Union Employees Reach Settlement

AYELET GRUN
Executive Editor

Following negotiations that stretched until 3:30 a.m. October 19, the majority of union employees at Yeshiva University accepted the university's proposal for a new, 37-month work contract. The previous 36-month contract expired September 30, 1998. Union workers at YU had threatened to go on strike at the end of October if their demands for benefits and wage increases were not met.

The previous 36-month contract negotiations were not met by September 30, 1998. Approximately 250 of the employees represented by 1199 union were the university's painters, secretaries, librarians, custodians, food services, fund-raising and housekeeping personnel. The workers, represented by the 1199 union at their demands for benefit increases were not met by September 30, 1998.

Under the terms of the new contract, union employees will receive a three percent salary increase on October 1, 1999 and again on October 1, 2000. A two percent increase will follow on October 1, 2001 and October 1, 2002, said Juan Vasquez, Vice President of 1199.

1199 negotiations were able to secure four more sick days, up to 18 months for leave of absence and up to nine months for infant care in each union worker's contract, as well as greater pay for higher classification work assignments performed for over three years throughout a twelve month period, said Vasquez.

Union employees will be able to transfer their vacation time to members in need of extra days off as well.

YU agreed to establish a $20,000 fund and committee that will review and settle problems in the cafeteria, production and payroll departments by 1999.

"The university is obviously pleased" that the contract negotiations were "a win-win situation for YU employees and the university," said Berta Silva, director of Public Relations for YU and a member of the university's negotiating team.

The contract is "what everyone wanted and agreed to," said Gerald Edelstein, Labor Relations lawyer negotiating for YU.

Cafeteria Problems Worsen with Larger Student Body

MIRIAM FLEISCH
Features Editor

The one o'clock lunch rush has left Midtown students angry and frustrated. With student populations at 860, higher than ever, shortages in the Food Services Department have become more apparent as their attempts to meet the needs of a growing student body fail.

"I do not use the cafeteria anymore, because I don't have time to wait in a line that stretches all the way out to the door. It wasn't this bad last year," explained Yehudie Libiszewski, SCW '96.

According to Lieberman, there is a prescribed method for deciding the prices of the prepared foods in the cafeteria. "We don't invest prices out of the clear blue sky," said Lieberman.

"There is a mathematical formula that we use to compute the prices for the dishes that we make. We enter every ingredient of the recipe, every cost involved, and then compute the price," explained Lieberman.

Retail prices for packaged foods, however, are computed differently. Lieberman explained that the price of a bottle of soda or container of rice pudding is decided through a number of factors.

"Students get upset when an item is particularly expensive. So for example, if veal is going to cost $8.50 a plate, then we might take the price down a little and add that on to something less expensive, and raise it a dime or a nickel," explained Lieberman.

Lieberman explained that due to the economy some prices must go up, while others may be lowered. "Sometimes prices must be increased. The problem is that people expect supermarket prices, and see Cafeteria, page 10."
Insensitivity to Out-of-Towners

Yeshiva University showed it was uninterested in out-of-town students by canceling classes on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur on Monday, September 24 and Sunday, September 26.

Students who could not afford to miss two days of school were forced to either return to New York City or stay over Rosh Hashanah and Shabbat Shovos in the area. Those who did not return to SCW on those two days of school were held accountable for the work that they had missed.

In most years, Yeshiva University opens its doors between the High Holidays. This year, however, the university should have realized that stranding two days of school over a weekend would make it difficult for students to both go home for the holidays and attend school.

Cancelling school on September 24 and 28 and extending the semester by two days would have been a wiser choice.

EILEEN CHUOW & AVIVA LAUFER & ESTHER LEVINE

Activism and the Lost Generation

Beginning with the civil rights movement of the 1960s, college campuses were central territory for discussion, debate and demonstration. They were charged environments where students were excited about the impact they could have by publicly demonstrating their opinions.

For ideological and religious reasons, Yeshiva University was not intimately involved in these movements. But, as I learned recently, the idea of gathering publicly and peacefully demonstrating in favor of or against a cause also appealed to YU students.

Beginning in the late 1960s, YU students were in the forefront of creating the movement to free Soviet Jewry. Inspired by the techniques of Martin Luther King Jr. and others, thousands of young Jewish students devoted their time and energy to bringing the attention of major Jewish organizations to the reality of Jewish life in the former Soviet Union.

When the Soviet regime crumbled in 1990, Soviet Jewry was finally allowed to leave in large numbers to move to Israel or the United States. But in the intervening years, the plight of Soviet Jewry, as it was called, never left the attention of the American Jewish community.

For more than 20 years, the issue of freeing Soviet Jewry permeated the Jewish consciousness. In the Observer, articles reflected students' deep concern for their persecuted brethren. In our own lifetimes, we can recall symbolic gestures like attending Bar or Bat Mitzvahs while the boy or girl had a "twist" in the Soviet Union in order to identify their formal entrance into religious adulthood with a young person deprived of that privilege. All of that came abruptly to a close with the end of the Cold War and the restructuring of the former Soviet Union. For a few years the issue changed from freeing Jews to resettling them, until the majority of transplanted Jews acclimated themselves to their new surroundings and newfound freedoms.

And now it's 1998. This last great unifying issue of the Jewish people is no longer there to take hold of our conscious and energies. It is hard to think of a single unifying issue for the American Jewish community in this decade. Much has been said and written recently about the issue of "pluralism," but it would be a stretch to call that a unifying issue. Most of the discussion on that topic has been divisive rather than unifying.

Even among the students of YU, there is no single driving issue about which most students are concerned. These days, some students devote themselves to keeping their mission or possibly their life's work. Others still see political activity related to Israel as their mission, but with the recent peace talks those issues aren't nearly as clear cut as they used to be.

But idealism, the essential quality inhering in the present of old, is still at a premium in our generation. I think that many of the students of YU have directed their idealism into their own lives for learning Torah and for doing gimmarah chessed. On the other hand, we should not forget how powerful we can be by asserting our collective voice. Rather than physically demonstrating, we can express our opinions on the editorial pages or in the voting booth.

This election year presents at least one interesting political contest in the form of the New York Senate race between incumbent Senator Alfonse D'Amato and his challenger Congresswoman Charles Schumer. This is an exciting time to realize what an impact our generation can have on the democratic process of this nation.

Standardized Students

Remember a list about the Law School Admissions Test (LSAT) I took this past September. I know what the weather was like that day. I can picture the building and the room in which I took the exam. I can tell you with whom I took the test and exactly what I wore that day. But if you asked me to recall what was on the exam itself, I couldn't tell you.

It is not that I have a short memory; it is that standardized entrance exams, especially those that test you on insignificant information, are useless for me to maintain. Between my studies, extra-curricular activities and jobs, standardized tests fall far on my brain's mental catalogue of worthy information.

I understand that colleges and graduate schools need a regulated standard by which to view prospective students. And, yes, I acknowledge the fact that reading comprehension and basic mathematics are important for a student's success in higher education. Yet I do not agree with the importance placed on these examinations.

When a university denies entrance to a student primarily because of scores they received on a standardized test, they are cheating both themselves and the student by ignoring the student's other unique talents. A person applying to art school with an impressive portfolio documenting lifelong accomplishments, for example, would be cheated if he/she were not accepted because of an average or low GRE score.

The student council leadership has delayed publication of the Guide while they decide which printer will be most cost effective.

While it is admirable that the student leadership is trying to save the student body's money, it is a shame that it has to delay publication of one of YU's most popular undergraduate publications.

During midterms, students have a need to reach each other, to study for exams. At this time of the year the Guide is more than a luxury; it is, almost necessity. Next time the student leadership should concern itself with saving time as well as money.

