

The Commentator

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YU Students Attend Conference on Plight of Jewish Refugees

by Behnam Dayanim

On October 26, the World Organization of Jews from Arab Countries (WOJAC) convened for its third international conference, declaring that it is now time to focus world attention on the plight of the "forgotten millions" of Jewish refugees from Islamic countries, as well as the many subjugated and oppressed relatives left behind. The conference drew a host of prominent personages, including the Israeli Ambassadors to both the U.S. and United Nations, senators and congressmen, diplomats, leading academics, and several Jewish communal leaders. YU was represented by Rabbi Mitchell Serels, Director of Sephardic Community Programs, and a delegation of Sephardic students led by YC Sephardic Society President Ofshin Sachmechian.

The opening sessions were highlighted by a series of addresses dealing with the problem of compensation for Jewish refugees from Arab countries and the recent passage of a Knesset resolution on the subject. While the resolution is non-binding in nature, Israel Singer, Secretary-General of the World Jewish Congress, expressed the opinion that it

nevertheless served a valuable purpose in its "posturing" as a statement of support and is realistically as much as the Knesset can do in the absence of formal peace negotiations between Israel and its Arab neighbors. Several speakers, however, criticized the Knesset both for its tardiness in addressing the issue of Jewish refugees and its weak manner in finally doing so. Unfavorable comparisons to its efforts in publicizing the ravages of the European Holocaust and such worthy causes as Soviet and Ethiopian Jewry were also forthcoming quite regularly. Leon Tamman, Chairman of the WOJAC Presidium, struck a harsh note in his conference welcome, condemning long Arab mistreatment of their Jewish inhabitants and crying "they shall have to pay for their guilt when they stand before the Almighty with the blood of innocents on their hands". He also noted that Article VIII of the Camp David Accords between Israel and Egypt obligates the two parties to discuss "mutual settlement of all financial claims," both of Jews and Arabs. Dr. Raphael Yisraeli, a professor at Hebrew University, followed Mr. Tamman with an analysis of

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Talent Shown

by Mark Sheiner

Some of Yeshiva University's finest talent was displayed before a packed Koch auditorium crowd of over 350 as YC and Stern students competed for the first prize of one hundred dollars in the semi-annual talent night. The acts were diverse, ranging from a capella 50's style to a one person drama. The panel of judges was comprised of Dr. William Lee, Professor of English at Yeshiva College, Mrs. Rena Elisha, Director of the Stern Drama Society, and Hesh Rephun, graduate of Yeshiva College and former president of YCDS.

The evening started off with a bang with the milkmen singing a trio of 50's melodies. Displaying their musical abilities,

Simcha Dauer and Josh Shoshan entertained the audience with their rendition of Bob Dylan tunes and other old favorites.

The evening's acts proceeded at an efficient pace, with no act extending over the ten minute time limit. This feature proved to be an additional boon of the event by providing those in attendance with a varied selection of entertainment in a relatively short time span. However all did not run smoothly as certain technical difficulties postponed some acts. These problems were quickly surmounted by the able staff that was responsible for the night's events.

The stars of the evening, in continued on page 8



Mrs. Jihan Sadat, wife of the late President of Egypt, Anwar Sadat, has recently been announced an honoree at the annual Channuka dinner. The other honoree is Israel's Minister of Defense, Shimon Peres.

Consul General Moshe Yegar Speaks on US-Israel Friendship

by Josh Fruchter

Though as Jews we take an active interest in Israel and her continued security, we are all too often ignorant of the specific considerations and concerns that motivate Israel's actions and shape her policies. On Tuesday, Nov. 3 at 8 P.M. in Rubin Shul, Ambassador Moshe Yegar, Consul General of Israel, lectured to a large group of Yeshiva College and Stern students on the factors, both domestic and international, that affect Israel's decisions. For the most part Ambassador Yegar emphasized Israel's relationship with the United States and how American foreign policy plays a role in Israeli political thinking.

Ambassador Yegar began by redefining the concept of an independent nation as the term applies to the 20th century. Ambassador Yegar pointed out that in today's world even superpowers like the United States and Russia are constrained by the complexities of international life. For example, Russia could easily smother the insurgency in Afghanistan with their far superior firepower; and yet they do not, mainly because the Russians fear a hostile public reaction.

Ambassador Yegar delineated three phenomena that have helped curtail superpowers' independence in policy-making. Advances in modern technology have led to superior communication as well as production of weapons capable of mass destruction. "Intense economic ties" have also developed in the international area. Young diplomats study and analyze international trade at great length before filling

high level posts. Finally, the influence of the media and publicity has grown steadily over the years and to paraphrase Napoleon, "One newspaper equals six divisions." The combination of these realities have limited the U.S., U.S.S.R. and other superpowers in their actions and, "Kal Vachomer," smaller nations like Israel feel restricted as well.

Relatively speaking, Israel enjoys a greater independence than most other countries. No foreign nation operates military bases on her soil. Israel does not belong to any international organizations, aside from the United Nations where she may as well not be a member anyway. Of course this independence carries costs such as the absence of reliable allies in war and, very often, the image of an outcast.

Three major considerations dictate Israel's notional agenda. Defense has always been a prime concern and Israel must remain prepared for any eventuality. A second element in Israeli policy is Kibbutz Galuyot. The determination to aid needy Jews around the globe without consideration of cost has led Israel to deal, albeit often covertly, with enemy countries such as Sudan and controversial nations such as South Africa. Thirdly, the Israeli population insists on a democratic government chosen by popular election.

Though Israel primarily formulates her policies based on the above considerations, she cannot help but to pay attention to American opinions and directives. The U.S. contributes \$3 billion annually to

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Yeshiva's Chinese Contingent

by Jonathan Bandler

A number of Yeshiva and Stern College students participated this past weekend in the annual University of Pennsylvania Model United Nations Conference (UPMUNC) at the Sheraton Center in Philadelphia.

The conference, in its 21st year, gives college students from around the country the opportunity to experience the diplomacy of a world body such as the United Nations. As in the past, the U of P event was run professionally, without hitches, and did in fact feature the heated debate which exemplifies interaction between nations.

Some of the main issues that were dealt with included: the Iran-Iraq war, the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan, UN peacekeeping forces, world population control, and human rights in the West Bank and in El Salvador.

Ten members of the Joseph P. Dunner Political Science Society, five each from YC and Stern, comprised the Chinese delegation in the various committees. Head Delegates Adam Chill (Special Political committee), Behnam Dayanim (Security Council), and Ilana Kopmar (Social, Humanitarian, and Cultural affairs committee along with Eric Fier) divided up the remaining members of the delegation according to previous Model UN experience. Yossi Goldman and Batya Rozwaski served on the Disarmament committee; Laura Greenfield and Claudine Sokol on the General Assembly Plenary committee; Jonathan Bandler on the Human Rights Commission; and Elana Silbermintz on the Trade and Development committee.

In addition, a group of Yeshiva students representing the Aspiring Collegiate, served as the delegation from Argentina. These students were: Jason Ciment, Keith Brooks, Jeffrey Goldberg, Menachem Goldstein, Elliot Kramer, Jeff Lumerman, Lawrence Stroll, and Stephanie Fernandez.

The conference began on Thursday with a brief registration period and the opening session for all committees, and continued through the awards ceremony on Sunday morning.

Best Delegate Awards did elude the YU students, though each delegate participated strongly in formal debate and caucusing, and was able to pass their own resolutions or co-sponsor resolutions with delegates from other nations. The inability to participate in the Friday night and Saturday sessions limited the YU students' effectiveness though their spirit was maintained throughout the sessions they did attend.

Editorials

Give Student Management A Chance

Morg Mart. That treasured institution of late night snacks and socializing. Long a private enterprise run by YC students, this year Morg Mart has embarked upon a new phase in its existence. YCSC, in consultation with the Office of the Dean of Students, has turned over operations to an outside manager, Mr. Avi Zimmer. Mr. Zimmer, operator of the game room, has instituted a variety of changes in the market's service and structure. He has eliminated student hiring, claiming such help to be superfluous, has reduced his inventory, and raised prices. Examples include the elimination of orange juice and a \$.55 charge for candy bars that cost him only \$.29 wholesale. His reasons are simple. The sale of such expensive items as juice do not bring in sufficient profit. Therefore, he does not offer them.

Such is the way of the American entrepreneur; profit is the bottom line. Yet the entrepreneur exists in a competitive framework and Mr. Zimmer has no competition. Unless the student wishes to venture off-campus in search of a late night bodega, he has no alternative but to patronize Mr. Zimmer's establishment.

Mr. Zimmer receives 45% of Morg Mart's profit in accordance with his contract with YCSC, while the Council receives the rest. The contract may be terminated at any time should Mr. Zimmer fail to fulfill his obligations in a manner satisfactory to the Council.

THE COMMENTATOR would like to ask why an outside manager was hired in the first place? The desire of YCSC to increase its revenues is commendable and should be applauded, yet that Morg Mart is first and foremost a student service should not be forgotten. It can offer a valuable opportunity for interested and responsible students to learn first-hand about management and has offered in the past a convenient place of employment for cash-strapped students. If Mr. Zimmer cannot even maintain the quality and selection to which we have been accustomed, then perhaps the alternative of student management should be explored.

Student Expression Makes A Difference

One characteristic common to all YC students is complaint. It seems no matter what the issue, someone feels upset. Yet no one ever acts on their concerns. For instance, how many of us have participated in informal conversations lamenting the decline of the cafeteria over the past two years? And how many of us are uneasy over the grading changes in YC, IBC, and JSS? Or the dress code?

While it is not our purpose to debate in this space the merits of these items, it is a matter of curiosity and consternation as to why this inaction persists. Perhaps it can be attributed to a unique double curriculum, demanding so much of the student's time as to render him unable or unwilling to pursue anything. Or maybe the answer lies in the supposedly general trend toward apathy on our nation's college campuses. Perhaps the student feels unable to effect any change in the face of a seemingly immovable YU bureaucracy.

