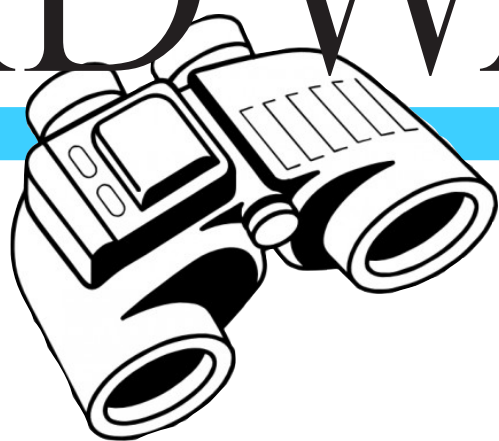


The Yeshiva University

BIRD WATCHER



WE'VE BEEN DEMOTED

Miscommunications Leave Stern Girls Homeless

BY BIRD WATCHERS In a shocking act of failure to read the rather large print, 150 Stern students were left stranded in front of that nail place on 29th when Yeshiva officials mistakenly closed a deal selling Schottenstein Residence Hall instead of the Schottenstein Cultural Center. When questioned about the blunder, a Yeshiva official who refused to be named in this article stated, "It's a mistake anyone could make. I mean, they're named after the same person!"

Schottenstein residents are not so understanding. One enraged East Side resident says, "Security woke me at 6AM and told me I had to pack up my stuff and get out!"

"It's unfortunate, but what could we do?" said one security guard as she surveyed 29th St., now filled with the worldly possessions of the "unfortunate" Schottenstein residents. It appears the new owners of Schottenstein Residence Hall intend to move in immediately and

are wasting no time in emptying the building. Left stranded, hungry, and, in a word, homeless, students spent their remaining caf card money buying necessities like Stella D'Oros, vitamin water, and generic toilet paper.

Luckily, Schottenstein residents did not have to pack alone as members of the Storage Bucket team rushed to the scene of eviction bearing buckets for residents to store their belonging in. They even offered the displaced residents extra buckets with which to build a temporary shelter in the Schottenstein parking lot.

Some sought refuge at the Wilf campus uptown, though there were not enough seats for women in the shuttle, due to the newly enforced separate seating laws (a program of the Beren Eida HaChareidis). Most others hunkered down in Tiberias for the night, only to be kicked out in dismay when the 24-hour restaurant closed for cleaning at 5 a.m.

Negotiations are already in place to establish "Occupy Morge" to protest

the loss of the dorm. Students of the Morgenstern dorm on the Wilf campus have expressed their discontent with the current plan. "Our dorm is called 'morgue' for a reason," said one irate junior at YC. "150 stern girls would totally ruin our rep."

Schottenstein Residence Hall has been bought by Mr. Harold Richard Emerson-Dobson, Esq. as a gift to his young wife. Mrs. Emerson-Dobson required a property in midtown to convert into a luxury apartment for her beloved Pomeranians. Emerson-Dobson agreed to speak with Observer reporters about his new purchase.

"When Brandi saw that YU was selling real-estate in such a prime location, she insisted on having it," he said. When asked if he would be willing to return Schottenstein Residence Hall and purchase the Schottenstein Cultural Center instead, Mr. Emerson-Dobson refused. "Brandi is very adamant that each of the puppies has its own room. Also,

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How Do We Even Begin To Explain This?

BY GIMPY We would like to remind our readers that "The Purim Observer" is designated for satire; such works occasionally contain material that can be perceived as offensive by some readers, so reader discretion is advised.

In the recent past, the Yeshiva administration has been greatly disappointed by the low percentage of Stern College women who open student mass emails, called sstuds (it's a percentage in the single digits). Attempting to improve student email communication, the administration performed a thorough search to find a reason for this upsetting phenomenon. Alas, the administration was unprepared for what it found. It appears that many students believe "sstuds" is college slang for STDs.

As FTOC Shaindel Cohen explained, "When I first came to Stern, I heard students talking in the elevator about an sstud with the subject 'Free Babies.' I connected the dots and realized that 'sstud' must refer to that STD thing my rabbi

told me to stay away from." To avoid temptation, Shaindel built a fence around all sstuds and, to this day, has yet to open a single Stern email.

