent many days wandering in the woods. Her friend, who wishes to remain unnamed, was similarly concerned that her pirate character in "The Pirates of Penzance" may have undertaken a sea voyage in the three days preceding Shabbos.

All is not lost for SCDS, however. In a series of Twitter messages, Rav Polonius communicated to SCDS that if they cease all practicing of 'Chazzer-let' and use their dramatic talent to publicize the value of brevity, he may consider rescinding his *cherem* decision. As SCDS President Gilda Rozencrantz put it, "the question now appears whether it is wiser 'to be or not to be'."

## NEWS

## A Public Service Announcement from the Counseling Center:

To Our Dear Stern Students,

We have noticed that, when exposed to a Maccabeat, students tend to undergo several dangerous reactions, such as: screaming, sweating, fainting, paralysis, and uncontrollable lip-synching. These behaviors began around finals time last semester, and seem to have surfaced again around midterms this semester. In order to ensure the health of the student body and maintain their academic excellence, we have posted the following tips for the benefit of all concerned:

When encountering a Maccabeat:

- Repeat the phrase, "I don't talk to boys. They are out of bounds," until you are in a safe location.
- Tell yourself that he's either: a) married b) engaged c) seriously dating your best friend or d) not dating yet.
- Sing one of the Maccabeats songs at the top of your lungs. Hopefully, this will cause him to run in the opposite direction.
- Pretend that there is no such thing as a "Maccabeat proposal."
- Think about all the OTHER screaming and fainting girls.

We hope that these guidelines will serve as necessary precautions for much-needed safety and sanity.

Thank you, and a Freilichen Purim.

## Large Headbands Prompt Alarm and Confusion

Observer Inmates

In an unprecedented turn of events, teachers can no longer recognize students because headbands block the student's face.

"It certainly makes calling on students during class difficult", said one English professor. "Is it Chana, Chaya, or Chava? We just don't know".

Plus, test taking is becoming more difficult.

"How do we know if the student taking the exam is actually that student? Anyone could be under that headband," said a biology professor. "Even a PhD candidate. Though I hope a PhD candidate would have more sense!"

Such drastic headbands leave not only the teachers puzzled but also the administration.

Warns one dean, "It's a safety hazard. Students could walk right into walls, fall down stairs, even, dare I say it, males! What happens if they accidentally touch men?!" The administration is currently compiling a 100-page pamphlet on the proper way to wear a headband, complete with diagrams. The pamphlet urges students to "make like peacocks and put the plumage

behind."

Some of the more right-wing roshei yeshiva fully support head-



T-Rex Claw, Julia Siegel

bands covering the women's faces, claiming it to be more modest.

"Hiding the face truly allows two people in a hotel lobby to connect

and focus solely their neshomas (souls), not the physical. They can spend hours talking about their lives and beliefs without looks cluttering up their minds. After the chupah, when she takes off the veil, then it's already too late but they'll love each other anyway."

Not all women are fans of the excessively large headband trend, claiming that it makes identification difficult.

"It's shocking," said Esther Reizel. "I have no idea who I'm friends with anymore! How do I know if I'm talking to Sarah or Sara? Or some complete stranger?!"

On the other hand, other students have taken advantage of the trend, posting signs and sending out sstuds about custom made headbands. One of these entrepreneurs, Lea, has had ten commissions. "It's a great moneymaker- really funds my late night runs to Tiberias."

When asked to comment on this headband trend, no women were understood due to the large headbands muffling their mouths.

## FEATURES

### Top 50 A. W. K ward. Scenarios at Stern

- 1) Going down to the caf and thinking, "there's gotta be someone down here who I'm friends with"- only to discover that you don't know anyone. You then quickly have to decide whether to sit alone and scarf down your meal, or pack it to go in the bag- of- shame.
- 2) Bumping into a girl who is the latest post on Only Simchas and wondering whether or not you should wish her a Mazel Tov
- 3) Sitting at those high counter chairs in the Sy Syms caf
- 4) Accidentally singing a Maccabeats song out loud
- 5) Being in the bathroom at the same time as someone else
- 6) Walking into class to discover someone else sitting in your usual seat
- 7) Taking the same path as someone, down the elevator in Stern, walking to Sy Syms, up the escalators and into the Sy Syms elevator
- 8) Being on the list of people Yehuda needs to see
- 9) Floor Parties
- 10) Trying to figure out who's actually next in the sushi line
- 11) Walking into Student Finance
- 12) Getting yelled at for having an empty water bottle in the Computer Lab
- 13) Going into Brookdale with a Dave and Buster's bag
- 14) Having your sstud rejected by the moderator
- 15) Asking someone you don't know to be your lab partner
- 16) Being the first to finish your midterm
- 17) Getting on the elevator and recognizing the girl you're not actually friends with who you once asked for notes and has now been added to your g chat list
- 18) Wearing the same shirt as someone else in class
- 19) Going to use your friends kitchen who actually got 35<sup>th</sup> street
- 20) Ordering the salmon while overhearing the people behind you talk about how gross it is
- 21) Asking someone at the gym how much longer she'll be on the elliptical
- 22) Going up to the girl sitting by herself in the caf and asking her if you could take one of her chairs for your packed table
- 23) The walk of shame when you're the one that's not signed up for the shuttle
- 24) Telling the guy in the Sy Syms caf that he overcharged you
- 25) Walking past someone you're borderline friends with and not knowing whether or not you should say hi
- 26) Fighting over deli roll and cupcakes with the other half of your table on an in- Shabbos
- 27) Seeing another Stern girl while shopping down 34<sup>th</sup> Street
- 28) Being the only person who thought that your test was hard
- 29) Checking the lounges to see if there's anyone you know, and awkwardly leaving when you realize that there isn't
- 30) Reaching for the same lid as another girl underneath the salad bar
- 31) Showing up to or running events where no one attends
- 32) Realizing you're in the wrong classroom
- 33) Trying to get into your chair during dinner without any room cause the girl behind you won't move her chair in
- 34) Davening Mincha on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> floors of Sy Syms
- 35) Asking for a second piece of chicken at dinner (but worth it)
- 36) Talking to someone about a class six weeks into the semester not realizing that she's in it
- 37) You're the last one on a long line at the caf register when the one right across it opens and suddenly, you're the first there
- 38) Asking to buy an in- Shabbos ticket
- 39) Being the girl that's stopped to show her id and standing there desperately searching to find it
- 40) Eating something loud in class
- 41) Searching for an empty cubicle in the library
- 42) Recognizing the girl you just stalked on Facebook
- 43) Asking a girl you thought you were friends with to send you her notes and her response is to ask you what your name is
- 44) Seeing your professor outside of Stern
- 45) Squirting your spicy mayo and having it splatter over everyone else waiting for sushi
- 46) Meeting your date outside Brookdale
- 47) Sitting right next to someone in the Computer Lab and spying on everything they do
- 48) Telling your professor to mark you for attendance after you walked in late
- 49) Trying to figure out whether people are walking up or down when the Sy Syms escalators are broken
- 50) Being the last person to squish into an elevator