Yet change can be accomplished through student persistence. Letters to the Editor, contact with elected student representatives and the Office of the Dean of Students, and, failing all else, active and open expression of legitimate gripes can alleviate almost any problem. But the students must take the initiative and show that they care before anyone will take them seriously.

In the hope of uncovering sources of student concern and the trend of student opinion, THE COMMENTATOR is preparing a comprehensive survey addressing major issues, ranging from the tangible to the abstract, that face our YU community today. If answered seriously and with thought, this survey can provide a starting point for the resumption of students' active involvement as contributing partners in our school environment.

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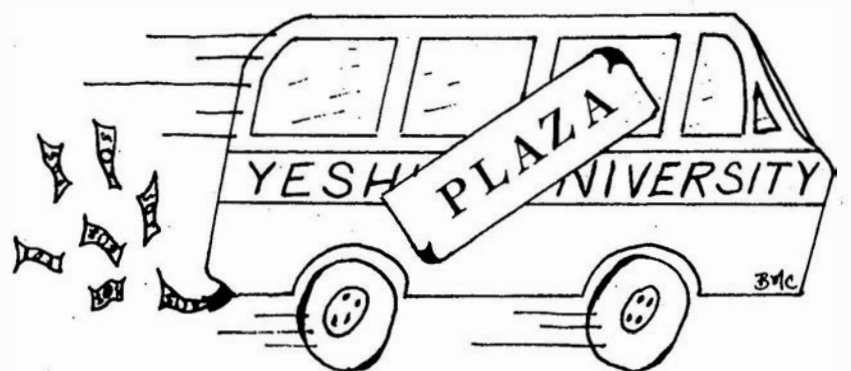
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Throwing Money Out the Exhaust?

Reluctance to employ student drivers for YU vans is legitimate. However, many question the contracting of the so far inefficient Plaza Van Service as a case of overreaction and perhaps exorbitant expense.

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Response & Opinion

Getting The Facts Straight

To The Editor:

As the manager of the Furman Dining Hall, I would like to respond to the letter written by Asher Meth in the COMMENTATOR of October 29, 1987.

Regarding Shabbat waiters and how they are paid, Mr. Meth should get his facts straight. As can be verified by the waiters, they are now paid in denominations of \$4.00, and even smaller denominations when they have requested that. No waiter has complained to me about the method of payment. If any waiter is holding tickets in his drawer that he cannot use, I will gladly exchange them. What puzzles me is that if the waiters are not happy with the method of payment, why do they still request to work? I would not work for "worthless currency", and I am sure that our waiters are smart enough not to either. The waiting list for Shabbat waiters is enormous, even though we tend to hire extra help in order to give jobs to those that need them.

As to the Rosh Hashana service charge, we feel that the \$2.00 was reasonable. Although it is true that ample food is prepared beforehand, we do not bring in the proper amount of help until we have the approximate head count. If there are cancellations we end up with too much help. Management and students both want lower prices and better quality. We have to cooperate with each other in order to achieve those goals. How many students were there who did not even bother to inform us of their cancellations? The plastic set up that was used for the holidays was fancy and expensive in honor of the holiday. It was purchased only for the holiday. It should be mentioned that the price charged to the students in no way covered the cost of the meals.

As I have told my employees numerous times, the YU Food Service is here to serve the needs of the students first and foremost. We want the student to enjoy his meal as a satisfied customer. Our relationship is a long term one. I am open to all suggestions as to how to improve the service in the cafeteria. Please feel free to call on me anytime. Let us work together to improve the food service area, and end the antagonism that exists between the students and the management.

Alan H. Solomon

Manager, Furman Dining Hall

Does a YU Education Prepare its Students?

by Dov Pinchot

In the last issue of Commentator, Leonard Gross explained the different philosophical opinions on what the goal of studying secular courses at YU should be. I felt the opinions quoted and even an occasional comment by Mr. Gross need some clarification.

The failure of our education to provoke thought and provide answers to the many religious challenges of contemporary society places today's students in an ignorant and therefore vulnerable position. In my experience over the last two years, I have been asked questions which I had never heard raised before and had no answers to. I met a girl in Israel who was majoring in Biblical criticism. She tore apart our holiest book (I say our because she was also Jewish and had received a day school education) while quoting names like Wellhausen and Spinoza. She asked me what the purpose of the Jewish people was; why were we chosen, and why was it necessary for anyone to be chosen at all? She spoke of belief as if one who still held to it was living life in the middle ages. A philosophy major at an Ivy League school once

lectured me on relativism in today's universe, especially in religion. Islam, Judaism, Christianity, Buddhism — very intelligent men have believed in all of them. He explained how Newton shattered the foundations of religion and how Einstein swept the broken pieces out the door forever. Another person asked me why we believe the Christians are mistaken in thinking they are the new chosen people. The son of a holocaust survivor challenged my ability to believe in divine justice after the holocaust. These questions may be sprung on anyone living in today's world, as in fact they often are. The fact that I did not have ready answers to them did not bother me, answers to deep questions are not always available. The fact that I had never even heard of them made me worried, worried that the education I was receiving was not preparing me to face life's challenges.

Welcome to the late twentieth century. Living in the diaspora is not responsible for my exposure to these ideas. The lectures of the secular Jews in Israel would be just as problematic, and certainly much more caustic in tone.

Western culture permeates our lives. It reaches us when we wake to the radio, as we read the daily newspaper, at the workplace, when we watch television, and when we talk to our friends. It has produced great advances in many facets of life, but simultaneously, it has raised problems for our religious beliefs. Like myself, most people discover these problems from the wrong person. We need to know about opposing thoughts, be led to see their weaknesses, and be shown how rich Judaism really is, in the classroom. This is how a Jew develops rational pride in his religion. This should be the goal of YU.

In last issue's article, Rabbi Aaron Kahn stated, "We ought to approach the secular departments with the ultimate goal that everything has to be analyzed in a halachic crucible, and if something is inappropriate it should not be taught, and if somebody is inappropriate they should not be teaching." A strong case can be made for rejecting inappropriate teachers at YU (the word inappropriate is quite vague). But what determines an inappropriate subject? If we cannot close the culture out then we had better understand what it is about and also know what our response as Jews should be. This idea was stated quite clearly in the academic freedom article, panned by five YU

professors:

"Temporary over-protectionism is almost certain to prove ineffective over the long run. Quite apart from the active rebellion it often provokes, at the cost of short range or long range demoralization, the hothouse simply cannot be maintained. Can Yeshiva possibly fulfill its responsibilities without preparing its graduates for situations as challenging, controversial, and diverse as the medical internship, the accountant's luncheon with a client, the Rabbi's interview with an alienated congregant, the simple perusal of the New York Times, the New Republic, the National Review?"

Mr. Gross finds advantages in Rav Kahn's doctrine. "...This opinion as presented by Rabbi Kahn as an ideal educational philosophy has its advantages - it can teach the student the methodology necessary to differentiate truth as the torah sees it, from the potentially misleading truths of the secular world." He later reports that, "Rabbi Kahn's educational philosophy, although lacking some of the absolute challenges, insures that the right questions be raised and the appropriate answers be given." Is Mr. Gross implying that there are truths which contradict Judaism's foundations? That we insure the right questions are raised by ignoring questions which

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Budget Review

by Eric Zaiman

If there is a silver lining to the stock market's Black Monday, it is that at least the President and Congress have been forced to recognize the precarious position the U.S. economy is in. For the last six years, the Reagan administration has compiled the largest budgetary deficits in American history. The National debt has exploded, reaching the \$2.37 trillion mark. Consequently, America has become one of the largest debtor nations in the world. Only a few years ago she had been the largest single creditor nation. By running huge budgetary deficits, the Federal government puts great pressure on the credit markets, interest rates are forced up, and economic growth and prosperity are stifled. Up until now the budgetary deficits were financed, to a large extent, by the influx of foreign capital into American financial markets. However, due to the weakened U.S. dollar and instability of the stock market, large amounts of these moneies have been withdrawn from the American financial markets. Continued weakness in the dollar and continued instability in the equity and credit markets will keep foreign capital out.

Consequently, the only viable course of action for the President and Congress is to reduce the budgetary deficit by large amounts in the next two years. The plan is based on two fundamental elements: Firstly, to initiate real welfare and social security reforms as well as certain cuts in defense. Secondly, to oppose increased taxes. This plan will bring spending in line with revenues as opposed to maintaining overspending at the expense of the taxpayer.

While these cuts may be politically unattractive, they are economically essential. In 1985, Social Insurance outlays and retirement benefits constituted a whopping 57.5% of the Federal budget. That represented a 7.9% share of the Gross National Product. In the mid-session review of the 1988 fiscal year budget, the Office of Management and Budget calculated the current estimates of education, training, unemployment, social services, medicare, income security and social security at \$451.4 billion, or 43.7% of the federal budget. Simply speaking, social security and welfare represent the largest portion of the budget. Despite the deep cuts in other entitlements and social programs, the budget has grown out of control. Social security cuts

and reforms must be considered. By reforming social security, the government will make the program more efficient and might even be able to transform it into a program that can continue to pay out benefits without funding from the federal government. Welfare reform, an issue already being addressed by Congress, will bring more people back into the workforce and off the welfare dole.

As for defense, the Office of Management and Budget's current year estimates for the fiscal year 1988 call for a \$297.6 billion defense outlay, representing 28.8% of the budget. Defense, while badly in need of the large budgetary increases of 1981 after the years of decay it suffered through the Carter administration, is quite strong now. We no longer need monumental defense spending to maintain a defensive posture.

Indeed, social security, welfare, defense and net interest payments make up 85.8% of the entire federal budget. Congress and the President therefore have no choice but to take action and make cuts in these areas.

