

The Commentator

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Member of the 1199 Union march outside Belfer Hall as spirited students join them.

YU Union Pickets

Cites Wages, Health Concerns

by Steven Major

The spring season debuted with a dramatic climb in temperatures, inviting what is just the beginning of an onslaught of demonstrations that will be hitting the streets of New York City in the upcoming months.

One such demonstration crowded the Yeshiva College campus just last week. Over 100 frustrated YU employees forfeited their lunch hours and marched beside the mall on Amsterdam Avenue chanting slogans in an attempt to voice grievances against Yeshiva University.

Many carried posters calling for better wages and a settlement of health and safety issues.

"We're fed up, we can't take it no more! No more broken promises! There's no justice at YU!" demonstrators shouted.

The last time students and faculty heard the shouts of protest echo a campus dates back to the 1987 demonstrations conducted by some of YU's neighbors who angrily reacted to the reality of a partial closing to traffic of Amsterdam Avenue between 184th and 186th streets. Although directed toward the same people, the demonstration, this time, came from people within the University.

"We're here because we want higher wages, respect... they're [YU] bringing people in at higher salaries," declared Janelle Shaw, a secretary in the Office of the Registrar since 1981.

Marcus Santos of YU Housekeeping said, "people are being mistreated, getting fired and are overworked...due to a shortage of employees." Santos claims that he and his fellow housekeepers are performing twice the amount of work normally required for their jobs.

Amid the noisy demonstration were clerical workers, secretaries, librarians, fundraisers, maintenance and housekeeping staff, and cafeteria workers.

One demonstrator, who wished to remain anonymous, complained of various health hazards at Yeshiva University. "They have asbestos in Belfer Hall. People are coming down with cancer...there have been four miscarriages due to asbestos...there are no protective screens at the computer terminals to shield the dangerous rays," the demonstrator said.

Jeffrey Rosengarten, Director of Personnel and Supporting Services, responded to these

claims by saying "it sounds like one of those ridiculous horror stories."

The demonstrator, who has been with YU for nearly twenty years, stated good reasons for the request of anonymity. "We're scared. They'll give us a hard time...the people we work for...I tell the true facts, they won't like it," the person explained.

Mr. Rosengarten asserts that the demonstration did not display a sense of unity among the employees. He said the demonstration merely indicated that contract negotiations are soon to begin. The current contract expires September 30, 1989.

"The ball is starting to roll...it's very typical that some months before contract negotiations, the union starts waking up the people to get them involved," Rosengarten said.

"I think it's good, but I am not surprised," he continued.

Rosengarten addressed the issue raised by the union that people are being hired at higher salaries than those of resident senior employees who have been with YU for a significant period of time.

Defending Yeshiva University's record on the topic, he explained a mutually agreed university/union policy: "Whenever a job becomes available, we post it. If the job pays more, then they [YU employee] could apply for it. They have first crack at the job. Then we open it to the public. Then if we have to pay more in order to fill the vacancy, we will repost that job."

Rosengarten said that often YU employees, who may indeed be qualified, are not interested in the posted positions because they usually entail moving to a different department.

Anna Vasquez, 1199 organizer at YU, said YU has not kept its promises regarding employee wages. Vasquez explained, "The management agreed that they would increase the wages of the old employees, raise their salaries up to the level of the higher salary being offered at that given point...approximately \$2,000 more yearly."

Susan Kacewitz of the Office of Student Finances, and a former delegate to 1199, said, "the only fair thing is for them [YU] to raise us up to the salary of the new employees."

Vasquez noted other issues on

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President Censures Paper

by Behnam Dayanim

YU President Norman Lamm held a special meeting with YC student leaders on Wednesday, March 29, in his office in Furst Hall. While the intent of this second meeting of the school year was not clear, as traditionally Dr. Lamm meets only once with students, the bulk of the session was devoted to his criticism of THE COMMENTATOR in regard to its coverage of YU's Shabbat difficulties.

Present at the meeting, besides Dr. Lamm, were Senior Vice President Israel Miller, Dean of Students Efreim Nulman, COMMENTATOR Editor in Chief Behnam Dayanim, Hamevaser Editor in Chief Robert Klapper, IBC President David Berg, JSS President David Goldberg, SOY President

Jeff Paley, and YCSC Vice President for Business Bruce Taragin. SCW leaders had also been invited, but declined to attend.

At the start of the often contentious session, Dr. Lamm again departed from tradition, reading from a prepared statement. [See accompanying article for synopsis of the statement.]

Saying that he "rarely" comments on items appearing in the student press, he nevertheless has decided to "speak out and to do so forcefully."

Often employing harsh language, Dr. Lamm's two specific points of contention with THE COMMENTATOR's coverage were doubt over the accuracy of its facts and anger over the inappropriateness and extent of the coverage of the TV issue.

While it is permissible for the newspaper to criticize administrators and other areas that are "relatively harmless," he admitted, stories that severely damage YU abroad should not be covered or should be written "responsibly," perhaps even through playing down the problem by dealing with it in general terms and without numbers. "It's important not to give the wrong impression" to those outside YU, he contended.

Dr. Lamm added that there is a halachic prohibition on falsehood, but "I have yet to find a mitzvah to tell the truth."

He also faulted the editor's columns on the issue, claiming that they are easily misunderstood, and appeared to others, though not to him, as if Mr. *Continued on page 12*

Senate Approaches Finish

Showing Marked Improvement

by Barry Kaye

The YCSSSB Uptown Senate unanimously passed a motion to accept a revised draft of its constitution, revised to include SSSB and to make the document more functional. This marked the third motion carried in four meetings this semester, a substantial increase in productivity over last semester.

The success of the Senate is a result of the vigorous leadership of Chairman Dov J. Pinchot and greater cooperation and organization between the students senators. Chairman Pinchot explains, "I wanted to see how efficiently the Senate could function. The individuals who sit on the Senate this semester really desire improvement in the school; by running more organized meetings, we have already tripled our production of last semester." Student Senator Avi Morell feels, "the fact that we could get so much done in so few meetings is a big deal."

The Senate began the semester with a bang, passing two

motions in its very first meeting.

The Senate agreed to send to the faculty both a long and short form of statistical evaluation sheets, "to adopt at its pleasure, for use on a voluntary basis."

These sheets are intended to encourage faculty towards self-evaluation, providing professors with statistically reliable data in order to improve their courses.

The Senate also passed a motion at that meeting asking the deans to make available the syllabi of courses, enabling students to gather information on courses they may be interested in taking. This was carried through by Dean Rosenfeld, and the syllabi are now available in the reserve section of the Pollack Library.

Senate meetings run on Robert's Rules of Order, a complex parliamentary system designed to enhance productivity of organizations. Chairman Pinchot brought a greater emphasis on Robert's Rules to the Senate. "The Senate desper-

ately needed more structure in order to move more business," states Pinchot, "many of the Senators and I studied the rules over winter break; I think the results have far exceeded my expectations."

Student Senator Avram Goldstein agrees: "The Senate has progressed tremendously in improving its own methods of meeting; they are conducted much more efficiently than they did when I first joined the Senate. One key job in the future is to make the Senate more well known to the student body; I expect the Senate's importance to grow greatly in the future."

The productivity of the Senate comes after it received sharp criticism last semester from THE COMMENTATOR. "I was embarrassed by the way people talked about us," explains Pinchot, "I hope the students recognize now that we are an effective forum for their interests to be heard and acted upon."

EDITORIALS

A Tale of Two Centers: Decay and Delay

"Welcome to YU, soon to be home of the sparkling, new Schottenstein Student Center!" So students have long been told upon entering our school.

Walk through the dilapidated confines of the current Student Union, see the failing electrical outlets, the absence of effective heating, the rusty water pipes, and the holes in the walls, and the need for the new building becomes clear.

So, where is it?

Well, it seems the center has been plagued with difficulties, ranging from asbestos to lack of adequate funding. What originally constituted an ambitious project, replete with lounges, offices, theatre and garden, has suffered delay and diminishment.

Now, even next year's starting date for the new theatre, itself lacking in essentials such as adequate backstage and storage spaces, seems threatened.

And plans for the radio station and THE COMMENTATOR have either been neglected or withheld from public knowledge.

The suspicion here is that administration officials are honest when they protest ignorance as to the eventual dates and plans for transition.

Granted, renovations are difficult, yet, for a project as highly touted and important as this, such a display of incompetence brooks no excuse.

To allow students to suffer the constant deprivations of a converted parking garage betrays the low priority given to extracurricular activities. Frankly, the current facility stinks.

This year's graduating class leaves these halls with nothing to show for earlier promises of Schottenstein's completion. Let's avoid a repeat with next year's seniors.

Out of Touch?

THE COMMENTATOR has been harshly and emotionally chastised by the administration for its lack of "journalistic responsibility" in the last few issues.

But the real abrogation of responsibility may rest with higher administration due to its detachment from the realities of student life at YU.

One example of this naivete was the suggestion by a high-ranking administrator that perhaps the reason some MYP students do not attend morning seder is their preference to learn in peace in their dorm rooms. The image of the school is important, but not at the expense of clear, informed knowledge of YU's day-to-day life.

If THE COMMENTATOR must bear the burden of forcing the less appetizing issues into administrators' offices, then so be it; it is one responsibility from which no newspaper should ever shrink.

Frozen Progress

For those of you who remember, the early issues of this year's COMMENTATOR were filled with praise for the Department of Food Services as a result of much-needed improvements in quality and service.

Sadly, however, it seems success breeds complacency. In recent months, several areas under Food Services' aegis have slipped. Food dispensers in Morg lounge have experienced disrepair, menu diversity has ceased to exist, the often-lacking salad bar maintains its exorbitant prices, and functioning change machines are a thing of the past.

To be fair, cafeteria officials argue that students abuse the machines, rendering them inoperable. Further, change machines, they say, are used merely for laundry, not within the purview of Food Services.

Yet that offers no excuse for the menu or the salad bar. And the machines, while they do accept dollar bills, do not take fives, and frequently either run out of change or otherwise steal students' money, leaving victims understandably angry and abusive.

After a well-received needed overhaul from recent years, Food Services apparently is still in need of a little fine tuning.

SPORTS NOTE

Keep Coach Vargas

As the few fans who patronized YU's home volleyball matches well know, the team finished with an inexplicable 0-15 record. Time after time, our volleyballers came away frustrated, with only another defeat to show for their long hours of hard work.

Yet the view here is that Coach Omar Vargas deserves another chance. Let not YU fall victim to the win-at-all-costs attitude so prevalent at other universities. Vargas's players all graduate on time and are extremely well-prepared for life after spiking and setting.

Perhaps YU sports fans can learn a lesson from Seton Hall, where less than two years ago student senators were angrily calling for basketball Coach P.J. Carlesimo's dismissal. But with the athletic department's foresight, the embattled coach turned the program around and led his Pirates to the NCAA championship game last night.

The same thing can happen here, if fans are patient. Omar must stay.

The Commentator

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The Second Annual Commentator PRESIDENTIAL DEBATE

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From the Editor's Desk

by Behnam Dayanim

The guiding credo of the press can best be expressed as the firm belief that dissemination and investigation of the truth ultimately leads to the advancement of the public welfare.

With that in mind, one would think THE COMMENTATOR board would be rejoicing that, for the first time in his thirteen-year tenure, our president has openly acknowledged reports in our pages.

However, I am concerned, not elated. The reason lies in three points raised by Dr. Lamm that indicate a misapprehension, whether deliberate or not, of the role of a student press.

The first deals with his claim that the problem of improper Shabbat observance in the dormitories did not warrant, in terms of numbers, the coverage it received. He objected to what he considered distortions, which indicated that the majority of YU students fall into this category or condone such activity, rather than the "handful" claimed by the administration.

All I can say is nowhere in our articles did we define the numbers of students involved; neither did we 'create the issue,' as some contend. In fact, the problem of TV-watching received a few, brief paragraphs on an inside-page story dealing with Shabbat in general. Not until the administration embarked on its possibly unprecedented (certainly in the last four years) massive campaign of memo-writing and counselor-surveillance did it merit prominent mention.

Just read that front-page story, whose headline credited YU with opposition to TV use, and look for any exaggerations by the writer. You won't find any. Also, no less a personage than Rabbi Blau himself characterized THE COMMENTATOR's previous reporting on the issue as a response "to issues others are also concerned about." Words of praise, indeed, from such a source.

One final note on this topic: when Dr. Lamm proposed the "handful" estimate at the student leaders' meeting last week, it provoked incredulity on the part of almost all those present. Numbers given by those who ventured an approximation averaged significantly higher, though, of course, no one would say a "majority," as a majority of our students do not even stay here for Shabbat.

Dr. Lamm also argued that THE COMMENTATOR's first priority should be the reputation of Yeshiva, which would require that we not cover issues such as these, or, at the very least, convey the problem to the administration and play down the problem in these pages.

If THE COMMENTATOR were to confine itself to those issues that were "relatively harmless," as Dr. Lamm put it, little would ultimately distinguish it from a P.R. device. Our readers, I would hope, have come to rely on the paper for accurate and incisive reporting,

whatever they may think of the opinions expressed on the editorial page or in my personal column.

Undog Pipeline to Top
THE COMMENTATOR aspires to the service of its readership, the students, alumni, and employees of Yeshiva University, and does so through the pursuit of truth, regardless of its short-term consequences.

It is not a student journalist's responsibility to raise a problem privately with an administrator, though it is certainly his prerogative as it is that of any student. That duty belongs squarely on the shoulders of student government, where it is regularly and efficiently exercised.

When a crisis becomes so acute as to warrant attention, whether due to one spectacular occurrence, a dramatic administrative action, or the magnitude of its effect on the institution, then the newspaper steps into the process.

Perhaps one flaw in our system, rightly raised by SOY President Paley at the meeting, is that it takes something like the coverage of the newspaper to unplug the pipeline to the top.

The idea, implied in the tone of President Lamm's remarks, that YU policy lies hostage to public opinion, and that outside factors, rather than internal justifications, can compel and direct administrative actions is reprehensible in any sort of educational institution. To act on the courage of one's principles, wherever they may lead, rather than to be forced toward harshness or leniency, will in the long run attract respect and admiration, as I am sure our president realizes.

Finally, I will respond to a question posed by Rabbi Miller as to why, in this column, I never condemn violations of the Sabbath, instead defending its abusers.

I am not a rabbi; therefore, I deliberately have chosen to avoid rendering halachic judgments, no matter how clear-cut. What I attacked, and still oppose, is the administration's policy toward this group of offenders. Coercion and invasion of privacy are moral and civil infractions, improper to an institution representing a religion of Divine morality to the world.

But, let it be understood, as anyone who knows me well already realizes, I do not "condone" hillul Shabbat anywhere, not just in the dorms; neither, do I condone condemnation of the person, as distinct from the practice. Hillul Shabbat on the part of anyone in our community, wherever it occurs, should be a spiritual concern of all of us and a problem that we should work to eliminate. I differ with some others only over the method of attainment.

When Dr. Lamm, in his statement, justly states that "human beings are capable of embracing both [yeshiva and university] simultaneously without violating the integrity of

Response

Spiritually Speaking

To the Editor:

Matters of fundamental importance to the essential character of Yeshiva have been publicly discussed in recent issues of THE COMMENTATOR. Unfortunately, in the excitement of the moment, inaccurate impressions have been left. Centrist Orthodoxy is no less committed to full Sabbath observance than any other Orthodox group. Even in the Purim spirit, mocking the details of the definition of work on Shabbat is totally unacceptable.

