

# The Commentator

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No. 5

## Curriculum Modification

*Yeshiva College's Future Structure Closely Examined*

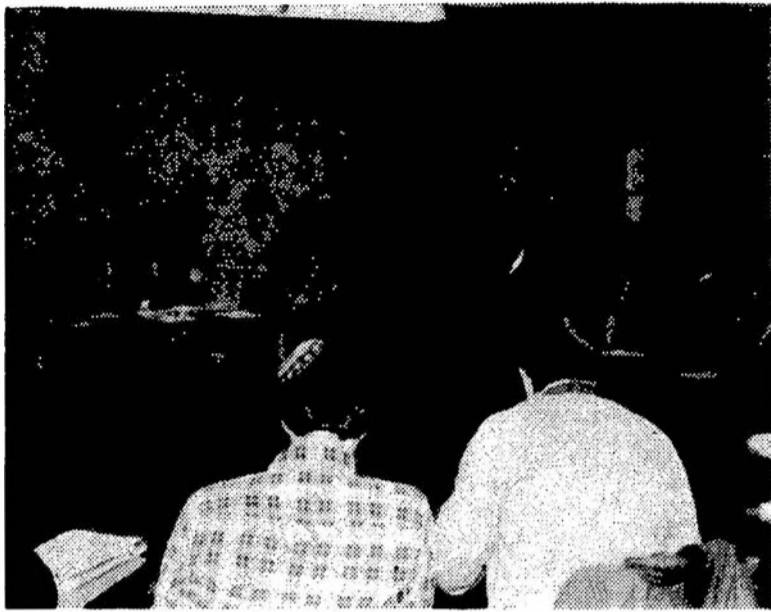
By DAVID VORCHHEIMER

DEC. 11 — The Senate Curriculum Committee presented today its final report and proposition calling for revision of the YC general education requirements. Major changes would involve the elimination of the foreign language requirement, reducing the YC Jewish Studies requirements for MYP students, and instituting a new elective group requirement.

The plan, which was basically developed for the committee by Dean Norman Rosenfeld, calls for the following: Students would continue to take these basic courses: English 1, 2 (2 credits each), Speech 1 (3 credits), and Health Education 1, 2 (½ credit each). In addition, students must take 7 credits in the Humanities — 6 chosen from English 3-4, Humanities 1-2, Language 3-4, or from newly devised Foreign Literature in Translation courses, plus one credit from either Art 1 or Music 1. The Social and Natural Science requirements would remain the same — one year in each division with the present options. In Jewish Studies, an MYP student would take Jewish History 71-72 (6 credits), 9 credits of Hebrew language and literature, and 7 credits of Bible, for a total of 22 credits.

### Elective Credits

According to the new proposal, a student must take 12 elective credits. They could be composed of either four non-introductory level courses in a divi-



YC Senate discusses curriculum proposal.

sion outside the major, language study — regardless of major, for one or two years, and Introductory Math or Computer courses for non-science majors, or appropriate combinations of the above. Thus the new proposal substitutes the 12 credit elective group for the old language requirement and 5 MYP Jewish Studies credits.

The current requirements differ from the proposition in that the present scheme mandates 12 credits of foreign languages (6 for science majors), requires both Art 1 and Music 1, offers no option of satisfying English 3-4 requirement with Modern Literature in Translation, and requires 27 YC Jewish Studies credits for MYP students.

The formation of the Senate Curriculum Committee, chaired by Senator Moishe Schwerd, was a response to various factors. Dean Rosenfeld contends that, "Depth is more important than breadth in a college education." He feels that the current system forces a student to take many introductory-level courses without ever really delving deeply into

an area of study outside the major. The current proposal, he believes, encourages extensive exposure to other divisions while providing flexibility in allowing the student to decide which specific courses to take. Lack of flexibility and "an ominous requirements structure" have long been student complaints, says Paul Glasser, Dean of Admissions, and have kept both new and transfer students away from YU. How-

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## Mr. Richard Joel Appointed Interim Ass't Dean Of CSL

Dr. Israel Miller has announced the appointment of Richard Joel, the current Director of University Alumni Affairs, to the post of interim assistant dean of the Cardozo School of Law. The appointment comes to fill the administrative vacuum at Cardozo left by the death of Dean Monrad Paulson on November 2. At the time of Prof. Paulsen's death the University selected Dr. Lester Brickman, a former senior professor at the school, to serve as acting dean and formed a search committee to find a permanent replacement for the late Prof. Paulsen.

Joel's appointment is only until March 1, at which time a decision will have to be made as to whether or not his post will become permanent." Because of the interim nature of Mr. Joel's undertaking, no replacement is presently being sought to head the alumni office.

Mr. Joel's affiliation with Yeshiva University began in 1978 with his appointment as alumni director. Although his earliest associations with YU stem from his fourteen years of involvement with Torah Leadership Seminars, Mr. Joel has had an active career in the field of law. After having graduated New York University Law School, he became an assistant district attorney in the Bronx.

Dr. Israel Miller, Senior Vice President, stressed that "Richard



— A. Jacobowitz  
Mr. Richard Joel

## Patrol Of Yeshiva Vicinity Is Warranted Because Of Sharp Jump In Area's Crime

By DOV GANELES

Although official statistics have not been compiled as of yet, the most recent report indicates a sharp increase in the percentage of major crimes committed in Washington Heights.

Police statistics for the 34th Precinct point to a 5.6 percent rise throughout all five

boroughs for the major crimes, and a 25 percent increase in Wash. Heights for the same period. Included under the heading of major crimes are such offenses as burglary, robbery, rape and grand larceny (which encompasses con games, extortion and auto-theft). Despite statistical evidence which seems to intone a brutish neighborhood, the 34th Precinct, patrolling the area from 165th Street to 225th Street, is relegated to the Police Department's lesser classification of a "B house."

The crime that poses continuing problems to the police, according to Community Affairs Officer Thomas Gallagher, is burglary. This is a residential daytime crime which, due primarily to residents' intransigence to involve themselves, will never adequately be contained. An established pattern calls for the intruder to arbitrarily choose a building, enter it and knock on the residents' doors. If an answer comes from within, then he will promptly make up an excuse; however, if not, the apartment will be burglarized. The problem arises when residents, who notice him in the building knocking on doors, refuse to concern themselves and suspect the strange face. Supplemented to this problem is the fact that many people are either at work or at their senior citizen's centers, which tends to facilitate the intruder's job further. "However,

even when people are home," says Gallagher, "they refuse to place the anonymous call to 911 reporting a suspicious character."

A similar failing is encountered during the police incarceration process. They are required by law to release the alleged criminal and drop the charges if a complaint against him has not been filed within seventy-two hours. Since victims are afraid of repercussions against them, in many cases they refuse to file a complaint. The fear is that, if a plaintiff confronts the suspect in court during arraignment, afterwards, when the judge has set bail and permits everyone to return home, the offender will retaliate. "However," emphasized Officer Gallagher, "such fears exist only in myth, because police will exhort an offender to stay away

from his victim, impressing upon him the fact that he could readily be recognized if any repercussions occurred." In his years on the Anti-Crime Unit and even as a "beat cop," incidents of retaliation have not occurred.

Success has been achieved by the police in reducing two problems within the Washington Heights area. The first is incidents of "Three Card Monte," the game where you attempt to follow the shuffle and choose the single red-suited card, along with "Faith Money" extorted from senior citizens. Because of persistent harassment and continuing arrests, these extortion rings have been dissolved; the problem has moved out of Washington Heights. The second and more common problem is noise com-

(Continued on Page 4, Col. 1)

## YU Hanukah Dinner Honors Benefactors

DECEMBER 14 — Tonight Yeshiva University held its 56th Annual Hanukah Dinner at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel. The dinner was dedicated to the Century Benefactors and Guardians, who are substantial donors to the University's Century Campaign.

At the dinner it was announced that an anonymous supporter of the University had donated \$10 million to Yeshiva on the condition that the amount is matched by other donors. In addition, donations of various amounts above \$10,000 were announced from the dais by Mr. Stanley E. Stern, Co-chairman of the Dinner and Vice-Chairman of the Board of Trustees.

Dr. Norman Lamm, President of Yeshiva, addressed the guests and noted that the importance of Hanukah is its

aspect of rebuilding and rededicating of the Temple, and that it is of even greater importance than the original construction. He compared this to the re-dedication and rebuilding of Yeshiva, and asked the guests to devote themselves to the continuation of Jewish education as exemplified by Yeshiva.

Mr. Ludwig Jesselson, Chairman of the Dinner and Treasurer of the Board of Trustees, presented Century Awards to the Century Benefactors and Guardians who were honored. The Honorable Herbert Tenzler, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, conferred a Distinguished Service Award on United States Senator Jacob K. Javits. Senator Javits spoke of the eternal importance of Jewish education and the prominent role played by Yeshiva in this area.

