

# The Commentator

Official Undergraduate Newspaper of Yeshiva College

VOL. LXXIII

13

YESHIVA UNIVERSITY, NEW YORK CITY, Thursday, March 25, 1971



232

No. 4

## Teachers Air Issues At Council Meeting



BeeJ

Professor Levy doing a perfect job of addressing the student council meeting.

By ROBERT BENEDEK

The alleviation of problems involved with faulty, incoherent or non-existent dialogue between students and faculty and administration, was the main topic of discussion at the March 22 meeting of YCSC. In addition, a motion was passed unanimously by Council to have the President of YCSC or a designated representative present at all faculty assembly meetings.

Also unanimously passed was a motion requiring the subjective remarks made on the curriculum evaluation to be presented to the dean and to the heads of the particular departments involved.

President Weiss opened the meeting by introducing three members of the faculty and one of the administration who were invited to attend the meeting and present their points of view to the student body.

Professor Edward Levy was the first faculty member to speak. He opened his remarks by declaring that his opinions were not necessarily indicative or representative of faculty opinion on the whole. After declaring that he was concerned with misrepresentations found in THE COMMENTATOR articles, Professor

Levy remarked that, "the faculty and administration do not argue from fixed positions" as was suggested by THE COMMENTATOR.

Dr. Levy then stated that Dean Bacon has had a very progressive outlook toward the restructuring of particular courses, specifically, music courses. To exemplify this trend of progressiveness, Dr. Levy stated that he changed every one of his music courses, and Dean Bacon "backed me all the way."

He further noted that several inter-departmental courses have been established, and Dean Bacon backed these innovative courses as well. On a more personal level, Dr. Levy said, "As a (Continued on Page 6, Col. 3)

## Senators Evaluate Veto Power; Hear Faculty Meeting Results

By RICHARD SCHIFFMILLER

The proposal to abolish the faculty assembly's veto power was hotly debated by members of the senate at their March 18 meeting.

Prior to the discussion, Dean Bacon reported that the rumors of an FBI agent coming to Ye-

## Butler Elected President Shapiro and Belitzky Win

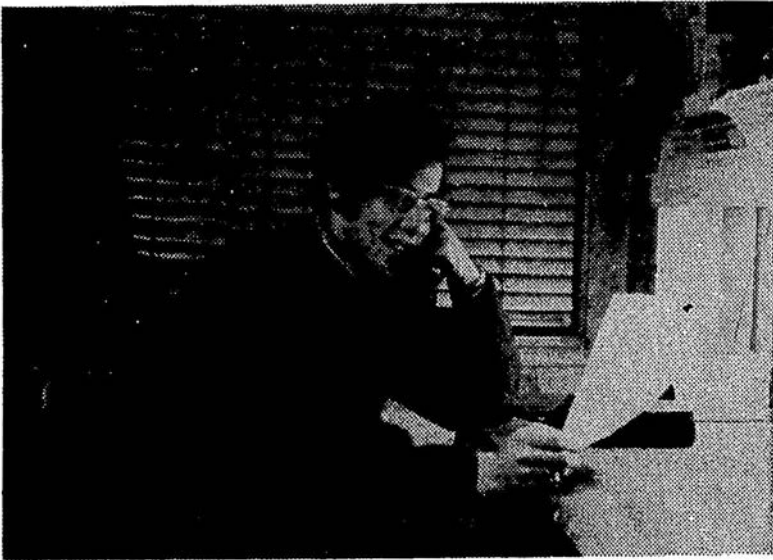
By LEONARD DAVIS

In a rather hard fought election David (Dov) Butler defeated Arnold Waldman for the presidency of Yeshiva College Student Council. Mr. Butler received 490 votes (64%) to Mr. Waldman's 273.

In other elections Elliot Jay Shapiro defeated David Merzel for the vice-presidency 442 votes (63%) to 259. Mr. Shapiro has been very active in YCSC sponsored Jewish affairs. Despite a strong write-in campaign for Yussie Ostreicher, Joe Belitzky easily won the office of secretary-treasurer with 538 votes.

Mr. Butler, running on his record as YC senator and THE COMMENTATOR News Editor, pledged to work for the implementation of reforms based on the Teacher-Course Evaluation and for utilizing the student council as the driving force for the senate and as liaison between students and their senators. Mr. Butler's platform also suggested the abolition of the faculty veto, involvement of Yeshiva College as a "nerve center" for Jewish affairs in the United States, and the establishment of new student services including a cultural program series.

Mr. Waldman ran as "a concerned student — not as a politician" and "an independent and not a puppet." In his platform paper Mr. Waldman claimed that YC politicians "have been running to stay in power, rather



BeeJ

President-elect Dov Butler

than to work for the students."

By election day platforms and plans were clouded by ridiculous issues debated by the students; personalities, rather than ideas and past records, became the major considerations. Mr. Butler was accused of collaborating with the dean; Mr. Waldman was labeled a radical.

The morning of the election, Mr. Waldman issued a campaign paper, later referred to as a slander sheet, accusing Mr. Butler of "not delivering" and "living off the fat of the patronage system." Other accusations — that "there is not a single senate proposal that he (Mr. Butler) could sign his name to" and that Mr. Butler's news articles for

THE COMMENTATOR were not sufficiently "crusading" — were answered before polls opened. A statement by YC student senators attested Mr. Butler's active contribution to the senate and recalled two recent senate proposals initiated by Senator Butler. Andrew Geller, Editor-in-Chief of THE COMMENTATOR, while not endorsing either candidate, answered that Mr. Butler would have been fired if his news articles had been "crusading" and not "objective and intellectually honest." Mr. Geller also acknowledged Mr. Butler's service on THE COMMENTATOR governing board and editorial staff. Mr. Waldman later denied that he had had any part in writing the sheet but nonetheless apologized to Mr. Butler for allowing its publication.

Thus, with statements and counterstatements being issued by both camps, the paper pollution was at its height when the polls opened. Rumors that Jerome Kretchmer, Commissioner of the Environmental Protection (Continued on Page 7, Col. 3)

## Rav Lectures Student Body; Analyzes Contemporary Man

By LEONARD DAVIS

Rabbi Joseph B. Soloveitchik's annual shiur dedicated to the memories of his wife and brother was held Sunday evening, March 7, in Lamport Auditorium. The shiur, entitled "The Sabbath and the Contemporary Human Situation" was heard by over one thousand people in the auditorium and an overflow of several hundred in the belt medrash. The shiur was an epistemological and ontological analysis of contemporary man in accordance with Jewish tradition.

In explaining the two different narrations in Genesis I and II of man's creation, the Rav said that each passage showed a different aspect of man's character. In Genesis I man is por-

trayed in his relation to the vast cosmic scheme and in his position as a skilled and wise creature striving to rule his environment. In Genesis II, however, man is viewed as the central figure for whom the world was created. He is viewed as "history-making man," infused with spirit, and with positive and negative characteristics.

Greek and Christian philosophy regard this duality in man as a conflict of body and soul, physical and spiritual. Judaism, though, views the double ontology as two souls existing within the body — both created by G-d to rule human nature.

According to the Rav, man is necessarily dual. The Rambam (Continued on Page 5, Col. 1)

shiva to ask questions about students here was true. He explained, however, that the purpose was to compile information about those applying for "sensitive" government positions, and that the only information released was statistical.

Chairman Kirschbaum then read the results of the faculty assembly's latest meeting. A three year requirement of residency for the "exceptionally gifted" student and the establishment of a committee to examine individual cases were approved. Time didn't allow consideration of a measure permitting students to take 12 credits in summer school to be considered.

The faculty did find time, however, to veto a measure passed by the senate which would allow upper seniors to take all of their courses, except those in their major or required for a degree, for a P-N grade. On this last point, a question as to the presence of a quorum was raised. Dr. Tauber, senate parliamentarian, explained that the required number of members was present at the beginning of the meeting, but that several teachers had left by the

## USSR Encourages Relocation Of Jews In Eastern Siberia

The American Jewish Committee recently reported that attempts to "encourage" Jews in the Soviet Union to settle in the so-called Jewish Autonomous Region of Birobidzhan rather than emigrate to Israel might emerge at the twenty-fourth Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, scheduled for the end of March.

There is some indication, the Committee added, that there may also be some discussion at the Congress favoring token revival of Jewish institutions in Birobidzhan in order to divert world attention from protests against Soviet repression of Jews, and to foster belief that Jewish cultural life in the Soviet Union has been rejuvenated.

However, in a report entitled

Will the Soviet Union "Revive" Jewish Culture?, Jerry Goodman, the Committee's European specialist, predicted that such efforts, if they were made, would fail.

Mr. Goodman asserted that "usually reliable sources in Paris insist that a number of tacticians in the Communist Party wish to discuss the possibilities of Jewish migration to Birobidzhan at the Party Congress."

Such a move, if it should take place, would be a revival of unsuccessful efforts in the past. Birobidzhan, in Eastern Siberia, was originally created as a Jewish settlement in 1934, similar to regions occupied by other racial, national, and linguistic groups. However, after a brief period (Continued on Page 4, Col. 1)

## The Commentator

680 West 185 Street, New York, New York 10033, LO 8-8400  
Published bi-weekly during the academic year by the  
Yeshiva College Student Council at Alert Printing Co. The  
views expressed in these columns are those of THE COM-  
MENTATOR only and do not necessarily reflect the opinion  
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## Congratulations

Apathy pervaded the recent student council election. Only one person's name appeared on the ballot for the position of secretary-treasurer, and little enthusiasm was generated among the student body. If this lack of interest is seen by those elected as a mandate to do nothing, then it might, unfortunately, portend a dim future for the newly chosen executive board.

