

The Commentator

Official Undergraduate Newspaper of Yeshiva College

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

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Syms School Sets Standards

By David Israel and David Pletur

Next fall will mark the opening of the much heralded Sy Syms Business School (SSSB). The school will occupy the fourth floor of the Science Hall, with renovations currently taking place to make room for classrooms and administrative offices. Aside from the physical presence of the new school, many jarring changes will greet the returning and new student interested in a business-related career, changes regarding his choice of majors, course selection, degree, and teachers.

The first, and most apparent change confronting the student will be in the majors to be offered by the business school. The economics department in Yeshiva College will no longer encompass a finance, business, and economics track. Instead it will emphasize economic theory and grant a degree for the pure economics student, though still recognizing courses taken in the business school. The business school will take over the finance major, as well as offer new majors such as Management Information Systems (dealing with the application of computers to business systems), and Marketing and Management. The accounting department will also be under the auspices of the business school, and together with these other majors, will lead to a B.S. degree.

Dr. Schiff, the new Dean of the Sy Syms Business School, was careful to point out that students already enrolled in an economics or accounting major will be allowed to continue under the old program. In fact, every new student will initially be enrolled in YC and only in their sophomore year will they be required to make the decision of whether to enter the business school. The introductory economics courses will remain accessible to all as they are taught by the economics department, which will retain its individual identity.

But perhaps the greatest effect the business school will have on the students is not the new majors or curriculum, but the new faculty. One of Dr. Schiff's main goals for the school is to become accredited, or at least achieve a level of academic excellence equivalent to AACSB standards, within five years. This involves, among other requirements, to have a percentage of full-time teachers, that is, those who hold a Ph.D or its equivalent, yet have proven teaching prowess, have actual business experience, and are engaged in research projects. This necessarily entails a



Photo by Kenny Siegel

Ribbon-cutting ceremony on new pedestrian mall.

restructuring of the accounting and economics faculty. As to the problem of the validity of degrees issued by a non-accredited school, it must be explained that SSSB is only unaccredited as a business school; as a college, with genuinely transferable qualifications, it is recognized, being a division of Yeshiva University. Thus, until the school becomes a separate entity, all degrees will enjoy the same status that they held when courses were no more than a division of YU.

According to Dr. Schiff, all full-time teachers will be asked to return next year, however, this would not be applicable to part-time instructors. Three new full-time and part-time teachers have been hired, including a new business law professor, a finance professor, and a computer applications instructor. Another important faculty change is the elimination of Professor Colchamiro's position as chairman of the accounting department, with his current responsibilities being shouldered by Dean Schiff. This change is because the integration of all business departments into one, as yet small school, renders individual chairmen unnecessary. Professor Colchamiro will continue as a faculty member of the business school.

In a meeting with the accounting students, Dean Schiff promised that the current placement success of the accounting department will not be curtailed in any manner. In fact, Dr. Schiff stated that plans have been made to hire a professional placement director to handle the growing ranks of accounting students, as well as those graduating from other business school majors. The placement office will remain separate from the YC placement, and will be handled through the office of the Dean.

The brochure for SSSB states that the school will "offer a complete program which will nurture and cultivate business and entrepreneurial talent within the framework of a technical and theoretical business education". Such an ambitious plan will only be realized through the dedicated efforts of the administration working together with and meeting the needs of its student body.

ELECTION RESULTS

Yeshiva College Student Council

PRESIDENT — Michael Levine
VICE PRESIDENT — Yosef Mandelbaum
TREASURER — Michael Chill
SECRETARY — Mordi Leifer

Student Organization of Yeshiva

PRESIDENT — Nachum Barishansky
VICE PRESIDENT — Steve Siegel
TREASURER — Jeff Paley
SECRETARY — Alan Friedman

Grade System to be Changed

by Jay Stochlinsky and Jay Neustadter

Next year YC faculty will have seven new grades in their arsenal. At the suggestion of the Academic Standards Committee, the faculty of YC has decided to adopt the grading system currently used in Stern college, whereby pluses and minuses can be awarded along with the grades A, B, C, and D: In calculating grade point averages, a plus grade will be worth one third point more than the grade, and a minus grade, one third less. Thus, for example, a B+ will be worth 3.33, and an A-, 3.66. There will be no A+ grade.

According to Dean Norman Rosenfeld, the faculty has supported such a change for a long time, feeling that it would allow them to grade more accurately. However, the real impetus for the change was administrative rather than academic. With the opening of the Sy Syms School of Business, students of both YC and Stern college will be taking (separate) courses in the same school, and to have two separate grading systems would be both inefficient and unfair. JSS and IBC will also adopt the new system.

Dean Rosenfeld estimated that the new grading system would lower the average GPA of YC students by two-tenths of a point. Since it will not be possible to earn an A+ grade, however, the change "will hit the higher averaging students hardest," and it will be much

more difficult to maintain a 4.0 average. While admitting there was some concern among the faculty about grade inflation, Dean Rosenfeld denied that this in any way motivated the change, adding that, "many faculty members believe that the grades students get are what they deserve."

Dean Rosenfeld also expressed some reservations about the new system. He believes the old grading system might be a more accurate way of assessing a student's performance, based on mathematical reasoning which he termed "arcane." He also expressed the fear that under the new system, students will be more likely to contest grades.

According to David Feldan, a member of the YU Senate, the students are against the change in the system just as they were the last time the issue arose a number of years ago. In reality, the students' reactions are mixed. Josh Adler, a graduating senior, feels that "the truth is that it is a much more accurate grading system than that which they've had in the past and I think it'll do a lot to curb the inflated GPA's at YU."

One YC freshmen concedes that the plus-minus system is correct but is bothered by the fact that it will ultimately hurt him. This idea seems to be shared by many. However, the bottom line is as Joe Hyman, a YC sophomore, put it. "In the short run it will be to the stu-

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Violence and Mall Unrelated say Police

by Michael Cohen

Just recently, Amsterdam Avenue and 183rd street witnessed an altercation between neighborhood residents and the police. What began as a simple request by a Department of Traffic officer for a school van driver to reroute his passage around the restricted traffic lanes on Amsterdam, developed into a somewhat bitter confrontation between neighborhood residents and the Department of Traffic that was quickly resolved by the police.

The dispute began with a traffic officer's insistence that a school van not pass through the pedestrian mall area. When the driver dropped off a child a block from his home as a result, the child's mother, irate at this change, came out to protest. With her was another resident with an umbrella who began attacking the officer. Upon the arrival of four more Department of Traffic officers, the assailant retreated and returned with more residents, only to be halted and restrained by regular police. Department of Traffic officers who subsequently appeared on the scene were pelted with bricks by the residents.

Both Mr. Ken Gallo, director of YU security, and Officer Kincaid, of the 34th precinct, view the incident as the latest manifestation of a long-standing animosity between local inhabitants and Department of Traffic officers, and not as a result of YU's new pedestrian mall. Officer Kincaid comments that while there have been complaints by some residents about the new mall, it has not triggered any significant increase in traffic congestion. He added that even the local Fire Department, initially adamant in its opposition to the mall because of perceived emergency delays, has "mellowed" since those fears have not materialized.

The consensus among both police officials and YU security personnel is that the mall played at most a peripheral role in the acrimonious encounter between residents and the Department of Traffic. While the likelihood of similar events occurring exists, they feel it has little to do with the mall and plans for the area will proceed.

Editorials

Naaseh VeNishmah Not Always

Recently a furor has erupted among the student of Yeshiva College over the soon-to-be instituted grading modifications, incorporating a plus-minus system identical to that of Stern College. The Administration and Faculty offer valid arguments in favor of the change, including the need for standardization with the School of Business, which has already adopted the plus-minus program. Though the Administration has the power to effect such a change without student involvement, such an approach belies its supposed respect for the student body. No decision so dramatically pertinent to the students should have been reached without prior consultation with representative student organs or a student referendum. Should the Administration choose to bypass such options, at the very least its decision should not apply until all current classes have graduated. We urge the Administration to reconsider its method of dealing with the students when it comes to matters of academic concern.

Don't Jump To Conclusions

A recent innovation that has caused much ire in the business-related departments has been the Sy Syms School of Business and the changes advocated by its dean, Dr. Schiff. The focal point of this concern has been the abrupt dismissal of certain long-standing and popular instructors in the accounting courses. In addition, students are fearful of losing the individual attention given to job placement when the accounting major was a separate program under the stewardship of Dr. Colchamiro.

However, steps have been taken to counter these concerns. Arrangements have been made, in 1988, to re-hire the business law teacher to instruct specific courses in which he has expertise. As to placement, an appointment has been made for a placement officer whose task will be to find both permanent and summer positions for upperclassmen.

We may not condemn an idea merely because it represents change; for change can be unsettling, but it can also be rewarding. The challenge to the business school and Dean Schiff is this: The future appears bright, but it must yet be attained.

From The Ashes

Nothing more aptly sums up the tumultuous, exciting, and somewhat controversial year that the *Commentator* has enjoyed. The mark of any truly great newspaper lies in its ability to make one think. No one has done that better than the 1986-87 Governing Board and contributors under the adept tutelage of Editors-in-Chief, Lance Hirt and Daniel Mann. These two, acting of one mind and purpose, have successfully fashioned a paper that is sensitive, provocative, and insightful. *The Commentator* has once again become a major factor in campus affairs.

We, the Governing Board of 1987-88, view *The Commentator* as a voice, a forum for all of us in our YU community to air our grievances, share our congratulations, and communicate harmoniously with each other. The paper exists to serve you—the students, the faculty, the staff, and the administration. It won't work without you input. With your help we hope to build upon what Lance and Danny have created, maintaining and increasing our value to Yeshiva University.

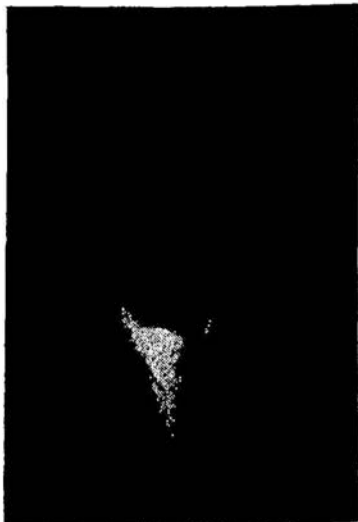
Best of luck to Lance in Harvard Law School and Danny in his new position as Editor-in-Chief of *Hamevaser*.

possess

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President's Letter

by Jerry Barbalatt

With finals and the end of the semester approaching, my term as Student Council president comes to a close. My stay at Yeshiva is closing with it. I started out as a freshman back in '82 and have seen significant changes since then. It is only appropriate to mention those changes as part and parcel of the accomplishments of this year's Student Council—for progress advances slowly and this year's Council was dependant upon its predecessors.

The past few years have witnessed an increasing interest of the student body in itself and its situation. Clubs and societies have multiplied to a level where it is unusual (not) to have events, rather than unusual to have them. There is now more freedom of movement and this, in turn, has raised expectations. Thus the Council this year had to be a measure of those changes while achieving in its own right.

One of the first events was a forum for incoming freshmen in which they could learn about the societies as well as the academic courses. Then a year-long budget was drawn up which allowed specific sums to individual clubs in addition to a cash reserve to cater for the changes occurring in a year. While past years saw problems with cash flow, this year's Council helped alleviate problems by its operation of the game room in the Morg basement—thus raising needed cash and providing a student service at the same time. In fact, so successful was the planning of the budget that Council was able to fund clubs established as late as April.

Controls over the budgets of *The Commentator* and WYUR were tightened, requiring among other things the production of receipts to verify budget expenditures. This helped eliminate the possibility of fraud or mismanagement. Council decided early on to conduct itself professionally in business affairs, for example, competitive bids were asked for the printing of the student directory, resulting in savings of \$1000. I can say with pleasure, that at no time in the year was a request for funds deemed necessary turned down. However, those found frivolous were discarded.

During the first semester a Calendar Committee was established, and while there still

are scheduling conflicts they are being reduced. As the committee becomes better recognized throughout the university, it should become yet more effective. The key is continuity.

On a personal note, I believe that for the most part I was accessible to students who needed me, and that Council represented and fought for student interests as much as it

could this year. I feel I was very fortunate to have served as President during the centennial of YU—a period of great excitement—and I want to give special thanks to Dr. Nulman for his help and advice.

Finally, I wish the incoming President a successful year and hope that he may continue to build on the system already established.

MAZAL TOV

Josh Einzig and Rena Azar
Michael Ashendorf and Judy Adler
David Azerad and Hedva Brunstin
Simmie Chiger and Beth Leventhal
Phil Danishevsky and Arlene Antman
Evan Mitnick and Alyse Kreitman
on their engagements

CONDOLENCES

The Yeshiva and Stern College student bodies mourn the untimely death of Stern College Junior Francine Stein of Cincinnati, Ohio. We will always remember Fran for the laughter and joy she brought into our lives.

The entire Yeshiva University community mourns the loss of Max J. Etra, Chairman Emeritus of the YU Board of Trustees. He will be sorely missed by us all.

RESPONSA

To the Editor(s):

Salaries Require Perks

During this centennial year, student newspapers have devoted substantial and often sympathetic attention to the inadequacy of salaries for various denizens of Yeshiva University: rebbeim, support staff, and faculty. None of the reporters explained why "real dollar" salaries, and morale along with them, sank. The culprit was the long-drawn out financial crisis from which the university has only recently recovered. Thanks to the generosity of donors in the Jewish community, salary freezes and cuts in major programs have finally retreated into the past.

This year's negotiations between faculty members and administrators are proceeding, with frustration running high on both sides. In the past two to three years, the administration has improved the average raises of faculty members to some degree and expects some gratitude or at least recognition in return. Meanwhile, however, average salaries lag behind those in institutions roughly similar in type, location, and aspirations; almost all of us know colleagues with comparable credentials and achievements in comparable universities making anywhere from several to ten or more thousand dollars than we do, and most of us have seen statistical tables confirming the anecdotal evidence. Naturally, despite the administration's best efforts, the faculty continues to feel frustrated and downtrodden.

Each year the faculty hopes for a "quantum leap" in salaries, and each year the across-the-board increases, though improving, prove disappointing in the context of expectations which the administration considers unreasonable. In fact, the financial health of a complex educational institution can only improve slowly, so that any quantum "leap" must occur over a period of years. Meanwhile, the University has to bid for new faculty in an increasingly competitive market, often in "richer" academic fields such as business and science, so that the first-year faculty are sometimes earning salaries greater than those of faculty members who have conscientiously served the institution for two or more decades. Concurrently, many institutions which never froze their faculties' salaries have begun their own campaigns to improve salaries, thereby in many cases increasing the gap despite the administration's best efforts. All these factors help render faculty resentment inevitable and understandable.

What is remarkable to me, as a relative newcomer, is the extent to which most faculty members, their disappointments notwithstanding, continue to exhibit professionalism, integrity, and commitment to the institution—that is, to their students and their colleagues, whom they feel continue to reward their efforts. Salaries



and morale, moreover, have gotten somewhat better side by side over the past three years.

Yet both salaries and morale still need considerable boosting. The long-term solution is to raise enough endowment money to enable the university to weather temporary economic setbacks. One of the best ways is to endow chairs in the core of the undergraduate curriculum, including both the liberal arts and Jewish Studies—an issue about which I hope to write an article next fall. In the shorter term, the Centennial and the opening of the Next Hundred Years, all hoopla aside, represent a series of historic opportunities. Renewal of vision and reinforcement of positive momentum have been two of President Lamm's main themes; to these he should establish a commitment to ensuring that average members of the university feel more like exceeding the standards of competence and stretching toward excellence. In the case of the faculty, strengthened motivation and increased educational quality will follow only in the wake of substantial across-the-board raises over the next few years.

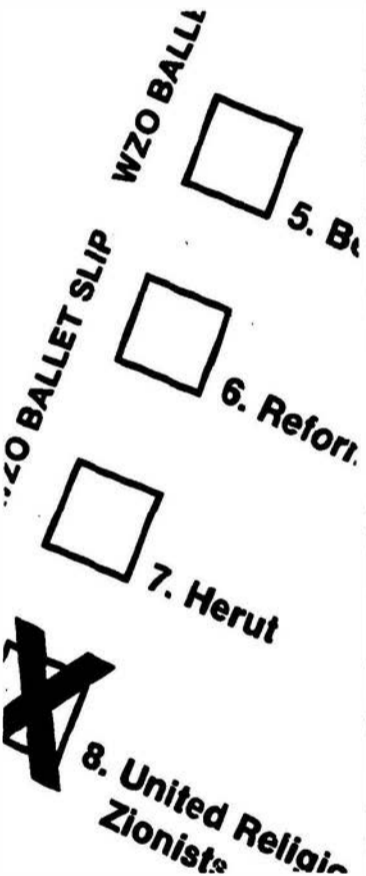
Dr. Will Lee

Vote Slate 8

To the Editor:

Soon after May 15, enrolled Zionists will be receiving ballots for the elections of the World Zionist Congress. The Yeshiva University family has a great stake in the outcome of these elections. The election results will determine representation in the World Zionist Organization (WZO) and Jewish Agency governing bodies.

The WZO and Jewish Agency have become the fulcrums of the efforts of the Reform movement to impose religious pluralism (the code word for granting the non-Orthodox the same recognition as Orthodoxy) in Israel. Funds raised in the Diaspora have already been withheld in Israel from Orthodox institutions that do not meet the Jewish Agency guidelines. Just recently, the Yeshivot Hesder refused to sign a Zionist loyalty



oath, which may result in the loss of substantial funds. They very properly asserted it is not for American Reform Jews to pass on the loyalty of parachutists and fighters in the tank corps.

Only recently, we became aware of that the Reform Movement's Hebrew Union College (and to a lesser degree the Jewish Theologi-

students who elect the officers of SOY it comes as no surprise that they are consistently from the more 'yeshivish' crowd. This by itself would seem business as usual but to the dismay of many, this year the YCSC elections came out looking very much like who's who in YP. It doesn't take a great leap of deductive reasoning to see that if these two elections were held simultaneously, within sight of one another, a disproportionate number of YP students would show up to the YCSC polls. The result was a lopsided representation of the YC student body and thus, in the future,

(Cont. pg. 20 col. 1)

Elections

To the Editor:

It is with some alarm that I view the results of the elections for the officers of SOY and YCSC. The Student Organization of Yeshiva includes the students of the Mazer Yeshiva Program and also those in RIETS and only they may vote in the SOY elections, although in truth SOY is a blanket organization for all of the students at YU. After all, how many restaurants in the area have a JSS hashgacha? But keeping in mind the body of

Max J. Etra, zt"l,

by Behnam Dayanim

Mr. Max J. Etra, zt"l, Chairman of the Yeshiva University Board of Trustees for almost 25 years, passed away during Passover at age 83. Just two weeks earlier, Mr. Etra had been honored by the students of Yeshiva and Stern Colleges at the Undergraduate Centennial Celebration in appreciation of his efforts on behalf of the student body. According to Mr. Sandy Shapiro, YC student and fellow congregant of Mr. Etra, this honor meant a great deal to him because it came from the students, those for whom he had labored for much of his life. Because of this the Undergraduate award was the only YU citation, with the exception of a 1958 honorary Doctor of Laws degree, that Mr. Etra would ever accept.



photo by Kenny Siegel

Max J. Etra, zt"l,

Universally praised as a generous and giving man, Mr. Etra devoted himself completely to communal work, donating time, money, and persistence. Never pompous or aloof, Mr. Etra attended every University function and made a point of appearing at many private celebrations of those involved with the University. Dr. Efreim Nulman, Associate Dean of Students, remembers his surprise when, at a party for his father upon retirement from the YU Music Department, he realized that Mr. Etra was present. Mr. Etra routinely talked with all those

involved in any level with the well-being of the University, from the President to members of the then Buildings and Grounds staff. Mr. Hartstein, Director of Public Relations, stresses that Mr. Etra exemplified the ideal *Baal HaBait*, showing a great deal of respect for the *Roshei HaYeshiva* coupled with a not inconsiderable store of Jewish knowledge and an "intense feeling for all things Jewish." Mr. Shapiro as that Mr. Etra always greeted congregants at Kehilath Jeshurun, where he attended morning *minyan* for over 20 years, with a cordial "Have a good day, gentlemen" and collected the *sidurim* at the end of the service. Vocal when it came to discourtesy or lack of proper decorum, Mr. Etra ensured that even the afternoon *minchah* was conducted with the respect due a Yom Kippur service. Possessed of an abhorrence for injustice, he helped procure needed treatment for those in need at Beth Israel Hospital, another of his many involvements.