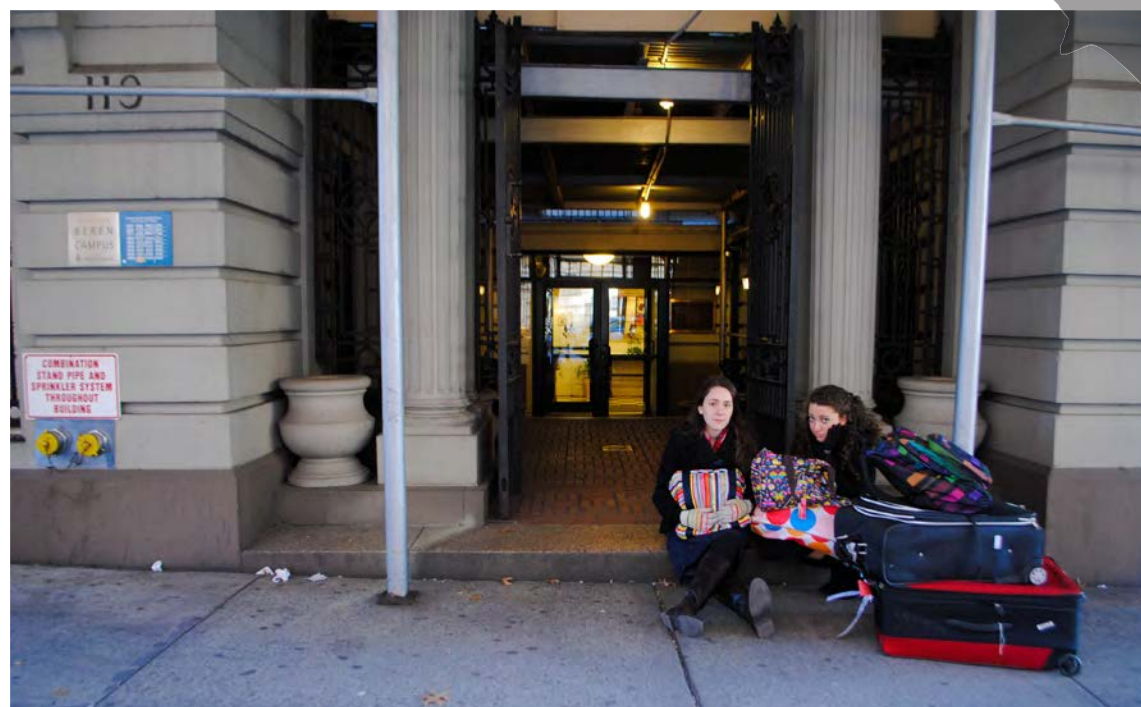
A friend added, "A few months ago, there was chaos surrounding a Beacon article. I think the article was written by a student who was exposed to one too many sstuds."

On the other end of the spectrum, a student who prefers to remain Anonymous complained that upon hearing the hype surrounding these sstuds, she had anticipated devouring their content. The first ten sstuds she opened described an upcoming event called the Seforim Sale. She laughed, reminiscing how at first she expected to find titles like *Dare to Wear Jeans* and *Good Jewish Students...Drinking Beer* but had discovered nothing more promiscuous than *The Lonely Man of Faith* and *Praying with Joy*.

In light of today's Town Hall meeting, to prevent future confusion, The Observer sent out an sstud last night, announcing the school's

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'ANONYMOUS GIRL' REFERENCES: FINAL TALLY:



Julia Siegel

Stranded in midtown. Is this the REAL Metropolitan Experience?

Yeshiva University: Nuclear Program Unearthed

BY ALFRED DREYFUS New York, New York – In a February 2011 report, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) released definitive evidence that Yeshiva has come alarmingly close to achieving nuclear capabilities. The reports indicate that Yeshiva University has been pursuing their clandestine nuclear program for several years. In this past year, Yeshiva has greatly upped their efforts by selling Schottenstein Cultural Center in order to further fund their nuclear program.

