

# The Commentator

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YESHIVA UNIVERSITY, 500 W. 185 ST., N.Y., N.Y. 10003

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## The Bottom Line On Reading Week

Adopted from a memorandum to the faculty clarifying the regulations of the State of New York as they deal with Reading Week at Yeshiva.

Many colleges provide a Study Period at the end of each semester. This is simply a period of time (which can run from one day to a week or more) between the last day of classes and the first day of finals during which the students are given off to prepare for their tests. Since the students are under no obligations to be present at the college nor is any additional work covered, this period cannot be counted toward the legal minimum of 15 weeks of instruction which comprise a semester.

However, with prior written permission of the State Education Department, a college can set up a Reading Period (which generally constitutes the fourteenth week of a semester) that does count toward the 15 weeks. In contrast to a study period, a Reading Week consists of the following:

1. While classes need not be held, students are responsible for covering the material that would normally be covered in the fourteenth week of classes. The teacher should not cram fourteen weeks of material into thirteen, but should leave the fourteenth week of material for the students to cover on their own.

2. The faculty members must be present in school at the regular times of classes. They need not be in the classroom, but they must be in their offices or some other place where they can be readily located by students who wish to consult them.

3. Instructors are free to hold classes during Reading Week. However, to allow students to plan properly, it is the policy that the faculty member inform the students of his intention early in the semester, preferably during the first week of classes.

4. Since laboratory work cannot be done in absentia, laboratories must continue as usual during the Reading Week with both faculty and students in attendance.

5. Final examinations must be given during the period following the 14th week of instruction (Reading Week). Finals cannot be given at any earlier date, even with the student's and professor's unanimous approval.



President Reagan receiving a silver menorah from a delegation of official Yeshiva University representatives, who also presented the President with an honorary degree. For details, see p.6.

## A Time and Place For Almost Everything

By Yarow Lebovitz

In our unique institution, with its many divergent personalities, inherent difficulties exist in forming a clear-cut philosophy on the policies of YU. Harmonizing halachik and social considerations remains a difficult task when planning extracurricular events. On the one hand, many desire this campus to resemble the classical yeshiva setting, while on the other hand, others seek to integrate the social benefits of other universities. In addition, there is the central ques-



Rabbi Yosef Blau

tion of student independence in planning activities.

When student leaders wish to sponsor an event, they require the signature of Dr. Efreim Nulman, the Associate Dean of Students. According to Dr. Nulman, his primary role is not to approve the event, but to ensure that all the technical details have been properly considered, e.g., what budget will pay for the event, whether the appropriate equipment is available and all food arrangements have been taken care of, etc. Essentially, he serves as an advisor to the students.

During the interview, a student walked in and requested his written approval to post a flier on campus. "Has Jerry Barbalatt, student council president seen this?" asks Nulman, noticing that Barbalatt's signature is not on the form. "No," replies the student. "I haven't had a chance to ask him." "Well, I can't sign this until it has his approval. After all, it's coming out of his budget."

Dr. Nulman emphasized that he does not regulate the students regarding the content or nature of an event. "Unless the event is counter to the ideals and values of Yeshiva University, I won't interfere." As an extreme example, he would not allow Louis Farrakhan to speak on campus if such a request was made. In general, Dr. Nulman feels that the students have shown very good judgment in this regard, and usually ask if they have a question. If Dr. Nulman senses a potential problem, he will point it out and discuss it with the students. However, he does not want to "infantilize the students" and will rarely interfere.

Dr. Nulman meets with Rabbi Blau and Dr. Miller on a regular basis to discuss the myriad of student activities that occur on campus. They attempt to develop programs and locate compromises if problems arise. Dr. Nulman will then discuss it with the students. The students, Dr. Nulman claims, are understanding and usually agree to a compromise, although they are rarely forced to

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## Jewish Youths Caught With Stolen YU Property

By Larry Hartstein

Two Jewish teenagers from Brooklyn who do not attend YU allegedly stole the wallets and checkbooks of two university students, making separate raids into Morgenstern dormitory on the evenings of November 20 and December 2.

According to an officer of the anti-crime unit of the 66th precinct in Brooklyn, Sergeant John Granite, the alleged perpetrators, Pinchus Liener, 17, and Joshua Gottlieb, 16, are clean-cut youths who wore yarmulkes to remove doubt that they were anything but Yeshiva University students. It is believed that while passing through Morgenstern dormitory on the night of November 20 in search of empty rooms, Liener and/or Gottlieb found Chaim Book's room, M220, unlocked. They allegedly swiped his checkbook and wallet, which contained a driver's license and an AT&T calling card, but no cash. Book said he merely went down the hall to talk to a friend and saw no reason to lock the door.

On December 2, senior Naftali Marcus went jogging between 9:00 and 9:30 P.M. In that time span, the police believe, Liener and/or Gottlieb entered his unlocked room, M414, and took his checkbook and wallet, which had in it a driver's license, a credit card, a bank card, and 30 dollars. The police supposedly have an eyewitness to Liener's entrance into the dormitory, but will not disclose the witness's identity.

Mike Sullivan, a member of the 66th precinct's anti-crime unit, arrested the two suspects a few days later. While patrolling the Boro Park neighborhood of Brooklyn, Sullivan noticed two teenagers sleeping in a damaged, parked car on a deserted street. He asked one for identification and soon eyed the driver's license of Naftali Marcus, whom they said was a friend of theirs. At the police station, Sullivan discovered that Liener possessed at least six different identifications, among them the Y.U. ID card of Naftali Marcus. Later, both Liener and Gottlieb were released on \$3,000 bail.

The man responsible for the university's part in the investigation is the new director of safety and security, Carl Vasta. "We took all the names from those identifications to make certain that no past or present university

students were involved, that it wasn't an inside job," said Vasta. He confirmed that no university students aided in the theft.

Vasta further revealed. "From what we understand, the two individuals arrested by the police may be part of a group that may number as high as seven. It's also believed that the 17-year-old Liener is the leader of this group." Granite emphasized their lack of a good family life. "Both of them told me their parents have nothing to do with them. They don't live at home," said Granite. Before the stolen checks were cancelled, Liener and Gottlieb allegedly wrote several for large sums. They are believed to have forged Book's and Marcus's signatures at electronics stores, such as Crazy Eddie's and Newmark and Lewis. They also rented cars from Hertz, National, and Avis; only one has been recovered, the 1986 Oldsmobile from Avis in which they were found. "They may be responsible for several hundred thousands of dollars in fraudulent charges," said Vasta.



Mr. Carl Vasta

Prosecution proved unsuccessful in Brooklyn, for, according to police reports, Liener and Gottlieb committed most of their crimes in other boroughs and each borough can prosecute only for crimes perpetrated within its borders. Still, the pair may be prosecuted by the district attorney's office in Queens, where the two rented cars with forged checks at Kennedy International Airport, or by its counterpart in Manhattan, where they allegedly stole cars. If convicted, Liener and Gottlieb could each be sentenced to a year in prison.

Although Book and Marcus lost very little money and property after receiving various forms of compensation, neither dismisses the event as insignificant. "I feel very bad because I used

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## ID Required Here

Although most other universities demand college ID to allow entrance to student dormitories, Yeshiva College has long been reluctant to enforce such a policy since Yeshiva students are easily identifiable. However, due to recent thefts by "YU looking guys," security has decided to refuse admittance to Morgenstern Dorm to anyone not carrying the proper identification, or who has not been signed in by an ID card-carrying student. Despite the inconvenience to those students without cards, or to guests of students we must strongly condone this measure in recognition of its obvious benefit to the student body; any step to reduce personal losses must be applauded.

However, this same policy should be instituted in all dorms: the only door guarded in such a manner is the front door of Morg. The back door, and entrances in Rubin and Riets (Muss) residence halls, afford easy access to any half determined, YU-looking thief.

The failure of security to inform the students of the changes, however, has resulted in unnecessary inconvenience and misunderstanding. Security should have circulated flyers warning of the impending changes. Since nothing was known, many students, unrecognized by new guards, had a good deal of trouble gaining entry to their rooms—where their ID cards were. Installation of in-house phones would facilitate communication, thus mitigating the horrible aggravation of a stranded visitor or student unable to contact someone to sign him in.

When all is said and done, though, these changes are definitely a step in the right direction for campus security, and if all of the problems are ironed out, it should not be too inconvenient for the student body.

## It Works Both Ways

Responsibility is a word. It has many uses and yet defies definition. It masquerades as blame, the accusing finger, but arrives unbidden in the form of praise for a conscientious effort. The only sure statement one can make about responsibility is that it flies in the face of those who avoid it and it is a wily yet rewarding burden to those who pursue it. In short, it is a double edged sword.

A recent campaign to banish responsibility from Yeshiva College has met with limited but ominous success. The reference here is to several unfortunate lapses on the part of YC students. Responsibility in one case means seeing not only the stupidity in throwing toilet paper off of the roof, but also the wisdom of preventing such an act. It means not only refraining from playing ball on the grass, but also having enough foresight to realize what a few individuals can do to the appearance of the campus come spring. Not every case is so cut and dry as to invite a simple solution. One feels an understandable responsibility to seek speedy retribution for an anti-semitic jeer from an opposing team member or fan at a basketball game. After all we are not ghetto Jews who must sit still for the abuse of a hostile populous. But in the heat of the moment it is easy to forget a larger, more important responsibility; The responsibility we all took in becoming identifiably Jewish. The Kippah on our head and our affiliation with YU are but a few of the ways in which we have taken upon ourselves this yoke and mantle. As Jews we don't have the mask of anonymity to hide behind. We don't belong to a faceless university where reputation is a thing of fickle transience and a misdeed excused. Ours is a school of thought which spans thousands of years and the accounting is as unforgiving as it is cumulative.

There will be times when a physical response is required. Nowhere in Judaism is there found such passivity as turning the other cheek or loving one's enemy. But there are times, as painful as they may be, that allowing an insult to pass unanswered is the best parry for the blow.

Responsibility is a word to some. But to us it is a sword. Used properly and often, it will defend us on every level. Used not at all and it will surely impale us.

## Out for Prayers

To The Editor:

In the previous Commentator, Mr. Ari Levitan wrote a "Responsa" called "A Basic Element." In his letter, Mr. Levitan has a very valid complaint. He argues that the shul located in the basement of Morgenstern is lacking presentable Siddurim. While the author mentions only Morg Shul, as *Gabba'im* we are aware that the same situation exists in all the shuls in the Yeshiva as well as in the Beit Medrash with respect to certain sefarim; e.g. Mishna Berura, English chumashim, etc.

We first encountered this problem last year, and we vowed to replenish the supplies over the summer. However, when the semester ended, all the missing Siddurim and Sefarim began to appear, coming out of the wood-

work. What happens is obvious; Siddurim grow legs and walk. They walk upstairs to dorm rooms, to classrooms in Furst Hall and Tannenbaum Hall, to makeshift "shuls" and to every little crack and corner. Our fear is that if we replenish supplies, they will also walk.

The solution lies in the following plan: All traveling Siddurim and Sefarim are to be returned to their "home" shul or shelf. So we ask the B'nai HaYeshiva to assist us in this effort. It is our hope that this will alleviate the problem for those who daven in the 10:00 P.M. Maariv Minyan in Morg Shul. Thanks in advance for your assistance.

*The Gabba'im*

Mazal Tov on the recent engagements of: Michelle Milgram & Mike Moskowitz, Alice Barnatan & Morton Antman, Miri Gerstein & Shuki Weinberger, Naomi Weiss & Adam Ferziger, Sima Fogel & Shalom Menora.

# The President Speaks

By Jerry Barbalatt

With the close of this semester drawing near, it would seem appropriate to reflect on some of the accomplishments of the Student Council which have insured a livelier campus.

The main focus of effort was on improving recreation and the societies. To this end a Freshman forum was sponsored during orientation week, in which many clubs and societies availed themselves and their objectives to the scrutiny of incoming students.

A major goal was to force the societies to "shape-up or ship-out" by requiring that a list of intentions be presented to YCSC and only then receiving their budget for the year. This was done essentially to save the financial embarrassment of previous years from recurring. Those societies that did not produce, lost their charters; those that did, received funds as needed with the warning to stay in budget. As a result, the student directory was produced for considerably less than last year with much higher quality. An interesting result to limiting funds to those deserving, has been the increase in the number of societies, all working, ranging from the Fine Arts society, to Happiness Unlimited, to the Science Research honor society. Many dormant clubs are coming back to life with a real effort to succeed.

As a result of all this feverish activity on campus a new difficulty has arisen: the calendar. Events that would draw similar audiences actually clash, most notably on December 17th when the concert coincided with "Deathtrap", the basketball game against N.Y.U., and other colleges' finals. Therefore a six-member calendar committee will be established, with a member from each council, solely to arrange non-conflicting events. In addition Y.C.S.C. will prepare, based on past experience, a How To file for the running of the concert. In time this should help to alleviate any problems associated with the event.

These are some of the improvements and lessons of this semester. The next semester will display even greater accomplishments. In February, the 50's celebration, and throughout the semester such events as Talent Night, the Yom Ha'atzmaut celebration, and Sunday excursions, to list but a few. In essence, it will be an opportunity to build on the strengths of this semester.

Wishing everyone a pleasant Channuka, and good luck on finals.



By Asher Meth

Yeshivaland offers the most luxurious program available: country-club facilities, semi-private rooms, a choice of classy restaurants, constant intellectual stimulation and many more amenities. Best of all, it allows for flexible schedules (with barrels of midnight oil) and a four-day work week! After sweating through the four days, the enrolled leave for their farms and rest up for the following week's adventures.

What the "guests" do not know is that the best part of the week at Yeshivaland is the three-day weekend, when they can enjoy a clean Beit Medrash for davening and learning, stimulating and entertaining speakers, live musical performances, and food in quantities unheard of during the work week, all in the peaceful Shabbat atmosphere.

Instead, by Thursday evening the Yeshiva begins its transition into a ghost town. Where have all the natives gone? Have they simply melted into the woodwork for three days? Are most of us only *geirim*, "strangers", in our own community with an only infinitesimal population of remaining *toshavim*, "permanent dwellers", present? Is Yeshiva, the place we all call our home for at least three days a week,

only a figment of our imagination on the holiest day of the week, Shabbat?

Where does everyone go? Some students serve as advisors at NCSY, KIRUV and other shabbatonim. Others have positions in shuls, serving as youth leaders, assistant rabbis, *ba'alei keriah*, *chazzanim*, etc...or migrate to other institutions where their particular talents are sorely needed. On their off-weeks they like to spend some time with their families.