# FEATURES

## The Stern Megilla 2011

Esther of Stern & Mordechaya

### Chapter 1

And it came to pass in the 8<sup>th</sup> year of Achashveros, King of Yeshiva, the King decided to bestow upon the women of Stern his royal presence. The King brought with him a banquet of gourmet Golan food. All the women of Stern happily attended this meeting, especially the soccer team, as they no longer had enough money to afford a third dinner. And it was during this Kingdom Hall Meeting that the King became ennobled and enabled and called for his apprentice Vashti of Syms to learn from him how to become ennobled and enabled. Now, Vashti had stayed up studying all-night and felt that she should therefore be excused from attending the King's speech on time. After all, she did need fifteen extra minutes for exams, why could she not sleep for an extra fifteen minutes too? When the King's security went to Vashti of Syms's chambers to wake her up, she refused to rise, feigning illness. Disgusted by her refusal, Achashverosh expelled her from the Kingdom of Yeshiva.

ment ring - though you should all get married because this kingdom is too broke to afford the graduation-without-marriage money-back guarantee...What I really meant by my question was, what



King Joel of Yeshiva

Palace Photography Staff

of Stern! A councilor who thinks farther than the bridge will be a great addition to my staff!

To reward Esther, Achashverosh decided to give a speech to all the women of Stern. In the middle of the speech, two Alpha Epsilon Pi members tried to walk into the King's Palace without IDs! Luckily, a Security Guard named Mordechaya stood in the doorway putting an end to their infiltration scheme. Achashverosh had the men expelled for such a brash and unforgivable act, though he was in no way surprised that members of Alpha Epsilon Pi would behave in such a way.

### Chapter 3

It was after those events that King Achashverosh elevated his advisor Haman to be his Rosh Malchut. As Haman walked down Lexington Avenue, he noticed an unidentifiable woman standing outside the palace on 245 Lexington Avenue. Yet, this was no ordinary woman. This insubordinate woman was disrespecting him by violating the law of the land right in plain sight...She was wearing pants!

truly makes you ennobled and enabled? How would you bring a more ennobled and enabled spirit to the Kingdom of Yeshiva?

**Maccabeat:** I would rewrite lyrics to a song filled with *shtuyot* and make my version so popular that no one will be able to listen to the original song because all they would think about is a tale about the Maccabees in Israel. In this way, I will ennoble the students by enabling them to avoid listening to popular songs!

**Students Helping Students:** I would startle the world by breaking a record. I would ennoble students by giving them a vital importance in life - to spin a dreidel. I would make sure to enable everyone in this pursuit by sending out fifteen *sstuds* each day!

**Environmental Club:** I would make sure the students all participate in a purpose larger than themselves. I would ennoble the students by teaching them about saving the environment through recycling. I would enable them to do so by hanging up a recycle sign on each dorm room door.

**The Beacon:** I would ennoble the student body by spreading students' flare, enabling all who follow my beacon to use words such as porn star and other non-yeshivish words in a student-run newspaper.

**Esther of Stern:** I would ennoble the student body by allowing students to more easily follow *mitzvot d'orayta*. I would enable the students to be better Jews by sending Stern College to Canada, far away from the men's campus.

**Achashverosh:** I choose Esther

### Chapter 4

And Mordechaya knew of all that had happened, so she hid her pants, and put on a skirt made of sackcloth. Esther of Stern heard about this matter and sent Mordechaya pants from her personal stash. Realizing that Esther had missed the whole point, Mordechaya sent back her pants with a letter explaining the situation.

**Mordechaya:** There is an evil edict in the land targeting our clothing!

**Esther:** I will approach the King as long as all women of Stern eat more than a salad for three days straight.

### Chapter 5

And it came to pass on the third day that Esther put on her denim skirt and Uggs and approached the King. The King accepted Esther of Stern, offering her half the land in Midtown Manhattan. Esther asked the King and Haman - because she obviously could not be left alone with one man - to join her on the 7:30 shidduch shuttle that night. After picking up a few slices of pizza for the ride - though the Rosa's pizza had to be bought from the 215 Lexington store as Rosa's Pizza restaurant had been temporarily closed down due to its violation of cleanliness laws - Achashverosh

Day".

**Zeresh:** Think of it. If a woman is willing to wear pants, she obviously has no limits! Who knows what she has done...

So Haman ordered a Local to take Mordechaya to the Kingdom's mental institution on 29<sup>th</sup> Street.

### Chapter 6

That night, as Achashverosh wrote down some important notes about the Stern population - that 50% of Stern women are pre-med, while the other half are pre-wed - he found an entry describing the exile of two Alpha Epsilon Pi men after they tried infiltrating a meeting without IDs. Their plan was only averted due to the efforts of a Security Guard named Mordechaya.

**Achashveirosh:** What did I ever do to reward this Mordechaya?

**Presidential Fellow:** Nothing, Your Royal Highness.

Hearing Haman in the palace lobby, Achashverosh asked the fellow to summon Haman. Since the Local had not yet arrived, Haman was able to go visit the King.

**Achashverosh:** What would you do for someone who saves your honor?

**Haman:** I would reserve an elevator in 245 Lexington for his personal use and allot a security guard with an elevator key to that elevator to ensure that it would only stop on the floor upon which the one who found favor in your eyes would desire.

So Haman was forced to lead Mordechaya all the way from Kushner Dining Hall to the 11<sup>th</sup> Floor Gym without making a single stop along the way! Though Haman returned home fuming, he did not have much time to complain before he had to line up for Esther's second shidduch shuttle ride.

### Chapter 7

Once again, Esther, Achashverosh, and Haman sat down in the lobby to await the shuttle.

Curious, Achashverosh asked Esther...

**Achashverosh:** Apprentice, what do you want to ask me?

**Esther:** There is a man who is after my pants...Next he is going to try taking away my ¾ length t-shirts!

**Achashverosh:** Who is this man who so dares to threaten the King's apprentice in Stern HaBira?





**Esther:** It is none other your head Rosh Malchut, Haman!

Just then, a guard walks in.

**Guard:** Local! Local!

**Haman:** It is waiting to take Mordechaya to the 29<sup>th</sup> Street asylum.

**Achashverosh:** Aha! Send Haman with this Local to galut in the land known as Touro.

Item Title	Price	Shipping	Date Posted
 Stern Women's Pants Liquidating Inventory - Cheap Prices!!	\$29.99	\$3.99	Nisan 04-00:30
 LANE SWANNEO Cashmere pants size 24-30	\$15.00	Not specified	Mar-06 00:36
 SHERIDAN'S PANTS VINTAGE LEGGINGS w/ SHERIDAN'S PANTS	\$0.99	Not specified	Mar-06 00:34
 SHERIDAN'S PANTS VINTAGE LEGGINGS w/ SHERIDAN'S PANTS	\$0.99	Not specified	Mar-06 00:34

**Haman:** Put on a skirt. It is the law of this land.

**Mordechaya:** I cannot do that.

**Haman:** Put one on now!

**Mordechaya:** I have yet to do laundry this month, Your Highness.

**Haman, enraged, charged to the King's chambers.**

**Haman:** There is evil among the women living in this land. They wear pants! I propose we sell their pants to other nations to force the women to wear skirts. Not only will we get rid of the problem, but we will also make a profit, decreasing our debt to just \$90,000,000,000!