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# Rebuilding I

The Yeshiva College Senate Curriculum Subcommittee has submitted its proposed curriculum to the Senate. The proposal, although it does not substantially reduce the number of credits required of YC students, does allow for leeway within each division of the school and would encourage students to develop interests outside of their major division. It also successfully pares away the excess from the Hebrew and Bible requirement of the MYP program.

There are, however, two aspects of the new program which still require attention. First, the committee has recommended that, unlike the present requirement of both Art and Music, students should be given the option of taking either course. The rationale behind this proposition, as stated at the Senate meeting, is to accommodate the sentiment of those in the College who maintain that the Art course violates certain halachic prohibitions. Such a rationale is logically inconsistent and unacceptable. Academic policy cannot be molded by individual sentiment or bias in regards to either secular or halachic beliefs. If there truly exists a halachic problem — as determined by the accepted halachic authorities in this institution — the course should not be offered at all. If such is not the case, the Art requirement must be upheld. Art and Music are cornerstones of our cultural awareness and must be included in the college experience.

The second questionable point is the status of computer courses. As the proposal now stands, computer courses can fulfill a non-science major's twelve credit elective requirement, thus encouraging him to take such courses. Science majors may not do so because the elective must be taken outside of the major division, and computers are part of the Division of Natural Sciences and Mathematics. Due to the growing importance of computer science in all practical fields of endeavour, its study should be encouraged among science majors as well. Science majors, too, should be allowed to fulfill their elective requirement, at least in part, with these useful courses.

# The Commentator

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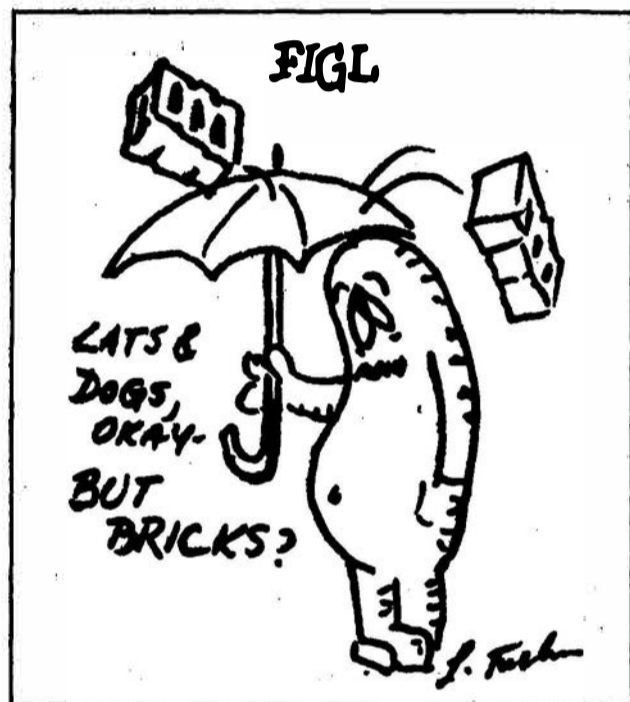
Hopefully, the Senate will, after taking these suggestions to heart and further improving an already praiseworthy program, pass this new curriculum. We also call on the entire faculty to lend support to this laudable attempt to improve the educational process at Yeshiva College.

*Louis Tuchman, who is a member of the Yeshiva College Senate, and Joseph Friedman, who is a part-time instructor at the College did not vote on this editorial issue.*

# Rebuilding II

Two years ago a Barnard College student was killed by falling masonry. Recent events at YU have shown that the same potential danger exists here. During the past few months, the entire facade of Pollack Library has begun to crumble, and bricks have hurtled down onto the sidewalk below. In addition, approximately two weeks ago, high winds caused a window over the main entrance of Science Hall to shatter, leaving glass strewn near the doors. It was only chance that no one was hit and seriously injured by these falling objects.

It is imperative that a full inspection and repair of all the structures on campus be undertaken immediately. Yeshiva should not wait for an incident similar to the one that took place at Barnard to occur here before it takes action. The money for complete and up-to-date maintenance must be found to prevent any possibility of personal harm.



The entire Governing Board of The Commentator wishes former Editor-in-Chief Ari Hait a hearty mazel tov upon his engagement to Beth Zweibon.

# Letters To The Editor

## Clarifying

To the Editor:

In the interest of clarifying positions that I expressed in the interview recently published, I would like to make a few unequivocal statements:

I have complete confidence in Dean Norman Rosenfeld. I respect his judgment and I entirely support the activities that he has undertaken. Indeed I am one of his enthusiastic fans. I would also like to point out that his credentials as a member of the liberal arts faculty are impeccable. Mathematics let us remember was one of the disciplines in the classical educational plans of Plato and everybody who has spoken on the subject since.

Blanche D. Blank  
Vice-President of Academic Affairs

## Diversifying

To the Editor:

The recent unfolding of events, surrounding the proposed elimination of the foreign language requirement at Yeshiva University, is testimony to a very serious, pronounced and deeply-rooted malaise, affecting both administration and students.

From the point of view of the administration, Hebrew has been relegated to the status of a foreign language. However, with

all due respect, I believe that, for many considerations — historical and cultural, among others — Hebrew ought to be considered an indigenous factor in our lives as Jews. As such, it is not foreign in character. Hence, it should not be allowed to fulfill the proposed optional language requirement.

As far as the students themselves are concerned, those who are genuinely interested in learning another language are being denied this opportunity. While I would agree that the genuinely interested students comprise a minority within the student body, this is so, not because there exists an innate impulse which tells students that a foreign language is unnecessary for their academic enrichment, but because the foreign language requirement at Yeshiva University was never taken seriously in the first place. Consequently, a lackadaisical attitude has prevailed, despite the fact that Yeshiva University does have very capable foreign language professors.

A case in point is Dr. Louis H. Feldman and the Department of Classics. Having had the distinct privilege of being one of Dr. Feldman's students, I find it most unfortunate that the administration has attempted to do away with the Department as such, leaving in its stead an inadequate substitute. This decision, coupled with general ad-

ministrative policies, will set the stage (if they have not already done so) for YU's becoming nothing more than a degree-granting, pre-professional school. What's that about being different, about not taking the trodden path?

Ultimately, it is the student body that has the potential to change the present state of affairs. After all, the students are the ones who, either partially or totally, are paying for their own education and, because of this, their voices should be heard. If they wish, they can apathetically live with the status quo. Alternatively, however, they can lobby for more and better courses, which will stand them in good stead for the future.

Murray Rosenthal  
YC '80

## Rectifying

To the Editor:

I would like to respond to Michael Klein's article with both praise and criticism.

The praise I give is for his analysis of the mutual ignorance both Jews and Arabs have of each other within Eretz Yisroel. We must stop the dialogue of the deaf; each side must try to understand the other. Jews, as Mr. Klein correctly points out, must learn Arabic, Islamic customs, etc., whereas Arabs should be required to learn Hebrew and Jewish customs. Fortunately, the

Israeli minister of Education has made some strides within this area.

As far as the second part of his hypothesis, the need for Israeli settlements in Yehuda and Shomron, I must strongly dissent. The settlements in Yehuda and Shomron have not been erected merely because Jews desire a right to live there. The very purpose of such settlements have been to push for annexation of such territories of the State, a mortal blow to the survival of Israel as a Jewish state. Ask any settler at Kiryat Arba how he or she would like to live under Jordanian or Palestinian rule.

The very basis for such settlements is not military security but for political reasons. In the days of the Labor government, it was indecision and weakness that effectively prevented any lasting restraint against the settlers, whereas Begin has attempted to use them in his struggle to fulfill at least part of Jabotinsky's dream of a "two bank state." Indeed, some military experts have suggested that in case of war, such settlements would have to be withdrawn or face certain capture.

If Israel hopes to come to an alternative to annexation, Israel must agree to set a moratorium to further settlement or growth of existing settlements in Yehuda and Shomron (excepting Jerusalem) until after a final peace agreement and agreed-to

borders. Those settlers, already there, should be allowed to stay where they agree to accept the possibility of Jordanian or Palestinian sovereignty over these areas. (To totally withdraw settlements would weaken Israeli bargaining position as it would be interpreted as a sign of weakness.)

We should push for the right of Jews to live any way they please only after the issue of sovereignty is decided. Then and only then can the right of Jews to live in Hebron or anywhere else and sovereignty be separated.

As a final note, I also would question the morality of those who support building settlements for middle class Ashkenazic Jews which takes Israeli government and JNF money from housing programs for poor Moroccan Jews in Tel Aviv and Jerusalem.

Hazak Vematz  
Alan Levin  
YC '78  
CSL '81

## Identifying

To the Editor:

I am writing in reference to Saul Stromer's article entitled "Shut Up . . . Please" that appeared in the last issue of The Commentator. It is apparent from Mr. Stromer's generalizations to prove his point, that students have a tendency of putting down  
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# Broader Majors Preferred In Med School Admissions

By MICHAEL MANN

DECEMBER 11 — Yeshiva College pre-meds had the rare opportunity to speak today with Raymond J. Brienza, Assistant Dean for Admissions at the New York University School of Medicine. After a few brief remarks to the Premedical-Predental Honor Society, Dr. Brienza entertained questions from the floor.