His sometimes gruff and obstinate exterior stemmed from an ardor for perfection and a passionate belief in what he was doing. His concern and irritation at the omission of his middle initial in the Centennial Celebration program "embodied his concern for detail and striving for excellence," in the words of Dr. Nulman.

With his death comes the end of an era. The Age of Dr. Belkin, Max Stern, and Mr. Etra, the pioneers of our University, has come to a close. Having shepherded the University through its greatest period of expansion, perhaps the lyrics of Alfred Lord Tennyson express it most eloquently:

"Most can raise the flowers now For all have got the seed." Mr. Etra planted that seed when none thought it could grow. Mr. Etra, we thank you.



Max J. Etra, zt"l receiving award at Undergraduate Centennial

Bad Aim

To the Editor:

I read with interest Robert Kapper's article on the Breuer's community, and in general find it factually based (Rod Sterling references notwithstanding) and, with one exception, objective. Despite what might best be labeled as Eastern European or Hasidic influences upon many Kehilla members, my community still retains and reflects a wide spectrum of ideas and beliefs, possibly mimicking the state of German Jewry during Rav Hirsch's time. Unfortunately, one casualty of these

"foreign" influences has been the practical application of Torah Im Derech Eretz ideals to the education of young men and women at Breuer's High School.

The big reservation I have with this article, even though the author seems to have done so more for reader consumption than out of any strongly held beliefs, is the comparison, implied or stated, between Torah u'Mada and Torah Im Derech Eretz. The similarity between these two philosophies begins and ends with the first word, Torah, for, as the simplest

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NEWS

Pizza Problems

by Eric Zakman

The Kosher Dairy Restaurant's recent expansion to include the sale of pizza has raised possible halachic problems stemming from the issue of *Hasagas Gvul*. The Dairy Restaurant, under the new ownership of Mr. Avi Stein and Mr. Noam Eisenberg has undergone physical changes to accommodate the sale of fresh pizza. This raises the question of whether or not this business expansion constitutes *Hasagas Gvul*, or in this context, hurtful competition.

By serving fresh pizza, The Dairy Restaurant puts itself in direct competition with Kosher Inn II, the pizza shop which operates down the street. Although The Dairy Restaurant has sold pizza before, it had only offered frozen pizza. *Hasagas Gvul* literally means moving the boundaries of one's property so as to steal land from a neighbor. While on a *D'oraita* level, *Hasagas Gvul* only refers to land, the Rabbis included certain business practices involving competition under the halacha of *Hasagas Gvul*.

The previous owner of The Dairy Restaurant, Shlomo, states that there is no problem. He points to the sale of bagels by Grandma's cookies and donuts and soda by the high school canteen, in direct competition with him, as proof that *Hasagas Gvul* is not an issue.

At the time that the high school canteen was opened, Shlomo says he was assured by a high school administrator that there was no problem of *Hasagas Gvul*. Likewise Mr. Stein feels there is no problem. Mr. Stein points to the sale of pizza in the restaurant before his arrival as proof that a problem does not exist.

Despite his claim, Mr. Stein has been holding discussions with the owner of The Pizza Shop, Phil Haber. Mr. Stein refused to comment on the nature of those discussions but said he wished to maintain a good relationship with Mr. Haber.

Mr. Haber acknowledged the existence of dialogue on the matter between himself and Mr. Stein.

However, he also refused to comment on the nature of these negotiations. When asked if he thought The Dairy Restaurant would begin making pizzas without an agreement having been reached, Mr. Haber refused to comment conclusively. However, he did seem to feel that Mr. Stein would not begin making pizzas before an agreement was concluded. He then added, "at this point, it's all up in the air. We might agree or there might be a *Din Torah*." Mr. Stein said, however, he would begin making pizza without an agreement.

The negotiations, though, could be of great importance to the situation. According to Rav Hershel Schachter, Rosh Yeshiva of RIETS, the expansion by The Dairy Restaurant into the pizza business may indeed fall under the category of *Hasagas Gvul*. If, says Rav Schachter, The Dairy Restaurant can capture enough business from The Pizza Shop to

Restaurant. Although he did cite a *psak* that permits it, he expressed his doubts about that *psak*. Taken to its full significance, the issue of *Hasagas Gvul* has many far-reaching ramifications, and the question of whether or not it applies in this case has yet to be resolved.

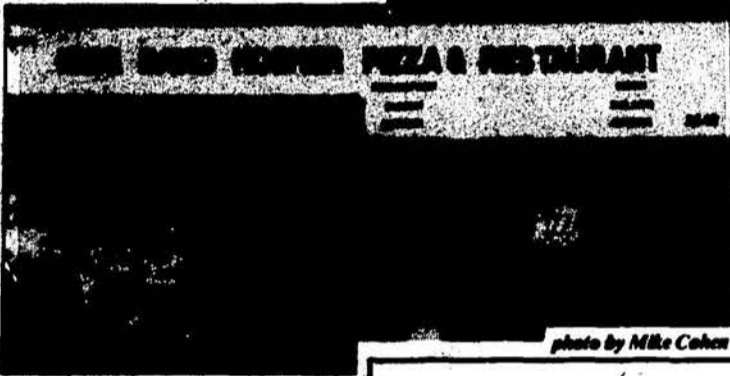


photo by Mike Cohen

force Mr. Haber to close it, then an issue of *Hasagas Gvul* will have been violated.

While both parties refused to discuss the nature of the negotiations, Rav Schachter suggested a possible agreement that would call for the division of the day, in which one shop would operate during one portion of the day while the other would operate during the other. Another alternative is monetary payment to Mr. Haber by the owners of The Dairy Restaurant in partial compensation for lost business.

Complicating the situation is the question of what is the role of the local Jewish population. Rav Schachter expressed his belief that if indeed an issue of *Hasagas Gvul* was involved, then Jews should not eat pizza made by The Dairy

Dobkin Tenure Appreciated

by Moshe Fukabruner and Ron E. Kastner

On Tuesday, March 26, faculty and students gathered to pay tribute to Professor Ida Dobkin, the ever-popular organic chemistry lab instructor, in an event sponsored by Dr. Borowitz and the Chemistry Club. The occasion, which marked Mrs. Dobkin's thirty sixth year at Yeshiva and which came as a complete surprise to her, culminated in the presentation of a plaque and an original work of art to her from the students. Mrs. Dobkin's husband, Joseph, and her son Jay, a staff member at Einstein, were among those who attended the festivities.

Mrs. Dobkin is a virtual institution at Yeshiva, having begun teaching here in March 1951, following a short stint at Queens College. In addition to teaching organic chemistry lab, Mrs. Dobkin has at various times taught general chemistry, including the summer course once offered at this college. Mrs. Dobkin enjoys immense popularity among the students, although she describes herself as being "very surprised and very thrilled" that they chose to honor her.

In a school whose laboratory sessions are conducted in the evening hours (and are therefore generally dreaded), the popularity which Mrs. Dobkin's lectures enjoy is a rarity. While she does not openly adhere to any particular teaching method, Mrs. Dobkin concedes that she readily attempts to evoke student responses. In her opinion, the rise of television, with its lack of viewer participation, has contributed to student unresponsiveness. It is therefore imperative upon the instructor to provide a forum for student involvement, particularly when dealing with a field as complex as organic chemistry. Perhaps greater student participation is the key to inspiring more students to opt for careers in the sciences.

In March 1951, the chemistry labs were housed on the top floor of Tannenbaum Hall, at a time when more students were opting to major in chemistry. Since then, Yeshiva has undergone many vicissitudes, including a shift in emphasis from the liberal arts and sciences to pre-professional studies. Mrs. Dobkin, however, believes that chemistry "is a field that should open up at this point", and notes that many of her former students have achieved prominence in the science community. In addition, Mrs. Dobkin seeks a coord-

Food Distributions

by Alan Friedman

The week before Pesach, on a Sunday morning when most people had left for vacation, a group of Y.U. students together with volunteers from the neighborhood went door to door delivering care packages for the chag. The event, part of Project Hope, which is run by the Jewish Federation of Washington Heights in conjunction with B'nai Brith is run a few times a year.

Yeshiva University students play an integral role in Project Hope in that they can carry the twenty pound packages up numerous flights of stairs. This is needed because the B'nai Brith volunteers themselves are elderly and are unable to do the shlep-ping. Each Y.U. student was assigned to a driver with whom he canvassed the neighborhood

making deliveries at fifteen predetermined stops.

Most of the students, some who had helped out at Chanukah too, were surprised at the amount of elderly Jews who lived in this neighborhood. Most never leave their apartments in fear of their safety. They live in wretched apartments, but do not have enough money to move out. Additionally, they have been here for thirty years or more. Jerry Barbalatt mentioned that he made a delivery on 158th street. Alan Freedman made a delivery at 171st to an apartment of three women, one of whom is bed-ridden. These people are lonely and feel deserted. They were only too happy to accept the packages, not for the food, but rather for the opportunity just to talk to someone. At his last destination, Barbalatt stayed and talked for a half-hour. David Berg received an offer to stay for lunch, and everybody was offered payment, but turned it down. This rare chance to perform a mitzvah *lishma* was payment enough. Mr. Martin Harth, organizer of the event, summed it up as "You did a great mitzvah, why dilute it?"

The general opinion amongst the volunteers was that they would gladly volunteer again next year.

I have known her, have I ever seen Mrs. Dobkin lose her temper with a lab student?"

Mrs. Dobkin's loyalty to Yeshiva and its students is one that stems from genuine affection. When asked about her devotion to Yeshiva, she replied, "This is my second home, I have spent more hours of my life here than I did at home." Contrary to rumors disseminated earlier this year, Mrs. Dobkin has no intention of retiring. As she noted at the conclusion of our discussion, "A strong and good undergraduate school is the basis of a university." With the continued presence of dedicated instructors such as Mrs. Dobkin, it is likely to remain that way.



2843 AMSTERDAM AVE. (AT 186 ST.)
800-4885

NEWS

Scholarly Dinner Held

by Josh Fruchter

On April 6, 1987, at 8:00 P.M. in the mini-cafe on the 12th floor of Belfer Hall approximately 35 Max Stern Scholars from Stern and Yeshiva Colleges gathered for Dr. and Mrs. Norman Lamm's annual Max Stern Scholars Dinner. A host of distinguished YU officials and faculty attended the event, among them Senior Vice President Dr. Israel Miller and Executive Vice President Dr. Egon Brenner. In the past Dr. Lamm has hosted the function in his home, but the large size of this year's contingency convinced him to relocate to Belfer Hall.

Dr. Shatz, the Max Stern mentor at Stern College, opened the floor with a pun-filled introduction that was followed by a brief address from Dr. Lamm. The keynote speaker of the evening was Professor Eliyahu Kanovsky, a world-renowned economist who spent this year at Yeshiva University as the Ludwig Jesselson Visiting Professor of Economics. In 1986 he was also a visiting fellow at The Washington Institute for Near-East Policy. In his address Dr. Kanovsky exposed the myth of OPEC's economic power, predicted continuing hardships for Saudi Arabia's economy, and allayed fears of a recurring increase in oil prices. Dr. Kanovsky supported his views with statistics, economic analysis, and simple logic.

Dr. Kanovsky began by stating that the key to a country's economic potential is "the quality of its human resources." A country with extensive natural resources will not become a long-term economic power if its people cannot exploit these resources efficiently. Dr. Kanovsky cited Israel as a prime example. Though poor in resources, Israel has flourished due to the diligence and ingenuity of her inhabitants. In connection to this Dr. Kanovsky related a story told to him by one of his professors. The professor, on a trip to Israel, visited a kibbutz. In the field he spotted a shepherd reading a book. When asked for the title of the book, the shepherd replied, "Critique of Reason by Emmanuel Kant." Responded the professor, "If this nation's shepherds read Kant, I can barely imagine the potential of its scientists."

Throughout the 1970's and 1980's analysts predicted that Saudi Arabia's vast oil resources, as well as those of other OPEC members, would propel her into a position of tremendous economic strength. Observers based their forecasts on a number of assumptions. First, by controlling a large portion of the world's oil supply, OPEC, of which Saudi Arabia is the key producer, would be able to restrict production and maintain

high oil prices. The high prices would create large revenues for OPEC members. The small economies of OPEC producers, however, would not be able to absorb such large revenues and would consequently build up huge financial reserves called petrodollars. The inability to spend their profits would allow OPEC producers to curtail production at will and subsist comfortably off the constantly accumulating surpluses. Dominance over oil production combined with billion-dollar surpluses would enable OPEC to exert tremendous economic pressure on the West.

Dr. Kanovsky consistently debunked these prophets of doom and history has borne out the accuracy of his position. Using Saudi Arabia as an example, Dr. Kanovsky pointed out that the Saudi Arabian economy did absorb large oil revenues. Expenditures kept pace with revenues as the Saudi government spent lavishly on industry, education, health, defense and infrastructure such as ports, roads and power plants. Anticipating continued high oil prices, the Saudis, in a five year plan released in 1980, doubled their actual spending from the previous five years to \$390 billion. Caught unaware by the precipitous decline of oil prices to \$10 per barrel, they found themselves unable to cut back on spending. To suddenly cut expenditures on a multitude of projects and programs which most Saudis have come to take for granted would contribute to dangerous internal discontent. As Professor Kanovsky himself concludes: "Having reached a certain level of spending the Saudi regime cannot drastically curb expenditures affecting Saudi nationals without incurring serious dangers." Interestingly enough one of the few growth areas in the dismal Saudi economy has been palace construction. (Financial Times Survey-Saudi Arabia April 21, 1986)



Dr. Eliyahu Kanovsky

The need for high revenues will force the Saudis to continue selling large quantities of oil, despite low prices. To curtail production would only aggravate already severe deficits (minus \$174 billion in 1985-1986). OPEC's other producers confront similar problems.

Professor Kanovsky also explained why he believes oil pri-

ces will continue to remain depressed. He expects demand to remain low for a number of reasons. Western nations continue to substitute resources such as coal and natural gas for oil to supply their energy needs. Secondly technological advances have improved energy efficiency allowing countries to use less energy per unit of product. Professor Kanovsky called this "getting more bang for your buck." On the supply side non-OPEC producers such as the U.S.S.R. continue to increase their oil outputs. Finally, should the Iran-Iraq war end in the near future both countries would unleash their huge oil potential (now compromised by the hostilities) in order to repay war debts, thereby further flooding the market.

The oil glut and subsequent tumble in oil prices have benefitted Israel tremendously. In the past Saudi Arabia used their oil revenues to augment military spending for several Arab countries. This forced Israel to enlarge its own military outlays. Israeli military spending accounted for nearly 14% of the GNP at one point. Burdensome payments for oil, totaling nearly \$2 billion, led to escalating inflation and additional hardships for the economy. At the present time, such financial and military pressures have eased, allowing Israel greater flexibility in ameliorating her economic problems. Professor Kanovsky is optimistic about Israel's economic future with Arab oil power no longer a threat.

Hirt Elected Valedictorian

by David Kaliski

Lance Lloyd Hirt, a native of Beverly Hills, CA, came to YU via YULA. Skipping the 7th grade and graduating a year early, he spent what would have been his senior year of high school in Israel at Yeshivat Kerem B'Yavneh. Now, a few weeks before his 20th birthday, he will graduate as the valedictorian of YC's 1987 class as voted by his peers.



Lance Lloyd Hirt, Valedictorian

Student Celebration

by Alex Wittenberg

On March 25th, the students of Yeshiva and Stern Colleges celebrated the one hundredth anniversary of the founding of Yeshiva University. The Undergraduate Centennial Celebration was planned over a period of several months by a joint committee of YC and SCW students, chosen by the student councils and chaired by Gary Berger and Ethel Greenstone.

acceptance speech, he paid tribute to the late Dean Sar, who, he said, dedicated his life to the school and its students. He also paid tribute to Rabbi Morris Besdin, zt'l, founder of the James Striar School. Mr. Etra said that he had learned from Besdin and Sar that the most important asset of the University is its students. Sadly, this was to be Max Etra's last opportunity to address the students for whom he had



Gary Berger and Ethel Greenstone
MC Undergraduate Centennial Celebration

Berger said the committee's goal was to come up "with the best way for the students to celebrate the Centennial. So we picked three people who we felt have had a very large, if not the largest, effect on Y.U. undergraduates." These three, YU President Rabbi Norman Lamm, Senior Vice President Rabbi Israel Miller, and the chairman emeritus of the YU Board of Trustees, Max Etra, zt'l, were honored by the student body before a packed house in Belfer Commons.

The Celebration began with "The Legend," a song composed for the occasion by YC students. Then, after opening remarks by Berger and Greenstone, a presentation was made to Mr. Etra. In his

While at YU, he deftly balanced his academic and extracurricular activities, excelling at both. Before opting for a career in law, he pursued his interest in science, taking all the pre-med courses and tenaciously maintaining a 4.0 GPA, while being a member of the YU Maccabees and the Governing Board of *The Commentator*.

In all aspects of his persona he excelled: academically, as is evident from his GPA; non-scholastically, on the court, he was a starter and one of the co-captains of the basketball team. He was also elected Co-Editor-in-chief of the newspaper. In that position his duties included the coordination of the 75 person staff, the establishment of editorial policy, and the overseeing of every article's development and quality.

long worked to help, as he passed away two weeks later.

After Mr. Etra's speech, tribute was paid to members of the faculty who have been at YU for twenty-five years or more. Next was the presentation to Rabbi Miller, who thanked the students and spoke of the work he, Max Etra, and many others did to help establish the University in the late 1940's. The awards presented to Mr. Etra and Rabbi Miller were the artistic work of Steven Cohen, a student in RIETS.

Following Rabbi Miller's speech, the presentation was made to Rabbi Lamm. His award was the work of Bruce Cohen, a junior at Yeshiva College. Rabbi Lamm spoke about his rebbe, Rabbi Joseph Soleveitchik, and the Rav's philosophy of teaching students to question their teachers and learn to think for themselves.

Senator Daniel P. Moynihan (D-NY) was scheduled to deliver a message to the student body but had to cancel at the last minute. His daughter, Maura, spoke in his place, describing how, as a child,

Cont. on pg. 6

After sorting through his many law school acceptances, he will probably attend Harvard Law School this September. With his experiences working for the HIP Enterprises Real Estate Development Firm, his interest is Real Estate law. But, armed with a B.A. in Economics he will apply for the Harvard joint J.B.M.B.A. degree, not excluding a possible future in corporate law. We wish him the best of luck.

Students Show Talent

by Jonathan Bandler

On Tuesday night, April 28th, more than 120 students from Stern and Yeshiva Colleges enjoyed the rousing success of the annual Candlelight Cafe Talent Night held in the Stern College Cafeteria. Sponsored by the student councils and dramatics societies of each college, the event was ably organized by Elana Bank, Behnam Dayanim, and Jordy Goldberg, and featured twelve acts representing various forms and levels of talent.

The acts were judged by a three-member panel consisting of Dr. Anthony Beukas, Chairman of the Speech and Drama Department at Yeshiva College, Professor Penina Schram, Chairwoman of the Stern College Speech and Drama Department, and Ms. Amy Gordon, a Stern college alumna and former member of the Stern College Dramatics Society. Each judge scored each act on a scale of 1 to 10 and then a composite score was given per act.

The event got underway shortly after 9 pm as Masters of Ceremony Dayanim and Goldberg introduced Eli Borow, the evening's first act. Borow presented an interesting monologue, "How I Got These Two Bumps on my Head," depicting a scene from his St. Louis childhood. He was followed by guitarist Josh Sunshine who sang a new rendition of *Ani Ma'amin* and Jim Croce's legendary hit, "Time in a Bottle."

The third event brought the first real laughs of the evening though the duet of Eli Siegman and Wendy Zierler certainly hadn't planned it that way. For some inexplicable reason, Wendy was not able to sing, leaving Eli with the burden of singing both his and Wendy's parts of the Crosby, Stills, and Nash (and maybe Young) hit, "Old Man." Next came the darling Chaim Wizman who, accompanied by Eric Fier on the guitar, sang the Beatles' "Let it Be" and Dan Hill's "Sometimes When We Touch."