But this pattern describes only a minority of the whole student body. What of the rest? Many are at home with their families practically every week. I, too, enjoy spending Shabbat with my family. But one need not travel home every week when an occasional Shabbat spent at Yeshiva can be just as enjoyable.

Numerous students have relished the rich, rewarding, and inspirational experience of a Shabbat in a yeshiva, whether in Israel (when home was too far away) or even here in Washington Heights. Nobody can fail to fondly recall the awe-inspiring Rosh Hashanah or Yom Kippur spent in YU. Why is it, then, that these wonderful memories do not

carry over as an inducement to spend more Shabbatot here?

Maybe students feel that it is too dull in YU on Shabbat, and the usual crowd is so unattractive as to scare away all prospective Shabbat guests. Some may contend that there is nothing "different" about Shabbat at YU that would encourage people with other options to stay instead. This negative attitude is only somewhat mitigated when a "special-event" shabbaton is advertised, and promotional signs are posted at least two weeks in advance.



The disproportionate amount of advance notice serves to assure students that many of their friends will also remain and, hence, makes them feel more comfortable about staying for Shabbat. However, for the average Shabbat, students receive little or no incentive to remain at YU.

Perhaps, then, I can provide some incentive for staying. Consider, for instance, how little schoolwork or learning the typical student accomplishes from the time he leaves Yeshiva until

he returns three days later. Consider how much valuable time is wasted during the distracting rides we endure traveling away from and back to YU. This problem is especially pertinent when exams loom on the horizon. Additionally, erev-Shabbat and post-Shabbat around-the-house help duties are drastically reduced in the yeshiva, where cleaning needs are minimal and all the food services are taken care of by a capable staff of cooks, waiters and *mashgichim*.

The opportunities for learning and relaxing on Shabbat (*kavod* and *oneg*) present themselves more at Yeshiva than at home. A Beit Medrash, especially one in which you are accustomed to learning all week, in the company of your friends, is much more conducive to learning than a den at home or your local shul. You also have plenty of time to enjoy an undisturbed "Shabbat nap".

And what does your local shul offer that YU does not? Shiurim? Rabbi Yitzchak Cohen delivers a fiery, inspirational chumash shiur on Shabbat morning. Entertainment? Our weekly speakers have earned the reputation of being surprisingly entertaining. Even our *zemirots*, sung at various speeds

and keys, sometimes offer an element of comic relief. Scenery? We have a beautiful park—Fort Tryon—tucked away in a corner of Northern Manhattan with real trees, bushes and flowers in season. Community Service? Every week a volunteer group from YU visits some of our neighborhood elderly who are confined to the Fort Tryon Nursing Home. Others work with the Jewish handicapped who live in a home just around the corner—at 187th and Audubon. We even read the *haftarah* from a *klaf*—can you top that?

On another positive note, the noise level during davening and learning is consistently lower here at Yeshiva than at your local shul, wherever it is. You can even hear yourself daven without having to interrupt the conversation taking place inches away.

It is actually difficult to believe that some people have actually never availed themselves of the opportunity to spend such a fulfilling Shabbat here at Yeshiva. I encourage all of you to begin staying for more Shabbatot and to bring your friends with you. Shabbat does exist at our Yeshiva. But, still, Shabbat here can only become as worthwhile as we make it to be, through active and enthusiastic participation.

## RESPONSA

### Off the Mark and Off the Wall

To the Editor:

I would like to take this opportunity to respond to the comments of Ivan Ciment which appeared in the last issue of Commentator. First I would like to give the true account of the episode involving my response, as President of the J.P. Dunner Political Science Society, to Aspiring Collegiates' attempts to invite major political figures to Yeshiva. I spoke to YCSC president, Jerry Barbalatt, and he agreed that the primary responsibility for inviting political speakers to Yeshiva rests with the Political Science Society. If the society does not fulfill this responsibility, certainly any other organization has the right to assume our role.

However, I am, and the board and membership are, very proud of our accomplishments in inviting highly respected and interesting speakers (Democratic Senatorial candidate Mark Green, for example) to campus. We intend to continue this type of high quality lecture events with our speaker series on the Evolution of Black/Jewish Relations, in which Congressman Charles Rangel and Manhattan Borough President David Dinkins have agreed to participate.

I never suggested running a joint event with ACC, nor did I demand credit for any of their efforts. It was an ACC board member that suggested a combined effort, and I rejected his

offer for numerous reasons: 1) I find the hyped, flashy style of ACC distasteful. I do not feel it's necessary to lower ones standards in choosing format or topic to ensure a crowd. 2) I do not feel that any event would benefit from their participation. Fortunately our Society has the manpower, resources and commitment to make our events successful independently. 3) Earlier invitations to Ivan Ciment to participate in Society activities went unheeded. Ciment agreed to edit an Internship Guide in June and again in September, and I have yet to hear of any attempts to fulfill his obligation.

Other statements by Ciment in his Letter to the Editor are equally fallacious. The reason ACC did not receive funding for Forum (in addition to ACC's YCSC allotment of \$350) is that the only issue ever to come out was a miserable failure and an insult to the University and all those that participated in it. It lacked any semblance of journalism, instead containing nonsense articles, advertising and purposeless, lewd pseudo-art.

Certainly, that catastrophe caused those responsible for decisions to become wary of Ciment's claims of being able to publish a newspaper "comparable" or "better" than Commentator, thus their decision. Only the most vain of people would pretentiously assume that "interference" by "forces within the University", rather than one's own shortcomings, is responsible for the failure to gain support.

Lastly, Mr. Ciment's claim that the University's "priorities are in the wrong place", reveals an immaturity on Mr. Ciment's part. The University's failure to agree with Mr. Ciment and his many failed attempts to succeed in bringing his projects to fruition at Yeshiva are most obviously the inspiration for that statement, not a major problem of the University.

In the last four years, during my time on campus, the University has made a sincere attempt to improve campus life, both in facilities and programming. The Office of the Dean of Students has been especially active in assisting students in all facets of University life. This office, as well as the office of Dr. Miller, has encouraged and assisted student organizations in their attempts to create innovative, educational, and enjoyable programs. Certainly there is no priority greater than that for student activities.

But, yes, the University is imperfect. Is that surprising? I think not. Organizations are only as good as the people that run them and people are imperfect. Certainly they do not encourage discussion of this reality or other criticism, yet they do not suppress dissent, as often occurs in other universities.

The University community can be proud of its many formal and informal institutions for expressing opinion and criticism. Such forums for the exposition of disapproval, like Commentator's Responsa, are respected and suc-

cessful because those that utilize them tend to be thoughtful and truthful. Unfortunately for us Mr. Ciment cannot be counted among them.

David Feldan

### The Shadow Knows

To the Editor:

I am writing to express my dismay at the publication of "The Center's Right and Left" in the last issue of Commentator. It is so full of nonsense and worse, slander, that it is hard to know where to begin.

The writer tells first of 'yeshiva' students who have not "assimilated" into the college life-style—despite taking 17.5 credits. What is the "college life-style" that they should be involved in? Mixed dancing? In the same paragraph we are told of YU students who "quite obviously do not display any traits reminiscent of traditional yeshiva life-style". Of course, The Shadow (read: the writer) knows.

Without a thought, our journalist then casts aspersions on the approximately 150-200 YU students who find time to learn Torah in the Beis Medrash each night. Many, we are told, are not learning Torah—they are "shooting the bull" or discussing their sexual fantasies. How dare someone say that?! But our journalist is "fair", for he then attacks the other way: Many 'college' students don't even care about Judaism at all. Again I ask: How dare someone say that? But of course, The Shadow knows.

I'll tell you where I believe polarization comes from. It comes from an article which fans flames of enmity between supposedly "holier than thou" students on the one side, and students who, we are informed, view anyone slightly different from themselves as fanatical or weird. Our journalist should speak for himself; the average YU student is not so immature.

The article makes one good point. The constant stimulation of religious issues is certainly a positive thing. This does indeed give the YU student the opportunity to develop his beliefs in religious matters.

But even that point is contradicted by other comments of our author. According to him, the YU student just fell into the life-style at Yeshiva that he found the most comfortable. He has little knowledge of Halacha. He establishes his boundaries based solely on his own feelings and *not* on intellectual inquiry into religious issues. And it's better that way, because we all know "Halacha can be changed with every new Psak Din (sic!)." (Given that reasoning, we now understand how mixed dancing becomes an "in-between activity", the prohibition of which is an expression of ultra-Orthodox philosophy...)

It is my sincere hope that Commentator continue to explore important issues like this one. But next time, I'd appreciate a little sensitivity, understanding, and good taste.

Nahum Spirn

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# Time and Place

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do so. In his two years at YU, Dr. Nulman has not vetoed a project.

Notwithstanding this, Dr. Miller has in fact rejected potential events. For example, he did not allow a hypnotist to perform on campus. "I have nothing against hypnosis per se, however, seeing a person in a trance in not entertaining, so to make it interesting the hypnotist will delve into the students' inner lives. This has happened in the past on campus, and from our perspective this is embarrassing another person in public. Maybe an orthodox hypnotist would be ok." Other vetoes have included comedians, whose off-color jokes could prove offensive, and a request made to have a PLO representative speak on campus. Most of these requests are exceptional, and in general he tries to compromise. Movies are permitted as long as they are not R-rated and would be shown on commercial television. As a guiding principle, "we don't veto events unless there are problems of halacha or good taste."



Dr. Israel Miller

Rabbi Blau discussed the complexities involved in resolving the issue of what should be allowed on campus. "We have both a yeshiva and a university. Thus many people think, shouldn't we be like other yeshivas and other colleges?" We must accept that YU is unique. We have students of different backgrounds, and even within Orthodoxy there are different approaches. It is not desirable to split and tell each to go his own way." Regarding who should determine what fits our atmosphere, he noted that "our tradition includes a rabbinic role, not only for the Shulchan Aruch, but for leadership as well."

Rabbi Kahn and Rabbi Reichman would like to see the Roshei Yeshiva more involved in the decision making process. They feel that the issues are deeper than just extracurricular events. "We should be one institution, but the reality is that we are two institutions sharing the same buildings. There should be some kind of coordination between the Torah and the secular" said Rabbi Reichman.

Rabbi Kahn suggested that a meeting be held by all people responsible for the welfare of the

yeshiva to establish the fundamental halachik policies. Whether these are currently being followed is irrelevant; they should be written down so that everyone has a better idea of what our standards are. He explained that because this is a Torah institution, the ben Torah personality's sensitivities should take precedence.

Because there is no clear consensus within the yeshiva how to deal with the issue of girls coming and going on campus, Rabbi Blau finds that he is usually consulted on that issue. Mixed social events are problematic.

**"We must accept that YU is unique. We have students of different backgrounds . . . It is not desirable to split and tell each to go his own way."**

because they "inevitably degenerate." Although these events are allowed, he feels that they should have a context e.g. a play or concert. "I want social events to be such that every student can feel comfortable attending. Although there is socializing after a Torah U'mada lecture, at least it is not a party atmosphere."

So why are parties allowed? "I'm being realistic. We can only set up controls. For example, the way the event is projected on signs can make a big difference in the atmosphere. Also, we're recognizing the age and maturity of the students. We can't treat them as if they are fifteen, or it will be disastrous and they will do it behind our back. Also, there is a certain futility in forcing an atmosphere that isn't there. I'd like a yeshiva atmosphere, but not by forcing anyone to go undercover."

There is a more fundamental issue that has to be resolved. "We have no clear posture how we want our men and women to meet and marry. Many students are uncomfortable with shidduchim, but the American dating pattern also has its problems. Since we don't have a clear line or consensus on these issues, we can only deal with the sensitivities of students," said Rabbi Blau. Jerry Barbalatt, student council president, also feels that this is an important consideration. "The fact is that a large part of the student body is not interested in attending lectures. They want to meet Jewish girls and the school must provide for this or else they will meet other women elsewhere after they leave the university."

The student council represents all the students in YC, which poses a problem for Barbalatt because "there are people on one side who want more parties, and others who complain that there are too many." Thus as student council president he has had to learn "how to walk a tightrope." Dr. Nulman helps him clarify how each side sees it, and Jerry weighs the issues and tries to offend as few people as possible. He does operate with unwritten rules: no alcohol or live rock music at events.

Behnam Dayanim, YC sophomore class president also con-

siders the sensitivities of all the students when he plans events. He realizes that many students are offended when they see a mixed social event going on in their dorm, and feel as if it detracts from the atmosphere they desire on campus. Thus, "when we were planning the fifties party, we purposely planned it in the Science Hall commons, even though the Morg lounge would be adequate." For this reason, he feels that the planned Schottenstein Hall in the student union building will be ideal. "It is a few blocks away on 185th, so no one will be offended." However, he

feels that "personal freedoms should be preserved, as long as halacha is not transgressed."

Dayanim and Marc Paley, senior class president, recently planned a co-ed fifties party to be held on December 24. They received approval for the event from Dr. Nulman and Dr. Miller. When the event was publicized, some Roshei Yeshiva expressed anger at the fact that a party had been planned on Christmas eve, a day on which historically anti-Semitism was rampant and pogroms were common. Also, it would look like this was the students' substitute for the celebrations of Christians on this day. One of the Roshei Yeshiva complained to Dr. Miller, who in turn discussed it with Dr. Nulman.



Behnam Dayanim

According to Dayanim, Dr. Miller told them that although they could still proceed with the event as planned, it would cause undue conflict in the yeshiva. Thus, the students agreed to postpone the event until next semester. Dayanim said that the student leaders would not have planned the party for Dec. 24 had they realized that it was Christmas eve, however, once it was planned he felt that cancelling it "put Christmas on a pedestal that it did not deserve."

The cancellation of the fifties party highlights a basic problem within the University. Despite approval of the party by the administration, the protest of many Roshei Yeshiva resulted in its cancellation. Unfortunately money was lost and time was wasted. Integrity and efficiency could be maintained if only the University would form an operative policy which would govern such potential conflicts.

# Theft Problems

Cont. from Page 1

to be very trusting. Now I can't even go take a shower without locking my door," said Book. "They are apparently pretty slimy. They've been exploiting the weakness religious Jews have. Yeshivas are open because people trust each other," said Marcus.

These events raise the issue of dormitory security. Is it tight enough? What has been done to improve it? "We've put a more aggressive guard in the Morgenstern lobby. He's street savvy. He's instructed to ask for identification from those he doesn't recognize or ones who should not be there, like high school students," said Vasta. He added that he has increased the number of dormitory patrols, guards who roam the halls to look for suspicious people and lock the open doors of empty rooms.

