

The Commentator

Official Undergraduate Newspaper of Yeshiva College



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"A Jubilee Shall That 50th Year Be"

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1985 Witnesses Impressive Pre-Law Acceptances

by Peretz Hochbaum

1985 promises to be one of the best years ever for pre-law students at Yeshiva College. As of March 15, four students have been accepted and three wait-listed at Harvard Law School. In addition, two undergraduates have been accepted to the Yale School of Law.

This year's success is the apex of a decade of excellent performances by Y.C.'s pre-law students. Yeshiva's law school acceptance rates have been among the highest in the country, both catapulting Yeshiva's graduates into rewarding careers, and also helping the University gain the respect of the most prestigious law schools in the nation. According to Associate Dean Michael Hecht, pre-law advisor, admissions officers weigh Y.C. records equally with those of applicants from "Ivy League" schools.

1982-1984

During the last decade, Y.C. applicants have consistently gained over 90% acceptance rates to law schools. In 1982, for the first time, all 25 applicants were admitted to at least one American Bar Association accredited institution. That year, the median Law School Admissions Test (LSAT) score for Y.C. was in the 90th percentile.

In 1983, 26 of 28 applicants, or approximately 93%, were admitted to at least one law school. The median LSAT score placed 14 Y.C. undergraduates in the top 6% of the country. The highlight of the class of 1983 was that Harvard and Yale each accepted one

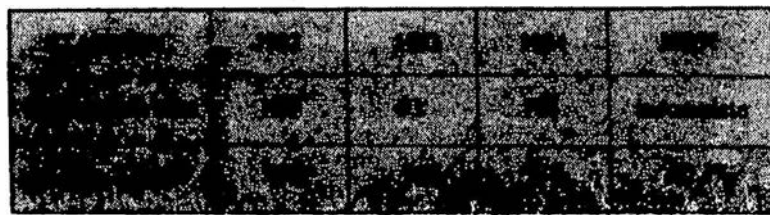
student, NYU seven, and Columbia six.

In 1984, Y.C. applicants again achieved 100% acceptance rates to law school. Far more significant than this notable accomplishment, though, was that of the twenty-nine students, eight were accepted to N.Y.U., four to Columbia, and one each to Harvard and Yale. One third of Y.C.'s applicants scored in the top 9% on the LSAT.

1985 Projections

In addition to acceptances at Harvard and Yale, Y.C. has already achieved double digit acceptances to NYU, and is approaching the same feat at Columbia.

This year's median LSAT score ranks in the 90.3 percentile. More



*as of March 15, 1985

than one third of Y.C. applicants scored in the nation's top 5%, including four in the 99th percentile.

Y.C. Results Are Unusual

Yeshiva's success on the LSAT is quite unique. Nationally, there is a strong correlation between performances on the SAT and the LSAT. However, according to Dean Hecht, "invariably, over the past 15 years, Y.C. students have scored higher (in percentile) on the

LSAT than on the SAT." Thus, in his estimation, "Y.C.'s education works to help prepare students for this test."

In spite of Dean Hecht's high regard for the academic caliber of Y.C., the college program is not sufficiently unique to explain the unusual success of pre-law students at Y.C. When questioned regarding this point, Dean Hecht responded that, "there can be only one explanation. An unanticipated, but nevertheless very real consequence of intensive talmud study is the development of analytic skills and sensitivity to textual nuances which are so important in the study of law and which the LSAT attempts to identify."

Success In Law School

Once accepted to law schools, Yeshiva graduates have fared extremely well. Thrice during the 1970's, Y.U. graduates filled the post of case-note editor with the Harvard Law Review, and twice in the last twenty-five years the number one graduate from NYU Law School was a Yeshiva alumnus. More recently, a Y.U. graduate placed first in the Columbia Law School class of 1983.

Egyptian Diplomat Addresses Students To Promote 'Better Understanding'

By Peter Marcus

In an emotionally charged atmosphere, Mr. Nabil Osman, Egyptian press secretary to the United Nations, came to Yeshiva University for the "sake of better understanding," and addressed approximately 65 students on March 20. The lecture and open discussion were given at the Pollack Library, which was under heavy security. Guards checked students for identification and removed a member of the radical Jewish Defense Organization, Mordechai Levy, who was holding a false I.D. Members of the Jewish Defense League and the J.D.O. who were Yeshiva College students were permitted to remain.

Prior to Mr. Osman's address, Eliezer Hammer, president of the Joseph Dunner Political Science Society, the event's sponsor, requested that the audience allow Mr. Osman to give his speech without incident, and then promised that a question and answer session would follow.

Mr. Osman told the audience that he had received threatening phone calls telling him to cancel the lecture, but for, "the sake of better dialogue, one has to come."

The theme of a "dialogue," which Mr. Osman hoped would lead to improved understanding in the Middle East was the main thrust in his lecture. In this light,



Mr. Nabil Osman, Egyptian press secretary to the United Nations

he spoke of the new peace initiative proposed by Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak during his recent trip to Washington, D.C.

Gala Commentator Dinner Honors Past Editors

By Solomon Schneider and Peretz Hochbaum

The Commentator celebrated its golden anniversary with a gala evening honoring the paper's past editors, on March 24. The honorees were treated to a tour of the Y.U. Museum and a cocktail hour, before partaking in a commemorative dinner in Belfer Commons.

Greetings were extended by

Master of Ceremonies David Schwarcz, the current editor, who introduced the three key-note speakers. Dr. A. Leo Levin (ed. '39), chairman of the Federal Judicial Center and Commission on The Revision of The Federal Court Appellate Division, Rabbi Dr. Louis Bernstein (ed. '47), associate professor of bible at Y.C. and president of the RCA, and Dr. Bernard Firestone (ed. '70), adjunct associate professor of

(Continued on pg. 7, col. 4)

Student Governments Unite For Yom Ha'atzmaut Celebration

By Howard T. Konig

Six different student governments are currently cooperating in a joint venture which will culminate in the Yom Ha'atzmaut Street Festival and Concert, on Wednesday, April 24, at the Uptown campus. The occasion will mark the joint celebration of the annual Yom Ha'atzmaut program and the second annual Festival of the Arts, as proposed by Y.C. student Nachum Bane. IBCSC, YCSC, JSSSC, SOY, SCWSC, TAC and the YC and SCW Alumni Associations are all pooling human and financial resources to insure the event's success.

In past years, the *chagiga* has been principally sponsored by IBCSC. However, in a move toward unification of the student body, IBCSC President Alan

Berger proposed a joint project on the part of all student councils in presenting this year's Yom Ha'atzmaut Festival and Concert.

Program Content

Planned for 6:45 p.m., the street festival will feature a variety of booths representing different Jewish and Israeli organizations and neighborhood stores. WYUR has been requested to perform a live broadcast during the last hour and a half of the festival. Refreshments will also be sold.

At 8:30 p.m., WYUR Station Manager Robert Katz will MC a concert featuring Yoel Sharabi and Keshet in Lampion Auditorium.

Following the concert, Keshet will continue playing at a *chagiga* scheduled for 10:30 p.m. in the Science Hall Commons.

Dean of Students Oversees Event Due to the magnitude of the

event, the dean of students, Dr. Irving Levitz, is overseeing the project with the assistance of the director of student activities, Professor Ben Mayer. To simplify matters, a committee has been formed from among the different student councils to handle the undertaking. The committee members, in turn, deal directly with Professor Mayer concerning their tasks. In addition, the various student governments have accepted responsibility for individual portions of the program, based on their roles within the University. According to David Feder, president of the Student Organization of Yeshiva, "S.O.Y. is sponsoring the *chagiga* to show that its main purpose is to promote the religious growth of Yeshiva University."

According to YCSC Vice President Phil Listowsky, the theme of unity is quite apparent in the organization of this event.



Standing (l. to r.): Dr. Bernard Firestone (ed. '70), Dr. A. Leo Levin (ed. '39), Rabbi Dr. Louis Bernstein (ed. '47). Seated (l. to r.): David R. Schwarcz (ed. '85), Dr. Norman Lamm (YU President).

Editorial

Mandatory Attendance: The Wrong Prescription

A recent decision by Dr. Norman Schlessberg requiring mandatory attendance to all students registered for courses in the accounting department is unreasonable. If students are able to maintain a satisfactory G.P.A. in the accounting major without being present at lectures, there is no justifiable reason why students should be forced to attend.

Dr. Schlessberg, in attempting to cure the infirmity of student absenteeism, fails to realize that student truancy is only a symptom of the real disease. The disease, is the poor quality of teaching. Students in the accounting department feel that some professors come to class ill-prepared; other teachers fail to stimulate class participation.

It is essential that the decision made by the chairman of the accounting society not set a precedent for other departments in Yeshiva College.

It is our hope that Dr. Schlessberg will reconsider his position and encourage the accounting professors to take an approach to teaching that will stimulate student interest.

Exposing The Impostor

Students participating in extra-curricular activities are requested to submit a form during registration, listing their membership in the various Y.C.S.C. clubs and societies. Many students, however, abuse this privilege by recording membership in clubs and societies of which they are not members, and assigning to themselves false titles. As a result, the students that are members of these clubs and have earned prominent titles through hard work, are put on equal footing with these impostors by graduate school admissions committees; and receive undeserved considerations.

The Commentator Governing Board, though we respect student rights, propose that the presidents of the Y.C.S.C. clubs and societies submit a list of members and titles of their respective organization, to the registrar prior to registration. This proposal will serve a two-fold purpose: It will facilitate the process of recording extra-curricular activities on student transcripts and prevent students from misrepresenting membership of respective Y.C.S.C. clubs and societies.

Hail to the Chiefs

For half a century, 'The Commentator' has been the eyes and voice of the student body, focusing on issues that have affected both the students and administration of Yeshiva University, while offering criticism and suggestions with the intent of bettering the community in which we've lived. The official undergraduate Newspaper of Yeshiva University has tried to define administrative policy and explain student activism. It has expressed student opinion, and worked hard to fuse the gap between students and administrators.

For the past five decades, the editors of "The Commentator" have been dedicated to excellence in journalism. It is with great pleasure and respect that we thank and pay tribute to the few who have given so much to the many. Their intuitive insight and shining spirit which has guided the student newspaper through it's first fifty years will continue to illuminate the path of future editors.

The Commentator

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Who's Whose

Mazel Tov to Meryl Small SCW '83 upon her engagement to Steven Braha AECOM '87).

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Mazel Tov to Steve Braha (AECOM '89) on his engagement to Meryl Small (SCW '84).

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Condolences

The Editor-in-Chief and the entire Governing Board wish heartfelt condolences to Zvi Zauderer upon the loss of his father.

• • • • •

Mr. Helen Goodstein of student services upon the loss of her father.

• • • • •

The Governing Board of The Commentator wish the entire Yeshiva Community a חג כשר ושמח

Editor's Desk

by David Schwarcz

Conscience Choice

A doctor once advised me, "Never bury your mistakes and sign the death certificate."

Last week, Dean Levitz showed me a report entitled, "Agreement for Financial Support for Undergraduate Student Governments." This proposal, granting Stern College Student Council an equal allocation of money per student for student activities as Y.C.S.C., was signed by all the presidents of Yeshiva and Stern Student Councils. I incredulously asked, "How could they (The Yeshiva Student Council) agree to this without attending the meeting?"

