

The Commentator

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ELECTION RESULTS

YCSB Executive Board:

President-Mordi Leifer

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Business VP-Bruce Taragin

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Secretary-Robert Blustein

Class Presidents:

Senior Class-Jeff Fishman

Junior Class-disqualified; new election to be held

Sophomore Class-

Steven Felsenthal

SOY President-Jeff Paley

JSS President-tied; new election held today

IBC President-David Berg

New Grade System Raises Questions

by Edward Stelzer

An issue of controversy on the YU campus lately has been the recently installed plus/minus grading system. A large majority of students are dissatisfied with the new system, claiming it tends to pull down grades which would have been higher had the old system been retained. Of course, it can also be argued that grades can be raised by tacking on a "plus sign" at the end of them. It would seem that, given the potential for both, the new system is truly fair. Yet the statistics and students raise questions.

In the Fall semester of 1987, 57% of all grades recorded were flat A, B, C, or D's. 25% were "minus" grades, and 18% were "plus" grades. For the Spring of 1987, before the introduction of the new system, 88 students earned perfect "straight A" averages, while the Fall of '87 produced only sixteen "4.0" students. The Fall of '87 also saw fifteen more students on probation due to poor grades.

While part of the reason for this discrepancy may be the major differences in courses offered in the Spring and Fall terms, these results nevertheless seem to suggest that the new system is indeed hurting the student body. Yet it must be considered that out of 4167 actual grades given (not including failures, withdrawals, P's, and other special grades), 1411 flat A's were handed out. This was the most prevalent grade, and indeed 57% of all grades did not carry a plus or minus.

An informal survey taken by this reporter seemed to indicate that for every four students who dislike the system, one student prefers it over the old method. It should be noted that there was no scientific method to this

survey; it was purely random.

However, no amount of ranting and raving will bring back the days of old. The official reason for the plus/minus system lies in the establishment of the Sy Syms School of Business. SSSB encompasses both the men uptown as well as the women in the same institution with one dean and one charter, unlike YC and SCW which are two separate schools. Since Stern has always had a plus/minus system, in order to create uniformity at both branches of SSSB the new system had to be installed uptown. Sy Syms students on this campus had to have pluses and minuses as students from YC take classes at SSSB and vice-versa, YC was forced to adopt pluses and minuses as well.

According to Dean Rosenfeld, the faculty here always pushed for a plus/minus system, and the Sy Syms school was merely the precipitating factor carrying over the system to YC. The dean does not favor the system as he feels that examinations can't be so precise as to pinpoint a grade to such accuracy. He also faults it on mathematical grounds, finding a higher likelihood of error in the grading. Finally, he believes that now there will be even more arguments and haggling between the student and the teacher over grades.

A random survey among professors seem to indicate this as well. Most prefer the new system, yet frequently they become annoyed at the greater amount of "point quibbling" which has come about as a result of it. The consensus among teachers questioned was that this system enables them to differentiate between the students and give grades which are truly reflective of what the student deserves.

Will this system really have any long term negative effects? SSSB Associate Dean Ira Jaskoll doesn't seem to think so, claiming that "grades will level out." Right now, he believes grades may drop slightly, but when teachers as well as students becomes accustomed to the new system they will rise once again.

Dean Jaskoll adds that this new system gives more credibility to YU. Before, graduate schools and business firms would look at Yeshiva graduates' grades and realize they were inflated under the old system. However, now they know and can be confident that these grades are indeed accurate. He also states that firms who come to YU to hire graduates want a 3.5 G.P.A. or above, saying "decimal points don't really matter."

Some students point out that they "will take" the system, but wonder why there is no A-plus grade as there was in Queens College until several years ago. Dean Rosenfeld's answer to this is that "A is perfection, how can you go past perfection?" He pointed out that there is no such thing as a higher grade than an A. It would be ridiculous for a student to graduate from YU with a 4.3 G.P.A.

With finals upon us once again, students are bogged down with the worries of getting good grades to maintain as high a grade point average as possible. The next few semesters will bring more accurate indications as to the overall effects of the new grading system on business graduates, as well as those from the liberal arts college. Meanwhile, whether students prefer the plus/minus system or not, it seems to have become permanently integrated into the search for academic excellence here at YU.

McBride Honored and FIRED

Mary McBride awarded Senior Professor of the Year

by Philip March

Four months from now, when everyone returns to Yeshiva University after the summer, the Sy Syms marketing department will not be the same. In pursuit of certain scholastic ideals, SSSB Dean Michael Schiff has opted not to renew Professor Mary McBride's contract.

This news came as a great surprise and disappointment to all of her students, as most assumed that she would be an integral part of the marketing department for years to come. Her style and approach to teaching created a unique experience for her students. Written exams did not fit into her planned curriculum. A series of hands-on marketing projects and reports replaced them. Divided into groups of four, the students were responsible for putting together presentations dealing with a chosen industry in regard to specific topics. Subject to the scrutiny of both Prof. McBride and fellow students, thorough research, creativity, and presentational

skills were expected from each group. While this led to a highly competitive atmosphere in the class, students were forced to develop working relationships within individual groups, as success was dependent on uncompromising teamwork. A taste of the real world was brought into the confines of her classroom.

Contrary to circulating rumors, there was no clear cut issue in regard to Dean Schiff's decision (ie: projects versus tests). Dean Schiff's systematic development of SSSB entails the reconstruction of the present business program. Apparently, this necessitates the substitution of various professors with those who share in Dean Schiff's quantitative approach to studies. Hopefully, the students and the university will see the results of this painstaking, painful process in the near future.

And as for Professor McBride, goodbye, good luck, and thank you. The experience that your students shared will long be remembered.

Senior Class Awards

Lawrence Berkowitz, Bruce Cohen, and Prof. Mary McBride received the annual Steven Gladstein Memorial Award, Philip Lieberman Memorial Award, and Senior Class Professor Award respectively. The honorees are chosen each year in a vote by the senior class.

The Steven Gladstein Award is given to a graduating student who distinguishes himself in his service to the Jewish people. Lawrence Berkowitz was noted for his devoted work with Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry, organizing rallies and the annual lobby trip to Washington, D.C., and promoting student visits to refuseniks in the Soviet Union.

The Philip Lieberman Award

winner is chosen for his character, personality and special service rendered to his class. Bruce Cohen, a resident of Baltimore, Md. and this year's senior class president, has been involved with a number of activities including the founding of the Yeshiva College Fine Arts Society. He has also been extremely active in the Yeshiva College Dramatics Society as set artist, actor, and house manager, and was layout editor for The Commentator this year.

The senior class Professor, Mary McBride, a marketing teacher, was cited by many for her unique lecture style which engages students in the teaching process. Professor McBride has not been rehired for the next year.

More Election Coverage

see pages 6-7

Editorials

Welcome Return to Moderation

With the old year just about behind us, and the new year ahead, it is time for the student leadership and administration to confront the hard choices involving the continued deterioration in food services, polarization of the student body, and the challenges posed by the extremes that beset our institution at either end of the spectrum, to name only a few. At a time when YU's President, Dr. Norman Lamm, risks criticism in delivering a speech forcefully delineating a new, affirmative path for centrist Orthodoxy, the institution he leads should follow his example in veering away from past vacillations between excesses both of the left and right and plotting a bold course unashamedly down the middle.

One easy step along the path toward mutual reconciliation would be the reinstatement of certain types of co-ed social events on our Uptown campus. Such a move, so long as it were limited by the bounds of good taste and confined to those events with a delineated purpose beyond the casual theme party such as a Fifties Night, would do much toward healing the wounds and putting the past behind us. Interestingly enough, it would also reflect the collective will of almost two-thirds of our student body, according to a Commentator survey conducted earlier this year, a fact lent further credence by the support of both YCSC Presidential candidates for the resumption of these types of events. For many, particularly those from outside the immediate area, social outlets and the opportunity to meet new people are few and the on-campus event is a convenience sorely missed.

A tentative, easily revocable move would be the revival of the on-campus Welcome Back gathering. It seems slightly absurd to celebrate our return to school in a cramped restaurant outside of school, or on our less spacious and accommodating sister campus at Stern. Such a measure would satisfy the overwhelming majority of our student body, alleviate the lingering sense of resentment of many women at Stern at the perceived discriminatory policy, and test the willingness of all factions at our school to compromise on a return to a status quo that satisfies the fullest aspirations of none but the broadest needs of many.

Congratulations at Year's End

by Ari Levitan

In the past two years, The Commentator has undergone several noticeable changes. During the 1986-87 school year, the quality of the newspaper greatly improved under the leadership of Daniel Mann and Lance Hirt. The Commentator became a major factor in campus affairs.

This year, under the authority of Jonathan Katzauer, The Commentator further expanded its desire to cater to student needs. By publishing twelve issues within the year, the 1987-88 Governing Board has produced an accomplishment that has not been seen for many years at YU. Students, faculty, and the administration were able to frequently voice their opinions. Problems were able to be read by those who could make the necessary changes, and announcements reached the entire student body.

As this semester comes to an end, I want to thank each member of the Governing Board. Without their dedication, The Commentator would not have been able to come out as often as it did. An additional thank you is owed to our contributors, who greatly enhanced the newspaper with their writings.

The Commentator has been placed in good hands for the future. Behnam Dayanim has been chosen for the 1988-89 school year. I am confident that The Commentator will continue to flourish and accomplish new achievements under his guidance.

