

Complaints Aired At Rally For Unified Student Voice

In response to the recent wave of muggings of Yeshiva University students, a group of students calling themselves the "Student Struggle for a Unified Voice" held a rally in Lampport Auditorium on Tuesday, December 6. Students learned of the rally through flyers that were stuffed in their mailboxes. The stated purpose of the rally was to "formulate a unified stand and to let the administration hear that we will no longer tolerate the outrageous safety conditions which exist at YU."

The rally itself was conducted by Steve Passer, a Yeshiva College student. Mr. Passer told the large group of students who attended that he felt that there was a lack of communication between the elected student leaders and the students, and that "the administration is not being responsive to student demands about the security problem."

Words From Our Leaders

Many student leaders attended the rally, among them YCSC President Harry Skydell. Mr. Skydell brought the participants up to date in regard to what action Student Council and the administration had agreed upon would be taken: a new guard was already hired to patrol Amsterdam Avenue from 181st Street to 187th Street from six to twelve in the evening; a "shuttle service" will be established from Morgenstern Residence Hall to both subway stations and back between the hours of 5 and 12 P.M. on an experimental basis; and a lock on Morgenstern Residence Hall in the evening that the students' room key will open.

After Mr. Skydell's comments, Howie Lichtenstein, President of JSS Student Council, got up to speak. Lichtenstein accused Mr. Skydell of not taking quick action in the matter. He also related to the crowd that he alone had attempted to get an appointment with either Rabbi Lamm or Rabbi Miller, and was denied one. Furthermore, he said that only after a threat by him, that a takeover of Rabbi Lamm's office and a student demonstration would take place, did Rabbi Miller agree to see him. Lichtenstein claimed that at that meeting, all of his proposals were turned down by Rabbi Miller due to "financial considerations." The claim was made by Lichtenstein and Passer

that only because of the threat of a rally did the administration acquiesce to the students' demands.

The Administration's Turn

In order to get an official response to some of the charges made at the rally, an interview (Continued on Page 4, Col. 1)

Law Officers Attend Anti-Crime Rally Introducing Ways To Prevent Crime

By NORMAN KINEL

Throughout the past month, the Yeshiva College community has seen a large number of incidents involving students being threatened and robbed in the neighborhood surrounding the main campus. Response to this problem has ranged from the serious and constructive to hysterical and bombastic outcries. As a result of the situation, two events have taken place over the past weeks: an administration sponsored discussion between neighborhood police and the student body, and a "concerned students" sponsored rally.

On Wednesday evening, November 31, a huge overflow crowd of Yeshiva College students attended a discussion with representatives of the New York City Police Department. Detective Stephen Sanders, a Crime Prevention Officer, and P. O. Tom Gallagher, a Community Affairs Officer, addressed themselves to

the recent wave of muggings around Yeshiva University. Opening remarks were made by Col. Marmorstein, who informed the crowd that officially ten muggings had taken place in a period of two weeks, in contrast to 3 or 4 that took place all of last year. However, only one of these incidents took place on the campus of the University, the rest occurring in the surrounding neighborhood, and only one involved the use of a weapon.

Detective Sanders announced that two male Hispanics and one male Black had been apprehended by the police, and that positive identification of the trio had been made by four of the victims. (The suspects in this case have subsequently been indicted by the grand jury.) Sanders described the assailants as youths in their teens, and asserted that most of these crimes have been perpetrated by youths between the ages of 10 and 19.

Four Options

According to the officers, most of the incidents involved someone approaching a Yeshiva student and verbally intimidating the victim into handing over his wallet. They went on to suggest that if no weapon is shown, then students should not just hand over their money, but rather should exercise one of the following options: ignore the person if possible, verbally make it clear that the money will not be handed over, run, or fight.

The officers seemed to feel that if "he's got a weapon he'll show it," and that although they were not advocating that Yeshiva students should risk getting hurt, they should not be "easy pick-

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The Commentator

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Controversial Yiddish Resolution Is Passed At YC Senate Meeting

By PAUL WEINBERG

After much discussion and tense debate, the Yeshiva College Senate, on December 8, passed a resolution, by a margin of nine to five, to accept Yiddish as fulfilling the current foreign language requirement.

Most of the senators, throughout the debate, agreed that a revival of Yiddish is vital and that it is the responsibility of the University to encourage more students to become familiar with the language. Dr. Kra, one of the main opponents to the

resolution, stated that the value of Yiddish is undeniable but that it should be "integrated into the Jewish studies department" where it would be more fully appreciated by the students.

Language Choice Crucial

In addition, allowing Yiddish

to displace the current requirements would greatly disadvantage students in graduate schools which require a modern European language. Even students who plan on going to graduate schools of a Jewish nature are required to present a classical or European language. Professor Tauber was also of the opinion that students who plan medical careers may decide to take Yiddish as their foreign language, and then be hurt in the future in the event that they switch to positions requiring classical or European languages. Dr. Louis



Dr. Marvin Herzog (second from right) of Columbia University at Dec. 1 session of Senate.

Dr. Norman Lamm Addresses Successful Chanukah Chagiga

By ETHAN SIEV

The SOY Chanukah Chagigah held this year on Wednesday evening, December 7, 1977 featured a speech by Dr. Lamm to an assembly of YC students and RIETS rebbeim.

Dr. Lamm opened his address by welcoming back the Rov after a two week absence due to back ailments.

Rabbi Lamm then proceeded to explain the dual purposes of the Chanukah candles: as a mephar-sem hanes, a method of publicizing the miracle of the oil burning for light for eight days, and as an or simcha, a means of instilling a festive atmosphere in the house. The candle lighting precludes the mitzvah to eat

meat and drink wine on Chanukah, as the light of the candles provides the simcha.

Dr. Lamm proceeded to expand upon the concept of or simcha and used it to explain the need for a shammos even in a well lit house, and the reason for the lighting of the candles in many synagogues every morning during Chanukah. He compared the candle light to Torah since

(Continued on Page 4, Col. 3)

Council Discusses Movie Program And Provisionally Reinstates HBO

By ARIEL FISCHER

A wide variety of upcoming YCSC Activities were discussed at the council meeting of Nov. 30. President Harry Skydell opened the meeting by thanking all those who helped out in the recent Robert Klein event. The concert was a huge success, he said, with an audience of 1500 people, and profits of \$1500-\$2000.

Mr. Skydell then announced several upcoming YCSC events. A sponsored concert featuring folk singer and comedian Rafi Guber will take place Saturday night, Dec. 17, at Koch Auditorium. Tickets are \$2 apiece. Plans are under way for the annual Inter-collegiate Shabbaton, sponsored by the Junior class of YC. The Yeshiva College Dramatics Society's annual play, "The Last Meeting of the White Magnolia," will be playing Jan. 7 through 12. Tickets are available and can be purchased through YCDS.

Stooges Huge Success

Discussion then turned to the recent YCSC movies. Represent-

ative Sol Lieberman reported that the past two movies boasted an overflow crowd of 3. He added that the future looked even bleaker for the upcoming movies, since midterms and other upcoming events would in all probability limit student attendance. Mr. Skydell replied that the \$500 allocation for the movies had already been made, and it could not be retracted. He added that he expected YCSC's next blockbuster "The Three Stooges Meet Hercules" to attract a larger crowd, which proved true on Thursday, December 8, as an estimated crowd of 30 was overcome with laughter at the antics of the popular trio.

Rep. Saul Finkelstein raised a motion to reinstitute the HBO channel on the TV in the Morgenstern Lounge. There would, however, be a censoring committee to insure that no inappropriate programs be shown. Schedules of programs would be posted, and the laws regarding inappropriate material would be strictly enforced. President Skydell emphasized the responsibility that the censoring committee would have: if anything inappropriate was shown, the privilege would be removed. The Council voted on the motion, and it passed 12-2. Jacob Hendel, Phil Rosen, and Saul Finkelstein were appointed to the censoring committee.

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Rabbi Lamm, in his capacity as Rosh Yeshiva, addressing students at SOY Chagiga.

An Historic Move

In light of the dramatic changes that have occurred in Middle East politics in the past several weeks, we wish to express our admiration and respect for Anwar el-Sadat, President of Egypt. There is little question that his offer to go to Jerusalem and speak before the Knesset was a bold, though necessary move towards breaking the stalemate that has for so long characterized the situation in the Middle East. Furthermore, his political integrity and career were placed in jeopardy by this historic move.

President Sadat has now gone one step further to prove his sincerity and independence from the radical Arab world. By breaking diplomatic relations with Iraq, Libya, Algeria, Southern Yemen and most notably, Syria, he has cleared up any ambiguity that may have previously existed and has shown Israel and the rest of the world his desire for a lasting peace. THE COMMENTATOR commends President Sadat and Prime Minister Begin for valiantly putting aside past hatred and for making substantial inroads in the quest for peace.

However, Mr. Sadat's alienation of the majority of the Arab world has placed in doubt the future of the Geneva Conference. Thus, President Carter's constant emphasis on the Geneva talks seems, at this point in time, inappropriate and detrimental. Should Israel, Egypt and the other involved states feel that talks on neutral grounds are necessary and United States mediation helpful, then by all means this country must, as the chief spokesman of the democratic ideal, act accordingly. Otherwise, we urge Mr. Carter to refrain from imposing any conditions or prerequisites on the various parties, as this may only serve to reverse the accomplishments already achieved.

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Without Penalty

The Registrar's Office of Yeshiva College has a set of provisions by which students can drop courses for which they had previously registered. A week is set aside at the beginning of each semester during which students are allowed to make program changes. If one drops a course at this time, no record of the change appears on the transcript. However, if a course is dropped at any time beyond this week, but before the last permitted date (usually in the middle of December) a "W" signifying "withdrew without penalty" will appear on the transcript.

It is claimed by the Registrar that this "W" also carries with it no prejudice against the student. Many students feel though that in the course of a subjective evaluation of a candidate for admission to a graduate school, a "W" might be viewed as a negative point on a transcript and may consequently hurt them.

The technical matter involved in actually removing a dropped course from a student's transcript, as opposed to giving a "W" for the course, does not justify any amount of anxiety that may be experienced by students over the possible harm that can result from such a grade. THE COMMENTATOR feels that a revision of the current policy is in order and hopes that the Registrar will refrain from future recording of the superfluous "W" on students' transcripts.

A Positive Sign

For the first time in recent years, the Yeshiva varsity basketball season has begun on an encouraging note. The team has been playing competitively and student turnout at the games has been quite good. THE COMMENTATOR commends those students who have shown their support and hopes this increasing interest in student activities will set the trend for the future.

Letters To The Editor

To the Editor,

A few years ago, a member of the Yeshiva community was killed in an automobile accident on the corner of 186th St. and Amsterdam Ave. Subsequently, a traffic light was installed on that corner. Several weeks ago a near tragedy occurred on the corner of 185th St., in which a Yeshiva student was only slightly injured, thank G-d, by a passing car. The corners of both 185th and 186th Streets are equally busy. High School and College students are continuously crossing back and forth on the corner of 185th St., going to and coming from the cafeteria and First Hall. In addition, the local Junior High School on 182nd St. has a traffic light even though there is less continuous traffic at that specific intersection. There is no reason why Yeshiva students should have to dodge droves of speeding cars while crossing Amsterdam Avenue. We should act now in order to do our best to prevent an almost inevitable future tragedy.

Gary Miller
YC '78

To the Editor,

I would like to comment on the column "Teachers or Professors?" by Aaron Stiefel in the November 28 edition of THE COMMENTATOR. I hold Mr. Stiefel in high regard, but I think that the thrust of his article may be misleading to the cursory reader.

Teaching chemistry need not be boring nor dulling to the senses

but, just the opposite, may be exciting and exhilarating. And, unbelievable as it may seem to the uninitiated, chemical research may become boring and dulling. It depends on who is doing what, and how well he is doing it.

I will concede that chemical research is a desirable professional activity. The question is, can the members of the Yeshiva University Chemistry Department undertake research programs?

One must be aware of the fact that sustained chemical research at a university depends on a graduate school which must supply a continuous flow of graduate students who do the actual "hands on" laboratory work for the professor's ideas. Without a graduate chemistry program, chemical research at Yeshiva is next to impossible. It is true that professors may employ Ph.Ds in Post-doctoral programs to be supported to some extent by a governmental agency. But no matter how it is done, chemical research requires a commitment on the part of Yeshiva to maintain, equip, and support adequate laboratory facilities, as "normal" laboratory facilities, and equipment becomes quite sophisticated and very expensive.

And now for the final question. Will chemistry professors who do research make better chemistry teachers? This question was answered in a study published by The New York Times about twenty years ago (ed. note: and also in an article appearing several days ago). The study pointed out a scandalous situation

which existed in some of the largest and most prestigious universities: namely (1) professors engaged in research seldom teach introductory courses, but assign these courses to graduate students, reserving one or two graduate courses for themselves; (2) some of the most famous research scholars are, in the opinion of their graduate students, poor teachers even at the graduate level.

