

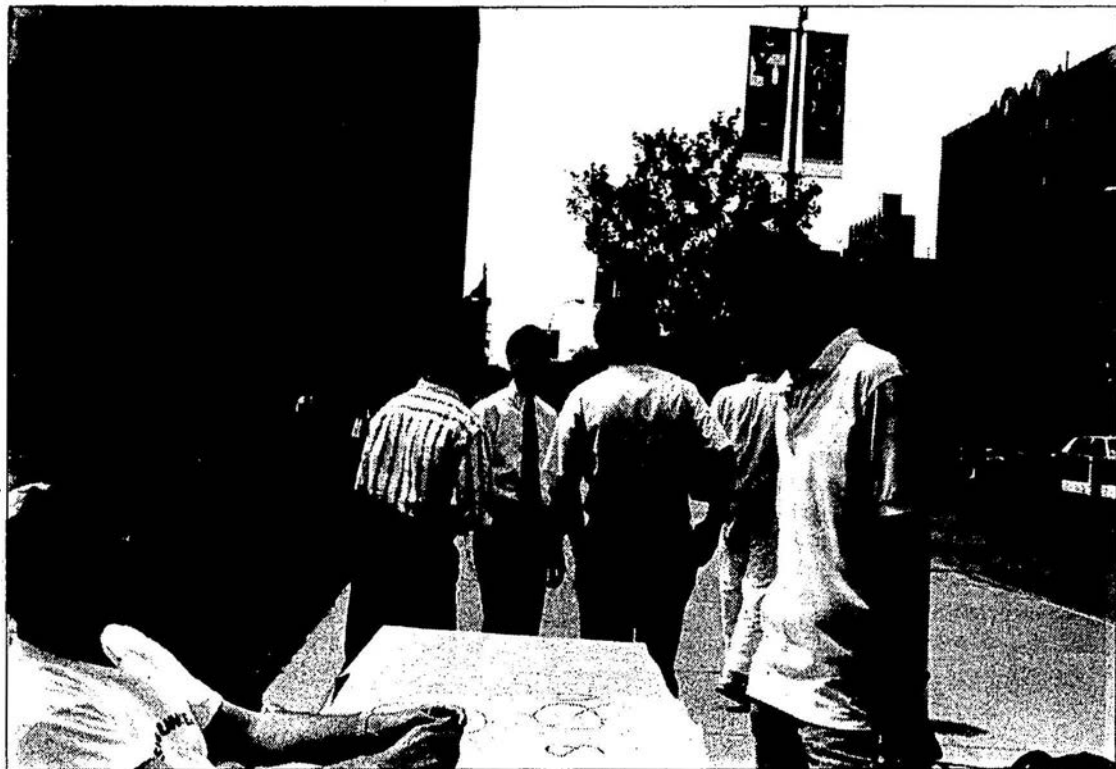
# The Commentator

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New student finds answers to questions at Orientation registration. Background: New Assistant Director of Admissions Seth Apfelbaum welcomes new students.

## YU Again Earns High Scores in LSAT's

by Behnam Dayanim

The 1988 Yeshiva University Pre-Law Advisory Report, issued last month by Yeshiva College Associate Dean and YC/SCW pre-law advisor Michael Hecht, states that "the median score" of all YC applicants to law schools from the Class of 1988 "placed them in the 90.6 percentile," continuing what Dean Hecht calls the "anomaly" of disproportionately high marks achieved by YC students on the Law School Admissions Test (LSAT). Twelve of the forty total applicants scored at least 44 from a possible 48 on the test, placing them in the top 2.5 percent nationally.

Pointing to remarkable figures such as these, Dean Hecht notes that YC students "consistently score substantially better on the LSAT" than on

the college admissions test, the SAT, a phenomenon that "doesn't happen anywhere else." While admitting that the LSAT testing group is smaller and more selective than that for the SAT, he nevertheless asserts that there is "something unique about education at Yeshiva," namely its intensive program of Talmudic study. According to Dean Hecht, such study has the "unanticipated, unintended benefit" of developing such skills as the "appreciation of textual nuances and classification of complex material in a logical and orderly way" that prove particularly valuable on the LSAT. Such exposure directly leads to scores that continually place one-third of YC students in the top five percent nationally.

Dean Hecht bolsters his hypothesis by pointing to the

recent dramatic improvements in the LSAT scores of SCW applicants, traditionally not quite as high as those of their YC counterparts. Recently, however, they've shown signs of overcoming the gap, scoring in the 80th percentile, a figure that becomes more impressive when viewed in light of the small number of students taking the test each year. The Class of 1988 had nine students apply to law schools. While attributing the improvements to any one factor may be a bit premature, Dean Hecht believes that a possible reason may lie in SCW's recent intensification of its Jewish studies program, thus reaffirming his long-held observations regarding Yeshiva College scores.

One interesting side note to the YC law school application

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## Improved Food Services on the Right Track

by Allen Eisenberg

After a year during which students frequently voiced complaints about the cafeteria's quality, selection, availability, and price, often through the press, the Department of Food Services at Yeshiva College has undergone considerable change. In addition to physical changes in Furman Dining Hall, the twelfth floor Belfer cafeteria, and in the number of vending machines on campus, Food Services has also experienced a change in its administration, with Jacob Lieberman replacing Howard Rosenberg as Associate Director of University Food Services. Mr. Rosenberg resigned to pursue a career in private catering.

Most notable of these changes

is the replacement of the 'Nu Wave Express' with the salad bar. The salad bar offers a wide variety of salad, fresh fruit, and tofutti. During lunch hours the salad bar provides sandwiches, and during dinner it offers microwaveable fast food dishes.

With sandwich service moved to the salad bar, the main cafeteria now serves pizza and falafel in its place. A new fruit juice machine has also been installed in the main cafeteria. Within the near future a grill offering a variety of grilled meats will be open at night.

Change has also come to the twelfth floor Belfer cafeteria, which no longer provides hot dishes. Consequently, one cannot get a meat meal for

lunch. However, this cafeteria does offer vending service.

Vending service is now also available in the Morgenstern lounge. In response to suggestions by the student body, soup, sandwiches, and some microwaveable meals are now stocked, in addition to candy and other 'junk' foods.

Finally, the Shabbat meal program has undergone some change. Beverages are now served at meals, as opposed to the practice in the past of simply serving pitchers of water. In addition, the food is said to be better, despite retaining the same menu as last year. However, Shmuel Katz, chairman of the Food Services Committee and Shabbat head-

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## Yeshiva College Hits 900 Record Overcrowding in Dorms

by Dov J. Pinchot

This fall brings a new look in dorm decor to Yeshiva College: the triple. Approximately 60 triple occupancy rooms have been squeezed into Muss and Rubin Halls for the first time since the late Sixties, when hundreds of students gained heightened academic interest during conscription for the Vietnam War. Total enrollment at Yeshiva College will top the 900 mark this year, marking a 34% increase since 1983.

This crowding of the YC dorms has not come as a surprise to the Office of Admissions. "Last year we renovated the fourth and fifth floors of Muss Hall to accommodate the increase in the number of students," states Judy Paikin, Director of Admissions; "we phased in 20 triples last year and have added around 50 this year."

Far from being caught by surprise, the Admissions Office proudly claims a great deal of responsibility for the steadily increasing influx of applicants. Miss Paikin explains that "we have been doing our homework: videos are the hot thing in recruiting — we have one. We use Direct Marketing, complex computer programs and sophisticated telephone systems. We know what the top Admissions Offices are doing, and we're right there with them."

Greater success is being found in recruiting new students. Miss Paikin smiles as she remembers the snickering from students at high schools around the country as she delivered her presentation; "it used to be a fight just to convince students that YU was a good school." Targeting individual markets has produced great increases of students from California and Miami. Chicago and its suburbs will be the focus of the heaviest recruiting bombardment this coming year. Public schools are also being tapped through Jewish organizations and clubs.

Still, the Admissions Office

is riding the crest of many other factors, all of which are peaking interest in Jewish high school graduates around the country towards attending YU.

The post-high school year in Israel has been the most important factor in increased enrollment; students want to continue their Jewish education throughout their college years. The excellent vocational training reputation and the addition of the Sy Syms Business School draw student's interests. Dorming is extremely popular today in all schools across the country. In the Sixties and Seventies, off-campus housing was in vogue; today, that level of independence no longer motivates students to do their own shopping and cooking. The steady improvement of the facilities and physical environment, such as the impressive Max Stern Athletic Center, modernized laboratories, the pedestrian mall, construction on the new Schottenstein Student Center, and the expected addition of a swimming pool, have raised the quality of student life dramatically. The faculty has been upgraded — YU now draws more Ivy League PhD professors than ever before. All of which leads Assistant Director of Admissions, Judah Harris, to conclude, "YU's reputation is now quite good, quite serious."

The increased interest in YU raises certain problems for the Admissions Office, specifically that of an increased number of rejections within the applicant pool. "We are an office of admissions, not rejections," explains Miss Paikin; "YU has a special mission to educate a broad group of Jewish students. We are looking for students with consistent values. We're not limiting ourselves to an elite group." Mr. Harris agrees: "We look for three things: that a student is capable, is serious about himself, and

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\*A Guide to YU's Department Jungle

\*New Commentator "On-Site Survey" p.2

\*Crossword Puzzle p. 11

# The Ups & Downs of Orientation

The first week of school has once again come and gone, a mix of triumphs and near tragedies. Leading the category of triumphs, Student Orientation Chairman, David Ascher, put forth extraordinary effort to make Freshman Orientation a success. The Assistant Director of Housing, Steve Berkowitz, produced another outstanding effort, organizing an efficient and helpful system to move students into their rooms.

In contrast, the Office of Residence Halls appeared disorganized and confused by the fanatic desire of students to live in the Morgenstern dormitory. Tens of students switched rooms, often without the consent of the Residence Office, and some students even created their own spacious singles out of rooms mysteriously vacant. Eventually, all will be straightened out; however, the first week of school painfully proved that the system used to assign rooms is in desperate need of restructuring.

## Guidance: Good, but Missing the Mark

Yeshiva College seems determined to upgrade its Guidance Department. Long a stated goal of YU Dean of Students, Dr. Efreim Nulman, this year the school has hired additional staff and made early attempts to publicize its availability through a highly visible publicity campaign.