On the Right Path

The incoming Governing Board of 1988-89 can only echo the words of Ari Levitan in thanking and congratulating him and the entire board under the dedicated and tireless leadership of Jonathan Katzauer. Together with the contributors they succeeded in printing more issues of the paper than YU has seen for a long while. Special kudos go to the departing senior members of the board, Jon Katzauer, Jon Bandler, and Ari Levitan. Tackling sensitive topics and issues of concern to the student body is not always a pleasant task, yet that is exactly what The Commentator set out to do. Long nights and fruitless searches for leads to the many rumors that are endemic to this institution were amply rewarded in the satisfaction derived from those occasional instances where the paper did make a difference. The Commentator vigorously attacked unfair policies and conditions and continually kept the student body informed as to the maelstrom of changes currently enveloping our expanding and evolving institution. The newly inducted Governing Board can only strive to follow along a similar path with the identical goal of bringing the Yeshiva College student body the best newspaper humanly possible.

The Commentator

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in thanks

MRS. HOPE BERGER AND FAMILY
 WOULD LIKE TO EXTEND THEIR GRATITUDE TO THE UNDERGRADUATE MEN STUDENT BODY FOR THEIR MANY KINDNESSES FOLLOWING THEIR HUSBAND AND FATHER'S TRAGIC DEATH.

Editor's Note

In yet another characteristic move from the Dean of the Sy Syms School of Business, a favorite professor has seen her term of service at this college terminated. Mary McBride, Marketing Professor, has been informed that she is to join professors Fish and Colchamiro as a further casualty in the quest for accreditation.

The official reckoning seems to be that she does not possess the philosophy for quantitative examinations. In other words, rather than expect her students to memorize the material she would like them to understand it by means of projects — a system used with some success in other YC courses. She, in common with departed professors Fish and Colchamiro, is well able to teach the course so that her students can understand it and utilize it, a quality noticeably lacking among certain recently hired employees of the school who seem to take an angled, almost perverse, pride in the fact that so few of their students came out with any knowledge of what the professor had professed to teach them. It appears a flimsy excuse on which to dismiss an established professor and one suspects that either the school has a genuinely superficial method of evaluating competency, or that an ulterior motive existed that would have rendered any

response insufficient.

Of course, Professor McBride will probably be replaced with another Schiff - picked Ph.D., so that the school can attain the dual goals of accreditation and autocracy. Unfortunately, her departure accentuates the line of popular, inspiring, and highly motivated professors who have not found favor with the new administration. It seems that all who have the audacity to voice an individual opinion contrary to that of newly cemented policy discover that there is no place for them here: This is an institution of conformity. Thus, with the loss of so many teachers who have built the business school, one hears the jackboots of history echoing in the corridors of academia.

It is sadly apparent with many of Dean Schiff's replacements that while they are quite competent, they are not interested in their students in any degree comparable to their predecessors. Thus a policy of solidifying administrative control may be at the expense of academic popularity. For the uninformed, at YU students do not enroll in courses with unpopular teachers. Essentially, even if quality remains high, one suspects that some changes may well occur in enrollment. One is inevitably reminded of an old adage about cutting off the nose to spite the face.

Policy or Racism

by Eric Zaiman

One week before the New York State primary, something occurred that seemingly had a significant impact on the results of the voting. New York's Mayor Ed Koch gave his endorsement to Tennessee Senator Albert Gore. With his support clearly behind the Gore campaign, Koch came out swinging, aiming both of his barrels at Jesse Jackson. In the following week, Koch declared that Jackson would leave the country "broke in three weeks and defenseless in six" if he were elected. Koch also stated that any supporter of Israel would have to be "crazy to vote for Jackson". Koch has suffered from his remarks and indeed so might have Albert Gore. Yet, if Mayor Koch's words were a significant cause of Gore's poor showing in the primary, then, in reality, the country will be made to suffer the most.

What Mayor Koch's remarks may have lacked in tact, they made up for their content. Koch did not go on a diatribe seeking to ruin the reputation of Jesse Jackson. He merely sought to ask Jesse Jackson the kinds of questions that all of his opponents in the primaries have been afraid to ask. If so, why has Koch been so maligned for his conduct immediately prior to the primary? There are two possibilities. Firstly, he may not have been very polite or very respectful. It is

quite possible that he may have portrayed himself as someone with a vendetta against Jesse Jackson, someone with an ax to grind. More likely, however, the reason that Mayor Koch has received so much criticism from the press, the public, and political leaders is because his target is black.

What therefore is clear is that a dangerous double standard is at work in this election. While it is permissible for the Dukakis campaign to criticize Senator Joseph Biden for clearly plagiarizing material from British politician Neil Kinnock, it is prohibited for anyone to criticize Jesse Jackson for his positions on issues of national import. While every political candidate is made to stand up for his beliefs and proposals, Jesse Jackson is permitted to coast through the election free from tough questioning because to do so constitutes racial prejudice. And while every other candidate must prove his ability to serve as President by pointing to some past experience in public office, Jesse Jackson, a man who has never had a publicly elected office in his life, is given the stamp of approval because he was born a black man and has risen to prominence during an age when America is trying to prove that racial discrimination no longer exists within her borders.

Unfortunately, most Americans do not realize the grave dangers involved in such a double standard. By stifling vocal opposition to Jesse Jackson, we are permitting a

black candidate to be judged on a different standard than white candidates. By allowing Jesse Jackson to evade the kinds of questions that Mayor Koch has asked, we are saying that a black candidate cannot win on his own but must have the protective issue of race. Indeed, by doing that, we destroy the movement toward racial equality in this country by emphasizing the differences between whites and blacks while at the same time subjugating the electoral process to racial prejudice and preference. Even more importantly, by stifling the fair and just criticisms of men like Mayor Koch, we suppress public debate and do great harm to our precious rights of free speech and free expression.

Martin Luther King spoke of a dream in which he saw a world where every one was given the same opportunity to advance and every person was judged "not by the color of his skin but by the content of his character." Reverend King envisioned equality for all so that all could be placed on the same plateau. For if Reverend King understood anything it was that prejudice, in any form, whether in opposition or in support of the black man, was morally wrong and devoid of any merit. It is time that America awaken to Reverend King's dream and start asking the questions that need be asked of all Presidential candidates. No man should be called a racist for asking honest questions of any man, no matter his race or religious preference.

LETTERS — Complaint

Memorial Day Oversight

To the Editor:

When one attends a yeshiva in America, one anticipates many conflicts in life. It is understandable that there be school at YU on Christian holidays, but a question arises in regard to American holidays with no connection to any religion.

Monday, May 30, is Memorial Day. While other Americans are remembering our dead and are having their barbecues, picnics, and family reunions, students at YU will be taking finals. While I understand that we are Jews first, I'm troubled by the administration's lack of concern for the students, faculty, etc., who are being required to come in on this important day.

Obviously the administration does recognize American holidays; we were off for Thanksgiving. It is therefore assumed that Memorial Day was just overlooked.

As the expression goes, we learn from our mistakes. I hope that the administration learns from its own and in the future does not schedule finals or class on Memorial Day.

Ari Levitan
Managing Editor

Dear Editor:

As manager of the Furman Dining Hall Cafeteria, I have tried to bring improvements in service and menu choices to the cafeteria. I have met regularly with the Student Food Services Committee, and have kept an open door policy, requesting students to see me personally with complaints and suggestions. I have agreed to many of the requests of the students, and as for the requests that I could not meet, I at least gave reasons for not doing so. If you were to ask your Food Services Committee, they would verify the fact that I have put the students first and foremost in any decisions that I made. Therefore, I read with great dismay and anguish your editorial "THE CAFETERIA LESS SO".

Because I find myself once again correcting material about the cafeteria that is written in your paper, I tend to agree that bad habits do die hard, as you wrote. However, it is The Commentator, rather than the Y.U. Food Services, that is no exception.

When Fresh Squeezed Orange Juice was introduced, we had no intention of removing the other brand from the machine. Only when the juice started selling better than even some of our sodas, did we decide to remove the second

brand. At no time did I or anyone else in the cafeteria attempt to "pull a fast one." The juice is sold on the counter at every meal and not only at breakfast. The juice has at times been sold partially frozen, but we have rectified that situation. I made a mistake in not taking into account that the juice is more expensive. We currently have a second, moderately priced juice in addition to the Fresh Squeezed.

Regarding the second "fast one," I did not discontinue the pancakes or made-to-order eggs. We have had grill service every day. The grill is open until 10:30 A.M. Any student wanting an omelet will have to come to the cafeteria by that time.

As manager of the cafeteria, I have the right to discipline an employee. So long as services are not affected, I think that internal labor relation issues are of no concern to your newspaper or to the student body.

As I mentioned above, I am working with the Student Food Services Committee to help improve the cafeteria. Perhaps, if more students took an interest and came up with helpful suggestions, we would have a better cafeteria. There is, admittedly, room for improvement in the cafeteria. Let us therefore, work together as partners rather than antagonists to improve the cafeteria.

Yours truly,
Alan J. Solomon

Attention

All seniors planning on attending senior class dinner, please submit your R.S.V.P. cards immediately.
Bruce Cohen-M206
Annie Richter-10E

The Commentator
Wishes All of Our Readers
a Restful and Pleasant
Summer Vacation.