In other words, a good chemical research program will not automatically insure a good undergraduate chemical education for Yeshiva students. Furthermore, this must be viewed in light of the fact that well over ninety percent of the students studying two or more years of chemistry at Yeshiva are Pre-Meds or Pre-Dents. Such students must have a grasp of the fundamentals of chemistry in order to pass the entrance or aptitude exams given by the professional schools. Exposure to more sophisticated ideas, however desirable, will not help them to achieve their goals.

I suppose that much of what I have said applies to other disciplines for which Yeshiva has no graduate programs. For such disciplines, Yeshiva, sooner or later, must decide whether its goal is to become a community of research scholars or a community of knowledgeable teachers.

Considering its relatively small size and its present financial status, I think that Yeshiva College should strive to become a "teaching" institution rather than
(Continued on Page 9, Col. 1.)

NEWS IN BRIEF

AN INTERCOLLEGIATE SHABBATON at Yeshiva College will be held on the weekend of December 23. Highlights planned include a guest speaker and a Saturday night activity. The cost for the weekend is \$13 for YU students and \$15 for non-YU students. Reservations can be made through Saul (R 506, 568-4796) or Tammy. (RE 679-2561).

ROBERT "ROSEY" ROSENBLOOM, senior and co-captain of the Macabees, scored the 1,000th point of his Yeshiva College varsity basketball career against Drew College of New Jersey on Thursday, November 8.

THE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF ADMISSIONS at the Columbia University Dental School, Mr. James Sullivan, spoke at the December 1st meeting of the Premedical-Pre dental Society. He gave an overview of the admissions process and discussed the criteria employed in selecting students.

Honors Thesis

The Yeshiva College Senate last year adopted a revision of the honors regulations, and stipulated that, beginning with the class graduating in 1979, students with an average of 3.8-4.0 would have to submit an honors thesis in order to graduate summa cum laude.

It is suggested that students affected by this new regulation begin to develop a research proposal as soon as possible, so as to minimize last minute complications. It is advised that students consult with a potential faculty sponsor regarding their research plans.

Australians Experience Torah Via 'Counterpoint'

By NOACH SIMON

During the past few years, there has been a reawakening of Jewish identity in the US and all over the world. Yeshiva high school seminars and public high school seminars have enjoyed overwhelming success. The outreach program is not limited to the Western Hemisphere however. One such program is the "Counterpoint" program in Australia.

The idea of "Counterpoint" began back in 1973 when, at the invitation of the Jewish community of Melbourne, Australia, Dr. Norman Lamm, then a Professor of Philosophy at YU, visited there and spoke about the seminars which were going on in the US. Hans Bachrach, an influential Jewish Australian, asked Dr. Lamm if a team could come to Australia to do a similar job. The initial trip was made that summer by a team headed by Hillel Davis.

'Not a Desert'

The Jewish community of Melbourne is a rather large one. In addition to the various Lubavitch centers, there is a Jewish day school, "Mount Scopus Memorial College," which has classes from kindergarten thru 12th grade. One, however, can not even try to compare the quality of Jewish education of this school with a Jewish day school in New York City. With reference to the community in general, one reliable source commented, "It's not an isolated desert. People learn and there is a lot of Jewish identity. But there is also a lot lacking."

In order to gain more insight into the "Counterpoint" program, this reporter spoke with Rabbi Martin Katz who headed the second team that went to Australia the summer of 1975. Rabbi Katz emphasized the fact that "Counterpoint" is different from

the typical seminar to which Americans are accustomed. Whereas American seminars are geared only towards high school aged students, in Australia "Counterpoint" reaches out to all ages. For the younger grades there are "Yimai-Iyun" set up in the schools themselves. In the high school, attendance at the seminar is compulsory except for the 12th graders for whom it is optional. There are special campgrounds, "camp balleret" where the seminars take place. On two college campuses, there are also special programs.

An Advantage

There is one distinct advantage which Australia has which has aided the participants greatly. Australia is on the other side of the world. Therefore, July and August, when the team is in (Continued on Page 4, Col. 1)

The Duke Differs

The Right To Vote... For No One

By ROBERT FRIEDMAN

Inherent in any democratic form of government is the right of human suffrage; that is, the opportunity for every individual within that society to cast a vote for the candidate of his choice. Throughout the short history of our great country, various groups have fought diligently

and tirelessly to obtain this right. Women, blacks, and countless other groups have striven to receive an equal voting privilege, free of any discrimination. I do not wish to delve into the difficult questions of whether the "one man — one vote" concept was the intention of the formulators of our Constitution, but citizens of the United States have been generally satisfied with the knowledge that their neighbor's vote is no more or no less regarded than their own.

I recall, in my "pre-voting" days, the excitement and anticipation with which my peer group discussed and debated upcoming elections. In grammar school my history teacher used to hold "phony elections" just to satisfy our interests. It was common for me then to criticize those who had opted not to exercise their voting privilege. When pressed for an explanation they would invariably reply that none of the candidates had excited or impressed them enough "to get out their vote." I quickly understood this to be sheer apathy. In retrospect it seems that I felt personally insulted by that party's inaction. It was inconceivable to me that any person who was of age and permitted to vote, would forgo the chance of determining who our next (insert president, senator, congressman, etc.) would be. I could attribute such a "sin" only to laziness and ignorance of democratic principles.

In the year 1976, I had my first opportunity to participate in the election of a president of the United States. Though usually conservative in my politics, this election presented some peculiar problems, in that both major candidates carefully presented middle-of-the-road approaches. Many of the policies of the incumbent left serious questions in my mind about him, while the lack of any substantial statements by the

challenger caused ambiguity in his "positions." In short, there was clearly no candidate for whom I could enthusiastically and unhesitatingly vote.

Basically, four options were available: to vote for the democratic candidate, the republican candidate, one of the many minor candidates, or vote for no one. Yes, I said "vote for no one." I didn't say "not to vote." There is a basic difference between the two. "Not to vote" implies a lack of interest and concern, whereas, "voting for no one" means that (Continued on Page 8, Col. 2)

and tirelessly to obtain this right. Women, blacks, and countless other groups have striven to receive an equal voting privilege, free of any discrimination. I do not wish to delve into the difficult questions of whether the "one man — one vote" concept was the intention of the formulators of our Constitution, but citizens of the United States have been generally satisfied with the knowledge that their neighbor's vote is no more or no less regarded than their own.

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New York's Lower East Side

By SETH KAUFMAN and YECHIEL FRIEDMAN

Walking along a cobblestone street on a Sunday afternoon, one would enter a vibrant almost ghettoized world; a melee of movement, fervor and confusion — a world alive. Young boys playing on the street in their tzitzit, Jewish stores with their bearded proprietors selling their goods, a shteibel on every block and a Jewish deli and a bakery thrown in for good measure, all combined to create the magic of New York's Lower East Side. An area of one and a half square miles bounded by Catherine Street, the Bowery, 14th Street and the East River, the Lower East Side, was, in the mid-19th century, the center of Jewish cultural and spiritual activity. Today, however, the Lower East Side has lost much of its vibrance, but still retains the magic and mystique of a once flourishing Jewish community.

Between the years 1850-1900, the already overflowing Lower East Side served as the absorption center for the influx of Jewish immigrants from Europe. The proclivity of the Jews for the Lower East Side was due initially to geographic considerations. The immigrants who came

"off the boat," naturally settled in the areas closest to Ellis Island. The area became a virtual ghetto to the plethora of poor Jews who settled there. The abundance of Yeshivot, kosher facilities and Jewish cultural activities made the area more attractive than most others. The tendency of Jews to live and cleave together in a specific area, is nowhere more evident than in the case history of the Lower East Side.

Jobs and Living Conditions

As with all new immigrants flowing into an unfamiliar environment, employment opportunities for Lower East Side immigrants were limited. The new arrivals were drawn as if by magnet to the factory sweatshops ranging in manufacture from cigars to textiles, and to bakeries and butcher shops. Despite harsh working conditions, the im-

migrants did enjoy certain advantages. Owners tended to employ "lantsmen," thus mitigating the sense of coldness with an element of familiarity and warmth. Orthodox bosses made allowances for their workers; smaller shops even closed completely on Shabbat. Some owners even encouraged daily tephila. The various trades were relatively easy to master. Moreover, the competitiveness of the trade gave the immigrants hopes of rising upon the social and economic ladder.

Overcrowded conditions made life in the area that much more difficult. In 1890, the characteristic Jewish residence was the "double decker" tenement. The buildings were five stories high with four apartments per floor. Some apartments held two or more families. Each apartment had only one window. The tenement buildings comprised seventy five percent of the area.

The living conditions, despite the overcrowding, were accepted matter-of-factly by the immigrants. The poor conditions were first of all "gardens of Eden" as compared with the conditions they had fled in Eastern Europe. Secondly, the cheap accommodations allowed the families to set aside savings which they sent to their relatives still in Europe.

One shopkeeper who has spent his 58 years living on the Lower East Side told these reporters of his experiences. "All the Jews settled together... it was more than birds of a feather flock together. There was a tremendous concentration of Yeshivot... there were a half million Jews within a one mile radius... They were the pick of the Jewish population of America."

Sons and fathers brought the rest of their families over from Europe. Jewish communal life began to flourish. In 1917 there (Continued on Page 6, Col. 2)

Dean Kurtzer Interviewed On Arab-Israeli Dissension

By DANIEL GOTTLIEB

As this article is being written the enigma surrounding the Middle East conflict with its many different facets is becoming more complex and harder to comprehend. YC Dean, Dr. Daniel C. Kurtzer, who recently left his post with the State Department where he served as a Foreign Service Officer working in the UN Office of Political Affairs, is an expert on Middle East politics and recently shared some of his views in a November 9 interview. In no way did he feel any alienation from the Jewish Community while at the UN; in fact says Dr. Kurtzer, "I really felt that I was making a contribution because the presence of people whose orientation is not philosophically opposed to Israel is rather important in the formation of US policy." The Dean has deep feelings for Medinat Yisrael and Eretz Yisrael but as an analyst he takes a "less passionate view of things" and seeks accommodations for the problems.

Arab Interests

Discussing alleged Arab influence in State Department policy making, Dr. Kurtzer said that the US represents a "plurality of interests... and of course we have an interest in good and mutually beneficial relations with the Arab world." At the same time the US "has an interest in the security and territorial in-

tegrity of Israel... which it will not sacrifice even when trying to improve ties with the Arab world. In response to a recent Armed Forces' Journal article which implied that the US is making a foolish investment in Israel, Dr. Kurtzer said, "This is not really a central issue... the point can be argued either way." To contrast the AFJ article he cited former Air Force Intelligence Chief General Keegan "who has tried to document the kinds of assistance the Israelis have given the US in the form of billions of dollars in military intelligence. I think the US has a legitimate national interest in Israel... it is either a moral commitment or possibly even a tangible interest." However, continues Dr. Kurtzer, "Israel is susceptible to much pressure... which the US has applied, in some cases, wisely, and in other cases, unwisely."

The US would not think of denying Israel the needed economic and military aid but will rather exert political and diplomatic pressure to achieve its goals. "The open record indicates that Israel has been as obstinate (Continued on Page 5, Col. 1)

Goal Of YC Bnei Akiva To Spread Idea Of Aliya

Wouldn't it be nice if we could all just leave our galut here in America and live out our lives in aretz? Indeed, many YU students have spent time learning in Israel and all are eager to expound the virtues of life there, yet how many of them are actually ready to leave the comforts of their life in America and move permanently to Israel?

A few years ago, a group of people from the Bnei Akiva youth organization started a chapter here at Yeshiva College to try and spread the idea of aliya on campus. The group arranged various programs and distributed informative literature in an effort to make students more aware of the importance of aliya and especially of the halachic factors involved.

This Yeshiva College branch of Bnei Akiva recently held its first meeting of the current school year. The club has always held special minyanim on Yom Ha'atzmaut and Yom Yerushalaim at which hallel is recited with a bracha, and which are followed by a kiddush and a guest speaker, in an effort to create a holiday atmosphere on these

days. At the meeting however, it was unanimously decided by the members that significantly more had to be done this year.

Torah Va'avodah

Bnei Akiva on the national level is a "religious Zionist" youth movement, the goal of which is to orient American youth towards aliya in the spirit of Torah, Avodah and Chalutzit. The national director of Bnei Akiva, Dov Bloom, is a visiting professor in the Erna Michael College and is currently working on his masters degree at Bernard Revel graduate school. Bnei Akiva has youth centers throughout the country, with tzifim, or branches, which meet regularly to expose Jewish youth to the ideals of Bnei Akiva and to have them meet others who share the same views and goals. It is the largest Zionist youth movement in the world and is the only one that calls itself a religious movement. (Continued on Page 5, Col. 4)

Australian Jews Searching For Their Torah Heritage

(Continued from Page 3, Col. 2) Australia are winter months and all students are in school. So the team can work within the framework of the school.

