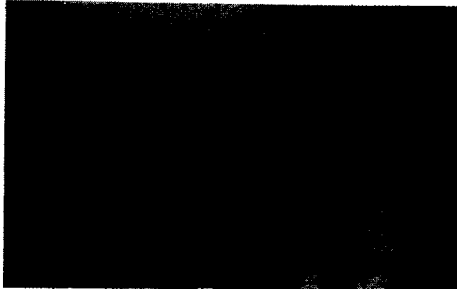




THE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF STERN COLLEGE FOR WOMEN

Six Seniors Slated In Intra-College Who's Who Selection



Who's Who Nominees (l. to r.) Fran Kaplovitz, Robin Luchins, Ellen Stern, Rachel Becker, Shirley Stark. Missing is Roberta Klein.

Did you ever wonder as you run from the Student Council meeting, to the class meeting, to the Senate meeting and finally on the verge of collapse to the study hall, where all this running is going to get you?

If you are as lucky as six seniors were last year, your biography might be published in Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities. This honor is awarded each year to outstanding student leaders from over 1,000 universities in the United States. The candidates, nominated by a campus nominating committee, are deemed to be above average in their academic standing, service to the community, leadership in extra-curricular activities and future potentials.

The six Stern College students selected for this honor are: Rachel Becker, Francine Kaplovitz, Roberta Klein, Robin Mandel Luchins, Shirley Stark, and Ellen Stern. All have maintained a Dean's List average throughout their academic careers.

Rachel Becker has served as Feature Editor and Editor-in-Chief

of the Observer and has kept busy with various organizations and extra-curricular activities in school life.

Francine Kaplovitz is currently serving as Vice-President of the Student Council and was its

(Continued on Page 4)

Tay-Sachs Clinic Plans Testing Next Semester

by Rochelle Yellin

Plans are underway at Stern College for Tay-Sachs disease testing, announced Shirley Black, chairman of the Stern College Blood Drive, recently. She stressed the importance of taking advantage of this testing opportunity. Tay-Sachs disease is a fatal and inherited genetic disorder affecting descendants of Central and Eastern European Ashkenazic Jews, in a considerably higher proportion than it affects the non-Jewish population.

This disease appears in a child

who has inherited two defective genes, one from each parent, who are themselves carriers. A child suffering from this disorder appears normal at birth, but by five or six months his nervous system deteriorates. He loses the ability to sit up, hold up his head. He becomes blind, goes into convulsions. He can't swallow and his limbs stiffen. He dies by the age of three or four.

Medical research has discovered this disease is caused by the absence of an enzyme, hexosaminidase A, which normally helps break down fatty substances called gangliosides. Without this enzyme the gangliosides accumulate and ultimately lead to the destruction of brain cells.

This disease was clinically described as early as 1881 but an explanation was not found until 1969. Recently Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Montreal Children's Hospital and the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto have started large scale campaigns to detect carriers and identify potential victims.

Rabbi J. David Bleich, a philosophy professor at Stern, has discussed the disease and its halachic problems in current issues of *Or ha-Mitzrah* and *Tradition* magazines. Rabbi Bleich says halachic problems arise when both married partners are identified as carriers of the disease. The chance is one in four with each pregnancy that they will have a Tay-Sachs child. As a result they are advised against having their own children. If the wife is pregnant she is advised to undergo fetal monitoring, which involves tapping the amniotic fluid in the uterus, and examining the fetal cells to see if the fetus is afflicted. If the tests are positive, an abortion is advised.

(Continued on Page 4)

Deans Unveils Bold Proposals For Interdisciplinary Majors

by Arlene Pianko

Psychology Department, are especially concerned with implementing programs in special education, educational psychology, and secondary school certification. Graduate work in pharmacology at Einstein and mathematics at Belfer is also being considered. However, programs in experimental psychology at Ferkauf and biology at Einstein prove problematic because these schools offer direct Ph.D. program programs as opposed to Master degree programs.

Students interested in teaching English in secondary schools may apply for the Certification Program. If selected, the student will supplement her broad undergraduate English education with graduate courses in technique, methodology, and professional guidance. This course credit can be applied to graduate work either at Ferkauf or at any other accredited university.

