# The Cummentator <br> Official Undergraduate Newspaper of Yeshiva College 

## Armed Robbery Suspects Escape via Morg. Dorm <br> perpetrators, flustered by the

by Doron Storfer

According to several sources in the New York Police Department, two armed men were chased toward the Joel Jablonski Campus at approximately 7:00 p.m. on Friday, March 8, after they committed a robbery just north of the campus. One was allegedly toting a shotgun, the other a pistol. The perpetrators ran to Strenger Hall, the High School dormitory, and encountered a security guard on the other side of the locked glass doors. The perpetrators demanded that the guard open the door. The guard refused. According to the sources, the
guard's boldness, ran into the Morgenstern dormitory, pastthe guard, down a stairwell, and out the back door. The Police sources said the two men jumped the fence behind the dormitory and ran toward the park behind Laurel Hill Terrace. The police officer normally stationed on Laurel Hill Terrace had started to run around toward the front of the dormitory, thereby missing the perpetrators as they ran toward the back.

Don Sommers, YU Chief of Security, confirmed that the suspects were being pursued by police when they entered the Yeshiva campus. However,


## YU Champions in AT\&T Challenge

## by Torin Rutner

YeshivaUniversityovertook eight other colleges in the annual AT\&T Investment Challenge, climbing outof ninth place to finish first in New YorkState. Onthenationallevel, YU placed 18th, out-doing 37 otherschools. SophomoreDoniBendheimled all YUstudentsand ranked 17th among the Challenge's 13,794 participants.

The AT\&T Investment Challenge gives college students a taste of the stock market, with out the risk. Each participant starts with an imaginary $\$ 500,000$ account and is allotted a maximum of 50 trades. This enables any individual to doublehisportfoliovalue. YU's 63 participants maintained a portfolio average of $10.2 \%$ return, compared to the nationwide college index of $9.1 \%$ return. Bendheim himself raised his securities portfolio to a 1.2 million dollar value.

Bendheim attributes his suc-
cess to the high interest rates which existed when he purchased his stocks. As the rates plummeted, the value of his stocks climbed upward. Entering the contest's final week, Bendheim was in ninth place nationwide, but lost ground by week's end. However, YU's top trader does not express disappointment. "I wentinto it for the challenge and next year I am hoping to do even better," he says.

The national winners of the Challenge willenjoyan all expenses paid vacation to the Bahamas in addition toa cash scholarship. The number one winner receives a total of $\$ 25,000$. Top ranking students at
each school received Championsweatshirts with the AT\&T logo throughout the course of the game.

The Challenge ran from NovembertoFebruary, and was sponsored in YU by the Joint Business Society. JBS President Ami Aharon calls YU's showing "a major accomplishment." He points out that AT\&T's investment game is only two years old, and says he is confident YU will continue to rank at the top of the field.

he was adamant that no entry was gained into any Yeshiva dormitory. When asked about the current status of security at Yeshiva University, Mr. Sommers said, "people are never completely satisfied with the level of security. But I wouldn't be happy arming the security guards unless they were well trained and experienced."

Mr.Sommeremphasizedthat all students of Yeshiva University should beaware atall times of their surroundings and take all necessary precautions. In addition, he noted that Yeshiva University is fortunate enough to have constant police presence and cooperation.


## YCPS Ships Pesach Packages to the Gulf

by Neil Torczyner

One of the most successful clubs on the YCSC docket, the Yeshiva College Philanthropy Society, ran two more positive eventsinthebeginning ofMarch. The events consisted of sending Passover Packs to Jewish soldiers serving in the Gulf and a program for the homelessJews in the Metropolitan area.

ThePassover Packs program was the first attempt by YCPS to serve fellow Jews outside of the New York area. The packages were sent to eight Jewish Chaplains serving in the gulf, to be distributed to soldiers serving there. RabbiIsrael Miller was instrumental in achieving this connection for YCPS. The packs consisted of items as diverse as Super BowlPrograms and books on Tefillin and Mashiach.

YCPS Secretary Josh Wolff started the program by calling many leading retailers in the city. He managed to secure commitments from Waldenbooks, Barnes and Nobles, and Barton's, a company that makes kosher chocolates.

Wolff then contacted many otherorganizations from which
he originally did not expect a response. Among these were the NFL, NBA, NHL, and Major League Baseball. Much to his surprise, he received donations from both the NFL and NHL. In dealing with the NHL, Wolff found himself working directly with Darcy Rota, the NHL's PR director.

Even with all the merchandise that was donated by commercialorganizations,Josh feels that the material donated by NCSY was the most important. NCSY donated crates of material on Mashiach, Tefillin, and Shabbos. Josh felt that,"'this represented a special kiruv opportunity for YCPS."

Closer to home, the Philanthropy Society has been strengthening its ties to Project Ore, a division of the Education Alliance, and its drop-in shelter on 23rd St for homeless and isolated Jews. YCPS supports Project Ore in two ways, by funding a small part of its operating budget and running asmallSundayMeals on Wheels type program.

All week long, the Project Ore people serve Kosher meals to homeless Jews looking for please turn to page 9

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## A Vote for Responsibility

March 27, 1991

Each year, seniors at YC bestow two awards upon their fellow classmates. The Gladstein Award recognizes service and contribution to the Jewish community at large, while the Lipsky Award focuses on exemplary character and service to fellow students. A third tribute, the Senior Professor Award, acknowledges the dedication and teaching ability of a faculty member. Through these awards, the graduating class shows that continued devotion does not go unnoticed; amid academic and career pressures we do not overlook that which is truly important.

However, the disheveled manner in which the elections were administered this year completely detracted from the importance of these awards. Left to the last minute, the election was administered without any prior notification. Notices were placed in mailboxes early on a Thursday morning, to be returned by $3: 45$ that afternoon. As a result, the election was over before many knew it had ever begun.

The mechanics of the balloting were disastrous. An unattended mail crate in the dorm office served as a ballot box and there was no accountability to ensure that only seniors voted. Additionally, no precautions were taken against the possibility of ballot stuffing. In any case, the number of ballots cast added up to only a fraction of the graduating class, further mocking the significance of the awards.