"I can neither confirm nor deny these rumors," stated President Richard Joel in a recent interview with the press on Monday, February 27. "All I will say is this – if, by chance, we were pursuing nuclear

arms, it would definitely, absolutely not be with world domination in mind." President Joel proceeded to wink twice in quick succession at his co-administrator, Dean Karen Bacon, of SCW.

Upon further questioning, Joel hesitantly admitted, "I never qualified what I meant by 're-imagine' when describing the University's goals for the future." Joel has henceforth bolted himself inside his office, making himself unavailable for further comment. Sources has reported the sounds of Dr. Evil-like laughter and clashes of thunder audible from behind the locked door.

"We will not tolerate this adverse behavior from Yeshiva University,"

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The Yeshiva University
**BIRD
WATCHER**

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Exploratory Study of the Food Response Patterns of Stern Students

BY SUE SHIROLL, P. Z. ZNAP, AND FR. ZHEN YGRT University of Food and Health Science, Teria, CF

Abstract: This exploratory study builds on existing research on the food response patterns of Stern Students. Participants were Stern Students who eat all meals in the Cafeteria (Caf) and who attend on-campus events. The eating patterns of participants were examined when participants were presented with various types of food in a variety of settings. Results revealed extreme emotional and psychological responses to food that were linked to social setting, time of day, and meal presented. When confronted with various food items many participants seemed to be engaged in various psychotic delusions that impaired or skewed their judgment. Despite the fact that the same types of food were available during regular meal times and at on-campus events, students were more likely to eat higher calorie foods during large social gatherings, or when eating the food could be rationalized away. The psychological response was observed multiple times when students claimed that calories didn't count in these social settings, or in the way food was presented.

Introduction: It has long been noted that the food items present in the caf are also frequently present at various on-campus events. Foods like pizza, ice-cream, and cookies are readily available to Stern students on a daily basis. However, it is also noted that the salad bar is the most visited area in the Caf while food at events invariably disappears in 20-30 seconds. This begged the question, is it the medium of food presentation that affected the food response patterns of students or were there other factors involved?

Methods and Materials: 200 Stern students randomly chosen and

evenly distributed among the class rankings were observed during meal times and during on-campus events. The food they ate at all times was recorded and analyzed.

Results: It was observed that all students in the study ate higher calorie foods during the on-campus events than at regular meal times, despite the fact that the same food was available.

Discussion: Due to the highly sensitive nature of food and eating habits, it appears that Stern students have developed highly sophisticated coping mechanisms to rationalize the food consumed. At normal meal times, the average student finds it difficult to consume higher calorie foods as these coping mechanisms seem inaccessible during these times. When questioned about their ability to consume three slices of pizza and half a pint of ice-cream at an event, it became apparent that these coping mechanisms were being used. Rationalizations, excuses, and outright delusions seem to be necessary for Stern students to enjoy food that is actually tasty as opposed to salads and granola bars.

A sampling of these coping mechanisms follows:

"Calories don't count if you eat them at an event!"

"Calories don't count if you eat out of the public cookie box!"

"Calories don't count if you eat them after 8:00 p.m.!"

"Calories don't count if you eat them to support a friend! I mean, I had to go to the Knitting Club's Knittapalooza because my best friend is the president and of course I had to eat ice-cream to support her!"

High calorie foods were also acceptable if presented in "bite-sized" portions, indicating that "calories don't count if you eat them little by little."

Yeshiva University: Nuclear Program Unearthed

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commented President Barack Obama in a press conference Monday, March 5. "I do not care that the Maccabeats performed on my front lawn. Even if each and every one of the Maccabeats came and requested me personally, I would not back down. Yeshiva University gaining nuclear capabilities would be as dangerous as Newt Gingrich and Hillary Clinton getting married. It would mean the end of the Western world."

While Mr. Obama has taken a hard-line position regarding the issue, not all members of Congress agree with his uncompromising approach. Senator Joseph Lieberman of Connecticut, a several-time visiting speaker and honored guest at Yeshiva, has come out in strong support of Yeshiva's nuclear program.