Dean Levitz prefaced his reply by stating that both student councils received a 20% increase in in-house spending — in other words a 20% increase, adjusted according to inflation, for production costs (i.e. posters, mailings, maintenance, etc...). He then explained, that because the representatives of Yeshiva Student Councils did not attend or submit a financial report outlining their needs for the February 7 budget meeting with Mr. Bernard Pitinsky, director of finance, they forfeited an opportunity to negotiate a budget increase for the 1986 academic year.

When asked why he failed to prepare a financial report and attend the meeting, Shlomo Gottesman, Y.C.S.C. treasurer defiantly replied, "Pitinsky said we were not entitled to increase anyway." When further questioned regarding the failure to submit a financial report, presenting student council needs, he exonerated himself by saying "Go speak to Chaim!"

Well, I obeyed his command and questioned Chaim regarding the February 7 meeting. He explained the situation as follows: When I was ready to discuss the Y.C.S.C. budget, Dean Levitz was not prepared and consistently postponed any budget meetings. Now, following a semester and a half transition period, he is ready to discuss the budget while my term is almost completed. Where was he in the beginning of the semester, when I was arranging concerts, the bookstore and other activities!

Muddled by these excuses, I phoned Mr. Pitinsky's office and inquired about the February 7 meeting and the March 14 published agreement. Mr. Pitinsky indicated that if the Yeshiva Student Council would have presented a legitimate need for a budget increase, he would have considered. Furthermore, Mr. Pitinsky expressed surprise over the Yeshiva Student Council's failure to negotiate the terms of the agreement which they blindly signed their names to.

Dean Levitz apprised me of the fact that Judy Urbach, president of Stern College Student Council, submitted a comprehensive financial report presenting her council needs and clearly indicated that S.C.W.S.C. received less money per student than Y.C.S.C. Furthermore, Mr. Pitinsky discovered money owed to S.C.W.S.C. from past years and added the money to her budget.

I decline to pin the blame for this unfortunate course of events on a particular individual, but regrettably this impropriety is the collective responsibility of all Yeshiva Student Councils (except the J.S.S. Student Council, because Robert Beim, president, did attend the meeting). This situation at hand has an importance that goes beyond the particulars of this event.

As we approach the election campaign for student government, the following question begs to be asked by every concerned student: Who will we elect as our student leaders? Will we vote for our friends or best qualified candidate? Of course, each student can arguably assert that every candidate is qualified. But ultimately, qualification is not strictly measured by one's capability; it is primarily a measure of one's character. So before we allow our leaders to bury their mistakes, let's obligate them to sign the certificate.

Letters to the Editor

A Timely Ripoff

To the Editor:

I think it's about time that someone spoke out on the situation in the library. It should be brought to the administration's attention that they are being, "Ripped off." On any given night, whether there be a 12:45 p.m. closing or 11:45 p.m. closing, the librarians as many know, turn off the lights 15-25 minutes early; signaling everyone, "get out, times up." One may argue that when it says a closing time, it allows for closing preparations. This is not

true! Does an airline pilot end the flight on the final approach? Does a teacher with a contract for 30 hours a week, put only 30 hours a week into his job? No! the closing preparations in the library should be done after closing time.

One may argue, "leave what is alone" or "mind your own business." There are many students that are pressed for time, and come to the library expecting to be able to study or use the library to its official closing. This abrupt closing of the library every night is not right and can't continue.

Reevaluation

To the Editor:

There comes a period in every organization when it must assess its goals and achievements and ascertain whether they are being achieved. I feel the Political Science Society has reached the stage where it must evaluate whether it is fulfilling its purpose.

Eliezer Hammer believes that the goal of the Poli Sci Society is to present the students with a broad range of viewpoints in the political arena and to teach them to be open-minded. Then why is it, that we the students of Yeshiva are

D.M.F.

OP-ED

The Only Business Protected By Our Constitution

By Peter Marcus

Responding to the Westmoreland and Sharon libel cases a few months ago, Henry A. Grunwald, Times Magazine's Editor in Chief, said something that possibly may have been forgotten since the trials ended:

"The current wave of libel suits and huge awards against the media has begun to daunt some editors and reporters." Mr. Grunwald continued, "and represents a danger not only to the press but to a nation that values the truth."

The "danger" that Mr. Grunwald talks about is real. It effects an important underlying principle of this country: freedom of the press.

This nation was based on the principle that government is by the people and for the people. This was a somewhat new political idea — a political experiment of sorts. The Founding Fathers, in the minds of Thomas Jefferson and John Madison knew that in order for this "experiment" in democracy to work, one major goal must be achieved: power over the government and its leaders be in control of the governed. This "power" to the people is the freedom of the press guaranteed to us in the First Amendment.

It is this freedom that allows us to scrutinize our government and our leaders. It was the press that was handed over the responsibility of keeping us informed: to hold this democratic "experiment" together. It is the only business protected by our constitution. And rightfully so.

But suddenly this business is

being threatened: this important check on the government and its leaders is being labeled "too big" and "too powerful." The American press is being attacked for going after politicians and generals in a war-like fashion. But it is the same "big" and "powerful" press that uncovered President Nixon and Watergate and saved the country from unprecedented damage. It is the same press that is now being called "nasty" and "vindictive" for informing the American people of crucial military actions that could, if proven, shed more light on our actions in Vietnam (and hopefully learn from them) and focusing attention on the actions of General Westmoreland, who gave up his libel suit against CBS after realizing that the evidence brought up in the trial pointed to some sort of dishonesty when it came to telling President Johnson about enemy troop strength during the Vietnam War.

The reality is that we do not live in paradise: we live on earth (best described by Machavelli as a "political jungle.") It is this political jungle that we need to have some control over: and an undaunted press is our most crucial control. In this political jungle we need, unfortunately, to condone some mistakes by the press; even if it means that certain public and military officials might get slightly hurt. This is the price that we have to pay for the survival of our democracy.

Next issue I will write how libel suits and the megabuck damages some people are seeking is hurting us all.

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OFFICIAL MAIL ONLY

Controversy for the Sake of Controversy

By Naftali R. Friedman

It's the stuff of which those long and pointless conversations in the cafeteria are made up of. The corridors of Furst Hall are buzzing with it. It fills the pages of this issue of *Commentator* as it invariably has for the last fifty years. It is controversy (or as some might argue "machlokyess") — meaningless banter on a wide variety of topics ranging from party elections to election parties.

Knowledge, they say, is a powerful tool. But so is a Black & Decker chain saw. It is controversy—the discussion of opposing views—which is the real goal of education. Just as vegetarian liver on rye with onions is food for the body, controversy is food for the mind. Both, however, may cause indigestion.

Such is definitely the case with some of the issues currently being "created" on campus. Just what are these inane controversies about and what is the cause of their proliferation in and around Y.U. in recent weeks, months and years?

One of the most enduring issues, constantly being discussed by members of the Y.U. Community, is the never-ending search for the true meaning of our institutions' ambiguous motto Torah and/or Mada.

This question has plagued philosophers since time im-

memorial and is the subject of two "experimental" readers. I am convinced that there are so many dissenting opinions on the subject that the Torah U'mada Reader should become a weekly (like *Commentator*).

Another controversial issue which perennially resurfaces at Yeshiva concerns the nature of the pre-med major. One view is that it should be restructured by adding such in-depth courses as biorythms and alchemy. Others contend that the major is beyond salvage and should be abolished. They claim it is a hodgepodge of uncohesive elementary courses that would jeopardize a student's chances for employment in a science field if he was, God-forbid, denied admission to medical school.

Those in favor of the status quo say that the major is as cohesive as you can get, pointing to the fact it includes only those courses which medical schools require for admission. They argue that students who do not gain acceptance to medical schools are nonetheless prepared for a career as pre-med advisers, since at Y.U. they must handle a large part of the application process by themselves.

The debate regarding such difficult issues as our school motto and the pre-med major is an everlasting one. I believe that these questions are in the category of those that the Messiah will answer upon his arrival. Yet, there are

other controversial issues at Y.U. which, although relatively ephemeral, have taken their spot in the limelight in recent weeks.

One of these revolves around an incident at the beginning of this semester in which a group of students, fed up with poor living conditions in Riets Hall, attempted converting the Morg lounge into a Northern branch of the famed Miami Beach resort hotel—the Fountainbleau. This act alone might not have generated opposition, had the students not set up an in-hotel room movie network airing such restricted films as "The Big Thrill." Days later the invitation of a member of the Arab Soccer League sparked even more controversy on campus.

What motivates the Y.U. student to passionately take sides on issues which may sometimes be of little or no relevance to human existence and to vociferously express these opinions? For some controversy is a fun hobby which does not require the large expenditures of money that one must make when taking up a sport like skiing. Others engage in argument out of a sense of loyalty to either the Yeshiva or University aspects of our institution and consider themselves its true defenders. I, personally, am still unsure as to which group I belong and this has become a new subject of controversy.

Mike Paston
YC '88

Letters to the Editor

(Continued from page 2, Col. 5) only being exposed to one-sided opinion? Mr. Hammer is only inviting and sponsoring Arabic speakers. If he is so concerned with giving the students of YU a wide range of views, then why wouldn't the Poli Sci Society sponsor Rabbi Meir Kahane? Why don't they invite Rav Moshe Feinstein shlit'a, Julius Berman, or any Jewish speakers for that matter? What is this obsession with the Arab? what about Russia, South America, Africa, and the rest of the world?

I think that the time has come for the Poli Sci Society to shift its emphasis and act in the proper

decorum of a university and especially a yeshiva!

Cynicism

To The Editor:

Cynicism at its best is a superior form of intellectual expression because it helps to reform existing evils. At its worst, Cynicism is the expression of disgruntled individuals who wish only for others to share in their discontentment. It is the latter which has become fashionable at Yeshiva. Every aspect of the University, from the guidance department to the cafeteria, is bitterly lamented in the pages of the commentator. The

aspersions that the cynics heap upon Yeshiva college and its students contributes nothing to the fabric of life at Yeshiva. It succeeds only in depreciating our opinion of our university and ourselves.

While students should be made aware of the problems that exist in our midst, the tiresome reiteration of unconstructive criticism is insidious to our morale. It cannot be denied by even the most dogmatic cynic, that a great many improvements have been instituted recently at Yeshiva, both academically and socially. The curriculum has been expanded and a greater variety of courses is now

available to the students. A small but promising career guidance office has been established. Perhaps the most significant improvement is the presence of a strong and vibrant student government. The hackneyed gripe that "nothing is going on" is no longer valid. Instead of responding enthusiastically to the improvements, however, faithful cynics delve into other areas looking for new problems to lament.

Yeshiva College with its unique academic, religious, and social framework, has much to offer its students. I suggest we strive for contentment by searching for the abundant positive rather than

waste our time looking for negative things to criticize: for cynicism only provides the cynic with a detached feeling of superiority and accomplishes nothing more.

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FREEDOM OF SPEECH?