Improprieties may or may not have taken place during the election. But the haphazard administration of the vote has certainly allowed such rumors to spread. Restoring the prestige of theseawards must begin with the establishment of a proper balloting system. As is done for class council elections, a manned table should be set up on a date announced well in advance. To ensure that only seniors vote, and that those that do only do so once, all names should be checked against an official list. This is not a suggestion for the class of 1992. For the sake of the announced winners and the entire senior class, the election must be held again.

## The Cycle of Apathy

YCDS held its final performance of the year last Thursday night before a packed house. Unfortunately, Thursday's performance was the only one to sell out before the show. On the other five nights, including the opening, approximately thirty seats were left empty. This was true of nearly half the theater for Monday's performance. Despite banners, posters, and aggressive personal sales by over a dozen people, students simply weren't buying tickets. Mid-terms were the general excuse. Many just shrugged their shoulders or yelled at venders to stop nagging them. It is true that since Pesach comes out early, the play was unavoidably scheduled during mid-term season. However, it is also true that it takes no time to get to the theater. The shows costs one third less than the price of a movie. There are performances all week long including Sunday on which there are no classes. Also, the play happened to be a delightful comedy; the perfect remedy for test season tension.

Has a new spirit of intellectual devotion permeated the campus keeping even the call of legitimate and quality drama from stirring students away from their texts? Obviously no. It's not that students couldn't come to a performance, but that they simply didn't bother to. They ignored the months of effort put into the show by friends and fellow students. They ignored the fact that the plays are one of if not the only cultural events that take place on campus.

Many students complain about the lack of school spirit. Spirit is only aroused by action and participation. If students don't take the bull by the horns and force themselves out of the rut of the all pervading apathy, a vicious cycle of inactivity, leading to boredom, and in turn diminishing any potential interest, will regretfully continue.

## Biting Off a Bit Too Much

Our double curriculum may afford us the opportunity to pursue secular and Judaic studies simultaneously, however, it also burdens us with an unusually heavy workload. It is therefore understandable that many students will be pressed for time and not be able to devote as much energy as they would like to various extra-curricular activities. What is not acceptable is that these same students take on the added responsibilities of leadership. Assuming a leadership position in a club or committee entails a serious commitment to that activity. Leaders of clubs must be prepared to give of themselves and their time to prod and goad a lethargic student body into action and involvement. It is the responsibility of the YCSC executive board, in turn, to spur on these same leaders and encourage them to promote a more active and fulfilling student life.

## Going All the Way

While the entire student body appreciates the administration's restructuring of the calendar for the remainder of the semester, in some ways it was toolittle too late. The day before Erev Pesach was granted as a travel day. But anybody who has recently travelled by air knows that the type of tickets that are purchased by students are non-refundable and do not permit any changes. Taking into account that most out-of-town students will have purchased tickets much earlier than two weeks before Pesach in order to get the least expensive fare, the anouncement of the travel day was a tantalizing but practically irrelevant change. Most situdents will still arrive in their homes after Bedikah has been completed.

Also, on the amended calendar no mention was made of the schedule for Monday, April 8th. On some versions of the calendar it is noted as thefirst day that classes resume after vacation. On another version it is written that the day follows a Sunday schedule. Even early this week Assistant Dean David Rosenberg wasn't sure of the schedule for the day. Since the administration was already adjusting and distributing new calendars, for the sake of the out-of-town students' travel arrangements, the day vacation ends and regular classes begin should have been specified.

## The Cammentatar

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# Seforim Sale Saga 

## To the Editor,

Kudos to the commentator for a fine article on our Seforim Sale. However, we would like to take this opportunity to clarify certain facts. While your article was appreciated, we fear some misconceptions may arise from it. First of all, the sale was headed by Mordecai Book and Tommy Weinberger. Mutty Gurell, a past chairman of the sale, remained on staff as management consultant. While Mutty's assistance was invaluable as was Elliott Forgash's, Avrohom Gelber's, Jeremy Wieder's, AlanSchnipper's, and many others, it would be remiss not to give Tommy his due. Secondly, while most of the administration and supporting services of Yeshiva were uncooperative, we were not ignored by all. In fact, Dean Nulman, Dean Rosenfeld, Jeff Chaitoff, and various secretaries helped whenever we had a problem, and we thank them for putting up with us. The object of our complaints is actually the feeling that when not making requests through the Office of the Dean of Students we were treated as children and not taken seriously. Third, referring to the fact thatSOY must pay for use of the room seems to imply that this is one of our complaints. This is not so. We understood before the sale that this is how it was done in years past, and accepted it. Our complaint is that the room was not presented to us as per our contract. Making the room usable and ready for the sale cost us a lot of money and a fortune in valuable class time. Finally, yourarticleimplies that wedeny that we were helped at all, and that we are ingrates. We hope nobody gets that message. We decry the treatment afforded us by many of the YU departments, especially facilities management. Ourchief complaints include, the condition of the Seforim Sale room as it was handed over to us, and the removal of bookcases and tables that were simply emptied of our items (which were left carelessly about by those removing theitems) foruse elsewhere in Yeshiva without prior notice. We do feel shabbily treated, and unnecessarily so, but to all who did help us, including all those who volunteered there time, we are very thankful. Our main goal was "LeHagdilTorahU'Lihadirah".

We hope we realized our goal.

## Sincerely,

The Seforim Sale Committee,

Mordecai Book
Tommy Weinberger Mutty Gurell Elliott Forgash
Avrohom Gelber
Alan Schnipper

## We Can't Close Our Eyes to Art <br> \author{ To the Editor, 

}In the February 13th issue, Mrs. Karen Haller wrote you a letter that was commenting on a "Torah vs.Madda" article that said someRebbeimareopposed to teaching Art History at Yeshiva University.

Mrs. Haller said she agrees that the Rebbeim and the art department should "work together to revamp the present course to eliminate the objectional material so that it can be enjoyed by everyone without misgivings." She specified that objectional material meant nudity and Christianity.