"What's the problem really?" said Lieberman in a recent interview with the press this past Wednesday, February 29. "It is clear to me from my experience with the University that they would use their nuclear weapons in a responsible manner and only if there was no other recourse. For example, if there was disagreement at a board meeting, or something extreme like that. But, remain assured, these WMDs would strictly be used in a case of necessity and/or self defense."

While his comments assured many, the issue has still been generating significant unrest. Political analysts have suggested that Lieberman was acting under pressure from several very forceful lobbyists commissioned by AIPAC. The groups were comprised primarily of students from an undeclared Modern Orthodox University in New York City that rhymes with Shmeshiva University. Student lobbying groups were led by charismatic leader, Dina Muskin, who declined further comment.

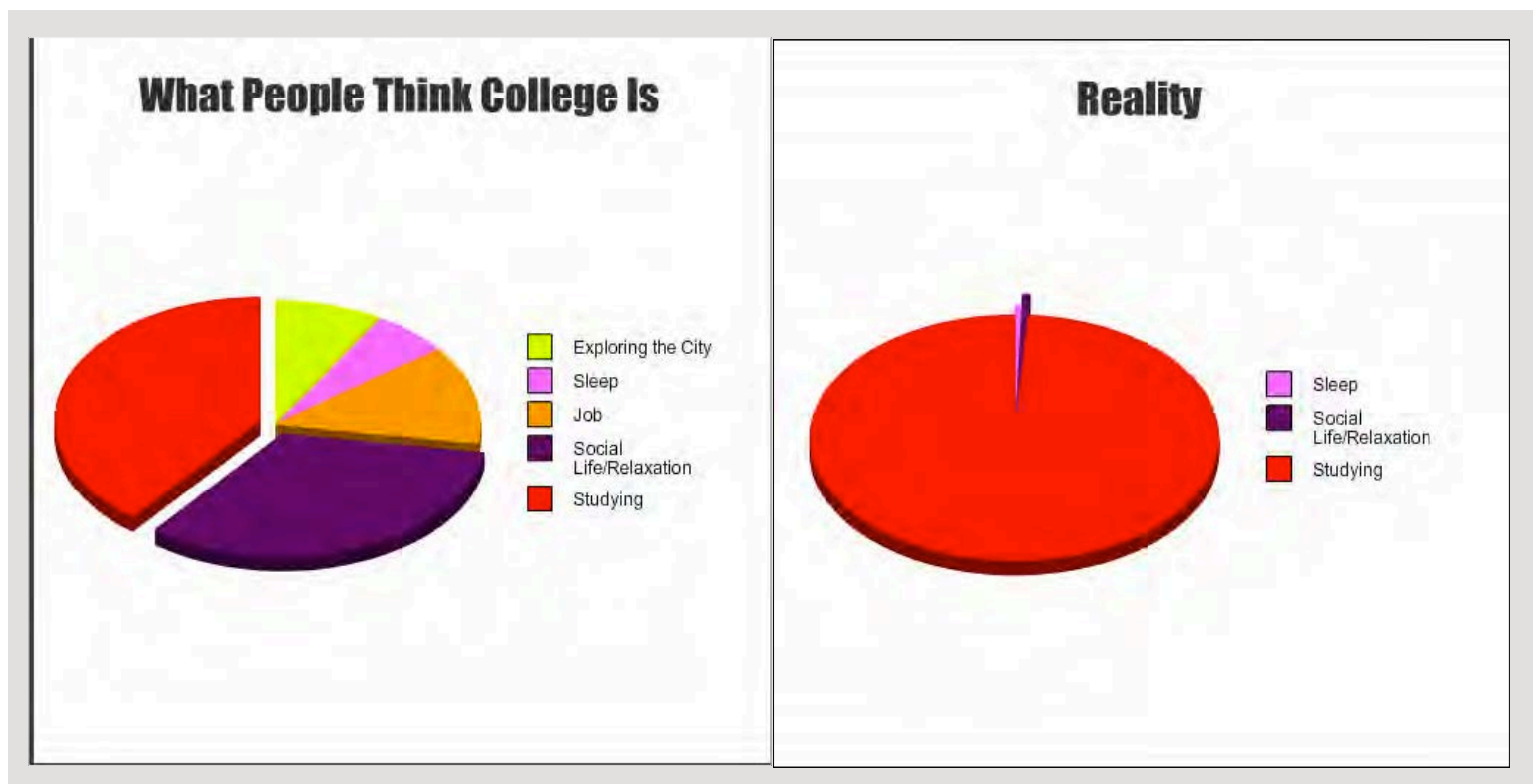
One very active student on this said university campus, Ethan