And the Stern Women's Pants listing was added on Ebay.

waited in line for the shuttle. In the middle of the ride, Esther invited Achashverosh and Haman to again accompany her on the following day's 8:00pm shidduch shuttle. Leaving the shuttle in high spirits, Haman walked towards the Beit Midrash. Since there was some ice on the ground, he made sure to point his feet out slightly like a Penguin so as not to fall. But, on the way to the Beit Midrash, what did he see? Another insidious woman wearing pants! Haman could hardly restrain himself when he burst home and told his wife, Zeresh, all that had happened to him.

Zeresh advised Haman to frame Mordechaya for uploading the Smackabats version of "One

# FEATURES

## Top Ten Sstuds That Should Never Have Been Sent

Tamara Freiden

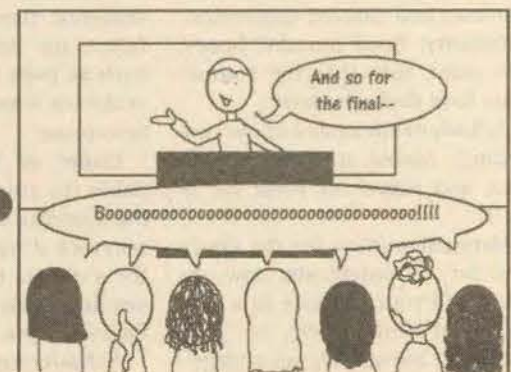
1. "Does anyone have an X-Box they would be willing to share with myself and Marganit Rauch? Much appreciated! Thanks!"  
*...or a book...or a pen...or a dress...or tweezers... where does it end? Slippery slope is all I'm saying. Do you want more sstuds???*
2. "Anyone flying out of La Guardia tomorrow night? If you are flying Wednesday at night around 8 PM or a little earlier or later and you're interested in sharing a cab from uptown lemme know!"  
*Try 1800-Supershuttle- cheaper, and you can leave whenever you want.*
3. "With the very difficult winter we have been having so far and with the icy, snowy and wet surfaces, it might be worthwhile to review some tips on how to walk on ice, snow and wet surfaces safely.... Point your feet out slightly like a penguin. Spreading your feet out slightly while walking on ice increases your center of gravity."  
*I actually printed this out, and kept it in my coat pocket. Very useful mid-fall.*
4. "Anything from Perel Skier."  
*WHO IS SHE? I'M DYING FOR A FACE TO THAT EMAIL ADDRESS!*
5. "We've recently realized that not everyone is aware of the YU Beacon and this is a travesty beyond any imagination."  
*The Beacon isn't sponsored by YU or a YU publication...No hostilities here. Seriously.*
6. "Desperate for a date? Read me!!!! Seriously this time!" Or "Sick of engagements at Stern? Now it's your turn"  
*Seriously, they go to Stern. Do they want their friends to like them anymore? And let's be honest who didn't secretly click the email in the one percent chance that it was true?*
7. "Sci-Fi club Halloween apology: We just wanted to apologize if anybody got offended by our shout out to Halloween and our clip. We didn't mean for it to be offensive or for people to think that we celebrate Halloween or something. It was just for fun and in no way is connected to our religious beliefs."  
*Let's be honest, who actually looked at it to begin with? It's just like the Sci-Fi club to be that unlucky. Out of the two people that clicked play, one hated Halloween.*
8. "Maccabeats on Colbert: We would really love if the country's favorite "news" program were to play the video, and there is a way to do it: To ask the Colbert Report to feature the video, you can go to [http://forums.colbertnation.com/?page=ThreadView&thread\\_id=24063](http://forums.colbertnation.com/?page=ThreadView&thread_id=24063) or [yu.edu/Colbert](http://yu.edu/Colbert)"  
*You guys were great, don't get us wrong. You just got to know when to stop.*
9. "All time CANADIAN superstar - JUSTIN BIEBER - comes to YU... in SPIRIT!!"  
*Ok, who wanted to kill them?*
10. "There are several policy guidelines that we have established regarding the use of the Student Email distribution lists... If you attempt to send an e-mail that does not meet these criteria, your message will be rejected."  
*Were these written up in the student manual? If not, I can make no guarantees to my keeping them. On another note, aren't they a little overdue with this one? See 1-9.*

## What's Your Shuttle Personality?

- You know what to do.
- A drunk boy sits down next to you on a 1 AM shuttle, you:
  - A. Ignore him. Maybe he'll go away.
  - B. Text your best friend to look him up on Facebook and OnlySimchas.
  - C. Go sit up front with the driver.
  - D. High-five him.
- You've been sitting in traffic for an hour. The river may be pretty, but you're all getting kind of bored. You:
  - A. Pull out your I-Pod and start listening to a shiur from Rav Weinberger.
  - B. Continue to discuss SOMETHING with your best friend on the phone.
  - C. Ask the driver to turn up the radio.
  - D. Pull out your PSP and start demolishing some aliens.
- The driver's playing Z-100, and an incredibly inappropriate song comes on (you know which one we're talking about). You:
  - A. Ask him to change the channel. You may go to YU, but auditory pritzus is not your style.
  - B. Loudly ask your best friend "Do you remember that time we saw American Idol..."
  - C. Man, this song ALWAYS plays on the shuttle. This must be the fifth time I've heard it today.
  - D. Try to remember if kol isha applies to recorded music as well.
- You didn't sign up for the shuttle, and the security guard starts asking for IDs. You:
  - A. Must be min hashamayim- I guess I'm not meant to be at YU tonight. Probably better for my neshama anyway.
  - B. Continue talking to your friend and pretend that you don't hear the security guard.
  - C. I never forget to sign up for the shuttle- the number is on speed dial set for 4 PM. And anyway, I'm on first name basis with the security guards.
  - D. Try to sneak into the trunk.
- You hit a speed bump and everything goes flying .You:
  - A. Pray that you didn't accidentally touch a boy on your way down, and then bench gomer the next week in shul.
  - B. Frantically replace the battery in your cell phone and hope that the text draft is still saved.
  - C. Great- now I know I'm exactly 9 minutes and 37 seconds away from my dorm.
  - D. Awesome! I didn't know the shuttle was a free roller coaster ride.
- IF YOU GOT:
  - Mostly As: Definitely fresh out of sem, you are going uptown to hear a mussar schmooze, followed by a trip to the hashkafa section of the Seformim Sale.
  - Mostly Bs: Never seen without your hot-pink Blackberry, you keep the rest of us entertained and exasperated with your loud conversations, mostly featuring you, your friends, and your dating lives.
  - Mostly Cs: You spend so much time on the shuttle you have a makom kavuah, and are invited to the shuttle driver's next birthday party.
  - Mostly Ds: You don't go to Stern, you have a Y-Chromosome, and we're not sure why you are wasting valuable space on our shidduch shuttle.