Christianity plays a big part in Art History and should not be avoided. Just because we are in a Jewish school does not mean that we can close our eyes to everything around us that is not. Who are we to say that we can find "sufficient representational material for each period" and avoid all Christianity at the same time?

To an extent Mrs. Haller has a point about nudity because weare in a Jewish school. There might be some pieces that are not appropriate for learning at YC. But by no means should nudity be avoided as a whole.

Art majors are not truly and honestly prepared for a career in art if they have only learned a portion of the material they are expected to know upon entering that field.

I believe this school is sheltered enough as it is and censoring Art History is only one more step for YU to take in the wrong direction. After all, are wenotheretogeta well rounded education?

Jodi A. Myers
SCW '94
Editor's Note: Only SCW students can major in Art; YC offers an Art minor only.

Degrading Greenberg
To the Editor,
In the March 13 issue of Commentator Shlomo Zwickler reports on a lecture that he did not attend. The Commen-
tator's lack of journalistic integrity and any semblance of objectivity is obvious. Zwickler reports, second hand of course, that "Claiming that the Chazon Ishdenied the existence of true heresy today and sighting talks that Rav J.B. Soloveitchik allegedly held with leaders of the Conservative movement, Greenberg lobbied for Orthodox recognition of Rabbis and leadersinJudaism's non-traditional sects." Rav Soloveitchik's meetings with Rabbi Saul Lieberman of the Jewish Theological Seminary are not 'alleged' but indisputable fact. Furthermore the Chazon Ish's comments on heresy are not 'claimed' but printed in black and white for all to see. All Zwickler had to do was open a sefer.
Commenting on procedural difficulties, Zwickler misconstrues fact and misinforms the reading public. Network is the North American branch of the World Union of JewishStudents of which I am National Coordinator through YU. Network, the local campus chapter of which Iam YCchairperson, was the soul sponsor for the event. Publicity containing a black-ened-out YCSC logo only highlighted the student council's non-involvement. Greenberg's lecture was never canceled but rather took place in compliance with the rights accorded academic societies. That this was the first event presented by the Jewish Historical Society is probably why it was 'heretofore unknown

Pointing to the objection of two Society members, whose names incidently were also blackened out on the flyer, Zwickler takes issue with my unilateral action in bringing Greenberg. "In addition" writes Zwickler, "Sporn claims...he held a meeting at which all members..." either expressed support or indifference to inviting Rabbi Greenberg." Society member Jonathan Hirsch, however, claims "that's a fiction." All members attending the meeting expressed support or indifference, however not all the members of the society were present. That Jonathan Hirsch was not present at the opening session of the Jewish Historical Society either and Uri Cohen showed up late might have something to do with their ignorance of the society's connection to Network. As chairperson of Network and its task force, the Jewish Historical Society, it is my duty and responsibility to act unilaterally on its behalf. Unlike YCSC President Steven Felsenthal, I
RESPONSA I

RESPONSA
on Page 9





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 because of the irreponisionity of the chimen of the oonmin the buthecause of the lac of cooperation on the partof those Who mun Food Services at Y e shiva University. Many meet ings have takenplace In which the following topics were ad dressed:
(1) Cutting the costs of run ning the cafeteria.
(2) Decreasing the size of the lines?
(3) Ontside subsidies for the cafeteria:
(4) Thcreasing portion size $/$ Decreasing prices.
(5) Separate student /guest prices.
(6) Hours of the cafeteria
(7) Food supply of the cafe teria.
(8) Seeing the books and list. of suppliers
These issues were raised at
each and every meeting including the meeting with the catete. riaconsultant The outcome of these meet ings was al ways the same:excuses given as to. why the cate. fehardinus tratoss $100 \%$ consect

## Are You Listening?

A forum for organized student opinion

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## Helping Hatzolah

YU students were asked to dip into their pockets once again last week, but this time to help an organization that traditionally spends its time helping us -Hatzolah. Hatzolah is a volunteer ambulance company, geared to serving the Jewish community. The fund raising drive, held on Wednesday March 20th, consisted of manned tables in the dormitories with suggested donation amounts for students and faculty. According to YCSC President Steven Felsenthal, the sum of $\$ 1,500$ was raised during the course of the day.
Unlike the much publicized Jewish Survival Fund, this drive was run on a much smaller scale. "We didn't want to push people into giving money," said Felsenthal. "The idea was to sit at a table and let them know that Hatzolah needed their help."

Hatzolah in Washington Heights recently fell into dire financial straits when a major benefactor passed away. The Hatzolah organization does not have a fund raising section. However, because the majority of their calls in this area involve YU, the Council of Presidents (YCSC, SSSBSA, SOY, IBCSC, and JSSSC) agreed to run a fund raising drive themselves.
 The drive for Hatzolah raised $\$ 1,500$.

## Questionably Clean Comedy

YCSC, in cooperation with SCWSC, sponsored a comedy night at the5th A venueSynagogue on Thursday, March 14. Five comedians entertained a lively crowd for over an hour while those present munched away on complimentary snacks provided by the student councils. A spark of controversy erupted when some of the comics began to wander onto sexual topics, reminiscent of the comedians who performed at last year's comedy night. On several occasions during the evening, student representatives fromStern and YC signalled the comedians to switch topics when the humor became inappropriate. The comedians virtually ignored the suggestions and continued with their acts. They received roaring laughter from some members of the audience, but disturbed looks from others.

# Italian Rabbi Enters RIETS 

by Neil Torczyner

A Rabbinical celebrity, Rabbi Alberto Somekh, chief rabbi of Bologna, Italy, has enrolled in RIETS. Rabbi Somekh entered RIETS upon theadvice of thechief rabbiof Rome, Rabbi Elio Toaff. He intends to study Judaism aswell as the American Jewish community.
RabbiSomekh, an accomplished Bible scholar who specializes in ancient languages, had always intended to do post-rabbinic studies outside Italy. "It is quite an experience to see how Yeshiva University and the Jewish community in the United States works" he remarks. Rabbi Somekh, his wife Alessandra, and his three-year-old daughter Miriam, are spending the year living off campus in Washington Heights.