By Ivan Ciment

The cancellation of a speech on campus by Clovis Maksoud, ambassador of the Arab League, has put faculty and administration on opposite sides of the fence in trying to determine if conventional traditions of a university were violated in blocking an opposing view, or whether the hosting of such a political figure would have been a violation of the university's principles.

Beyond the Maksoud case, which is history, issues of academic freedom, free speech, student and faculty rights, and the lack of clear university policy regarding the staging of politically questionable activities on campus, are presently under debate.

Dean Norman Rosenfeld explained the administration position saying, "The activity was reprehensible to YU and what it stands for. Every U (university) has its limits. Anybody who believes that a U should present any kind of opinion is wrong. YU is different from other universities as a setter of

inviting fascists or communists to speak on campus," says Dr. Albert Marrin, history department chairman.

"A lack of administrative interaction in student activities obviates the university from responsibility," according to Dr. Blanche Blank, professor of political science.

"Our students are adult citizens with all such privileges and immunities conferred, and are quite capable of handling their own affairs. There would be no regulations or limitations on duly authorized clubs to invite speakers. Administration should not play any role in this regard," says Blank.

"I don't know that I am wise enough to arrogate to myself the responsibility of deciding who students should or should not hear on any particular issue. I prefer to let them find out for themselves," said Marrin.

"Students here are treated in two contradictory ways, as mature adults and as immature, unwise children who need supervision. My own view is that students are not

strained, certainly among them political. For me, this is not a free speech issue.

"However, this invitation was approved by the proper administrator and then rescinded—to invite and then rescind shows inconsistency and poor policy."

At the YC Senate meeting following the incident, Dr. Egon Brenner, executive vice president, defended the U's need and right to correct errors in judgment, even at the cost of rescinding an invitation. But faculty and students are bothered by the lack of a coherent University policy and a committee to decide on such matters.

"In sensitive cases like this one, a group of people should advise students. Dr. Miller had no such group to turn to," said Dr. Lee.

Said Dr. Miller, "I saw this as a black and white issue. I didn't even see shades of grey here. However, it was the eleventh hour and the logistics prevented discussion. I would have gone through the whole process; called in faculty, students, and administration, if there were enough time.

gained an advantage from his appearance here that we should object to. Yes, YU does not exist in a vacuum. I believe we could have tried to get another representative of the Arab viewpoint without sacrificing the quality of our educational product."

Rabbi Moses Tendler, professor of biology, found no academically redeeming value in a setting where there would be no interaction between the speaker and the audience. In the Maksoud case, the only questions that were to be asked were to be those that were pre-screened by the organizers.

Rabbi Tendler expressed revulsion at the whole affair. "It was an expression of Jew self-hate, a lack of dignity. Nothing in ethics, morals, or academic freedom requires you to let a murderer tell you the joys he acquires in murder.

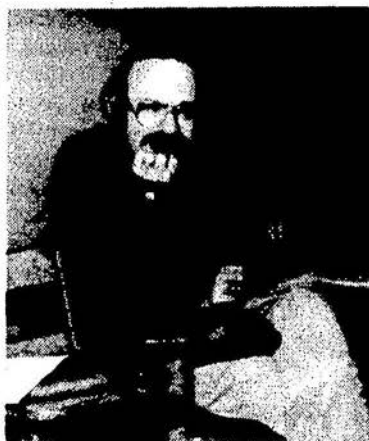
"Maksoud, in adhering to the PLO line of killing Jews, is halachically a 'Rodef,' (imminent murderer) whose only platform that he deserves is under the gallows," he said.

And so the debate is about to begin as the faculty prepares to



Dr. Israel Miller

Miller: I don't find any contradiction in being a university and blocking Maksoud whatsoever.



Professor Albert Marrin

Marrin: A university exists for the pursuit of truth and that truth can't be arrived at without hearing divergent opinions.



Dr. Blanche D. Blank

Blank: Our students are adult citizens ... and are quite capable of handling their own affairs.



Dr. Ruth Bevan

Bevan: Y.U. is not a neutral university. We have obligations to the Jewish community.

standards and values for the American and international Jewish community."

Dr. Israel Miller, senior vice president, added, "It was tasteless. There's a fifth 'Shulchan Aruch' (Code of Jewish Law) and that is 'Sechel' (common sense). They showed none of it."

Dr. Irving Levitz, dean of students, viewed the administration's stand from another angle.

"It's not an issue of academic freedom because information of the Arab position could be, and has been brought into the university. Bringing in the head of this organization and appearing to bestow legitimacy on his position, which calls for the destruction of the State of Israel, would be received as a symbolic message to the world."

Several administrators cited threats of violence and compared Yeshiva's recognition of Maksoud as inconsistent with George Schultz's recent barring of traveling privileges to the Arab League ambassadors in the country. If the U.S. doesn't recognize them, why should we, they say.

This whole business is nonsense, say some faculty members. "Having this man here doesn't say any more to the world than Columbia

experienced in making the kinds of judgments which the invitation of controversial speakers necessitates. Naturally, some of their decisions will be poor. Yet I have great faith in students. Once they are sensitized to the issues and implications, a group of them will almost always be able to reach the right decision," said Dr. William Lee, professor of English.

Bevan was, at one time, advisor to the poli-sci society and described her advisory role as based on "sheer personal relations," and that a faculty advisor's role was not intended to serve as a policing mechanism. Therefore the incident is not the issue, what is rather, "(is) the defense of the rights of colleagues and students in the integrity to which they follow the procedure in carrying out their ideas. They did so, as far as I know," she said.

Dr. Ruth Bevan, senior professor of political science, although disagreeing with the faculty position, was disturbed by the manner in which the incident was handled.

"YU is not a neutral U. Unlike NYU and Harvard, we have obligations to the Jewish community, values, Israel, and that and of itself puts certain con-

"What I want to know is why it was kept such a big secret from us. The students were very secretive about this whole event. They generally keep in contact with me, but not in this case. I'm still waiting for someone to come in and talk to me," he said.

Eliezer Hammer, club president, replied that before the Office of Student Affairs existed, he had no choice but to work through Dr. Miller's office. Now that the department was created, "there was no reason for me to go to Dr. Miller."

Student's intentions and committee decisions are immaterial, according to Rabbi Dovid Lifshitz, a Rosh Yeshiva. "Every question should be settled by Rabbis. This is a Yeshiva over a University. It is not an institute, but a way of life," he said.

According to Rabbi Shalom Carmy, professor of Bible and philosophy at Y.C., "The issues, in this particular case, appear to be the same from a religious and a civil point of view. I am committed to the education of my student, which requires exposure to the world of ideas in the fullest way possible. However there is a moral issue here, and that is whether this particular speaker would have

draw up an official response to the incident. But this debate is a healthy one, according to Dr. Blank, who originally placed the matter on the faculty's agenda.

"I understand that there is another side, I like this university and am only wishing to be helpful. To do so, I feel I must argue for a conventional standard of university tradition. I also have a great deal of confidence in the students to discriminate and to properly handle themselves," she said.

Meanwhile, what has Eliezer Hammer, the club's president, learned from all this?

"The activity would be staged differently. We could have gone to the UN to hear Maksoud. But, I believe that the students have missed out and that the university lost an opportunity," he said.

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SILENCING MAKSOUD

By Norman Lamm



Dr. Norman Lamm

I am pleased to respond to the invitation of *Commentator* to comment on the recent controversy concerning the revocation of an invitation to an official of the Arab League to address the Yeshiva College student body at the invitation of the Political Science Society.

Let me make it clear at the outset that financial considerations played absolutely no role in the decision. First, the Dean to whom this statement was attributed assures me that he never said anything of the sort, certainly not in the context in which it was reported. Second, the Vice President who made the decision (I was in Israel at the time and learned about it only upon my return, after the fact) had nothing of the sort in mind. It is a non-issue — indeed, a nonsense issue. To raise it seriously is an unworthy canard.

The problem at hand has an importance that goes beyond the details of this particular controversy. The *Commentator* statement pointing to such larger issues is therefore essentially correct. But they require analysis on a larger canvass and it is to this that I address myself, despite the handicap of condensing matters of fundamental import to the limited space of a newspaper column.

The very nature of the enterprise of Yeshiva University is unique. The name "Yeshiva University" itself suggests our mission of *Torah Umadda* — one of breath-taking breadth, that is *chovek zero'ot olam*. We are both a Yeshiva and a University, and our ultimate goal is to integrate them as best we can, a symbiosis that cannot be effected in a simple catechism that is handed out at Freshman Orientation or with one's B.A. Whoever expects pat answers, and is unprepared for the long and arduous effort that takes at least a life-time, does not understand what we are all about and is doomed to disappointment.

Unquestionably, while this synthesis can be achieved, and indeed has been achieved even by many of those most vocal about the

impossibility of attaining it, there are built-in conflicts at every step of this rocky and glorious road. Yeshiva and University each has its own immanent rules, its characteristic patterns and individual styles and disparate methods. It is to be expected that they will often contradict each other and point in different directions. This in no way negates the unity of the truth to which both aspire. The empirical *havdalah* of their day-to-day relationships does not belie the *kiddush*, the sanctification of the profane, as Rav Kook so beautifully formulated our final desideratum. But despite the ultimate metaphysical harmony of both spheres, there most certainly are, in the jagged and muddled present, opportunities for conflict. Hardly a week goes by that I am not called upon to deal with such problems in some form or another.

"Contradictions, clashing values, the need to choose sometimes one principle and sometimes another — these are the very stuff of halacha."

The tension between these two poles is a dialectical one, and like every genuine dialectic it offends the simple-minded who seek peace of mind at the expense of a vision of truth. The same kind of dialectic is involved, for instance, in the tension between Science and Religion. Unless one abandons either of these, there will always be the potential for both collision and greatness, no matter how one chooses to resolve the problems. Constantly confronting this dynamic tension leaves one with frazzled nerves — but it is by all means worth the effort. "It is best that you grasp the one without letting go of the other, for the one who fears God will do his duty by both," King Solomon advised us (Eccl. 7:18).

Indeed, the Rav has reminded us

more than once that the Halakhah itself reveals constant dialectical tensions which lie at the very heart of its method. Contradictions, clashing values, the need to choose sometimes one principle and sometimes another — these are the very stuff of Halakhah. Dialectic, the collision of ideas and their novel resolutions and further conflicts, is the only proper response to the multi-faceted Halakhah. A *Commentator* report of May 23, 1968 quotes the Rav: "Judaism does not operate with the law of the excluded middle or the principle of non-contradiction. Judaism believes that something can be in two frames of reference at the same time, although they may be mutually exclusive."

The moment we cut out any half of this bipolarity — Yeshiva or University, Torah or Mada — we are no longer Yeshiva University. We are either Lakewood or Columbia — a yeshiva with some college-level vocational courses, or a University with some traditional-type Judaic courses — but we have destroyed the *gestalt* of our unique institution. As long as we maintain what we are, the tensions will be trying and sometimes exasperating, but never boring. The task of accomodating Torah and Mada, *kodesh* and *chol*, was not meant for spiritual Nirvana-seekers or psychological cowards. It's tough — but it's great. The Spanish philosopher Miguel de Unamuno concludes his *magnum opus* with the words, "May God deny you peace, but grant you glory." You can't have both.