By Sari

If we had school on Purim...




# FEATURES

## Now You Know

Tamara Freiden, Avi Varnai, Louisa Brinn

1. One out of 1600 students noticed the new TV on the third floor of Sy Syms.
2. Three out of seven girls still go to the 12<sup>th</sup> floor for the registrar.
3. 300 out of 300 students living in 36<sup>th</sup> street are mad that they are not in 35<sup>th</sup> street.
4. 67 empty beds in 35<sup>th</sup> street due to winter break marriages. An average of two girls per single room in 36<sup>th</sup> Street due to unwillingness to pay the extra \$1000.
5. Presidential fellows get paid \$24,000 to fly around the world.
6. 638 items in the cafeteria cost the exact same amount as one small can of tuna.
7. 13 Macs given to non-honor students for liking science.
8. There is absolutely no correlation between the number of students attending YC/Stern events on Facebook and the number of people who actually attend events.
9. One fancy pen, Two post-it pads, and 14 postcards given to students who were invited and then uninvited to the YU Chanukah Dinner.
10. 600 out of 1600 students are now Gchat friends with their professors calling for many an awkward situation.
11. Seven out of 18 of your floormates are on OnlySimchas
12. One in 23 men are red-green color blind. They could not properly appreciate the Macabeats Video.
13. Thirty-six out of the forty people at a Shabbas table get cupcakes. 400 out of 400 New Yorkers have no clue what we're talking about.
14. 50 out of 50 people in the Brookdale lounge are uncomfortable.
15. 134,645 sstuds out of 134,646 remain unread. What's "squirrel mail" anyway?
16. Nachum Joel sold his hair for \$40,000 to support YU's students helping students.
17. One out of seven hundred million students get engaged in the dean's office. Dean Bacon received VIP seats.
18. 50 of the 51 girls who have class on the seventh floor must get off at the eighth -due to "IN."
19. Five elevators in Sy Syms, one of which is functioning.
20. 3 students actually get chairs in the Stern library, only three student don't get chairs in YC.
21. There is a basement in the downstairs library in Stern

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YOU  
KNOW**

 Yeshiva University

www.yu.edu/nowyouknow



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Glatt Kosher Indian Cuisine



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**- More than 20 Vegetarian Dishes**


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134,645

out of 134,646

sstuds REMAIN UNREAD



what's "squirrel mail," anyway?

Renee Kestenbaum

NEW YORK STATE

David J. Sweet  
Commissioner of Motor Vehicles

Insert Picture Here

ENHANCED  
DRIVER LICENSE

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DOCUMENT

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New York, NY 10016

DOB: 06-09-85  
SEX: F EYES: BR HT: 5-09  
E: NONE  
R: NONE  
ISSUED: 09-30-08    EXPIRES: 10-01-16

BAJ1207521

Chana Cohen

Having trouble getting past the bouncer? We feel your pain. Print this out and take it to the library for \$2 lamination. Cash only.

# FEATURES

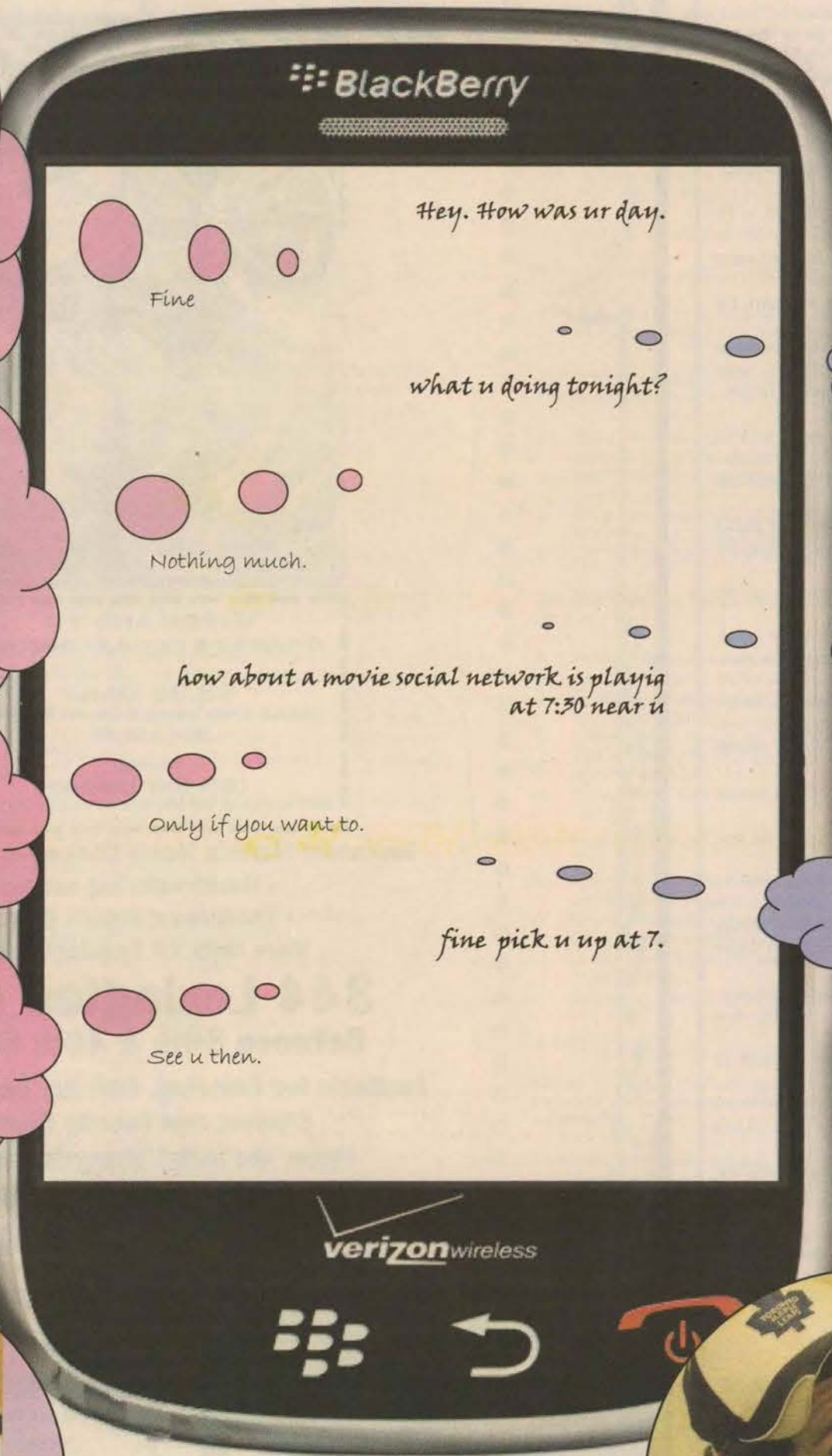
## He's Thinking, She's Hyperventilating: The CrackBerry Gap

OMG, he put a period at the end of that text instead of a question mark. Think he's really interested in my day? Wait- should I tell him that Shaindel got engaged today- that might make him think that I want him to think about us getting engaged, which is so totally not on my radar. Not until I take my MCATS. Okay. Just gonna text back fine.