Taking standardized tests is a talent. And like all other talents, the aptitude for scoring high on standardized examinations is distributed to a small, lucky number of people. I envy those who are fortunate enough to possess such a gift. Yet I believe that those of us who grapple with practice exams and expensive preparation courses should be viewed for our abilities beyond scores. Graduate schools should see us for our potential success in our field, and not for one three hour examination.

I do not propose that college and graduate schools completely dispose of their standardized tests. They are necessary models of measure and do teach the student important techniques. I strongly suggest, however, that in their selection process these schools concentrate on what really comprises a good student: intelligence, motivation, originality and talent.
Construction Near SCW Hampers Classes, Concentration

SARA KOSTANTS
Staff Writer

Despite the peak-hour system utilized by the elevators in SCW, students find themselves more squeezed and squished than ever. Yael Harris, SCW '00, finds that just getting to class has become a struggle. "I can never stuff myself into the elevators," she said. "I usually just end up running up the stairs to my classes on the ninth and tenth floors so I won't be late. I didn't realize Stern was such a squishy school!"

"Elevators here are wild," said Tali Bregman; SCW '01. "You're glued to the wall. It's like a mosh pit that you can't escape from."

According to Dr. John B. Fisher, Director of Enrollment Management, there has been a general trend of increasing enrollment, with this semester's enrollment being the highest ever. "Dr. Fisher said that 860 students are currently registered at the Midtown Center, though this number is likely to increase. Late arrivals for the fall semester and transfer students for the spring semester will significantly influence the student population.

Every division of SCW will be affected by this student increase, some more than others. Prof. Edith Lubetkin, Head Librarian at the Hudi Steinberg Library in SCW, explained that the overcrowding of the Midtown campus would become more of a concern later in the year. "We haven't felt the impact yet. When the assignments and term papers start, we'll utilize every librarian to help the students," Lubetkin said. "More students create a need for more reference assistance."

SCW classes are tightly packed this year. Steve Rothstein

The wrecking ball at work beside SCW. Steve Rothstein

Overcrowding At SCW

As men and women, students, faculty members, and construction workers move about campus, the volume of crowds just entering or exiting the campus is constant, pound-for-pound. A new pedes- trian traffic patterns on the sidewalk. According to Teusmat, Foreman, Mike Degiovanni, a quarter of the Fire-stone building, which includes chapels and a resi-dent auditorium, is done.

The projected finish date of December 1999 was altered slightly due to design plans changes that required a little extra time.

"Regarding construction work, all areas of Manhattan are busy," explained Safety Engineer Frank Schouha. "Here it's just a different type of crowd, there are a lot of community people and students here. Whereas work on another part of town may have cause-tours and ordinary citizens, it's the same volume of crowds, just different. We made sure to have the proper signs directing people to the pedestrian walkway we opened for 34th Street, and it'll just take a little while for people to get used to the shift in traffic," he said.

Pedestrians are routed to a temporary covered sidewalk parallel to the old sidewalk, but several feet away from the street. A sign along the temporary sidewalk reads Siman Walkway. Construction workers often play Frank Sinatra's tunes on a sound system during their lunch break.

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Groups of students wait outside the library, hidden from the noise by their own personal sound system. Groups of students wait outside the library, hidden from the noise by their own personal sound system.

The budding's in the student population. The buildings at 203 and 25 Lexington Avenue, between 32nd and 33rd Streets, were purchased by Yeshiva University to provide more academic space for the students at the Midtown campus, according to Dean Karen Bacon.

Bacon also stated that the expansion of the chemistry labs in SCW is not responsible for the overcrowding. This should allay the fears of those students who believe that class sizes will increase due to the imagined decrease in classrooms. "No classroom space in Stern has been cannibalized by the remodeling of these labs," said Bacon. "This year was a misstep for our planning, but it would not be a concern because by next year there would be more classrooms in the new buildings."

Public Service Announcement:
Betenn January 1991 and December 1996, there may have been problems with the way the New York Blood Center performed testing of blood for viral infections. As a result, recipients of donated blood products during that period may face a potential risk of transfusion-transmitted infections, such as HIV and hepatitis.

The amount of increased risk to transfusion recipients is unknown. However, the risk is believed to be remote because of multiple safeguards that were in place.

If you are concerned, please call 1-800-588-0990 to ask questions or arrange for free testing.
Items Stolen from Brookdale Hall Rooms

EILEEN CHIDWYN
News Editor

The Yeshiva University Security Department is currently investigating thefts that took place at Brookdale Residence Hall on October 17. According to Miriam Ellan, SCW '00, one of the theft victims, cash and items were taken from approximately four dorm rooms during Shabbos. Although some of these doors were locked, they could have been opened using something as simple as a YU identification card.

On the night of October 17, Eljas's roommate, Yechele Bimbaum, SCW '90, discovered that a large sum of cash was missing from the wallet she had left in a desk drawer. Eljas found that the $2,000 she had left on her desk with a note designating it as "bullet money" was gone. Bimbaum, an R.A., had left her dorm unlocked while she was in the school building for approximately two hours, and said she thought it would have been fine. Another resident found that several items of her clothing were taken.

"It is unbelievably sad that such a thing could happen at Stern," said Eljas. "I thought that as a Jewish school we'd be immune, but of course, we're not. Now we always lock our door but we used to be lax." Bimbaum said she felt very vulnerable and violated. "They went through my drawers and that's a gross feeling," she said. Bimbaum also said she was pleased that her jewelry and camera had not been taken.

Miriam Gold, Residence Supervisor, said she supports the students who have had things stolen. "YU provides a great deal of security," she said. She instructed her staff of residential assistants to remind students to double lock their doors when out of their rooms in order to make them more secure. It is easy for any student to enter an unlocked dorm room.

She said security officials are speaking to each individual who reported an incident. "I assure you," said Gold, "they'll pursue the investigation. When students come in and say they want everything in their poower to try to solve it," Mr. Donald Somsens, Chief of Security, said he will investigate but would not comment further until the matter is resolved.

Finance Difficulties Burden Students

RASHIKA BALASKY
Staff Writer

Many SCW students experienced delays moving into the dormitories at the onset of the 1998-1999 school year because they were not financially cleared. Students also incurred problems involving funds missing from cafeteria cards and difficulties arranging work study positions as well.

Neil Harris, Acting Director of Student Aid, said many of these problems could be attributed to "students who had not made arrangements for payment for the 98-99 school year or who had a previous balance from another school year.

Harris added that "late applications" caused delays in processing aid.

Some students did not realize that their bills had arrived in plain Yeshiva University envelopes marked "dated material enclosed" as in previous years, said Harris. They neglected to pay the fees, did not receive financial clearance and, therefore, could not move into their dorm rooms.

Jean Belmont, University Bursar, indicated that letters had been mailed and phone calls made to inform students not financially cleared of their status before moving day. She added that before the current semester, letters will be mailed to students who are not financially cleared at both their home and dorm addresses to assure that they receive notification.

Beth Kessler, SCW '99, tried to get her key during Orientation and discovered that she was not financially cleared because of a small balance that remained on her tuition bill. "It would have been nice had YU mailed a letter a week in advance," said Kessler. "In past years, they refunded or billed my family if the amount we paid was different."

Kessler began the school year with $150 on her cafeteria card, instead of the $650 she had paid. "The extra $500 wasn't put on my card until after Rosh Hashanah and I was down to $18," said Kessler. "I didn't want to spend cash on food and I wasn't sure they'd add the money."

According to Belmont, once students were financially cleared the entire sum was added onto the cafeteria cards. She admitted, though, that there may have been delays. "We try to be of help to students so we gave them $150 for the week, we have more staff than in previous years, and we try to be of service," said Belmont.

The delay in receiving full funds on cafeteria cards after students were financially cleared was due to the fact that YU now uses two computer systems. The meal plan bill must be manually entered into YU's Banner system before the money can appear on students' cafeteria cards.