Differences may exist on whether students should be admitted to Yeshiva who are not yet fully Shomer Shabbat, but once admitted all students are expected to function while at Yeshiva, which certainly includes the dormitories, in accordance with halacha.

It is true that the dorm counselors are placed in the unpleasant position of reporting improper behavior. They have to be extremely careful that their actions do not cause a frightened student to shut the TV set which forces them to sometimes appear to be prying. Using the

term "gestapo tactics" reflects the degree that we have been influenced by the degradation of language.

The complexity of our task in integrating two often contradictory educational philosophies and in servicing students with differing priorities should not interfere with acknowledging Yeshiva's clear commitment to halachic observance. Any student who finds this atmosphere oppressive should examine why he chose to attend Yeshiva. Questions about appropriate means of enforcement can only be addressed after we all acknowledge the commitment that underlies the decision made by every student in choosing to attend Yeshiva. It would be tragic if a misguided campaign to justify unacceptable behavior by a small group of students be the cause of preventing young men who are sincerely searching from coming to Yeshiva and be given the opportunity of being exposed to observances both through education and experientially.

Yosef Blau
Mashgiach Ruchani

Literature For Soviet Jews

To the Editor:

I am pleased to again inform you that the newest issue of Istoki (Sources), a Russian language magazine on Jewish religion, traditions, and history for Jews in the Soviet Union is now available.

In addition to material on Passover, the Seder, Shabbat Ha'Gadol, and Sefirat Ha'Ome, there is poetry on Jewish themes, portraits of several personalities, and much more.

Also available now are the Haggadah in Hebrew and Russian, Jewish calendars in Russian, and Rabbi Maurice Lamm's The Jewish Way in Death and Mourning in Russian!

Anyone interested in acquiring copies of any of these publications for delivery to Jews in the Soviet Union can do so from me, at no cost, in Pollack Library.

We have no way of knowing how long this wonderful opportunity to bring Judaism to the Jews of Russia will last. Let us use it well.

Alex Ratnovsky
Chief Editor, Istoki

Borowitz Defended

To the Editor:

I read with surprise certain statements in Avrum Aaron's March 7 article about the YC chemistry department. As a student in Dr. Borowitz's Organic Chemistry course, I would like to call attention to a number of false or misleading points.

First, Mr. Aaron quotes anonymous students to the effect that by relying too heavily on the mean, Dr. Borowitz "sets the students against each other." Anyone who has been in the library on the night before an organic chemistry exam has seen the cooperation which belies this imaginary competition. Anyway, the statistical grading system almost universally used in science courses is applied only loosely by Dr. Borowitz; when there is a high mean, the standard grading scale takes over.

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All In Poor Humor

To the Editor:

THE COMMENTATOR exceeded the bounds of Purim joviality in "A Modest Proposal" (Purim insert, March 1989) which, with little subtlety (even less humor, yet bountiful vulgarity) mocks the intricacies of the laws of Shabbat observance.

Although THE COMMENTATOR has never explicitly condoned the violation of Shabbat, it is implicit in the editor's recent columns that Shabbat violation in private is defensible because some students are still "exploring their religion." Such a position is untenable in our Yeshiva University community; Yeshiva acknowledges that some students are still "searching," but it expects all students to observe the basic tenets of Judaism. The fact that an article belittling the importance of strict halachic practice (Purim "spirit" notwithstanding) appears in this year's COMMENTATOR is not particularly surprising. (Furthermore, a review of back issues of Purim COMMENTATORS reveals no similar halachabashing articles).

It is unfortunate that many YU students, many of whom consider themselves "Orthodox," believe in some sort of hierarchy of halachic practice: perhaps they perceive Yom Kippur prohibitions as much more serious than leaving televisions on over Shabbat or of eating dairy "out." Such a belief

either one," in this case at least, he preaches to the already converted.

But what he here asks us to do is to violate that integrity. I am sure, upon reflection, he will understand that I, for one, cannot.

is not only erroneous but anti-theological to Orthodoxy. A rosh yeshiva's recent comment comes to mind: "There is no maximal halacha and no minimal halacha; there is halacha. Anything more is "Bal Tosif" and anything less is "Bal Tigrá."

Even from a moral standpoint the article is question is reprehensible. A member of the COMMENTATOR governing board recently told me that THE COMMENTATOR does not print articles which contain expletives or other universally-offensive material. However, as the official undergraduate newspaper of Yeshiva College, THE COMMENTATOR must have even higher standards: It should be sensitive enough to not print religiously offensive material.

Unfortunately, our newspaper has sacrificed for the ideals of journalism and free press. If you're not convinced, see the Dec. 20, 1988, "From the Editor's Desk" where the editor, discussing sensitivity, claims that a "journalist, must by definition distrust authority" and proceeds to implicitly include halachic authority.

THE COMMENTATOR's primary objective should be to help the growth of our Yeshiva University community by fostering thoughtful discussion on important news issues; it should not pollute the atmosphere in the process.

Jeff Paley
President, SOY
[ED. Several points: Regarding the Purim piece to which Mr. Paley refers, while THE COMMENTATOR will not comment on someone's sense of humor or lack of, please see THE FABRICATOR (COMMENTATOR 1987), page 5, "Thou Shalt be Pure," or Hamehaveser (Hamehaveser 1987), "God is Dead" for similar articles of the nature Mr. Paley describes. "Thou Shalt be Pure"

fits his description more closely, but the Hamehaveser example illustrates that personal editorial opinion does not necessarily translate into Purim satire. Also, if still unconvinced, read Jonathan Swift's original "Modest Proposal" and then attack him for advocacy of cannibalism.]

CAMPUS NEWS

Lounge Improvements Approaching Reality

by Alex Wittenberg

The long-awaited renovation of Yeshiva College's dormitory lounges moved closer to reality as students and administration involved with the project held their first substantive meeting on March 6, followed by a second, dealing with specific proposals, on March 28.

Representing the students were YCSC Resident Council Chairman David Speiser, Council Lounge subcommittee co-chairman Doron Spierer, Council Lounge subcommittee co-chairman Ray Barishansky, Ari Levitan, and YCSC President Mordi Leifer. Dean of Students Efreim Nulman, Jeffrey Chaitoff, assistant to the dean, and Supporting Services Director Jeffrey Rosengarten represented the college.

The first meeting, held in a friendly, informal manner, revolved around recommendations by the Resident Council in response to its extensive survey of the students. The council found that 65% of the students in Rubin Hall and 46% in Morgenstern Dorm gave the acquisition of a community television set high priority, and advised that sets be placed in Morg lounge, Klein Hall, and the basement lounge in Rubin. The survey also indicated that students in all three dormitories wanted new or better sofas and chairs, especially in Morg, where all surveyed included this option. Accordingly, the council wishes to refurbish Morg lounge and fourth and fifth floor study rooms in Morg.

At the second meeting, Jeff Rosengarten displayed a blueprint drawn up by a Great Neck-

based design firm for Morg lounge improvements, this time before an audience which included Rabbi Joshua Cheifetz, director of residence halls.

Among specific proposals put forth was a plan to divide the lounge into an eating/studying area, a television room, and a partially furnished lounge. While specific details remain unresolved, all agreed on such a

division, to be accomplished with mobile partitions and planters.

The question of engagement parties arose once again. All four student representatives agreed that Morg lounge is an inappropriate location for the parties. Mr. Rosengarten, however, voiced his objection to relocating the parties to Weissberg Commons, citing scheduling difficulties and cost. The Commons, he noted, have become Yeshiva's preferred site for official university functions, so its availability would be limited.

As no final solution to the problem has been found, the plans for the lounge will continue to include consideration of the parties.

By the close of the March 28 meeting, the blueprint had undergone several changes, and Mr. Rosengarten indicated that he will resubmit the plans to the consultant. He added that the possible choices of furnishings will be considered soon.

Another major recommendation, raised at the first session, involves Muss 262, a former classroom and film studio now used as a storage room. The

council believes that because of its size, hard wood walls, and location, it would be an ideal lounge for a dormitory currently without facilities. It would not have a TV, reflecting the low number of surveyed students expressing interest in one. In addition, a set in this location would disturb residents. Mr. Spierer, a former resident of Muss, advises a set be placed in Klein Hall, away from dorm rooms but present to attract other students to the isolated building.

Other ideas put forward by the council include photocopy machines in Morg lounge, Klein Hall, and the MSAC lounge, postage stamp machines in the lounges, vending machines in Klein hall, and sports-oriented cable channels on the televisions. A glass partition of some sort was recommended for the Rubin basement lounge, and the fourth and fifth floor lounges would be left as study halls.

After Mr. Spierer submitted his proposals, the participants began a broad discussion about specifics. Much of the exchange at the first meeting had dealt with Morg lounge. Everyone agreed with Jeffrey Rosengarten's assessment of the lounge as a big embarrassment to student and administrator alike.

When Ray Barishansky noted that the fourth and fifth floor lounges in Morg will be study halls, Dean Nulman stated that a Morg lounge study hall might be necessary if dorm overcrowding forces the school to convert the other halls into rooms.

These plans, as well as all others, will be submitted for student approval.

Maariv Editor Describes New Program

by David Firestone

On Monday, March 13, the Israel Affairs Committee presented an informative speech given by Avi Rotem regarding Keshet '89, a program sponsored by the World Zionist Organization. Mr. Rotem is the Shaliach Aliyah at the Israel Aliyah Center and the Senior News Editor of Maariv, a daily Israeli newspaper.

"Keshet '89 is a project created by the World Zionist Organization for Israel Program returnees. The purpose of this program is to strengthen the ties between people who have participated in a program in Israel with the country today," Mr. Rotem said.

Those on this program will depart for Israel on May 30 and 31. This program will include meetings with Israel's President Chaim Herzog and Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, as well as extensive tours throughout Israel. It begins on the evening of June 1, Yom Yerushalayim. Participants will be staying at the Hyatt Hotel for one week and will be provided with home

hospitality for Shavuot. For those people that studied in yeshivot in Israel, a special "Tikun Leil Shavuot Weekend" has been arranged in several yeshivot for the benefit of those who are interested. The cost of the program is \$899, which



Shaliach Avi Rotem includes all meals, air fare, and hotel.

"Programs such as Keshet '89 exist because Israel needs foreign money and resources. We hope that such a program as this will at least encourage people to invest money in Israel," said Rotem. "Surprisingly only

twenty percent of Jews visit Israel. I don't push people to make aliyah; that is not my approach, but you should know that living in Israel isn't nearly as hard as you might think. There's a wide range of job opportunities in Israel; there's a special low mortgage rate for 'olim', newcomers, ...there's as many things to do in Israel as in America."

Rotem concluded, "Now it's more important than ever to invest money in Israel because our enemies are getting stronger. Syria has been receiving military aid from the Soviet Union for quite some time. The Arabs have the public's sympathy due to the conflict in the occupied territories. The PLO is getting more recognition than ever before. They're also receiving a lot of money from wealthy Arabs in the United States. To make things worse, AIPAC [American Israel Policy Action Committee] doesn't have the influence and power it used to have mainly due to the fact that it lacks unity. The bottom line is that if we want Israel to stand strong, we have to invest in it."

Purim Party Maintains Popularity

by Mark Gottlieb

Monday evening, March 20, saw the return of a perennially popular Yeshiva tradition to the campus precincts. The annual SOY Purim Chagiga once again drew crowds of celebrants into the Beit Midrash for an evening of inspired song and dance.

The Neshoma Orchestra provided the musical setting for the unfettered expression of festive joy. The band played into the early morning hours, while refreshments were continuously served in an adjacent room, rejuvenating the masses exhausted from frenzied activity.

Much of the diverse student body, as well as roshei yeshiva and faculty, attended the event.

Junior Yitz Ariel commented, "The Yeshiva should sponsor similar events such as melava malkot, chagigot, etc. that would bring about a heightened feeling of unity."

The climax of the chagiga was the elaborate Purim shpiel, a parody of life at Yeshiva University. The rapier-like wit of the players spared no one; striking at those of both the right and left while even indulging in a bit of affectionate self-mockery.

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Executive Vice President - McGraw Hill
"An Observant Jew in the Cooperate World—
A view From the Top"
8:00 p.m. - Belfer hall 411
(van 6:00 p.m. & 7 p.m. - Brookdale Hall)

Wed. April 12, 1989

On Campus Recruiting
Workshop for Juniors
7:00 p.m. - Orange Lounge

Wed. May 3, 1989

Job satisfaction
"How to succeed and Be Happy on the Job"
2:40 - 3:35 p.m. Club Hour rm. 418

Date Of Schotty's Opening Remains Clouded

by Bruce Schanzer

In the October 25, 1988, issue of THE COMMENTATOR, YU Vice President of Business Affairs Sheldon Socol is quoted as saying that "I am quite sure that the theatre will be open by September." In a recent meeting with this reporter, however, Dr. Socol adjusted that date to "sometime during the fall semester," reassuring the students that the theatre will be ready in time for the fall production.

The projected dates for completion of the later phases of construction, such as the WYUR studio, offices of THE COMMENTATOR and student government, and various student activity areas, are as yet undetermined. However, Dr. Socol did indicate that these latter phases are fairly simple and should not take very long.

One potential snag in plans for the dramatics society was raised by its artistic director and faculty advisor, Dr. Anthony

Beukas. Upon hearing of the latest delay in opening, Dr. Beukas cautioned that he would need the new theatre completed "at least one month before the show opens" in order to produce it in that venue, on condition that sufficient rehearsal space is provided in the interim. If those two needs cannot be met, a show in the new theatre would not be possible, he said.

Jeffrey Rosengarten, Director of Support Services and Personnel, explained the administration's inability to project a definite date for the building's completion. "It's crucial when redoing a building to plan for the unknown," he stated. "It's contingent on funds, funds, funds."

Mr. Rosengarten delineated how many unforeseeable glitches consume large chunks of the budget, creating a situation where "we don't know when we'll finish, until we have finished."

Another possible difficulty in

the transition from the current facility to the new center arises in the planned completion of Schottenstein in phases, with the old student union returning to its previous status as a two-story parking garage during the summer.

Assuming that this happens, WYUR and the newspaper will need temporary homes. Dr. Socol, attempting to ease the uncertain situation, commented "This isn't a controversial issue, the transition shouldn't be an issue of concern, and if necessary it will be discussed" with those involved.

Mr. Rosengarten described the move as "a game of dominoes—we'll move the Belz school to Schottenstein and the radio to the old site of the Belz school...we will consult the students... there is an outside chance that we will move them directly to Schottenstein."

