

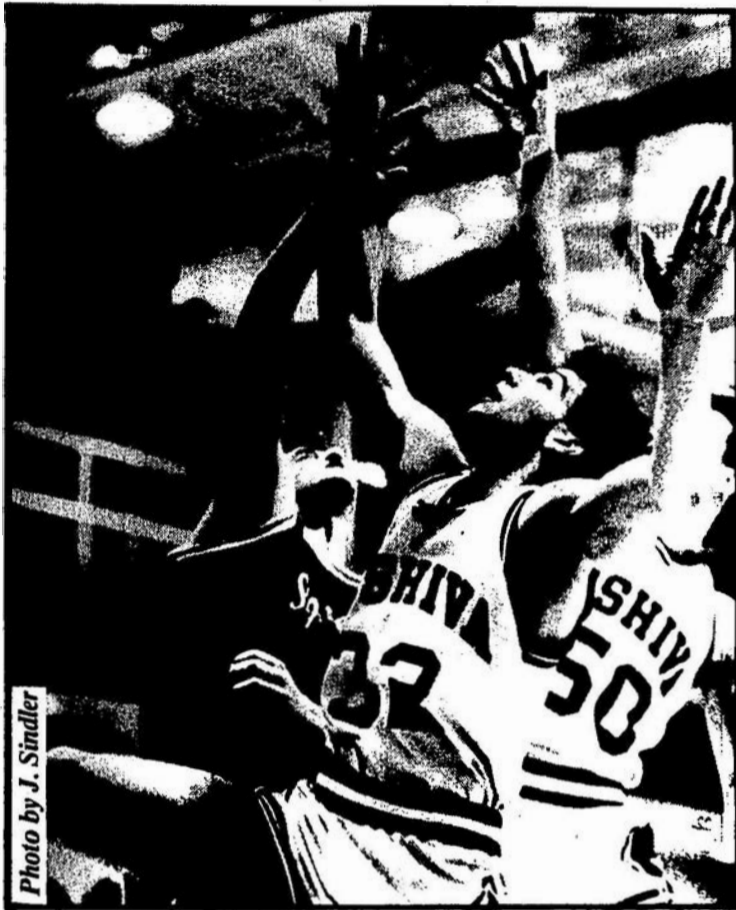
The Commentator

Official Undergraduate Newspaper of Yeshiva College

February 7, 1989

YESHIVA UNIVERSITY, 500 W. 185 St., N.Y., N.Y. 10033

VOL. LIII NO. 7



Hod scores 1542nd point on layup, passing brother Lior's mark.

Ayal Claims Scoring Crown

by Shmuel Bulka

On Saturday night, January 28, Ayal Hod broke Yeshiva's all-time scoring record of 1541 points, eclipsing brother Lior's mark with a layup against St. Joseph's College. The fact that it was his older brother's record made the feat even more special for Ayal. "It means a lot because I know it's going to stay in the family. We'll kid around ten, twenty years from now."

While he is now on top, it has not always been easy for Ayal. While the brothers were growing up, Lior was always considered the better player. Lior was the big center and Ayal, the small point guard. But four inches as well as intense weight training during his senior year of high school transformed Ayal into the dominating center he has proven himself to be.

This year has also been somewhat of a struggle for Ayal. While in past years there were many offensive options, this year Ayal has been asked to carry much of the load. The increased attention has taken its toll. "This year I feel like everybody knows me. I've been around the league so many years and every time I get the ball, I'm collapsed on by other people."

Lior's conspicuous absence has also made it tough for Ayal.

When I play with him (Lior), I know exactly where I'm going to get the ball. I know, when he handles the ball, exactly what he's going to do with it so I know where to be for the offensive rebound. I knew so much about him just from growing up with him."

Regardless of who his teammates are, one aspect of Ayal's game remains constant. He always goes out on the court with the intention of dominating the game. "I want to go out there and take over the game, take control, just be possessive."

Even Ayal, though, would admit that his intensity level increases as the level of competition does. "Against the weaker teams I have nothing to prove. I like challenges. That's what I'm used to."

After graduating, Ayal plans to work and play in a local Pro-Am league. After averaging 17 points in a summer league three years ago against the likes of Dominique Wilkins and Mark Price, and judging from his performance at Yeshiva, there is reason to believe that he will be every bit as successful.

After setting a record that places him on top of a select group of athletes, Ayal expressed a deep appreciation

Continued on page 8.

Nobel Laureate Joins SSSB Faculty

by Shukie Grossman

The commencement of the immediate spring semester marks the inauguration of a new venture by the Sy Syms School of Business. In an effort to improve the school's image, an endowment fund has been established for the purpose of introducing SSSB students to scholars of world class caliber in the field of business. Initiating the program is Dr. F. Modigliani, a Nobel Laureate and professor at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Dr. Modigliani currently teaches Capital Markets and Financial Institutions at SSSB.

According to SSSB Dean Michael Schiff, the addition of Dr. Modigliani to the SSSB faculty presents the students with three significant advantages: 1) a rare educational experience; 2) further encouragement of study in the area of business; 3) improvement of their job market profile.

Dean Schiff asserts of Dr. Modigliani, "He is a man whose materials employers have probably studied. The name rings a bell to anyone who has studied finance." Dean Schiff contends that students may enhance their chances in a competitive job market (particularly in the area of finance and accounting) with a course of this nature attached to their resumes.

Though the semester is young, Yeshiva College junior Yaakov Green maintains that Dr. Modigliani's course "looks like it's going to be an interesting class, covering thoroughly financial institutions and banking sys-

tems. I chose to register for the course," Green claims. "to gain a further understanding of the financial world from a top-notch individual." Because the course is moderately sized (about 25 students), Green believes that opportunity exists for students to get to know Dr. Modigliani on a personal level, gaining even more so from his financial expertise.

Although Dr. Modigliani's heralded arrival at Yeshiva University should certainly have a favorable impact on SSSB, one cannot ignore the potentially negative ramifications. Dean Schiff suggests that the motivation for the Nobel Laureate to lecture at SSSB lies in that it would provide him with an "interesting challenge to teach a

Though Dean Schiff presumes that "getting it from the master is different than getting it from someone who learned it and is communicating it," many professors already on SSSB faculty are qualified to teach the very same course, yet are paid a great deal less. Nevertheless, Dean Schiff emphasizes that "the professors at Sy Syms are extremely pleased to be associated with professor Modigliani, and the question of compensation has never been mentioned."

According to Dean Schiff, SSSB will offer a program of this nature each year, pending the success of Dr. Modigliani's course. "We have an endowed fund to make this offering on a regular basis," states Schiff. The



Dr. Franco Modigliani talks with students.

course at a different kind of school, particularly undergraduate." Yet sources indicate, and Dean Schiff confirms, that Dr. Modigliani will earn a salary in excess of \$50,000 for the spring semester alone, not to mention weekly airfare from Boston, as well as hotel and car service in New York City.

Dean also proposes, for the sake of equity, to rotate the program from Uptown to Downtown on a yearly basis.

[ED. A special Dinner of Welcome was held in honor of Dr. Modigliani on Feb. 2 in Weissberg Commons. Attending the formal function were YU

Continued on page 11.

West Coast College Bans Styrofoam

Cites Environmental Dangers

YU Views Action With Interest

by Behnam Dayanim

In yet another sign of Americans' recently increased levels of environmental awareness, the University of California-San Diego has become the first university in the country to prohibit the use of styrofoam on campus.

In a bid to push from the top of the environmental agenda the currently chic crusade to protect the tropical rain forests, an issue that has attracted support from a wide spectrum including the New York Times and the Grateful Dead, UCSD officials say that by March the university will dispense of the allegedly dangerous substance in every area of use.

Other U.C. schools have

begun either partial elimination of styrofoam or consideration of such an action in the wake of UCSD's strong stance, and the environmental advocates who initiated the UCSD drive plan to press the entire U.C. system to enact a formal ban.

Yeshiva University currently employs styrofoam for a variety of uses, most notably in Food Services. Mr. Jeffrey Rosengarten, Director of Supporting Services and Personnel, and Dean of Undergraduate Students Efreim Nulman both maintain that YU is "sensitive" to the hazards of styrofoam use, and Mr. Rosengarten adds that the major obstacle to an elimination of the substance lies in the need

for microwaveable food product containers and what he terms the unavailability of an adequate substitute at present.

Three marine biology graduate students at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, affiliated with UCSD, were the driving forces behind the university's action. As Steve Relyea, UCSD vice chancellor for business affairs says, our "concern for the environment and the environmental effects of styrofoam" was "generated by the graduate students," Craig Cary, Don Croll, and David Wilmot.

According to Mr. Cary, the three first became concerned

Continued on page 8.



Styrofoam: object of campus concern nationwide.

In This Issue

Focus on Admissions.....pp 6-7

Merit Scholars, Early Admission

Dr. Lee: Defense of the Senate.....p 5

On-Site Surveypp 6-7

EDITORIALS

DROP THE ADD/DROP FEE

Who says things never change? Registration for the spring semester was remarkably pleasant, provided you knew your intended schedule and showed up at your allotted time. Lines were short, and service was quick.

Grades were returned fairly quickly, as well. One sour note: the frequency of "M"s (denoting a missing grade) appearing on students' transcripts. University Registrar Pinchas Friedenberg ascribes this phenomenon to professors' tardiness in submitting their classes' marks.

It would seem that some faculty view the Registrar's office and the bookstore with the same disdain. Their inability to order books in advance and tabulate grades on time strikes one as incredible. Granted, YU students seem to have long been afflicted with the extension bug (frequently to unforgivable degrees of excess permitted by these same professors); however, there is no excuse for this sort of behavior on the part of the faculty.

One suggestion regarding registration: it seems absurd in a college environment, where one is expected to experiment with different courses and broaden his horizons, to penalize him for doing so. Yet that is exactly what University policy seems to suggest. From the very minute one walks out of registration, he must pay a five-dollar fee to add or drop a course.

THE COMMENTATOR proposes that a two-week grace period take effect following the start of classes during which the student can change his courses without charge. After that time span, the irresolute student would suffer for his inability to make a decision; he should pay a ten-dollar fee to add/drop.

After a trial semester under this new system, the University can determine whether it is losing money (due to expenses incurred for computer use and labor), and, if it is, can perhaps institute a slight additional charge in the registration fee paid at the beginning of the term.

HELP NOT WANTED

IBC is one of our university's three undergraduate Jewish men's divisions. As such, it boasts a dean, office, and secretary. Or it did. A few weeks ago, IBC's secretary Kelda Spreiregen left YU after many years of service to pursue a more lucrative occupation at the Orthodox Union.

At the time Ms. Spreiregen gave her two-week notice (she contends it was three-weeks), IBC Dean Jacob Rabinowitz requested, through the appropriate channels in Personnel, a replacement. When informed as to the length of time possibly involved in finding someone permanent, he inquired whether a temporary worker could be hired in light of the impending registration rush.

When contacted by THE COMMENTATOR, the dean characterized his request as one of the "utmost of urgency." Nevertheless, Personnel refused to provide him with the needed aid. As a result, the office has been virtually paralyzed, course requests and changes going unanswered and letters of recommendation unsent.

Director of Supporting Services and Personnel Jeffrey Rosengarten defends his office's conduct, saying that the search for a new employee has been continuing since Dean Rabinowitz' request. He explains his refusal to hire temporary help, claiming that such a person would not be able to perform the specialized tasks required of the position and that secretaries in the adjoining JSS and Bernard Revel Graduate School offices can handle the more routine tasks in the meantime.

Yet, he contradicts himself in the next breath by promising that if a permanent secretary cannot be located within the next few days, a temporary will be hired.

Both the dean and Mr. Rosengarten both say Mrs. Spreiregen departed a few days before the agreed date. She denies this claim.