Senior Dinner Subsidy Draws Fire, Praise

By Alex Wittenberg

A decision by the Yeshiva College Student Council to give every YC senior a subsidy of \$20 to help pay for the annual undergraduate senior dinner has come under strong criticism from seniors at Stern College for Women. The SCW students believe this subsidizing of only YC seniors is unfair because of the joint participation of both YC and SCW students in the dinner. YC students believing that the SCW criticism is based on an erroneous belief that YCSC should be shared by both schools, have in turn described the criticism as unfair.

The situation which led to the decision by YCSC to subsidize reportedly arose due to complaints by seniors that the \$60 charge was too high. YCSC president Michael Levine, finding that the YCSC treasury had a surplus, took into consideration the possibility of some kind of subsidy for YC students. Levine, while acknowledging the joint nature of the dinner, feels that the money, having been raised from the YC students' activities fees, should be spent on those who contributed to it. In addition, since the money belonged only to YCSC, Levine sees YCSC's decision to subsidize only YC students as its right.

The actual subsidy plan did not become finalized until early May, at which time Levine consulted with YC senior class

president Bruce Cohen. Cohen who knew there might be some sort of subsidy over two months earlier, only heard from Levine at this point. Cohen says that he realized that SCW students might be dissatisfied with this plan and that he discussed this with Levine. However, he feels that while SCW had the right to some say on the matter, YCSC had the final decision. Shortly afterward, the subsidy was approved, albeit without discussing any potential difficulties from SCW with SCW Student Council president Elaine Witty or with senior class president Annie Richter.

Cohen states that Witty and Richter did not receive notification of the final decision from their YC counterparts. Instead they found out through SCW students who had spoken to YC students. The SCW students quickly expressed their anger over the YCSC decision to Witty and Richter who were equally angry over the decision, particularly that they had not been notified about any part of this plan until it had gone public.

In more specific terms, both Richter and Witty believe that the subsidy to only YC students is in opposition to the fact that the senior dinner is a joint venture. Richter notes that she split the work evenly with Cohen and that the whole effort up until the point the subsidy was announced was organized

equally and evenly. Witty has questioned why YC has permitted this. "It appears that in the senior class a small segment of the YC student body has been singled out for preferential treatment by YCSC vis-a-vis this allocation of funds." She also questions what circumstances led to the subsidy being granted.

Both Witty and Richter acknowledge that YCSC did have more money at its disposal, and that had the SCWSC been in a similar financial state, it would have granted a subsidy to the SCW seniors had Richter submitted a formal request for one, along with proof of need. However, this still does not excuse YCSC, in their opinion. Richter states many SCW students both seniors and non-seniors, do not understand why this could not have been set up differently. She believes some sort of plan which helps those in need at both schools should have been worked out.

Both Levine and Cohen maintain, however, that any plan which had YCSC money going to fund SCW students would be unfair to YC students whose money would have been used. In addition, Cohen feels that while the situation was an unfortunate occurrence, the decision cannot be reversed once it becomes public. That would be unfair to YC students, as Cohen sees it.

An attempt to smooth these differences has been implemented since the initial announcement of the subsidy. While the subsidy was not removed, a proposal made by SCW students to change their raffle system was implemented. The raffle, a method being used to raise funds for the dinner, previously lowered a student's charge for the dinner by 50¢ for each ticket sold. The change in the raffle system will now remove one dollar per ticket sold up to \$20 for SCW students. (The old system will remain intact for YC student's.) Richter is still not entirely satisfied with this agreement, as it uses the whole dollar charged per ticket for students' costs. Previously, half the charge went to paying for extras at the dinner. However, both Cohen and Richter are still willing to accept this compromise as part of the effort to put this problem behind them. In addition to the raffles students who need help can still get it from the Office of Student Affairs, where a special fund has been set up by the school.

Despite the problems that arose, both Richter and Cohen are hopeful about the senior dinner. Cohen feels confident that, from an administrative standpoint, everyone involved is mature enough to work towards making the dinner a success. Despite everything that

Sigma

On Monday evening, May 2, the students of Yeshiva and Stern Colleges were treated to a lively and entertaining (as well as educational) lecture by Dr. Joseph Schwartcz. Dr. Schwartcz is a professor of chemistry at McGill University and Vanier College, in Canada. His subject was "Science and the Media." Dr. Schwartcz was flown in by Sigma Delta Rho, the Honors Science Research Society of Yeshiva and Stern Colleges.

His hour and a half talk dealt with how the media often misrepresent science and scientists. He stressed to the students, most of them science majors, the importance of keeping the public properly informed. His presentation included slides of clips from newspapers and books which illustrated his points vividly.

He first dealt with written

has occurred, Cohen emphasizes that "everyone has worked together with each person making an integral contribution." It is this spirit of cooperation which Cohen sees will lead to a continued joint effort which will make the dinner the most successful ever. Richter also is putting the problems aside, and hopes to make certain that both schools' seniors have what she termed "a time to remember" on their last night together at Yeshiva University.

Guide to Instructors Needed

by Rabin Assil

Many students are panic-stricken every time they have to register for courses. They anxiously run about asking guidance counselors and fellow students about the offered courses and how they are taught. Some students may get helpful information and choose appropriate courses. However, less fortunate students must be prepared to spend precious time (and money) occupied with the tedium of changing their schedules in the beginning of the next semester. The two week "w-free" period in each semester is not enough to choose and adjust to new courses. As a result of their ignorance about courses, some students are even forced to spend their summer vacation and/or remain in college for extra semesters in order to graduate. Although there may be those who would argue against it, the most viable solution to this problem is to provide students with a student professors.

Such a guide would be an evaluation booklet compiling detailed course descriptions of the instructors' teaching style, aims, work load and reviews based on the "consensus" of opinion of students in the class, (Columbia-Barnard Course Guide) as well as the input of faculty and administration.

Opponents to providing a guide might point to the views

of Dr. Steven Cahn, Provost and Vice President for Academic affairs at the Graduate School and University Center of the City University of New York. In a lecture at Stern College, Dr. Cahn said that students are in no position to judge whether a teacher presents material competently. He feels that "students know only if teachers are likable, not if they are knowledgeable; they know if lectures are enjoyable, not if they are valuable."

One must agree with Dr. Cahn in some respects. Students come to college to learn. They are not qualified to judge the competence of teachers. That is the administration's responsibility. The administration may not want to make decisions about faculty based on student reviews, nonetheless, it should not deprive students from taking advantage of their peer's critiques. One can not deny that student evaluation of how teachers relay their knowledge is of value to fellow students and that their feedback can benefit faculty and administration in building a better college. The course guide's primary goal will be to provide students with objective information describing the various teaching styles in each department not the teachers' capability.

Some may agree that a course guide can be advantageous to

students but all question its practicality in a small school like YU. They say that YU faculty is small and students can choose courses based on word of mouth.

It is true that the number of teachers in YU is small, compared to larger colleges, and that they are constantly changing. Even so, there are many departments in this college and even more courses from which to choose. The fact that there are new teachers every year is no problem. All teachers including incoming ones, can be asked to describe in detail how they plan to structure the course and achieve their aims. In addition, this guide need not be limited to secular teachers but should also include

Judaic studies as well. All teachers have their own individual style of teaching. Teachers may be teaching the same material but each has a different approach appealing to different students.

Regarding word of mouth, had it been sufficient, students would not need to change courses as much. In addition, word of mouth cannot surpass the benefits of a course guide that is passed on an objective evaluation from input of the entire student body, faculty and administration. A course guide could perhaps lessen the exchange of gossip that is so much part of the word of mouth advice.

In order to make sure that this project not become an outlet for malignant gossip the guidance of Rashei Yeshiva

should also be obtained. The financing of the Course Guide need not pose a problem. It could be sold or funded by the administration or the student councils.

Besides helping students make better informed course selections, Course Guide will also provide student feedback and serve "the entire academic community by promoting better student-faculty communications and better academic offerings." (Columbia-Barnard Course Guide).

Running a course guide may not be easy, but the students who do participate in its organization will find it to be a great opportunity; both in publishing a review book as well as providing a great service to the entire college.

OHAVEI SHALOM TSEDAKA FUND

Dedicated to the Memory of Rabbi Solomon P. Wohlgeleanter, zt"l,
on behalf of

needy families in Israel
and Refuseniks in Russia

who benefit from your contributions

expresses its gratitude to JONATHAN KATZAUER

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF, COMMENTATOR

and his staff and to

Yeshiva College Student Council

for their steady and generous support.

May they, and all who contribute to this Tsedaka,
merit many years of continued noble needs.

Judah Wohlgeleanter
Pollack Library,
Y.U. Campus Representative

Rabbi Ellahu P. Rominek, Chairman
611 Beach 8th St.
Far Rockaway, N.Y. 11691

Science Lecture a Success

media. One case he pointed to was a toluene spill in the San Francisco Bay area. One newspaper reported "Toluene is the 'T' of TNT," a statement which touched off a panic. While it is true that TNT stands for Tri-Nitro-Toluene, toluene alone is certainly not at all likely to do damage (unless one were to drink it), and the Bay certainly wasn't going to explode. However, people are easily swayed by what they read. He showed how often reputable publications can err in this way. A medical journal once reported of a man with a tiny chicken bone in his lung under the fanciful headline "Chicken Soup may be Dangerous." In another incident, he told of a newspaper reporter who sat in on a chemistry class which was designed to introduce non-scientists to chemistry. The class

included many interesting demonstrations. Yet, when the headline came out, it was "Crazy Chemists..."