However, the most important element in the plan is resistance to pressure for tax increases. Tax increases will certainly help reduce the budget gap, but they

will also protect and maintain the insufficiencies within the budget. More significantly, tax increases reduces the amount of disposable income each person has and that in turn causes a contraction in consumer spending, and private investment. In short, tax increases will cause a contraction in the economy. Taxes that pay for increased government spending contract the economy more than government spending expands it. The Reagan tax cuts have been a boom to the American economy and are the foundation of one of the largest periods of economic growth in U.S. history. The decrease in aggregate demand caused by reduced spending can be easily offset by the benefits of lower interest rates and looser credit conditions that will result from the smaller budgetary deficit.

The road to economic sanity and calm financial markets lays clearly before Congress and the White House. It will not be easy politically. Social security and welfare have long been sacrosanct. However, this is a crisis period. If Congress and the President do not send a strong sign to Wall Street that budget deficits are on their way down, the American economy will be pushed into the abyss of a deep recession and the collapse of the securities markets. The result would make the Great Depression of the 1930's pale by comparison.

The author is the interim VP of the Young Republicans

News Around Campus

Students Meet With Caf Manager

by Shmu Katz

Since the beginning of the school year, one of the major issues discussed on campus has been the cafeteria. Complaints have been made about almost everything that could be mentioned, but to no avail. The reason was that these complaints were not, and could not be, made formally. This has changed.

The Food Services Committee, chaired by Meyer Cohen, met with Alan Solomon, manager of the cafeteria. This committee was formed to present the students' opinions, requests, and criticisms to the cafeteria management. It will also be the cafeteria's method of reaching the student body.

First on the agenda at the meeting was the issue of morning business hours. A considerable number of students had complained about the earlier hours and had asked that the cafeteria remain open after 10:30 as it is difficult for them to get there any earlier. They also wished to eat in the cafeteria between classes, a situation that supposedly can no longer be.

Mr. Solomon's reply was that the cafeteria has been open till 11:00 since the beginning of the year; whoever stated that it closed at 10:30 has erroneous information. Furthermore, the cafeteria staff needs that time to clear off the hot-food counters, clean them, and prepare them for lunch. This break also gives the management the opportunity to give the cashier her union required break. Should the cafeteria remain open during that time, students coming after 11:00 would badger the staff to "make one exception" for them and serve them, which would disrupt the cafeteria schedule.

When queried about the late night hours, and the fact that the promised sandwich machine had not yet materialized, Mr. Solomon assured the committee that every effort is being made to install the machine. He reiterated that this machine will give the students a replacement service to late night service which will actually be accessible later than the late night service

would be.

The point was raised that on Shabbat the selection is too limited, and after weekly doses of the same food the students are complaining of a lack of selection. Mr. Solomon agreed with this, but blamed it on the students. Too many students come in at the last minute expecting to be served. As a result the cafeteria cannot prepare special dishes, as they do not know far enough in advance how many to make. The only way to alleviate this problem would be to get the students to make their reservations before Friday, giving the cafeteria enough time to prepare enough food. With regard to the price situation and the possibility of a meal plan, it was noted that the cafeteria gives a sizeable portion of food for a reasonable price. Furthermore, there is a special offered every night at an economical rate. Overall, prices are still far below those of normal restaurants.

The meal plan underwent long discussion, and a plan was proposed that would entail the printing of \$50 or \$100 coupon books, containing coupons in denominations of \$5. Students could purchase these books for a reduced rate and use the coupons to buy meals. Change would be given from the register, ensuring that students receive their money's worth. Further, the Office of Student Finances could offer these books to needy students at a substantially reduced rate. These students could then purchase their meals in the same way as the other students and thus avoid the embarrassment of being seen to be unable to pay.

These issues will all be dealt with in future by the committee and the cafeteria management. So it is now expected that students will lend their support to issues, or give voice to issues that have none, as the student voice will help in raising attention to a problem or solution. Thus, it is asked that students should approach a member of the committee if they have any ideas or suggestions.

Resident Council Back In Action

by Ari Levitan

The Yeshiva College Resident Council convened for the first time this year to discuss items ranging from the varying amount of heat received in rooms to the absence of WYUR broadcasting to Muss Hall. The meeting was called, on Wednesday November 4th, to clarify the difficulties that students may be experiencing in the dorms and to suggest solutions.

"The purpose of the Resident Council is to discuss and implement suggestions aimed at improving the quality of student life in the residence halls", according to Rabbi Joshua Cheifetz, Director of Residence Halls. The council enables students' comments and complaints regarding the dormitory and life surrounding it to reach the appropriate people who can make the necessary changes. The council serves to give a voice to the students, and thus each floor has its own representative.

Resident Council 1987

Morgenstern	
Seth Kadish	M212
Eugene Melamud	M312
Gil Frieman	M421
Ari Levitan	M529
Stephen Piekarz	M505
Eduard Lowenthal	M627
Ari Hirt	M701
Chaim Wietschner	M802

Rubin	
Michael Arzovane	R210
Henry Praw	R318
Boruch Lipner	R412
Lee Nathanson	R506
Jan Levine	R622
Michael Unterberg	R722

Muss	
David Kupchik	MU378
Lee Niren	MU484
Doron Spierer	MU584
Aaron Tirschwell	MU368
Rabbi Cheifetz - Director of Residence Halls	

The New Muss Hall

by Michael Bahn

In the past two years Riets Hall has seen major reparations, particularly a new name. The hall was renamed Muss Hall in August 1986 in honor of Rabbi Hyman and Ruth Muss. This year's repairs are part of this ongoing process that will ultimately refurbish the entire hall. Riets Hall was the original dormitory of Yeshiva, but over the past thirty years it has been used for other purposes—such as the radio station, music school and office. Only the third floor has been used exclusively as a dormitory for semicha students during this period.

Last year, the fourth floor was renovated and stocked with new furniture for the 1986-87 school year. This year it was the fifth floor's turn. Work began in the summer to completely remodel and modernize the floor which had been condemned for many years. However, there was more than one summer's worth of work to be done, and it is not completely ready. The major

problem on the floor is the lack of working showers and lavatories due to the continuing maintenance. The residents of the fifth floor must go to the fourth floor in order to use these facilities; a major inconvenience that is always mentioned first by the students when asked about problems which they have experienced on the floor. In addition, an old medical suite, consisting of five rooms, need extensive work, and is not finished. On the plus side, there are new beds and dressers, and the students are generally satisfied. If everything had gone according to schedule these problems would have been solved by the end of Sukkot vacation, but when students returned they found the same situation. The third floor already has ten rooms that have been renovated and the rest of the rooms should finally be ready by this printing. The second floor, is also scheduled for repairs and these should begin next year.



YC Delegation to the U. of P. Model UN.
Front: Behnam Dayanim (l) and Adam Chill, head delegates.
Back: (l-r) Yossi Goldman, Eric Fier, and Jon Bandler

"Our Family Table"

Home of the 'Big J' over 5,862 sold
Come in for our luncheon specials
Featuring Burgers, Fries, Soda, and ...
Introducing the "Bubba Burger"
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towards a free soda or punch
with purchase of every Bubba Burger,
Big J, or Super Saul

Morg Mart Under New Ownership

by Neil Torczyner

Upon returning from summer break, the students of YU have noticed something different. Our sacred Morg Mart has been changed! Last year, and for many years before it, Morg Mart had been run by the Jacobowitz family. The brothers, who had run the store efficiently for numerous years, had paid two hundred dollars a month rent to YU. All profits made by Morg Mart were then kept by the family. Towards the end of the Spring 1987 semester, Dean Nulman had a meeting with members of YCSC. It was stated that this was the last semester that a

Jacobowitz family member would be attending Yeshiva University. The members of this meeting came to a decision that a private contractor should be hired to run Morg Mart.

A deal was arranged with the proprietor of A & P Vending Corp, Avi Zimmer, to run Morg Mart. According to Dean Nulman, the Yeshiva College Student Council receives a boost of fifty-five percent of Morg Mart's profits a month. Zimmer who lived in Israel for the last ten years and attended college there, estimated that for the month of September, YCSC received a windfall of 680 dollars. Taking

into account that September was a short month, YCSC should receive 750-850 dollars a month from Morg Mart.

Another change made was that students no longer work in Morg Mart. Zimmer feels since he has to travel uptown every night, there is no reason why students should be needed there.

Morg Mart is well stocked with snacks. In addition, Zimmer is always helpful. If one has any requests or comments, feel free to speak to him. Morg Mart is open Sunday and Thursday from ten until twelve, and Monday through Wednesday from ten until one.



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Science Series

by Tzvi Dresdner

A new series of science lectures was initiated recently, focusing on current research and health related issues. It is sponsored by Alpha Epsilon Delta, the Honors Science Research Society, and the Med Sci club, and opened on November 4th.

This initial lecture was given by Dr. Yvon Cayre of the Sloan Kettering Memorial Research Center, Department of Immunology. Dr. Cayre began his lecture with a brief explanation of leukemia (blood cancer) and continued with an in depth examination of the latest research techniques aimed at providing a greater understanding and viable treatment for the disease. Dr. Cayre's years of research enabled him to give a lecture which did not just relay information, but added insight and understanding that only experience could provide. He discussed theories on the causes of the disease, as well as the research and clinical obstacles which must be overcome before a cure is to be found. Although the lecture was extremely in-depth and technical, the approximately 80 Y.C. and Stern students found the lecture to be an excellent opportunity to gain first hand knowledge regarding this branch of research, which is on the frontier of medical science.

Dr. Cayre began by explaining that leukemogenesis occurs when stem cells do not fully differentiate, thereby causing a deficiency of red blood cells. The goal of most research, he explained, is either to find out why the cells stop differentiating, or to discover a "cure" which would trigger the cells to begin differentiating again.

Researchers have already discovered that most leukemia cells have a mutation at the 9th and the 22nd chromosome, resulting in the mutant "Philadelphia chromosome" which affects tyrosine kinase synthesis. Dr. Cayre also discussed the concept of oncogenes, cancer cells that are caused by gene altering viruses.