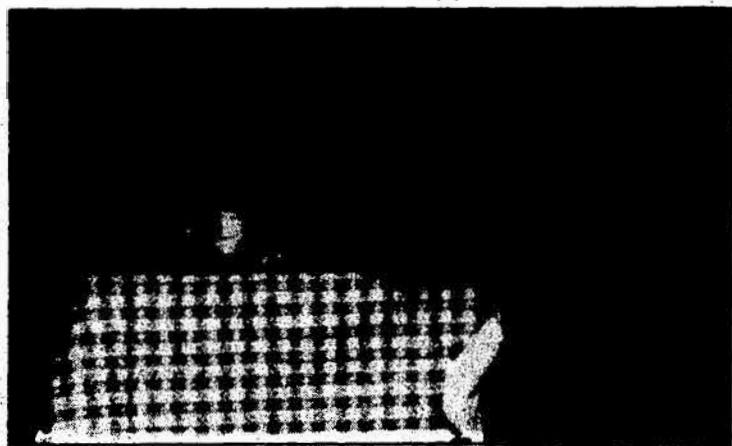
The first Stern College solo was performed next by Raquel Hirschman, who played the love theme from the movie "St. Elmo's Fire" on the piano. Hesh Rephun, the sixth act of the evening, also played the piano, singing "Remember Florida," a lovely tribute to his homestate, and "Good Ol' Diane" a song about the girl every guy wants to forget.

Sharon Cable then performed a dramatic monologue from the Marsha Norman play "Night, Mother". The next act was also highly dramatic though in an entirely different sense. Larry Foont, dressed in traditional garb, presented two 'raps, one of which he wrote the lyrics to himself, describing his thoughts on life at YU.

Next came the evening's token classical act, performed by

Howard Hochster on the clarinet and Avi Lazerowitz on the piano. What Jordy Goldberg later called K-Mart elevator music was really quite entertaining and received a well deserved standing ovation after

and skit of Billy Joel's "Scenes From an Italian Restaurant" came complete with red and white checkered tablecloth, wine, a roving saxophonist, and the inevitable problematic recording device backstage.



Rachel Mandel and Penina Blazer in "Scenes from an Italian Restaurant," the third piece.

The tenth act of the show was the long awaited world premiere of "MBNM," better known as Rachel Mandel, Penina Blazer, Deena Najman, and Sharon Miller. Their excellent lip-sync

Next on stage was Robbie Berman who performed a stand-up comic routine that was quite well received. He dwelled somewhat on 'Mr. Murphy and his law' but kept cracks about Stern girls and YU guys at a

minimum, which was appreciated.

The stage was set for the grand finale of the exciting event. The audience knew that it was a tight race for the \$100 first prize, and that a number of acts could still be in the running for the lesser monetary values of second and third prize. However, nobody could have predicted what eight YC students in their Yeshiva Polo Club sweatshirts were doing walking up on stage with an assortment of household objects. Led by Eric Fier, better known as Chaim Wizman's talented guitar accompanist, the Nounstook the stage and presented the grammatical experience for which Yeshiva University has long been waiting. Their timing was perfect and their instrumentation ingenious, and by the time they had finished their la, la, la's, Eric & the Nouns had the audience rolling in the aisles.

Moments later, having collected the judges' scores, MCs Behnam Dayanim and Jordy

Goldberg, announced the three winners. In third place, with a score of 25.5, was MBNM, and in second place, with 27 points, were Howard Hochster and Avi Lazerowitz, the duet who'd performed so classically. The first place winner, to nobody's surprise, was Eric & the Nouns which came just one point away from a perfect score and went home with the \$100 prize.

The Candlelight Cafe Talent Night was enjoyed by everyone involved, from the organizers to the performers to the audience, and congratulations should be extended to all those who made it such a success, especially to Elana Bank from Stern College, and Behnam Dayanim and Jordan Goldberg from Yeshiva College, the organizers who put in so much time and effort to make sure things went smoothly. The judges should also be commended for giving up of their own time and for being able to take Eric and the Nouns so seriously.

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Accounting: Will it Balance?

by Sandy Shapiro

This September, Yeshiva University will open the Sy Syms School of Business, catapulting the accounting and economics departments into a new era. The purpose of the school is to meet the needs of students who wish to enter the business world with an adequate business background. Presumably, the accounting department will serve as its foundation.

In recent weeks, disturbing rumors have been circulating amongst the students of the accounting department. These rumors concern areas affected by the creation of the business school and the desire to be accredited shortly thereafter. Among them is the elimination of the position of Chairman of the accounting department with the appointment of a Dean of the business school. There is also uncertainty surrounding the teaching status of faculty who do not hold doctorates. This is due to an accreditation requirement that a percentage of the school's faculty possess a Ph.D. in accounting or economics. Finally, there is fear that the accounting department's job placement program will be integrated with the current program at Yeshiva. This would remove the present atmosphere which promotes student participation in job placement, an essential ingredient in the success of the program. Basic to all the rumors is the question of what role the accounting department will play within the new business school.

As a graduating accounting senior reflecting on my four years at Yeshiva, various factors which contributed to the success of the department come to mind. In the planning of the business school, I hope the administration is sensitive to these factors, which should serve as the building blocks for the new school.

The success of the accounting department can be classified into four categories: 1) the chairman of the department 2) the professors 3) the job placement program 4) the curriculum. The dominating theme of all four is Dr. Schlessberg's guidance and philosophy to create the best in each of the above categories.

A unique aspect of the accounting department is the active role of the chairman. This has been Arthur Colchamiro's first year as chairman, having taken over from Dr. Schlessberg, the founder of the department. What was supposed to be a period of transition became one of tremendous growth as the number of graduating seniors increased by 33% and the number of courses offered went up 22%. This trend is expected to continue into next year, with a projected increase in graduating seniors of 47% and, for the first time, the scheduling of multiple sections in advanced courses. No other department has had such growth in recent years.

Chairman Colchamiro's contributions have improved the quality of the department. He noticed that more women are entering the accounting profession than ever before, but that there were no women amongst Yeshiva's accounting faculty. Professor Ruth Dienstag was then invited to fill this void and to serve as a role model. Prior to her current position, Professor Dienstag taught at Queens College and received her C.P.A. while working for Arthur Anderson & Co., a Big Eight accounting firm. Since her appointment, the greatest number of Stern women in the history of the school have chosen to work for large firms.

Colchamiro also introduced the offering of Taxation II, a course in corporate taxes. This course was always listed in the catalog but was never taught. It is an important addition since ten percent of the C.P.A. exam camaraderie

The professors of accounting, the core of which are Colchamiro, Dienstag, Fish, and Pinter, are also unique to Yeshiva. Each possesses two essential characteristics which are necessary for a successful accounting department. The first is a sincere devotion to the students. These professors have the reputation of often staying past 9:00 pm, coming to school on Sundays, helping students find summer jobs, and guiding students through their stay at Yeshiva. Such dedication is hard to find. The second characteristic is that all have their own accounting or law practices, enabling them to teach by introducing actual events into the

"The success of the accounting department can be classified into four categories:

- 1) The chairman of the department
- 2) The professors
- 3) The job placement program
- 4) The curriculum

classroom, making it more interesting and exciting. However, because they are all full-time professors (and not adjuncts), students are assured that they will not be taking care of their clients' needs during classtime.

Job placement in the accounting department is ahead of event the exceptional graduate school placement of Yeshiva students applying to medical, dental, or law school. The accounting department boasts a 100% placement record and nearly all with

YC Entrepreneurs Or Dorm Peddlers?

by Lenny Steinbach

What do computer discs, multi-colored knee length shorts, and concert tickets all have in common? If you read the title of this article and guessed that they are all things sold in YU's dorms, you're right.

During the past year many enterprising YC students, in the hope of making life more pleasant for their fellow students (and of turning a fast buck), have opened businesses in the residence halls. The variety of goods sold and the number of people selling them make it impossible to give a complete list of the businesses in the dorms. However, some of the more notable enterprises are worth

examining.

At the top of the list for the 'YU 500' is the Jewish Entertainment Network (J.E.N.). Those colorful party invitations that were distributed twice this year originated in Rubin 520, where Yoni Nierenberg and Mordy Kramer preside over the newly incorporated J.E.N. According to Yoni, J.E.N. was formed in response to the need for "parties that a YU guy can feel comfortable at." For the individual who wants something between an S.O.Y. chagiga and a non-Jewish college party, J.E.N. provides a party with kosher food, Jewish people, and rock music. Despite the debate at YU over having such events, the two privately run



Big Eight or national firms. The interviewing technique is the determining factor. Dr. Schlessberg introduced the ideas of bringing to YU a professional job placement director from NYU to lecture on interviewing techniques and review resumes. The department is also committed to the ideas of bringing all of the prestigious firms to the campus and maintaining contact with them throughout the year. A significant ingredient of this contact is an elaborate dinner in one of New York's finest hotels (last year at the Waldorf, this year the Hilton). This dinner is planned and financed by the students, for the job placement of students. No other school or student body in the Metropolitan area goes to such lengths for job placement.

The last successful element of the accounting department is its curriculum. It is a 60 credit major regulated by New York State. The enormous size of the major (largest at Y.U.) attracts only dedicated students, the less devoted opting for less rigorous courses of study.

When discussing the accounting department one can not forget fund-raising activities conducted by the students to finance the year-end accounting dinner. The events include the famous hoagie, doughnut and egg-roll sales, the delivering of dreidle-grams and groger-grams and, ofcourse a raffle. The active participation of students generates a chevah feeling where all are working for a common goal-job placement. The camaraderie among the students, and between the students and faculty, and the "Big Brother/Sister Program", where upperclassmen befriend and assist lower classmen.

In the process of planning the new Business School, I hope the administration does not forget what make the accounting department successful. They must remember Yeshiva is here for the students.

parties earlier this year were highly successful in terms of both turnout and profit.

Another notable business on campus is the sale of JAMS-type shorts and similarly colored hats by Josh Fruchter and Ronnen Rosenthal. Through a connection with a manufacturer who produces the shorts and hats for name brands, they have been able to obtain these goods at a discount. They then pass that discount on to YU students. The business is doing extremely well and has been expanded from a door-to-door operation to selling in Rubin lounge.

The now defunct 'Deli in the Dorm' and 'Dairy in the Dorm' are notable not for their successes but rather for their failures. Both establishments, purveyors of sandwiches, were closed down early last semester by the dorm office which feared kashruth problems. The administration's policy toward dormitory room businesses, however, is not exactly clear. In response to the question of student enterprises at YC, Dr. Efreim Nulman, Associate Dean of Students, issued the following notice on March 31st:

"Please be advised that all dormitory rooms are to be used only for residential purposes. Dormitory space cannot be utilized for business or organizational purposes."

According to Rabbi Joshua Cheifitz of the residence hall office, it has been policy for the past year to not allow students to use their dormitory rooms as a business address.

While it would appear that such a policy, which according to Dr. Nulman "is both legally correct and consistent with the goals of YU in particular and higher education in general," would preclude any business at all being conducted in the rooms, that is not the case. Both Dr. Nulman and Rabbi Cheifitz announced that they are not on a witch hunt to eliminate all business activity in the dormitories. Any student council money-raising schemes that are approved would obviously be allowed to function in the dormitories. In addition, such organizational activity as running an NCSY chapter from a dorm room, is acceptable.

The purpose of Dr. Nulman's notice, according to a source within the administration, was to give the University legal recourse should an objectionable enterprise be opened in the dormitory. The administration is thus left with the difficult task of determining which businesses it will allow in the residence halls. A case in point is that of Dean Baum's 'Dairy in the Dorm' which was closed down because in addition to the legal problems of liability in cases of private enterprises on school grounds, the administration did not want to have to deal with kashruth problems. The school feels a responsibility to insure the kashruth of food sold on school grounds, and despite Baum's offer to obtain a S.O.Y. hashgacha, the administration did not wish to enter the hashgacha business.

by David Imlicht

Have you ever surveyed the skyline of YU's Main Campus? Possibly you've noticed the relative heights of the two structures along 185th St. and instead of feeling a sense of pride in your school's facilities, you just might be bothered by a perplexing question. "How can it be that the Mendel Gottesman Library building is so much taller than First Hall?" "After all," you wonder, "doesn't each building contain five stories?" Ah, but therein lies the fallacy. It may be true that the library's height advantage is mostly because of its higher ceilings and its intermediate floors (i.e. 2A, 3A, 5A), but it is not true that it has five floors. Let me introduce you to Floor Number 6.

Because of the peculiar design of the building, the sixth floor is accessible via the staff elevator only.

But what do they keep up in that sixth floor? Why haven't I heard of it before?"

Glad you asked.

The mystery surrounding the floor's existence is due in large part to its obscure contents: the Yeshiva University Archives. Although few students know or care, the archives can be a vital resource. It contains several types of records, such as minutes and resolutions, receipts and remittances, letters and telegrams, publications and pamphlets, files and photographs - you name it. All of them document the day-to-day operations of a particular Jewish organization, but more than that, they tell modern Jewish history.

Although much of its material had been in the possession of Yeshiva University for many years, the archives is a department which has been rejuvenated only recently. In August 1984, as a result of a generous donation by the Jesselson family, Dr. Roger Kohn was hired as a full-time archivist. As described by Mrs. Pearl Berger, Dean of Libraries, Dr. Kohn's initial task was a formidable one. He was

Library Archives Rejuvenated

faced with "a room that looked like an obstacle course, with boxes all over the floor, papers falling out of boxes..." You get the picture. Within three months, the archivist not only had everything back on shelves, but he also had a complete list of what collections there were.

However, this was only the beginning. The real job of the archivist is to process the vast amount of material and make it more accessible to the researcher. For the larger collections, this means compiling an inventory. An

questionnaire filled out by various Yeshivot which, in order to receive assistance from the CRC, provided information about its students, teachers, curriculum, etc. Collection of the records of two other organizations are more closely related to the Holocaust. The Vaad Haatzala organization worked to rescue Jews from Europe during and after World War II, and it lobbied the U.S. government for assistance. During 1943 and 1944, the Vaad was one of the first to alert the State Department of the

ing to interview the people who were involved in relief efforts during World War II. Their recollections are recorded on tape, and these "oral histories" are becoming the newest collections of the archives. You can use the archives by calling Dr. Kohn at 960-5451, in advance so he can prepare the material for you and bring it down to the 4th floor where you can work under supervision. He and Dean Berger both encourage students at Yeshiva and Stern College to investigate these resources. While they recognize that perhaps not all students possess the skills for working with those documents, many do, and should take advantage.

The archives must be used in this way because of the special nature of the material. But the archives is only one of the Special Collections at the Mendel Gottesman Library. The library also possesses an extensive collection of Rare Books and Manuscripts, located in a glass enclosed room on the 4th floor. The collection numbers 7000-8000 books and 900-1000 manuscripts.

Because one of the major criteria for the rarity of a book is its age, Yeshiva University's forty incunabula are of prime significance (and monetary value). The term incunabula refers to those books printed between the advent of movable type in the mid-1400's until the year 1500. By all estimates, fewer than 200 Hebrew titles were printed during this time, making YU's collection of 29 separate incunabula titles quite impressive.

However, a book need not be 500 years old in order for it to be categorized as rare. Dean Berger gave, as an example, a shas printed as recently as the 1940's which is

in the Rare Book room. What makes it special is that it was printed in that world famous center of Jewry-Shanghai, China-by the members of the yeshiva community who escaped the war.

Manuscripts depend on age for their distinctiveness even less than books do. Most of the manuscripts in the library's collection are from the 19th or 20th century. Some provide demographical information about members of a particular community - circumcisions in Mohel books, deaths in Yahrzeit books, etc. Others are more scholarly, such as *chidushe Torah* on responsa. Most offer unique information in that they have never been printed. But even if a book has been published, an original manuscript is still quite useful, in that it may have slightly different wording *Girsa* than the printed edition.

Special measures are taken to preserve the paper in each of the Special Collections. In the archives, the records are placed within acid-free folders which are set inside acid-free boxes which are generally 10x12x5 inches. Manuscripts are also stored in acid-free boxes, but these boxes are custom made to fit the size of the manuscript. Many of the rare books have been rebound, but surprisingly many others are still in good shape in their original covers and pages. This is due to the better quality of paper that was used in centuries past. The Library has received a state grant to help pay for the cost of preserving its material. Finally, another financial matter, Dean Berger assures me that no money is diverted to the Special Collections from the general collection, which is used much more heavily by students. Every archival collection, rare book, and manuscript has either been given to the Library as a gift, or bought with money which was donated specifically for the Special Collection.

"The mystery surrounding the floor's existence is due in large part to its obscure contents.."

inventory to the records of the Central Relief Committee, for example, lists, on page 41, that Folder 11 of Box 14 contains "Correspondance with various charitable institutions in Palestine seeking funds" (includes receipts). Barbara Martin, Aliza Zinberg, and Dr. Kohn, who have collaborated in compiling each of these inventories, have also included a few pages of organizational history, along with a "Scope and Content Note" which explains how the collection has been divided.

Many of the collections in the archives fall into the broad category of "Holocaust Studies." The aforementioned "Records of the Central Relief Committee" is valuable for the information it provides about pre-World War II Jewry in Europe, Palestine, and America. It includes letters from Rav Kook and several other prominent rabbis, along with

atrocities taking place in Nazi Europe. David Wyman has written a book called "The Abandonment of the Jews" based on the Vaad Hatzala files about the Roosevelt administration's reaction or non-reaction to these early reports of genocide. Rescue Children Inc., an offshoot of Vaad Hatzala, set up centers in France, Belgium, Sweden, and Germany to maintain the children made homeless by the war and find them new or "adopted" families. Most of the Rescue Children collection consists of the biographical files and photographs of the many children that were sheltered. Recently, the usefulness of this collection was illustrated. A woman, now in her 40's, was able to identify herself as the girl in one of these pictures.

In order to augment the records of these two organizations, the archives staff is now actively seek-

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Working With Those Who Need Work

by Jon Zatzner

There are not many who could find a common denominator among a Sephardic family in Arad, a Reform Zionist, a young drug abuser from the streets of Tel Aviv, and a Satmarer family from Geulah, except for the fact that they all reside in Israel. Not many, but some did.

The February issue of the Commentator raised the topic of alms-seekers on campus. The condition is far more widespread than just the few blocks around YU, but in the States it is still a rarity to see tens of paupers in one locality. However, in the country that many of us hope to one day call our home, it is a real crisis, and still understated since many cannot bring themselves to walk the streets begging for pennies.

The above-mentioned people all share one trait; destitution. An organization called Yad Ezra has found that denominator, and attempts to alleviate the problem. It does this on a major scale, currently caring for approximately 12,000 families throughout Israel, which otherwise would live below starvation levels. One of its greatest achievements occurred when the town of Emanuel fell into bankruptcy: A wealthy British philanthropist washed his hands of a massive embezzlement of his monies, and 400 families found themselves homeless and penniless. Yad Ezra stepped in and provided housing, food, medical and social care at 50% of cost or free.

Its intent is not to blindly disperse alms to the poor, but rather to preserve dignity and to take advantage of natural abilities. Even

at the start of operations, 40 years ago, this was a key issue. The founder, Rabbi Frank, delivered necessary groceries from his shop to families, who could not afford to buy any, late at night. That was his way of keeping anonymity and not insulting any of the recipients. Even today, where the scale is larger and the pressure greater, deliveries are still made privately at night to avoid embarrassment. Taking this idea further, Yad Ezra also provides jobs to many of the needy, building supply centers or homes for the benefit of others in need, in order to make the principle of helping others to help themselves a workable ideal. It has been found that by showing others how to pass on their skills, those students cum teachers find new strength from a sense of usefulness. Thus the goal of Yad Ezra is to

keep these people off State support (which is why the organization refuses government funding) and to ultimately make them self-supporting.

However, people cannot go out to work when there are children at home, some with disabilities, or when they have trouble finding a home. Yad Ezra has therefore established eleven day-care centers, directed by former beneficiaries of the organization and motivated volunteers; and a yeshiva for beginners which currently has 84 boys attending. It also runs homes for the aged and hospitals, and is now building a hospice of 104 beds. For the mentally disabled, there are a series of institutions and occupational therapists helping them to feel useful by manufacturing items for sale.

Even with these problems aside,

many people find that when they pay for state medical aid, they deprive themselves of money for food, so Yad Ezra has enlisted the aid of many medical volunteers in a country where very few volunteer after their army experiences - to give free dental and medical clinics. The waiting list is now six months long with 14,000 people treated.