Dr. Schwartz pointed out how television can often lead to misconceptions. A quack doctor who manages to make a good impression on a popular talk show such as Donahue can be very damaging. A case in point is a certain diet book which has been a bestseller for months. When showed certain passages from the book, even the students with the most minimal backgrounds realized the silliness of the ideas.

He warned students of how things can be easily misconstrued by those with non-science backgrounds. He gave as an example an incident which happened after a radio talk show he was on. He spoke about a red dye which comes from

a bug about the size of a cockroach. This dye is found, he said, in cherry and strawberry ice creams. He then showed a letter which he received a few days after the show. In it, a woman asked for a letter from him, because her friends didn't believe that he said chocolate ice cream contains roaches.

In the course of the lecture, Dr. Schwartz demonstrated the ease with which facts can be construed. He used statistics as an example, and warned of the dangers of trusting them. Arizona, he said, has the highest death rate from asthma of any state. Does that mean that its climate is most detrimental to asthmatics? No, he said, being that the climate is so FAVORABLE to asthmatics, more asthmatics gravitate there. Thus, the death rate is higher

there, simply because more asthmatics live there!

He closed by charging his audience, most of whom were science students, to remember how important public opinion is. The task of the physician is getting more difficult as uneducated people are being subject to quacks telling them what they want to hear.

After his witty and educational lecture, students clustered around him to speak with him further. He stayed for an extra hour after his talk to speak with the students. His lecture was enjoyed by all, and Sigma Delta Rho is already working on getting him back for next year.

Students interested in finding out more about Sigma Delta Rho are urged to contact Tamara Carmel, 686-0654, or Michael Oppenheim, 568-7027.

Coerced Consumer

by Lenny Gross

A recent letter from the administration of the Sy Syms School of Business to its faculty was unbusiness-like, to say the least.

The letter, informing the faculty that Mr. Sy Syms will be speaking for his first time at YU, also informed them of the dinner with Mr. Syms preceding the lecture, and asked that they "confirm their dinner reservations." Most important, the letter made the following request: "Please announce the event to all your classes and strongly urge them to attend. If need be, tell them that you will be there to see who attends. It is important that we have a large turnout at the event."

The first sentence of this paragraph, encouraging the students to take advantage of this educational opportunity is certainly in order. The second, which presupposes every teacher's presence at the lecture for unnatural reasons undermines the legitimacy of the entire letter, and leaves its reader with a sour taste. At its core is a threat for the students to attend the lecture. Broken down to its finer logical components and psychological implications, the message preached by the succumbing teacher who is there "to see who attends" is an indirect way of telling the students that their failure to attend will be accompanied by the teacher's tainted impression. In the microcosm of the university, the professor's opinion of his or her student takes on a quantitative value by manifesting itself in the student's grade. Thus, this implication inherent in the wording of the letter, is not only a crude one, but unacademic in its very nature; perhaps it is even somewhat unethical. Certainly it has no place in a university that strives for excellence.

Entangled in this request is the resulting ethical question confronting the faculty: Is it right to urge the students with a childish threat - something unlinked to the issue - namely his or her grade? It is an insult to even suggest something like this to any self-respecting member of the faculty. A letter like this one can only call into doubt the faculty's perception of the administration as an authoritative unit with depth and scope.

The cause of this mistake can only be lack of forethought and policy which can be remedied in a few ways.

Perhaps Mr. Syms should be part of his schools curriculum. If so, it must be specified with clarity, similar to the other requirements of a course or curriculum.

It is also possible not to invite speakers that require coercion to spare them and the university embarrassment.

When all said and done, the purpose of every lecture should be to hear, and not to see.

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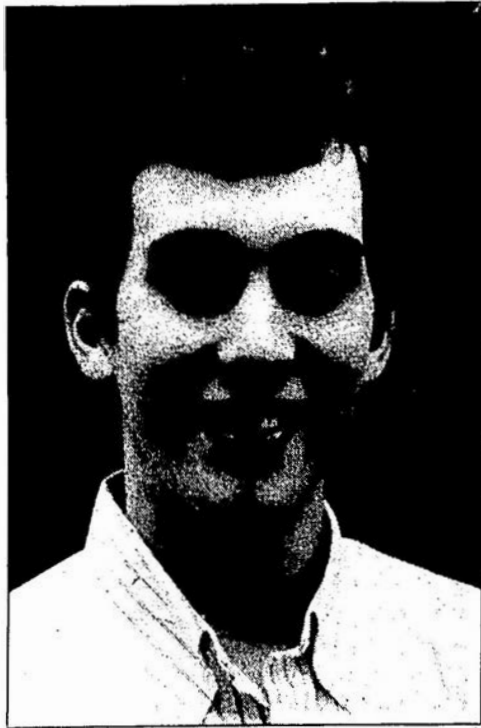
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Daniel Roth-Valedictorian

by Brian K. Allen

Daniel Roth has been named valedictorian of Yeshiva University College's 1988 Graduating class. Danny decided at the end of his Freshman year to major in biology and to aim his professional endeavors toward a field in the health sciences. Danny chose to go to Medical School because, as he says, "I had an affinity to the sciences, I enjoyed the course work, and I enjoyed the research. Blood and guts never bothered me, and I was interested in dealing with people, yet at the same time I was also trying to find something challenging to one's intellect. I felt that medicine definitely accomplished those needs. I also find it very enjoyable to see a great "niflaos haborea" in biology and in chemistry too, and when you

cont. on page 8.



Daniel Roth 1988 YC Valedictorian.

Senior Award



Bruce Cohen-Senior Class President

Election Fever

by Joseph Wolf

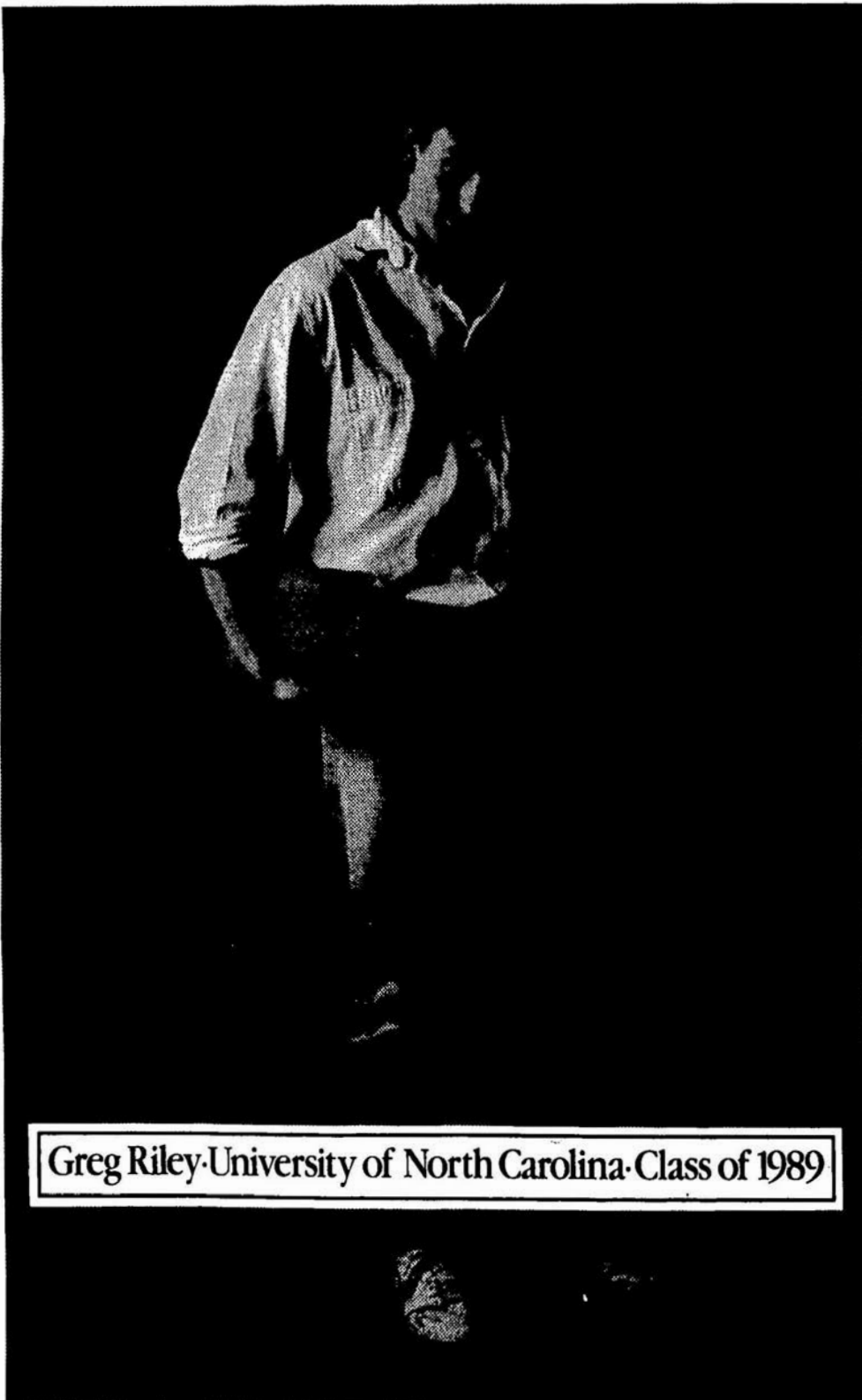
This past month the YU campus has been attacked by that plague feared by all, election fever. SOY elections, SSSB elections, JSS elections, YCSC elections, name a club you can be sure they held elections. As the walls recover from the overabundance of print shop messages and posters proclaiming petty promises, and the steady stream of candidates crying for nomination trickles down, we can all breath a sigh of relief.