THE COMMENTATOR congratulates Dov Butler, E. J. Shapiro and Joe Belitzky on their victories. However, at the same time we would like to remind them that there really are certain obligations for the student council to fulfill. Determining these responsibilities will most probably present the hardest problem for the new officers. If they are more successful than their predecessors in discovering the solution to this seemingly insolvable enigma, maybe then constructive and sufficient actions will be forthcoming. THE COMMENTATOR certainly hopes so.

## Reform RIETS

At the end of this year, Rabbi Reuven Aberman, administrator of RIETS, will leave Yeshiva University. The administration will be faced with the problem of choosing a man to replace him. THE COMMENTATOR feels that it is imperative that the students be consulted in making this appointment. There are numerous issues which the new administrator will have to deal with in the immediate future and as the students will be affected most, we feel that their suggestions must be taken into account.

There are three main areas which must be acted upon by the new administrator. These are: 1) The poor attendance of the RIETS students, 2) The recruiting of new *rebbeim*, and 3) The present alienation of the students from learning.

The solutions to these problems will not come easily. They will require a different philosophy on the part of the new administrator regarding the meaning of RIETS Program. The number of students who attend *Beit Medrash* every morning, and even some *shiurim*, is not what it was in the past and is certainly not what it should be. The problem will not be resolved by making the attendance requirements more stringent. That has been tried in the past and has failed. More and more students are becoming disenchanted with learning and instead of leaving RIETS with a love for learning, they leave with a feeling of apathy toward it. These students are not the "bums" although many of the *rebbeim* would like to believe this. On the contrary, many are serious students who have sadly discovered that the RIETS program in its present format is archaic. That which satisfied a student twenty-five years ago does not ipso facto satisfy the desires of today's students.

New *rebbeim* must be hired who understand the problems of contemporary youth. They must be people to whom the students will be able to turn. If a *rebbe* is unable to understand the *weltanschauung* of his students; if he is unable to communicate with his *talmidim* — then no matter how

good a *talmid chacham* he was in his youth, now he is not performing a beneficial service to the students. This problem becomes particularly acute because of the possibility that some of the young *rebbeim* will be leaving at the end of this year. Unfortunately there are *rebbeim* who we feel should be asked to leave who are remaining.

Over the recent years student cries have been sounded that the time has come for changes to be made. Suggestions have been proposed which call for the revision of RIETS. Two such recommendations were the Sukenik Plan and the one proposed in a COMMENTATOR editorial, which advised such changes as a shortening of hours, and the requiring of students to take such courses as Jewish History, Jewish Philosophy, Jewish Law, etc., which would be offered an hour each morning. After much initial publicity all discussion regarding these suggestions ceased. THE COMMENTATOR feels that the time for the revision of RIETS has long passed. The new administrator must be a person who is willing to implement changes. The students' recommendations for the betterment of RIETS must be taken seriously.

## Ups And Downs

Strange! We wonder why the library was constructed in such a way that elevator operations are integrally connected with the front door mechanism. This must be the case, for when the elevators broke in mid-afternoon some days ago the library closed down. Using this same logic, the college should call off classes in the main building, where the elevator never works, in Furst Hall should the elevators fail, and forbid dorm life in Rubin and Morg during frequent elevator stoppages.

We thank Dr. Duker, the Dean, et. al. for their benevolent concern for our health in forbidding us to walk up the library stairs. And we guarantee that so little studying is done in the elevators that their breakage would not affect study habits elsewhere in the library. So please, to whom it may concern, enough of this asininity — keep the library open.

## Financial Solution

*Masmid* '71, like many of its predecessors, is in financial trouble. And once again student council is faced with the possibility of paying off the resulting debt.

The situation is not one which can be taken lightly, especially in this time of financial difficulties for the council. Four years ago *Masmid* ran up a debt of \$4,000 which the student council is still paying today. Last year there was another \$1,000 debt.

It is unfair for any one class to act in an extravagant and irresponsible manner and then to expect future classes to pay for their mistakes. A number of steps have been proposed to correct this situation. It has been suggested that the student council act as a watchdog for the yearbook, and if the costs appear to be spiraling, the council will have the power to cancel the *Masmid's* publication before the debt becomes too burdensome.

This is not really a practical suggestion. When the cost of a yearbook threatens to exceed the expected advertizing revenues, and exactly how great that excess must be before publication is halted, are subjective questions. It is unfair to ask the student council president, himself a senior, to make these decisions.

Instead, THE COMMENTATOR suggests that student council be relieved of all financial responsibility for the *Masmid*. A yearly allocation from the student government would still be in order. But it should be made to a special senior association, which would receive all bills and be responsible for all debts.

In this way the student council will be spared a potentially disastrous financial situation. *Masmid* will not be dependent on an often reluctant council for its funding. And we believe that the editors of the yearbook, realizing that there revenue must equal the anticipated costs of the yearbook, will be much more zealous in soliciting advertizing.

### From the Editors' Desk

## Disappointed



By Andrew Geller

I left the student council meeting of March 22 feeling many things, but mostly disappointment. It's so difficult to talk to educated faculty members.

I was surprised that the faculty members present that night were so united. Not that there was anything wrong in their unity per se, but that unity was hardly representative of the faculty as a whole. Where were those faculty members who think that the dean is not doing such a good job? Where were those who claim that the dean does pressure and bribe faculty members into voting his way at the faculty assembly meetings? I know they exist. Their absence at the council meeting was most unfortunate.

I was amused that the educated and worldly-wise professors present defended the institution of tenure as the only means of guaranteeing academic freedom among the faculty. Surely they could devise a method of insuring that academic freedom will be preserved while, at the same time, permitting the firing of a faculty member who has lost interest in teaching or his ability to teach.

I was mystified by the faculty members' statements about the concern of the faculty for the academic excellence of Yeshiva. Only 28 instructors even bothered to attend the last meeting of the faculty assembly, and by the end of the meeting there was no longer a quorum present. Many faculty members have never attended an assembly meeting. I fail to understand exactly how they do manifest their concern for the university. Perhaps at some clandestine and secretive meetings of which I am unaware.

I was interested in Dr. Fleisher's contention that the students' criticism of the college curriculum is actually a manifestation of their dissatisfaction with the dual program. This is an astute and perspicacious observation, and we students should reflect on it. I agree that more emphasis should be placed upon reforming the religious divisions.

However, Dr. Fleisher's comment is a double-edged sword, because it carries with it the implication that student-proposed reforms are all aimed at weakening the college curriculum. Many students, among them the vast majority of the student leaders, seek change out of an intellectual and idealistic commitment to make Yeshiva the best college possible. Any attempt to otherwise characterize their actions is a mistake.

Most important, though, I was disappointed and angered that the faculty members are so diametrically opposed to seriously considering the students' opinions. Dr. Levy described the student proposals as "grotesque" and "stupid" and the faculty members as full of "integrity" and "psychological insight." Dr. Fleisher complained about his committee meetings with students because "it's so difficult to talk to uneducated people."

I must exempt Dr. Simon from my criticism of the faculty's superciliousness and lack of respect for the students. He alone was willing to view the university as a "partnership" between the students and the faculty.

This is exactly what the students want. We do not wish to impose our will upon the rest of the university. We do not seek to rule by plebiscite. But we are convinced of the worth of our opinions, and all the faculty snickering will not change our conviction. We are not stupid, we are not uneducated, nor are we completely unaware of what will prove necessary for us in later life.

If the faculty acknowledges this, then there can be serious discussion about the supremacy of the faculty in academic affairs, (a concept that has been challenged at a number of universities,) the faculty veto, and a great many academic reforms. If they do not accept our claim to the right to participate in governing the university, then a gap between the faculty and the students will grow, and I believe that a confrontation between the two groups will be inevitable. Who would "win" such a struggle I do not know, but the university would surely lose.

## Letters To The Editor

### To the Editor:

We are writing in response to Rabbi Groff's report of a major drop in enrollment applications which appeared in the February 18 issue of THE COMMENTATOR. We feel that it's about time Yeshiva opened its eyes to what is driving students away from applying to its schools as well as to what is causing its attrition rate to rise. While Rabbi Groff points to the "corresponding decline in population," the "open enrollment policy of city colleges" and maintains that "it is primarily the students who are not really serious about attending Yeshiva who have ceased to apply," we maintain precisely the opposite view: it is to large degree those very students who would have chosen

Yeshiva, as was the case in previous years, because of its religious atmosphere, that are ceasing to apply. And it is those who came to the University seeking an environment of Torah and *Yirat Shamayim* and were utterly disgusted by what they found, that are leaving.

Rabbi Groff points to "the announced opening of a Department of Jewish Studies by the City College of New York" as another reason that enrollment at Yeshiva will drop. He claims that students seeking some form of Jewish education will choose the city colleges because tuition is free and there are men and women in the same classes. Well, we ask Rabbi Groff and the administration why shouldn't they? (Continued on Page 7, Col. 1)



From Our Israeli Correspondent —

## Ben Gurion Stresses Aliyah Need; Emphasizes New Jewish Challenge

By IRWIN MANSDORF

In the history of the modern state of Israel, David Ben-Gurion certainly occupies a respected and undisputed place. He, perhaps, more than any other figure, is identified as the leader of the Jewish people in their fight to establish *Medinat Yisrael*. As Prime Minister and Defense Minister, he played a crucial role in the formative years of the *Medinah*. Now, as a private citizen, he busies himself writing about those days and speaking about the future. I recently spent a Sunday morning in Tel-Aviv speaking with him about Israel and the Jewish people today.