### Proud Backgrounds

Dr. Brienza expressed the belief that medical schools prefer students with broad backgrounds. Despite the fact that at the present time approximately 75 percent of the students admitted

themselves not in Physics or Organic Chemistry, but rather in the first clerkship. Dr. Brienza stressed that interviewers attempt to maintain a relaxed atmosphere where students can express themselves as they desire to. In NYU, fifty faculty members interview 1,500 students a year.

### Criteria

The most important criteria for



— A. Jacobowitz

Raymond Brienza addresses Yeshiva Pre-Meds.

to medical schools are science majors, there is no prejudice against students majoring in liberal arts. YU's pre-med major is not considered a disadvantage.

According to Dr. Brienza, medical school interviewers attempt to add an additional dimension to the student. They want to determine the students' ability to make decisions under pressure and to interact with people. Interviewers search for problems that initially manifest

determining acceptance to medical school are, according to Dr. Brienza, recommendations, the student's academic record, and his MCAT scores. Admissions officers look at the entire transcript, not just the index.

According to Dr. Brienza, summer courses are considered unfavorable. The prevalent belief is that the motivation for these courses is the grade. Admissions officers prefer students to do other things in the summer.

The Editor-in-Chief and the entire Governing Board of The Commentator wish to express their heartfelt condolences to Michael Berkowitz upon the passing of his father. Hamakom yenachem otcha b'toch s'har aveilei tsiyon v'yerushalayim.

# Inexcusable Morgenstern Dormitory Vandalism Threatens Recreational Facility Use for Many

DECEMBER 9 — The Yeshiva College Student Council tonight discussed ways of preserving the Morgenstern Lounge and preventing the incessant vandalism of the amusement machines in the dormitory basement.

Robert Friedman, President of YCSC, brought up the issue of the destruction of the lounge. He noted that the couches are constantly being rearranged and damaged by people leaving food on them.

### Remedy Situation

In order to remedy the situation several council members proposed banishing all high school students from the lounge. However, many members noted that they were only a partial cause of the problem. Mr. Friedman suggested setting up disciplinary procedures for punishing the offenders. He noted that an accused student can be brought to Student Court. The Student Court is empowered to fine convicted offenders.

The Secretary-Treasurer, Heshie Shertz, raised another serious matter, that of the vandalism of the Space Invaders machine in the Morgenstern basement. He said that the screen was broken last night and that the cash box was robbed. Mr. Shertz raised

the possibility of removing the machine because of this incident.

### Fundraising

In an unrelated matter, Mr. Friedman proposed that YCSC, together with SCWSC, raise

money for the University's financial recovery. Although the amount raised would be inconsequential, the gesture would, according to the President, "do something for spirit."



— A. Jacobowitz

YCSC exemplifying neatness and order in their meeting, setting example for behavior expected in Morg Lounge.

## The Court's In Session

# Criticisms And Suggestions

By ROBERT GREENBERG

This column is about the disregard that certain people have shown towards the liberal arts concept and Humanities division recently. Of course it will be pointed out that an entire division has not been eradicated; only certain courses and departments with notoriously low enrollments have been trimmed. Permit me now to focus in on some of the details and perhaps offer a more complete picture of the situation.

As was reported in the first issue of The Commentator this semester (October 15, 1980), very strong attempts were made over the summer to close the Classics department at Yeshiva College. Apparently, Dr. Blanche Blank, Vice President for Academic Affairs, was told to eliminate those courses in the college that were not filled. There was to be none of the leniency that had prevailed in earlier years. At this point, the decision was made to phase out gradually the Classics department, traditionally one with low student enrollment and which had only four students signed up for its classes for the fall semester. Finally, after much discussion and debate, the plan was scrapped and, for the time being, the Classics department was given a second life.

What is most appalling in all of this is how the people responsible for such decisions could seriously contemplate eliminating Classics in toto at YC. When Phi Beta Kappa came down to YU two years ago to determine whether we were deserving of having a chapter established here, they pointed out that YU was particularly deficient in the area of foreign languages. Although I do not know for sure, I am not aware of many self-respecting major universities that aspire to have Phi Beta Kappa chapters that do not have Classics depart-

ments. The only proposal that should have been contemplated would have involved nothing more than the elimination of the advanced Classics courses. To do away completely with a department that is one of the cornerstones of the traditional university concept, however, is absurd from an academic point of view.

The second case in point is the disintegration of the History department down at Stern College. Regardless of how good a teacher Dr. Grossman was, or how well liked he was by his students, there should not have been a mass cancellation of the advanced history courses. Presently, the only history courses that will be offered next year at SCW are the Western Civilization courses that are required. The situation at YC is also far from ideal. There is only one teacher in the entire department at YC! This is right; history majors are forced to take nearly their entire major, approximately thirty credits, with one teacher! This is not good for the student, no matter how much he may enjoy the professor's lectures. The college classroom is a place to be exposed to many different ideas, but this can certainly not be done by taking an entire major with one professor.

Of course many people will argue that history is of no value nowadays, as one cannot do anything with a history major upon graduating from college. This is somewhat of a misconception, however. In the 1980-82 edition of the Columbia Law School bulletin, the reader is informed that, among students who entered the first year class of the law school this past year, the second most popular undergraduate major was history. Two out of the top three most popular majors, in fact, came from the Humanities: history and English.

From all of this, it appears

that the outside world is swinging back towards the Humanities, while YU has continued to tear apart its liberal arts-and construct new, pre-professional programs. There are really only three classes of people who benefit from YU any more: those people who are here for the Jewish studies, those interested in medicine, and those pursuing careers in accounting. This would be disheartening at any institution, but it is especially so here at Yeshiva. The school prides itself in offering a well-rounded, liberal arts education. Meanwhile, this statement has been losing some of its veracity lately. Secondly, as long as the University continues to cut departments and narrow the scope of the courses it can offer, the harder it will be to convince students to attend YU. If the only reason that people come here is because they regard the school as an easy stepping stone to medical school, then there is no longer any sense of an academic environment here. Yeshiva University would be more appropriately named Yeshiva Factory.

Next time I will discuss possible solutions to the problems that plague the History departments both here at YC and downtown at SCW, because criticism is only acceptable when the critic can offer a solution. Meanwhile, as the proposal of the Curriculum Committee is being debated in the Senate, perhaps some of these points should be remembered. This column may have repeated parts of what the Middle States representatives had to say, but they are of sufficient importance that they should be reiterated. Finally, let it be known that this column was originally written prior to the visit from the Middle States people, but could not be published due to the demise of a piece of the author's typewriter.

# Updated Van Schedule Benefits YU Students

DEC. 11 — The security van which until now only made trips to the Washington Heights subway stations will begin on a trial basis, starting December 15, to make two daily trips to Stern College.

Many Stern students currently participate in the activities of the Dramatics Society and the radio station. According to Joe Schwarz, president of the Dramatics Society, there have been until now only three methods of transporting students uptown: taxis, the subway, and private cars. However, Mr. Schwarz noted that due to the late hour which some of the activities finish the subways are too dangerous and it is impossible to find people who are willing to drive down to Stern, thus leaving taxis as the only option.

The Dramatics Society spends hundreds of dollars each semester to transport Stern students to the uptown campus.

In order to solve the transportation problem of YCDS and WYUR, Mr. Schwarz petitioned Student Council last Tuesday to arrange for the security van to make two trips daily to Stern

College. Presently, the security van makes trips to the subway stations through the night until about 1:00 a.m. Mr. Schwarz told the Student Council that his proposal would require the van to be absent from the Main Center for only one hour in the early evening and for an hour after midnight. Mr. Schwarz noted that the advantages apparent in his proposal outweighed the minor inconveniences caused to the students by the loss of the van for a while each night. He felt that the money saved by not using taxis, could be better spent on other purposes. Mr. Schwarz said that he had petitioned the administration to allow YCDS to use one of the University owned automobiles for transport to Stern but that he had been rebuffed. He presented a petition, signed by approximately 400 students, which showed

(Continued on Page 6, Col. 3)

## YC Departmental Review

If you had to pick a theme song for the Yeshiva College Economics Department, it would most probably be "Everything's Coming Up Roses." The Department is steadfast where curriculum is concerned, and has soared to great heights in its popularity among students. In 1970, YC offered nine economics courses, and employed three instructors. The number of graduating Eco majors was nine. In 1975, the Eco Department featured the same number of courses and instructors, but the number of graduating majors had jumped to sixteen. In 1980, the Department offered ten courses taught by four instructors, and the number of graduating majors was an extremely impressive twenty-four.