Because of the all-encompassing

nature of Torah Umadda, it often appears that we straddle the fence. If straddling is the result of indecisiveness or of a lack of an overall point of view, then it is certainly deserving of criticism. But occasionally "straddling the fence" can be the consequence of a deep awareness of the complexity of life and of Torah, a keen sensitivity to the dialectical nature of both life and Torah, and the knowledge that therefore particular situations require different solutions based upon a finely honed intuition. (Halakhah, despite its codification, holds out the possibility of multiple answers to questions. See my article in the very first issue of the *Cardozo Law Review*).

I recognize quite well that the lack of a single and definite response to all possible questions is frustrating to those who seek The Answer to every conceivable problem. The reaction of such people is a charge of confusion in high places, lack of policy or leadership or guts. But ideological impatience is not a sign of intellectual maturity. I would rather that we all learn to think problems through anew each time a modification appears, on the grounds that each situation requires fresh thinking (*ein le'dayyan ela mah sh'enav ro'ot*), and if in the process we seem to straddle the fence — well, the view from the top of the fence, dangerous though that perch is, is wider and broader than from either side.

With this as background, let me

turn to the issue at hand.

The question of the impropriety of Yeshiva hosting an Arab League spokesman versus the principle of academic freedom is a fine example of the kind of question that defines our ongoing dilemma. Where else but at Yeshiva University would such a problem arise?

I do not see any halakhic issue involved here. The question is one of propriety as an institution which has as its goal the perpetuation of the Jewish people, of Jewish learning and tradition and dignity of *Talmud Torah* and all that goes with it — and that at the very same time subscribes to the academic enterprise as does every real university which takes culture and learning seriously.

"Clearly there is something offensive about Yeshiva College students hosting an apologist for terrorists."

Clearly, there is something deeply offensive about Yeshiva College students hosting an apologist for terrorists and international hooligans who rejoice at the Zionist-Racism equation. The instinctive revulsion experienced by so many students and faculty members is no less genuine than the principle of freedom cherished by those who extended the invitation and opposed its revocation.

Yet there are good arguments that can be and have been made for those who hold out for academic freedom on this issue. A university should be open to all ideas, even unpopular ones. It should not be averse to hearing from non-conformists. It should, furthermore, hear such opinions from those who espouse them, unmediated by those who merely teach them.

However, close scrutiny reveals some serious questions about the thesis of those who assert academic freedom. Theoretically, it is a truism that no freedom is morally or even legally absolute. Countervailing rights and obligations must also be considered. And on a practical level, even the most liberal institutions have shown a remarkable capacity to interpret academic freedom in rather parochial and partisan terms. How many law schools in our city have given a serious hearing to South African spokesmen on behalf of apartheid? How many medical schools have extended similar courtesies to "pro-life" advocates on the abortion issue? It was not too long ago that Ambassador Kirkpatrick was denied the lectern at a prominent liberal college because of her views on Central America.

Closer to home: How many of us here in our undergraduate schools would be ready to invite the PLO "guerillas" who murdered one of our former students in cold blood in Hebron? A representative of the American Nazi Party? Farrakhan? A leader of the "Jews for Jesus"? A "revisionist" who asserts that the Holocaust never occurred?

This *reductio ad absurdum* is not meant to deny the validity of the policy of academic freedom which I wholeheartedly espouse and practice. It is meant only to demonstrate that judgment calls are necessary, that there are

distinctions to be made that are not easy to analyze, that the lines are not as clearly drawn as some would have us believe. We can all agree that academic freedom is most certainly a precious part of our Western heritage, and that there are instances when it is inapplicable — and that it is not always easy to give predictable and pat answers to all such questions. That is certainly true of a university which is more than an academic factory or a neutral forum with no transcendent mission. A university that has a soul will have problems, and its members would do well at least to admit to a degree of perplexity. One may have strong opinions on a matter of this sort, but self-righteous posturing by partisans of

either position is faintly comical.

On balance, I come down on the side of denying Yeshiva University's hospitality to the Arab League representative, albeit with full respect and understanding for those who issued the invitation. In the conflict of values, I find more validity to the view that Yeshiva University stands for something, and that this value outweighs the good of allowing students to hear a contrary view specifically from the mouth of the kind of speaker invited.

The Arab League representatives at the United Nations join delegates of all other Arab states who do not recognize Israel in leaving the chambers of that organization when the Israeli delegate rises to speak. Why should we, Jewish with such profound links to Israel, reward such callous discourtesy with an invitation to our own home? Such conduct forfeits their right to be heard by any upright person, Israeli or non-Israeli, Zionist or anti-Zionist, Jew or non-Jew.

Students have invited Arab speakers before. The Ambassador of Egypt spoke here, and no one questioned his right to do so, despite the fact that Egypt, while technically at peace with Israel, is hardly sympathetic to Zionism. If students wish to hear views unpopular on our campus they can, if they wish, invite Palestinian intellectuals who do not officially represent governments sworn to destroy the State of Israel. (They might even try to invite Orthodox Jewish doves on the Territories question! Why only Kahane?) To extend our hospitality to the "Ambassador" of a non-nation (the Arab League) confers upon it a legitimacy which is utterly undeserved.

No one is denying the rights of students to hear his opinions. No student was ever threatened with discipline for inviting him to campus. (Certainly, no faculty member has, to my knowledge, ever been denied the right to utter controversial opinions). But the symbolic significance of Yeshiva inviting such a bitter and implacable enemy not only of the State of Israel but of the Jewish people to its campus — that is too repugnant, too outrageous, for this institution to accept with equanimity.

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Student Response To Administration Decision On Arab League Representative

Opposing View on the Maksoud Affair

By Danny Mann

The only consensus about the Political Science Society's invitation of Arab League representative Clovis Maksoud and the ensuing squabble is that the matter was unfortunate. It is unclear who is to blame for what, and perhaps that is just as well. In my opinion, however, the attitudes which caused the event to be proposed and approved without serious investigation into the implications and ramifications involved are disturbing. Some of the responses made by members of the student body and faculty are naive and against the spirit of Y.U., specifically, and Torah Jewry in general.

From the outset, I would like to make clear that my objections were to the mere appearance of Mr. Maksoud on campus, not the polluting effect it might have on the student body. I was upset by the thought of asking a representative, an embodiment if you will, of the Arab League, to address us. I was enraged by the thought of recognizing, not to mention honoring, a group bent on the destruction of the State of Israel by cordially inviting its representative. Are we to invite Dr. Joseph Mengele ("Yimach Shomo") to lecture on his genetic research? Rationalization that Mr. Maksoud is an intellectual, not a rabble-rouser, is just that rationalization. He is and represents "sonai Yisroel," the enemies of the Jewish people, and is, thus, unwelcome on our campus.

An important point surfaced when I argued with a friend about this matter. When asked whether he would have the nerve to tell a mutual Israeli friend that he supported the idea of inviting Maksoud, my friend replied: "That's different. To him it's emotional. We can look at it rationally." Well to me the issue is emotionally charged.

What is the Arab League? Among other things, it is a financial and political supporter of the P.L.O. When I think of Maksoud, I think of my cousins his organization is trying to kill. I think of my friend whose leg was blown off in Beirut. I remember that yesterday I found out that another friend had his face blown up in Lebanon. Whether or not you have Israeli friends or relatives, can you divorce yourself from the deep emotional issue involved? If you can, then you are ignoring scores of "ma'amarai Chazal" describing and requiring unity among the Jewish people. To welcome an Arab League representative displays and reinforces callousness to this emotional imperative.

For this reason, the event should not have been seriously considered in the first place. But we must look at the lack of responsibility displayed in addition to the insensitivity. It does not take a Poli Sci major to determine that inviting Mr. Maksoud might have a negative political impact on the State of Israel. The Israeli Consulate General's request for cancellation of the event should be sufficient evidence. How could a request for such a student activity have been processed without extreme care? How could the planners have neglected to speak

to Israeli officials before proceeding?

The answer to these questions appears to me to be of a broad, rather than limited nature. In contrast with the views expressed in the two Op-Ed articles of the *Commentator's* last issue, I feel that the perception of Torah U'Mada is at the heart of the entire affair. The philosophy of Torah U'Mada is based on the belief that secular knowledge is helpful, if not crucial, in the development of a Torah personality. This can be misconstrued as a carte blanche for the study of secular subject matter. However,

Mann: "Intellectual development is good and should be pursued — sometimes."

this is not the case. Intellectual development is good and should be pursued sometimes. Halacha forbids reading of sexually suggestive literature (Shulchan Aruch, Orach Chaim, 307:16) and "apikorsus" (Rambam, Avodah Zarah, (2:3). Also, time must be set aside for learning Torah; time spent away from Torah must be extremely well used. In order to ensure justification, every subject must be weighed by its own merits and demerits. Just because a college education can be important, does not automatically imply that every course and activity offered at Columbia is acceptable here. The emotional and political aspects of the Maksoud invitation render it an inappropriate application of Torah U'Mada. It is unfortunate that certain faculty members, Dr. Blank included, find this view closed-minded and unacceptable for a "non-sectarian university."

I am not accusing members of the Political Science Society of denying the stated goal of Y.U., for I know it is not true. My objection is to the failure to actively incorporate the theory into the nature of student behavior and activities. The Maksoud incident is but a symptom of a widespread problem.

It was pointed out in an Op-Ed article that inviting Mr. Maksoud was not halachically forbidden, and, thus, the issue was of an academic, rather than religious nature. Aside from ignoring the moral and political issues involved with the Maksoud invitation, this position reflects an inherent misunderstanding of halacha. The specific laws of the Torah, of both divine and rabbinic origin, represent the basis of our behavior. Yet they are not exhaustive. Observance of the "mitzvos" and preoccupation with the study of Torah must mold a personality and create a highly moral individual. The Jew's perception of God's will, disseminated through the Torah, must shape the way he acts, whether he is praying or even eating. For "Chazal" tell us that although a glutton need not violate any specific laws, he is called "naval," disgusting. And although it would be hard to find a written source, everyone would agree that it would be highly improper to sing "Kol Nidrei" to a hard rock tune. Acting in such an inappropriate manner is forbidden by the

general commandments to be holy (Vayikra Rambam 19:2), and to emulate God (Devarim 28:9).

The overwhelming majority of our own rabbis found the invitation of Mr. Maksoud to be morally repugnant, as we all should. It makes no difference whether this perceived closed-mindedness is deemed against the spirit of intellectualism. In this case, the "open-mindedness" is in conflict with the spirit of the Torah and, therefore, has no place in Y.U. for religious reasons.

As a final point, I would like to discuss one of the Political Science Society's arguments against the

administration. They boldly proclaimed, "if a University has to dictate its policy by the amount of money that will be donated, then it is an institution with no backbone."

There are a few things I would like to know. How many knowledge thirsty students would be willing to pay \$50 to hear Mr. Maksoud? How many, for that matter, would miss a good Thursday night movie for the golden opportunity? Yet when it comes to the potential loss of millions of needed dollars to Y.U., the Poli Sci Society is insensitive. If, as I assume most of us agree, Yeshiva University has an important role to play in the future of Judaism, we all have a responsibility to help it and are forbidden to damage its future. We should ask Y.U. to show its backbone only when the need is truly pressing.