Mr. Ben-Gurion is well known for his great interest in the *aliyah* of all Jews in the diaspora. Knowing this, I attempted to lead into a discussion of Zionism today as compared with Zionism of the past. However, I was met with a somewhat surprising and spontaneous remark. "Zionist? I don't know what a Zionist is. Maybe you can tell me?" Pursuing the matter further, Ben-Gurion offered an



Ben Gurion chatting with COMMENTATOR's Israeli correspondent

explanation. "I am not a Zionist. I am just a Jew who wants to help rebuild the country." As far as definitions are concerned, a Jew is one who believes in one G-d who made everything, and in the ethical principles of the Torah, notably *Veahavta Lereacha Komocha*.

### Chovevei Tzion

The former Prime Minister sets the beginnings of the *Chovevei Tzion* movement after what he calls "the third major period in Jewish History," that of the French Revolution and the subsequent emancipation of the Jews in Europe. (The first two being the First Temple period and the Mishna-Talmud era.) It was then that Jews began to see themselves as Jews, and under the leadership of men such as Pinsker and Herzl, began to look towards *Eretz Yisrael*. Today, the Zionist movement still has many leaders, but the trouble according to Ben-Gurion, is not a lack of leaders, but rather a lack of positive demonstrative action on their part. "There were great Zionist leaders in the past and there are great Zionist leaders today," says Ben-Gurion, "but the Zionist leaders of today, as" (Continued on Page 5, Col. 4)

### One Man's Opinion



## Mid-East Dilemma

By LAWRENCE ROSMAN

The Suez cease-fire terminated on Sunday, March 7. It was not renewed. Yet, hostilities between Egypt and Israel have been minimal. How long can this situation last? Not for any extensive time. The present impasse must be broken if there is to be any real peace in the Middle East. Seemingly, Egypt is willing to accept in good faith Jarring's proposal and comply with the terms of the Security Council resolution. Israel on the other hand, refuses to commit itself prior to face-to-face talks with Egypt.

The Arabs are offering to recognize Israel and permit the Israelis to use the Suez Canal if Israel withdraws from all occupied territories. But all this really means, is that the circumstances prior to the Six Day War would prevail, solely for the concession that Egypt will finally officially acknowledge Israel's existence. No guarantee exists that the peace will be kept by the Egyptians, thus making such a treaty meaningless. Egypt's facade of magnanimity has just been shattered by its recent announcement that after March 24 it will no longer adhere to the unofficial cease-fire. From this statement, it is apparent that Egypt is not interested in peace but rather in utilizing any means possible to regain all its captured land.

Rogers' plan, having United Nations troops patrol the strategic areas, leaves much to be desired with respect to Israel's security. Even the supposed solution expressed in the column of Evans and Novak in the *New York Post* of March 12, would prove insufficient. They write, "The United States' commitment would not only place American soldiers on the strategic heights

of Sharm El-Sheik but would pledge the use of American military power to prevent any possible Egyptian move across the Israeli-Egyptian border." Rogers has since disclaimed any such proposal.

Israel's survival could hinge on its decision. The Israelis can afford to trust only themselves; and in so doing must retain control of the strategic sites. If an international force were instated, its value would remain in doubt — if not in the immediate future, then in the next five to ten years. There is no assurance that the days preceding the last Mid-East war will not be reenacted, i.e., the departure of the peace-keeping force.

Tremendous political pressure is being placed on Israel to accept the Jarring resolution. The *New York Times'* editorial of March 6, stated, "Israel has seriously jeopardized negotiations at the United Nations and embarrassed her friends there." Just last week, Secretary of State William P. Rogers indicated to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee that the United States believes a more flexible Israeli position will be necessary to break the Middle East deadlock.

However, Israel must and cannot yield to pressure. It is essential that it retain control of the strategic positions. Israel's present tenuous position is far healthier than it would be if it were to accept this so-called pre-conditioned treaty, even at the expense of world opinion. Israel must adhere stubbornly to its commitment. By so doing, Israel will be independent, more certain as to its future, and be the single instrumental force in shaping its destiny.

### Experiment

## Gather, Darkness!

By SHELDON FEINSTEIN

Late in the winter afternoons, the shadow of the Belfer building falls across the campus of Yeshiva College. Once the embodiment of a unique ideal and the heart of the University, it now lies withering and half-forgotten. The funds which were its lifeblood now flow in the veins of other institutions which bear the name Yeshiva University but mock its purpose even while accepting its gifts. It is ever the fate of the aged to be despised and decrepit.

For the students, the time is now and the place is here. Their stay is short, yet, subconsciously, they recognize the beginnings of terminal illness. Their demand for change, often change which will not take effect till long after they have graduated stems from this recognition.

Yet the administration pays them no heed. This is the same administration whose irresponsible spending on expansion at a time of financial crisis left the University broke and in debt. The faculty favors the status quo. This is the same faculty that stood by in silence while a Yeshiva was declared non-sectarian in order to help remedy that financial crisis. Theirs is the vested interest of the entrenched and their concerns and actions are self-serving.

For Yeshiva, the word is hostility. It describes the relationship between the various branches of the University. The University budget cannot be released for fear that each school will question the rights of the others to the allocation which they receive. Yeshiva is really not a university at all, but a multiversity, a conglomerate of institutions tugging in different directions, each jealous of the right of the

others to exist.

For the observer, the paradox is evident. The graduate schools spend fortunes on new buildings and new equipment while the college must economize by firing five teachers. Their attendance swells while that at the college drops so alarmingly that one feels the end must be near. Their educational norms keep pace with or even gain ground on other institutions while those of the college are stagnant and lag behind, weighted down by a laden faculty and a plodding administration. Yet it is not the graduate schools with their policy of "imitatio gentili" which embody the aims of the university. The observer concludes that by its actions Yeshiva has forfeited its claim upon the Jewish community.

The University no longer serves a unique function. The solution lies in a return to the principles which made it worthwhile to have a Yeshiva University in the first place. If the graduate schools cannot be subjugated to the principles of Yeshiva, they should be cut loose. The religious divisions must concern themselves more with satisfying the needs of the talmidim and less with the egos of the rebbeim. Progress must be made in updating the College. Such progress requires a change in the current attitude of the faculty which is to protect what now exists. For what now exists is becoming rapidly worthless. Finally, the forfeiture of integrity represented by the declaring of Yeshiva a non-sectarian institution must be undone. All this will never happen. Old age is irreversible.

The shadows grow longer. Night falls. Is it possible that morning will ever come?

## Leonia Basketball Team Finds Substitute For YC Facilities

By MORRIS WRUBLE

During the recent student council election campaign, signs were posted announcing the fact that the Leonia Players Association gave its support to one of the candidates. The question on the lips of many was, "Who is the Leonia Players Association?" A number of people, each with his own opinion, were sure that they knew the identity of this group. One person said that it was a group of blind actors who had performed at Yeshiva. Another said that he heard from a reliable source that they were a touring chess club.

In reality, however, the Leonia Players Association is a basketball league. They are a ragtag collection of students who, because of the absence of athletic facilities at Yeshiva, formed their own basketball club. As a result of a consistent growth in popularity over the past year and a half, the "club" has evolved into a "league." On April 26, 1970, the nine "Leonia Regulars" officially established the players association.

The guys didn't stop there, however. With the opening of this year's new season, the league's official weekly publication, "The Leonia Gazette" was established. As an added attraction, the second semester was ushered in by the acquisition of



The Leonia Players: (In no particular order) H. Block, E. Feinerman, S. Feintuch, M. Kerzer, L. Kirshenbaum, C. Levner, J. Miller, J. Oppenheimer, N. Rosenblum.

flashy black and orange uniforms. The Leonia Regulars are now in the process of planning their first annual Sports Award Banquet.

The Leonia Players Association has sent out invitations to various yeshiva high school, YMHA and Young Israel basketball teams. They hope to attract the top-ranked Jewish teams in

the New York and New Jersey area for this competition.

The Leonia Players Association is the only athletic team in Yeshiva which can boast of an undefeated season, abundance of qualified players and a home court. After two long years of hard work and practice the Leonia Nine are finally receiving the recognition they deserve.

# Shazar Visits States Receives YU Degree



Shazar being awarded honorary degree.

By DAVID WOLFSON

Over 1600 students from Yeshiva College, Stern College and the Yeshiva high schools gathered to honor Zalman Shazar, president of the State of Israel, at a special convocation in Nathan Lampert Auditorium on March 9, 1971. The occasion was held to confer an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree upon the Israeli leader. This was President Shazar's first visit to Yeshiva University since he was elected in May 1963.

Among those who participated in the program were two student leaders. Harvey Bennett, president of Erna Michael College Student Council and Naomi Chinn, president of Stern College. Mr. Bennett delivered a short speech in which he tied in the theme of Purim with the present situation in the State of Israel. "In both cases," said Mr. Bennett, "the Jews had to face an enemy who wished to destroy the Jewish nation." Miss Chinn blessed President Shazar, calling him the man who symbolizes "the past, present, and future history of the State of Israel."