The main reason for the success of Economics at YC has been the Department's ability to adapt to the changing times, and the new emphasis on practical, career-oriented areas.

Dr. Aaron Levine — the Chairman of the Economics Department — believes that the change in the Eco curriculum over the last ten years gave a big thrust to popularity.

"We have tried to accommodate the interests of students oriented towards Graduate School in Business Administration. We have an Economics major with an Accounting concentration, one with a Finance concentration, one with a pure Eco concentration, and one with a Business concentration. So we have been changing the curriculum. It is more bent towards the student's ability to apply economics in some field rather than in pure theory. We try to stress the more practical aspects now."

Dr. Levine also notes the many career opportunity for Economics majors. "A major serves as a very good preparation for Graduate School in Business Administration, Health Administration, Public Administration, etc., which would of course prepare a student for entry into the business world's various specialties that the various firms seek — such as Finance, Marketing, Management, and Private Industrial Forecasts. Banks hire economists, as do brokerage houses, and there are now a lot of Economics majors who aspire to Law School. An understanding of rudimentary economics and corporate finance is really what any good corporate lawyer must have. In terms of careers today, it seems that the jobs in the pure sciences



## Economics Department Reviewed

Left — Dr. Aaron Levine

are not in great demand, and also the Liberal Arts field seems to offer dim prospects in terms of employment. However, the Economics Department has changed to meet the demands of practically-oriented students."

However, the Economics faculty at YC maintains that attaining employment is not the only reason for a student to take an Economics course. Mrs. Shubert, who has been teaching Economics at Yeshiva for the last six years, says that the times are good for Economics. "Economics is an emerging area, especially since there are so many problems now on the Economic scene, both inside our country and on the whole. It is important that people have some knowledge of the way the world functions. A basic course

(Continued on Page 6, Col. 1)

## Significant Rise In Neighborhood Crime May Not Be Resolved For A Long Time

(Continued from Page 1, Col. 5) complaints. These comprise the majority of calls for service in the area, and since the enactment of a law enabling police to confiscate the source of such a disturbance, the problem has been contained.

Officer Gallagher urged students to be cautious about flashing their money and openly exhibiting their chains. Muggers will stake out a bank or a supermarket and then handpick their victim. It usually involves someone cashing a check or wearing valuable chains. The latter presents itself more frequently, because of recent jumps in gold and silver prices along with the ease with which these attackers can pawn off the valuable jewelry, without questions being asked. Police,

however, point to their ability in coping with such incidents. "Never does a recurring pattern develop," states Gallagher. "Once a trouble spot is discerned and a pattern is formulated, the police will be alerted and a continuous watch is established in the immediate vicinity. Usually by the tenth day, they will produce a suspect and arrest him, thereby eliminating the problem."

No conclusive profile could be drawn up and pointed to as the paradigm for any of these offenders. However, he is usually somewhat older, in his twenties or thirties, and resides in the neighborhood.

Asked about any discernable influence which Yeshiva University might have on the area's crime, Gallagher replied that just its mere presence has a stabilizing effect, called the "Displacement Factor," because the University's presence prevents additional undesirables from moving into the Heights. However, he emphasized the idea that Yeshiva should take an active part in en-

Congratulations to Joseph Schwarz, President of the Yeshiva College Dramatics Society, upon winning the Dr. Abraham Tauber Memorial Oral Interpretation Contest. He read from "The Seven Year Itch."

## Yeshiva University Museum Opens First Archeological Exhibit Of Biblical Israel

By MARK LIDAGOSTER

DEC. 7. — The Yeshiva University Museum opened its first major archaeological exhibition today. The exhibit, entitled "Daily Life in Ancient Israel," is meant to be a learning experience for all visitors.

### Visual Examples

At the opening, Dr. Norman Lamm, President of Yeshiva University, spoke of the tremendous need for visual examples of what life was like in ancient Israel. He stated that one can not truly understand the lives, words, and works of the prophets without observing relics of their times and lives. He concluded by saying that through actually feeling, seeing, and teaching the life-style of ancient Israel, we can gain new respect for ancient Israel and new hope for modern Israel.

The director of the exhibit, Mrs. Sylvia A. Herskowitz, commented that this attempt at creating a "teaching exhibit" was a first for the Yeshiva University Museum, so everyone tried to make it as spectacular as possible. Though replicating the life in Israel in prophetic times was no easy feat, any visitor can see how each artifact and reproduction brings him closer to, and gives him a deeper understanding of, biblical times because of the appropriate quotations from the Bible posted throughout the exhibit.

The individual exhibits are varied. The major portion of the exhibit is dedicated to actual artifacts found in the Middle East. There is a great variety of objects, many of which are implements used in daily life. They were brought to the Museum through the assistance of Dr. Harold A. Leibowitz, Assistant Professor of Archaeology at the University of Texas at Austin and an alumnus of YC and RIETS.

### Botanical Garden

The second section of the exhibit contains a botanical garden. It allows one to see living specimens of the diverse flora found in Biblical times. This was

arranged with the assistance of Arthur A. Schaffer, a doctoral candidate at Rutgers University and an instructor in Plant Biology at YU.

A major part of the exhibit is a full scale replica of an Iron Age house which was constructed with the help of archaeological consultant Marilyn Simon and a New York surgeon, Dr. Robert M. Richter, whose hobby is precision carpentry. The house allows the visitor to see exactly how the ancient Israelites lived.

These are just some of the exhibits to be found at the Yeshiva University Museum. There are also two slide shows and assorted other artifacts and reproductions from Biblical times.

## Angels Fight Crime

By ELLIOT SMALL

"I'm really not that frightened to ride the New York City subways," states a sophomore from Montreal. "I'll grant you that I'm cautious, but I'm not terrified."

A seventeen year old youth, wearing a T-shirt and a red beret, the uniform of the youthful subway crime fighters known as the Guardian Angels, was arrested at the beginning of October and charged with assaulting two Transit Authority officers. An eyewitness believes, "The (T.A.) police were asking for a fight." On October 27, 1980, a grand jury ruled on behalf of Nelson, the Guardian Angel.

Violent crimes on New York City's subways have soared almost 70% in the last year. Statistics released by the Transit Authority show that major crimes ranging from robberies and thefts to assaults and murders have been rising sharply since last May.

Preliminary figures for the period from mid-September through mid-October show 1,743 reported major crimes, most of which are felonies, compared with 1,008 for the same period of last year.

Mayor Ed Koch stated in a recent interview, "I am obviously very unhappy about the situation." But he said that for more T.A. police to be assigned, "We would have to have dirtier streets or fewer teachers. We are strained at this moment as to how to pay for essential services," the Mayor continued. "We laid off 2,200 teachers. I am not prepared to lay off additional teachers to have more cops. We don't have the money to have all the police we'd like."

Curtis Sliwa, the leader of the Guardian Angels, earns less than \$10,000 a year working in industrial films. The Guardian Angels cost him \$600 a month.

### Magnificent Thirteen

The Guardian Angels' original name was the "Magnificent Thirteen," the name signifying the thirteen members in the group. This name was an offshoot of the old name of the group, the "Rock Brigade." The "Rock Brigade's" job was to patrol dumping areas and to make sure no underhanded operations were afoot. In a telephone conversation which this reporter had with the organization's second-in-command, Arnoldo Salinas, I was told that he felt that the organiza-

tion's strong point is its order. He described a very precise hierarchy, where each member is responsible to the four "older" leaders.

The Guardian Angels used to be a group one would hear of on off-hours TV shows and in a few back-page newspaper articles. They are now a group of more than 625 young people, mainly Black and Hispanic, who ride the subways in red berets and t-shirts and protect riders from criminals. Some of the patrols consist of deaf and handicapped people, while others consist of all young ladies or even older men and women.

Most authorities choose to ignore or downgrade the Guardian Angels, for it is much easier for them to turn their backs rather than to be forced into judgment whether they are worth their weight or not.

A junior, who resides on the West Side of Manhattan and who commutes daily, feels "the little trouble they may cause is definitely outweighed by all the good they do."

### Vigilantes

The Guardian Angels take great offense to being termed "vigilantes," since vigilantes, by definition, take the law into their own hands and the Guardian Angels do not.

Late in October at the new Grand Hyatt Hotel ballroom, Lt. Gov. Mario Cuomo handed the Angels' leader a plaque citing the group's anti-crime efforts.

One sophomore who rides the subways only once a week says, "I appreciate their presence."

The Guardian Angels' patrol includes and affects the Independent and Interborough Rapid Transit lines located at 184th Street and Overlook Terrace, and 181st Street and Broadway.

Mr. Salinas feels that Mayor Koch refuses to recognize the Guardian Angels because of pressure from Police Chief Robert McGuire. Mr. Salinas continues and says the Guardian Angels need the help of all New York citizens to help rid NYC of its subway crime.