The elections, apart from providing innumerable positions for students to fill, seem to offer little else than a chance for a resume filler. May elections featured no debate between candidates. Slogans referring to issues abounded, but we were never told what these issues were. The Commentator and the Canvassing Committee did sponsor a debate between YCSC presidential candidates, but that hardly left many of us with a clue as to who the remaining candidates were and what, if anything, they stood for.

I do not imply that any of the electee's are unfit for office, but that as candidates they were never forced into proving their competence. The result of these types of elections is twofold: the loss of respect for the office itself, and the cheating of the elections itself by transforming the job of President of YCSC, an important positions in terms of student activities and relations with the administration, into nothing but a popularity contest. But perhaps I am taking this all too seriously. After all, what goals must most of the candidates actually have? The Junior class, for example sponsors as one of its better known events, the Blind Date. One can just see a candidate building a strong campaign on the theme "... and if elected, I promise to make this year's Blind Date blinder than ever." Or perhaps, "... and who better to supervise the Blind Date than someone so obviously in need of one..." Now there are two solid reasons to cast a vote.

Of course as a first year student on campus I may be naive and overzealous, but an election that does not provide the opportunity to vote one's conscience hardly seems worth holding. Perhaps in the future no campaigning should be banned and the event can be transferred into a popularity contest or a positions can be appointed instead of the quasi-campaigns run annually. One can only hope that future YU elections will be marked by the campaigns of individuals with definite aspirations to fulfill well defined jobs; candidates who are willing to make their positions known and to debate openly in a school wide forum. Only then will as student councils function as a true asset to the student body rather than just one more opportunity for individuals to begin their ascents up the corporate ladder.

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Greg Riley-University of North Carolina-Class of 1989

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Interesting Elections

by Behnam Dayanim

YCSC elections, held May 5, ushered in a new slate of officers for YCSC Executive Board, class boards, and the new Syms Student Association, the first time in recent history that so many candidates have been elected simultaneously. Predictably the result was heightened interest and fanfare, accompanied by confusion, delay, and controversy.

This year's electioneering featured two spirited, yet amicable, contests for YCSC President and Liberal Arts Vice President. The Presidential race, highlighted by the first annual Commentator/Canvassing Committee Question & Answer Debate, was noteworthy for the strong similarities between the two candidates. Both Mordi Leifer, the eventual winner, and Asher Wolmark emphasized the need for more student involvement in government, better food

services, an end to student apathy, and a return of some types of co-ed social events to the Uptown campus. The difference lay in nuance, with Leifer stressing his experience as YCSC Secretary and the importance of regaining a degree of independence from the Office of the Dean of Students. Wolmark, in turn, rested his campaign on his perceived ability to relate to the entire student body and, pushing a bit further along both candidates' open government theme, advocating the revival of public disclosure of YCSC budget allocations.

The campaigning began on a somewhat bold note, with a provocative advertisement placed in The Commentator by Wolmark in violation of election rules prohibiting active campaigning prior to the officially prescribed date. Wolmark received a temporary, enforced suspension of his

campaign for the infraction.

In the horse race for Liberal Arts Vice President, three candidates distributed open letters, a relative rarity for V.P. races in the past, and all five aspirants conducted vigorous campaigns. Perhaps the most unorthodox tactics were those employed by Eli Helfgott and Jason Ciment, the first delivering his campaign speech in shirtsleeves as he tramped down the aisle toward the podium, and the latter endorsing a return to an unlimited cuts policy on class attendance, a system that existed briefly in the 1970's at Yeshiva College. The other three candidates, Jon Fuchs, Simcha Dauer, and Adam Chill, all lay claim to the golden word "experience," having served as IBCSC V.P., Junior Class V.P., and Political Science Society President respectively, with Chill's claim evidently proving most persuasive to the voters.

In an unfortunate side note, a mix-up over the eligibility of Ciment, caused arguably by improper maintenance of the class lists by the Registrar or lack of adequate screening by the Office of the Dean of Students and the Canvassing Committee, resulted in a brief closing of the polls in the early afternoon. The matter was not resolved until the Dean of Students, Dr. Efreim Nulman, personally accompanied Ciment to the Registrar and had his credits updated, reinstating his candidacy.

However, the other races were of a more peculiar nature. The contest for YCSC Business V.P. (and SSSBSA President - you figure it out) was a relatively uninspiring tug-of-war between Bruce Taragin, the victor, and Jeff "Guppy" Goldberg.

The campaign for YCSC Treasurer, arguably one of the most vital positions in student government as a result of the difficult duties of budgeting and comptrolling, boasted only one candidate on the ballot, Yakov Bodner, who understandably did little campaigning and less understandably did not deliver a campaign speech. The two write-in candidates, Chaim Hagler, who ran a singularly frivolous campaign yet whose candidacy supporters insist was not, and Ira Olshin, who ran earnestly yet got off to a somewhat late start, could not overcome the inherent advantage of a ballot listing in falling to Bodner on election day.

While the pursuit for the office of Secretary did attract more than one official candidate, the race was largely a battle of innovative, eye-grabbing signs waged between Moshe Richter, Ari Schertz, and Robert Blustein. The one exception, Blustein, who trudged from door to door in every dormitory with his somewhat unusual yet intense and obviously sincere style and platform, received for his efforts the brass ring of victory.

The races for class offices

also proved interesting, not for the campaigns themselves, but for the attendant controversies. The write-in candidate for Senior Class V.P., Jeff Mendelson, complained that he was not adequately informed of the deadline for petitions and that even if he were, the decision of the Canvassing Committee to allow another candidate to shift his petition from one office within SSSBSA to another after the deadline had passed undermined the Committee's position in denying his own candidacy. While the decision of the Committee to allow the change may have been inadvisable, though the new office did not require additional signatures and in all likelihood the candidate would have been able to obtain the same number of names regardless of his desired office, the Committee properly insists that the deadline for submission was posted and it is primarily the responsibility of the candidate, not the Committee, to ensure that a petition is on time.

The election for Junior Class President suffered perhaps the most embarrassing faux pas of all. The winner, Efreim Schwab, was subsequently declared ineligible due to his selection to the YC Senate, and a new election has been called.

Once again, another year's battles have been fought and another year's victories won. Now each winner can turn with satisfaction and hope to the upcoming challenges and each of those unsuccessful can turn to the consolations of summer. One positive postscript amidst the frenzy came in the words of Canvassing Committee Chairman Jeff Minsky. He said that "the elections were fair with strict enforcement of voting and counting. There was no ballot-stuffing or vote-rigging. There was integrity to the process." So spoke the man who for a few short weeks held the most prominent and arduous post among the entire student body.



Mordi Leifer YCSC President,



Jeff Paley, SOY President.

First Presidential Forum

By Allen Eisenberg

On Monday night, May 2, Yeshiva College held its first annual Student Council Presidential Candidate Debate. Moderated by Behnam Dayanim, the debate between Mordi Leifer and Asher Wolmark proceeded very smoothly, with minor exception of the candidates occasionally speaking longer than the amount of time allotted to them. The questions posed by Jon Bandler, Nachum Barishansky, and Robbie Zeitz were directed at problems which face Yeshiva College and at specific policy stances of the candidates and their proposed methods of implementation.

Both candidates were in agreement that the major problem concerning Yeshiva College is the cafeteria i.e., its high prices and poor quality food and service. Asher proposed a meal ticket plan, which would enable the student's to avoid the hassles of cash and checks, and would allow for a significant "bulk rate" discount to purchasers of books of tickets. Mordi, on the other hand, proposed a plan whereby the nightly "deal" in the cafeteria would include a greater variety of foods. Also

concerning food services, Mordi proposed that the prices at Morg Mart be lowered.

The candidates were in sharp disagreement, however, concerning the limitations that should be imposed upon joint Yeshiva College and Stern College events Mordi explained that the events should be "limited, but not restricted." Although he was not specific in describing the guidelines for limitation, he made clear his belief that the student council should have more power to decide the appropriateness of such events.

Asher explained that, concerning joint events "we have to be very limited." He further explained that an event must have a purpose - such as a "Welcome Back Party" - and not simply be a social gathering.

Much of the debate centered around the problems of student apathy and the closed lines of communication between the students and the administration. Both candidates expressed concern for these problems, but Asher addressed himself more to the issue than did Mordi. Mordi explained that his student council experience

- having served as YCSC Secretary this past year - has familiarized him with the administrative process, and will enable him to go directly to the school's executives with the students' problems. He also proposed a public forum for students to voice their complaints, and promised to inform students of important news and occurrences through articles in The Commentator.

Asher advocated a more direct student involvement in governmental process. As part of his policy of "open government," Asher proposed that there be open student council meetings so that students can take an active role in the decision making process, and that the "books" be open to the students to see the school's budget allocations.

Ultimately, the election on the following Thursday came down to experience vs. a promise of innovative leadership, and experience proved to be more valuable. Nevertheless, as a forum for the candidates to voice their ideas and opinions to the students, the debate successfully served its purpose.

