

# The Commentator

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

VOL. LIV NO. 8

## YU To Impose Mandatory Meal Plan



Food Services Committee members discussing the mandatory meal plan with cafeteria management.

### \$1700 Is Suggested Amount

## Student Reps. Reject Proposal

by David Borowich

After many years of back and forth deliberations, YU has decided to impose a mandatory meal plan of some form on the students of Yeshiva and Stern Colleges. The exact details of the plan have not yet been finalized, but the proposed cost to the student could reach up to seventeen hundred dollars per academic year.

In a closed meeting, the Executive Council of Yeshiva University, a forum of Deans, Vice Presidents and Administrators, voted by an overwhelming majority to recommend the implementation of a mandatory food plan effective next semester for all dorming students. The council's decision on Tuesday, February 13th, was based on the recommendation offered by the appointed Ad Hoc Committee on Food Services, chaired by Dean Norman Rosenfeld. No student input was obtained.

This select committee, composed of ten diverse members of the administration, met twice before presenting its findings to the overall council. Dean Rosenfeld stated that the committee reached its conclusions based on consultation with Mr. Birchfield, a hired consultant specializing in college food services, Mr. Bernard Pittinsky, director of finances, and assorted food service personnel. Dean Rosenfeld maintains that an "impression" of student input was obtained from Dean of Students, Dr. Efrem Nulman and Director of Supporting Services, Mr. Jeffrey Rosengarten, both of whom served on this committee.

This "impressionistic" sense of student desires expressed by Dean Rosenfeld does not necessarily reflect the real concerns that students will have with a compulsory meal plan. "I think the students, who are the ones being affected by this plan,"

President Barry Kaye observed, "should have been included in any decision process."

In explaining the Administrative position, Dr. Sheldon Socol, Vice President of Business Affairs, told THE COMMENTATOR that "We (YU) are institutionally prepared to subsidize the cafeteria, but the number (deficit) has grown to a point where it's no longer reasonable." Last year the cafeteria experienced a loss of over four hundred thousand dollars and has projected a deficit of over half a million dollars for this year. Dean of Students, Dr. Efrem Nulman, remarked that "YU needs some form of mandatory meal plan for fiscal stability; but for this to be a successful plan, student input is crucial."

One administrative official however, commented on the swiftness of the decision, calling the resolution "precipitous" and admitted that no real student input was obtained. "I think they've basically excluded us from the issue," said YCSC President Barry Kaye as he related students' reluctance to get locked into a compulsory plan. He continued to exclaim that there was "no reason why the administration has to make it into a Communist issue by forcing everybody into a fixed plan without offering any viable alternatives."

In response to why student opinion was not gauged before submitting his recommendation to the Executive Council, Dean Rosenfeld said that "student input is input, but not control and that it is not the ultimate determinant." Dr. Sheldon Socol added that "if I were a student, I'd concentrate on service and quality. Why should I object (to the mandatory meal plan)?"

In reply, David Silverblatt, a

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## Students Answer Soviet Pleas Drive Raises Over \$20,000

by Lawrence Burian

In a homogeneous display of concern, Yeshiva University students, faculty, and employees banded together (Feb. 14) to raise over twenty thousand dollars toward the Student Freedom Fund for Soviet Jewry. The fund will inject desperately needed capital into "Operation Exodus," an emergency United Jewish Appeals account established for the relief of Soviet Jews. Rabbi Doctor Israel Miller, senior vice-president of Yeshiva University, and Rabbi Louis Bernstein, former president of the Rabbinical Council of America, personally guarantee the integrity of the fund. The money raised will be directed, in total, toward the immediate financing of the emigrating Soviet Jews.

Particularly stirring was the ninety-five percent student contribution. While eighteen dollars was suggested, and checks of any denominations were accepted, contributions in excess of thirty dollars were not uncommon. Donations by non-Jewish employees further indicate a strong university-wide sense of community.

The Student Freedom Fund contributes to the increasing American focus on Soviet Jewry. Fueled by the hate-spewing Soviet nationalist party Pamyat, Russian anti-Semitism has reached a critical level. The New York Times reported that "Severe economic dislocations and political instability aggravate tensions and permit the Jew to be a scapegoat for the problems of perestroika." National-

istic demonstrations in Kishenev, Moldavia produced a cry to "drown the Jews in Russian blood."

Yet, with recently relaxed Soviet emigration laws coupled to ever tightening U.S. immigration quotas, Israel emerges as an obvious haven for Russian Jewry. An influx of funds is crucial both to facilitate the escape and to fortify the Israeli absorption centers.

With this in mind, Rabbi Louis Bernstein approached student leaders with a plea for action. On Monday February 5, Andrew Goldsmith (Y.C. Junior) chaired a committee to coordinate a student response to the Soviet emergency. Representatives included: Jerry Hawk, Barry Hawk, Dov Pinchot,

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## Admissions Office Grows Younger Search Goes On For New Head

by Daniel Oshinsky

With the position of Director of Admissions still vacant, youth has become the defining feature of the YU Admissions Office.

Twenty three is the average age of Admissions staffers; Admission's newest recruiter is only twenty one. True, admission statistics are up and high level administrators have only words of praise for Admissions officers. However, many worry about long term effects. Several Admissions officers themselves voice complaints about the Administration's slowness in installing a new director.

Three months after Judy Paikin's departure, the official search committee has yet to announce a successor to the former Director of Admissions. Although several sources maintain that the committee set for itself a March 20th target date, committee members Vice Pres-

ident Egon Brenner and Dean Michael Hecht denied the existence of a deadline. Dean Hecht did say the committee has interviewed and ranked a "sufficient number of good candidates." However, there is no indication that a final decision has been made.

The continued vacancy on top of the Admissions Office focuses attention on the relative youth of present Admissions staffers. For instance, both Acting Director Marc Mendelson and Assistant Director Scott Appelbaum graduated Yeshiva College in June, 1988. A third recruiter, Ethan Benovitz, will officially graduate this June. The two female staffers, Leslie Binder and Judy Erlich are also recent graduates.

Although the employment of young admissions workers is a trend current at many universities, many have been surprised

by the uniform youth of the YU staffers. One Admissions worker admitted that "in terms of image...I don't think it's such a wise move." Others worry about the effects of what appears to be a lack of experience.

Despite these concerns, Yeshiva Admissions is in fact in the midst of a highly successful recruiting year. At YU, 310 applications have been received to date, as opposed to the 280 received at this point last year. The number of Stern applications has reached the highest point in the school's history.

"I am very pleasantly surprised with how well Admissions has been working since Ms. Paikin's departure," reflects Dean Hecht. "We are far ahead in applications." As chairman of the Max Stern Selection Committee, Dr. Hecht claims he has interviewed more candidates

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# Under Age

YU's five young Admissions officers should be commended for carrying on where Judy Paikin left off. Despite fears that Ms. Paikin's departure would leave Admissions in disarray, the hard work of Mr. Mendelson and his colleagues has maintained YU as a strong drawer. In fact, if present statistics continue, the number of applications received will surpass last year's total.

Still, the lack of a veteran Director leaves Admissions on shaky ground. While the dedication of present staffers is above question, the fact that their years of experience combined do not equal that of Ms. Paikin is inescapable. As the obtainer of YU's most important resource, its students, the Admissions office needs to be led by a more seasoned admissions officer.

Administrators say the delay in selecting a successor to Ms. Paikin reflects the importance they place on finding a qualified candidate. If so, their silence is being misconstrued both within and without the Admissions office. In the words of one Admissions worker, it appears the Administration is content to let Admissions run on "auto-pilot". If the Administration waited only two weeks to install a new Pre-Med Advisor, surely the current three month wait is unjustified.

To clear up all uncertainties, the Administration should comment on the progress of the selection committee. More importantly, a worthy successor to Ms. Paikin should be installed with all due speed.

# Magic Monday

Last Monday, the myth of YU student apathy vanished. A student organization called The Student Freedom Fund collected in excess of twenty thousand dollars — undoubtedly the largest amount ever collected for any cause on the YU campus — for the purpose of hurriedly freeing Soviet Jews from a sudden outbreak of anti-Semitism.

We congratulate the students who gave of their time and talents to help coordinate, publicize, and walk room-to-room asking for donations. We congratulate the students, administration, and faculty members who gave so generously for this important effort.

Twenty thousand dollars is an incredible amount to raise on a college campus. Estimations placed student response at nearly ninety percent. What other campus can claim that kind of student response?

One student explained while collecting for the fund, "I have never felt so proud to be at YU as I do tonight." Neither did we.

# Spacing Out

As midterms and finals approach once again, the administration needs to address the problem of late-night study areas for students.

Aside from the cramped and often noisy lounge area, without a student center to go to, and especially with the loss of lounge space in the Morgenstern Dorm, students need a private, peaceful, and spacious study area for concentrating on those memorable all-nighters.

We recommend that more of Tannenbaum Hall be opened to the YU students for late-night studying. This means opening more than one free-for-all lounge where panic and chaos can rule supreme; it means opening individual classrooms for individuals or small groups of students to sit in quiet and study. We do not have the most expansive campus in the university world; let's at least make the most of it.

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# The Commentator

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# Halpert Responsa

## To the Editor:

We would like to correct the great misconceptions that Yehudah Blinder commented on in the February 14 issue of THE COMMENTATOR. Clearly, Mr Blinder based his comments on his personal feelings and did not bother to review the statistics and facts. For had he done so, he would have discovered that under the guidance of Coach Halpert, the Maccabees have broken both individual and team records in nearly every category. Team records include: best overall team record, most team victories, most team free throws, most team field goals, and most team points in a season. Individual records under the coaches guidance include: 11 players in the top 25 all-time leading scorers of Y.U. (including the top three scorers), highest percentage of free throws in the nation, most three point field goals in a game and career, and most individual career points. In addition, Coach Halpert led the Macs to the ECAC post season championship for the first time in the history of Y.U. None of this could have happened without Jonathan Halpert's coaching and encouragement. Truly, it is a sad thing that Mr Blinder and "different students around the campus" have so quickly forgotten the efforts and successes of Coach Halpert and the Macs.

Perhaps the only thing Mr Blinder was correct on was that Coach Halpert "hasn't lasted this long because of his coaching ability." Coach Halpert has "lasted" this long not only because of his great coaching ability, but also because he has been a trusting friend and excellent role model to the players, and because he is a dedicated and true human being who has gone far and beyond his duty as a coach. As players for the Macs for several years, we developed great respect for Coach Halpert, for his methods, and for his guidance both on and off the court. Mr Blinder's comment that "a coach must play to win" is misconstrued. The Macs are truly student-athletes, not Division I players, studying "basket weaving," and Coach Halpert understands this. Basketball is not a Jewish priority, a YU priority, nor the Macs priority. We are a Jewish team which would like to win but which realizes that being human beings is more important than winning. It has been our honor to play under Coach Halpert. Without him, we could not have developed our abilities and ourselves to such a great extent. We only hope that Mr Blinder and other Macs fans will now have a greater understanding and respect for Coach Halpert.

Ayal Hod-YC 89', Lior Hod-YC 88', Benji Reichel-YC 88', Marty Schlakman-YC 88', Yudi Teichman-YC 89'



Coach Jonathan Halpert.