The list continues: there are 15 surplus distribution centers throughout Israel, each stocked with food donated by farmers that would otherwise go to waste, with reductions of anywhere from 50% to 100% of the cost price. Financial aid for brides, goes so far as to provide the hall and food free of charge with housing aid, if required. The *Kimcha De'Pischa* provided for 5,620 families last year, staying open during the holidays to provide for any emergencies. Still there is more.

However, just as staggering as the achievements are the type of people who volunteer assistance. Mr. Elihu Stone, a successful lawyer from the Boston area, was very impressed with the progress being made. Returning to Boston from a visit to Israel, he volunteered a year of his time to the organization in order to establish better publicity, and to orchestrate fund-raising activities. He's had to accomplish all this without the benefit of a budget.

Even with all the aforementioned ingredients, what is it that separates Yad Ezra from all other funds of its genre? Why does it win accolades from religious and unreligious alike? It is unusual in the scope and breadth of its undertakings, building self-sufficient towns from their own resources, giving to all in the truest meaning of Tzedaka - "To your brother" regardless of religiosity or politics - without judging. It does extract unusual motivation from its volunteers, but these are just exaggerations of similar movements.

Perhaps the most unique fact is the method in which a person's dignity is kept intact while whatever help needed is given. People are treated as individuals and not just numbers on a computer screen, and by helping others, the former beneficiaries find that they, too, gain immensely. Much of Yad Ezra's support is for emotional as well as fiscal problems, for without changing a person's attitude to his surroundings, that individual will never change.

Many students have noticed the proliferation of charity-representatives on campus, with the proximity of Shavuot, and question their authenticity. This is an organization which forwards every penny to the poor and for use by them. For all interested in seeing the operations or just helping, contact Eli Stone, (617) 232 9624; or write to, 117 Gardner Rd, Brookline, MA. 01246.

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Exposure Equals Enlightenment

by Joshua Fruchtman

The issue of academic freedom has generated intense debate within Yeshiva University circles. Academic freedom ensures the right of teachers and students to discuss any issue and explore any field without penalty or interference from school officials. The main purpose is to stimulate healthy debate and allow students to arrive at their own conclusions, unfettered by external values or regulations.

Academic freedom has practical significance. A few years ago several students asked the administration to permit Clovis Maksoud, a U.N. observer from the Arab League and strong supporter of the PLO, to speak on campus. The administration refused and justified their response as follows: permission would recognize the legitimacy of the PLO which continues to deny Israel's existence. The logic may be correct, but let's hypothesize. Suppose the speaker had been a non-PLO, moderate Palestinian? Or a Christian Fundamentalist? Or a Soviet Diplomat? Academic freedom would dictate an affirmative response and allow the speaker to address the student body.

Academic freedom could benefit YU in many ways. Academic freedom enables students to grapple with doubts, form opinions and act responsibly on their conclusions. As the final report on Academic Freedom submitted by the Yeshiva College Ad Hoc Committee on Academic Freedom states, "We cannot afford to postpone students' maturity until their post-graduate years. By the time they graduate, they should be making up their own minds, exercising their own discretion, supporting what they themselves believe in, etc."

A second reality is that most YU graduates will inevitably

interact with the outside world. Whether they become doctors, lawyers or rabbis, students will deal with people who differ from them in values and beliefs. Jews must shed the ghetto mentality. Ignorance of or insensitivity towards non-Jewish viewpoints can only hinder communication and cooperation between Jews and other groups. How effectively can a Jewish leader defend his constituents if he can't relate to or be sensitive to the concerns of non-Jews. The Final Report addresses this point when it states, "Our students also need to be exposed to heterogeneous personalities, ethnic groups and viewpoints." Such exposure will not endanger the overwhelmingly Jewish atmosphere at YU, but rather open us up a little to the concerns of other interests.

Many accuse YU students of being narrow minded. Unfortunately the plethora of "How to be Jewish and a Successful Accountant"-type lectures may contribute to such a reality. If socially unaware then how can we expect them to recognize the implications to Jewry of future trends and events? How many students can account for the vast following of Christian plight of Midwestern farmers? Who can explain the intricacies of Middle East policies? All these events and trends bear significance for American Jewry and yet none of them have been addressed, perhaps because students feel they would be rebuffed.

The counterargument condemning academic freedom puts little faith in the student. Opponents of open forums presuppose a typically weak and pathetically unstable YU student. On the contrary, most YU students should be able to hold firm to their beliefs, and even argue persuasively against an

opponent, when confronted with a controversial or radical position. I would personally relish the opportunity to debate the future of Judea and Samaria with a politically moderate Palestinian. I have done research on the topic and that is the key word - research. YU trains highly intelligent and analytical students who, with a little research, could debate skillfully on any topic without compromising their religious commitments. As the Final Report states, "We are confident that, when challenged to exercise responsibility, our students will nearly always make the right decisions, since they are a group of highly serious young people."

Opponents of academic freedom also demand that students adhere to a strict guideline of religious behavior. This contradicts YU's standing as "a secular, non-sectarian university" which prohibits "imposing any form of religious orthodoxy on any member of the university." Moreover, such regulation often produces the opposite of the intended effect. "Illegal" does not diminish "curious". In fact, intellectual exploration may even strengthen religious commitment. Students who grapple with their doubts, expose themselves to opposing viewpoints and confront sensitive issues often emerge with an increased understanding of their beliefs.

Academic freedom will not compromise Jewish values, but rather strengthen them as students confront their doubts and verbalize the rationale for their beliefs. Students will also sensitize themselves to events whose comprehension is vital to the survival of American Jewry. Academic freedom will open student's minds, lack of it can only close doors.

ACADEMIC Implications and

by Jeff Paky

The Yeshiva College Faculty has taken a giant step toward the procurement of academic freedom at Yeshiva University by approving a five-point policy granting academic freedom and free speech to all university constituents. The faculty has submitted the plan to President Norman Lamm urging him to "adopt, implement and promulgate" the resolutions as official university policy.

The five resolutions are the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee on Academic Freedom and were originally presented to the faculty last May in a 48 page report entitled "Protecting Academic Freedom and Freedom of Speech: A Position Paper and Recommendations". Although seeking faculty approval on the recommendations, the Ad Hoc Committee (which included Dr. Anthony Beukas, Dr. Blanche Blank, Rabbi Shalom Carmy, Dr. Michael Hecht and Dr. Will Lee) withheld the position paper because the authors desired an expedient faculty response, and the support of those faculty members who might have agreed with the recommendations despite differences on some areas of the authors' rationale.

paper also describes other cases of illegal expression such as: "malicious defamation of character and creating a 'clear and present danger' of harming others."

The second resolution asks University officials to "endorse and protect the responsible self-government of all the university's individuals, groups and organizations." The Ad Hoc Committee members emphasize the importance of "fostering the development of the students. To develop, students need to learn to make sensitive decisions. The only way is to make such decisions, not to be told how to make them." Rabbi Carmy, Professor of Bible, stresses that although students should be encouraged to make their own decisions, the importance of consulting with others should not be overlooked. "The real motto of YU could very well be: Who is wise? He who learns from every human being." The position paper echoes this idea: "Clearly, the work of self-government entails deliberation and consultation within one's group, within the larger community and sometimes outside it, as needs arise."

The third point of the policy encourages all members of the university to "publicize the distinc-

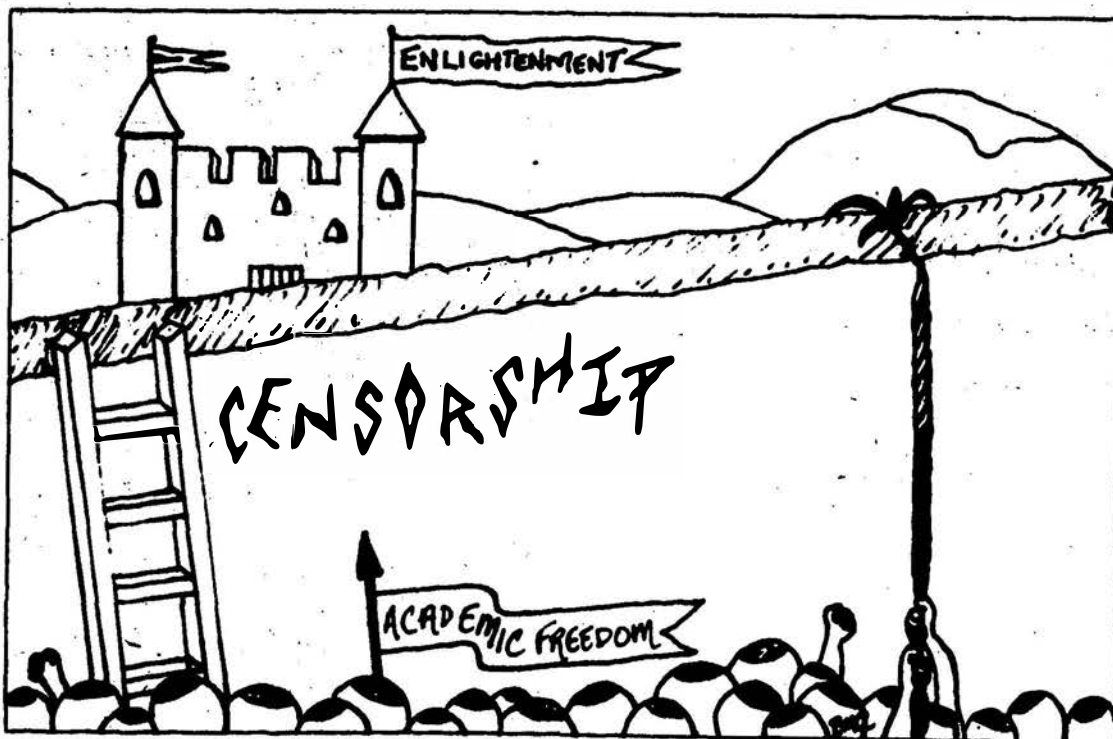
"To develop, students need to learn to make sensitive decisions."

The first provision calls on the university to "afford academic freedom and freedom of speech the strongest possible protection accordant with American Law". Despite the seeming bulwark of constitutional protection, the authors of the position paper emphasize that American Law can, in certain cases, constrain academic freedom and free speech. As an example Dr. Hecht, Associate Dean of Yeshiva College and a Professor of Constitutional Law, points to the supreme court decision in *Miller v. California* (1973) "In evaluating obscenity cases first amendment protection is not afforded to material which affronts contemporary community standards. The appropriate community standard in Yeshiva University's situation is that of the Centrist Orthodox Jewish Community." The position

tion between the free expression of ideas and the endorsement of those ideas." The Committee firmly states in the report: "To grant space and time for a speaker or other event is not to convey a stamp of moral, intellectual, emotional or spiritual approval but rather to help prevent a sound, firsthand basis for either approval or disapproval of the speaker's ideas and practices."

Dr. Israel Miller, Senior Vice President of Yeshiva University, feels that no disclaimer, whether implicit or explicit, precludes the legitimization intrinsically afforded to anyone granted a speaking platform. "Once a person is invited to speak, he is in many respects, legitimized," he said.

The fourth recommendation calls on members of the university community to "sensitize them-



Academic freedom open students' minds, lack of it can only close doors."

FREEDOM

Interpretations

selves to both the unique mission of Yeshiva University and to the traditional ideals of liberal education and academic freedom." This provision, the underlying thesis of the five-point policy, affirms that YU's nature as an institution geared to promote strict religious observance does not lie counter to the traditional ideals of free expression and academic freedom.

As Dr. Lee comments, "Sensitivity to Orthodox Jewish values certainly restricts the policy in some respects," but the very dictum of Torah Umada by which YU operates involves the reconciliation of the religious with the secular. It is thus not hypocritical to embrace two sets of ideals which can influence one another.

Dr. Miller stresses the importance of this recommendation by pointing out that every major university as part of its official policy on academic freedom incorporates the other resolutions in some form, but only YU has extra provision to stress its unique educational mission. He recounts that teachers throughout the years have assiduously themselves to YU's ideals in an effort to be integrated into the university community. Dr. Miller believes students as well will continue to respect YU ideals and make responsible and judicious decisions.

The final provision of the memorandum states that "no individual, individuals, or group within the university shall engage in any act of censorship such as the cancellation of a university event or activity, with the exception of the President, in the unusual case of a clear and present danger to the university." This recommendation, conventionally guaranteeing the President the ultimate right of veto has made some students wary of the sincerity of the policy. Jerry Barbalatt, President of the Yeshiva College Student Council believes that in the wake of any controversial activity, some disapproving faction of the university will request the President's intervention and he will take action more often than necessary. "As long as someone has veto power, the administration will use this escape hatch to further its viewpoint."

David Feldan, President of the Joseph Dunner Political Science Society, feels the fifth resolution is

entirely unnecessary. "If any activity constitutes a clear and present danger, student groups will have the intelligence to not sponsor it." Dr. Lee counters that students are not infallible; hence the need for some authority.

In submitting the five-point plan to the University's Governing Board without the painstaking explanations of the 48 - page position paper, the Ad Hoc Committee risks the possibility of the Board reinterpreting the provisions. For example, there is some debate as to the exact ramifications of the fifth resolution. Norman Rosenfeld, Dean of Yeshiva College said that although the resolution clearly prohibits CANCELLATION of an event, "NON-SCHEDULING of events for any reason by gentle persuasion or other methods does not strictly fall under the terms of the document." Authors of the position paper deny any such distinction.

"The very dictum of Torah Umada... involves reconciliation"

The type of events which the plan addresses is also under question. Dr. Efram Nullman, Associate Dean of Students, when shown the plan, said he was uncertain to what extent, if any, the plan would affect his role as an adviser to the planning of social events. Dr. Hecht, however, claims that social events do not come under the category of academic freedom and thus, certain controversial social activities are not granted DE FACTO approval of the plan. "There is no inconsistency to be a staunch supporter of academic freedom and free speech and to feel that events such as a toga party are inappropriate at Yeshiva College."

Dr. Lee is hesitant about making a blanket statement regarding social events, noting that some events may center around an educational theme and should thus be treated as "academic" events. He readily admits, however, that in some cases only a thin, grey line lies between those activities deemed social and those deemed academic.

"The implications of academic freedom are not as exciting as the word freedom might connote."

FREEDOM: A Cause for Concern?

by Michael Ungar

Academic freedom has recently surfaced as an issue of vital concern to Yeshiva University's faculty, administration and student body. Several teachers are trying to convince YU's administration to implement academic freedom as a school policy. The term "academic freedom" may initially sound exciting. After all, we are so confined to the strict guidelines of Judaism that freedom in any context sounds appealing. Unfortunately, the implications of academic freedom are not as exciting as the word "freedom" might connote.

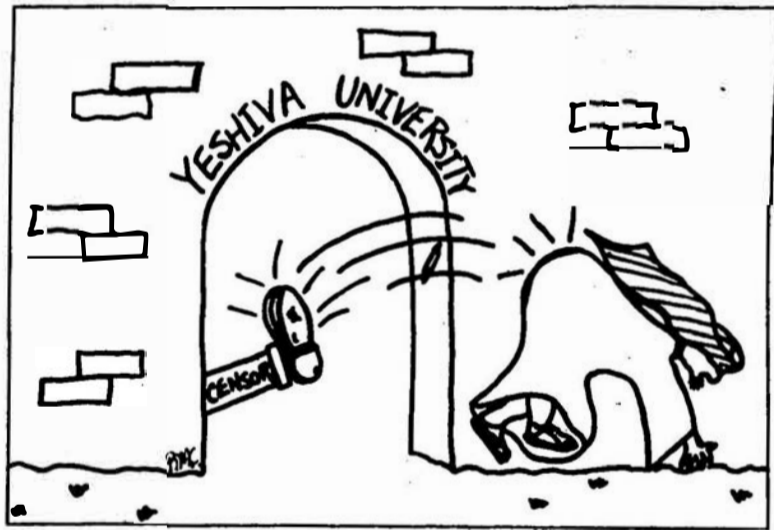
Advocates of academic freedom believe that a student cannot reach his or her highest level of educational potential without being exposed to a plethora of secular ideologies. The crucial point is to allow the student to decide for himself whether an opinion or idea is to be accepted or rejected. This policy is enforced at most secular institutions, permitting the students to debate and explore a wide spectrum of issues and ideas. This includes the license to invite controversial speakers to lecture on campus. The question is how can academic freedom be properly integrated into Yeshiva University's dual program?

students would not be able to have total freedom. He added, that it is not up to the discretion of the students to decide what is right from a Jewish point of view. Rabbi Blau believes that a majority of the issues involved will disturb the sensitive Jewish culture that exists at YU. A few of the implications may even contradict halacha.

We are constantly constrained by the strict guidelines defined by our religion. These constraints must encompass every aspect of our lives including our secular studies. Clearly it is evident that inviting a terrorist on campus to speak would be contradictory to our Jewish values. Jewish values advocate peace, not homicidal violence. Even a paper which is published by a YU club and contains words that do not comply with Jewish values must be discontinued. As long as this institution integrates both secular and religious studies the students will face many conflicts. The important thing to remember is that our religious values, the essence of our lives, must not be compromised. We should all hope that in the YU tradition of providing a superior education it will adapt academic freedom, but only in accordance with Jewish guidelines.

The teachers wanting to implement this type of freedom have compiled a document which outlines the main issues. Paraphrasing, this document says that the school shall not interfere in any student event, activity or club unless it physically endangers the students. The petition urges YU to adopt this new policy in view of its declared mission of teaching traditional values while at the same time providing a superior secular education.

In a recent Commentator interview various faculty members expressed their opinions on the subject. Rabbi Bronsiegel, Rosh Yeshiva of YU said that if there is ever a conflict between the two missions of YU there should be no question that the mission dealing with traditional Judaism should take precedence. He realizes the importance of academic freedom, but YU, as a religious institution must abide by strict guidelines. He advocates introducing freedom as long as the University sees no physical or spiritual danger to the students. Rabbi Blau, *Mashgiach Ruchani* at YU, responded that he saw complete academic freedom at YU as a contradiction. He further explained that as long as YU had the name of a yeshiva the



Advisor or Censor?

by Etle Forman

Recently, Dr. Israel Miller preopposed that a faculty member accompany the Yeshiva College delegation to next year's Harvard Model United Nations. The school has been sending an unaccompanied student delegation to the Model U.N. for over fifteen years, and Dr. Miller's proposal has become a controversial issue among the faculty and the students.

Many students who attended this year's Model U.N. feel that sending a chaperone to supervise college students is unnecessary and won't accomplish anything. They believe that by sending a chaperone, the administration will be embarrassing itself and the students profusely. The only 'chaperone' present at this year's event was from West Point.

Dr. Ruth Bevan, faculty advisor to the Joseph P. Dunner

Political Science Society, hopes to achieve a compromise between the administration and the students. She feels that a faculty member accompanying the students could be a valuable asset to Yeshiva's delegation. Dr. Bevan hopes that the Model U.N. will become a "serious academic pursuit where YU students can learn and contribute, because they do have a lot to contribute."

A number of things must change for Dr. Bevan's vision to be fulfilled. She believes that selection proceedings should begin as early as September or October and that faculty members must become more involved in preparing the students for the Model U.N. Then a faculty member can be sent with the students, solely in an advisory role. In this way, Dr. Bevan hopes to change the

Model U.N. from a weekend vacation to an academic exercise.

Most students feel that Dr. Bevan's idea is a good one and that a faculty advisor will enhance Yeshiva college's reputation at the Model U.N. Some students, however, feel that even a faculty advisor is unnecessary. David Feldan, president of the Poli-Sci Society, feels that Yeshiva students in the past have been well prepared and have performed admirably at the Model U.N. The only schools which send advisors are those which offer credit to its students who participate. Since Y.U. sends students majoring in a variety of subjects, not just political science, it is not feasible to offer credit to its representatives. For these reasons, Mr. Feldman is opposed to sending along a faculty advisor.



More Than Not Forgetting

by Jon Katzner

On Sunday, April 26, an annual memorial dawned and set. For many it was no more than a break of stride, a moment of meditation interrupting a busy day. For some it was not even that.

This day has been given the name of Yom Hashoah and occurs one week before Soldiers' Memorial Day and Yom Haatzmaut. It is one day the State of Israel appointed as a unique remembrance of the holocaust of European Jewry; for to commemorate their deaths every day would consume us, but to ignore the era of Auschwitz would be killing them a second time. Yet as that era sinks below the horizon, time seems truly to cure all pain, indeed, the Christians remember the death of one Jew, 2000 years ago, with more clarity than we can recall the extermination of 6 million forty years ago!