While the good intentions of the school and the dedication of the staff should not be discounted, one has the feeling that perhaps they are just missing the beat. While it must be emphasized that many of the department's recent additions have proven highly effective, particularly the already overworked career guidance counselor, we maintain strong reservations over the newly-hired Rabbi Morry Wruble's mission of establishing a separate JSS minyan. This laudable attempt to better acclimate the JSS student to Yeshiva life may ultimately result in his greater estrangement and polarization from the remainder of the student body. However, we must note that Rabbi Wruble's twin concept of special Shabbat programming seems much less harmful in this respect.

Yet despite all of this fine-tuning at Guidance, needed though it may be, there remains a much graver issue to be addressed, one that would not cost the school a single cent in additional staff. It has been implemented at almost every other major university and is long past due here. For those of you who haven't guessed, "it" is faculty advisement. Every entering freshman should receive, upon his arrival for Orientation, a scheduled appointment with a faculty member who will serve as his academic advisor throughout his first year. This mandatory service would serve to alleviate the extreme sense of anxiety many new students feel when confronted with a bewildering array of courses from which to choose. Peer advisement can only do so much and is no substitute for professional direction.

Every full-time faculty member should be required to participate as a condition of employment. It presents but a slight demand upon their time, and, for a faculty that constantly and rightfully complains of administration mistreatment, offers a chance to demonstrate their own commitment to the University and its students' welfare.

This advisement should extend to the academic sphere alone. Programs such as the ill-advised and fortunately seldom-enforced required personal guidance session with a prescribed rabbi in JSS all too frequently result in the extremely discomfiting situation of trying to extricate yourself from intrusive questions from a person in whom one may not wish to confide.

YU Guidance seems to be on the right path, offering an increased number of possibilities for direction in all areas of a student's life when he should feel the need. Yet much remains to be done in the neglected area of academic advisement, more than can be accomplished by a handful of staff, no matter how dedicated.

## Improved Food Services?

Those of you around last year will remember that this newspaper rarely had anything good to say about YU Food Services and with good reason. Yet, if these first two weeks have been any indication, the much troubled department has righted itself under its new leadership.

With the addition of the salad and fruit bar, sandwich express lines, and welcome vending machines in Morgenstern, Food Services seems determined to restore the cafeteria to the eatery of choice for the majority of YC students, a status it has seen fall precipitately over the past couple of years. In addition, the Shabbat meal service, notwithstanding a slight rise in price, has vastly improved in quality and meal size, good news for those weekend crashers previously confined to cold chicken from Meal Mart.

Even more welcome is the new policy of openness evident this term. With the planned release of printed price menus and the creation of student comment forms, the department has seemed to have discovered the importance of pleasing its primary consumers. Much of the credit seems to be due to Mr. Jacob Lieberman, new Associate Director of YU Food Services, who has brought a fresh outlook to the previously endless stream of cafeteria misstep and consequently negative student reaction that plagued his predecessor last year.

It is to be hoped that the increased competition from neighborhood restaurants, begun in earnest last year, and an activist student Food Services committee, headed by a serious Chairman, will serve to keep Food Services on track for what appears to be a gastronomically delightful year.

# The Commentator

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mazal tov

## The Commentator "On-Site Survey"

Q. Are you in favor of school's early start this year as a result of the early Yomim Tuvim, or would you prefer to have begun school at a later date?

PREFER EARLY START: 32%

PREFER LATE START: 54%

NO OPINION: 14%

TOTAL RESPONSE: 56

(percentages have been rounded)

This survey is a random sampling of YC students on campus conducted by Aryeh Wiener. It is not intended as a scientific survey, but merely as a candid indication of the feelings and opinions of the student body. Conducted every issue, each respondent's name is recorded solely to prevent duplication of results.



## From the Editor's Desk

by Behnam Dayanim

Yeshiva University, in its new undergraduate catalog, labels its guiding vision as the pursuit of "the best of the heritage of contemporary civilization—the liberal arts and sciences...[and] the ancient traditions of Jewish law and life." Unfortunately, in a misguided sense of self-consciousness and in the struggle to avoid even the slightest bit of controversial innovation, the student bodies of Yeshiva College and Stern College for Women are being sold short.

Just take a look at this year's YC course schedule of offerings in the Art Department, for example. In both semesters, there are only four different courses—introduction, beginning painting I and II, and sculpture: hardly an abundance of riches. In fact, the one semester introductory art history course purportedly covers the same historical time frame as does the two semester course at SCW!

Additionally, anyone who has been on either campus for a few years and ever expressed an interest in taking a course just a little off the beaten path has witnessed the difficulties involved. Just a few years ago, I and another student had to lobby our fellow students to register for a course in intermediate Arabic that would not otherwise have been offered. All this while a student at SCW was also desperately hoping for the same course. Eventually, she was given private instruction Uptown by the same instructor directly before our class session. I still laugh recalling the spectacle of her leaving an empty classroom after just having learned what I and two others were about to learn. I wonder if the mere act of having seen her leave constituted a violation of our strict policy of gender segregation in the eyes of our moral watchdogs. On a more serious note, the scandal of a YC student having to register and pay for a course at another school at night or over the summer in order to fulfill the requirements for a decent Art

minor (Heaven forbid, a major!) when all the necessary courses are constantly being offered at another undergraduate school of our own University requires some more substantial explanation than provided by a weak policy of irrational, knee-jerk reactions.

Furthermore, the sheer unnecessary expense of offering two advanced courses with relatively low attendance on both campuses could be largely eliminated if such courses, perhaps those like my intermediate Arabic course, were combined. Had YU done so with my course they would have cut the instructor's working hours in half, surely a substantial savings.

If a social event can be held, even if only off-campus, with both men and women present, why cannot special courses that might not otherwise be available to schools the size of YC or SCW be opened to mixed registration? In the past this has been done on occasion, primarily with science courses, of course, though the examples are few and far between. No one is advocating mixing Judaic studies classes, or even the overwhelming majority of regular courses, only those less popular but nevertheless significant subjects that are not currently being regularly offered at both schools.

This is not a "first step" toward a complete co-educational movement at YU, though I am sure some of the more alarmist elements would portray it as such. Both Yeshiva and Stern Colleges have their own unique heritage and tradition, and possess almost entirely separate bureaucratic structures. What I propose in this column would serve to enhance the academic environment and reputation of both undergraduate schools, expand their resources, and reduce some of the vast expense involved in course duplication, without detracting from the quality and dedication to Yiddishkeit of which we all are proud.

# SSSB Expands: Nobel Winner To Teach Finance

by Larry Portal

With last year's addition of the Sy Syms School of Business, YU students are now offered a unique undergraduate program in business featuring both Jewish-oriented and general studies. Previously, Yeshiva College's curriculum only offered accounting and economics majors to those interested in careers in business. Recently, SSSB has introduced majors in Management Information Systems, Finance, Marketing, and a completely restructured accounting curriculum providing the students with more rigorous preparation for professional accounting. SSSB is headed by Dean Michael S. Schiff and his associate Dean, Prof. Ira Jaskoll.

A continual source of controversy last year lay in SSSB's tempestuous program of multiple hirings and firings of faculty, including several of the more popular professors. This policy is justified in view of the school's objective of finding a full-time staff of excellent teachers and researchers who would be able

to convey any modifications in the courses as well as professionals who can introduce the pragmatic aspects of the field of study. Due to the difficulty in achieving this lofty goal, Deans Schiff and Jaskoll are hiring first-rate teachers on a part-time basis. For example, an income tax expert and attorney for Peat, Marwick, and Co., Prof. Harry Stern, will be teaching taxation this year. In the spring semester, Franko Modigliani, winner of the Nobel Prize in Economics a few years ago, will be teaching a course in finance. Dean Schiff asserts that "to attract him says a lot about SSSB and YU." In addition, it would seem that the school has once again engaged the services of Business Law Professor Perry Fish, the extremely popular instructor who departed during the establishment of SSSB.

During Orientation week it is difficult for a student to focus on his career objectives. Students sit through a plethora of speeches acquainting them

with various aspects of the University, and accumulating immense amounts of paper. Hence, Deans Schiff and Jaskoll urge all business students to meet with them as early as possible in the semester to discuss future academic plans. In addition, the Deans hope to arrange a meeting with all new business students which would further help them to focus on career and academic objectives. Among other events coming in the near future is the job fair, when many business representatives come to YU to discuss careers in various business fields, including accounting, marketing, and investment banking. Other events include a resume writing session, successful interviewing techniques, mock interviews, and meeting the Big Eight. If a student would like more information in reference to future events or any assistance in his academic program, he is urged to see either Dean Schiff or Dr. Jaskoll as soon as possible.

## Jewish Education As Easy As I.B.C.

by IBC President David Berg

Ed. Note: The COMMENTATOR has commissioned a series of articles discussing the natures, problems, and by implication the futures, of the James Striar School and the Isaac Breuer College in light of the recent uncertainty and impending change in store for both divisions in the next academic year ('89-'90). This represents the first installment to be followed by a similar piece written by the President of JSS.

Last year, rumors of a merger between IBC and JSS were rampant. Many speculated that such a merger would be beneficial because there did not seem to be much of a difference between the two schools. As a then-candidate for President of the IBC Student Council, these rumors worried me because I saw great differences between the two schools.

The summer has passed, and it is comforting to see that the two schools are still separate. I feel that each school is unique and serves a distinct purpose for its students, and I am glad to see that the schools will remain apart for at least another year.

IBC, established in 1917 by the Orthodox Zionist movement Mizrahi as the "first Orthodox

## ATTENTION ALL STUDENTS

Please fill out your student activity form, listing all extracurricular activities, athletic involvement, or academic honors. This form is used for such occasions as letters of recommendation, transcripts, and employment inquiries. It may be obtained in the office of the Dean of Students, Furst Hall, 1st floor.

## ATTENTION SENIORS

On campus interviews in Accounting, Business, Computer, Finance and Marketing will begin in October. Please pick up your Placement Registration Kits immediately from rooms 412 Belfer or 905 Stern or call 960-0845. You must also submit an approved resume with your registration form.

Don't delay signing up for interviews. Any questions.

Call: Dean Ira Jaskoll

Sy Syms School of Business  
(212) 960-0845

Hebrew teachers' training school" on this continent has undergone many changes during the past 71 years. The school, however, continues to produce a limited amount of teachers each year, as well as offering a wide range of courses for its other students in Tanach, Halacha, Jewish History, Jewish Philosophy, and Talmud. Most of these courses are taught in Hebrew, adding to the challenge of the program.