Finally- maybe he'll take me somewhere nice this time. I'm really hungry- those pizza snaps barely cut it for lunch. Or, should I tell him I want to come uptown to study with him? Maybe that's too forward, but on the other hand I'm really in the mood for Chop-Chop. Huh. Better stick with "nothing much".

Whoa. Watching a movie together is so *not* frum. And the social network was really not appropriate. Plus I've seen it about five times already. How do I let him know I'm not really interested?

How did he not get that I don't want to watch a movie with him? That is so insensitive. He knows I don't watch movies with guys. Whatever, though. At least he's socially normal. Better go start getting ready. I only have 5 hours.



Great.

Okay, cool.

Okay, great. I really do want to see The Social Network.





# SCIENCE AND WEALTH

## New Element Discovered

A major research institution (MRI) has recently announced the discovery of the heaviest chemical element yet known to science. The new element has been tentatively named Governmentium.

Governmentium has 1 neutron, 12 assistant neutrons, 75 deputy neutrons, and 224 assistant deputy neutrons, giving it an atomic mass of 312. These 312 particles are held together by forces called morons, which are surrounded by vast quantities of lepton-like particles called peons.

Since governmentium has no electrons, it is inert. However, it can be detected as it impedes every reaction with which it comes into contact. A minute amount of governmentium causes one reaction to take over four days to complete when it would normally take less than a second.

Governmentium has a normal half-life of three years; it does not decay, but instead undergoes a reorganization in which a por-

tion of the assistant neutrons and deputy neutrons exchange places. In fact, governmentium's mass will actually increase over time, since each re-organization will cause some morons to become neutrons, forming isodopes.

This characteristic of moron-promotion leads some scientists to speculate that governmentium is formed whenever morons reach a certain quantity in concentration. This hypothetical quantity is referred to as Critical Morass.

PERIODIC CHART

H																	He
Li	Be											B	C	N	O	F	Ne
Na	Mg											Al	Si	P	S	Cl	Ar
K	Ca	Sc	Ti	V	Cr	Mn	Fe	Co	Ni	Cu	Zn	Ga	Ge	As	Se	Br	Kr
Rb	Sr	Y	Zr	Nb	Mo	Tc	Ru	Rh	Pd	Ag	Cd	In	Sn	Sb	Te	I	Xe
Cs	Ba		Hf	Ta	W	Re	Os	Ir	Pt	Au	Hg	Tl	Pb	Bi	Po	At	Rn
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La	Ce	Pr	Nd	Pm	Sm	Eu	Gd	Tb	Dy	Ho	Er	Tm	Yb	Lu			
Ac	Th	Pa	U	Np	Pu	Am	Cm	Bk	Cf	Es	Fm	Md	No	Lr			

## Pick-Up Lines for Science and Math Majors

Finding it hard to pick up that cute pre-med?

After extensive research around YU—mostly in the uptown library—the *Observer* staff has found the top ten pick-up lines that have successfully seduced science nerds, male and female alike.

- Our love is like dividing by zero.... you can't define it.
- Hey baby, will a little more alcohol catalyze this reaction?
- What's your sine? It must be pi/2 because you're the 1.
- I wish I was adenine so I could get paired with U.
- Baby, let me find your nth term.
- You defragment my life.
- I'm attracted to you so strongly, scientists will have to develop a fifth fundamental force.
- According to the second law of thermodynamics, you're supposed to share your hotness with me.
- We fit together like the sticky ends of recombinant DNA.
- I'm not being obtuse, but your acute guy.

## SPORTS

### A Soccer Team Member's View of Stern

Three-Legged-Pony

It has come to my attention that many people find the soccer team at Stern College to be an exclusive, unwelcoming team that is self-obsessed and - to put it frankly—"cliquey". Well, I, as a proud member of the greatest team at YU, would like to set the record straight. The soccer team does not only represent this school - at least in the so-called diversity aspect - but also has become an exclusive family that happens to spend an abundant amount of time together. Nevertheless, just because we happen to eat five dinners together each night, while wearing cool soccer team jackets, and not care about anyone else, and we go to private soccer "events" uptown, and we have our own codes, inside jokes, and secret handshakes, does not mean that we think we are better than anyone else. We are not a clique or cult. We are simply misunderstood.

There are many factors that cause people to believe we are an egotistical cult. The first that I will discuss includes the fact that we practice every night together from 7:00 PM until around 11:00 PM five days a week, and add another few hours for game days. If you add up all the time together, it amounts to around 25 hours per week that we spend together during the season. Therefore, it is apparent that we -

during our 95-day seasons - practice more intensely than any other team at YU. This not only enables us to bond as a team, but it also makes us truly more hard core and intimidating to other students. Besides, put a Russian and Persian side by side and you get a pretty intimidating combination; the rest of us are mainly intimidating by association.

We also make sure to wear our team apparel at least three times a week. The schedule is as follows: "Eat. Sleep. Play." shirts on Monday, blue soccer jackets on Wednesday, and soccer sweatshirts on Thursday. If a girl refuses to follow this dress code, she cannot be a member of the team. But, never fear, we wear different skirts to classes, so, really, we are not a clique; we are just easily recognizable to the rest of the student body, giving us a sense of pride for our amazing team. To be honest, we have no intention of being exclusive in the slightest...well, maybe just a bit.

In addition to our intense practice schedule and cool apparel, we also share another commonality that not many other students have. We bond over our numerous injuries that result from playing aggressively in our numerous games. (If we ever accidentally shove you in the cafeteria, please note that it was unintentional; we are just

used to being aggressive, and anyone who stands in between a soccer player and food is at risk...)

Our injuries have united us in more ways than imagined. Whenever we see one another, we never fail to ask, "Yo, how is your [INSERT BODY PART HERE] feeling? Are you cleared for today's game?" This normally results in a long conversation regarding physical therapies that our athletic trainer Heather has tried on us, or a fascinating conversation about our most recent, painful ice bath.

The injuries also contribute to people being able to recognize us from miles away. Students and faculty can both spot the gimp limping up the stairs or the girl with the hand that has been replaced by a T-Rex claw. We take pride in our battle scars, showing the world again how intense we really are.

Our "exclusive" reputation comes from the fact that we have truly become a tight knit family over the past few seasons. We love each other and this bond has made us want to spend every last minute together and with no one else. Does this make us a true cult that only cares about its members? No! We do care about other people - we are sympathetic that they are not on soccer!

## CLASSIFIEDS

### Clothing

**Unworn HASC Sweatshirt:** get the name recognition without having to do the chessed.

5 pairs of Jeggings, slightly worn, sold due to the dress code

### Transportation

**Shuttle Savers:** Need a spot saved on a shuttle, but can't make it out of class? Call 1-800-SHU-TTLE to get your spot reserved. One of our professional shuttle-bookers will call promptly at 4 to get you a spot on the shuttle of your choice. 1-800-SHU-TTLE accepts credit cards, cash, Caf Cards, and Stella D'Oro cookies. Never take the 1 train again!