Jeff Sarasohn, WYUR station manager, said that he has

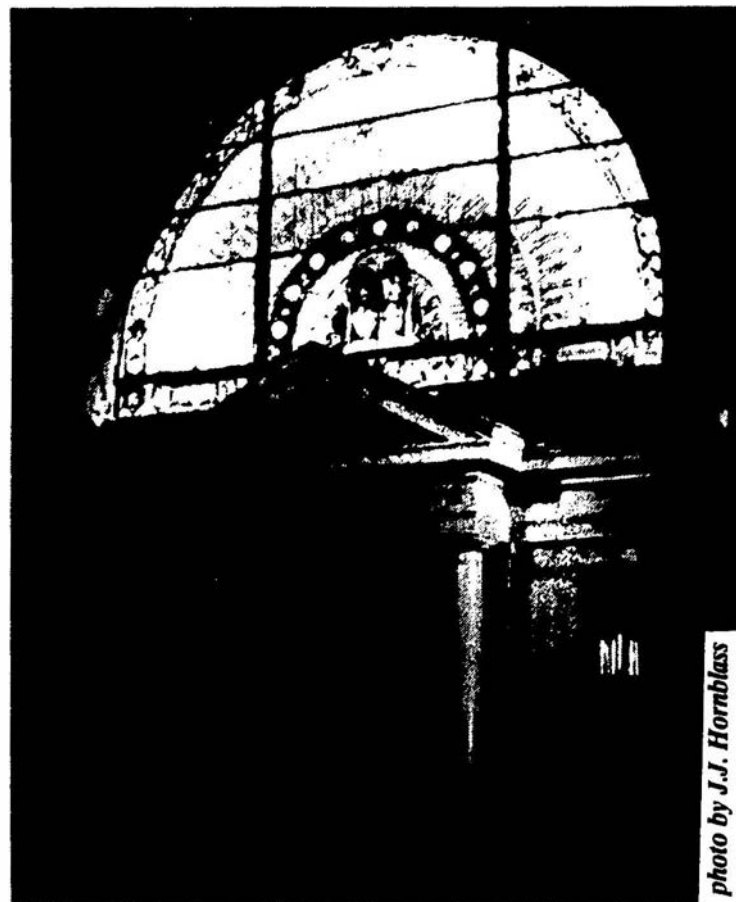


photo by J.J. Hornbliss

View of renovated Schottenstein shul

no knowledge of a plan to move WYUR to Belz is being considered, "I don't mind the move, but I don't know why I wasn't contacted."

Mr. Dayanim expressed fears that the newspaper will be neglected. "We need an office sufficient for layout and a darkroom. With dorm crowding, which took away a needed work area editors traditionally could count on, and our recent expansion to a bi-weekly, we really need the space."

The executives of the Yeshiva

College Dramatics Society, on the other hand, seem fairly enthusiastic about the move. Dr. Beukas explained "It will be perfect for our 25th, silver anniversary, although I am disappointed that we couldn't perform there [at Schottenstein] this year, as we had geared our shows for our new home."

Rick Siegel, president of YCDS, continued, "Although the old theatre has a certain charm, this will be an improvement over our current 'renovated garage.'"

Brandeis Scholar Lectures On Maimonides

by Andrew Goldsmith

Professor Marvin Fox, director of the Lown School of Near Eastern and Judaic Studies of Brandeis University, addressed a group of students at YU on Wednesday night, March 8. Professor Fox spoke as part of the continuing lecture series on Torah U'Mada, sponsored by the Torah U'Mada Project and the Educator's Council of America. Professor Fox dealt with the topic of "Reason and its Limit in the Thought of Maimonides."

"Torah and general learning are not enemies," Professor Fox said, "but rather Torah itself is

enhanced and enriched when it absorbs and appropriately uses what it can learn from the disciplines of the world." Professor Fox gave background information on Maimonides saying the "he was a figure for whom secular learning was not incidental nor passive, but deliberate."

Professor Fox then went on to explain why reason reaches a limit in the thinking of Maimonides, citing examples from his writings. His main point was that God is beyond reason, and Maimonides did not use reason to prove God's existence.

Student Mark Gottlieb commented that "his style was

pleasant, and he presented basic things with some interesting twists that I find slightly disturbing, particularly in his approach to ethics in obligations towards gentiles." Lawrence Burian, also a YC student, said "it was thought provoking and it was a shame that there were not more people here to enjoy it."

Mr. Burian was referring to the poor attendance at the lecture, which was held in Weissberg Commons and for which 300 seats had been set. Professor Fox was substituting for Lord Immanuel Jakobovits, who could not present his lecture due to illness.

Campaign Rules Outlined

by Jonathan Wernick

Beginning March 22, students showing interest in running for a student government office were provided with detailed guidelines of campaign regulations by which to comply. The information described rulings that "satisfy constitutional requirements and ensure a fair campaign for all." According to Jeff Sarasohn, the appointed chairman of the canvassing committee, the rules are not new, but "we wrote them all down to avoid misunderstanding."

Among the rulings potential candidates received was the stipulation concerning legible signatures on one's petition. Further enactments described that student signatures must

come from designated voting constituents and a March 30 deadline to turn in petitions. Upon verification of signatures and class status, the Dean of Students office then screens each candidate for eligibility. After the passage through bureaucratic channels, candidates receive notification of qualification from the canvassing committee.

Once a candidate receives approbation, he may commence campaigning. Nevertheless, the committee warns not to "assume your own interpretation of the rules." They are open to field questions and clarify any ambiguities. Failure to follow constitutional guidelines could result in a "maximum dismissal from elections."

Curriculum Changes For JSS?

by Michael Eisenberg

Rabbi Israel Miller called a meeting for Taanis Esther to discuss possible changes in the JSS curriculum. Rabbi Yudin, the director of JSS, cancelled the meeting and it was rescheduled for a later date. Rabbi Miller stressed that this meeting was not of an emergency nature; the administration periodically examines its schools to make sure they are educating the students in the best way possible. He stated "the students now attending the JSS program are different than the past students. Initially, it was composed pri-

marily of people with minimal background, but now there are students who have gone to Yeshiva day schools and for one reason or another are not in MYP or IBC."

A second item on the agenda was discussion of how they would replace Rabbi Wruble who is going back to Israel after this year.

Dr. Leo Landesman stated, "It's not easy to replace a man like Rabbi Wruble. He gave so much of himself by staying in Yeshiva for shabbos and running the minyanim."

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YCDS' "Boys" To Close Theatre

by Behnam Dayanim

Next week YCDS will conclude what appears to be its final season within the nostalgic confines of the present YCDS Studio Theatre, with its production of the Tom Griffin tragi-comedy "The Boys Next Door."

The play focuses on the daily follies and foibles of four roommates with mental disabilities and their relationships with their case worker.

The script delves beyond humor, however, as it explores the deeper frustrations of four young men unable to completely comprehend a world that chooses not to understand them.

Stage Manager Alan Ronkin identified the "extremely complex script, containing both simplicity and deep meanings, and the interactions of characters on different planes" as a uniquely endearing quality of the play.

Artistic Director and Faculty Advisor Dr. Anthony Beukas advises that, in order to best appreciate the play, the audience "look for how consistent the actors are in the characters they created and how concentrated they are in staying in them while having a variety of emotions."

Each major character has his "moment," he notes, his scene of inner exposure to the audience.

Dr. Beukas cites as an example of a one-dimensional portrayal, Dustin Hoffman in "Rain Man." He "stayed on one note, clicked into one level," the dramatics professor disapprovingly stated, commenting that while his performance may have merited Mr. Hoffman an Oscar nomination, he should not have won the award.

The most difficult aspect of the play, Dr. Beukas says, was the revision of the script to exclude the role of "Sheila," since changed to "Sam" and played by junior Ray Barishansky. There is "a very important element missing by not having that woman in there," he admits, and "it was formidable making it make sense" without her.

Another complication arose with "the complexity of staying in character playing somebody with a mental deficiency. I underestimated the sense of depression that one feels about working with somebody who's not a real person. The sadness affected the cast," Dr. Beukas added.

When compounded with the unanticipated rate of cast turnover, the situation grew even more precarious. The cast changes, at the rate of one major character shift every two weeks, Dr. Beukas claims, "started to unbalance relationships" among the actors and the characters they portray, originally chosen precisely for their potential to "match" with each other in this particularly delicate play. At one point, it seemed "with every one step forward, they took two

steps back," as actors resigned for reasons as disparate as illness, administrative error and academics.

The most recent replacement occurred just over two weeks ago, with YCDS veteran Judah Rosenstein stepping in to a 'gypsy' — theatrical parlance for supernumerary — role, replacing Moshe Richter who moved up to a larger part.

The five major characters include "Arnold," a high-strung, active, constantly complaining fellow played by junior Howard Pries; the lovable 'donut-ophile' "Norman," who seems to possess an umbilical attachment to a sizable set of keys, portrayed by senior Michael Ungar; "Jack," the tortured, tired social worker, rendered by senior Simcha Dauer; "Lucien," the least intelligent of the four roommates, returning senior Jon Lewin to the stage after a substantial role in last semester's "The Dresser;" and "Barry," the

deceptively normal golf addict, played by junior Moshe Richter.

Of the three true leading characters in this predominantly ensemble cast, two have served as gypsies in last year's "The Elephant Man," and one, Mr. Dauer, is a newcomer to the YCDS stage.

Perhaps an indication of the depth of quality of this cast arises in Dr. Beukas's wry assessment that "the supernumeraries, the gypsies, are taking the show away from the leads," noting that "it's usually the other way around."

For the sound in the show, Dr. Beukas employed an unusual concept, "introducing a poetic theme that has been translated musically into theme music." Dr. Beukas developed the technique in "Flowers for Algernon" for a student in the play, Adam Charnoff, who the director describes as "the second or third greatest actor on the YCDS stage" and to whom the

sound for this play is dedicated.

In addition, Dr. Beukas has created an entirely new scene that he calls "sheerly directorial" to conclude the show. The old final scene transpires on an upper platform in the back, so he devised a "better tag" that would occur in the primary area of the stage, its center. Expanding upon the already-interwoven music, Dr. Beukas has concocted a visual, aural, almost cinematic emphasis that closes perfectly a play that depends so heavily on the energy of its actors and the efficacy of its soundtrack.

It seems somehow appropriate that YCDS closes its theatre with a play that evokes memories of the past while displaying energy for the future.

Dr. Beukas leaned back in his chair, fondly enumerating the many achievements his theatre has witnessed. When asked to recall some of his favorites, he rattled off a half-dozen plays,

not including comedies. Forced to confine his answers to the very best, he chose 1970s actor Steve Passer as "still number one, a very special dramatic actor," and cited Hy Pomerance's portrayal of "the Cat" in "Pinocchio" as the "only performance of comedy and character that had me so mesmerized that I had to just sit in the audience and watch on closing night."

Nevertheless, the instructor appears to have maintained his perspective, recognizing that "you're only as good as your last show" and stressing the society's focus on "the academic concept; we don't gear the shows for commercial success."

In discussing his first exposure to "The Boys Next Door," Dr. Beukas recalls that he "was moved and filled with a great deal of warmth and sadness, and I hope that my production of the show will leave the audience with those exact three emotions."



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YU Press Serves Truth or Peace?

by A. Jeff Ifrah

A new COMMENTATOR governing board will shortly be ushered in as the year for Editor-in-Chief Behnam Dayanim and fellow senior board members comes to a close. The year has been full of controversy for Mr. Dayanim's COMMENTATOR. His own personal columns have met with much opposition, and his choice to spotlight certain controversial areas of Yeshiva have been questioned.

Are there halachic grounds that one could bring against THE COMMENTATOR? Certainly, many MYP rebbeim believe so; they cite lashon harah [malicious gossip], motzi shem rah [spreading a bad reputation], and rechilot [slander] to name a few. But none have come forward to actually establish criteria for Jewish journalistic ethics.

In an SOY-sponsored shabbaton held here at YU several months ago, Rabbi Reichman, an MYP Talmud professor, spoke on this very topic. He pointed out how it seems laws pertaining to guarding one's tongue are shelved when it comes to journalism. Generally, the only time one can speak of others is constructively or "to'elet," in the language of halacha. What lends itself to "to'elet" within halacha?

Rabbi Reichman responds by explaining the several applications of journalism... "It's an educational tool and also an informative tool. When we deal with education, journalism today can be a very important medium, that's certainly "to'elet." The other dimension, the informative tool or even the area of expose, is where you get into the problems because we in Judaism do not always believe the truth needs to be exposed in all places. We have a broad idea of certain truths being expressed only in a "beit din" (Jewish court).

"For example, if you don't like someone, it's better not to tell them, so too criticism [of other kind]...if the criticism is destructive, halacha may not warrant it, even though it may be the truth. Truth is a very important value, but it's not the ultimate value."

The rabbi then returned to the ultimatum — shalom, peace. "Peace has a higher value than truth," Rabbi Reichman asserts. "The gemara says specifically, 'in order to maintain peace you can change the truth.'" He maintains that truth is very important but at times when it does not necessarily have to be revealed, it should not be. At times when it has to be changed it may be in order to create peace.

But to Mr. Dayanim, one way students' grievances may be solved is to put them into print. He defends this maxim with many success stories that were borne out of controversial stories. "The Shabbat controversy is a good example because people are talking about the issues being raised— that's a success. The spotlights on the senate and lounge situations have already created results."

Mr. Dayanim makes a good point of highlighting the importance of the paper vis a vis the airing of students' grievances. What else can we offer?

Rabbi Reichman responds, "If we argue that the newspaper (on certain issues) is not the right medium, than there has to be another medium for students to voice grievances and get Yeshiva to deal with them. I think everybody would agree with this. There has to be a method to deal with grievances, such as the student senate, guidance offices, etc."

The weight of the paper accomplishes, many argue, much more. But Rabbi Reichman has a problem with the paper's advocacy within the medium. When advocating certain issues Mr. Dayanim's views

obviously clash with already established goals of his immediate surroundings. While Mr. Dayanim has his right to express his own opinion, Rabbi Reichman asks whether or not it should be expressed when by doing so the goals and philosophies of other administrators at Yeshiva are impaired.

Mr. Dayanim acknowledges that his opinions and even news coverage may raise eyebrows, but that is what journalism is all about. He adds, "The paper is the only newspaper in Yeshiva College, and its purpose is to report and uncover what's there. It's investigative journalism to a large degree—I'm sure it's been condemned for writing about things that one 'shouldn't write about,' but that's the job of the journalist. If people don't like it they shouldn't have a newspaper, and they made that decision way, way back, so you deal with it on that level."

Rabbi Reichman advocates the individual's right of expression, but not where it is placed higher in importance than that of others. "In that case the media has to be weighed, in the halachic criteria, as peace overrides truth. There are other needs, too, such as the 'need of a group over the need of the individual.' That's [sic] the kind of considerations that go in to becoming an advocate of a certain case."

So, the rabbi would agree there are pluses and minuses of criticizing the academic department. For example, the students do need to know where's "the best deal" in education; yet nevertheless, there are problems of lashon harah and motzi shem rah.

Rabbi Reichman explains, "There is a right of a person to his personal privacy and prestige, because lashon harah also deals with prestige. On the other hand, you're dealing with the possible benefit for the public-at-large who want to know the value of a certain service."

But the thrust of the criticism circles around Mr. Dayanim's "From the Editor's Desk." Here, once again, arises a clash of values—a machloket [dispute] created. Whereas some see THE COMMENTATOR as possibly a tool for peace, some see it becoming a tool for controversy. Rabbi Reichman agrees, "It seems there's a lot of strife surrounding the paper in recent times, instead of being a vehicle for good goals, it has become a center of strife. When that happens you really have to question [THE COMMENTATOR] within a religious framework." The rabbi doesn't really even understand the need for such aggression. He understands that the first instigator is eager to start the fight but may not be ready for the war, and because of this the rabbi feels THE COMMENTATOR won't be successful in attaining its desired results.