In his address, President Shazar praised Dr. Belkin and other members of the administration and faculty who were the pioneers in American Jewish education, and who built Yeshiva University. In his opinion, "the most fearful danger threatening communities in affluent countries is ignorance of Jewishness on the part of both masses and intellectuals." He asked that the spiritual leaders in the diaspora not fear that their *aliyah* to Israel may empty the diaspora of spiritual content. On the contrary, their *aliyah* will inspire the growth of Torah learning both in Israel and in the diaspora.

The entire visit was strictly apolitical since there was no mention of the present peace talks either by President Shazar or by the other speakers. No personal interviews were granted to news reporters sent to cover the story. Even THE COMMENTATOR was unsuccessful in its attempt to arrange an interview. Cameramen sent by WOR TV quickly left when they discovered that they would be unable to speak with President Shazar.

# Touro College To Open This Fall; Plan Religious Studies Programs

By LENNY DAVIS  
and TED MIRVIS

A new Jewish university, Touro College, will open September 1971 in mid-town Manhattan. The college will offer programs in liberal arts and the sciences. Emphasis will be placed on the relevance of Jewish heritage.

Touro College, named after Judah Touro, an American Jewish philanthropist of post-colonial time, received a 12 story building from the U.S. government. The building is located at 30 West 44 Street, off Fifth Avenue.

In an interview with THE COMMENTATOR, Dr. Bernard Lander, president and founder of Touro College, explained the necessity of a new Jewish university. According to Dr. Lander, 75% of yeshiva high school graduates go on to secular colleges where they often lose their religiousness and often become radicalized. As a result, "Jewish youth are destroying America and themselves." In an interview with *The New York Times*, Dr. Lander stated that "the religious apostasy of Jewish college youth and their Jewish professors is also coupled with a rejection of Jewish cultural identity. The indifference to Israel of a considerable proportion of Jewish college students in the late fifties and early sixties is now being transformed into outright hostility." Touro College in response to this crisis "has committed itself to traditional human values" and will help students "develop sound values grounded in the Jewish and Western Heritage."

YU Grad

Dr. Lander, a graduate of Yeshiva University, is a former director of Bernard Revel Graduate School. He is now an associate professor of sociology at Hunter College and senior con-

cultant to the Center for the Study of Man at Notre Dame University.

Although classified as non-secular, Touro College will require a minimum of six credit hours per semester in Judaic studies. Courses will be given in Talmud, Chumash and Ramban, Mishnot, Hashkafa and Jewish History. The maximum schedule for Jewish courses will be 25 hours a week, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. every day; a program enabling 9 to 5 yeshiva students to obtain a

will be based on individual capabilities, faculty evaluations, and examinations by visiting graduate school faculty. Tuition will be \$2000 a year.

## Distinguished Faculty

The university is presently recruiting students and faculty. It already boasts many distinguished and well qualified teachers and professors. The Jewish studies faculty includes Rabbi Ralph Pelcovitz, Rabbi Nachum Bulman and Rabbi Joseph Gruenblatt. Among the secular staff are Professors Howard Adelson, chairman of the graduate program of history at City University; Isadore Danishefsky, professor of biochemistry at N.Y. Medical College; Louis Heller, vice-president of the International Linguistic Society; Henry Wolf, director of mathematics, Apollo moon project; Maurice Wohlgernter, professor of English, Yeshiva University, Alvin Radkowsky, chief scientist, Nuclear Propulsion Division of the U.S. Bureau of Ships, Michael Wishograd, professor of philosophy, Baruch College, Milton Konvitz, professor of political science; Jacob Halberstam, and Elihu Kinofsky, professors of economics.

All faculty members as well as members of the board of trustees are observant Orthodox Jews. And except for its chairman, Mr. Eugene Hollander, all members of the board of trustees are academicians. Touro College has "considerable financial backing." It currently has an endowment fund of \$5 million dollars.



YUPR

Dr. Bernard Lander

degree in four years may ultimately be instituted.

Dr. Lander assured THE COMMENTATOR that Touro College will not compete in any way with Yeshiva University. The school will not grant *Smicha*; nor will it grant divinity student draft deferments (even if they still exist). The school is directed towards students who would normally go elsewhere. Dr. Lander plans Touro College as a prototype for Jewish colleges in communities across the United States. Actually, Dr. Lander stated, New York could and should have 5 or 6 Jewish colleges; there are 35 Catholic colleges in N. Y.

The college expects 50 students its first year — freshmen and sophomores only. To avoid the "computerized impersonality" of larger universities, the school will limit future enrollment to no more than 750 students. The school will not be coeducational, will have no dormitory, nor will it have the conventional grading system. Instead, the school's "revolutionary" grading system

# Russians Favor Siberian Jewish Relocation; Move Viewed As Concession To Protestors

(Continued from Page 1, Col. 5) during which Jewish culture was fostered there, the period of the Great Purges began. The Jewish leadership of Birobidzhan was charged with nationalism, Zionism, and espionage, and many of these leaders were imprisoned or exiled.

Subsequent purges virtually destroyed the last vestiges of Jewish culture in the area, and most of the remaining Jews left. Today, it is estimated that there are between 15,000 and 20,000 Jews in Birobidzhan, out of a total population of about 180,000.

From time to time there have been indications that the Soviet Union wished to revive the concept of Birobidzhan as a "Jewish Autonomous Region." But, according to Mr. Goodman, "for Soviet Jews the mere mention of Birobidzhan, as an alternate to emigration to Israel, or to Jewish institutional life in the rest of the Soviet Union, is met with silence, derisive laughter, or fear."

When rumors of Soviet Government intentions regarding Birobidzhan became current in

1959, the American Jewish Committee took advantage of the presence in the United States of Soviet First Deputy Premier Anastas J. Mikoyan to express its concern to him. Such a forced resettlement of Jews, they protested, would be in violation of United Nations principles. Later, the supposedly projected large-scale movement was denied by Soviet authorities.

According to Mr. Goodman, it is thought that the Soviet Government now believes that "the restoration of some aspects of Jewish cultural life would mollify the militant faction among Soviet Jews who have publicly demanded that form be given to their national aspirations, including emigration to Israel, to build Jewish lives presently denied to them."

The American Jewish Committee report does not foresee large-scale emigration of Jews to Birobidzhan. It states: "Given the history of the region, few Jews would volunteer to settle there. Those who seek emigration to Israel would clearly reject any substitute 'Soviet Zion-

ism.' In any event, Jews could no longer be certain that within a short period of time they, too, would not be accused of espionage — perhaps for China."

It is doubtful, Mr. Goodman believes, "that Soviet authorities would place Jews along this (Chinese) strategic border. With the present mood of dissent among young Jews, the Government would not rest easy. What may be revived, if rumors are to be taken seriously, is an artificial concept to represent a Jewish cultural alternate, useful for internal and external propaganda."

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## Rav Lectures Student Body; Analyzes Contemporary Man

(Continued from Page 1, Col. 2) states that only G-d is One, unified as "the knower, the object to be known and knowledge itself." But man as the subject "knower" cannot at the same time be the object "to be known." No genuine self-knowledge by man is possible, for to perceive of oneself, one must separate himself from his body in order to confront and view himself externally. In effect, man must "objectify" himself. Cognition, therefore, is the confrontation of "man-object" and "man-subject."

"Cosmic man" of Genesis I symbolizes the objective order of man. As a creature within a universe, "man-object" unites himself with nature and the larger system. He is an observer receiving stimuli from the external world and acting thereupon with empirical reason and logic.

### Man-Object

"Man-object" and his awareness of things are based on two traits: openness and interrelatedness. An open man or thing consists only of observable surface and no core; and their existence is viewed only in their interrelatedness within a system.

Rabbi Soloveitchik explained that this interrelatedness is a root of modern man's crisis. Modern man is given little value as an individual and is rated by his relation and contribution to a system. "Man-object" finds legitimacy only through usefulness to the system. But man is not satisfied with existence within a system, and he seeks his telos within himself.

"Man-subject" is the antithesis of "man-object." "Man-subject" is unsatisfied with surface observation. He is individualistic, mysterious and remote from reality. His actions are based on will, emotion and a *priori* and unempirical reasoning.

According to the Rav, this existence of "man-object" and "man-subject" within each man is the dialectic essence of man. Teaching man how to act — as "man-subject" or "man object" — is the task of the Torah. The

Torah can teach in this dialectical situation since Torah itself is dialectical.

In several ways the Torah expresses the dignity of the individual and his teleology: The Ten Commandments were expressed in the singular tense as instructions to the individuals. Man was first created as a single individual, and throughout Jewish history individuals and "crisis personalities," such as Moses and Ezra, played major roles.

Yet, the Torah also gives the community great importance — even to subordinating the individual. Moses was punished for losing control of the community, and Esther risked her life for the sake of the community.

Other aspects of dialectical Judaism can be seen in the realm of *halacha*. While the stress in *mitzvot* is to the physical and to precision and measurement, some *mitzvot* relate to an emotional relationship with G-d. *Halacha* demands the empirical and precise logic of the "man-object," but throughout Jewish history it was usually the illogical and impractical decisions of the "man-subject" that took precedent. The Sinai pledge of "*Naaseh v'nishma*" — "We shall do and (then) we shall hear" — certainly is not in accordance with "man-object's" practicality. And rather than logic, it was a mysterious "will to live" that has enabled Judaism to survive.