Along with stressing the Hebrew language, IBC also emphasizes the importance of the state of Israel. Aside from the many courses about Israel, the administration and student council often invite guest lecturers from the Israeli government and other Jewish organizations to speak about Israeli politics and social concerns.

Since IBC is the smallest of the three Jewish Studies divisions, students are afforded the opportunity for a more personalized education. However, certain faculty members are remiss in revamping their

courses each year to more effectively relate to the students. For example, I have taken several courses in which the teacher has read from his tattered notes, the same notes that our older brothers may have learned from back in the days of T.I. and E.M.C. While it may be true that the subject matter in these courses is timeless, new and creative methods can be utilized for more effective results. Such apathy is inevitably communicated and transferred to the students. A student, upon eyeing the yellowed notes certainly cannot be expected to attain the same motivation that carried his older brothers. But, of course, it is not student-teacher evaluations that will bring this necessary change; rather, increased administrative intervention is needed.

IBC prides itself on good student/faculty/administrative cohesion as exemplified by the student/faculty committee. Answers to problems such as these would even further strengthen this bond.

# Incoming Students Enjoy Successful Orientation

by Lee Niren

Tuesday, August 23, and one of the largest influxes of new students arrived at Yeshiva. Over 300 freshmen and former Israel program students graced Yeshiva University with their presence. For the next three or four years, they will all live the challenging Torah U Mada lifestyle. Students came from as far away as Spain and as close as Brooklyn just to attend Yeshiva and to take advantage of the dual curriculum.

Many upperclassmen, under the direction of the Office of the Dean and the Chairman of Incoming Student Orientation, David Asher, worked very hard to give the new students an idea of how Y.U. runs. From 9 am until 5 pm the upperclassmen checked the new students in and gave tours of the campus. There was a special parent's orientation given this year to accustom the parents to the workings of Y.U. Later that night, they held the New Student/Freshman Orientation Dinner. The purpose of the dinner was to provide all incoming students with an opportunity to meet the members of the administration, faculty, staff, and the upperclassmen of Yeshiva University. The deans of the various schools of Y.U. spoke, but the climax of the night came when those in attendance were given the honor of hearing from Dr. Norman Lamm, the President of Yeshiva University. He concentrated on two topics: Torah U' Mada and Chodesh Elul. He said, "This is the earliest my memory recalls starting an academic year." Dr. Lamm explained that the reason for this was that "We felt that by starting in Elul we would be able to improve on our religious growth."

Later that evening, there were floor meetings in which the students met their Resident Advisors and floormates. In conjunction with this there was a student council program. Mordy Leifer, the president of the Student Council, introduced other student leaders of



Dr. Lamm delivers talk to freshmen during orientation.

clubs and numerous activities which are available throughout the school year.

Wednesday morning the students were given their orientation kits and registration appointments. All three Jewish Studies divisions conducted separate orientations. The student services luncheon took place in the afternoon, and the day was fittingly topped off with the Beit Midrash program. The program focused on the concept of Ahavat Yisrael.

On Thursday the new students spent the day registering. That evening, the students were given an opportunity to go to midtown for the annual Yeshiva College/Stern College Student Council Theater Party (YCSCSCTP). They saw "Broadway Bound" starring Joan Rivers. Following the play, the students went to Stern for a reception. Friday was the day many people were waiting for. It was the day of the Administration vs. Freshmen basketball game. The game was well played by both sides, but for the first time in Y.U.'s history, the Faculty won!

The tranquil Shabbat program concluded an otherwise hectic orientation program. Rabbi Israel Miller, Vice-President of Yeshiva University and Rabbi Wruble of BMT were the guests for Shabbat.

## Dean Nulman: Bridging the Gap

by Gad Dishy

Dean Nulman's official title is Dean of Students. In essence, the job entails weaving together the diverse fabric from which our student body is meshed. In fact, it is hard to find a student who is not affected by Dean Nulman's office. Orientation, commencement and dorm facilities are only some of Dean Nulman's ultimate responsibilities. Yet perhaps his most important service is that as advisor to our student government leaders.

When asked if his personal views come into conflict with student leaders Dean Nulman replied, "College students are not children. Their government is their own." He also added that "with independence comes accountability and responsibility. I won't override their wants unless they are antithetical to what the University stands for and that has been very rare."

But what does the University stand for? Well, that question

is left to be answered by President Lamm, the ultimate authority behind the offices of Y.U. However, regardless of one's personal opinions Dean Nulman feels that the key issue is "sensitivity; What we're trying to say is 'Welcome to the center' and that center is difficult to find."

*"College students are not children. Their government is their own."*

Dean Nulman is in constant communications with student leaders and advises as well as being advised of council's plans. He feels though that the job of President is very much underrated by students. He

## Hotline To Student Information

Radio station WQHT FM 103 offers a unique community service for college students in the New York metropolitan area, the "HOT 103 College Hotline". This twenty-four hour free service lists all the latest music, movie, sport, art, theatre, and other special events in the 87 colleges throughout New York City's five boroughs. The recorded announcements are updated every week, featuring WQHT air personalities, and are provided in conjunction with the Association for a Better New York's College Town Campaign. Most events are either free or specially discounted for college students.

Organizations interested in obtaining more information about advertising their events on the Hotline should contact Rocco Macri or Tracy Cloherty at (212)-840-1035.

The Hotline number is (212)-391-7832.

takes slack from many groups of people but has no available information to make necessary improvements. What is needed is additional input from the students as to what they want. Suggestion boxes, surveys and student polls are some of the ideas being looked into.

Budgets for various school organizations are also overseen by Dean Nulman's office. His office does not do the actual allocations of funds but advises council members on how much to allocate based on prior experience.

Dean Nulman is also in charge of academic, career and personal guidance. The various faculty members and hours involved in these services are available in the students brochure for student's services which were delivered last week to dorm mailboxes. If you've thrown it out and have changed your mind there still remain a few in Dean Nulman's office, F104 - the door should be open.

The Commentator reaches over 6,000 Jewish College Students and alumni.  
To Place an Ad Call: 923-6320 or 923-0927

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Jeff Chaitoff, new assistant to the Dean of Students, will help Dr. Nulman coordinate student activities.

## YCDS Incurs Loss of Valued Equipment

by Behnam Dayanim

The Yeshiva College Dramatics Society, preparing to enter its last semester in its present quarters before moving to a newer facility in the Schottenstein building, has been struck with an unexpected loss of what is conservatively estimated at \$35,000 worth of equipment. The lost items include sound equipment, tools, irreplaceable sets and properties donated from Broadway shows and professional artists, and even such mundane yet vital supplies as platforms and lumber, according to YCDS President Rick Siegel.

It appears that the materials, collected by Dr. Anthony Beukas, Artistic Director and Faculty Advisor of YCDS, were confiscated by the University upon receiving word from the Fire Department that they constituted a potential hazard and had to be cleared immediately. Mr. Siegel asserts that this has occurred many times in the past, but that before the University has always contacted Dr. Beukas so that he can personally supervise the procedure. It appears that this time, perhaps due to the urgency of the Fire Department's order, this step was neglected and everything, including several costly items belonging to Dr. Beukas himself, was discarded.

Dr. Beukas states that he is "devastated by seeing what took 25 years to collect simply gone" and that he "does not know in what ways to recoup their losses. "Without University

support," he says that the damage could be "permanent."

In the past, Dr. Beukas recalls, he has had professional-caliber carpenters attending YC who could build elaborate sets from scratch, such as Steve Socol, and such a lack of the basic set materials could be relatively painlessly overcome. However, in this transitional year, without technicians of that level, the set now "presents a myriad of problems" if Dr. Beukas is to present the type of technically elaborate production for which he is famous and which he is determined to accomplish for this farewell performance to the old theatre.

Mr. Siegel states that he will ask YCSC for a slightly bigger budget as it is a "necessity" to recover from the loss. Dr. Efreim Nulman, Dean of Students, says, however, that no decision by his office has yet been made concerning supplementary allocations to YCDS, pending review of all the facts of the situation.

"The Dresser" is something he has waited a long time to do and is very enthusiastic about doing it," Mr. Siegel comments concerning Dr. Beukas, noting the difficulty in obtaining the rights to perform this prestigious and much-demanded play.

Through it all, the flamboyant and undaunted director remains "confident that the University will help in this difficulty" and guarantees the student body that this semester's show "will be nothing less than spectacular."

Not to be overlooked is Food Services' administrative change, which may prove to be more important than the physical alterations that the cafeteria has undergone. According to Shmuel Katz, Mr. Lieberman "seems helpful and wants to accommodate the students. Most importantly, he is welcome to suggestion." Mr. Alan Solomon, hired last year as manager of the Yeshiva College campus services, remains in his previous position under Mr. Lieberman. It should be noted that the Food Services Committee represents the students, via the Student Council, to cafeteria management. Students are urged to voice their complaints to the committee which will then raise these issues with management. Members include Mr. Katz, vice-chairman Joseph Hyman, and secretary Fred Zemel.

## Project SAGES Brings Joy to the Elderly

by Jeff Goldberg

When most students come to Yeshiva University, they expect to acquire knowledge needed for their future careers, learn about the world around them, and devote time to a somewhat intensive study of Talmud and other Judaic subjects. In addition, many students spend a few hours per week helping alleviate the loneliness and complexities of old age for hundreds of elderly people.

These students are participating in Project SAGES, the Ivan L. Tillem Yeshiva University program for special services to elderly Jews, named for the New York City investment banker, publisher, philanthropist, and member of the University's Board of Trustees.

Through SAGES, an acronym for Strengthening Another Generation Through Education and Service, 350 senior citizens get some relief from their somewhat hum-drum daily routine by sharing holiday celebrations, problems, and memories of their youth with approximately 30 students participating in the program.

In addition, the YU participants deliver holiday parcels provided the Washington Heights/Inwood Y.M./Y.W.H.A. to nursing home residents. Much of the program has been coordinated through the Y.M./Y.W.H.A. since SAGES' inception four years ago.

Despite the improvements some point to the cafeteria's high prices and overcrowding as neglected problems. The prices have, for the most part, remained the same. Whether an increase will be experienced remains to be seen. A nightly \$2.95 dinner is still offered, but many students have found that the portions are smaller than those of last year. In addition, there is no longer a nightly 'special' in the main cafeteria.