Mr. Dayanim responds, "Issues are very ephemeral in nature around YC. People have a very short attention span and, especially since the paper comes out every two weeks, each issue is a self-contained unit. Very few transitions from one issue to the other are ever made."

Some have decided to show their disapproval through verbal attacks on Mr. Dayanim. Rabbi Reichman certainly disapproves of this type of action and claims the problem lies not with the individual, for they come and go, but with "his defining the proper role of the newspaper at Yeshiva University," says Rabbi Reichman.

Does this question lie within the many ambiguities left undefined within YU, including the university's slogan? The rabbi responds, "This has always been an issue. If YU would have a clear definition of itself, it would either appeal [to students] or not, but the fact that it's not self-definitive opens itself up to these problems."

According to Rabbi Reichman, both THE COMMENTATOR and Hamevasar are following the general course of journalistic ethics, with less emphasis on the sensational, that has continuously been developing since the Vietnam War and which was later further nurtured by Watergate. In this light the newspaper has become the ultimate court— or the "Court of the Last Resort" as the rabbi refers to it. "But in halacha only the beit din can hear such grievances, or terrible injustices. Maybe there should be a beit din for real injustices, as there is a student court for [problems concerning] student life."

Finally, the rabbi concludes, "it requires a lot of wisdom to know what kind of issues and when should we use such a powerful tool of destruction. It's more important to have a tranquil, serene, united population than to have one full with disapproval. The newspaper, by expressing things in a public way, can push one or the other positions upon the society. Negotiations among friends, (however) are much better than war among enemies." A lot of food for thought for next year's governing board.

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YCSC ELECTIONS: CANDIDATES ON CAMPAIGN TRAIL

Saul Kaszovitz—"What other candidate can claim...comparable experience?"

by Elisha Tropper

Sitting atop the bleachers of the Max Stern Athletic Center, YCSC Presidential hopeful Saul Kaszovitz reflected upon his candidacy as the Yeshiva volleyball team tangled with the squad from Baruch. Preparing himself for a rigorous campaign, Mr. Kaszovitz, a junior from Far Rockaway, began by discussing the ideal role, within the context of a university, that a student council should assume.

"The student council has to do more than just arrange social functions. It has to act as the bridge that connects the often opposing views of the students and the administration," maintained Mr. Kaszovitz. "The individual students' needs would remain its top priority at all times — listening to every student's pleas and not hiding behind the grandeur of the title."

"All too often, people run for the impressive resume and a nice dorm room, but that is precisely the attitude that leads to a stagnant student council. As president, I am certain that I can bypass such selfish reasons."

Mr. Kaszovitz stood up and began to pace the top level of the stands, his tone rising as he began to define the relevant

issues to the YCSC presidential campaign.

"I feel that the number one issue is the complete and utter apathy that exists on campus. This can only be turned around by enhancing the life of every student. That can only begin with the beautification of the student's surroundings. Most notably, we must drastically improve the decor of the campus, starting with the Morg and Rubin lounges."

Mr. Kaszovitz paused a moment, sat down, and leaned forward as he continued. "A lounge does not mean merely a place to sit, but a place to relax as well. That means not only one or two new couches, but a complete revamping, including a permanent TV and VCR. Also, the dorm is more than just a place to relax, but a place for studies as well. The present facilities available for studying are far too noisy and un conducive to the proper concentration needed. It is imperative that a study hall is allocated from the hordes of vacant rooms filling our campus."

Mr. Kaszovitz then sounded what might very well function as his campaign's battle cry, "By

solving the everpresent dilemma of the aforementioned lack of school spirit, only then can we proceed to approach the other issues affecting the YU students."

Before dropping the subject of

stein Center (the long-awaited new Student Union building). Why is it taking so long? What are all the delays? The time has come for the students to raise their voices."

Shifting gears, Mr. Kaszovitz,



Candidate Saul Kaszovitz relaxes by Danziger Quad.

the campaign's issues, Mr. Kaszovitz made sure to emphasize what he sees as another primary issue. "The student council must get on the administration's backs and find out exactly what is going on with the Schotten-

stein Center, who hopes to pursue a career in law, elaborated upon his qualifications for the presidency, and explained why he saw himself as the best choice.

"Being a student leader requires a lot more than the

ability to organize events — it requires extensive leadership qualities. I feel that my past record shows that I am the most qualified candidate in terms of representing the students and dealing with the administration.

"I was president of the Yeshiva University High School (MTA) Student Council, representing a student body of over five hundred. I then proceeded to be the YU representative in Eretz Yisrael, where I spent the year learning in Beit Midrash l'Torah. After returning to Yeshiva, I quickly reentered the mainstream of student life by being elected treasurer of [Joseph P. Dunner] Political Science Society and commissioner of YU Intramural Hockey Officiating. I wrote regularly for THE COMMENTATOR, and I am also the captain of an intramural hockey team. As treasurer of the highly active Political Science Society, I have helped arrange numerous activities — as so many students have noticed — including the University of Pennsylvania Model United Nations.

"I am the only candidate who is sensitive to both the Yeshiva Program and IBC-JSS issues, as I have been a student in both of the Jewish studies divisions.

"My track record, as I have shown, is strong in the organization of activities and, more importantly, in leadership qualities. I mean, what other candidate can claim a comparable experience to being the president of a student council serving over five hundred students?"

Barry Kaye—"Responding to the Needs of a Constituency"

by Mitchell Waxman

Barry Kaye, YCSC presidential hopeful, wants "to astonish YU with innovation." The Long Islander's active involvement in student affairs over the past two years drives his vision of what YU students can do for their university.

Kaye brings a wide range of experience to his candidacy. As a senior board member of THE COMMENTATOR, Kaye works to keep his finger on the pulse of the student body. He explains: "Virtually every issue that occurs on campus, faces the school paper, and requires discerning analysis, synthesizing the many distinct student viewpoints. I've also learned to grapple with the faculty's interests when they differ from those of the students." Upon returning

from a year in Israel, spent at Yeshivat Hamivtar (Brovender's), an experience he hopes to return to before entering med school, Kaye pursued involvement in areas of the school that he thought he could make a

contribution. He briefly mentioned to me his work on last year's Poli-Sci Journal, improving the financial management to facilitate publication. Similarly, this year he re-organized the Chess Tournament, a formerly



Candidate Barry Kaye caught by the camera on his way from Belfer Hall.

The Other Executive Board Hopefuls in Their Own Words

As part of our YCSC election coverage, COMMENTATOR reporter Dovvy Prince asked the following two questions to candidates for YCSC Executive Board offices. For in-depth looks at our two presidential contenders, see accompanying profiles.

1. Why should people vote for

you?
2. Specific goal you hope to accomplish should you be elected to your desired position?

YCSC VICE PRESIDENT FOR LIBERAL ARTS

Joel Lieberman

1) "My main platform is student service...my whole theme is

revolving around making the student more comfortable. There's a lot of room for improvement."

2) "I'd like to initiate a food program in which a fee is paid at the beginning of the year as part of tuition and once that's paid the student won't have to pay for cafeteria meals."

annual event that had been neglected in recent years.

The poli-sci major has also worked on behalf of Jewish interests on and off campus. Last spring semester Kaye interned in U.S. Senator Moynihan's office under Dr. David Luchins, special assistant on Jewish affairs. He was also the campus representative of Presidential hopeful, Senator Al Gore, initiating publicity for Gore's campaign and working in the election headquarters in N.Y. According to Kaye, "these experiences taught me a tremendous amount about responding to the needs of a constituency."

For Barry the candidacy is not just talk; he has a specific agenda, beyond the obvious need to remodel Morg Lounge.

"I think the University has plenty of room to expand upon the present social activities without facing Halachic conflicts. One idea is for the University to get big name speakers, that are relevant and of interest to the students. And set up

receptions after the lecture for the students to interact with each other and the speaker, similar to the one's commonly held for faculty in Dr. Lamm's office before Torah U'Mada lectures, thereby enhancing things socially and intellectually. Providing extra van service to and from Stern is a must to encourage participation.

Or a 'Spring Fest'; diverse activities from Thursday till Sunday including sporting events, workshops presented by different YU societies like Poli-Sci and SSSJ, coinciding with the Dramatic society play, a carnival for Jewish handicapped and culminating with a shabbaton featuring a special rabbinic host such as Rabbi Riskin.

In essence, offering something for everyone."

Kaye is excited about the prospect of heading YCSC in the coming year and hopes the election results will give him the opportunity to actualize his ambitious innovations.

Geoffrey Miller

1) "Having worked on committees and done work/study in an administrative office I've been able to see the workings of Yeshiva from the student's standpoint as well as the administrator's."

2) "Currently, I am working on a food services survey the results of which will be turned into the managers of the cafeteria and the Vice President of Business Affairs with hopes of implementing a meal plan as soon as

next."

YCSC V.P.- BUSINESS

(PRES., SSSBSA)

Gad Dishi

Unavailable for comment, as he was away for YU Seminar.

Kenny Polinsky

1) "Right now SSSB, still in its maturity and growth stages, needs stability. I feel I can provide the stable and effective leadership that's needed while

Continued on page 10

ACADEMIC DEPARTMENTS: THE FINAL INSTALLMENT

Sociology, victim of administration's neglect?

by Jonathan Greenblatt

The purpose of sociology as explained by Dr. Jacob Lindenthal, professor of sociology at YC is, "to give people a proper grounding in theories and concepts associated with society in its static and dynamic forms." Dr. Marilyn Schneider, another professor at YC, adds, "through understanding and studying the interactions between individuals and organizations as well as their impact on society, one can better society."

What are the possible uses of a degree in sociology? Both Dr. Schneider and Dr. Lindenthal maintain that, "you can do almost anything with a sociology major. It doesn't limit you to any particular field." Dr. Schneider goes on to say that, "Many jobs are available for the sociology major; among them: urban sociology, demography, or criminology. Also, sociology helps pre-meds as medicine becomes more and more humanistic."

In addition, a solid background in sociology can come in handy for a public relations job and especially for lawyers.

Finally, if one chooses, one can pursue a master's degree in sociology in order to do research or to teach.

Despite the aforementioned advantages of sociology, the discipline remains unpopular with Yeshiva College students. Out of the 180 students graduating this year, only two are sociology majors. Dean Rosenfeld attributed this extremely low percentage to the growing popularity of other courses in Yeshiva College. "A lot of liberal arts courses have suffered due to the students' interest in the career-oriented majors."

Dr. Lindenthal, however, explains the unpopularity of sociology from a different perspective. He says that, "Students are very intelligent and only respond to good teachers. They will not take courses which aren't given by good teachers." In his view, the administration should hire more good teachers for the sociology department, thereby attracting more students.

All students interviewed responded positively, for the

most part, to the department and its professors. "Dr. Schneider's class is both interesting and informative," said one student; another asserted, "Dr. Lindenthal is a great lecturer and an expert in his material."

One criticism leveled by students, however, is that the sociology classes are not very serious and "it doesn't take much to do really well in them." One student went so far as to say that he was a business hopeful who merely wanted a B.A. and didn't want to work hard in college. He therefore opted to major in sociology.

In what direction is the sociology department heading? Dean Rosenfeld maintains that, "Students aren't flocking to the new courses that were introduced this year; as long as students interest remains low, there will be no plans to expand the department. When expanding the numbers and variety of courses we look to areas that are more popular." When asked why the major isn't abolished completely in light of its unpopularity, the dean responded, "the



Sociologists study people and their societies.

With Prof. Porton's film classes, students are not as enthused. Students agree he is not as animated as the other instructors, despite showing a thorough knowledge of his subject. Student Howard Pries summed up Prof. Porton's class this way. "He knows his subject well and conveys it well. He doesn't care much about attendance. He's there if you want to learn."

Dr. Jeffrey Kurz teaches advanced speech electives and has also assumed the stewardship of the reinstated Yeshiva Debate Team. His students find him to be a tough grader and a very interesting personality. Dr. spoke," he recalled.

The speech major has always been a stepping stone into the business world. However, the major is useful in other fields as well. According to Rick Siegel, President of YCDS, "The majority of majors now are going into law."

Dr. Beukas pointed out, "The trend now is in film and television. New York University film school is appealing to Orthodox Jews because they can arrange their own rehearsal schedules." Other options available to speech majors are social work, advertising, and, of course, the rabbinate.

Some students felt the need to defend their choice of major. Lee Niren said, "The Speech Department is very underrated. A lot of speech courses require more preparation than the so-called 'academic courses.'"

Mr. Hirshey agreed, "Originally, I thought it would be a joke, but it's not." Mr. Siegel stated, "There is no formula for speech." He suggested each speech assignment is a unique challenge in its own way.

Equally challenging are the performances produced by the Yeshiva College Dramatics Society. The multi-talented Dr. Beukas has served as faculty advisor of the society since its inception. He has guided each performance with a touch of professionalism uncommon for a school of Yeshiva's size.

Said Mr. Ranish of his mentor, "The word mediocre is simply not in his dictionary. It's either 100%, or it's nothing at all." Howard Pries, a leading actor in the upcoming production, "The Boys Next Door," said, "Theatrically, he is professional in every aspect."

The drama society is moving next semester to a new home on West 185th between Audobon and St. Nicholas Avenues. Dr. Beukas had mixed feelings about leaving the old theatre,

"The society is a little melancholy about leaving. I have received numerous phone calls from alumni who want to come down and visit one last time. The best way to summarize my feelings would be apprehensive. It's a massive undergoing to transport all the equipment: lighting, sets, props, costumes, sound systems. People don't Kurz has taught speech in several universities and said he has received a "positive impression" from his students at Yeshiva.

Undeniably, the pillars upon which much of the Speech Department rests are the shoulders of Dr. Anthony Beukas. His dramatic, animated, and intense style of teaching is very effective. Senior Michael Ungar praised Dr. Beukas, claiming, "He is a devoted teacher and good motivator."

Mr. Rochlin said, "Dr. Beukas' teaching method is of the highest quality. All who encounter him come away with a valuable experience." Referring to an educational statistic claiming any instructor who affects 10% of his students is a success, Dr. Beukas commented, "If I lose 10% of my class I consider myself a failure."

The popularity of the department

Continued on page 10



YU's debate team has enjoyed a remarkable resurgence this year, under Prof. Jeffrey Kurz.

Speech Students Outspoken in Praise

by Doug Rosenthal

Speaking effectively before an audience is a talent which requires vigorous practice. The speech department at Yeshiva College affords students the opportunity to sharpen their communicational skills and build their confidence level. In evaluating the efficacy of the department, one must consider the latest statistics. According to Dr. Anthony Beukas, chairman of the Speech Department at YC, "In recent years the number of speech majors has grown tremendously. The number of speech majors has tripled. The university has had to hire three new professors to accommodate the additional enrollment."

The department is composed of five qualified professors, each bringing their own personal flavor into the classroom. Mrs. Rebecca Stearns has never taught an elective without having an overtly equal to the amount of students registered. This has shown Dr. Beukas that "she's doing her job." Junior Kenny Rochlin claimed, "Mrs. Stearns brings her life experiences to class, giving her students a better understanding of what awaits them in the real world."

Rabbi Rosenberg is a new addition to the faculty. His class has been heralded by junior Ezra Kahn as being "very relaxed, you can really learn a lot in his class."

college cannot eliminate majors and decrease diversity. We want to do the opposite here at YC, that is increase diversity."