**36th STREET RICKSHAWS AND SEDAN CHAIRS NOW AVAILABLE** Do you get winded from climbing the stairs in 36th street? Are your calves getting disgustingly muscled? 36th Street Rickshaws feels your problem. Call 1-800-LAZY-GRL for a daily service up those steep five flights of steps. Also available rickshaws for transportation to other buildings.

### Study Assistance

Comprehensive "guide" to Sy Syms classes. Includes "notes" for all accounting, finance, and management "exams".

MCAT stress getting you down? Hire one of our professional actors to take the MCAT for you. We will lose weight, dye our hair, gain weight, wear your black pleated skirt, and remodel our faces with plasticine in order to turn ourselves into your doubles for MCAT day. 35 on your MCAT, or your money back.

organs intact. Comes with lab manual, formaldehyde, and three boxes of gloves. Text 1-323-CHAZZER for full-color photos.

### Employment

**Stern Girl Seeks Job Available** from 2:45-3:15 on Wednesdays and from 3-5 on Tuesday/Thursdays. Skills include nail-painting, babysitting, chocolate-chip cookie baking, and Facebook stalking. Any salary accepted, as long as it covers the 35th Street Dorm.

New Yorker seeks out-of-towner to clean her Brookdale room. Hours: Thursday nights from 6-10.

### Misc. Services

**ESCORT SERVICE** Stuck in Washington Heights past 2:30 AM? Need to make it back to midtown but afraid of the natives? Call 1-800-SHLIACH, and our high-security escort service will make sure that you get back to midtown safely. All SHLIACH employees are over 5'5, weight at least 150 pounds, and speak fluent Spanish. (Sponsored in part by YUConnects).

**Wanted: Publisher** for inappropriate and slightly sacrilegious article. Must agree to publish sight unseen.

**EXPERT FACEBOOK STALKER AVAILABLE** Want to know more about your friends-friends-friends? Need help checking out your shidduch date? Annoyed that your friend's pictures are blocked? Email [comp\\_sci\\_nerd@gmail.com](mailto:comp_sci_nerd@gmail.com) for help today. I can hack into any account, track down any photograph, and provide you with more information than you could ever possibly want or need about all those non-loved ones.

For Sale: 1 fetal pig. Most

## STYLE

## American Apparels Anonymous

Dassi Fant-Gallor

The life of an American Apparel skirt is not an easy one. Why, you might ask, would being a staple garment for every girl that passes through those revolving doors of Stern College be such a bad thing? You would think I'd enjoy seeing my fellow skirts lacquered onto the backsides of every girl that passes. You'd think I'd be delighted every time she would mindlessly tear me from her closet in a frenzy of tardy fear. But in truth, every day is just one step closer to fashion obsolescence and the loss of a great friend.

It all started that very first day Sara (names have been changed to save face) brought me back to her shockingly pink dorm room. Ah, the living quarters of a youngster fresh out of seminary. This is a sight for sore eyes, or in my case, sore spandex. It was a rather peculiar hazing process before Sara let me see the light of day or breathe the polluted air of 34<sup>th</sup> Street.

You see, for the new Stern student who has only just left the cloistered atmosphere of the Holy Land and ruthlessly flung back into the perils of the secular and materialistic Land of the Free, she must cling tightly to her newfound ideals. To further her spiritual growth in a place that is poised to destroy it at every turn, Sara has no choice but to work on herself

more than ever before. So she entered the vastness of New York City to find herself a soul and a skirt that will cover her knees in any position.

As she pitter-pattered around her room with curlers in her hair, semi-dried nail polish, partially applied makeup, and her phone glued to her ear, she wore me snugly on her hips with a gigantic pillow stuffed into the seat of the skirt, creating a ballooned rump that was altogether comical. She looked like a modern version of Cinderella's evil stepsisters primping before the ball to meet the handsome prince. Why the pillow, you might ask? Well that is to offset the second-skin nature of American Apparel clothes that show off the curves you never knew you had, which, along with pants, can't be good for Sara's floundering soul.

Time progresses and I am ready for my debut. I am sufficiently stretched to my capacity and eagerly awaiting my chance for a night out on the town. It's Thursday night and Sara is invited to a birthday party at a (gulp) bar. She is sent into a frenzy of the possibility of a wardrobe malfunction, but I stay calm. I know this is it, the prospect that sends shivers of anticipation down my mass-stitched seams. An ankle length

wrap skirt and a duty-length Shkhalim jean skirt don't stand the slightest chance in comparison to my utter fabulousness.

Lo and behold, I am plucked from the obscurity of her closet and paired with a flouncy top and hooker heels. It's the perfect ensemble to show all of Sara's friends that she's still stylish and cool, despite a fashion-numbing year encased in the walls of a Beit Midrash. And so it goes; night after night, party after party, Sara and I are an inseparable duo doing our thang on the dance floor as I inch higher and higher above her knees. And eventually, Sara even stopped stretching me out, foresaking her foolish attempts of making me seminary-worthy.

I know all good things come to an end eventually, but I never thought my relationship would careen into a screeching halt so suddenly. It was one of those days that are just blissfully serene; Sara and I were out on a shopping excursion when she decided to duck into my alma mater—American Apparel. And to my utter shock and horror, there it was, a mere shadow of my former-self hanging on the rack. As if my fabric wasn't skimpy enough, the designers had upped the ante, raising the hemline to heights that redefined a skirt as a loincloth. Indeed, half the fabric had vanished

## Put A (Nose) Ring On It

Aimee Rubenstein

It is that time of year again. It is time to be honest and realize that marriage at Stern College For Women is overrated. The shidduch dates in the library stacks, proposals in Le Bistro and weddings during midterm week have become overdone and lost their novelty. Every season is engagement season, and it's no coincidence that every married or engaged student is doing spirit fingers as she waltzes to class. They are proud, and they should be, but do not let them fool you. Engagement rings and wedding bands are a lifetime commitment, and nobody in SCW really wants that when they can have an ever-trendy-almost-hipster nose ring. The stud might be a bit smaller than a princess cut diamond, but it will ensure a plethora of conversations at your next shiur or date or bar crawl.

In certain Hindu sects, a nose ring, referred to as a Nath, identifies a married woman. Here, at SCW the nose ring holds a very different story. At first, nose-ring clad students were stared at from a distance and even questioned

along with my chances of every being Sara's go-to party skirt ever again.

And so my saga comes to its end. It was a great ride while it lasted and now I only wish good things

whether their piercing followed the dress code. But now nose rings have outnumbered engagement rings. One senior student coined the term, "Those who can't get engagement rings get nose rings." There is truth in that statement, and the truth can now be seen on a numerous amount of noses. Any shaped shnozle looks dandy with some sparkle, and now you have the perfect excuse to not get hitched.