## To the Editor:

Being a basketball fan, I can say that I had the good fortune of being at Yeshiva during some of the most exciting seasons in the school's history, and I have Coach Halpert to thank for it. I came here in the second year of the MSAC era, and watched an entirely new team take the floor following the Joey Eaves-Ronny Schwartz years. The reason 1100 students, faculty, alumni, and others filled the MSAC at every home game was the players. We even had busses going to away games. It was fun because of the players. Yudi, Benji, Baum, Lior, Lance, etc. were our friends, and we were happy to come out and cheer them on. The reason the MSAC is empty this year is also the players fault. Aside from a select few (Gottlieb, Tzvi, to name a couple) I can't identify with them so it's harder to cheer for them. Coach Halpert can only do so much in the limited time he has with the team, it's up to the players after that.

Mr. Blinder's attack on coach Halpert is based on Yeshiva's record from 1960-1979, when Yeshiva couldn't muster 10 wins in two seasons. Does he know who we were playing then? LIU, Queens, Brooklyn, it was called the Knickerbocker Conference and it still exists, it's a division II conference.

Coach Halpert brought about a change by helping to create the IAC, the conference we are in now, and where we can play nationally ranked teams like NYU and W. Conn, and when we give the team support they play as equals. Many a time I have seen a rival coach leave the MSAC with a bewildered look on his face mumbling, "I don't know what it is about this place!" I'll answer you coach: it's the fans, the student body. Since 1984 when the Macs started to become a reality the teams records are 11-8, 14-9, 10-13, 16-8 (ECAC Tournament), 12-11 (6-4 best IAC conference record ever), and this season 11-10. Compare that with any other decade and you'll find that this is the first time Yeshiva has won 100 games in a decade.

Coach Halpert does what he can with what he has. How can you attack a person who has given this school his all for over 25 years, as a player and a coach. The team has 11 wins this year, with only one big man - credit the coach again. The Sports section in THE COMMENTATOR has been a scam this year. I haven't seen one interview with the team's captain or the team's SID. All I have seen are the negative ways of portraying a very successful season. Shmuel Bulka doesn't write "Macs Go 3-3 Since Break." He calls it "Basketball Woes." Mr. Bulka, did you see half the plays you so eloquently described? I dare say no! Did you write one positive word about the way the team played? I attended every home game and several away games. Stop listening to Art Aaron and start watching the game. I have sat behind the Macs bench for four years, if you listen to the coach you may learn something.

## GET WITH THE PROGRAM BULKA!

As for Mr. Blinder, who told you about the locker room speeches? It seems Mr. Blinder blundered on this point. He quotes the Coach during a speech in the locker room, obviously he has sources we don't know about. I'm really sorry your roomy feels the way he does. He is a very talented player. He has the fastest first step I've ever seen. But his manner on the court is not what I want representing me. I came and cheered at the games this year. I came but I was never happy. I saw players with immense potential wasted because of their own selfishness. The players Coach Halpert "inherits...who are accustomed to winning" were inherited from the Yeshiva League. Yes, they won, but who did they beat? They beat JEC and OTI, not NYU and NJIT.

Mr. Editor, I say to the student body at YU the same thing that Mr. Blinder did to the Coach, I think the really loyal fans deserve a change. Stop griping about what we don't have. We'll never be Duke or

North Carolina for the same reasons we'll never be Harvard or Yale. I feel that if you want to gripe about something, gripe about players who have to be forced to wear a yarmulke. Gripe about student writers who don't give the story but their own distorted view of the facts. Gripe about the students who have the ability but don't want to make the sacrifice. When the students get their own act together - we'll see another great season.

Coach Halpert, on behalf of the silent majority on the student body who know and recognize what you do for them, I would like to apologize for the ignorance of some.

Jeffrey Sarasohn  
YC 90'

## To the Editor:

In the last issue of THE COMMENTATOR, an article was written scorning the ability and competence of Macs Head Coach Jonathan Halpert. This article was the opinion of a concerned fan, and it is encouraging to know that the MACS have such die-hard supporters. However, I believe the points made in "Halpert Hunting" were at best misguided, and should be seen in a different light.

Firstly, Coach Halpert begins each season with distinct disadvantages, the main one being a lack of practice time. While most college teams practice five, six, even seven days a week, the Macs can practice only three, possibly four, due to Yeshiva College's rigid academic schedule. Despite this predicament, Coach Halpert does a fine job of utilizing his practice time to condition and instruct his players. As for the remarks concerning Coach Halpert's supposed lack of a winning attitude, I vehemently disagree. Coach Halpert instills within his players a will to win without ranting and raving like any other coaches (I have personally experienced three consecutive winning seasons under Coach Halpert). He also accomplishes this without degrading or belittling his players. Furthermore, Coach Halpert displays a genuine concern for the welfare of all his players, both on and off the court, which is more than I can say for a lot of other coaches who are alleged "winners."

Finally, to play at Yeshiva, it requires a certain discipline and maturity due to the long school hours. When players are not mature enough to work within the framework of a team and realize these goals, it is their own fault, not Coach Halpert's.

Again, I am happy to see such fanatical interest in the welfare of the Macs. However, these energies should not be channeled towards Coach Halpert - Coach, it has been a pleasure playing for you. Thanks for the years of fun.

David Gottlieb YC 90'  
Captain, 89-90 Macs

## To the Editor:

Dr. Jonathan Halpert is an outstanding basketball coach and a gem of a teacher. I couldn't disagree more with Yehuda Blinder's unfounded criticisms and unwarranted conclusions appearing op-ed in the February 14, 1990 issue of THE COMMENTATOR.

A look at the record belies Mr Blinder's assertions. In recent years the Maccabee won-lost records have been excellent; Coach Halpert has a record of accomplishment many coaches would be proud to have. Two years ago we were 16-8; last year 12-11; if we win our final game against Pratt, we'll go 12-10 - all winning seasons!! This year we lost five games by three points or less. If we had not lost Tzvi Himer early in the year I think it is safe to say we might have been 17 and 5 and perhaps another post-season bid. If we look at the longer and historical perspective the record shows that there has been a commensurate success rate in basketball (with Halpert as Coach) as the sport has increased in popularity at The College.

Mr Blinder's point that some of our players aren't in tip-top physical condition is well taken. This is true of practically all of our intercollegiate athletic teams. But why blame it on the coaches? What other varsity basketball team in the country is limited to practicing only three times a week for two hours a session? In what other collegiate setting do athletes have to master full-time dual programs till six and seven o'clock at night and then first go out and practice and play competitive NCAA Division III basketball. Given the constraints of the unique YU educational experience, our teams (and most notably basketball) not only live up to their potential-they surpass them! I think that our players and our coaches, rather than be denigrated and villified, should be congratulated on their accomplishments and sacrifices and they should be honored for the manner in which they represent YU.

Additionally, its interesting to note that Jon Halpert, among his peers in the Metropolitan area, as well as the Independent Athletic Conference, is considered to be a premier coach. He's

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# CAMPUS NEWS

## First "Dorm Night" Focuses On "Real World"

by Hayyim Angel

"...There have been times when I've given a great speech, and afterwards, a woman would come over, and she just could not control herself...and she gave me a great big kiss..." said Rabbi Blech, with a smile.

"That never happened to me," responded Rabbi Willig, "and I'm not sure whether it's because Rabbi Blech is a better speaker than I, or if it's because he's better looking than I am..."

On Tuesday night, February 13, the first in a series of three "Dorm Nights" was given in the Morg Lounge. Residents of Morg were treated to two hours of informal discussion on the subject of living among non-Jews. Real work situations were created by Senior David Debow in order to stimulate discussion from a Halakhic and a "Lifnim Meshurat Hadin" (beyond the letter of the law) approach.

Dorm Night organizers say the need for informal panel discussions emerged after a column by COMMENTATOR Editor Dov Pinchot lamented the fact that many Yeshiva graduates are in for a rude awakening upon leaving the confines of Y.U. and getting a job in the outside world. After reading the column, Dean Nulman went to Residence Hall Director Rabbi Cheifetz and suggested that the students should get a chance to discuss the issues long before they ever arise.

Just as students were to see situations before they arose, the

organizers of the program planned the event months in advance, trying to foresee any possible problems.

Rabbi Blau, Rabbi Handel, Rabbi Fine, and second floor dorm counselor Richard Scharlat held a series of meetings during which they discussed the needs of the students, and various techniques for relating the necessary information to the students. After the program was established, other dorm counselors were briefed on techniques of leading group discussions.

The first part of the program divided the 75 students up by floors. Each group discussion was led by a dorm counselor, who would introduce the topic, and then moderate while students discussed how they would act in each case, and why they would. Though Halakhic issues were raised, students found themselves primarily relying on their common sense.

Part two of the program involved a panel of Rabbi Benjamin Blech of JSS and Rabbi Mordechai Willig of MYP as panelists, and Rabbi Yosef Blau as moderator. Rabbi Blech and Rabbi Willig presented their views on what they would do, and produced the necessary Halakhic sources for their responses.

Rabbi Blech introduced his first response (about a female boss kissing you for giving her a gift) with a general statement which hopefully affected everyone there: "Don't be so quick to call everyone who doesn't conform to your view an api-

korus (heretic). Before you go off on a piety kick, be sure you know what is involved." Rabbi Blech explained that while it is important to know individual Halakhot, it is also critical to have an entire logical system to base decisions on.

One student asked whether one should assert his religious demands at the first interview for a job. Rabbi Blech responded emphatically, "Who says you have to be the richest person on the block? Maybe you should be the most true to yourself! Don't live your life under a mask."

Can a news reporter, enter a church to cover a story? Rabbi Willig responded that not only is it forbidden to enter a church anyway, but "writing for a newspaper itself is very problematic from the perspective of lying and gossip...try to look for another profession." Something to keep in mind.

Though part three did not happen in Morg, Rubin and Muss residents will have a second group discussion session during which students will discuss their reactions to what the rabbis said. The Muss and Rubin meetings will also be more college-life oriented, while Morg was more career oriented. Organizers explained that since Morg has more of the people who will graduate soon, it dealt with job scenarios. Many Rubin and Muss residents, on the other hand, still have a few years until graduation, and so they should deal with issues facing them today.

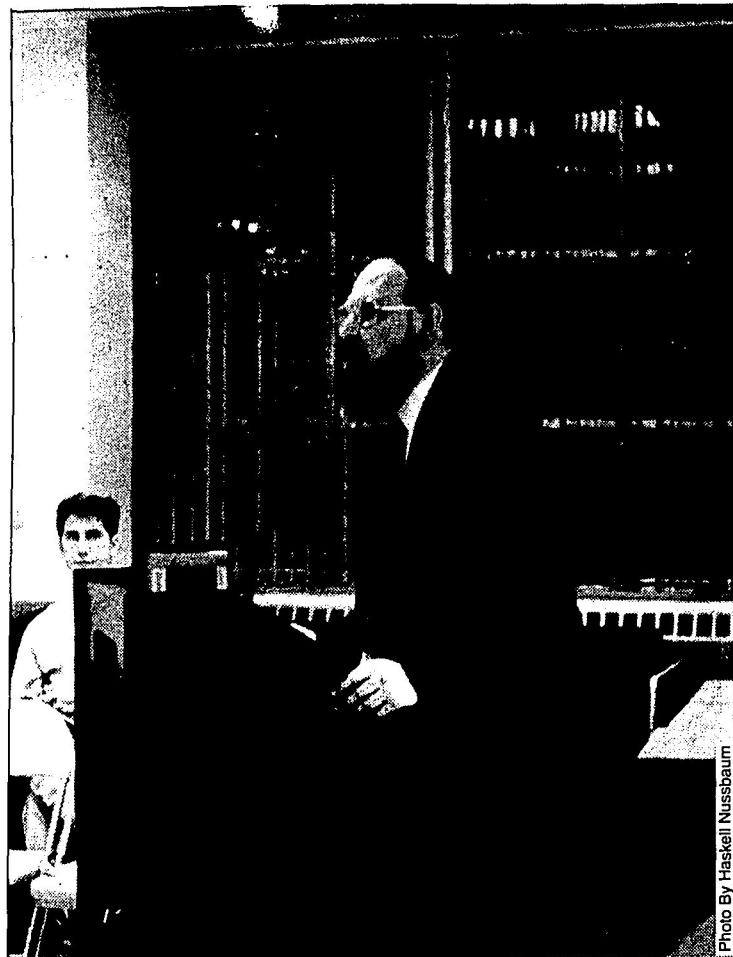


Photo By Haskell Nussbaum

YU Mashgiach Rabbi Yosef Blau moderating discussion during first "Dorm Night".