When told about the administration's position, Dr. Lindenthal reacted quite emotionally. He said, "Unless we can attract more qualified teachers, we might as well close up the major altogether. The interest of the students reflects the attitudes and values of the administration. They [the administration] have to subsidize the sociology department appropriately to make it a strong major. The administration has now realized the problem with the sociology department and, to their credit,

Nevertheless, Dr. Lindenthal remains optimistic about the improvement of the sociology department here at YC in the future.

Executive Board Candidates State Their Case

Continued from page 9

still ensuring a powerful voice in all YC matters."

2) "If I must pinpoint one specific goal I'd like to accomplish, it would be to provide Sy Syms with a more substantial and powerful voice in the YC student council as opposed to limiting the Business School's influence. I feel that using my role as YCSC Vice President will be the tool in accomplishing 'respectability' for SSSB."

YCSC TREASURER

Robert Blustein

1) "As YCSC secretary this year I have proven that my dedication to serve my fellow students is genuine. I have kept my promise to initiate The Informer which informs students of changes in students policy and requirements, as well as the second semester supplement, and I have started a precedent of posting the YCSC minutes which hasn't been done in at least 4 years.

2) "As an accounting major and business editor of The Clarion, I am capable of managing YCSC's \$100,000 budget, and I specifically promise that if elected YCSC treasurer I will

implement a petty cash so all of YCSC's money is accounted for and will audit all clubs and committees requiring them to justify the money that next year's YCSC board will grant them."

Yechiel Gordon

1) "I think I can handle the job quite competently, responsibly, and efficiently."

2) "To make the administrative board spend its money as effectively and economically as possible...always keep improving student council for the needs of the student."

YCSC SECRETARY

Darrin Hirt

1) "I am a student of action, vigor, and commitment, who despises a stagnating student council,"

2) "I plan to establish myself as a middleman of communication between student body and YC student council."

Stuart Nussbaum

1) "As YCSC secretary, I intend to establish a council that does not simply sponsor events and manage budgets. The council will serve as a liaison between

students and administration."

2) "I want all the students to feel comfortable in their YU environment, and that if they have a qualm about the school or a good idea for an event they have they have a place to go to express their feelings and state their ideas."

Yosef Rabinowitz

1) "So that we can get the job done and so that everyone knows what's going on."

2) "Everybody remains informed. Everybody is on top of things and knows what's going on."

Seth Weissman

1) "Experience. I've prepared myself for the position all year. I've worked on Resident council and I now hold the position of Business Editor on The Informer, the running of which will be one of my responsibilities."

2) "The publishing of the Resident Halls student Directory. It's not the Guide. It's not going to replace the Guide. It's going to be out earlier — three months earlier. Name, room number, phone number. That's all, no frills. Efficiency. Give me two weeks, and I'll get the job done."

Speech Students Spreading The Word

Continued from page 8

ment is a result of the faculty's ability to achieve its goal. According to Dr. Kurz, "the goal of any good speech department is to teach the student how to perform better in a democratic society in which speech is an important tool." All communications courses, from the most elementary to the most advanced, require students to organize their thoughts into coherent, logical argument. Students are taught to speak "to" their audience rather than "at" their audience, a common malpractice of novice speakers.

Perhaps the best way to learn about the department is from those students majoring in the subject. Senior Michael Ungar, captain of the debate team, said, "the classes orient the students towards clear thinking, clear speaking, and most importantly, persuasive speaking. They mold character and build confidence."

On the issue of confidence, student Steven Hirshey noted, "My coursework has given me more courage to deal with real life situations." Mr. Hirshey, who plans on going into Jewish education, believes his major will properly prepare him to convey his thoughts to future students. Amir Ranish, an active member of the Yeshiva College

Dramatics Society, found the major helped him in an important job interview. "They hired me on the basis of how well I realize how much equipment we have."

The Speech Department has recently expanded in another way as well. Through the determination of Michael Ungar, and the unremitting dedication of Dr. Kurz, Yeshiva College once again has a debate team about which it can boast. The team has already posted three successful debates against such worthy rivals as City College, Pace University, and the Merchant Marine Academy. The team is looking forward to its upcoming debates against Baruch, City College, and Columbia.

According to Dr. Kurz, "Debate is a great academic exercise. The only way you can argue over a topic constructively is if you are thoroughly familiar with all aspects of the subject."

While the Speech Department continues to grow slowly, those majoring in the subject are, for the most part, satisfied with the education they are getting. They argue speech is a solid academic major, while retaining that element of fun which other majors lack. What more could you ask for?

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*(of special interest to Y.U. students is the fact that both Profs. Kaplan and Levy were graduated from Yeshiva College & received their ordination from RIETS.)

More Responsa

Borowitz's Rebuttal

To the Editor:

This letter is in partial reply to your recent evaluation of the Chemistry Department. I believe that the sampling of student opinion quoted represents only a small fraction of the total number of students who take chemistry courses. Journalistic objectivity and thoroughness would have been better served if the interviewer had been a student who had taken some science courses, thus making him more able to discern honest opinion from disgruntled bias.

For the information of present and future students of chemistry at Yeshiva College I wish to add some pertinent facts. Since I became chairman of the Chemistry Department in February 1987, I reorganized the chemistry major and minor course requirements, making them more realistic and in line with those of other science offerings. Emphasis has been placed on biochemistry and related courses since it is recognized that this area is of great interest to our pre-health major students.

There have not been "numerous changes" over the past two years in our faculty personnel. The changes in the teaching of general chemistry and chemistry for non-science majors were necessitated by the sabbatical leave, return, and then retirement of our physical chemistry teacher. His replacements, Dr. Angela O'Reilly and now Dr. John Fox, have both worked very hard to present courses of value and interest to our student body. As indicated in the article we are most hopeful that our current recruiting will result in a stable and improved environment for these and related courses. I agree fully with the premise that the teaching skills of our current and prospective instructors should be of paramount importance. To this end I constantly utilize peer and student evaluations both for current faculty and candidates for positions.

I trust that the negative comments on my own teaching will be answered by students. I do want to state that grading is not done solely by reference to the means for exams but also by use of actual numerical grades. The two lecture sections are surely not set against each other. Indeed I go to great scheduling difficulty to give communal exams to the two sections. Thus every student is judged equally. I am always available to students and welcome comments from them, listed or anonymous, as to improvements of the organic chemistry courses.

Irving J. Borowitz
Chairman, Department of Chemistry

Continued from page 3

As for the students who "have to learn from the textbook" or who complain about Dr. Borowitz's presentation, I wonder if they have ever prepared the material, even cursorily, before class. College students who take advanced science courses with a high-school mentality are bound to have trouble. To point a petulant finger at the professor is unfair and counterproductive. The organic chemistry course itself may have unique problems: Since it is one of the only advanced science courses (beyond the introductory level) taken at YC by a large number of students, it is no wonder that many have problems adjusting.

Mr. Aaron stresses the dearth of chemistry majors without noting the number of majors produced is not the only measure of a department's vitality. Which majors are popular at a given time depend on trends and perceptions that are difficult to control or modify. The fact that there are only three graduating chemistry majors at the present time need not signify a decline. In fact, a number of excellent departments at YC produce few majors, notably mathematics, physics, and music. (Ironically, on the previous page Gad Dishy praises the physics department, even though it currently has "few majoring [students].")

It is clear that all journalistic contentions, but especially critical ones, must be carefully researched before being printed. And I do not think that Mr. Aaron's "beneath the surface" look probed deep enough."

Yacov Balsam
YC '89

Another Shabbat Response

To the Editor:

"Doing your own thing" indeed summarizes Western social thought. It does not summarize Judaism. If YU is to have a strong Jewish content, there must be limits.

Television is not merely a personal matter. It undermines the Shabbat atmosphere of the dorms.

Like it or not, YU is a yeshiva. Those who cannot abide by a few minute restrictions should choose a secular college.

However, Mr. Dayanim makes an accurate point in his later column (THE COMMENTATOR, March 7) that some students experience frustration because they are not initially informed of the religious regulations of this school. Of course there is a simple solution to this problem: Inform them!

I suggest that the admissions office take the responsibility to inform each prospective student of the basics: no shabbat television, no shorts on campus, no sexy wall posters, etc. With this policy, not only would no student be deluded, but each applicant would have the opportunity to decide whether YU is the right place for him.

Steven Silberman
YC '90

Sternlicht Charges "Bias"

To The Editor:

Your article on the Psychology Department dated March 7, 1989 put me in a quandary. To reply might be interpreted as defensive pleading, while to ignore it might be construed as tacit agreement with the contents. Given these choices, and taking into account the rather shoddy and inflammatory nature of the investigative reporting, the issue was decided.

In narrating some of the criticisms leveled at the department, your reporter, Mr. Benovitz, purports to represent student opinion with such phrases as, "... the students enrolled in" (the psychology department), "many of the students," and "... almost all of the students interviewed." He also quotes from three alumni. Does three alumni constitute an adequate example of our graduates? Does "many" mean three students, five, ten, 20? The bias inherent here is truly appalling, and it detracts from the usual high standards of THE COMMENTATOR. Is it possible that the two graduate students quoted by name may have their own private axes to grind? I checked into the grades that Messrs. Epstein and Schwartz had earned with me, and I discovered that their grades were lower than the "A" attained by Mr. Mosenkis, who reported favorable experiences in psychology. Should I then conclude that the feelings held by students toward the psychology department are determined by the grades that they received?

This crucial area of prejudicial bias aside, permit me to respond to some of the issues that were highlighted. The implication was drawn that students may be "poorly prepared" in psychology by two graduates, both of whom are now enrolled in Ferkhauf, a prestigious, APA-accredited facility. If they were so "ill-prepared," one can only wonder on what basis they were accepted. Particularly when so many of our psychology majors do gain admission to fine graduate programs.

Some comments also were directed at some of my teaching methodologies. Criticism of the essay-type questions and of the supposed preference given to projects over term reports both imply that professor's whims are the basis of evaluation. Regarding the first, an essay demands a greater search for thought processes, since reasoning is required, and validity is attained by verifying the number of ideas recorded. This method is utilized, despite the obviously greater time and effort involved, in order to help prepare students to write effectively and to think logically, skills that will clearly be needed throughout one's life. Knowing (or guessing) an "answer" is not necessarily equated with understanding. As for the desirability of a term project assignment, the rationale for this was presented by me at a speech before the American Association for the Advancement of Science, which was requested by, and published in,

"Science Education." One minor point about the apparent effortless "two-minute experiment"—the late Dr. Isadore Chein's doctoral dissertation in psychology totalled exactly two pages!

Certainly there are shortcomings in the psychology department, and students have every right to criticize. But to misrepresent issues and not fairly sample student opinion hardly qualifies as responsible, ethical journalism.

Manny Sternlicht,
Ph.D.
Psychology Department

What Have We Here?

To The Editor:

In the last semester of my senior year in Yeshiva College, I look back on four years of controversy and struggle among students, teachers, and administration. I remember many vehement arguments in the dormitories, classrooms, the beit midrash, and the pages of THE COMMENTATOR, Hamevasar, and The Observer. Students, rebbeim, and teachers debate about issues in Jewish, national, and religious life to the difficult definitions of what Yeshiva University really is and isn't—from Shamir, Kahane, and Pollard to darchei halimud, Torah U'Mada, Shabbat in the dormitories, and the mingling of the sexes on vans and at social events. Everyone has a different opinion, everyone is intent on voicing it as loudly as possible, and everyone seems to be extremely upset that YU just isn't what it's supposed to be.

A fellow student once described this to me as the "I go to YU but... syndrome" ("I go to YU but I still learn", "I go to YU but I talk to girls", "I go to YU but I don't believe in Torah U'Mada", "I go to YU but I'm not in YP", etc.) It often seems that the number of people who are reasonably happy with the state of affairs is pitifully small.

I believe that this is because we're all busy trying to be something that we're not, trying to fit into what we think other people want us to be. I call this the "YU Inferiority Complex." Some of us are bothered by the fact that YU just isn't like any other American University, and that no matter how hard they try to make it so, it never will be. They try to do "collegiate" things that somehow hope to overcome the "sectarian" nature of the institution, but it just doesn't work. It's still not like Columbia, SUNY or the University of Pennsylvania. Others feel outcast from the "Yeshiva World," and try to isolate themselves in the beit midrash and pretend there's nothing else out there. What they can't ignore, they condemn.

Could it be that we're all missing the point? That we all fail so often to realize that we are participants in perhaps the most unique institution in the history of the Jewish people? That we all spend so much time wishing we

were in a classic Yeshiva, or a regular University, or in both independently, that we never realize that we have something very special, that exists nowhere else in the world.

Let me state a few points that I hope can be considered axiomatic to any discussion by concerned students and faculty members who are committed to the ideals of YU:

First and foremost, we are Orthodox Jews, and we are a Yeshiva. That means that our values must always be defined solely by our perception of Torah values and halacha—the ultimate goal in anything we do must always be personal and communal growth in yirat shamayim and avodat hashem. In practical terms, this translates to unwavering shmirat hamitzvot, limud hatorah, and respect for the authority of our rabbis and poskim.

Secondly (but not "on the other hand"), we have many benefits not available to the average Yeshiva student. We can participate in the entire field of modern scholarship, scientific and technological research, and Western thought. We can do this to prepare ourselves for careers, to increase our knowledge and sensitivities, and most importantly of all, to increase our understanding of the Torah as dvar hashem which is relevant to all the practical and existential problems of modern man. We have at our disposal all the physical, academic, and social resources of college campus life, but in the context of makom torah surrounded by other b'nei and b'not torah and talmidei chachamim who are constantly immersed in the study and teaching of Torah.

Finally, we have a Yeshiva which is not exclusively dedicated to producing an elite core of Talmudic scholars surrounded by a monolithic community, totally divorced from the outside world and not tolerating differences of opinion. Our Yeshiva also actively participates, both internally and externally, in strengthening the Jewish community, fighting for Jewish causes, and bringing people closer to yahadut. Our Yeshiva has people from all sorts of backgrounds, and with all sorts of ideas, and we are given the opportunity to benefit from this diversity by exposure to fellow students, rebbeim with radically different darchei halimud and hashkafot, and the freedom to express our views in student publications.

I'm not saying that there are no problems here, or that YU is some sort of Utopia which cannot be improved upon. Quite to the contrary, there is much here which desperately needs to be improved, and perhaps even changed. That's what all the debates and discussions are about, and it's great that we all have different ideas and perspectives. But let us voice our opinions in an atmosphere of respect for each other and for the values that we all share. Most importantly, let us respect ourselves and have the courage to stand for what we believe in, even in a world where no one else seems to be listening.

Alan Haber
YC '89

Dr. Lamm Discusses Issues With Student Leaders

Continued from page 1

Dayanim was condoning hillul Shabbat.

Rabbi Miller also questioned the columns, asking why the newspaper never derided acts of TV-watching as halachically impermissible.

Periodically, Dr. Lamm stated that he had never before criticized the student press as president and did not intend to censor the paper.

Mr. Dayanim disputed Dr. Lamm's analysis of the situation, both in terms of its seriousness and the way it was handled.