In addition to cafeteria problems, students on work study found their allowances taken away without notice. Miriam Groisman, SCW '98, said that, "one reason I came to Stern was because they have great work programs. They are better in that area then other private colleges."

Students depend on the work study positions as a source of income during the school year.

Modern, State-Of-Art Kitchen Facility To Be Opened

ITA TARZIN
Staff Writer

University's pursuit to expand and modernize its Midtown Campus, a new kitchen facility is under construction on the first floor of Schottenstein Residence Hall. The kitchen will service the Midtown Campus cafeterias. Once completed, a special refrigerated van will be used in order to transport the food cooked in Schottenstein directly to the SCW cafeterias.

Until now, the kitchen crew has been working in a cramped kitchen with old equipment. Mr. Jeffrey Rosenzweig, Director of Support Services Administration, said that due to lack of space, YU had been struggling for some time with the problem of upgrading and modernizing its current kitchen facilities. The space in Schottenstein proved a viable solution.

Construction on the SHH kitchen began at the end of August 1998 and is near completion. YU is waiting for permits from various agencies, such as The Department of Health and the Building Department, before it can open the facility.

Although unwilling to promise, Rosenzweig hopes the new kitchen will be opening in a matter of weeks.

The new, modern cooking facility does not necessarily mean a large selection of food for SCW faculty and students, said Jacob Lieberman, Associate Director of Food Services.

Lieberman clarified that "right now, it will be strictly a dachery production kitchen. He said, however, the kitchen may be used for Shabbos programs held in Schottenstein.

The kitchen's opening follows the debut of a new convenience store in Schottenstein that opened right before the holiday recess.

Election Day is November 3rd, Don't Forget to Vote.
Reaching Out, Just Around the Corner

Judith Miller to Lecture on Middle East Terrorism

Judith Miller, author, distinguished journalist and expert on Middle Eastern affairs, will deliver the 1998 Morris Epstein Forum on the Arts lecture at SCW on Wednesday, November 11. Her talk will be on "Reporting on the Militant Middle East" beginning at 8:00pm in Koch Auditorium. She will discuss experiences with terrorist groups and leaders of the Middle East and their impact on America.

Miller is a staff writer at the culture desk at The New York Times and currently its "Ideas and Issues" correspondent. She joined the paper in 1977 as a member of the Washington Bureau, where she covered the banking and securities industry, the House and Senate, national politics, foreign affairs - with special emphasis on the Middle East - and nuclear proliferation issues.

In 1983, she became the first woman to be named chief of the Times Cairo bureau, where she was responsible for covering the Arab world. In 1986, she became the Times special correspondent in Paris. In 1987 and 1988, she returned to Washington to serve as news editor and deputy bureau chief of the Washington bureau. She covered the Persian Gulf during the war in 1990 as a special correspondent and, subsequently, was the Times Sunday Magazine's special correspondent, writing on domestic and foreign affairs, including the Middle East.

Miller is the author of God Has Nineteen Names, Reporting From a Militant Middle East, and One By One, By One, a highly projected account of how people in six nations distorted the memory of the Holocaust, and co-author of Saddam Hussein and the Crisis in the Gulf.

An expert on Middle Eastern affairs, Miller is a sought-after guest on many national television news and public affairs shows and frequently lectures at universities throughout the country.

Club Fair Offers Prospects for Student Involvement

ASA LAUPER
News Editor

Every college has clubs, activities and publications in which students are encouraged to participate. In SCW, Club Fair serves as an annual forum for students to survey what SCWSC and TAC can offer them. The annual event occurred on September 8 and 9 this year, filling Koch Auditorium with tables, signs and students.

Evaah Silverman, SCW '09, and Beth Wolfson, SCW '00, members of the Psychology Club, said "Joining a club in the area that you're interested in gives you the opportunity to become familiar with future career opportunities in that field. It also gives you the opportunity to meet other students with similar interests."

Golda Fleischman, SCW '00, head of the Debate Team, noted that certain clubs can help you develop important skills that can be implemented in any subject area. The Debate Team "can teach you how to win every argument," said Fleischman.

The TAC clubs present at Club Fair advocated community service, outreach, and Torah learning opportunities. "One of my favorites of the evening is definitely the e-mail chat-nuta club," said Nava Barbour, SCW '01.

This year, the Karate Club, headed by SCW's karate instructor, Sarah Cohn made its debut. Cohn will teach a one-hour self-defense class given once each semester. Publications including The Observer, In Motion, Bramsen and the weekly parsha newsletter, Bina Ye'etsim, are open to students' literary, and artistic contributions.

Shain Holland, SCW '99, attended Club Fair in hopes of "really getting involved in extra-curricular activities." "I want to find out about ways that I can spend my free time doing things that are constructive," she said.

The first night of Club Fair ended with a performance given by The Belles, SCW's a capella group. After listening to them perform, Rachel Schostak, SCW '00, said "Sign me up, baby!"

The attending organizations use career fair to gather information regarding employment opportunities and graduate school.

"This is the best way for students to learn about the companies without being in an interview situation," said Jennifer Berman, Assistant Director of the Office of Placement and Career Services (OPCS).

The Fair is geared for both business and liberal arts students in SCW, Y C and SSB.

"Many companies seek liberal arts students because they are more well rounded," Berman said. The HASC Center, Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Bloomberg L.P., The Educational Alliance, Goldman Sachs and Syms Corporation were among the organizations representing their respective institutions.

The attending organizations use career fairs such as the one Monday, October 26 in YU, as a public relations tool to tell students about their programs and any employment positions that they have available.

Naomi Kapp, Associate Director for OPCS added that "the companies get a positive response about our students," through Career Fair.

Roughly 600 students attended the event.

Career Fair Presents Students with Options

RACHEL ELBAUM
Staff Writer

With representatives from approximately 100 graduate schools, organizations and companies, the 1998 Career Fair in Belfer Hall allowed students to gather information regarding employment opportunities and graduate school.

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Impeachment Hearings Recall Watergate

SARA KOSTANT
Staff Writer

When the November 2, 1972 issue of the Observer, Lawrence Grossman, a history instructor at State College for Women, voiced a strong objection to the candidates vying for the Presidency that year. He wrote that, "Despite my biases about the Democratic nominee," he sometimes considered voting for him when he thought about Nixon. The Republican convention that year and the subsequent campaign have been so smug and self-righteous that one can only call them Nixonian. Each day the newspapers unearth further revelations of administration scandals. Rather than attempting to uncover the truth about the Watergate bugging and kindred activities, the President and his advisors seem to think that all the dirt will go away if they ignore them.

Grossman's statement was written almost two years before Richard Nixon actually resigned, yet his disillusionment in the President was already established. Most of the country did not agree with Grossman. While Grossman was writing this article, over 60% of the American population thought that Nixon had done a wonderful job as President, according to people more eager to hear his public declarations.

In fact, America approved of Nixon so much that a few days after Mr. Grossman's article appeared in The Observer, Nixon was reelected in what Newsweek voted for the 1974 impeachment investigation. Although 31% of the voters voted for impeachment, Newsweek reported its issue, September 21, 1998 issue of Newsweek, Hillary Rodham Clinton was "among the 40-old young lawyers recruited by John Dean, head counsel of the 1974 impeachment investigation" to prepare an impeachment case during the final months of the Watergate scandal. Like Hillary Clinton, Nixon had been offered a coveted job on the impeachment staff. But the Rhodes scholar and Yale Law grad had instead chosen to begin his own political career.

Little did Hillary Rodham and Bill Clinton realize that twenty-four years later, as First Lady and President of the United States, they would face the same crisis as Nixon. Newsweek added in the same issue that "President Clinton's name replaces Nixon's as the focus of the investigation. The resolution states that "the committee on the Judiciary be authorized and directed to investigate fully and completely whether sufficient grounds exist for the House of Representatives to exercise its constitutional power to impeach William Jefferson Clinton, President of the United States of America."