Not only does "Counterpoint" deal with students, it deals with adults and the community as a whole. There are special lectures and shabbatonim geared especially for adults.

Due to the expenses incurred, only 14 Americans make up the team. There is one coordinator and one central Torah personality. The rest of the group consists primarily of YU students who have seminar experience. Obviously, because of the size of the team, there is a great strain on them to put out 100% each day. Out of the 14 members of the team, 6 of them go to Perth, Australia for one week. This past year, a separate team of 3 went to Sydney, Australia. However,

Unity Rally

(Continued from Page 1, Col. 2) was conducted with Rabbi Israel Miller, Vice President for Student Affairs. Rabbi Miller stated that he would have preferred to have been invited to the rally, and that he did offer to speak to a meeting of students, but was told by Mr. Skydell that this would not be necessary. With regard to Mr. Lichtenstein's charges, Rabbi Miller stated that "Howie Lichtenstein is telling a lie in saying that he couldn't get an appointment with me." He went on to say that although Rabbi Lamm is not the person he should have gone to first regarding the matter, if Lichtenstein wanted to see Rabbi Lamm Rabbi Miller would have helped him set up such an appointment. Rabbi Miller further stated that his office has always been an open and responsive one, and that he meets regularly with student leaders including Lichtenstein on a regular basis.

In response to the assertion that the rally was the impetus for the action finally taken, Dr. Miller termed that as "childish," and that he has personally held meetings with student leaders, Col. Marmorstein, and the police, all in an attempt to improve the situation. In reference to the setting up of a student patrol, Rabbi Miller expressed the opinion that he was not in favor of such a patrol, that the administration never proposed it, and that he agrees with the claim that it is something that is ridiculous to ask of Yeshiva students. He also mentioned the fact that if something happened on such a patrol, he would be held responsible, and was not willing to take this responsibility upon himself.

Although Rabbi Miller saw no point to the rally, he did maintain that it is the students' right to hold such a rally, and that if the organizers would have asked for a place to have it, he would have let them use the Rubin Study Hall. Access to Lampport Auditorium was gained without official permission, and Rabbi Miller stated that he doesn't know how the students got in or even who sponsored the rally. Dr. Miller asks that students not be "hysterical" about the situation, and that they realize that the administration is obviously concerned about neighborhood safety since they have to work in the same place and at times even use the subways.

Rabbi Katz explained, the Americans gain just as much as the Australians do from the experience.

Bringing Jews Back

The underlying hope of all who are involved in "Counterpoint" is that someday there will be no necessity to import Americans to Australia, but that Australians will be able to run their own seminars. This is why a great deal of emphasis is placed on training Australians, and there is encouragement in the form of follow-up programs after the Americans leave.

The "Counterpoint" program is presently under the auspices of the youth bureau of the Community Services Division of YU and the Mount Scopus Memorial College of Melbourne, Australia. Because of the success of "Counterpoint" in Australia, there are now similar programs in South Africa and Caracas.

Those involved hope to be able to reach Jews all over the world and bring them back to their Jewish heritage.

An In Depth Look

Office Of Student Finance

In the eyes of many students, Yeshiva's Office of Student Finances (OSF) is public enemy number one. When one considers the fact that this office is the branch of Yeshiva that represents the University in its dealings with the students, it is easy to understand how this image has developed. An office involved in billing students for tuition, dormitory refrigerators, and the like can't help but have a popularity rivaling that of the Internal Revenue Service.

In reality, however, bill collection is only one facet of the task delegated to the OSF. The office is also involved in the awarding and distribution of financial aid, a service that many students undoubtedly appreciate.

Student inquiries and complaints have, however, prompted THE COMMENTATOR to take a look at this aspect of the OSF.

Resource Evaluation

According to Norman Twersky, assistant director of the OSF, Yeshiva has been using the Parents' Confidential Statement and more recently the Financial Aid Form as a guideline in determining a student's eligibility for financial aid. The forms, provided by the College Scholarship Service in Princeton, NJ, include information about the financial status of the applicant and his family.

After evaluating both the form and budgetary information supplied by Yeshiva, the CSS provides the University with an opinion as to the amount of financial aid that the applicant requires. Rabbi Twersky stresses that although this form alone is actually considered sufficient by many schools, Yeshiva includes other considerations when allocating funds.

According to Twersky, Yeshiva might consider the burden of yeshiva high school tuition payments that is carried by many YU parents, a factor that the College Scholarship Service ignores. Similarly, says Twersky, Yeshiva may take into account the age of parents who are nearing retirement age and will thus

Competition High Yet Few Opportunities For Careers In Field Of Communication

By JACK STROH

On Thursday, December 8 at 2:45 pm, Mr. Mitchell Freund, Public Access Director of Teleprompter Cable Television, spoke to the Yeshiva College student body concerning the topic, "TV as a Career: Opportunities and Prerequisites." Mr. Freund is the first

speaker in a series to be sponsored by the Dr. Abraham Tauber Speech Club. The series plans to explore the opportunities in the area of Speech and Drama.

Highly Competitive

The talk was conducted by Mr. Freund as an informal question and answer period. The first questioner asked how one enters the communications business. Mr. Freund told the audience that it is very hard to get a job in the communications field. Only six out of the fifty graduates in his class were able to find employment in their field after leaving school. A media-boom which started in the 1960's has carried over into the 70's. This boom especially soared to new heights after the Watergate incident, as many Americans were fascinated by the fame attained by certain reporters in television, radio, and journalism.

Finding employment in the media has been complicated even more, since colleges around the country have introduced career training in communications.

A student interested in a career in communications must do more than take undergraduate courses in Speech, Drama, or Engineering. Before a director will even look at a student's resume, he must have a bachelor's degree, but for a realistic chance for employment, a student should present a masters degree. The student must also get an internship, to show the director that he has had concrete "in-the-field" experience, and not only abstract classroom experience. An internship is not easy to find, and furthermore, when a student is lucky enough to be given a chance to intern, he must work very hard,

long and bizarre hours for little, if any, monetary compensation.

TV Repairmen Needed

"Anyone interested in a career in communications should best consider becoming a broadcast engineer," said Mr. Freund. There is much demand for technically skilled workers who can fix set equipment on the spot. Special schools such as the RCA School or IVC School teach this line of work.

While the outlook is bleak for the communications business, there are advantages. The union pay scale in New York is higher than in other cities and the average member can earn about \$14,000 after two years of experience. The field offers more room for creativity and freedom than most other businesses, especially on the production level.

Opportunities for Jews

A member of the audience asked Mr. Freund about the feasibility of Orthodox Jews working in the communications field. "Communications is a very Jewish business," said Freund, "especially the ABC and NBC television and radio networks." Since Jews hold high positions at these

(Continued on Page 11, Col. 5)

YCSC Meeting On HBO Issue

(Continued from Page 1, Col. 3)

Discussion next shifted to the alarming increase in the number of crimes in the YU area, a subject which seems to be the current center of conversation at Yeshiva College. Representative David Cherna declared that YCSC should pressure the administration to take action regarding this serious problem. He suggested the possibility of a guard walking between the subway and the college at night, to accompany students. The possibility of a downtown shuttle service was also discussed. Mr. Skydell agreed to discuss the matter with Dr. Miller, Vice President of Student Affairs.

Answers to Crime

The remainder of the meeting revolved around discussion of allocations for various clubs and committees. Four hundred dollars was allocated for the Universal Gym, bringing the total allocation made by YCSC for this costly machine to \$1900. Three hundred dollars was allocated for use by the newly organized YU Tennis Team, to help meet their practice costs, and \$100 was given to the Karate club to help pay for new equipment. The Dr. Abraham Tauber Memorial Speech Club received a fifty dollar donation towards the purchase of a Torah cover in memory of Dr. Tauber. The Debating Team, an active team in the past but dormant for the past two years, received \$40 to help reactivate it.

Other business discussed at the meeting included: the selling of class rings, beginning Dec. 22; YCSC T-shirts and gym shorts, soon to be sold; and theatre discount tickets which are available in M224.

be unable to depend on full salaries in future years.

After arriving at a financial aid figure that the University considers fair and subtracting from this total any outside aid on which the applicant can depend, such as state aid or a federal Basic Opportunity Grant, the OSF reaches a final total that will be awarded to the student.

In general, says Twersky, the OSF attempts to continue the long standing YU policy stating that financial considerations shouldn't deter a student from attending Yeshiva.

In addition, according to Twersky, the students also benefit from reevaluations of their status which allow students to request an increase in their al-

lotment at any time during the academic year.

Aid Package

The financial aid is finally given to the student as part of a complete package based on scholarship, work-study and loan funds, the three types of financial aid that are available.

The OSF uses a three pronged approach in developing the package. This approach considers the fact that the University must assume a portion of the economic burden, while the rest can be shared by the student, who can work to pay for some of his tuition, and the parent, who can be responsible for the repayment of loan money.

The actual breakdown of the financial aid package varies from student to student. In general, though, for a \$2,000 allocation the package might consist of between \$900 and \$1,000 in scholarship funds with another \$1,000 coming through work-study or loans.

Twersky points out that the exact composition of the package depends to a great extent on the availability of funds in each of the three categories. This year, for example, OSF claims that the government has slashed Yeshiva's work-study allocation by fifty percent, creating a critical shortage of funds.

Work-Study At Yeshiva

The work-study is, in fact, the most complex of the financial aid programs and has attracted the most criticism from students.

This federal program allows the University to employ students at low cost. The school pays only 20 percent of the salary, while the government provides the remaining 80 percent.

Under the program, the University allocates a maximum sum that the student can earn during the fifteen or thirty-five maximum working hours that are allowed him weekly during the academic year or the summer, respectively. The salary scale which is arranged at the discretion of Yeshiva, provides freshmen with \$2 per hour and upper class-

(Continued on Page 9, Col. 3)

SOY Chagiga

(Continued from Page 1, Col. 5) Torah is equivalent to or. Also, Purim represents the written Torah, since it has a megillah, while Chanukah represents the Torah she-beal peh having no megillah.

Dr. Lamm closed by relating the two answers of the Ramban to the questions of why the Hasmoneans were destroyed after having done so much good for Israel. The reasons were that the Hasmoneans had usurped the throne from the Davidic dynasty, the rightful rulers of Israel, and that they had neglected their own duties of ministering the temple.

The fate of the Hasmoneans, concluded Dr. Lamm, should be a lesson to students at Yeshiva. If one has the ability to be a teacher of Torah and instead shirks his obligation to Judaism and becomes a physician or lawyer he will suffer the fate of the Hasmoneans. The learning and spreading of Torah is the essence of the existence of the Jewish people. Anyone who is qualified to teach Torah should dedicate his life to it, despite hardships.

Dancing and music followed President Lamm's address, with SOY providing refreshments for all.

Senate Approves Yiddish To Satisfy Requirement

(Continued from Page 1, Col. 4) Feldman expressed reservations over whether Yiddish is truly a foreign language to Yeshiva College students.

Dean Rabinowitz commented that if Yiddish were to be incorporated into the Judaic studies, it would be applicable only to EMC and JSS students. YP students would not be able to take advantage of it. He furthered his remarks by saying that, "Hebrew is not considered a foreign language at Yeshiva because it's so vital to the wide range of other Judaic courses," but, "Yiddish does have a rich literature and culture of its own" and could be treated as French or German.

Yiddish Is Accepted

Dr. Marvin Herzog, Professor of Yiddish at Columbia University, who attended the Senate meeting of December 1, as an invited speaker, claimed that the legitimacy of Yiddish literature depends on one's point of view. In Columbia, he claimed, Yiddish does satisfy the foreign language requirement. As a matter of fact, Dr. Herzog mentioned that there were sixteen students in graduate school at Columbia getting masters and doctoral degrees in Yiddish. Referring to other graduate schools in general, Dr. Herzog said the acceptability of Yiddish will depend upon the graduate program being entered. Surely a person entering a field in social work will find Yiddish most beneficial.

When posed with the problem of whether Yiddish would damage the accreditation of the College, Dr. Silverman commented

that Yiddish is fully acceptable and would not damage the reputation of Yeshiva College.

Rebutting Arguments

Mr. Robert Friedman, Secretary of the Senate, rebutted some major arguments against Yiddish to fulfill the foreign language requirements by reminding the Senate of previous remarks made by Dean Bacon last year concerning this subject. There would be proper guidance to advise students whether they should take Yiddish and whether it could damage their future career. Also, a person who does need a foreign language in graduate school can use Hebrew to qualify for that requirement if Yiddish is unacceptable, despite the fact that it does not fulfill the Yeshiva College language requirement.