Wasserman, of recent great acclaim thanks to a profile piece published about him in a the progressive newspaper, The Commentator, mirrored Joel's statements in his blatant denial of Yeshiva's intentions for world dominion. "Once again, Yeshiva University does not want to take over the world. They just want to amass a large nuclear stockpile to be used whenever and wherever they feel like it and to threaten and detonate everyone and anyone they don't like. That's all."

But is that all? And even if, as Wasserman claims, that is all that lies at the end of Yeshiva's nuclear agenda, is there still significant reason to worry? Touro College, located in New York and a primary competitor to Yeshiva, argues a definitive yes.

"The last thing we want is Yeshiva University developing nukes," stated president of Touro College, Dr. Alan Kadish. "It would no doubt precipitate an arms race that would end in the demolition of the entire Western Hemisphere." Touro College, banding with Queens College, Brooklyn College, and all other rivals of Yeshiva's impressive recruitment efforts, have imposed harsh economic sanctions against Yeshiva in the hopes of deterring future nuclear development. As of yet, the economic sanctions have failed dismally. The consensus: blame China.

In an official press release sent out yesterday, Yeshiva has assured the concerned global community that its goal in developing a nuclear program is merely to generate electricity so as to lessen their oil-dependency, demonstrating their environmental awareness and concern. When questioned if there was any less hazardous way to achieve this goal (say, perhaps a windmill), they politely told reporters to shut-up and mind their own business. More as this develops. The Observer reporting.



Stern College for Women: Diversity and Pancakes

BY W.E.B. DU BRAUSER Ah, Stern College for Women. Just the mere utterance of those four magical words cannot help but bring to mind so much. Where to even begin? The most obvious of the innumerable virtues earning Stern College for Women its sterling reputation is doubtless the exceptional diversity of the student body. Even a visitor merely strolling across the grassy, rolling plains of the sprawling campus couldn't miss the overwhelming number of French students milling around at any given time. Why, there must be – at the very least – four of them. And that's just the French students. Including the legions of Canadians would almost certainly necessitate bringing out a second hand for counting purposes.

In fact, there are so many deeply wonderful things associated with Stern College that it would likely be dangerous to list them all. For example, articles in *The Observer* are prime real estate; in recent months, hundreds of Stern students begging to contribute articles have been turned away. "It is hard," admits the Sports editor, "You'd be surprised at the number of students who approach me at all times – in the caf, in the elevator, sometimes they'll be waiting by the door of my house on the weekends – begging to write a piece on baseball. I've actually had to have my home phone number unlisted."

Of course, detailing an exhaustive list of all the glorious things the average person associates with Stern College could be risky for other reasons. In a place positively brimming with school spirit, the mere mention of our school name would likely inspire a torrent of rah-rah's and enthusiastic declarations of school pride. At times, it seems unlikely that so much passion can be contained in one building. Literally. As one Stern College senior – who has daringly chosen to major in Biology because she couldn't stand to be just another math major – complains, "Sometimes it can get so overwhelming. I'll be sitting by my computer eagerly waiting the latest influx of sstuds, and when I see one advertising a poster-making event for an upcoming Macs game, I

always double-check the room they've booked for it because I'm so nervous they won't have enough space for everyone who will be attending."