Regardless, the unwillingness of Personnel to fill such a vital position to students for such a long period of time bears no defense. Glib assurances as to the ability of the already overworked secretaries nearby to handle the situation are a disservice to YU's most important constituents — its students.

COLLEGE OR HIGH SCHOOL?

Early admissions has provided a source of controversy among students for years. Older students frequently deride their younger, often sixteen-year-old, counterparts as immature and disruptive. What is the degree of truth behind these accusations?

The administration justifiably points with pride to the superior academic performance of the majority of these students. Rabbi Joshua Cheifetz, Director of Residence Halls, flatly states that early admission freshmen cause no more than their share of dormitory disturbances. Director of Undergraduate Admissions Judy Paikin asserts that only 80 of 353 first-year YC students are EAP freshmen (many EAPs go to Israel before Yeshiva).

But students, many of them former early admission freshmen themselves, think otherwise. Academic performance tells only part of the story. Sixteen-year-old freshmen, or freshmen who behave as though they were sixteen, can prove a powerfully deleterious influence on a classroom and can turn a dormitory into a sleep-away camp.

Admittedly, many immature freshmen go through the full four years of high school before entering Yeshiva, but many do not. 80 EAP freshmen on campus, which Ms. Paikin and Rabbi Cheifetz seem to regard as a low number, constitutes almost ten percent of our student body.

Regarding Rabbi Cheifetz' claims that EAPs pose few problems in the dorms; we respond, with all due respect to our director, his awareness and perception of dormitory life and its problems varies considerably from that of most students.

Academic performance should not be the prime factor in determining the success of the early admission program. YU should actively seek to dissuade potential early admission students. Failing that, it should at least encourage them to spend a year in Israel before exposing them to a college environment and exposing us to their frequently unacceptable behavior.

Perhaps standards can be tightened, and the clear preference shown toward MTA students eliminated. YU is no longer desperate for students, as can be seen in increased attendance and selectivity.

Not all early admission freshmen deserve the above condemnation, and careful interviews conducted by the Office of Admissions of all EAP applicants should ensure that those capable of handling the responsibilities of an adult environment are admitted.

To the rest, the entire Yeshiva community would join in wishing a warm "L'hitraot."

The Commentator

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COMMENCEMENT '89

Thursday May 25, 1989

at 3 P.M.

A very Fisher Hall

To All Seniors:

Have you filed your Graduation Kits?

IF NOT, GET WITH IT.

They can be picked up in the Registrar's office.

Senior Class Awards

Phillip Lieberman Award—
Student Service to
University. Based on
Character & Personality

Gladstein Award—
Student Service to Jewish
Community

Senior Professor Award—
Most Well-liked Professor

All Seniors are eligible to vote.
Voting will be Monday, Tuesday, and
Wednesday nights, February 13, 14, &
15 from 10:00—12:00 P.M. in Morg 503.

Spring
1989
Senate
Appointees:
Chairman: Dov J. Pinchot
Senators:
Joseph Wolf
Mark Koffsky



From the Editor's Desk

by Behnam Dayanim

The one area in which Yeshiva University cannot abide serious defects should be Jewish studies. After all is said and done, it is the opportunity to study Torah that compels a student to choose YU over other universities, not his perception of its various secular departments.

Yet the three Judaic studies divisions all face serious difficulties. Just ask the students. Or better yet, watch the students. Apathy afflicts large numbers in each school. MYP has its notorious "sleep-ins" who constitute a good deal of the student body. IBC also has its share of student and teacher apathy. Both divisions have taken strides recently to correct these problems. Whether they succeed remains to be seen.

I am enrolled in JSS and therefore know it most intimately. I see its problems more acutely than I see those of the others, and I care more intensely. Bearing that in mind, I will attempt to discuss five basic deficiencies in JSS as it is currently constructed and five possible solutions.

The first is lack of self-respect. The average JSS student feels inferior in some way to the YPer. Whenever students or outsiders somewhat familiar with YU inquire as to his particular division, the JSS student invariably feels compelled to respond somewhat defensively, "I'm in JSS but..." and he continues by explaining this peculiar character flaw and attempting to dispel the notion that somehow he is less of a Torah scholar. This attitude also exists to some degree in IBC and in many ways is not true. (In some ways it is, of course. It depends on the person and the area under discussion.)

The second problem lies in JSS' track system. Under this scheme, the student is placed in a particular track supposedly geared toward his abilities. Unless he is willing to undergo extensive bureaucratic hassle, he must take all of the courses in his track regardless of his interest (or lack of) in a particular subject.

A related flaw arises in the unbelievable stagnation of course offerings. It seems, in many cases, the same courses taught by the same professors with the same notes are given year after year after year. This frequently and understandably leads to faculty disinterest and either student embitterment or apathy.

Originally, JSS was conceived as a school for those with little yeshiva background. Now, a majority of students have yeshiva high school training. Many—not all or even necessarily most—are already turned off to learning to some degree and this invariably affects their novice classmates. Even if this is not the case, the needs of the student with the high school background differ radically from those of the one without it,

and an accommodation between the two all too often leads to mediocrity.

Lastly, JSS suffers from immense administrative disorganization, as anyone who has ever had anything to do with the division must admit. Manned by a valiant secretary and an undeniably dedicated director, the simple fact remains that the director of a division as large and complex as JSS cannot shoulder as many worthy tasks as he has and still try to micro-manage as he does. Proof of the pudding: try scheduling an appointment and see what happens.

The solutions luckily seem relatively painless. The first step is already in progress: the administrative merger of IBC and JSS under a full-time dean. The position must be full-time, which may explain some of the difficulty YU is having in trying to locate potential candidates. (Rabbi Yudin or Rabbi Rabinowitz, should either choose to accept such an assignment—at this time a rather dim likelihood, are both clearly capable, given the full-time stipulation.)

Second, eliminate the JSS track system and allow broad discretion in choosing courses, similar to the structure employed in IBC. This would allow the student to choose courses of interest to him, as long as he fulfills certain minimum requirements, just as in IBC, or YC for that matter. The vast amounts of paperwork involved in taking a course in another division (namely, IBC) should be reduced, increasing the course selection for both the IBC and JSS student.

Of course, different levels of Gemara shiurim should be maintained, and certain courses should be set aside and labeled for freshmen with little or no background. Any idea of a placement test should be completely abandoned, as those who wish can easily do poorly and thus be placed in a lower level shiur. Instead, if a teacher believes a problem exists, it should be handled on a case-by-case basis among the teacher, an administrator (the dean or a designated assistant), and the student.

Also, treat the students like adults and restore the IBC P/F option for both schools. The concept behind such a choice in YC, to encourage experimentation in areas beyond one's area of prowess, is sound and easily transferable to Judaic studies.

Rotate course offerings, requiring faculty members to teach different subjects instead of the same tired course over and over. This would ultimately enhance teacher and student interest. Additionally, if a serious problem with a particular teacher did exist, this system would expose the situation and allow students to avoid taking a class of stultifying and brain-numbing repute. Just as in the college, the wheat would be

Author praises Commentator

To the Editor:

I was pleased to read Josh Fruchter's review of my new book "Square One." I have read many reviews of my memoir from around the country but I must admit Josh succeeded better than many in getting to the heart of the book, making clear my central theme and the reason for writing the autobiography.

It's good to know of the high quality of the content of THE COMMENTATOR.

Arnold Forster
New York

[ED. Josh Fruchter's review appeared as part of a special perspective on anti-Semitism in our Dec. 6 issue. Mr. Fruchter has served as Associate Editor (1987-88) and Feature Editor (Fall 1988). He is currently on a leave of absence in Israel.]

separated (or separate) from the chaff. Finally, perhaps the single biggest cause of students' loss of pride in their division and occasional faculty disinterest in the affairs of the university lies in the degree of respect accorded JSS instructors by the yeshiva at large, as well as by many JSS students. Unfortunately, one cannot rectify the latter without the former.

Why is it that only MYP rebbeim are referred to as roshei yeshiva? Just what is a yeshiva? It's more than the name of our university. (Yes, I notice the possible pun. Let's just assume for now that we are both a yeshiva and a university.) "Yeshiva" means a place to sit, or learn Torah. Is that not what is done in JSS and IBC, as well as MYP? Do not JSS and IBC have instructors (English for "rebbeim") of stature comparable to those in MYP? Rabbi Neuberger, formerly of IBC and presently of MYP, comes to mind. So does Rabbi Fulda, longtime professor of Talmud—Gemara rebbe—in JSS junior and senior advanced levels.

Admittedly, JSS does have instructors who are too young or too inexperienced to qualify as Gemara instructors (rebbeim) in MYP. But, also admittedly, it does have Talmudic scholars, along with those well versed in other, equally important areas of Yahadut. In fact, many MYP rebbeim get their start in JSS, leaving the division for a perceived promotion and the opportunity to teach ostensibly more Talmud-proficient students (on the whole) in a more traditional setting. Rabbis Twersky and Horowitz both taught for a while in JSS. (I was privileged to study under both.)

Let's eliminate the sometimes artificial distinctions by school and widen our scope and choice of courses. That would do more to raise the faculty's morale and level of involvement than, I daresay, a pay raise and eliminate the myth that they are too absorbed in their own congregations to care about their students and university.

Accomplish all of that and then we will see the JSS student raise up his head proudly and say, "I am in JSS."

— — — Responsa — — —

Useful Evaluations?

To the Editor:

I recently discovered that this school will finally adopt a new policy of utilizing teacher evaluation forms. These forms will provide students with the opportunity to voice their opinion as to the quality of their professor's teaching ability. The forms will also inform the administration as to which teachers need improvement. Unfortunately, I find three main problems with this new policy.

First, it is not mandatory that teachers use these forms. This may result in a lot of teachers not using the forms in their classes, which defeats the initial purpose of implementing this policy. We need a mandatory policy requiring all teachers to use these forms in their classes. In this way we can assure that this new policy will not go to waste.

I also do not understand a recent vote in the student Senate to make the questions open-ended instead of having questions with statistical validity. If there is little or no statistical validity to these forms, then what purpose do they serve? We need an objective system of evaluating teachers. These questions must have statistical validity in order to function as an objective measurement of a professor's teaching style.

POLLARD RELATIVE RESPONDS

To the Editor:

I was very saddened to see the Dreyfus-like lies printed in your paper concerning my son-in-law, Jonathan Pollard, through a letter to the editor written by David B. Rosenberg.

There is virtually nothing in Rosenberg's tirade, taken from unnamed sources of U.S. News & World Report, which even resembles truth. The slanders and anti-Semitic slurs heaped upon Jonathan Pollard go beyond distortions and half-truths. Just as with Captain Dreyfus, these slanders and slurs were designed to vilify a Jew in order to cut off support from the Jewish community. Prosecutor Joseph di Genova bragged to

Cont. on page 10

New Soviet Jewish Mgzne.

To the Editor:

I am writing to inform you and all students of Yeshiva University that a new publication in Russian for Soviet Jews, called "Istoki" (meaning "Source"), is now in production. The first issue appeared last week. Istoki presents articles on diverse Jewish subjects including religious observance, prayer, rituals, holy days, festivals,

These aforementioned concepts are nothing new; they have been developed by people in the management field. These people are experts and have spent their lives developing systems of evaluation. This leads me to my final point.

I realize the concept of whether to utilize evaluation forms should be decided by the Senate. But in terms of the specifics, I do not see how it is possible for administrators, teachers, or students to make decisions about such complicated issues about which they know little. The people who are experts in this field should be consulted. Their decision should be highly regarded because they have devoted a life of research to developing forms which measure quality of performance.

It is about time that this school took a step in assuring a high level of quality teaching. Yes, we the students will finally have a say in our professors' teaching ability. But this momentous opportunity may go to waste, resulting in forms which may in effect be worthless.

Michael Ungar

YC '89

[ED.]

At present, the Senate has not reached a final decision on the precise nature of the proposed system of teacher evaluation.]