The Yiddish proposal states, "that Yiddish could be used to satisfy the Yeshiva College language requirement, effective September 1978. All regulations of the college pertaining to the other acceptable languages will apply as well to Yiddish." The proposal will now have to be voted on and accepted by two-thirds of the Faculty Assembly if it is to become part of Yeshiva College regulations.

Another item of business that was brought up at the Senate meeting of December 8 was the possibility of adding a Humanities minor to the curriculum; a proposal made by former YC Dean Isaac Bacon last year; the item was tabled, until Dr. Bacon will be able to come before the Senate and discuss the resolution.

YC Dean Analyzes Middle East Conflict During Two Recent In-Depth Interviews

(Continued from Page 3, Col. 2) in dealing with the Arabs as the Arabs have been in dealing with the Israelis . . . and because of their multifaceted interests . . . at times the US will bend in one way and at times in the other." The Yom Kippur War is the classic example of bending towards Israel while "now there is a deliberate imbalance or tilt to the Arab side simply to encourage an Israeli concession." In achieving an Israeli concession the US might delay or withhold some equipment, but, says Dean Kurtzer, "I don't doubt the US commitment to maintaining the basic level of Israeli security and independence.

The Blueprint

President Carter, who recently lost much popularity within the Jewish community, is not really changing his policies, but rather "feels that he has the personnel together . . . and is following his "blueprint" which is outlined in the Brookings Report (1975) . . . which calls for withdrawal with security guarantees for Israel." While it may be doubtful whether mere territorial concessions will obliterate generations of Arab enmity, Dr. Kurtzer claims that territory is not the issue. "The real issue is that there are two national identities in Palestine and it is unreasonable for the Jews to believe that there is no such thing as Palestinian-Arab national identity . . . to challenge the existence of a Palestinian-Arab identity is self-defeating . . . Unless there will

be an ultimate victor and loser, there must be some compromise."

Dr. Kurtzer terms the PLO Covenant (1968) which calls for the unconditional elimination of Israel an "abhorrent document" but warns that the superstructure should not be confused with the foundation. "The Palestinians, having no territorial base from which to launch their claims, had no other recourse other than radical rhetoric." They hope to be able to win everything in this inflammatory manner rather than by compromise. But, the problem still exists — there are Palestinians for whom room must be found without conflict.

With regard to the status of the "territories" Dr. Kurtzer admitted that before 1973 he would have felt it unwise for Israel to maintain her presence there, but after 1973, it would have been very wise. Now, however, "the situation is in too great a flux for unilateral action." A withdrawal would be interpreted as bowing to pressure; we are in a bargaining situation where we must get something for everything we relinquish. Despite the fact that

the Arabs have deceived Israel in the past, Dr. Kurtzer claims that trust is no element in these negotiations because "there would be enough checks and balances that would not place Israel in jeopardy." Israel would not be taking a "plunge into cold water without clothes . . . If they are as good at negotiating for peace as they are in the shuk they'll do O.K."

A Second Interview

In the past few weeks we witnessed monumental reversals of Egyptian policy with the recognition of Israel's right to exist. Dr. Kurtzer, in a second interview (November 29) said that he face to face negotiations will be helpful not to settle the basic differences, but possibly to create a legal fiction whereby the Arabs would maintain sovereignty under Israeli military control, similar to the plan proposed in the Brookings Report. With regard to Sadat's present position, Dr. Kurtzer sees him in a "do or die" situation in which he must get everything that he seeks or at least be able to blame the intransigence on the Israelis. His surprising move can be viewed either as a last ditch effort to gain popularity, an attempt to prevent Syrian domination in the Middle East, or as a political tactic which gives Israel the ball on their own one yard line requiring them to move quickly and carefully. One month ago no one would have imagined face to face talks — who knows what will happen next week?

The Editor-in-Chief and the entire Governing Board of THE COMMENTATOR wish to express their sincerest wishes of mazal tov to former Contributing Editor Mark Breslow (YC '75) on his recent engagement.

Not Just Tokin'

Losing Is Everything(?)

By IRA TOKAYER



Adding insult to the proverbial injury, some Brooklyn scrub hits a bankshot from across midcourt as the buzzer sounds, icing the YU Maccabees' first loss of the long season.

Even with this initial loss, the Macs seem stronger, bigger and quicker, and determined to reverse the trend that has seen our varsity basketball team degenerate more each year. But, let's face it, our Macs are not to be confused with the Mighty Mites of the 4-F years. They promise to be competitive and will give us a fair amount of relative YU manifestation of thrills, but they will also invariably lose their share of games. Hopefully not more.

With every succeeding losing season the status of the team seems to come under scrutiny. Inadequate people project embarrassment unto the losing Maccabees and regard them as a team which serves to ridicule Yeshiva and is anything but a source of pride.

Well, the fact is that this sentiment is symptomatic of an increasing trend of American sports in general. It's representative of a society which values winning over competitiveness.

Like almost everyone else, I feel I am an authority to write about losing. Everyone has his own personal stories: a lost girlfriend, a flat tire at a crucial moment, getting hit by a gondola

crossing Danciger campus on a rainy day. . . . The list is endless. I would like to relate two of my personal experiences. Firstly, like Roy White, I became old enough to become a part of the great generations of Yankee victories in 1965 (when they dropped to the cellar), and by 1977 I no longer had the boyish enthusiasm to participate in all their glory.

Secondly, I had an experience with a certain elementary school team which I managed to an 0-11-1 record (with 2 exhibition game losses). The kids thrown at me didn't know how to swing a bat, which hand to put a glove on, thought the second baseman plays ON second base, and had the sum total energy of a Geritol commercial. Yet every defeat became my own personal Waterloo. It was traumatic for me. (For a whole season I walked around like I swallowed a lemon — sort of like taking Biology.) And those poor kids still stutter because I refused to be the only one to take the loss home.

Finally, out of necessity I came to realize (though too late to help those kids) that losing is nothing to be embarrassed about, rather it is, oddly enough, actually the essential part of the sports experience.

The sports field, be it on the basketball court or the baseball diamond, is a microcosm of society, life reflected in the miniature. And in this life, losing is as human as man. (Some of us are merely more human than others!) Those of us at twenty, in addition to the physical atrophy that occurs, realize that if anything in our world is inevitable (aside

from athlete's foot and seniors writing about senioritis) it is defeat in one of its many manifestations. Who will not at some point in time have to learn to cope with disappointment or face failure? And how fortunate is the one who has had the opportunity to learn how to emotionally cope with losing in sports, where the emotions are real, yet relatively little is at stake?

And it seems that losing, precisely because it is so human, is especially endearing and can generate more fanaticism and love than winning. "You may glory in a team triumphant, but you fall in love with a team in defeat." All the great Yankee wins could inspire nowhere near the passion generated by the '61 Mets, or the identification felt for the '51 Brooklyn Dodgers — who were great but unable to escape those inevitable defeats at the hands of the Yanks.

Now, I've found from experience that being too subtle is dangerous, so to clarify I'd like to say that the purpose of this soliloquy is to point out that a sports program has a value aside from accumulating victories. Through sports one learns competitive skills and cooperative values, in addition to the pure and simple exercise it affords and the real-life emotions experienced through it.

To conclude, let's cheer on our teams as they battle the inevitable, let's experience vicariously through them, and let's beg them to make this rationalization of a containing meaningless dribble and give us some wins. After all, in the final analysis, losing is good but winning is the best.

Goal Of Bnei Akivaniks To Promote Aliya Concept

(Continued from Page 3, Col. 5) ment.

Its members range in school level from fourth grade to high school. Upon graduation from high school, members are urged to spend some time in Israel. They eventually become the leaders who try to show the younger members the importance of aliyah. All leaders of Bnei Akiva have spent at least one year in Israel learning in yeshivot and working on kibbutzim. The idea behind the slogan of Torah Va'avodah is, that in addition to spending time learning Torah, a Jew is expected to spend some time working for the nation of Israel and specifically toward the building of the Medina. The ideals of Bnei Akiva are based on the ideals of Rav Kook, who also took part in the founding of the organization.

The Bnei Akiva organization runs many header yeshivot, kibbutzim and religious high schools in Israel. Some day they would like to open a yeshiva here in America, the sole purpose of which would be to encourage its students to go on aliyah.

Garinim

The most important part of Bnei Akiva in America is the Garinim program. Garinim are groups of people who are inter-

ested in moving permanently to Israel. These people approach the officials of the Bnei Akiva organization and group meetings are arranged at which these people meet others who are planning to move to Israel. At these meetings they discuss and compare the problems they have encountered and try to find possible solutions.

The Yeshiva University branch of Bnei Akiva plans this year to concentrate on encouraging students to seriously consider aliyah. An organization known as Midrasha for Eretz Yisroel Studies, run partially by Bnei Akiva, has been established. Speakers will be supplied on a weekly basis to speak at Yeshiva, Columbia, Queens and other campuses of the City University system, to discuss the importance of making aliyah.

According to Shmuelie Weinglass, President of the Bnei Akiva club, members will be passing out literature on the garinim program and on the significance, from a halachic perspective, of aliyah, Yom Ha'atzmaut and Yom Yerushalaim. They will talk to as many people as possible and try to instill in them an appreciation for the concept that everyone should make aliyah.

Commentator OP-ED

Pre-Med Grub

By STEVEN COOPER

In his book *Getting into Medical School*, Sanford J. Brown describes the pre-med as follows: "On any college campus, those suffering from the pre-med syndrome are the students who look most like they've been in a pressure cooker. Worn and haggard, but very determined, they are the last to leave the library at night and the first to arrive in the morning. They don't go out much unless there's a lecture on diabetes or heart disease. Their extracurricular activities consist of membership in the pre-medical society and flipping a frisbee for physical fitness. Artistically, all of their drawing is done with a number two lead pencil on IBM sheets. Musically, they are satisfied with AM radio. Ask them to demonstrate or sign a petition and they say, 'What, and blow med school?' Psychologically, they are anal retentive types who make up daily schedules so they won't forget anything. Their lab notebooks are impeccably neat. Major headings are underlined in red, minor ones in blue. They never miss a class without getting the notes. All homework assignments are handed in on time. Before examinations, they study incessantly, develop a tachycardia and become diaphoretic. This anxiety is theoretically linked with an impending sense of doom, but the symptoms promptly abate after they 'ace,' 'gun,' or are 'all over' the exam. If they do poorly, they are miserable and hard to live with."

Add to this Stanley H. Kaplan's, and this completely describes the Yeshiva College pre-medical student. In its freshman year, the class of 1978 began with 140 pre-meds. The present figure is approximately 40, including several students who joined our class at a later date. The remaining students, exceeding 100 in number, transferred out of Yeshiva or opted for other professions. Of the latter group, some found that their hearts were not in medicine, some had poor records, others both. The remaining 40 are all truly dedicated, idealistic individuals whose motivation towards medicine is unparalleled.

Or maybe not. Though the level of cheating among pre-meds at Yeshiva is below that of other institutions, that students who claim to be *bnai torah* can ever cheat is inexcusable. Moreover, though saboteurs are not to be found frequently in the laboratories, the unselfish and ready-to-give attitude that should prevail is often quite lacking.

Other attitudes exist among pre-meds that should not be encouraged. Most pre-meds choose to content themselves with a pre-medical studies major. While there are valid reasons why this major does exist as such, pre-meds should opt to complete a subject major also, but they rarely do. They choose instead to clutter their schedule with obscure courses. Rather than im-

prove their science backgrounds with biology or chemistry electives, or broadening their cultural and intellectual horizons with literature or philosophy courses, they choose to "Clep" out of requirements and take valueless, easy "ace" courses. Apathetic toward intellectual growth, these pre-medical students choose to study only for the "A," never even considering that perhaps something can be gained from the course material itself. Students often cut classes and get the notes as the class is too "dull" to "bother" attending. Thus is the Grub characterized.

Oftentime the pre-med forgets the first half of Torah Umada. The RIETS student will be in a "country club" shiur. The EMC student will arrange his schedule so as to acquire three easy credits of "A."

No pre-med has yet awoken in the morning to find that his Wheaties have been poisoned, but students of an institution synthesizing Torah and secular values should display a higher degree of idealism and dedication.

New York's Lower East Side

(Continued from Page 3, Col. 5) were 365 synagogues in the Lower East Side. In addition there were fifty to seventy High Holiday shuls, with an average membership of two hundred. Yiddish papers also came to the fore. Some of the more famous ones (circa 1916) were: the *Tageblatt*, *The Jewish Morning Journal* and *The Forward*.

Social and Economic Change

With their initial objective achieved, families now looked beyond the East River. Urban congestion, and the improving of familial financial situations precipitated the move westward. By 1910, the main mode of employment for the Jews, the clothing industry, was moving its base to the West Side. Consequently, the "walk to work" advantage to the East Side was eliminated. The growing inter-borough transit system and moderate rental rates of the suburbs also played a role in the exodus. Moreover, fundamental changes occurred in the Jewish social fabric. An 1890 survey of the Lower East Side indicated that 98.6% of the Jewish population were shopkeepers, artisans and tradesmen. The other 1.4% were Hebrew teachers and musicians. No other professions were even listed.