His study is being funded by a scholarship from the Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture. Ordained at the Collegio Rabbinico Italiano inMilan, RabbiSomekh holds the equivalent of a master's degree in Classical and Semitic Ianguages and literature from the University of Milan. Heis fluent in Hebrew, English and Italian, and canalsoread French. RabbiSomekh has also studied Latin, Greek, ancient Persian, Sanskritand Aramaic.

Since his arrival in New York, the Rabbi says he has found striking differences between the Jewish communities in Italy and America. He is especially impressed by the sense of security American Jews exhibit. RabbiSomekh'ssynagogue and many others throughout Italy are guarded by police 24 hours a day. Before every function or religious service, the synagogue is seanched for bombs.

According to Rabbi Somekh, the Italian Jewish community practices what he terms "intellectual Torah", and has done so since the Renaissance. Over the centuries, the community produced renowned poets, philosophers, and religious leaders.
Much to his delight, the Rabbi has found that the Italian and Ye shiva University approach to Judaism have much in common. RIETS and the ItalianJewishthinkers share the same goal of Torah U'Madda, he says. "My hope is that such an institution (like RIETS) in Europe could help European Jewry survive," he adds. "I would like to go back to Italy and help to establish such an institution based on what I have learned."


## Harvard Professor Speaks at YU


#### Abstract

by Joshua Sindler Dr. Theodore Levitt, Professor of Marketing at Harvard University, addressed Yeshiva University students and faculty about "Marketing Successes for Tomorrow" on March 20 at Stern College. Dr. Levitt discussed the purpose of business, and illustrated the opportunities which lie ahead for students withentrepreneurial leanings. Thelecture followed a dinner which provided student leaders and faculty an opportunity to speak one-


 on-one with this distinguished teacher.Dr. Levitt began by describing the purpose of a business and what role it serves in society. He elaborated on the current developments in the business community, including the "acceleration in the pace of change, as we are seeing the miniaturization of eve rything in this world." He cited this writer's use of only a tape recorder at this lecture as a fine example. Not long ago, he said, you would have seen the same reporter bring with him a pen and note pad. Now, he observed, all the journalist has is the recording deivice; the bulky pen and
paper are no longer necessary. Levitt also noted the increase in communication, observing thatithas resulted in the globalization of competition. For example, the professor noted, even a bicycle merchant in Czechoslovakia feels thisglobal competition.
Dr. Levitt added that he admires the dual curriculum which this uniqueinstitution offersitsstudents. Heclaimed that the demands of such a program will enable students to achieve a great deal in their respective careers.

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# Taking Stock of the Clubs 

## by Michael Z. Kellman

The many different clubs at $Y \mathrm{U}$ serve the varied nheeds of the student population by providing conmittees or societies for every possible interest. However, the relative activity, or as is more prevalent, inactivity of these clubs sometimes calls the validity of their existence into question.
There are several YCSC standouts -clubs that have consistently run interesting events and important services to the college, its students, and the Jewish Community. Many others, however, are merely names on a list. According toSteven Felsenthal, YCSC President, clubs which do not run events will not and do not receive his support YCSC, which charters the clubs and funds a great majority of their events, allocates funds to clubs based on their activism. "A request from a club leader who has done a lot will be looked upon more favorably than one from a club leader who has done nothing, claims Felsential.
The leaders of the clubs meet with YCSC at the begining of each semester and present the projected estimates of their budgets for that semester, A stated in a memorandum distribted to all the chubleaders, they are instructed to present wiowitentreview of your events from last semester and a witten projection of events and other $\alpha$ etils or this semeter of the ap Wham the fitwo YeSechartered cubs, only

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 tuted this year. have a serious dedicated effort." not give them money." devoted to more events:

The Following is a list of the many clubs available at Yeshiva College and a record of their activity for the current school year.

## * $=$ not funded by YCSC.

*Accounting Society: Events -- Last semester: Meetings with recruiters from accounting firms. This semester: Accounting Society/ Joint Business Society Dinner: April 15, an annualevent. Planning toseeJackie Mason on Broadway.

Aliyah Club:Events -- Last semester: none. This semester: Shiur given by Rabbi Maish Taraginonwritingsof RavKook: March 24.

Athletic Committee: Administersbasketballandhockey intramurals, Schick Super Hoops, Trident Certs SikeFest, and upcoming One on One challenge.
Blood Drive:Events - Last semester: Blood Drives: September, December. This semes ter: May

CAMERA:Events - Last semester: Invited Sam Bahn from the CAMERA New York office in conjunction with NYSIPAC. Ran a letter writing campaign to protest inaccuracies in " 60 Minutes" coverage of the Temple Mount Massacre and inconsistencies in New York

Times coverage of the "killings" of Arabs in Israel and the "deaths" of Jews. This semester: After Pesach, another letter writing campaign is planned.
"We are looking for inaccuracies... [We are] not trying to police opinions against Israel, only distortions...if a person sees an inaccuracy, we want them to writealetter." Jason Muss, chairman
Chemistry Club:Events - Last semes ter: Provided tutorialservice for all people requesting help in chemistry. This semester: Talk on chemistry topic by Dror Rosenfeld chairman of Chemistry club. Trying to get Nobel
Prize chemist to speak some- game



AbrahamBenhamu, President of the SephardicClub
agrees that the expenditure is justified, they are sent to Treasurer Stuie Nussbaum. According to David Borowich, Vice-President of YCSC, this system of financial accountability was insti-
instead of granting all the money at the outset of the year," he states, "we review their performance for the first semester." "We made a system of accountability,". he maintains.

Echoing Felsenthal, Borowich asserts that the money is distributed only "if you show that you

The problem that emerges is a lack of that "serious dedicated effort:" Borowich claims the fault lies to a great extent with the club leaders. He feels that in many cases they are not living up to their responsibilities. If students complained; "we might promote a new club president...or

While some of the blame may lie in the inactivity of the presidents, the leaders themselves blame general student apathy. Daniel Silverman, co-Chairman of the Culture Society, refers to the response of the student body as "apathetic. He blames his club's lack of success on a shortage of interest among underclassmen.