OPEN EYES TO YU'S PROBLEMS

To the Editor:

It's about time that the administration opened their eyes, and the student body opened their mouths. There are certain "inadequacies" around this university and, despite articles in THE COMMENTATOR, satires in the chagiga, and promises from the administration, little has been done in the way of improvements.

Granted student "luxuries" can be expensive; however, there are plenty of university programs that eat up much of the budget but choke on their returns. Maybe if these funds were redistributed so that there would be some student benefit, the sorely lacking sense of

Cont. on page 10

culture, history, and much more.

Our main interest is that copies of Istoki be brought by tourists to the Soviet Union and given to as many Soviet Jews as possible.

Copies of Istoki can be obtained by interested persons in Pollack Library from me. Of course, there is no charge.

Alex Ratnovsky
Chief Editor

Ed. Psych Prof Hired

by Jonathan Greenblatt

During the second week of final exams, it suddenly dawned upon the members of YU's administration that there was no one to teach the Educational Psychology course which is offered every spring. Fortunately, during intersession, the University was able to find Mr. Scott Hershberger - just in time for the spring semester of 1989.

Many students wondered why the University had waited an entire semester before seeking out a teacher to fill this course - which has been "teacherless" since last March after the passing of Dr. Julian Roberts. When asked about this, Dean Rosenfeld replied, "Originally, we thought that Mr. Thaler, the instructor of Foundations of Psychology, was going to pick up the Educational Psychology course as well. During final exam week, however, he told us that he could not take the course due to time needed for his dissertation. Immediately," Dean Rosenfeld said, "the University posted ads and began an intensive search for an instructor for the Educational Psychology course. Mr. Hershberger replied to the ads and was consequently checked out for the job."

Mr. Hershberger received his B.A. at Florida Atlantic University and his M.S. at Fordham University. Last semester, he taught an introductory course in psychology at Fordham University. He has published two articles in the field of psychometrics and is a member of both the National Psychology Honor Society and the American Psychological Society. Presently, he is working on his dissertation and hopes to finish his Ph.D. in psychometrics next winter.

Dean Rosenfeld went on to say that the supervisor of teaching fellows at Fordham University gave Mr. Hershberger a glowing recommendation both for his teaching abilities and his knowledge of psychology. When asked about the "last minute" characteristic of this hiring, Dean Rosenfeld answered, "this sort of thing is not unusual, things come up and unforeseen problems arise that are difficult to plan for; there are many cliffhangers when looking to hire new instructors." Dean Rosenfeld also admitted that there is always a degree of luck involved with the hiring of any instructor.

In addition to teaching the Educational Psychology course at YU, Mr. Hershberger is also teaching three psychology courses this semester at Fordham. These courses include Child Psychology and Industrial Psychology.

Mr. Hershberger says that he took the job because, he realized that he "had some time" and he thought he'd help YU out in its predicament. He claims a certain affection for the school because he's Jewish and, so far, he attests that he is most satisfied with the "intellectual vigor of the students here at Yeshiva."

CAMPUS NEWS

Security Increases In Stabbing Wake

by Jonathan J. Wernick

As the new semester begins, many students once again face the fresh realization that the Main Campus is an area that differs in terms of security with their home or vacation spot. Last fall's incidents, together with past occurrences, attest to the area's vulnerability. Nevertheless, Arthur Hoyt, YU Director of Safety and Security, assures us that "all efforts are being made to make Yeshiva a safe environment for all."

Since assuming his position just over a month ago, Mr. Hoyt has instituted procedures intended to improve the service his department provides. Most notably, as a response to last fall's stabbing, increased patrols now monitor the street behind

Many students, particularly those RIETS (seminary) students living in YU-provided apartments, complain of past muggings and other criminal activity that could be deterred by a security presence. They claim it should be the university's responsibility to maintain security for its graduate students in its attempts to establish a Jewish community atmosphere in the vicinity. Some accuse YU of merely protecting its buildings, with little regard for its students.

Mr. Hoyt displays disdain for such an accusation. He supports his position with the fact that his department is named "Safety and Security" and emphasizes that "Safety comes before security." Hoyt's interpretation of

northwest corner of the station. Mr. Hoyt prefers this stop during off-hours because it is patrolled by the Port Authority Police.

As a rule, Mr. Hoyt does not approve of members of his staff moonlighting. It is part and parcel of the criteria of guards and supervisory personnel. Additionally, he requires "previous security experience, a good background, and moral character." Moreover, supervisors should have some police experience and college background. Beginning in February, an ongoing training program dealing with security and security concepts and how they relate to the university will be implemented. The use of video and written

P I C T O R I A L C O M M E N T



3 AM: "To protect and secure, sleep and snoozzz..."

photo by J.J. Hornbliss

the university buildings where the notorious event occurred. Moreover, greater attention is given to the area at times when students utilize their cars, such as before and after the weekends. In addition, the 34th precinct of the New York Police Department has increased their patrols via their Community-Oriented Patrol Program (COPP), a division that responds to conditions of crime in the area.

Prior to the intersession break, most of the coverage that the uniformed guards provided was indoors, yet now guards are being posted outside the buildings. Mr. Hoyt claims that, in order to prevent criminal activity, visibility is essential. The visibility provides an 'anxiety barrier' that "conveys a message to anyone involved in criminal activity that the area is well protected."

safety includes "protection of life, fire safety, and an environment that is safe to work and learn in."

He asserts that his department protects everyone's property including the that of the university, which "are our assets, and we want to make sure the doors remain open."

During off-hours, many students have waited up to a half hour for van pickup at the 181 Street subway station. Mr. Hoyt expresses concern about the delay in response time for the subway pickups but was unaware of the severity of the claim. In the future, he hopes to improve punctuality in the service. Along the same lines, though, he suggests that students disembark the subway at the George Washington Bridge Bus Terminal and, after calling security, await pickup at the

lesson plans will be an integral part of the program to "enhance the quality of protection."

At Yeshiva, Mr. Hoyt states, "we cannot dig a moat around the campus and make it like an armed camp. We are an open campus and a free society." Therefore, he requests cooperation from the employees, faculty, and students in terms of reporting suspicious activity and providing constructive criticism. With increased cooperation, we all can be assured of a safer environment in which to learn. [ED. A student security committee chaired by Yeshiva College student Doron Spierer has met recently to discuss methods of improving campus and individual security. At press time, the committee's recommendations are scheduled to be submitted to the YC Student Council Executive Board for review.]

continues, "that we shouldn't have at least 500 donors. The turnout was simply pathetic." According to Mr. Katz, the blood drive's potential was hampered by an ineffective advertising campaign. "The Greater New York Blood Program's advertising posters were harder to read and less informative than those in past years. Also, they didn't supply us with pamphlets, as they've done in the past, that explain succinctly how quick and easy it is to donate

Blood Drive a Big Draw

by David Firestone

Yeshiva College's semesterly blood drive attracted 235 donors, its largest turnout in four years. The event took place during YC/SSSB reading week and was coordinated by seniors Shmuel Katz and Jeffrey Mendelson. Mr. Katz describes the blood drive as a mixed success:

"Despite the fact that the blood drive was the most successful one in four years, it attracted less than 25 percent of the people whom are present on the YU campus daily. This shows that most of the guys couldn't care less."

"There's no reason", Mr. Katz

Senior Dinner Plans

by Alex Wittenberg

Planning for this year's Senior Dinner has begun. While all plans are still tentative, the committee responsible for organizing the dinner has already made several arrangements for the event, scheduled for May 24. Currently, the dinner is scheduled to be held in the Vista International Hotel at the World Trade Center, and will include entertainment and some form of an awards ceremony.

As of yet, the finer points have not been worked out. Mercedes Benhamu, Senior class president at SCW, has stated that the awards ceremony will be scaled down from that of last year's dinner. Instead, the emphasis will be on making the evening entertaining and exciting.

YC senior class president Jeffrey Fishman states that Foremost Catering, the organization responsible for last December's YU Hanukkah Dinner at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel, has been tentatively engaged.

The 1987 class function was also held at the Vista with Foremost Catering. Last year's dinner took place at the Marriott Marquis with food provided by Papilsky Caterers

Currently the cost of the dinner has not been set, though Mr. Fishman estimates it eventually to be in the \$55 range. Both Ms. Benhamu and YC senior class vice president Danny Berger indicate that they are working hard to make it affordable. They also hope to subsidize the price through fund-raising. As in previous years, any subsidies from the student councils will only be given to their respective constituents. The dinner committee expects that all will go smoothly, as planned.

Mr. Berger and Ms. Benhamu both urge seniors to participate in the preparations for the dinner. Student help is needed for both fund-raising and planning. They emphasize that this is the graduating class' dinner, and that its members should give any ideas that they might have on the dinner or on fund-raising to the Senior Class representatives. Ms. Benhamu hopes that the students, who will be receiving their invitations soon, will join with the dinner committee in both the planning and the eventual celebration.

blood," Mr. Katz explained.

Participants in the blood drive received a complimentary wrist watch, courtesy of Citibank. Mr. Katz points out, "the watches along with the great people who spent their valuable time assisting me...made the atmosphere more comfortable and congenial for those who took part in it."

Yeshiva College will sponsor another blood drive sometime this semester around the time of the holiday vacation.

Viewpoint: Senate Works

By Dr. Will Lee

... with all deliberate speed ...
(Anon.)

... with wandering steps and
slow... (From Paradise Lost)

Entering its twentieth year, the Yeshiva College Senate still serves three main purposes. As a forum, it is the one location where students, faculty members, and administrators regularly air their views to each other. Needless to say, this first function guarantees neither mutual understanding nor constructive action, but it does encourage a more significant exchange of ideas and feelings than is possible at most colleges. As our Registrar Pinchas Friedenberg puts it, "even when nothing seems to be happening, something is happening." Regular lines of communication are remaining open, and the College's spirit of community is staying healthier than it otherwise might. Second, the Senate can meet on relatively short notice to figure out how each of its branches might help channel the potentially destructive energies of a crisis. From 1969 through the early seventies, this function sometimes proved crucial in averting the serious, sometimes violent confrontations which other campuses suffered through. While relative peace has characterized recent times, no one can predict when the next crisis will strike home. Finally, and most importantly, ever since its origins under President Samuel Belkin and Dean Isaac Bacon, the Senate has recommended ways to

improve the quality of education and life at the College.

In the process of reaching recommendations, the three constituencies of the Senate tend to play distinct roles, though as usual there are individual exceptions. The students are like the engine — more energetic, even explosive, than their counterparts. In the four years I have served on the Senate, the student representatives have been extraordinarily idealistic and eager to reform everything in and out of sight. The administration is more like the brakes, cautiously slowing the vehicle down to foster safety and continuity. While it is true that some administrators tend to resist most student proposals, they can usually cite solid reasons. After all, they are in closest touch with what is feasible, what is affordable, what the College has unsuccessfully tried before, what the faculty or the President have turned down before, successes and failures at other institutions, and what the Senate needs to research in order to know which alternatives might work. Students, on the other hand, are impatient, imaginative, and anxious to experiment, especially since the majority of Senators each year are newcomers. From their point of view, administrators sound as though they are turning one deaf ear after another, essentially maintaining that all is well. Of course, administrators, who are deeply invested in the well-being and reputation of the institution, occasionally do turn a deaf ear,

erring on the side of denying that a genuine problem exists. All in all, some tension between the students and the administrators is therefore natural and inevitable.

I can't decide whether faculty members are more like the transmission or the drive train, but in any case, they often mediate between their senior and junior counterparts. Sympathizing with students' feelings is natural because they are in closer touch than administrators with many of the problems students feel are urgent. At the same time, they tend to respect the deliberateness the administration favors, and they, too, are fully capable of denying that a problem exists, especially if the faculty is its source.