Yet how are we to commemorate, to immortalize, them? We are no longer the generation of survivors who could choose their reaction without reproach: To choose belief or disbelief in God, for their questions are unanswerable; they could bear witness, like Elie Wiesel or Primo Levi, or they could remain silent; they could hate or find that they had, not hate, but contempt. Not for us that luxury.

Our quandary is that for us to act as witness when they are silent is insensitive to the living, but to remain silent is insensitive to the dead.

Most survivors who are persuaded to speak tell of three reactions: Crying, then inquiry, then silence. It was not hard to mourn when one's entire family had been destroyed; to scream in the fury and anguish of absolute loss: Never again! How could one ever forgive — one could never forget!

Then arose the consuming need to discover how it had been allowed to happen. The Germans were a very thorough people, and left documents describing the whole process leading to and including the 'Final Solution'. The Evis conferences and the lack of concern of the 'Big Three' (Stalin, Churchill, Roosevelt) are also well documented, as is the latent anti-Semitism throughout the world: Pitifully claiming that 20, 000 Jewish orphans would present an unbearable strain on the American economy and thus limit "the pursuit of happiness".

Then arose the reaction of silence. The rest of the world used

it to avoid judging, to truly lay the guilt at every door. The Germans use it to continue the holocaust and claim it was not their fault, that the Allies started the war and circumstance dictated that they act as G-d's hand, and punish Israel.

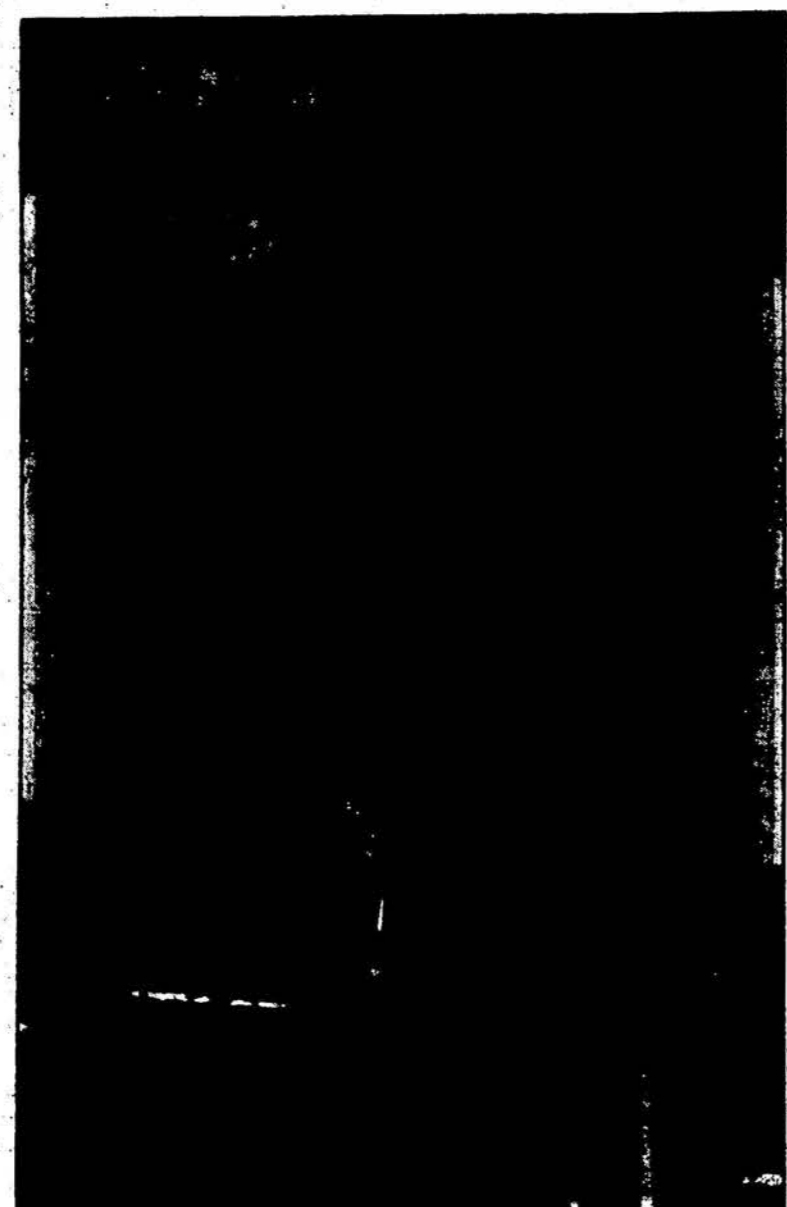
The Jews use it because words are insufficient. They cannot describe the horror and they cannot convey the agony of doubts that has the survivor wondering: "Was it somehow my fault?"

Now the time has come to change that reaction of silence "while all the world wondered." The inquiry is by now an open and easily navigable state and most facts are well known to us. We have also seen the fury — so foreign to Jewish nature — carve out a state and then burn itself out. There is only pity and contempt left. Too, the silence that served as a rebuttal to the world from the survivors, is no longer adequate for the survivors' son.

It is time to appraise just how the holocaust effects each one of us. Although all will react in a different way, it is time for the questions to be honestly and thoughtfully raised by each of us — for they are always the same. Not how the holocaust happened — we all know that; rather the religious effects of its happening, and for that question there are a myriad of answers and also no answers.

When this question is raised by all, to try to understand exactly what it is to be a Jew, in any genre; when Jews try to understand, then we can continue as witnesses to an engulfing event. It is inadequate and inexcusable to simply say "I believe in God" when so many saw Him absent and lost faith; to say "I do not believe" when so many kept their faith and sang "Ani Maamim" to their deaths — is obscene. The past must be included and never forgotten. Only by our remembrance being so fundamental can the world never be allowed to forget, or worse, deny.

Here at YU, most people did not forget, as the standing-room only event in Belfer demonstrated, in an emotional evening featuring an address by Dr. Schmelzert, a slide show, and excerpts from Wiesel's book 'One Generation After'. Perhaps the most effective statement of that event was the complete absence of the usual gaiety as students somberly filed out at the end. For as long as we actively remember, it will never happen again.



by Behnam Deyanem

On Yom HaAtzmaut, Israel Independence Day, the Jewish people finally regained internationally recognized title to the Land of our Ancestors. Each year Israelis throughout the country celebrate. Each year, thousands of miles away across the Atlantic Ocean in the life of Yeshiva has not wavered. There is also celebration. Yeshiva University is the only university outside Israel to observe Yom HaAtzmaut as a "religious, national observance" and holiday on the academic calendar, according to Dr. Israel Miller, Senior Vice-President of Yeshiva University. Throughout Dr. Miller's association with Yeshiva, he believes the student body has maintained an attachment to the Jewish state stronger than that of any similar group of contemporaries at other American institutions.

He attributes this affection to students' religious fervor and to the frequency of a year's study in Israeli yeshivot and colleges. While particulars of observance have varied, depending upon the quality of student leadership and prevailing religious preference, Yom HaAtzmaut's prominence in the life of Yeshiva has not wavered.

Yet how do the students themselves consider Yom HaAtzmaut at Yeshiva University? Marc Mendelson, one of four co-chairpersons of the Mall Festival, has encountered a wide spectrum of response among the student body, ranging from disapproval to genuine emotion. Mr. Mendelson believes that the Festival, in addition to serving as a thanksgiving for Israeli independence, offers a welcome opportunity to "celebrate the beautification of the mall" and

only regrets the constrictions of space that preclude a more approximate simulation of Israeli atmosphere. Mr. Mendelson also notes the large number of students who seem to view the event as just another chance for fun and merriment and not with genuine emotion. Dr. Miller also mentions this phenomenon, explaining that today's generation does not recall a world without a state of Israel and that it therefore becomes necessary to create a spirit of celebration.

One segment of the YU community, unique among the rest in its perception of Yom HaAtzmaut and its impact on Yeshiva, are those who have served in the Israeli armed forces. Having completely immersed themselves in the most pervasive institution of Israeli society, they now find themselves here, in America, at a time of

by Steven Glicksman

On Monday afternoon, May 4, six hundred students and faculty crowded into the Belfer Hall commons to take part in a Yom Haatzmaut fair. The fair, originally planned as a street fair to be held in the pedestrian mall, was forced inside due to bad weather, but the rain could not dampen the excitement of the event. Inside, participants were able to enjoy games, dancing, refreshments, and music, which was performed by the Kof Rom Orchestra, a band of Yeshiva College students.

Once inside, participants also took advantage of booths set up by Bar Ilan University and the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry. They were also granted the opportunity to meet Jewish Guide author Oscar Israelowitz. The SSSJ also sponsored a balloon launch to accentuate the cause of Soviet Jewry. Despite the rain the launch was a success in both raising money and consciousness.

Following the fair was the much touted concert featuring Marc Wiener and Yoel Sharabi. After Mr. Wiener's inter-

A Time of War and a Time of Peace



photo by Mike Cohen

commemoration and jubilation.

Perhaps the one theme underlying all of these students' attitudes is the lament that Yom HaAtzmaut, ideally an occasion for great joy among Jews everywhere, often acts as a walloping of divisiveness. To Reuben Levine, a Y.P. sophomore who served nine months in the army, some of them in Lebanon, Yom HaAtzmaut brings him more sadness than happiness in the sense that it fails to live up to his expectations. Mr. Levine feels that every Jew should celebrate Yom HaAtzmaut, whether he believes in *Medinat Yisrael* or not. The reasons for this lie in one's devotion to *Eretz Yisrael* and in the recognition that the existence of the current Jewish government affords us a refuge in times of trouble as well as access to our Holy Land in order to visit or study in yeshivot at our leisure.

While degrees of intensity among army veterans varies, all agree that Yom HaAtzmaut holds special meaning for them. Lenny Steinbach, Y.P. sophomore, considers it more important to him than is American Independence Day, though he remains unconvinced as to the value and purpose of a festival in America. Even those YU students who do spend a year in a yeshiva in Israel tend not to gain a strong appreciation or understanding of the country unless they've studied at a school of the Hesder persuasion rather than one composed almost entirely of Americans, Mr. Steinbach said.

One final concern raised by Mr. Michael Cohen, veteran of three years' service, involves what he perceives as the forgotten memoirium, Yom HaZikaron, a day of remembrance for all of the partisans, immigrants, and soldiers

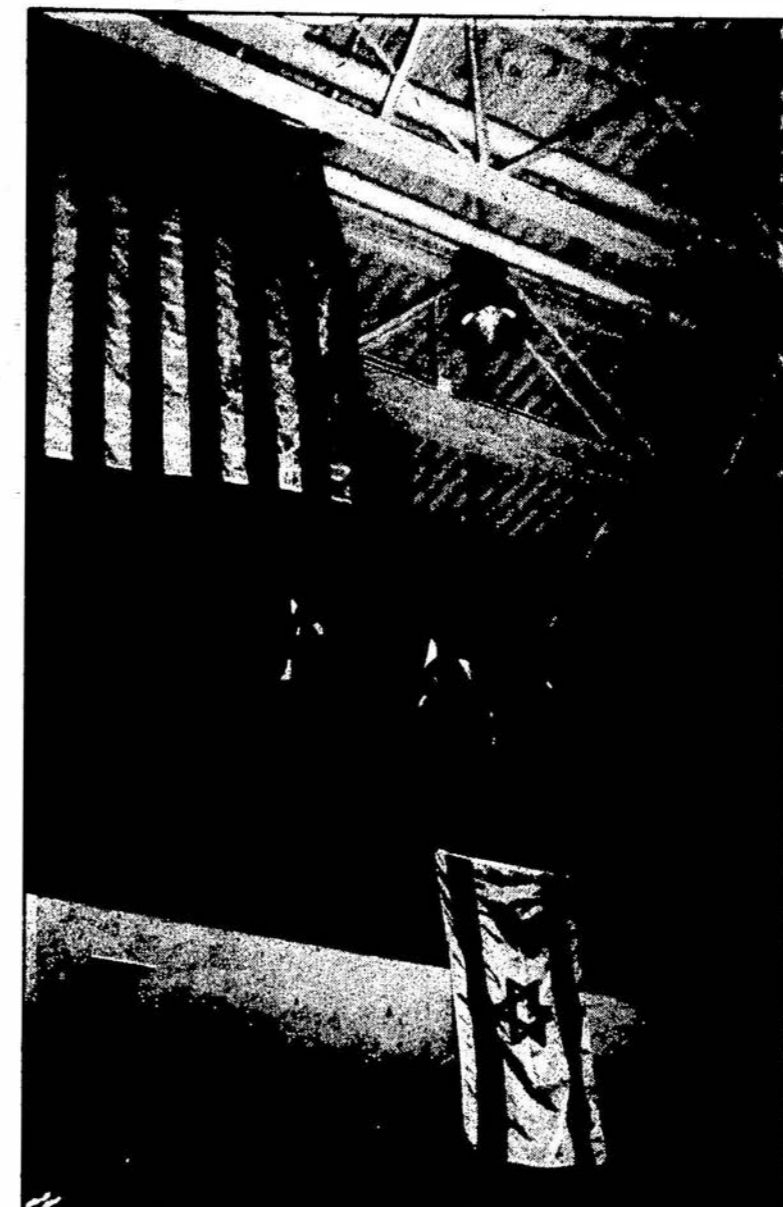


photo by Mike Cohen

who have died preserving Israel's existence. In Israel, Mr. Cohen points out, the two days are coupled, with a day of solemnity running into a day of celebration.

Yom HaZikaron does not appear on the official Y.U. calendar of events, however, though the student councils of IBC, SOY, and Y.C., have planned special observances.

Much doubt does exist as to whether any event or program in honor of Yom HaAtzmaut can adequately recreate the atmosphere of *Eretz Yisrael*. However, in the words of Dr. Israel Miller, it does serve to reflect the students' emotional attachment to our Land and, in that sense at least, Yeshiva University "has accomplished that part of its mission."

...and Concert

escalated and Sharabi was literally swept off his feet to dance with the students in a half-hour medley of songs. This excitement never abated until the end of the show which finished with the ever-moving "Al Kol Eileh", and the "Hatikva".

The concert was arranged by the IBC Student Council, led by Steven Schiff and Gary Berger and was a testimony to the hard work ethic. Much effort went into it and, except for a few hitches, it could not have been better according to the general consensus of opinion. Michael Chill, co-chairman

with Marc Mendelson of the fair, stated, "The fair was very successful, it shows that the students can run a program that is both educational and enjoyable. Both events fulfilled the spirit of the day... to its fullest extent."

According to Dr. Nulman, "the fair is the hardest Student council event to run. If you can do that, you can do anything." Thanks to the diligence of the Council, and the hard work and long hours put in by its chairpeople, the fair and the concert overcame their obstacles to become successes.

As Jews we have wandered in exile to the corners of the world and have forgotten who we are and where we are from. We have grown comfortable with foreign languages and values and have learned to call ourselves by the names of the nations who host us. We even go to synagogue and recite a blessing for the Israeli army, yet we feel distanced from its soldiers as though they are foreigners. Their sacrifice has been and continues to be for us, because we are one nation; All from the same village. Never Forget!

How many of us remembered that our memorial day was observed just before Israel



We Are From The Same Village

by David Bogner

It is eight o'clock in the morning in the center of Jerusalem, and the intersection of King George and Jaffa is choked with traffic. The sidewalks are awash with the morningtide of humanity and all seem to be carried with the momentum; unstoppable. Suddenly the wail of an air-raid siren rises to be joined by others from all points of the compass. There is no screech of tires or headlong dash for the shelters; for the moment the lack of war still exists, but something has changed. Movement has ceased and all the occupants of the cars and taxis are standing in the street. The passengers on the stilled busses stand in silence and all of the shop keepers hold a quiet vigil in their doorways.

This scene is taking place in every corner of the country from the smallest Kibbutz to Tel Aviv. The personal bereavement which every Israeli feels for a fallen family member or friend has, for a moment, become a shared burden, a national responsibility. It is Yom HaZikaron. The memorial day for those who have fallen in Israel's wars.

The first time I witnessed this moment of silent anguish I cried. Not because I had lost a companion or sibling in battle, but because I had never before been made to feel the conflict between self-preservation and national survival which every Israeli must face.

We who live in the exile have forgotten much of what it means to belong to a nation. Our allegiance goes from one country to the next and from Jewish ideals to those of the nations among whom we dwell. And we forget. We have become so familiar with our new 'mother tongue', English, that we don't even realize that "memorial day" means to remember, the opposite of forgetfulness. Here in the United States there exists a memorial day. The yearly tradition was begun as a way to remember the men who died in the First World War. But as time went by and we became comfortable with the idea of warfare on a global scale, memorial day lost its meaning. It was forgotten. Today in America memorial day is a time for picnics, parades and the opening of public swimming pools. But what of the dead?

How many of us remembered that our memorial day was observed just before Israel

Independence Day. Just as the glass is broken at a wedding to remind us of the loss of the Temple, the celebration of the Jewish homeland's establishment must be tempered with the knowledge of the price paid then and since. Yet we forgot.

I sat with myself on the day which marks the independence of Israel and cried again, partly for happiness but also because I had allowed myself, for a moment, to forget. I was reminded only after thinking about Independence Day in Jerusalem when I heard Naomi Shemer's words on remembrance: "We are both from the same village, the same height, the same forelock, the same clipped speech — what is there to say for we are from the same village."

We are from the same village, we walked through the high grass of the fields and in the evening returned to the village square — for we are from the same village.

In the orange groves and among the avenues of trees we were always in love with the same girls; but in the end we said — it doesn't matter — it all stays in the same places. We went to the same wars. We crawled among the thorns and brambles but we returned together to the village I remember, in the battle that did not end, how I suddenly saw how you were broken. And when the dawn rose among the hills I brought you back to the village. You see — we are here in the village — Almost everything has remained the same. I pass through the green fields and you lie on the other side if the fence.

And on Friday evenings, when a soft breeze passes through the black tree tops I remember you — For we are from the same village.

Never Forget!

WRITING COMPETITION

Winners, Short Story: Brian Cale, Maury Kelman

Thoughts

by Maury Kelman

He was tired of these seasonal trips back home. Nothing ever changed in his little town. He could picture Larry standing in front of his grocery store with that toothy smile, sweeping the pavement only to see it dirtied the next minute. There was Father McAuley making his rounds from home to home, intruding upon youthful privacy. And he couldn't forget fat Mrs. Oakley, always eating and always talking, producing one undesirable result after another for her listeners. He grimaced as these visions passed through his mind. In one week, it'll be over, he thought to himself, as he had thought on every other recent trip. And somehow each time, after a seemingly interminable amount of time, his homecoming would end, and he'd be on his way back to school.

It wasn't always like that. When he was younger, Peter recalled with an emerging smile coloring his gloomy face, he was everybody's favorite boy, and he clearly revelled in the attention. He had his routine every day. After school, he would stop at the candy store to spend a few minutes of enjoyable banter with Mr. Davis. From there he would go to Mrs. Wright's house for his daily chocolate sundae after briefly stopping at the barber's to say hello to Mr. Thompson. Then it was on to the garage where he stood transfixed, watching Mr. Hill overhaul an engine or replace a faulty transmission. Then Peter would scurry home, always pausing in front of his home to inhale the inviting aroma of the freshly baked chocolate chip or oatmeal cookies. Peter noticed a middle-aged man staring at him and quickly returned to reality. Yes, all that had changed after he received his scholarship to go to the "big school" in the "big city". One month there left its indelible imprint upon the naive town boy. Middlechurch now meant to him an insignificant country settlement inhabited by insignificant country people.

What made his return so painful though was his family.

Whereas his mother's baking had once filled him with happiness, he felt only disdain now for her muffins. He used to love to go fishing with his father on Sundays, but the last few times he had gone filled him only with anxiety. When Peter was growing up he would love those carefree games of basketball he played with his younger brothers; now, he would hide the basketball whenever he returned. With every visit, he would come that much closer to enunciating the gnawing set of questions which had erected an impenetrable wall between him and his parents: What is wrong with all of you? Why won't you wake up? When will you stop going through your same useless routine?