## Foreign Students Find Warm Welcome at YU

by Robert Blustein

Under the guidance of Mrs. Vivian Owgang, the International Student Advisor, the 35 undergraduate foreign students attending Yeshiva College adjust quite easily. Most are from Canada, several are from South Africa and Israel, while others come from Yugoslavia, England, and Australia. Under Mrs. Owgang's auspices, the school has provided a booklet entitled "Orientation into American Culture for Foreign Students" that helps foreign students deal with the culture shock of New York life.

Many foreign students have no place to go for the weekend, with the campus offering the only place for them in New York. Mrs. Owgang hopes that their fellow students will take them home to spend Shabbat.

The SAGES program seeks not only to meet the spiritual, educational, and social needs of the seniors, but also strives to provide a sense of belonging and caring. Additionally, the seniors feel wanted and necessary to the young people with whom they come into contact. Examples of this attempt include the organization of minyanim in an elderly person's home on Shabbat, with students comprising the needed quorum, in order to allow someone otherwise unable to hear the reading of the Torah and to pray with a minyan.

*"The SAGES Program ...strives to provide a sense of belonging and caring to (the elderly)."*

Under the direction of Wurzeiler School for Social Work Professor Bonnie Beck, SAGES has grown enormously since its founding, serving more senior citizens every year. She urges that anyone interested in taking part contact her or any YC student involved with SAGES for more information. Additionally, SAGES is expanding to include SCW students as well, so anyone with a caring heart and some time is welcome and needed.

Overcrowding also remains a considerable problem. Additional seating has been provided, but as Yeshiva College grows so must its cafeteria. The reduced services in the Belfer-cafeteria now induce many faculty and staff to eat at Furman Hall, contributing to the difficulty.

Still others point to the lack of diversity among hot dishes at dinner, and especially at lunch.

The new services and facilities

## Learning to Write Right

by Larry Hartstein

Located at 202 Furst Hall, the Writing Center provides free tutoring to students wishing to master the fundamentals of writing or merely to hone their already polished skills. As it enters its third year, the Writing Center is branching out and offering workshops in specific types of essay writing as well as editorial conferences for students to adjust rough drafts before handing in assigned papers.

Two years ago Y.U. hired Dr. Richard Nochimson to head the Writing Center, a program he had run very successfully at York College. Nochimson finds that many students have difficulty writing clearly because they think of writing as flowery prose and not as a basic form of communication. "The major problem is saying what they mean so that someone will understand them clearly...If a student is writing in what is his natural voice, he will write more successfully. Spoken English is different from written English, but it's not that different."

Surprisingly, only 90 students on both campuses combined utilized the Writing Center last semester. Yet those who were involved with the Center generally have nothing but praise for the program. And the tutors get more out of their time than cold cash. "Whenever you help someone, you hone your own skills, and you see the organizational pattern develop. It helps you in your own writing," says Eric Zaiman a veteran Writing Center tutor.

So next time you're milling around Furst Hall between classes just shooting the breeze, why not amble over to the Writing Center and begin on the path to sharper, clearer writing?

provided to the students are certainly significant changes. In fact, the improvements seem

*Continued on page 10*

## CAFETERIA

Continued from page 1

waiter, has said, "We are looking into changing the menu and offering more diversity. The problem," he explains, "is that people don't sign up until late Friday afternoon, and the cafeteria does not know what, or how much, to prepare." As a result, a late fee will be added to the newly hiked fourteen dollar standard charge. [Last year's price was first twelve, then thirteen dollars.] On Friday, from 11:00 AM until 2:00 PM, a one dollar late fee will be imposed, and from 2:00 PM until the Shabbat, the fee will be two additional dollars. Finally, for appearing at meals without prior notice, the fee will be three dollars.



2543 AMSTERDAM AVE. (AT 186 ST.)  
568-4855

# Finding Your Way Through The YU Labyrinth

## Not Just a Friendly Face

by Larry Portal

To the many students attending Yeshiva University for the first time, the Admissions office plays a significant role, primarily because it is the one place with which new students are already familiar once they begin matriculating. The helpful personnel and friendly atmosphere ease the tension that new students frequently experience when they begin studying at a new school. The Admissions office, though quite busy all year long with admission procedures, always finds time to assist students with their adjustment and general problems.

Beginning in September, YU starts recruiting seniors in various high schools across the United States and Canada. An estimated 40 percent of YU undergraduate students come from outside the tri-state area. The objective of the Admissions office is to search for the students who would be most interested in YU, as well as the students that YU would be most interested in having grace its hallowed halls. These students are invited to the campus to briefly experience what it's like to unite Jewish studies with secular studies. Continuous contact is made

between the Admissions office and the student for most of his senior year. Statistics indicate that YU has been progressively more successful in recruiting students in recent years. Indeed, Yeshiva College has grown from 800 students two years ago to 880 students last year and 950 this term.

However, the student's association with the Admissions office does not terminate once classes begin. Of course, Orientation week is organized by Admissions in conjunction with the Deans, Student Services, and a student Chairman. During this time, these officials ensure that the students arrive smoothly and adjust with minimal difficulty. During the two or three weeks of classes which follow, new students often find themselves in the Admissions office seeking all sorts of advice and wisdom. This is hardly surprising due to the student's familiarity with the office and rapport with its members. Subsequently, students become familiar with all of the offices on campus and realize the utility of each one.

By assisting the students, the Admissions office also helps itself. Keeping abreast of the

various issues and affairs within the student body is highly important to the office whose primary job is to convey that type of information to prospective students.

Ms. Judy Paikin, now working with the Admissions office for ten years, has been its Director for half that time. Her assistant directors are Judah Harris, Rebecca Stamen, Leslie Binder, and, as of this year, Scott Apfelbaum and Marc Mendelson who are recent alumni of Yeshiva College. Leaving his post as Associate Director, Mr. Ken Wagner has assumed the position of Executive Director of the Lincoln Square Synagogue.



Scott Apfelbaum, newly hired Asst. Director of Admissions.



Marc Mendelson, newly hired Asst. Director of Admissions.

*"My job is to make contact with as many students as possible..."*  
—Rabbi Yosef Blau

## Rabbi Yosef Blau: the man in the middle.

by Josh Fruchter

As opposed to traditional Yeshivot which adopt a singular approach to learning, Yeshiva University offers a broad range of Judaic instruction ranging from the advanced to the elementary. Consequently, Y.U. faces the unique challenge of catering to a student body whose religious backgrounds vary considerably. As Mashgiach Ruchani, Rabbi Blau endeavors to unite the diverse factions and ensure that every student feels comfortable with the religious atmosphere at Yeshiva. "Y.U. represents a microcosm of the Orthodox Jewish community," states Rabbi Blau. "My job is to make contact with as many students as possible and help each one strive for religious growth."

Rabbi Blau, himself a graduate of Yeshiva, began his career at Yeshiva College teaching mathematics. In 1965, Rabbi Blau left New York for Maimonides in Boston and served as an associate principal and rebbe. He subsequently took positions as an administrator and rebbe at the Skokie Yeshiva in Chicago and at JEC in Elizabeth before returning to Y.U. in 1977. Initially, Rabbi Blau worked part time as Mashgiach Ruchani at Stern and Yeshiva College. However he eventually felt that "each school deserved a full time Mashgiach" and moved to full time at Y.U.

Rabbi Blau perceives his primary responsibility at Yeshiva as "creating a religious atmosphere which allows for a great deal of variation." Each of the three Jewish studies divisions emphasize very different aspects of learning and Judaism and Rabbi Blau would like students from each division to "feel like they belong. Quite honestly it's a balancing act,"

observes Rabbi Blau. "Trying to establish the atmosphere of a traditional Yeshiva, such as the Beit Midrash, while at the same time making a student, initially uncomfortable with the Beit Midrash, feel at home."

Rabbi Blau seeks immediate contact with students, hoping to establish long-term relationships. Towards this end, Rabbi Blau takes an annual trip to Israel to meet with prospective students at their individual Yeshivot. When Talmidim return to Y.U. in the fall they quickly recognize a familiar face. "I want each student to feel as if he has a friend in the faculty to whom he can immediately turn with a question or a problem." Rabbi Blau's strategy becomes evident during Orientation Week when he can be seen circulating among the new students each day.

As Mashgiach Rabbi Blau also represents stability. "Very often a student has one rebbe for a year and then goes to another shiur," notes Rabbi Blau. "It is usually easier for me to develop an ongoing association."

Rabbi Blau achieves his goals through specific programs. Well-attended minyanim at Yeshiva during Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur help set an appropriate tone for the Yamim Noraim. "When I first came here there was virtually no one here for Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur," recalls Rabbi Blau. "Now we are filled to capacity which creates a certain unity."

With regard to helping students achieve religious growth, Rabbi Blau prefers "persuasion to force." When a campaign began to encourage JSS students to set up night Sedarim, Rabbi Blau delivered a "pep talk."

## The Most Efficient Department on Campus

by Alex Wittenberg

Among the various administrative divisions found at Yeshiva College is Facilities Management. What is this department with the important-sounding name? No doubt many new students have an even more important question: Is this the place one goes for help with leaky faucets and broken doors?

As the new year begins and new headaches arise, the help a befuddled freshman desires can be found at Facilities Management. Mr. Steve Berkowitz, Assistant Director for Housekeeping, explains that FM is in charge of all housekeeping, maintenance, and climate control on campus. Many students might not know

FM by its current name, as until recently it was well-known by the name 'Buildings and Grounds'.

Housekeeping, which Mr. Berkowitz oversees, includes the janitorial services at YC. It has all dorm rooms cleared once a week and is responsible for keeping all other rooms, classes, halls, and sidewalks clean. Snow plowing, mowing the lawn, and handling all gardening duties are also his responsibilities.

Maintenance duties basically focus around general repairs in all areas. Facilities Management oversees maintenance of all electrical wiring, light bulbs, and other electricity-

related concerns. It handles all plumbing problems, both in the dormitory rooms and in the lavatories. Carpentry repairs, furniture maintenance, repairing broken windows, and even fixing stuck mailbox doors also fall under FM's umbrella. The plant division of Facilities Management is responsible for all heating and cooling on campus. This includes all radiators in the dorms, as well as maintenance thereof. In addition, it directs the central heating and cooling system in Furst Hall and Belfer Hall.