From what I have been able to gather from Commentator articles, students seem to believe that student Senators should always try to carry out their wishes, that the Senate should almost always heed the advice of student Senators, and that the Faculty and the Administration, including the President, should always follow the lead of the Senate. According to Dean Bacon, an honorary Senator for life, "Students think the Senate is there to work miracles," and they're disappointed when miracles fail to materialize. In fact, student opinion does strongly influence the institution, more so than at any of the other six colleges I know reasonably well, but both here and elsewhere, students advise rather than dictate policy. That, on the whole, is probably fortunate. While students' hearts are almost always in the right places, and while they are sometimes right when everyone else is

wrong, the issue or the passion of the moment often carries them away, and they often ignore realities in their quest to reshape the world overnight.

I have to wonder whether a student-run university would be the utopia our best students dream of. In the 1960's, which I evidently remember with much more fondness and respect than many of my colleagues, Senate-like bodies at some sister institutions took a strong hand in eliminating or watering down requirements, introducing frivolous courses, and lowering academic standards. At all too few institutions, among them the College, they furthered a healthy process of educational soul-searching.

Itself part of a system of checks and balances, the Senate must submit proposals to the Administration or to the Faculty, depending on which arena is appropriate. Since both have veto power, and since the President has veto power over both, an effective Senate must produce feasible, well-researched, persuasive proposals. At its best it fills that bill. President Belkin was right to anticipate that vetoes would be rare. Though modifications by the Faculty and by the Administration are quite common, they are often minor, so that Senate initiatives often become Yeshiva College policies.

Even a persuasive proposal, however, may wither under scrutiny or in competition with counterproposals. Take the case of this year's calendar, that "cause celebre" which led to one of THE COMMENTATOR's muckraking editorials. First of all, when the Senators polled a substantial number of students before the Senate settled upon its recommendation, the results were not decisive. True, the majority of students favored a late start, but a substantial minority, around 40%, favored an early start. Second, the Senate's recommendation did

not represent "student opinion" only. Like the student Senators, Dean Rosenfeld and most if not all faculty members favored a late start because it would have allowed for more continuity both in summer research and in fall courses. But the YC Senate is not the only constituency in a sizable and complex university which wants to influence the Calendar. In Rabbi Miller's words, it is "part of the whole mosaic." Not only was the SCW Senate in favor of an early start, as was reported, but so were all the Jewish Studies programs, as was not reported. In fact, I understand it was the Jewish Studies influence which proved decisive in the President's reasoning. Ironically, the year before, Senate input helped produce a Calendar with a longer break between semesters which students heavily favored. In such a complex institution with so many competing points of view, divisions, and constituencies, you lose some, you win some; it's a fact of institutional life. Certainly the decision was not an insult to students or a discounting of student opinion any more than it was an insult to faculty members. Certainly the late start had more of a chance because of the Senate's stand than would otherwise have been the case.

Senates vary from year to year in the effectiveness of their communication with the rest of the students, the faculty, and the administrators. Last year the record was mixed, in large part because of our initial failure to post our minutes. We apologize; it was simply an oversight.

Senates also vary in the accomplishments they can legitimately claim. Here it is worth remembering that although the Senate's power is subject to veto, it is often influential. If the Senate can reach a consensus on a proposal, that means that key

Continued on page 9.

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Stern College-Room 418

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or

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Club Hour 2:40

.....
Tues. March 7, 1989

Deans Forum

Featuring Dr. H. Kaufman

Uptown

Tues. March 14, 1989

Joint Business Society Dinner

Details in next issue.

YESHIVA UNIVERSITY

Prizes...

by Gad Dish

Of the combined enrollment of Yeshiva University's three undergraduate secular schools totaling approximately 1500 students, 325 are recipients of merit scholarships. Distinct from financial aid, these awards are granted solely on the basis of a student's academic merits.

The purpose of the awards is to attract students of high caliber away from other institutions and into YU. In this respect, Yeshiva College Associate Dean Michael Hecht asserts that the program has been very successful. "In our community, a merit scholarship is as coveted as a Princeton or Harvard acceptance," says Dean Hecht.

Upon interviewing a number of merit scholars, this reporter found that the scholarships did play a major role in their attending YU over other prestigious universities.

The merit scholars are also supplemented with an enriched cultural program consisting of a mandatory honors English class and various cultural activities. In the past, such activities included a lecture by, Nobel laureate and Holocaust survivor, Elie Wiesel and trips to stage productions of *A House of Blue Leaves* and *Othello*.

Formerly, events focused exclusively on Max Stern scholars, those receiving the university's most prestigious and lucrative award. However, more emphasis is now being placed on including all merit scholars, evidenced by the upcoming Feb. 12th Torah U'Mada retreat involving all scholars.

There are three merit scholarships offered to incoming students. The most prominent of these is the previously mentioned Max Stern scholarship which was established in living memory of Max Stern, a major figure for over 45 years in the development and growth of Yeshiva University and its many constituent entities.

To apply, one must complete a special application consisting of three essays and two letters of recommendation. The student must also have an "A" average and have scored in the 95 percentile or higher on the Scholastic Aptitude Test (S.A.T.). In addition to the

above, the candidate must come for an interview. Interviews are conducted both in New York and in Israel. The interviewer is one of three people: Dean Hecht, who also serves as Director of Academic Advisement and pre-law advisor; Ms. Judy Paikin, Director of Undergraduate Admissions; or Stern College for Women Dean Karen Bacon.

According to Ms. Paikin, a complex process is involved in choosing the recipients of the \$5,000 annual scholarship. Those students who do not meet the initial two criteria, grades and S.A.T. scores, are eliminated. After the first cuts, writing abilities, extracurricular activities, and dedication to Jewish studies (preferably accompanied by leadership ability) plays a more significant role.

A committee representing a broad spectrum of views from the faculty and administration spends over a month reviewing every supporting document the student may submit for consideration. The members of the committee represent the varied outlooks and specialties reflecting the delicate balance between the secular and the religious that Yeshiva seeks to establish for its students. Dean Hecht is proud of the fact that "the selection committee doesn't allow extraneous considerations to influence their decisions, and they are not subject to pressure from other offices within the university."

The second merit scholarship is a relative newcomer to the YU scene. The Jacob Burns scholarship was established this year for students who excel in Jewish studies and show a strong interest in business. In living testimony to Jacob Burns, founder of the Albert Einstein School of Medicine and the Sy Syms School of Business, the scholarship also provides \$5,000 annually up to a total of \$20,000.

Similar to the Max Stern scholarship, candidates must complete a special application consisting of three essays geared toward the business sector and two letters of recommendation. The applicant must also have an "A" average and score in the top five percentile on the S.A.T. Applications are reviewed by the

same committee that selects the Max Stern scholars, and interviews are also part of the selection process.

The third merit scholarship is the Dr. Samuel Belkin scholarship established to honor the university's second president, under whose leadership YU was granted university status from the New York Board of Regents. The annual scholarship of \$1,500 is awarded to students who have an "A" average and score within the top seven percentile on the S.A.T. No special application need be filled out for this award as candidates are automatically reviewed for eligibility upon applying to the university.

Of the over 200 yearly applicants for the Max Stern and Jacob Burns scholarships, approximately twenty are accepted. However, retaining the award is almost as hard as attaining it. Scholars are reviewed annually to assure that they maintain a high G.P.A. and represent a commitment to the university's educational philosophy of Torah U'Mada. If a scholar fails to meet these responsibilities, he or she may be dropped from the program. Dean Hecht contends that the low rate of attrition of students from the Max Stern or Jacob Burns programs, combined with the frequency of their enrollment in Revel graduate courses in Judaic Studies, demonstrates the committee's judicious selection of the best students from the applicant pool.

Although merit scholars tend to do well in college and succeed in their post-college endeavors, that does not preclude the rest of the student body from doing the same. In fact, in Dean Hecht's opinion, merit scholars tend to do no better than other fine non-merit scholars attending the university.

There seems much evidence that merit scholarships do accomplish their twin goals of luring away students of high caliber from attending other universities and enriching the intellectual surroundings of all students at Yeshiva.

On-Site

Early Admissions, Acceptance

1. **Were you an Early Admission Student?**
Yes: 22.5%
No: 77.5%
2. **Do you feel Early Admission Students influence the classroom atmosphere —if so, in what way?**
Positive: 2.5%
Negative: 57.5%
No Influence: 35%
Undecided: 5%
3. **Do you feel Early Admission Students Significantly alter the quality of campus life? If so, in what way?**
Positive: 5%
Negative: 52.5%
No Influence: 37.5%
Undecided: 5%
4. **Did you apply to Universities other than YU?**
Yes: 55%
No: 45%

by A. Jeff Ibrah

The verse in Proverbs states that Torah is "a Tree of Life for those who lay hold on her." In light of higher standards imposed by Yeshiva University's Admission Committee, however, applying students to Yeshiva University are finding it increasingly tough to get a grip.

Pirkei Avot advises "Veha'ama dta Talmidim Harbe" ("Raise many students"). Rabbi Shimon Ben Gamliel asserts that, nonetheless, one can establish criteria for acceptance. However, the Talmud in Bera-chot 28a recounts Rabban Gamliel's scary realization that his requirements prevented students from embracing Torah.

Beit Shammai also holds this elitist view: "One ought teach only he who is talented and meek and of distinguished ancestry and rich," while Beit Hillel believes that "Raise many students," means just that, without discriminating. Avot De Rabbi Natan relates Beit Hillel's interpretation: "One ought teach every man, for there are many sinners in Israel who were drawn to the study of Torah, and from them descended righteous, pious, and worthy folk."

This dilemma is alive and kicking here at Yeshiva. Yeshiva University President Norman Lamm spoke of the heavy responsibility of leaders in our community in Hamevaser's December 1988 issue. Rabbi Lamm asserts, "Leadership requires the taking of risks." The Zohar (III, p24a) adds, "He [the

leader] most certainly will sin!"

YC Associate Dean Michael Hecht and YU Director of Undergraduate Admissions Judy Paikin are the two main decision makers in Admissions. The responsibility for maintaining academic standards of excellence rests upon them. The concomitant necessity of rejecting a student's request for higher Torah learning at Yeshiva is also their responsibility. There are nights Dean Hecht does not sleep; there are Yom Kippurim that Judy Paikin can be found repenting, but it is a decision that they have to make. Rabbi Hecht remarks, "It is not done flippantly or lightly."

Judy Paikin asserts that Yeshiva now rejects substantially more students than it did two years ago. Even when weaker students are admitted, it's on a much stricter basis. "The school has gotten better, our faculty more demanding—it's more difficult to be successful at Yeshiva than it was five years ago. We had to improve the student body [and as a result] our faculty's in the position to be more demanding." Ms. Paikin adds that the need for stricter admission policies grew out of the false perception of years past that any one could get in to YU. "We felt we were losing some of the better students by having

...Puzz



Director of Admissions Judy Paikin



Assoc. Dean at Yeshiva College Michael Hecht

ADMISSIONS POLICY ...and Problems

Survey

nce, and Graduate School

5. In your opinion, which of the following best characterizes the degree of difficulty in gaining admission to YU?

Highly difficult: 0%
Moderately difficult: 20%
Not very difficult: 60%
Not at all difficult: 20%

6. Do you plan on pursuing graduate studies beyond YU?

Yes 82.5%
No: 15%
Maybe: 2.5%

7. Do you feel attending YU will enhance or hinder your chances of being accepted by a graduate school or job of your choice?

Enhance: 57.5%
Hinder: 5%
No Effect: 37.5%

This survey is a random sampling of YC students on campus conducted by Elisha Tropper. It is not intended as a scientific survey, but merely as a candid indication of the feelings and opinions of the student body. Conducted regularly, each respondent's name is recorded solely to prevent duplication of results. Total polled 40.

zles...

sort of an open admissions."

Helping spread the message that YU is devoted to academic excellence are several scholarship programs. These include the Max Stern, Belkin and, more recently, Jacob Burns Scholars Programs. These programs tell prospective YU students that "this is a place for bright people, not marginal students", Ms. Paikin maintains. She backs her claim with impressive statistics; "25% of our students scored at the top 5% of the SAT. Without higher academic standards, this wouldn't have happened."