Dr. Cayre disputed the theory of clonality, which states that leukemia patients have a special type of stem cell, and identical clones of these stem cells are responsible for the disease. One of his arguments is based on information regarding bone marrow transplant recipients. With these transplants, stem cells of the recipient are replaced with stem cells of a donor. Yet there have been reported cases where the recipient developed leukemia while donor did not.

Regarding treatments, Dr. Cayre discussed research concerned with the resistance that leukemia cells develop towards many chemotherapeutic agents. He expressed the most optimism toward a new type of research which has developed leukemia cell lines in vitro. These cells, which have stopped differentiating, are

treated with various drugs, so that they resume differentiating. If an in vitro method of causing differentiation is discovered, perhaps an in vivo method could be developed which would cause leukemia patients' stem cells to completely differentiate and thereby cure the illness.

good as well as for the good of the Jewish community. Rabbi Carmy is paraphrased as saying, "The challenge created by the professor for the student, with a presentation of the material which provokes the questions without offering predigested solutions is by far more worthwhile and more accurate to life's challenges, than a mixed presentation by a man wearing two hats." Dr. Lee expresses similar sentiments. Realistically, I do not believe that most students in YU are up to the task of formulating their own answers to the difficult questions which surround us. What is required is a think-tank of top YU

professors and a group of students who will grapple with the problems and try to find responses acceptable to the modern student. Then the issues and suggested answers could be presented to the student body.

Rabbi Michael Rosensweig made a few fundamental points in the article, clearly defining

the guidelines within which a Jewish student should study other cultures. "...One's goal should be: What is the Torah perspective?... It is better to deal with [Mada], religiously more desirable - although uncomfortable." As Jews our first obligation is to try to understand how Judaism responds to the events and influences which surround us. By doing this, we can develop a deeper appreciation for Judaism. We bring Judaism up to date; not that Judaism ever changes, just that different questions are asked and new answers are needed. Dr. Lee summarized the purpose of YU: "YC should provide an environment that fosters each individual's search for an authentic self, and each individual's search for firm grounds of belief." Rabbi Rosensweig was quoted as saying, "Religious obligation has to supersede the academic one." I believe our religious obligation creates the academic one.

Mr. Gross' article concluded with a quote from Dr. Lamm:

[Discussion of Torah U'Mada] is important because if truth is an understanding of what Torah U'Mada is about, this has other consequences - how you are going to learn to reconcile so many conflicting tensions as you grow on to your own life." For YU to succeed in its mission, which is to produce students who have synthesized modern thought and timeless Jewish values, the basics of the YU ideal must be passed on to the student body. We, as members of the student body, must begin to search for a deeper understanding and appreciation of Judaism. A love of Judaism through deeper understanding is not limited to the scholastically elite of YU. All of us have a responsibility to fully appreciate the religion which directs every day of our lives. This quest for self-understanding and self-pride would develop into the backbone of Yeshiva University, something which I feel is sorely lacking.

Yeshiva Preparation

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surround us? The society around us dictates what questions must be dealt with. We should not play the ostrich and bury our head in the sand, forgetting that the rest of our body is exposed to the outside. Our friends may come to us for answers to problems which our institution is dedicated to solve, and yet we have never addressed the issues ourselves.

The students at YU need to be challenged for their own

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Hebrew U. Professor Presents Proposal for Palestinian Refugees

Milson Plan Well Received at Conference

by Behnam Dayanim

Professor Menahem Milson presented what he termed a "pragmatic" solution to the Palestinian Arab refugee problem at the third international conference of the World Organization of Jews from Arab Countries (WOJAC), held in Washington.

He prefaced his remarks with a brief refutation of the Arab version of the refugee problem, contending that the Arabs were not driven out by vengeful Jews. In truth, according to Milson, they left under the orders of their own leadership in the expectation that they would soon return to reclaim both their own land and that of their defeated foes.

Milson, former advisor on Arab affairs for Judea and

Samaria, then listed the obstacles that he foresaw might hinder his proposal's execution. First, he cited the hostility of the Arab states and the PLO to any constructive approach to the issue, and the intransigence of the United Nations Relief and Works agency for Palestinian Refugees (UNRWA) in any matter suggesting a change in its attitude toward dealing with the refugees. He also points out the natural inertia of the status quo, ironically influencing even those parties who should be most interested in change, such as the United States and Israel.

Milson cautions that only through gradual, planned change can any lasting improvement be made. The first step is to change the definition of the word "refugee". It should

rightly apply only to those in refugee camps as they have not been sufficiently integrated into the host economy or assimilated into society. The number in this category in Judea and Samaria, according to Israeli estimates, is approximately 75,000, or 44% of the total count of refugees in camps in the Middle East. Milson adds that Israeli camps maintain higher standards than most, having achieved full employment and per capita incomes nearly matching those in the surrounding areas.

UNRWA has done nothing to improve the conditions of the camps themselves, however, even resisting Israeli government efforts to improve camp environs. Thus, according to Milson, the goal lies in urban renewal of the camps. Due to

UNRWA negligence in this area, the camp's hosts should assume substantive control over programs in education, health, and relief, retaining present staff and facilities and directly receiving UNRWA budget allocations for these areas. This would save UNRWA significant amounts in reduced administrative expenses, allowing it to devote the extra money to the renewal effort. Milson argues that each host nation "should be required to match the amounts contributed by the UNRWA," spurring the projects on with even greater rapidity.

Milson expects almost total Israeli acquiescence to this plan and a strong possibility of Jordanian agreement too, provided that the Saudis give the plan their tacit blessing. Should Jordan prove reluctant, Milson still advocates Israeli implementation of the plan in the expectation of eventual Jordanian cooperation.

UNRWA may also prove a major obstacle to the adoption and implementation of the plan due to both the traditional organizational dislike of change, and to possible delinquency in executing the provisions on the part of the

retained staffs. He notes, however, that the retention of UNRWA employees will lessen both those dangers and envisions the agency as one of "planning, initiating, and financing," not implementing. Urban renewal will begin with the camps and eventually spread to large cities throughout the Middle East.

Milson expects the United States, as major contributor to UNRWA, to lobby for the change, as it would result in the eventual assimilation of the refugee populations into the surrounding areas as productive and content inhabitants.

Dr. Raphael Yisraeli, another professor in attendance, challenged Milson's conclusions. He contended that previous attempts to alleviate the Arabs' poverty and hardships have not pacified them nor lessened their demands, but rather have triggered an intensified spate of attacks and violence.

Despite this solitary note of discord, the overwhelming feeling of the conference was one of approbation and hope that Dr. Milson's plan be considered by the United Nations and publicized by the world press.

Refugees

continued from page 1

the Arab media and its treatment of Israel, Jews, and Zionism. He explained five basic themes from all of Arab media, first citing the frequently invoked claim that the Jews are not a nation and therefore do not deserve a country. Referring to the Jews as a "vile" people who have forfeited any claim to the land through disobedience to God, the media adds that they have accentuated their degradation through daring to fight and, worse, defeat the elected nation of Allah, clearly precipitating a departure from the original course of history. Every Muslim has a sacred duty to restore that "natural" state of affairs. A third underlying current rests in the Arabs' inability to reconcile their treasured myth of equal treatment of their Jewish compatriots with the massive exodus of Jews to Israel. The solution lies in the destruction of the Jewish state and extension of the longstanding invitation for all Arab Jews to return to the places of their birth. The Arab press also likes to compare the Jews to the medieval Crusaders, interlopers who will eventually be defeated by a modern-day Saladin who will unite all of Islam behind his banner of jihad, or holy war. Finally, Dr. Yisraeli points to the heavy emphasis on regaining Jerusalem apparent in Arab media, underscoring what he believes to be an intensity of feeling for the city comparable to that possessed by the Jews.

At this point, Dr. Heskell Hadad of the WOJAC World Executive, interjected that in the seventh century, upon Jewish complicity in aiding the Arab conquest of Jerusalem from the Romans, the Arab

leader, Omar, reneged upon his promise to return Mount Zion to the Jews in order to rebuild the Temple and instead constructed a mosque on the site. Thus, Hadad passionately exclaimed, this treachery constitutes an added claim of the Jewish people.

Israeli Ambassador to the United States, Moshe Arad, capped off the evening with an address during which he noted that, while little discussed in the world press, the number of Arab Jewish refugees equals that of the dislocated Palestinian Arabs, but that because of Israeli willingness to absorb their vast numbers, nearly half of the entire Israeli population, they had successfully adjusted to their new homes. He contrasted this case with that of Arab intransigence in refusing to accept their Palestinian brethren, who together constitute only four percent of the total population of their host countries.

The second day began on a more academic note, with lectures by author Bat Ye'or, former Ambassador Seymour Finger, and Dr. Menahem Milson of Hebrew University. Ms. Ye'or, author of the recent book *The Dhimmi*, discussed traditional Islamic treatment of Jewish and Christian minorities, the dhimmi peoples. She stressed that these minorities, unlike religious minorities in Europe, are indigenous to the area, and that the Arab Muslim claim to Palestine lies not in inheritance but in jihad, or conquest as part of the permanent struggle between Muslims and non-Muslims.

The Pact of Omar, or Dhimma, established for centuries the condition of these dhimmi, formalizing an inequality that guaranteed little but mere survival. Ignorant of any broader conceptions of basic human rights, Arab Jews passively accepted their fate

until as recently as 1948, the beginning of their mass exposure to their Ashkenazic kin and Western ideas of human dignity.

Ambassador Finger, former U.S. delegate to the United Nations and current Executive Director of the National Committee on Foreign Policy, attempted to draw parallels between the Palestinian refugee situation and the many mass population transfers throughout the twentieth century such as that of the Muslims and Hindus in India, the Turks and Greeks, and the ethnic Germans from Russia and Eastern Europe to Germany. In response to a query by this reporter, Ambassador Finger asserted that the analogies were valid despite the arguably tenuous identification of the Palestinian Arabs with the

neighboring states, as their intercommunal ties are at least as strong as those of the other mentioned groups. Even the Germanic populations were unfamiliar with the lands to which they traveled and into which they were successfully assimilated.