Thus, it is rather obvious that any student complaints should be forwarded to Facilities Management. However, many might wonder how reliable the men and women of Facilities Management are in regard to doing their job. According to several students interviewed for this article, FM is indeed there when problems arise. One senior expressed satisfaction with FM's prompt service and friendly demeanor. He admitted to being quite impressed when a repairman fixed a broken window within hours. The only possible problem with FM's service is

the occasional delay caused by an excessive workload. On some occasions, such as on the first day of Orientation, the number of maintenance problems can make service hard to obtain. On the other hand, though, it is largely FM that enables Freshman registration and move-in to run smoothly and efficiently. Generally, the employees of Facilities Management do their work well.

The only true problem that Facilities Management has is that too few students know that it exists. For this reason, Mr. Berkowitz wishes to notify the students that FM is open from 9:00 AM to 5:30 PM, Monday through Thursday. Any student with a problem can stop by the main office, location of the Director of Facilities Management Jay Blazer, in Belfer 303, or call 960-5206. The complaint will then be entered into a computer and printed on a work order. This helps ensure that the work is done. Of course, it all depends on the students taking advantage of FM's services. It exists for the student, and if he neglects to make use of it, then that leaky faucet will be his problem alone.



Rabbi Morry Wruble, a new face in Guidance.

*"To lend a sympathetic ear..."*  
—Rabbi Yosef Blau

## Guidance Grows to meet Student Needs

by David Quint and Daniel Sturm

Throughout the year, many Yeshiva College students complain that they have no one in the administration with whom they can discuss their problems. Those problems can range from personal difficulties that the student faces to the more nitty-gritty academic difficulties. To help alleviate these and other quandaries, YU is constantly trying to strengthen its Guidance department.

Should a student require personal guidance, he is encouraged to go to the Guidance office in Furst Hall, room 413. Two of the guidance counselors who work there are Rabbi Yehudah Fine and Mr. David Himber. They both give counseling and guidance in all areas of student life. For instance, if a freshman feels that he is experiencing adjustment problems, the Guidance office is the place to go. Other problems with which the Guidance office deals involve students who are having difficulties with interpersonal relationships, and students who are confused about certain matters. If anyone is having any problem whatsoever, Rabbi Fine stresses that he "is not an intimidating man"

and that students can meet with him "on a formal or informal basis."

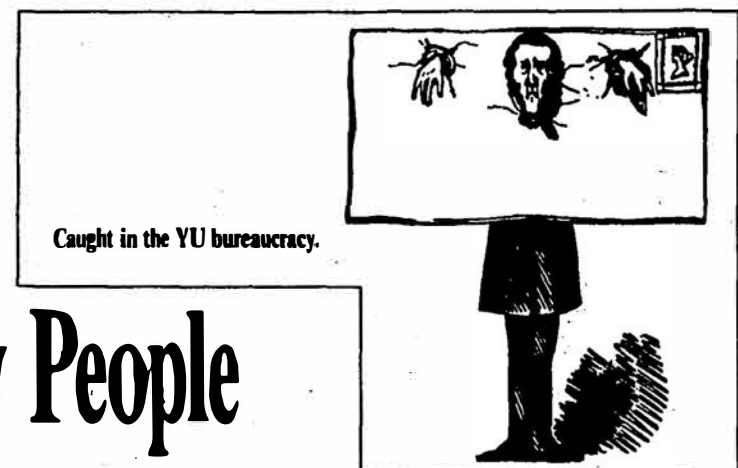
Mr. Himber also deals in personal guidance and is particularly helpful to those students who need assistance on an academic level. In fact, if the situation calls for it, Mr. Himber states that he would personally intercede on behalf of students who are encountering problems in other academic offices.

Mr. Robert Katz, Assistant to the Dean of Yeshiva College, can provide assistance for those students who need academic advisement and basic program structuring. He has often helped students by clearly explaining to them their remaining individual academic requirements. In March, Mr. Katz will also inform interested juniors which requirements they have yet to complete in order to graduate without any unforeseen problems.

For those students who are unsure of the career they wish to pursue, Ms. Naomi Kapp, the career counselor here at Yeshiva, will assist in evaluating the student's strengths and weaknesses, thereby enabling the selection of a beneficial and feasible career choice. Ms. Kapp is also available to help students

structure their resumes, an extremely important task for those seeking part-time or full-time job placement.

A newcomer to the department is Rabbi Morry Wruble. Although Rabbi Wruble has spent the last eight years at B.M.T. and Machon Gold in Israel, he is no stranger to the YU main campus. Rabbi Wruble was graduated from Yeshiva College in 1973 and also received his semikha, rabbinical ordination, here. He was hired jointly by Dr. Efram Nulman, undergraduate Dean of Students, and Rabbi Benjamin Yudin, director of the James Striar School. Rabbi Wruble intends to supplement his morning duties as a JSS instructor by providing guidance for JSS students. Among his goals is the creation of an alternative Shabbat program for JSS students. He feels that many students in JSS just don't feel comfortable here on Shabbat, and he would like them to have their own Shabbat minyan and kiddush. Rabbi Wruble lives in the neighborhood and will therefore personally implement the Shabbat program. He summarizes his intentions by saying, "I want the JSS guys to feel that they have their own Rebbe on campus."



Caught in the YU bureaucracy.

## The Money People

by Josh Fruchter

Aside from the cultural shock of taking up residence in Washington Heights, a major source of distress for new students, or perhaps more their parents, is the considerable expense of a YU education as reflected in the tuition bill. More often than not, confusion sets in as students and their parents try to cope with an indecipherable flood of information on payment schedules, financial aid programs, scholarships, and forms. While they won't subtract any zeroes for you, the Student Finance Office, headed by Mr. Jack Nussbaum, exists to make life easier for students by answering any questions about financial aid and providing valuable financial services throughout the year.

The first misconception which Mr. Nussbaum gladly corrected was that his office does not set tuition rates. The University's Board of Directors sets tuition increases based on inflation and other cost factors such as faculty salaries. The Student

Finance office merely acts as a bursarial office to send out the bills and collect tuition payments. Mr. Nussbaum notes that, as far as he is aware, the annual seven to nine percent rise in YU tuition costs is equal to that of other, similar institutions.

Mr. Nussbaum attests that his office is always prepared to counsel students concerning financial aid. The office mails packets and booklets to returning and new students describing all the available loans, grants, and scholarships, and clarifying the aid application process. If problems still arise, Mr. Nussbaum welcomes any student to come discuss his difficulties with either himself or Associate Director Neal Harris.

The Finance office provides numerous financial services to students on a daily basis. From 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM Monday through Thursday and 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM on Friday students may cash checks of up to 40 dollars. The weekday time was extended until 4:00

PM. Mr. Nussbaum explains, to accommodate MYP students who end shiur at 3:00 PM. This service carries risk and inconvenience for the Finance office, due to bounced checks and the necessity of transporting cash reserves from the bank; nevertheless, Mr. Nussbaum intends to continue the service.

Students waiting for their Work/Study checks or anticipating an expensive date can also take out an emergency loan of up to 50 dollars, free of interest, no questions asked, and payable in one month. Mr. Nussbaum emphasizes, however, that such a loan should only be used in drastic circumstances. Students who abuse this service are unfairly harming fellow students who may be in true need. Stamps and postcards are also available during the afternoon.

The Student Finance office is located in Furst Hall on the first floor adjacent to the Registrar and Office of Admissions.



# The Lighter Look



by Jonathan Miskin

The pirate ship The Purple Lilac was a dreaded terror on the high seas, for its pirates had earned a reputation as ruthless buccaneers by attacking vessels of commerce, stealing their treasure and forcing their victims to walk the planks. Why, in one year alone The Purple Lilac and her sister ships, The Tulip, and the Pansy, had sunk twenty clippers, sixteen barkentines and junk. And the booty! Oh, the plunder and the spoil that the unshaven sea rover's stole, filled the holds of all three ships and spilled into the chain lockers as well.

Of course, the pirates kept the treasures on board just long enough to get to their secret island where the riches could be buried. But the short expe-

ditions ashore served more than one purpose, for the savage pirates were all students of the University of Rogues and Roses. Nowhere else in the world of education were two such incongruous fields as piracy and horticulture brought together in one institution. The revolutionary union of cutlass and chrysanthemum tamed the cold-blooded bandits and softened their fierce hearts in the appreciation of the delicate beauty of the flower. Sailors of the school spent their mornings learning all about tying knots, drawing maps, and dueling, and in the afternoons they studied cross pollination, natural fragrances, and the eight basic designs of flower arrangements. The trips ashore to bury treasure also afforded the

pirates perfect opportunities to forage for unusual flowers to study back at sea.

On a warm day in September, The Purple Lilac's fresh recruits were assembled on the forecstale and were practicing their round turn two half-hitches knots, waiting for the orientation address from the ship's captain. It was a pleasant day on the water, the sea was calm and the pungent salt air gently blew life into the Jolly Roger. Leaning on the bulwarks, bosun Norm was swigging rum and whistling an Irish ballad. First mate Rob was dancing a jig and singing "I've been on this ship ten years already/And I'll be Cap'n 'fore I'm nine and twenty."

And then all action stopped as the leader of The Purple

Lilac, the feared Captain Dr. Lambeard, appeared. Lambeard was a direct descendant of the Beard family. His great-grandfather was the horrible Captain Blackbeard, his grandfather the terrible Captain Bluebeard, and his father the dreaded Yogi Beard. Lambeard sauntered for and aft the deck, reviewing the new men with his unpatched eye, his wooden leg making a clopping sound as he walked. His fearsome figure loomed over them while a parrot, perched on his shoulder, squawked "shiver me timbers" and batten down the hatches" over and over.

When all the pirates were seated, Captain Dr. Lambeard sat down on a keg of gunpowder and began to speak. "Yo ho ho, men! All for one and one

for all! Ship ahoy, and all that malarkey! I'd like to welcome you all to The Purple Lilac of the University of Rogues and Roses. This year, we can boast the largest freshman class of sea robbers we've ever had, bringing the number of pirates close to five hundred. And I think we can attribute this growth to the school's special mixture of relentless brutality and civilized refinement, but more about that later. Allow me to mention some of the facilities we have on board. The Morgenstern berths are equipped with every amenity for today's pirate and the Furst Bridge has the most modern navigation instruments. The galley is there for your convenience, so catch the waves. Now, just one thing I'd like to mention. During free time, the bow of the ship is the place you can relax. So please stay away from the stern. And if you must go down there, please limit your visits to Thursday and Saturday nights.