IBC Looks Ahead

by Moshe Weber

As the year draws to a conclusion, the individual YU colleges have been holding elections. IBC students last week elected a new student council, with David Berg voted in as president. Mr. Berg, a native of Bangor, Maine, brings two years of experience as both Freshman and Sophomore IBC class president. He has a number of programs planned for next year, some ideas new and some old. Mr. Berg's motivation for involvement in IBC activities stems from his feelings that IBC has become a "black sheep" school among the other divisions. It is therefore imperative to promote the name of IBC, and "bring pride to IBC." Mr. Berg feels that here should be greater initiative from the entire student council, rather than only from the president. Holding council

meetings on a more regular basis and having greater student involvement should bring greater achdut and get rid of student apathy.

Mr. Berg's major plan for next year involves a voluntary Beit Midrash program with IBC students and smicha students. Last semester in Hebrew University, Mr. Berg saw that students who otherwise would not be learning came voluntarily as a result of the Beit Midrash program. In addition, it would also give IBC students a stronger feeling of connection to the Yeshiva. Other plans include another try at Bear Mountain as last year's trip was rained out.

Having Rosh Chodesh breakfasts on a more regular basis, and inviting more guests speakers are also planned for next year.

Vietnam Fiasco

by Eric Zaiman

Ever since American forces were withdrawn from Vietnam, there seems to have been an awful lack of direction in the course of American foreign policy. The inconsistencies of the Cold War policies that spawned the war grew more glaring while every president since has shuffled through lists of policy alternatives that are just as tired and useless as that of his predecessor. In short, there are no clear goals to American foreign policy and there is no straight and defined direction to the way the United States conducts itself abroad.

The culprit in all of this can be found in the unbending subscription of whoever occupies the White House to the precepts of the Cold War philosophy. Every president since Truman has adhered to this set of beliefs with incredible faithfulness and determination. However it is clear that those philosophies no longer work (if indeed they ever have). Thus the time has come for the next president to make some real changes in the way America creates its foreign policy. Indeed, this is an era where creativity is essential.

The new direction our foreign policy should take must be based on the assumption that the idea of democracy is paramount to our concerns. That is, America must stand for the real democracy, real civil liberties in every country in the world, regardless of its political affiliation and align-

ment. The importance of such a foundation for America foreign policy is at one level obvious and at another quite unrecognized. Clearly, such a position is correct morally. Indeed, even when Ronald Reagan calls for American support of the regime in El Salvador and the Contra rebels in Nicaragua, he must always do so in such a way as to cloak the efforts of his agents in the ideals of democratic expression and freedom. However, in reality, El Salvador continues to be a repressive and undemocratic regime with only a nominal civilian government. Yet, on an even deeper and ultimately more significant level, an American foreign policy based on a real commitment to democratic ideals and principles is correct politically. The most critical problem facing the American Republic in its conflict with communism is the fact that the forces of democracy do not have the same strength of organization that is inherent in the communist ideology. A clear example of this is Vietnam. Throughout almost the entire history of the communist apparatus in Vietnam, the party has displayed remarkable organization. It was able to motivate and mobilize large portions of the Vietnamese population because it had a political ideology that was well organized and, at least superficially, quite logical. For a poor peasant society long oppressed by a foreign colonial

ruler the issues of political and economic freedom are most important. However, for that society to successfully organize and overthrow the harsh and repressive rule of a colonial entity, it must adopt a political theory that provides a rational, clear, and unified sense of purpose. At this point in history, communism does while democracy does not.

Therefore, the real task at hand from the initiators of American foreign policy is to create for the political ideology of democracy the same kind of organizational cohesiveness that communism possesses. The only method that can achieve this goal is a foreign policy that strictly adheres to the same kinds of principles expressed in our Declaration of independence and Constitution. In short, we must support free elections in every country, elections in which every political party has the right to participate and the protection of the government to enable it to do so. We must support freedom of speech, religion and all other basic civil liberties in every country in the world.

Wieder Wins Chidon

The contest, sponsored by the World Zionist Organization and held in Israel on Yom Haatzmut, has been one by Israelis for the past 15 years!

When asked how he felt about his victory, he said, "I am more excited than surprised." Jeremy went on to explain why he thought it was more difficult for an American than for an Israeli to win. The Israeli possess three inherent advantages," stated Jeremy. First of all, Tanach is written in their language. Second, the Ministry of Education in Israel emphasizes Tanach, whereas the American counterpart place less of an emphasis in the curriculum. Lastly, competing in the Chidon is considered a great honor in Israel, thus giving Israeli students a big incentive to prepare for the challenge. The final round of the international level is televised and included in Israel Independence Day festivities.

Preparing for this victory was an big undertaking as competitors had to learn all of Tanach and also be able

The implications of such a foreign policy are indeed widespread and significant. It means that we cannot support regimes like those in El Salvador, Guatemala and Chile. It means that we must seek political conciliation between communist insurgents and their adversaries. It means we must use our diplomatic prowess (if we actually possess any) to achieve our goals not our economic and military might. Finally, it means that we must support any group that seeks freedom from oppression even if their affiliations are Marxist or communist because ultimately any group that is associated with a cause of freedom, regardless of their political beliefs, will win. It is, therefore, time for American policy makers to create a new foreign policy, a policy based on honesty, diplomacy, and morality. Finally, it is time for America to learn the real lessons from Vietnam, the lessons that teach us that popular support is stronger than all the military hardware money can buy.

to recall facts and quotations with the highest degree of accuracy under pressure. Most Yeshiva High School students have not even completed the entire Torah, let alone all of Neviim and Ketuvim.

Before participating in the international contest, Jeremy had won second place in the national contest. At this point, there was no doubt in Jeremy's mind about going to compete in the international round. There was just under a year from the time Jeremy won the nationals until the international round was scheduled to begin. Jeremy started preparing for the post - Pesach competition at the beginning of this school year. During this time, Jeremy reviewed Tanach for about an hour a day. Jeremy explained that he only way to prepare effectively for such an event is to constantly review the material. Obviously, Jeremy's persistence and determination paid off, attested to by his first place finish in the Chidon HaTanach.

Now in his senior year and learning in Rav Aaron Soleveitchik's Shiur, Danny's success has all risen to the surface. His 4.0 grade point average and his participation in such clubs as the Pre-Med Honor Society and the Sigma Delta Rho Science Research Honors Society have helped him gain acceptance to such outstanding medical schools as Yale and McGill. Still waiting to hear from Harvard, Danny has decided to defer his admission to Yale.

Danny wants to take a year off before he begins Medical school "in order to have full time learning. Even though I plan on hopefully having serious learning in Med school, obviously I won't be able to have the type of experience that goes with full time learning, and I had a great year in Israel last year and I feel the need

HOCKEY-continued from page 10.

tion and dropped the two games to fall behind, 5-3. They then broke back to make it, 5-4 and Hirt held to tie the set, 5-5. However, the Colonials held serve and were up a match break point on Bandler's serve before he and Hirt held to force a tie breaker. Hirt's match toughness and Bandler's experience then paid off as they took the tie breaker, 7-2, to win the match and allow the MICs to escape with a close victory.

The MICs were also overpowering in their non-league matches as they beat Pratt (7-2), John Jay (7-2), and Brooklyn (6-3), convincingly, en route to the team's best record in years. And it should only get better as virtually everyone will return next year with the exception of Bandler and Wind, whose contributions will be missed but should be matched by excellent single's players Hirt, Greenwald, Levy, Weber, and Weinstein. Bandler finished his three year YU career with a 12-4 record, including a perfect 7-0 mark this season. Wind, the team's hardest hitter, was a tough singles competitor and played well in doubles with his cousin Weber.

Despite their graduating, Coach Aboff can certainly look forward to next season when the MICs have a legitimate shot at winning the league title.

to take off another year now between college and Med school." If Danny will be doing his learning here in New York, he will be head dorm counselor of Rubin Hall dormitory. Otherwise, Danny is seriously considering another year in Israel.

Danny attributes his success in college to his "internal desire to do well in my courses. I felt good about myself when I did well in my courses and when I felt I was going into the exam knowing the material." Danny said he was motivated academically also because he knew that being pre-med is very difficult and that medical school admissions is very competitive. Danny also said that Dr. Feit proved to be an influential factor in his success. He says that he feared Dr. Feit to be "inspirational and helpful in terms of trying to do well and getting involved in bio and different courses in bio, especially different medicine related topics." He says that he greatly enjoyed all sorts of discussions with Dr. Feit, whether it had to do with Halacha and biology or whether it was just pertaining to biology, and "I feel that I gained a lot from my closeness with Dr. Feit."

Danny will look back at YU with high regard. He feels that YU is an ideal place to achieve and excel, and praises the ability of top educators in both the secular and Judaic fields. When asked about whether he felt that YU exemplified more of a Yeshiva or one of a University, he answered profoundly: "it represents both, and either, depending on what the person makes it."

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VALEDICTORIAN- continued from page 6.

see mechanisms and different ways that life and nature functions in such a beautiful and perfect way, it's great."

After two outstanding years at YU, and all of the introductory courses for the biology major complete, Danny took the Medical College Admissions Test and scored an incredible 74. That summer he volunteered at Maimonides Geriatric Hospital in Montreal and soon thereafter he left for Israel, where he spent his junior year learning in Torat Moshe. After returning from Israel last summer, Danny did research in cardiology at the Montreal Heart Institute. He has also been a dedicated advisor over the years for Yachad, an organization for the handicapped run by NCSY.