*Shabbat*, according to the Rav, symbolizes the reconciliation of the dialectic of action and thought that will occur in the eschatological "End of Days." In that day will occur the conciliation of "man-subject" and "man-object," cosmic man and anthropocentric man, emotional man and reasoning man. *Shabbat* prayers testify to this conciliation. In Friday night prayer no mention is made of man, and the creation of the universe is stressed. Saturday morning prayer relates to one individual, Moses. Finally, we pray at *Minccha* for the unity of the individual and the cosmos, to be realized in the Messianic Era.

## Senators Evaluate Veto Power; Hear Faculty Meeting Results

(Continued from Page 1, Col. 4) question would have to be reconsidered at the next faculty assembly meeting of March 31.

There was a great deal of behind-the-scenes maneuvering before Dr. Tauber's decision in the senate. THE COMMENTATOR first questioned the dean's report that the P-N proposal had been vetoed. The minutes of the faculty assembly meeting indicated that 27 people were present, and thus the 2/3 majority vote needed to veto would be 18, while actually only 17 faculty members voted against the proposal. The dean answered that the senate constitution required only 2/3 of those faculty members voting to veto a proposal, he was reminded that the constitution reads "by a two-thirds majority vote of its members present." The dean subsequently changed his position on this matter.

Professor Silverman, the registrar and secretary of the faculty assembly, told THE COMMENTATOR that he felt that the students had no right to question the veto reported by Dean Bacon. He said that such a question could come only from a member of the faculty, and, until that time, the veto would stand. The registrar continued that even if he were aware that a report sent by the dean to the senate were a complete fabrication, he would follow that directive until it was questioned by the faculty, regardless of student protests.

The Senate meeting moved on to its most important business as Senator Jaskoll repeated the amendment he had proposed at the previous meeting, to abolish the faculty assembly's veto power over senate resolutions. He argued that the steering committee had given the veto to the faculty only for political reasons, and that now the senate was sufficiently "mature" to exist as an independent unit. Dr. Simon, a member of that committee, retorted that political considerations were dominant only in granting Dr. Belkin the right to veto, but that the faculty should

by right have the authority to kill senate proposals. It was then pointed out that the assembly would be able to veto an amendment to abolish its veto. Dr. Etkin added that the steering committee knew that the senate and the faculty would overlap, and so granted the veto. For the faculty to concede to the senate at the first point of conflict would be to shirk its duty. An interchange of ideas and balance of powers needed, he said.

Dr. Fleischer contended that the faculty would never approve the proposal and that Mr. Jaskoll either proposed it in complete innocence or else to "exacerbate relations between faculty and senate." The faculty, he maintained, has the most power in the school, since it grants degrees to students and so it alone can set academic standards. The faculty is even more averse towards letting the administration set the guidelines than it is toward letting students set them, even though it is accepted that "students are ill-equipped to handle academic matters." Chairman Kirschbaum interrupted, asking Dr. Fleischer what the faculty had done in the past few years to undo the "damage" done by the administration. The English mentor responded by saying that the question would require a long answer, and that it was out of order. He concluded his remarks with the pithy warning, "There is no Santa Claus."

A reaction to Kirschbaum's query came from Dr. Dunner, who reminded the group that the

students caucus before every meeting for the express purpose of introducing new ideas, but that the faculty could not get a chance to do likewise. He explained that the notion that only students are interested in innovative changes must be forgotten. Only then will the students realize that the faculty does not categorically reject all senate measures. The veto power was exercised by the assembly only twice, and both times it followed lengthy discussions and was completely without malice. He summarized by saying that since the faculty members' stay at the college is of a more permanent nature than the students', they should have a strong voice on all proposals.

Senator Gary Rubin responded to Dr. Dunner by claiming that Mr. Jaskoll's motion was not motivated by evil thoughts of the faculty's intentions when voting on senate matters, but rather by a desire to improve the college. He pointed out that, to date, not one proposal has been offered in the senate by a faculty member. And for the faculty to give up its veto would not mean that it would lose its power, since it retained the largest voting block (eight) in the senate.

Several hands were raised to continue discussion, and Dr. Simon was then recognized by the chair. Dr. Simon asked to move the question, but a motion to adjourn took precedence, and the next meeting will take place today at 2:45 p.m.

## Ben Gurion Stresses Aliyah And New Jewish Challenges

(Continued from Page 3, Col. 3) those of the past, stay in *chutz lauretz*. Not a single one comes to Israel." It seemed that this state of affairs perturbed Mr. Ben-Gurion, for he went on to say, "I would like them (Diaspora Jews) to come but I don't think they all will. We want to build the country and we need Jews — especially the young." Jews coming on *aliyah*, he said, are not immigrants, for they belong here. He went on to say that Israel is basically a Jewish country, and as such, all work must be done by Jews.

Concerning assimilation in the *Gahut*, Ben-Gurion feels that at the present rate, it will be difficult for Jews to remain as Jews. He maintained that when he first came to the United States, in 1915, every Jew spoke Yiddish. A few years ago, he again visited America, and noticed that the amount of Yiddish being spoken has diminished a great deal. This, he says, is a sign of the growing assimilation of American Jews. The American Jewish youth of today, says Ben-Gurion, is very different from the Jewish youth he knew when he was in America. "It will be very bad," he said, specifically referring to inter-marriage. Concerning the possibility that some Israeli youth are stressing their Jewishness less and their Israeliness more, Mr. Ben-Gurion stated that this is largely a myth, adding: "The Jewish youth is Israel is the best Jewish youth in the world."

The greatest challenge to Jewry today, said Ben-Gurion, is to create the state. He went on to explain that the state is not

created and will not be created until the Jews of world come here. "Where in the world do you see a country that has only seventeen per cent of its people living in it? With such an amount, we cannot yet say that the state is created." Ben-Gurion summarized Israeli needs today in two words — "*menucha venachala*" peace and inhabitation. "Right now we have neither," he said. "Peace is still not attained, and only a small proportion of Jews are occupying a small portion of the land." As far as politics goes, it is well known that the former Prime Minister is in favor of returning all occupied land, save Jerusalem and the Golan, in exchange for true peace. "We don't need more area, he said, "the area we had before the Six Day War could place all the Jews in the world."

Ben-Gurion repeatedly emphasized the need for American Jews — especially the younger — to come to Israel. "They must build a Jewish Palestine" and should prepare themselves now by organizing activities which will lead to that goal. He said that he sees the day when all Jews of the world will be able to come to Israel — and will want to. Sensing something subtle in his remark, I asked if he was referring to Russia. The answer came without hesitation: "Including America," he said.

## Senate Chairman Discusses Ideas Regarding Faculty Assembly Veto

By MYRON KIRSCHBAUM

During the last few months I have seen and heard numerous people discussing that great panacea of Yeshiva's ills, namely the YC Senate. THE COMMENTATOR columnists and editors as well as candidates for YCSC positions have told the student body what they think is wrong with the senate and how they would improve it. "Abolish the faculty assembly veto," say some. "Cut through all that red tape!" shout others. As chairman of the senate for 1970-71, I have a few ideas on what is wrong with it, and these go far beyond the kind of slogan - slinging, armchair - quarterbacking we have all been subjected to of late.

We would all like the faculty assembly veto abolished. Unfortunately, the faculty has the power to veto the very amendment which would seek to remove their veto. The senate is attempting to pass such an amendment nevertheless, but in the meantime let us analyze why so many senate proposals are either watered down by hostile

faculty and administration members or completely destroyed by the faculty assembly. To do so, I would like to relate my recent experience at a faculty assembly meeting.

I requested that I be "invited" so that someone would be present at the meeting who was willing and able to wholeheartedly defend the four senate motions up for consideration. I went over the gist of the motions and then answered pertinent questions. In concluding, I pointed out that a veto power should never be exercised frivolously and expressed the hope that the faculty would not do so. Although I felt, and some faculty members later agreed, that I had spoken respectfully and moderately, nevertheless, a small but vocal group of professors felt that I was completely out of order in deigning to instruct the faculty on the use of their veto.

I was called presumptuous by one professor, and another "whispered" that I was a *chutzpanille*, and that he would never take such talk from his students. The meeting was soon restored to

order, and after answering a few final questions, I was cordially asked to leave while the faculty debated and voted. Subsequently, one senate measure was allegedly vetoed; action on another measure was postponed; and two rather harmless measures, already emasculated in the senate, were approved.

Three lessons can be derived from this experience. First, students should be allowed to fully present their views to the faculty before the assembly votes. I was able to do so only partially because no real debating was allowed in my presence and because I was muzzled the moment I began to advocate faculty restraint regarding the veto power. A second lesson, already known to those of us in the senate, is that portions of faculty, not to mention administration, are completely opposed to the concept of student participation in university decision-making. The final and most important lesson concerns academic reform at Yeshiva. Immediately after *Pesach*, the Committee on

(Continued on Page 7, Col. 4)

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## Juniors Defeat Sophs In Intramural Upset

By DORE SCHREIBMAN

On March 3 the freshmen lost to the seniors 49-44. The game could best be described as chaotic. Freshman Lenny Friedmen commented, "The only thing right about the game was the ball that bounced." There were three major factors that contributed to the distraught atmosphere. First, the game was played in the YU gym which is affectionately called "the hole." Second, early in the game, Larry Schiffman dislocated his finger in a collision with Marshall Keilson. This did not exactly delight the seniors as their temperament was clearly heated by the incident. Last, but not the least was the poor officiating confined with angry reactions of the teams and the many spectators who were present.