"And now, on to the theme of our school: At R and R, we're committed to a well-rounded education. Men, when you're out there heartlessly murdering and plundering, stop for a minute and think about the loveliness and grace that life has to offer. There is nothing more beautiful and delicate than a flower and there is no reason why even we rotten scoundrels can't take time along life's sea lanes to stop and smell the daisies.

"But don't think that the marriage of the sword and the snapdragon started with our university one hundred years ago. Why, violence abounded in Robert Louis Stevenson's "Treasure Iris." And how about the War of the Roses? There were some pretty nasty battles fought back then. Too many people today believe in either unbridled savagery or polished urbanity. But here at Rogues and Roses, we raise the blade in the spirit of Long John Silver. We cultivate the begonia in the spirit of Persephone. And we unite them both in the spirit of Captain Hook and Tiger Lily. And now men, I wish you luck, but before you start your studies as buccaneer botanists, I must tell you the Pirate's Maxim to live and walk the plank by: Never divulge the whereabouts of your hidden treasure, and never, ever, under any circumstances, uproot a flower to bury your treasure chest. Follow these rules and you will prove worthy pirates of The Purple Lilac. With your added strength, our vessel and our sister ships, The Tulip and the Pansy, will live up to the motto of our school: Flora Armada."

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# Record Enrollment

Continued from page 1

is serious about his potential in both the secular and Judaic realms. We are looking for students interested in Judaism to a serious degree, not that he's necessarily going to be going to the Beit Midrash every night."

Financially, the higher the enrollment, the more benefits for the students (and employees). YU is primarily a tuition-based university; an increase in enrollment creates more academic choices for the student body.

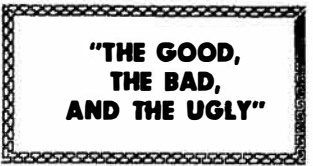
The steadily increasing enrollment will raise serious housing questions by next year. YU Senior Vice President, Dr. Israel Miller, said that "Muss Hall is being completely used right now. The Smicha students living there would be the first priority to leave Muss in order to make more room." Two other options are being considered. Dr. Miller proposed that "Upperclassmen could be offered dorming off campus...furnished by YU...but without the security of the on-campus dormitories." The second option would be a movement to revitalize commuting at YU; Dr. Miller explains, "we are looking at the possibility of offering more parking, with the intention of creating a stronger commuter presence on campus." Whatever the outcome, all options will be on hold until the Space Committee convenes soon to discuss all this triple mania.

# "Oh, the Days of Yesteryear" A Look at Our Glorious Past



## The Commentator

Official Undergraduate Newspaper of Yeshiva College



VOL. LXVII

YESHIVA UNIVERSITY, NEW YORK CITY, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1968

No. 1

### Zucker Explains Legal Method Of Escaping Active Army Service

"Students Opposed to the War in Vietnam" presented a program in December concerned with explicating the legal alternatives to military service within the Selec-



**Zucker gives draft advice**  
T. Borenstein  
The draft selective Service System. The draft counselor, Mr. Irwin Zucker, was provided by the American Friends Service Committee, a

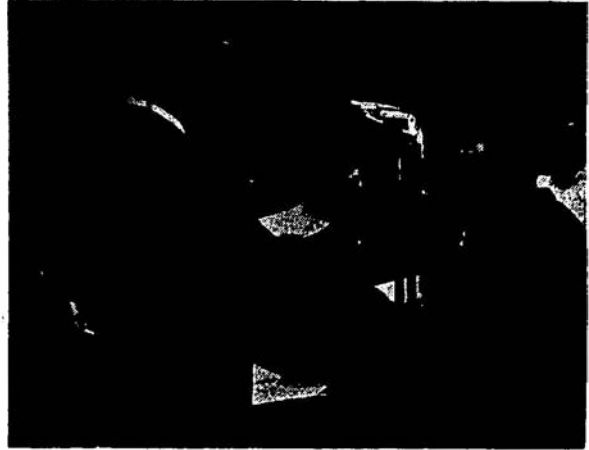
(Continued on page six)

### Faculty Approves Policy Of Unlimited Cuts But Registrar Orders Attendance Records

A threatened student boycott of classes beginning the first day of the spring term was averted January 22 when the faculty agreed to student demands for a liberalization of attendance requirements. There are to be no official attendance requirements for seniors and juniors, and for lower classmen with 3.0 averages.

A stipulation provides that "this in no way should interfere with a particular instructor's requirement that a student shall submit a written assignment on a particular day, shall deliver a recitation on a particular day, shall perform certain laboratory tasks on a particular day, and the like."

**Professional Harassment**  
This condition has arisen as a new point of contention. The Office of the Registrar has issued a directive to all teachers requesting them to take attendance anyway, so that the new regulations, adopted on a one-year trial basis, can be reviewed at the end of that period. Students are com-



**YCSC President Ronald Gross announces Council strike decision which led to faculty action on cuts.**  
I. Tettelbaum

plaining that professors are creating devices which, in effect, render attendance even more mandatory than before. Some teachers, students claim, have threatened to call on absent stu-

dents to recite for a grade, to penalize students who cut too often or to use similar tactics, to assure that their lectures are well attended.

Students on probation, and freshmen and sophomores with an average below 3.0 will continue to be bound by present

dent Council passed a resolution stating that, "Considering the lack of good faith shown by the faculty in their inaction and their postponement of reaching any decision on the cut issue, we propose that Student Council declare a strike for Feb. 1, the first day of classes, if they do not present a clear cut liberalization of the attendance system as promised." A further meeting of the faculty was called for Jan. 22 at which time the liberalization regulation was approved.

**Thinking Ocluded**  
There has long been strong feeling here for unlimited cuts, and it reached a boiling point this term. Each student in Yeshiva College also attends another full-time school in the religious divisions. Thus, students feel that strict attendance requirements allow them no time at all for individual creativity, or even thought

Despite the radical strike demands in past weeks, Council President Ronald Gross had firmly maintained that he "will ask for a strike as a last resort and

### WYUR Begins Regular Broadcasting Schedule;

## DATES TO REMEMBER:

Friday, Sept. 9 ..... Last day to file for January Degrees

Sun.-Tues., Sept. 11-13 ..... Rosh Hashanah (No Classes)

Wed., Sept. 14 ..... Fast of Gedaliah  
(No Classes after 1:00 p.m.)  
Last Day to Enter New Class  
Without Special Permission

Tues., Sept. 20-Wed., Oct. 5 ..... Yom Kippur and Sukkat  
(No Classes)

# The Commentator Wishes You a Healthy and Happy New Year

## SY SYMS SCHOOL OF BUSINESS SPEAKERS FORUMS

### Business and Computers:

Tuesday, October 11, 1988, "Job Fair"  
Meet Representatives of Major Business and Computer Firms, 8:00 P.M., Belfer Commons

Tuesday, October 25, 1988,  
"Careers in Finance"  
8:00 P.M., Room 411, Belfer

### Accounting:

Tuesday, October 11, 1988, "Job Fair"  
Meet Representatives of Many of the Accounting Firms, 8:00 P.M., Belfer Commons

Thursday, October 13, 1988,  
"How to Interview" with Frank Livoti of Coopers & Lybrand, 2:45-3:45 P.M., Club Hour, Room 411, Belfer

### DEAN'S FORUM

Wednesday, Oct. 19, 1988

Dr. Ken Grossberg

"Japan and the Jews: A Business Perspective"  
8:00 P.M., Belfer, Room 411



# Yeshiva Offers Basketball Prospects More Than Just Playing Time

by Elisha Tropper

In the National Basketball Association, each team can improve itself by drafting free agents or college players, or by trading with another team. In Division I college basketball, schools spend millions of dollars recruiting high school stars from around the country, luring them to the campuses with lucrative athletic scholarships and promises of fame. But when a Division III college needs quality players to improve its team, how does the school go about recruiting these students? In what way does a small college like Yeshiva engage in the business of athletic recruitment?

Dr. Gil Shevlin, Athletic Director, explains that Yeshiva has no formal scouting or active recruitment. According to Dr. Shevlin, "the academic excellence of Yeshiva University is the only recruitment tool I need." Furthermore, insists Dr. Shevlin, "We recruit students. We do not recruit basketball players." This attitude is further emphasized by Dr. Jeffrey Gurock, a University professor and the basketball team's assistant coach. "When we hear of a basketball player," says Dr. Gurock, we recruit him for what the school can provide for the kid, both secular and religious. We recruit kids first as students. There are no [athletic] scholarships not only because we are Division III, but also because that's the way the University looks at it. The basketball players are indistinguishable from anybody else who is part of the University."

Due to the fact that no student is recruited solely for his basketball prowess, Yeshiva's Assistant Sports Information Director, Mike Cohen, specified that the first year players, such as Eric Davis and Michael Oz,

are "prospects, not recruits."

However, Yeshiva does make an effort to attract those students who fit the University's mold and who are talented ballplayers. Dr. Gurock explains that "we recruit around the world, but we never recruit a kid to play basketball alone. We offer the kid the bounties of a Yeshiva education. We hear about kids through alumni. Any kid who is playing in a day school, who can play ball," boasts the assistant coach, "we hear about him one way or another. We get letters. We get phone calls."

The person to whom scouting and recruitment are most important is Dr. Jonathan Halpert, the coach of the Yeshiva Maccabees. "I spend a tremendous amount of time on scouting and recruiting. I have what I like to feel are friends and contacts throughout the country. I would venture to say that by December each year, I have a list of close to 75 to 100 of the leading Jewish basketball players throughout the country.

Coach Halpert follows a very specific pattern as he wades his way through the list of players. "What we try to do off that list is to first of all see how many of them have the backgrounds to come to Yeshiva — if they have the religious background. Not necessarily that they are totally observant already, but at least they have the background. Can they read and write Hebrew? We start going down the list. Are they good students? Afterwards, you maybe get that 100 down to around 10 whom you really feel have a chance at making it at Yeshiva academically. Then you work on these ten. You don't necessarily see the fruits of that labor for

obvious reasons. They have to be a student, have to have a Hebrew background, and have to be willing to take a double program." Even then, concludes Halpert, "there a lot of places out there that they could go to."