Another common problem is the lack of time and the crunch of schoolwork whichalmost all YC students face. According to Mark Roth, head of the CompuSci Society, the long hours denanded by the Computer Science major take away valuable tme which would have been

Whower, despte these mitigating factors some clubs manage to tun events with some degree of 5 esulaity Philanthropy Society and Sephardic Gubw Lead the pack in evento pro grats ady The byalestade giding acent oby votcont
 Th H H Whe Resemeting at thestartof the
"Perhaps something involving Canadians because it is a Club Canada....I would like toget things going to help foreign students adjust as freshmen." -Jacob Blanshai, chairman.
CollegeRepublicans:Events --Last Semester: Talk by congressional candidate
Commentator:Have printed twelve issues to date, including a joint issue with the Observer.

Computer Science Society: Events -- Last semester: Seminar on Word Perfect and using the Computer room, Worked in conjunction with Philanthropy Society on Russian Resume' Service.

Culture Society:Events Last semester: Procured tickets to: Les Miserables, A Few Cood Men, The Fantastiks, Crand Hotel, Fiddler on the Roof Shabbaton with the Junior and Senior classes. This semester: none.
"We weren't able toget ourcommittees together until the second week of February and we only had twoweeks to Purim and we decided that it was too close....After Pesach we can't do anything because it's the Omer." - Daniel Silverman, chairman.
Debate Club:Events -- Last semester:Sent members to both Model U.N. at Harvard and at Universityof Pennsylvania. This semester: Debate scheduled for after Pesach with Pace University.
English Honors Society: Events -- Last semester: none. This semester: Trying to get Arthur Miller to speak, Planning a symposium on Beloved by Toni Morrison.
"The English Honors Society is something which was revived last year and really does not have an official function...[it exists for] when the Kol editors want to do an event"-Jerrold Rapaport,Chairman.

EnvironmentSociety:Events -- Last semester: none (received charter this year). This semester: After Pesach, Chris Moore from the Student Environment Action Committee, an organization composed of approximately 150 colleges,
 will speak on the importance of recycling paper, an activity for which the society has campaigned. Alsoworkingoneliminating styrofoamfrom theCafeteria. Additional plans include participating in rallies against the James Bay Project, a New York State-funded nuclear reactor which is being built in Canada and a newsletter to promote student awareness of environmental concerns.
Guide to the Perplexed: Events - Last semester: Pub-
lished their annual student guide. This semester: Updated Guide II is due out soon.
Hamashkif: Events -- Last semester: none. This semester: One issue summarizing whole year.

I decided to makeone issue ${ }^{1 /}$ year that would cover the wh year--an overview."-Tzvi Bore' stein, editor.
*Hamevaser:Have print four issues to date, includi ${ }_{i}$ their Purim issue, Hamew tanschaung.
HistorySociety:Events--L. semester: Tried to have speaker, but he was only ava able during reading week. This semester: Hoping to get Rabhi Berel Wein to speak.

Ice Hockey Club:Events Last semester: ran practices Sky Rink. This semester: non:
"We had a lot of students whn participated...[but] the scho 1 wasn't interested in a team. Baruch Rutner, President.

Israel Club:Events -- Last Semester:Hosted an Israel nig.t where they showed an Israeli movie, Echad MiShelanu-One of Ours, and heard fromits star. Held a Chanukkah party. Cosponsored a rally in front of the Iraqi mission with College Republicans. Invited Israel's Ambassador Gvir to speak at YU. This semester:Helda Purim party. Ran a shabbaton with NYSIPAC which featured Craig Frank from the JCRC (Jewish Community RelationsCouncil) and Leon Metzger, professor at YU. Planning YomHaAtzmaut chagiga with live band and good speaker. Working on Yom HaZikaron service where they will name all YU alumni who have died in the Israeli army and honor all the students who went to Israel during the war. Have booked Benyamin Netanyahu to speak at YU when he comes to America.
*Joint Business Society: ManageMorg-Mart,administer

AT\&T Challenge. Last Semester: Shabbaton at Stern.

This semester:Joint Business Society/ Accounting Society Dinner.

Math Club:Defunct
NYSIPAC:Events -- Last semester: They held a membership drive which garnered 205 new members in YC and Stern Speakers David Olesker from theInstituteforCountering AntiIsrael Propaganda and Sam please turn to page 11 baseball

Last semester: Three Speakers: RabbiMarc Angel; Moshe Feintuch, Rabbi Chaim Druckman. This semester:Co-Sponsor Yom HaAtzmaut celebration at YU.

Club Canada:Events - Last semester:none. President graduated in January and club was inactive. This semester: Mili-
tary Attache from Canadian delegationtotheUN, Colonel Fraser, spoke to students about the gulf war. A shabbaton has been planned in conjunction with Sigma Delta Rho for the first weekend after vacation. Planning an event for later in the semester, probably a

## Cext year.

ub:Events -- Las Planning lanning matches against two other colleges.

Chug Bnei Akiva:Events - E



Presenting roses and a plaque, Dr. Beukas recognizes Rabbi Johnny Krug's dedication and lighting design assistance in forty YCDS shows at a reception following Wednesday night's performance.

## Thumb's Up for "Lettice and Lovage"

sionate manner that kept the audience hanging on his every word. The humor was of a high nature, rarely resorting to slapstick, and Schloss broughtit off with a sensitivity that was admirable. He did not fall prey, as many YCDS actors do, to the notion that louder is better, and the audience was highly appreciative of this. Schloss bounced around the stage, delivering uproarious lines, one of the best being a French rendition of Richard theThird'sfamous "kingdomfor a horse" line. Toward the end ofthe play,Schloss' character became vulnerable for a moment, and in this he was equally convincing. Although he was surrounded by a very competent supporting cast, the night clearly belonged to Daniel Schloss.

Adam Schorr, always superb, served as a fine foil for Lettice's good natured wit, and the rest of the cast provided a whimsical clutter that was a key element in the creation of the comedic mood. Most notable in this capacity was Benjy Berlin, playing Schorr's witless office assistant, who probably received more laughter for his lines than any-
"Without a one else that evening.
"Lettice \& Lovage" was, without a doubt, one of the best shows that YCDS has performed in quite some time, and it is a genuine shame that, due to midterms, the theater had twenty-one empty seats on Sunday night. Those of us fortunate enough toseeit, though, were" enlarged, enlivened, and enlightened," and so, to the cast, as well as to the entire YCDS crew, thank you for an unforgettable evening, and keep on Quaffing.