It is important that we stop hiding naively behind the halo of secular intellectualism and recognize where our true allegiance and commitment belong. We have been taught to dedicate our lives to God, Torah, and the Jewish nation, not to indiscriminate intellectual open-mindedness. It is only with this in mind that we can use our educational opportunities to become the type of Torah U'Mada Jews whom Y.U.'s founders envisioned.

Danny Mann (YC '86)
is M.Y.P. Student

Torah U'mada and Maksoud: A Response to an Op-Ed

By Ronnie Wachberg

The two recent op-eds consuming the administration's handling of the Maksoud affair bespeak a tragic misperception of fundamental issues. One writer claims that, although we must "not succumb to anything which would detract from the university's philosophy of 'Torah U'Mada,'" the event in question would not be *assur*, and thus, "not be contrary to the university's commitment to Torah." Fortunately, a basic tenet of Torah U'Mada is that the Torah is more than just do's & don'ts, the four *amot* of halacha — otherwise, how could Madah complement & enrich a strictly legal code? Torah U'Mada is not "halacha PLUS anything else mutar" — rather, it is ONE unified entity, a comprehensive Jewish world-view encompassing all truth. One senses that such a weltanschawng does not countenance welcoming PLO supporters, leaving the administration only one option.

Equally critical is a grave political aspect. Although despised by most, Meir Kahane is allowed to speak in Israel, and I am aware of no Israeli efforts to pre-empt his appearance, as opposed to Maksoud's. Not by happenstance is it that no Israeli government representative has ever met with those who do not faithfully recognize her right to exist. So sensitive an issue, it extends outside of Israel dramatically evidenced by the firing of American U.N. Ambassador Young, following a meeting with PLO representative in 1978 — and only a secret meeting at that, rather than a major public event.

Wachberg: "Y.U. has a responsibility to maintain the Jewish political line, not breach it."

A major Jewish institution, whose every undulation potentially bears international ramifications, YU has a responsibility to maintain the Jewish political line, not breach it. Imagine the sense of betrayal in Israel, following the inevitable news showcasing of such an event. Infinitely more devastating to Israel's ability to maintain integrity of her policies would be the world perception of a house yet again divided. The dissent expressed by Diaspora Jewry during the Lebanon war was

unique only in that a simmering domestic dispute had finally spilled over into the Diaspora, eroding the image of unanimous identification with official Israeli doctrine — but the conflicting opinions were not new. Hosting Maksoud, however, would be a break from what has perhaps been the most unanimous 'immutable' policy in Israel's history, irrespective of the incumbent party — namely, the categorical refusal to grant legitimacy to PLO advocates. Is the Political Science Society bold & foolish enough to unilaterally declare wrong such a time honored policy, the world over? Wake up! Were this not so grave an issue, of less than paramount significance, then the Israeli consulate would not have interfered, and donors would not consider withholding contributions.

The suggestion that the administration doubted the students' abilities to counter the speaker's succinctly presented arguments is fallacious. By inference from the conference design, the Political Science Society evidently believes that everyone knows precisely what Maksoud has to say — otherwise, how could queries be restricted to only those submitted in advance? After all, one cannot argue with an unfamiliar thesis. Could we submit advance questions for a presentation on hiccups of the Canadian mongoose?

Furthermore, prior screening of questions by Maksoud, allowing evasion of unflattering issues, is certainly uncharacteristic of honest exchange in an academic setting — not to mention its facilitation of Maksoud claiming victory, upon

stunningly warding off all apparent challenges.

Thus, it is far from clear that education of the student body on this matter was a realistic objective. Nor is there any indication that critical issues were even considered by those who arranged this event. Those who label the school a "guardian of ignorance" speak only for themselves.

Ronnie Wachberg
YC '79
Chaver Program '85

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News Flash

Live Broadcasts Highlight WYUR Week



by David Schonbrun

On Monday night, March 25, the first 'WYUR Week' began, with a remote broadcast from the lobby of Morgenstern Dormitory. The mini-studio, built by Howard T. König, contained a microphone, two turntables, speakers, and over 100 feet of cable, all connected to a central technical board, which absorbed and transmitted the music into a live phone wire.

The WYUR festival continued with remote broadcasts on Tuesday night, March 26, from the lounge at Brookdale Hall, and on Wednesday night from the Uptown campus cafeteria. When asked why the radio station conducted 'WYUR Week', Mr.

Katz responded that "we at WYUR want the students to see how we work. We would also like to do our share in adding some *ruach* on campus." He added, "There is no better feeling than having forty guys standing around and clapping to Safam while you're on the air."

Monday night's Morgenstern broadcast was the second in the station's history, following WYUR's coverage of the 'I Love Mordechai' party this past December 17, from the Stern College lounge.

Mr. Katz referred to the live remote broadcasts as excellent publicity, offering, "this remote is worth 100 signs and posters. I am hopeful that now WYUR doesn't need a sales pitch. It sells itself."

Accounting Department Institutes Mandatory Attendance

In an unprecedented move designed to combat decreased attendance at classes, the accounting department has recently instituted mandatory attendance requirements. The plan, established by Dr. Norman Schlessberg, department chairman, allows students up to four unexcused cuts for courses that meet twice a week, and two unexcused cuts for those that convene weekly.

Students absent for more than the allowable number of classes will be penalized by having their final marks lowered a full letter grade. Student absenteeism totaling more than eight classes in a course meeting twice a week would

result in a penalty of two letter grades. Finally, those missing more than 10 classes are subject to failure in that course, unless excused personally by Dr. Schlessberg.

According to many students, the reason for Dr. Schlessberg's decision is that since Yeshiva's accounting students take positions upon graduating, they must be fully versed in all aspects of accounting before leaving Y.C. They further stated that in Dr. Schlessberg's opinion, a student's education cannot be complete without the benefit of classroom lectures; thus the mandatory attendance rule.

Rabbi Dr. Bamberger Addresses Students On History Of Danish Jewry

By David Schonbrun

On Wednesday night, March 13, Rabbi Dr. I. Nathan Bamberger, author of *The Viking Jews*, a history of Danish Jewry, addressed approximately 40 students from both Yeshiva and Stern College. During the presentation, sponsored by the Joseph Dunner Political Science Society, Rabbi Bamberger spoke glowingly of the Danish people, who aided the Jewish escape from Nazi-occupied Denmark, in 1943. Rabbi Bamberger and his family were among those who fled Denmark and went to Sweden.

According to Rabbi Bamberger, aiding the Jews during the Holocaust was reflective of an age-old Danish approach, dating back to the initial Jewish immigration to Denmark in the early 17th century. Although the rights of Jews to practice their faith and to earn a

living were protected by the crown, political equality was not guaranteed until the royal decree of 1814, which accepted Jews as Danish citizens. The concept of viewing the Jews as compatriots, established in Danish tradition 130 years prior to the Nazi occupation, influenced King Christian X in his steadfast opposition to Nazi persecution of Jews. The vigilance he expressed on behalf of his subjects' welfare extended even to the period following Jewish internment in concentration camps. Thus, Christian X, "a truly righteous gentile," was of those to whom Rabbi Bamberger dedicated *The Viking Jews*.

Rabbi Bamberger also referred to the present state of Danish Jewry, whose intermarriage rate hovers at a staggering 70%. When asked why he chose to leave his native Denmark following the war, the speaker cited assimilation as one of the prime reasons.

Opportunities Available Through Continuing Education

By Peretz Hochbaum

Y.U.'s Center for Continuing Education, now in its fourth year, is a vibrant institution within the University, offering a wide variety of courses which are of interest to undergraduates and graduates alike. Yeshiva's Center for Continuing Education, like others similar to it, addresses itself to the needs articulated in the community and attempts to attract the interest of those beyond the existing student body.

This semester, the center is offering over 80 courses in various subjects, including appraisal studies, business and tax record-keeping, connoisseurship in art, antiques, and collectibles, management of non-profit organizations, and personal financial management. While courses given at "C.C.E.'s", or continuing education units, are not degree oriented, many lead to certification upon successful completion of a prescribed curriculum. (Often, courses in continuing education can be transferred to four-year colleges for academic credit).

Y.U.'s Center Unique

In keeping with the Torah U'Mada policy of the University, the center offers courses and seminars in subjects of Judaic enrichment and interest. Courses range from biblical and talmudic textual studies to the Judaism science interface. Recently, the center ran a seminar for rabbis and doctors, dealing with the physiology and halachot of *Nida*.

Yeshiva's center is small compared with other New York City schools of continuing education, and therefore, it can offer only a limited number of courses. Dr. Abraham Stern, director of

Yeshiva's Center for Continuing Education, mentions, though, that it is, "unique, current, self-sustaining, and in consonance with the Y.U. image. Y.U.'s center has something different to offer; something that cannot be found elsewhere."

Who Takes Courses

To enter a course no degrees are required, and few classes have prerequisites. Individuals enroll in continuing education for three principle reasons. First, through courses in continuing education, they can bolster and enhance their knowledge and expertise in occupational fields. Secondly, people acquire knowledge in fields of interest with which they were previously unfamiliar. Those interested in changing careers, or older individuals who wish to retire from their current careers but still remain active, can do so by gaining certification in areas such as real estate or appraisalship, vocations which allow for flexible hours. The third reason people take courses in continuing education is simply for personal knowledge and intellectual stimulation.

Impact On The Community

The Center for Continuing Education is a tremendous resource for Y.U. Through it, Yeshiva can extend its influence into the 'outside' world. According to Dr. Stern, "quality programs and faculty popularize Y.U.'s image, which leads to registration, new students, and general good will toward Y.U."

In addition, Dr. Stern postulates that people who have become affiliated with Yeshiva through the center will now consider Yeshiva when recommending schools for their children.

Rabbi Romm Honored At RIETS Luncheon

Rabbi Shimon Romm, on the faculty at Yeshiva University and the University-affiliated Rabbi Isaac Elchana Theological Seminary (RIETS) for nearly 30 years, was honored on March 14 at a special luncheon sponsored by the Rabbinic Alumni of RIETS.

The luncheon began at 1 p.m. at the University's Main Center in the Washington Heights section of Manhattan. It was part of a full day of activities — including *shuirim* (Talmudic discourses) and a discussion of the ethics of medical transplants — that made up the Midyear Conference of the Rabbinic Alumni.

The day ended with the Annual RIETS Dinner, which honored Rabbi Pinchas Teitz, chief Rabbi of Elizabeth, NJ, founder of the Yeshiva and Mesivta of Elizabeth, and a renowned Torah authority.

Rabbi Romm, who has taught Talmud to thousands of students at the University and RIETS, was born in Poland. He studied in Slonim with the late Dr. Samuel Belkin, the second president of the University, and he was ordained at the famous Mirrer Yeshiva in Poland.

Together with his wife, the former Esther Eisenbud, he escaped from Poland in 1940 and spent a year in the port city of Kobe, Japan, before traveling on to Mozambique and to South Africa and settling in Israel in 1942. While in Israel, he was the spiritual leader of Congregation Tifereth Yaakov in Tel Aviv.

Rabbi Romm came to the United States for a short visit in 1955, but he was persuaded by Dr. Belkin to stay and teach.