Dean Michael Hecht also makes note of the impressive increase in the number of academic merit scholars. He credits several areas for this upsurge, most notably the senior administration of the university and particularly the financial officers.

According to Dean Hecht, there has been no pressure on the academic people to limit the number of Belkin scholars, despite the fact that it is an unfunded program (the scholarship grants come from general university funds).

YU admissions requirements cover just about all one can offer as testimony of high school achievement. These include high school average, Regents exam

where appropriate, S.A.T. scores, extra curricular activities, personal essays, etc. But what of those who remain motivated to attend YU despite poor academic work in their high school years? It seems there are many who simply want to come to YU to learn.

Ms. Paikin replies, "Students always answer they want to learn when asked why they came to YU. It's difficult determining someone's sincerity. Is this person going to benefit? What are they going to do to the overall level of the classroom?"

Dean Hecht believes they will not benefit and perhaps harm both themselves and the academic level of the classroom. He asserts, "We don't do a student any favor if we accept him and he can't succeed in the dual program at Yeshiva. The truth is that over the past decade there has been an extraordinary improvement in the academic caliber of our students...that has resulted in a tightening in both the standards of the Jewish studies divisions as well as the College: it requires a better student...You don't have to be a superman to succeed at YU, but it helps!"

Both Dean Hecht and Director Paikin feel comfortable offering two other viable options to the motivated but nonetheless average student interested in Judaic studies: Israel and Touro College. Dean Hecht maintains, "Oftentimes when there are close cases, students are advised to go to Israel." He then consults with

by Avrum Aaron

While I was sitting in a philosophy course last week, an early admission freshman peered in and stuck out his tongue at the students inside. The next day I saw this freshman waiting to receive his grades. He told me about his expected marks, and I was quite impressed with his success. These two scenes typify what many students feel is the nature of the early admission program (EAP) freshman.

"Some of the very best students at Yeshiva College" are early admission freshmen, states YC Associate Dean Michael Hecht. While most students do not doubt the intelligence of the EAP freshman, some feel many of these freshmen are too immature to handle the classroom situation.

"They are very competitive, very compulsive," explained junior Jonathan Resnick. "In that respect they bring up the level of the class. But some are immature."

Senior David Berg relates stories of 'EAPs throwing erasers, complaining endlessly about homework, and acting in an unacceptable manner. "They acted like they were still in high school," says Mr. Berg. "I think they were too immature for college."

Other students are much harsher. "Early admission freshmen are annoying, obtrusive, and basically take up space," attests student Danny Silverman. "They give the school a bad name."

"They bring down the maturity level of the campus and classroom," senior Alan Ronkin elaborates.

"They are deficient in their personal maturity level," states sophomore Amer Ranish.

However, most students view the matter ambivalently. YC senior Mordy Leifer makes a

distinction between a required English composition course where "the E.A. freshmen were very disruptive, very loud...way out of control," and an elective philosophy class where they "are very helpful to the class, sometimes insightful."

Steven Thau concludes, "some of them do belong, and some do participate. I'm not going to stereotype, but there are a lot who take away from the classroom situation." Though students grumble about the EAPs in the classroom, it is on the subject of the dormitories that they are most adamant. "They do not know how to behave. They should have their own floors in the dorms. Keep them isolated. They are too immature to realize that the guy next door wants to sleep," one student contended. Director of Residence Halls Joshua Cheifetz denies that early admission freshmen cause more problems than do other students. "At times they cause problems, but I can't say they have a monopoly. We don't even talk about freshmen anymore; we talk about new students," adds Rabbi Cheifetz. Rabbi Cheifetz's appraisal of the numbers rings true. Only 80 out of 353 students in their first year of Yeshiva College were early admission freshmen, confirms Director of Undergraduate Admissions Judy Paikin. But what do the EAPs think about this? One EAP boasts "YU is an extension of high school with a lot more courses. I feel very capable of handling YU's courses." When asked why he chose the early admission YU alternative, he continues, "MTA would have been a joke. [My] reasons for coming are not based on positive reasons but on a negative reason." Quite the opposite, EAP freshman Danny Ottensoser is very pleased with his decision. "It gave me the choice of

whether I wanted to go to class or not, and I learned that I had to go to class in order to do well. It helped me grow up."

While Mr. Ottensoser acknowledges feeling resentment on the part of the upperclassmen, EAP Ari Blech does not, but admits that "some [EAPs] act like fools and make the rest of us look bad."

Despite students' mixed feelings about the early admission program, the facts support proponents' claims regarding EAPs' superior academic performance. According to Ms. Paikin, a study conducted over the past few years found that early admission students have earned better grades than those students who entered as regular freshmen, and a higher percentage have gone on to graduate.

Clearly, YC's early admission program has established academic success and, as opposed to some other early admission programs, is well respected in the academic community. "I am appalled at the phony fourth year college programs that have proliferated [at] places like Rockland Community College and New York Institute of Technology. Good students are being very badly hurt by their high schools. Harvard and Columbia law schools don't see white, middle class, Jewish kids with R.C.C. 'transcripts,'" declares Dean Hecht.

The conflict over early admission can be reduced to two concerns. One, academic performance by early admission students, definitely seems to be a non-issue in light of all available evidence. The other, the maturity and readiness for the independence and responsibility that college should entail, is more ambiguous. Dean Hecht summarizes the viewpoint of early admission's supporters when, regarding alleged immaturity, he affirms "some are; the vast majority are not."

them or their Rosh Yeshiva the following year which he asserts "can play a role in the ultimate admissions...Partially its the extra year of maturity, a person on his own, away from the family, it serves as a catalyst for the maturation process...Students who couldn't spend 40 minutes learning while in high school, after a month in Israel, have been able to spend fourteen hours in serious, diligent learning. It is more common than you could possibly believe."

And if not Israel, Touro College. "We are not the only Yeshiva in the world, I thank God for Touro College; I've more than once said, Touro is the place for you." Rabbi Hecht often counsels students who aren't accepted at YU to direct their motivation and zeal for Torah learning toward the choice offered by Touro. He believes, "Taking a hard line in reality reflects compassion



Three early admission freshmen lounge between classes.

There are nights that after I meet with the admission committee I don't sleep very well, but that doesn't mean we've made a mistake."

Ms. Paikin responds similarly. "I know that if I make a decision, I change someone's life. It really weighs on my mind heavily."

And to students, Yeshiva University is not always the only

alternative. A student denied admission or dismissed for academic reasons can find solace in many other institutions and yeshivot of higher learning, both here and abroad. The Office of Admissions hard line approach seems to follow Beit Shammai's philosophy because as Dean Hecht concludes, "You can't be Princeton and a community college at the same time."

Styrofoam

Continued from page 1

when they noticed the extensive use of styrofoam by the Scripps campus snack bar, located just off the beach. As a result, discarded styrofoam containers littered the beach and drifted into the ocean. In order to eliminate the substance from Scripps, however, the students discovered that they needed to take their case to the university level.

Mr. Cary says that there are three basic problems with styrofoam. Because styrofoam has become the "dominant item" in the food and insulation industries, Mr. Cary states, it has evolved into a major environmental danger.

First, Mr. Cary explains that styrofoam is frequently inflated through the use of chlorofluorocarbon (CFC), a substance that "diminishes or breaks down the ozone layers" when released into the atmosphere, an extremely easy process. "When you bust a [styrofoam] cup apart," he illustrates, it releases CFCs.

Mr. Cary does concede that the styrofoam industry now claims to be reducing its use of CFCs, but he says that companies "are not willing to say" when they use the toxin and when they do not. Furthermore, the replacement for CFC, called hydronated fluorocarbons, has not been studied adequately, and its effects are unknown, according to Mr. Cary.

Yet CFCs were originally "not the major issue," Mr. Cary reveals, but only achieved prominence due to public concern over global warming and the greenhouse effect. As marine biologists, he and his fellow students grew alarmed at a growing number of "documented cases" showing fish and birds who have died as a result of styrofoam dumped in the ocean.

When exposed to water, Mr. Cary explains, the styrofoam erodes, forming "little beads" that a fish or bird mistake for food and swallow. Unable to digest these beads, which occupy badly needed space in their stomachs, they eventually lose energy and die. Additionally, birds frequently gather the beads for their chicks, returning to their nests to regurgitate the deadly dinner for the chicks to innocently and eagerly consume.

Finally, Mr. Cary notes that

styrofoam is nonbiodegradable. It can lie in a landfill for "600 to 1000 years" emitting its unsafe effects, according to Mr. Cary's and other authoritative estimates.

Rabbi Dr. Walter S. Wurzbarger, adjunct professor of philosophy at Yeshiva College who has written extensively on the relationship between environmental protection and halacha, says that the Jew has a "moral responsibility to maintain the world" without abusing it.

Dr. Wurzbarger states that he draws a distinction "between religious obligations and halachic obligations" and affirms that it is a "religious imperative" to maintain the "viability of human existence on earth." He points to numerous Talmudic sources for support, particularly those dealing with the areas of Baal Tashchit (the prohibition of unnecessary waste) and Yishuv Haolam (the commandment to settle the world), citing as an example of the former the Gemara that forbids the burning of one type of oil when another may be used that would consume a smaller amount. Regarding the order to settle the land, Dr. Wurzbarger somewhat wryly notes the requisite obligation to sustain it.

While declining to comment on this specific issue, Dr. Wurzbarger vigorously asserts that we as Jews and as human beings should be concerned with the "environmentalist consequences of our actions" as "part of an overall package." He adds that mere adherence to the letter of the law may not be sufficient, and that we have a vital responsibility "to become more aware of the problem and regard this [the environment] as a Jewish issue."

Mr. Rosengarten states that the use of styrofoam for packaging has been decreasing tremendously and expresses optimism that another microwaveable container material will soon become available. However, he does not offer an explanation as to why the university does not discontinue the internal use of styrofoam in other areas and request vendors to ship all goods in some biodegradable substance. Mr. Relyea claims that UCSD has adopted this latter policy to great effect.

Mr. Rosengarten also discounts the possibility of recycling

Clubs at YU

by Bruce Schanzer

In Yeshiva College, the club is one of the most important extra-curricular activities in which students participate. Clubs serve to alleviate the pressure of studying and of classes. They also allow students to form bonds with other students who share common interests. Clubs,

Ayal Breaks Record

continued from page 1

for Coach Jonathan Halpert. "He has been like a father to me. He helped me out every time I had a problem." He also expressed gratitude for the support given to him from both faculty and friends at Yeshiva (especially to JSS Talmud professor Rabbi Meir Fulda who made a special trip to witness the historic event). Will his record ever fall? "It's going to be mighty tough," said Yeshiva's all-time leading scorer.

clinging the styrofoam until permanent arrangements can be made, asserting that such a policy would incur a large rise in the parasite problem, attracting insects in droves throughout the dormitories. He maintains that asking students to drop all styrofoam items in designated receptacles for recycling would simply be unfeasible.

Ken Jay, a UCSD administrative analyst involved in implementing the ban, estimates that the replacement of styrofoam with other substances, notably paper, in the food services areas will "cost up to twice as much." He says current plans tentatively include the use of paper plates and cups and the washing and reusing of plastic utensils.

How does that translate in terms of real costs to the students?

Mr. Jay predicts the prices of menu items "escalating two to three cents," perhaps a nickel at most.

Dean Efram Nulman explained, are student-sponsored organizations whose day-to-day functions are beyond the college's administrative control. Generally, the clubs have their own administrative processes and are supervised by the Yeshiva College Student Council. The Student Council helps fund the clubs and is ultimately in charge of a club's programming.

The creation of a club involves many steps. After thinking of a new idea for a club, one must obtain twenty signatures of potential members. Once these signatures have been collected, the aspiring founders of the club submit a constitution

that includes the club's intended activities and its purpose. The Council then considers the club's academic and extra-curricular contributions to the university.