Opinion

## The Dating Game

by Hayyim Angel

Summer-loving students havemuch to look-forward to this coming aca demic year. Due to the fact that Rosh Hashana comes out so early in the year, Yeshiva University has decided to begin the upcoming Fall semester after Sukkot: As a result, many students will return to their old Yeshivot in Israel to learn for a month, some will earn more money due to longer summer employment, and others will travel and relax more than they had in previous summers.
Just how early does Rosh Hashana come out? This year, Rosh Hashana wil occur September 9 th. Usually, the Jewish year begins towards the end of September, or even in the be ginning of October the early arrival of the Jewish holidays thus plays a Critical role ingiving Yeshiva Eniversity students that ex monthoff.
Americanj Jews haveguite ogically grown comfortabew int the vecular calendar. If they didactuse mical
 difficultes wh phat Heresto socu $h 16$ Whem

sesm to give the Jewish calend darasec Wontary role in the datingesystem For example, every one of us was Homonce, yet we think that we were bontwice onour bithdaysyandaso on wur Hebrew birthdays The queo ton we must ask ourselves is why dontwecelebrate birthoyys and secu lar birthdays? It appears as though evenamongstourselves, we havegiven the Jewish date an inferior position where the secular calendar marks the Heal" date, and the Jewish calendar tels us orly the Hebrew date we thus allow the secular calendar to dic tate our patterns of inne ghat we sit multaneously distance ourselves from ourown calendar This phenomenon displays a bending of our jewish val ues into the secular wold rather than an integration of secuian normsinto our Jewish live 0 OHIewhith values should be stronger thanthat
As a remind er, Rosht Hashana his
 state, the samedate mho








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## Responsa

## Ctd. from page 3

at least consulted my board regarding the issue.

Felsenthal says he withdrew his initial support because of non-compliance with various rules of procedure. I personally have been told that the real reason he withdrew support is out of fear that pressure from the Roshei HaYe shiva could affect alumni funding to the student council.

Zwickler quotes Felsenthal verbatim, "...I can not have YCSC endorsing the views of Rabbi Greenberg, whether we agree with him or not. If Rabbi Tendler spoke, $\mathrm{I}^{\prime} \mathrm{d}$ endorse him...If Dr . Anthony Beukas spoke, I'd endorse him. But this is a different story. If YCSC is not inviting the speaker then we don't endorse the event." By his own admission Felsenthal agrees that procedural difficulties are not really at issue. He would give de-facto support to any program featuring a YU faculty member. Rabbi Greenbergisnota 'differentstory.' Aside from having taught at YU , he is also a member of the RCA, Rabbinical Council of America, which has close organizational ties with YU and therefore Greenberg should enjoy the same privileges Felsenthal would accord faculty members. Apparently Felsenthal, acting unilaterally, would endorse speakers whether YCSC endorses them or not. Students should be aware of the undemocratic nature of YCSC. After signing a facilities management form authorizing a room for the event Felsenthal was able to revoke his signature by a phone call.

The question remains unanswered, just why did Felsenthal really pull out of the event? Was it a well placed phone call by a member of the University administration? Who is threatening our basic rights to free speech and assembly and why is our student council president backing down?

## Kalman C. Sporn <br> YC '93

## Roll Call Realities

To the Editor,
In the past issue of The Commentator,Jonathan Tropperadvanced theidea that students should decide for themselves whether or not to attend classes. The basic argument used by Mr. Tropper was that any teacher who makes use of a mandatory attendance policy, is doing so because he or she is not dynamic enough to attract students without forcing them to attend.

While I agree with Mr. Tropper that he is an idealist, I do think that he is slightly overstating his case. If it could - be shown that only boring teachers institutesuch policies, then, and only then, would Mr. Tropper's claim be founded on fact. However, what will probably be discovered is that even well-liked or at least "non-boring" teachers also have such a policy. This would obviously undermine Tropper's view, for why would an interesting teacher require mandatory attendance? Phrased differently, why would students not attend the class of an otherwise exciting professor?


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ENEDS


## COMNANAL

Attention should be directed to page 35 of the college catalog, where it is clearly set forth that thereare only three instances when a student inust attend allclasses: (1)performance classes(i.e.labs, speech,music, and physical ed.); (2) If the student is a freshman or on probation; (3) if "the instructor specifically notifies theclass...during the firstweek of the semester.".
It would thereforeseem that teachers who use a mandatory attendance system are within the rights accorded them by University regulations and are not acting on their own recognizance. The administration should be the focus of Mr. Tropper's article, not the teachers who are merely following our school's rules.

Joseph Hoenig
YC '91

# Philanthropy Society continued from page 1 

food. OnSundays, theprogramisclosed. In order to serve those who are less fortunate, YCPS buys full meals from the YU cafeteria and distributes them to the homeless. These meals consist of sandwiches, juice, apples and cake. On average, this costs the Philanthropy Society five hundred dollars a month.

According to a recent estimate, there are over three thousand homeless Jews living in the NY area alone. Ben Wiener, the Vice President of YCPS said
that," People don't realize the problem of the Jewish homeless."

Publicity is a major problem for this organization. YCPS represents a unique opportunity for students to reach out to other Jews in dire straits. "As far as we know it's the only program of its kind, because its the only one where college students meet with, interact and provide for homeless, Jews or otherwise" said Wiener. "There's plenty of opportunity for people to get involved."

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# The Paper Chase 

## by Joshua Seidemann

"In addition to Honors Work, the Colleges also grant credit for Independent Study...If the project is carried on outside the University...the student's final report...is to be submitted to the Academic Standards Committee..." Yeshiva University Undergraduate Catalog, 1987-1989
"...and the Standards Committee only meets every year and a yovel [sic]." The Secretary on the Fourth Floor

## And so began the odyssey.

First of all, never believe anything the catalog says. And second of all, never ask the secretary for help or advice. It's forthcoming shortly without any invitation at all.