Rabbi and Mrs. Romm live in the Washington Heights section of Manhattan, not far from the University. Both of their children have made their homes in Israel.

Fine Inaugurates Sy Sym's Chair



Dr. Seymour Fine inaugurated the Sy Syms Chair in Marketing and Merchandising, the first endowed chair in business at Yeshiva University, with a lecture on "Marketing- An Interdisciplinary Social Science," on March 12, at the Uptown campus. In his lecture, Dr. Fine, an associate professor of business at Rutgers University and president of Fine Marketing Associates, a business consulting firm, returned to academic life at age 50 to earn his P.H.D. The chair was endowed by Mr. Sy Syms, chairman of the board of Sym's Corporation.

According to Eliezer Hammer, president of the Political Science Society, "Rabbi Bamberger's personal memories gave more life to the history of Danish Jewry."

Rabbi Bamberger currently serves as spiritual leader of the Kingsbridge Heights Jewish Center and is a faculty member at Touro College.

Commie 50th Anniversary Dinner

(Continued from pg. 1, col. 5)

political science at Y.C., all discussed their experiences as editors of *The Commentator*. Yeshiva President Rabbi Dr. Norman Lamm also offered memories of *The Commentator*, for which he wrote a humor column, during the editorship of Dr. Bernstein.

The dinner also included a slide show depicting a half-century of *Commentator* history, which was prepared by Rabbi William Hershkowitz (ed. '48). The presentation highlighted key articles and portrayed the paper's past with both gravity and humor. Many in the audience took special interest in this portion of the program, recalling editions upon which they collaborated and central issues expressed in their day which are still topics of discussion today.

The evening witnessed the reuniting of old friends, some of whom travelled from out of state to attend. Of note, Mr. Moses Feuerstein, *Commentator's* first editor (1935), and Mr. Ari Goldman, former *Commentator* news editor and current New York Times reporter, were in attendance.

Mr. Schwarcz especially thanked Dr. Nulman, assistant to the dean of students, and Mrs. Vivian Owgang for their assistance in organizing the affair.

Finally, YCSC President Chaim Gejerman presented the Golden Quill Award for excellence in journalism to previous editors of *The Commentator*, and to David Schwarcz (ed. '85). In addition, Daniel Rosenthal, associate editor, '84-'85, received this award for his contribution to the paper.

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Egyptian Diplomat Speaks At Yeshiva College

(Continued from pg. 1, col. 5)

JDL Member Interrupts Speech

It was quite obvious that Mr. Osman felt compelled to assert his position with his audience. Instead of concentrating his dialogue on Egyptian-Israeli cooperation, as Egyptian Ambassador Amre Moussa had done in his address two years ago, Mr. Osman defended Egyptian policy while assailing the actions of Israel. Although this approach may have stemmed from the threatening phone calls he was alleged to have received, Mr. Osman's attitude seemed to aggravate the sentiment of radical elements already present in the audience.

The first major interruption of Mr. Osman occurred during his discussion of the new peace initiative. Hillel Lieberman, a member of the J.D.L., shouted, "no Arab will be safe (on the West Bank)." He further yelled that inviting Mr. Osman to speak at Y.U. constituted a "disgrace." University security guards led Mr. Lieberman from the hall.

When the lecture continued, Mr. Osman mentioned that the Middle East is an area of many ideologies, much turmoil, and an overabundance of arms. Raising his voice, Mr. Osman told the students that upwards of \$15 billion in arms, or 40% of the sum spent on arms worldwide went into the Middle East last year. He called this an "exercise in fertility", in which people stand to lose "a better way of life."

Mr. Osman blamed the Middle East situation on fears and misunderstanding. He said that Egypt, through its efforts in seeking peace with Israel, tried to break the "psychological barrier" that has plagued the area for the past 50 years. "The Middle East situation has been based on fears and counter threats," said Mr. Osman. "Once Sadat went to Jerusalem, a real breakthrough happened."

He then called upon Israel to begin a new breakthrough, saying that a need exists for, "comprehensive settlement based on justice." The justice to which Mr. Osman referred was "coexistence," a word he used repeatedly in the lecture. "We seek coexistence, to coexist together; not at the expense of one another. The Arabs made mistakes by saying no negotiation and no peace. And the results were more wars and more bloodshed."

Perhaps anticipating opposition to his next point, Mr. Osman pleaded with the audience to, "put all fanaticism and extremism behind us and have a civilized dialogue."

Speaks on Lebanon Invasion

Mr. Osman spoke out against the Israeli invasion of Lebanon and defended his country's subsequent action of removing its ambassador from Israel. Asserting that the incursion into Lebanon was not, "conducive toward peace," Mr. Osman claimed that Israel was, "much better off before the invasion." He quoted Abba Eban as saying that the expulsion of 7000 Palestinian soldiers and subsequent creation of 700,000 potential Shiites was a "bad trade." (When later questioned concerning the necessity of this move, he commented that the detonation of occasional bombs in Israel by itself did not justify the invasion, pointing out that such incidents do not threaten the existence of Israel.) Further commenting on this topic, Mr. Osman called fundamentalism a "danger to all countries," and labeled the Shiite

"ticking bomb" in southern Lebanon.

Defending his government's actions following the invasion, Mr. Osman said that Egypt maintained relations with Israel, despite great pressure to break off all ties. "We only withdrew our ambassador, but our embassy stayed open, and Israel's ambassador is still in Cairo. We were put in a delicate spot. For the first time, an Arab capital was surrounded by the Israeli army."

Mr. Osman then blamed the Taba incident, a controversy over 800 square meters of land, squarely on the shoulders of Israeli politicians. Described as a "simmering" issue in Egypt, the Taba controversy has yet to be settled.

Requirements for Ambassador's Return

Mr. Osman proposed that three items would be required of the Israeli government before Egypt would return its ambassador to Israel: a full and complete withdrawal from Lebanon; a settlement of the Taba issue, and action on the West Bank and Gaza Strip concerning the Palestinians. This last point may have been the most controversial issue raised by the press secretary.

"In the spirit of compromise, we must put all grievances behind our back; move forward without turning our heads backward," Mr. Osman said. He continued, "Israel is a fact of life, but Palestinians are an equal fact."

Second Outburst Receives Applause

The second major outburst occurred at this time, as a student interrupted the lecture, echoing much of the same sentiment shouted previously. Much of the audience showed support, though, for the disrupter, as he was escorted from the hall.

Continuing, Mr. Osman expressed hope that the recent joint Jordanian-Palestinian agreement and the new Egyptian peace initiative would finally result in real steps toward peace. "Now, we must move from statements to real concrete action," he said. He described the purpose of the Palestinian-Jordanian accord, which said that the PLO accept all U.N. resolutions concerning the Middle East, as an initiator of dialogue.

Mr. Osman is positive of progress in the peace process. He referred to Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres as a "realist" who accepted some form of dialogue with Jordan and non-members of the PLO.

Questions and Answers Follow

The question and answer period highlighted the complexities and high emotions that run through the Middle East. Mr. Osman debated with students concerning such issues as the Israeli invasion of Lebanon, Israeli Concessions, and the Palestinian question. He justified the concession of Sinai by asserting that the area had been seized by Israel by force.

Student Reaction Elicited

Following the address, one student echoed a common feeling, stating, "even though I disagreed with a lot of what Mr. Osman said, the chance to speak to a high-ranking Egyptian official was invaluable."

It must be noted, however, that the audience's reaction at the earlier expulsions from the lecture-hall reflected a second frame of

(Cont. on pg. 11, col. 2)



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The Truth About Parker's Cafeteria

By Ivan Ciment

Truth can be hard to swallow, especially if you think you're being ripped off at Parker's cafeteria. This is coming from a reporter who walked into an interview with Mr. Parker ready to kill.

First of all, it's not Parker's cafeteria it's Yeshiva's. Alfred Parker has been employed by the University since 1957 and forcefully defends his prices, citing a projected record deficit in the neighborhood of \$100,000 for this year. "We have never had a profit here," he said.

While the U (university) absorbs the deficit, the cafeteria is billed for almost all services it uses within the U. Lighting and insurance, for example, are paid for from the cafeteria's budget.

The costs of labor, food, repair, and the lack of a meal plan, are the main factors contributing to high prices. The cafeteria employs union workers, spends a fortune maintaining antiquated equipment, and has no way of projecting customers at a given setting.

Union contracts provide for generous vacation and fringe benefits, while repairs to such items as refrigeration, bakery, seats, and cash registers amount to thousands of dollars. The cafeteria line will be modernized to improve presentation and speed service but these funds are not the result of excess profit—quite the contrary.

On an average night, 300 eat dinner at YU; on Thursday that figure is closer to 200. Gross intake for breakfast and lunch on a normal day is \$1700 (including vending machine collections). However, the figures are not absolute, forcing Parker to over-prepare in anticipation for

whatever flies through his door that day.

The YC Senate is presently conducting a study to determine the feasibility and popularity of a meal plan. Research findings will

"I sell them the meat at cost price. What they use, they pay for. If not, we take it back," he says. Often, he gets stuck with surplus.

Student groups that hold catered affairs often don't pay their bills

from a 5% increase this year, list prices have not risen for three years.

Fine, but I just took a trip to the Northeast and ate out at colleges, such as Harvard and Brandeis. At the Brandeis cafeteria, I, as a

students who eat in the cafeteria would pay less than they pay now," he says.

Would a meal plan result in the loss of incentive to provide a quality product?

Very straight answer. "I don't permit low quality of food buying and production. They may raise hell and scream murder in there (the kitchen) but that's why I'm here 27 years," he said. He let me know in no uncertain terms that the place just isn't the same when he's not around.

Parker seeks to clear the notion that students bring down the deficit by paying higher prices. Instead, catered affairs to outside groups are the objectives for picking up the slack.

"If I stayed home on a Sunday night or do an affair, it makes no difference to me. I work for nothing and get no incentive toward what I produce. Yesterday I worked a 13-hour day—it's a daily grind. I'm over 65 already, but still, I'm out there fighting to do the best for the students. I really want to hear from them and know what they think and suggest," he said.

If the words don't convince you, then his face and conviction must. While Parker was exceedingly candid and open during the 45 minute interview, his eyes were always on the kitchen watching. Anything that wasn't just right, and Parker burst out of his seat and was up and at 'em. The YU kitchen is his castle and due to a personal obsession and commitment to excellence, the kingdom prospers. I tell you, I don't like paying \$5.25 for a piece of meat one bit, but this man speaks the truth.



"I'm out there fighting to do the best for the students. There has never been a profit here." — Alfred Parker

be presented within the next month. A previous attempt at a meal plan was turned down by a majority of students citing the hardship caused by such an outlay.

Parker expressed the belief that student organizations lack an appreciation for the generous terms on which he conducts business with them. Take hoagie sales, for example.

on time and Parker vehemently assures that he is providing services at cost.

"The school has provided the same subsidy for Shalosh Seudos" (the Saturday evening meal which is free) for 25 years. The whole Shabbat program is a real loser—prices are ridiculously low," he said.

Parker reminds me that aside

visitor, paid \$3.90 for an all-you-can-eat lunch which included turkey, hamburgers, sides, so up, salad bar, desert, and soda. Kosher food, too.