Some students have suggested the need to imitate the system followed at some other colleges, where students are required to show positive identification in

order to enter a dormitory. "It's coming," Vasta said of the system, but he noted the problems of carrying identification on Shabbat and the everyday hassle of pulling out one's wallet. "In order to have good security, you have to be inconvenienced," said Vasta.

Just how much theft occurs at the university? "In late September and early October, the rate of theft was at least double that of last year's rate," said Vasta. "However, as a result of our dormitory patrols and our urging of the dormitory counselors to keep all doors closed, the amounts are now negligible," he added.

Often in the aftermath of a theft, said Vasta, people suspect the housekeeping and maintenance personnel. Why? "Because they are minorities," said Vasta, who feels students should worry more about fellow students' involvement. "They hate to think it's their own neighbor. Don't ever let your guard down," said Vasta.



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## Registrar's Office Meets Inspection

By Alan Friedman

In past years, the registration process has elicited the loudest complaints regarding the Office of the Registrar's inefficiency and lack of professionalism. With the arrival of the accounting firm of Peat Marwick this semester to do a management study of the situation, this scenario will hopefully live only in the past. As an outside observer which has worked with many other universities, Peat Marwick brings an expertise to the office which has been sorely lacking in the past.

Mr. Pinhas Friedenberg, head of the Registrar's Office, said that



Mr. Pinhas Friedenberg

he and Executive Vice President, Dr. Egon Brenner, decided to contact the accounting firm in order to upgrade services to their full potential. "Five years ago, we were doing registration by hand," commented Dr. Brenner. "And now, even though we have registration computerized, we must prepare to enter the twenty-first century." This process will involve computerizing the record-keeping and information retrieval systems. Dr. Brenner

stressed that the Registrar's Office as a whole was being studied; including all divisions of the institution. The major problem has involved the graduate schools, especially the Ferkauf Graduate School of Psychology. In fact, it was recommended that an Assistant Registrar be hired solely for that school.

The study also recommended the addition of an Assistant Registrar for Data Processing, a clear delineation of responsibilities in the Registrar's Office, and increased operating quarters. At present, the office is too small and crowded, as is quite evident at this time of the year. Peat Marwick also advised that the Office of the Dean and Office of the Registrar clearly define their jurisdictions. Such a step would end the needless stream of students running back and forth between the two offices in search of someone who can solve their problems.

Overall, Peat Marwick complimented the registration process, pointing out the unique difficulties inherent in handling a double registration of both Jewish and secular divisions. Dr. Brenner and Mr. Friedenberg were extremely pleased with the report, adding that attempts to remedy the situation have begun. Mr. Friedenberg welcomes students' advice to further improve the Office, and hopes that in the future only praises will greet the entire registration process.

Tenzer, Chairman of the University's Board of Trustees, Stanley E. Stern, Vice Chairman of the Board of Trustees, and Max J. Etra, Chairman Emeritus of the Board of Trustees.

The ceremony at the White House was another in a series of special events of commemorating the University's Centennial. In the last two years, Yeshiva University has conferred honorary degrees upon several high level officials of the U.S. Government. They include: Vice President George Bush, Secretary of State George P. Shultz, former U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Jeane J. Kirkpatrick, and recently, U.S. Secretary of Education Dr. William J. Bennett.

In November, President Reagan, in a letter to the University, declared that Yeshiva University "has maintained a tradition of excellence and creativity. Its history—representing as it does both freedom of secular inquiry and freedom of religion—is the story of America." The President concluded by stating, "Nancy joins me in wishing you Mazel Tov and another 100 years of success."



Honored guests at the Channukah dinner, including Rabbi Lamm and Paul Volcker, Chairman of the Federal Reserve.

## Annual Channukah Dinner is Time for Rejoicing

By Jeff Kaye

This year's Channukah dinner, held at the Marriot Marquis Hotel in Manhattan on December 14, was extremely significant for the students of Yeshiva University. Among other things, an extraordinary sum of money was pledged toward improving the quality of the University's education. In addition, the opening of the Sy Syms Business School was formally declared.

The dinner was preceded by an academic convocation during which five staunch supporters of Yeshiva received honorary degrees for their efforts on behalf of the University. Dr. Lamm presented an honorary degree to Paul Volcker, commending him for the moral sensitivity he has demonstrated in his position as Chairman of the Federal Reserve. In his acceptance address, Volcker praised Y.U. for combining the study of ethics with other studies. He called upon all institutions to "teach that business is ultimately based on

human relations, and that the best relationships are those which could be based on mutual trust."

Chairman Volcker then treated the audience to a short discourse on the economic state of the nation. Echoing the growing sentiment that all is not economically sound in America, Volcker pointed to the rising national debt and the increasing trade deficit as symptoms of the problem. The way to remedy these maladies, according to Volcker, is to redirect business efforts away from imports and into the improvement of our industries to meet "the industrial challenge". Volcker expressed his hope that Y.U.'s new business school will be a leader in fostering this attitude among the students of America.

A special tribute was paid to Dr. Lamm for completing his tenth year as president of the University. He was commended for having guided Y.U. out from its financial crisis into an era of pros-

perity. In turn, Dr. Lamm paid tribute to the late president of Yeshiva University, Dr. Samuel Belkin, for teaching the synthesis of the sacred and the secular. He also praised Rav Joseph B. Soloveitchik for his role in shaping American Judaism. Dr. Lamm emphatically stated that Torah U'mada is, and will continue to be, the central motif of Y.U.

A rosy picture of the University's future was painted as it was reported that over one hundred million dollars has been contributed to Y.U. and will be allocated towards the improvement of its academic and extra-curricular activities. Specifically, the creation of the Sy Syms School of Business was officially announced. This seemed to generate an air of excitement within the audience although some questioned the need for such an institution.

Thomas P. O'Neill, Speaker of the House of Representatives, delivered the keynote address. With a profound sense of urgency, he expressed the need for American Jews to work with the government in demanding freedom for Soviet Jews. In response to fears that U.S.-Israel relations might be damaged due to Israel's involvement in arms shipments to Iran, O'Neill declared that the bonds between the two countries are close and as a result will not suffer from the scandal.

The University plans on using the monies raised in its One Hundred Million Dollar Campaign for further improvements on campus as well as improving faculty salaries.

## Reagan Receives Honorary Degree

By Gabe Sosne

President Ronald Reagan received an honorary degree from Yeshiva University during a special ceremony at the White House, December 18, honoring the University's Centennial. Dr. Norman Lamm, President of the University announced.

A select group of University Benefactors, board officers, and University officials attended the private reception in the White House Cabinet Room. Dr. Lamm, who is marking his first decade as President of the University, read a special Citation and then conferred upon President Reagan the degree of Doctor of Laws. President Reagan was also presented with a special sterling silver menorah as a Channukah gift.

Dr. Israel Miller, Senior Vice President of Yeshiva University, presided at the ceremonies. Assisting in the hooding of the President was the Hon. Herrbert

## How a Jewish Businessman Faces the Real World

By Ari Levitan

On December second, Howard Lorch, a partner at the "Big Eight" firm of Deloitte, Haskins, and Sells, discussed how Observant Jews can cope with the religious difficulties that arise in the American business world.

When looking for a job, one need not hide personal religious beliefs. Howard Lorch remarked, "I believe *frum* men and women can be honest about their yiddishkeit, and in general, can lay their cards on the table in today's corporate America, especially in New York." He further stated that, "if a job would not allow you to keep the Shabbat, you should get out of it." Many people have unique and conspicuous customs that other businessmen deal with constantly and generally respect values sacred to religious lifestyles.

Fortunately, observing the Shabbat presents no problem for Howard Lorch. For other Orthodox Jews, he recommends

that they leave extra time on Fridays to get home before Shabbat starts. However, one should be consistent. A person should leave, for example, at 2:30pm at times when Shabbat begins early.



Future YU businessman

and wait several months until the Shabbat commences later to then leave work at a later time. Then, he should be consistent with this new time. As a result, fellow

businessmen will respect his sincerity and not think of him as a faker.

Unlike Shabbat, eating and entertaining with fellow associates does pose problems for Mr. Lorch. For example, after a long day of work it is not uncommon to accompany one's business friends to get a drink at an unkosher establishment. The Orthodox Jew, according to Mr. Lorch, does not wish to stand out from his associates, but must constantly be aware of the pressure not to compromise observing mitzvot that inhibit social interaction.

Upon concluding, Mr. Lorch left the audience with a personal thought. He feels that a job should never interfere with these basic elements of Judaism. For Howard Lorch, satisfaction comes not only from making money and being successful in the workplace, but also from keeping the mitzvot and spending time with his family.

## Physics Course Revamped

By Alan Friedman

For years students have been complaining about the General Physics course given at Yeshiva College. The gripes have centered around the fact that pre-health students are forced to take a physics course geared for pre-engineering majors. Specifically, the MCAT's physics section deals mainly with the principles of optics and sound, but the Y.C. course treats these subjects only perfunctorily, and even then just in the laboratory.

Fortunately, changes were made this fall. Dr. H. Taub was asked to join the physics staff and to give some input into updating the course. Taub, basing his opinion on a personal survey of Columbia, City College, Rutgers, NYU and Princeton's courses, observed that Yeshiva's physics course was out of line with those of these metropolitan area colleges. The main difference was in the length of the classes. The other colleges have four hours of lecture and recitation and two hours of lab work per week. Yeshiva had been giving three hours of each. Consequently, the subject matter was neither covered nor developed in lecture as well as it should have been. This year the Yeshiva course was changed to follow the example of the other colleges.

One credit was also added, making General Physics a 5 credit course (4 credit lecture and 1 credit lab). The lab course was always 1 credit, but due to the added lecture hour the recitation portion was increased from 3 to 4 credits. The course will basically cover the same material, but in a much more organized and

in-depth manner. The real change occurred in the laboratory curriculum. The heads of the department decided that far too much emphasis was being placed on the gathering and evaluation of statistical data. The students spent a majority of the lab time measuring and re-measuring data in order to accumulate statistics. The decision was made that at the undergraduate level labs should serve to allow the students to experience in "real-life" the mathematical relationships discussed in lecture, and not function as a medium for the analysis of theories. Since the data gathered is neither accurate nor precise enough to prove theories, spending a lot of time on statistical data is a waste of time. Instead, theories are taken as true, and students now qualitatively observe the physical phenomena. In addition, according to Dr. Taub, the new lab setup enables the students to differentiate between theoretical and experimental values. "In theory many ideas are given in abstract idealizations (ex. masslessness), and the experimental results show how real life departs from idealizations." There is still one experiment that explores statistical analysis so that students should have a basis for collecting statistical data.

The major gripe of the Pre-Health students, that of insufficient time dedicated to optics and sound principles, is being addressed by a revision in the syllabus for the second semester, and those topics will be taught in more depth this year because of the added hour of lecture.

## YU Wins Computer Competition

By Allen P. Sragow

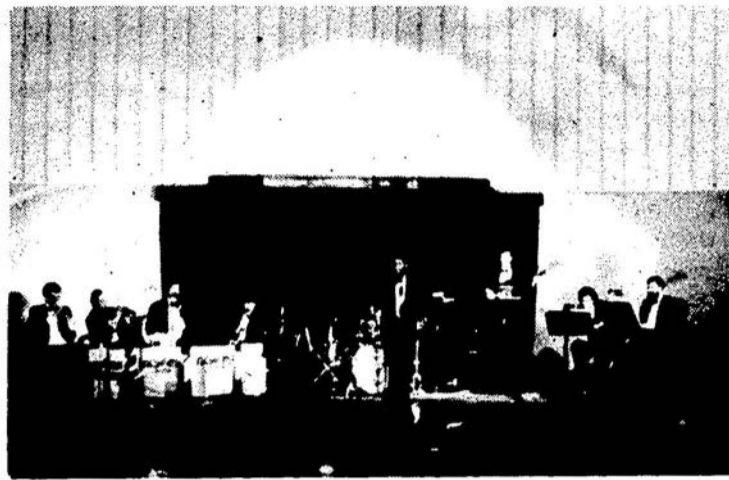
Maybe you've noticed a little more excitement than usual in the computer room. "What's the commotion?" you ask. Yosef Gold, Andrew Linder, Eric Saferm and Zvi Sebrov know the answer. On December 7, at the New York Institute of Technology, they came in first at the ACM (Association for Computing Machinery) Greater New York Regional Programming Competition. In doing so, they beat out teams from such schools as Hofstra University, Brooklyn Polytech, Queens College, City College and others. A second YU team, consisting of Joshua Rudoff, Naftali Marcus, Moshe Taragin and Moshe Linzer, placed a respectable fifth out of fifteen.

The ACM is an academic organization devoted to furthering education and research in the computer field. Every year the ACM holds a national pro-

gramming competition. Representatives compete in their home regions across the USA (including some European teams). The first and second place winners from each region advance to the National Competition, to be held in February of next year in St. Louis.

The competition is essentially the same on the regional and national levels. In a single, grueling six hour session the teams attempt to solve several programming problems. These problems involve the application of computers to simplified, real-life situations. This year the winning team finished three problems out of seven. The second YU team completed two problems; pretty good considering that half the teams did not finish any problems at all. When asked how they would do in February, they replied simply, "We're hoping for the best."

Good luck, guys!



## Chanukah Concert '86

By Ozi Glass

With Chanukah on its way and the end of the semester drawing near, most YU students look for useful diversions to occupy their time between midterms and finals. This may help explain the sudden abundance of extracurricular events taking place including the popular YCDS play "Deathtrap", the numerous Macs basketball games, and of course, the annual Chanukah concert. The latter, bearing the sponsorship of just about every society here at Yeshiva—is probably the most publicized, yet unfortunately—highly criticized of all the events. Most of the rumors can be traced back to the fact that in the past couple of years, several of the YU concerts suffered a substantial monetary loss, which was blamed on poor planning and lack of organization. For example, last year's MBD concert was publicized only two weeks in advance, and despite the popularity of the particular entertainer, it was not successful.

This year, however, the concert organizers, led by chairman Chaim Book, attempted to learn from those previous mistakes. Avraham Fried was chosen to star since he had never performed at YU before, and with over five record albums to his name, he is considered to be one of the foremost performers in contemporary Jewish music. Ruach, featuring Dov Levine, was selected for similar reasons. Both acts were booked in September, over three months before the concert date, thus allowing ample time for a successful publicity campaign. Although advance ticket sales can be indicative of the success or failure of an event, most organizers of such events agree that it is very difficult to sell a substantial amount of tickets more than three weeks in advance. YU concert coordinator, Mark Zomick, pointed out that the price difference usually serves as an incentive to buy tickets in advance, and two-thirds of the total sales are normally purchased before the event.