Pointing out that initial discussion of the issue was a brief mention in a much broader article on Shabbat at Yeshiva, printed on an inside page of the paper, Mr. Dayanim stated that it was the administration's "mishandling" of the situation that created such a stir, leading to a front page story in the following edition.

"News is news," he argued, pointing out that students who may have been unaware of the TV controversy certainly could not have remained so after the administration placed memos in all of their boxes informing them of the penalty for TV Shabbat use.

With regard to his columns, Mr. Dayanim stated "I am not a halachic expert" and therefore avoid discussing its details in his work. He stated that the halachic impermissibility of TV use was not the point, affirming his belief in the impropriety of administration attempts to deal with the problem and his awareness of the deeper issue of what type of student the school recruits and attracts.

His columns, he added, represent his opinions alone, not

those of THE COMMENTATOR, which is why they do not appear in its editorial space.

Furthermore, Mr. Dayanim stated that it was not his responsibility to withhold a story for fear of reaction to its publication outside Yeshiva. "YU has a newspaper," he said, "if you don't want one, that's one thing, but don't say you have one," and attempt to regulate it in ways that would impair its ability to function.

Mr. Klapper, joined by other students present, also disagreed with the administration's appraisal of the numbers involved in television-watching on Shabbat, characterizing the problem as widespread among those who stay for Shabbatot.

Most students leave Yeshiva for the weekend. Estimates at the number of those who stay vary widely, generally within a range of 150-300. Difficulty arises due to the low percentage of people who eat in the cafeteria and varying perceptions as to the numbers of those who remain in their rooms, only emerging Saturday night.

Dr. Lamm and Rabbi Miller had contended that instances of TV-viewing are confined to a relative handful of students.

Mr. Klapper also raised the point that, no matter how information of a critical nature concerning religious commitment at YU is reported, distortions and exaggerations result. Citing a Hamevaser survey conducted last year that dealt with religious habits and attitudes, Mr. Klapper recalled the way actual numbers were manipulated and falsified by many in the "right-wing" world.

Dr. Lamm said that he under-

stood the problem, but advised student journalists to "err on the side of responsibility," adding that he is "not terribly worried" about the reactions of the haredi world.

Mr. Klapper also mentioned recent research he had conducted, indicating somewhat low levels of seder and shiur attendance in MYP, and asked how such figures should be reported.



YU President Norman Lamm in office.

Dr. Lamm cautioned against the publication of figures, suggesting a low-key approach that would employ generalities in a broader, more positive, context. He stipulated, however, that first, the ideal solution would be to bring the problem to administrative attention to attempt its satisfactory resolution and avoid use of the press.

He then asked for suggestions on how to improve Shabbatot in Yeshiva, eliciting two general ideas.

Mr. Dayanim and Mr. Paley stressed increasing the number of students and rebbeim who remain at YU for the weekends, with Mr. Dayanim using other

yeshivot, where the presence of a vast majority of rebbeim and students create a positive atmosphere, as a goal to which YU should aspire.

Mr. Paley added that every Shabbat should have "high-level administrators" present.

Rabbi Miller disagreed, citing several instances when a prominent rabbi or administrator had attended with little noticeable increase in numbers of students.

Mr. Berg then suggested the presence of women might help, engendering a "more sociable" ambience.

Both Dr. Lamm and Rabbi Miller raised the difficulty of adequate accommodations for the women, with Rabbi Miller recalling past years, when YU did encourage this practice. He noted that the late hours kept by the students dissuaded many neighborhood residents from offering their homes.

Other issues: Shiur, IBC

In other issues discussed, the meeting maintained its contentious tone, at times even causing the normally reserved president to shed his equanimity.

SOY President Paley complained of the lack of a unifying, forceful religious presence on campus, fragmentation of hashkafa, and a consequent neglect of nascent turmoil until it evolves into a major controversy.

"It's bad that these meetings are necessary to bring attention to problems" of such gravity, he contended.

During the exchange Dr. Lamm grew somewhat testy, claiming that he generally tries to maintain "tolerance" to questions and criticisms but has wearied of complaints over

disparity and pluralism at Yeshiva.

"The pride of this yeshiva is that we give you options within the parameters of halacha," he declared. He stated that debate over Torah U'Mada and the role of YU has persisted for decades and will continue.

In response to Mr. Paley's suggestion of a mandatory class in Torah U'Mada philosophy, he said that the numerous lectures, publications and discussions of the topic were sufficient and doubted the efficacy of such a course.

Mr. Paley also echoed Mr. Klapper's concern over poor shiur and seder attendance in his Jewish studies program, calling it a "disgrace" that some rebbeim fail to take attendance and treat the problem of perennially absent students with levity.

"That the roshei yeshiva are allowed to do this... is a disgrace to YU," he stated.

Mr. Paley concluded that he personally knows some students in MYP who "never opened a gemara" during their years here.

In response to the pair's concerns over poor seder attendance, Dr. Lamm recalled his days at Yeshiva and the frequent practice of many to review gemara in their dormitory rooms in the morning rather than in the Beit Midrash or classrooms.

Dr. Lamm added, "I hope the both of you are wrong, but I will check into it."

He noted that the administration does work to eliminate problems, citing the improvement of shiur placement and addition of advanced shiurim, an issue in past years.

In answer to questions raised by IBC President Berg as to the impending changes in IBC and JSS, Dr. Lamm explained that the school would explore all options in order to best meet the needs of the students.

Solutions that may have worked in the past, he said, need to change with changing circumstances. Students who desire to enroll in courses in other Jewish studies divisions should not have to hurdle "bureaucratic mechitzas [walls, barriers]."

While the final answers have not yet become clear, he termed his goal to be a "leaner, more effective administration."

Rabbi Miller closed the meeting by praising Dr. Lamm's initial remarks as a "wonderful statement of what it is that we stand for."

Statement of the President: A Synopsis

by Behnam Dayanim

Dr. Lamm began his prepared remarks by noting that, while he "rarely" comments on items appearing in the student press, he nevertheless has decided to "speak out and to do so forcefully."

Dr. Lamm continued by expressing his dismay over "the impression abroad that this editorial position [regarding Shabbat enforcement in the dorms] is subscribed to by a significant number of students of Yeshiva University and by myself as president."

He outlined the need for adhering to dormitory policies, contending that "our residents know what the standards are, and should not complain if they are enforced... Dormitory residence is a privilege, not a right.

"By giving the impression that there is a sizeable number of students who are in contempt of halacha, our student press has regrettably slandered our student body and had tarnished the image of Yeshiva. This is irresponsible and unforgivable... any student who occasions a desecration of the Name by

sullyng the reputation of Yeshiva as a mekom Torah forfeits our respect."

Dr. Lamm then outlined his vision of Torah U'Mada, saying that it does not "condone infractions of the halacha."

He characterized YU itself as "both Yeshiva and University," calling those who could not grasp such a concept, instead preferring "facile dichotomies," lacking in "maturity and the intellectual ability to cope with ideas that defy simplistic definitions."

Lauding YU as "a community of commitment and a community of inquiry," meeting his definitions of 'yeshiva' and 'university,' he admitted the two modes' differing approaches and methodologies, but said that people "are capable of embracing both simultaneously without violating the integrity of either one."

Despite tensions, he declared, "successful Torah U'Mada education has been done, is being done, and will be done. The unremitting probing, 'which of the two are you?', is thus an irrelevancy which betrays igno-

rance of the mission of Yeshiva University and an underestimation of human capaciousness."

Dr. Lamm asserted that "the vast majority of our students are halachically and morally upright" and "whoever maligns them--no matter how good his style, how engaging his rhetoric, and how well-meaning his intentions--owes them an apology."

Calling on student journalists to exercise their "right to inquire and criticize" with responsibil-

ity, he identified intellectual responsibility "in appreciating complexity," moral responsibility in "reporting accurately and without distortion and exaggeration," and halachic responsibility "in refraining from lashon ha-ra and hillul Hashem."

A complete text of Dr. Lamm's statement, with a more detailed discussion of the nature of Yeshiva University and the requirements of dormitory life, is available from his office.

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VAAD HARABONIM OF BERGEN COUNTY

Asbestos Outcry

Behind The News

by Shukie Grossman

Recently, a voice of concern over the presence of asbestos at Yeshiva College has emanated from members of the 1199 workers union. According to union representative Judy Kacowitz, "a few people in the Belfer building have had masectomies, which may be contributory [sic] to asbestos." Kacowitz maintains that asbestos exists in the Productions department in Belfer, and possibly on every other floor in the building.

Library employees believe that asbestos exists in dangerous proportions in the University Museum, where renovation frequently takes place due to changing exhibits. One employee questions, "Do the workers know what they're doing when they break through the walls?"

The post World War II building boom in the United States prompted widespread use of an incombustible fibrous mineral called asbestos, primarily for fireproofing and electrical insulation.

According to Asbestos Control Program technician Jeff Boulter, in buildings constructed before 1970, "the substance may be found in pipe insulation, especially hot water pipes, round ventilation ducts, beams, vinyl floor tiles, felt roofing material, and boiler material. The reason for such

prevalent use of asbestos, Mr. Boulter explains, lies in that "it is the most cost-effective and highly efficient insulating material ever invented by man."

Nevertheless, since its inception as a normative component of construction, medical researchers have identified asbestos as a cancer-causing agent, leading to a 1972 ban of its employment. "Friable" asbestos, or asbestos that can easily be crumbled by hand pressure, presents the greatest health concern because when disturbed, it can easily release fibers into the air which are detrimental when breathed into the lungs or ingested.

New York State law does not require building owners to inspect for or remove asbestos that is present in their buildings unless renovation or construction work is planned, which will inevitably disturb the asbestos. State law does require, however, that all work which disturbs asbestos in buildings be done by trained workers following special procedures to prevent the spread of asbestos into the air. In order to obtain certification, asbestos workers and their supervisors must complete a three-day training course approved by the New York State Department of Health.

One of the more pronounced elements of the YU workers' asbestos grievances rests in an alleged lack of cooperation by

the University hierarchy concerning the issue. According to Mrs. Kacowitz, though they have trained some people to encapsulate the asbestos, it's being done "sporadically." Mrs. Kacowitz also contends, "the maintenance [workers] are not getting the proper attire that they are supposed to wear when handling the asbestos."

Mr. Jeffrey Rosengarten, Director of Support Services and Personnel, takes exception to these allegations. Mr. Rosengarten concedes that "asbestos exists at Yeshiva University as it exists throughout the world," yet he asserts that "the University is on top of the situation." According to Mr. Rosengarten, "YU is one of the few universities with its own in-house asbestos team consisting of at least ten workers and between two and four supervisors. Every time a major construction job is done we abate the asbestos."

Perhaps, as Mr. Rosengarten suggests, asbestos paranoia is more of an emotional issue than a factual one. "The problem lies in that there is an asbestos frenzy where people are scared to hear the word," states Mr. Rosengarten. Though the consequences of exposure to "friable" asbestos can be drastic, a better understanding of its nature might mitigate the prevalent fear associated with it.

Mrs Kacowitz views the situation somewhat differently, saying, "In April, the union is inviting students and the administration to come view a video on asbestos," which will aim at educating them about the problem.

Continued from page 1

which 1199 represents YU employees. These are: short staffing in certain departments, compensation for word processing skills, and the length of time a person has been employed at the university, known as the longevity clause.

Mr. Rosengarten said he is not concerned about the picket held on March 22. "It's a tactic the union uses before contract negotiations. They rile up the masses with emotional issues."

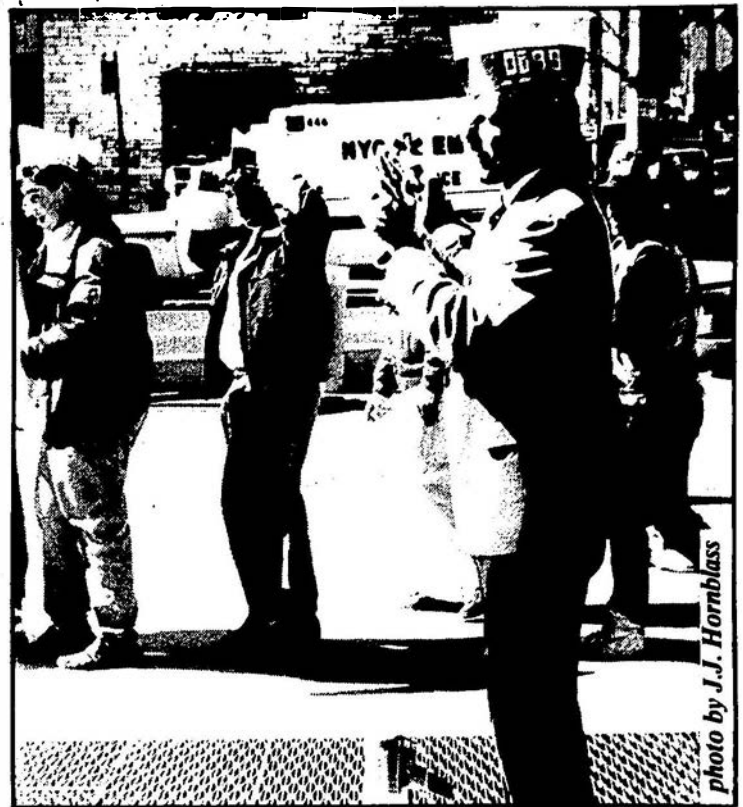
Students and faculty expressed curiosity about the demonstration. Many students of the Morgenstern and Rubin dormitories peered out their windows in an attempt to ascer-

tain the cause of the unruly shouts which came from the street.

"Good for them. I hope they get what they want," a faculty member said.

One student said he acknowledged the severity of the issues, but remained doubtful as to whether the majority of the demonstrators actually understood the reasons behind their protests.

The demonstration, organized by the Local 1199 Drug, Hospital, and Health Care Employees Union lasted two hours. Union officials estimated the group at 150. Mr. Rosengarten placed the number below 100.



Union member leads chants as students don hats in march.

Computer Macs, Putnam Math Team Bring Honors to YU

by Daniel Oshinsky and Bruce Schanzer

YU's computer and math "Macs" have both had very successful years. The computer "Macs" captured first place for the New York Region in the Association for Computing Machinery Competition. The math "Macs" placed very highly in the William Lowell Putnam Mathematics competition, known as the Putnam exam. The results of these competitions seem to indicate that YU is on a very high level in the math and computer departments.

The computing competition (ACM) offers students the opportunity to test their programming skills against the nation's top collegiate hackers. In both the regional and national rounds, teams are presented with six to eight problems which they must solve by designing a computer program. The team which solves the greatest number of problems in six hours wins the competition.

For this year's regional play-off, YU posted three teams: A senior team consisting of Captain Elie Tuchman, Michael Ben-Ari, Yitz Rosenthal, and Yaakov Haber; a joint YC/Stern team made up of fellow seniors Asher Brander, David Guedalia, and Miriam Rabinowitz and Stern junior Adina

Mosak; and, finally, a junior team led by senior Ely Labovitz, and including juniors Donny Barenholtz and Eli Sanders, and sophomore Jeremy Weider. Despite having to compete against two groups of upperclassmen, it was the junior team which proved triumphant.

Held in mid-November at the computer laboratory of Manhattan College in Riverdale, New York, the regional competition began at 10:30 AM. By the time the contest ended it was the junior team from YC who defeated both the YC senior team and the teams from other regional colleges. With a victory in the regionals YU had earned itself a spot in the nationals.