One morning, I went to the registrar's office to pick up form P201 and was promptly and politely informed by Betty, the competent and always smiling Office Manager, that I'd have to trek up to Guidance on the fourth floor. So I did. Now, I'm kind of agreeable to most things, and the fourth floor isn't so far away. Just down the hall, up the elevator, and around the corner.

With perfect diction and infelicitous charm, I requested a copy of form P201. "You don't want that," the secretary said. "That's for independent study."

Right. I want to engage in independent study.
"No, you don't," she said, shaking her head. "You want directed study."
No. I want independent study.
"No. That means it has to go to the Academics Standards Committee, and the Standards Committee only meets every year and a yovel. Incidentally, I think the expression is "a yovel and a day", but who's counting?! What you want is directed study for a course you need but can't take t because of a conflict."

No. I want independent study for work that utilizes elements of two Fourses the university offers, but which is not a replica of any course presently listed in the catalog. And besides, the project only goes to the fommittee if it's done outside the university.
"You're wrong."
Check the catalog.
"OK. It's here somewhere, twenty-, twenty-,..."
Twenty-four.
"Oh. See? Academics Standards Committee."
If the work is carried on outside of the university. If it's done here, all I - need is a faculty sponsor, and the Dean to approve it.
"You need two faculty sponsors."
Whatever you say.
After what seemed to be only a modest eternity, she finally pointed out the shelf that housed good old form P201. I went back to my room and filled Hit out, and, following directions, took it to the registrar's office so the numbers could be verified.
"The Dean has to sign it."
The Dean won't look at it till everyone else does.
"The Dean has to sign it."
No. It says the registrar's office has to approve the numbers, then the faculty sponsor adds his comments, then the Dean signs it. Achron achron井chaviv.
"The Dean has to sign it."
I could see this was becoming a pattern, so I took the form (still P201) to the Dean's office.
"Oh no, the professor has to sign it."
Two weeks later I got P201 back with a bright yellow Post-It note slapped boldly on top.
"Permission denied", it read. "Too late in the semester to begin work."
The Commentator wishes the entire Y.U. community a


## $\mathbb{C T h}_{\text {he }}$ Commentatox

## Tournament Set to Start

## by Eric Melzer

Due to the overwhelming enthusiasmfortheSchickSuperhoops and Trident Spikefest tournaments, the Athletic Department has decided to institute a one-on-one basketball toumament to be held after the Pesach vacation.' This new competitionwillbedividedinto four divisions, the first for students with heights ranging from $5^{\prime} 5^{\prime \prime}$ to $5^{\prime} 9^{\prime \prime}$, the second for players between the heights of 5 ' 10 " and $6^{\prime \prime} 2^{\prime \prime}$, the third for partici-
pants $6^{\prime} 3^{\prime \prime}$ and over, and the fourthforvarsity membersonly. Games will consist of two run-ning-time five minute halves.

Thetournamentdirectorsare quite happy with the eagerness of the students to participate in this tournament. As Stanley Watson remarked, "It should be exciting and intense competition once again."

In the $5^{\prime} 5^{\prime \prime}-5^{\prime} 9$ " bracket, possible favorites include Jeff Mor, Craig Kornbluth, Yitz Stern, Yosef Kilimnick, and Kenny Helfer. According to many speculators, Avi Esses is
a "sleeper pick" from among the players in this category. In the $5^{\prime} 10^{\prime \prime}-6^{\prime} 2^{\prime \prime}$ class, the odds favor Alex Fooksman, Daniel Loskove, and Ami Drazin Ranon Mann and Hillel Goldscheider certainly have the inner track among members of the $6^{\prime \prime} 3^{\prime \prime}$ and over group. Despite all the speculation, many people have been reluctant to predict the victor in the varsity category. That's because most people believe that any of the Macs have the potential to win.

The Athletic Department and the tournament directors say they look forward to an actionpacked tournament and wish all participants the best of luck.

## Taking Stock of the Clubs

## Continued from Page 5

Israel Propaganda and Sam Bahn from the Committee for Accuracy in Mid-East Reporting in America (CAMERA)came to YU . In addition, they organized three letter writing campaigns protesting the UN condemnations of Israel and the sale ofarms to Saudi Arabia. A program was also scheduled with the movie "Shellshock" and a speech by its star, Dan Turgeman. This semester: A shabbaton in conjunction with Israel Club. . Planning a letter writing campaign to "target congressman and senators who haven't supported Israel and commend those who have."
"Last semester we were themost active ... but NYSIPAC has been inactive this semester because of the gulf war ...rallyingwasn't necessary." - Jonathan Greenblatt.

Philanthropy Society: - Events-- LastSemester: Organized the Russian resume' program where new immigrants could get information, have their resume's printed up and find out about job opportunitiesinNew York. Ranprograms for Russians on Sukkot, Chanukkah and Purim where they
gave out kippot, sang and danced. This semester: Sending books donated by Walden Books and NCSY to the Jewish troops in Saudi Arabia. Planning a shabbaton and a program on Shavuot similar to the onesontheotherchagim. There is an arrangement with Congregation Emunat Israel to de liver ten meals every Sunday to homeless people in the area. They distribute money to the JCC of Washington Heights to allow 6-8 families to receive meals for shabbat. Society collects cans around the school and takes themin forrecycling. This brings in $\$ 4000-\$ 5000$ a year which goes toward the shabbat meal program.

Philosophy Club: Events -Last semester: Hosted Mark Steiner who spoke on "Hume and the Crisis of British Empiricism" and student Mark Gottlieb on "Majesty and Humility:RavSoloveitchik and Frederick Nietzsche". This semester: Plan to continue both projects with a lecture or two after Pesach. Want to make a journal but cannot because of lack of funds.
"The most difficult thing is the journal which requires significant funding....The system is lacking and doesn't provide for this situation." - David Matkowsky, chairman.

Poetry Club: Events --Have held meetings and poetry readings through both semesters.