David Debow offered several objectives for the program. The first goal was simply to "give answers to relevant questions, and to personalize them."

On a deeper level, however, the goal was to get students to think Halakhically, and to give them the feeling that rabbis are people who can be approached to ask questions to. Rabbi Blau stressed the importance of having "the guys on the floor relate to each other on a serious, religious level."

Debow summed up his statements by saying that while students learn a good quantity

of Judaic studies at YU, the education is often nothing beyond academic. He wanted this program "to bridge the gap between the academic Talmudic study and the Sugya of life."

The program in Morg was deemed a success by both organizers and students. One student remarked that "it is great to see rabbanim as real people who can be open with regard to real questions that need to be asked." Another observed that "only at YU would they even think of doing something like this, and I'm glad they did it. We should have more on other issues."



Parents attending class with Dr. Kenneth Grossberg.

## Parents Play Students At First Parents Day

by Jonathan Adler

Between 120 and 140 parents of YU students attended YU's first Parents Day on February 19. The parents, who came from many different parts of the country, were greeted by the administration and attended lectures delivered by some of their sons' Rebbeim and Professors. Parents said they thought the day was well spent and enjoyed experiencing YU first hand.

The day began with a breakfast and greeting by YU President Dr. Norman Lamm who told the parents that he conceived the idea of Parents Day in the hope that it would enable

parents to participate in their children's educational experience. Dr. Lamm remarked that though he is extremely impressed with the YU faculty, the yeshiva's greatest asset is its students, whose activities provide a bright hope for the future. As one example of student initiative, Dr. Lamm remarked that the SOY sefarim sale is becoming well known across the city as an excellent place to acquire a wide range of sefarim.

After the President's greeting, parents were treated to a lecture by Rabbi Mordechai Willig, a Rosh Yeshiva at YU. In introducing Rabbi Willig, Rabbi Zevulun Charlop, the Dean of

MYP, went as far as telling the parents that he believes that YU has a better group of rebbeim than can be found anywhere in the world.

Rabbi Willig delivered his lecture in the Shenk Synagogue in the recently dedicated Schottenstein Center on the biblical commandment of honoring one's father and mother. Rabbi Willig explained a difficult Talmudic passage and, in doing so, said that the commandment of honoring one's father and mother is of such import that he believes that if a parent requires the care of his/her child, the child must even refrain from moving to Israel in order to serve his/her parent. The lecture was punctuated with frequent questions and suggestions from the parents in attendance and it was apparent that all the parents enjoyed the lecture.

Parents Day attracted parents from many outlying areas. Rabbi and Mrs. Kilimnik, came from Rochester, NY to attend Parents Day. They said that they had come because they feel that it is important for a parent to be a part of their child's education and to be aware of what he experiences in school. Rabbi and Mrs. Green travelled

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## The Pool: One Year Later

by David Silverblatt

"The plan to build a swimming facility on the Yeshiva College campus moved one step closer to fruition two weeks ago when Dean of Students Dr. Efrem Nulman, Director of Personnel Jeffrey Rosengarten, and Assistant Director of Maintenance Jeff Sokol met with numerous student leaders to discuss the details and time-frame for building the new pool."

The above quote may sound familiar. It is a direct excerpt from a COMMENTATOR article printed November 22, 1988.

For years, the students at Yeshiva College have been promised a swimming pool. Two years ago, student leaders were invited to view the blueprints, and hear all the plans:

a 75 foot pool, steam room, sauna, and whirlpool. Construction was to begin spring break of 1988. The students are still waiting.

In a recent interview, Rosengarten explained that "The delay was really a budget problem. Until it fit our budget we couldn't give a final okay." He continued to say that all contracts have been guaranteed, and as soon as construction begins, it should be "full steam ahead." If all goes as planned, he said, by the time students return in the fall, "We should have significant progress." According to Rosengarten, excavation on the pool will begin on or about April 1, almost exactly one year later than the proposed groundbreaking last year.

*The Commentator wishes a  
Mazel Tov to its Editor, Dov Pinchot,  
on his engagement to Laurie Nussbaum.*



# Civil Rights Leader Speaks At YU

by Moshe Friedman

Mr. Roy Innis, Chairman of the Congress of Racial Equality, the third largest civil rights organization in the country, spoke to a crowd of over 250 people in Furst Hall February 14th on what he calls a conspiracy of some Jewish and black leaders against their own people.

The conspiracy, explained Mr. Innis, is a common method of leadership that some people use to maintain power. These leaders exploit the "psycho-historical trauma," or paranoia about long-term oppression, that blacks and Jews share.

Mr. Innis cited several examples, primarily from the black community, of how fear of oppression, that in reality was no threat at all, caused people to feel angry toward an "external enemy." Some leaders use this fear, he said, "to keep their people...angry at anybody and everybody except themselves."

In the first of these examples, Mr. Innis polled the audience as to their best estimate of the percentage of blacks from the total black population that are convicted criminals. While responses from the audience averaged about 20%, Mr. Innis declared that most audiences, including blacks, come up with responses of about 45% on the average. Mr. Innis then announced that, in reality, less than one percent of the black population are convicted criminals.

The point of the experiment

was to show how people have distorted figures in their minds about black crime as a result of "tremendous emphasis on the part of black leadership to defend black criminals. And there is that perception, in the population at large, that a significantly large number of blacks are criminals. Blacks themselves believe that."

It is this kind of sensationalism, explained Mr. Innis, that causes most black-Jewish tension. "There is a perception given of a lot of antagonism between blacks and Jews," he said, "although blacks and Jews relate better socially, and in business...than any other groups in society." This perception of antagonism is caused by events such as the attempt last year by Jesse Jackson and Louis Farrakhan to drum up support, an event which Mr. Innis termed the "Jesse-Louie Road Show," in which the pair made controversial remarks about Jews.

Mr. Innis then detoured to the topic of Rudy Giuliani's loss of the recent mayoral race in New York City. "The decision as to who would be mayor of New York City last year rested in my hands," he said. Mr. Innis cited the fact that Mr. Giuliani lost the election by only two percentage points, and contended that Mr. Giuliani made no attempt whatsoever to attract the black vote, over which Mr. Innis claimed to have enough influence to bridge the gap by which Mr. Giuliani lost.

In the question and answer



Photo By David Leventer

CORE Chairman Roy Innis speaking to College Republicans on Black leadership.

period, Mr. Innis asserted his opposition to affirmative action, and explained his support of it in the sixties by saying that the outlook for social change in the United States looked dim thirty years ago. He also added that while the program that he supported applied only to qualified minorities, affirmative action today is a means by which non-qualified persons are being placed in positions where more qualified people are deserving, making affirmative action "a racist insult to black people."

Condemning the appearance at Columbia University of "Professor Griff," leader of the rap group "Public Enemy" and overt anti-Semite, Mr. Innis called Prof. Griff a "joke" and an "idiot." Mr. Innis rhetorically questioned how intelligent the students at Columbia could be "if they have to be educated" by Professor Griff.

The appearance of Roy Innis at Yeshiva University was sponsored by College Republicans. CR Chairman Ilan Aldouby said that it was important to hear speakers like Roy Innis, and added that he hopes "there are more black leaders like Roy Innis who try to ease tensions instead of intensifying them."

Co-organizer Steven Felsenthal, however, was critical of Mr. Innis's statements about Rudy Giuliani. "Mr. Innis made it appear as if Giuliani made no attempt to appeal to black voters," he said, "ignoring the fact that there were several black community leaders who were deeply involved in the Giuliani campaign."

Roy Innis is famous for his appearances on the Geraldo Rivera and Morton Downey Jr. shows. On the Geraldo show, a confrontation with a 20 year old white supremacist erupted into

a violent fight in which Mr. Rivera's nose was broken. On the Morton Downey show, a heated argument with the Reverend Al Sharpton led Mr. Innis to push Sharpton backward in his chair onto the floor.

Mr. Innis is also well known for his part in the investigation and exposure of the Tawana Brawley hoax, in which a young black girl falsely claimed to have been raped by several white men, as well as his defense of Bernard Goetz, who shot four blacks youths in a Manhattan subway after the youths approached and allegedly tried to rob him.

When you observe a truth, concluded Mr. Innis, you must "accept the logical consequences of that truth, and not be a coward. In other words, when you have truth, logic, and courage, you can overcome just about any problem."

## Clarion Hit By Budget Blues

by Gad Dishi

The Clarion, a YC publication which discusses world events, has changed its format from an annual publication to that of a monthly. To date, they have printed two issues. David Borowich, Editor-in-Chief of The Clarion, explained that the switch to a monthly publication was instituted to achieve a number of goals. The first goal was to cut down on the total costs of the publication. As an annual publication its costs ran close to \$3,000. As a monthly, it was estimated that costs would be kept down to approximately \$550 an issue. The second goal to be achieved related to the

timeliness of the articles. As a monthly, students' reactions to world events would be more current. Lastly, more articles in total would be able to be published throughout the year.

The Clarion had experienced difficulties earlier in the year which caused an editorial coup in December. At one point, things were so bad that the SC staff was ready to secede if changes were not made. As a result, David Borowich was appointed to his present position. An issue was put out in December and one is expected at the end of February. January was skipped due to finals when students are usually too busy to

write or read anything but course-related materials and vacation when no-one is around.

Binyamin Kaminetsky, publisher of The Clarion, added that funds have become a major problem for the publication. In contrast to other papers which succeed in getting ads from neighborhood enterprises, The Clarion finds that storeowners have had their fill for ads towards Yeshiva publications. The student councils are their only recourse.

Barry Kaye, President of YCSC, commented on the matter as follows. "At the beginning of the school year, The Clarion submitted a budget proposal for \$6,714.30 under the assumption that they would have 13 issues. At the time, YCSC allotted \$1500 and SCWSC also committed \$1500." However, \$500 for the December issue was paid entirely by YCSC. Mr. Kaye stated that he was still waiting for SCWSC to remit their half back to YCSC.

Asides from The Clarion, there were a number of other unresolved issues concerning economic obligations on behalf of SCWSC. The first concerned WYUR. It was Mr. Kaye's impression that, as per budget allotments, SCWSC would pay WYUR four installments of \$1500 each of which they pres-

ently owed \$3,000 in arrears.