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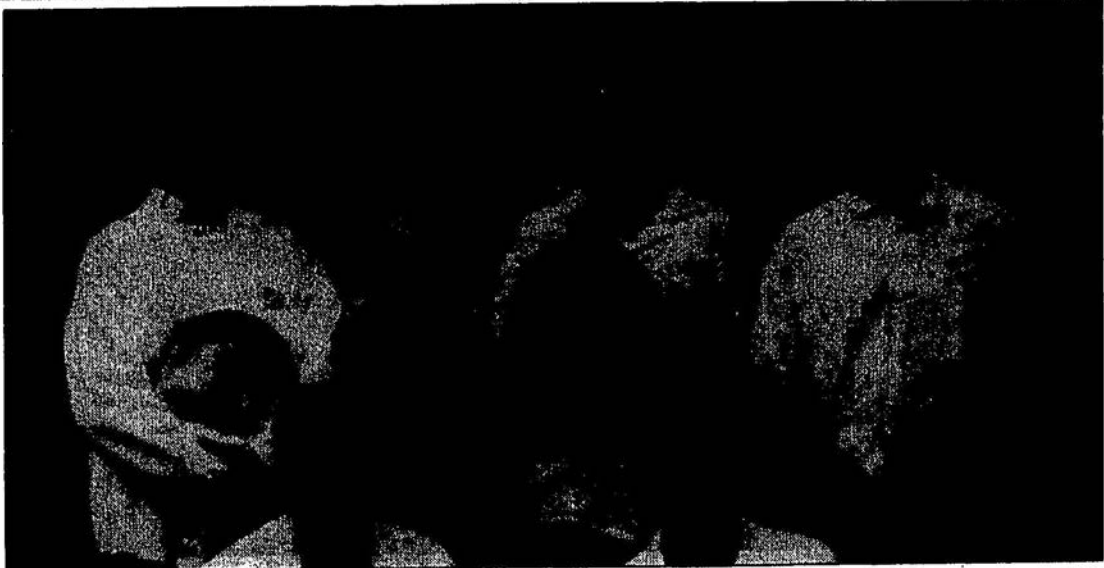
Tauberman conclusion is to the point

—continued from page 11

ennui - the Taubermen geared themselves up once again, this time as a mutually-warring group of cutthroat individuals; intramurals were on! To the disorienting and perplexing chants of, "Let's go, Yeshiva!" Yeshiva fencers met each other on the mat and learned the source of our enemy colleges' quakes. Epeeist David Kardon flatly foiled his teammates with his solid sweep of the first-place trophies in saber and foil and hopes to intimidate next year's opponents with his probable switch to the foil squad - and foilman Zev Goldblatt definitively dwarfed everyone with his skilled steal of the epeaa trophy, justifying

his victory with an almost apologetic, "I just couldn't do anything wrong!"

With the athletic dinner as the only remaining "landmark" of the season, the Taubermen take this opportunity to thank the Y.C. community for the increased fan attendance at our home matches, and to wish goodbye and good luck to our six graduating seniors Zalman Levine, Zev Goldblatt, Eric Zaiman, Ross Breen, Dov Schwell, and Nachum Goldberg. Finally, this author wishes the team a sincere, continuous "hakeh takeh" and reminds all returning fencers of their bleak and hopeless outlook for next year's alumni match!



A sizeable contingent of the 1988 YU Tennis Team.

Tennis Has Love-ly Season

With only four players returning from last year's disappointing 2-5 squad, the YU tennis team seemed to be heading for another mediocre season when it assembled at the Binghamton Racquet Club

in September. However, under the tutelage of first year coach, Mickey Aboff, the young MICs rallied behind the leadership of senior captains Jon Bandler and Robbie Wind to post an impressive 7-2 record which

included a stunning victory over Division II Brooklyn College.

The only blemish to the team's record occurred on a cold, blustery afternoon in Hoboken and Newark, as I.A.C. rivals Stevens Tech and N.J.I.T., defeated the MICs in hard fought contests. The MICs finished the season in third place in the I.A.C. with a 3-2 record. The three victories were 9-0 sweeps over Poly Tech and Maritime, and a 5-4 decision over Western Conn. in the team's most exciting match of the season.

For the Western Conn. match, the team traveled north to Danbury to try to avenge last year's heart breaking 5-4 loss to the Colonials. This year's early single's competition was not reassuring, however, as the top three seeds, Leon Levy, Wind, and Yoni Weber lost in straight sets. Bandler, the fourth seed salvaged one of the early single's matches with a 6-0, 7-5 victory. However, before the double's competition began, Darrin Hirt's fifth seed opponent forced a third set, and David Weinstein, the sixth seed, trailed 1-4 in the third set and faced three break points. Weinstein served strongly to win four straight points and eventually took the set 7-5, to win the match. Hirt also won his third set, but the doubles' matches were not going so well for the MICs.

Levy and Steve Siegel, the top seeded team, lost in two sets and Weber and Wind, who had to win to keep the MICs in the match, split the first two sets with their second seed opponents. Fortunately, they came through 6-4, in the third set to set up the decisive third seed doubles match.

Because Jeff Greenwald, did not make the trip Coach Aboff had to choose a suitable partner for Darrin Hirt. He opted for Bandler, who despite his lack of doubles' experience, was the teams most consistent player. The choice seemed like a horrendous mistake as Bandler and Hirt had trouble communicating and dropped the first set, 6-2. However, behind strong driving and some excellent lobs, they rallied to take the second set 6-3.

In the third set, the teams fought to a 3-3 tie before Bandler and Hirt made some critical mistakes in concentra-

continued on page 8.

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Fencers Emerge From Battle

by Zalman Levine

The '87-'88 fencing season ended with the biggest bang in Taubermen history; for the first time ever, all Division III teams were invited to participate in a post-season championship, and in the wee hours of a Sunday morning, seven teams from all over the Northeast transformed Hunter College's Sportsplex into an anthill of scurrying, feverishly-practicing fencers. In his welcoming speech, Yeshiva Coach Arnie Messing, Vice President of the tournament, wished luck to everyone, "but especially to Yeshiva." He charged our team to perform respectably, and we did just that. Our saber squads achieved a fifth-place position, our foil squad hacked its way to a fourth-place award, and the

team as a whole placed sixth. A surprise to the other teams and beyond anybody's expectations, these standings reflect the upward swing of the Taubermen's collective competitive quality and individual fencing prowess - and Coaches Messing and Rosas expect continued improvement next year.

The team closed with a 5-6 overall record in a quantitatively dense and qualitatively intense season, punctuated with outstanding performances by team captain Zalman Levine (foil, 23-9), captain-elect Robby Zimmermann (foil, 14-11), Rob Sobel (saber, 18-5), and Ross Breen (epee, 20-13). And when the season's smoke dissipated - when the sudden decompression generated a vacuum of

cont. on page 10.

RAIDERS-cont. from pg 12

was kicked aside, as end to end floor hockey was at its best.

At 7:54 of the third period, Jeff Lefkowitz broke the scoreless tie, whistling a shot into the Irish net. The way the game was going, it appeared that one goal would be enough for a victory. Hold the celebrations! Kenny Polinsky scored just forty-nine seconds later to knot the game at one apiece. However, the fans at Tannenbaum Gym would be treated to practically another entire game before the winning goal would be scored.

Mike Schreiber ended the longest game in Yeshiva Intramural Hockey history, as he netted the game winner two minutes and forty seven seconds into the third overtime as they battled the Irish to the cup.

The Wildcats earned the right to face the Raiders in the second semester finals. The Raiders themselves needed overtime as they recovered from a 3-1 third period deficit. The Raiders rallied to tie, and then scored a 4-3 victory 4:18 into the extra period.

The Raiders were chanting "We're not coming back!" as they hoped to capture the second semester title to go with their first semester championship. If the Raiders could top the Wildcats, there would be no need to come back for another game, and the championship could be theirs.

Things were looking good for the Raiders as they built a 2-0 lead. But the Raiders and Wildcats would come back. Bruce Taragin scored two goals, one short-handed, past Raider goalie Stuart Morduchowitz, to fire yet another tie. This time Yossi Fein was the hero for the Wildcats with his overtime goal at 1:43 of sudden death.

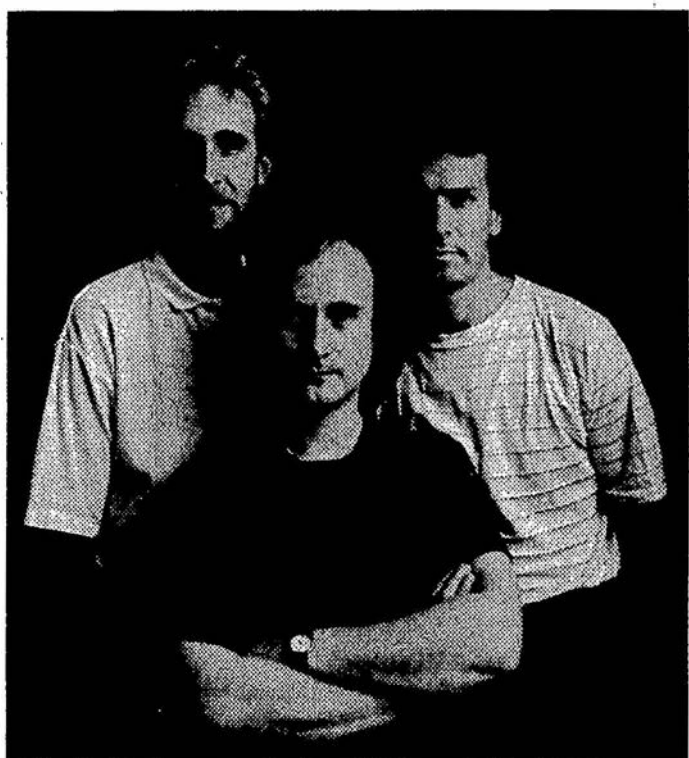
In the season's final game, the 1987 championship Wildcats would be forced to play without Bruce Taragin, the catalyst of the previous game, who was out with a shoulder injury. The Wildcats defense did seem to suffer, as the Raiders built an early lead. However the Wildcats fought back, and the game was tied at three entering the final period.