The Dean also announced that he has submitted a proposal for individually shaped majors to the Curriculum Committee. If approved, this option will enable students wishing to pursue majors not ordinarily offered at Stern College to supplement their coursework at

other universities. This program would expand the limited majors offered by Stern to include virtually any major the student elects. Under a program developed with her faculty advisor, the student will take her general and Judaic studies at Stern, while pursuing her major elsewhere in the city. The Dean believes that this individually shaped major will prevent students considering careers in areas beyond the scope of Stern from dropping out after the second year. Girls who look to Stern for religious education but have been unable to attend because they would like to major in fields as diverse as speech pathology, music, or occupational therapy, will also welcome the program.

Dean Mirsky noted that critics must realize the many limitations the administrators of any small liberal arts college must overcome when attempting to open a variety of programs to students. By working with the several schools of Yeshiva University, the Dean hopes to transcend these limitations and provide a Stern College education to any qualified student seeking a secular education in almost any field, as well as an extensive religious education.

Rabbis of Renown Deliberate In Anti-Jesus Movement Forum



Rabbi Shlomo Carlebach addresses participants in Yavneh's Symposium on Jews for Jesus.

by Tammy Friedman

The "Jews for Jesus" movement the movement are Jews who want is growing at a phenomenal rate to be Jews, not Jews for Jesus. But and poses a very real threat to because these so-called "freaks" Jewish identity in college cam- are "on a different wave-length" puses throughout the nation. Stern than most other Jews, they are not College is one of the few colleges received by most religious and that remains unaffected by the zionist groups. Jewish eager missionaries of this and organizations have shirked their other factions of the Jesus responsibility to these groping students. Our failure has sent them movement.

Recognizing the growing popularity of the "Jews for Jesus," the Stern-Yeshiva branch of Yavneh organized a symposium on November 21. Four rabbis discussed how the Jewish community can circumvent this cancer that threatens its very existence.

Rabbi Sheer of Columbia University adamantly reiterated his belief that students involved in

Rabbi Sheer proposed two viable methods of combatting this problem. Once the nature of the problem is defined, and the consequences of inaction are fully realized, the community will be ready to act. These students are looking for a certain reach, an identification with a fixed (Continued on Page 4)

Oral Interpretation Group Stages First of Two Reading Festivals

Eli Wiesel, noted author and "teller of tales" relating to the holocaust, constantly stresses the fact that story telling is an integral part of Jewish experience. With this idea, Mrs. Peninnah Schram, head of the Speech department, introduced the fall series of the Oral Interpretation Festival on November 15.

The Oral Interpretation Festival, presented twice each term by the Speech Arts Forum, endeavors to create and relive experiences by doing just what Mr. Wiesel suggests, telling tales. These tales take on many different forms when interpreted by various readers, but as Chairman of the Speech Arts Forum Cheryl Meziel pointed out, they all offer an opportunity for people to share that aspect of the tale which the reader found especially enlightening.

Renee Dresnick, an English major, began the interpretations with the reading of the love poem, "Rubbayyat" by Omar Kayham, an author whose literature is filled with the existential philosophy of "live for today."

Adeena Brand, also an English major, presented a reading from Josephus concerning "Massada." Like the love poem before it, "Massada" also displays a certain love, in this case, the love of freedom.

Ashira Rapoport read the poem "Patterns," by Amy Lowell, which paints a picture of a woman who feels stifled by twentieth century patterns, conventions and social institutions.

Rachayl Eckstein presented a scene from "Gone with the Wind" by Mary Mitchell, in which Scarlett O'Hara and her mammy discuss the petty do's and don't's of their materialistic society.

Finally, Dvora Greenberg read an excerpt from "The Magic Barrel" by Bernard Malamud which portrays the scene of a young Jewish boy who goes to a "marriage broker" to find himself a wife.

Some of the readings were comical and others were serious. However, those who attended the Festival remarked that they enjoyed each reading and look forward to a second afternoon of oral interpretation next semester.

The Reviewing Stand

YOSHE KALB At The Eden Theatre 189 Second Avenue Tel. 266-5200

by Francine Kaplovitz

In the fictional town of Niesheve in Galicia lives the 69 year-old Chassidic Rebbe, "Reb Melech." His one desire is to complete a *shiduch* for his pious daughter Serela so that he may remarry for the fourth time. The match is made to the learned Nachum, son of the Rebbe of Rachmanivke, who appears to be withdrawn, quiet and very ungenerous to wed. The Rebbe Reb Melech, free of responsibility to his newly-married daughter, takes for himself a seventeen-year-old ungenerous bride, Malkele.

With the marriage of the Rebbe the humorous situation on stage ceases and an atmosphere of seriousness descends. Nachum and Malkele commit adultery, resulting in Malkele's pregnancy and consequent death in childbirth.