The second issue revolved around payment for the buses used by SSSJ for the Washington D.C. rally. Apparently, the people were undercharged and the expenses were more than expected. The total cost for the buses was \$1400 and the event generated only \$400 of the \$600 estimated. SCWSC assumed the \$1000 debt and had only paid \$500.

The last issue involved SCWSC's debt to YCSC for a number of booths at the SSSJ carnival. It seems that each booth cost approximately \$500 and SCWSC had not paid the amount they initially committed themselves to. Another small matter regarding Hanukkah sweatshirts was raised but dismissed because "a lapse of communication" was responsible for the mix-up. Mr. Kaye stated that future events, such as the Yom Ha'atsmaut program would be a joint event in every sense except the economical one. "When I plan events now, I just assume the money is coming from YCSC."

However, Cindy Schlanger, President of SCWSC, presented the situation in a different light. Attributing much of the misunderstanding on the indifference of YC council to follow up on their empty accusations, she explained that all the money which SCWSC committed themselves to is completely up to date and no outstanding obligations exist. "I don't know

how the YC board handles their accounts but every check we issue is well documented".

When asked to address the issues raised, she stated clearly that all the monies were paid. WYUR had just received their check last week which may account for the lack of knowledge on the part of the YC board.

Regarding the SSSJ expenses to Washington, Mr. David Levine and Chayala Weissman, people involved with the event, confirmed that SCWSC and TAC had paid \$500 each thereby clearing all outstanding debt. It is to be pointed out that both organizations belong to Stern. SSSJ officially thanked them for their support.

Ms. Schlanger contends that the booths for the SSSJ carnival were never addressed as an issue of contention and that she was more than willing to pay for them if someone would just ask.

Lastly, the monies relating to The Clarion, which sparked all this off, were paid in full. A check for \$250 was issued on December 27th to The Clarion's printer and was cashed the next day. No-one ever approached her for additional monies or even raised the issue. She explained that the printer's fees had increased and that the issue's total cost would be \$750 in total thereby accounting for all the monies disbursed.

After having contacted Mr. Kaye a second time, he sug-

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# The Men Who Run

## Dr. Israel Miller

Dr. Israel Miller often refers to the "depth and intensity" of today's Orthodox Jewish community; however, he himself is accurately described by these same words. As Senior Vice-President of Yeshiva University this sincere administrator is undoubtedly a jewel in the crown of Yeshiva University.

Dr. Miller is at once a warm and eloquent man. His pleasant disposition and unassuming manner belie the fact that he is an extremely prominent figure among world Jewry. He has met with each of the last five U.S. presidents and has been awarded more than ten honors by organizations ranging from the Boy Scouts of America to Shaarei Zedek Hospital in Jerusalem. Dr. Miller's biography is also recorded in *Who's Who in America*, *Encyclopedia Judaica*, and *Who's Who in World Jewry*.

Dr. Miller was born in Baltimore Maryland and lived there until he graduated high school and came to what was then Yeshiva College. He graduated Valedictorian of his class in 1938, and in 1941 he took his Semicha examinations in the same room which he now uses as his office.

It has been over fifty years since Dr. Miller first came to Yeshiva and he feels that he has a special perspective concerning the school. He feels that in many ways he is a "bridge between what was and what is." He studied under Dr. Revel as one of his talmidim.

After listening to him speak for a few minutes it becomes immediately apparent that Dr. Miller is one of the most enthusiastic and energetic people at Yeshiva University. He is appreciative of the school and he remarked, "I am very grateful to Yeshiva for what it did for me and what it helped me do for my children."

What Yeshiva did for Dr. Miller was to educate him well, and afford him the opportunity to make friends that he has remained close to for his entire adult life. Dr. Miller commented, "There are class-

mates of mine that I'm still very friendly with, and my kids call them Uncle and their wives Aunt, and their children call me Uncle and my wife Aunt because we're so close to each other...Our 50th year we had a reunion and it was like brothers and sisters [coming together]...I say to the guys here, you may not remember everybody who taught every subject but the one thing you have here is the chevra-the guys, and that hasn't changed."

Interestingly enough Dr. Miller is from a self-described "Yeshiva Family." His older brothers attended Yeshiva College, and he met his wife because his brother and her brother went to school together at Yeshiva.

Dr. Miller is not only involved with the family of Jews at Yeshiva; he has been involved with the Soviet Jewry movement from the beginning. In 1965 he led a delegation of the Rabbinical Council of America to the Soviet Union, although he and his delegation did not have Visas until they arrived in the airport, they were allowed into the country. Dr. Miller requested permission to speak in the synagogue in Moscow. When his request was granted he was featured as the "Man in the News" on the front page of the New York Times. Dr. Miller relates this story about his trip to Russia: "When we walked through the shul they had separated us from the congregation...and when they took the Torah out of the Aron Kodesh they had put us up on the bima-I said to my fellow rabbis 'Come on guys'...and people reached out, just as they kissed the Torah, they were kissing us, but out of the anonymity of the crowd somebody said in Yiddish 'Don't forget us.' After this experience, Dr. Miller entitled an article he wrote about the condition of Soviet Jewry 'Don't forget us.' He finds it significant that after so many years the Soviet Jews have not been forgotten. The promise has been kept."

Soviet Jewry is not the only Jewish cause that Dr. Miller is involved in, he is also a Zionist. Dr. Miller grew up in what he describes as a "Zionist family." He first travelled to Israel in 1949, one year after the formation of the state, since as he put it, "you can't be a Rabbi without having been in Israel and seen Israel. I worked for it [the formation of the state] and it had come into being." He remembers being in Jerusalem when it was a small town, and he was present at the reburial of Theodore Herzl at Mt. Herzl which was then a "bare hill." Since then Dr. Miller has been to Israel quite frequently and the incentives to return are always growing because two of his four children and eleven of his seventeen grandchildren live in Israel.

When asked if Yeshiva University has a special responsibility to Israel, Dr. Miller pointed out that Yeshiva maintains a very positive attitude towards Israel. Hatikva is sung at college graduation and Yom Ha'atzmaut is celebrated here. Dr. Miller explained, "Yom Ha'atzmaut is one of the things that I insist upon here-we have a holiday on the academic calendar because if we don't recognize the Etzba Elokim (finger of God) who will?" Dr. Miller cited the fact that "one out of every ten of our graduates has gone on Aliya." He explained that Yeshiva University has 300 students in Israel each year, and the college allows a full year of credit to enable students to graduate with three years in residence. He acknowledged that this may not be easy for students majoring in some areas, such as Pre-Med and Accounting, but many students are able to spend a year in Israel and still graduate college in four years. Dr. Miller feels that, "We have a great investment in terms of what Yeshiva contributes to Israel...but we consider this the best investment that we can make because we're making an investment in people and the future of Judaism."

Looking toward the future Dr. Miller foresees growth, especially in the undergraduate

division. He enthusiastically pronounced, "We're here to stay!...We're going to grow in terms of numbers but our program will remain much the same. Our program hasn't changed much in the 50 years that I've been here." He feels that Cardozo law school is becoming better all the time, and as more alumni establish themselves and hire more graduates the prestige of the school will continue to grow.

Dr. Miller has been in New York City for many years and he held the position as Rabbi of a large congregation in the Bronx for twenty-five years. Since then he has seen many changes in the New York Jewish community. He has observed a move to "the right" since world war two leading to the development of large communities such as Williamsburg and Boro Park. Unfortunately this has been paralleled by a loss of many Jews to assimilation as well. Dr. Miller explained, "There is more intensity and depth to the orthodox Jewish community and there is also a greater movement out [of Judaism]...the assimilatory trends are very great in this open society." According to Dr. Miller the greatness of Yeshiva University is that its graduates live in two worlds without being absorbed by assimilation.

Although his work at Yeshiva could easily occupy all of his time, Dr. Miller remains active in communal affairs. As his official Y.U. biographical sketch states:

"He is president of the con-



Dr. Israel Miller

ference of Jewish Material Claims Against Germany, the official body representing the interest of all Jewish victims of Nazi persecution throughout the world to the Federal Republic of Germany and the German Democratic Republic. He is also president of the Committee for Jewish Claims on Austria.

He serves as secretary of the international Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture; as chairman of the Strategy Committee of the Israel Task Force... The list goes on. Dr. Miller himself commented, "Being active outside of Yeshiva gives me a perspective about Yeshiva too. Baruch Hashem, I've been able to manage all of these worlds...sometimes I feel like a juggler."

At seventy-one Dr. Miller is more active than many people half his age. He admitted that he feels very young, and he is thankful that he has been blessed with good health and provided with an opportunity to interact with young adults. He commented "When you work with young people it keeps you young and it keeps your outlook young."

At this point in his life Dr. Miller appears to be a successful and content person, he reflected "I'm not sorry for anything, if I had it all to do over again, I think I'd do it the same way."

For over half a century Dr. Israel Miller has brought honor to Yeshiva, first as a student, then as an alumnus, now as an administrator. He may be a juggler, but one thing is for certain — he never drops a ball.

"He is president of the con-

# Yeshiva University

## Jeffrey Rosengarten

When we look at a beautiful building, we notice the detail of the architecture or how tall the building is, yet rarely do we concern ourselves with what is keeping that building from falling down — the foundation. At Yeshiva University, students concern themselves mainly with their studies and professors. We hardly give notice to certain parts of the structure that are vital in the University's existence. One of the people that help to maintain and improve that structure is Jeffrey Rosengarten. Of the two thousand employees at Yeshiva, Mr. Rosengarten is responsible for several hundred of them.

A graduate of M.T.A. and Queens College, Mr. Rosengarten directed his studies to the areas of psychology and sociology with his main interest in Industrial Psychology. He furthered his studies at the Bernard Baruch Graduate School and at the New School for Social Research.

In March of 1974, Mr. Rosengarten started working at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine in their personnel department where he was involved in labor relations, staff recruitment, and training. While he was in the process of searching for a new Associate Director of Medical Information for Bronx Municipal Hospital, an affiliate of AECOM, Mr. Rosengarten was offered the position, and accepted. After four years at that position, Mr. Rosengarten received a call from Yeshiva asking if he wanted to move to the midtown campus. "At that time, there was a fairly young

personnel department here at YU that was in need of direction, growth, and development." Mr. Rosengarten, who likes a challenge, accepted the offer and moved in as Personnel Manager where he was involved in hiring non-academic staff such as chief administrators, finance executives, and maintenance people. He soon got involved in handling labor relations and often negotiates with the local union.

Three years ago, Mr. Rosengarten took over the post of Supporting Service Administrator. "As YU was growing and coming out of the problems of the seventies and into the bright future of the eighties, there was a great deal of catching up, especially in the areas of facilities and operations which included the cafeteria and security." Perhaps his greatest challenge at the time was in helping to reorganize the security following the on-campus shootings. In addition, he assumed responsibility for productions, campus parking, and community relations.

With the invention of the personal microwave, Mr. Rosengarten was faced with a new challenge. "While microwaves present less danger than the hot plates of yesterday, a dorm room is not a kitchenette. Along with cooking in the room comes a problem of hygiene. The microwave is the lesser of two evils and it is not our chief concern." However, many of us recall the confiscations of microwaves from dormitory rooms. Mr. Rosengarten was instrumental in having the microwaves installed in the

dormitories.