Peter was jolted from his thoughts by the movements around him. His fellow passengers began to reach for their overhead bags and quickly exited the stuffy bus. After everyone had left, Peter begrudgingly lifted himself, psychologically preparing to meet the joyous faces of his family. It wasn't that he hated his love. He was just so comfortable in his new life at college that he scorned the remembrance of his past, narrow life. For Peter, the long, stuffy bus ride paled in comparison to the atmosphere he felt engulfing him at home. There was no more delay, though; the inevitable had come, and as the bus driver wished him a good night, Peter knew that he could no longer push the reunion off.

With much effort, he forced a rebellious smile onto his face, a struggle he fought each time he met his family. Descending the steps, he could hear the excited cries of "Peter! Oh, how we've missed you, our sweet little boy" ringing in his aching ears. It would only be a moment until the flailing arms and lips began to attack his defenseless body, followed by an endless stream of questions about the food, the weather, his mattress, his bus trip, the friends he had

made, and on and on. For a moment he was tempted to turn and run back to the bus, but somehow he felt drawn forward. If only his parents knew what a sacrifice he was making in coming home! This would be the last trip for a long time, he promised himself.

He heard his family's voices and felt their hugs, but when he glanced up he could see no one. This must be some type of macabre dream, he thought, but the real surroundings convinced him otherwise. Only a few stragglers remained in the dimly lit station, silent except for the gentle purring of a single engine. Peter checked the parking lot, but the family's Plymouth Fury was not among the few remaining cars.

He checked his watch, but this only served to confuse him. He circled the station twice, growing more and more despondent with each step. As the realization began to sink in, anger began to swell within him. Where are they? How could they do this to me? His parents hadn't seen him in three months — could they have forgotten about him?

He began to grow frantic, pacing back and forth across the now deserted station while muttering curses under his breath. His parents had told him they always arrived a half hour early every time he returned home in the hope that the bus would arrive early; now they were a half-hour late. His initial anger had now been replaced by a feeling of tormenting hurt. Peter felt lost in the station, suddenly recalling the time many years ago when his father had promised to take him hunting, only to cancel the next day for some unexplained reason. He was surprised that he still carried within him that distant memory. The abandoned homecoming king sat on the curb, hands on his face, unsure what to do next.

Blaring lights jolted Peter out of his lethargy. Before he could react, his two brothers had swarmed over him, followed by his parents. "We're so sorry, son. We got a flat just around Bluenose Bend, and we had a lot of trouble changing it." "You look so thin, Peter. Have you been eating?" "Did you bring me anything like last time?" "I just bought a new basketball. We can play as soon as we get home."

Peter remained silent, trying to withstand the barrage of questions. He felt sick and yearned for escape. In his mind he began the long countdown — only 145 hours left.

To Steal



by Brian Cale

The fun part of the bus ride on a grade school field trip was the trading and selling of food. I reached up to the overhead rack to pull down my lunch. I wondered what marketable items I had. I peered into my crumpled brown paper lunch bag slowly to keep the suspense alive as long as possible. Green pepper, red pepper, tuna fish and a mushy plum. I was virtually broke. Who would trade anything for a mushy plum? I slumped in my seat as I looked down the long aisle of the bus to see potato chips and chewing gum, chocolate, and danish all changing hands. "Don't eat that chazerai that everyone else eats — it'll give you a rash and then you'll have to go to the doctor. Here, I packed you a delicious lunch," I could hear my mother telling me before I left the house that morning. My mother always did this to me. It was always her fault. Damn it. I couldn't even borrow an Archie and Jughead comic because the minimum trade was a handful of pretzels. We finally came to a rest area. "Five minutes and five minutes only; if you're not on the bus we're going to leave without you," said the teacher.

I got off just to stretch my legs. I could not stand being on the bus any longer. It just was not any fun. Slowly, I walked over to the vending machines to see what they held. "Don't drink any orange or pink or any of the bright colors," I could hear my mother saying. "They're not healthy and you'll get a rash." "But..." I would plead. "No but's; it's poison." I knew I didn't have enough money to buy anything anyway, but I enjoyed just pretending I could buy a candy bar or maybe even a drink. Maybe someone would leave his change in the coin return and I could make a purchase. I looked over the machines — orangesoda, Coke, 7-

Up, Dr. Pepper, Snickers, Acro Mar, Oh Henry, Hershey's with almonds, orange soda, Hershey's plain, barbecue, regular and salted chips, orange soda, Cracker Jack, popcorn, orange soda. I really wondered if I could get just one cool, clear, poisonous orange soda without paying for it. After all, it's not stealing if all you've done is not pay for it. Somebody has to tell you you're stealing if you're stealing, right?

I watched a big, mean-looking, truck driver in a red-and-black lumber jacket drop a quarter into the soda machine. His fingers wandered over the buttons and stopped on the orange. I could almost taste that magical bubbly liquid pouring down my throat. I was so happy: somebody shared my love of orange. Without any warning he shifted his hand to the right, pressed the button real hard, and out of the machine rolled a Coke right onto the little black tray at the opening. After the man walked away, I went into a frenzy and started pressing all the buttons looking for the secret code that all kids suppose allows such machines to dispense free drinks. I couldn't crack the code. What would happen. I wondered, if I stuck my hand up the slot where the cans of soda come from. "Don't do it," a little voice inside my head told me. "Your arm will get caught in the big sharp cog wheels of the machine which will chew up your arm and only spit out the bones." Before I could think of any more evil thoughts, I thrust my arm right up into the machine's gut. To my utter disbelief the inside of the machine was pretty much hollow; there were no cog wheels. I felt my way around. The steel was icy cold, cold enough for your skin to stick to it for a second when you touched it. I moved my hand to the left,

continued next page

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Or Not

and my fingers landed upon a cold, cylindrical object. It didn't even cross my mind that the can of soda I was taking might not be even be orange when I pushed down the lever that was holding it in place and came out with my prize. Clear, pure, fresh, and poison—orange soda—heaven's own juice. I didn't open it right away. I wanted to savor the fruit of my labor just a touch longer. I wanted to tell my friends. I wanted to see somebody actually pay for a soda with money. Mimi Shapiro, a neighbor of mine who had taught me the F— word, went over to the machine on her way out of the ladies' room. She reached into her little tangerine colored wallet and pulled out a quarter. The machine let out a little mechanical burp to let her know that it had swallowed her money. I was astonished: she went right for the orange without any hesitation. She just went right for it as if her mother allowed her to buy soda every day of the week. And she went right for it again and again. And again. Nothing came out. I was standing there, fifteen feet away from her orange soda. Had I not taken it, it would have been hers. My heart started

beating faster. I didn't know what to do. I couldn't tell anyone, I just couldn't.

Back on the bus, the trading went on as usual. Somebody offered me a stick of Spearmint gum but I couldn't accept it. Suddenly, I didn't feel very hungry anymore. I felt sick. I gripped the can of soda in my hand. It had not left there since the instant I stole it. No, since the instant I took it. I couldn't drink the soda, and I couldn't give it away for free without explaining why.

I put the can down on the floor. As soon as the bus started moving, the can started rolling towards the back. Jack Ishowitz, my third best friend, picked it up and looked at it suspiciously.

"Who lost a can of soda?" he yelled out loud.

The bus was dead silent. Who had lost something as precious as that? Several kids checked their lunch bags to make sure nothing was missing.

"Finders keepers losers weepers," said Jack. He snapped open the tab and began to drink. Mimi, who had bought herself a Sprite, offered me a Richie Rich comic at no cost, and I sat down to read.

Child Survivor

by J. Katzauer

He stares
With dark, empty eyes through me.
The vacant glaze of weariness, forever
Shifting, piercing, knowing
so much, night,
Giving so little.

Those furious depths engulf with life
Madness wizened beyond time.

His youth clutching the tears of ages,
He asks nothing

But to hear him—now at least

Witness to misery of years.

Is it him or me?

We ignore

At our peril

He who foreran and will yet endure;

Telling all my past and all my future, as

With dark, empty eyes through me,

He stares.

Grades

continued from page 1

dents detriment since they are too conditioned by the old system. In the long run they will benefit vis-a-vis harder work to achieve better grades, thereby reflecting better discipline, which will reflect more accurately the students' abilities.

Students will no longer be able to scrape by with a B and talk their way into an A. The time is right to make this change. YU has the attention of big companies and top graduate schools and, if we want to keep them interested, we need to prove that our grades are real."

Student Centennial

continued from page 5

she had experienced a close relationship to Judaism. She drew a connection between her Irish ancestors and Yeshiva University's immigrant founders, saying that "preserving tradition and identity is the greatest challenge for immigrants," both Irish and Jewish. She also read a message from Senator Moynihan, congratulating the University on its centennial.

The Celebration closed with a screening of the first ten minutes of "Building an American Tradition: Yeshiva University—The First Century," a documentary narrated by Eli Wallach, followed by closing remarks by Berger and Greenstone. After the Celebration, free mugs commemorating the event were distributed to the students and refreshments were served in the cafeteria. Berger commented that "we tried to make the entire event, the big picture, look as professional, and run as smoothly, as possible." Judging from the turnout, and the reception given the event by the students, Berger feels the committee succeeded in its goal.

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YCDS AWARDS



Steven Fried, shown here with Dr. Anthony Beukas, received the Best Actor award for the role of Bob Ashton, alias 'Nicky' in "Noises Off".



Rabbi Manfred Felda presents Jordy Goldberg with the Best Supporting Actor award for his portrayal of Myron Jackson in "Deathtrap".



David Wachtenheim received the first ever YCDS Alumni Award for his portrayal of Gary Lejeune, alias 'Roger', in "Noises Off".



Eleven students (above left) were inducted into the YCDS chapter of Alpha Psi Omega, these included: Kenny Baker, Jeff Baum, Eli Borow, Bruce Cohen, David Falk, Mitchell Friedman, Jordy Goldberg, Ari Steinberg, J.J. Wernick, Robbie Zeitz, and Marc Zomack.

The members of YCDS also presented a gift to Dr. Laurel Keating in recognition of her long standing devotion to the Y.U. Speech and Drama Department, from which she is retiring at the end of this semester.

Dr. Efreim Nullman (shown below with Dr. Beukas), Assistant Dean of Students at Yeshiva College, was named YCDS' 1987 Honorary Inductee.



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Lighter Look

by Maury Kelman

As the frenzied excitement over the student elections begins to subside, a sense of normalcy has returned to YU. The losing candidates have suddenly lost their friendly manner as there is no need to be friendly anymore, thus joining the winning candidates who, now that they can enlarge their resumes, also see no reason to be friendly. Thus, as we move into the final two weeks of the semester, the focus shifts away from outside tasks and onto finals. For most, these exams are only another obstacle in the path of summer vacation, but for approximately a quarter of the students, they mark a most momentous occasion as they will be the last set of school exercises in their long career at YU.

As I ponder my upcoming graduation, in a little over two weeks, a whole barrage of thoughts assault my innocent mind. Could it be four years already since I stepped into this institution of higher learning? No? What's that you're saying? "This is YU. There is no such thing as going here for four years." Okay, I'll rephrase my question. Could it be three years already since I stepped into this hallowed institution of higher learning? No? What was that? "You're a Torontonian. Torontonians go to grade thirteen, which gets them out of all types of requirements, and in some cases, can earn them a B.A., along with a course in French. Then they go to Israel for a harried year of tests and hard work, which gives them another year of credit. So you see, Torontonians only have to go to college for two years." Or, I might add, two-and-a-half years, as I did. Excuse me now, but as I have to proceed with this column, you'll have to keep your comments to yourself. In any event, if you're so concerned with my veracity why don't you write a letter to the editor?

As I was writing, graduation day approaches rapidly, prompting a variety of recollections to flow through my memory. I think of the first day I entered YU. My father awoke me early in the morning with a gentle nudge at my feet. I sprung out of bed, thinking a cockroach had crossed my legs, only to see my father standing over me, an excited smile lighting his face. "Maury," he said. "Get dressed quickly. I wouldn't want you to be late your first day in school." At that point, all my happy expectations for school seemed to get swept away by a growing feeling of nervousness. As I slowly dressed, I began to realize the magnitude of the step I was about to take. I was about to enter a totally new dimension, a

world unfamiliar to me, where familiar faces would be rare, and the challenge of constant study awaited me. By breakfast I was beginning to have second thoughts, but when my mother brought out my gleaming lunchbox I was reassured temporarily. I had just reached for another bowl of Wheaties when my mother announced that it was time to go. "Can't I stay a little longer, Ma? My favorite Flintstones is coming on now." My mother was firm with me though, and I soon found that we were approaching the inviting environs of Washington Heights.

Okay, son. You have nothing to worry about. I'm sure you'll

my life. You're probably not too concerned with the details, though, so I'll skip them and get back to my original point. Graduating seniors are now approaching a most crucial time in their lives, and while many tell you that they look forward with great relish to life after YU, I tend to discount much of this talk. Those who are entering the working world will be in for a great shock when they realize that they will have to be at work before the first *minyana* even begins in our yeshiva. And how about those mid-morning and afternoon *schnoozes* that are so convenient here? I can picture the scene now:

"Uh, boss. I'm feeling a little

distance, impeded by a few years of further study. Various law, medical, dentistry, psychology, business, engineering, social work and plumbing schools will open their doors to an influx of YU students next fall. Many are already dreaming of these places, and could probably have been considered "out of here" some months ago. Well, will they ever be in for some surprise when they attempt to delay that first exam, or get an extension on their second paper!

"Excuse me Professor, but I was just wondering if I could hand in my paper next month instead?"

"Next month? But the semester will be over by then."

"I realize that, but you really didn't give us sufficient time."

"Excuse me, H-h-h-haim Moysheh, but I gave you the assignment on the first day of classes. Maybe I should have mailed it to you in the summer."

"But Professor, nobody takes those schedules seriously where I come from."

"Well, I'm sorry, but I can't help you. (Pause) Did you say you're from YU? Why don't you just copy somebody's paper?"

How about those guys who yearn for their very own green campus, filled with swaying trees and handsome young men and women? Let them return to YU in a couple years, and see the blooming Tenzer Gardens, the pulsating Student Union building, and the bustling pedestrian mall filled with handsome young Puerto Rican men and women.

One more question: What happens when you suddenly feel a yearning to learn a little *Torah*? Where do you go? The "Shake and Shuckle Party"? The "Dance and Daren Disco"? The "Limbo and Learn Lounge"? Wo, B.Y.U.S. (Bring Your Own Sefer) parties haven't caught on at most universities.

So, as the final days approach, culminating with The Last Supper and graduation day, many seniors will do their utmost to stem the indomitable current of time and somehow hold on to their final moments of their unique life in YU. In any event, I wish all the best of success in the future. As for me, I can't wait to get out of the constricting atmosphere at — "Hold on a second. It's me again. You're not leaving YU. You're going for semicha. Have fun here for the next few years." Oh yeah. That's right. Have a great summer!

(And now for some more corn. I would just like to thank all my readers, especially my roommate, Elie Berman, who has provided me with key advice along the way. Uchkotuirk-olwm!)

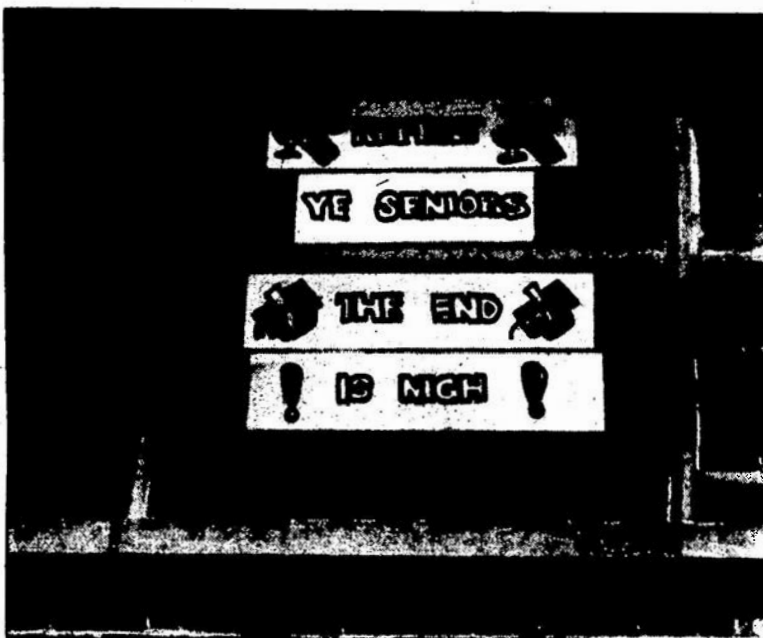


Photo by Mike Cohen

make lots of new friends in school." "But I'm scared, Ma. Can't we come back next week instead?" "Now, don't be silly. Take your lunchbox. I assure you everything will be fine."

I reluctantly left the car, timidly waving to my mother. I felt abandoned and lonely. All during the morning I could think only of my lunch pail, as I dreamt of peanut butter and jelly sandwiches. When lunchtime approached, I raced for the lunchroom and sat down next to a group of older-looking students. In fact, I began to notice that everyone looked much older than me. When there was a lull in the conversation, I turned to one of my tablemates. "What grade are you in?" I whispered. Waves of laughter met my question, leaving me rather discombobulated. As I looked around the room, I noticed that some of the students had beards. My mother had told me that I would have to do a lot of growing up for grade one, but I never realized how much it entailed. I began to rub my chin, expecting to feel the first growth of my very own beard. Somebody had made a major error.

Since that scary day many years ago, much has changed in

tired now. Would you mind if I went for a little *schnooze* now?"

"A what?"

"You know, a little nap. Half hour, an hour at tops."

"You sure have some sense of humor, Junior. Now finish cleaning those toilets, or you'll be on a permanent *schnooze*."

And what about the guys who complain about the caf? Too expensive? Not enough selection? Well, I can just see Joe YU entering his nearby restaurant for supper:

"Yes, I'd like a table for one with a view of the Hudson."

"Listen kid. We're very busy now. Try coming back next week."

"I'm really hungry, though. I've been working for the last twelve hours. Tax season, you know?"

"I'm sorry. Try coming back tomorrow."

"All I want is a little something. Don't you have a late night deli?"

"Okay. We'll get you a burger and fries. That'll be \$8.95, not including tip."

"What? That's ridiculous."

"Hey, you got your view of the Hudson so don't complain."

For many seniors, though, the "real world" still lies in the

“HOW I MADE \$18,000 FOR COLLEGE BY WORKING WEEKENDS.”



When my friends and I graduated from high school, we all took part-time jobs to pay for college.

They ended up in car washes and hamburger joints, putting in long hours for little pay.

Not me. My job takes just one weekend a month and two weeks a year. Yet, I'm earning \$18,000 for college.

Because I joined my local Army National Guard.

They're the people who help our state during emergencies like hurricanes and floods. They're also an important part of our country's military defense.

So, since I'm helping them do such an important job, they're helping me make it through school.

As soon as I finished Advanced Training, the Guard gave me a cash bonus of \$2,000. Then, under the New GI Bill, I'm getting another \$5,000 for tuition and books.

Not to mention my monthly Army Guard paychecks. They'll add up to more than \$11,000 over the six years I'm in the Guard.

And if I take out a college loan, the Guard will help me pay it back—up to \$1,500 a year, plus interest.

It all adds up to \$18,000—or more—for college for just a little of my time. And that's a heck of a better deal than any car wash will give you.

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OPINION

Minority Clash

by Jakob Goldstein

On July 2nd, Yisroel Levin stood waiting for a train in a Crown Heights subway station. Mr. Levin had recently flown in from Australia to visit his son in the Crown Heights section of Brooklyn. Meanwhile, unknown to Mr. Levin, six black youths jumped the turnstiles behind him while the token attendant stood idly by in seeming paralysis. Had the attendant called the police, as he should have, Mr. Levin might still be alive today. Instead, Mr. Levin was brutally attacked by youths, not robbed, but beaten to death over the head, similar to the way the German Jews were jumped by Nazi punks fifty years ago. Yisroel Levin went into a coma; he died in

December. Nothing was done and nobody cared!

This same year, a homeless Jew named Shlomo Fishman came to Crown Heights to straighten out his life. Things were working out well until one Saturday night a black man decided that Mr. Fishman was guilty of being a Jew and sentenced him to death by 17 fatal stab wounds. Mr. Fishman died in the gutter that night in a pool of blood.