Feeling himself the cause of this tragic event, Nachum flees from his wife, taking only his tallis and tefillin with him. He assumes the new name of Yoshe and the new identity of the simpleton rather than the learned scholar of *kabalalah* that he is. He takes up residence in the town of Bialergue. When it is discovered that the retarded Tsvive, daughter of the town sexton is pregnant and cannot declare the father of her child, it is assumed that the innocent Yoshe is the sinner. A quick marriage takes place wherein Yoshe never verbalizes the words of the marriage ceremony. Yet in the eagerness to wed this unfortunate girl, those present affirm the pronouncing of the words of "Harei ah..."

Once again Yoshe feels the need to escape an uncomfortable situation and disappears in the midst of the primitive wedding celebration. After fifteen years Nachum returns to his first wife, Serela, and is joyously received. Almost immediately, the Rabbi of Bialergue comes to declare Yoshe's sin of bigamy. As a trial ensues Yoshe - Nachum refuses to clarify the matter of identity and is pronounced a *gilgul*, or a reincarnation. A play that begins so gayly and humorously comes to a sad and indefinite ending when during the climax of the trial Reb Melech dies, declaring Nachum his successor and Nachum has disappeared once again.

Before analyzing the acting, costuming, props, choreography and music usually discussed in connection with a play, the reviewer must first view the audience that comes to see a Yiddish play on Second Avenue. Yoshe Kalb was performed before a full house, and yet what kind of audience was this? The very absence of youth in the audience—there were perhaps ten teenagers present—attests to the slow death of Yiddish culture in America and specifically in New York, the American center of Judaism.

After purchasing tickets to the play, I experienced the usual apprehension of seeing a play in a foreign language. However, once seated in the theater with the actors on stage, I was transferred to the town of Niesheve and could notice no language barrier. Furthermore, even if I had not understood the dialogue in the play I feel that the evening would have been enjoyable.

The acting was excellent. Reb Melech was so true to life that his hand shook during the entire courtroom scene, demonstrating his poor health and old age. This is only one instance where a character's personality was revealed in a way other than the actual script. Gittel the hair-cutter was very real, hobbling around the

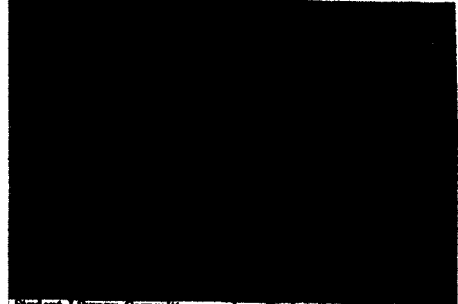
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Students Spring Special Spirit To Build Better Bibliotheque

by Rachel Shapiro

Recently, Stern students have begun to participate in many areas of academic life previously closed to them. Both faculty and administration are becoming increasingly aware of student opinion. This attitude is reflected in the establishment of the Student Library Committee. Formed this year by the Student Council, the committee consisting of Fern Landesberg, Rachel Shapiro, and Marsha Werner acts as a liaison between the student body and the library staff.

To date, the group has held two meetings with Librarian Mrs. Edith Lubetski and other library personnel, which have resulted in the exchange of many exciting ideas. One of the first innovations the committee has suggested is issuing a questionnaire pertaining to the library. This would give students a chance to air their views and help the library to better serve student needs. The committee has also asked the staff to place pencils and paper near the card catalogue, thus facilitating busy researchers. A convenience which will soon be available is an electric typewriter installed in one of the dormitory lounges. This will enable girls to



Student Library Committee members Rachel Shapiro and Marsha Werner, Missing Fern Landesberg.

type papers for a nominal fee of twenty-five cents per half-hour. If there is a greater demand for this kind of service, more typewriters may be purchased.

As with many other school facilities, the library faces a budget shortage. Because of this, claims Mrs. Lubetski, it is impossible for weekly library hours to be extended. She notes that what is feasible, however, is keeping the library open later some nights and compensating by closing earlier

other nights. The problem with this plan is finding girls who are willing to supervise during the later hours. A second area of concern is Sunday hours. Because of cost problems, library personnel will no longer be able to work on Sunday. If the library is to remain open on Sundays, girls on work-study or student volunteers will have to donate their time once a week.

The library staff is cognizant of the fact that up-to-date resources are lacking in many fields. The problem once again is a monetary one, and for that reason book donations and fund raising projects are being considered. Girls, for instance, could not only donate materials to the library by contacting Mrs. Lubetski, but they might also be encouraged to buy books in honor or in memory of someone. These are two possibilities for alleviating the book shortage. The library is also planning to sponsor a book and record sale as well as a movie. These activities, along with any other student suggestions should help generate student interest in the library.