A controversial issue that has been among the chief concerns of students during this past year is the cafeteria. Mr. Rosengarten deals with the cafeteria and played a vital role in the newly formed Yeshiva Dining Club. "The meal plan was brought on chiefly by the students. Over the past three years, I have met with the Student Food Service Committee, and they have been instrumental in giving us a sense of what the students want. The Student Food Service Committee felt strongly about a meal plan here at YU. I cannot understand why the students would want a meal plan. Perhaps it is in reaction to their friends at other universities where a meal plan exists, and they liked the idea. They saw it as a way of making improvements in the cafeteria, so actually it came from the students and through a great deal of prodding on their part. We are sometimes the victims of our own devices. Changes are difficult anywhere, but at YU, there is more resistance to change in general because of our religious philosophy, so quite frankly I did not immediately push the idea of a food plan. About a year ago, we started delving into the idea and this past spring we put it into action. The food service supervisors and I did find that some sort of meal plan would make great sense and it is now in full force."

Mr. Rosengarten did stress that the meal plan and any increase in food prices are two separate entities. Regarding the prices, Mr. Rosengarten said

that, "there is a great deal of negativism, and the students have to give it a chance. True, food prices have been changed, but only in exact proportion to cost increases and labor wages."

When asked what he would do if given a large amount of money to spend on the school, Rosengarten responded: "In looking at an educational institution, you are only as good as your product which is the student. You can only attract good students if you have an exceptional academic program, so I think money of that nature should be spent on academics. In looking at my end of the program, which is people and facilities, I believe in using as much of that money as possible in continuing to upgrade the campus and security. We live in a consumer generation and students coming here see themselves as the consumer which they are, and want to be comfortable. When parents come to view the school, they are concerned with academics, but beyond that, they want to know that their child will be in a safe and comfortable environment. I

think that is an important piece of the pie, and we have made our campus attractive, yet there is a way to go, and everything costs money."

In addition, Mr. Rosengarten stressed the following point that he wanted the student to be aware of: "The people who work for YU that are behind the scenes, meaning those in productions, maintenance, engineering, housekeeping, food and mail service as well as security, are a dedicated group of people. Most often, the students are concerned with their teachers, and do not realize the importance of these programs which affect them daily. In the past, these workers have been unfairly beaten upon. Take, for example, the security. When a guard is caught sleeping or the like, everyone comes down hard on the department which lowers the morale of the entire force. Yes, there are improvements that are needed, and yes there is occasionally a person who is not doing what he should be doing, but overall, I believe that the staff we have in various areas

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Jeffrey Rosengarten

## Dr. Egon Brenner

by Jonathan Tropper

Dr. Egon Brenner's secretary, Bobbi, warned me when setting up an appointment for me to interview the Vice President that it had to be at a time when I was not skipping class, because "he doesn't like that."

Later that day, as I was riding the elevator up to the twelfth floor of Belfer, it occurred to me, not only that had I never been

up to the twelfth floor before, but that until the day before I had never even heard of Dr. Brenner, who is, by the way, the Executive Vice President of Yeshiva University. (I was soon to be enlightened.)

Dr. Brenner attended City College, and received his Doctorate in Electrical Engineering at Brooklyn Poly Tech. He the

spent thirty-six years working at City University in such positions as Dean of City College School of Engineering, and Provost of City College. His last position before he came to Yeshiva University in 1981 was Deputy Chancellor of City University, a job in which he had responsibilities to all eighteen colleges of City University. Now, as the Executive Vice President at Yeshiva University, he is the chief academic officer for all undergraduate and graduate schools of the university.

When asked about Yeshiva University, Dr. Brenner first makes it very clear that he is extremely proud of the institution. He is aware of the student body's lack of self esteem about their university, he says, and he feels that it is completely unwarranted. "We're a very prestigious university. I don't think the students appreciate the respect with which I'm greeted by other presidents and vice presidents at university organizations when I say that I'm from Yeshiva University."

Dr. Brenner feels that the students belittle the University because, "People underestimate themselves. Parents underestimate their children. It's normal. The families can never be exotic."

"What we want to do," he says in answer to a question on the role of the university, "is offer students a college level Jewish education in such a way that they don't have to sacrifice a grade A level general education."

The vice president goes on to explain how Yeshiva University is the organ which produces the future Jewish leaders of America, but he makes an important distinction. "We are not a religious institution." He says this emphatically. "We don't indoctrinate, we're way beyond that point." Yeshiva University, is just that, a university, for religious people who come to seek knowledge.

Asked what his impressions are of the student body, Dr. Brenner offers a light criticism. "They're far too grade conscious. I understand that they want to get accepted to prestigious graduate schools, but life is not over if you get a B." Dr. Brenner admits that when he was a student he received a B, "but", he adds with a smile, "only once."

Aside from this small criticism, though, Dr. Brenner has only positive things to say about Yeshiva University students. "They are nice people. The

faculty likes the students very much, and the students are very appreciative when you have a faculty member that's very good."

What does Dr. Brenner see in Yeshiva University's future? "Growth. More enrollment." Dr. Brenner looks forward to having larger enrollment so that more courses may be offered. "Not that we don't offer a lot, because we do," he is quick to add.

Sitting in Dr. Brenner's office, listening to him talk about how he hopes to see more growth in the University, and his desire to see the faculty better paid, it's easy to see that this man has a deep seated pride in Yeshiva University and an enthusiasm to match it, both of which are quite contagious. Dr. Egon Brenner's profile may seem low to the students of Yeshiva University, but they may rest assured that up in his cluttered twelfth floor office, they are his primary concern.

In the separate interest of providing the students with a better understanding of the structure of their university, the Commentator is pleased to provide this chart, which even now is being updated as the Institution continues to grow.

## Dean Norman Rosenfeld

by David Kolb

Faster than a transfer student, more expensive than a cafeteria meal, able to leap tall stacks of transfer credit forms in a single bound. It's Ralph Munet, it's Ceil Levinson, it's "The Dean".

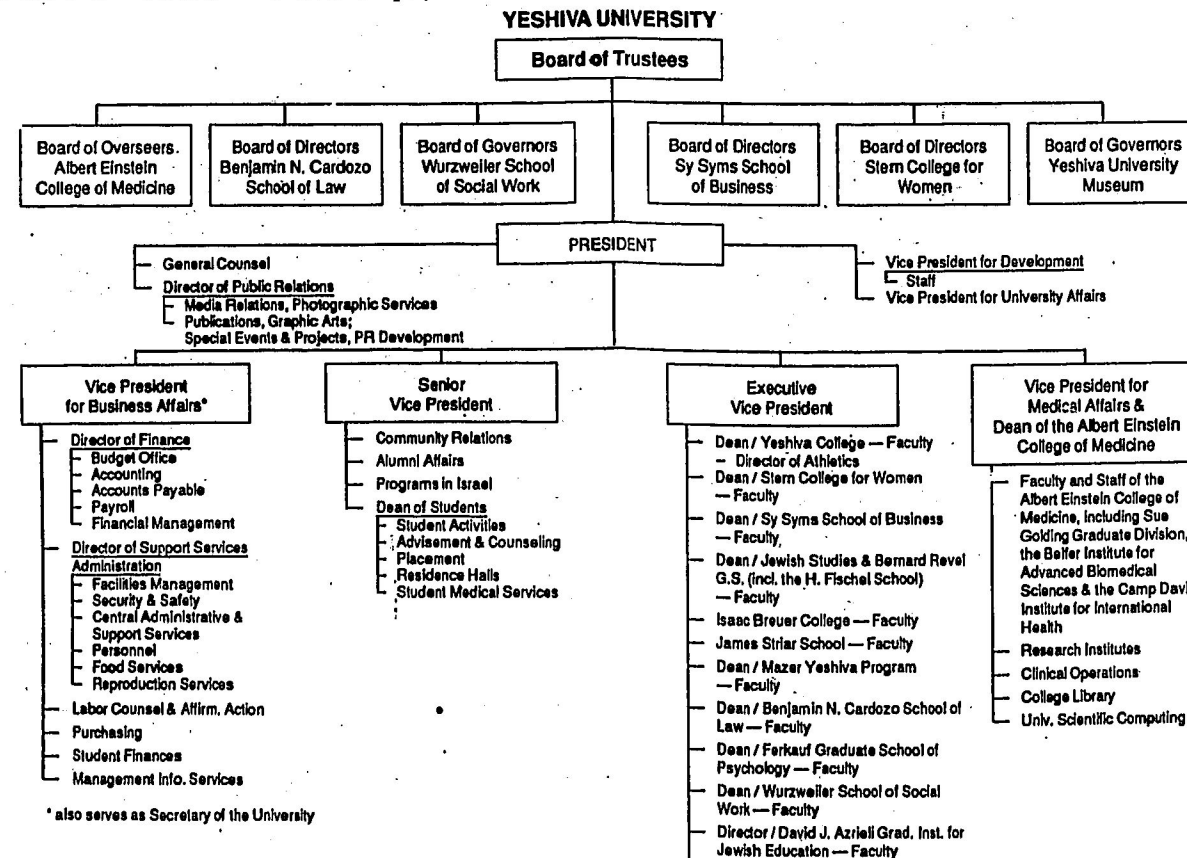
I'll admit, at first I was a bit intimidated by his presence in his office. I took my seat, and began to interview him, despite the stack of papers hampering my view. Very carefully, I posed my first question. Now was my opportunity to ask the question that has plagued many of us, as a student body: "What, exactly, do you do here?" Very calmly, the dean expounded upon his many responsibilities as the Academic Administrator of Yeshiva College. These duties include the hiring of new faculty, reviewing of transfer credit, and the establishment of certain

My question was, why would the dean handle the transfer credits, when we have a very capable registrar staff? The answer would seem simple enough: "consistency". What this means is that when a person applies for transfer credit from one school, and gets the course accepted, that course should be accepted for all students. This evaluation of the courses must be done by the dean so as to set precedent for future transfers. As the dean explains, additional benefits include "helping students solve academic difficulties. The dean feels that this interaction allows for better student-administrator relations."

As the interview went on, we discussed the student body as a whole. Dean Rosenfeld feels

that the "students are too grade conscious and this interferes with getting an education." In addition, the dean said that "some of the best students don't necessarily have the best G.P.A.'s."

Finally, we discussed the future of Yeshiva University as a whole. The dean feels that in the near future our student population should increase to a "school of 1500 undergraduate men." This additional "critical mass" would allow for a wider variety in the student body, as well as a decrease in the tuition, an increase in the amount of courses and majors offered. One final statement made by Dean Rosenfeld was in reference to school spirit. "The students do not take sufficient pride in the college."



\* also serves as Secretary of the University



## Meal Plan

*Cont. from page 1*

YC Sophomore, recommended that "YU should attract students to eat in the cafeteria, rather than force them into a mandatory meal plan."

In an obvious reference to the very successful boycott engineered by YCSC on December 7th, YCSC President Barry Kaye guaranteed that "we are prepared to conduct as long a boycott as it takes to insure that the students aren't backed into something they don't want."

Mr. Jefferey Rosengarten, Director of Supporting Services, stated in the December 20th issue of THE COMMENTATOR that "he felt the boycott showed the inability of the student leaders to deal with the cafeteria issues in a professional manner." David Kay, a YC Sophomore, retorted that "the failure of the Administration to consult with their customers (students) on the issue of a mandatory food plan showed the inability of the supporting services department to deal with the cafeteria issues in a professional manner."