Chaim Wietschner, the team captain, came through with the clutch goals, as Ari Schwartz played solid defense and Stuart Morduchowitz, held down the fort in goal for the final twelve minutes.

Wildcats defenseman Moshe Blech said, "Sometimes we just rely on Schlüssel too much and get lazy on defense. Unfortunately, we came close tonight to playing our worst game of the year."

Schlüssel attempted to take the blame himself. "I was just too slow on some of those easy ones. I should have had them, but it just wasn't my night."

Stuart Morduchowitz would not accept any such excuses. "They played two great hockey games winning both in overtime. Triple overtime has to take its toll. They were just a little tired in the third period and we were able to capitalize."



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Yeshiva Sports

A Real Sports Hero

by Larry Hartstein

Danny Chefitz does not receive an awful lot of playing time. In fact, the 6'2" sophomore Maccabees' forward gets very little, about ten minutes this season. That is not ten minutes per game; that is ten minutes total. Once the full-fledged superstar of the Maimonides M-Cats in basketball-crazy Boston, Mass., Chefitz now spends most of his time on the Maccabees' bench. As Chefitz once heard the cheers, now he supplies them. As Chefitz once received the encouragement, now he gives it. The star is gone; a team player has been born.

Like anyone else, Chefitz longs to be an impact player, but for now he is content to help the team in any way possible. "Of course everyone's goal in being on a team is to play and participate. Unfortunately, that can't be. There's another part to being on a team which can't really be explained by how many minutes you get. There's a certain feeling of togetherness that you get from a group of players working together. Even though I know I didn't play a lot during games, I still get satisfaction in knowing I might have made one of my teammates a better player by continuously playing him hard during practice, forcing him to get better."

Chefitz' season ended abruptly December the fourteenth when he broke his leg during practice. With only a quarter of the season completed, Chefitz found himself incapacitated. Now he would

have to sit and watch practices just as he had sat and watched games. And he did. He hobbled down to the MSAC night after night for the two-hour workouts. He accompanied the team on long road trips to away games. Why? Would it not have been easier to skip a few practices and games and get some work done? "I just love playing basketball . . . just running through the offensive plays, running through the defensive plays. It might take a lot of time, and it's hard to deal with homework and tests and things like that, but it gives you something to look forward to after a long day of classes. It's a lot of fun."

With his leg still not completely healed, Chefitz has lost precious time to develop his game. The guess here, though, is that his boyish enthusiasm, along with the soft touch on his jumpshot, will carry him to a bigger role on the Macs in the next two years. For now, Chefitz still has his dreams. "It could be one minute left in the game, and everyone's leaving. You still imagine yourself as Larry Bird taking that jumpshot."

The scene is late November, 1988. The Macs are crushing Bard in the season opener. Only a few minutes remain. Coach Halpert turns to look down the bench. "Danny, sub for Yudi." Chefitz plays his heart out, scores ten points, and grabs six rebounds. The fans who have stayed around give him a loud standing ovation. They know a real YU sports hero when they see one.



Nothing can keep Danny Chefitz off the court.

Raiders Roll

By Mitchell Nathanson

The Raiders won the 1988 Intramural Hockey Championship by defeating the Wildcats 6-3. Chaim Wietschner scored three third period goals to lead the first semester champions over the second semester winners.

The road to the cup was a long and arduous one. Overtimes were wild, as both semi-final playoff games and the second semester championship were extended to extra periods. Great hockey was exhibited by the four playoff teams, the Wildcats, Raiders, Devils, and The Fighting Irish.

The playoff format was not set until the final week of the season. The Wildcats had to win their final game to capture first place overall. Moshe Blech lead the way as he scored his first goal after 74 consecutive games, spanning four seasons, to give the Wildcats the regular season title.

That set up the opening round playoff match between the first place Wildcats and the fourth place Fighting Irish. The game featured a goaltenders exhibition like never before between Wildcats' goalie David Schlüssel and the Irish's Wayne Feder. Both goalies matched save for save through two and a half periods. Shot after shot.

continued on page 11

John Hecht with 12 and 20 points, respectively. In the semi-final game against the Ducks, a close game was broken up midway through the second half as Daniel and Darren Hirt began to win - a laser-like fastbreak to a tee. The victory overshadowed a 14 point performance by Barry Finkenstein of the Ducks.

Because of the Doobies victory, the scheduled 2 out of 3 final series between semester champs will not be played.

YU Golfers Chip Into History

by Larry Hartstein

YU sophomore Joey Loskove and Queens College senior Steve Sabatini stood dead even at 72 as they teed off on the 18th hole at Kissena Golf Course. Loskove and Sabatini are not old friends, and they were not golfing for recreation. YU was participating in its first ever intercollegiate golf match, a match they lost by one stroke, 370-371.

Yet golf is an individual sport as well, and Loskove, the newly named team captain, would not be defeated on this day. Sabatini teed off first on the 320 yard par four dogleg left, and promptly buried his Titleist in the left fairway bunker 100 yards from the green. Loskove, seeing Sabatini's predicament, powered a tee shot 280 yards through the fairway into another bunker 40 yards from the green. Sabatini punched out of the bunker 15 yards from the green. Loskove, feeling the pressure, hit a weak sand shot that left him still 20 yards from the green. Now came the all-important chip shots. Loskove lofted a terrific wedge shot that crawled to a halt six inches from the cup. The tremendous pitch by Loskove, reminiscent of Tom Watson's famous 1982 chip on 17 at Pebble Beach, clearly rattled Sabatini, who chipped 10 feet past the hole. Now Sabatini faced an extremely difficult putt in his effort to force a playoff. Indeed, the putt proved too difficult, as Sabatini stroked it just past the cup. Loskove then tapped

in for par to shoot 76, winning him medalist honors on the day. Always the team player, Loskove blamed himself for the team's narrow defeat. "On the second green I missed a 10 inch putt. I just wasn't concentrating."

Six YU players competed against Queens College, with the four lowest scores counting towards the overall total. Co-captain Yosef Mandelbaum and Michael Ratzker recorded higher scores than Queens' numbers two and three seeds, while David Schlüssel embarrassed his Queens counterpart in a lopsided victory. Also competing were David Harris and Chaim Wietschner.

Despite playing on a course completely foreign to them, the YU Golfing Macs, for lack of a nickname as yet, returned home with several memorable tournament shots to their credit. Who could forget Mandelbaum's curling 20-footer for par on 13 or Schlüssel's blind chip on 12 that came to a rest only one foot from the flag?

On the heels of the YU golfers' competitive performance versus Queens, enthusiasm for the sport at YU has reached a fever pitch. Team Golf, next year's one credit course for advanced golfers, has been closed since early in registration. Anyone interested in the team or the course should speak to Loskove or Mandelbaum. You'll usually find them at Van Cortlandt Park honing their swings.

Ayal Hod tries to reject a David Harris shot as the Macs seniors defeat 'Best of the rest', 64-60.



Commentator
Yeshiva College
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 New York, N.Y. 10033

Doobies Down Mob Squad—Again

By Shmuel Bulka

At a time when repeating is as rare as a Baltimore Orioles victory, the Doobies overcame a sluggish start to defeat the Mob Squad for the second time in as many semesters.

The game which was marked by sporadic first half play by both sides, began to pick up in the second half. In the end, it was clutch free-throw shooting by Jeffery Lefkowitz, who was 8 for 8 from the line that allowed the Doobies to escape with a narrow victory.

Daniel Loskove sparked a furious second half rally by the Mob Squad but they could get no closer than 1 point. The game was also kept close due to the double figure scoring of Loskove, Richard Scharlat, Mayer Naiman and Darren Hirt. But in the end, 17 points by Alan Berger and 18 by Lefkowitz were enough to

subdue the Mob Squad.

The two teams took separate routes to the finals. The Doobies, who finished first in the regular season, had only a semi-final game against the Scorchers, to gain entrance into the final. The game was probably the most exciting one of the playoffs and had all the drama and intensity befitting such an important game. Ellis Malovany's 16 points and Bruce Taragin's 12 were not enough to overcome the Lefkowitz Berger tandem. The Seachers gained their semi-final berth as a result of their 51-36 victory over the Hoyas.

The Mob, who placed third, had to play a quarterfinal and semi-final games to return to the finals. In the quarterfinal game, double digit scoring by Schalt and Hirt was enough to defeat the Cougars, who were lead by John Bandler and

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