Students frequently complain of the apathy of the student body and inactivity of the plethora of clubs at Yeshiva. However, according to Dean Nulman and Student Council President Mordi Leifer, clubs are intended for students to express themselves outside of the classroom. The requirements of starting a club or society appear to have been rendered fairly simple in order to facilitate student participation and enliven interest.

Cardozo Prof at YC



Professor Steven S. Nemerson

by Steven Major

Steven S. Nemerson, a professor of law at Yeshiva University's Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law (CSL), has returned to Yeshiva College after a one year absence and is teaching a course entitled "Philosophy of Law."

Dr. Nemerson says that he enjoys teaching YC students because "in a certain respect, the undergraduate student is more fulfilling to teach than the law student." He ascribes this feeling to the undergraduate's interest in the "theoretical knowledge, while the law student is more involved in the practical application of what he learns" to his intended profession.

Dr. Nemerson holds a Ph.D. in philosophy from the City University of New York. He was awarded the Howard W. Hinte Memorial Fellowship in Philosophy, among other honors.

An English major at Brook-

lyn College, Dr. Nemerson received his J.D. in 1976, from Columbia University School of Law, where he was a Harlan Fiske Stone Scholar.

Following law school, Dr. Nemerson served as a law clerk to the Hon. Jack B. Weinstein, U.S. District Court, eastern district of New York. "That was the single best professional experience of my life," Dr. Nemerson declares. Judge Weinstein, a member of the CSL Board of Directors, is the jurist who achieved settlement of the long litigated Agent Orange lawsuits.

In 1984, Dr. Nemerson assumed the position of Associate Dean for Academic Affairs at Cardozo, resigning that post after three years while continuing his professorial duties. He has taught courses in areas such as jurisprudence, criminal law, torts, and elements of law at Cardozo.

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VAAD HARABONIM OF BERGEN COUNTY

Senate

Continued from page 5.

administrators and active faculty members already feel committed to the plan. When it goes to the Administration or the Faculty, it is not an orphan; it has friends. Often the proposal emerges from a student initiative; when it does not, student Senators usually apprise their fellow students of what is at stake. In short, because of its structure, the Senate's proposals stand a good chance of being feasible and beneficial to begin with, and of getting translated into action in the end.

It is also worth remembering why the Senate does not emit proposals with astounding frequency, impressing all onlookers with the rapid pace of Senate-inspired reforms. It takes time to research a proposal — to see what other institutions do, to learn what we have done in the past, to test out ideas on all the key constituencies. It takes more time to debate everything from the big picture to details of wording. Then there is the anecdote factor. Who would come to a Senate meeting were it not for a good story now and then, let alone the eloquent speeches which we hear nearly every week? Taking all these factors into account, the Senate tends to concentrate on one or two significant issues each year, fitting lesser issues in here and there.

As of last year, we shifted to a system of Task Forces which devise the first versions of the proposals we debate. So far, Task Forces have focused on the

curriculum, on the quality of instruction, on rigor of education, and on a new constitution integrating SSSB into an uptown Senate, and on academic integrity. Essentially, this is the system of subcommittees which all deliberative bodies need in order to focus and expedite business, but "Task Force" connotes attention to a reasonably well-defined task for a finite period of time. Everything depends on the willingness of these Task Forces to do their homework, to arrive at sound proposals, and to help forge a consensus during the ensuing discussion in the Senate as a whole. Given the pressures on everyone's time, most Task Forces will take a number of weeks or months, depending on the necessary research and the motivation and work of the members, to place a proposal on the agenda. This is another reason for the Senate's slow pace. In my experience within the world of academe, it takes at least a year to do anything significant)) more like two years if the proposal necessitates more than a modest outlay of funds. At the same time, I agree that progress this year has been unusually, almost unconscionably slow.

What do we have to show for our work in recent years? The Writing Center, which the English Department co-sponsored and the Administration, especially Dean Rosenfeld, Dean Bacon, and Dr. Brenner, strongly supported, is thriving under Dr. Richard Nochimson's direction, helping more students with each passing year and providing valuable experience for the tutors as well as the tutees. A campaign against

cheating and plagiarism, both nationwide diseases but particularly disturbing at an institution which prides itself on high moral and halachic standards, is well underway. It is beginning to bear some fruit in the form of somewhat better proctoring, an increased level of consciousness of the problem, clearer definitions, and a more rigorous set of penalties, all based on Senate actions and recommendations. Meanwhile, more students are sufficiently upset to counteract cheating, minimally by refusing to collude and maximally by informing the Dean of the circumstances. Finally, administrators are tightening procedures governing the storage and distribution of finals. Most of us find these steps extremely distasteful and sometimes even demeaning, but both the Senate and the institution deserve credit for facing a nationwide problem head on while many of our sister institutions continue to look the other way.

We have made a difference for the better in less dramatic, less visible ways as well. For instance, in the past few years, we have encouraged the English Department and the Dean to institute prizes for student writing, we have helped raise the quality of early admissions programs, and most recently, we have welcomed the Sy Syms School of Business as joint members of a new Uptown Undergraduate Senate.

What's next? One challenge we face is ensuring enough attention to YC and SSSB separately as well as together. Another is figuring out how to enrich students' educational programs. Should we institute intensive or honors courses?

Though past attempts have failed, can we find a way to improve orientation and advisement?

Anyone who has participated in any deliberative body in any academic body must ask him or herself occasionally if not frequently whether it is really worth the time and effort. If we expand our focus, however, to all twenty Senates performing all three functions relatively well over both decades, as I hope to in a future article, we will see that the Senate has substantially shaped the institution in quite a number of ways, contributing above all to the education, broadly defined, of our students. I agree with Rabbi Miller that it's been "an important instrument for the growth of the school" and remains "a mechanism for further growth and involvement."

Some of you are probably wondering whether all of these changes will benefit you personally, which brings me to a conflict which both U.S. Senators and student Senators feel. Are they supposed to represent student opinion, in effect acting as tape recorders or pollsters, or are they supposed to vote for what they feel will be in the University's and in students' best interests, possibly at times against the will of the majority of the students? Usually, of course, the two will coincide. When they don't, the student Senators face a choice which can go either way.

Around four years ago, the Senate was on the verge of recommending the abolishment of the pre-med major on the grounds of insufficient rigor. We considered recommending the most usual alternative, a full major in a traditional academic

discipline supplemented by standard pre-med courses. We also considered beefing up the pre-health major with more required courses, including one in medical ethics. The vast majority of Senators thought these alternatives would be good for the school and for students interested in medicine, but of course, most pre-meds' lives, given the dual program, would have become more complicated. The pre-med honor society sent two students to try to persuade us not to take that route, and student Senators felt they should poll their fellow students. Sentiment was strongly in favor of the status quo, and the student Senators recommended to the Senate that although their feelings had not changed, they felt obligated to respect student opinion. In the case of cheating, on the other hand, though Senators knew there would be some student resistance, as in fact there was, no one doubted what the proper course of action was.

I believe Senators, and student Senators in particular, have the best interests of the College and SSSB at heart; it's not just lip service. All of us get frustrated that the institution is still so imperfect that we can choose from a broad spectrum of possible improvements. Yet that is true of all institutions. In fact, the College has improved in recent years not only academically but environmentally and generally, and the Senate has played a part in its growth. We have sometimes wandered, and progress is too slow for my personal taste, but we can be proud of many of the forward-looking steps we have taken so deliberately.

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The Lighter Look



by Jonathan Miskin

Oscar Purple was born in 1952 in Innerkip, Ontario, which he soon left and has refused to visit since. When he was 27, his cleaning lady accidentally dropped his piggy bank, shattering it to bits. Reginald MacIntosh, who has written the definitive biography on Mr. Purple, 'Purple and Proud', calls that event the turning point in the author's life. "Certainly we can see the abrupt transition from Purple's early works, which were either plagiarized 17th century novels or dramatized toothpaste commercials, to his post-piggy period. Immediately following the death of his bank, he turned out novel after novel about money. We have the wonderful 'Come Back to the Dime and Five, Jimmy Dean, Jimmy Dean' (1979), the masterful 'Nickels From Heaven' (1981), and the critically acclaimed 'Vince and the Pauper' (1982)." 'Five for the Road' marks Oscar Purple's return to the tragic romance.

PLOT SUMMARY:

'Five for the Road' is the dramatic story of Bucky Lin-

coln, a five dollar bill. Born into wealth, he enjoys all the luxuries of the upper class: a genuine snakeskin wallet, and a gold money clip. Believing his life will always be rosy, he snubs education and prefers to live the carefree existence of jacuzzis and champagne. When the stock market crashes in late 1988, the Lincolns' fortune disappears, and Bucky is forced out on his own. He enrolls in a small, obscure college, Yeshiva University, but it's too late for him. He has no educational background and quickly discovers that his upper class heritage can't help him. Bucky starts to deteriorate, first by nickels, then more quickly by dimes and quarters. He hungers for success, thirsts for love and ends up a broken and lonely dime. The novel takes place in a period of twenty-four hours.

CHARACTERS IN THE NOVEL:

Bucky Lincoln: a crisp five dollar bill.

Lefty Lincoln: Bucky's brother.

Cousin Francis: a college friend of Bucky's. Not a cousin.

Cary Grant: the Dean.

Portia Authority: Bucky's only love.

CHAPTER SUMMARIES:

CHAPTER ONE:
Bucky arrives at Yeshiva College and meets his roommate, Cousin Francis. They become fast friends and set out to discover university life. Cousin drinks up the lectures, swallows the labs, but Bucky is enthralled with the photocopying machines in the library. By the end of the chapter, he is down to \$4.70.

CHAPTER TWO:

Bucky discovers the laundry machines in the dorm basement. At \$.50 a load for the washer and \$.50 for the dryer, he's soon Bucky Lincoln, three dollars and seventy cents. Cousin meets Bucky in the mall. "Two classes and I feel much richer," says Cousin. "Yes, and look how clean I am," says Bucky. He is in rapid decline.

CHAPTER THREE:

'Tangy Taffy—\$.50' Bucky partakes in the delights of the vending machines as Cousin declares war on first year calcu-

lus. Word of Bucky's shenanigans has circulated and he is called in to Dean Grant's office. "This behavior can't go on!" shouts the Dean. "Look at you! You're \$2.35!" Bucky munches on Drake's cakes and laughs.

CHAPTER FOUR:

Lefty Lincoln, Bucky's brother and a senior, locates Bucky in the smoke-filled game room. "What are you doing wasting yourself on video games and pinball machines?" he cries. "You're destroying your life, losing your chance at an education. I started out in the same place as you, and I've built myself into a twenty!" Bucky sneers and calls a cute Washington he knows at Stern. She's out with a Jackson. The call costs him a quarter. He's now \$.60.

CHAPTER FIVE:

Bucky has squandered his life away on gambling and greed. He's no more than ten cents and he's on the streets. Riding the A train, he meets a subway token named Portia. She's also at the end of her line. Could it be love? The dejected pair ride silently downtown.

LITERARY STYLE:

In 'Five for the Road', Purple makes brilliant use of the element of time. By condensing his novel into the space of a day, the author shows us how quickly a man can lose everything he is, everything he has. Parallelism is cleverly employed in contrasting Cousin's progress with Bucky's degeneration. (Compare the characters Kennedy and Khrushchev in 'Dollar for Ruble', in which both coins build themselves up simultaneously into bills.)

QUESTIONS FOR FURTHER THOUGHT:

- 1) Is Bucky Lincoln symbolic of us all? Do we all spend ourselves and money thoughtlessly?
- 2) Is the phrase 'Oh, it's only a quarter' applicable to this novel?
- 3) When the novel first appeared, the state of Alabama outlawed pay toilets. Was this justifiable?
- 4) Are all the coin-operated machines on campus part of YU's continuous fundraising campaign? Coming soon: Oscar Purple's sequel to the Bucky Lincoln Story: 'Ten on the Town'.