Students are currently represented by their elected student councils and the recently revitalized Food Services Committee. At the Committee's final meeting of last semester, Mr. Rosengarten stated that the possibility of a mandatory meal plan did indeed exist due to the rising deficit.

On this past Thursday, the Food Services Committee, chaired by Eli Cohen, held its first meeting of the semester. At this meeting the Administration for the first time revealed its intentions to the students of instituting a mandatory meal plan.

Mr. Rosengarten began the meeting by expanding on the rising cost of running the cafeteria. He attributed the existing high prices of food to the continuously escalating costs of meat and chicken and to the dramatic increase in labor salaries. The figures were then distributed and it was explained that seventeen hundred dollars a student per academic year was required for the cafeteria to cover costs.

Mr. Rosengarten continued to explain how that figure was achieved. "We divided eight hundred (number of dorming students) into the number that we needed to cover costs for that year (\$1,366,316)," Rosengarten said, "and that came out to seventeen hundred dollars."

Rosengarten then clarified that the plan is not really a meal plan, but rather a "declined balance plan," as he coined it. He further elucidated that "the seventeen hundred dollars goes into an account and the student can draw on that, with nine months to use it up."

Eli Cohen, chairman of the Food Services Committee, recommended that the committee evaluate student opinion. Cohen also pointed out that "seventeen hundred dollars presents a big restriction for the student at Yeshiva University."

COMMENTATOR Editor Dov Pinchot, also in attendance at the meeting, criticized the

Administration for presenting a plan that seemingly "comes from an accountants calculator." "I see very little marketing," Pinchot continued, "in these numbers that you present and very little student response in what you propose."

As for the motivation behind the sudden decision to implement this plan, Pinchot observed that the number (\$1700) signifies a break-even point for the deficit and that it is not a realistic representation of how much students eat.

Mr. Bernard Pittinsky, Director of Finances, confirmed that the prime motivating factor behind the implementation of this plan was to "rid the Caf of this tremendous deficit so that the subsidy money could be used for other areas." Dr. Sheldon Socol, who was not present at the meeting, previously supported this reasoning, saying that "Whatever we do, is going to be done to reduce the deficit for that year and maintain quality service."

Pinchot concluded by censuring the Administration for being "completely unrealistic and insensitive to students' needs." He closed by saying "you can't put an unrealistic mandatory meal plan on the students and expect a good reception for the cafeteria."

Dean Nulman admitted privately that "if the Food Service Committees at the Undergraduate Colleges are vehemently opposed to the idea of a mandatory meal plan, then it is my responsibility to go to the Executive Council and let that opinion be known."

Towards the end of the committee meeting, Barry Kaye suggested that a referendum be issued to students to accurately ascertain student opinion. "This way," Kaye said afterwards, "I will know exactly what my constituents want and will be able to better represent them."

As it stands, barring the possibility of massive student protest, the Administration plans to move further in its efforts to implement this mandatory "declined balance plan."

## Soviet Drive

*Cont. from page 1*

David Borowich, Tommy Weinberger, Reuven Harrow, Daniel Schwartz, Jacob Licht, Rachel Goldman, and Mindy Spiner. The group named themselves the Student Freedom Fund.

According to Goldsmith, Monday February 14 was targeted as a "one day blitz designed to raise student awareness as well as funds." The committee then developed a three pronged advertising campaign heralding the upcoming event. First, informative letters were mailed to every student at both Yeshiva College and Stern. Similarly, Vice President Miller circulated memoranda to enlist faculty support. Second, the committee distributed provocative posters and leaflets throughout both campuses. Finally, Commentator Editor Pinchot wrote a full-page advertisement, in addition to featuring Soviet Jewry in the February 9th Commentator, all of which peaked student awareness of the upcoming

event.

The committee assigned two student volunteers per floor the duty of collecting money.

The Student Freedom Fund plans continued involvement. According to Jerry Hawk, future plans include the solicitation of funds from alumni as well as the expansion of the fund to other universities. Meanwhile the Student Freedom Fund continues to accept donations.

## Admissions

*Cont. from page 1*

this year than ever before.

Admissions officers feel their youth has in fact played an important role in bringing about this success. They contrast their own style with that of an old, bearded academian who simply "schlepps along." "We're all young and it's our first jobs," says Mr. Benovitz, "so everyone really gives it their all."

"We're dynamic, we've got energy... we're anything but boring," explains Mr. Mendelson. Mr. Mendelson claims he can attend six meetings a day, all over the New York area, and still remain energetic.

Because of their youth, Admissions officers say they relate better to perspective students. On the other hand, Mr. Mendelson notes, "There is a difference between 18 and 23."

"We're not going to laugh at the same jokes. I can tell when they're lying."

While clearly, youth has its advantages in admissions work, certain Admissions staffers feel their office has become vulnerable because of the lack of a seasoned Director. "We're not being pounced on," explained one staffer, "but because we're young, if someone wants to blame something on Admissions, they'll do it."

Not knowing when a permanent Director will be installed has in the words of some staffers, created an uncomfortable degree of "uncertainty". They are puzzled by the search committee's silence. Comparing Admissions to "the fuel for the fire," one officer griped, "I would think administrators would want to take a more active interest in Admissions."

"From my meetings, I'm not exactly sure if they know what we do here."

Mr. Mendelson, on the other hand, takes the administration's silence as a sign of confidence in his abilities. "They don't feel panicked to find someone new."

"He's doing a very good job," concurs Hecht, "but he's too young."

## Halpert Responsa

*Cont. from page 3*

knowledgeable, he's experienced, he commands respect wherever he takes a team-his reputation in the New York basketball milieu, earned over a long period of years at the helm of YU basketball, is tops. We're extremely fortunate to have someone of his caliber and talent as basketball coach.

Dr. Gil Shevlin  
Director of Athletics

## Parents Day

*Cont. from page 4*

from Baltimore for Parents Day and said that they were impressed with the scope of activities that had been planned for them. Rabbi Green, who attended YU thirty years ago, commented that his alma mater had gotten better as well as larger since he had attended school.

During lunch parents were treated to the music of YU student Behzad Dayanim after which they were given the choice of attending an array of lectures delivered by YU Professors. Dr. Moshe Tendler discussed "DNA Recombinant Research", Dr. Kenneth Grossberg discussed "Japan and the Year 2000", and Dr. William Lee delivered a lecture entitled "More Than Meets the Eye: A Shakespearean Sonnet" in which he attempted to involve parents in a discussion much like those he conducts in his English Literature course.

Dr. Lee told parents that the purpose of his course is to give students an idea of how language can be used to convey meaning and that he "tries to empower students to think for themselves" by allowing them to interpret a passage in various different ways as long as it fits in with the text. This skill, he pointed out, can clearly be helpful in the real world. Many parents seemed to enjoy participating in his lecture, which he conducted as a discussion. Mr. and Mrs. Levitt, who said that they had come from Boston for Parents Day in order to experience what their son experiences, said that they had enjoyed Dr. Lee's lecture immensely and were very impressed with him. Mr. Levitt commented that Dr. Lee's method of allowing for multiple views is a positive force in a Yeshiva atmosphere.

After the lectures, parents attended a student talent showcase in which students and music professors combined to entertain parents with a combination of musical arrangements.

Based on the success of this year's Parents Day, those parents who were unable to attend this year will almost certainly have another chance to experience their sons' school next year.

## Clarion

*Cont. from page 5*

gested that more events be paid for from a joint account from the students which would share expenses between SC and YC in proportion to their student populations as was done for The Guide. Ms. Schlanger expressed interest in planning joint events if the opportunity was afforded. She was upset that these matters were unclear at first. At one point, she was ready to pursue legal action if these matters were

printed because she felt that their being presented as an issue would be a fabrication. Ms. Schlanger was of the opinion that "there were no problems or misunderstandings before you called me tonight."

## Rosengarten

*Cont. from page 7*

compare quite well with their peers in other institutions. We do the best to track down any complaint and take care of it quickly and efficiently. It is our motto to take care of things right away. If it means coming in early or staying late, we will go that extra yard for the student. There are times when we do not act in excellent fashion and while criticism is in fact important and helpful, it should be tempered with the appreciation. While I believe that the students do have appreciation as well as the helpful criticism, there are times when only the critical aspect is highlighted."

Despite the many responsibilities that he has, Jeffrey Rosengarten seems to thrive on numerous demands and difficult challenges. It is rare that he leaves Yeshiva at five o'clock because of his determination and dedication to the completion of the tasks at hand. Determined as one may be, it seems that all of the areas that he is involved in are too much for one person to handle. Mr. Rosengarten explains that, "I am not alone in my work. All of the programs that I am responsible for have individual supervisors that work with me in seeing that things get done, and done quickly."

## Techiya *Cont. from page 10*

had left, I encountered a lifeless, depressing neighborhood where kids don't even bother getting together. Apparently, our programs had given the kids something to rally around and allowed them to form friendships among themselves (at least temporarily).

Obviously, a summer program can't heal all the wounds of a struggling area or even seriously begin the recovery. In the oft-quoted words of Avot, "the work is not for you to finish, but neither are you free to desist from it."

The areas requiring help are increasing dramatically now that thousands of Russians are pouring into the country only to meet problems similar to those of their Sephardic predecessors. This summer, Techiya will send a group to work in towns with a heavily Russian population as well as continuing the program in Hatikva. Techiya represents a fabulous opportunity to contribute to other Jews and to our homeland. Perhaps Nir and his fellows in the schechunot could collectively ask "K'lal yisrael, atem ohavim otanu?"

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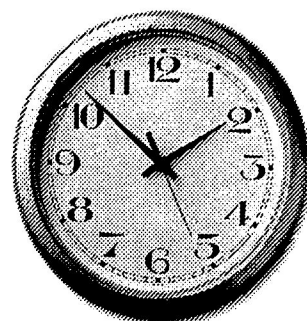
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# Summer Of Warmth

by Yitzhak Blau

An eight-year old boy named Nir stares at the grass as his father berates me. I had not wanted to throw the boy out of our day camp but his constant fighting with other children made keeping him an impossibility. In the middle of his father's barrage, Nir looks up and asks, "Abba, atah ohev oti?"

While not every child in Hatikva comes from such a drastic family situation, many of them have their own serious difficulties. Hatikva contains broken homes, poverty, unemployment and a group of people unable as of yet to integrate into the rest of Israeli society. This area of Tel Aviv became colloquially known as the Harlem of Israel.

The problem in Hatikva and in towns like it began in the early years of the State when thousands of Sephardim emigrated to Israel. Due to the combination of not knowing how to deal with the newcomers and the need to populate predominately Arab sections of the country, the Israeli government often sent these Sephardim out to areas totally removed from mainstream Israeli society. In these far-away towns, employment opportunities were scarce and the chance for acculturation was minimal.

Every summer, a volunteer program called Techiya donates their efforts towards alleviating these people's distress. Founded in the early 70's, Techiya has visited a number of problem areas to perform communal services such as running day camps, tutoring children for school and visiting the elderly. Beyond the specific programs, Techiya volunteers work to create a happier and more content atmosphere in these towns.