[For a discussion of Dr. Milson's remarks concerning a solution to the Palestinian refugee problem in Judea and Samaria, please see accompanying article.]

Israeli Ambassador to the U.N., Binyamin Netanyahu, highlighted the conference with a characteristically spellbinding speech in which he acknowledged past government failures in publicizing the extent of the forced mass exodus of Jews from Arab lands and in not "devoting equal amounts of energy to their cause" as to

the better known plights of Soviet and other Jewries. In addition, he decried the Israeli inaction in allowing the propagation of the "criminal myth" that "we are the dispossessors when in fact we are the dispossessed". He explained that Sephardic Jewry predates the Arabs in the region and comprise a majority of Israel's population, cementing Israel's status as a genuinely Middle Eastern nation.

On the positive side, he cited Israeli successes in absorption, integration, and opportunity for Arab Jews as a modern "miracle" and admonished his fellow Ashkenazim that they had much to learn from Sephardim by virtue of their long history of association with Arabs. Netanyahu pledged that the government would make the situation of Jewry still in Arab lands, as well as compensation for those who have left (forsaking properties estimated as at least five times the value of those claimed by the Arabs), the centerpiece of future peace negotiations. He declared that failure to do so would constitute both a "sin" and "threat to the safety and security of the state of Israel".

The conference concluded with the drafting of several resolutions concerning the rescue of Jews remaining in oppressive Arab countries (identified as all except Morocco), Arab Jewry's claims and rights, and the humanitarian aspects of the refugee problem. These resolutions were to be presented to the U.S. Congress, the world press, and governments around the world upon the adjournment of the conference, following a set of courtroom styled hearings conducted by former U.S. Supreme Court Associate Justice Arthur Goldberg that detailed outstanding Jewish claims of mistreatment by Arab nations.



Mr. Benjamin Netanyahu—Israeli Ambassador to the UN.

Plan to Rescue Oppressed Jewry

by Behnam Dayanim

One unique program, presented as a constructive, concrete step towards obtaining the release of those Jews unable to leave Arab countries due to government refusal, was propounded by a unique man, Sir Moshe Barr-Nea. Barr-Nea, a Holocaust survivor and participant in Israel's struggle for independence, has long been active in working for the release of oppressed Jews from all over the world, ranging from the Soviet Union to Syria.

In 1986, Barr-Nea initiated the "International Family Connection", a grassroots effort to obtain the release of Soviet Jews through contact with Jews all over the world who shared the same family name. For example, in 1979, he contacted every Goldstein he could find in Israel and elsewhere, requesting that they send letters and gifts to a refusenik family named Goldstein. In that particular instance, his scheme succeeded after fourteen years of incessant effort. Encouraged, Barr-Nea established the program for all oppressed Jewries in full cooperation with existing lobbies and agencies.

Utilizing a sophisticated global computer system, he hopes to coordinate efforts in a number of countries, including the USSR, Syria, Iran and Lebanon. He feels it may be the most effective method in thwarting attempts to isolate these entrapped Jews from their kin, as well as a valuable tool in gaining their release.

Addressing the conference, Barr-Nea urged all present to carry his "adopt-a-family" message to their respective communities and synagogues, mobilizing the "spiritual and moral powers" of Sephardic Jews to continue the fight for freedom. Barr-Nea believes it

is the obligation of every Jew in America, whether Sephard or Ashkenaz, to participate in this relatively simple and highly important effort.

Barr-Nea also advocated increased efforts to gain the release of the Jewish hostages in Beirut, Lebanon. He called for the mobilization of congregations around the world to pray for the welfare of the hostages and to form an Emergency Rescue Committee in order to meet with world leaders and appeal for support.

He further suggested that a delegation of prominent Jewish leaders meet with ambassadors of Arab nations and with officials of the Lebanese Christian and Moslem communities, under the aegis of Mayor Edward Koch of New York City, a former congressman and a highly visible American Jew. Stressing the importance of greater public awareness of the situation, Barr-Nea demanded a pledge by the Israeli government not to release any more suspected Shi'ite terrorists until the kidnapped Jewish leaders have been freed.

Addressing the religious dimensions of the issue, Barr-Nea called for the Sephardic Rabbinate in Israel to issue a p'sak Beit Din and Din Torah stating that Lebanese Jewry has a "religious and moral obligation" to flee the country for their own safety. He believes such a measure would greatly encourage waverers to take the plunge and leave.

Barr-Nea elaborated on actions that could be introduced by the United States to help the hostages, notably through the extension of refugee status as a persecuted, religious minority to the Jews of Lebanon and Syria.

Defender of Jerusalem Award-1987

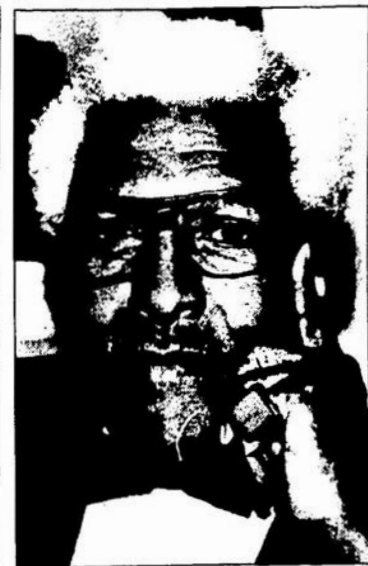


Clockwise from above right are Dr. Israel Eldad, Mr. Bayard Rustin, former Ambassador Shlomo Argov, and released refusenik Ida Nudel. Each was selected by an international committee of more than 500 Jewish leaders, cognizant of their extraordinary efforts in defense of Jewish

rights. "Dr. Eldad, author, scholar and philosopher, has been an advisor to prime ministers as well as an inspiration to the nation's youth", said Mr. Eryk Spektor, chairman of the Jabotinsky Foundation.

Bayard Rustin was an ardent supporter of Israel and organ-

ized the Black Americans to Support Israel Committee. Shlomo Argov was severely wounded by terrorists while stationed in England. Ida Nudel, of course, was chosen as the person who has shown remarkable courage, and made herself the symbol of Soviet Jews in Russia.



An Open Letter from Former Prime Minister Menachem Begin

Mr. Menachem Begin, former Prime Minister of Israel, wrote a letter this week to friends in the United States, on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of the late President Anwar Sadat's visit to Jerusalem. Mr. Sadat's historic visit was on Saturday night November 9th 1977. THE COMMENTATOR is happy to be able to bring you this letter with a direct translation.

Dear Friends,
Ten years have passed since the President of Egypt, Sadat, visited Jerusalem. Before coming, he requested an official invitation, I sent him one immediately.

A few days later, after further communique, especially about his time of arrival to Jerusalem, after "tzait haShabbat" - the visit took place.

President Sadat was received

with full honors, by the President of the State of Israel, the government, members of the Knesset, and many other high ranking dignitaries.

After official negotiations began between the two countries, and the months following, many problems were raised and explained; difficulties appeared, naturally, during negotiations taking place after years of war. After overcoming the hardships we arrived at the Camp David agreement, which with much help from the President of the United States Mr. Jimmy Carter and his friends. And again, after overcoming barriers, we signed the Peace Treaty, in Washington D.C. with the President of the United States signing as a witness.

While writing this letter to you, dear friends, I wish to honor the memory of President

Sadat, who was murdered by his enemies, and the enemies of peace.

The Peace Treaty is not just "A piece of paper"; even with all the problems lying ahead, the peace treaty is a living document, that guides the relations between two countries. We all wish to believe that the future will hold the same, while we remember the great sacrifices we made to achieve this goal.

I wish to take this opportunity, too, to honor all those representatives of Egypt, Israel, and the United States, for their contribution, their effort, and their achievement. With Heartfelt Blessings.

Yours Truly,
Menachem Begin
Zayin Cheshvan 5848
October 30, 1987

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To Those Who Served

Veteran's Day is a day which honors those who served in the United States military service. Jews, although few in number have served valiantly in the U.S. Armed Forces since the Revolutionary War. However, being a "Jewish G.I." poses many problems especially if one wishes to remain observant.

Isaiah Isenberg, Yeshiva Class of '38, was indeed one such person. He is an Orthodox Jew who was drafted to the Navy during World War II. He saw combat between 1943 and 1945, when he served on a battleship in the Pacific theater. As this was wartime, it was very difficult to remain observant. "If you had duty on Shabbos, you had to do it" says Mr. Isenberg, "you simply had no choice."

Keeping kosher was also practically out of the question. Being on a warship in the

middle of the ocean severely limited the variety of even non-kosher foodstuffs that were brought aboard. The three Jews on board the battleship had to do as best as they could with whatever was served to them. Mr. Isenberg says that the entire time he was "over there", he was able to attend a minyan service only once, while he was in the Philippines.

Rabbi Hershel Shechter of Y.U.'s Communal Service office was an Army chaplain who served in Puerto Rico and Continental Europe during World War II. As a Chaplain he says he never had a problem with any religious customs: Kosher food was always provided, and most of the time he had access to a minyan. This unfortunately was not the case with other officers and enlisted men in the army. The chaplains tried to assist them in obtaining food and the observance of

other mitzvot but it was not always possible.

Today in a peacetime army the story is somewhat better. For the very few observant Jews in the armed forces, kosher food, as well as other religious services are more accessible. Soldiers can oftentimes be accommodated in terms of Shabbos and High Holiday observance, and religious counseling is provided by the network of chaplains.

Y.U. currently has a student who is a veteran of the United States Navy. David Bogner joined the Navy in 1979 in order to defray college costs. He served on a Frigate and traveled throughout the Pacific, Far East, and Indian Ocean. He was fortunate to have chosen the Navy because in any other branch of the service, it would have been impossible to wear a Kippah or to observe many

of the daily mitzvot. In the Navy, He explains, the commanding officer of a ship has complete autonomy and can allow such things if he sees fit.