By 1920, the occupational and class structure had changed considerably. Parents encouraged their children to become educated and to better their social and economic situations. As early as 1915, Jews comprised 85% of the student bodies of the city colleges. The number of Jewish doctors and lawyers (that all important barometer of success) rose dramatically. Many other Jews became affluent through commercial endeavors. The corresponding assimilation of Jews into the secular society was also due to the work of the Educational Alliance, established by the German Jews. This organization managed to "Americanize" the Eastern European and Rus-

sian Jews. "The Yeshiva College Student Council invites you to the premiere movie of the 1977-1978 school year." A small mimeographed sign peaks out among tons of others at Rubin Hall. Five students watch the movie, delighted with the "private showing." Ten enthusiastic basketball seniors race over to George Washington High School for their scheduled YC intramural game, only to find out that their opponents, the sophomores, "couldn't make it that evening."

Supposedly, according to the new administration of YC, we are "entering a new era in the history of Yeshiva College." The new administration says it will work hard to satisfy students' wants and needs; the administration says it cares about the students. The new administration, a highly qualified group, its members overflowing with credentials, says it wants to bring professionalism to Yeshiva College. But does this professionalism stop with the administration — what about the student leaders?

sian Jews.

Another proprietor stated, "Family life today is nothing compared to what we used to have. We haven't maintained our affinity. Children deviated from their elders . . . I'm not sure what you would call it . . . We used to have *shtiebels* where one could learn all night. A man would work sixteen hours a day and then fall asleep while learning at a Yeshiva . . . Affluence led to the demise of the family group . . . There were no more hardships . . . They became doctors and lawyers. They believed that you could not be both (totally religious and professional). To get some idea of what the Lower East Side was like then, one can go to today's Williamsburg or Boro Park . . . but it isn't quite the same . . . we were much closer."

Except for a temporary influx following World War II, the Jewish population of the Lower East Side declined dramatically in comparison with the Jewish population as a whole.

Several years ago, the general decline of the Lower East Side which began at the turn of the century almost led to the death of the neighborhood's Jewish character. The introduction of a non-Jewish element into the area was leading to the type of urban decay now found in former heavily populated Jewish neighborhoods such as Brownsville and the South Bronx.

A Change for the Better

A few years ago, however, the Jewish residents began to organize themselves. They elected representatives to community panels such as the local school board. They elected the first orthodox Jewish state assembly. They also formed an organization to help the many elderly Jews in the area — The United Jewish Council of the East Side.

The Council runs a "Meals on Wheels" program, a consumer affairs program and provides as

well, community services to isolated elderly Jewish residents. Other community organizations include the YMHA, the Young Israel, the Educational Alliance, a few Yeshivot and the many once great synagogues of the East Side. Interestingly, many of the synagogues support themselves primarily with donations sent by the children of former congregants so that a Kaddish can be said for their relatives. The Jewish fabric has definitely changed, to say the least. It seems clear, the Lower East Side has declined in population and Jewish cultural activity over the past years. However, increased community awareness may be able to reverse this downward trend. Among the many elderly Jews who still live there, there are also some young and middle aged residents. These are the people who will determine the future character and destiny of this once thriving Jewish community. A young Lower East Side yeshiva student said it best, "Will I settle here? . . . Most of my friends live in Boro Park and Williamsburg but I guess I would stay here . . . there is a certain sense of warmth and *menschlichkeit* that can be found here, and nowhere else."

well, community services to isolated elderly Jewish residents.

Other community organizations include the YMHA, the Young Israel, the Educational Alliance, a few Yeshivot and the many once great synagogues of the East Side. Interestingly, many of the synagogues support themselves primarily with donations sent by the children of former congregants so that a Kaddish can be said for their relatives. The Jewish fabric has definitely changed, to say the least.

It seems clear, the Lower East Side has declined in population and Jewish cultural activity over the past years. However, increased community awareness may be able to reverse this downward trend. Among the many elderly Jews who still live there, there are also some young and middle aged residents. These are the people who will determine the future character and destiny of this once thriving Jewish community. A young Lower East Side yeshiva student said it best, "Will I settle here? . . . Most of my friends live in Boro Park and Williamsburg but I guess I would stay here . . . there is a certain sense of warmth and *menschlichkeit* that can be found here, and nowhere else."

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A Touch Of Class

By PHIL ROSEN

Imagine this scene in your mind: A high school senior listens attentively as the Yeshiva admissions officer describes the wide variety of activities that YC offers: movies, parties and a wide spectrum of team and intramural sports. This student then asks his friend, a YC freshman, for verification of this picture. "Sure they've got all of these activities, but I never went, I heard they're really bad." How can a school advertise its extracurricular activities when all they would do is turn away more students than they would attract?

Let's change the picture for a second. Location: Hunter College Auditorium. More than 1500 people give a rousing standing ovation as the President of YC SC introduces the nationally famous Robert Klein. Two hours later, 1500 people shuffle out laughing with delight after an immensely enjoyable evening. Overheard are bits and pieces of conversation: "That was some show. I didn't think Yeshiva could ever sponsor a show like that." "That Harry Skydell is some great President." "Why don't we have more productions like this — it was great. "This is the first professional thing that I've seen Yeshiva do."

The Robert Klein concert was fantastic — it was like something never seen before in the history of YC. My congratulations to Harry Skydell and the Yeshiva College Student Council; this was a hard job done very well. But please, don't stop here. The student leaders must work hard to make the extracurricular activities worth talking about. Leadership brings responsibility.

Try to bring a touch of professionalism to all events, even the small ones. The Robert Klein concert brought something to Yeshiva student activities that we must not give up — a touch of class.

The Dr. Abraham Tauber Speech Club will sponsor an Impromptu Speech Contest, to be held on Thursday, December 22 during Club Hour, in Room F 307. All who are interested in participating should contact Steven Passer in R 320.

Who's Whose

Engaged:

Larry Eisenberg, YC '75
to Maureen Grossman

Mark Breslow, YC '75
to Kaylee Laskowitz

Marty Gold, YC '74
to Susie Schuster

Sheldon Chanales, YC '76
to Suri Hauser

Eliezer Stavsky, YC '76
to Ruth Gruenbaum

John Schneck, YC '76
to Michelle Adler

Aryeh Gutentberg, YC '76
to Sandy Lowy

Manny Kanal, YC '77
to Judy Eisenman

Larry Adatto, YC '78
to Sharon Samter

The Editor-in-Chief and the entire Governing Board of THE COMMENTATOR wish to extend their sincerest wishes of *mazel tov* to former YCSC President Larry Eisenberg ('75) on his recent engagement.

Commentator OP-ED

Senioritis

By BERNIE KASTNER

You finally made it. You're a big senior. You've gone through three long years to earn your title. But big deal, who are you? Better, yet, what are you? So far you're a nothing in this day and age. You can walk in the streets or through the halls of the University priding an infinitum on the fact that you're a senior. But who will give a flying Duck? When people start asking you, "So what do you do for a living?" you tell them that you're a senior in college; they look at you as if that's the biggest mistake you've made in your life. Then you start to realize that being a senior isn't all that glorifying.

So, let's see now, where should I apply to grad school? I'm a psych major and have personally undergone a lot of psychoanalytic treatment, so I could get into clinical. What's that you say? Only one out of every 500 applicants with a 3.937 index gets in? Oh, I didn't know that. Well, social work sounds like a very worthwhile profession. What's that you say? That has the same value as being a senior in college. Oh. Med school is out because I don't feel like going to Italy. Law school is out because who am I to try to instill some justice into a society inundated with corruption?

What's there left to do? Hey, how about business? Yeah, that's what I'll do. I'll apply to business school. That should be a cinch! What's that you say? I have to take the GMAT? OK, so I will. What's all the excitement about? Kaplan's, huh. Oh yes, I've heard of him.

He's the guy who gets all of the tests ahead of time and then sells them for \$300 apiece. What business school did He go to? It's a hard exam, huh. OK, I'll sign up. What's next? Yes, write away to schools for applications. And don't forget to request financial aid forms.

(2½ months later upon reading catalogues.) Some schools want GRE scores. There goes another \$300! They all want recommendations. That means I have to practice getting down on my hands and knees. Who do I ask though? It's practically impossible to get to any of the professors around here, let alone to get enough time to TL them. And let's not forget transcripts. Problem: I have to call all of the previous six undergrad institutions I attended to send out my marks. And they're \$4 each. Application fees are at least \$25. That means I can't go out with "her" for a while.

I'm beginning to feel that my

Guidance

THE FLOATING HOSPITAL is presently accepting applications for summer employment in New York City from any college student who would like to work in this diagnostic and outpatient clinic. The ship sails the Hudson six hours each day during the summer; no over-night sailing, no rough seas (?). Interesting and rewarding work. Deadline: February 15, but apply early. Applications in Guidance Office; announcement posted on bulletin board outside F 413.

outlets are being cut off — how will I be able to let out my frustrations if I have to spend most of my nights sleeping with Kaplan's tapes? No, I won't let myself go to pieces. What! You have tickets to the World Series? Great! Oh, wait a minute — the boards are tomorrow. Spending Saturday nights filling out applications is very exciting — then again, so is watching a baseball game between the Seattle Mariners and the New York Mets. (If that should ever happen.)

Just took the boards. It's a good thing some schools don't request board scores. Now it's another four weeks of sweating it out. Meanwhile, three schools have just sent back my applications because they were incomplete. What next? You guessed it — interview time! At least I'm worthy of an interview. I can't, though, just walk in there like I walk into class. I've got to buy a new three-piece suit, new glasses and frames (the ones that have a built-in air cooling system to prevent fogging-up), and of course new socks. (That goes without saying, but I said it anyway.) Here it's only November and they tell me I have until March to buy my new socks. What's the rush?

Throughout this ordeal, many

a halcyon day pass without my even noticing it. What's the outside world like? Where are my friends? Where's the bathroom? Senioritis sets in. Now there's GRE part II, instead of the "UP." The throbbing of the heart and the pounding of the head increase. Muscle tension and "Gang Green" sets in. What happened to the happy senior? Was he ever happy? Will he be happy? Only Stanley Kaplan knows for sure. Is all this worth it? When I think about the cut-throat competition there is to get in, not to mention reverse racial discrimination, and the aggravation of playing the role of a zombi for ten months, how can I be optimistic? But I believe in Hashem and I believe in Miracles. Look at the '69 Mets. (What movie does that remind you of?) One can tell I'm a senior just by looking at the way I daven. I didn't know the true meaning of kavanah until now.

Hashem Yiten: If man does his part, Hashem will help him through the rest of the way. So despite the darkness of the senior year, I learn that there exists that spark of brightness, that glimmer of hope, that will shine forth and open the doors to grad school.

Now you tell me . . . can't you wait to be a senior?

Welcome To Stern College . . .

For Little Girls

By STEVEN COHEN

At the beginning of the current semester, a new dress code was instituted at Stern College. After having carefully considered both sides of the argument, I must disagree with this new policy. The dress code forbids the wearing of blue jeans and other garb such as sleeveless clothing. The code explicitly indicates that any instructor may, at his or her own pleasure, set higher standards of dress than the ones indicated in the code. This policy must be considered arbitrary at best and at worst an incoherent directive. Firstly, the code forbids the wearing of blue jeans, but leaves in silence the whole question of pants. Secondly, it allows every instructor to dictate his or her own separate code. Students may find themselves properly dressed for one class, yet immodestly dressed for another. If a dress code is to be viable, it must be uniform — not vague.

This all seems to say that Stern College students are infants and cannot be trusted to make mature decisions for themselves. This article does not assail the Jewish values behind the code. I find it disturbing that it must be enunciated in a formal code. I find it disturbing because Rabbi Berman and associates seem to be taking the levels of maturity and independence of their own students as a joke. In an adult atmosphere like Stern College, students, faculty and administration should be able to reach an understanding and not have arbitrary and capricious codes rammed down students'

throats.

In the final analysis, I believe that such moves cannot enhance the image of Stern College or of Yeshiva University. I suggest that the Stern College faculty should try to instill Jewish values in their students and not try to force these values on to them.

While everybody is still wrapped in the euphoria of President Sadat's trip to Jerusalem, we think it's time for some sober analysis. True, the trip was the creator of many firsts — the first time an Arab leader had tacitly recognized Israel, etc. But one must keep in mind the political realities of the Middle East, despite, or in spite, of all the rhetoric.

It was very nice to see Mr. Begin and President Sadat shake hands, to see the President visit Yad Vashem and lay a wreath at the memorial to fallen soldiers for the defense of Israel at the Knesset. The speeches were also very nice, although nothing new was said.