The Techiya program focuses primarily on children and strives to help these kids on a number of levels. On a very basic level, Techiya simply provides a good time for the kids. Many of these kids can not afford the more expensive Israeli day camps and would have no summer opportunities without Techiya's camp (that charges a minimal fee) and free night programs open to all.

In the course of one summer with Techiya, kids find themselves experiencing many things they previously only dreamt about. Last year, we took a group of kids from Hatikvah to an iceskating rink in Bat Yam. Imagine thirty children's beaming faces: their smiles expressing the joy of iceskating for the first time.

On Fridays, kids congregate from all over Hatikva for a horse and buggy ride around the town. The tour includes singing Jewish songs and announcing our Shabbat programs with a microphone, an activity the kids loved. So many children would come that we were forced to split the drive into two shifts. Of course riding a buggy wasn't a first for the kids; they had ridden with Techiya during previous summers.

While providing a good time for underprivileged children is certainly a value in its own right, it serves a secondary function as well. Kids enjoying themselves begin to feel more positive about their abilities and their situation. In turn, feeling good about yourself leads to greater initiative and enthusiasm.

Nothing pleases the children more than showing off their English to the Americans. This playful camaraderie contains immeasurable social value as the kids desperately need English to succeed in school. One can't proceed on to higher education in Israel without knowledge of English and kids from poor

backgrounds tend to have trouble mastering a language other than the vernacular.

Every Techiya participant tutors a number of kids in the afternoon in English and the teacher and pupil often form a warm relationship. Exercises that seemed a drag in the classroom become fresh and exciting when learned together with an American friend. Hangman, crossword puzzles and other games transform into educational tools.

Teaching extends to the area of values as well. During the year, the younger kids' role models often consist of adolescents in the midst of an extended rebellion against their situation, teenagers who leave school and just hang around. In the summer, the kids have a chance to look up to people who exemplify chesed and emphasize

midot. The children are unaccustomed to receiving reprimands when they fight.

Identification with the advisors also means the kids will have a more positive outlook on the dati community. While not dati, most of the Sephardic kids grow up in homes which value traditions and all they need is some education about the basics of Judaism. Educationally-oriented Shabbat and Tisha Ba'av programs have become fixtures on the Techiya schedule. Our day camp usually includes a trip to Yerushalaim; watching the kids daven at the kotel retains its beauty each summer.

The various programs make up a fulfilling and productive schedule that still allows time for relaxation. The morning includes helping out at playgroups for kids from broken homes and running our own day

camp for all kids. The afternoon consists not only of tutoring, but also of visits to the elderly. Add two weekly night programs and Shabbat programs and you understand why Techiya participants can make a difference.

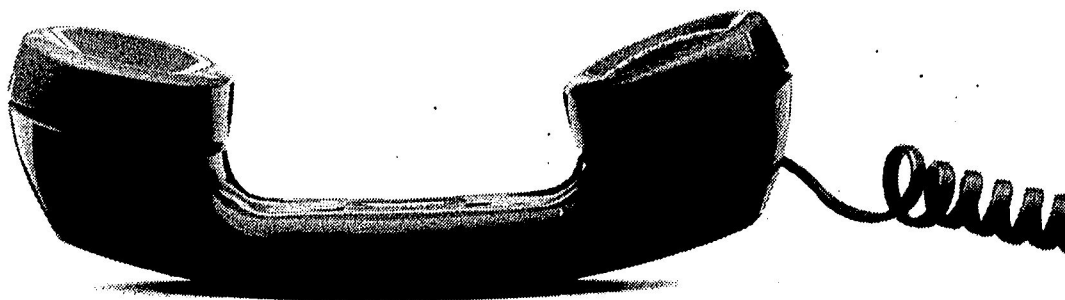
However, the greatest moments of the summer often extend beyond the formalities of the schedule. Walking through the street, the Techiya participant frequently bumps into kids with whom he can join in a soccer game or a conversation. Dropping by a child's house just to say hello means a great deal to these kids. The hospitable hometowners often bring out food and start a family gathering around the visiting American.

I only fully realized what we had contributed after the program was over. Returning to the town after the other participants

*Cont. on page 8*

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# Hockey Shuffle

by Stuei Nussbaum

When the Fall 1989 YU Hockey Intramural season came to an end, it was the newly formed Outsiders that outlasted the Kings in an exciting championship game. The winners went off to celebrate while the losers vowed to get their revenge next semester. It was a long and difficult season and second place was not something that the Kings could settle for easily.

As the Spring 1990 season was being organized by commissioners Geoffrey Miller and Marc Fries, the Kings and Outsiders were obstinate in keeping their teams intact. They were all set and ready for a rematch of last years championship game but first they had to endure the difficult regular season games along with other newly formed teams.

Into the late hours of the night several captains and commissioners Miller and Fries worked in conducting the draft to form the three new teams. The pool was loaded with veteran stars and new prospects returning from Israel. After many hours of picks and trades the Spring '90 rosters were formed and the regular season was ready to commence.

Several veteran stars make up the 1990 Bruisers. In goal they have David Sheer, undoubtedly the most experienced goalie in the league. Ex-Irishman Mike Mermelstein comes to this team and is expected to give the Bruisers the goals they'll need to defeat their opponents. Captain Alan Sorcher brings to the team the experience of being the last on a competitive team for the last couple of seasons.

Team Pearlman is laden with quick forwards who will surely accumulate many points this season. David Gellman makes his return to floor hockey after a semester off. Harris Pearlman and with several newcomers comprise this team's remarkable depth. The major asset to this team is the solid defense they have comprised of goalie- Barry Gelman and defenseman Zvi

Klein.

Remembering the days of old when the Irish ruled the league, Saul Kaszovitz was determined to rekindle the old Irish flame. In a series of wise picks he acquired a good part of the once dominant Irish team. Veteran Geoffrey Miller comes to the team giving it both his offensive and defensive talents. Former Irishmen Ari Keehn, Daniel Katz, and Steven Strauss are all eager to win one more crown for the Irish before most of the team graduates. In net is Kenny Schiff who is highly experienced in this position.

The Kings, last semester's second place team, are once again full of talented players. Captain Jon Levine is fortunate to possess goal scorers Zvi Weitchner and David Maryles. The defense is led by David Miller who had an excellent season last semester playing superb defense. Micah May is back again and is sure to rack up many points this season. In goal is Menachem Lipner who has continuously stunned opponents with his remarkable saves without the standard goalie pads.

Finally, the defending champion Outsiders are all too eager to hold on to their title. Led by captains Eric Rothman and Ami Drazin and veteran Yechiel Gordon, the team has displayed flawless hockey in game after game last season. Dov Borgen played exceptional last semester and along with Brett Peven will contribute to the team enormously.

The teams are set and the games have begun. The Kings and Outsiders are expecting a rematch of their championship game but three other teams tend to think otherwise. Will the Bruisers finally go all the way? Will the Irish flame be rekindled? Will there be an Outsider-Kings Championship II?

Scoreboard  
Irish 9 - Kings 5  
Bruisers 3 - Team Pearlman 2

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# The Beat Goes On Intramural B-Ball; Weeks 3 & 4

by Eric Melzer and Yehuda Blinder

The third week of the intramural season left the league with one undefeated and one winless team. The Yellow Jackets (3-0) knocked off the Demon Deacons (1-2) by the score of 38-31. The Jackets jumped out to an 8-2 lead and with very balanced scoring, they never looked back. Surprisingly, no player on either team scored in double figures in a defensive battle which featured very sloppy offense.

On the shorter end of the stick the Tigers (0-3) dropped, yet another one, to the Terps (2-1). The final score was 53-47 although the Tigers led at the half. Leading the way for the winners were Josh Dobn (20 points) and Ellis Malovany (15 points). Daniel Loskove scored 21 points in a losing cause.

In the biggest surprise in intramural history, the Blue Devils- Goldscheider, Schwab, and Muelgay defeated a fully stacked Tar Heels team by the score of 48-47. Kenny Helfer electrified the MSAC by pouring in a record 35 points, including five treys. Helfer's 50 footer at the first half buzzer enabled the Devils to take a one-point lead into the locker room. Danny Lewis captained the Blue Devils very strategically with

some key substitutions down the stretch. Rich Scharlat led the Tar Heels with 17 points.

Finally, the Wolfpack picked up a win in the longest game of the year. It took two overtimes for the pack to overcome the Cavs. Down ten at the half, the Wolfpack came back behind Yehuda Blinder's 25 points (including 21 after the intermission) to win 65-59. Moshe 'Wert' Wertenteil banged in 22 points and Eric Melzer hit some clutch free throws down the stretch and ended with 11 points for the victors. The Weinstein-less Cavs were led by Gilad 'Ots' Ottensosser with 27 points. Yoni Leifer chipped in 16 points.

### Week 4

The Tigers (0-4) woes continued as they fell to the streaking Wolfpack (2-2) 51-48. The Wolfpack's balanced attack was led by Moshe Wertenteil (15 points), Yehuda Blinder (13 points) and another strong performance by Eric Melzer (8 points on 4 of 4 shooting from the field). This equilibrium was not shared by the Tigers as Daniel Loskove, with 23 points accounted for almost one half of their scoring.

Alex Fuchsman (18 points)  
Ronald J. Aranoff (11 points)  
and Jon Lasko (10 points)

ignited a sharp offense to lead the Demon Deacons (2-2) to a 46-36 victory over the Terps (2-2). The losers were led by scoring leader Josh Dobn (15 points) and Ellis Malovany (13 points).

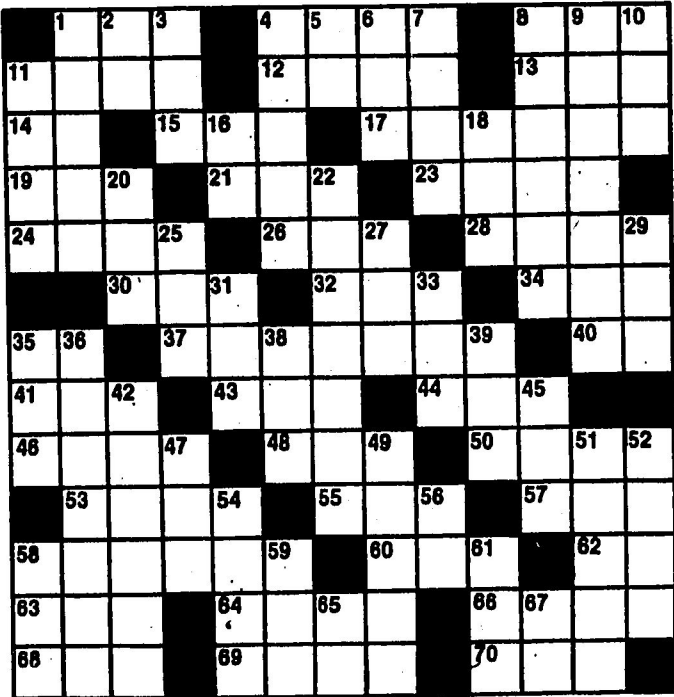
Finally, the (3-1) Tar Heels beat the (3-1) Yellow Jackets 47-36. A previously dormant Jan Levine played an excellent game and finished with 16 points. First round pick Steve Schultz and roommate Rich Scharlat combined for 22 to seal the victory. Ranon Mann had 14 points but it was in a losing cause as the Jackets lost their perfect record.