As library assistant Mrs. Malamud pointed out, "The staff is trying very hard to help students." The Library Committee hopes that students will take advantage of staff assistance and help the library run efficiently. "Girls should always remember to bring their ID cards with them and to put away references after they have been used," note committee members. "It is important that the library remain a place for quiet study. If one wants to converse with a friend, she should go to the Bet Medrash or student lounge. Moreover, girls must remember that this is their library. It is up to them to make suggestions and uphold rules. The Student Library Committee was established to serve you—the students. Your cooperation will help it fulfill its job."

Letters To The Editor

(Continued from Page 2)

to work (virtually all in a volunteer capacity) for "Democrats for Nixon."

Rabbi Schachter wasn't "hired" he lent his prestige and experience on a volunteer basis. I apologize to Ms. King-Sacks for accepting a salary from Democrats for Nixon. It was, I must add, less than the McGovernites offered me.

Besides, if a few "rabbis" can "deliver" the Jewish Community (as Ms. King-Sacks suggests) then why did the Observer Poll last month show Nixon leading McGovern 2:1 despite the active pro-McGovern proselytizing of the head of your school's Jewish Studies program?

b) "Democratic infighting" - Let's assume that Humphrey or Jackson had somehow won the Democratic nomination. How many Jewish votes would Mr. Nixon have culled? A minyan? Surely the almost total defection of Humphrey's Jewish supporters to Nixon represents something a bit more profound than "infighting." Perhaps McGovern's positions (or lack of a position) on quotas, shecheta, rights of Sabbath observers, civil rights, and Israel had something to do with it.

c) "Rumors" - Ms. King-Sacks attacks us for using Senator Humphrey and Jackson's vitriolic attacks on George McGovern ("McGovern is wrong on Israel" - HHH, May 26, 1972—for example). If these were "rumors" why didn't Senator Humphrey (hardly a man who suffers from overwhelming reticence) denounce them when "Democrats for Nixon" began quoting him? Why didn't "Scoop" Jackson get on national television to declare that George was now

"kosher"? Perhaps it's because Senators Humphrey and Jackson are honorable men, and many Jewish voters trusted these men when they blistered McGovern and respected their views.

All in all, I think "analysis" of the Jewish votes will reveal that Jews moved neither to left or right but rather that, an unprecedented number of them voted to repudiate the Democratic nominee. Richard Nixon is not a beloved President. Surely not among Jews. But he is (for all his many flaws and shortcomings) a believable President. George McGovern, for all his rhetoric and brimstone, strained the credibility of the American electorate. Jews were no exception. Sic transit "analysis".

David Luchins
National Vice-Chairman,
Democrats for Nixon, 1972

(Editor's note: The label of "analysis" referred to by Mr. Luchins was placed in Mrs. Sacks headline by The Observer's makeup staff, and not by Mrs. Sacks. The very fact that the column is called "Speakout" indicates that the article is a personal opinion.)

A New York "Best Bet" is now open every night.



...and three afternoons a week. *New York* magazine devoted a page to this "Best Bet" in February. Sky Rink, Manhattan's only year-round, temperature controlled, Olympic-size indoor rink. The expanded public winter schedule is now in effect: every evening from 8:30 to 11 p.m. (Admission \$2.50); Wed., Sat., Sun. afternoons 3 to 5:15 (\$2). Sky Rink offers everything for every kind of skater. Checking facilities, lockers, private instruction and classes, skate rental (\$1), skate shop ("One of the most accommodating in the city"), snack bar. Conveniently located 2 blocks west of Penn Station. Sky Rink, 450 W. 33rd Street, NYC. Tel. 565-2020. Sky Rink Skating School 239-9385



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Speakers Convey Yeshiva's Meaning In Effort To Gather Funds

by Barbara Reichlin

Bureau

Several years ago the Yeshiva University Office of Development asked Mrs. Shirley Shimmoff, Stern College Director of Student Services, to organize a group of

The Speaker's Bureau could best be described as a service organization that promotes public relations for Yeshiva University. The members of the bureau represent Yeshiva at various

two different sources. The Office of Development will often ask for a student or number of students to speak at a function. Other groups, such as the Yeshiva University Women's Organization, may also call upon the girls to present a talk or put on a performance.