The "sufficient grounds" mentioned in the resolution are a source of contention between Clinton defenders and foes. The Constitution, Article II, Section 4, Clause 1 declares that "The President, Vice-President and all civil officers of the United States, shall be removed from Office on Impeachment for, and Conviction of, Treason, Bribery, or other high Crimes and Misdemeanors."

The purpose of the impeachment investigation is to decide whether or not Clinton's actions fit into any of the above categories. According to a Associated Press article, "Defining the Deliberately Undefined" by Walter Mears, Prosecutor Kenneth Starr revealed to the House of Representatives that he had sufficient evidence of criminal activity which could impeach Clinton, "centering on obstruction of justice and perjury, in the president's attempts to hide his conduct in the Lewinsky affair." The wording of the Constitution is so ambiguous that "every member of the committee [investigating Clinton] will make their own mind up as to what is an impeachable offense," said Representative Henry Hyde in the same AP article. While Starr and his allies believe Clinton's efforts to cover up his affair with Lewinsky fall into one of impeachment categories, Newsweek reported its issue, September 21, 1998 issue that "the subject of the president's defense is that a cover-up of a sexual affair is not a 'high crime' even if Clinton did lie under oath and encourage others to lie." Clinton was willing to whitewash his personal life and avoid humiliation, according to his proponents, a wrongdoing that does not merit an impeachment process.

The Judiciary Committee will take to decide whether or not Clinton's offenses are impeachable. If the committee decides the offenses are impeachable, then the Committee will present their articles of impeachment to the House of Representatives. A majority of the House must vote for passing these articles before they can be tried by the Senate. A two-thirds majority of the Senate is needed to convict the president of the impeachment charges, and the Senate must also vote on whether or not to remove him from office. If Clinton is taken out of office, the vice-president would then be sworn in to replace the president.

Nixon resigned before the House even voted on his articles of impeachment and was replaced by Gerald Ford. One student at SCW, who has kept up with the investigation against Clinton thinks that an actual impeachment is a far-fetched conclusion to the crisis. "They just want to scare Clinton and show him the severity of what could happen" said Goldia Fleischman, SCW 91, a Political Science major. Fleischman doubts that an impeachment investigation would be in progress had Clinton not committed perjury to cover up a mundane misdeed, and not a sexual one. Although Fleischman would not have voted for an impeachment inquiry, Political Science major Stephanie Sherman, 98, thinks it's a good idea. She is not convinced, however, that the House should actually impeach Clinton, and wonders if a Republican majority in the House will pass articles of impeachment. "The Founding Fathers made it very hard to impeach the president, so the offense must be a really big deal," said Sherman. "Not that what do what isn't a big deal but is not enough to remove him?" Sherman said the investigation would lower national morale, because "the American on the street is informed and doesn't know key issues here and abroad. She does not believe, however, that Clinton will resign or be impeached. "I just feel the whole thing is rather specious. I don't think they have a case, she said, adding that as a representative in the House she would have voted against the impeachment investigation, in favor of ensuring the president. "The Republicans will need a face saving device to get out of this whole thing, they're trying to scare him, and it may backfire because he may not resign," she said. "They may end up looking foolish-like the expression 'with egg on their face.'"
Campus Conversations

Featuring
Rabbi Dr. Norman Lamm, President of Yeshiva University
November 9, 1998, 8:00 pm
Koch Auditorium

Topic To Be Announced
Sponsored by SCWSC, TAC & SSSBSC
A Call For Tolerance

All Americans deserve legal and cultural protection against hate crimes. We Jews have thrived in an environment that mostly accepts us; the silent majority retroactively includes us in the vision of "one nation, under G-d." Jews now maintain influential positions in both local and national government, in businesses, and on the college campus. Among the groups who continue to be persecuted, however, are gay people: last week, fellow twenty-one year old student Matthew Shepard was murdered, simply because of his sexual orientation.

While halacha forbids homosexual activity, and we are not required to offer even tacit approval for such behavior, G-d made all of us into beings that are not dependent on our sexual orientation for their value. Yom Yerushalayim is not a day of estrangement, but the converse of that: it is G-d's way of saying, "We are not alone." We were created into society, and were given universal principles that make us equal. The metaphor of one people is not just a religious one, but is a declaration of equality before G-d. Judaism does not encourage hatred: does Judaism truly say that because we are not related, we are not equivalent? The hate crimes that are occurring are not everyday occurrences, any more than lynchings were ever a daily event in our country.

As far back as the 1960s, the slap on the hand of homosexuality was that it was unnatural. It was a sin. If G-d created us, then the fact that we are gay, is inherently wrong, and that is why we are victimized. However, this theory was set to the side. We now lead a stable, accepted, persecution-free life. Supporting legislation is not everyday occurrences, any more than lynchings were ever a daily event in our country. We were given rights, and have been able to live our lives as we chose. If I were a gay person, I would love to go to the gym, swim, and exercises, but I don't understand why supervision would be required for this.

Matthew Shepard's life has ended at the same time as mine is just beginning. It seems that what was just the two of us wanting an occasional break from studying at night, and some time alone playing one-on-one at the gym, has turned into a huge group of Stern girls playing a game of supervised basketball at a scheduled time once a week. The idea sounds completely unappealing to either one of us. If I had wanted that, I would have signed up for a basketball class for PE, and at least gotten credit for it.

I understand that the school does not want to be liable for any accidents that may happen, but I don't understand why supervision would help. If anything were to happen to one of us, G-d forbid, the other could go for help the same way a supervisor from the athletics department would. We are not helpless children. We are capable adults living away from home unsupervised in our dorm rooms, unsupervised on the streets of Manhattan, and basically, unsupervised. We don't ask that the gym be open all night, only as long as the building is open, while there is still security available.

Also, there are workout rooms in both SRH and BRH that are open to Stern students from early morning until late at night, and they are usually unsupervised. It is less likely for an accident to occur there in the gym? Is it only because nothing has happened there yet that they are unsupervised? If, G-d forbid, anything were to happen to someone using the workout rooms would they be closed too?

Only recently was occasional late-night supervision instituted at the workout room in BRH. And this supervision is in the form of a SCW student. Is she any more capable of handling emergencies than my roommate or myself? And what about the rest of the year? Do bad things happen only at night?

Then there is the issue of double standards for SCW and YC students. The basketball court at the Uptown campus is open late at night for the students to take advantage of and enjoy on their own time. It seems the Athletics Department's policy on supervision is full of inconsistencies.

Many Stern students complain that it is upsetting how many recreational facilities this school is lacking, such as a swimming pool, tennis courts, outside playing fields, etc. What I find frustrating is that the facilities that we do have we can't even use.

letter to the editor

Unfortunately, I do not have a copy of the most recent issue, "Yeshiva Today." Yet, however, today someone pointed out something to me about the most recent issue that was disturbing.

On the last page there are two pictures. One is a lecture or seminar of some sort taking place at the Uptown campus. The picture shows YC students sitting at a table, listening to a speaker, and seeming deep in thought.

On the bottom of the same page is a picture of a Stern College taken at Club Fair. Some students are looking at posters of different clubs offered or speaking to club representatives. Some are standing nearby, apparently socializing. The caption under the picture describes Stern College Fair as an event where students can "Shop for the clubs they would like to join."

Is there a discrepancy or bias here?

One may argue that people know that YC also has a Club Fair, and Stern also has many intellectually stimulating lectures and programs. Fine. The discrepancy in the pictures presented of the respective colleges was probably accidental. But did PR have to emphasize this discrepancy by using the word "Shop" for Stern Club Fair? I think not.