Yet there is one aspect of Stern College that certainly cannot go unmentioned. In fact, for many students, eating in the caf is the highlight of their college experience. With both a dairy and meat caf offering a wide variety of options, it can actually become rather difficult deciding in which caf to eat dinner. One clever Stern College student has discovered a foolproof way to ensure that she consistently makes the right choice. "I'll just go online to the YU website," she explains. "It's very user-friendly – they have this handy link to that week's cafeteria menus that they always update, and I can just decide between the chicken they're serving in one caf and the honey-mustard salmon they have in the other." When asked if she's ever regretted her decision, the sophomore nods, recalling the time she chose ravioli over Hawaiian meatballs. "It was a little strange," she concedes, "because the ravioli totally tasted like tilapia. I mean, it even looked like tilapia. Everyone around me was actually commenting on how good the tilapia was. I pretended to agree, but secretly I felt bad for them. If they had read the up-to-date menu online, they would have known that it was actually ravioli disguised as tilapia."

In a survey of the entire Stern College student body, the caf food that emerged as the number one favorite by a tremendous majority was the Mehadrin Yogurts. "It's just the name," exclaims a recently declared Physics major (her decision to major in Physics effectively increased the department by 100%). "I mean, it's called 'Fit 'n Free.' Doesn't everyone just want to be fit? And also free? And they're Cholov Yisrael. What's not to love? It can be a little stressful, though. I'm always kind of concerned that the other Stern students who make it to the caf before me will have snatched them all up, but somehow there's always a towering stack of them in the fridge. It's kind of confusing."

Or is it? In a caf simply teeming with variety, it's no surprise that students gravitate towards the more exciting options. Choosing soup over, say, salad, can be a struggle, especially when each day's soup tends to resemble every other soup that has ever simmered away in those giant vats. Because, although there is something comforting about knowing the soup will always look the same no matter how it tastes, there's nothing quite like the satisfaction of a full stomach after consuming almost three whole leaves of romaine lettuce and a sprinkling of feta cheese, all for the low price of \$13.99.

Recent months have unearthed some heartening evidence regarding the impact of the Student Life Committee on the Stern College dining program. One committee insider describes the flood of handwritten requests for a pancake machine with all the latest bells and whistles. "We were just doing our job," she shrugs. "It was obvious that there were no less than fourteen Stern College students who felt their college experience would be heightened exponentially by the addition of a pancake machine in the caf, so we responded. Now, students can eat pancakes in various shapes any time of day. Also, we noticed that a lot of Stern students have very similar handwriting."

With such sought after delicacies present in both cafs, it is necessary that Stern College provide the most intimidating security possible to keep out crazed marauders and thirsting food-critics. Life in the Big City formidable as it is, Stern College students can't help but feel safe under the watchful gaze of the security personnel that man each building's entrance. Even the wildest crook bent on entering the Brookdale lobby would be hard-pressed to find an empty blue plastic case emblazoned with the YU logo to flash at the security guards.

For the ordinary student, there's the secular college. For the extraordinary student, there's Stern College for Women. No matter how bad things get, a Stern student always knows a flower-shaped pancake is only an intra-campus shuttle ride away.

News You May Have Missed

Sy Syms to Close: Everybody Panic

In a shocking turn of events, the rumors flying around campus since last spring's ambiguous email blast from the President's Office turn out to be true.

New Criteria for Einstein Admissions

Dedicated pre-med students break out charcoal pencils after Einstein's new admissions guidelines were distributed at an info session in the Gottesman Boardroom last week. Applicants will now be weighed heavily against the artistic quality of the flyers they distribute for their pre-health club events. A new shaped minor is in the works: Art for Bio Majors.

Brookdale Blinds Midtown

Empire State Building management received multiple complaints from sightseers on December 21. Indignant Scandinavian tourists insisted that their view of NYC was obscured by the brilliance of the flames of the Brookdale Menorah just two blocks away. Furthermore, ESB color-pickers were miffed that their carefully-selected blue and white lights were upstaged.

A Record Engagement

You'd have thought *Tu B'Av* came early, only it was a Thursday evening three months before graduation when a full dozen Stern girls got engaged within minutes of each other. The Maccabeats rushed from the Heights to Mr. Broadway to the Brookdale Lounge to make each of these girls' engagement dreams come true. Guinness has been contacted. Yes, this is a record.