Two Jews are senselessly murdered and nobody gives a damn. A black man dies in Howard Beach and the entire city is outraged. Mayor Koch calls it the worst act of racism New York has seen in forty years. There is full media coverage day-to-day and week-to-week. The Black community is in

a tremendous uproar just as they should be. But why, when Michael Griffith was killed, did every so-called Rabbi and Jewish organization write letters declaring their outrage; and when two Jews were killed (by Blacks, no less) not one Jewish leader came to Crown Heights to help wipe away the tears. Nobody came to ease the pain. I understand that nobody cares about dead Jews. I can understand why the media and Mayor Koch (a Jew) were not there for us. I understand why the Blacks were not there for us, although we have always been there for them. For centuries it has been our fate to suffer and die in the shadow of apathy. But why in God's name were Jews too busy mourning the death of a black man when two Jews had just been murdered?! This I dare anybody to understand.

Crown Heights is 25% Jewish and 75% Black. All is not well and something needs to be done. Jews

are being attacked daily and tensions are rising. Why must as prominent a figure as Rabbi Schneerson, have his people mugged, raped, beaten, and murdered?

Several realities explain the deterioration of Black-Jewish relations. One factor is the Koch Administration. They preach integration, tolerance, and better relations, but have done nothing to make it work. Despite Koch's righteous rhetoric, he and his staff ignore the entire problem, permitting it only to get worse. Why isn't a dead Jew as big a racial issue as a dead Black?

I shouldn't be surprised, however, because how do you expect anyone to care about dead Jews when the Jews don't care about dead Jews. The apathy of the Jewish community toward this grave and serious issue is a travesty. Something is wrong when Jewish groups vigorously support the rights of everyone and everything

from Blacks to whales, but no one is home when it comes to two dead Jews in Crown Heights. Can anyone reading this come to me and explain the rationale for such incredibly irrational behavior? When I think about it I laugh, but the laughter always turns to tears.

To defeat a problem you must identify its roots. What is it that lets the problem live, and where is the oxygen that allows the problem to breathe? This brings me to what I consider the major contributing factor—the multitude of leaders in the Black community.

We are quite familiar with the well-known Black leaders (Farkhan, Jackson, etc.) who have found every creative and ingenious way to blame the Blacks' failure in society on the Jews. There are, however, others, who despite their lack of fame, share the same ideas. Perhaps they do this in an attempt to gain popularity with their people, for it may appear to them that hating and blaming Jews, is the "in" thing to do.

One such man is Crown Heights State Assemblyman, Clarence Norman Jr., who appears to have graduated from the Farkhan school on "how to hate a Jew." Mr. Norman consistently tries to cause senseless animosity and friction between Blacks and Jews. He has made, and continues to make, public anti-Semitic statements for his constituents to hear. Unfortunately, out of ignorance, his listeners believe these vicious diatribes. He has also publicly threatened to cut off all funds for local Jewish organizations, as well as exclude Jews from leadership positions in state funded programs.

A couple of years ago a Rabbi defeated a black man in an election for district leader. Consequences of the resulting and unnecessary turmoil still affect the Crown Heights community today. The loser, Sylvester Leaks, claimed it was a fraudulent victory. He got the appellate court to overturn the election, and despite pleas to his people to get "politically liberated" from the Jews, he lost again in the make-up election.

It was immediately apparent that certain black leaders attempted to capitalize on the incident politically. One only had to open *The Amsterdam News* (a widely read black publication) and they would have found an article entitled, "The Shame of Crown Heights" written by a black reverend named Alfred C. Sharpton. Sharpton writes that the election was "the greatest political crime," and that the blacks have allowed the Jews in their community to become their "political neo-slavemasters." He says that a rabbi being district leader is "a crime and a shame." He states that the Jewish sect has nothing but contempt for black people and that, to use his own words, "enslave us they will!"

To help Leaks in the subsequent election, Reverend Samuel D. Austin, the pastor of Brown Memorial Baptist Church, wrote a letter to his people supporting Leaks. He referred to the past election as having been stolen by the Jews. He also stated that having

QUESTION #2

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RESPONSA

Cont. from p. 3 col. 3
unequal representation in student government. My point is a basic one: with SOY setting the religious tone for the entire school (as well it should), even without the representation of all of the students, it seems ludicrous that the governing body which is to serve the needs of all of the students at Yeshiva College is not really made up of a representative cross-section of YC students. I fear that little can be done now to repair the damage done in the election, but it would be appropriate for the parties responsible for planning the elections to extend an apology to those candidates (almost all JSS and ISC students) who were denied their day at the polls.

David Bogner

Cont. from p. 3 col. 5

translation shows, the former equates secular knowledge with Torah, while the latter subsumes it within Torah. By performing "Halachic alchemy" upon the world which we live in and all that it represents, the Breuer's Kehilla and Yeshiva can continue to blaze a path towards (Bi'at HaMashiach); by straying away from Torah Im Derech Eretz, Breuer's will become just another bastion of faith (read "Ghetto"). Either way, the only Twilight Zone I see in this neighborhood is in drug addicts' minds, and the only place some kind of polarization between Jews does not exist is, where there are no Jews. In my eyes, the Breuer's situation can be compared to that of an endangered species of bird, which, like all other birds, can fly when both its right wing and its left wing are flapping towards a common goal.

Michael Poppers
Breuer's '82
Yeshiva '85

Back to School

To The Editor:

"Dr. X, how long should that paper be?"
"Fairly short, about 3-5 pages."
"How many paragraphs is that?"
"Oh, about 6-8 perhaps."
"What goes into each paragraph?"

And on and on it goes. Writing tutors and professors at YU hear this routine so much lately, one wonders what's wrong. Granted, English Comp is supposed to teach you how to write better, but a college entrant should at least know how to write. We now have remedial writing centers to teach the ABC's instead of the XYZ's.

The blame has often been placed at grammar's doorstep saying that instructors dwell too much on mechanics and neglect creativity. Another popular argument is that you have to teach the student to walk before he can run, and since we are reduced to reteaching high school English in college.

Still, the dialogue with which

Slate 8

continued from page 3

cal Seminary) have been receiving many thousands of dollars from the Jewish Agency under certain educational guidelines, whereas YU has not received a penny. The Jewish Agency recently allocated about three million dollars to the American religious movements under threat of the Reform movement to withhold contributions to the United Jewish Appeal.

So far, the Reform allocation is twice the amount assigned to Orthodoxy.

The Jewish Agency allocated \$125,000 to a not yet existent Reform program for a summer camp program for underprivileged youth in Israel. There are no underprivileged Reform Jews residing in Israel. Under the rubric of Jewish Education, it allocated another \$100,000 for the Club Med-like villages for Jewish young people. At the same time, it rejected a program to train sorely needed teachers to serve in diaspora yeshivot for a limited period of time in an accredited and qualified religious teachers seminary.

This unprecedented threat to Torah interests has resulted in a unique coalition of support for the United Religious Zionist slate.

The Rabbinical Council of America, the Orthodox Union, and Young Israel, are very actively encouraging their members to vote Slate 8 which is composed of Mizrahi, Amit, and Emunah. It includes Enei Akiva and Mizrahi youth and is supported by Yavneh.

The Chief Rabbi and other religious leaders have called on American Jews to support the United Religious Zionist ticket. Eminent *Roshet Yeshiva* such as our own Rabbi Aaron Soloveitchik and Rabbi Herschel Shechter have given their endorsement. The slate headed by Mr. Herman Merkin, the vice-chairman of YU's board of directors, includes many members of the YU family, and is conduced by Rabbi Israel Miller, our senior vice-president.

We, therefore, call on every student who receives a mail ballot to vote slate 8. A large Orthodox vote supporting the United Religious Zionist ticket can do more than preserve its present status in important philanthropic and public bodies. It will reserve an ominous trend in the American Jewish community.

Sincerely,
Rabbi Louis Bernstein

Discretion

To the Editor:

In keeping with the recent tradition of vehement debates about Torah U'Madah in YU, I have come to the point where I can no longer be silent, and I must join in the debate. The catalyst which had caused me to speak out is the almost full-page advertisement for "Miller Light Beer" on page 4 in the February 15 issue of the Commentator. I was shocked not only because it was there but also because of the timing. Needless to say, this is a very controversial time in the university, with the various debates about certain activities on campus (e.g. the 50's party etc.). The appearance of the advertisement, in my opinion, seems a bit "chutzpadic". Besides asking you to buy beer, it also offers you a "Free Miller Light Bar Sign" with a purchase of an excessive amount of beer - 3 kegs, or 240 cans! I am sure there are many students at YU who would just love to light up the dorm windows with neon beer signs; how appropriate for a university which calls itself "Yeshiva".

"Social drinking", as some would like to call it, is not advocated in the Jewish perspective. We are encouraged to drink on certain occasions only, and even then in moderation. Numerous times in halachic and talmudic literature we are warned of the hazards and transgressions of drinking and inebriation. One source, which

I believe pretty much sums it up, is in Rambam, *Hilchot Deot*, perek 5 halacha 3: "...and who becomes drunk is a sinner and disgusting and loses his wisdom, and if he becomes drunk in front of the ignorant masses, it is a desecration of God's name."

Therefore, with all these stringent attitudes towards drinking, I find it quite disconcerting that Yeshiva's own newspaper advertises a secular ideal. Yes, I read the fine print on page 2, "We do not endorse..." but frankly, if it's in there, it's advocated. Was the Commentator so desperate for money that it took an ad it didn't endorse? And what of "maarat aym"? The average person reading the paper will see the ad and assume that drinking beer is approved of, and encouraged, by YU. You may not realize the influence you have as a publication representing a major Jewish institution, on the students especially, and the Jewish community at large. The publication of the ad in the Commentator might justify alcoholic habits of many students and intensify the problem.

Finally, approximately 80% of the student population are not even the legal age to drink and the advertisement encourages them to break the law - a secular and halachic transgression. Please guys, think of the ramifications of your influence before you print. Remember, "A wise person is one who foresees the outcome (of his actions)".

L'via Sleradski
SCW '88

I opened, hits at the gut of the issue. Students are awesomely intimidated with the prospect of organizing their thoughts from scratch into a coherent essay. Very often, the student who walks into my room is groping with the difficulty of even coming up with a topic. "I have to write an opinion. What do I write about?" "Anything you feel strongly enough about." "I can't think of anything, Ivan."

I'll forsake this golden opportunity to rant and rave about the apathy which reigns supreme and instead say that the fear of the student is in the simple fact that only he can think up an idea and organize it. A computer can't do this for him. Almost everything we want done today can be done for us, but this is the one thing that may always be left to ourselves.

Ivan Clement

To A Friend

Jakob Goldstein

"Hello Ball!" I can hear him now, standing up in the Queens College Cafeteria doing his best Ed Norton. This is just one of the many ways I remember my friend. Scott Satran, the bravest person I have ever met, lost his battle to cancer on March 25th. If the cure for cancer was sheer guts and strength, not only would Scott have won, but he would have had enough left over for every cancer patient in the world. The Satrans' relationship with each other is a very rare occurrence. I've never seen a boy who loved his family quite as much as Scott, and I've

never seen a family love back, quite like the Satrans did. Anyone who knows them, knows exactly what I mean when I say they deserved one another.

So Wednesday night (actually early morning), I found myself sitting in the near empty *Beis Midrash*, wondering what Scott was doing now. I think we all knew that Scott was on such a level that he went straight to heaven, but I was curious as to what was happening there. So in my mind, I traveled up to heaven, and with the help of Hashem, this is what I saw.

The Trumpets were blown
and the lights had turned bright
it was like no other time
up in heaven that night
The word spread quickly
and soon everyone knew
it had finally come
it was finally true
It was heard by the sun
and the stars and the moon
that the "miracle boy"
would be arriving here soon

Then the voice heard throughout
shook the walls and the floor
it was the voice of Hashem
that made the thunderous roar
"He will be here tonight
so let us prepare
because time's running short
we've not a moment to spare"
And so all of the angels
began to move fast
for they knew that tonight
was to be a big blast
And they all worked so hard
because never before
had a boy such as this
ever walk through that door

And so now it was time
for this boy to appear
this brave, fearless boy
whom the world held so dear
Then the moment had come
with not a voice to be heard
all noise had vanished
not a sound, not a word
Then all of a sudden
the door moved ajar
and if you looked really hard
you could see from afar.

For what appeared to be small
just continued to grow
and in just a few moments
we would finally know
Just who was this boy
of just twenty years
who created on earth
an ocean of tears
And then in a flash
he came into sight
and as he stepped through the door

the room filled with light
And behold there he stood
with a smile so wide
that the hidden elation
we could no longer hide

The cheers burst out
as did dancing and song
he had finally come
for the wait was so long
He was lifted up high
and carried atop
with the cheers growing louder
it seemed it never would stop
And then all of a sudden
the angels divided
and an aisle of angels
for Scott, was provided

All at once it grew silent
as he started his stride
towards the throne of Hashem
where his destiny lied
He ascended the steps
and for the first time
we've known a miraculous sight;
Hashem arose from his throne
Then all throughout heaven
the voice of Hashem could be heard

it was gentle and soft
as he spoke every word
"I am proud to announce
and I'm happy to say
that our newest of angels
has come here today"
"And they'll know throughout
heaven
and they'll know throughout
earth

that this day of the angels
was the day of your birth"
"So from now till forever
I would like to declare
that "The Angel of Courage"
shall be the title you wear"

"And now you'll be given
any wish you desire
and this wish shall be granted
no matter what it requires"
Then everything stopped
and as heaven grew still
he stated his wish
which Hashem would fulfill
"If there could just be a way
from way up here above
to send down a message
for my family I love"

"I would like them to know
that I'm happy up here
I now live with Hashem
so you have nothing to fear
"I am perfectly fine
so please no more tears
and for now just remember
our memory years"

"For I'll see you again
and it won't be too long
the Mashiach will come
so you have to stay strong"
"And I'd like you to know
our times I will treasure
oh I miss you so much
I will love you forever"
So as he looked down from
heaven
in a moment he knew
for the Angel of Courage
saw his wish had come true

I will not take credit for this
poem, I will only acknowledge
the fact that through this poem,
Hashem used me as a Shaliach,
to grant Scott, the Angel of
Courage, his wish.

With Love
Jakob Goldstein

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Minorities Clash

Jewish leaders in a predominantly black community was not what "Martin Luther King died for" and is not what "Jesse Jackson is fighting for."

What did we ever do to deserve such treatment, besides attempting to become your partners and your friends? Of course black people are

often victims of prejudice, and this too is wrong. However, there exists a difference between black and Jewish discrimination. Blacks are oppressed by many groups that don't necessarily include Jews, but Jews are consistently oppressed by many that include blacks. Why of all these groups, do the blacks

choose to attack a people who not only strive for similar goals, but who have also stood side by side with them, and fought for their social justice and freedom?

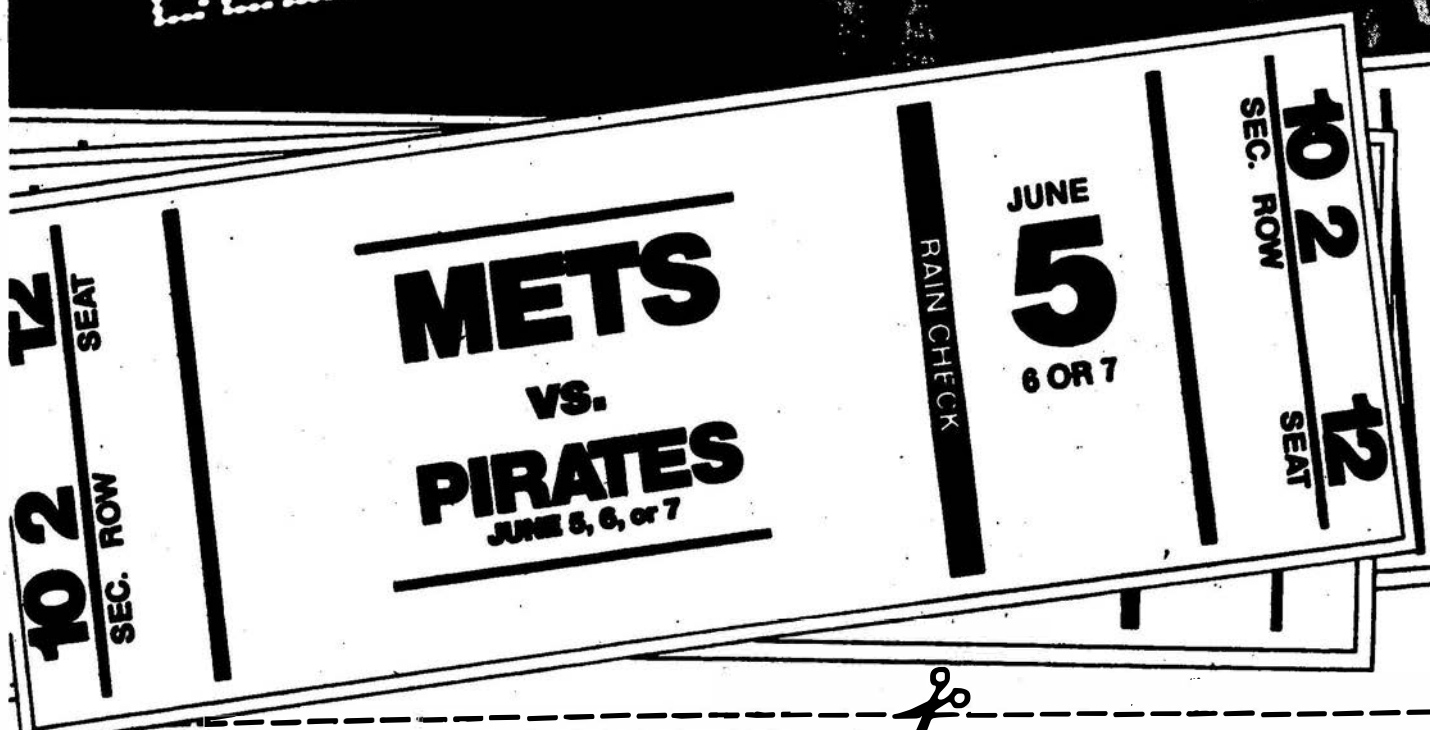
Blacks and Jews must realize that we could accomplish extraordinary things if we worked with each other instead of against each other. I do not believe that all blacks share the hatred vented by several of their leaders. There are

certainly many educated and prominent blacks in American society who do not feed off the lies and propaganda. However, I will never play the role of a frustration release or a dumping ground for blame by the majority who do believe the propaganda. This feeling must be shared by more Jews and understood by more blacks. Fighting is senseless, and hating is worse and I am sick and tired of

both. The time is now for the power-hungry, Jew-hating black leaders to step down and allow some honest and truthful leaders to replace them in representing the Black community. It is then that the ignorance which allows anti-semitism to breathe will have been suffocated. After all this is done, you can bet that I will be the first to offer these magic words, "let's be friends."



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Miller Brewing Co., Milwaukee, WI

Always Offside

by Michael Levine

There are numerous stories told about the YU soccer team, some of which are true, others are not. For those who are troubled by the mystery surrounding this team, the truth will now be revealed.

There is, indeed, a non-variety YU soccer team and its won-lost record was as poor as is often suggested; they really did not win a game. However, unbeknownst to many students, the players have proven themselves capable on many occasions. In fact, a number of positive factors point to the fact that the team may finally win games next year.

In order to arrive at a solution to a problem, one must first understand the problems themselves, so let us begin with those. The problems facing the YU soccer team stem from their mode of preparation. Most schools practice for several hours a day, several days a

week, thereby conditioning themselves for the grueling ninety-minute matches on a 110 by 60 yard field. The YU soccer team practices one night a week for two hours. Other teams practice on full-size grass fields; the YU soccer team practices indoors in the Max Stern Athletic Center's gym, on a hard floor as opposed to grass, where ball control and the pace of the game immediately change. Furthermore, the familiarity of the players with one another is minimal at Yeshiva, since their season always starts within a week of their second practice. In addition, several of the team members have had no previous experience in "official soccer leagues," and therefore are unfamiliar with league rules. This was most apparent when YU was called for offside on almost every good scoring opportunity it had. Confronted with all this, they are thrown out two weeks into the

school year against their experienced, well trained opponents. Sounds hopeless, doesn't it?

Of course the future is not so bleak, because there is only one graduating senior. The current starters will be returning, each with a minimum of one season's experience and a familiarity with each other's strengths and weaknesses. Moreover, the team members know how much they need to push themselves individually in order to endure an entire match. Led by first year star Danny Student, returning captains Raphy Bitton and Jacob Tidghi, and Coach Jairo Ruiz, who now knows his players' abilities, the team should be able to defeat teams such as Bard College, which narrowly defeated Yeshiva this year, 2-0. Next year's season, though probably not a championship year, should be quite exciting!