Deborah S. Roth
SCW '99

The editor will read your letter. If it is published, the author's name and college will be published.
Union settles, university will raise salaries

Continued from page 1

Union workers were not all pleased with the final settlement. Of the total 290 YU employees voting for the contract, over 140 voiced their disagreement in the agreement. In SCW, an over whelming majority of 33 union members against the contract, while only 13 agreed to rati fy it.

"YU is being unfair to us," said Garfield Clark one of the three union negotiators for SCW. "We do a lot of work. We're getting way below pay," he added.

"Everybody should have a fair shake in the price market," said Clarence Bary, another YU union dele gate.

"We need to improve on the lower-end rates" said Vasquez.

In a study conducted by YU, minimum weekly job rates in several New York metropolitan universities were compared to those of YU. While every job rate at YU is certainly not ahead of that paid at every other college and university, YU's rates within "industry" were generally competitive and in some instances higher that paid elsewhere," wrote Bodner in a memo to the university community.

The union's negotiating officials, from a National Health and Human Service Employees Union, requested that YU bring its contract in line with those of the health care industry. "They [the health industry] have established comparable rates," said Silva. "We are raising the standards," she added.

"The University continues to maintain that the standard measurement should be colleges and universities in the Metropolitan New York area," wrote Bodner.

In August 1998, YU requested that it increase its members' salaries by 10% every year for three years and then decreased their demands to a 3% increase per year. In a vote on October 8, union members agreed to ask for 4% salary increases every year until 2001.

Yeshiva University offered its workers a 3% salary increase for the first and third contract years with a $600 addition and $1,200 bonus in the second year. Silva estimated the second year's gain as a 2% salary increase.

"Since 1999 and YU negotiators could not agree on a contract three years ago, union members went on strike for four hours. Prepared for possible disruptions this year, Student Vice President, Tom O'Sullivan, said: "I'm disappointed with the negotiations." But he added, "I have a feeling that the notices of the YU Health Care. They [the health industry] have established comparable rates," said Silva. "We are raising the standards," she added.

"The University continues to maintain that the standard measurement should be colleges and universities in the Metropolitan New York area," wrote Bodner.
The Race for Governor: Pataki vs. Valone

**AVIVA LAUER**

On Wednesday, November 3, in the election for New York State governor, voters will have the option to reelect incumbent New York State Governor, Republican George Pataki, or vote for New York City Speaker, Democrat Peter Valone. Zogby International, in a poll with an error of 2 percentage points, shows Pataki leading Valone 54% to 21%. As noted by WPIX TV NY, “Recent polls have indicated Pataki could be headed toward a lopsided victory in his bid for a second term against New York City Speaker, Peter Valone.”

Among Pataki’s strengths that have aided in his vastly popular ratings, are not only his incumbency as New York State governor, but also the strides he has made in this capacity. During the course of his term as governor, New York State citizens have experienced a reduction in income tax rates, an improvement in the state economy, and a reduction in crime. In addition, the three to four million dollars Pataki has collected in his campaign chest have enabled enhanced advertisement and greatly increased publicity for his platforms. Pataki’s greatest ties are in upstate New York State governor, Valone’s ties are relatively concentrated downstate. New York City Speaker, Democrat Peter Valone.

Valone’s achievements have not gone unnoticed. Simultaneously however, he has a very minimal amount of money left to spend on his campaign for governor. Especially in these few weeks before the election, whereas the impressions left on voters’ minds through press exposure are crucial, Valone’s campaign is greatly lacking.

Whatever press exposure Valone can afford, he attempts to maximize by engaging in unusual campaign ads. He bashes republicans for starting impeachment proceedings against President Clinton, with hopes of catering to the interests of NYC voters’ dissatisfaction. Valone is also attempting to capitalize on refuting Mayor Rudolph Giuliani’s plan to move Yankee stadium from its present location in the Bronx, to Manhattan. Through developing an image as “the guy who wants to keep Yankee Stadium in the Bronx,” Valone is attempting to appeal to the interests of voters in the Bronx community. Although Giuliani had the appeal courts resist Valone’s request to launch his unusual campaign ads, rather than voice his own personal platforms. We have some inkling as to what Valone’s political views are based on his campaign in the democratic primary.

Valone wants very much to debate Pataki. This would most definitely yield more exposure to his campaign. At the same time, however, Pataki is purposely avoiding any debate with Valone. Since he is already leading Valone in the polls by a significant margin, he doesn’t feel that a debate with his opponent would help him at all. In addition, he doesn’t want to grant Valone any additional press exposure or publicity.

There is talk that Pataki may be considering running for either US President or Vice President in 2000. Voters have expressed concerns that Pataki may devote some of his time as governor to concentrating on the presidential race. Regarding this concern, Pataki insists, “my focus is and has been on the state of N.Y.”

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**ACROSS**

1. Bow-wow
2. Lotion
3. Insect repellent
4. To a Grecian Um"...of a certain age"
5. Lotus
6. Repeating pattern
7. "Carry on my wayward son" group
8. "...to a Grecian Um"
9. Opp. of 48 down
10. Fairytale antagonists
11. Opp. of 48 down
12. "...to a Grecian Um"
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**DOWN**

1. Actor Alan
2. Prepublication
3. Shelley’s Masterpiece
4. Concept
5. Humperdink or Charming
6. ‘Daring
7. Response to BOO!
8. Donor’s group
9. Happiness
10. Face secretion
11. Off Blue Eyes
12. Gave food
13. Fragrance
14. Liquefied natural gas (abbr.)
15. Guacamole vegetable
16. Milk
17. Centigrade
18. Chorizo
19. Eyes
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*Answers on page 14*
Exploring the City: Midtown

DASSI ZEITEL, Cultural Arts Editor

For those of you who are new to the city or have been here forever, you may find yourself looking for some varied forms of entertainment in this vast mecca of culture. There’s so much to do here and it doesn’t have to be expensive, in fact, in many instances entertainment in the Big Apple can be completely free. Some of the most exciting excursions and best-kept secrets in New York City are right here in Midtown.

The Empire State Building

Just down the block from Brookdale Hall (34th Street between 5th and 6th Avenues) it’s one of, if not the closest tourist attractions to the Midtown campus. As the second tallest edifice in New York City, the Empire State Building isn’t just an observation deck with a gorgeous view, (although that in itself is a draw to a myriad number of people each year). Perhaps the most exciting feature of its 102 stories is the Sky Ride, a journey through the fast-paced life of the city in the comforts of your very own movie theater seat complete with a few suprises and mishaps in this very real Imax-like experience. The combined ticket price for the elevator ride up to the observation deck and the Sky Ride comes to $14. The line may look daunting, but even during the busiest tourist season the wait probably will not exceed fifteen minutes.

Leisure Time Bowling and Billiards

Conveniently located on the second floor of the Port Authority (8th Ave. and 40th St.), Leisure Time has 30 lanes and an extensive game room. Transportation is free if you go by foot for $2.50, and playing only costs $2.25 per game. Shoe rental is $2.50. Leisure Time is a great place to spend a couple of hours with friends. It’s open from 10 a.m. to 11 p.m. during the week and until 2 a.m. on Saturday nights.

Times Square

In the world of entertainment, Times Square, the site of countless billboards, specialty stores and theaters, is the center of the city. At the heart of it—Broadway and 45th Street, the home of discount theater tickets. You can’t miss it. It’s a huge red and white booth surrounded by a mob of tourists. During the afternoon the ticket wait can be exasperatingly long, but if you arrive between 7 and 7:30 p.m. you should be able to get tickets in only five or ten minutes. Showtimes are at 8 p.m. For more information call (212) 768-1818.

All Star Café

The All Star Café hosts a sports show at 4:45 week day afternoons and if you’d like to be an audience member, that’s the place to be. Tickets are given out on a first-come-first-serve basis to those who arrive between 4 and 4:30 p.m.