In other news, the sounds of cackling and the pops of champagne corks have been reported emanating from the Center for the Jewish Future offices, though the doors are locked. The *Observer* will continue to investigate.

Student Mix-up Resolved

President Joel swore on national television that, while Stern College has many students named Rachel, Sarah, and Rifka, no student currently enrolled in the university is named Anonymous Girl. Administrators sighed in relief as the official statement was released on CNN.

Salad Overturned

In a shocking turn of events, salad is no longer the primary food group among Stern College students. Instead, students have decided to adopt a more risky, unhealthy meal – yogurt.

In other news, it appears that the Stern woman's obsession with yogurt does not venture beyond the written word into the cafeteria. The salad bar still prevails.

Miscommunications Leave Stern Girls Homeless

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she does not want to spoil them with a theater."

The university released a statement justifying their mistake, saying, "We've got the Schottenstein dorm, the Schottenstein cultural center, the Schottenstein theater, the Schottenstein hallway, the Schottenstein water fountain and the Schottenstein elevator; it's really

How Do We Even Begin To Explain This?

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intention to halt all YU Wireless use. Furthermore, to defend students' innocence, listening to songs written by potentially STD-infected rappers would no longer be permitted on the intercampus shuttles.

Most students accepted the school's decision to turn off YU Wireless, eagerly anticipating using the computer rooms in 245 and 215 Lexington for all their Internet needs, but the announcement banning rap music on the shuttles met with student fury. This campus finally got some political action (to the delight of the YU Democrats), mobilizing overnight to draft a constitution for our own

Occupy Town Hall Meeting.

"Rappers don't have STDs," scoffed one self-proclaimed "worldly" senior. "Banning their music won't change anything!"

"Without rap music, I'll never be able to stay awake on the shuttle – when else do I have time to study my flashcar..." said premed junior Sarah Krup as she dozed off into her coffee mug.

Some students were aggravated on behalf of the shuttle drivers, who "spend their nights driving us around and should be able to listen to the music they want," said one anonymous student leader. "This is completely unfair to them."

"Occupy Town Hall Meeting is in this for the long haul," said Alyssa Greenstein, the movement's organizer. "We are also beginning a letter-writing campaign. We were going to set up at tables in the Stanton Hall lobby, but the events coordinator conveniently lost our form." She frowned. "I smell censorship."

The STD charter, as it has come to be known, will go into full effect after Purim. At the Town Hall Meeting, President Richard Joel proudly declared, "Once these new regulations are active, we won't have any more wayward Anonymous Girls from Stern."

The Mystery of the Disappearing Caf Money

BY TAMAR BUZAGLO I walked into Kushner Dining Hall at 6:00 PM the first night I was back for the new semester really excited with the selection. The “Around the Globe” section is truly impressive and the new vegetarian option offers a whole new dinner option for me, being a vegetarian. I was so busy thinking about these new changes and wondering what the next day’s “Around the Globe” cuisine would be that I almost missed seeing the amount I had left on my caf card.

I blinked in shock. Now I know that vegetarian food and salad tend to be slightly more expensive than the regular meal, but one hundred dollars? How on earth did I start with a full one hundred dollars less than I did last semester?

I then overheard a girl telling her friend that the same thing happened to her, so I figured there was a technological problem with the register and shrugged it off.

The next day however, when I was at Le Bistro Café, I noticed I was still missing the one hundred dollars!

Now I was curious. There was no way that the registers at both cafeterias were malfunctioning. I put on a would-be casual voice and innocently made a joke about the food costing so much more than last year. The girl at the register didn’t say a word, just swiped my card and called the next person forward. This is getting ridiculous I thought to myself. I want to know what’s going on now!

The following morning I decided to put my Law & Order watching to good use. I carefully laid out my outfit I was going to wear while rehearsing what I was going to say in my head. I was going for the undercover detective look – black winter coat over my outfit, with no outstanding bags or jewelry – a real Anonymous look. When I got to school, I waited for the lunch break. I knew the caf would be at its busiest, so hopefully someone might let something slip.