Kosher maybe, but Parker says we're kosher. Politics and other factors have caused the YU cafeteria to spend a fortune buying Satmar meat and "Dagim" brand tuna, among other items. Also under a meal plan, 75% of those

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The Senator Speaks

by Ira Meisels

It has come to my attention recently that many students are not really aware of the composition and scope of the Yeshiva College Senate. I, therefore, apologize for not having written this piece earlier and hope that it will serve to clear things up.

The Senate is composed of five administrators, eight full-time faculty members, six students, and one alumni representative. The administrators are: the Dean of the College, the Executive Vice-President, the Vice-President for Student Affairs, the Registrar, and the Director of Admissions. The faculty members are appointed by the Faculty Assembly for a two-year term and the students are made up of juniors and seniors; the Director of Alumni Affairs is currently the alumni representative. The officers of the Senate are a Chairman and a Secretary with the chairmanship alternating between the students and the faculty yearly.

In terms of scope, the Senate has jurisdiction over the academic affairs of the College. These include: academic standards, admissions policy, curriculum, student attendance, and the grading system. Any measure passed by the Senate is considered adopted if not

vetoed by either the President or two-thirds of the Faculty Assembly within fifty school days of its passage.

Getting down to specifics, I would like first to discuss the Pre-Health Sciences major. For those who do not already know, the results of the Student Survey were: 155 respondents: 65 MAIN-TAIN, 46 ABOLISH, 44 RESTRUCTURE.

These results are, of course, far from conclusive but the overall impression the student senators have formed is that the majority of students are not in favor of abolishing the major. Therefore, although some of us do, in theory, believe it should be abolished, we have decided not to push for such a measure. Instead, several restructuring possibilities are currently being studied.

Moving on to library hours, Dean Levitz has succeeded in securing extended hours for the Pollack and Gottesman libraries. This move, initiated by Y.C.S.C., gained much momentum from a recommendation by the Senate ("recommendation" because the Senate has no official jurisdiction over the matter). The library hours have been extended to 10:45 p.m. on Sunday and to 12:30 a.m. Monday thru Wednesday. Moving on to the next issue, the idea of instituting a student meal plan

came up in the Senate and a subcommittee was formed. The subcommittee will be meeting with Mr. Parker and studying the possibilities.

One final issue. Someone approached me with the idea of amending the Senate's Constitution to allow freshmen and sophomores to serve on the Senate. I discussed the idea with the other student senators and we thought it unwise; in our estimation, upper-classmen have a better understanding of how the College functions. If you disagree, please let us know. In fact, we welcome any suggestions or ideas you may have; so, please contact us. The student senators are:

- Ira Meisels (795-6917)
- Howard Friedman (923-6256)
- Benjamin Kaufman (923-0601)
- Daniel Petashnick (927-8003)
- Perry Hochbaum (781-3607)
- Michael Katz (928-5318)





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One Thrill, One Chill

By David Rubenstein

It's late at night. You're in a car that's driving down a storm-drenched piece of Texas highway. The driver of the car is a bartender back in town. His passenger is his boss' wife. She's leaving her husband and going to Houston. She doesn't like her husband, of course. Neither does the bartender. And the two have something else in common. They like each other. A lot. All of a sudden, the wife tells the bartender to stop the car. An orange VW Beetle slows down behind them, hesitates, then passes. All you can see through the night and the rain is the white flash of a large-brimmed cowboy hat as the conspicuous VW slinks by.

Hold on to your popcorn. What I've described is only the first three minutes of XXXX and Joel Cohen's thriller...murder mystery BLOOD SIMPLE, a lover's triangle double-cross where the only thing that's simple (you guessed it) is the blood. I'll tell you just a little more: when the jealous husband finds out about his wife and his employee from a sleazy hired detective (played by the legendary M. Emmet Williams who, with his pasty, cruel eyes and his deviously slow drawl, is so despicable and amicable at the same time that you have to wonder if he's really acting), he rehires the detective—this time not to follow the pair, but to kill them. The detective advises the husband to go fishing for a few days while he gets the job done. The husband has a good catch—that slowly goes rotten. So does the detective. And if you think I've already given away too much of the plot, I can assure you there's a lot more rotting in Texas besides fish by the end of this movie.

I didn't like BLOOD SIMPLE simply because it was the most engrossing, most intelligent, best acted, best directed, best written film I've seen this year—although all that helped. I liked it because it's normally not the filmmaker who supplies the murder-mystery

when you go to see a movie, but the audience itself. I often ask myself, as I sit in my seat, trying to prop up my eyelids with toothpicks, at what exact moment in time did the people in the audience die? When was the murderous crime of apathy and boredom committed? During previews? After the first flashback? Or were all these people dead even before they bought tickets? BLOOD SIMPLE, in contrast, had people practically on their feet—and definitely under the seats throughout the whole movie. People gasped. They screamed.



They bit their nails. I bit their nails. And everyone laughed. BLOOD SIMPLE is also a very funny movie. And I hope now I've given enough clues to make you want to put yourself further in the dark—by seeing BLOOD SIMPLE, that is, and clutching at your helpless popcorn.

The other suspense movie I saw, THE HIT, also made me want to clutch at something—the throat of the movie's producer, which (along with the rest of the man) is probably in the Bahamas right now, doing something wonderfully disgraceful with my money and the money of other credulous filmgoers.

I know just what happened. A man in a trenchcoat (the producer) approached John Hurt (Smith in 1984, Caligula in I, CLAUDIUS, Quentin Crisp in THE NAKED CIVIL SERVANT, and the victim of an extraterrestrial appendectomy in ALIEN) and asked him if he'd like to play the role of a silent, deranged British hitman who, while assigned to kidnap an underworld informer in hiding in Spain, slowly loses his grip. Hurt read the script, and commented

innocently: "This character has no personality, no motivations, and no lines," to which the trenchcoated figure, crouching away and burying his face deeper into his Groucho Marx disguise, probably answered: "You're a great actor, John. You can do something with it."

No one could have done anything with "it", not even a John Hurt fan like myself. I was willing to give Hurt's character the benefit of the doubt that he was really a nice guy—especially after he'd killed the five other people in the movie who had dialogue. But then Hurt himself is killed by the Spanish police, leaving only Fernando Rey (a police inspector and "co-star" who appeared in the movie four times, each time long enough to take the pulse of a six-hour dead John Hurt victim and turn a frustrated eye upward at an equally perplexed extra who also doesn't have any lines) to stand over Hurt's body and ask if it was really born in Dublin like its false passport says. Unintentional humor in a movie this bad is no consolation.

Back to that producer. There he is, sitting in front of a video machine, smoking a five-dollar cigar made out of ticket stubs. He's watching BLOOD SIMPLE. Never mind. If John Hurt accepts another part from that producer in a movie as disappointing as THE HIT, something in one of his fan's minds may snap. And John Hurt or that producer may find that fact is stranger—and sometimes more dangerous—than fiction.

On The Sidelines

(Continued from pg. 12, col. 2)

The fencing, wrestling and karate clubs and teams will practice and play their matches in Tannenbaum Hall. Hockey intramurals, which would damage the new gym floor, will likewise be played in Tannenbaum Hall. YU will also continue to rent the GWHS facilities for swimming and for intramural basketball (unless volleyball plans fall through).

The Health Club facilities are always available to students during the Center's open hours, which (officially) are 9 a.m. - 12 a.m.

What about late-night basketball? A student petition and a few work-study students should take care of that. Undoubtedly, Stern College students will rightfully demand time to use Health Club facilities as well. To allow for this, Prof. Tauber, administration officials and *Rashei Hayeshiva* are working together on a coherent schedule.

Though my graduation will be before the Center's completion, I will certainly be present to cheer the Macs on in their first true "home game" ever. And while I may have said that it took too long to build the gym, I have the feeling that it will have been well worth the wait.

Egyptian Speaker

(Continued from page 8, Col. 2)

thought. Substantial numbers viewed the event as a travesty of the spirit of Yeshiva University.

After the lecture officially ended, students met informally with Mr. Osman and continued debating some issues. When Mr. Osman was about to leave, a Yeshiva College

student who had previously served in the Israeli army shook the secretary's hand, bidding him goodbye. "Maybe that's the most important factor coming out of the peace treaty," said one student. "At least we can talk, debate, and when it's over we can shake hands."

Editor's Note:

Following Mr. Osman's Address, a Y.C. student wrote to the secretary, maintaining a difference of opinion on several issues, yet expressing overall appreciation for his time and patience.

The following was Mr. Osman's response.

Dear Student,

I read with interest your note and would like to avail myself of this opportunity to convey to you and to your colleagues at the Yeshiva University my appreciation for your patience during the dialogue the other evening. It is my sincere hope that I managed to leave behind some material for thought. Let me repeat what I have reiterated over and over again during the dialogue that no issue, major or minor, can be solved if fanaticism or extremism persists. The *raison d'etre* of any dialogue is to reconcile and to foster mutual understanding.

Please accept my best regards.

Sincerely,
NABIL OSMAN
Press Counsellor
Head of the Press Office

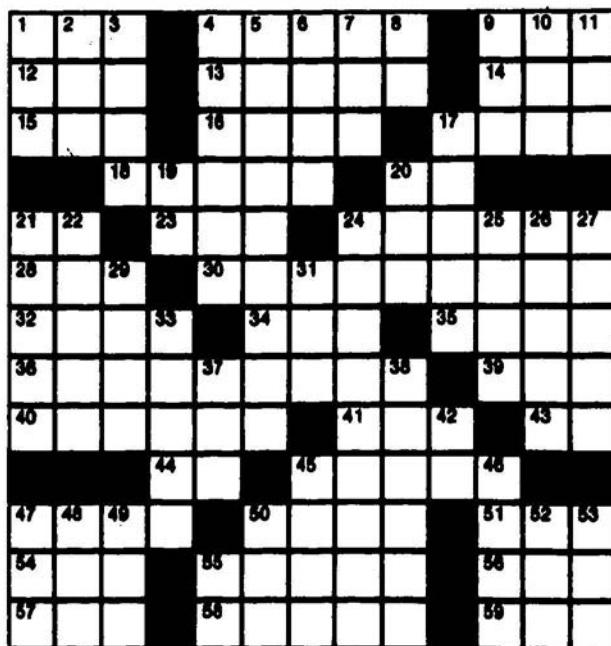
ACROSS

- 1 Grain
- 4 Small factories
- 9 Guido's high note
- 12 By way of
- 13 Labors
- 14 Vigor: colloq.
- 15 Everyone
- 16 Partner
- 17 Disturbance
- 18 In good season
- 20 Laugh
- 21 Note of scale
- 23 Pigeon
- 24 Easy to do
- 28 Wine cup
- 30 Sweated
- 32 Strokes
- 34 Anglo-Saxon money
- 35 Title of respect
- 36 Mississippi River
- side-wheelers
- 39 City in Iran
- 40 Caught sight of
- 41 Article
- 43 Sun god
- 44 Again: prefix
- 45 Athletic groups
- 47 Nobleman
- 50 Young salmon
- 51 Playing card
- 54 Cravat
- 55 Trio
- 56 Be in debt
- 57 Skill
- 58 Pays attention
- 59 Damp

DOWN

- 1 Eggs
- 2 Be ill
- 3 Story
- 4 Begins-
- 5 Motion-picture capital
- 6 Unctuous
- 7 Work at one's trade
- 8 Steamship: abbr.
- 9 Slender finial
- 10 Sign of zodiac
- 11 Likely
- 17 Sped
- 19 Equally
- 20 Head covering
- 21 Fall into disuse
- 22 Oriental nurses
- 24 Showered
- praise upon
- 25 Country of Asia
- 26 Nocturnal mammal
- 27 Dropsy
- 29 Above and touching
- 31 Pitching stat.
- 33 Whirling motion
- 37 Insect
- 38 Portions
- 42 Printer's measure
- 45 Mountain lake
- 46 Pack away
- 47 Sched. abbr.
- 48 Ventilate
- 49 Soak
- 50 Greek letter
- 52 Female sheep
- 53 Openwork fabric
- 55 Symbol for thulium

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On the Sidelines

...And At Last, The Gym

by Morey Wildes

It took a long time — too long, in fact — but it has become a reality: the gym is finally nearing its completion. The structure is up and the Max Stern Athletic Center will officially be opened in September of 1985.