He was very lucky in that his first commanding officer was very understanding of his needs as a Jew. The Captain assisted him in securing kosher food and allowed him to work on Sundays and Christian holidays in exchange for time off for Shabbat and Jewish holidays. This officer, along with a Jewish chaplain, Rabbi Mitchell Schranz (a RIETS Musmach), paved the way for the policy which would govern the remainder of David's enlistment.

According to David, he had very few problems with his personal observance, or interactions with his shipmates, but he would never suggest that another observant Jew join up. In the four years of his service he encountered a few instances of anti-Semitism. He says that most of his shipmates were

curious about Judaism and he did what he could to educate them about it, education being the best cure for prejudice.

Mr. Isenberg as well states that he never had any real racial problems in his years of duty. Rabbi Shechter asserts that the military authorities do not tolerate racial friction and it virtually eliminates any type of open racial prejudice amongst the soldiers.

Jews who have been forced to serve in other secular armies in the past were never respected, and certainly never had the opportunity to be observant. The United States being a country built on the principles of religious freedom tries in all earnest to honor the needs of the Jewish-American soldiers defending her shores, unfortunately this is not possible at all times. Serving one's country is definitely a valiant and noble attribute. Jews who have done so in the 211 years of American history have had to fight a double battle along the way.

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Talent Night

continued from page 1

the view of both the judges and the crowd, were Larry Foont and Lee Needleman who performed comedic sketches of YU life which were extremely entertaining and displayed the contestants' insights into this subject. They were not the only ones to win the Judges' favor. The group consisting of Eric Fier, Arnold Singer, Lawrence Stroll, Jeff Lumerman, and Ross Breen shared in the one hundred dollar first prize. They began by singing the song "Stand By Me" from the motion picture. They then performed a song in which they depicted themselves as YU graduates reminiscing about their experiences with Stern girls.

Stern college proved that it too has untapped talent abounding. Chayla Gottesman, finishing second for a fifty dollar prize, lip synched a portion of "Fiddler On The Roof" while acting out the different characters. Her performance was indeed superb.

Much of the success of the evening has to be accredited to Jordan Goldberg, Behnam Dayanim, and Elana Bank. As M.C. they kept the show moving and quick paced. Mr. Goldberg was extremely pleased with the turnout. "We set up for one hundred fifty people but I have to figure there were at least three hundred people who attended the event." This turned out to be a problem as people came after the show began, forcing many to stand. Goldberg further remarked that, "It was nice having the students of Stern College and Yeshiva College come together in a joint event to make a memorable evening." He hopes that this is only one of many that will come in the future. For all those people who attended the show and felt they could be better than the acts that won or those who would just like to attend such an event but missed this one - don't worry, there will be another talent night in the spring, so start practicing.

by Larry Portal

A story was once told of a chaplain in the United States Army who needed a minyan for his father's yahrtzeit. In order to notify the other religious Jewish soldiers dispersed on the army base of his need for a minyan, the chaplain instructed the broadcaster to announce it on the radio. The broadcaster, a non-Jew, misunderstood his instructions and announced that the chaplain needed a "million." Within minutes after the broadcast, the entire base was lined up in front of the office, thinking there was an emergency. Although incidents such as this do not occur frequently, Jewish chaplains must contend with these types of misunderstandings in a gentile army.

What is the function of an army chaplain? His primary function is to offer religious and moral guidance to the soldiers in his unit. He addresses questions of ethics to the soldiers and makes certain to provide for all of their religious necessities. In addition, the chaplain conducts prayer services, funerals and public benedictions. Most importantly, he counsels soldiers in their time of need. Despair from loneliness, drug problems and marital problems are some of the major problems affecting soldiers, and with which the chaplain must be prepared to deal. Indeed, it may be said that it is the duty of the chaplain to protect the well being as well as the rights of each soldier.

Chaplains have decided to serve in the army although they are ordained rabbis and are competent to serve in community rabbinic positions. Not

having baal-habatim or boards of directors with whom to contend, a chaplain can concentrate on his religious duty moreso than the rabbi of a congregation.

There are other reasons why rabbis are attracted to the military: the first may be purely for patriotic reasons. As Rabbi Kenny Leinwand, a reformed Jewish chaplain of the West Point Military Academy, notes, "without a rabbi, our military ceases to become American but rather Christian." A second is that there are no greater and more rewarding opportunities to be Mekarev (bring closer) Jews than in the military. Rabbi David Lapp, a RIETS graduate who has been in chaplaincy for twenty-five years and who has reached the highest rank, colonel, has often said that chaplaincy is worth getting involved in for the opportunities of kiruv alone. For instance, in Vietnam, in 1967, Rabbi Lapp met many soldiers who were only "identified" as Jews but otherwise had absolutely no link to Judaism. He went to all extremes to find out more about these Jewish soldiers and succeeded in being Mekarev many of them. He relates that this more than anything else gave him pleasure and satisfaction beyond description. Other alluring aspects of the military include better security and a less stressful life. Financial competition, resulting from a rat race society, is virtually non-existent. Military person-

nel are supplied with housing and food allowances. A substantial pension after only twenty years of service contributes to the peace of mind during those years of service.

A chaplain's rabbinical experience in the military is unique because he alone is responsible for the religious guidance of all the Jewish soldiers. Imagine being stationed on an army base in a distant country without having other rabbis at your disposal with whom to confer. Therefore, the chaplain must feel confident and competent in answering a wide gamut of questions and prying personal predicaments. Unfortunately, as can be expected to happen on a military base, a Jewish soldier died in the military base stationed in Fort Campbell, Kentucky. According to military regulations, all deaths occurring on a base must be autopsied. Autopsies, of course, are forbidden by the Torah and the chaplain at the time, Rabbi Mitchell Ackerson, the most recent RIETS graduate to enter the chaplaincy, had to contact Rabbi Tendler in New York for his guidance. A chaplain must know when to make a decision on his own and when to confer and consult with others. The continuous traveling experienced by chaplains can be beneficial and detrimental. On the beneficial perspective, a chaplain's family can learn the many cultures and languages traveling around

the world. A chaplain who is geographically located can travel to nearby countries of his choice during his vacation. On the other hand, extensive travel makes a Jewish education virtually unobtainable. Most chaplains must provide their own children with a Jewish education. Other items such as Mikvas, Succas and Matzot, which many of us take for granted, are not easily accessible to chaplains stationed far away from a Jewish community. Much time and effort is necessary to accommodate these needs. Kosher food was also difficult to locate. In order to facilitate this issue, kosher

Second, the Reform and Conservative rabbis had an internal draft system resulting in more participants in the chaplaincy.

Realizing the importance and necessity of having Orthodox chaplains to aid our brethren in the army, Yeshiva University, shortly after World War II, began to play an important role in Orthodox chaplaincy. Dr. Samuel Belkin, former president of Yeshiva University, said the following: "America has given so much to us, it's time we did something for America." The sincerity of this statement resulted in a letter which he wrote to Rabbi Berliant, president of the Rabbinic Council of America. In his letter, Dr. Belkin wrote that he conferred with Rav Joseph Soloveitchik regarding Orthodox Jews participating

"...it is the duty of the chaplain to protect the well being and the rights of each soldier."

kitchens were set up at Fort Dix, Fort Slocum and Fort Devens. Even more difficult is to locate a Mikva. However, in some places such as Anchorage, Mikvas were constructed. Thus, where possible, accommodations are made.

In past years, few complaints have been issued by Jewish army chaplains against the military concerning a lack of cooperation on their part to facilitate religious needs of our Jewish brethren in the military. Rabbi Yakov Goldstien, current chaplain in the Army National Guard, notes concerning this matter, "they (military) have never been a hindrance." On a recent trip to Germany, he relates, the Army went out of its way to accommodate the religious necessities of the Jewish personnel. They made certain that services were provided and guaranteed no problems concerning secular work on holidays. In Grenada, where Rabbi Goldstien served as the only Jewish Chaplain at the time, the Army, despite their preoccupation with military concerns, saw the need for our Jewish troops to light Chanukkah candles. In certain instances, the military went against its own regulations in order to cooperate. This is exemplified when in the case of the dead Jewish soldier, the military did not object to Rabbi Tendler's p'sak that only a needle biopsy (a very delicate procedure) can be performed. Thus, not only has the military been cooperative by not causing problems, it has gone out of its way to cooperate.

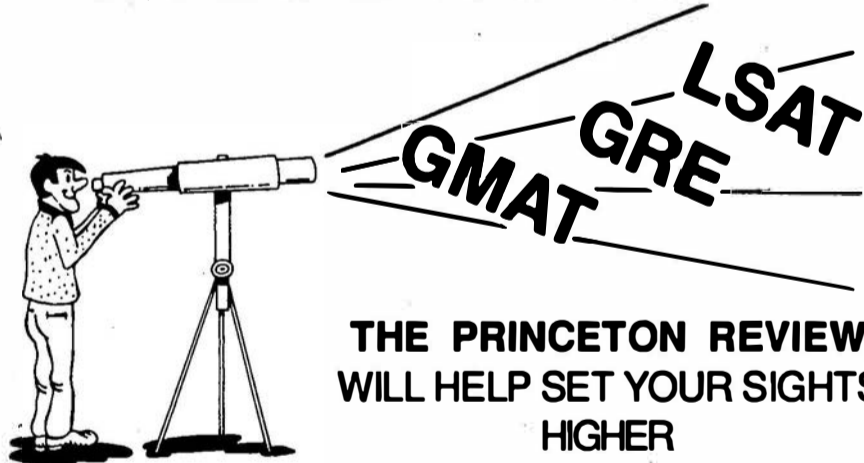
During World War II, there was a demand for Jewish chaplains because of the many thousands of Jews who were drafted in the armed forces. The military wanted to appoint one chaplain for every thousand soldiers. Of the 300 Jewish chaplains at the time only 50 were Orthodox. Two factors contributed to the dearth of Orthodox chaplains. First, the military required a college degree from all chaplains; the majority of the Orthodox rabbis did not have college degrees.

in chaplaincy. Rav Soloveitchik responded that it was Orthodox Jewry's duty to participate for the purpose of rendering spiritual guidance to the Jewish soldiers.