### THE YESHIVA COLLEGE DRAMATICS SOCIETY PROUDLY PRESENTS:

#### "THE GRAND TOUR"

Sat., Dec. 20 — 8:30 P.M.  
Sun., Dec. 21 — 2:30 P.M.  
Sun., Dec. 21 — 8:00 P.M.  
Mon., Dec. 22 — 9:00 P.M.  
Tues., Dec. 23 — 9:00 P.M.  
Wed., Dec. 24 — 9:00 P.M.  
Thurs., Dec. 25 — 7:00 P.M.  
Thurs., Dec. 25 — 10:00 P.M.

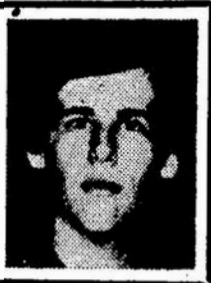
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Kenny — M405  
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Stern — 9D

SOY-JSS English Seforim sale — Dec. 14-23 — Morg. 101.

SOY Kashrus Lecture Series— Rabbi M. Genack — OU Kashrus Coordinator — Wed., Dec. 17, Ruben Shul, 9 PM.

# One Small Step . . . ?



By DAVID KOBER

"Saturn Control, this is Regayov 1. We have touchdown. Saturnians have landed on Earth. We are in the midst of depressurization and will soon set foot on Earth for the first time. We await further instructions, Saturn Control. Over."

"REGAYOV 1, THIS IS SATURN CONTROL. EARTH HAS NO RING, SO WE HAVE NO IDEA WHAT THE ATMOSPHERE WILL BE LIKE. PROCEED WITH AIR TESTING. IF THE RESULTS ARE FAVORABLE, LEAVE THE SPACESHIP AND PLANT THE SATURNIAN FLAG IN THE SOIL. PRESIDENT NAGAER HAS ORDERED US TO CLAIM THIS PLANET QUICKLY, BEFORE THE RUSSKANIANS BEAT US TO IT. THIS WILL BE OUR LAST TRANSMISSION FOR SOME TIME, THIS CALL IS COSTING US A FORTUNE. WE'LL CALL BACK AFTER SIX, WHEN THE RATES GO DOWN. SATURN CONTROL OUT."

"Isn't that just like Saturn Control, Number 43? We're sitting here on this ball of dust, and they worry about their pocketbooks."

"Well, we are in a recession, Number 74. Even the space program has to cut back. Why do you think we are sent to Earth and not to Mercury? They couldn't afford the extra fuel. But I just remember what President Nagaer keeps telling us — 'The Time is Now . . . to Save.'"

"Save! Nagaer is out of his mind. How are we supposed to put money in the bank with in-

flation where it is. You might as well flush it down the toilet. I mean come on, you have to admit that 4% inflation is insane! What kind of society can exist with that kind of rate? For what food stamps can get you these days, there would be more nutritional value in eating the stamps."

"But you can't blame everything on President Nagaer, Number 74. After all, he just entered office."

"He looks as if he just entered the Sunshine Retirement Home. They say the Presidency ages a man. If Nagaer ages ten more years he'll start to decompose."

"Ease up, 74. When you joked about the President's age before the last election, the sympathy vote won him a landslide victory, and now our opposition party has to move to another planet."

"Well, at least the losers aren't executed, like in most galaxies."

"We're not civilized enough to do that yet, but the Moral Majority is working on it."

"Let's stop gabbing and get to work. Saturn Control said we have to hurry up and plant the flag."

"Why hurry? Our scientists said they were absolutely positive that on Earth, the days were 240 hours long."

"I know that. I'm just worried about the possibility of hostile natives."

"There can't be hostile natives here. President Nagaer assured us that once he got elected, everyone in the universe would

either love us or fear us."

"Well, I still remember what happened on the dinky little planet of Hallotaya. Those fanatics took all our space explorers and held them hostage."

"But that was before President Nagaer entered office."

"What about the Russkanian invasion of Natsinahgfa? We tried everything to dislodge them. United Galaxies sanctions, laser particle embargos. We even boycotted the Universal Games on Russkania's home turf —"

"But things will be different now. ur new leader will steer us in the right direction."

"— We got Tpyge and Learsi to sign a peace treaty that no one else in the world wants to recognize, and we make promises to everybody that we never intend to keep, and —"

"Listen to me, 74. President Nagaer isn't going to repeat the mistakes of the past. He's starting a new era. He's surrounded himself with all the right people. The smartest advisors on our planet, and the most brilliant scientific minds. This new administration can't possibly make any mistakes in judgment —"

"Hold it, 43. I think a message is coming through on the speaker."

"REGAYOV 1, THIS IS SATURN CONTROL. ABORT YOUR MISSION ON EARTH AND HEAD FOR THE MOON. PRESIDENT NAGAER'S CABINET HAS CONCLUDED THAT LIFE AS WE KNOW IT COULD NOT POSSIBLY EXIST ON EARTH."

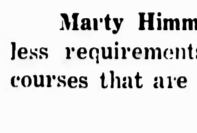
# Behind Dorm Doors

It is now fairly well known that the College Senate is presently reviewing curriculum requirements. To get the opinions of YC students, we take you . . . Behind Dorm Doors . . .

What changes in curriculum would you recommend?



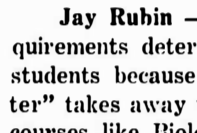
**Mark Tennenbaum — JSS — Sophomore:** The requirements that this school impresses are justifiable if one considers the fact that most students in this school are career oriented. Otherwise, the average student wouldn't seek available knowledge outside his major.



**Marty Himmel — YP — Senior:** In general, less requirements plus more time slots for the courses that are required.



**Marc J. Berger — EMC — Sophomore:** I am sure that Humanities and Social Science Majors are as interested in the Natural Sciences, as we Science Majors are interested in Economics, Sociology, English, Latin, or Political Science. A Science student can dabble in these menial subjects, if he has the time and interest. We, of the higher academic discipline, can decide, on our own, which Liberal Arts, if any, are necessary for our future goals.



**Jay Rubin — YP — Freshman:** Certain requirements deter the intellectual growth of most students because their "interesting subject matter" takes away valuable study time from trivial courses like Biology, Calculus, and Political Science.



**Jordan Stovsky — EMC — Sophomore:** I am not satisfied with YU requirements. I feel that there are too many Jewish Studies requirements and not enough basket weaving and scuba diving courses.



**Josh Krasna — EMC — Freshman:** I'd like to see more general liberal arts and humanities courses. I don't think YU has a good selection of liberal arts courses.



## Functions Of YC Senate Reviewed And Analyzed

By MOSHE ROSENBERG

Should there be a language requirement? Should summa cum laude be 3.8 or 3.85? How should a cheater be punished? These questions on school policy may be viewed by some students with indifference, by others with mild interest, and by still others with passion and a sense of urgency. Yet there is a body composed of students, faculty, administration and alumni that must investigate these questions, and those like them, in agonizing detail and painstaking scrutiny, trying to form school policy in a way acceptable to all the segments of the University it represents. That body is the Yeshiva College Senate.

### Senate's Duties

The Senate, according to its 1969 constitution, is "the outcome of cooperation among administration, faculty, and students," and "its intent is to share responsibility for the operations and improvement of the College among the groups that constitute the College." The shared responsibility is indeed great, for, under Article II of the constitution, the Senate's jurisdiction covers a wide spectrum of academic affairs. Included are (among other areas): academic standards, admission policy, curriculum, requirements for a degree, establishment of new courses and majors, student attendance, the grading system,

and academic honors.

This wide variety of often technical subject matter would make it imperative for the Senate to be composed of capable, dedicated people, and the selection process for members is supposed to see to just that. Representing the administration are the Dean of the College, the Vice President for Student Affairs, the Registrar, the Director of Admissions, and one other University academic official designated by the President. The faculty sends eight full-time faculty members to the Senate, with the Faculty Assembly electing them for two-year overlapping terms, four each year. Most interesting, though, is the selection of the six student Senators. Some forty students apply annually for the open Senate spots; these applicants must have 3.0 indices to be considered. They are then interviewed individually for ten to fifteen minutes by the outgoing Senators and incoming Student Council. What is looked for, says Sholom Lamm, this year's Senate Chairman, is intelligence, poise, and calmness, with the ability to make valid points and defend them under vigorous attack. The candidates are thus narrowed down to about fourteen incoming juniors and seniors, who then undergo even more demanding interviews to determine the final selections. Officially, (Continued on Page 7, Col. 1)

## Very Popular YC Dramatics Society Owes Fame To Members' Dedication

The Yeshiva College Dramatics Society produces two shows a year, which are performed before packed houses consisting mainly of students from Yeshiva and Stern Colleges. There is a good reason why the Dramatics Society is able to draw an audience of over 2,500 people, a significantly larger number than the total number of attendants to all other University clubs combined. The obvious reason for its extraordinary recognition is the quality of its performance.