My plan worked. I waited on line for a while, allowing the caf to get crowded and noisy until it was finally my turn. As I was about to hand over my card, I casually said to the girl standing next to me, “Is it just me, or does there seem to be a lot less money on the cards than last year?”

That’s when I saw it. My cashier blinked before hastily taking my card and quickly sliding it back to me, clearly flustered. I smiled to myself, knowing that I had just acquired a victory. I kept glancing at the cashier while I ate my meal when I then saw her speak to the caf manager with a worried look on her face. Now this was interesting.

I decided to stick around until after most of the students left, to see if there would be any more interaction, and if I was lucky, maybe I could even hear what they were saying. Hiding behind the wall, I pretended to text my friend, so even if I were to be seen, I would look like every other Stern girl trying to get reception on her cell phone.

“...This isn’t good.” I heard the cashier say. “The students are starting to talk, they’re going to catch on soon!”

Okay, this was definitely unexpected. Catch on? Catch on to what? I suddenly had an image of C.I.A agents and secret meetings taking place. One hundred dollars off of every student’s caf card could supply Stern with enough money to pull off a bank heist, Ocean’s 11 style – or worse – enough money to institute new mandatory pre-requisites, ensuring that we would all have to take seven classes every semester for the rest of our Stern career!

Desperate for that not to happen, I quickly complained to all my friends, making sure to do it in very public places, like in the elevators or on the shuttle uptown, to keep the talk flowing. And soon enough, the whole school was buzzing with the injustice of the missing caf money.

About a month later I overheard another conversation between the two adults in the caf.

“This isn’t going to work. There’s too much talk about it, we can’t do it anymore.”

“You’re right. We’ll just have to try again some other time, when the students won’t be so suspicious.”

I sighed with relief. I could stick with my five classes per semester plan, like I intended from the beginning.

That night, I got to my room, and happily shut my closet door containing my detective coat.

For now, at least.

Guess Whose Shoes:

These shoes belong to five beloved science faculty at SCW. Can you guess who they are? See the answers on age 24.



answers on page 24



Rick Santorum Receives Haskamot From Roshei Yeshiva, Areivim

BY BELLATRIX LESTRANGE In a surprise turn of events that will surely boost his chances of defeating Mitt Romney in the upcoming Super Tuesday races, Rick Santorum has received haskamot from several YU Roshei Yeshiva and the prestigious YU student group, Areivim.

In his announcement of the haskama, a Rosh Yeshiva said that “Rick Santorum’s candidacy is a true Kiddush Hashem. He represents the values that we espouse at Yeshiva University, and in the Orthodox world.”

When asked to clarify why he felt that a Catholic candidate represented Torah values, the rabbi responded: “Catholic? Please. The man is obviously a good Torah-observant Jew. He’s so makpid on the laws of tznius that he won’t even sit on a couch with a woman who isn’t his wife! He takes the most machmir stance possible on the mitzvah of pru u’revu! America has never seen a candidate this frum!”

Rav Twersky, one of the signatories of the haskama, said he felt that Rick Santorum’s stance on the issue of homosexuality was particularly frum. “He is absolutely right!” Rav Twersky commented. “When I read that Rick Santorum compared the so-called “right” to

gay relations to bigamy, incest, and adultery, my heart skipped a beat. I knew that this was a candidate who could bring Torah values to the White House.”

When asked about Santorum’s statement that he would allow his faith to guide him in his decisions as president, Rav Schachter positively beamed. “It’s a true fusion of Torah and Madda,” he said, grinning from ear to ear. “Our actions in the so-called secular world must always be guided by our religious principles.”

“Areivim,” the student group partially responsible for the installation of internet filters on the Wilf campus, also signed on to the haskama. The anonymous student leader of the group issued this statement: “Rick Santorum shares Areivim’s concerns about the widespread, invidious effects of internet pornography. In fact, one of the issues he lists on his official campaign website is his devotion to leading the fight against the pornography addiction that has overcome America in the past decade.”

The anonymous student leader informed this reporter that Areivim and Santorum are working together to unveil the prospective nominee’s plan to install internet filters on every computer in the United States.