Late Night With David Letterman

The Great White Way is also home to the Sullivan Theater, where the Dave Letterman Show is filmed. If you send away for tickets the wait is over a year. However, if you show up at the theater—1997 Broadway—between the hours of 7 and 11a.m., Monday through Thursday, you will get a steady ticket. Depending on how many ticket holders show up on the afternoon in which the show is taped, you may wind up with a seat. It is all based on luck, but the earlier you get there the greater your chances of getting in. (Standing tickets are given out on a first-come first-serve basis. There are two tapings are Thursday.)

The Central Park Zoo

It may not be Midtown exactly but it’s close enough. With both greenery, a park and a reservoir Central Park is a peaceful escape from the rush of the city. If you’re looking for a place to rollerblade or bike ride, try the paths in the park. The park’s zoo is located at 5th Avenue and 64th Street and showcases an impressive management of monkeys, bears, penguins and dolphins. Admission is $3.50 for adults. The zoo is open Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. On weekends and holidays the zoo is open from 10:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

MoMA

The Museum of Modern Art (11 West 53rd Street between 5th and 6th Avenues) is a fun and non-intimidating forum for both the artistically impaired and the avid museum buff. From Post-Impressionist to Pollack, as well as a wonderfully unparalleled variety of modern art in painting, sculpture, drawings, prints, illustrated books, photography, film, video, architecture and design. The second floor of the museum is home to a collection of works by highly talented and well-known artists such as Van Gogh, Matisse, Kandinsky, Picasso, de Chirico and Pollock, as well as a wonderfully imaginative photography section. An extraordinary exhibit on early Spanish migration told through a series of drawings is on this floor as well. Admission is $6.50 with student ID. Museum hours are Sunday, Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 10:30 a.m. to 6 p.m., Friday 10:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. The museum is closed on Wednesday. For more information call (212) 708-9996.

The People’s Court

Court is in session, on Tuesday and Wednesday at 401 5th Avenue. The People’s Court is presided over by former New York City mayor Ed Koch. Tickets should be booked two weeks in advance.

Shows are taped from 1:30 p.m. until the evening and once you have a ticket you can stay for as many shows as you want. If you have an affinity for expressing your opinion, you can drop by the lower level of the Manhattan Mall - 6th Avenue and 33rd Street, on Mondays, Thursdays and every other Friday at noon and 1:30 p.m. to view and give comments on court cases. April Simon, SCW ’00, interned at the People’s Court last year and guarantees that "the cases are real." For tickets or more information, call (212) 401-4900.

The Rent Raffle

Rent, the rock musical written by Jonathan Larson, is set in present-day New York City’s Lower East Side. Ticket prices range from $30 to $75, yet due to the show’s success and popularity (amassing a Tony Award for Best Musical and a Pulitzer Prize), it has become increasingly more difficult to obtain tickets, especially at a decent price. Try the Rent raffle at the Nederlander Theatre - 208 West 41st Street. Just show up at the theatre two and a half hours before showtime and fill out a card with your name and the number of tickets (one or two) you wish to purchase. The drawing is two hours before showtime. For the Sunday showings, the drawing takes place at 5:30 p.m. Raffle winners must show ID at the box office and will receive $20 “rush” tickets; there are likely to be “rush” seats available in the first few rows of the orchestra. Showtimes are Tuesday through Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. For more information call, (212) 307-4100.

Discount Sports Stores

In the area around the Port Authority and in some of the theaters (particularly the Nederlander Theatre) you will find some small little shops specializing in authentic sports apparel and paraphernalia. Go ahead and bargain down the price; don't be shy, you're in New York City.

Sony Wonder Technology Lab

Four floors of hands-on technology and science, all for free! Whether you like to act or take part in behind-the-scenes aspects of production, you can lend a hand on a TV show currently in production as an assistant director, technical director, camera operator or do some on-camera talent. There is a recording studio available at the Lab where participants can help a crew mix songs using Sony artists and professional audio equipment. The Lab also offers an environmental conscience center, that lets participants track a simulated hurricane using the latest tools and technology.

Sony Wonder Technology Lab is located on 56th Street between Madison and Fifth Avenues. Hours are Tuesday to Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Thursday 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., Sunday from noon to 6 p.m. It is closed on Mondays and major holidays. The last entrance is 30 minutes before closing time. For more information call (212) 833-4100 or log on to wondertechlab.sony.com to take virtual tour of the lab.

Upcoming Shabbatonim from the Shabbat Enhancement Committee:

November 6-7 Sophomore Class
November 13-14 Israel Club
Michelelet Mevaseret Yerushalayim
Rabbi David and Rabbi Haber
BELOVED

Dina Gershunsky
Cultural Arts Editor

A character in the movie points out, "That which does badly never sleeps peacefully." Beloved comes to haunt America with its portrayal of four characters during the period of African American slavery in their individual depths of sorrow. Beloved demands that the images of slavery will howl and rattle until they are acknowledged. Adapted from the Pulitzer Prize-winning novel by Nobel Laureate Toni Morrison, Beloved immerses viewers in the haunting, haunted landscape of this story.

Oprah Winfrey plays Sethe, a runaway slave struggling to carve out her own simple existence with her children in rural Ohio, 1873. Preventing her from achieving that, however, is the painful legacy of her former life, and the desperate measures to which she is driven to keep herself and her family from returning to it. Although Winfrey's daytime syndicated talk show audience may be accustomed to her easy tears and very apparent emotions, Winfrey displays the stern, rigid mannerism of the "iron eyed" Sethe, as her character is described in the book. Sethe's memories sometimes stifle her movements, as if the passion and intensity she could seemingly "What Sethe's memories somehow stifle her movements, as if the ceiling and walls of this story, enters and exits the movie "eyed" Sethe, as her character ceiling and walks into Sethe's house for the first time. Sethe's house rattles and glows with the ghost of Beloved, the child she killed in order to prevent the slave horror from returning. She is seething with these repressed experiences and is constantly vulnerable to a beating, to her own inability to perform simple motherly tasks due to her lack of experience as a mother and being trapped inside her mother's fierce domestic qualities.

Sethe's house rattles and glows with the ghost of Beloved, the child she killed in order to prevent the slave horror from returning. She is seething with these repressed experiences and is constantly vulnerable to a beating, to her own inability to perform simple motherly tasks due to her lack of experience as a mother and being trapped inside her mother's fierce domestic qualities.

Beloved is discovered propped of walls and plates off of tables as the movie is discontinuing as we meet Beloved, or her reincarnation. Beloved (Thandie Newton) enters and exits the movie mysteriously and leaves an unsettling trail of terror and confusion following her. She is beautiful in an eerie way, with huge, expressionless black eyes and wild dark hair. She talks and moves spasmodically, as if she were a child trapped inside of a young woman's body.

Beloved is discovered propped up against a tree stump moaning loudly, and is adopted into Sethe's family by Sethe's daughter Denver (Kimberly Elise). Sethe and Paul D hesitatingly concede, curious about their mysterious boarder who questions Sethe about her past while seeming to know him and pieces of it as well. Sethe discovers that Beloved is the reincarnation of her dead daughter, complete with the scar on her neck from when her "he said." The movie's otherwise eerily sedate, almost rehabilitation to establish roots, and suffers from loneliness as a result of her mother's neglect. Vinny waiting for Sethe's house to be published October 16 by Hyperion. In it, she describes her transition from the glamorous, popular Oprah to the stoic, burdened Sethe. Winfrey recounts how she felt when the prosthetic scars were implanted onto her back as wounds from a severe beating, to her own inability to perform simple motherly tasks due to her lack of experience as a mother and being loved by a mother. Toni Morrison watched as the film developed and stated, as quoted by TIME magazine, "They did something I thought they never could: to make the film represent not the abstraction of slavery but the individuals, the domestic qualities and consequences of it." Those who watch Beloved and exit admiring the film have missed the point. Under the direction of Jonathan Demme, also credited with the direction of Philadelphia and The Silence of the Lambs, Beloved is meant to involve its viewers, causing them to emerge jolted, with a strange new awareness of sorrow. Otherwise, these hours is too long to watch a movie for its scenic merit or its highly acclaimed actors. Beloved reaches far past its era of slavery and grasps its viewers in an unsettling grip of self-awareness. As Toni Morrison said, "Beloved is the You in you."