Maintaining such a successful

organization at Yeshiva, however, is not an easy task. Nonetheless, despite inadequate facilities, equipment, and financial resources, YCDS consistently performs above and beyond everyone's expectations. This noteworthy society has developed greatly upon the sound foundation created in its long history.

### Shaky Start

Dramatics was introduced to Yeshiva College in 1938 in the Lamport Auditorium of RIETS Hall, under the direction of Dr. Irving Linn. From 1943 through

1960, the club was unsteady, disappearing for years at a time. Finally in the early 1960's, some enterprising students dedicated themselves to the revival of the Yeshiva College Dramatics Society. With the efforts of these entrepreneurs, YCDS opened its season on the fifth floor of First Hall. The consistency of presentations since 1965 has helped to establish the society as a major organization in the University. Early in the 1970's, YCDS moved to its current location, the studio theater in the Student Union Building.

The progressive strides that Dramatics has taken during the past sixteen years has advanced it from a club to a society to a recognized accredited course in the College. This is a direct result of the society's Faculty Advisor and Artistic Director, Dr. Anthony Beukas, who is the backbone of the organization. Two of Dr. Beukas' well-known qualities are his demanding personality with which he motivates YCDS participants to their optimum and his rare ability to rewrite plays which enables YCDS to meet Yeshiva University's limiting circumstances. His enthusiasm, creativity, and proficiency have (Continued on Page 7, Col. 3)



— A. Jacobowitz

Dedicated YCDS actors: The show must go on.

Anyone interested in working for The Commentator contact Louis Shicker, Morg 222.

## YC Departmental Review

(Continued from Page 4, Col. 2)

in Eco will help you read *Newweek* or *Business Week* in an intellectual manner, so you can really know what's going on."

"The nature of governmental policy and how that affects inflation and unemployment will influence someone's career substantially," says Dr. Levine. "To understand the role of government is really very important. On a micro-economic level, the courses are very helpful where business decisions are concerned. So what you learn in *Econopics* is very useful in everyday economic activities, and in understanding what you read in the newspaper about, say, interest rates, and how that affects your individual welfare."

The only problem Dr. Levine cites in terms of the Department is the lack of another full time instructor who could provide different perspectives. But Mrs. Shubert claims that the Department is lucky where the faculty is concerned, since she and Dr. Levine specialize in different areas. "The situation works well because areas that Dr. Levine is not particularly interested in I can pick up. He's basically a macro person, and since he's not really enamored with a course like statistics, I've taken that, as well as courses which are more micro in nature."

The Eco Department also boasts a number of extracurricular activities, which promote student interest. Recently, the YC Economics Society sponsored a tour of the New York Commodities Exchange, which included a guided tour, a film, and a visit to the actual floor of the Exchange. For several years in a row, the Society has also published a Journal — "The Economic Mind." Dr. Levine is enthusiastic about the extracurricular activities in Economics. "I believe these activities help students broaden their education very much. Last year the Economics Society had additional orientation for Freshmen. I was hoping they would go in that direction this year, too . . . the Society also wanted to establish ties with the Alumni to enhance employment opportunities for YC graduates."

As for new courses, the faculty is looking forward to "Comparative Economic Systems." It will focus on the contrast between the Jewish Law point of view and the Economic point of view relating to the major economic issues that face every society. For example, the questions of monopolies, restraint of trade, contract law, the role of government, ethics of the marketplace, etc.

The Economics Department also makes the claim that it is actually at an advantage because Yeshiva is a small college.

"Because we're a small college," Dr. Levine states, "we can only really offer the meat and potatoes of Economics. We stress all the fundamentals of our discipline. The student gets very rigorous training in the basics of Eco, and he doesn't go off and pursue tangential areas. A student that finishes here is certainly well trained in how an Economist thinks, and is prepared to go in many different directions."

## Coach Halpert Interviewed

(Continued from Page 3, Col. 3)

Q: Jeff, what motivates you to coach at Yeshiva?

A: I'm a teacher. I enjoy teaching, and to me this is a continuation of teaching. As for winning, I've been coaching for eight years and have not really won, but to me, seeing a guy learning and growing in the game is important to me.

Q: How is working with Johnny?

A: I never thought I could be an assistant, but with Jonny it's easy. He has never made me feel like an assistant. We both work and think on the same wavelength. We come from the same heritage. I played ball for Marvin Herskowitz, who played for Red Sarachuk. Johnny played ball for Red Sarachuk, so we both have his basketball philosophy.

Q: How do you motivate your players?

A: Since there is usually no crowd, I tell them that self-respect motivates themselves. If they don't have 100% self-respect, let them stay home. I tell them there is no shame in failing and losing. There is shame in not trying. I tell them I don't care if they're 0-21 or 21-0, just as long as they try as hard as they can.

Q: Why is there such a lack of attendance at Yeshiva games?

A: Because there are more important things for them to do. When a student comes to YU now, he knows what he's going to be. Whether a doctor, lawyer, or accountant, they have their four years planned out. They don't have time for sports.

Q: What is the best team you coached?

A: A couple of years back: Sheldon Small, Robert Rosenbloom, Comsky, Hoenig, and Kufeld.

Q: Has the administration been helpful to the basketball team?

A: Not at all. We gave in a written proposal that hasn't even been looked at yet.

Q: What can they do?

A: First of all, they must build a gym. It's a necessity. They must recognize the importance of all the sports, and not only notice them by putting them in the brochure for public relations. But it all comes down to a gym. How can you run a clinic with no gym?

Q: What are your long-range plans?

A: What we do tonight against West Paultz.

Johnny wishes to thank his assistant coach, Jeff Gurock, and his brother, Danny.

(Continued from Page 2, Col. 5) Yeshiva, that he has never won a radio contest before and that he takes a defensive stand when individuals exercise their right of free speech at Yeshiva.

I was the contest winner on WABC. What Mr. Stromer did not know was that before any recording goes on the air, the disc jockey talks with the contest winner off the air. Together, the disc jockey and contestant develop a routine that is designed to promote the station and entertain the audience. In the early morning hours of Tuesday, November 18, the disc jockey, Howard Hoffman, asked me where I was calling from, off the air. When I told him I was a freshman at Yeshiva, he asked me how I liked it. I told him it was an excellent school academically, but it was a little on the dull side socially. I did not lie. He then said: "let's have some fun with that." He told me what to say and he informed me of his intentions to use his Jewish accent on the radio. What ensued was a rather humorous taping that had most of the sixth floor dorm residents at Rubin Hall in hysterics. It was a welcome break from the monotonous daily study routine, and everyone took it at face value-radio entertainment. All except Mr. Stromer!

Apparently, he has accepted the role of censoring those who speak out against the name of this institution. I agree with him

Benefit Concert for Soviet Jewry featuring David Bar Ilan and Gadi Elon. Saturday night, Dec. 27 at YU. Charge: \$10, \$9, \$8, \$7, \$5 — For info call 781-0115.

## Security Van

(Continued from Page 3, Col. 5)

ed that the student body was willing to give up the van for a period of time each night.

Although there would be priority for YCDS and WYUR members, there would be room for any Yeshiva College students who wished to make use of the shuttle. YCSC accepted the proposal unanimously.

The proposal was formally presented today to Dr. Israel Miller, Senior Vice-President and Vice-President for Student Affairs, and Col. Robert Marmorstein, Director of Security and Safety. They agreed that, beginning December 15, the van would make two trips to Stern, the first trip at 6:45 PM and the second trip at 12:30 a.m., Monday thru Thursday on a trial basis.

whole heartedly that there are students who do not belong here, students who are apathetic and just sound off. But there are others who are concerned about the image of our school and will sound off with the hope that our message will be heard!

It is apparent that Yeshiva has several shortcomings, as does any institution. As a former President of the Student Government at Yeshiva of Flatbush High School, I am used to a wide variety of social activities, both Judaic and secular in nature, that will enhance the student's educational years. It hurts me to see literally hundreds of students fall into a mechanical routine with absolutely no variation in their daily lives. At Yeshiva, their personalities never develop and they are truly unconcerned with anything but their professional careers.

In addition, Yeshiva's homogeneous and "sheltered" structure is directly to blame for the student's insensitivity with the secular world. The school never invites controversial speakers to address the student body. Nor does it sponsor workshops or seminars between Yeshiva and colleges that are heterogeneous in nature to give the Yeshiva College student the experience in communication with individuals from diverse ethnic backgrounds that he will eventually encounter in his adult life. These are just a few examples where a student can legitimately criticize this institution.

How can Mr. Stromer use the impromptu speech contest to support his argument? (Incidentally,

Mr. Stromer reported it as an extemporaneous speech contest.) I was one of the speakers, and stating the fact that Yeshiva College is different from other colleges in that it does not offer a sex education program is telling it like it is. When you advocate a program that is taboo in an institution, it does not suggest that you are knocking the school!