If so much time was put into advance planning—how does one explain the several conflicts which arose that evening—such as the YCDS play, and the NYU basketball game? Zomick explained that Wednesday night was decided upon as being the most convenient and opportune time for such an event for various reasons, and the 17th of December was the last Wednesday night available during this semester, thus explaining its overwhelming popularity. The concert committee seemingly did not feel that the NYU game would present any significant problem by detracting potential concert attendees, especially since it was an "away" game, and transportation was not being provided by YU. Concerning the play, the Wednesday night performance was originally closed to the public as it was intended strictly as a high-school performance. Even when tickets were made available for YU students, tickets were extremely limited (only 25 seats were made available). Unfortunately, concert ticket sales at the door were not as successful as anticipated, and rough estimates at the time of this article placed ticket sales figures at around 650, just short of the amount necessary to break even.

The concert itself got off to a late start, not unusual for a Jewish musical event. The "MC" for the evening, our very own David Azerad, was his usual charming self—although technical difficulties made his opening comments very difficult to understand. However, he started by introducing Dov Levine, backed up by the Ruach Orchestra, featuring Ira Silber and Sam Klaver. Unfortunately, some of the usual spirit of Ruach seemed to be missing, perhaps due to the paucity of the familiar harmonics of Silber and Klaver, which had given Ruach its trademark in the field. At most times, however, Levine did manage to hold the restless audience on his own, and especially touched them with his moving rendition of "Al Eleh, Ani

Bochiya", dedicated to Rav Moshe Feinstein ZT'L and Rav Yaakov Kaminetzky ZT'L.

Avraham Fried, on the other hand, did wonders to revive the small audience, which was surprisingly quiet for a YU/Stern crowd. Backed up by an excellent seven piece Neshoma Orchestra, featuring some of the finest musicians in the business, Fried immediately established a friendly rapport with the audience as his "Forever One" amazingly seemed to fill the half-empty auditorium. His "Acheinu", dedicated to the Machteret in Israel, touched some strong emotional chords, and his "No Jew Will Be Left Behind" called for active audience participation. Fried's repertoire also included his famous hits "Lefonov" and "Invei" and, of course "Kale Ha'hodaos"—performed after a rousing standing ovation.

The concert, due to Fried's excellent stage presence and professionalism, was a pleasure to watch and left all those in attendance more than satisfied. Avraham Mehlman, a junior at YU, perhaps summed it up the best by saying, "Avraham Fried has never sounded better—watch out MBD!"

## Summer Honors Research Program at AECOM



An honors research program for the summer of 1987 is available to students of Stern College for Women and Yeshiva College who have career interests in the biomedical sciences, including Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science, Physics, Psychology and Pre-Health majors.

Students accepted to the program will work at AECOM full-time for eight weeks of the summer, receive a tax-free stipend of \$1200 and be eligible for 3 credits of Honors Research after completion of all the requirements.

Students completing their junior year (or in exceptional cases their sophomore year) with the appropriate grade point average are welcome to apply.

Application forms, which are available in the office of the Dean, should be submitted by February 12, 1987 to Dr. Lea Blau, Department of Chemistry, Stern College for Women.



## Being Frum and Doing Good

By Joshua Anzenberg  
In the area of extracurricular activities, Yeshiva University offers something for everyone. If your cause is saving the seals, you can join the Wildlife Society; if you come from Canada, there is the Canadian Club; the professionally minded student can become a member in a myriad of pre-professional organizations; and for those who enjoy living in Washington Heights, the Karate Club is an intriguing possibility. But there are also organizations which work behind the scenes, whose members and activities are unfortunately not so well known in this Jewish university. These groups, whose members are strongly committed to Am Yisrael's survival, form the backbone of Yeshiva's Jewish community involvement. They give something more precious than diamonds: namely, their time, love, and energy.

Under the guidance of Rabbi Mordechai Winiarz, Jewish Public School Youth has become a strong and vibrant organization committed to raising the level of Jewish identity among Jewish public school students. JPSY, as it's called, now affiliated with the Communal Services division of Yeshiva University, operates throughout the New York area. JPSY also boasts a network of outreach projects and activities; their National Outreach program and Torah Leadership Seminar have been steadily growing year after year.

Mark Landsman, Director of Special Projects for JPSY, is a YU senior and smicha student who became involved in JPSY two years ago because of his interest in kiruv and the problem of Jewish identity in America. According to Landsman, "Most

**But there are also organizations . . . whose members are strongly committed to Am Yisrael's survival.**

kids have no idea they're Jewish or what Judaism is all about." The ones that do know a little about their religion may have been "turned off by their Talmud Torah", he added. JPSY, Landsman says, "gives them an idea that they're Jewish and that there's something more to it than wearing a Chai".

Mark Landsman calls JPSY a "Jewish Culture Club". Each week two JPSY advisors come to the public schools during their club hour and discuss a variety of topics, among them dating, marriage, Israel, the Holocaust, and other related subjects. Other JPSY activities include a "Yeshiva Without Walls" and a Chavrusa program in which students are taught Hebrew. They also run Shabbatonim and just

recently had their "Big Bash" Shabbaton with a record three hundred participants.

According to director Rabbi Mordechai Winiarz, JPSY is privately funded. Mr Landsman pointed out that since advisors are well paid, they have a high quality staff with the innovative ideas needed to capture the students' interest. JPSY is selective in choosing its advisors and is looking for "someone who wants to make a difference," says Landsman. Anyone wishing to become involved with JPSY should contact Landsman or Moshe Kranzler in JPSY's office, Furst Hall 419.



Another organization that deals with Jewish awareness and greater commitment to Torah is the National Conference of Synagogue Youth. Murray Sragow, a YU senior and smicha student, is the NCSY advisor for New Jersey's East Brunswick chapter and has been active in the movement for many years. NCSY's purpose, Sragow said, is "to increase the Torah commitment of the NCSYer and to reach out to as many Jewish high school and elementary school kids as possible." NCSY runs Shabbatonim, community involvement activities, Leadership Training Seminars, and regional and national conventions. Sragow also reported that in conjunction with the Jewish Federation, New Jersey NCSY has an "Outreach" program to non-Orthodox Hebrew schools. "Outreach" runs films, games, and skits on Jewish morals and ethics such as Tzedaka and honoring parents. Their model Israeli Knesset and Jewish Federation Board also help develop leadership skills and an awareness of contemporary issues.

Many Yeshiva students have been active in NCSY from high school, and today "more advisors come from YU and Stern than anywhere else", Sragow reported. He further pointed out that ten chapter advisors for New Jersey alone are YU students. Sragow also indicated that besides the pay for being a chapter advisor or NCSY leader,

the fringe benefits can be quite enticing. NCSY is a "great environment for those who hate shiduch dating," and "nobody frowns" upon the interpersonal relationships built by the advisors, he said.

Murray Sragow finds his work in NCSY rewarding and adds that to "see someone make progress is a feeling you can't match." Sragow said people wishing to become active in NCSY leadership should be "outgoing" and have a sense of "dedication and commitment to NCSY's goal." Those who want to become involved and feel they meet these qualifications should contact

Murray Sragow or Matt Tropp.

Kiruv and its slogan, "Jewish identity through understanding" is headed by Daniel Lehmann of YU and is sponsored jointly by the Rabbinical Council of America and Yeshiva University. According to Avi Silverman, a YU graduate now studying at Baruch College and editor of Kiruv's newsletter, "Kiruv Connection", Kiruv has "collegiate going out to teach other collegiates." Kiruv, he says, doesn't use an emotional appeal like other groups to stir up Jewish feelings, but is "text orientated" and tries "to take an intellectual approach." The organization shows "Judaism's approach to modern life" and picks up on such contemporary issues as sexual and business ethics, and prayer.

In its fourth year of existence, Kiruv has succeeded in attracting college students across the nation. The group works with universities that have weak Hillels but strong Jewish bodies loosely connected to Jewish organizations or communities. Silverman says Kiruv strengthens what already exists on campus, and since Kiruv coordinates its activities with the Jewish groups on campus, its reception depends upon the individual campus and its Jewish organizations. No shows or limited attendance at their events can be attributed to a lack of publicity and poorly

represent their interests. I often have to negotiate with the administration. I try to make all sides happy.

Q) How do you perceive the general attitude of the students at YU? Are they too uptight or too laid back?

A) We have tried to improve many aspects of student life. We

# BEYOND THE CALL OF DUTY

By David Bogner

Throughout the checkered history of the Jewish people there have always been great men and women whose heroics have placed them in the high esteem of their peers. Some of the Jewish endeavors have been feats of bravery while others were of a more cerebral nature. In fact, until the fall of Massada, one would be inclined to say that a fair balance had been struck between the heroic image of physical prowess and that of great scholarly achievement. But with the second exile came a phenomenon which has only recently begun to show the tell-tale signs of a stereotype wearing thin. The Jews became known only for their intellectual pursuits and consequently were assumed to possess no qualities which might discourage the odd crusade or pogrom.

With the dawning of Zionism in the end of the 19th century, the world witnessed the rebirth of certain Jewish ideals which had, nearly without exception, remained dormant since the last of Massada's guardians fell on his sword. Granted, the early Zionists felt no compulsion to mix religious observance with

By Joshua Fruchter

The rigors of YU's dual curriculum present many challenges. Faced with endless requirements, many students find themselves pressed for time (and sleep). A large percentage of students make do by "cutting corners," often at the expense of extra-curricular activities they enjoyed while in high school. Many feel that the double work load has also contributed to an uptight atmosphere on the campus. The drive to succeed, get the "A," creates pressures which need to be externalized. Yet, as mentioned, the time constraint prevents students from "letting off steam" and engaging in extracurricular pursuits.

I raised these issues in an interview with Dr. Nulman who acknowledged the problem of pressure and stated that, as Associate Dean of Students, he is constantly endeavoring to improve the quality of student life at YU. Dr. Nulman's insight and advice may help many students mitigate the pressures and problems inherent in a dual program.

Q) What does your job as Associate Dean of Students

## Modern Day Maccabees

their profound sense of Jewish history, but the nations have never made such fine distinctions and were suitably surprised to see the Jews taking firm control of their destiny.

The establishment of the State of Israel gave the world an image it had not seen for almost two thousand years: a Jewish soldier wielding a weapon in defense of his own country. In one fell sweep the stereotype of the bespectacled, slope-shouldered "Jewboy" fell by the wayside and thankfully has been all but forgotten.

The men and women of Yeshiva University are privileged to be heirs to this new/old tradition of combining intellectual excellence with physical challenge. Not only does the YU student compete scholastically, but also on the courts and fields of nearly a dozen sports. This may not seem like much to us today, but to the ghetto Jew of Europe or the Oriental Jew who even today live under Arab rule, this combination is the realization (or rather re-establishment) of a

## Tete-a-tete with Dean Nulman

entail?

A) My official responsibility is to deal with anything having to do with student life: student activities and events, dorms, counseling, career services etc. This office also serves as an ombudsman for the students to



enhance the intellectual environment of the campus through numerous clubs such as the philosophy club, and music society. A new group, the Happiness Club, has injected altruism back into student life. (The Happiness Club organizes programs for people who have had rough lives. The Club's work has helped bring smiles and happiness to those who desperately need it.) Other societies have brought speakers to lecture to the students on topics like political science and finance.

Students have to learn how to have a good time. This doesn't mean going wild but rather, constructive work.

Q) Do you think the Jewish community itself has created and nurtured this pressure?

A) Yes to a great extent. There's a big emphasis on my son's the doctor, my son the lawyer, etc. There's an expectation of tremendous success. Nobody is allowed to be a "B" student. That's absurd. I know some wonderful people who don't have a Ph.D. A lot more goes into success such as working with people.

Q) Do you think most students

dream. One need only look at the list of hobbies and activities in which YU students participate to see how much distance has been put between the modern Jew and the oppressed Jew of the ghetto.

The diverse interests of the YU student body outside of the classroom even defy conventional labels. For instance, where skiing has been popular for years among the students, today one must inquire whether the preference is Alpine or Nordic. In the case of ice skating, figure or hockey is the correct interrogative, and even on such "safe ice" as running, one needs to find out if this entails an afternoon jog, the pursuit of a four minute mile, or a full-blown marathon. If this is not enough to impress today's modern student, stop and consider some of the other pastimes which thrive among YU people: swimming, cycling, sailing, rap-peling, scuba-diving, surfing, camping, and even sky-diving to name but a few. There is even a small group of YC/Stern students/alumni who are planning a four day snow assault on the moun-

tainous Appalachian trail in mid-January.

This is not to say that the YU student is the embodiment of the pre-exile balance between brains and brawn. There are obviously excesses on both sides of the fence which lead the individual in search of a unique personal statement. The Rabbis who make decisions about modern pastimes are rightly concerned about such things as hang gliding and parasailing due to the inherent dangers. But I feel confident that they also disapprove of sitting and learning all day to the point of wasting the body which G-d has so generously lent us.

The point of all this is not to show what YU students, or even the Jewish community as a whole, have done. Rather what needs desperately to be said is that there is no limit to what the modern Jew is capable of. The limitations which have been placed on the Jewish community by itself or the world have been shed through the re-establishment of the Jewish Nation and despite the potential for excesses on the side of physical or cerebral excellence, the balance has begun to steady and the heroes have begun to appear.

## Clubs at YU

By Alex Wittenberg

Clubs are an integral part of life at Yeshiva College. Nearly sixty of them, from The Accounting Society to Happiness Unlimited, exist now, and serve the purpose of providing "an organized vehicle to have an outlet from classroom studies," as Dean Nulman put it. But do they live up to that promise? With so many clubs, why are many students dissatisfied? The answer to this question lies in how clubs are operated, funded, and supervised. In short, we must examine the purpose of the clubs.

In order to form a club, a student must submit a statement of

active, but the average student won't be very interested in topology or the Laffer Curve when he has a term paper due or a Giants-49'ers game to watch. As clubs have much to contend with, they must constantly use their imagination in the hope of attracting as many students as possible.

A club cannot just run any event it chooses to, no matter how exciting. The Student Council approves of all events, and a room in Furst Hall or the Rubin Shul can only be acquired through the Council. This prevents unauthorized groups from acting without permission, and



Y.U.'S BYGONE ERA

purpose and a petition with twenty-five signatures to the Student Council. It is they, and not the college, who approve all student activities, including the formation of a club. The Council investigates all proposed clubs and their potential members. This is done to avoid the formation of a "club" which will be little more than a line on someone's resume. Most new clubs will also be approved if they propose to do something new or different, such as the newly-formed Fine Arts Society and Happiness Unlimited. The new club will receive an official charter upon approval.