Now the problems start. Let us not forget that the pressure is now on Israel to make some obvious concessions. The reasons should be obvious: First, in order to quiet the Arab rejectionists (Syria, Lybia and Algeria) Israel will have to give Sadat something tangible that he could not get without going to Israel.

Bookstore Festival

By MARTY LEWITTER

And behold it was morning on the first Monday following the first Tuesday in the month without an "R" in its name. And this designates the festival for the people in the Land of Yeshiva, for behold on this day Bookstore does function and the people do know that it exists and lives.

On this day those brave souls gather at the appointed place, Furst 002, and do wait in patient order for the festive rituals. At the appointed time, between the hours of 12 and 3, during the part of the day known as afternoon, Bookstore reveals itself to these brave souls and the rituals do commence.

And at 12 noon Bookstore does open its gates and the voice emanates from within its greatness, and behold the words are spoken: "What doth thou require, oh inhabitants of Yeshiva? Speak, so that I may hear your prayers."

And the first participant of the ritual did come forth and did say: "Your mightiness, I am the humble spokesman of fifty of thy followers from the land of Yeshiva of the tribe of Pre-med. Alas, we have been without the most high and most perfect "text" which thou hast always provided to us. We have seen the coming and the passing of the time of Midterm, and yet the "text" has not reached us. We beseech thee, oh most high, that thou do provide to us "text" as thou hast in the past, for the sake of the perpetuation of the tribe of Pre-med. Please, oh great and glorious Bookstore, hear our humble request and answer your loyal followers."

Then there was silence. After a few moments Bookstore answered: "My precious followers, I hear your request with full heart and attention. Yet, as I'm sure thou must be aware, my services as provider of the people of Yeshiva require my attention for

many other important provisions. I must be certain that the supply of official Land of Yeshiva writing tablets does not expire. Surely thou seest the situation I face. Return to me in three weeks and petition me once more."

The next participant stopped forward and spoke: "I'm from the tribe of Info-Sci, my revered Bookstore, and do humbly request ten of my version of "text," for behold, we have but eight more services until the time of Final and we have patiently waited for "text" thus far. But behold, the people of Info-Sci grow restless and do in fact demand "text" before the lapse of one week."

And Bookstore grew angry and spoke to the spokesman and said: "Certainly, these people are tired, yet I have done all that I will do for them. Since they appear rebellious in mine eyes, let them acquire "text" on their own. No longer shall I provide for the tribe of Info-Sci. Yet, alas, I am a compassionate store; therefore pay heed my son. Tell the people of the tribe of Info-Sci to petition my helper Library in the in-between time. Perhaps Library can be of assistance."

Next was a meager soul who requested but a pen from the mighty Bookstore. "Alas, my son," said Bookstore quietly, "I pray that many be the Children of Yeshiva like thou, for thou makest simple requests and I do indeed take pleasure in helping thee."

And behold the time of Closing was drawing near and Bookstore began to get weary and did proclaim: "If any one of you dwellers of Yeshiva do yet have requests, come forth now, or thou shalt be delayed until the next festival time."

And behold, one final participant drew close to Bookstore, and behold, this was not a true (Continued on Page 8, Col. 1)

Cautious Optimism

By A. J. EDELHEIT

At this time this still seems to be true despite the recent break in the Arab camp. That means either withdrawal from the West Bank and/or concessions on the Palestinian issue. Furthermore if Israel does not do this, then her leaders are virtually condemning Mr. Sadat to death, either politically or literally, at the hands of a fanatic. Not to mention the possibility that unless concessions are made, a war, no doubt bloodier than the Yom Kippur War, will ensue. Secondly, Israel's stated policy for the last ten years has been that there would not be a withdrawal until direct negotiations are undertaken. So now Sadat says: "O.K., here are your direct negotiations — now withdraw." If Israel is to keep some semblance of support in world public opinion, U.N. notwithstanding, she will have to answer Mr. Sadat's gesture in kind. Anyone who thinks otherwise is deceiving him/herself and not looking at reality.

So much for the good news. Now for the bad news. Some-

where along the line the West has talked itself into the idea, and this author has heard this stated by many Jews and YU people, that Egypt is militarily weak. To this author's chagrin, this is untrue and it shows a complacency about the chances for war if concessions are not made. This complacency is just as dangerous as the pre-1973 complacency; it breeds contempt and high casualties when you are proved wrong.

We need only quote a statement by the chief of staff, Rav Aluf Motta Gur. In an interview with Yediot Aharonoth he stated that "Egypt will be ready for war in 1978." He quoted the fact that the Egyptians have been constantly breaking the terms of the interim agreement (news item: Egypt has 7 cannons too many in Sinai). Recently it was disclosed that the Egyptians have finished building fortifications on the east bank of the Suez Canal which can easily absorb 5 divisions (about 75,000 men). The (Continued on Page 9, Col. 1)

Bookstore

(Continued from Page 7, Col. 5) participant. And when Bookstore saw the stranger's countenance, Bookstore did indeed cringe with terror, for behold this stranger was the all-powerful Rismil. And Rismil did speak and say: "Bookstore, we have noticed thou hast not performed in the best interests of the dwellers of the Land of Yeshiva. We have a replacement for thee; thy time in this land hath expired. This is the final decision; thou shalt abide or be destroyed."

Bookstore pleaded, but to no avail. The all-powerful Rismil aimed his forefinger at Bookstore and said: "Thou hast until the passing of the time of Final to vacate this luxurious abode. Do not argue, as thou may only worsen the decree against thee. I have spoken. Hath thou any final remarks?" Bookstore emerged from his shrouds of silence and shame, and appeared extremely downtrodden. Rismil spoke once again, saying, "I did not mean to be this harsh, my once-loved Bookstore, yet what is done is done, please vacate soon, so that this feeling shall be easier on thy soul."

Bookstore looked at Rismil with a faint admiration and did finally utter: "Return at the next festival and petition me once again."

And behold, it was evening on the first Monday following the first Tuesday in the month without an "R" in its name.

Policemen Attend Anti-Crime Rally; Methods Of Crime Prevention Shown

(Continued from Page 1, Col. 5) ings" for muggers. A uniformed officer that was present even made the comment that he thought "Jews would have learned from Rabbi Meir Kahane not to let themselves be pushed around."

The police indicated that the major obstacle they have encountered in putting an end to the problem is that many students who are mugged do not report the incidents to the police or to campus security, or do so at a later time. In addition to this, once a suspect is caught, many students are afraid to press charges for fear of retaliation.

An example given was of a student who was mugged at 11 AM and did not report it until 4 PM. At noon, the police picked up three youths involved in suspicious activity, and after questioning had to let them go because the report of an incident wasn't filed yet. The three were believed to have committed the crime. When a series of incidents are reported, a pattern is established for the police to analyze, which subsequently leads to more effective control and apprehension of the assailants.

The officers stated that when a case comes to trial, the more reported incidents there are, the better the chance for a conviction. In addition to this, once those involved see that crimes are not reported and charges are not pressed, they come back again because of this image of intimidation that surrounds the University.

Cooperation Offered

The session was then opened for a question and answer period, which lasted almost two hours. The officers were asked how they felt about students going out and patrolling the neigh-

(Continued from Page 3, Col. 4) the person actively and conscientiously decided that none of the alternatives appealed to him. In this particular election, I opted for another common approach: "vote for the lesser of two evils." My feeling for that decision now,

is absolute regret, because in the long run, one's reasons for voting in favor of a certain party become irrelevant, and only the fact that one pulled the lever on that voting machine remains visible.

It was with this disappointing experience in mind that I cau-

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Jewish Association for College Youth



Rav Yehuda Amital, Rosh Yeshivat Har Etzion, addressing a group of Yeshiva students during Club Hour on Thursday, December 1. He is currently on a speaking tour which will take him to many colleges in the New York metropolitan area.

borhood themselves. The reply was that if these students were going out as vigilantes then it is "worse than what they are doing to you," but if a security patrol made up of students to keep a watch out for trouble and respond in the proper manner is formed, they would cooperate with them.

In response to a question asking what tips they might have for students in traveling the streets, they advised traveling in groups of not less than two people, walking away from buildings and near the curb, and using common sense in avoiding precarious situations. A question about the ethnic mix of the neighborhood contributing to the crime was answered by the revelation that the suspects arrested were all from the South Bronx and were not residents of this area.

A number of questions were addressed to Col. Marmorstein in regard to what efforts his office was taking to alleviate the security problem. Attacks were made by students on the Colonel about the ineptness of the University security guards and poor security conditions in general. To follow up many of the students' questions to Col. Marmorstein, this reporter conducted an interview the following day with the Colonel. Marmorstein expressed the opinion that security at Yeshiva was "good" but that naturally he could use more money to improve it. If granted more money, Marmorstein would not hire more guards but would install security monitors, cameras for the whole campus area that could be watched by a guard, and other security equipment.

Balloons and Slurs

In response to the charge that many of the guards can be found

sleeping on the job or congregating in the snack areas, Marmorstein admitted that this may well be the case, but that if students see these things happening and report them to him, those guards will be removed. Marmorstein commended the guards for their recent apprehension of a mugger, and stated that many of his guards are conscientious workers and even report in early to work. However, the more effective guards usually move on to better jobs, thus leaving the inexperienced and less desirable guards as the only ones available.

Marmorstein feels that if the students would cooperate with the guards, and not subject them to harassment, then the guards might feel better about helping them. Examples that he gave were of students throwing water balloons and garbage from windows at patrolling guards, and various racial and ethnic remarks that the guards often overhear.

When asked about his prediction for the future months with regard to the recent rash of incidents, Col. Marmorstein predicted that the number of incidents would decline due to the apprehension of the major suspects, and the traditional decline of crime in the winter months.

In reference to the proposal made by many students that the dormitory doors be locked in the evening hours to prevent the entrance of outsiders, Marmorstein replied that he had tried to do this a few years back but the students were opposed to this idea. However, if the students now want this, he will give it a trial run. He indicated that either a guard could be posted to check for student identification, or locks could be placed on the doors for which students would have keys.

The Right To Vote... For No One

tiously approached the New Jersey gubernatorial election. Serious analysis of the positions of the two major candidates revealed once again that neither man had, in my opinion, distinguished himself over his opponent. This time, however, when Election Day rolled around, I remained in New York and listened for the returns on the evening news.

Cynical? Possibly. Apathetic? No. I am not sure if any realistic solutions to the above dilemma exist, though I sometimes wonder if a column on the ballot entitled "Undecided" or "No Preference" would win overwhelmingly in every election.

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In Furst Hall, Room 501

Speaker At Hillel Rogoff Lecture Discusses Jews' Role In America

By STEVEN COHEN

Mr. Alfred Kazin, a noted author and speaker, delivered the sixth in the continuing series of Hillel Rogoff Memorial Lectures to a large and diverse audience at Koch Auditorium of Stern College. He spoke on the topic of "The Jewish Influence in American Culture."

In tracing the Jewish influence in American history, Mr. Kazin began by mentioning the Puritans who fled England to avoid religious persecution. Yet, in quoting Hawthorne who said that Jews were a "dead nation never to arise again," Mr. Kazin demonstrated the low regard of Judaism that the Puritan literature had during the early part of the Nineteenth Century.

Jewish prominence and influence increased during the Civil War period. Jews held many high official positions, for example, Judah Benjamin of the Confederate States. President Lincoln's second inaugural address had connections to biblical scripture, and author Herman Melville made use of biblical characters in his works *Moby Dick* and *Billy Budd*.

Mr. Kazin continued, and delineated the Jew at the turn of the century as a struggling immigrant who would eventually make a significant contribution to American culture. Jews entered almost all areas, becoming "slave traders, prostitutes, killers and even a few mayors." They brought with them from Europe their Yiddish culture, and burlesque with its irreverent humor, which Mr. Kazin interpreted as an outgrowth of the "Jews' compulsion to make everything funny." He cited Marx and Freud and their influence on society and continued to describe the inroads Jews have made in many areas especially since World War II.

The speaker also mentioned the need for one to believe in himself in order to succeed, "since success and popularity are not arbitrary." Yet he lamented the fact that Jews have to a great extent lost their Yiddish heritage, and hence many ties with the past.

Mr. Kazin closed by giving an overall view of Jewish life in America: "We are part of a na-

ture. Never, as here in America, have we lived with such hope. Life is valued as nowhere else, not even in Israel."

After a lapse of several years, the Yeshiva College Debating Team is once again assuming an active role in intercollegiate affairs. Their first debate is scheduled for Sunday, December 18 against Stern College in Brookdale Hall, Room 418 at 4:30.

This will be the first of two such debates to be held this year. The topic chosen for its obvious relevance to the Yeshiva community, will be: *Resolved: That preferential treatment in higher education should be accorded minorities who have suffered the effects of societal discrimination.* Yeshiva College will be taking the affirmative position, all are invited to attend.