Furthermore, how can Mr. Stromer state that students who sound off contribute nothing to the school? I sound off — and still contribute! Currently, I am one of the leads in the upcoming Dramatics Society production of *The Grand Tour* and recently, I have begun writing for *The Commentator*, which Mr. Stromer so graciously contributes to. I would not have chosen Yeshiva over Columbia if I did not feel it was a good school and that I could contribute and make it better. I take Mr. Stromer's comments as a personal insult.

We have a great school, however, school spirit is down. It manifests itself in the poor attendance at basketball games. You hear it in the halls where students moan that they are here only to appease their parents! It's about time that all the students, and administrators as well, do some serious thinking about how they can improve the quality of life here at Yeshiva and remedy the situation. In the meantime, Mr. Stromer should tell us what he's done for the school! Or does this guardian angel of Yeshiva and his poison pen just "sound off"?

Eddie Schauder  
YC '84

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# Curriculum Committee Proposal

(Continued from Page 1, Col. 3) ever, Mr. Glasser admitted no official polls have been taken among either present YU students or those who decided not to come here, to determine how powerful a motivation this factor is.

## University to Benefit

Furthermore, the University as a whole is expected to benefit. Since more than half the school are science majors, their electives will be taken in the other divisions — Humanities and Social Sciences. Dean Rosenfeld believes more students per class will increase the quality of the courses as they can provide a greater variety of contributions to the class. He also feels that there will be an incentive for the departments to develop new exciting and competitive electives.

The department that would be most affected is foreign languages. It is feared by some that the new proposal might spell the end of all language departments at YC as enrollment might drop if language is no longer required. Dean Rosenfeld, however, disagrees and says that while registration may decrease, the departments will continue to offer the same level of courses. He feels that as long as language satisfies a requirement (either for the major, the elective group, or the Humanities requirement), students will continue to take them.

Another department that may be affected is the YC Jewish Studies Department. According to the current proposal, a 3 credit Bible course (Introduction to Biblical Exegesis) would be required of all MYP students, plus an additional two 2-credit courses. Thus, under the new system, the current 1-credit text courses would now be worth 2 credits. The proposal therefore reduces the number of credits taken by two and reduces the number of courses required of the student; as a result, the department will offer fewer courses each semester. The Dean, however, feels that this change will

increase the quality of the course offerings in Bible.

## Cultural Option

On a separate topic, Louis Tuchman, a student senator, questioned why the new proposal permits a choice between either Art 1 or Music 1, instead of requiring both. He noted that the definition of a cultured person includes knowledge of both Art and Music. Mr. Schwerd responded that questions have arisen concerning the course's halachic permissibility. According to Mr. Schwerd, Rabbi Hershel Schachter, MYP Rosh Yeshiva and Rosh Kollel, has stated that the Art 1 course is prohibited because it contains elements of idol worship. Thus, explained Mr. Schwerd, students who, for halachic reasons, object to taking Art 1 would no longer be forced to do so. However, the practice has been to allow students who object to the course because of religious principles an alternative method of fulfilling this requirement. Another proposal that was considered by the committee was that of Leo Taubes, an instructor in English. He called for the same basic skills courses, Jewish Studies and Humanities program. However, each student would take 12-15 credits in each of the two General Studies divisions outside this major. Such a program is fairly restrictive, and was apparently discarded in favor of the Dean's more flexible plan. At a later meeting, Dr. Louis Feldman, Professor of Classics, is expected to present the committee's minority plan.

## Crux of Argument

Most of the discussion at the Senate today dealt with clarification of particular questions. Towards the end of the meeting, however, the discussion turned to what Dean Rosenfeld termed the crux of the argument — the purpose of the liberal arts education. Dr. Krakowski, of the Political Science Department, argued that language is an integral part of college study, while the Dean countered that the current language set up which does not enable a student

to get an insight into another culture via its literature should be "traded off" for a requirement which promotes a more comprehensive and in-depth education.

The proposition will continue to invite much discussion before any Senate vote is taken. When a plan passes the Student-Faculty Senate, it normally goes into effect unless at least two-thirds of the full-time faculty present at a special faculty assembly would vote to override. At least half of the faculty must be present at this meeting for such a vote to be taken. If the proposal becomes law, the catalog provides that students already in the school would have the option of fulfilling their requirements under either the new or the current plan.

# Yeshiva College Dramatics Society

(Continued from Page 5, Col. 5) brought such widespread interest in Dramatics that the Yeshiva College Speech Department instituted a Speech and Drama Major which includes such courses as: Theater Arts, The Art of the Actor, and the Technique of the Director.

## Theater Improvements

Although surpassing higher goals than ever dreamed of at its inception, YCDS was still not satisfied. Anyone who has seen the cold, dark, empty theater, before set construction, is mystified by the magical metamorphosis undergone during the run of any show. This transformation is brought about by students. Everything constructed and painted in and around the Studio Theater is the direct result of active or graduated Society members. Every year YCDS members strive to transcend previous accomplishments. Two years ago, the society, with help from the administration in the person of Mr. Jay Blazer, installed theater seats. This season, as a result of the tireless efforts of last year's president, Sholom Twersky, coupled with the generosity of the

Yeshiva University Women's Organization, YCDS has been able to purchase its own theater lighting system. It is such additions to the theater that allow the Dramatics Society to raise its standards and reach its fullest potential.

Membership in the society is not limited to the 20 or so actors seen on stage. In fact, the majority of the more than 100 members of this multifaceted operation work behind the scenes in areas such as lights, orchestra, make-up, wardrobe, props, scenery, sound, construction, painting, program, ushering and ticket sales. Countless hours of work are devoted to preparation in order to synchronize and perfect the final product. The complexities involved in the organization are exemplified by the fact that the lighting design is arranged by Rabbi Johnny Krug, who has arranged lighting concepts for several off-Broadway shows, including *The Fantastiks*.

The culmination of these efforts are presented in eight performances each semester. In recent years a wide variety of dramas, musicals, comedies and Shakespearean plays have been produced.

## Unique Experience

Yet, the Dramatics Society is more than a platform for the portrayal of stage characters. This unique, educational and cultural organization imbues its participants with both a sense of disci-

pline and a sense of the importance of dedication, commitment and cooperation. Without these vital fundamentals, YCDS would not be able to produce shows of such professional calibre for which they are known.

The Yeshiva College Dramatics Society is also a charter member of the Alpha Phi Omega National Dramatics Fraternity. This is an honor bestowed upon select collegiate dramatics groups. At the close of every season, the Dramatics Society holds an Awards Night Buffet, where outstanding devotees are inducted into the Honor Society and presented with awards.

Mr. Joseph Schwartz, President of YCDS stated that, "People cannot fully appreciate the many intricacies involved in the society by merely watching a YCDS show. Nevertheless, all our efforts are directed towards the performance on stage, which may be witnessed next week when YCDS presents its fall production, *The Grand Tour*, featuring the largest cast and orchestra of any past production. The quality of this entertaining musical comedy promises to live up to the established reputation of YCDS from past performances."

Anyone interested in working for The Commentator — news, feature, sports or copy, please contact Louis Shicker, Morgenstern 222.

# Debate As To Whom Senators Represent

(Continued from Page 5, Col. 2) final decision on selecting Senators is made by the incoming President of the Student Council, but in actuality, the choice is usually made through a vote of the incoming Council and outgoing Senators.

The whole Senate, then, once chosen, meets weekly during club hour on the fourth floor of Furst Hall. In these meetings, which are open to the student body, policy questions are discussed and voted upon.

## Veto Power

Even after the passing of legislature, though, either the President of the University or the Faculty Assembly has the power to veto any proposal. The faculty veto is the subject of controversy, and, according to Senators Sholom Lamm and Moishe Schwerd, is "an inherent flaw in the Senate." Schwerd makes the point that if the faculty indeed granted the Senate power to legislate policy some eleven years ago, this grant should be full-hearted and not diluted by a veto power. He would recommend either a removal of the faculty veto, or a change by which the faculty not be able to legislate on its own, ignoring the Senate, but should rather also be limited by a Senate veto, just as the

Senate is bound by the faculty veto.

Another recent subject of controversy regarding the Senate has been whom the members of the body indeed represent. Should they vote strictly according to the popular opinion of their "constituency," namely students, administration or faculty, or should they vote what they personally think is best? This issue was highlighted last year in the consideration of the index required for graduation with honors. A faculty member had mistakenly told students that *summa cum laude* would require only 3.8, not 3.85, and, due to the confusion, the Senate agreed almost unanimously to accept the lower figure for one more year. The potential *cum laude* and *magna cum laude* students, however, claimed that their requirements should remain lower, as well, due to the error. Here the vote was much closer. Senators Schwerd and Lamm, knowing that the students really had been aware of the true requirements, and had not been confused, adopted an unpopular stance. Rather than going with the flow of student opinion, they voted their conscience, denying the extra leeway for honors, and the proposal was defeated. Much pressure was

brought to bear on the two Senators for their stance, but they stood their ground, maintaining their "ideal," though unique perception of what a student Senator should be." "Student Council," says Senator Schwerd, "picked me because they think I'm rational and that I'll make the right decisions for the future of the University." Mr. Leo Taubes, a faculty member of the Senate from the English Department, agrees with this assessment of the role of a Senator, and feels that Senators should try to view issues from "a larger perspective." The faculty and administration, he adds, also vote their minds and don't vote as a block.