YC Entrepreneurs Or Dorm Peddlers?

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exception of co-captain Lance Hirt, the entire squad is returning. Lance will certainly be missed on and off the court, but will surely continue to do YU proud at Harvard Law School. Next year's team will be a year more experienced, and although it doesn't sound like much, the difference between a rookie and a second year player is great.

However, the key factor may be the team's positive attitude, which can already be sensed all around school. Many returning players will be seniors and are psyched to have phenomenal seasons. The weight room and gym are constantly occupied by team members shaping up for next season. Even the enthusiasm over the three-point field goal has risen to a climax.

This season, only Lior Hod made use of the shot, but next year the Macs will be looking to use it as the offensive weapon it can be. Even Ayal (Baady) Hod may

launch a bomb or two. Also, the team may also have some new prospects from Israel as well as from America.

Finally, Coaches Halpert and Gurock have made it known to the players that the 87-88 season will be their last at Yeshiva. Although during games many of the fans get on the coaching staff, the players feel that the coaches are two of the classiest people they know, and appreciate all that Halpert and Gurock have done for them. The players' strong feelings for the coaches will make them go out each game and "win one for the Gippers."

Even with all these promising factors, the Macs will still need the fan support that has given them one of the top Division III attendance rates over the past two seasons. The infamous "sixth man" is always a valuable asset and with it, though they might not get an NCAA bid, the Macs should have an exciting season.

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Volleyball Team

continued from page 24
two very different teams because I feel they learned a lot. There is still more to learn, but we matured as a team." Todd Baron, a first year player, agreed with Coach Vargas' assessment and went on to say that the team "has come a long way" since the beginning of the year and that Coach Vargas "has been the biggest asset to the team."

This past season's schedule included matches against Vassar, Bard, NYU, New York Maritime, and Baruch. Although they failed to win a match the team showed improvement as time went on.

Their schedule also proved to be problematic at times. On March 5th, the Macs went to NYU for a match, only to find that another team was scheduled to play at NYU. On March 11th, a scheduled match against Lehman was cancelled, as an incorrect date was on the contract. The date on the contract was March 12th, but since that day was Taanis Esther, the Macs could not play. Athletic Director Dr. Gil Shevlin attributed this to a clerical error on Lehman's part. He did not know what happened with the NYU match.

The Macs also only played one home game this season, the season

ending match against Baruch on March 25th. When asked about the possibility of adding more matches to the schedule next season and, in particular, more home matches, Coach Vargas said that there will definitely be more matches next season. Work has already begun in that respect, with a 50% increase in matches scheduled, including more home matches. Dr. Shevlin enthusiastically confirmed this, saying that this will not only apply to volleyball, but to "all sports across the board. All the coaches want more games," he said.

Looking toward next season's prospects, Coach Vargas stated that he foresees continued improvement, provided more time is spent working together. He went on to say that "there is a core becoming stronger, but it needs more seasoning." Two key players he is counting on for next season are Todd Baron and Yehudah Lindenberg, both of whom will be second year players.

All things considered, with the addition of a new head coach improved play, catchy enthusiasm, and more matches on next season's schedule, the YU Volleyball team definitely has a bright future.

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Tigers Edge Bombers, To Repeat as Champs

by **Bandler**

The intramural basketball season was in no way to a somewhat unexciting regular season, but rather presented the kind of up-beat atmosphere expected from some of Y.U.'s athletic talent. As a close knit TIGERS finished the season in first place, all six of their games in the second semester. Their first round opponents were the inexperience YUGARS who had the intent to play with almost any team in the league if all their players showed up. In the second playoff game, the talent laden JORDANS took on the third place ZOMBIES in what proved to be one of the most exciting games of the year.

The game between the Tigers and the Yugars was no contest even before the tip-off as the Yugars' high-scoring forward, Jon Ehrman, was absent from the line-up. This left the scoring responsibility entirely up to Howie Shub who could not single-handedly counter the offensive attack of Hesh Muehlgay, Gerson Levitz, Jeff Lefowitz, and Joany Silber. Those four combined for 42 of the team's 52 points and staked the Tigers to an early 12-2 lead and an 18-8 halftime advantage. In the second half, Muehlgay and Lefkowitz, who each scored 14 points in the game, took over, and despite 14 second half points for Shub (who finished the game with 10), the Tigers ran away with a 52-27 decision.

However, it was the evening's opening game that excited the small crowd assembled in the MSAC. The Zombies used a patient set up offense to get the explosive Jordans out of their running game and took a 25-21 halftime lead. In the second half, the score remained tight until the final minute when the Jordans forced a turnover, and with 36 left Michael Bramson scored on a driving left-handed lay-up. The Jordans then forced another turnover on the ensuing inbound play, and took possession for one last shot. However, they never got off a good shot and the game went into overtime. In overtime, the Jordans could manage only three baskets by Menachem Deltcher as the Zombies pulled away with a 55-48 victory. Deltcher led the Jordans with 22 points, Ari Blaine (19 points) paced a balanced Zombie scoring attack that included 10 points each from Jacob Goldstein and Benjy Silver.

The scene shifted to the George Washington High School gym for the second

semester championship game. The Tigers jumped out to an early 19-7 lead but cooled off from there and led by only eight at halftime, 25-17. In the second half, although Muehlgay scored just four free throws, Lefkowitz did not miss from the field, and the Zombies could get no closer than five points the rest of the way. The game was much closer than the 50-38 final score indicates, but that just shows how a team as good as the Tigers can dominate even on a night it doesn't play well. Lefkowitz (16 pt.), Muehlgay (14), and Silber (11) each scored in double figures to pace the Tiger attack. The Zombies were led by Jon Bandler (16 pts.) and Gerson Shapiro (13) who combined for 29 of the team's 38 points.

The Tigers then faced the first semester champions, the BOMBERS, who beat them in an overtime game in the first semester championships. However, the Bombers didn't even make the second semester playoffs after they lost center Sammy Reichel to the varsity Macs in mid year. In this best-of-three 1986-1987 championship series, however, the Bombers would again be without the ineligible Reichel and that would mean that Muehlgay would be almost unstoppable inside. In fact he was unstoppable in the first half of the first game, scoring 12 points on a variety of turn-arounds and scoop shots. But Alan Berger and Lazer Borgen were just as hot in the half, scoring 10 and 8 points respectively, to stake the Bombers to a 22-17 lead with just under one minute left in the half. However, the Tigers scored the last five points of the half to knot the score at 22.

This second half was also tight until the Tigers roared ahead with a seven point surge that gave them a lead they would not relinquish. The Tigers won 53-44 to come within one victory of their second consecutive championship, and once again it was Muehlgay (18 pts.), Lefkowitz (15), and Silber (10) who led the scoring. Three Bombers scored in double figures, Borgen (14 pts.), Berger (12), and Simmy Chigger (10), but it just wasn't enough inside to combat the effectiveness of Muehlgay.

The final game proved to be one of the most exciting Y.U. intramural games in recent memory. The Bombers were playing with tremendous intensity because word was out that if the series were tied, Muehlgay's bad shoulder would keep him out of the deciding game, a

situation that gave the Bombers a definite advantage, and therefore much incentive to win the second game. They jumped out to an 11-2 lead and were up by at least five the rest of the half until Lefkowitz took an outlet pass from Muehlgay, dribbled across halfcourt, and let fly a 30-footer that swished as the whistle sounded, cutting the Bombers' lead at halftime to three, 25-22.

In the second half, the teams stayed close until with 14:40 left the Tigers finally gathered some momentum and even took their first lead at 30-29, aided by a technical foul called on Chigger by referee David Ehrman. The teams seemed to be content with trading baskets for the next few minutes until the Bombers put together their own run to jump ahead 50-43 on Larry Hartstein's rebound basket with 1:32 left in the game. From there, the Tigers played flawless basketball and fouled the right people to come back and tie the game on a driving Lefkowitz lay-up with :15 remaining. The Bombers then ran out of time and regulation ended in a 53-53 deadlock.

The overtime twice saw the Bombers take four point leads, at 59-55 and 61-57, but the Tigers hung in and finally went ahead 62-61 on a Gerson Levitz lay-up, his only points of the game. The Bombers had one last chance to win but with :10 left, Lefkowitz stripped Chigger of the ball at the top of the key and raced down court for an uncontested layup as the game ended.

The Tigers were led by 22 points each from Muehlgay and Lefkowitz, and 18 by Silber. Berger paced the Bombers with 25 and Ellis Malovaney added 18. Larry Hartstein played a solid game at point and chipped in with 10 points.

The Tigers are champions, a fitting end to team captain and League Commissioner Barry Weiss' intramural career. Those of us who will be taking over the intramural reigns from Barry would like to thank him for guiding us through the intricacies of scheduling problems and player ineligibility rules and preserving intramurals as an activity that many students take part in and benefit from. Thanks Barry and Congratulations!

Tennis Team

continued from page 24

We controlled SUNY-Maritime easily en route to a 7-2 victory. When we travelled to Danbury to take on Western Connecticut, a team we handled easily last year, we lost 5-4 and by the narrowest of margins.

The major problem, as with other Y.U. teams, is lack of structured practice. Ours happened to be worsened by the lack of any structured coaching. The simple fact is that for five to six months we go to some indoor courts, this year the Binghamton Racquet Club in Edgewater, and play tennis with friends for two hours. Our opponents practice almost every day, all year, and we're supposed to compete in doubles with them, having learned very few doubles techniques. At least this year we moved one step ahead by having guys play together all year so that when the season rolled around we had three formidable doubles teams. But now the idea is to make them more than just formidable.

I see as the root of the problem the same thing that Dr. Shelvlin sees. As he puts it, Y.U. is the only school in which the varsity teams and the classes are one and the same. We can't have 18 guys showing up to play on four courts and expect that our singles players are going to get practice. This is especially noteworthy with the kind of team we have returning. Our top three seeds, Ben Ungar, Leon Levy, and Isak Bloch, are returning, as are our numbers 5 and 6. Also, our four top doubles players will be back. What this means is that new coach, Mickey Aboff has a solid nucleus with which to work. He is familiar with that nucleus because for the past two years he has been that nucleus himself. With the proper structure and practice, next year's team can be one of Y.U.'s best ever.

Hockey

Intramurals

Come to a Close

by **Stu Morduchowitz and Gary Gaschrow**

After an exciting regular season the intramural hockey league is down to its final two teams, the REBEL-RAIDERS and the WILDCATS, who met on May 11th for the league championship. In the first round, the first place and defending champion Rebel-Raiders (with a record of 6-2 and 12 points) beat the fourth place SAINTS (2-5-1, 5 pts.) by a score of 7-2. In the second game, the talented second place CHIEFS (5-3, 10 pts.) were shut out, 2-0, by the aggressive third place Wildcats (4-3-1, 9 pts.).

In the first game, the hustling Saints and the veteran Raiders battled to a 1-1 first period tie on goals by Saints' captain Joel Beasley and Raiders' winger Marc Kwestel. However, in the second period the Raiders' superior talent and experience began to show and they took control of the game. Captain Roni Goldberg played a very strong game and led the Raiders' scoring attack with three goals. Kwestel added another goal and Neal Amiel and Daniel Herenstein each scored once for the Raiders. Mark Littwin scored the Saints' second goal late in the second period.

In the second game, an early power play goal by Steven Weiss and a goal by Mike Shreiber late in the third were all the Wildcats needed as they beat the Chiefs, 2-0. The game was a hard-fought defensive battle in which goaltenders Jeff Slepoy of the Chiefs and David Schlüssel of the Wildcats played superbly. Schlüssel was particularly brilliant in shutting down the high powered Chiefs' offense.

Late Night Runners Making Great Strides

by **Larry Pomeranz**

"Want to get in shape fast!"
"How?"
"Join the track team!"
"Didn't know YU had one."

This spring's track team has been in constant training. Every Monday and Wednesday night, at the odd time of 10:30 PM, the team meets under the auspice of Coach Dr. Bernie Martin in the MSAC. On weekends they run races, normally city-wide races sponsored by the NY Road Runners Club. Such races have included: New Years Eve Midnight Run, Sheraton Centre 10k, Brooklyn Half Marathon, Inwood 10K, and Long Island Half Marathon (12,500

total participants).

Senior Ken Siegel is the captain and the morale leader for the team. This fall, Ken expects to participate in a Double Ironman Competition. That's 52 miles running, 226 miles biking, and 6 miles swimming! Not many people in the world can do that.

Now if you're still under the impression anyone can run, you're wrong. There are try-outs and people have dropped from the team. But as long as you try and put forth full effort, the track team wants YOU. Some of this year's feats are pretty remarkable. Sophomore Avi Berger has run 2 half mara-

thons (13.1 miles each) within a span of two months. Mo Shapiro, through hours of hard, dedicated work has trimmed over 11 minutes off his time in the indoor mile (16 laps). This year's best time for the indoor mile is 5 minutes and 31 seconds. Try it some time! Next year's captain, Jon Katzauer, along with Avi Berger and Larry Pomeranz, plan to run in the New York City Marathon in October.

Everyone on the team puts out full effort and this team is especially unified, and most of all, always looking for a race. If you're interested, come try out next fall!

Y.U. Basketball Intramurals

Final Scoring

	G	FG	FT	PTS	AVG
1. Deltcher, Jordans	10	68	37	173	17.3
2. Berger, Bombers	12	89	24	202	16.8
3. Muehlgay, Tigers	14	98	37	233	16.6
4. Rothchild, Zombies	6	44	8	96	16.0
5. Shub, Yugars	12	72	41	185	15.4

compiled by **Barry Weiss**

Photo by YUPR

Yeshiva Sports

Baseball Team Adds Color to Y.U.

by Larry Blustein

The long history of major league baseball is filled with colorful moments like Babe Ruth, Earlham Fudge, and Dizzy Dean. The story goes that after the Dean brothers each shot out the Dodgers in a doubleheader, with Dizzy picking a replacement that Dizzy, a so-called "Dizzy" himself, "I found he was given them a challenge. Not them out here."

Calvin Johnson, second baseman for the Yankees, was the first to ever hit a home run in the National League. He was called "Dizzy" because he was so fast.

A perfect example is Dizzy Dean, who was called "Dizzy" because he was so fast. He was called "Dizzy" because he was so fast.

with his active wit.

The Macc lost all three of their games this season, two to Northeastern Bible College and one to Brooklyn Polytech, which just edged the Maccs 13-12 in a thriller. YIBC needed to rally from a 4-0 deficit to edge the Maccs in the season finale.

Had the team practiced at all it surely would have recorded some victories. Professor Avram Schreiber and Izy Marcus had control problems but always swung in tough against opposing hitters. All in all, the Maccs played admirably and at the same time enjoyed themselves. And isn't that what sports are all about?

Nevertheless, the YU baseball program is not a healthy one. The Maccs managed to play the three games this year due to the extraordinary efforts of co-captains Jeff Shuler and Goldberg, the originator of the team. Both are graduating and there is no coach ready to take over. Alberto Director (El Shasha) has said that he will make efforts to establish a YU varsity baseball team. He believes that the team must practice at least three times a week with coaching in order to create a successful program. Unless the students show a significant interest in the team and are willing to practice regularly, the baseball team appears to be doomed.

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Captains Hershert and Garrod, shown here with left captain (from l. to r.) Ayal Hod, Yoram Silver, and Lior Hod, have said that the 87-88 Maccs season will be their best.

Maccs Future Looks Bright

by Ted Dick

Now that the 1986-87 YU baseball season is over, it can be analyzed in a clear perspective. The season was filled with a couple of high and low points. The Maccs enjoyed impressive victories over Northeastern and Stevens Tech, but suffered embarrassing defeats to Polytech and SUNY-Parkland. Coach Hershert's press-conference was quite true: "We have the potential to beat any team on our schedule as well as the capacity to be beaten by any team on our schedule." The team's final record of 10-13, although seemingly not very good, was really not that bad. Before criticizing the 86-87 Maccs, one has to realize that the team did its best given quite a number of obstacles.

To begin with, most of the players were competing in their first season of college basketball.

This meant that members of the team needed time to learn about each other both on and off the court. Yoram starts Lior and Ayal Hod were relatively consistent throughout the season. Ayal averaged 19.9 points and 9.5 rebounds per game, while Lior averaged 18.9 points, 7 rebounds, and 4 assists each on 31. However, it took other players longer to get onto the floor. Jeff Baum struggled early on, but eventually became a key defensive player along with Dossy Purer, the second half of the team. Together they averaged nearly 8 steals per game. Benji Reichel also started slowly, but eventually turned into a major contributor for the Maccs, in both scoring (10.1 ppg) and rebounding (7.5 per game).

Along with the new faces came inexperience. Suenly, former Yeshiva high school stars were no longer scoring twenty points per game, and were even struggling against the bigger and faster opposition. The players had to adjust their game to the college level.

Unfortunately, the Maccs were beset with a barrage of injuries, beginning with a season-ending knee injury to 6'7" David Harit in just his fourth game. Ayal Hod then broke his ankle, and Reichel, looking left out, fractured his nose and missed the last five games of the season. There were only the most serious of the injuries, which became so commonplace that co-captain Lior Hod's favorite line became, "Baum, you're playing center!"

Finally, a few games scheduled against Guy Tillman (Florida's version of Michael Jordan) and friends didn't help, but the Maccs still finished well down the stretch to prove that next year is something worth waiting for.

Yeshiva fans can look forward to the 87-88 season with overwhelming excitement. With the

Hod Brothers Honored

by Michael Cohen

This year's co-captains of the YU Maccs basketball team, Lior and Ayal Hod, have ended the year with numerous postseason honors. After being selected to the Independent Athletic Conference second and first teams respectively, the brothers were also recognized in the College Division Jewish All-American team for players from Division two and three. Lior received an honorable mention, while Ayal earned the role of co-star on the first team. It is interesting to note that although Ayalled with 20 points and 9.5 rebounds per game, from 66.5% shooting, Lior was a very close second with 18.9 points and 7 rebounds per game and 53.4% shooting. He also had 91 assists and 55 steals.

When asked for a reaction to the honor, the Hods noted that basketball is team sport. While one or two players may compile impressive statistics, they are only the result of a team effort. Lior stressed that without the backing of players like Yudi Teichman and Jeff Baum, the team's statistics as well as his own could not be as noteworthy as they are.

Volleyball Team Making Progress

by Beama Stone

Every Monday and Wednesday from 9 to 11 PM, a dedicated group of athletes practice in the Max Stern Athletic Center gymnasium in almost total anonymity. These people are college-wide known as the YU Volleyball team. Their anonymity, however, does not dampen their spirit, as their practices are filled with enthusiasm and all-out effort.

The team itself has been in a rebuilding year. At the beginning of the year, the coaching job was handed by Curtis Artrum, Assistant Athletic Director, but at mid-year, Mr. Omar Vargas moved in from CCNY. The latter said that "This has been the biggest challenge in volleyball for me, as I have been faced with teaching a group of fine athletes with few volleyball skills. The team that I started out with and the team I have now are



Y.U. Tennis Team—front row, l. to r.—Dariusz Sawart, Mickey Abelf, Jeff Goldberg, back row, l. to r.—Karyn Langford, Rachel Vard, Gail Luvick, Steve Siegel, Jon Federer, Elie Barman, Paul Glick, Ben Unger.

Y.U. Tennis Team Completes Mediocre Season

by Jonathan Berman

The disappointment that was this year's tennis season came about as a result of a number of factors, some of which were our own doing, others the result of both problems in the structure of the team itself. Certainly there can be no complaints on the part of fans or players when all your opponents get better and your quality simply regresses. However, that in no way is the goal in the Independent Athletic Conference, the league in which Yeshiva University is a member.

Matches against non-conference opponents are really not

worth discussing in this article. The only one we completed was a narrow 5-4 loss to Pratt Institute on their indoor courts that are roughly the equivalent of a gym floor. Any team that attempts to play on such a surface without ever practicing on it cannot possibly expect to win, and for that matter a 5-4 loss is highly respectable. Our other non-conference matches were either postponed (John Jay, to be made up next week), or dropped in the middle due to heavy downpour (Brooklyn College).

Within the league is where we suffered our setbacks. This year's strong performance, we engaged for a long time in a friendship. An idea to Stevens Tech was discussed, though many of the ideas were not played on. Technology expired. We match last week, to lose the doubles to

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