"This period of time was a noble chapter in Yeshiva University's history," says Rabbi Israel Miller, current Yeshiva University Senior Vice President and former U.S. Army chaplain. A draft in the Yeshiva was then instituted and continued to exist until 1968 when a group of Yeshiva boys approached Dr. Belkin and complained of the unfairness of the draft. The boys, however, promised to maintain the same quota. Although Dr. Miller was skeptical, Dr. Belkin was optimistic that the quota would be preserved and agreed to abolish the draft. Sure enough, with the guidance and teachings of Dr. Miller, the quota was met. Till today, RIETS graduates dominate the Orthodox chaplaincy. Currently eleven of the twelve Orthodox chaplains are RIETS graduates.

A chaplain in the armed forces must have a bachelor's degree and a master's degree, preferably in divinity. In addition, he must be endorsed by an ecclesiastic agency such as the Jewish Welfare Board. While one is in the process of obtaining his ordination, one may spend his summer on a base as a chaplain candidate. This enables one to get acquainted with the military and consequently to gain experience without committing oneself to chaplaincy. If one decides to remain, assuming he meets the physical requirements, one stays in the armed forces for three years. During this time, one acquaints oneself with the military and the military does the same with him. One begins with the rank of first lieutenant and can continue to serve until one reaches the highest rank of colonel. When desired, one may end his career as a chaplain and continue to practice his rabbinic occupation elsewhere.

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Yegar's Friendship

continued from page 1

Israel and these funds are an important component of defense spending. The U.S. also grants Israel vital economic aid and technological support. Such vast aid creates dependency and Israel must often bow to U.S. pressure to avoid offending her primary benefactor.

History affords us many instances of U.S. interference in Israeli affairs. In 1956, Eisenhower forced an Israeli withdrawal from Sinai before Israel achieved her objectives. More recently the U.S. restrained Israeli actions in Lebanon on numerous occasions. American pressure also forced Israel to cancel the prized Lavi jet fighter project. The program probably cost too much and undoubtedly represented a heavy burden to the Israeli taxpayer, but it was U.S.

prodding that played a major role. As Ambassador Yegar admitted, "A small country must listen to the hand that feeds it."

Ambassador Yegar concluded on the optimistic note that, despite occasional American meddling, the U.S.-Israeli relationship is more of a friendship. He pointed to President Herzog's official state visit to America as symbolic of that friendship. Amiable relations will hopefully continue to be the norm well into the future. With this Ambassador Yegar opened the floor to questions.

One student asked a pointed and controversial question that challenged Ambassador Yegar's purported definition of the U.S.-Israeli relationship as a "friendship."

Q: With this friendship, this interaction, how is it that

Pollard was required to spy for information of the Syrian chemical warfare potential; and how is it that Weinberger sent a courier into court with instructions for the judge to give Pollard a heavier sentence to "make him pay" for the two who escaped?

Ambassador Yegar declined to answer. He had noted to another question that the sentencing was done under American law. Another student asked that perhaps the U.S. will only fund Israel as long as she obeys American orders. "Is this not the only reason (to retain funding) that Israel listens?"

Ambassador Yegar replied that the U.S. tries to win over everyone around the globe with funding. This includes Arab nations, and therefore we cannot afford to ignore America.

Elitzuria Holds 2nd Competition

Elitzuria II may be the opportunity of a lifetime for athletic Y.U. students who have dreamed of Olympic style sports competition. Held every four years in Israel, ELITZURIA II invites eligible religious youths from all over the world to meet for a spectacular week of athletic competition, celebrations, and cultural exchanges. With over 2,000 students expected to attend, the coming games are to take place from July 26th through August 1st. Shabbat and Kashrut will be observed.

ELITZURIA II is sponsored by the Elitzur Religious Sports Association of Israel and is marking its 50th anniversary this year. With over 150 branches and over 25,000 members, ages 8 to 80, Elitzur supports and conducts sports programs and religious summer camps, not only in Israel, but in over 15 other countries as well.

Any young person between the ages of 14-19 is eligible to participate in ELITZURIA II. Students need not be world class athletes or superstars in order to take part in this exiting international event. There are no trials, eliminations, or pre-heats in order to qualify for competition and participation. A unique feature of the program is that all students, irrespective of athletic ability or achievement, may participate if they meet the age requirements and become part of a sponsoring delegation.

At the start of the games, entrants in each sport are divided by age group (14-16 and 17-19), and by skill level. This procedure ensures that all students participate fully, and at an appropriately competitive level. Participants may choose from one or more of the following activities in which to compete: Badminton, Basketball, Chess, Floor Hockey, Handball, Indoor Soccer, Judo, Karate, Softball, Squash, Swimming, Table Tennis, Tennis, Track and Field, and Volleyball.

In preparation for ELITZURIA II, delegations are being formed throughout the United States; several are being formed in the New York area. The YU Athletic Department will canvass students at both YC and SCW campuses to determine if there is sufficient student interest to warrant YU sponsoring a team or several teams for the ELITZURIA. Students interested in additional information may obtain a brochure describing the program and an interest application by contacting (call or drop a note) Dr. Gil Shevlin, Director of Athletics, MSAC 101, 960-5211.

Interest forms will be distributed in the YC, and SCW dorms in the next few days:

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Cougars Rally to Win in Overtime

by Jon Bandler

Adam Fishman's four points in overtime were the difference as the Cougars made a tremendous comeback to beat the Doobies, 58-54. After trailing by seven points with two minutes left, the Cougars fought back and eventually tied the game on Fishman's twelve-foot baseline jumper with two seconds left in regulation.

offset Izzy Kaufman's torrid shooting as The Mob beat the Ducks. Kaufman scored 23 points, but with the exception of Barry Finkelstein's 8 points, there was no other offensive punch.

Mark Ziering's troubled knee kept him from dominating the boards as Scharlat and fellow front-court man, Billy Bokor, controlled the inside game. Mayer Naiman added 11 points for The Mob.

The Cougars' solid team effort offset the great play of the Doobies' Alan Berger and Jeff Lefkovitz who scored 20 and 16 points respectively. The Cougars were paced by Ari Keehn's 18 points. Jon Hecht added 15 and Fishman had 8.

Four players scored in double figures for the Doobies as they built a modest 26-21 halftime lead and romped in the second half. Yoni Weber (13 points), Alan Berger (12), Gerson Shapiro (12), and Jeff Lefkovitz (11) were each able to take advantage of the absence of Lazer Borgen and Ellis Malovaney. Bruce Taragin was hot in the first half with 12 points but was held scoreless in the second.

In other games:
SCORCHERS 48
WARRIORS 39

The Scorchers broke open a close game early in the second half to pull away from the Warriors. The strong inside play of Ronnie Morris and the shooting of Lazer Borgen helped stretch a 21-18 halftime lead to 31-21 with under 14 minutes remaining. Despite the hot shooting of the Warriors' Moshe Rothchild (14 points), the Scorchers held on with key free-throw shooting down the stretch.

Morris led the Scorchers with 18 points while Borgen chipped in with 12.

THE MOB 44
DUCKS 41

Richard Scharlat's 16 points (14 in the first half) helped

Hockey

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2 by 5-1. This was an irregular contest in that only four Raiders, including their goaltender, opened the game against a full Wildcats team. The Raiders avoided a forfeit by playing shorthanded until a fifth player arrived at the end of the first period. Raider goalie Stue Morduchowitz said that it was the most fun he had ever had in a losing effort. He turned away an astounding 52 of the 57 shots, allowing five goals to five different Wildcats, who have seven different goal scorers for their seven goals over two games. Wildcats goalie Schlusel, who leads the league with a 1.00 goals against average, again was not seriously tested as the Wildcats defense easily handled the outmanned Raiders.

Raiders captain Chaim Weitschner, who failed to report to the game, said he wasn't overly disappointed in the team's poor start. He attributed it to the rough opening schedule and the problems seniors face in their other commitments. The Raiders did add a player to their team this week, acquiring Alan Saucher from the Saints for future considerations. The Raiders have also come to terms with holdout Ari Schertz.

The RAIDERS first loss of the season came at the hands of the FIGHTING IRISH, who were tied with the Wildcats entering this past week's games. The Irish were led by Ari Keehn, who scored the season's first

hat-trick, as they opened a 4-0 lead and held on to win by the score of 4-2.

The IRISH went on to win their next game over the SAINTS with an identical score of 4-2, however this game was a much closer one. Although being outshot and outplayed by the Saints, the Irish thrice times opened one goal leads, and killed off a penalty in the final two minutes of a 3-2 game. Keehn sealed it with an empty netter, his league leading fourth goal, to close the scoring at 4-2. Shmuel Soffer scored in both the second and third periods and his second goal, the third of the game, was scored on his back after the Saints successfully killed off the second penalty of the game to Mitchell Nathanson. Irish goalie Wayne Feder came through in the clutch making save after save to preserve the win.

Referee Mike Ratzker said that the Saints, who were the final team to qualify in last years playoffs, have proven that they can compete with any team in the league.

In the last action of the opening two weeks, the BRUISERS, in their new uniforms, outchecked the DEVILS and beat them 2-1. The game was a classic match of defense and goaltending, with both Schindler and Bruiser goalie Allen Chernoff making save after save from incredibly tough positions. The Bruisers were also aided by the strong presence of of Mike Bahn, who always seemed to be in perfect defensive position.