After Schiffman left, the seniors went onto win by using an effective collapsing defense that held Lenny Friedman to fourteen points. Cary Sprung took control of the senior offense while Larry Strulowitz took over the scoring. The Sprung-Strulowitz combination held up to give the seniors the victory.

The following week the juniors won their first game in almost a year. They beat the "paper tigers" of intramurals, the class of '73, by the score of 56-50. The juniors were paced by Mark Levy and Tuvia Bernstein who both scored 17 points apiece. For the losers Chuck Levner was high man with 19 points.

The turning point of the junior-soph game came at the middle of the third quarter. After trailing by ten points, the sophs came to within two points of the juniors. However, the class of '73 the nproceeded to come down

the floor six straight times and blow uncontested layups. A three point play by Barry Babich and Tuvia Bernstein's dominance of the boards iced the victory for the juniors.

On March 15 the "paper tiger" of '73 finally uncrumbled and roared as they routed the Schiffman-less seniors 60-34. The sophomores ran out to an early 23-9 lead. However, the seniors got the hot hands in the second quarter and trailed by only five at the half, 27-22. The second half saw the awakening of the sophs, who pulled together to hold the class of '72 to 12 points in the entire half, while they scored 33. Zvi Greisman grabbed game scoring honors with 20 points, Chuck Levner had 17 points. For the losers Cary Sprung was high with 12 points.

Pi Gamma Mu, the National Social Science Honor Society, will be sponsoring a series of talks describing curriculum and opportunities in the social sciences. These talks will be led by senior majors in the various departments and should be very valuable for present and prospective social science majors.

These talks will be held on successive Thursdays at club hour in room 313 Furst Hall.

**ECONOMICS Thursday Mar**

**ECONOMICS Thursday, March 25**

**SOCIOLOGY Thursday, April 1**

**POLITICAL SCIENCE Thursday, April 22**

**PSYCHOLOGY Thursday, April 29**

## Faculty Members Discuss Issues At YC Student Council Meeting

(Continued from Page 1, Col. 2)

working relationship, I have had nothing but support from the dean."

With regard to the student referendum and a change in degree requirements, Dr. Levy was more outspoken: "The idea to have students establish courses is insidious, grotesque and self-defeating." He also said that, "the idea that students are competent (to establish courses) is ridiculous!"

In more moderate tones, Dr. Levy declared that both the faculty assembly and the tenure system are simply "means of guaranteeing academic standards." He also pointed out that the faculty veto must be retained in order to protect the college from the arbitrary or rash decisions of possible future "demagogues" among student leaders!

Concluding, Dr. Levy stated that, "our vested interests are in YU as an ongoing and continuous institution... 'We' have the integrity, insight and experience to make changes.

Mr. Sukenik then took issue with Dr. Levy. He reminded him that motions passed by the senate were passed by "the whole senate," of which the faculty composes the largest single body. Why then, asked Mr. Sukenik should a motion passed in the senate, reappear in the faculty assembly? More important, why should the faculty possess the power to veto this motion? Mr. Sukenik also rebuked the faculty for their "unresponsive attitude."

Mr. Benedek further took issue with Dr. Levy. He asked him, "How do you hope to improve the dialogue between students and faculty when on the one hand you picture the faculty as



Beej

Drs. Simon, Fleisher, and Bacon awaiting their chance to speak.

being so spotlessly perfect, so full of 'integrity, insight and experience,' while on the other hand, you picture student-initiated ideas as being 'insidious, grotesque, self-defeating and ridiculous!'"

Dean Bacon was the next speaker. He simply stated that, "We as an institution are not perfect." He later added, "I just pray you will continue to be dissatisfied."

After the Dean's brief remarks, Dr. David Fleischer elaborated on some relevant issues. First, he pointed out, "the fact that THE COMMENTATOR can report at all, as bad as they do," is due to a proposal he himself initiated some time ago. He stated that he was "shocked" to see THE COMMENTATOR attack the tenure system. He did admit, however, that tenure, "allows people who have deteriorated to continue longer."

Taking issue with the students' demands for a re-evaluation of degree requirements, Dr. Fleischer stated that, "I see a majority of students as suffering under the double program. 'As a result, he continued, students are trying to 'undercut academic standards.'"

Dr. Ernest Simon was the last speaker. He declared that "faculty-assembly meetings are completely free of administrative pressure." Later, he said that faculty assembly meetings should be open to students as YCSC meetings are open to faculty members.

However, Dr. Simon did say that abolishing the faculty veto would be a big mistake, because, among other reasons, it would be "a blow to the teachers morale." He also complained about the senate becoming a "debating society" rather than a "forum."

The highlight of Dr. Simon's remarks are contained in the following statement: "Perhaps what's missing is partnership... I'm blaming you for seeing the administration and faculty too often as opponents. Yet, I'm also blaming many of my colleagues for referring to the students as 'they,' the other group."

When asked by Mr. Sukenik how the attitudes of all parties concerned could be changed, Dr. Simon said that YU "should become a place where the teacher meets the student 'and where the student goes to hear the teacher.'"

Mr. Richard Schiffmiller then asked the faculty members how the faculty assembly could veto or even vote on a specific motion without first hearing the students' point of view. Dr. Levy answered that he wholeheartedly agreed that a student should be present at faculty assembly meetings to present the students' point of view.

Mr. Gottesman's statement that Dean Bacon once declared that he would exert influence to have the faculty implement the veto power with regard to a specific issue posed a question to those who stated that faculty assembly meetings were free of administrative pressure.

Dean Bacon replied that such influence would be exerted only when he felt it was an absolute necessity. He added that only twice in the last eleven years did he step down from his position as chairman of the faculty assembly, to voice his personal opinion.

Dean Bacon also stated that the students were not the only ones to initiate progressive proposals. He then proceeded to give several examples of such proposals, initiated by the administration or faculty.

Danny Kurtzer then spoke briefly on the demise of the senate. He argued that certain truly good proposals emanating from "student executives" are not met openly by the faculty and administrative members of the senate. He continued by saying that YU could never become a "vanguard of intellectualism" as long as this continues.

Dr. Fleischer agreed that many such proposals were sincere. However, he remarked that possibly the new sincerely progressive and idealistic students in YU are "dupes" for those who simply want to make things easier.

Mr. Geller then spoke and rejected the "random accusations" made by faculty members against THE COMMENTATOR. He also questioned faculty interest in improving YU by pointing out that only 28 faculty members attended the last meeting of the faculty assembly, and that when a vote had to be taken later on, a quorum wasn't even present.

Mr. Weiss presented concluding remarks, and after five minutes, in which several minor issues were resolved by council, the three-hour-long meeting came to end.

## Fencers Post Losing Season But Sabre Rips Opponents

(Continued from Page 8, Col. 3)

his belt. His junior record was a good one (14-13), but he did not improve sufficiently, and with tougher competition his performance suffered. Leo ended the season with a 15-16 record, giving him a winning three year total (his sophomore record was 2-1) of 31 wins and 30 losses. He is very active on the strip, always moving in an out of distance while "feeling out" his opponents' actions. He attacks well and when forced on the defensive his strong parry-riposte usually backs him up. Unfortunately, he, too, is graduating and his absence will also hurt next year.

The third sabre starter, Captain-elect Marty Knecht, suffered from his lack of experience. He has difficulty judging the correct distance when fencing but nevertheless, uses a very strong and aggressive attack. His parry-ripostes are extremely powerful, and he quite frequently uses a fleche attack even though he sometimes gets caught warming up for the run. His potential is clearly there and with diligent practice, his record of 12-17 should greatly improve next season.

The foilmen, led by senior Isaac Gewirtz, all suffered great-

ly from the lack of a good point. Isaac, the most talented squad member, has a good, clear understanding of the game but has difficulty in competing successfully. His intricate and subtle attacks sometimes delivered beautifully but his fencing was too erratic to achieve a solid number of victories. He closed the season with an 8-14 record, yielding a total of 11 wins and 27 losses for his college career.

Tommy Weiss, a senior who had little experience prior to this year, had trouble with his point. He parried well when necessary, but could not follow up with an effective riposte. His attacks were good but his use of the fleche was instrumental in achieving his 6-6 record. He has been awarded the coach's award for foil and he is leaving the school with a total of 7 wins and 8 losses.

The third foilman, Irving (Frotz) Friedman also began with little experience and was quite an unorthodox fencer. He showed some very excellent performances but, unfortunately, those isolated instances were not typical of his season (5-11).

The epeemen were led by Captain Murphy Rothman, a fencer since his days as a senior in high school. He began as a

foilman (later switching to epee) but has had trouble developing a solid point. He uses the coupee attack often and effectively and can parry-riposte should the need arise. Despite his ability, it seemed, at times, that he simply could not produce, as his record indicates (12-13). He has won the coach's award for epee this season and has ended his college career with an even 28 win and 28 loss record.

Neil Chernofsky, a junior epeeman and co-captain-elect, began the year with little experience and has proven to be a very deliberate fencer. He has come to understand the game but often lacks the drive necessary on the strip. His returning next year will certainly aid the team and practice with his point, attacks, and parries should improve his present 8-14 record.

The third epeeman, sophomore Neil Weintraub, has received his first experience this season and has quite a long way to go before realizing his full potential. A physically strong fencer, Neil has the power to win, but he lacks a good point and often lacks the finesse that fencing requires. However, he will return for two more years and should prove to be, with adequate practice, a great asset to the team.