Once a club is formed, it sets out to fulfill several purposes. It attempts to provide a setting for socializing with those of common interests, while in many cases it attempts to be a vehicle for education. The Economics Society will try to educate students about economics, the Math Club will try to teach non-math majors about math, and so on. Clubs also give students a chance to gain experience in managing both an organization and its budget. The opportunity to help students arises in some cases, such as the tutoring offered by the Biology Club last year or the registration drive sponsored by the Poli-Sci Society.

The number of events a club sponsors is often the best indicator of its seriousness. If there are no events, odds are the club has little purpose. Unfortunately, the events most clubs offer attract little attention. The clubs are

stubs events which do not meet certain standards from occurring. Once the club receives permission, it must publicize its event. This is where many clubs fail to live up to their potential. Often a club settles for a handful of signs posted in lobbies when only a handbill distribution campaign or several signs posted everywhere will attract enough people.

Signs cannot be posted, and little else can be done, without money. The Student Council provides much of a club's funds. Each academic year, Yeshiva College gives the Council a small sum of money; this year's budget is approximately \$50,000. The clubs give the Council a planned budget for the year. The Council President and Treasurer, currently Jerry Barbalatt and Gedaliah Borvick, then decide what each club should receive; their decision is based on many factors such as its impact on the students and its purpose. A major factor in these decisions is the club's fund-raising plans which also must be approved by the Student Council. If a club shows it is willing to find its own money, the Council will be sympathetic when those efforts fail.

Money is only given when a club both needs and deserves it. Usually, the money is also allotted in small sums rather than in one large chunk to prevent misuse. In addition, misuse is further prevented by dividing the allotment by terms. However in some

extreme cases when a club truly needs and deserves its entire year's allotment at once, it will get it. That happened this term when the Dramatic Society, one of YC's most durable and successful clubs, needed its entire budget to put on this term's play. One last factor for budget allotment is overall available funds. Much of the Council's budget goes to its own activities, such as the Chanukah Concert, while major clubs such as the Commentator and WYUR receive preferential treatment. Though these projects deserve their funds, many other clubs, also deserving monies, are underfunded. This makes fundraising all the more important.

Inactive and undeserving clubs may find their funds cut, or withheld. A club that suddenly awakens after a period of inactivity will find it difficult to do anything without demonstrating that it intends to stay active. The Council can even go so far as to revoke a club's charter if it exists only as a name in the student guide and shows no sign of life. While no charter has been revoked as of late, two "seasonal clubs," the Young Democrats and the College Republicans, are no longer considered by Jerry Barbalatt to be clubs at YC.

Technically, every club should have a faculty advisor. The job of the advisor is only to advise, though in some cases, he or she will help organize and run the club. In the case of the YCDS, it wouldn't even exist if Dr. Beukas didn't serve such an active role. In other clubs, though, faculty advisement is limited. Unfortunately, for every Dr. Beukas or Dr. Lee, there are many instructors who do not seem to care about their club

**With so many clubs, why are many students dissatisfied?**

responsibilities. While faculty can provide great help, its role is nevertheless limited. Even the Office of Student Activities, under the direction of Dean Nulman, is limited to an advisory role. The Office's purpose is to advise and motivate students, while encouraging activities and the formation of new clubs. The Student Council alone controls all clubs, and any attempt by the Office of Student Activities to assume control would be a form of censorship. Only when an activity, event, or speaker inappropriate for Yeshiva is scheduled can the college prevent the event, and this rarely happens. In addition, Student Activities does watch over the

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## Doing Good

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administered Jewish groups on-campus, rather than to Kiruv's student appeal. Kiruv covers 36 campuses with two of its greatest successes being Cooper Union and New York Institute of Technology. At Cooper Union, Kiruv has developed a weekly discussion group and Avi Silverman heads a bi-weekly discussion group at NYIT. Silverman also pointed out that Kiruv has prompted three to four students to transfer to YU, while others spend a summer in Israel or learn in Yeshivot.

While Lehmann and Silverman are the only paid employees of Kiruv, the group boasts 35 active advisors, with 25 coming from YU and Stern, three from YU's Bernard Revel Graduate School, two from NYU, and five from Columbia. Kiruv has had six Shabbatonim this semester with 20-40 participants per Shabbaton. The major event of the semester is the Winter Institute on December 24-29 at the Sheraton Poste Inn in Cherry Hill, New Jersey. Anyone wishing to become a Kiruv advisor, should contact Daniel Lehmann or Avi Silverman at YU.

Ohel is truly a most unique and commendable organization in which Yeshiva students are involved. Ohel comprises a group of Orthodox sponsored homes in the New York area for emotionally disturbed, mentally retarded, autistic, and Down's

syndrome youth. David Israel, a YU junior, works as a Shabbat Counselor for the Ohel home in Boro Park. Israel, who has been working with Ohel for the past two years, says that the YU advisors relieve the weekday counselors and run Ohel's Shabbat program. The two or three Yeshiva counselors per home come home on Friday and often stay until Sunday morning or afternoon. Ohel homes have 8-12 residents from the ages of 17-43. The homes are in four New York areas: four in Boro Park, one in Flatbush, and one in Far Rockaway. The Ohel organization also sponsors "Mishkan" for children 5-8, and a Men's League for adults.

David Israel says that Ohel advisors try to be "father figures and friends" to the residents and attempt to give them a "stable family life under the circumstances." During Shabbat the advisors eat with the residents, sing *zemirot*, and take them to shul and later for walks. The Ohel home where Israel works takes its residents to daven at Bnei Yehuda in Boro Park. It is a big shul where the group is less conspicuous; usually the kids sit in the back and "stay quiet and stand for *Shemona Esrai*," says Israel. Unfortunately, he added, some shuls "don't want us" because sometimes the kids fight, make noise, and have to be taken out of the shul. On Shabbat after-

noons, the Ohel advisors bring their residents to a youth group where they have refreshments, sing songs, and hear *Divrei Torah*.

To become an Ohel advisor, David Israel reported, one must know CPR and undergo a 16 hour "restraint training" course to deal with situations that can occur in an Ohel environment. Israel also stressed that an advisor must be outgoing, patient, and most importantly, be able to relate to Ohel's youth and their situations. He admitted that "originally, the work was very draining" and you had to be "on your toes all through Shabbat," but he now finds the position rewarding and self-fulfilling. Israel revealed that you "grow to love the kids" and "really get to see they're human beings too." Anyone wishing to become involved in Ohel can contact David Israel at YU.

JPSY, NCSY, Kiruv, and Ohel are all organizations which must be commended and supported for their concern towards all segments of the Jewish people. It is certainly fitting that Yeshiva University students, today's leaders of Centrist Orthodoxy, are active and involved in these and other Jewish community projects. We must continue to strive for greater participation in our communities' affairs and ensure their survival. For if not us, who? If not now, when?

## Dean Nulman

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enroll here with the expectation of academic pressure?

A) Most students come in with an awareness of the pressures of a dual program. The dual program in itself is a wonderful thing. What students have to learn is to enjoy themselves, to enjoy their life. A student once asked me, "Why do you have this club if there are only three people in it?" I answer that it's great. From my perspective the purpose of a club is to unwind, have a good time and possibly contribute something to the student body. Clubs are there to create social interaction, to meet new friends. If there are only three students in a club, so be it. If a student can find his niche, that's wonderful.

**"All these activities contribute to students enjoying themselves and also learning something . . . The extra-curricular should draw on the academic."**

Q) Do you feel that University clubs enhance this balanced attitude of work and social interaction?

A) Clubs like the Happiness Club and the muscular dystrophy chapter exist because students realize that there's something else out there besides taking. There's giving, clubs also allow the students to have fun. The Poli-Sci Society has had a lot of fun this year and they've also learned something. Herb Rickman and Marc Green have spoken here. These lectures are fun. Students can mingle with their friends and colleagues. The movies, the ball games are all wonderful in that respect: fun and social interaction. Students should spare themselves an hour or two to not study. They can attend events like the Channukah concert. There have also been a lot of shabbatonim downtown at Stern this year. All these activities contribute to students enjoying themselves and also learning something. Experiences must be incorporated into knowledge. The extra-curricular should draw on the academic.

Q) Do you think YU is progressing in terms of combining work and knowledge with fun and informal gatherings? Are the students responding more than in other years?

A) We have made a lot more available to the students and they are taking advantage of it. We still have a long way to go in terms of relieving the overall pressure. But YU can't do it by itself. There are things called society, things called family. And there's reality. It's a tough world out there. The best part of these clubs is that they prepare you while at the same time giving you a good time. Like I said, the extra-curricular should feed on the curricular. If you heard a lecture, even if it's a social function, you can still learn something. Perhaps

what Herb Rickman said doesn't jive with what's in your Poli Sci textbook. You see different viewpoints. In an altruistic event you learn about people. All of us here are a community. We have to create a community where there's a chance to learn. But you can't learn if you're too uptight. You must learn by living life.

Q) What are some plans for the future?

A) You know YU is pushing to get a pool. Take the half hour and swim. We're building the Schottensstein Center. The Schottensstein Center will be a new multi-faceted student center with lounges, offices, WYUR, a new theater etc. Dr. Lamm has realized that the quality of life is important. Students should be

happy. We've come a long way and we still have a long way to go. People used to say there weren't enough activities. Now people say that there are too many. We will continue to add clubs and societies. Dr. Nulman concluded that people have to look around them. If they don't, life will pass them by. YU is a community and instead of being critical of the pressures and environment, students should seek to improve the quality of life. Recognize the importance of the classroom but supplement it with social activities and fulfilling experiences.

## YU Clubs

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Student Council budget and can hold the Council accountable for any fiscal problems.

The system of organizing and controlling clubs used at YU is quite effective. The complaints of the students can be traced to the quality of events the clubs offer and of the advertising for the events. The clubs are active for the most part, and most of the misconceptions and problems the clubs face will be solved if they offered better events and more effective advertising. Increasing club memberships is also a good way to demonstrate what clubs can do, and using "club hour", the free hour on Thursdays from 2:45 to 3:45, can also help. Lastly, once all the facts about clubs are made clear, including the fact that they can be both fun and educational, the student body will benefit further from the presence of clubs.

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## When Schooling Interferes with Education

By Jonathan Katzauer

The purpose of schooling is to instill an education, not merely to transfer knowledge. This has been an accepted motto of teaching for centuries, and yet one must wonder how much attention authorities paid to it when they established educational systems. For once I am not questioning the balance or reasoning of Torah U'mada, but rather am tackling the question of whether secular education is taught acceptably anywhere. Two different, and occasionally opposing systems are here examined: the British and the American versions. They have evolved in much the same way under many similar pressures, but they have become radically different. A reason given for the British system's rigidity is a thousand years of tradition; and although this is in many ways true, it cannot be the only reason, for eventually reason—if it is that—must shine through and effect changes.

In order to find the strengths of a system, one is first required to understand it. I shall not discuss the Public schools, or the British state schools, for they are generally a disaster area where a good idea was derailed; but rather the outline of the system, its aims and its realities.

The American university system is more easily understood for it believes in giving the student a wide background in many fields during four years of college in the hope that this will effect the transformation from ignorant brat to educated gentleman, after which the pupil is free to proceed to a graduate school and study what he hopefully has now set his heart on. This system effectively postpones the child's acceptance of responsibility until the end of undergraduate school. The student is given much leeway from high school through college and is insulated from decision-making until, if wished, the third year of college.

The system employed across the Atlantic is one based on the belief that a child must grow up early. Of course, lately there has not been much to grow up for in the shell of empire, but the effort persists. By eighth grade the decision is made regarding direction in life, and by 10th grade the 'O' levels—equivalent to Regents—are taken in eight or more subjects. Then comes the point of differentiation in twelfth grade, between two and four courses are taken at 'A' level, the equivalent of a first and possible second year college education. Small wonder, then, that the length of stay at university is shorter than in the States. Thus medical school is only 3 1/2 years and accounting can be done in 2.

What is the cost? Well, that all depends upon who answers that question. According to the Englishman Herbert Spencer, "Education has for its object the formation of character." The time-honored presence of the cane, lends weight to this claim. I can well recall its sharp sting blending with the headmaster's comments that such treatment was necessary to build a "fine such gentleman" out of me. However, there is much to be said for a system in which boys are normally boarding at school before their teens, and which demands decisions, career and otherwise, of the adolescent. It teaches him the basic essentials to success in life's game: independence, creativity and strength of character.



Detractors argue that this system is somewhat barbaric, the cane being a relic of the Victorian era, and that it places too much stress on a child at an age when he is really too young for it. It might be a little unfair to demand that a fifteen year-old know with enough certainty what career he intends to pursue so that he can devote his studies to it. Though these criticisms are valid, there is one major problem that all but supersedes these. This is the question posed by American education: What width of horizons can be reached by a career-oriented education? If at sixteen the student starts his life's studies, when will he learn the extraneous material that so enhances life? Arguably, much material is given to the young Briton in early life, but what fraction is remembered, and in what detail?

Thus an American system developed that was superior to the British in the field of liberal arts. College became an intellectual grow-bag where the mind could pursue diverse subjects ranging from basket-weaving to music appreciation, to astronomy. There is real value to this method, for the older one is, the more appreciation he has for intellectual knowledge. The thrill of winning Trivial Pursuit or the attention given to a Shakespeare soliloquy are minor when compared with the assurance of a broad education. For this education will ultimately reward its bearer with the ability to follow almost any avenue of life with at least an outline map. However, many wonder why American adolescence must be prolonged so. Not only is the child mollycoddled until the end of school, but until he has lived two decades, one-fourth of his life, he is not required to decide what his plans are for the future.

As can be seen, both of the systems have their advantages and disadvantages, for while the British advance their studies, the Americans broaden their knowledge. Neither system succeeds in its initial goal, for if an education in its true sense is the goal, then the Americans are too immature and uncultured, but knowledgeable, and the British, well developed but guilty of "Inquisition and tyrannical duncery"—not knowing enough to enjoy the artful aspects of life.

What then can be done? It might be suggested that an amalgamation of the two systems would work, but as can be seen in Israel, it brings its own problems because the students know that they have no need to study seriously until the time comes for

army service, and many benefits are thus lost. A possible approach within the American system is to cut down the core curriculum and let students get on with their real degree work at an earlier age whilst still keeping their liberal arts courses. In the British system, a year could easily be added which would be devoted to liberal arts courses.