Asked to compare YU's showing in the regionals to that in the February 22 nationals held in Louisville, Kentucky, Barenholtz responded, "Basically, in the regionals we won and in the national we lost." Barenholtz continued, "We were out of our league [at the nationals]. We were dealing with the Caltech graduate students."

Barenholtz credits the university's computer science department for the team's success. Team members also say their school spirit helped push them to victory. And to avoid divulging any useful information to other competitors during strat-

The Commentator Film Society, comprised of Joseph Wolf, Joey Loskove, Michael Raskas, and Larry Hartstein, endured a wrenching battle of wills this past week. A proposal to change the current zero-to-five Torah U'Mada symbols ratings system to the more conventional and standardized zero-to-four scale lay at the heart of the conflict. In the end, the panel agreed to follow the lead of Joseph Wolf and adopt the controversial proposal, proving that change can indeed be accomplished at YU.

Damien Omen II

The sequel to The Omen starring William Holden provides shock value in the form of numerous grisly murders. "Why they made a sequel I'll never know," said panelist Wolf. Panelist Raskas was a bit more upbeat. "The death scene under the icy lake doesn't compare with the decapitation in the original, yet I loved it anyway."



egy talks, YU team members used a secret weapon—Hebrew.

The math contingent had a secret weapon of their own, Namely, Phil Reiss, a freshman from Winnipeg, Canada. Reiss scored in the top 5% and ranked 46.5 (due to a tie) out of 2096 students while helping to lead the YU team to a finish in the top 15%, one of the best finishes ever. The 49th annual Putnam

CFS* Corner

*CFS Denotes Commentator Film Society

Psycho

Alfred Hitchcock's most famous thriller, which has elegantly stood the test of time. Anthony Perkins stars as Norman "Psycho" Bates, manager of a family motel where people check in but don't check out. "Psycho—there is no substitute," gushed panelist Hartstein. Wolf went further in his praise. "This movie set the standard for all past, present, and future horror films." Panelist Loskove echoed those sentiments when he described the movie as "a classic horror flick with a deep underlying pshat."



The Purple Rose of Cairo

Jeff (Something Wild) Daniels and Mia Farrow star in Woody Allen's 1985 bittersweet fantasy about a woman whose latest movie idol walks right off the screen and into her life. "It doesn't compare with Love and Death or Annie Hall, but it's definitely a cut above the average Morg Movie fare," said

Hartstein. Raskas, on the other hand, cannot highly recommend it. "Woody and Mia would have been better off having another set of triplets."



Rocky II

Sylvester Stallone's first sequel to his blockbuster hit. Loskove called it "a fun-filled film, climaxing in a great bout." Wolf, however, was far more critical. "It pales in comparison to Rocky, a fine film that avoided the usual cliches."



Smokey and the Bandit

Burt Reynolds, Jackie Gleason, and Sally Field head an all-star cast in this box-office smash. Reynolds plays a bootlegger who outraces Gleason for nearly the entire film. "Burt at his best, a movie with great shtick," said Loskove. Raskas called it "a must-see for all aspiring truck drivers."



exam took place on December 3, 1988, a Saturday. The YC students took the exam that night. The best three scores of the students taking the test from each school were made into a school team. For YC the team included Jonathan Hecht, Manuel Jacobowitz, and Phil Reiss. Dean Rosenfeld, the "coach" of the math "Macs," expressed pride at the success of

this year's group. He feels that "this is excellent, since some of the high scorers were freshmen and sophomores. This bodes well for the future."

March madness has clearly not arrived and although the basketball "Macs" are still not threatening Georgetown for a final four spot, our "other Macs" are bringing YC's students greater fame.

by Jonathan Miskin

"Good morniiiiing Ye-shi-vaaaaah! You're listening to 230 on the AM dial, it's 2:30 a.m., and WRYU now begins its broadcasting day. I'm J.B. Bobby, and I'll be your host-oh, for the next five or six hours. Folks, tonight we have a special interview with one of the candidates in the upcoming elections. We'll be taking phone calls and questions and you'll be able to find out what the real issues are in this campaign. But before we do any of that, let's go to a quick commercial break."

"Hey student! Ever wonder why YU has the only campus in the world without a pub? Ever feel like knocking back a few and have nowhere to go? Well, fret no more. Starting next month, Morg Lounge will become "The Liquor Shikor," a place for you and your friends to go and drink the night away. The Liquor Shikor will stock the very finest in Carmel and Shapiro's wines and grape juice. Som come on in, sit at the bar munching on gefilte fish balls, and listen to the fine music of our ever present keyboardist and drummer. The Liquor Shikor will also be available for engagement parties."

"You're tuned to W-R-Y-U, the station that asks "is anybody really listening?"

"Welcome back folks, I'm J.B. Bobby and sitting right here with me tonight, well morning really, is this year's top candidate in the student elections, Mr. Alfred Pineapple. Alfred, tell us a little about the position you're running for."

"Well, J.B., I'm running for Postmaster General in this year's



The Lighter Look



Mail-Elections. Postmaster General is responsible for overseeing all the incoming and outgoing mail in YU. It's a fairly important position and looks great on a resume."

"Alfred, what kind of experience will you bring to this . . . office?"

"In my freshman year I was class sorter. All the mail that comes in has to be divided by dormitory and then by room. This takes hours of difficult concentration, but I think I mastered it. Last year, in my sophomore year, I was sophomore class stuffer. I had to take all the various letters that had already been sorted and put them into the little mailboxes. And this year, I hold the job of class mailer. Every day I stand by the outgoing mailbox and when someone has something to mail, he just walks over to me and I drop it in."

"Well Alfred, I would say that you're just about as qualified as anybody else for the job. I think what we'll do now, is go to our first caller. Hello, you're on the air!"

"Hello? Am I on?"

"Yes, you're on the air with J.B. Bobby and Alfred Pineapple. Who is this calling?"

"This is Marty and I have a question for Mr. Pineapple."

"Well, go right ahead."

"Mr. Pineapple, throughout this year various classes have

sponsored o-gram projects. For a few bucks you could send a dreidel-o-gram to someone in Stern or a caffiene-o-gram to a friend in YC. Will you continue to support these o-grams should you be elected?"

"Actually, funny you should raise that issue, Marty. My campaign staff is currently working on developing a shole new department just for o-grams." . . . "Yeah, like what?"

"Well, suppose your roommate were to get up late one morning and didn't have time for breakfast. You wouldn't want him to be late for seder, so you send him a bran-o-gram. OK. Now picture this: You've put off studying for a big test, but lucky you, the night before, you get a cram-o-gram for your exam-o-gram. And what's that test in? If it's in music, you'll get a Chopin-o-gram. Or if its on Jewish philosophers, you'll get a Rambam-o-gram. And, if you're a math major, you'll receive a parallel-o-gram. Of course, if you fail, and are called in to see the president, he'll send you a Lamm-o-gram."

"OK, that about covers that issue. We're sitting here with Alfred Pineapple and this is a pre-post election interview. Hello! You're on the air!"

"Hi. I want to know about the inter-office mail. I've found this service to be inadequate and inefficient. What are you gonna do about it?"

"Well caller, in order to speed up service and cut costs in the past, we've reused the same envelopes up to twelve times. If I'm elected, I'm going to take that one step further. We'll recirculate the same memos, requests and personal letters all around the University. This will reduce the amount of wasted paper and save our secretaries invaluable time."

"Alright, Hello, you're on the air!"

"Hi. My name is Al and I've got a problem. Every night my wife insists on letting her eleven budgies fly around our bedroom. I just can't sleep any more and she—"

"Ah. Do you have a question for Mr. Pineapple?"

"What? Isn't this Dr. Ru—"

"We now pause for station identification."

"This is 230 AM. W-R-Y-U. The station that asks Why-R-You-Up?"

"OK. We've got Jerry on the line and he's complaining about the mailboxes."

"Yeah. Since September my mailboxes has been broken into five times. I've lost three Highlights magazines."

"Jerry, I couldn't be sorrier for you, but I can honestly say that the mail department can't be responsible for those break-ins."

"That's right, Jerry. This is J.B. and I think the blame has to be placed on the incompetent

editors of the Guide for printing the combinations to everyone's mailboxes."

"I don't care whos fault it is, J.B. I just want my Highlight back."

"Ah Jerry, hold on a second. We've got another call on line...two. Hello?"

"Is this J.B. Bobby?"

"Yes."

"Well this is chain sipcoke and I was this year's Guide editor. I resent the comment you just made about our publication. Not only were we able to finish this Guide earlier than ever before, but the students didn't have to fill in their mailbox combinations. It said that right on the form."

"Look, when do I get my Highlights back?"

"And let's talk about incompetence! Which radio station had to call it quits for a semester and a half because the transmitter company in Pennsylvania didn't receive the cheque?"

"Hey! I think we have to turn to Mr. Pineapple regarding...lost mail."

"Look buddy, I dropped it in the mailbox. That's all I know."

"Well, that's a pretty useless job if you ask me."

"Useless, How about you? You're on when people are asleep and off when they're up!"

"I'll settle for even one Highlights."

"OK, that's about all the time we have for tonight. Be sure to join us tomorrow when we'll speak with Mr. Pineapple's opponent, Dave Lickstamp, who promises to bring the thrill of chain letters, to YU. Goodnight!"

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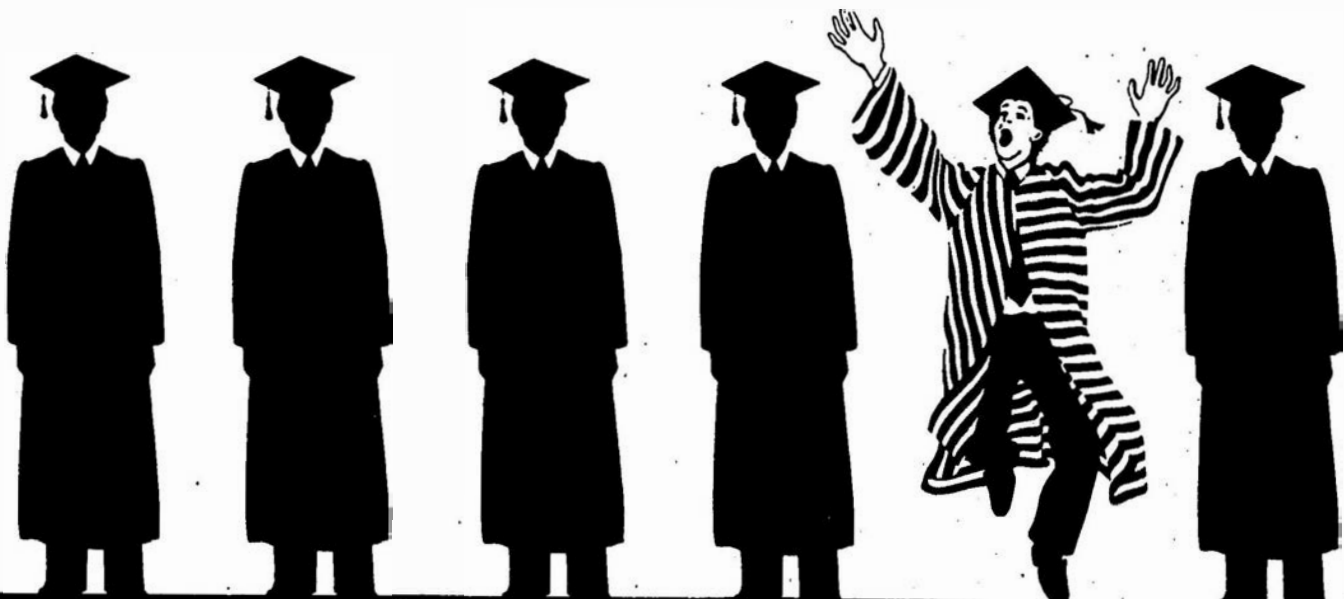
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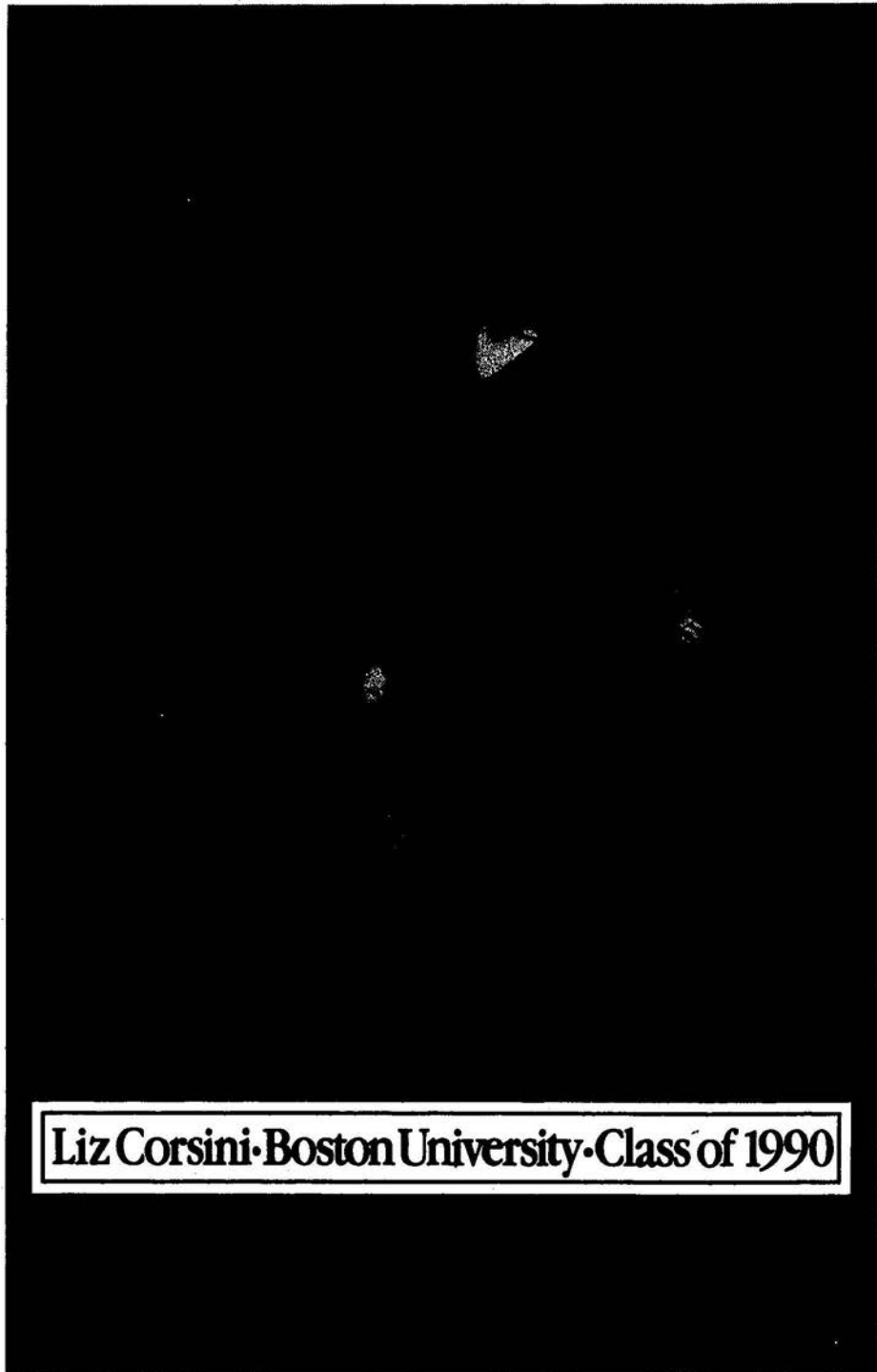
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Tauberman continued

me and asked if I wanted to warm up a bit. I was shocked—this guy was helping me improve my fencing when he knew that in a few minutes I would be fencing against him!”