# Tennis Team Tightens Its Strings For New Season

by David Weinstein

The YU tennis team, annually the most successful of all the teams in the university, looks to be a dominating force in the ECAC division once again this year. "The team has that special blend of seasoned veterans, young talent, and a hunger to be the best-three ingredients which will put this team over the top," asserts Coach Mickey Aboff. These are words coming from a man who is usually reserved in his optimism. Returning veterans Darrin Hirt, Jeff Greenwald, Dovid Weinstein, Michael Raskas and Darius Schwartz provide one of the deepest singles squads ever put out by an ECAC team, while Steve "Seige" Seigel anchors a stubborn doubles trio. New talents such as John Cooper, Eric Davis, Victor Biletsky, and Ari Ferziger provide an unparalleled depth which is the key to success.

## Crossword Companion



### ACROSS

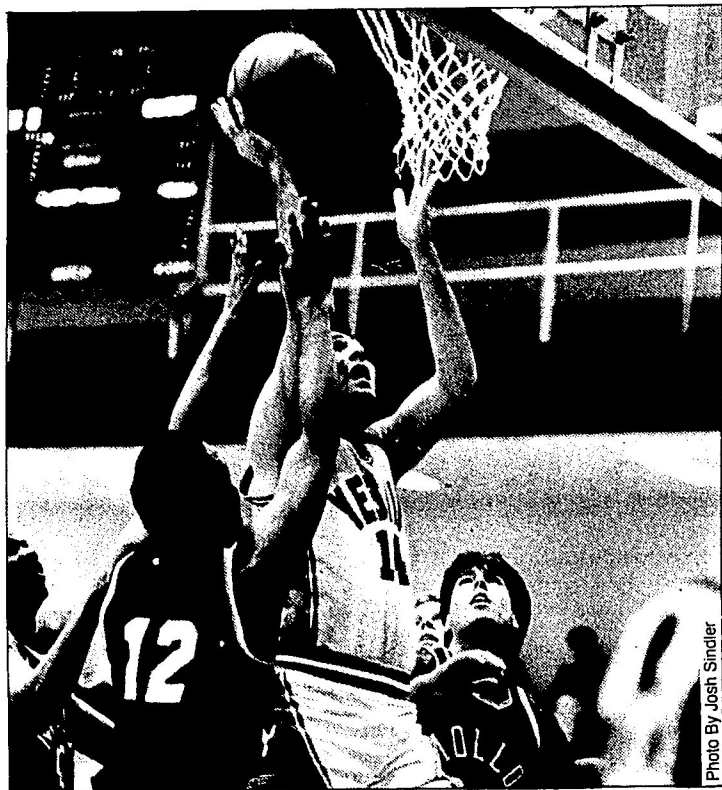
- 1. Indian weapon
- 4. Smile
- 8. Toothed tool
- 11. Window glass
- 12. Wife of rajah
- 13. Direction (abbr.)
- 14. Article
- 15. Digit
- 17. Smells
- 19. Ballet dance step
- 21. Brewed drink
- 23. Without discomfort
- 24. Too
- 26. Quill pen point
- 28. Musical note
- 30. Age
- 32. Flightless bird
- 34. Doctors helpers (abbr.)
- 35. Form of be
- 37. Hold in bondage
- 40. Near
- 41. Sheep sound
- 43. Inhabitant (suf.)
- 44. School subject (abbr.)
- 46. Former coin of India
- 48. Inquire
- 50. Challenge
- 53. Sour
- 55. Unhappy
- 57. Quiet work place
- 58. Grass with hard-walled stems
- 60. Sweet potatoes
- 62. Chinese measure of distance
- 63. 7th Greek letter
- 64. Space
- 66. Food fish, related to herrings
- 68. Jelly
- 69. Eating utensil
- 70. Fee levied by government

### DOWN

- 1. Repetitious
- 2. Position upon
- 3. Saturated with liquid
- 4. Cold color
- 5. Egyptian sun god
- 6. Officeholders
- 7. Good
- 8. Device that responds to sounds
- 9. Wire receiver
- 10. Man's nickname
- 16. Part of Bible (abbr.)
- 18. Consume
- 20. Direction (abbr.)
- 22. No direction
- 25. Iron
- 27. Snake
- 29. Time zone (abbr.)
- 31. Picnic pest
- 33. Hail
- 35. Fabric from camel hairs
- 36. Authoritative command
- 38. Stopping place on route (abbr.)
- 39. Stopping point
- 42. Beast
- 45. Oath (var.)
- 47. Priest's garment
- 49. Eskimo canoe
- 51. Take it easy
- 52. Town in Oklahoma
- 54. Goof off
- 56. Investigator (abbr.)
- 58. Plead
- 59. Indicates mountain
- 61. Time zone (abbr.)
- 65. Someone who performs (suf.)



# The SPORTS Page



Junior Avrum Aaron fighting his way to the basket in Macs win over Molloy.

## Macs Win Four Straight

by Shmuel Bulka

**Yeshiva 88 Stevens Tech 85 (OT)**  
In an overtime thriller, Yeshiva defeated division rival Stevens Tech 88-85, clouding the IAC playoff picture.

The Ducks jumped out to a quick 31-20 lead on the strength of six three-pointers, four by Randy Smith and two by Joe Trent. With Yeshiva's subsequent four treys, the two teams would later set an MSAC two-team record of ten threes in a game. The Macs clawed their way back and a desperation buzzer-beating three-pointer by Eric Davis sent the two teams to the locker room tied at 42.

The second half was back and forth almost the entire way with Yeshiva holding a late six-point

lead. But, Greg Rhine, who led the Macs with seven assists and numerous defensive stops, fouled out on one of the many questionable calls of the evening. Tech then fought back and sent the game into overtime on a ten-foot jumper by Trent with less than 30 seconds remaining.

In the overtime period Davis grabbed the ball for a breakaway basket off the overtime tip, won by Rosner, and the Ducks would not see the lead again. Free-throw shooting was the key as Yeshiva went seven for eight from the line in the overtime session. Davis, who finished with a game-high 27 points along with eight rebounds, was four for four. Elisha Rothman controlled the offense much of

## Opinion:

# Coaching Cauldron

by Shmuel Bulka

A letter to the editor by a student at Yeshiva University, regarding coach Jonathan Halpert appeared in last issue's COMMENTATOR. The letter depicted the coach in a negative manner and as sports editor, I feel that it is my duty to follow-up on the letter with an authoritative opinion.

Coach Halpert has coached at Yeshiva for 18 years and in that time has compiled a record of 137-243. While this is certainly not a stellar record, Halpert explains: "a coach is only as good as his players, his facilities, and his practice time." He points to the fact that only recently has he had access to a real gym.

My problem with the coach goes beyond his record. In conducting an interview with him last week, I was constantly criticized regarding my basketball knowledge and berated to the point where the interview ended with the coach wishing he had never answered any of my questions. But my problem with Halpert as a coach has nothing to do with any personal problems I may or may not have with him. The problem is that there are players on the team who do not want to play for him and do not respect him as a coach.

I have talked to the players who will be returning next year and of the seven, the minority support the coach. The supporters claim to have no problem with him and have no desire for a coaching change. The players who have a problem with Halpert claim that he has little confidence in them as players. Halpert says, "there is not a team on our schedule we cannot beat or that cannot beat us." This in

the overtime and finished with 12 points including two clutch free-throws. David Gottlieb was solid as usual, scoring 17 points including an awe-inspiring tip-in late in the game. The game ended with David Ehrman coming up with the ball off a mad scramble and promptly sliding toward the frenzied crowd. "Hey, a little Curly Neal action," he said.

itself is not a disparaging comment, but he himself says that "we should be competitive with only around two teams (on our schedule)." When I asked him whether we have the athletes to compete, he said "absolutely not." Granted, Halpert does not tell his players that they are bad or that they cannot win, but these players see in him a lack of confidence that permeates constantly.

A good number of players on the team come from high school programs that were very successful. Initially, when they came to Yeshiva and lost, they would leave the gym disgruntled. But they say that now, they do not feel bad after a loss because they are told that winning is not the most important thing. "The most important thing is not winning. They should compete and have fun. But this does not mean that we are going out to lose," said Halpert.

Maybe it is not realistic to expect the team to win every game on their schedule, but the attitude that the main purpose is not to win, is quite surprising. These players claim that they are not motivated by the coach and that this is a reflection of his attitude that winning is not that important. "That is a cop out by the players. They are looking for excuses why they lost. It is easy to blame someone else," said Halpert.

Whatever the coach thinks of these players complaints, the fact still remains that more than half of the returning players do not feel that the coach has confidence in them. When players are at odds with the coach, it is sure to have an effect on their play. Additionally, from

the trouble I have had in talking to him, I can fully understand why they do not confront Dr. Halpert. They will just be subjecting themselves to personal ridicule of their playing abilities.

So what is going to happen? Will the coach resign under this barrage of criticism? "I will be back next year, the year after and probably the year after that," said Halpert. Quite frankly, he is probably correct in his assessment because the only way he can conceivably not return is if he is fired. The administration supervising athletics clearly support him, making the above scenario unlikely. This in itself is quite strange because the only member of the administration who shows up regularly is Dr. Miller. Even the athletic director is rarely found at the games. How can the administration support him without ever coming to the games? I believe this reflects the apathetic attitude that prevails with regard to the entire athletic program. A winning basketball program will attract fan interest, increase school spirit and may even generate increased funding to the school.

In conclusion, I suggest the administration play a more active role in all aspects of the athletic program, especially to the basketball team. I also believe that the words of students, coaches, experts and sports editors are minor when compared to the opinions of these current players. A significant number of players have expressed their dissatisfaction with Dr. Halpert and therefore, it seems logical that it is time for a coaching change.

### Yeshiva 77 Poly Tech 74

The Macs won their second consecutive nail-biter, prevailing in a 77-74 triumph over Poly Tech.

Poly held the advantage throughout most of the first half as they connected on five three-pointers. The backcourt of Davis, Rhine and Rothman kept Yeshiva close as they trailed by only three at the half. Poly had to feel quite confident about their chances as freshman guard Terrence Dupree was dominating the game.

Yeshiva switched to a zone and later to a box and one to stop the quick Dupree. Rothman, who finished with 14 points, was magnificent in containing Dupree, who finished with 33 points. The game was even until Davis, who finished with 32 points, went on an eight point run to pull the Macs ahead, a lead later solidified by Rhine whose two free-throws with only seconds remaining sealed the victory. Despite the win, the Macs did not make the IAC playoffs.

### Yeshiva 83 Molloy 55

Playing without the injured Davis, Yeshiva was still able to romp to an easy 83-55 victory over Molloy.

Ehrman seemingly earned himself more playing time with a stellar 18-point performance, leading a group of five Macs to reach double-figures. Avrum Aaron, Rothman, Gottlieb, and Rosner all broke the ten-point barrier. Aaron also finished with nine rebounds and Rhine, with seven steals. Rothman started for the injured Davis and had six assists along with 11 points. Barry Finklestein and Seth Cohen combined for nine points and some fine bench play.

### Yeshiva 95 Pratt 73

Yeshiva broke the .500 mark at 11-10 with a 95-73 victory over Pratt. Davis returned from an injured finger and scored 28 points. Rosner had a strong inside game with 18 points and Aaron continued his strong play with a 12-point ten-rebound performance.

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