So, after all is said and done, there is only one real educator, no matter which system is experienced and in which country. It is a harsh teacher that reaches all of us and instructs us in such subjects as manners, culture, and propriety, and all of the more important courses too. It is called life. Certainly, exposure to it is the only way to learn all of the lessons, to learn the value of any education taught, and more so any experienced. Then one can say, as King George III said of his land: "Born and educated in this country, I glory in the name of Briton." Or of America.

## Who's Afraid of Big Bad Finals?

By Jonathan Reiss

It is not without some trepidation that we anticipate our forthcoming final examinations. We understand that no matter how thoroughly we have enjoyed our courses and no matter how well we have performed on our mid-terms, homework assignments and term papers, we can easily nullify much of our pre-existing joy, pride and confidence by blowing our finals. Wouldn't life be so much easier for us if we had some sort of reliable rulebook to guide us during this terrifying time? Having observed

over the years the need for this service, I have decided to compose a manual on "How to Study for Your Final Examinations" which should prove to be useful, if not as a guide, at least as a bottle stopper.

The fact is that the principles of studying for a final exam are so simple as to be almost laughable. Nevertheless, due to various passing pressures and anxieties students tend to forget these fundamentally basic laws. For the convenience of all frenzied students, including myself, I will attempt to coherently list them below. We will begin, just for the fun of it, with Rule No. 1 and then proceed with No. 2 and No. 3 and—well, you get the idea.

Rule No. 1: Never be nervous about an exam. Just figure out what to do and do it.

This first rule is fundamental but difficult to follow. How can a pressure-ridden student avoid being nervous? Can we truly have so much rational control over our internal psychological states? These are good biological and philosophical questions but you still should not be nervous.

Rule No. 2: For "spit-back" exams (pardon the expression) compile all pertinent information in as organized a manner as possible. Memorize all details by reviewing your notes continuously. As a memory aid devise different sequences of information. Make sure to understand the proper context and significance of all materials.

Most of the statements included in this rule are relatively straightforward and obvious. You can memorize an entire chemistry text book but it will not do you much good if you are studying for a history exam. Do not waste time studying irrelevant material or misunderstanding what is truly relevant. Secondary material may occasionally be important but, above all, know your notes.

For mathematical, problem-solving exams, memorize (if necessary) all the necessary formulas and practice problems of every conceivable sort.

Some problems may seem like extremely unlikely candidates for final examination appearances, but it is surprising what some YU professors have been known to ask of their students. Remember, just because a problem cannot be answered does not mean that it cannot be asked.

Rule No. 4: If you have or can get old tests of your professor, study these old tests carefully and try to discern patterns in the test format. For "spit-back" exams you may note that a teacher concentrates upon a particular area or views matters from an unusual perspective (e.g. asking about people rather than principles). For mathematical exams, you may notice that a professor places special emphasis on certain formulas and specific types of reasoning. Adjust your study scheme accordingly.

To give an example, last year I studied long and hard for a "Physics for Poets" final exam, memorizing all, or certainly most of the different principles and formulas introduced into the study of physics over the past two thousand years. By the time I finished studying, I was prepared to explicate any scientific notion the professor might decide to ask. With complete confidence, I walked into the examination room to take the exam, took one look at the questions, and almost collapsed on the spot. The first ten-point question was a succinct, horrifying four-word killer: "What did Cavendish do?" I had no idea in the world of what Cavendish did and up until that point did not care very much either. Had I known what he had done, of course, I could have elaborated upon the meaning and significance of his achievements for hours. I was absolutely furious. Couldn't Cavendish have arrived at his earth-shattering discoveries anonymously? To this very day, whenever I think of "What did Cavendish do" the answer that invariably comes to mind is "he cost me ten points—that's what he did!" Fortunately, the final was curved.

Rule No. 5: After you are relatively comfortable with your level of preparation (or if you are hopelessly going nowhere) review the material with another member of your class who is a consistent "A" student. Address all questions to him.

People who have always gotten "A's" generally continue to get "A's" every semester no matter how subdued or stupid they may appear in class. They may in fact be very stupid, but they know how to get "A's" for some reason, so they are the ones to consult.

Rule No. 6: Of course, these rules produce obvious corollaries. For instance, if your notes are either incomplete or disorganized, either complete and organize them or secure someone else's already complete and organized notes.

For certain courses, there are excellent notes available that have been circulating for years. However, it is still best to take good notes on your own because you understand your own handwriting and language usage better, and also you tend to remember the class better (assuming that you showed up in the first place) when you see what you yourself jotted down during that time. Obviously, I am compelled to issue this note of caution due to administrative constraints, but the basic rule, of course, is to simply use the notes that will help you the most (but not during the exam!).

Rule No. 7: Do not understudy. Try not to overstudy.

If you overstudy for one exam, you are likely to become burned out for your subsequent tests. It is, of course, always better to overstudy than to understudy.



## Israel—Just Another Western Country?

By David Feldan

Every day brings informative new testimony and revealing released documents concerning the Iranian scandal. But strangely, with every new disclosure more questions are posed than answered. These questions do much to make government more responsive to public opinion and strengthen the institution of checks and balances. But, while we become engrossed in the question regarding the extent and propriety of presidential involvement, the function of the National Security Council Staff, and the mor-

importantly, support for Iraq from the Soviets and much of the Arab World requires Israel to offset Iraq's advantage in an attempt to perpetuate the war. Clearly Jerusalem believes the Arab World's distraction and division over the Gulf War diverts attention and resources from the Arab-Israeli conflict.

In response to the latest Iranian arms transfer, Israeli government representatives defended Israel's actions on multiple grounds. a) They were responding to the request of the U.S., a staunch and consistent ally of Israel. b) The U.S. assisted in the airlifting of

*Beyond the questions of Israel's policy and political standing is the simple moral question.*

ality of the U.S. actions, we fail to deal with the complexities of Israel's involvement. We must ask to what extent did the Israeli government support the deal? Did the Israelis approach the U.S. or visa-versa? More importantly, what role should Israel play in arming Iran, a Moslem center for terrorism and anti-Zionism?

While the answers to these questions are difficult to ascertain, previous Israeli involvement in sending arms to Iran is public knowledge. The initial reports of Israeli arms sales to Iran appeared in the Sunday Times of London in July, 1981 after a private Argentinean aircraft containing spare parts for American weapons crashed in the south-eastern corner of the Soviet Union. The Times identified the spare parts as part of a \$27.9 million arms deal between Iran and Israel. Iran was desperate for spare parts needed to equip American arms acquired under the Shah, especially for its F-14's and F-4 fighter bombers.

Since 1983, only reports involving an arms connection between Israel and the Iranians concerned Israeli citizens. These citizens, including General Ben-Am, were involved in private smuggling schemes which are being prosecuted by the American government. Jerusalem, of course, denied any connection with these operations and stated that since the beginning of 1985 no war supply agreements or transfers had occurred. Interestingly, this coincides with the shifting in mid-1984 of Washington's favor towards Iraq in the Gulf War in which the US claims complete neutrality.

While it is clear that Israel has sold arms and material to the Iranians their incentive to do so is not as apparent. Most agree Israel sees Iraq as more of a threat than even the reactionary Iran. More

Ethiopian Jews to Israel. The Israelis similarly desired to assist the US in the securing of its citizens. c) Israel is concerned with the status and potential for emigration of the remaining Jews in Iran. d) the Islamic Jihad, a Shiite terrorist group in Lebanon, with strong connections to Iran, presently holds captive a number of Israeli soldiers.

Beyond these questions of Israel's policy and political standing is the simple moral question. How can Israel assist a nation which publicly admits supporting a policy of terrorism, which kills and injures hundreds of men, women and children every year? Many would answer that Israel is to be judged by different moral standards. While the U.S. can and should be condemned, Israel's position as a besieged and threatened nation excludes it from generally accepted morality.

Similar arguments were offered in the controversy concerning the extradition of William Nakash, a recent Israeli immigrant accused of murdering an Arab in France on February 23, 1983. Nakash killed a young Algerian Moslem, Abdelai Hakkar, who, along with his gang had harassed and threatened Nakash's brother. Nakash admits to killing the Arab hoodlum but claims that his motivation was political—it was a private war against Hakkar and his gang's anti-Semitism.

Nakash fled France to seek refuge and citizenship in Israel under a false identity and a new found orthodoxy. Meanwhile the French courts convicted him in absentia and posted an international warrant. Chances are Nakash would have alluded authorities if not for his recent arrest, in Israel, for attempted robbery. Upon investigation the Israeli police discovered

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By Maury Kelman

As a Y.U. student, I am faced with a barrage of problems and decisions every week—what colour shirt I should wear, which coke is best tasting, what radio station I should play and a whole variety of other existential questions. With all this on my mind, I hardly need any more troubles to contend with. But, alas, each week I must face what is likely the most difficult predicament that an out-of-towner ever deals with, namely, where should I go for Shabbes.

tens of invitations for the sabbath. In fact, I've learned from informed sources that the natives have devised a pool which rewards the top three hosts in number of guests during the school year, with expensive prizes. This has unfortunately led to many vicious fights as potential hosts learn of their competition. On many occasions, I've had to mediate between opposing forces and remind them that there are plenty of oots in the institution's ocean. The situation has worsened to the extent that many



The problem is exacerbated by the early arrival and late end of the Holy Day in Y.U. You see, Shabbes doesn't really end until the last students straggle in on Monday. This prolonging of the rest day does not preclude the beginning of a new Shabbes, though, as by Sunday afternoon, people are already anxiously discussing plans for the next weekend. By Monday, the past weekend exists only in memory as possibilities for the next one begin to materialize. On Tuesday, plans begin to crystallize as the countdown to Shabbes builds. When Tom Landry sells that first wine cooler and wishes that first "Have a good Shabbes", one knows that the weekend has stretched its enticing tentacles squarely into the weekday's territory. By Thursday, as people mysteriously transform into history and geography, and "good Shabbeses" fill the streets and dorms of Washington Heights, the sabbath lacks only lit candles to make it official. As a wise philosopher has expressed it, "Sunday is really still Shabbes, Monday is like Sunday which by substitution is like Shabbes, Tuesday I have no classes so it's already Wednesday, and Wednesday is already Thursday, and once Thursday rolls around, Friday cannot be far behind and by the time you realize it, it's already Shabbes."

This pseudo-halakhic "Shabbes arichta" presents great difficulties for out-of-towners. Due to the limitless and gracious hospitality of all New Yorkers in Y.U., the out-of-towner (hereafter termed the proverbial "oot") often has to contend with

oots, upon receiving their first Shabbat invitation, hole up in their room for the rest of the week, fearing the approach of any New Yorker. As a Torontian, I feel that I speak for all oots who have felt the oppressive consequences of native munificence; while we appreciate the generous attention, we also beseech all New Yorkers to empathize with our difficult plight every week.

When decisions on my Shabbat destination become too complicated for me, I consult the official "Y.U. Centennial Guide to Shabbat Guesthouses" (this shouldn't be confused with the out-dated Frommer's "Shabbat on a Bottle of Wine"). The rating system takes into account varying factors: location of house, amount of chicken for the guest, soft-drink availability, clean linens, readiness of host to allow for showers, expectations of gifts and divrei Torah, whether guest must share his room with bratty baby brother, and especially the existence of pretty sisters. While the guide is a superb source of information, it is not infallible; on one occasion I chose a four-star house over a three-star one the basis of a promise of bountiful food. Unfortunately, the Guide did not mention that the guest must pay for each course (there was an all-you-can-eat fruit bar, though).

Once I have decided on my Sabbath resting place, I begin my preparation. To make sure that I can feel comfortable in any situation, I bring three or four suits of various cuts and styles. This

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## Science and Health

### Donating Blood— More Than a Phlebotomy

By Tzvi Dresdner

I was most impressed by the elaborate publicity which enabled the Y.U. blood drive to be so effective. Hundreds of colorful signs were placed, days in advance, around the campus telling us of the upcoming event. Ziggy pleaded to us with his sorrowful eyes to "give life". On the day of the blood drive, the Morgenstern Lounge was a carnival of activity, little red balloons everywhere, orange juice and cookies flowing like milk and honey in the Holy Land.

Y.U. can be proud of its record, as a good percentage of students participated in the blood drive. Many students continue to be skeptical, though. They see right through Ziggy, the red balloons, and the "kiss me, I gave blood today" buttons to the bare fact: these Red Cross people want our blood! Terrible thoughts enter their minds: Shrivelling up like a prune as they remove too much blood, horrible childhood memories of ancient doctors with bony fingers and shaky hands sticking our skin with monstrous needles, and obviously, the most crucial aspect, PAIN!

The excuses pop into our heads. "I had a cold three months ago." "I'm too weak," (or too short, too tall, too fat, too skinny, and most truthfully, too scared). "I heard that you can get AIDS

they gave was diseased, more alcoholic than a Kedem Wine Cooler, and in all respects, of low quality. The non-profit blood banks and hospitals were totally unorganized. One hospital would have an oversupply, while another would be losing patients due to a shortage.

The N.Y. Blood Center has solved all these problems. They supply blood to almost all the hospitals in the N.Y. area. All blood supplies are inventoried by computer, and the proper amounts are sent to the appropriate hospitals. Blood is collected by nurses and specially trained technicians. No one is paid for donating blood, and the organization does not receive any government funds. Who pays for the trucks, refrigeration, supplies, medical equipment, employee supplies, and the little red balloons? The patients who receive the blood pay a "processing fee" which covers these costs—no profit margin is added.

Blood collecting is a very complicated process. The blood is kept in labeled bags, and samples are tested for blood type and the presence of disease. Through the use of computers and bar-codes (such as those seen on supermarket items) and accurate machinery, it is virtually impossible for blood to be wrongly

**More than one third of the blood used in the New York area has to be brought in from European sources.**

by giving blood." All of these excuses are pure nonsense. Most of us are strong, young men fully capable of giving a pint, eating a few cookies, and continuing on our merry way. The nurses and technicians are trained to determine which individuals are not capable of giving blood, whether they are too weak or are overcoming an illness. And there is no danger of contracting any disease when giving blood. All needles, tubing etc.... are brand new and completely sterile. Y.U. students should be above listening to ludicrous talk about the danger of giving blood.