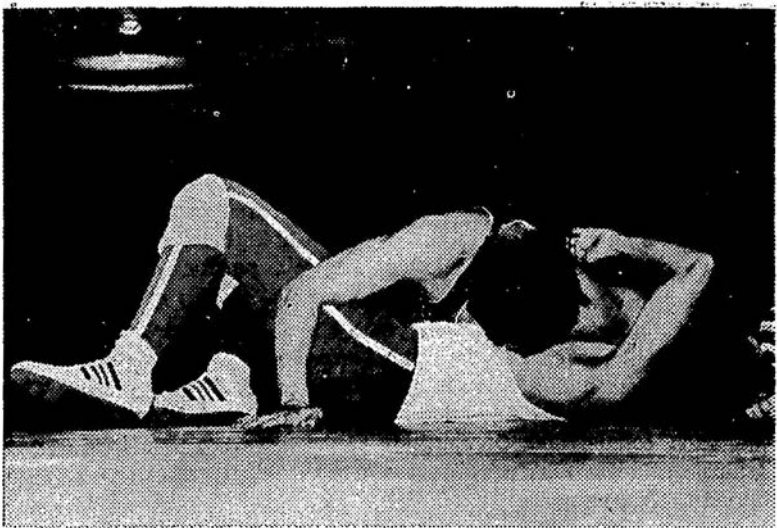


# Brandeis Team Beats Grapplers Chairman Discusses Faculty Assembly

(Continued from Page 8, Col. 5) was pinned in the first period. Stan Mondrow, at the heavy-

weight spot, wrestled his best match of the year and led 3-0 after two periods. He attempted

to stop his man, but turned the wrong way and pinned himself instead at 5:30. The final score was Yeshiva 28, Poly 20, leaving the matmen with 3 wins and 11 defeats for the season.



Wrestling

THE COMMENTATOR regrets that in its issue of March 3 the headline for an interview with wrestling coach Neil Ellman indicated that Mr. Ellman "decided the Dean's position." That headline was the result of a misreading of the interview. Mr. Ellman never indicated such a position to THE COMMENTATOR.

(Continued from Page 5, Col. 3) Degree Requirements is scheduled to submit a report advocating certain changes in the YC curriculum. Hopefully, the senate will pass all or most of the recommendations.

Barring a miracle, the faculty will still have the power to veto senate legislation. Unless the progressive, reasonable members of the faculty attend the assembly meeting and vote in favor,

we may be faced with another veto, this time over crucial legislation. It is up to individual students as well as YCSC to make their instructors aware of the situation and urge them to take part in the deliberations. The faculty assembly must not be left to those opposed to, confused by or afraid of student participation in the decision-making process.

## Rabbi Steinberg Dies; Services Held At YU

Funeral services were held on March 17 for Rabbi Ephraim Steinberg, who was a Rosh Yeshiva in RIETS for 46 years before his retirement in 1967. Rabbi Steinberg died at Montefiore Hospital in the Bronx at the age of 74.

Rabbi Steinberg was born in Ostrolenko, Russo-Poland, the son of a rabbi, and studied at the Lomza, Slobotka and Telza yeshivot. He was ordained at Lomza by Rabbi Yechiel Mordcho Gordon when he was 18, and again in the U.S. in 1930 by Rabbi

Joseph Rosen, Chief Rabbi of Passaic, New Jersey.

Together with his teaching post, Rabbi Steinberg was for more than twenty years rabbi of the Fulton Avenue Synagogue in the Bronx and contributed scholarly writings to the publication *Bais Yitzchak*.

He was a member of the Union of Orthodox Rabbis of the United States and Canada, Religious Zionists of America, Agudath Harabonim, and was active in the Mizrahi organization.

## Letters to the Editor

(Continued from Page 2, Col. 5)

Is the atmosphere really markedly different at Stern and YC from that at the city colleges? Other than the fact that men and women are in different classes, is there any difference at all?

Yes, the students who came to YU or Stern, making huge payments in money and self-sacrifice, sought a certain type of atmosphere, and, finding this environment lacking, are leaving. Would-be applicants hearing of their friends' disappointment with the university and disgust with the lies and broken promises of the administration choose not to apply and get themselves into the same rut.

One example of the broken promises is the unannounced revoking of the BRE and BHL degrees, which one could formerly obtain in addition to the BA. In conjunction with this is the failure on the part of the administration to work out and inform the students of a new program whereby they could achieve some citation for their efforts in the areas of Hebrew and Judaic Studies. This second promise was made a year ago and still remains unfulfilled. The students consider this entire issue as a broken promise of the administration.

Others in the glaring list of inadequacies are: failure on the part of the administration to provide a Judaic studies head; total non-enforcement of any dress code; obvious deficiency of a top-notch faculty. All these issues were brought to the attention of the administration upon several occasions but to no avail.

These phenomena which point out the protracted leniency with regard to religious life at Yeshiva, all of which has been part of its move toward non-sectarian, we see as primary among the causes for the rising attrition rate and the drop in applications for admissions. Thus, we beg of the administration to take time out for some meaningful reflection which we hope will lead to quick and significant action before those same leaders who built Yeshiva and brought it to what might be considered its Golden Age, bring its total downfall . . . before the name Yeshiva University becomes merely another institution that had the potential to succeed but

failed due to misjudgement and misdirection.

Batsheva Cohen  
Kayle Finkelstein  
Francine Mermelstein  
Penina Greenwald  
Ester Krohn  
Deena Cohen  
Judy Borger

### La Chanson

To the Editor:

*La Chanson de Roland* has come under attack in your recent article "Universities are for Learning," and I must come to the defense of the epic song.

You suggest in your article that the nine centuries old poem may become boring or uninspiring to someone who has read it more than twenty times. This is an insult to *La Chanson de Roland*.

It has been my experience with the poem that one's enthusiasm for it grows with each successive reading, with every book one reads on the subject and with every discussion.

The poem is taught best by professors who after more than thirty years of repeated exposure can teach it from memory in the original Old French.

It is in the nature of masterpieces like *La Chanson de Roland* that the polite interest or disguised boredom with which one approaches them for the first time turns into love and reverence through familiarity which is acquired over many years of association.

Dr. Pauline Kra

To the Editor:

Mr. Benedek's article of the Mendel Gottesman Library drew a fair picture of what has been going on for the past three months, and for this story I am thankful. I was embarrassed somewhat, but flattered, to be referred to as "Doctor" and the "New Director of the Library." I am the Head Librarian of Pollack Library and I am doing my best to assist Dr. Duker in the administration of the Gottesman Library.

The interview was requested by THE COMMENTATOR from Dr. Duker, Director of Libraries, and the interview was held in Dr. Duker's office. I was asked to sit in since I play a role in trying to upgrade Gottesman Library. The statements relative to the museum and the archives were offered by Dr. Duker, not I. Dr. Duker participated in the interview actively and I am sur-

prised that he wasn't given credit in the story.

I am proud of the part I play in improving the Mendel Gottesman Library, and I realize it is going to take time, effort and cooperation to achieve that which we all seek.

Professor Solomon Zeides  
Pollack Librarian

To the Editor:

In any discussion of Yeshiva University, the topic of student apathy is bound to appear. What is not discussed, however, are the reasons for this lack of enthusiasm. Without knowing the "Whys," there is no possible way to find any sort of workable solutions.

The fact that there are some students in the University who do not care to become involved in its activities is inevitable. Such students will always exist. There is, however, a large untapped resource of students willing to help and to become involved. If they do not volunteer their services, the onus should not fall completely on them. A large portion of the responsibility belongs on the shoulder of the "student council." The council has not been doing its job in stirring up enthusiasm. The council meetings are few. When there is one, its publicity is close to nil.

The simple fact of the matter is, the students do not take part in the workings of the council because they know nothing about it or its activities. This cannot be blamed on the students.

I hope that the future council will learn from past mistakes, and bring the "student council" back to the students from whom they receive their power.

Elihu Baer '73

## Butler . . .

(Continued from Page 1, Col. 5)

Administration, had been seen wading through papers on an inspection tour could not be substantiated.

According to President-elect Butler, "the role of student council within the structure of Yeshiva College has been obscured somewhat by the senate, and a mood of lethargy has set into this year's council. It will be the job of the next president of YCSC to revitalize council and direct its efforts both in the area of academic reform and improved student services."

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# Fencers Post Losing Season But Sabre Rips Opponents



No comment

The start of this year's fencing season found the Yeshiva Taubermen facing many problems, which since then proved insurmountable. Already crippled by the unexpected loss of two experienced epeemen to graduate school, the team was to fence many "scholarship" schools, whose recruiting assured them of excellent and experienced new fencers. Nevertheless, the team began the year determined to win and its early victories were indicative of the power it could muster.

Winning against St. Peters, the Taubermen clearly showed what they could do. Sabre cleaned up eight victories, foil did the same, and epee contributed another four. This excellence was repeated against Fairleigh Dickinson University, when sabre won six, foil won four, and epee won eight. These scores reflect the consistency that sabre

displayed throughout the entire year and the potential that lay dormant within the foil and epee squads, which, unfortunately, only periodically awakened from their slumber.

During the course of the year, the fencers had many tough breaks, losing many of their matches by only a few close touches. The sabre squad finished the season with a winning record of 55-45. The epee and foil squads, suffering their consistent lack of a good blade point, necessary in beating their opponents, followed with the totals of 40-57 and 32-58 respectively.