The problem of trying to attract a student while remaining selective is stressed by Dr. Gurock. "The problem in recruiting is that you have to find a kid who first of all is Jewish, second of all is a good student, and third of all who want to be religious and take religious studies. It's very hard to find a kid like that. "When we recruit a kid," explains Dr. Gurock, "we ask him two questions: Are you willing to play ball on Friday night? If he says no, then we tell him there's only one place in the world where he can play and that's for us. The second question we ask him is 'Do you want Jewish Studies?' Unless the kid wants Jewish studies, the whole thing is a joke.

Dr. Gurock persists in emphasizing that no student is recruited solely for his basketball skills "When we're recruiting a kid, it's for the University, the school. Any kid who comes here only for the basketball is not going to last here. What we offer a kid is the quality of our school: First, the Jewish studies, and second, the quality of our placement policy. All our kids do very, very well." Dr. Gurock cites two products of the system to further clarify its goals, Michael Rosenbloom and Lance Hirt. "In the last five years, two kids who went through being captains of our team and being valedictorians of the school have gone on to Harvard Law School. To prospective students," feels Dr.

Gurock, "that's a very attractive package." One current example of Yeshiva's recruiting program is Michael Oz, a first-year player from Miami. According to Oz, he was originally not interested in attending Yeshiva University, but he concluded that it was the only place where he could continue his Judaic studies while also receiving the opportunity to play college basketball.

According to a source close to the Macs, neither Oz nor John Lasco, another Miami product, expected to play for Yeshiva this season were it not for the annual trip the Macs make down to Miami every January. Oz himself admitted that he began leaning toward Yeshiva only after having played with Lior and Ayal Hod in Florida, when they outlined to him the school's basketball program.

Coach Halpert agrees that Oz and Lasco decided to attend Yeshiva primarily due to the Macs trip to Florida. "There is no question about it. We are making the trip again this year. It's a wonderful trip for everyone. It's a reward for the kids on the team for all the hard work and the extra hours they contribute. It's great for Yeshiva because it publicizes the University in Florida."

Ultimately, a student will choose to attend Yeshiva based upon his perception of the school, and for this reason publicity is of the utmost importance. Dr. Gurock attributes much of the scouting success to publicity. "There are articles about us appearing in the 'Jewish Post and Opinion', and in other newspapers around the country. So people know about us."

The Maccabees themselves stand as one of Yeshiva's most important recruiting tools. Dov

Goldman, a first-year hopeful from Philadelphia, visited the campus, through sheer coincidence, the day that Lior Hod broke the all-time YU scoring record. Goldman did not even attend the game, but felt the pulsing excitement around the campus. In most cases, the program sells itself. But Halpert sums up the reason maintaining a successful athletic program is so difficult. "It's hard enough to go to class nine o'clock in the morning when you've been up until three or four studying. Imagine coming out and playing a basketball game and there are eight minutes to go in the game and you've been up since three or four o'clock in the morning two nights in a row for who knows what kind of test, and with seven minutes to go in the game you've got to play against guys who have been in shape all of their lives."

## WHUR Set To Hit Airwaves

by Shmuel Katz

Yeshiva University's radio station WYUR 64 AM is slated to begin broadcasting this year one week after Sukkot break. When asked about the late broadcasting start, Jeff Sarasohn, WYUR Station Manager, explained that the eleven days of school available was too brief a time to prepare. The process of interviewing and training all the disc jockeys for their radio shows requires more time than is available in this period, and will even spill over after the Holidays.

Sarasohn also stated that the radio station is still looking for qualified people to serve on its associate board. He added that there are many other administrative positions available and that all those who are interested should contact him. Sarasohn asserted that the station has a strict open door policy and that the Governing Board will consider every applicant before any decisions are made.

He also pointed out that this is WYUR's twenty-first anniversary and said that "this year WYUR comes of age and really begins to move forward. The whole staff is relatively fresh, so we'll all be here to keep YUR [sic] at the forefront of student activities in the future."

In a related matter, plans are still uncertain as to the extent of WYUR coverage of Macs basketball games this season. Indications that home game coverage may be reduced have been released, though all road games will continue to be broadcast. This possible move comes in an attempt to accommodate as many listeners as possible; any fan interested in a home game can always walk down to the MSAC and see it live, while the non-fan retains the option of listening to his favorite music over the air. No final decision on this matter has been released as of yet.

## YU & Law Schools: A Happy Marriage

Continued from page 1

process arises in the growing number of students electing to defer their entrance into prestigious law schools in order to pursue a year of study in Israel. This poses little risk to the applicant as he already has been accepted to the school before he informs it of his desire to defer and, according to Dean Hecht, the "better the school, the more likely they are to give a deferral." Nevertheless, such

commitment to continued Torah study does represent a significant financial loss in terms of future earnings for the student and, in the words of Dean Hecht, is "gratifying" in the eyes of Dean Hecht and the YU administration as it almost encapsulates "what YU is all about."

The future bodes further success for Yeshiva College in the LSAT sweepstakes, with

the 1989 Class off to a solid beginning based on the June test scores, according to Dean Hecht.

Furthermore, though the format of the LSAT is due to change with an intensification of the 'Logic Games' section and corresponding de-emphasis in 'Facts and Issues', Dr. Hecht feels this should not significantly affect scores for most YC students.

## Cafeteria Controversy

Continued from page 5

to have, for the present at least, left the student body generally encouraged over the school's efforts. Nevertheless, the feeling also persists that if the other serious problems confronting the new cafeteria administration are not addressed, renewed student dissatisfaction will result. Only time will tell if Food Services is indeed charting a new and different course in a genuinely new direction.

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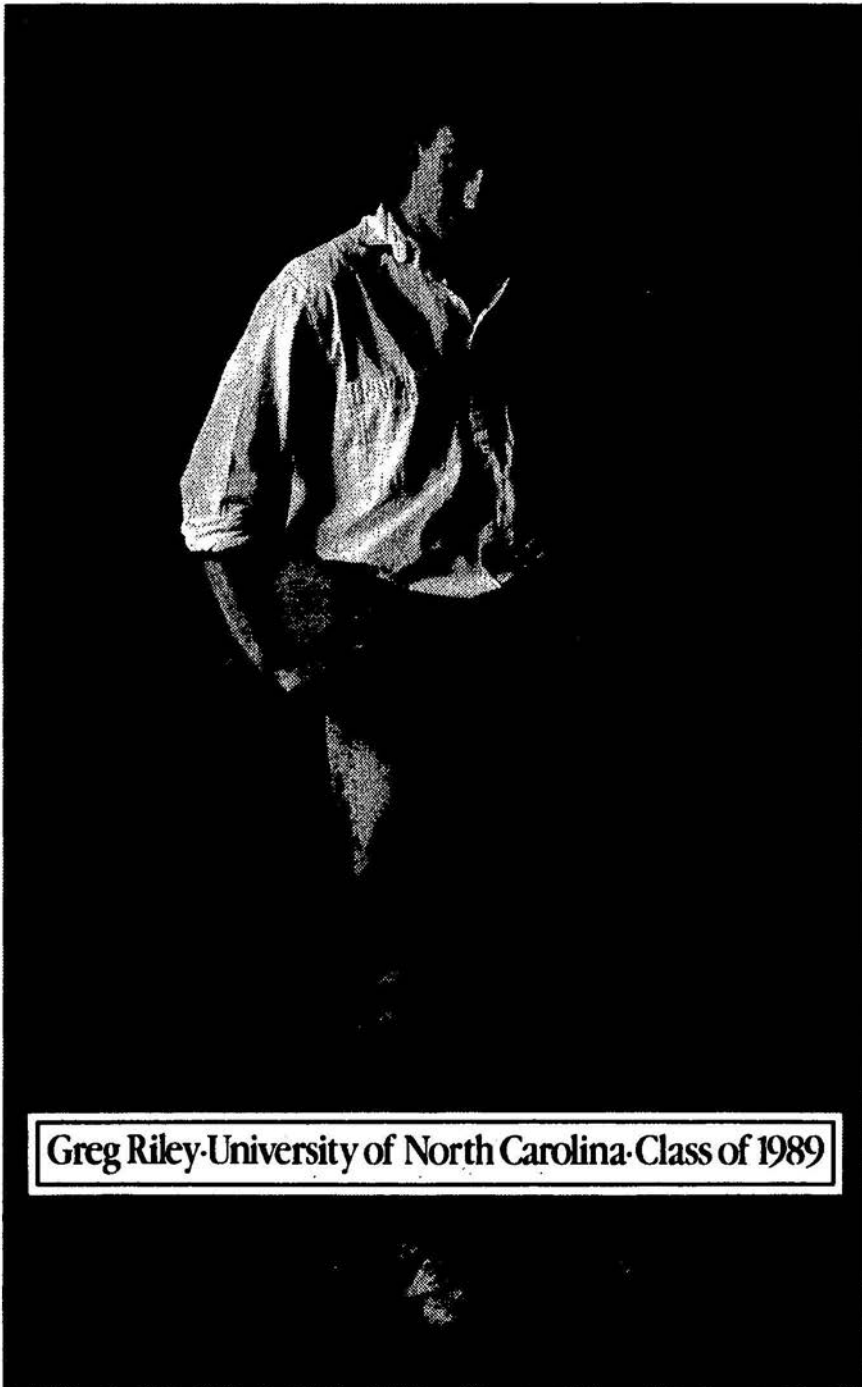
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HALPERT—

Continued from page 12.

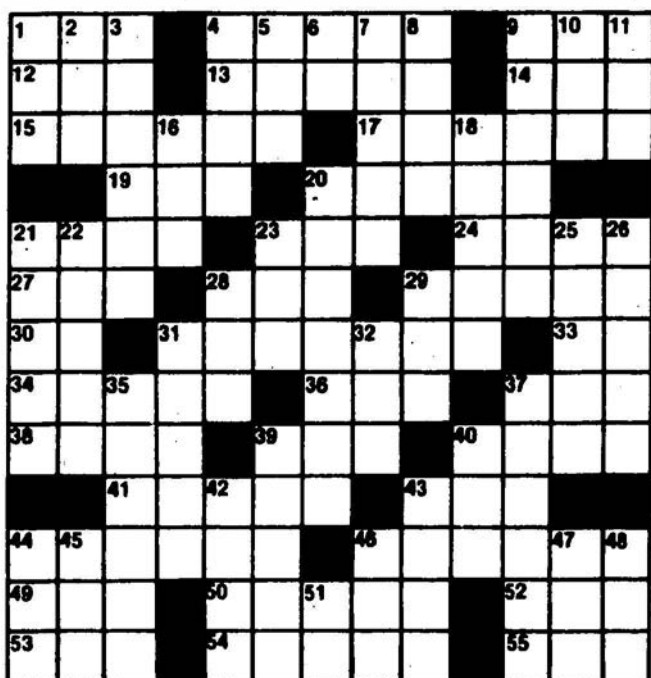
to be inside. The only ones I can see who can shoot outside are Yudi—but he's not really a long-range shooter—and Gottlieb. I think David has the ability to be a real fine outside shooter.”