Our blood drive is run by the Greater New York Blood program, affiliated with the New York Blood Center; both are non-profit organizations. Before the creation of the N.Y. Blood Center in 1964, blood collecting in New York was a mess. Blood collection was undertaken by various hospitals, religious groups, and profit-seeking blood banks. These blood banks would pay donors, thus establishing a steady clientele of winos and other such community members. The blood

coded. In any event, the blood type is rechecked in the hospital before it is administered to a patient. Throughout all this, there is a race against time. Under refrigeration, whole blood lasts thirty-five days, white blood cells only twenty-four hours.

There has been, in recent times, a great increase in the need for blood. This is primarily due to an increase in medical knowledge, enabling blood to be used in a variety of ways. In fact, only 15% of blood collected is kept as whole blood; the other 85% is pooled and separated into components. Red blood cells are used to treat anemia and for open heart surgery. White blood cells are used to treat leukemia, and for clinical trials using interferon to combat cancer. Platelets are used by cancer patients undergoing chemotherapy and are vital in controlling bleeding. Plasma is the source for gamma globulin used in treating hepatitis; cryoprecipitate, the clotting factor for hemophiliacs; and serum albumin is used by shock and burn victims.

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## THE WORLD OF BUSINESS

### Bear Stearns is Bullish on Charity

By Jonathan Silber

Many successful investment banks can boast of impressive operating results from the latest fiscal year: high revenues, increased net income and better client-management relationships. But only one firm can also say that it is the largest per capita donor on Wall Street to the United Way and the largest per capita donor in the country to the United Jewish Appeal. This unique combination at Bear Stearns and Co. can be attributed to its dynamic Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Alan C. Greenberg.



Mr. Alan Greenberg

Since Alan "Ace" Greenberg became chairman in 1978, he has tried to maintain the "giving" tradition at Bear Stearns. To say that he has been successful is a classic understatement. Every managing director at Bear Stearns is required to give four percent of his total compensation (salary plus bonus) to charity. The result: last year alone, personal donations by the managing directors amounted to \$13 million. No other investment house has such a rule. But then, no other bank has a philanthropist at the helm. As for the possibility of resentment because of the charity requirement, "I never gave it any thought," says Mr. Greenberg, "because I just know it's good for everyone to have this rule. If they resent it to start with, they won't resent it after it has been in practice for a while."

If the employees of Bear Stearns need to follow someone's charitable example, they need not look further than Alan Greenberg himself. In 1985, he chaired the "Tribute to Raoul Wallenberg" dinner, which raised \$500,000. In the same year, U.J.A.'s Wall Street division chose him as its "Man of the Year." The outcome was not surprising: \$13 million was pledged at the dinner in his honor. What caused Mr. Greenberg to strongly identify himself

with Jewish causes? "Probably my parents and the family I came from," says Greenberg, "where so many people came over to this country because the members of the family helped them."

Mr. Greenberg's generous contributions go beyond the Jewish world. Last June, when Greenberg sold \$2.9 million worth of Bear Stearns stock, he gave all the proceeds to charity, three quarters of it to non-Jewish causes. Of the many awards he has received, being knighted by Denmark in 1984 "made me feel the best because I so admire their conduct during World War II. To be knighted by Denmark sent shivers up my spine. It still does."

Alan Greenberg started on his road to success at an early age. Born in Wichita, Kansas in 1927, he started working at Bear Stearns immediately upon graduating from the University of Missouri in 1949. In 1958, Greenberg became a partner at the firm and was named CEO in 1978. He had made it to the top without any graduate education. Given the complexities of today's business world, would Mr. Greenberg encourage college graduates to pursue an M.B.A.? "Not really," says Greenberg, reflecting his own background. "I don't see the value of an M.B.A. in this business. When I talk to the young people here who are successful, I can't tell whether they've been to Harvard or to the University of Oklahoma. Some people here put more emphasis on M.B.A.'s—I don't. I personally couldn't care less if a guy finished high school."

When Bear Stearns went from a private partnership to a public company last year, it raised \$225 million of additional capital and is now the ninth largest firm in the securities industry. However, very little has changed in the way Bear Stearns runs its business. The primary objective of the firm remains making money for its clients, and, in doing so, for its shareholders. Because Bear Stearns's managing directors still own about 60 percent of the outstanding shares, the incentive to achieve this objective remains the same. Mr. Greenberg has kept his desk on the firm's trading floor and still spends much of the day buying and selling securities. Sales and trading, corporate finance, mergers and acquisitions, and financial advisory ser-

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# Israel and the World

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Nakash's true identity and the outstanding warrant.

Attempts to extradite Nakash under the guidelines of the French-Israeli extradition treaty met much opposition, specifically from the Minister of Justice and the Chief Rabbinate. Opponents of extradition contend that No. 1) Nakash's crime was political (and thus was excluded from the extradition treaty) and No. 2) that in a French prison he could not be protected from vengeful clansman of Hakkar, many of whom are incarcerated.

The debate raging in Israel has brought to the surface issues and sentiments which previously went unnoticed. The central question raised is the status of Israel as a state within the international community. Professor Uriel Rickman, Dean of the Tel Aviv University Law School, in recent statements to the New York Times, characterized the opposing arguments as perceiving Israel as "a nation that belonged to the family of nations and the Western system" versus a "tribal ideology" where the overwhelming priority of the nation is preservation of its self and its citizens, without exception.

The proponents of the latter adhere to an ethnocentric approach and are overcome with the ever present conflict of Jew and Gentile, as is made clear by their rhetoric. Ariel Sharon, presently serving as Minister of Industry, declared "As a member of a small nation, I object to handing over Jews to non-Jews" While I find it hard to reject the conflict of Jew and Gentile in my own decision making process I believe that much more is a stake here.

The issue here is not whether the Israeli government should allow the religious, cultural and national identity of Nakash as a Jew to be used to discriminate against him. The true question is whether this identity shall entitle him to favorable treatment, above the clearly defined rules of international law and the Israel-France Extradition Treaty.

It appears that his crime was not a politically or nationalistically motivated one. The dispute between Hakkar and Nakash's brother was similar to ones which exist throughout the world between rival gangs and clans, although, in this case, racial overtones clearly existed.

To qualify as a political act, which would exempt Nakash from extradition, either the actor or the object, be it human or inanimate, must belong or represent a political organization or position and the act itself must be done to achieve or assist political ends. Utilizing this classical definition of a 'political act' it is

clear that the Nakash case cannot successfully claim exemption from extradition on political grounds. Neither he nor Hakkar represented any political organization or position and the act was committed to promote the interest of Nakash's brother not, as his lawyer stated, to "curb anti-Jewish action promoted by local Arabs."

Despite this, many in Israel, 43% according to a Dashaf Agency poll, and in the Jewish community of the Diaspora oppose Nakash's extradition. Certainly much of Nakash's support stems from the double barreled

"Jew as victim"/"Jew as above and beyond gentile" mentality. This conception, which has assisted in the maintenance of the State of Israel for almost forty years, may be wearing thin.

The image of Jews and Israel as a society of victims, as survivors of the holocaust, as besieged by millions upon millions of Arabs may have played a part in the successful vote for partition and the support received by "moral" Western nations. Today, however, with possession of Judea and Samaria, a formidable army, and nuclear capabilities, it is a hard image to sell to a

world overcome with the plight of the Palestinian refugee and reliant upon oil.

Israel and the Jewish people must come to grips with its new position. It can no longer treat itself as the helpless victim if it wishes to function constructively in the international arena. Certainly Israel must constantly remember the irrationality and malevolence of anti-semitism (or its modern pseudonym anti-Zionism) yet it cannot use these as an excuse for special privileges or the right to be judged by a different standard of morality.

# The Finals Story

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unless you're acting in a play. Anyway, moving right along-

Rule No. 8: When you take guesses on your exam, make them good guesses. Based upon the placement and character of a question, you should be able to determine the probable nature of the answer, if not the answer itself.

If you already have made an educated guess, I would recommend that you not exchange it for another one unless you are convinced that the second guess is better. Students tend to think more logically towards the beginning of an examination, when they have not yet begun to panic, and will probably guess better at that point.

Rule No. 9: Utilize all of the time you are given. Do not allow yourself to become distracted during an exam and do not submit your paper early unless the final is ridiculously easy or hopelessly impossible.

I still remember when smack in the middle of a High School Regents Examination which I was taking on the fifth floor of Furst Hall, Mayor Koch marched into the room surrounded by a giant entourage of reporters and photographers. Although I was very entertained by all his waving and joking, I completely forgot everything I had to know for the test by the time he walked out. For the time period that the exam is administered, make sure to give it your absolute concentration—that is, if you want to get a good grade.

Rule No. 10: At the end of the examination, pretend you have handed it in and start panicking about all those things you should have written but didn't and then write them!

This rule is one of the most important ones. Many of us suffer from a psychotic illness which causes us to forget vital answers until literally a second after we hand in our exams. The only way to circumvent this pathological problem is to fool your mind into thinking that you have already given in the final when in reality it is still sitting in front of you. When the tantalizing force in your brain begins to torture you with its usual taunts of "You idiot—you forgot to answer the second part of the third question—Ha! Ha!", you can, with this simple device, pick up the last laugh.

After you have completed an exam, you need subscribe to only two, easy to remember principles:

Rule No. 1: If you feel that you did reasonably well, you probably did.

Of course, then again, you may not have.

Rule No. 2: If you feel that you performed poorly, if you

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## Blood Drive

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In the metropolitan area alone, 2200 pints of blood are used every day. There is not enough blood available and blood drives are pleading for new donors; it is estimated that only 3% of capable individuals give blood. More than one third of the blood used in the New York area has to be brought in from European sources.

In 1983 and 1984, there was a decrease in blood donations, due to the AIDS epidemic. A poll showed that 26% of the people questioned believed that AIDS could be contracted by donating blood. This is not true, and an extensive campaign quelled those fears. The big issue, however, is the possibility of contracting AIDS via a blood transfusion. The majority of the population is not homosexual or drug abusers, and transfusion is one of the only ways that they can acquire the disease. Last year, the N.Y. Blood Center started testing blood for antibodies to the HTLV-III virus—the AIDS virus. It was discovered that some individuals who had received blood in 1977, before AIDS testing had begun, had contracted the AIDS virus. The news reports regarding those people sent tremors of fear throughout the community, and now, the safety of our blood supply is a major concern.

Ideally, no AIDS-infected blood should be able to go unnoticed, due to the testing. In reality, however, this is not the case, since the HTLV-III antibodies take time to develop in the blood. Therefore, if a homosexual contracts AIDS through a Sunday night encounter, and, being such an upstanding member of the community, he donates blood on Monday morning, it is possible for his infected blood to register negative on the tests and be accepted. The chance of this happening is remote, and the chances of your being the one to get this

blood are practically non-existent.

It is understandable, however, that many people are looking for alternatives. "Why take risks?" is the attitude. And there are, fortunately, two alternatives. The first is autologous donation, where an individual knowing that he will undergo elective surgery in a few weeks donates his own blood for the surgery. This obviously eliminates all dangers. The major problem with this, however, is that most people who need to undergo surgery are too weak to give blood.

A second alternative is the directed donor method. With this method, donors give blood for a specific patient, a family member for example. The blood is typed and tested for AIDS (this usually takes a few hours or even a day) as family members may be too embarrassed to reveal any homosexual activities. The appeals for blood seen occasionally on campus are through the directed donor method, and it is the safest way to obtain blood without having to fear contracting AIDS.

Recently some people have suggested that everyone maintain a stored supply of his own blood in case of an emergency. Such a program, however, is not realistically feasible, since blood has so short a life span. Freezing red blood cells indefinitely is possible, but the cost would be more than \$500.00 a year. And since other blood components cannot be frozen, most people would need plasma or other components from the general pool anyway.

It is quite apparent that our reliance on European sources for blood, as well as the fears of contracting AIDS from blood transfusions, show our suspect feelings toward blood programs in general. Hopefully, increased blood donations and more accurate AIDS tests will soon be available. Until then, we must rely on our best medical wisdom, while we pray for a sufficient blood supply.

## Lighter Look

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is in addition to the six shirts of different shades, and three pairs of shoes that I pack. This is in keeping with the famous Albanian saying that "One can never underestimate the spilling powers of wine".

The first few minutes of a Shabbat stay are often an indication of the overall quality of the weekend. After arriving at my destination, I inevitably enter the kitchen where I meet the Mother. After the formal question and answer period—"Oh, hello Mrs. Borscht, how are you?" "Just fine. Melvin has told me so much about you. He says you're one of the best students in his home economics class. I've really been looking forward to meeting you. What's your name?" "Maury. But I'm not taking home economics." "Ah, ah. Where are you from Mork?" "That's Maury. I'm from Toronto. Have you ever been there?" "No, but I know Mrs. Cohen from Vancouver. You probably know her if you're from Canada." "Yes, everyone in Canada knows Mrs. Cohen."—At this point, I begin to eye the inviting cake on the table, hoping to subtly procure an invitation to introduce my teeth and tongue to it. When the Mother plays matchmaker, my spirits rise as I contemplate the possibilities of future introductions. If an offer of keegel (take that, all you kugel lovers) accompanies the cake, I know that I can expect a good Shabbat. If, on the other hand, the Mother tells me to get ready for shule and I notice that we are three hours away from that time, I brace myself for the worst.

By the time we return from duvining, my stomach is usually beset by the painful daggers of hunger. I take my seat at the table.—"No, Mark, you sit there. Actually, that's no good. Let's see. I think that would be better. Yes, yes, that's perfect."—and wait anxiously for kiddush.

Without exception, the Father will ask me if I want to make my own kiddush and my answer is always the same "That's okay, I'll be yotsai with you." After the Father sanctifies the Shabbat and we finish washing our hands, the meal begins. I dive into my chalah, gobbling up every crumb and waiting for more. Instead, the Father starts his inquiry. "So, where are you from?"

"I'm from Toronto. It's really a beautiful city."

"So I've been told. If you're from Canada, you probably know a Dr. Green from Montreal."

"No, I can't say that I do. In fact, Montreal is about three hundred miles from Toronto."

"Oh yes, you're right. I'm always confusing the two."

As the conversation continues, the soup makes its entrance onto the table followed by the main attraction—chicken.

mented by a variety of side dishes. One's discretionary powers assume great importance at this juncture as the search for the right balance between yeshivish hunger and its antithesis, common manners begins. As the plate of the tangy pineapple chicken reaches my territory, I notice the grandmother eyeing me carefully. "Hmm, that polka looks so good." I think to myself. As I am about to dig the serving fork into the luscious leg, though, I realize that this is the last piece of dark meat. Glancing at the concerned Bubie, I redirect the fork into an undistinguished piece of dreaded white meat. Bubie Borscht then plunges her fork into the polka, leaving me to ponder the potential consequences of a wrong food decision.