In reviewing the season, the squads can best be understood if one views the qualities that the fencers themselves displayed during the season. Leading the sabre squad and, indeed, the entire team, both in ability and consistency was senior Captain

Larry Rosman. His career began as a sophomore when he started on the team and was awarded the coach's award for achieving the best sabre record (24-8). He continued to excel and as a junior, once again led the sabre squad in victories (24-10) and was awarded the coach's award. His record this year was by far the best of any member of the team and also the best of his own years at Yeshiva (24-6), bringing his college total to 72 wins and 24 losses. Consequently he has again been awarded the coach's award for sabre for the third consecutive season, a feat rare if not unequalled in Yeshiva history.

As a fencer, Captain Rosman synthesizes very successfully the various hand techniques he has perfected, his excellent footwork, and keen fencing mind to produce a true winner on the strip. He has mastered the keys to an effective and subtle attack, a very strong, fast and efficient parry, a lightning parry riposte, and perhaps most important an excellent feeling for distance between his opponent and himself. He has often resorted to fencing in the classical *engarde-in-one* position, which is also known as "trick fencing." A very difficult style to master, "trick fencing" is neatly used for very sudden stop cuts, a point attack, and quick fleches to the head and chest. This type of fencing usually stymied Larry's opponents who floundered in their attempts to cope with something they did not comprehend nor know anything about. Larry, both as a fencer who, if given an opportunity to fence in the NCAA might have ranked among the top ten college fencers, and as a leader will certainly be missed next year, but he has left a name that will remain long after he himself has been graduated.

Leo Beer, the second senior sabreman, began this year with one season's experience under  
(Continued on Page 6, Col. 1)

## On The Sidelines



## Mercy Killing

By Billy Schechter

The 1970-71 season has ended, and the Mighty Mites have recorded their worst season in their history. It was only last year that the past "worst season" was played, and at that time it was thought that fortunes would improve. Improvement was not realized; as evident by the 2-17 basketball record. Unfortunately play will not improve next year and a winless season is a practicality.

What has led to the decay of the Mighty Mites? The answer is simple, "Neglect." It has been years since the administration has looked much less cared about the basketball team. At first things were not that bad a few 7-13 seasons, but still respectable. The "7-13" teams had an advantage over the present teams and that was their competition. Competition that they were able to compete against; athletes that were on the same level. Open admissions has tipped the scales against the Mighty Mites, and in the coming years the city schools will become better and better. Other small private colleges have a policy of limited athletic scholarships, which has increased their athletic potential. At Yeshiva, the administration has done nothing, and thus "the chicken has come home to roost."

At Yeshiva there is no recruitment, few scholarships, and no basketball team that is worthy of the name. The Mighty Mites are given old and faded uniforms. One might say that they look like hobos rather than basketball players. They practice less than other teams and what practices they have are cut short by traveling time. Thus the players are at a disadvantage before the start of the game. The 1970-71 Mites had only two blue-chip players, while the rest of the squad just didn't have it. Can a team like the Mighty Mites expect to compete against a well recruited, conditioned team?

Years ago the Mighty Mites were able to get away through being in top condition and lacking a good bench. However, it is obvious that they can't get away with the essentials now. Thus the administration has got to make a decision. Do they want a basketball team or not? If they want a team, then it should be a good team and not a disgrace.

Many would answer the plea for a policy of athletic recruitment that Yeshiva College is a Yeshiva first and a college second. That may be true, but does the Talmud say that you can't win, or be respectable? The scoffers would say that the team we have is enough. However, the scoffers should go to a game and hear the laughter of the opposing schools when they see the Mighty Mites. I was at the Stony Brook game, and was witness to the jeering, the laughter that the fans from Stony Brook spew on the Yeshiva squad. When they laughed at Mighty Mites, they laughed at Orthodox Judaism. If you like it or not, every time Yeshiva gets out on the court, they represent traditional Judaism. There is no reason for the Mighty Mites to go out and disgrace everyone.

Thus the decision must be made. Do the Mighty Mites get the help needed to become a respectable team or do they not get it? If the administration feels that they do not want to put any effort into the Mighty Mites, then they should end the team. There is no law saying that a college must have a basketball team. If the team can't compete, don't send them out to the slaughter every time.

I do not believe that the Yeshiva College administration is willing to give the Mighty Mites the boost they need. Thus, I believe that the Mighty Mites should be disbanded until such time that the administration feels that they are willing to field a decent team. There is no reason why Yeshiva College should be disgraced every time the Mighty Mites go on the court.

# Yeshiva Is Victorious; Defeats Cooper Union

By DORE SCREIBMAN

On Monday night, February 22, the Yeshiva University balanced basketball team opened its season with an exciting victory over Cooper Union. In balanced basketball, different point values are assigned to each height division. A team is allowed no more than twenty-five points on the court at one time. Aside from this variation, balanced basketball is governed by the usual college basketball rules.

Although Yeshiva's balanced basketball team seemed to have more players than the Ohio State football team, only ten players saw action and only six scored. The balanced basketball team which bears a very close resemblance to an intramural all-star team, came from behind in the second half to win 56-53.

At the start of the game Cooper Union showed a very patient offense that concentrated on working the ball into the middle, to tall Jack Matthews, who scored 8 of their first 9 points. As the half progressed Yeshiva took the lead with a balanced attack and by shutting off Matthews from the inside, Yeshiva led 23-19 when Cooper Union again began to penetrate and get the ball to Matthews who scored his teams's last six points and led the visitors to a 28-25 half-time lead.

In the second half, Cooper Union picked up where they had left off and rushed to a 44-35 lead with twelve minutes left

in the game. Turnovers, bad shots and a lack of rebounding by Yeshiva contributed to Cooper Union's big lead. At this point, the game seemed to turn around. Cooper Union became sloppy and unaggressive, but Yeshiva was reluctant to take advantage. However, Larry Schiffman got hot from the outside and Zvi Greisman converted some offensive rebounds into baskets and Cooper Union's 44-35 lead dwindled to 45-44 with six minutes left in the game. After a time out, Chuck Levner hit a jump shot to put Yeshiva ahead 46-45. The ten Yeshiva fans present at the game began to chant *defense* which helped encourage the team to tighten its defense, and the Union scoring stopped. However, Harvey Diamond took over for Matthews and sank two foul shots and a bucket to counteract a Yeshiva three point play, the scored was knotted 49-49.

After Cooper Union had missed a field goal attempt, Yeshiva pulled the rebound and then scored on a Chuck Levner drive. Levner then proceeded to steal the inbound pass and score again, which gave Yeshiva a four point lead, 53-49. Larry Schiffman iced the game with two free-throws in the last minute of play.

Larry Schiffman paced the victors with 19 points; Charles Levner was second with 16 points. Jack Matthews was high for the losers with 24 points; Harvey Diamond had 12.

# Brandeis Team Beats Grapplers; Ellmen Defeat Brooklyn Poly

By RONNIE MASLIANSKY

The YC grappler met Brandeis on Sunday, February 28, in the annual encounter between the two teams. It was the grapplers thirteenth match of the season, and it turned out to be unlucky at that. Given fifteen gift points on the basis of Brandeis forfeits, YU failed to hold the lead and eventually lost.

Bob Weiss and Joel Schwitzer won on forfeits. Gary Rubin, at 134 pounds, was trailing 5-0 when he was pinned in the third period. Steve Edell fought a tough match, losing on points. Abe Reichman was also trailing on points when he tired and was taken down for a pin at 4:39. Yeshiva trailed, 13-10.

## Press Wins

Noah Nunberg tried to pick the team up, but after a furious start during which he grabbed a 3-2 lead, he tired and lost at 4:17. Lenny Press provided the only bright spot of the day for the matmen with a pin at the 4:07 mark. The Brandeis lead was cut to 3, 18-15. Rubin Kooly

lyk wrestled at 177 pounds, and despite his struggling, he lost 6-1. Stan Mondrow was pinned in the first period. Howie Davis, back from a bout with pneumonia, won on a forfeit. This left YU on the short end of a 26-20 score.

The last match of the season was held in the usually crowded and noisy Yeshiva gym. The opponent, Brooklyn Poly, did not have a rough reputation, and it was to be the last match for five graduating seniors.

Manny Ruchelsman set the tone for the evening with a quick victory in an exhibition match. The senior brigade took over from there. Joel Schwitzer, at 118 pounds, turned a 2-0 disadvantage to a 10-3 score in his favor before winning at 3:50. Co-captain Bob Weiss topped his opponent, 7-0, when he pinned his man at 2:50. The home team led, 10-0.

Co-Captain Gary Rubin, in a match highlighted by several predicaments and near falls, clobbered his opponent 16-0. Defeat

came to YU at 142 pounds, when Harold (Curly) Mermelstein just didn't have the stamina and was disqualified by the referee in the third period for stalling.

## Record Breaker

The surprise and shock of the match came next. Abe Reichman, last of the seniors, tied up with his opponent and took him down for an immediate pin. The time of 25 seconds was the quickest in Yeshiva history, breaking the old mark of 27 seconds held by YU coach Neil Ellman. The pin put the crowd into ecstasy, and made the score 18-5.

Howie Davis, at 158 pounds, was not back in top shape yet. He struggled but lost at 4:02. Noah Nunberg wrestled a very heavy man at 167 pounds. A series of reversals brought the score to 6-5 in Noah's favor when he flattened his man at 4:15. Lenny Press swamped his man, 15-4, clinching the match at 2:50 and bringing the score to 28-10, YU.

Rubin Kooly, at 190 pounds,  
(Continued on Page 7, Col. 1)