Despite their overall poor finish, the Yeshiva fencers came away disappointed but not dispondent. “We had fun,” says Robby, “and it was a great experience for everyone.”

The team returned home Sunday night, only to travel Monday night to SUNY purchase for their final match of the '88-'89 season. The charley-horsed were not prepared to fence another match, and were defeated by a narrow margin, much to the dismay of their hopeful coaches. A few individuals did give impressive performances, including Robby Zimmerman, who won all three bouts in the final varsity match of his Yeshiva University fencing career.

The Yeshiva fencing team is looking forward to a strong season next year, with many talented and experienced fencers returning. These include Sheldon Jonas in foil, David Kardon and Hirsch Serman in Sabre, and Eric Rothman in Epee. There are also promising new fencers who are currently being trained for next year, including Howard Goldfisher in foil, David Kay in Sabre, and Robert Feiner, Baruch Ruttner and Steven Stadmauer in Epee. Of course, Coach Arnold Messing and Sabre Coach Pete Rosas are always on the lookout for “new blood,” and anyone interested in joining next year's team is encouraged to do so (no experience required). We wish all of next year's fencers the best of luck, and a hearty “Hakeh Takeh!”

Tennis Macs Romp

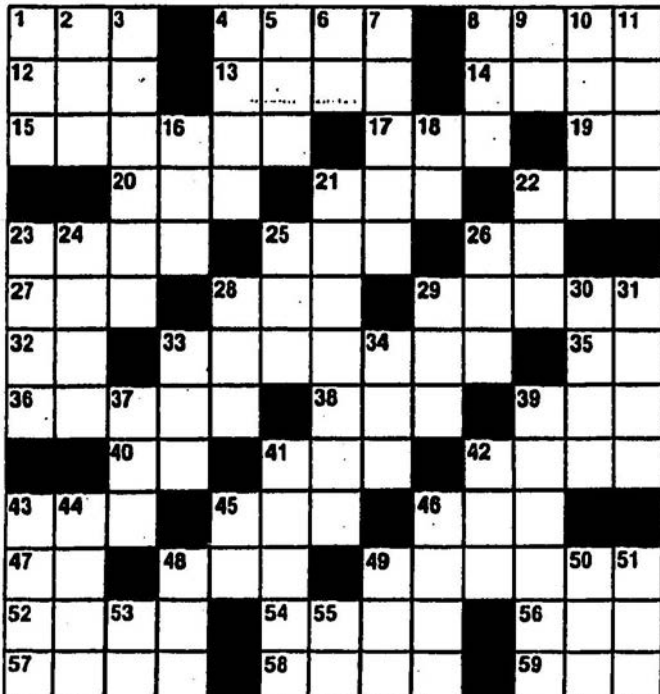
by Darrin Hirt

Winning alone cannot satiate this year's tennis team; instead, they aim to dominate. Sunday, March 19, was no exception as Yeshiva decimated Polytech 8-1 in their second match of the year.

The Mac's biggest challenge of the day arose when Leon Levy, the number one seed singles star from Venezuela, failed to show up to the match. Coach Mickey Aboff's inability to attend the match's beginning placed the decision of appointing a replacement in the hands of captain Steven “Siegs” Siegel. Siegel, rising to the occasion, brilliantly selected Victor Beletsky to play in the number one spot. In only his first NCAA match of his career, Beletsky responded with an astonishing 6-2, 6-3 victory. Other winners for the day included Jeff Greenwald, Darrin Hirt, Josh Light, Steven Siegel, Michael Raskas, and Jeff Goldberg.

The Mac's, 2-0 overall, appear to be heading towards their final objective, a conference title.

Crossword Companion



- 13. Against
- 14. In the middle
- 15. Give in
- 17. Vigor
- 19. Sun God
- 20. Boy
- 21. Inferior
- 22. Edge of cloth
- 23. Always
- 25. Create current of breeze
- 26. Leave
- 27. Small rug
- 28. Heat source
- 29. Courtesy title for woman
- 32. Exist
- 33. Sand build-up on shore
- 35. 4th musical scale note
- 36. Law
- 38. Sick
- 39. Tap gently
- 40. Actual weight (abbr.)
- 41. Morning breakfast item
- 42. Cat
- 43. Fall behind
- 45. Pertaining to (suff.)
- 46. Small, temporary bed
- 47. I am (cont.)
- 48. Employ
- 49. Not awake
- 52. Bastion
- 54. S.E. Asia bird
- 56. Recent form (pref.)
- 57. Great Lake
- 58. 12 months
- 59. Three (pref.)

- 6. Indefinite pronoun
- 7. Couch
- 8. Water barrier
- 9. Be
- 10. Dismal
- 11. Cheese
- 16. Listening organ
- 18. Division of the psyche
- 21. Wound cover
- 22. Built to transport bricks
- 23. Send forth
- 24. Holds flowers
- 25. Good time
- 26. Fish
- 28. Sit (p.t.)
- 29. Bad (pref.)
- 30. From a distance
- 31. Spoon
- 33. Repair with thread
- 34. Large
- 37. Pester; annoy
- 39. Inventor's sole right
- 41. Foe
- 42. Poland (abbr.)
- 43. Living organism
- 44. Love
- 45. Exist
- 46. Former Russian emperor (sp. var.)
- 48. N. Amer. Indians
- 49. Collection
- 50. Ever (Poetic)
- 51. Hawaiian food
- 53. Southern N. England state (abbr.)
- 55. You (Poetic)

ACROSS

- 1. Scottish cap
- 4. Oval
- 8. County in Florida
- 12. Southern state (abbr.)

DOWN

- 1. Blacktop
- 2. Beer
- 3. Wooden hammer
- 4. Fine beach footing
- 5. Picnic pest

The first person to submit the correct response to Larry Hartstein (M6 11) will have his name printed in the next issue. Yacov Balsam attempts to make it three in a row!

Yeshiva Sports

Taubermen Falter At Baltimore Tourney

by Michael Oppenheim

On Saturday evening, March 4th, Yeshiva University's fencing team travelled to Baltimore for the second annual Division Three fencing Tournament, held this year at Johns Hopkins University. This match, according to coach Arnold Messing, was to be the highlight of the season. "All the matches up to now," he asserted, on the long trip down, "were just practice for the tournament." In total, twelve teams showed up Sunday Morning for the competition, the number on e fencer in each weapon (sabre, epee, and foil) fenced against the other number one fencers in his weapon. The same for the number two and number three fencers. In total, each fencer fenced eleven bouts, one bout against his counterpart from each school in the competition.

Though many of the teams were known to be strong, including Hopkins, Hunter, Brandeis, and Rutgers-Newark (teams with perfect or near perfect records), the Yeshiva fencers jumped into the competition with a zeal and determination which surprised their opponents and even some of the Yeshiva fencers themselves. As Robby Zimmerman, team captain and foil weapon's leader, said of one foil fencer, "I have never seen him fence with such determination."

Despite their intensity, the members of the team found themselves hard pressed to come up with the much-desired victories. Robby stated, "The team has quite a number of starters with relatively little experience compared to the level of experience of fencers in other schools. Because of this, many of them had a hard time. But next year, with the experience of this competition under their belts, they should really do well."

The foil squad came away particularly disappointed with their record. They experienced particularly discouraging defeats, often losing bouts which had reached La Belle (4-4), with touches winning the bout. Epee did not fare much better.

It was the saber squad which performed fines of all. David Kardon, after fencing saber for only one year, managed to glean four victories in the number one spot. Hirsch Serman, in his first year as a starter, also won four. But it was Ronnie Bratt, fencing in the second position, who really brought pride to the team, winning seven bouts and only narrowly missing a chance to compete in the finals. Overall, the Yeshiva Sabre team placed fifth, a very impressive finish, considering the opposition.

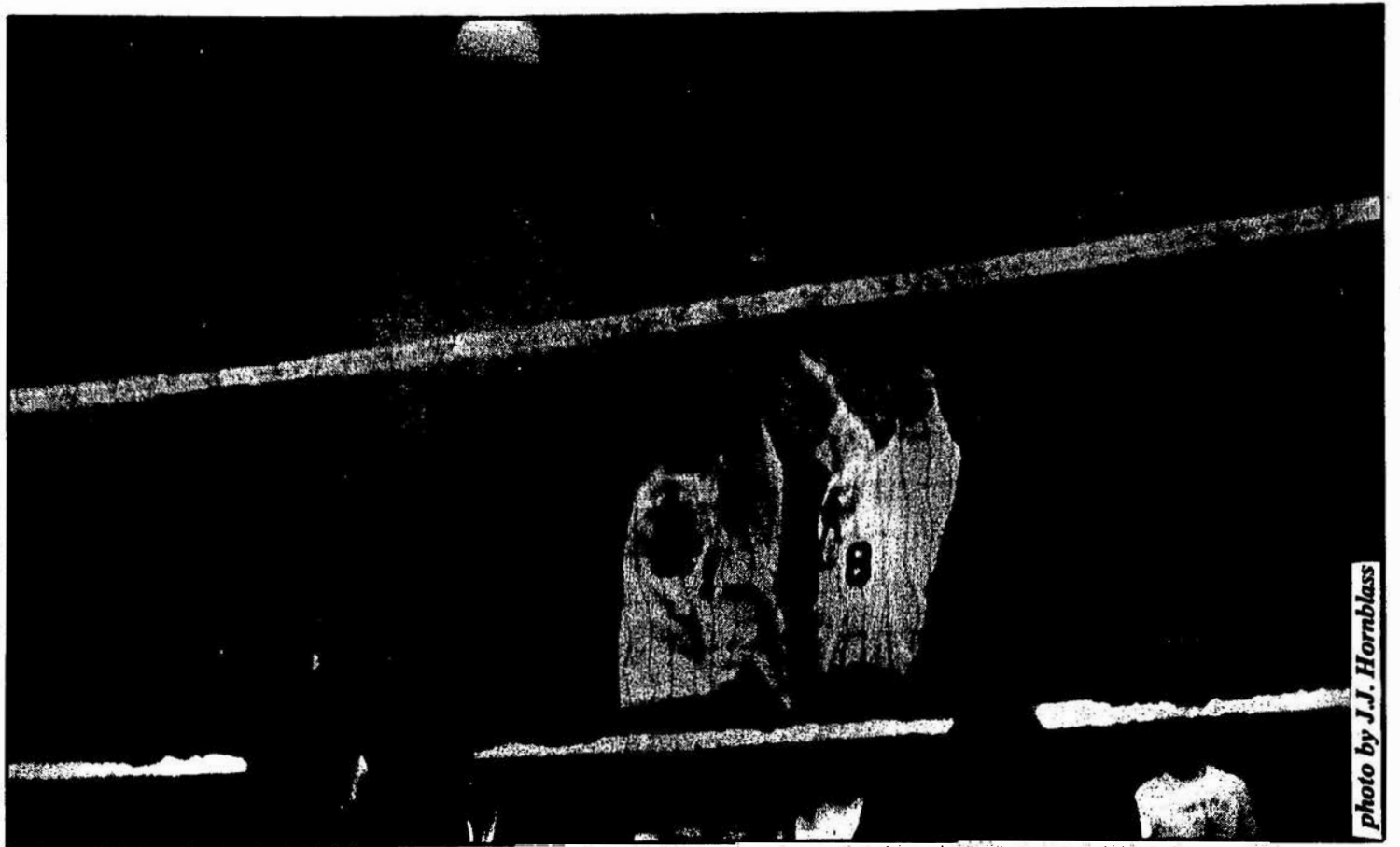


photo by J.J. Hornblase

The Volleyball Macs finished a disappointing 0-15 season with close losses against City College and West Hempstead. Both matches went to the third and final set.

Golfers To Begin Inaugural Season

by David Maryles

Golf, as a sport, has a reputation for being synonymous with relaxation and passing of time in a leisurely fashion. That is true of the average, but not the avid, golfer.

The average individual participates in the sport, yet never really grasps the intricacies nor experiences the upper level of gamesmanship that does justice to this sport where hitting the ball a few centimeters off can result in disaster. Until recently, no golf squad had been established to represent Yeshiva.

Last season, this oversight was corrected as a team was established through the diligent efforts of Yosef Mandelbaum and Joey Loskove. This year, coached by Mandelbaum and captained by Loskove, the team has its sights set on having a winning season. Said Loskove, "Last season, our focus was on establishing a team. Although we only played one match, this season we have already scheduled six schools for the spring. Hopefully, we will be able to gel as a team and get production out our first year players. Should that occur, there is no reason

why Yeshiva won't be successful."

The first year players that were alluded to are two Miami boys — Josh Light and Jon Lasko. In addition, the team looks for good production from junior Josh Thomas.

The matches are set up independent from a conference, which, as yet, has not been formed. In each match, 7 or 8 players take to the links in an effort to record as low a score as possible. Upon finishing play, the five best scores of each team are added up and the team with the lowest combined score will win the match.

Thus, it is more beneficial to have a team of above-average golfers than to have one superstar. The team members are confident that the team's inaugural season, which tees off on April 3 against Hofstra at our home course in Van Cortlandt Park, will start the Yeshiva Golf program on course, straight down the fairway.

Commentator
Yeshiva College
500 West 185th Street
New York, N.Y. 10033

One of the nicest parts of the competition, however, was the amicable atmosphere which prevailed. Fencers from different teams socialized between bouts, often discussing the matches they had fenced against each other earlier in the city. Epee weapons leader Eric Rothman describes a unique experience. "I was supposed to fence a guy from another school. Right before my bout, he came over to

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New Hockey Club Holds First Practice

by David Maryles

The Yeshiva Hockey Club's first practice session may not have held a great deal of intrigue, yet, excitement and anticipation were in the air as the players dressed and stepped out onto the ice at Sky Rink in midtown Manhattan to warm up.

All nineteen students who attended realized from the outset that this could be the springboard to establishing ice hockey as a YU team sport. Although these individuals, who attended the midnight to 2 a.m. practice, come together from various backgrounds and cities, their unifying bond is to establish a team at Yeshiva.

Said member Jon Schwartz, "This was really an enjoyable experience and I am hopeful that we will be able to continue this club in the future." Many

others concurred in saying that a school-financed team would really increase student pride and interest.

The club is open to any and all YU student body members and the weekly fee is \$10 per person. The practice sessions last from 12-2 a.m. on Tuesday nights at Sky Rink, 450 W. 33rd Street (between 9th and 10th Avenues). YCSC has agreed to partially subsidize the cost of renting the rink each week and, according to the club members, should be praised for recognizing a need of the students and then acting in an effort to help these students realize their goal — no pun intended.

For additional information contact: President Baruch Ruttner (740-4943), Vice President J.J. Hornblase (928-1933), Treasurer David Maryles (928-1107), Secretary Mike Bernstein (740-4943).

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