Oprah Winfrey, as Sethe, is an iron-willed former slave who must come to terms with her past and with her newly earned freedom.

Members of the Adopt a Bubble club volunteered to deliver Rosh Hashana packages to homebound senior citizens on the Upper West Side. The holiday package deliveries are conducted several times a year by Dorot, an organization that encourages connections between Jewish senior citizens and younger people.
The Man in the Iron Mask

T he Man in the Iron Mask, a drama based on the novel of the same title, opens with the reign of young, cruel and arrogant King Louis XIV. (Leonardo DiCaprio) of France. Louis’ people are hungry, and he doesn’t care. The retired Royal Guards of King Louis XIII, the Musketeers, have long since united for combat. Four of the bravest Musketeers—Athos (John Malkovich), now speaks English in a different dialect—one of them is a French-hinted. DiCaprio cannot deliver a French brogue in bis New York City cab. Temporarily outrunning their pursuers, the robbers, the stubbly, self-centered pair ends up in an isolated Amish community. Posing as customers of one Amish family in order to hide from their pursuers and blend into the close-knit community, the sophisticated, wealth-panpered couple is forced to cover the chemistry that brought them together in the first place. There is nothing extraordinary about this story, the plot is predictable and the audience still sees Kirstie Alley and Tim Allen as Kirstie Alley and Tim Allen. Nonetheless, they bring their hilarious sitcom skills together and the two some manage a cutesy-if slightly corny—comedy.

My Giant

My Giant promises Billy Crystal comedy, but turns out to be too mushy. The sentimentality in the movie is unappealing to an audience that is expecting humor. Crystal plays Sammy Kamni, a Hollywood talent agent with a mouth that gives Kamni more se than it does clients. While visiting Romania, Kamni bonds with a seven-foot, shy and lovely boy-turned-mask made (Max (Jeremy Irons)), a priest, and finally D’Artagnan (Gabriel Byrne) still faithfully serves the king. The “Masks” decide to rejoin as a team to save France from poverty. In order to do so they must free the royal family’s twins. There is a strong marriage between the emotion in the movie and the passion of music can be communicated through visual images. As the RS for tax fraud and are fleing their crook accountant. In order to cover the chemistry that brought them together in the first place. There is nothing extraordinary about this story, the plot is predictable and the audience still sees Kirstie Alley and Tim Allen as Kirstie Alley and Tim Allen. Nonetheless, they bring their hilarious sitcom skills together and the two some manage a cutesy-if slightly corny—comedy.

Arthur

Unhappily ever after a decade of marriage, Manhattan millionaire couple, Brad and Caroline (Tom Allen and Kirstie Alley) are wated by the IRS for tax fraud and are fleing their crock accountant. In despera­ tion, the runaway couple escapes in a stolen New York City cab.

The Man in the Iron Mask

The Man in the Iron Mask, a drama based on the novel of the same title, opens with the reign of young, cruel and arrogant King Louis XIV. (Leonardo DiCaprio) of France. Louis’ people are hungry, and he doesn’t care. The retired Royal Guards of King Louis XIII, the Musketeers, have long since united for combat. Four of the bravest Musketeers—Athos (John Malkovich), now speaks English in a different dialect—one of them is a French-hinted. DiCaprio cannot deliver a French brogue in bis New York City cab. Temporarily outrunning their pursuers, the robbers, the stubbly, self-centered pair ends up in an isolated Amish community. Posing as customers of one Amish family in order to hide from their pursuers and blend into the close-knit community, the sophisticated, wealth-panpered couple is forced to cover the chemistry that brought them together in the first place. There is nothing extraordinary about this story, the plot is predictable and the audience still sees Kirstie Alley and Tim Allen as Kirstie Alley and Tim Allen. Nonetheless, they bring their hilarious sitcom skills together and the two some manage a cutesy-if slightly corny—comedy.

Union members not all pleased with settlement

continued from page 10

gency plan in the event of a strike, but would not comment as to what the plan entailed.

Knight speculated that the University has replacement workers ready if a strike should occur. Union members on the YC, SCW and Cardezo campuses elected campus-specific union delegates to repre­ sent them throughout the contract period. These delegates, along with 1199 administrators, that include Vasquez, Silva, Laura Bylander, Contract Coordinator and George Gershenson, Executive Vice President of Contract, negoti­ ate with YU’s administration.

The three delegates elected by SCW union workers are Barret, Clark and Eddie Valle.

The delegates present the contract proposal to the members and ask them to vote for or against ratification. This year, confusion ensued at the Mail Campus when the delegates discovered that the non-English speaking Hispanic members thought they voted for a strike rather than for the contract, said Barret. The original 85 to 83 vote was discarded and a second, 117 to 48 tally was taken.

"I believe the votes were tampered with," said Josephine Isaac, a secretary at SCW’s Dean’s Office. The ballots were, “supposed to be translated in both lan­ guages," she added.

An additional five votes from the Albert Einstein College of Medicine taken over the phone were disqualified after those members decided to change their vote, said Barret.

“We could’ve gotten more [no votes] if we were more unified," said Barret. “We did what we could.”

Negotiators for the YU throughout the proceedings included Bodner; SCW Dean Karen Bacon; Sheldon Gelman, Vice President of Academic Affairs; Pearl­ Berg, Dean of Libraries; Jeffrey Rosengarten, Director of Supporting Services; Mike Spilling, Human Resources Manager; John Fisher, Director of Enrollment Management; Don Sommers, Chief of Security; Art Myers, Director of MIS and Academic Computing Jacob Lieberman, Associate Director of Food Services; and Rosen.

"BASIL TWIST'S NEW SHOW"
One Truly Exceptional Film

DASSI ZEIDEL
Cultural Arts Editor

The minute the
clad in a blue and white gingham dress with shiny red shoes, the audience is prepared to write off Kate
exhibiting elementary and enticing. Apparently so is her daughter, Ellen (Renee Zellweger), who can barely contain her eyes from rolling. It is only when Ellen is forced to take a hiatus from her glamorous
is in a blue and white gingham dress, the audience is prepared to write off Kate. She is a woman whose abilities and actions far exceed her expectations. Based on the novel by Pulitzer Prize-winning journal-

Stephanie Sherman
Staff Writer

Stephen King's newest novel, Bag of Bones, is intended to appeal to those people who have not yet read—or even enjoyed—his previous books. While most of King's earlier novels have been strictly defined as belonging to the horror genre, Bag of Bones is almost more of a love story. Similar to The Shining (1977) and Misery (1987), a writer is cast as the main character; this time, however, King uses this forum as an opportunity for refreshing introspection on the writer's part.

"Bag of Bones" is the fictional memoir of a writer, Michael Noonan. Since the sudden death of his wife Johanna four years ago, he has plunged into despair and self-doubt. Not only is he unable to shake his feelings of loss, but he also finds himself hampered by writer's block. Too ashamed to tell anyone what he is going through, he decides to escape to his summer house, having stayed away from there ever since Johanna's death. The summer house is in King's favorite location, Maine, and old fans may notice his mention of a recurring character or two.

When Noonan decides to return to the summer house called Sara Laughs, he becomes haunted by dreams of the old house. The house is named after a fictional folk singer, Sara Tidwell, whose music was popular in the small town of Maine in the early twentieth century. Noonan's dreams continue even as he is in the house, becoming more vivid and frightening. Other strange things begin happening as well: refrigerator magnets move around to spell words, voices call out in the night, and words are being written in bags of flour that somehow or somehow has spilled into the kitchen counter. Noonan believes these messages are being left by the ghost of his wife, who apparently is trying to tell him something, although he cannot figure out what it may be.