Despite all the question marks surrounding the team, Halpert remains optimistic. “I'm looking forward to this year, more so than last year. It's a coaching challenge to take two or three or four existing guys and mesh them together with seven or eight new guys—in only three weeks. That's eighteen practices, I've already counted. That's 36 hours, and that's a coaching challenge.”

So how well does the coach expect the Macs to fare this season? “It's an almost impossible question to answer. I haven't seen the new kids. I've heard a lot about them, but we haven't seen or worked with them. I think for sure that just having Ayal and Yudi back should make us competitive in every game. I think it's reasonable to hope for a .500 year. We don't have the talent to be able to walk in on any given night and beat anybody. We almost lost to Brooklyn Polytech here [last year]. We just don't have that kind of awesome power here—especially not this year. But,” promises Halpert, “we will come to play every night.”

Coming off the heels of a playoff season, will a .500 record be a disappointment? A long-time observer of the Macs gives this view: “What you have to realize is this: Even if the Macs go 11-12 or 12-11 this year, it's going to be considered a disappointment, especially to the freshmen, probably, who are coming in expecting this superpower Yeshiva Maccabee team that went to the playoffs last year. But you've got to put things into perspective. If they go 11-12 this year, realize that five years ago if I would have told you the Macs are going 11-12 you would have jumped for joy. So an 11-12 [season] in terms of last year's season, yes, would be a disappointment; in terms of the overall projection on what you can expect from a Yeshiva basketball team, it shouldn't be a disappointment. The only time a Y.U. season should be a disappointment is if they win two or three games the whole year.”

*Crossword Companion*



ACROSS

- 1. Epoch
- 4. Sire
- 9. Tennis shot
- 12. Pave
- 13. Odor
- 14. Mock
- 15. Adore
- 17. Scan
- 19. Aged
- 20. Cent
- 21. Chore
- 23. Ban
- 24. Moray (pl.)
- 27. Some
- 28. Mister
- 29. Pointed missile
- 30. Verb (form of be)
- 31. Plan (pl.)
- 33. Plural of l
- 34. Poison
- 36. Eat (p.t.)
- 37. Jelly
- 38. Coat
- 39. Squeeze
- 40. Twist
- 41. Desk
- 43. Drunk
- 44. Tune in (p.t.)
- 46. Aired
- 49. Mistake
- 50. Scary
- 52. Yale
- 53. Course
- 54. Oddity
- 55. Fish eggs

DOWN

- 1. 7th Letter, Greek Alphabet
- 2. Frightened (Early Eng.)
- 3. Military Depot
- 4. Poet
- 5. Before
- 6. Depart
- 7. Ash
- 8. Lake
- 9. Attorney
- 10. Ceres mother (Gr.)
- 11. Drone
- 16. Type, Sort
- 18. Burden
- 20. Indulge
- 21. Cede
- 22. Origin
- 23. Lighter
- 25. Cut back
- 26. Bloat
- 28. \_\_\_\_\_ Spade
- 29. High card
- 31. Relation between tones on scale
- 32. Inhabitant (suf.)
- 35. Certifier
- 37. Ditch
- 39. Senior
- 40. Trick
- 42. Squabble
- 43. Hunt
- 44. Morning Moisture
- 45. Ireland Military Organization (abbr.)
- 46. By way of
- 47. Rock Group
- 48. Decease
- 51. Concerning

Crossword Companion is a new syndicated feature appearing every issue of The Commentator. First person to submit correct puzzle to Larry Hartstein in M611 will have name published in the paper. Answers will appear in following issue.



# Yeshiva Sports

## Coach Halpert Eyes the Future

by Elisha Tropper

The 1987-1988 basketball season was one of the most incredible single seasons for the Yeshiva Maccabees in the University's history, and certainly the team's greatest season in the past thirty years. Not since the late 1950's, and the play of Red Blumenreich (who, according to most knowledgeable observers, had the talent to play in the National Basketball Association) did the Macs generate as much excitement in the city's Jewish community as they did last year. Their 16-8 season record (which included a stunning upset of Hunter College in Hunter's own invitational tournament) and a berth in the ECAC Metro Division III post-season tournament added a whole new dimension and electricity to the student body. But along with the pride and excitement that arrived with last season's success came this season's burden of attempting to meet the new expectations and improve upon last season's successes.

By the time the season opens (November 17 Y.U. vs. Bard), the 1988-1989 Macs may very well resemble the 1987-1988 Macs in little more than name. Several key members of last year's team have graduated, while certain new faces are just beginning to appear. The departure of Yeshiva's all-time leading scorer and All-Conference forward Lior Hod has left a gaping hole in the teams lineup. "We have to fill 20 points per game for Lior, and 7 or 8 rebounds, overall team leadership, and handling the ball against the press," says Macs' coach Jonathan Halpert. "That's a tremendous void to fill." The Macs have also lost the services of two other starters, Benji Reichel and Jeff Baum, as well as virtually their entire bench strength, Donny Furer, Marty Schlackman, and Hesh Muehlgay. Obviously, points out Halpert, "There are a lot of positions to fill."

The Maccabees frontline will revolve around All-Conference forward Ayal Hod who, at some point around mid-season, will surpass his brother Lior's all-time schoolscore record. Ayal figures to spend significant amount of time at both the power forward and center positions, depending upon the strengths of the other players. Moving to small forward from the off-guard position will be team leader Yudi Teichman, who will be expected to share the burden of the frontline scoring with Ayal Hod. One

of the big questions surrounding the team is the identity of the third member of the frontline. Will it be Sammy Reichel and his strength along the boards, filling the power forward position and forcing Hod into the middle? Or might the sheer height of one of the first-year players, either 6'10" Robert Hember or 6'8" Michael Oz, be a temptation too attractive for Halpert to let slide by? Halpert is fully aware of the impact that height can have on a team. "They have good size and that gives you a few more options defensively. Maybe you can pressure a little more on the ball because you've got the big kid behind you to cover up for your mistakes." Whomever the coaches ultimately decide to go with, the frontline will have to come together as a unit if the Macs are to enjoy any kind of success.

The most interesting situation concerning the Macs this season is the uncertainty at the guard position. That last seasons twosome of Teichman and Baum will not be there is obvious. That second-year player David Gottlieb will slide into Teichman's role as the shooting guard is also obvious. There are several players who will be vying for the starting point guard position, and this may very well be Halpert's toughest decision. According to Halpert, "[Jon] Ehrman worked very hard last year." And because of his experience, will be given every opportunity to win the job. However, Ehrman will be getting tough competition from three extremely talented first-year players who all will be trying to nail down that starting position. Eric Davis, the ex-MTA superstar, has returned from Israel and is given the edge over the others at becoming the Macs starting point guard. Halpert steadfastly denies that Davis is an automatic selection. "I saw him play a couple of times at MTA," says Halpert, "He's a good player. But I just want to caution everybody. First of all this poor kid Davis has been turned into a Jewish Magic Johnson at yeshiva. He played high school ball two years ago. He didn't play last year--he was in Israel. That's number one. Number two, there is a tremendous difference between handling the ball against NJIT and handling the ball against Frisch and Ramaz. I think the kid has ability and court sense, but he hasn't dribbled a basketball for us yet. I think it's unfair to put that kind of pressure on him [and] certainly

ridiculous to award him the basketball and starting job before he bounces a ball. There is going to be real competition for that job.

The competition for both Ehrman and Davis will come from two first-year students, Gregory Rhine from Flatbush, and Jonathan Lasco, from the Hebrew Academy in Miami Beach. Both are solid players, according to Halpert, and the foursome will provide the most entertaining battle for a starting position on the team.

The key to the team's success, however, may be David Gottlieb, the second-year player from Los Angeles. Last season Gottlieb played sporadically, but showed occasional signs of emerging into the kind of a player the coaches insist is within his capabilities. "I'm expecting a big year from David Gottlieb," says Halpert, "I don't mean to put any pressure on him. I just have a tremendous amount of confidence in David.

He is really a fine player and I look for David to pick up some of the points that we lose from Lior. I think that David has the capability to do it. Last year, he was playing out of position. He was asked to be a point guard. He is not a point guard. It was a difficult thing to ask him to do. He did it, but I think he sacrificed a lot of his points and a lot of his ability."

Last season, the team strength was primarily its inside game.

How does Halpert see the team shaping up for the coming season? "The only real solid perimeter shooter we had last year was Lior. I mean, he was our most consistent shooter.

Now he is gone, so unless some of these new students coming in prove to be outstanding outside shooters, I think the strength still looks like it's going

## FORE!

### Golf Varsity Prepares for Sept. 15 Opener

by Mitchell Nathanson

Golf is the fastest growing varsity team sport to hit Yeshiva University athletics in the past few years. Over forty candidates tried out for 15 positions on the squad.

Tryouts were held Tuesday night, August 30, in the MSAC. No, there were no windmills to putt under or tubes to putt into, but there was a lot of serious competition. Coaching this year's team will be YU golf-pioneer, Yosef Mandelbaum. Mandelbaum, who, as a player, led the team through its rookie season, will lend his expertise to this young group.

A welcome addition to this year's season will be the team's home course, Van Cortlandt Park. For the first time, Yeshiva will host the likes of Queens College, Hofstra University,

and NYU, all schools with respectable golf reputations. Returning to captain the team will be Joey Loskove, who is excited about the team's new look: "A home course, such as Van Cortlandt, can be a great advantage. Only our players will know and understand the course's subtleties. It's in the neighborhood, so we hope to see a lot of fans lining the park, when they're not in class, of course."

Along with Loskove, Josh Thomas and Josh Light appear to be promising young "swingers." Coach Mandelbaum sees a squad with a lot of talent and great potential. With practice and able coaching, this team may well be able to compete with the best of them before too long.



Ayal Hod, (number 32) hoping to surpass brother Lior's all-time scoring record, will co-captain the Macs this season with star guard/forward Yudi Teichman. (15)

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