MACS

continued from page 12

Finally, enthusiasm surrounding the team has never been higher and fans expect a good season. Everyone knows the Macs lost only one player to graduation, Lance Hirt, and therefore anticipate improvement. Still, Coach Halpert wants the students to realize that the players are students too, no different than the fans, and should be treated with a little more understanding. The YU student-athletes compete against schools which practice more and have a much larger recruiting base. Yet, it is difficult not to be optimistic about the upcoming season.

Wrestling

continued from page 12

of the sport. Experience took control as Price found himself pinned after 12 seconds. Price summed it up afterwards by saying, "It's harder than it looks." He did come in second place in his category.

All in all, intramural wrestling was exciting and fun to watch. Even big Uri Bachrach joined in by rubbing a couple of wrestlers into the mat. If for a weird or strange reason you missed Intramural, you can still witness the wrestling excitement at the coming YU/Stevens Tech match on the 16th of November.

Be there!

STANDINGS	
THE MOB	3-0
PIT BULLS	3-0
COUGARS	3-1
DOOBIES	2-2
SCORCHERS	2-2
WARRIORS	1-3
DUCKS	0-2
HOYAS	0-4

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Yeshiva Sports

MACS Tuning Up; Undefeated in Pre-Season

by Larry Hartstein

Very few basketball coaches place importance on winning exhibition games, and the Maccabees' Johnny Halpert is no exception. Still, it was nice to see the Macs emerge victorious in their first three scrimmages against Elizabeth-Seton, Queensboro, and SUNY-Purchase. Winning breeds confidence, and confidence breeds winning.

Center Benjy Reichel returned from his ankle injury in the second scrimmage and stabilized the offense. "He's the glue. Offensively, we have got much more cohesion when he's around," said Assistant Coach Jeffrey Gurock. Defensively, junior guard Jon Ehrman, an intramurals star last year, sparked the club with some key steals and a lot of intensity. "He plays good, sound defense with a lot of hustle and determination. He's playing within himself. The only danger he can get into is if he starts reading his press clippings," said Coach Halpert.

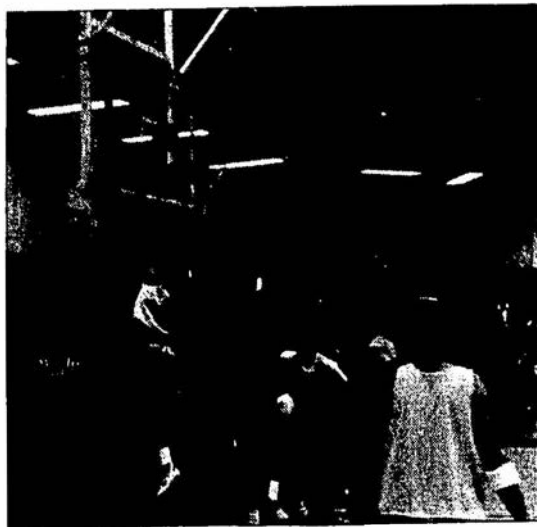
In the third scrimmage, the Macs dominated their opponent, SUNY-Purchase, without the presence of forward Ayal Hod, who is suffering from a pulled groin injury. Don't be fooled. SUNY-Purchase is struggling to build a consistent program. If the Macs lose key players to injury during the

season, they will be hard pressed to beat, much less dominate their opponents. That is why Coach Halpert will likely rest Ayal in the remaining scrimmages. Last year the Macs played Polytech twice, and the first time they were under-strength. They lost that first meeting at home 50-49. In the second game, at Polytech with a fit side, they won 64-56.

Looking ahead to the regular season, Coach Halpert and the Macs face three major tasks: deciding on a fifth starter, overcoming their lack of conditioning, and dealing with fans' high expectations.

After Lior Hod, Benji Reichel, and Yudi Teichman, Coach Halpert is unsure who will start. Jeff Baum played point guard very adequately last year but is being strongly challenged by David Gottlieb, the jumping jack from Los Angeles. Baum possesses a lot more speed. Marty Schlakman also has a chance to start. "He's very steady. He does not make mistakes," said Halpert of Schlakman. "But of all the players vying for the spot, Gottlieb is the best athlete," added Halpert.

There exist still other possibilities. Lior's versatility enables Halpert to use a bigger lineup. Lior would pair with Teichman at guard, while Ayal, Reichel, and either Asher



Yudi Teichman hits lay-up in scrimmage against SUNY Purchase.



Guards David Gottlieb (foreground) and Jeff Baum.

Wohlmark or Hesh Muelghay would start in the front court. Wohlmark scored effectively in the third scrimmage. And although Muelghay has been bothered by back and leg injuries, he has impressed the coaches in practice.

Whatever the starting lineup turns out to be, the Macs will be at a disadvantage in terms of conditioning. Because they are able to practice only three times a week, compared to other teams' five or six, the Macs spend their time executing their plays and not running sprints. "We are in the same poor condition we are always in," says Halpert. Opponents know this, plus the fact the Macs lack a Joey Eaves type ballhandler, and usually attempt to press the Macs into submission. "We have got to show we can beat the press," said Halpert.

continued on page 11

Good Triumphs Over Evil Saints beat Devils, 4-3, in OT

By Mitchell Nathanson

Michael Bramson's goal with 0:09 remaining in regulation, forced the season's first overtime game in a contest between the SAINTS and the DEVILS. Bramson tied the game at three after Saints goalie Eitel Forman was pulled for an extra attacker.

The Devils opened the scoring midway through the first period only to have the the gametied inside the final minute of that period. The Devils then jumped in front with a two goal lead 3-1, which they saw cut in half once again in the final minute of the second period.

The Devils, who seemed to be outplaying the saints through the first two periods, collapsed in the third as they were dominated by the Saints. They only controlled the puck twice in their offensive zone the entire third period. Were it not for the spectacular goaltending of Joel Schindler, the score would have been tied much earlier and the Saints could have pulled away.

This was not the case. Yet constant pressure was applied, and Schindler, along with his crossbar and goalposts, finally succumbed to Bramson's tying goal with the clock ticking down.

In overtime, the Saints picked up where they had left off. They outshot the Devils 5-0 in the overtime before Larry Hartstein netted his second goal of the night, to go along with his two assists, at 1:34 of the extra period.

In another first week match, the WILDCATS defeated the BRUISERS, 2-1, in a game that was not as close as the score indicates. The Wildcats controlled the puck from the opening faceoff but missed opportunity after opportunity and only established a 2-0 lead. Robert Levinson, who scored an early goal, claimed that the missed opportunities were due to a lack of concentration and bad timing that would be alleviated as the season progressed. Moshe Blech, who added stability to the defense, said that defenses usually dominate the early parts of the season. Wildcats goalie David Schlüssel was hardly tested and didn't allow a goal until the closing seconds of the game.

Levinson's and Blech's theories proved correct as the defending champion Wildcats staked themselves to a 2-0 record after defeating the Raiders, who dropped to 0-1

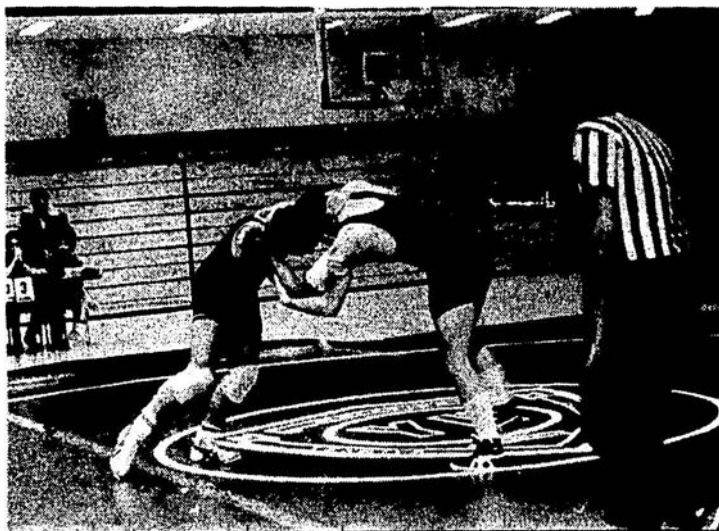
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Students Hit Mat

by Joey Eisenfeld

On Wednesday night, November 4th, Y.U. held an intramural wrestling tournament in the Tannenbaum Gymnasium. Twenty-two students showed up to pit their strength and their grasp of wrestling techniques against one another. They were divided into six weight classes; the unbeaten wrestlers would receive an official Y.U. plaque. Under the supervision of the coaches, Nathan Schwitzer and Neil Ellman, and the referees, Lenny Holler, Avi Shatzkes, and Mike Weiner, eleven bouts took place leaving exactly six men remaining.

Seth Gerzberg beat Stanley Frisch and David Sheer to be the last remaining wrestler in the 134lb weight class. Gerzberg pinned Frisch in the first period but was not quite that lucky with David Sheer, who kept avoiding a pin by crawling out of bounds. Gerzberg won the second match on accumulation of points. Effy Zinkin won the 142lb weight class when he



The Ellmen open their season Nov. 16 at home vs. Stevens Tech.

pinned David Slansky in a minute and 15 seconds.

Although he was having problems at the beginning of the match, Josh Bernhiem was able to overpower his opponent, Haim Brandspiegel, in the second period, winning him the weight class of 150lb.

The 158lb category was quite interesting. It was dominated by two wrestlers, Avraham Koengsberg and Mike Ripstein. Koengsberg beat his opponent, Andrew Hornstein, through patience and endurance. Mike Ripstein, on the other hand, wrestled like a small package of dynamite. When he fought

Tommy Weinberger he exploded without mercy. When Koengsberg met up against Ripstein, the cliché "Might is Right" was proven true once again as Koengsberg lasted for 42 seconds before his pin.

The 177lb category was lost by David Wolf through a massive cradle lock by Ron Rubenstein.

The last category was the 190lb division, where the two contenders, Abe Price and Mike Mehler, were the only wrestlers in their category. Mike Mehler is big and experienced and Abe is what one would call a lover

continued on page 11

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