Although they never are the main speakers at these functions, the girls lend enough charm and appeal to elicit a favorable response from the audience. The funds raised over the years from the numerous speaking or performing engagements show them to be very effective. In fact, they have been effective enough to raise thousands of dollars for the university.

The current chairman of the Stern College Speaker's Bureau is Esther Fuchs. The others involved in the organization are Rachel Chernofsky, Sara Tenenbaum, Shirley Stark, Fran Kaplovitz, Sherry Scheinberg, Rachel Becker, and Susan Slareshfsky. None of the students receive compensation for their services. Their duties are time-consuming, and they must write their own speeches as well. Despite this, they remain extremely dedicated and devoted to the Bureau and to Yeshiva University.



Speakers Bureau members (l. to r.) Sarah Tenenbaum, Susan Slareshfsky, Rachel Chernofsky, Esther Fuchs, and Shirley Stark.

students to speak at various engagements. This organization, along with a corresponding group of Yeshiva College students, came to be known as the Speaker's

Reviewing Stand

(Continued from Page 3)

stage, shaking her scissor at Malkele, who refused to shave her hair before her wedding. Tzivie, the retarded girl, was so pathetically portrayed during the trial that any viewer could feel the torment that she must have felt in her lonely situation.

The costuming and make-up in the play were also generally praiseworthy. One word of criticism though: Two of the six dancers dressed as male chassidic students were female. Since their makeup did not sufficiently hide their femininity, it detracted from the realism of the play. While we're talking about the choreography in the play it should be noted that during the dancing at the wedding men and women danced together. This would never have been allowed at a chassidic wedding in Galicia. I wonder how the director allowed for this technical slip-up in what otherwise seems to be a very realistic production.

The props in the play were simple, yet quite sufficient. The stained glass windows of the shut added an especially pretty touch to the stage and made the viewer feel as if he were back in Niesheve. All in all this play was a beautiful production of I.J. Singer's book *Yoshe Kalb*. It evoked in its audience a feeling of nostalgia and longing for days gone by. The fact that the play was in Yiddish made it no less enjoyable. If anything, the use of Yiddish added to the enjoyment of the play. After all, where else can you still hear a wedding gramen or about the cholera?

social gatherings and fund raising dinners sponsored by university associated organizations, in which they deliver a brief speech about the undergraduate schools. At times they may also sing or put on presentations.

The Bureau members receive their speaking assignments from

Six Seniors Slated In Intra-College Who's Who Selections

(Continued from Page 1)

Recording Secretary last year. She also was her sophomore class secretary, and served as an active member of the Senate Committee on the Dress Code.

Aside from being an active participant in numerous student activities, Roberta Klein has managed to find time to edit *Kochavia*, the SCW yearbook. She also serves as one of two student representatives to the English Department.

Robin Mandel Luchins, now serving as a senior class senator, was past secretary of the Student Council. Mrs. Luchins also acted as President of her sophomore class and Treasurer of her freshman class.

Student Council President Shirley Stark has also held the position of junior class senator and chairman of the Stern College United Jewish Appeal drive. She

was active on the Student Faculty Committee on Academic Affairs, which was a forerunner of the Senate, and served as a co-chairman of the National Jewish Youth for Humphrey.

Ellen Stern is currently a senior class representative to the Senate, on which she is co-chairman of the Agenda Committee. She has also served as President of her junior class. In spite of her active schedule, Ellen has found time to actively participate in many facets of student life, among them: Chapter President of Yaneh, member of the Student Admissions Society and Dorm Counselor.

Each candidate's biographical data is published in the organization's forthcoming Directory. This entitles the student to make use of a special reference and placement service for aid in obtaining fellowships and post-graduate employment.

Tay Sachs Clinic Plans Testing Next Semester

(Continued from Page 1)

Rabbi Bleich comments on this counseling according to Torah law. Parents, he says, are not able to disregard the obligation of procreation just because they risk having a Tay-Sachs child. Nor is it halachically acceptable to undergo fetal monitoring if the aim is to determine whether or not an abortion is advisable. Abortions in Jewish law may only be performed



Rabbi J. David Bleich.

if the health of the mother is endangered, not to prevent the birth of a child with physical or mental defects. Thus, birth control must not be practiced, fetal monitoring must not be undergone, nor may abortions be performed with the sole aim of preventing a Tay-Sachs child.

Tay-Sachs disease is a terrible disorder confronting the Jewish population. But in hopes of controlling it we must not overstep the halacha. Students are urged to participate in the Stern College screening test and promote all other massive public campaigns. Hopefully, early identification of carriers will thwart this disease before it starts.



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