Therefore, the university has decided to take note of the nose ring as an identifier. There will be a new reinforcement of dress code with an additional rule that explains that anyone who is not going steady must get her nose pierced. For encouragement on this issue simply ask Stern College For Women Student Council and Torah Activities Council who have proud members sporting the trend. However, the fad does not stop there. Recently, I personally witnessed a proposal, which included an engagement-nose-ring. Now that is a commitment lady.

upon Sara and her newfound best friend. I know my Mini Me will have as much fun as I had.

## OPINIONS

## Chagigah Protest Results in Middle East Unrest

S.T. Shoshine

Well, it's that time of year again. I think it is important for us, as a student body, to reflect on all that has happened since Purim 2010. If you were on campus last year, you may remember the sentiment of unrest when the Yeshiva University administration decided to have separate chagigot for the men and women. A group of 30 Stern College students went to "storm the castle" and speak to President Joel about his decision. They claimed that having the chagigah downtown would take away from the YU experience of Purim—some even went so far as to say that they chose to come to Stern because of the famous Purim Chagigah.

Despite these efforts, however, the chagigah was held downtown. And just in case the 150 blocks between the Yeshiva undergraduate campuses weren't enough, it was decided that we needed a minimum of 175 blocks to separate us, and so it was held not in the Stern buildings, but farther downtown at Cardozo School of Law.

Even though there had been a

lot of controversy preempting the event, the chagigah turned out to be fun and lively. All the ladies seemed to enjoy themselves despite not being able to watch their drunken male peers. As a sign of conciliation for losing the battle with the administration, President Joel came and greeted his female subjects as they entered the Disney-themed festivities.

However, the protests of the "Stern 30" did not go unnoticed by the global community. When Mohammed Bouazizi, a Tunisian man, got wind of the 'major' protest held by Stern students against the chagigah venue change, he was inspired to attempt a change in his own country. He noted that 30 students took taxis uptown during the men's chagigah, a real sign of taking action against the tyrannical ruling. In the greatest coincidence since there being Schottenstein buildings on both the uptown and downtown campuses, Bouazizi realized that taxis in both NYC and Tunisia are the same mustard yellow color. The connection was

more than he could handle.

In more remarkable comparisons between his country and the Yeshiva community, the prices of food had risen as the quality had faltered. People with college degrees couldn't get jobs and the government leadership was not helping at all; if anything, they were continually becoming more and more corrupt, and would even go so far as to tell citizens to ~~starve due to their eaf-eard-balance-diminishing~~ pay government workers to find them jobs.

After finding these striking parallels between Tunisia and New York City's Yeshiva University, Bouazizi realized that something had to be done. Someone had to make a statement that leadership of this kind would not be tolerated. Upon acquiring the details of the student protest of Stern students, he realized that if he wanted to "storm the castle," to raid the president's office in Tunisia, he would probably be killed on the spot.

He quickly figured out that his protest would take more creativity. Unfortunately, no one outside of the Jewish community knows what Purim is—he got confused and thought we were revolting against Hannukkah festivities. When he saw the Maccabeats video, the flame from the Chanukah inspired him to carry his flame, his message to the Middle Eastern/ North African region. If he had just waited until March to watch them raise their glass, Elvis would have been the answer to all his problems.

Once his statement caught fire, there was no stopping it. Almost every country in the region has now had some kind of revolt or revolution in the past 6 weeks. They saw where the Stern students failed, and planned their protests accordingly. They knew that it was now or never, for who knows if the students of Yeshiva University would do anything in the next year to inspire the world to work for a greater future?! Unfortunately, the Middle East doesn't have a Center

for the Jewish Future, or any similar structure to create their own leaders. How, then, are they supposed to fight injustices, similar to the injustices that we experience at YU, with no leadership fellowship to teach them what to do?!

All the while, the Russian scientists privately employed in the region made an outstanding breakthrough: they were able to get Netflix InstaWatch videos on their computers. The real reason that protests in the Middle East caught fire was because, after a viewing 2012, citizens mistakenly took it as a news report. At the end of the day, if their protests failed, the Middle Eastern citizens were comforted with the knowledge that the world would soon come to an end; it was now or never. They have now been both enabled and ennobled, and a glance at any newspaper is evidence of how much they have accomplished. I that we as Stern students should be proud of the immense influence that we clearly have all over the world. Knowledge is power.

OPINIONS

Green Initiatives at Stern Fail, Outraged Vegetarians

Maude Lebowksi

Recent research has found that most environmentally progressive and proactive measures taken at Stern College fail. Initiatives such as Recyclemania, a vegetarian cafeteria, and YU Unplugged all show effort on the part of YU to be environmentally conscious and socially just- but most are seriously flawed.

A recent poll found that students used 60% more plastic in order to win the pool table offered as the prize to the floor with most recycling. Some students even disposed of their permanent Rubbermaid items in order to take up space in recycling bags. In effect, Recyclemania has led to "Disposablenia" at Stern.

In addition, surveys show that students have been consuming four times as much soda and other soft drinks in order to be able to recycle the used bottles. This has led to bad eating habits and increased fidgeting in the classroom, due to increased caffeine and sugar intake. Frustration on the part of the professors to maintain order and alertness in the classroom has resulted in some professors banning mention

of Recyclemania, or the "contest-who-must-not-be-named", in their presence.

Another initiative gone awry is the cafeteria in the Sy Syms building, known as "Le Bistro", which is supposed to be a vegetarian cafeteria. Many lifelong vegetarians, however, were horrified to find that there was tuna and salmon being served in the cafeteria. New vegetarians figured fish did not count as meat, while others simply thought that tuna must actually be a plant. One student got a related question wrong on her biology exam because of this egregious mistake.

When students that had been lifelong vegetarians found out that much of the sushi they had been consuming in the so-called vegetarian cafeteria contained real fish, however, there was uproar. While it would seem that a vegetarian cafeteria would not have any meat for sale, these vegetarians were duped into consuming animal products.

The YU Unplugged campaign, which is another environmentally-conscious proactive measure on the part of Yeshiva, actually causes more lights left on. Where

there are signs reminding students to turn off lights, many students get distracted by the sign and forget to flip the switch. Worse yet, there are some light switches that are obscured by the sign, and the lights in these rooms are perpetually on and wasting energy.

The effort of some students to reduce their use of electricity in the dorms has resulted in increased crowding in public areas such as Starbucks and the New York Public Library, as students take their laptops elsewhere to use electricity. Some students felt that this was a necessary evil, pointing out that YU Unplugged doesn't have to mean New York Unplugged, and so this was a better alternative to wasting the same amount of energy on campus.

While Yeshiva University on the whole deserves to be commended for the strides they are attempting to make to promote environmental awareness, it seems that these initiatives are doing more harm than good.

Instead of Recyclemania, students should be charged a quarter every time they buy a plastic bottle

See YUM, STEAK page 12

Corporal Punishment, Cupcakes, and Why You Need a Burka

Cova R. Urnees

Due to the climb in dress code violations, the administration has solicited the assistance of a renowned expert in modest dress- Ahmed Muhammad Ibn al Khazinstan. A former Taliban affiliate, Al Khazinstan was previously the Chief of the Department for Religious Affairs at YU (Yarmouk University of Jordan, <http://portal.yu.edu.jo/>) and worked extensively to enforce the "Women Must Wear a Burka Rule" ( a rule that said women must wear burkas).