Under the auspices of co-captains David Bart and Allen Friedman and the team's faculty advisor Dr. Fleischer, tryouts were held several weeks ago and junior Orie Shapiro and sophomore Sheon Karol were chosen for the upcoming debate. Four debates have already been scheduled with a number of colleges and more will be scheduled in the near future.

In the past, the debating team has been one of the most active and successful of the college's clubs and teams, debating against teams from such schools as Harvard, the University of San Francisco, Chicago University and others throughout the country. This year the team hopes to resume its leading role and, to that end, aside from debates with metropolitan area colleges, the team has at least two debates scheduled with colleges outside the area, to be held in late March.

Review

Night Song is a musical revue playing at the Village Gate. Ron Eliran, singer, lyricist, and composer, is making his first extensive concert tour after performing throughout Canada, Europe, Asia, Africa, and Australia. In Night Song he is flanked by three female performers — Holly Lipton, Dian Sorel, Joy Kohner, an obvious take-off from Dawn, though not as visually pleasing. Although they all have their solo moments, the show is all Ron Eliran.

The material is well-done and charming, and some of the lyrics are somewhat thought-provoking.

"Who am I, Where am I going" is a lyric which seemed particularly to catch my attention with special immediacy, as I felt it characterized the whole performance. There is no direction and no strikingly individualistic style. It is all new material which doesn't help alleviate the disorientation created by the conglomerate of a multitude of different musical modes.

All in all, Night Song makes for a pleasurable evening, if your company is good. (RS)

Debating

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Letters To The Editor

(Continued from Page 2, Col. 3) a "research" institution, and any scholarly work coming out of such departments should be viewed as unexpected dividends.

Samuel W. Blackman
Assoc. Prof. in Chemistry

To the Editor,

Upon reading recent issues of THE COMMENTATOR I have frequently come across advertisements concerning the availability of Collegiate Research Papers. In the light of THE COMMENTATOR's advocacy of higher educational standards at Yeshiva College, it is difficult to justify the purpose of seeking such advertisements. I am convinced that THE COMMENTATOR can survive without the monies that pay for these ads. Although the Governing Board does not endorse any of the products or services advertised in THE COMMENTATOR, by making these papers available to students they are partners to a deliberate subversion of scholastic excellence at Yeshiva College.

Steven Laifer
YC 78

To the Editor:

My hearty congratulations go to Shelly Senders for his taking

a principled stand on the issue of CLEP examinations and academic standards (THE COMMENTATOR, Nov. 28, 1977, p. 5). It is refreshing to see in print the realization that CLEP examinations, as they are currently misused by many, cause more harm than good. There are other ways to allow a student to demonstrate proficiency, and I sincerely hope that there are more honest ways of encouraging college students to spend a year in Israel.

One alternative is to drastically raise the standards that Yeshiva College will demand be satisfied for credit on the basis of CLEP examinations. Of course, this will do nothing to solve the problem posed by the circulation of test questions and answers. Another alternative is for Yeshiva College to tailor its own exemption examinations to its courses and administer them once or twice a year; this has been done successfully at many schools.

The understanding that rigorous academic standards ought to be the prime priority of a college is the first step in the improvement of the quality of the education at Yeshiva College. I hope we can look forward to positive change in this direction.

Robert Kantowitz
YC '76

Cautious Optimism

(Continued from Page 7, Col. 5) Egyptians also just completed a six day offensive maneuver which was the largest in Egyptian history.

According to Ma'arachot (the IDF military magazine) #256, the Egyptian army is stronger than ever. They have 8 infantry and 3 tank divisions totalling 295,000 men. The air force has some 30,000 men with 488 combat aircraft. More shocking is the fact that the Egyptians are undertaking a \$6 billion, two year program to make themselves, according to one American observer in the US Armed Forces Journal, into "a military powerhouse." This program will give them an aircraft factory, a missile factory and a maintenance capacity for their tank corps. This is not unlike Israel's arms industries. Beside that they will be acquiring the following advanced weapons systems: 200 Hawk T.1 Trainer/Attack aircraft from Britain. 185 of them will be built in Egypt at the Helwan Works. They will receive 36 Mirage 3-E's and 40 Mirage F-1's from Saudi Arabia, besides 44 Mirage F-1's on order from France. They will also receive about 400 Lynx helicopters from Britain, 12 drones (remote piloted vehicles—RPV's) and 14 C-130H transports from the US. They hope to modernize all 200 of their Mig-21's, all of their Hawker-Siddeley HS748 transports and all of their T-55 tanks. They will also upgrade their missile boats, adding new electronics, and their artillery. On top of this they will receive 21,000 SwingFire anti-tank missiles from England, plus land-rovers to fire them from. If that is not bad enough, rumor has it, that they will be receiving 24 Mig-23's from Russia.

While this author does not feel, as the chief of staff may have felt, that Mr. Sadat's trip was only a ploy to get Israel's guard down, he does feel a

cern. That is not to say that the trip was a waste. The trip was a very important step to peace. We just feel that the public should not, at this time, make too much of it, at least not until the now expected conference in Cairo to which all parties in the dispute have been invited, but which only Israel, the US and Egypt are attending. We feel that the government should not take Aluf Gur's statements lightly because of the euphoria over the trip. We must remember that the next move is Israel's, and we can only pray that Prime Minister Begin will make, with the Almighty's help, the right move.

Swimming

(Continued from Page 12, Col. 3) Strokes stressed will be the breaststroke, backstroke, freestyle, and butterfly. In addition, team members will learn how to perform precise racing dives as well as synchronized flip-turns. By next year the team should be properly prepared for intercollegiate competition. Dates of the intramurals will be announced in the near future.

Eliezer Cohen is also involved in multi-media Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation instruction which trains individuals in first aid for cardiac arrest. Several sessions were already held and future courses are now being planned by David Kleid and Shmuel Charlap, certified assistants in the program.

If competition is not your bag, then you might be interested in the individualized instruction offered every Monday and Wednesday at 7:00 P.M., under the auspices of the Health Education department. Those wishing to stay in shape should be interested in the Swim and Stay Fit Program, which awards certificates and patches for every ten miles swum.

YU Taubermen Off To A Shaky Start; Barely Victorious In Their First Meet

By BEN KIRSCHENBAUM

Several YU fencers participated in the Penn State Intercollegiate Invitational Fencing Championships, held on Sunday, November 20. Being matched against fencers from University of Pennsylvania, Penn State, University of Maryland, NYU, Cornell, Clemson and Michigan among others, the YU contingent was able to place two of its fencers into the quarter finals, Larry Tiefenbrunn in foil and Steve Tenenberg in sabre. Other foil fencers were Richard Seltzer, Michael Chernofsky and Marty Ast. Sabre fencers were Baruch Deutsch and Marv Huberman.

Thanksgiving Sunday was a despairing day for the many alumni who showed up to fence the team. In contrast to past

seasons, the alumni lost by a score of 11 to 8. The team appreciated the excellent opportunity of fencing experienced fencers; hopefully the win will be indicative of a strong season.

Season's Opener

The official season was inaugurated as the St. Peter's team jammed into our multipurpose gym in the main building.

Despite the team's fond memories of an easy win last year, St. Peter's has definitely "shaped up." This year the pickings were not easy. While St. Peter's team was psyched for the match, YU wasn't, probably due to overconfidence generated by last year's win. Nevertheless, the Taubermen pulled off a 16-11 victory.

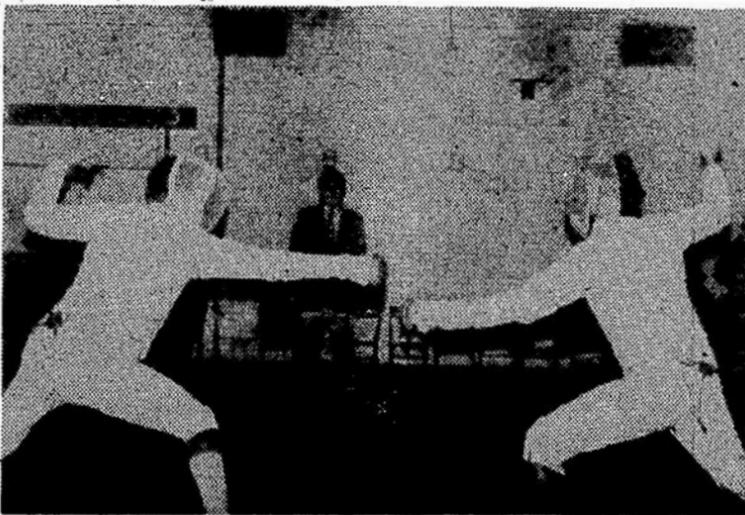
Sabre fared the best with Steve Tenenberg and Baruch Deutsch

sweeping three apiece. Marv Huberman, a new addition to the roster, won one while losing two close bouts. Marv has the potential and needs just a bit more experience. Epee also did well with Avi Feldman winning the two bouts that he fenced and Ira Herman taking all three of his bouts. Dave Katzenstein had a fluke of an off night losing two.

Rookies Also Fenced

Coach Tauber infused some fresh blood into the epee line-up as he substituted David Kagan and Jack Strohmmer. Both lost but gained the valuable experience that makes for a better fencer. Foil unfortunately fenced poorly, partially due to an injury to number two foilman Richard Seltzer. Larry Tiefenbrunn and David Bart both lost two apiece. As a result Marty Ast was substituted in before the clincher. He was matched against a towering foil person who oddly enough had a better extension than him and overpowered him. Also put in was Michael Chernofsky who, while up against stern opposition showed his superior talents by effortlessly defeating his opponent. David Brusowankin stayed in after the clincher to take his third bout.

All in all the Taubermen fenced decently, but they had better "shape up" for the stiffer opposition ahead. Much thanks to Ricky Eisenberg for his excellent judging and a special thank you to the large crowd that came down to cheer the team to victory.



YU Taubermen in their usual style.

An In Depth Look

Office Of Student Finance

(Continued from Page 4, Col. 4) men with \$2.25 per hour.

The summer program allows students to work either on campus or at specially arranged off campus centers that usually pay more. Twersky notes that working at summer camps like Morasha is quite advantageous as it allows the student to have a partial vacation while working, and also spares the student the expenses of room, board, and carfare that jobs in the city would entail.

The relatively low salary scale used at Yeshiva is a bit problematic. If a student earns all of the money allocated to him, Yeshiva will be required to pay 20 percent of this total, regardless of how many hours it takes for the student to earn the money. In theory, therefore, Yeshiva's low work-study salaries do not save the school any money, but merely allow the University to get more work for each dollar spent. Furthermore, in requiring the student to work more hours in completing his allocation, Yeshiva is actually limiting the likelihood that the student will reach the allotted total and then Yeshiva will, in fact, be saving money since the 20 percent University share will be applied to a smaller sum.

Left-Overs

A related problem arises when students fail to work enough to reach their allocation. Federal funds that are allocated to a student but are unearned must be returned to Washington. While this does save the University some money, it also reflects on Yeshiva's need for funds, and may cause the government to reduce future allocations.

In an attempt to alleviate this last problem the OSF intends to utilize a computerized system which will warn the office when to reevaluate the allocations to students who are not working at a rate which will permit them to complete their allocation, while also pointing out those students who have already surpassed their allocation.

Incorrect Checks

THE COMMENTATOR look at the OSF has also revealed several serious problems related to the 1977 summer work-study program. Although these problems may have been more the exception than the rule, they do appear to have affected to some extent, at least 10 percent of those students employed on campus, and they were certainly quite serious to the students involved. Furthermore, the difficulties indicate inadequacies in the OSF that must be corrected.

Firstly, the OSF views the total work-study allocation as part of the total amount of financial aid that the student will require in order to attend Yeshiva, and thus expects the student to earn the money allotted him. This summer, however, there were instances in which the OSF allocated more money than the student could possibly earn even when working at the maximum rate of 35 hours per week. Thus, students lost money that the OSF considered necessary for them to attend Yeshiva.

Besides the fact that this mistake was unfair to the student in regard to his overall allocation, it also was unfair to students who decided to spend the summer working at Yeshiva rather

than somewhere else when, in fact, they would be unable to earn the money they had been promised.

The greatest problem involved freshmen who would ordinarily earn \$2 per hour but were mistakenly informed in the spring that they would earn \$2.25 per hour. The OSF claims that they were "typing errors." These mistakes once again adversely affected those students who had based their decision to spend the summer at Yeshiva on the salary they expected to receive.

Those students who had actually been paid at the erroneous rate of \$2.25 per hour were not required to return the surplus, but many students never received a paycheck at the promised \$2.25 rate, as the mistake was caught early in their cases. The OSF failed, however, to notify the students of the change in pay scale, choosing only to "notify the offices" where the students were employed, certainly an inadequate solution. The problem apparently persisted throughout the summer with the pay scale among freshmen being consistently inconsistent.