—Response—

YU's Flaws,

Cont. from page 3.

university pride could be instilled. Instead of exploiting students in the cafe (where capitalism is the ideal, as barely subsidized prices, roughly equivalent to any restaurant in the city, produce quality and quantity that even the Russians laugh at), or in the bookstore (where, as hard as this might seem, if you catch them when they're open, you'll end up paying prices higher than at Barnes & Noble's for a book that they expect in by finals week), or in the parking lots (simply a ridiculous situation), how about taking a closer look at the security program.

Don't get me wrong, the guards do a fine job keeping students off the grass, out of the Brookdale Hall lobby, and out of the library. And who doesn't sleep safer knowing that each day, every ten minutes, a car load of guards carefully inspects each parking lot, bravely ticketing, booting, towing and sticking those annoying stickers on any enemy parkers. But let's face it, for all the money allocated to security, they can't even protect us from being attacked or stabbed. I may be way off-base here, but isn't that what security means?

Look, no one can argue with the fact that there is a need for their mere presence on campus, but, at this point, unless they're volunteering, then we're spending too much.

I imagine that a lot of money is allocated to security each year. Why doesn't the university either use this money to provide some "real" security, or reallocate it to subsidize food and book services?

After all, it is our tuition. Why can't we get a decent lounge or better library books? As it is, there are very few books in the library printed after 1940. This makes writing a paper in this century very difficult. Yes, it all costs money, but as long as we're wasting money, let's waste it on the students.

Other universities might be on to something when they help their students pay for food and books. At Yeshiva the meal plan means: plan on spending a lot of money. Money, I must add, that shouldn't be coming from the students' but from university programs that cost a lot but produce little.

What about Tenzer Gardens? It's a good thing they keep it locked most of the time or else who wouldn't use it? Way to put money to good use!

I, for one, would promise to stay off the grass, out of Brookdale Hall, and never go into the library without my YU I.D., if I knew that, in return, I was going to get improved book and food services, a decent lounge, or somewhere to park. Hey, I'd even settle for a little protection. If we're going to throw away money, let's start throwing it to the students.

Ari Weisbrot
YC '90

Pollard Cont. from page 3.

Jonathan that he would do this. Sadly, he almost succeeded.

Jonathan Pollard is a scholar whose achievements gave him access to any university in the U.S. His instructors at Stanford and Tufts uniformly describe him as brilliant. He is a talented cellist, an historian and scholar. He won the Navy's second highest award for heroism (pres-

ented by the Secretary of the Navy) and three citations of excellence for his work in intelligence. His psychiatrist (required because of the work) describes him as stable and brilliant, and is outraged that his files on Jonathan were stolen from his office. Jonathan Pollard has never used drugs as the stringent testing required by his work demanded. As to alcohol, his sister Carol reports that her brother was never able to finish a ceremonial glass of wine.

As to national security, the Grand Jury refused to indict him for the charge of damage to national security, and as the saying goes, a Grand Jury will indict a ham sandwich normally if asked by the prosecutors.

What is most sad about Rosenberg's letter is his fear that Jonathan cast a shadow over a Jew's loyalty to the United States. This dual loyalty canard, whether uttered by Jew or gentile, is outrageously anti-Semitic on its face.

Bernard R. Henderson
New York

Shul or Studio?

To the Editor:

Late at night eerie sounds can be heard originating from the Morgenstern shul. This new phenomenon has become known as the "Midnight Jammers." The actions of these late night musicians represent a grave disrespect for the sanctity of the shul and a lack of proper values.

This predicament is largely due to a lack of space in the dorms for bands to practice since student lounges are usually used for study purposes. Many other rooms are available on campus which are vacant but locked by security. Disappointingly, however, there has been a reluctance for the bands to search for appropriate places to practice when asked on various occasions to do so.

It is imperative that this situation be corrected with suitable areas made available to YU's musicians. Lampport Audi-

torium is just one of many available rooms to consider. A shul atmosphere must be maintained at all times even when the shul is not actively in use.

David Siegel
YC '89

COLLECTOR CLAIMS HARASSMENT

To the Editor:

My name is Al Linder. I was interviewed by your newspaper in January of 1987.

I am a collector and I was told by the Yeshiva University that I would be able to collect there as long as I didn't go inside the building. I never went inside the building.

However, I am constantly being harassed by the new security.

It is a disgrace that YU will take this policy. I also collect at Boro Park and the Rabbi can't believe they don't let me go inside and collect.

Albert Linder
New York

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(Moses Bodenstein Memorial Prize: Academy of American Poets College Poetry Award Contest).

Prizes: publication in a YU literary magazine or journal; a plaque, and cash awards (in varying amounts ranging from modest to respectable).

Judges: Members of the Yeshiva College English Department. The Bodenstein Prize (which is open to SCW students) will be judged jointly by members of the YC and SCW English Departments.

Deadline: submit all entries by Friday, March 24, 1989, to Mrs. Levinson

Sponsored by: Yeshiva College English Department.

Opinion:

"Who is a Jew?" is Thankfully Dead

by Barry Kaye

Due to the good fortune of world Jewry, the infamous "Who is a Jew" bill, for all intents and purposes, has died.

Before one can fully understand the ramifications of what has transpired, one must depart from the narrow-minded view of what constitutes an active member of the Jewish People. Merely because one may not ascribe himself to an observant lifestyle does not necessarily mean he feels any less of a Jew. Now this may not sound as valid a litmus test as keeping kosher, observing Shabbat, and the rest of the Commandments, yet in the eyes of the beholder his Jewishness may lie in other criteria. And one of these criteria often lies in synagogue participation.

Since one of the functions of a rabbi is the performance of conversions, the "Who is a Jew" bill, or more accurately "Who is a convert," if passed would have disenfranchised 90% of American Jewish rabbis and consequently set 90% of American Jews on a path against the Orthodox. Now one might say, "So what, they were never too thrilled about our existence, they merely tolerated us." Yet does this mean that we should abandon all hope of ever bringing them closer and commence a policy that would promote unwarranted hatred?

As any diplomat will attest, tolerance is far better than hatred. And being diplomatic is precisely the course of action we in the observant community should pursue. As Tosefot in tractate Pesachim (citing Exodus 23:4-5) states, seeking peace with those we detest either personally or communally, for example due to a lack of religious observance, takes precedence over certain biblical ordinances.

The Orthodox movement has never been in a better position in

the United States; there is no need for us to feel threatened. Simply put, the "Who is a Jew" bill was the act of those insecure of our stature.

American Jews should not manipulate Israeli politics so long as they are immune from its ramifications. Just as many religious Jews were justifiably upset when a number of Jewish lay leaders openly expressed their disapproval with Israel's handling of the Arab uprising, so too the non-Orthodox were justified in their complaints of Orthodox interference.

It must be remembered that Israel is not merely appreciated by Orthodox Jews. We only constitute a small minority in Israel and abroad. Granted we are a vocal few, but none the less we are few. Therefore I propose that when we Orthodox contemplate instituting halacha as part of the State of Israel's body of law we must view it in terms of whether or not it will advance Jewish Unity. To demand others, who have no intent of following halacha, to ascribe to its precepts must be done with the utmost of tact and diplomacy, or, if that is not possible, not at all.

We only have one Jewish State, which already has enough internal and external strife to keep a social scientist content forever. Why must we add another source of conflict among Israel's most loyal allies, American Jews, when the purported legislation will only affect five or six converts a year who decide to emigrate for Israel?

Seemingly, those who espouse this legislation feel they can forcibly alter the religious practices of world Jewry by manipulating the Knesset. I question the wisdom and effectiveness of forcing the non-Orthodox into choosing to whom they will be loyal—the State of Israel or their rabbis.

Modigliani

Continued from page 1.

many senior and middle-level administrators and deans, members of both the YU and SSSB boards, and several students apparently chosen due to their academic performance in SSSB or standing as student leaders.

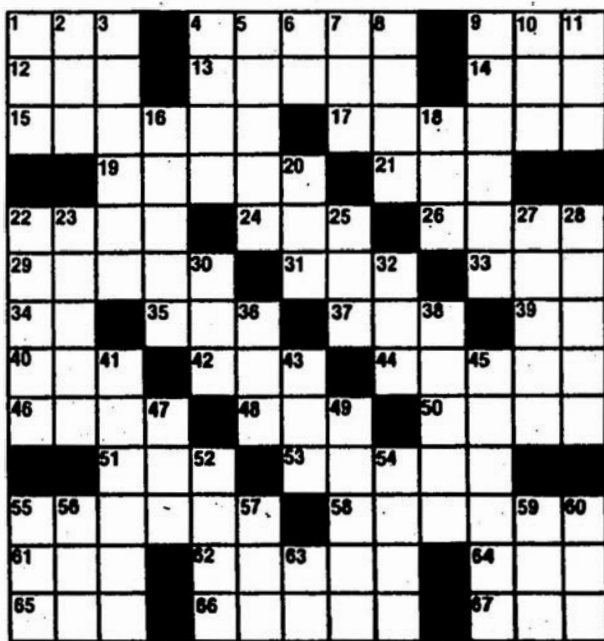
Dr. Modigliani addressed the gathering on the subject of corporate debt and leveraged buyouts (LBO's) in America today. He concluded that, on

balance, LBO's pose little current danger, and, as a result, the government "should not rush into" regulations designed to prevent or inhibit them. The most that should be considered, he advised, was the possibility of, at some point in the future, manipulating the tax structure to reduce interest in LBO's. This could be accomplished, Dr. Modigliani claimed, through removal of tax subsidies.]

ENGAGEMENTS

Joshua Annenberg to Rona Neff
Mazal Tov

Crossword Companion



ACROSS

1. Appointment (abbr.)
4. Start
9. Small floor covering
12. Friend
13. Rab out
14. A judge of Israel
15. One who locates
17. Intellectual
19. Well known
21. Bettle
22. Engaged in (ref.)
24. Spot
26. Appolated moment
29. Part of flower
31. Weapon
33. Dog
34. I am (cont.)
35. Boy
37. Make an offer
39. Thus
40. New Testament book (abbr.)
42. Snake
44. Furious
46. Waste time
48. Circle
50. Wicked conduct
51. Shellac ingredient
53. Tooth
55. With flowers
58. Shelf over fireplace
61. Sound of dove
62. Practical substitute
64. Indian tribe
65. Pull behind
66. Scopes
67. Disc

DOWN

1. Suitable
2. Equal
3. Mars
4. Red vegetable
5. Made a mistake
6. Southern state (abbr.)
7. Dialectic doctrine (ref.)
8. Want
9. Standard of measurement
10. Southern state (abbr.)
11. Unill (Poetic)
16. Reefs
18. Never
20. Child's pet
22. Talk at length
23. Pace
25. Place to bathe
27. Organization of fones
28. Wash away
30. Place for experiments
32. Nothing
36. Not alive when coming into hospital (abbr.)
38. Couch
41. Consecrate
43. Upper limb on body
45. Moral excellence
47. UN organization (abbr.)
49. Punctuation mark
52. Formal close (in compositions)
54. Puts
55. Proccm of doing something
56. Scare
57. River in S. Austria
59. 7th Gr. letter
60. Lease
63. N.E. state (abbr.)

Answers to last puzzle.



Joseph Wolf was first in submitting correct puzzle above. The first person to submit a properly completed puzzle to Larry Hartstein (M611) will have his/her name printed in the next issue.

Hockey Champs

Continued from page 12.

his more spectacular games of the season, stopping hordes of Wildcats' shots to keep the Irish in the game throughout. He was especially outstanding in the closing minutes as the Wildcats poured on the pressure with their net empty. With three seconds remaining, Polinsky sealed the win with his third goal

of the night, a YU playoff record.