The avocado keegel is next to arrive. Fortunately, there are still four pieces left by the time I get it, so I take my slice in peace. The plentiful coleslaw and carrots also present little problem. It is only when the Mother's mushroom and egg stew arrives that the troubles begin. Waiting patiently for the Father to wave

the checker food flag, I hear an ominous sound emanating from the kitchen. Turning my head, I see the Mother excitedly carrying in a foul smelling and even fouler looking concoction. "Oh, are you ever lucky today?" Melvin enthuses. "This is my mother's specialty." The Father chimes in with his own praises and before I know it, I find a whole pile of this stew looking timidly at me from my plate. The eyes of the entire Borscht family stare at me in great anticipation. "Go ahead," the Bubie exhorts. "Ve all know dat you'll love it." With no other resort, I slowly lift my fork. Heads move closer to me as the pressure begins to cook. I bring the hot substance to my lips, hoping all the time that it will somehow disappear. When stew meets palate, though, the challenge really starts. Trying to control my feelings of nauseousness, I manage a feeble smile and compliment the Mother on her delicious recipe. This is probably the stupidest move in the history of mankind as the Mother then happily dumps another large portion of the thing on my plate.

Once I survive this acidic stew test, I feel a need for seconds of chicken. This has to be handled delicately. You can never answer in the affirmative when the Parents offer you seconds, as this would seem piggish. Instead, one must resort to ingenious methods. Eyeing the new batch of chicken, of which one polka remains, I feverishly point to the window and scream, "Look over there." While all turn to look, I deftly pluck the precious polka from its precarious position. "You missed it," I explain. Chuckling to myself, I nonchalantly devour the beloved polka.

All oots have their own, special Shabbat stories. The same is true of all those gracious natives who have opened their hearts, doors and refrigerators to our respective souls, bodies and stomachs. I have heard a rumour, however, that there are a couple of oots who have not benefitted from good ol' New York hospitality. While this may seem unrealistic due to the great caring of all native students, it supposedly is true. At this Chanukah season, when oots keenly miss their families back home, let's make sure that no oot goes uninvited to someone's house. The experience truly is mutually beneficial.

most important substances in the world. However, they're not chopped liver either, of course.

The Very Last Rule: Read these notes once right before commencing to study for an exam, and once immediately before the exam.

This last rule is, once again, relatively obvious. Under no circumstances, however, should you read these rules after you have completed your exams. Just enjoy your vacations, and remember, above all, not to blame me for poor test grades! And may I wish you *hatzlachah*.

## Bear Stearns

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vices are just a few of the many profit centers at Bear Stearns. Although certain people might be better suited for one job rather than another, there is one trait required of all. "What we really like here," says Mr. Greenberg, "are people who have a deep desire to become rich. In fact, I'm against us even appearing at schools to try and solicit people to see if they want to come work here. We shouldn't have to do that."

Alan Greenberg has worked hard to create a special ethical and moral culture for Bear Stearns within the industry as well as to the public at large. The recent insider trading scandals that have plagued Wall Street do not pose a threat to Bear Stearns, according to Mr. Greenberg. "It has probably helped Bear

Stearns's reputation since we haven't been named at all." As far as the general reputation of the securities industry being tainted, "anyone who says that is stupid. Lately, quite a few major law firms have had people indicted. I don't think that the moral code of lawyers has gone down in the last five years; it's just that there is a lot of money on the table now and that brings out the worst in people."

Upon reflection, it is not surprising that Bear Stearns has maintained its reputation throughout the recent difficulties on Wall Street. With a man like Alan Greenberg setting the tone, ethics and morality receive equal billing with dollars and cents.

## Macs

Cont. from Page 16

to its feet but to no avail as N.J.I.T. increased its lead to 76-71.

Soon after, Ayal Hod picked up his fifth foul and Reichel went down with a bad ankle sprain, as the Highlanders pulled away for an 88-76 victory. Once again, Ayal Hod led the Macs, this time with 25 points on 10-of-13 from the field and 5-of-6 from the line. However, it was Reichel who carried the team with 15 second half points en route to a career high 20 for the game. He also pulled a career high 11 rebounds and dished out five assists, before leaving the game with the ankle injury.

The Macs then had one week to prepare for its televised matchup against undefeated powerhouse N.Y.U. Though excited about playing on TV, most of the Y.U. players would probably have preferred that their first television exposure not be against the nation's 8th-ranked Division III team. However, that's who they played and the hustling Violets gave the Macs a

rude welcome as they pressed them into oblivion, taking a commanding 51-23 lead at the half. The N.Y.U. starters split their playing time with the reserves, all of whom were just as stingy in the full-court press as they forced the Macs into 36 turnovers. The game ended with the score 105-56 and should be left at that. When you play the team that may very well go on to win the Division III National Championship, you can expect to lose big when you only practice three times a week, miss three weeks of practice, and don't have a point guard who can dunk in traffic.

## Finals

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studied properly, then don't worry about it. You did your best. If you did not study properly, assume "this is also for the best" and proceed to your next exam, this time studying properly.

Never become disillusioned. Remember, grades are not the



# MACS in Tailspin

By Jonathan Bandler

On the eve of their annual Channukah Tournament, the Y.U. Macs are pondering their current three game skein and wondering whether or not their early season successes were mere flukes that simply covered up some glaring deficiencies. Since their convincing thrashing of I.A.C. rival Stevens Tech on December 6th, the Macs have displayed streaks of ineptness on offense, made far too many turnovers, and allowed 98 points per game on defense.

The first of the three games was by far the most disappointing. Emory University travelled north from Atlanta for an extended road swing and after a two-point loss to Vassar and a 38-point setback at NYU, the Falcons were looking for a strong team effort against the Macs. They certainly got it as they controlled the game from the outset en route to a 101-86 victory over the sloppy Macs, who helped by turning the ball over 24 times. Y.U.'s only bright spot was Ayal Hod who shot 10-of-14 from the field and 8-of-10 from the line for a game-high 28 points. His brother, Lior, and

Yudi Teichman chipped in with 14 and 10 points respectively, but also combined for 13 turnovers, as the Macs seemed to let a game they could have won, slip out of their hands. Lior Hod shot 1-of-2 from beyond the three-point line to improve his 3-pt. field goal percentage for the season to 67% (14-of-21).

The Emory game was followed by a solid team effort against a sharp, fast-breaking New Jersey Institute of Technology team that is the midseason favorite to capture the I.A.C. title. Though scores don't necessarily mean anything in college basketball, the Highlanders had beaten N.Y. Maritime by over fifty points just two days after the Macs had edged the Privateers, 84-82. N.J.I.T.'s high-scoring offense had broken the 100-point mark in three of its first six games, and were just off that pace at the MSAC as they took a 45-33 lead into the locker room at halftime. A fine perimeter shooting team, the Highlanders were not shy about pushing the ball upcourt each possession and pulling up for the 15-foot jump shot when nothing else materialized. However, it seemed that the Emory loss took away a lot of the momentum that Y.U. had following their two league victories. They seemed somewhat lackadaisical in the first half, throwing away a number of passes and not getting back to cover the N.J.I.T. fast break.

The second half though was a completely different story as Y.U. kept within ten points behind the bruising inside play of Benjy Reichel and Ayal Hod. The two combined for 27 points and 13 rebounds in the half and sparked a Y.U. spurt that cut the N.J.I.T. lead to one, 72-71, bringing the crowd to its feet with just over three minutes remaining. However, on the ensuing trip down the court, the Highlanders scored a field goal and were awarded two free throws for a foul committed away from the ball. That controversial call brought the Y.U. bench

## UBI Be Here!!

After nearly three years of TRI-VIAL PURSUIT induced euphoria, Americans will soon be introduced to its equally exciting successor, THE WORLD ACCORDING TO UBI. In early 1987 store shelves will be packed with this challenging game, designed by Chris Haney, John Haney, and Scott Abbott, the three Canadians who transformed trivia into a billion dollar business. However, Y.U. students now have a special advanced opportunity to win 10 exciting UBI games in the COMMENTATOR's "UBI Trivia Contest".

In this issue, and in the first issue next semester, you will find five trivia questions covering no specific subjects. Answers should be written on a sheet of paper and submitted to Jonathan Bandler. UBIever he may be. Each of the first five Y.U. students who reach him with the correct answers will receive, free from Selchow & Righter, one THE WORLD ACCORDING TO UBI trivia game complete with all UBI accessories.

Below are the five questions for this issue. As a helpful hint, if you hadn't noticed already, the word UBI means "where", so answers will be specific names of certain types of places — either continents, countries, states, cities, deserts, mountains, bodies of water, etc.

1. UBI Lord Nelson statue?
2. UBI Space Needle sky?
3. UBI Reno casino be?
4. UBI Flutie QB prior to pros?
5. UBI Delaware state laws dealt with?

UBI is a registered trademark of Selchow and Righter.

# Y.U. Volleyball Team: Identity Crisis

By Marc Kwestel

Despite having a dedicated group of players, the Yeshiva University Volleyball team is finding it difficult to establish itself. The problems the team faces are both internal and external, but can certainly be rectified by various factors.

Obstacles were present even before the year started. The team's schedule, to begin with, is simply not fair. They have five games on the schedule, only one of which, the March 25th game against Baruch College, will be played at home, in the friendly confines of the Max Stern Athletic Center. The importance of fan support cannot be overemphasized and quite obviously one home game is not sufficient. It's important to note that this year's schedule was arranged by Professor Arthur Tauber, last year's Athletic Director. First year Director of Athletics, Dr. John Costello, says that it is difficult to add games to the schedule during the year because other teams make their schedules long in advance, and can't rearrange them. Also many colleges have dropped their volleyball programs. Costello did say that he

will certainly try to schedule more home games next year.

The coaching situation is also a problem. The team's coach is Mr. Curtis Antrum who runs the operation of student activities at the MSAC. Mr. Antrum has never coached volleyball before and hasn't even played the sport competitively. He admits that this handicaps the team but he hopes that the skills he has acquired from coaching other sports will carry over to his position as volleyball coach. In preparation for the job, he attended one coaching clinic over the summer, and has studied books and videotapes. In addition he feels that he has gained more and more knowledge of the game at each practice he has attended. Despite his rookie status, Coach Antrum believes this won't hinder the team, but rather will make himself and the team work harder.

The greatest problem however, involves the team itself. To begin with, there is little team height, which of course is essential for a good volleyball team. Furthermore, the talent is simply not the greatest. The players for the most part don't have a real knowledge of the fine points of the game.

However according to Coach Antrum, this is not the crucial missing link. What the team lacks most is experience. Only two players returned from last year's squad, Simon Amiel and Aryeh Greenberg, both from Seattle, Washington. New players include Jeff Remer and Aryeh Friedman, both of whom have solid athletic ability but need to combine that with the volleyball instincts that only come with time.

However the team makes up for these deficiencies with a number of intangibles that should keep them in a lot of matches. These include: a great interest in the game, an aggressive style, lots of hustle, and a strong desire to win. Coach Antrum believes that the team will be competitive by focusing on the fundamentals and by playing consistently.

For those who are interested in playing volleyball, it's not too late to join the team. All the games are played in the spring semester and, according to Captain Amiel, the game is easy to learn and a lot of fun to play. The Volleyball team is certainly a viable option for those wishing to take part in athletics on the collegiate level.

## Y.U. BASKETBALL INTRAMURALS

		Scoring Leaders			
		G	FG	FT	PTS PPG
TIGERS	4-1				
BRUINS	4-1				
BOMBERS	4-2				
YOGARS	3-2				
ZOMBIES	3-3				
WILDCATS	1-5				
JORDANS	0-5				
PLAYOFFS					
Tigers 47	Yugars 34				
Bombers 66	Bruins 40				
CHAMPIONSHIP					
Bombers 62	Tigers 59 (07)				

	G	FG	FT	PTS	PPG
1. Muelgay, TIGERS	6	43	20	106	17.7
2. Rothchild, ZOMBIES	3	22	5	49	16.3
3. Kaufman, JORDANS	5	35	8	78	15.6
4. Berger, BOMBERS	6	41	10	92	15.3
5. Reichel, BOMBERS	6	30	29	89	14.8

Compiled by Barry Weiss  
Complete through first semester playoffs

## Touche!!

By David Bogner

The YU Fencing team has made a big turn around from its first match loss to Vassar. In the course of a week, Yeshiva soundly defeated both Brooklyn College and Baruch College. As with any sports story there were outstanding performers as well as a few personal defeats, but the team as a whole is well on its way to its best season in recent memory.

The Brooklyn Match was fenced at home with a small but enthusiastic band of well wishers on hand and a lot of team spirit.

The stats for the Saber squad were led by team co-captain Yosef Schreiber who went undefeated with 3 wins. The Foil squad had a slow night but Ze'ev Goldblatt, Robby Zimmerman and Michael Oppenheim each took one bout. The Epee team had a star in the form of co-captain Ezra Dyckman who went undefeated with three victories. A new-comer to the Epee team this year, Shmuel Katz, came in late in the match to take a hard fought win over a more experienced Brooklyn fencer. The final score was Yeshiva 17, Brooklyn College 10.

With only five days rest the team traveled to Baruch College and turned over a determined opponent. The first round of nine duels was dominated by Baruch but Yeshiva rallied and came back to win a solid victory 15 to 12. The Sabermen were again led by Yosef Schreiber who won two of his three contests and Dov Schwell turned in a shining performance for his one win. The foil squad was led by Ze'ev Goldblatt who went undefeated

## Schick Super Hoops

By Barry Weiss & Howie Schub.

For the first time in Yeshiva University history, students will have the opportunity to participate in a 3-on-3 basketball tournament. Sponsored by Schick, these on-campus tournaments take place at schools across the country, and allow winning teams to advance to the regional festivals. Championship games in each region are played in NBA arenas or at major college basketball games.

Schick Super Hoops is a

halfcourt game played by two teams of three players each (plus a maximum of one substitute). The game consists of two halves, of eight minutes running time each, and a one minute intermission. All common, personal, and technical fouls count towards the team total. After the fifth team foul, a bonus situation is in effect for the remainder of the game. A bonus situation entails foul shots and change of possession, or both. NCAA rules will be enforced whenever possible.

Barry Weiss and Howie Schub, the co-commissioners of the intramural basketball league, will be responsible for determining play eligibility, providing referees, and adopting rules whenever necessary. The Y.U. Super Hoops tournament must be completed by early February so that the school representatives can go on to the regionals. Notices concerning registration will be posted on the bulletin boards around campus, so sign up and try to represent Y.U. in this exciting competition.