## Slow Process

Despite its regular meetings, the Senate cannot accomplish as much as it would hope, simply because the process of study and debate is slow and tedious. A huge portion of last year, for example, was devoted exclusively to the cheating problem. "Yet," Mr. Taubes says, "much can be done, and the Senate remains a forum where students, faculty and administration can meet on equal footing, and with no adversary relationship, to steer the College in the best possible courses."

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## Last Of The Amateurs



By SAM RUDANSKY

The previews are over and the results are coming in as Yeshiva University's sports season has officially begun. The teams have begun their quest for the various championships and all are showing encouraging signs.

Unfortunately, most Americans consider the won-loss column the only method to decide whether you're successful or not. We are judged today on the basis of whether we win or lose or whether we succeed or fail. There is no hiding the fact that Yeshiva University has lost more than its share (though this year we've started out quite well), but there is an answer to that question of why we don't win more often.

At Yeshiva U. the athlete is a student also, unlike most colleges where there are two class systems; one being the jocks and the other being the students. As coach Johnny Halpert said, "If they'd give scholarships out on the basis of seniors who graduated we would receive twelve every year while athletic havens such as UCLA and USC would be lucky to get two or three.

The YU athlete must confront many obstacles, one of which is the double program which becomes a triple load when confined with athletics. When the season begins the competitors are involved in midterms and finals unlike most colleges where athletes are just concentrating on their athletics. To quote Coach Halpert, "The team is at their best before the season begins for the simple reason that they're well-rested and not up every night studying.

The YU athlete must tackle not only the upcoming season, but also his workload. It's a credit and a tribute to the athletes in YU who, through all these difficulties, still show up with unparalleled enthusiasm and give their best. This in itself is a true victory.

In an interview last week Johnny Halpert and Jeff Gurock, who both are scholastic achievers with their doctoral degrees, told Ari Schrier that there is no shame in losing and that the only shame is not trying. We don't care if we're 0-21 or 21-0 just as long as everyone gives what they can. This statement alone exemplifies to us that Johnny and Jeff were in a class by themselves. If coaches all over would follow this philosophy we would not only have basketball players who can just dunk, but players who are people also.

Though YU sports have done surprisingly well at Chanukah time with fencing, wrestling and basketball improving, it does not necessarily mean that by Passover time we'll be winning also, but winning may not be the most important thing.

Many of us don't even recall who won the World Series this past October, let alone the Division II championship last year. Though winning is what our starting objective may be, the learning experience that the YU athlete gets from playing on a team is invaluable.

In a time when recruiting is at its peak around the nation and academics is completely separate from athletics, we should be proud of the fact that in Yeshiva we can combine both. Johnny said it the best when he remarked, "Everybody else is professional, but we are the last of the amateurs."

## Mac Fencers Win First Two Matches, Defeating Purchase And New Purchase

Yeshiva defeated Purchase in its first fencing match of the season. Adelson and Epstein both went 2-0, leading a fine 6-3 performance by Foil. Both fenced well; Adelson came from behind in his second victory and Epstein remained virtually untouched in both of his wins. Burger lost his first two bouts, but came back to win his third. Mond fenced well, winning one, while Turner lost one.

However, Foil's 6-3 was negated by Epee's 3-6. First, Feit picked up his first victory, going 1-1. It was an impressive night for Richard Krasiva, going 2-0, winning both bouts easily. However, Adam Karp had an unexpectedly tough night, losing three bouts while substitutes Greenberg and Hermann each lost one. Sabre had a very solid outing by turning in a top 7-2 record. Robert Weiss dominated in his three victories, the last one being the clincher for the match. Captain Aaron Bassan and Jay Zauderer posted identical 2-1 records to round out a fine night for the Sabre team and a well-deserved victory over all.

### Second In A Row

Yeshiva won its second straight match on Mon., Dec. 1, by de-



Yeshiva fencer duels opponent.

feating SUNY at New Purchase, 15-12. Purchase did not have a strong squad and the match should have been won much more handily than it was. Epee led what charge there was, going 2-1. David Feit and Richard Hirsch both went 3-0, while Adam Karp faced a practically nonexistent Purchase Epee Squad. Nonexistent Purchase Epee squads are your basic Chanukah gifts.

Sabre hardly chipped in with a lackluster 4-5 performance.

Starters Bassan, Weiss, and Zauderer fenced lethargically, posting 1-1, 2-1, and 1-2 records, respectively. David Genet picked up the pace and fenced hard in his bout, but lost.

In Foil, Mark Epstein again fenced well, winning both of his bouts. Mark Adelson lost a bout he should have won, going 1-1. The third starter, Burger, went 2-1. Substitute, David Mond, went 1-0 with a very sound 5-0 victory. Dubin lost one bout to bring the Foil record to 6-3.

## Ellmen Victorious In Their Season Opener

The YU Ellmen won their first match of the year against NJIT. At 118 "Big A" Epstein went out strong against his opponent, but the close match came to an early end because of an injury to his opponent in the second period. 126 and 134 were forfeited by NJIT. At 142, Aaron Lapp, wrestling his first varsity match this year, lost to a tough opponent.

### Tough Competition

At 150, co-captain J. J. Lerman totally destroyed his opponent, pinning him in the first period. Al Phillips faced a tough leg wrestler at 158, and fought hard until he was pinned in the second period. By far the most exciting match of the day was

the 177 bout featuring B. J. Genet, who was wrestling above his normal weight class. Although his opponent was heavier and stronger, B. J. put up a courageous effort, losing on a decision.

Aaron Husney, at 190, went out like a lion and pinned his opponent in the first period. The freshman has a good career ahead of him here at YU. At heavyweight Macy Marcus wrestled the team captain, and after giving his best succumbed to a pin.

## Macabees Lose Opener

In what looked more like a scrimmage, YU lost its opening basketball game to NJIT 63-47. Although YU kept the game relatively close until halftime, it was just a matter of time until NJIT put the game away. That time came early in the second

half. NJIT started the half with fine outside shooting and a good full court press, which YU could not handle. YU's inexperience and disorganization was evident as many of NJIT's points came on YU turnovers. Once the team gains more game experience, YU can expect more wins.

## Coach Johnny Halpert Interviewed

Q: How do you gain respect from players each year?

A.: We gain respect by treating the team as a class. We don't cut students from classes so we don't cut the players from the team. We get respect on the basis of growing and learning from them.

Q: How is the recruitment program and how can it improve?

A: It is a tough thing to do. The boy must be a committed Jew, committed to a double program. He must be able to read and write Rashi. All those recruited, used to go to E.M.C., but now there is no program for them. A typical hypothetical example is the following: a boy from Kentucky comes to YU. He is taken around the University, introduced to faculty members who are former basketball players themselves. He's introduced to the President, and is very impressed with everything. He then asks the coach where the gym is. The coach tells him they use a gym a couple of blocks down. The boy is contacted by Brandeis and goes to visit Boston. They set up a program for him to learn with the Bostoner Rebbe and he is now at Brandeis. No gym is the biggest obstacle against our recruitment.

Q: What motivates you to coach at Yeshiva?

A: Coaching at Yeshiva was always a dream. From 1951-1964 Yeshiva had a very good team. They used to play against Scranton, L.I.U., Fairleigh Dickinson, C.W. Post, N.Y.U., and City College. There used to be



Johnny Halpert

700-1,000 people at Yeshiva games. I always viewed Yeshiva basketball as the representative of the Jewish People. Unfortunately, it no longer plays the role it used to.

Q: Having this in mind, and knowing all the obstacles you face, what motivates you to continue?

A: For the last two or three years I've had to ask myself, "Where are we going?" and "Do I have the same enthusiasm?" I've had to really think it through and it's taken longer for the yes to come. Although it started out as a dream, now I enjoy working and watching these kids grow. I've been especially happy with the growth of Robert Rosenbloom and David Kufeld in their years at Yeshiva. Another thing is that we represent the Jewish community. Last year we went up to Johns Hopkins and gave a clinic for some elementary Yeshivas. The kids came over after the game asking the boys for autographs.

Q: Why doesn't the team continue to make these road trips?

A: There are a couple of reasons: 1) It costs a lot of money, and the Yeshiva isn't willing to pay. 2) We lost by a lot, and we'll have to think whether it does more harm or good.

Q: But doesn't the fact that these little kids see boys with yarmulkas on the court mean more than a score?

A: Yes. But then you come to the problem of money. And in N.Y. we've contacted high schools and elementary yeshivas, but principals have turned us away.

(Continued on Page 6, Col. 1)

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