Through the Commentator's fifty years, there have been countless "gym articles," articles by sports editors citing the University's need for a gym and calling for the construction of one. For just as long, athletics officials such as Avraham Avrech, Bernard Sarachek and Arthur Tauber have been fighting for the construction of a gym.

Until now, Yeshiva students have used the large room in the basement of Tannenbaum Hall as a gym. This gym, however, was originally designed as a swimming facility and therefore did not comply with intercollegiate gym regulations. As a result, the basketball team has had to travel to other colleges to practice and play their games. The students cried out for a recreational center.

Historically, plans for such a gym and recreational center had been in the "blueprint stage" since the late '50's, yet nothing had ever come of them. Later, when Furst Hall was being erected, an offer made to construct a gym on top of that building was rejected, according to Professor Tauber, Director of Athletics, "because it was not suitable for our program. We knew what our needs were and that would not have satisfied them."

Back around 1980, Stanley Stern, a member of the Board of Directors involved in improving campus life and facilities, called a meeting with Coach Halpert, Prof. Tauber, Dr. Lamm and an architect, saying he was prepared to donate over \$1 million towards a gym. Unfortunately, financial troubles struck YU and this money went towards restructuring its debt. Once again, back to the drawing board.

Finally, after Max Stern's death, Stanley convinced his brother Leonard to donate money towards the construction of a gym. After he increased his original pledge of \$1 million, the Furst family made a donation as well, and construction began.

This "gym," however, is not merely a gym. The Max Stern Athletic Center will house the Melvin J. Furst Memorial Gymnasium, a full-sized basketball court (with four side baskets), with two electric scoreboards and two bleachers seating 500 each. There is also a track raised to half the height of the building running around the inside of the gym.

In addition, other rooms will include a weight room, an exercise room, a trainer's room (with whirlpools), locker rooms, showers and, yes, even a lobby for socializing. There is also space in a downstairs lobby adjacent to the cafeteria for refreshment stands. However, much of the auxiliary training and weight machines depend on the University's ability to raise cash (approximately an additional \$½ million is needed to equip the facility).

"The students are the key," said Prof. Tauber. "We desire to make this facility available to the students and we'll be flexible to accommodate the students' needs." Prof. Tauber has drawn up a comprehensive, yet tentative, schedule to allocate time for the various sports and has arranged a meeting with the varsity team captains and intramural heads to discuss this schedule.

The schedule goes something like this: The Maccabees will both practice and play their games in the new gym while the high school team will play games there but will practice in George Washington High School boys' gym. The new gym will also be used for soccer team practice and for volleyball (which is planned as a varsity sport, depending on student response).

(Continued on pg. 11, col. 5)

Macs Conclude First Winning Season In 25 Years and Finish Season at 11-8

YESHIVA MACCABEES FINAL 1984-85 STATS

By Moshe Orlian

The Macs placed six men in double figures and assured themselves of their first winning season since 1959-60 (when they were 11-9) by defeating Bard 100-59 in their second consecutive 100-point game. The Macs simply ran away from a small Bard team, which had only six players. Joey Eaves, coming off a 38-point game against Pratt, led the team with 25 points while Ronnie Schwartz added 17 points and Moshe Orlian 16 points.

The Macs put the finishing touch on a great season with an outstanding effort against St. Josephs. After early trouble on the defensive boards, the Maccabees went on a 12-0 spurt to take a 24-12 lead, and enjoyed a 39-21 halftime lead against this big and well-coached team. In the second half, the Macs kept up the pressure and, behind good ball-control and

Name	Games	FGM	FGA	%	FTM	FTA	%	R	PF	A	TO	PTS	AVE
Eaves	19	141	274	51.1	109	145	75.1	80	55	140	67	391	20.5
Schwartz	19	134	240	55.8	52	66	78.7	73	61	133	74	320	16.8
L. Hod	19	122	191	63.8	39	64	60.9	150	48	30	23	282	14.8
Schreier	17	42	86	48.8	28	42	66.6	177	49	80	29	112	6.6
Orlian	18	55	82	67.1	24	40	60	71	30	17	37	134	7.1
A. Hod	7	12	16	75	2	2	100	13	11	0	5	28	4
Davidoff	18	18	50	36	5	7	71	53	55	17	38	41	2.1
Frenkel	13	13	23	56.5	0	3	0	12	8	15	4	26	2
Wiseman	13	9	26	34.6	2	4	50	22	6	8	11	20	1.5
Thomas	15	5	14	35.7	9	15	60	30	32	8	18	19	1.3
TOTALS		555	822	67.5	270	388	69.5	681	355	466	246	1373	72.2

well-run fastbreaks, went on to an 87-57 victory, finishing the season with an 11-8 record, their best record since the 1958-59 Mighty Mites were 14-4. Leading the balanced attack, Schwartz scored 24 points, Hod and Eaves 15 each and Orlian 14.

The Yeshiva Maccabees would like to pay tribute to Captain Shabsi "Chopper" Schreier, the team's only graduating player. Although seldom appearing among the scoring leaders, Chopper's consistent performances against

much bigger opponents have not gone unnoticed. In many games he has come up with a clutch rebound, steal and/or blocked shot that often goes unnoticed. His presence and leadership, both on and off the court, will certainly be missed next season.

Correction: Last issue incorrectly listed the Maccabee record for points scored by the team as 110. The record is actually 116 points scored in defeating Brooklyn-Polytech in 1958-59.

Wrestling Intramurals Draws Large Turnout

By Caleb Freedman

On Tuesday, March 12, the YU Athletic Assn. sponsored the annual wrestling intramurals. The intramurals had one of the largest turnouts in recent years due to the work and publicizing of Ben Mayer. Over 40 wrestlers competed in more than 35 matches as many spectators excitedly cheered them on.

The purpose of the competition was to give the students a chance to experience the excitement of college wrestling. First-place winners will receive trophies awarded at the Athletics dinner.

The 118 weight class was quickly won by Ariel Klein who pinned his opponent in the first period. The 126 weight class was taken by Yigal Kahana, who broke the record for the fastest pin by pinning Joseph Sharabi in 10 seconds. The record had been broken earlier by Rich Heisler in pinning Mike Goldberg in 12 secs.

The 135 weight class had some of the night's best matches. Morey

Wildes and Eric Cohen wrestled the full time and the match was equal until Wildes pulled ahead in the second period to win 6-5. He was beaten later by David Noble in the 135 weight class final.

Barry Schanzer easily won the 142 weight class with a strong pin and Kenny Jungreis won the 150 weight class with smooth and graceful pins in all three matches. Aryeh Friedman quickly destroyed all his opponents in the 158 class and was awarded this year's MPV award for his efforts.

The 167 weight class was won by Colombian David Freyle by overpowering Ariel Rosenberg in a thrilling final match. Hartley Kosehitzky pinned all of his opponents to conquer the 177 class.

Reuven Kahana, using the Greco-Roman style, smashed his opponents to easily capture the 190 weight class crown. The heavyweight class was skillfully won by Jules Polonetsky, whose lighter weight and speed enabled him to defeat his heavier and stronger opponents.

All in all, this was one of the best intramural competition wrestling has had in years. The competitors were strong, agile and determined making for exciting matches. Most important, however, was that everyone had fun. The Yeshiva wrestling team hopes that these intramurals will incite the participants to join the wrestling team. Team practices are Tuesday evenings (8:00 p.m.) and Thursday evenings (6:30 p.m.).

Tauber men Finish With A Thrust As Three Qualify For NCAA's

By Marc Bessler

The YU Fencing team finished its season with a decisive 16-11 victory over NJIT, concluding the season with a 5-5 season record.

A few individuals stood out on the team this year and, as a result, qualified for the NCAA Eastern-Regional competition: Mendel Balk, Marc Bessler and Yaakov Brafman all met the 66% win qualification. After a tough day of fencing, Mendel Balk had placed second in Sabre, Yaakov second in Epee and Marc third in Foil; overall, it was an impressive showing.

The Fencing Team will hold its annual intramural competition in each weapon within the coming

weeks. Participation of a student in any weapon category in which he has not fenced for the team is welcome. Winners will receive trophies at the Athletic Dinner. Hopefully, these winners will continue to fence on the varsity level and fill the positions vacated by this year's graduating fencers. Six of the team's nine starting fencers (two from each weapon) are graduating, leaving many positions open to new fencers.

The Tauber men would like to express gratitude to Coach Bardakh and his energetic assistant Larry Newman and to Jennifer Gallub for her support and help with scoring. In addition, we would like to thank all those who came to support the Tauber men in continuing their winning ways.

Sobering Up For The Karate Exhibition

By Ivan Ciment

Grand Master Glanz is about to split the stuffing out of some bricks before a capacity crowd at Lamport Auditorium but discovers that his Yamulka has fallen off. The break will wait — a delicate flick of the bobby pin followed by silence. Then, SMASH!

This rhythm was the standard for the annual Tora Dojo exhibition produced by Haim Sober. Even Sober, who displayed ferocious intensity while performing high-energy-releases off his chin, face, hands, and stomach, immediately reverted to his humble "meek" tone and displayed a witty sense of humor throughout.

Depending on your taste, the two hour exhibition was sure to capture your attention in either the breaking, weaponry, or kata departments. Quality was not an issue; Sober proudly proclaimed that his brown belts were executing black-level exercises. The audience responded to crowd-pleasing breaks and fighting routines with standing ovations but appeared confused with the various soft forms that are more classical in nature.



Sober seemed to sense this and saw to it that his sometimes fidgety crowd was entertained with adapted routines that they could relate to. An occasional reminder of his sympathy for "feeding time" and "yes, this show will end on time at 5:15," got some laughs and people's minds off their watches.

Teachers and students from all over the East and Midwest paid homage to the Dojo Association and should up displaying an

enviable loyalty toward their master. Mention of their outstanding successes in professional careers such as doctors, lawyers, Rabbis and academia also served to prove that the Association's best consisted of scholars, not jokes.

Another point stressed by Sober was that although many feats didn't seem so difficult, the performers had prepared for months and meditated for days in preparation for this event.

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