Pol. Science Society: Information unavailable
Pre-Engineering Society: Events -- Last semester: Sent students to Columbia University for seminars on careers in different types of Engineering. This semester: After Pesach, planning a tour of Bell labs, one of the biggest research labs in the country. Also planning a project in construction.
Pre-Law Society: Events -Last semester: Hosted Phil Rosen, a partneratWeil,Gotchel and Manger and YU alumni who spoke about being an Orthodox Jew at a big law firm. This semester:Planningtobring Joe Hynes from the Brooklyn D.A.'s office to speak. Arranging to have Princeton Review come to YU after Pesach to administer free diagnostics.
"Our meetings aren't social events, the guys have to go....If they can get all the information at once, they'll come. Wehavea large following." - David Maryles, chairman.

Psychology Club:Defunct
Sephardic Club:Events -Last semester: Beginning with an ice breaker, the schedule of events continued with a field trip to Gomez House in Upstate New York and the Kedem winery. They invited David Segal, assistant to Israel's representative in the UN to speak and showed a movie about Arab-Jewish relations. A shabbaton was held during the Spanish Goverrment's "Week inSpain" and onSaturdaynight participants attended a birthday party for the Chacham Gaon. Helped organize Syrian Jewryproject. Every other week during club hour invite a speaker. This semester: Ran a Purim chagigah in conjunction with Israel club. Trying to gain exclusive rights for a permanent sephardic shul for daily minyan and shiurim which

occur once a week.
Sigma Delta Rho:Events Last semester: Dr. Weisbrot of YU's pre-Health office spoke to acquaint students with the office. Dr. Carl Feit also spoke to club members. This semester: RabbiMoshe Tendlerwillspeak on "Brain Death and Halacha" Dr. Richard Zitomer from University of Albany is scheduled to speak to the group in May. Running shabbaton in conjunction with Club Canada. Pub lishing one of the largest research abstracts ever in YU history with over twenty-two pieces written by students and faculty.

Speech Club:Defunct
SSSJ:Events - Both semesters: "Due to the fact that Russian Jews are being let out of the Soviet Union, ... we put all our services
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66. Goller's yel
68. Bible books (abbr.) 69. Some New Vorkers 70. UnH

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toward the program of YUSSR." Richie Broth, SSSJ representative.

WYUR:Events-- Last semester: none. This semester: Radio broadcasts a varied schedule of programming from $6: 00 \mathrm{pm}$ to 2:00am every weeknight.

YCDS:Events: Last semester: Performed "Who's Life is it Anyway?" and hosted Rabbi Tendler for a post-play discussion. This semester: "Lettice and Lovage".

Young Democrats:Events -Last semester: Invited Congressman Charles Rangel to speak at YU. Began program to inform YU students about their congressman and senators. This semester: Planning another speaker after Pesach.

# YESHIVA SPORTS 

## Tennis Macs Optimistic

## by Eric Melzer

The YUTennisMacs notched their first victory of the season on Sunday, March 17 , with a 6 3 victory over Polytech. The meet, which was held in the National TennisCenter in Flushing Meadow Park, featured numerous exciting matches. In the number one singles seed, David Boim was able to edge his opponent in three sets and won the third set with a nail biting 7 6 tie-breaker.

Rookie and recent Israel returnee Brian Kalb was seeded second and beat his opponent in a tense three sets. Macs basketball starDavid Ehrman showed that his athletic
is not
limited to basket
ball as he clob- bered his opponent in the fourth

Brian Kalb, Paul Kaplan, and theMendelsohn/Weinsteintandem. In the final match, with the score knotted at 4-4, Amiel Lindenbaumand Eli Zakai took their opponents to a third set. Down 5-2, Lindenbaum and Zakai were able to fend off double match point. Unfortunately, the duo lost 6-4. Regarding this match, Coach Mickey Aboff stated, "Itwasso exciting that every point was as tense as a U.S. Open point."

OnMarch 18, the tennis Macs fell to $1-2$ as they were defeated by New Jersey Tech 6-3. Eli Zakaiwon hisfirstsingles match. Paul Kaplan upped his record to $3-0$ with a 6-2 6 2 blowout of seed. Paul "the Wall" Kaplan was also victorious at the \#6 seed. The meet also featured two up and coming superstars in Yeshiva tennis. The top doublesteam, consistingofrookies and former MTA hockey all-stars Keith Mendelsohn and Jon Weinstein, massacred their opponents in straight sets.

In a previous meet, the Macs werenarrowly defeated by Pratt Institute 5-4. Winners included

## Volleyball Macs Whip St. Vincent

by Steven Dyckman

On March 3, in front of three screaming fans at the Max Stern Athletic Center (actually, one, if you don't count the refs), the VolleyballMacsdefeated Mount St. Vincent in three straight games to win their first match of the season. Zevi Adler, Shimon Blumenfeld, and Jonny Klineman, theMacs designated setters, gave their teammates beautiful sets to hit. Jeremy Bandler and Avi Steinlauf contributed some very impressive slams.

After the game, Coach Omar Vargas was heard saying: "Finally, we won one!"
The Macs' next game was at Columbia Universityagainstthe Lions. Unfortunately, the Macs did not extend their one match winning streak as they lost in three straight games. The serve proved to be a serious problem for the Macs, as did returns of the opponents' serve.

The Macs returned home to meetBaruchonMonday,March
17. This is one game Coach Vargas and the rest of the team would like to forget;theMacs lost 15-4, 15-7, and 15-3. For the majority of this match, the Macs looked very confused andhad trouble with thefundamentals of the game: bumping, setting, serving, and slamming. The team suffered due to the ab-


The Macs' top setter: Jonny Klineman sence of Jonny Klineman, their number one money." Queensstill prevailed, setter, who was unable to play. possibly due to some question-
On Wednesday, March 19, able calls by the refs. In the the Macs took on the much- third game, YU looked comheralded Queens College vol- pletely drained and lost 15-1. leyball team. YU got off to a The Volleyball Macs finish slow start and lost 15-4. How- theseasonThursday withathree ever,thesecondgame wasquite team match against Mt. St. exciting, and the Macs actually Vincent and Stevens Tech. gave Queens a "run for their


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