The problem also involved upperclassmen who were promised only \$2 per hour, rather than the usual \$2.25. It is conceivable that these students also received incorrect checks, and would thus have been underpaid.

Apparently, therefore, while the OSF does provide important services, it has not completely fulfilled its obligations to the students. Changes must be made to eliminate the difficulties that have arisen in the past and restore the integrity of the OSF.

Keglers Boast A Team Average Of Seven Fifty But Lose To Insurance, Dropping To Sixteenth

By AARON GLATT

Coming off the big upset of Pace, Yeshiva challenged St. John's University on November 20. St. John's has the best record in the league presently, with a team average close to 900 (180). Yeshiva just couldn't match them, losing all three games, but by closer scores than expected. The star of the day was rookie bowler Bernie Kastner who had two strong games around 180. The rest of the squad also bowled well, but the competition was just too tough.

The next week marked position play on the schedule. This is when you play the team closest to you in the standings. Yeshiva, in 15th place met 16th ranked Insurance. With Bill Sharfman unable to play, Yeshiva was hard pressed yet still managed to win the first game 751-732. Efram Berger led the Keglers with a 199 and Captain Sammy Berkowitz followed with a 178. However, Bill's absence was sorely felt in the second and third games and YU dropped both, losing the third by just a pin. The heartbreaker dropped Yeshiva to 16th place but a rematch against Insurance is coming up soon and the Keglers will hopefully redeem themselves.

The first half of the season has shown a marked improvement in the Kegler's performance. Last year's squad had a

lowly 714 team average — this year that average is a very respectable 750. While inconsistency has plagued the team, recent upsets show that there is plenty of talent and even stronger showing is expected for the second half of the schedule.

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**Ellmen Outpoint Kingsboro
Winning Their Second Meet**

(Continued from Page 12, Col. 3)

At 158, Joel Mael fought one of the toughest matches of the night. After getting hit in the face (for a change) he slammed on a deep front chancellor hold and there was no escape for his opponent. Thus, Yeshiva acquired another pin.

Saul Grife, at 167, wrestled well but his opponent managed to squeeze out a decision. Saul had his moments, but his opponent rode him well and beat him on points.

At 177, Alan Bell wrestled a muscling, and slow moving match. Bell was called for a roughness penalty at one point.

He lost though on a decision at the end of his eight minutes.

Merlis On Top

At 190, Mitch Merlis went out in his usual powerful style. He experienced a little difficulty before he started his series of pinning moves. He tried a cradle, half-nelson, and finally pinned his opponent on a deep front chancellor. At heavyweight, Zev Golombeck won by a forfeit. Yeshiva won the match 27-22. At exhibition, Freshman Al Phillips showed what beginners can do, beating his opponent with some tough cradles. At exhibition, Keith Strouse, at 126, was pinned by a much heavier opponent.



A YU wrestler on top of his opponent from Bronx CC.

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TV Careers

(Continued from Page 4, Col. 5)

networks, they are tolerant and understanding toward the requirements of their fellow Jews regarding the Sabbath and holidays. Of course, Jews should not expect to enter sports reporting or engineering, where most of the action occurs on the Sabbath.

Toward the end of the hour, the discussion shifted to cable television. This idea originated in the 1950's with the Community Antennae Service which provided better television reception in low-reception areas. Since cable television today, which produces its own shows and televises sporting events and movies, is seen by a smaller audience than conventional television, production is easier because of an atmosphere of less pressure.

A revolutionary concept introduced by cable television is Public Access channels. On these channels anyone can have his own television show or home movie aired. They also offer a chance for practical experience and training for a prospective television actor or producer.

Mr. Freund, in concluding, warned the audience that a good resume is one of the most important keys to "opening the door" to a director and that care should be taken in writing one that will attract the attention of an employer. He also offered to speak to any Yeshiva student who would like to ask him about anything concerning communications. Mr. Mitchell Freund can be contacted at 942-7200, extension 354.

**The YU Macc
are playing a
HOME GAME
against
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On the Sidelines

A Helping Hand



By MARK TARAGIN

As another season approaches, the "draft" will soon begin, in which the players select the teams for which they hope to play. A player usually has two goals in mind when he sets out to select a team. Naturally he wants a winning team, no one wants to play for a loser. He would also like to be on a team where there is good team spirit, either because of his fellow players or because of his coach. If both requirements cannot be met, it becomes a more difficult choice, as he must decide which goal is more important to him.

Of course not everyone can get to be on the team he wants, so everyone must prepare a list of secondary choices.

There is a set of rules for this "draft," but there are loopholes and every player must do his best to find, use, or even create a new loophole. The officials of this "draft" have a difficult job. They must be familiar with the loopholes and make sure they are not abused. They also process the players' "draft" list, doing their best to fulfill the players' desires. The players in this league are fortunate, for in other leagues the officials don't even know the players and don't care what their preferences are. Nevertheless the players do complain about the poor officiating. However, that arises either from involvement in the "draft" or from a lack of knowledge about the system in other leagues.

If the officials reject a player's list of preferences, they do it out of necessity. This forces the player to resort to his second list. This proves to be the real test of the player's skill. He must think quickly on his feet, he must know the rules, and must have all necessary information at his fingertips.

The name of this well-known "draft" is Registration. Each term, all the student players do their best to select a good slate of teachers, hopefully producing a winning schedule. Some players prefer a winning "team" while some are interested in a good "coach."

Whatever your preference is, I hope you think out your position well in advance and prepare properly for the coming season. To do so make sure that you know what you want and know how to get it. The best way to do this if you don't know how, is to speak to your friends and consult people who have already gone through the system — such as upperclassmen. If necessary, go to the commissioner of the "draft" — Dean Kurtzer. He will be happy to assist you.

Of utmost importance is that you realize the significance of every decision you make. The "draft" is more than a game. It affects the rest of your life. Don't take it lightly.

I hope you all get what you want, and more importantly, want what you need.

I would like to thank every person that went down to any of the varsity basketball games. The results were obvious.

I am sure that every person enjoyed whichever game he saw, as every game was exciting.

The turnout was much better than in previous years but it was not as good as it should be. You all have team schedules, use them. The team needs you if it is to keep on winning.

Yeshiva Ellmen Are Victorious Over Kingsboro After Losing Wrestling Season's Opening Match

By CHARLES LAZARUS

On Thursday, December 8, the Yeshiva University Wrestling Team had its first home match against Kingsboro Community College. The first match of the season was held at Bronx Community College, where they suffered their first defeat. Pins in that match were scored by Izzy Klein, Captain Joel Schwitzer, Saul Grife, and Captain Mitch Merlis.

But on Thursday night they were in top form. The team has suffered from the loss of team members who have transferred out, but the new wrestlers show much promise for the future.

At 118, Izzy Klein wasted no time at all, shooting a very

smooth cradle sweep off the whistle. He worked quietly and dominated the match. In the second period he had bottom position but switched quickly. He later went to a well-executed armpit move to a pin. Fred Carol represented the Ellmen at 126 lbs., and had a little trouble getting it together. He fought

Diligent Macs Defeat Concordia College But Incur Losses To Two Other Teams

By DANNY HARTMAN

Here we are at the start of another YU basketball season. In preseason games, the Yeshiva team showed some good and bad ballplaying. But there was one thing that was not inconsistent and that was the desire and dedication of this year's team. In the long run the only thing that affects the won-loss column is the score. Yet, even if the Macs lose, the reason does not seem likely to be due to a lack of effort.

Amidst all the talk and criticism, the Maccabees opened the '77-78 season in a home game on November 29, against Brooklyn College. Yeshiva's opponents, however, proved to be the better team, taking the game, 86-56.

Running and Breaking

Brooklyn methodically ran their offensive and fastbreak whenever possible. The first half was dominated by Brooklyn and by Yeshiva Captain Robert Rosenbloom. Brooklyn held the first half lead, 39-28. Rosey hit for 6 field goals in the first half (6-9 from the floor) finishing the half with 14 points.

Yeshiva started the second half applying a pressure defense. The strategy worked for the first few minutes of the second half, as



The first tap of the Mac season.

Brooklyn's offense was hampered. But unfortunately for the Macs, Brooklyn showed themselves to be a team of "smarts," adjusted and proceeded to pull away.

The bright spots for the Mac-

cabees were the play of Robert Rosenbloom and Seth Alholz. Rosey scored 25 (shooting 10 for 15 from the floor) and Seth 13.

In the second game of the season the Macs evened their record to 1-1 by defeating Concordia College, 84-69.

The first half ended with the score 37-30 in Yeshiva's favor. With about six and a half minutes to go, the Macs put on an offensive show, moving the ball and hitting quick jumpers to put the game away.

Scoring highlights for the game were Rosenbloom 37 and Small 22.

The Third Game

On December 3, Stevens Tech came to Yeshiva's G. W. gym and pulled out a close overtime win. In the closely contested match the Stevens Tech team beat the Macs, 68-62. With the loss, Yeshiva's record dropped to 1-2 for the season.

Good shooting by Rosenbloom and Kufeld gave the Maccabees the half time lead, 32-28. At the start of the second half the Macs suffered from cold shooting (9-23 for the half). With under three minutes to go the Macs looked doomed. But Rosey hit two clutch jumpshots to tie the score at 55 all, sending the game into the overtime period. The Macs' hustling in overtime could not prevent the defeat at the hands of the Stevens team.

The Macs' scoring for the game went as follows: Rosenbloom 23, Kufeld 15, (15 rebounds), Small 13 (7 rebounds).

Intramural Swimming Activity Makes A Big Splash At Yeshiva

By A. MANN

The swimmers will take their marks, and a gun will be sounded. Thus will begin the first swimming intramurals in Yeshiva's history. Competitive swimming, which has gained national acclaim since Mark Spitz won seven Gold Medals at the Munich Olympics, will finally enter the sports scene at Yeshiva. Under the capable leadership of Eliezer Cohen, these intramurals should prove to be both enjoyable and exciting to all participants. The competition will be on an individual basis

and open to the entire school body, with trophies to be awarded to winners.

These intramurals will serve an additional purpose, as they will give competitors a chance to display their talents before the coaches of the future team. Assisting Mr. Cohen, the head coach, will be David Kleid, a third year student at Yeshiva and a former member of the BTA Aquamen, Shmuel Charlap, who captained and coached the Aquamen during his last two years at BTA, and Joel Selter, who co-captained the undefeated Leviathans of the Yeshiva of Flatbush High School.

Strokes Emphasized

Mr. Cohen, a qualified Water Safety Instructor Trainer, and his assistants will teach the fine points of competitive swimming. (Continued on Page 9, Col. 2)

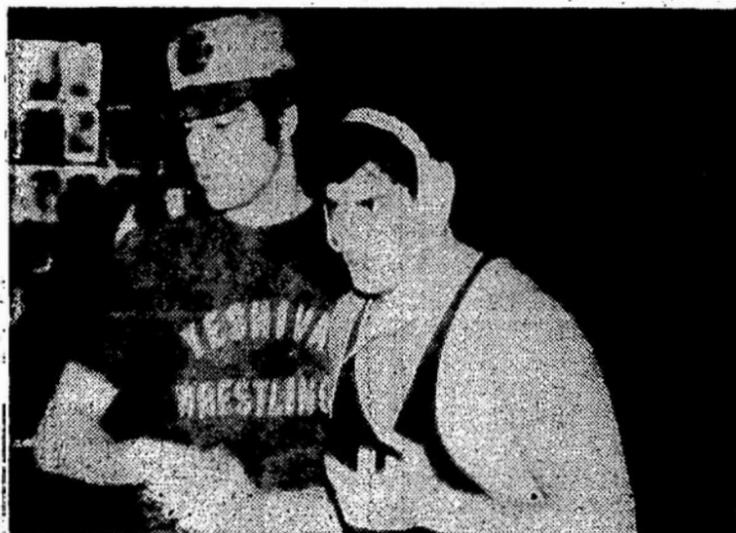
very tough, and did not allow his opponent any pinning moves. He lost the match on a close decision.

Elephant Switches

Captain Joel Schwitzer was unfortunately a little under the weather, but fortunately over his opponent in the 131 lb. class. Moving quietly on his feet, Joel went right in for a takedown. Twice in the match Joel pulled off two elephant standing switches. At one point he almost pinned his man with a leg on the head, but Joel had to settle for a win by decision. Paul Freedman, at 142 lbs. fought a good match. He was taken down and couldn't muster up the finesse to escape. In the end he succumbed to a pin.

Danny Kaufman, at 160 lbs. came out and got the takedown. His opponent escaped, only to be taken down once again. He dominated and muscled his opponent the whole match till he made a mistake and got pinned on a circle.

(Continued on Page 11, Col. 3)



"Welcome to a season of Yeshiva wrestling."

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