Commenting on his former position, Al Khazinstan stated "women would throw out thinks like 'religious autonomy!' and 'freedom of expression!' I say- you can have your autonomy and expression, just keep it in a burka!" He also voiced excitement at the prospect of working with a different population at Stern College and hopes the women here will be appreciate of and receptive to his efforts.

Al Khazinstan received his religious training at the renowned School for WomBATS (Women in Burkas All the Time). He excelled in classes such as "Pin the Burka on the Woman" and "Is that a Burka or a donkey wearing a sheet:

knowing a burka when you see one." He admits that Burka-wearing is a distant goal for the recalcitrant women of Stern College, but it is obviously an ideal that he will endeavor to reach. Still, he is certain that his training will be useful when it comes to teaching the students a lesson.

A big believer in the power of punishment, Al Khazinstan has already been investigating the Stern lifestyle in order to ascertain which punishments are the cultural norm. Al Khazinstan admitted he was "rather annoyed" when the administration turned down his proposal for public stoning, saying it was "not practical, as there are not enough stones around."

Still, Al Khazinstan has been hard at work devising what he calls the "12 Step Process." There will in actuality be only 3 steps- 12, however, is an easier number to remember. The 3- step process allows for one dress code violation before the criminal is subjected to a series of disciplinary measure.

First, the student must submit in writing a sincere apology for her transgression. Al Khazinstan en-

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## Schottenstein Tunnel System Revealed

### Observer Inmates

For years, the nighttime studies of the residents of Schottenstein Residence Hall - or, as they are more commonly referred to, Schottie Hotties - have been interrupted by the ceremonial clanging of the radiators.

Fondly referred to as "the man in the radiator who bangs on the pipes with a hammer in the middle of the night," for years, the women of Schottenstein have endured interruption of their nightly activities in order to properly observe this beloved occurrence.

Confirms one super-duper senior: "Last night, I was on the phone with my panicked older sister who, despite her B.A. from Stern in Exploratory Escapism, somehow managed to lock herself in the basement. Then the man in the radiator starting knocking on the pipes, so I quickly hung up the phone."

When questioned why the student thought it appropriate to hang up on her sister she responded, "It's the same as the procedure

for a fire drill. When you hear the radiator noise, you must immediately stop whatever it is you're doing." While this procedure is already well-known among the Schotties, the Schottenstein RAs may wish to consider posting this pertinent information next to the elevators, for the benefit of non-Schottie visitors.

Once thought to be caused by accumulation of excess air in the radiator pipes, the Observer is now pleased to announce the true source behind this celebrated Schottensteinian event. In an exclusive interview, Associate Dean of Students Zelda Braun openly admitted for the first time in YU history that in 2001, the University consulted an architectural team to develop plans for an underground tunnel system that would connect Schottenstein Residence Hall to Brookdale on 34<sup>th</sup> street and the Stanton Hall "245" building on Lexington Avenue.

Explains Dean Braun "It has long been acknowledged that

the 'frummer' students move to Schottenstein. In order to accommodate these students, we constructed the tunnels so that they would be able to avoid the pritzus of Manhattan."

Planned to be an intricate network of tunnels extending underneath the Beren Campus, Braun and other administrators hoped that the new tunnel system would help Stern raise its rating in the *yeshivish* world. Recognizing that a project of this magnitude would take years to reach completion, the administration elected not to share their plans for the Schottenstein Tunnel System with the student body.

Construction secretly began in early 2004 in the Boiler Room of the Schottenstein basement. To keep the project a secret, a construction crew was hired to work on the tunnels only during the nighttime hours. What for years the Schotties have lovingly referred to as the "man in the radiator" is actually the clanging sounds of the

## Corporal Punishment, Cupcakes, and Why You Need a Burka

BORAT from page 11

terained the idea of forcing girls to apologize publicly for their violations, but doing so would necessitate that women speak in public, which he found unacceptable.

A second violation will result in having all the student's printing money cancelled only moments before her paper is due. For the third and final punishment, Khazinstan declared that he will remove the delicious hot pink cupcake tops from the shabboss cupcake desserts, leaving the student only the actual cupcake part.

These three steps from the "12 Step Process" are the finalists from an

extensive list of rejected punishments, a list that included adverse adjustments to the elevator system. That was rejected since the administration concluded that there was nothing to be done to make it any worse.

Also on the list was the possibility of arbitrarily closing the caf at incredibly awkward hours so that students go hungry. However, the faculty advisors rejected this, stating that "we already do that."

Another suggestion that Al Khazinstan pushed for but failed to get passed was taking away the spinny cutlery things. However, an inability to agree on what they were actually called led to a fistfight in the President's boardroom and the suggestion was abandoned.

Al Khazinstan expressed anticipation at waging this glorious jihad, which he noted will be "a bit different than other jihads, but not by much." He will look for further ways to enhance the modesty on campus and will be on the lookout for more stones.

## Green Initiatives at Stern Fail, Outraged Vegetarians

YUM, STEAK from page 11

of soda, or use the plastic silverware in the cafeterias. Students would then be deterred from using and wasting these non-biodegradable materials.

Le Bistro should draw a line in the sand, and make it clear that they stand for conscientious consumption. The cafeteria should become a kitchen for raw foodists - getting rid not only of the fish and animal products, but also the fried, cooked, and baked snacks and meals. This would make a clear statement of social activism, as well as one of

health-consciousness.

Lastly, there should be a mandate for students to put their laptops, iPods, and other energy-consuming appliances into a receptacle for an hour every day. The box would be located in Brookdale, and this would effectively limit the amount of electricity used each day on campus.

Stern College can go a step further in promoting causes of environmental awareness and social justice, and it is up to us as the student body to make sure it becomes a priority on campus. Every student can make a difference and have a part in keeping the environment clean and sustainable.

our *yeshivishization* project would be unsuccessful."

With the estimated date for the completion of the Schottenstein tunnel system set so far in the future, Schotties must contend with the fact that the "radiator man" will continue on with his nightly concerts for now. To the resilient Schotties, such a prospect is a welcomed imposition.

As Shira Shalom, recently returned from Michlalah Shana Daled, explains "the tunnel system will allow me to make my dream of total isolation a reality." She and her friends are planning to decorate the walls with inspirational quotes culled from Tanach, as well as with life-size photographs of the Lubavitcher rebbe.

tunnel construction work reverberating up the pipes and through the boiler.

Over the years, the Schottenstein Tunnel Plan has been expanded to include Sy Syms Building on 33<sup>rd</sup> street, in addition to the other Beren Campus dormitories. To date however, aside from the Schottenstein basement tunnel, construction has only begun in one other dorm: 36<sup>th</sup> street, where clanking sounds stemming from 36<sup>th</sup> street radiators have been reported by residents as well.

Explains Rachel Kraut, Director of University Housing and Residence Life on the Beren Campus, "[The University] never started building the Brookdale portion of the tunnels because, with the Brookdale lounge, we knew that