As if that weren't enough, through a twist of fate, Noonan becomes involved in a custody battle between an aging millionaire, Max Devore, and his widowed daughter. Through ghostly messages he is receiving from the house, Noonan becomes convinced that Johanna wants him to help the young woman keep her daughter, Kira, from the hands of the old man, a character who almost comically fills the stereotype of an evil old millionaire. While these private battles are being fought, Noonan begins researching a larger issue, that of an incident that occurred almost a hundred years before: why does it seem that Sara Tidwell and her group were driven away from this small town? By asking probing questions which begin to awaken the inhabitants of the town (who, incidentally, seem to have been bought off by Max Devore) Noonan discovers that Sara's son may have drowned in the lake near Sara Laughs, and another child from the Tidwell group may also have died unexpectedly. Noonan believes that it was these accidents which have led to the haunting of the house, and they are the cause of the strange noises he hears at night.

For reasons left unclear, Noonan is able to enter a trance-like state which he calls "the zone," enabling him to communicate telepathically with Mattie and Kira, and to discover the reason Sara and her group truly left the area. Not surprisingly, Max Devore's great-grandfather—as well as many ancestors of the town's inhabitants—played a large part in it.

Noonan quotes a professor of his as saying that even the most well-written character in a novel is nothing but a "bag of bones." Unfortunately, the characters of Max Devore and of his 'partner in crime' Roger Milkmore prove this, mostly because they are not drawn at all well. On the other hand Michael and Johanna Noonan are both very well-written and multi-faceted. This is a rather tight criticism; however, because King's always remarkable storytelling ability rises above the characters, and the reader becomes engrossed in their lives almost immediately.

This is one of his best works, exploring a side of King more commonly seen in his short stories or novellas like Sita Hayworth and the Shawshank Redemption or Stand by Me. Much of the gore is forgone in favor of the telling of the story, and it is embued with a sense of mystery rather than horror.

Bag of Bones is a definite "must-read" for King fans and a worthwhile attempt for anyone who has not yet experienced the genius in his writing.

Elections for Freshman class boards and Sophomore class Vice President were held before the holidays. The following students won:

FRESHMAN CLASS
- Rashka Balarky, President
- Susanne Goldstone, Vice President

Abby Weiss, Secretary
Aml Flatt, Treasurer

Sophomore:
- Shira Greenfest, Vice President

Congratulations to all the winners!
Last Minute Resignation Results in New Swimming Instructor

EILEEN CHUDOW
News Editor

SCW's aquatic program has hired Ms. Mami Schechter as an instructor for the 1999-2000 academic year following the resignation of last year's coach, Dr. Judy Cohen.

"Dr. Judy Cohen resigned at the last minute, no more than a week, or two before school started, for personal reasons," said Dr. Richard Zemeck, Director of Athletics. "Luckily, we got Mami Schechter, who has a world of experience and comes highly recommended."

Schechter is a certified lifeguard (LGT) as well as a water safety instructor (WSI) for both handicapped and non-handicapped students. She serves as SCW's academic advisor as well.

"This is my first year teaching here, but I've been teaching swimming for over 25 years, both privately and at Camp Muskadaha," said Schechter.

"When the previous swimming teacher left, I was asked if I was interested or if I knew someone who would be, since I am involved in the camp scene," said Schechter. "I love teaching adults to swim," she said. "It is just a fun thing to do."

A certified lifeguard in addition to the swimming course meets Monday evenings 6:30-8:00, and is followed by a two-hour recreational swim, open to all SCW and SSSB students. Classes are located at 5 West 90th Street, in the Columbia Grammar and Prep School building. YU vans transport students to and from Columbia Grammar and Prep school and the SCW dormitories. This year's swim program differs from last year's in that "the class, listed as 'Learn to Swim' instead of 'Swimming' as it was last year, was intended for non-swimmers who wanted to learn," said Zemeck.

Approximately ten to fifteen beginning, intermediate and advanced swimmers currently comprise the class, although the advanced swimmers and potential swim team members are asked to come to recreational swim instead, said Zemeck.

Originaliy, the Department of Athletics designed the Fall '98 course exclusively for beginners. They intended to offer an advanced swimming class in the spring of '99, but "that didn't work, so we will be teaching both elementary swimming and stroke perfection at the same time," said Zemeck.

Schechter feels that her class "is an opportunity for people to learn to swim, and for us to help people overcome their fears of swimming." She finds the class to be "a warm and supportive environment" in which to learn.

Yehudis Boesenstein, SCW '99, is enrolled in the swimming class. "I am one of very few beginners in the class, but that's fine. I liked it and hope to learn to swim. I plan to stay in the club even though the majority of the class appears to be advanced and seemed to want recreational swim," she said.

Boesenstein said that she found the individualized instruction "very helpful," and that she "learned to float at the first class, which was a milestone for me."

"There are not a lot of opportunities for girls to take classes with both separate swimming and individual attention," she said. Schechter is available to teach students during both sessions, and students have use of the facility's aquatic equipment.

Zemeck recognizes the inconveniences involved in SCW's swimming arrangement. "It is difficult that we don't have our own pool and it is difficult to find a closer pool, especially because we can't have a co-ed situation," he said.

Despite that, "our goal is to build aquatic programs as best we can with the limitations we have. In a perfect world every Stern woman would graduate having learned to swim; it's not a perfect world, so we'll teach as many as possible," he said.

Miriam Grossman, SCW '2000, enrolled in the course late. "Under Judy the program was flexible in terms of making up class hours during recreational time, but some students took advantage," of the lessons, she said.

Schechter would like to "make a more serious class this year."

Grossman attends recreational swim this year as well, although she hopes that use of a closer facility will be arranged since "the [Columbia Grammar] pool is at least twenty minutes away." She points out that on Columbia Grammar school holidays, school workers "forget to turn on the lights in the locker room and bathrooms and we can't turn them on either. There is only one changing and showering area so men have tried to come in after playing basketball in the gym. We need separate facilities due to these modesty problems."

Grossman added that she thinks that students are "interested in classes on more levels, including certification."

Zemeck proposed that SCW will "continue intramural competition during recreational time," and added that "several women are organizing a competitive swim club," as well.

He himself is "hopeful that the swimming program will continue to grow" and is "excited that Mimi Schechter will bring a new perspective to SCW swimming."

VARSITY TEAMS PREPARE FOR THE NEW SEASON

As the 1999-2000 academic year begins, SCW's three varsity teams begin their promising season as well. The three varsity teams are tennis, fencing, and basketball. The tennis team, which has twice as many matches scheduled for this year as last year, has already won 4 out of its 4 matches. The tennis team practices at the Midtown Tennis Club, and is coached by Evan Goldstein. Deena Weizbrauth, SCW '91, a member of the tennis team, said that "being part of the team is a great experience, and the coach really encourages team spirit."

The fencing team, coached by Josie Fusco, will have home matches for the first time this year. This is the only team to practice in the gym of the main SCW building. Yael Harris, SCW '99, who was on the team last semester, praised Ms. Fusco for encouraging the team members to do well for their own sake as well as for SCW. Harris added that "Fencing is neat because it's not a common sport, and when people hear that you are a fencer, they think that it is really original."

The team is currently looking for more athletes to join.

The basketball team, otherwise known as the Lady Macs, has a match scheduled for November 22. Practices are held at Basketball City, located in the Chelsea Piers Sports Complex on West 23rd Street. Dr. Karen Green coaches the Lady Macs.

Despite rumors to the contrary last year, there will not be a volleyball team this year. According to Dr. Richard Zemeck, Director of Athletics at Yeshiva University, the volleyball class was canceled, due to the lack of an instructor.