This is the first time in Irish history that they have defeated the Wildcats. They have finally proven to all their detractors that they are the best team in the league.

Volleyball

Macs

Flounder

on

Road

Despite promising preseason predictions, the Volleyball Macs have begun the season slowly, losing their first three matches without winning a game.

The Macs tallied losses on the road to Fordham, Vassar, and Sacred Heart.

In their opening match against Fordham on Feb. 1, the Macs found themselves overwhelmed by their opponents' near-perfect execution and were unable to stop Fordham's '66" middle blocker, who repeatedly beat the Macs' defense with a mixture of hard kills and soft dinks. The Macs lost 15-7, 15-9, 15-10.

On Feb. 5, the Macs traveled to Connecticut to play in a tri-match against Vassar and Sacred Heart. In the first match against Vassar, the young Macs squad once again appeared to be extremely tense and flat. Despite staying close, behind big blocking by captain and setter Yehudah Lindenberg and outside hitter Harry Zemon, the Macs eventually bowed to Vassar, 15-8, 15-10.

The Macs finally seemed to relax against Sacred Heart, improving their rhythm and controlling a good portion of the match. With middle blocker Dov Pinchot twice sizzling the pits of the Sacred Heart blockers and Zemon pounding Lindenberg's sets for points, the Macs seemed assured of their first victory. But, the Sacred Heart squad formed a late comeback for a 15-12 win. The final game saw the Sacred Heart servers candycane the Macs for 8 service aces. Backcourt specialist Jeff Ifrah served a few points to bring the Macs close. But the Macs traveled home disappointed, losing 15-13 in their closest game thus far.

With all the sluggishness, coach Omar Vargas still predicts victory in the team's future. "Just wait till we get them on our court."

The home opener against Bridgeport is on Feb. 15 at 7

Schick

Continued from page 12.

rim 57-25. Propelled by an outstanding performance by Noam Cohen, Team Cohen narrowly missed an upset bid over Team Muehlgay in a 37)34 nailbiter.

In other games, Clockwork Orange howed to superhoops 45-40 and Team Silber defeated Team Burian 26-10 when Team Burian was forced to forfeit because of a nose injury to its namesake, Lawrence Burian.

Yeshiva University is participating in this year's Super Hoops, which are being held on campus. Our winning men's team will advance to the Schick Super Hoops Regional Festival held at Seton Hall University in March, 1989.

The Commentator - YCSC Junior Class

proudly announce:

YU MASCOT COMPETITION

Creative Maccabees or any other idea accepted.

Prize for best submission

See Eric Rothman M602

923-1780.

Deadline: March 1

Employees of THE COMMENTATOR or the junior class board and their spouses are ineligible to compete. Must be 13 years or older to participate.

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Riverdale YM-YWHA is looking for staff for the new Ari Rina Orthodox day camp. Senior counselors and specialists. Late June to Mid August. Competitive salaries. Call Barry Mael (212) 548-8200.

Yeshiva Sports

Crippled Macs Showing Improvement

by Shmuel Bulka and Larry Hartstein

The injury-riddled Macs returned from Florida with a 4-6 record and the not so inviting prospect of hosting a scary NJIT team that had humiliated them earlier this season. Though they failed to pull off an IAC upset, the Macs turned in a gutsy performance that has spurred a mild second half resurgence. The Macs' 7-8 overall record may not inspire awe, but, at 3-3 in the conference, the team possesses an outstanding chance of finishing over .500 in the league for the first time.

Barry College 76 MACS 62

Division II power Barry finally dismissed the pesky Macs with a late second half run stretching a five-point lead into a double digit cushion. Eric Davis (11 points, 8 assists) kept the Macs close in what many observers termed the team's finest outing of the season. Ayal Hod endured a severe pounding from Barry's monstrous front line while scoring 18 points and grabbing 15 boards.

NJIT 79 MACS 62

Chris Miles made his final MSAC performance a memorable one, scoring 25 while dominating play. Yet even the odds-on favorite for league MVP had to be a little nervous when the Macs sliced a 16-point halftime deficit to a mere six midway through the second stanza. The Macs eventually fell short, losing the game along with two important guards, Eric Davis and Greg Rhine. Davis hurt his knee and still has not returned. Rhine injured his ankle and missed two contests.

MACS 86 St. Joseph's 52

Ayal Hod broke his brother's record on the way to 31 points. Jan Levine started his first game in a Macs' uniform and did not appear overwhelmed by the experience. "I'm just glad I was able to come in and do the job with our two point guards on the bench." Yudi Teichman continued his comeback from back troubles with a sparkling 18-point performance.

MACS 76 Molloy 65

With the stinging home opener loss still fresh in their memories, the Macs broke open a tight game with a 10-2 spurt early in the second session. Avrum Aaron responded to increased minutes with a career-high 10 points (he maintains it was 12). Ayal, setting a new all-time scoring record with every point, poured in 26 in a crucial game.

MACS 76 Pratt 38

In another revenge match, the Macs made amends for an embarrassing overtime loss last season with a dominant display of team defense. Tzvi Himber's intimidating 6'10" presence keyed a second half stranglehold effort that limited the Engineers to zero points in the first 11 minutes and 12 all told.

Mt. St. Vincent 77 MACS 63

What a difference a year makes. Last season the high-flying Macs handled the Dolphins twice with relative ease. Saturday night's Mt. St. Vincent victory was its second impressive win over the Macs this year. Leading 33-31 at intermission, the Macs came up empty in the second half of their third straight road game. The trip to Riverdale is hardly a long one, but winning on the road is never easy.

Tourney Underway

by Avrum Aaron

"It's two eight-minute halves of grueling action. You can't stop to argue or think twice," said referee Michael Chelst. He couldn't have been more correct in describing the eight games that were played on Tuesday, January 31, opening night for the Schick Superhoops 3-on-3 Tournament.

The winner of YU's contest will advance to the national tournament at Seton Hall University (see accompanying article).

According to defending champion Gerson Levitz and tournament organizer Stanley Watson, the crucial ingredient that will lead a team to the championship is chemistry, the

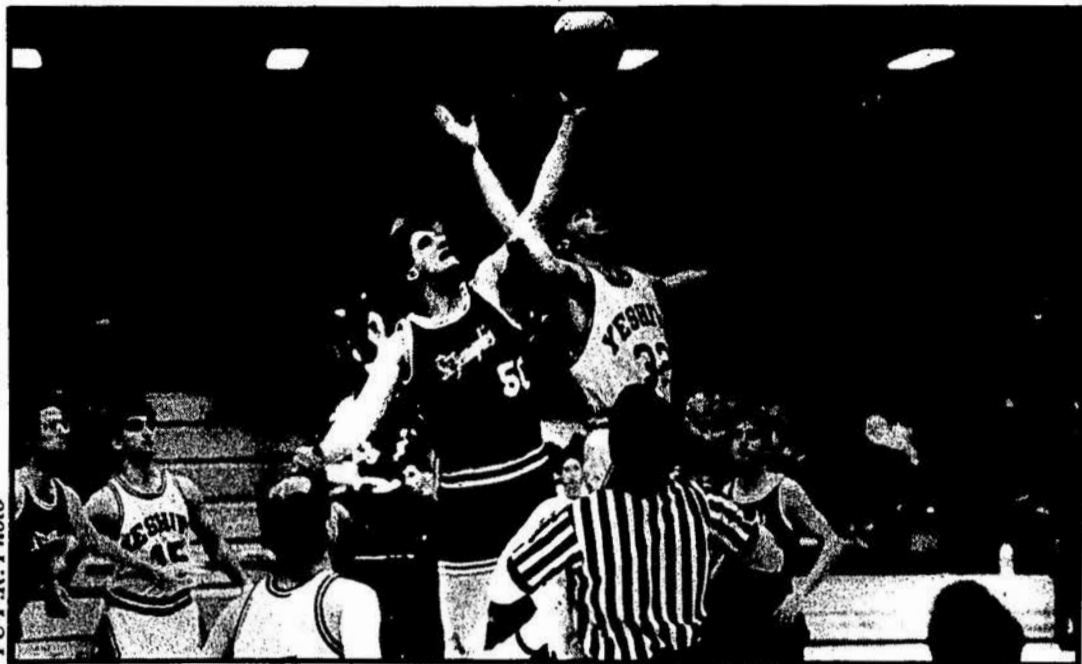
ability to adapt to the team concept.

Tuesday's action saw the Killer Millers edge the Nets 42-39. In another close contest, the Barriers, led by Isaac Klughaupt, the self-proclaimed "player to watch," defeated Diner 33-19. As expected, the Silverbirds won their first game, 39-26 over the Fighting Illini, who like their NCAA counterparts, made an early exit from the tournament.

In the best game of the night, Mark Rosenbaum of the Rosenbaums hit an 11-foot jumper late in the game, nipping the St. Louis Spirits, 37-36.

In a surprising blowout, the Timberwolves, led by Dov Goldman, firebombed the Bach-

Continued on page 11.



Center Ayal Hod fights opponent for ball in Macs' rout of St. Josephs.

Wrestlers Continue to Impress

by David Maryles and Alan Laifer

This season has been one of the more successful campaigns in recent memory. On December 27, the Yeshiva wrestling team (4-2) journeyed to Alumni Hall, home of the St. John's Redmen and their Holiday Invitational Tournament. This year's tournament was well supported by the members of the Independent Athletic Conference, of which YU is a part. Ten teams from the league participated.

Although undermanned due to final exam preparation, the Yeshiva team placed fourth. In addition, four of the six YU wrestlers who participated in the meet earned medals.

Leading the charge was the currently undefeated (9-0) Jeremy Poupko. He continued to dominate his opponents, as he

has all season. In his first match, he pinned a CCNY wrestler. Then, in a battle for the gold, Poupko dictated the pace and kept firm control over the home favorite St. John's wrestler, earning a 10-2 victory. Poupko, when asked about the significance of the medal, said, "It's not the personal glory but the showing of the team. Also it will be a constant reminder to me that the hard work, long hours of practice and determination do pay off."

Another of the victorious YU wrestlers was David Schlusel, who took a bronze at 118 lbs. He lost to the eventual champion at 118 and then mauled a wrestler from Manhattan College.

In the middleweight divisions, wrestlers had to battle opponents three times to strike gold. At 167 pounds, Andy Garfinkel

won a silver. His path to victory included a triumph over St. John's in an astounding 50 seconds. He proceeded to pin his Manhattan opponent, and then lost in a valiant effort 15-12 to the Brooklyn College representative in his weight class.

At 177 lbs., David Edelcreek disposed quickly of his CCNY opponent en route to a silver medal as well. His near-instantaneous effort of 15 seconds may be a YU team record. He continued in dominating the St. John's wrestler, then lost in a close contest to Manhattan.

The tournament was well attended and, as David Schlusel said, "I'm looking for a good showing by the team and its supporters on Sunday, February 19, at our own Maccabee Tournament in the MSAC."

Irish Win Championship

by Saul Kaszovitz

In one of the most exciting championship games in Yeshiva history, the Fighting Irish defeated the Wildcats 4-2.

The Wildcats opened the scoring with a beautiful shot by Yossi Fein. Moments later, Kenneth Polinsky scored the first of his three goals on a blast from the point that completely eluded the stunned Wildcat

goalkeeper, David Schlusel. But after the goal, it seemed Schlusel could do no wrong. Yechiel Gordon gave him the lead with a low shot from the crease and Schlusel's brilliant goaltending seemed to seal the Irish's fate as he stopped them cold for two periods.

But in the third, the floodgates opened for the Irish. Midway through the period,

Polinsky once again baffled the Wildcat defenders and rifled the ball past Schlusel's outstretched glove. Just seconds later, Ari Keehn made one of his patented diving passes to Geoffrey Miller who slid it home for the Irish's first lead of the game.

While Schlusel played brilliantly on his side, veteran Wayne Feder turned in one of

Continued on page 11.

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